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The ICISS 2017 is organized in Budapest by MCSER-Mediterranean Center of Social and Educational Research in cooperation with the Italian Academy of Science and Education, Sapienza University of Rome and Richtmann Publishing. The conference addressed all studies across the social and human sciences. In the spirit of interdisciplinary interchange, the Conference has involved scholars, teachers and researchers working in a broad range of areas including: Education, Anthropology, Applied Sciences, Behavioral Sciences, Cognitive Science, Literature, Language, Communications, History, Economics, Environmental Sciences, Health Sciences, Humanities, Interdisciplinary Studies, Law, Management, Media, Politics, Public Policy, Psychology, Qualitative Methods, Quantitative Methods, Social Welfare, Sociology, Technology, Geography and many other areas related to the social and human sciences. The conference provides an opportunity for academicians and professionals from various social and human fields all over the world to come together and learn from each other. An additional goal of the conference is to provide a place for academicians and professionals with cross-disciplinary interests to meet and interact with members inside and outside their own particular disciplines.

Vision of the conference

The ICISS is a global annual event with the mission of furthering the advancement and innovation in human and social sciences. The Conference serves as a means to connect and engage professors, researchers, consultants, innovators, managers, students, policy makers and others to offers an opportunity to meet and share ideas. It also inspire a new generation of global scientists and leaders in countries around the world.

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Communication Conceptualization: Missing from the Debate

Gennadiy Chernov

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Abstract

The fragmentation of the communication science is proverbial: it embraces so many areas, its sources are so numerous and ramified, that sometimes the only common denominator seems to be the word communication itself. A few researchers tried to find a common ground for these diverging fields from philosophical and methodological positions. Craig (1999, 2013) envisions distinct communication approaches converge only in a metatheoretical sense as a forum for common discourse; Anderson and Baym (2004) lay out the typology of different philosophical positions on communication in the domains of ontology, epistemology, praxeology and axiology; Pavitt (2000) gives more weight to methods distinction between quantitative and qualitative approaches and three theoretical stances - scientific realism, logical positivism, and perspectivism. However, despite the significance of the previous philosophical analyses, they mostly dealt with typologies of different stances on communication, not much is done in conceptualizing communication itself (Kirtiklis, 2011). The current paper focuses on this missed conceptualization in two ways: 1) it discusses communication constitutive elements, dialogical discourse and internal meaning; 2) it demonstrates how the debate about what communication is has shifted to discussions about under what conditions communication takes place. The paper concludes that a lack of conceptual understanding of communication leads to a lack of a set of unifying principles and to a slow progress in understanding epistemological and ontological foundations of communication.

Keywords: philosophy, communication, methodology, theory
The Benefits of Business Ethics - Ethical Behavior of Decision Makers: The Empirical Findings from Croatia

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Ivan Grančić

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Abstract

More than ever before, the ability of managers to recognize and deal with complex business ethical issues has become a significant priority. Ethical behavior has always been a concern for managers because they are the ones that have major responsibility in company when it is about business ethics. Managers’ work is mainly the work of making decisions. On a daily basis they are making decisions – big and small ones - on which company future depends. Interest in business ethics and ethical behavior is on the rise, especially in recent years when widespread moral corporate scandals have brought this topic to the fore. Therefore, the organizational environment demands effective managers – decision makers - with the ability to behave ethically and the ability to make right choices. There is no doubt that the ethical behavior of decision makers is of strategic importance for successful business. It could be acknowledged that among the numerous different factors that can determine a company’s progress, the key elements that contribute to a more successful achievement of company competitive advantage is the ethical behavior of managers.

This paper aims at analyzing the benefits of business ethics and at identifying the ethical behavior of managers in a big company in Croatia. Qualitative research was conducted and interesting and somewhat puzzling results were found. Based on the overall findings, this research offers the foundation for future research in this area. The implications of the findings are discussed in terms of value for managers and their companies due to the improvement and development of business ethics and their ethical behavior.

Keywords: Business Ethics, Ethical Behavior, Decision Making
The Use of Immunity Doctrine in Commercial Activities in Mesopotamia and Ancient Greece

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Abstract

This study traces the history of the formation of immunities concept and its application in commercial activities in ancient Mesopotamia and Greece. The doctrine of immunity is discussed based on the historical process starting from the myth, concept, and its implementation in the commercial/trade activities. By using historical approach, this study shows that in Mesopotamia and Greece, traders or merchants enjoyed absolute immunity due to their position as the representative of their King or polis in which their commercial acts and diplomatic mission were combined. In Mesopotamia, merchants enjoyed the full confidence of the King, and one would not be wrong to suppose that in such enterprises commercial activity and diplomatic mission were combined. Compared to the Mesopotamian practices that granted all traders with the status of immunity from public obligations, in ancient Greece only traders with honorific conditions could enjoy the status of proxenos.

Keywords: immunity, commercial activities, history, Mesopotamia, and ancient Greece.
Confrontative Study Between Past Perfect Indicative in German and Past Perfect and Aorist II Indicative in Albanian

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Prof. Dr. Emine Teichmann

Abstract

The present study represents a significant step forward to understand past perfect indicative in Albanian and German by comparing them in morphological, semantic and stylistic aspects. The semantic meaning of past perfect indicative in Albanian is very similar to that in German. But the Albanian language also alters another additional past tense called Aorist II, that it is not present in the standard German language. This work aims at giving practical and theoretical overview on approaches and differs of the past perfect between the two languages – we intend to show that by giving great argumentative examples, which help concretising and understanding better, and also offer a clear and detailed picture of uses and meanings of this tense in both languages. In particular, in this paper it is paid attention to the text grammar, as we think that is a very important and interested point of view by studying and comparing two grammars. Furthermore we consider the issue of translation from German in Albanian and controversially. At this point we intend to find the grammar tools the German language uses for the translation of the Albanian Aorist II. This publication will be a comprehensive and authoritative reference work on complex past tenses bringing together the study on different linguistic aspects.

Keywords: Finished event, bitemporal, moment of speaking, temporal indicators
Current Review on Real Exchange Rate Instability and Foreign Private Investment in Nigeria: A Causality Analysis (2010 - 2016)

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Abstract

This study examines the real exchange rate instability and foreign private investment in Nigeria. The economy of Nigeria is faced with fluctuations in real growth rates, price inflation, investment per capita, government revenue per capita and real exchange rate. Therefore, this study adopted time series econometrics analysis and descriptive statistics to ascertain the impact of exchange rate on increase/decrease of foreign direct investment in Nigeria and to determine the causal relationship between exchange rate volatility and private investment spending. The empirical analysis that was carried out to achieve the objectives mentioned above, include the econometric tests such as unit root, co-integration, and Error correction model in which CFPI was regressed on real exchange rate, inflation rate, interest rate and real GDP-using annual series data for the period 2000-20016, and the data was mainly from CBN statistical bulletin. The result of our analysis shows that test statistics are greater than the critical values. The study also found that- long-run relationship exists between the CFPI and the explanatory variables; EXR, INF, INT and GDP. Based on the findings above, the study recommends that Government should adopt other macroeconomic variables which will encourage foreign investors to come in. The study equally recommends that Efforts should be geared by government to reduce exchange rate distortions or misalignment, increase export of locally manufactured goods and raw materials in a bid to raise value of the local currency.

Keywords: Econometric, Variables, Macroeconomic, Misalignment, Distortions
Explaining the European Union’s Changing Position towards the Gibraltar Question after the Brexit Referendum

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Abstract

Having previously remained impartial on the Gibraltar question between Spain and Britain since both were member states, the European Union suddenly changed its position after the Brexit referendum in favor of the Spanish government at the expense of breaching international law. In doing so, the European Union, for the first time, created a foreign policy on the long-standing Gibraltar question. This article explores the reasons behind the creation of this foreign policy in support of Spain. The European Union feared that the idea of Euroscepticism may escalate among remaining member states after the Brexit referendum because of wide-spread claims that it would dissolve in the near future, fuelled by far right political parties. The European Union therefore created a foreign policy regarding Gibraltar in Spain’s favor in order to promote a “sense of community” for thwarting a further rise in Euroscepticism. While making its analysis, the article applies the assumption of social constructivism that ideas shape interests, which then determine the foreign policy choices of actors.

Keywords: Gibraltar, European Union, Britain, Spain, Euroscepticism, Social Constructivism
Integration of Local Government through Administrative -Territorial Reform in Albania

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Abstract

There have been made many significant steps toward implementing reforms which lead Albanian Government to a consolidated integration process. Many challenges and obstacles have hindered this path, particularly those of a political nature, to which my country is still very sensitive. A kind of “hot spot” in all this discussion appeared to be the newest reform called “administrative-territorial reform” or “decentralization process” which has already been implemented in 2015. Amongst the range of studies, consultations and amalgamate process in multi level governance, the concept of integration has been isolated from the perspective of European integration. The Albanian Government has undertaken this reform with the ad-hoc Parliamentary Committee in close coordination and cooperation with the local government units, funded by the STAR Project (Support to Territorial and Administrative Reform) and implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Despite this, there is not much evidence of a deeper cooperation to determine an integrated package of principles whereby local government authorities reflect realistic concerns about EU’s influence along their mission and activities. This paper intends to explore whether the implementation of this administrative-territorial reform has taken into consideration the formal set up of EU integration, or has at least established the necessary legal, financial, cultural environment with the overall aim to enable European frameworks and processes even in local authorities and communities.

Keywords: Local Government, European Integration, Europeanisation, Administrative- Territorial Reform, Public Administration
Trade Union / Human Resources Management Sprial

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Abstract

Economic, social and political systems have changed in time. They have taken on the present day structure and this structural transformation is still going on. When we think the effects of the changes in working life, even more specific, the dimension within industrial relations varies. On the one hand, there are trade unions that lived their golden age between the years 1945 to 1970, unfortunately they lost power due to globalization and neo-liberal policies after 1980’s. On the other hand, there is the notion of HRM, which makes up a step after the personnel management concept and is often mentioned after 1980’s. The union, which has a deep-rooted tradition within the industrial relations and represents the collective, and the HR that gained power after the 1980s are in constant conflict. In this study, the trade unions and the HR will be informed and discussed about the current situation in the historical process.

Keywords: Industrial Relations, Trade Union, Human Resources Management
City: Melting Locus and Cross-Cultural Difference Versus Rural: The Case of Tirana after the 90s

Ana Rusta

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Abstract

After the 1990s, with the recognition of a number of rights denied during the communist regime, such as free movement, there was a large movement of internal migration from rural areas to large urban areas, especially towards the city of Tirana. A number of factors, mainly economic and social factors, favored this massive population movement from rural areas to urban areas. Almost complete disintegration of the economic base in rural areas, as well as infrastructure shortages, have pushed large numbers of population into urban areas, especially towards the periphery, across migration flows. On the other hand, enormous rural migration not only redefined the physical boundaries of the city but also produced new social and economic forms. As a result of interaction and confrontation of the social and cultural mentalities between rural and urban population (the case of Tirana) emerged several phenomena that created a clear demarcation area under the cultural and social aspects, as well as semi-rural or semi-urban hybrid interaction. In this perspective, this essay attempts to use a multidisciplinary approach to explain the general factors of this massive internal migration but also some aspects of the newly-formed landscape of social and cultural mentalities after this migration. As a result of this cultural interaction, we attempt to understand the reality of various subcultures in the city of Tirana and social behaviors in order to clarify the effects of this process regarding the dilemma on the ruralization of the urban or urbanization of the rural population.

Keywords: Internal migration, ruralization, urbanization, intercultural distinction, subculture
Turkey’s National Employment Strategy and Youth: A Critical View to Action Plans

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Abstract

The National Employment Strategy (NES), which came into force in 2014, is the first significant initiative aimed an extensive transformation of employment by solving the structural issues of the Turkish labour market and bringing strong solutions to unemployment through increasing growth’s impact on employment in medium and long term. The NES, which consists of four main policy pillars with concrete targets, policy measures and actions for the seven sectors which have high employment flexibility, was settled by the three-year action plans. In addition, NES includes social policies for young people, in particular protections for young people’s labour market conditions. On the other hand, despite the completion of the actions covering between the years 2014 and 2016, the youth unemployment rate in Turkey remains among the highest countries compared to the European Union countries. This study aims to discuss the policies of the NES on young people within the framework of the youth unemployment, which has become a structural problem in the Turkish labour market. To this end, the effectiveness levels of the four key policy pillars and the concrete targets, policy measures and actions in the seven sector strategies will be examined towards the Turkish youth labour market. Finally, the impact of the NES on youth employment will be analyzed from a critical point of view and the necessity of structural actions will be emphasized.

Keywords: Turkish labour market, Unemployment, Youth Employment, National Employment Strategy
Social Networks and Mobilizations (Portugal, 2012)

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Abstract

In Portugal, in 2012, the movement “To hell with troika! We want our lives!” emerged from digital social networks and with demonstration on the street on September 15. This social movement has patented new forms of public mobilization and protest motivated by citizens’ dissatisfaction with the austerity measures of the Portuguese government, but it is part of the line of protest that has been taking place at the international level. Social networks were used to trigger mobilization, but the protest did not dispense with the traditional forms of expression in the public space, such as gatherings in the squares, rallies, marches and posters. Using a corpus taken from the written press, the event was analyzed using a theoretical and conceptual framework of theories of public space, social movements, and social networks. In this article we intend to reflect on the current protest movements, social networks and collective action, at a time when activism is exercised in electronic connections and in the street. Through this movement we aim to question whether we are facing new configurations of mobilization, visibility, public action and the creation of a common space, and / or if we are facing a continuity of the traditional social movement with the incorporation of new "repertoires of action".

Keywords: Portugal, social networks, mobilizations
Collective Action as a Basic Human Right

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Abstract

According to The European Social Charter, the European Convention on Human Rights, the ILO Conventions, the decisions of the European Court of Human Rights, the decisions of the European Social Rights Committee and the ILO supervisory bodies, the right to collective action is a democratic right that aims to protect and correct the economic and social interests of workers in the workplace or in another place appropriate for the purpose of action. The above-mentioned institutions accept the right to collective action as a fundamental human right. According to the decisions of the European Court of Human Rights, the right to collective action is regarded as a democratic right, including strike. In particular, the right to collective action is being used as a resistance mechanism against new working relations, which are imposed on working conditions, right to work and the right to organize. However, the tendency of this right to political field, leads to some debate about the legality of the right to collective action. In this context, In the decision of the European Court of Human Rights, the ILO's supervisory bodies and the European Committee on Social Rights, it is emphasized that collective action rights should be a basic human right. In this study, the legal basis of the right to collective action will be discussed in accordance with the decisions and requirements of the European Court of Human Rights and the decisions of the ILO supervisory bodies.

Keywords: Collective Action Right, Human Right, International Labour Organization, European Court of Human Rights
Urban Planning Terminology in Albanian and Foreign Languages

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**Abstract**

The following article aims to introduce a scientific work undertaken with the aim of producing an Urban Planning terminology Dictionary in Albanian, accompanied by French and English. The study and exposure of urban planning terminology will be treated in two works, part of one another: *The theory platform for the analyses of linguistic problems represented by this terminology. *The draft of a dictionary with the main urban planning terminology (Albanian – French – English). To accomplish these two works, a preparatory work has been done in the first stage as it follows: 1. A great quantity of urban planning terms has been taken from this branch’s literature (schoolbooks; books published by urban planners about the various urban problems; this branch’s periodical magazines; urban laws throughout the years alongside with the relevant regulations; etc) what makes up the factual material. 2. The theory material has been collected and studied and it includes monographs, articles, references and other editions which have dealt with Albanian terminology problems, obviously by Albanian authors. We have also used foreign literature about terminology problems, mainly in French. On this theory and factual bases and by following the scientific criteria which have been applied to draft the terminology dictionaries (Albanian – Foreign languages) by the terminology section of the Albanian language and literature Institute, we have launched the preliminary wordy of the dictionary and partially completed its equivalent in French. While working with this dictionary, we have begun dealing with one terminology problem which is used in this branch, the one of the meaning phenomena. During this whole process, there urged the need to complete the factual material and naturally to deeply exploit the theory literature.

**Keywords:** terminology, lexicography, urban planning.
The Equity Effects of Property Tax Caps: Evidence From Florida

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Harriet Stranahan

Abstract

Over the last decade Florida property owners have saved billions of dollars in taxes due to a 1995 assessment cap initiative which reduced homeowner’s tax burdens. Florida is not alone in passing assessment caps, 20 other states have passed similar property tax reductions. Proponents of Florida’s initiative said the measure would protect the elderly, many of whom live on fixed incomes in retirement, from property tax inflation. This research examines the vertical and horizontal equity effects of assessment caps. Using data from a large MSA in Florida, the results provide new evidence on which groups of homeowners are more likely to benefit from these types of initiatives.

Keywords: Property Tax Caps, Horizontal & Vertical Inequity, Economic Incidence, Heckman Selection, Suits Index
Organic Law – An Instrument to Enhance the Efficiency of the President Institution in Albania

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Abstract

The Organic Law in Albania is an “umbrella” law adopted by political consensus that breaks down the procedures for the implementation of the constitutional duties by an institution. The unclear lack of such a law for the President Institution in Albania for 27 years, has made that considerable decrees by the President were contested on base of political tendencies, increasing artificially the political pressure over the President’s Institution on each decree issued and giving political nuances to the procedures followed for the elaboration of decrees. According to Article 6 of the Albanian Constitution, all constitutional institutions function based on their organic law, but in Albania, there has never been an Organic Law for the President’s Office, i.e. a special law that regulates the organisation and functioning of this Institution, explains and clarifies the execution of any constitutional right and obligation of the Head of State, and guarantees the lawfulness, limits and balances of the President's inter-institutional relations. This article pays importance to the analytical study of the 2016 draft Law on the President's Office in Albania, specifically its approach and content validity in both the legal-constitutional and practical-functional sense. In conclusion, it recommends further investment in the completion and improvement of the first Organic Law on the President’s Office to avoid recurrence of problems encountered by this Institution so far, and prevent nullification of laws adopted to ensure adequate implementation of the Constitution rather than to create ambiguity or senselessly substitute it.
At the Crossroads of Science and Religion: A Sociological Approach

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Abstract

The relationship between science and religion has recently become the topic of intense discussions in the public sphere. However, up to now empirical social sciences have neglected qualitative reconstructions of scientists' worldviews in this area. The material for my analysis is 50 in-depth interviews with biologists and physicists, employees of scientific research institutes of Polish Academy of Sciences and universities in Poland. The largest group of the respondents agreed with the idea that the areas of science and religion do not overlap. Besides, the majority of Polish natural scientists including a little less than half of all non-believers demonstrates aversion to the conflict narrative. My study reconstructs narrative strategies of the respondents that refer to the science-religion interconnection.

Keywords: science-religion relationship, in-depth interviews, natural scientists, narrative strategies
Investigation of the Secondary School Students’ Level of Curiosity about Science Subjects depending on the Variables of Grade Level and Gender

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Abstract

The act of discovery starts with the sense of curiosity. Through the sense of curiosity, students start to make sense of objects and events around them. They research and question to learn the things they wonder about. Science classes involve many subjects that can nurture students’ sense of curiosity. Therefore, the sense of curiosity is one of the important elements affecting science education. Different variables may affect the sense of curiosity positively or negatively. Detection of what these variables are and then taking the necessary precautions might contribute to the development of sense of curiosity and science education. In this regard, the current study aimed to investigate the secondary school students’ level of curiosity about science subjects (5th-8th graders) depending on the variables of grade level and gender. In the current study, relational survey method was employed. The study group of the current research is comprised of a total of 455 students attending 7 different secondary schools. Of the participating students, 49.2% are girls, 50.8% are boys. Of the students, 23.7% are fifth graders, 18.5% are sixth graders, 36.9% are seventh graders and 20.9% are eighth graders. In order to collect data, “Science Curiosity Scale” developed by Serin (2010) was used. The original form of the Science Curiosity Scale is a 30-item scale designed in the form of 5-point Likert scale ranging from “Strongly agree: 5” to “Strongly disagree: 1”. As a result of the factor analysis, final form of the scale was given to include 19 items. The minimum score to be taken from the scale is 19 and the maximum score to be taken from the scale is 95. In order to determine whether the data are suitable for factor analysis, Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin (KMO) coefficient was calculated and was found to be .931. Barlett Sphericity test was also found to be significant (Significance = .000; p<.001). These findings show that the data are suitable for factor analysis. At the end of the analysis, it was found that there are four factors and the total variance explained by these four factors was found to be 55.658%. The common variance of these four factors identified in relation to the items was found to be ranging from .383 to .687. Cronbach alpha coefficient calculated for the Science Curiosity Scale was found to be α=.91. In the analysis of the data, SPSS was used (descriptive statistics and Two-Way ANOVA). At the end of the study, the following findings were obtained; The 5th, 6th and 7th grade female students’ level of curiosity about science subjects (x̄=86.00; 85.02 and 83.27, respectively) is higher than that of the male students (x̄= 80.19; 77.66 and 76.49, respectively). Though the 8th grade students’ level of curiosity does not vary significantly by gender, it differs in favor of the male students. A significant difference was found between the curiosity mean scores of the female students and the male students (F(1,443) =14.620; p<.001). The students’ mean curiosity scores do not vary significantly depending on the grade level variable (F(3,443) =2.164; p>.05). These findings show that gender is an important...
variable significantly affecting secondary students’ level of curiosity about science subjects and can explain 3.2% of the dependent variable ($\eta^2=.032$). Moreover, the common effect of grade level and gender on the secondary school students’ curiosity scores was not found to be significant ($F_{(3,443)}=1.590; p>.05$).

**Keywords:** curiosity about science topics, gender, grade level
Transparency of Taxpayers’ Rights and Obligations

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Abstract
Since the goal of tax system is based on self-declaration and voluntary compliance, with this study we intend to know on “Taxpayers’ Perceptions with regard of Tax Administration of Kosovo. We believe that most effective way to keep and enhance the voluntary compliance is through mutual trust and respect between TAK and Kosovo taxpayers.” This is the reason for the study and making recommendations on findings with a special emphasis on improvements of TAK services for the public, in order to fulfill expectations and to provide taxpayers with services they deserve. This work aims to identify the weaknesses and short-falls. Based on findings of this work through the survey with Kosovo taxpayers, we will recommend our ideas in order for the taxpayers to enjoy their legal rights and we will not allow for these rights to be violated in any form.

Keywords: Tax Administration of Kosovo, voluntary Compliance, self-declaring
The Relationship among Market Orientations, Organizational Innovativeness, and Business Performance in Transportation & Logistics Firms

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Abstract

Today, business environment is getting more complex due to globalization and intensive competitiveness. Firms are forced to respond those market changes promptly. However, they should manage their business and its processes effectively and efficiently. This situation restricts the time managers needed to plan their futures strategically. Moreover, they have experienced that they achieved the objectives by getting out of their deliberate strategies. Thus, strategic orientation approach to the strategic management is taking the place of traditional thought of strategy and strategic planning procedures by spreading strategic thinking to the employees like a corporate culture. Particularly transportation & logistics industry is suffering to adapt themselves to those changes and rapidly changing customer expectations as well. In this context, the aims of the present study are to explore the mutual relationships among market orientation and organizational innovativeness, and to examine the joint effects of those key drivers on firm performance, and to advance the understanding of the role of the strategic orientations of the firms. Due to the general structure of the research model, a questionnaire survey on transportation and logistics firms operating in Marmara Region has been concluded. The data that consists of 321 responses have been analyzed to test the hypothesized relationships across the study constructs, and several insights have been derived. The findings indicate strong relationship between strategic orientations and the firm performance. Foremost, the results indicate that inter-functional coordination and product/service innovation can significantly assist a firm in improving its business performance.

Keywords: Market Orientations; Organizational Innovativeness; Business Performance; Transport & Logistics Industry
The Impact of the Economic Imaginary

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Abstract

This paper investigates the relationship between neoliberalism and economic nationalism. By examining the influence of Estonian national identity over its economic policies since the country regained its independence in 1991, I argue that neoliberal economic policies are not incongruent with economic nationalism. I analyse the construction of Estonian self-image through the discourses of radical individualism and industriousness, historical suffering, desire for freedom and return to Europe, and sense of abandonment. By demonstrating how these discourses interact with the (neo)liberal paradigm I argue that Estonian policy formulators decided to pursue neoliberal policies because they perceived them to best serve their objectives of regaining and maintaining their sovereignty, breaking away from the geopolitical, economic and cultural influence of Russia, and reorienting their economy towards Western Europe. The neoliberal paradigm constitutes a form of economic nationalism in Estonia. The national self-image is a crucial determinant of political and economic decisions. Economic policies are a form of expression of the national identity.

Keywords: neoliberal, Estonia, post-socialist transition, national identity
University Education and Historical Studies in Albanian Area (1990-2015)

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Abstract

Socio-economic and political changes of 1990, which led to the opening of Albania to the world, created the conditions required to reform the history of the world, created the conditions necessary for the reform of geography and thought in Albanian historiography. Expanded contacts with Western historiography literature, it increased the number of foreign scholars visiting the universities and academic Albanians, students and researchers at Western universities. They began to organize trainings, conferences and joint research projects, which followed the Western experience and qualified Albanian university staff. In these circumstances it evolved the concept of history as science, as formation discipline at undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate levels consolidating class professional historian, not only as teachers but also as a researcher, drafting and implementing important projects on integration efforts and Balkan cooperation. The role of school terminology went for further integration of educational and cultural aspects, educational and national standards, the unification of curricula in all Albanian speaking territories, methodological aspects for unification of curricula and textbooks etc. Albanian history has entered a new phase, which differs from the previous ones, especially with respect to the spirit and practical character of research and science, making it a more important part of the research team and study that implement regional projects, national and international, aimed at resolving the outstanding issues related to university education and historical studies in Albanian areas in the post-communist period.

Keywords: Education, curriculum, textbook, human capital, reform, development.
Evaluation of Students’ Images of City Center: Aksaray-Turkey

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Abstract

The relationships of human with the environment are built on the images in their minds. How we perceive the environment and how our perceptions affect our behaviors are the subjects of behavioral geography. On humans’ perception of the environment, their own opinions and cultures are as influential as physical geography. Humans’ age, gender, education level and the time of being in a place affect their perception of the environment as well. These images created as different from the real world by humans in their minds due to above-mentioned reasons are defined with the concept of mind maps. Cities include many elements that can be placed in mental images of people. According to Lynch (1980), in the minds of people living in cities, there are five primary elements that are routes, edges, intersections, zones and triangulation points. In the current study, the primary purpose is to elicit the Aksaray City Center images of the students attending the Department of Social Studies Teaching. The secondary purpose of the study is to determine the causes of differences in the perceptions of the students (time spent in the city, gender, the neighborhood of residence, economic status) intensively using city center. Within the study, the draft map method was employed. The students were asked to draw the map of the city center in the minds. In order to evaluate the changes in the perceptions taking place over time, the study was conducted on the first and fourth-year students. At the end of the study, it was found that primarily the existence of the city square, which is in the position of the main intersection of the city, was detected in the students’ mental maps. This is followed by the route leading to the university. When the findings were evaluated on the basis of gender, it was found that the male students have a more detailed city image. The female students’ maps are mostly restricted to places such as banks, cafes and shopping centers. Proportional to the time spent in the city, the fourth-year students’ city images are more sophisticated and positions of places were more accurately shown in their maps. With increasing economic status, more expensive and known places are found their places in the mental maps.

Keywords: City Image, Mind Maps, University Students, Aksaray, Turkey
Public Interest opposite the Freedom of Contractual Will in Administrative Contracts in the Republic of Albania

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Abstract

The protection of the public interest is the main principle governing the activity regulation of the administrative bodies. This activity, traditionally, has been developed through administrative acts, as an expression of the unilateral and authoritarian willpower of public authority, which creates legal consequences. The administrative act has been and remains the most important instrument for the administration bodies to accomplish their mission, but it is no longer effective. Particularly this lack of efficiency is noticed in recent years when the development of the economy and the needs of the ever-growing society have prompted the administration to adapt its activity by making use of other mechanisms “borrowed” from private law. An important part of public activity can also be achieved through the contract as a way that brings the state closer to the private, mitigating its dominant position and leaving space for the efficiency of private activity to fulfil public engagements. Such contracts today are known as “administrative contracts” or “public contracts”. The terms mentioned above are instruments that establish legal relations, for the regulation of which the principle of public interest is opposed and competes with the principle of freedom of the contractual willpower.

The regulation of these types of contracts is reached through the private law, which constitutes the general normative framework of contracts (lex generalis) even for the administrative contracts. But this general arrangement will have effect for as long as it does not contradict the imperative provisions of the specific act of public law (lex specialis), which regulates the administrative procedure for the completion of these contracts. This paper aims to bring to the spotlight the way our legislation predict and regulates administrative contracts, by emphasising particularly the features of their dualistic nature. The coexistence and competition of the principles of freedom of contractual willpower and the protection of the public interest, evidenced in administrative contracts, is presented in this paper through the legal analysis of the Albanian legal framework which regulates these contracts. Under the terms when the role of the state in providing public services tends to increase and our legislation aims the harmonization in accord with the European legislation, it is necessary to improve the administrative contract regulation and extend its scope of action.

Keywords: administrative, public, contract, authority
Assurance of Evidence

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Abstract

This paper reflects the detailed theoretical and interpretative treatments of criminal evidence and the process of proving according to criminal procedural legislation, based on the Constitution and E.C.H.R. Theoretical and interpretative deepened treatments are based on the scientific research closely connected to the judicial practice of the implementation of this legislation, the positions held by judicial practice. Special attention is paid to all criminal evidence, meaning, object, features, procedural rules of receiving, verification and evaluation of them throughout the penal process, the rights and obligations of the parties in this process. The implementation of legal provisions onto evidence, evidence search tools and the process of proving, by procedural subjects in judicial practice has recognized and shown the most important issues in relation to other institutes of criminal procedural law. The terminology used in this paper is supported and conditioned by the terminology used by the legislator in dispositions of the Criminal Procedure Code. Provision of proof is a relatively new institute in the criminal proceedings. It first became known in the procedure code of 1995, in order to preserve the value of the data found during the preliminary investigation. Providing of proof would be applied in all those cases where evidence risks to be damaged, disappear, et lost and receiving it can not be deferred until the trial. Regarding to the relevant literature in Albanian language, only few authors have mentioned it sporadically, not emphasizing the real importance of evidence assurance institute. Even in the commentary of criminal proceedings this institute is dealt with very little, in summary, if we refer to its importance. Assurance of proof is provided in the Criminal Procedure Code in Articles 316-322. In these provisions is expressed the whole procedure of securing evidence, from the definition of specific cases in which it might apply (Article 316 Criminal Procedure Code), continuing with the presentation of evidence and the application for evidence assurance and subjects legitimized in its appearance (Articles 317,319 Criminal Procedure Code), as well as the right of the court in disposition of this requirement. An important element to be treated is to determine the scope of the institute of evidence assurance. Often in practice it is said that the demand for evidence assurance, is applied more in criminal offenses smuggling of women for sexual exploitation, trafficking of minors for other exploitation purposes, sexual relations with minors etc. In this paper is also treated the evidence assurance institute as well as that of the research means of evidence, these institutions closely linked to criminal trials and the process of proving. Of the most important institutes of criminal procedural law is that of "criminal evidence and proving process" which is rightly considered as the backbone institute of this right. The importance of criminal evidences and the process of proving is determined by the purpose itself and content of the criminal legislation. These institutes are directly related to the content and task of this science, to what is the process of detecting and proving the truth in criminal trials. While acknowledging the special place it occupies the evidence assurance institute it is not yet determined its importance really. In this brief theoretical material, I tried to treat through a slightly wider framework assurance of evidence
focusing on its importance, theoretical and practical problems in determining the scope of these institutes.

*Keywords:* criminal evidence, criminal procedure code, evidence assurance,
The Romanian-Russian Relations and the New Linguistic Hegemony: Towards Natural and Necessary Synergies

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Abstract

It is certainly and without fail that through a simple hovering over the present state of relations between Romania and the Russian Federation, the factual balance is not an encouraging one, the state of mind of the bilateral register being continuously dominated by the same issue: history is a ballast, and the frame in which the two states perceive each other has been fixed a long time ago, clogged and jammed by momentarily political statements, and deprived of any heuristic nuances. Therefore and within such optics, based on an undeniable belief that a heuristic approach of the bilateral dimension is an imperative, the present paper aims to provide a first concrete solution likely to create the critical mass necessary to achieve a complex regeneration process of normalizing Romania's relations with its neighbor to the East. Circumscribed to such a sphere of interest, the present paper assumes the fact that beyond the overwhelming historical legacy related to the bilateral register and implicitly, beyond its problematic receipt, the complex process of normalizing the relations between Romanian and the Russian Federation is unavoidably obstructed by an entire arsenal of terms such as ,,reset”, ,,thaw”, ,,recovery”, ,,blocking”, terms which maintain and support a certain negative perception, thus certifying the fact that it prevails a ,,freeze”, a ,,cooling” and an impediment in the bilateral dimension. Starting from this undeniable and undoubted reality, the axial objective of the present paper is to fundamentally reverse this lexical hegemony, thus operating substantive changes at the level of the linguistic universe specific to the bilateral register, in such a manner as to register a major change in regards to the behavioral pattern afferent to the bilateral reports.

Keywords: Romania, Russian Federation, bilateral register, constructivism, linguistic hegemony
Italian Politics in Albania and Albanian Factors February - December 1918

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Abstract

The paper consists of these key ideas, first, Italy in Albania reflects cautious, which was accompanied by the formation of an administration with an Albanian element but in the care of Italy. While, on the other hand, felt anxious, due to the publication of the Secret Treaty of London, which was associated with the distrust of Albanians towards Italy's care. Secondly, on the other hand, Italy’s politics urged the Albanians of Switzerland to wake up in these very important historical moments for Albania, for the fact that the post-war political conditions of the First World required Albania to be represented in European politics through Italy. Thirdly, the Albanian political class was on its way to maturity, at the same time experiencing disagreement, in the mere political terms, under such conditions Italy had drawn into its politics, some prominent Albanian elements, who sought Italy's help for The formation of the Albanian state. This intervention had created discussions and disagreements between the Albanian political segments that with the echo of the past were perceived as different political streams.

Keywords: Politics, Statehood, politic diaspora, political factors, political diversity.
Pre-service Teachers’ Eye Movements While Observing Children’s Calculation Process

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Abstract

In order to teach precisely, it is important for teachers to observe students and predict their errors and mistakes when they are engaged in answering questions. Therefore, pre-service teachers learn about students’ common mistakes. Considering this, even if they lack experience in teaching in a classroom, teachers are expected to put this knowledge into practice while teaching. Therefore, it is expected that pre-service teachers and ordinary university students would differ in terms of the way they observe students’ answering process. The present study aimed to examine the differences in eye movements between pre-service teachers and ordinary university students while observing video clips of children’s calculation process during a written division task. The video clips included two situations, one in which the child answered correctly and the other in which he/she answered incorrectly. The errors depicted in the video clips were the typical errors committed by elementary school students. Participants were required to identify errors by observing the video clips as teachers, and they were instructed to ring a bell when they did so. Tobii Pro Glasses 2 (50Hz), a glasses-type eye tracker, was used for eye tracking during the task, after which we interviewed the participants about the types of errors they observed and what they focused on to identify the errors.

Keywords: Pre-service teachers, Calculation, Eye movements
Factors that Hasten the Integrity of Albania in the European Union

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Abstract

European Union is nowadays the most popular term used in Albania. Its integration means development, solidarity, justice, equality. Data of verified polls reveal Albania as the most enthusiastic country, bearing the highest percentage of popularity willing to join EU. Ben Rosamond defines European Union as an “endless, deep, broad process of the politic, economic and security cooperation among nations with the intention to restore peace”. North Europe has been called Europe by greeks in the VII century B.C, naming it after the name of the Phoenician king’s daughter who was brought in Crete by her absconder Zeus. The integrity process is complex, complicated, multidimensional and deep in reforms of all fields. It is a long process with great responsibility that requires a big invest in fulfilling standards. The psychological factors have their role and impact in all other factors hasting this process.

Keywords: Albania, Integrity, European Union(EU), prosperity, development, poll

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Statistical Evaluation of Seasonal Effects to Income, Sales and Work-Occupation of Farmers, the Apples Case in Prizren and Korça Regions

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Abstract

This paper is focused on the statistical assessment of seasonal effects on farmers' income, their work-occupation in farm, and sales of apple products. In focus of this study we have taken two regions Prizren and Korça. By making a comparing between Albania and Kosovo, with regard to significance of the model of seasonal effects for apples. In this paper we have used several statistical and econometric methods to evaluate the seasonal effects on economic phenomena taken in the study. We have used the variation indicators to show the distribution of the observed phenomenon. We also have used dummy variable models. Dummy variables are often used in time series analysis, in seasonal and qualitative analysis of applied data. Each dummy variable is set to 1 if the point of datas is received from a specified season and otherwise 0. To evaluate the seasonal effects in a time series through dummy variables, we need to use four dummy variables, one for each quarter, or three dummy variables and a constant. These variables use them as inputs or factors in a regression model. In our paper, we have categorized sales, for apples in 5 different periods. To estimate the magnitude of seasonal effects and to test their significance are used four dami variables. The purpose of this paper is to show whether the pattern of seasonal effects for apples is significant

Keywords: seasonal effect, model significance, variation indicators, dummy variables

Osmani,M (2010), Econometric analysis with dummy variable (pp.129-130) Tirane, Albania 2010
National Educational Standards in Equivalenting the Programms of History in Albanian Areas in Post-Communist Periods

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Abstract

Besides the geopolitical and economics changes in Balcanic aeras in 1990, we are aware of the enhancing the knowledge in all aspects of science and life. This intense development is a heavy burden for our education system, in all its segments. It is true that the Albanian High Education has got a wide experience creating an academic and institutional tradition with its all ideological and political impacts. The most obvious evidence is the consolidation of a wide range of professors that helped a lot to build up an acceptable and a deserved place in its education system. Accepting the Declaration of Bologna, we accepted the same standards as many European universities did, known as Bologna process. This process, as the example of equivalence of programs of history in Albanian areas leads to necessary changes in education pre-academic university. After the complex reform in the high education that included the structure, plan-programs and management, under process of Bologna condition, reflected in all universities in Albania. Such reforms should be done also toward high schools and secondary ones all aver Albania. The compilation of history texts according to contemporary requirements is a necessary demand. This is a manageable duty due to the wide and extensive historiography and experience deepening the mainstreams of modern plot texture and structure programs of Albanian history.

Keywords: Structure, plan-programs, lesson texts, management, process of Bologna
English Language and its importance of learning it in Albanian schools

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Abstract

Taking into consideration many factors that indicate that the English language has taken an important place in communication and its use by millions in the whole world has become a necessity and not an unnecessary subject in the teaching process in Albanian universities. As a result of that many countries including Albania are seeing an increase of the demand for teaching the English language since the first grades. Also it is found necessary the addition of classes of foreign languages in Albanian schools and universities. The curricula of the language is enriched each year and the new methods are becoming more profitable in teaching the language. Naturally teaching the English at school is becoming important not only academically but also in the practical aspect of learning, such as using language for various purposes such as business purposes, communication, reading foreign books especially in literature or other types. In the aspect of learning the language in the school not only the book is important but also other factors need to be taken into account.

Keywords: English language, teaching, learning English curricula, Universities, learning
Cost Sharing in Primary Health Care System in Albania: Creating Mechanisms for Relieving the Financial Burden to Diabetic Patients

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Abstract

Albania continues to be involved in a major political and social stalemate regarding the coverage of some higher out-of-pocket health-care payments for people with diabetes. Extensive efforts have been made in this regard to expand funds, as well as the list of reimbursable medicines, but not enough to alleviate the heavy economic burden that diabetics facing by buying medical materials for periodic control. These devices and materials, unfortunately, continue to be out of reimbursement scheme. The aim of this study is to outline some of the issues that the health financing system faces in the reimbursement scheme, as well as to examine the effect of co-payments introduction as an additional form of financing, in order to facilitate diabetics expenditure to provide their medical materials. This paper is made possible by reviewing the financing system and reimbursement scheme in Albania, comparing with EU members, which served as the main sources, as well as consultation with pharmacists and physicians in the effort to extract the most out-of-pocket costs of diabetic patients. Referring to financial income, to direct costs that diabetics face daily in their expenses, and beyond the difficulty that the reimbursement scheme has to cover them, co-payments may reduce 50 to 100 % of these costs. Although apparently paradoxical with public opinion and beyond the methodological limitations, we strongly recommend that, until the full reimbursement of any out-of-pocket expenses for diabetic patients, the integration of co-payments in primary health care system, will alleviate their economic burden.

Keywords: Co-payments, diabetic patients, direct costs, medical materials, and reimbursement scheme
An Analysis of Güngör Dilmen’s *The Ears of Midas* and its Translation in Terms of Venuti’s Domestication and Foreignization Theory

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Abstract

Güngör Dilmen, who is a well known Turkish playwright, dramaturg, and director, has written twenty six plays, two tales, and two scenarios. Dilmen is known by his effective use of ancient mythology and folk stories in his works. One of the master works of Turkish theatre *Midas’ın Kulakları* (*The Ears of Midas*) –based on an ancient myth about King Midas – brings him fame and success. The play was staged in various theatres including Turkish State Theatre. *The Ears of Midas* is a one act play evaluated from mythological and fantastic stories. Though it is considered as a fantastic play, the characters created by Dilmen are managed to depict an empathetic understanding of the human soul and its most powerful motives, which devise and guide a mortal individual’s acts. *Midas’ın Kulakları* is translated into English by Carolyn Graham. Translation of the dramatic language which is a language desing coded with spoken and written language, and also the use of dramatic devices such as light, music, and stage setting, and sometimes the poetic language are expected to be transfered to the translation of the play. The objective in this study is not only to describe or to criticise translations of dramatic language of *The Ears of Midas*, but also to examine opinions in translation approach and drama translation practices from Aristotle’s Poetica to modern times. This study attempts to emphasize how the cultural elements of the source text are transfered into the target culture in terms of domestication and foreignization theory of Lawrence Venuti.

**Keywords:** *The Ears of Midas, Theatre, Turkish Theatre, Drama Translation*
Health Rights of Disabled People and Health Tourism

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Abstract

Services for disabled people, who have birth defect or dysfunctionality by accidents, illnesses etc., should have a quality that facilitates access and improves life quality and satisfaction. Social and health services for disabled people and their caregivers should be organized as to their expectations and needs. According to the results of Population and Housing Census 2011 in Turkey almost 5 million people have at least a dysfunctionality and also, %15 of the world’s population lives with some form of disability as to the report of World Health Organization. In the light of this data, the issues such as care, education, access, employment, financial aid, social security are crucial for disabled people. Moreover, health tourism, which is important in terms of not only promoting health but also preventing current health status, rises to prominence due to increasing world population and enhancing life quality. Health tourism helps disabled people and their caregivers to present the best medical treatment alternatives. The objective of this study is to contribute to the literature by determining expectations and perceptions of disabled people about current health services, social aid and social security according to their special needs in the context with health tourism and also evaluating the obtained data by comparing the services in other countries with Turkey in the light of Andersen’s classification of welfare state.

Keywords: Disabled People, Health Right, Health Tourism, Welfare State
Can You Find Yourself? A Social Work Perspective on Terror Crimes

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Abstract

The concept of identity is discussed through many models and theories in the literature, as a setting part and consequence of the diversity. Parsons shapes the social system as a framework of various sociological institutions, which many actors play different roles in a harmony. Desire to change and identity status can be affected by especially parental support, peer relations, world philosophy, academic success, success degree of exploration of the identity. The concept of success degree means the expectations of society from an individual about social roles and identities in the light of social system. Adolescents can prefer to have an identity status of a terror group and this assumption is predicted with desire to change, identity and social functionality in the social system. Moreover, planned changing process in social work aims to recover role identity and improve social functionality of an individual in order to contribute the idea of union by valuing human rights, self-determination and equality. Adolescents, who discover the assertiveness through social work practices, can enhance a self-control and coping strategy to threatening actions for society like terror crimes. The objective of this study is to discuss the relations between identity, desire to change and social roles and evaluate the identity process of adolescents with a holistic perspective of social work. In accordance with this purpose, the movie “Heaven Will Wait” which is about brainwashing process of French girls that are victims of terror groups, directed by Marie-Castille Mention-Schaar in 2016 was evaluated by descriptive analysis as one of the qualitative data analysis process within this study to highlight social work practices and perspective in the context with desire to change and self-control for enhancing human value and honor.

Keywords: Identity, Desire to Change, Social Roles, Social Work, Terror Crimes, Descriptive Analysis
Effect of Employee Stock Ownership Program, Leverage, Size and Growth to Return on Equity at Manufactur Company

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Abstract

Financial performance is a description of condition company to assess profitability and return on equity. Financial performance can be influenced by many factors, that is ESOP, leverage, size and growth. The purpose of this paper is to examine the effect of ESOP, leverage, size and growth on financial performance. The financial performance used ROE method with dupont system. The paper includes a conceptual as well as empirical analysis, in which data from a sample of listed manufactur firms for the period from 2011 to 2015. The method of this paper is descriptive and verifikatif, method to describe research variables and explain the relationship between variables with hypothesis testing. Data analysis technique is panel data model, use F test and T test. From the result of this study, it can be concluded that ESOP has a significant effect to ROE, leverage not significant to ROE, size has significant effect to ROE, and growth not significant to ROE. Future research can examine other variables, such as funding policies, ownership structures, intellectual capital and good corporate governance. Researchers can take samples in other sectors, such as financial and insurance sector, service sector, property sector, or industry sector also.

Keyword: ESOP, leverage, size, growth, financial performance, ROE
Role of Pakistani Media in Mitigating Disaster: A Content Analysis of Two English Newspapers, Dawn and the Nation

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Abstract

The increasing number of natural disasters in Pakistan, continues to expose millions of people to suffering and poverty. Destruction caused as a result of predictable and semi predictable disasters can be mitigated if awareness is created by media on time. Sharing accurate and timely information through media can greatly impact disaster management in terms of its preventive and precautionary measures. This study explores the role of Pakistani media in mitigating damage caused by natural disasters. Through content analysis it investigates the coverage of various natural disasters by Pakistani print media. It aimed to reveal the role of media in mitigating disasters by observing the role it played in previous major disasters. It has been observed that that media coverage did not play any significant role in preparedness phase of disaster management cycle. It is suggested that the media coverage was quite appreciable during response and recovery phase. However, there are still areas of improvement for media, in the pre disaster phase, such as resource management, providing early warnings and panic management. There is a dire need to train the media persons to increase their capacity for understanding key disaster terms while reporting disasters.

Keywords: Disaster Mitigation, Media, Disaster Management, Natural Disaster
Improving Agility of Disaster Supply Chain in a Developing Country

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Abstract

The objective of this research study is to explore the challenges of disaster supply chain in a developing country, and to develop a framework for improving its agility. The study provides insights on the gaps in effective response of supply chain in situations of sudden disaster in a developing country. It proposes ways to improve need assessment, procurement and relief operations to enhance the agility of supply chain resulting in saving more lives. This research uses the case study methodology. A single case was selected of a not-for-profit organization as the focal firm in the disaster supply chain. The case organization is involved in providing humanitarian relief in situations of natural disasters. The data was collected through multiple semi-structured interviews with members of various entities of disaster supply chain, including managers of focal firm, donors, volunteers, people affected by disaster, and recipients of aid. The researchers also used participant observation as means of data collection, by spending time on site as participant in a flood relief drive by the focal firm in one of the flood affected areas. The study reveals that there are significant gaps in the alignment of activities of different players of a disaster supply chain. A comprehensive framework is developed to better coordinate all the stakeholders in the supply chain and thus enhance its responsiveness in cases of natural disasters. This research study contributes to the relatively scarce research literature on disaster supply chains operating in developing countries. Its practical significance is that it provides guidelines to supply chain managers who would like to know how disaster management can be handled in better way to enhance agility of supply chain in developing country resulting in saving of human lives. This study considered the case of flood as the natural disaster. However other disasters like earthquakes or tsunamis may have different dynamics in terms of supply chain for its victims. An area of future research may be the empirical verification of effectiveness of the proposed framework.

Keywords: disaster supply chain, sustainable supply chain, agility, humanitarian supply chain, responsiveness
Reinsurance and Performance of Insurance Companies: Evidence from Central and Eastern Europe

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Abstract

Although from the perspective of financial theory, the effect of risk management on the firm value ranges from its irrelevance and negative effect to its contribution to increase the firm value, risk management is the core of insurance business. In order to meet the interests of the stakeholders, insurers' risk management activities are focused on reducing the sources of threat to the insurance company value as well as on taking the opportunities of risk in creating the value. While insurance companies are exposed to various types of risks, underwriting risk is the most important one. Among the tools of underwriting risk management, insurance companies usually apply reinsurance. The reinsurance could provide catastrophe protection, contribute to stabilization of loss experience, and increase underwriting capacity. However, since there are costs of reinsurance, it could reduce profitability of insurance companies. Taking into consideration different theoretical views on the relationship between risk management and the firm value, as well as the advantages and the costs of reinsurance, there is a question of the effect of reinsurance on performance of insurance companies. While the relationship between reinsurance and insurers' performance has been analyzed in developed countries, the research based on insurance companies operating in less developed insurance markets is scarce. Consequently, this research will be focused on the analysis of the effect of reinsurance on insurance companies’ performance in Central and Eastern Europe. As the research method, the panel data analysis will be applied.

**Keywords:** reinsurance, performance, insurance companies, Central and Eastern Europe
Alternative Revenue Generation Methods for Sustainable Development of Nigerian Universities: Problems and Prospects

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Abstract

This paper examined the alternative revenues generation methods for a sustainable development of Nigerian universities, the associated problems and their ways forwards. However, the study however identified the, needs for the Nigerian universities to sources for alternative revenue, the usages, the associated problems and ways forwards. It was however suggested that since the government alone cannot soldier all the financial needs of the university education; therefore the university management should endeavor to sources for reverence both internally and externally so that sustainable development of Nigerian universities will be adequately enhanced.

Keywords: Alternative revenue generation, Sustainable development, Problems and prospects and Nigerian Universities.
A Study of Child Beedi rollers in Beedi Industry: Special Reference to Solapur City in Maharashtra, India

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Abstract

Beedi manufacturing industry in India, is a highly labour-intensive and predominantly it is an unorganized sector. The beedi rolling function is generally done by women and child labourers who have no other means of financial earning. Child labourers are weak segments of Indian unorganized labour force. This study has been done in Solapur city of Maharashtra state in India. This city is important and famous for power loom industry and beedi industry also. Through the study an attempt has been made to highlight the health problems faced by child beedi rollers. This study also focuses on the factors which force children to work in beedi manufacturing industry and assesses literacy level of the child beedi rollers. The results of the study show that socio-economic condition of majority of the selected child beedi rollers is very poor and majority of them are facing various deceases due to constant exposure to tobacco dust and unhygienic working conditions at work place. Most of them have not completed their primary education.

Keywords: Beedi industry, Child beedi rollers, Child Labours, Health problems, working conditions.
Writing with No Heroes: The Politics of Pain in Gorge Orwell’s 1984

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Abstract

In The Writing of the Disaster Maurice Blanchot urges the reader to “think with pain.” (Morris 289) Reflecting upon the pain of the Auschwitz, a world beyond words is not an easy task. And yet, Blanchot’s appeal insinuates that pain somehow facilitates that reflection. We are, after all, as Blanchot would argue, more than a bundle of neurons; slave to the signals that they transmit. My paper opposes this doctrine and argues that pain negatively impacts human behavior and cognition. This paper looks at George Orwell’s Nineteen Eighty Four as an archive of pain that detracts and devalues humanity in the face of physical suffering. As Judith Harris posits in his book Signifying Pain, “What separates the divine and the mortal is merely the error of flesh.”(Harris 155) Even though pain has immense sociopolitical significance in the history of humanity, there is no adequate expression for it. Orwell’s novel thus sheds a new light upon the role pain plays in literary narrative and human behaviour. “Of pain you could wish only one thing: that it should stop. Nothing in the world was so bad as physical pain. In the face of pain there are no heroes.” (Orwell 101) The literature that emerges from this pain only underlines the essential chasm between the mortal and divine; the hero and the dehumanized man.

Keywords: behaviour, dehumanization, pain, writing, archive
The Influence of Consumers’ Attitudes on Purchasing Decision of Food Safety Product

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Abstract

Conventional agriculture practices with chemical uses can have negative impact on human health and ecosystem services which inevitably lead to unsustainable growth. Increase demand for food quality and price premium food safety products is one crucial factor that can motivate the shift to environmentally friendly farming system. This research aims to analyze factors influencing decision making in purchasing food safety products with emphasis on psychological factors to gain understanding of consumers’ attitudes and perceptions related to the purchasing behavior. Interviews were conducted with 601 urban Thai consumers in Chiang Mai province with regards to choices made in buying conventional grown longan or chemical-free longan at a premium price. Exploratory factor analysis was initially employed to examine consumers’ attitudes which were subsequently linked as explanatory variables in purchasing decision model. The results suggest the attitudes can be divided into four categories, including trust, environmental concern, health benefit and peer group. These factors, except peer group, have significantly affected the probability of buying safe longan at the premium price. Aside from these psychological factors, the traditional socio-economic variables that positively influence the purchasing of safe longan include gender (male), age, income, and family size. These findings provide the opportunities for businesses and policy makers to help expand market of green agricultural products to accelerate green growth.

Keywords: attitudes; consumer behavior; food safety; Thailand
The Added Business Value of Integrated Enterprise Systems: The Case of Albtelecom

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Abstract

The telecommunication industry is one of the most dynamic industries in today’s global economy and is the heart of technological revolution which has changed radically our lives and the path of the business. Products and services today can be paid and distributed by the means of a telecommunication network, which is far different from that of the last decades. Technological development and market powers are increasingly affecting the change of this industry from the state industry to the main axle of a country’s trade. New investments in telecommunications eventually stimulate economic development of a country. ALBtelecom’s main priorities are also the application of technological innovations and improvement of customer care. The company is characterized by a new dynamic structure, entirely focused on customers and their satisfaction, concerning the quality of services provided. The main purpose of this study is to further extend the examination of ALBtelecom performance through other indicators such as number of customers rather than only through ratio analysis. Hence, we consider the organizational, operational, managerial and strategic benefits resulted from implementation of ERP software. We evaluate the effects of SAP (Systems, Applications and Products) analyzing the critical success factors, presenting the improved customer care and comparing the number of customers, the number of full time employees (FTEs) and the respective trends before and after the ERP adoption. The findings of this research study reveal that there is a significant improvement of ALBtelecom performance measured in several dimensions. They also provide useful information for enterprises about the main aspects they should pay attention before they select an ERP software. A major intent is also to help scholars and students to use the presented facts in their further researches.

Keywords: ALBtelecom, SAP, customer perspective, human resources perspective
The Strategy of European Union in the Enlargement Process of Western Balkans

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Abstract

The purpose of this article is to present an analysis of the main points of the strategy that the European Union has defined in recent years regarding the enlargement of towards the Western Balkan countries. In November 2015, the European Commission presented the EU Enlargement Strategy, accompanying reports for each country, such as Albania, Serbia, Bosnia, Turkey, Kosovo and Macedonia. One of the key points of the strategy will be the progress that these countries have made in some strategic sectors that represent the political, economic and institutional foundations. Only if these elements are consolidated then it will be proceeding with accession to the EU, otherwise the accession will be postponed. The key points that the EU seeks are the rule of law where the EU still faces problems in countries such as Turkey where a series of arrests have recently been carried out in categories such as judges, journalists and so on. Another element of the EU strategy is regional co-operation, which is based on two pillars. On the one hand, the EU aims to increase interconnections between countries in the field of energy, infrastructure, transports, education and electronic communications. Also, important parts of the regional cooperation remain the good relations between neighbors, this also seeing what has happened in the past, especially with the wars in Kosovo, Bosnia etc. The study methodology will be qualitative and will be also based in historical facts analyzing each country in the Western Balkans. As will be seen from the study, the Balkan countries still have a lot of work to do in their way towards united Europe.

Keywords: Western Balkans, rule of law, regional co-operation, economic progress, EU
The Process of Bringing Albania Closer to the European Union. The Role of International Organizations and Italian Soft Power.

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Abstract

This research is divided into two levels and refers to two specific scientific-disciplinary areas: the socio-historical-political and the juridical-constitutional level. On the socio-historical-political level, it should be noted that Albania has witnessed several transitions over the last 27 years. Despite the commitment of the international community, and especially of the EU, the political transition is considered to be less successful, as the main players have changed in form but not in substance. Political focus is the elite analysis. In the Albanian case, the elites who had played roles during the communist regime remained deeply rooted in the political context of the country, in most cases directly and actively and in other circumstances indirectly. From a legal point of view in particular, this research must follow at least two strands. Firstly, an analysis of the relations between the EU and its Member States and Albania as set out in the 2006 Stabilization and Association Agreement (and the 2005 re-admission agreement). As is well known, the accession process is based on a strict conditionality mechanism (political-legal and economic criteria), which emerges also from the structure of the Stabilization and Association Agreements. In this perspective, the reforms and progress of candidate countries are periodically assessed by the Commission. The second set of legal studies on the issue will address the significant reforms that the country is implementing in order to align itself with the rigorous criteria of respect for the principles of the rule of law and the protection of human rights required by European institutions to give free access to accession. The constitutional review approved in July 2016 explicitly entrusted a European Monitoring Mission led by the European Commission to oversee this process, the results of which will be focused this research.

Keywords: Albania, Italy, UE, Politics, society, Institutions, Constitution, Democracy
Digital Technology and E-Learning as a Support of the Traditional Learning in Albania

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Abstract

The purpose of this paper is to show the importance of digital technologies in teaching and learning as well as their role in the e-learning process. Information and communication technologies (ICTs) have become a common part in all aspects of our life. In the last twenty years, ICT use has radically changed the practices and procedures of all forms involving the education of the new generations. Education is a social activity and the quality of education has traditionally been linked to teachers who have direct contact with students. ICT use in education involves more student-centered learning. But with the rapidly moving world of digital media and information, the role of ICT in education is becoming more and more important and this importance will continue to grow and develop. This paper provides a summary of the use of ICT in education, the effects of its use in education, the quality of education and student motivation. The selected methodology is quantitative and the review of literature on this issue. This study was conducted in two schools in the Tirana district and the sample is made from teachers and students respectively 12 teachers and 60 students in total. The results of this study found that digital teaching technologies are popular with students but there is a lack of knowledge by teachers, especially those of older age. There is also a lack of infrastructure in public schools, which nowadays impedes teaching by using technological tools that would also permit to have an E-learning process in all the country.

Keywords: E-Learning, ICT, Simulation, Digital Technology, Interpreter, Education, Contemporary Impacts
Investigating Student’s Needs for English Language as Foundations for Syllabus Design

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Abstract

Efforts to integrate into the European Union and a rapid economic growth in Albania have led to the growing prevalence of English language, which has become the leading foreign language for communication between experts not only at the international but also national level, as various business documents, contracts, reports, etc., have been widely used by graduates in the field of economics in their daily work. Thus, English language teaching in universities should reflect these changes that are taking place extensively in Albanian society. New syllabuses should put more emphasis on the new skills that current students of economics need to be integrated into the labour market. Through semi-structured questionnaires administered to 420 students of the first year studying Business English at the Faculty of Economics and Agribussines, Agricultural University of Tirana, this study aims at identifying their needs for language and communication for future use either for employment or further education purposes. Program design and course development of Business English needs to respond to future student needs for future employment or study purposes. In general, needs analysis plays a key role and is the first step in the process of drafting each subject in the English Language for Specific Purposes, a course characterized by the student centered approach. The results of this study will serve as input to be taken into account for the design of the Business English course at the Faculty of Economics at AUT. The analysis of the research data has provided teachers insights into business English teaching related issues and an essential input in BE syllabus design.

Keywords: English for Specific Purposes, Needs analysis, Target situation analysis, Learning situation analysis, Present situation analysis
Organic Law – an Instrument to Enhance the Efficiency of the President Institution in Albania

Ilda Jeha

Abstract

The Organic Law in Albania is an “umbrella” law adopted by political consensus that breaks down the procedures for the implementation of the constitutional duties by an institution. The unclear lack of such a law for the President Institution in Albania for 27 years, has made that considerable decrees by the President were contested on base of political tendencies, increasing artificially the political pressure over the President’s Institution on each decree issued and giving political nuances to the procedures followed for the elaboration of decrees. According to Article 6 of the Albanian Constitution, all constitutional institutions function based on their organic law, but in Albania, there has never been an Organic Law for the President's Office, i.e. a special law that regulates the organisation and functioning of this Institution, explains and clarifies the execution of any constitutional right and obligation of the Head of State, and guarantees the lawfulness, limits and balances of the President’s inter-institutional relations. This article pays importance to the analytical study of the 2016 draft Law on the President’s Office in Albania, specifically its approach and content validity in both the legal-constitutional and practical-functional sense. In conclusion, it recommends further investment in the completion and improvement of the first Organic Law on the President’s Office to avoid recurrence of problems encountered by this Institution so far, and prevent nullification of laws adopted to ensure adequate implementation of the Constitution rather than to create ambiguity or senselessly substitute it.

Keywords: legal-constitutional, President Institution, Albania, Organic Law.

Mrs. Ilda Jeha, graduated from the Faculty of Language-Literature, University of Tirana and later on from the Faculty of Law, with very high grades. She was graduated with Second Level Master on European Studies, ‘Specialist on Economic and Juridical issues’ from Tirana University. She enrolled and is pursuing the Doctoral Degree in Law. Actually, is working as executive Director at ‘ISSAT” Institute of Strategic Studies and Training in Tirana and she is part time lecturer at the International University of Struga, Macedonia.
Air Protection, a Primarily State Obligation

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Abstract

Environmental-related crimes (such as in air, land, and water) have become a global concern and a problem that requires an immediate resolution. Governments of many countries of the world in the framework of undertaking national general policies have prepared strategies and plans for environmental protection, as well as in the fight against environmental crime by aiming at the adoption and implementation of institutional and legislative measures. Many international, regional and global organizations are operating in the world today, by undertaking initiatives and collaborations on environmental protection in the world. A large number of bilateral and multilateral international instruments have been signed, which impose concrete obligations on States Parties to take environmental protection measures.

Key words: protection, air, state
The Professional Figure in the Relation to the Family of Special Need Children

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Gazmira Birce

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Abstract

Most of the professionals that work in the field of special needs help in development of the healthy relations with the families that have a child with special needs. Others continue to hide their profession behind the analyses conducted through medical diagnoses, and further more others judge the families, laws, conditions and what we normally have, a family of growing problems. The professionals should be active partners together with the families for the future of the children with special needs, by creating a relation based on respect and empathy. The attitudes of the professionals towards the families of the special need children make the relation to head to positivity or negativity. Normally these attitudes come from the perception that the professionals have for the feelings that parents experience, the impact of the child on the family, what they consider important to construct a collaboration and to assess when and how the parents need the professionals, or the characteristics that the relation present with these parents. The aim of the study is to point out the opinions that the professionals have in relation to the family; these opinions will help us to evaluate the attitudes of the professionals and their impact in the development of the collaboration with the families.

Keywords: professionals, parents, relations, special needs, opinions.