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The Impact of Albanian Government Economic Policy in Increasing the Value of Human Capital in Albania

Anastas Angjeli  
Academician, Prof.Dr.,  
"Mediterranean University of Albania",  
Tirana, Albania

Niko Pano  
Dr., "Mediterranean University of Albania",  
Tirana, Albania

Abstract

This paper raises the question: "How much the economic policy of the government affects the growth of the value of human capital stock in Albania". It does a survey of four key elements of the government's economic policy in recent years, namely: the employment policies, the education policies, health care policies, and state insurance policies. The analysis of the expenditures and investments made in these areas enables to reveal the direct and indirect relationship of these elements to the indicator 'value of the human capital'. In the methodological aspect, the research is based on the classic forms of assessing how the social and health policy does impact the value of the human capital stock. The study distinguishes the relevant benefiting age groups, focusing particularly on the ages of 7-24 for the impact of education; ages 65-85 for social and health insurance policies and ages 45-55 for employment stimulation policies. This choice comes from the fact that the budgets related to these policies have been drafted taking in consideration the above-mentioned social groups. Consequently, efforts have been made to approximate the Albanian statistical calculations according to the J-F protocol algorithm, with the dynamics of these policies in the last 6 years.

Keywords: Value of capital stock, employment reforms, opening of health market, development multiplicator, Happiness economics
The Effect of Peer Instruction on Conceptual and Operational Approaches Preferred in Problem Solutions

Avni Yildiz
Assoc. Prof. Dr.,
Zonguldak Bulent Ecevit University,
Eregli Faculty of Education

Yusuf Ziya Olpak
Asst. Prof. Dr.,
Kirsehir Ahi Evran University,
Faculty of Education

Serdal Baltaci
Assoc. Prof. Dr.,
Kirsehir Ahi Evran University,
Faculty of Education

Abstract

In peer instruction model, in the question and answer process; questions are asked, students have enough time to think and then, students give their first answers individually. Then they discuss with the group friends on the question, and give the second answers after the discussion. After all the students give their second answers, the instructor solves the question and answers the questions of the students. At this point, if the accuracy of the answers given by the students is low, the instructor explains the subject in detail. This research took place at a state university during Analytical Geometry course conducted by one of the researchers and the secondary school mathematics teacher candidates. Before the application, the course content was integrated into the online learning management system developed by the researchers. In addition, a module for the question-answer process was developed. A preparatory training was also provided for teacher candidates to adapt to this process. The teacher candidates were divided into groups before the application. In this research, one of the groups will be presented in the context of the research problem. The design in this group is the approach that teacher candidates give their second answers after discussing the individual answers. In this context, the problem of research is to investigate whether peer instruction has any effect on the conceptual and operational approaches of secondary school mathematics teacher candidates in problem solving. Therefore, the experimental method was used in the research. Conceptual/Procedural Approach towards Problem-Solving scale was used as the data collection tool. Thanks to this scale, in order to measure conceptual and operational information, some misunderstandings in the literature are thought to be corrected such as; a valid, reliable and standardized approach has not yet, and fully established. The results of the data analysis will be discussed in the light of the relevant literature and in this direction; necessary suggestions will be provided about teacher training and mathematics teaching.

Keywords: Peer Instruction, Analytic Geometry, Problem Solving, Conceptual / Operational Approach, Teacher Candidates

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The Role of Cultural Heritage in Promoting Socio-Economic Development. An Analysis on Emerging Countries

Nicola Boccella
Sapienza University of Rome

Irene Salerno
Sapienza University of Rome

Abstract

The enhancement of cultural heritage through new forms of dialogue with the territorial communities and the so-called “heritage communities” of which such heritage is an expression, is becoming an increasingly important vehicle for the economic and social development, especially in emerging countries. The places that express the history, culture and values of the human collectives can become, in this way, laboratories in which the knowledge and the traditions are reinterpreted in a continuous dialogue. Of such valorization and of such dialogue, the emerging countries can benefit in view of a profitable local development, that can also propose diversified and seasonally adjusted tourism routes, able to bring constant tourist flows, with positive economic and social consequences. In light of these considerations, the paper aims to explore the different paths through which, in emerging countries, it is possible to create new models of development also through innovative ways of dialogue with the so-called “patrimonial communities”. Central will be a reflection on how the most recent international patterns to promote social and economic development can be “translated” and adapted to specific developing geographic and sectoral contexts.

Keywords: Cultural heritage, socio-economic development, emerging countries
Comparing Non For Profit vs. For Profit Education Institutions: A Case in Albania

Greta Angjeli

Proff. Assoc., PhD.,
Mediterranean University of Albania

Jona Marashi

MBA, Education Development Center,
Director of Finance,
Mediterranean University of Albania

Abstract

This paper will be focused on the education sector and the similarities and differences between non-profit education institutions and for profit ones. Private higher education institutions are usually created on a for profit basis, however an increasing number of them are nowadays non-for profit and they have grown exponentially in the last 60 years, becoming worldwide leaders of change and impact. Non for profit organization are based on a mission, and they are founded by a group of very dedicated people, with the ultimate goal to fulfill their mission, and not to make a profit. It should not be mistaken, however, that nonprofits cannot make a profit; they can, they should and they do, but the profit, unlike in for-profit organizations, does not go to the shareholders, it stays in the organization to ensure financial stability and to be reinvested within the organization. It is important to mention that non for profits always strive for cost control, as their profits are usually minimal, thus operating as efficiently as they can. They do nonetheless have several tax benefits that for profit organization do not have. We will look at and analyze financial statements for both non for profits and for profit entities in Albania and we will compare our findings with the worldwide tendencies. We will look at revenue streams: (government funding, services revenue, tuition, research, philanthropist funding and sponsorship) and analyze effectiveness and the impact and achievement of for and non for profit institutions.

Keywords: Non for profit, for profit, cost control, profit, mission, education, effectiveness, revenue, financial analysis
Awareness of Youth for the Environment

Fatmir Emurllai

PhD., Faculty of Contemporary Science and Technologies, South East European University, Tetovo, Republik of North Macedonia Institut for Environment and Health

Abstract

Air pollution and care for the environment during the years is a primary concern of many national and international institutions. The industrialized society now understands that one of the most necessary investments represents the protection of the environment, they have also realized that for the created state the main culprit is the man himself, by not keeping proper account of the nature that surrounds it. Retention in this regard is part of the lives of citizens of these countries. Unfortunately, there is a lack of constructive awareness in less developed countries where the Republic of Northern Macedonia also participates. Some cities in this small country face enormous environmental pollution. In those settings, the municipality of Tetovo is also a preoccupation of this research.

Keywords: pollution, environmental protection, undertaking the measures by the relevant institutions, correct attitude towards nature
L1 to L2 Translation Practices in Foreign Language Teacher Education: Student Teachers’ Views

Ali Merç
Assoc. Prof. Dr.,
Program in English Language Teacher Training,
Faculty of Education, Anadolu University, Turkey

Abstract

The purpose of this study was to elicit student teachers’ views regarding the translation practices they were engaged in within the content of a compulsory ‘L1 to L2 translation’ course. During a 12-week translation class in 2018 Spring semester, 22 student teachers were asked to translate different types of texts: literary texts, recipes, magazine articles, official documents, and oral texts. They also deal with different translation practices such as prepared translation, unprepared in-class translation with and without dictionaries or online translation tools, constructing multiple-choice translation test items, and oral translation. At the end of the training, the student teachers were asked to rank those different practices and text types according to their usefulness and difficulty. They were also asked to explain their reasons for those ideas. The quantitative and qualitative analyses of the obtained data showed that each translation practice and each text type had its advantages and disadvantages for student teachers in their way to become foreign language teachers. The findings are discusses along the relevant literature as well as current translation and teacher education practices. A number of suggestions and implications are also provided for student teachers and teacher trainers for the translation issues in teacher education programs.

Keywords: translation, foreign language, teacher education, student teachers
Albania and Britain Against Each Other in 1985-1990

Alida Avdullari

Department of History, University of Tirana

Abstract

After the 80’ Albania is regarded as a self isolated country for its foreign policy. Its international affairs were limited to a restricted number of western countries, mainly Italy and France whereas with the other countries there were only occasional diplomatic relations. Moreover, the bilateral relationships it had with a very few countries consisted mostly in the cultural approach due to the constitution of 1967. Yet, after Enver Hoxha’s death, Albanian communist leader, a new wind blew starting significant changes not only concerning foreign affairs but also the internal ones. A fact, worth mentioning as a proof of these changes, was the beginning of talks between Albania and Britain in 1985 over an amount of gold, internationally acknowledged as Albanian’s but blocked because of the involvement of Albania in the Corfu Channel incident in 1946. These talks were politically, diplomatically and economically important, not mentioning they are a milestone in the Albanian history. The Gold case, which had kept the two nations apart without any diplomatic interaction, also, served as a turning point in their relations. The talks lasted for 10 years from 1985 to 1992, but the case was finally solved in 1996. My presentation will highlight: 1. What was the atmosphere of these talks? 2. How willing was Albania to solve the case? 3. Why did this case take so long to be solved? These and other facts will be analyzed in my work. This will lead to the unveil of some truths about this case, truths which are important for Albania of those years.

Keywords: bilateral talks, diplomatic meetings, Gold case, bilateral relations, Corfu Channel incident
The Role of Financial and Business Intelligence in a Globalized World

Antonella Colonna Vilasi

Università Centro Studi UNI

Abstract

After the end of the Cold War, Intelligence Agencies and security Services have significantly extended their skills in the financial, economic and technological sectors. The growing impact of organized crime, which has enormous financial resources, is also widespread. The "cleansing" of dirty money and the massive investments made in certain productive sectors have become a real threat, which affects every country. The increase of the financial and economic Intelligence is related primarily to the geo-economic competition between states, the globalization of markets and production, and the fact that the internationalization of property has been added to the traditional competition for the conquest of markets related to the ownership structure of the social groups and the location of the manufacturing companies. While in the past the objective of companies was the market, now also the portfolio is important. This causes a notable dynamism of the ownership structures and therefore a potential instability even in the division of labor. Hostile acquisitions, destabilizing financial maneuvers, industrial espionage of the technological assets of national companies are possible. In this sense, geo-economics has assumed a more important role than geostrategy in the new international geopolitics. States must therefore equip themselves for geo-economic competition as they were in the past focused on the geostrategic one.

Keywords: Intelligence, Security, Globalization, Financial Intelligence
Albania's Monetary Policy and the Basic Indicators that Effect the Economic Growth

Bernard Balla
Phd.Candidate

Abstract

Macroeconomic policies aim to stabilize the economy by achieving their goal of price stability, full employment and economic growth. Price stability is the responsibility of macroeconomic policies that are developed to maintain a low inflation rate, contribute to the solidity of the domestic product and maintain an exchange rate that can be predictable. The purpose of this paper is to analyze Albania's monetary policy by highlighting the main indicators that can be used as a measurement of the efficiency of this policy in the economic development. The literature review shows that there are many attitudes regarding the factors that need to be taken into consideration when analyzing monetary policies, including the elements of fiscal policies. In the Albanian economy, the prices and the level of inflation are the most important aspects. The Bank of Albania uses the inflation targeting regime, considering that the main indicator of inflationary pressures in the economy is the deviation of inflation forecasted in the medium term by its target level. In numerical terms, the bank intends to maintain its annual growth in consumer prices at the level of 3%. According to the latest reports published by the Bank of Albania in 2019, monetary policy continues to contribute positively to a financial environment with a low interest rate and an annual inflation rate of 2%. Although the inflation rate hit the lowest value of 1.8% in 2018, a balanced rate was achieved through the reduction of interest rates and risk premiums in financial markets and, more recently, through the tightening of the exchange rate. This monetary conditions are appropriate to support the growth of domestic demand and the strengthening of inflationary pressures.

Keywords: Macroeconomics, Monetary policy, Inflation, Prices, Economic development
Diplomacy in the Modern Area. Its impact on Albania's Political and Economic Stability

Eriola Hoxha

Msc., Consultant Finance Expert,
The International Organization for Migration,
National Diaspora Agency,
Prime Minister's Building

Abstract

The focus of diplomacy has always been the political and military aspect but studies have showed that in the last decades there is a tendency for diplomacy to affect the economies of states. Throughout human history, diplomacy has been a key element in maintaining peace and in creating positive relations among nations, but today it is taking on a wider function. In this paper I will analyze the development of diplomacy in the modern area where globalization has affected every aspect, raising the need to use more original methods in achieving the goals that foreign policy has. Considering the Albania's objective to be part of the European Union, I will analyze the impact of Albanian diplomacy on the political and economic stability of our country. Albania's foreign policy includes 115 states with which the country has diplomatic relations that have become stronger and stronger over the years, especially in the Balkans. An influential factor in the Albanian diplomacy has been the Diaspora, which has contributed both politically and financially, and is therefore always devoted much importance. Albania has always aimed to maintain a friendly relationship with other states by pursuing sustainable political strategies that need to change and become more innovative in order to be more coherent with the development of diplomacy anywhere in the world.

Keywords: Diplomacy, International Relations, Albania, Economy
Gender and Identity in John Osborne’s *Look Back in Anger*

Fadl Mohammed Aied Algalhadi

*PhD Scholar,*  
*S.R.T.M University,*  
*Nanded, India*

**Abstract**

Gender plays a clinical role in the life and an individual. It is the same gender which decides the social roles. Biology is instrumental in creating male or female but socio-cultural factors are also equally significant to designate an individual lies status in life as well as in society. There appears marital discord between Jimmy and Alison in Osborne’s *Look Back in Anger*. The reason behind it is largely the gender based issues. In case of Jimmy- Alison relationship, all these factors play significant role to create a discord between them. Though they are married to each other, they observe a deep valley in their relationship. There is lack cordially in their relations. Coming from an aristocratic society, Alison is prejudiced about Jimmy & his background. Likewise, Jimmy hails from lower middle strata of society. He has all negative feelings regarding Alison and her family. Jimmy regards all women of the world like Alison, good for nothing. Similarly, Alison thinks of Jimmy. To conclude, the disregard between them for the each other creates problems which further begin in the issues related with gender and individual identity. Moreover, the present paper is a modest attempt to focus on the Play of John Osborne especially which focused on the youth generation in the post-World War II in British society.

**Keywords:** Gender, Identity, Social, Cultural, Individual, Psychological Issues, Youth
Decision-Making and Emotions: Is Age Important?

Juliana Osmani
Ph.D., University “Aleksandër Moisiu”,
Durrës, Albania

Sanie Doda
Prof. Assoc. Dr.,
University "Aleksandër Moisiu",
Durrës, Albania

Abstract
Decision-making is a central activity of the management process. Making good decisions and their effective implementation determine the performance of the organization. The relationship between the organization and the environment is increasingly characterized by a high degree of uncertainty. Uncertainty means that managers do not have enough information and time to anticipate changes and make good decisions. The unpredictable environment increases the degree of complexity and requires the use of intuition in making a choice. In these circumstances the impact of emotions in the decision making process is inevitable. Emotions are considered as a variable with an important impact on the individual's behavior. It is now accepted and empirically proven that emotions can lead to mistakes, but also help to make good decisions. Emotional-based decision making can be a real strategy, especially for complex situations. Thus, repeated emotions help decision makers to create implicit decision-making strategies, which are indispensable especially for unstructured decisions. The current research focus on the role of emotions in the decision-making. More specifically, the main purpose is to merge existing results, to generate current findings and to elaborate some explanations of how emotions are correlated to age. From the results obtained we can state that there are no differences between young people and adults about the emotions before, during or after a decision is made. So, there is not a correlation between emotions and age.

Keywords: decision-making, intuition, emotions, age
Knowledgde Sharing Attitude: An Exploratory Study Among University Students

Salih Yeşil

Assoc. Prof. Dr.,
Kahramanmaraş Sütçü İmam Üniversitesi

Mihriban Hatunoğlu

Graduate Student,
Kahramanmaraş Sütçü İmam Üniversitesi

Abstract

Currently, society pay a great deal of attention to be successful, the secret of increase success is to share, for this reason, many system of education and educators put emphasis on the importance of knowledge sharing among students. However little is known about the determinants of the knowledge sharing behavior. In our study we tried to find out some of those determinants that positively or negatively effect on these behaviors. The objective of this study is to contribute to the limited previous researches on knowledge sharing among university students and further develop an understanding of relevant subject, by portraying the attitudes and intentions towards knowledge sharing among university students in Turkey. A questionnaire-based survey was used to collect the data. Respondents were received from 266 undergraduates in Kahramanmaraş Sütçü İmam University (KSU). Respondents had a positive attitudes and intentions towards knowledge sharing. We confirm that internet as a source for study-related tool significantly contributed to preferred resource for knowledge sharing and obtained as the most preferred form of sharing knowledge is interestingly telephone. We also observed that among factors limiting of knowledge sharing, lack of depth in relationships is essential factor for limiting sharing and some supplementary findings. As expected, this paper demonstrates that students do have an eagered knowledge sharing culture, finally, that culture is collectivist in nature and to some extent self-serving and instrumental.

Keywords: Knowledge Sharing, University Students, Turkey
The Development of Auditing in the Public Sector in Albania and Responsible Institutions

Nensi Xhani
PhD Student, University of Craiova,
Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Romania

Marioara Avram
Professor PhD, University of Craiova,
Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Romania

Maria-Andreia Iliescu (Ristea)
PhD Student, University of Craiova,
Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Romania

Abstract
Auditing in the public sector has evolved over the years to meet the needs of a business environment that is constantly changing. In an effort to help organizations achieve an accurate assessment of risk and business development, internal audit plays a particularly important role. Although internal audit has existed since the beginning of human civilization, in Albania it developed much later. The economic and financial development of Albania over the last decades, in the context of economic globalization, has had a significant impact on auditing institutions, that have to do their best to measure the efficiency of public fund usage. This paper aims to analyze the historical development of auditing in the public sector, and measure by quantification the performance of the institutions that have been responsible for organizing auditing in the public sector in Albania, as well as identifying the national and international policies that have brought about the introduction and evolution of the audit concept. Recognizing the genesis of the public sector audit activity and the progress of the responsible institutions, we can understand the current situation and the needs for change that would increase the efficiency of work in those institutions.

Keywords: internal audit, external audit, internal control, evolution
Virtual Reality Development and the Socialization of Bulgarian Cultural Heritage

Sofia Vasileva
Prof. Dr., PhD., Department of Cultural and Historical Heritage, University of Library Studies and Information Technologies, Sofia, Bulgaria

Chief Assistant Tina Petrova
PhD., Department of Cultural and Historical Heritage, University of Library Studies and Information Technologies, Sofia, Bulgaria

Abstract

The aim of the paper is to show to what extent so far the virtual reality has entered the exhibition concepts of museums in Bulgaria. Two aspects have been emphasized: the integration of information technologies in education in the sphere of cultural heritage and the digital presentation of museum displays. This article presents part of the activities and results on research Project Models of Socialization of Cultural Heritage in a ‘smart city’ ДН05/3, 14.12.2016, supported by the National Science Fund at the Bulgarian Ministry of Education and Science. Descriptive qualitative method was employed in this study. The data were obtained through direct observations of museum institutions in Bulgaria in terms of the degree of online access to museum expositions, the degree of digitization of museum collections and the degree of digital representation of museum expositions. Some of the basic problems of museums in Bulgaria have been systematized. Results are used to improve the quality of education in the field of cultural heritage, to promote the exchange of scientific and practical experience among university tutors, museum specialists and experts. It is expected that the results find application in the programs for informing and training for raising the capacity of local communities in the sphere of cultural tourism.

Keywords: Cultural Heritage, Information Technologies, Education, Museum expositions
Evidence Based Policy? An Emerging Need for Albania’s European Integration Process

Eros Angjeli

MSc., Mediterranean University of Albania

Abstract

The European integration process represents one of the main pillars of the political program of almost all political parties in Albania. Political ideology plays little role in the Europeanist approach of Albanian political parties. The European integration process constitutes the frame within which the political and public discourse is formed and developed. This paper focuses on political actors and factors interference on evidence based policy making in Albania's EU integration process. It aims to offer a theoretical approach to the link between the political environment/government official attitudes/evidence based policy making. It aims also to argue the importance and bring to attention the government official strategies in response to evidence.

Keywords: Integration process, Conflict of interest, Evidence-based policy, Control mechanisms, Public trust
My Practicum Experience

Erdogan Bada
Hakkari University, Turkey

Yonca Özkan
Cukurova University, Turkey

Abstract

As is known, practicum is an indispensable process through which student teachers enjoy the opportunity to put into practice what they have gained during their formal education years in their institutions. Viewed from this perspective, we can thus assume that this process would have not only a positive but also potentially some negative impact on the students. Based on this premise, this study builds on the experiences of student teachers’ experiences in high schools as they joined in a 14-week practicum program as an integral part of their academic education. The participants were required to observe their practicum environment holistically, i.e. focusing on student-student interaction, teacher-student interaction, administrator-teacher interaction, the physical environment and other elements of classroom management principles in which the process took place. Throughout the 14 week, the data collected represented students’ observations as well as their perceptions regarding positivity and negativity of the practicum process. All the data was reported week by week to the researchers/mentors through reflection journals via emails. Thematic analysis was carried out in order to thematize issues mentioned afore as a result of which the main arising issues concern teacher competence, discipline, physical environment, administrative policies, cultural elements and technology utilization in ELT. This study has specific implications for English language teachers and pertaining programs, in general, for other field related other teacher education programs and educational administrators.

Keywords: Preservice English language teacher education, practicum, reflection journals
Limitation of the Appeal Right, Implementation and Some Aspects in Practice

Erina Caka

Abstract

The right to appeal a court decision to a higher court is a constitutional and legal right provided for in Articles 452 and 472 of the Civil Procedure Code. Along with the principle of guaranteeing a due legal process, and a number of other constitutional principles, ensure the development and establishment of justice in all its components. Law No.49 / 2012 "On administrative courts and adjudication of administrative disputes" was the first legal framework that brought radical changes in the process of court proceedings, and restricted the right of appeal in the Court of Appeal and recourse to the High Court. Under the Euralius Mission project, within the framework of the Justice Reform, under this spirit came changes in the Civil Procedure Code by Law No.38 / 2017 through which improvements were made in this Code bringing about reduction of procedures and guaranteeing completion of court proceedings within a reasonable time. This paper aims to make an analysis of these two important legal acts, on the changes that they have brought about the development of civil and administrative processes, mainly focusing on the projections on limiting the right of appeal/recourse. Given that the right to appeal is a constitutional right, do these restrictions constitute a violation of the fundamental principles of a due legal process, or these restrictions have brought about the fulfillment of the highest interests of the parties in the process, such as the completion of proceedings within reasonable time limits, and reducing court costs?

Keywords: The due legal process, the right to appeal, civil and administrative trials
Fashion, Dressing, and Identities in Ballroom Subculture

Zoi Arvanitidou

PhD in Fashion, Folklore and Gender
Research Support Officer
University of Malta

Abstract

The Ballroom scene is an underground subculture created by African Americans and Latinos and gives emphasize in issues of race, gender, and sexual orientation within the heterogeneous society. The members of this subculture live in an organized social structure based on the acceptance and the celebration of sexual and gender expression. Balls are competitions where homosexual people are involved, performing different kinds of dances. Balls provide to the queer community a cozy place to build their sense of self in their hidden world without the limitations imposed by society on gender and sexual expression. Balls are a combination of fashion, competition, and dance. Voguing is the characteristic dance of Balls, and it is an extremely stylized dance form. Vogue magazine’s model poses inspire it, and it uses the arms and legs with dramatic, rapid and feminine edgy ways. Voguing includes catwalk, dance, spins and other risky styles of movement. The Voguing has the major role in Ballrooms that contain fashion catwalk and competitions, where African and Latinos gays and transgender participate in a competition, imitating fashion models in the catwalk with gestures and poses to win an award. The panel of the critics, in a Ball, judges them from the movements of their dance, attitudes, costumes and the ingenuity in all of these areas. Today there are three basic forms of Voguing: a) the Old Way, b) The New Way and, c) The Vogue Femme.

Keywords: fashion, identities, ballroom, subculture
Push-Pull Factors of Migration in Albania

Roland Sahatcija

Department of Informatics and Research Science,
Mediterranean University of Albania, Albania
Corresponding Author

Anxhela Ferhataj

Department of Informatics and Technology,
European University of Albania, Albania

Ariel Ora

Researcher, Canada

Abstract

Migration is a phenomenon that has significantly impacted Albanian society. In recent years, migration has increased noticeably in Albania. The majority of departures consists of students and university educated persons. This study will research the factors influencing the perceptions and decision-making of migrating students. The objective of this research paper corresponds with the study of the correlation between push-pull factors of student perceptions on migration and of making the decision to migrate. This study will employ quantitative research. The study sample comprises 163 Mediterranean University of Albania students. Research hypotheses are tested with a 95% confidence interval. Push factors influence student perceptions to migrate, just as economic standing, conflict, unemployment and discrimination influence the students’ decision to migrate. Whereas, personal safety is not significantly correlated to migratory decision-making. Pull factors do not influence the perceptions of migration of students. Whereas, career opportunities, improving the quality of life and the quality of education influence in student decisions to migrate.

Keywords: migration, push factors, pull factors, students
From Charity to Social Welfare: Blind People Struggle for Their Rights in Post-Dictatorial Greece (1974–89)

Vassiliki Chalaza
PhD Candidate,
University of the Aegean

Christos Tsakas
Hannah Seeger Davis Fellow 2018-19/Hellenic Studies,
Visiting Fellow/EU Program at Princeton,
Princeton University

Karolos Kavoulakos
Assistant Professor,
Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

Abstract

Social welfare has suffered severe cuts in debt-troubled Greece during the last decade, but somewhat paradoxically, disability allowances have not been affected to date. This research investigates how the Greek disability movement has historically gained the power to defend the welfare state and block austerity measures. In doing so, the paper discusses the 1974 democratic transition’s impact on the Greek disability movement identity, using Ann Swidler’s concept about the ways in which culture both shapes individual beliefs and desires and provides repertoires of public symbols. More specifically, our case study follows the story of the “Home of the Blind”, which was a charitable association with a stated purpose to “protect the blind” until 1979, when the state took it over and it became a Public Law Entity. This change was the result of the hard struggles of the Blind with a critical moment the occupation of the “Home of the Blind” by the Panhellenic Association of the Blind in 1976. Our main argument is that this struggle has been an event, in Alan Badieu’s sense, that subsequently led to the creation of a vivid social movement in the long-run. For this case study we conducted oral history interviews with key figures of the struggle of blind people in 1976, extensive archival research and we also made use of the daily and weekly Greek press of the period. Our findings indicate that disability associations historically have been both pressure groups, focusing on the implementation of the legislation by the State and supportive social locations which serve as a vehicle for locating the self within disability community. This research is co-financed by Greece and the European Union (European Social Fund-ESF) through the Operational Program «Human Resources Development, Education and Lifelong Learning 2014-2020» in the context of the project “From philanthropy to welfare state: Disability and disability movement in the Greek Metapolitefsis period” (MIS 5004918).

Keywords: disability rights movement; disability history; Greek blind movement; social welfare; postdictatorial Greece
Democracy as a Misunderstanding between Freedom and Anarchy

Përparim Kabo

Professor

Abstract

Prolonged transition as a result of misunderstanding with democracy. Instead of checking and balance, power control is installed and the nearly antagonistic opposition between them. Captured institutionalism and the personal power of their holders. When it comes to the task of a ministry, the minister makes two changes: 1-Restoration of the ministry building he leads. 2-The change of functional law that increases his personal power and the potential for benefits. Open authoritarism and camouflaged authoritarism at all levels of leadership. Democratic transition prolonged in time expression of the created state as a misunderstanding with freedom. Anarchy with the property dispute. The property not understood and considered as 9/10 law and 1/10 asset. Robbery and abuse of national assets, public property and individual property. The state legalizes informality. Populism in the streets and populism in meetings organized in the halls. The mobs in the street as an expression of the ochlocracy and crowds at organized meetings. Anthropology of medieval society with crowds and modern “princes”, a story that follows in the last three decades in Albania. Democracy as a double monocracy and the killing of pluralism day by day. Governance with online portals and show-politics as an illusion of functional democracy. Enhance the role of institutions and the attack against them, supposedly to protect the so-called interests of people in need. Democracy wounded by a mass media that failed to return to either public power or independent power. Media in the hands of dubious owners. Misunderstandings with democracy such as the freedom to do all that was prohibited yesterday. Orientalism orchestrated as anthropological minds in ordinary people, and orientalism as politicians' behavior. Lack of conditions for a democracy through law. Recycling anarchy as an expression of a revolutionary inherited from communism. The patriotism as the last refuge of adventurous political leaders who are afraid of freedom. The very low level of democracy as a culture and lost visions of a society without orientation compass.

Keywords: democracy, antagonistic opposition, captured institutionalism, authoritarism, freedom, anarchy, the populism, medieval society, functional democracy, mass media, orientalism, democracy as a culture
Reconstruction of Political Minority from Yugoslavia to the EU: National Identity of Turkish Community in North Macedonia in Context of European Integration

Abdullah Sencer Gözübenli
Ph.D Student, Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, Institute for Sociological, Political and Juridical Research, Skopje, North Macedonia

Halim Çavuşoğlu
Asst. Prof., Hacettepe University Department of Sociology, Ankara, Turkey

Nazli Tekeshanoska
Masters Student, International Balkan University, Faculty of Communications, Skopje, North Macedonia

Abstract

During the disintegration of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, nationalism had replaced socialism as the dominant force in the region. The ensuing armed conflicts that have emerged with new successor countries’ transformation into independent nation-states have returned the “national question” to the forefront of debates. The Republic of Macedonia (hereinafter referred to as North Macedonia and the country would in future be called the Republic of North Macedonia), one of the successor countries of Yugoslavia, was the only former Yugoslav republic to secede from Yugoslavia without violent conflict. A decade after its independence, inter-ethnic violence in the first half of 2001 brought the country to the brink of a civil war. A couple of months after the beginning of the security crisis, Stabilisation and Association Agreement, which aims at implementing Stabilisation and Association Process to secure well-functioning democratic societies in Western Balkans countries with a view to EU membership, were signed between the EU and Macedonia and this development legally bind the country into the EU’s enlargement process as the first country among the Western Balkans region. Finally, the Ohrid Framework Agreement signed with the mediation of the EU, to ensure the proper functioning of institutions and the integration of ethnic communities with minority rights. It can be argued that there is a linear regression between North Macedonia’s EU Integration process and the country’s minority regime. In this context Yugoslav identity is being replaced with the European identity as the unifying motivation within multi-ethnic and conflicting environments. This study aims to take a comprehensive look at the national identity of Turkish community in North Macedonia that constitute nearly 4% of the total population of the country between Nation building and so-called EU-Member-State building. This study examines the changing processes of Turkish community’s shifting from the community-level Yugoslav identity to European identity.

Keywords: Turks in Macedonia, Europeanization, collective identity, Western Balkans
Corporatization as a Tool to Promote Foreign Investment in Albania

Albert Gajo

Department of Business Administration,  
Faculty of Economics,  
Mediterranean University,  
Tirana Albania

Abstract

This article aims to make an economic analysis of the Albanian government’s legal initiative into the establishment of the Albanian Investment Corporation (AIC), extending this analysis not just in a proper legal context, but by addressing in a Law and Economic historical analysis. Thus, in the first part, the article will be dealt with by the concept of corporation addressed by the pioneer of corporatism, Theodor Herzl (1860-1904), as a state economic mechanism proposed by him in the well-known pamphlet, "The Jews State" (1895). Then we will give some illustrative examples of the use of corporate transformation mechanism, public private assets (like the case of the Czech Republic) or the management of large public investments (in the case of Japan), as well as the poor Albanian experience in this direction when using the so-called Mass Privatization. This overview will well help to analyze the expected effects of the draft law prepared by Albanian Government for establishment of the AIC, and some pitfalls of the draft law that might impede its main objective by promoting foreign direct investment to boost economic development in Albania.

Keywords: Corporatization, privatization, land property, foreign direct investment

Octavie Cerchez

PhD.,
Interdisciplinary Center for Economics and Law, Geneva, Switzerland

Abstract

The paper considers price reduction as a proportional reduction of the price, in the occurrence of the delivery of nonconforming goods within an international sales contract under the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods (CISG). The paper provides an economic analysis of price reduction as remedy for contract breach under CISG, gathering elements of positive and normative dimension of law and economics, quantitative and comparative analysis, game theory, as well as doctrinal positions. We thoroughly and comprehensively scrutinize the economic efficiency of the remedial provisions of the CISG and the effectiveness of the rules of international trade law, aiming to determine to what extent the CISG legal provisions met its economic objectives. We analyse if the application of price reduction leads to fair and effective results, and examine how this remedy dismisses the traditional concepts of recovery and establishes new principles of potential sanctions that would be important in some scenarios, to determine if stakeholders’ behaviour reflects the purposes of international contractual relations. The paper highlights the difficulty of achieving uniform applications of remedies in relation to the various national economic and legal systems. The research indicates potential for improving the effectiveness of price reduction as remedy under CISG as long as contractual parties cooperate to achieve common objectives and judges perform their regulatory roles. We conclude with recommendations to modify and improve the current situation in order to attain cost reduction and increased economic efficiency of international trade transactions.

Keywords: law and economics, international trade, economic efficiency, remedies for breach of contract, United Nations
The Evolution (Development) of Natural Law and Its Impact on the Codifications of Civil Law

Besmir Premalaj
Mag. iur., PhD Candidate,
Pedagogue at Mediterranean University of Albania

Abstract

Many codifications of private law, which in some European countries are still valid, are strongly influenced by natural law. It has been known, between the 18th – 19th centuries, as the law of reason. Nevertheless, natural law has its beginnings in ancient Greece and Roman law has later applied it in the Corpus iuris Justiniani texts. Its meaning has been changed during the human history. The evolution of the mentality in the society has gone along with the human viewpoint on the natural process. The spread of Christianity in Europe has also caused an impact on the interpretation of natural law. However, what does exactly natural law mean? How has it evolved from the antiquity until Today? Which effect did it have on the first codifications of civil law? The aim of this paper is the identification of the main features of natural law and its impact on the codifications of civil law.

Keywords: positive law, secularization of natural law, native rights, consistent and exhaustive codification
Digital Mobilization of Turkish Football Fans

Çağdaş Ceyhan

Dr.,
Journalism Department,
Anadolu University

Mustafa Berkay Aydın

Dr.,
Sociology Department,
Uludağ University

Abstract

Nowadays football is more commercialized than ever. Turkey, which is a football country was also affected by this process of commercialization. Implementation of Passocard which enhanced state to monitor supporters, in Turkey has kept large groups of supporters out of the stadium. Passocard implementation has increased commercial and state surveillance on fans. In Turkey lighting torches, swearing in indiscrete at stadium were banned at stadiums. In addition to this commercialization, Turkish football has a binary hierarchy. On the one hand, the three Istanbul teams were supported by the capital owners, whereas Anatolian clubs are trying to stand on the other. This study is about Ankaragücü which is the team of the capital city Ankara football club and considered as an Anatolian team as well. In this particular research the digital mobility of Ankaragücü supporter will be discussed. The use of digital data will be discussed in three analytical phases by using digital etnography as the main methodological tool in this study: First analytical phase will be Ankaragücü supporters' internal mobility in digital space; second phase will be Ankaragücü supporters' external mobility against Istanbul clubs in digital space, and last phase will be the construction of fan identity against the commercialization of football in digital space. Moreover we will examine the identity and culture of the fans who are transformed by digitalization and commercialization. We will attempt to understand how mobilization of fans’ networks in digital space is utilized.

Keywords: Digital Mobilization, Fan Culture, Digital Etnography, Identity, Ankaragücü
Impact of Tourism on GDP of Albania

Enxhia Sala
Mediterranean University of Albania

Lorena Saliaj
Mediterranean University of Albania

Olgerta Idrizi
Mediterranean University of Albania

Abstract

Tourism is an important economic sector in Albania, by contributing 1 billion euros to Albania's GDP. Albania offers great potential for tourism development. The main benefits of tourism are ascertained in the creation of new professions and the increase of the income. For many regions, tourism is the most important source of income. The ability of a country's economy to benefit from tourism depends on the availability of the necessary investments. Albania has the potential to develop coastal tourism and other alternative forms. Albania is also an attractive country for foreign investors. Taking in consideration the importance of tourism in the economy of our country, this case study makes an attempt to analyse how the tourism and its main indicators affect GDP. Some of the indicators that we have analysed, are the total costs of the foreign tourist in Albania, their days of stay and the number of employees in the tourism industry.

Keywords: tourism, GDP, tourist, employees, costs, stay
When I Talk, Do They Listen? A Critical Analysis of the Impact of Audio/Visual Feedback on Student and Staff Perceptions of Assessment

Richard Poole
Head of Teaching and Learning, Havant and South Downs College

Dominic Thompson
Higher Education Manager, Havant and South Downs College

Abstract

This paper investigates how effective audio and video feedback, following assessment, is for learners in Further Education in the UK and what student perceptions of these mediums are. Feedback is a key influence on achievement, with a potential effect size on grades of 0.75 which clearly demonstrates that feedback can have a significant influence on learner progress and outcomes (Hattie, 2012). The effectiveness of feedback to learners is an emotive and potentially contentious subject; one where multiple factors influence and contribute to the ability of feedback to enhance learning – or not (Poulos and Mahony, 2008). There is a disagreement in research regarding the effectiveness of written feedback (Bailey and Garner, 2010 & Randall and Zundel, 2012), with the way in which feedback is communicated, a potential barrier in positively influencing future learner work and knowledge (Higgins, Hartley and Skelton, 2001). Following the availability of more digital applications and functions in education, aspects such as audio feedback (Lunt and Curran, 2009) and video feedback (Turner and West, 2013) have been shown to positively influence learner perceptions of feedback in Higher Education. However, there are issues around the logistical aspects of delivering and receiving audio feedback via traditional IT mediums such as email (Merry and Orsmond, 2008). These issues are discussed in detail in this paper and examples of practical solutions are presented which, although on a small scale, show demonstrable progress on the impact of feedback on students’ perception of assessment. It may be the case that “fuzzy generalisations” (Bassey, 2000) can be drawn therefore further application of this method must be completed in order to ascertain this.

Keywords: Audio feedback, Assessment, Technology
Predetermination of the Judge By Law: Historical Comparative Overview in France, Italy and Albania

Fiona Tako
Av. PhD., Lecturer, 
Mediterranean University of Albania

Ejona Xhemalaj
Msc., Lecturer, 
Mediterranean University of Albania

Abstract
At present, the guarantee of the protection of rights, freedoms and fundamental interests of individuals is sanctioned by the constitutions of democratic countries, conceived as a personal and non-derogable right. The constitutions of European countries such as France and Italy, and of course the post-communism Albanian constitution, besides the protection of these rights, also foresee the way this protection should be realized. According to Article 42, paragraph 2 of the Constitution of the Republic of Albania, everyone, in order to protect their constitutional and legal rights, freedoms, and interests, or in the case of charges against him, has the right to a fair and public trial, within a reasonable time, by an independent and impartial court specified by law. Today this principle is non-derogable, rising to the rank of constitutional principle. But to achieve this result, the so-called "principle of the natural judge", has made a long and troublesome journey in Europe. This calvary began in the French legal system with the revolutionary constitutions of 1790-1796, as a result of people's appeals for the king's interventions in justice issues. French experience influenced the Italian system, including this principle in the Albertino Statute, the 1848 Constitutional Charter, until the accomplishment of the wording of Article 25 paragraph 1 of the current Italian Constitution. The purpose of this paper is to provide a juridical and historical overview of the affirmation of the principle of judgment by a fair, impartial and predetermined judge by law, avoiding deviation of powers, special courts or interventions by any authority. This historical and legal overview is presented at a fragile time for the justice system in Albania to recall the war that made previous generations to ensure those fundamental freedoms and rights that we now take for granted.

Keywords: constitution; fundamental principles; natural judge; judge predetermined by law; European justice systems
Management and Philosophy in Albanian Higher Education

Vebina Resuli
PhD., Lecturer,
Mediterranean University of Albania

Erdet Lalaj
Msc., Lecturer,
Mediterranean University of Albania

Abstract

The philosophy of education is a branch of philosophy concerned with education; it is a basis of any significant contribution to educational policy and practice. Moreover, due to its links with globalized capitalism, it provides ideas and ideals that must be included in any viable educational reform. According to social justice theory, every member of society must be able to obtain a certain minimum level of education regardless of any discriminatory criteria. While the concept of social justice is usually regarded simply as equality, its application is, in fact, one of the major problems in the contemporary theory of education. Any educational system must adopt an inclusive approach and address a range of social issues. The contemporary educational system is directly linked to the market: it enters the market of educational services through its educational programs and the labor market through its graduates. As a subject of market relations, any educational reform must include innovative management and strategic marketing. Furthermore, the educational institutions must be at peak efficiency regarding their competition; for that reason, strategic plans and external governing councils are a necessity.

Keywords: Pedagogical anthropology, Education, Philosophy, Management, Paradigm, Standards
Creative Destruction or Destructive Destruction?

Akvilė Karaliūtė

Vytautas Magnus University,
Lithuania

Abstract

New technologies are coming out every year and the global economy is moving forward due to these changes more than two centuries. It affects an economic growth, productivity, opportunities for new business types, our lives. Technological advancements or technological disadvancements? That is a question. The main interest of this research is to analyze the impact of innovations on (un)employment from the theoretical point of view. This is a topic of great interest because it reveals the tendencies and the problems labor market encounters due to technological change. Researchers in many ways define the impact of innovations on (un)employment. According to J. B. Say (2009) and J. A. Schumpeter (2017), technological progress leads to process and product innovations (job creation effect). According to J. C. Wood (2004) and H. Feldmann (2013), technological change can increase unemployment. Other scientists distinguish a different impact of product and process innovations on (un)employment: product innovations provide new products on the market, what stimulates a new demand (positive impact on employment) (Bogliacino, Vivarelli, 2012; Vivarelli, 2014; Marcolin et al. 2016) and process innovations are related with new machines, equipment and an increase in productivity and efficiency of firms (negative effect on the labor force) (Planta, 2004; Vivarelli, 2014). In general, the theory doesn’t provide a clear-cut answer about the impact of innovations on (un)employment.

Keywords: innovations, technological change, unemployment, employment
Benefit Corporations and Challenges of Their Implementation in Albania

Brikena Sulejmani

PhD(c.),
"Accounting Department" Albania
Economy Faculty "Ismail Qemali" University of Vlora

Abstract

In this paper we will treat the profits of Benefit Corporations implementation in Albania. Benefit Corporation is a type of for-profit corporate entity that includes positive impact on society, workers, the community and the environment in addition to profit as its legally defined goals. They are often confused with certified B.Corp which are for-profit companies certified by the nonprofit B Lab. Certification means that the society has acquired the necessary score to be considered a corporation with positive impact. In the context of economic crisis Benefit Corporations are pushing themselves toward the one called “The third industrial revolution. In this paper we will deal with Benefit Corporations since the origin of their creation in USA, their spread and expand in Europe as well as their introduction as an alternative economic model in our country. The goal of this paper is institutional innovations and benefits that will bring the implementation of these corporations in our country and why not in Balkan region. To accomplish the objective of this paper we have analyzed and studied materials and concrete cases from different literatures and sources.

Keywords: B .Corp, Benefit Corporation, implementation, certification, positive impact
Public Entities Non-Budgetary Versus Competition

Alqi Naqellari

Vladimir Mici

Abstract

The subject of this paper is Competition, Competition Authority, non-fiscal public entities and some related structural problems. The aim is to identify shortcomings in some economic concepts that become a barrier to the performance of the Competition Authority's function, as well as to give opinions on their correct formulation. In the new conditions of the market economy, the creation of manufacturing enterprises and non-productive enterprises, services, transport, financial, non-financial, of Chambers, Orders, Entities, Authorities, Institutes etc, have come up quite a lot in the interpretation of legislation in about the competition. In this way, we have analyzed some of these concepts and interpreted them in the framework of law enforcement in the field of competition, the possibility of intervention of the Competition Authority in the protection of effective competition. In conclusion, it has been concluded that the law on competition needs to be improved, to specify the definitions of public entities, and the relevant concepts, grouping public entities according to some concrete indicators, from the point of view of competition. The method used is the comparison method and the description method.

Keywords: market economy, competitive market, public ent, agreement, cartel, concentration, dominant position, decision, association
ICT in Secondary Schools: Doom or Boon?

Reginald, B Monyai

University of South Africa
Department of Abet & Youth Development,
PO Box 392, Unisa, 0003, South Africa

Abstract

Education White Paper 7 on e-Education was introduced in South Africa to address an apparent lack of technological savvy among the previously disadvantaged learners in secondary schools. It can be seen as an attempt to include ICT fully in the curriculum. However, it is not yet clear whether the technologies used in the teaching and learning situation encourage and foster critical thinking among the students or not. In addition, do the learners value the knowledge that is so easily acquired, and lastly, can they apply such technologically acquired knowledge to real-life situations. The aim of this article is to establish if the technologies used in the teaching and learning environment encourage and foster critical thinking among the students or not, as well as to find out if such curriculum encourages the critical application of knowledge acquired through technology in real-life situations. The premise will be to define the expression Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) and subsequently discuss its supposed impact on knowledge creation. This will be followed by a discussion of the reasons for the White Paper 7 on Transforming Learning and Teaching through Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs). The theoretical framework driving this article is Social Constructivism, which posits that learners are not passive recipients of knowledge, but are actually involved in its generators as they learn. The article will then present a review of literature of research in the field.

Keywords: e-learning; ICT; Online education; Distance education
A Descriptive Study of Behavioral and Emotional Problems of Minorities Staying in Residential Homes

Destemona Çelo

MSc.,

Department of Psychology and Sociology, Mediterranean University of Albania

Abstract

Living in institutions may be a distressing environment which could affect the mental health of minors living there. Children and adolescents who live without parents and those who are vulnerable are the most affected to develop emotional and behavioral problems than others because they are deprived of the love and care from family. There is a lack of empirical studies that focus on the psychological health of these children. The intention of this research was to describe behavioral difficulties, emotional problems, and coping strategies of kids living in institutions. A case study approach was employed focusing on residential social care institution in the city of Saranda. “The Children House” is a residential social care institution for children of biological orphans, social orphans, and other vulnerable children. Participants of the study were 15 children from 10 years old to 16 years. A qualitative approach was employed to capture the personal experience of kids external and internal difficulties. The data were triangulated by using different methods such as semi-structured interviews of children, behavioral observation in institution, and focus group with institutional staff. Qualitative data were analyzed using the phenomenological interpretative analysis (IPA) based on research questions. The present study shows that the institutionalized children are vulnerable to emotional and behavioral distress. The reasons of emotional problems that they were experienced include discrimination, rejection, physical and psychological violence, feelings of inferiority, love deprivation, fear of abandonment, insecurity for the future. Children manifest non-adaptive and protective behaviors against others. They used as coping skills dreaming for the future and also the maladapted internalizing and extroverting behaviors.

Keywords: Children, Residential Institution, Emotional Problems, Coping Strategies, Behavioral Problems
Abstract

Credit is essential in developed economies where banking capital is organically connected to business capital. In Albania, banks are not organically connected to businesses. Businesses in Albania consider banks simply as money circulation institutions and not as credit entities. Banks in the West direct businesses to efficient equity markets, because they do not simply have a credit role but also financial advisory role. In Albania, if a bank goes bankrupt, businesses doesn’t, because the connection is too weak. The problem will appear to the depositors and not to the business. Banks will have problem when businesses fail, because the number of creditors is small. Business credit is vital for the economy, but that does not mean that it is essential, especially for the Albanian economy, which has unusual theoretical macroeconomic indicators. In Albania, since 2014, Lek Deposits have fallen and business loans have low growth rates. Although the REPO rates decreased from 2008 to 2018 from 6.25% to 1%, this is reflected in both deposits rather than loans. This means that this decrease has not given its effect on credit growth.

Keywords: Credit, loans, deposits, economic growth, liquidity gap
Economical and Institutional Progress, a New Vision and Strategic Reforms in Albania and Kosovo

Alba Dumi

Prof. Dr.,
"Management Department" Albania
Director of Graduated School "Ismail Qemali" University of Vlora

Adriatik Abdylaj

PhD(c),
Economic Department,
University of Pristina, Kosovo

Abstract

In this scientific paper, we will introduce we want to bring an analysis of reforms and economic developments of Albania and Kosovo economy. Business takes place worldwide, in a huge diversity of societies and between widely varying organizations. The main focus of the analysis will bring a research survey on economic reforms in our two countries. Actually, the business environment has become more complex, with expanding and deepening ties between societies and between the many organizations within those societies. The paper aims at identifying the development of domestic and foreign businesses. Moreover, many large organizations now see themselves as truly global in scope, not rooted in any one society. The aim of this article is to present an overview of the international environment, highlighting the differing levels, from local and national, to regional and international. The discussion focuses on the main identifying features of the business organization, including ownership and decision-making structures, as they adapt in differing geographical contexts. Identifying business defects is an important element that will be present in the work, bringing real cases and data. The comparative method and questionnaires will be treated as a working analysis method. It is emphasized that the multinational enterprise (MNE), central to international business activities, covers a variety of organizations, large and small and the growing interactions between organizations, governmental and societal players are resulting in a broader view of the business organization in society. This argument looks at varying perspectives on globalization, often argued to be the defining characteristic of our times. The objective of the paper will be the results and the concrete findings, which will be treated in the paper through the analysis.

Keywords: Small and middle enterprises, investment, roles of governments, European Community, Albanian situation
Perceptions and Attitudes of Undergraduate Students of Sociology towards Research Methods as a Course in Kogi State University, Anyigba, Nigeria

Ajibade David

Department of Sociology,
Kogi State University, Anyigba, Nigeria

Abstract

This study was conducted to find out the views and attitudes of undergraduate students of Sociology towards research methods as a course in Kogi State University, Anyigba, Nigeria. The sample comprises those 2017/2018 third year undergraduate students of sociology at the institution, who registered and sat for the examination of the course (Soc 301). Data were collected through in-depth interviews; and the data were content analysed (manually). Findings of the study reveal that respondents perceived the course as though complex, technical and stressful but interesting, educative and beneficial. These views were however discovered to be due to the positive attitude respondents have towards the course. While this attitude appears commendable, the university management still needs to pay particular attention to the sustenance of the attitude through further provision of conducive and attractive learning environment as well as appropriate instructional materials, as these will help to impact profoundly on the students learning the course and other courses. Further, research methods teachers need to always make the teaching of the course interesting and practical to stimulate learning. Finally, students at all time need to be diligent and serious with the course so as to become better researchers and good sociologists in future.

Keywords: Perceptions, Attitudes, Undergraduate students, Research methods, Nigeria
Youth Employment Gap (Case of Albania)

Ardita Hykaj  
*Msc.*,  
*Mediterranean University of Albania,  
Department of Finance, Tirana*

Rudina Qurku  
*Dr.*,  
*Mediterranean University of Albania,  
Department of Finance, Tirana*

**Abstract**

Albania is a developing country, and its main goal is to stabilize the economy and society by using all the necessary mechanisms. Human resources, and especially young people, are one of the most important elements that can transform the whole economy of a country. All the challenges is on managing and using them with the right efficiency, promoting participation in the labour market, active decision-making and increasing their value in benefit to the society. This paper will analyse a general picture of the Albanian labour market, paying particular attention in the young people age group (18-29 years old). The key data was obtained from INSTAT and ILO, taking into account the reports and studies that have been carried out on this topic in previous periods. The aim will be to present the current state of the youth unemployment in Albania, their difficulties entering the labour market, the consequences of high unemployment in the society and economy and various recommendations on minimizing the youth unemployment rate. The young people represent a dynamic and important segment of the population of each country. Generally, countries with a relatively young population are characterized by a good economic level and a higher standard of living. Numerous policies need to be devised for their employment and training in the fields of economy to establish a safer trajectory towards economic stability. The employment and training of youth in Albania has been and continues to be one of the most problematic challenges of the society. Based on the statistical data, our country is characterized by a high unemployment rate in this age group and therefore we think it is one of the issues that needs to be more greatly studied now and in the future.

**Keywords:** labour market, unemployment, youth, economy
How Digital Banking Affect Consumer Preference

Morena Boja

Mediterranean University of Albania

Abstract

Nowadays banks are one of the business sector that are more focused towards electronic delivery of services. The banking sector around the world has been affected by the digitalization phenomenon of services known otherwise as Digital Banking. This study examines consumer preference for Digital Banking versus the banks of second level in Albania. The object of this research consist in an survey on Albanian Banks' customer at the age 18+ that have a banking account, we use the banks’ data to obtain e-banking reports and compare it's with our results. This study aims to find the main factors which determine consumer preference toward digital banking services, we aims to find the characteristics of this type of banking product that affect consumer choices, there is a significant relationship among demographic factors and consumer preference toward online banking which is related with financial bank performance. Multivariate Factor Analysis, Structural Equation Modeling, and ANOVA tests will be used to explore research hypotheses on the relationships among the study factors.

Keywords: Digital banking, e-banking, consumer preference, account
Policy-Making in Public Participation at Local Government Level

Ali Zaimi

PhD. Student, Epoka University
Director, “Haxhi Mahmud Dashi” Madrasa,
Tirana, Albania

Abstract

Policy-making suggests a series of decisions leading to formulation of policy and resolutions for carrying it out. Furthermore, it knows as a process of continued action where the local government decides what actions and benefits should be taken for the benefit of community. The result of the policy–making process is public policy which defines the objectives and the values of local government to enhance and promote the well-being of the community. The study will focus on pattern of actions produced by the public in local government level and the time when the policy decisions are taken. Moreover, it will explore the importance policy-making and policy implementation in public participation by analyzing various methods. A literature review will be conducted to demonstrate the deficiencies and weaknesses of policy-making in public participation.

Keywords: Policy-making, public participation, local government, community
Presentation of Philips Curve in the Reality of the Albanian Economy: Period 1993-2017

Valter Hoxha
Department of Economics, Faculty of Economic Sciences, Mediterranean University of Albania

Majlinda Shehu
Department of Economics, Faculty of Economic Sciences, Mediterranean University of Albania

Sonila Kamami
Department of Business Law, University College Qiriazi

Abstract
Economic models built by famous western economists such as Alban William Phillips or Artur Melvin Okun have verified that there is a strong correlation between key macroeconomic indicators such as inflation, economic growth and unemployment. Filips's curves indicate that there is an inverse or negative link between the inflation rate and the unemployment rate. In the case of the Albanian economy, where its characteristics are not the same as those of Western developed countries, the link between these two indicators remains to be verified even if the macroeconomic policies implemented by the Albanian governments after the change of the communist system, have always aimed at a reduction in the unemployment rate. The purpose of this article is to verify whether the figures of these macroeconomic indicators confirm this link consolidated in the worldwide literature for the developed countries. The data used to validate these links was obtained from the Albanian Central Bank and INSTAT. The period analysed is 1993-2017. The analysis of these data shows a weak correlation between the inflation rate and the unemployment rate. However, we conclude that other studies should be carried out with other macroeconomic indicators such as economic growth and its impact on the unemployment phenomenon, in order to build a rational scientific conclusion on the affirmations of these macroeconomic models.

Keywords: Unemployment, inflation, Philips curve, Albanian economy
Some Business in *Dyrrachium* during I-III centuries AD

Arlind Kasa  
*Doctor of Science,*  
*University "Aleksandër Moisiu" Durres,*  
*Faculty of Business, Albania*

Erald Shahini  
*Master Scientific,*  
*Abkons Company,*  
*Tirana, Albania*

Abstract

In this paper, we will analyze the data that are discovered in archaeological excavations in Dyrrachium, the modern city of Durres in Albania. The archaeological excavations that are made in the last fifty years have discovered interesting information about business in this city during the I-III centuries AD. The city of Dyrrachium was the most important city during the Roman Imperial Period in Albanian territory. It was inhabited by thousand citizens from I century AD to III century AD. In this study, we will analyze the results of excavations that are made in Durres where are discovered ruins of business building in I-III centuries AD. Naturally, it is impossible to identify all business that have existed in I-III centuries AD in Dyrrachium because the scarce archaeological and historical data. This paper will mention and analyze some of business that are found and study today. The majority of the business that are discovered were small of medium activity, only a few were big business.

*Keywords:* Business, Fullonica, Thermopolium, ceramic manufacture, glass manufacture
A General Overview of Totalitarian Tendencies and Phenomena Reinforcing The Socialist Character of Education in Albania during the Years 1960 - 1989

Jani Sota
Prof. Assoc. Ph.D.,
"Aleksandër Moisiu" University,
Durrës, Albania

Novruz Ahmeti
Msc.,
Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth

Abstract
The years 1960-1989 represent a preparation stage for the implementation of totalitarian state's policies aiming at reinforcing the Socialist character of Albanian education. Significant changes of a comprehensive character occurred during this period, affecting the structure of education system and its special components including content issues of the teaching process. In this perspective, some radical changes carried out in the whole school activity affected also important issues related to strengthening the ideological Marxist-Leninist axis in the school's teaching and educational work. Certain processes carried out in this time under the pressure of political factors served to accomplish the "revolutionization" of the whole school life including its way of management. A "new" tendency getting always more determined and aggressive in the respective area was initiated first and foremost by the State Party, since on the one hand it made possible the efficient use of existing pre-university education system, and on the other it paved the way for deepening the adaptation of an "organic unity" process which included three school components: teaching - manufacturing work - physical and military education. The end of this period would mark an increased involvement of young people in national actions and direct production labor. Such an educational system was meant to provide more opportunities in order to hold the Albanian society under control, accomplishing its historic task of raising and educating the "new man", indoctrinating the intelligence with "revolution and loyalty ideals" in the Party’s causes, in 'closed' relation to the working classes.

Keywords: Educational policy, school, education, ideology, "revolutionization", Socialist society
Education for Sustainable Development in Teacher Training

Olga Bombardelli

University of Trento

Abstract
The overarching research question is about the best strategies to promote Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) in the initial and in service teacher training for the different school levels (from kindergarten to lower secondary school). I deepen the study of the concept of ESD under environmental and social view, define the theoretical framework, undertake an analysis of needs, and strengths comparing the situation in two neighbouring countries Italy and Austria. I develop new strategies in order to contribute in making ESD a permanent part of teaching at school through the growth of teacher's awareness and competence, developing the consciousness that everyone is responsible for SD. I deal with a strategy for encouraging positive attitudes, the acquisition of knowledge and the skills to contribute to create a sustainable society. I draft strategies to introduce or increase the competences for sustainability in the daily practice of teacher training for the decision makers, the Ministries of Education, the Universities in charge for teacher training. Main results are new innovative ideas, a pilot model for ESD in the teacher initial and in service training, in order to give a strong theoric and practical contribution for the sustainable development.

Keywords: Sustainable Development, Education, Teacher Training
Bootstrap Application with Real-Life Situations and Simulation in R

Katerina Zela

Department of Informatics and Scientific Formation,  
Faculty of Economic Sciences,  
Mediterranean University of Albania

Dolantina Hyka

Head of Informatics and Scientific Formation Department,  
Faculty of Economic Sciences,  
Mediterranean University of Albania

Abstract

Bootstrap is a recently developed technique for analyzing statistical results. The basic concept of statistical data does not change but their interpretations are. This paper presents the method of functioning of this method and some ways to apply it to different real-life situations. Bootstrap analyzes statistical findings that can answer many real questions. It provides strict controls versus wrong interpretations of random patterns. In this way we try to optimize the required statistical results, significantly increasing their realistic approach. The treatment of this technique has been developed through the software R.

Keywords: Bootstrap, statistics, R, BCa, Statistical Methods
External Trade and Export-Import Analysis for the Five Last Years Period According to, Products and Countries, Albania Case

Eriona Deda
Dr.,
Profesor at Fama University,
Faculty of Economy, and Faculty of Law,
Prishtina, Prizren, Kosovo

Halim Bajraktari
Prof. Ass. Dr.,
Profesor at University “Ukshin Hoti”,
Faculty of Law, and Faculty of Economy,
Prizren, Kosovo

Bekim Marmullaku
PhD.,
Profesor at Fama University,
Faculty of Economy, Prishtina, Prizren, Mitrovica, Kosovo
Head of Quality Assurance office Research Institute-IZHBEN-Fama,
Executive Director

Abstract

This paper is focused mainly on an analysis of foreign trade including imports and exports of goods by products and countries. The scope of data are based on a period of time including annual data for the period 2014-2018. we have collected the data provided by INSTAT on foreign trade of goods, and we have used comparative analysis to determine which types of products, Albania has exported more during the 5-years period taken in the study and which types of products has imported more according respective periods. The data provided by INSTAT include data on trade between Albania and other countries of the world. Also, we are based on comparative analysis to determine which are the countries where Albania has exported and imported more goods according to relevant annual periods of study, and how the exports and imports have been performed on over the respective periods. The purpose of this paper is to analyse trade balance regard to weight occupied by exports compared to imports. In our paper we used quantitative data which are calculated and expressed in % (percent) based in comparative analyses which are interpreted by useing the descreptive method.

Keywords: Trade, Trade balance, Foreign trade, Trade of goods, Export, Import
The Legal Aspects of the Administrator's Relationship with the Commercial Company

Erjola Aliaj
Dr.,
Mediterranean University of Albania

Edvana Tiri
Dr.,
Mediterranean University of Albania

Abstract

The exercise of an economic activity, as well as many other activities carried out in our society, is governed by legal rules, which influence the promotion of an appropriate business climate. Administration of a commercial company, as one of the elements of corporate governance, while interacting with all spheres of actors inside and outside the commercial company, remains a process associated with transactions and the daily exercise of the activity of the commercial company. In addition to administration and legal representation of the commercial company, the administrator/s play a central role in the corporate governance. The relationship of the administrator with the commercial company has been subject of numerous doctrinal debate and court proceedings in many countries of the world, but “almost nontreated” by the doctrine in Albania. This paper analyzes this legal relationship by combining the interpretation of legal norms with different court cases pursued not only in Albania but also in other Western European countries, in order to highlight the legal regulation of the administrator’s relationship with the commercial company.

Keywords: director, commercial company, service, employment, company law
Commemorazione e Promozione del Passato Comunista in Albania, Attraverso il Turismo del Patrimonio Comunista. Il Caso di Bunk’Art

Ardit Metani

Università di Roma “Sapienza”
Dipartimento di Comunicazione e Ricerca Sociale (CORIS)
Dottorato di Ricerca XXII Ciclo in Comunicazione,
Ricerca Sociale e Marketing

Abstract

Recentemente, l’UNESCO presta particolare attenzione ai paesi e popoli che, nella loro storia, hanno assistito a eventi tragici (genocidi, massacri, schiavitù, regimi totalitari, ecc.), considerandoli siti del patrimonio dell’umanità. Inoltre, con l’aumento della domanda turistica per questi paesi, luoghi e siti particolari, la questione del “patrimonio dissonante” è stata oggetto di grande attenzione da parte di molti studiosi del patrimonio culturale. Negare o ignorare un periodo, la sua eredità e il patrimonio culturale che ha lasciato, diventa più difficile quando visitatori e turisti sono interessati a quel periodo e al suo lascito. Il Turismo del Patrimonio Comunista nell’Europa Centro Orientale è emerso dopo gli anni ’90. Questo turismo offre visite a luoghi strettamente legati ai regimi comunisti e alla loro caduta e paesi che rappresentano e ricordano questo passato o presente, che non sempre è ben accolto. Duncan Light nei suoi studi sul patrimonio comunista lo considera un “passato Indesiderato”, d’altra parte, Ivanov (2009) afferma che il comunismo, con tutti i suoi successi e disgrazie, è percepito come un periodo temporaneo “fuori pista”, che non merita lo “sguardo del turista”. L’apertura di Bunk’Art, il quale non è solo un “museo tradizionale” finalizzato alla semplice esibizione di materiale storico ma divenne un “luogo della memoria” che attraverso percorsi interattivi, documenti originali e oggetti comuni, prova a far convergere la memoria dei singoli e quella della collettività per raccontare la storia nazionale Albanese molto spesso messa da parte.

Keywords: Turismo, memoria, patrimonio dissonante, patrimonio culturale comunista, Bunk’Art

1 “Difficult heritage” è un altro termine che viene usato per il patrimonio “dissonante” o il “partimio scomodo” nel mondo anglo-sassone.
The Benefits of Bilingualism at Early Age: Psychological and Cognitive Aspects

Morena Braçaj  
PhD.,  
Mediterranean University of Albania

Ilda Kashami  
PhD.,  
Mediterranean University of Albania

Abstract

For many years, the question of whether bilingualism affects the individual has been broadly discussed and many researches have been done on this topic. Some researchers state that from their investigation, it has resulted that bilingualism has negative effects on children who are being brought up in bilingual environments by tackling some of the important factors that could affect the process of learning two different languages at the same time. Whereas, lately, a great number of researchers have presented evidence on the positive effects that claim that bilingualism affects cognitive, personality, and educational developments. Thus, the main objective of this paper is to present positive side of this phenomenon, focusing on benefits and advantages it brings to children in their future life. Therefore, firstly, this paper is going to present some general aspects about bilingualism by giving a number of definitions and thoughts which have been introduced by some linguists. Secondly, some general aspects of bilingualism are presented, specifically the psychological and cognitive aspects. By explaining these two dimensions, a description of the brain areas involved in language processing and how they work in cases of bilingualism. Lastly, it is going to show that the most important factors that influence and decide the success of bilingualism in children by growing personality and cognitive development.

Keywords: Benefits of bilingualism, cognitive skills, psychological aspects, language processing
Turkey - Cyprus - Aegean Trinity, the Corestone of the Greek Foreign Policy

Glewin Dervishi

MA.

Abstract

Turkey - Cyprus - Aegean Trinity constitutes the Greece's existential basin in foreign, domestic and national security. Over this trinity is build the maneuverability space in the long and short run, Greece's development area, defense and power projecting. The nature of this sacred and difficult trinity poses a constant challenge that Greece must face with, because this system constitutes a complex balance and reports with an unequal distribution of power. From the perspective of Greece's foreign, internal, and security policy, the founding elements of the trinity that are indivisible, interdependent and influential to each other are seen as: • Turkey, together with the sub-issues, is a priority issue for national security, foreign and domestic policy for Greece. • Cyprus, along with the islands of Crete, Corfu, Sicily (during the ancient times), formed the control angles of the Aegean in ancient Greece, and today, therefore who controls Cyprus, projects power in the Middle East and South Anatolia. • The Aegean Sea, along with its elements, is existential for trade, defense, transportation and communication. For Greeks, "There is no Greece without Aegean".

Keywords: Greece foreign policy, security, Aegean, Turkey, Cyprus
Group-Based Life Design Career Counseling with First Year Medical Students

Manjola Çollaku

Mediterranean University of Albania
Faculty of Psychological, Sociological and Political Studies

Abstract

Nowadays, occupational prospects seem far less definable and predictable, with job transitions more common and difficult. Life Design Career Counseling is an identity intervention that cultivates intention and action through story telling. This group-based career counseling program is based on Life Design Counseling using the Career-Story Interview, developed by Savickas in 2010. The participants are first year students of General Medicine program, which were in a transitional phase, whether to continue or abandon their studies. The Program was composed by 5 sessions and was conducted in a group of 5 students, among which 3 male and 2 female. The age of the participants varies from 18 to 20 years old. Each session lasted from 45 to 55 minutes. Written exercises were used to implement the seven topics in the Career-Story Interview. The main purpose of this program is to adequately prepare and support the members of the chosen group in career exploration and uncertainty. Members got a better knowledge of their own personal skills, abilities or knowledge because of the group experience. After the career counseling group members showed increases in career exploration and planning and decreases in career uncertainty and decision-making difficulties. Career Decision-Making Difficulties Questionnaire (CDDQ) was administrated at the beginning and at the end of the group counseling to evaluate the decision-making difficulties of the participants. Furthermore, a three month follow up was conducted with all five participants.

Keywords: Life-design, career, group-based, program, medical students
Abstract

The paper reflects the efforts of the Albanian political class to form a state administration, which is accompanied by antagonistic contradictions between various political forces, which were represented by the Government of Durres officially known through a congress represented with delegates from Albanian provinces and on the other side of policy was Esad Pashe Toptani, who feels stronger because he had many political ties with the internationals, also was on the agenda of the Peace Conference in Paris because he was officially recognized by the International Commission for Control, since 1913. He knew how to keep the political ties, moreover he had shown the ability of a "political businessman" in relation with the internationals. While the Durres government, which had political ties with the Italian state, but political developments within Albania had consumed it politically, because of the compromises with Italy, was created political opinion among the Albanians that the political representation of the Government of Durres, was nothing more than a political instrument on the hands of Italy. Under these conditions, the Albanian political class in the eyes of Europe was contested, which means that European policy was not listening to a common Albanian political voice. The Government of Durres was aware that the Albanian state could be constructed through compromises and political deals with Italy, which was also the winner of World War I and was a powerful factor in the international arena. Looking at the policy of the Government of Durres in this view, we think that it represented a modern political force, but this policy had been consumed in the face of the radical stream, which in the wild Albanian wilderness had influence and exercised a powerful propaganda which had hampered its political activity. Considering in this context, I think that politically, the Albanian political class was passing the most difficult test in its history because of the fact that Albanians were involved in Albanian statehood, which were mixed with foreign interests, as well with selfish Albanian interests, which had put the existence of the countryside at the crossroads, consequently, international politicians such as Italy, France and England.

**Keywords:** Radicalization, policy, state, government, power, war, peace, conference, compromise
Country of Destination Effect on Perceived Product Quality- Perspectives from India

Omkumar Krishnan

Dr., Associate Professor,
Indian Institute of Management,
Kozhikode, India

Abstract

One of the principal topics in marketing literature is the country of origin effect which has significantly influenced the branding strategies of multinational companies across product categories. In similar lines the exports of products to foreign countries is also prejudiced among population in the domestic markets. This is more evident in the case of the emerging economies which are exporting various product categories to the developed countries. The appraisal of expected product quality standards in destination markets mirrors the perception of domestic consumers creating the country of destination effect. This has substantial implications like marketers can demand higher prices for the export quality products in the same country. Through this paper we aim to explore the various perceptions formed around product quality by virtue of the export market demands among the domestic consumers. It's also seen that the country of destination effect in emerging economies also has an element of distrust among the consumers since the products manufactured for domestic consumption are perceived as of inferior quality. The purchase decisions influenced due to the country of destination effect and the impact of current warranties provided by manufacturers on the domestic consumers makes the branding and consumer behavior aspects an interesting topic of study. A quantitative study was conducted on a sample of 265 respondents in the age group of 18 to 25 from different colleges in India using a structured questionnaire. The variables included were the various propositions constituting the perception of product quality among the domestic consumers in assessing country of destination impact. The results reveal that the consumer's decisions are biased by their perceptions regarding the quality of the foreign and domestic products sold in Indian market.

Keywords: country of destination effect, product quality, export quality, country of origin
The Effect of Rural Tourism on the Reduction of the Emigration Rate in Albania 1990-2017

Eni Nasi
Mediterranean University of Albania

Elona Shehu
Mediterranean University of Albania

Abstract
The main purpose of this study is the analysis of the development of the rural tourism sector and more specifically focused in the agriculture profile, through the impact of the public policies in favor or internationally financed projects or crediting from financial and non financial institutions in our country. Although always considered as a strategic sector with relevant impact in the state budget, yet is difficult to see a positive effect in the rural tourism sector. The fragmentation of the agriculture land from the law no. 7501 resulted in productivity loss in this sector and lack of investments in agro-tourism. Being one of the less promoted and developed directions these last years, new favorable public policies are needed. The results from the immigration data gathered for the period 1990-1997, show a close connection between supportive and nixes policies of the rural tourism and the level of emigration in years, as a disturbing phenomena for the Albanian society. In this article, we will analyze the galloping growth of the immigration, its structure and the development of the rural economy during this years. Also, the research gives recommendations on measures to be taken to stop the emigration phenomena and to increase immigrants investment in homeland.

Keywords: rural tourism, immigration, regional development, strategic sector, agro-tourism, favorable financial policies
Massive Population Movements - Issues and Solutions

Luljeta Kodra

Dr.,
Mediterranean University of Albania

Abstract

For several years, millions of people around the world are forced to flee their homes to escape conflicts, violence, violations of human rights, persecution and natural disasters, and seek refuge within or outside their country's borders. The issue of millions of displaced people around the world who during years have taken over and continues to take one of the hardest decisions of their lives, the removal, is still very complex today and represents great challenges. The influx of the displaced and the real difficulties faced with their management have caused a series of reactions from the governments of the countries where mostly are directed the refugees who have been forced to flee their country in search of a better and safer life. There have been during these years of refugee crisis, clash of different attitudes and stances. Despite the measures undertaken in the international level and the many efforts made to discourage displacement of people, there have also been unforeseen consequences. The refugee crisis in Europe and generally the displacement of people all over the world is becoming one of the key issues of the century, which requires a solution. Therefore attention should focus on establishing the fundamental and effective objectives of global migration policy.

Keywords: Displacement of the population, refugees, emigrants, emigration policies
Technical Development Challenges in the Maritime Transport Industry

Sonila Nikolla  
*Mediteranean University of Albania*

Eni Nasi  
*Mediteranean University of Albania*

Abstract

The challenges brought by the Fourth Industrial Revolution are at the center of development and organization in managing the value chain process involved in the manufacturing industry, which is fundamentally changing the concept of the enterprise, as cyber-production systems are destroying the boundaries between the real and the virtual world. In Albania, the concept of Industry 4.0, or the fourth industrial revolution is mostly unknown or known very little, though in ever-expanding global economies and more specifically in the new generation of entrepreneurs is becoming a necessity. The Adriatic and Ionian societies and economies are also affected by this transformation, which affects production, relationships between companies and the development of human capital. To face this, focusing on shipyard and nautical logistic supply chain, the search intends to develop an Industry 4.0 model to increase the competitiveness of shipyards. The results are based on Adriatic and Ionian region companies, human capital developers and public administrations. The companies involved share the same challenges for the shipping sector as they face the same transformations and their manufacturing systems must be more integrated.

*Keywords:* Fourth Industrial Revolution, Marine Industry, nautical logistic supply chain, Cyber Production Systems
The Impact of Internet Protocol Television and Comparison with the Conventional TV

Dorela Karaj
Lecturer of Information,
Department of Informatics and Scientific Education
Mediterranean University of Albania

Albina Toçilla
Lecturer of Information,
Department of Informatics and Scientific Education
Mediterranean University of Albania

Abstract

The world of TV and video has changed so much in the last decade that nobody now doubts the infinite business possibilities that this sector offers. IPTV (Internet Protocol Television) is one of the options presented for this sector and its importance has been recognized already by the main telecommunications companies and other agents of the Media & Entertainment market. Comparing to the traditional television, IPTV is being transmitted through the internet networks technologies. Generally, IPTV will become a breakthrough point for the strategic transformation of telecom operators and meet their innovation demands. In this paper we have emphasised the development of the IPTV and we have also compared it with the conventional TV infrastructure. Furthermore the regulatory framework of the TV broadcast and IPTV in Europe is analysed.

Keywords: unicast, multicast, middleware, server, VoD
Borders and Geopolitics - Case of Kosovo

Viola Aliaj
PhD/candidate

Ilir Aliaj
Dr.

Abstract

The collapse of Berlin wall was a starting point for almost all countries from Central and Eastern Europe, to start the process of EU integration. Of course, some countries were quicker in joining the European club and some of them are still on the way of integration. After the war, all Kosovo government’s have been underlining EU integration as a main priority of the country. As a new state, independence got in 2008 and known by only 116 states around the world, for Kosovo was an immediate interest the process of regional and EU integration. Due to its historical past one of the main obstacles in its way, Kosovo has had the process of negotiations with Serbia, which now a days are not resolved. The main aim of this paper is to try to address problems faced by Kosovo in its road to regional and EU integration. Kosovo citizens remain the only ones in the region South East Europe, who are not able to move freely in Schengen countries. Although, Kosovo government has fulfilled all 95 legal criteria requested by EU, the latest reply from Brussel was that its citizens can move freely into Schengen area only in 2020. I have chosen a combination of methods for my paper between empirical-analytical analyses and interpretative method. The reason why, I have chosen a combination of methodologies to present my paper is related to the complexity of the topic in question. As for time being, in my view, which I will present at the conference is that Kosovo will remain the black hole in the middle of Europe, where EU has denied citizens of the country to move freely, where Serbia is playing an active role to block integration in to international organizations such UNESCO and INTERPOL. It is a situation where EU has shown its incapability as an international player and empower radicals and populists. As a result, negotiations Kosovo-Serbia have entered in a deadlock and possibilities for a negative scenario are increased.

Keywords: Kosovo, regional and international integration, EU, Serbia, international players, US, Russia, Turkey
Our Way Towards the Integration of Digital Technology

Nikollaq Pano
Dr.,
Mediterranean University of Albania,
Tirana, Albania

Ira Gjika
Dr.,
Mediterranean University of Albania,
Tirana, Albania

Abstract
Information and communication technologies (ICT) are stirring the worldwide economic advancement for more than three decades. The new technologies and their implementation in manufacturing, services, as well as the public sector, have provided changes of the economic structure and – hopefully – increase of productivity. The factors driving the use of ICT come from the demand side, for products and services the companies and consumers require, as well as from the supply side, with solutions and models applicable to a rising number of users. The extent of using the information and communication technologies in Albanian environment is in the focus of this paper. The main objective is, from one side, to evidence the measure of digital technology integration in Albanian economy, particularly in businesses; from the other side it is intended to analyze some of the reasons that brought the changes during last years. Further on, the chances for Albanian businesses to get advantage of the economic and social benefits from ICT can be considered. The methodology has followed a combined “desk study” with on-site survey in order to evidence the achievements, shortcomings and opportunities for a higher level of integration of digital technology in Albanian organizations.

Keywords: business digitization, integration of digital technology, e-commerce, internet use, SME-s
Prospects and Challenges of Public Private Partnership Concessions in Albania

Rudina Qurku
Dr.,
Mediterranean University of Albania

Daniel Guçe
PhD proc.,
University of Craiova,
Faculty of Economics and Business Administration,
Romania

Abstract

Albania is "modeling" the Law on Public Private Partnership as an opportunity for sustainable economic development of the country. The Draft Law "On Amendments and Amendments to Law No.125 / 2013" On Concessions and Public Private Partnership ", as amended, is a legal initiative aimed at improving the legal framework, the way of implementing concession / PPP procedures and increase control over the fiscal commitments undertaken by the Contracting Authorities through concession / PPP contracts in order to minimize the fiscal impact on the state budget. For the foregoing, this paper aims to bring the best models of European Union countries and the broader perspectives and challenges as SWAT analysis of PPP development in Albania. The study will be a comparative analysis, the results will be suggested to stakeholders interested in drafting the PPP law.

Keywords: Law on Public Private Partnership, Albania, stakeholders
L’esperienza Migratoria Degli Albanesi in Italia: Aspetti Sociali ed Economici

A. Veshi

Universiteti Mesdhetar i Shqipërisë,
Fakulteti i Shkencave Psikologjike,
Sociale e Politike

E. Sabella

Università degli Studi di Bari "Aldo Moro"

A. Spiru

Università degli Studi di Bari "Aldo Moro",
Dipartimento di Economia,
Management e Diritto dell’Impresa

Abstract

Gli albanesi nel mondo si sono distribuiti in cinquantanove paesi in tutti i continenti, mostrando le concentrazioni maggiori negli stati europei. Se nel 1990 si contavano 123.506 emigrati albanesi regolari, negli ultimi anni questa cifra ha superato il milione. In particolare, l'Italia detiene il primato come luogo di destinazione principale in cui vivono gli emigranti albanesi. I cambiamenti socio-economici che hanno colpito l'Italia, tra cui l'innegabile crisi economica, hanno condizionato l'esperienza migratoria anche per gli albanesi. In questo lavoro vengono illustrati gli aspetti sociali ed economici dell'esperienza migratoria degli albanesi residenti stabilmente in Italia, analizzando le difficoltà relative all'arrivo, le caratteristiche dell'esperienza e le intenzioni future in merito alla possibilità di fare ritorno nel proprio paese di origine. Il campione, individuato attraverso un campionamento non probabilistico per quote, è composto da 1,000 soggetti intercettati attraverso la mediazione di consolati e ambasciate albanesi site in Italia. La rilevazione è stata condotta nel 2018 attraverso la somministrazione di un questionario finalizzato a rilevare gli aspetti sopraelencati. I risultati preliminari evidenziano una quasi totalità degli albanesi i quali dichiarano di aver affrontato difficoltà all'arrivo in Italia, soprattutto legate alla ricerca di un lavoro e di una sistemazione; tre su quattro confessano di aver vissuto, direttamente o in famiglia, gli effetti della crisi economica italiana; due albanesi su tre rifarebbero la scelta di emigrare, optando per l'Italia come meta del loro percorso di vita e quattro su dieci consiglierebbero ai giovani albanesi di scegliere l'Italia in una eventuale decisione di migrare all'estero.

Keywords:
University Research and Public Policy in Albania: Building and Influencing Development Processes

Nevila Xhindi
Prof. Asoc. Dr., Mediterranean University of Albania

Abstract

Albania has an education and research system - in all of its components - that does not respond adequately to the needs of a modernizing country, as it is under-funded and with insufficiently-trained staff, which does not produce either the professionals or the citizens needed for the challenges of the future. Public and private universities and think tanks, despite having many more resources and opportunities than at any other time in Albania’s history, have so far generally failed to produce a research system that yields timely, adequate, and quality research in line with international standards. Aware of this situation and the growing need to overcome it, consecutive governments, have promised reforms and increased funding. However, as the data shows, Albania continues to perform poorly in many education-related areas and in research in particular. Therefore, the main purpose of this paper is to identify the mechanisms (actors, stakeholders, guiding factors) that affect social science research in Albania as a precondition for identifying possible intervention areas for improving research from both the perspective of knowledge producers (researchers/academics) and knowledge consumers (policy-makers/wider public). Based on objective constraints, this paper relies on secondary research used to overview the current situation of the research sector in Albania and provides a synopsis of its outputs and challenges in a comparative context. In that sense, it will not delve into theoretical discussions and will be light on retrospective overviews of the research system in Albania, but will focus in identifying the mechanisms that guide the system, affect scientific output, and can be mediated to improve social science research.

Keywords: research, policy, development
Policies and Practicies of Green Human Resource Management

Ira Gjika  
*Dr.*,  
*Mediterranean University of Albania, Tirana, Albania*

Zana Koli  
*Prof. Assoc. Dr.*,  
*University of Tirana, Faculty of Economy, Tirana, Albania*

Abstract

Social responsibility and environmental management are since some years at the focus for a lot of companies, which do consider them as important part of their strategy. Human resource management is one of the functional strategies and part of senior management in the organizations capable of playing a particular role in crafting and implementing policies that contribute to the environmental management and responsibility. This orientation, recently recognized as “Green HRM”, is broadly elaborated in the worldwide HRM literature and closely related to the environmental management system. The companies do implement practices of HRM by orienting them towards the engagement of employees in green management. Processes like recruitment, selection, training, performance compensation are perceived and “modeled” in the light of green management practices. This paper intends to present the green approach of HRM in the theoretical framework, based on the existing literature, and also to evidence how the Albanian organizations are grasping it. The objective is to bring the good practices of leader companies in green HRM as a mean to draw the attention of as many other organizations as possible for the importance of this approach in activities that are profitable and socially responsible as well.

**Keywords:** green HRM, competitive strategy, environmental management, recruitment, selection, social responsibility
Factors Influencing Students` Career Choice: A Quantitative Data Collection Study

Ela Tollkuçi
PhD(c.),
Mediterranean University of Albania

Anxhela Kurtaj
Msc.,
University of Tirana,
Faculty of Social Science

Abstract

This study aims to analyze students` career choice by taking into account all the variables that in previous literature are considered as related to this process. The study design, consider variables associated with the personality of the student, parental preferences and the influence of peers, teachers and gender roles. It also explores knowledge on the labor market concept as well as its impact during the decision-making process. In this study, data were taken from 260 high school students, in secondary schools of urban and suburban areas of Tirana, through random sampling. Using the questionnaires, quantitative data were collected on the decisional variables in order to respond to the hypotheses. The results of the study highlight the role of personal preference factor, basing the decision far more in personal desires than in the real opportunities offered by the labor market for certain professions. This also explains why young people today face many difficulties for their employment. Other limits, associated to the lack of adequate facilities in career orientation for young people in the schools, are taken into consideration.

Keywords: students` career choice, labor market, career orientation, personal preference factor
Risk Management & PPP Control In Achieving Sustainable Development

Armelina Lila (Fushekati)
Msc.,
Universiteti Mesdhetar i Shqiperise

Rudina Qurku
Dr., Lecturer,
Universiteti Mesdhetar i Shqiperise,
Faculty of Economic Sciences

Abstract

Concessions or Partnerships between the Government and the Private Sector are considered an important factor for achieving sustainable development and good Governance. In this context, the link between Governance and Partnership brings a mutual influence. Good Governance improves Partnerships and Partnership improves Governance. The links between Governance and Partnership are established through consultation, coordination, participation and dialogue. They are among the few ways to cope with development challenges, but of course they are not easy to manage. Taking into the consideration that PPPs may not always be effective, Governments should necessarily strengthen institutional mechanisms and infrastructure to control costs, risks and financially address them to fully comply with fiscal rules and budget targets, in full transparency since the planning stage. This study analyzes the necessary mechanisms to minimize risks in the view of good governance. The purpose of this paper is to highlight how PPP’s should serve not only to increase services and society welfare but they should play an important role in the country’s economic development. Analysis of potential changes in legislation and concessions tax reform with impact on the Albanian economy

Keywords: Concession, risk management, economic code, institutional mechanism
TChat, Application in Ionic Platform

Gerild Qordja

Lecturer,
Department of Informatics and Scientific Formation,
Faculty of Economic Sciences,
Mediterranean University of Albania

Festim Kodra

Lecturer,
Department of Finance,
Bank and Accounting,
Mediterranean University of Albania

Abstract

In this paper is presented a new real-time mobile application in ionic platform. We have called it tChat. This app enables the exchange of real-time messages. To use this, users need to be connected to the Internet. This means that to send or receive messages from someone, both the sender and the recipient of the message must have access to the network to achieve full exchange of messages or other data. tChat makes it possible not only to communicate with one-to-one but also in group-chat communication. Thus, it is possible to communicate with more than one user at the same time, creating space for its use not only in personal messaging exchanges, but also to utilize the application in groups with and not just the employees of the company. During its creation, we have worked hard to increase security in data transmission. Also increased the speed of text transmission. We are careful, among other things, to make this application unique and usable, making it suitable for all ages and for all users as individuals and businesses.

Keywords: tChat, mobile application, ionic, system security, one-to-one, group-chat
Services of Owner-Occupied Dwellings – Benchmark Estimates in Albania

Ina Shehu
Msc., Assistant Lecturer, Mediterranean University of Albania

Abstract

Imputed rent is one of the largest imputations while compiling national accounts and without it, the difference between rental and owner-occupied dwellings would impact GDP. This is also relevant for the comparison of the level of GDP over time and across countries, which would otherwise be complicated by the differing levels of dwelling ownership. In year 2001, INSTAT conducted the Census of Population and Dwellings and for several years’ services of owner-occupied dwellings were estimated based on some fixed ratios. The next Census, carried out in October 2011, provided more detailed information since it collected data on dwelling stocks, year of construction, etc. In this way, it was important to use the recent results for making a new benchmark estimate. Starting with the reasons why the standard procedure of “Stratification Approach” recommended in the System of National Accounts (SNA) cannot be applied in Albania, this paper explains the methodology of the next best alternative for estimating imputed rent called “User Costs-Approach” and its application for the first time in Albania. This article gives also answer to the questions why owner-occupied dwellings are treated as an economic activity even though there is no market transaction and what happens if they are not. The present methodological paper is also an outcome of INSTAT. It has been prepared by me while estimating this component under IPA 2011 MB Statistical Programme: “National Accounts Methodology”.

Keywords: imputed rent, user cost approach, benchmark estimates, owner-occupied dwellings
The Banal Nationalism of News

Kriton Kuci
PhD Candidate,
Mediterranean University of Albania
University of Macedonia, Thessaloniki, Greece

Emilio Cika
PhD Candidate,
Mediterranean University of Albania
University of Tirana, Tirana, Albania

Abstract

Nationalist discourse plays an important role in the production and reproduction of the nationalist worldview and is one of the main reasons for explaining the functionality of nationalism (Calhoun, 1997). Nationalism provides the framework within which the nation, national identity and the whole rhetoric of nationalism are developed, shaped and naturalized. Nationalism is a way of thinking, of imagining and of talking about the nation and about a world made of and shared between nations. The nationalist way of thinking takes for granted this image of the world, considering it almost as a natural phenomenon. This way of thinking reproduces and naturalizes the nation. Nationalism, apart from a political ideology or a social movement, is a specific form of discourse. Nationalism as discourse has shaped modern common sense, creating concepts that are considered self-evident and is an integral part of everyday life by reproducing "us" and the "others" as members of nations and the "nation" as a taken for granted entity in a "natural" international environment. (Billig, 1995). This paper initially aims to offer a theoretical elaboration in the relationship of online newspapers and banal nationalism. In turn, it intends to analyze how national identities are reinforced online. The objective is to understand if and in to what degree online newspapers reproduce national identities and national stereotypes through the news and articles they publish. Our analysis will focus on the examination of the nationalist discourse in 3 Albanian and 3 Greek online newspapers.

Keywords: banal nationalism, online newspapers, discourse analysis, Albanian nationalism, Greek nationalism
Non Verbal Communication: The Case of Tourism in Albania

Eriola Hoxha

Msc.,
Consultant Finance Expert,
National Diaspora Agency,
Prime Minister’s Building

Abstract

When faced with today’s international tourism there are many challenges that arise and one of them is communication. People communicate mostly through verbal means but what happens when people do not speak the same language? Here is non-verbal communication that comes in help that involves communication that is done through the transmission of wordless cues. The purpose of this paper is to discover how non-verbal communication affects the tourism industry in general and specifically in Albania. The verbal way of communication includes words, letters, signs and is more solid. When it comes to non-verbal communication there are misunderstandings due to lack of clarity and inability of description. In this paper, I conducted a survey in local businesses in Himara. The survey was carried out to understand the effects of employees nonverbal communication on tourists that visited Himara. Throughout the questionnaire and the interviews, three dimensions of nonverbal communication were identified: body and vocal behavior, physical appearance, and touching behavior. With regards to emotional responses, two dimensions, namely positive and negative emotion were identified. The results showed that body and vocal behavior, and physical appearance of employees have a significant positive effect on the positive emotion of guests and tourists.

Keywords: non-verbal, communication, tourism, Albania, Himara
Abstract

The approach of inclusion in education actually constitutes an almost global educational policy. The Declaration of Salamanca (1994) has served as a starting point and a cornerstone of inclusive education policies. Even though in the aforementioned declaration gifted students are considered as students with special needs, in some countries, including Albania and Croatia, the whole attention is focused on the students with learning disabilities. The opinion that gifted students are able to progress even without any particular attention is inspired by a mythical portrayal and it is not based in research. In fact, studies have shown that this category of students, because of their asymmetric development, needs to be understood and addressed in such a way that they also meet their needs within the public education service. This article provides a theoretical summary in order to understand the concepts of “gifted student” and “talented student” based on the contribution of François Gagné (2003). The authors examine the Interpretations of Behavior according to Saunders (1986) and point out arguments imposing the necessity to recognize the characteristics of such children both by educators and parents. In the article, careful treatment of these children is viewed from the perspective of social justice. The article includes also pros and cons related to the costs produced if gifted children are not discovered and considered as such. The authors conclude that their identification at an early age, as well as creating a nurturing environment around them in order to help their interaction with peers is highly important. On the other hand, the special training of teachers and parents for gifted children is essential in this context.

Keywords: social justice, gifted children, inclusive education, academic achievement
Parents' Impact on the Development of Autistic Children

Marilda Caushllari

Msc.,
Psychologist and Executive Director (ITTA Center)
International Training and Therapy Association
Tirana, Albania

Abstract

The purpose of this study is to see the importance of the parents' influence on the lives of children with autism spectrum disorders. Autism is a developmental disorder of a child who appears at a young age up to two years. Autism is not the same and children are affected in different ways. Various psychological therapies at specialized centers have been effective in improving the development of these children. But therapy cannot be the result if it is not accompanied even with the work that the child's family needs to do at home. Parents have a significant influence on their children who, trying to do everything by filling in every need, they mislead the behaviors of their children and this leads to an increase in unfaithful behavior of the children by creating a regression in their development. The methodology used for the study is qualitative; interviews and observation are used for empirical data collection. For this study, 5 cases of children diagnosed with autism spectrum were studied who perform therapy at ITTA Center in Tirana. Children are between 2 and 4 years of age. From the data analysis it turned out that (1) autistic children have a direct impact on their parents emotionally, this affects the parents' manipulation; (2) parents impersonate children's behaviors; (3) parents use more physical reinforcement than social ones, and this results in dependence on physical strengths. This study is limited as it is extended to a non-representative sample and cannot generalize its results on a large scale.

Keywords: Autism spectrum disorders, PDD, Asperger
Industrial Ownership and Its Role, in Institutional Protection and Development, in South-Eastern European Countries. Case Study of Albania and Macedonia

Florid Dumi

MSC(c), Iae Lyon, France, Technique Quantitatives et Management, Lyon, France

Abstract

To talk about Industrial Property, we must first make a brief introduction to Intellectual Property. What is Intellectual Property? Intellectual Property is related to legal rights stemming from human creative activities in the industrial, scientific, literary and artistic fields. Intellectual Property is traditionally divided into two branches: 1. Copyright (copyright) whereby term copyright means the part of the legislation that provides protection for a given work by guaranteeing its author a pile of exclusive rights and by making us prohibited to others for a certain timeframe. After the end of this deadline, the work is transferred to the public property, and for its use no permission is required from the author of the work. Copyright is a protection and inspiration for the author who could have a certain moral and economic value. 2. Industrial Property is a wide area which itself has several sub-categories that vary depending on the country's legislation. In our country and at the same time in the neighboring countries, the Industrial Property subdivisions are: Patents, Trade Marks, Industrial Design, Signs of Origin and Geographical Indication. Where the common feature of all these forms of industrial property protection is that the intellect creativity objects, which are required to be protected, are registered by the state, against the opening of the public by their owner, in accordance with the requirements provided by law. With the rapid development of the industry as well as the perfection of the process of working with the introduction of new technologies, ideas that began to be implemented in this field brought about the need for their protection, bringing rules, then laws which in they all regulate the issue of Industrial Property. Almost all the countries that are characterized by industry have laws that regulate copying of inventions, identifying symbols, creative expressions that promote innovations. As a research of this topic, it is about the ways in which the Republic of Albania and Macedonia, in the framework of the legislation of our country, namely the Republic of Albania and Macedonia, is obtained, realized and protected, by comparison with that of the neighboring countries as well as that of the European Union countries as an example and as a model. One of the most prominent problems is the protection of industrial property, with the emphasis on the commercial brand from pirated products, while also compromising the right of consumers, creating during the buying process.

Keywords: Intellectual property, patents, designs, industrial property
The Effect of Organizational Culture On Occupational Stress

Klajkó Dóra
University of Pécs,
Department of Social and Organizational Psychology

Restás Péter
University of Pécs,
Department of Social and Organizational Psychology

Szabó Zsolt Péter
Eötvös Loránd University,
Department of Social Psychology

Czibor Andrea
University of Pécs,
Department of Social and Organizational Psychology

Abstract

Direct and indirect costs of occupational stress can be measured in both humanistic and financial terms. In Hungary and the other Central and Eastern European countries chronic stress-related diseases, like depression, premature cardiovascular illnesses, and overall mortality rates are higher in comparison to western countries, primarily among men. The vast majority of the adult population is employed in some capacity and the average person spends more time working than in any other waking activity. Working conditions can exert influence on employee well-being. The present study aimed to explore the relation between the type of organizational culture (team, adhocracy, market, hierarchy) and work-related stress. Employees (N= 256) from different Hungarian companies completed an online questionnaire package, measuring demographics, perceived organizational culture (OCAI), and occupational stress (CSP). We examined the data in SPSS and used ANOVA. Our results show, that the organizational culture can significantly influence employee’s stress level (F(3,256)=6,834, p<0.00). There was a significant difference (p=0.001) between the team (M=62.98) and the hierarchy culture (M=71.04). Also, we found the difference (p=0.002) between the team and the market organizational culture (M=73.37). Our study is cross-sectional and explorative. Common method bias could overestimate the results due to the use of self-reported measures. Decreasing chronic stress factors and increasing people well-being are common goals in the 21st century. Thus, this study is to provide information about employee well-being and optimal working conditions to reach this goal.

Keywords: organizational psychology, organizational culture, stress, well-being
Perceptions of Barriers to Women Career Advancement

Elda Dollija

Dr.,
Department of Management,
Faculty of Economy

Marinela Teneqexhi

Dr.,
Department of Management,
Faculty of Economy

Abstract

Despite their increasing participation in the workforce and their penetration into management, the presence of women at the top of the managerial pyramid is still very low. While the statistics confirm the international underrepresentation of women at senior management, many studies have tried to identify, confirm and explain the presence of the so called "glass ceiling" phenomenon. Improving women's participation in senior management and leadership helps to globally increase women's rights, freedom and opportunities, but not merely that. The misuse of women's talent, professionalism and skills, causes losses to the organization, the economy, and the entire society. International literature suggests that the underrepresentation of women in "C suite" derives from the barriers that hinder women career progression in high level management. The aim of this article is to confirm and explain the presence of three categories of barriers (individual, societal and organizational) faced by managerial women in banking sector in Albania. A closed questions questionnaire (using Likert's scale 1-5) was used to understand the impact of these barriers in the career progression of 135 managerial women from 9 different commercial banks. The Cronbach Alpha was used to verify the validity of the instrument. The same questions of the above questionnaire were used to interview these women to better understand the causes and characteristics of these barriers. Furthermore, this study gives some recommendations for the women, society and the organizations.

Keywords: women, career, individual barriers, societal barriers, organizational barriers
Challenges in the Teaching of Literature

Marsela Turku

Dr.,
"Aleksander Moisiu" University
Durres, Albania

Abstract

“A book must be the ax for the frozen sea inside us” said Franz Kafka. Thus the teaching of literature at university levels should not only be considered as an authentic material in the acquisition of the foreign language but it should be viewed even as a way to educate and enrich their minds, to orientate students toward choices of values and realities that might in other conditions might be difficult, impossible or imaginable. However in the age of technological changes the process of reading literature or orienting students toward textual analysis of literary text seems an impossible challenge. This paper focuses on the study of finding alternative ways into orienting students into reading of literary works. The study is conducted at “Aleksander Moisiu” University and the paper aims at emphasising the use of literature for language skills, for personal involvement and cultural enrichment.

Keywords: teaching literature, language skills, cultural enrichment
What if the “Dark Triad” Makes It to the Top?

Szilvia Kázmér-Mayer

PhD student,
University of Pécs, Institute of Psychology,
Department of Social- and Organizational Psychology;
Applied Psychology Doctoral Program

Abstract

Machiavellianism, subclinical narcissism and subclinical psychopathy - also named the “dark triad” have become intriguing subjects of work- and organizational psychology research in the past decade. Previously organizational psychologists supposed that these traits do not redound to career progression. However recent researches show that these distinct but overlapping traits seem to facilitate individual career success, because the correlates of these traits’ – for example charisma, risk taking and definite decision making – can help the individuals in getting ahead in modern organizational environment. In our study employees in different positions of various companies evaluated fictional descriptions of leader “profiles” with dark triad-related characteristics. Our main question was whether they preferred any dark triad trait over the others when they are associated to workplace leader profiles. We have found a clear difference. Individuals evaluated a leader with Machiavellian traits differently than a leader with narcissistic or psychophatic characteristics: Machiavellianism was more associated with different aspects of leadership effectiveness.

Keywords: Dark Triad, Machiavellianism, narcissism, psychopathy, leadership, success
Office 1
Gainsborough Road,
London, England,
E11 1HT


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