

Editorial note

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It is our great pleasure to present this special section, generously hosted by the *Eurasian Business Review*. This collection of papers includes four selected papers from the first International Conference of Research in Innovation and Technology that was held in Tehran on 20th July, 2016 at the AmirKabir University. We take the opportunity to report that more than 100 submissions in the field of economics and management were received and only 17 of them were published in two special issues/sections of partner journals, resulting in a rejection rate of approximately 83%.

The special section included in this issue is titled “*Innovation and the International Markets*” and it has been edited by us, as Guest Editors: Dr. Datis Khajeheian from University of Tehran and Prof. Dr. Mike Friedrichsen from Berlin University of Digital Sciences, who were in charge of the referee process and the final selection of the included articles, together with the Chief Editor of the *EABR*, Prof. Marco Vivarelli.

The link between innovation and globalization is one of the key issues in the economic and social arena; in fact *EABR* has already revealed its interest in the subject (see, among others, Gozgor and Can 2016; Della Malva and Santarelli 2016). This special section aims to provide further evidence-based perspectives to throw some light on this complex relationship, with particular reference to the emerging economies. Indeed, we do believe that the selected articles offer a multi-

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faceted view of the role of innovation in supporting developing countries in their challenge to face the international markets.

In more detail, the opening article by Emami and Dimov (2016)—with a comparison of novice and experienced entrepreneurs—uncovers the effect of innovation on the intention of entrepreneurs to create value. Their arguments offer novel insights considering the increasing role of entrepreneurship in value creation (both in terms of new products and increasing export).

Osei-Owusu and Henten (2017) provide an insight about the diffusion of telecom industry in Ghana, using an institutional approach based on transaction-costs economics. Considering the importance of the ICT network infrastructure in participating to the international markets, this paper investigates the land rental system in Ghana as an obstacle for the expansion of such infrastructure.

The importance of green entrepreneurship in sustainable development of developing countries has received strong emphasis in many recent researches. The third paper of this collection investigates how green entrepreneurship and green innovation affect the development of SMEs within turbulent market environments. Indeed, Ebrahimi and Mirbargkar (2017) put forward a quantitative approach through employing the SEM approach in analyzing data from 112 Iranian SMEs.

The fourth paper of this collection investigates the effect of service quality and innovation on the likelihood of success of word of mouth marketing. Indeed, Mohtasham et al. (2017) emphasize the importance of innovation in dealing with the international markets and associate it with service quality.

Other than these four selected papers, two other papers of the mentioned conference will be published in the *Eurasian Business Review*, but as regular papers since they are not within the scope of this special section, namely Azami and Salehi (2017) and Karamshahi et al. (2017).

As Guest Editors, we do appreciate the sincere cooperation of Prof. Dr. Marco Vivarelli: his rigorous and strict supervision on the referee process and selection of final papers has played a great role in enhancing the quality of this special section. Then, we acknowledge the center of communication, media and information technologies (CMI) at Aalborg University (Denmark) for being very supportive during the preparation of this special section.

However, this special section would not exist without the efforts of some important people. Prof. Naser Shams Gharneh, President of the conference, was the key person in fostering the success of the conference. Then, we would like to really thank Fatemeh Hamidi, as coordinator of the conference. Last but not least, we'd like to acknowledge Hadi Zarea as chief of the executive committee of the conference and his wonderful team. From the very first day until today they have spent lots of energy and time to make the conference and its follow-ups a great success, and they managed.

The reviewers of this special issue also played an important role in shaping this special section. The review process has taken more than seven months, and for some papers up to three rounds of reviews. Such careful review process is a sign of quality that the *Eurasian Business Review* has required for this special section and the selected papers.

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