
Editorial

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Biographical notes: François Thérin is Associate Dean, Executive Education (Europe) and Associate Professor at U21Global. His research and teaching are focused on technology and innovation management in high-tech and high-growth ventures. He is the founding editor of the *International Journal of Technoentrepreneurship*.

This introduction takes place while we have just witnessed two important events for the world.

First, we are at the eve of one of those regular economic crises and as in the past, we do not know how long it will last and how hard it will hit. What we know is that progress is, outside of any economic policy chosen to get out of this crisis, a good way to make economies go better. As such, innovating, creating new companies, developing technologies are important. And should be sustained by the governments. This has been the way out for centuries and will remain the same for the future. Of course, technoentrepreneurship is now taking into account the new societal responsibilities of all of us: make a better usage of fossil energies, develop renewable sources of energies, pay attention to the working conditions of workers all over the world ... We moved from technology at any price to a more reasonable approach of technological development. In the same vein, the Academy of Management decided to take as a theme for its annual conference in 2009: "Green Management matters". We are pleased to submit this year again a professional development workshop on technoentrepreneurship which will focus partially on this theme.

The second event is the election of a new president in the richest nation of the world. He was by far the biggest user of technologies, mainly internet, of any presidential candidates anywhere. Outside of political concerns, I had a look at his program for technology. It is called: "Connecting and Empowering All Americans through technology and innovation". It clearly states that technological development will be at the heart of the economic development. So more technologies, more innovation means more creations of companies, making our field of research more important than ever. Before moving to the presentation of this issue, I remind you that IJTE is accepting traditional research papers, quantitative AND qualitative, but also case studies, book reviews and interviews. When you submit you can expect your reviews in less than three months, and once accepted, your paper is published in less than a year, so do not hesitate to submit!

In the first paper, Maija Renko, Malin Brännback and Alan Carsrud explore the role of networks in the entire process of innovation in biotech firms. They show that networks are crucial not only during the development stage but also during sourcing and use. Furthermore, these networks are clearly 'beyond the core'. This is a very important statement as it shows that even in technology-intensive industries, you can benefit from near and far stakeholders. The second paper is also approaching the topic of networking. Jiang Wei, Haiyan Zhu and Khaleel Malik study the impact of networking inside clusters in China. They clearly find that networking has an effect on the speed of the innovation process. So even with strong differences in the cultural and regulatory environments, it is interesting to notice similarities in the findings in these two first papers.

The third paper leads us to Central and Eastern Europe with the study of the determinants of innovation in Czech Republic, Poland and Hungary by Besnik A. Krasniqi and Enver A. Kuttlovci. Again, it is interesting to notice similarities with the heavily studied 'Western context'. It appears that thank to globalisation of business practices, the determinants of innovation are showing some stability with in the case of this research, slight differences between the three countries studied.

The last paper by Christian Serarols and David Urbano discuss the success factors of entrepreneurs in the case of traditional start-ups vs. pure dot.com start-ups. In the context of Catalonia, they discuss similarities and differences in the success based among others on the education level, the age of the founder and family background.