
Editorial

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1 Introduction to the issue

The 1st issue of the *International Journal of Comparative Management* for Vol. 2, 2019 brings four papers addressing different research problems. These articles have been reviewed following a double-blind review method, and revised and resubmitted timely via the *IJCM*'s online submission gateway.

The first article titled 'Transport service quality and perceived service value: an international comparative survey in European and Indian context' by Naveen Bangalore Ramu and Anjula Gurtoo (Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru) conducted an international survey among bus transport commuters in European and Indian contexts. In the era of globalisation, public sector services such as city transportation planning and management have experienced massive challenges and technological developments to fulfil not just public needs but also public safety and security. Applying factor analysis and multiple linear regression methods to their large cross-country questionnaire samples, authors found that timely service, ticket fare affordability and women-friendliness have significant effects on commuters' perceived service value in both contexts. Comparatively, European passengers are likely to pay more attention towards city bus stops tangibles and Indian passengers are more likely to search for the handling of luggage.

The second article titled 'Innovation management in the world under occidental dominance and in a new multi-polar world: a comparative perspective' by Jurgen Poesche, Barbara Igel and Ilkka Kauranen (Aalto University, Finland; Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand) contributed to the strategic management and innovation literature by addressing a novel, comparative research question, that is, what are the implications of economic transitions, technological developments and cultural changes in the case of innovation management between the world under occidental dominance and the new multi-polar world. By integrating historical literature such as cultural spheres around the world with their intellectual thoughts, authors emphasised that in the contemporary scenario, multi-polarity will broaden the foundation for innovation – both the demand for innovation and the supply of innovation. The study also discussed several implications for multinationals corporations as well as for future research.

The third article titled ‘Innovation drivers and trends in the retail industry: an application to emerging markets and the case of the Gulf region’ by Virginia Bodolica, Martin Spraggon and Mona Abou Soueid (American University of Sharjah; Mohammed bin Rashid School of Government, UAE) proposed a theoretical model of retailing innovation for emerging market economies. To achieve this objective, authors conceptualised the existing literature on internal and external drivers, innovation enablers, and global trends in retail innovation and integrated them to analyse the case of retailers based in the Gulf Cooperation Council’s six member states. As the article is timely in the field of global retailing and innovation and by associating with emerging markets literature, authors discussed several helpful suggestions on the advancement of a multidimensional agenda for future comparative research in the field of retailing innovation.

Last but not least, the article titled ‘The intellectual foundation of supply chain management performance models: a bibliometric analysis and synthesis’ by Kottala Sri Yogi and Herbert Kotzab (University of Bremen, Germany) reviewed the existing theoretical foundations of supply chain management performance models and shown several bibliometric highlights of the research appeared in the top ranking management journals with the help of technical tools such as HistCite, VOSviewer and Gephi. Some important visualisation results were presented under the co-citation-journal cluster; co-citation article cluster; and citation relations of the 30 most cited supply chain management models and performance measurement systems for identifying three major research clusters. The study also recommended directions for future supply chain research in the resource-based view, resource dependency and transaction cost economics literature.

I hope that articles published in this issue would advance our knowledge and contribute to various strands of the business management in general and comparative management in particular.

I look forward to receiving unique comparative management perspectives and empirics for consideration in *IJCM*’s future issues. Scholars may please direct all queries, special issue proposals and suggestions to *Editor-in-Chief*, K.S. Reddy.

2 Acknowledgement of reviewers

The Founding Editor-in-Chief, K.S. Reddy and Inderscience Publishers wish to thank very much and acknowledge the reviewing support offered by subject experts, including board members of the journal, during the two-year period April 2017–December 2018. On behalf of the board, special thanks to guest editors and conference partnering institutions for their time and efforts and for promoting the journal at their conference venues, respectively.

Name

Abhinav Pal

Agyenim Boateng

Akriti Chaubey

Alessandra Ricciardelli

Anamika Singh

Andreas Koutoupis
Anita Kumari Yadav
Anita Sengar
Anjula Gurtoo
Anu Thakur
Anugamini P. Srivastava
Boonlert Jitmaneeoj
Charbel Salloum
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Grigoris Giannarakis
Igor Dukeov
Imlak Shaikh
Ioannis Filos
Ioannis Tampakoudis
Jones Odei Mensah
Joseph Amankwah-Amoah
Kanupriya Gupta
Kottala Sri Yogi
Kumkum Bharti
Kyriakos Mikelis
Lasse Torkkeli
Luigi Lepore
Manuel Portugal Ferreira
Mario Henrique Ogasavara
Martin Spraggon
Michael Minkov
Mingqiong Zhang
Minisha Gupta
Muhammad Mustafa Raziq
Munmi Saikia
Mutiu Abimbola Oyinlola
Nai H. Lamb

Narendar V. Rao
Neelam Rani
Nitin S. Vihari
Nurul Nazlia Jamil
Piotr Trapeczynski
Pooja Sengupta
Pooja K. Singh
Pravin Jadhav
Rafael Borim-de-Souza
Rajat Agarwal
Rocco Reina
Rosa Caiazza
Ruchi Kansil
Rudra Rameshwar
Saptarshi Ray
Sarah Philipson
Shashank Thanki
Shilpi Saha
Som Sekhar Bhattacharyya
Spyridon Roukanas
Swayam S. Panigrahi
Tanuja Agarwala
Timotheos Mavropoulos
Usama Awan
Vincenzo Pisano
Vinish Kathuria
Virendra Balon
Virginia Bodolica
Vishwanath V. Baba
Yuanyuan Huang
Zainabu Tumwebaze

3 *IJCM* awards

Based on recommendations by two senior editorial board members of the journal, the editor announced the following awards in January 2019, and a certificate of appreciation e-mailed to corresponding recipients of the awards.

3.1 Paper awards for 2018

Best paper	Dr. Saif-ud-Din (King Abdul Aziz University, Saudi Arabia), Prof. Vishwanath V. Baba (McMaster University, Canada), and Prof. Louise Tourigny (University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, USA), (2018) 'Emotional exhaustion and its consequences: a comparative study of nurses in India and China', <i>International Journal of Comparative Management</i> , Vol. 1, No. 1, pp.65–90.
Highly commended paper	Thierry Warin (HEC Montréal, Canada), and William Sanger (Polytechnique Montréal, Canada), (2018) 'Connectivity and closeness among international financial institutions: a network theory perspective', <i>International Journal of Comparative Management</i> , Vol. 1, No. 3, pp.225–254.

3.2 Outstanding reviewers for 2017–2018

Prof. Virginia Bodolica	American University of Sharjah, UAE
Assoc. Prof. Sarah Philipson	University of Gävle, Sweden
Prof. Mario Henrique Ogasavara	ESPM: Escola Superior de Propaganda e Marketing, Brazil
Prof. Tanuja Agarwala	University of Delhi, India
Dr. Jones Odei Mensah	University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa
Dr. Imlak Shaikh	Management Development Institute Gurgaon, India

3.3 Guest editors of the IJCM's special issue in 2018

Dr. Michail Nerantzidis, Hellenic Open University, Greece; Assoc. Prof. Themistokles Lazarides and Prof. Kiymet Tunca Caliyurt	'Connecting the dots between management and governance: a comparative corporate governance mechanism', Vol. 1, No. 3
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3.4 Conference partnering institutions during 2017–2018

Dr. Leena Ajit Kaushal	Management Development Institute, Gurgaon, India: <i>National Conference on Managing Change in Evolving Economic Scenario</i> , 5–6 December 2017.
Dr. Ritika Mahajan and colleagues	TERI University, New Delhi, India: <i>International Conference on Business, Economics, and Sustainable Development</i> , 22–23 February 2018.
Dr. Arti Chandani and colleagues	SIMS, Symbiosis International (Deemed University), Pune, India: <i>9th Annual International Research Conference-SIMSARC</i> , 17–19 December 2018.

4 Editor's acknowledgement

Many thanks are given to Inderscience Publishing's editorial staff for their excellent assistance and guidance in publishing *IJCM*'s issues and announcements timely. The editor also thanks his colleagues at Xi'an Polytechnic University's School of Management for their academic suggestions and journal promotion activities in Mainland China and Hong Kong in 2018.

5 *IJCM*'s peer-review policy

The journal follows a double-blind review policy to evaluate and make a decision on new/revised manuscripts. With utmost interest and academic dedication, the EIC and editorial board would make great efforts to get review comments from at least two subject experts and communicate the first decision within 7–10 weeks of the manuscript submission. The EIC politely requests authors and reviewers to complete the review assignments and revisions without any delay.

6 *IJCM*'s indexing note

The editor, editorial board and Inderscience publishing team shall make great efforts to get the journal indexed in reputable academic indexing agencies, such as Scopus* and Web of Science*, and global journal rankings such as ABDC List and ABS Quality Guide. *Please note that once the journal is accepted, all published articles will be indexed retrospectively, for example, Scopus. Thank you very much.