Editorial

Abdylmenaf Bexheti*, Veland Ramadani, Hyrije Abazi-Alili and Gadaf Rexhepi

Faculty of Business Economics, South East European University,

Ilindenska 335, 1200 Tetovo, North Macedonia

Email: a.bexheti@seeu.edu.mk Email: v.ramadani@seeu.edu.mk Email: h.abazi@seeu.edu.mk Email: g.rexhepi@seeu.edu.mk

*Corresponding author

Biographical notes: Abdylmenaf Bexheti is an academician and Full Professor of Public Finance and Macroeconomics at the Faculty of Business and Economics, South East European University (SEEU), Republic of North Macedonia. His research interests include fiscal policy, economic growth and public finance. In 2018 he was elected as Rector of SEEU. He is an author of numerous scientific publications and books and has had an immense contribution in the analysis of economic phenomena and development of efficient economic policies. His last book is *Economic Development*. He has been a member of the Macedonian and Albanian Academies of Arts and Sciences from 2012.

Veland Ramadani is a Professor of Entrepreneurship and Family Business at the South East European University, Republic of North Macedonia. His research interests include entrepreneurship and family businesses. He has authored or co-authored around 120 research articles, 11 textbooks and 14 edited books. He is an editor of the *Journal of Enterprising Communities: People and Places in the Global Economy (JEC).* In 2017, he was appointed as a member of the Supervisory Board of Development Bank of North Macedonia, where for ten months served as an acting chief operating officer (COO). His last book is *Entrepreneurial Family Businesses*, published by Springer.

Hyrije Abazi-Alili is an Associate Professor at the South East European University, Republic of North Macedonia. She obtained her PhD at the Staffordshire University. She teaches mostly undergraduate courses in corporate finance and economics. Her research interests include finance, economics, microeconomics, female entrepreneurship, social entrepreneurship, etc. She has authored research articles in several international and national journals. Besides her work as a lecturer, she has been also involved in managing UNDP and RRPP projects. She has shown advanced skills in econometrical analysis. Since 2018, she is the Dean of the Faculty of Business and Economics, South East European University.

Gadaf Rexhepi is an Associate Professor at the South East European University, North Macedonia. His research interests include innovation, open innovation, strategy, family businesses and sustainability. He authored or co-authored around 60 research articles and ten textbooks. He is part of many

experts' teams and has been invited by many organisations as a lecturer and trainer. He received the Award for Excellence 2016 – Outstanding Paper by the Emerald Group Publishing (*Journal of Enterprising Communities*). He serves as Rector's advisor for promotion and development of the university.

This special issue contains extended versions of the papers presented at the 3rd International Scientific Conference on Business and Economics (ISCBE 2019), held on June 13–15, 2019 in Skopje/Tetovo, North Macedonia. The theme of the conference was 'From transition to development: emerging challenges and perspectives'. This theme has been chosen after careful deliberation, to reflect the fact that there have been fundamental changes to both the character and the dynamics of the non-EU transition economic development countries since the initiation of the process of acceding to the NATO and EU as a member states, and that this may, in turn, affect the way the Western Balkan countries address the challenges that lie before them. The fundamentals of these issues previously were treated by Bexheti (2010, 2013), Dana (1998; 2010), Ramadani and Schneider (2013) and Ramadani et al. (2017).

The ISCBE conference has grown and continues to evolve. Building on the success of the past two conferences, this year conference attracted a large number of submissions. There were 96 submissions. Each submission was reviewed by at least 2, and on the average one program committee member. The committee decided to accept 64 papers. About 90 scholars participated in the conference, which was held at the both South East European University (SEEU) campuses in Skopje on 13th June and on 14th June at the Tetovo Campus. During this conference, the authors where looking at many topical issues that relate to the current state of the economy, as well as its development in the years ahead, thus the conference was divided into six sessions.

In this special issue are included the following papers:

- 'Determinants in the prevention of bad financial management: case study Republic of Kosovo', by Gresa Mjaku and Abdylmenaf Bexheti
- 'Labour market transition of youth in developing economies: the case of countries in South East and Eastern Europe', by Avni Arifi, Besnik Fetai, Stefan Qirici and Selajdin Abduli
- 'Role and impact of public debt in financing budget deficit and economic growth with special study in Kosovo', by Refik Kryeziu
- 'Informal street vendors behaviour at Car-Free Day in Indonesia', by Dini Turipanam Alamanda, Abdullah Ramdhani, Grisna Anggadwita, Anggraeni Permatasari and Nisa Sa'adah
- 'Kosovo's nation branding through private and public sector cooperation', by Emira Limani, Shqipe Gërguri-Rashiti, Selma Kurtishi-Kastrati and Dina Sabry Said
- 'Financial stability of pension systems in transition countries', by Shpresa Alija, Besnik Fetai and Abdylmenaf Bexheti
- 'Total quality management for changes of staff capacity in higher education: a model to follow in the public sector', by Veronika Kareva and Xhevair Memedi

Editorial 437

 'Perspective of counselling in social services: the case of Republic of North Macedonia', by Hyrije Abazi-Alili, Shenaj Hadzimustafa, Remzije Rakipi, Teuta Veseli-Kurtishi and Blerta Abazi Chaushi

• 'Impact of the fiscal policy on economic growth: an analytical approach from the Republic of Kosovo', by Donat Rexha, Abdylmenaf Bexheti and Kosovare Ukshini.

Guest editors of this special issue would like to gratefully thank Professor Léo-Paul Dana, the Editor-in-Chief of *International Journal of Public Sector Performance Management (IJPSPM)*, for his inspiration and boundless support; reviewers who helped us to select and evaluate the submitted manuscripts; and all authors for their interest and contribution to this special issue.

References

- Bexheti, A. (2010) Anti-crisis Measures in the Republic of Macedonia and Their Effects: Are They Sufficient?, BERG Working Paper Series, Bamberg Economic Research Group on Government and Growth, Bamberg University, Bamberg.
- Bexheti, A. (2013) 'Potential and desired development in the Balkans within a new global and European development framework', Presented at *New Knowledge for New Development International Conference*, Macedonian Academy of Science and Arts, Skopje, North Macedonia, 7 October.
- Dana, L-P. (1998) 'Waiting for direction in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM)', *Journal of Small Business Management*, Vol. 36, No. 2, pp.62–70.
- Dana, L-P. (2010) When Economies Change Hands: A Survey of Entrepreneurship in the Emerging Markets of Europe from the Balkans to the Baltic States, World Scientific Publishing, London, New York.
- Ramadani, V. and Schneider, R. (2013) Entrepreneurship in the Balkans, Springer, Heidelberg.
- Ramadani, V., Abazi-Alili, H., Dana, L-P., Rexhepi, G. and Ibraimi, S. (2017) 'The impact of knowledge spillovers and innovation on firm-performance: findings from the Balkans countries', *International Entrepreneurship and Management Journal*, Vol. 13, No. 1, pp.299–325.