

EDITOR'S LETTER

“Let us do perhaps the most insignificant thing in the world, but let us do it best.”
Tomas Bata (1876–1932)

Dear Readers,

Let me introduce the fourth issue of the fifteenth volume of the Journal of Competitiveness. This newly published issue is typical for our journal multidisciplinary, comprising scientific articles from different fields.

For this issue, we decided to publish articles about:

high-quality integrated reporting, an innovative perspective on the innovation of global competitiveness impact, assessment of the global competitiveness of European countries, digital financial inclusion, the complexities of intellectual property management in the era of AI, the high-growth business environment in the Euro area, aspect influencing for online sales, virtual tourism as a new way of travelling, optimization approach for an order-picking warehouse, the strategy of China's low-carbon city pilots policy, joining a currency union or about the gap between the country and the factors of competitiveness of enterprises.

The contributions arrived from Indonesia, Canada, Turkey, Lithuania, Germany, the Czech Republic, Spain, Slovakia, China, the United States and Poland. The volume of this issue consists of twelve articles. Some of the articles were accepted thanks to the excellent feedback from the world-renowned conference ACIEK 2023 (Academy of Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Knowledge) and the high quality of its steering committee. The best conference papers subjected to the standard review process increased the quality of this issue. This is an excellent example of how the Journal of Competitiveness supports international research platforms in managing social questions and global and geopolitical problems.

The authors of the first paper (Agustia et al.) found that companies with dispersed ownership can provide more quality integrated reporting than companies with concentrated ownership. The team of authors states that companies need to diversify their ownership to improve their financial and non-financial performance. The authors in their research show that companies need to diversify their ownership to improve their financial and non-financial performance.

The aim of the second paper (Cetin et al.) is the analysis that shows that EU15's global competitiveness is 11.7% higher than EU13's. This study concludes that innovation is the primary determinant of global competitiveness; however, it may come at the cost of a decrease in labour's share in national income and income distribution equality.

The authors of the third study (Ginevičius et al.) focus on the assessment of the Global Competitiveness Index of the European Union countries using the dimensional weights. The difference was shown to be between 0 % and 3 %. With the help of correlation regression analysis, the authors found that with an increase in the country's competitiveness by 1 %, the GDP per capita increases by 1.04 %.

The main aim of the fourth study (Pang and Wang) is to examine the inclusive effects and competitiveness gains of digital financial inclusion from the perspective of regional inequality. The authors analyzed 23 Chinese provinces from 2011 to 2019 through the

panel fixed effects model; the results support the existence of a digital divide, which creates regional inequality.

The results of the fifth article (Blanco González et al.) demonstrate a current trend in research on the management of intellectual property related to digital tools and highlight the issues that arise from the management of intellectual property stemming from their use. This research also identifies how these tools have been used to facilitate the management and identification of intellectual property.

The sixth study (Francisco del Olmo-García et al.) aims to analyse that high-growth companies (also called gazelles) are an increasing part of the European business fabric. They are also creating new jobs and improving the competitiveness of Euro area countries. This paper documents especially the economic and institutional factors that have led this business segment to grow in importance.

The main objective of the seventh paper (Jurado et al.) will be interesting especially for the readers and researchers keen on online sales. This paper addresses the problem of the necessary market orientation of the Spanish olive sector, focusing on e-commerce as a means of access to the final market. Thus, this study aims to identify the key factors that can stimulate a higher level of online invoicing by the sector's second-tier cooperatives.

The new way toward applying online travelling is using an artificial neural network of the multilayer perceptron type. The authors of the eighth paper (Martín Martín et al.) found that youth and prior knowledge of online video games and virtual reality have a decisive influence on the willingness to engage in immersive virtual tourism activities.

The ninth article (Luu et al.) provides managerial tools for distance travelled optimization in the warehouse that yield competitive edges, enhance supply chain efficiency and effectiveness, as well as other positive impacts on social and environmental concerns such as labour safety, customer satisfaction, energy consumption, and CO2 emission. The authors used the original methodology to confirm their hypotheses.

The authors of the tenth paper (Zeng et al.) examine the data of pilot cities in the context of a low-carbon city pilot policy and a progressive pollution regulation policy. Besides its role in carbon emission reduction, it profoundly impacts green growth performance and innovation efficiency. Green innovation cooperation and the substantial transformation of industrial structure upgrading play essential roles in realizing the low-carbon city pilot policy's effect.

The eleventh paper (Maráková at al.) identifies the factors of enterprise competitiveness in the opinions of Czech, Slovak and Polish consumers. The article applied the reviewed and descriptive statistical methods and exploratory factor analysis.

The last study (Jemberu and Dehning) evaluates the impact of euro adoption on Slovakia's financial system development using a synthetic control method with lasso regularization methodology.

I want to thank the members of the editorial staff, peer reviewers and editorial board members for preparing this issue. We also look forward to further cooperation with you, our readers.

On behalf of the journal's editorial staff,
Prof. David Tuček, Ph.D.
Editor-in-Chief