EDITORIAL TO THE SPECIAL ISSUE

In these times of increased uncertainty and multiple crises, caused by the pandemic of the novel coronavirus, we feel it is of vital public interest to stimulate discussion on how governments, regulators, and organizations should respond to different crises. The authors, whose papers are included in this section, did not focus only on the consequences of the novel coronavirus, but also discuss the challenges of the migration crisis, economic development, and international competitiveness in the EU integration context. All those topics prove to be of special interest to a range of stakeholders in South East Europe (SEE).

The section consists of six papers, related to different aspects of addressing the crises in the SEE region. In the first paper in this section, by Ante Žigman, Tomislav Ridžak, and Mirna Dumičić Jemrić, authors discuss the response to the novel coronavirus-related crisis at the national level, by analyzing the activities of the Croatian National Bank and the Croatian Financial Services Supervisory Agency. It is followed by an analysis of the Croatian bank profitability under capital requirements pressure. In this study, Ana Kundid Novokmet and Ana Pavić suggest that financial regulation could be further improved, as the overall profitability of Croatian banks seems to be achieved at the expense of their shareholders.

Jelena Stanojević and Gabrijela Veličković, authors of the third paper in this section, emphasize the importance of European structural policy reforms for strengthening the national competitiveness of countries in the SEE region, as compared to selected 'old' EU member-states.

Albanë Gashi, Iliriana Sopa, and Ymer Havolli concentrate on assessing the impact of the novel coronavirus-related crisis to the business enterprises in Kosovo and provide recommendations for responding to the crisis, which could apply to a range of SEE, as well as other contexts.

In their paper on the response of the Slovenian public administration to the recent migration crisis and call for a more inclusive multi-level crisis management structure, as well as for additionač investment in existing international organizations.

The section is concluded by a conceptual study, with Anđelko Lojpur, Ivan Radević, and Nikola Martinović, arguing on the importance of reindustrialization and new industrial policies, as to implement the turn-around strategies and stimulate economic development in Central East Europe (CEE) and the SEE region.

We would like to invite authors from CEE and SEE, as well as other countries and regions, to contribute to the discussion on economic recovery and resilience. This journal, thus, invites further multi-disciplinary studies on change management strategies and practices, relevant for the context of resolving the novel coronavirus-related crisis and other contemporary economic and social challenges.

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