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### 2nd Sarajevo International Conference of Social **Sciences: EU Integration and Balkan Countries**

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Abstract. In this study, the assessment of the 2nd Sarajevo International Conference of Social Sciences: EU Integration and Balkan Countries held in Sarajevo will be evaluated. Keywords. Balkan Countries, European Union, Board of Directors' Quality, Public Health Expenditures Efficiency.

JEL. D61, O52, M10.

### **Conference Notes**

nd Sarajevo International Conference of Social Sciences: EU Integration and Balkan Countries which was held by International University of Sarajevo (IUS) cooperation with Necmettin Erbakan University and Istanbul Sebahattin Zaim University from Turkey, and University of Zenica from Bosnia and Herzegovina, in IUS, Faculty of Business and Administration, Sarajevo the capital of Bosnia and Herzegovina on May 17-20, 2016. Sarajevo International Conference which is held by IUS is arranged once in two years cooperation with certain universities. The main title of the conference was EU Integration and Balkan Countries. During the conference, around 120 studies was presented by round about 200 participants. The majority of participants were from Turkey and Bosnia and Herzegovina. In addition to this, there were different participants from different countries, such as Crotia, Malaysia, Greece and Hong Kong. The studies was presented in the conference about various areas of social sciences. At the same time, different topics from the theme of conference was presented too. However, majority of papers were about the theme of conference.

At the opening session of the conference before the opening speeches it was watched a promotional video about IUS. And then, Yücel Oğurlu, the Rector of IUS; Dr. Mehmet Bulut, the Rector of Istanbul Sebahattin Zaim University and Jakub Skalnik, Ambrassador of Czech Republic gave speeches about the conference and keynotes. After the opening speeches, it was passed on to selected presentations. The second day of the conference, selected presentations were continued and conference ended on midday. And there manning time was assigned for pleasure trip for participants.

I attended the conference with two studies. Both of my presentations were at first day. The topic of my first study was "The Effect of Board of Directors'

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Quality on Firm Performance: A Study on BIST 100 Companies" which was written by Research Assistant Erol Tekin from Karadeniz Technical University and me. The presentation was made by him. The topic of my other study was "Determinants of Public Health Expenditures Efficiency in BRICS Countries" which was written by Seyfettin Artan from Karadeniz Technical University, Pinar Hayaloğlu from Gümüşhane University and me. I made the presentation of this study.

Generally, Sarajevo International Conference was a good organization because it brought different disciplines to get her and gave chance to see Bosnia and Herzegovina. These type of organizations give an opportunity to researchers from different countries and disciplines for networking and meeting new cultures. At that point, I would like to say something about my observations in Bosna and Herzegovina. Bosnia and Herzegovina is still under the thumb of 1992-95 Bosnian War. It is possible to see psychological effects of the war from faces of Bosnian people especially who are middle aged. Buildings with bullet marks and Sarajevo Roses are everywhere in Sarajevo. In spite of these bad memories, Bosnia and Herzegovina dress the wounds of war. It can be said that Bosnian people are pretty hopeful about the future.



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