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International Balkan and Near Eastern Social Sciences Congress (IBANESS Edirne)

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Abstract. International Balkan and Near Eastern Social Sciences Congress Series (IBANESS) Congress series are held in different Balkan countries with hosting Universities in the Balkan countries. The organization committee includes respected scientists from all over the world. The main aim of the congress is to bring together scientists from the Balkan countries in order to disseminate the knowledge and mutual understanding. **Keywords.** Economics, Business, Social sciences. **JEL.** A10.

Conference notes

This year, International Balkan and Near Eastern Social Sciences Conference Series started in Edirne, continued in Russe/Bulgaria and Kırklareli/Turkey, and ended up in Ohrid/Macedonia. The congress in Ohrid/Macedonia is initiated by the opening speeches of Aleksandar Trajkov, Vice Dean, Faculty of Tourism and Hospitality–Ohrid, University St. Kliment Ohridski-Bitola, Macedonia, Suzana Sotirovska, Ministry of Science and Education of the Republic of Macedonia, State Councilor, Head of Activities in the Committee for Accreditation and Suzana Sotirovska, Ministry of Science and Education of the Republic of Macedonia, State Councilor, Head of Activities in the Committee for Accreditation. The opening presentation of the congress was made by Elena Koseska. Ms. Koseska's presentation is centered on the tourism potential of Macedonia. During the congress, more than 150 papers were presented by the participants from about 50 universities.

There were many fruitful sessions during the conference. One of the main topics centered during the conference was Entrepreneurship and Business Environment. Ferhan Savran, Zeki Bayramoğlu and Duygu Aktürk analyzed the effect of demographic structure on enterprise achievement while Rasim Yılmaz examined the impact of entrepreneurial intention on employment. Aferdita Shabani carried out a comparative pest analysis for the case-study of the business environments in Kosovo and Macedonia. Violeta Gligorovski, Gjorgji Mancheski and Lidija Simoncheska attempted to map the changes in the companies in the Republic of Macedonia in relation to the industry and the activity in which they operate. The study of Emilija Mateska focused on protection of industrial property rights. Kosta Sotioski, Margarita Janeska, Dejan Zdraveski, Gabriela Kocakoska Naneski carried out a factor analysis on retail drug in Macedonia. Marjan Angelovski, Miroslav Andonocski and Karolina Shukuroska evaluated computer security and cybercrime in electronic commerce. Veronija Nolcheska analyzed the influence of family purchasing and child-consumed and family-consumed products.

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The other main topic centered during the conference was Banking, Finance and Accounting. Ali Faruk Acıkgöz and Sudi Apak studied the trade credit to bank credit ratio vs. liquidity on the way to generate net working capital in Turkey while Monika Angeloska-Dichovska and Elizabeta Tosheva examined corporate social responsibility practices in the banking sector of Republic of Macedonia. Beyhan Yaslıdağ studied the financial markets in the Balkan Countries and suggested the regulations to be implemented. Study of Aneta Risteska Jankuloska, Tatjana Spaseska, Predrag Duric, Boris Novarlic and Živko Erceg focused on SMEs financing and the capital market-case of Macedonia. Igor Zdravkoski offered a model applying and adhering to the code of ethics in accounting and reviewed better solutions. Olivera Kostoska, Marko Spirovski, Mirjana Ristovska and Ilija Hristoski discussed EU regional policy and pre-accession support for the Republic of Macedonia. Burak Çamurdan, İsmail Çeviş and Birsel Sabuncu investigated the influence of inflation targeting regime on export performance of the targeters

Participants from different countries presented their current research on the firm management. The study by Sevdalina Dimitrova and Vanya Dimitrova offered strategic solutions for effective management of human resources outside the field of material production. Onur Ceylan and Mecit Ömer Azabağaoğlu analyzed contemporary food retailers in Turkey according to fresh fruit and vegetable distribution system. Sevi Baloğlu Çelik and M. Selami Akın proposed a model for the relationship between retail brands and consumer psychographics.

There were also presentations related to other areas of social sciences. For example, Natalija Aceska and Dimitar Nikoloski presented a paper regarding the role of teachers' competencies in education of sustainable development. Sevdalina Dimitrova and Stojko Stojkov evaluated intelligent security architecture while Ceren Yeğen investigated the relationship between people's houses and identity

Thus, participants of the congress found opportunities for presenting their new research, exchanging information, and discussing current issues. They shared their experience and knowledge with each other. Hence, the congress helped dissemination of knowledge, mutual understanding, and cooperation among participants.

Presented articles of the conference are published in a conference flash disk, proceeding book with ISBN number and on conference web site. Selected papers are also published in KSP journals and Balkan and Near Eastern Journal of Social Sciences which is the official journal of IBANESS Congress Series.



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