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IMMIGRANT, GENDER, AND SUCCESSION ISSUES IN FAMILY FIRMS

Special issue for the

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The aim of this special issue is to broaden discussions on family business. The main focus of this special issue will be succession, immigrant, and gender issues in family business.

Family businesses represent the majority of companies and are an important source for the generation of jobs in most countries (Hacker & Dowling, 2012; Kellermanns et al., 2008; Hoy & Sharma, 2010; Ramadani & Hoy, 2015; Welsh et al. 2013). Their stability is critical to global economic growth. The importance of these businesses to a country's economy is substantial. Multiple research studies have recorded the predominance of family firms in countries throughout the world. The prevalence of family businesses also documents both the economic and social impact they have (Brigham, 2013). Longevity is very important for the family businesses and for economies as a whole. Succession is one of the most difficult decisions for the family business, and one of the most important (Campbell et al. 2007; Sardeshnukh & Corbett, 2011; Kamei and Dana, 2012). When business leadership transitions are not well structured they may cause expensive legal issues leading to the sale or eventual loss of the business (Lipman, 2010; Morris et al., 1997).

Gender issues have attracted increasing attention and separate study among researchers (Ramadani, 2015; Ratten 2014). There are two main reasons why these issues need to be

studied separately: a) female entrepreneurs have been recognised as an important untapped source of economic growth, considering that they create new jobs for themselves and others, and provide different solutions to management, organisation and business problems and obstacles as well as to the exploitation of business opportunities; b) female entrepreneurs have been largely neglected both in society in general and in the social sciences in light of the fact that mainstream research, policies, and programmes tend to be “men streamed” (Ramadani et al. 2013; 2015).

In recent decades, in many cities in the industrialised world, especially in metropolitan areas, there was a large influx of people from different socio-cultural or ethnic origins (Dana, 2007; Dana and Morris, 2011, Waldinger et al., 2006). With the growth and positioning of these ethnic groups in western societies, ethnic and immigrant family businesses are increasingly arousing interest for socio-economic studies (Ramadani et al. 2014).

Both micro- and macro-level studies are welcome for the special issue. Quantitative, qualitative and mixed approaches are also welcome, so long as they are well grounded in the literature. Please refer to the following articles:

- Dana, L.P. & Dumez, H. (2015) “Qualitative Research Revisited: Epistemology of a Comprehensive Approach,” *International Journal of Entrepreneurship & Small Business* 26 (2), October 2015, pp. 154-170.
- Dana, L.P. & Dana, T.E. (2005) “Expanding the Scope of Methodologies Used in Entrepreneurship Research,” *International Journal of Entrepreneurship & Small Business* 2 (1), 2005, pp. 79-88.

We encourage authors to submit emerging and groundbreaking topics to diversify and widen research in family business.

References:

Brigham, K.H. (2013), Social and economic impact of family business, in Sorenson, R.L., Yu, A., Brigham, K.H., and Lumpkin, G.T. (Eds.), *The Landscape of Family Business*, Cheltenham, UK: Edward Elgar.

Campbell, N.D., Heriot, K.C., & Welsh, D.H.B. (2007). The black box: Unraveling family business succession. *New England Journal of Entrepreneurship*, 10(2), 9-14.

Dana, L-P. and Morris, M. (2007) ‘Towards a synthesis: a model of immigrant and ethnic entrepreneurship’, in Dana, L-P. (Ed): *Handbook of Research on Minority Entrepreneurship*, pp.803–811, Edward Elgar Publishing, Cheltenham.

Dana, L-P. and Morris, M. (2011) ‘Ethnic minority entrepreneurship’, in Dana, L-P. (Ed): *World Encyclopedia of Entrepreneurship*, pp.149–157, Edward Elgar Publishing, Cheltenham

Hacker, J., & Dowling, M., (2012). Succession in Family Firms: How to Improve Family Satisfaction and Family Harmony, *Int. J. Entrepreneurship and Small Business*, 15(1), 76-99.

Hoy, F., & Sharma, P. (2010). *Entrepreneurial Family Firms*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Prentice Hall.

Kamei, K. & Dana, L-P., (2012), Examining the impact of new policy facilitating SME succession in Japan: from a viewpoint of risk management in family business, *Int. J. Entrepreneurship and Small Business*, 16(1), 60–70.

Kellermanns, W. F., Eddleston, K.A., Barnett, T. & Pearson, A. (2008). An Exploratory Study of Family Member Characteristics and Involvement: Effects on Entrepreneurial Behavior in the Family Firm, *Family Business Review*, 21(1), 1–14.

Lipman, F. D. (2010), *The Family Business Guide, Everything You Need to Know to Manage Your Business from Legal Planning to Business Strategies*, New York: Palgrave Macmillan.

Morris, M.H., Williams, R.O., Allen, J.A. & Avila, R.A. (1997), Correlates of Success in Family Business Transitions, *Journal of Business Venturing*, 12 (5), 385–401.

Ramadani, V. (2015), “The woman entrepreneur in Albania: an exploratory study on motivation, problems and success factors”, *Journal of Balkan and Near Eastern Studies*, 17(2), 204-221.

Ramadani, V., & Hoy, F. (2015). Context and uniqueness of family businesses. In L-P Dana & V. Ramadani (Eds), *Family Businesses in Transition Economies*, pp.9-37, Springer, Cham.

Ramadani, V., Rexhepi, G., Gërguri-Rashiti, S., Ibraimi, S. and Dana, L-P. (2014) 'Ethnic entrepreneurship in Macedonia: the case of Albanian entrepreneurs', *Int. J. Entrepreneurship and Small Business*, 23 (3), 313–335.

Ramadani, V., Gërguri, S., Dana, L. P., & Tašaminova, T. (2013). Women entrepreneurs in the Republic of Macedonia: waiting for directions. *International Journal of Entrepreneurship and Small Business*, 19(1), 95-121.

Ramadani, V., Hisrich, D R., and Gerguri-Rashiti, S. (2015), "Female entrepreneurs in transition economies: insights from Albania, Macedonia and Kosovo", *World Review of Entrepreneurship, Management and Sustainable Development*, 11(4), 391-413.

Ratten, V. (2014). Collaborative entrepreneurship and the fostering of entrepreneurialism in developing countries. *Int. J. of Social Entrepreneurship and Innovation*, 3(2),137-149.

Sareshmukh, S. R. & Corbett, A. C. (2011). The duality of internal and external development of successors: Opportunity recognition in family firms, *Family Business Review*, 24 (2), 111-125.

Waldinger, R., Aldrich, H. and Ward, R., (2006) *Ethnic Entrepreneurs: Immigrant Business in Industrial Societies*, Sage Publication, London.

Welsh, D.H.B., Memili, E., Rosplock, K., Roure, J., Seguardo, J. L. (2013). Perceptions of entrepreneurship across generations in family businesses and family offices: A stewardship theory perspective. *Journal of Family Business Strategy*, 4(3), 213-226.

Topics include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Family firms and immigrants
- Family firms and ethnic issues
- Family firms and women
- Succession planning
- International entrepreneurship in family business
- Impact of family dynamics
- Generation and gender issues
- Internationalization and globalization of family enterprises
- Strategic planning and organizational changes in family firms

Important Dates

Submission of manuscripts: *July 1 2017*
Notification to authors: *September 1 2017*
Final versions due: *November 1 2017*

Notes for Prospective Authors

Submitted papers should not have been previously published nor be currently under consideration for publication elsewhere. Papers must comply with the guidelines for journal submission. Submissions go through a double-blind peer review process.

All papers must be submitted online using UK English. Please read the [information on submitting articles](http://www.inderscience.com/info/inauthors/author_submit.php) (http://www.inderscience.com/info/inauthors/author_submit.php).

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