

Editorial: International Entrepreneurial Orientation

In recent decades, both the theory of internationalisation of the firm and/or the theory of international business have developed. Recent developments in international business studies prove that entrepreneurial orientation (EO) emerges as one of the important potential factors contributing to the intensification of the processes of internationalisation of the firm (Etemad, 2015; Gupta & Gupta, 2015). It seems that international entrepreneurship (IE) has been flourishing. The general theory of entrepreneurship indicates that market opportunities are a common and dominant link for all entrepreneurial activities. The entrepreneurship theory refers to the identification or creation opportunities, their evaluation and exploitation. The expansion into new geographic markets is undoubtedly an important market opportunity for growth and development. The internationalisation as a response to the market opportunity takes diverse paths. Based on the in-depth literature search, this issue of our journal aims to determine whether, why and how, in the context of diverse environmental conditions, the pursuit of market opportunities contributes to the increase of internationalisation of the firm (Dimitratos & Plakoyiannaki, 2003; Dimitratos, Voudouris, Plakoyiannaki & Nakos, 2012; Wach, 2015).

Krzysztof Wach in his article entitled *Entrepreneurial Orientation and Business Internationalisation Process: The Theoretical Foundations of International Entrepreneurship* introduces the three-dimensional concept of international entrepreneurial orientation IEO (proactiveness, innovativeness, risk taking – discussed in details in the following three chapters). It deals with general issues of the international entrepreneurship trying to show how the theory of entrepreneurship can advance our knowledge in international business studies.

The second article entitled *Opportunity Identification and Creation as Factors in Internationalisation Processes in Firms*, written by Agnieszka Żur, focuses on the first dimension of international entrepreneurial orientation that is proactiveness. Usually it is understood as the opportunities creation (Schumpeterian stream) or the opportunity identification (Kirznerian stream). This article deals with the opportunity-based view (OBV) in international business.

Rūta Kazlauskaitė, Erkko Autio, Tadas Šarapovas, Šarūnas Abramavičius, and Modestas Gelbūda in their article entitled *The Speed and Extent of New Venture Internationalisation in the Emerging Economy Context* focus on various patterns of the internationalisation taking international new ventures (INVs) into special consideration. The articles is based on in-depth literature study.

The fourth article entitled *The Resource-based View and SME Internationalisation: An Emerging Economy Perspective*, written by Rūta Kazlauskaitė, Erkko Autio, Modestas

Gelbūda and Tadas Šarapovas, focuses on the use of RBV perspective while discussing the internationalisation of firms from emerging economies.

Małgorzata Kosła in her article entitled *Innovation Processes as a Stimulant of Internationalisation Process of the Firms*, concentrates on the second dimension of IEO, which is innovativeness. It shows how the implementation of new ideas and new solutions stimulates the internationalisation process of the firm, which *per se* is treated as one of five forms of innovation – entering or opening new markets.

The fifth article entitled *Risk Taking Propensity and Firm Internationalisation Process*, written by Janusz Fudaliński shows how important is entrepreneurial risk in international business. Risk taking, as the third dimension of IEO, occurs permanently in the process of internationalisation of the firm. The article reveals also how to manage risk in internationally-orientated firms.

Vijay Narayanan in his article entitled *Export Barriers for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises: A Literature Review based on Leonidou's Model* presents the summary of in-depth literature studies identifying export barriers among SMEs both from theoretical and empirical perspective of various investigators.

The last but not least article entitled *Factors Stimulating Internationalisation of Firms: An Attempted Holistic Synthesis*, written by Magdalena Belniak, concludes all above-mentioned stimulants for the internationalisation of the firm as it attempts to draw a holistic illustration of the internationalisation factors – both internal and external ones. This article makes the whole study complete by applying a very important issue (variable) of the international entrepreneurship that is the external environment.

The last but not least article entitled *Assessment of a Country's Regional Economic Development on the Basis of Estimation of a Single Process (ESP) Method*, written by Romualdas Ginevičius, Dainora Gedvilaitė and Šarūnas Bruzgė focus on regional development in Lithuania.

Krzysztof Wach
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