

Editorial for the Inaugural Issue of Coimbra Business Review

It is a great pleasure and an honor to announce the publication of the inaugural issue of the **Coimbra Business Review** (CBR) Journal. The CBR is an international, peer-reviewed, open access journal, published by Coimbra Business School. It aims to publish significant and original research results on a wide spectrum of subjects within the field of business sciences.

The world is currently living a very difficult juncture posed by an economic, financial and social crisis, in addition to several new and emerging problems related to the international migration, cybersecurity, climate changes, among others. The high complexity of all these new challenges demands novel approaches and a multidimensional and multidisciplinary view of knowledge, as well as a broad academic and professional community to discuss divergent perspectives and exchange ideas and proposals.

Peer-reviewed and open access journals have an important role in promoting the dissemination of knowledge and best-practices throughout and between the research and professional communities. The CBR journal, with its open access policy, is an effort to facilitate this engagement and to increase readership of the author's work. Moreover, the multidisciplinary perspective that CBR assigns to the field of business sciences is a great boost to overcome traditional boundaries between academic areas and an answer to new needs and emerging challenges.

The CBR intends to be a leading online forum for researchers, graduate and master students, and practitioners across disciplines and across the world to produce, share and explore innovative theories and solutions in the business sciences area. We therefore aim for CBR to become an invaluable resource and an effective communication channel for those who are concerned with any subject of business sciences, including, but not restricting to, management, accounting, auditing, finance, information systems, entrepreneurship, innovation, business law and social sciences.

This inaugural issue of CBR has been nearly one year in the making and reflects the expansion of the academic and professional interests in the subject. However, the launching of a new journal is a challenging and daunting task, especially if there is no budget. This maiden issue owes much to many people and, doubtlessly, it would not have been possible without a dedicated and undeniable collaboration of our team of editors and members of the editorial board. I would like to thank them for their input and invaluable work. Thanks are also due to the authors of the papers, and to *ISCAC Junior Solutions (IJS)* and *TecLab – Center for Business Technologies* for the design and implementation of the CBR website (<http://cbr.iscac.pt>).

In this inaugural issue of CBR we have six articles covering the areas of information systems, education management, higher education, justice and laws, management and economy, reflecting the multidisciplinary view that the CBR is committed to promote in the field of business sciences. These six papers present new and motivating insights from diverse perspectives, fostering a stimulating forum of discussion and opening the doors to new research areas.

The first paper, “SOA Migration Case Studies and Lessons Learned II: Nasa and Health Net”, presents a summary of two Service Oriented Architecture (SOA) migration case studies chosen from different industries: one with National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) in the aerospace field, and another with Health Net, in the medical insurance field. The paper also presents and discusses the lessons learned from those case studies.

The second paper, “On Becoming Digital: Unavoidable Educational and Management Metaphor of Contemporaneity” presents a reflection about the involvement of the information and communication technologies (ICT) in modern societies, focusing on the ontological importance of being digital and on the education sector.

The third article, “Job Satisfaction and Changes in Workplace: the Case of Academic Staff in Portuguese Higher Education”, presents a study on the academic staff satisfaction in both public and private Portuguese higher education institutions.

The fourth article, “The Rulemaking Power of Administrative Agencies: Crisis of Legality, Rule of Law and Democracy”, presents an extensive study on the rulemaking power of administrative agencies. The author concludes that the rulemaking power of agencies is now confronted with the very foundations of the constitutional State: Rule of Law, separation of powers, and democracy.

The fifth article, entitled “Measuring Efficiency of Portuguese Hydro Power Stations: DEA as a Tool for Internal Company Benchmarking”, describes the efficiency analysis of the Hydro Power Stations operated by the Portuguese company EDP Produção, through the application of Data Envelopment Analysis (DEA), as an example of use of internal benchmarking for the performance evaluation.

Last, but not least, the sixth paper, “The Impact of the Euro in the Balance of Trade (BOT): the Iberian Case, Spain-Portugal”, presents an analysis on the balance of trade (BOT) between Spain and Portugal, during the period of 2000-2014, since the implantation of the Euro and the simplification of commercial-administrative relations.

This work is the result of many hard and long, yet well-spent, hours of many contributors. We hope the outcome is worth it.

Happy reading!

Pedro Costa
Editor-in-Chief

