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EDITORIAL

Iulian Warter, Ph.D.
Center for Socio-Economic Studies and Multiculturalism,
Iasi, Romania
E-mail: iulian@warter.ro

I am honoured to present you the sixteenth issue of the Journal of Intercultural Management and Ethics (JIME) marking the end of the fourth year of JIME.

The issues of the third year presented outstanding articles from various areas of science having in common the nexus between culture and ethics in different socio-economic domains. These issues emphasized the cross-disciplinary vocation of the journal and the positioning towards the cross-cultural areas of society and to the ethical dilemmas.

This year we had also two special issues, edited by Beatrice Ioan, dedicated to papers from the 15th National Conference of Bioethics, Iasi, Romania, 2020. Next year (2022), we will have other two special issues, edited by Beatrice Ioan, dedicated to papers presented in the 16th National Conference of Bioethics, Iasi, Romania, 2020.

The current issue includes interesting papers from various fields and from many countries, portraying the diversity of the research community and the cross-disciplinary approach of this journal.

Paulo Finuras shows that the existence of different cultures remains a puzzle in our evolutionary history. There is, apparently, a process of “downward causation”, in the sense that (national) cultures are collective facts and mental programs outside the individuals and influence them from top to bottom. The author claims that cultural variations are the result of various adaptive responses of phenotypes in their bio-economic optimization of permanent pressures of various environments and local conditions.

Thomas D. Zweifel and Vip Vyas make the case that the failure of the Boeing 737MAX was a result of a corporate culture and mindset. As the management theorist Peter Drucker used to put it, culture eats strategy for breakfast: The most brilliant plans come to naught if the cultural force-field is aligned against them.

Silviu-Petru Grecu emphasizes the role played by the political polarization and cultural variables in predicting “political apathy” or “alienation”. His model of political behavior is related to historical past, cultural variables and geographical distribution. The author highlights that one of the most important variable for understanding the subject culture and political alienation is represented by the political polarization.

Hershey H. Friedman and Robert B. Fireworker reveal that many scholars believe that conflicts of interest are an ethical issue and a critical impediment to effective management. They show that an organization interested in functioning honestly and efficiently should first do everything possible to reduce or eliminate this problem. The paper examines two relevant and seemingly contradictory Talmudic principles: First, that a person is required to behave in a transparent manner and not act in a way that will cause others to suspect that s/he is doing something immoral or unethical. Second, that one should judge others favorably and give them the benefit of the doubt. The problem of persistent rumors about misbehavior is also studied.

Baluta Aurelian Virgil and Rada Alexandru Cristian underline the importance of the ethics rules of the management at state-owned companies, including the specifics of the major topics of ethics in state-owned companies, the types of influence on the ethics of management at state-owned companies, the faith as an important reference to the ethics of the management at state-owned companies, the implications for ethics rules of the market

position of state-owned companies, objectives and directions for the development of ethics rules in state-owned companies.

Rosa Caiazza analyses an example of leadership in organizing a sport event, supporting local development, improving cultural integration. Consequently, the international profile of Naples is strengthened in the panorama of major sporting events linked to the sea.

Alexandru Muraru highlights that any time social energies come together, full of hope, to constitute a political party promising to do what the current political parties have failed, and we can expect people to be disillusioned; their resentments touch the fibre of democratic life. The paper shows that the international context plays a significant role, and it explains the most relevant trends of theoretical debates concerning the inception of a new, modern, and efficient political party.

Anton Carpinschi brings in a reflexive-therapeutic scenario inspired by the existence of subtle links between the knowledge of sensitive realities and the contemplation of intuitive transcendences. According to this scenario, the ordering Logos of the universe is configured in the horizon of human consciousness as personalized logicity multiplied in a series of hypostases. The paper concludes that endowed with reflexive-therapeutic and educational valences, the polyscopic consciousness offers us, through the cooperation of its experiential states and the extension of the cultural horizon, the chance to overcome the fear and the complexes generated by the feeling of insecurity.

Ana Niculita shows that the conduct of the institutional strategic process is the responsibility of institutional management. The purpose of her study is to assess employees' perceptions, practices and experiences of the strategic process carried out in public hospital institutions. A survey was developed in the interest of the study, containing 39 questions, structured in six chapters. The information presented in the study is structured into five fields: employee involvement in the institutional strategic process; institutional vision, mission and values; involvement in objectives setting; strategy implementation; strategy monitoring.

I am confident that you will value the articles in this issue of the Journal.

Finally yet importantly, I would like to express my gratitude to all the colleagues who contributed to this journal, either as authors or reviewers, and to wish you all a great 2022!