

# *Managing Global Transitions*

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## *The Editor's Corner*

Recently, presidential elections in the USA have taken place, a huge campaign that the world can follow through mass media. Also in Slovenia, just recently, the elections to the Parliament have come to an end. Elections always bring an opportunity for change and change is one of the features of contemporary times. In our Journal one change is on the way – a new Editor will take over Managing Global Transitions.

It has been three years since a group of professors, lecturers from the Faculty of Management Koper and our visiting Fulbright scholar from the United States of America Suzanne Catana discussed and launched the idea about the Journal. Since then, in the last two years, four numbers of the first two volumes have been published. The scope of the Journal was broad enough to attract articles from different countries and continents and from a variety of fields such as economics, business management, education, etc. The Journal was well accepted in professional and research communities and many of you, the readers, sent us your comments and suggestions. The Journal would never see the light of day without the Editorial Board, the Editorial Team, Alen Ježovnik and Staša Ferjančič, the Managing Editor and the Editorial Assistant and, of course, without all of you, who submitted your articles to our Journal and all of you, who were willing to review them. Thanks to all of you for your contribution.

The new Editor, my colleague from the Faculty of Management Koper, Boštjan Antončič, has already been involved in the editorial work for this number. I am convinced he will bring to the Journal a nice mixture of change and tradition and also support developments, needed to be undertaken in order to make the Journal strongly grounded in current research and professional communities.

In this number, Sudharatna Yuraporn discusses learning organization characteristics that contribute to the readiness of a learning organization to change. Her study was done on Thai Mobile Service industry. Her results showed a significant relationship between readiness to change and some of the characteristics of the learning organization. On the basis of her findings she suggests that organizations need to be developed into learning organizations to gain or sustain competitive advantage.

Branka Skrt and Boštjan Antončič present an empirical examination of strategic planning and small firm growth. Their findings show that

strategic planning and systematic decision-making can be considered a key determinant of survival and success of small firms.

Štefan Bojnec and Ana Xavier raise an interesting question about the size and number of firms. They analyzed the Slovenian manufacturing sector and found a remarkable difference between the number of registered manufacturing firms and the number of firms with employment.

Silva Bratož presents a comparative study of metaphor in English and Slovene popular economic discourse. Her findings indicate some similarities and also differences between the two languages. As metaphors are used more and more not only in economic discourse an interesting reading for other fields of research is provided.

Jorg Lackenbauer discusses the case of Hungary regarding the catching-up, regional disparities and EU cohesion policy. He analyzed how EU cohesion policy can contribute to attain higher national growth as well as contribute to the decrease in regional disparities. As the accession of new EU members occurred this year, the topic is interesting for the readers.

I hope that you, a reader, will find the number interesting and worth using in your professional and research work. As the season holidays are approaching I also wish you all the best in 2005.

Anita Trnavčević  
*Editor*