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# Research Papers in Economics and Finance

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## Preface

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the eighth volume, first issue of *Research Papers in Economics and Finance*. In this edition, we present a collection of articles that address significant economic and financial issues from various perspectives. The contributions in this issue are diverse, covering topics from fiscal policy and financial fraud to digitalisation and income inequality. Each paper offers valuable insights and contributes to the ongoing academic discourse in its respective field.

Two papers in this issue of the journal are related to the VI scientific conference within the series entitled Institutions in Theory and Practice. The initiators of this series were three scientific centres, i.e. Poznań University of Economics and Business, Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń and Wrocław University of Economics and Business. The conference meetings have become a place for the exchange of experience and cooperation among Polish institutionalists. The event presents the results of research in institutional economics and its relationship to other theories and economic practice. The scope of the event includes, among other things, the importance of institutions in economics and law, their role in economic development and the management of organisations, as well as methodological problems related to the study of institutions.

The first paper, titled **Assessment of Poland's fiscal position in the European Union in the face of crisis conditions** by Sławomir Zwierzchlewski, provides an in-depth analysis of Poland's fiscal condition within the European Union amid crisis conditions. The study highlights the extraordinary measures taken by economic authorities and their implications for fiscal stability, offering a timely exploration of this critical issue in the current economic landscape.

In **How institutions are related to agriculture? Systematic literature review**, Michał Barszczewski reviews the literature on the relationship between institutions and agricultural economics. Using the PRISMA method, the author systematically analyses 35 selected articles to clarify the definition of an institution and

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its relevance to agriculture. The study identifies gaps in existing research, particularly the lack of a precise definition of institutions and their historical context, and suggests a method for institution classification.

Marek Kot, in his paper **Financial frauds throughout the years – literature review**, examines the persistent issue of financial fraud across global markets. The paper analyses the correlation between the frequency of published papers on financial fraud and market events, underscoring the need for enhanced cooperation among regulators, law enforcement, academia and the private sector. The study calls for collaborative efforts to prevent and mitigate the effects of financial fraud.

**Financial performance and cash flow: Evidence from the US banking industry** by Gerasimos G. Rompotis investigates the relationship between cash flow and financial performance in the US banking sector using panel data analysis of 122 banks from 2019 to 2022. The findings reveal a complex relationship, highlighting both positive and negative correlations between different types of cash flows and financial performance metrics.

The research by Meryem-Nadjat Naas and Habib Zouaoui, titled **Forecasting foreign exchange rate volatility using deep learning: Case of US dollar/Algerian dinar during the COVID-19 pandemic**, explores the application of deep learning techniques to forecast foreign exchange rate volatility. The results demonstrate that machine learning methods, particularly linear regression, offer superior accuracy in predicting exchange rate volatility compared to traditional models.

The article **Institutional differences and threats to international tourists from the perspective of new institutional economics**, by Jakub Sukiennik, Sławomir Czetwertyński, Paula Przysada-Sukiennik and Agnieszka Mroczek-Czetwertyńska, examines the theoretical threats posed by institutional differences to international tourists. The authors utilise new institutional economics to analyse how these differences impact tourist security and the associated social costs. The paper highlights the changing preferences of post-pandemic tourists and the implications of institutional diversity for the global tourism industry.

In **Application of a single-equation SARIMA model for short-term conditional forecast (projection) of CPI price dynamics in Poland**, Patryk Kołbyko constructs an optimal SARIMA model for short-term forecasting of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) dynamics in Poland. Using data from 2010 to 2023, the author demonstrates the model's effectiveness in predicting CPI trends, offering a valuable tool for policymakers in managing inflation expectations and achieving monetary policy goals.

Sławomir Kuźmar and Dawid Piątek investigate the relationship between digitalisation and income inequality in Central and Eastern European countries from 2000 to 2020 in their paper **Digitalisation and income inequality in Central and Eastern European countries**. The authors perform empirical analysis on data from ten countries, finding a strong correlation between digitalisation indicators and income inequality measures. The study provides insights into how digitalisation

may exacerbate income disparities, informing policy discussions on mitigating its negative impacts.

Last but not least, the final paper entitled **Stock market return and merger and acquisition activity in Poland**, by Eliasz Czajkowski and Mateusz Mikutowski, explores the trends in mergers and acquisitions (M&A) in Poland from 2019 to 2022, analysing their correlation with stock market returns. The research offers strategic insights for investors and businesses, highlighting the sectors poised for growth and the implications of M&A trends in the Polish market.

We hope this volume provides valuable contributions to the field of economics and finance, offering readers fresh perspectives and rigorous analyses on pressing issues.

Yours faithfully,

Piotr Lis  
*Editor-in-Chief*