

## EDITORIAL

The articles presented in the current issue of the Romanian Review of Social Sciences reveal a diverse array of provocative research, spanning across multiple fields of social sciences, from economics to sociology. This collection of texts reflect the growing interest towards exploring new and challenging issues in the contemporary world, and offering a sample of in depth analysis of such issues. Perhaps modest in numbers, the articles gathered in the current issue are nevertheless high in terms of quality.

The first paper inquires the existence of military Keynesianism in the Asian region by testing co-integration and possible causality between defense expenditure and economic growth between 1999 and 2010. The authors – Bilal Mehmood and Sabhat Iqbal conclude that not the Granger causality may reflect the process, but rather reverse causality.

The second article tackles with a very provocative and also delicate issue – factors influencing the student’s happiness, and draws on the data collected in two Iranian schools. Samazeh Zarei succeeds in identifying a valid correlation between student’s degree of happiness and variables such as cultural, artistic, religious or sportive activities. Interestingly is the fact that the parental educational or economical background and the amount of pocket money given to the students does not seem to affect their happiness.

In the third paper, Mortuza Ahmmed investigates the sensitive problem of violence against minorities in Bangladesh, identifying a particular pattern of discrimination and insecurity, specific to Bangladesh. Last, but not least, the author formulates a number of solutions that could contribute to the amelioration of the status quo.

Nicoleta Gudănescu Nicolau and Maria-Loredana Popescu offer a sample of collaborative work regarding e-learning innovations in higher education. They examine two cases of Romanian e-

learning platforms and reflect on the impact the use of internet technology has on the educational process.

Kazem Hajizadeh tries, in the last paper of the current issue, to review from a sociological point of view the relation between state and religion as it is expressed in various constitutional acts in the world. This is more of an exploratory comparative approach, which draws on the data collected from 166 countries. The results can represent a valuable contribution to the wider area regarding the tensions between the modern concept of the state and religion.

The current issue of Romanian Review of Social Sciences managed, in my opinion, to successfully expand its reach to other fields of research, thus hopefully managing to attract in the future a much wider public and scholars.

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Editor of the Romanian Review of Social Sciences

