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Editorial: Volume 7, Issue 1
Advanced Research in Economics and Business Strategy Journal

The seventh volume, first issue of the *Advanced Research in Economics and Business Strategy Journal* presents a rich and diverse collection of scholarly contributions that collectively deepen our understanding of contemporary economic challenges and strategic responses across developing and emerging economies. The articles featured in this issue span regions including Africa, Asia, and beyond, reflecting the increasingly global and interconnected nature of economic research and policy discourse.

A central theme that emerges across several contributions is the interplay between institutional frameworks and economic outcomes. The study on Ethiopia's exchange rate collapse highlights how administrative rigidities and commodity dependence can create systemic vulnerabilities, while research on regulatory environments in microfinance institutions underscores the delicate balance between oversight and sustainability. Together, these works reinforce the importance of adaptive and context-sensitive policy design.

Another prominent focus of this issue is financial systems and inclusion. Articles examining credit repayment behavior in refugee communities, liquidity management in savings and credit cooperatives, and ESG impacts on banking performance provide nuanced insights into how financial mechanisms operate at both grassroots and institutional levels. These studies are particularly valuable in informing inclusive financial strategies that are resilient under socio-economic stress.

The issue also advances the discourse on human and knowledge capital. Contributions exploring digital human resource management, employee performance in open and distance learning institutions, and entrepreneurial intentions among university students demonstrate how intangible assets—skills, knowledge, and innovation—serve as critical drivers of productivity and growth in modern economies.

Technological change and globalization are further explored through empirical analyses such as dynamic ARDL modeling of productivity in South Africa and bibliometric mapping of digital HRM research. These studies not only highlight the transformative potential of technology but also provide methodological contributions that future researchers can build upon.

Environmental sustainability and resource management are addressed through research on community-based forest management in Benin and fisheries value addition in Tanzania. These works emphasize the necessity of integrating economic efficiency with ecological stewardship, particularly in regions where livelihoods are closely tied to natural resources.

In addition, this issue engages with emerging risks and behavioral responses in economic systems. From geopolitical risk and oil price volatility forecasting to the unintended consequences of energy policy reforms in Pakistan, the included studies reveal the complex dynamics that policymakers must navigate in an increasingly uncertain global environment.

Collectively, the articles in this issue demonstrate rigorous methodological approaches, including stochastic frontier analysis, bibliometric mapping, and dynamic econometric modeling. They also provide actionable insights for policymakers, practitioners, and academics seeking to address pressing economic and strategic challenges.

As Editor-in-Chief, I extend my sincere appreciation to the authors for their valuable contributions, the reviewers for their critical and constructive feedback, and the editorial team for their dedication to maintaining the journal's standards of excellence. It is our hope that this issue will not only contribute to academic discourse but also inform practical solutions for sustainable economic development.

We invite readers to engage deeply with these studies and to continue contributing to the advancement of knowledge in economics and business strategy.

Pr. BELGOUM Farid

Editor-in-Chief

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