

## COMMENTS FROM THE CHIEF EDITOR!

Since 2019, this international peer-reviewed scientific journal in three languages (since the issues 1-2/2019 and 3-4/2019), its authors and papers have been included in the international database **Elsevier-SCOPUS** (the largest database of summaries and citations of peer-reviewed scientific papers /USA, UK, Germany/). Our journal is now represented in approximately ten international databases, in addition to Estonian databases.

Scopus officially accepted our application for review on 15 September 2016 [*Estonian Discussions on Economic Policy* (1736-5597 / 2228-1878)]. We submitted our application materials even earlier. The decision on the eligibility of our journal was adopted on 2 June 2019.<sup>1</sup> The information was entered by the specialists of the database in April-May 2021. **Scopus** obviously also means that requirements for the quality of the papers and the journal have to be even higher in the future.

This achievement is the result of the good joint cooperation and activities of the authors and the editorial staff of the journal. Many thanks to all participants. It has been a huge, long-term work worthy of thanks! At the request of the chief editor, the editor-consultant of our journal, long-term specialist in the field, librarian of the University of Tartu and information specialist of the School of Economics and Business Administration of the University of Tartu, Ruth Tammeorg searched for the existence of the journal and the papers and confirmed it (e-mail, 10 June 2021).

This means also the highest level – 1.1 – for the journal in ETIS (the national register Estonian Research Information System). This was confirmed on the phone also by the Head of the Department of ETIS, Marika Meltsas to the chief editor of this journal. Already earlier the journal (as a collection and precursor of the current journal then) had been on level 3.1 for many years (for 15 years and more) and then on level 1.2 (since 2007). Thus, the papers of this journal have been peer-reviewed for already about 15 years (since 2007), i. e. undergone a blinded review mainly by economists-professors of foreign universities with a doctor's degree and the journal has an international Editorial Board (its 7 members are from universities of Estonia, Georgia, Federal Republic of Germany and Hungary). Besides, other required features of research papers (abstract, keywords, JEL, etc.).

Publishing of research papers in our journal will surely help doctoral students to prepare their thesis and then to defend their doctoral papers and acquire the doctor's degree, also in the attestation of the academic staff and researchers. Also participation in our annual scientific conferences provides positive and necessary experience both in writing papers and preparation of the thesis. While publishing of papers and participation in conferences, making presentations, are different events, they are organically interconnected and support each other.

I would particularly like to emphasise and give recognition to the contribution of the long-term and competent editor-consultant of our journal, a former specialist-librarian of the Library of the University of Tartu (UT) and information specialist of the School

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<sup>1</sup> Timeline of the assessment of our journal by SCOPUS –  
[<https://sugestor.step.scopus.com/progressTracker/index.cfm?trackingID=1D8727D42CC93287>]

of Economics and Business Administration of the University of Tartu and current Chairman of the Board of the University of Tartu Faculty Association **Ruth Tammeorg** during the period of submission and adjustment of the application to **Scopus** and waiting for the result which took many years (*Ruth: This was like the Odyssey story*). Also her activities at the final stage – during the database review in 2020–2021 to find our journal in **Scopus**.

I would like to thank separately also the long-term excellent editors of our journal, **Sulev Mältseemes** and **Üllas Ehrlich**, and the former excellent and demanding editor **Janno Reiljan** who passed away in January 2018, also the earlier efficient member of the Editorial Board, author and co-author of papers, later a kind and substantive foreign editor from Germany **Manfred O. E. Hennies** who is no longer among us (deceased in October 2019), who all contributed with strong moral support to the process of application for **Scopus**.

I believe that Janno would have been glad, would have become more enthusiastic himself and would have inspired also his doctoral students and other colleagues!

Also our good friend Manfred would surely have been very glad!

Also the members of the Editorial Board of the journal at the University of Tartu, Budapest German-Language University, University of Greifswald, Kiel Institute for the World Economy (of the University of Kiel), Kiel University of Applied Sciences and Tbilisi State University are happy about this result!

Many thanks also to the technical secretary of our journal **Kaarin Birk** and the English translator **Meeli Kuura** and the German translator-interpreter **Toomas Metsis** from the Estonian Association of Translators and Interpreters for their contribution to this achievement.

We are grateful also to all peer reviewers in both Estonia and other countries, particularly from the universities of the Federal Republic of Germany. Their substantive and competent reviews surely always helped the authors to make their papers even better.

I hope that being in the **Scopus** Database is a good news and provides great satisfaction also to the active authors of our journal.

With great respect and many thanks, wishing success and continuing fruitful and active cooperation both in issuing our international scientific journal and organising/participating in our international scientific conferences and emphasising again that *we have broadened the content of the journal – it is now a journal connecting-treating two areas of economics (i.e. economic policy and business administration) and also their synthesis, i.e. merging the two areas into one integrated field of economics and/or a notional united field. The general name of the journal remains the same, however.*

In Tallinn, Pirita-Kose (10 –11 June 2021)

Yours, Matti Raudjärv

(founder and chief editor of the journal /1984, 1994 ... 2006, 2007 .../,  
initiator-main organiser of the scientific conferences /1984, 1994 .../)