

PREFACE

It is with pleasure that we present the 2021 issue of the *Annals of the Department of MEMOTEF*.

This volume wants to further promote the multidisciplinary scientific debate in the field of applied and behavioural sciences, presenting a selection of articles from both internal and external contributors, representing the variety of scientific disciplines in the Department of MEMOTEF (Sapienza).

As regular readers already know, the journal is divided into three parts: the main section is dedicated to *Research Papers* selected following a peer review procedure, a second section of *Notes and Discussion* is aimed at representing a forum for thought on current research, and a third section on *Book Reviews* acknowledges new studies aimed at deepening and disseminating knowledge.

For each section, all the contributions are presented in alphabetical order.

The section of research papers includes contributions from colleagues from national and international research institutions.

The first paper, by Massimo Angrisani, Cinzia Di Paolo and Pierluigi Fava, focuses on the application of the Logical Sustainability Theory to the Swedish Pension System.

The second contribution, by Barbara Martini, analyses the relationship between employment growth rate and productive specialisation of Italian provinces, taking into account the gender.

In the third article, Nicolas Moreau and Elena Stancanelli estimate the effect of the transition to retirement on the time use of individuals.

The fourth article, by Venere Stefania Sanna, Raffaella Coletti and Anna Ferro examines the socio-economic characteristics, expectations, and plans for the future of high-skilled Albanian workers resident in Lombardy.

The fifth contribution, by Paola Savi, aims to discuss the opportunities and limitations of the digital technologies for tourism promotion and development in the declining areas of Italian mountains, adopting the methodological perspective of so-called learning tourism.

Finally, Agnes Stier and Anna Paldy analyse the incidence of skin cancer in Hungary and depict its distribution using Bayesian smoothed indirectly standardised relative risks.

The section of notes and discussions contains four contributions.

The first one, by Giovanni A. Barbieri, makes a comparison between the 1854 cholera epidemic and the COVID-19 pandemic, illustrating how statistics and mathematical models could help in informing and providing useful suggestions.

The second note, by Maria Giuseppina Bruno and Maria Rita Scarpitti, shows that in the Islamic world insurance dynamics have their own characteristics and highlights how the alea is managed differently according to the cultures to which it refers.

The third contribution, by Alessandro Moretti, aims at summarizing the guidelines of the most recent geographical economic literature in the field of sports facilities.

The last note, by Andrea Simone, aims at analysing the relationship between environmental taxation and innovation performance in the biofuel industry in the United States.

The last section presents two reviews of scientific research dealing with political ecology and the fourth industrial revolution.

We thank the authors of the contributions and all who responded to our call for papers. We also thank our referees for their commitment to reviewing the submitted papers. It is our hope that this issue will further stimulate interdisciplinary debate and will be a precious resource for the Department of MEMOTEF.

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