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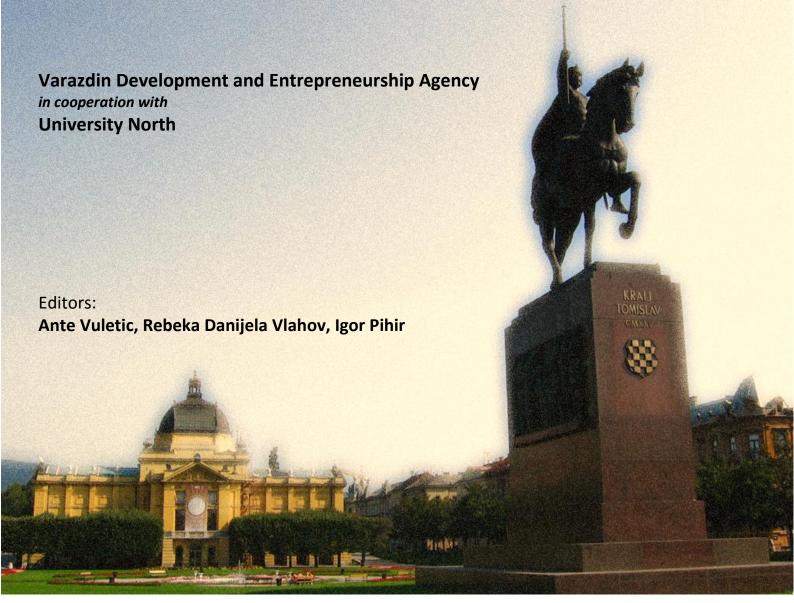
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Economic and Social Development

11th International Scientific Conference on Economic and Social Development – Building Resilient Society



Book of Proceedings



Zagreb, 17-18 December 2015

Varazdin Development and Entrepreneurship Agency in cooperation with



Editors:
Ante Vuletic, Rebeka Danijela Vlahov, Igor Pihir



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Title ■ Economic and Social Development (Book of Proceedings), 11th International Scientific Conference on Economic and Social Development – Building Resilient Society

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Publishing Editor ■ Domagoj Cingula

Publisher ■ **Design** ■ **Print** ■ Varazdin Development and Entrepreneurship Agency, Varazdin, Croatia University North, Koprivnica, Croatia

Copies ■ Online Edition (Open Access)

ISSN 1849-7535

The Book is open access and double-blind peer reviewed.

The Book is regulary indexed and abstracted by ProQuest and EconBIZ databases. It is available for downloading in a PDF format from the Economic and Social Development Conference website, http://www.esd-conference.com

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CONTENT

RESOURCES IN CATERING AFFECTS THE DEVELOPMENT OF HUMAN AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
Alda Taka, Albana Jupe, Rajmonda Biraci, Remzi Sulo, Bahri Musabelliu ■ ARABLE SOILS PRICE IN ALBANIA: A METHODOLOGICAL APPROACH10
Dejan Romih, Andreja Primec, Katja Crnogaj ■ THE IMPORTANCE OF INNOVATION TO INCREASE THE VALUE OF SLOVENIA'S EXPORTS OF GOODS TO THE PACIFIC RIM COUNTRIES
Ehlimana Spahic ■ GLOBAL UNDERSTANDING OF DEVELOPMENT IN HISTORICAL AND THEORETICAL CONTEXT
Fakhreddin Safaee Far ■ THE CHANGES OF POPULATION PYRAMID IN IRAN AND ITS IMPACT ON SUPPORTIVE COVERAGE OF SOCIAL SECURITY ORGANIZATION 34
Franciszek Kapusta, Rafal Parvi ■ GRAIN PRODUCTION AND PROCESSING IN POLAND AT THE BEGINNING OF THE XXI CENTURY40
Ghazeia Qussay ■ ACCOUNTABILITY OF CORPORATE MANAGER: TO SYNTHESIZE OF THE DIFFERENT THEORIES BY ECONOMIC, POLITICAL, SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL PERSPECTIVES51
Mate Kristo, Marijan Cingula, Mario Filipovic ■ METHODOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF MEASURNIG BUSINESS RESILIENCE
Matej Svigelj ■ THE MOBILE BROADBAND MARKET: A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS
Matilda Veliu ■ THE CONFIGURATION OF LABOR MARKET IN ALBANIA AND ITS CHALLENGES
Mehmet Emre Gorgulu ■ FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENTS IN THE GLOBALIZING WORLD: THE MUTUAL LINK90
Muhammet Deveci, Nihan Cetin Demirel ■ AIRLINE CREW PAIRING PROBLEM: A LITERATURE REVIEW
Munsang Kang, Sohee Ahn ■ A STUDY ON THE INFLUENCING FACTORS ON THE R&D PERFORMANCE - IN CASE OF THE SMBS IN KOREA112
Nadezda Fuksova ■ WORK MIGRATION IN EUROPE

Jadranka Bendekovic, Dora Naletina, Zrinka Sunjic ■ COST CONTROL POLICY IN MAERSK LINE
Davor Perkov, Dinko Primorac, Valentina Keblar ■ LOYALTY PROGRAMMES IN CROATIAN RETAIL COMPANIES
Robert Svetlacic, Dinko Primorac, Petar Kurecic ■ RETROSPECTIVE ANALYSIS OF DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM IN CROATIA
Ruben Picek, Marko Mijac, Darko Androcec ■ USE OF BUSINESS INFORMATION SYSTEMS IN CROATIAN COMPANIES
Safdar Husain Tahir, Sara Sohail, Irtaza Qayyam, Komal Mumtaz ■ EFFECT OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE INDEX ON DIVIDEND POLICY: AN INVESTIGATION OF TEXTILE INDUSTRY OF PAKISTAN
Katarzyna Sledziewska ■ DETERMINANTS OF INTRA-INDUSTRY TRADE OF THE NEW MEMBER STATES
Djuro Tunjic, Goran Kozina, Krunoslav Boban ■ SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY AND MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS
Ana Jovancai Stakic, Katarina Zakic, Ana Jurcic ■ THE PROCESS OF INTERNATIONALIZATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION AND ITS IMPACT ON EFFICENCY OF WORKING FORCE
Anna Iwacewicz - Orlowska ■ SUBJECTIVE WELL-BEING AS PART OF WELFARE ECONOMICS IN EUROPEAN UNION COUNTRIES
Ardita Todri, Marsel Sulanjaku ■ THE FORECASTING ANALYSIS OF EUR/CHF EXCHANGE RATE VOLATILITY IN ALBANIAN MARKET203
Arianit Jakupi, Indrit Baholli ■ DRUGS CONSUMPTION IN KOSOVO AND IMPACT IN THE SOCIAL LIFE OF POPULATION
Arpad Papp – Vary, Zsanett Takacs, Diana Ugrin ■ BLACK MIRROR – THE PORTRAYAL OF ADVERTISING PROFESSIONALS IN HOLLYWOOD MOVIES220
Tinatin Akhvlediani, Katarzyna Sledziewska ■ STRUCUTRAL CHANGES IN EXPORTS OF VISEGRAD COUNTRIES: EVIDENCE FROM THE SECTORAL DATA234
Haki Shatri ■ PRIVATIZATION METHODS IN KOSOVO
Abdelhamid Nechad, Malika Haoucha ■ MODERNIZED POVERTY OR SOCIAL CONSTRUCTION OF DEPRIVATION

Adem Ogut, Metin Kaplan, Mustafa Atsan ■ THE IMPACT OF PERCEIVED ORGANIZATIONAL PRESTIGE ON ORGANIZATIONAL IDENTIFICATION
Abdelatif Kerzabi, Naima Korib ■ GOVERNANCE AND ECONOMIC GROWTH - THE ALGERIAN CASE261
Djuro Tunjic, Goran Kozina I MPROVEMENT OF COMPETETIVENESS IN CROATIAN ECONOMY THROUGH THE IMPACT OF CERTIFICATION OF QUALITY MANAGEMENT269
Gunay Ozcan, Muhsin Kar ■ DOES FOREIGN TRADE LIBERALIZATION REDUCE POVERTY IN TURKEY?276
Henrik Johannsen Duus, Mogens Bjerre ■ QUALITATIVE VALUE PROFILING: A REASSESSMENT292
Ines Kersan – Skabic ■ PROS AND CONS OF INTERNAL DEVALUATION IN THE EU302
Issatay Doskaliyev ■ THE IMPACT OF FDI OUTFLOWS ON THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE IN THE SOURCE COUNTRIES
Josko Lozic, Marin Milkovic, Ines Lozic ■ GLOBAL TRENDS IN THE PUBLISHING INDUSTRY: POST-INDUSTRIAL SOCIETY AND GEOGRAPHICAL DIVERSIFICATION OF THE PUBLISHING SEGMENTS
Stjepan Vidacic, Katarina Tomicic-Pupek, Igor Pihir ■ THE ORCHESTRATION OF WEB-BASED SALES PROCESSES – A CASE STUDY
Kenneth Hogholm, Johan Knif ■ SHORT TERM VALUE CREATION FOR THE BIDDER – EVIDENCE FROM FINLAND
Laszlo Csepregi ■ FROM STARTUP TO SME, FROM SME TO A MULTINATIONAL ENTERPRISE – KEY SUCCESS FACTORS OF GLOBAL GAZELLE COMPANIES - THE FORNETTI CASE STUDY
Zuzana Birknerova, Miroslav Frankovsky, Robert Stefko, Lucia Zbihlejova ■ GENDER AND AGE SPECIFICATIONS OF ASSESSING LIFELONG EDUCATION IN ORGANIZATIONS369
Luka Mladineo, Toni Susak ■ THE ROLE OF INVENTORIES IN DECISION MAKING377
Maja Darabos ■ TMT BEHAVIOUR AND WAYS OF FIRM'S GROWTH: IS THERE ANY CONNECTION?

Maria Marikina ■ THE PROCESSES OF GLOBALIZATION FOR EMERGING MARKETS AND GROWTH PROSPECTS
Marija Simic Saric ■ DID THE PRIVATE EQUITY AND VENTURE CAPITAL MARKET IN CEE RECOVERED AFTER THE FINANCIAL CRISIS? CASE OF POLAND, HUNGARY AND CZECH REPUBLIC
Snezana Zivkovic, Darko Palacic ■ COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF SAFETY MANAGEMENT IN BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS IN SERBIA AND CROATIA 412
Ekaterina Polyakova, Taras Hrendash ■ A NEW APPROACH TO HAPPINESS FUNCTION FORMALIZATION: THE ROLE OF SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT
Victoria Golikova, Boris Kuznetsov ■ WHAT FIRMS ARE REWARDED AFTER GLOBAL FINANCIAL CRISIS? THE ROLE OF INNOVATION AND GLOBALIZATION STRATEGIES IN RECOVERY
Nazmus Sadat Khan ■ THE SPILLOVER EFFECTS OF DEBT AND GROWTH IN EUROPE
Mario Bagat, Damir Mihanovic, Marijana Hrzic ■ PUBLIC EXPENDITURE ON HEALTH THROUGH ADDITIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE
Martina Tomicic Furjan, Marija Kisic, Zeljko Dobrovic ■ IMPLEMENTATION OF ISO 9000 STANDARD SUPPORTED BY PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT
Haki Shatri ■ THE LEGAL AND INSTITUTIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE OF PRIVAZTIZATION IN KOSOVO
Arpad Papp - Vary ■ HOW MUCH DOES IT COST FOR ADVERTISERS TO PLACE THEIR PRODUCTS IN MOVIES? CATEGORIES ACCORDING TO THE FINANCIAL BACKGROUND OF THE COOPERATION
Artan Haziri ■ CHARACTERISTICS OF THE LABOR MARKET, EMPLOYMENT POLICIES IN KOSOVO AND EUROPEAN UNION IN THE YEAR 2014
Ceyhun Can Ozcan, Muhsin Kar ■ AN ECONOMETRIC ANALYSIS OF TOURISM DEMAND IN SELECTED COUNTRIES
Daniel Francois Meyer ■ STRATEGIES FOR DEVELOPMENT OF RURAL REGIONS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
Darko Dukic, Gordana Dukic, Neven Bertovic ■ INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES USAGE IN CROATIAN ENTERPRISES

Dejan Romin, Katja Crnogaj ■ SUSTAINABILITY AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO INCREASE
THE GEOGRAPHICAL DIVERSIFICATION OF SLOVENIA'S EXPORTS OF GOODS
530
Ardian Ramadani, Agim Zuzaku ■ ANAMORAVA TOURISM RESOURCES IN THE
FUNCTION OF DEVELOPMENT OF HEALTH TOURISM534
Naohiko Ijiri ■ NON-HARMONISED MANDATORY STANDARDS AS NON-TARIFF
BARRIERS: EXPERIENCE FROM JAPANESE IMPORTS540
Alina Manta, Roxana Badircea ■ THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN EFFICIENCY.
Alina Manta, Roxana Badircea THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN EFFICIENCY CAPITAL AND RISK FROM THE BANKING ACTIVITY PERSPECTIVE

Building Resilient Society

THE IMPACT OF PERCEIVED ORGANIZATIONAL PRESTIGE ON ORGANIZATIONAL IDENTIFICATION

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ABSTRACT

The aim of study is to analyze the impacts of perceptions of employees' organizational prestige on organizational identification. Data sampling of the study is 450 employees of one national and international furniture manufacturing industry firm based in Kayseri, Turkey. The findings of research indicated that perceived organizational prestige has a positive impact on organizational identification. Besides the results, practical implications are discussed, and suggestions for the future research are carried out.

Keywords: Organizational prestige, organizational identification, furniture industry

1. INTRODUCTION

The competition among organizations intensifies in accordance with rapid changes on technological, socio-cultural, environmental aspects of global economy. In this competitive environment, businesses should take into consideration the human factor so that they are able to maintain their existence. In this respect, employees' identification with the organization begin to become influential. Identification refers to emotional bonds between an individual or a group and based on shared similar perceptions and processes within the organization. Employees who high level of identification with the organization act in line with the norms and values of their group even if no compulsiveness, no employee agreement or no control mechanism exists (Gautam vd., 2004: 306). Organizational identification requires cognitive skills that employees express themselves through qualifications or aims and that qualifications or aims exist in perceived organizational identity. In general, organizational identification comprises of cognitive, affective and behavioral elements. The more employees identify themselves with the organization, the stronger they show cognitive, affective and behavioral properties (Tüzün ve Çağlar, 2008: 1015-1016).

Organizational identification is the process that organizational and individual goals become increasingly integrated and congruent (Ashforth and Mael, 1989: 23). In other words, organizational identification is employees' psychological commitment to the organization. This psychological commitment means that employees see organizational characteristic as their own personal characteristic (Turunç and Çelik, 2010: 187). Many factors lead to employees' identification with the organization. This study is limited to employees' perception of organizational prestige. **Organizational prestige** is defined as employees' assessment about the

organization they work for and what others think of their organization (Ciftcioglu, 2010: 86-87). Organizational prestige reflects the activities of the group being active in the society and shows the visibility of the organization (Andrew et al., 2006: 165).

In the literature, some research exhibit positive relationship between perceived organizational prestige and organizational identification (Carmeli, Gilat and Weisberg, 2005; Tak ve Çiftçi, 2009; Podnar, 2011). In the light of these studies, it has been planned to test the following hypotes:

H1: Perceived organizational prestige has positive impact on organizational identification.

2. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Measures

Organizational identification was designated as the dependent variable in this study, while perceived organizational prestige was considered as the independent variables. To measure perceived organizational prestige we used the 8 items Questionnaire developed by Mael and Ashforth (1992). Participants responded on a 5-point Likert-type scale dictating to the extent which they agreed with each statement (1= strongly disagree, 5= strongly agree). The Cronbach's alpha coefficient was 0,811.

On the other hand, organizational identification was measured with six items 5-point Likert scale (1=strongly decrease, 5=strongly agree) developed by Mael and Ashforth (1992). The Cronbach's alpha coefficient was 0.844.

Sample

Data sampling of the study is gathered from 450 employees of one national and international furniture manufacturing industry firm based in Kayseri, Turkey. The sample consisted of 6.3 percent of females and 93.7 percent of males. 87.3 percent of the respondents were married and 12.7 percent were single. Out of employees in the research 5.4% ranges 25 years and less, 64.4% 26-35 years, 27.3% 36-45 years, 2.7% 46-55 years, 0.2% 56 years and more. In terms of educational levels, 26.4% of the respondents had graduated from primary school, 53.2% from high school, 10.1% from Vocational School, 9.2% from the faculty and 1.1% from Ph.D. Considering work experience of employees, 2.7% of them work less than 1 year, 10,1% between 1-3 years, 24.0% 4-6 years, 23.8% 7-9 years, and 39.5% 10 and more years.

3. RESEARCH FINDINGS

The regression analysis was carried out to determine the efficacy level of perceived organizational prestige on organizational identification.

Table 1: The results of regression analysis for Organizational Idendification.

Independent variable	β	S.E.	t-value	Sig.	Tolerans	VIF	
Perceived							
Organizational	0,475	0,047	11,415	0,000*	1,000	1,000	
Prestige							
F	130,310						
Adjusted R ²	0,224						
R^2	0,226						
Std. Error of the	,						
Estimate	0,76358						
Durbin-Watson	1,780						
Significance level	0,000*						

Dependent variable: Organizational Identification

^{*} p<0,01

The results of regression analysis in Table 1 suggest that the overall model was significant (Adjusted R^2 = 0,224; F= 130,310; p<0,01). The independent variable (perceived organizational prestige) was taken into account, and the Adjusted R^2 (0,224) was significant at the 0,01 level. This means that 22,4% of the variance in organizational identification was significantly explained by the independent variable (perceived organizational prestige). In this frame, the findings of research reveal that perceived organizational prestige has positive and significant impact (β =0,475; p<0,01) on organizational identification. This result is consistent with the results of Carmeli, Gilat and Weisberg (2005), Tak ve Çiftçi (2009) and Podnar (2011). In this respect, H1 was supported. Therefore the more perceived organizational prestige increases, the more organizational identification increases.

4. CONCLUSION

The findings of this study need to be interpreted with the following limitations in mind. First limitation is that the results can not be strictly construed to be representative of all employees in furniture manufacturing industry firms around the world, because this study has been conducted in Kayseri, Turkey. Therefore, the study needs to be replicated in different industries and countries in order to generalize the findings. Second, participants may have been biased to present positive aspects of their businesses.

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