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# The territorial attractiveness for foreign investments of Mediterranean cities: the case of city of Tangier in Morocco

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The objective of this article is to provide the main factors of attractiveness for foreign investors in the manufacturing and logistics sectors of the city of Tangier in Morocco. The conceptual model was developed from literature review and interviews with a sample of the leaders of foreign small and medium enterprises (SMEs). The empirical analysis is carried out using data from a survey of executives of these foreign (manufacturing and logistics) companies based in the city of Tangier. The use of the Partial Least Squares (PLS) approach allowed us to test the causal links between the various political, economic, social, technological, legal and environmental (PESTEL) factors. The scientific interest of the model is to provide decision makers of the city of Tangier with the recommendations to improve the development and attractiveness of foreign investments in both logistics and manufacturing sectors.<sup>1</sup>

*Key words:* Territorial attractiveness; PESTEL; PLS; manufacturing and logistics activities

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## INTRODUCTION

According 150 executives interviewed for the “BaroMed 2015” (Lacovone and Lhermitte 2015), the Mediterranean region is the more attractive than Europe. It has attracted in 2013 an amount of 85 billion U.S. dollars which has been higher than the foreign investments in China on the same year.

The regions are increasingly seeking to attract FDI in a concern to reduce the unemployment rate, to decrease the deficit in the balance of trade by strengthening the exports, transferring technology, contributing to industrial development and strengthening the attractiveness territorial arrangement of the country, etc. The purpose of this Article is to define the main factors of attractiveness of manufacturing enterprises and logistics by a Mediterranean city by taking the case of the city of Tangier. This research is based on an exploratory study conducted with the leaders of the foreign firms.

This article is divided into two parts. The first part concerns the theoretical framework on which authors rely to provide a conceptual model resting on the political, economic, social, technological, legal and environmental (PESTEL) factors model. This is to clearly identify the industrial location factors that determine the manufacturing and logistics attractiveness of the city of Tangier. The second part includes the empirical study allowing to achieve the end result. Therefore, we develop an almost exhaustive questionnaire according to the stages of Churchill paradigm (Benraiss 2004). From 120 questionnaires distributed, in fact only 57 are exploitable. The PESTEL model has a qualitative structure. To be measurable, we will adopt a research-based approach using the Likert scale and method of structural equations with latent variables according to the partial least squares (PLS) analysis approach via the XL-STAT software.

## THEORETICAL AND CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

To determine the factors of territorial attractiveness of foreign manufacturing and logistics companies we use a conceptual framework at the base of PESTEL model and add the factor of proximity (WHY this new factor?).



## THE CONCEPT OF TERRITORIAL ATTRACTIVENESS

An attractive area is one that has more “capacity to provide, through their resources, more attractive settling conditions than those of competing areas for mobile projects” (Hatem 2004). In fact, the notion of territorial attractiveness becomes more and more a topic of local elected officials and public stakeholders working in the framework of local development agencies to improve the attractiveness of territories to productive and residential activities. In this context, we have seen the creation and development of a number of organizations which evaluate the attractiveness of countries towards companies such as the World Economic Forum, AT Kearney, the United Nations (UN) and the annual Doing Business report of the group of the World Bank that provides an assessment of the business climate by analysing the favourable and unfavourable regulations of business activities of the country.

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The reports of these organizations have helped to classify the countries in terms of attractiveness compared with other competing countries. Moreover, these reports influence the decision-making of business location within and outside the countries. If territories are in need of multinational firms, companies in turn want territories (Hatem 2004).

Companies seek to enjoy various offers worldwide by optimizing their organizations and by being established where there are the best comparative advantages.

There are various research works on the theoretical foundations of the firms' investment decisions abroad. Among these works, there is the eclectic theory that was developed by John H. Dunning and which is also called O.L.I. paradigm that is based on three types of benefits to multinationalisation namely: The ownership (O) specific advantages, the locational attractions (L), and the advantage in of internalization (I) (Dunning 2000, 163).

Following the literature review, one finds several models and concepts that address the significant factors of territorial attractiveness for foreign investment.



## EMPIRICAL WORK

Parallel to the above theoretical works, there are several empirical studies that attempt to measure the territorial attractiveness based on panel data or opinion survey. In fact, the concepts of attractiveness depend on what the user seeks to apprehend: measure of economic performance, observation of establishment decisions or, further upstream of the decision process, their determinants (improve translation - incomprehensible) (Coeuré, Rabaud, and Madiès 2003).

In the works of Fabrice Hatem (2005, 43), there are five categories of attractiveness:

- The “macro” approach, by global indicators, which is usually interested in the attractiveness of a country or a region. This approach, too, has led to the econometric approach and opinion approaches among investors. The most publicized barometers are: Ernst and Young, Business Competitiveness Index (World Economic Forum);
- The «meso» approach which is interested in studying the attractiveness factors of a particular area within a particular branch of industry;
- The «micro» approach which is based on the comparative analysis of the benefits of open multiple sites in the same area;
- The approach in terms of image, which studies the effect of the image or reputation of a territory on the decision making of the leaders at the time of the decision making on the location;
- The «decision making» approach which is based on academic and empirical research to study processes of decision-making.

Table 1 represents a synthesis of the main empirical works relating to the study of selected industrial location factors.

Table 1: Summary of the main empirical research

Authors	Results	Independent factors
(Head and Mayer 2004)	From the study of Japanese multinationals in the EU: the “market potential” factor is more important than other factors (labor or tax costs).	Economic factor
(Sascha et al. 2004)	From the study of German multinationals: the main location factor for these companies abroad, is access to “large markets”.	Economic factor
Rathelot and Sillard 2008) (Baldwin and Krugman 2004)	The inequalities in taxation between countries on profits influence the location of firms.	Legal factor
(Cecchini 2002) (Hassane and Zatla 2001)	The legal and regulatory environment impacts the business location.	Legal factor
(Kalantari 2013)	From their exploratory study, they proposed some location factors.	- Social factors - Political factors - Economic factors - Legal factors - Proximity factors
(Elhasbi et al. 2015)	Exploratory research confirms that the geographical proximity of a territory and the proximity of industrial zones influence the decision-making of managers.	Proximity factors
(Yüksel 2012) Economic, Socio-cultural, Technological, Environment and Legal	In his article, the author puts forward PESTEL factors and sub-factors.	PESTEL factors

Source : Authors’ own analysis.

## PROXIMITY FACTORS

Originally, the space in economic theory is not thick, only generating transportation costs. According to Marshall, territory emerges when the interactions between activities make location decisions become interdependent. The role of space as a generator of economic benefits is then analyzed according to whether geographical proximity may or may not be combined with other forms of proximity between economic agents to facilitate coordination (Zimmermann 2008).

Several current empirical situations show that geographical proximity is a component of the strategy of economic actors (Talbot 2009). At the time of our exploratory research (Elhasbi et al. 2015), 26% of interviewed leaders of foreign companies stated that proximity to the poles of competitiveness and to customer demand was seen as a business location factor.

There are several concepts of proximity. According to Rallet and Torre (2004), the concept of proximity is divided into two dimensions: proximity of a spatial type and a non-spatial type proximity which is also divided into institutional proximity and organizational proximity. On the other hand, Jean-Benoît Zimmermann (2008) divides the concept of proximity into three dimensions: an institutional dimension, an organizational dimension and a geographic dimension.

## THE PESTEL MODEL

Globalization and the development of new information and communications technology (ICT) have limited the importance of borders and distance between countries thus increasing competition among companies internationally. These new conditions are driving companies to integrate the analysis of the business environment among the decision-making tools for choosing a new location. A review of the literature reveals several approaches and macro environment analysis tools (Lynch 2009).

In our article, we have used the PESTEL analysis model (Political, Economic, Socio-cultural, Technological, Ecological and Legal).

## PESTEL ANALYSIS

PESTEL analysis is indeed a diagnosis of an organization's environment in order to use this information to guide strategic decision-making. The assumption is that if the organization is able to control the current environment and evaluate potential changes, it will be better to have the appropriate information so that it is well positioned with respect to its competitors in order to respond to changes (Buchanan and Gibb 1998).

In his article, Yüksel (2012) Economic, Socio-cultural, Technological, Environment and Legal has listed a synthesis of several names (definitions) of the PESTEL analysis such as PEST, STEP, SEPT, and STEPE. The original form of PESTEL was first conceived by Aguilar SPTO (social, political, technical, and economic). Then, it was reformulated "STEP" by Arnold Brown Institute of Life Insurance so as to be used in the strategic assessment of trends. The legal factor was introduced to the model in 1980. Today, the PESTEL analysis is used in different fields, particularly in the analysis of business environment and territory (Katko 2006; Richardson 2006; Shilei and Yong 2009). The PESTEL factors are usually measured with sub-factors (Items) and they have different weights and meanings.

In our research, we will use statistical analyses to examine the causal links between different factors of our conceptual model, which was established on the basis of our general hypothesis: Political, Economic, Sociocultural, Technological, Ecological, Legal and Proximity have a significant influence on the territorial attractiveness of the city of Tangier.

## RESEARCH MODEL AND ASSUMPTIONS

We intend to examine our conceptual model by analysing the causal links between the dependent variables and the dependent variable. For each causal relationship, we have formulated a hypothesis.

THE AIM OF OUR RESEARCH

The ultimate objective of our research is to propose a conceptual model of the factors of attractiveness typical to the Mediterranean cities and in particular to the city of Tangier by examining the causal links between these factors. Our model (Figure 1) is built from syntheses carried out in mainstream approaches presented above, and on the other hand, based on the PESTEL model used by organizations for the macro-analysis by adding the proximity factor (geographical position, proximity to Europe, proximity to Africa). If note explained above, explain here why you add this factor.

Figure 1: Assumptions of a new conceptual model PESTELP

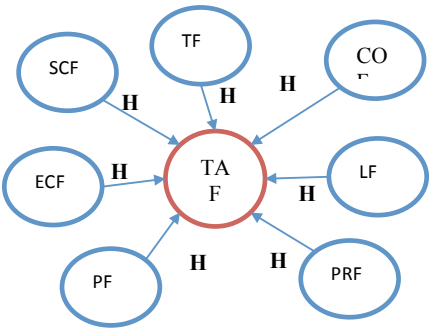


Table 2: Coding of variables in the model

	Variable	Code	Type de variables
1	Political factor	PF	explicative
2	Economic factor	ECF	explicative
3	Socio-cultural factor	SCF	explicative
4	Technological factor	TF	explicative
5	Eco Factor	COF	explicative
6	Legal Factor	LF	explicative
7	Proximity factor	PRF	explicative
8	Territorial Attractiveness	TAF	To-be explained

Source: Authors’ own analysis.



Our model (Figure 1) intends to explain the territorial attractiveness of manufacturing and logistics activities based on eight constructs (Figure 2) which represent the explanatory variables (political factor, economic factor, socio-cultural factor, technological factor, ecological factor, legal factor, proximity factor and the would-be explained variable “territorial attractiveness”).

The overall hypothesis (OH) of our research is “all the ‘PESTELP’ factors influence significantly the territorial attractiveness of the city of Tangier to foreign manufacturing and logistics companies”. To verify the causal links between the PESTELP factors of our model with regard to the variable to-be-explained “territorial attractiveness (TA)”, we will postulate and test the following hypotheses (Table 3).

Table 3: Recap of the study hypotheses

Hypothèses	
Relationship between Political Factor and Territorial Attractiveness	
H1	Political Factor has a positive and significant effect on Territorial Attractiveness
Relationship between Economic Factor and Territorial Attractiveness	
H2	Economic Factor has a positive and significant effect on Territorial Attractiveness
Relationship between Socio-cultural Factor and Territorial Attractiveness	
H3	Socio-cultural Factor has a positive and significant effect on Territorial Attractiveness
Relationship between Technological Factor and Territorial Attractiveness	
H4	Technological Factor has a positive and significant effect on Territorial Attractiveness
Relationship between Eco Factor and Territorial Attractiveness	
H5	Ecological Factor has a positive and significant effect on Territorial Attractiveness
Relationship between Legal Factor and Territorial Attractiveness	
H6	Legal Factor has a positive and significant effect on Territorial Attractiveness
Relationship between Proximity Factor and Territorial Attractiveness	
H7	Proximity Factor has a positive and significant effect on Territorial Attractiveness



## METHODOLOGICAL FRAMEWORK OF RESEARCH

As part of our research, we have conducted an empirical study “face to face interview” with the leaders of foreign manufacturing and logistics companies based in the city of Tangier. To measure our assumptions, we have developed a questionnaire using Likert scale. Indeed, the questionnaire is considered as a tool for collecting quantitative data and mechanism of instrumentation of the assumptions (Giordano and Alain 2012). In the first page of our questionnaire, we have devoted a few lines to the explanation of the aim of the survey before proceeding to the various questions thereof.

## SAMPLE SELECTION

Sampling was selected to ensure representation of manufacturing and logistics companies in the city of Tangier. We conducted our survey between August 2014 and April 2015 with 120 leaders of foreign manufacturing and logistics companies that were set up in Tangier between 2007 and 2015. We chose this period because Morocco has launched, since 2007, several national and regional strategies to stimulate foreign investments (emergence programme, logistical strategy, etc). The administration of the questionnaire was very difficult because we have chosen as a target; the managers of foreign companies. The latter rarely find time for an interview. Despite all the obstacles, we were able to complete 80 questionnaires but of which only 57 being usable. This represents a 48% response rate.

## DEFINITION OF THE METHOD OF STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

The Structural Equation Modelling (SEM) is a method to define complex interacting systems (Fernandes 2012) and it allows studying the causal connections between multiple latent variables. These variables represent a concept but we can only measure them with manifest variables (MV) (Roussel et al. 2002). MES is used for the generalisation of many classic



models such as principal components analysis, factor analysis, and canonical analysis. We meet these statistical models in several research fields (Jakobowicz 2007) especially in the marketing field to construct satisfaction indicators (Clémence 2004). This type of modelling is thus important to test the hypotheses of our conceptual model. There are two methods of modeling via (MES) for estimating the existing relationships between the constructs : the LISREL method and the PLS method (Lacroux 2009).

The PLS approach is a regression analysis method of latent variables with their indicators and latent variables among themselves. It was developed by Herman Wold (M. Tenenhaus 1999) and mainly used for the analysis of small samples (observations) and several variables. It became operational with the development of PLS 1.8 software (Fernandes 2012).

We have chosen for our exploratory research the PLS approach because it is adapted to the development of theories and prediction, and to predictive causal analyses in complex situations and with weak theoretical information (Zaied and Ramzi 2012). With the PLS approach, the construct is defined as a composite variable (CV) and does not include the measurement error (Tensaout 2016).

$$VC = w_1X_1 + w_2X_2 + w_3X_3 + \dots + w_nX_n$$

Knowing that:

- (VC) variable to be explained (dependent variable).
- $x_1$  à  $x_n$  represent the n variables which have an influence on (VC).
- The values  $w_1$  à  $w_n$  are the parameters of the model and represent the relations between variables.

A structural PLS model is described by two sub-models (Addinsoft 2011):

1. The measurement model (or external model) connecting the manifest (observed) variables with the latent variables associated with them.
2. And the structural model (or internal model) connecting the endogenous-called latent variables to other latent variables.



Several software's have been developed to operationalize the PLS approach such as PLSGRAPH, LVPLS, SMARTPLS, and XLSTAT that we have chosen to analyze the data from our survey.

## MEASUREMENT AND EVALUATION OF THE MEASUREMENT MODEL

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The research model includes seven explanatory latent variables and a latent variable to be explained (Error! Reference source not found.). These variables are measured by manifest variables operationalized by several items. For our reflective model, each manifest variable is associated with a latent variable by a simple linear regression equation (Jakobowicz 2010):

$$x_h = \pi_{h0} + \xi\pi_h + \varepsilon_h$$

Knowing that  $\xi$  has an average  $m$  and a standard deviation 1. The only assumption required in this case is:

$$E(x_h | \xi) = \pi_{h0} + \xi\pi_h$$

Hence the remainder  $\varepsilon_h$  has a mean of 0 and is not correlated with the latent variable  $\xi$ . The first step to take is the verification of the one-dimensional feature of the blocks (Addinsoft 2011). To verify this, three main tools exist: 1) Principal components analysis of a block, 2) Cronbach's Alpha and 3) the Rho of Dillon-Goldstein.

### a. Principal components analysis of a block

A block is said to be one-dimensional when the first proper value of the matrix of correlation between the manifest variables of the block is greater than 1 and the second is smaller than 1 or at least much smaller than the first (Addinsoft 2011).

Table 4 shows the results of the verification of dimensionality, we notice that all the first proper values are greater than 1 (and higher than the second) which means that the manifest variables actually reflect their latent variables).

Table 4 : Proper values of latent variables of the causal model

PF	ECF	SCF	TF	COF	LF	PRF	TA
1.334	4.472	2.936	1.805	4.281	2.696	6.084	7.992
0.462	1.291	0.928	0.252	0.649	0.535	1.616	2.321
0.262	1.009	0.478		0280	0.320	1.131	1.086
	0.679	0.416				0.877	0.882
	0.542	0.220				0.682	0.778
	0.396					0.558	0.512
	0.201					0.309	0.447
						0.200	0.362
							0.256
							0.214
							0.167
							0.133
							0.103
							0.078
							0.073
							0.000

Source: Authors' own analysis.

The error theory (Roehrich 1993) is based on two criteria: reliability and validity.

#### b. Reliability measures

The analyst must validate his questionnaire by testing the measuring instruments used (Hair et al., 1998).

Reliability is the degree of accuracy of a measuring instrument when the same identical result is obtained by repeating the measurement of the same phenomenon several times.

To check the reliability of the measurement instrument, we will use two indicators of Rho of Jöreskog (1971) and Rho of Dillon-Goldstein (Composite reliability) (Dillon and Goldstein 1984) .

To calculate  $\rho(A)$  of Dillon and Goldstein the following formula is used:

$$\rho(A) = \frac{(\sum_{i=1}^p \text{cor}(x_i, t_1))^2}{(\sum_{i=1}^p \text{cor}(x_i, t_1))^2 + (\sum_{i=1}^p (1 - \text{cor}^2(x_i, t_1)))}$$

With, the X matrix, the columns  $x_i$  represents the P variables associated with the block. The first principal components of the principal components analysis performed on the X matrix are noted down  $t_1, t_2, \dots$

From the results of our analysis (Table 5), the indices, Cronbach's alpha and Rho, that we have calculated for each latent variable are greater than 0.7. Following the recommendations of (Nunnally and Bernstein 1994) and initiations of (Fornell and Larcker 1981), these results are satisfactory.

Table 5 : Reliability of measures

The latent variables	Items	Cronbach's Alpha	Rho of D. G. (ACP)
PF	3	0.718	0.844
ECF	7	0.843	0.882
SCF	5	0.822	0.876
TF	2	0.858	0.935
COF	3	0.885	0.932
LF	3	0.836	0.904
PRF	8	0.872	0.900
TA	16	0.929	0.939

Source : Authors' own analysis.

### c. The convergent validity

According to (Evrard et al. 2009), convergent validity is used to verify the correlation between items of a scale measuring a construct, and moreover the correlation between the items and the construct to be measured. The validity is convergent when the average variance extracted (AVE) is greater than 0.5 (Evrard and Pras 2009).



To calculate AVE of each latent variable (j), the following formula is used:

$$AVE_i = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^p (\lambda_i^2)}{\sum_{i=1}^p (\lambda_i^2) + \sum_{i=1}^p Var(\xi_i)}$$

$\lambda_i$ : Represents the standardized coefficient of the measure i

$n$ : Represents the number of observed variables

$\xi_i$ : Represents the measurement error of i

According to the results of table 6, we have a measurement model of good convergent validity.

Table 6: Quality index of measurement models

Latent variable	AVE	Rho of D. G
PF	0.55	0.773
ECF	0.52	0.881
SCF	0.53	0.876
TF	0.87	0.932
COF	0.81	0.982
LF	0.75	0.899
PRF	0.53	0.900
TA	0.51	0.943

Source : Authors’ own analysis.

d. Discriminant validity(divergent)

To verify that there is no correlation between the items of a construct with those of another; we will resort to the check of discriminant validity. The check is based on comparing the square root of the average variance extracted (AVE) of each latent variable with the correlation of different latent variables two by two (Chin et al. 2010, 43). According to

Table 7, the square root of the AVE is higher than the correlations between the different dimensions of our model. Therefore,



we can assert the discriminant validity of the concept of latent variables of our model.

Table 7 : Discriminant validity

	PF	ECF	SCF	TF	COF	LF	PRF	TA
PF	0.74*							
ECF	0.237	0.72*						
SCF	0.401	0.220	0.72*					
TF	0.379	0.322	0.144	0.93*			0.025	
COF	0.009	0.001	0.001	0.007	0.90*		0.080	
LF	0.002	0.318	0.022	0.099	0.019	0.87*	0.174	
PRF	0.058	0.355	0.066				0.73*	
TA	0.164	0.557	0.228	0.318	0.054	0.163	0.359	0.71*

\* The square root of the AVE (Zait and Bertea 2011).

Source: Authors' own analysis.

Based on previous analyses of (Cronbach's Alpha and Rho of Dillon-Goldstein (Rho of D.G)), the proper value and discriminant validity, we confirm the validity of our measurement model (external).

#### e. Validation of the internal structural model with PLS

The validation of the internal structural model with PLS is carried out with the following indicators:

Goodness of Fit index (GoF) for the model quality

Using the PLS approach, we must determine the quality of the model by calculating, the adjustment index, Goodness of Fit index (GoF) (Michel Tenenhaus et al. 2005)

$$\text{GoF} = (\sqrt{\text{Mean AVE} * \text{Mean R}^2}).$$

According to Latan and Ghazali (Latan and Ghazali 2012), there are three values of quality level of GoF: low quality (GoF 0.10), medium quality (GoF 0.25) and high quality (GoF 0.36). To validate a research model requires that the index is higher

than 0.5 (Wetzels et al. 2009). According to our results (Table 8) GoF = 0.63, therefore, our research model is maintained.

Table 8 : Ajustement indices

	GoF	GoF (Bootstrap)
Absolute	0.626	0.644
Relative	0.820	0.738
External model	0.981	0.958
Internal model	0.836	0.770

*\*The coefficient of determination ( $R^2$ )*

*Source: Authors' own analysis.*

The determination coefficient  $R^2$  is used to evaluate the internal model. It is calculated for each endogenous variable and it is used to get an idea on the contribution of each endogenous variable in predicting the exogenous one.

According to Chin (Henseler and Wang 2010), the usual values of  $R^2$  are 0.67 (substantial), 0.33 (moderate) and 0.19 (low).  $R^2$  result of our model is:  $R^2 = 0.69$ . From this, we can conclude that  $R^2$  is substantial and the model is significant.

- Size effect of  $R^2$  ( $f^2$ ) (weight of latent variables)

To calculate the weight of each endogenous variable we will be interested in size effect ( $f^2$ ). This index is used to measure the impact of a manifest variable in the explanation of an endogenous latent variable. The size effect indicates the degree to which a given phenomenon is present in the population. According to Cohen (1988)(Cohen 1988), the usual  $f^2$  values are 0.02 (low effect), 0.15 (moderate effect) and 0.35 (high effect).

According to the results presented in Table 9, all the latent variables have a large effect magnitude except  $f^2$  associated with links  $ECF \rightarrow TA$ ,  $SCF \rightarrow TA$ ,  $TF \rightarrow TA$ ,  $PRF \rightarrow TA$  that have low effect sizes.

The results of our survey clearly show the validity of the measurement model (external) and that of the structural model (internal).

#### STRUCTURAL EQUATIONS OF THE CONCEPTUAL MODEL

Our model consists of seven exogenous variables: political factor (PF); economic factor (ECF), socio-cultural factor (SCF), technological factor (TF), ecological factor (COF), legal factor (LF) and proximity factor (RPF). Since we have only one endogenous variable, we can write our model using the following equation:

$$AT=a_1FP + a_2 FEC + a_3FSC + a_4FPR + a_5FT + a_6FCO + a_7FL$$

The model has seven equations that we tested using the PLS approach through the Version 2015 of XL-STAT software. These structural equations of the conceptual model are presented as follows:

- PF = -0.228 \* TA
- ECF = 0.465 \* TA
- SCF = 0.230 \* TA
- TF = 0.339 \* TA
- COF= -0.154 \* TA
- LF = -0.106 \* TA
- PRF = 0.256 \* TA

#### TESTING OF ASSUMPTIONS

According to Figure1, we can confirm the validity of the hypotheses (H2, H3, H4, H7) (P-value <5%).

Table 9 : Research hypotheses testing

Causality	Path Coefficient	P-value	Size Effect f2	T of Student	Validation of assumptions
H1 PF → TA	-0.228	0.099	0.063	-1.682	Not Validated
H2 ECF→TA	0.465	0.002	0.225	3.183	Validated
H3 SCF→TA	0.230	0.045	0.094	2.058	Validated

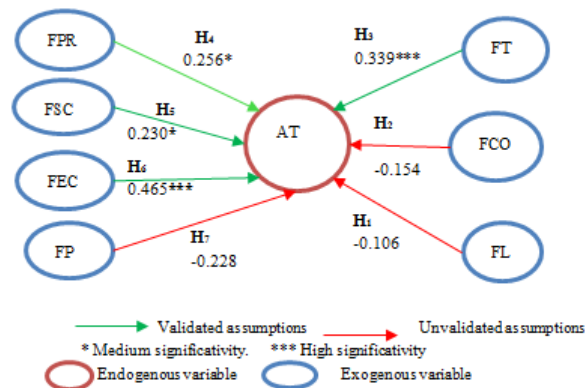
H4	TF→TA	0.339	0.008	0.169	2.758	Validated
H5	COF→TA	-0.154	0.089	0.067	-1.731	Not Validated
H6	LF →TA	-0.106	0.336	0.021	-0.972	Not Validated
H7	PRF→ TA	0.256	0.030	0.111	2.232	Validated

Source : Authors' own analysis

The figure below illustrates the final model estimated by the PLS approach.

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Figure 2: Final model estimated by the PLS approach



Source: Authors' own analysis.

## ANALYSIS OF RESULTS

Our empirical study aims at testing the influence of industrial location factors on territorial attractiveness (case of Tangier Morocco).

Based on the results of Table 9, Figure 2 and the structural equations of section 4.4, we conclude that the subsequent exogenous latent variables:

- 'ECF': (path coefficient = 0.465,  $f^2 = 0.225$ ,  $t = 3.183$ ,  $p\text{-value} = 0.002$ );
- 'SCF': (path coefficient = 0.230,  $f^2 = 0.094$ ,  $t = 2.058$ ,  $p\text{-value} = 0.045$ );

- 'TF': (path coefficient = 0.339, f2= 0.169, t=2.758, p-value=0.339);
- 'PRF': (path coefficient = 0.256, f2= 0.111, t=2.232, p-value=0.030).

have a positive and statistically significant influence on 'territorial attractiveness'. The exogenous latent variables:

- 'PF': (path coefficient = -0.228, f2= 0.063, t=-1.682, p-value=0.099);
- 'COF': (path coefficient = -0.154, f2= 0.067, t=-1.731, p-value=0.089);
- 'LF': (path coefficient = -0.106, f2= 0.021, t=-0.972, p-value=0.336);
- 'PF' and 'COF' and 'LF' have a negative and statistically insignificant influence on 'territorial attractiveness'.

In this study we have used the structural equations and particularly the PLS approach to explore the causal links between the constructs that have been postulated and tested. The link between territorial attractiveness and PESTELP factors considered is represented in the model of Figure 2. Therefore, given the structural diagram, the determination of territorial attractiveness (TA) is in the form of structural model equation:

$$TA = -0.228*PF + 0.465*ECF + 0.230*SCF + 0.339*TF - 0.154*COF - 0.106*LF + 0.256*PRF$$

## CONCLUSION

This article scrutinizes the factors of territorial attractiveness influencing the location of manufacturing and logistics companies in the city of Tangier. Using a PESTEL strategic analysis tool and an exploratory study (face-to-face interview), we were keen to empirically explain the factors that actually attract manufacturing and logistics companies to the city of Tangier.

We have adopted a statistical analysis approach to verify the existence of causal connections between the different PESTELP factors and the endogenous variable 'territorial attractiveness'

which were measured by a questionnaire on the scale of Likert. From the results of our research, we can conclude that the proximity factor, the socio-cultural factor, the economic factor and the technological factor have a positive influence on the territorial attractiveness of manufacturing and logistics activities in the city of Tangier. On the other hand, the legal factor, the environmental factor and the political factor do not have a significant influence in the decision of choosing the city of Tangier for the location of their businesses.

Our conceptual model shows that public and private actors of the city of Tangier must create an observatory to measure, control and adjust the industrial attractiveness of the city of Tangier by ensuring watchfulness on innovative measures of attractiveness developed by other cities in the world. In addition, it should be necessary to stimulate the development of a local industry in partnership with foreign firms in order to ensure the transfer of technology and also increase the integration rate of locally manufactured products. These actions might improve the attractiveness of the city of Tangier and thus potentially contribute to the reduction of the unemployment rate.

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# The Impact of Public Debt on the Economic Growth for the Gulf Cooperation Council Countries

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In this paper, I study the government debt to GDP ratio impact on per-capita GDP growth rate for six Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries, namely, Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and UAE over a period of about 23 years starting in 1990. Some light has shed on the European Union (EU) relationship with the GCC for better economic growth. The test results are consistent with some studies in literature that proved a negative correlation between public debt and nation's economic growth above certain threshold although this threshold is not standard. Public debt for the GCC countries has different effects on per capita GDP growth varying from country to country due to the variation in a number of different factors. The main finding of this study shows that country government debt and macroeconomic determinants have varied impacts on per capita GDP growth for various countries based mainly on their government debt ratios.

*Key words:* government debt, public debt, economic growth.

## INTRODUCTION

Government debt to GDP ratios increased considerably over the past years in most developed and mainly emergent economies which lead to various impacts on economic growth. In this paper, we study the impact of government debt to GDP ratio on per-capita GDP growth rate for six GCC (Gulf Cooperation Council) countries, namely, Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and UAE over a period of about 23 years starting in 1990. The Gulf Cooperation Council, as an integrating region in the Middle East, established in 1981 in order to reach an economic and monetary integration of six GCC countries—Saudi



Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain, and Oman. These regional integrating members share same economic structure as oil exporters beside the similarities in culture. Nowadays, in the globalized world virtual borders are present so that the Middle East European neighborhood is a matter to study economically. The most stable multilateral Middle Eastern organization is the GCC, beside the GCC member states role in securing the global and European financial system because of their sovereign wealth funds. Therefore, it is important to highlight on the relationship between the European Union and GCC partnership.

For these countries, government debt increased inconsistently during the last decades. While the government debt to GDP ratio has increased in all tested countries from 1990 to 2014, Kuwait was an exception that showed a sharp increase in 1991 reached 203% of GDP then started to decrease gradually to reach 7% of GDP in 2014. For some countries, such as Saudi Arabia and Kuwait public debt and economic growth showed a negative relationship with higher public debt and lower economic growth, while for other countries the results were more synchronised where higher government debt to GDP ratio was accompanied by increase in economic growth. Simply we can say, for all tested countries, the case of higher government debt to GDP ratio and lower economic growth are for countries with high government debt to GDP mean. The reasons for the increase in public debt are important issues to be explained in order to check its economic impacts and thus for building up the government's economic and fiscal strategies. Reinhart and Rogoff (2010) argue that peacetime debt is more complicated for future economic growth compared to wartime debt explosions.

One of the important questions related to the economic integration for the GCC countries is their public debt to GDP ratio. An increase in the public debt-to-GDP ratio, *ceteris paribus*, has accompanied with a decline in the economic growth rate. Theoretically, this relationship proved to have a non-linear impact where it turned to negative only after a certain threshold. In this paper, this non-linear relationship between government debt and economic growth has tested between the GCC

countries that have different public debt to GDP ratios, taking into consideration other macroeconomic and debt variables. Most GCC policymakers try to reduce their country's public debt ratios thinking that high government debt would decrease long-run economic growth. However, the government debt ratio negative impact on long-run economic growth is considerably consistent with the neoclassical and endogenous growth models (Diamond 1965; Saint Paul 1992). Although, other beliefs that government debt affects the public expenditures productivity which could have a higher negative effect on economic growth (Teles and Cesar Mussolini 2014). In the same vein, high government debt could increase uncertainty of future financial repression (Cochrane 2011), and increase sovereign risk (Codogno et al. 2003), and it would lead to lower private investment and higher real interest rates (Tanzi and Chalk 2000; Laubach 2009). However, it is recommended to build up different scenarios or policies related to expansionary fiscal policies by avoiding economic recessions risks this would have to have a positive effect on both short and long-term economic growth (DeLong and Summers 2012).

In recent empirical study of Reinhart and Rogoff (2010) found that government debt and economic growth generally have a weak relationship for countries with government debt below 90% of GDP while government debt can have adverse consequences on economic growth for countries with debt-to-GDP above 90%. The 90% threshold value of Reinhart and Rogoff (2010) have attempted to provide a formal test by other studies, for example, Cecchetti et al. (2011b) employ the threshold regression of Hansen (2000) to estimate public debt thresholds. Cecchetti et al. (2011b) tested the effects of public debt on economic growth for 18 OECD countries from 1980 to 2010 using a new dataset on debt levels. Their results showed that government debt affect economic growth negatively when it is above 85% of GDP. However, Caner et al. (2010) using data for a larger set of countries from 1980 to 2008 based on threshold regression methods find that the critical level of debt where it starts to affect negatively the economic growth is at a threshold of 77% public debt-to-GDP ratio. In the same vein, Minea and Parent (2012) found that there

is a negative effect of public debt on economic growth when the level of debt to GDP is between 90% and 115% by employing the panel smooth threshold regression model.

The recent financial crisis and economic recession in 2008 has resulted in serious economic problems for many regions and countries, some countries succeed to make a smooth economic reform during the last few years. This crisis affects most of the major macroeconomic variables like the increasing unemployment rate and climbing budget deficits, while most remarkable variable was the public debt that rapidly increased since 2008 worldwide. The Middle East region, more precisely the GCC states, is one of the regions most affected by debt due to their economic structure as oil dependent integrating economies. This crisis had a great effect on most of the GCC overall economies, since their governments worked hardly to peruse a stable public finance sector. Therefore, it is important to study the GCC government debt and other macroeconomic indicators for economic growth.

In studying the impact of public debt on per capita GDP growth rate for the GCC countries in this paper, I start by providing a theoretical and empirical literature review on the impact of government debt on economic growth. Then, I introduce the econometric model as a multi-regression relationship for the economic growth and government debt including other control variables after presenting the European Union –GCC partnership. Finally, I conclude the article with section data description empirical findings.

## LITERATURE REVIEW

The empirical study on the government debt impact on economic growth is taking more attention mainly for the developed economies and much less for emergent economies. The theoretical literature focused on the negative relationship between the public debt to GDP ratio and GDP per capita growth rate (Saint-Paul 1992; Aizenman et al. 2007). Other growth models concluded that there could be a possible positive impact for the public debt on the economic growth during the different stages of debt structure, based on where the debt is financed (Aizenman et al. 2007)

or when it reached a certain limit in financing a productive public capital (Aschauer 2000). The empirical studies on the impact of the government debt on economic growth recently are recently focusing on developing countries, while studies over the Middle East region mainly the GCC countries are mainly absent.

Reinhart and Rogoff (2010), using simple correlation for a sample of 20 developed countries from 1790 to 2009, studied the changes of public debt and the long-term real GDP growth rate. They noticed that there is a negative impact on government debt to GDP ratios on the long-term growth for the debt to GDP ratios below a threshold of 90% while above this threshold the median for the economic growth rate decreases by one percent point. In a sample of emerging and advanced economies, Kumar and Woo (2010) showed a linear inverse relationship between initial debt and subsequent growth. For the whole sample of emerging and developed countries, they also find a significant negative effect of public debt on economic growth at high public debt levels above 90 per cent of GDP, which is an evidence of nonlinearity.

The *theoretical approaches* to the impact of government debt and economic growth directed more toward a negative sign. In a neoclassical setting, growth models showed a negative relationship between government debt and economic growth, which raised with public debt, issued to finance consumption or capital goods. Modigliani (1961), based on Meade (1958), stated that the government debt is a huge load for next generations due to the reduction on the flow of income from a private capital. Modigliani considered the gross load of government debt might be, when the debt is financing government expenditure that affect the real income of the next generations, mainly productive public capital formation. Several empirical and theoretical contributions studied on the impact of external debt on the economic growth and the reasons that rises this impact. In this context, Krugman (1988) mentioned the term of “debt overhang” which reflect the case of a country’s expectation for an external debt repayment ability that falls below the original value of debt. The theoretical model of Cohen’s (1993) confirm the existence of a non-linear foreign borrowing impact on investment and thus on economic growth. Continuously, *external debt* accumulation

can promote investment up to a certain threshold, while beyond this threshold the debt overhang will state showing negative pressure on investors as main capital providers.

The *empirical research* on the relationship between the public debt and the economic growth has mainly focused on the relationship between external public debt and economic growth in developing countries. Accordingly, several recent studies have shown a non-linear impact of external debt on economic growth, with deviated effects for high public debt ratios mainly after a certain threshold debt to GDP ratio. Pattillo et al. (2002) found a negative impact for external debt on per-capita GDP growth, for public debt levels above 35-40% of GDP as net present value. They used in their test a panel dataset of 93 developing countries from 1969 to 1998. Similarly, Clements et al. (2003), using a panel dataset of 55 low-income countries from 1970 to 1999, investigated the relationship between the external debt and per-capita GDP growth and found that the turning point is above 20-25% of GDP also as net present value of external debt. Smyth and Hsing (1995) and Cohen (1997), as empirical studies also found a non-linear effect of external debt on economic growth. However, Schclarek (2004), using a panel of 59 developing countries from 1970 to 2002 found a linear negative impact of external debt on per-capita growth.

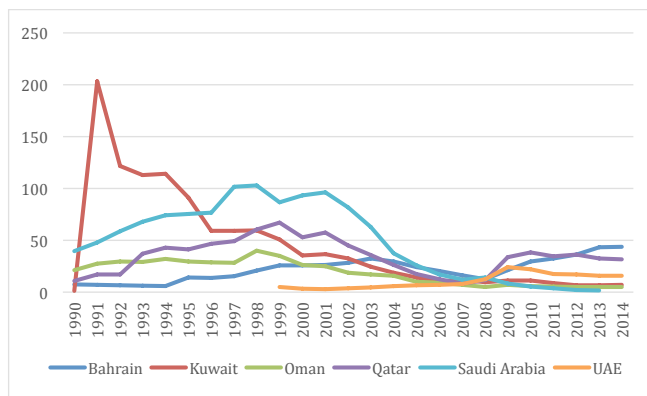
## RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

In this research the dataset used was build up using mainly WDI statistics. In total six countries were selected: Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, Oman, Saudi Arabia, and UAE. The criteria for country selection were the integration process that gather these countries and off course the availability of data.

Dataset gathered according to countries' specific factors beside the availability of data focusing on the debt variables, such as government debt to GDP and private debt. Other macroeconomic indicators selected according to the availability of data. These indicators are: trade openness, population growth, foreign direct investment that could have an important effect on economic growth, inflation rate due to the important influence

on the economic growth, current account balance that reflect on the country's deficit or surplus, and finally the national saving to GDP that could have a certain effect on investment and thus on economic growth. Data ranging from year 1990 until year 2014 used for the research – in total 23 yearly observations for each except for UAE 13 observations due to the availability of data mainly the trade openness (Figure 1). Therefore, we present a short overview about the GCC countries economic growth and the public debt for each and the EU-GCC partnership before we present and apply the model.

Figure 1: GCC countries public debt to GDP from 1990 to 2014



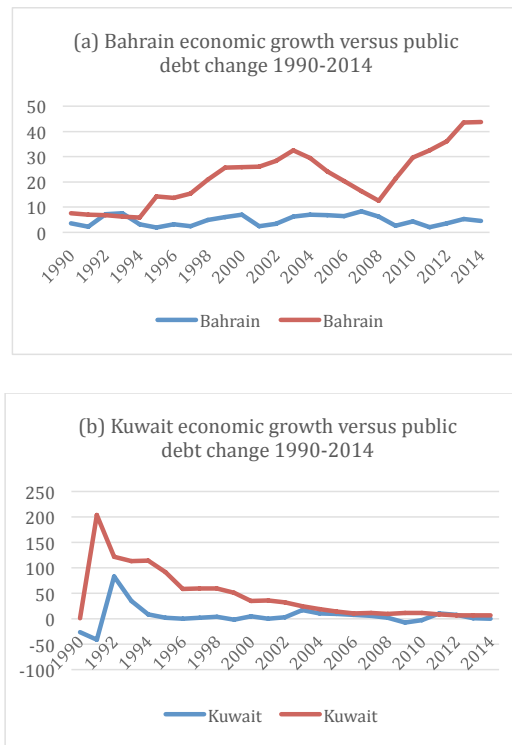
Source: IMF-WDI 1990-2014 country reports

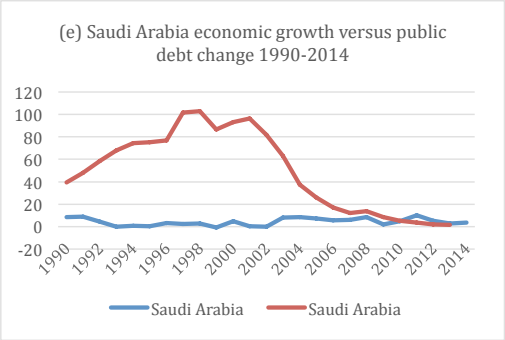
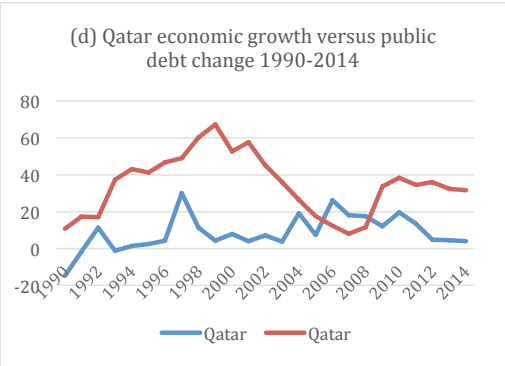
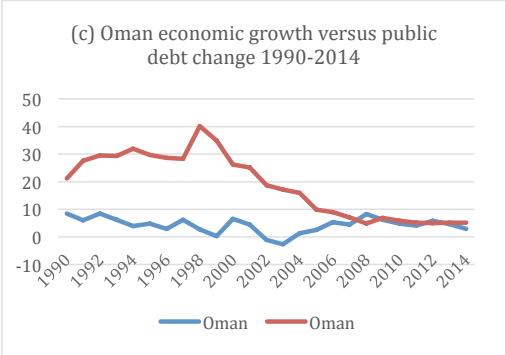
## ECONOMIC GROWTH AND PUBLIC DEBT IN GCC

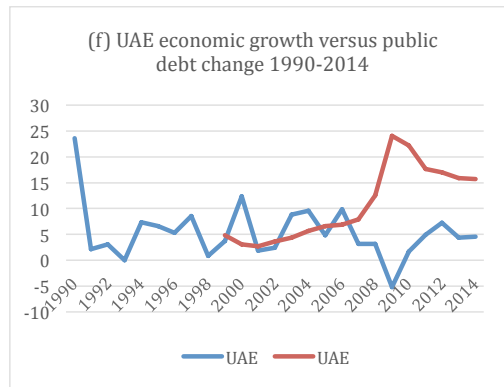
The economic growth and the public debt for each of the GCC countries are not moving homogenously as shown in Figures 1. Bahrain economic growth was moving smoothly with highest rate in 2008 8% afterwards the public debt increased to reach 43% of GDP in 2014 (Figure 2, (a)). Kuwait showed a big decline by 26 and 41% in its economy accompanied with highest public debt level about 200% of GDP between 1990 and 1991, which is due to Kuwait Iraq war. Afterward, in 1992, the Kuwait economy started to recover and showed high economic growth by reaching 80%

while public debt started to decrease and reached 6% of GDP in 2014 (Figure 2, (b)). Oman and Qatar public debt started to decline in 200 and their economic growth was moving smoothly for Oman and fluctuating for Qatar (Figure 2, (c), (d)). Saudi Arabia showed highest public debt rate in 1998 and 1999 then this level decreased gradually to reach 1.5% of GDP in 2013. This is the result of higher government revenue from oil production. The considered for United Arab Emirates was from 1999 to 2014 and because of this limitation in data availability no big variation either to the economic growth or for the public debt registered (figure 2, (e)). Therefore, we will test the factors affecting the economic growth for each country focusing mainly on the public debt.

Figure 2: GCC countries economic growth versus public debt to GDP







Source: IMF WDI 1990-2014 country reports

#### EUROPEAN UNION – GCC PARTNERSHIP

In 1995, Barcelona Conference launched the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership. However, in 1990, European Union-GCC Cooperation Agreement presented three basic objectives: mainly European Union-GCC institutional framework, better economic cooperation, and push development in the GCC countries.

Recently, the GCC region has considered as the most stable regional organization based on multilateralism and cooperation. Facing the latest financial crisis Gulf sovereign wealth funds used to help in rescuing the European financial system. Therefore, a deep study for the European Union-GCC partnership must be launched for better economic growth for all parties. Accordingly, the European Union need to develop a strong strategy to encourage their bilateral relations with GCC member states and to support the GCC regional integration process based on their experience (Saleh 1999). Unfortunately, the European Union-GCC partnership is still weak due to different reasons: mainly due to their common interest in energy sector; to low degree of 'Europeanization' towards the GCC countries; and to lower degree of institutionalisation.

## MODEL AND DATA

The dataset used in the study collected mainly from IMF and WDI statistics. The dataset used for testing the impact of the GCC countries government debt on their economic growth composed mainly on the debt and non-debt variables. These variables selected based on their reliance and on the availability of yearly data like the public debt, private debt trade openness, national saving, the current account balance, Population growth, foreign direct investment, and finally Inflation rate due to their important influence on the economic growth. Data ranging from year 1990 until year 2014 used in this study in 24 yearly observations where it is limited due to the availability of data.

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The research multiple linear regression equation model consists of one dependent and nine independent variables for the time period  $t$ , which equals 24 periods. The model equation is as follows:

$$gGDP_t = \alpha + \beta_1 PDBT_t + \beta_2 NSAV_t + \beta_3 PD_t + \beta_4 LN(GDP/Cap)_t + \beta_5 PP_t + \beta_6 FDI_t + \beta_7 OPN_t + \beta_8 CAB_t + \beta_9 INF_t + \varepsilon_t \quad (2)$$

Consider the following:  $\alpha$  is a constant variable;  $\beta$  is the regression coefficients;  $\varepsilon_t$  is the error term.

*The model dependent variable at the time  $t$  is:*  $gGDP_t$  represents the growth rate for the gross domestic product used as a percentage change for the GDP at current prices in US dollars;

*The model independent variables at the time  $t$  are:*

- $PDBT_t$  (General government gross debt to GDP) is defined as the total gross debt at the end of each year
- $NSAV_t$  (national saving to GDP) is calculated as total national and dividing it by GDP.
- $OPN_t$  (openness) has calculated as trade of goods and services divided by GDP.
- $PD_t$  (private debt) is the calculated as the domestic credit to private sector as percentage of GDP.
- $PP_t$  (population growth rate) has calculated as the annual percentage change in nation's population.
- $FDI_t$  (foreign direct investment) is the net inflow of foreign direct investment to GDP ratio



- CABt (Current Account Balance to GDP) is the current account balance divided by GDP.
- INFt (inflation average CPI) has calculated as the percentage change in the annual CPI.
- LN(GDP/Cap) (log of GDP per capita) is the natural logarithm for annual GDP per capita.

The main hypotheses to be tested in this model is that the government debt to GDP ratio has a significant positive effect in countries with relatively low ratio as it is studied and analyzed in the literature.

## EMPIRICAL RESULTS

We test the impact of the 6 GCC countries' government debt to GDP ratio on GDP per capita growth rate in a sample of 6 GCC countries, namely, Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and UAE. Basic data comes from IMF mainly WDI database covering primarily the period 1990–2014. Adjusted R square and Durbin-Watson test results for GCC countries registered respectively at Table 1.

Table 1: Econometric test results

	Bahrain	Kuwait	Oman	Qatar	Saudi Arabia	UAE
Durbin-Watson	1.859	1.505	2.709	2.123	2.132	1.962
R Square	.777	.613	.814	.688	.685	.908
Adjusted R Square	.673	.345	.685	.375	.482	.447
Sig.	.001	.085	.002	.128	.021	.383
F	7.465	2.288	6.305	2.200	3.376	1.972
Number of observations	23	23	23	19	24	13
Public debt mean	19.9267	48.2677	19.9007	37.7552	49.6872	12.308

Source: own calculation



Table 2: Significance level for each variable for each country

Variable	Bahrain	Kuwait	Oman	Qatar	Saudi Arabia	UAE
Public debt to GDP	.018	.419	.012	.618	.747	.855
national saving to GDP	.050	.023	.114	.785	.824	.781
population	.000	.348	.015	.193	.492	.646
trade to GDP	.003	.519	.366	.052	.356	.650
Domestic credit to private sector (% of GDP)	NA	.096	.008	.185	.018	.770
Current account balance to GDP	.724	.050	.311	.627	.468	.923
inflation average CPI	NA	.916	.150	.158	.457	.605
FDI net inflow	.178	.575	.277	.635	.729	.822
LNGdpPcap	.230	.377	.052	.041	.872	.839

Note: Bahrain For models with dependent variable GDP Per capita growth rate, the following variables are constants or have missing correlations: Domestic credit to private sector (% of GDP), inflation average. They deleted from the analysis.

Source: own calculation

Table 3: Beta coefficients

Variable	Bahrain	Kuwait	Oman	Qatar	Saudi Arabia	UAE
Public debt to GDP	.783	-.719	1.537	.253	-.254	.393
national saving to GDP	.893	-6.379	.822	.258	.442	-.799
population	-.642	-.336	-.417	-.844	.188	2.036
trade to GDP	.877	-.455	.227	-.825	-.663	-1.971
Domestic credit to private sector (% of GDP)	NA	-.947	-.750	-.709	-1.143	.343
Current account balance to GDP	.105	5.926	.329	-.315	1.086	-.348
inflation average CPI	NA	-.036	.264	.941	.221	-3.882
FDI net inflow	-.268	-.178	-.323	-.274	.149	.870
LNGdpPcap	-.368	.482	1.329	1.555	.136	-.240

Note: Bahrain For models with dependent variable GDP Per capita growth rate, the following variables are constants or have missing correlations: Domestic credit to private sector (% of GDP), inflation average. They deleted from the analysis.

Source: own calculation



Although all countries showed good to acceptable result, Kuwait and Qatar are with adjusted R square 0.345 and 0.375, which is an acceptable result. We notice accordingly that the independent variables used explained by 34.5% and 37.5% of GDP variance. The other countries adjusted R square results are around 0.5 and above. The adjusted R square for Oman and Bahrain equal to 0.685 and 0.673 (see Table 1).

The Durbin-Watson test values are within 1.2 and 2.5 in most cases except for Oman with 2.709, which shows no autocorrelation of residuals. In general, we can notice from the test results the model worked well in all tested countries (see Table 1).

The regression results differ from country to country as shown in table 1. Public debt has positively relationship to the economic growth for Bahrain, Oman, Qatar and UAE and the results showed significance just in Bahrain and Oman. The result showed a negative relation between the public debt and economic growth for Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and statistically insignificant. Bahrain, Oman, Qatar and UAE showed a low to medium public debt percentage to GDP while Kuwait and Saudi Arabia with mean 48.2 and 49.6 showed a relatively high public debt level (see table.1). These results reflect the theoretical finding for Reinhart and Rogoff (2010) that show a weak relationship between government debt and real GDP growth for debt to GDP ratios below 90% threshold. The  $\beta$  coefficient and significance results for each variable used and for each tested country shown in table 3. Private debt results showed a negative relation to economic growth to most of the tested countries except for UAE, which could be justified due to the small number of observation (13 observation), and the results for Bahrain was not registered to the missing correlation and the results were significantly related just in Oman and Saudi Arabia.

## CONCLUSION

The main finding of this paper shows that the different levels of the GCC countries' government debt have a significant impact on their economic growth, positively related for cases of low public debt to GDP and negatively related above certain

threshold. In the test cases, the results reflected the theoretical finding for Reinhart and Rogoff (2010) by taking the 90% of GDP as the threshold. The regression test results differ from country to country as shown in table 1. Public debt has positive relationship to the economic growth for Bahrain, Oman, Qatar and UAE and the results shows significance just for the cases of Bahrain and Oman. The result proves that the public debt in case of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait has a negative impact on their economic growth and is statistically insignificant. Bahrain, Oman, Qatar and UAE show a low to medium public debt percentage to GDP while Kuwait and Saudi Arabia with mean 48.2 and 49.6 expose a relatively high public debt level. In this research, trade openness, private debt, and the other tested variables have different effects on GDP, due to countries' characteristics variations. A recommendation stemming out of this research is that the European Union and GCC member states partnership becomes more pro-active and encourages a bilateral relationship that can provide better economic growth for the Euro-Mediterranean region.

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# Visualizing Emotion and Affect: Visitor Encounters at St. Peter's Basilica

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St. Peter's Basilica is the largest church in the world by both area and volume and its impressive structure generates feelings of awe and reverence in visitors. How do visitors portray these emotive experiences? What spaces within the church do they highlight, and how does the space affect their encounter? Other studies of affect and emotion have examined a variety of spaces, but research on historical religious sites and the ways in which they are experienced by visitors remains limited. This project seeks to contribute to the emerging dialog of affect and emotion by providing a case study analyzing visitor photographs of St. Peter's Basilica. These photographs reveal that visitors commonly document beams of light and the structure's impressive ceiling, suggesting that these elements, more than explicitly religious symbols, are central to the emotional experience of encountering the space.

*Key Words:* geography, religion, emotion, sacred space

## INTRODUCTION

St. Peter's Basilica located in Vatican City is, by some measures, the largest church in the world. It was built at the height of the Renaissance and each year, attracts an estimated 7 million visitors (Orcutt 2016). Although this impressive site is considered to be a sacred space and a pilgrimage destination for Roman Catholics, it is also a destination for non-religious tourists. As with many religious sites that have become tourist destinations, St. Peter's Basilica represents an intersection of the spiritual and the secular, a location that is experienced contemporaneously as sacred and profane. In either case, it has continually inspired meaningful emotional encounters



among visitors who often document their experience using visual media.

St. Peter's Basilica is certainly one of the most impressive examples of Roman Catholic architecture during the Renaissance. Counted among its architects, artists, and designers are some "of the greatest artists of the age, among them Bramante, Michelangelo, Raphael, and Bernini" (Scotti 2007, 19). In a broader Mediterranean context, the Mediterranean basin is the world's largest tourist destination attracting around one-third of all international tourists (UNEP/MAP: *State of the Mediterranean Marine and Coastal Environment* 2012) and the ways in which people experience and interact with the religious and monumental architecture of this region is a worthy object of study. Studies of emotion and affect have grown in a number of different disciplines (see Pile 2010) but examinations of these phenomena from a visual perspective remain limited. The proliferation of smart phone cameras has made the visual documentation of tourist explorations relatively easy and subsequently the sheer volume of freely accessible imagery can aid researchers in understanding the ways in which visitors understand and portray their spatial encounters. In 2011, Flickr announced that it had reached 6 billion uploaded photos (Olivarez-Giles 2011). The billions of openly accessible photographs on this sharing site alone present researchers from a variety of disciplines and from any world region the unprecedented ability to study emotion and affect from a visual perspective.

This project aims to push research forward in the area of affect and emotion by investigating the ways in which people experience, and visually portray the experience, of visiting religious structures. Specifically, this project analyzes visitor experiences at St. Peter's Basilica in Vatican City to determine how affect and emotion factor into their accounts. There are two principle research questions that this project explores. First, how do visitors visually portray their experience at St. Peter's Basilica? Secondly, what spaces within and outside of St. Peter's Basilica do visitors generally represent in their photography? Although St. Peter's Basilica was completed in early the 17<sup>th</sup> century, its monumental architecture is on a scale still unmatched in today's



society. How often do you walk into a single room that is 190 meters (623 feet) long and 45.5 meters (149 feet) high, or stand under a 136 meter high (446 feet) dome (“The Basilica” 2014)? When it was built beginning in the early 16<sup>th</sup> century, the height and splendor of the ceiling were meant to elicit notions of heaven (“History” 2014), and photographs taken by visitors reveal that even today, the splendor of St. Peter’s Basilica remains a sight to behold.

While the impressive structure of St. Peter’s Basilica anecdotally generates feelings of awe and reverence in visitors, but little attention has been given to the tangible ways this space is experienced and portrayed by visitors. What spaces within the church do visitors highlight, and how does the space affect their encounter? Other studies of affect and emotion have examined a variety of modern spaces, from homes to megachurches, and have even investigated virtual spaces, but research on historical religious sites and the ways in which they are experienced by visitors remain limited. This project seeks to contribute to the emerging dialog of affect and emotion by providing a case study as well as a theoretical and methodological foundation upon which future research can proceed.

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## UNDERSTANDING EMOTION, AFFECT, AND PERSONAL EXPERIENCE

Studies of affect and emotion in a religious context have reemerged as a central object of study in a number of different disciplines, to include anthropology (see Bowen 2015), geography (see Finlayson 2012), psychology (see Lee et al. 2012), and religious studies (see Samuels 2010). In these encounters, the participant’s emotional and affective experience becomes centrally important with the researcher commonly relying on in-depth interviews or quantitative surveying and questionnaires. While these studies give needed insight into personal religious experience, there has been little attention given to utilizing other media to uncover the ways in which people portray their own encounters with spiritual spaces.



The ways people interact with and experience spaces can have a significant emotional impact. In exploring the lived experience of Czechoslovakia's 1989 Velvet Revolution, for example, Trnka (2012, 50) found that for participants "being part of the event of the revolution is /---/ evoked not only in terms of its emotional impact /---/ but also by locating the physical self within public spaces that are invested (or in many cases re-invested) with novel political and personal meaning and dramatically enlarged through new connections with the global or European sphere." Though not explicitly focusing on emotion, Premazzi et al. (2013) found a significant emotional component to the ways in which first- and second-generation Egyptians living in Italy were affected by the events of the Arab Spring relating to both their present location and their conceptions of their ethnic homeland. In an editorial on emotional geographies, Davidson and Milligan (2004, 524) noted: "Our attempts to understand emotion or make sense of space are, thus, somewhat circular in nature. We can, perhaps, usefully speak of an emotio-spatial hermeneutic: emotions are understandable - 'sensible' - only in the context of particular places. Likewise, place must be felt [emphasis in original] to make sense." This place-based emotional experience can be explored from a variety of different disciplines and methodological perspectives. Kraftl and Adey (2008, 213), for example, combine architectural analysis and theories of nonrepresentation to undertake a geographic analysis of the experience of being in buildings. They write: "For architects and their buildings to be taken seriously, buildings must be imbued with the power to make a difference to their inhabitants" (ibid.). It is this feeling of being in places that helps explain what drives tourists to explore particular destinations. Why travel to the Mediterranean, for example, instead of simply watching a film about the region? The act of *being in* spaces has a powerful capacity to affect an emotional response.

Being in spaces is a decidedly personal encounter, and thus individual experience becomes centrally important. Within geography, researchers have continually called for a greater attention to the lived religious experience (Holloway 2006; Kong 1990, 2010), and some studies have contributed to this growing

body of research (see Pile 2010). Williams (2016), for example, examined emotional experiences of the spiritual landscapes of Pentecostal worship. Holloway (2006, 182) investigated sensuous experiences in the space of the séance in the nineteenth century spiritualist movement, finding that “wider cultural-political discursive practices were (re)produced and sometimes challenged in the construction of this space.”

If the location of the affective encounter is meaningful, as researchers have continued to find, then what role can modern technology plan in the documentation of that location? If an emotive and affective spiritual encounter is the product of or is inspired by particular places, researchers could then analyze the ways participants document place. As Rose (2016, 2) notes, visual “images are never transparent windows onto the world. They interpret the world; they display it in very particular ways; they represent it” (ibid.). In this way, photographs can be used to peer through the lens, both literal and metaphorical, through which participants viewed their own experience. Furthermore, there is intentionality behind what we decide to visually document and these visual documentations of affective encounters could provide researchers with a tangible representation of personal, emotional experience. This research project seeks to build upon existing literature on emotion and place by providing a new avenue of analysis and insight into how participants document their own experience of encountering spaces.

## METHODOLOGY

For this project, a team of researchers including two undergraduate students queried Flickr, an online photo sharing website, for photographs of St. Peter’s Basilica. Images of St. Peter’s Basilica were tagged using a number of different spellings, including “Saint Peter’s Basilica,” “St. Peter’s Basilica,” and “St Peter’s.” Although other search strings provided a larger set of images, the complete spelling out of “Saint Peter’s Basilica” provided a large set (over 21,000 results) of images that were primarily of St. Peter’s Basilica in Vatican City rather than a number of other St. Peter’s churches and Cathedrals around the world. The students thus ran a simple



search for “Saint Peter’s Basilica,” filtered the images to only include images published under the Creative Commons license (a total of 2,876 photographs), and collected the first 500 results. By filtering only photographs published under the Creative Commons license, we were able to analyze images primarily taken by amateur photographers rather than professionals.

The image URL and caption were imported into Google Sheets to enable collaboration and each image was given a unique identification number. One difficulty students encountered was that Flickr did not always order the photographs the same using the identical search strings on different days. Thus, at times, duplicate photographs were collected. To address this problem, once all 500 image URLs and captions were collected, we sorted and analyzed the list to remove any duplicate URLs. We then confirmed that the images were of indeed of St. Peter’s Basilica in Vatican City and removed any erroneously tagged results. We were then left with 470 unique images of St. Peter’s Basilica.

Each image was hand coded using Google Sheets. The primary investigator and an undergraduate researcher worked to create a list of codes that, following Rose’s (2016) guidelines, clearly connected with the broader cultural context within which the image was situated. Some coding categories were fairly obvious and easy to determine: location (inside or outside), number of people (none, one, two to five, or six or more), camera distance (close up, long, etc.), and camera angle (directly overhead, up, eye level, or down). Other categories were more problematic, however. If a visitor took a picture of the ceiling, for example, was the focus of the image the ceiling itself, a particular decoration on the ceiling, or a light fixture? If a painting of an angel was present in the photograph, was that considered primary content and intentionally photographed or was it tangential to the photographer’s intended focus? In order to begin to address these issues, we created two coding categories: target (referring to the primary architectural focus of the photograph) and primary content (referring to the clearly visible, in-focus symbols or other content that appeared in the central view of the photograph.) We began by analyzing a small sample of the photographs in order to revise and refine our codes, expanding

primary content to include content that might not constitute traditional cultural symbols but commonly appeared in photographs and expanding the target category to include people and artwork. The research team then coded the set of 470 images, rectifying any coding discrepancies through discussion.

The primary methodology for this project was content analysis, following the model of Krippendorff (2013), Burgess et al. (2007), and Rose (2016). Through a content analysis of visual imagery, researchers can determine key themes in a similar way as one might analyze interviews or texts (Rose 2016). The research team conducted an initial coding analysis by hand and then imported the codes into Nvivo 10, a qualitative analysis software package, in order to ensure rigor in our final results. Nvivo 10 offers a number of qualitative analysis techniques including content queries that result in word counts and visual word cloud displays.

It was clear to the research team even after coding a relatively small number of images that there were several key themes in visitor's images of St. Peter's Basilica. While we expected a significant number of images to have prominent religious symbolism, far more images had what might be considered nontraditional spiritual elements such as light. Less surprising for a building of its impressive stature, numerous images were aimed upward at the intricately decorated ceiling or the massive marble columns. This visual content analysis, while offering unique insight into the ways in which people experience and perceive St. Peter's Basilica, can more broadly offer researchers a unique perspective into the affective and emotive capacity of our surroundings.

## VISUALIZING EXPERIENCES IN ST. PETER'S BASILICA

It is clear that particular spaces can inspire a variety of emotions, a capacity for affective experience. How do visitors document and convey these affective encounters? What do visitor photographs tell us about the ways we interact with and experience religious spaces? Although photographs of St. Peter's Basilica were wide-ranging in their subjects and particular visual compositions, several key themes emerged after conducting an in-depth content analysis.



Of the set of 470 images, slightly more than half (62%) were of the interior of St. Peter's Basilica. Visitors used a variety of camera distances, with some images a close up of a particular feature (13%), and others taken from a very long distance (14%). Most images, however, could be characterized as taken from a medium (37%) or long (37%) distance. This indicates that people photographed the Basilica as they experienced it, often gazing at the building or its architectural elements from a distance.

For many visitors, it is clear that when entering the basilica, there is a tendency to look up. Out of the 290 interior photos analyzed, 127 (44%) were pointed upward, often capturing the two meter (6.6 feet) tall gold lettering that circles the dome and reads from the Latin Vulgate: "TV ES PETRVS ET SVPER HANC PETRAM AEDIFICABO ECCLESIAM MEAM. TIBI DABO CLAVES REGNI CAELORVM" ('You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven') (Binz 2015, 11). In addition to the dome, gold lettering extends around the top of walls of the Basilica and was prominent in many of the interior photographs (41%).

Figure 1: St. Peter's Basilica, Seba Sofariu, Flickr, Creative Commons Attribution 2.0 Generic



Relatively few photographs (40%) included people and of these, only fourteen photographs (3%) had a person as the main subject of the image. This suggests that visitors were more interested in documenting the architecture or features of the Basilica itself rather than documenting themselves being in or outside of the space.

Within the interior of the Basilica, St. Peter's Baldachin was the most commonly photographed specific structure, featured in 21% of all interior photographs. While visitors often photographed religious symbols such as the cross (22%) or Biblical figures (13%), there seemed to be a broader desire to capture the affective capacity of the space itself rather than document the cultural symbols present. Over two-thirds of the interior photos (37%) were of the Basilica's impressive ceiling, for example, indicating that while there are other affective symbols and architectural elements, the height and grandeur of the structure itself was a central element of visitor experiences.

Figure 2: Saint Peter's Basilica, Matt Chan, Flickr, Creative Commons Attribution-NoDerivs 2.0 Generic



Outside of the Basilica, the most common photograph was of the front, exterior of the church (50%). Other commonly photographed areas were the dome (18%) or St. Peter's Square (11%). Although the cross was the most photographed symbolic element among exterior photographs of the Basilica (54%), other nontraditional cultural symbols were also prominent. Clouds were featured in almost half (46%) of exterior images and 21% of exterior images featured light, most commonly documenting

the lights of the Basilica at night or views of sunlight behind the Basilica. Again, this signals that visitors likely documented their personal experience of the Basilica, perhaps documenting their initial approach to the building and then the areas that were particularly affective once inside.

Figure 3: Italy-0179 - Last Night Shot for now, Dennis Jarvis, Flickr, Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 2.0 Generic

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More broadly, light was a common element among visitor photographs. In fact, over half (60%) of interior photographs featured beams of light, light from windows, or light fixtures. Relatively few photographs featured depictions of Jesus (3% of all photographs) or angels (10% of all photographs). A word cloud created by Nvivo 10 using an analysis of the primary content in the photographs supplements this content analysis and reveals “gold,” “columns,” and “light” were more common in photographs than other, explicitly religious symbolism.

Figure 4: Primary Content Word Cloud Created by Author with Nvivo 10



This relatively high number of photographs of light compared to more traditional religious elements could be explained by a number of factors. While the Basilica is indeed a Roman Catholic house of worship, it is visited by millions of tourists each year, many of whom are not likely practicing Catholics. The beams of light might thus have a stronger affective capacity for tourists compared to a sculpture like La Pieta, which was only featured in five (2%) of the interior photographs, or images of biblical figures (20% of interior photographs).

Relatively few photographs had descriptive captions; most photographs were captioned with either the picture number (such as “IMG\_229”) or with the location (such as “Saint Peter’s Basilica.”) Of the photographs that included more descriptive captions, the most common term used to describe photographs was “light” (12 photographs.) One photograph, for example, was captioned “Divine Light, St. Peter’s Basilica.” For this visitor, the beams of light clearly had a spiritual significance and the number of photographs that prominently featured beams of light (17% of the interior photographs) indicates that a number of visitors had a similar experience.

Figure 5: Divine Light, Mzximvs VdB, Flickr, Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 2.0 Generic



Why did visitors commonly photograph beams of light or the basilica’s ceiling? One limitation of visual content analysis, as opposed to in-depth interviews, is that the photographs are subject to the researcher’s interpretation. The content represented in the image is just that, a representation, and what the image

is meant to represent or the particular emotions experienced by the participant remain elusive. However, the significant number of photographs that shared the theme of light or the high percentage of interior photographs of the building's ceiling speaks to a common experience and indicate the emotive power of the space.

## CONCLUSION

Our lived experience is constantly being made and remade by the spaces we occupy and the places we encounter. Whether sitting at our office desk surrounded by mementos, immersing ourselves in a forest on a hike, or exploring a historic building in a new city, these spaces are layered with meanings and each has a unique capacity to affect our emotions. While both emotional and affective investigations are experiencing resurgence in academic research, visual explorations of these phenomena remain limited. Visual representations of being in and around spaces, however, provide tangible evidence of the ways in which people experience the world around them.

As this project has demonstrated, an analysis of visual imagery can shed light on personal affective and emotive spatial encounters. While one might expect visitors to St. Peter's Basilica to be most affected by religious symbolism, it is clear from an analysis of images from Flickr that beams of light and the high ceiling of the structure were far more likely to be photographed indicating that these features had a particularly strong capacity to inspire an emotional response.

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# Interview with Heba Afify, Egyptian journalist

JERNEJA PENCA  
EMUNI, Slovenia

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Heba Afify was invited as a panellist to the roundtable titled “Youth, the agent of change?” that took place on 14.11.2016 in Ljubljana. The roundtable was co-organised by Euro-Mediterranean University (EMUNI) and the Slovenian Ministry of Foreign Affairs as part of the attempt to discuss, with the voice of young people, common challenges and opportunities of the youth across the Mediterranean. It is hard to think of a person that constitutes a better match for that occasion. Heba is a reflective, critical, broad-minded and pragmatic individual whose contribution stretches beyond that of a panellist in a one-off event. Fortunately, she is a regular contributor to an Egyptian newspaper and she also agreed to this short interview.

*1. You marched through various local and international newspapers based in Egypt, but it is really your current affiliation with Mada Masr that stands out as a manifestation of determination and courage. Could you map the newspaper [media] landscape in Egypt and situate Mada within it?*

The distinction between privately-owned and state-owned media which has been the main categorization in Egyptian media has been fading within the last three years as most mainstream media has conformed on most issues to a unified and largely state-aligned voice, where it became common to find the same main headlines on all newspapers, private and state-owned alike. This is particularly apparent when it comes to coverage of issues such as the state’s announced war on terrorism. There are exceptions to this with websites that attempt to break this conformity and individual journalists who challenge and raise the ceilings of their institutions. Mada falls within the category



of media that challenges the current stagnation in media and attempts to continue to do critical and independent journalism that is based in research and inquisition rather than political agendas.

*2. What is the role of newspapers, both printed and online, in the larger media scene in Egypt? How relevant is the thesis that newspapers are dying out in the Egyptian context?*

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The newspaper business in Egypt suffers the same recession witnessed in its counterparts elsewhere. Although the official numbers of circulation are kept secret, the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (CAPMAS) has announced in recent years drops without revealing numbers. Publishing business insiders have estimated that newspapers circulation dropped to around half a million down from over two million during its peak in 2011. Subsequently, newspapers suffer financially and periodically raise their prices, which further affects circulation. The reasons are similar to those affecting the global newspaper market, as news consumers resort more and more to television talk shows and online resources. This is coupled with a general drop in political engagement that has also affected the numbers. That being said, newspapers still maintain a certain prestige in the Egyptian media scene and are more trusted than other outlets.

*3. Mada Masr was established in 2013 by a group of journalists, most of whom were under the age of 30. [How] did that age influence the outlook and ambition of Mada? Do you feel that the drive of Mada is directly related to the attitude and interests of the age group below 30, which represents more than half of the Egypt's population?*

The young nature of Mada has definitely influenced it in the sense that it channelled some of the most universal characteristic of youth that transcend political alignments and other differences like the urge to be heard, to make a difference and to inflict change. As Egypt is in the grip of severe political polarization, the youth are as affected by this divisionism as everyone else,

that's why it's difficult to list a common agenda for them beyond the basics of enhancement of educational system, work opportunities and better economic conditions. Beyond that, the youth are parts of several sub groups within society that range from those who demand more freedoms and decry violations of human rights and those who subscribe to the state's narrative and believe that all types of opposition have to be subdued as Egypt gets through this difficult juncture.

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*4. The values of autonomy, independence and freedom of expression lie at the heart of Mada's identity. But you also openly strive to be a progressive media outlet. As the meaning of "progressive" is heavily dependent on the context at best and diluted at worse, it would be interesting to hear what direction for Egypt are you able to distil from the work of reporters and editors. What are the foremost aspects of the social change that Egypt should be pursuing?*

As a journalist, the aspects of social change that I am most invested in seeing in Egypt have to do with the development of critical thinking and independent opinion. As we see the bulk of public opinion being manipulated by a handful of media personalities whose often widely inaccurate portrayals of events are adopted by a majority with no verification, my hope is for the continued presence of quality journalism to play a role in developing a collective sense of healthy skepticism and autonomy in opinion to disrupt the effects of the propaganda machinery that features so prominently in Egyptian politics.

*5. Another key feature of Mada is the fact that it reports in both Arabic and English. The ability to reach an audience beyond the Arab-speaking one is incredibly important. What has been your primary target audience? Do you have a good understanding of your readership?*

Our readership is varied between local consumers and readers abroad who are interested in the region and Egypt specifically. Our main readership depends on those looking for nuanced coverage of the area including academics, researchers and other



civically engaged individuals, as well as citizens who have lost faith in mainstream media and are looking for alternatives. Taping into the full potential of readership that our dual linguistic advantage allows, which comprises people with widely different educational levels and interests, has been a process that is still ongoing as we continue to discover how to best appeal to this large base.

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6. *As a journalist, do you work with the notion of the Euro-Mediterranean region? Is an awareness of a Euro-Mediterranean identity present in the regional media?*

Our work is very much affected by international and regional events, which inevitably have their echoes in Egypt. As Egypt shares the same issues with its neighbors such as terrorist activity and as its economy and political scene is heavily influenced by its relations with world powers, international and regional developments heavily inform our coverage. The Euro Mediterranean is not a very relevant categorization of the region in our work, except in specific stories like the Juilio Regeni case and migration. When I speak of a region that Egypt belongs to, I mean the Middle East.

7. *One of the defining values of Mada is experimentalism – you approach the news and stories using different narratives and visual methods. Can you share with us some of your personal and Mada's experience (as well as those from other media you follow) in trying out new forms of communication? What, perhaps, is a promising but currently underexplored method? Or, what technique is in decline?*

One of the main realizations that we made early on in Mada is that the reader is exhausted of dry stories and responds better to stories with a voice, a human interest angle or a visual storytelling mechanism. In response to this, we have been flexible with the rules of journalistic style, allowing things like writing a feature in the first person, publishing hybrids of opinion articles mixed with reporting and other forms. We have also learnt not to shy away from long form pieces and in depth investigations which, if done well, succeed to draw readers in despite being heavier reads.

## Résumés

L'ATTRACTIVITÉ TERRITORIALE POUR LES  
INVESTISSEMENTS ÉTRANGERS DANS LES VILLES  
MÉDITERRANÉE : LE CAS DE LA VILLE DE TANGER, MAROC  
*Abbes Elhasbi, Mohamed Barkaoui, Othmane Bouksour, Oulaid  
Kamach, Mohamed Amekhchoun.*

L'objectif de cet article est de fournir les principaux facteurs d'attractivité pour les investisseurs étrangers dans les secteurs de la fabrication et de la logistique de la ville de Tanger au Maroc. Le modèle conceptuel était élaboré de la littérature et d'entrevues avec un échantillon de dirigeants de petites et moyennes entreprises étrangères (PME). L'analyse empirique est réalisée à partir des données d'un sondage sur les cadres de ces entreprises étrangères (manufacturières et logistiques) implantées dans la ville de Tanger. L'utilisation de l'approche PLS nous a permis de tester les liens entre les différents facteurs politiques, économiques, sociaux, technologiques, juridiques et environnementaux (l'analyse PESTEL). L'intérêt scientifique de ce modèle est de fournir aux décideurs de la ville de Tanger les recommandations visant à améliorer le développement et l'attractivité des investissements étrangers dans les secteurs de la logistique et de la fabrication.

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*Mots clés:* attractivité territoriale ; PESTEL; PLS; fabrication et logistique  
IJEMS 9 (2) : 3–26

L'IMPACT DU DEFICIT PUBLIC SUR LA CROISSANCE  
ÉCONOMIQUE DANS LES ÉTATS MEMBRES DU CONSEIL  
DE COOPÉRATION DU GOLFE ARABIQUE  
*Hanadi Taher*

Dans ce dossier, j'analyse quel impact a la relation entre dette publique et le PIB ratio pour le taux de la croissance du PIB dans le six états membres du Conseil de coopération du



Golfe Arabique (CCG) : Bahreïn, Koweït, Oman, Qatar, Arabie Saoudite et Émirats Arabes Unis. La période d'analyse couvre 23 ans depuis 1990. Les relations entre l'Union européenne (UE) et CCG a été surligné pour mieux comprendre la croissance économique. Les résultats des tests sont cohérents avec certaines études publiées dans la littérature qui ont prouvé une corrélation négative entre la dette publique et la croissance économique au-delà d'une valeur bien que ce valeur ne soit pas standard. La dette publique dans les états membre du CCG a des effets différents sur la croissance du PIB par habitant, à cause des facteurs différents. Le résultat principal d'étude montre que le déficit public et les déterminants macro-économiques ont des effets variables sur la croissance du PIB par habitant pour les pays, principalement en fonction de leurs ratios de déficit public.

*Mots clés:* déficit public, croissance économique  
IJEMS 9 (2) : 27-44

## VISUALISER L'ÉMOTION ET L'IMPRESION : RENCONTRES DE VISITEURS À LA BASILIQUE SAINT PIERRE

*Caitlin Finlayson*

La plus grande église au monde par la superficie et sa structure impressionnante – la basilique Saint-Pierre provoque dans ses visiteurs des sentiments de crainte et du respect. Mais comment les visiteurs dépeignent ces expériences émotives, quels espaces à l'intérieur de l'église mettent-ils en évidence, et comment l'espace affecte-t-il leur rencontre ? Autres études sur l'affect et l'émotion ont examiné une variété d'espaces, mais la recherche sur les sites religieux historiques et les façons dont ils sont vécus par les visiteurs reste limitée. Ce projet vise à contribuer au dialogue sur l'affect et l'émotion, qui est basé dans l'étude des photographies pris par les visiteurs dans la basilique Saint-Pierre. Ces photographies révèlent que les visiteurs fréquemment prennent les photos des rayons de lumière ou du plafond impressionnant de la structure. Les photos

suggérant que ces éléments, plus que symboles explicitement religieux, sont au centre de l'expérience émotionnelle dans l'église.

*Mots clés:* géographie, religion, émotion, espace sacré  
IJEMS 9 (2): 45–58

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## Povzetki

### TERITORIALNA PRIVLAČNOST ZA TUJE NALOŽBE V SREDOZEMSKIH MESTIH: PRIMER MESTA TANGIER V MAROKU

*Abbes Elhasbi, Mohamed Barkaoui, Othmane Bouksour, Oulaid  
Kamach, Mohamed Amekhchoun*

Cilj tega članka je podati glavne dejavnike privlačnosti za tuje naložbe v proizvodnem in logističnem sektorju v mestu Tangier v Maroku. Konceptualni model je razvit na podlagi pregleda literature in intervjujev na vzorcu vodilnih tujih malih in srednjih podjetij (SME). Empirična analiza je narejena z uporabo podatkov, pridobljenih na podlagi anketiranja vodij omenjenih tujih podjetij (v proizvodnem in logističnem sektorju) v mestu Tangier. Uporaba t. i. Partial Least Squares (PLS) pristopa nam dovoljuje, da preizkusimo vzročne povezave med različnimi političnimi, gospodarskimi, družbenimi, tehnološkimi, pravnimi in okoljskimi dejavniki (PESTEL). Znanstveni namen modela je oskrbeti politične odločevalce mesta Tangier s priporočili za izboljšanje razvoja in privlačnosti tujih investicij tako v logističnem kot proizvodnem sektorju.

*Ključne besede:* teritorialna privlačnost; PESTEL; PLS; proizvodnja in logistične dejavnosti  
IJEMS 9 (2): 3–26



## VPLIV JAVNEGA DOLGA NA GOSPODARSKO RAST ZA DRŽAVE SVETA ZA SODELOVANJE ZALIVSKIH DRŽAV

*Hanadi Taher*

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V tem članku obravnavam vpliv vladnega dolga v razmerju do BDP na rast BDP per capita v šestih državah Sveta za sodelovanje zalivskih držav (SSZD), to so Bahrajn, Kuvajt, Oman, Katar, Savdska arabija in Združeni arabski emirati v obdobju 23 let, začevši z letom 1990. Določen del pozornosti je namenjen odnosu Evropske unije z državami SSZD za boljšo gospodarsko rast. Rezultati poskusa so skladni z nekaterimi študijami v literaturi, ki potrjuje negativno korelacijo med javnim dolgom in družbeno gospodarsko rastjo preko deočenih mej, čeprav ta meja ni standard. Za države SSZD ima javni dolg drugačne učinke na rast BDP per capita, odvisno od države do države zaradi variacij v množici različnih dejavnikov. Glavna ugotovitev študije kaže, da imajo državni vladni dolg in makroekonomske determinante različen vpliv na rast BDP per capita za različne države, temelječ predvsem na njihovem razmerju vladnega dolga.

*Ključne besede:* vladni dolg, javni dolg, gospodarska rast  
IJEMS 9 (2): 27–44

## VIZUALIZACIJA ČUSTEV IN DOŽIVETIJ: IZKUŠNJE OBISKOVALCEV V BAZILIKI SV. PETRA

*Caitlin Finlayson*

Bazilika sv. Petra je tako po površini kot po prostornini največja cerkev na svetu, njena impresivna struktura pa pri obiskovalcih vzbuja občutke strahospoštovanja in čaščenja. Kako obiskovalci opisujejo in prikazujejo ta čustvena izkustva? Katere dele cerkve pri tem poudarjajo in kako prostor vpliva na njihovo doživljanje? Druge študije ganjenosti in čustev so preučevale različne prostore, še vedno pa je le malo raziskav zgodovinskih verskih krajev in načinov, na katere jih obiskovalci izkušajo. Pričujoči projekt želi s študijo primera, pri katerem preučujemo fotografije obiskovalcev bazilike sv. Petra, prispevati k nastajajočemu dialogu



ganjenosti in čustev. Fotografije razkrivajo, da obiskovalci pogosto dokumentirajo snope svetlobe in impresivne stropove, kar kaže, da so ti elementi bolj kot eksplicitno verski simboli, bistvenega pomena pri čustvenem izkustvu srečevanja s prostorom.

*Ključne besede:* geografija, vera, čustva, posvečen prostor  
IJEMS 9 (2): 45–58

## ملخصات

الجاذبية الإقليمية للاستثمارات الأجنبية لمدن البحر المتوسط: دراسة حالة لمدينة طنجة في المغرب

عباس الحصبى، محمد باركوي، عثمان بوكسور، عوليد كماش، محمد أميخشون

الهدف من هذا البحث هو توفير عوامل الجاذبية الإقليمية الأساسية للاستثمار الأجنبي في قطاعي التصنيع والخدمات اللوجستية في مدينة طنجة في المغرب. تم تطوير التصميم التصوري من خلال مراجعة الإنتاج الفكري وإجراء مقبلات مع عينة من مدراء الشركات الصغيرة والمتوسطة الأجنبية. يتم التحليل التجريبي من خلال استخدام بيانات من استفتاءات المدراء المتنفذين لهذه الشركات (في مجال التصنيع والخدمات اللوجستية) الأجنبية التي يقع مقرها في مدينة طنجة في المغرب. استخدام طريقة المربعات الصغرة الجزئية جازت لنا اختبار الروابط المسببة في العديد من العوامل السياسية والاقتصادية والاجتماعية والتقنية والقانونية والبيئية (تحليل البيئة الخارجية والمحيطية، بستر). إن الفائدة العلمية لهذا التصميم هو توفير لصناع قرار مدينة طنجة توصيات من أجل إصلاح التنمية والجاذبية الإقليمية للاستثمارات الأجنبية في قطاعي الخدمات اللوجستية والتصنيع.

الكلمات الأساسية: الجاذبية الإقليمية، تحليل للبيئة الخارجية والمحيطية (بستر)، المربعات الصغرة الجزئية التصنيع والأنشطة اللوجستية

النص بالكامل: المجلة الدولية للدراسات الأرومتوسطية العدد رقم ٩ (٢): ص ٢٦-٣

## أثر الدين العام على النمو الاقتصادي لدول مجلس تعاون الخليج حامد طاهر

أنقش في هذا البحث الدين المحلي للحكومة لنسبة الناتج المحلي الإجمالي على معدل نمو الناتج المحلي الإجمالي للدول الست لمجلس تعاون الخليج وتحديداً، البحرين والكويت وعمان وقطر والسعودية والإمارات العربية المتحدة على مدار ٢٣ عاماً بدأ من عام ١٩٩٣. تم لقاء بعض الضوء على العلاقة بين الاتحاد الأوروبي ومجلس التعاون لدول الخليج في البحث. وكانت نتائج التجربة متطابقة مع بعد الدراسات السابقة التي توضح العلاقة السلبية بين الدين العام والنمو الاقتصادي للدولة فوق حد أو مستوى معين مع العلم بأن هذا الحد ليس له معيار.

لدى الدين العام لدول مجلس تعاون الخليج آثار مختلفة على نمو الناتج المحلي الإجمالي للفرد تفاوتت من بلد إلى بلد نتيجة لتراوح بعض العوامل المختلفة. تبدي النتائج الأساسية لهذا البحث أن لدى الدين المحلي للحكومة والمحددات الاقتصادية الكلية آثار متعددة على نمو الناتج المحلي الإجمالي للفرد في بلاد كثيرة بناء على نسب الدين العام للحكومة بشكل رئيسي.

الكلمات الأساسية: الدين المحلي للحكومة، الدين العام، النمو الاقتصادي

النص بالكامل: المجلة الدولية للدراسات الأرومتوسطية العدد رقم ٩(٢): ص ٤٤-٤٧

## تصور العاطفة والإحساس: لقاءات الزوار في بازليك القديس بطرس البابوية

كاتلين فنيلاسون

تعتبر بازليك القديس بطرس البابوية الأكبر في العالم من حيث المساحة والحجم ويولد هيكلها المثير للإعجاب الشعور بالرهبة والخشوع. كيف يمكن لهؤلاء الزوار أن يصفوا هذه التجارب العاطفية؟ ما هي المساحات داخل الكنيسة التي يمكن إبرازها، وكيف تؤثر هذه المساحات على لقاء الزوار للكنيسة؟ لقد استعرضت بعض الدراسات عن العاطفة والإحساس العديد من المساحات ولكن البحث يتم إجراءه عن الأماكن الدينية والطرق التي يشعر بها الزوار داخل هذه الأماكن والمساحات لا يزال محدوداً. يسعى هذا البحث أو المشروع إلى المشاركة في حوار الساعة عن العاطفة والإحساس من خلال تقديم دراسة حالة تقوم بتحليل صور الزوار داخل بازليك القديس بطرس. تظهر هذه الصور أن الزوار عادة ينسبوا الفضل إلى أشعة الضوء وتصميم السقف الرائع دليلاً على أن هذه العناصر جوهرية للتجربة العاطفية للقاء الأماكن وأكثر صراحة من الرموز الدينية.

الكلمات الأساسية: جغرافيا، دين، عاطفة، أماكن مقدسة.

النص بالكامل: المجلة الدولية للدراسات الأرومتوسطية العدد رقم ٩(٢): ص ٤٥-٥٨

## Current and Future Events in the Euro-Mediterranean Area

*ELO'17 – Electronic Literature : Affiliations, Communities, Translations*

Organiser : University Fernando Pessoa

Type of event : Conference

Date : 19–22 July, 2017 Venue : Porto, Portugal

Web page : <https://conference.eliterature.org/>

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*International Summer School*

Organiser : Middle East Technical University

Type of event : Summer School

Date : Late June–Mid August, 2017 Venue : Ankara, Turkey

Web page : <http://www.ico.metu.edu.tr>

*Erasmus+ program student/staff mobility for non-EU countries with grants*

Organiser: Middle East Technical University

Type of Event: Mobility

Date: 2017–2018 Venue: Ankara, Turkey

Web page : <http://www.ico.metu.edu.tr>

*VI. Doctoral International research conference*

Organiser : Graduate School of Government and European Studies

Type of event : International research conference

Date : 18 May, 2017 Venue : Brdo pri Kranju, Slovenia

Web page : [www.fds.si](http://www.fds.si)

*Alternative Dispute Resolution*

Organiser : Graduate School of Government and European Studies

Type of event : Summer school

Date : 25–29 September, 2017 Venue : Ljubljana, Slovenia

Web page : [www.fds.si](http://www.fds.si)



*International research conference*

*Organiser* : Graduate School of Government and European Studies

*Type of event* : International research conference

*Date* : 17–18 November, 2017 *Venue* : Ljubljana, Slovenia

*Web page* : [www.fds.si](http://www.fds.si)

*Management Challenges in a Network Economy: Creativity and Education - Business Collaboration - Economic Activity - Information Technology*

*Organiser* : International School for Social and Business Studies

*Type of event*: International conference

*Date*: 17 – 19 May, 2017 *Venue*: Lubin, Poland

*Web page*: [www.makelearn.mfdps.si](http://www.makelearn.mfdps.si)

*Management and Quality in Education, 1 year, 60 ECTS*

*Organiser*: International School for Social and Business Studies

*Type of event*: Master study programme

*Date* : 1 October, 2017–30 September, 2018 *Venue* : Celje, Slovenia

*Web page* : [www.issbs.si](http://www.issbs.si)

*Knowledge Management, 3 years, 180 ECTS*

*Organiser*: International School for Social and Business Studies

*Type of event*: Doctoral programme in English (blended learning)

*Date*: / *Venue*: Celje, Slovenia and online learning

*Web page*: [www.issbs.si](http://www.issbs.si)

*International Journal of Management, Knowledge and Learning and ToKnowPress*

*Organiser*: International School for Social and Business Studies

*Type of event*: Publishing opportunities

*Date*: All year *Venue*: /

*Web page*: [www.issbs.si](http://www.issbs.si)

*University Open Day 2017*

*Organiser* : University of Presov

*Type of event* : Open day

*Date* : 15 February, 2017 *Venue* : Presov, Slovakia

*Web page* : [www.unipo.sk](http://www.unipo.sk)

*Unipoday and Academic Presov*

*Organiser* : University of Presov

*Type of event*: Cultural and sport event

*Date* : 25 – 28 April, 2017 *Venue* : Presov, Slovakia

*Web page* : [www.unipo.sk](http://www.unipo.sk)

*Opening ceremony of the academic year 2017/2018*

*Organiser* : University of Presov

*Type of event*: Opening ceremony

*Date*: 19 September, 2017 *Venue*: Presov, Slovakia

*Web page*: [www.unipo.sk](http://www.unipo.sk)

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*20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the University of Presov*

*Organiser* : University of Presov

*Type of event*: Conference

*Date* : November 2017–December 2017 *Venue* : Presov, Slovakia

*Web page* : [www.unipo.sk](http://www.unipo.sk)

*Modus-Modi-Modality*

*Organiser* : European University Cyprus

*Type of event* : International Musicological Conference

*Date* : 6–10 September 2017 *Venue* : Nicosia, Cyprus

*Web page* : [www.modality2017conference.com](http://www.modality2017conference.com)

*4th International Motion Festival, Cyprus 2017*

*Organiser* : European University Cyprus

*Type of event* : Film Festival

*Date* : 11–14 May, 2017 *Venue* : Nicosia, Cyprus

*Web page* : [www.motionfestivalcyprus.com](http://www.motionfestivalcyprus.com)

*5th International Bio-Medical Scientific Cyprus Congress*

*Organiser*: European University Cyprus

*Type of event*: 3 Days International Congress Seminar

*Date* : November, 2017 *Venue* : Nicosia, Cyprus

*Web page* : [www.bsc.euc.ac.cy](http://www.bsc.euc.ac.cy)



*17th Annual Career Fair 2017*

*Organiser:* European University Cyprus

*Type of event:* Career Exhibition

*Date:* 29 March, 2017 *Venue:* Nicosia, Cyprus

*Web page:* <http://euc.ac.cy/en/services/career-exhibition>

*Open Day at the University of Zadar*

*Organiser:* University of Zadar

*Type of event:* (Conference, Round table, Training, Summer school etc.) – event

*Date:* December 2017 *Venue:* Zadar, Croatia

*Web page:* /

*University Day*

*Organiser:* University of Zadar

*Type of event:* (Conference, Round table, Training, Summer school etc.) – Protocol event

*Date:* 25 March, 2017 *Venue:* Zadar, Croatia

*Web page:* /

*Divided Societies XX – Memory Wars*

*Organiser:* Interuniversity Centre Dubrovnik

*Type of event:* Course

*Date:* 7–14 May, 2017 *Venue:* Dubrovnik, Croatia

*Web page:* <http://www.iuc.hr/course-details.php?id=1003>

*Regional Security and Cooperation in South East Europe*

*Organiser:* Interuniversity Centre Dubrovnik

*Type of event:* Course

*Date:* 19 – 25 June, 2017 *Venue:* Dubrovnik, Croatia

*Web page:* <http://www.iuc.hr/course-details.php?id=980>

*Modalities of Trauma in (Multi)Cultural Contexts: Protagonists, Representations and Recovering – SpeCTReSS Summer Institute on Cultural Trauma*

*Organiser:* Interuniversity Centre Dubrovnik

*Type of event:* Course

*Date:* 5–10 June, 2017 *Venue:* Dubrovnik, Croatia

*Web page:* <http://www.iuc.hr/course-details.php?id=988>

*MARE NOSTRUM: Negotiating European Values and Ideas in the Mediterranean*

Organiser: Interuniversity Centre Dubrovnik

Type of event: Course

Date: 4 – 8 September, 2017 Venue: Dubrovnik, Croatia

Web page: <http://www.iuc.hr/course-details.php?id=991>

*The social value of confiscated goods: social reuse, shared responsibility, and new welfare opportunities*

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Organiser: CELL UniPegaso

Type of event: Round table

Date: January 2017 Venue: Naples, Italy

Web page: <https://www.facebook.com/CELL-UniPegaso-386596061511032/?fref=ts>

*A Call for the Establishment of New Bioethics Units*

Organiser: CELL UniPegaso

Type of event: Participation to 12th World Conference of UNESCO Chair in Bioethics

Date: 21–23 March, 2017 Venue: Limassol, Cyprus

Web page: <http://www.isas.co.il/bioethics2017-Limassol/>

*Sustainable Development*

Organiser: CELL UniPegaso

Type of event: Conference

Date: April, 2017 Venue: Naples, Italy

Web page: <https://www.facebook.com/CELL-UniPegaso-386596061511032/?fref=ts>

*World Bioethics Day about an article of UNESCO Declaration on Bioethics*

Organiser: CELL UniPegaso

Type of event: Conference

Date: October, 2017 Venue: Naples, Italy

Web page: <https://www.facebook.com/CELL-UniPegaso-386596061511032/?fref=ts>



*Fourth Staff Training By Dr. Winfried Banzer - Goethe University, Frankfurt, Germany*

*Organiser: Pharos Univerity in Alexandria*

*Type of event: Training*

*Date: February, 2017 Venue: Hilton King's Ranch Hotel, Alexandria, Egypt*

*Web page: <http://www.pua.edu.eg/NewsDetails.aspx?NewsID=1461>*

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*Third International Conference of Business Innovation & Economic Sustainability Challenges*

*Organiser: Pharos Univerity in Alexandria*

*Type of event: Conference*

*Date: 12 – 13 April, 2017 Venue: PUA Conference Hall–Pharos University in Alexandria*

*Web page: [www.pua.edu.eg/business.conf](http://www.pua.edu.eg/business.conf)*

*PUA 2nd Internatioanl ELT symposium*

*Organiser: Pharos Univerity in Alexandria*

*Type of event: Symposium*

*Date: 16 September, 2017 Venue: Alexandria, Egypt*

*Web page: <http://www.pua.edu.eg/Page.aspx?Page=Centers-%3EEnglish+Language+Centre-%3E+International+ELT+Symposium+&PID=2058&CID=1284>*

*Graduation Ceremony*

*Organiser: Pharos Univerity in Alexandria*

*Type of event: Ceremony*

*Date: September, 2017 Venue: Alexandria, Egypt*

*Web page: [http://www.pua.edu.eg/NewsDetails.aspx?ACT=INT\\_ACT&NewsID=2520](http://www.pua.edu.eg/NewsDetails.aspx?ACT=INT_ACT&NewsID=2520)*

*Religion, Politics, and Human Rights*

*Organiser: Human Rights Centre, University of Padova*

*Type of event: International Conference*

*Date: 12 May, 2017 Venue: Padova, Italy*

*Web page: <http://unipd-centrodirittiumani.it/en>*



*Presentation of the Italian Yearbook of Human Rights 2017*

*Organiser:* Human Rights Centre, University of Padova

*Type of event:* Book Presentation

*Date:* 10 December, 2017 *Venue:* Rome, Italy

*Web page:* <http://www.italianhumanrightsyarbook.eu>

*Presentation of the Italian Yearbook of Human Rights 2016*

*Organiser:* Human Rights Centre, University of Padova

*Type of event:* Book Presentation

*Date:* 15 December, 2016 *Venue:* Rome, Italy

*Web page:* <http://www.italianhumanrightsyarbook.eu>

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*Adaptability&Breakthrough:University's Reform and Innovation in the New Ecology of Higher Education*

*Organiser:* »Dimitrie Cantemir« Christian University

*Type of event:* Sub-Forum

*Date:* 1–5 June, 2017 *Venue:* Bucharest, Romania

*Web page:* [www.wucdc.ro](http://www.wucdc.ro)

*Transportation of Sport and Physical Activity through Time; Journey in History*

*Organiser:* Alexandria University

*Type of event:* Ishpes Congress 2017

*Date:* 3–6 April, 2017 *Venue:* Alexandria, Egypt

*Web page:* [www.alexu.edu.eg](http://www.alexu.edu.eg)

*Aspects and Challenges of Agricultural Development in Africa and Arab Region*

*Organiser:* Alexandria University

*Type of event:* International conference

*Date:* 22 – 23 February, 2017 *Venue:* Alexandria, Egypt

*Web page:* [www.alexu.edu.eg](http://www.alexu.edu.eg)

*Sustainable Development in Methods of Animal Production*

*Organiser:* Alexandria University

*Type of event:* Conference

*Date:* 20 – 22 November, 2017 *Venue:* Alexandria, Egypt

*Web page:* [www.alexu.edu.eg](http://www.alexu.edu.eg)



