

EDITORIAL

Bridging Disciplines for a Global Understanding of Contemporary Issues

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As the world continues to evolve amidst increasingly complex social, political, and technological dynamics, it is crucial that the fields of human sciences, education, and liberal arts remain at the forefront of intellectual inquiry. Polis, The Faculty Journal of Human Sciences, Education and Liberal Arts at the European University of Tirana (EUT), has a tradition in interdisciplinary research. This issue demonstrates that the convergence of various academic disciplines offers the most comprehensive and effective insights into the multifaceted challenges we face today. This issue of *Interdisciplinary Perspectives* brings together a diverse range of scholarly work, each offering critical knowledge from different angles, while collectively reinforcing the vital role that human-centered approaches play in shaping contemporary societies.

In this collection of articles, many of the studies transcend national borders and provide a global perspective. Researchers from Albania, Thailand, Lithuania, and beyond contribute insights that not only focus on their own countries but also offer broader lessons that resonate across diverse global contexts. Through this diversity, the Polis issue 23/2 reflects the interconnected nature of global society, demonstrating the crucial role of international collaboration in advancing research and solutions for today's complex issues.

This collection spans topics from criminology and psychological development, educational reform, labor market integration, and ethical considerations in human resource management to the complexities of crisis management and literary adaptation. By examining these subjects through multiple disciplinary lenses, the articles build a unified narrative: human experience, behavior, and development must be understood in relation to broader societal structures and cultural contexts.

The article of Polwasit Lhakard's on Educational Reform and Global Integration invites EUT's growing research groups of scholars to explore comparative education as a way forward for enhancing Albania's educational system within a global framework. More specifically, Polwasit Lhakard's comparative study on the educational reforms in Thailand and Albania offers critical insights into the process of internationalization within emerging economies. Through a detailed comparison of policy frameworks, institutional development, and quality assurance mechanisms, the study highlights the challenges both countries face in balancing global educational standards with local cultural needs. This study does more than simply compare two systems; it provides a broader global perspective, underlining the shared obstacles faced by many emerging economies. Lhakard's research offers a roadmap for bilateral cooperation between nations and suggests strategies for adapting global educational models within distinct cultural and institutional contexts.

From an interdisciplinary perspective, the work of the author Indre Huseynova that focuses on the precarious labor market, specifically in the context of migrant workers in Lithuania, can enhance EUT's focus on labor studies, law, and migration policy, facilitating collaboration between research groups exploring economic mobility, social inclusion, and the intersection of law and labor. More specifically, Indre Huseynova's article critiques the precarious labor market, specifically in the context of migrant workers in Lithuania. By analyzing the structural challenges that create an unstable labor market for foreigners, Huseynova's work sheds light on the intersection of legal, social, and economic forces that leave migrant populations vulnerable to exploitation. The insights presented in this study are invaluable for policymakers aiming to improve labor market integration for migrant populations. From an interdisciplinary perspective, this work can enhance EUT's focus on labor studies, law, and migration policy, facilitating collaboration between research groups exploring economic mobility, social inclusion, and the intersection of law and labor.

With a focus on crisis management, human security, and psychology the interdepartmental collaborative contribution of Elsida Sinaj and Kristaq Xharo, can leverage this study to further explore how psychological interventions can be integrated into disaster preparedness and response frameworks globally. This aligns with the university's goal of fostering an environment for research that addresses both local and international crises. More specifically, Elsida Sinaj and Kristaq Xharo's article, examining the psychological management during the 2019 earthquake and the COVID-19 pandemic in Albania, offers significant contributions to the study of crisis management and human security. By analyzing how psychological interventions can mitigate the impacts of these crises, the authors underscore the crucial intersection of mental health and national security.



The article by Liana Spytka explores criminal Behavior through a psycho-sociological approach, resonating with the interdisciplinary research culture at EUT, where criminology, psychology, law, and sociology intersect. This study serves as a model for how future collaborative research can generate new perspectives on crime prevention and criminal rehabilitation policies, with broader global implications. More specifically, Liana Spytka's study on the psychological and sociological aspects of criminal behavior emphasizes the role of childhood trauma and environmental factors in shaping an individual's propensity for criminality. Her work contributes not only to criminology but also to the broader fields of psychology and sociology. It advocates for better legal frameworks to protect children and prevent the development of criminal personalities.

The theoretical framework of Bora's work as a writer, theater director and researcher at EUT, explores literary adaption through methodological lenses. His article encourages future research in how literary texts can be reimagined and transformed across diverse cultural contexts, offering global perspectives that resonate with the dynamics of modern media consumption. This study fosters collaboration between EUT's departments of Human Sciences and Communication with Applied Arts and Cultural Studies. More specifically, Armand Bora's article provides a theoretical framework for understanding the process of adapting literary works across different genres and media. His exploration of structural and post-structural methods offers a rich, interdisciplinary perspective on how literature interacts with other artistic forms, such as cinema and theatre.

The collaborative work of doctoral researcher Erisela Marko and EUT student Paulina Kasa builds on the research groups experience and best tradition at EUT exploring business ethics, management practices, and human rights, and providing concrete recommendations for improving HRM policies not only in Albania but also within the broader context of post-socialist economies. More specifically, Erisela Marko and Paulina Kasa's research into the ethical challenges of Human Resource Management (HRM) within Albania's private sector highlights the pervasive issues of nepotism and privacy violations. The authors emphasize the need for transparent, fair practices within organizations to enhance employee morale and performance.

The collaborative article of Gert Metani, Dorjan Isufaj, and Ditmar Jubica on motivational climate in sports is particularly pertinent for EUT's research groups in sports psychology, sociology, and education. It highlights the importance of emotional intelligence in sports management, suggesting a broader, interdisciplinary approach to the development of sports programs with education and leadership perspectives. More specifically, Gert Metani, Dorjan Isufaj, and Ditmar Jubica's investigation into the motivational climate in Albanian soccer provides valuable insights into the relationships between athletes and coaches. Their findings, which suggest a generally positive but emotionally charged

environment, offer practical recommendations for improving coaching and player development in Albanian sports.

Finally, the work of Faruk Mustafa on The Great War, as a historical review, offers lessons for Global Politics. His perspective can be valuable to EUT's research groups focused on international relations, political science, and history, offering historical insights that inform contemporary global diplomacy. More specifically, Faruk Mustafa's historical reflection on the onset of World War I provides a deep dive into the diplomatic and political miscalculations that led to the conflict. By focusing on the role of secrecy in international diplomacy, Mustafa's research offers a nuanced perspective on the transformative impact of World War I on global politics and society.

Overall, the research featured in this issue of *Polis* encompasses global perspectives and interdisciplinary studies, providing a comprehensive understanding of contemporary challenges. It also exemplifies the power of interdisciplinary approaches to solving global problems. These studies, while grounded in local contexts such as Albania, Thailand, and Lithuania, offer critical insights that resonate across international borders. This cross-border, interdisciplinary collaboration aligns with the strategic goals of the European University of Tirana, where research groups are encouraged to engage in global dialogue and innovation across a range of fields, from criminology and psychology to education, law, and human security.

As EUT continues to expand its interdisciplinary research initiatives, especially at the Faculty of Human Sciences, Education and Liberal Arts, the collective work of these authors demonstrates the importance of integrating diverse academic perspectives to address complex, interconnected global issues. The insights gained from these studies in this issue may encourage continued collaboration between researchers from different countries and disciplines, fostering a research environment that will drive meaningful contributions to both local and global challenges. Through the continued efforts of EUT's researchers, the university is well-positioned to contribute significantly to the ongoing quest for knowledge and practical solutions that can address the most pressing issues of our time.

