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## Word from the editor

Franck Barès

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See table of contents

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# Word from the editor

### Franck Barès

Full Professor, Editor-in-Chief, HEC Montréal franck.bares@hec.ca

This new issue of *Management international* features a special feature on the 8<sup>th</sup> Georges Doriot conference, which ran in 2021 under the guidance of Christina Constantinidis, Nazik Fadil and Alain Bloch - three guest editors who have done an excellent job contextualising several of the modern world's more disruptive trends by overseeing the production of texts that address entrepreneurship-related issues specifically in a time of societal collapse.

The special feature they have put together is comprised of one critical essay and three substantive articles. The essay, written by Olivier Germain, questions the growing tension between mythification and mystification in an era marked by the renewal of startup-related profit mythologies. It is followed by Pierre Labardin, Stéphane Jaumier and Olivier Gauthier's article focusing on the genesis during the 1980s of a discourse within French society where profit came to be equated with success. The second article - by Elen Riot - starts by noting France's industrial decline over the past 50 years (measured in jobs and GDP terms) before going on to propose a discourse analysis drawn from the emblematic example of Florange and Gandrange, which came to symbolise the industrial crisis such as it manifested in the country's Lorraine steel region. More specifically, Riot raises questions about the very concept of entrepreneurial promise; its compatibility with stakeholders' divergent expectations; and its future prospects. The section's third and final article by Catherine Mercier-Suissa and Magdalena Godek-Brunel offers a complementary and alternative way of examining both the construct of public goods and the governance of the resources that are associated with it. A unique longitudinal case study called "constructive hospitality" is wielded towards this end, based on an example in which social partners work closely together to build temporary housing both with and for refugees – an approach that ultimately constitues a clear break with currently dominant entrepreneurship practice.

The special feature is rounded out by five regular *Management international* articles, all of which cover COVID-19 - related topics. The first - entitled "Corporate resilience in the face of COVID-19: A proposal measurement index" and written by seven co-authors (Wissem Ajili Ben Youssef, Imen Ben Slimene, Samir B. Maliki, Mourad Kertous, Afef Khalil, Abdelhak Nassiri and Mohamed El Amine Abdelli) - examines factors underpinning business resilience during the pandemic in ten European and Mediterranean countries, mobilising towards this end a cross-sectional study based on a sample of 3,722 companies operating in all different sectors of activity.

The second article – an exploratory study of French exporters written by Foued Cheriet and Carole Maurel – looks at how the pandemic's crisis framework has affected the country's overall wine export performance. The research aim here is to analyse

institutional responses to three events (COVID-19 Brexit and Trump's import taxes) in light of their impacts.

Didier Grandclaude and Thierry Nobre's article - entitled "Increasing inclusion and transparency in an open strategy (OS) process: The case of an intervention research in a healthcare organisation" - describes a set of tools that can be used to enhance the inclusive and transparent nature of any strategic thinking done within an occupational health entity environment.

Raouf Jaziri and Boualem Aliouat collaborated on the fourth article, entitled "Entrepreneurial survival in continuous times of crisis: A proportional risks approach (the case of Tunisia)". Their findings demonstrate that the main drivers of entrepreneurial survival are the firm itself, on one hand, and the environment within which it is operates, on the other.

The fifth and final article - which Federico Platania and Celina Toscano Hernandez have entitled "Social media and digital communication during the pandemic" - discusses the way in which the energy sector has been impacted both by the general public's focus on certain pandemic-related issues and also by the social media activities in which a number of public health agencies and policymakers have engaged.

The issue concludes with a beautiful emotional tribute to Professor Robert Le Duff, who passed away in August 2023. Kind words offered by colleagues Annie Bartolie, Gérard Cliquet and Gérald Orange rediscover the exceptional career of a man who not only gave his all to the emergence of management studies but was also a devotee of great authors, a pioneer of public management research and a true defender of the French language.

Last but not least and this being the final issue of 2023, we'd like to take the opportunity to wish everyone some very happy holidays – along with some very happy reading!