EMEA WEBINARS

CONFIDENCE: HOW DOES IT WORK AND HOW DOES IT IMPACT OUR ECONOMIES AND SOCIETIES?

Thursday 01 July, 2021 15:00- 16:50 CET

Moderator:

Prof. Rym Ayadi,
President, Euro-Mediterranean Economists Association (EMEA) and Professor The Bayes Business School (Former CASS), London

Speakers:

Prof. Ian Robertson
Emeritus Professor of Psychology, Co-director, Global Brain Health Institute, Trinity College of Dublin

Discussants:

Prof. Giovanni Ferri
Professor of Economics, Lumsa University

EURO-MEDITERRANEAN ECONOMISTS ASSOCIATION

The COVID-19 pandemic has adversely impacted our health, economies, societies and behaviors. A paper by RSA (2021) argues that global confidence, which is central to national development, has dramatically fallen. The social and physical distancing caused isolation and reduced social support, uncertain, fragmented and incoherent policies exacerbate anxiety, stress and fear. Recent scientific research shows that COVID-19 cause brain damage, which leads to emotional disturbance and brain dis-function. As was demonstrated in EMEA COVID-19 policy monitor, healthcare systems globally were not prepared to manage this global pandemic and even less its lasting consequences.

To face upcoming challenges, humanity needs confidence. Confidence is multi faceted and complex.
The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) recognized, "With the COVID-19 pandemic continuing to threaten jobs, businesses and the health and well-being of millions amid exceptional uncertainty, building confidence will be crucial to ensure that economies recover and adapt".
According to the authors of the paper published in RSA (2021), confidence is broken down into can happen and can do. In an uncertain environment with several simultaneous transitions (technological/digital, environmental, economic and social), can't happen might translate in can't do. The authors note "Personal confidence in the ability to take action – from learning a new skill to mastering emotional difficulties – will be one of the most crucial attributes of people facing up to exponentially accelerating challenges. It is this confidence that is diminished by economic reversals and which in turn perpetuates them. Personal confidence can be eroded by extreme inequalities and racial, age or gender stereotypes. Anxiety and low mood are also corrosive for confidence".
Along these lines, a new book, by Ian Robertson, a clinical psychologist and neuroscientist with a unique ability to apply his research to real life. The book on how confidence works: the new science of self belief and why some people learn it and other don't is published in June 2021.

EMEA participates in the neuroscience-inspired policy initiative part of the OECD new approaches to economic challenges.

The focus of our webinar is to explore how confidence works, how it impacts our economies and societies and how it is the cement for a resilient development and recovery path in a post COVID-19 era.

Moderator:

Prof. Rym Ayadi
President and Founder
Euro-Mediterranean Economists Association

Professor Rym Ayadi is the Founder and President of the Euro – Mediterranean Economists Association (EMEA). She is Founder and Director of the Euro-Mediterranean Network for Economic Studies (EMNES). She is Senior Advisor at the Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS); Professor at the Business School, City University of London; and Member of the Centre for Banking Research (CBR); Academic member and Chair (2018-20) of the European Banking Authority – Banking Stakeholders Group (EBA- BSG). She is also Associated Scholar at the Centre for Relationship Banking and Economics (CERBE) at LUMSA University in Rome.

Speaker:

Prof. Ian Robertson
Co-director, Global Brain Health Institute
Emeritus Professor of Psychology, Trinity College of Dublin

Ian Robertson is Emeritus Professor of Psychology at Trinity College Dublin and Co-Director of the Global Brain Health Institute at (www.gbhi.org). He is also the T Boone Pickens Distinguished Scientist at the Center for BrainHealth at University of Texas at Dallas, a co-leader of the BrainHealth Project and is a Member of Academia Europaea. A trained clinical psychologist as well as a neuroscientist, he is widely known internationally for his research on neuropsychology. His science writing has included books aimed at the general reader: Mind Sculpture (2000), The Mind's Eye (2003), Stay Sharp (2005), The Winner Effect (2012) and The Stress Test (2016), all of which have been widely translated (www.ianrobertson.org). His latest book How Confidence Works was published by Transworld/Bantam in June 2021.

Discussant:

Prof. Giovanni Ferri
Professor, LUMSA University
Founder of Sustinentes, SRL, Italy

Professor Giovanni Ferri received his BSc in economics from the University of Siena and his Ph.D. in Economics from New York University. Since 2012 he is full professor of economics at the Department of Law, Economics, Politics & Modern Languages at LUMSA University in Rome where, from 2014 to 2018, he was Deputy Rector for Academic Affairs and chaired the Quality Assurance and Library Committees. He also co-founded and chairs the Center for Relationship Banking & Economics (https://sites.google.com/site/cerbelumsa/home) to foster research for a better understanding of relational goods to promote society wellbeing. He founded and chairs the Master in Management of Sustainable Development Goals (http://mastermsdg.lumsa.it).
He previously served at the University of Bari, World Bank, Banca d'Italia. He visited: ADB Institute, HKMA, NBER, Princeton University, Tokyo University. He consulted for EU Commission/Parliament, Italy's Treasury and partook in EBA's Banking Stakeholder Group. He is editor-in-chief of Economic Notes and led (or consulted for) policy/research projects in many countries, including Albania, China, Indonesia, Korea, Malaysia, Philippines, Serbia, Thailand, Turkey, Vietnam.
He has published extensively on/for several world recognized journals/publishers on various fields: financial shocks, banking structure, rating agencies, corporate governance, migration, firm internationalization, Chinese economy, family firms, inequality, sustainability. To support the sustainable transition by providing innovative consulting and knowledge building to both public and private sector organizations through an ethically sound business model, he has co-founded (and is scientific chair) of Sustinentes (https://sustinentes.it/).

SAVE THE DATE: Next webinar taking place on 15 July at 15:00 CET on EU Africa-Partnership: Is the EU still a relevant actor for development policy in the continent?