Family firms in times of global pandemic: main challenges and ways forward

Présentation

For several weeks, the global economy was hit hard by an unprecedented crisis with the shock caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. In this pandemic context, the business environment has undergone unprecedented technological, regulatory, economic, social, cultural and environmental changes. Within a few weeks, the pandemic crisis caused the closure of borders, a decrease in the mobility of people and a slowdown in international trade of goods. Political rhetoric on protectionism, de-globalisation and the reorganisation of value chains has received renewed interest. All these changes have significantly influenced the business world. In this ever-changing environment, family firms, like all firms, have had to suffer the consequences of this pandemic (Kraus et al, 2020).

In addition to external shocks, family firms face several strategic challenges to ensure their continuity and long-term competitiveness and sustainability. Family firms are generally vulnerable because of their autonomous and family status (Gómez-Mejía et al., 2007) and their often-limited resource base (Kim and Vonortas, 2014). Among these challenges, family enterprises need to be more agile by innovating more (Calabrò et al., 2019), accelerating digital transformations and adopting new business models in a changing world. In order to remain competitive, they must conquer both local and international markets (Arrègle et al, 2016; Calabrò et al, 2017) and foster a culture of strategic renewal and succession (Chua et al, 1999; Kotlar et al, 2014; Miller and LeBreton-Miller; 2005).

Research on family firms has developed and diversified considerably over the last twenty years. It has constantly interacted with approaches and research from a variety of disciplines, such as management, strategy and entrepreneurship, corporate governance, psychology, sociology and diversity, to name just a few or their combinations (Arregle et al, 2007; Berrone et al, 2012; Benavides-Velasco et al, 2013; Calabrò et al, 2019; Carney, 2005). The scientific community now agrees that this vast body of work is gaining recognition from researchers and practitioners on issues relating to the management of family businesses. Yet many questions remain unanswered, calling for the development of additional theories and empirical research.

Appropriate topics for this track include:

- Covid-19, resilience and Sustainability of Family firms
- Covid-19, New business model and digital transformation in Family Firms.
- Innovation and Family firms: Process, outcomes and practices
- Family firm internationalization
- Family firms and their development from local to global firms
- The factors which facilitate or restrain the export activities of family firms
- Entrepreneurial orientation and Family firms
- Governance practices in family businesses
- The relationship between the ownership, the board and top management
- Succession and next generation ownership and leadership
- The value of employees in family firms
- Financing decisions in family firms
In addition to conceptual and empirical papers addressing the overall theme or any of the topics in the list above, we also welcome comprehensive literature reviews.

Types of communications

We invite papers from various disciplines: we are looking for empirical and conceptual articles, as well as literature reviews, which can provide a unique perspective using various theoretical and methodological approaches. We encourage methodologically rigorous communications using different innovative approaches and methods, including qualitative as well as quantitative methods which allow to generate new perspectives on the phenomenon in question.

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Instructions aux auteurs

Types de soumissions acceptées :

- papiers longs (papiers complets)
- papiers courts (3 000 mots max., sous-rubriques imposées : Introduction/Objectifs (500 mots max.); Revue de littérature (500 mots max.); Approche/méthodologie (500 mots max.); Résultats (500 mots max.); Discussion (500 mots max.); Implications et limites (500 mots max.).

Les papiers doivent respecter les consignes de présentation suivantes :

En Microsoft Word format A4;  
Interligne 1,5 incluant les notes bibliographiques (en interligne simple);  
Police : Times New Roman, corps 12 points;  
Titres et sous-titres en caractères gras, numérotés sous la forme 1, 1.1 et 1.1.1.;  
Numérotation des pages au centre et en bas de page;  
Marges haute, basse, droite et gauche de 2,5 cm;  
Références bibliographiques rappelées en fin de document;  
Noms des auteurs référencés dans le corps du texte entre parenthèses et suivis de l’année d’édition. Les articles non conformes à ces exigences de mise en page seront renvoyés à leurs auteurs.

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