

This is the first issue of the Journal of World Economy of which Manuela de Paz is not the editor in chief. It leaves behind no less than 25 years of transformations in the world economy, to which the 65 issues published have tried to bear witness; always with academic rigor, but also always with the awareness that – although it may sound cliché – behind the words and numbers there are people, there are lives.

The publication has been made possible thanks to the (not insignificant) editing work of Manuela and María de la O Barroso, Antonio Luis Hidalgo, Teresa Aceytuno and María José Asensio (and Clara García, signatory of this editorial, as associate editor during her time at the University of Huelva). And also with the work of the members of the Editorial Committee and of countless reviewers to whom we can only thank whenever we have the opportunity.

Now Daniel Herrero and Clara García are taking the reins of this project at a time that can be considered critical for those lives behind the words and numbers. There is talk of polycrisis, mega-threats, permacrisis¹, and these are not exaggerated terms for these times when so many people are suffering (and will suffer, as climate change progresses) deprivations of one kind or another, somehow related to the global economy.

Thus, we will try to give continuity to the good work that precedes us, but without neglecting the always necessary adaptation to new challenges. These challenges are partly of content. The work of Moral-Pajares *et al.* (2023)², which analyzes the history of the journal, reveals the insufficiency of articles on environmental problems – climate change, circular economy, energy transitions... – but also on inequalities, global governance, or geopolitics. The challenges are also of diversity: we believe that there is room for progress in internationalization, in multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary, in methodological diversity, and in the percentage of women as first signatories of the articles published.

1 The first two are terms popularized by Adam Tooze and Nouriel Roubini, respectively; and the last one was word of the year 2022 according to Collins Dictionary.

2 Moral-Pajares, E., Cobo-Martín, M.J., Caviedes-Conde, A.A., and Gallego-Valero, L. (2023): "Thematic and Conceptual Analysis of the Journal of World Economy Using Scimat", *Revista de Economía Mundial*, 65.

This first issue of 2024 contains six papers, all of them in the general section, four of them in English, and sharing some themes. Three of the articles address issues of quality of work (around outsourcing, gender pay gap and digital platforms), two others are concerned with corporate behavior (one in relation to profit shifting to tax havens and another to environmental performance) and five of the six focus on Europe.

More specifically, the paper “Subcontracting Retreat: Early Estimates Using Administrative Data”, by Enrique Kato-Vidal and Paulina Hernández-Mendoza, asks about the impact on subcontracting of a legislation that banned this employment modality in Mexico. In addition to relevant results, which point to a significant drop in subcontracting, especially in the secondary sector, the article contributes with a novel way of measuring subcontracting, using administrative data.

Secondly, we have another article related to labor market and measurement issues: “Empowerment and Wage Gap Through International Gender Indicators”, contributed by Lidia de Castro-Romero, Víctor Martín-Barroso, and Rosa Santero-Sánchez. It identifies and weights the dimensions of “pay” and “power” in international synthetic indicators of the gender gap in the labor market; and concludes, among other things, that the second of these dimensions has more presence in the measurement of the gender gap than the first.

Next, Ángela Castillo-Murciego and Julio López-Laborda, in their article “Identifying Profit-Shifting to Tax Havens Using Country-by-Country Report Statistics”, deal with the phenomenon of profit shifting in the European Union, which is so relevant at this time of search for greater fiscal space. More specifically, they expose the profit shifting of large Spanish multinationals to EU tax havens; and calculate that a minimum effective rate of 15% could substantially increase Spanish corporate income tax revenues.

A fourth paper, “Sustainable Development in the European Union: Analysis of Relative Performance through a Dynamic Synthetic Indicator”, by Mariola Gózalo-Delgado and María Isabel Landaluce-Calvo, provides a dynamic synthetic indicator, which allows mapping the progress of the different EU countries in the Sustainable Development Goals. It is concluded that the progress achieved overall does not reflect the significant differences that persist between countries and by goals.

Fifth, we publish the article that won the runner-up prize of the XIV José Luis Sampedro Prize, awarded to the best communication at the XXII World Economics Meeting. “The Impact of Regulation on Environmental Performance: An Analysis for European Countries”, contributed by Javier Lucena-Giraldo, Ernesto Rodríguez-Crespo, and Carlos Salazar-Elena, studies the drivers of eco-innovation of companies in eleven countries of the European Union. They present results that may be useful for promoting the diffusion of eco-innovation beyond the sectors where it is concentrated.

Finally, María Isabel de Andrés, Emilio Congregado, and Concepción Román, with their paper “Precariousness in Employment Mediated by Digital Platforms. Evidence from Europe”, analyze the first wave of the European

survey on collaborative economy and employment. They show that job precariousness in digital platforms varies according to the type of employment and sociodemographic characteristics, and also according to the dimension of precariousness; and that it is even perceived differently by different types of workers.

The issue closes with a review by José Ignacio Antón Pérez (Universidad de Salamanca). The book reviewed is by Juan Ponce and is entitled “Los primeros pasos: políticas para el desarrollo infantil y la educación en América Latina” (Editorial FLACSO, Ecuador).

We hope that these papers will be of interest to those who read the Journal of World Economy and we invite you to send your manuscripts, so that we can continue to build this publication with quality and relevant contributions.

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