Thanks are due to many individuals who helped in various ways to bring this issue of *Finance, Innovations and HRM aspects in modern organisations* to fruition. Hopefully the papers assembled here will provide a basis for constructive consideration about the policy choices now emerging in industry, government, and modern firms.

First of all, the author of “The latest streams in finance research: An updated bibliometric mapping based on co-occurrence data” aims to analyse the latest streams in finance research using bibliographic mapping in order to identify the most relevant topics, journals, universities and countries, and to visualise the interrelations among them. Based on the co-occurrence frequencies of key terms, their term map provides a visual representation of the latest research in finance.

The second paper is entitled “Improved financial performance without improved operational efficiency: The case of Nigerian firms” which uses four different panel unit root tests to establish the stationarity of financial performance and operational efficiency in Nigeria, using one key performance variable and three efficiency variables with a cross-section of the 20 most quoted companies on the Nigerian Stock Exchange. The study shows that profit after tax is non-stationary while return on assets, portfolio activity & resilience and asset turn ratio are stationary.

The third paper is entitled “Cooperative banks’ social responsibility: The lending activities of a group of cooperative banks in Poland”. This paper examines the lending activities of cooperative banks and aims to diagnose the factors affecting the structure of lending activities based on a group of 75 cooperative banks in Poland. The author shows that, as the activity of cooperative banks grow, credit activity increases; however, there is a gradual decrease in the share of loans to farmers in portfolio.

In turn, the authors of the paper entitled “Determining the factors of cash holdings – the case of Romanian non-financial companies” investigate the determinants of cash holdings for Romanian companies for the period of 2006-2015, focusing on the motives, determinants and theories of cash holdings. This paper’s primary findings suggest that, for non-financial companies, cash holdings are influenced by the state of the economy. Such research is rare at least in terms of the specialised literature from Romania.

The paper entitled “On the co-existence of innovation and creativity in the Lean Management environment” focuses on the preliminary identification of the determinants of innovation and creativity in enterprises and their bilateral coordination in the Lean Management environment. Through case studies, the authors show that, in practice, unnecessary artificial divisions of these areas of the company’s operations are created.

The next paper is entitled “Examining the impact of employee core self-evaluations and organisational trust on work engagement”. The author examines the impact of core self-evaluations (CSE) and organisa-
tional trust on work engagement through the intervening steps of employee pro-social voice and defensive silence during periods of financial and economic crisis. The study successfully traces the dimensions of employee pro-social voice and defensive silence that have the greatest impact on work engagement in a labour context where unemployment is very high.

The paper “Territorial differences of countries with regard to the wellness lifestyle of their youth” focuses on the issue of education about healthy lifestyles and consequently the future target group of wellness tourism, examining European college students to discern whether there are territorial differences in the wellness lifestyle of youth and which major characteristics are typical of Hungarian youth. The authors eventually fine-tuned the factors determining the wellness lifestyle in our so-called wellness roulette and make recommendations for lifelong learning in terms of healthy lifestyles.

The final paper of this issue is entitled “The importance of products made of certified wood materials to consumers in the Czech Republic”. This paper aims to assess the current state of consumer attitudes towards the preference for environmentally friendly products as well as attitudes towards social responsibility. As a result, the authors explore the relationship between consumer preferences for certified wood products and secondary data from research into social responsibility in the same year in the Czech Republic.

All the papers trace the forces that have given rise to each phenomenon, assess its prospects, and consider its implications for the performance of research in industry. Some authors explore the dilemmas arising from the circumstances in each paper, finding a clear path toward resolving them.

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