Call for papers

Journal of Economics and Business (JEB) Special issue on

"Managing Emerging Risks:

Financial Implications of Climate, Geopolitical, and Cybersecurity Threats for Firms."

Submission deadline: July 31st, 2025

Guest Editors

Sabri Boubaker, EM Normandie Business School, France & Swansea University, UK. Walid Saffar, Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong.

Nowadays, companies are confronted with a multitude of risks that pose significant challenges to their operations, survival, and growth. From the pervasive threat of climate change and cybersecurity risk to the complexities of geopolitical tensions, these risks demand proactive strategies and innovative solutions. These risks stem from a variety of sources, including technological advancements, economic fluctuations, regulatory changes, and shifting market dynamics. One of the primary challenges firms encounter is the pace at which technology evolves. Companies that fail to adapt to technological advancements risk losing their competitive edge and may struggle to meet evolving customer expectations. Economic uncertainty also presents significant risks to businesses. Economic downturns can lead to reduced consumer spending, tighter credit conditions, and increased market volatility, all of which can adversely affect a company's financial situation.

Regulatory changes represent another critical area of risk for businesses. Governments and regulatory bodies frequently update policies and regulations that can impact various aspects of operations, from compliance requirements to tax obligations. Navigating these changes can be complex and resource-intensive, particularly for firms operating in multiple jurisdictions. Shifting market dynamics further complicate the business landscape. Consumer preferences, industry trends, and competitive forces are constantly evolving, requiring firms to be agile and responsive. Companies that fail to understand and adapt to these changes risk losing market share and relevance.

In conclusion, the dynamic nature of the business environment presents a range of risks that companies must address to ensure long-term success. By staying prepared for cybersecurity risks and informed about technological advancements, economic fluctuations, regulatory changes, and shifting market dynamics, firms can develop strategies to mitigate these risks and capitalize on opportunities. Implementing solid risk management practices, investing in market research, and maintaining a proactive approach to innovation are essential for addressing the uncertainties of the business environment and achieving sustainable growth.

The special issue aims to attract innovative and methodologically rigorous empirical articles that explore the intricate web of risks facing firms and enhance our understanding of the risk management landscape. We are particularly interested in studies that address unique or underexplored questions and make a substantial contribution to the body of knowledge, such as providing innovative empirical insights and offering novel applications of existing theories. These papers should have a solid theoretical foundation, a robust identification strategy, contemporary relevance, and practical implications for policymakers and practitioners.

We welcome submissions that address, but are not limited to, the following topics:

1. Climate Risk Management

- Understanding the impact of climate change on business operations and supply chains.
- Assessing the financial and reputational risks associated with extreme weather events and regulatory changes.
- Exploring strategies for climate resilience, including adaptation measures and sustainable business practices.

2. Geopolitical Risk Analysis

- Analyzing geopolitical tensions and their implications for international trade and investment.
- Assessing the impact of geopolitical instability on supply chain resilience and market access.
- Developing strategies to mitigate geopolitical risks, such as diversification and political risk insurance.
- 3. *Cybersecurity Risk*: Data breaches; ransomware attacks; cyber-criminality; and intellectual property theft.

TIMELINE AND SUBMISSION PROCESS

The system will open for submissions on April 1st, 2025. The deadline for submissions of full papers is July 31st, 2025. All submissions must be uploaded to the journal website https://www.editorialmanager.com/jeb/, indicating that the manuscript is for the Special Issue on "ManagingRisks." Papers will be subject to the JEB standard fees and double-blind normal reviewing process. The Special Issue is expected to be published in 2026.

For queries, please contact any of the guest editors: sboubaker@em-normandie.fr or walid.saffar@polyu.edu.hk

Guest-editors' short bios

Sabri Boubaker is a Professor of Finance at EM Normandie Business School (France) and the <u>University of Swansea</u> (United Kingdom). He is the recipient of "The Economic Research Foundation's Research Award 2022" from the "Centrum för Forskning om Ekonomiska Relationer, Sweden" and the best corporate finance paper award at the 2023 Asian Finance Conference. Sabri Boubaker has published many academic papers (+120 papers) in international refereed journals, such as the *Journal of Corporate Finance, Journal of Banking and Finance, Journal of International Money and Finance, Financial Management, Journal of Business Ethics, Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control, Auditing: A Journal of Theory & Practice, British Journal of Management, and British Accounting Review. Pr. Boubaker also <u>serves on editorial</u>*

boards of many accounting and finance academic journals, such as British Journal of Management, Journal of International Financial Markets, Institutions & Money (AE), International Review of Financial Analysis (AE), International Review of Economics and Finance (AE), International Journal of Finance & Economics (AE), Emerging Markets Review (SE), Finance Research Letters (AE), Global Finance Journal (AE), and Business Ethics, the Environment and Responsibility (AE), Sabri Boubaker is the co-founder and co-chair of the annual Paris Financial Management Conference (2013–), The Vietnam Symposium in Banking and Finance (2016), and the Annual Meeting of the International Society for the Advancement of Financial Economics.

Walid Saffar is a Professor of Finance at The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. He holds an M.B.A. in finance from Laval University, Canada, and a Ph.D. in finance from HEC Montreal, Canada. He taught at HEC Montreal, The University of Southern Indiana, and The American University of Beirut before joining The Hong Kong Polytechnic University in 2012. Dr. Saffar's research interests primarily cover privatization, political connections, political institutions, and corporate governance. He has an interdisciplinary scope with publication in top journals in Finance (Journal of Financial Economics and Journal of Financial and Quantitative Analysis), Accounting (Journal of Accounting Research and Journal of Accounting and Economics), International Business (Journal of International Business Studies), Management (Strategic Management Journal), and Ethics (Journal of Business Ethics). Dr. Saffar received several research distinctions and awards, including the Esdras Minville Award for the best PH.D. student publication at HEC Montreal, the Emerald Citations of Excellence Award, the Best Paper Award in Corporate Governance at the Global Finance Conference, and the Best Paper Award at the World Accounting Frontiers Series Conference. In 2014, he was awarded the Faculty of Business Prize for Outstanding Performance in Research, and in 2016, he received the Faculty of Business Award for Outstanding Performance in Research. In 2017, he was awarded the Faculty of Business Fellow Award for making a significant contribution that raises the reputation of the Faculty of Business and the Hong Kong Polytechnic University.