



Editorial

Linking technology foresight and entrepreneurship



Entrepreneurship has gained the renewed attention of academicians as well as policy makers since the early 1990s due to its role in innovation and value creation. Various disciplines approach entrepreneurship from a multitude of perspectives to try to understand the insights of the journey, which begins with idea generation and results in innovation driven economies. The inevitable interaction of entrepreneurship and technology foresight promises to be one of the most popular fields of the 21st century. There is a need for more interdisciplinary research on linking them.

Entrepreneurship and technology foresight also raise more fundamental questions concerning the relationship between the entrepreneur and the technology creation. Moreover, ethical, political and even religious dilemmas are put on the public agenda. The dynamics of technology innovation and its subsequent exploitation in the value chain network are in need of additional research. Questions of interest include, but are not limited to:

1. What is the impact of entrepreneurship and technology foresight on the global economy and how this impact will grow in the following decades?
2. Which factors affect the success of entrepreneurship and technology foresight?
3. How effective are the public policies supporting entrepreneurship and technology foresight in different countries?
4. How can we model/measure risk and opportunity in entrepreneurship and technology foresight?
5. What are some issues and challenges in creating successful business strategies for the implementation of technology foresight and intrapreneurship in companies?
6. How can we measure the effectiveness of R&D programs on technology foresight leading to intrapreneurship?
7. Which criteria can be used for the evaluation of funding/investment decisions of entrepreneurship/intrapreneurship and technology foresight projects?
8. How can we measure value creation for customers by entrepreneurship/intrapreneurship and technology foresight?
9. What kind of mechanisms and partnerships affect the emergence of successful entrepreneurship and technology foresight outcomes?
10. How is power exercised during the process of starting a business and partnering research projects?
11. How would the relatively modern trend of assigning patent rights to universities impact diffusion of technology foresight practices and entrepreneurship leading to industrial growth?

This special issue comprising fifteen papers intends to improve our understanding of how to link entrepreneurship and technology foresight. The first paper is the reprint of Prof. Linstone's 1969 paper "When is a Need a Need? The Problem of Normative Forecasting in a Changing Environment", to start the discussion on the topic of interest.

Twenty-nine researchers participated in the project, reporting their research in eleven countries, from five continents. This shows the widely distributed interest in this topic, reflecting its urgency and importance. We hope that the papers in this special issue will answer some of the above-mentioned questions for interested readers, provide insights for practitioners as well as inspire further research on this topic.

M. Atilla Öner
Managing Guest Editor
Yeditepe University, Istanbul, Turkey
E-mail address: maoner@yeditepe.edu.tr

Özlem Kunday
Guest Editor
Yeditepe University, Istanbul, Turkey
E-mail address: okunday@yeditepe.edu.tr