

Research Seminar with Prof. Diogenis Baboukardos



Dr Diogenis Baboukardos is an Associate Professor of Accounting at Audencia Business School in France. Before joining Audencia, he was a Senior Lecturer (Associate Professor) at Essex Business School, University of Essex, UK where he is currently a visiting research fellow. He is also a research affiliate of the Adam Smith Observatory of Corporate Reporting Practices at the University of Glasgow, UK. He has held teaching and research appointments in France, UK, Sweden and Greece. His research interests lie in the broad field of corporate reporting with a particular focus on issues related to sustainability and climate change reporting. His research has been published in various academic journals (such as the Journal of Accounting & Public Policy, British Accounting Review, Accounting Forum and Regional Studies) and it has been funded by professional bodies and regulators (such as the UK Financial Reporting Council, the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, and the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland). He is also involved in consultancy projects in relation to the application of UN's Sustainability Development Goals in local councils. He is the secretary of the BAFA Financial Accounting Reporting Special Interest Group and editorial board member of the Sustainability Accounting, Management and Policy Journal, the Journal of Accounting in Emerging Economies and the European Management Journal whilst he serves as reviewer in various journals in the fields of accounting, finance and business studies. He is a fellow of the Higher Education Academy of the UK and a member of the European Accounting Association, the British Accounting & Finance Association, and the International Association for Accounting Education & Research. He has a rich professional record with extensive experience in accounting and taxation consultancy positions. His main professional expertise is related to financial reporting, financial management, and tax compliance.

Research Project to be discussed

“Companies’ readiness to adopt IFRS S2 Climate-related Disclosures and firm risk”

Abstract: We are witnessing a significant effort from accounting standard setters and capital market authorities to standardize corporate reporting for climate-related issues. The main goal of this standardization process is to make such disclosures, which are largely voluntary till today, more relevant for capital market participants. Investors are particularly interested in climate-related disclosures that deal with climate change risks (both physical and transition) and hence these new reporting standards are expected to play a key role in informing investors’ decision making. The IFRS Foundation is in the centre of these endeavours with the formation of the International Sustainability Standards Board (ISSB) in 2021. Soon after its formation, the ISSB released the exposure draft IFRS S2 “Climate-related Disclosures”, which focuses on firms’ disclosures around climate change with a particular emphasis on risk aspects. Motivated by these developments, we first examine the extent of climate-related disclosures in the 2021 annual and sustainability reports of an international sample of 150 companies from three industries (Chemicals, Construction Material and Metals and Mining) with high carbon footprint and hence high impact on climate change. In particular, we compare these firms’ climate-related disclosures against the total set of disclosures required by the IFRS S2 exposure draft to examine the ‘preparedness’ of these companies to apply the new Standard. Second, we examine whether the level of disclosures provided is associated with firms’ systematic and idiosyncratic risk. To the extent that these disclosures are informative over the climate risks companies are facing, we expect that the level of disclosures should be associated to firms’ risk. Our findings indicate that our sample firms disclose already, to some extent, information required by the IFRS S2 exposure draft. Further, we show that firms’ risk is lower for firms that already disclose particular categories of disclosures required by the IFRS S2. Our study provides useful evidence for standard setters and capital market authorities around their efforts to enhance the quality of climate-related disclosures.

Exchanging views on the publication process

“Stories from doing research: From idea to publication”

Description: This seminar intends to shed some light upon the process of publishing an article in academic journals. Dr Baboukardos will share his experience in publishing articles from conceiving the idea to publishing the work. Special focus will be given to how we execute the process (e.g. how we come up with an interesting research question, how we collect data to examine our research question, how we analyse the data). The seminar is open to both doctoral students and academics. No prior preparation is needed for attending the event.

Time & place

Tuesday, 20 June 2023, 11:00-12:30

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