



**INTERNATIONAL ACADEMIC INSTITUTE**

**BOOK OF ABSTRACTS**

**International Virtual Academic Conference**

**Education and Social Sciences  
Business and Economics**

**22 September 2021**

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**ISBN 978-608-4881-25-4**

# **The implementation at the national level of the European legislation regarding the administration and recovery of assets resulting from crimes. An overview of the Romanian case**

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## **Abstract**

In recent years, the European Union has insisted that convicts should be deprived of illegally obtained goods as a result of a crime. The asset confiscation resulted from crimes is one of the most effective tools in the fight against organized crime. In order to ensure a common approach to confiscation within the EU, several EU legislative instruments have been adopted in recent years, among which there are the most common secondary EU legislation as decisions, directives and regulations. Thus, confiscation is a strategic priority in the EU's fight against organized crime and, as such, has been reflected in the EU's Internal Action Strategy. The purpose of this paper is to make an analysis on the EU legislation regarding the administration and recovery of assets resulting from crimes. Also, the qualitative research of this work will be conducted in order to underline how Romania, as an EU member state, adapted and change its domestic legislation and which authorities and procedures were created in order to fulfill with main EU legislative requirements.

*Keywords:* confiscation, asset recovery, asset management, regulation, decisions

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# Bringing the Youth Back in Political Participation: Latvian Youth Representation in Local Governments, the National Parliament and the European Parliament

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## Abstract

After the collapse of the Soviet Union, post-soviet countries saw high levels of political participation. In the first democratic national elections of 1993, voter turnout in Latvia was 89.9 per cent. However, by the late 90s the participation levels had significantly decreased. As many noted scholars have pointed out, this dramatic decrease was a result of people gradually learning the limits of democratic governance while tackling the feeling of political powerlessness and decreasing trust in politicians and political institutions – all of which have had negative effects on civil society and democratic ideals (Howard 2003, Inglehard and Catterberg 2003). Youth in particular has been affected by the sum of all this, seeing first-hand the economic problems of small towns, income inequality, economic stagnation, corruption and personal unemployment, or that of their parents. All this, combined with lack of democratic traditions has resulted in scepticism and political apathy.

Youth participation in particular is essential for the continuation of political processes; their input should be valued in setting local agenda. Participation in political parties or political party youth organisations is one such field where youth can get involved in order to help set the agenda, and also use them as platforms to later run for office. Even though most political parties in Latvia have very weak youth organisations, there is plenty of opportunity that youth can use to get involved in politics, especially on local government level, where competition is scarce, or youth is even given an advantage, because in comparison to the general population of some small towns, they have acquired better education, they know foreign languages, and they have better IT skills.

This paper shows that since 2009, Latvia has seen a decrease in share of youth who run as MP candidates in local government elections, national parliament elections and the European Parliament elections. In 2009, the share of youth (aged 18-30) of the population who ran in local government elections was 23.6 per cent, and in the European Parliament elections (aged 21-30) 19 per cent, same as in the national parliament elections. However in the elections from 2017 through 2019, the numbers have decreased to 18.9, 15.5 and 14.7 per cent respectively. The paper aims to clarify the reasons for the decrease of youth participation, when economic factors and general welfare have increased (GDP per capita ppp increased from 12,288 in 2009 to 17,858 in 2019). The paper explores the role traditional socialization agents (family, church, education) play compared to some newer ones, e.g., social media and influencers, who have become mass consumer and marketing tools for political parties.

*Keywords:* Civil Society, Political Participation, Democracy, Political Activism, Youth

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*Note: The article has been written in the framework of the project “Vērtības darbībā: atbildīgas, drošas un izglītotas pilsoniskās sabiedrības attīstība ar pētniecību un rīcības modeļu izstrādes palīdzību” (Values in Action: promotion of responsible, secure and educated civil society in Latvia through research and model development) project no. VPP-IZM-2018/1-0013.*

# **Civil Society Organisations in the European Union and Their Activities in Times of Crisis: The Case of Latvia in the Context of Political Crisis in Belarus**

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## **Abstract**

This research assesses the role of the civil society organisations (CSOs) in the European Union in times of a crisis. The civil society is a critical component when communities must band together and respond to a crisis, such as political crisis in Belarus following the fraudulent presidential election on 9 August 2020. Under these circumstances, civil society often facilitates understanding of government activities, allowing citizens to better understand and evaluate specific policy decisions and the execution of government authority, along with providing citizens with the skills to voice their concerns and act collectively. Based on this premise, this research presents a case study of Latvia. The analysis focuses on activities of four Latvian CSOs and their actions towards providing assistance to the Belarusian civil society, which has suffered repressions from the Belarusian political regime: “MARTA Centre”, the Latvian Platform for Development Cooperation (LAPAS), “The Civic Alliance – Latvia” and volunteer movement “#stayhome”. The research concludes that activities of the four CSOs mentioned above, has been directly aimed to not only mobilize the civil society of Latvia to help with assistance for the civil society in Belarus, but also to mobilize the decision-makers to adopt an effective and sustainable decisions towards an assistance for Belarusian civil society.

*Keywords:* Civil society organisations, European Union, humanitarian crisis, Belarus, Latvia.

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*Note: The article has been written in the framework of the project “Values in action: Development of a responsible, secure and educated civil society through research and the development of models of action”, project nr. VPP-IZM-2018/1-0013.*

## **EU and the Republic of North Macedonia - relations and influence, after the renaming period**

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### **Abstract**

The Republic of North Macedonia has been listening to the explanations for the refusing to join the EU for almost two decades, which, although different, still contain the words; "not ready" for EU membership or "too early". The mutual "fatigue" has brought the EU and North Macedonia, as well as the other aspiring countries from the Western Balkans, to a dead end. In general, "rich" Europe is justifiably concerned about the implications of admitting new members whose economies and policies are underdeveloped and require decades of attention and support. However, inactivity also comes at a price. North Macedonia and the other Western Balkan countries outside the EU are a serious geostrategic challenge and may have as many consequences as the accession of these countries to the Union, regardless of their real readiness. After the French "no" for Albania and North Macedonia, part of the Western Balkans was integrated into "Mini-Schengen" or "Open Balkans". This asks the questions: Is the "Open Balkans" a substitute for the EU? Does the EU leave a space for the Western Balkans to be a target of Eurasian geostrategic interests? Is North Macedonia ready to start the process of pre-accession negotiations with the EU or does it expect a political "reward" as a support of the concessions it has made in the name dispute with Greece? This paper aims to show the EU's attitude towards North Macedonia.

*Keywords:* Western Balkans, EU, Republic of North Macedonia, integration

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# Geoid modeling for the Republic of Albania using global geopotential models

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## Abstract

Determination of geoid model has a very great importance to the development of surveying the various tasks within a state. Given this, one of the main tasks of geodesy is to determine the geoid. Recent technology has advanced a lot and some of the classical methods come from emerging out of use because of the length to take the realization of measurements and data processing. Nowadays, satellite gravity models are routinely used to provide long-wavelength gravitational field information for regional geoid modeling. Taking into consideration that this was said above, for determining the geoid model are used geopotential global models to achieve a more appropriate model for Albania. In this research is used DFHRS methods ([www.dfhb.de](http://www.dfhb.de)), developed by the University of Applied Sciences Karlsruhe, Faculty of Geomatics (Jäger, 1999). The database used for the calculation, consists of points with three-dimensional coordinates determined by GPS measurements in ETRF2000, as well as the height determined by accurate leveling. The main focus of this study is located in calculating the most appropriate geoid model for Albania by using 2 (two) global geopotential models (EGG97, EGM2008). After analyzing the results and comparing models among themselves been selected EGM2008 model as the model that best fits the territory of Albania.

*Keywords:* Geoid model, global geopotential models, GPS / leveling, DFHRS method, Republic of Albania.

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# Cultural rights within the fundamental laws of the Romanian modern state

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## Abstract

Besides the well-known international organizations, democratic modern states have also been struggling to guarantee their citizens the fundamental rights and freedoms. That is why in the fundamental laws governing their statehood, their constitutions, there were articles included precisely to defend such rights and freedoms, but also stating the responsibilities that citizens have in such cases. In addition, in the legislative subsequent framework, punishments were specified for violating these principles, thus preventing abuses. Education is a lifelong process that constantly improves its methods depending on the educational stages of the individual, but also depending on the cultural and political context. However, we are not only dealing with a cultural process, but also with a key step in the progress of society, often an essential condition for economic, political or social development. This paper follows in a comparative analytical study the constitutional evolution of the right to education such as it was set out since the dawn of the modern Romanian state until nowadays.

*Keywords:* cultural rights, education, schooling, Romanian Constitution.

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<sup>1</sup> “This paper was financially supported by the Human Capital Operational Program 2014-2020, co-financed by the European Social Fund, under the project POCU/380/6/13/124708 no. 37141/23.05.2019, with the title “Researcher-Entrepreneur on Labor Market in the Fields of Intelligent Specialization (CERT-ANTREP)”, coordinated by the National University of Political Studies and Public Administration.”

## Human Rights in COVID-19 era

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### Abstract

The world is facing an unprecedented crisis. At its core is a global public health emergency on a scale not seen for a century, requiring a global response with far-reaching consequences for our economic, social and political lives. The priority is to save lives. In view of the exceptional situation and to preserve life, countries have no choice but to adopt extraordinary measures. Extensive lockdowns, adopted to slow transmission of the virus, restrict by necessity freedom of movement and, in the process, freedom to enjoy many other human rights. Such measures can inadvertently affect people's livelihoods and security, their access to health care (not only for COVID-19), to food, water and sanitation, work, education – as well as to leisure. Measures need to be taken to mitigate any such unintended consequences. Guaranteeing human rights for everyone poses a challenge for every country around the world to a differing degree. The public health crisis is fast becoming an economic and social crisis and a protection and human rights crisis rolled into one. In some, ongoing crises, especially armed conflict, put human rights and other international legal protections under extra pressure.

*Keywords:* human rights, human rights in crisis, covid – 19 crisis, guaranteeing human rights.

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## The mediatization of the infodemic: why we need a constructive journalism.

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### **Abstract**

The role of the media in a social, political, or health crisis is crucial. The free flow of the information, the democratic way of transmitting the news, the uncompromised mission to tell the truth, is for the media a must, and for the audience a necessity. This is more important in terms of a pandemic, the Covid-19 crisis, when there is a growing need for a balanced, constructive, fact-based information. Most of our views of the world, our perceptions about what is important and what is not, are shaped not only by our family or the education system, but also by the media, mainstream or social media. Consulting many studies of the field, arguing the media role in a global pandemic, I attempt to connect the dots between the coronavirus crisis and the mediatization of our life. As Deuze (2020) stated in his study, “All of [the professionals] expectations are grounded in a belief, that what journalists and other communicators do in media matters to how people act and feel – a belief deeply informed by a perspective of a mediatized world”. Based on media theories, notable studies, and on a media monitoring, I try to explain why a constructive way of doing journalism is very important in a mediatized crisis.

*Keywords:* Covid-19 crisis, mediatization, infodemic, constructive journalism.

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## **Challenges for Organizational Management in the Network Society**

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### **Abstract**

The social, economic, political, cultural, technological transformations that took place at the end of the second millennium led to the birth of a network society, a society in which social structures are organized by social networks. In this context, individuals or legal entities are interconnected through new virtual technologies. Social Media has become an influential communication tool in the organizational space, aiming at maintaining relationships based on dialogue and sharing values between members of organizations. This article aims to study how the changes brought about by the network society contribute to increase the degree of organizational efficiency, using qualitative research methods (interviews). The peculiarities of the network company lead to a better internal collaboration, to the construction of a collaborative culture, of network type, within which the employees have an increasing level of expertise. From the point of view of communication, the development of information technologies has led to the unification and simplification of procedures; a form of autonomous communication is being developed with the aim of minimizing and mitigating human intervention; face-to-face communication decreases, mediated communication through digital networks increases dramatically. This article concludes the major impact that network society has on organizational management.

*Keywords:* network society, organizational management, organizational structure, communication.

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## The Motivation Survey of Thai Volunteer Students

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### Abstract

Despite the dangerous outbreak of the COVID-19 virus, many students continue to work as volunteers for various reasons. Volunteer work is work done for the public and has no wages for members. Therefore, motivation may be the factor that motivates students to do this type of work. The objective of this study is to explore what types of motivational regulations led these students to volunteer work by applying a framework of Self-determination theory. Self-determination theory is a psychological framework, which consists of three main types of motivational regulations [amotivation, extrinsic motivation (external, introjected, identified, and integrated regulations), and intrinsic motivation]. Based on a survey of 80 students who previously worked as volunteers, the result of the final question (Choosing one of the motivational regulations that motivate them the most for volunteering.) shows the type of motivational regulations chosen the most is external regulation (external demands) by 40% of all respondents, followed by identified (consciously valued goals), intrinsic regulations (enjoyment) and amotivation (no intention) respectively. In contrast, the least chosen types of motivational regulations are integrated (values fully assimilated into self) and introjected regulations (compulsion) by the same percentage (2.5%).

*Keywords:* Self-determination, Volunteer, Extrinsic motivation, Intrinsic motivation

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## Factors that contribute to Thai student lack of self-awareness.

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### Abstract

The goals of this study were as follows: (1) to collect data on factors influencing the sample group's self-unknown problem (2) to categorize the factors based on how much of an impact they had on the target group. (3) Summarize the factors that have the greatest impact on the sample group.

A total of 140 people were interviewed. The research tool was a Google form questionnaire that classified the factors into three categories, one of which was the family factor. Environmental and educational considerations use for 23 days.

According to the findings of family factors, parents did not support the chosen career path. Expectations of parents that compare themselves to others, and the financial situation of the family it was discovered that the factors of parent's expectations of Thai students had the greatest influence there were 62 responses to this factor, and the parent factor that did not support the chosen occupation had the least impact, with 27 responses. It was discovered that the occupational values factor of Thai people had the greatest impact, with 85 people. The educational factor was the number of hours, and the friend group environment factor that affected the least, which was 38 people. Study an excessive number of courses It was discovered that 117 students had the greatest effect on the number of hours of study, while the factor on learning freedom had the least effect, at 77.

*Keywords:* Expectations of parents, Thai people, Educational factor, The occupational values, Family factors

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## **Physical effects and attitude about schedule arrangement of online learning during covid-19 pandemic on 13-22 years old learners in Thailand.**

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### **Abstract**

During the covid-19 pandemic, Thai learners currently study in an online system. The rationale behind this study is an online studying force learners to use electronic devices and spend long period of time in the same posture. Therefore, this can lead to increases in physical health problems in 13-22 years old learners.

This study aims to investigate the physical effects of the present arrangement of schedule and attitudes of 13-22 years old learners toward the adjustment of the online learning system in Thailand.

The hypothesis of this study is studying via electronic devices can lead to several health problems. Moreover, learners are not pleased to educate in this system and agree that online learning is one of the factors which caused physical illness. The process started by distributing an online survey to 13-22 years old learners in Thailand. Responders randomly came from every part of Thailand and are asked to answer questions about their attitudes, period of studying in front of electronic devices, duration of online studying, and physical health problems which responders have after being in this form of education. The results from the survey showed that a majority of the sample believe that online learning is not the best option and think that it can lead to physical health issues. According to the results, there are a small number of samples who do not have physical health problems. Furthermore, various physical health problems can occur in learners, for instance, back aching, head aching, body aching, office syndrome, sleep deprivation, numbness, eye problems, allergy, obesity, digestive problems, knee pain, and fainting.

These results illustrate those 13-22 years old learners prefer to study on-site systems instead of online. In addition, it can conclude that learning in an online system can contribute to physical illness among 13-22 years old Thai students.

*Keywords:* online learning, covid-19; physical health problems; learners; Thailand; electronic devices

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## Supply Chain Tracing

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### Abstract

Large percent of companies didn't realize the business value of traceability of their own supply chain, in fact this is very significant because traceability can improve supply chain management cause more efficiency, cost saving, and achieving environmental sustainability

Blockchain technology enable traceability in the supply chain and disturbing the food industry. Blockchain is a distributed ledger technology that can provide limited data between different independence actors in supply chain (transporters, processors, brokers etc.) without having to trust one another. The decentralization of blockchain can reduce risk of data loss or manipulated data from single-point, so we don't need to rely on "trust" between network participants. By cooperation with IOT and machine learning we can create a solution for the supply chain problem by using IOT and machine learning, to create and maintain segregation product information and data (such as product ID). Using blockchain to store and decentralized the data while actors and customer can access the data by scan the QR code on the product package (blockchain allow parties the ability to control who gets to see what data by different level of accessibility)

*Keywords:* Traceability, Sustainability, Blockchain.

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## **Disinformation: A promising solution for false information spreading in the pandemic**

**Pannatat Kitikangsadan <sup>1</sup>, Mr. Aldo Ramos Calsi<sup>1</sup>**

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### **Abstract**

For a millennium, technology has driven people in education, communication, and economics. Moreover, Digital information is straightforward to reach due to advancements in technology and the range of the internet. However, recently, various fake and unreliable news spread out on the internet, mainly about Covid-19. Unfortunately, due to information overload and users' restricted attention spans, social media platforms cannot discriminate material based on its quality. As a result, many unknowledgeable trusted in all the news appear on the internet, and no one can help them identify which sources to believe. Therefore, the government should create an article and criteria for checking for reliable sources. The most promising solutions are to provide information online directly from the government to trust the news quickly. Additionally, asking the media to publicize the situations we are in and any common facts about health; to solicit funds for hospitals from private organizations to spread out information accurately and immediately. Finally, to provide information through an accurate website with up-to-date data, in collaboration with our scientists. None of the information can be as reliable as a scientist who performs lab themselves, with physical evidences.

*Keywords:* Fake news, digital information, health, unreliable, accurately

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## **Knowledge, attitudes and willingness of adolescents towards COVID-19 vaccine in Bangkok, Thailand.**

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### **Abstract**

The outbreak of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) was declared by the World Health Organization (WHO) as a COVID-19 pandemic on March 11, 2020. Therefore, the availability of vaccines will help develop immunity and protect people from this pandemic.

In Thailand, people aged 12 to 17 will be the next group to receive the COVID-19 vaccine during the last quarter of the year 2021. Thus, it is important to study the attitudes and willingness towards COVID-19 vaccine of this age group. This present systematic study aimed to examine knowledge, attitudes, and willingness of adolescents towards COVID-19 vaccine in Bangkok, Thailand based on multiple-choice questions and Likert scales with 136 respondents. The results reveal that the majority of respondents revealed moderate knowledge about COVID-19, correctly answering 11.08 out of 15 points (SD = 1.74), a low level of attitudes towards COVID-19 vaccine 8.49 out of 15 points (SD = 2.51) and low level of willingness to vaccinate against COVID-19 vaccine 2.29 out of 5 points (SD = 1.26), in total of 35 points (28 questions). There are statistically significant positive correlations shown between attitude towards COVID-19 vaccine and the level of willingness to vaccinate against COVID-19 vaccine ( $\beta = 0.384$ ,  $p < .01\%$ ). This study revealed that adolescents had moderate knowledge towards COVID-19, negative attitudes toward COVID-19 vaccine and low willingness to vaccinate against COVID-19. Furthermore, it indicates that there is a casual relationship between attitudes towards COVID-19 vaccine and the willingness of individuals to be vaccinated against COVID-19 vaccine. Thus, attitude towards COVID-19 vaccine acts as a major predictive factor towards the willingness to vaccinate against COVID-19 vaccine. Therefore, to increase people's willingness to be vaccinated against COVID-19 vaccine, it is necessary to increase people's attitude towards COVID-19 vaccine.

*Keywords:* COVID-19 Vaccine, attitude toward vaccination against COVID-19, adolescents, willingness.

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## Trolley dilemma with different situations compare with Medical Ethics

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### Abstract

The main purpose of the research is to analyze human decisions in a difficult psychological and ethical situation within groups of people with different backgrounds, attitudes, and degrees of interest in medical career. The sample group contains 1) 100 students whose aims are for medical career 2) 100 students whose aims are not for medical career 3) 100 medical staffs and 4) 100 people in other careers. The information is from a data via the online platform and get at least 400 valid answers in total. The questionnaires can be separated into three parts: 1) samples' information, 2) the different decisions in trolley dilemmas compare with more details then analyze the results with the first answer and the group standard, 3) problem-solving due to medical ethics from contrast point of view on medical dilemmas, and 4) advanced decisions from a different experience refer from people background. P-value was used to statistical analysis. The results showed that the effect of general moral opinion changes people's responses that contravene their thought when they learned more details of characters and environment. Moreover, medical staffs and people who are interest in medical career paths answered by using more medical ethics enclosed in their answer more than normal people and students who are not interested in medical career.

*Keywords:* Trolley dilemma, Medical ethics, general moral opinion, problem-solving, medical career path

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## The impact of music on the mental state of Thai high school students.

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### Abstract

This descriptive study aims to survey the effect of music in high school students on their mental health. The eligible participants are the Thai high school students in Nakhon-Ratchasima province. One-hundred-and fifty-one participants were concluded into the study with their inform consent. The data were collected by the questionnaires via online survey while descriptive statistics, percentage and mean were used in data analysis. The results revealed that 46.4%, 31.1% and 22.5% of participant are in grade 12, grade 11 and grade 10 respectively. Most of them (80.8%) are female. Pop music is the mostly liked (50.3%). Most of them (28.5%) spent time for more than 3 hours to listen the music while the time average is about 2 hours daily. Normally, they listen to the music at night (65.6%), evening (19.2%) and 7.3% in the morning respectively. The music consequenced most of them in positive way, there are 84.1% music affects in positive emotions and behaviours 48.3% felt happier with the music, while 38.9% are unable to express the feeling but the music was able to reduced their bad emotions. A half (51%) the music may improve their concentration whereas 42.4% music improved their concentration significantly. It is recommended that music was impact on the mental status of Thai high school students, this should be applied in strengthening way to reduce stress in positive ways.

*Keywords:* Thai high school students, music on mental health, mental health status, music impact.

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