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From energy transition to EU Integration: Kosovo's strategic path forward

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Abstract

Kosovo's European integration increasingly depends on its ability to consolidate a modern, sustainable and independent energy sector. This presentation argues that renewable energy not only represents an environmental and technical advantage but is also a strategic requirement for advancing Kosovo's aspirations to join the EU. While Kosovo has achieved political independence, its reliance on outdated coal-based systems, limited diversification and infrastructure shortcomings continue to hinder its compliance with European standards and policies. In this context, renewable energy becomes a key instrument for fulfilling the EU's criteria regarding the European Green Deal, climate neutrality and regional energy cooperation. This presentation analyzes how expanding solar, wind, and hydropower capacity can increase Kosovo's economic competitiveness, reduce external dependence, and bring the country closer to the regulatory and sustainability frameworks required by the European Union. The analysis shows that energy transformation is essential not only for strengthening internal stability, but also for strengthening Kosovo's external credibility as a future EU member. Therefore, the transition to clean energy should be considered as a comprehensive national project, linking economic modernization, environmental responsibility, national security, and the broader political objective of full European integration.

Keywords: European integration, renewable energy, energy independence, green transition, political sovereignty.

A Comprehensive Model of Corporate Sustainable Development: The Roles of Leadership Traits, Ethical Values, Organizational Justice, and Environmental Strategy

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Abstract

Drawing on the triple bottom line framework, this study hypothesized and tested the effects of different leadership traits on corporate sustainable development. This holistic approach shapes businesses by integrating three main dimensions: economic, social, and environmental. In addition, this study also tested the mediating effects of ethical values, organizational justice, and corporate environment strategy on the relationship between leadership traits and corporate sustainable development. We collected data from 596 managers via a cross-sectional survey and used PLS-SEM to test the theoretical model. Results demonstrate that different leadership traits have varying but significantly positive effects on the corporate sustainable development dimension. In addition, organizational justice has the most substantial mediating effect on the relationship between leadership traits and corporate environmental strategy. This study contributes to leadership and sustainable development literature by providing empirical evidence that different leadership traits have varying effects not only on corporate strategy but also on overall corporate sustainable development. The findings suggest that leaders in organizations should focus more on entrepreneurship, innovation, and social responsibility skills.

Keywords: corporate sustainable development, leadership traits, ethical values, organizational justice, environmental corporate strategy.

Digital Trends and Threats in Language and Translation Studies

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Abstract

The rapid expansion of digital technologies has fundamentally reshaped the landscape of language and translation studies, offering new opportunities, while simultaneously introducing complex challenges. This paper examines current digital trends, particularly the rise of AI-assisted translation tools, machine learning-based language processing, and integrated translation platforms, and evaluates their influence on professional and academic practices. While these developments have facilitated unprecedented access to multilingual communication, increased efficiency, and enhanced terminological consistency, they have also generated significant concerns regarding translator agency, data ethics, and the gradual erosion of human interpretive competence.

The study highlights three critical threats: the over-reliance on automated systems, the risk of dehumanized linguistic output, and the reduced visibility of the translator's intellectual contribution. Drawing on theoretical and applied perspectives, the paper argues that digital innovation must be approached through informed critical engagement rather than passive adoption. The findings emphasize the need for pedagogical adaptation, technological literacy, and ethical frameworks that preserve the epistemic and cultural role of human translation in an increasingly automated linguistic environment.

Keywords: digital translation, AI-assisted translation, language technologies, data ethics, professional practice, linguistic mediation, translation pedagogy.

Tourism Development Models And Sustainability: A Comparative Analysis Of Theth And Cortina D'Ampezzo

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Abstract

Mountain tourism in Albania has experienced significant growth in recent years. Mountain destinations like Theth, Valbona, and Kelmendi, year by year, are becoming more popular among international visitors. While the economic benefits of this growth are clear, there are also growing concerns about the sustainability of such rapid development.

Given these concerns, important questions arise: how should mountain tourism in Albania be developed to ensure its long-term sustainability? Which is the right tourism development model to follow?

This paper explores two different pathways of destination development. The first model is community-based tourism in Theth and the other, corporate-driven model in Cortina D'Ampezzo, Italy— both offering valuable insights into how mountain tourism can evolve.

Theth's model, offers a more participatory approach. In Theth, with the community playing a pivotal role in managing tourism activities and also a very well balance of distribution of generated income. However, this model also presents challenges in terms of capacity building, access to funding, and balancing the needs of tourists with the community's long-term goals.

On the other hand, Cortina D'Ampezzo tends to develop a more corporate-driven model, where large businesses dominate tourism activities. According this model, the community tends to play a secondary role in tourism.

The aim of this paper is not to establish which model is superior, but to critically evaluate each model through the lens of sustainability.

In conclusion, the rapid growth of mountain tourism in Albania offers both great potential and significant concerns. By examining different development models and their suitability with sustainable practices, this study aims to contribute to a more complex understanding and greater awareness of how mountain tourism can be developed in order that preserve the peculiarity and the beauty of these destinations meanwhile meeting the needs of both visitors and local populations.

Keywords: community-based tourism, corporate development model, authenticity, Theth, Cortina D'Ampezzo.

The Impact of Socio-Emotional Education on Students' Academic Performance

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Abstract

In today's rapidly evolving educational landscape, socio-emotional education has emerged as a powerful driver of student success. Beyond academic knowledge, the development of socio-emotional skills profoundly influences motivation, engagement, and overall well-being. This study explores how cultivating these competencies impacts students' academic performance, providing insights into effective educational practices. A mixed-methods approach is employed, combining surveys with students, interviews with teachers, and a thorough review of existing literature to create a comprehensive understanding of the subject.

Preliminary expectations indicate that students actively engaged in socio-emotional learning programs will achieve higher academic performance, demonstrate increased motivation, and participate more fully in classroom activities. Teacher interviews are anticipated to highlight best practices, reveal implementation challenges, and offer guidance for integrating socio-emotional strategies into everyday teaching.

The findings aim to deliver practical recommendations for educators and policymakers, bridging the gap between theory and practice. By fostering socio-emotional skills, schools can create supportive and motivating learning environments that enhance both academic outcomes and personal growth. Ultimately, this research underscores the transformative potential of socio-emotional education, equipping students with the tools to succeed academically while developing resilience, self-awareness, and interpersonal skills essential for lifelong learning.

Keywords: Socio-emotional education; Academic performance; Student motivation; Emotional regulation; Classroom engagement; Holistic development.

Smartphone Gyroscope-Based Analysis of Human Movement: An Open-Source Approach for iTUG Assessment

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Abstract

Smartphones contain high-quality gyroscopes that can capture angular velocity during human movement. Building on previous work using WebAssembly- and JupyterLite-based tools for browser-based biomechanics, this paper presents an opensource approach for instrumenting the Timed Up and Go (TUG) test using smartphone gyroscopes and the PhyPhox application. In this instrumented version (iTUG), the smartphone is attached to the lumbosacral region of the back, with the device's y-axis aligned with the longitudinal axis of the body. Rotation-rate measurements are recorded and later analyzed using open-source, browser-based Python environments. The paper outlines a measurement protocol, describes data interpretation for the phases of TUG, and discusses educational and clinical applications. Comparison is made with previous iTUG studies using accelerometry, demonstrating the viability of gyroscope-based assessment.

Keywords: biomechanics, gyroscope, iTUG, PhyPhox, smartphone sensors, WebAssembly, JupyterLite, physiotherapy.

When physician-patient relationships break down: phenomenology as a philosophical tool for approaching Chronic Fatigue Syndrome

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Abstract

Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (CFS) is a severely debilitating condition that often goes unacknowledged or belittled by clinicians. This is in part due to its unknown pathogenesis and the lack of effective interventions. In this article we address the breakdown in physician patient relationships by utilising phenomenology as a philosophical tool to understand the patient experience of CFS. By analysing patient narratives from the Care Opinion Website, we employed a phenomenological lens to interpret the difficulties of CFS and its care from the patient perspective. Patients commonly reported being unheard by their clinicians and being met but unsympathetic or aggressive attitudes due to their condition. These narratives highlight the mismatch between patients' lived experience of CFS and their doctor's more biomedical approach. Adopting a phenomenological lens brings the focus back to the patient's symptoms and has the potential to reduce stereotyping and the detrimental effect it has on CFS patients.

Keywords: Chronic fatigue syndrome (CFS), phenomenology, fatigue, communication, qualitative.

Unparliamentary Discourse and Gendered Power in Albania's Parliament

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Abstract

This study investigates the use of unparliamentary language in the Albanian Parliament, with a particular focus on how such language reflects and reinforces gendered power dynamics. Drawing on a corpus of parliamentary transcripts, the research applies critical discourse analysis to identify patterns of verbal aggression, insult and interruption directed at members of parliament. Special attention is given to gendered insults and the discursive strategies employed against female members of parliament. The findings reveal that unparliamentary language often targets women through explicitly gendered terms, subtle diminutives or condescending rhetorical devices that undermine their authority. Moreover, institutional responses to such language appear inconsistent, suggesting a gender bias in the enforcement of parliamentary norms. This study builds on existing research on language, politics, and gender, while bringing new data and a regional focus to ongoing debates about civility, gender and power in legislative settings. The paper concludes by advocating for stronger procedural frameworks to address gender-based verbal misconduct in political institutions. By foregrounding the Albanian case, the study contributes to comparative research on parliamentary discourse in post-socialist democracies. It also highlights the need for sustained institutional awareness of how linguistic practices shape political participation and democratic legitimacy.

Keywords: unparliamentary language, gendered political discourse, Albanian Parliament, legislative speech regulation.

Language as Thought in the Digital Age: Technology and the Construction of Contemporary Discourse

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Abstract

This article examines how digital technologies are reshaping the relationship between thought, language, and discourse, proposing the model of “digitally mediated discursivity.” Drawing on Vygotsky, Wittgenstein, theories of distributed and embodied cognition, as well as contemporary studies on multimodality, translanguaging, and artificial intelligence, the study argues that language functions as a cognitive habitat co-constructed by humans and technology. The theoretical analysis is interwoven with examples from digital learning environments, where students navigate across languages, modalities, and algorithms, developing transsemiotic competencies and new forms of discursive authorship. The article identifies three pedagogical pillars: multimodality as a way of thinking, digital translanguaging as an epistemic mechanism, and technology-conscious pedagogies as a counterbalance to AI-driven automation. The main contribution lies in conceptualizing digital classrooms as laboratories of hybrid thought and in offering an analytical framework for understanding how platforms, algorithms, and AI-assisted writing tools co-shape thinking, discourse, and educational practice in the Albanian context and beyond. This approach further highlights the importance of cultivating metacognitive awareness, enabling learners to critically examine how their interactions with digital tools shape not only their communicative practices but also the very processes through which they generate knowledge.

Keywords: digital technologies; language as thought; digitally mediated discursivity; multimodality; digital translanguaging.
