

# BSBI Gazette

Editor: **Professor Dr Kyriakos Kouveliotis**

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## EDITORIAL



**Professor Dr Kyriakos  
Kouveliotis**

**Provost & Chief Academic  
Officer, Berlin School of  
Business and Innovation**

For this week's Editorial, I want to share some memorable lines from the poem *Help Yourself to Happiness* by Helen Steiner Rice:

"Difficult because we think that  
happiness is found

Only in the places where wealth  
and fame abound.

And so we go on searching in  
palaces of pleasure

Seeking recognition and  
monetary treasure,

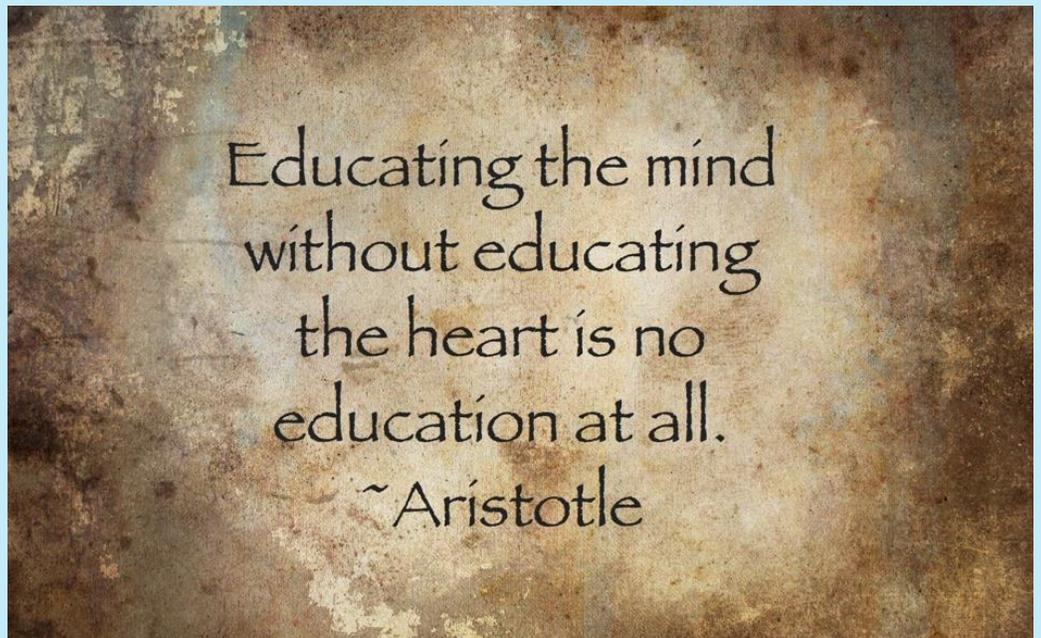
Unaware that happiness is just  
a state of mind

Within the reach of everyone  
who takes time to be kind.

For in making others happy we  
will be happy, too.

For the happiness you give away  
returns to shine on you."

## PHOTO OF THE WEEK



## INSPIRATIONAL QUOTES

*"Wisdom ...  
Comes not from age,  
but from education and learning."*  
Anton Chekhov

*"Leadership and Learning are  
indispensable to each other."*  
John F. Kennedy

*"Silence is the last thing the world will ever hear from me."*  
Marlee Matlin

***"Out of the  
mountain  
of despair,  
a stone of  
hope"***

Martin Luther King

# ARTICLE OF THE WEEK

## Advancing Universal Access to Information within the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

*Tawfik Jelassi*

On 28 September each year, we celebrate the International Day for Universal Access to Information. At a time when we are all trying to find efficient solutions to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, it is more essential than ever that we put forward universal access to information as a key pillar to building back better with resilient and inclusive knowledge societies capable of achieving sustainable development.

That is why this year's observance is centred on the theme "The Right to Know: Building Back Better Thanks to Access to Information". The International Day for Universal Access to Information is an opportunity to highlight the importance of expanding access to information laws and their effective implementation worldwide in order to advance the vision of information as a universal public good.

Data from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) show that as of August 2021, 132 United Nations Member States—almost 70 per cent—had adopted constitutional guarantees or enacted access to information laws. But the same figure shows that work still needs to be done to ensure that this fundamental right is enjoyed all around the world.

Where adopted and effectively implemented, access to information legislation plays a significant role in protecting the public's rights, especially in times of crisis or emergency. Proactively releasing accurate and verified information is vital to encouraging healthy behaviours, managing efficient responses and ultimately, saving lives. Examples include the publication of scientific knowledge; making data about health issues, vaccines and vaccination available; and accounting for spending on pandemic response and recovery funds. Such information helps build public confidence in evidence-based policies, including those developed in response to the pandemic.

The same applies to climate change and responses to this global emergency that will continue to threaten current and future generations. A well-informed and empowered public is necessary if we are to address this urgent challenge effectively.

Greater openness benefits not only citizens, but also governments. For example, open access to information can prompt better records

management, helping governments make informed decisions and provide more efficient services. It also serves as a safeguard against misgovernment and corruption. Specific measures, such as those promoting transparency in the management of public finances or the creation of public registers of lobbyists and interest groups, are useful tools in fighting corruption.

The 193 United Nations Member States that adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development recognized the right to information as a prerequisite and key driver for achieving sustainable development.

There has been progress, but more still needs to be done to ensure that women and girls, as well as marginalized groups or persons, including persons with disabilities and indigenous peoples, have access to information. Further efforts are also needed to address persistent gender-based and socioeconomic inequalities and to bridge divides in digital access, skills and literacy.

Against this backdrop, UNESCO serves as the United Nations custodian agency for Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indicator 16.10.2 on the number of countries that adopt and implement constitutional, statutory and/or policy guarantees for public access to information. The organization contributes to this target to ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements.

During this past year, UNESCO conducted a survey on public access to information and SDG indicator 16.10.2. A total of 102 countries took part in the research, compared to only 69 in 2020. This shows encouraging progress, and UNESCO will continue to monitor this aspect of SDG performance. UNESCO also facilitates capacity development initiatives and awareness-raising efforts on the importance of access to information.

This year's survey findings showed that:

- Having a dedicated capacity within public bodies improves access to information.
- Countries that have a specialized oversight institution perform better than those without.

- Record-keeping remains one of the major areas of improvement for these oversight institutions.
- Networks of oversight institutions are playing a key role in advocating for access to information in the framework of the SDGs.
- By adopting a multidisciplinary and inclusive approach, UNESCO works with both duty-bearers and rights-holders across the world to develop and implement targeted actions that are born out of local needs, which ultimately ensures a results-based approach for sustainable change. Further, the organization is also collaborating with stakeholders in finalizing updated Policy Guidelines for the Development and Promotion of Governmental Public Domain Information, which were formulated to inspire action.

Looking ahead, UNESCO will continue to promote multilingualism and linguistic diversity as an essential pillar of universal access to information. As the lead United Nations agency for the organization of the International Decade of Indigenous Languages (2022-2032), working with the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, we will continue to mobilize stakeholders around the importance of preserving these languages, with a view to building truly inclusive knowledge societies.

Today, we call on all Member States and partners to join us and support our action to ensure that information can be advanced as a public good and as a cornerstone of healthy and democratic societies, so that we can all make informed decisions for today and for tomorrow.

Source: <https://www.un.org/en/un-chronicle/advancing-universal-access-information-within-2030-agenda-sustainable-development>

## WEBSITES OF THE WEEK

[AI Image Generator \[Word into Picture\]](#)

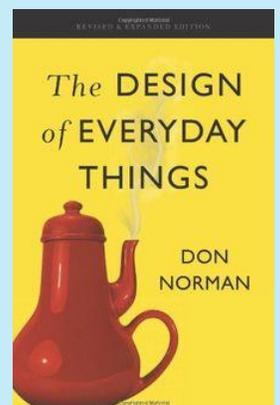
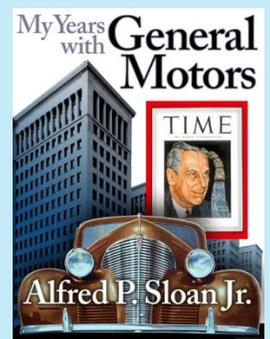
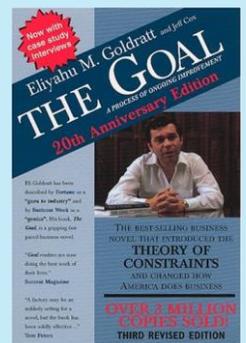
[A Programming Language for Hardware Accelerators](#)

[Computation-based Art Making](#)

[Open-source Photorealistic Simulator for Autonomous Driving](#)

[Computer Vision: Seeing the Whole from Some of the Parts](#)

## BOOKS OF THE WEEK



## VIDEOS OF THE WEEK



*How the brain create new ideas*



*We are all connected with nature*



*NASA and seeing the universe like we've never seen it before*



*The benefits of a bilingual brain*



*How to overcome fear?*

# WEEK IN REVIEW

All you need to know about everything that matters

Editor: **Professor Dr Kyriakos Kouveliotis**

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**Flavio Andrew Santos**, Lecturer

**Scientific domains:** Behavioral Economics in Tourism, Behavioral Pricing, Decision Making, Revenue Management

## TOURISM & HOSPITALITY

The 2<sup>nd</sup> **Tourism and Hospitality Networking Conference** (6-10 September 2022, Istanbul, Turkey) will bring together scholars, researchers, and professionals to stimulate discussions, exchange intelligence, and establish new international collaborations concerning but not limited to questions addressing the conference themes. The Conference Committee welcomes papers and ideas on a wide range of topics and some keynote speakers are Jafar Jafari and Siamak Seyfi. The conference also offers new opportunities to build networks and/or develop conceptual or practical ideas in a multicultural and supportive environment. Therefore, even if you do not have a paper to present for this conference, you can submit your idea mentioning that you wish to participate in networking sessions, and we they will set up a team to work with you during the conference with the support of mentors and other peers in your group.

For more detailed information regarding the conference, please visit the official website at [www.researchnet.work](http://www.researchnet.work)



**Dr (MD) Ahmed ElBarawi**, Academic Support Manager

**Scientific domains:** Orthopedic Surgery, International Trading (medical supplies), Agribusiness

## HEALTH & MEDICAL SCIENCE

### Migraine Headaches

When a person has two or more health conditions at the same time, or if one condition occurs right after the other, this is known as *comorbidity*. Conditions described as comorbidities are often chronic. Being knowledgeable about comorbidities is essential to the study and management of migraines. Migraines are the second most disabling condition worldwide, and comorbidities contribute to disease burden, decrease health-related quality of life, and add to economic burden. Identification of migraine comorbidities can help determine diagnosis, improve the ability to assess prognosis, inform the development of treatment regimes, and contribute to research on subtypes.

Here, you could read an overview of the key aspects of migraine comorbidities that can help bring about the best outcomes for patients: *Migraine Comorbidities: What You Need to Know - Medscape - Jan 06, 2022.*



**Dr Anastasios Fountis**, Head of Undergraduate Studies; Lecturer  
**Scientific domains:** Business, Cybernetics, STEM

### **CASE STUDIES**

All professional graduate schools face the same difficult challenge: how to prepare students for the world of practice. The case method is a participatory, discussion-based way of learning where students gain skills in critical thinking, communication and group dynamics. There are exploratory, explanatory, and descriptive case studies and are teaching tools especially in the business, law, medical and political science fields. Cases are narratives, situations, selection of data samplings, or statements that present unresolved and thought provoking issues, situations or questions. The origin of the method goes back to 1870 at Harvard Law School, but the upscale and its wide use in the business world can be traced back to Harvard Business School in 1920. With the contribution of computers and AI, the last 10 years have seen many business schools develop live case studies in a virtual environment.

<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/22779779211028444>  
[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/235737599\\_Introduction\\_to\\_Case\\_Study](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/235737599_Introduction_to_Case_Study)  
<https://www.harvardmagazine.com/2003/09/making-the-case-html>



**Moustafa Gaballa**, Lecturer  
**Scientific domains:** Tourism, Hospitality

### **TOURISM**

The 7<sup>th</sup> edition of the **World Tourism Organization** (UNWTO) Global Conference on Wine Tourism will be held in La Rioja in 2023. This new edition was presented at the Vivanco Museum of Wine Culture, with the participation of Concha Andreu, President of the Government of La Rioja; Reyes Maroto, Minister of Industry, Trade and Tourism; and the Secretary-General of the World Tourism Organization, Zurab Pololikashvili.

During the official presentation, which was hosted at the Vivanco facilities in Briones, Pololikashvili thanked Spain and La Rioja for hosting the 2023 edition of the conference, and highlighted the potential of wine tourism as a driver of growth in local economies and as an engine of social change: "This is a sector that can lead a positive change, especially in many rural communities, creating jobs and opportunities in the most depopulated areas, boosting economic growth and preserving the natural and cultural environment."

The minister stressed that wine tourism "contributes to economic, social, environmental sustainability, adds value, de-seasonalizes product offerings and allows us to visit the rural environment".

For more information visit the following link <https://www.unwto.org/news/la-rioja-to-host-2023-edition-of-the-unwto-global-conference-on-wine-tourism>



**Dr Konstantinos Kiouis**, Lecturer  
**Scientific domains:** Human Resource Management, Development and Training, Leadership

### **HUMAN RESOURCES**

#### **Airlines struggle with operations due to staff shortages**

Two of Europe's biggest airlines recently announced another round of flight cancellations. The Dutch KLM plans to cancel as many as 20 round-trip flights to European destinations every day through the end of August, while Deutsche Lufthansa said it will cancel 770 flights in the coming week. In addition, both carriers are trying to ease red-hot demand for tickets in order to alleviate pressure on operations. They

either stopped or restricted the sale of low-cost tickets “for a short period of a few days” so as to allow passengers affected by cancellations to rebook. The unusual step taken by these airlines in effect, prices out most people, leaving space for customers whose flights have been canceled, according to an industry executive.

These measures were set in place to ease the travel problems caused by staff shortages and the rise in demand since the relaxation of Covid-19 rules. However, it is not the first-time airlines have taken unusual steps. This is a part of a wider problem as airlines across Europe resort to drastic and sometimes unorthodox measures to try to avert last minute cancellations and disruption, with the industry selling far more seats than it can handle.

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2022-07-08/klm-to-cancel-european-flights-every-day-through-end-august>

<https://www.ft.com/content/01652079-737b-49e2-bf15-c123cedf8014>

<https://www.businesstraveller.com/business-travel/2022/07/11/klm-to-cancel-up-to-20-european-flights-daily-until-end-of-august/>

