

BSBI Gazette

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Editorial



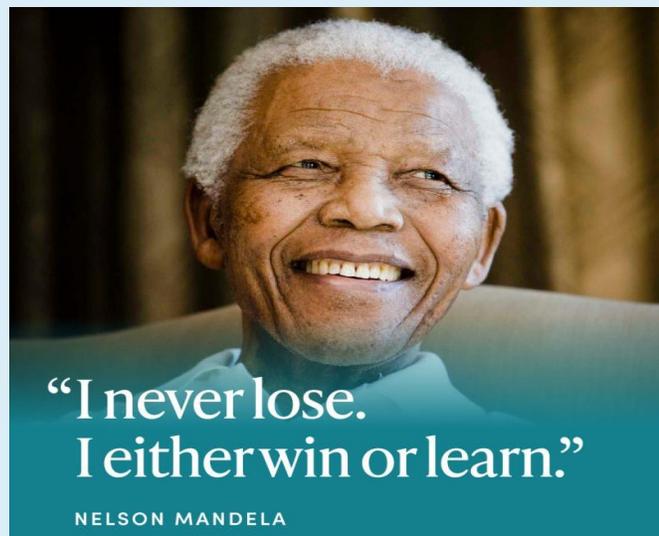
Professor Dr Kyriakos Kouveliotis

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For this week's Editorial, I would like to share some of Nelson Mandela's best quotes. The words of wisdom Mandela spoke throughout his life form part of his enduring legacy. Here are just 11 of his best quotes:

1. **Be passionate.** "Everyone can rise above their circumstances and achieve success if they are dedicated to and passionate about what they do."
2. **Nothing's impossible.** "It always seems impossible, until it is done."
3. **Lead from the back...** "Lead from the back – and let others believe they are in front."
4. **Exercise.** "I have always believed exercise is a key not only to physical health but to peace of mind."
5. **Make a difference.** "What counts in life is not the mere fact that we have lived. It is what difference we have made to the lives of others that will determine the significance of the life we lead."
6. **Be optimistic.** "I am fundamentally an optimist. Part of being optimistic is keeping one's head pointed toward the sun, one's feet moving forward. There were many dark moments when my faith in humanity was sorely tested, but I would not and could not give myself up to despair. That way lays defeat and death."
7. **Learn and teach.** "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."
8. **Make mistakes.** "Do not judge me by my successes, judge me by how many times I fell down and got back up again."
9. **Don't waste time.** "We must use time wisely and forever realise that the time is always ripe to do right."
10. **Choose your friends wisely.** "I like friends who have independent minds because they tend to make you see problems from all angles."
11. **Love others.** "No one is born hating another person because of the colour of his skin, or his background, or his religion. People must learn to hate, and if they can learn to hate, they can be taught to love, for love comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite."

Photo of the Week



Inspirational Quotes

Many of life's failures are people who did not realise how close they were to success when they gave up.
— **Thomas A. Edison**

If you want to live a happy life, tie it to a goal, not to people or things.
— **Albert Einstein**

If you make your internal life a priority, then everything else you need on the outside will be given to you and it will be extremely clear what the next step is.
— **Gabrielle Bernstein**



Anyone who has never made a mistake has never tried anything new.

— **Albert Einstein**

Article of the Week

United Nations

Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Online connectivity improves, but digital inclusivity remains a challenge, new UN survey shows

Denmark, Finland and South Korea top the
2022 UN e-government ranking

Despite the multiple crises of the past two years, countries and municipalities have remained committed to pursuing digital government strategies — many implemented specifically to address the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Yet, many have fallen short in providing adequate online services, according to the 2022 edition of the United Nations E-Government Survey — *The Future of Digital Government* released today.

Denmark, Finland and the Republic of Korea lead the 2022 digital government ranking of the 193 United Nations Member States, scoring the highest when it comes to the scope and quality of online services, the status of telecommunication infrastructure and existing human capacity. Runners-up are New Zealand, Sweden, Iceland, Australia, Estonia, the Netherlands, the United States, the United Kingdom, Singapore, the United Arab Emirates, Japan and Malta.

Owing to remarkable improvements in telecommunications infrastructure and human capacity development, the global E-Government Development Index (EGDI) average has increased overall. Eight countries have moved to the high EGDI group for the first time: Belize, Côte d'Ivoire, Guyana, Lebanon, Nepal, Rwanda, Tajikistan and Zambia. Overall, 68.91% of Member States are at the high or very high EGDI level.

Although the data shows general increases in online services for vulnerable groups, evidence of pervasive digital divides is stark. All of the countries with the lowest EGDI rankings are those in special and developing situations. A range of human-centred issues related to access, affordability, general abilities, digital literacy and language are explored in the 2022 Survey.

According to the 2022 Survey, the number of countries providing digital services in the education sector has increased by 22%, from 104 to 114 countries. However, while the adoption of digital solutions in response to the COVID-19 pandemic has contributed to this growth, there has been uneven progress across different regions and different income levels. The recent [Transforming Education Summit](#) placed a spotlight on the critical role that equitable access to digital learning can play in advancing sustainable development.

“The survey results highlight that governments have remained focused on developing digital services and infrastructures, despite the global challenges of recent years. Fulfilling our vision for leaving no one behind will require us to leave no one offline in the hybrid digital future,” said Mr. Li Junhua, United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs.

Digital services are imperative to ensure people's effective, inclusive and accountable access to essential services across sectors, from online applications for social protection programmes such as maternity care, child subsidies, pensions, housing and food allowances, to business licences and tax filings. There are also specific digital platforms for e-participation to better engage people, and e-procurement platforms to enhance transparency.

The 2022 Survey shows that digital technologies allowed governments to play a key role in addressing the challenges surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic. All regions implemented digital measures, with a majority focusing on distance learning and vaccination services, and others also providing telehealth and online scheduling for medical tests. The proportion of countries offering all four types of services is highest in Europe (90%), followed by Asia and the Americas (71% each), Oceania (65%) and Africa (40%).

The 2022 Survey also continued its study of e-government development at the local level. Despite a digital performance gap between city portals and their national counterparts, most cities have improved their Local Online Service Index scores through greater access to important resources such as a highly skilled workforce, a broad knowledge and skill base, and a dedicated public budget.

The 2022 Survey calls on Governments to strategise and invest more in long-term national digital transformation plans. Meaningful

connectivity must be guaranteed for all to help prepare for future crises and shocks. Advances in technology and e-government must ultimately serve the wider goal of supporting sustainable human development—and leaving no one behind.

About the United Nations E-Government Survey

The United Nations E-Government Survey, published by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, is prepared over a two-year period following an established methodology. It looks at how digital government can facilitate integrated policies and services across 193 UN Member States. The Survey supports countries' efforts to provide effective, accountable and inclusive digital services to all, bridge the digital divide and leave no one behind. In the report of the Secretary-General's High-level Panel on Digital Cooperation, the E-Government Survey is recognised as a key ranking, mapping and measuring tool, supporting the digital transformation of countries.

Following the global launch of the 2022 Survey today, webinars and regional information sessions will be held to share further insights and key findings at the global, regional and local levels. The Survey will be made available in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish, thanks to the collaboration with external partners.

For more information: [Link](#)

Source: [Link](#)



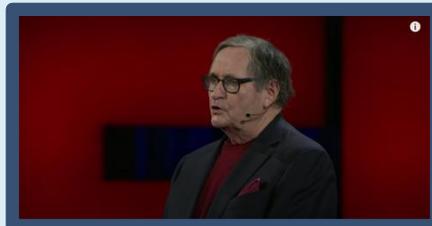
Websites of the Week

- 🕒 [What is Intellectual Property?](#)
- 🕒 [Classifying Programming Languages](#)
- 🕒 [Education and Its Types](#)
- 🕒 [Strategy vs. Tactics](#)
- 🕒 [Five Effective Marketing Strategies for Start-ups](#)

Videos of the Week



What your future self wants



Who are you, really?
The puzzle of personality



3 Rules to Learning Anything
by Elon Musk

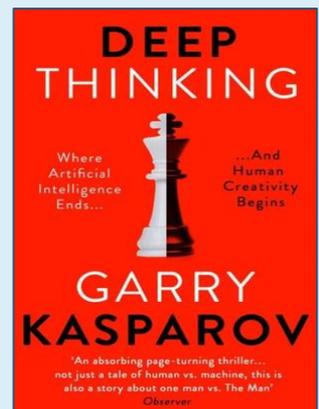
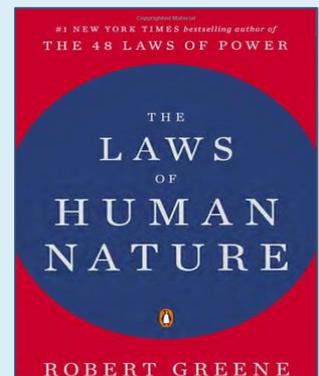
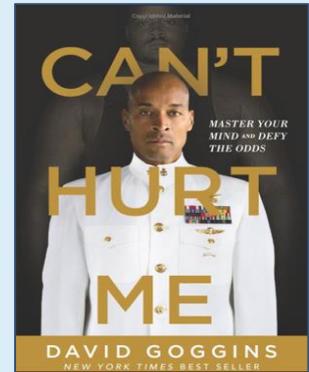


Why humans run the world



Why business can be good at solving
social problems

Books of the Week



**BERLIN SCHOOL OF
BUSINESS & INNOVATION**

Week in Review

All you need to know about everything that matters



Dr Mariusz Dramski

Dean of Computer Science and Informatics

Areas of expertise:

Artificial Intelligence, Data and Process Mining, Project Management

MACHINE LEARNING / ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

In December this year, PyTorch 2.0 was announced. It is a very popular framework for solving various types of machine learning tasks developed by Meta. Changing the version number from 1.xx to 2.0 is a very big improvement. The new version of PyTorch has become much faster and more dynamic. Improvements have been made to areas such as image recognition, object detection, natural language processing, recommendation systems and more. Improvements were made based on the analysis and evaluation of over 160 open-source models. The increase in prototyping speed is estimated at over 70% with the use of hardware support (e.g., CUDA technology from nVidia, Neural Engine from Apple). The first stable release of PyTorch 2.0 is scheduled for March 2023. New solutions will allow for faster and more effective prototyping, which in turn will translate into the development of all technologies related to artificial intelligence. It is worth noting that similar work is underway on TensorFlow - a competing solution from Google. More information at this [link](#).



Dr Kamyar EsmaeiliNasrabadi

Lecturer

Areas of expertise:

Human Resource Management, Business Management, Tourism, Customs

HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

On the eve of entering 2023, some of the most important trends in human resources in 2023 were examined in several issues of the gazette. If I want to name them only, they are as follows:

The great retention, the Liquid workplace, a Business with a reason, Longing for belonging, the Well-being odyssey, the era of Perk-to-order, effective leadership. What is certain is that there are many other cases that can be mentioned and investigated. However, looking at the mentioned cases, there is a point hidden in all these cases, which is the subject of attention of this edition of the gazette: communication. What is proposed as the final cause of being human is this concept. And this issue is openly or hidden in the centre of all human concepts. In the world that is recovering after the pandemic, this matter became clearer, because all the relations between the worker and the employer, the employee and the manager, etc., underwent a major reformation. In all the concepts presented as the important trends of 2023, the main key to solving problems and overcoming the pandemic crisis is somehow connected to the issue of effective communication.

All the proposed solutions and suggestions are based on a new understanding of the concept of communication between the organisation and the employees, and all of them are somehow based on a correct understanding of the updated needs of the employees in special conditions and the correct response to these needs (at the right time and in the right way) and all these things are not possible except with effective and correct communication. Therefore, measuring the emotional and

psychological needs of employees and the correct way to create effective relationships and communication with them is the heart of all the trends raised in relation to human resources. In the next issues of the gazette, we will try to address some of the most important topics related to this issue. Next, there is an article titled: The impact of the COVID-19 crisis on a company's internal communications, written by Marjan I. Bojadjev and Marjana Vaneva, and it is useful to read.

Source: [Link](#)



Prof. Dr Ahmad Farhat

Lecturer

Areas of expertise:

NGOs and Non-Profit Management, Organisational Behaviour and Psychology, Coaching, Training and Development

PSYCHOLOGY / NEUROSCIENCES / DECISION SCIENCES

According to a new study, our eyes may help us make decisions by giving us clues about the options we are considering. It is no secret that our eyes can play an essential role in our decision-making process. After all, we use our eyes to gather information about our surroundings and process what we see, so our eye movements can help us learn more about ourselves and our decisions. However, it often needs to be clarified precisely how these eye movements influence our choices. The research team used fMRI imaging to measure participants' activity in the cerebral cortex as they watched a series of video clips while receiving a simple visual task. Participants were asked to decide whether a clip showed an object moving toward or away from them, and they were asked to indicate their decision by pressing a button either on their left or right hand. While participants were watching each video clip, the researchers measured the strength and direction of their eye movements using a

specialised type of computer algorithm called saccade velocity estimation. The researchers found that people's eye movements during the decision process reflected their choice of whether the object in the video was moving towards or away from them. For instance, when the object was moving away from the participants, their eyes tended to move to the right; when the opposite was true, the eyes tended to move to the left. These findings suggest that eye movements can convey essential insights about our decision-making process, including information about the direction we are leaning in as we choose between two options. This research adds to a growing body of research exploring the complex relationship between cognitive processes like attention and decision-making and our physical bodies.

Source: [Link](#)



Mostafa Gaballa
Lecturer

Areas of expertise:

Tourism, Hospitality, Travel

TOURISM

The first national edition of the UNWTO Students League concluded with a celebration of Swiss tourism talent with Team SHL from SHL Schweizerische Hotelfachschule Luzern, winning this edition.

The competition for undergraduates, organised with the support of the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO), attracted students from leading educational institutions from across Switzerland. In the end, four teams made it to the final, representing the Swiss Hotel Management School, César Ritz Colleges, Schweizerische Hotelfachschule Luzern and the Zurich University of Applied Sciences. The winning solutions included data analysis, social media campaigns and initiatives to support rural development in Switzerland. For more information visit this [link](#). In making their decision, the expert jury looked at the feasibility of the ideas presented by the four teams. The ideas were also judged on how closely they aligned with the wider National Swiss Tourism Marketing Plan as well on their potential to contribute to the fulfilment of the Sustainable Development Goals.

According to the participants, the Students League offered a unique chance to gain practical experience within the tourism sector while also benefiting from networking and mentorship opportunities. Helena from Team

César Ritz said: "UNWTO Students' League was like living the future of tourism, where sustainability, advanced technology and innovations are gathered." From Team Zhaw, one student added: "This challenge has brought us a deeper understanding of tourism in Switzerland and gave us the opportunity to see our country and the local heritage in a new perspective."

For this first national edition, the jury panel was made up of national and international experts from UNWTO and SECO, as well as Salvatore Cavallaro, the coordinator of the European Union Tech Chamber and representatives from GoodRebels, St.Gallen-Bodensee Tourismus, Mabrian Technologies and the winner of the 2021 UNWTO Students' League.



Swati Jeevan
Lecturer

Areas of expertise:

Information Technology, Innovation, Digital Transformation

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

What is Chat GPT 3? And will it make our life easier or more complicated? Talk to [ChatGPT Now](#).

Chat GPT-3, a ground-breaking piece of artificial intelligence (AI) technology, makes natural language processing (NLP) possible. This AI-powered technology can learn to converse with humans by recognising the context of conversations. Its goal is to understand and respond to normal human language. GPT-3's advanced capabilities make it easier for users to communicate with computers.

Chat GPT-3 is based on OpenAI's generative pre-skilled converter (GPT-3) model. This model is extremely powerful and capable of knowing complex sentences and contexts because it has been trained on billions of pieces of text.

The primary advantage is GPT-3's capacity to understand and respond to natural language. For Example: if the user asks, "Is programming language difficult?". It gives you a very brief answer with its understanding. This allows users to interact with computers without understanding the difficulties of natural language processing or a programming language.

Additionally, more brain-boggling chatbots that can provide specific data or carry out tasks can be created using Visit GPT-3. It could be used to build a chatbot that helps you find local businesses, book flights or order food.

In general, it is a powerful tool that makes it easier for users to communicate with computers. Its advanced capabilities can be used to create complex chatbots that can assist in improving one task and consider more frequent conversations between humans and machines. In conclusion, the cutting-edge artificial intelligence text generator known as OpenAI GPT-3 has the potential to profoundly alter the fields of content creation, machine learning and natural language processing. Due to its impressive language processing capabilities, it is suitable for a variety of applications, such as SEO and chatbots. However, it is essential to acknowledge the limitations and ethical implications of AI text-mining technology. The development of OpenAI GPT-3 and other related innovations will undoubtedly have a significant impact on AI's future.

Natural language processing, machine learning and content creation could all be transformed by OpenAI GPT-3 and other artificial intelligence text generators. Don't let this chance pass you by. Always participate in the discussion regarding the limitations and ethical implications of AI text generation technology to shape the future of AI.



Dr Konstantinos Kiousis
Lecturer

Areas of expertise:

Human Resource Management, Leadership, Counselling & Career Guidance, Modern Educational Approaches

FINANCE

Elon Musk sold another 22 million shares of Tesla this week, raising in this way 3.6 billion dollars. Musk did not disclose the reason for the sales, and these are the first sales of the Tesla stock since early November, when he sold nearly 20 million, shortly after purchasing Twitter. Before Musk first started his efforts to buy Twitter, he rarely sold Tesla shares but since first announcing his plans to buy the social media giant in April, he has sold a total of almost 23 billion dollars of Tesla stock. Those stock sales and the amount of his attention that has been focused on Twitter, has worried Tesla shareholders and analysts who believe that Musk uses Tesla to keep funding the red ink at Twitter. This remains the worry on the Tesla story as Musk managed to change the narrative of Tesla from the fundamental EV transformation story to a ‘source of funds’ of the Twitter turnaround.

Even with these latest sales, Elon Musk owns 423 million shares of Tesla through a trust he controls, worth about 69 billion dollars based on the average sale price he received this week. In addition, he has options to buy nearly 279 million more shares, worth nearly 39 billion dollars after paying the exercise price. He’s likely to get even more options early next year after Tesla’s upcoming financial results are reported. But the value of those shares has been dropping steadily, moving Tesla shares down 55% so far this year. The drop in the value of Tesla shares is a major reason that Musk, recently, lost the title of the richest person on the planet.

For more information please visit [Link1](#), [Link2](#) and [Link3](#)



Azadeh OveisGharani
Lecturer

Areas of expertise:

Circular Economy, Regenerative Business, Sustainable Leadership, Business & Human Rights

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

Four Ways Investors Can Boost Sustainable Agriculture. It is risky for investors in the agriculture sector to invest in projects that could lead to biodiversity loss or deforestation, putting their reputation and brand value in danger. More than ever, we need to establish resilience and sustainable farming that aims for soil health, conserves biodiversity and improves the wellbeing of communities.

New statistics indicate that there is an estimated \$260 billion annual investment gap that must be bridged to meet the targets of Sustainable Development Goal 2 (zero hunger) by 2030. Additionally, an average of \$711 billion per year is needed to close the investment gap to protect and regenerate biodiversity, which is the basis of agriculture and the food that human beings require.

The only way to put an end to hunger is through innovation and committed investors.

Referring to on-the-ground success stories of investors from Organic, Fairtrade or Rainforest Alliance, there are four ways investors can navigate risks while supporting sustainable investment in Agriculture:

- *Build a supportive, blended financial ecosystem that includes public, private, philanthropic and first-loss investors.* For instance, *the Africa Agriculture and Trade Investment Fund* uses blended financing to mobilise private and public capital to back cotton producers in West Africa.
- *Know your farmers and learn about their financial needs and investment potential.* With a good understanding of conditions on the ground, the Moringa Fund made an impactful investment in ComaFruits, a company that helps land-locked mango producers in Mali get their product to market.
- *Create custom financial products that respond to farmer needs.* AlphaMundi Group is an example when its impact debt fund extended a flexible line of credit to Olivado, a Kenyan company that specialises in producing oil from Fairtrade- and Organic-certified avocados.
- *Think outside the box to create an impact on sustainability.* Mercon Group had a creative idea when it decided to

- administer \$450 million in loans to coffee farmers, largely in Central and South America, with interest rates tied to sustainability results measured against an index aligned with Rainforest Alliance criteria.

The information is drawn on research from IISD’s State of Sustainability Initiatives’ recent report *Standards and Investments in Sustainable Agriculture.*

References: [Link1](#), [Link2](#), [Link3](#), [Link4](#)