

**GLOBAL STREET ECONOMY AND
MICRO ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

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GLOBAL STREET ECONOMY AND MICRO ENTREPRENEURSHIP

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CHP	Cumhuriyet Halk Partisi - Republican People's Party
ÇOGEM	Child and Youth Center
FEMA	Faculty of Economics, Management and Accountancy.
GBM	General Body Meeting
GDP	Gross domestic product
GLOSEP	Global Street Economics Platform
GNP	Gross national product
HDI	Human Development Index
ICT	Information and communications technology
ILO	International Labor Organisation
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IoT	Internet of Things
ITCILO	International Training Centre of the ILO
ITUC	International Trade Union Confederation
LPG	Liberalisation, Privatisation and Globalisation
MGNREGA	Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Act 2011
MHUPA	Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation
MSMEs	Medium, small and micro enterprises
NAC	National Advisory Council
NASVI	National Association of Street Vendors of India
NCEUS	National Commission on Enterprises in the Unorganised Sector
NGO	Non-governmental organisation
NREGA	National Rural Employment Guarantee Act 2005
NULM	National Urban Livelihood Mission

OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
RWA	Recycling Workers Association
SE	Street Economy
SMEs	Small and micro enterprises
SVA 2014	Street Vending Act 2014
SWG	Self-Workers Global
TDU	Berlin Turkish German Businessmen Association
TESK	Turkish Tradesmen and Artisans Confederation
TIDAF	European Federation of Turkish Businessmen
TUIK	Türkiye İstatistik Kurumu
TURKSTAT	Turkish Statistical Institute
TVC	Town Vending Committee
UN	United Nations
US\$/USD	US Dollar
USA	United States of America
WIEGO	Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing

ABOUT THE CONTRIBUTORS

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Merve Yildirim was born in Ankara and lives in Giresun. She received the degree from the Faculty of Vocational Education, Department of Graphic Design, Gazi University in 1995, the Master's degree with the Department of Fine Arts Education, Institute of Educational Sciences at Gazi University in 2010 and the PhD degree from the Fine Arts Department, Gazi University Educational Sciences Teaching in 2013. The reflection of symbols to the art of ex libris in the historical background and the model proposal in the Department of Visual Communication and Graphic Design in the Faculty of Fine Arts. In 2014, she was an Assistant Professor. She has opened personal national and international exhibitions and also attended in many group exhibitions. She is the Founding Member of the Global Street Economics Platform who is working on the design of streets. She is currently the Head of the Graphic Design Department at the Faculty of Fine Arts, Giresun University.

FOREWORD

We congratulate Dr Osman Sirkeci who chose to carry out his post-doctoral research on the global street economy at the University of Malta. During this time, he organised an international conference which attracted various academics of international repute. The event was also attended by Dr Justyne Caruana, the Honorable Minister for Gozo, who emphasised, during the opening speech, that although Malta is a small island state, the street economy has played an important role in the socio-economic life of the Maltese people. As Dr Sirkeci argues, the street economy has always had a crucial impact on the externalities and failures of market economies, and hence it deserves much more attention from a global perspective than it currently has. The aim of this publication is to highlight the increasing importance of the street economy in the economic literature and to investigate this phenomenon from different perspectives. I wish success to all street economy employees and researchers, and hope that this volume will generate more interest on the global street economy phenomenon.

Prof. Dr Frank Bezzina,
Dean of FEMA, University of Malta

PREFACE

This study has emerged as a collective result of 30 years of observation and five years of intensive research and investigation. Concepts of street economy and street entrepreneurship have emerged through the micro-scale craftsmanship, which is a part of Osman Sirkeci's own life for decades, the direct execution of peddling and marketing and the simultaneous observation of the data obtained as a result of the compilation and analysis of information obtained. Dr Sirkeci has come up with the concept of street economy, by compiling his own experiences as a child, selling vegetables in the streets with his father, with data obtained from hundreds of face-to-face interviews with local and foreign street workers, who are working as a peddler, street artist, street worker in the streets, sidewalks, at the beaches and in the markets in countless countries around the world.

The originality and importance of the concept of street economics stems from the in-depth examination of the failures of the market economy and the externalities of the market economy, which are seen as superficial problems in the science of economics, and finding its counterexamples in the field. Global trade-based market economy and capitalism reached global domination in the sixteenth century, after six centuries of development and maturation. Since then, many problems that have been entrusted to the skill of the 'magic hand' of the market economy have not been solved for 150 years, and these problems have produced their own solution on the streets, partly inside and outside the market economy.

It is known from the databases of various institutions, such as the International Labour Organisation (ILO) or the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, that 3.5 billion people are currently employed worldwide. However, according to estimates, 2 billion people are working in the streets. Global developments show that the state sector and big companies cannot create more new jobs. Another known fact is that world population is increasing day by day, and this fact has had different consequences such as immigration problems, increasing unemployment and social problems in the European countries, US, India and some other countries in the last 15–20 years. They have begun to implement various measures and produce incentive and support programmes to create new business opportunities.

Currently, together with these 2 billion street vendors, 7.5 billion people in the world continue to pay a wide variety of taxes every day. But these incentive funds, which are generated from the same taxes, provide support and incentives exclusively for the registered sectors. These 2 billion 'Streetpreneurs' are excluded from all supports, consultancy services and other incentives. This unequal application is also contrary to the principles of fair use of tax. It is not possible to accept this view as an equitable, just and egalitarian situation.

In this case, it is primarily the task of the scientists to work on this giant cluster that is externalised by the market economy in order to clarify their role and importance. Two billion people, who are not included in the registered economic activities in the free market economy, are the subject of this work. The project fundamentally investigates how we can get the real tax information from the 2 billion street vendors by voluntarily registering as successful businesses.

The aim of Dr Sirkeci in developing the concept of street economics is to investigate a group of entrepreneurs who are called ‘the tax evaders’, ‘the informal economy’ and ‘the shadow economy’ outside the known reality of the established economy. Main idea behind this project and Dr Sirkeci’s lifelong dream is to establish a Global Street Workers Union – Self Workers Global (SWG) to integrate street workers worldwide into urban life, accreditation and recognition at national level, legal status, being able to organise in appropriate forms of organisation and having health and social security opportunities.

As we are writing this book today, Global Street Workers Union – SWG has already been established within ILO and announced to the world on the 18th of June in Geneva. Coming to this point required industrious and consistent work and effort both in national and international levels.

At the national level, with the meetings held on the role and function of the street in various provinces in Turkey, the subject has been brought to the attention of numerous media representatives, academicians, politicians, mayors, non-governmental organisation representatives, city council presidents and Roma association managers. Thus, the importance of the street economy and the fact that it is an integral part of urban life has become widely accepted.

In the recognition of this project, there are three events, which are worth to mention as important milestones. The first one, which is also the birthplace of the idea of Global Street Workers Union, is the First International Global Street Economy and Third Democracy Conference held in Malta on 1–3 October 2018 under the honorary presidency of Dr Justyne Caruana, the Honourable Minister for Gozo – Malta. The main objective of this conference was to contribute to the global unity of street workers. The second one was the Street Economy Workshop held in Ankara by the main opposition party in Turkey with wide participation on 15 February 2019. Being invited as a guest to the Street Food Festival and 150th anniversary of Indra Gandhi’s birthday, organised by the national coordinator of the Indian street vendors confederation, once again confirmed the international content and importance of the work. The final event, which is worth to mention as a revolutionary step in local governments is the foundation of Street Economy Department in Izmir Municipality in Turkey.

This research and project topic ‘Street Economics’, is being carried out with the support of both University of Malta through the help of governmental institutions and relevant ministries and also Giresun University. We give our warmest thanks to Dr Simon Grima who opened the doors of the University of Malta for us to carry our study to global dimensions, Dean of the Faculty of FEMA. Dr Frank Bezzina and Dr Justyne Caruana for hosting and supporting the First International Global Street Economy and Third Democracy Conference held in Malta.

We also thank to Giresun University Rector Prof. Dr Cevdet Coşkun who support us among all the difficulties of academic life in bringing these studies to these dimensions and to Prof. Dr Betül Karagöz Yerdelen, Dean of the Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences, who has given us an important depth especially in terms of political science.

Last but not the least, we also thank our Indian friends, Arbind Singh, Anurag Shanker, Shri Ram, Anuradha Singh, Kumar Sapkota from Nepal and the countless silent heroes of the streets. We would like to thank the founders of SWG, Argentina's Oscar Silva and Spain's Cesar Garcia Alan, for their contribution to the globalisation and institutionalisation of the work.

Dr. Simon Grima, Dr Osman Sirkeci, and Prof. Dr Kamuran Elbeyoğlu
Giresun, Turkey, 2019