We would like to draw the attention of the experts in theoretical and empirical studies of corporate governance and organizational behavior with application to both macro and microeconomic issues that international peer-reviewed journal Corporate Governance and Organizational Behavior Review announces a call for papers for the special issue (2023) of the journal devoted to decision-making and behavior in family firms.

Family firms are characterized by peculiar corporate governance mechanisms relative to non-family firms, which translate into special decision-making at both the strategic and the operational levels, that prioritizes the maintenance of family control and a long-term orientation relative to short-term returns.

The extant literature has provided mixed findings on decision-making in family firms: while some studies argue that family ownership and involvement drive a relatively limited risk propensity and hence favour more conservative strategic approaches to preserve the socio-emotional endowment, others suggest that in order to develop the business for the future family generations, family owners may be more willing to seize risky entrepreneurial opportunities in the attempt to increase the socio-emotional wealth in the long term, although at the expenses of financial returns in the short term. Such contrasting pressures have been observed in multiple research areas, including internationalization, diversification, and mergers and acquisitions among others. Furthermore, the heterogeneity of family firms in terms of decision-making, risk propensity, and organizational behavior is being increasingly acknowledged in the literature.

This special issue is therefore aimed at increasing our understanding of the drivers, outcomes, and mechanisms affecting family firms’ decisions and behavior.
The special issue welcomes submissions of both theoretical and empirical papers in the following areas:

- corporate strategy and growth;
- risk governance and control;
- succession and inter-generational issues;
- diversification/internationalization decisions;
- establishment modes (mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, etc.);
- innovation propensity and performance;
- sustainability initiatives and ESG ratings;
- digitalization and AI dynamics;
- business venturing, business angels, family office;
- HR policies and practices;
- decision-making dynamics and heuristics;
- board effectiveness and characteristics;
- operating systems and accounting;
- corporate disclosure and transparency.

To support the Authors in improving their work and bringing their findings to the attention of scholarship, Authors of selected papers will be invited to present their work at a workshop, jointly organized by Corporate Governance and Organizational Behavior Review and the Department of Economic and Social Sciences (DiSES), Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Piacenza (Italy).

Authors wishing to present at the workshop should express their interest upon their initial paper submission.

For more information on whether your submission will fit this special issue, please contact the Guest Editors.

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