

# A STATISTICAL INSIGHT ANALYSIS ON HOW THE ENVIRONMENTAL TAXATION AFFECTS GREEN GROWTH IN THE EU

Georgios L. Thanasas<sup>\*</sup>, Aikaterini Slimistinou<sup>\*\*</sup>,  
Georgia Kontogeorga<sup>\*\*\*</sup>, Nektarios Karapanagiotis<sup>\*</sup>

<sup>\*</sup> Department of Management Science and Technology, University of Patras, Patras, Greece

<sup>\*\*</sup> University of Western Macedonia, Kozani, Greece

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Hellenic Court of Audit, Athens, Greece



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## Abstract

Until the first negative consequences of the interaction of human activity in nature and the environment were presented there was no concern, but over the years and with the great increase in population the consequences had a negative impact and the risk and concern for the future were constantly increasing. In recent decades, there has been a great joint effort, at the international level, to promote and implement the values and norms of green development and the need to solve environmental problems, such as climate change and pollution. green growth is an integral part of the policy implemented by the European Union and invites all its member states to participate in this effort for the environment and natural resources, with environmental taxation as the main tool. Environmental taxation facilitates, through the rules of the European Union, the achievement of the goal of green growth within the EU. Environmental taxes are characterized by transparency, while they are revenues for the countries. Through the study and research of environmental indicators, the course of the countries of the European Union from 2002 to 2020, as well as Greece, will be analyzed compared to the average of the European Union. The study found that environmental taxation is a measurement for increasing the revenues of state funds and

reducing environmental problems at the global level. According to the EU indicator, Environmental taxes as a percentage of the total revenue from taxes and social contributions (TSC, %) the large dispersion that exists between the EU countries was reflected. This occurs mainly because of the large enlargement of the EU in 2004. It was found that the taxes imposed for energy, exceed 50% in relation to the revenues of other environmental taxes such as transport and pollution taxes. Specifically, in the case of Greece, the country is above the EU average and the amounts collected by environmental taxes are mainly state revenues. The main environmental taxes in Greece are a tax on fuels, taxes on electricity and natural gas and a tax on plastic bags.

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