

METU Studies in Development

Report of the Editor – 2012

General Situation

METU Studies in Development is the academic periodical of the Middle East Technical University (METU) Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences (FEAS). It publishes articles in the fields of economics, administrative sciences, public administration and international relations. Board of Editors consists of faculty members and academicians from several universities in Turkey. The submissions are dispersed to members of Board of Editors according to their fields to assign reviewers.

METU Studies in Development was published as four issues per year between 1970 and 1999. Between 2000 and 2002, double issues have been published. It has been published as two issues per year since 2003. Due to increase in the number of articles that are submitted to the journal, it is decided to publish the journal in trimester in April, August and December.

In 2012, Vol. 39. No.1 special issue of Transition from the Ottoman Empire to the Turkish Republic which consisted of five articles, introduction of special issue editor and the report of the editor in 178 pages; Vol. 39 No. 2 consisted of four articles and a memorial for Professor Alice H. Amsden on her passing away in 103 pages and Vol. 39 No. 3 consisted of three articles and a book review in 68 pages. The number of authors who contributed to Vol. 39's first, second and third issues were 6, 7 and 5, respectively.

The website of the journal (<http://www2.feas.metu.edu.tr/metusd>) in its new form became operational in September 2006. From January 2008 onwards, all submission and evaluation processes became online only. The journal staff thanks our former editorial assistant Mr. Hasan Dudu for his competence and making this major move possible almost single handedly.

Printing and mailing costs of the journal are covered from the faculty budget. The issues are printed in METU Printing House by the standing order of the Rector's office. The costs of printing materials (ink, carton etc.) are paid by Dean's Office of METU FEAS. This allows the journal fulfil its long-standing public service mission of nearly forty years of well-regarded and respected academic discourse.

The journal is distributed free of charge to FEAS members and to libraries of the state universities and some public institutions. The journal has a small number of domestic and foreign paid subscribers. Ninety issues are sent to METU Library, which in turn sends these to those universities and institutions that publish their own periodicals, in exchange. The journal thus amply pays back its production subsidy to the university.

Statistics

The journal requires free registration to access its online content. The number of people that subscribe to the journal's website in 2011 was 314¹. The number of total subscribers is 2,482. Before September 2012, only registered users had free access to all (except the latest issue) journal content dating from 2000. By September 2012, entire archive of METUSD is opened to public.

Table 1
Statistics on Website

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Unique Visitor	570	4,414	14,383	12,416	9,430	4,200	7,923
Number of Visits	702	5,876	18,548	16,889	13,383	5,653	11,159
Page view	3,315	31,898	73,729	83,937	73,069	28,540	57,899
View per Visitor	4.72	5.43	3.98	4.97	4.46	5.05	5.19
Returning Visitors (%)	18.8	25.8	23.2	28.1	31.1	27	30

In 2012, number of unique visitors and number of visits increased after a sharp decline in 2011. All this figures are higher than those of 2007.

Table 2
Visitors by Countries and Territories (2012)

Country / Territory	Number of Visits	Share (%)	New Visits (%)
Turkey	9,334	83.6	68.60%
U. K.	381	3.4	41.73%
U. S.	289	2.6	85.47%
Germany	126	1.1	80.16%
Canada	43	0.4	83.72%
Iran	42	0.4	90.48%
Pakistan	41	0.4	90.24%
France	40	0.4	95.00%
Greece	37	0.3	70.27%
Other	826	7.4	91.66%

Nearly 16% of the total visitors came from outside of Turkey in 2012. UK leads with 381 visits; US with 289 visits; Germany with 126 visits. Most (80%) foreign users were first time users in 2011.

METU Studies in Development received 49 manuscripts in 2012 (see Table 3). Twenty manuscripts have been received in 2011 whose processes concluded in 2012. Eighteen of manuscripts that were sent in 2012 are in review.

Table 3 shows the number and proportion of manuscripts according to major field. Of these, 53% of are in economics while 21% from business administration. In 2011, due to Special Issue on Transition from the Ottoman Empire to the Turkish Republic - that is prepared for publication by the Department of International Relations, the share of manuscripts of this area reaches nearly a half of total manuscripts.

¹ Statistics on website cover the period of January – December 2012.

Table 3
Distribution of Submissions by Fields (2006 – 2012)

Fields	2006		2007		2008		2009		2010		2011		2012		Total	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Economics	16	49	32	65	39	64	29	57	32	64	15	27	22	45	185	53
Business Adm.	9	27	11	22	17	28	13	25	9	18	6	11	9	18	74	21
International Rel.	4	12	1	2	1	2	3	6	3	6	26	46	4	8	42	12
Pol. Sci. & Pub. Adm.	3	9	1	2	4	6	6	12	3	6	0	0	1	2	18	5
Other	1	3	4	9	0	0	0	0	3	6	9	16	13	27	30	9
Total	33	100	49	100.0	61	100.0	51	100.0	50	100	56	100	49	100	349	100

Table 4
Average Processing Periods (Week)

Year	Field	Editor	1 st Referee	2 nd Referee	To Rejection (including editorial rejections)	To decision
2007	Economics	3	6	9	5	15
	Business Adm.	3	6	9	7	15
	Pol. Sci. & Pub. Adm.	4		2	7	6
	International Rel.		5	6	12	6
	Other	5	8			13
	Total	3	10	12	11	14
2008	Economics	9	8	10	22	15
	Business Adm.	7	13	15	11	9
	Pol. Sci. & Pub. Adm.	5	20	18	29	2
	International Rel.	9	9	10	24	
	Other					
	Total	8	11	13	20	26
2009	Economics	5	9	4	2	20
	Business Adm.	5	8	10	4	17
	Pol. Sci. & Pub. Adm.	5	3		5	17
	International Rel.	8	6	2		15
	Other					
	Total	5	8	5	3	13
2010	Economics	4	7	4	13	20
	Business Adm.	3	5	7	6	13
	Pol. Sci. & Pub. Adm.	10	4	9	25	25
	International Rel.	9				
	Other	7			9	
	Total	5	6	5	13	19
2011	Economics	8	11	6	2	10
	Business Adm.	13	12	-	8	15
	Pol. Sci. & Pub. Adm.	-	-	-	-	-
	International Rel.	2	4	4	0	8
	Other	-	-	-	3	3
	Total	3	5	4	3	9
2012 ^a	Economics	3.5	6.8	2.8	7.6	11.5
	Business Adm.	4.5	7.3	7.5	5.9	9.5
	Pol. Sci. & Pub. Adm.	3.6	10.1	-	-	24.1
	International Rel.	0	3.3	1.6	8	7.2
	Other	-	-	-	0.8	0.8
	Total	3.5	6.9	3.7	4.5	7.9

a: As of 31.12.2012

In Table 4, compilation periods of articles in different steps are shown between 2007 and 2012. In 2006, when a referee was found on average in 18 weeks, this period decreased 3 weeks in 2011 and slightly increased to 3.5 weeks in 2012. On the other hand, in 2012, the authors have been notified about the related decision in average 7.9 weeks which was 9 weeks in 2011.

Table 5
Refereeing Status of the Articles

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Single Referee	12	9	9	8	20	13	8	4
Two+ Referees	30	24	23	43	13	27	28	14
No referee found	3	4	3	3	1	2	-	-
Rejection by Editors	0	0	10	7	17	6	18	31
Recall by Authors	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	-
Total	45	37	45	61	51	50	56	49

Table 5 shows detailed statistics of the refereeing process between the years 2005-2012. During this period, a significant portion of the articles has been assigned to two referees, except manuscripts received in 2009. The editorial rejection includes number of rejected manuscripts due to content out of the publication scope of METUSD. As were in 2011, thirteen manuscripts submitted by the same author were rejected due to this reason in 2012.

The statistics for *METU Studies in Development* for the period of 1997 – 2011 are shown in Table 6. In the last decade, 40% of issued articles were written in Turkish. While in the period of 1997 – 2011, 86% of the authors were academicians or professionals that affiliated to universities or other institutions in Turkey, this ratio was 72% in 2009. This means that *METU Studies in Development* starts to be an important publication source for foreign researches as well as Turkish counterparts. In fact, *METU Studies in Development* is appraised in the category of national A group journals for the majority of state and foundations' universities in Turkey in the process of promotion and assignment for an academic position (see The Annual Report of 2004). The journal is also appraised in the category of international B group journals in the process of promotion and assignment for an academic position by METU. In addition, since 1971 the journal has been scanned by the Econlit index, which is a leading international citation index of American Economic Association in the field of economics.

Table 6
Summary statistics for METU Studies in Development, 1998-2012

Volume	Number	Number of Articles ^a	Number of Articles in Turkish	Total Number of Authors	Number of Authors (from Turkey) ^b	Number of Authors (Foreign Affiliation)	Number of Book Reviews	Printing Date ^c	Special Issue
25	1998(1)	9	0	15	9	6	0		
25	1998(2)	8	5	10	10	0	0		
25	1998(3)	7	2	9	8	1	0		
25	1998(4)	7	1	10	6	4	0		
26	1999(1-2)	9	4	13	13	0	0	2001	
26	1999(3-4)	17	17	20	20	0	0	2001	*
27	2000(1-2)	11	5	20	14	6	1	2001	
27	2000(3-4)	6	0	6	3	3	0	2002	
28	2001(1-2)	10	2	12	10	2	1	2002	
28	2001(3-4)	9	4	11	10	1	2	2002	
29	2002(1-2)	9	4	14	13	1	3	2003	
29	2002(3-4)	7	2	11	8	3	3	2003	
30 ^d	2003(1)	5	0	8	6	2	5	Apr.04	
30	2003(2)	5	2	5	5	0	0	Oct.04	
31	2004(1)	5	3	9	8	1	0	Dec.04	
31	2004(2)	5	2	8	7	1	0	Jan.05	
32	2005(1)	8	3	10	9	1	1	Jul.05	
32	2005(2)	12	0	23	21	2	0	Jan.06	*
33	2006(1)	6	4	7	6	1	1	Jun.06	
33	2006(2)	6	1	10	10	0	0	Dec.06	
34	2007(1)	5	3	7	7	0	0	Jun.07	
34	2007(2)	11	4	11	11	0	0	Dec.07	*
35	2008(1)	10	1	12	1	11	0	Jun.08	*
35	2008(2)	10	2	20	18	2	0	Dec.08	
35	2008(2)	11	8	22	21	1	1	Apr.09	*
36	2009(1)	10	6	17	9	8	0	June.09	
36	2009(2)	7	3	13	13	0	1	Dec.09	
37	2010(1)	4	2	8	8	0	0	Apr. 10	
37	2010(2)	4	2	10	10	0	0	Aug.10	
37	2010(3)	4	1	8	8	0	1	Dec.10	
38	2011(1)	4	3	8	8	0	0	Apr. 11	
38	2011(2)	4	3	6	6	0	0	Aug.11	
38	2011(3)	4	3	5	5	0	0	Dec.11	
39	2012(1)	5	4	6	6	0	0	Apr. 12	
39	2012(2)	4	3	7	7	0	0	Aug.12	
39	2012(3)	3	1	5	2	0	1	Dec.12	
	Total	261	110	396	339	57	21		

a Shorter Papers / Notes / In Memoriam are included.

b The authors that are affiliated with institutions from Turkish Republic and Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus.

c The publication date is noted the inside cover page since Vol. 26.

d In Vol. 30, publication period was changed to two issues per year (in June and December).

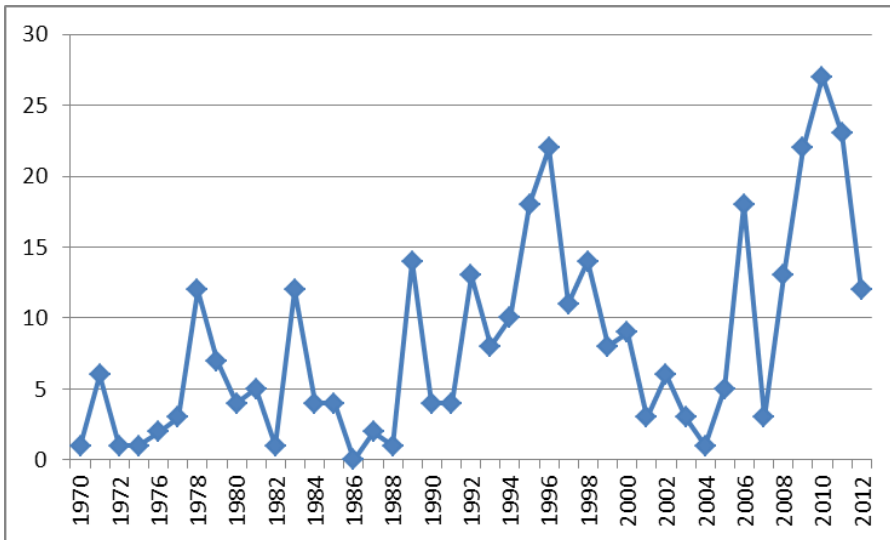
Citations of METU Studies in Development in the SSCI

The journal was published for almost forty years through the dedicated efforts of a small staff and limited resources of the METU FEAS. In the past, publication on time was an issue. Now that the journal has been back on timely publication track for the past five years and now it has international visibility statistics compiled within an online system for the past two years, the journal should qualify for an SSCI listing. For this purpose, first, the full text of past volumes was transferred to the web environment in pdf format. Among the ongoing studies is the transfer of the pre-2000 volumes of the journal to the web environment.

Increased numbers of citations are expected with the easy online access to full text articles. Until recently, the journal could be found only at the central libraries of public universities. In addition, the EBSCOHost Academic Search Premier database provides full text access.

METU Studies in Development has been cited in the SSCI index for the first time in 1972². The journal has been cited 337 times by 228 studies that have been published in the journals indexed by SSCI between 1970 and 2012. An increase in the number of citations has been observed over time. The journal was cited mostly in 2010 by 27 citations.

Figure 1
Number of Citations by
Year



The classification of the citations by fields is given in Table 7. A large part of the citations comes from the articles in the field of economics.

² The numbers can be different from the previous years' reports due to fluctuating coverage of the SSCI.

Table 7
Classification of Citations by Fields

Field	Citations	
	Number	Percentage
Economics	169	49
Business Adm.	48	14
Pol. Sci. & Pub. Adm.	58	17
International Rel.	21	6
Others	48	14
Total	325	100

Table 8 shows the distribution of citations to the journal by country. The majority of the citations were made by the Turkish researchers (53%). Turkish researchers are followed by the journals from the U.S.A. and the U.K. The share of citations by foreign researchers increased to 47% in 2012 from 28% in 2008 and 33% in 2009.

Table 8
Distribution of Citations by Country

Country	Number	Percentage
Turkey	192	53.4
U.S.A.	49	14.2
U.K.	14	4.2
Germany	5	1.5
Netherland	5	1.2
Canada	3	0.9
Taiwan	3	0.9
France	2	0.6
Jordanian	2	0.6
Peoples Republic of China	2	0.6

Table 9 shows the distribution by institution of the authors whose studies were cited. A significant proportion of the citations (25%) were made from METU and Bilkent University authors who have had a long-standing familiarity to the journal.

Journals which cited *METU Studies in Development* most are given in Table 10. Most of the citations to the journal are from “Emerging Markets Finance, Trade, and Applied Economics”.

Table 9
Distribution of Studies that Cite METU SD by Institution

The institution	Number	Percentage
METU	53	15.1
Bilkent University	34	10.1
Boğaziçi University	20	5.9
İstanbul Technical University	13	3.9
Ankara University	7	2.1
Hacettepe University	7	2.1
Koç University	5	1.5
Ege University	5	1.2
Sabancı University	4	1.2
Turkish Republic of Central Bank	4	1.2
Marmara University	4	1.2
University of Minnesota	4	1.2
Yeditepe University	4	1.2

Table 10
Distribution of Studies that Cite METU SD by Journal

Name of the Journal	Number	Percentage
Emerging Markets Finance and Trade	12	3.6
Applied Economics	11	3.3
Developing Economies	8	2.4
Journal of Policy Modeling	7	2.1
Middle Eastern Studies	7	2.1
İktisat İşletme ve Finans	7	2.1
International Journal of Middle East Studies	6	1.8
World Development	6	1.8
Economic Modelling	5	1.5
Applied Economics Letters	5	1.5
Amme İdaresi Dergisi	4	1.2
Development and Change	4	1.2
European Journal of Operational Research	4	1.2
Journal of Development Studies	4	1.2
Canadian Journal of Development Studies	4	1.2

METU Studies in Development will remain to be the best known and most respected academic journal in its field in Turkey, continuing to fulfill its mission as it has done for the past forty years.