

## **Abstract**

### **Entrepreneurship education in higher education**

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Entrepreneurship is considered a key factor influencing economic growth. Therefore, the decisions made by university graduates are of particular importance in the context of enhancing the economic competitiveness of an entire country.

Defining entrepreneurship itself poses a challenge for researchers in this field. Regardless of the definition adopted, it is emphasized that the individual is the one making entrepreneurial decisions, which depend not only on personal predispositions but also on external conditions.

Education is one of the key factors influencing students' entrepreneurial attitudes and, consequently, the development of an entrepreneurial culture. At the same time, it represents one of the most important dimensions of the functioning of modern universities.

Economists are increasingly analyzing the impact of education on the development of entrepreneurship, recognizing in it a potential not only for advancing entrepreneurship itself but also for the growth of the entire economy—both on a national and global scale. Entrepreneurship education that does not meet the expectations of its recipients will not yield the desired results in the face of the numerous socio-economic challenges that societies must confront today.

A central point of contention in research on entrepreneurship education is the actual impact of education on the decision to become an entrepreneur and on the ability to make entrepreneurial decisions that result not merely in the survival, but in the growth of a business through innovation.

The main objective of the dissertation was to examine, describe, and assess entrepreneurship education in higher education institutions, with particular emphasis on its influence on entrepreneurial attitudes and actions. To increase the reliability of the phenomenon being studied, the method of triangulation was applied—understood as the collection of data from multiple independent sources, including original empirical research based on primary sources. A critical review of both global and domestic literature in the relevant field was conducted. Simultaneously, statistical methods were used to describe data

obtained from international reports, while various methods of statistical inference were applied in the case of primary research.

A statistical and econometric analysis was conducted on data from international reports focused on education and entrepreneurship. This analysis enabled the identification of relationships between selected variables, indicating a significant link between education, entrepreneurship, and innovation.

A particularly important aspect of the analysis of results from the original research conducted among students of the Faculty of Economics at the University of Gdańsk was the respondents' assessment of entrepreneurship education and the potential for developing a future career as an entrepreneur. The factors identified in this dissertation that increase the likelihood of establishing one's own business may serve as a useful tool for evaluating individuals' predispositions to become entrepreneurs in the future.

*Keywords: entrepreneurship, education, labor market, entrepreneurship education, innovation*