

## **METU Studies in Development**

### **Report of the Editor - 2022**

#### **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 was published as two issues per year beginning in 2003. After it was published as three issues per year since 2010, due to lack of articles that were uploaded, it has been being published double issues per year starting from 2019.

In 2022, Vol. 49 No.1, consisted of eight articles, in 226 pages and Vol. 49 No. 2, consisted of four articles and one book review in 121 pages. The number of authors who contributed to Vol. 49's first and second issues were 12 and 7, respectively.

The website of the journal (<http://www2.feas.metu.edu.tr/metusd/ojs/index.php/metusd/index>) in its new form became operational in September 2006. From January 2008 onwards, all submission and evaluation processes became online only.

The issues had been printed in METU Printing House by the standing order of the Rector's office and the costs of printing materials (ink, carton etc.) have been paid by Dean's Office of METU FEAS until 2019. From 2020, the journal is published online only. This allows the journal fulfil its long-standing public service mission of nearly fifty years of well-regarded and respected academic discourse.

The journal was distributed free of charge to FEAS members and to libraries of public universities and some public institutions.

**Statistics**

The journal requires free registration to access its online content. Entire online archive of METUSD is open to public.

**Table 1<sup>1</sup>**  
**Statistics on Website**

|                        | 2016   | 2017   | 2018*   | 2019    | 2020    | 2021    | 2022   |
|------------------------|--------|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|
| Unique Visitor         | 5,049  | 5,337  | 21,772  | 17,757  | 12,312  | 17,640  | 3,815  |
| Number of Visits       | 8,388  | 8,696  | 28,432  | 21,761  | 18,141  | 21,888  | 5,672  |
| Page view              | 92,110 | 94,296 | 226,297 | 183,190 | 181,875 | 248,182 | 50,155 |
| View per Visitor       | 10.98  | 10,84  | 7.96    | 8.42    | 10.03   | 11.35   | 8.84   |
| Returning Visitors (%) | 41.4   | 14.7   | 6.8     | 6.6     | 12.3    | 7.3     | 13.5   |

\*Notes: 2015 covers the period between April and December and 2018 covers the period between December 2017 and December 2018.

During 2022, the number of unique visitors was 3,815 and the number of visits was 5,672. These figures and others from Table 1 show that compared to the 2021-2022 period, it is seemed that all of the statistics decreased except returning visitors (%).

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<sup>1</sup> Statistics cover the period of January-December, except 2015. As a consequence of server upgrade operations in October 2014, statistics on website for 2014 covers January – October and for 2015 covers April - December. The technical problem is solved in March 2015.

**Table 2**  
Visitors by Countries and Territories (2022)

| Country/Territory | Number of Unique Visitors | Share (%) | New Visits (%) |
|-------------------|---------------------------|-----------|----------------|
| Turkey            | 1,883                     | 49.02     | 48.98          |
| Vietnam           | 489                       | 12.73     | 12.65          |
| China             | 326                       | 8.49      | 8.66           |
| India             | 293                       | 7.63      | 7.76           |
| Indonesia         | 131                       | 3.41      | 3.43           |
| Germany           | 114                       | 2.97      | 3.00           |
| United States     | 106                       | 2.76      | 2.71           |
| Singapore         | 84                        | 2.19      | 2.15           |
| Pakistan          | 38                        | 0.99      | 1.01           |
| United Kingdom    | 37                        | 0.96      | 0.98           |

More than half of the total visitors came from outside of Turkey in 2022. Turkey leads with 1,883 visits; Vietnam follows with 489 visits and China with 326 visits for 2022.

*METU Studies in Development* received 40 manuscripts and 3 book reviews in 2019.

**Table 3**  
Distribution of Submissions by Fields (2017 – 2022)

| Fields                | 2017 |     | 2018 |     | 2019 |     | 2020 |     | 2021 |     | 2022 |     | Total |     |
|-----------------------|------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|-------|-----|
|                       | #    | %   | #    | %   | #    | %   | #    | %   | #    | %   | #    | %   | #     | %   |
| Economics             | 26   | 60  | 20   | 66  | 10   | 58  | 7    | 47  | 3    | 38  | 9    | 69  | 75    | 59  |
| Business Adm.         | 6    | 14  | 2    | 7   | 4    | 24  | 2    | 13  | 1    | 13  | 0    | 0   | 15    | 12  |
| International Rel.    | 1    | 2   | 2    | 7   | 0    | 0   | 0    | 0   | 1    | 13  | 1    | 8   | 5     | 4   |
| Pol. Sci. & Pub. Adm. | 8    | 19  | 5    | 17  | 3    | 18  | 5    | 33  | 1    | 13  | 2    | 15  | 24    | 19  |
| Other                 | 2    | 5   | 1    | 3   | 0    | 0   | 1    | 7   | 2    | 25  | 1    | 8   | 7     | 6   |
| Total                 | 43   | 100 | 30   | 100 | 17   | 100 | 15   | 100 | 8    | 100 | 13   | 100 | 126   | 100 |

Table 3 shows the number and proportion of submissions according to major field. Of these, 59% are in economics while 19% from political science and public administration between 2017 and 2022, though 69% of them are in economics and 15% are in political science and public administration in 2022.

**Table 4**  
Average Processing Periods (Week)

| Year  | Field                 | Editor | 1 <sup>st</sup> Referee | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Referee | To   | To decision |
|-------|-----------------------|--------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--|-------------|
|       |                       |        |                         |                         | Rejection (including editorial rejections) |             |
| 2016  | Economics             | 11.6   | 9.7                     | 9.5                     | 17.3                                       | 10.4        |
|       | Business Adm.         | 7.5    | 8.3                     | 8.3                     | 14.2                                       | 44.6        |
|       | Pol. Sci. & Pub. Adm. | 3.9    | 5.6                     | 2.4                     | 4.7  | 30.3        |
|       | International Rel.    | 15.5   | 8.5                     | 11.8                    | -  | 35.8        |
|       | Other                 | -      | -                       | -                       | 5.3  | -           |
|       | Total                 | 9.3    | 6.9                     | 5.3                     | 23.1                                       | 27.5        |
| 2017  | Economics             | 5.6    | 15.8                    | 8                       | 7.8  | 10.8        |
|       | Business Adm.         | 4.1    | 4.3                     | 9                       | 14.5                                       | 24.9        |
|       | Pol. Sci. & Pub. Adm. | 4.5    | 12.3                    | 13                      | 16   | 36.5        |
|       | International Rel.    | 8      | 32                      |                         | 12   | 56          |
|       | Other                 | -      | -                       | -                       | 5.5  | -           |
|       | Total                 | 5.6    | 16.1                    | 10                      | 12.6                                       | 32.1        |
| 20178 | Economics             | 8.4    | 16                      | 7.8                     | 4.68                                       | 12          |
|       | Business Adm.         | 3.8    | 4.5                     | 9.2                     | 14.5                                       | 15          |
|       | Pol. Sci. & Pub. Adm. | 5.6    | 12                      | 12.5                    | 16   | 17          |
|       | International Rel.    | 7.2    | 16                      |                         | 12   | 18          |
|       | Other                 | -      | -                       | -                       | 4  | -           |
|       | Total                 | 6.25   | 16.15                   | 9.8                     | 10.23                                      | 18          |
| 2019  | Economics             | 1.5    | 8                       | 15                      | 12   | 9           |
|       | Business Adm.         | 1      | 2                       | 6                       | 6  | 12          |
|       | Pol. Sci. & Pub. Adm. | 4      | 4                       | -                       | 5  | 5           |
|       | International Rel.    | -      | -                       | -                       | -  | -           |
|       | Other                 | -      | -                       | -                       | -  | -           |
|       | Total                 | 2.16   | 4                       | 10.5                    | 7.7  | 8.67        |
| 2020  | Economics             | 5      | 14                      | 12                      | 14   | 21          |
|       | Business Adm.         | 0.5    | 7                       | 12                      | 10   | 30          |
|       | Pol. Sci. & Pub. Adm. | 2      | 8                       | 5                       | 16   | 26          |
|       | International Rel.    | -      | -                       | -                       | -  | -           |
|       | Other                 | 1      | 0                       | 0                       | 1  | 1           |
|       | Total                 | 2.13   | 9.7                     | 9.7                     | 13.3                                       | 25.7        |

|      |                       |     |     |      |      |      |
|------|-----------------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| 2021 | Economics             | 4   | 11  | 13   | 11   | 23   |
|      | Business Adm.         | 0.5 | 7   | 2    | -    | 9.5  |
|      | Pol. Sci. & Pub. Adm. | 6   | 13  | 14   | -    | 14   |
|      | International Rel.    | 0.5 | 6   | 1    | -    | 7.5  |
|      | Other                 | 6   | 5   | -    | 10   | 10   |
|      | Total                 | 3.4 | 8.4 | 6    | 4.2  | 12.8 |
| 2022 | Economics             | 3.5 | 12  | 11.5 | 12.5 | 24   |
|      | Business Adm.         | 2   | 8   | 6    | 8    | 0    |
|      | Pol. Sci. & Pub. Adm. | 5   | 11  | 15   | 8    | 20   |
|      | International Rel.    | 2.5 | 10  | 12   | 9.5  | 17   |
|      | Other                 | 7   | 6   | 5    | 7    | 15   |
|      | Total                 | 4   | 9.4 | 9.9  | 9    | 14.4 |

<sup>a</sup> As of 01.12.2018

In Table 4, compilation periods of articles in different steps are shown between 2016 and 2022. It is seen although that a referee was found on average in 4 weeks in 2022. Authors have been notified on the editorial decision on average in 14.4 weeks in 2022.

**Table 5**  
Refereeing Status of the Articles

|                           | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 |
|---------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Single Referee            | 8    | 11   | 14   | 7    | 12   | 6    | 2    | 1    |
| Two+ Referees             | 36   | 20   | 13   | 11   | 4    | 7    | 6    | 17   |
| No referee found          | 1    | -    | -    | 1    | -    | -    | -    | -    |
| Desk Rejection by Editors | 4    | 10   | 13   | 10   | 1    | 3    | -    | 1    |
| Recall by Authors         | -    | 5    | -    | 1    | -    | -    | -    | 1    |
| Total                     | 49   | 46   | 40   | 30   | 17   | 16   | 8    | 20   |

Table 5 shows detailed statistics of the refereeing process between the years 2015-2022. During this period, a significant portion of the articles has been assigned to two referees, except for some manuscripts received in 2017 and 2019. The journal always starts by two or three referees but sometimes (due to a lack of response) the decision is made based on a single referee report (who is an experienced and trusted referee) and editorial evaluation. If the editorial board is in doubt, the author is informed and asked for permission to start the process anew if the author so wishes it (or recalls his/her submission).

The statistics for *METU Studies in Development* for the period of 2010 – 2022 are shown in Table 6. In this period, 49% of issued articles were written in Turkish

and 95% of the authors were academicians or professionals that affiliated to universities or other institutions in Turkey. *METU Studies in Development* is 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 journal 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. A *METU Studies in Development* publication qualifies for an initial assistant professor position in the overwhelming majority of Turkish universities. Since 1971, the journal has been included 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*, 2010-2022

| Volume | Number  | Number of Articles <sup>a</sup> | Number of Articles in Turkish | Total Number of Authors | Number of Authors (from Turkey) <sup>b</sup> | Number of Authors (Foreign Affiliation) | Number of Book Reviews | Printing Date <sup>c</sup> | Special Issue |
|--------|---------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|--|---|------------------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| 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                       | 5  | 0                                       | 1                      | Dec.12                     |               |
| 40     | 2013(1) | 5                               | 2                             | 8                       | 8  | 0                                       | 0                      | Apr. 13                    |               |
| 40     | 2013(2) | 12                              | 12                            | 15                      | 15   | 0                                       | 0                      | Aug. 13                    | *             |
| 41     | 2014(1) | 4                               | 3                             | 6                       | 6  | 0                                       | 0                      | Apr. 14                    |               |
| 41     | 2014(2) | 9                               | 6                             | 15                      | 15   | 0                                       | 1                      | Aug. 14                    |               |
| 41     | 2014(3) | 11                              | 0                             | 11                      | 7  | 4                                       | 0                      | Dec. 14                    | *             |
| 42     | 2015(1) | 5                               | 3                             | 10                      | 10   | 0                                       | 0                      | Apr.15                     |               |
| 42     | 2015(2) | 6                               | 2                             | 7                       | 5  | 2                                       | 1                      | Aug.15                     |               |
| 42     | 2015(3) | 7                               | 4                             | 13                      | 13   | 0                                       | 1                      | Dec.15                     |               |
| 43     | 2016(1) | 15                              | 5                             | 29                      | 27   | 2                                       | 0                      | Apr.16                     | *             |
| 43     | 2016(2) | 9                               | 3                             | 17                      | 15   | 2                                       | 1                      | Aug.16                     |               |
| 43     | 2016(3) | 5                               | 4                             | 7                       | 7  | 0                                       | 0                      | Dec.16                     |               |
| 44     | 2017(1) | 5                               | 3                             | 8                       | 8  | 0                                       | 1                      | Apr. 17                    |               |
| 44     | 2017(2) | 5                               | 2                             | 7                       | 7  | 0                                       | 1                      | Aug. 17                    |               |
| 44     | 2017(3) | 4                               | 1                             | 6                       | 4  | 2                                       | 1                      | Dec. 17                    |               |

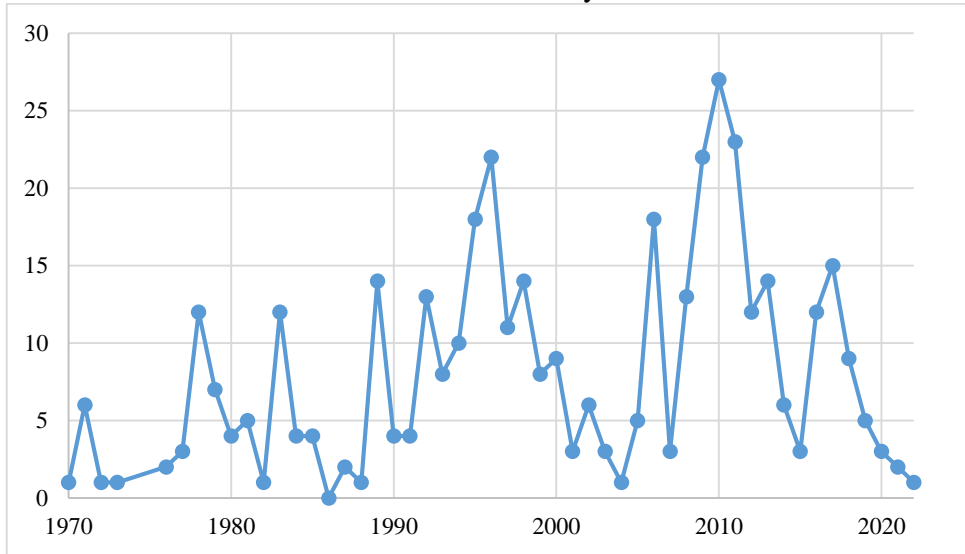
|    |         |     |     |     |     |    |    |         |  |
|----|---------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|----|---------|--|
| 45 | 2018(1) | 4   | 1   | 5   | 5   | 0  | 0  | Apr.18  |  |
| 45 | 2018(2) | 4   | 1   | 6   | 6   | 0  | 0  | Aug.18  |  |
| 45 | 2018(3) | 3   | 1   | 4   | 4   | 0  | 0  | Dec.18  |  |
| 46 | 2019(1) | 6   | 3   | 8   | 8   | 0  | 1  | Jun. 19 |  |
| 46 | 2019(2) | 6   | 0   | 14  | 14  | 0  | 0  | Dec.19  |  |
| 47 | 2020(1) | 7   | 4   | 15  | 15  | 0  | 2  | Jun. 20 |  |
| 47 | 2020(2) | 7   | 3   | 9   | 9   | 0  | 1  | Dec. 20 |  |
| 48 | 2021(1) | 4   | 1   | 6   | 6   | 0  | 1  | Jun. 21 |  |
| 48 | 2021(2) | 6   | 3   | 9   | 7   | 2  | 0  | Dec. 21 |  |
| 49 | 2022(1) | 8   | 8   | 12  | 12  | 0  | 0  | Jun.22  |  |
| 49 | 2022(2) | 5   | 3   | 7   | 6   | 1  | 1  | Dec.22  |  |
|    | Total   | 198 | 100 | 317 | 302 | 15 | 15 |         |  |

### **Citations of *METU Studies in Development* in the SSCI**

The journal was published for more than 53 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. The journal has been back on timely publication track for the past twelve years and it has international visibility statistics compiled within an online system for the past six years. Also, the full text of past volumes (back to 2000) was transferred to the web environment in pdf format. Until recently, the journal could be found only at the central libraries of public universities. In addition, the EBSCOHost Academic Search Premier database provided full text access.

*METU Studies in Development* has been cited in the SSCI index for the first time in 1970. The journal has been cited 413 times in studies that have been published in the journals indexed by SSCI between 1970 and 2022. It was decreased to 5 in 2019 and 3 in 2020, it decreased to 2 in 2021 and to 1 in 2022. 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.

**Table 7**  
Classification of Citations by Fields

| Field                 | Citations |            |
|-----------------------|-----------|------------|
|                       | Number    | Percentage |
| Economics             | 205       | 49.50      |
| Business Adm.         | 53        | 12.83      |
| Pol. Sci. & Pub. Adm. | 70        | 16.94      |
| International Rel.    | 22        | 5.32       |
| Others                | 64        | 15.50      |
| Total                 | 414       | 100.00     |



Table 8 shows the distribution of citations to the journal by country. The majority of the citations were made by the Turkish researchers (53.26%). Turkish researchers are followed by the journals from the U.S.A. and the U.K.

**Table 8**  
Distribution of Citations by Country

| Country                    | Number | Percentage |
|----------------------------|--------|------------|
| Turkey                     | 221    | 53.26      |
| U.S.A.                     | 54     | 13.11      |
| U.K.                       | 25     | 6.05       |
| Netherland                 | 7      | 1.69       |
| Germany                    | 5      | 1.21       |
| Canada                     | 4      | 0.97       |
| Taiwan                     | 3      | 0.73       |
| Jordan                     | 3      | 0.73       |
| France                     | 3      | 0.73       |
| People's Republic of China | 3      | 0.73       |

Table 9 shows the distribution by institution of the authors who cited article from METU Studies in Development. A significant proportion of the citations (49.17%) were made from METU and Bilkent University authors who have had a long-standing familiarity with the journal.

**Table 9**  
Distribution of Studies that Cite METU SD by Institution

| The institution                  | Number | Percentage |
|----------------------------------|--------|------------|
| METU                             | 55     | 30.39      |
| Bilkent University               | 34     | 18.78      |
| Boğaziçi University              | 22     | 12.15      |
| İstanbul Technical University    | 16     | 8.84       |
| Ankara University                | 11     | 6.08       |
| Hacettepe University             | 11     | 6.08       |
| Ege University                   | 6      | 3.31       |
| Yeditepe University              | 5      | 2.76       |
| Koç University                   | 5      | 2.76       |
| Sabancı University               | 5      | 2.76       |
| Turkish Republic of Central Bank | 4      | 2.21       |
| Marmara University               | 4      | 2.21       |
| University of Minnesota          | 4      | 2.21       |

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 10**  
Distribution of Studies that Cite METU SD by Journal

| Name of the Journal                          | Number | Percentage |
|--|--------|------------|
| Emerging Markets Finance and Trade           | 12     | 3.53       |
| Applied Economics                            | 12     | 3.53       |
| Developing Economies                         | 8      | 2.35       |
| Journal of Policy Modeling                   | 7      | 2.06       |
| Middle Eastern Studies                       | 7      | 2.06       |
| İktisat İşletme ve Finans                    | 7      | 2.06       |
| International Journal of Middle East Studies | 6      | 1.76       |
| World Development                            | 6      | 1.76       |
| Amme İdaresi Dergisi                         | 6      | 1.76       |
| Economic Modelling                           | 5      | 1.47       |
| Applied Economics Letters                    | 5      | 1.47       |
| Journal of Development Studies               | 5      | 1.47       |
| Development and Change                       | 4      | 1.18       |
| European Journal of Operational Research     | 4      | 1.18       |
| Canadian Journal of Development Studies      | 4      | 1.18       |

*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 fifty years.