

WORDS FROM THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Welcome to the second issue of the International Journal of the Analytic Hierarchy Process (IJAHP). The mission of the IJAHP is to advance the use, education, and development of the Analytic Hierarchy/Network Process (AHP/ANP) for decision making. The first article in this issue discusses the use of AHP-based questionnaires to evaluate social issues alternatives. This study finds that using AHP to survey social issues constitutes a more effective method to assess human perceptions on the problems. This article is followed by an ANP application on a practical and important problem: When shall Poland enter the Euro one? This study performs a Benefit-Cost-Risk-Opportunity (BOCR) of three possible timeframe scenarios and concludes that Poland would be better off entering the Euro zone in 2011. Latest news on this topic indicates that this is precisely the strategy that Poland is currently pursuing in relation to the Euro zone. The final article in this issue discusses the use of ANP to study combinatorial auctions. Combinatorial auctions are those auctions in which bidders can place bids on combinations of items, called "packages," rather than just individual items. ANP is particularly suitable to study combinatorial auctions due to the interdependence of sellers, buyers, bundles, and the related auction criteria and proposes a model to study this type of auctions. To close this issue, we have a treat in the essay section. Saaty, Vargas, and Whitaker provide what may constitute the Cliff notes of AHP criticism. They summarize all the criticism made to date about AHP/ANP and address, one by one, each of the different categories. So, should any of the readers bump into any of these arguments, the response is more likely to be found in this essay. In a nutshell, this issue presents three research articles from three different countries, and a review of AHP criticism, enough material to keep IJAHP readers busy during the academic mid-year recess.

Happy Holidays,

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