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# Handbook of Research on Family Business

Edited by **Panikkos Zata Poutziouris**, Cyprus International Institute of Management and Manchester Business School, UK, **Kosmas X. Smyrnios**, RMIT University Melbourne, Australia and **Sabine Klein**, European Business School, Germany and INSEAD, France

*'This Handbook is a unique compilation of the most important and the best recent family business research. The field has grown so rapidly that this effort will be a mark for the research to follow. The Elgar Handbook of Research on Family Business will be the reference for scholars in family business for many years to come. It will also stimulate new ideas in research.'*

– John L. Ward, IMD, Switzerland and Northwestern University, US

*'The Handbook of Research on Family Business has collected and synthesized a broad variety of topics by notable researchers who share a common dedication to family business research. This Handbook provides a comprehensive treatment that advances the frontiers of knowledge in family business, provoking valuable thoughts and discussion. The Handbook will serve as both, an authoritative and comprehensive reference work for researchers investigating family enterprises.'*

– A. Bakr Ibrahim, Concordia University, Montreal, Canada

*'Although family business research is a young discipline it is both necessary and important. For the wellbeing and future development of our society the survival of prosperous and passionate family business entrepreneurs is indispensable. In order to help the families in business to better understand how to succeed with their enterprises we need qualified and updated research. This book is the answer!'*

– Hans-Jacob Bonnier, Bonnier Business Press Group, Sweden and 6th Generation Chairman of the Family Business Network – International

The *Handbook of Research on Family Business* provides a comprehensive first port of call for those wishing to survey progress in the theory and practice of family business research.

The contributors examine recent advances in the study of family business, which has undertaken significant strides in terms of theory building, empirical rigor, development of sophisticated survey instruments, systematic measurement of family business activity, use of alternative research methodologies and deployment of robust tools of analysis. A selection of empirical studies addressing the current family business research agenda are presented, and issues and topics explored include:

- Validation of the protagonist role family firms play in social-economic spheres;
- Operational and definitional issues surrounding what constitutes a family business;
- Historical development of the field of family business;
- Methodologies encompassing micro and macro perspectives;
- Challenges to the orthodox microeconomic view of homo-economicus firms by highlighting the virtues of family influence and social capital

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