

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Dear Readers,

INTAN once again presents the *Journal of Economics and Policy*, an annual publication which discusses contemporary issues in the fields of Economics, Business, Finance and Public Policy. In this fifth issue of the journal, we have included seven articles which address some of these current issues relevant to Malaysia.

After two difficult years brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic, Malaysia now appears to be on the path to recovery. The country however still faces several economic challenges, such as inflation, high cost of living and food security. Thus, this issue examines among others, ways to achieve more accurate estimates of current inflation (“*nowcasting inflation*”), the impact of rising prices of goods and the cost of living, and how Malaysia can utilize the World Trade Organisation to achieve food security.

In addition, we have included articles on ways to enhance the effectiveness of investment tax incentives and the impact of biofuel energy and institutional quality on Malaysia’s palm oil exports to the BRICS economies. Some articles explore the main ideas behind new social movements and social change, as well as one assessing the readiness of Malaysia’s public servants in transitioning to online learning.

The Journal of Economics and Policy continues to function as a platform to nurture and exchange ideas and information on issues that matter to the country. The contributors are civil servants from various schemes and agencies, who bring to the table their vast knowledge and expertise in their respective fields.

Much effort has been undertaken to ensure the quality of the journal publication. This journal has undergone a rigorous review process that involved academicians from various universities such as Universiti Malaya, Universiti Putra Malaysia and Universiti Islam Antarabangsa Malaysia. On behalf of INTAN, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all contributors and reviewers involved in making this journal a success.

INTAN will strive to continually improve the standards of this journal so that it can be a useful resource for civil servants here and worldwide. I hope the articles published in this journal will provide significant insight into the issues and guidance on ways to address them. I welcome feedback from our readers on how we can further improve our publication.

DATUK DR. ALAUDDIN SIDAL

Editor-in-Chief

Journal of Economics and Policy

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