

Does Covid-19 Pandemic change the entrepreneurship pattern in Romania? Resilience drivers and policy recommendations for strengthening local entrepreneurial ecosystem

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Abstract: The preliminary data indicate that the number of new enterprises (new created enterprises –LTD, join-stock company etc.) decreased sharply in 2020 and 2021 in Romania. At the same time, the number of freelancers and self-employed persons increased. There are also differences between urban and rural communities inside the counties. Considering that the Romanian fiscal policy has not been significantly modified during that period, the preference for freelancing and self-employed person instead of company (LTD, JSC etc.) can indicate a way of adaptation and resilience for the business environment. The research tries to identify the predictors for this trend, analyzing the data from those 41 counties (NUTS 3 level) of Romania. The results can be useful for local public administration to understand which are the resilience drivers that were influenced by the local policies, and which can strengthen the local entrepreneurial ecosystem and local economy.