

Review of: "Alas (Hellas), there is no hope: It's not a crisis, it's a culture"

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This article seeks to analyze the origin of the financial crisis in Greece from the perspective of the culture rooted in the people. The author argues that the financial crisis is the result of people's behavior and the functioning of the family, as well as entropies in the functioning of Greek society.

The article takes a very original and unusual approach. Despite the general economic perspective of the crisis, the author discusses and dissects the culture and structural inefficiencies of Greek society and the external environment that could affect Greece.

In terms of originality, the author looks at the importance of culture for the financial crisis in a distinctive way, which allows him to make a relevant contribution to the existing literature on the topic. The text is written clearly and in a logical sequence that makes it easy to understand the main contributions.

In the introduction the author describes a methodology associated with interviews and participant observation as a way of gathering information for his assertions and conclusions. However, throughout the rest of the text the author never shows how he carried out the interviews and observation, nor what points he covered in these interviews, who he interviewed and when he did them. It is therefore not possible to assess the methodological procedures. The article could benefit from this contribution. The article does not present any account of the interviews in a structured way, nor is it clear what information it obtained from the interviews and observation, so it is not clear what distinguishes the research work based on the methodology from its own opinion or knowledge of society.

The bibliography used in each of the sections seems adequate, but some are dated, so the use of more recent literature could be important. As a suggestion, other studies could be used to justify the crisis in Greece and serve to contextualize the problem;

The author's approach to the importance of culture as a major contributory factor to the financial crisis could benefit, in addition to the work he has done, if he frames and contextualizes Greek culture within the framework of relevant international studies, namely:

- In Hofstede's six dimensions of national cultural values (Hofstede, 2001; Hofstede et al., 2010): distance to power; individualism versus collectivism; masculinity versus femininity; avoidance of uncertainty; long term orientation versus Short Term Normative Orientation; indulgence versus restraint;

- Schwartz's (2006, 2008) seven cultural values: autonomy versus embeddedness emphasizes, egalitarianism versus hierarchy, harmony versus mastery;
- Inglehart and Baker's (2000) two cultural dimensions of countries: traditional versus secular-rational dimension; survival versus self-expression dimension.
- Religion, spoken language (Stulz and Williamson, 2003) and ethical diversity (Easterly and Levine, 1997);

The author mentions the relevance of legislation to society, but this could be framed and explained in the context of Civil Law versus Common Law, with special emphasis on the execution of the legislation in force in the country. Here, the main focus could be on law enforcement.

The conclusion could be improved in the sense of being clearer about the importance of culture in Greece's financial crisis, as well as providing more evidence of how the country's culture (characterized briefly) was able to impact on the economy to the point of generating the financial crisis. This link is very relevant.