

Peer Review

Review of: "Social Capital and National Innovativeness – The Influence of Trust and Tolerance on the National Capacity to Innovate"

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Thank you for giving me this opportunity to review this well-articulated research. I enjoyed reading the arguments built in the literature review section. The paper has done justice to each section, such as the literature review, methodology, results, discussion, and implications. I came across certain areas that, if taken care of, can improve the quality of the article.

1. Paragraph 1: "Nonetheless, the role of social norms and values as drivers of innovativeness remains somewhat unclear." Please provide appropriate references for this argument, as this is the gap you have identified based on existing literature.
2. The attitudinal model of social capital as a circle of trust is an important contribution of this paper and therefore one of the key strengths. Therefore, I suggest the authors should capitalize on this strength by writing a succinct paragraph explaining this model briefly. You can provide this explanation by following the diagram.
3. I suggest replacing 'econometric' in the first sentence of the discussion section with 'statistical', as correlation and regression are fundamental statistical techniques.
4. Given that the authors presented three hypotheses, they must indicate in the results section whether these hypotheses received support or not. This will ensure clarity in the results. The authors may include a column in the results table that indicates whether the hypotheses are supported or unsupported.
5. Although the authors have mentioned many future research directions, one of the key ones could be exploring the role of mediating or intervening variables that may help explain the underlying

mechanism between social capital and innovation. For instance, as given in the literature review of this paper, factors such as a positive orientation towards diversity and inclusion could act as a positive mediator in the relationship between social capital and national innovativeness. We can also identify additional mediating constructs to guide future research.

6. You may consider updating the literature with recently published articles on the concerned topic. Here are some suggestions.

This paper explores how practices and cultures that enhance social and human capital can enhance innovativeness by building and exploiting knowledge resources of business entities from emerging/developing economies, such as India.

Trivedi, K., & Srivastava, K. B. (2024). Knowledge management processes play a mediating role in the impact of intellectual capital-enhancing HR practices and culture on innovativeness. *Journal of Organizational Effectiveness: People and Performance*, 11(3), 573–593.

Trivedi, K., & Srivastava, K. B. (2024). The study examines the impact of strategic HR practices on innovation performance, specifically examining the mediation of differentiation and cost-effectiveness. *Journal of Organizational Effectiveness: People and Performance*, 11(3), 680–698.

Declarations

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.