

## Call for Papers - Special Issue of the Journal of Trade Science Supply Chain Management

### Background and Objectives:

The Covid-19 pandemic has highlighted the need to master logistics issues in all sectors. The supply shock that began in China in February 2020 and the demand shock that the global economic shutdown has exposed vulnerabilities in the production strategies and supply chains of companies all over the world. Temporary trade restrictions and shortages of pharmaceuticals, essential medical supplies, and other commodities have shown their weaknesses. Added to these difficulties are the increasingly acute environmental challenges for all players in the supply chains. All of this was the trigger for the rise of economic nationalism. As a result, manufacturers around the world are under greater political and competitive pressure to increase their domestic production, expand employment in their home countries, reduce or even eliminate their dependence on sources perceived as risky, and rethink their lean management strategy, which involves minimizing the amount of inventory held in their global supply chains. Still, a lot of things are not going to change. Consumers will continue to want low prices, and companies will not be able to charge more just because they manufacture in more expensive domestic markets. Additionally, the pressure to efficiently operate and use capital and manufacturing capacities will remain relentless.

The challenge for companies will be to make their supply chains more resilient without weakening their competitiveness. Inter-company management, steering, and coordination are thus some of the most delicate organizational challenges faced by managers. This challenge has been approached for several years under the term “Supply Chain Management” (SCM). Indeed, this term, initially used for logistics activities, the management of physical and information flows between companies, is now used in a much broader sense (Christopher, 1992; Croom et al., 2000). It is a question of addressing the strategic and inter-organizational problems raised by alternative forms of organization to the traditional and classic vertical integration and, for example, more concretely, the relationships developed by a company with its suppliers. There are, in fact, a considerable number of subjects in “Supply Chain Management” which remain “open”. We can cite, without this list claiming to be exhaustive, the problems of purchasing, operations management, logistics, location and transport, distribution strategy, organizational behavior, networks, management information systems, and collaboration.

Moreover, supply chains are subject to many disturbances, which can be endogenous or exogenous. Faced with the various hazards of a globalized world and characterized by growing uncertainty, sometimes particularly exposed given their own length, business chains must, under pain of serious disappointment, consider global management of their operations and increased responsiveness of all actors in the chain. Walmart, IKEA and many other large companies have quickly realized that supply chain efficiency is fundamentally based on optimizing the whole chain rather than its individual elements. In addition, Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), a central concept in many areas, has particularly imposed itself on the SCM through the activism of consumers and stakeholders in the chain who are very sensitive to the behavior of suppliers (e.g., Nike for the scandal of underage workers from its suppliers or IKEA targeted for the outrage of natural deforestation among its subcontractors) (Xu and Lee, 2019; Barcena-Ruiz and Sagasta, 2021). In fact, CSR cannot be the fact and the only concern of the link in contact with consumers, but it now concerns all the members and the

management of the chain (Nematollahi et al., 2017). This now presupposes collaborative management of all the players in the chain in a sustainable development approach.

The goal of this Journal of Trade Science special issue is to stimulate research in operations and strategies for managing supply chains. This special issue invites papers with a clear grounding in operations and supply chain management that provide managerial, strategic, technical, operational, social, and political insights by illustrating how firms and their supply chains maintain their development in a sustainable way and in an uncertain environment.

### **Topics of Interest:**

The special issue is open to any theoretical and empirical methodologies within the scope of... including but not limited to case studies, large-scale surveys, laboratory and field experiments, and other approaches. Please refer to the editorial policy of Journal of Trade Science for specific details. Potential research topics include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Network Design
- Logistics Planning
- Material Management
- Sales and Operations Planning
- Procurement
- Strategic Sourcing
- Operational Hedging
- Risk Evaluation
- Supply Chain Finance
- E-commerce and supply chains
- IoT in Logistics
- Blockchain in Supply Chain Management
- COVID-19 and Supply Chain Disruption
- Sustainable Supply Chain Management
- Supply Market Intelligence Sustainability
- CSR issues in Supply Chain Management

**All submissions should be well grounded in the Supply Chain Management literature and theory, and they should contribute to both the theory and practice of SCM.**

### **Tentative Deadlines:**

Manuscript submissions: 30 November 2022

First-round decisions: 30 January 2023

Revisions due: 28 February 2023

Final decisions: 30 April 2023

Manuscripts should conform to the instructions given in the Guide for Authors for Journal of Trade Science

## Guest Editors:

**Dr. Thi Le Hoa Vo** is Associate Professor of Production and Operations Management at the University of Rennes 1 and the Center for Research in Economics and Management (CREM UMR 6211 CNRS), France. She specialises in operations management and supply chain management based on modelling and simulation. She is particularly interested in the impact of CSR implementation on supply chain management.

*Email: thi-le-hoa.vo@univ-rennes1.fr*

## References

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2. Christopher, M., 1992. *Logistics and supply chain management: Creating value-adding networks*, Piman Publishing, London.
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