

Entrepreneurship, Democracy, and Corruption: When Two Economic Worlds Diverge



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This study investigates the distinct effects of corruption and democracy on entrepreneurship across technological domains, drawing on comparative data from 101 countries. The findings reveal a striking pattern: high-tech entrepreneurship flourishes primarily under democratic regimes and shows relative resilience to institutional corruption, whereas low-tech entrepreneurship is especially vulnerable to corruption and less dependent on democratic values. In contexts where corruption is high, but democracy persists, a dual economy may emerge—one in which the high-tech sector retains stability and global integration, while small businesses and low-tech entrepreneurs face institutional barriers such as bureaucracy, corruption, and inequality. Yet when democratic backsliding accompanies corruption, even high-tech entrepreneurship is likely to decline. In Israel, where democratic indicators are eroding and corruption is rising, the risk of broad harm to entrepreneurial activity—including the high-tech sector—is tangible. The study underscores the strategic importance of safeguarding democracy and curbing corruption to sustain entrepreneurship across sectors.

The (Personal) Space Between Us: The Effect of Personal-Business Separation on Customers' Evaluation of Warmth and Competence



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As remote work becomes increasingly prevalent, the impact of office location on customers' perceptions of services and providers has grown in importance yet remains underexplored in academic literature. This study investigates how office location, whether in a commercial or residential area, shapes potential clients' perceptions of an independent service provider's warmth and competence. We introduce the construct of Personal-Business Separation (PBS), defined as the degree to which a provider's office is removed from their private residence. High separation typically characterizes offices in commercial areas, whereas low separation reflects offices within private spaces (e.g., home, backyard). Across two studies, we demonstrate that PBS significantly influences client perceptions: home-based offices (low separation) enhance perceptions of warmth relative to commercial settings (high separation), while the opposite pattern emerges for competence. These findings advance understanding of how evolving work norms affect consumer perceptions and expectations of service providers. Theoretical and managerial implications of PBS for professional practice and client relations are discussed.