

A NEW SOCIAL STREET ECONOMY

An Effect of The COVID-19
Pandemic

Edited by Simon Grima, Osman Sirkeci
and Kamuran Elbeyoğlu

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A NEW SOCIAL STREET
ECONOMY

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A NEW SOCIAL STREET ECONOMY: AN EFFECT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ARW	Association of Recycling Workers
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CGTRA	General Confederation of Workers of the Republic of Argentina
CHP	Cumhuriyet Halk Partisi – Republican People’s Party
CMW	UN Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families
COE	Council of Europe
COV-2	Yeni Koronavirüs (SARS-CoV-2)
COYOTE	Call Off Your Old Tired Ethics
DDA	Delhi Development Authority
EU	European Union
EZB	The European Central Bank (ECB)
FED	Federal Reserve Board
FSSAI	Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)
GBM	General Body Meeting
GDP	Gross domestic product
GLOSEP	Global Street Economics Platform
GNP	Gross national product
GNP	Gross domestic product
GPS	Global positioning system
IKSV	Istanbul Foundation for Culture and Arts
ILO	International Labor Organisation
IMF	International Monetary Fund
LGBTI	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, and Intersex
LoR	Letter of Recommendation
MCD	McDonald’s Corporation
MEPIAD	Mersin Perakendeci İş Adamları Derneği
MMI	Metropolitan Municipality of Izmir
MSME	Medium, small, and micro enterprises
MTSO	Mersin Chamber of Commerce and Industry

NASVI	National Association of Street Vendors of India
NGO	Non-governmental Organisation
NHF	National Hawkers Federation
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
PCR	Polymerase chain reaction
PM SVANidhi	PM Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi
PPE	Personal protective equipment
RFID	Radio-Frequency IDentification
RWA	Recycling Workers Association
RWA	Residential Welfare Authorities
SIVARA	Sindicato de Vendedores Ambulantes de la República Argentina
SMEs	Small and micro enterprises
SVA 2014	Street Vending Act 2014
SWG	Self-workers Global
TUIK	Türkiye İstatistik Kurumu
TURKSTAT	Turkish Statistical Institute
TVC	Town Vending Committee
UN	United Nations
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UPTA	The Union of Professionals and Self-Employed Workers
US\$/USD	US Dollar
USA	United States of America
WB	World Bank
WHISPER	Women Hurt in System of Prostitution Engaged in Revolt
WHO	World Health Organization
WIEGO	Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing

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PREFACE

COVID 19, or the Coronavirus as it is commonly used, came into our lives suddenly and unexpectedly and forced us all to fundamentally change our entire life routine. Each of us was doing things we should do in our daily routines at school, at work, at home, and social life was going on as long as possible in cafes, restaurants, neighbourhood markets, shopping malls, and streets. But when the Corona epidemic has compelled people to stay at home, beyond breaking away from the routines we are used to, people also started to adapting to an isolated state of existence from the social life we are accustomed to, the fear of catching a deadly virus and death, and of course, for those who had to close their jobs or were unemployed, there was also a concern for subsistence.

The Corona crisis has left the world's unshakable national authorities vulnerable and desperate, dependent on each other. Faced with the depletion of resources, it has become the nightmare of all the national wealthy who are concerned about lost or diminished profits. However, virtual money, which does not fit into national boundaries as before and is said to have no colour, race, religion, language, as is often said, has proven its global sovereignty.

Companies want and make the public pay the cost of the change forced by the structural crisis of capital masked by the epidemic. Companies that add profits to their profits both on the rise of capitalism as well as during its crisis are determined to maintain profitability by creating new riches in crises while imposing the burden on the public. The unfairness in the distribution of crisis support packages between companies and the public clearly demonstrates this. But, as history is being written tomorrow, this period will be called after Corona before Corona and nothing will be the same as before.

Social economy principles can be a good starting point to discuss the new paradigm in the preparatory processes for the construction of the post-capitalist world. The social economy proposes ways to transform the existing economy, which seeks to grow and earn more profits by destroying and wasting resources, into living in harmony with nature and an economy that will serve people.

Social economy appears in many societies in different forms of cooperation, cooperatives, or various mutual funds. The increasing number of solidarity-based social economic practices around the world increases due to a growing number of people living in extremely poor living conditions and in deep poverty. Today, because of the Corona crisis, many people lost their jobs and regular income. Therefore, the street economy is gaining more importance in these conditions. Street vendors still come to the rescue of the poor and low-income citizens. The citizens, who cannot afford the products sold in the shops, choose them. Street vendors go to poor neighbourhoods where there is not even a market. These people meet the needs of the elderly and the patients who cannot go out. Regardless

of the epidemic, whether they are citizens of the country or migrant recycling employees, they still bring the waste to the economy.

This book comes as a complement to our first book *Global Street Economy and Micro Entrepreneurship*, where street economy was discussed with all its social, economic, and political dimensions, actors, sectors, and functions. In this work, for the first time, street economy is discussed in terms of how it is related to social economy and how it contributes to the four main components of social economy, which are supply of needs, social benefit production, fair distribution, and sustainability. Reciprocity is the mechanism that makes relational and organisational life possible. When reciprocity finds an economic expression for providing goods and services to people and communities, the conclusion is social economy. In these difficult times, witnessing the best and worst aspects of human nature, street economy is the most basic component, indicator, and guarantee of the egalitarian, solidarist, sharing and truly participative social economy and democracy in epidemic or in health without questioning the identity or origins of the groups in need.

This book is aimed to discuss that the street economy which flourishes with the externalities and failures of capitalism is the foundation stone of social economy. For 170 years, most of the capital owners and companies have neither cared about the dignity of the people who have created their company, nor have they cared to combat the impending environmental disaster. This crisis put an end to two centuries of despair in the mind and action of an important segment and showed that another way and solution is possible. It is possible to see the possibility of a new social economy with participatory democracy that eliminates labour as a commodity with traditional and micro-scale enterprises and enterprises that produce social, economic, and cultural benefits, and where people and their labour are not merely a 'resource'.

This book will discuss how social, solidarist, sharing, and collectivist economic systems such as street economy can provide humanistic and sustainable solutions against capitalism, which is environmentally unsustainable, socially unfair, and cannot guarantee the happiness and dignified living conditions of anyone anywhere on the planet.

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We owe the visibility of millions of street vendors, artisans, and entrepreneurs, who have been pushed, marginalised, deprived of their basic human rights, and ignored in hundreds of years, to our local and national politicians who resolutely brought their problems to the agenda, and to the special representatives of the media that brought these problems to their newspapers and magazines. On this occasion, we owe a debt of gratitude to our politicians who kept this invisible section of society on the agenda during the pandemic days and bravely expressed their crucial problems, and all media members who brought the problems of street vendors to their headlines, from America to India, from Izmir to Erzurum.

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