



SPECIAL ISSUE: Navigating the Multifaceted Dynamics of Corporate and Transgenerational Entrepreneurship in Family Businesses

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Introduction Background and Focus of the Special Issue:

Corporate entrepreneurship is essential for family businesses (Minola et al., 2021; Pinelli et al., 2024). However, it must be carefully managed to balance financial objectives with the preservation of socioemotional wealth (Kotlar et al., 2021), especially as family businesses grow in size and expand across generations, hence emphasizing transgenerational entrepreneurship (Jaskiewicz et al., 2015). Moreover, it is essential to consider a wide range entrepreneurial activities (Capolupo et al., 2023; Debellis et al., 2021)—along with evolving governance structures, succession challenges (Ingley et al., 2017), family firm heterogeneity (Daspit et al., 2021), and financing decisions (Michiels & Molly, 2017). Therefore, with a focus on the firm, family, and/or individual levels of analysis, this Special Issue aims to navigate the multifaceted dynamics of corporate and transgenerational entrepreneurship in family businesses, also considering the varying configurations of internal and external factors (Strobl et al., 2023). It also aims to investigate how traditions (De Massis et al., 2016), digital transformation, and societal challenges (Ardito et al., 2025; Ardito & Capolupo, 2023; Soluk et al., 2021) create entrepreneurial risks and opportunities.

Themes and Research Questions

This special issue welcomes research from diverse perspectives, addressing (but not limited to) the following themes and questions:

Mixed gambles and trade-offs

- How do family businesses navigate the trade-offs between financial wealth and socioemotional wealth when making entrepreneurial decisions?
- How can family firms balance business expansion, family traditions, innovation, and intergenerational control in corporate and transgenerational entrepreneurship?

Financing decisions

- What role do family offices, private equity, and alternative financing mechanisms play in supporting corporate and transgenerational entrepreneurship?
- How do corporate and transgenerational entrepreneurship influence financing decisions?

International entrepreneurship

- How do entrepreneurial families identify and exploit opportunities in international markets, and how do the differing perspectives of multiple generations influence this process?
- How do family businesses develop and maintain strategic partnerships and networks to support their international expansion and long-term growth?

Types of corporate entrepreneurship

- What factors drive family businesses to pursue international corporate entrepreneurship?
- How do different forms of corporate entrepreneurship (e.g., internal vs. external, related vs. unrelated) evolve and manifest throughout the growth of entrepreneurial families?

Psychological foundations of entrepreneurship

- How do the emotions, biases, identity construction, construals, and heuristics of family members influence entrepreneurial decision-making? How do they change across generations?
- How do stakeholders' psychology impact the entrepreneurial behavior of family businesses?

Digital and social entrepreneurship

- How do family businesses leverage digital transformation and emerging technologies to support entrepreneurial activities?
- How can social entrepreneurship serve as strategic avenues for family businesses to achieve sustainable long-term success, also addressing grand societal challenges?

Family business heterogeneity and governance structure

- How does family firm heterogeneity influence the adoption and implementation of corporate entrepreneurship strategies across generations?
- How does the presence of non-family members affect corporate and transgenerational entrepreneurship?

Key dates:

The deadline for submission of papers is **August 24, 2026**. The submission window will open two weeks prior to this date. The Special Issue is scheduled to be published in February, 2028. Papers must be original and comply with ISBJ submission guidelines. Please refer <http://isb.sagepub.com/> for submission guidelines and a link to the on-line submission system. In the online system please ensure you submit your paper within Manuscript Type: "Special Issue: Navigating the Multifaceted Dynamics of Corporate and Transgenerational Entrepreneurship in Family Businesses".

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