**Preface: Resilience and Regeneration in the Fourth Industrial Revolution**

The main objective of this special issue of *the Journal of Academic Finance* is to explore deeply the critical themes of Resilience and Regeneration of Businesses and Financial Markets in the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

It is really with great pride that I introduce this special issue proposed by a group of young and motivated researchers from Africa. This collection of papers originates from presentations delivered at the **2nd International Conference on Business Resilience, Continuity and Regeneration (Theme: Resilience and Regeneration of Businesses and Financial Markets in the Fourth Industrial Revolution)** at University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa, from 13 – 15 March 2024, bringing together diverse perspectives on how industries and financial systems are adapting to this new era.

The Fourth Industrial Revolution is characterized as an era defined by rapid technological advancement and unprecedented change. It presents both profound challenges and unique opportunities. The articles within this issue delve into the mechanisms by which businesses and financial markets can not only withstand disruptive forces but also actively regenerate and evolve. Topics covered include innovative strategies for enhancing organizational resilience, the impact of emerging technologies on financial stability, and new paradigms for sustainable growth in a digitally transformed global economy.

This special issue, comprising insightful articles, offers valuable contributions to the ongoing discourse surrounding the future of finance and business. Further insights into related topics can be found which provide broader perspectives on contemporary financial trends. We believe this collection provides a timely examination of the strategies and frameworks necessary to navigate the complexities of our current economic landscape and foster a regenerative future.

The studies and cases presented here aim to provide readers with concrete information and guidance on certain aspects of the validation process all around the emerging world.

We thank everyone who participated in making this special issue.

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