MACROECONOMICS, PUBLIC SECTOR AND ECONOMIC POLICIES DOSSIER PRESENTATION

The Brazilian economy, since 2011, has been losing economic dynamism. GDP stagnation in 2014 and the recessionary outlook for 2015 enlightened a clear urge to expand the macroeconomic debate in the country. Upon this purpose, the present dossier is focused on the most relevant macroeconomic issues such as the growth curve model, the evolution of external sector, public finances, inflationary process, industrial production and the labor market. Revista Paranaense de Desenvolvimento is careful to current macroeconomic issues and, in this special issue, to seek to furnish perspectives of major national and international researchers on the subject.

In the first article, Luiz Fernando de Paula and Paulo José Saraiva presented in a very clear and didactic form the theoretical matrix of the New Macroeconomic Consensus (NCM), which is a new synthesis of conventional macroeconomic theory. In view of concrete terms of Economic Politics, the authors argue the NCM to establish the regime of Inflation Targeting (RMI) as the best institutional arrangement towards vessel conduction, since the sole purpose is to ensure and maintain low inflation rates, minimizing the output fluctuations. As major contribution, the key RMI challenges are presented and discussed towards the development of the countries, mainly Brazil.

Marcelo Curado and Gabrieli Muchalak Nascimento, in the second article, care to indicate the mistakes in the maneuver of economic policies during the first term of Dilma´s office. The argument is essentially based on macroeconomic strategy in view of stimulating domestic demand as generated the reductions insights towards primary surplus to GDP and an enhancement of inflation targeting model. In this context, the government's great mistake was to believe these policies could escalate significantly the level of business confidence and, consequently, the volume of investment in the economy, which did not occur in this period whatsoever.

In the following article, Wesley Pech and Marcelo Milan perform a tear down analysis to the monetary policy rule implemented in the inflation targeting regime. The data facts are analyzed, in particular in relation to the short-run Phillips curve, from contributions of behavioral economics (EC). The authors argue research on welfare EC to indicate significant importance given by the population in comparison to unemployment to be significantly higher than the weight given to inflation. In this sense, from the contributions of behavioral economics it is possible to fully grasp the changes in the rates of inflation and unemployment on well-being and better target economic policy makers. Also noteworthy is that in these models, the monetary authority behaves in a manner different from NCM´s envisaged.

Further to Rodolfo Coelho Prates and Adriano Alves de Rezende, dynamics of the Brazilian economy balance of payments in the years of 2000 to 2014 are given into review. Valuable to note, within five years the current account transaction ranked surplus, structures of which are highlighted by recurrent deficits under service and income precedents. Since 2008 the capital and financial accounts have registered substantial surplus, repelling, further deterioration in external accounts. The authors, quite consistently tend to demonstrate a certain concern to plain analysis and poorly based on the high level of international reserves. It is believed to the most important recovery to be external competitiveness from Brazilian companies, with a greater focus on internationalization and penetration in foreign markets.

The central concern of researchers Leandro Meyer, Humberto FS Spolador and Claudio Lucinda, presented in the fifth article, leans forward to the stagnation of Brazilian industry in the face of recent failures of industrial policies. It is clarified from the theoretical perspective, it is important to scrutinize industrial policies into two categories: old and new. It indicates recent policies implemented were more connected to the old chain, making the continued expansion of productivity. Furthermore, it is pointed out Brazil to have institutions which can help in a significant way into new industrial policies adoption. The authors deepen discussion analyzing waivers towards payroll labor standards, one of the most relevant of the Greater Brazil Plan. In conclusion the results to date may be related to lack of government action along the lines of "new industrial policy".

In the last article of the dossier, Fernando Correia Motta and Gabriela Giacomoni Zemann render survey to municipal public finances of the State of Paraná. The preliminary focus surrounds the discussion and evaluation if the Fiscal Responsibility Law (FRL) actually minimized the effects of political and economic cycles in the municipalities with a population over 150,000 inhabitants. According to the authors, due to not setting clear rules to investment providers for municipal federative entities in the LRF, the theory of political business cycle is still observed.

The macroeconomic debate proposed by the dossier is comprehensive and seeks to achieve some points considered essential. Logically wise, it is not the intention to cross over the debate, but only to contribute to a broader and consistent theoretical vision. Generally speaking, the country is experiencing serious problems in fiscal and monetary areas. Consequently, it is important to discuss the current strategy for economic growth and its main challenges. There is a need to re-grow consistently, and the main challenges faced by guest authors are vital to achieve those goals. The keys are: the review of current model of the RMI; the restoration of levels of business confidence; to act in a role under inflationary process, considering the impacts on welfare; to focus on large external challenges; to rethink the exemption policy of labor payroll and the Fiscal Responsibility Law.

We wish you all a good reading.

Lucas Lautert Dezordi
Macroeconomics, Public Sector and Economic Policies Dossier Organizer.