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PROSPECTIVE MANAGERS ABOUT CULTURAL DIMENSIONS AND LEADERSHIP STYLES: A COMPARISON BETWEEN ROMANIA AND SLOVENIA

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Abstract. The article contributes to the body of knowledge about the prospective managers's (i.e. business and engineering students) view on actual cultural practices in their social environments, value systems they possess and the best leadership styles. The main research questions concern the similarities and differences between Romanian and Slovenian students in: 1) perception of existing cultural practices; 2) held value systems and 3) preffered leadership styles. The authors also look for signs of certain convergence in the future cultural practices and leadership styles between the compared countries in the future. Our findings show: 1) relevant statistically significant differences for six out of nine cultural practices; 2) relevant differences for five out of nine cultural expectations (values); 3) same rank for Charismatic (value-based) and Team oriented leadership styles. There are signals that enable us to expect that prospective managers in both (transitional) countries will implement positive changes in their cultural dimensions. Still, the Romanians will be more radical in doing this than their Slovenian counterparts.

JEL Classification: M14, M19

Keywords: cultural practice, value system, leadership style, Romania, Slovenia.

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