

İnovasyon Politikalarında Sosyal Sermayenin Önemi: Teorik Bir İnceleme / Importance of Social Capital In Innovation Policies: A Theoretical Examination

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A B S T R A C T

The aim of this study is to theoretically present the importance of social capital in innovation policies. In the increasing global competition environment, principles of innovation have become an important factor. In innovation process, an interactional structure, in which all economic units take place, emerges. This led the importance given to the national innovation system and policies by governments to increase. One of the concepts having importance in innovation system is also social capital. High social capital, due to a reliability factor it incorporates, reduces the uncertainties in society/markets and minimizes the transactions costs, resulted from protection of property rights and application of contracts. The effect of low level reliability emerges in the development and use of innovation. High level reliability accelerates the spread and use of innovation occurring as a result of investments in society. Since the cooperation and reliability facilitate the innovation to spread, the countries having high social capital are in the tendency to converge to the developed countries. Social capital strengthens collective activities and, as a result of these composite effects of social factors, accumulation of social capital brings the ability to realize the different aims in the institutes. In addition, social capital serves as a catalyst in spreading the human and intellectual capital. For accumulation of human capital to be able to be applied effectively and successively, it is necessary for it to be transferred from the academic environment to the industrial environment.

KEYWORDS Innovation; Innovation Policies; Social Capital

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