

# The International Review of Financial Consumers

www.eirfc.com

---

## Editor's Introduction to the Issue

Sharon Tennyson<sup>†</sup>

---

The articles appearing in this issue of *The International Review of Financial Consumers (IRFC)* represent a selection of keynote speeches and panel presentations from the International Academy of Financial Consumers' (IAFICO) 9th annual *Global Forum for Financial Consumers (Global Forum)*. The *Global Forum* supports IAFICO's objective to "serve as a global platform for sharing information, knowledge on financial products and services, regulations and supervision, institutions and culture, education and training in order to reasonably serve financial consumers' interests and well-being as well as to facilitate long-term financial development from an impartial perspective" (Jung, 2019 p. 44). By sharing academic research on these topics *IRFC* also supports this objective — and in this issue we link the two mediums of knowledge-sharing by publishing this selection of presentations.

This year's *Global Forum* was co-sponsored and co-hosted by VNU University of Economics & Business and the Banking Academy of Vietnam and was held August 4-5, 2022 — in hybrid form in Hanoi, Vietnam and online. The conference included an opening plenary session to elaborate on the state of financial consumer protections from different countries' perspectives, speeches from six keynote speakers, three panel discussions, and eight concurrent sessions of research presentations. Presenters included regulators, academics, and practitioners from 16 countries representing seven of the 15 subcontinents of the globe.

*Global Forum* presentations and discussions considered consumer behaviors, provider practices, legal frame-

works, and regulatory enforcement issues across the spectrum of financial services industries including banking, insurance, investments, pensions, and financial planning. These presentations introduced participants to similarities and differences in markets, consumers, problems, and solutions around the globe, stimulating a meaningful exchange of ideas, opinions and conclusions. The articles included in this issue address topics of relevance to consumers and regulators across the financial services spectrum and provide important insights into current practices and trends in consumer financial protection.

Janis Pappalardo draws on decades of experience in consumer protection regulation at the U.S. Federal Trade Commission (FTC) and the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) to identify key factors that determine the effectiveness of consumer protection regulations (Pappalardo, 2022). Adele Atkinson similarly draws on her extensive work with the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and other international bodies in analyzing two important trends in public policies aimed at promoting financial literacy (Atkinson, 2022). Lyn Haralson and Christiana Stoddard summarize how findings from CFPB research on financial knowledge and financial capability have been utilized to develop a coherent framework for youth financial education and highlight CFPB's database of specific building blocks and teaching strategies for educators (Haralson and Stoddard, 2022). Gianni Nicolini describes current trends and opportunities in using FinTech and Edutainment to provide more effective financial education for specific audiences (Nicolini, 2022). Brenda Cude provides an overview of the recently published *Routledge Handbook of Financial Literacy* (Nicolini & Cude, 2022), synthesizing for readers what can be learned

---

<sup>†</sup> Professor, Brooks School of Public Policy and Department of Economics Cornell University, USA, sharon.tennyson@cornell.edu

about financial literacy from the *Handbook* and identifying questions that still need to be addressed in financial literacy research and education.

I am grateful to these speakers for extending the reach of the *Global Forum* by making their speeches and presentations available for publication in written form. Readers are invited and encouraged to further explore IAFICO publications and events. We welcome your participation!

## References

- Atkinson, A. (2022). Financial Literacy Policy Trends. *The International Review of Financial Consumers*, 7(2), 13-20.
- Cude, B.J. (2022). Financial Literacy and Education: What We Know and Still Need to Learn. *The International Review of Financial Consumers*, 7(2), 35-41.
- Haralson, H. & Stoddard, C. (2022). Effective Youth Financial Education: Turning Research into Action. *The International Review of Financial Consumers*, 7(2), 21-26.
- Jung, H. (2019). A review of the past five years of the IAFICO (2014-2019). *The International Review of Financial Consumers*, 4(2), 43-56.
- Nicolini, G. (2022). The Role of FinTech and "Edutainment" in Financial Education. *The International Review of Financial Consumers*, 7(2), 27-33.
- Nicolini, G. & Cude, B.J. (2022). *The Routledge handbook of financial literacy*. Routledge.
- Pappalardo, J.K. (2022). Learning what matters for regulatory success: clear objectives, robust research, and clear communication. *The International Review of Financial Consumers*, 7(2), 3-11.