

## Unpacking Entrepreneurial Intention: A Systematic Review, Antecedents, Outcomes and an Agenda for Future Research

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*Entrepreneurial intention an affective and cognitive state leading to entrepreneurial behavior has provided a cornerstone of research in the entrepreneurship literature, as it has been demonstrated both theoretically and empirically to be an important predictor of new venture creation and economic growth. This systematic review uses a contemporary database (Scopus) to examine literature on entrepreneurial intention spanning from 2000 to 2023, mapping the evolution and breadth of research in this area whilst also establishing a future structured agenda for inquiry. Based on over 64 papers reviewed and integrated we conclude that the interest in entrepreneurial intention research has increased across a number of different levels both, from more individual psychological determinants to area based socio-economic characteristics. The review finds that broad themes emerge when viewing the literature: (1) psychological variables including self-efficacy, risk tolerance and intrinsic motivation are consistent, significant predictors of entrepreneurial intention across populations; (2) role of education: experiential learning affects intention more than formal lectures and courses, while institutional support at the university level is a possible driver; (3) demographics/culture: gender, age, social capital and national cultural norms modulate entrepreneurial intent; and (4) environment: economic conditions affecting demand for entrepreneurship face or follower policy support, access to low-cost technology facilitate entrepreneurship and innovation ecosystems. Traditional theorizing is still strongly rooted in established models such as Theory of Planned Behavior (TPB) and Shapero's Entrepreneurial Event Model (EEM). Recent work, however, has presented interdisciplinary frameworks that incorporate psychological, sociological and economical aspects of entrepreneurial intention suggesting a move towards more comprehensive multi-dimensional models. The previous quantitative orientation in research has evolved towards a more balanced application of qualitative and mixed-method studies, thus reflecting different views on the complexity and contextually involved in entrepreneurial intention. This review identifies important research gaps, especially on the unexplored facets of entrepreneurial intention for minority and marginalized groups as well as in emerging economies, where entrepreneurship is increasingly being regarded as a vehicle of socio-economic change.*

## **1. Introduction**

Entrepreneurship research, related to its substantial predictive power regarding enterprising behavior and new venture birth (Krueger, 2009), has been entrepreneurial intention, intentional state towards planned performance within the sphere of entrepreneurship. Considering entrepreneurial intention as an initial step that leads a person towards entrepreneurship, scholars are investigating the cognition, psychology and environmental aspects which have impact on human choice of becoming an entrepreneur. This field of study is as important as entrepreneurship has long been seen as the engine that drives economic growth, innovation and social advancement. Entrepreneurs bring new products, services and processes to the market, instigate competition and create jobs (Audretsch & Thurik, 2010) which make entrepreneurial intention a crucial variable for policymakers as well as practitioners both at national and international levels.

Over the last twenty years, our knowledge of the factors impacting intention to engage in entrepreneurship has dramatically increased as evidenced by a rise in relevant published studies indexed in Scopus from 2000 to 2023. Such growth followed by plural theoretical lenses, methodologies as well as contexts that extend our knowledge on what motivates people into entrepreneurship. Starting with proceedings mainly focused on psychological variables like risk tolerance and self-efficacy, the field has developed towards more refined frameworks integrating socio-economic, cultural and environmental dimensions (Liñán & Fayolle, 2015). Well-known models such as Ajzen's Theory of Planned Behavior (TPB) (1991) and Shapero's Entrepreneurial Event Model (EEM) (1982) have provided scholars with frameworks in which to examine EI by delineating the constructs that shape individual intentions, such as attitudes toward behavior, subjective norms and perceived behavioral control and how they relate to motivation to engage in an entrepreneurial endeavor. However, the ever-increasing complexity of entrepreneurship elicited new cross-disciplinary models that combined elements from psychology, sociology and economics to contend with the multifaceted nature of entrepreneurial intention at different levels.

In recent years, various scholars have identified the limitations of existing universal theories on entrepreneurial intention and called for context-specific studies that account for diversity in diverse demographic and cultural contexts. Importantly, research has went beyond the scope of personality traits and diffused comparisons among other factors like sex (Patel & Fiet 2010), age (Sieger et al., 2016; Zhao et al., 2005), level of education (Angela Lee & Wong, 2004) and social networks (De Carolis & Saporito, 2006) in which to better explain entrepreneurial intention according to the context. Cultural differences, stemmed from national and regional factors, have additionally indicated that entrepreneurial intention is not a single entity; it is instead a construct determined by the interaction of idiosyncratic measures and general surrounding influences. Research on entrepreneurial intention in emerging economies, for instance, provides insights into how various factors apply uniquely to those settings and affect entrepreneurial intentions distinctively compared to the developed economies (Urban, 2019).

Educational institution has also become an important contextual variable in the field of entrepreneurial intention research, particularly as entrepreneurship education continues to be institutionalized across the globe. According to research, particularly experiential and skills-based entrepreneurial education can significantly increase students' entrepreneurial self-efficacy and opportunity recognition ability in favor of developing their intention to become an entrepreneur (Bae et al., 2014).

In addition, instructional initiatives that help ignite creativity; resilience and a propensity to take risks are now widely recognized as fundamental for the development of an entrepreneurial intention. This interaction has important research implications, especially in design and evaluation of educational interventions that support the development of entrepreneurial mindsets across different educational systems and sociocultural environments.

In terms of methodology, research on entrepreneurial intention has mainly adopted a quantitative approach using survey-based data (mostly cross-sectional) and structural equation modeling (Liñán & Chen, 2009). Qualitative and mixed-method studies have recently come to the fore, allowing for more nuanced insights into how contextual factors manifest as entrepreneurial intention in often complex ways. These vocal advocates for longitudinal studies are because they provide a unique combination of attributes, the most notable being that they allow for tracking and understanding how entrepreneurial intention grows or changes due to mechanisms both inside and outside an individual over time. Similarly, multi-level analyses assessing the role of individual, organizational and environmental factors are another potential methodological avenue for accounting for the composite nature of the influences on entrepreneurial intention.

While there have been important advances in the area this leaves several important gaps including a lack of data on underrepresented population and contexts. Previous research / studies focused either on students or potential entrepreneurs from advanced economies, ignoring demographic diversity and individuals in emerging economies (Dana, 2017). Furthermore, while these traditional models offer a solid starting point, they occasionally overlook the intricacies of entrepreneurial intention in complex contexts where social and economic pressures can skew or shape entrepreneurial aspirations either way. Filling these gaps could allow for a richer understanding of entrepreneurial intention that is more broadly applicable and relevant to international entrepreneurship research.

Objective on the systematic review provide new insights into several existing reviews of literature developed on entrepreneurial intention during 2000 to 2023 highlighting key themes, dominant or theoretical basis and research methods. This review aspires to promote a broader and richer conceptualization of entrepreneurial intention, one that embraces the diversity of context-specific pathways of individuals engaging in self-employment opportunities by highlighting dominant research gaps and an agenda for future research. By providing a comprehensive analysis of this entrepreneurial phenomenon, the review serves as an important resource for researchers,

educators and policy-makers interested in becoming responsive to the changing nature of our global landscape.

The following are the research question of the study.

1. What are the key psychological, socio-economic and environmental determinants of entrepreneurial intention?
2. How have these factors evolved in research between 2000–2023?
3. How do demographic factors, including gender, age, level of education and cultural background influence entrepreneurial intention in different countries and economies?
4. What role can an interdisciplinary and multi-level approaches play in generating greater understanding of entrepreneurial intention, especially among groups often overlooked by researchers as well as emerging economies?

## **2. Methodology**

### **2.1 Review Method**

This systematic review synthesizes research on entrepreneurial intention (EI), a concept with extensive breadth and depth. It first lays out operational inclusion criteria, focusing exclusively on peer-reviewed journal articles published in English between 2000 and 2023 which concern entrepreneurial intention and determinants of it quantified along psychological, socio-economic, cultural as well as educational dimensions. Non-journal articles and papers that contained only theoretical ideas were excluded so as to maintain reliability/consistency in studies referenced. The data collection process by this method based on the keywords including entrepreneurial intention, Theory of Planned Behavior and entrepreneurship education using Boolean operators to find the accurate articles. To limit irrelevant articles, only article titles/abstracts and keywords were searched, which led to an initial sample of 525 articles. A total of 338 articles were screened by title and abstract first, followed by full-text review after removing duplicates resulting in a final sample of 64 articles.

To do this a standardized data extraction process was used to abstract key information from each paper, including publication details, theoretical frameworks, methodologies, major findings and gaps in the literature. The individual studies were then grouped by high-level themes: psychological factors, educational factors, demographic factors and environmental contexts. Along with thematic grouping, conducting frequency analysis and trend mapping helped to trace the changes in research attention over time. Using this systematic review approach, we synthesized our findings to provide a concise narrative of the key themes, trends and research gaps in the extant literature specifically that little work has focused on under-represented populations and developing economies. This synthesis underpinned a new agenda for further research, namely the need to focus on interdisciplinary approaches and studies that are sensitive to context in order to effectively build our collective knowledge around entrepreneurial intention at scale. The systematic approach provides the review with a well-structured, exhaustive and unbiased summarization of



determinants affecting entrepreneurial intention, providing fundamental implications for researchers, practitioners and policy-makers.

Figure No 1: PRISMA Framework

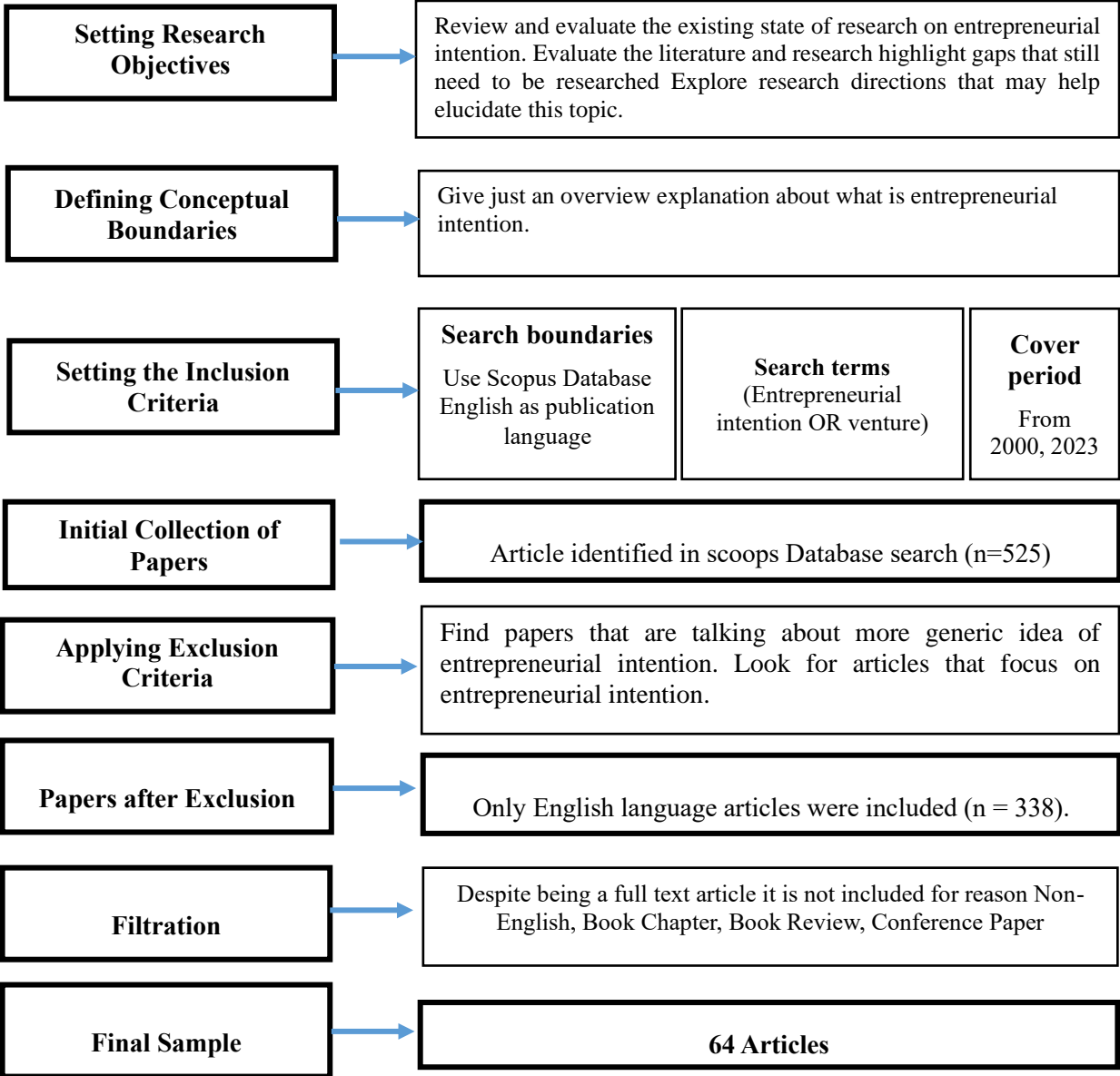


Figure 1 PRISMA Protocol (Moher et al., 2009)

**Table No 1: Publications for the Literature Review**

S.No	Title	Author	Year	Journal	Database
1	Entrepreneurship education and entrepreneurial intention: The mediating role of entrepreneurial capacity	Do Nguyen and Nguyen.	2023	The International Journal of Management Education	Scopus
2	Research on the influencing factors of Chinese college students' entrepreneurial intention from the perspective of resource endowment.	Bu et al.	2023	The International Journal of Management Education	Scopus
3	The role of individual characteristics in shaping digital entrepreneurial intention among university students: Evidence from Saudi Arabia.	Elnadi and Gheith.	2023	Thinking Skills and Creativity	Scopus
4	Digital explosion and entrepreneurship education: Impact on promoting entrepreneurial intention for business students.	Dabbous et al.	2023	Journal of Risk and Financial Management	Scopus
5	Promoting entrepreneurial intentions from adolescence: The influence of entrepreneurial culture and education.	Porfirio et al.	2023	Journal of Business Research	Scopus
6	The entrepreneurial intention of university students: An environmental perspective.	Barba-Sánchez et al.	2022	European Research on Management and Business Economics	Scopus
7	Behavioural entrepreneurial mindset: How entrepreneurial education activity impacts entrepreneurial intention and behaviour.	Cui and Bell	2022	The International Journal of Management Education	Scopus
8	Assessing the role of creativity and motivation to measure entrepreneurial education and entrepreneurial intention.	Paliwal et al.	2022	International Journal of Educational Management	Scopus
9	A gender-based approach to the influence of personality traits on entrepreneurial intention.	Laouiti et al.	2022	Journal of Business Research	Scopus
10	Investigating the relationship between educational support and entrepreneurial intention in Vietnam: The mediating role of entrepreneurial self-efficacy in the theory of planned behavior	Maheshwari et al.	2022	International Journal of Management Education	Scopus



11	Entrepreneurial passion and entrepreneurial intention: the role of social support and entrepreneurial self-efficacy.	Neneh	2022	Studies in Higher Education	Scopus
12	From personal values to entrepreneurial intention: a systematic literature review.	Hueso et al.	2021	International Journal of Entrepreneurial Behavior & Research	Scopus
13	From entrepreneurial education to entrepreneurial intention: sequential mediation of self-efficacy and entrepreneurial attitude.	Yousaf et al.	2021	International Journal of Innovation Science	Scopus
14	Does entrepreneurship education and culture promote students' entrepreneurial intention? The mediating role of entrepreneurial mindset.	Mukhtar et al.	2021	Cogent Education	Scopus
15	Entrepreneurship education, curriculum and lecturer-competency as antecedents of student entrepreneurial intention.	Iwu et al.	2021	The International Journal of Management Education	Scopus
16	Measuring the impact of business management Student's attitude towards entrepreneurship education on entrepreneurial intention: A case study.	Jena et al.	2020	Computers in Human Behavior	Scopus
17	The antecedents of entrepreneurial intention among women entrepreneurs in India	Chhabra et al.	2020	Asia Pacific Journal of Innovation and Entrepreneurship	Scopus
18	Attitude toward entrepreneurship, perceived behavioral control, and entrepreneurial intention: dimensionality, structural relationships, and gender differences.	Vamvaka et al.	2020	Journal of Innovation and Entrepreneurship	Scopus
19	How entrepreneurial intentions influence entrepreneurial career choices: The moderating influence of social context.	Meoli et al.	2020	Journal of Business venturing	Scopus
20	Entrepreneurial intention: Creativity, entrepreneurship, and university support.	Anjum et al.	2020	Journal of Open Innovation: Technology, Market, and Complexity	Scopus





21	An entrepreneurial intention model focussing on higher education.	Tomy and Pardede	2020	International journal of entrepreneurial behavior & research	Scopus
22	The role of inspiring role models in enhancing entrepreneurial intention.	Nowiński et al.	2019	Journal of Business Research	Scopus
23	Entrepreneurial education and students' entrepreneurial intention: does team cooperation matter?	Li and Wu	2019	Journal of Global Entrepreneurship Research	Scopus
24	Understanding entrepreneurial intentions: A developed integrated structural model approach.	Esfandiar et al.	2019	Journal of Business Research	Scopus
25	The impact of higher education on entrepreneurial intention and human capital.	Passaro et al.	2018	Journal of intellectual capital	Scopus
26	Drivers of entrepreneurial intentions in sustainable entrepreneurship.	Vuorio et al.	2018	International Journal of Entrepreneurial Behavior & Research	Scopus
27	Entrepreneurial intentions among university students in Italy	Israr et al.	2018	Journal of Global Entrepreneurship Research	Scopus
28	Entrepreneurial intention among engineering students: The role of entrepreneurship education.	Barba-Sanchez and Atienza-Sahuquillo	2018	European research on management and business economics	Scopus
29	The role of perceived university support in the formation of students' entrepreneurial intention	Saeed et al.	2018	Sustainable entrepreneurship	Scopus
30	Entrepreneurial intentions are dead: Long live entrepreneurial intentions.	Krueger	2017	Revisiting the entrepreneurial mind: Inside the black box: An expanded edition	Scopus
31	Entrepreneurial intention: a study of individual, situational and gender differences.	Yukongdi and Lopa	2017	Journal of Small Business and Enterprise Development	Scopus





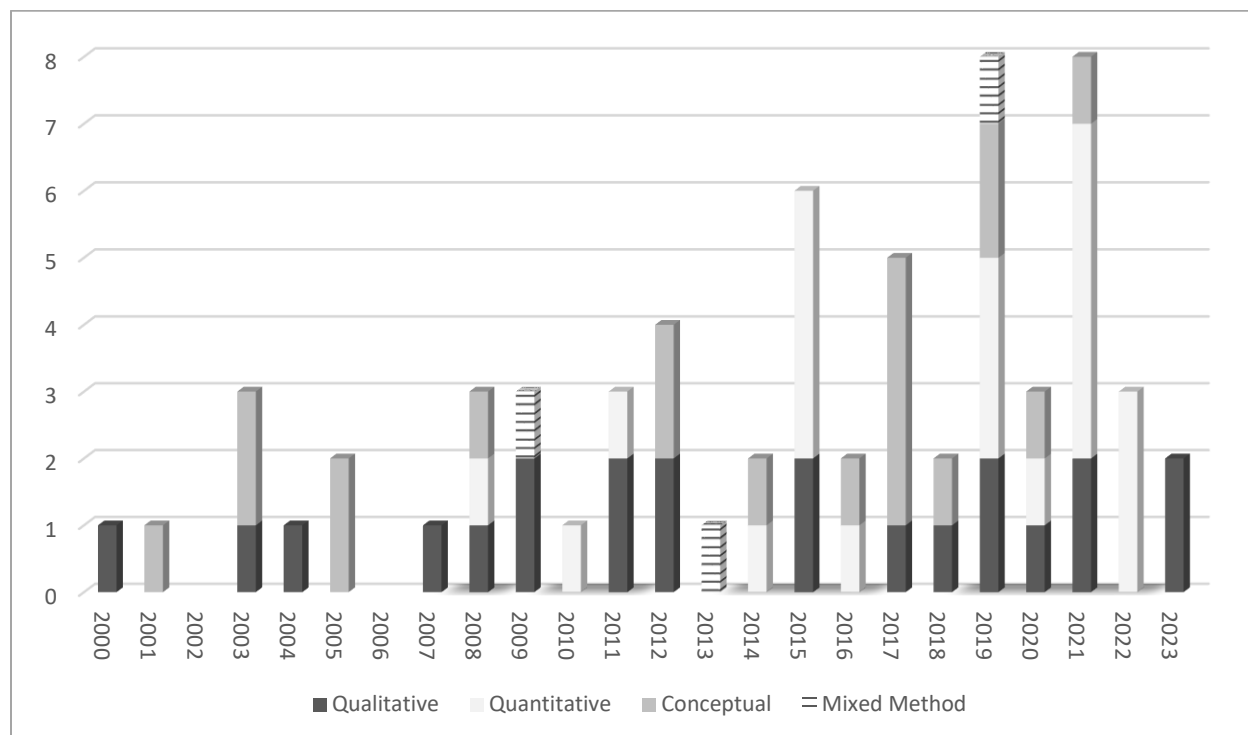
32	Entrepreneurial intention: antecedents to entrepreneurial behavior in the USA and Turkey.	Ozaralli and Rivenburgh	2016	Journal of Global Entrepreneurship Research	Scopus
33	Personality traits on entrepreneurial intention.	Karabulut	2016	Procedia-Social and Behavioral Sciences	Scopus
34	The contribution of self-efficacy to the relationship between personality traits and entrepreneurial intention.	Wang et al.	2016	Higher Education	Scopus
35	The relationship between Individual Entrepreneurial Orientation (IEO) and entrepreneurial intention.	Koe	2016	Journal of Global Entrepreneurship Research	Scopus
36	Evaluating the impact of prior experience in entrepreneurial intention.	Miralles et al.	2016	International Entrepreneurship and Management Journal	Scopus
37	Disentangling the effect of prior entrepreneurial exposure on entrepreneurial intention.	Zapkou et al.	2015	Journal of Business Research	Scopus
38	A study of entrepreneurial intention of university students.	Zhang et al.	2015	Entrepreneurship Research Journal	Scopus
39	Age, job identification, and entrepreneurial intention.	Hatak et al.	2015	Journal of managerial psychology	Scopus
40	The role of entrepreneurship education as a predictor of university students' entrepreneurial intention.	Zhang et al.	2014	International entrepreneurship and management journal	Scopus
41	Cultural factors and entrepreneurial intention: The role of entrepreneurship education.	Solesvik et al.	2014	Education + Training	Scopus
42	The future of research on entrepreneurial intentions.	Fayolle and Liñán	2014	Journal of business research	Scopus



43	Factors affecting entrepreneurial intention among graduate students of Universiti Teknologi Malaysia	Rasli et al.	2013	International Journal of Business and Social Science	Scopus
44	Gender stereotyping effects on entrepreneurial self-efficacy and high-growth entrepreneurial intention.	Sweida and Reichard	2013	Journal of small business and enterprise development	Scopus
45	A cross-cultural approach to understanding entrepreneurial intention.	Moriano et al.	2012	Journal of career development	Scopus
46	Research on the effects of entrepreneurial education and entrepreneurial self-efficacy on college students' entrepreneurial intention.	Liu et al.	2012	Frontiers in psychology	Scopus
47	The influence of family tradition and psychological traits on entrepreneurial intention.	Altinay et al.	2012	International Journal of hospitality management	Scopus
48	Factors affecting entrepreneurial intention levels: a role for education.	Liñán et al.	2011	International entrepreneurship and management Journal	Scopus
49	Behaviours and entrepreneurial intention: Empirical findings about secondary students.	Do Paco	2011	Journal of International Entrepreneurship	Scopus
50	Entrepreneurial intentions in developing and developed countries	Iakovleva et al.	2011	Education + Training	Scopus
51	A model of entrepreneurial intention: An application of the psychological and behavioral approaches.	Ferreira et al.	2012	Journal of small business and enterprise development	Scopus
53	Entrepreneurial intention: the role of gender.	Diaz-Garcia and Jimenez Moreno	2010	International entrepreneurship and management journal	Scopus
54	Entrepreneurial self-efficacy and entrepreneurial intention: Turkish case.	Naktiyok et al.	2010	International entrepreneurship and management journal	Scopus



55	The entrepreneurial journey: From entrepreneurial intent to opportunity realization.	Cha and Bae	2010	The Journal of High Technology Management Research	Scopus
56	Which factors affect entrepreneurial intention of university students?	Turker et al.	2009	Journal of European industrial training	Scopus
57	Entrepreneurship as a career choice: An analysis of entrepreneurial self-efficacy and intention of university students.	Pihie and Akmaliah	2009	European journal of social sciences	Scopus
58	Entrepreneurial intention among Malaysian undergraduates	Ismail et al.	2009	International Journal of business and Management	Scopus
59	The relationship between university support to entrepreneurship with entrepreneurial activity in Spain: GEM data based analysis.	Coduras et al.	2008	International Advances in Economic Research	Scopus
60	Entrepreneurial intentions research: Implications for entrepreneurship education	Kuehn and Kermit	2008	Journal of Entrepreneurship Education	Scopus
61	Do entrepreneurship programmes raise entrepreneurial intention of science and engineering students? The effect of learning, inspiration and resources.	Souitaris et al.	2007	Journal of Business venturing	Scopus
62	Evaluation of entrepreneurship education: behaviour performing or intention increasing?	Fayolle	2005	International Journal of Entrepreneurship and Small Business	Scopus
63	Small business growth: intention, ability, and opportunity	Morrison et al.	2003	Journal of small business management	Scopus
64	Self-employment as a career choice: Attitudes, entrepreneurial intentions, and utility maximization.	Douglas and Shepherd	2002	Entrepreneurship theory and practice	Scopus

**Figure No 2: Publication and Approach Distribution over the Years**

The above figure 2 provides a broad view about how the research on entrepreneurial intention has evolved over time. Perhaps a graph illustrating the number of publications over time, indicating rising (or falling) academic interest in the area of entrepreneurial intention over different years. Publication volume peaks might suggest when the topic became increasingly prominent, for example in response to global economic development trends, growing policy interest or a broader attention on entrepreneurship education. In addition, the figure seems to categories research approaches used in these studies (e.g. quantitative, qualitative and mixed-methods) this clear division surprisingly tells us how the method preferences have changed in this field.

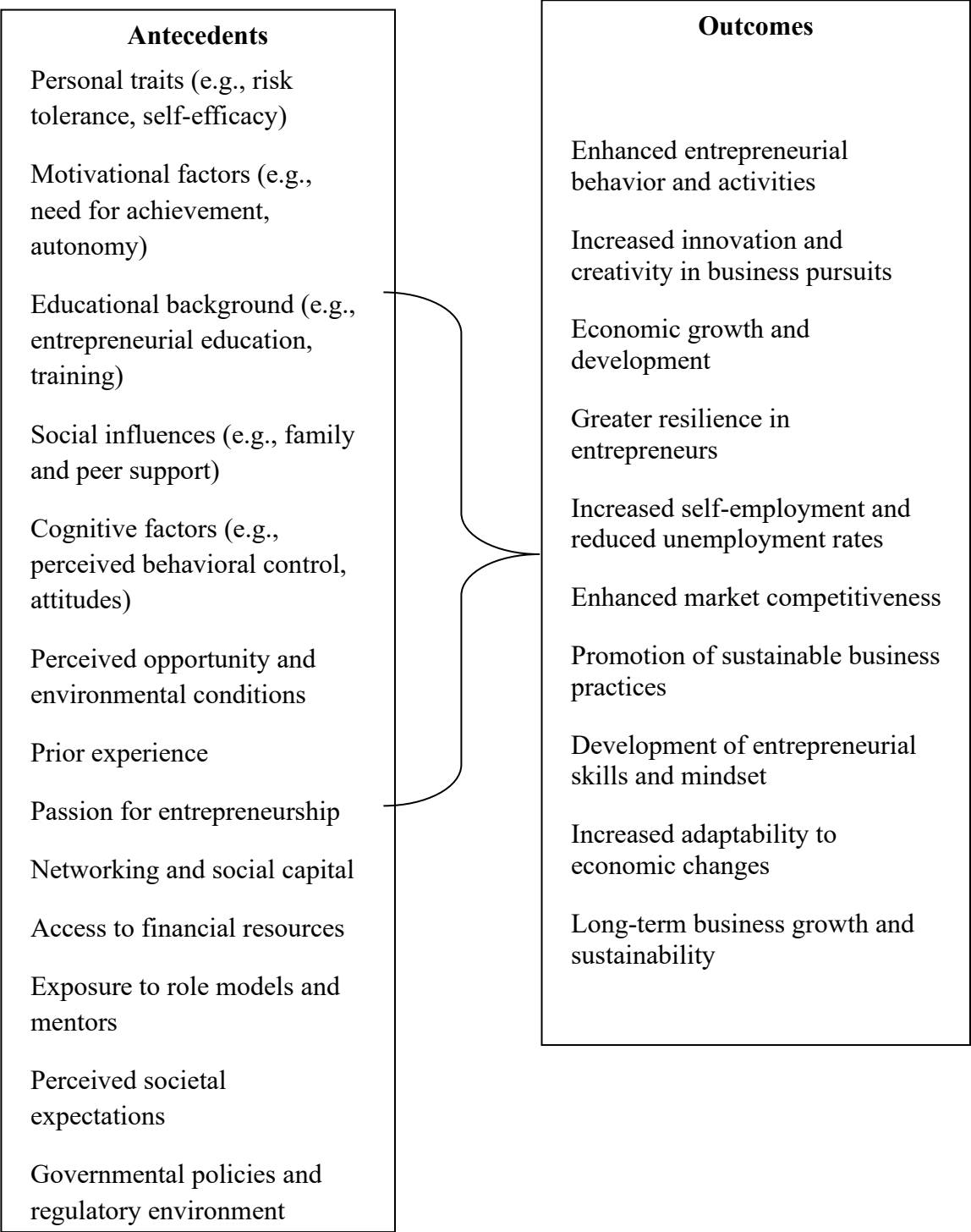
This may mean, for instance, that the early focus on quantitative methods would gradually be replaced by qualitative and mixed-methods research, reflecting a matured perception of entrepreneurial intention as complex and multi-faceted phenomena. Mixed-method approaches, that aims to combine quantitative and qualitative data in their analysis of entrepreneurial intention may also be a recent trend highlighted in the figure. The variety of methods employed therefore indicates that researchers are recognizing that a single approach is unlikely to present the multifaceted cognitive, social and economic drivers of entrepreneurial intention. Namely, if the figure break studies down additionally by thematic focus psychological, socio-economic and cultural processes the ways in which the breadth of research has expanded could be illustrated.

While early studies may have focused on psychological characteristics, more recent work is likely to include socio-economic and social features as the field of entrepreneurship has become



both conceptually and empirically more complex and interdisciplinary in outlook. This in turn results in this life-cycle figure of the emergent and evolving field of entrepreneurial intention which sheds light on both its growth history, as well as research methodology development, highlighting maturation and diversification properties inherent within it.

Figure No 3: Antecedents and Outcomes of the Literature Review



### **3. Antecedents and outcome**

The above figure 3 mentioned antecedents and out of entrepreneurial intention. Personal, motivational, educational, and social, as well as cognitive and external, antecedents of entrepreneurial behavior are wide range. Entrepreneurial confidence and decision making is personal features such as risk tolerance and self-efficacy. Individuals are motivated to venture into entrepreneurial ventures by some motivational factors like need for achievement and at autonomy. Social influences such as family and peers support, and emotional and practical as well as the entrepreneurial education and training, all these give a trained mind to the educated individuals with the necessary skills and knowledge about how and where to put their entrepreneurial skill. Perceived opportunities and favorable environmental conditions encourage action, and perceived behavioral control and positive attitudes inflate entrepreneurial intentions. Entrepreneurial pursuits are strengthened by prior experiences, passion for entrepreneurship, networking, and access to financial resources, exposure to role models and mentors and societal expectations. Moreover, governmental policies and environmentally conducive regulatory environment helps shape the entrepreneurial arena. Collectively these antecedents lead to various meaningful outcomes such as increased entrepreneurial behavior, increased innovation and creativity, along with economic growth. Resilient entrepreneurs demonstrate long term growth and sustainability of the business, promote self-employment and help reduce unemployment rates. Besides enhancing market competitiveness, encouraging sustainable business practices and facilitating development of entrepreneurial skills and mindsets that predispose for economic changes adaptability and continuous innovation, these activities also reinvigorated a culture of innovativeness in the conduct of business.

### **4. Conclusion**

The review synthesizes almost 20 years of research on entrepreneurial intention and the factors that contribute to individuals seeking a career in entrepreneurship. Based on empirical studies released from 2000 to 2023 in Scopus, the review identifies several determinants of entrepreneurial intention under psychological traits, socio-economic backgrounds, and cultural factors as well as highlights the importance of educational influences that have a strong impact on developing entrepreneurial motivation. The results highlight that entrepreneurial intention is a multi-faceted construct, influenced by psychological variables relating to the individual (self-efficacy, risk tolerance), and contextual variables (family support, educational experiences and national economy). These theoretical lenses, on one hand, have viewed the drivers of entrepreneurial intention in a valuable fashion (e.g. the Theory of Planned Behavior; Ajzen 1991; or the Entrepreneurial Event Model; Shapero & Sokol 1982) while on the other hand also highlight that interdisciplinary approaches and multi-level analyses are needed that address the complex and dynamic nature of entrepreneurial intention (Thompson 2009).

For practice, this review identifies key challenges for educators, policy-makers and program developers in promoting entrepreneurial intention. Experiential-centered educational

programs that include skill building and mentorship can facilitate increases in entrepreneurial self-efficacy and opportunity recognition orienting students and nascent entrepreneurs toward entrepreneurial careers. These findings can help policymakers and, in particular, those in emerging countries pursue policies that contribute to addressing the constraints faced by all underrepresented groups and improve access to different points relevant for entrepreneurship, thus stimulating the ecosystem for entrepreneurial development. However, this review also reveals some gaps of research that need to be dealt with.

The dominance of cross-sectional research leaves little insight into the developments leading to changes in entrepreneurial intentions, which indicates a clear need for longitudinal research. In addition, diversity in populations and geographic region is limited further limiting generalizability of current findings. In order to gain a worldwide view on entrepreneurial intention, future research needs to supplement such unrepresented demographics and socio-economic contexts. Thus, an interdisciplinary approach - as well as longitudinal studies employing multi-methods and multi-levels could facilitate in-depth understanding of the development and maintenance of entrepreneurial intention. Filling in these gaps will help future studies achieve a broader and more universal understanding of entrepreneurial intention which accounts for the need to nurture such commitment at all levels across all communities.

#### **4.1 Implications**

The findings of this systematic review about entrepreneurial intention have various significant implications for research, education, and policy. Secondly, the recognition of essential factors like psychological traits, socio-economic backgrounds and educational influences can help educators and program designers develop more well-targeted entrepreneurial programs. In particular, educational institutions/courses can design experiential learning modules to be the catalysts with respect to entrepreneurial self-efficacy and opportunity recognition so that a positive effect on venture intention becomes stronger. These insights can support policymakers, especially in developing markets, to create enabling policies that can alleviate obstacles faced by entrepreneurs like improving access to resources and networks as well as addressing cultural or gender biases which may prevent entrepreneurial intentions. In addition, influences in the demographic and contextual environment can be used to refine interventions that could enhance entrepreneurship amongst groups of populations who are currently underrepresented in terms of entrepreneurship such as ethnic minority/majority women, lower socio-economic background individuals or families. For practitioners, the results highlight the importance of multi-disciplinary framework to understand and influence entrepreneurial intention.

#### **4.2 Limitations and Future Research Directions**

Beyond its strengths, this review has several limitations. Although systematic literature reviews in the Scopus database provide rich insights regarding entrepreneurial intention, several limitations remain. Second, considering that Scopus is restricted and a researcher may not have access to this database, a survey conducted purely based on results from Scopus will result in an



assumption that the results are positive, while they might not be truly representative, thus amplifying statistical significance. Moreover, language bias is also such a common problem where almost every review just focuses on articles in English and ignores the valuable studies conducted in other languages. But time constraints are also important, as in general reviews tend to concentrate on studies published within a particular time span, without taking into consideration older foundational investigations or current research not included in the chosen period.

Additionally, the variability in the methodologies employed for entrepreneurial intention research (quantitative, qualitative, as well as hybridized (mixed methods)) complicates the synthesizing of the results and may result in interpretative variability. Theoretically there are also limitations, as the majority of the works heavily depend on already established frameworks such as the Theory of Planned Behaviour (TPB), which may afford newer perspectives or alternative frameworks less attention. In the last, we see sample and context biases, many studies concern certain groups, i.e. students or early entrepreneurs, or remain localized within specific regions, thus limiting the generalizability of the findings.

Future research needs to explore entrepreneurial intention in emerging contexts like digital transformation and other related recent challenges and opportunities. Cross cultural comparisons can be expanded to better understand how the cultural institutional differences affect entrepreneurial intentions, especially in underserved areas such as Africa and Latin America. The breadth of understanding is also encouraged for researchers to integrate novel theoretical frameworks beyond the TPB by relying on psychological, sociological, and technology perspectives. However, much of the research on intentions has ignored some crucial aspects, namely the dynamic evolution of intentions over time, and especially the effect of interaction with changing external factors. In addition, intersectional approaches that explore the intersection of multiple factors, including gender, ethnicity, and socioeconomic background, illuminate entrepreneurial behavior in more nuanced ways. By including behavioral and neuroscience perspectives as brain imaging or experimental designs, it may lead to a deeper understanding of the cognitive processes of entrepreneurial intentions.

A more comprehensive exploration of the field can also be obtained by collaborative multi-database reviews which combine Scopus with other databases such as the Web of Science or the PubMed, the effect of global crises, including COVID-19 or climate change, on entrepreneurial intentions can contribute to timely and policy relevant insights. Consequently, these future directions seek to overcome existing limits and expand the knowledge about entrepreneurial intention.

Finally, while the importance of role of entrepreneurship as an education in impacting entrepreneurial intention is well established, we recommend future researchers to assess its effectiveness through pedagogical approaches including experiential learning and mentorship programmes along with digital entrepreneurship training. Research could explore the age, culture and educational background in which it is delivered to measure what components of

entrepreneurial education confidence formation, insight recognition capabilities, and tenacity inculcation works best for. Finally, a new field of study emerges on how novel digital resources (virtual simulation and/or online course) influence entrepreneurial learning and the intention. Exploring these avenues will provide useful insights for scholars and practitioners concerned with the development of entrepreneurial mind-sets in an ever-diversifying context.

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