IJAAF; Vol. 8, No. 2, Spring 2024, Serial 27

Ferdowsi University of Mashhad

Iranian Journal of
Accounting, Auditing & Finance

Quarterly

RESEARCH ARTICLE

The Methodology of Social and Stakeholders' Analysis to Participate in Corporate Sustainability Using Tax Compliance

Noorollah Rahmani Picha, Azita Jahanshad *, Farzaneh Haiderpour

Department of Accounting, Tehran Central Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tehran, Iran

How to cite this article:
Rahmani Picha, N., Jahanshad, A., & Heidarpour, F. (2024). The Methodology of Social and Stakeholders' Analysis to Participate in Corporate Sustainability Using Tax Compliance. Iranian Journal of Accounting, Auditing and Finance, 8(2), 1-21. doi: 10.22067/ijaaf.2024.42986.1212
https://ijaaf.um.ac.ir/article_42986.html

ARTICLE INFO

Article History
Received: 2024-11-26
Accepted: 2024-01-15
Published online: 2024-04-26

Keywords:
Stakeholder Perception, Social norms, Tax Compliance, Corporate Sustainability

Abstract

The measures taken by companies are in line with their activities, in addition to ensuring the interests of shareholders and the company, and have social, environmental, and economic effects on society. Today, we are witnessing an increase in the concerns of society under the influence of these measures. One of these measures is the payment of taxes by the company, which can lead to an increase in social services and the prosperity of the economic system and generally improve the status of society. The primary purpose of this research is to explain the methodology of social and stakeholder analysis to participate in corporate sustainability by using the tax compliance of stock exchange companies. The current research is developmental-practical regarding objective, mixed-exploratory (causal) data, and survey-cross-sectional. Therefore, this research method to achieve the mentioned goals is descriptive-analytical. In this research, the components are first determined by the Delphi method, and then the significance of the components is checked using the factor analysis method by Smart PLS Software. The research findings in the first stage, which were obtained by using a questionnaire and receiving the opinions of experts, include the identification of the following components: the perception of stakeholders, including internal stakeholders and our company; Social norms, including personal, descriptive, subjective and predicted norms, and participation in corporate sustainability includes desire, plan, commitment, and enthusiasm. Also, in the second stage, which was done by distributing questionnaires among the accountants and financial managers of the companies admitted to the stock exchange, the results show that social and stakeholder-related indicators, which include stakeholders' perceptions and social norms, lead to tax compliance to participate in corporate sustainability. In previous studies, the subject of corporate sustainability used tax compliance to examine the impact or relationship. In this research, modeling was carried out, so the present results can provide useful suggestions to law-making institutions, including the audit organization and the Tehran Stock Exchange Organization, so that these organizations apply more appropriate regulations.

https://doi.org/10.22067/ijaaf.2024.42986.1212

NUMBER OF REFERENCES 66

NUMBER OF FIGURES 2

NUMBER OF TABLES 12

Homepage: https://ijaaf.um.ac.ir
E-Issn: 2717-4131
P-Issn: 2588-6142

*Corresponding Author:
Azita Jahanshad
Email: az_jahanshad@yahoo.com
Tel: 09357908950
ORCID:

1. Introduction

Despite considerable efforts made by organizations to expand social and environmental reporting and support sustainable reporting in recent decades, it is challenging to recognize these reports according to legal standards in most legal contexts. Progress in reporting the above field will be complicated due to the complex social, environmental, and political environment. One of the periodically reviewed factors is the perspective of organization members, such as senior managers and accountants, on processes supporting sustainable reporting (Shafer and Lucianetti, 2018). Stakeholders, especially shareholders, seek to invest in companies that bring favorable economic returns. On the other hand, companies must pay attention to their social responsibilities to achieve sustainable competitive advantage, increase value and improve economic performance. Many also consider it necessary for companies to pay attention to the category of social responsibility to play a real role in society through responsible social, ethical, legal and environmental standards. There are two competing views regarding the social role of companies. In the first view, the board of directors' social responsibility goals increase the shareholders' welfare. Reduction of direct costs (energy, materials, wasted time, etc.); Increasing employee productivity (increasing motivation, reducing absence, etc.); reducing risk (easier access to credit, increasing investors' interests, attracting stakeholders' support, etc.) and improving the company's competitive image are the results of companies paying attention to social responsibility (Deng et al., 2013).

The growth and development of industries, factories and business units, along with the creation and evolution of social institutions, the transformation in the role of information, the change in government organizations and finally, the transformation in ethics, have gradually put obligations on the companies that did not experience such obligations officially before these events (Aras and Crowther, 2008). Among the consequences of these changes is the increasing interest of stakeholders, shareholders and customers in environmental and social issues. In other words, companies operate as multi-purpose institutions instead of having a purely economic function. One of the challenging and interesting topics is companies' participation in the sustainability field, which shows companies' economic, social and environmental achievements (Özsözgün Çalişkan, 2014). In this regard, social responsibility as one of the dimensions of corporate sustainability is the company's belief that all the company's actions (including the company's tax payment policies) impact all stakeholders, including shareholders, employees, society, the government, customers and others. From this point of view, responsible activities include paying attention to the effects of the company's measures and efforts to affect and protect all stakeholders' interests positively. Irresponsible activities include actions that have negative effects and widely affect corporate governance, employee relations, society, public health, human rights, the environment, etc. (Hoi et al., 2013).

The business environment around the world is fragile and prone to uncertainty. This uncertainty is caused by events such as the collapse of the global economy in 2008, the 2019 COVID-19 pandemic and climate change, and the current conflict between Russia and Ukraine. During these periods of uncertainty, businesses find it challenging to achieve sustainability. Despite the conditions of uncertainty, companies must strive for survival because they are expected to operate for sustainable growth and survive challenges and issues. The company's sustainable growth is the most important stage in which it can increase its income without reducing its financial ability (Asaolu et al., 2022).

One of the company's actions in the field of social responsibility is the policies related to tax payments. Therefore, in the case of tax compliance, the company pays its fair share of real taxes to the government to finance public goods and social services that improve corporate sustainability (Freedman, 2003; Freise et al., 2008). Hence, the realization of government tax revenue as a result of corporate tax compliance in all developed and developing countries has led to the prosperity of the country's economic system. In addition, the government's investment in economic infrastructure will increase social services and improve society's condition (Bame-Aldred et al., 2013). Therefore, from a social point of view, corporate tax compliance can be considered a responsible social behavior of the company.

In the same way, social norms are also variable, such as the prevalence or acceptance of tax evasion in a reference group (Alm, 2019; Park and Hyun, 2003) or naturally between cultures with sub-cultural groups (Alm, 2019). According to Wenzel's (2004) view of the logic of social ethics, social norms influence the taxpayer's behavior by identifying a social group. This causal effect is mediated by internalizing social norms and becomes a part of people's formed being. According to the perspectives in the sociological field, human behavior is significantly shaped by social norms and improves tax compliance. On the other hand, stakeholders' perception predicts their participation in practice. In addition, the attitudes and perceptions of managers and decision makers of companies also significantly affect tax compliance (Nilipour, 2016). It is worth noting that managers' perception of tax compliance is based on management's attitude and stakeholders' pressure to limit managers' opportunistic behavior (Martin and Hadley, 2008). Therefore, achieving a complete understanding of social characteristics and the perception of stakeholders impacts the attitude of the company's participation in the field of sustainability.

Despite the growth and great attention of countries and companies to the category of sustainability and emphasis on the effectiveness of this information in the decision-making of the stakeholders, the companies admitted to the Tehran Stock Exchange have neglected the appropriate disclosure of economic, social and environmental information and not enough attention has been paid to the issue of sustainability in Iran. No research has been done in this field. Therefore, a research gap in this connection is evident, so there must be mechanisms and supervision to make the companies implement and disclose this category and be accountable to the stakeholders' expectations. One of the appropriate solutions in this field is to identify the factors affecting corporate sustainability so that by applying and strengthening these factors, the implementation and disclosure situation can be improved so that Iranian companies can follow the path of sustainable development. In previous studies, the subject of corporate sustainability used tax compliance to investigate the impact or relationship. In this research, the implementation of innovative modeling was discussed. Therefore, the present research results can provide helpful suggestions to law-making institutions, including the audit organization and the Tehran Stock Exchange Organization, so that these organizations apply more appropriate regulations. Therefore, due to the importance of the topic of sustainability and the existence of a research gap about the topic stated in recent years, in this research, an attempt was made to explain the methodology of social analysis and stakeholders to participate in corporate sustainability using tax compliance.

2. Theoretical Principles and Literature of the Study

2.1 Corporate sustainability

Various definitions have been created in the literature to express corporate sustainability. Some studies have explained this term as a management approach that allows companies to grow while providing economic, social and environmental value (Kantabutra and Ketprapakorn, 2020; Valente, 2012). According to Elkington's (1998) perspective, corporate sustainability is measured by focusing on economic, environmental and social dimensions. Other studies have shown companies' sustainability from different perspectives, such as a favorable future for all stakeholders of companies (Asaolu et al., 2022). Corporate sustainability is a new and growing concept that has been viewed as a global issue in recent years and has been the focus of researchers from the perspective of developing the concept and dimensions. Corporate sustainability was exclusively related to the financial perspective of companies at the beginning. Still, its main goal was to maximize shareholder value through which companies benefit from being sustainable in the long term. Carroll (1979) stated that corporate sustainability should include economic, legal, ethical and humanitarian obligations towards the company's work environment. Today, Carroll's model, integrated with the theory of interest groups, is receiving much attention from researchers. Sustainability is focused on the future and is related to ensuring that the right to choose the use of resources in the future is not limited by the decisions made in the present (Aras and Crowther, 2008). One of the first and most well-known definitions of corporate sustainability provided by the World Committee Environment and Development (WCED) is "meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs" (Zhang, 2017). The World Business Council on Sustainable Development states, "Sustainable development is a simultaneous activity for economic prosperity, environmental quality, and social justice".

Previous studies show that the stakeholders pursue different social, environmental and economic goals from the companies. According to the change in the attitude of the companies from the ownership theory (which is to maximize the wealth of the shareholders) towards the theory Stakeholders (which is to maximize the wealth of all stakeholders), the success of organizations is to report sustainability dimensions to maintain the social, environmental and economic interests of all stakeholders (Buchholz and Rosenthal, 2005). In this regard, Elkington (1998) stated in his research that companies' ultimate goal is to create shareholder value and economic, environmental, and social values for all stakeholders.

Today, companies must be responsible for their activities' various beneficial and harmful effects on society and the environment in which they exist. In addition, companies should properly disclose these effects in a sustainability report to provide a detailed description of the governance structure, the approach to interaction with shareholders and the triple bottom line performance (social, economic and environmental aspects). Global Reporting Organization (2011) defined sustainability reporting as measuring, disclosing and being accountable to internal and external stakeholders for organizational performance towards sustainable development goals. This has been widely proven by researchers who pointed out that corporate sustainability is likely to affect the company's profitability and overall performance in today's dynamic and complex business environment. Sustainability builds the foundation for maintaining and improving the value of the company. Companies benefit from establishing sustainability in their core strategy (Naciti, 2019). Environmental, social and governance factors and corporate social responsibility represent the two main categories of corporate sustainability variables. Environmental, social, and governance variables and corporate social responsibility can vary mainly in terms of sustainable performance and disclosure of sustainability-related subsections. Most studies on the sustainability performance of companies rely on databases (Velte, 2022).

2.2 Tax compliance

The definition of tax compliance is as follows: "Reporting all income and paying all taxes according to executive laws and regulations and legal decisions" (Alm, 2019). On the other hand, tax evasion is illegal and includes deceptive actions by taxpayers to hide their tax debt. The Sixteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution authorized the federal government to impose an income tax, and this amendment was ratified in 1913, shortly after World War I. At that time, citizens were willing to pay revenue to support the United States during the war (Rezac and Urofsky, 2011). However, attitudes towards tax compliance have changed drastically since then. The latest Internal Revenue Service (IRS) report estimated tax evasion at $385 billion in 2006 alone. The US tax system relies on taxpayers voluntarily complying with the tax law. IRS estimates show that small changes in discretionary compliance percentages can significantly impact tax revenue. As a result, the US government is constantly trying to increase tax compliance (Jimenez and Iyer, 2016).

2.3 Tax norms

Social norms are defined as rules and standards that group members understand, and these norms guide or limit social behavior without the application of law (Cialdini and Trost, 1998). The four social norms, constructs identified by Cialdini and Trost (1998), are injunctive, descriptive, subjective, and personal norms. Descriptive norms develop from observing how others behave in certain situations. Injunctive norms specify what should be done and are, therefore, the moral rules of the group. Subjective norms are specifically related to the expectations of significant others (e.g. family, friends, colleagues, etc.). Personal norms are a person's expectations for behavior that may develop as part of the internalization of injunctive norms (Bobek et al., 2013). Injunctive, subjective, and personal norms relate to the expectations of certain groups or individuals or describe what a person believes he/she should do in a given situation. Descriptive norms are only one's understanding of what others do. In addition to the separation of these social norm constructs by Cialdini and Trost (1998), Kallgren et al. (2000) also emphasized that a particular social norm is unlikely to influence people's behavior unless that social norm is salient or central to the behavior (i.e. that the norm does not affect the individual's behavior unless it is essential). Research on social norms in social psychology has clearly shown that social norms drive behavior in meaningful ways. Some studies show that understanding the influence of social norms and the relationships between these structures is vital for changing behavior (Brown and Moodie, 2009; Goldstein et al., 2008).

2.4 Stakeholders

Stakeholder theory states, "Any group or individual who can influence the realization of organizations' goals is a stakeholder" (Freeman et al., 2010). Therefore, there are different groups of stakeholders. Stakeholders are divided into three main groups: external stakeholders, intermediate stakeholders, and internal stakeholders. External stakeholders include the government, creditors, suppliers, customers and competitors. At the same time, environmental protection organizations and auditors are intermediate stakeholders. Internal stakeholders include shareholders, managers, and other employees. Legitimacy theory and stakeholder theory have different points of view, but at the same time, they have commonalities. Legitimacy theory considers only the interaction of organizations with society, but stakeholder theory has developed this concept by focusing on different groups of stakeholders and their relationships with each other (Nilipour, 2016). This theory accepts that different stakeholders have different opinions about how to run an organization, and as a result, their interests and concerns about the organization also differ. Organizations must pay attention to stakeholders and respond to their demands to gain legitimacy and manage the organization. According to the stakeholder theory, organizations can only get stakeholders' opinions and approval by disclosing information. Solomon and Lewis (2002) believe that one of the best ways for organizations to legitimize their affairs is to communicate with stakeholders, which can only be done by disclosing information. Therefore, gaining legitimacy can be the main reason organizations engage in social activities. Publishing sustainability reports was one of the organizations' strategies to respond to stakeholders' pressure and thus gain legitimacy. So, due to the problems of brokers - conflict of interests between managers and stakeholders and the lack of regulations and regulations in sustainability reporting, stakeholders are concerned about the reliability of disclosed sustainability information. Voluntary acceptance is a lateral communication tool and helps organizations influence stakeholders' mindsets by demonstrating the organization's professional performance and common standards (Gillet, 2012).

2.5 Theoretical principles

Social norms or value orientations are among the most common social psychological variables investigated in studies related to taxpayers (Bobek et al., 2013; Wenzel, 2005). While most studies directly confirm the relationship between social norms and taxpayers' compliance, there seems to be a lack of consistency in the results of studies measuring social norms.

For example, Blanthorne and Kaplan (2008) examined the relationships between the opportunity to minimize the amount of taxable income, social norms related to tax acceptance, ethical attitudes towards compliance, and the tendency to minimize profits. Social norms were defined as people's understanding of the influence of factors such as a spouse, family, friends and business colleagues on their adaptive behavior. Ethical attitudes were assessed and participants were asked questions regarding underreporting income (profit), including whether they felt underreporting was morally wrong and guilty due to not reporting?). The results of structural equation modeling showed that the possibility of reporting less than the truth had a direct relationship with informal behavior (based on self-reporting of less than the truth, which was effective in the tax returns of the past years) and also an indirect relationship with the less than the truth reporting through the relationship with moral attitudes (ethical attitude has a less mediating role in the relationship between opportunity and reporting than it does). Social norms were not directly related to underreporting but were influenced by underreporting through their association with moral attitudes (moral attitudes generally moderated the association between social norms and underreporting).

Bobek et al. (2007, 2013) examined the effects of four distinct categories of social norms explored by Cialdini and Trost (1998): (a) general social expectations (anticipated norms); (b) valuable expectations of others (subjective norms); (c) personal expectations or standards (personal norms); and (d) standards based on observations of others' behavior (descriptive norms). Bobek et al. (2007) stated that a composite measure of personal and subjective norms and predicted norms were significantly related to ultimate goals in a sample taken from Australia, Singapore, and the United States. However, descriptive norms were not related to goals. Bobek et al. (2013), based on the analysis of the items in the studies of Blanthorne and Kaplan (2008), concluded that this measure was equal to the personal norms conceptualized by Cialdini and Trost (1998). It is also apparent that Blanthorne and Kaplan's measure of "social norms" assesses the expectations of others and thus can reasonably be classified as subjective norms. Consequently, they suggested that the findings of Blanthorne and Kaplan (2008) show that personal (subjective) norms are directly (indirectly) related to taxpayers' decisions. The results of the studies show that individual and subjective norms are directly related to tax compliance decisions, while predicted and descriptive norms are indirectly related to their compliance through their effects on personal and subjective norms.

Stakeholder theory is one of the organizational management theories. The concept of stakeholder was first proposed by the Stanford Research Institute in 1936. Freeman (2010) can be considered the founder of stakeholder analysis and the introduction of this discussion into the literature on strategic management. In 1984, he presented an article titled strategic management with a stakeholder approach, in which he presented a model and examined how to include stakeholder analysis in strategic management (Freeman, 2010). After that, researchers in different fields, such as natural resources, business management, project management, and policy making, presented definitions and solutions according to the characteristics of their scientific space (Alm, 2019). Crosby (1992) considered stakeholder analysis a vital strategic management tool in an article he presented in 1992 (Crosby, 1992). Clarkson used the stakeholder framework to evaluate and analyze the performance of companies in 1995 (Clarkson et al., 2011). Freeman et al. (2010) published a book titled "Managing for Stakeholders" in 2007. The content of this book includes how to lead and manage stakeholders (Freeman et al. 2010). In 2009, Linda Bourne investigated the different effects of stakeholders according to different criteria and tools (Blanthorne and Kaplan, 2008). Although stakeholder analysis has its roots in business management, it has been developed to such an extent that it has also entered the fields of economics, political science, game theory, and environmental science. Common patterns of stakeholder analysis use a wide range of qualitative and quantitative tools to identify stakeholders, their position, impact on other groups, and their interests in a specific policy and program. In addition, stakeholder analysis provides an idea about the impact of policies and programs on political and social forces. It explains different perspectives on proposed policy and potential conflict between individuals and groups and helps identify potential strategies for negotiating with opposing stakeholders (Amalia and Suprapti, 2020).

Table 1. Questionnaire of the development process and application of stakeholder analysis

Presenting the concept of beneficiaries for the first time at the Stanford Research Institute			
Application of the concept of stakeholders in organization planning	Application of the concept of stakeholders in the theory of systems	Application of the concept of stakeholders in corporate social responsibility	Application of the concept of stakeholders in the theory of organization
Strategic management: a stakeholder-based approach by Freeman (2010)			
Descriptive/empirical aspects	Instrumental aspects	Normative aspects	

In the traditional view, which is largely based on agency theory, the company is solely responsible to the shareholders, and the most important interaction in the company is between managers (representatives) and shareholders (owners). Therefore, activities outside this range are unimportant and do not make the company profitable. According to this point of view, there is little connection between corporate social responsibility and company procedures. In fact, according to agency theory, a company only participates in various activities, including activities related to social responsibility, when they increase the company's profitability. In this situation, the cost of such activities is usually considered reputation or political costs in agency theory (Scholes et al., 2005; Chen et al., 2010). A research literature review has shown that tax compliance is a complex issue. Multiple variables influence this variable. Beneficiaries' attitude to tax compliance is not very good based on the assumptions of agency theory. Hence, recent paradigms analyze tax compliance behavior in relation to stakeholders (Arzadun et al., 2020).

The corporate sustainability report is the company's belief that all its actions (including the company's tax payment policies) affect all stakeholders, including shareholders, employees, society, government, customers, and others. From this point of view, responsible activities include paying attention to the effects of the company's actions and trying to have a positive effect and protect the interests of all stakeholders. Irresponsible activities are also defined as actions that have negative effects and widely affect corporate governance, employee relations, society, public health, human rights, the environment, etc. (Hoi et al., 2013). In the case of tax compliance, the company pays its fair share of real taxes to the government in order to finance public goods and social services. In this way, the realization of government tax revenue as a result of corporate tax compliance in all developed and developing countries has led to the prosperity of the country's economic system. In addition the government's investment in economic infrastructure will increase social services and improve society's situation (Bame-Aldred et al., 2013). Therefore, from a social point of view, corporate tax compliance can be considered a responsible social behavior of the company. It is possible to go one step further and show that nations also want companies to comply with tax laws in addition to governments. Therefore, when a company is non-compliant with taxes, its behavior is against the wishes of the government and the nation. It may have a negative impact on society. However, the important point is that corporate tax compliance will only be related to corporate social responsibility if it significantly affects a large part of society (Lanis and Richardson, 2012).

The sustainability report shows company owners' commitment to running a sustainable business (Mondal, 2021). Sustainability reporting leads to the legitimacy of the company. According to some previous studies such as Timbate (2023) and Hoi et al. (2013), sustainability reporting positively affects tax avoidance. Corporate social responsibility also has a positive effect on tax avoidance. Also, Amalia and Suprapti (2020) and Lanis and Richardson (2012) stated that sustainability reporting has no effect on tax avoidance at all (Fuadah et al. 2022). Sustainability reports are one of the ways through which organizations reveal their corporate social responsibility activities related to environmental, social and governance issues. In 2019, the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) updated its standards to include tax issues. Consistent disclosure about tax strategy, governance and risk management meets the reporting expectations of various stakeholders. Therefore, transparency and tax compliance are aspects of sustainable reporting expected by stakeholders (Faúndez-Ugalde et al., 2022).

According to legitimacy theory, sustainable non-financial performance is favorable to all stakeholders, including customers, society and the environment. This theory also states that failure to comply with social norms and environmental requirements threatens organizational legitimacy, sustainable financial reporting, and, therefore, organizations' use of the environment and meeting the needs of society. According to the legitimacy theory, disclosure of information in annual reports and other methods to legitimize the decisions and actions of companies directly addresses society's concerns and improves the company's legitimacy. Legitimacy theory explains stakeholders' intervention in corporate social responsibility disclosure (Buallay and Al-Ajmi, 2020). On the other hand, stakeholder theory suggests that business entities disclose voluntary information to satisfy stakeholders' interests and obtain more information. Companies and financial institutions have diverse and abundant stakeholders, and their stakeholders are wider than those of other economic sectors. Therefore, they need to gain social acceptance, adhere to social contracts with society, and fulfill the expectations of their stakeholders. They are under a lot of pressure. Previously, the relationships between the variables related to the theory of legitimacy and corporate sustainability disclosure were presented from different aspects. Stakeholder theory refers to the fact that sustainable activities and performance improve the company's long-term value by fulfilling corporate social responsibility, fulfilling environmental obligations and increasing the company's reputation (Clarkson et al., 2011). Weber (2008) argues that management's consideration of stakeholders' interests is a key factor in the performance and disclosure of social and environmental sustainability.

2.6 The principles of hypothesis development

Corporate sustainability can be defined as the extent to which companies accept social and environmental factors in their operations and, finally, the impact these two factors have on society and the natural environment. Past studies have shown that corporate sustainability has both non-financial and financial consequences. Regarding non-financial consequences, sustainability performance affects consumer purchasing decisions, employee motivation, and companies' mass media coverage. Regarding the financial implications, the sustainability performance of companies is related to financial distress, return on equity, information asymmetry, and company value and earnings management. Sustainability performance has many non-financial and financial implications and provides significant information useful for stakeholders' decision-making (Jia and Li, 2022). Shafer and Wang (2018) state that taxpayers with high Machiavellianism reported much less moral social norms, which indicates that reported social norms are generally related to tax evasion intentions. Aktaş et al. (2013) found that stakeholders are interested in issues such as the development of sustainability-related strategic plans, measurement of sustainability performance, and its reports. In their research, Shafer and Lucianetti (2018) concluded that shareholder orientation positively correlates with support for sustainable reporting. Kwakye et al. (2018) stated that only the subjective norm and perceived behavioral control significantly determine the intention to participate in sustainability accounting and reporting, primarily by the availability of resources and pressure from major stakeholders. Alm et al. (2019) showed that normative appeals generally have a moderate and positive effect on tax compliance, although they were not always statistically significant. The size of normal command messages, such as approval or disapproval of reported taxes, has increased by about 2%. Romero et al. (2019) investigated three common reporting models, including an annual report (address to shareholders), a sustainability report (address to stakeholders) and an integrated report (address to shareholders). Based on this, the content of sustainability reporting information in Spanish companies showed that sustainability information is issued in the annual report of higher quality than sustainability reports and integrated reports. Correa -Garcia et al. (2020) showed that the concentration of control in groups has a negative effect on the quality of sustainability reporting. Variables such as foreign ownership, the age of the business group and the board of directors' size help business groups improve the quality of their sustainability and voluntary disclosure practices.

Timbate (2023) stated that there is a debate in academia and the business world about whether paying taxes should be part of corporate social responsibility. The results of this study show that companies' CSR and tax payment decisions are related to reaching or beating the desired level or maintaining a competitive advantage over being ethical or unethical. Jamshidi et al. (2022) identified 20 main categories and 123 subcategories in the paradigm model, which includes the model's content, organization and processing as the main category and causal conditions (professional actions, structural actions, professional environment, audit). Background factors are (auditor requirements, process context, institutional background auditor capabilities), intervention conditions (human, structural, managerial and supervisory factors), strategies (development actions and support actions), process outcomes, and structure process effects. Based on the findings, the following hypotheses were proposed:

H1: The components related to stakeholders' perceptions lead to tax compliance to participate in corporate sustainability reporting.

H2: The components related to social norms lead to tax compliance to participate in corporate sustainability reporting.

3. Research Methodology

The current research is developmental-practical regarding objective, mixed-exploratory (causal) data and survey-cross-sectional. Therefore, this research method to achieve the mentioned goals is descriptive-analytical. The general purpose of the current research is to concentrate mostly on compiling, identifying, validating, creating appropriateness, and finally, determining the role of indicators and components. In the following, the main steps of the research method are described.

First step: In this research, a questionnaire is used to compile, identify, and establish the appropriateness of the social components and beneficiaries for tax compliance. It should be noted that this questionnaire was prepared based on the sources listed (Table No. 1). At this stage, a basic questionnaire is designed and distributed among experts in the form of a five-option Likert spectrum (completely relevant, relevant, relatively relevant, unrelated and completely unrelated). The purpose of presenting the questionnaire to the experts is to discover the components related to tax compliance (of course, to participate in corporate sustainability).

In the following, according to the average scores obtained for the components related to tax compliance, the second questionnaire is presented to the experts along with the obtained scores. This helps the expert to understand the difference between his own opinions and the opinions of others and adjust his opinion if needed. The difference between the averages of the first and second stages (the first and second questionnaires) is calculated in the next step. If this average difference is less than the threshold of 0.20, the process is stopped (Lanis and Richardson, 2012). Otherwise, the Delphi method continues until a consensus among experts is reached. It should be noted that at this stage, the average calculated for the components of the questionnaire that have an average less than the average are removed. After applying the Delphi method, the important components from the expert's point of view are identified during different stages.

Second step: after describing the social components and stakeholders with tax compliance, the role of the components above is investigated to participate in the sustainability reporting of stock exchange companies. At this stage, the questionnaire is distributed to the financial and accounting managers of Tehran Stock Exchange companies by targeted sampling. Then, answers to the questionnaires were collected using a 5-level Likert scale (I completely disagree, I disagree, I have no opinion, I agree, I completely agree). Using the factor analysis method, SmartPLS software (Cronbach's alpha tests, composite reliability (CR) and average variance (AVE) for reliability and convergence and divergence tests for validity), the significance of social and stakeholder-related components regarding tax compliance is measured and evaluated to participate in the sustainability report.

3.1 Statistical population, sampling method and sample size

The statistical population in this research includes the following:

1- To determine the indicators and items related to social dimensions and beneficiaries, 28 experts, who are members of the academic staff of universities and managers and experts of the tax organization, are used.

2- In order to investigate the role of dimensions, indicators, social components and stakeholders to support the sustainability report from the perspective of tax compliance, a questionnaire has been collected, the statistical population of which includes the financial and accounting managers of all companies admitted to the Tehran Stock Exchange except for financial intermediaries, such as banks, investment funds, insurances, etc. 276 financial managers or senior accounting experts participated in this research. The statistical sample is based on Cochran's formula and has an error rate of 0.05 for the population of this research, which is 160.85 (about 161 respondents).

3.2 Description of research components

In general, the description of social components and beneficiaries with tax compliance is based on the research of Shafer and Lucianetti (2018) and Shafer and Wang (2018) and as described in Table (2). Therefore, as mentioned in the first step of the research method, social components and stakeholders related to tax compliance are compiled and identified based on the following questionnaire. It should be noted that at this stage, it is possible to identify other components based on the opinion of experts, so the opinion of other experts regarding new components should also be evaluated.

Table 2. Questionnaire of social components and beneficiaries with tax compliance

Aspects	Indicator	Components	Source	The appropriateness of realized components
Social	Social norms	Personal norms Descriptive norms Subjective norms Anticipated norms	Shafer and Lucianetti, 2018/ Bobek et al., 2013/ Bobek and Hatfield, 2003/ Bobek, Roberts, and Sweeney, 2007/ Davis et al., 2003/ Hanno and Violt, 1996/ Wenzel, 2004 and 2005	Totally relevant related Relatively relevant unrelated Totally unrelated
Beneficiaries	Stakeholders' perceptions of participation in sustainability reporting	The stakeholders of our company (shareholders, employees, managers, society, etc.) Internal stakeholders (employees, managers and shareholders)	Shafer and Lucianetti, 2018/ Solomon and Lewis, 2002 / De Waal, 1996 / Hanno and Violette, 1996/ Ostas, 2004	

4. Research Findings

4.1 Descriptive statistics

In this research, out of 28 experts and 161 respondents of financial and accounting managers of stock exchange companies, the sample experts, 25% are women, and 75% are men. In the financial and accounting managers sample, 24.2% are women, and 75.8% are men. Regarding educational degrees, in the sample of experts, 42.46% of PhD students and 53.58% of PhD students. In the sample of financial managers, education is 41.6% for bachelor's degrees, 48.4% for master's degrees, and 9.9% for doctorate degrees. In terms of work experience, in the sample of experts, the work experience of 3.6% is less than 5 years, 17.9% is between 5-10 years, 0.50% is between 11-15 years and 28.6% is more than 15 years. In the financial and accounting managers sample, 24.8% of work experience is less than 5 years, 34.8% between 5-10 years, 24.8% between 11-15 years and 15.5% more than 15 years. Table (3) shows the details of the participants:

In the following, the table of descriptive statistics of the research variables is stated:

Table number (4) shows the descriptive statistics of variables (social norms and perceptions of stakeholders and support for sustainability reports). According to the results, the highest average for the variable of beneficiaries is (4.05) and the lowest average for the variable of social norms is (3.77). In general, a normal distribution has zero skewness and kurtosis. In this research, the kurtosis value and skewness of the variables are close to zero, indicating that the variables have a symmetrical -distribution and their distribution is similar to normal.

4.2 Results related to Delphi test based on experts' opinion

This research uses the percentage frequency for the consensus of experts' opinions. According to the research of Lanis and Richardson (2012), the percentage frequency is often used for consensus when a certain percentage of votes falls within a certain range. According to the experts' answers in the Delphi phase, 10 essential items (more than 50%) have been identified. Of course, it should be noted that in the initial questionnaire, 9 specific items were presented for asking for opinions. However, according to respondents' opinions, the final questionnaire was increased to 1 item in the second stage, and all the items' added items and frequency results were explained.

Table 3. Characteristics of the participants in the research

Respondents	Gender	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative frequency
Experts	Female	7	25.000	25.000
	Man	21	75.000	100.000
	Total	28	100.000	
Financial managers	Female	39	24.200	24.200
	Man	122	75.800	100.000
	Total	161	100.000	
Respondents	Education	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative frequency
Experts	Masters	0	0.000	0.00
	PhD student	13	46.420	46.420
	Ph.D.	15	53.580	100.000
	Total	28	100.000	
Financial managers	Bachelor's	67	41.600	41.600
	Masters	78	48.400	90.000
	Ph.D.	16	9.900	100.000
	Total	161	100.000	
Respondents	**Age**	**Frequency**	**Percentage**	**Cumulative frequency**
Experts	30 years and less	3	10.700	7.100
	31-40 years	8	28.600	39.300
	41-50 years	11	39.300	78.600
	Over 50 years old	6	21.400	100.000
	total	28	100.000	
Financial managers	30 years and less	35	21.700	21.700
	31-40 years	46	28.600	50.300
	41-50 years	48	29.800	80.100
	Over 50 years old	32	19.900	100.000
	Total	161	100.000	
Respondents	**Experience**	**Frequency**	**Percentage**	**Cumulative frequency**
Experts	Less than 5 years	1	3.600	3.600
	5-10 years	5	17.900	21.500
	11-15 years	14	50.000	71.500
	Above 15 years	8	28.600	100.000
	Total	28	100.000	
Financial managers	Less than 5 years	40	24.800	24.800
	5-10 years	56	34.800	59.600
	11-15 years	40	24.800	84.400
	Above 15 years	25	15.500	100.000
	Total	161	100.000	

Table 4. The descriptive table of research variables

Questions	Description	Number of respondents	Average	Standard deviation	Maximum	Minimum
13-14	Beneficiaries	161	4.050	0.805	5.000	1.000
15-18	social norms	161	3.770	0.820	5.000	1.000
22-19	Support for sustainability reports	161	3.932	0.667	5.000	1.000

Table 5. The frequency of respondents to research items (in the second stage)

No.	Research indicators and components (items)	Extremely necessary	Necessary	Almost necessary	Little necessity	No necessity
			Stakeholder perception index			
1	Internal stakeholders (employees, managers and shareholders)	%28.6	%35.7	%21.4	%10.7	%3.6
2	The stakeholders of our company (shareholders, employees, managers, society, etc.)	%35.7	%28.6	%3.6	%28.6	%3.6
			Index of social norms			
3	Personal norms	%39.3	%14.3	%28.6	%14.3	%3.6
4	Descriptive norms	%25.0	%28.6	%28.6	%14.3	%3.6
5	Subjective norms	%21.4	%46.4	%10.7	%17.9	%3.6
6	Anticipated norms	%21.4	%39.3	%32.1	%3.6	%3.6
	Sustainability report support index from the perspective of sustainability reporting					
7	Desire	%17.9	%35.7	%39.3	%7.1	-
8	Program	%32.1	%35.7	%21.4	%10.7	-
9	Obligation	%14.3	%64.3	%21.4	-	-
10	Passion	%25.0	%32.1	%25.0	%10.7	%7.1

In the following, the Kendall coefficient was used to determine the level of consensus among the respondents (experts), whose values can be seen in table number (6):

Table 6. The results of the Kendall coefficient test to check the level of consensus among experts

Number of experts (28 people)	First step	Second step
Kendall coefficient	0.161	0.789
Chi-square coefficient	16.903	1701.124
Degrees of freedom	21.000	21.000
Confidence interval	0.117	0.000

Since the Delphi stage was repeated twice, in the second round, an agreement was reached between the experts (Kendall's coefficient = 0.789); this rate indicates a high level of consensus in the respondents' opinions to determine the necessity of the research components. At this stage, it can be said that the researcher has attempted to identify the components related to social norms and stakeholders for tax compliance to support the sustainability report. It should be noted that at this stage, the experts also had a considerable agreement on the conceptual model of the research, which is presented below (Figures 1 and 2) with path coefficients, factor loadings and significance levels.

4.3 The results of convergent validity and reliability of the measurement tool

Considering Table (7) and the value of Cronbach's alpha coefficient and the composite reliability shown for each criterion (item), which is more than 0.70, it can be seen that the measuring instrument of the items is reliable. This research used the average variance extracted (AVE) to check the convergent validity. This value is higher than 0.50 for all research criteria, which indicates convergent validity for the measurement tool.

Table 7. The results of convergent validity and reliability of measurement tools

Research variables	No. of items	Cronbach's Alpha coefficient	Composite reliability	Average extracted mean
Stakeholders	2	0.897	0.772	0.813
Social norms	4	0.912	0.872	0.723
Support for sustainability reports	4	0.880	0.817	0.647

Fornell and Larcker's matrix to check divergent validity is shown in Table (7). Fornell and Larcker (1981) state that divergent validity is acceptable when the average variance extracted for each construct is greater than the shared variance between them. Construct and other constructs (i.e. the square of the correlation coefficients between constructs) in the model. The main diameter numbers of the Fornell and Larcker matrix shown in Table (8) show that the measurement tool in this research has an acceptable divergent validity.

Table 8. Fornell and Larcker's matrix table to check divergent validity

Variables	Social norms	Stakeholders	Support for sustainability reports
Social norms	0.850		
Stakeholders	0.730	0.902	
Support for sustainability reports	0.840	0.797	0.804

Factor loads are correlation coefficients between implicit and explicit variables in a measurement model. This coefficient determines how much the latent variable explains the variance of the manifest variables. Table (9) summarises the results related to the structural model's factor loads. Factor loads of at least 0.4 for each item indicate the model's appropriate structure (Hair et al., 2016). Table (9) shows that the factor load for all items was more than 0.4.

Table 9. The results of structural model factor loads

Factor	Item	Factor load	Factor	Item	Factor load
Stakeholders	Internal stakeholders	0.918	Support for sustainability reports	Desire	0.843
	Stakeholders of our company	0.885			
Social norms	Personal norms	0.816		Plan	0.852
	Descriptive norms	0.874		Obligation	
	Subjective norms	0.864		Passion	0.769
	Anticipated norms	0.845			

4.4 Testing the theoretical model of the research

The quality check test is one of the tests to evaluate the measurement model and reflective structure. The commonality index with cross-validity (CV com) is used to evaluate the measurement model. This index measures the path model's ability to predict observable variables through their corresponding hidden values. The following uses the redundancy index with cross-validation (CV Red) or predictive correlation to evaluate the structural model. Its purpose is to check the structural model's ability to predict. If these indicators show a positive number in the model quality test, the model has the necessary quality. On the other hand, considering that the value of the coefficient of determination of the support of the sustainability report is (0.835), the model has identified and tested more than 70% of the influential factors.

Table 10. The results of model quality and coefficient of determination

Variables	CV com	CV Red	R square coefficient of determination
Beneficiaries' perception	0.420	0.110	0.835
Social norms	0.160	0.180	
Support for sustainability reports	0.230	0.290	

4.5 General model fitting based on GOF criteria

In this section, the fit of the overall model is examined based on the GOF criterion. According to the average shared values of the constructs (shared values of the first order constructs) and the average R2 of all the endogenous constructs of the model, the GOF value for the overall fit of the current research model is equal to:

$$GOF=\sqrt{\overline{(communalities)}*\overline{(R^2)}}= \sqrt{(0.334*0.835)}= 0.528$$

According to the three criterion values introduced as 0.01, 0.25, and 0.36 as weak, medium and strong (Davari and Rezazadeh, 2013), obtaining a value of 0.528 for GOF indicates a strong fit of the research model. The following results of structural equation modeling for the impact of stakeholders' perception on tax compliance in order to participate in corporate sustainability reporting are presented in Table (9) and Figures 1 and 2. The path coefficient of the direct effect of stakeholders on tax compliance in order to participate in corporate sustainability reporting is equal to 0.177 and the t value is equal to 2.179. Because the value of t is greater than 1.96, the null hypothesis is rejected. Therefore, it is concluded that the components related to stakeholders' perception lead to (positive effect of) tax compliance to participate in corporate sustainability reporting. The results of these assumptions are in agreement with the theoretical foundations presented in the research of Avi-Yona (2008), Christensen and Murphy (2004) and Rose (2007). To obtain favorable results in this complex business environment and to survive in the competitive world, the company has developed its policies, strategies, and operations and established procedures that go beyond protecting the interests of shareholders. To protect the interests of all stakeholders, the company plans to pay attention to ethical considerations and finally be able to participate in corporate sustainability reporting with tax compliance.

Table 11. The structural equation modeling results for the first hypothesis

Path	P-value	t-value	Standard coefficient	Test result
Components related to stakeholder perception --------> Support for sustainability reporting	0.030	2.179	0.177	Confirmed

Next, the path coefficient of the direct effect of social norms on tax compliance to participate in corporate sustainability reporting in Table (10) is equal to 0.358 and the value of t is equal to 3.641. Because the value of t is greater than 1.96, the null hypothesis is rejected. Therefore, it is concluded that the components related to social norms lead to (positive effect of) tax compliance to participate in corporate sustainability reporting. The results of these hypotheses are in agreement with the theoretical foundations presented in the research of Bobek and Hatfield (2003), Bobek et al. (2007), Davis et al. (2003) and Wenzel (2005). Social norms or value orientations are among the most common social psychological variables. With a proper understanding of business, this component leads to tax compliance and participation in corporate sustainability reporting.

Table 12. The structural equation modeling results for the second hypothesis

Path	P-value	t-value	Standard coefficient	Test result
Components related to social norms --------> Support for sustainability reporting	0.000	3.641	0.358	Confirmed

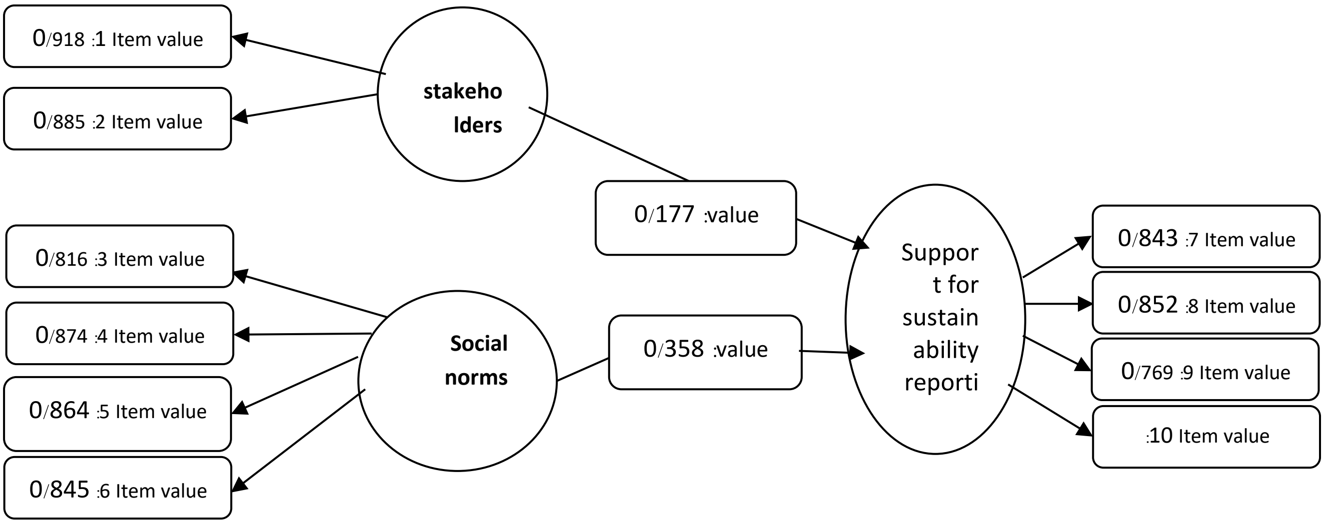

Figure 1. Path coefficients and factor loads of the influence model of stakeholders and social norms on tax compliance to support the sustainability report

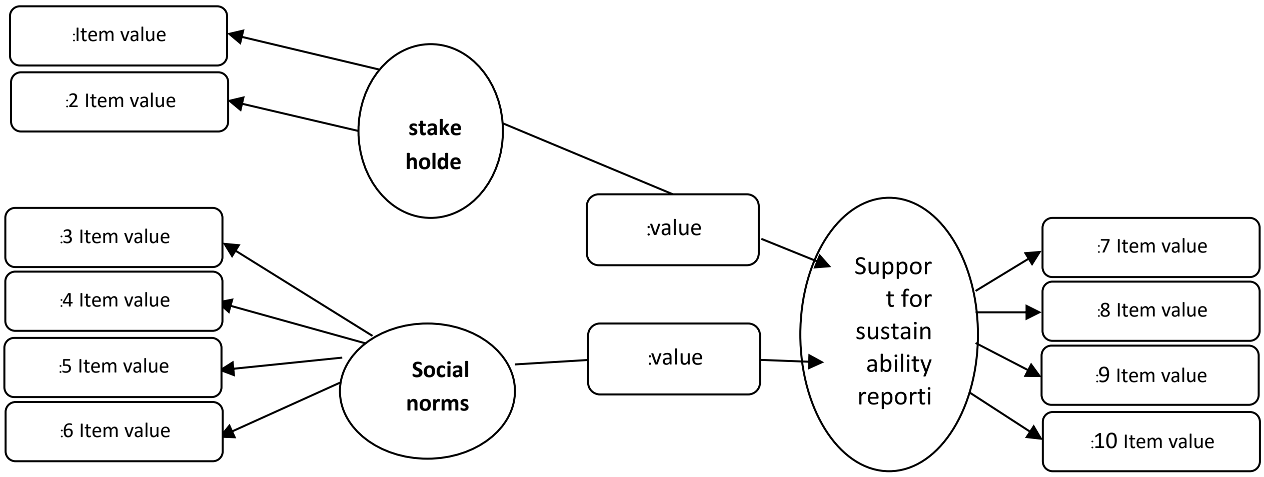

Figure 2. The significance level of the model of the influence of stakeholders and social norms on tax compliance to support the sustainability report

5. Discussion and Conclusion

Paying attention to ethics and stakeholders in the accounting and auditing profession is vital for society. So, compliance with ethical and social behavior and standards can be the core reason for the profession's existence. In this regard, if the social, moral and beneficiary characteristics are not paid attention to, the profession will face the issue of legitimacy and, ultimately, economic consequences, including tax non-compliance and non-participation in sustainability reporting. Since the impact of social norms and stakeholders on tax compliance was investigated in this paper to support the sustainability report, the components related to social norms and stakeholders were first identified. The results of structural equation modeling confirm the impact of stakeholders' perception on tax compliance to participate in corporate sustainability reporting. In other words, the components related to stakeholders' perception lead to (positive effect of) tax compliance to participate in corporate sustainability reporting. The results of this hypothesis are in line with the theoretical foundations presented in the research of Avi-Yona (2008), Christensen and Murphy (2004), Ostas (2004), and Rose (2007). To obtain favorable results in this complex business environment and survive in the competitive world, the company has developed its policies, strategies, and operations and established procedures beyond protecting the interests of the shareholders. To protect the interests of all the beneficiaries of the program, the company aims to pay attention to ethical considerations and to finally be able to participate in corporate sustainability reporting with tax compliance. Also, the structural equation modelling results confirm social norms' impact on tax compliance to participate in corporate sustainability reporting. In other words, the components related to social norms lead to (positive effect of) tax compliance to participate in corporate sustainability reporting. The results of these hypotheses conform with the theoretical foundations presented in the research of Bobak and Hatfield (2003), Bobak et al. (2007), Davis et al. (2003) and Wenzel (2005). Social norms or value orientations are among the most common social psychological variables. With a proper understanding of business, this component leads to tax compliance and participation in corporate sustainability reporting.

After conducting any research, the effort is to ensure that the results have consequences for the stakeholders and those interested in making decisions efficiently and effectively. Therefore, this research will not be an exception to this. From the results of this research, groups such as investors, capital market financial analysts, stock exchange managers and brokers, financial managers and management accountants, government and legislative institutions, independent and internal auditors, professors, students, scholars and interested researchers will benefit One of the consequences of the results of this research can be used for the accounting standards development committee or the stock exchange organization. Companies can be prescribed to observe the role of their tax compliance through social, ethical, and stakeholder dimensions to support the sustainability report. Analysts use the results of this research, which leads to providing a new approach in the direction of corporate sustainability for all stakeholders. This research shows the extent of the obligations of managers and owners of companies in front of society and other stakeholders. On the other hand, it will determine the demands of the people and different stakeholders from the company managers.

According to the results, managers should improve their attitude toward tax compliance and sustainability reporting by developing training programs, creating a suitable structure, and raising the organizational culture. It is also suggested to the managers to increase the willingness to tax compliance and sustainability reporting by making the required resources available without affecting the interests of the shareholders. It is also suggested to the legislators and standard drafting committees to follow up on tax compliance for sustainability reporting (although this issue is voluntary in Iran) to improve the behavior of economic units through the formulation of standards and the inclusion of ethical components in the code of professional conduct. In addition, future studies suggest that other components, such as fairness, managers' attitudes, and complexity of tax laws (level of managers' understanding of tax laws), should be analyzed at the level of the entire country and other cities and provinces.

References

1. Aktaş, R., Kayalidere, K. and Karğin, M. (2013). Corporate sustainability reporting and analysis of sustainability reports in Turkey. *International Journal of Economics and Finance*, 5(3), pp. 113-125. http://dx.doi.org/10.5539/ijef.v5n3p113
2. Alm, J. (2019). What motivates tax compliance? *Journal of Economic Surveys*, 33(2), pp. 353-388. https://doi.org/10.1111/joes.12272
3. Amalia, F. A. and Suprapti, E. (2020). Does the High or Low of Corporate Social Responsibility Disclosure Affect Tax Avoidance?. *Journal of Accounting and Investment*, 21(2), pp. 277-288.

4. Aras, G. and Crowther, D. (2008). Governance and sustainability: An investigation into the relationship between corporate governance and corporate sustainability. *Management Decision*, 46(3), pp. 433-448. https://doi.org/10.1108/00251740810863870
5. Arzadun, P., Mora-Esquivel, R. and Solís, M. (2020). The effect of knowing how tax money is spent and the distance with tax revenue's potential beneficiaries on tax compliance. *Revista Academia & Negocios*, 6(1), pp. 71-84.
6. Asaolu, T. O., Olowookere, J. K., Adebayo, A. O. and Kareem, T. A. (2022). Audit Committee Characteristics and Sustainable Growth Among Selected Listed Non-Financial Firms in Nigeria. *Iranian Journal of Accounting, Auditing and Finance*, 6(3), pp. 1-13. https://doi.org/10.22067/ijaaf.2022.42276
7. Avi-Yonah, R.S., (2008). Corporate social responsibility and strategic tax behavior. In: Schön, W. (Ed.), Tax and Corporate Governance. Springer Verlag, Berlin Heidelberg. pp. 183-198.
8. Bame-Aldred, C. W., Cullen, J. B., Martin, K. D. and Parboteeah, K. P. (2013). National culture and firm-level tax evasion. *Journal of Business Research*, 66(3), pp. 390-396. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jbusres.2011.08.020
9. *Blanthorne, C. and Kaplan, S. (2008). An egocentric model of the relations among the opportunity to underreport, social norms, ethical beliefs, and underreporting behavior.* Accounting, Organizations and Society*, 33(7/8), pp. 684–703.* https://doi.org/10.1016/j.aos.2008.02.00
10. Bobek, D. D. and Hatfield, R. C. (2003). An investigation of the theory of planned behavior and the role of moral obligation in tax compliance. *Behavioral Research in Accounting*, *15*(1), pp. 13-38. https://doi.org/10.2308/bria.2003.15.1.13
11. Bobek, D. D., Hageman, A. M. and Kelliher, C. F. (2013). Analyzing the role of social norms in tax compliance behavior. *Journal of Business Ethics*, 115, pp. 451-468.
12. Bobek, D. D., Roberts, R. W. and Sweeney, J. T. (2007). The social norms of tax compliance: Evidence from Australia, Singapore, and the United States. *Journal of Business Ethics*, 74(1), pp. 49–64
13. Brown, A., and Moodie, C. (2009). The influence of tobacco marketing on adolescent smoking intentions via normative beliefs. *Health Education Research*, 24(4), pp. 721–733. https://doi.org/10.1093/her/cyp007
14. Buallay, A. and Al-Ajmi, J. (2020). The role of audit committee attributes in corporate sustainability reporting: Evidence from banks in the Gulf Cooperation Council. *Journal of Applied Accounting Research*, 21(2), pp. 249-264. https://doi.org/10.1108/JAAR-06-2018-0085
15. Buchholz and Rosenthal, S. B. (2005). Toward a contemporary conceptual framework for stakeholder theory. *Journal of Business Ethics*, 58, pp. 137-148. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10551-005-1393-8
16. Carroll, A. B. (1979). A three-dimensional conceptual model of corporate performance. *Academy of management review*, *4*(4), pp. 497-505. https://doi.org/10.5465/amr.1979.4498296
17. Chen, S., Chen, X., Cheng, Q., & Shevlin, T. (2010). Are family firms more tax aggressive than non-family firms? *Journal of financial economics*, 95(1), pp. 41-61. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jfineco.2009.02.003
18. Christensen, J. and Murphy, R. (2004). The social irresponsibility of corporate tax avoidance: Taking CSR to the bottom line. *Development*, *47*(3), pp. 37-44.
19. Cialdini, R. B. and Trost, M. R. (1998). Social influence: Social norms, conformity and compliance. Boston: Oxford University Press. New York, NY.
20. Clarkson, P. M., Li, Y., Richardson, G. D. and Vasvari, F. P. (2011). Does it really pay to be green? Determinants and consequences of proactive environmental strategies. *Journal of Accounting and Public Policy,* 30(2), pp. 122-144.

https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jaccpubpol.2010.09.013
21. Correa-Garcia, J. A., Garcia-Benau, M. A. and Garcia-Meca, E. (2020). Corporate governance and its implications for sustainability reporting quality in Latin American business groups. *Journal of Cleaner Production*, 260(1), A. 121142. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jclepro.2020.121142
22. Crosby, D. A. (1992). Civilization and its dissents: Moral pluralism and political order. *Journal of Social Philosophy*, *23*(2), pp. 111-126. https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1467-9833.1992.tb00296.x
23. Davari, A. and Rezazadeh, A. (2013). Structural equation modeling with PLS. *Tehran: Jahad University*, 215(2), pp. 224.
24. Davis, J., Hecht, G. and Perkins, J. (2003). Social behaviors, enforcement, and tax compliance dynamics. *The Accounting Review*, 78(1), pp. 39–69
25. De Waal, F. (1996). *Good natured: The origins of right and wrong in humans and other animals.* MA: Harvard University Press, London, England
26. Deng, X., Kang, J. K. and Low, B. S. (2013). Corporate social responsibility and stakeholder value maximization: Evidence from mergers. *Journal of Financial Economics*, 110(1), pp. 87-109. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jfineco.2013.04.014
27. Elkington, J. (1998). Partnerships from cannibals with forks: The triple bottom line of 21st-century business. *Environmental Quality Management*, 8(1), pp. 37-51. https://doi.org/10.1002/tqem.3310080106
28. Faúndez-Ugalde, A., Toledo-Zúñiga, P. and Castro-Rodríguez, P. (2022). Tax Sustainability: Tax Transparency in Latin America and the Chilean Case. *Sustainability*, 14(4), A. 2107. https://doi.org/10.3390/su14042107
29. Fornell, C. and Larcker, D. F. (1981). Evaluating structural equation models with unobservable variables and measurement error. Journal of Marketing Research, 18(1), pp. 5-39
30. Freedman, J. (2003). Tax and corporate responsibility. *Tax Journal*, 695(2), pp. 1-4. https://doi.org/10.1108/SRJ-0056
31. Freeman, R. E. (2010). Strategic management: A stakeholder approach. Cambridge university press. Boston, MA: Pitman.
32. Freeman, R. E., Harrison, J. S., Wicks, A. C., Parmar, B. L. and De Colle, S. (2010). Stakeholder theory: The state of the art. Cambridge University Press: New York, NY, USA, pp. 235–264. https://doi.org/10.1080/19416520.2010.495581
33. Freise, A., Link, S., Mayer, S., (2008). Taxation and corporate governance – The state of the art. In: Schön, W. (Ed.), Tax and Corporate Governance. Springer-Verlag, Berlin Heidelberg. Berlin. https://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.877900
34. Fuadah, L. L., Dewi, K., Mukhtaruddin, M., Kalsum, U. and Arisman, A. (2022). The relationship between sustainability reporting, E-commerce, firm performance and tax avoidance with organizational culture as moderating variable in small and medium enterprises in palembang. *Sustainability*, 14(7), A. 3738. https://doi.org/10.3390/su14073738
35. Gillet, C. (2012). A study of sustainability verification practices: the French case. *Journal of Accounting & Organizational Change*, 8(1), pp. 62-84. https://doi.org/10.1108/18325911211205748
36. Goldstein, N. J., Cialdini, R. B. and Griskevicius, V. (2008). A room with a viewpoint: Using social norms to motivate environmental conservation in hotels. *Journal of Consumer Research*, 35(3), pp. 472-482. https://doi.org/10.1086/586910
37. Hanno, D. M. and Violette, G. R. (1996). An analysis of moral and social influences on taxpayer behavior. *Behavioral Research in Accounting*, 8(1), pp. 57–75
38. Hoi, C. K., Wu, Q. and Zhang, H. (2013). Is corporate social responsibility (CSR) associated with tax avoidance? Evidence from irresponsible CSR activities. *The Accounting Review*, 88(6), pp.

2025-2059. https://doi.org/10.2308/accr-50544
39. Jamshidi, R., Barzegar, B. and Mohseni, A. (2022). Developing A Model To Improve The Quality of Tax Audits. *Iranian Journal of Accounting, Auditing and Finance*, 6(3), pp. 73-91. https://doi.org/10.22067/ijaaf.2022.42038
40. Jia, J. and Li, Z. (2022). Corporate sustainability, earnings persistence and the association between earnings and future cash flows. *Accounting & Finance*, 62(1), pp. 299-336. https://doi.org/10.1111/acfi.12791
41. Jimenez, P. and Iyer, G. S. (2016). Tax compliance in a social setting: The influence of social norms, trust in government, and perceived fairness on taxpayer compliance. *Advances in Accounting*, 34, pp. 17-26. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.adiac.2016.07.001
42. Kallgren, C. A., Reno, R. R. and Cialdini, R. B. (2000). A focus theory of normative conduct: When norms do and do not affect behavior. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, 26(8), pp. 1002–1012. https://doi.org/10.1177/01461672002610009
43. Kantabutra, S. and Ketprapakorn, N. (2020). Toward a theory of corporate sustainability: A theoretical integration and exploration. *Journal of Cleaner Production*, 270(1), A. 122292. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jclepro.2020.122292
44. Kwakye, T. O., Welbeck, E. E., Owusu, G. M. Y. and Anokye, F. K. (2018). Determinants of intention to engage in Sustainability Accounting & Reporting (SAR): the perspective of professional accountants. *International Journal of Corporate Social Responsibility*, 3(1), pp. 1-13. https://doi.org/10.1186/s40991-018-0035-2
45. Lanis, R. and Richardson, G. (2012). Corporate social responsibility and tax aggressiveness: a test of legitimacy theory. *Accounting, Auditing & Accountability Journal*, 26(1), pp. 75-100. https://doi.org/10.1108/09513571311285621
46. Martin, A. D. and Hadley, D. J. (2008). Corporate environmental non-reporting–a UK FTSE 350 perspective. *Business Strategy and the Environment*, 17(4), pp. 245-259. https://doi.org/10.1002/bse.518
47. Mondal, A. (2021). An empirical study in sustainability reporting practices of Indian small and medium-sized enterprises. *Journal of Commerce & Accounting Research*, 10(1), pp. 67–76. http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3801133
48. Naciti, V. (2019). Corporate governance and board of directors: The effect of a board composition on firm sustainability performance. *Journal of Cleaner Production*, 237, A. 117727. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jclepro.2019.117727
49. Nilipour A (2016). Sustainability Reporting Assurance: Exploratory Evidence in New Zealand. A thesis submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy. Lincoln University, Pennsylvania
50. Ostas, D., (2004). Cooperate, comply, or evade? A corporate executive's social responsibilities with regard to law. *American Business Law Journal*. 41, pp. 559–594
51. Özsözgün Çalişkan, A. (2014). How accounting and accountants may contribute in sustainability? *Social Responsibility Journal*, 10(2), pp. 246-267. https://doi.org/10.1108/SRJ-04-2012-0049
52. Park, C. G., and Hyun, J. K. (2003). Examining the determinants of tax compliance by experimental data: A case of Korea. *Journal of Policy Modeling*, *25*(8), pp. 673-684. https://doi.org/10.1016/S0161-8938(03)00075-9
53. Rezac, R. and L. Urofsky. (2011). The History of Tax Ethics. Working paper: Texas Woman's University. Houston, Texas
54. Romero, S., Ruiz, S. and Fernandez-Feijoo, B. (2019). Sustainability reporting and stakeholder engagement in Spain: Different instruments, different quality. *Business Strategy and the Environment*, 28(1), pp. 221-232. https://doi.org/10.1002/bse.2251

55. Rose, J. M. (2007). Corporate directors and social responsibility: Ethics versus shareholder value. *Journal of Business Ethics*, 73, pp. 319-331.
56. Scholes, M. S., Wolfson, M. A., Erickson, M., Maydew, E. and Shevlin, T. (2014). *Taxes & business strategy*. A Planning Approach, third ed. Prentice-Hall, Upper Saddle River, NJ
57. Shafer, W. E. and Lucianetti, L. (2018). Machiavellianism, stakeholder orientation, and support for sustainability reporting. *Business Ethics: A European Review*, 27(3), pp. 272-285. https://doi.org/10.1111/beer.12187
58. Singhapakdi, A., Kraft, K.L., Vitell, S.J. and Rallapalli, K.C. (1995), The perceived importance of ethics and social responsibility on organizational effectiveness: a survey of marketers. *Journal of the Academy of Marketing Science*, 23(1), pp. 49-56
59. Solomon, A. and Lewis, L. (2002). Incentives and disincentives for corporate environmental disclosure. *Business Strategy and the Environment*, 11(3), pp. 154–169. https://doi.org/10.1002/bse.328
60. Timbate, L. (2023). CSR and corporate taxes: Substitutes or complements? *BRQ Business Research Quarterly*, 26(4), pp. 327-346. https://doi.org/10.1177/23409444211002218
61. Valente, M. (2012). Theorizing firm adoption of sustaincentrism. *Organization Studies*, 33(4), pp. 563-591. https://doi.org/10.1177/0170840612443455
62. Velte, P. (2023). Which institutional investors drive corporate sustainability? A systematic literature review. *Business Strategy and the Environment*, 32(1), pp. 42-71. https://doi.org/10.1002/bse.3117
63. Weber, M. (2008). The business case for corporate social responsibility: A company-level measurement approach for CSR. *European Management Journal*, 26(4), pp. 247-261. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.emj.2008.01.006
64. Wenzel, M. (2004). An analysis of norm processes in tax compliance. *Journal of Economic Psychology*, 25(2), pp. 213-228. https://doi.org/10.1016/S0167-4870(02)00168-X
65. Wenzel, M. (2005). Motivation or rationalisation? Causal relations between ethics, norms and tax compliance. *Journal of Economic Psychology*, 26(4), pp. 491-508. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.joep.2004.03.003
66. Zhang, J. (2017). Users’ perceptions of the drivers for corporate sustainability disclosures made by Chinese listed companies. Theses: Doctorates and Masters, Edith Cowan University, Joondalup, Australia.