

Submission I (the paper was also sent)

- (i) type of submission: 'Contributed' (route b)
- (ii) title of paper: "A cross-country analysis of the risk factors for depression at the micro and macro level"
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- (vi) text of the abstract:

Past research has provided evidence of the role of some personal characteristics (age, gender, religion, etc.) as risk factors for depression. However, few researches examined jointly the specific impact of each characteristic and whether country characteristics (economic performance and others environmental factors) change the probability of being depressed. In general, this is due to the use of single-country databases. The aim of this paper is to extend previous findings by employing a much larger dataset and including the above-mentioned country effects.

We estimate probit models with country effects (model I) and we also explore linkages between specific environmental factors and depression (model II includes variables such as Gross Domestic Product per capita and GINI index). The dataset for this research comes from the 2007 GALLUP Public Opinion Poll that allows us to consider a large and widely heterogeneous set of micro-data.

Findings indicate that depression is positively related to being a woman, adulthood, divorce, widowhood, unemployment and low income. Moreover, we provide evidence of the significant association between economic performance and depression. Inequality raises the probability of being depressed, specially, for those living in urban areas. Finally, some population's characteristics facilitate depression (age distribution and religious affiliation).