

[PDF] Qualitative Comparative Analysis (QCA) And Configurational Thinking In Management Studies

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Description:

This study was awarded the *Preis des Präsidiums für ausgezeichnete Dissertationen der Universität Paderborn* as well as the *Preis der Unternehmergruppe Ostwestfalen für hervorragende Dissertationen*.

Qualitative comparative analysis (QCA) - especially its fuzzy set version - has emerged as a new methodological tool in management studies which is ideally suited to test configurational theories. For the first time, the peculiarities of QCA in large-N designs are comprehensively analysed. Based on a systematic compilation of 145 empirical QCA studies valuable insights for the use of QCA as a quantitative technique are presented. For example, an innovative formula is developed which can substantially improve future model specifications. In a next step, the potential of QCA in management research is outlined by tracing configurational theories in a range of disciplines including strategy, HRM, marketing, and international business. This *tour d'horizon* through management studies highlights the wide application area of the methodology. Finally, an illustrative study is conducted using the fuzzy set version of QCA.

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