

## **INSIGHT ON RISE AND FALL OF PYRAMID SCHEMES IN ALBANIA, 1997**

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### **ABSTRACT**

*By the beginning of 1997, just as the world celebrated one year of peace in Bosnia, another Balkan state, Albania, plunged into crisis. Shortly after it broke up, government authority collapsed, and the state fell into anarchy as marauding gangs took control of several cities. International forces were eventually called in to help provide humanitarian assistance, control lawlessness, and prepare for new elections.*

*This study tries to analyse how this convulsion in Albania was triggered by a collapse in shady pyramid investment schemes, while its root causes were decades of economic mismanagement and political corruption. It also makes an attempt to reveal how these developments influenced Albania's performance in terms of economic, social and political aspect, how they affected Albania's road towards democratization and what was the role and impact of international actors in such developments. In the process of scientific research, it is used the methodology of getting familiar with different sources, from various perspectives, drawing a qualitative approach, while retaining objectivity and critical approach to come to genuine and scientific analysis, interpretations and assessments.*

**KEYWORDS:** *Pyramid Schemes, Crisis, Economic and Political Development, International Actors*

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