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Citation: Kyriakou, I. ORCID: 0000-0001-9592-596X, Pantelous, A. A., Sermpinis, G. and Zenios, S. A. (2019). Preface: application of operations research to financial markets. *Annals of Operations Research*, doi: 10.1007/s10479-019-03400-1

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Link to published version: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s10479-019-03400-1>

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Preface: Application of Operations Research to Financial Markets

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This special issue of the *Annals of Operations Research* comprises a selection of papers from various worldwide researchers in the field. We encouraged submissions from the 3rd Symposium on Quantitative Finance and Risk Analysis (QFRA) held in June 2017 at the island of Corfu in Greece, although the call for papers was open to all researchers in the field.

We received a total of 41 submissions and, following a thorough peer-review process, we selected 18 papers to include in this special volume. The published papers cover a wide range of operations research applications in finance constituting a subtle blend of theory, practice, implementation, and empirical studies. In particular, the accepted papers bring de novo contributions to problems relating to asset pricing, estimation, forecasting, portfolio selection and optimization, trading strategies and financial risks.

We would like to thank all the authors who submitted their valuable papers to this special volume. We extend our gratitude to all the referees for their devotion and time for reading, assessing and providing high-quality reports for the papers they reviewed, which definitely helped the authors enhance their papers and us make final decisions. Finally, we would like to thank the Editor-in-Chief, *Professor Endre Boros*, for giving us the opportunity to edit this special issue, as well as the Publications Managers, *Katie D'Agosta* and *Ann Pulido*, for their assistance in all editorial matters.