

# The Effect of Normative Commitment on Intention to Stay at Work: An Application in the Aviation Sector

Ahmet Deniz (Corresponding author)

Assist. Professor, Istanbul Gelisim University, Faculty of Applied Sciences, Department of Aviation Management

34310 Avcılar, İstanbul/Turkey

E-mail: ahdeniz@gelisim.edu.tr

Orcid: 0000-0002-3878-6331

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## **Abstract**

Normative commitment is defined as the extent to which an individual adheres to norms at work. The intention to stay at work indicates how long the individual plans to stay in their current job. A high level of normative commitment indicates that the individual adheres strongly to organizational and social norms, which may positively affect the intention to stay at work. The extant literature indicates that normative commitment, which arises from a sense of moral duty or perceived obligation to the organization, can significantly influence an individual's decision to continue employment with the organization. The objective of this study is to investigate the impact of normative commitment on work retention intentions.

A total of 567 individuals employed in the aviation sector at IGA (Istanbul Ground Airport) were surveyed. The correlation analysis revealed a highly significant positive relationship between normative commitment and intention to stay at work, with r=0.718 (p<0.05 significance level). The regression analysis demonstrated that normative commitment exerts an effect on intention to stay at work ( $\beta=0.753$ ; p<0.05). The results of the t-test and ANOVA on normative commitment and intention to stay at work revealed significant differences between gender, status, age, education, and working hours at the p<0.05 significance level.

**Keywords:** normative commitment, intention to stay at work, organizational behavior, management and strategy, aviation sector

#### 1. Introduction

Organizational commitment is a multifaceted concept that encompasses various dimensions,



including affective, continuance, and normative commitment. In particular, normative commitment represents an employee's sense of obligation to the organization, stemming from social and cultural norms or a sense of moral duty. Normative commitment, which arises from an individual's belief in the moral or ethical obligations to remain with an organization, represents a compelling area of study. In the context of employee retention, it is of paramount importance to comprehend the manner in which this form of commitment affects an employee's intention to stay in their current role.

Employee retention is critical to the stability and growth of an organization, as well as to overall productivity and morale. As such, it is paramount for organizations to gain a deeper understanding of the factors that influence intent to stay in a job. This is particularly important for those seeking to cultivate a loyal and committed workforce. Empirical evidence suggests that normative commitment has a positive impact on intention to stay at work. Therefore, it is paramount for employers to implement policies that strengthen employees' normative commitment and shape the organizational culture in a way that is consistent with this commitment. This can potentially ensure job continuity by increasing employees' intention to stay.

However, there is considerable disagreement among scholars as to the impact of normative commitment on intention to stay. Some scholars have proposed that normative commitment may result in employees feeling "trapped" at work, leading them to forego alternative opportunities. In this context, employees may not experience genuine satisfaction as they adhere to social norms and organizational expectations. Moreover, some studies have indicated that the relationship between normative commitment and intention to stay is not particularly strong, and that the effect of other variables is more determinative. For example, factors such as an individual's career development, working conditions, and leadership style may also influence the intention to stay. Normative commitment, in isolation, may not provide a comprehensive explanation. Consequently, further research employing diverse methodologies is required to ascertain the definitive impact of normative commitment on intention to stay. In this way, a more balanced perspective can be provided by considering both the positive effects of normative commitment and its potential negative effects.

The objective of this study is to examine the relationship between normative commitment and work retention intention. By examining the impact of normative commitment on employees' intentions to stay in their current roles, this study contributes to the existing body of knowledge on employee retention and organizational commitment. An understanding of the influence of normative commitment can provide valuable insights for human resource management practices and contribute to the development of strategies aimed at improving employee retention.

# 2. Literature Review and Previous Studies

A substantial body of research has been conducted on the relationship between organizational commitment and employee retention (Sahi & Mahajan, 2014). The concept of organizational commitment has been extensively studied in the fields of management and psychology (Angeline, 2009). Normative commitment, one of the subcomponents of organizational commitment, is based on a sense of obligation to stay in the organization (Muthuvelo & Rose, 2005). Normative commitment can be defined as an internal drive that compels employees to



stay loyal to their organization. This sense of moral obligation may have its roots in the organization's investment in the employee's professional growth, the employee's internalization of the organization's values, or a general sentiment of gratitude towards the employer (Murray et al., 1990).

Normative commitment, or the sense of obligation and loyalty towards an organization, has a significant impact on an individual's intention to stay in their position (Vicary & Jones, 2017). This is particularly the case when employees feel a profound moral obligation to fulfill their commitments and uphold the norms and values of the organization. In other words, employees with a strong normative commitment to their organization are more likely to have a higher intention to stay in their job (Davis, 2003). Normative commitment serves as a moral compass for employees, guiding their decisions and actions in alignment with the organization's values (Koppenborg & Klingsieck, 2022). Moreover, normative commitment can be influenced by external factors, such as social norms and peer pressure.

Intention to stay at work, as well as the long-term commitment of employees to continue working at the workplace and to continue performing their current roles, is a key factor in organizational success (Johari et al., 2012). Intention to stay in one's position at work is the result of a complex interplay between individual, organizational, and environmental factors (S &z et al., 2009). These factors collectively influence an employee's willingness to continue in their current role. Özel (2014) defines this willingness as a combination of intrinsic and extrinsic factors.

Although business managers seek employees who are loyal to the company, employees who are loyal to the company have expectations and requests (such as a competitive salary, bonuses, favorable working conditions, job security, the opportunity to demonstrate their talents and creativity, being valued, gaining respect, the possibility of promotion, and the right to retirement) from the company in order to remain employed. If an employee perceives that the organization meets or will meet his or her expectations and desires in return for the service he or she provides, the employee is more likely to remain with the organization (Steil et al., 2018). Consequently, for the employee, the fulfillment of expectations and desires is not the sole determining factor in their decision to remain in the organization; the level of perception that these will be met in the future is also a significant aspect (Zedef, 2017).

The retention of employees is a matter of significant concern for organizations. An understanding of the factors that influence work retention intention is of vital importance for the development of effective retention strategies (Mowday, 1984). Research has consistently demonstrated that normative commitment is positively correlated with a range of work-related outcomes, including job satisfaction, job performance, and organizational citizenship behaviors. Moreover, research has demonstrated that normative commitment is a significant predictor of employees' intention to stay with their organization (Menezes et al., 2015). Individuals who demonstrate a robust sense of responsibility and dedication to their organization are more likely to desire to remain employed there. Those with high normative commitment may perceive leaving the organization as conflicting with their ethical beliefs and societal norms. Consequently, normative commitment can be a crucial factor in determining an employee's intention to stay with their current employer (Nuo & Hee, 2020).

The extant literature indicates that normative commitment exerts a positive influence on an



employee's intention to stay with their organization (Harini et al., 2020). Those with a robust sense of obligation and duty towards their employer are more likely to demonstrate a stronger intention to stay in their current position (Liu, 2022). A number of empirical studies have provided evidence to support this relationship. A study of 505 Australian firefighters conducted by Smith et al. demonstrated that normative commitment was a significant predictor of employees' intentions to stay with the organization. Moreover, a meta-analysis conducted by Meyer et al. revealed a weighted average correlation of -0.23 between normative commitment and turnover intention, indicating a moderate negative relationship. The findings indicate that employees who demonstrate a strong sense of obligation and duty towards their organization are more likely to express a greater intention to stay in their current position. The implications of these results are significant for organizational management practices and contribute to the development of strategies aimed at improving employee retention (Liu, 2022). These findings indicate that employees who perceive a moral obligation to their organization are more likely to express a stronger intention to stay in their current roles. This relationship can be attributed to the fact that individuals with high normative commitment may perceive leaving the organization as a violation of their ethical principles or as an act of betrayal towards the organization that has invested in them (Iverson & Buttigieg, 1999; Somers, 2009). Moreover, the leadership style employed within the organization can influence the strength of the relationship between normative commitment and job retention intention. A supportive and empowering leadership style may enhance the effect of normative commitment on job retention intention, while an authoritarian or unsupportive leadership style may attenuate this relationship (Pino-Ortega et al., 2021).

It is of paramount importance to recognize that the strength of the relationship between normative commitment and intention to stay may fluctuate contingent on the context and the distinctive attributes of the organization and its employees (Uhabakin & Titov, 2021). Although existing research indicates a positive impact of normative commitment on job retention intention, it is essential to consider potential moderating factors that could influence this relationship. A number of factors have been proposed as potential moderators of the relationship between normative commitment and intention to stay. These include individual career development, working conditions, and leadership style (Jensen, 2012). For example, an employee's perception of their career development opportunities within the organization may interact with their normative commitment. Individuals who feel a strong sense of obligation towards the organization but perceive limited career growth prospects may be less inclined to stay with the organization despite their normative commitment (Sahi & Mahajan, 2014). For example, an employee's perception of their career growth opportunities within the organization may significantly influence their intention to stay in their position. If they perceive limited prospects for advancement or development, their normative commitment may have a diminished effect on their intention to stay in the job. In a similar vein, the quality of working conditions, including factors such as workload, work-life balance, and workplace support, can also play a pivotal role in shaping employees' intentions to stay in their roles (Cho et al., 2009).

## 3. Methodology

In order to determine the effect of normative commitment on intention to stay at work, this



research was conducted on the basis of a relational survey model with aviation sector employees, using convenience sampling on a voluntary basis. It is well documented that IGA (Istanbul Ground Airport) in this sector employs 36,000 individuals. In this context, it can be posited that the data set comprising 605 individuals exhibits universesample compatibility (B üy ük özt ürk, 2007). The data set was constructed using data obtained from 605 employees in the aviation sector via Google Forms, email, and face-to-face interactions.

In addition to the data generated from the demographic statements, two scales were employed in the study. Normative Commitment Scale, developed by Meyer & Allen (1997), was employed as a source for the normative commitment component of the scale. This consisted of six statements. In order to assess the employees' intention to stay at work, a three-statement scale developed by Gellatly, Meyer, & Luchak (2006) was utilized. Additionally, the questionnaire included five demographic questions. A total of 605 aviation sector employees completed the questionnaire, which included nine statements, five Likert-type statements (1 = Strongly Disagree, 5 = Strongly Agree), and five statements containing demographic information. However, 38 incomplete and non-normally distributed questionnaires were excluded from the analysis, leaving 567 questionnaires for consideration.

The analysis of the study was conducted using the SPSS (23.0) statistical software package. In order to ascertain statistical significance, a p-value of less than 0.05 was sought. A series of statistical analyses were conducted to evaluate the data in accordance with the hypotheses, including reliability analysis, exploratory factor analysis, t-test, ANOVA, correlation, and regression analyses. Exploratory factor analysis was conducted on the two scales utilized in the research, employing oblique rotation, factor loadings exceeding 0.50, and the principal components extraction method.

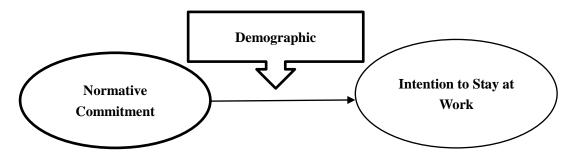


Figure 1. Research Model

## Research Hypothesis;

H<sub>1</sub>: Normative commitment has a significant effect on intention to stay at work

H<sub>2</sub>: There is a significant difference between demographic variables and normative commitment

H<sub>3</sub>: There is a significant difference between demographic variables and intention to stay at work

#### 4. Results

The analysis yielded a significant positive correlation between normative commitment and



intention to stay at work (Harini et al., 2020). Jaros (2017) demonstrated that employees with higher levels of normative commitment were more likely to express an intention to stay with their organization.

This section includes demographic information on 567 IGA employees in the data set suitable for analysis, reliability analyses of the scales used, frequency distributions, regression analyses, and their interpretation. Furthermore, descriptive statistical analyses of the demographic variables are presented.

Table 1. Demographic Characteristics

Gender	n	%	Education	n	%
Female	265	46,7	Primary edu.	29	5,1
Male	302	53,3	High school	99	17,5
Status	n	%	Assoc. degree	166	29,3
White-collar	288	50,8	Undergraduate	181	31,9
Blue-collar	279	49,2	Post-graduate	92	16,2
Age	n	%	Work time	n	%
18-23	93	16,4	1-5 Years	215	37,9
24-43	322	56,8	6-10 Years	98	17,3
44 and above	152	26,8	11-15 Years	176	31,0
			16 and above	78	13,8

The majority of IGA employees who participated in the study were male (53.3%), white-collar (50.8%), and undergraduate (31.9%). Additionally, 37.9% of them had 1-5 years of work experience, and 56.8% of them were in the 24-43 age group.

The skewness and kurtosis values of the scales in the study demonstrated a normal distribution, with values ranging from -3 to +3.

Table 2. Reliability Analysis

Normative Com. Sca.		Int.to Stay at Work Scale	
Cronbach's Alpha	n	Cronbach's Alpha	n
0,976	6	0,980	3

Upon analysis of the reliability of the normative commitment scale and the intention to stay at work scale, it was found that they exhibited high reliability, with Cronbach's alpha values of 0.976 and 0.980, respectively.



Table 3. KMO and Bartlett's test

Normative Com. S	Int.to Stay at Work Sca.		
Kaiser_Meyer_Ol	0,892		
Bartlett's-Test of-Sphericity	Approx. Chi.Square	2469,322	2256,764
	Df	20	10
	Sig.	0,000	0,000

The KMO factor analysis indicates that, although the accepted limit for suitability and sampling adequacy analysis is 0.50, values between 0.80 and 1.00 indicate a high degree of reliability.

The results of the KMO Bartlett test indicate that the normative commitment scale (0.904) and intention to stay at work scale (0.892) are suitable for factor analysis, as the sample is of a high quality.

Table 4. Normative Commitment Scale Factor Analysis

	Components
Statements	1
NCS04	,913
NCS03	,891
NCS05	,864
NCS01	,816
NCS02	,762
NCS06	,701

The item loadings of the normative commitment scale were found to range between 0.701 and 0.913 in six statements, indicating a single-factor structure.

Table 5. Factor Analysis of Intention to Stay at Work Scale

	Components
Statements	1
ISWS02	,899
ISWS03	,864
ISWS01	,823

The item loadings of the intention to stay at work scale were found to vary between 0.823 and 0.899 in its three statements, indicating a single factor structure.



Table 6. T Test (Gender, Status)

Gender	Gender	N	Averg.	S.S.	p
NORM_COM	Female	265	1,8054	,80622	0.000
	Male	302	2,3678	,92140	0,000
INT_STAY_W	Female	265	4,4036	,70120	0.000
	Male	302	3,9874	,90852	0,000
Status	Status	N	Averg.	S.S.	p
NORM_COM	White-collar	288	2,1756	,90420	0.000
	Blue-collar	279	2,1073	,89261	0,000
INT_STAY_W	White-collar	288	3,8573	,89357	0,000
	Blue-collar	279	4,6928	,60853	0,000

According to the table, it is found that there is a significant positive difference in normative commitment at p < 0.05 significance level for male employees compared to female employees. According to the table, it is determined that there is a significant positive difference at p < 0.05 level of significance between white-collar employees and blue-collar employees in normative commitment.

According to the table, it is found that there is a significant positive difference at p < 0.05 level of significance between female employees and male employees in terms of intention to stay at work. It has been determined that there is a significant positive difference at p < 0.05 level of significance for blue-collar employees compared to white-collar employees in terms of intention to stay at work.

Table 7. Multiple Comparison ANOVA (Age, Education, Duration of work in the organisation)

Age		Sum of squar.	df	Mean squar.	F	Sig.
NORM_COM Inter-group		75,340	2	37,670	55,537	,000
	In-group	381,540	565	,847		
	Total	456,880	567			
INT_STAY_W	Inter-group	58,560	2	29,280	44,692	,000
	In-group	368,525	565	,818		
	Total	427,085	567			
Education		Sum of squar.	df	Mean squar.	F	Sig.
NORM_COM	Inter-group	59,320	4	14,830	20,889	,000
	In-group	397,562	563	,887		
	Total	456,882	567			
INT_STAY_W	Inter-group	21,520	4	5,380	7,428	,000
	In-group	405,563	563	,905		
	Total	427,083	567			



Duration of work in the org.		Sum of squar.	df	Mean squar.	F	Sig.
NORM_COM	Inter-group	156,396	3	52,132	97,375	,000
	In-group	300,483	564	,668		
	Total	456,879	567			
INT_STAY_W	Inter-group	145,755	3	48,585	96,927	,000
	In-group	281,328	564	,626		
	Total	427,083	567			

The ANOVA test is employed to ascertain whether the means of multiple sample groups diverge at the specified significance level (Kalaycı, 2010, p. 131).

As indicated in the table, there is a statistically significant difference at the p < 0.05 level between the age, education, and working time of the participants in normative commitment.

Furthermore, it was determined that there was a statistically significant difference at the p < 0.05 level between the age, education, and working time of the participants in terms of their intention to stay at work.

Table 8. Correlation Analysis

Correlation		NORM_COM	INT_STAY	
NORM_COM	Pearson Correlation	1	,718**	
	Sig. (2-tailed)		,000	
	N	567	567	
INT_STAY_W	Pearson Correlation	,718**	1	
	Sig. (2-tailed)	,000		
	N	567	567	

Correlation provides preliminary information that can be used to identify the causal relationship between two variables. In correlation analysis, the correlation coefficient, which indicates the existence of a relationship, is represented by the letter "r" and takes a value between -1 and +1 (Gürbüz & Şahin, 2014).

The results of the correlation analysis indicate a positive and significant relationship between normative commitment and intention to stay at work, with a correlation coefficient of r = 0.718 and a p-value less than 0.05.

Table 9. Regression Analysis

Model		Non-Standard		Standardise	+	Ci~	Б	$\mathbb{R}^2$
1	viouei	В	S.H.	Beta	l	Sig.	Г	K
	(Stationary)	6,742	0,059		98,301	0,000	cc2 50.1	0.500
	NORM_COM	0,753	0,038	0,718	37,189	0,000	663,594	0,598
8	a. Dependent: ISW=6,742+(0,753*NC)							



In analysing the interaction between variables, the method used to explain the change in one of the two variables on the other is called regression (Güriş & Çağlayan, 2005, p. 199). In this analysis;

R<sup>2</sup>: Hhow much of the change in the dependent variable is explained by the independent variable,

F: Whether the regression analysis is significant (p < 0.05),

β: It was used to test the effect of the independent variable on the dependent variable by keeping the effect of the independent variable constant.

As a result of the analysis, normative commitment and intention to stay at work model is statistically significant (F = 663,594; p < 0.05). The coefficient of determination  $R^2 = 0.598$  and 59.8% of the change in intention to stay is explained by normative commitment.

Table 10. Test of Hypothesis

Hypothesis	Conclusion					
H <sub>1</sub> : Normative commitment has a significant effect on intention to stay at work						
H <sub>2</sub> : There is a significant difference between demographic variables and normative commitment	Accepted					
H <sub>3</sub> : There is a significant difference between demographic variables and intention to stay at work	Accepted					

# 5. Discussion and Suggestions for Future Studies

This study aims to determine the effect of normative commitment of aviation sector employees on their intention to stay at work. For this purpose, 605 aviation sector employees working at IGA were reached through convenience sampling method on the basis of relational survey. The data set was formed with 567 aviation sector employees by removing 38 incomplete and faulty questionnaires. The correlation analysis between normative commitment and intention to stay at work revealed a positive, highly significant relationship with r = 0.718, at p < 0.05 significance level. The regression analysis conducted to analyse the effect of normative commitment on intention to stay at work revealed a positive effect ( $\beta = 0.753$ ; p < 0.05). The findings of this study contribute to the existing body of literature on normative commitment and employee retention. The results are consistent with previous research indicating that normative commitment, which reflects a sense of obligation to the organization, can be a significant predictor of an employee's intention to stay at their job (Harini et al., 2020).

It is important to note, however, that some studies have indicated that the impact of normative commitment on the intention to stay may not be as pronounced or straightforward as suggested by the current findings (Zainal et al., 2022). It is possible that other factors, such as job satisfaction, work motivation, working conditions, and career development opportunities, may also play a role in shaping an individual's intention to stay with an organization. Future research should investigate these potential moderating and mediating factors in order to gain



a more comprehensive understanding of the complex interplay between normative commitment, organizational factors, and employee retention intentions. Further research is necessary to elucidate the intricate relationships between these variables and to gain a more profound comprehension of the intricacies involved in employee retention.

Furthermore, the study focused on aviation sector employees and it would be useful to explore potential differences in the role of normative commitment across various sectors or job types.

Organizations' human resources departments can use a variety of policies to increase employees' normative commitment. However, keeping ethical concerns in mind, it is important that these policies focus on creating a work environment that employees truly value, rather than being manipulative.

First, organizational justice and transparency should be increased. This includes establishing fair wage policies, designing transparent promotion and reward systems, and establishing open communication channels, especially with management.

Next, organizational identity and sense of belonging should be strengthened. In parallel, a strong corporate culture should be created, social responsibility projects should be developed and socialization of employees should be supported.

Finally, employees should be made to feel valued. For this purpose, appreciation and recognition programs should be established, personal and professional development opportunities should be provided and employees' opinions should be valued.

Normative commitment alone is not sufficient. This constitutes another limitation of the study. It is important to develop policies that nurture other types of commitment such as affective commitment and organizational commitment to ensure long-term commitment and motivation of employees.

To gain a full understanding of the dynamic nature of normative commitment and its multifaceted impact on employees' intentions to stay in their current jobs, it is necessary to conduct a comprehensive exploration of the internal and external factors that shape this relationship. While existing literature has provided valuable insights into the positive influence of normative commitment, further investigation into the evolving nature of this construct can provide a more comprehensive understanding of the complexities involved (Cobbe et al., 2023).

One aspect that warrants further investigation is the relationship between normative commitment and the psychological contract between employees and their organizations. The psychological contract is defined as the perceptions and beliefs regarding mutual obligations and commitments between employees and their employers. The alignment of employees' normative commitment with their perceived psychological contract has the potential to significantly influence their intentions regarding job retention. For example, if employees perceive a discrepancy between the organization's espoused values and their actual experiences within the workplace, it can diminish the impact of normative commitment on



their intentions to stay in their positions (Hausknecht et al., 2009).

Moreover, the role of organizational communication and transparency in shaping normative commitment cannot be overlooked. The effective communication of organizational values, mission, and purpose can foster a strong sense of normative commitment among employees. Conversely, opaque communication or inconsistent messaging may erode employees' sense of obligation and loyalty, thereby impacting their job retention intentions (Meirinhos et al., 2018).

A further dimension that merits consideration is the potential for interaction between normative commitment and organizational culture (Emurugat, 2018). Organizational cultures that exhibit ethical leadership, social responsibility, and inclusivity may enhance the salience of normative commitment, thereby reinforcing employees' intentions to remain with the organization. Conversely, toxic or dysfunctional organizational cultures may present obstacles to the manifestation of normative commitment in employees' retention decisions (Hausknecht et al., 2009). In addition, it is of the utmost importance to consider the potential cultural and contextual variations that may influence the impact of normative commitment on work retention intention. Research indicates that cultural values and societal norms can significantly shape individuals' attitudes towards commitment and retention in the workplace. Consequently, a cross-cultural investigation of normative commitment and its impact on work retention intention could yield valuable insights into the generalizability of these relationships across diverse cultural contexts (Froidevaux & Campos, 2023).

Moreover, the impact of external societal and industry-specific norms on normative commitment and work retention intention necessitates further investigation. The societal context within which an organization operates can influence employees' perceptions of normative commitment, which in turn affects the extent to which it drives their intentions to stay in their jobs. Similarly, industry-specific norms and practices may interact with normative commitment in distinct ways, influencing employees' retention decisions within their professional contexts (Hartmann & McLaughlin, 2018).

It is of the utmost importance that future research delves into these potential moderating factors in order to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the complexities involved in the relationship between normative commitment and work retention intention. By employing diverse methodologies to examine these moderating variables, a more nuanced and balanced perspective can be achieved, thereby contributing to a deeper comprehension of the interplay between normative commitment and work retention intention.

In addition to investigating moderating factors, future research could also benefit from examining the potential long-term effects of normative commitment on work retention intention. An investigation into the evolution of normative commitment over time and its implications for sustained work retention can provide a more comprehensive understanding of its impact on employee stability within organizations.

In light of these considerations, it is evident that a deeper understanding of normative commitment and its impact on work retention intention necessitates an exploration of the



intricate interplays of individual, organizational, and contextual factors (Poovaiah & Mathew, 2022). By addressing these intricate dynamics through rigorous empirical inquiry, researchers can contribute to the development of targeted interventions and strategies that foster a harmonious alignment between normative commitment and employees' intentions to sustain their employment within organizations (Poornima & Selvam, 2018).

In conclusion, while existing literature indicates a positive influence of normative commitment on work retention intention, further exploration of potential moderating factors, cultural influences, and long-term effects is necessary for a more thorough understanding of this complex relationship. By investigating these dimensions in greater depth, researchers can make valuable contributions to the development of strategies and policies aimed at promoting employee retention and organizational sustainability (Bode et al., 2015).

## 6. Conclusion

In summary, our study findings demonstrate a notable influence of normative commitment on the intention to stay in one's current role. The findings suggest that employees who perceive a strong sense of obligation and loyalty towards their organization are more likely to intend to stay in their current roles. This highlights the importance of cultivating and fostering normative commitment in the workplace to enhance employee retention and foster a positive work environment conducive to productivity and growth.

The present study offers a significant contribution to the existing body of knowledge on employee retention and organizational commitment by elucidating the pivotal role of normative commitment in shaping employees' intentions to stay with an organization. These findings can be utilized by human resource management professionals to develop and implement efficacious strategies for enhancing employee retention rates. In the future, organizations may find it advantageous to prioritize initiatives that aim to reinforce the normative commitment of their employees. This entails cultivating a sense of obligation and loyalty among employees, which in turn fosters a more stable and committed team. This approach can ultimately contribute to increased retention rates and overall organizational success.

It is therefore imperative for organizations to acknowledge the significance of normative commitment in shaping employees' intentions to stay in their roles. By fostering a culture that promotes and values commitment, organizations can create a supportive and motivating environment that encourages employees to stay in their positions. These factors, when combined with the cultivation of normative commitment, can contribute to the creation of a positive work environment and, subsequently, to an improvement in employee retention rates. It is therefore recommended that organizations prioritize talent management and employee engagement efforts in order to cultivate normative commitment and increase employee retention. In conclusion, normative commitment has been identified as a key factor influencing employees' intentions to stay in their roles. By prioritizing and fostering normative commitment, organizations can enhance employee retention rates and cultivate a positive work environment.



In conclusion, the cultivation of normative commitment within the workplace is of paramount importance for enhancing employee retention and creating a positive work environment. By acknowledging the significance of normative commitment and implementing strategies that reinforce it, organizations can enhance employee retention rates and cultivate a more resilient and dedicated workforce.

While normative commitment may indeed play a role in promoting job retention intention, it is essential to consider the potential drawbacks and opposing viewpoints. One opposing argument to the emphasis on normative commitment as a driver of job retention intention is the recognition of the limitations and complexities surrounding individuals' motivations to stay in their jobs.

Those who critique this approach argue that it may be too narrow in its focus on normative commitment as a determinant of work retention intention. They contend that other factors, such as compensation, career advancement opportunities, and workplace satisfaction, may also be significant. This perspective posits that employees' decisions to remain in their positions are influenced by a multitude of personal and professional considerations that extend beyond their sense of obligation and loyalty to the organization. To illustrate, an employee may decline to remain in their position if they receive a more lucrative offer of employment or if they encounter a toxic work environment. In such cases, their normative commitment may be insufficient to retain them in their current position.

Moreover, the argument is put forth that an undue emphasis on normative commitment may unwittingly perpetuate organizational cultures that exploit employees' sense of obligation for retention purposes, rather than addressing underlying systemic issues or fostering genuine employee well-being. This perspective underscores the necessity of a critical examination of the broader organizational dynamics and power structures that may influence employees' intentions to stay with the organization, rather than a sole reliance on normative commitment as a panacea for retention challenges.

Upon examination of these contrasting arguments, it becomes evident that while normative commitment may be a significant factor in understanding work retention intention, its influence should be situated within a broader framework. A framework that encompasses the multifaceted motivations and experiences of employees within the organizational context is therefore required. By acknowledging these contrasting viewpoints, researchers can contribute to a more comprehensive understanding of the factors influencing work retention intention and inform the development of comprehensive strategies for promoting employee stability and well-being within organizations.

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The data that support the findings of this study are available on request from the corresponding author. The data are not publicly available due to privacy or ethical restrictions.

## **Data sharing statement**

No additional data are available.

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