

INTRODUCTION

The emergence of the financial crisis in the United States, which initially took over the banking sector and gradually spread throughout the global economy (especially the most economically associated European countries), affected the financial management of enterprises, which was mostly observed in the absence of their liquidity. This situation has brought the economic crisis caused by changes in the global market, mainly associated with its significant reduction. It was reflected in limitation of the production of global corporations and other companies cooperating or competing with them on the global scale. As a consequence, the economic rules of spacial dimension influenced the development of business opportunities of various types of operators. Different determinants of spatial transformation systems, which have a function of focusing various businesses, often in a different way responded to global economic processes.

The works included in this volume refer to this current trend of research, and the authors present the results of their studies on the behavior of various operators representing the industrial sector. The introductory article presents the genesis of the global economic crisis, its impact on economic growth between countries as well as changes in behavior of individual departments of industry and global corporations (Z. Ziolo). It was assumed that they are the major factor for transformations taking place in different scales of spatial arrangements and individual companies.

The multifaceted approach to the effects of transformations and the global crisis was presented mainly in the articles of Russian researchers, who drew attention to the fundamental issues of rebuilding the Russian economy and its impact on global crisis. Analyzing the changes taking place in the area of Siberia, some phases were distinguished. They were primarily associated with the political and economic difficulties of the former Soviet Union, as well as with the collapse of its economy, difficulties in development of industry in this region in the early years of Russian independence, and the impact of the recession continuing global economic crisis (A. Jakobson). The economic crisis in the region of Siberia also influenced the changes in existing organizational structures of agricultural sector, which were set to reduce the disparities between the income of the population and the prices (E. Gafarova). The changes taking place in the economic structure of Russia have also affected the changes of network relationships between the selected branches of industry, which was presented on the example of changes in relations of building materials industry in Russia (N. M. Syssoeva, P. Sadovsky). Changing economic conditions in Russia have also affected the regional diversification of the IT sector. The intensification of its potential in economic space is related to the size and features of Russian economic centers, which are present mainly in metropolitan areas (J. Ładysz, A. Ładysz). Management system changes in Russia contributed to high polarization of the society, manifested in the emergence of a group of wealthy people who create new markets associated with the consumption of luxury goods. This new trend presents the traits of personality characteristic for the new elite (K. Lidin, M. E. Sumenkova).

The background of the crisis in Western Europe was different, as presented on the example of transformations of economic structures of regional systems in France (S. Dorocki). The global factors have influenced the increase in dynamics of more or less independent China's economy, which is expressed in intense growth of particular economic and technical areas of the country (W. Krupa). The economic crisis also affects different circumstances of creation of individual departments of industrial production, which is reflected in the growth slowdown (especially of the industries which use raw materials) and the emergence and development of advanced technology industries, referring to the information phase of civilization (T. Rachwał). It also affects changes in development of fish processing industry in Poland (P. Czapliński).

One of the major factors of development of global economy is automotive industry, which was marked by the strongest tendencies of change and growth of its economic as well as R&D potential. This is reflected in the significant role of this industry in economic development of Mexico and Brazil (M. Wojtowicz), Slovakia (P. Lizak), Czech Republic (O. Sery) and Poland (P. Lizak, P. Nowak). The intensification of the computerization process of the economy is primarily affected by transnational corporations, which allow changes in organization of technologies and management of production processes, as well as the development of communication. Its rapid development was partially inhibited by limiting the markets, which create main economic structures of the developed countries. It is illustrated in the studies concerning the development of IT companies: Panasonic (W. Kilar), Ericsson (P. Bonar) and Google (M. Boguś), which after years of dynamic development in times of crisis have limited their activities. The crisis situation evoked the research of new paths of development and strive for systematic improvement of competitive position in the shrinking market. This requires the use of path models and TQM system in diagnosing the market's position (A. Szymańska). The volume is closed with the article about the crisis facing social problems (T.T. Brzozowski).

We will be grateful to our readers for sending the notes and comments on the subjects undertaken in this research, as their feedback will contribute to improving the quality of the subsequent works published in a series of works of the Commission of Geography of Industry PTG.

Zbigniew Ziolo, Tomasz Rachwał