

INTRODUCTION

The variability of the environment induces changes in conditions in which people, economic entities, institutions and the entire economy function. For some of them, these processes cause a number of obstacles and disturbances, whereas, for others, they are an opportunity for new activities and solutions. Changes in the socio-economic environment can be caused by various phenomena, such as an economic crisis, a pandemic or other impulses.

In this issue of the journal, the authors refer to these concerns and raise the subject of the environmental changes' impact on traditional and modern industrial activity, but also on humans and the necessity to develop education. The latter is crucial, because it helps to find solutions in various types of situations and also in changing conditions.

In recent years, the COVID-19 pandemic has been a factor of many perturbations in the domestic and global economy. It is now possible to assess the impact of the pandemic from the perspective of the last three years, which has been undertaken in relation to industrial activities. Through the analysis of numerous indicators from industrial production and industrial entities, a synthetic indicator was constructed. The interpretation of the empirical data accepted for the studies indicated that during the pandemic, the regional spatial structure of the Polish industry did not undergo significant permanent transformations (P. Brezdeń).

Industrial policy is also being developed in relation to industrial policy and its evolution in various areas. Through analysis of the policy evolution, concerning restructuring of old industrial regions in Europe, the factors which build modern industrial policy in the European Union have been reviewed. The stages of this evolution and their characteristics have been outlined and linked to the search for growth reserves in the old industrial regions, facing changes in the development factors. Some of them can be considered incentives that unlock new approaches, mechanisms and methods of structural renovation in regions, while others create barriers. However, the industrial policy monitoring and its adaptation to changes in the environment, have an impact on its unbiased effectiveness. The author emphasises that nowadays, decarbonisation and the fair transformation framework for the post-carbon society, are the key trends in industrial evolution (O. Snigova).

The next article is of a theoretical nature; it presents the discussion about the concepts and positions of contemporary industrial changes, which is referred to as the Industrial Revolution 4.0. In the subject literature, this concept applies to the situation where the production is transferred to the digital level, which often leads to the shift of a part of economic activity to the virtual space. The author also points out that Industry 4.0 is associated with artificial intelligence (AI) and new ways of production system. Regardless of what aspect of the industrial revolution 4.0 we indicate, it is necessary to refer to the context of social and cultural changes, because more and more innovative infrastructure also leads to the alienation. The recommendations, resulting from this

analysis, include the concept of counteraction against the new form of human alienation in the economy, i.e., recommendations leading to inclusion (M. Zdun).

The newly observed changes in industry and society are also discussed in the next article, it is focused on the perception of driving forces, which determine the process of setting up a start-up by the Generation Z representatives in Poland. According to the research, the new technologies, investment funds, knowledge, experience and contacts with people setting up start-ups and managing them have the greatest impact on young people's enthusiasm for start-ups. What is interesting, they are only slightly motivated, for example, by institutional solutions or the fourth industrial revolution, which may result from a lack of understanding of the ideas and principles of some institutions. Therefore, it seems necessary to introduce education in this area, so that these underestimated powers could become helpful (A. Nigbor-Drożdż, W. Łukasiński).

The issue of the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on the education and acquisition of aviation skills in selected aeroclubs has been addressed. In this paper, the authors tried to determine the impact of the pandemic on the practical side of science in the field of acquisition and improvement of aviation skills in the aeroclubs tested. On this basis, it was found that despite the pandemic, there was an increase in demand for training on the glider flights (Hajduk-Stelmachowicz, Cecuła, Bełch, Szczygieł).

The next article refers to the issue of arrivals of tourists to the sightseeing tourism centres, based on the example of Chernivtsi in Ukraine. Taking into account the Russian aggression since 2014, the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the inclusion of the former residence of Bukovina metropolitans on the UNESCO list, the dynamics of the number of tourists visiting the former residence was analysed. Factors that influenced the variability of tourist flow were identified, and three periods of excursion activity were identified between 2000 and 2021. According to the conducted research, the occupation of Crimea by Russia had an impact on the redistribution of tourist traffic in Ukraine, especially during the May holidays. During the third period (2019–2020), there was a sharp decline in tourist traffic as the result of all activities global slowdown due to the COVID-19 pandemic, followed by the same dynamic growth (2020–2021) (O. Korol, H. Krul, O. Zaiachuk, M. Kostash).

The presented works refer interestingly to the processes in the global economy occurring in recent years, which have disturbed the functioning of industry and services. We encourage the readers and other authors to present their research results in this journal.

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