

INTRODUCTION

Contemporary processes of socio-economic changes are taking place under the influence of numerous factors, which are mainly connected to the society entering the information stage of its development, the crisis having a detrimental impact on economic and social development, as well as the changes in management systems of countries implementing the principles of the market economy. They influence individual sectors of an economy to a variable extent, a phenomenon which, on the one hand, manifests itself by the recession of a number of most commonly traditional sectors of production and services, and on the other, is expressed by the intensification in the activities of sectors especially representing advanced technology. These processes occur in the global socio-economic space with various intensity, which stems from diverse conditions of different scale spatial systems (European, national, regional, local) for inciting endogenic and attracting exogenic factors of development. To a certain extent, this tendency is referred to by individual articles dealing with the spatial diversity of chosen areas of economic life in the national and regional systems. They present the results of research work and the description of chosen issues, as well as the review of relevant literature pertaining to the subject matter.

What remains crucial for inciting the processes of national system development is, among others, creating conditions for innovative entrepreneurial activity development via increasing the expenditures on R&D, which essentially improves the competitiveness of the products offered (G. Nycz). The activity in this respect determines to a large extent the position of a given country in the ranking of knowledge-based economies (P. Nowak). An important role within this scope is played by conditions created by the business environment institutions as well as the quality of institutions supporting innovative activities of enterprises (J. Dominiak; A. Golejewska; S. Sanetra-Półgrabi).

In the process of socio-economic changes, a significant task is performed by the development of modern sectors which affect the level of economic development of countries and spatial systems (I. Rodinowa, U. Mizerovskaya), the flow of socio-psychological information streams (K. Lidin), as well as the application of new research techniques of spatial development of a city (K. Temurçin, G. Uluşar). The contemporary socio-economic development is taking place to a large extent as a result of increasing professional activity of the population as well as raising the level of its education and vocational training (O. Šerý, V. Toušek). In the post-industrial society stage, the role of individual sectors in the economies of many countries and regions change, which is influenced also by crisis (P. Mašloch). The economic transitions affect the attractiveness of spatial systems for realization of aspirations and life plans of population, whose manifestation are the changes of migration movements

(D. Nowotnik). Positive changes should have an impact on improving the quality of life of population and the possibility to shape a modern society (N. Batsun).

The presented works indicate a substantial diversification of spatial systems for the possibilities of implementing new management principles relating to the principles of the information society.

While recommending the next volume of *Studies of the Industrial Geography Commission of the Polish Geographical Society* to the attention of our readers, we would like to encourage your cooperation, and look forward to comments and suggestions, whose purpose is to improve the quality of subsequent volumes of the Journal.

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