Introduction

Transformation processes in industry and services, occurring globally, are marked with varied intensity in the transformation of spatial-sectoral structures of particular countries and regions. The speed and direction of the transformations to a large extent result from varied conditions of spatial structures and relations between them, which are formed under the influence of civilization development progress. These issues are most often considered with respect to: changes in the share of particular sectors in the general social, economic and cultural potential, spatial diversity of the industry and services potential, the role of global corporations in shaping the developmental impulses and the development of services.

In the global structure, these processes are determined by macroeconomic principles of development, which refer to functioning of the economy of a country, the European Union, or the world, but also by microeconomic principles, which govern the development of industry-service corporations, and by mesoeconomic principles, which determine the growth of particular sectors of economy, including industry and regional structures. In general, the degree of intensity of transformational processes in industry and services results from: the initial situation, determining the level of economic development, degree of modernity of production and services and their competitiveness, the civilizational development progressing towards information society and knowledge-based economy, changing conditions which affect the interaction between industry and services and the environment, relations between functionally diverse entities, and various competitiveness relations.

The papers included in the present volume are placed within this research area. They cover issues of development and conditions of industry and services transformations in selected countries. The presented research problems, investigated in Polish and foreign academic centres, point to diversity of processes occurring with varied intensity in the economic space of particular countries, of Europe and the world. It is evidenced in many interesting studies on industry and services transformational processes, conducted in the Irkutsk academic centre under the supervision of Professor Anatol Jakobson, and those carried out by Professor Vaclav Tousek's team at the University of Olomouc, as well as research conducted in the Polish centres.

On the background of social-economic and political changes in Russia, beneficial changes in the conditions for socio-economic development take place. This is illustrated by the papers concerning changes in economic-geographic development of Irkutsk (A. Jakobson – Irkutsk State Railway University), and changes in the development of spatial structure of Moscow(S. Elagin – Peoples' Friendship University of Russia), but also papers concerning changes in industry localisation in Central Europe (G. Lux – Hungarian Academy of Sciences – Centre for Regional Studies, Pécs; I. Rodionova, K. T. Kokuytseva – Peoples' Friendship

¹ Cf. Zioło Z., Uwarunkowania kształtowania się procesów transformacji przemysłu i usług, [in:] Procesy transformacji przemysłu i usług w regionalnych i krajowych układach przestrzennych,. Z. Zioło, T. Rachwał, eds., Prace Komisji Geografii Przemysłu, no. 15, Warszawa–Kraków.

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University of Russia) and the influence of marketing and technological links on the increase in territorial development effects (O. Freydman – Irkutsk State Railway University).

Cases of the influence of transformational processes on the development of innovativeness are presented on the example of teh Czech Republic and the Zlinski Region (T. Mintalova, M. Vancura, V. Tousek, M. Blažek – Palacky University in Olomouc, University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice).

European Union structures also undergo transformation, which is illustrated in the papers on the role of intellectual property in creating innovativeness in particular countries (W. Gierańczyk – Nicolas Copernicus University, Toruń) and on diverse level of economic growth in the light of a multimeasure analysis of development of economic space (S. Kurek – Pedagogical University, Kraków), as well as in the article on diversity of spatial-sectoral structure of Polish industry against the EU (T. Rachwał – Pedagogical University, Kraków).

With respect to integration of global economy, great significance is assigned to the current processes of production integration and location changes in automotive industry in France (S. Dorocki - Pedagogical University, Kraków), and the developing global industrial enterprises, e.g. of aviation industry – EMBRAER (M. Wojtowicz – Pedagogical University, Kraków) or IT – Ericsson (W. Kilar – Pedagogical University, Kraków). Corporations of this type also interact with the spatial-sectoral structure of the Polish industry, as is the case with the Coca Cola Company (M. Tkocz, J. Żydzik – University of Silesia, Katowice), or with Scania corporation (P. Czapliński, A. Stawarska – Akademia Pomorska, Słupsk). In these processes, crucial role is attributed to high-tech industries (M. Gurbała – Szkoła Główna Handlowa, Warszawa).

Economic transformation processes also have an effect on development of business sectors (N. Batsun – Irkutsk State Technical University), development of regional image (K.L. Lidin, M. A. Sumenkova – Irkutsk State Railway University), and on the increase in financial resources of the population, enabled by development of the tourist sector. This is illustrated by the papers on: formation of a tourist-recreational complex in Irkutsk (E. Gafarova – Irkutsk State Technical University), tourist services in Hutsulshchyna (A. Kibycz – J. Fedkowycz University, Czerniowce), accommodation base in the Lviv region (R. Rettinger – Pedagogical University, Kraków), in Greece (R. Rettinger, M. Rozmus – Pedagogical University, Kraków), and Mexico (A. Winiarczyk-Raźniak – Pedagogical University, Kraków), and the article on development of medical services (A. Winiarczyk-Raźniak – Pedagogical University, Kraków).

In the presented works it is emphasized that diverse transformation processes of both industry and services sectors are to a large extent influenced by a range of external conditions, adopted management methods, economic policy instruments, and external and internal conditions that generate new developmental factors, mainly in the form of new locations for the industry-services activity, and new directions of capital flow.

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