

INTRODUCTION

The large impact on the socio-economic shifts of spatial systems is being made by the processes of internationalisation of the economic activity of different kinds of enterprises. As a result of these spatial relations, they shape different forms of organisational and market connections, which aim at increasing the economic effectiveness of leading corporations. In individual countries they influence the creation and revitalization of production and services activity of enterprises with different potentials – microfirms, small, medium and large enterprises. This notion is being touched upon in the following works, which partially identify the spatial activities of different kinds of economic entities, their network correlations and legal and financial instruments affecting their functioning and development.

International environment has a large influence on shaping the enterprise, as it takes part in increasing the internationalization of production activity (K. Wach). This served as a background for the description of the conditions for shaping the selected national enterprises, among which there was a distinction into microfirms, small, medium and large enterprises. The main factors were paid attention to, among which there were political, legal, social, economic, cultural, ecologic and technologic conditions. This issue was continued in the analysis of the territorial reach of internationalization of Polish enterprises through determining the character of the market (EU countries market, markets belonging to EU countries and countries outside of the EU, and markets of countries strictly outside of the EU) (N. Daszkiewicz). The hypotheses presented in the introduction have been verified using the econometric model. The identification of the described problem has been made on the example of trade connections of the enterprises from the Małopolska voivodeship in the years 2012–2013 (M. Belniak). Different levels of trade connections with the selected countries were determined. On that basis the territorial level of variability of international markets of the Małopolska region was determined. The development of territorial networks theory development served as a background for determining the relations between the lifecycle of the enterprise and the localisation decision (H. Godlewska-Majkowska). The behaviour of the enterprise in different phases of development (seed, development and endstage) was determined. The following studies present a review of literature on the role of enterprises in the local and regional development, paying special attention to the concept of endogenic and exogenic development, polarised region and the neoclassic theories of cluster shaping (M. Typa). Much influence on the processes of shaping the production activities is put by legal instruments, and among them the taxation system, which arouses or halts the development of enterprises to a different degree (J. Pach). The main instrument influencing the assessment of enterprise activity is a material-financial analysis of the undertaken production (R. Śliwa, R. Żaba-Nieroda). It is a background for the presentation of an enterprise connected with defence functions. Special attention was paid to developing the material-financial

plans in the capital group and its ownership structure. One of the forms of the international surroundings influencing the shaping of the national market are international trade networks, seeking the place for their activity in selected countries (B. Gosik). The identification of this issue has been visualised on the example of the number of trade units of the biggest European networks. Much attention was put into localisation preferences of the trade institutions with special consideration for the size of the potential market, distinguishing small, medium and large cities. In the development processes the flow of knowledge between different institutions is an important factor. This issue has been illustrated on the example of cooperation and information flows of cluster organisations in connection to the policy of the European Union (W. Dyba). It can be assumed that these organisations largely influence the rise of the production internationalisation processes and implementing new technologies. An important role in the economic development process of individual countries is played by foreign direct investments. Hence, it is an important issue to determine the level they influence the shaping of the gross value added in the economy. The appropriate attempt was made in the work where an analysis of the importance of the inflow of foreign direct investments to the economic growth with the use of econometric functions was conducted (L. Wojciechowski). Determining the organisation effects of enterprises is an important factor in their economic growth process. These effects were presented based on the networking of the economic units and possibilities of their use in spatial planning (A. Mrozińska). In the process of economic growth of the world there are large changes taking place in the field of economic potential share of the leading development poles. In the last period of time, aside from Europe, United States and Japan, the function of worldwide centre is taken by the Chinese economy. It is seen in the rapid growth of the share in the worldwide economic potential and strong expansion, also including the countries of Middle and Eastern Europe (R. Koszek). These countries, being in the transformation and increased economic growth stage, are a good area to gain markets for the products of the Chinese industry and capital investment.

The issue presented in the hereby volume points towards different methodological approaches, which in many cases have been verified by empirical studies. They confirm the large role of the international surroundings in the internationalization of enterprises and intensifying the economic growth of countries and regions.

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