

## INTRODUCTION

Changes in the conditions of economic activity under the influence of the crisis and specific political situations often have a different impact on the processes of transformations of spatial systems. To some extent, this assumption is referred to in the research papers published in this issue.

On a local scale, the zones of economic activities play a significant role in the development of the activity. This is indicated by the results of the research covering the Wieliczka Economic Activity Zone (the city and municipality of Wieliczka, Poland). Particular attention was paid to determining the impact of companies on the labour market and the income of the municipality budget (D. Godzik K. Wiedermann).

The development of cross-border cooperation between regional and local systems plays an important role in the process of integrating Europe. This is presented in the work analysing various forms of cross-border cooperation between Heringsdorf (Germany) and Świnoujście (Poland). The intensification of mutual social, economic and cultural contacts of neighbouring municipalities was emphasized, which contributes to the blurring of the formal nature of the state border (A. Tobolska).

Family-owned allotment gardens in local layouts, fulfil important recreational and production functions, especially for the elderly. They are often treated by local authorities as potential investment areas for residential, service and industrial development, which raises serious social antagonisms. Against this background, the issues of social conditions, directions and consequences related to the liquidation of family allotment gardens in Szczecin (Poland) were addressed (A. Kołosowska).

The crisis situation affects the changes in the conditions of economic activity of many business entities. In reference to the adopted assumption, an analysis of the impact of the crisis on the limitation of development and the negative impact of the crisis on the activity of airports, as well as related local and regional spatial arrangements was undertaken (E. Dąbrowska).

Analyses of changes in the socio-economic potential of spatial systems play an important role for the purposes of managing regional development. This is indicated by the assessment of the differentiation of the economic development of Polish voivodeships in the period 2005–2020, which may constitute an important premise in the work on building a rational regional policy (B. Browarczyk).

The headquarters of transnational corporations play an important role in the structure of the functioning of global metropolises. They perform control and management functions in relation to their branches located in the world space. This issue is referred to by a teamwork undertaking changes in the control and management functions of cities concentrating the headquarters of management boards of energy sector companies in the years 2006–2018 (P. Raźniak et al.).

In the historical context, the stages of economic relations between Russia and China are presented. Particular attention was paid to the identification of the specificity

of economic relations and the evolution of economic cooperation between the region of Sverdlovsk (Russia) and China, in various conditions planned and the functioning of the market. Attention was paid to potential threats, as well as to factors enabling the intensification of economic interconnections (A. Stepanov et al.).

In the next work, it was assumed that education and previous international experience are important factors in the development of human capital and affect the internationalisation of economic activity. This issue was discussed based on the example of Polish start-ups in the information and communication technologies sector in 2017–2021 (K. Bigos, B. Pera).

Crises change the behaviour and tasks of individual institutions, and also affect the lifestyle of society. Against this background, based on group interviews, an analysis of changes in the behaviour of young people in the area of sharing economy during the COVID-19 pandemic was undertaken (A.I. Szymańska).

In the information society phase, the digitisation of the economy is becoming an important factor in stimulating economic development. An illustration of this is a review of literature and statistical data with attention to its use in the activities of administration, education and transport (M.J. Piątkowski, J. Misztal).

We encourage you to develop this important research issue and share the results achieved in our journal. We assume that getting to know it more and more precisely will be helpful in improving the development strategy, especially of local and regional systems.

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