

Introduction

Under the market economy conditions, the role of an entrepreneur as an animator of economic, social and cultural activity continues to grow. It is so because the enterprise he or she established and now managing fits into specific places in the socio-economic and cultural space of the local, regional or national systems. The location of a new business entity refers to already developed market networks, where this entity, according to the competitiveness principle, may cooperate with other entities or oust those, which are of lower quality and higher prices of offered products. New business entities activate development of particular spatial systems and influence the changes of their industrial and functional structure in a different manner. They can play local, regional, national or international role depending on their economic potential. It results from the extent of their economic activity and ability to fill in emerging market niches. This volume of "Entrepreneurship – Education" journal collected articles, the research area of which is connected with development of companies treated as an expression of entrepreneurship development, the companies influencing the shape of spatial systems and implementing entrepreneurship to educational processes at the level of upper secondary schools and institutions of higher education.

The significance of entrepreneurship, both in the aspect of social-economic and educational process was discussed in the introductory article, which refers to the series of 10 conferences organized by the Department of Entrepreneurship and Spatial Management of the Institute of Geography of the Pedagogical University of Cracow. The following articles concern factors influencing the dynamics of entrepreneurship development. This group contains works on features of persons who manage companies that locate themselves at different levels in the regional arrangements, and the article, which discusses the significance of positive creation a company image. As it has been noticed, specific branches of economy, particularly those that provide specific services for large companies, or also services to the public, make the considerable influence over entrepreneurship development. Furthermore, entrepreneurship development is greatly dependent on national conditions resulting from a legal situation, and creating economic incentives to set up new companies or make new investments. It has been ascertained based on an analysis of entrepreneurship development in regional systems of the UE, and based on the example of France, Cuba and Spain.

The next group of articles is connected with the role that entrepreneurship plays in developing spatial systems, notably regional ones. The business entities, which function in this system, represent both traditional types of production and service activities and they offer new products thereby affecting the processes of socio-economic development of regions. Entrepreneurship is also important for regional systems where specific development conditions are created for enterprises resulting from existing resources as well as structure and absorptivity of local markets.

The individuals who are adequately prepared and have entrepreneurial features are those who influence the pace and direction of entrepreneurship development, beside the market absorptiveness and the market demand for specific products. Thus, many articles are devoted to the selection of teaching objectives and content and the necessity of shaping entrepreneurial attitudes in the educational process at the level of upper secondary schools and institutions of higher education. It has been emphasized that this topic is becoming more and more impor-

tant because shaping entrepreneurial attitudes is essential not only to individuals representing different types of economic activity, but also to people managing institutions and non-governmental organizations. The knowledge of entrepreneurship basics is essential in the process of shaping attitudes in a family.

The articles presented in the 10th volume of the “Entrepreneurship – Education” journal underline great significance of human attitudes and entrepreneurship development in the process of stimulating the economic growth of spatial systems and raising the level of their competitiveness for new locations. They also point to new features of the regional systems and the necessity of shaping the regions learning with developed entrepreneurial capital. However, they cover only selected examples, which require further study aiming at indication of a path to increase the level of competitiveness of spatial systems, notably the regional ones, which are poorer developed when compared to the developed regions of the European Union.

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