

Introduction

The development of entrepreneurship is an important issue in the shaping of local systems – it may manifest in the creation and functioning of micro-, small and medium enterprises, which greatly use the local conditions and act on satisfying the social needs. Depending on their profile, they often develop cooperation with other enterprises as a result of corporate connections, sub-systems deliveries, or fulfilling certain services. The development of such companies influences majorly the socio-economic growth of local systems and improving the level and quality of life. These assumptions are frequently referred to in the works present in this volume, dealing with the role of entrepreneurship in the development of local systems, with special inclusion of the activities of companies from the tourism sector and the development of educational activities connected with entrepreneurship.

The volume starts with raising an issue of the concept of enterprises functioning of enterprises in local systems with the attention turned to the advantages resulting from their development. These companies are characterised by great diversification in the spatial systems, which differentiate – with various intensity – the national territorial systems. Economic entities located on the rural areas and in small towns are of special importance for development. An important role in the range of using the local conditions is being played by the development of tourism. It influences the creation of various companies, using local resources, allowing for instance to develop automotive services, ski tourism or agritourism centres and culinary traditions.

The development of entrepreneurship requires in a constantly greater degree an increase in the level of education in this field. This has been pointed out in the articles devoted to the determinants of the development of individual entrepreneurship, which may influence the increase in the level of vocational activity and limiting the size of social alienation. In the educational processes an important role is played by shaping of entrepreneurial attitudes, which has been presented on the example of students of selected universities and pupils of secondary schools. Rational shaping of the educational processes requires perfecting the research and didactic methods allowing the shaping of the competences in the range of own entrepreneurial activity and the ability to find oneself on the labour market. A large role in this regard can also be played by a correctly organized public support, aiming at using the local infrastructure, legal advisory and financial support.

The presented works underline the important role of developing companies as important factors of economic development in the form of vocational activity and limiting unemployment, increasing the education resources, especially for young people, which greatly limits the negative effects of the processes of transformation of the local systems, especially those located outside the metropolitan areas.