

Introduction

Economic, social and cultural transformations of spatial systems occur as a result of varied factors of development. They stem from the pace of economic development and technological progress of manufacturing processes and services activities connected. They overlap on the often differentiated internal conditions and on the affecting them stimuli from the environment. The intensification of the transformation process to a large extent is also influenced by the development level of social and human capital, as well as local government elites that have adequate knowledge and the skill of using it in the management process. In the development of local systems an important role is attributed to the economic potential of existing companies and institutions. Depending on the possibility of developing manufacturing or services activities, they can be characterised by: economic growth, stagnation, recession, or even disappearance. In addition, new business entities can emerge and assume dynamising functions thus affecting change in the already formed spatial and structural systems. Those new elements can appear as a result of increasing financial resources of institutions and the society. They can also be new business entities related to the development of information society. The intensity of transformation processes is closely linked to formed entrepreneurship attitudes of societies and elites of local government, as well as non-governmental institutions. Therefore, there is a need for continuous education, training, and professional development of the society. It should be exploited by entrepreneurs who as a result of business activities development will influence the intensification of economic growth of local systems.

These ideas are referred to in the volume which presents the issue of entrepreneurship education and the results of empirical research on topics related to tourism and the activity of business entities of other branches.

Considerations on the conditions for further development of entrepreneurship in spatial systems open the present volume. They emphasise the need for examining entrepreneurship development in a dynamic approach and in terms of the possibilities for further development. Attention was paid to the changing premises and the diverse conditions for further development of entrepreneurship as a basis for building a strategy of economic activities development of local systems. Those are referred to in the articles on: the importance of entrepreneurship education for economic development, the results of research on entrepreneurial attitudes and intentions of the youth, and the opinion of upper secondary schools students and graduates on entrepreneurship education. Attention was paid to the role of economic knowledge in shaping entrepreneurial attitudes of technical university students. Additionally, the views of young people on the possibilities and willingness of starting own business activity were also presented.

Another group of articles concerns: the creation of a new image of tourism for developing entrepreneurship of coastal communes, barriers for agritourism development in the Polish Carpathians, the opinion of residents of a small town – Konstantynów Łódzki – on business activity, and the barriers for entrepreneurship development in Brzozów

and Krosno districts. Finally, the results of research on the impact of changes in land cover in the Polish Carpathians at the turn of 20th and 21st century on the development level of rural units.

Results of empirical research presented are an important identification of the spatially diversified conditions influencing the development of economic activities. They are to improve the contents and methods of entrepreneurship education, as well as to help study the complex process of developing entrepreneurship, particularly in local systems. It appears that the issues taken up by the authors is topical and should be further developed both in theoretical and empirical studies. The issue of economic development of local systems is important now and will be in the future, as its aim is to raise the quality of social potential and equalling the accumulated development disparities, leading to the improvement in intellectual assets, as well as the level and quality of life. Therefore we encourage the authors to develop this research issue and to share the results of own studies in our journal "Entrepreneurship-Education".

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