

Introduction

Modern processes in social, economic, and cultural growth – in various spatial systems (from local scale to regional, national and global) – are more and more related to the processes of global growth. The processes stimulate mechanisms of competition between business entities and institutions and on the other hand they make spatial systems more attractive for generating endogenic and for luring exogenous elements of the development. Relevant decisions are based on the optimization that allows companies to the most efficient achieving the goals of growing in given environment and with given capital. Works focus on the gradual increasing in economic efficiency in production and services as well as on improvement in competitiveness of a company; and on develop the intrinsic factors of growth in given scale of spatial systems and on making them more attractive for luring external factors of growth.

We start with the premise that a human being controls the processes of changes – both in business entities and in various spatial systems. According to his professional competency he is able to skillfully use the modern processes of changes and to cause the acceleration in growth of a company or spatial systems – also he can doom it to recession or collapse. For that reason a properly prepared entrepreneurial person is needed to manage these complicated processes; a person who understands and is able to skillfully deal with the mechanisms of creation and control the processes of companies growth as well as deal with the mechanisms of amplification the economic activation in given area.

Referring to these presumptions Department of Entrepreneurships and Spatial Economy in Institute of Geography in KEN Pedagogical Academy in Kraków together with Education for Society Foundation have prepared the third volume from series “Entrepreneurship – Education”; it is dedicated to the role of an entrepreneurship in the activation of economy. Essays by the authors from various science centers analyze this complex problem from various points of views. In this way we are going to continue the broader debate that in future should lead to the comprehensive grasp this especially important matter – not only in the model frame but also in the economic practice and in the teaching entrepreneurship. Consequently it is able to accelerate the process of creating entrepreneurial attitudes in whole society.

These complex study problems are the subject of presented here works by representatives from numerous academic centers (Katowice, Koszalin, Kraków, Lublin, Łódź, Poznań, Rzeszów, Słupsk, Szczecin, Toruń, Warszawa, and Wrocław) and the entrepreneurship teachers from secondary schools as well as the methodical consultants from followed provinces: Dolnośląskie, Kujawsko-Pomorskie, Łódzkie, Małopolskie, Mazowieckie, Podlaskie, Śląskie, and Zachodniopomorskie.

On the one hand our intention is to develop a process of passing the ideas from academic circles to the didactical processes of teaching entrepreneurship in secondary schools, an on the other hand to better understand needs of the teachers of this new subject.

We realize that both the education of the entrepreneurship teachers and the methodology of passing the content needs permanent improvement. In the environment of accelerated globalization and European integration that amplify development of economic, technologic, and organizational relations in the world and Europe, evolving the entrepreneurial attitudes among young people who will find their positions in the increasingly changing world is extraordinary important question.

Presented works focus on some important problems:

- role of entrepreneurship in economic activation of local and regional systems
- entrepreneurship development for activation the rural areas
- image of entrepreneur and creation entrepreneurial attitudes
- function of social resources in entrepreneurship development
- development the ideas, forms and methodology of teaching entrepreneurship

Giving the third volume from series “Entrepreneurship – Education” to readers, we want to thank all the people and institutions for support to our work and Nowa Era Publishing House from Warsaw for the financial help that made possible to publish this book. We invite all persons interested in these problems to cooperation with Department of Entrepreneurships and Spatial Economy in Institute of Geography in KEN Pedagogical Academy in Kraków. All comments that help us improve the quality of our works and extend taken study and educational questions are welcomed.

Zbigniew Ziolo, Tomasz Rachwał