

Introduction

The emerging trends of civilisation transformations and the building of an information society will increasingly affect the conditions for economic, social and cultural development. They will influence the differentiation of the potential and quality of the production and service sectors, changes in professional structures and social attitudes. The implementation of automation and robotisation processes into production and service activities will require the improvement of management methods, organisation of service institutions and preparation of appropriate staff. As a result of the use of increasingly efficient production technologies and techniques, the size of labour markets will be gradually reduced and many professions will be eliminated, but at the same time there will be an increasing demand for workers with new professional skills – organising economic activities and solving new social and cultural problems. In this context, the role of education, including entrepreneurship education, will increase in order to prepare workers and societies for new challenges.

This general idea of civilisation transformations is referred to in the articles presented in the current issue of the journal “Entrepreneurship – Education”, addressing a number of new topics related to the need of preparing the proper staff to create ways for rational development of the economy and society. A particularly important problem is the understanding of the economic, social and cultural changes taking place and the ability to use them for the effective development of companies, local government structures of regional and local scale, as well as households. Therefore, a necessary condition for keeping up with the pace of civilisation growth is to place main emphasis on improving educational processes at all levels of education. The articles indicate that an appropriate teacher preparation system plays a fundamental role in this respect. The level and quality of the teaching process at all levels of education will depend on their pedagogical knowledge and skills and on the relevant educational infrastructure and financial resources. Research indicates that the dissemination of human creative attitudes should start with pre-school and early childhood education, especially in terms of: the desire to learn new content, the ability to collaborate in a group, ask questions, think critically and rationally adapt to the demands of a changing environment. Acquired habits and skills gained, as research results indicate, are necessary for the middle stage of education. They help young people to choose their profession and further education related to their aspirations and life plans, as well as to adapt to the needs of the current and future labour market.

As the authors point out, the necessary task, especially at a higher level, is to master the ability to identify real problems and shape active attitudes. Some shortcomings in this regard are indicated by studies of students’ attitudes towards current development challenges. Important issues remain: taking care of the development of personal characteristics, building entrepreneurial attitudes, adopting moral and ethical principles of value in order to choose a rational path of personal development necessary for shaping one’s professional, family and entrepreneurial career. It was pointed out that practical

education is important in this regard, allowing for the acquisition of the professional experience necessary for future work.

Demographic ageing and low birth rate will bring about increasingly serious problems on the labour market. Therefore, it seems beneficial to transfer the idea of lifelong learning to seniors as well. Longer life expectancy and more health-friendly conditions can affect the continued professional activation of older people. This activation can take place at the level of third-age universities. They allow not only to update and expand the knowledge necessary for functioning on the modern labour market, but also to acquire new skills for rational management of free time and to undertake various forms of social or cultural activity. This is based on the idea of social entrepreneurship, which is still in its early stages of formation. The articles therefore attempt to formulate basic principles for its functioning and to develop the ability to combine economic objectives with social ones. A significant role in promoting and stimulating social entrepreneurship has been attributed to social media, while highlighting the possibility of commercialising research results.

The following articles set out the new forms of education necessary for the preparation of staff in the field of logistics, and discusses the principles of the Educational Farm Network in rural areas.

Important issues have also been addressed regarding the analysis of companies' investment activities, the competence to make credit decisions and the importance of leasing as a source of business and development of enterprises.

A number of papers assumes that tourism is one of the key sectors of the economy. Against this background examined were the legal bases and competences of the EU institutions in the field of tourism and European funds funding tourism projects, including projects of this kind carried out in Małopolskie Voivodeship (Poland). Analysed were the operation of Polish tourist offices in Brazil, the functioning of the Post-Camaldolese Monastery Complex Złoty Las Hermitage in Rytwiany (Poland) as an innovative tourist destination, and the development of companies providing accommodation services in the Lublin region (Poland).

The issue is concluded with articles discussing the entrepreneurship of slum dwellers and the main factors that are a barrier to the development of education in sub-Saharan Africa.

We encourage you to discuss and develop these particularly topical research issues in order to learn more about the principles of the development of entrepreneurship education. The implementation of the results of research into education practice can make a significant contribution to improving the management of businesses, households and local and regional systems in the context of ever-changing international and global circumstances.

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