

PREFACE

The publication constitutes a compendium of two, recently developed directions of urban and regional studies in Poland. The subject of the first study is the issue of urban development. The second direction of research consists of urban sprawl management and regional space.

The publication consists of twelve studies, whose authors are researchers representing diverse profiles of study and academic centers. These consist of the foa; the University of Lodz, Gdańsk University of Technology, Cracow University of Economics, University of Economics in Katowice and Warsaw School of Economics.

A rather introduction entitles three articles concerning: a system of integrated planning of development (Tadeusz Markowski, Dominik Drzazga), the problems of planning integration at the local level (Tadeusz Kudłacz) and territorial capital in integrated development planning (Tadeusz Markowski).

The next part of the publication formed text on contemporary processes of development of cities and urban areas (Piotr Lorens), the social changes in contemporary cities and their consequences (Anna Karwińska) and a study devoted to the process of suburbanization (Arthur Hołuj, Piotr Lityński).

The third part of the publication covers texts centering around regional urban policy (Florian Kuźnik, Andrzej Klasik, Bogumił Szczupak, Martin Baron), regional land use policy (Andrzej Klasik, Jerzy Biniński) and urban public spaces (Adam Polko).

In the fourth part of the publication there are two presentations, one relating to spatial economics in the strategic perspective (Zbigniew Strzelecki), and the second to the game on the development in the metropolitan area (Paulina Legutko-Kobus).

The entire publication is crowned by a study addressing the problem of the specialized academic education in the area defined as „Urban Economics” (Marcin Baron, Arthur Ochojski, Adam Polko).

We hope, that the English form of the series, *Studia Regionalia* of Committee for Spatial Economy and Regional Planning will expand to a broader audience by transferring Polish experiences into the European space of research and education.

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