

EDITORIAL

The current volume of *EUROPA XXI* is dedicated to the role of infrastructural and ecological networks. Availability of infrastructure on definite areas affects in a significant manner the course of economic processes and shapes the living conditions of their inhabitants. Technical and social infrastructure exerts a strong influence not only on the improvement of the living conditions of the population, but also, indirectly, increases the attractiveness of those areas to the domestic and foreign investors. Nowadays, too, a particular attention is paid to accessibility to infrastructure as a key element of territorial cohesion. Similarly, ecological networks not only play an important role as places of conservation and protection of nature, but also they are perceived as part of public assets.

The first three articles are devoted to transport accessibility. Among them are a paper exploring theoretical and methodological aspects of that concept (P. Rosik, T. Komornicki, P. Śleszyński, W. Pomianowski), as well two papers providing a detailed analysis of that subject matter on the example of Czechia (M. Marada, V. Květoň and I. Ivan, T. Boruta). The next two papers concentrate on the elements of social infrastructure. As exemplified by elementary schools in Czechia (Z. Kučera, S. Kučerova) and universities on the Hungarian-Austrian border (M. Smaho), the accessibility to these elements is analysed. Ecological corridors are the subject of investigation in the two interesting contributions from Poland (M. Koziel, W. Michalczuk, W. Jędrzejewski, M. Górny and W. Kałamucka). The next two papers combine the previous analyses about infrastructure and environment. Based on the example of post military training areas, a detailed analysis of spatial development of those previously “closed” areas was made (T. Seidl, P. Chromý and M. Kuryło, W. Jarczewski). The volume ends with three papers that investigate the institutional conditions of infrastructure development (R. Szul and C. Pauna, D. Andrei and W. Jarczewski).

Editorial Team

