

**ECONOMICS AND MANAGEMENT
OF THE NATIONAL ECONOMY,
THE CRISIS OF NATIONAL MODELS
OF ECONOMIC SYSTEMS**

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**INFLUENCE OF MEDIUM-SIZED CITIES
ON THE DIVERSIFICATION OF THE DEVELOPMENT
OF THE ŚWIĘTOKRZYSKIE VOIVODESHIP**

Introduction. Many new development challenges have emerged in Polish cities in recent years, hence we observe the growing role of cities and their surroundings. The issue of the impact of cities on the environment is the result of many processes, which include: suburbanization, increasing population mobility, development of transport systems, innovation, entrepreneurship. Cities are centers of concentration of economic activity both in the city itself and in the

surrounding area. The functions of cities generate a network of social and economic connections (Markowski, Marszał, 2006). Cities are units with a unique influence on regional development. It is there that the potentials and activities that determine the course of development processes on a supra-local scale are concentrated. The measure of the city's strength is primarily the ability to shape development in terms of quality as well as to generate new solutions and new processes characterized by innovation and creativity. In view of the suburbanization currently dominant in Poland, small towns remaining within the range of the influence of a large urban center are subject to active spatial and functional changes, leading to the strengthening of their socio-economic potential.

The development of modern cities is a multidimensional process. The process of city development is the result of a specific game in which various entities enter into competitive and cooperative relations with each other. Each of the entities implements its autonomous goals using its own strategies, and the sum of the effects obtained by the entities determines the face and development of the city.

The aim of the study is to assess the role and importance of medium-sized cities in the development of the Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship in 2010–2019 in relation to selected economic and social indicators, while indicating to what extent this development was conditioned by appropriate changes in the urbanized space.

Review of the literature. Sustainable development of a city requires an appropriate level of balance between the forces of an agglomeration providing specific benefits resulting from the proximity of people and economic entities, and the quality of life in the city, which often worsens as a result of the adverse effects of agglomeration, resulting or manifested in deglomeration.

Many problems and barriers have emerged around cities and their further development, both of which have a national and a global dimension. The processes taking place in cities are strongly influenced by social, political and cultural conditions, and in the globalizing world also, and perhaps above all, by technical and

technological progress, information and communication techniques (Mierzejewska, 2011).

The development of the city is a process taking place inside it, but it requires the mobilization of all environments, entities and organizations. However, the environmental influences on urban structures and various economic and social reevaluations are as great as never in the past (Stawasz, 2016).

Therefore, without taking into account the impact of factors of global importance, the management of urban development processes will not be effective from the point of view of rational use of available resources (Kudłacz, 1999; Parysek, 1996; Broł, 1998). Uneven urban development of the city, the phenomenon of depopulation and city sprawl are caused by the crisis of urban space. It is associated with many processes as a result of which cities and its fragments undergo cultural, economic, social, technical and environmental degradation (Paszkowski, 2011).

Material and research method. The process of creating a synthetic measure has several steps. The first is the selection and verification of features (substantive and statistical) describing the selected objects (stage I). Determining the direction of preference for simple features in relation to the considered general criterion, distinguishing between stimulants and destimulants (stage II). Normalization of variables aimed at elimination of formal limitations and interpretation difficulties (3rd stage). Estimating the value of a synthetic measure by a real-space distance method with a Euclidean measure (grade IV). Moreover, typological classes for the synthetic measure were distinguished and its correlation with financial measures was determined (Pawlik, Dziekański, Przybytniowski, 2021; Dziekański, Prus, Maitah, Wrońska, 2021; Dziekański, Pawlik, Wrońska, Karpińska, 2020; Dziekański, Prus, 2020; Kukuła, 2000; Behzadian, Khanmohammadi Otaghsara, Yazdani, Ignatius, 2012; Pawlik, Dziekański, 2020; Malina, 2020).

Results and Discussion. The synthetic measure of the development of medium-sized cities in the Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship ranged from 0.42 to 0.54 in 2010 and from 0.38 to 0.55 in 2019. An increase

in the range measure from 0.121 to 0.168 indicates an increase in the differentiation of units in terms of development. The synthetic measure of the development potential of voivodeship communes ranged from 0.24 Bejsce (2) to 0.56 Kielce (1) in 2010 and from 0.28 Waśniów (2) to 0.57 Kielce (1) in 2018. The range value range was in 2018. Lower, because it was 0.294 than in 2010, when it was 0.318, it indicates a decrease in the diversity of units in the studied area.

The measure of the development of voivodeship communes was positively correlated, among others with own income 0.512, with income from PIT and CIT 0.726, with income from local taxes 0.523, with the number of business entities registered in the REGON register 0.846, with the number of natural persons running a business activity 0.829, with the number of people working in municipalities 0.727. Transfer income -0.708 had the greatest negative impact on the development processes. The measure of urban development was correlated with investment expenditure 0.3382, debt per capita – 0.3607, the number of economic entities 0.5872, the number of natural persons conducting business activity 0.5736, and the number of employed persons 0.447.

Conclusion. The city is a place where the needs of its inhabitants are met and it also becomes a factor of social and economic activation of regions. The decisive role in the development of connections, however, is played by the city itself and its ability to meet the needs of the inhabitants of the surrounding area (Konecka-Szydłowska, 2016).

Demographic changes caused by migration processes, aging of the population and negative population growth are the main reasons for shrinking cities. However, the complexity of the process and its effects requires a more comprehensive approach, i.e. taking into account socio-economic indicators (Musiał-Malago, 2018).

Small urban centers are important elements of the landscape, economy and socio-economic life in the surrounding rural areas. Small towns are also a kind of local community with specific, characteristic socio-cultural and economic features that clearly distinguish it from the metropolitan population (Rydzka (ed.), 2006).

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