

FROM THE EDITORS

We are offering you this volume of the international journal *Transborder Economics* in very special period of time, when many transborder political, social and economic processes are getting new dimension and new scale. Today one of main problems of transborder policy that is faced not only by international and national politicians, but also by businesses, societies and – last but not least – by scientists, is that many transborder phenomena, that for years were observed on local, binational or multinational regions covering the areas located close to the political borders of countries, have got quite new scale and dimensions: supranational, international, transcontinental and global, and have got much higher dynamism that never happened during last decades.

The attention should be paid on following relatively new aspects of transborder phenomena and processes:

- *Transcontinental transborder migrations*, that recently can be observed in the transborder areas of the Mediterranean and Asian middle East regions, as well as in many other regions of the world. The scale and speed of transborder migrations can be analyzed and explained if and only if the political, social and economic aspects of migrations are observed and monitored for the whole transborder areas of European countries and North African and Middle Eastern countries of Mediterranean region.
- *Fragility of countries and regions*, in which local extraordinary, extremal phenomena and processes may cause the phenomena and processes interfering the transborder areas of other countries and regions. For example, local environmental catastrophe or local military conflict may cause transborder migrations of people and transnational dislocation of businesses.
- *Economic shocks* in global branches of economy, e.g. in financial sector, maritime and air transport, international tourism, may cause the damage of those sectors in some countries and the transfer of those activities to the regions of neighbouring countries in which the shocks are negligible or small. For example, lack of safety and security for tourists in one country is generating the transfer of tourist activities to the neighbouring country of the region, which can provide respective level of safety and security for tourists. Destabilization of banking system in one country makes the

businesses to use the banking services in the transborder area of neighbouring country, in which the monetary system is stabilized and reliable for foreign businesses.

The list of new transborder phenomena and processes can be continued. For the analysis of those features of politics, economy and social processes it is necessary to develop relevant methods, tools and techniques of monitoring and collecting of harmonized information, with special reference to statistical data. This fundamental problem is raised in the paper of famous statistician, former president of the ISI, Jean-Louis Bodin, *Defending Transborder Integrity of Official Statistics and the Independence of Statisticians*, originally presented on the bi-annual conference of the IAOS in 2016. The integrity and independence of statistics is the indispensable prerequisite of building the informational foundations for politicians, businesses, social organizations and international organizations, necessary for forecasting and reacting on new transborder phenomena and processes of supranational and transcontinental scale.

Specific transborder problems referring to different branches of economy and social phenomena (e.g. health, labor markets, real estate, finances etc.) are presented also in this issue.

The problems of quality of information, with special reference to the integrity, timeliness and accuracy of statistical data covering the transborder regions of different countries is especially recommended for official statisticians responsible for regional and international statistics.

We do hope that the 2nd volume of *Transborder Economics* is the step forward in the contributing to the development of this new discipline in economic and political sciences.

Prof. Józef Oleński

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