

Introduction

The themes of the articles in the volume X of *Annales Universitatis Paedagogicae Cracoviensis Studia Geographica* refer to research strands in the geography of tourism, socio-economic geography and didactics of geography. In particular, these research topics discussed in this volume concern, among others, the issues of tourist space, the functioning of ski resorts and their infrastructure, suburbanisation processes, family model changes, urban crime diversity, pilgrimage, entrepreneurship and the motives for choosing geographic study teachers. The spatial scope of the articles is varied and covers both south-eastern Poland (Rzeszów agglomeration, Polish-Ukrainian borderland) and other parts of the country (Cracow Metropolitan Area, Western Pomerania, Lodzkie Voivodeship) as well as abroad (Isparta in Turkey).

Kadir Temurçin and **Michael Gameli Dziwornu** analyzed spatial differentiation of crime intensity using the Location Quotient of Crime (LQC). **Agnieszka Łuków** has attempted to analyze the development of the suburbanization process of the economy and the functioning of the city of Rzeszów and its surroundings – the Rzeszów agglomeration. **Anna Janiszewska**'s research has shown that the Lodz voivodship is distinguished from other regions of Poland by the intensity of many demographic processes (eg depopulation and aging). The author pointed out areas (with high urbanization level) most at risk of unfavourable transformations of the processes of family formation and disintegration.

Leszek Butowski's article presents the original research method using a modified Likert scale, which enables empirical verification of the model of tourism space – a model of sustainable tourism. Its novelty lies in the fact that it attempts to combine all elements of the tourist space into it, and on this basis a theoretical model showing the conditions of balance or its absence on different types of tourist reception areas has been built. **Kamila Ziółkowska-Weiss** describes the specifics of Polish travel agencies in Chicago, which undoubtedly affect selected tourist destinations of the city's inhabitants. **Małgorzata Bajgier-Kowalska** and **Robert Pyrc** have attempted to analyze the activity of the Podstolice-SKI Center in the face of climate change, which is supposed to meet the demand for ski services of the inhabitants of the Cracow agglomeration. Ski stations in Krynica were the subject of research by **Sławomir Dorocki**, who attempted to determine the preferences of ski station's clients and use of ski and accompanying infrastructure.

Religious symbols on the flags and emblems, referring to the religious traditions of a given nation or to certain ethical and religious values were the subject of **Jerzy Wrona**'s research. The profile of a pilgrim heading for Santiago de Compostela on the Via de la Plata trail was subject of research by **Rafał Koszek**. **Franciszek Mróz** and **Orest Bodrum**, on the other hand, took up the genesis and functioning

of the Lvov Way of St. James Via Regia and its significance in the development of pilgrimage and religious tourism in the Polish-Ukrainian border.

In the field of economic geography studies, **Joanna Kudelko** analyzed the structural transformations of the socio-economic growth centers of the Podkarpackie voivodship. In turn, the development of entrepreneurship in the smallest cities of the Lodz region, was the subject of research by **Anita Kulawiak**. On the other hand, **Małgorzata Świątek** presented the hydroelectric potential of Western Pomerania by identifying unit outflows from specific catchment areas and the variability of flows on selected river basins. The next two articles (**Michał Zatorski** and **Mariola Tracz** with **Adam Hibszer**) present research results in didactics of geography concerning geographical education with elements of anti-discrimination education in the Waldorf school as well as internal and external motivations influencing the choice of geographic study teachers.

The article by **Małgorzata Szelińska-Kukulak** and **Józef Kukulak** presents the current status and use of resources of transport technology monuments in four voivodships of south-eastern Poland (Małopolskie, Podkarpackie, Lubelskie and Świętokrzyskie). **Magdalena Kubal** and **Robert Pawlusiński** describe the new phenomenon in Krakow's tourist space. They are escape rooms that combine mental puzzles and physical tasks, with the goal of getting out of a locked room. The influence of economic conditions of households on the level and quality of life on the example of the commune of Czchów is the subject of research by **Joanna Nowak**. The last article of the volume presents the results of research conducted by **Halina Pawlak** concerning the sense of identity of the inhabitants of rural areas of the suburban communities with regard to their place of residence on the basis of the municipality of Igołomia-Wawrzeńczyce and Mogilany. The author also drew attention to the attitudes of the inhabitants to the influx of people from the city.

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