



## SUMMER SCHOOL 2005 AT THE SPECTRA CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE OF THE FA STU IN BRATISLAVA

### THE EFFICIENCY OF KNOWLEDGE BASED SOCIETY ON SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT

The concept "knowledge based society" can be understood as an overall issue that combines numerous ways and dimensions in spatial development. On its own it is a manifestation through the particular local, regional, European and global development trends in the fields of economy, work and life. The phenomenon of the knowledge based society is linked with space and time. This leads to an extensive understanding of expressions "knowledge based society" and "spatial development". Today the knowledge is the most important competition and development factor. The knowledge leads to the recognition of strengths and weaknesses, threats and opportunities in a region or in a city that allows a successful growth of endogen potentials. The development of knowledge production manages the regional value-making on the sensible way, but first of all we should know that the use of information and knowledge help compound with international competition and to spread the new ideas. It is obvious that regions and cities which are not interested in knowledge and innovation are permanently losing in the local competition.

The qualitative change of the society towards post-industrial society brings new spatial and temporal relations. Spatial dimensions of information society development have been substantially changed and close relation between time and space and their impact on further society development brought about the opportunities to affect the society development. This leads to new comprehension of societal objectives and to new meaning of sustainability concept being shifted from economic effectiveness to environmental protection and socio-cultural aspects of the information society development. Market globalization, world-wide information and communications networks, and the development of new technologies and services are creating new opportunities for spatial development, for local and regional

specialization and closer cooperation between regions and cities with similar competitive profiles. Regions, cities and territories compete to attract economic activities, jobs, infrastructure, etc., a process that provides one of the main forces driving spatial development. However, not all the territories of Europe are engaged in this competition on an equal basis; and, in addition, the process runs up against the limits when unrestrained competition produces inefficiency and results in the dissipation of effort and investment.

Summer School 2005 at the SPECTRA Centre of Excellence of the FA STU in Bratislava was designed to consider or to implement the situations described above. It was focused on the conclusions that should be done in the field of spatial and environmental policies and planning. That means combination of diverse aspects of technological, economical, social, cultural and spatial development with their challenge and collaboration. The papers looked at the influence of the knowledge based society and spatial development in diverse science fields and research ways and to manage future research activities. Diverse points of view and overlapping of different fields as well as the different levels of observations from local to European level were present in the particular papers. The summer school has been supported by the lectures of Prof. Dr. H. J. Kujath from IRS Erkner, Prof. Dr. I. Roch from IOeR Dresden, Prof. Lange from ARL Hannover, Prof. Saalbach from Regio PAMINA, Prof. Steinebach from TU Kaiserslautern, Prof. Jilkova from UE Prague and Prof. M. Finka, Prof. F. Zigrá, Assoc. Prof. D. Petříková, Dr. I. Belčáková, PhD., Mgr. L. Kubo and M. Jaško, PhD. from FA STU Bratislava.

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