

Foreword

The Małopolska School of Economics in Tarnów Research Papers Collection, published since 1999, is a continuous publication issued as a quarterly, four times a year. The topics of the articles presented in it are related to five research areas: economics and finance, management and quality, ergonomics, and tourism and recreation. To a large extent, the journal is used to disseminate the scientific and research achievements of the academic staff of the Małopolska School of Economics in Tarnów. It should be emphasized, however, that it is an open journal, in which external authors from various universities in the country and abroad, as well as practitioners and even students, can also be published. A similar structure of the works and their authors is clear in this edition of the journal, which consists of ten works: seven of them are the work of external authors—employees of the University of Lodz, the Cracow University of Economics, the University of West Attica in Athens (Greece), Poznan University of Technology, the State School of Higher Professional Education in Konin. Among the distinguished group of authors there were four professors and ten doctors.

Although the issues are quite diverse, most of them assume that it is modern technology, good organization of management and organization of the work of a company or institution in the operational dimension that determine the increase in productivity and innovation of an organization, and ultimately the achievement of the outlined economic and social goals. The presented works were dominated by the diagnostic and decision-making approach, limited to selected areas of the company's or institution's activity. In the content of the publication, several research trends and threads can be distinguished, namely: the impact of digitization and Industry 4.0 on robotization and improvement of production processes and the use of Wearable Technologies in the company and society; analysis and evaluation of: innovative projects, brand competitiveness in the automotive industry, the effectiveness of taxation forms in the SME sector, prediction of discriminant analysis models, promoting physical activity among older people, as well as safety culture in the company.

The articles are the result of scientific work carried out as part of basic and implementation research, they contain a large amount of interesting cognitive and application-related information. In the articles, the reader can find several original theoretical approaches and observations of practical nature. For these reasons, *The Małopolska School of Economics in Tarnów Research Papers Collection* may be an interesting and useful item for both theoreticians of economics and finance, ergonomics, organization and management, as well as students and practitioners. It is worth adding that the journal is included in the top 100 most frequently cited journals on the list provided by the Ministry of Science.

I would like to thank everyone who contributed to this issue of the journal, especially the Editors who took the trouble to give their opinions on the submitted articles, the Reviewers for their substantive and valuable comments, and also the entire Editorial Team and collaborators.

Leszek Koziol
Editor-in-Chief