



Institute of Geography and Spatial Organization,
Polish Academy of Sciences



Academic Division,
Polish Geographical Society



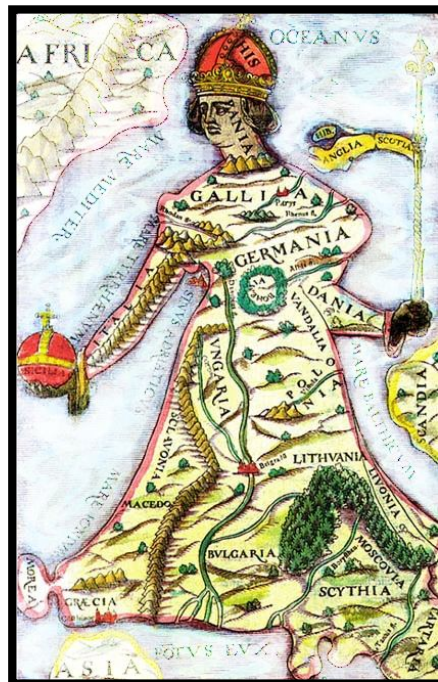
Ministry of Regional Development,
Republic of Poland



Committee for Spatial Economy and Regional
Planning, Polish Academy of Sciences

WARSAW REGIONAL FORUM 2011

*Functional regions – towards a new paradigm
of territorial and cohesion policy*



Warsaw, 19-22 October 2011

FIRST CIRCULAR & CALL FOR PAPERS

The Warsaw Regional Forum is organized on a regular basis once every two years (biennially) by the Institute of Geography and Spatial Organization Polish Academy of Sciences, together with the Polish Geographical Society. To date, there have been four meetings held under the common title Warsaw Regional Forum: *Central and Eastern Europe: Changing spatial patterns of human activity* (2004), *The core and peripheral regions in Central and Eastern Europe* (2005), *Contemporary dilemmas of spatial development in Europe* (2007) and *Networking in the European, regional and local space* (2009). During the four meetings of the Warsaw Regional Forum more than 170 papers have been presented. The research studies dealt with a wide spectrum of themes (e.g. Regional and spatial policy, Cities and metropolitan areas, Rural and peripheral areas, Infrastructure, Social issues, Transborder cooperation and Management of environment), and the analysis contained within them covered a wide spectrum of spatial scales – ranging from that of the European through the national and regional, to the local level. The participants of all four conferences came from 25 different countries.

This year's Forum will be focused on the functional regions as a new paradigm of territorial and cohesion policy. It is related to the now ongoing works on the new shape of the European cohesion policy. Greater flexibility in delimitation of units that are primary focus of that policy is postulated, among others, in the *Fifth Cohesion Report*. The new results obtained from the evaluation studies carried out in the previous programming periods attest to the importance of adopting the new approach to the European space. A functional region constitutes a space whose basic element is different from a traditionally understood sectoral specialization. Its determinants are, to an increasingly larger extent, made up of such elements like size, directions and structure of linkages and flows. Interestingly, as regards the last, these can be both inner flows (commuting to work and services of general interests, production chains) as well as outer flows (trade exchange, migrations), including often the processes of global significance.

In particular, the Forum 2011 sessions will be built upon the discussions on the following dilemmas:

- **critical look at a spatial classification into urban and rural space.** More and more often it is pointed out that a division of settlement units into urban and rural is imprecise and vague. In the modern spatial research, the concept of functional regions represents a shift from a dichotomic classification of administrative units in favour of capturing the differences in spatial organization, economic activity, conditions of living and functional structure. This permits us to conduct cohesive analyses (and also to gather statistical data) as regards the zones termed as an urban-rural continuum, as well as offering the new possibilities for developing territorial policy (separately from sectoral and administrative limitations).
- **eco-system services as a support for development of functional regions.** Today the environmental economy is associated with a diversity of views on the economic impacts of ecosystem services and pro-environmental investments, particularly those associated with the protection of the environment and the landscape and the effort to maintain or raise an area's attractiveness. The aim of the session is to present some aspects of ecosystem services in support of regional development. In short, it is being treated as an important factor behind regional economic development, joining with the economic and social factors in determining directions that development is to take, ways in which it is to be achieved, means of implementation and consequences.
- **flows as a basis for a new look at the cohesion policy.** The uninterrupted flow of goods, capital, people and services involve the four fundamental rules governing the functioning of the EU single market. At

the same time, there is a limited knowledge of that issue. In the majority of the European countries (in particular among the New Member States), the statistical systems gather data rather about places than flows. Under these circumstances, the important gap in knowledge is bridged by detailed spatial studies carried out on the ground of geography, economy, sociology, planning and regional sciences. Some of their findings challenge the established views concerning spatial structure of the European Union. Thus they should become the basis for a new look at the cohesion policy

- **European space in light of the latest strategic documents.** In autumn 2010, the *Fifth Cohesion Report* that included proposals for the future cohesion policy was published. In the nearest months it is planned to adopt the updated version of the *Territorial Agenda of the EU*. Ambition of the Polish Presidency of the EU Council is to prepare a background report concerning a transmission of the new Agenda into the principles of Cohesion Policy. Simultaneously, works in many of the projects related to the ESPON II Programme are in an advanced stage. All the aforementioned actions require a broader, sometimes critical, reflection based on the fundament of the empirical and theoretical scientific studies. Also, it is very important to compare the European documents with those prepared at the national, regional or transborder levels.

- **Europe's functional linkages in a global dimension (with a particular focus on linkages with neighbouring areas).** Functional and transport linkages of the European Union (of the particular Member States as well) in a global dimension are of critical importance. These include transcontinental transport of goods, migration movements, as well as tourism. The problems associated with these issues are focused mainly in some of the European Union regions (metropolises, transportation hubs, outer parts of East and Mediterranean borderlands). In this context, among problems to be solved is a growing overburden of port and air infrastructure in West Europe. Concerning the overland transport, a fact to be taken into account is development of the railway and road networks in some of the Asian countries (especially in China and Iran), which have impact upon development of transcontinental overland transport (in particular railway). For that reason the exploitation of „dry ports” in the eastern borders of the EU is increasingly gaining in significance.

The Ministry of Regional Development of Poland is a co-organizer of the Warsaw Regional Forum 2011. In the latter half of 2011, Poland will assume the Presidency of the European Union Council. Ambition of Polish Presidency is to strengthen the territorial dimension in cohesion policy after 2013 - as expressed by a motto: *Cohesion Policy as the effective and territorially diversified answer to developmental challenges*. The Warsaw Regional Forum is going to be one of the official conferences organized during that period of time in Poland. Conclusions reached during the discussion will become part of a support base making the best use of factual knowledge to deal with the Presidency tasks, especially as pertains to cohesion policy and to some of sectoral policies too.

A study trip before the Conference will provide a possibility to visit the examples of functional regions in Central Poland. The programme prepared by the organizers will include, among others visiting places such as: the unique Żyrardów town (the nineteenth-century center of linen production), a section of A2 motorway being now constructed by a Chinese company, one of the most valuable environmentally forest complexes in Poland – the Kampinos National Park, as well as the place of birth of Fryderyk Chopin – Żelazowa Wola (2010 witnessed a celebration of 200th birth anniversary of that world-famous composer) and finally a quiet relaxation in the recently discovered thermal springs in Uniejów. The study trip will offer opportunity for seeing an exceptional character of the Polish landscape and beauty of its towns and villages.

Preliminary Program

18.10.2011 (Tuesday)	
17 ⁰⁰ –20 ⁰⁰	Registration for study tour
19.10.11 (Wednesday)	
8 ⁰⁰ 19 ⁰⁰	Departure from Warsaw for two-day study tour on: <i>Functional regions of Central Poland (optional)</i> Reception on the study tour
20.10.11 (Thursday)	
16 ⁰⁰ –20 ⁰⁰ 20 ⁰⁰	Registration for the Conference End of the study tour; arrival to Warsaw
21.10.11 (Friday)	
8 ⁰⁰ –10 ⁰⁰ 9 ⁰⁰ –13 ³⁰ 13 ³⁰ –15 ⁰⁰ 15 ⁰⁰ –17 ⁰⁰ 17 ³⁰ –18 ³⁰ 19 ³⁰	Registration for the Conference Plenary Sessions Lunch Plenary Session Panel Discussion Conference Reception
22.10.11 (Saturday)	
9 ⁰⁰ –13 ³⁰ 13 ³⁰ –15 ⁰⁰ 15 ⁰⁰ –17 ⁰⁰ 17 ⁰⁰ –18 ⁰⁰	Parallel Sessions Lunch Parallel Sessions Closing of the Forum
23.10.11 (Sunday)	
Departure of participants	

Conference venue

The Institute of Geography and Spatial Organization, Polish Academy of Sciences
Conference Hall (6th floor), Twarda 51/55, 00-818 Warsaw, Poland

Cost of participation

Conference fee: **140 €** (for PhD students and members of Polish Geographical Society **90 €**) – covers conference materials, two lunches, tea / coffee, reception and possibility to publish an article in Institute's journals.

Accommodation: **25-100 €** (per night in Warsaw, single room, in hotels and hostels in the vicinity of the Institute).

Study tour (optional): **150 €** – (all-inclusive - covers transport, one hotel night, meals, reception, professional guides, maps and other excursion materials).

All participants are expected to cover travel and accommodation cost.

Preliminary Program of the Conference part

21.10.2011, Friday

9.00 - 11.00 First Plenary Session
11.00 - 11.30 Coffee break
11.30 - 13.30 Special Session Polish Presidency in EU
13.30 - 15.00 Lunch break
15.00 - 17.00 Second Plenary Session
17.00 - 17.30 Coffee break
17.30 - 18.30 Panel Discussion

19.30 - Conference Reception
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22.10.2011, Saturday

9.00 - 11.00		
Session A	Session B	SPACE-Net Session
11.00 - 11.30 Coffee break		
11.30 - 13.30		
Session C	Session D	SPACE-Net Session
13.30 - 15.00 Lunch break		
15.00 - 17.00		
Session E	Session F	SPACE-Net Session
17.00 - 17.15 Coffee break		
17.15 - 18.00 Closing of the Forum		

Accommodation

We recommend three hotels in the vicinity of the Institute (Towarowa 2, 00-811 Warsaw):

- (*) Hotel Premiere Classe – www.premiereclasse.com.pl
- (**) Hotel Campanile – www.campanile.com.pl
- (***) Hotel Kyriad Prestige – www.kyriadprestige.com.pl

But there are also other options – <http://www.warsawtour.pl/en/where-to-stay.html>. If You will have problems to find some accommodation, please contact with us.

Papers

Participants who wish to give a presentation should submit an abstract in the style, layout and format of the pattern (**attachment № 2**) and in accordance to the options listed below. The abstract should clearly and concisely describe the material and results being proposed for presentation. Submitted abstracts will be available on the Institute's website (www.igipz.pan.pl) from July 2011 and also will be published in a *Book of abstracts*.

There will be an opportunity to submit papers for a special issue of suitable scientific journals like *Geographia Polonica* or *Europe XXI*. Full texts should be delivered till 31 October 2011 due to publication process. In due time, we will inform you about editorial requirements.

Presentation & language

After every 3-4 presentations scheduled in blocks, there will be some 15 minutes for discussion. In every conference room, the following technical equipment will be available: Laptop, Beamer, Standard slide projector and Overhead projector. The language of the Forum is English.

Deadlines

Registration with presentation + **abstract** – 30.06.2011
Registration without presentation – 30.09.2011

Organizing Committee

- Prof. Marek Degórski (**Chair**)
- A/Prof. Tomasz Komornicki
- Konrad Czapiewski, PhD
- Piotr Siłka, MSc

Registration & Contact

Registration form (**attachment № 1**) should be send via:

- e-mail: forum@igipz.pan.pl
- postal address:
Piotr Siłka / Konrad Czapiewski
The Institute of Geography and Spatial Organization PAS
Twarda 51/55, 00-818 Warszawa, Poland
- fax: (+48 22) 620-62-21

Further information

More information will be available on the Institute's website: www.igipz.pan.pl and in the Second Circular.

Note: Picture on the first page from www.unipw.it