

## Introduction

In the modern world, the system of economic connections is complex, subject to dynamic changes, and global in nature. It is therefore difficult to distinguish between the result of well-known development processes and the phase of rapidly increasing globalization bringing new quality in its wake. Globalization seems to include, as well as give a new meaning to, all the earlier processes of economic and social development. At the same time, it disturbs the relative order and balance in the development of the world economy.

As a result, we have observed a need for research on the new principles of shaping economic order which corresponds to the current circumstances influencing the future development of the world economy. This need is to be fulfilled by the present publication, which forms the next issue of the journal 'International Business and Global Economy' established on the initiative and under the editorship of the Institute of International Business at the University of Gdańsk.

This year's publication addresses two sets of issues. The first concerns the economic and financial aspects of the globalization process and it will be covered in seven articles. The articles will discuss the following problems: tax on financial transactions in the UE, the reasons for the expansion of Polish enterprises abroad, specification of direct foreign investments in Tunisia, the influence of price change in the world on the economies of African countries, the procedures for public procurement in the UE, the load/unload capacity of the harbours in Bremen and Hamburg, as well as the application of big data analysis in customizing the offer for consumers.

The second part addresses social and economic issues in nine articles. They will deal with a wide variety of problems such as workforce migration, pension system, seniors on the labour market, cultural intelligence, multitasking in the media, counteracting mobbing, gender parity in the management, economic socialization of children and teenagers, as well as the public image of healthcare in Poland and other European countries. This group of articles confirms the growing role of social conditions in economic processes.

As we place this publication in the reader's hands, we hope that it will contribute significantly to the improvement of research on world economy globalization processes.

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