

## ABSTRACT

Innovation as a factor in the competitiveness of sea ports,  
with special regard to the port of Gdynia

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In recent years important research area within the realm of competitiveness has been study of the impact which various factors, especially innovativeness, have on improvement of competitiveness of economic entities, including seaports. The innovativeness of these entities relates to their ability to implement new ideas in business processes. Seaport, which is a link in logistics supply chains, represents a complex economic centre serving international trade in goods, offering services to cargo, passengers and means of transport. The modern seaport could differ from its competitors in many aspects. In the light of these differences and on the basis of the conducted research, it seems necessary to undertake innovative activities towards the intensive development of the seaport in Gdynia which will contribute to increasing its competitiveness. Numerous innovative trends observed all over the world and identified in the presented doctoral dissertation should be taken into account in port decision-making processes and development strategies, especially since the port is a specific facility performing various economic functions. On the basis of numerous studies (three surveys and a benchmarking study were carried out) the dissertation gives evidence that the innovations implemented and planned for implementation in the port should serve: environmental protection, ensuring climate neutrality, energy transformation, transport transformation, including electromobility, achieving low and zero-emission, ensuring the security of real and virtual operations, changes in employment (taking into account an innovative approach), disseminating modern technologies among other industries, or improving the quality of services in response to customer expectations. Green port management must include the pursuit of protecting ecosystems through the sustainable development of the port. The dissertation evaluated the innovativeness of the seaport in Gdynia in the context of its competitiveness (this kind of research should be regularly renewed) and presented recommendations for this port, taking into account the hierarchical structure of innovation factors.

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