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THE CHALLENGES OF NEW REGIONALISM: TOWARDS MODERN COMMUNITY AND TERRITORY

Summary: The paper contains ascertainments that changes taking place in the structure of modern territory and transformations in modern society are/or will be still determined by the processes of transfer of technologies and innovations, diffusion of creativity and differential development of civilizations. Indigenization of globalization (which the author interprets as glocalization) represents a shift from a more territorialized learning process bound up with the nation-state society to one more fluid and translocal. New Regionalism as a paradigm for regional development emphasizes smart, inclusive and sustainable economies. In particular, the author presents a framework for analysing New Regionalism which should include determinants such as innovative capacity, creativity, networks, high level of social capital and the role of civilization in developing regional economic resilience.

Keywords: creativity, social capital, networks, innovations, civilization.

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1. Introduction

New Regionalism allows local communities for a more intensive engagement in the processes of social and economic transformations and optimal realization of challenges faced by the contemporary territories. Modern communities and territories are characterized by new ways of thinking, activities and relationships among them. The new phenomena occurring in regions or cities are based on assumptions of a holistic and networking paradigm. At the same time, regions are becoming increasingly fragmented in many ways: economically, socially, environmentally and also politically. The governance of regions faces multi-level, multi-actor and multi-sectoral challenges. More flexible forms of governance are beginning to emerge which seek to work around traditional governmental arrangements. The result is a complex pattern of overlapping governance and fuzzy boundaries, not just in

a territorial sense but also in terms of the role of public-private cooperation, consensus and management leadership. These new arrangements cause many as yet unresolved dilemmas concerning the transparency, accountability and legitimacy of decision-making in modern regions. For developing countries, a crucial issue is whether and how regionalism can be part of a successful development strategy. Management forms of regional or local governance are introduced making best practice, implementing PPP (Public-Private Partnership) concept and Strategic Policy Intelligence tools, like benchmarking or foresight. The new tendency is observed in regional development and consisting in reversing the existing regularity of higher human resources desirability over economic resources. This trend refers, in particular, to high value human resources [Kitchin, Dodge 2011]. Due to the economic structure transformations occurring in highly-developed regions, towards the service sector domination and the increasing importance of creativity, innovation and the sphere of advanced, expert specialized services, it was assumed that currently “capital” follows “work.” It means locating economic activities in the milieu supporting these individuals who represent the so-called “creative class”.

Moreover, the contemporary national economy is characterized by globalization [Parker 1998, pp. 6–7]¹ of production processes and markets internationalization, and hence the decreasing role of borders of territories in the flow of international capitals, the increasing role of metropolises as incubators for innovation, modern technologies and creative class which allow achieving high value-added production, transition from the concept of production and economy stabilization to the concept of flexibility [Otok 2000, pp. 182–185].

It is also worth emphasizing that the spread of democracy in the contemporary world has enormous consequences for the shape of international relations and modern territories. Countries and people alike have the need to find them equal. In this perspective liberal democracy replaces the irrational desire to be greater and better than others with the rational strive for being treated as an equal partner (subject) on the international arena. As a matter of fact, as F. Fukuyama [Fukuyama 1992] argues, proofs that democratic states do not have imperialistic tendencies can be found, which does not mean, however, that they do not engage in wars with authoritarian states. What is more, the contemporary renaissance of nationalisms in the former USSR and Central-Eastern Europe confirms that the need of nations to be recognized as equal partners is very strong. A multitude of dilemmas related with new regionalism constitutes an assumption for systematic studies and analyses devoted the development of territorial units level NUTS 2.

¹ The notion of globalization is richly and diversely defined in the relevant literature. B. Parker presented this phenomenon extremely accurately in his book where he defines globalization as “a growing permeability of all borders, namely physical borders, such as time and space, national and state borders, economies, sectors and organisations borders and less intangible borders, such as cultural standards and assumptions about *how certain thing are done here*”.

2. Creativity and social capital in innovative society

Both creative milieu and creative space are the synonyms of locations which attract creative individuals as well as creative industries. Such an approach assumes the simultaneous decreasing significance of social ties, so far considered as the crucial ones (especially in the sociological perspective). The characteristic feature of creative economy trends is supposed to be the coincidence of three conditions, i.e. 3T (talent, technology and tolerance). Talent understood as creative individuals and innovative economic entities, technology representing high-tech working conditions accompanied by everyday existence and tolerance in the form of social acceptance for cultural differences and its manifestations such as the functioning of representatives coming from different environments and social groups within one territory without any conflicts stimulated by such a difference.

Such traditional determinants as e.g. the concentration of economic activities (agglomeration effects), the entire spectrum of factors related to life quality and sustainable development principles are contested by the proponents of this theory as the factors facilitating the location of human capital [Beer 2009, pp. 63–89]. The quality of human resources, understood as people and the entire social groups, their skills, predispositions and ability to generate added value, i.e. in other words, the quality of broadly understood social and human capital represent the fundamental factors in thinking about the future of regions and simultaneously one of the key determinants of their new situation formation [Miszczyk 2012]. Both traditional and innovative concepts, assumptions and ideas referring to the fundamental types of capital have been functioning within the framework of a lively debate which has been going on for many years regarding regions and their role in the construction of development potential in particular territories, i.e.: social, human [Miszczyk, Przybyła (eds.) 2008] and creative potential. Regional resources of knowledge, skills and creativity, which are responsible for the local capacity, persist inextricably linked to human capital and social capital. In the circumstances of both demographic and financial crisis, the basic question is: which regions stand the chance of becoming the “absorbing locations” for educated, entrepreneurial and creative young individuals, i.e. which regions will be capable of attracting and keeping the deficit, mobile human capital?

R. Putnam [Putnam 1995] concluded that social capital presents such social qualities as trust, but also standards and relations which can extend the social capacity by facilitating coordinated actions, where horizontal, rather than vertical ones, are of utmost importance as part of the civic involvement. The networks of mutual relationships, presenting informal, horizontal and personal nature, have beneficial influence on modern society. In the individual scale strong community relations can result in economic benefits, since it is much easier to establish trust between the individuals who are “deeply rooted” in a particular community, which can have a great impact on the costs of mutual transactions.

Social capital can also play the role of a negative factor, not always stimulating development, but sometimes even posing an obstacle for it. According to the concept based on the studies by M. Olson [Olson 1965] and J.M. Buchanan [Buchanan 1965], market economy does enhance its interests maximization by means of diverse “redistribution coalitions” at the expense of disorganized units, which disturbs the process of market allocation of goods and serves their interception in order to divide them between the “coalition” members on preferential terms (vide [Jordan 1996] cited in [Frieske 1999, p. 23]). Those who are not among such privileged members are much more prone to failure. Negative social capital is the consequence of many factors [Portes 1998]. One of them is the fact that not all groups work for common good, many of them try to maximize the implementation of their own interests at the expense of “outsiders” [Kiersztyn 2005, p. 49]. The example of such behavior is the functioning of criminal groups, mafia and clans.

Such an approach does not reduce the role of social capital in modern society and allows perceiving the fact that there are different forms of social capital accumulation and application – more or less favorable from the perspective of social welfare. It is also confirmed by F. Fukuyama, who claims that one of the irregularities experienced in economic operations is the increasing distrust of particular entities based on the assumption that the other members in a group are fully trustworthy and act in cooperation following mutually recognized norms which encourage for generally accepted behaviors. In his opinion it is this trust which is historically and culturally conditioned by social capital and which has a positive impact on economic growth and social welfare [Fukuyama 1997]. F. Fukuyama gives an example of the Chinese society, where the level of social confidence and solidarity is relatively high, however, not in relation to individuals outside the group, which can influence their economic results.

It has to be emphasized that social capital enhances both, establishing stronger ties within a social network and entering into new contacts outside it. Weak internal bonding of a social group is not always considered a negative phenomenon. M. Granovetter indicated the advantages resulting from weak social ties, facilitating higher mobility of population (in line with an English proverb: “Travel broadens the mind”). Too strong social ties can result in the tendency to reject new social trends or innovative ideas (isolation effect) and thus bring about stagnation or even socio-economic regression. It was already in the last decade of the 20th century when social capital presented certain erosion tendencies resulting from the development of civilization and the strengthening of individualistic attitudes. The following potential problems, related to local social capital, can be listed [Theiss 2004]:

- 1) significant disproportions between individuals/groups in social capital accessing (the problem of social exclusion);
- 2) social capital concentration in a family and in small groups (the problem of abnormal familism);

3) social capital concentration in exclusion or criminal groups (the problem of a clique and “power holding groups”).

The above-mentioned characteristics of social capital, the assessment ambiguity of its impact on regional development, difficulties in such impact quantification and the occurrence of new cultural and migration tendencies gave impetus to search for new explanations of socio-economic relations. Owing to exceptional skills and acquired knowledge, outstanding individuals are capable of undertaking challenges, solving problems in a region and creating its innovative spatial structure, adjusted to the challenges brought about by new regionalism. However, the crucial issue is establishing adequate regional conditions encouraging such human resources to settle or function within its territory. This can be achieved through the development of competitive infrastructure, indispensable in the process aimed at educating, supporting and extending advantages featuring the regional community.

Currently it is assumed that regions, by implementing new regional development tools, have to stimulate the development of the third type of capital, i.e. creative capital, especially in their large urban centres. The new factor of growth, an intangible asset taking the form of creativity, finds itself in the centre of interest in the development of innovative society.

It was already Albert Einstein who said that “imagination is more important than knowledge.” A. Kukliński describes creativity as a complex phenomenon made up of two integrated elements, i.e. knowledge and imagination. He also emphasizes that creativity cannot develop if deprived of the third pillar, i.e. freedom: “the climate of freedom develops knowledge and enriches the spirit of imagination” [Kukliński 2006, p. 286]. The new creative economy is perceived by A. Kukliński as the challenge for the 21st century Europe, where the vision of creative European economy promotion presents a much greater scale and imagination challenge than the Lisbon strategy itself. It is observed [Miszczak 2003] that just as in the industrial society universities were teaching how to take advantage of knowledge, also in the information society they should teach how to create it and the position of a human being in a society is determined by personal creativity abilities. The creative class [Florida 2002] represents a new type of society characterized by the establishment of economic value as a result of individual creativity. R. Florida includes two types of people in the creative class, i.e. those whose work consists in creative problems solving and innovation creation. The first group covers Super-Creative Individualists among which there are scientists, academic teachers, artists, writers, media representatives. The second group, consisting of professionals representing high-tech sector, financial or legal services, management and medicine, gathers Creative Professionals.

R. Florida [Florida 2005, p. 29] is critical about the ideas stating the disappearance of a “location” significance in the knowledge-based economy, since in his opinion “economy is gaining more and more substance based on actual population

concentrations in real locations.” However, according to him, creative individuals choose places characterized by 3T model [Florida 2005, p. 6 and Florida 2011]: technologies, talent and tolerance. Technologies and innovation represent key components which are responsible for the development capacity of locations (territories) and organizations (societies).

In order to be successful places, communities have to know a method for transforming research results, ideas and innovations into products which can be sold, following the principles of sustainable development. The role played by scientific units in this process is a supervisory one, by means of providing their innovative infrastructure necessary to transfer information. The second “T”, constituting the necessary condition for a city-region in encouraging creative people to settle in its territory, can be brought down to a statement that the leading force of economic effectiveness, in terms of locations, is represented by talented people. We exist in the world of very high mobility. People, especially the talented and creative ones, are on the continuous move. The ability of places to attract and keep the most talented and creative individuals is the most significant element of the “Creative Era.” Nowadays, when the global economy is becoming more and more competitive attracting the most outstanding talents is a great challenge for locations, but also offering them indispensable trainings and educational programs, to stimulate the level of competitiveness. Therefore, regions have to represent open locations, ready to accept new ideas, outstanding people of alternative life and work style, have to alter attitudes to social status and social structure. Creative individuals do not move to these places as a result of traditional incentives – shopping centers, sports facilities, tourist attractions – such factors are unimportant, insufficient and unattractive for many representatives of the creative class. Such people are searching for positive emotions, openness to diversity, but most of all – the possibility to be fulfilled in creative professions. The places which can be referred to as the most creative ones are highly ranked in terms of tolerance indices and also offer various amenities, i.e. attractions or facilities.

In this way it is pointed to the existence of a “binding force” which results in gathering people in one location, who owing to their high efficiency represent the driving forces behind high economic growth rate. Referring to the studies by J. Jacobs [Jacobs 1969], it can be stated that the functioning of the discussed “binding force” consists in a multiplier effect occurring as a result of accumulating many talented people in one territory. It is the concentration of such individuals which makes cities and regions the units deciding about the global progress; however, if they are to remain on the right position in the competitive game and function in accordance with the policy of “global mandate,” they have to create conditions facilitating optimal internalization of their dissipative structures, dominated by horizontal links between the creative entities.

3. The civilization approach in the modern world

Civilizations are the largest tribes in which people unite, and clashes of civilizations are tribal conflicts on the global scale. In the contemporary world states and communities belonging to different civilizations may form limited, temporary and tactical relations and coalitions to defend their interests from countries of another civilization or to achieve common goals. However, relations among societies coming from various civilizations are hardly ever close; they are usually distanced and often hostile. The connections among communities from diverse cultural circles established in the past, such as military alliances from the period of the cold war, will probably weaken or disappear. The relations between civilizations which are under creation now will acquire various forms – from the distanced to openly hostile ones, but the majority will be placed somewhere in between. What distinguishes the West from other civilizations is not the development path but the exceptionality of its values and institutions. They include above all: Christianity, pluralism, individualism and rules of law. They have enabled the initiation of modernization, expansion to the whole world and have become the object of jealousy of other communities. The combination of all these characteristics constitutes the specificity of the West, which shapes the civilization of the 21st century to a large extent, the exceptionality of which seems to be proved by the ideas of the freedom of an individual, political democracy, rules of law, human rights and cultural freedom.

The paradigm of civilization places emphasis on strict cultural relations, both personal and historical, thus facilitating the understanding of what is happening in the contemporary world. Nearly half of the forty-eight ethnic conflicts taking place worldwide at the beginning of 1993 were conflict between groups belonging to diverse civilizations.

It needs to be emphasized that, in the course of evolution, relations between civilizations (groups of societies) have undergone two phases, and now are in the third phase. For the thousands of years which passed since the first civilizations had emerged, the contacts between them either did not exist at all or were limited or rare and intensive. The movement of ideas and technologies between civilizations contributed to contacts between them but this often lasted for many centuries [Huntington 1995; Castells 1996].

In the 20th century relations between civilizations passed from the one-directional pressure imposed by one of them onto the rest into the stadium of intensive, continuous and multi-directional interactions between them all. Two major features of the previous epoch of inter-civilization relations began to disappear. One of the features indicated the end of the expansion of the West and a “rebellion” against the West began. The power of the Western civilizations weakened compared with the strength of the other civilizations. The balance of military and economic powers, as well as of political influence, has changed. The West still exerts significant impact on

other countries but its relations with the other civilizations are shaped to an increasingly larger extent by its reactions to the transformations taking place there.

The other feature was related to the fact that as a result of the above described processes, the international system went beyond the West and covered numerous civilizations. At the end of the 20th century, the West as a civilization left the stage of “the fighting state” and entered the phase of “the universal state.” The emerging universal state is a union of federations, confederations, systems and international organizations.

When referring to the notion of globalization, S. Huntington argues that modernity does not mean westernization. B.R. Barber [Barber 1996, p. 22] goes a step further – he believes that capitalism and free market not only do not support democracy and civil society (that is components of the notion of westernization in S. Huntington’s understanding), but also on the contrary sometimes – they wish to restrict the competencies of nation states, which means weakening their democratic institutions. According to S. Huntington [Huntington 1997], modernization is composed of industrialization, urbanization, increasingly more common reading and writing skills, increasingly higher level of education, affluence and social mobilization, as well as more complex and more diverse professional structures. The modernization process is a consequence of the development of scientific and technical knowledge, which began in the 18th century and enabled people to conquer the natural environment and shape it on an unprecedented scale. The West was the first civilization to undergo modernization and it acquired the modernity culture most smoothly. The most important characteristics of pre-modernization Western communities enumerated by the writer are:

- Heritage of the classical antiquity: the West acquired numerous elements from the previous generations, especially from the classical civilization: Greek philosophy and rationalism, Roman law, the Latin language and Christianity.
- Catholicism and Protestantism: historically, it is the most crucial feature of the Western civilization.
- European languages: the West differs from the majority of civilizations in the number of languages.
- Separation of the spiritual and earthly authorities: dichotomy, that is separation of religion from politics.
- Rules of law – the principle that the law occupies the central position in the life of civilized communities was inherited from the Romans. The tradition of the rules of law was a foundation of constitutionalism and protection of human rights.
- Social pluralism.
- Representation committees: they ensured forms of representation, which, in the course of modernization progress, transformed into contemporary democratic institutions.

- Individualism: it became to appear in the 14th and 15th centuries and in the West the idea of acknowledging the right to individual choice won in the 17th century. Individualism still distinguishes the West from other civilizations.

Additionally, in the contemporary paradigm of civilization, new directions are observable: McDonaldization and McWorld. The major indicators of McDonaldization are as follows [Ritzer 2008]:

- emphasis on calculability, that is considering quantity a basic assessment criterion;
- emphasis on effectiveness, that is optimization and standardization of all the forms of actions;
- emphasis on foreseeability, that is strive for schematization and uniformization of actions so that everything is repeatable and free from improvization;
- strive for manipulating people, that is preparing methods of managing people which minimize randomness of their behaviors.

McDonaldization of the society, which was first reflected only in gastronomy, soon started to influence also the manner of obtaining education, work, travel, spending leisure time, but also eating habits, methods of pursuing policy, treating one's family; in short, every area of the social life. A model of a consumer society was formed, mass culture, which is facilitated by the progressing medialization of the society and popularization of the mass media, appeared.

In his book Benjamin R. Barber (see more in [Barber 1996]) discusses the future of democracy in the contemporary world. He believes that it is threatened as a result of the operation of two tendencies (forces): the title Jihad and McWorld. McWorld is a type of virtual reality created by invisible yet omnipotent networks of highly developed information technologies and liquid supranational markets. Expansive economies of McWorld encounter resistance offered by the belligerent forces of Jihad, and this, in turn, creates a new world disorder where not much space is left for democracy. A national state has never guaranteed a democratic civil society either on its territory or by itself [Barber 1996, pp. 36–38]. These or other democracies had been formed in small cities-states *polis* long before national states were established.

Nonetheless, McWorld has its assets, too. Modernization, which we owe to it, has created a healthier, richer world which at least provides conditions to achieve better equality. We need markets which are a driving force of productivity, labor and goods production; we need culture and religion in order to enhance solidarity, identity and social consistency. What is primarily needed and desired are democratic institutions capable of guaranteeing freedom even in the communities most dominated by the Jihad ideology. When indirect civil institutions strengthen their position and democracy becomes a sovereign guarantor of our diverse world again, Jihad will be able to restrict itself to healthy forms of cultural distinctiveness, and McWorld will perform the deserved function of the economic driving force of the world in which economy is an important dimension but not the only one. What is more important for the region's image than the number of cannons today is its economic results (innovative capacity), and tomorrow it will depend on the quality of creativity and social capital.

4. Understanding new regionalism: from territoriality to networking

According to the assumptions of new regionalism, the basis of competitiveness in the structures of the regional system is no longer the traditional allocation effectiveness but the currently decisive adaptation effectiveness, whose premise and indicator are diverse – in between the market and hierarchy – forms of coordinating the actions, which are generally called networks. Networks are a certain new organizational form.

The networking processes involve the creation of a quite different economic force, since “in network methods of resource allocation, transactions are made neither by means of selected exchange acts nor by means of administrative powers of attorney, but by means of networks of individual people or institutions included in the actions on the conditions of mutuality, privilege, and mutual support. Complementarity and adaptation are cornerstones of effective production networks” [Murdoch 1995, p. 741]. In relation with the above, attention is drawn to the fact that a tendency of a significant increase of network relations which are, on the one hand, relatively “weak” relations, fairly loosely defined in comparison with traditional rules of market exchange, and on the other hand, relatively stable relations, based on mutual confidence and functioning in longer periods, with rarer changes of participants compared with money markets, is observable [Grzeszczak 1999, p. 53].

It may be stated that the network organization functions according to different rules than the traditional hierarchical economic system (territorial organization) [Domański 2002, pp. 194–198]. If the competitive price is the crucial mechanism coordinating the market and the organizational rules are the mechanism of hierarchy, the characteristics of the network is confidence and cooperation. Networks are not a simple continuation of market contracts between autonomic enterprises, nor are they a renewal of bureaucratic administrative relations. Partner cooperation, loyalty and confidence between the new and co-autonomous entities and large corporations have a greater significance. They exert influence on the dynamics of the market and, as a consequence, on the regional development. They may accelerate it or slow it down. The market competition leads to the volatility of economic relations. The relations are established, they develop and disappear. The major consequence of the networking processes is the fact that they cause certain inertia of the market and slow down market adaptation to the changing competitive conditions. Hence, network structures are usually more effective than other structures, especially when markets are uneasy and technologies undergo fast changes. Networks are particularly useful in the situations which require fast and accurate flow of the information which is crucial for commercial or social reasons. They play a key role both for small and medium, but also for an increasingly greater number of large enterprises.

Networking is an adequate and may be a very effective instrument of the economic policy of a large city or region. Networking displays progressing

fragmentation. The harmonization of diverse activities may bring significant synergic effects to them. Networks are also an important instrument of the economic policy, especially when the city or regional authorities turn from the activity consisting in providing municipal services to creating opportunities for various groups of interests [Domański 2002, p. 197]. Networking processes result in turning from places (two-dimensional territories) to spaces (multidimensional extents) and are characterized by [Teubal, Yinnon, Zuscovitch 1995]: a different sense of size, a lively ability to create clusters, equality of participants and re-intermediation. In contrast to networking, territoriality is related to hierarchy, vertical ties (which are more formal, organizational and institutional) cohesion, continuity, borders, impermeability, permanence, rigidity, autochthony, proximity and dichotomy. Consequently, in the near future, each of the entities operating in socio-economic space will be subject to the logic of networking: a structure no longer receding and decreasing in time, but constantly growing to embrace new areas and not to be connected with one territory.

Network organizations are composed of not only enterprises but also other entities which collaborate on creating the potential of regions, namely: schools, banks, economic chambers, scientific and research and development institutions, social and cultural institutions, voivodship offices, and marshal offices. Through cooperation, that is establishing networks of relations, they acquire new skills (they learn) needed for conducting economic activity, preparing effective development programs, concluding profitable contracts with multinational corporations, and they create social capital which becomes an increasingly more important economic development factor.

It is worth emphasizing that the operation of global network connections is used in the development of innovation, particularly in its interactive form. They provide conditions for exchanging information and experience as to the quality and gaining practical knowledge by partners, which may be applied in their organizations. Therefore, increasingly more attention is given to networks understood above all as networks of innovators. According to M. Teubal, the network development may be considered a process commenced by innovations, i.e. by more and more effective combination of technology (or technical knowledge) and users' needs [Teubal, Yinnon, Zuscovitch 1995]. The process is a process of collective learning.

What is characteristic in the location of global processes is that they are shaped in a relatively small number of quite strongly closed regional systems. This means that in the near future a further increase in polarization of the development phenomena in space may be expected. The result of the process will be a division of space into two major groups. The first will include strongly developed entities, which as a result of maintaining their dominance, among others by creating modern and innovative economic solutions, will become even stronger. The second will include weak entities, dominated by stagnation and backwardness; such a spatial system, dichotomous in nature, will not be vulnerable to changes in its structure, as it will be characterized most of all by limited changeability in time. In practice, this means that

without conscious and decisive actions this system will not be reversed. The network organization is not a mere ephemeral fad in theoretical disputes but a new form of an industrial structure which expresses tendencies which arise from the increasing diversity and effectiveness in the economy [Gruchman 2000, p. 117]. Moreover, due to its features, it enables partners to expand onto the enlarged area of activity; it decreases the risk by dividing it between individual enterprises, which may prevent bankruptcy of individual companies which have difficulties; it develops the learning processes of entities interconnected by means of long-term cooperation ties and makes them more dynamic; and it facilitates public-private partnership, which brings benefits in many regions [Domański 1997, p. 95].

To sum up, today's winding and difficult-to-pass business paths require intensive and long-term cooperation between all the entities participating in the process of socio-economic development. In the era of globalization and integration in progress, in particular, extensive cooperation networks have been forming and developing between individual regions, cities or enterprises, at the same time defining the specificity and structure of their economies. It has been also observed that the "de-territorization" of domestic and foreign elements within some area and the operation of the global network connections have a stabilizing influence on the economy. Due to an appropriate and effective policy, individual regions may stimulate the establishment of clusters and thus decrease the differences in the level of economic development of spatial units.

5. Conclusions

Creativity, networks, social capital and civilization approach are challenges of new regionalism. Current mechanisms of social and economic development of space whose determinants are innovative capacity, evolution of informative society, modernization and "de-territorization" of economy make new conditions of operation for territorial units, particularly for regions [Miszczak 2010]. Spatial concentration follows, related to benefits of creative industries and clustered milieus but on the other hand connected with expansion of innovative networks worldwide. These connections usually are based on knowledge, information and new technologies (see more in [Castells 1998]). Nonetheless, in the face of contemporary challenges, regional development is based not only on human and/or creative capital but also on social capital where trust is one of the most important elements. Additionally, the changes taking place in the structure of modern economic region are determined by dynamic development of networks and growth of innovativeness.

Moreover, the locations characterized by the functioning of strong ties and high level of social capital offer a privileged position to people belonging to such community and enhance "stability." Simultaneously these territories can be more

open for outside arrivals and thus promote new combinations of resources and ideas. This way both creative capital and social capital may play the role of contemporary regional stimulants for development processes and transformation of modern territory where economic growth is associated with communities in which people and businesses create strong ties [Klasik (ed.) 2009]. The ability of regional actors to become involved in the activities focused on creating the vision of the future and constructing regional strategies is related to the absorption potential of regional networks. Members of strongly tied regional networks indicate a much more significant inclination towards the exchange of opinions and attitudes about the future of a region in the situation of large social capital resources existence, coupled with the region [Malecki 2008, pp. 41–45; Kudłacz (ed.) 2010]. The processes of collective learning, differentiated in specific conditions of particular civilizations, (see more in [Morgan 1997]) are the best guarantee of high efficiency of activities in creating the vision of regional future [Harmaakorpi, Uotila 2006].

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WYZWANIA NOWEGO REGIONALIZMU: W KIERUNKU WSPÓŁCZESNEGO SPOŁECZEŃSTWA I TERYTORIUM

Streszczenie: W artykule zawarto stwierdzenia, że zmiany mające miejsce w strukturze współczesnego terytorium i przekształcenia we współczesnym społeczeństwie są albo będą określane przez procesy transferu technologii i innowacji, dyfuzję kreatywności i zróżnicowany rozwój cywilizacji. Indygenizacja globalizacji (którą autor interpretuje jako glokalizację) skutkuje zmianą od bardziej sterytorializowanego procesu uczenia się związanego ze społeczeństwem narodowym do bardziej płynnego i ponadlokalnego. Nowy regionalizm jako paradygmat rozwoju regionalnego kładzie nacisk na zrównoważone i inteligentne gospodarki. W szczególności autor prezentuje determinanty nowego regionalizmu, takie jak: kreatywność, sieci, innowacje, wysoki poziom kapitału społecznego i rolę postępu cywilizacyjnego w zwiększaniu regionalnej odporności.

Słowa kluczowe: kreatywność, kapitał społeczny, sieci, innowacje, cywilizacja.