

Timotej Jagric

**Searching for Cyclic Patterns in Aggregate Economic Activity of Slovene Economy with Spectral Analysis**

In the paper the author examines the aggregate economic activity in order to find cyclic patterns, which could be interpreted as business cycles. Therefore the author explains the definition of business cycle in the first part of the paper. In the second part are presented possible methods of cyclic pattern analysis among which the spectral analysis is selected and explained in detail. At the end of this paper the author then examines results of econometric testing and outlines several implications.

Andrej A. Luksic

**Towards the participative democracy: Is it the necessity reconstructing.... decision making institutions in economy developed country**

The author investigates the concept of the political organisation of developed industrial societies in the light of significant decisions about development, which drastically change living conditions on the planet. In terms of decision-making relevant to research and the commercialisation of technological innovations, he proposes communicational and decision-making forms which allow the public to join science, the state (politics) and industry on equal grounds in deciding the guidelines of social development - particularly in cases involving risk technologies.

Drago Kos

**"Risky" communication with local communities**

Long lasting "unsolvability" of radioactive waste disposal problem in Slovenia is to a great extent the result of underestimation of social factors involved in treatment and management of this problematic material. The progress will be possible only with radical change of basic presumptions and proceedings. The article explains that technical project logic is not sufficient, because, metaphorically speaking, up to this time no device was invented to measure symbolic contamination produced by nuclear waste. Better results, that is public acceptability is possible only if radical change of "social technology" will be introduced in proceedings concerning the solution to the nuclear waste problem.

Ester Mozina

**Adult literacy in Slovenia**

National adult literacy survey, which covered population from 16 to 65 years of age, revealed a large deficit in prose, document and quantitative literacy of adults in Slovenia in compare to developed countries of Europe and America. Professionals working in human resource development are very much aware of the backlog in the field of educational attainments of the population, but the research pointed out that the backlog of Slovenia is even greater in the field of literacy competencies. Relatively short periods of schooling of adult population (almost half of the population has completed primary level of education) is major factor of low literacy. However, main problem in Slovenia is that majority of adult population does not exploit enough the possibilities for learning at work, in the family and local community. Well educated participate in the adult education the most, and those most in need with low levels of education and literacy, the least. Some countries (e.g. nordic countries, Germany, Czech Republic, Canada) were more succesfull in retaining and developing literacy competencies of the least educated adults and thus reducing inequalities in this area.

### ***Project Strategy of Economic Development in Slovenia***

Nevenka Hrovatin

#### **Market regulation after the Accession to EU**

The EU has adopted a comprehensive set of regulations for utilities. They comprise especially the requirement for competitive opening-up of utilities and the assurance of objective, non-discriminatory and transparent access to networks, the accessibility of universal services, linking the prices to costs, which should - along with accounting separation, preventing cross-subsidization and enforcing the principle of 'user pays' - ensure the quality of services and uniformity of technical standards to enable the interconnection and interoperability of networks. The paper in the first part summarises the basic principles of the EU legislation that are universal for all utilities. In the second part it analyses recent adjustment of Slovenian utilities adhere to the EU requirements. In some sectors, such as power, gas and telecommunication, markets have already been opened up to competition prior to the official accession to the EU. The EU legislation gives the members the autonomy to choose their own method of regulation and to establish regulatory institutions. The paper suggests appropriate solutions for Slovenia and advocates more centralized approach for the regulation of local utilities.

Bojan Radej

#### **Environmental dimensions of economic development - Strategy of Economic Development of Slovenia**

A contribution comprises results of research project 'Environmental dimensions of economic development - Slovenian Accession to European Union', prepared as a background material for the Strategy of Economic Development of Slovenia until 2006. The prime target in the Strategy of Economic Development of Slovenia until 2006 is improvement of welfare. This will be followed so as to implement sustainable development, e.i. development which at least maintains the same level of welfare to present and future generations.

One of the main preconditions for implementing balanced development in a sustainable manner is improvement of monitoring system - it has been in favour of commercial development so far, leaving aside social and environmental side effects and opportunities. Thus a tool for complementing existing monitoring system practiced at IMAD has been developed by establishing system of headline indicators on environmental development. These have been tested with evaluation of previous Strategy (1995) implementation as well as in international context. Indicators are selected to provide evidence of both sustainability problems, e.i. overuse, as well as underuse of environmental capital to derive welfare.

Milena Bevc

#### **The Impact of Migration and Natural Change of Population on the Demographic Development of Slovenia and 12 statistical regions in '90.**

In the article we present one part of the topic "migration", analysed within the project "Migration in Slovenia within the context of EU accession". It includes the analysis of the impact of migration and natural change of population on the demographic development of Slovenia and 12 statistical regions; it is based on statistical data. In each of two levels observed the impact of those migration is analysed which influence the number of population (Slovenia - external migration, regions - external and interregional migration). The analysis of the influence of total external migration (citizens, foreigners) was possible only for Slovenia for the second half of the 90s. For the regions the analysis of impact of migration (external, interregional) of citizens of Slovenia was only possible, for foreigners such analysis can not be made.

Srna Mandic

### **Housing Policy in Slovenia after Accessment to EU**

The article uses “public policy analysis” approach to define and describe the elements and functions of the present Slovenian housing policy. It is argued that it lacks sufficiently articulated goals and varied instruments, while its monitoring and evaluation have not yet been implemented. This policy is too weak to sufficiently support other policies as well. In relation to its further development the following issues are raised: responsiveness to the newly emerged housing risks of vulnerable groups, incorporation of basic human rights into housing, the future course of development of renting, the impact on broader social goals and the need for a diversified treatment of investments into housing. In Slovenia is to enter EU, the following issues are considered as important: stronger articulation and defence of public interest in the sphere of housing; inconsistencies between Slovenian and European legal and institutional framework of protection of consumers and of human rights in the field of housing; the model of restitution of rental housing, applied contrary to recommendations of the Parliamentary Assembly of the council of Europe; the abilities of local actors and cities to compete for foreign investments and European funds.

Andrej Gulic and Sergeja Praper

### **Indicators as Tools for Sustainable Local Development**

Indicators are not a new topic, but in connection with implementation of the sustainable development paradigm their potential significance is sometimes not sufficiently recognized. In the paper, the main emphasis is on the process of indicator system development and use for the local level. Some main findings and recommendations from the literature are presented and assessed, and compared to the experience gained by working on the system of sustainable development indicators for the City of Ljubljana.