

## SUMMARY

This working paper has two aims. First, it tries to present the development of the empirical concepts of national competitiveness, including the period of time before Slovenia's inclusion in assessments made by renowned international institutions. Second, it analyses the IMD's and the WEF's national competitiveness concepts and Slovenia's position in the group of reference countries. The aim of the latter is not to make up for the low level of attention paid to Slovenia, but mainly to identify Slovenia's strengths and weaknesses in globalisation processes as seen by the IMD and the WEF. What is of particular interest is establishing the extent to which these indicators, subgroups and aggregates correspond to the guidelines of the Strategy for the Economic Development of Slovenia.

The analysis of individual sectors in the international context and the examination of areas of national interest, which have been carefully selected, have been prepared specifically for Slovenia. We have identified five areas of great national interest: a country's image abroad, an area where Slovenia will have to make a significant improvement as well as bear in mind that building up a reputation is a long-term and expensive process; the national market shown in the context of a free market and the regulation of market distortions, an area where Slovenia is still learning to create efficient institutional relations; industry and manufacturing and the broad and narrow identification of their main weaknesses leading to the currently low average level of international competitiveness and allocative attractiveness; technological development and innovation, which have been identified as generators of progress in raising national competitiveness, according to domestic, the IMD's and the WEF's systems. This may be achieved by raising the low scores achieved in innovation, technology transfer, and information and communications technologies. Another area is state efficiency, which helps minimise internal and external risks by planning and creating appropriate macroeconomic and social conditions by competitively and flexibly adjusting to the international environment. There are a number of methodological tools which can be improved by mathematical and statistical methods. Last but not least, they should also contribute to theoretical discussions about the new theory of national development patterns.