

EDITORIAL

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Cultural and creative industries (CCIs) have become an increasingly significant factor in urban and regional development. More and more towns and regions accommodate them in their development policies and strategies. CCIs have also gained popularity recently as an object of research of many disciplines and a focus of many educational initiatives. The interest in the industries that are the topic of this volume of *Quaestiones Geographicae* has been reinforced by the supportive policy of the European Union (its Creative Europe programme).

Those were the motives that prompted the collection in one volume of a variety of issues concerning specific features of CCI development in different geographical areas. There were also two additional stimuli:

1. Animated discussions about CCIs at the 2014 Regional Conference of the International Geographical Union in Cracow, Poland, with several sessions devoted to this topic as part of two thematic modules (*Creative Industries – A Driver of New Spatial Dynamics? Pathways Towards Creative Cities*, and *Artists and the Challenges of Contemporary Urban Development*);
2. The experience the volume editors have gained in conducting a postgraduate study *Cultural Industries in the Policy of Urban and Regional Development*, implemented in the years 2013–2015 in the Institute of Socio-Economic Geography and Spatial Management, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, Poland, as part of the Human Capital Operational Pro-

gramme, Priority IV: Tertiary Education and Science, Measure 4.3: *Strengthening the didactic potential of universities in fields of key importance for the Europe 2020 Strategy objectives*, financed by the Polish National Centre for Research and Development. This was the first educational venture of this type in Poland, with the participation of some dozen lecturers from abroad and many CCI representatives.

The present volume offers therefore a combination of academic and practical points of view as well as a survey of international and Polish experiences. It opens with an article by Paulina Tomczak and Krzysztof Stachowiak which is a theoretical introduction to location patterns and location factors of cultural and creative industries taking into consideration the great heterogeneity of this group of activities. The authors look for the best criteria for analysing spatial aspects of CCIs and end up with a proposal of two groups of models: one related to their location and the other to their market ranges.

In the next contribution Adam Nadolny deals with Henri Lefebvre's well-known concept of urban space in terms of preferences of the creative class in a modern city. This is a discussion paper presenting the point of view of an urban planner. In his opinion, records of philosophical ideas can contribute to an improvement of creative spaces in a city.

The next three articles take up the issue of cultural and creative industries in three European countries. The first, by Rafał Kasprzak, uses of-

ficial statistical data to present the development dynamics of creative industries in Poland. The second, by Rahman Nurković, describes the situation of creative industries in Bosnia and Herzegovina, with a focus on the role of local supporting policies. This may well be one of the first works on this subject in a country that suffered a war quite recently and that still has to cope with great development problems. In turn, the article by Kamila Borseková, David Cole, Katarína Petříková and Anna Vaňová analyses the case of three Slovak historical mining towns that have been successfully turned into creative cultural centres. In the authors' opinion, this direction of urban redevelopment based on 'nostalgic sentimentalism' can become an antithesis to high modernity (or even post-modernity). The article also gives policy recommendations to local and regional self-governments for making a more effective use of the existing creative potential of historical towns /cities.

The next two articles tackle specific issues related to CCIs. One, by Zbigniew Przygodzki and Ewelina Kina, deals with the importance of social networks (or more precisely, social networking sites) for the development of creative communities, and uses the Łódź Metropolitan Area in Po-

land as the case study. The subject of analysis of the other article, by Marco Copercini, is a very interesting case of a CCI production network – that of fashion design in Berlin. This city has the highest concentration of designers in Germany. The article, based on an extensive empirical research, identifies a variety of entrepreneurial strategies, spatial structures of production organisation, and types of relations between the city, designers, and their production network.

The closing article, authored by two editors of this volume and a colleague, Paweł Churski, Paweł Motek and Tadeusz Strykiewicz, presents the inclusion of cultural and creative industries in the development policies of towns and regions as a new area of education in spatial management. We hope that the programme of this educational initiative as well as the two-year experience we have had with implementing it can be used in an even wider range by other academic centres as a 'good-practice' example.

To conclude, we see this volume of *Quaestiones Geographicae* as a channel for the dissemination of knowledge (theoretical, empirical and practical) about the role of cultural and creative industries in urban and regional development, and about policies supporting this development path.