

*Knowledge has to be improved, challenged,
and increased constantly, or it vanishes.*

Peter Drucker

FOREWORD

Articles include in this publication are the effects of the *I International Scientific Seminar on Economic, social and civilizational challenges in the era of globalization*. It took place in June 2015 and was organized in cooperation with our Russian colleagues from National Mineral Resources University. We also invited the representative of Technische Universität Dresden from Germany. The aim of the seminar was exchange of scientific and research experience connected with globalization, especially with energy security in contemporary societies. The participants also discussed the problems of rational management of natural resources and environmental protection as well the issues concerning Sustainable Development (SD) and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). Additionally, during the seminar the aspects of economic, social and ecological risk management in extractive industries were presented. The agenda of the seminar included five following specific topics:

1. Sustainable Development (SD) – economic, social and ecological aspects.
2. Risk management in extractive industries.
3. Economic and social aspects of globalization.
4. Reclamation of post-mining areas.
5. Responsibility in environment protection.

Exchanging the views on mentioned topics resulted in 13 articles published in these Scientific Papers of Silesian University of Technology. In the first part of the seminar there were six papers focus on technical, economic and civilization challenges of globalization. In the second one there were seven articles concerning social and ethical challenges of globalization. Such presentation referred to interdisciplinary nature of management science and interests of the authors. It also fitted into the concept of Sustainable Development (SD) and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) exposed in areas of the debate led during the seminar.

The first part of the seminar began from issues of strategic management, such as competitiveness (*Yurii Vasilev, Determination of coal production competitiveness of the Russian Federation*), strategy development (*Diana Dmitrieva, Methodical bases of strategy forming for large potash companies*) and an enterprise life cycle (*Sergei Fomin, Mikhail Marinin, Determination the capacity of mining equipment in the design phase of reclamation*). Then the Authors considered risk management methods in extractive industries (*Oksana Marinina, Mariy Tochilo, Analysis of the possibility of using modern risk assessment methods in mining industry; Tomasz Nawrocki, Izabela Jonek-Kowalska, Fuzzy logic in risk assessment of a mining enterprise in the context of Polish economic conditions*) and the problems of efficiency assessment in a multilevel enterprise (*Tatiana Ponomarenko, Anna Leonovich, Construction principles justification of economic results formation model in a multilevel company*).

The second part of the seminar included primarily the articles dedicated to Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and Sustainable Development (SD). CSR is considered from philosophical perspective (*Michael S. Aßländer, Beyond the tool-box – CSR examined from philosophical perspective*), in the context of Polish enterprises practices (*Aleksandra Kuzior, Bartłomiej Knosala, Changes in perception and implementation of CSR in the Polish enterprises*) and from the perspective of Human Resources Management (*Mariusz Zieliński, Profitability of CSR from the perspective of HRM*). The Authors also examined relations between CSR and innovations (*Remigiusz Kozubek, The link between innovation and CSR. Short look on a bi-directional system of innovation-driven CSR and CSR-driven innovation*) and the influence on precariat and precarious work on Sustainable Development (*Karolina Rąb, Łukasz Rąb, Precariat and precarious work as negative factors conditioning Sustainable Development*). In this part there were also two articles about civilisation and environmental challenges of globalization (*Jarosław Mikołajec, Ethical responsibility for the future generations: global society in the perspective of climatic catastrophe in the context of the Giddens paradox; Marina Anatolievna Nevskaya, Oxana Ruslanovna Kabak, State regulation of mining and mineral processing waste*).

The editors hope that this publication contributes to better understanding the economic, social, environmental and civilization challenges of globalization and let us to continue cooperation with our partners from Russian Federation and Germany.

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