



Transport Geography Papers of Polish Geographical Society

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INTRODUCTION

Wprowadzenie

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The third volume of the *Transport Geography Papers of Polish Geographical Society*, published in 2019, includes six articles and a book review. The most frequently addressed issue was rail transport, mainly in the regional context, illustrated by two cases from Austria and Nigeria. However, the issue of revitalising rail objects worldwide was also mentioned. Another interesting matter taken under consideration was the relation between rail infrastructure and tourist attractiveness, especially rail accessibility to objects being tourist destinations. The issue of implementing new technologies in order to make operation of urban rail systems more efficient was also addressed in the volume.

The volume opens with the study by M. Smoliner and S. Walter on the influence exerted by seasonal rail timetables on overall attractiveness of rail connections in terms of both regional and long-distance services. The authors focus mainly on the regional context, concluding that such connections are largely affected by commercial companies while the long-

distance ones are not. The authors indicate the effects of such situation and some potential solutions for the resulting problems.

The next article by O. Adeaga, O. Dogbonjaye and O. Akinbaloye covers safety issues relating to Iddo-Mushin transport corridor in Nigeria. The authors point out that it is overexploited and lack of infrastructural projects aimed at its revitalisation what led to derailments in the past. According to the presented study, numerous vertical and horizontal deformations as well as inappropriate steering angles and track gauge are the main reasons behind the decrease of effective train speed to 80 km/h. The authors emphasize importance of proper maintenance and continuous modernisation of rail infrastructure in the context of socio-economic development of Lagos.

In the third article A. Gardzińska focuses on the tourist function of revitalised rail objects, e.g. Polish and foreign railway stations. The author points out central location of such objects significantly increasing their attractiveness. Moreover, the rail objects

transformed into tourist attractions were categorised according to their spatial form, function, location and ownership.

The fourth article by A. Sawińska concerns transport accessibility to recreational spaces for the elderly. It is a case study of a housing estate named Osiedle Zawadzkiego-Klonowica in Szczecin. The author draws attention to the problem of ageing residents living in this estate and the fact that along with the ageing process their demands are also changing. Another issue is implementation of modern technologies into the transport system of Szczecin, like tickets machines or smart display screens. The author claims that such solutions may decrease the accessibility to transport services for the elderly.

B. Meyer and M. Szaja also refer to implementation of modern technologies into urban transport systems, paying special attention to the environmental issues. The article presents examples from the largest worldwide agglomerations as well as a Polish case of Szczecin.

The sixth article by P. Stepanov is an analysis of establishment and operation of trolley systems world-

wide. The author points out that the number of such systems has been decreasing for the last 70 years and such systems are still in operation mainly in the postsoviet countries. The author lists decisive factors behind variable popularity of trolley systems, one of them is the 1970's fuel crisis in the USA.

The volume ends up with a review by A. Ciechański of a book by D. Banister entitled "Inequality in Transport" published in 2018 by Alexandrine Press Marcham.

All the articles of the third volume of the *Transport Geography Papers of Polish Geographical Society* are an interesting compilation of studies contributing to the transport geography state of art. The still rising status of the journal has just been confirmed by the fact that on 31st July 2019 it was enrolled in the list of scored journals published by the Ministry of Science and Higher Education.

On behalf of the Editor Board and myself I wish all the Readers a pleasant and interesting reading hoping that this publication will inspire You to new scientific research.

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