

EDITORS NOTE

This is already the third in this year's issue of our journal. Two previous were a special edition and mainly concerned the dangers of development in the mid-century. This edition slightly deviates from this pattern. Risk still appears in many articles, but a significant proportion belongs to considerations of possibility of implementing new solutions.

The first three articles cover topics from Asia. Wojciech Hübner, in his extensive article "*The Great Silk Road Renaissance tradition: the prospect of China and Central Asia*" is considering the possibility of building the New Silk Road. It shows the attitude to this project both the global superpowers and the countries of Central Asia. In addition to the information on existing strategies of reactivation the Silk Road, the author points to the existence of numerous threats that may create a barrier to the integration process.

Sylwia Śmietanko in the article "*Economic success and the environment of PRC*" shows the environmental costs of economic transformations that have taken place in China. Against this backdrop, it indicates the most likely future direction of the changes taking into account the many issues raised by the author.

This part ends with an article by Maciej Hacaga "*Commodity determinants of China's development in the XXI century*". The author, based on the achievements of economic history, argues that the observed contemporary China's economic development is not unusual, because the country much earlier than Europe had appropriate conditions for entering the path of industrialization and innovation. For this reason, it must be assumed that in the medium term, the pace of development will continue to be impressive, and China has the opportunity to become a leader not only in terms of production volume, but new solutions as well. A significant obstacle on this path is access to natural resources, which is the main subject of discussion.

In the second part of the issue, the considerations on social issues are leading. In this regard, Bogdan Galwas in the article "*The World after the first decade of the XXI century. Time for the welfare state*" indicates the need to increase interest in the social aspects of life.

In a similar spirit, but more emphatically speaks Waldemar Czajkowski in the article "*The problem of the XXI century socialism*". Based on the experience of the twentieth century, he shows the challenges associated with the implementation of socialism in modern era. At the same time he believes that the

current model of development based on capitalism must be transformed. Feasible alternative seems to be a renaissance of the idea of socialism.

The last article was written by Marek Chlebuś. It refers to the deteriorating economic position of Poland in the world. The author points out that the authorities rarely present the data under a pessimistic light, even if it is obvious. In such a situation, one of the most frequently observed movement is to change the indicators, which prevents easy comparison of data between periods. This outcome are worrying.

At the end of the issue, we present a subjective review of the most interesting international trends in futures studies. In addition, we show a chronicle of the activities of our Committee and its recent publication.

We warmly welcome people interested in posting articles in the "Future". Each text concerning the future research will be considered by us. All articles are subject to double-blind review process. Requirements for authors and reviewing procedure are described on the journal's website: <http://www.prognozy.pan.pl/index.php/wydawnictwa/38-newsletter-committee>. Editors also publish reviews and information on conferences. In the latter case, it is worth remembering that the magazine is a biannual, which means that sending a message should be made well in advance.

Enjoy reading.

Editorial Board