

# EU DYNAMICUS NEWSLETTER

## Dear readers,

Welcome to the newsletter of the Jean Monnet Chair at the Faculty of Political Science and Journalism at Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań.

JM Chair started to operate in October 2016. Teaching and research activity conducted within the chair focuses on the crucial social and economic processes which currently take place in the European Union.

Our team consists of: prof. Maciej Walkowski (head), Tomasz Brańka (PhD), prof. Jarosław Jańczak, Joanna Skrzypczyńska (PhD) (see the photo).

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We are supported by PhD students: Kinga Jasiak and Rafał Szymanowski. Our newsletter will be published twice during the semester.



## JM CHAIR ACTIONS

### COLLEGIUM POLONICUM CONFERENCE

On September 26-28, 2017 members of the Jean Monnet Chair “European Union – Economic Development, Young Europeans and Innovations in Crisis overcoming and Union’s Sustainability” took part in the II national Congress of European Studies “State in the European Union”.

Three thematic panels have been organized by the Jean Monnet Chair (*Europa in post-crisis era. Strategies for economic growth and*

*employment*). In these panels 12 speakers and several disputants took part.

Panels were led by prof. UAM dr hab. Maciej Walkowski.

## JM CHAIR COURSES

As part of the JM Chair, courses are available to students of the Faculty of Political Science and Journalism at AMU.

Courses (in Polish and English) are conducted both in the form of a traditional lecture as well as through e- learning.

The following courses were available on the master and bachelor level in the summer semester of 2016/2017:



***Innowacje i myślenie kreatywne na rynkach Unii Europejskiej***

***Procesy globalizacji i regionalizacji w gospodarce światowej***

***Multiculturalism in business practice***

***Cities in Europe as a Source of Economic Growth and Social Policy***

## COMMENTARY

### ***Borders and borderlands as a source of development potential***

*Jarosław Jańczak*

One of the key elements to understand the nature of contemporary economic development is to test the relations between the various forms of border regime structure and the issue of the economic development of the adjusted regions. Due to security considerations, most political-territorial

organisms have tended to develop spatially and functionally according to a pattern of centers where resources concentrate and peripheries that are underdeveloped. The European integration process, together with the erosion of borders and creation of a common market, created an entirely new situation, leading to the new paradigms of border-related economic development.

*„Economic development seems to be the most relevant political postulate of the last decades in Europe”*



*Prof. Jarosław Jańczak*

## ***Borders and borderlands as a source of development potential***

It can be empirically represented by at least three levels: Euroregions, cross-border metropolises and border twin towns.

Economic development seems to be the most relevant political postulate of the last decades in Europe, especially in the context of economic crises and overcoming them

Problems with unemployment, budgetary deficits, as well as public debt have consequences for social processes, especially the migration of young people, as well as political ones, visible in the growing gap between the dynamic north and the south sinking in stagnation.

At the same time, development-oriented policies started to dominate in the functioning of the European Union. Most of the policies and, consequently, financial resources devoted to their implementation are step by step more development-oriented than they used to be. As announced by the new President of the European Commission, Jean Claude Juncker, “getting Europe back to work” is the key aim here. In the debate on economic development, one of the discussion elements is, however, still conceptually and descriptively not present enough: namely borders. As Norman Pounds<sup>1</sup> stresses: “[b]oundaries not only set limits to political obligations; they also set bounds of economic regimes. [...] one frequently finds abrupt changes at political boundaries, quite unrelated to the physical setting. Their explanation must lie with the contrasted economic and social policies pursued on each side of the line”<sup>1</sup>.

Of course, the wide and rich literature on economic integration deals with the issue as belonging to the very core of the European project. “*Free markets and open borders* have been central aims for the EU ever since its foundation with the Treaty of Rome in 1957”<sup>1</sup>. Satisfying neo-functional needs, in its logics of *spill over*, led to the Single European Act and *four freedoms*, creating a single market where state borders no longer prevent goods, services, people and capital from free circulation. This was followed by the introduction of the Schengen provisions and the physical elimination of direct controls on the internal borders of signatories. All those processes have been reflected in academic discussion. The free market approach that seems to dominate here has led to treating borders only as obstacles, and their elimination as one of the most crucial elements of the integration process. Much less attention has been paid to the category of borders themselves, as well as the complex interrelations between borders and their shape, and economic development – especially from the local and regional perspective. Additionally, the changing dynamism of the European Union (visible for example in its enlargements) is often missing.

## Upcoming Events



### **Conferences**

*On February 1-2, 2018 members of the JM Chair will take part in the International Conference “Europe of the 21st Century”. As every year, it takes place at the Collegium Polonicum in Słubice.*

### **Lectures autumn 2017/2018**

***Przedsiębiorczość i zatrudnienie w gospodarce międzynarodowej***

***Międzynarodowe determinanty rozwoju społeczno-gospodarczego Polski***