

REGIONAL DIFFERENTIATION, AGGLOMERATION AND CLUSTERS (THEORY AND CASE STUDY OF THE NEW EU MEMBER STATES)¹

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Abstract. *The economies of the new EU Member states have, in the past two decades, undergone marked changes, which substantially manifest themselves even at regional level. The transformation of the economies of the Central and Eastern European states was on the regional level, very significantly connected with differential tendencies. In all new EU Member states there has been from the beginning of the 90s to date a continuous deepening of regional disparities on the economic level. Besides changes in the location of GDP, there has also been a great shift in the structure of business structures. Grouping firms into the developing sectors of industry and services has largely changed the structure of regional structures on the territory of the new EU Member states. The goal of this study is to clear up the current situation and trends of regional differentiation and agglomeration (regional clusters) of the new EU Member States.*

Keywords: *new EU Member states, regional disparities, regional clusters*

¹ This paper was elaborated within the framework of Research Plan No. MSM6138439909
Governance in Context of Globalised Economy and Society.

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