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INTRODUCTION

A seminar of doctoral students and assistants in Lubniewice has already become an annual tradition. Representatives of two major organizers, i.e. The Poznań University of Economics and Viadrina University are the participants. However, people from other universities and countries are also invited. In the seminar which was held in May 2002, and which resulted in the following publication, young scholars from Greece and Ukraine worked alongside the representatives of Poland and Germany.

From the outset the idea of the seminar is to enable young scholars to present the results of their research, which are normally a part of their PhD theses.

The assumption of the seminar is that the range of topics discussed is quite broad. The organizers' aim is to create an environment conducive to a free exchange of views and confrontation of ideas presented by young scientists who specialize in various areas of widely understood economic studies. The layout of the following book reflects the variety and multiplicity of the subjects discussed, as it contains papers referring to the European integration and economic policy in its various dimensions as well as studies in finance, banking, strategy, marketing, logistics, computer science. The reader will also find here analyses concerning the problems of the labor market or education, both of which being very specific yet relevant to and existing in Poland.

The collected papers have mostly been prepared by the people from the three faculties of the University of Economics, i.e. the Faculty of Economics, the Faculty of Management and the Faculty of Commodity Science. The articles clearly show that the University is not only one of the leaders in economic education but a center of extensive scientific research involving all areas of economic studies.

At the end, following my predecessor Prof. Jan Sobiech during whose term the Lubiewice 2002 seminar was held, let me express my sincere hope that the papers in the publication can be useful materials for discussion during English classes organized for the students of the University and the problems and solutions presented in the articles will also stimulate further research and preparation of papers for the next seminar.

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