

## ABSTRACT

*Doctoral dissertation: "Influence of Business Support Institutions on the Development of Entrepreneurship in Micro, Small, and Medium Size Enterprises in the Małopolskie Province"*

Recently, there has been a growing interest in business support institutions instruments for entrepreneurship support. The reason is both Poland accession's to the European Union structures consisting in adapting the Polish economy to the European standards and the changing conditions of micro, small, and medium enterprises' operation on the market. The aim of the dissertation is to assess the influence of business support institutions on the development of entrepreneurship in micro, small, and medium size enterprises. The main goal of the research was to design a study model assessing the influence of business support institutions of the micro, small, and medium enterprises sector in the Małopolskie Province on their organisational entrepreneurship level. The results of the study are a starting point for identifying the measures for the improvement of the efficiency of instruments of business support in the Małopolskie Province. The main research objects were micro, small, and medium size enterprises and business support institutions in Małopolska.

The dissertation consists of five chapters, the first two of which focus on theory and methodology, and the subsequent three are empirico-analytical.

The first chapter shows the identification of business support institutions in light of literature. The ontological specificity and typology of these institutions are presented. The framework of the development of business support institutions in Poland is described, which allows for the formal and organisational base of their functioning to be presented. The actions of Polish business support institutions in comparison with European experiences are also presented.

The second chapter focuses on the methodological basis for studying the influence of business support institutions on the development of entrepreneurship in micro, small,

and medium enterprises. Entrepreneurship and intra-entrepreneurship aspects together with their measurement methods are discussed. The study model and the operationalisation of the assessment system of the influence of business support institutions on the development of entrepreneurship in micro, small, and medium enterprises are also discussed.

The third chapter characterises the business support institutions operating in the Małopolskie Province. Institutional entrepreneurship indicators for Małopolska are presented in dynamic terms. Małopolska business support institutions infrastructure are characterised.

The fourth, empirical chapter comprises the analysis and assessment of efficiency of the Małopolska business support institutions in supporting the development of entrepreneurship in micro, small, and medium size enterprises. The results of empirical research on the influence of business support institutions on the development of entrepreneurship in micro, small, and medium size enterprises are presented.

The last chapter seeks to identify the measures for the improvement of efficiency of business support instruments in supporting micro, small, and medium size enterprises. The stimulants and barriers for the development of entrepreneurship of such enterprises are described. The last part of the chapter comprises conclusions and recommendations for business support institutions operating in the Małopolskie Province regarding the improvement of the support they offer to micro, small, and medium size enterprises.

The aim of the studies presented in the dissertation was to verify the efficiency of the instruments of support of micro, small, and medium size enterprises used by business support institutions in the Małopolskie Province. This can help to improve the support of the development of this class of enterprises. The results will be economic growth, increase in innovation and competitiveness on local and global markets.

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