

The creation of clusters is one of the most advanced ways of thinking about possibilities to build a competitive position for businesses and regions that need public policies developed at central and local level, with the support of entrepreneurs and scientific research institutions. The regional clustering processes indicate the maturity of their market activity and serve to orient and maintain the capacity for long-term development. They create a structure for positive interactions, knowledge exchange, technology transfer and the maintenance of pro-development experiences that can effectively increase the entrepreneurial activity of local and regional economic institutions.

This dissertation attempts to assess the role of clusters in shaping the regional economy from the perspective of economic life practice. The analysis deriving from both the epistemological side and the concept of conducted research may be the source of inspiration for potential changes in the optics of supporting the creation of clusters and shaping the principles of regional development.

The subject of studies was the role of clusters in economic and social processes and shaping the competitiveness of market entities in Silesian Voivodeship.

The purpose of this thesis was to show the abilities of cooperative activities based on shaping clusters as a significant factor of generating market advantages in more and more turbulent and oftentimes hypercompetitive environment. Prepared research tools were used to diagnose and assess the functional activities of clusters in different market and management configurations. The binding concept behind the dissertation was the desire to show theories advanced in literature and the pragmatics of ongoing operations as well as related obstacles and dysfunctionalities of currently working clusters.