

Studia Ekonomiczne 59

TEORETYCZNE I PRAGMATYCZNE PROBLEMY EKONOMII

– PRZESZŁOŚĆ I TERAŹNIEJSZOŚĆ

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STRESZCZENIA

INCONVENIENCE WITH BUDGETARY DEFICIT IN FIRST YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE OF SECOND POLISH REPUBLIC AND IN GREAT PERIOD OF ECONOMIC CRISIS

Summary

It lead of maintenance of budgetary balance in period of interwar two decades, which resulted from accepted a liberal doctrine generally. It has not managed to keep it in spite of fetches in the first years after the war and in a great period of economic crisis. A government used different methods of covering of budgetary deficit. Two methods directly discuss in article concerning society: escalation of tax load and dragging of domestic loans. Budgetary deficit on these years to which concentrate take a stand.

POLISH SOCIALISTS' ATTITUDE TO WŁADYSŁAW GRABSKI'S MONETARY REFORM

Summary

Polish Socialist Party identified the need healing monetary relations, because the terrible inflation and huge budget deficit affected particularly adversely the incomes and living conditions of economically vulnerable workers, the unemployed, as well as windows, orphans and disabled. Therefore, the socialists approved Grabski's reforms and supported him in the parliament.

Silesian branch of PPS accepted the settlement of the head office and defended the positive elements in Grabski's programme in the Silesian parliament in its regional press.

MONEY AS A MEDIUM OF COMMUNICATION

Summary

Functioning of complex socio-economic systems is based on communication with money as one of the most important mediums of social communication. In this article we discuss some economic, social and informational aspects of this phenomenon. We analyze socio-economic functions of money, selected theoretical views on the role of money in the society, as well as the course and consequences (both destructive and constructive) of the evolution of money as a medium of social communication. Development of diverse means of communication, including money, is necessary for wealth formation in socio-economic systems. Despite the instability of value of money, because of which money is not a perfect medium of communication with infinitive area of influence, a wide treatment of money as a medium of social communication allows to interpret in a new way such monetary phenomena as inflation.

INSTITUTIONAL COUNTRY'S COMPETITIVENESS VS ECONOMIC FREEDOM.

Summary

The category of international country's competitiveness has plenty of different definitions and measures in the economic literature. The main aim of the article is to distinguish the category of institution's competitiveness from the concept of international country's competitiveness and to define the right measures to each category. The article also discusses the definition of the institution and describes the institutional factors (especially their importance and functions in the economy). The article also presents competitiveness factors which such institutions as WEF and IMD use to measure international competitiveness. Also the methodology of economic freedom measurement is present. The conclusion of the article is that the right measures to describe institution's competitiveness are measures of economic freedom, especially Index of Economic Freedom, Economic Freedom of the World Index and Doing Business.

THE INFLUENCE OF GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION OF COUNTRIES ON THE LEVEL OF TRADE BARRIERS

Summary

This paper seeks an answer to questions on the relationship between distance and the cooperation barriers.

Each economy is more or less related to foreign economies, but along with distance between countries arise some kinds of trade barriers – in particular divergences in GDP per capita, the lapse of time, transport and security costs, difficulties in communication, tariffs and another instruments of trade policy. It seems, that the first barrier is the most significant, because the economic development determines also effects of the other variables. For example, more developed countries run a more intense advanced trade (in IT technologies) and this kind of cooperation is beyond of above mentioned barriers.

It can be stated, that today the international system is composed of a core and a periphery. Being of the latter is result of geographical location and economic development. The periphery still has a way to go in catching up to the core, but it is more difficult than years ago.

FOREX DERIVATIVE INSTRUMENTS

Summary

Derivative instruments have been used by investors for a long time. Recently, however, there has been observed growing interest in these particular instruments. One can presume that this phenomenon can be caused by huge losses suffered by many financial institutions. The daily trading volume of derivatives reaches milliard of US dollars.

As far as derivative instruments are concerned, their way of functioning and using difficult mathematical models in their evaluation, can we think that only experienced and highly educated and specialized investors are able to use derivatives? In my opinion, it does not have to be so, because the basic notions and rules that apply to these instruments and transactions are very easy to understand and grasp. It can be generally observed nowadays that derivative instruments are used by constantly growing number of investors such as governments, banks, different kinds of corporations and companies, dealers as well as individual investors.

The aim of this article is to present and explain basic notions and the rules on trading of a particular group of derivatives, namely forex derivative instruments. The first part of this article is focused on the historical aspect of the aforementioned instruments. The second part entirely deals with Synthetic Agreement for Foreign Exchange (SAFE) and the third one deals with futures. The forex swaps (FX swaps) are described in the fourth part of this paper. The forex options are presented in the last part of the article, which includes also the comparison of exchange traded options and over-the-counter options.

THE IMPACT STRUCTURAL FUNDS ON THE LABOUR MARKET IN POLAND

Summary

Poland has been one of the main beneficiaries of the EU regional policy since 1 May 2004. At the final stage of the implementation of programmes co-financed by structural funds for the period 2004-2006, our country has already initiated the programmes for 2007-2013.

This article shows how structural funds impact on the labour market in Poland. Using model HERMIN, MaMoR2 and results of research: impact of fund structural interventions on employment prove changes of unemployment and employment level.

It is known today already, that these models not fully managed to foresee the change of basic macroeconomic data. It needs to be recognized that there will be some delayed Structural Funds employment effects which may not become fully apparent during the programming period itself. This may be because projects start relatively late and due to the nature of the interventions themselves. Usually an intervention with using Structural Funds will affect not only labour market, but through them cause more changes in the socio-economic or natural environment. Results include specific effects occurring after a certain lapse of time but which are, nonetheless, directly linked to the action taken and the direct beneficiaries and global impacts are longer-term effects affecting a wider population.

A CHANGE IN AN UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS SYSTEM AS AN ELEMENT OF LABOUR MARKET POLICY

Summary

The article refers to changes in Polish unemployment benefits system, which took place during 1989-2008. Main changes were connected with the level and duration of unemployment benefits. The intention of changes was to raise incentives for unemployed to take up a job, but the aim to make an income support for unemployed during first months after losing job was also noticed. It seems, that reform implemented in December of 2008 especially made Polish unemployment benefits system less generous. There is no certainty, that it was the best moment, because of a downturn in the economy.

THE WELFARE STATE IN THE WESTERN SOCIETIES. AN OUTLINE OF EVOLUTIONARY APPROACH

Summary

The welfare state is nowadays a permanent cultural component of the Western societies. It should be pointed out though that there is a considerable difference between the 'classical' model of the welfare state, which was developed during the post-war decades, and the modern model, which roots can be traced back to the socioeconomic changes of the 80s. The welfare state is challenged today by rather new problems which are caused by endogenous and exogenous factors. The former comprise of the so called new social risks and the effects of welfare state arrangements on individual's behavior and the latter include the impact of globalization and austere economic conditions.

The paper explores the process of welfare state development, the evolution of its goals and duties, and shows the theoretical attempts to interpret its progress. The article ends with conclusion that despite of the growing popularity of welfare state's criticism, it is doubtful that it shall disappear from the landscape of the Western societies, although its evolution seems to proceed faster than before.

SYSTEM TRANSITION IN EAST GERMANY

Summary

The objective of the article is description of specific character of system transition in East Germany. Consequently there will be put forward a hypothesis, that implementation in East Germany institution of high developed economy was not successful from the point of view of quickly economic unification. One of the reasons is that, social market economy was not efficient in the moment of implementation and the specific character of post communist countries was not respected.

COMPETITIVENESS FACTORS OF SPANISH AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

Summary

The main issue of the article is analysis of some determinants which shape competitiveness of Spanish agricultural sector. The article shows the potential of Spanish agriculture in the form of recourses of land and labour and their economic effectiveness. The attention is also paid to the education level of the operation manager as it is one of the human capital measures.

According to the research it is worth noting that the low economic effectiveness, low quality of human capital and low level of agricultural income have the most negative influence on agricultural competitiveness in Spain.

It is crucial to concentrate arable land and to take at the same time actions that would lead to the increase in qualifications and work output of farmers in order to improve the competitiveness of Spanish agriculture. Furthermore, there is a need to improve the agricultural profitability which can give rise to stepping up investment and environment-friendly activity in the future.

CONSEQUENCES OF GLOBAL FINANCIAL CRISIS OF 21TH CENTURY TO THE SPANISH ECONOMY

Summary

Contemporary global financial crisis, which begun on the American subprime mortgage market, affects all national economies in the world. It has only accelerated slow down of Spanish economy. In the last decade Spanish economic development was mainly based on the housing industry and private consumption, which was financed by outside resources.

There are two the most affected areas of Spanish economy: housing industry and labour market. To revive Spanish economy it is crucial to provide structural reforms in the area of labour market and system of education and to limit the use of monetary methods in order to direct increasing consumption and investment demand.

INSTITUTIONAL DEFECTS OF LATIN-AMERICAN SYSTEMS

Summary

The article describes problems connected with institutional conditions in some Latin-American economies, especially some weaknesses and defects of the institutional environment.

In the article only three areas of many institutional conditions are examined but they are the biggest challenge for Latin-American countries. The first institutional dimension is connected with the democratization process and the necessity of democracy consolidation in these economies. The problem of poverty and social inequality and the elements slowing down institutions' formation – they are the next dimension of institutional defects of Latin-American systems. The third institutional dimension is closely connected with the quality of governance and the quality of business environment.

The analysis of some institutional conditions in Latin-American economies can contribute to the future reflections on the role of the institutions in the New Institutional Economics.

DEVELOPMENT AID DILEMMAS

Summary

Development aid in the form of cash, material or technology transfers from developed to developing countries is one of the elements that should decrease deepening gap between rich North and poor South. Article is an attempt of presentation of development aid problems with particular consideration of Official Development Assistance, as well as presentation of principal development aid dilemmas.

FROM ECO DEVELOPMENT TO ECO TOURISM

Summary

Tourism is seen as a very positive activity giving numerous economical, social and cultural advantages. It results in the development of civilization as well. Unfortunately the reality is different from previous expectations because of the massive development of tourism. It is accompanied by many destructive activities to natural environment. Research is being done to introduce only these that are environmentally friendly. This branch of industry is also very sensitive to the latest eco-trends. So the local communities are being activated to create their local eco awareness. It is also important to change the holiday standards by tourists to become satisfied with the eco tourism offer.