

## **Abstract**

### **Flexibility and localization of work in Czechia 1991–2011: analysis of the spatial aspects**

The working process, its arrangement and its consequences have been a crucial part of a development of society in space. Work as a significant factor forming the space gets into the interest of social geography, at least until the Industrial Revolution, which led to a spatial mismatch between a place of residence and a place of work.

The process of social transformation, together with the macroeconomic changes affecting post-socialist countries and the mass development of mobile information and communication technologies in the post-revolutionary period, stimulated a significant change in the issues of job localization and the differentiation of forms of work that became less embedded in the sense of temporal, spatial and functional meanings. This transformation led to irregularity of spatial movements associated with commuting to work on the one hand and its delocalization, or disappearance from physical space, and moving to the virtual space on the other. Hence, commuting to work and the relationship between home and work place is one of the crucial topics of Albertov's social geography. However, insufficient attention in domestic literature has been paid to the issue of the unembedded types of work. The aim of this thesis is focus on the relationship between work mobility and its attributes, in sense of (de)localization and flexibility of work and urban environment. Emphasis is placed on understanding the spatial aspects of work in contemporary society and the factors that shape it. At the same time, the dissertation contributes to the understanding of the links between the spatial impact of the working process at the time of widespread mobile information and communication technologies, which transform traditional concept of the working process and the use of space and time to work on the one hand and the formation of metropolitan regions on the other.

The dissertation consists of two parts, the first places research of flexibility and localization of work into a broader theoretical framework. Subsequently, it deals with methodological challenges arising from societal changes and search for solutions, which will lead to an appropriate understanding of relationship between flexibility and localization of work on one hand and the region forming processes on the other. The second part of the dissertation consists of a set of six mutually interconnected publications of the author, which deals with the researched issue. After the introduction of these publications, their methods and the main empirical findings relevant to the topic of the thesis, the dissertation presents their full text versions. Publications are sorted from a wider theoretical-methodological framework, through the historical perspective, to the empirical articles focusing on individual research areas of flexibility and localization of labour.

**KEY WORDS:** Flexibility and localization of work, labour geography, Czechia, Prague metropolitan region