

Highways building and expressways in general has been taking place all over the world for tens of years. As one of the major advantages of this building up is almost automatically, except an improvement of traffic situation, mentioned the benefit to the regional development in concerned areas. However, there are a few executed studies of highways impact on the regional development and most of them are from abroad. The studies show that presence of highway has a different impact on each region. But, they also warn on the adverse effects of highways on the regional development, especially in the peripheral regions. In those regions highways rather further deepen the disparities between the core and the periphery. The town of Rokycany acts as a relatively strong centre for its hinterland and thanks to D5 highway as a suburban area of the nearby and ten times larger city of Pilsen. The traffic diverting out of the town centre was necessary even if the local shopkeepers can experience a drop of incomes. The local authorities and the major firms welcome the presence of highway.