

## ABSTRACT

One of the fundamental spheres of the geographical research is an issue of spatial organization of society. Spatial organization of human activities and society as a whole is influenced by general principals of evolution of socio-geographical systems as well as local differences and partial processes. Social and economical transformation, which has launched after the demise of communism in Central Eastern Europe in 1989, is one of these processes. This thesis exerts on describing the impact of post-socialist transition on spatial organization. Four the most advanced countries of former "Eastern" Europe are taken under scrutiny. It can be assumed, that there will be very similar results of transformation impact on regional structures, because of spatial, historical and developmental similarities of these countries. The main object of this thesis is to evaluate the nature of transformation impact on spatial concentration of population and economy and to display the changes in their regional pattern. From regional development point of view, two geographical factors are emphasized. It is hierarchical and horizontal position of given regions. Basic units of empirical analysis are NUTS 3 regions. To answer the questions, this paper uses descriptive statistical methods and linear regression analysis. Gradual changes of social, economical and geographical environment (concentration of activities, differential development potential) have brought about an increase in disparities between cities and regions. The most spectacular demonstration of this was the deepening (polarization) of differences between metropolis and rest of the country, especially in field of economy. Only in the case of natural change of population the decrease of inequalities was observed. The most important reflection of transformation change in urban system in the last twenty years was nevertheless the initiation and the progress of suburbanization process.