

## Abstract of **Andrzej Miszczuk, Alicja Sekuła, Magdalena Miszczuk: Green Transformation of the Economics and Local Governments Finance**

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Global climate change and environmental degradation are resulting in consequences for many aspects of socio-economic life. Although these effects vary in time and extent of impact, there is no place where they are not felt. As a result, states and their organisations are developing a number of documents aimed not only at slowing climate change, but also at reversing the adverse effects. The UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, interchangeably referred to as the 2030 Agenda, or the European Green Deal (EGD) are worth mentioning here. The main objectives contained therein relate primarily to the protection of resources, the health and well-being of the population or the competitiveness of the economy.

These documents are mostly supranational in nature. However, in order for the initiatives stemming from them to have the intended effect, it is necessary, firstly, to transfer them to a lower level of state and local government and, secondly, to create a set of tools for assessing what measures are being taken and on what scale, and then whether they have produced the intended result. The green transformation of the economy provides an opportunity to construct a development model that not only promotes environmental and climate protection, but also supports sustainable development. It is defined as a system of activities related to the production, distribution and consumption of goods and services that results in improved human well-being without exposing future generations to significant socio-economic and environmental risks and ecological scarcities. These activities take place with the support of green finance, understood as a way of allocating capital that produces environmental, social and economic benefits.

Considering the relevance and complexity of the aforementioned issues, the aim of the monograph was defined as presenting the key aspects related to green transformation, which determined the necessity of its implementation (climatic-environmental aspects), facilitate taking action in this regard (strategic-legal aspects) and will make it possible to estimate the effects of implemented solutions (indicators).

In line with this objective, the book is structured in six chapters. The first discusses the causes and effects of climate change—from the environmental, economic and social perspectives. The leading strategic documents on green transition, their objectives and proposed actions are analysed.

The second chapter focuses on two areas that both influence and are affected by climate change, namely energy and water management. It also discusses the role of cities as places that would be particularly negatively affected by the evolution of the climate if they were to function in their current, unchanged form.

The third chapter is devoted to green public finance. Green public spending should be reflected in an appropriate budget structure. Estimating green revenues and expenditures is possible through appropriate labelling (tagging, labelling—terms used interchangeably in the monograph) of budget items, hence this section characterises the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and European Union guidelines on green budgeting.

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1. The book is published in Polish, original title: *Zielona transformacja gospodarki i finansów samorządowych*.

The subject of the considerations contained in the fourth chapter is the analysis of the sources of income obtained by local governments in Poland from the point of view of the possibility of implementing environmental protection solutions and sustainable finance. Particular attention has been paid to local taxes and charges, which are characterised by the relatively largest tax authority and, consequently, the greatest possibilities of shaping by local governments.

Chapter five is of practical nature. It presents the advancement of the implementation of green budgeting. It is divided into two parts. The first contains a comparative analysis of European Union countries, with France selected as a case study for detailed discussion, while the second part analyses existing green budgeting practices and projects in Polish local government.

The transformation of local and regional economies takes place with different intensity and under different conditions. Appropriate indicators are used to assess the scale of change. The concept of measuring local and regional transformation, discussed in the sixth chapter, puts them into four groups, concerning: problem identification, policy making, policy evaluation, and monitoring and evaluation of its implementation.

The monograph was prepared based on Polish and English-language literature. The monograph also makes use of up-to-date legal acts, mainly of statutory rank. In addition, Internet sources were used, to a large extent published on the official websites of the European Union and the OECD.

The book presented to the reader is addressed to a large audience. The authors are of the opinion that its content can be a source of knowledge both for the scientific community and for those involved in making key decisions leading to more effective climate protection through economic transformation. The anticipated readership also includes students. Due to its interdisciplinary nature, the book can be used by students of economics, management, environmental protection, public policy, socio-economic geography, spatial management or ecology.

Increasingly dynamic changes in the environment resulting in anthropogenic climate change make efforts to transform the economy and local government finances a key issue for achieving sustainable development. This monograph—in the opinion of the authors—can partly contribute to the realisation of this goal in Poland. It presents the legal situation as of 31 August 2023.

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