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**A Two-thirds of Success.
Poland's Post-Communist Transformation 1989-2008**

Abstract

The progress toward institutional changes should be evaluated through the prism of their influence on country's development abilities. In Poland, during twenty years of comprehensive systemic shift, GDP has increased more than in any other post-communist country. While judging the transformation progress, not only the improvement of competitiveness and growth in terms of quantity must be taken into account, but also social and cultural aspects. There have been five distinct periods from the viewpoint of economic growth. Had there been a better policy coordination of systemic change and socio-economic development, GDP growth over the periods considered could have increased by a half more. This opportunity has been missed due to the intermittent implementation of wrong economic policies based on wrong economic theories. Poland's transformation can be seen as a success, but only to the extent of two thirds of its potential.

Key words: transformation; economic growth; development; institutions; economic policy; post-communist; Poland