CALL FOR PAPERS

The ‘New Economy’ and Post-socialist Transition

10-11 April 2003
Leon Koźmiński Academy of Entrepreneurship and Management
Warsaw, Poland

1. About the conference:
The information and communication technologies (ICT) offer a substantial potential for faster productivity and economic growth in transition economies. However, a number of important questions still need to be addressed before the benefits of the information revolution can be realized. How does one tap the potential of ICT? What are the determinants of the successful adoption of these technologies? What are the threats and opportunities? Does ICT indeed represent a chance for faster growth in transition countries? What is the size of this potential? Has ICT had any impact so far on economic growth in these countries? Can this potential of the new technologies be utilized in spite of the lingering social, economic, infrastructural, institutional, and human capital shortcomings? What are the implications for economic policy?

The third edition of the international conference organized by the TIGER economic institute, affiliated at the Leon Kozminski Academy of Entrepreneurship and Management (WSPiZ), follows in the footsteps of the two previous editions of the “new economy” project, which were held in 2001 (“The ‘New Economy’ and Its Implications For Long-term Growth in Post-socialist Countries”) and in 2002 (“The ‘New Economy’ and the Old Problems. Prospects for Fast Growth in Transition Economies”). More information on the previous conferences is available at www.tiger.edu.pl. Both editions resulted in publications in Polish and in English. This year’s conference papers were published by the Leon Koźmiński Press in a Polish volume edited by Grzegorz W. Kolodko and Marcin Piatkowski. The English versions of the papers were published in EMERGO – The Journal of Transforming Economies and Societies.

The ‘new economy’ can be defined as an economy displaying higher rates of economic growth and productivity resulting from two concurrent processes: globalization, that is an on-going deregulation, integration of global markets for capital, goods, and labor, and increased competition, and technological revolution based mostly on general-purpose information and
communications technologies (ICT), utilization of which impacts all sectors and thus has an impact on the whole economy. The technological revolution is spurred by a rapid increase in the quality and productivity of ICT products and services coupled with their decreasing prices and convergence of information and communications technologies, most visibly embodied in the Internet.

The extraordinary performance of the US economy, marked by a substantial increase in productivity and growth rates coupled with low inflation and unemployment, along with a number of other developed and developing countries in the second part of the 1990’s has been offered as an evidence of this new economic phenomenon.

In spite of the recent global economic slowdown and lingering pessimism with regard to the impact of ICT on development, the technological progress, which spurred the ‘new economy’, has not been arrested – it will be proceeding at a fast rate now and in the future. Hence, in the long-term perspective ICT offers substantial potential for faster economic growth, acceleration in productivity, and an increase in standards of living.

The relatively low level of economic development coupled with technological backwardness paradoxically offers a chance for substantial acceleration in growth. Thanks to the adoption of ideas, superior technologies, and organizational structures already developed in rich countries, transition countries should be able to ‘leapfrog’ stages of technological development and subsequently considerably increase rates of economic growth. The ‘knowledge-like’, weightless nature of the ‘new economy’, which -- as opposed to traditional factors of production -- can be copied and transferred at negligible costs, can further accelerate the absorption process.

2. Research questions:
In the context as outlined above, the research project will seek contributions analyzing the following five research issues:
1. The Impact of ICT on Economic Growth in Transition Economies;
2. The Role of ICT in Economic Restructuring;
3. The Determinants of Absorption of the ‘New Economy’;
4. The Role of the State and International Institutions in the ‘New Economy’;

3. Procedure for submitting abstracts and papers:
(Papers/abstracts can be submitted only in English or Polish)
a) Abstracts not exceeding 500 words along with short CVs of the authors should be submitted to TIGER by 31 October 2002 via e-mail to Andrzej Bolesta, Project Assistant, at bolesta@tiger.edu.pl.
b) TIGER will inform the authors no later than 30 November 2002 whether their paper has been accepted,
c) Upon acceptance of their abstract, authors will be asked to send a full-length paper by 15 January 2003.

The following are the prerequisites for the full-length papers to be considered:
a) the text should not exceed 40,000 characters including spaces,
b) on the front page of the paper the following information should be given: a title of the paper, name of the author(s), institution, e-mail addresses of the author(s),
c) The abstract should be reproduced of the front page of the paper,
d) The bibliography should be placed at the end of the paper; footnotes should appear at the bottom of the relevant page.

The organizers reserve the right to disqualify papers, which do not fully reflect the content of the paper’s accepted abstract.

4. **Travel and accommodation:** Authors of the selected papers will be invited to present the results of their research at the conference. The organizers will cover travel costs and accommodation during the conference (one presenter per each paper).

5. **Publications:** The conference papers will be published in Polish and in English.

6. **Organizing committee:**

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**TIGER** – Transformation, Integration and Globalization Economic Research - is an independent, interdisciplinary economic think-tank affiliated with the Leon Koźmiński Academy of Entrepreneurship and Management (WSPiZ at [www.wspiz.edu.pl](http://www.wspiz.edu.pl)). It was founded in August 2000 at the initiative of Prof. Andrzej K. Koźmiński, Rector of WSPiZ, and Prof. Grzegorz W. Kolodko, Poland’s Deputy Premier and Minister of Finance in 1994-7 and 2002 to present, who also serves as the Director of TIGER. Prof. Robert A. Mundell, 1999 Nobel Prize Laureate in Economics, is the Chairman of the TIGER Scientific Advisory Board. The Board comprises of prominent world economists from Tanzania, Israel, Russia, India, China, USA, Canada, Chile, Italy, Hungary and Poland.

TIGER’s philosophical underpinning is a belief that economic justice is essential to global economic growth, poverty reduction, maintaining social and political stability, and securing peace. TIGER’s mission is to pursue economic justice for post-socialist countries in transition, through research of the processes of transformation, integration, and globalization. Imparting the resulting knowledge, based on true economic reasoning, to current and future leaders in government and business. Thereby, enabling them to create public policies and business practices that spur economic growth and prosperity, promotes economic equity, and improves people’s well-being.

We accomplish our mission by conducting individual research and research projects. Disseminating our results to economists, government officials, business managers, and students throughout the world via seminars, scientific conferences, the Science Club “Little Tigers”, and the publication of books, articles, “TIGER Working Paper Series” and “WSPiZ and TIGER Distinguished Lectures”. All information and up-to-date news about TIGER is available on our web site at [www.tiger.edu.pl](http://www.tiger.edu.pl).

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