

## **Editor's Note**

This issue of the WSB Research Journal focuses on Sustainable TSL - sustainability issues in transport, forwarding and logistics. This issue is becoming more and more challenging due to the strong negative environmental impacts of TSL activities, while on the other hand globalization of logistics chains and transport networks make policy more difficult. The articles presented in this volume range from case studies (e.g., sustainable logistics for the Seine River Valley in France, the International Logistics Centre "Sughd" in Tajikistan, the logistics company Dachser) to more theoretical considerations (e.g., urban logistics, current and future challenges in supply chain management). One important element in logistics is innovation, which is the topic of different articles. Innovation may not only improve the competitiveness of one company, but also improve the functioning of the whole logistics chain. The innovation process may be supported by private interests, but also by commonly accessible knowledge. Innovations may support the achievement of economic aims of the companies in the logistics chain, while at the same time reducing the pressure on the environment.

However, one of the dangers may be a focus on economic and environmental issues, neglecting the aspect of development of human capital. The moment, for example, process innovations rely on minimizing the number of employees, this may lead to a reduction in loyalty and engagement of employees. Although the costs of operations may be reduced, this makes the producer rather interesting for business partners because of the low costs, creating a long term threat to competitive advantage. When missing the opportunity for improving human resources and creating innovative capacity within the company itself, the supplier of homogeneous outsourced goods and services may be easily replaced by (foreign) low-cost competitors. We think that this should be a focal point of future research on regional development.

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