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Title of the dissertation: COMPARATIVE ECONOMIC ANALYSIS OF THE WORLDWIDE MOST INNOVATIVE COUNTRIES' TAX SYSTEMS

SUMMARY

The main area of interest in the doctoral thesis attempts to answer the question: To what extent taxation from the point of view of the systemic approach influences the growth and development of the national economy and the level of its innovation. The economic comparative analysis of tax systems of a selected sample of countries with a high degree of innovation in the economy has allowed the use of qualitative and quantitative methods to reflect the patterns of economic processes under specific socio-economic conditions. Therefore, it has allowed to explore the possibilities of using the applied economics to detect an economic dependence among tax systems, economic growth and development as well as innovation activity of enterprises in national economies.

The research of taxes and tax systems presented in the dissertation revolves around the problems of economic taxation from the point of view of systemic sense regarding innovative growth and economic development. The tax system has been presented from the macroeconomic point of view that allowed to assess its impact on the development of economic innovation at the national level. The scientific problem, identified in the area of social sciences, in the field of economic science, in the scientific discipline of economics, involves such economic subdisciplines as the history of economic thought regarding the evolution of economic theory of tax and tax system in the context of a changing economy. In the field of institutional economics, the structure of the tax system has been analyzed as an element of the institutional environment forming the state, composed of institutions that influence the level of tax burdens and regulate the innovative activity of market enterprises. As M. Noga points out, the new institutional economy has observed that when *homo oeconomicus* functions without a specific social context, regardless of economic practice and cultural system, economy as a science could have not been able to formulate predictive conclusions for economic policy¹. On the other hand, in the field of development economics, the dissertation focuses on direct and

¹ M. Noga (Ed.), *Makroekonomia ze szczególnym uwzględnieniem polityki pieniężnej*, CeDeWu, Warszawa 2017, s. 13.

indirect stimulation of the growth and development of national economies and the level of their innovativeness.

The main goal of the dissertation and undertaken by me research was to compare, from the point of view of economy, tax systems of countries whose economic growth, based on synthetic measures and international innovation rankings of the Global Innovation Index and Global Competitiveness Index, was recognized as the most innovative in the world in 2010-2016. To achieve the main goal, the paramount research problem was formulated in the form of a question: To what extent do tax systems determine the national economies of the most innovative countries in the world?

The main thesis reflects that the stimulating and flexible role of taxation by supporting specific areas of economic activity allows to directly and indirectly influence the innovativeness of enterprises and national economies.

The goal of the research was to compare the features and structure of tax systems of the most innovative countries in the world in the extent of meeting economic objectives, such as supporting an innovative growth and economic development. The research covered particular features of tax systems, with particular emphasis on the taxation of direct incomes and capital accrued from innovative activity of taxpayers, mainly derived from the corporate and personal income taxes. The dimension of economic preferences and tax incentives for innovative investments and research and development activities were analyzed.

The application of the analysis of the basic types of tax burdens and identification of the best pro-innovation practices met in the analyzed economies allowed to identify those areas of tax systems that mostly affect the innovation of these economies. It has enabled to define the elements of tax system that should be mainly included in the systemic assessment of the impact of taxation on growth and economic development related to the innovation. The analysis of tax systems of the most innovative countries included the systemic efficiency and tax structures, and the results were used to assess the adequacy of the applied solutions and their impact on the economic growth and the tolerance by taxpayers of the imposed tax burdens.

It has been proved, on the basis of my research, that an effective strategy of supporting the economic growth of the country recognized as innovative should take into account the economic dimension of taxation adequate to the applied solutions related to the economic growth. The achieved results allow to conclude that despite of the primacy of income, which

has a negative impact on economic growth, does not exclude the possibility of meeting economic tasks by using taxation in the most innovative economies examined in the sample.

Therefore, the primacy of the fiscal function does not preclude the support of the economic function of taxes also in the view of systemic approach. Institutional solutions related to financing innovation are also undoubtedly related to the sphere of taxation, either through the financing of grants, loans and public procurement, governmental guarantees or through the systemic creation of privileged taxation for the development of innovations. The fulfillment of the adequacy condition allows the removal of the burden of financing innovative activity from the state and shift it towards the postulate of the dominant role played by the private sector in creating innovative value added in the growth and development of the national economy. This is evidenced by the results of the analysis of direct taxation, which is an important element of tax systems of the analyzed sample of the most innovative countries in the world. The adequate constructed income taxes should stimulate the development of innovation and enable meeting economic goals through an appropriate system of tax incentives that support the country's economic growth and development, without limiting the innovative potential of enterprises and positively affecting the labor market. Based on the above conclusions, it should be stated that the goal of the tax system of economies with a high level of innovation should be stimulate the innovative development of the economy by means of a properly adapted tax incentive system, and support the creation and development of innovative enterprises that create jobs. However, the observed lack of impact of the total tax rate (TTR) on productivity, tax revenues and the development of the shadow economy calls into question the functionality of this measure that is used in the rankings of the level of innovation and levels of competitiveness.