ABSTRACT

The subject of this dissertation concerns the use of foresight research in the process of shaping the vision of the future of logistics corridors in the region.

The approach adopted to develop a methodology for shaping the vision of future of logistics corridors in the region was motivated by four main premises: (i) the recognized paucity of research on the development of the region in the light of anticipating the future of logistics corridors; (ii) the lack of examples of practical implementation of foresight methods in the planning process of the development of logistic corridors in the region; (iii) the lack of comprehensive research on the development of logistics in the region which goes beyond simple regional rankings and uses more detailed data sources than only publicly available statistics; (iv) the small number of studies that have conducted detailed analyses of barriers hindering the development of logistics corridors and proposed strategies for their development.

Based on the premises and literature review, the following research gaps were identified: (i) the lack of tools enabling the acquisition of expert knowledge useful in the process of shaping the future of logistics corridors in the region and (ii) the lack of methodology to improve the shaping of the vision of the future of logistics corridors in the region.

Therefore, it was noticed that there was a need to develop a tool enabling the acquisition of expert knowledge useful in the process of shaping the vision of the future of corridors in the region. The use of this tool should ultimately enable the identification of problems and the development of logistics corridors in the region. Based on these conclusions, the research problem to be solved in the dissertation was formulated as the following research question: By using what tool (set of research methods) is it possible to obtain expert knowledge useful in planning the long-term development of logistics corridors in the region?

The main objective of the dissertation was to develop – using foresight research – a methodology for shaping the vision of the future of logistics corridors in the region, which will enable the acquisition of expert knowledge useful in planning the long-term development of logistics corridors in the region. The implementation of the main objective of the dissertation was related to the achievement specific cognitive and methodological objectives, including: (i) identification and characterization of international logistics corridors crossing the area of Poland and the Podlaskie Voivodeship; (ii) development of methodological assumptions for foresight research for the purposes of shaping the future of logistics corridors in the region; (iii) development of a hybrid foresight methodology for shaping the vision of the future

of logistics corridors in the region; (iv) verification of the author's research methodology and (v) development of recommendations regarding the use of methodology based on foresight research for the purposes of shaping the vision of the future of logistics corridors in the region.

In the research process there were used the following qualitative and quantitative methods: analysis and criticism of literature, document study, logical analysis and construction, statistical methods and a set of foresight methods for the design of the methodology.

The studies and research conducted in the dissertation allowed for: (i) characterizing the current state of knowledge about international logistics and transport corridors; (ii) collecting knowledge about projects implemented within international transport corridors; (iii) defining the assumptions and scope of foresight research in the process of shaping the future of logistics corridors; (iv) developing an original hybrid methodology for shaping the vision for the development of logistics corridors in the region using foresight research; (v) operationalizing this methodology.

The summary of the results presented in the dissertation was the conduct of a pilot study using the developed methodology and the development of recommendations for the use of this methodology.