ABSTRACT

The doctoral dissertation concerns the application of foresight research in the process of shaping the logistics potential of the region.

The doctoral thesis attempts to define the term *logistics potential of the region*, including determining its dimensions and developing a methodology for shaping the logistics potential of the region based on three main premises: (1) the term logistical potential of the region is not interpreted uniformly and the authors often present it in an imprecise manner; (2) existing studies rarely present a coherent methodology that takes into account tools, techniques and strategies in a comprehensive approach; (3) the literature is dominated by theoretical approaches to the use of foresight tools in the process of shaping the logistics potential of the region, and there are no examples of the practical application of these methods. Based on the premises and literature review, the following research gaps were identified: (1) the lack of a clear definition of the concept of *logistical potential of the region* and the lack of a comprehensive classification of its dimensions; (2) limited availability of methodological studies on the process of shaping the logistics potential of the region; (3) insufficient use of foresight tools, especially roadmapping, in the processes of planning and developing the logistics potential of the region.

The main objective of the dissertation was to develop a methodology for researching and shaping the logistics potential of the region using foresight tools, in particular roadmapping, which will enable the acquisition of expert knowledge useful in long-term planning of the development of the logistics potential of the region. The realization of the main objective of the dissertation was linked to the achievement of specific objectives of a cognitive and methodological nature, including: (1) conceptualization of the concept logistics potential of the region; (2) identification of the dimensions of the logistics potential of the region; (3) development of methodological assumptions for foresight research – using roadmapping – for the purposes of shaping the logistics potential of the region; (4) construction of scenarios for the development of the logistics potential of the region and selection of the most desirable scenario; (5) development of a roadmap for the logistics potential of the Podlaskie Voivodeship in three time perspectives: 2026–2030, 2031–2036 and after 2036.

In the research process, both qualitative and quantitative methods were used, including: literature analysis and criticism, document analysis, logical analysis, statistical methods and a set of foresight tools adapted to the specificity of the research problems.

The dissertation consists of five chapters. The first chapter contains a detailed analysis of the literature related to the logistics potential of the region, concluding with the presentation of a proposal for a coherent definition. The second chapter presents a detailed description of the characteristics of the logistics potential of the region, taking into account the key assumptions and elements shaping this potential, and identifies the most important factors included in it. The third chapter presents the assumptions of foresight, taking into account its position among the fields of futures research, characterizes selected research methods and provides examples of foresight applications in the field of logistics. The fourth chapter presents the assumptions of the methodology for shaping the logistics potential of the region and a detailed description of the author's methodology for shaping the logistics potential of the region. The fifth chapter presents the results of verification of the author's methodology for shaping the logistics potential of the region on the example of the Podlaskie Voivodeship, through research using foresight tools.

The summary of the results presented in the dissertation was the development of recommendations that could be a kind of guidelines, the application of which could improve the process of shaping the logistics potential of the region using the proposed methodology, as well as proposals for future research and areas requiring further analysis.