

Editorial: Rethinking real estate markets amid pandemic recovery and digital transformation

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World of Real Estate Journal (WOREJ) is officially back. It has been a while, but after a turbulent period of changes, switching to a biannual frequency of publication and adjustments related to the acquisition of our journal by Krakow University of Economics, we migrated to a brand new Open Journal System platform. I see it as a great improvement and sincerely hope that it will create an opportunity to increase both WOREJ's readership and recognition in the scientific community. More news to come here, as we plan to improve the indexing of the journal.

Meantime the real estate markets have only become more dynamic, and multiple new topics emerged due to an unprecedented series of systemic events that affected the economy and society. Firstly, the Covid-19 pandemic has had a long-lasting effect on the residential, office, retail, and logistics real estate. To a great extent, the impact of pandemics has been covered in many real estate journals, including World of Real Estate Journal, and based on scientometric statistics remained the hot topic in economic publications, conferences and reports (Balemi, Füss, & Weigand, 2021). Secondly, the War in Ukraine initiated a discussion on the linkages between exogenous shocks to the housing markets (Trojanek & Gluszek, 2022), as well as multiple transmission mechanisms. Thirdly, the ongoing Fourth Industrial Revolution and emergence of Artificial Intelligence have only intensified technological changes in construction, real estate management, PropTech and information processing (Starr, Saginor, & Worzala, 2020). Current issue addresses some of the pressing, contemporary topics that has catalyzed discussion on the operation of real markets globally.

Kinga Halama and Agnieszka Telega assess the investment motives of young adults. In their paper entitled *Investment risk propensity among Generation Z - temperament and interest factors*, they try to disentangle two important determinants of attitude toward risk and identify preferred investment assets. The paper offers insight relevant to financial education.

The role of innovation is explored by Wiktoria Serwin and Katarzyna Kania, who investigate the role of new technologies in the operation of the real estate market. The study demonstrates that the use of digital tools significantly enhances property presentation and buyer understanding, thereby accelerating purchase decisions in the residential market.

Young professionals' perspective is further investigated by Malgorzata Uhruska in a paper entitled *Entering the profession from the perspective of young property valuers*. The findings highlight growing barriers and uncertainties faced by early-career specialists, underscoring the need to better understand the factors discouraging new entrants and to develop measures supporting professional succession in the valuation field.

Paulina Stachura and Bartłomiej Marona discuss the consequences of recent technological advancements labelled as Industry 4.0 to demand for office space. In their paper entitled *Changes in the real estate office market in the face of the Fourth Industrial Revolution: A case study of Krakow* they demonstrate that technological innovation has become a decisive factor in office market performance, with advanced, flexible, and sustainable buildings better aligned with evolving tenant expectations in an increasingly hybrid work environment.

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