## Editor's Letter

"Be thankful to your competitors for keeping you alert" (Tomas Bata)

## Dear readers,

Let us introduce the third issue of the fourteenth volume of the Journal of Competitiveness (2022). This issue is multidisciplinary, being comprised of scientific articles, especially from the fields of economics, labour market, innovations, supply chain management, industry 4.0, and finance.

You can find contributions from the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Poland, Romania, and Thailand.

The main objective of the first paper is to examine the tax competitiveness of the Slovak Republic compared to European Union countries.

The second paper aims to determine changes in the labour market behaviour of economically active individuals in the context of the pandemic and to identify competitive segments in this period.

This third paper focuses on evaluating contracting authorities of public services in the V4 Countries countries regarding public spending effectiveness.

The fourth research presents the interrelationships between banking performance, competitiveness and sustainability of the three banking systems and the impact of each sustainability variable selected on the other macroeconomic indicators in short, medium and long-time horizon.

The main research of the fifth paper is to introduce a hazard model for EU-28 SMEs and analyse the contribution of macroeconomic indicators and proxies of external financial obstacle factors.

The sixth paper investigates Supply Chain Management (SCM) in SMEs in Thailand, Slovakia, and Poland and compared the SCM practices among the three countries.

The main objective of the seventh study is to explore the connection and the context of the use of industrial engineering tools, and to monitor and evaluate Overall Equipment Effectiveness (OEE) in industrial companies in the Czech Republic.

The eighth paper explores the features of several estimates of occupational/labour automation and to assess the potential risks associated with it.

The ninth paper addresses how to improve the measurement of innovations and their impact on a country's competitiveness and economic growth.

The main goal of the tenth paper is to present results of research focused on a specific analysis of applying modern human resource management tools in entities operating in Slovakia with a focus on the maintenance and growth potential of their competitiveness in the European economic area.

The last paper investigates theoretically and empirically the area of innovative culture attributes in large-size enterprises operating in the Czech Republic.

We would like to thank members of the editorial staff, peer reviewers and members of the editorial board for preparing this issue, and we are looking forward to our further cooperation.

On behalf of the journal's editorial staff, Prof. David Tuček, Ph.D. Editor-in-Chief