

From the Editors

JOURNAL FOR PERSPECTIVES OF ECONOMIC POLITICAL AND SOCIAL INTEGRATION. JOURNAL FOR MENTAL CHANGES is a continuation of the Journal for Mental Changes. Perspectives of Economic Political and Social Integration has been issued permanently since 1995. The intention to change the title was to strengthen directly the issue of integration and its factor which build a multidimensional infrastructure and environmental climate for peace, social stability and sustainable development. The Journal is an interdisciplinary forum for research and application concerning social, economic, political, environmental and religious issues related with macrosystem transformations. Rapid changes in Central and Eastern Europe since 1989 are so intense that coping with them brings along many desired and undesired consequences. Mental schemes must be broken through habits, biased perception and evaluations changed in order to learn economic behavior better suited to the market environment.

On its way to integration after the collapse of communism, Europe encounters stressful events such as civil wars, regional conflicts, ethnic problems, poverty, increasing unemployment, closing down of many medium and large enterprises, etc. Ordinary citizens do not know how to be more constructive or how to arrive at social, economic and political consensus in the new situation. Neither do university academics possess any sure mod-

els which might lead to a new integration. Some European social scientists, behavioral scientists, and humanists (represented by psychologists, sociologists, political scientists, economists, lawyers, ecologists and theologians) cooperating within a kind of informal network have come to the conclusion that a key research area in a time of macrosystem transformation in Europe must be mental changes as the cognitive and behavioral base of social and economic integration. In order to address the complex problems of macrotransformation, cooperation is required between people working in the academic environment and others working in areas such as regional government, international and local banking, unemployment offices, trade union leadership, company management, pastoral care and church leadership.

The Journal is intended to publish original theses, studies and research papers concerning economic, behavioral and cognitive bases of change in Central and Eastern Europe within the scope of global transformation of Europe. The Journal aspires to be a forum where methods, workshops, polemics, essays, reviews, projects and case studies can be presented to promote good examples of social, economic, political, environmental or religious integration on an international, regional or local level.

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