

TOPICS FOR DOCTORAL (PHD.) THESIS FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2020/2021
Field of study: 8. Economics and Management
Study program: Spatial and regional economics

No. 1	Supervisor	Assoc. Prof. Peter BURGER, PhD.
Title		SUPPORT OF INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS IN SLOVAK CITIES AND REGIONS - APPLICATION OF THE SMART CITY CONCEPT
Goals		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To define the Smart City concept, the components and tools of the Smart City concept and the funding options. To analyse the current state and trends in using the Smart City concept in the world, the role of regional and local governments, universities, businesses and citizens in promoting this concept. To create a set of indicators in different areas of the Smart City (Smart Economy, Smart Mobility, Smart Environment, Smart Governance, Smart People, Smart Infrastructure, Smart Living, etc.). To develop a statistical model and apply it to selected Slovak cities and regions to evaluate their potential in individual areas of the concept and to propose the necessary measures for the successful implementation of the Smart City.

No. 2	Supervisor	Assoc. Prof. Peter BURGER, PhD.
Title		EVALUATING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF CLUSTER POLICIES AND CLUSTER PROGRAMS
Goals		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To define the issue of cluster status, support for cluster policies and cluster programs as a cluster support tool. To analyse the impact of cluster support through cluster programs on the competitiveness of regions. To develop a statistical model that captures the efficiency of cluster program spending on the performance of clusters and regions where they operate.

No. 3	Supervisor	Assoc. Prof. Peter DŽUPKA, PhD.
Title		GREEN FINANCING OF THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY ON REGIONAL LEVEL
Goals		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To theoretically describe circular economy green financing. To describe and to analyse current green financing tools of the selected circular economy areas in the EU countries. To analyse current circular economy funding approaches at regional level in Slovakia. To identify barriers of green financing utilization in circular economy at regional level in Slovakia. To propose green financing system of the selected circular economy area at regional level in Slovakia.

No. 4	Supervisor	Assoc. Prof. Peter DŽUPKA, PhD.
-------	------------	--

Title	VALUE FOR MONEY IN PUBLIC PROCUREMENT
Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To theoretically describe concept value for money in public procurement. • To analyse current approaches to application of the value for money concept in public procurement in EU. • To analyse public procurements from the point of view of using value for money concept (e.g. MEAT criteria) in Slovakia. • To identify barriers of value for money utilization in public procurement in Slovakia. • To propose processes and methods of the concept value for money applicable in public procurement in Slovakia.

No. 5	Supervisor	Assoc. Prof. Miriam ŠEBOVÁ, PhD.
Title	MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP IN CIVIL SERVICE	
Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To explore the concepts of human resource management and leadership in civil service. • To conceptualise the associations between dimensions of management and leadership and its effects on the performance of public service. • To analyse the factors of management and leadership, which influence the public service in Slovakia using combined research (qualitative as well as quantitative). • To explore the effects on civil servants according to their socio-demographic profiles and region and size of the municipality. 	

No. 6	Supervisor	Assoc. Prof. Miriam ŠEBOVÁ, PhD.
Title	TRANSFORMATIONAL MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP IN HIGHER EDUCATION	
Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To explore the concepts of transformational management and leadership in educational organisations. • To analyse the impacts of organisational structures and culture on the adoption of changes and innovations in educational institutions. • To explain the association between the transformational leadership and the willingness to changes at the universities using combined research (qualitative as well as quantitative). 	

No. 7	Supervisor	Assoc. Prof. Miriam ŠEBOVÁ, PhD.
Title	URBAN ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE	
Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To explore the impacts of climate change on the city level. • To analyse local policy strategies in response to climate change. • To analyse the factors which shape the capacity of city governments to establish effective climate change policies (place leadership, behaviour change of residents, local business etc.) 	

No. 8	Supervisor	Assoc. Prof. Nataša URBANČÍKOVÁ, PhD.
-------	------------	--

Title	GENDER AND EQUALITY IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide a detailed analysis of the current state-of-play of selected EU Member States' and Slovakia initiatives for promoting gender equality in public administration. • To identify main obstacles to equal participation of women in public administration. • To interpret the influence of context on formation of an environment enabling institutional and cultural changes.

No. 9	Supervisor	Assoc. Prof. Tomáš ŽELINSKÝ, PhD.
Title	ASPIRATIONS AND THE SOCIOECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT	
Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is well documented that the socioeconomic environment influences behaviour, attitudes, and values. From early childhood, children brought up in a poor environment observe socio-economic failures such as poor living conditions, liquidity constraints, high unemployment and low educational levels attained by adults around them. This can result in the narrative of fatalism – <i>"it's not worth trying"</i> – prevalent in societies that experience failure. • This dissertation focuses on the relationship between aspirations (generally defined as a person's expectations, goals, and claims on his/her own future achievement) and the socioeconomic environment. • Living in poor socioeconomic conditions contributes to the failure to aspire to one's own potential. At the same time, low capacity to aspire is one of the potential causes of persistent poverty. Aspirations are thus believed to play an essential role in the psychology of poverty. • The main goal of the thesis is to examine the relationship between aspirations and the socioeconomic environment. • The prospective doctoral student may decide whether he or she wishes to work with available secondary microdata or design own (experimental) data collection. • The expected contribution of the dissertation lies in providing new empirical evidence on how aspirations are potentially affected by socioeconomic environment. 	