

## **'Accessibility and Services of General Interest: Preliminary Findings from some Case Studies of SeGI project.'**

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There is number of reasons why services of general interest are becoming vivid issue of public debate in recent years. Being strongly embedded in to the rights of European citizens, services (e.g. public transport, education, health care) become inseparable part of public life. However various internal and external factors are powering changes of conditions in which services are provided. For example liberalisation processes which initially stimulated modernization and though increase of the actors number lead to higher competition (and price reduction), and at the moment come across obstacles like depopulation (caused by ageing phenomenon or migratory processes) in some areas. This makes provision of services more and more costly, and thus increase chances for market failure in their provision.

This paper offers insight into development and provision of services of general interests in various European regions (based on case studies in ESPON SeGI project) in context of accessibility (especially using example of Mazowsze region) in context of recent changes, revealing the territorial distribution and situation of services. For example conflicts such as quality versus availability of services are rousing solutions such as centralization (e.g. Poland and Iceland) which in case of public services can be initial sign of concentration and increase of disparities within and between regions.