When preparing the manuscripts for the journal, please note the following

1. We publish only original, unpublished and not submitted elsewhere works. There are no limits regarding their length, however, an optimum of 10,000 words is recommended. For research comments and book reviews, 1,500–2,500 words is expected.

2. The manuscripts submitted for publication in the journal should follow one of the accepted standards: research papers, advanced theoretical papers, research-in-progress or early-career papers, expert reports, critical research comments and book reviews.

3. We highly value the excellence of the language of the paper. Should the manuscript be written in poor English, the Co-editor or the Editorial team may reject the submission prior to sending manuscript for the blind revision. Therefore, make sure the text reads well and it matches the standard British English spelling (-ise ending). Additional proof-reading of text may be requested upon the successful peer review. Additional charges may apply for authors whose texts were initially accepted for revision, need additional proof-reading and cannot provide the service by themselves. We strongly recommend not to self-provide your proof-reading with services such as Google translate.

4. Manuscripts sent to the Editorial team should be typed in Arial, 12 pt with double line spacing. Do not use "Small caps" nor "All caps" in headings and titles. For referencing, tables and illustrations see separate points.

5. The first page should provide the title, names of the authors, affiliations (university, faculty or/and department) and addresses (both postal and email). The manuscripts must include an informative abstract clearly defining the purpose of the study, its design or methodological approach, the findings and an obligatory explanation of the research originality. For paper types see separate entries. The length of the abstract should not exceed 150–200 words. The authors must also provide up to 5 keywords and consequently up to 5 JEL codes. Type of the paper should be mentioned according to the accepted standards.

6. Research papers are the works including an introduction that offers a sound theoretical background with a critical reference to state-of-the art literature that is followed by clearly defined purpose of the study and justification of its originality. Then, the methodological setting must be provided in a non-extensive form followed by the description of solving the research problem and results. Conclusions for the paper must stick to the flow of the article findings and neither repeat the general wisdom nor observe the facts uncovered by the paper. They may include both methodological and practical recommendations. Mind for the audience and provide conclusions valuable to international reader.

7. In case a purely advanced theoretical paper is submitted, it should be relevant to regional science and ultimately add value to the state-of-the art. Advanced literature study is not considered as theoretical paper unless it is followed by a comprehensive critical assessment and introduces unique or breaking through observations in methodology or theories.

8. Research-in-progress or early-career papers will be published with slightly different expectations than those of research papers / theoretical papers. Thus, the manuscripts signed as research-in-progress / early career papers may cover preliminary results or just set-up the toolbox for research of the particular problem. The theoretical background should be, however, particularly well developed and critically presented (a literature study is far too little) and the conclusions must provide a clear mapping of expected research outcomes and bottlenecks.

9. All submitted manuscripts that do not follow the requested scope, i.e. theoretical background with a critical reference to publications, clear description of the purpose of the study, the methodological setting with a description of solving the research problem together with results and fine conclusions will be treated as non-research papers. For alternative types of submissions refer to the next points.

10. Practical (expert) reports scrutinizing the praxis of policy-making or efforts by science-supported institutions regarding planning, or development are to be included in the journal on condition their originality is of significance to both national and international reader. There is no strong limit to the text unless it significantly

exceeds 10.000 words. Practical reports, preferably refer to either key documents (strategic, legislative, international agendas or else) that are relevant to the theme of the report – i.e. incorporate the discussion within the text – or deliver the results of expertise that mindfully set the new perspectives on territorial changes or allow the new methods / techniques' set-up.

11. Research comments are a living part of the journals and by means of critique they upgrade the essential spirit necessary for maturing the scientific knowledge.

12. Book reviews are basically provided as requested by the editor. In any other circumstances, the manuscripts offering book reviews may be given a counter-review to be delivered by a distinguished researcher in the field that is covered by the book.

13. The papers are blind-revised by two anonymous reviewers. Only papers with recommendation granted by the reviewers (i.e. 'considered for publication' or 'considered for publication with clarifications/amendments') can be published in the journal. In case, the paper is granted only one recommendation, the Co-editor can either decide on the publication rejection or ask for additional anonymous review that has a final consequence.

14. Research comments and book reviews will be the only non-peer reviewed text published in the journal. The co-editor restricts the right to accept or reject them.

15. References in the text should be cited as: Smith (2016) or (Smith 2016) or Walker & Davis (2008, p. 303); for references with more than two authors use the form: Sandstone et al. Multiple references of various authors and references of the same author should be arranged in chronological order: (Washington 1802; Pembridge 1841, 1853, 1857; Smith 1919, 1922; Wallace 1999). Semicolon should be used to separate references of various authors within parenthesis.

16. In the reference list, make sure the references are listed alphabetically and then chronologically with full book and journal titles. Refer to the examples below:

Paddison R, Miles S (2007) Culture-Led Urban Regeneration. Routledge, London.

Leibovitz J (2006) Jumping Scale: From Small Town Politics to a "Regional Presence"? Re-Doing Economic Governance in Canada's Technology Triangle. In: Bell D, Jayne M (eds) Small Cities: Urban Experience Beyond the Metropolis. Routledge, London.

McCann P, Ortega-Argilés R (2015) Smart specialization, regional growth and applications to European Union cohesion policy. Regional Studies 49(8): 1291–1302.

Czyżewska D, Golejewska A (2014) Advancement of Polish and French regions in the process of smart specialization. http://www-sre.wu.ac.at/ersa/ersaconfs/ersa14/e140826aFinal00430.pdf, accessed July 2016.

17. All illustrations are referred to as "Figure" in the plain text or as "Fig." or "Figs" when within parenthesis (not as charts, maps or photos). Remember to cite all of figures in the text. Figure captions should be typed on a separate sheet and numbered consecutively. Each figure should have a short informative title.

18. Figures must be prepared in a format suitable for printing and submitted in separate files.

19. Figures that are output of MS Excel, MS Word and CorelDraw should be submitted in the original format of the given program. Therefore, figures plotted with CorelDraw should not be saved as *.tif or *.jpg. The Adobe Illustrator-based figures should be submitted in either of the three formats: *.ai, *.eps or *.pdf. For all other programs export make sure they are exported to one of the following formats: *.wmf. *.emf *.pdf or *.eps; if this if impossible, then use *.tif or *.jpg (if it is *.jpg, then choose the lowest compression and highest quality possible) at a minimum resolution of 300 dpi given the width of published text of 130 mm. Scanned figures should be saved in *.tif or *.jpg formats. Their size and resolution should comply the same restrictions. Digital photographs should be submitted with no changes to the original size and resolution. With lettering size mind final size of published material. Preferred font type is Arial.

20. All tables are referred to as "Table" in the plain text or as "Tab." or "Tabs" when within parenthesis. Remember to cite all of tables in the text. Table captions should be typed on a separate sheet and numbered consecutively. Each table should have a short informative title.

21. Please be informed that ghostwriting or honorary authorship will not be accepted in the journal.