



## **Individual and Community Well-Being in Transborder Areas: Spatial Patterns and Regional Accounts - an exercise from Poland and Ukraine.**

Włodzimierz Okrasa\*

Central Statistical Office, Warszawa, Poland – w.okrasa@stat.gov.pl

Marek Cierpiał-Wolan

Statistical Office in Rzeszów, Rzeszów, Poland – m.cierpial-wolan@stat.gov.pl

Sebastian Wojcik

Statistical Office in Rzeszów, Rzeszów, Poland – s.wojcik@stat.gov.pl

### **Abstract**

Transborder areas are studied from a variety of angles, such as local development or migration, and recently also well-being, to mention a few. However, question about their exceptionality as a spatial context for individual well being and community well-being (*gminas*), and how they relate to each other, remains still among relatively less recognized. The goal of this paper is three-fold. [First] It starts with identification of spatial patterns of the two types of synthetic indicators, pertaining to community and individual (subjective) dimensions of well-being and quality of live, respectively. Spatial autocorrelation coefficients are used to measure the strength of spatial effect independently, while looking for the patterns of co-occurrence of the clusters identified for both of them. Having collected data from samples of about 1200 individuals in selected *communes/gminas* (about 400 households from each of the three NUTS-2 level areas under study - two in 'exterior' areas of Polish voievodship adjacent to Ukraine, and one in a central voievodship as a reference 'interior' area), a test on null hypothesis (lack of spatial effect) is further extended to consider spatial relations between individual and community well-being. [Second] It is followed by a search for an underlying spatial processes that might affect cross-level (individual-community) interaction due to some neighboring effect. To address this, multilevel modeling with spatial effects is being discussed. [Third] The much discussed issue of the relationship between subjective and objective measures of well-being is also addressed here. To this aim, preliminary estimates of the regional national accounts - for sub-regional units (NUTS-3, the case of Poland only) - are calculated. And the multilevel modeling with spatial effects is subsequently adjusted to capture the problem of subjective-objective influence in the local context. Some suggestions on further empirical (comparative) study with the use of the presented methodological strategy in an international perspective conclude the paper (presentation).

**Keywords:** subjective and community well-being; spatial clusters; multilevel modeling; regional accounts.