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Foreword

Ladies and Gentlemen, Dear Readers!

We are pleased to present you with the second issue this year of the scientific quarterly *Geomatics, Landmanagement and Landscape*, published by the University of Agriculture in Kraków. The articles gathered in this issue present a broad and interdisciplinary perspective on contemporary challenges related to spatial management, geodesy, landscape transformation, and adaptation to ongoing socio-climatic changes.

We open with a paper dedicated to the role of street art in the historic urban space of Kraków's Kazimierz. The authors analyze the impact of forty murals located on the district's cultural heritage, introducing an original research tool – the Mural Evaluation Sheet. The research results highlight the potential of murals to strengthen local identity, while also warning against the threats posed by visual oversaturation and gentrification.

On a macro-spatial and environmental scale, analyses of long-term land cover changes are extremely important. This was discussed using the example of the Upper Silesian–Zagłębie Metropolis in the years 1986–2023. Landsat satellite data suggest that the expansion of urbanized areas at the expense of agricultural land directly shapes the thermal structure of the region, providing key knowledge for contemporary spatial planning and climate change adaptation.

Today, planning processes must respond to environmental and demographic challenges alike. Another publication addresses the urgent matter of an aging society, pointing out the necessity to adapt public spaces, infrastructure, and national legal regulations to the needs of older people, in line with the guidelines of the World Health Organization (WHO). This work emphasizes the importance of designing spaces that promote social integration and improve the quality of life for seniors.

Climate change, combined with geological and geomorphological conditions, exerts a strong influence on the development of rural areas. The Silesian rural municipality of Hażlach is an example of this as the appropriate structure and quality of soils, coupled with climate warming, have opened up new prospects for the development of viticulture and enotourism. These phenomena have a tangible impact on landscape transformation, creating favorable conditions for the so-called terroir and thus building a new identity for the region.

The foundation of all spatial analyses, however, remains precise geodetic data. In the final of the presented articles, the author uses GIS tools to assess the spatial distribution

of geodetic vertical network points in the Wieliczka County. The conducted analyses confirm that, despite the destruction of nearly half of the points of the basic vertical geodetic network, the configuration and density of the remaining network still allow for effective and economic height measurements over the majority of the studied territory.

We hope that the diverse subject matter brought together in issue 2/2026 – covering geodesy, urban planning, agriculture, and heritage protection – will prove a valuable source of knowledge and inspiration for further scientific discussions.

We wish you a fruitful reading!

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