

## **Andrzej Massel: Methods and Tools for Assessing the Use of Transport Infrastructure on the Example of Railway Infrastructure Research of Central and Eastern European Countries in 1989–2019**

The article characterizes a scientific monograph, published in December 2020 by the Scientific Publishing House of the Railway Research Institute, devoted to railway infrastructure in selected Central and Eastern European countries (Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Hungary). The publication proposes methods and tools that can be used to assess the use of transport infrastructure, including taxonomic methods and Data Envelopment Analysis (DEA). A new method of maximum speed use analysis is presented. New areas of application of many methods known from other scientific disciplines (e.g. economics, socio-economic geography, earth and environmental sciences) were indicated. A set of operating, demand and supply indicators for the study of railway infrastructure is defined. Similarities and differences in the condition of the railway infrastructure and the changes it underwent in the period 1989–2019 are shown. The way the railway infrastructure is used in the individual countries of Central and Eastern Europe shows the efficiency of the transport networks.

**Keywords:** railway infrastructure, research methods, railway authorities, European railways