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## **POSITION AND DEVELOPMENT OF SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES IN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES**

### **Abstract:**

SMEs have irreplaceable task not only in macro-economic - in area of working posts creation, contribution to the flexibility of market mechanism or its contribution to the value added creation, but they are profitable also at the micro-economic level. The goal of the contribution is to search position and development of such enterprises in the frame of chosen European countries and how they contribute to economic growth and competitive environment. During the analysis we considered SME Policy Index. Overall position and development had been analyzed by chosen indexes, mainly index of economic freedom, global competition index, doing business index and corruption perception index. The results speak about increasing trend of SMEs in EU, creating employment possibilities, with limitation of barriers to make business in individual countries.

### **Keywords:**

Business environment, Europe, Global markets, Post-communist countries, Small and medium enterprises.

**JEL Classification:** L26, M29