

# International Political Science

## 11th General Meeting of the Polish Political Science Association

Krzysztof Patecki, *Polish Political Science Association*

Fifty representatives of all Polish branches of the Association, schools of higher education and scientific institutions dealing with political science, participated in the triennial General Meeting of the Association in Kraków-Przegorzaly, November 18-20, 1991. Political scientists from the United States, Canada, Russia, Great Britain, Germany and Czechoslovakia, as well as Polish scholars representing humanities, took part in the meeting.

Professor Andrzej Pelczar, the Rector of the Jagiellonian University, opened the meeting. Welcoming the participants, he stressed the role of political science in the times abounding in events of historical importance, spreading far beyond the borders of the countries in which they take place. He expressed his hope that the development of political science will be rapid enough to allow for better understanding of the changes and for more rational activities on their support.

Professor Henryk Goszczyk, the retiring president of the Association, delivered a welcome address. He said, "Not every generation of scholars has a chance to witness and participate in political and social events of this scale and intensity, like us. . . . Our activities cannot resolve themselves into the role of a chronicler of the events; an incomparably more difficult and unavoidable task is before us, . . . the task to explain them, although, out of necessity, incompletely yet and with a burden of weaknesses of the lack of perspective. . . ."

He also expressed his gratitude to Dr. Teresa Sasińska-Klas, the president of the Kraków Branch of the Polish Political Science Association and the head of the Organizers' Committee.

Professor Krzysztof Palecki of the Jagiellonian University was elected the president of the PPSA, and Professors Ziemowit J. Pietraś of the Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin, as well as Teresa Łoś-Nowak of the University of Wrocław and Kazimierz Krzysztofek of the University of Warsaw were elected vice-presidents. Mr. Tomasz Uliński of the Polish Academy of Sciences, the Warsaw Branch, was elected secretary of the Central Board. Dr. Krzysztof Iwańczuk of the University of Maria Curie-Skłodowska in Lublin was elected treasurer. Professor Longin Pastusiak of the Polish Institute of International Affairs was nominated plenipotentiary for International Contacts by the Central Board. Moreover, the following professors were elected members of the Central Board: Henryk Goszczyk, Maria Curie-Skłodowska University; Jerzy Rebeta, Catholic University of Lublin; Michał Śliwa, Pedagogical College of Kraków; Marian Szczepaniak, Adam Mickiewicz University of Poznań; Ludmiła Dziewiecka-Bokun, University of Wrocław; Maciej Faliński, Polish Academy of Sciences, the Warsaw Branch; Adam Marszałek, scientific publisher; and Teresa Sasińska-Klas, Jagiellonian University. Professor Bogdan Piasecki, University of Gdańsk, was elected the chair of the Audit Board. The following professors were elected members of the Audit Board: W. Kolodziej, B. Krauz-Moser, J. Mrówczyńska and E. Olszewski.

Expressing his gratitude, newly elected President Patecki said, "The Association is an assembly of scientists who wish to share their intellectual output and undertake actions for its increase. It is open for the people seriously treating its vocation,

regardless of their ideological, political or religious views provided, however, that they leave behind the door their political and organizational roles when fulfilling the role of scholars in the Association. . . . The significance of the scientific output for political science and collaboration with colleagues in the works of our Association can be the only criterion for the evaluation of a member of the Association."

The staff and students of the Institute of Political Sciences, the Jagiellonian University, hosted a session entitled "Transformations in the Political System of East-Central Europe and Political Culture." The session included two plenary meetings (with reports delivered by Professors Krzysztof Palecki and Piotr Sztompka), open discussion on the scientific conditions and educational problems in political science as well as six multi-topic panels with the participation of Polish and foreign scholars: "Political Culture: Stimulator or Restraint of the Changes"; "Disturbances in the Processes of Political Transformations and their Consequences"; "Freedom in the Media: Help or Handicap in the Process of Democratization?"; "Ethnic Conflicts and Nationalism and Building a New Order"; "Military Challenges and Dilemmas of Safety, and the Process of Transition"; "Law in a New Political Order: Adaptation or Creation." Two panels were held in English and one—additionally—in Russian. An open discussion was also organized, "Experience from the Old and New Political Practice: Towards the New Political Strategy?" (with the participation of the representatives of Polish political scene) (stage): Democratic Union, Confederation of Independent Poland, Union of the Center, Social-Democ-

## International News

racy of the Republic of Poland, Polish Party of the Greens and persons with no party adherence.

On behalf of the leaders of the International Political Science Association, Professor Longin Pastusiak, Vice-President of the IPSA, a mem-

ber of the Executive Committee IPSA evaluated and summed up the meeting. He considered it “not only intellectually significant” due to its contribution to political thought, but also very important through the effort undertaken in order to shape

the program of activities of the PPSA . . . and also outstanding from the organizational point of view, and because of the created atmosphere favorable for the exchange of views.”