

In memory of Andrzej Chodubski (1952–2017)

In July 2017, Professor Andrzej Chodubski, full professor at the University of Gdańsk passed away. He was a distinguished scholar, renowned academic teacher and lecturer, and a friend to extensive circles of domestic and foreign researchers, as well as doctoral and graduate students.

Professor Andrzej Chodubski was the author of several dozen monographs and over 1,100 other publications, including articles in academic periodicals, chapters in collective studies and reviews of scholarly works. Although the majority of them were published in Polish, a number of them were also issued in English and Russian. The texts he penned present the results of studies primarily into topics related to political science, but a considerable portion also penetrates the research areas of history, sociology and other disciplines. In each case, the analyses are founded on a robust base, encompassing multiple, frequently unpublished sources and different types of academic studies. The considerations published in print were always accompanied by interesting presentations of Professor Chodubski's views and concluded with convincing assessments and findings. His consistency in his research work and publishing of his results deserves the highest recognition.

On account of the great number and multiple topics of the works authored by Professor Chodubski, and the limited size of this commemoration, only his crucial interests will be mentioned. The results of his studies have facilitated better understanding of such topics as the specific nature and problems faced by national and ethnic minorities in Poland and other states; the identity and position of the Polish diaspora, in particular in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan and Scandinavia; the development determinants of the Caucasus; the problems of modern civilization; the distinct nature of the culture of Gdańsk; the determinants of political culture in Poland as well as the methodology of political studies. It is beyond doubt that Professor Chodubski has made a huge mark on the advancement of Polish academia by expanding knowledge about these aspects of socio-political life.

Professor Chodubski was a distinguished scholar, initiator and organizer of academic life as well as a superb academic lecturer. He made a considerable contribution to the advancement of academic studies and curricula offered by the University of Gdańsk, among others, where he established a school of researchers dealing with the studies of modern civilization. He is also the author of the handbook *Wstęp do badań politologicznych* [Introduction to political science studies] which has been reissued repeatedly and which features in the canonical obligatory reading lists in university majors teaching social sciences. He also takes considerable credit for spreading academic knowledge, owing to his numerous popular science works, journalistic articles and interviews. He made a profound contribution to over a dozen encyclopedias and dictionaries, including the *Encyklopedia politologii* [Encyclopedia of political science], published in Kraków in 1999. His achievements in educating faculty members deserve appreciation. He served as an academic advisor to 33 doctoral students, reviewer of several dozen doctoral dissertations (96), post-doctoral (35) and professorship proceedings. He gave lectures, conducted colloquium classes and degree seminars of high popularity among doctoral and graduate students of the University of Gdańsk, but also universities in Warsaw, Poznań, Olsztyn and Łódź. He also promoted several hundred BA and MA graduates.

Professor Chodubski was an extremely diligent man with enormous achievements in different fields of academic activity. Being extremely knowledgeable, he was also exceptionally modest.

His studies were distinguished by utmost reliability. He was more than willing to advise and aid others, especially junior faculty members. Regardless of his own position in academia, on different occasions he would emphasize his respect for his own teachers and masters, whom he had had the honor to have met as a student and colleague. He enjoyed widespread respect and appreciation. A meaningful expression of the acknowledgement of Professor Chodubski's achievements by academic circles was the fact that, from 1999, he was consistently elected to the Political Science Committee at the Polish Academy of Sciences (PAN) and invited onto the academic and program boards of over a dozen academic periodicals from the list B of periodicals conducted by the Ministry of Science and Higher Education. He was an exemplary editor-in-chief of the "Cywilizacja i Polityka" [Civilization and politics] periodical distinguished by superb editorship.

Another distinctive feature that deserves mentioning is that Professor Chodubski successfully combined his academic and research activities with the responsibilities of a teacher and initiator of academic life. He also frequently took active part in academic conferences. He was a popular and renowned professor. His exceptional conscientiousness and concern for the development of higher education and Polish academia were distinctive. Polish academic circles admired his kindness, organizational skills and the ability to carefully listen to the arguments of his colleagues and co-workers. He was an authority to many people.

Unfortunately, Professor Andrzej Chodubski has passed away, but he has left his oeuvre to be taken advantage of by successive generations of political scientists and other scholars dealing with social studies and the humanities.

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