

Foreword

In 2019 the Faculty of Law and Administration of the Adam Mickiewicz University celebrated its 100—year Jubilee. In order to mark this celebration, a jubilee edition has been published as a collection of 20 texts written by Professors of the Faculty, spanning the course of the century.

From this context, an idea was born—to edit a publication of selected texts of Professors from the Department of Public International Law. Indeed, this was a noteworthy idea. Above all, it permits us to present the rich and varied scientific output of prominent specialists in public international law from the university’s Faculty of Law.

The importance of the publication is two—fold: both personal and substantive. It plays an important role in informing both the younger generation and readers from abroad. The names that are mentioned have been inscribed not only in the pages of Poznań’s Law Faculty but cover a much broader international context. Many of them played historical roles during Poland’s breakthroughs in the 20th century. The collection begins with the great figure of Bohdan Winiarski, a participant in both the Paris Peace Conference of 1919 and the First Congress of the Assembly of the League of Nations of 1921, as well as the President of the International Court of Justice in the Hague. He was associated with the Law Faculty in Poznań from 1921. Next, there is Alfons Klafkowski, a member of the Sejm, the first President of the newly established Polish Constitutional Court, who was also very active on the UN level.

Another key historical figure, who played an extremely important role as Minister of Foreign Affairs during the breakthrough period in Poland from 1989 to 1993, is Krzysztof Skubiszewski. As a minister of the first four governments after 1989, he outlined the foundations of Poland's new foreign and treaty policy after the collapse of post—Soviet bloc. The collection also includes texts by well—known specialists of a younger generation in international law who held expert positions in the international forum, such as Bolesław Wiewióra, Anna Michalska, Jan Sandorski, Jerzy Tyranowski and Tadeusz Gadkowski.

When citing this list of names, one can say that it presents a history filled with strong characters. The essence of this publication, however, is not only to recall the individuals themselves, but above all their achievements. A selection of texts has been made from the rich work of each of the authors, which particularly reflect the discussions and disputes that took place in the international arena at that time and, which did not lose their relevance in the modern world. Thus, there is a classic text written by Winiarski entitled “A contribution to the deliberations on the relationships between international law and Roman law”. It is a profound text, which provides a basis for conducting research on international law and its embedding in Roman law. The next text in this volume is that of Klafkowski, which deals with the extremely important subject of the new shape of borders and their legal and international consequences after World War II.

The publications presented in the collection constitute clear evidence of the involvement and reaction to these problems of the representatives of the Poznań international law community. The collection includes three texts written by Skubiszewski. Each of them is of great legal and political significance. One of the most important is the text on the relationship between international and national law. That text provided a substantive basis for the work of the Constitutional Committees of the Polish Parliament, which were preparing the new Polish Constitution and for whom it was important to create a formulation of the

relationship between international and national law. Disputes are still ongoing today. However, the arguments used by Skubiszewski in his texts have lost none of their relevance.

The texts of the subsequent authors, namely Bolesław Wiewióra, Jan Sandorski, Anna Michalska, Jerzy Tyranowski, and Tadeusz Gadkowski, all address important international issues. These publications remain current and constitute a source of further reflections and inspiration. Therefore, the initiative to present them in this collection is extremely important. This jubilee edition is a perfect link between the historical legacy of the Poznań School of International Public Law and its significance and relevance for contemporary science and international debates.

Hanna Suchocka