WORD OF THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Dear Readers,

I have a great pleasure in presenting you with the fourth issue of the scientific journal "Society and Politics", to share some very good news with your readers. Our journal was again included in the list of scientific journals and peer-reviewed materials from international conferences, published by the Minister of Education and Science on December 1, 2021. Thanks to the good cooperation of the Authors, Reviewers and the Editorial Board, "Society and Politics" received 40 points. The new scoring confirms that our work is properly carried out, but at the same time mobilizes us to make further efforts to achieve the next goals of the journal's development. The upcoming New Year 2022 will contribute to this, when scientists will no longer be burdened with procedures related to parameterization. This is a good time to direct your work towards new research areas.

The current issue is undoubtedly an interdisciplinary review of the current problems of Poland and Europe, analyzed in terms of philosophy, ethics, political science, economics, and security issues.

Rafał Woźnowski in his article analyzes the thoughts of Adam Michnik, rooted in the views of Leszek Kołakowski. The author explains the figures of a priest and a jester, discussed by Adam Michnik in his book "The Church, the Left, Dialogue". Grzegorz Mazur, on the other hand, took up an extremely topical topic, which aroused great social emotions among Poles, which is the description of the systemic doctrine in terms of Jarosław Kaczyński. The author presents the concepts of a politician, his statements and program documents. In his work, he also points to the authorities who inspired the PiS president. On the other hand, Robert Ćwiertnia shows us modern technologies that can make office work easier for people. The author proves his thesis with research reports, at the same time pointing out that robotization of processes is an important element of work optimization, and also deepens the process management of the company. Michał Kruszka writes about the effects of the global financial crisis on the European banking sector. The author points to the diminishing importance of the EU banking sector in certain areas, and at the same time shows the development of the condition of banks in other areas. In conclusion, the qualitative consequences of the financial crisis are positive, and this is important for stakeholders.

In her work, Beata Gałek takes up an interesting topic, concerning secret operations of intelligence services, which are often used to obtain information, guaranteeing a political advantage in the international arena. The advanced information revolution is conducive to the construction of multi-level strategies of influencing the dynamics of social and political processes. The last article, by Artur Juszczak, is an analysis of ritual slaughter, made in the context of the taboo of blood, from the perspective of the traditions of the Jewish and Muslim religions. The author, apart from the religious studies identification of issues concerning the importance of blood in religions, also points to contemporary ethical issues related to the ritual slaughter of animals and the legitimacy of consenting to this custom by state law.

I hope that the scientific research presented by the Authors will be appreciated by you and will be a platform for creative discussion, and perhaps also for advanced polemics, to which I encourage you.

Traditionally, I invite authors representing various scientific communities to co-create the scientific journal "Society and Politics" and submit proposals for new, unpublished articles, as well as reviews of outstanding scientific papers, which should be paid attention of researchers.

Here, as befits the last issue of the journal in a calendar year, I want to present statistics. By October 15, 2021, 40 scientific articles were submitted to the editorial office. 23 articles that were published in successive issues of the journal received positive reviews, which is 57.5% of articles accepted for publication. The authors of the published papers represented 17 academic centers and research institutes in Poland. Five people were independent researchers. An important role in ensuring a high substantive and scientific level of the journal is played by Reviewers who devote their time to preparing opinions and providing advice and guidance to the authors of the reviewed papers. In 2021, I appointed 60 reviewers, including 24 women in this group. At this

point, I would like to thank all of you for your contribution to the development of the journal. The inclusion of "Society and Politics" in the ERIH+ database and the increased score for the publication is also the result of your commitment and work.

Aldona Maria Piwko