

**PREFACE TO THIS VOLUME
AS APPEARING IN A NEW SETTING**

The first issue of “Studies” appeared in 1980. This was done without a permission of the Ministry of Science, what under the communist regime in Poland of those times was a serious offence of law. However, due a small legal trick, that risky deed had passed unnoticed by authorities. In Editorial Introduction the bonds among the medieval Logic, Grammar and Rhetoric, as well as among their modern counterparts, were revealed – with a touch of enthusiasm about chances of reviving the venerable tradition. For instance, the opening essay by Kuno Lorenz (one who created dialogic logic together with Paul Lorenzen) as being entitled “Main ideas of dialogic logic” was to represent a modern sophisticated form of rhetoric, while N. G. de Bruin’s (Eindhoven) contribution “The AUTOMATH mathematics checking project” perfectly exemplified a modern synthesis of logic and grammar (syntax) in devising proof-checkers.

The opening of a new phase dates at 1997 year when “Studies” obtains features of both a journal, appearing annually, and a book series, each volume being a collection concerning a common subject announced by the volume title. Hence the double numbering, the first number signifying the position in the so established series. The first publication in the new shape was entitled “On Leibniz’s Philosophical Legacy in the 350th Anniversary of His Death”. The second one, 1998, was also an anniversarial publication to celebrate Emil Post’s Birth Centenary under the title “Emil Post and the Problem of Mechanical Provability”. It includes papers delivered at the conference held in 1997 in Białystok – the capital of the region in which Post was born in 1887; from this volume onward the Series is fully and freely available on-line (logika.uwb.edu.pl/studies/).

After nearly ten years we again enter a new period. Its visible sign is the enhanced cover design, while an essential novelty consists in starting a systematic collaboration with the *Polish Association for Logic and Philo-*

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sophy of Science, what is signified with formula *under the auspices*. This is to mean that Association's representatives join the Editorial Team and the Advisory Board, the latter including now the Association's President Roman Murawski. This also means Association's help in gaining wider contacts for international collaboration. On the other hand, the journal provides Association with a forum for reporting its activities and for other publications.

The present volume fulfills the additional task of collecting contributions resulting from the reasearch supported by the Polish Ministry of Science, concerning decidability and tractability (or their lack) in social sciences (Grant No. 2H01A03025). The unit responsible for the project is the University of Białystok acting through its Logic Section, hence the research participants, and thereby contributors to this volume, are mainly persons affiliated to this uniwersity. However, this is no deliberate policy. Hopefully, next volumes, like the previous ones, will host authors from various academic circles.

The moment like this provides an opportunity to mention those who in the past years, since the birth of the project, contributed to its development. Once upon a time, when I conceived the idea of a foreign language journal as a window to scholarly circles abroad, this was meant as a chance for a young academic institution in the North-Eastern corner of Poland. Obviously, this could not succeed without able efforts of my collegaues. Among them there is Jerzy Kopania as the first editor, Kazimierz Trzęsicki as the Head (since 2004) of Logic Section coresponsible for the journal, Roman Matuszewski who mastered the art of winning Ministry grants for editing purposes, Mariusz Giero as the webmaster of on-line edition, Stanisław Żukowski as an expert type-setter, the Law Faculty Authorities who supported the journal when it did not succeed in gaining support from other sources. Special appreciation is due to Halina Świączkowska as the Editor-in-Chief who runs the journal in a competent and diligent way since late 80's up to now.

In this new stage and new setting, the journal is to be addressed to a much wider circle of foreign recipients that it used to be so far. We hope to obtain sympathetic responses which should make this journal a significant forum of scholarly collaboration in modern counterparts of Logic, Grammar and Rhetoric.

Witold Marciszewski