

INTRODUCTION

The formula of *Studies in Logic, Grammar and Rhetoric*, which alludes to the medieval *trivium*, allows the periodical to publish a wide variety of social science resources and essays, enabling to use different methods and approaches to study a number of issues, symbolically brought under the *trivium*.

For the last ten years, *Studies* have been published in two separate editions – as an annual journal and as a book with a common theme running through each volume; hence a double referencing system for the journal and the book series. Using this formula, *Studies* published items on the methodology of social sciences, the philosophy of language, articles and essays on the history of ideas. Since 2006 two distinct profiles of the periodical have been formed – formal-logical and socio-philosophical which made it possible to increase the frequency of editing, now the periodical appears twice a year and the ambition of its editors is to convert *Studies* into a quarterly.

The present volume entitled *Philosophical and Social Thought of the 17th century. Polish contemporary research perspective* perfectly fits into the profile of the journal and the intention of editor is to present a large scope of research problems of this region taken up in several academic centers in Poland. Our country has great traditions in this domain. More and more polish researchers especially the younger generation are engaged in this subject which resulted in several valuable publications and translations of classical texts in the last decade. Since 2005, within the cycle of annual all-Polish scientific conferences there has been going on a systematic exchange of thoughts between researchers of this singular century of great philosophy constituting a turning point for our civilization. The first one concerning the philosophical and social thought of the 17th century took place in Białystok, the next one devoted to the philosophy of Leibniz was organized by Wrocław philosophical circle. In 2007 the initiative was taken by the Catholic University of Lublin and the host of this year's Conference

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on philosophy of the 17th century in the context of its later implications was Adam Mickiewicz University of Poznań.

The content of this volume does not reflect the whole scope of research problems of our country. It is however rather representative of the domain described by the title of the volume. The authors present classic philosophical problems: ontological, epistemological, ethical as well as texts concerning aesthetics, linguistic philosophy and legal philosophy. We hope that this publication in English will contribute not only to popularization of polish research in the domain of philosophy and social thought of the 17th century abroad but it will also promote a large international debate for which there is always place in the columns of *Studies in Logic, Grammar and Rhetoric*.

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