

*This issue is dedicated to
PROFESSOR JERZY MIKUŁOWSKI POMORSKI,
a prominent Polish scholar
and mass communication researcher*



Professor Jerzy Mikułowski Pomorski

Jerzy Mikułowski Pomorski

PROMINENT POLISH RESEARCHER IN COMMUNICATION STUDIES

Professor Jerzy Mikułowski Pomorski is a Polish scholar, specialising in mass media, social, intercultural and international communication, and sociology of culture. He was born in 1937 in Katowice, Poland. He graduated in sociology at the Jagiellonian University in Cracow. He has studied at the London School of Economics and Political Sciences, UK. During his academic career he served as Rector of the Economic University in Cracow (1990–1996) and chair of the Department of European Studies at the Economic University in Cracow. Most recently, he has worked at the University of Silesia in Katowice, where he received His Doctor honoris causa (2017). He is Doctor honoris causa of Grand Valley State University in the USA (1993) and University of Teesside in the United Kingdom (1995). He is a member of the International Institute of Communication in London and European Studies Institute University of Salford in the UK, University Council of Education Management Transfer in Stockholm in Sweden, as well as the Networks of International Business and Economic Schools. Thanks to his long-term contribution to Polish science he has been awarded the most prestigious Polish prizes, such as the Golden Cross of Merit (1984), (1991), the Knight's Cross of Order of the Rebirth of Poland (1991), the Officer's Cross of Order of the Rebirth of Poland (1999).

Professor Mikułowski Pomorski is the author of hundreds of scientific publications. This includes *Zmieniający się świat mediów* [*The changing world of the media*] (2008), *Jak narody porozumiewają się ze sobą w komunikacji międzykulturowej i komunikowaniu medialnym* [*How nations communicate in international and media communication*] (2006), *Kultura wobec społecznej transformacji* [*Culture in the face of social transformation*] (2005) and *Komunikacja międzykulturowa* [*Intercultural communication*] (2009, 2004).

Professor Jerzy Mikułowski Pomorski is one of the founders of the Polish Communication Association (PCA). He holds Honorary Membership of the PCA (2010). He is a member of the Editorial Board of the *Central European Journal of Communication*.

We dedicate this issue of the *Central European Journal of Communication* to mark the outstanding contribution of Professor Jerzy Mikułowski Pomorski in social science in Poland and abroad. On behalf of the PCA's community we wish him all the best in current and future endeavours.

Bogusława Dobek-Ostrowska and Michał Głowacki
Editors

DOCTOR HONORIS CAUSA OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SILESIA IN KATOWICE



Ceremony of awarding the Doctor Honoris Causa, November 11, 2017

SCIENTIFIC WORK OF PROFESSOR JERZY MIKUŁOWSKI POMORSKI IN THE DEPARTMENT OF JOURNALISM AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SILESIA

Without a doubt Professor Jerzy Mikułowski Pomorski has played a leading role in educating the staff of the Department of Journalism at the University of Silesia in Katowice. As a manager, not only has he coordinated the research projects of his collaborators but he has also supported them in obtaining higher positions and promotions.

Thanks to Professor Mikułowski Pomorski's supervising and conducting higher seminars in local journalism and communication in the late 1980s, the Department of Journalism was able to set up a vibrant group of scholars focused on media research in the area of local journalism. The results of his seminars were as follows: four doctoral dissertations in the years 1987–1989, based on the empirical data on local journalism. Professor Jerzy Mikułowski Pomorski, together with Dr. Józef Mądry have put an emphasis on the full process of communication when shaping the topics of Ph.D. candidates. As a result, Marek Jachimowski analyzed both journalism society and disposers of local press in the previous political regime. Marian Gierula, basing his research on content analysis, made up theoretical models of journalistic implementation of local magazines in Poland, whereas Stanisław Mi-

chalczyk and Zbigniew Oniszczyk tackled the reception and social functioning of local magazines.

After years, it is thought that the described works have become an important contribution of the Silesian press research center to the general achievements of media studies in Poland. In the preceding years, other dissertations on local and regional issues have been completed under the supervision of professor Mikułowski Pomorski. Respectively, Ilza Kowol did a fine job on local press in Germany. Bernard Grzonka analyzed the reception and social functioning of regional broadcaster Radio Katowice. Therefore it can be said that thanks to the Professor, a new research center has been set up. As a consequence of its functioning, the staff have successfully applied for four habilitations and one professorship based on the scientific achievements on the practice of local and regional communication. During the last decade, the academic staff associated with Professor Mikułowski Pomorski have been supervisors of doctoral dissertations about local and regional communication, especially in Upper Silesia.

*Marian Gierula
University of Silesia in Katowice, Poland*

A LANDOWNER AS A SCHOLAR IN SOCIALISM — PROFESSOR JERZY MIKUŁOWSKI POMORSKI

One of the most respectable persons who had a great influence on my scientific life and who also affected my perception of both the big and small world was Professor Jerzy Mikułowski Pomorski. I met the Professor when I was a young researcher working on the media at the beginning of the 1980s. In 1984 I was his PhD student, who saw the Professor not only as a scholar and a master but also as a man. Professor Jerzy Mikułowski Pomorski has been a scholar who impressed me by his ordinariness and friendliness. He did not hide his landowner's origins and his homesickness for his place in the Sandomierz region in the times of real socialism. He did it naturally without fear and superiority. He shared his knowledge and experience from his scientific travels to the West and he passed on what was not socialistic in science. This behavior enriched and inspired us and it also protected us from "the achievements of Soviet science" which was popularized by four Soviet professors who were the residents in the Chair of Journalism of the Institute of Political Sciences in the Department of Social Sciences at the University of Silesia in the 1980s. Thus we can say that as far as the scientific rivalry in the Chair of Journalism was concerned, the ratio was four to one. But only one person was a supervisor of young research workers and thanks to his knowledge they gained a doctorate and later subsequent degrees.

I am particularly indebted to Professor Mikułowski Pomorski. It was due to him that I was not sent to "get a doctor's degree" to the Soviet Union and exactly to

Rostov-on-Don by one of the Soviet professors together with the then head of the Chair of Journalism. It happened when I completed the national research on journalists and holders of the local media.

Professor Jerzy Mikułowski Pomorski allowed me to become a doctor and not only to obtain a doctorate. He did not order or force me to do anything. He permitted me to make use of his knowledge. He taught me how to take up science for knowledge and the truth and not only for academic degrees.

I try to follow in his footsteps but with mixed success. As we did much research so we were successful in science to some degree. However, we failed to create a strong research- educational unit of journalism and therefore we are still only the Chair of Journalism.

The seed of media knowledge thrown by Professor Jerzy Mikułowski Pomorski in Silesia in the 1980s and later years bore considerable scientific and didactic fruit in a modest institutional structure. Let us hope that our successors will be able to develop this work which was inspired by our scientific Patron.

Marek Jachimowski
University of Silesia in Katowice, Poland