



**IN MEMORIAM**





## PROFESSOR STANISŁAW MICHALCZYK (1956-2024)

Professor Stanisław Michalczyk, a scholar in local and regional media, theory of mass communication, and political communication passed away on April 5, 2024, leaving behind the academic community of the Institute of Journalism and Media Communication and the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Silesia in Katowice. He was a well-known and highly respected educator of several generations of journalists and experts in communication and media and served as a member of the scientific board of the Central European Journal of Communication.

Professor Stanisław Michalczyk was born on August 8, 1956, in Czerwionka (later Czerwionka-Leszczyny), Silesia, Poland. In 1980, he graduated from political science with a major in journalism at the Faculty of Social Sciences, the University of Silesia in Katowice. After two years of work as an active journalist in the local press in Silesia and the military press, he started his academic activities in the Department of Journalism at the Institute of Political Science and Journalism, University of Silesia, where he progressed through various career positions until achieving full (titular) professorship. In 2004, he established and led the Department of Social Communication until the university's reorganization in 2019. This role enabled him not only to advise his younger colleagues and supervise six PhD theses and more than two hundred master's theses but also to serve as an external reviewer in dozens of committees for doctoral, habilitation, and professorship advancement.

Professor Stanisław Michalczyk obtained his doctoral degree in 1987 from the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Silesia under the supervision of Professor Jerzy Mikułowski Pomorski. In 2001, he was granted the degree of Doctor of Sciences (Habilitation) in Political Science based on a monograph entitled "The Local Media in Communication System: Contemporary Tendencies and Developmental Conditions". In 2012, he was awarded the title of Professor of Humanities.

In the almost 40 years of his academic career, Professor Stanisław Michalczyk wrote 6 authored and 8 edited monographs, more than 90 articles and chapters, as well as 2 textbooks for students on the theory of mass communication and political communication. He wrote: "Prasa samorządowa. Szkice prasoznawcze" [The Local Government Press: Press Studies Exerpts] 1996; "Media lokalne w systemie komunikowania. Współczesne tendencje i uwarunkowania rozwojowe" [The Local Media in Communication System: Contemporary Tendencies and Developmental Conditions] 2000; "Komunikowanie polityczne. Teoretyczne aspekty procesu" [Political Communication: Theoretical Aspects of the Process] 2005; "Społeczeństwo medialne. Studia z teorii komunikowania masowego" [The Media Society: Studies in Mass Communication Theory] 2008; "Demokracja medialna. Teoretyczna analiza problemu" [Media Democracy: A Theoretical Analysis] 2010; "Ednostka i społeczeństwo w świecie mediów. Klasyczne i współczesne idee w teoriach średniego zasięgu" [The Individual and Society in the Media World. Classical and Contemporary Ideas in the Middle-Range Theories] 2015; "Media lokalne w systemie komunikowania. Współczesne tendencje i uwarunkowania rozwojowe" [The Local Mass Media in Communication System: The Contemporary Tendencies and Developmental Conditions] 2020;

His hard work, modesty and helpfulness, along with deep admiration and respect for Silesian media and the culture of the written word, earned him wide recognition among Polish media scholars. His passion for chess developed from an early age and brought him national and international recognition in chess tournaments. His love of playing chess made him a thorough reader of chess magazines and a passionate chess promoter.

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