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Studia Politicae Universitatis Silesiansis T. 1

Summary

The presented collection constitutes the first v/olume of a scientific publication prepared in The Institute of Political Science and Journalism of the University of Silesia in Katowice. This periodical, the first volume of which appears on the 30th anniversary of the Institute, will be issued annually.

This collection comprises articles on the important political issues concerning the history of political thought and political doctrines, political governments, social communication and international relations. What is peculiar to such periodicals is methodological incoherence and thematic diversity of the included articles. The editors did not attempt to change the personal views expressed by the authors, most of whom are researchers from The Institute of Political Science and Journalism of the University of Silesia. Nevertheless, in this volume one can also find texts written by foreign scholars and by Polish political scientists from outside the University of Silesia.

The majority of the texts are devoted to the selected issues concerning political governments. The most important subjects tackled in these articles include the role of the judiciary in the process of democratization of countries and societies, the party system of the Russian Federation, the institution of the president in Poland, Slovakia and the Czech Republic after 1989.

The second group of articles consists of texts that deal with the broadly understood political thought. As far as this group is concerned one should pay special attention to the in-depth article on the "Christian Socratism" perceived as a way of thinking about politics, countries and human beings. What seems to be equally interesting is the text devoted to the issue of justice in the political philosophy of Plato.

In the collection one can also find articles about the foreign policy of the selected countries. The authors focused their attention on the controversies surrounding the Polish intervention in Iraq, France's stand on the Common Foreign and Security Policy of the European Union as well as the diplomatic relations between Russia and Slovakia.

The editors of the volume hope that the readers will also take interest in the articles devoted to social communication, contemporary political communication and the policy of communicating on the international scale.