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## IPSA's Research Committee 21 on Political Socialization and Education

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Artykuł został opracowany do udostępnienia w internecie przez Muzeum Historii Polski w ramach prac podejmowanych na rzecz zapewnienia otwartego, powszechnego i trwałego dostępu do polskiego dorobku naukowego i kulturalnego. Artykuł jest umieszczony w kolekcji cyfrowej [bazhum.muzhp.pl](http://bazhum.muzhp.pl), gromadzącej zawartość polskich czasopism humanistycznych i społecznych.

Tekst jest udostępniony do wykorzystania w ramach  
dozwolonego użytku.

from various disciplines, evaluations of the globalization process, methodological approaches, and even national contexts sometimes brought up by the authors) and this diversity, even if making the book slightly incoherent in terms of how its subject matter is elaborated, provides the reader with a valuable insight to the scholarly thought on the notion of democracy in the 21st century. From this point of view, different approaches, questions raised and conclusions made by the volume's authors sum up into a valuable contribution to the thought on the issue that remains a crucial challenge for humanities and social sciences of today.

### **IPSA's Research Committee 21 on Political Socialization and Education**

The International Political Science Association (IPSA) has recognized over 50 Research Committees (RCs). Between World Congresses, the research committees – largely as a result of the rapid growth in both their numbers and in the size of individual memberships – contribute more than any other body to the activity and achievements of IPSA. This move may be regarded as a timely recognition of the need but also the opportunity for political scientists working in particular sub-fields of the discipline to associate with colleagues from their own and from other continents in the pursuit of their research.

One of the most active RCs is RC21 on Political Socialization and Education. RC21 started already in 1976 as a study group in 1976, but granted the research committee status in 1979. The RC's topics of interest are located within the broad area of socialization and education in or regarding politics. Processes of political socialization and education deal with topics such as the development of political attitudes and behavior, participation, knowledge, decision-making and (democratic) citizenship among both young and adult citizens. Studies in these issues are mainly addressed to the research domains of the political psychology, culture, communication and leadership.

The broadness of the topics of interest and the direct link with the domain of the political psychology made it possible and very welcome that RC21 started up the cooperation with RC29, that deals with the field of Psycho-Politics. We are very proud of this long-lasting mutual friendship between these two RCs.

#### AIMS AND PRACTICES

The main goal of RC21 is to create a professional network which brings together political scientists (and political psychologists or political educationalists) from all over the world. It aims to advance the study of political socialization and education by encouraging research, especially cross national studies; to disseminate relevant information at international meetings, workshops and conferences; to publish scholarly research; and to provide a framework for co-operation between individuals and organizations concerned with teaching and research on political socialization and political education and citizenship rights and responsibilities.

In actual practice this includes for example a very active attendance (e.g. several panels sessions) at the general IPSA conferences every four years, and the offer of an almost yearly RC21 conference meeting, organized by the members of the RC itself. In the recent past these ‘expert meetings’ were held in Antwerp (Belgium), Aalborg (Denmark), Cracow (Poland) and Moscow (Russia), and more meetings in the upcoming years are already in prospect.

THE JOURNAL “POLITICS, CULTURE AND SOCIALIZATION”

Additionally, RC21 initiated the publishing of a new scientific journal: “Politics, Culture and Socialization”. In the early zero’s we acknowledged the fact that the topics of political socialization and education has become part of the main research domains in social and political science, but that there was still need of an academic journal dedicated to the topics of our area’s interest. After a couple of experimental issues, in 2010 the first volume of our journal “Politics, Culture and Socialization” was published.

The aim of the journal “Politics, Culture and Socialization” (PC&S) is to publish new and significant work in all areas of political socialization and civic education, political culture, psychology, and communications in order to achieve a better scientific understanding of the origins of political behaviors and orientations of individuals and groups.

The focus of attention is on political socialization processes – including political education, information, persuasion, marketing, or propaganda and their underlying and accompanying motivations – and political socialization structures – including the family, school, mass media, peer groups, social networks, and politics. PC&S publishes new and significant works that report on current scientific research, discuss theory and methodology, or review relevant literature in the book review section.

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## **The Fourth European Communication Conference of ECREA**

The Fourth European Communication Conference organised by ECREA (European Communication Research and Education Association) was held between 24–27 October in Istanbul. More than one thousand participants took part in panel sessions, discussions and work-groups. The main theme was “Social Media and Global Voices”. The researchers from all over the world exchanged their opinions on new media, peace and conflict journalism, network society, convergence culture, cultural spaces of human interaction, social media use and access, as well as political and economic consequences of media actions.

Maria Curie-Skłodowska University was represented by Dr. Grażyna Stachyra from the Department of Social Communication at the Faculty of Political Science who presented a paper based on her own research upon perception of radio at work, entitled *Radio in a Workplace – Between Hard Work and Leisure*. The presentation aimed to look at the radio in regard with cultural aspects of converging areas of free time and work in modern societies.

Apart from that, during the conference the new managing team of ECREA Radio Research Section was elected and Dr. Grażyna Stachyra entered the new board as its Vice-Chair. The board consists also of Prof. Guy Starkey from the University of Sunderland (Chair) and Prof. Madalena Oliveira from the University of Minho (Vice-Chair). Both of them had visited our University as the guests of II International Conference “Radio and Society 2” organized in June 2012 by the Department of Social Communication at the Faculty of Political Science. We are very pleased to state that Lublin became a well-recognized centre of radio research.

*Grażyna Stachyra (Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin)*