

EDITORIAL

Dear Readers. It is with satisfaction and hope that we present the 120th volume of “Archeion”. With satisfaction, because we have given the publication a new formula, which we hope will meet the archivists’ expectations for a modern, progressive scientific journal. Its thematic profile remains unchanged, despite the new editor-in-chief and some personal changes in the composition of the editorial office. We wish to continue the good traditions of our journal and in this respect, we count on cooperation of the entire archival community. In 2019 “Archeion” was entered on the list of scored scientific journals of the Minister of Science and Higher Education, obtaining 70 points. Therefore, we are obligated to implement the guidelines for evaluation of journals. Consequently, starting from this current volume we have introduced new editorial rules. We also reinstated the practice from several years ago of having a leading theme, to which at least 1/3 of each volume is to be devoted. We have simplified the structure of sections, which currently includes section devoted to the leading theme, and sections: “Studies and materials”, “Discussions and reviews”, “Scientific Chronicle” and “In Memoriam”. We are convinced that the changes we have introduced in the journal will be accepted by the readers of “Archeion” and will serve to maintain a high academic standard. Thus, we are hopeful in looking forward to reactions from the readers and hope for their approval of the undertaken challenges.

Volume 120 focuses on social functions of archives and their position in public space. The choice of the leading theme is the result of a panel discussion entitled “Archives in Public Space” which took place during the 20th General Congress of Polish Historians in September 2019 in Lublin. The articles, included in the first section reflect the discussions held during the Congress and the topics raised during the discussion. Four articles, including Paweł Pietrzyk’s keynote paper *Contemporary conditions and prospects for scientific activity of state archives – an attempt at diagnosis*, are devoted to the issue of scientific research carried out in archives and by archivists. The paper presents an analysis of the formal and legal conditions of scientific activity at state archives and discusses the most important, according to the author, research needs of a modern archive. Study by Waldemar Chorążyczewski and Paweł Gut (*History in archives and archives in history. State archives’ share in development of Polish historiography*)

provides an in-depth analysis of methodological relations between archives and study of history, on one hand constituting archives as scientific institutions and on the other, guaranteeing archival science its status as a discipline of science. Development of archival personnel and scientific research over the last few decades, as well as their current state, was presented by Dariusz Magier in *The curse of Bogdan Kroll. Researchers and scientific activities in Polish state archives in the light of archival literature from the 20th and 21st century*. The final paper devoted to reflections on scientific aspects is the work by Krzysztof Skupieński *Polish archival science versus documentary science and development of inter-, multi- and transdisciplinarity*. The article is a discourse exploring the directions that Polish archival science might take in order to make broader forays into modern interdisciplinarity. The second theme, which was not only the subject of debate at the Congress of Historians in Lublin, but is the subject of current interest and discourse of the archival community, is the issue of audience for the archives. The following articles are devoted to this issue: Joanna Chojecka *Open archives. On presence of state archives in public space in context of assumptions, implementation and results of State Archives Strategy 2010–2020* and Marlena Jabłońska *Archives in space. People, places, activities. Introduction to presence of archives in public space*. The first one is a summary of implementation of the public access principle by state archives in the passing decade 2010–2020; the second provides a broader reflection on contemporary presence of Polish archives, with particular emphasis on state archives, in public space. The summary of this discussion against a broader background of reflections on presence of archives in public space, seen as implementation of their functions or social roles, is presented in the final article of this section – paper by Agnieszka Rosa entitled *Social roles of archives in contemporary archival discourse in Poland, as an addendum to the panel discussion “Archives in public space” during the 20th General Congress of Polish Historians*. The “Studies and materials” section includes works of both archival and interdisciplinary nature. Archival science is represented by Barbara Berska, Wanda K. Roman and Janusz Łosowski contributions, thematically linked to the celebrations of restoration of Poland’s sovereignty, and resulting from many scientific conferences and events that accompanied these celebrations. Articles by Grzegorz Wrona, Radosław Gaziński and Karol Nabiałek are an important contribution to the development of archival science, codicology and knowledge about polonica of the modern era. There is also an interdisciplinary work in this section, by Bartosz Drzewiecki and Anna Pieczka, devoted to modern education of archivists.

The texts in the “Discussions and Reviews” and “Scientific Chronicle” sections refer to publications and current events that have taken place over the past 2–3 years. We try, as much as the publishing cycle allows, to provide information that is not outdated, to make sure it is relevant for the Reader. A justified departure from this principle has been made in the present volume, to include a review

of a monograph by Wiesława Kwiatkowska *Achievements of Polish archival science in scope of archival fonds processing methodology* (Warsaw 2014), a work important for the archival methodology and not previously reviewed.

We would like “Archeion” to become a keystone for the main research fields of modern archival science, understood as interdisciplinary science concerning modern archives. To this end, subsequent issues are to focus on the leading themes – matters of major importance for the development of archival science and archives. The leading theme of planned volume 121 is the subject of contemporary archival law in Poland. It covers theoretical and empirical premises for modernisation or reform of contemporary archival law in Poland, necessary changes in most important areas of archival activity, in particular the handling of documentation, providing access to archival materials, the structure and operating principles of the state archival network system and its subsystems, amendments to the Act on National Archival Resources and Archives of 1983 in the context of systemic transformation in Poland after 1989, as well as analyses and comparisons of contemporary archival law systems in Poland and in other countries. The prelude to this subject scope is the article by Marek Konstankiewicz, concluding the “Studies and materials” section, entitled *Development of the legal basis for archival activity in Poland at the turn of the 20th and 21st century*, in which the author outlines the most important areas for in-depth examination of archival law, emphasizing their interdisciplinarity and the need to use the expertise of archival science as well as methods used in legal sciences.

Please enjoy reading the volume thoroughly; we will also welcome your cooperation.

Editorial Team

