

FROM THE EDITOR

The actual, eighth volume of the journal *Polish Pedagogical Thought* is dominated by studies and dissertations taking up – in various ways – widely understood issues falling within the conservative pedagogy current.

The existing classifications of the directions of the development of pedagogic thought (directions and trends of pedagogy) contained in Polish textbooks do not distinguish the current/direction of the conservative pedagogy (in the case of conservative education strongly developed in the USA or in England). In view of the eleven centuries of Polish statehood in Europe and the fact that Poles co-created the Latin civilisation, this fact seems to be absurd. Conservatism is based on the defence of the socio-cultural order by strengthening traditional values: religion, nation, state, family, hierarchy, authority. In upbringing, it is also based on the conviction that cultural changes are more beneficial for man: not of revolutionary nature, but of evolutionary nature. Moreover, conservatives believe that the role of education is to shape in pupils a sense of cultural identity. This view was and is widely present in Polish pedagogical thought – a simple consequence of which is the direction of development of pedagogy leading towards conservative pedagogy.

From among 19 articles, which we publish in the main section *Studies and dissertations*, as many as 11 were written with this thought in mind and declared by our Authors as attempts to address the issue of pedagogical conservative thought of Poles. These articles form two distinctly separate areas: the first dedicated to modern education in the conservative spirit and the second, showing examples from the history of conservative pedagogical thinking. In the next 8 articles, placed in the section *From philosophy and history of education*, one can also find elements of conservative thinking – however, their Authors did not conduct their analyses in this direction, therefore we publish them in a separate part.

The present volume also contains the traditional *Archives* section, with the speech given by Stanisław Count Tarnowski, Rector of the Jagiellonian University (a representative of Kraków's conservatives of the second half of the 19th century) at the matriculation of students on 7 December 1886, as well as the *Review Articles* section.

The present volume I give – as the editor of the volume and the leader of this periodical – to the Reader with the hope of making the first step on the way of

reconstructing the conservative current of pedagogy in Poland. The inspiration and justification of this reconstruction is the domination (colonisation) of Polish pedagogy by leftist critical thought (critical pedagogy). This phenomenon, with all varieties of contemporary socialism (neo-Marxism/cultural Marxism) provokes – in the name of preserving pluralism in pedagogical thought – to turn to the conservative thought (opposite to the left-wing one), as able to protect the remnants of Latin civilisation.

I remain with the hope that the eighth volume of *Polish Pedagogical Thought* will be an inspiration for pedagogues – researchers of pedagogical theory and practice; that it will widen for students and academic teachers the field of freedom to choose their own preferences in the area of pedagogical theories and trends; that it will open to the pedagogical heritage worth saving for all interested in education and its inherent world-view dimension.

Janina Kostkiewicz¹
Kraków, on 16th May 2022

¹ Prof. dr hab. Janina Kostkiewicz – professor at the Institute of Pedagogy of the Jagiellonian University; chairperson of the Council of the Discipline Pedagogy of the Jagiellonian University; founder and chief editor of the journal *Polish Pedagogical Thought*; author and co-author of 8 monographs, including *Polski nurt krytyki nazizmu przed roku 1939* (Kraków 2020), *Kierunki i koncepcje pedagogiki katolickiej w Polsce 1918–1939* (Kraków 2013), *Wychowanie do wolności wyboru* (Kraków 2008); editor and co-author of 15 collective monographs and numerous articles. E-mail: janina.kostkiewicz@uj.edu.pl.