

## *From the Editors*

The fifth volume of „Krakowskie Studia z Historii Państwa i Prawa” (Cracow Studies of Constitutional and Legal History) is dedicated to professor Stanisław Grodziski, an outstanding historian whose research is concerned with the history of Poland’s law and legal culture. By dedicating the volume to him we try to honor the eminent scholar whose achievements in the world of learning are particularly noteworthy. The scholarly silhouette of professor Grodziski and his academic career was presented by professor Waław Uruszczak in his *laudatio*, delivered by him at the ceremony of renewal of doctoral degree at one time granted to professor Grodziski, the *laudatio* being published in the present volume. The latter contains also the list of professor Grodziski’s publications. The list has been completed by his recent studies.

The present volume contains the papers that were written by the academicians of the Cracow University as well as those affiliated in other places. The topics of the papers vary. They in particular deal with the history of taxation as imposed in the Kingdom of Poland of the Jagellonian era and also with the nobiliary local assemblies (*sejmiks*) in the 17<sup>th</sup> through 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. They discuss among others: the mandate as granted to the parliamentary deputy in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, the first Polish joint-stock companies, crime incidence as detectable in the army in Cracow at the turn of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Likewise, they explore the problem of the *Rechtsstaat* in the 19<sup>th</sup> century Cracow, the development of the law on hand registry and the concept of unjust enrichment, the activities of the Investigation Commission as established by the Polish Government in exile during World War II, the post-war court decisions in the area of penal law and the history of the teaching of legal history in Poland of the 1960’s. In the volume there may also be found papers that are concerned with the American legal history (the question of the doctrine of nullification) and history of political and legal doctrines. In that area, of interest there may be the article discussing the ideas of Niccolo Macchiavelli as well as that devoted to the concept of improvement of the 18<sup>th</sup> century Polish constitutional system and also the article devoted to the ideas of marquis de Sade, as well as that analysing the Cracow conservative thought of the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century.

Apart from the monographic papers, the volume contains also polemics, reviews of research publications as well as chronicles of scholarly events. In this present volume the chronicle that covers 2011 informs not only of the events that took place in Cracow but also of those that took place in other countries of Central Europe, including Germany, Czech Republic, Hungary and Ukraine.

We hope that the contributions contained in the volume will arouse your interest.

*Editorial Board*