Editorial:
Europeanisation Processes

The first decade of the 21st century is characterised by great intensification of research into the phenomenon of Europeanisation, which manifests itself in a great number of articles on the nature, processes and mechanisms of Europeanisation. This resulted in the release of as many as two issues of our journal on this topic. The current issue of the “Horizons of Politics”, which is a kind of the continuation and supplement to the previous issue, takes on again the issue of Europeanisation processes. This time we address such fundamental questions as: What is Europeanisation? How it should be understood and interpreted? What are the dimensions of Europeanisation, especially socio-political and economic ones? Is there a common European identity? What are the possible directions of the further evolution of Europeanisation processes?

The Editorial Board has decided to resign from the Varia section in the current issue, similarly as in the number 8th of the quarterly entitled Europeanization of Europe [Wach 2013, p. 9-12], and to extend Thematic Articles section, which allowed us to present eight thematic articles. In this issue we continue the development of articles in English, announced in the previous issue [Rybkowski 2013,
pp. 6-8] in order to reach even wider audience and to promote Polish thought in the scope of social sciences. Thus, 5 out of 8 articles have been prepared in the English language, including all the key articles developed from the perspective of political science.

This number is a double reason to celebrate. Firstly, it is already the 10th issue of the “Horizons of Politics” [Pasierbek 2010, pp. 5-6], and thus the presence of the fifth year of our magazine on the publishing market (now inaugurating the second year as a quarterly). Secondly, this year marks 10 years since Polish accession to the European Union. This decade already allows to look at the Europeanisation processes taking place in the Polish economy and politics from more critical perspective, thus two articles closing the current issue are a kind of a summary of the benefits of the membership in the European Union for Polish firms and the economy, which results into political benefits for the entire society and the state.

However, it is impossible to skip the current events happening within Europe, as there is a very serious conflict between Ukraine and Russia. Everything that happens there affects significantly the status of Europe and can impair a stabilisation of the world. Therefore, while investigating the Europeanisation processes, we must ask ourselves whether we can peacefully, without the use of any armed forces, solve what turns out to be so difficult. It is hoped that the long history of European democracy and human solidarity experience will not be lost by selfish ambition.

Wit Pasierbek SJ, Krzysztof Wach

References

Rybkowski, R., 2013, Editorial: Beyond the Horizon, „Horyzonty Polityki“, vol. 4, no. 9, p. 6-8. 