

EDITORIAL***Dear Readers of the European Journal of Transformation Studies,***

you are holding the journal's volume, which is very special for me as a Guest Editor due to the fact that it is dedicated to the 100th anniversary of Ukrainian-Polish friendship of independent states. I am heartily grateful for such opportunity to Professor Arkadiusz Modrzejewski and the Editorial Board of the European Journal of Transformation Studies.

Century – it is rather small period of time in the history of mankind. However, it was not easy for our countries. It comes about the time of building interstate relations through the challenges of wars, divisions of territory, ambitious of national leaders, interethnic insults. Nowadays, we do have a right to state on celebrating 100 years of friendship between Ukraine and Poland.

Vasyl' Stus Donetsk National University, which is represented by me, demonstrated its civic position and relocated from occupied Donetsk to Vinnytsia in order to save its right for implementation of the state principles and their mission in Ukrainian education, to keep national traditions with faith in Ukrainian Donbas and unbreakable Ukrainian spirit. It is rather symbolically that meeting between the president of the Directory of the Ukrainian National Republic, Symon Petliura, and First Marshal of Poland, Józef Pilsudski took place in Vinnytsia in 1920. Moreover, here, in the heart of Ukraine, Józef Pilsudski said the legendary words: "There will be no independent Poland without independent Ukraine". The above has become a testament for plethora generations of Poles and still known as one of the postulates of Polish diplomacy.

100 years ago, Poland and Ukraine were allies during the war with Soviet Russia. Unfortunately, the history repeats itself today. Nowadays, Ukraine is in the state of war with Russian Federation, meanwhile Poland supports Ukraine in the international arena and in its fight for its territorial integrity, national interests, and national unity.

The Poles remember all the crimes of the Soviet Russia, grief of the World War I, the tragedy and betrayal during the World War II. The Poles, like no one else, understand Ukraine today. During the 20th century, they have repeatedly experienced injustice and consequences of the criminal actions of the Soviet Government. The Prime Minister of Poland, Mateusz Morawiecki, emphasized the following in his statement on December 29, 2019: "Executioners and victims, who are guilty in violent crimes, cannot be confused with innocent civilians and invaded countries. We must defend the truth together for the sake of joint past and in the memory victims". Ukrainians and Poles are aware of the difference between friendship and brotherhood, between occupation and military assistance, between victory and peace.

This volume contains scientific investigations of Ukrainian, Polish and American researchers, which are dedicated to modern Ukrainian-Polish relations in terms of political transformations and social changes. Such investigations are the author's view of people, who are not afraid to tell the truth that is necessary for maintenance and strengthening of bilateral relations between Ukraine and Poland, search for new measuring of the neighbourhood and developing the new level of positions in the international arena.

I sincerely hope that these scientific developments will facilitate the establishment of constructive cooperation between scientific schools of Ukraine, Poland and the world. Thus, we will be able to create conditions for development of the global political science, increasing the level of political awareness, constructive communication, critical thinking and strengthening of intercultural researching dialogue.

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