

SCHUMAN

VOL. 25 | JAN 2025

OPTICS MAGAZINE



MAGAZINE PUBLISHED BY INSTITUTE OF SCHUMAN'S THOUGHT
PRESENTS IMPORTANT CURRENT TOPICS FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF SCHUMAN'S
THOUGHT

SCHUMAN

OPTICS MAGAZINE

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ISSN: 2956-4484

PUBLISHER:

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ACCOUNT NUMBER FOR POLAND:

PKO BP, IV Oddział Warszawa,

91 1020 1042 0000 8202 0350 5203

EURO ACCOUNT:

BIC CODE (SWIFT):

BPKOPLPW 91 1020 1042 0000 8602 0501 9080



LETTER FROM EDITOR

Dear Sir/Madame,

We started the new year with the Polish presidency of the European Union. Such an opportunity comes once every 13.5 years and everything indicates that this time it will be wasted. The Polish government does not intend to fight for energy and food security, or for individual professional groups that are at risk of mass layoffs. In addition, there is the absurd idea of building wind farms in Polish forests, which will lead - science is ruthless here - to an ecological disaster on an unprecedented scale. Birds will be killed en masse by the merciless blades of windmills, tons of grease will soak into the litter, leading to soil contamination and contamination of the forest undergrowth, which will affect the welfare of forest animals, unless they are scared away by the infrasound emitted by wind farms. Interestingly, all ecological organizations are silent on this topic, and probably only because the mentioned windmills are supposed to come from German surplus. The government wants to destroy Polish landscapes and Polish nature because German companies want to make money. The public is not told that trees will have to be cut down for each of the 2,500 wind turbines. Similarly for the access road where each turbine is to be equipped. And it will be called "green energy".



LETTER FROM EDITOR

Social resistance to these actions is negligible. Similarly, most Poles apparently do not mind the fact that 20 percent Polish forests will soon be doomed to extinction by an irresponsible pseudo-ecological policy prohibiting logging and any other interference with the trees. Experts agree - forests will not cope without the intervention of experienced foresters.

In the January issue of Schuman Optics Magazine, we look at the fate of the Polish energy sector. In a situation of chronic electricity shortages, Donald Tusk's government wants to phase out all coal-fired power plants by 2030. By comparison, France and Germany have restarted all their old coal-fired power plants because other energy sources proved insufficient. So far, the protests of the Polish energy industry, aware of the existing threat, have been of little use. So far, ill-considered political decisions have not been reversed.

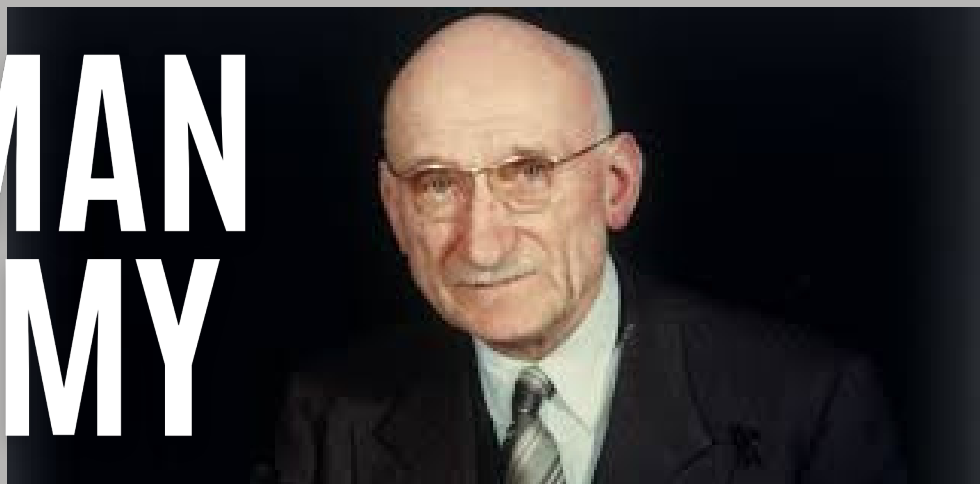
In the latest issue, we also analyze the situation in Ukraine in terms of the threat to Central and Eastern Europe from Russia. In an interview for us, former Minister of National Defense Jan Parys clearly says that "this is not the time for naivety and promoting pacifism" and that Poland's possession of nuclear weapons would be an important deterrence factor. The fact is, however, that it is difficult to ensure security in a situation where there is a serious internal threat to the existence of democracy. The (Anti)Democratic Shield pushed forward by the European Commission will allow Brussels not only to use censorship, but above all to interfere in elections in individual member states. Eurocrats do not hide the fact that such interference as in Poland or Romania will be repeated in other countries if a party other than the mainstream wins. This is nothing more than the introduction of open totalitarianism - the creation of a totalitarian superstate under the dictate of Brussels controlled from Berlin.

LETTER FROM EDITOR

I would like to be an optimist, but in the current situation it is difficult to remain optimistic. The great hope is the presidential elections in Poland scheduled for this year. The only question is whether the Brussels dictatorship will want to undermine them. After all, it constantly turns a blind eye to the Polish government's violations of law and the rule of law just because it represents German interests.

Anna Wiejak

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SCHUMAN'S PROGRAM:

I WOULD LIKE TO ANNOUNCE THAT ON JUNE 19, 2021, THAT IS, ON THE DAY THE VATICAN ANNOUNCED THE DECREE ON THE HEROIC VIRTUES OF THE VENERABLE SERVANT OF GOD ROBERT SCHUMAN, THE HOLY SPIRIT THROUGH THE CHURCH GAVE US A PROGRAM CALLED "THE SAINT IN A SUIT PROGRAM". THIS IS A SPECIFIC PROGRAM FOR LIVING IN THE SPIRIT OF ROBERT SCHUMAN.



All life is politics. Politics is not limited only to the Sejm or television, but our entire life is politics. Our lives need this program and this program is given by the Church on the example of Schuman.

Look what this program includes. First point: remind yourself that you are a spiritual being - not only bodily, not only mental. These three dimensions of your person must be integrated, constitute some kind of unity within you. Where did Robert Schuman's spirituality come from? It had several sources, the first of which was the parents. They were practicing Catholics, especially his mother, open to the religious renewal initiated by the popes of that time, who emphasized careful reading of the Holy Scriptures, Marian devotion and regular reception of the sacraments. Look, this is a program that we, Catholics, have put aside, and we do not have a better program.

Nothing spectacular happened in Robert Schuman's life for a long time, and all the important things happened after he was sixty. In the book *Dead Poets Society*, a student describes his school principal as a sixty-year-old old man. I think: I'm such an old man too. That's why I was so struck by the information that for Schuman it all started only after he was in his sixties. Grandpas, grandmas, let's wake up!

Someone addicted, even immersed in ideology. You see him at these parades. He went and the ideology took over him. The manipulation system is very powerful. And this is point one, because family is so important. We really need to help this family. (...) This is the first thing: family, mothers of children. As you can see, being neglected, especially morally, means not only sighing and lamenting, but also getting closer to these children. Come up with something for them to come. Not just condemn.

The second pillar of Schuman's spirituality stems from his student years spent at German universities, when he belonged to the Catholic student association *Unitas*. This association, unlike many nationalist, secular, or openly anti-religious ones, conducted discussions about religion and spiritual life. Every week there was a conference on the teachings of the Church and the lives of saints. And this is a program that you need to take personally.

Robert Schuman oxygenated himself every day by reading the Holy Bible for an hour because his mother taught him so. You will not have strength if you are not fed with the Word of God. Robert Schuman was taciturn; they encouraged him to write down his life, but he didn't write it down. He was. When Moses asked God in the burning bush, "Who are you?", God revealed himself as the One Who Is. That is: to be. Don't worry about what they will write, don't even worry that they will write down all your sins and put them on a bulletin board. Let them put it there. If anyone is interested in what my sins are, let him read it - I will confess to him. Because today the



devil closes his mouth. And that is why we need people who will be evangelical. This is the program. This program is very beautiful but demanding. Schuman came to work an hour earlier, and earlier to church for the morning Holy Mass. He was a minister in the communist government, and he went to church every day. He didn't care what they said about it. And no one ever told him not to go there. Because people see where his power comes from. And that's the program. This is a tough program, but effective.

The third spiritual pillar was Christian philosophy, i.e. people who helped him understand the world. Because a philosopher helps you understand the world and what is happening around you. Many of us even receive Communion every day, but we do not understand the world. And you have to understand the world. Robert Schuman understood the world. That's why he convinced even the most distant people.

He understood them. It must be understood that someone will exchange intercourse with a woman for bodily contact with a man. You have to understand it, not approve it, but understand that something like this can happen. And this is not a reason to shout: "Jesus! Jesus!" and run away. You have to stay calm and understand the world that something may change in your mind and you may get lost for some time.

How often does our Lord God see how each of us makes mistakes from time to time? How many different behaviors he sees - he must be weakened by this. And couldn't He fly around Odolanów and complain about it? He could, but He doesn't. Because He knows life. That's why we have to understand life, my dears. Intelligent people from various fields helped Robert Schuman in this. He liked listening to them.

The next, fourth pillar of Robert Schuman's development were good priests. And God placed good priests on Schuman's path. And puts priests on our paths. And that's the program. If you see someone fighting with a priest, even if he is the president or prime minister, do not shout, but think how you can reach him. No one will let me, a simple man, get to him. How to reach him and tell him: "Robert Schuman was someone because he met good priests". "And you think you will be someone, if you reject priests?" -tell him that.

Why don't our MEPs, even from Law and Justice Party, say anything about Schuman? They sit there disappointed, and neither the Germans nor the French want to listen to their talk. What if they said: "Let's look at our founding father, the Venerable Servant of God Robert Schuman. Let's take a look, and what do we see?". And instead there is yelling and screaming for no reason. They won't listen to it because their own pride won't let them. But if you point them to Schuman, maybe they will reflect. That is why the Holy Spirit gives such a program.

Schuman never talked about himself or his faith; he never

wrote anything about himself. He refused to write diaries so as not to glorify himself or show mercy towards his political opponents. However, there are moving testimonies about him, including those written by his political opponents, so they are certainly not biased.

In her article, Mrs. Stanicka-Apostoł first quotes the words of former president François Mitterrand, an agnostic, who said this about Schuman: "He was a discreet and good man who drew inspiration from his deep faith. He was a politician, but his life had a rhythm that escaped political turmoil. He got up early in the morning, sat behind a desk emptied of all papers, immersing himself in long meditation that no one could disturb". And here we would also have to learn, because we are always chasing something. Even when we meet to oxygenate each other, we are still chasing something. And we won't catch anything here or there. You can't catch a magpie by the tail. And further from Mitterrand's memoirs: "He didn't know what anger was, or holding grudges, even though he had to endure the hatred of many people".

What I said: don't be negative, even towards a person who is not from my camp. No matter what she did, she tried to make her hated, you must not be influenced. This is the program, folks. This is a very specific program. You can even use it here in Odolanów. We come from different backgrounds, you have different attitudes around you every day, and you cannot be negative towards anyone.

Another memory about Schuman was written by André Philip, a Protestant, socialist: "I was struck by the radiance of his inner life. One felt in him a holy man, without personal desires, without ambition". You see, because sometimes our opponents see that we come to them with such ambitions that God forbid that they would not agree. Because if you don't agree... This is the program, folks. This is the program. We return to the memory: "He was a holy man, without personal desires, without ambition, a completely sincere man with great intellectual

humility, whose only pursuit was to serve here and now. In the heated atmosphere of parliamentary debates, it was extremely refreshing to deal with a man constantly ready for dialogue.

This is something amazing. To be always ready for dialogue. To have that opinion. This person should be the supervisor at home. I am the superior of a conventual house. My program is to be constantly ready for dialogue with my brothers. Don't just be the guardian of the regulations. Life is much richer than the provisions of the regulations, and you need to know life, understand life. And we read further in the report: "He always tried to convince his point with calmness and great courtesy. He never used vulgar means to achieve his goal. He did not exaggerate the importance of arguments or raise his voice". I sometimes raise my voice, but not to draw attention to myself, but to make us feel that I am talking about something important. And all of this is so important. When we go, this is our agenda.

To get help in a specific situation, we must go to someone significant in our town. And remember that people can tell by the tone of the voice, by the timbre of the voice. Color, tone, everything speaks to people. And Robert Schuman was like that. He is remembered by a socialist from the opposite political camp: "He did not flaunt his faith, he did not hide it, he was not afraid of human judgments". This is a very important note for us: do not be afraid of human judgments. Sometimes I say that if all my behavior were revealed, there would only be one woman left in the church. They say: the priest is exaggerating. Yes, I exaggerate, but I don't feel perfect either. I am not an angel. When I took over the parish in Płoty, I announced: "I am not an angel. I am sometimes even weaker than you. I am walking with you on the path of faith". And this is a specific program.

France is a secular country and here you can hear: "Stop with this Schuman". Should I stop with my founding father? We need to enter into dialogue. We need to talk. When you're

walking and someone tells you to stop with this Schuman, don't give up. In 1955, Schuman himself was as the Prime Minister of France on a Holy Week visit to Jerusalem, and when he was in the procession and they were carrying the cross, he also took the cross and carried it to the next station. And maybe he didn't even think that there was a rule, that members of the government in France could never publicly show their faith. This is still the case today. If you are a spiritually, physically and morally well-groomed person, when you find a Nepomucen figurine, in quotation marks, renew it, and this Nepomucen figurine may be a child of very lost parents.

Finally, I was a prefect at a Catholic high school in Stargard. This high school has already been closed down. The mayor of the city, a former communist, encouraged us to take this abandoned building of the former millennial and do something with it, but those from the right were never able to help us with anything. They were always afraid. It is important that this Catholic school was helped rather by people from the Social-Democratic Party (SLD). This reminds us: don't be biased, seek understanding with every person. Young people from very broken families came to our school, on principle: "Give him to a Catholic, maybe they will make something out of him". Students with certificates with a red stripe did not come there. They said: "Catholic? That's where the chaff goes". And I always told teachers: "Don't look at it". Sometimes we think that no one listens to us. Meanwhile, they are listening to us. This is a program for our times.

The Church shows us Robert Schuman. That's why I'm telling you about it today, to paint it before your eyes. So that you have someone to turn to when looking for these Nepomucen figures in your town - for example, children who have been flooded by a wave of pornography and drugs. Making a fuss won't help. Discretion is needed. Do you remember when Philip came to Jesus and Jesus said: "I saw you there under the tree". Oh, you saw me under the tree and what, do you want to see me here now? Jesus appealed so discreetly: I saw you under

that tree. I don't know what happened there, no one knows to this day what the Lord Jesus made him realize there. We don't know. But Philip, when he clung to Him, gave his own life. Because that's how he treated him: discreetly and beautifully. And that's the program, folks. In this program, you must first demand it from yourself. To oxygenate myself, to be such a personality - not the same one, but to learn from this man what the most important things he had to do after the age of sixty.

People need to be rescued from the flood wave. Even a businessman, who is flooded with money. I know a few of them. I call them sometimes and tell them to make it clear, that I'm not looking for money today. But I ask: "Where are you? Because I haven't heard your voice for a long time". And, my dears, this is the program for the Schumanites. Sometimes this money, this profit, floods us. Dear ones, how these people need Schuman's spirit so that they will understand this life. What influences on a guy, that sees a pile of money. But when he has his fear of losing money and can't sleep and goes everywhere and no one helps him, may the Holy Spirit bring him, like he brought one to me in Płoty. He tells me: "I can't sleep, I don't know, priest, what's going on. I'm afraid I'll go crazy". I say: "My dear, thank God that your psyche saves you so much. It's good that you have these fears. Now is the time to put it all aside, take these burdens from your head". He asks: "How?". And I told him: "You will tell me, and you will remove these burdens from your head". He asks: "So what should I say?" "Well, you'll tell me an hour a day, and that'll take away the burden". "But what?". "What's in your head". He didn't listen, my dears. To this day he hasn't listened. He went to the clinic, paid a lot of money because he could afford it, they took the results, explained everything to him, what influences a person, what abnormalities he had, and that they could compensate for this for thousands of thousands zloties. They leveled it nicely there and the guy flew. We will wait until the congestion comes again. But when I see him, I say: "Listen, you shouldn't underestimate the overload, because sometimes it gets so overloaded that even this clinic won't bring you back to

normal". I would like to thank Mrs. Aneta for this example with the figure of Nepomucen, because I realized why people build and love such figures. He is from all floods. Not only from water. But also from desires, because when the water of lust floods, then - people! From cravings, for example towards alcohol, and for such Nepomucens it is a great advocate. The Schumanites must reach people and say: Nepomucen sent me to you because it is flooding you. Some say: "I'm bleeding", and that's exactly what we're supposed to see and rush to help, sent by Nepomucen.

Fragments of the lecture by Fr. Ryszard Szymanik delivered at the seminar of the Universal University of Christian and Social Teaching, prepared by Dr. Marek Oktaba and Anna Wiejak

The text was not authorized.

**Jarostaw
Grzesik:
THE MORE
RENEWABLE
ENERGY ON
THE GRID, THE
MORE
EXPENSIVE
ENERGY
BECOMES**



Germans have restarted all their coal-fired power plants, meanwhile Poland, which is at risk of blackouts due to electricity shortages, plans to close virtually all coal-fired power plants by 2030. Instead, the authorities in Warsaw intend to build a system of wind farms in forest complexes, which will cause an ecological disaster on an unprecedented scale and will not solve the problem of energy shortage. How do you evaluate such a policy?

Jarosław Grzesik: This is sick politics. Unfortunately, the problem is our political class, the politicians who rule us, the question is whether they are unwilling or unable to take care of our national interest. Maintaining our own energy security is Poland's *raison d'état*, but we clearly see that our political elites have a problem with it. The question is whether this is an action on their part to please their "friends" from the more powerful, more important countries of the European Union? Or is this a conscious action in order not to be ostracized, not to be pointed at, not to be treated worse in salons? Because the general trend in Europe seems to be that it is not worth showing that you are reasonable in the context of energy security, you just have to "swallow" this green ideology that is consciously spread by someone. This is a business from which large corporations and very rich people make money, but the entire European society, especially countries such as Poland, has to pay for it. Unfortunately, that's how I see it.

FROM WHAT I UNDERSTAND, THE GOVERNMENT'S PLAN IS TO BUY THE MISSING ENERGY - BECAUSE THERE WILL BE A SHORTAGE OF IT, THERE IS NO DOUBT ABOUT IT - FROM GERMANS WHO PRODUCE IT FROM COAL AT PRICES THAT THE GERMAN OPERATOR WILL IMPOSE ON US. IS SUCH A SCENARIO REALLY REALISTIC?

This is probably how it will end, but please see that it has already gone so far that I really don't know what should be done to get rid of it all. We are constantly going down a slippery slope. The prices of our energy are getting higher and higher - this is a typical mechanism and it has worked in our case: the more renewable energy in the network, the more globally all energy becomes expensive. The less conventional power plants produce, the more expensive the electricity they produce. You should remember that there is a saying: the most expensive electricity is the unproduced electricity. Therefore, if conventional power plants, which must maintain their production capacity, do not produce this electricity, their maintenance costs are increasingly higher.

We have the cheapest energy carrier in Europe, which is coal: hard coal and lignite. We have the ability to ensure our own energy security based on our own raw materials and our own production, but we have given in to external

pressure to agree to solutions ranging from the first and second climate packages, ending today with the so-called European Green Deal. We agreed to para-taxes such as ETS, i.e. fees for CO2 emissions. We agreed to pay a lot of money, billions, to produce this energy at all. And unfortunately, it has reached such a point that we would basically have to take a firm stand today and say that due to the fact that we must maintain our own energy security, we will not implement the commitments we have previously adopted regarding the climate packages of the European Green Deal, ETS etc. Today, this is the only salvation for our economy, because if we have more and more expensive energy - and it will become more and more expensive if we liquidate our generation sources - we will not be competitive.

Recently, an interesting article was published in the American press, in which the author clearly proves that in countries where energy from renewable sources, especially from wind and solar sources, has been introduced into the grid, the more carriers of the so-called renewable energy sources, the more expensive energy becomes globally in these countries. It works exactly the same in the case of us. Our society has been made to believe that each of us will be able to produce cheap energy, but it turns out that for our entire society, for the entire economy, for industry, this energy is more and more expensive and will become more and more expensive.

If energy companies actually implement their plan to accelerate the liquidation of energy assets based on conventional energy sources, i.e. the brown coal and hard coal they have, we will face power outages. There is no other solution. You mentioned that Germany will sell us energy produced from its coal, but only if they have a surplus of this energy. But what if there are months like we've had since November? November, December, January are the months when there is almost no sun and almost no wind. What politicians say, that when the wind doesn't blow, the sun shines and vice versa, is nonsense. Just look out the window today: there is no sun, there is no wind, and therefore energy based on the so-called renewable energy sources, i.e. production of approximately 4-5 percent what we need. So, as you mentioned: Germany launched all its available coal-fired power plants, although the whole of Europe - and probably the whole world - thought that Germany no longer had these power plants. I talked to my friend who lives in Germany and he was absolutely convinced that they no longer have such

power plants and that they had closed them down. So, when it comes to propaganda, it is one thing and another when it comes to reality.

Unfortunately, we cannot learn from history, because probably the owners of these power plants in our country intend to permanently close them down, while as you can see, the Germans have put their power plants to sleep. These power plants were waiting for just such a moment to turn them on and thus save the system. How will we save the system if we don't have them? This is the same thing that happened in our country with hard coal mines. In other countries, such as Great Britain or Germany, some mines that had stopped mining coal and still had deposits that were promising and might be exploitable someday in the future were "dormant" in such a way that after pumping out water from them could be returned to them and the possibility of extracting coal from them could be restored. However, from the very beginning of our mining transformation, we very effectively ensured that each of the mines that were closed down - even if they still had coal deposits that could be extracted in the future - had their shafts filled up. Today, to return to these coal deposits, you have to build a mine from scratch.

THE SITUATION IS SO BIZARRE THAT THERE IS NO SCIENTIFIC PROOF THAT CO2 EMISSIONS CAUSE GLOBAL WARMING. WHAT'S MORE, SCIENCE CLEARLY SAYS THAT WE ARE NOT CURRENTLY DEALING WITH ANY GLOBAL WARMING, BUT THE CLIMATE CHANGES WE ARE OBSERVING DEPEND ON CHANGES TAKING PLACE IN SPACE, WHILE CO2 ITSELF IS THE GAS OF LIFE, THANKS TO WHICH FARMERS ENJOY LARGE HARVESTS. SO WHY ALL THIS TRANSFORMATION?

So that someone can make a lot of money from it. Everything you said is true, but you know it because you are interested in it and you know where to find this information. However, it's a pity for the "gray eater" who clicks on this information and it will be shown to him right away. NO. Society is constantly fed with visions coming from virtually every television and most mainstream media that the planet is about to burn. The common belief of both Polish and European society is that if we do not take some measures immediately, we are the so-called the last generation and, unfortunately, someone consciously caused this to happen.

That is, powerful corporations that first bought hundreds or thousands of scientists - because it must be said that these people who prove that humans have an impact on climate change work for money. Someone spends this money, someone pays for this research, and yet we have often had to deal with leaks of information, that certain facts are consciously manipulated, that certain historical periods are selectively used in which temperature increases are shown, etc. All this is made to manipulate society, because a scared society will consciously decide to spend PLN 5 or 50 more to save the planet, and then does not look at other, economic or common sense aspects of this matters. Unfortunately, we live in a world where most people have been manipulated and this is what it looks like.

HOW MANY PEOPLE WILL LOSE THEIR JOBS IN TOTAL AS A RESULT OF THE POWER PLANT SHUTDOWN? WILL IT ONLY BE POWER PLANT EMPLOYEES OR MORE PEOPLE?

It can never be said that when any workplace is closed down, only the people working in that workplace will lose their jobs, because there are always cooperating companies and there are always people who make a living from the fact that this business is running. Depending on the location and the nature of a given plant, it is always estimated that these are about 3-4 jobs per one job operating in this plant, but we also have to add the families of all these people, so these are huge numbers. However, when it comes to employment in power plants, it fluctuates. In formerly privatized power plants, sold to private investors, especially large foreign corporations, a lot of people previously working in power plants were transferred to various external companies that took over various types of not only services, but sometimes even basic tasks, so the number of people employed in power plants ranges from 500 (in those that use outsourcing the most) to over 1,000 people.

PRIME MINISTER DONALD TUSK PROPOSED TO THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION THAT POLAND SHOULD PRODUCE ELECTRICITY FOR UKRAINE, WHICH WOULD NOT BE COVERED BY THE ETS SYSTEM. THIS IS AN INCREDIBLE SCANDAL, BECAUSE POLISH FAMILIES AND POLISH ENTREPRENEURS PAY A FORTUNE FOR THIS UNJUSTIFIED CLIMATE FEE, WHICH DOES NOT REDUCE CO₂, BUT ONLY MONEY IN THEIR WALLETS...

I agree here...

WILL SOLIDARITY DEMAND POLAND'S EXIT FROM THE ETS?

We have been demanding at least the suspension of the ETS system for many years. The first letter that the chairman of the National Commission sent to Ursula von der Leyen, the head of the European Commission, took place after the outbreak of the pandemic, when it was known that we were facing a crisis. We didn't know how long all the pandemic-related restrictions would last. It was not known how hard this would hit the Polish economy, people who could expect restrictions, and therefore lower wages, high energy costs, etc. So we sent a letter to the President of the European Commission requesting the suspension of the entire ETS system at least for the duration of the pandemic - collecting additional levy not only for energy production, because the ETS also applies to chemistry, construction, etc. We received the answer that it is important that business entities can get through the pandemic, but equally important, or maybe even more important is saving our planet - of course I am speaking briefly, but that was more or less the meaning of this answer.

However, to answer the question: yes, we will continue to demand a withdrawal from all policies related to the Green Deal, because it is harmful to the entire Polish economy - not only to the energy or agriculture sector, but to the entire Polish economy, to all Polish families, i.e. entire society. This entire system was based on questionable - as you said earlier - scientific grounds when it comes to human impact on climate change and when it comes to trying to "save" our planet by imposing huge taxes, fees, levies on the entire European economy, on the entire industry, for all citizens, for all families. Of course, we are in favor of suspending this system and abandoning it. Besides, everyone probably already sees that every year the entire European economy is in an increasingly worse situation, that societies are becoming poorer, and that costs are rising. However, the fact that European society has not yet woken up and understood where it came from and why, I am still surprised. In our country, it is exactly the same: most of our citizens, most of our society, do not understand the truth about the whole Green Deal, the ETS system, the imposition of additional unnecessary para-taxes. Unfortunately.

We are still collecting signatures for the referendum. We would like a referendum to be held in our country in the context of introducing the European Green Deal. We would like Polish society to be able to say whether it agrees to incur such huge costs for introducing the solutions that are envisaged in the entire European Green Deal. However, unfortunately, I don't know whether we are unable to reach a significant part of society, whether we are unable to break through with it or find a solution to make it common information, because in my opinion too few people are interested in this topic and have any knowledge about it, which puts us at risk of introducing this so-called European Green Deal. People only hear what politicians say on TV, and most politicians who speak on these so-called mainstream information sources, is as if bewildered by this vision of a great European future and does not see any threats arising from it. As I said at the beginning, it seems to me that it is simply a trend and they want to be trendy, but the question arises whether they all really believe in it and whether they "deeply care" about the future of our economy, because that is what it must be said.

INTERVIEW BY ANNA WIEJAK

Jarosław Grzesik is Chairman of the National Secretariat of Mining and Energy of NSZZ "Solidarność"

EUROPEAN (ANTI)DEMOCRACY SHIELD:

One more step towards censorship



THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT HAS TAKEN ANOTHER STEP IN ITS ONGOING EFFORTS TO CONTROL THE FLOW OF INFORMATION ONLINE, AND CONTROL THE ELECTION PROCESSES IN MEMBER COUNTRIES OF THE EUROPEAN UNION. COMMITTEE ON THE EUROPEAN DEMOCRACY SHIELD WAS CREATED AT A PLENARY SESSION IN STRASBOURG, THE DECISION RECEIVED STRONG SUPPORT, WITH 441 MEMBERS VOTING IN FAVOR, 178 OPPOSING, AND 34 ABSTAINING.

Building on the EU's expanding toolbox to - officially - counter foreign information manipulation and interference, in July 2024 European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen proposed a 'European democracy shield'. It was approved by European Parliament just before Christmas, on 20th of December.

Comprising 33 members, the Committee on the European Democracy Shield will serve a 12-month term. Its composition, to be determined by political groups, will be announced in late January. One of the aims of the new EU body will be reviewing existing laws for potential weaknesses that could be exploited and recommending reforms. That's official narrative. The problem is, in practice it may turn out that it could work as censorship and could provide unacceptable interference in elections, like we had in the case of last elections in Romania.

"Whereas foreign interference constitutes a serious violation of the universal values and principles on which the EU is founded, such as human dignity, freedom, equality, solidarity, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, democracy and the rule of law; whereas evidence shows that malicious and authoritarian foreign state and malicious non-state actors are using information manipulation and other tactics to interfere in democratic processes in the EU; whereas such attacks mislead and deceive citizens and affect their voting behaviour, amplify divisive debates, divide, polarise, and exploit the vulnerabilities of, societies,



promote hate speech, worsen the situation of vulnerable groups which are more likely to become victims of disinformation, distort the integrity of democratic elections and referendums, cast suspicion on national governments, public authorities and the democratic order and the rule of law and have the goal of destabilising European democracy; whereas this has become a question of internal security and safety of the EU society as a whole" - we can read in document, that constitutes the Committee on the Democracy Shield. How EU institutions perceive the "democratisation" and "rule of law", we could see on the example of Poland and Hungary. It was European Commission, which interfered in Polish elections by which the ruling party has been changed. "Whereas malicious actors continue to seek to interfere in electoral processes and take advantage of the openness and pluralism of our societies, and to attack democratic processes and the resilience of the EU and its Member States" - it was stated.

"Decides that the special committee shall henceforth be named 'special committee on the European Democracy Shield' and that it shall carry out, in cooperation and consultation with the competent standing committees where their powers and responsibilities under Annex VI of the Rules of Procedure are concerned, the following responsibilities: to assess relevant existing and planned legislation and policies to further detect possible loopholes, gaps and overlaps that could be exploited for malicious interference in democratic processes, including as regards the following matters: policies, legislation proposals and structures to be established under the European Democracy Shield, and already established under the European Democracy Action Plan, as well as relevant instruments under the Strategic Compass such as the EU Hybrid Toolbox; opportunities of cooperation among EU agencies and national authorities in the area of justice and home affairs, including for the purposes of information sharing, intelligence and advance detection mechanisms" - the MEPs emphasized. It's very probable that in result we will have EU dictate in European democracies in the guise of "rule of law".

"Policies contributing to EU democratic processes, democratic resilience through situational awareness, media and information literacy, media pluralism and independent journalism, the promotion of civic engagement, education, critical thinking, citizens' awareness and participation" will be promoted, and any resistance against EU mainstream will be treated - as it should be assumed - as disinformation and penalised. One of the Committee responsibilities is "to counter information campaigns and strategic communication of malign third countries, including those through domestic European actors and organisations, that harm the goals of the European Union and that are created to influence European public opinion".

Everything indicates that the noose of communism is tightening around the necks of European nations, and they are not even able to respond adequately, not to mention resist.

Anna Wijek

Prof.
Zbigniew
Krysiak:

The euro
is an
instru-
ment for
creating a
super-
state



"The implementation of the euro will be the final nail in the coffin of the Polish economy" - Prof. Zbigniew Krysiak, economist, chairman of the Program Council of the Schuman Institute says in an interview for Schuman Optics Magazine.

"The euro is an instrument for building a superstate, in addition to the so-called Court of Justice (CJEU), in addition working to create a banking union. The transition to the euro currency is to facilitate arguments for the creation of a central banking supervision system, and ultimately to remove and destroy the role of our central bank" - Prof. Zbigniew Krysiak states.

THE POLISH ZLOTY IS A CONDITION OF SOVEREIGNTY

"Sovereignty is a currency, it is the zloty. Today the euro is going bankrupt. We have known for many years, based - paradoxically - on the analyzes of a German think-tank, and in a sense, Mrs. Ursula von der Leyen's compatriots, that the euro implemented in countries led to huge losses for the economies of Spain, Italy, Greece, France - in fact, all except Germany. The proof is also that since the introduction of the euro, public debt has increased very quickly, except for Germany, which I mentioned, it is above 100 percent. In Italy - about 150, in Greece - about 200 percent. For comparison, in Poland it is just over 50 percent, but it is already said in the European Union that if Donald Tusk continues ruled - this debt will increase to over 80% and will be higher than the German one" - he adds.

"This is the Germans' goal: when the euro is introduced, we have no national instruments to stabilize the exchange rate. Then our import-export situation worsens and we become dependent on whether the European Central Bank agrees to issue Polish debt, which is already then it will be in euro or not. This means our borrowing needs can be reduced or strengthened, depending on Germany's interests" - the expert explains.



Prof. Zbigniew Krysiak points out that "the condition for a single currency is to bring the economic condition of individual areas to the same level, and unfortunately this was not the case when the euro was introduced". "This is now taking its toll on the differences in the condition of households. In Spain: massive unemployment, massive price increases" - he reminds. "When this potential is not equal, the euro kills" - he concludes.

The expert emphasizes that the Polish potential is definitely lower than the German one and we cannot be guided by what many politicians say without justification (that we should adopt the euro - ed.). He points out that the point is not that the GDP per capita should be similar to the German one, but that the economic condition should be such that our monetary assets, real estate, deposits, earnings, how many square meters of apartment we can buy with our salary are the same, because these are factors proving equal economic potential.

Prof. Zbigniew Krysiak has no doubts: "The introduction of the euro will be the final nail in the coffin". "Germany will do whatever they want" - he emphasizes, adding that the introduction of the euro would require changing the Polish constitution, and this cannot be done normally for several years. "But why is Mr. Bodnar sending preliminary questions to the CJEU?" - the economist asks rhetorically.

ATTACK ON POLISH GOLD

Referring to the fact that if the euro were adopted, all Polish gold would go to Frankfurt am Main, Prof. Krysiak notes: "The aim of creating a superstate is to rob Poland of assets, of our resources. After all, this was Germany's goal, we saw it perfectly during World War II". In his opinion, "this German mentality has survived and until the Germans acknowledge, that they were and are compulsive murderers, go through therapy and make amends, give back what they stole, there will be no reconciliation, brotherhood and peace in Europe". "Germany, striving for a superstate, is giving us another war" - he sums up.

"At the end of the 1980s, Germany planned to take control over Poland in the economic dimension. Not only over the lands in the western part, but over the entire Poland" - he reminds.

PROF. ZBIGNIEW KRYSIAK IS ECONOMIST, CHAIRMAN OF THE PROGRAM COUNCIL OF INSTITUTE OF SCHUMAN'S THOUGHT

ANNA WIEJAK



***Jan Parys:
Nuclear weapons in
Poland would be an
important deterrent***

**"THIS IS NOT THE TIME FOR
NAIVETY AND PROMOTING
PACIFISM" JAN PARYS, FORMER
MINISTER OF NATIONAL DEFENSE
SAID IN AN INTERVIEW WITH
SCHUMAN OPTICS MAGAZINE.**

“President Zelensky did not lose the war in Ukraine. In my opinion, it was lost by President Biden, who through his personal decision inhibited the supply of weapons and ammunition to Ukraine over the last two years. It's hard for me to say how the new Donald Trump administration can clean up this situation. This is not easy because Ukraine is negotiating from a weak position. It lost 20 percent of the territory and many people” - Jan Parys said, summarizing the military operations in Ukraine so far.

Referring to the potential threat to Central and Eastern Europe from Russian aggression, Jan Parys stated: "It is difficult to be sure what Vladimir Putin's real intentions are". "I think the situation in Russia is not easy at all. There are several hundred thousand injured and many thousands dead. The economy is switched to war mode, but it is not modernizing. It is not the case that Russia can wage this war indefinitely, ignoring the social or financial costs, so sooner or later it will be willing to negotiate".

EUROPE IS DEFENSELESS

“No European country can defend its territory against a Russian attack on its own. European countries are too weak economically and militarily, so they are forced to operate within the North Atlantic Alliance. As for the idea of collective defense of the European Union, it is still a loose project, or rather a slogan, which has little chance of its implementation resulting in a real armed force. European countries have spent too little on armaments over the last 20 years, which is why they do not have sufficient arms or ammunition factories today. They do not have modern technological solutions important for defense. Therefore, Europe without the United States is completely helpless towards Russia. I don't know why European leaders don't want to admit it openly” - the former Minister of National Defense said, pointing out that politicians “have exposed their countries and the whole of Europe to the fact that it is defenseless against Russia”.

“European countries should realize that we have a worse situation than the one that existed during the Cold War, because at that time Russia was not waging any war in Europe, but now it is waging such a war. We need to return to the solutions that existed at that time, i.e. military spending must be significantly increased” - he postulated, adding that “we cannot tolerate the fact that Russia has a military advantage over European countries, neither in conventional weapons nor in nuclear ones”

Referring to the opinion of prof. Pablo de la Fuente, who said during the

Schuman Trimarium Forum that Poland should have nuclear weapons for deterrence purposes, Jan Parys said: "Poland currently does not have the capacity to produce such missiles. However, we can be a shareholder of the nuclear sharing program, which means that we may have nuclear weapons deployed here, which would be at the disposal of the owner, i.e. the United States, and the F-35 planes that Poland has already purchased are capable of carrying such weapons and this would undoubtedly be a very serious deterrent factor when it comes to defending the eastern flank, not only Poland".

He noted that "nothing prompts aggression like the other side's weakness, so the first thing is to prevent Russia from feeling its military advantage in any field".

"European countries are rich, have a large population, have economic potential and are able to expand their armed forces. It just requires some determination and political decisions" - the former head of the Ministry of Defense said.

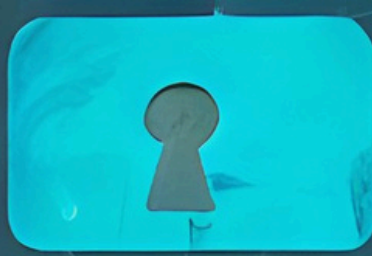
"THIS IS NOT THE TIME TO PROMOTE PACIFISM"

According to Jan Parys, the key to this is to convince societies that such expenditures are necessary. Meanwhile, as he pointed out, there is no understanding in Western societies for pro-defense attitudes, because intellectual elites have been convinced for the last thirty years that there is no threat from Russia.

“We no longer live in a world of peace. We live in a world of confrontation. And the main military threat to Europe is Russia” - Parys concluded.

Referring to the media storm surrounding the words of General Wiesław Kukuła, who announced that he would prepare the army for war, Jan Parys noted: "This is proof that even in Poland, part of the elite does not understand the situation our country is in. So they react hysterically to a statement that is completely normal". He emphasized that today an important problem of NATO countries - which is also noticed by the commanders of the Alliance's troops - "is the low public awareness of the threats we live in". "From what I know, all NATO chiefs of staff have been advised to appear publicly and inform the public and soldiers about the need to prepare for the defense of the country, i.e. for war. Gen. Kukuła followed the recommendation prepared at NATO headquarters" - he said. "Modern equipment alone, money is not enough, defense requires the will to fight, and the will to fight is social awareness that needs to be worked on" - he noted. "This is not the time for naivety and promoting pacifism" - he concluded.

ANNA WIEJAK

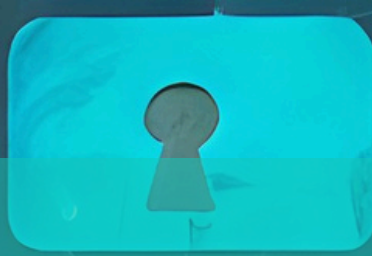


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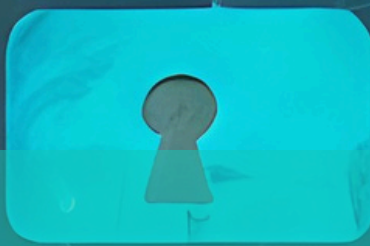
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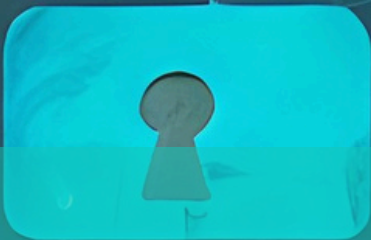
The European Union continuously works on strengthening its digital infrastructure to ensure the security of member states and their citizens. However, Poland has a serious problem with the implementation of these regulations, because - as pointed out by publicist and expert Jakub Zgierski in an interview with Schuman Optics Magazine - Poland lacks about 50,000 specialists in the field of cybersecurity, and forecasts indicate that by 2030 this number may increase to 80,000.



Since January 2023, the European Parliament and Council Directive (EU) 2022/2555 on Network and Information Systems 2 – NIS2 has been in effect. It updates the EU's cybersecurity regulations introduced in 2016. The directive covers a broader range of entities and introduces stricter requirements for risk management and incident reporting. Its goals include enhancing the capacity of member states to protect against cyberattacks, extending oversight to sectors such as healthcare, energy, and technology, and improving cross-border cooperation through measures like the creation of new contact point networks for information exchange.

The NIS2 Directive applies to companies operating in highly critical sectors. These include energy, heating, oil, gas, hydrogen, air, rail, waterborne, and road transport, banking infrastructure, drinking water, wastewater, health, space, and digital infrastructure. NIS2 also encompasses other critical sectors such as postal and courier services, waste management, chemical manufacturing, food production and distribution, the manufacture of medical devices, computer, electronic, and optical products, certain types of electrical equipment and machinery, motor vehicles, and other transportation equipment. Digital service providers, including online marketplaces, search engines, and social networks, are also included.

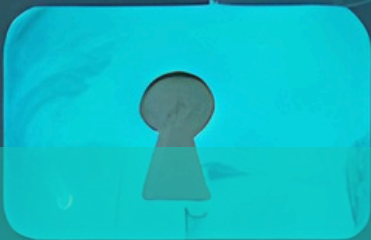
The directive categorizes businesses in critical sectors into essential and important entities. Essential entities are primarily large companies, though in some cases medium or small businesses are included. Important entities are usually micro, small, or medium-sized enterprises. Non-compliance with the NIS2 Directive can result in financial penalties, with essential entities facing fines of up to €10 million and important entities up to €7 million. Regardless of size,



essential entities include businesses providing specific categories of digital services in the digital infrastructure sector and providers of public electronic communications networks, qualified trust services, TLD (top-level domain), and DNS (domain name server) services.

One of the main challenges associated with implementing this directive is its high cost, which will likely be difficult for small and medium-sized enterprises to bear. Moreover, NIS2 is a lengthy, complex, and challenging document to interpret, potentially leading to misunderstandings of some provisions and incorrect implementation. Although the directive has an EU-wide scope, each member state has the freedom to implement it, which may result in varying levels of security across the European Union.

According to journalist Jakub Zgierski, the NIS2 Directive, while aimed at further improving cybersecurity across the European Union (compared to its predecessor, NIS1), seems to overlook a critical issue – the shortage of cybersecurity professionals, particularly in Poland. The journalist highlights that Poland struggles with a deficit of qualified personnel, hindering compliance with the directive's requirements, such as conducting audits, risk management, and incident response. Zgierski notes that Polish businesses, especially small and medium-sized ones, often lack the human and financial resources necessary to meet the directive's demanding standards. The lack of experts may lead to superficial adaptation of the directive without delivering real improvements in security.

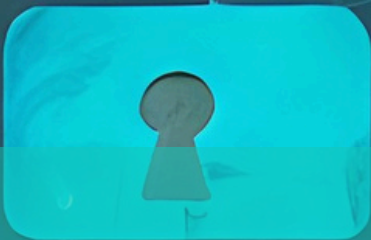


The journalist also emphasizes that competition in the labor market, where the private sector offers higher salaries than public administration, exacerbates the shortage of staff in institutions responsible for cybersecurity. Zgierski cites a 2023 NASK report indicating that Poland faces a severe shortage in this field - approximately 50,000 cybersecurity specialists are needed, a number projected to rise to 80,000 by 2030.

To address this talent gap, several initiatives have been launched. For example, NASK, a state-run institution, conducts programs like the "National Cybersecurity Threat Map," aimed at enhancing the skills of individuals working in the industry. Another example is the government's "Laboratories of the Future" project, launched in 2021 by Minister of Education and Science Prof. Przemysław Czarnek. While primarily targeting younger generations, it is an important part of Poland's long-term strategy for developing digital competencies, including cybersecurity.

In line with Robert Schuman's concept, modern Europe must unite not only in economic matters but also in security. In the face of growing cyber threats, isolated actions are not enough, as any weakened link in our system poses a risk to the entire community.

Therefore, collaboration between nations, sharing knowledge and resources, and training new generations of specialists who can meet the demands of the digital era are crucial. The founding father of the European community would likely highlight the need for solidarity to support countries and businesses that require more time and resources to



implement these standards, ensuring equality and cohesion within the European community.

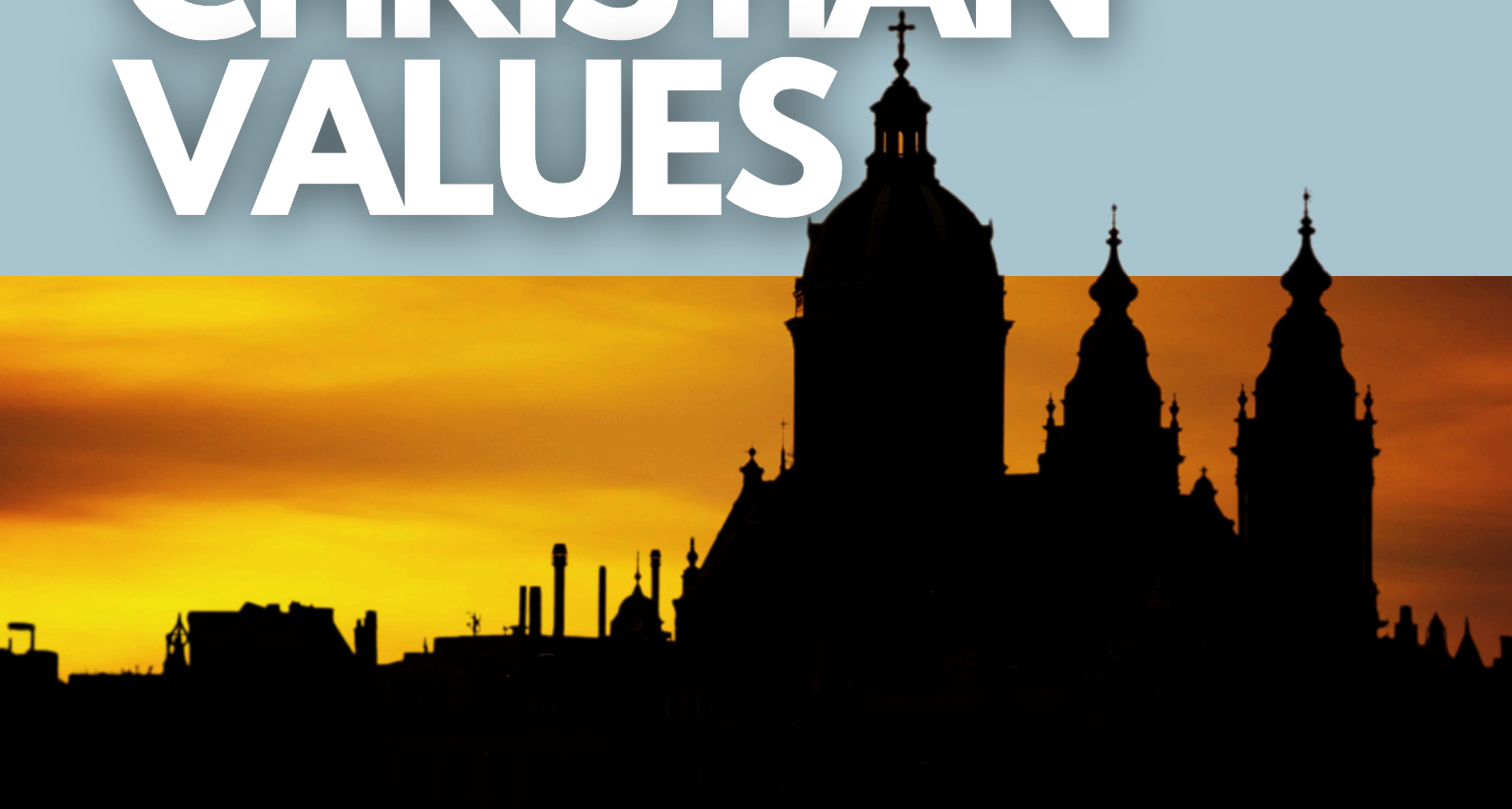
Robert Schuman's words resonate well in this context: "Europe will not be made all at once, or according to a single plan. It will be built through concrete achievements which first create a de facto solidarity". This quote perfectly aligns with the NIS2 Directive's context, emphasizing that building shared security within the European Union is a process requiring cooperation, concrete actions, and gradual progress to strengthen solidarity among member states.

~Małgorzata Jaroszek

KAROLINA MARIA KOTER:

Europe's
security
requires:

A RETURN TO CHRISTIAN VALUES



EUROPE'S DEPARTURE FROM CATHOLIC VALUES HAS SIGNIFICANTLY WEAKENED ITS RESISTANCE TO POTENTIAL ATTACKS FROM OUTSIDE, BUT ALSO ITS DEMOCRACY, WHICH IS SLOWLY DESCENDING INTO TOTALITARIANISM. GENDER IDEOLOGY HAS HIT SOCIETIES FROM THE INSIDE, DESTROYING AND DISORGANIZING THEIR STRUCTURE, WHICH HAS A DIRECT IMPACT ON DEFENSE AND THE ABILITY TO ADEQUATELY RESPOND TO THREATS. ON THE RUINS OF SOLIDARITY, NATIONAL EGOISMS AND IMPERIALISMS BEGAN TO GROW, ESPECIALLY THE GERMAN ONE. THIS IS NOT THE EUROPE ROBERT SCHUMAN WANTED...

"Either democracy will be Christian or it will not exist at all. An anti-Christian democracy would be a travesty that would descend into tyranny or anarchy. The position of a democrat can be defined in this way: it is unacceptable to him that the state should systematically disregard religion or oppose without falling into injustice or self-destruction, the state cannot ignore the extraordinary effectiveness of religious inspirations in the practice of civic duty and in the protection of nation against the forces of social disintegration that operate everywhere" - wrote the founding father of the European Community. Today's European Union, immersed in injustice and self-destruction, is learning the bitter lesson of the lack of Christian inspiration. Social disintegration is becoming a fact that is difficult to ignore today. Leftist ideologies have plowed through sensitivity, conscience and common sense, weakening morale and the ability to defend oneself. This is clearly visible in the examples of countries accepting Muslim immigrants.

The latter constitute a serious problem that the governments of the And what kind of Europe did the Servant of God Robert Schuman see? "Such a Europe would not be directed against any person; it has no aggressive intentions, it is not burdened with any kind of egoistic or imperialist inclinations, neither internally nor in relation to other countries. It remains open to anyone who wants to adhere to it" - he wrote. And he added: "The essence of its existence is solidarity and international cooperation; a rational organization of the world in which it should become an important part". He also pointed out that "the law of solidarity between nations is a necessity of modern conscience". "We feel solidarity with each other to maintain peace, to defend ourselves against aggression, to respect treaties, to guarantee justice and human dignity, or to protect ourselves from aggression" - he explained. Meanwhile, the modern EU does not respect treaties, does not guarantee justice or respect human dignity, which is manifested by universal access to abortion and, in some countries, also to euthanasia. It is therefore not surprising that it is also moving away from democratic ideals.

"Democracy owes its existence to Christianity. It was born on the day when man was called to fulfill human dignity during his life on earth, individual freedom in respecting the rights of everyone and practicing brotherly love towards all. Before Christ, this type of idea had never been formulated. Democracy is therefore chronologically and doctrinally related to Christianity"- Schuman pointed out. "Christianity taught us that human beings are inherently equal, as children of the same God, redeemed by Christ, regardless of race, color, social status or occupation. It recognized the dignity of work along with the concept that it is the duty of all people to work. The primacy of internal values that ennoble man was recognized. The universal law of love and mercy made every man our neighbor, and from then on, social relations in

Christianity were based. All his teachings and the practical consequences that resulted from them changed the world forever" - he noted.

With the disappearance of Christian values in Europe, love for one's neighbor also began to disappear, and the spirit of materialism entered into mutual relations. In such conditions, it is impossible to implement the principle of subsidiarity or social solidarity. It is also impossible to build a real community on such foundations. These are also not conditions for running a business. It is therefore not surprising that more and more companies want to leave the European Union and move to countries where they will have a more friendly environment for doing business. An example is the German BASF, which is limiting its presence in Germany and moving to Asia. In addition, there is the largest wave of bankruptcies in this country in 10 years. The situation in other parts of Europe is no better. The move away from treating humans as entities has led to a situation in which the ideas of ideologized elites have become modern idols and in their name, local entrepreneurship is being slaughtered with horrendous climate charges that have no impact on the climate anyway.

In the European Union, absurdity follows absurdity, and citizens - instead of getting richer from economic exchange - are becoming poorer, oppressed by the next inventions of Brussels politicians. The adoption of the Green Deal has hit the food and energy security of member states, and military security is a goal that will remain unattainable for a long time, including: due to the policy imposed by Germany. The departure from Christian roots has caused an avalanche in all areas of life in the countries associated in the European Union - a domino effect resulting in an increasingly

rapid decline of the entire European civilization. This state of affairs is an incentive for all potential aggressors, especially Russia, to attack, and we should finally realize this. If Europe does not return to the Schuman model, i.e. to its Christian roots and healthy cooperation between nations, it will sooner or later face destruction.

KAROLINA MARIA KOTER

ORDER



Scattered thoughts need to be picked up
combine sentences, choose words up
line up in the right row
Everything's all right?
You are wrong.

You should look for a compass quickly
it's a waste of every minute, a waste of time.
The needle is shaking - where is north and where is south.
It was supposed to be beautiful, peaceful and wonderful now.

Words escaped, gaps were created
The world for the youngest is deteriorated.
The tower collapsed, the windows shattered
everything can be connected - but what if the latter?
- if man were still a man indeed
- if tears were present under a human eyelid
- if justice were sound
no wise head will understand this bound.

There is still a chance to build a sentence
when, no questions asked for gentles.
Everything has its time and a new row further
artificial intelligence will make interesting order.

It will set the order in every sentence
it will be after the question even the greatest.
Thoughts will wander around in my head
I arrange it word by word, till death.

Elzbieta Pawlak



WE WARMLY INVITE YOU TO PURSUE EDUCATION AND FORMATION AT THE UNIVERSAL UNIVERSITY OF CHRISTIAN-SOCIAL TEACHING (PUNCS) UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF ST. JOHN PAUL II AND THE SERVANT OF GOD ROBERT SCHUMAN.

PUNCS operates within the framework of the Schuman Thought Institute as a non-formal educational initiative not based on the Higher Education Act. We have been active since February 2021, and we have now launched another edition, conducted online over two semesters from January to December 2024, typically every other Saturday from 10:00 AM to 1:15 PM. The schedule of classes is available on

<https://puncs.pl/harmonogram-zajec/>.

At our institution, one can learn how Christian thought helps improve the state of the economy and society, including human labor. Participants discuss these topics with experts who present specific issues and write a thesis that includes their own ideas on changing their social environment. The courses are conducted free of charge, though we ask participants to cover the technical costs of the electronic communication platform, amounting to 500 PLN.

The mission of PUNCS is to implement the principles of Christian social thought into economic and social life, and to form and build a network of animators who will promote such changes both in Poland and abroad. We hope that these Christian-Social Thought Animators will help diagnose and reduce the discrepancies between Christian thought and the current structure of various organizations and institutions. The lack of basic human decency, humility, understanding, and the betrayal of the truth are the causes of the most serious socio-economic problems, and it is important that we unite in an environment of people who courageously oppose a life without morality and without God. We not only strive to gain knowledge but also form ourselves together as animators, people of conscience, because such individuals are needed in our societies. PUNCS is a platform for further activities, such as the Animator Project for the Image of Poland in Europe and the Forum of Young Three Seas. For more information about PUNCS, please visit our website at <https://puncs.pl>, where you can fill out an online form to enroll in the courses. Contact: sekretariat@puncs.pl, tel. 575 990 686.

SCHUMAN OPTICS MAGAZINE

“Service to humanity is an obligation equal to that dictated by loyalty to our nation.”

“Służba ludzkości jest powinnością równą tej, jaką dyktuje nam wierność naszemu narodowi.”

ROBERT SCHUMAN



ISSN: 2956-4484

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