

# SCHUMAN

VOL. 22 | OCT 2024

## OPTICS MAGAZINE



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

# SCHUMAN

---

## OPTICS MAGAZINE

### PROGRAM COUNCIL:

Prof. Zbigniew Krysiak  
Prof. Tomasz Grzegorz Grosse

### EDITOR IN CHIEF:

Anna Wiejak

### COOPERATION:

Ph.D. Marek Oktaba

### ADJUSTMENT:

Editorial Team

### GRAPHIC DESIGN AND TEXT FORMATTING:

Infinite Bearing  
Krzysztof Krysiak

### COVER DESIGN:

Infinite Bearing  
Krzysztof Krysiak



ISSN: 2956-4484

### PUBLISHER:

Instytut Myśli Schumana  
Institute of Schuman's Thought  
ul.Chmielna 2 lok 31  
00-020 Warszawa  
[schumanoptics@imschuman.com](mailto:schumanoptics@imschuman.com)



# CONTENTS

**pg.11**

## **I. THE WORKS AT INSTITUTE OF SCHUMAN'S THOUGHT**

- Schuman Scientific Groups

**pg.13**

## **II. AN IMPORTANT ISSUE FOR POLAND**

- Bogusław Hutek: The best decision would be to suspend both ETS and ETS 2
- Green Deal - the EU's recipe for poverty

**pg.24**

## **III. A SIGNIFICANT PROBLEM FOR EUROPE**

- Rzońca: The idea is to create a superbank in a superstate with an uncontrolled government

**pg.31**

## **IV. THREE SEAS INITIATIVE AND ITS PROBLEMS**

- Prof. Pablo de la Fuente: Trimarium may be the platform of dissuasive defence of Europe, if it has nuclear missiles

**pg.37**

## **V. FACES OF POLAND**

- Prof. Paweł Skrzydlewski: Germany influences the Three Seas elites, intimidates or bribes them

**pg.47**

## **VI. CHRISTIAN HERITAGE IN SCHUMAN'S IDEAS**

- Building a European community in the conditions of a crisis of civilization

**pg.52**

## **VII. POETRY FOR THE FORMATION OF THE SOUL AND MIND**

- Truth

# WE HOPE THAT YOU WILL WANT TO BECOME OUR PARTNERS!

AS A PUBLIC BENEFIT ORGANIZATION, WE ARE ASKING FOR DONATIONS TO SUPPORT OUR FOUNDATION. THANKS TO THIS, TOGETHER WE WILL BE ABLE TO PROMOTE KNOWLEDGE AND BUILD THE COMMUNITY OF EUROPEAN NATIONS.

IN MANY COUNTRIES, FUNDS DONATED AS A GIFT CAN BE DEDUCTED FROM YOUR INCOME. THANKS TO THIS, YOU WILL BE ABLE TO JOIN OUR MISSION AT A RELATIVELY LOW COST.

THANKS TO YOUR SUPPORT, WE WILL BE ABLE TO RESPOND TO SOCIAL NEEDS RESULTING FROM THE CURRENT SITUATION AND PROMOTE TRUE EUROPEAN VALUES.

DON'T REMAIN INDIFFERENT. THE FUTURE OF EUROPE DEPENDS ON OUR ACTIONS AND DECISIONS.

TOGETHER WE CAN DO MORE!



**INSTYTUT MYŚLI SCHUMANA;**

Chmielna 2 lok. 31;

00-020 Warszawa;

NIP 5252668289;

KRS 0000626890;

**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/Madam,*

European civilization is struggling with a multi-level and multi-faceted crisis from which it may never recover. Ideologically, the areas of culture, science, economy and many others have been attacked - the erosion of values is affecting all Member States of the European Union. The departure from God weakened the spirit of Europeans so much that they became immune to the communist virus of the New Left, spreading like a plague and sowing destruction in souls, minds and hearts.

One of the consequences of the civilizational decline of Europe is the abandonment of Schuman's idea of community in favor of German domination, with the new leftist ideology supposed to be the binder of this domination. The problem is that building on anti-values must sooner or later end in disaster, which we have experienced many times in the history of the world. This was moral corruption, which was one of the main causes of the fall of ancient Rome, and a similar fate awaits the European superstate, or perhaps we should rather say the German empire currently being built in Europe. The observed civilizational decline will absorb them, plunging them into destruction, and in their place a new order will emerge, which may prove difficult or even unbearable for Euro-



# LETTER FROM EDITOR

pean societies. Destroyed nation states dominated by Muslim populations will have serious difficulties in re-establishing their existence.

The dream of the neo-Trockists about Europe, if it is realized, will not be a beautiful utopia, but a drama with the potential to destroy the entire legacy of Christian civilization, to enter a new revolution - cyberrevolution - with the baggage of destructive totalitarianism. What strikes the most today is the lack of reflection among the broadly understood political elites. How far they are from Robert Schuman, who saw politics as a concern for the common good. Today, as never before, there is a need to return to his ideas. The alternative is to build a community with respect for the sovereignty of states and Christian roots. Robert Schuman wrote: "Political boundaries have grown on the basis of admirable historical and ethnic development and a long-lasting effort of national unification; it would be difficult to imagine their disappearance. In the old days, they would have changed through brutal conquests or fruitful marriages. It would be enough to reduce their importance now. Our European borders should be less and less an obstacle to the exchange of thoughts, people and goods. A sense of solidarity between nations will prevail over outdated nationalisms. It is mainly their merit that they have given countries traditions and strong internal structures. On these old foundations a new level must be raised. The supranational will now be based on a national base. Hence there will be no question of denying the glorious past, but of a renewed growth of national efforts, for they will be combined to serve the supranational community". And he added: "It is not a question of uniting countries to create a Superstate. Our European countries are a historical reality. From a psychological point of view, it would be impossible to get rid of them. Diversity is a good thing and we do not intend to lower or equalize them".

The only question is how to build a community in the era of the crisis of civilization?



# LETTER FROM EDITOR

Is there still a chance? Prof. David Reichardt, international relations expert at Comenius University in Bratislava answers these questions in Schuman Optics Magazine. Prof. Pawel Skrzydlewski, rector of the Zamojska Academy develops his thought, analysing the current situation from the point of view of the philosopher. In his opinion, if Europe does not return to Christian values, moral, religious and economic order, it will not have a chance to live in peace. The need for such voices from the scientific elites of European countries is enormous. Not only politicians, but also their voters, should be made aware of the consequences of their decisions and the direction they choose. This is why conferences such as the Schuman Trimarium Forum, which took place at the Zamość Academy on September 16-19, bringing together numerous experts from Poland and other European countries, are so important. The report on its course can be found in the pages of Schuman Optics Magazine. The video is now available on the Institute's of Schuman Thought YouTube channel.

During the Schuman Trimarium Forum there was also a place for young panelists from Schuman's student scientific circles. The October issue included a few words from the vice-president of the Schuman Creative Leaders Circle Aleksandra Kot. It is extremely pleasing that young people want to be involved in building a European community of sovereign states in the spirit of Robert Schuman, because they give prospects for positive changes in the future.

I am giving you the next issue of Schuman Optics Magazine with the hope that Europe will survive the current crisis and emerge from it as a real community. For this to happen, it will certainly be necessary to cleanse many of its wounds inflicted by neo-communist and essentially criminal ideologies. It is necessary to ensure that responsible and well-formed people come to power, and this requires the work of all societies at their basic level in the form of the family. The condition of the political

# LETTER FROM EDITOR

class reflects the condition of the nation from which it comes. With this in mind, let's take care of our families, but also talk to each other. "When talking about debates, discussions and dialogue - we should remember what determines the value of debates, discussions and dialogue. They do not depend only on logic, rhetorical force and correctness, rationality of arguments. The most important thing here is the will to know the truth and the will to be faithful to the truth" - Prof Paweł Skrzydlewski said in an interview for Schuman Optics Magazine. I sincerely wish you this search for truth.

*Anna Wiegak*



# AKADEMIA SCHUMANA

WE CONNECT YOUNG PEOPLE  
AND IMPLEMENT THE VALUES  
OF ROBERT SCHUMAN

**Do you dare to build  
Europe and the  
world with us?**

**For more details:**

[SEKRETARIAT@IMSCHUMAN.COM](mailto:SEKRETARIAT@IMSCHUMAN.COM)



**PUBLIC  
BENEFIT  
COMMITTEE**



National Freedom Institute  
Center for Civil Society Development



Government Programme  
Youth Fund  
for 2022-2033

FINANCED BY THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FREEDOM –  
CENTER FOR CIVIL SOCIETY DEVELOPMENT AS PART OF  
THE GOVERNMENT PROGRAMME YOUTH FUND FOR 2022-2033

## WE INVITE YOU TO PARTICIPATE

### *“Schuman Academy”*

- THIS EVENT AIMS TO BUILD AND DEVELOP RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN YOUNG LEADERS
- IT IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO MEET AND STRENGTHEN RELATIONSHIPS

## ON THE SCHUMAN ACADEMY THERE ARE SUCH TOPICS AS:

- ECONOMY;
- SAFETY;
- NEW TECHNOLOGIES.
- SELF-IMPROVEMENT

## THE ACADEMY IS ALSO A MEETING PLACE FOR YOUNG LEADERS!

WE INVITE YOU TO SIGN UP VIA THE FORM  
OR TO CONTACT US BY E-MAIL

[www.imschuman.com](http://www.imschuman.com)





**ALEKSANDRA KOT:**

EXTERNAL  
VICE PRESIDENT  
OF THE SCHUMAN  
CREATIVE LEADERS  
CIRCLE

# SCHUMAN'S SCIENTIFIC GROUPS





# ALEKSANDRA KOT:

As External Vice President of the Schuman Creative Leaders Circle, led by Prof. Wojciech Gizicki (KUL), I would like to emphasize that one of our first challenges that we had the pleasure to face was to organize a conference „Schuman Summer Academy”. The ceremonial opening was made by the Vice-Rector Beata Piskorska, and the Academy itself, thanks to its innovative character, created a unique space for deep, substantive debate. It was inspired by the ideas of our patron, Robert Schuman, the founder of the Community of Nations of Europe, and during this event we had the honor to host outstanding authorities from many fields, which, in the spirit of Schuman's thoughts, have undertaken discussions on topics related to Christianity, values and leadership. An equally important event in which we had the honor to co-create was the Schuman Trimarium Forum, organized in cooperation with the Zamojski Academy and the Institute of Schuman's Thought. The four-day forum, which took place on 16–19 September in Zamość, gathered young leaders and leaders from Poland and the Three Seas Initiative countries. Discussions at the forum focused on the most important issues, such as infrastructure development, energy, digitization and economic cooperation, all in line with the spirit of Robert Schuman's thoughts. The Schuman Creative Leaders Circle is constantly developing, organizing regular meetings, workshops, as well as preparing individual sessions aimed at supporting the members of the circle in discovering and improving their leadership qualities. There are still many challenges ahead of us, but thanks to a common vision, commitment and determination, we consistently transform ideas into actions.





## **Bogusław Hutek: The best decision would be to suspend both ETS and ETS 2**

Silesian-Dąbrowa Solidarity calls for the creation of a nationwide program for the development of CCS technology.



**SILESIAŃ-DĄBROWA SOLIDARITY CALLS FOR THE CREATION OF A NATIONWIDE PROGRAM FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF CCS TECHNOLOGY. WILL THIS SOLVE THE PROBLEMS OF POLISH MINING?**

**Bogusław Hutek, chairman of the National Hard Coal Mining Section of NSZZ "Solidarność":** CCS technology (carbon capture and storage), i.e. the technology of capturing and storing carbon dioxide, has been known in the world for many years. They are working on it, among others: Americans, Chinese and Japanese, for whom coal constitutes quite a large part of the energy mix. Using this experience and building power plants using this technology in Poland would make us have cheaper electricity, because we would not have to pay various types of EU taxes and emissions penalties. It would certainly also help the Polish mining industry, because it would prove that coal can be burned differently, in a virtually emission-free way.

**POLAND IS CLOSING COAL MINES, WHILE GERMANY IS SYSTEMATICALLY OPENING NEW ONES. IS POLISH COAL LESS "ECOLOGICAL" THAN GERMAN COAL?**

An old proverb comes to mind: "What the voivode is allowed to do, is not allowed to you stench". Germany opens mines because they have the government's permission. They don't look at the European Union, and unfortunately we are scrupulously adapting to the EU's orders and want to close everything down. It should be emphasized that Germany is opening primarily brown coal mines and the current situation is that a lot of energy flows to Poland from Germany. They say it's "green" energy, but in reality it's most likely electricity produced from their brown coal. This means that electricity from brown coal from Germany is ecological, while electricity from Polish hard or lignite coal is not ecological.

**INVESTMENTS ARE BEING MADE IN GERMAN MINES, BUT NOT IN POLISH MINES, AND YET WITHOUT INVESTMENTS THERE IS NO DEVELOPMENT. HOW WOULD YOU RATE THIS METHOD OF MANAGEMENT?**

I have no knowledge about the level of investment in German mines. However, I know what the Germans' attitude towards Polish mining is. Our western neighbors and the powerful of the European Union have been bothered by Polish coal for a long time. The hard coal mining sector, which extracts raw material for the energy industry, was forced to phase out its operations. As an association, we do everything to minimize the negative effects of this process on society and the economy, and at the same time continue to use coal in the energy industry using new technologies.

**THERE ARE CLEAN COAL TECHNOLOGIES - THEY HAVE BEEN KNOWN SINCE THE 1990S. SO WHY IS DECARBONIZATION BEING PUSHED THROUGH FORCE IN EU FORUMS AND TO THE DETRIMENT OF THE EU ECONOMY?**

The only country in the EU that has significant coal resources and uses them is Poland. If you don't know what it's about, it's about money. Just look at how much money will flow from EU funds, from the National Reconstruction Plan, for investments in the so-called "green energy", in windmills, photovoltaic panels, nuclear power plants, etc., so lobbyists are promoting decarbonization. And here the question arises for those in power: why should this money flow from Poland through this type of investment? Why doesn't the government try to keep them here by investing in modern coal technologies?

**THE MINISTRY OF CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT WANTS TO TIGHTEN QUALITY STANDARDS FOR COAL. WHAT WOULD BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF SUCH A DECISION?**

We sent comments on the draft regulation, but they were not taken into account. The key consequence of this project of the Ministry of Climate will be the elimination from the market of the raw material from which coal companies earn the most money, i.e. fuel coal. This will lead to the loss of individual customers, which, combined with the simultaneous limitation of coal consumption by the commercial power industry, means a disaster for our sector. Moreover, the Ministry of Climate does not seem to realize that this will

not only be a blow to mining. Hundreds of thousands of households that use coal to heat their homes will suffer. And they use coal mainly because they cannot afford more expensive fuel or replace the heating source.

**HOW MANY DISMISSALS WILL POLISH MINERS FACE IN THE NEAR FUTURE? CAN THIS BE PREVENTED?**

There is no such thing as a possibility for now. As for employment reductions in the future, everything is regulated by the provisions of the social contract. I do not know of any plans regarding departure from work other than those provided for in the social contract, i.e. mining leave or the use of other protective instruments provided for in this document and in the Mining Restructuring Act.

**THE EC HAD A SOCIAL AGREEMENT WITH POLISH MINERS REGARDING THE DEADLINES FOR CLOSING DOWN MINES. TAKING INTO ACCOUNT RECENT ACTIONS, FOR EXAMPLE IN THE TURÓW CASE, DOES THIS MEAN THAT IT DOES NOT TAKE THESE OBLIGATIONS SERIOUSLY?**

Let me correct you, the European Commission did not have an agreement with Polish miners on the deadlines for closing down the mines. We, Polish miners, have signed a social agreement with the Polish government, and one of the annexes to the agreement are the dates for ending mining in individual mines by 2049. Since the signing of this agreement, i.e. since May 2021, we are still waiting for the completion of the notification process of this agreement by the European Commission. On the other hand, if you are asking about the Turów mine, it is not a hard coal mine, but a brown coal mine and the provisions of the social contract do not apply to it.

**HOW HAS THE ETS SYSTEM AFFECTED THE POLISH MINING INDUSTRY? DID IT REALLY CONTRIBUTE TO CARING FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, OR ONLY TO CARING FOR THE PORTFOLIOS OF CORPORATIONS SPECULATING ON THIS MARKET?**

ETS is a market for trading something like securities, i.e. CO2 emission



allowances, and from our point of view, it is also a horrendously high para-tax, one of the goals of which is the elimination of coal-based energy, and therefore the Polish mining industry. Thanks to ETS, we certainly have very expensive electricity. No one saw the ecological benefits.

### **SHOULDN'T THE ETS AND ETS 2 BE ABOLISHED?**

These are not questions for me, but for those in power. From my point of view, the best decision would be to suspend both ETS and ETS 2. Then we would see where the cheapest electricity comes from.

### **WHAT WOULD MINERS EXPECT FROM THE POLISH GOVERNMENT AND EU AUTHORITIES?**

We expect the European Commission to notify the social agreement, and the Polish government to implement the provisions of this document and build at least one CCS installation to show that energy can be obtained from coal in a virtually emission-free manner, which could result in the development of modern coal-fired energy in Poland and the extension of the operation of mines.



# GREEN DEAL

## - THE EU'S RECIPE FOR POVERTY

Neither the Polish state nor its citizens are prepared to implement the assumptions of the European Green Deal. Its adoption will have disastrous consequences for the Polish economy: it will lead to the collapse of enterprises, mass expropriation of families who cannot afford to meet the high energy standards of buildings, and will affect the competitiveness of the Polish economy - according to the report "Predatory Green (Dis)Order" prepared by the most outstanding Polish experts commissioned by **NSZZ Solidarność**.



"The Polish tax system is not ready for the implementation of the Green Deal and the Climate Pact within the time frame set by the EU. The introduction of the described restrictions and orders will result in a drastic increase in expenses while impoverishing society and taxpayers conducting business activities (agricultural and non-agricultural). The discussed changes will directly affect on the increase in prices of consumer goods, and may also contribute to the decline in the competitiveness of Polish enterprises on international markets. A significant reduction in the consumption of high-emission goods and services (especially motor fuels) will result in a permanent decline in budget revenues. The introduction of such significant changes requires time and unimaginable expenditure financial costs that Poland – as a country and its citizens – is currently

unable to bear" – the authors of the report say. They draw attention to the illusory nature of the vision of a "zero-emission Europe". "All criticism is ignored, including scientific evidence about the lack of impact of carbon dioxide (hereinafter: CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions on climate change or even questioning the recognition of this gas as a greenhouse gas. Scientific conferences that would question the foundations of ideology are impossible to organize. Corrupt the



world of science is engaged in lies and manipulations to finance research into the truths of ideology" – we read in the report.

The authors emphasized the consequences that the implementation of "green" solutions would have on the security of EU member states, which is particularly important in the face of ongoing Russian aggression. "Directing public spending on unnecessary and irrelevant purposes for security limits the development potential. This shows the European Green Deal in the dimension of sabotage activities that fit into the model of hybrid war, in which countries are burdened with unnecessary costs" – warns Ph.D. Artur Bartoszewicz, an economist from the Warsaw School of Economics (SGH).

In the opinion of the report's authors, the only country that can benefit from the introduction of the Green Deal in Europe is Germany, but only in the short term, "the financial pyramid of naivety will lead to the bankruptcy of nation states and their complete colonization by the largest EU economy, driving these processes – the German economy. Germany – by the Chinese economy, supplying technologies, products and raw materials – ultimately dictates the conditions on the European market".





# THE SOVEREIGN SHOULD HAVE A VOICE

For the purposes of the above-mentioned report, statistical research was carried out on a representative sample of over 1,000 people. It shows that the majority of Polish society (64.4%) at the turn of April and May 2024 supported the protest led by farmers against the Green Deal. Moreover, the majority of Polish citizens, 82.9%, are against the liquidation of the state of the Republic of Poland by incorporating its territory and population into a European federal state, which can be called the Federal European Union or the United States of Europe, with its capital in Brussels.

"The conducted research clearly shows what the social expectation is, and politicians have no mandate to act like the communist party, following Leonid Brezhnev's instructions, to transform the ideals of a handful of communists into a deep belief and norm of behavior for millions of people of all nations and nationalities" – creators of the report conclude. The situation is so serious that, according to expert estimates, Poland – next to Bulgaria – will have to spend the most on adapting its economy to zero-emission standards. This means huge costs that are difficult to estimate for every citizen. It is therefore not surprising that the vast majority of Poles call for significant changes to the European Green Deal (42.9%) or its complete rejection (34.9%). "A small part (19.0%) believes that minor changes should be introduced. It finds uncritical support only among 3.3% of Polish society. This means that the introduction of this policy is an autocratic solution, not a democratic one" – Ph.D. Katarzyna Obłąkowska from the Warsaw School of Economics, co-author of the survey notes. She adds: "Poles are in favor of holding a nationwide referendum on the rejection of the European Green Deal (56.5%). Only 26.4% of adults are against the referendum. Poles want democracy. Only autocratic rulers do not give the sovereign the right to express his opinion in the referendum. What awaits next is the all-powerful state, holding a sword over the head of the subject, punishing him for every word that goes against the will of the rulers".

"The imposition of costly energy production standards, unjustified by the requirements of national and international competition, translates into high socio-economic costs and ultimately impoverishment of households, but also of market participants themselves, especially micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, in which the share of energy in production costs or supply of services is high, which leads to a deterioration of their market condition and even mass bankruptcy. Expenditures on protective and compensatory mechanisms incurred by nation states from their budgets mean further debt and demoralize the economy" - Ph.D. Bartoszewicz emphasizes.

In turn, Prof. Ryszard Piotrowski points out the contradiction of the provisions of the Green Deal with the Polish Constitution. "The concept of a top-down forced and without alternative, scientifically justified reconstruction of society and the economy is incompatible with Article 1 also due to Article 30. The essential provisions of the European Green Deal are inconsistent with Articles 2 and 5. It is incompatible with the principle of a social market economy, expressed in Article 20. Replacing market rules with climate correctness rules in the process of transforming the EU means that the criterion of competitive advantage becomes not production capacity, but low emission. It is also inconsistent with the principle of property protection established in Article 21 and the principles of limiting the use of constitutional freedoms and rights specified in Article 31, paragraph 3. It poses a potential threat to the right to protection of private and family life, provided for in Article 47 of the Constitution of the Republic of Poland. - he enumerates.

Prof. Witold Modzelewski warns that "the introduction of the Green Deal and the Climate Pact will result in: a decline in budget revenues (state budget and budget of local government units) from indirect taxation of high-emission sectors and trade in goods and provision of services discriminated against by new orders and prohibitions (estimated by approx. 30, 0–35.0% per year in the initial period; later the decline will be even deeper); a decline in income tax revenues as a result of increased costs in the corporate sector and a decline in employment in the high-emission sector (a drop of up to 50.0–55.0%). income of the Social Insurance Fund and the National Health Fund (social and health insurance contributions) as a result of a decline in employment in the high-emission sector (cautious estimates - up to 25.0–30.0%)".

The implementation of the European Green Deal for Poland means, above all, gigantic costs in connection with imposed investments and increasingly new EU taxes: EU ETS (the deficit of CO<sub>2</sub> emission allowances in 2021–2030 will cost as much as PLN 141.0 billion) and ETS 2 (the cost for an average family will range from PLN 1.6 thousand to PLN 8.6 thousand). In addition, there will be an excise tax on coal and coke, a carbon border tax (CBAM), a tax on non-recycled plastic (in the years 2021–2024, we will pay PLN 8.6 billion to the EU budget on this account), a fee on CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from internal combustion cars (cars will become more expensive even by several dozen thousand zlotys), tolls on highways and expressways, or tax on the registration of combustion cars and the so-called environmental fee for combustion vehicles.

"If three scenarios are created for 2030: positive (EUA price = EUR 120.00, ETS 2 price = EUR 45.00), baseline (EUA price = EUR 160.00, ETS 2 price = EUR 75.00) and pessimistic (EUA price = EUR 200.00, ETS 2 price = EUR 100.00), the total costs of both systems for Polish households can be estimated at PLN 64.00 billion in the positive scenario, and PLN 91.00 billion in the base scenario, and in the pessimistic scenario – PLN 116.00 billion" – Marek Lachowicz says.

There are still issues that have not been fully addressed in the report, namely: where to get energy for car chargers if Poland is to switch from coal-fired energy to renewable energy sources? Who will pay for the renovation of Polish roads that are not prepared for the weight of electric cars? Where will families expropriated from their homes live if there is a lack of municipal housing on the market? It is therefore clear that the European Commission wants to generate a serious crisis that will have no precedent – what is more, it wants to do it in an arbitrary and undemocratic way, with the passive consent of the Polish authorities.

A portrait of Bogdan Rzońca, a middle-aged man with grey hair and a beard, wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and red tie. He is standing with his arms crossed. The image is framed by a white border.

# BOGDAN RZOŃCA:

**THE IDEA IS TO CREATE A  
SUPERBANK IN A SUPERSTATE  
WITH AN UNCONTROLLED  
GOVERNMENT**



**"THIS IS THE LOGIC OF MAKING EU COUNTRIES DEPENDENT ON BANKS, OF GIVING THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION - THE EUROPEAN GOVERNMENT - AN INCREDIBLE INSTRUMENT TO TAKE OUT LOANS WITHOUT THE CONSENT OF ALL COUNTRIES. UNTIL NOW, IT WAS SAID THAT EVERYONE HAD TO AGREE ON SOMETHING, SO THE ABOLITION OF THIS UNANIMITY IS ALSO TERRIBLE AND ALL THIS GOES IN THE DIRECTION OF CREATING A SUPERBANK IN A SUPERSTATE WITH A GOVERNMENT UNCONTROLLED BY ANYONE" - BOGDAN RZOŃCA (MEP) SAID IN THE INTERVIEW FOR SCHUMAN OPTICS MAGAZINE.**

**MARIO DRAGHI'S REPORT SHOWS THAT EUROPE IS LOSING COMPETITIVELY TO CHINA - THE PRESSURE OF CHINESE COMPANIES IN EUROPE IS GROWING. MOREOVER, THE EU IS FOCUSING ON "GREEN" ENERGY, DRASTICALLY INCREASING COSTS IN ALL AREAS, WHILE CHINA IS OPENING MORE COAL MINES WHILE INVESTING IN RENEWABLE ENERGY. DOES THIS MEAN THAT THE EUROPEAN UNION HAS DECIDED TO DESTROY ITS COMPETITIVENESS?**

**Bogdan Rzońca:** This is what it looks like. Draghi's report is very grim in its tone. The EU has lost competitiveness. It is losing contact and distance in technology with China, India and Asia. His report and the attempt to cover up all the weaknesses of the

European Union with the fact that the EU should go into deep debt again is a hint: create a permanent debt mechanism for the European Union, we will take money, we will borrow, it will work out somehow. This is terrible. In my opinion, there will be no great agreement on this. However, the facts are indisputable - the European Union, after several years of rule by the left and liberals and by introducing these infernal ideas called the Green Deal or Fit for 55, has simply lost its position and it will be very difficult for it continuing this mistake to move forward in anything, to compete.

**INTERESTINGLY, DRAGHI IS AWARE THAT DEPENDENCE ON THE SUPPLY CHAIN, WHETHER FROM CHINA OR ANOTHER PART OF THE WORLD, MAY CONSTITUTE A "GEOPOLITICAL WEAPON". THE QUESTION IS, WHY THEN DO HE AND OTHER EUROCRATS NOT SEEK TO MOVE PRODUCTION TO EUROPE?**

Exactly. Europe is officially isolating itself through expensive production costs, through expensive living costs, through the madness of wanting to be first in the world in implementing climate policy. It does not look at the pace of change and the fact that some countries are not at all adapted to these very expensive ideas that burden entrepreneurs the most. The EU is isolating itself and continuing to make this mistake will cost it a lot. I think that perhaps the new European Commission will moderate this trend, slow down all these activities and take a broader look at what is happening around the European Union. Moreover, Draghi himself admits that we will no longer catch up with China, that in fact we will not be able to compete with them. So who should we compete with in many areas? The idea that new loans will cure us is also unacceptable to the majority,



because we are burdened by an old loan - a EUR 750 billion loan for NewGeneration. The total cost of this loan will be, according to experts, over EUR 200 billion, so the banks will make good money, while the rest will remain unchanged. This money from the Recovery Fund did not move the economy at all, just as these milestone reforms do not give new breath to European companies. On the contrary. It is basically just persistence and keeping what is at the level it is, and this is much too little to compete with this powerful world.

**IT IS ASTONISHING THAT DRAGHI WANTS TO LOWER ENERGY PRICES WHILE DECARBONIZING AND REDUCING DEPENDENCE ON RESOURCE-RICH COUNTRIES. THIS IS TYPICAL UTOPIAN THINKING. HOW LONG WILL IT CONTINUE TO FUNCTION ON THE EUROPEAN FORUM BEFORE THESE COUNTRIES WAKE UP?**

It will take some time, because unfortunately among the coalition partners in this European mainstream, the Greens - although they have weakened - still have some importance. If von der Leyen does not allow Eurorealism into his actions and does not start talking to all parties in order to stimulate the

economy and not burden it with additional costs just to have clean air, it will end badly. If such talks take place, there is a chance. If not, Draghi himself didn't invent anything. I would even say that he did what he did to open up a new opportunity for Mrs. von der Leyen. Promises that we will be competitive for borrowed money are simply blowing into a balloon that we don't know which way it will fly and we don't know whether it will burst. Huge loans are very unreliable, and they are most annoying when you have to start paying them back. The EU has failed to cope with one problem, and Draghi proposes a second loan project. This is all ridiculous, weak, so I think he did it to suggest that perhaps a permanent debt mechanism of the European Union after changing the treaties would be a solution for the EU and would see this mechanism among the new solutions when changing the treaties. Many EU countries will certainly not agree to this.

**OR MAYBE THERE IS A CERTAIN LOGIC IN DRAGHI'S THINKING, NAMELY WORKING TOWARDS MAKING STATES DE FACTO DEPENDENT ON BANKS IN THEIR ACTIVITIES?**

This is an attempt to build a central state. Yes. I agree here. This is the logic of making EU countries dependent on banks, of giving the European Commission - the European government - an incredible instrument to take out loans without the consent of all countries. Until now, it was said that everyone had to agree on something, so the abolition of this unanimity is also terrible and all this goes in the direction of creating a superbank in a superstate with a government uncontrolled by anyone.

**IF WE ARE TALKING ABOUT BUILDING A SUPERSTATE, TO WHAT EXTENT IS THERE CURRENTLY A SILENT TRANSFER OF**



**FURTHER AREAS OF POWER TO EUROPEAN INSTITUTIONS?  
WHEN I SEE ALL THESE SUBSTITUTE TOPICS APPEARING IN  
THE MEDIA, I SERIOUSLY SUSPECT THAT THIS TRANSFER IS  
TAKING PLACE SOMEWHERE BEHIND THE SCENES.**


This is the main assumption of the Eurocrats: not to say, but to do - to make individual governments dependent, to deprive them of their subjectivity. We will see what it will look like in the European Council after the creation of the European Commission, because there is some hope in these new right-wing governments in Belgium, the Netherlands and Italy that something will be stopped. I also think that when Scholz loses, there will be some change and reflection in Germany. It is already happening in France. All hope lies in the European Council. The transfer to the center and not asking anyone about anything and the Eurocrats' thinking, that we will arrange it all and it will be better if we do it in a small group, is terrible and deadly to culture, to history, to the subjectivity of nation states.

**THE ONLY QUESTION IS WHETHER NATION STATES WILL LOSE  
OVER TIME?**

This is a very important question and well asked. In many countries we see indifference to this EU perspective. People's living conditions have improved, not only in Poland, so they live their own lives and do not see the obvious that in a moment they may be deprived of cash, addicted to digital money, that their freedom is being taken away. If they introduce cashless transactions, because this is the direction they are going, then they will be able to stop any social resistance, because it is impossible to live without money, without health care, without


everyday expenses. The process of centralization is ongoing and at the same time the Europeans are bewildered by it all, but there is no coherent resistance yet. It can only be born in particular countries after particular elections. Such an opportunity is emerging now, when the right is starting to win elections in some countries, and in the large, important ones. I think this is where the first resistance to the centralization of the European Union will appear.

**INTERVIEW BY ANNA WIEJAK**

A large, dark, and grainy image of a nuclear mushroom cloud serves as the background for the entire page. The cloud is centered and fills most of the frame, with its base appearing as a bright, glowing point of impact. The colors are predominantly dark blues, purples, and greys, with some lighter, hazy areas near the top of the cloud.

**Prof.  
Pablo de la  
Fuente:**

***“Trimarium may be  
the platform of  
dissuasive defence  
of Europe, if it has  
**nuclear missiles**”***



"Trimarium may be the platform of dissuasive defence of Europe, if it has a strategic response of **nuclear missiles**" - prof. Pablo de la Fuente, expert on security said during **Schuman Trimarium Forum**. The event took place in **Akademia Zamojska** in Zamość (16-19 of September).

Britain has nuclear weapons, the same France - Prof. de la Fuente continued. In his opinion, the nuclear arsenal should be located in Poland, which would allow this country to pursue a more independent international policy. "The Poland will combine to another league" - he stated. In his opinion "the future of Trimarium is nuclear energy". "Nuclear energy is a cheap energy and cheap energy is the key to competitive economy" - he noticed.

Prof. David Reichardt is optimistic about the current situation of the Three Seas Initiative. "The 3 Seas Initiative has fallen on hard times. These last few years has not seen the great growth in structural development of 3 Seas Initiative, however ironically it has experienced resurgence" - he said. In his opinion, the war in Ukraine motivated the countries associated in the Three Seas Initiative to take greater care of energy security and broadly understood security issues. "23 countries of European Union are the members of NATO" - he reminded, pointing out that the EU and NATO should not be separated, because they are basically the same. "I think it's complementary, not competitive situation" - he evaluated.






Prof. Zbigniew Krysiak, the President of the Program Council of the Institute of Schuman's Thought warned against creating an EU superstate. "The superstate will remove the institutions we have, our parliaments, different institutions related to our activity" - he enumerated. "It's a kind of communism, which is most dangerous" - economist added.

"European institutions went too far from local level. All these problems associated with democratic deficit in EU is a very long-standing problem - Prof. Andrius Švarplys said in the context of the challenges the Three Seas region must face. "All the political settings, all the political systems have the same problem: how deeply they reflect the local political interests, social interests. It's the classical democratic test and European Union since the beginning lacks it" - he explained. "If the 3 Seas Initiative find a formula to reflect and represent the participating countries needs, it will be successful" - he added, answering the question whether the Three Seas Initiative can become a model for the entire European Union.





In turn, prof. Tomasz Grzegorz Grosse raised the alarm that in Europe we are dealing with the uprooting of traditional Christian values and the imposition of left-wing, communist ideology aimed at creating a new European project and a new European identity. "This leads to many destabilisations and cause a lot of problems. It is very difficult to create European nation around left, liberal values and at the same time removing traditional values" - he said. "Massive influx of migrants was perceived by European elites as a way to create new European nation" - he added, pointing out that next to migration policy, another European project leading to disaster is the introduction of a common currency. "After reading Draghi's report I am sure that the EU decarbonisation politic is also leading to the disaster" - Prof. Grosse noticed. "Schuman at the beginning of integration proposed quite a different model: more decentralised, more subsidiarity, based on national not superstate structures" - he summed up. In his opinion, the Three Seas countries should strengthen regional cooperation and integration in the way presented by Schuman.



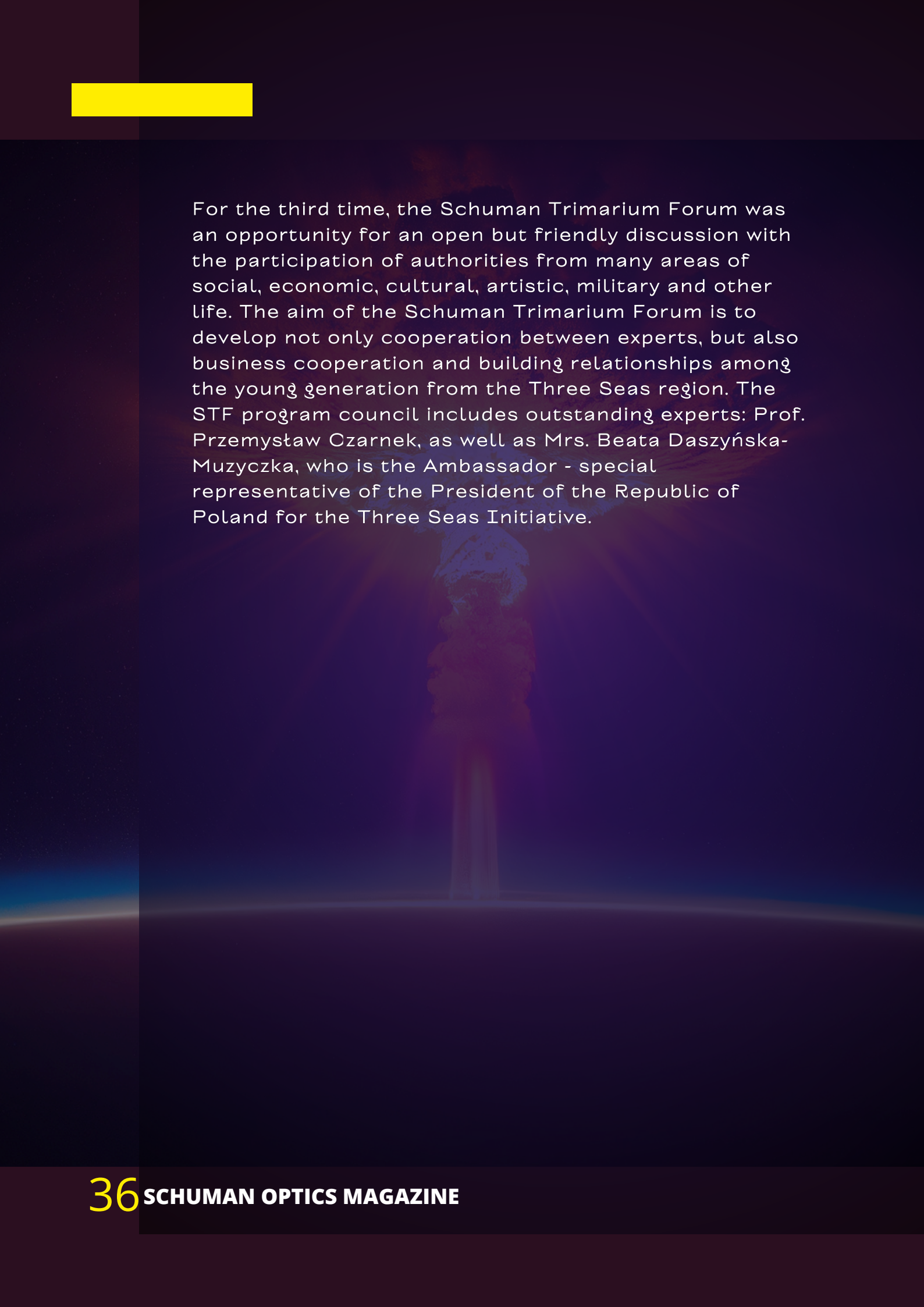
# Cyber security



Referring to the issue of AI and the regulations currently being created, Krzysztof Malczewski pointed to the issue of cybersecurity as the biggest challenge, especially in the face of Russia's aggression, which carries out hacker attacks, conducts disinformation and uses propaganda. "Aggression that Russian launched against Ukraine has ignited the intense of the discussion about it, how to improve cybersecurity, how the AI may be used in this matter" - he said. At the same time, he raised awareness of the threats related to the development of Artificial Intelligence, which already poses quite a challenge for the secret services because it is able to generate fictitious images that, due to their quality, can be considered real. "The law should be adapted to changes, which we observe right now" - he evaluated. "Cybersecurity should be the highest priority" - Malczewski added.

Krzysztof Malczewski pointed out that Three Seas universities should cooperate to develop new 5G technologies and infrastructure, because the amount of data transferred is increasing year by year.





For the third time, the Schuman Trimarium Forum was an opportunity for an open but friendly discussion with the participation of authorities from many areas of social, economic, cultural, artistic, military and other life. The aim of the Schuman Trimarium Forum is to develop not only cooperation between experts, but also business cooperation and building relationships among the young generation from the Three Seas region. The STF program council includes outstanding experts: Prof. Przemysław Czarnek, as well as Mrs. Beata Daszyńska-Muzyczka, who is the Ambassador - special representative of the President of the Republic of Poland for the Three Seas Initiative.



**PROF. PAWEŁ  
SKRZYDLEWSKI:**

**GERMANY  
INFLUENCES THE  
THREE SEAS ELITES,**



**INTIMIDATES OR  
BRIBES THEM**

**THE THREE-DAY SCHUMAN TRIMARIUM FORUM CONFERENCE  
ENDED AT THE ZAMOŚĆ ACADEMY. WHAT ARE YOUR MAIN  
CONCLUSIONS FROM THE DISCUSSIONS DURING THE PANELS?  
WHAT DO YOU CONSIDER TO BE THE MOST IMPORTANT?**

**Prof. Paweł Waldemar Skrzydlewski:** The conference was a perfect example of a substantive discussion showing extremely current problems in Europe, problems focused primarily on our European identity. In all meetings it was emphasized, and this seems to me the most important conclusion from the meetings today, that Europe with its nations and sovereign states is primarily the work of the educational activity of the Catholic Church. In other words, it was shown that it did not exist without what the Church brought into its life. Therefore, European unity itself does not consist in the unification of administrative, legal or economic structures, but in what lies in the sphere of people's spiritual life.

It was emphasized that the Church brought to European communities not only personalism, i.e. the most important and accurate vision of man with his dignity, rights and subjectivity, but also the Church gave nations a specific legal order and a specific social culture, which is created on the basis of the known truth. This culture is thoroughly personalistic and national at the same time. Its sources lie in the free creativity of people inspired by the love of man and God.

What I would like to emphasize is that both Hungarians and Slovaks, Poles and Czechs, as well as the nations of the Baltic countries and Ukrainians are united by the belief that we should live in such a way as not to lose our identity, not to lose the sovereignty of individual states. This belief was also accompanied by a strong desire for unity, but not the one resulting from bureaucratic structures, the a priori and ideological policy of the EU, but the unity of the brotherhood of nations, free and sovereign communities, united by voluntary and cordial friendship rather than by the letter of a clearly understood law. I would also like to emphasize that the conference took place at the Zamość Academy - a university celebrating the 430th anniversary of its foundation this year, a university established not only to learn the

truth, but also to build public and civic life in Europe. Jan Zamoyski - the founder of the university - wanted it to be a "forge" of civic life, so that its graduates would not only be good and wise people, but also useful citizens able to co-create national and state life.

**WHAT ARE THE CHANCES THAT THE THREE SEAS INITIATIVE -  
FOLLOWING ROBERT SCHUMAN'S EXAMPLE, THROUGH ECONOMIC  
AND POLITICAL MOVES - WILL LEAD TO THE REVIVAL OF THE  
EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AND ITS RETURN TO ITS CHRISTIAN ROOTS?  
DOES IT HAVE SUCH POTENTIAL AT ALL?**

The Servant of God Robert Schuman certainly wanted, first and foremost, peace for all of Europe - a peace that is not so much the absence of war, but primarily the result of a good life, in moral, religious and economic order.

Schuman was perfectly aware that order and peace can be achieved where there is justice, i.e. giving back what is rightfully due to people, but also to God and to nations. He knew that without justice and without the transformation of human hearts ennobled by God's grace, there would be no peace. Therefore, if there is to be peace in Europe, the true peace that gives us justice - life in friendship with God - then the nations of Europe must live justly and be open to the gifts of God.

Today we see, and this was emphasized in the discussions, that there is no justice in Europe, there is no openness to God, and there is even praise for "international villainy, procrastination" and godlessness, visible, for example, in atheization, abortion and euthanasia practices. Today, many prominent EU politicians also tend to build a kind of "paradise on earth" - of course, without God and his laws, without respect for justice, without taking into account the rights of nations.

For us Poles, this lack of justice is especially visible in the example of the actions of the German state, which in no way wants to compensate for the massive crimes, rapes and wrongs that Germany committed against Poles, but not only against them, but also against Greeks, Czechs, Ukrainians, Jews and Russians, many other nations. After all, in the concentration



camps built by the German state alone, 6 million people were brutally murdered. How badly was our economy ruined and how much of our goods were stolen? All these matters are particularly painful in the Zamość region, because there was a great crime here too - Aktion Zamość.

So can unity be built only on the economy, without justice and respect for rights? I am convinced that this is not possible. As a philosopher, I know that material goods differentiate and divide people rather than unite and connect them. After all, if someone, for example, has and uses a piece of land or a car - then another person does not use it and does not have it at the same moment. Unity - true union - exists only where there is freedom and right will among people, where there is the Christian spirit of brotherhood.

### **HOW BIG A THREAT IS THE NEO-COMMUNISM DEVELOPING IN EUROPE, WHICH IS TRYING TO TRANSFORM THE COMMUNITY INTO A GERMAN-DOMINATED SUPERSTATE, TO THE THREE SEAS?**

Germany has been divided civilizationally and culturally for several centuries, it is spiritually broken and spiritually sick. This crack is very serious and in the 20th century it revealed itself not only in the form of "Hitler", German imperialism and contempt towards non-Aryans, whom Germans murdered "industrial" in death camps. Virtually the entire German nation participated in the crimes, directly and indirectly - from cleaners and postmen, through government officials and university professors. Not only the SS "Nazis" murdered, but also students, workers, peasants, and shopkeepers. As long as Hitler achieved military successes, the entire German community consented to his crimes.

After World War II, very few criminals from the eighty million community were punished with - (just hundreds), and the crimes themselves were silenced, swept under the carpet. German schools and universities falsified historical memory, saying that Germans themselves became victims of Nazism. Of course, this was also the case, because just before 1939, German doctors and nurses liquidated, as part of eugenic policy, about 200



thousand German citizens, sick, locked in medical facilities. But after all, during the war millions of Slavs and Jews died – whole nations, which in the thought of German racist madness were destined to be liquidated. The contemporary problem that we find in Germany is not only neo-communism, but above all this German self-worship, it is this pride that commands very many Germans „to love each other with reciprocity“, it is this immorality, it is, which blinds and leads directly to some demonic self-love, above all, above the whole world. Do we remember today the words of the German national anthem - Deutschland, Deutschland über alles, über alles in der Welt? This German self-worship provokes the Germans to look at others in such a way as to see only slaves in them, resources that should be used. Germans who do not morally agree to this Germanic arrogance, to this neo-pagan self-worship, unable to find the convenient ground for the spiritual life that Christianity, classical culture in general gives, they often fall into nihilism and various ideologies, which only declaratively differ from this „german Prussian spirit“. Neo-communism, like militant environmentalism in Germany (and not only there), easily turns into the construction of utopian social projects.

Today, in my opinion, this is what is happening in Germany and that is why we must be afraid of the Germans. But if the Germans had made a genuine examination of conscience and renounced evil, if they had corrected what was in their power from this, what they did wrong to the nations of Europe – could certainly become an authentic and positive force of Europe. Today, however, there is neither repentance nor knowledge of the truth about themselves; today they do not want to listen to either St. John Paul II or their compatriot Benedict XVI, they also do not want to listen to their great compatriot - German F. W. Förster, who wrote that „German cannot, however, reconcile with the rest of the world until he reconciles himself with the truth“.

#### **HOW DOES THE NEW LEFTIST IDEOLOGY AFFECT THE SECURITY OF THE THREE SEAS? DO WE AS CITIZENS HAVE ANY REASON TO WORRY?**

Concerns are and it's very serious, because Germany for the most part, but

not all – do not want to "get along with the truth". Without this reconciliation with the truth about themselves, there will also be no proper reference to the peoples of Europe. We see today that German politicians are doing everything they can to remove American troops from Germany, to weaken the influence of America on itself, and at the same time they are doing almost everything to become economically connected with raw materials from Russia. They are also trying to collaborate with China.

At the same time, they do a lot to ensure that the economic interest of Germany always dominates and directs EU policy. As part of this, Germany affects the political elites of the Three Seas countries, intimidates them or bribes them, so as to make them slow for German policy. This one is still imperial, chauvinistic and immoral.

An element of this policy is also the antagonization of the nations and states of the Three Seas, dependence on what is in Germany in many fields of states and nations, because everyone should understand that Deutschland, Deutschland über alles, über alles in der Welt.

I am convinced, and Robert Schuman also shared this belief, that until Germany enters the path of „the spirit of Gospels” and begins to live with this Spirit – cannot be a source of greater good for the countries of Europe and the world. I am also convinced that today there is a serious danger of transplanting this evil German spirit of Prusacism and self-admiration into other nations. If this were to happen, Europe would be threatened by a new hecatomb again.

**THE SCHUMAN TRIMARIUM FORUM PROVIDED SPACE FOR A REAL UNIVERSITY DEBATE - THERE WAS ROOM FOR DIFFERENT POINTS OF VIEW AND DISCUSSION BASED ON ARGUMENTS. DO YOU NOT GET THE IMPRESSION THAT NOWADAYS WE USE TOO LITTLE LOGIC AND ARGUMENTS, AND WE LEAVE TOO MUCH SPACE FOR EMOTIONS? WHAT CONSEQUENCES DOES THAT HAVE?**

When talking about debates, discussions and – dialogue, it is important to

remember what constitutes the value of debates, discussions and dialogue. They do not depend only on logic, rhetorical power and correctness, rationality of arguments. The most important thing here is the will to know the truth and the will to be faithful to the truth. Of course, the whole range of our emotions that appear during the discussion also matters.

What is most dangerous for the discussion, however, is the debaters will to close oneself for the truth, for its knowledge and knowledge in all its richness. Many have taught about reliable discussion and valuable dialogue, but today the most valuable are the teachings of the German – Pope Benedict XVI, who emphasized that the purpose of the discussion is not so much persuasion, settlement, and, consensus – but knowing and respecting the truth. Along with this, it is fundamentally important to respect the person who is trying to show us the truth in the discussion.


During the conference, I felt this love of truth, this respect for it, this will to respect it, to share it. This is the most valuable fruit of this meeting for me and I think that such meetings as part of the dissemination of Robert Schuman's teachings will take place many times at the Zamojski Academy. After all, today it is the second historically higher education institution in Poland, it obliges.

**DURING THE SCHUMAN TRIMARIUM FORUM, THE NEED FOR COOPERATION BETWEEN THE THREE SEAS UNIVERSITIES WAS ONCE AGAIN EMPHASIZED. WHY IS THIS COOPERATION SO IMPORTANT FOR THIS REGION?**

Let us remember what universities are in general – all academies. It is a community of people who love the truth and want to transmit this truth in love to the whole world, to all those who want to listen. The Academy is next to the temple – church the most beautiful place in Western civilization.

If there is no academy and the implementation of the mission of the academy in European countries – very difficult time must to come, maybe



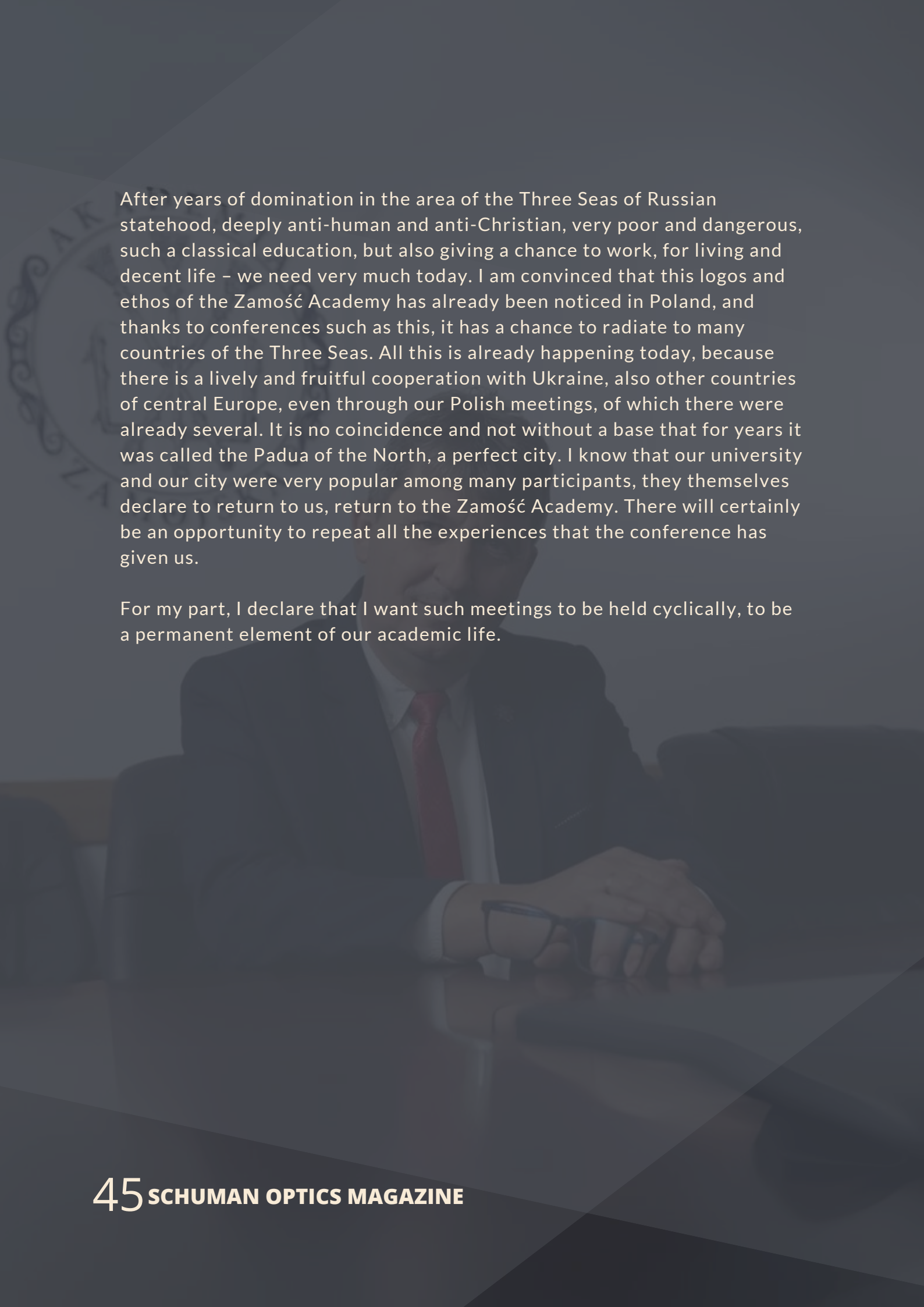


even the collapse of Western civilization. For we must create culture on the basis of the known truth, and it is the truth about everything, the truth available to us, the ultimate truth, and as full as possible. Such truth will not be given to us today by the media, forums where politicians and visionaries meet. Here we need effort and peace, responsibility, competence and experience. We demand all this from professors, from scholars who have the duty to know the truth and to communicate it to others, and also to defend it, as Thomas Aquinas taught in the Contra gentiles. Let us also remember that academies are places of promotion of education, that is, many different acts of mercy in the field of intellectual life. Education as taught by Saint Thomas Aquinas is the process of freeing man from the evil of ignorance, incomprehension, incompetence. This act of mercy requires not only knowledge of the truth itself and the art of its transmission, defense, analysis – but above all also love of man, that is, one who does not know, does not understand, cannot. Sometimes this lack of – this evil, provokes professors, teachers to some disregard, or mocking unreasonable, unfamiliar students. However, this attitude is something that kills education and the academy itself, it is something that dishonors professors, because it shows in them their pride and also the lack of love of neighbor. The conference in Zamość was a beautiful example of academic discussion, in which the truth was respected, as well as those who were just getting to know it.

**HOW DOES YOUR UNIVERSITY FIT INTO THE THREE-SEA COOPERATION? WHAT ACTIONS HAVE YOU TAKEN SO FAR AND WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS?**

Zamość Academy is a university that can boast of a history of as many as five centuries. It was and still is to educate primarily Polish youth, but also young people from eastern Europe, Ukraine, Moldova. This is our cultural radiation towards the East, but we want this radiation to be accompanied primarily by the will to know the truth and good preparation for social life in a practical dimension. That is why we combine classical education with practical science in the area of health or public affairs.



A man in a dark suit, white shirt, and red tie is seated at a table, looking down. His hands are clasped on the table, and he is wearing glasses. In the background, a faint circular seal is visible. The text is overlaid on the image.

After years of domination in the area of the Three Seas of Russian statehood, deeply anti-human and anti-Christian, very poor and dangerous, such a classical education, but also giving a chance to work, for living and decent life – we need very much today. I am convinced that this logos and ethos of the Zamość Academy has already been noticed in Poland, and thanks to conferences such as this, it has a chance to radiate to many countries of the Three Seas. All this is already happening today, because there is a lively and fruitful cooperation with Ukraine, also other countries of central Europe, even through our Polish meetings, of which there were already several. It is no coincidence and not without a base that for years it was called the Padua of the North, a perfect city. I know that our university and our city were very popular among many participants, they themselves declare to return to us, return to the Zamość Academy. There will certainly be an opportunity to repeat all the experiences that the conference has given us.

For my part, I declare that I want such meetings to be held cyclically, to be a permanent element of our academic life.

## Biography:

**Prof. Paweł Waldemar Skrzydlewski** – philosopher, rector of the Zamojska Academy, professor of the same university. In 1994 he obtained a master's degree at the Faculty of Philosophy of the University of Lublin (work written under the direction of Professor M. A. Krąpiec). In 1998, he graduated from the Postgraduate Studies in Constitutionalism at the Faculty of Law and Administration of UMCS. In 1999 he defended his doctoral thesis written under the guidance of Professor A. Maryniarczyk. On 13 June 2014, at the Faculty of Philosophy of the Lublin University, he obtained the degree of habilitated doctor in philosophy.

He has written more than 250 scientific and popular science publications and delivered over 100 papers at scientific conferences. He is the author of books: *Politics in Latin civilization. Validity of Feliks Koneczny's science*, Lublin 2002; *Human freedom in Latin civilization in the terms of Feliks Koneczny*, Lublin 2013; *Anthropological and social determinants of law. Study in the philosophy of law*, Lublin 2013; *Person in public space. Selected issues in human philosophy and politics*, Cracow 2016; *Ontic and social foundations of family pedagogy. Study of the philosophy of education and education*. Gdansk 2018; *Sexuality and upbringing of a person* (together with M. Marczewski, P. Skrzydlewski) Gdansk 2020; *Philosophical and cultural anthropology*, I. Chłódna, W. Daszkiewicz, R. Gawrych, M. Marczewski, A. Maryniarczyk, P. Skrzydlewski, Gdansk 2020; *Feliks Koneczny*, red. P. Skrzydlewski, Cracow 2020; *Feliks Koneczny*, edited by P. Skrzydlewski, Cracow 2020 (English version); *in defense of the integral development of man, marriage and family*, Gdansk 2023; *Is this the end of journalism as we know it?* Red. Kazimierz Wolny – Zmorzynski, Paweł Skrzydlewski, Zamość 2023.

His research focuses on the theory and philosophy of law, man, civilization, politics, upbringing and education.

# Building a European community in the conditions of a crisis of civilization

The effort to build a European community in conditions of civilization crisis is indeed a challenging one. Over the past several years, a number of us have participated in the Schuman Thought conferences in which it was pointed out – in both general and concrete terms – the increasing secularization of the European landscape, as well as the overextension of the European Union into areas of political and social policy of its member states, never conceived of by its founding fathers.

We generally think of Robert Schuman as the key promoter of the idea of the Community of Nations Concept of European integration – as opposed to that of a large, centralized organization. And this is entirely correct. He was also a committed Catholic Christian, who felt the Community of Nations should reflect Christian principles. By contrast, his colleague, Jean

Monnet is often presented as the more secular, more aggressively “federalist” founding father, and advocate of European political centralization. Their separate visions of European integration have been portrayed as divergent as those of “Thomas Jefferson and Alexander Hamilton” in the United States context.

However, aside from his economic centralism, Monnet was a Catholic and a conservative. Indeed, he was raised in a household with a strong Catholic tradition; his mother was deeply religious, while his sister Marie-Louise was a founder of the French branch of Action Catholique, to which Monnet contributed financially. He was eventually married in the Catholic cathedral church at the pilgrimage site of Lourdes, France.

Politically, nothing in Monnet’s writings suggests the desire of a highly integrated, bureaucratic superstate of Europe, micromanaging political and social policy. That vision is more associated with Altiero Spinelli, the Italian socialist who wrote widely on such views. True, Monnet – like many of Europe’s founding fathers – did write about building a “United States of Europe.” But what did he mean by this?

Well, Monnet, like Schuman – and another European founding father, Walter Hallstein – were great admirers of the American political system, with its “shared sovereignty” between center and periphery, in which the periphery often predominates.

One need only look at the United States today to see how the US Supreme Court still upholds the sovereign “authority” of its states in various areas – from the recent decision to return the authority on the abortion issue to the states, to education policy, to health care, to alcohol and drug policy, and to economic issues such as off-shore oil – which the court has ruled belongs to the states up to a 3 mile limit.

In fact, time and again, the US Court has sided with the states over the central government in Washington. And why? Because of a part of the US Constitution that says: ***“The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, are reserved to the States and the people.”***





This is the type of federalism that the founders of “Europe” envisioned – a sharing of sovereignty between the center and the parts, not a usurping of it by the center in the areas of democracy, civil and social rights. This is not to say that the EU should not have some authority in these areas. In fact, the Copenhagen Criteria – a part of the Treaty on European Union – requires that all EU member states generally have a democratic political system and a liberal economic system.

However, attempting to micro-manage this for the member states from the center – far oversteps the legal competence of the organization. And let us be clear – the European Union is still an “organization,” not a superstate – despite a lot of modern rhetoric to the contrary. The real question is about what the EU will become in the future.

A good model of what the EU could be and should be – in the spirit of Schuman’s Community of Nations concept – is the Visegrad Group (also known as the “Visegrad Four”) – the alliance of four Central European countries: the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, and Slovakia, whose

purpose is to advance co-operation on economic, energy and cultural issues. The meaning of this is that these Central European states have their own values and interests and that – within the EU – those values and interests need to be protected, so long as they do not encroach upon very generally agreed EU principles. One example of this is the 2015 European Immigration Crisis, when the Visegrad Four legitimately rejected EU distribution quotas, blocking an EU-level response.

However, let us be clear: the argument here is not in favor or against any particular public policy by any individual EU member state, but rather in support of the general principle of the rights of EU member states to craft policies – either alone or in coalitions – that may not coincide with those of other member states – particularly those that have a larger political voice and influence in Brussels.

Going forward, regional organizations like the Visegrad Four – beside being decentralized models for the European Union as a whole – are one of the best ways, politically, to reign in the excesses of the EU, while continuing to support and protect its basic founding principles. Another effort in this spirit is “The Three Seas Initiative” – a forum of 13 EU states running along the north-south axis from the Baltic to the Adriatic Sea and the Black Sea to Central Europe – which holds the potential to be precisely this type of cooperative community envisioned by Schuman in the Community of Nations concept.

Some fear that these relatively new efforts, such as the Three Seas Initiative, will create a competing geopolitical space in the region that would fundamentally weaken the European Union. However, if the Visegrad Four example is any indicator – it will not weaken the EU, but help to check and control its political excesses – especially as the Three Seas countries have significant voting power within the Council of the European Union.

At the same time, initiatives like Three Seas will enhance the more legitimate areas of EU authority. In economic terms, for example, Three





Seas projects such as the Via Carpathia Highway, the Baltic-Adriatic Corridor, the Rail 2 Sea Project, and the proposed High-Speed Czech-Polish Train project will help fulfill the organization's long existing European Transport Network agenda, known as TENS. So, they will actually work to realize many of the EU's unfulfilled cooperative aims.

In conclusion, Robert Schuman's concept of a Community of Nations is still a real possibility for Europe, both politically and economically. Alternative cooperative efforts and configurations among European states, far from diminishing the European Union, will provide a model for the EU to emulate, while allowing individual member states to work together in ways originally intended by Schuman and Europe's founding fathers.

Prof. David Reichardt

# TRUTH



Who has heard of the truth, who has pursued it, say  
who saw the truth and who chased it away  
This short word consist of "tru"  
Who stopped "t" and "h" for whom.

The round truth continues to move  
no one can overlook the square truth.  
The real truth is fat as home-made butter  
what has died out in this truth today? Who matters

The truth shrinks, slowly disappears  
The soul plunge down into fears.  
A real man, a real bread  
cast off with your right finger the gray dust of correct

The mirror is needed, the confessional grid  
Only here the truth feels perfectly creed.  
People have a conscience, often not known indeed  
the truth is reflected as always in times of need.

*Elzbieta Pawlak*



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

Copyright © Instytut Myśli Schumana

Redakcja wyraża zgodę na przedruki pod warunkiem podania źródła.

The editors agree to reprints provided the source is acknowledged.