

KOŚCIUSZKO CHAIR IN 2016-2017

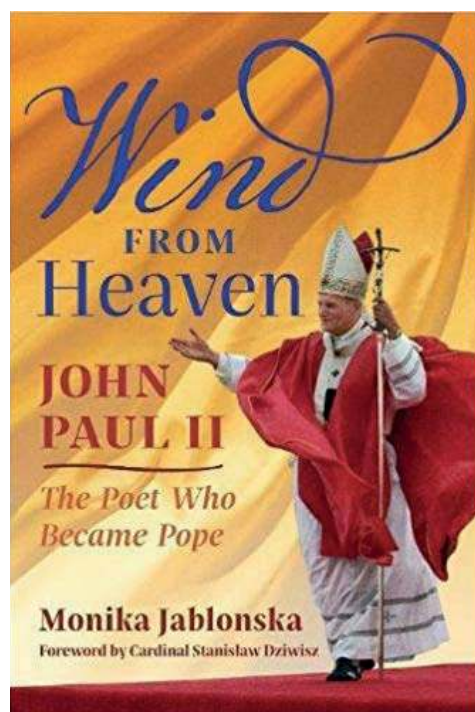
BY DR. MAREK CHODAKIEWICZ AND MARIA JUCZEWSKA

INTRODUCTION

The academic year 2017-2018 was truly busy for Kościuszko Chair of Polish Studies, the Center for Intermarium Studies, and the Institute of World Politics. Dr. Chodakiewicz has been invited to join boards of several prestigious institutions and periodicals in the U.S. and in Poland. He travelled extensively as a guest speaker at American and Polish-American events and was awarded a prestigious *Wybitny Polak w USA Award* [Outstanding Pole in the USA Award] in the field of science.

We successfully continued our expanded speaker series on Poland and the Intermarium Region. We organized the 10th Annual Zdzisław Zakrzewski Conference and the 8th Annual Lady Blanka Rosenstiel Kościuszko Chair Spring Symposium. We followed and commented on the political developments in Poland explaining the rationale behind the Polish foreign policy to the American reader. Dr. Chodakiewicz was interviewed as well by the Polish radio and TV programs in relation to American political life.

We are thankful to all our benefactors and friends for their generous support. We would like to thank Lady Blanka Rosenstiel and The American Institute of Polish Culture, The Tadeusz Ungar Foundation, the Hon. Aldona Woś, Mr. Adam Bąk, Mrs. Ava Polansky-Bąk, Mr. John Niemczyk, Dr. Magdalena Pogonowska, Mr. and Mrs. Władysław Poncet de la Riviere, The Polish American Veterans' Association (PAVA), Mr. Bogdan Chmielewski and his team of the Polish and Slavic Federal Credit Union, Mr. Jan Małek of PAFERE (The Polish-American Foundation for Economic Research and Education), and many others. We also appreciate the efforts of our staff and interns in running the daily business of the Chair. Your interest and your continuous involvement enables the Kościuszko Chair of Polish Studies to inform the American public about Poland and shed positive light on its history and culture. This kind of public diplomacy is more and more needed these days.



PUBLICATIONS AND MEDIA ACTIVISM

The Academic Year 2017/2018 saw the completion of the John Paul II project. Monika Jablonska's first ever book, *Wind from Heaven*, was published. It is about the poetry and literature of Karol Wojtyła, and she is touring the country for book readings.

Dr. Marek Jan Chodakiewicz, Kościuszko Chair Holder

Dr. Chodakiewicz regularly discussed political developments in Poland and Europe. Kościuszko Chair was one of the few institutions that tried to clarify the intricacies of the political and social situation in Poland, which tends to be widely misinterpreted in the American mainstream media. Since June 2017, Dr. Chodakiewicz has published more than one hundred articles in American and Polish electronic and press publications (SFP-PR, The Weichert Report, The Hill, American Thinker, Rzeczpospolita, Do Rzeczy, Tygodnik Solidarność, Najwyższy Czas!, Glaukopis). Major topics included Donald Trump's presidency, the political debate in Poland and Polish-Jewish relations, property restitution in Poland, developments in the Middle and Far East, Islamist threat to Europe, Russian information war and disinformation as well as topics related to the study of history for Glaukopis.

Dr. John Lenczowski, IWP Founder, President, and Professor

Dr. Lenczowski lectured on the Chinese threat to the US and Russian information warfare for a number of institutions, including the Heritage Foundation, Marine Corps, and Ocean Reef Club. He also spoke at a luncheon discussion in Greensboro sponsored by Frances

Bullock, Jackie Wieland of Stifel, and Ambassador Aldona Woś. Entitled on „Russian and Chinese Information Warfare,” Dr. Lenczowski's expertise provided a much needed geopolitical context to the predicament of the Intermarium in general and Poland in particular.

Mrs. Maria Juczevska, Kościuszko Chair Associate Director

Mrs. Juczevska has been contributing to the Selous Foundation for Public Policy Research, and has provided coverage of the November Independence March in Warsaw and clarification of the motivations behind the Polish bill outlawing use of the expression *Polish Death Camps*.

BOARD MEMBERSHIPS

In the Academic Year 2017/2018, Dr. Marek Chodakiewicz was invited to join four prestigious scholarly institutions. In Poland: World War II Museum, Gdańsk as a Board Member (2018-); *Polish-Jewish Studies*, The Institute of National Remembrance's publication, Warsaw as an Advisory Scholarly Board Member (2017-), and *Kwartalnik Bellona* [Bellona Quarterly] as an Advisory Scholarly Board Member (2017-2022). In 2018, Dr. Chodakiewicz was appointed as a member of the Academic Council of the Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation in Washington, DC.



Museum of the Second World War in Poland in Gdansk

Since 2016, he has been a member of the Advisory Scholarly Board of *Przegląd Historyczno-Wojskowy* [Military-Historical Review] (2016-2021).

INTERVIEWS

This year, Dr. Marek Chodakiewicz gave a number of televised interviews in relation to presidential elections in the US as well as President Donald Trump's visit to Warsaw. He was interviewed by TVP Info, TVP 1, TV Republika, Polskie Radio and a number of smaller outlets. His lectures and interviews are extremely popular on YouTube.

THE SEVENTH ANNUAL KOŚCIUSZKO CHAIR MILITARY LECTURE

On October 10, 2017, the Kościuszko Chair of Polish Studies hosted its annual Gen. Walter Jajko Kościuszko Chair Military Lecture. The lecture was entitled *Reconnaissance on the Eastern Front in WWI* and was presented by Captain Andrew Harris, the IWP valedictorian of 2017 and an active duty Military Intelligence Officer.

At a special ceremony preceding the lecture, representatives of the Polish and Slavic Federal Credit Union (PSFCU) presented a \$150,000 gift to the Kościuszko Chair of Polish Studies. IWP President and Founder Dr. John Lenczowski thanked the PSFCU for its generosity and explained how the funds would be used to further the important mission of the Kosciuszko Chair, Center for Intermarium Studies, and of IWP.

DR. RUSSELL KIRK COMMEMORATION PANEL

On Tuesday, March 27, 2018, IWP hosted a commemoration panel about Dr. Russell Kirk, an intellectual, a conservative pioneer, and a great champion of Poland. The panel included Dr. Marek Chodakiewicz, Dr. Lee Edwards, a distinguished fellow in conservative thought at The Heritage Foundation and a former IWP Professor, and Matthew J. O'Brien, the Director of Research at the Federation for American Immigration Reform and an IWP student. The panel discussed the life and work of Dr. Kirk and how his work continues to impact society today.



Mr. Annette and Dr. Russell Kirk

THE ZDZISŁAW R. ZAKRZEWSKI 10TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

On November 4, 2017, speaking shortly after the bicentennial of General Thaddeus Kościuszko's death, Dr. Chodakiewicz opened the 10th Annual Zdzisław Zakrzewski Conference. This year the topics focused on Russian foreign policy and Polish history. The second session examined Poland's history from the golden years of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth to the tragedies and travails of Poland during the Second World War. At the end of the conference, Dr. Tomasz Sommer premiered his groundbreaking documentary on the Anti-Polish Operation of the NKVD: *Shoot the Poles*.

The program of the conference entailed the following lectures:

Introduction – Bicentenary of Gen. Thaddeus Kościuszko's death

Dr. Marek Chodakiewicz briefly discussed the part our patron played in the US history.

Is Russia at War with the U.S?

Mr. David Satter, affiliated with the Hudson Institute and the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), discussed Russia's road to dictatorship and terror under Yeltsin and Putin and how it led to Russia's interference in U.S. internal affairs.



Dr. Marek Chodakiewicz

Russian active measures in cyberspace and their implications for the international community

Piotr Trąbiński, a law graduate from the University of Warsaw with extensive experience in international banking and a student of IWP, explained how technological advancements of the 21st century gave Russia a new perspective and capabilities to project its power within the sphere of foreign relations and cyberspace. His presentation reviewed the way in which active measures were deployed in the past and how they are applied in the digital context at present.

Polish Lithuanian Commonwealth - The United States before The United States?

Maria Juczewska analyzed in what way the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth resembled the United States in the pre-modern era. Similarities between the two political entities were presented, pointing to analogies between the two systems of government and the thoughts and the attitudes that produced them.

Forced migrations in Poland after 1944

Professor Jakub Isański, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan, spoke on the mass migrations which began in Polish lands in 1944 and lasted until the end of the 50s. Their effect was the displacement of more than a dozen million people into unfamiliar, alien lands. The lecture focused on excerpts from the migrants' diaries that were taken from a body of over one thousand works, digitized and subjected to qualitative analysis.

Shoot the Poles: US premiere of the documentary on the Anti-Polish Operation of NKVD

Dr. Tomasz Sommer is a writer, journalist, publisher, and Editor-in-Chief of the *Najwyższy CZAS!* weekly and one of the foremost Polish experts focusing on the Polish aspects of Stalinism, in particular the Polish Operation of NKVD. Drawing on hitherto unknown NKVD documents, Dr. Sommer pieced together the democide of nearly 200,000 Poles living within the Soviet Union in 1937 and 1938, which has remained a secret for decades - until recently. The screening of his film was made possible thanks to the generosity of the Bak Foundation.

THE EIGHTH ANNUAL LADY BLANKA ROSENSTIEL KOŚCIUSZKO CHAIR SPRING SYMPOSIUM

The Eighth Annual Lady Blanka Rosenstiel Kościuszko Chair Spring Symposium took place on April 7, 2018. Introduced by Dr. Marek Chodakiewicz, six lectures focused on the present situation in Central Europe followed by a more historical perspective on the region. Topics ranged from Russian public diplomacy in Belarus through Polish public diplomacy in the interwar period, new data on the Katyń Massacre of Polish POWs, and mass murder prevention in the Intermarium to March 1968 in Poland. Below, a short summary of the lectures is presented.

Russian Lobby in Belarus: Could Belarus be the Next after Ukraine?

Frnak Viačorka, a journalist with Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, gave a lecture on the Russian lobby in Belarus. After the occupation of Crimea, Russia began to expand its presence in Belarus. Hundreds of Russian-backed initiatives, formally cultural, educational or media, emerged. They are driving an increasing polarization between pro-Western and pro-Russian Belarusians which could eventually lead to an open conflict.

The Polish Pavilion at the 1939 New York World's Fair

Peter J. Obst provided a presentation on the contents, purpose and eventual fate of the Polish Pavilion at the World's Fair in New York City in 1940. Poland invested a large sum of money into participation in the New York World's Fair because they wanted to show a true picture of the country as a modern European state, striving for trade contacts. Most of the artwork, artifacts, documentation, etc. has been distributed throughout the Western world. Mr. Obst has been working on discovering them and bringing them back together.

Wild Bill Donovan, the OSS and the Nuremberg Tribunal

Independent scholar, Krystyna Piorkowska, lectured about William „Wild Bill” Donovan, the mastermind behind the OSS and modern American Espionage as well as the Nuremberg Tribunal. In 1948, the US Counter Intelligence Corps investigated the massacre of the Polish POWs that had been captured and held in Katyń. Hundreds of pages of records and coded messages from Katyń were discovered which the Russians had tried to keep covered up. The US CIC and other intelligence agencies continue to work on finding more evidence to unravel the course of events.

Application of Historic WWII and Cold War Resistance Experience to Present Day Significance

Dr. Otto Fiala, Resistance Operations Concept Lead (SOCEUR), talked about the concept of resistance and its historic aspects. He provided an overview of SOCEUR and its mission and the lessons learned through the experience of resistance as a way of warfare. For instance, the necessity of pre-conflict agreements and maintaining legitimacy are useful conclusions from the Polish resistance experience during and post WWII. They remain pertinent as evidenced by NATO's contingency plans regarding the Baltics vis-à-vis Russia.

Back to the Future: Genocide Prevention in the Intermarium

Matt O'Brien, Chairman of the Federation for American Immigration Reform, gave a lecture on genocide prevention in the Intermarium. Both Nazism and Communism used genocide to eliminate factual and potential opposition. Today the migrant and refugee problem is strongly contested by Russia, while the UN is working to devise prevention methods to make sure the situation does not escalate. New approaches to prevention are necessary to avoid a clash of Muslim Europe with the Orthodox Christian Europe.

The Soviets and March 1968: Anti-Semitism and Anti-Zionism

Dr. Marek Chodakiewicz provided his viewpoints on the events of March 1968 in Communist Poland. He discussed the difference between the anti-Semitism and anti-Zionism and pointed out that ultimately Moscow was sovereign in Warsaw and no policy line was implemented without the Kremlin's approval. The so called "anti-Zionist campaign" occurred within the context of Israel's drift towards the United States.

THE KOŚCIUSZKO CHAIR INTERMARIUM LECTURE SERIES

In this academic year, monthly lectures were given as a part of our Intermarium lecture series.

Propaganda, paranoia, and the public interest

Dr. Caitlin Schindler, Research Professor at IWP, spoke about propaganda which is once again a subject of US public interest and debate, arguably since the onset of the Cold War in the 1950s. America must develop a measured approach towards propaganda in order to avoid succumbing to continued foreign influence.

Russian Policy in its Neighborhood

Georgia's Ambassador Temuri Yakobashvili to the US and the Co-Founder and President of the New International Leadership Institute, provided insight into the Russian policy in its "neighborhood." The fact that Russia has never been a nation state has created a number of identity issues for the Russians. Meanwhile, Russia's foreign policy has been consistent for many decades; getting access to the warm seas, especially the Mediterranean, means that they must first occupy their neighboring countries which align the warm sea coasts.

Which Orthodox Church in Ukraine? Kirill and Filaret in the Donbas.

Geoffrey Seroka, a student at IWP, gave a lecture on Patriarch Kirill of the Russian Orthodox Church who has been openly criticizing the Ukrainian government and the Maidan movement. The ties between political authority and religious authority have been causing tension in Ukraine. With the frozen conflict continuing, larger churches like the Roman Catholic Church, start to be more vocal in their support for the Ukrainian Orthodox church, which adds to the overall political pressure in the region.

How Does the War with Iran Benefit Russia?

Brandon Weichert, a former Congressional staffer and the founder of The Weichert Report, goes into detail on how war with Iran benefits

Russia. He first remarked that Russia, with an economy tethered to the petro-industry, is less of a threat to the U.S at present because of the low global price of oil. Meanwhile, the Islamic Republic of Iran strives for nuclear weapons to solidify its growing regional hegemony in the Middle East. Should it obtain them, it would destabilize the already precarious regional order. That is why the Trump Administration is committed to preventing Iran from acquiring nuclear arms at all costs – risking even a potential war with the Islamic Republic. If conflict with Iran were to erupt, Iran's long-time strategic partner, the Russian Federation, would benefit disproportionately.

Novorossiya or Intermarium? The Fight for Donbass

Jarrod McDowell, IWP class of 2017, presented a short lecture on the fight for Donbass, the region in eastern Ukraine and southwestern Russia. He deciphered the definitions of Novorossiya and Intermarium as well as provided the history and components of both. The war in Donbass began in 2014 and is still ongoing.

Slovenian War of Independence: Another Perspective

Tibor Babic, an international political science graduate (Vienna, Austria and Washington, DC), discussed how Slovenia became an autonomous and sovereign state independent from Yugoslavia in 1991. He contrasted historical facts with emotional interpretations during the war and immediately after its end.

The Many Myths of Marxism

As chairman of the Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation, Dr. Lee Edwards has long studied communism and is considered one of the nation's leading authorities on the victims and crimes of Communism, past and present. Rarely in history has a political movement and its leaders promised more and produced less than Communism and its notorious dictators, Lenin, Stalin and Mao.

Russian Lobby in Belarus: Could Belarus be Next after Ukraine?

Franak Viačorka, a journalist with Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, once again presented a lecture on the Russian lobby in Belarus as he did during the Eighth Annual Lady Blanka Rosenstiel Kościuszko Chair Spring Symposium.

LECTURES OUTSIDE OF IWP

In the academic year 2017/2018, Dr. Marek Chodakiewicz was invited as a guest speaker to a number of prestigious events in the US and abroad. He lectured both on the topics related to Polish and Intermarium history and the contemporary geopolitical developments. Mrs. Maria Juczevska presented a paper at the Kościuszko Conference organized at the West Point Academy.

Intermarium as an element of historical policy, The Institute of National Remembrance, Warsaw, August 2017

Dr. Chodakiewicz discussed the geopolitical situation in the Intermarium with Berlin, Moscow, and Beijing vying for influence in this part of the world. He focused on energy independence and the best long-term political strategy for Poland.



Mrs. Maria Juczevska lecture

Worlds of Islam, Polonia Christiana, Bemowo District County Hall, August 2017

Dr. Chodakiewicz introduced the civilization of Islam, explicating its history, religious and legal traditions, and various competing factions within Islam.

Taste of Emigration, Polish American Congress Council of National Directors Banquet, Washington DC, September 2017

Dr. Chodakiewicz gave a keynote address on the importance of public diplomacy, lobbying, and involvement of Polish Americans in the political life of America.

Intermarium: US and Canada’s Role, 2nd Oskar Halecki Symposium, Saint Paul University, Ottawa, Canada, October 2017

Dr. Chodakiewicz focused on Canada and the US as heirs and guardians of Western Civilization and on the European continent, pointing to the future challenges crystallizing on the horizon.

Marxism’s Failure Tripped the USSR at the panel on The Failure of Marxism and the Collapse of the Soviet Union, Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation’s Centennial Commemoration, Library of Congress, Washington, DC, November 2017

The panel elaborated on how Marx’s ideas are reflected in the revolutionary practice of the Bolsheviks and the establishment of the Soviet Union; the failure of Marxism as economic theory and the collapse of the Soviet Union; Soviet totalitarianism’s war against the intermediary institutions and voluntary associations that compose civil society; and Soviet imperialism, the Captive Nations, and the Cold War.

March 1968: The Soviet Way, Smolensk Commemorative Committee, Doylestown, Pennsylvania, April 2018

Dr. Chodakiewicz explained the external and internal reasons of the anti-Jewish campaign organized in Poland by the Communist party in March 1968.

“What to do when the Russians come? Contingency Planning for the Intermarium,” briefing, US Army War College, Class of 2018, IWP, May 2018

Polish Pride: A Choice, not an Obligation, Polish and Slavic Credit Union, Brooklyn, NY, and Garfield, NJ, June 2018

Dr. Marek Chodakiewicz spoke about the necessity of involvement on the part of Polish Americans and the perspectives for the American Poles in American political life.

The War Effort of the Polish Emigration in America 1914-1920, West Point Academy, April 2018

Maria Juczevska participated in the Kościuszko Conference organized at the West Point Academy to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the end of WWI. She spoke about the war efforts of Poles in America which led to the creation of the General Haller’s Blue Army and the part they played in the regaining of Polish independence in the years 1918-1920.

GENERAL REMARKS

The Kościuszko Chair of Polish Studies has enjoyed a steady stream of visitors from Poland and Intermarium. We have also responded to numerous questions related to our field of expertise from scholars, journalists, and others interested in the region.

PUBLICATIONS 2017/2018

We published over 100 articles during the academic year, including “Ploty o systemie,” [Gossip about the system] Tygodnik Solidarność, 22 June 2018; “Komunistyczna ofensywa propagandowa,” [A Communist propaganda offensive] Najwyższy Czas!, 30 April – 13 May 2018, XLIV-XLV; “Papież i prezydent wypełniają Boski Plan” [The Pope and the President Fulfill a Divine Plan] Tygodnik Solidarność, 9 March 2018; and “Ofiary komuny,” [Victims of Communism] Tygodnik Solidarność, 24 November 2017.

For a full list of publications, please contact IWP through their website.

For more information about the Institute of World Politics, the Kościuszko Chair of Polish Studies, publications and opportunities to donate, please visit their website at www.iwp.edu



Mrs. Maria Juczevska works as an Associate Director for the Kościuszko Chair of Polish Studies at the Institute of World Politics in Washington DC. She is a communication specialist with international experience who has earned her degrees in linguistics, translation, and communication in Europe. Her main research interests are topics related to Central and Eastern European affairs. Her natural curiosity combined with enthusiasm for history led to her current studies in international relations with focus on propaganda and disinformation at the IWP. She also writes journalistic reports for American NGOs’ portals.