

Andrzej Siciński's Sociology

The conference entitled “Andrzej Siciński's Sociology,” organised by the Institute of Philosophy and Sociology of the Polish Academy of Sciences was held in Radziejowice, near Warsaw, on 22nd and 23rd October, 2007. The conference was co-organised by the Culture Foundation and the Warsaw Branch of the Polish Sociological Association, with financial assistance of the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage of Government of the Polish Republic. It was the conference organisers' ambition to make not only retrospection but also analysis of how achievements of a sociologist, who died a year ago, are progressing nowadays. Andrzej Siciński, was very creative sociologist. He organized Polish school of life style research. For many years he directed the Life Style Research Unit at the Institute of Philosophy and Sociology of the Polish Academy of Sciences. As Stanisław Ossowski's disciple, he took up the issue of human values; he investigated the future, he was a sociologist of culture and a researcher of life styles, and he dedicated the last decade of his life to the study of civil society.

So, the program of the conference featured three basic groups of papers, reflecting Andrzej Siciński's range of interests, 1) research on culture and life styles, 2) research on the future and 3) research on civil society. A memory session was organized with Andrzej Siciński's co-workers, disciples, friends and family sharing their reminiscences and impressions of him.

There were two aims of the conference. First, to integrate around Andrzej Siciński's sociology both scholars who had cooperated with him and young scholars currently drawing their knowledge from those past experiences; second, to prepare for publication a volume compiling the effects of what was done and said at the conference. These aims have been fully achieved.

The conference was attended by more than thirty scholars and research workers from many institutions.

The participants prepared twenty-one papers presented in three sessions (a session dedicated to research of culture and life styles, a session dealing with study of the future and one on civil society) and session of memories of Andrzej Siciński.

Noteworthy, thanks to the organizers' effort, an important objective was achieved: a few generation of sociologists-researchers were brought together. United around ideas initiated and propagated by Andrzej Siciński, they presented results of their

work during the two-day proceedings, which proved how important and ever topical Andrzej Siciński's scientific achievements are.

Presentations:

- Antoni Sułek, (Institute of Sociology, University of Warsaw) “Civic Experience and Competence of the Poles”;
- Ryszard Skrzypiec, (Higher Banking School in Chorzów); Piotr Frączak, (Associations), “Why listening to Theoreticians is Worth While”—Practicians’ Reflections”;
- Sławomir Wysocki, (WYG International), “Styles of Functioning of Polish Administration—Sociological Remarks on the Impact of Social Change on the Efficiency of Public Institutions”;
- Rafał Pankowski, (Collegium Civitas), “In the Face of Racism and Xenophobia—Andrzej Siciński as a Member of the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI)”;
- Wojciech Misztal, (Institute of Sociology, Maria Curie-Skłodowska University, Lublin), “Civic Dialogue in Contemporary Poland”;
- Aldona Jawłowska, (Institute of Applied Social Sciences, University of Warsaw), “Prognostication as Creation of New Dimensions of the Social World”;
- Jacek Kurczewski, (Institute of Applied Social Sciences, University of Warsaw), “The Year 2000 as Pictured in 1968, and what Happened Next”;
- Karina Koziej, SNS-IFIS PAN (Graduate School for Social Research, Institute of Philosophy and Sociology, Polish Academy of Sciences), “Contemporary Nomads in a World of Late Modernity”;
- Agata Gruszecka, (Graduate School for Social Research, Institute of Philosophy and Sociology, Polish Academy of Sciences), “Images of the Future in the Minds of the Contemporary Young Generation of Poles”;
- Barbara Fatyga, (Institute of Applied Social Sciences, University of Warsaw), “Theory on the Move: *Homo Eligens—Homo Egens*”;
- Elżbieta Tarkowska, (Institute of Philosophy and Sociology, Polish Academy of Sciences), “Interdisciplinary Perspective in Lifestyles Research”;
- Irena Wolska-Zogata, (Institute of Sociology, Wrocław University), “Communication as Part of a Lifestyle”;
- Ewa Szczecińska-Musiela, “Style of Life as the Effect of choice. Usability of the *Homo Eligens* Concept in Research on the Interest and Fascination by Cultural Dissimilarity”;
- Piotr Łukasiewicz, (MCCANN), “New Poles—Participating Presence”;
- Bogna Dowgiałło, (Institute of Philosophy, Sociology and Journalism, Gdańsk University), “Western Clothes from PEWEX Shops Used as a Lifestyle Element in a Situation of Restricted Choices”;
- Maria Wierzbicka, (Institute of Applied Social Sciences, University of Warsaw), “Sub-cultural Elites—Iconographic Analysis of Hairstylists’ Performance”;
- Anna Wiśniewska, (Institute of Applied Social Sciences, University of Warsaw), “Secular Cult of John Paul II in Poland”;

Iwona Oliwińska, (Institute of Applied Social Sciences, University of Warsaw), “Typology of Lifestyles of Szmulki Citizens.”

Memories of Andrzej Siciński

Zbigniew Benedyktowicz, (Polish Academy of Sciences), “Andrzej Siciński’s Concept of Openness”;

Ryszard Żółtaniecki, (Culture Foundation), “Culture World—Andrzej Siciński’s Fascinations”;

Piotr Gliński, (Institute of Philosophy and Sociology, Polish Academy of Sciences), “Andrzej Siciński’s Conversatoria—between Civic Commitment and Activating Studies”.

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