

## FROM THE EDITORS

The *Kwartalnik Historyczny* (Historical Quarterly) is the oldest Polish historical periodical. The first issue came out in 1887, published by the Polish Historical Society (PTH). Ever since it has been published without a break, except for a short period during the Second World War. During these many decades the *Kwartalnik Historyczny* has been an important forum for the exchange of ideas between Polish historians and one of the most consistently desired places for the publication of their research. The great majority of texts published in the *Kwartalnik Historyczny* have concerned the history of Poland — from the earliest times until the most recent. However, an important place has always been occupied by articles and reviews on the history of other parts of Europe and the World. Such articles have been published more frequently in recent years.

The language of publication in the *Kwartalnik Historyczny* is Polish. This is understandable given that the journal is the forum for intellectual exchange especially between Polish historians and the increasing number of foreign historians whose research chiefly concerns Poland, the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth and its successor nations. Nevertheless history is becoming an ever more international and transnational discipline. Research on Polish history is increasingly important not only for the wider history of Europe and the World, but also for the history of neighbouring and other countries. It is beginning to interest those historians who are not specialists on Polish history, but who in their own studies do draw on the methods and results of research into the Polish past. Responding to this development, the editors of the *Kwartalnik Historyczny* have decided to publish the journal partly in English.

This second Special Issue of the *Kwartalnik Historyczny* mostly contains texts which were previously published in Polish issues,<sup>1</sup> but also

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<sup>1</sup> The article by Wojciech Kreigseisen was first published in *KH*, 120, 2013, 4, the

one which was written especially for the English edition.<sup>2</sup> Some concern the history of Poland, which remains — despite the growing number of foreign scholars working on Polish history — patchily covered in Anglo-phone historiography. Several texts concern wider European history: it is hoped that their publication in English will enable them to make their deserved historiographical impact. We believe that the texts assembled here represent some of the best work currently being done, both by Polish historians and by historians working on Poland, and we are pleased to offer it to the worldwide community of scholars.

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articles by Maciej Janowski and Jerzy Eisler in *KH*, 122, 2015, 4, the review article by Grzegorz Pac in *KH*, 122, 2015, 3, the review article by Marek Kornat in *KH*, 124, 2017, 1. The book review by Jacek Banaszekiewicz was first published in *KH*, 122, 2015, 4, and the book reviews by Natalia Królikowska-Jedlińska, Maciej Górny and Tomasz Szarota — all in *KH*, 124, 2017, 4.

<sup>2</sup> The review article by Jerzy Eisler.