

KOŚCIUSZKO CHAIR IN 2018-2019

BY DR. MAREK CHODAKIEWICZ AND MARIA JUCZEWSKA

INTRODUCTION

In the academic year 2018-2019 we celebrated the most meaningful anniversary for Poland – the centennial of Poland’s regaining independence. The Kościuszko Chair of Polish Studies contributed to the celebrations through scholarship, preparing lectures on topics related to Polish independence, and press publications of Dr. Marek Chodakiewicz. In addition to his usual academic activities, Professor Chodakiewicz continued his service on advisory boards of several prestigious institutions and periodicals in the U.S. and in Poland. He was also invited as a guest speaker to numerous American and Polish-American events.

Our expanded speaker series on Poland and the Intermarium Region at The Institute of World Politics (IWP) was continued. We organized the 11th Annual Zdzisław Zakrzewski Kościuszko Chair Conference and the 9th Annual Lady Blanka Rosenstiel Kościuszko Chair Spring Symposium. We followed and commented on the Polish-American relations and developments in the European politics. Dr. Chodakiewicz was interviewed as well by the Polish radio and TV programs in relation to American political life and the visit of the President of Poland, Mr. Andrzej Duda, to Washington, D.C., and his meeting with the President Donald Trump in the White House.

This academic year, Kościuszko Chair met the financial goals required to match the funds of our endowment. We are thankful to all our benefactors and friends for their generous support. We would like to thank in particular Lady Blanka Rosenstiel and The American Institute of Polish Culture for their great generosity and unwavering support. We are also grateful to 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 continue to raise funds for our on-going projects as reported. We would also like to thank our staff and interns for their help in running the daily activities of the Chair. Their involvement and support enable the Kościuszko Chair of Polish Studies to inform the American public about Poland and shed positive light on its history and culture.

PUBLICATIONS AND MEDIA ACTIVISM

Dr. Marek Jan Chodakiewicz, Kościuszko Chair Holder

Dr Chodakiewicz regularly discussed political and social developments in Poland and America. Since June 2018, Dr. Chodakiewicz has published more than ninety articles in American and Polish electronic and press publications (The Wentworth Report, Crisis Magazine, American Thinker, Do Rzeczy, Tygodnik Solidarność, Najwyższy Czas!, Niedziela: Tygodnik Katolicki, Glaukopis). Major topics include Donald Trump’s policies, geopolitical developments in the context of China and the Middle East, centennial of Poland’s Independence and Polish nationalism, Islamist threat to Europe and the United States, and the offensive of the LGBT movement, as well as topics related to the study of history for Glaukopis.

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

On May 21, 2019, Dr. John Lenczowski participated in a panel at the Polish Embassy to discuss the recently published *A Covert Action: Reagan, the CIA, and the Cold War Struggle in Poland* by author, Seth G. Jones. Dr. Lenczowski was joined by Ambassador Piotr Wilczek, who chaired the panel, as well as Dr. Jones with Harold Brown, Chair at CSIS, and Irena Lasota, President and Co-Director of the Institute for Democracy in Eastern Europe.

Dr. Lenczowski has participated in similar panels discussing the politics of Poland during the Cold War. In April, he took part in a panel entitled *Poland, the U.S., & NATO: Confronting the Russian Threat* as a part of the Kuklinski Museum Discussion Series, *30 Years After the Fall of Communism in Europe*. During the panel, Dr. Lenczowski again emphasized the significance of the U.S.’s cooperation with Poland and Poland’s part in the fall of Russian communism.

This academic year, Dr. Lenczowski frequently commented on threats from Russia, China, and Islamist ideology on the radio and TV (inter-



Ambassador Piotr Wilczek (left) and Pres. John Lenczowski speaking at the Embassy

views with Dr. Sebastian Gorka on the nationally syndicated radio show AMERICA First, Tabitha Smiles on America Daily, Frank Gaffney on Secure Freedom Radio, and Simone Gao on Zooming In). He also participated in a forum on *Deteriorating Human Rights and Tuidang Movement in China* in advance of Human Rights Day on December 10, 2018.

Dr. Lenczowski also participated in the Legatus Dinner at which he spoke on the topic *Can Western Civilization Survive the Threats from Within and Without?*, as well serving as a dinner speaker at a conference held in Washington D.C., *Ronald Reagan and Pope John Paul II: The Partnership that Changed the World*. He also chaired one panel and participated in another as a panelist.

AWARDS

On November 6, 2018, Dr. Chodakiewicz received The Sentinel of National Remembrance Award of *Do Rzeczy Magazine* for 2018. The award is granted to individuals directly involved in the discovery, preservation, and promotion of the memory of Poland's past. This year, to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the rebirth of Poland in 1918, the award committee decided to honor persons who have been the most committed to sustaining Polish historical and cultural continuity, which allows Poland to foster its sense of national pride. Dr. Chodakiewicz was awarded in the Creative Minds category for his scholarly and journalistic activity.



The Sentinel of National Remembrance Award



Dr. Marek Chodakiewicz

At the splendid Sentinel of National Remembrance Gala Evening held at the Royal Castle in Warsaw, Dr. Chodakiewicz was introduced with the following words: “He has been working for the Polish cause outside of Poland for many years – he has persuaded the undecided, he has taught the unknowing, he has gained new allies for Poland. He has consistently used the force of arguments rather than the argument of force. A renowned expert in the field of Polish-Jewish relations, the history of communism, the history of conservative thought, and the latest history of Poland, Professor Marek Chodakiewicz is an ardent commentator of the present who, drawing from the past, does not hesitate to point to the Poles’ possible paths into the future.”

Although he was not able to receive the award in person, a video of his acceptance remarks was shown at the gala.

INTERVIEWS

This year, Dr. Chodakiewicz gave a number of televised interviews in relation to the U.S. politics, including one about President Andrzej Duda’s visit to Washington, D.C.. He was interviewed by TVP Info, TV Republika, Polskie Radio and a number of smaller outlets, and his lectures and interviews are widely popular on YouTube.

THE EIGHTH ANNUAL KOŚCIUSZKO CHAIR MILITARY LECTURE

On September 12, 2018, the Kościuszko Chair of Polish Studies hosted its annual Gen. Walter Jajko Kościuszko Chair Military Lecture. The lecture was entitled *Russian Military History* and was presented by Mr. Geoffrey Seroka, a graduate student at IWP. He explored the military history of Russia, going back to pre-imperial times, in order to analyze the Russian Federation’s recent actions toward the U.S., NATO, and Europe. Russia has historically viewed war in a different light than the West, and recognizing this historical context is vital to determining how to respond to recent belligerent actions. The lecture was based on Mr. Seroka’s graduate research in Russian/Eurasian affairs.

WEST POINT VISITS

In April 2019, IWP hosted two groups of cadets from the United States Military Academy at West Point. Led by Col. Steve Olejasz



West Point Cadets

and Professor Larry Mansour, the first group was the West Point Kościuszko Squadron's annual visit on April 5th. On April 9th a second group of three West Point cadets visited led by Dr. David Gioe, Assistant Professor at West Point and History Fellow at the Army Cyber Institute. Dr. Marek Chodakiewicz gave a lecture about U.S./NATO joint activities with Polish Armed Forces at both visits. The West Point Cadets' Visits are co-sponsored by the Kościuszko Chair yearly.

THE ZDZISLAW R. ZAKRZEWSKI 11TH ANNUAL KOSCIUSZKO CHAIR CONFERENCE

On November 3, 2018, Dr. Chodakiewicz opened the 11th Annual Zdzisław Zakrzewski Kościuszko Chair Conference. This year the topics revolved around Polish independence as well as real and potential threats to it. Mrs. Maria Juczevska discussed General Haller's Army's diplomatic and military contribution to the rebirth of Poland, and Mr. Matthew J. O'Brien analyzed the dangers European countries are facing due to their immigration policies.

The second part of the conference last fall entailed a unique film screening. Mr. Robert Orlando premiered his documentary *The Divine Plan* about the extraordinary partnership between the President Ronald Reagan, and Pope John Paul II in fighting the Soviet Union. Drawing on the discussions with scholars, politicians, historians, and journalists, Mr. Orlando delved into the religious and political history of the partnership between the Pope and the American President that overthrew communism.

Introduction

Dr. Chodakiewicz introduced the main themes of the conference.

Saved from Overseas: Contribution of the General Haller's Army to the Independence of Poland

Mrs. Maria Juczevska, an Associate Director of the Kościuszko Chair of Polish Studies, gave a lecture commemorating the 100th Anniversary of Poland's regaining independence. One of the factors that greatly contributed to the rebirth of Poland was the support of General Haller's Army created on American soil. She discussed the Army's diplomatic and military contribution to Polish independence.

Radical Islam and Resettlement Jihad: Are Poland and Its Neighbors the Next Potential Victims?

Mr. Matthew J. O'Brien, the Director of Research at the Federation for American Immigration Reform, explained how the nations of Europe are rapidly becoming the victims of their unnecessarily generous immigration. He further analyzed their – possibly too broad – concepts of religious freedom and unwillingness to defend Judeo-Christian culture from Islamic encroachment. In the conclusion he posited a question whether Poland and its neighbors would be the next casualties of this disturbing trend.

The Divine Plan – a feature film presentation

Mr. Robert Orlando, author and filmmaker, takes viewers behind the scenes of the making, reviving and revising the history of the Cold War. Told in part as a graphic thriller, this highly stylized film pushes

beyond the bounds of conventional documentary and vividly shows the partnership that changed the world between Ronald Reagan, and John Paul II.

THE NINTH ANNUAL LADY BLANKA ROSENSTIEL KOSCIUSZKO CHAIR SPRING SYMPOSIUM

The Ninth Annual Lady Blanka Rosenstiel Kościuszko Chair Spring Symposium took place on April 6, 2019. Introduced by Dr. Chodakiewicz, five lectures focused on the present situation in Central Europe followed by a more historical perspective on the region. Topics ranged from the Polish military under Tsarist Russia, Boris Smyslovski and his role in the Russian counterinsurgency and counterintelligence, the role of women in the Polish National Movement, the Polish involvement in the NKVD, and the back story of the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty implementation. Below, a short summary of the lectures is presented.

For the Entente's Cause in Tsarist Uniforms: Polish Military Formations in Tsarist Russia During WWI (1914-1918)

Dr. Wojciech Jerzy Muszyński, a scholar for the Institute of National Remembrance in Warsaw and the Editor-in-chief of the semi-annual *Glaukopis*, discussed how Tsarist Russia utilized the Polish military during WWI. The Polish military were not allowed to use their own national symbols to represent their nation but wished to fight for their independence even though they were under Russian control. He further discussed how the Polish military under Russian control fought against the Polish under German control, and were involved in the Bolshevik revolution and other internal struggles that the Russians had during WWI.

Boris Smyslovski: WWII, White Russian, Counterinsurgency and Counterintelligence

Dr. Sebastian Bojemski, an independent scholar, discussed the life of Boris Smyslovski and his role during WWI and WWII. He fought for the Russian army in WWI, fought against the Bolsheviks, moved to Poland, but then was later recruited to be an army officer for the German military. He fought for the Germans in WWII against the Soviet Union and had his army elevated to the 1st Russian National Army. His whittled-down army settled in Liechtenstein, with some returning to the Soviet Union and never heard from again, while others exiled to Argentina. Smyslovski was able to offer his expertise and knowledge of the Soviet Union to the U.S.

Between Politics and Social Work: A Study of Women's Activities within the Ranks of the Polish National Movement (1919-1939)

Dr. Jolanta Mysiakowska-Muszyńska, a scholar for the Institute of National Remembrance in Warsaw and a Deputy Editor-in-chief of the semi-annual *Glaukopis*, wrote a lecture that was presented by Mrs. Juczevska. She discussed the role of women in the Polish National Movement during the Interwar Period and their contribution to Polish women's political enfranchisement. The Polish National Movement benefitted greatly from the support of women at the time, proposing a model of women's liberation alternative to the one posited by the supporters of socialism.

The Polish Operation of the NKVD: The Victim Tally

Dr. Tomasz Sommer, a Polish writer, journalist and publisher, and Editor-in-chief of the weekly magazine *Najwyższy CZAS!*, discussed the numerical data provided by his research on the Polish Operation of the NKVD – an operation which was a systematic, large-scale extermination of the Poles in the U.S.S.R. between 1937-1938.

The INF Treaty: Adventures in a Late Soviet-Era Town in the Urals

Mr. Charles Winkler, a retired Department of Defense civilian analyst with more than 30 years of experience, discussed his experiences related to the implementation of the INF Treaty, including the reality of the late Soviet era in a Russian province as seen through the eyes of an American.

THE KOSCIUSZKO CHAIR INTERMARIUM LECTURE SERIES

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

Monte Rosa: Memoir of an Accidental Spy (book presentation)

Mr. Jaroslaw Martyniuk, a former energy economist with the IEA/OECD and a retired sociologist, presented a sweeping panorama of his life from the outbreak of WWII to the fall of the Soviet Union in 1991. The narrative begins in Ukraine and ends in Paris where he coordinated the work of fifty undercover interviewers engaged in unorthodox research with Soviet visitors in Western Europe, a chapter of Cold War history never before revealed in such remarkable detail. The story includes the author's narrow escape from Communism, an account of his extended family's ordeal in the Soviet Gulag, life in post-war Bavaria, thirty years in Chicago and culminates with twelve years in France where he worked for the International Energy Agency and Radio Liberty.

E Pluribus Unum in Ukraine? Reconciling Conflicting National Identity in the Borderland

Mr. James A. Rice, the Legislative Director for U.S. Senator Chuck Grassley of Iowa, discussed the historical roots of the east-west divide in Ukraine currently being exploited by Putin's Russia. It will describe the conflicting worldviews and mentalities of eastern and western Ukrainians and suggest how they can be reconciled going forward.

Russian Military History

Mr. Geoffrey Seroka, a graduate student at IWP, once again presented his graduate research on Russian/Eurassian affairs in which he explores the military history of Russia and how Russia has historically viewed war in a different light than the West. Recognizing this historical context is vital to determining how to respond to recent belligerent actions.

The League of Militant Godless

Ms. Helen Lamm, a graduate student in Statecraft and International Affairs specializing in American Foreign Policy at IWP has an interest in the politics of post-communism with a focus on the interplay of religion and politics. She discussed the Soviet antireligious activism

and propaganda, taking a look at the "volunteer" activism and analyzing the artistic renderings of religion in *Bezbozhnik* – the propaganda apparatus of the League of the Militant Godless.

Suki w Zakone: A Criminal Key to Putin's Russia

Dr. Chodakiewicz discussed how the criminal underworld was co-opted by the Bolshevik revolution, how it was tamed and broken by the Soviet state, how it coexisted with it and infiltrated it; how it became transformed in the post-Soviet realm, and how it became second nature within Putin's system in Russia. Dr. Chodakiewicz stressed the historical continuities of Russia's criminal underworld that have now infiltrated into the mainstream of its national life.

The lecture was preceded by a performance of Russian music on the prima/malaya domra (long-necked Russian folk string instrument) by Mr. Charles Winkler. He was a Department of Defense analyst for more than 30 years specializing in Soviet, Russian, East European, and Middle Eastern matters, and threat analysis. Now in retirement, he applies his national-security analyst's perspective and research skills to matters of domestic and foreign affairs.

The Future of the European Union

Ambassador László Szabó, physician, businessman, politician and diplomat, is the current Hungarian Ambassador. He was a transplant surgeon, then shifted to the pharmaceutical industry and held several local and international leadership positions for more than 20 years. The Government of Hungary reached out to him to build the trade pillar of the Ministry until his appointment as Ambassador to the U.S. in July 2017. His presentation was about the political and cultural vision of Central and Eastern Europe and its implications to the region's relations with the U.S. He discussed the migration crisis, Brexit, and the rise of new political ideas that surround the debate on the future of European integration.

Belarus Under Putin's Radar

Mr. Franak Viačorka, the Vice President of the Digital Communication Network, discussed how Russian Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev made it clear to Belarussian President Alexander Lukashenka that Minsk must take steps towards deeper integration between the two countries. Polls have shown that, following the rise of Russian media presence in Belarus, pro-Russian sentiment increased within the society. He explored the questions of what is the situation in Belarus and what role does Belarussian civil society, the EU, and the U.S. play in the new paradigm.

The Challenge of Counterintelligence Cultures: The Counterintelligence State from Tsarist Russia and the USSR, to Putin's Russia, the PRC, Cuba & Venezuela, and Resurgent Militant Islam

Dr. Jack Dziak, a co-founder and President of Dziak Group, Inc. and an Adjunct Professor at IWP, discussed the concept of the counter-intelligence state. From counterintelligence *cum* prevocational style of the Tsarist Okhrana's near classic penetration operations against its indigenous Marxist revolutionary terrorists, through the long, ugly Soviet secret police period, and to the counterintelligence continuities and refinements of former KGB Lt. Col. and now Russian President, Vladimir Putin. He also briefly discussed the PRC counterintelligence

state, whose pedigree long antedates that of Russia, the highlight client counterintelligence state systems such as Cuba and Venezuela, and the unsurprising similarities between resurgent militant Islam and the Soviet/Russian counterintelligence state paradigm.

A Journey to the Gulag: Experiencing History Through Virtual Reality

Mr. Štěpán Černoušek, a Fulbright scholar and the head of the Virtual Museum Gulag Online and the Chairman of the Gulag.cz Association, spoke about the project documenting the Gulag camps and creating VR (virtual reality) and AR (augmented reality) experiences for the unique online Gulag museum. Around 20 million people went through the horrors of Soviet labor camps. At least 1.6 million of them died. Among the victims of Soviet repression were also people from European countries and the U.S. Currently, with the exception of the former Perm-36 project, there are no museums in Russia of former Gulag camps from Stalin's era; however, hundreds of abandoned camps are still hidden away in the Siberian taiga. A small group of enthusiasts visit and document these sites to virtually preserve them to make them accessible to the public through virtual and augmented reality. The lecture began with a documentary from Mr. Černoušek's expeditions, *A Journey to the Gulag*, after which the presentation of the virtual museum followed.

LECTURES OUTSIDE OF IWP

In the academic year 2018/2019, Dr. Marek Chodakiewicz was invited as a guest speaker to a number of prestigious events in Poland, Romania and the U.S. He lectured both on the topics related to Polish and Intermarium history and the contemporary geopolitical developments. Mrs. Juczevska presented a paper at *For Your Freedom and Ours: Symposium on Polonia and the Struggle for Polish Independence* organized by Daemen College in Buffalo.

Dr. Marek Chodakiewicz (selected lectures):

- **Poland and the Geopolitical Battles in Europe and the World**, Polonia Christiana, Warsaw, July 2018;
- **Who shall organize the Intermarium?**, Podlaski Instytut Rzeczypospolitej Suwerennej [The Podlaskan Institute of the Sovereign Commonwealth], Białystok, July 2018;

- **Geopolitics: U.S., UK, and Poland**, POSK, London, July 2018;
- **Geopolitics and NATO in the Intermarium**, Tusnad, Transylvania, Romania, July 2018;
- **Polish-Jewish Relations in History: Toward Some Definitions**, Town Public Library, Węgrów, August 2018;
- **What's Going on in the World?**, Fundacja Niepodległości [Independence Foundation], PASTA Building, Warsaw, August 2018; and
- **The Polish War Time Experience** at the World War II Museum in Gdańsk, World War II Museum, Gdańsk, August 2018.

Mrs. Maria Juczevska

- **The War Effort of the Polish Emigration in America 1914-1920**, Daemen College in Buffalo, September 2018. Mrs. Juczevska spoke about the creation of General Haller's Blue Army and its contribution to Poland's regaining independence in 1918 and keeping it throughout the border wars in 1919-1920.

GENERAL REMARKS

In addition to the regular scholarly activity, The Kościuszko Chair of Polish Studies has enjoyed continuous interest of visitors from the Intermarium Region as well as scholars, journalists, and others interested in the problems of the region.

PUBLICATIONS 2018/2019

We published dozens of articles during the academic year, including *Missteps in Warsaw*, The Wentworth Report, 7 March 2019; *With Friends Like These Poland Needs No Enemies*, Crisis Magazine, 20 February 2019; *One Belt, One Road*, Tygodnik Solidarność, 8 February 2019; *No Reciprocity: On the Papal Visit to the UAE*, Crisis, 28 January 2019; *Blessed Fr. Jerzy Popiełuszko: Martyred Freedom Fighter*, Crisis, 27 December 2018; and *Poland Celebrated Nationalism as Macron Derided It*, American Thinker, 15 November 2018.

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 Kosciuszko 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.