

Autorzy artykułów

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Keywords: Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński; Primate of Poland; Episcopate of Poland; Main Committee/Main Board of the Episcopate of Poland; The Episcopal Conference of Poland; Catholic Church in the Polish People's Republic (PRL)

The aim of the article is to present the leader of the Primate of Poland, Stefan Wyszyński, at the forum of the Main Committee/Main Board of the Episcopate of Poland (1949–1953, 1956–1981). The main research problem is the description of the participation in the work of the Main Committee/Main Board of the Episcopate of Poland, the impact on this body and the assessment of the effects of this activity. The following hypotheses can be formulated: 1) in the analyzed period, Stefan Wyszyński had a key influence on the activities of the Main Committee/Main Board of the Episcopate of Poland; 2) actions taken by Stefan Wyszyński in the forum of the Polish Episcopate were of decisive importance for the relations between the state and the Church; 3) Stefan Wyszyński undertook multi-faceted, multi-directional and multi-faceted activities. Research based on the historical (genetic) method and content analysis allow for the presentation of the following factual data.

Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński played a crucial role in the post-war history of the Catholic Church in Poland. After being appointed the Primate, in periods of 1949-1953 and 1956-1981, he was a chairman of the Episcopal Conference of Poland. Since 1969, he had also chaired the Committee of the Main Board of the Episcopate of Poland, a body being a presidium of the Episcopate of Poland. When it was chaired by Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński, main tasks of the Main Committee/Main Board of the Episcopate of Poland included: 1) development of projects, schemas and guidelines to pastoral letters and other public addresses of the Catholic Church; 2) an analysis of the current situation of the Catholic Church; 3) coordination of works of other committees and sub-committee of the Episcopate.

Taking into account basic directions of work of the Polish bishops, resulting from the social and political situation in those times, issues being strictly under control of the chairman of the Main Committee/Main Board of the Episcopate of Poland himself can be specified. Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński was personally responsible for: 1) specifying main directions and

contents for pastoral teaching; 2) shaping relationships with authorities of the Polish People's Republic (PRL); 3) managing the personnel policy of the Episcopate in its part concerning nomination of bishops; 4) inspiring changes in the organisational structure, objectives, tasks and the legal status of the Episcopal Conference of Poland.

These problems are discussed in more detail further in this paper, although it should be emphasised that they do not exhaust an extensive range of issues for which the chairman of the Main Committee/Main Board of the Episcopate of Poland was responsible. Amongst the others, the following issues were not analysed: 5) coordination of contacts with the Holy See and foreign episcopal conferences, and 6) a strict control over a process of reception and implementation of resolutions of the Second Vatican Council.

Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński's contribution to the works of the Main Committee/Main Board of the Episcopate of Poland still remains an issue requiring a comprehensive, complete and exhaustive study. Indeed, it is not possible to understand processes taking place in the Catholic Church in Poland and in its relations with the Communist state without this fundamental knowledge.

Karolina Ciechorska -Kulesza

Keywords: region, Kosznajderia, inhabitants of Kosznajderia, Pomerania, identity, heritage

The aim of this article is to answer article is an attempt to answer the question about the place of Kosznajderia and its former inhabitants in the contemporary heritage and identity of the part of Pomerania in which the German population of the Roman Catholic denomination lived.

The research problem is the Kosznajder identity and heritage in the area of the historical Kosznajderia. It is related to the slogan "Kosznajderia - the phenomenon of identity", which has been strongly present in the regional discourse for several years. The author answers the question of what this phenomenon is all about today and how it is present in the subregion and local communities. She hypothesizes that Kosznajderia and its former inhabitants are an important component of contemporary (sub)regional/local identity *in statu nascendi*. The heritage of Kosznajderia is a significant element of the identity discourse, in which, first of all, the common features of former residents and the present ones, and the importance of material heritage are emphasized.

The research has shown that the agricultural character of these lands and Catholicism are a kind of link between the past and the present. The complex history of this area and its population, including, above all, the difficult Polish-German relations and the breaking of historical, social and cultural continuity after World War II has made contemporary identity processes characterized by specific ambivalences.

The author used the methods of field study: interviews (individual and group ones), observations and desk research.

Maciej Drzonek

Keywords: local politics, local leadership, mayor of the town, “everlasting mayor” Wojciech Szczurek, Gdynia

The president of Gdynia, Wojciech Szczurek won all direct elections in the 1st round, with a very large advantage over his rivals. His election committee – Samorządność (Self-governance) - has always won an absolute majority in the city council. W. Szczurek belongs to the category of "everlasting mayors".

The aim of these considerations is to find an answer to the key question concerning the specificity of W. Szczurek's local leadership. The main hypothesis was adopted that the peculiarity of the leadership of the Gdynia's president results both from the personal attributes of W. Szczurek and the socio-cultural specificity of the inhabitants of the city. Gdynia was built by the settlers who came here less than 100 years ago. It was also hypothesized that the leadership of W. Szczurek is the result of combining three leadership styles: manager, artist and priest. It was also assumed that the politicians of the president's Samorzadność emphasized his achievements, competences and non-party status. In turn, his opponents (affiliated with parliamentary political parties) downplay his success, and only emphasize his image skills.

The considerations were based on original own research – first of all - in-depth interviews with some Gdynia's councillors. Deliberations were extended with the results of survey research: the perception of the ideal president's attributes among local politicians from the Tri-City (Trójmiasto – Gdańsk, Gdynia, Sopot) was examined. The method of weighting the preferences of choice was used.

The general conclusions are as follows. The specificity of W. Szczurek's leadership in Gdynia results from the socio-cultural conditions of the city and its personal qualities. These personal features allows to see three leadership attitudes: effective manager, a sagacious judge and an subsidiary scout.

Michał M. Kosman

Keywords: state leaders, Germany, Russia, Helmut Kohl, Gerhard Schröder, Angela Merkel, Boris Yeltsin, Vladimir Putin, Dmitry Medvedev

The article examines the issue of German-Russian relations at the level of state leaders after the end of the Cold War. These bilateral contacts involved different phases. The first phase was dominated by personalization, which was characterized by friendly relations between Helmut Kohl and Boris Yeltsin. After Gerhard Schröder took the office of chancellor, a short phase of depersonalization in the relations between Schröder and Yeltsin followed.

After Vladimir Putin took power in Russia, the personalization phase returned, manifested by friendly contacts between Schröder and Putin, which ended when Angela Merkel assumed the office of chancellor. Her relations with Putin and Medvedev were of a pragmatic nature, aimed at solving current problems in international relations.

The article describes the above-mentioned relations between the leaders and their influence on bilateral relations between the two states.

Michał Lubina

Keywords: Aung San Suu Kyi, Burma, Myanmar, military junta, coup d'état

Against the background of the dramatic events unfolding in Myanmar/Burma - the military has been pacifying the mass peaceful protests there - the political career of Aung San Suu Kyi, the Burmese Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, the political leader of Myanmar/Burma in 2016-2021 and previously the most famous political prisoner worldwide, is nearing its end. Once the darling of the Western world, then mercilessly criticised by yesterday supporters, Suu Kyi remains an ambiguous person evoking strong emotions both domestically and internationally. As such Suu Kyi represents a fascinating case study in leadership studies.

Using the agency-centred explanation in political studies, this article tries to answer the following questions: what enabled Suu Kyi to take power and which factor contributed to her political fall? Why there is her political demise? Why Suu Kyi enjoyed the West's support and why she lost it? How can we assess her governance?

Elżbieta Majchrowska

Keywords: Director-General, international trade, leader, multilateralism, world economy, WTO

The prolonged stalemate in negotiations, combined with the inability of the World Trade Organization (WTO) to perform its fundamental functions stimulates discussion about a significant crisis in the organization as the main regulator of world trade and, consequently, about the need to reform the multilateral system. This is related to a change in the position of WTO Director-General, which, after a protracted selection process, was assumed on February 15, 2021, by Nigerian Okonjo-Iweala. The first-ever woman in this position has taken over the helm of the organization at a particularly challenging time for global trade and will face challenges of immense scale, complexity and importance to the global economy.

The paper aims to analyze the issues related to the position of the WTO in the world economy, taking into account, in particular, the situation pertaining to the change in the position of the WTO DG and to outline the prospects of this process in a dynamically shifting international environment.

This article is a presentation of the results of an analysis intended to support the thesis that the appointment of a new, strong, confidence-inspiring and authoritative leader will significantly contribute to resolving the crisis and restoring the position of the WTO in the institutional structure of the world economy. However, it will be critical to secure strong support in this area from key members of the organization. In terms of methodology, the study is based primarily on a critical analysis of official documents of the World Trade Organization, press releases and academic articles.

Agnieszka Sawicz

Keywords: Stepan Bandera, nationalism, historical polity, Poland, Ukraine

The article aims to familiarize the readers with the mythologization of Stepan Bandera. This figure currently does not enjoy popularity among Ukrainians, but he is used in creating historical politics, which has a direct impact on the shaping of Ukraine's foreign policy and relations with other countries.

Using the comparative method and the method of critical analysis, the following research hypotheses were verified: Stepan Bandera is not a leader or an outstanding historical

hero in the eyes of all Ukrainians, and his assessment varies regionally. Bandera is not a figure that can gain popularity in a democratic state, and contemporary Ukrainian leaders distance themselves from him. The popularity of Bandera is a myth that has become part of Polish historical and foreign policy, but also an element of the interpretation of patriotism as an opposition to Russia, more and more common in Ukraine.

The conclusion of the study is that the historical memory in Ukraine is regionalised and it is impossible to consider Bandera as the hero of the whole country, and the Ukrainian perception of nationalism does not match the Polish point of view. As a kind of symbol, it certainly does not play a major role in Ukraine's social or political life, but rather serves to unite the nation around a common idea.

Lukasz Scheffs

Keywords: (political) consultancy, professionalization, self-government

The main aim of the paper is to answer the question whether the use of qualified expert knowledge is a manifestation of professionalization of activities within local government and, additionally, whether it is an example of alliance of the world of science and politics, even if implemented at the local level.

The basic research problem is to clarify the meaning of the term political consultancy, understood much more broadly than just advocacy activity in the field of public relations, closely correlated to the period of the election campaign. The perspective adopted in the study goes much further, treating consulting as a professional service provided at various levels of management of the local government community.

The author puts forward the following hypotheses: 1) Consultancy has always been associated with various forms of governance of a given community. 2) Currently, views on the need to use consultancy services in politics are being articulated more explicitly. 3) This ongoing process can also be noted at the level of local government units, among others in Poland. 4) This phenomenon is not only discernable, but even necessary for the further development of local communities and their specific policies, which require appropriate substantive support of persons and/or institutions prepared to play such a role.

The research method used is content analysis. The keywords related to the topic include political consultancy, professionalization, self-government.

