



# 90 years of the Polish Anthropological Society and Anthropological Review: a success story

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## Foundation of the Polish Anthropological Society at the University of Poznań

The history of the Polish Anthropological Society (PTA)<sup>1</sup> has been associated with the University of Poznań, an academic institution founded in 1919, when Poland gained independence after a long period of foreign subordination. The first official opening of an academic year presided by the rector, Prof. Heliodor Święcicki, elected from among professors of a multi-course Faculty of Philosophy, was held on 7 May 1919. The University began providing courses in Law and Economics, Medicine, Human

Studies, Mathematics, and Life Sciences and Forestry ([www.amu.edu.pl](http://www.amu.edu.pl)).

The following years saw a rapid development of the University, foundation of new faculties and recruitment of distinguished scientists and scholars who raised its prestige. A department of anthropology was then established to conduct studies in biology. An offer to head the department was given to Prof. Jan Czekanowski, the most distinguished Polish anthropologist of that time. But he declined as he had just set up a department of anthropology in Lviv and did not want to leave that establishment. Therefore, Prof. Jan Gabriel Grochmalicki, a zoologist, was appointed curator and held the post until the academic year 1935/1936 (Malinowski 2008).

Among professors invited by rector Heliodor Święcicki was Adam Wrzosek, a pathologist, historian of medicine,

<sup>1</sup> The abbreviation PTA will be used throughout the entire paper as a name for the Polish Anthropological Society.



Fig. 1. The so-called Święcicki Bench, a monument situated in front of Collegium Minus commemorating Professor Heliodor Święcicki, the first rector of Poznań University. Photo Author.

and anthropologist who agreed to leave Warsaw and move to Poznań. In his appointment decree, he reserved the right to organise an Anthropology Unit and arranged for anthropology to be obligatorily taught to students of medicine. In 1920, on the initiative of Prof. Wrzosek, founder and first dean of the Faculty of Medicine, an Anthropology Unit was established under that Faculty. First lectures in anthropology were given in the academic year 1921/1922 for all students of medicine, and the Anthropology Unit, apart from its teaching activities, became a centre of extensive scientific studies in the area of developmental and medical anthropology<sup>2</sup>.

Prof. Wrzosek, following the example of Anthropological Commission founded in 1873 at the Krakow Academy of Learning and the Paris-based Polish Anthropological and Ethnographical Society established in 1878 initiated the founda-

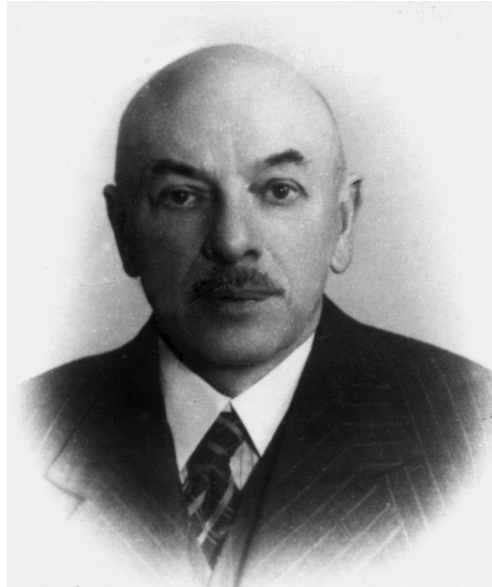


Fig. 2. Professor Adam Wrzosek founder of the Polish Anthropological Society. Source <http://www.google.pl>.

tion of the Polish Anthropological Society. The founding meeting took place on 12 November 1925 attended by Michał Ćwirko-Godycki, Maria Grossmannówna, Anna Gruszecka, Prof. Ignacy Hoffman, Prof. Wincenty Jezierski, Prof. Witold Kapuściński, Prof. Adam Karwowski, Bohdan Lipiński, Romuald Matuszewski, student of Medicine Józef Medem, Włodzimierz Missiuuro, Prof. Leon Padlewski, Prof. Romuald Wierzbicki and Prof. Adam Wodziczko. Additionally, before the founding meeting was held, the following professors of the University of Poznań, who could not attend the meeting, declared their membership: Prof. Stefan Błachowski, Prof. Antoni Jakubski, Prof. Józef Kostrzewski and Prof. Stanisław Runge<sup>3</sup>. The participants

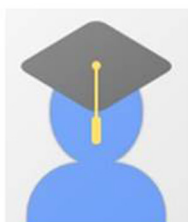
<sup>2</sup> For more details on Prof. Wrzosek's scientific achievements, please see the article by Andrzej Malinowski in the series Profiles of Distinguished Academics "Adam Jan Wrzosek (1875–1965)" PTA Bulletin no. 14, 2014, pp. 9–17. Access: [www.ptantropologiczne.pl](http://www.ptantropologiczne.pl) tab Biuletyny.

<sup>3</sup> See Foundation of the Polish Anthropological Society published in *Przegląd Antropologiczny* 1926, 1(1), 50–1.

## Polish Anthropological Society 1925



Prof. dr. Adam Wrzosek - President



Dr. Włodzimierz Missiuro  
Secretary and Treasurer



Prof. dr. Adam Wodziczko  
Deputy President



Dr. Michał Ćwirko-Godycki  
Deputy Secretary and Treasurer

Fig. 3. The first Management Board of the Polish Anthropological Society elected in 1925 for a period of three years. Designed by Author.

adopted a statute inspired by the statute of the Polish Prehistoric Society and elected a Management Board for a period of three years. The Board consisted of the following members: Prof. Adam Wrzosek as president, Prof. Adam Wodziczko as deputy president, Włodzimierz Missiuro as secretary and treasurer, and Dr. Michał Ćwirko-Godycki as deputy secretary and treasurer. The members also decided for *Przegląd Antropologiczny* to be an official scientific journal of the Polish Anthropological Society with Prof. Wrzosek as its first editor-in-chief (Anthropological Review 1926; Malinowski 2008, 2014).

The first statute of the Polish Anthropological Society read as follows: “The aim of the Society is to contribute to the development of anthropology” (Wrzosek

1926). That aim has been pursued from the very beginning of the Society’s activity up to present. The new revision of the statute describes that aim in more detail: “The primary objective of the Polish Anthropological Society, as it continues the progressive traditions of the Polish scientific and scholarly thought, is to disseminate knowledge of anthropology” (Wrzosek 1926).

The mission has been fulfilled by holding symposia and conferences; cooperation with scientific and research institutions, universities and other scientific societies both from Poland and abroad; keeping and providing access to library resources; publishing activity; conducting research and supporting the Society’s members in their research work; raising

public awareness of scientific achievements and disseminating knowledge by informing scientific community of and inviting them to conferences, symposia and

discussion panels; as well as activities aimed to reinforce the community ties and building scientific partnership and friendship between the Society members.

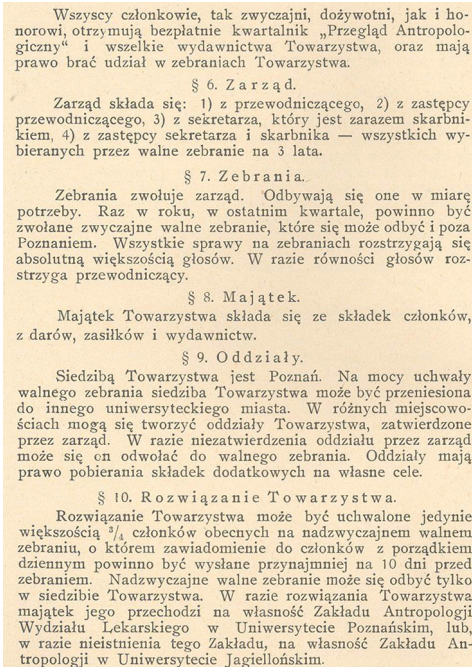
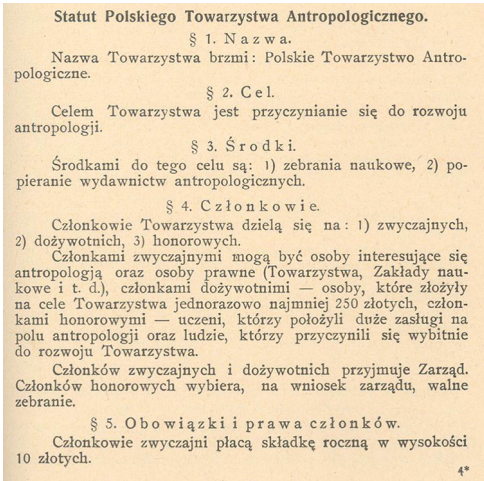


Fig. 4. First statute of the Polish Anthropological Association published in the first issue of *Przegląd Antropologiczny* in 1926.

## Past developments and present status of the Polish Anthropological Society

In the following years, the PTA membership systematically increased as the Society was joined by almost all Polish anthropologists, as well as representatives of related disciplines and individuals interested in anthropology. In 1928, PTA had 51 members. In 1931 the number almost tripled to reach 131. The PTA activities were interrupted by the World War Two and resumed after the war was over. In 1948, the PTA membership was 73, in 1976, 214, and in 2003, 280 (Malinowski 1986, Kornafel 2004, Krenz-Niedbała and Nowak 2005).

As the number of members increased, PTA affiliated branches were established at academic institutions. Throughout its history, PTA branches have operated in Białymstok, Gdańsk, Krakow including Kiele, Lublin, Łódź, Opole including Częstochowa, Poznań, Szczecin, Toruń, Warsaw and Wrocław (Kornafel 2004).

Nowadays, the PTA consists of 284 members in ten branches. Bydgoszcz, Gdańsk, Kielce, Kraków, Łódź, Poznań, Rzeszów, Szczecin, Warszawa and Wrocław<sup>4</sup>.

The Society governing bodies include: General Assembly, Main Board (executive authority) and Audit Commission<sup>5</sup>. The

<sup>4</sup> For details regarding particular branches and their statutory authorities, see PTA website, tab Oddziały <http://www.ptantropologiczne.pl>.

<sup>5</sup> See PTA Statute available at the PTA website: <http://www.ptantropologiczne.pl>.



## Polish Anthropological Society network of branches across Poland in 2015



Fig. 5. Polish Anthropological Society: network of branches across Poland in 2015. Designed by Author.

Main Board is presided by the President. That position was held consecutively by: Prof. Adam Wrzosek (1925–1952), Prof. Jan Mydlarski (1952–1956), Prof. Tadeusz Dzierżykray-Rogalski (1956–1984), Prof. Andrzej Malinowski (1984–1987), Prof. Paweł Bergman (1987–1999), Prof. Danuta Kornafel (1999–2007), Prof. Maria Kaczmarek (2007–2015). The current President, Prof. Krzysztof Szostek was elected for the period 2016–2019.

Up to 1952, the PTA was seated in Poznań only. In the following years, the seat changed with the location of the Main Board. In 1952–1956 the Society was based in Wrocław, in 1956–1963, Białystok, and in 1963–2000, Warsaw. Then Wrocław again in 2000–2007. Since 2007, the PTA Main Board has been seated at the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań.

After the Polish Academy of Sciences (PAN) was established in 1951, one of its first scientific committees – PAN Committee of Anthropology – emerged from the PTA (Malinowski and Wolański 1985). The Polish Anthropological Society cooperates with the PAN Committee of Anthropology, including in consulting issues of relevance for anthropologists and their field of study.

Jubilee congresses held to commemorate the Society's important anniversaries marked the milestones of the PTA's history. In November 1956, the Jubilee Polish Anthropology 100th Anniversary Congress took place in Krakow to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the first lectures in anthropology given at the Jagiellonian University by Prof. Józef Majer. In 1975, Poznań hosted an event to honour the 50th anniversary of the PTA and

## Presidents of the Polish Anthropological Society



Fig. 6. Presidents of the Polish Anthropological Society. Designed by Author.

100th birthday of its founder Prof. Adam Wrzosek. On that occasion, the PTA was awarded the Medal of the National Education Commission. In 2005, during the 40th PTA conference organised by the Poznań Branch of the PTA, a commemorative session was held to celebrate the 80th century of the PTA (Krenz-Niedbała and Nowak 2005).

A decade later, on the 90th anniversary of the PTA's foundation, the 45th jubilee conference was held under the title *Człowiek wobec wyzwań środowiska życia... (Man in the face of environmental challenges)...* The conference took place on 16–19 September 2015 at the Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań, the historic cradle of the Society<sup>6</sup>.

<sup>6</sup> A detailed report from the conference was published in the PTA Bulletin No. 17 from De-

Each of the jubilee congresses offered opportunities to assess the state of development of Polish anthropology and its contribution to the world's science. The 45th congress in 2015 was particularly relevant for that assessment as it summarized 90 years of the Society's activity.

At present, the Polish Anthropological Society is a multidisciplinary association of scientists, PhD students, and students interested in various aspects of studies of human being, including a large number of fans from Poland and abroad following PTA in the social media – Facebook and LinkedIn<sup>7</sup> Kaczmarek 2013.

cember 2015, pp. 27–28. Access: [http:// www. ptantropologiczne.pl](http://www.ptantropologiczne.pl) tab Biuletyny and photos from the event are available at the PTA website and on facebook.

<sup>7</sup> See the new statute of the Polish Anthropological Society, Section 4 Chapter II Goals of the



Fig. 7. Participants of the 45th jubilee conference held on the occasion of 90th anniversary of the Polish Anthropological Society at the Adam Mickiewicz University, Collegium Biologicum, Poznań on 16–19 September 2015. Photo Maciej Męczyński.

PTA has its website that works as a platform to exchange information for all members and friends of the Society. The English version of the website enables Society's activities to be propagated internationally.

The PTA is actively involved in actions taken by domestic and international associations. It merged with other Polish associations to form the Federation of Polish Scientific Societies in January 2011 and operates in partnership with the following international associations: International Association of Human Biologists (IAHB), International Union

of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences (IUAES), European Anthropological Association (EAA), national anthropological associations from the Czech Republic, Spain, Germany, Russia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Hungary and other.

Since the beginning of its activity, PTA has had a record of successful collaboration with representatives of physical culture sciences (Universities of Physical Education in Gdańsk, Krakow, Poznań, Rzeszów, Warszawa, Wrocław; University of Rzeszów, University of Zielona Góra), humanities: pedagogy (Jan Kochanowski University in Kielce, Pedagogical University of Częstochowa), archaeology, medical sciences and health sciences (Medical Universities in Poznań, Wrocław, Lublin, Jan Kochanowski University in Kielce)

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Society and ways of achieving them. <http://www.ptantropologiczne.pl>. The statute was adopted by the General Assembly on 7 September 2011.



The Society actively supports young researchers by facilitating their participation in conferences, taking honorary patronage of conferences held by student anthropological associations and offering publication of their study results in *Anthropological Review*.

### PTA's activity for dissemination the knowledge of man

According to the definition of 'anthropology', "the word *anthropology* comes from Greek *anthropos* meaning 'human' and *logos* meaning 'word' or 'study'. In the meaning of that word, anthropology is a science that studies humans. Its scope of interest is very wide embracing the whole of human existence in time and space from the appearance of hominids and the *Homo sapiens* species to the current human populations representing a variety of social systems and cultural patterns. Anthropology investigates human beings in terms of evolution, biology, sociology and politics, economics, culture and psychology. Handling such a wide scope of issues can only be possible by using an all-encompassing, holistic approach to phenomena related to the human being as proposed by the methodology of anthropological studies. Anthropology may therefore be said to be a discipline that studies various aspects of humankind in order to learn and explain its essence, and the holistic approach and interdisciplinary nature of the studies are features that distinguish it from other sciences of man" (Kaczmarek 2012:941).

The wide scope of the subject matter for experimental physical (biological) anthropology includes the following: (a) variability of physical characteristics (an-

atomical, physiological, functional, behavioural) and life strategies of the human species in the course of its evolution, i.e. genesis of the human species (phylogenetic anthropology: paleoanthropology, anthropogenesis, paleoecology, evolutionary psychology); that knowledge, supplemented with comparative studies of humans and other representatives of primates (primatology), serves, among others, to determine the position of man in the world of living creatures, particularly among mammals, and explains human behaviours based on evolutionary history of the species; (b) variability of physical characteristics (anatomical, physiological, functional, behavioural) observed synchronously within the human species, in and between populations living in different geographical areas, i.e. issues of human intraspecies variation (population anthropology: population genetics, demography, ecology, reproductive ecology); that knowledge serves to determine biological differences between populations and inter-gender variation (e.g. sexual dimorphism), (c) individual variation that occurs within individuals' lifespan and related to their life histories (ontogenetic anthropology: auxology, morphology, physiology, gerontology) (Kaczmarek 2012, 2013).

Conducting scientific research and publishing their results in Polish and international journals, including in *Przeгляд Antropologiczny* (now published in English as *Anthropological Review*), is one of the basic means of disseminating the achievements of anthropology.

Polish Anthropological Society is actively involved in a variety of research projects. One of the first was the excavation project on the Ostrów Lednicki island, which – as Andrzej Malinowski wrote – "is a place of fundamental impor-



tance for the study of the beginnings of the Polish State, and the skeletons of the early Piast population represent one of Poland's most valuable skeleton collections." (Malinowski 2008:34). In 1932–1935, Adam Wrzosek together with Michał Ćwirko-Godycki and Zbigniew Zakrzewski were carrying out anthropological studies on Ostrów Lednicki. As Andrzej Malinowski wrote (2008), the studies resulted in a collection of 1576 skeletons. After the war, already in 1949, the excavation works were resumed leading to a regular enlargement of the skeleton collection. In 1996, the collection consisted as many as 2370 skeletons.

Another nation-wide project joined by the PTA consisted in anthropological measurements of the Polish population performed in 1955–1957 for the purpose of industrial products standardisation.

In 1958–1959 and 1962, the PTA and the Egyptian Academy of Science organised two scientific expeditions to Egypt.

Owing to the initiative of two PTA members, Prof. Tadeusz Bielicki and Prof. Tadeusz Krupiński, the Museum of Man, affiliated to the University of Wrocław, was founded in 2001. The rich collections of the Museum are used for purposes of scientific research. As an important part of its activity, the Museum provides teaching programs with the Museum staff offering optional classes to students of various levels on the life of man in the past, burial habits in ancient Egypt, or issues of modern societies such as obesity and human health (Kornafel 2004).

PTA members take part in works of international commissions investigating crimes against humanity. In this regard, a great credit must be given to Ewa Kłównski, a forensic anthropologist working for the International Commission on

Missing Persons in Bosnia and Herzegovina. PTA members participate in identifications of slaughter victims in Eastern Europe (Kornafel 2004).

The principal form of PTA's activity is scientific meetings and seminars held by particular branches and regular national conferences organised by members of a specific branch. Indeed, the Society is based on the work of its members.

From the foundation of the PTA until the outbreak of the Second World War, the Society's activities, according to the statute, focused on organising scientific meetings, usually combined with annual general assemblies, and supporting the publication of *Przegląd Antropologiczny*. Agendas of general assemblies, attended by 45 members on average, included papers and reports from anthropological congresses and conferences. The first general assembly took part on 12 February 1927. A report for 1926 was submitted and two papers presented: *Rasowe podstawy eugeniki (Racial Foundations of Eugenics)* by Karol Stojanowski and *Krótką wiadomość o szczątkach Chrobrego (Short Report on Remains of Chrobry)* by Adam Wrzosek (Malinowski 1986).

In September 1933, on the initiative of the Management Board, the first congress of Polish anthropologists was held in Poznań as part of the 14th Congress of Polish Physicians and Naturalists.

The last PTA general meeting before the Second World War took part on 19 April 1939. The report from that meeting made no reference to racism nor did make any mention of the threat of war. Thirteen general meetings were held before the Second World War with 41 papers presented, mainly from the areas of ontogenetic, pedagogical, psychological, physiological and historical anthropology, as well as odontology, bone and mus-

## PTAnthropological Spring



PTA Wrocław Branch, Department of Anthropology at the Wrocław University of Environmental and Life Sciences, and Wrocław University of Technology  
Wrocław  
May 23, 2012

### Biomedical Perspectives on Food and Nutrition

Drugie Wiosenne Warsztaty pntropologiczne

4 czerwca (wtorek) 2013  
godz. 11-15

Sala Owalna Collegium Biologicum UEM,  
Poznań, ul. Dąbrowska 69

Wardycznie zapraszamy

Państwo Biomedyczne Antropologiczne

Instytut w Poznaniu

Wydział Biologii

Instytut w Poznaniu



PTA Poznań Branch, Department of Human Biological Development, Institute of Anthropology, Faculty of Biology Collegium Biologicum, June 4, 2013

Fig. 8. Posters advertising the PTAnthropological Spring workshops.

cle morphology and African studies (Malinowski 1986).

In 1984, a resolution was adopted providing for the organisation of annual national scientific conferences. The first of them took part in Błażejewko near Poznań in 1985. That resolution was later amended due to financial difficulties and a large number of various conferences in Poland and abroad. Since 2001, those conferences are held biannually alternately with conferences of the European Anthropological Association. The following conferences took place in the previous century:

- 1990 Biology of human populations, Karpacz
- 1992 Biology of contemporary and prehistoric human populations, Słupsk
- 1993 Man in time and space, Gdańsk

- 1994 Man – Nature – Culture, Kraków
- 1995 Man – creature unknown? Kiekrz near Poznań
- 1996 Man yesterday, today, tomorrow, Lublin
- 1997 Where do we come from, who we are, where are going to, Polanica Zdrój
- 1999 Anthropology at the end of century, Rynia near Warsaw
- 2001 Man – between biology and culture, Toruń
- 2003 Man is a measure of everything, Gdańsk
- 2005 40th National Scientific Conference Poznań

The 41st National Scientific Conference was held in Kraków in 2007, the 42nd in Łódź in 2009, the 43rd in Wrocław in 2011, and the 44th in War-



Fig. 9. Front covers of the PTA Newsletters.

saw in 2013. The Jubilee 45th Conference was hosted by Poznań in 2015.

In 1999–2003, the Wrocław Branch of the PTA, in cooperation with the Department (subsequently Chair) of Anthropology, organised very interesting thematic workshops, each of them conducted by an anthropologist accompanied by an eminent representative of another discipline – according to the workshop subject matter – a sociologist, epidemiologist, criminologist, psychologist, dentist, and others.

Since 2012, a new project has been launched *Wiosna PTAntropologiczna (PT-Anthropological Spring)* drawing on the idea of those workshops. It involves a series of conferences, seminars and workshops held by various PTA branches across Poland. The event is opened by *Funeralia Lednickie* (always in mid-May), multidisciplinary workshops organised in cooperation with the Museum of the

First Piasts at Lednica and the Scientific Association of Polish Archaeologists. Eighteen editions of *Funeralia Lednickie* have already been held.

In 2012, workshops called *Metodyka badań ergonomicznych (Methodology of Ergonomic Studies)* was organised owing to the efforts of the Wrocław Branch of the PTA, Department of Human Biology at the Wrocław University of Environmental and Life Sciences, and Wrocław University of Technology. In 2013, that event was held in Poznań (Poznań Branch of the PTA and the Biology of Human Development, Adam Mickiewicz University). The topics raised included diet, various aspects of children's, youth and adult lifestyles and risk of body weight disorders – underweight, overweight and obesity.

PTA can boast a gallery of outstanding scientists who have been conferred honorary membership. Since the PTA was founded, the title has been award-



ed to 61 scientists from Poland and abroad<sup>8</sup>.

Since 2007 biannual PTA *Newsletter* has been published under the editorial direction of Prof. Maria Kaczmarek and Dr. hab. Urszula Czerniak providing information on PTA members' significant activities, reports from the Main Board meetings, reports on particular branches' activities, conferences and seminars, updates on planned events, and reviews of books published by PTA members.<sup>9</sup>

The Society's statutory activities are funded by members' fees and some projects, e.g. *Funeralia Lednickie* and *Anthropological Review* (up to 2013), are co-financed by the Ministry of Science and Higher Education from the knowledge dissemination initiatives.

### Przegląd Antropologiczny – PTA official publication

The decision to establish and publish *Przegląd Antropologiczny* was made at the founding meeting on 12 November 1925. The first volume was released in the following year with Prof. Adam Wrzosek as Editor-in-Chief. In 1926–1937, publication of the journal was beset by serious financial difficulties. The PTA membership was too low for costs of publication to be covered by member fees. The PTA Board tried to obtain financial support from individuals and various institutions. The first volume was released mainly owing

to Romuald Wierzbicki, publisher and co-editor of *Nowiny Lekarskie*, published in Poznań. He covered part of the printing costs; in return, subscribers of *Nowiny Lekarskie* received *Przegląd Antropologiczny* as a free quarterly supplement to *Nowiny Lekarskie*. In the following years, thanks to Prof. Wrzosek's endeavours, private donors and collaborators who gave up their remuneration, the journal was published annually in circulation of 400 copies. Following to the establishment in 1936 of the Exact and Applied Sciences Council's Anthropological Committee, headed by Prof. Jan Czekanowski, and owing to his efforts, the National Culture Fund began to grant regular subsidies to support publication of *Przegląd Antropologiczny*. The first subsidy was received in 1938 from the Ministry of Religious Cults and Public Instruction. At the same time, the publisher changed as *Przegląd Antropologiczny* became an outlet of the PTA and Polish Anthropological Departments (Malinowski 2014). In the inter-war period, 12 volumes were published and the first issue of Volume 13. The publication of the journal was interrupted by the war to be resumed in 1947 with volume (Strzałko 2001).

Since the foundation of *Przegląd Antropologiczny* until 1948, Prof. Wrzosek performed the function of editor-in-chief. Then, he was dismissed of the function due to his "inappropriate ideological attitude", inconsistent with the line of the communist authorities, and became member of the editorial team. In 1953, the editor-in-chief position was taken over by Prof. Jan Mydlarski (1952–1956), while Wrzosek was responsible for scientific and technical part of the publication.

The journal's head office was changed, too. For over 25 years the editorial office of *Przegląd Antropologiczny* was loc-

<sup>8</sup> A complete list of honorary members is available at the PTA website <http://www.ptantropologiczne.pl>, tab. Membership

<sup>9</sup> Details of PTA activities, annals, conference reports are all included in the bulletins. PTA bulletins in an electronic version can be downloaded from the PTA website <http://www.ptantropologiczne.pl>, tab. Biuletyny.

ated in Poznań. In 1955, it was moved to Wrocław. In the same year, the PTA logo was placed for the first time on the cover of Volume 21. When Prof. Michał Godycki of Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań, became editor-in-chief in 1957 with Prof. Wrzosek as a scientific editor, the editorial office was moved back to Poznań. In the following years, *Przegląd Antropologiczny* was published in the form of a single volume composed of two fascicles. The function of editor-in-chief of *Przegląd Antropologiczny* was performed successively by: Prof. Adam Wrzosek (1926–1948), Prof. Jan Mydlarski (1953–1959), Prof. Michał Ćwirko-Godycki (1960–1977), Prof. Tadeusz Dziurzyk-Rogalski (1978–1984), in 1985 the position was held by Prof. Zbigniew Drozdowski. From 1986 to 2011, that is for a period of 25 years, the Editorial Board was head by Prof. Jan Strzałko. He made substantial changes aimed to make the journal more international. To this end, a decision was taken in 1997 to publish *Przegląd Antropologiczny* in English and to appoint an international Editorial Board. Beginning with volume 60 from 1997, the Polish name *Przegląd Antropologiczny* came together with the English equivalent *Anthropological Review* and for several years the journal was published under a bilingual title. That reflected the nature of the change introduced by the editor-in-Chief. All articles have since been published in English with summaries, chronicles and reports left in Polish. Owing to that, the number of readers and international authors has substantially increased. The journal could also be entered into international bases indexing scientific journals, an important condition for disseminating study results among scientists. In 2001, *Przegląd Antropologiczny* appeared in a new appealing graphical layout. From

2007, the Polish name was eventually dropped to facilitate indexing in international bases. From 2008, *Anthropological Review* has been published in both electronic and hard copy forms. Owing to Prof. Strzałko's modern vision, *Przegląd Antropologiczny* acquired the status of an international journal and the open access and downloadable electronic version have significantly increased its impact. That line of development is continued by Prof. Maria Kaczmarek (editor-in-chief) with her associates: Prof. Maciej Henneberg and Prof. Sławomir Koziół, who replaced Prof. Jana Strzałko in 2012. Nowadays, *Anthropological Review* is released in two forms: electronic and hard copy with four fascicles published annually.<sup>10</sup> It is the only anthropological journal on the Polish market out of many that used to be published by various units. The journal is abstracted and indexed in international databases, including in particular: EBSCO, ERIH PLUS, IC Journal Master Link, SCOPUS Elsevier, Ulrich's periodicals, Zoological Record. The journal was positively evaluated in Index Copernicus Journals Master List. In 2014, the evaluation was resulted in score given ICV 8.86 points. Detailed scoring can be found in the Detailed Report of the evaluation available at <http://journals.index-copernicus.com/Anthropological+Review,p1662,3.html>.

History of *Przegląd Antropologiczny* was presented by Prof. Jan Strzałko in his editorial note on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the journal. He wrote:

...“The current volume also has a new and, we believe, more attractive

<sup>10</sup> Anthropological Review is available online at the following addresses: <http://www.degruyter.com/view/j/anre> and <http://www.ptantropologiczne.pl> as well as repository.amu.edu.pl/jspui/handle/10593/2515.

cover. We hope that these newest improvements and the high scientific standards of the publication will attract both, exacting readers and authors, which, in turn, will allow us to regularly obtain the necessary funds. We trust too, that within the next quarter of the century, somebody will write a note entitled “The Centennial of *Przegląd Antropologiczny – Anthropological Review*” in volume 89 of our Journal.” (Strzałko 2001:8).

While having to leave the honour of writing a 100th anniversary commemorative article to others, we complete the quantitative characteristics regarding pa-

pers published in *Przegląd Antropologiczny* since the volume 64 published in 1997.

An analysis provided by Prof. Strzałko (2001) in his note given to celebrate the 75th anniversary of *Przegląd Antropologiczny* showed that the papers published in the journal included

“...**(C)** a ‘chronicle’ of Polish anthropology and information about people, institutions and events taking place in this discipline internationally (biographies, obituaries, proceedings from congresses and research, references reviews, and personal news); **(H)** the ‘heterography’ of modern man, a category encompassing intra and interpopulational variability

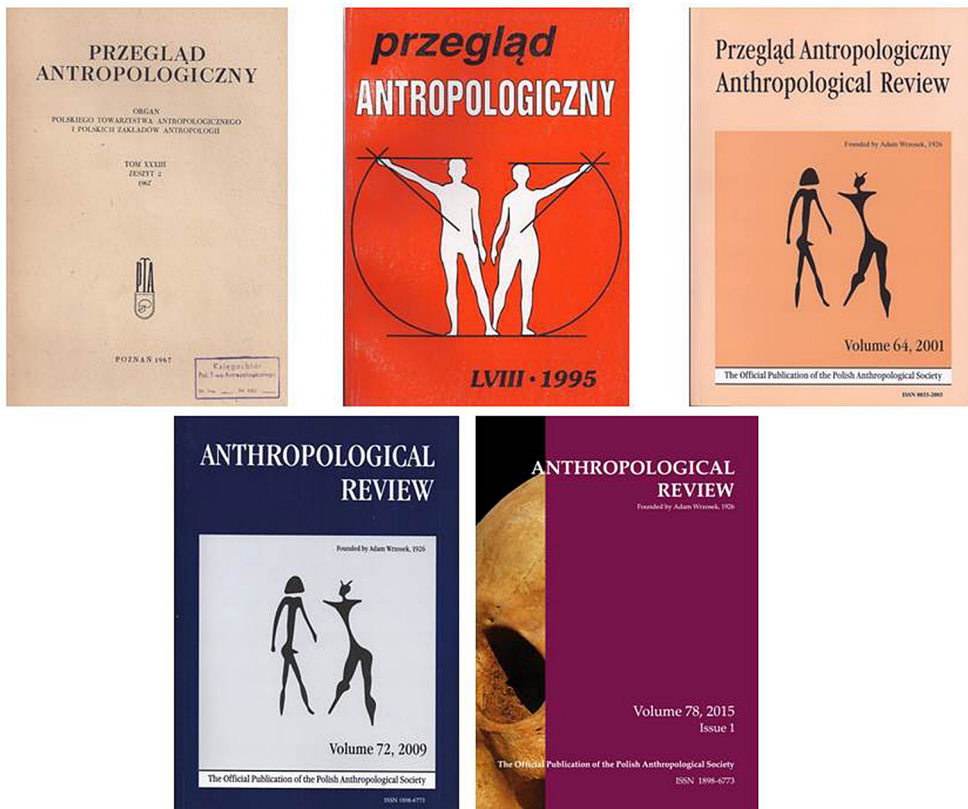


Fig. 10. Front covers of the *Anthropological Review*.



of man studied on contemporary people and pertaining to both morphological and physiological traits. Only ontogenetic variability is excluded from this category; (O) 'ontogeny' (also called 'human growth and development' or 'human biology'), a relatively homogeneous category, very widely represented in anthropological literature, including articles on all phases of individual development of man, from an embryo to senility; (S) variability of the human species with time, a category including articles on so-called 'skeletal biology', pertaining to variability (and its controls) in the past populations as represented in osteological material. By convention, in this context, we have referred to *Homo sapiens* populations from the time after the emergence of 'anatomically modern *H. sapiens*'; (P) 'paleoanthropology', a category including both theoretical and research articles pertaining to the phylogenesis of man; (T) all other, mainly .theoretical., articles pertaining to methodology, cultural anthropology, demog-

raphy, human ecology, biology of human population, human ethology and theory of evolution." (Strzałko 2001:5–6).

Since 2012, the chronicle has no longer been published in *Anthropological Review*, as all chronicle records have been moved to the *Bulletin*. The number of issues and papers published has increased. In 2011, one issue with 6 articles was released versus 2 issues with 13 articles in 2012. In 2013, two issues with 19 articles were published and in 2014 and 2015, three issues with 24 and 26 articles, respectively. This progress is shown in Figure 11.

At present, *Anthropological Review* (*Anthropol Rev*) is a double blinded peer-reviewed journal published three times a year. Starting in 2016, *Anthropological Review* will become a larger quarterly publication with spring (March), summer (June), fall (September) and winter (December) issues. Topics of paper published in the journal include a wide range of issues

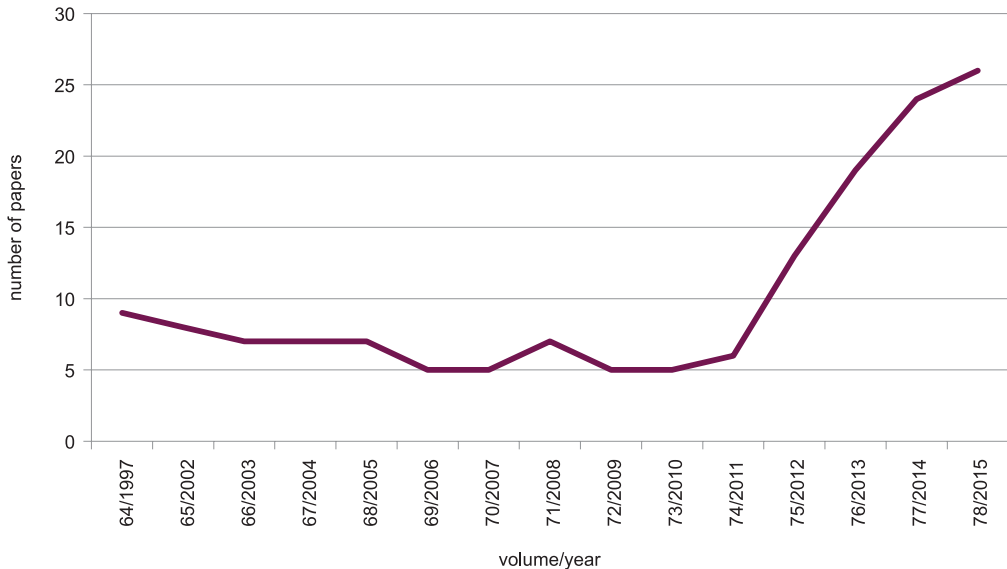


Fig. 11. Number of papers per volume in consecutive volumes (64–78) of the *Anthropological Review*.

In physical (biological) anthropology and all relevant biological and medical topics in biological anthropology, bio-archaeology and clinical anthropology, specifically on human auxology, ageing and senescence in both living and past populations; genetic determinants and environmental (geographic, socio-economic, nutritional and other lifestyle behaviours) factors contributing to variation in human physique and health status; health-related quality of life; human reproductive ecology; human evolutionary behaviour; microevolutionary changes such as secular trends in physical growth and maturation; methodological and methodical issues of biological anthropology; the application of concepts from the field of biological anthropology to clinical settings.

Results of anthropological research works are used as reference and standard data in developmental age medicine, pedagogy and ergonomics; population biological status indicators are useful tools of disease prevention and health promotion, while studies of human remains are employed in the studies of prehistoric and historic populations.

In 1956 the Bibliography and Scientific Documentation Centre was opened with the aim of developing bibliography of Polish anthropology. Bibliography of Polish anthropology was published in successive volumes of *Przegląd Antropologiczny*<sup>11</sup>. Currently, the library collection established by Prof. Wrzosek is available at the Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań, and Pomeranian University of Słupsk.

<sup>11</sup> See *Bibliografia antropologii polskiej* (Bibliography of Polish Anthropology) *Przegląd Antropologiczny* 1967 vol. XXXIII f.2; 1973 vol. XXXIX f.2; 1976 vol. XLII f.2; 1981 vol. XLVII f.2, 1995 vol. LVIII .

## Plans for the future

Looking forward, the PTA wishes to maintain its multidisciplinary nature and contribute to the consolidation of researchers active in anthropology and related fields of study. It intends to encourage as many individuals as possible to join the PTA. Invitation is directed both to young and experienced scientists. For beginning researchers, membership in a scientific society means opportunities to present their achievements and join the scientific discourse, while for experienced scientists, it provides scope to share their knowledge and experience with younger colleagues who will take their place in the future.

It is important to raise or at least maintain the existing of importance of *Anthropological Review*, which is by no means easy considering the strong competition by foreign journals and the parameterisation requirements for scientific units.

PTA also plans to engage more strongly in knowledge promotion projects, such as the Science and Art Festival organised by annually in academic cities, Scientists Night and other initiatives aimed to disseminate knowledge to the public.

In all their actions, members of the Society are aware of their responsibility for the work started 90 years ago and proud of being able to continue that work in the best possible way.

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### Editorial

Based on a paper presented at the 45th Biannual Polish Anthropological Society Conference 16–18 September 2015, Poznań, Poland: *90 years of the Polish Anthropological Society*

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#### Electronic sources

- <https://www.google.pl>  
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Website of the Polish Anthropological Association <http://www.ptantropologiczne.pl>.