

EDITORIAL NOTE

BETWEEN THE WARS: PHILOSOPHICAL-POLITICAL DEBATES

The interwar years of 1919-1939 belong to those periods in world history that often seem to exceed other times in terms of intensity and ferocity of political upheavals and social changes. It is also an epoch that witnessed an incredible surge of philosophical, theological and political works as if to attest to the view that a profound thought is the offspring of crisis. The rapid social and political modernization, the shock of modern technology and technologically-conditioned means of destruction, the fall of old European monarchies, the vulnerability of new and old democracies, impending economic crisis and the emergence of ideology-infused mass political movements paint both a fascinating and a gruesome picture of the interwar years.

This thematic issue of *Politeja* aims to contribute to the understanding of philosophical-political debates of the interwar period and their bearing on contemporary times. Such topics as fragility of liberal democracy, crisis of parliamentarism, the sources of political legitimacy or the origins of totalitarian political movements are not only of historical interest, but prove to be of lasting relevance. I believe that the papers collected in this volume display the topicality of philosophical-political debates of the interwar period.

Last but not least, I would like to extend my gratitude to Dr. Robert Pawlik from Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw for his helpful advices on this thematic issue.

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