Editorial

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To start a scientific journal concerned with humanistic studies and published in the foreign language is a highly risky task regardless of the country. We do hope that the Polish Journal of Philosophy turns out to be a successful undertaking.

Kazimierz Twardowski, one of the architects of contemporary Polish philosophy, warned almost a hundred years ago that the thought of a country that is not a philosophical superpower—which is the case of Poland—faces a double risk. On the one hand, it can become dominated by any of the foreign philosophies, and on the other, separatist tendencies can appear, leading to an estrangement from the philosophical world. Now that modern integrative tendencies have resulted in philosophical dominants being related to trends rather than to countries, the first risk seems to be no longer applicable. The second one, however, has not disappeared completely, as the threat of separatism is always real.

The Polish Journal of Philosophy has two aims. Firstly, it is to highlight the presence of Polish philosophers in the world. This task would be hard to imagine without publishing in English, the contemporary lingua franca of philosophy and other sciences. But not only the, so to speak, physical presence is to be made known. We do believe that Polish philosophy itself has much to contribute to the world. Since its beginnings in the 15th century, it has always been pluralistic, open to the various novelties coming from the world. Drawing on this tradition, we can set ourselves to complete a second task: become one of the bridges between the two main actors of the contemporary philosophical scene, the analytic and continental philosophies. Let us remember that Poland is the country of origin not only of the Lvov-Warsaw school of analytic philosophy but also of Roman Ingarden’s realistic phenomenology. Such heritage makes the Polish Journal of Philosophy particularly well-suited to the task.

However, our goals would be impossible to attain, were the Polish Journal of Philosophy to publish works of Polish philosophers only. That is why we would like the magazine to be truly international, not only due to its language, but also thanks to the diverse choice of authors.

The Polish Journal of Philosophy has been created in Kraków, at the Jagiellonian University where the two above-mentioned traditions of Polish philosophy met. Here Roman Ingarden and his students taught,
here the research on the Polish analytic school heritage was conducted. Nonetheless, this publication is an undertaking of the whole Polish philosophical milieu, it has come to being as a result of consultations with philosophers in Poland and abroad, in co-operation with the Polish Philosophical Society and the Committee for Philosophy of the Polish Academy of Sciences.

Polish Journal of Philosophy is intended to be a quarterly, although for some time it will be published as a half-yearly. Due to the editorial cycle and the character of the magazine, the number of published articles will not exceed at present eight articles per issue. Reviews, both of books published abroad and of Polish philosophical books, as well as discussions will be an important supplement. We strongly believe that the Polish Journal of Philosophy will be found both interesting and inspiring for philosophers of all schools and nations.