

society was not involved in any activity connected with ecumenism.

Grażyna Pietruszewska – Kobiela's article closes this collection. It focuses on the vision of femininity in the artistic work of Urszula Małgorzata Benka in 1990s. The author shows differences between the vision of femininity in the feminist literature and the way feminine role are perceived by the Polish society.

The authors of the articles showed the directions of the system transformation in Poland and the expectations of the society in the face of new changes. While presenting political, economic and social transformation they also pointed out to phenomena which accompanied the process of transformation, such as increasing unemployment, financial diversity of the society, limited social trust in the state institutions. At the same time attempts were made to assess the

past two decades in terms of successes and failures of Polish political elites. The authors also tried to find an answer to the question whether or not the Polish changes which began in 1989 are still going on or are they a period historically closed.

The publication in question does not present all the problems connected with the political transformation in Poland. What is missing, is the discussion about Polish foreign and economic policy in Poland's legislature and governments in the described period. Regretfully, no references are given, which could prove to be very useful for those concerned with researching the investigated events in Poland's recent history. However, it must be admitted that a collection of such diverse articles trying to assess the past twenty years is noteworthy.

A review of the book:

Łukasz Dominiak *The value of community. Political philosophy of communitarism, [Wartość wspólnoty. O filozofii politycznej komunitaryzmu]* Wydawnictwo Adam Marszałek, Toruń 2010, pp. 351

by Danuta Karnowska

The most important ideologies of the XIX and the first half of the XX century took a stand on communities. This was expressed not only in the liberal criticism

of the communal lifestyle but also in the socialist commendation; in the conservative hierarchy or communist absolute equality. Invariably a community constituted one

of the central categories around which concepts of life of a human being and functioning of the society were created.

That situation was changed after the Second World War. Marginalizing the value of the community in the political thought as well as in the philosophy and politics became noticeable. Undoubtedly the reason of this situation was discrediting the idea of community as an object of totalitarian regimes interest: communism, racism and fascism. In principle the situation was changed only towards the end of the XX century, when on the wave of criticism of liberalism, for which individualism is the key value, a current of political thought appeared defined as communitarianism which restored the meaning of the idea of community.

Communitarianism both as a current of political philosophy and as a community being its basic idea inspired Łukasz Dominiak who expressed his thoughts and analysis in the book "The value of community. About the political philosophy of communitarianism" being a supplemented version of his PhD dissertation. Right at the very beginning he wants to stress that this is a valuable book, deeply analyzing the issues as well as constituting a perfect input into the debate whose philosophical and political thought aspect has been ongoing for over twenty years. So the choice of the topic itself brought fame to the author. Community both as a theoretical category and the one which

indicates certain practices is a subject extremely current, revealing disputes and social divisions like in a lens, allowing to point out a development not only within political philosophy but also within activities undertaken by elites and societies.

The book by Ł. Dominiak first of all raises the aspect of theoretical discussions relating to the community in the communistic sense. However, there are no missing examples of true communal acts and consequently social conflicts or references to the laws of individuals. It is worth stressing that this is not a work presenting disputes between individual and communal style of thinking and life. First of all this is a book, as the title indicates, about "The value of community." And this is its basic message and the unshakable advantage. There are studies present at the publishing market, relating to different variants of disputes between liberalism and communitarianism. However, in Polish literature definitely there is a shortage of explanation of basic categories of communitarianism in a complex way. This gap is perfectly filled up the book by Ł. Dominiak "The value of community. Political philosophy of communitarianism."

This young scientists did not avoid technical mistakes in his work but they are marginal in comparison to its content. Political philosophy of communitarianism was submitted to analysis, characterizing ideas of Alasdair MacIntyre, Michaela

Sandela, Charles Taylor as well as Michaela Walker. A chapter dedicated to Amitai Etzioni is missing, however, numerous relations to his works somehow compensate this loss.

What is worth noticing in the book by Dominiak is first of all his own very interesting and often quite critical comments complementing the represented current of political philosophy. Brave comments relating to the community and its shape are based on numerous theoretical analysis thanks to which the reader learns not only about the communitarianism itself but also about its critics. What is more, by reference

to other ideologies the author created a fascinating panorama of the issue: current, presented with a distance and objectivism expecting sizeable qualifying and comparative analysis. The books gives an insight in the melting pot of philosophy of politics and political thought. This is a valuable impulse for a consideration of dialectics of individual ideologies. In the same time this is a book not only for specialists but also for all the interested in the development of philosophical currents or political thought both for the scientists, students and people preferring wise and well written scientific literature.

A review of the book:

Kazimierz Łastawski, *The History of European Integration [Historia integracji europejskiej]*, Wydawnictwo Adam Marszałek, Toruń 2011, pp. 370

by Joanna Marszałek-Kawa

Great historical changes are not as a rule a result of single but long lasting series of events and coincidence of special circumstances. That was the case with the appearance of the European integration. This is how the author presents it in the discussed work. Namely, as a result of a long historical process. It makes the monograph valuable and its purpose is to serve as a scientific explanation of the

sources, circumstances, reasons and proceeding of the first integration in the history.

The layout of the work is in a fashion which makes it exceptionally transparent.

The first chapter is dedicated to "The Development of the Unification Ideas in the History of Europe." The author points out at the Greek and Roman earliest beginnings of these ideas, at relying on