

FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Readers,

For the last twenty years, since 1998, the Center for American Law Studies at the Faculty of Law and Administration of the University of Warsaw has promoted the rule of law as a main theme of its legal education. With over 2,000 graduates, it has made an important mark on the legal profession in Poland. The Center was established in cooperation with the University of Florida Levin College of Law and in recent years continued its excellent standards of teaching in collaboration with two major law schools from Atlanta, Emory University School of Law, and Georgia State University College of Law, which have become major partners with the Center. The Center offers a two semester program for law students and law graduates introducing basic knowledge in major areas of American law, as well as legal skills, and is taught by distinguished professors from the US.

The Poland-US Conference on the Rule of Law, due to the sponsorship of the US Embassy in Warsaw, as well as many Warsaw law firms and both partner universities, took place at the University of Warsaw Faculty of Law on 24 June 2018, to commemorate twenty years of excellence in legal education and the promotion of the rule of law in Poland by the Center for American Law Studies.

This special edition of “*Studia Iuridica*” reflects the presentations and discussions during the Conference which had panels on four main topics: development and definition of the rule of law; separation of powers and the rule of law; the role of courts in the rule of law; and the rule of law and local governments. All these topics, which are reflected in the articles published in this issue of “*Studia Iuridica*”, were carefully selected to correspond with and connect to the similar issues in both countries, as well as to show different approaches to how to deal with them in US, Poland, and some other countries.

The panelists in the Conference were the eminent scholars from all partners universities: Faculty of Law and Administration at the University of Warsaw, Georgia State University College of Law, and Emory University School of Law, as well as several other internationally recognized legal institutions. More than 100 participants: law students, law professors, judges, advocates, legal advisers and representatives of public organizations had an opportunity to take part in lively discussions on contemporary and important problems connected to the rule of law.

This issue starts with the introductory remarks made by President of ABA, Linda Klein, who stated that: “We lawyers, through the strong voice of our bar associations, must constantly remind governments and the public they serve, that society must not be ruled by passions of the mob or the whims of powerful leaders, but by democratically enacted law”.

I hope you enjoy the scholarly discussion presented in the articles. Wishing you interesting reading and a reflective experience,

Ewa Gmurzyńska

Editor

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