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## ***Polish-Ukrainian Studies: Traditions and Innovations***

### **Abstract**

This article presents a thematic analysis and synthesis encompassing the breadth of topics covered in the *Polish-Ukrainian Studies* journal. Offering a comprehensive overview of the journal's specifics, the article highlights key topics and underscores the challenges confronting modern academics. Within this frame, a detailed examination is undertaken, scrutinizing significant scientific discoveries and achievements by prominent Ukrainian and Polish researchers. The article strategically places emphasis on the pivotal role of the journal in fostering the popularization and continuous advancement of humanist disciplines. Beyond the examination of the journal's previous and current state, the article looks ahead to articulate the prospects and future trajectories for *Polish-Ukrainian Studies*. This forward-looking approach not only forecasts potential developments, but also underscores the journal's enduring impact on the broader landscape of philosophy, history and culture.

**Keywords:** *Polish-Ukrainian Studies*, Ukrainian literature, Polish literature, intercultural experience, history, philosophy, historiography, analysis, synthesis.

The humanities serve as indispensable resource for elucidating the complex dynamics inherent in the relationship between individuals and their surroundings. Disciplines encompassing literature, history, philosophy and cultural studies function as invaluable instruments for acquiring nuanced insights into the diverse cultural and historical trajectories of nations. These fields of knowledge facilitate an appreciation of cultural distinctiveness and the preservation of

traditions originating from diverse backgrounds. The evolution of the humanities provides societies with a platform to observe their distinctive historical roots, explore the reciprocal interactions and influences among varied cultures, and contribute collectively to the safeguarding of the historical heritage of all communities. The achievements within the humanities empower individuals to immerse themselves in alternative conceptual realms, discern hitherto undisclosed facets of history and broaden intellectual horizons, thereby cultivating a more enriched tapestry of shared human experiences.

Within this framework *Polish-Ukrainian Studies* journal, first published in 2014, assumes a pivotal role in the advancement of the humanities. For the past decade, it has been a platform where eminent scholars in the field of humanities tirelessly advance cultural ideas, preserving, popularizing and disseminating cultural traditions. Their concerted efforts are aimed at enriching common understanding of various facets of cultural heritage and forging strong connections between past, present and future. These prominent personalities make significant contributions to the scholarly community by presenting unique research approaches to the analysis of cultural phenomena in their articles. Their works not only contribute to academic progress, but also serve as a vital source of inspiration for those seeking to comprehend and appreciate the multifaceted nature of cultural heritage.

The journal is distinguished by its international and interdisciplinary orientation, emphasizing theoretical and applied research within the realms of philology, philosophy and history. Published articles are underpinned by an extensive foundation of comparative cross-cultural information. Positioned as a scholarly platform, the journal seeks to foster novel and influential contributions, firmly grounded in a rigorous comparative analysis of the mutual relationships between Ukrainian and Polish cultures.

The mission of *Polish-Ukrainian Studies* is dedicated to the convergence of research endeavours and to the establishment of scholarly connections for the advancement of scientific discourse pertaining to relevant issues within Polish-Ukrainian humanist sciences. Moreover, it seeks to cultivate discourse and enhance the

dissemination of knowledge in these domains, with a particular emphasis on providing open access to published articles. The journal is also directed towards the examination of contemporary regional issues within an expansive range of topics.

The primary objectives of the journal revolve around crafting innovative perspectives through scientific methodologies and academic discourse, accommodating diverse viewpoints. Its overarching goal is to publish, present and disseminate scholarly works authored by individuals from Poland, Ukraine and other international contributors. The journal also facilitates professional communication among a wide spectrum of researchers and specialists across various fields within the humanities, nurturing both conceptual and empirical discussions on theoretical and applied aspects of academic research. Actively contributing to the progress of research across diverse knowledge domains, the journal provides a global platform for readers to engage with current scientific research and developments. In addition to this, *Polish-Ukrainian Studies* play a pivotal role in keeping the scientific and professional community abreast of ongoing publications and research projects, establishing and fortifying scholarly communication and connections, and actively engaging researchers in both academic and professional spheres.

The significance of societal issues is consistently articulated not only within academic discourse. Therefore, in addition to the academic audience, the journal is directed towards non-academic readers interested in discussing fundamental challenges of the humanities. With the aim of becoming a platform for a broad discussion, the journal adheres to the open access policy for publications. The entire content of the journal is available to users free of charge. Users are permitted to read, download, copy, distribute, print, search and access full-text articles in the journal without prior permission from the publisher or the author.

The criteria employed for the selection of articles are based on the pertinence and societal interest of the topic, the innovativeness of the proposed ideas, and the scientific credibility of the published articles. The editorial direction of the journal is geared towards

deliberating on the most pressing issues through a respectful and reasoned dialogue, concurrently presenting diverse discourses and research approaches. The decision to publish a given article is contingent upon the editorial board's evaluation, drawing upon the professional opinions of leading scholars in the specific field. This evaluation takes into account such factors as the article's significance, scientific novelty, originality and relevance.

The journal offers an opportunity for publication to PhD students, doctoral candidates, and other researchers, featuring a dedicated section for their work. In all instances, articles undergo publication based on the established criteria and policies of the journal. Authors are provided with the chance to disseminate the results of their scientific research, thereby contributing to the development of scientific communities centred around the investigation of specific topics.

Over a span of ten years, more than a hundred scholars published their achievements in this journal. Some of them include Agnieszka Kryszczyńska, Dawid Bzorek, Grzegorz Kowalski, Jarosław Poliszczuk, Ihor Isichenko, Lesia Mateushkezy, Mariia Moklytsia, Mirosław Nagielski, Mykola Sulyma, Mykola Zhulynskyi, Nataliia Levchenko, Oksana Slipushko, Petro Bilous, Raisa Movchan, Rostyslav Radyshevskyi, Stefan Kozak, Teresa Chynczewska-Hennel, Tetiana Bovsunivska, Tetiana Danyliuk-Tereshchuk, Volodymyr Lytvynov, Walentyna Sobol, Yaroslav Myshanych and many others.

Non-scientific manuscripts are reviewed internally, and each paper is subject to double-blind peer review by the members of the Editorial Board and two anonymous external reviewers. In fact, all scientific and science-oriented articles published in *Polish-Ukrainian Studies* are unique investigations by outstanding Ukrainian and Polish scholars.

The *Polish-Ukrainian Studies* journal is indexed in CEJSH, CEEOL, PBN, POL-index, Index Copernicus, Arianta, ERIH PLUS.<sup>1</sup> The editor-in-chief is Walentyna Sobol (University of Warsaw, Poland), the deputy editor-in-chief is Teresa Chynczewska-Hennel

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<sup>1</sup> *Studia Polsko-Ukraińskie*, [https://studiapolskoukraińskie.uw.edu.pl/resources/html/cms/EDITORIAL\\_OFFICE](https://studiapolskoukraińskie.uw.edu.pl/resources/html/cms/EDITORIAL_OFFICE), [30.03.2023].

(University of Białystok, Poland) and the editorial secretaries are Anna Trusz-Mykhailova (University of Warsaw, Poland) and Dawid Bzorek (University of Warsaw, Poland).<sup>2</sup> Advisory board for literature-oriented papers is composed of Rostyslav Radyshevskyy (Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv, Ukraine), Stefan Kozak (University of Warsaw, Poland), Ihor Nabytovych (Maria Curie Skłodowska University in Lublin, Poland), Bohdana Krysa (Ivan Franko National University of Lviv, Ukraine).<sup>3</sup> Historical articles are edited by Frank E. Sysyn (University of Alberta, Canada), Mariusz R. Drozdowski (University of Białystok, Poland), Mirosław Nagielski (University of Warsaw, Poland), Katarzyna Błachowska, (University of Warsaw, Poland).<sup>4</sup> Philosophical articles are edited by Iryna Bondarevska (National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, Ukraine) and Denis Kaidalov (Charles University, Czech Republic).<sup>5</sup>

**The first issue** of *Polish-Ukrainian Studies* (2014) is dedicated to the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Taras Shevchenko (1814–1861) and focuses on insufficiently explored aspects of his life and creativity as well as on the achievements of the Shevchenko Scientific Society, which celebrated its 140<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2013.<sup>6</sup> One section of the journal's first issue is dedicated to Old Ukrainian literature – Medieval literature and Renaissance (Latin language) literature (Y. Myshanych, L. Shevchenko-Savchynska). The “Reviews and Reports” section provides reviews of new academic publications as well as information about the most authoritative academic forum, the XV Congress of Slavists, which took place in August 2013. In the last section, “In memoriam”, tribute is paid to an outstanding historian, professor Vladyslav Serchyk (1935–2014).<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> *Studia Polsko-Ukraińskie*, <https://studiapolskoukraińskie.uw.edu.pl/resources/html/cms/MAINPAGE>, [30.03.2023].

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> W. Sobol, “Foreword”, *Studia Polsko-Ukraińskie*, vol. 1, 2014, pp. 16–18.

<sup>7</sup> T. Chynczewska-Hennel, “Władysław Andrzej Serczyk (February 23, 1935 – January 5, 2014)”, *Studia Polsko-Ukraińskie*, vol. 1, 2014, p. 259.

**The second issue (2015)** was released on the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Kyiv-Mohyla Academy.<sup>8</sup> The articles in the field of literary studies are focused on the analysis of Renaissance (Latin language) literature (by L. Shevchenko-Savchynska).<sup>9</sup> The articles of Iryna Bondarevska, Dawid Bzorek, Oleksandra Trofymuk and Myroslav Trofymuk cover the works of Pylyp Orlyk and Hryhoriy Skovoroda, who had been students of the Kyiv-Mohyla Academy. In historiosophical articles, in particular those written by Stefan Kozak, Iryna Bondarevska, and Mariusz Drozdowski, the subjects of the Christian roots of Old Ukrainian literature and the historical research of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth are analysed.<sup>10</sup> The influence of prominent Ukrainian artists' creativity on intercultural relations is also analysed in this issue. In the journal, Maria Kashuba's article also presents a modern translation of the *Gospel* by Kyrylo Tranquillon-Stavrovetskyi. Several new monographic works by Ukrainian and Polish scholars (articles by Stefan Kozak, Teresa Chynczewska-Hennel, Volodymyr Lytvynov) are also presented. The last section is dedicated to the memory of outstanding scholars, researchers of Ukrainian literature, culture, history of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, and joint history of Ukraine and Poland. Well-known in academia, these scholars include professor Zbigniew Vujczyk, professor Pavlina Levin, and professor Yaroslav Rozumny.<sup>11</sup>

**The third issue** of *Polish-Ukrainian Studies* (2016) is devoted to the anniversaries of Mykhailo Hrushevsky, Lesya Ukrainka and Ivan Franko.<sup>12</sup> Teresa Chynczewska-Hennel organizes and presents to readers the latter's political views on the future development of Rus as well as the response and attitude of Europe, in particular Poland, to the specific course of development of Ukraine at that time. The historiosophical aspect of the works of Ivan Franko is analysed by Stefan Kozak.<sup>13</sup>

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<sup>8</sup> W. Sobol, "Foreword", *Studia Polsko-Ukraińskie*, vol. 2, 2015, p. 15.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid.

<sup>10</sup> Ibid.

<sup>11</sup> Ibid.

<sup>12</sup> W. Sobol, "Foreword", *Studia Polsko-Ukraińskie*, vol. 3, 2016, p. 19.

<sup>13</sup> Ibid.

Rostyslav Radyshevskyi, Maria Moklytsia and Sebastian Delura address the creativity of the ideological and thematic spectrum of Lesya Ukrainka's works. The second section of the journal presents articles about the challenges of the Baroque and Romantic eras (articles by Dmytro Drozdovsky, Yulia Gonchar and Olga Novik). The reviews section introduces the reader to the new scientific works of Myroslav Trofymuk (the review by Ludmila Shevchenko-Savchynska), Viktor Brehunenko (review by Mariusz Drozdowski), Kryshtof Petkevych (review by Dawid Bzorek).<sup>14</sup>

Teresa Chynczewska-Hennel writes about the English-language journal *Kyiv Mohyla Humanities Journal*. In the "Varia" section, readers can find a detailed report on the plenary meeting of the Shevchenko Scientific Society in Lviv on March 26, 2016 (the article by Walentina Sobol) and Dmytro Drozdovsky's conversation with Mario Vargas Llosa.<sup>15</sup> The last chapter of the journal is dedicated to the memory of professors who devoted their scientific life to the Faculty of Applied Linguistics at the University of Warsaw. The article about professor Anna Dushak (April 4, 1950 – December 25, 2015) is written by her student, Grzegorz Kowalski. Professor Alicja Wołodźko-Butkiewicz recalls the unforgettable colleague René Śliwowski (February 2, 1930 – June 23, 2015).<sup>16</sup>

**The fourth issue (2017)** synthesises literary and historiosophical explorations of the Middle Ages, Renaissance and Baroque. Oksana Slipushko examines the concept of freedom in the context of the Eastern branch of Christianity that was dominant during Kyivan Rus period, and analyses the realization of freedom of will and freedom of personal choice in the Middle Ages through the lens of literary heritage.<sup>17</sup> The union of Polish and Ukrainian cultures by way of carrying out literary and artistic forums, scientific conferences, and literary and memorial museums is considered in Tamara Senina's

<sup>14</sup> Ibid.

<sup>15</sup> Ibid.

<sup>16</sup> Ibid.

<sup>17</sup> O. Slipushko, "Freedom as 'freedom of choice' in the outlook of Rus-Kievan medieval writer Ilarion", *Studia Polsko-Ukraińskie*, vol. 4, 2017, p. 19.

analysis.<sup>18</sup> The aspect of educational and scientific traditions, which virtually ensured full literacy in Rus-Ukraine due to the borrowing and introduction of European practices, is investigated by Volodymyr Biletskyi and Vitaly Biletskyi.<sup>19</sup> The article by Teresa Chynczewska-Hennel is dedicated to the peculiarities of historical and religious Ukrainian-Polish relations, including the reasons for the gradual separation of Ukraine from the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth.<sup>20</sup> Petro Bilous focuses on the literary and pedagogical work of Vasyl Hryhorovych-Barskyi, who contributed to Ukrainian understanding of the world through his detailed artistic depictions of other territories.<sup>21</sup> From a philosophical point of view, Iryna Bondarevska examines the concept of knowledge and the substantiation of principles that could provide reasonable meaning to human existence and contribute to the consolidation of society.<sup>22</sup> Olha Kharlan explores the problem of interdisciplinary synthesis in literary research, namely the interaction of literature and painting.<sup>23</sup> Vira Prosalova analyses the literary-artistic correlations in the short stories of Mykhailo Yatskov, who, using the medium of literature, presents the works of painters of different eras (Pre-Raphaelites, Expressionists, Symbolists).<sup>24</sup> Piotr Krol examines the figure of Pylyp Orlyk, whose power and influence has been treated superficially for a long time.<sup>25</sup> Anna Choma-Suwała

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<sup>18</sup> T. Senina, "Dialogue of Two Cultures – 2016'. Setting up of Polish-Ukrainian mutual understanding", *Studia Polsko-Ukraińskie*, vol. 4, 2017, p. 233.

<sup>19</sup> V. Biletskyi, V. Biletskyi, "Distinctive traditions of Education and Science in Ukraine-Rus", *Studia Polsko-Ukraińskie*, vol. 4, 2017, p. 51.

<sup>20</sup> T. Chynczewska-Hennel, "Ukraine in 17<sup>th</sup> century – between Poland and Moscow", *Studia Polsko-Ukraińskie*, vol. 4, 2017, p. 69.

<sup>21</sup> P. Bilous, "Italian holy pictures in the travel notes of Vasyl Grygorovych-Barsky", *Studia Polsko-Ukraińskie*, vol. 4, 2017, p. 95.

<sup>22</sup> I. Bondarevska, "Two concepts of knowledge (Theofan Prokopowich and Hryhorij Skovoroda)", *Studia Polsko-Ukraińskie*, vol. 4, 2017, p. 101.

<sup>23</sup> O. Kharlan, "Still life in painting and literature: time-space features", *Studia Polsko-Ukraińskie*, vol. 4, 2017, p. 117.

<sup>24</sup> V. Prosalova, "Literary-Pictorial Correlations in the Prose of Mykhailo Yatskov", *Studia Polsko-Ukraińskie*, vol. 4, 2017, p. 131.

<sup>25</sup> P. Krol, "Filip Orlik (1672–1742) and his activity in Polish historiography", *Studia Polsko-Ukraińskie*, vol. 4, 2017, p. 145.



explores the historical novels of artists who present history through the lens of modernity.<sup>26</sup> It is important to note that the study of history is extremely relevant in view of the government's ban on printing the true history of the Ukrainian people. The last section is dedicated to the memory of a Polish historian, Janusz Tasbyra (tribute written by Teresa Chynczewska-Hennel)<sup>27</sup> and Mykhailo Lesiov (written by Dagmara Nowacka and Albert Nowacki).<sup>28</sup>

**The fifth issue** of *Polish-Ukrainian Studies* is dedicated to improving the handling of the Ukrainian Middle Ages, Renaissance and Reformation from a historical perspective. Katarzyna Błachowska analyses the peculiarities of existence and functioning of a separate, western part of Ukraine, which was called Rus (Ruthenia) or Galicia-Volhynia.<sup>29</sup> Valerii Zema turns to the literary and religious monuments of the 14<sup>th</sup>–16<sup>th</sup> centuries, emphasizing the constant renewal of traditional collections and the emergence of new types of collections (miscellanies as Edificatory Gospel under the influence of *Postylla* by Mikołaj Rey).<sup>30</sup> Bohdan Bilous and Petro Bilous explore individual images popular in the Middle Ages, in particular the image of the road, which is a very significant symbol of the spiritual path and the possibility of self-realization, and their transformation in later eras.<sup>31</sup> Oksana Slipushko and Olha Shchelkunova focus

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<sup>26</sup> A. Choma-Suwała, "Roman Iwanyczuk – an unforgettable author of historical novels", *Studia Polsko-Ukraińskie*, vol. 4, 2017, p. 169.

<sup>27</sup> T. Chynczewska-Hennel, "Professor Janusz Tazbir (August 5, 1927 – May 3, 2016)", *Studia Polsko-Ukraińskie*, vol. 4, 2017, p. 241.

<sup>28</sup> D. Nowacka, A. Nowacki, "Advocate of Polish-Ukrainian rapprochement Prof. Ph.D. Michał Łesiów (3/05/1928 – 15/07/2016)", *Studia Polsko-Ukraińskie*, vol. 4, 2017, p. 249.

<sup>29</sup> K. Błachowska, "The Principality of Galicia-Volhynia in the History of Ukraine. Lviv and Kyiv-Lviv perspectives: Izydor Sharanevycz, Mykhailo Hrushevsky", *Studia Polsko-Ukraińskie*, vol. 5, 2018, p. 19.

<sup>30</sup> V. Zema, "Ukrainian Edificatory Prose in the Shadow of the Renaissance and the Reformation", *Studia Polsko-Ukraińskie*, vol. 5, 2018, p. 45.

<sup>31</sup> B. Bilous, P. Bilous, "Transformation of the Medieval Types of the Road in the Pilgrim Prose of Baroque Epoch", *Studia Polsko-Ukraińskie*, vol. 5, 2018, p. 33.

on the phenomenon of the natural right of the individual, which is an understudied aspect of the Late Baroque era. Their research opens up additional possibilities and avenues for the integration of national writing into the European context.<sup>32</sup> National Enlightenment represents an important aspect of not only artistic and literary, but also social and political significance – the time of authors’ artistic understanding of the idea of man’s natural right in the times of the establishment of serfdom on the territory of Ukraine. Mykola Zhulynskyi emphasizes the impact of European philosophical achievements in the Ukrainian literary context, on the example of the work of Volodymyr Vynnychenko, with the involvement of the ideological keys of the West. Vynnychenko serves as an ambassador for the concept of universal happiness, models of being etc.<sup>33</sup> Volodymyr Biletskyi and Hennadiy Haiko address the problem of the process of formation of Donbass, revisiting the issue of the Ukrainian nature of the territories, where Russia launched a large-scale military invasion back in 2014.<sup>34</sup> There are also reviews of Ludmiła Siryk’s monograph *A Desire for Europe. The Literary output of Kiev Neo-classicists* (Anna Choma-Suwała), Tadeusz Srogosz’s *Między wojną a modernizacją. Studia z dziejów kresów południowo-wschodnich Rzeczypospolitej w XVII–XVIII wieku* (Teresa Chynczewska-Hennel), Krystyna Czerni’s book *Jerzy Nowosielski w Lublinie* (Katarzyna Jakubowska-Krawczyk). Walentyna Sobol contributes the study *A presentation of an Encyclopedia “Shevchenko Scientific Society”*.<sup>35</sup> One of the achievements of the organizers and participants is the bilingual volume *Dialog Dwóch Kultur – Dialogue of Two Cultures* (2016, № XI), which contains conference materials (participants’

<sup>32</sup> O. Slipushko, O. Shchelkunova, “Natural Right in the Works of Writer-enlighteners of Late Baroque Epoch”, *Studia Polsko-Ukraińskie*, vol. 5, 2018, p. 53.

<sup>33</sup> M. Zhulynskyi, “Volodymyr Vynnychenko: in Search of European Understanding of the Human Psyche”, *Studia Polsko-Ukraińskie*, vol. 5, 2018, p. 123.

<sup>34</sup> V. Biletskyi, H. Haiko, “Ukrainian Donbass: the History of Formation and Development”, *Studia Polsko-Ukraińskie*, vol. 5, 2018, p. 175.

<sup>35</sup> *Studia Polsko-Ukraińskie*, <https://studiapolskoukraińskie.uw.edu.pl/resources/html/articlesList?issueId=13771>, [30.03.2023].

articles) and information (photos, drawings and texts) about the most important events.<sup>36</sup>

**In the sixth issue (2019)**, there are articles about Ukrainian historical national identity (Katarzyna Błachowska)<sup>37</sup> as well as about problems of foreign Ukrainian culture and internationality (L. Shevchenko).<sup>38</sup> The “Reviews” section presents reviews of significant historical and literary publications in recent years. The last chapter honours the memory of Professor Maryan Bendza (the author of the tribute is Teresa Chynczewska-Hennel)<sup>39</sup> and a Ukrainian literary critic, writer, doctor of philological sciences, Professor Leonid Ushkalov (the author is Vira Sulyma).<sup>40</sup>

The first section of **the seventh issue (2020)** includes the analysis of current images of Baroque literature (Svitlana Boyko),<sup>41</sup> as well as of the literature of Romanticism and Realism (Vasyl Pakhareno investigates them taking into account Taras Shevchenko’s creativity).<sup>42</sup> Marta Kaczmarczyk examines Lesya Ukrainka’s philosophy of life.<sup>43</sup> Epistolary heritage and diaries are the focus of a number of scholars – Roman Mnich (“Paradoxes of Existence in Yevhen Malanyuk’s

<sup>36</sup> Ibid.

<sup>37</sup> K. Błachowska, “Appreciated Principalities of Halych and Halych-Vladimir. Shapes of Ukrainian Statehood in the Middle Ages: Stepan Tomashivsky”, *Studia Polsko-Ukraińskie*, vol. 6, 2019, p. 11.

<sup>38</sup> L. Shevchenko, “Latin as a Factor in the Creation of a Special Cultural Frontier”, *Studia Polsko-Ukraińskie*, vol. 6, 2019, p. 137.

<sup>39</sup> T. Chynczewska-Hennel, M. Drozdowski, „Tatjana Tajrova-Jakovleva, *Inkorporacija: Rossijai Ukraina poslie Pierejaslavskoj Rady (1654–1658)*”, *Studia Polsko-Ukraińskie*, vol. 6, 2019, p. 211.

<sup>40</sup> V. Sulyma, “Professor Leonid Ushkalov (November 5, 1956 – February 25, 2019)”, *Studia Polsko-Ukraińskie*, vol. 6, 2019, p. 211.

<sup>41</sup> S. Boiko, “Female Images in European Baroque Poetry (Based on the Verses of Ivan Velychkovsky, Danylo Bratkovsky, Robert Herrick, and Andrew Marvell)”, *Studia Polsko-Ukraińskie*, vol. 7, 2020, p. 13.

<sup>42</sup> V. Pakhareno, “The Image of the Author in Taras Shevchenko’s Diary and Stories: The Evolution of Understanding”, *Studia Polsko-Ukraińskie*, vol. 7, 2020, p. 38.

<sup>43</sup> M. Kaczmarczyk, “Lesia Ukrainka’s Philosophy of Life and Survival as Seen in the Writer’s Personal Memoirs”, *Studia Polsko-Ukraińskie*, vol. 7, 2020, pp. 59–78.

Diaries”), Karolina Mosiej-Zambrano (“National Museum of the Holodomor-Genocide in Kiev. A ‘Difficult’ Exhibition”), Mykola Tymoshyk (problematic and thematic range of correspondence in the context of philosophy of personality under emigration, “Ivan Ohiienko’s Unknown Archive from the Period of Polish Emigration: Files, People, Themes (Based on the Archive of Polish Institute of National Remembrance in Warsaw”), Ihor Nabytovych (“The Epistolary Writings of Dariya Vikonska as a Speculum of Creative Existence”).<sup>44</sup> The section of reviews is represented by the articles of Mariusz R. Drozdowski (“Teresa Chynczewska-Hennel, *One World – Many Colors*”), Tetiana Meizerska (“What is Behind the Boundary Uncertainty? Yaroslav Polishchuk, *Frontyrna identychnist*”), Teresa Chynczewska-Hennel, Mariusz R. Drozdowski (“Jacek Szymala, *Powstanie kozackie 1648–1658. Studium z historii wizualnej*”), Rostyslav Radyshevskyi (“The Great Dream about an Incubator and Golden Chickens. Oleksandr Astafiev, *Dialog literatur*”).<sup>45</sup> The last chapter is dedicated to the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the literary and theatrical scientific team “Blue Ship” (“Rocznica 20-lecia Koła Naukowego Literacko-Teatralnego ‘Błękitny Okręt’”).<sup>46</sup>

In 2021, the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Lesya Ukrainka’s birth was celebrated, and the **eighth issue** of the journal is dedicated to this memorable date. Mariia Moklytsia, Anna Choma-Suwała, Larysa Semeniuk and Tetiana Danyliuk-Tereshchuk analyse the reception of Lesya Ukrainka’s work both in the literary context and within the framework of Polish-Ukrainian intercultural connections and parallels.<sup>47</sup> The second section of the journal focuses on the theoretical information about the epistolary genre as well as on the analysis of the autobiographical works of Pylyp Orlyk (Walentyna Sobol), Taras Shevchenko (Tetiana Bovsunivska), and Petro Apostol

<sup>44</sup> *Studia Polsko-Ukraińskie*, <https://studiapolskoukrainskie.uw.edu.pl/resources/html/articlesList?issueId=13769>, [30.03.2023].

<sup>45</sup> Ibid.

<sup>46</sup> Ibid.

<sup>47</sup> *Studia Polsko-Ukraińskie*, <https://studiapolskoukrainskie.uw.edu.pl/resources/html/articlesList?issueId=13776>, [30.03.2023].

(Yaroslav Myshanych).<sup>48</sup> The third section is thematically related to the previous one and deals with the use of personal documents to understand contemporary challenges. Such topics as religion, nationalism and the war in Ukraine are discussed in this issue (Teresa Chynczewska-Hennel, Anna Horniatko-Shumylovych and Eugeniusz Sobol).<sup>49</sup> The next section, “Ad fontes”, includes articles about history and culture, in particular about visionary writing in the texts of representatives of non-Christian religions as well as about the identification and decryption of secret texts (Valerii Zema and Mykola Krupach).<sup>50</sup> “Reviews” section includes reviews of books on the research on the history of Ukraine in the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century in modern Polish historiography and on Ukrainian drama of the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries (Tadeusz Srogosz, Olha Morozova, Mariusz R. Drozdowski, and Yaroslav Polishchuk).<sup>51</sup> “Varia” presents various articles from different fields of humanities, including such topics as Ukrainian immigrants located in Prague, childhood during the crisis of the 20<sup>th</sup>–21<sup>st</sup> centuries in the literature and culture of Central and Eastern Europe, and the celebration of the anniversary of Maxym Rylsky at the Institute of Art Studies, Folklore, and Ethnology named after M.T. Rylsky, at the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (Ihor Stambol, Larysa Vakhnina, and Myroslava Karatsub).<sup>52</sup> “In memoriam” section is dedicated to a famous Ukrainian historian, specialist in pre-modern religious culture in Ukraine, Professor Ihor Skochylas.<sup>53</sup>

**The ninth issue (2022)** of *Polish-Ukrainian Studies* starts with a foreword and several articles in the section “Ad fontes”.<sup>54</sup> Numerous other articles discuss such historical figures as Anton

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<sup>48</sup> Ibid.

<sup>49</sup> Ibid.

<sup>50</sup> Ibid.

<sup>51</sup> Ibid.

<sup>52</sup> Ibid.

<sup>53</sup> Ibid.

<sup>54</sup> *Studia Polsko-Ukraińskie*, <https://studiapolskoukrainskie.uw.edu.pl/resources/html/articlesList?issueId=14673>, [30.03.2023].

Zhdanovich, a Cossack colonel, and develop such topics as the taking of power in the Ukrainian Hetmanate of the 18<sup>th</sup> century (Miroslaw Nagielski).<sup>55</sup> The next section is dedicated to the analysis of Pylyp Orlyk and Hryhoriy Skovoroda (texts by Walentina Sobol<sup>56</sup> and Hennadii Noha<sup>57</sup>), two memorable personalities in Ukrainian history. The articles examine the life and contribution of these personalities to Ukrainian culture and history. The third chapter deals with the comparative literary criticism of Polish and Ukrainian works. These articles describe the life and contribution of these authors to Ukrainian culture and history. The articles explore such topics as the narrative of guilt in *Cassandra* by Lesia Ukrainka and the representation of the Jewish pogrom in the works of Mary Konopnytsky and Leonid Pakharevsky (articles by Sofia Varetska, Iryna Kropyvko, Khrystyna Semeryn)<sup>58</sup>. In the fourth section, “Challenges of the 20<sup>th</sup>–21<sup>th</sup> centuries”, contemporary problems and challenges faced by Ukraine and Poland are discussed (Teresa Chynczewska-Hennel, Ludmila Tarnashynska, Ihor Stambol, Eugeniusz Sobol).<sup>59</sup> Other topics researched include Ukrainian motives in the work of Yevgenyush Tkachyshyn-Dytsky, and Ihor Skochylas’ discussion of the concept of Slavia Latina and Slavia Orthodoxa. The “Reviews” section presents “The review of *The righteous soul. Vasyl Bidnov in the memoirs of contemporaries*” by Iurii Mytsyk.<sup>60</sup> The last section “Varia” contains reports by Julia Roguska (2020) and Dawid Bzorek (2021) on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> International Scientific Conferences in the series “Philosophy

<sup>55</sup> M. Nagielski, “The Cossack colonel Anton Zhdanovych in the light of the diary and correspondence by the Lithuanian Hetman Janusz Radziwiłł”, *Studia Polsko-Ukraińskie*, vol. 9, 2022, pp. 17–38.

<sup>56</sup> W. Sobol, “From the bottom of my heart”, *Studia Polsko-Ukraińskie*, vol. 9, 2022, pp. 91–106.

<sup>57</sup> H. Noha, “The letters by Hryhoriy Skovoroda. Personal in the context of the universal”, *Studia Polsko-Ukraińskie*, vol. 9, 2022, pp. 107–121.

<sup>58</sup> *Studia Polsko-Ukraińskie*, [https://www.pl/data/include/cms//Studia\\_Polsko\\_Ukraińskie\\_2022\\_9.pdf](https://www.pl/data/include/cms//Studia_Polsko_Ukraińskie_2022_9.pdf), [30.03.2023].

<sup>59</sup> Ibid.

<sup>60</sup> Ibid.

of being and survival in ego-documents of Ukrainian writers, painters and filmmakers”.<sup>61</sup>

**The tenth issue (2023)** of *Polish-Ukrainian Studies* annual journal includes “Ad Fontes” section, literary-comparative studies on Ukrainian-Polish contacts, investigations about the war and the violence, as well as reviews and articles dedicated to the memory of outstanding cultural figures. The first section deals with issues of law, power, faith and religion during the time of Kyivan Rus (article by Oksana Slipushko). Valeriy Zemlya examines Hryhorii Tsamblak as an important historical personality of the 15<sup>th</sup>–16<sup>th</sup> centuries.<sup>62</sup> Attention is drawn to the roots of Russian historical expansionist policy towards Ukraine by Nataliia Drobiazko,<sup>63</sup> based on the political activity of Pylyp Orlyk. Namely, thanks to him and his son Hryhoriy, the issue of freeing the “Cossack nation” from Russian oppression was raised in European countries in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Dawid Bzorek also raises the issue of liberating Left-Bank and Right-Bank Ukraine from Russian oppression.<sup>64</sup> The second section, devoted to Ukrainian–Polish contacts, examines Walentina Sobol’s Polish translations of Hryhoriy Skovoroda creativity. Anatoliy Tkachenko considers the problem of difficulties in translating original texts, specifically, adequate artistic transformation of the original (translation and adaptation).<sup>65</sup> L. Shevchenko-Savchynska raises the issue of Latin creative work and its perception by European representatives in the context of historical tradition.<sup>66</sup> The next section includes articles by Teresa Chynczewska-Hennel, Ihor Nabytovych, Natalia Levchenko, Oksana Levytska, Larysa Vakhnina, and Alla Shvets, dealing with the shameful Russian aggression from the 18<sup>th</sup> century to the present day (the war with the Russian Empire in 1735, the brutal Russian

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<sup>61</sup> Ibid.

<sup>62</sup> *Studia Polsko-Ukraińskie*, [https://wuw.pl/data/include/cms//SPU\\_2023\\_10.pdf](https://wuw.pl/data/include/cms//SPU_2023_10.pdf), [30.03.2023].

<sup>63</sup> Ibid.

<sup>64</sup> Ibid.

<sup>65</sup> Ibid.

<sup>66</sup> Ibid.

occupation of Galicia in 1914–1915, memoir narratives, confessions of refugees from the Russian–Ukrainian war etc.).<sup>67</sup> The fourth section presents reviews by Mirosław Nagielski and Olha Novyk of the book by Walentyna Sobol *Filip Orlik (1672–1742) i jego “Diariusz”*.<sup>68</sup> A brief overview of the 4<sup>th</sup> International Scientific Conference “Philosophy of being and survival in ego-documents of Ukrainian writers, painters and filmmakers (from the times of Orlik to the present)”, conducted at the Department of Ukrainian Studies of the University of Warsaw, is presented by Iuliia Kaminska.<sup>69</sup> She summarizes that the main idea of the scientific meeting was to discuss and condemn the shameful Russian attack on Ukraine, the mass Russian propaganda, and the mass terror in the occupied territories. Attention was paid to the raising of national spirit and patriotism, to military assistance, and to diplomatic support for Ukraine from European countries. In summarizing the results of the conference, Alla Shvets, one of the moderators, noted:

colleagues from Ukraine and Poland in their studies of epistolary and artistic texts covered significant material about the realities of war, the horrors of concentration camps and famines that took place on the territories of our countries during the 17<sup>th</sup>–21<sup>st</sup> centuries. Speakers emphasized precisely this theme, since the loss of life, basic material goods, the restriction of human rights and freedoms caused by war not only bring bitterness of suffering and irreparable pain but also stop the overall world development.<sup>70</sup>

The last section is devoted to the memory of Dmytro Pavlychko, one of the founders of the Ukrainian National Movement, the Democratic Party of Ukraine, the first chairman of the Taras Shevchenko Ukrainian Language Society, one of the authors of the Act of Independence of Ukraine on August 24, 1991, and a politician and diplomat, serving as Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of Ukraine to

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<sup>67</sup> Ibid.

<sup>68</sup> Ibid.

<sup>69</sup> Ibid.

<sup>70</sup> Ibid.



Slovakia and Poland (the article by Tamara Senina and Teresa Chynczewska-Hennel).<sup>71</sup>

As is apparent from the results of the analysis of the journal's issues, *Polish-Ukrainian Studies* extensively cover various historical periods and analyse diverse themes, primarily focusing on literary aspects. Themes of history and philosophy are less explored in articles, sometimes fragmentarily within the scope of literary research. Increasing publication activity in these specific areas could be a significant step in deepening the study of the Ukrainian-Polish context. This could serve as one of the key directions for the further development of the journal. Expanding the coverage of historical and philosophical topics in dedicated articles or comprehensive studies could contribute to a more profound understanding of relations between Ukraine and Poland, fostering scholarly discussion and attracting a diverse audience interested in these broad intellectual aspects. This strategic expansion has the potential to enhance the journal's academic impact and strengthen its role as a valuable platform for interdisciplinary dialogue.

Overall, the prospects for the journal's development are promising. Currently, the journal is indexed in several databases. However, efforts are ongoing to align its structure with the requirements of additional international databases (Scopus and WoS) with the goal of inclusion in these databases. This process is realized through the implementation of series of key steps, including editorial reflection and self-development, identification, and resolution of internal issues as well as the implementation of a broad set of measures for improvement.

Additionally, emphasis is placed on communication, encompassing initiatives to increase the journal's attractiveness for the scientific community. This includes intensified activity on social media.

Another crucial direction for development is the transformation of the journal's structure and content. This involves stimulating

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<sup>71</sup> *Studia Polsko-Ukraińskie*, [https://wuw.pl/data/include/cms//SPU\\_2023\\_10.pdf](https://wuw.pl/data/include/cms//SPU_2023_10.pdf), [30.03.2023].

the creation of thematic issues, especially based on materials from conferences with international participants and similar events, as well as increasing the proportion of scholarly reviews. These initiatives contribute to the establishment of a more appealing and engaging scholarly platform, more capable to meet the needs and expectations of the scientific community.

To conclude, the humanities play a vital role in understanding the relationship between people and their environment, and in exploring the culture, history, and traditions of different nations. *Polish-Ukrainian Studies*, a journal devoted to interdisciplinary research on Ukraine, Poland, and their interconnectedness, has made a significant contribution to the field of humanities by showcasing the best humanist traditions of both countries and addressing topics that may be painful for both of them. The overview of the ten issues provides evidence that the scientific studies published in the journal demonstrate an absolutely new and relevant quality of philological thinking of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, organically infused with comparative and critical analysis, methodological pluralism, which confirms the relevant comparative thesis on the naturalness and regularity of the existence of different levels of understanding artistic and scientific literature in the context of historical and cultural trends. The systematically ordered set of articles allows for communication regarding literature as an art of language, which has emotional, artistic, and scientific potential.

Throughout more than a decade of publication and contributions from numerous scholars, the journal has become a reputable source of unique investigations by outstanding Ukrainian and Polish scientists.

The journal's editorial board, led by esteemed scholars such as Walentyna Sobol and Teresa Chynczewska-Hennel, ensures the quality and rigour of the articles through a double-blind peer review process. The journal is also indexed in various reputable databases, further solidifying its standing in the academic community.

*Polish-Ukrainian Studies* offer a multidisciplinary approach to studying Ukrainian history, culture, and literature, providing valuable insights and new perspectives. The articles shed light on less studied

aspects of Ukrainian history and culture, and the reviews provide critical analysis of recent publications in the field. The contributions of the authors and scholars featured in this journal engage in the ongoing dialogue and exchange between Polish and Ukrainian cultures, further enriching the field of Ukrainian studies.

During the present war between Ukraine and Russia, Poland has been actively providing assistance and support to Ukrainians at various levels, including not only the state level, but also the fields of education and culture. One notable initiative that has played a significant part in fostering artistic ties between Ukraine and Poland is the *Polish-Ukrainian Studies* journal. It serves as a cultural bridge between the two nations, promoting collective understanding, cooperation, and fellowship, especially during these gruelling times of conflict. The journal serves as a platform for scholars, researchers, and writers from both Ukraine and Poland to share their knowledge, insights and perspectives on various aspects of their shared history, culture and society. Through their diverse range of articles, essays, research papers and reviews, *Polish-Ukrainian Studies* cover a wide range of topics, including language, literature, history, politics, and social issues. The journal provides a precious space for scholars and experts to engage in scholarly exchange, intellectual dialogue and academic collaboration, contributing to the enrichment of both Polish and Ukrainian societies.

The significance of *Polish-Ukrainian Studies* goes beyond academia, as it serves as a symbol of fellowship and solidarity between Poland and Ukraine. The journal continues to promote cooperation, fostering mutual respect and appreciation between the two nations.

It is extremely important to note that Poland has also been actively involved in other cultural initiatives to support Ukraine during these difficult times. This includes organizing cultural events, exhibitions and exchange programs that promote Ukrainian culture in Poland. Poland has also provided humanitarian assistance and support to Ukrainians affected by the war, such as medical aid, food, shelter etc.

The cultural and educational support provided by Poland to Ukraine during the war demonstrates the strong bonds and historical

ties that exist between the two nations. Poland's commitment to fostering cultural cooperation and understanding with Ukraine, even in the midst of conflict, reflects its dedication to promoting peace, stability and mutual respect in the region.

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