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## Editorial: Europeanization of Europe

Today Europeanization is a notion that is frequently used; however, there is a clear shortage of, or even fragmentariness of scientific knowledge, within this scope. The research into the Europeanization processes were initiated by political scientists in the 1970s, although the notion itself only gained popularity in the 1990s alongside the realization of the common European market. From that moment, Europeanization is a research problem that has attracted interest in numerous fields and scientific disciplines. David Floyd [2001, p. 109] emphasizes the fact that the majority of market changes which have occurred since the beginning of the twenty-first century took place as a result of Europeanization processes which are *explicite*, defined as the phenomenon of the regionalization processes. As Neil Fligstein [2009, p. 107] highlights, the “majority of the research concerning the European integration focuses only on political and legal processes (...) which is the reason for which researchers overlook the fact how deep the European economy has been reorganized.” There are few works of the kind cited above, nor have there been many recent papers seeking to undertake broad and deep research into the Europeanization processes in both economic (including macro- and microeconomic fields) and noneconomic dimensions.

Due to the diversity and multiplicity of the article submissions to the Europeanization to the editorial board, it was decided that two consecutive issues of the journal will be dedicated to this theme. The current issue of our quarterly (HP no. 8) is entitled the “Europeanization of Europe,” and the follow-up issue (HP no. 10) will be entitled “Processes of Europeanization”.

The current issue of the “Horizons of Politics” raises the questions of the essence of Europeanization, such as: What is Europeanization? How should it be understood and interpreted? What is the relation of Europeanization and European Integration? What are the relations between Europeanization, EU-ization, euroization, Europeification and Europeanism? What is the reciprocal relation of Europeanization and globalization processes? What is the relation between the Europeanization and Americanization processes? What are the dimensions of Europeanization, especially in terms of the socio-political and economic fields? Can we talk about the Europeanization of political and economic education? Can we talk about Self-Europeanization? Is there a European Identity? How does it relate to a national identity? Is Europeanization only a manifestation of the intensification of integration processes in the 19th and 20th centuries? Or is it deeply rooted historically? What are the possible directions of the evolution of Europeanization processes?

In this issue the editorial board exceptionally decided to abandon the section “Varia”; instead, it was decided to expand the section of “Thematic Articles”, which allowed us to present seven thematic articles in the current issue of our quarterly.

The article entitled “Europeanization – an Attempt to Systematize and Conceptualize Research Approaches” is written by Krzysztof Wach from the Faculty of Economics and International Relations at the Cracow University of Economics, as well as the Institute of Political Science of the Jesuit University Ignatianum in Krakow. It is a kind of introduction to the theme of Europeanization. In addition to the discourse on the definition of Europeanization, its attempt to synthesize basic research approaches on this subject was included.

Another article is co-authored by John Constantelos and Polly Diven from the Department of Political Science of Grand Valley State University in Grand Rapids and it is entitled “The Roots of Confidence in the European Union.” The article refers to the very important

issue of public confidence in the institutions of the European Union, its sources and determinants, which in turn results in an intensification or slowdown of the processes of Europeanization.

The article written by Rafal Riedel from the Institute of Political Science of the University of Opole is entitled: "Legitimacy of Europeanization Processes in the Times of Crisis" examines the current theme of the debt crisis in the euro zone as a perspective on the controversial debate over the legitimacy of power in the institutional system of the European Union.

Jan Brzozowski from the Department of European Studies at the Cracow University of Economics has presented an article on "The National Labour Market Policies in the European Union: Between Europeanization and Re-nationalization," which continues the theme of the ongoing financial and debt crisis, but this time from the perspective of the labour market.

The next article entitled "Europeanization of European Universities. Between Two Currents of Changes" has been written by Radoslaw Rybkowski from the Institute of American Studies and Polish Diaspora of the Jagiellonian University, as well as the Institute of Political Science of the Jesuit University Ignatianum in Krakow. It discusses the emerging issues of the European dimension of higher education, which contributes to increasing its attractiveness among students and professors from around the world.

Aleksander Stępkowski from the Faculty of Law and Administration at the University of Warsaw, in his article entitled "Contemporary Europeanization of Law as an Aspect of the Modern State's Evolution" shared his own insights on the convergence processes of national legal systems within the European Union.

Last but not least, Ewa Bujwid-Kurek from the Institute of Political Science and International Relations at the Jagiellonian University, as well as the Institute of Political Sciences at the Jesuit University Ignatianum in Kraków, presents an article entitled "The Republic of Serbia in the Light of the Copenhagen Criteria – the Outline of Political Reflexion," which aims to evaluate to what extent the Copenhagen criteria set by the European Union, were implemented in the constitutional arrangements of the Republic of Serbia.

Krzysztof Wach

**REFERENCES**

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- Floyd, D., 2001, *Globalisation or Europeanisation of Business Activity? Exploring the Critical Issues*, „European Business Review“ vol. 13, no. 2, pp. 109-113.