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Words of thanks and valediction

The current issue of our quarterly is primarily dedicated to two leading themes. The first theme, “Culture in the Media, Media in Culture”, engages authors in a contemplation of the media’s role within contemporary communication-cultural rituals and presents the media sphere as a platform for the dissemination of cultural norms and values. Doctor Jarosław Kinal from the University of Rzeszów serves as the guest editor for this segment of *Perspectives on Culture*. The second leading theme is the “Historical City” under the editorship of Assistant Professor Andrzej Laskowski, professor at UEK. Within this section, authors endeavor to elucidate how urban communities have reacted to diverse crisis scenarios, which have concurrently served as remedies for the manifold afflictions encountered by urban spaces throughout history. Additionally, the issue comprises other works featured within regular sections.

This issue marks the final, the twenty-first, edition of my tenure as the editor-in-chief of the esteemed journal *Perspectives on Culture*, spanning from 2019 to 2024. Over this period, the quarterly publication has firmly established its rank within the realm of humanities-oriented journals, disseminating scholarly works predominantly from disciplines such as cultural and religious studies, history, and literary studies, alongside contributions in the field of cultural management and marketing across diverse domains.

In conclusion of my tenure spanning nearly five years as the Editor-in-Chief of *Perspectives on Culture*, and nearly a decade of involvement with the journal (since 2015, I assumed the role of thematic editor for the Marketing in Culture section, and subsequently, Intercultural Management), I wish to express gratitude to my predecessors.

The foundation and first editorial leadership of the journal from 2009 to 2013 were under the auspices of Professor Andrzej Waśko, holding a habilitation degree, presently affiliated with the Jagiellonian University. Professor Waśko undertook the formidable task of establishing a scholarly journal within the Institute of Cultural Studies at the Jesuit University Ignatianum in Krakow. Subsequently, the reins were passed to Assistant Professor Leszek Zinkow (currently serving as a professor at the Institute of Mediterranean and Oriental Cultures of the Polish Academy of Sciences) who assumed the role of Editor-in-Chief from 2013 to 2016. During

his tenure, Prof. Zinkow expanded the editorial team and institutionalized regular sections. From 2017 to 2019, the helm of the editorial board was steered by Dr Paweł Nowakowski (currently affiliated with the University of National Education Commission in Krakow). Doctor Nowakowski's transformative leadership yielded the transition of the journal from an annual to a quarterly publication and secured its primary points in the fledging journal evaluation system introduced by the Ministry of Science and Higher Education. In this broader context, the contributions of Prof. Zinkow and Dr Nowakowski stand as exemplary and ultimate.

My predecessor, Doctor Nowakowski handed over me with the journal, which, owing to his endeavors, received the endowment from the ministerial project "Support for Scientific Journals", a responsibility I assumed from 2019 to 2021. During my tenure, Doctor Magdalena Jankosz (Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow, Jesuit University Ignatianum in Krakow) joined the editorial team. I extend special appreciation to Dr Jankosz, who has been by my side since the inception of my tenure as the Editor-in-Chief of *Perspectives on Culture*, serving as the cornerstone of my editorial team.

From 2019 to 2024, *Perspectives on Culture* benefited from two significant ministerial programs: the aforementioned Support for Scientific Journals (2019–2021) and Development of Scientific Journals (2022–2024). These programs facilitated numerous adjustments in the journal's modes of operation, enabling for entire professionalization of the publishing process and vast internationalization, including the incorporation of the title into indexed databases of scientific journals. Notably, during this period, several rectors from Polish and foreign universities contributed their writings to *Perspectives on Culture*.

In the registry of scientific journals and reviewed materials from international conferences overseen by the ministry responsible for science (formerly MNiSW, MEiN, currently again MNiSW), *Perspectives on Culture* consistently elevated its rating: from 20 to 40, then 70, 100, and finally 140 points. Presently, following modifications implemented on January 5, 2024, by the Minister of Science and Higher Education, the journal holds a rating of 100 points.

Starting from February 1, 2024, the helm of *Perspectives on Culture* will be entrusted to Dr. Bogumił Strączek (Institute of Cultural Studies and Journalism at UIK), assisted by his deputy, Fr. Dr. Krzysztof Homa (Institute of Cultural Studies and Journalism at UIK), and the editorial secretary, Dr. Magdalena Jankosz. I extend my best wishes to the new editorial team for a successful and fulfilling journey with forthcoming editions of *Perspectives on Culture*.

Łukasz Burkiewicz
January 31, 2024, Krakow