Dorota Maj, Marcin Pomarański, Report from *Environmentalism* – a nationwide conference with the participation of foreign guests, May 13–14, 2015.

Social and political movements are one of the main research areas of the Maria Curie-Skłodowska University's Department of Political Movements. It was the primary reason for which the question about new trends in this area has become a subject of interest in a series of research conferences organized in Lublin and the surroundings. Earlier versions of the research project included problems of social democracy, liberalism, conservatism, Christian democracy, national movement, populism, extremism, hactivism, and feminism. The 2015's edition of the event which took place on May 13th–14th was entitled "Environmentalism".

The conference organized under the direction of Professor Maria Marczewska-Rytko allowed the audience to familiarize with the problems of terminology of the so-called "green politics" as well as with the ideas and the media images of the modern environmental social and political movement. Another scientific challenge was to analyze the European and global dimension of the environmental security in the 21st century. The invitation sent by the organizers to Polish scientific community met with great interest and response. As a result, more than 30 experts representing major academic centers came to Lublin. The conference was also attended by social scientists from Bulgaria. Such a numerous group of speakers gathered in Lublin has allowed for multi-faceted analysis of environmentalist phenomenon during the conference panels.

The formal opening of the conference was made by Professor Ryszard Dębicki – Vice-Rector for Research and International Relations at the Maria Curie-Skłodowska University, Professor Grzegorz Janusz – Dean of the Faculty of Political Science, and Professor Maria Marczewska-Rytko – Head of the Department of Political Movements. A special address to the conference was sent by Dr. Krzysztof Grabczuk – Vice-Marshal of the Lublin Voivodeship. During the opening ceremony, Dr. Dorota Maj presented the last scientific achievements of the Department of Political Movements appearing in three collections: social and political movements, electronic direct democracy, and religious systems in the modern world.

During the ceremonial plenary session nine lectures had been presented. This part of conference was inaugurated by Professor Roman Tokarczyk from the Maria Curie-Skłodowska University, who spoke on the issues of environmentalism as an inspiration for the new strands of political thought and systems of norms. The lecture included both the very concept of environmentalism as well as generated ideological and practical dimension of the phenomenon. The next orations which clarified these issues were pointing to the biological and geopolitical aspects of environmentalism. The lecture by Professor Adam Barcikowski from the Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń focused on answering the question of whether human activity based on the principle of self-restraint could be considered as organic and ecological one? The starting points for Professor Barcikowski's opinion was the analysis of the maximization principle which is the basic for all biological processes and the interpretation of numerical growth of the human population in the terms of evolutionary ecology. Another lecture presented by Professor Jarosław Macała from the University of Zielona Góra came up the problem of collisions between ecology and geopolitics. The speaker drew attention to the question of the relationship between green politics and geopolitical studies.

The following lectures focused on the relations of the environmentalism with the social and political movements. Professor Maria Marczewska-Rytko of the Maria Curie-Skłodowska University presented an analysis of environmentalism as a new social movement and Professor Joanna Dzwończyk from the Cracow University of Economics focused on the modifying attitudes of Polish society towards the issue of ecology, especially to readiness of participation in institutionalized forms of struggle in defense of the environment as protests and actions within the framework of civil disobedience. Professor Grzegorz Piwnicki from the University of Gdańsk, on the other hand, presented the issues of ecological movement on the example of the nuclear energy debate in Poland. The speaker annotated both the history of the Polish nuclear power political dispute as well as the prospects for its development in the future.

Other specialists presented the international perspective of environmentalism. Professor Wojciech Nowiak from the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań focused on the ecological security of the Nordic countries, on the example of Norway. An important issue raised in the speech was the issue of eliminating domestic and international threats related to the exploitation of the Arctic. Professor Krystyna Gomółka from Gdańsk University of Technology, on the other hand, concentrated on the main goals and activities of Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia governments in the domain of environmental policy at the turn of the 20th and 21st centuries. In the lecture closing the plenary session, Professor Wojciech Ziętara from the Maria Curie-Skłodowska University raised the issue of European environmentalist movement's structures.

After the plenary sessions the speakers and other participants debated in four thematic panels. In the first one, the discussion circulated around a theoretical dimension of environmentalism, especially around the concept of climate policy by Anthony Giddens, the human-animal relationship in Marian Zdziechowski's thought, ecological form of political gnosis, moral dimension of man's relationship to nature and the political dimension of "green utopia". The

Ogólnopolska konferencja naukowa z udziałem gości zagranicznych
EKOLOGIZM Lublin 13-14 maja 2015r.

analysis of the practical dimension of environmentalism taken in the second panel covered: the problem of information and communication technologies in the activities of Polish environmental organizations, the question about the nature protection in the foreign policies of the European states, the ideas of Christian environmental responsibility and media discourse on the proposal on privatization of Polish state forests. Next two panels, which gathered also many doctoral students, focused on the issues of ecological local perspective, citizens' activities to protect the environment, ecofeminism, and standards of corporate social responsibility.

An integral part of the conference was a trip to Zamość, which has become not only an opportunity to visit one of the most beautiful cities in the Lublin Voivodeship, but also a chance to continue the scientific discussions in the less formal surroundings, as well as to integrate the social scientific circles.