Wojciech Ziętara, review of: *Haktywizm (cyberterroryzm, haking, protest obywatelski, cyberaktywizm, e-mobilizacja)* [Hacktivism (cyberterrorism, hacking, civic protest, cyberactivism, e-mobilization], ed. Maria Marczewska-Rytko, Maria Curie-Skłodowska University Press, Lublin 2014, p. 340.

The further collective publication edited by Maria Marczewska-Rytko – *Hacktivism (cyberterrorism, hacking, civic protest, cyberactivism, e-mobilization)* – was published by the Publishing House of the University of Maria Curie-Skłodowska in Lublin. The aforementioned publication is a part of publishing series of the Political Movements Unit of the Political Science Department (UMCS), *Social and Political Movements* and *Direct Democracy*. So far, the employees of the Unit published 26 scientific monographs and collective works.

Analysis of hacktivism phenomenon was presented in the said study. So far, the subject has not been so widely referred to in other scientific studies. Hacktivism is a political phenomenon strictly connected with a development of new technologies (the Internet). It is seen by some political and social groups, particularly social and protest movements, as a positive tool for struggle and execution of political goals. However, it has a negative dimension for many contemporary organizations, movements and even states. Such defining of research problems proves that hacktivism is an issue raising controversies and doubts. Therefore, undertaking a new and inventive problem should fully be appreciated. Trying to complete a research niche it was decided that "the objective of investigation (…) is to systematize and evaluate experiences connected with implementation of solutions characteristic for hacktivism, a diagnosis concerning a current status of this phenomenon in a global and regional view and identification of controversies and dilemma characteristic for it" [p. 7]. The phenomenon of hacktivism could not be analysed only in a narrow context and therefore, the following specialists took part in execution of research: political scientists, historians, media specialists, specialists in political communication, international relations, political doctrines, political movements, etc.

The publication was divided into three parts: *General issues*, *Hacktivism in a digital era*, *Hacktivism and cyberterrorism*. It consists of 19 articles which were written by scientists from different academic centres in Poland (among others: the University of Maria Curie-Skłodowska in Lublin, the University of Gdańsk, the University of Wrocław, the University of Warsaw, the Pedagogical University of Cracow). Due to their involvement, the phenomenon of hacktivism and related subjects were analysed from many different perspectives.

In my opinion, the following articles deserve particular attention and recognition. Daniel Mider (the University of Warsaw) wrote an article *Internet as a tool in the fight against censorship*. The author systematized and analysed methods due to which Internet users could overcome existing obstacles in a sphere of freedom of expression. In a conclusion, the author stated that a clash of two opposing worlds represented by, on the one hand, citizens and social movements and, on the other hand, states and corporations may end in three possible ways. A fight between these parties will continue to increase. However, none of the parties will get a significant counterbalance to limit importance of the other party. In the second scenario, states and corporations would withdraw from the fight for the Internet and in the third scenario of mutual relations development, states and corporations would get advantage over citizens and finally, appropriate Internet and fully control media message. Piotr Tosiek, representing

the University of Maria Curie-Skłodowska (UMCS) in Lublin, in his article *Security of IT systems in Europe. A legal dimension*, focused on the analysis of international and supranational legal regulations. In the conclusion, the author stressed that system solutions in a scope of informatics security are unclear and too scattered and they require further co-operation of states and organizations in order to prepare a uniform position. Maria Marczewska-Rytko (UMCS) dealt with the problems of electronic voting security in a Polish public debate. The author made the analysis of positions presented in a debate and she stated that two opinions concerning possibilities of using electronic voting co-existed: positive and negative ones. In compliance with representatives of a positive opinion, voting is more modern than a current formula. As a response to these arguments, opponents pay attention to the fact that electronic voting excludes possibility of participation of returning officers, it means significant financial costs and uncertainty concerning possibility of maintaining a rule of voting confidentiality. Dorota Maj (UMCS) conducted the analysis of functioning of new social movements from a point of using Internet mobilization in the globalization era. In the conclusion, the author wrote [p. 122]: "In their activity new social movements use in a wide scope traditional forms of protest actions, such as forms of political lobbying and occupation actions or alternative forms of cultural expressions such as music or theatre festivals. Due to a specific character of their functioning and also transformation within contemporary societies, having its sources in processes of technological modernization and globalization, new social movements use new technological tools including the Internet". Andrzej Chodubski from the University of Gdańsk brought closer a problem of hacktivism as a political one in an information civilization. In the opinion of the author, hacktivism is a new phenomenon being a response to progressing dehumanization of social life in the era of globalization. Hacktivism is strictly connected with activities of social groups at a micro level directed at disorganization of a political life. In the activities of hackers we may see a protection of fundamental political rights such as: freedom of expression, the right to organize, participation in a political life, etc. and also opposition against limiting citizens' freedoms and rights. Marcin Pomarański (UMCS) also looked at the same phenomenon of hacktivism. In the opinion of the author, the analysis of the origin and development of hacktivist movements unambiguously allows for formulating an opinion that they are modern protest movements. Jarosław Macała from the University of Zielona Góra referred to one of such examples. He presented the article *The Anonymous: cyber-criminals or knights of freedom?* Searching for answers to a question presented in the title, the author focuses on the origin, development and forms of activities of the Anonymous. Referring to assessments presented in a public discourse in Poland, the author stressed that Internet users who treated them as defenders of freedom and pluralism positively talked about the Anonymous. At the same time, government and media spheres, while assessing them negatively, remind of their anti-system activity and violation of existing law. The problem of activity of the Anonymous was also developed in an article written by Jakub Nowak (UMCS). He referred to Project Chanology being an example of a hacktivist protest directed against the Scientology Church in 2008. In the conclusion, the author wrote that the said project [p. 201] "joins traditional ways of activities and completely new tactics using new, symbolic (pop culture) references and significant changes (technological, market, connected with social practices of users) of media environment within which activities were undertaken". The author had no doubts in qualifying the above action as one of many modern examples of hacktivist activities.

Summing up, I may unambiguously state that presented publication will be a valuable source of research concerning transformations in a modern world with particular attention paid to Internet importance in a social and political participation.