



Reports

Activities of the Polish National Committee of the International Council on Monuments and Sites (PKN ICOMOS)

The assembly of the members of the Polish National Committee of the International Council on Monuments and Sites (PKN ICOMOS) was held on January 26, 2009 in the Concert Hall of the Royal Castle in Warsaw. The main objective of the assembly was to evaluate the operations of the presidium and appoint a new president of PKN ICOMOS. Mr. Władimir Gilep, who is Chairperson of the Belarusian National Committee of ICOMOS with which our Committee signed a cooperation agreement, was the guest of honor.

During the meeting its participants listened to the speeches delivered by presidents, secretary, treasurer and chairpersons of the Committees. Next, the pre-

sidium was elected and Professor Bogusław Szmygin was appointed president of PKN ICOMOS.

On February 10, 2009 the presidium had a session which was constituted as follows: Vice-Presidents: Prof. Ewa Łużyniecka, Prof. Krzysztof Pawłowski, Prof. Andrzej Tomaszewski, Marek Konopka, M.A. (publications), Secretary General – Assistant Prof. Piotr Molski, Vice Secretary General – Ewa Święcka, Ph.D., Treasurer – Barbara Werner, Ph.D., members of the Presidium – Assistant Prof. Danuta Kłosek-Kozłowska (responsible for the Prof. J. Zachwatowicz Competition), Marcin Gawlicki, Ph.D. (cooperation with the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage.)

Report on Operations of the Presidium in the term of office 2006–2008

The General Assembly of PKN ICOMOS held on January 27, 2006 in the Royal Castle in Warsaw appointed the President, a new Presidium with nine members and it entrusted the President with the execution of adopted conclusions.

During the first meeting on February 13, 2006 the Presidium was constituted as follows: President – Prof. Andrzej Tomaszewski; Vice-Presidents: Prof. Ewa Łużyniecka, Prof. Krzysztof Pawłowski, Prof. Bogusław Szmygin; Secretary General – Ph.D. Andrzej Michałowski, Treasurer – Assistant Prof. Danuta Kłosek Kozłowska, members: Prof. Stanisław Medeksza, Prof. Zbigniew Paszkowski, Ewa Święcka, Ph.D. – Vice Secretary General, Małgorzata Włodarczyk, Ph.D., Katarzyna Pałubska, M.A., was entrusted with further management of the secretariat of PKN ICOMOS.

In execution of the resolution of the general meeting the PKN Scientific Committees were established and their chairpersons were appointed:

Committee for Military Architecture – Chairperson, Assistant Prof. Piotr Molski
Committee for Historic Gardens and Cultural Landscape – Chairperson, Andrzej Michałowski, Ph.D. and after his resignation Barbara Werner, M.A.
Committee for Wood Architecture – Chairperson, Prof. Zbigniew Paszkowski
Committee for Historic Cemeteries – Chairperson, Tadeusz Rutkowski, Ph.D.
Committee for History of Sacred Architecture – Chairperson, Prof. Ewa Łużyniecka
Committee for Protection of Archeological Excavation Sites – Chairperson, Prof. Stanisław Medeksza
Committee for Wall Paintings – Chairperson, Ewa Święcka, Ph.D.
Committee for Historic Cities – Chairperson, Assistant Prof. Danuta Kłosek-Kozłowska
Committee for Technical Problems of Historic Buildings – Chairperson, Prof. Jerzy Jasiołko

Committee for Theory of Conservation – Chairperson, Prof. Bogusław Szmygin
 Committee for Modern Architecture – Chairperson, Małgorzata Włodarczyk, Ph.D.

During the last term of office there were in total eight meetings of the Presidium. Due to professional work of

the members of the Presidium and the necessity of covering the costs of travel to Warsaw by five of its members (apart from the constituting meeting all members were never present), it was decided that in the cases which would require consultation the members would communicate over telephone or electronic mail.

Members of the PKN ICOMOS

At the end of the term of office the PKN ICOMOS had 171 individual members (including 15 honorary members) and 7 institutional members. Until the end of the term of office the Presidium accepted 26 new members (with one candidacy for later consideration.) Three members were granted the distinction of honorary members

(Professors: Stanisław Latour, Andrzej Rottermund, Jan Tajchman.) Furthermore, two were accepted as institutional members (cities: Jawor and Świdnica.)

The following exquisite members left us: Professor Tadeusz Chrzanowski, Professor Stanisław Latour, Michał Witwicki, M.A., and Professor Wiktor Zin.

Youth Forum

In execution of the resolution of the general meeting the Youth Forum of PKN ICOMOS was established with Włodzimierz Witkowski, Ph.D. as its originator and head.

The formation meeting of the Forum was held on November 16, 2007 and since then it has been developing its operations.

Scientific Committees

One of the basic objectives of the Presidium was to organize scientific and professional activities of the members of PKN ICOMOS within the horizontal structure of the Scientific Committees. It resulted from the conviction that work in focus groups on organizing scientific meetings of the members as well as organizing (or co-organizing) scientific conferences should bring better results than the conferences held occasionally within the framework of the whole Committee. This also resulted from the lack of logistic resources needed to efficiently organize big conferences. Furthermore, conflicting situations with the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage (MKiDzN) made it difficult to raise the funds for this purpose.

The activities of the Scientific Committees were evaluated by the Presidium twice: at the meetings on June 23, 2008 (with the participation of invited Chairpersons of the Committees) and on December 15, 2008 in the presence of the Chairperson of the

Scrutiny Committee.) It demonstrated that the idea to include all main areas of activities and interests of the members of our Committee in the structure of the Committee was too ambitious and on a number of occasions proved unreal. On the one hand, the efforts of the chairpersons of the committees were confronted with the lack of time and interest of prospective members and, on the other hand, some chairpersons did not make effort to create a committee. Some committees were either not established or they did not perform any evident activities. Some committees, however, operate well, grow and have some achievements. These include the following: Committee for Military Architecture, Committee for Theory of Conservation, Committee for History of Sacred Architecture, Committee for Historic Gardens and Cultural Landscape, Committee for Historic Cities. These Committees organize scientific conferences and publish relevant papers.

International ICOMOS Scientific Committees

Members of the PKN ICOMOS are active in eight committees:

- Committee for Military Architecture: Lidia Klupsz, M.A. originator and first chairperson of the committee appointed vice-chairperson at the general meeting in Quebec;
- Committee for Shared Heritage: Prof. Romana Cielątkowska (regular member) originator of the European group “Joint Heritage”;
- Committee for Historic Gardens and Cultural Landscape: Barbara Werner, M.A. vice-chairperson, Andrzej Michałowski, Ph.D. (honorary member);

- Committee for Education of Conservation Specialists: Prof. Andrzej Tomaszewski (honorary chairperson);
- Committee for Wall Paintings: Ewa Święcka, Ph.D. (regular member);
- Committee for Historic Cities: Prof. Krzysztof Pawłowski (honorary member), Assistant Prof. Danuta Kłosek-Kozłowska (regular member);
- Committee for Technical Problems of Conservation: Prof. Jerzy Jasieńko (regular member);
- Committee for Theory and Philosophy of Conservation and Restoration: Prof. Andrzej Tomaszewski.

Participation in the international bodies of ICOMOS

– General Assembly: Quebec, November 2008. A six-person Polish delegation participated in the Assembly. 4 papers were presented (Andrzej Białkiewicz and Maria Żychowska, Danuta Kłosek-Kozłowska, Bogusław Szmygin, Andrzej Tomaszewski). One of the four sections of the congress was chaired by Bogusław Szmygin).

– Executive Committee: Bogusław Szmygin, member of the Committee since 2002, elected by the General Assembly in Quebec for the third term of office (2009–2011).

– Advisory Committee: Prof. Andrzej Tomaszewski, member since 2002.

– Scientific Council: Lidia Klupsz (member 2005–2008), Andrzej Tomaszewski (member since 2005).

– European Regional Group of ICOMOS.

There were three annual conferences of the bodies listed above. Polish members participated in all of them: Edinburgh, September 2006; Pretoria, October 2007; Quebec, October 2008. There were also two annual conferences of the presidents of the European ICOMOS national committees and European members of the Executive Committee: in Sibiu (April 2007) and in Bernie (May 2008.) Bogusław Szmygin and Andrzej Tomaszewski participated in both of them.

Professor Jan Zachwatowicz Prize

The PKN ICOMOS Prize was established in two categories:

– main international prize sponsored by various entities (primarily by the BRE Bank),

– international prize for the best graduation works in the scope of preservation of historic buildings sponsored by Krystyna Zachwatowicz and Andrzej Wajda.

The growing difficulties in raising funds for the main prize forces the president to open discussions with the MKiDzN on transformation of it into the prize of the PKN ICOMOS and the General Preservation Officer with the MKiDzN securing the financial aspect of the

prize (2×15.000 PLN.) After changing the rules the prize was awarded twice:

– the 2007 Prize was awarded to Professor Maria Brykowska and Professor Edmund Małachowicz (the presentation took place on June 26, 2007),

– the 2008 Prize was awarded to Professor Zygmunt Świechowski and Architect Lilia Onyszczenko, Preservation Officer in Lvov (the presentation took place on October 27, 2008).

Both in 2007 and 2008 when the prizes were awarded, there occurred difficulties in cooperation with the MKiDzN which resulted in a four-month delay in the presentation of the prizes.

Cooperation with social organizations and institutions

PKN ICOMOS maintained regular contacts with the Association of Monument Conservation Specialists (SKZ,) Society for the Preservation of Historical Monuments (TONZ) and International Council of Museums (ICOM.) The cooperation with SKZ was especially close, especially with its President Professor Jerzy Jasięko. It primarily regarded joint activities aimed at changing the situation of Conservation Specialists. Furthermore, SKZ's "Conservation News" published current information about ICOMOS's activities. Similarly, we initiated joint activities with TONZ. Together with PKN ICOM we applied to

MKiDzN to improve the situation in Polish museums. The cooperation with the Polish Committee for UNESCO regarded monitoring of Polish sites of world heritage and proposals of new entries on the UNESCO list. While co-organizing scientific conferences we joined efforts with the International Cultural Center in Cracow, Technical University of Łódź, Lublin University of Technology, Wrocław University of Technology and Gdansk University of Technology as well as the National Center for Historical Monument Studies and Documentation KOBiDZ and local government authorities.

Publications

PKN ICOMOS did not conduct its own publishing operations. Despite being aware that the publications of sister organizations do not cover the whole area of interest of the conservation community and that there exists a need for translations and publishing new international documents, the continuation of the publishing tradition from previous terms of office failed. However, PKN ICOMOS through its members joined the pub-

lishing activities of other organizations or institutions which had such possibilities. Thanks to Professor Ewa Łużyniecka, Chief Editor of the periodical published by Wrocław University of Technology "Architectus", our Committee could publish in that periodical. Thanks to Professor Bogusław Szmygin it was possible to publish a series of books jointly by PKN ICOMOS and Lublin University of Technology.



Fig. 1. The General Assembly of members of PKN ICOMOS in the concert hall of the Royal Castle in Warsaw, 2009
(photo: E. Łużyniecka)

II. 1. Walne Zgromadzenie członków PKN ICOMOS w Sali Koncertowej Zamku Królewskiego w Warszawie, 2009
(fot. E. Łużyniecka)



Fig. 2. Newly elected President of PKN ICOMOS – Professor Bogusław Szmygin (photo: E. Świąćka)

II. 2. Nowo wybrany prezes PKN ICOMOS – prof. Bogusław Szmygin
(fot. E. Świąćka)

Activities regarding conservation specialists in Poland

At the beginning of the previous term of office (2003–2005) PKN ICOMOS chose as a priority the activities aimed at changing the situation of state conservation specialists.

An extraordinary General Assembly was held on November 30, 2005 with this issue on its agenda and it issued an appeal to the newly elected Minister of Culture and National Heritage Michał Ujazdowski. The numerous interventions in this matter during the two years when Law and Justice (PIS) was the ruling party were not effective. After the last election of the Presidium of PKN

ICOMOS another appeal was issued to Minister Bogdan Zdrojewski. However, Deputy Minister Merta, who remained in the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage, blocked our interventions and the draft of the amendment of the act prepared by PIS was submitted to the Government without consultation. The intervention of the President of PKN ICOMOS and the President of SKZ (joint visit to Minister Zdrojewski on June 27, 2008) was ineffective. The draft of the act was rejected on October 27, 2008 by the Government. This way after three years of futile attempts the issue is back where it started.

*Ewa Świąćka, Ph.D.
Secretary General of PKN ICOMOS*

Działania Polskiego Komitetu Narodowego Międzynarodowej Rady Ochrony Zabytków ICOMOS

W artykule omówiono przebieg Walnego Zgromadzenia członków PKN ICOMOS, które odbyło się 26 stycznia 2009 r. w Sali Koncertowej Zamku Królewskiego w Warszawie. Głównym celem zgromadzenia była ocena dotychczasowych działań – w artykule opublikowano sprawozdanie z prac prezydium w latach 2006–2008. W czasie zgromadzenia dokonano także wyboru nowego prezesa PKN ICOMOS. Został nim prof. Bogusław Szmygin. Gościem honorowym spotkania był Pan Władimir Gilep, Przewodniczący Komitetu Narodowego Białorusi ICOMOS, z którym nasz komitet podpisał porozumienie o współpracy.

Podano także informację o posiedzeniu prezydium, które 10 lutego 2009 ukonstytuowało się w następującym składzie: wiceprezisi: prof. Ewa Łużyniecka, prof. Krzysztof Pawłowski, prof. Andrzej Tomaszewski, mgr Marek Konopka (wydawnictwa), sekretarz generalny – dr hab. Piotr Molski, zastępca sekretarza generalnego – dr Ewa Świąćka, skarbnik – dr Barbara Werner, członkowie prezydium – dr hab. Danuta Kłosek-Kozłowska (odpowiedzialna za konkurs im. prof. J. Zachwatowicza), dr Marcin Gawlicki (współpraca z Ministerstwem Kultury i Dziedzictwa Narodowego).