

POLITICKÉ VEDY / POLITICAL SCIENCES

Časopis pre politológiu, najnovšie dejiny, medzinárodné vzťahy, bezpečnostné štúdiá / Journal for Political Sciences, Modern History, International Relations, security studies

URL of the journal / URL časopisu: <http://www.politickevedy.fpvmv.umb.sk>

Author(s) / Autor(i): Juliusz Piwowarski – Ewelina Brodziak
Article / Článok: International Scientific Conference: “LVIII CICA – XVI Security Forum Krakow 2021”
Publisher / Vydavateľ: Fakulta politických vied a medzinárodných vzťahov – UMB Banská Bystrica / Faculty of Political Sciences and International Relations – UMB Banská Bystrica
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.24040/politickevedy.2021.24.2.214-217>

Recommended form for quotation of the article / Odporúčaná forma citácie článku:

Piwowarski. J. – Brodziak. E. 2021. International Scientific Conference: “LVIII CICA – XVI Security Forum Krakow 2021”. In *Politické Vedy*. [online]. Vol. 24, No. 2, 2021. ISSN 1335 – 2741, pp. 214-217. Available at: DOI: <https://doi.org/10.24040/politickevedy.2021.24.2.214-217>

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INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE: “LVIII CICA – XVI SECURITY FORUM KRAKOW 2021”

Juliusz Piwowarski – Ewelina Brodziak*

University of Public and Individual Security “Apeiron” in Krakow, Poland for the few years has been organizing yearly scientific and didactic conference called Security Forum Krakow. It was constituted as a platform for presenting and discussing multidisciplinary ideas focused on security research. This year the event was held on 13–14 May 2021 as LVIII CICA – XVI Security Forum Krakow 2021. That edition was as much as the sixteenth Security Forum in Krakow, and at the same time the fourth one that was co-organized in Krakow by CICA International. Hence, since 2018 the conference has had a double numeration.

The conference enjoys a high degree of internationalization. Cooperation with CICA has largely increased the rank of the event, which is joined every year by representatives of scholarly circles from several countries. CICA is an international organisation which was founded nearly 40 years ago (1983) in Spain as Coloquios Internacionales sobre Cerbero y Agresion (International Conference on Relations between Biology and Aggression). In 1989 CICA was awarded the UNESCO Prize for its contribution in coverage the manifesto known as the Seville Statement, which contains scientific reports on biological and social determinants of aggression and their relationship. Nowadays, CICA International is a prominent international organisation with a status of foundation dealing with the problematics of aggression, violence and terrorism from personal to international dimension. The chair of CICA is Professor **J. Martin Ramirez**.

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The conference as an international scientific forum

This year's edition of the conference was unique due to three main reasons. Firstly, the conference was joined with the celebration of the 10th anniversary of the discipline of security sciences in Poland. Secondly, for the first time the creation of the CE F&R CICA Centre (Central-European Foundation & Research CICA Centre)¹ was officially announced. Thirdly, it was the first time when the conference had to be held in the online form due to the pandemic restrictions. Only a few persons (organizers, moderators and technical staff members) were present in the studio from which the conference was officially conducted. Other participants connected with them via the Internet, with the use of MS Teams platform.

For the cooperation as the co-organizers of the conference prominent universities and scientific organizations dealing with security research both in Poland and in the world were invited. Among those institutions were: Nebrija University (Spain), „Nicolae Balcesu“ Land Forces Academy (Romania), Faculty of Political Science and International Relations at Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica (Slovakia), Autonomous University of Lisbon (Portugal), Armed Forces Academy of General Milan Rastislav Štefánik in Liptovský Mikuláš (Slovakia), Psicobiosocial and Violence Study Institute (IEPSIV; Colombia), University of Security Management in Košice (Slovakia), Institute for National and International Security (INIS; Serbia), Academy of the Police Force in Bratislava (Slovakia), Vasil Levski National Military University in Veliko Tarnovo (Bulgaria), Lviv University of Business and Law (Ukraine). From Poland there were: Police Academy in Szczytno, Siedlce University of Natural Sciences and Humanities, War Studies University, Military University of Technology, Institute of Security and Management at Pomeranian University in Słupsk, Polish Naval Academy, Olsztyn Higher School, the Department of the Sociology of Dispositional Groups at Wrocław University as well as Safety Project firm and Combat Alert foundation.

What is more, the chairs of two scientific societies took patronage over the conference: Assoc. Prof. **Teresa Grabińska**, Ph.D., the Chairwoman of the

¹ CE F&R CICA Centre is a part of CICA International, functioning according to its scientific and ideas assumptions, which aim is to make the good environment to function and popularize CICA's activities in the Central and Eastern Europe. CE F&R CICA Centre is divided on three branches (but functioning as a whole): 1) Zielona Góra branch, coordinated by Marzanna Farnicka, Ph.D., focuses on violence in the family; 2) Kraków (Apeiron University) branch, coordinated by Rector Assoc. Prof. Juliusz Piwowarski, Ph.D., focuses on security; 3) Bratislava branch, coordinated by Prof. Ing. Jana Müllerová, Ph.D., focuses on risk management.

International Scientific Society "Fides et Ratio" and Prof. **Andrzej Glen**, Ph.D., the Chairman of the Board of the Polish Society of Security Sciences.

Media patronage over the event took two Polish publishing houses, which specialize among others in security sciences books: Difin Publishing House and Adam Marszałek Publishing House.

The idea of wide international and national cooperation between the securitologists was also presented by the way of opening each day of deliberation. The conference was open not only by Rector **Juliusz Piwowarski** and Chair J. **Martin Ramirez** but also by representatives of two Polish universities: Rector of Siedlce University of Natural Sciences and Humanities Prof. **Mirosław Minkina**, Ph.D., and Vice-Rector for Education at Pomeranian University in Słupsk, Assoc. Prof. **Andrzej Urbanek**, Ph.D. The second day of the meeting was opened by representatives of foreign universities: Brig. Gen. **Ivan Malamov**, Rector of Vasil Levski National Military University in Veliko Tarnovo, Bulgaria, and Brig. Gen. Prof. Eng. **Ghita Barsan**, Ph.D., Rector of "Nicolae Balcescu" Land Forces Academy in Sibiu, Romania.

Among many notable speakers the floor during the conference took: Prof. **Waldemar Zubrzycki**, Ph.D. (Szczytno, Poland) who said about the threats to security sciences on the tenth anniversary of their creation, Assoc. Prof. **Teresa Grabińska**, Ph.D. (Wrocław, Poland) with the speech about the similarities and differences between personal safety and security culture, Prof. **Darko Trifunovic**, Ph.D. (Belgrad, Serbia) who had lecture on contemporary terrorist challenges and threats in Europe, Assoc. Prof. **Rastislav Kazansky**, Ph.D. together with Assoc. Prof. **Lucia Rysova**, Ph.D. (Banska Bystrica, Slovakia) who spoke about economic security of the European Union in the context of the dynamics of development of globalized world economy. The deliberation was closed by the speeches of two prominent researchers: Prof. **Bernard Wiśniewski**, Ph.D. (Dąbrowa Górnicza, Poland), who said about the time as a determinant of security, and Prof. **Mirosław Skibniewski**, Ph.D. (College Park, USA), who delivered a speech about future research needs in the domain of public security.

The conference in numbers

The scale and the significance of the conference is the best shown by some statistics data. They are as following:

- 35 speakers were presenting during the conference;
- 2-day sessions were conducted in 2 languages (Polish and English);

- there were 7 scientific sessions in total, the Erasmus+ Panel and 2 ceremonial opening sessions;
- representatives of a total of 13 countries and 4 continents took the floor during the conference;
- representatives of 5 continents sat in conference committees;
- a total of 75 people signed up for the conference (active and passive participants);
- the speakers represented 26 Polish and foreign institutions;
- the participants joined us from 13 countries.

The agenda of LVIII CICA – XVI Security Forum Krakow 2021² focused in the significant part on issues related to security sciences discipline with regard to the 10th anniversary of its creation. Lots of speeches were concerned with the challenges of contemporary European security in the light of social, economic, pandemic and military conditions, a few of them dealt with the issue of peacekeeping missions. It may indicate the necessity to strengthen the sense of European security and developing the mechanisms of its enhancement. In the current international situation, the European Union and NATO structures seem to be insufficient to cover those needs.

² More about the event and other CICA conferences is available at: <https://apeiron.edu.pl/lviii-cica-xvi-security-forum-krakow-2021/>; <https://apeiron.edu.pl/galeria/lviii-cica-xvi-security-forum-krakow-2021/>; <https://cicainternational.org/past-events/>; <https://cicainternational.org/next-events/>