International Scientific Conference
Polish-Belarusian Cultural, Literary, and Linguistic Relationship, Wisznice 2019

On June 25–27, 2019, the next international scientific conference of the series ‘Polish-Belarusian Cultural, Literary, and Language Relations’ was held, dedicated to the 70th anniversary of Professor Michał Sajewicz (Mikhail Sae-vich), Ph.D. The conference was organized by the Institute of Slavonic Philology and the Institute of History of Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin, the Polish Society of Belarusian Studies, the Commune Government of Wisznice and the Society ‘Together for Wisznice’. The town of Wisznice (Lublin Voivodeship) was chosen as the place for the next international meeting in Poland.

The conference was attended by historians, sociologists, religious scholars, ethnographers, literary critics, and linguists from Poland (Lublin, Wisznice, Biała Podlaska, Warsaw, Poznan, Opole, Białystok, Bydgoszcz, Wroclaw, Gdansk), Belarus (Minsk, Grodno, Gomel), and other countries (Great Britain, Germany, Slovakia, Ukraine). Next to the researchers recognized in the Humanities, were graduate students and applicants.

Director of the Institute of Slavic Philology Siergiej Kowalow, Head of the town of Wisznice Piotr Dragan, Head of the Society ‘Together for Wisznice’ Daniel Dragan, Chairman of the International Association of Belarusists Iryna Bagdanovich received the honorary right to open the conference. The conference was warmly welcomed by the former Ambassador of the Republic of Poland to the Republic of Belarus Elżbieta Smułkowa and Consul of the Republic of Belarus in Biała Podlaska Vasil Kurlovich.

The reports delivered at the plenary session (chaired by Iryna Bagdanovich and Siergiej Kowalow) were devoted to a wide range of problems related to the modern humanitarian process. It opened with the conceptual presentation of Professor Elżbieta Smułkowa ‘As Evidenced by the Belarusian Correspondents of Antonina Obrębska-Jabłonska’. In the informative rich report, the author judiciously reflected the direction of the scientific and pedagogical activity of Professor A. Obrebska-Jabłońska from Warsaw University, whose dynamic activity has contributed to the significant spread of knowledge on East Slavic Philology in Poland.

Professor Uladzimir Karotky continued the plenary session with a profound report Territorial Capital and Its Manifestation in the East Slavic Literatures of the 12th–17th Centuries. The report, rich in thorough thesis, aroused considerable interest among the participants of the conference.

Dzmitry Kryvashey’s report The Place of Poland in the Bilateral Cultural Relations of Belarus at the Present Stage contained practical author’s theses.
The author approached the stated problem in a non-trivial and new way, which led to an interesting discussion of the presented concept during the conference.

The plenary session ended with a meaningful report by Professor Mikhail Saevich Deverbal Pejorative Names of Subjects in the Peripheral Dialects of the Belarusian Outskirts of Stary Levkov in Belarus. Convincing examples vividly confirmed substantial points and observations of the author.

The work of the conference was continued at linguistic, literary, historical, and cultural breakout sessions. The work of the participants was marked by intensity and specificity, so the conference was accompanied by interesting discussions.

Under the leadership of Ala Kozhynava and Piotr Złotkowski, the first linguistic sub-section worked. In its framework, a hot discussion was caused by the reports of Ala Kozhynava Peculiarities of Biblical Translations Created in the Territory of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth and the Grand Duchy of Lithuania in the 16th Century, Joanna Getka What happened to the old Belarusian language in the 18th Century? Contribution to the Discussion on the Development of the Belarusian Literary Language on the Material of Editions of Basilian Printers from Suprasl and Vilnius, Maryna Svistunova Linguistic Basis of Religious-Polemical work ‘A Fair Description of the Berastseysky Cathedral (1597)’, Anastasia Sakalovich Translation of Everyday Realities in the Brest Bible: on the Example of the Name of Tableware in the Gospel, Piotr Złotkowski Ways of Identification of Anthroponymous Woman of the Uniate Parish Hodyszewo in the second half of the 18th Century, Iryna Gaponenka Principles and Rules of Translation by Onomastic Elements of Slavic Languages into Belarusian, Alena Rudenko Polonisms – Verbs of Mental Activity in the Belarusian Language, Monika Famielec The Names of the Linear Objects of the City – Witnesses of Its History.

A lively discussion of linguistic problematics was continued in the second subsection (under the leadership of Alena Rudenko and Monika Famielec). The following reports caused resonance and substantial discussions: Magdalena Kawęcka On the Collective Nicknames of the Residents of Several Villages in the Podlaskie and Lubelskie Voivodships, Viktoria Lashuk Literary Language in the Belarusian and Polish Linguistics: General and Specific, Hanna Żebrowska About the Polish Language in Komarovshchyna (Conclusions after the Fieldwork in the Miadziel District of Minsk Region), Alena Sadovska The Language Picture of the World of the Belarusians through the Prism of Phraseological Units, Nadezhda Kahnovich LSS ‘Honour’ in the Belarusian Translations of ‘Pan Tadeusz’, Jadwiga Kozłowska-Doda Semantics of Health in the Belarusian Language: System Data Analysis, Valyantsina Marszevska Phraseological Units According to their Categorical Meaning, Katsiaryna Khazanava Idiomatics as Means of Reflecting the National-cultural Language (Based on Translated Literary Texts from Polish into Belarusian).

The reports read in the literary section were devoted to a wide range of problems. In the first subsection (under the leadership of Dariusz Chemperek, Uladzimir Karotky) the presentations were made by Dariusz Chemperek Occasional Verses by Cyprian
In the second subsection (under the leadership of Beata Siwek, Halina Twaranowicz) the reports were made by Gun-Britt Kohler: *Literary Journalism from the Perspective of Paratext. Considerations on Conceptualization and Data Base Driven Investigation of Literary Periods Using the Examples of Polymja, Maladnjak and Uzvyšša, Tomasz Więlg Historical Prose of Uladzimir Karatkewicz and Its Influence on the National Identity of the Belarusians, Beata Siwek And the Way Itself Is Eternity... A Poetic Model of the Prose by Ivan Ptashnik, Halina Twaranowicz The Poetic World of Nadzieya Artymovich and Mira Luksha: General and Different, Arnold MacMillin The Theme of Loneliness in the Poetry of Olga Gapeeva, Hanna Alshtynyuk Loneliness of a Modern Man in the Novels by Andrey Fedarenka and Mikhas Andrasyuk, Ala Bradzhkina Belarusian Poetry of Mira Luksha: the Intention of the Artistic Consciousness, Siergiej Kowalow The Image of the Poet Anatol Sys in the Belarusian Artistic Prose, Marion Rutz Ein Volk, eine Sprache, eine Literatur Literaturgeschichte altbelarussischer Konstruktionen im Wandel (1956–2010).

The historical direction of the conference was organized in two subsections. In the first subsection (under the leadership of Mariusz Korzeniowski, Ales Smalanchuk) the following reports were presented by: Mariusz Ausz *The Piarist College in Vitebsk, Svyatlana Marozava Post-Uniate Belarus (1839–1939), Mariusz Korzeniowski Belarusian Events in ‘Dziennik Miński’, 1917–1918, Dariusz Tarasiuk Newspaper ‘Wolnaja Bielaruś’ (1917–1918), Monikca Gabryś-Sławińska Belarus in the ‘Świat’ in 1918–1919, Ales Smalanchuk Polesie Skirmunts in the Era of Nationalism (to the Problem of National and Political Choice of the ‘Lithuanian Poles’ in the Early 20th century.), Helena Głogowska ‘Belarusian Life’ Edited by Franciszek Olechnowicz against the Background of Polish-Belarusian Relations in 1919–1920.

Historical issues were widely discussed in the framework of the second subsection (chaired by Svetlana Marozava and Piotr Cichoracki). Great interest was aroused by the reports of Piotr Cichoracki *Voivode Jan Krahelski with Regard to the Situation in Polesie on the Threshold of Demission (1932), Roman Wysocki The Polish Underground State Concerning the Suggestion of Polish-Belarusian Talks in the Years
The reports read at the cultural studies section (chaired by – Tatsiana Marmysh, Alena Kondratiuk) were devoted to a wide range of problems. A wide interest was aroused by the reports of Syargey Marozav, The Memorialization and Commemoration of the Memory of Stefan Batory in Grodno, Alena Kondratiuk Polisie: the Frontier of Archaic Traditions (on the Example of Polish, Belarusian and Ukrainian Family Rituals), Tatsiana Marmysh The Intangible Cultural Heritage of Belarus at the Beginning of the 21st Century: Between Achievements and Problems, Julia Krykun The Mechanisms of Saving of Family Traditions in the Communities of the Poles and Belarusians in the Ukraine, Natallya Tselyagey Weaving Traditions in the Territory of the Polish-Belarusian Border (Based on the Materials of the Second Half of the 20th Century), Victoria Tkachova Material Heritage of Eliza Orzeszko from the Collections of the Museums in Grodno, Katarzyna Waszczyńska The Phenomenon of the Portal movananova.by – Between Practice and the Idea of the Language Revitalization. Ethnologist's Point of View, Anna Siwirska Belarusian-language Discourse on the Internet Forum tut.by, and Viktoria Baretska Religiosity of the Polish and Belarusian Academic Youth (Comparative Analysis).

Scientific debates and discussions at the sections were rich and constructive, the proposed reports were promising studies that have theoretical and practical significance. Many questions and wide discussions were caused by the reports, read at the final plenary session (under the leadership of Mikhail Saevich and Arnold MacMillin). There were reports by Krystyna Szcześniak – Plant Names in the Glossary of Zoska Wieras and in the Correspondence of Michal Fedorowski with Józef Rostafinski, Lilia Citko – ‘Our Podlasianin’ – Ignacy Danilowicz and His Scientific Heritage as a Linguist, Katsiaryna Lyubetskaya – The Influence of the Polish Language on the Formation of the Belarusian Scientific Language in the Early 20th Century, Lyudmila Rychkova – Conceptualization of the Polish-Belarusian Relations in the Regional Media of Grodno Region (Based on Corpus Data), Ewa Golachowska – Identification of the Catholics in Belarus Based on the Interviews from 2010–2017, Anna Nowicka-Struska – Diaries of the Trip to the Grand Duchy of Lithuania of Maria Magdalena Zaboklicka, Lublin Carmelite Nun (1638), Natalia Rusiecka – Russian-Language Literature of Belarus of the Beginning of the 19th Century: Genres Diversity and Specificity of Development, Iryna Lappo – ‘Dziady’ Project in the Dramaturgy of Dmitry Bogoslawski, Emil Chról – Maxim Dasko’s Monodramas in the Context of Modern Belarusian Theatre. The active work of scientists completed the discussion, which reflected the key issues of the current state and development of humanitarian science.

The organizing Committee of the conference (Siergiej Kowalow, Dariusz Tarasiuk, Jadwiga Doda-Kozłowska, Agnieszka Goral, and Alina Maniowiec) made a lot of
effort to create a pleasant friendly atmosphere during the international meeting, to establish a scientific discussion and to diversify the work of scientists. An integral part of the international meeting was the presentation of new literature.

Like the previous meetings of the series ‘Polish-Belarusian Cultural, Literary, and Linguistic Ties’, this conference was held at a high scientific level, reports were actively discussed, which undoubtedly indicates the relevance and interest of the selected topics.

Katsiaryna Lyubetskaya
Belarusian State University, Minsk (Belarus)