

## IV<sup>th</sup> Pan-Silesian Conference

Katowice, Poland, 22 – 23 May 2014

On May 22 and 23, the IV<sup>th</sup> Pan-Silesian conference took place in Katowice. This year of the conference focused on both significant and neglected personalities of Silesia who made their mark in the history of Europe and of the world. The conference was aimed at contributing to cognition of unknown and complicated history of Silesia. The conference was organized by the scientific union of history students from the Silesian University in Katowice (Studenckie Koło Naukowe Historyków Uniwersytetu Śląskiego w Katowicach). The conference was organized under the auspices of the directors of the Institute of History of the Silesian University in Katowice, prof. dr. hab. Jerzy Sperka, head of Institute of History on Silesian University in Katowice, and expert guarantor of the scientific union of history students, dr. Mirosław Węcki. The international character of the event was underlined by guests from Germany (University of Passau) and from the Czech Republic (Silesian University in Opava). Specifically, there were two students of the doctoral study program at the Faculty of Public Policies of Silesian University, Richard Przeczek, who delivered a speech on Josef Pfitzner, politician and historian, and Tereza Valihrachová who focused on Václav Hauer, an important personality of the Silesian national revival. The representatives of the organizing university were joined by participants from other Polish universities (Nicolaus Copernicus University in Torun, Opole University, University of Lodz).

The first day of the conference was hosted by the Silesian Library in Katowice. The program of the first conference day included ceremonial declaration of secondary school competition focused on significant and neglected personalities and inauguration lecture by doctor Waław Gojniczek. The secondary school competition of historians was won by the article called Pantheon of Silesia, devoted to presentation of important personalities of Silesia. Waław Gojniczek spoke in the inauguration lecture about the complicated fate of Markéta Koschlingerová and particularly about her relation to Adam Václav Těšínský and about the situation in the Těšín principality at the turn of the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> Centuries.

The second and final day of the conference took place at the Faculty of Social Sciences of Silesian University in Katowice where the actual papers of the participants were presented. The lectures were held in three panels with historical-political and social-cultural focus, and the last of them was held in English language. A lot of inspiring papers were presented;

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we can mention for example those devoted to political career of Otto Ulitz in 1933-1945, to the Polish major of Těšín, Jan Michejda, to Cardinal August Hlond or to football players Jerzy Dudek and Ewald Dyttek. The great interest of all participants is best documented by almost an hour's prolongation of the conference due to a very long discussion over the papers.

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