

International Political Science

The 7th National Congress of the Polish Political Science Association

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The 7th National Congress of the Polish Political Science Association was devoted to "Internal and External Conditions of Political Development in Poland until the year 2000." The Congress was held November 27-30, 1985, in Torun.

There were four main plenary papers delivered during the conference.

The first, by Franciszek Ryszka, looked into the question of "Changes in Political Consciousness of the Poles." Ryszka described the origins of political culture and political attitudes in contemporary Polish society. He was talking about national tradition, values, the impact of World War II, territorial and population changes after the War, and social transformations in People's Poland, using the broad historical and sociological analysis. The results of public opinion polls were also discussed. The political consciousness of the Poles contains two different images of reality, the first one being dominated by national myths, national phobias, and national stereotypes, and the second image consisting of opinions on everyday reality and ordinary life, according to Ryszka.

Stanislaw Gebethner presented a paper dealing with changes which occurred in the Polish political system during the eighties and examined the possibilities of stimulating and using political activity

from a broad spectrum of the society.

Longin Pastusiak's paper, "The World on the Threshold of the Third Millennium: Chances and Threats for Poland," analyzed the relationship between forecasting and politics. He described present day global threats for our civilization and global and regional chances of resolving them. In this context international conditions of Poland's future were presented.

Zdzislaw Sadowski dealt in his paper with the question of "Political Aspects of Social and Economic Development in Poland." The domestic political factors of the development were presented. Sadowski discussed three problems: first, the functioning of high authority, especially the scope of state's activity; second, the ways groups articulate and press their interests; and third, social attitudes.

The 7th Congress of Polish Political Science Association elected its new President and National Board for a three-year term, 1985-88. Longin Pastusiak was elected the new president of the PPSA; Henryk Groszyk, first vice president; Artur Bodnar and Jerzy Waserman, vice presidents; Wojciech Kostecki, secretary; Wiktor Pianowski; treasurer; and 12 members of the Board, representing scholars from various regions in Poland.

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