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# **POLISH-UKRAINIAN SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC: REPORT FROM THE CONFERENCE “*THE CRISIS OF CONTEMPORARY SECURITY SYSTEM: IN THE SEARCH OF A NEW INTERNATIONAL ORDER*”**

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The COVID-19 pandemic has a huge impact on many spheres of human beings' life. One of this sphere is an international scientific cooperation. Since March 2020, most of the international conferences, seminars and symposiums in every part of the world have been cancelled or postponed. The Conference entitled *The Crisis of Contemporary Security System: In the Search of a New International Order* was one of them. The third edition of this annual scientific event that for the first time was organized in 2018 and each year gathered approximately seventy scientists mostly from Poland and Ukraine was scheduled in Lviv on 2-3 April 2020.

Due to the national restrictions related to COVID-19 pandemic in Ukraine and Poland, the Organizers of the Conference decided to postpone it to 25-25 September 2020. However, in September 2020 the COVID-19 pandemic was still a threat to health and life for potential participants. As a result, the Organizers made a decision to arrange instead of stationary conference an on-line one.

The above-mentioned on-line Conference *The Crisis of Contemporary Security System: In the Search of a New International Order* was organized by the Faculty of International Relations of the Ivan Franko National University of Lviv, the Center for International Security and Partnership in Lviv, the Institute of Political Science and International Relations (Faculty of International and Political Studies) of the Jagiellonian University in Kraków, the Strategic Program Excellence Initiative at the Jagiellonian University FutureSoc PRA, Global Trends Lab (GTL), the East European State College in Przemyśl, Polish Society for International Studies, the Center for International Security and Partnership in Lviv. For the first time the Conference was a one-day event and took place on 25 September 2020. All the thirty-six participants, who decided to take part in the Conference was invited by the Organizers to join to the created conference rooms in Microsoft Teams.

During the Opening Ceremony of the Conference *The Crisis of Contemporary Security System: In the Search of a New International Order*,

the representatives of the Organizers such as: prof. dr hab. Wołodymyr Kaczmar (Vice-rector of the Ivan Franko National University of Lviv), Barbora Maronkova (Director of the NATO Information and Documentation Center in Ukraine), dr hab. Paweł Laidler, prof. UJ (Dean of the Faculty of International and Political Studies of the Jagiellonian University in Kraków), dr hab. Marta Soniewicka (Coordinator of the Strategic Program Excellence Initiative at the Jagiellonian University FutureSoc PRA), prof. dr hab. Markijan Malski (Dean of the Faculty of International Relations of the Ivan Franko National University of Lviv, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Ukraine) made their opening speeches. They concentrated on the role of their institutions in scientific research. Each of them also stressed the need of the research in Polish and Ukrainian cooperation. Polish and Ukrainian scientists also emphasized that the annual Conference devoted to the international relations and security studies is a platform of exchanging the outcomes of the research and points of views on security issues not only in East-Central Europe but also in the different part of the world.

After the Opening Ceremony, the participants of the Conference joined to the one out of five conference rooms. The languages of the Conference were: Ukrainian, Polish and English.

The thematic panels concerned: contemporary determinants of the international security system, security challenges and threats at the regional level, Ukraine and Poland in the European security system, political and legal, socio-economic and cultural aspects of international security, new forms and threats to international security. This wide range of topics made that the Polish and Ukrainian scientists and practitioners had a chance to exchange the outcomes of the research conducted in different scientific fields. As a result, they presented papers in the field of i.a. political science, security studies and law. Most of the papers were related to the widely understood security. These aspects undertook i.a.: dr hab. Ryszard Machnikowski, prof. UŁ (University of Lodz),

dr hab. Eugeniusz Cieślak, prof. UPH (Siedlce University of Natural Sciences and Humanities), dr Agnieszka Pieniążek (The East European State College in Przemyśl), dr hab. Izabela Oleksiewicz, prof. PRz (Rzeszow University of Technology). The panelists such as: dr Natalia Horiń (The Ivan Franko National University of Lviv), mgr Jacek Karakulski (Jagiellonian University in Kraków), mgr Swiatosław Kawyn (The Ivan Franko National University of Lviv), dr Paulina Szeląg (The East European State College in Przemyśl) focused on the international organizations as a guarantees of security. The Conference enabled researchers such as: dr Jewhenia Horiunowa (Taurida National V.I. Vernadsky University), Alina Peniukowa (The Ivan Franko National University of Lviv), dr Magdalena Lisińska (Jagiellonian University in Kraków) to present their point of views to the contemporary security issues in Ukraine, Belarus, and Bolivia.

In addition, some of the scientists i.a.: dr hab. Piotr Bajor (Jagiellonian University in Kraków), dr hab. Marek Czajkowski, prof. UJ (Jagiellonian University in Kraków), dr Jana Pawko (Korecki Institute of State and Law of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine), dr Zbigniew Bednarek (University of Łódź), Mariina Semenkowa (Iwan Czerniachowski State University of Defense), dr Tomasz Łachacz (Police Academy in Szczytno), mgr Małgorzata Kochańska (Polish Naval Academy of the Heroes of Westerplatte) during the Conference presented the papers connected with the new threats and challenges such as: COVID-19 pandemic, space security, climate change, migrations etc.

The Conference *The Crisis of Contemporary Security System: In the Search of a New International Order* is a proof that even during COVID-19 pandemic thirty-six scientists and practitioners from Poland and Ukraine, located in: Lviv, Kraków, Kyiv, Łódź, Lutsk, Przemyśl, Ostroh, Siedlce, Simferopol, Gdynia, Warszawa, Katowice, Rzeszów, Szczytno can organize valuable scientific event to show the results of their research and maintain the scientific cooperation.