

In this Issue

It has been five years since we started publishing *Warsaw Forum of Economic Sociology*. Now we proudly present the 10th issue. In this volume we offer six papers, majority of which deal with the topics of social and civic dialogue and complicated, sometimes even strained, interrelations between the two. The remaining two articles concentrate on trade union revitalization in Europe.

Magdalena Bernaciak, Rebecca Gumbrell-McCormick and Richard Hyman focus on trade unions in the Central and Eastern Europe in the context of the ongoing, multidimensional crisis. The authors argue that trade unions in the new EU member states do have the potential for strategic innovation and organisational renewal. In order to revitalise, however, they need to take on board the concerns of an increasingly diverse workforce and invest more resources in organising.

Krzysztof Jasiński engages into a comparative analysis of civic dialogue in Poland and other European countries, addressing number of questions concerning the future of dialogue. In the paper differences between social and civic are highlighted, followed by evaluation of the condition of Polish civic dialogue past 1989, and concluded by analysis of social dialogue in Poland from the comparative perspective of political participation and political culture indicators of the Democracy Index.

Andrzej Zybala writes about the role of dialogue in public policies. The author puts claims that development of dialogue in Poland is hampered not by structural (legal and organisational) arrangements, but by its low level of advancement. The author claims dialogue in Poland is reduced by small amount of expertise circulating within its mechanisms, imperfect methods of argument presentation, low level of

mutual persuasion (confrontation) or limited access of social partners to participation in decision-making in the state.

Tomasz Zarycki addresses one of the key aspects of the function of social dialogue mechanisms and institutions in Poland, namely the dominance of the intelligentsia and, in particular, its elite, as a principal social actor in Polish society. The author stresses out the special position that specific social group (unknown outside of Eastern Europe), and the central role of cultural capital.

Wojciech Misztal describes the problem of collision between the concept of solidarity which is based on concern for interests of others with the liberal concept of implementing particular goals in Poland. The author postulates to use the new dialogue for the reflection about intellectual mechanisms that create reality in a way not to undermine the existing social arrangements and create the world that is better suited to people's expectations and possibilities

Jan Czarzasty and Adam Mrozowicki explore the issue of the union organising in Poland in the regional context of Central and Eastern Europe (CEE). Poland was the first CEE country in which the organising approach was implemented but is has not brought about sustainable trade union membership growth. The authors concluded that as the environment transformed, trade unions need to re-evaluate their strategic goals, organisational structures and mode of operation, which have remained unchanged over the years, and are barely adequate to the current demands, challenges and opportunities.

The volume concludes with a review of Guglielmo Meardi's *Social Failures of EU Enlargement. A Case of Workers Voting with their Feet* by Sławomir Adamczyk. The reviewed book delivers a very critical account of EU social policies following the 2004–2007 enlargement. Meardi goes as far as to claim that New Member States (NMS) will never catch up with the more developed countries of EU-15.

With the 10th issue our journal celebrates a small jubilee. Looking back at the five years we have been around, we may feel quite content with the results, as the several papers published in WFES attracted considerable attention of readers, which manifested by number of citations. We have been able to bring together domestic and international authors. Besides distinguished authors, a group of young and aspiring scholars made their contributions to our journal. So we are happy and proud with our achievement but, at the same time, very well aware that many aspects of WFES could and should be improved. We look forward to receiving your further contributions. Let our journey continue.