

## Streszczenia w języku angielskim

**Katarzyna Cymbranowicz**

**Keywords:** *COVID-19*, pandemic, integration, Poland, European Union

The purpose of this article is to discuss the *SARS-CoV-2* pandemic as a factor that influences the shaping of integration processes in Europe, the European Union included.

The *SARS-CoV-2* coronavirus and the *COVID-19* disease it causes triggered a humanitarian crisis that quickly became a challenge for all societies and economies in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, including the European Union. The former German Chancellor, Angela Merkel, even saw the coronavirus pandemic as a challenge of a 'historical dimension' for the European Union, which would face 'the greatest test since its inception'. In turn, the former president of the European Commission, Jean-Claude Juncker, spoke about a polycrisis, describing the multitude of challenges that the European Union has to face.

It is therefore legitimate to ask whether the current situation of the polycrisis can be resolved to such an extent that the process of European integration could develop and, in the long term, the entire European Union may emerge from it even more integrated. The adopted research hypothesis assumes that the current pandemic has been an accelerator for isolationist and protectionist tendencies, the consequence of which will be the introduction of a new order in Europe.

Among the research methods, the monographic method, the method of examining documents and the case by case study method were mainly used.

**Ks. Marek Jodkowski**

**Keywords:** cholera, plague, fear, Warmia and Masuria

The article deals with the fear that manifested itself in the history of Warmia and Masuria. Its particular significance was evident when confronted with the plague, which spread

easily, decimating the local population. Panic manifestations were observed especially during the plague and cholera epidemics. The lack of proper recognition of the disease generated erroneous control decisions, which exacerbated negative attitudes among local communities. Extraordinary circumstances led to the disruption of traditional rhythms of life and customs, especially regarding the handling of the sick and the dead. The plague, interpreted in a religious spirit, was associated with punishment sent by God. In order to propitiate or atone for it, shrines were founded, vows were taken, pilgrimages were made, processions were initiated, and chapels and crosses were erected.

The authors of several monographs that dealt with these problems focused on the course of the epidemic, the ordinances of state authorities, and methods of treatment, especially in the perspective of the medical knowledge of the time. These publications, however, treated the issue of fear that accompanied the spread of the plague merely marginally.

The research method is an analysis of the existing literature on diseases in order to demonstrate the importance of fear as an efficient cause in the history of the community.

**Rafał Kęsek**

**Keywords:** infodemic, disinformation, *COVID-19*, Ukraine, Russia

The aim of this article is to analyze the phenomenon of infodemic and related disinformation about the *COVID-19* pandemic that shaped the Ukrainian infosphere in 2020-2022. The considerations contained in the text focus mainly on the specific features of the phenomenon at issue, and are an attempt to answer the question of how much the disinformation on *COVID-19* in the Ukrainian version differs from analogous trends shaping the internal situation and the infosphere in other countries around the world.

The article presents a working thesis that the covid infodemic in Ukraine had, first of all, a clear external provenance (largely single-source), as well as a highly adaptive nature, as a function and element of a wider disinformation campaign carried out by the Russian Federation towards Ukraine and its inhabitants.

The presented analysis allowed to identify the main elements characteristic of the disinformation infodemic in Ukraine and confirm the dependence of the studied phenomenon on an external factor, i.e. the influence of the Russian Federation.

## **Zuzanna Kowalczyk**

**Keywords:** Spain, foreign policy, social inequalities, global *COVID-19* pandemic, European Union

The article tackles selected problems that arose in Spain after the outbreak of the global *COVID-19* pandemic. The author focuses mainly on the phenomenon of social inequalities which enlarged significantly in the discussed period. This process was caused by the necessity to introduce sanitary restrictions to protect human life and health. However, they also brought negative consequences in the form of an increase in unemployment which in Spain affected primarily tourism industry, entertainment and recreation services and transportation. It was assumed by the author that the inequality issue would be one of the highest priority for the Spanish government and would be addressed indirectly by reforms introduced in economic recovery plans after the pandemic.

In the second part of the article the author also tries to identify the challenges for Spanish diplomacy. The problems associated with Spanish participation in the policy of the European Union are presented. The author assumed that Spanish diplomacy would intensify its activities on the European Union forum during the time of crisis in order to, among other, obtain aid funds on favourable terms. The author also raised the issue of factors that could strengthen Spain's position and at the same time ensure that its activity within the European Union might be a key to the success of the reforms introduced after the health crisis.

The method used included the analysis of existing materials, statistical data, reports and studies published in the period after the outbreak of the pandemic in Europe in 2020. Most of the research was based on Internet sources: reports and analyses of Spanish researchers, government databases, factsheets, and information published by non-governmental organizations.

## **Aleksandra Kruk**

**Keywords:** Munich Security Conference, *COVID-19* pandemic, Russia-Ukraine conflict

The article analyzes the following issues which were presented during the Munich Security Conferences after 2020: the problem of the perception of the position of the West and

the transatlantic world, the discourse on confrontation and cooperation in the transatlantic world, and the topic of risk assessment related to the evolution of global threats,.

It was hypothesized that the reports analyzed in Munich reflect the sense of insecurity caused by current crises and the diagnosed risk, e.g. resulting from a global pandemic, and are presented on a forum that is an important (albeit not very effective) tool for conducting international policy by states and other international entities. A further hypothesis states that Germany uses the Munich International Conferences as an arena for presenting and promoting foreign policy directions.

From among the challenges discussed in the agenda of the Munich conferences, two case studies were selected: responses to the COVID-19 pandemic and the Russian-Ukrainian crisis. Considerable attention has been paid to the political and intellectual discourse regarding the latter crisis.

The article uses the method of comparative analysis, conducted according to the successive stages of description and interpretation of the impact of the COVID pandemic on internal and international relations, taking into account both the neoliberal paradigm and neorealism.

**Dietmar Neutatz**

**Keywords:** the Treaty of Rapallo, Germany, Soviet Russia, German Ostpolitik

The Treaty of Rapallo between Germany and Soviet Russia (16 April 1922) is still an important point of reference for German-Russian relations and for German Ostpolitik. It was already charged by contemporaries with attributions and myths that continue to have an effect today.

By analysing commentaries and statements over a period of one hundred years, this paper aims to show which figures of thought were attached to “Rapallo”, which needs and desires they corresponded to, how they were updated at turning points in German-Russian relations, and what long-term effects they had. It becomes clear that “Rapallo” has become a bundle of codes for certain views of German politics that can no longer be separated from the historical event and have become an inseparable part of the overall meaning. In that the objectives and

expectations that gave the treaty widespread approval in Germany in the 1920s have for the most part no longer been capable of consensus since the end of the Second World War, “Rapallo” has since become a liability for German foreign policy.

Occasional attempts to pick out individual aspects of the treaty, such as understanding across different political systems, as models to guide action are doomed to failure.

## **Martyna Siudak**

**Keywords:** Wejsuny, Masuria, Eugeniusz Bielawski, regional chamber, Virtual Regional Chamber, *COVID-19*, Facebook

The aim of the article is twofold: to describe the history of the Regional Chamber in Wejsuny, dividing its activity into two periods, and to present the person of its creator - Eugeniusz Bielawski,. On September 14, 1974, three years after its opening, the ownership of the Chamber was transferred to the commune by a notarial deed. Currently it houses many exhibits, including old household tools, cantional books, trunks, and furniture.

In 2020, the chamber was reopened after a break of more than thirty years. The article describes the activities of the "new" Chamber, which largely coincided with the pandemic. Taking these circumstances into account, the author examines how the epidemic affected the functioning of this village museum. In this connection, she analyzed the portrayal of the activities of the institution in, among others, the publications about the chamber in the regional press (press content analysis) and scrutinized the main communication channel used by the museum curator (Virtual Regional Chamber, *Wirtualna Izba Regionalna*, Facebook profile - content analysis). The main purpose of the undertaken analyses is categorization of the content posted on the virtual profile of this cultural institution, evaluation of the multimedia nature of this content, an attempt to select the most popular materials, as well as checking whether and how web users respond to the posted messages.

The author, using a variety of instruments, analyzes the main communication channel used by the curator of the museum (*Wirtualna Izba Regionalna* profile on Facebook) and describes the media activity of the institution with a view to popularizing the knowledge about the Chamber in the regional media. For this purpose, she uses unpublished fragments of diaries kept by the founder of the village museum in Wejsuny.

