



Iza Biezuńska-Małowist, fot. Tomasz Pasternak

From the Editors

The international Conference in memory of Iza Biežuńska–Małowist on the 20th anniversary of her death took place at the University of Warsaw on 20–21 November 2015. Its organizers were the Institute of History, the Department of Papyrology and the Chair of Roman Law and the Law of Antiquity of the University of Warsaw. The current issue contains the texts of papers given during this conference.

Iza Biežuńska–Małowist, a historian of Antiquity and a long-time head of the Chair (later: Department) of Ancient History at the Institute of History of the University of Warsaw, was associated with *Przegląd Historyczny* for nearly a half of a century. She became a member of the editorial board in 1949, representing the editorial secretariat — first in cooperation with Celina Bobińska and then, from 1951, as the sole secretary (*sekretarz naukowy*); in 1953 she became the deputy editor-in-chief, which position she held until her death in 1995. In practice, she was the co-editor of the periodical for over forty years, cooperating closely first with Stefan Kieniewicz, later with Andrzej Wyrobisz.

Shortly after her death, the editorial board of *Przegląd Historyczny* devoted a special issue to her (no. 2/1996), which contained reminiscences of her friends (Aleksander Gieysztor, Pierre Lévêque and Józef Wołski) and scholarly papers by her colleagues and disciples.

The current issue, containing the conference materials, is to some extent similar, since all the speakers — with only one exception, Daniel P. Tompkins — were scholars who were personally acquainted with Iza Biežuńska–Małowist or, in fact, belonged to the circle of her friends and frequently also close collaborators. The Reader will easily notice the miscellaneous nature of this volume: it contains both reminiscences (by Luigi Labruna, Dorothy Thompson or Wolfgang Schuller) and scholarly essays dedicated to Iza Biežuńska–Małowist and to a greater or lesser extent connected with her research interests (by Luigi Capogrossi Colognesi, Hans Joachim Gehrke, Hans Hauben or Joseph Méléze Modrzejewski). A separate and very special place is held by the study by Daniel P. Tompkins reviewing the role of Iza Biežuńska–Małowist in the international scholarship concerning slavery in the ancient world. A biographical sketch and materials pertaining to her life published herein will permit the Reader to get better acquainted with her not only as a scholar, but also as a person whose life was certainly extraordinary, even though, in some sense, typical of those who belonged to her sphere and her generation.