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### 90 Years of *Gospodarka Narodowa*<sup>1</sup>

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**Abstract:** The aim of this article is to outline the history of the scientific journal *Gospodarka Narodowa*, which from 1946 to 1989 operated under the name *Gospodarka Planowa*. The study pays particular attention to the subject matter of the articles published in the journal, the organisation of editorial work and the people associated with the journal. For this purpose, sources and existing studies were consulted, and an analysis was conducted of the citations of the papers published in the journal. When possible, the frequency of the use of selected JEL classification codes in the papers was also analysed. The article not only offers the first in-depth description of the nine decades of *Gospodarka Narodowa*, but also makes an original contribution to the discipline by indicating the most frequently cited articles published in the journal. It finds that the main areas of interest for *Gospodarka Narodowa* authors over the past decade have been issues related to macroeconomics, including monetary economics, international economics, financial economics, and economic growth. Another finding is that many authors have shown a preference for a clearly quantitative approach to the study of these problems. The article concludes by stating that *Gospodarka Narodowa* underwent a long evolution before it eventually became a strictly scientific journal, a focus that it has preserved to this day.

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<sup>1</sup> Part of this article is a slightly modified version of an earlier work by one of the co-authors [Jarosz-Nojszewska, 2011].

**Keywords:** *Gospodarka Narodowa*, *Gospodarka Planowa*, academic journal, economic literature, contemporary economic thought

**JEL classification codes:** A19, A29, B29, B59

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Article submitted October 21, 2021, revision received November 3, 2021,  
accepted for publication November 3, 2021.

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## 90 lat *Gospodarki Narodowej*

**Streszczenie:** Celem artykułu jest przedstawienie historii czasopisma naukowego *Gospodarka Narodowa* (w latach 1946–1989 funkcjonującego pod nazwą *Gospodarka Planowa*), ze szczególnym naciskiem na zagadnienia, którym poświęcone były publikowane w nim artykuły, organizację pracy redakcji oraz osoby związane z periodykiem. W tym celu skorzystano zarówno ze źródeł, jak i istniejących opracowań, a także przeprowadzono analizę cytowań prac publikowanych w czasopiśmie oraz – gdy było to możliwe – częstości wykorzystywania w nich poszczególnych kodów klasyfikacji JEL. Poza przedstawieniem pierwszego syntetycznego ujęcia dziewięciu dekad funkcjonowania *Gospodarki Narodowej/Gospodarki Planowej*, artykuł wnosi do dyscypliny oryginalny wkład w postaci wskazania najczęściej cytowanych artykułów opublikowanych w czasopiśmie. Ustalono, że najważniejszymi obszarami zainteresowań autorów *Gospodarki Narodowej* w ostatnich dziesięciu latach są zagadnienia dotyczące makroekonomii, w tym ekonomii monetarnej, ekonomii międzynarodowej, ekonomii finansowej i wzrostu gospodarczego, a wielu z nich preferuje jednoznacznie ilościowe podejście do badania tych problemów. Artykuł kończy konkluzja, że chociaż *Gospodarka Narodowa* przeszła długą ewolucję, ostatecznie stała się pismem *stricte* naukowym, który to charakter zachowuje do dziś.

**Słowa kluczowe:** *Gospodarka Narodowa*, *Gospodarka Planowa*, czasopismo naukowe, literatura ekonomiczna, współczesna myśl ekonomiczna

**Kody klasyfikacji JEL:** A19, A29, B29, B59

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Artykuł złożony 21 października 2021 r., w wersji poprawionej nadesłany 3 listopada 2021 r.,  
zaakceptowany 3 listopada 2021 r.

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## Introduction

The year 2021 marks the 90th anniversary of the founding of *Gospodarka Narodowa* (National Economy), a Polish economic journal that continues to be published today. The aim of this article is to highlight this milestone by summarising the nine decades of the journal and trace its evolution during this time under different names and with varying frequency and content.

The methods used in the study include analysis and critique of the literature, which includes both source material, such as documents and memoirs, and earlier studies of the journal's history. In order to study the evolution of the journal in recent decades, methods from the field of bibliometrics were also used (number of citations of works), along with a quantitative analysis of Journal of Economic Literature (JEL) classification codes used by the authors.

The paper is divided into three main parts corresponding to the three key periods in the history of the journal: the pre-World War II period when the publication was established and appeared as *Gospodarka Narodowa*; the communist period when the journal was published as *Gospodarka Planowa* (Planned Economy), and the period after 1990 when it reverted to its original name and eventually became known as *Gospodarka Narodowa*. *The Polish Journal of Economics*. The paper ends with brief conclusions.

### ***Gospodarka Narodowa (1931–1939)***

In the late 1920s and early 1930s, a young generation of economists emerged, educated domestically after Poland regained independence in 1918, and eager to combine theory with economic practice. However, they lacked a platform where they could exchange their views. In theory, the press was where they could make their opinions known to the world. They could publish their writings in daily newspapers, most of which contained economic columns. But dailies covered economic issues rather superficially. Besides most had a political bias, which effectively discouraged those who did not share the views of a particular journal from writing. Scientific journals did not meet the needs of many economists, either because such publications typically focused on theoretical issues, while practical matters were of marginal importance to them. It was in this environment that the journal *Gospodarka Narodowa* (National Economy) was founded in 1931, along with the Klub Gospodarki Narodowej (National Economy Club) group associated with it, as an initiative by Czesław Bobrowski (1904-1996), a young economist interested in economic policy issues.

*Gospodarka Narodowa*, whose first issue was released on March 15, 1931, was published twice a week by a publishing cooperative that was entered in the Register of Commercial Cooperatives of the District Court in Warsaw on August 31, 1931 under No. 1531. The journal was founded by Czesław Bobrowski, Aleksander Ivanka, Waclaw Jastrzębowski, Michał Kaczorowski, Władysław Landau, Tadeusz Łychowski, Józef Poniatowski, and Kazimierz Sokołowski. They were soon joined by Henryk Greniewski, Jacek Rudziński, and Zygmunt Szempliński [Sokołowski, 1984: 29]. A few months later, the founders of *Gospodarka Narodowa* came to the conclusion that, for the purposes of the journal, it was necessary to meet in a larger circle than the editorial board, and so a special club closely connected with the journal was established in the form of an association [Ivanka, 1964: 322]. As the majority of the club's members were government officials *Gospodarka Narodowa* quickly earned the label of "The Officials Ltd." [Urzędniczy, 1931: 63].

Another characteristic feature of the National Economy Club in the early period of its existence was its policy of non-interference in political affairs. *Gospodarka Narodowa* was by definition a non-political journal, and the members of the Club and authors who contributed to the publication represented a wide

spectrum of views, from socialist to conservative to nationalist [Negryński, 1956: 97]. This changed after the death of Poland's leader Józef Piłsudski in 1935, when political and social changes led to an increasing radicalisation of views among the public. Nevertheless, few members of the Club were politically active. The only person who became involved in politics in earnest was Józef Poniatowski, whose political career in the interwar period saw him enter parliament on the ruling party's ticket.

The main aim of the Club was to organise discussions and meetings dealing with some of the country's most pressing economic problems. Those meetings were often turbulent, especially when participants commented on day-to-day policies. The results of the discussions were described in editorials, which usually appeared at the beginning of each issue of *Gospodarka Narodowa* and represented the common position of the entire group.

The journal was managed by an editorial board that initially consisted of five people: Czesław Bobrowski, Aleksander Ivanka, Tadeusz Łychowski, Józef Poniatowski, and Kazimierz Sokołowski [Negryński, 1956: 96]. But soon it was expanded, and from 1933 the journal's masthead listed a 10-member editorial board. However, this met only rarely. The editing of the journal was in the hands of a five-member "committee" composed of Bobrowski, Łychowski, Poniatowski, Sokołowski, and Bohdan Łączkowski. In addition to the "committee," the editorial board included Henryk Greniewski, Aleksander Ivanka, Waclaw Jastrzębowski, Michał Kaczorowski, and Zygmunt Szempliński [Negryński, 1956: 98].

Czesław Bobrowski was the first editor-in-chief of *Gospodarka Narodowa*. However, a few weeks after the journal was founded, he went to Moscow for a year in his capacity as the director of a Soviet-Polish trading company called Sowpoltorg. While he was gone, Kazimierz Sokołowski stepped into his place in 1932. Bobrowski resumed his role as editor-in-chief in 1933 and held the position until 1936. In subsequent years, Zygmunt Szempliński was editor-in-chief (1936-1937), followed by Jacek Rudziński in 1938, and Aleksander Kwiatkowski in 1939 [Sokołowski, 1984: 30].

The editorial of the first issue of *Gospodarka Narodowa* clearly defined the goals of the journal:

In view of the tasks that await Polish economic policy thought in the coming years, *Gospodarka Narodowa* must accompany the development of our economic life. By registering the facts, noting the results and pointing out the shortcomings, it will not confine itself to the narrative side of the problems so prevalent in our country [Note..., 1931: 1].

The layout of the journal was partly modelled on that of the London-based business magazine *The Economist*. Each issue opened with an editorial, which was discussed at length at a meeting of the Club and represented the position of the whole group. It was usually unsigned. The main body of the publication was devoted to detailed articles on some general economic or social topic. Depending on the length, there were two, three or four of these. In addition,

each issue contained the *Remarks* and *Notes* sections, which briefly discussed various economic problems. More important issues were discussed in the section containing the articles, while less important ones were dealt with in the *Remarks* and *Notes* sections [Negryński, 1956: 96].

Most of the published texts were signed with pseudonyms. The use of pseudonyms, on the one hand, made it easier to openly criticise the policies of specific government ministries and, on the other, the names of the same authors were not repeated too often in the pages of the journal. The shared pseudonym of the entire team was “Franciszek Kozłowski.” Anyone who wanted to publish a text and, for various reasons, did not want to sign it with his own name or some frequently used pseudonym, could write under the name Kozłowski [Recordings..., cassette tape 3].

The journal addressed a diverse range of topics. It dealt with systemic issues, the economic structure of the country, insurance, agriculture, trade, crafts, money and credit. It also focused on transport, taxation, municipal and housing issues as well as economic planning. Its articles frequently discussed other economies, especially the Third Reich and the USSR. Throughout the interwar period, *Gospodarka Narodowa* participated in a debate on the role of the state in the economy. The Club’s approach to economic planning was particularly interesting. Its position on state intervention can be described in a nutshell as a push for a planned economy. The Club sought to provide a scientific basis for economic planning. After World War II, its concepts were used by Poland’s communist authorities to draw up their Three-Year Plan for Economic Reconstruction.

In early 1939, *Gospodarka Narodowa* ceased publication as it became increasingly difficult for the journal’s authors to combine their professional activities with journalism. The publication was officially stopped. Its editors initially planned to restart it in September of that year, but the outbreak of war prevented those plans from materialising [Bobrowski, 1986: 83].

### ***Gospodarka Planowa (1946–1989)***

After the end of World War II, the Central Planning Office (Centralny Urząd Planowania, CUP) was established in Poland under the leadership of Czesław Bobrowski. Most of the office’s senior management were former members of the National Economy Club [Bobrowski, 1986: 160]. In 1946, Bobrowski returned to the idea of publishing a journal every two weeks. Due to the completely new socio-economic conditions in the country and new problems faced by economists, the journal was renamed *Gospodarka Planowa* (Planned Economy). The first issue was published on November 1, 1946, with a total of two issues appearing that year. Initially, *Gospodarka Planowa* appeared once every two weeks and took the form of an inter-ministerial journal, in terms of both the editorial board and the authors.

In the first issue of *Gospodarka Planowa*, the editors clearly stated the character of the journal, writing:

We are beginning to publish a journal devoted to the analysis and critique of the current problems of the Polish economy. We will pay special attention to questions of economic planning and its achievements. Hence the name of the journal. The discussions, analyses and syntheses of the article section of the journal will give expression to the Polish economic concept, and the information section, by providing comprehensive, accurate and reliable information on the progress of its gradual implementation, will give a picture of the actual achievements and shaping of the Polish economic model. *Gospodarka Planowa* will follow with equal attention the phenomena occurring in all sectors of the economy: public, cooperative and private. In this way, *Gospodarka Planowa*, encompassing the totality of economic life, has the ambition to become the central economic publication in Poland [Od redakcji, 1946: 1].

However, those ambitious editorial plans did not materialise due to several factors. First, new business weeklies such as *Życie Gospodarcze* (Economic Life) were established within a short time. They could react more quickly to various economic changes and describe them on a more up-to-date basis. Moreover, most of the daily newspapers that appeared at the time had business columns. Additionally, the monthly journal *Ekonomista* (Economist) continued to play an important role in economic theory [Dwudziestolecie..., 1966: 4]. As a result, it soon became apparent that the original concept behind *Gospodarka Planowa* would have to be changed. Moreover, it was not a good time for theoretical discussions and thorough economic research because new economic policy makers were inexperienced and business practitioners had a low level of expertise. It was also difficult to recruit new authors and to provide material for articles published in the journal. This was bound to affect the content of the journal. The decisive factor, however, was political changes in the late 1940s, which imposed propaganda content on the publication and made it impossible to publish the journal in line with the assumptions of its authors.

The main opening section of each issue was *Articles*, which contained three to four substantial texts discussing more general topics and economic problems. Other sections included *Economic Life of the Country*, *Foreign Review*, *Remarks and Notes*, and *In the Press*. In its early years, at least half of the journal's volume was claimed by the *Economic Life* section, which contained articles on individual industries. The appearance of a number of trade magazines caused the editors to discontinue this section and replace it with more synthesis-based articles about the economy, focusing on the implementation of the Three-Year Plan. A list of composite indicators was introduced to evaluate the development of the economy [Dwudziestolecie..., 1966: 3]. In the first two years, much space was devoted to foreign affairs. As a rule, those were brief notes, often signed only with initials, on key economic devel-

opments in various countries. However, when communist rule took deeper root in Poland, information about Western economies disappeared from the pages of the journal.

From mid-1947 onward, the totalitarian grip on public life strengthened as the communists consolidated power in Poland. As a result of these processes, freedom of the press was completely abolished. For example, on April 22, 1948, the Ministry of Industry and Trade issued a decree blocking press access to economic data [Myśliński, 2004: 94–96]. All those events had an impact on *Gospodarka Planowa*, which in March 1948 began to be published once rather than twice a month. That same year, from issue 7 onward, the Central Planning Office became the sole publisher of the journal. After the office was disbanded, Polskie Wydawnictwo Gospodarcze (Polish Economic Publishing House) took over as the publisher from August 1949. The journal was strongly connected with state planning institutions. In 1954, it received the official moniker as *Organ Państwowej Komisji Planowania Gospodarczego* (A Publication of the State Economic Planning Commission). The content of the monthly was essentially limited to propaganda. A new section on Soviet economic experience appeared, and the *Foreign Chronicle* section featured only communist countries, with many reprints of texts by Soviet economists. This continued until 1956 when turbulent political changes in Poland, including the return to power of Władysław Gomułka, made it possible to discuss the country's economic problems again.

In 1957, *Gospodarka Planowa* ceased to be associated with the planning authorities. In 1958, its status was officially changed to that of *Czasopismo poświęcone teorii i praktyce planowania gospodarki narodowej* (Journal on the Theory and Practice of Economic Planning). A Program Committee was established that was responsible for the content of the journal. It was headed by Michał Kalecki before Józef Pajestka took over in 1970. For many years Kazimierz Secomski was the vice-chairman, and the Program Committee also brought together various leading economists of the time, including Jan Drewnowski, Henryk Fiszel, Maksymilian Pohorille, Czesław Prawdzic, Mieczysław Rakowski, Stanisław Róg, Aleksy Wakar, Bolesław Baliński, Stanisław Broniewski, Krzysztof Porwit, and Jerzy Zachariasz. The editor-in-chief had a great influence on the journal. The post of editor-in-chief was initially held by Waław Szurig, a member of the pre-war National Economy Club, and then by Stanisław Majewski (1948–1950), Bolesław Baliński (1957–1960), Wiktor Buch (1960–1971), Zygmunt Knyziak (1971–1986), and Marian Ostrowski (1986–1990). From 1950 to 1956, the journal was edited by a team for the most part led by Andrzej Kaduszkiewicz [Karpiński, 1986: 504; Gruszczyński, Smuga, 2017; Dwudziestolecie..., 1966: 4].

From 1957 onwards, the number of authors increased. Some of the most prominent Polish economists of that time published their works in the journal. The arrangement of the permanent sections changed slightly. *Articles* was still the most important part of the journal, but the *Discussion, Notes* and *Eco-*

*nomic Publications* sections also took up a lot of space. Many articles dealing with economic accounting, investment planning and new methods for calculating economic efficiency were published in *Gospodarka Planowa*.

The journal became a venue for lively discussions. In the late 1950s, for example, articles by Józef Pajestka [1956] and Mieczysław Rakowski [1958] triggered an extensive debate on ways of calculating investment efficiency. It featured participants including Paweł Glikman, Michał Kalecki, Marian Ostrowski, and Henryk Fiszel. In 1957, Michał Kalecki and Stanisław Polaczek [1957] started a discussion on pricing policies, with a special focus on prices in foreign trade. During the next few decades, Jan Lipiński, Jan Mujżel, Józef Pajestka, Józef Popkiewicz, and Dariusz Rosati, among others, participated in this discussion. In 1959, Bronisław Minc [1959] opened yet another long-lasting debate on inflation in the “socialist economy.” Participants included Witold Bień, Henryk Fiszel, Stefan Jędrychowski, Grzegorz Kołodko, Stanisław Polaczek, and Stanisław Rączkowski.

In the early 1960 s, *Gospodarka Planowa* discussed at length the role and importance of foreign trade in the Polish economy and the effectiveness of foreign exchange. Articles by Marian Ostrowski and Zdzisław Sadowski [1960; 1961] triggered a discussion in which Michał Kalecki, Józef Sołdaczuk, and Witold Trzeciakowski also participated. At the same time, Stanisław Góra and Mieczysław Rakowski [1961] initiated a debate on the theoretical aspects of economic cooperation as part of the Comecon trading bloc, as well as on the effectiveness of cooperation, the efficiency of joint investment projects, and criteria governing international cooperation. Authors addressing these issues included Stanisław Polaczek, Marian Guzek, Zdzisław Bombera, Artur Markowski, and Henryka Jasińska-Mołdawa.

In the late 1960s, the journal began to publish articles on sociology. In 1969, *Gospodarka Planowa* became the first journal in the country to publish an extensive series of articles exploring what modernity meant for individual sectors of the economy. The aim of the discussion was to find a way to modernise the Polish economy. Topics highlighting the directions of future development, such as computerisation, were often raised at the time [Karpiński, 1986: 505].

In 1972, *Gospodarka Planowa* changed its designation to a “monthly dedicated to the problems of planning the development of the economy” (*Miesięcznik poświęcony problemom planowania rozwoju gospodarki narodowej*), which indicated a desire to expand into new topics. However, the published texts did not make much of an impact on either economists or economic decision-makers because *Gospodarka Planowa*, like other Polish journals in the 1970 s and 1980s, had to deal with problems such as long publication delays – which sometimes reached six months [Karpiński, 1986: 505] —and low circulation.

### ***Gospodarka Narodowa* (since 1990)**

The economic reforms of the 1980 s and the fundamental changes in the country after the fall of communism in 1989 strongly affected the content of the journal. Its thematic scope had to be changed after economic planning issues, which had dominated the publication for more than 40 years, ceased to be important. On January 1, 1990, *Gospodarka Planowa* returned to its pre-war name and began to appear as *Gospodarka Narodowa. Analizy-prognozy-strategia* (Analyses-Forecasts-Strategy). In the editorial of the first issue, the editors announced many changes:

We would like to cover the entirety of macroeconomic policy, i.e. issues related to the management of the development of the national economy, and the linkage of the economic centre with the activities of basic business entities, including new forms of ownership, i.e. enterprises, companies and local governments [Do czytelników, 1990: 1–3].

However, there were no plans to abandon a scientific approach to the issues discussed in the journal:

Without major changes, we would like to transfer some principles that we consider valuable to the current form of our monthly journal. These include, first and foremost, a responsible approach to the problems presented in the journal, sound analysis and objectivity of assessments, a scientific and thus unobtrusive approach to the problems discussed, and a determination not to succumb to short-term economic trends and fashions.... Thus, the aim is to maintain a high level of the content with all the necessary changes [Do czytelników, 1990: 1–3].

Personnel changes followed. In April 1990, Karol Szwarc replaced Marian Ostrowski as editor-in-chief. A new Program Committee was established under the chairmanship of Jan Mujżel. The Committee also included Wiesław Caban, Marek Dąbrowski, Cezary Józefiak, Józef Kaleta, Stefan Kurowski, Adam Lipowski, Jerzy Osiatyński, Andrzej Topiński, Waclaw Wilczyński, and Leszek Zienkowski. In the years that followed, this body underwent numerous changes and after some time, economists from outside Poland also joined it, such as Nicola Acocella, D. Mario Nuti, Pascal Petit, Leonid Polishchuk, and Howard R. Vane.

On May 17, 1990, the newly appointed Program Committee held its inaugural meeting and met with the editorial team and the management of the Central Planning Office. The purpose of the meeting was to determine the future course of the journal. It was decided at that time that its primary goal would be to become a leading macroeconomic journal focusing on the country's economic policy in the broad sense [Mujżel, 1990: 1].

Initially, the publisher of the new-look *Gospodarka Narodowa* was the National Economy Institute (Instytut Gospodarki Narodowej, IGN), founded in 1981. However, on February 1, 1992, that institution was transformed

into the Institute for Development and Strategic Studies (Instytut Rozwoju i Studiów Strategicznych, IRiSS), which became the publisher of *Gospodarka Narodowa*. After the Institute for Development and Strategic Studies was dissolved in 2000, the SGH Warsaw School of Economics took over as the publisher of the journal (from issue 1–2/2000). *Gospodarka Narodowa* operated as a university journal until 2017 when one of the SGH Warsaw School of Economics' five units, the Collegium of Economic Analysis, became the publisher.

In addition to notifying readers about the change of publisher in 1992, the editors announced that the research interests of the journal as part of the Institute for Development and Strategic Studies would focus on “four groups of problems: transformation of the economic system; development processes and structural changes [in the economy]; strategies and policies for economic development; [and] integration of the Polish economy into the world economy” [Note..., 1992: II]. These topics dominated the pages of the journal in the 1990 s. In its first two decades in the new format, the journal offered sections such as *From GUS* [Statistics Poland] *Materials*, *From CUP Works*, *From Government Works*, *From PTE* [Polish Economic Society] *Works*, and *From IGN/IRiSS Research*. All of these pointed to close links between the editorial board and certain research institutions. Other sections included *From the World*, *Economic Legislation Survey (Review of the Economic Legislation)*, *Polemics-Reviews-Discussions* (later replaced by *Conferences-Reviews-Polemics*) and *Reviews of Books*. In 1998, a new section appeared, called *Perspectives of European Integration*. In the first decade of the 21st century, all these sections gradually disappeared from the pages of *Gospodarka Narodowa*. From 1990 onwards, two special issues of the journal were also published, one in 1998 entitled “Problems of European Integration and the Consequences of Poland’s Accession to the European Union” and another in 2006 – exclusively in English – to mark the centenary of the SGH Warsaw School of Economics.

Although the first reprint of foreign economic literature appeared in issue 4/1992 of *Gospodarka Narodowa* [Dornbusch, Edwards, 1992], from issue 4/1998 onwards such content permanently featured in the pages of the journal. It was published in the *From the World Economy* section, where “the latest trends” were discussed [Note..., 1998: 74]<sup>2</sup>. In this way, readers who did not know English could familiarise themselves with the work of eminent economists, including Nobel Prize winners, such as Robert Solow, George Akerlof, Joseph E. Stiglitz, John B. Taylor, Paul Krugman, Robert J. Barro, Ronald Coase, Gene E. Grossman, Elhanan Helpman, N. Gregory Mankiw, Richard H. Thaler, Olivier Blanchard, Edmund S. Phelps, Milton Friedman, Robert E. Lucas Jr, Daron Acemoglu, Paul M. Romer, and David Romer. Sometimes interviews with leading economists were also published. Such reprints occasionally appeared outside the *From the World Economy* section, especially in the years preceding its eventual termination.

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<sup>2</sup> Such reprints were always published with care for the preservation of copyrights and proper attribution, listing the original source of each article.

Since 1990, many leading Polish economists have published their work in *Gospodarka Narodowa*. In alphabetical order, the list includes Marek Bednarski, Janusz Beksiak, Marek Belka, Andrzej F. Bocian, Ryszard Bugaj, Bogusław Fiedor, Witold Gadomski, Leszek Gilejko, Adam Glapiński, Janina Godłów-Legiędź, Stanisław Gomulka, Marian Gorynia, Urszula Grzełońska, Bogdan Grzełoński, Łukasz Hardt, Jerzy Hausner, Danuta Hübner, Witold Jakóbiak, Waclaw Jarmołowicz, Cezary Józefiak, Mieczysław Kabaj, Janusz Kaliński, Stefan Kawalec, Grzegorz W. Kołodko, Joanna Kotowicz-Jawor, Tadeusz Kowalik, Jerzy Kropiwnicki, Witold Kwaśnicki, Eugeniusz Kwiatkowski, Zbigniew Landau, Jan Lipiński, Marek Lubiński, Karol Lutkowski, Kazimierz Łaski, Edward Łukawer, Elżbieta Mączyńska, Jan Mujżel, Jerzy Osiatyński, Stanisław Owsiak, Ryszard Rapacki, Marek Ratajczak, Marek Rocki, Krzysztof Rybiński, Zdzisław Sadowski, Andrzej Sławiński, Andrzej Sopoćko, Jacek Szlachta, Aleksander Welfe, Władysław Welfe, Jerzy Wilkin, Andrzej Wojtyna, and Augustyn Woś. Many others cannot be mentioned here for lack of space<sup>3</sup>.

The work of these and many other authors, published in *Gospodarka Narodowa* and earlier in *Gospodarka Planowa*, always aroused much interest in the research community. This is evident from a large number of citations for many papers published in the journal. The list of the most cited articles from *Gospodarka Narodowa/Gospodarka Planowa*, based on Google Scholar data, is presented in Table 1.

**Table 1. Most frequently cited original works published in *Gospodarka Narodowa/Gospodarka Planowa* (over 50 citations)**

| Author(s)                         | Title  | Year of publication | Number of citations |
|-----------------------------------|--|---------------------|---------------------|
| Marek J. Stankiewicz              | "Istota i sposoby oceny konkurencyjności przedsiębiorstwa" [Substance and Methods of Evaluation of Enterprise Competitiveness]   | 2000                | 158                 |
| Marian Gorynia, Barbara Jankowska | "Teorie internacjonalizacji" [The Internationalization Theories of the Firm: A Short Review]   | 2007                | 129                 |
| Stanisław Flejterski              | "Istota i mierzenie konkurencyjności międzynarodowej" [The Essence and Measurement of International Competitiveness]   | 1984                | 111                 |
| Marlena Dzikowska, Marian Gorynia | "Teoretyczne aspekty konkurencyjności przedsiębiorstwa – w kierunku koncepcji eklektycznej?" [Theoretical Aspects of Enterprise Competitiveness: Toward an Eclectic Approach?] | 2012                | 85                  |

<sup>3</sup> The list is based on the results of an empirical study conducted among Polish academic economists in 2015. In particular, a list of 20 prominent Polish economists identified by the authors of the study was used here [Konat, Smuga (eds.), 2016]. We also utilized the results of a survey conducted as part of the same research: answers to an open question about outstanding economists who exerted the greatest influence on the directions of the research work and interests of those surveyed [Konat et al., 2019: 257; the publication contains mainly aggregated data: original data in the possession of the author].

| Author(s)         | Title   | Year of publication | Number of citations |
|-------------------|---|---------------------|---------------------|
| Andrzej Wojtyna   | "Teoretyczny wymiar zależności między zmianami instytucjonalnymi, polityką ekonomiczną a wzrostem gospodarczym" [The Theoretical Aspect of the Relationship Between Institutional Change, Economic Policy and Growth] | 2007                | 69                  |
| Marek Kunasz      | "Zasoby przedsiębiorstwa w teorii ekonomii" [Enterprise Resources from the Perspective of Economic Theory]  | 2006                | 59                  |
| Andrzej Wojtyna   | "Nowe kierunki badań nad rolą instytucji we wzroście i transformacji" [New Directions in Research on the Role of Institutions in Economic Growth and in Transition]   | 2002                | 54                  |
| Andrzej Wojtyna   | "Polityka ekonomiczna a wzrost gospodarczy" [Economic Policy and Economic Growth]   | 1995                | 54                  |
| Jerzy Baruk       | "Dylematy rozwoju małych i średnich przedsiębiorstw" [Development Dilemmas of Small- and Medium-Sized Enterprises]  | 2002                | 51                  |
| Krzysztof Kostro  | "Kapitał społeczny w teorii ekonomicznej" [Social Capital in Economic Theory]   | 2005                | 50                  |
| Elżbieta Duliniec | "Koncepcje przedsiębiorstw wczesnie umiędzynarodowionych. Rozważania terminologiczne" [Early Internationalizing Firms: Discussion of Terminology]   | 2011                | 50                  |

Source: Authors' own elaboration based on data from Google Scholar (Publish or Perish, query date: 29 September 2021).

Since issue 1–2/2012, research articles published in *Gospodarka Narodowa* have contained JEL classification codes. Over the past decade, JEL classification codes have become an important source of information about the authors' interests. In the 55 issues of the journal that have appeared since the beginning of 2012 (including issue 3/2021), a total of 335 articles with JEL codes have been published. Their authors have used a total of 1,075 codes, or 3.2 codes per article on average. Of the 856 codes included in the classification, *Gospodarka Narodowa* authors have used 378, or 44.2%. Some of the codes, and thus the topics they stand for, were far more popular than others. The list of the most frequently used codes can be found in Table 2.

Interestingly, codes that clearly indicate the heterodox nature of an article (subcategory B5: Current Heterodox Approaches) attracted relatively little interest. Of the total number of codes, only eight from category B5, or about 0.7%, were used. Considering that in a 2015 survey of Polish academic economists, 15% clearly declared belonging to heterodox approaches (radical economics, Austrian economics, and post-Keynesianism) [Konat et al., 2019], this might suggest that *Gospodarka Narodowa* has been perceived by Polish authors as a mainstream economic journal, at least during the last decade. Of course, in-depth research would be needed to confirm this, especially

since inferences based solely on JEL codes from one subcategory are subject to a high risk of error<sup>4</sup>.

**Table 2. JEL classification codes most frequently used by *Gospodarka Narodowa* authors (2012–2021)**

| JEL code |   | Number of uses | Per article (in %) |
|----------|---|----------------|--------------------|
| F23      | Multinational Firms; International Business   | 20             | 6.0                |
| E32      | Business Fluctuations; Cycles   | 19             | 5.7                |
| E52      | Monetary Policy   | 17             | 5.1                |
| R11      | Regional Economic Activity: Growth, Development, Environmental Issues, and Changes                              | 17             | 5.1                |
| E62      | Fiscal Policy   | 16             | 4.8                |
| G32      | Financing Policy; Financial Risk and Risk Management; Capital and Ownership Structure; Value of Firms; Goodwill | 16             | 4.8                |
| G21      | Banks; Depository Institutions; Micro Finance Institutions; Mortgages   | 15             | 4.5                |
| E58      | Central Banks and Their Policies  | 13             | 3.9                |
| C23      | Panel Data Models; Spatio-temporal Models   | 11             | 3.3                |
| G01      | Financial Crises  | 11             | 3.3                |
| O31      | Innovation and Invention: Processes and Incentives  | 11             | 3.3                |
| J64      | Unemployment: Models, Duration, Incidence, and Job Search   | 10             | 3.0                |

Source: Authors' own elaboration.

The more general trends in the interests of the authors who have published their work in *Gospodarka Narodowa* during the last decade can be seen in the selection of JEL codes grouped according to the classification's 20 general categories (see Table 3). The summary shows that codes in the five most popular categories (C, E, F, G, and O) accounted for 52.4% of all codes used and those in the two most popular categories – E and F – accounted for more than a quarter of all codes used. This clearly indicates that over the past decade the journal has primarily included topics related to macroeconomics, including monetary economics, international economics, financial economics, technological change, and growth, and that many authors prefer a clearly quantitative approach in this area.

<sup>4</sup> One example is the article entitled "Oszczędności pracowników, rozwój rynku kapitału i inwestycje zagraniczne – rządowy plan rozwoju z perspektywy postkeynesowskiej" (Workers' Savings, Foreign Investment and Capital Market Development: An Assessment of the Polish Government's Action Plan from a Post-Keynesian Perspective) by Maciej Holko [2017]. This paper from the 5/2017 issue of *Gospodarka Narodowa*, was marked by the author only with the codes E11 and E12 although it obviously (as the title suggests) belonged to the heterodox post-Keynesian approach.

**Table 3. JEL classification categories most frequently used by *Gospodarka Narodowa* authors (2012–2021)**

| JEL general categories |  | Number of codes used | % of total |
|------------------------|--|----------------------|------------|
| A                      | General Economics and Teaching   | 10                   | 0.9        |
| B                      | History of Economic Thought, Methodology, and Heterodox Approaches                         | 37                   | 3.4        |
| C                      | Mathematical and Quantitative Methods  | 83                   | 7.7        |
| D                      | Microeconomics   | 81                   | 7.5        |
| E                      | Macroeconomics and Monetary Economics  | 144                  | 13.4       |
| F                      | International Economics  | 138                  | 12.8       |
| G                      | Financial Economics  | 98                   | 9.1        |
| H                      | Public Economics   | 67                   | 6.2        |
| I                      | Health, Education, and Welfare   | 29                   | 2.7        |
| J                      | Labour and Demographic Economics   | 77                   | 7.2        |
| K                      | Law and Economics  | 12                   | 1.1        |
| L                      | Industrial Organisation  | 51                   | 4.7        |
| M                      | Business Administration and Business Economics; Marketing; Accounting; Personnel Economics | 28                   | 2.6        |
| N                      | Economic History   | 5                    | 0.5        |
| O                      | Economic Development, Innovation, Technological Change, and Growth                         | 101                  | 9.4        |
| P                      | Economic Systems   | 33                   | 3.1        |
| Q                      | Agricultural and Natural Resource Economics; Environmental and Ecological Economics        | 27                   | 2.5        |
| R                      | Urban, Rural, Regional, Real Estate, and Transportation Economics                          | 44                   | 4.1        |
| Y                      | Miscellaneous Categories   | 0                    | 0.0        |
| Z                      | Other Special Topics   | 10                   | 0.9        |

Source: Authors' own elaboration.

In some ways, similar research was conducted by Tomasz Kuszewski [2011] for the 1990–2009 period. Since JEL codes were not yet used in *Gospodarka Narodowa* at that time, for the purposes of his study Kuszewski assigned such codes to articles “in a subjective way” [Kuszewski, 2011: 142] and then compared the obtained results with those for another prestigious Polish economic journal, *Ekonomista*. For the two decades covered by his analysis, the author found that, in the case of *Gospodarka Narodowa*, the most popular categories of JEL codes (responsible for a full 65% of the assignment used by that author) were M (19%), E (16%), C (12%), F (10%) and O (8%). Due to the difference in methodology, it is not possible to compare our results for 2012–2021 with those of Kuszewski for an earlier period to any great extent. However, it cannot be overlooked that in his study a fifth of the works were assigned to the category “Business Administration and Business Economics...,” while in 2012–2021, M-category codes accounted for only 2.6% of the total number of codes. This possibly signals the biggest change in the thematic focus of *Gospodarka Narodowa* authors since 1990.

Although *Gospodarka Narodowa* was formally a monthly before 2013, it never published 12 issues per year. Until the end of 1996 there were 10 issues a year (with two double issues published each year) and from 1997 onward there were eight issues per year (four double issues, with issues 1–2, 5–6, 7–8 and 11–12 permanently combined in 1999). During that period, the structure of the published works was also adapted to the changing standards of scientific publications. In early 1993, affiliations appeared alongside authors' names. From issue 1–2/2003, English summaries of published articles were introduced, and from issue 1–2/2006 keywords began to be used (only in English at first). Finally, as mentioned earlier, from issue 1–2/2012 JEL classification codes were added to each original paper published in *Gospodarka Narodowa*, next to summaries and keywords in the original language (i.e. Polish).

After Karol Szwarc, Danuta Hübner was editor-in-chief of *Gospodarka Narodowa* from 1992 to 1997, and then Andrzej Wojtyna held this role from 1997 to 2013. The development of the journal accelerated during the last decade under Eugeniusz Kwiatkowski (2013-2016) and Marek Gruszczyński (since 2017). From the start of 2014, the journal was published once every two months, and at the beginning of 2018 it became a quarterly publication. In late 2016 and early 2017, the editorial board stopped publishing reprints of foreign economic literature (the last such article appeared in issue 6/2016), book reviews (the last ones appeared in issue 1/2017), conference reports (the last one in issue 6/2016) and lists of publications for each year (the last such list was published for 2016 in issue 6/2016).

While from 2005 to 2016 the journal published between 41 and 47 articles a year (including two to eight in English) [Gruszczyński, Smuga, 2017], in 2017 – the last year of it being a bimonthly – only 31 articles appeared. Since 2018 *Gospodarka Narodowa*, in its new format as a quarterly journal, has published about two dozen original articles per year (27 in 2018, 23 in 2019, and 24 in 2020). Moreover, starting with issue 3/2020, the editorial board adopted an internal rule whereby articles written in English should make up at least half the total number of papers published [Gruszczyński, 2021: 7–8]. This meant not only a sharp increase in the number of articles written in English as a proportion of the total number of articles published, but also an increase in their absolute number.

Another result of the changes the journal has undergone in recent years is its increased presence on the internet. At the end of 2004, the journal appeared on the web as a subpage on the SGH Warsaw School of Economics website. The page included tables of contents for each issue in Polish and English, abstracts in English (starting with issue 3/2004), contact information and subscription terms for the journal, in addition to brief information for authors on how to prepare articles for publication. In 2013, the journal developed its own website with the address “gospodarkanarodowa.sgh.waw.pl” and an eISSN number. The full content of original articles was published there, starting with issue 1–2/2012, and then the full content of articles from pre-

vious issues was successively added from 2005. The new website also contained all the necessary information about the journal for authors, reviewers and, most importantly, readers. Finally, in 2019, as part of a project funded by the Polish Ministry of Science and Higher Education, the editorial board completed the modernisation of the journal. As a result of the project, a new website was created and a new editorial system was developed in Polish and English. In addition, an article archive was created on the journal's website, which now contains back issues spanning a period of 21 years from 2000 [Gruszczyński, 2020: 8].

The growing internet presence of *Gospodarka Narodowa* was also reflected in its inclusion in national and international indexing databases. Since early 2006, *Gospodarka Narodowa* has been indexed in the *Central European Journal of Social Sciences and Humanities* (CEJSH). Since 2015, it has been listed in Research Papers in Economics (RePEc, including IDEAS and EconPapers) and Index Copernicus. In 2018, it joined the Web of Science-Emerging Sources Citation Index, followed by the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) in 2019, and the European Reference Index for the Humanities and Social Sciences (ERIH PLUS) and the Central and Eastern European Online Library (CEEOL) in 2020. In 2021, *Gospodarka Narodowa* began to be indexed by the EBSCO Central & Eastern European Academic Source, AgEcon, and the Polish database BibliotekaNauki. For several years, articles published in the journal have also been available in the International Bibliography of Social Sciences (ProQuest), and they can still be found in research search engines such as Google Scholar and Bielefeld Academic Search Engine (BASE).

In 2020, the journal changed the structure of its editorial board. The Program Committee was abolished and the editorial team was significantly reduced. Currently, the quarterly is managed by a three-strong team of Editors and a group of Associate Editors, which consists of a part of the former Editorial Committee and the entire Program Committee, reinforced by a large group of scholars, most of them based abroad. Among the newly appointed Associate Editors are Marcin Kacperczyk from Imperial College London, Jeffrey Kline from the University of Queensland, Robert Korajczyk from Northwestern University, and Oskar Kowalewski from the IÉSEG School of Management.

The picture of recent changes in the journal is completed by its new name. After the *Analyses-Forecasts-Strategy* wording was dropped from the name in 1996, beginning with issue 7/1996, there was another name change starting with issue 1/2020: the journal was renamed *Gospodarka Narodowa. The Polish Journal of Economics*. The editors decided that the change would give "... articles [published in *Gospodarka Narodowa*] greater recognition and enable them to be cited more often internationally" [Gruszczyński, 2020: 7–8].

## Conclusion

*Gospodarka Narodowa* has come a long way. Originally, it was a general economic journal aimed at a wide audience, combining scientific research with business practice and journalism. The post-war period was not easy for the journal. Despite attempts to revive its pre-war flavour under a new name by offering a free platform to proponents of different political views and economic approaches, like other journals at the time, it became a “propaganda mouthpiece” of the communist authorities. The 1950s and 1960s brought greater freedom to the journal’s editors, leading to a series of lively discussions in which the most important issues of the Polish economy were raised. In the late 1980s and early 1990s, the journal underwent another evolution as a result of which it returned to its original name and became a purely academic journal. It has retained this character to this day, while at the same time constantly trying to raise its international profile and embrace changing trends in global economics.

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