

## IN MEMORY OF JANINA

When attending an international professional or intergovernmental conference on population in the 1970s, Poland invariably was represented by Jerzy Z. Holzer of the Polish Academy of Sciences and the Warsaw School of Economics. He and I belonged to the same generation of the early 1930s and, quite possibly, we met for the first time in the home of Lotty and Günther Beyer. They were in the habit of inviting me along whenever they had an interesting demographer staying with them or were planning a conference of the European Centre for Population Studies (ECPS). Anyway, we reached an easy understanding. And, when Günther fell seriously ill and urgent steps had to be taken to found a successor organisation to the ECPS, I turned to him for support. Thus, on 15 October 1982 Jerzy Zdzisław Holzer unhesitatingly signed the form giving me the power of attorney to go to a notary public in The Hague and with other trusted colleagues establish our new European Association for Population Studies (EAPS).

Jerzy spoke highly of his collaborators, most notably Janina Józwiak. She deserved a sabbatical, he felt, and it was arranged she would come to NIDI in 1985 to work with Frans Willekens, the then deputy director of the Institute. She produced a specialized textbook called *Mathematical Models of Population*, which NIDI was pleased to publish.

Janina proved to be a very good colleague: friendly, skilful as well as helpful, with a broad interest in population questions and ready to devote some of her time to a worthy common goal. Her great qualities were soon recognized by EAPS' membership and in quick succession she rose through the ranks of the Council ending up as its President during the period 2003–2008.

At her home institution, she was equally successful as a teacher, researcher and administrator. She served the university during two terms (1993–1999) as its Rector Magnificence and, suitably dressed in a short ermine cape and a crimson *cappa*, performed even her ceremonial tasks efficiently, solemn and with a great sense of decorum. I had an excellent opportunity to see her in action when in 2003 she was entrusted by the Senate to pronounce the laudation when I was awarded its honorary doctorate. I still feel greatly honoured and deeply touched by the effort she, Irena Kotowska, and so many of her other Polish demographic colleagues had put in to show their approval of the way we, working closely together, had opened up the European demographic research space. In her laudation, Janina bounced a paragraph

back at me that must also have expressed her deepest feelings and from which, therefore, I now quote two lines:

*“I’m a European’: I state that with conviction, a certain pride, and a tinge of sadness.” [ ] ‘For me, European is the concept of a culture and civilization whose varied and sublime manifestations thrill me, give me pleasure, and make me accept the limits of my human existence.’*

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