

*Bartłomiej Krzan**

PROFESSOR JAN KOLASA (1926-2016)

Professor Jan Kolasa was born on 3 December 1926 in Kobylany, in the Opatów district. The outbreak of World War II severely impeded but did not entirely destroy his education plans. Soon after the War's end he began studying Law at the University of Wrocław, from which he graduated on 30 December 1950. Already in 1947 Jan Kolasa was attending the lectures and seminars of Professor Stanisław Hubert, who became his academic mentor and master. It was during these times that Jan Kolasa, while still a student, completed an in-depth study of the first Polish textbooks on the law of nations.¹ In the period of 1949-1956 he worked at the Library of the Ossolinski National Institute (Ossolineum), where he was trained as a full librarian and an editor. But his work at Ossolineum did not interrupt his contacts with Professor Hubert. At Professor Hubert's urging, he undertook studies on the teaching of the law of nations in Poland during the Age of Enlightenment, which resulted in the publication of a well-received book² wherein he analysed how the law of nature and law of nations were taught in Poland, i.e. in a state subjected to several partitions that eventually led to its final extinction. The results of this research have been oft-quoted by lawyers and historians.

In September 1956 Jan Kolasa was awarded the scientific title of an adjunct at the Chair of International Law in the Faculty of Law at the University of Wrocław. Soon after that, in 1957, he left for the United States. As a Ford Foundation Scholar at Princeton University he first received a Master of Arts (1959), then Ph.D. on the basis of his dissertation "The League of Minds: The International Intellectual Cooperation of the League of Nations".³

Facing problems with the recognition of his Ph.D. upon his return to Poland, Jan Kolasa obtained a second doctoral degree at his home University of Wrocław. The public

* Associate Professor of Public International Law at the University of Wrocław, Faculty of Law, Administration and Economics, Wrocław (Poland).

¹ J. Kolasa, *Pierwsze „systema prawa narodów” w języku polskim z roku 1780*, Wrocławskie Towarzystwo Naukowe, Wrocław: 1951.

² J. Kolasa, *Prawo narodów w szkołach polskich wieku Oświecenia*, Wydawnictwo Prawnicze, Warszawa: 1954.

³ J. Kolasa, *The League of Minds: The International Intellectual Co-operation of the League of Nations*, Dissertation Abstracts, Princeton: 1960.

defence of his dissertation “Prawo narodów w polskich szkołach wieku oświecenia” [The law of nations in the Polish schools in the age of Enlightenment] took place on 7 December 1960, with Professor Stanisław Hubert acting as a supervisor and Professors Ludwik Ehrlich and Leszek Winowski as reviewers.

In 1962 Dr. Kolasa published ‘International intellectual cooperation. The League experience and the beginnings of UNESCO’, wherein he examined initiatives and attempts to establish the Institute of Intellectual Cooperation in Paris and the functioning of its organs. The book met with very positive reviews.⁴ In the subsequent period, Dr. Kolasa turned to international procedural law, which resulted in a series of interesting studies⁵ in addition to a book that became the basis for his obtainment of his advanced scientific degree (habilitation). The formal examination (habilitation colloquium) took place at the Wrocław Faculty of Law on 28 October 1965. The conferral of *venia legendi* was confirmed by the Ministry of Science in 1967. The reviewers in the proceedings were Professors Alfons Klafkowski, Remigiusz Bierzanek as well as Kazimierz Libera.

Professor Kolasa’s habilitation thesis attracted considerable attention and earned him great respect. In it he analysed the problem of the legal value of different resolutions of international organizations, with particular emphasis on numerous procedural rules, a topic of utmost importance both in terms of theory and practice. The book was the first to offer such a comprehensive and in-depth legal analysis, using his own original conception of adopted law.⁶ He thereby contributed significantly to the science of international organizations, in particular to a better understanding of the contemporary law-making process. This work has been extensively referred to and quoted.⁷ According to Prof. Bierzanek, Kolasa’s book was “a bold attempt at a new and creative approach

⁴ See e.g. Bulletin of International Association of Universities’ Paris, vol. XI, 1963, no. 1. In another review published in International Organization, Krill de Capello assessed it as an “excellent Polish stud” – see H.H. Krill de Capello, *The Creation of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization*, 24(1) International Organization 1 (1970).

⁵ J. Kolasa, *Regulamin Zgromadzenia Ogólnego ONZ*, 10-12 Państwo i Prawo 556 (1963); *idem*, *Rozwój regulaminów organizacji międzynarodowych*, 3 Ruch Prawniczy, Ekonomiczny i Socjologiczny 81 (1965); *idem*, *Regulamin Zgromadzenia Ogólnego Narodów Zjednoczonych*, Sprawozdania Wrocławskiego Towarzystwa Naukowego, 19, A, 1964, Wrocław: 1966, pp. 76-88; *idem*, *Przepisy regulaminu Zgromadzenia Ogólnego Narodów Zjednoczonych na tle postanowień Karty*, XXII Acta Universitatis Wratislaviensis: Prawo 31 (1967).

⁶ See also J. Kolasa, *On the source of international law: towards a conception of adopted law*, 9 Polish Yearbook of International Law 105 (1977-1978); *idem*, *Koncepcja międzynarodowego primum primum prawa*, Prawo i Administracja 1977/3 (Leningrad); *idem*, *Z zagadnień źródeł prawa międzynarodowego - koncepcja prawa uchwalanego*, 11 Przegląd Prawa i Administracji 45 (1979); *idem*, *Ku koncepcji międzynarodowego prawa uchwalanego*, in: K. Wolfke (ed.), *Aktualne zagadnienia źródeł prawa międzynarodowego*, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Wrocławskiego, Wrocław: 1984, pp. 11-19.

⁷ See e.g. J.J. Baskin, D.I. Feldman, *Meždunarodnoe pravo: problemy metodologii: očerki metodov issledovanija*, Moscow: 1971, pp. 84-85; R. Sabel, *Procedure at International Conferences. A Study of the Rules of Procedure at the UN and at Inter-governmental Conferences* (2nd ed.), Cambridge University Press, Cambridge: 2006, p. 5.

to a problem of great scientific and practical importance”.⁸ Another reviewer (I. Seidl-Hohenveldern) expressed a similarly appreciative view.⁹

Subsequently, his 1975 monograph “Głosowanie w powszechnych organizacjach międzynarodowych. Wybrane zagadnienia prawne” [Voting in universal international organizations. Selected legal issues] constituted the basis for conferring on him the academic title of extraordinary professor of legal sciences. The results of his analysis in the monograph still remain intact today. In a review published in this Yearbook, Prof. Wojciech Morawiecki considered the monograph to be the “result of conscientious research which may serve as a model of a good juridical work.”¹⁰ Prof. Charles Rousseau declared in *Revue générale de droit international public* that the book was a solid contribution to the law of international organizations.¹¹

He attained Ordinary Professorship (via the formal conferral of the academic title of ordinary professor by the State Council) in 1982 with his monograph “GAT'T: z zagadnień tworzenia i stosowania prawa handlu międzynarodowego” [GAT'T: issues concerning the creation and application of international trade law] (Ossolineum 1979), which resulted from research he conducted both in Poland and abroad (during his visiting professorship at Princeton University in 1974/75).¹² Professor Kolasa was appointed ordinary professor at the University of Wrocław in 1990 and worked in that position until his retirement in 2006. But even after that he remained actively engaged in the activities of the Department of International and European Law, to which he was always closely connected.

Within Kolasa's vast scientific legacy one may identify a number of issues that particularly attracted his attention. But probably his favourite field of research was the law of international organizations. In addition to his examinations into internal law-making¹³ and voting, he did not refrain from taking on other more general topics concerning the definition¹⁴

⁸ See R. Bierzanek, *Review: J. Kolasa, Rules of Procedure of the United Nations General Assembly. A Legal Analysis*, Wrocław 1967, 3 *Polish Yearbook of International Law* 336 (1970).

⁹ See 99 *Journal du droit international* 174 (1972).

¹⁰ See 9 *Polish Yearbook of International Law* 355 (1976).

¹¹ See LXXVIII *Revue générale de droit international public* 876 (1974).

¹² J. Kolasa, *Law-making and law-enforcing for international trade: some reflections on the GATT experience*, Center of International Studies, Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Studies, Princeton University, Occasional Paper - World Order Studies Program no. 3, 1976.

¹³ J. Kolasa, *Z zagadnień tzw. prawa wewnętrznego organizacji międzynarodowych*, XXXII *Acta Universitatis Wratislaviensis: Prawo* 83 (1970); *idem*, *La notion de droit interne des organisations internationales*, 3 *Polish Yearbook of International Law* 95 (1970); *idem*, *Działalność prawotwórcza Organizacji Narodów Zjednoczonych w zakresie jej prawa wewnętrznego*, *Sprawozdania Wrocławskiego Towarzystwa Naukowego* 1970 nr 25 A, pp. 70-72; *idem*, *On the Procedural and Organizational Law Adopted by the Organs of the European Union*, in: J. Makarczyk (ed.), *Theory of International Law at the Threshold of the 21st Century. Essays in honour of Krzysztof Skubiszewski*, Kluwer Law International, The Hague: 1996, pp. 625-642.

¹⁴ J. Kolasa, *Pojęcie współczesnej organizacji międzynarodowej*, 2/3 *Przegląd Stosunków Międzynarodowych* 165 (1981); *idem*, *La notion d'organisation internationale contemporaine*, 12 *Polish Yearbook of International Law*, 95 (1983); *idem*, *Some Remarks on the Concept of a Resolution and Decision of International Organizations*, in: J. Makarczyk (ed.), *Essays in International Law in Honour of Judge Manfred Lachs*, Kluwer Law International, The Hague: 1984, pp. 493-499.

and classification¹⁵ of international organizations. In recognition of his expertise and achievements, Professor Kolasa was invited to take part in the preparation of an international textbook on international organizations, published in English and French under the auspices of the UNESCO and the Hague Academy of International Law.¹⁶

Professor Kolasa's enduring interest in teaching international law was manifested not only in his earlier studies from a legal historian's perspective. Professor Kolasa was also actively engaged in reacting to contemporary challenges,¹⁷ as may be evidenced by his determination and persistence to introduce the law of the European Communities/Union to the curriculum of legal studies.¹⁸ It was due to his determination and persistence that European law started to be taught as a separate subject at the University of Wrocław, and at the time of its introduction was one of the first few in Poland. Due to generous support of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation it was possible to establish the Konrad Adenauer Centre of European Integration at the Faculty of Law and Administration of the University of Wrocław, with Professor Kolasa as the Centre's director.

Given the lack of textbooks on European law during this early period, one of the remedies was the compilation of a two-volume work edited by Professor Kolasa: "Wspólnoty Europejskie (Unia). Wybrane problemy prawne" [European Communities/Union. Selected legal issues].¹⁹ Within the domain of EU law Professor Kolasa offered both examinations into general problems²⁰ as well as more specific issues. In the latter domain one should mention in particular the project on European and domestic telecommunications law, headed by Professor Kolasa and financed by the Ministry's

¹⁵ J. Kolasa, *Z zagadnień klasyfikacji organizacji międzynarodowych*, in: J. Fiema, W. Gutekunst, S. Hubert (eds.), *Księga pamiątkowa ku czci prof. dra Witolda Świdry*, Wydawnictwo Prawnicze, Warszawa 1969, pp. 347-353.

¹⁶ See R.-J. Dupuy (ed.), *Manuel sur les organisations internationales (A handbook on international organizations)*, Académie de droit international de La Haye/Hague Academy of International Law, Dordrecht 1988. Together with R. Zacklin, Professor Kolasa prepared a chapter *Les moyens des organisations internationales (The ways and means of international organizations)*, pp. 179-236. The former author referred to diplomatic relations, in particular to privileges and immunities, while Professor Kolasa authored the second part concerning financing (pp. 198ff), individuals (pp. 210ff) and property (pp. 232ff).

¹⁷ J. Kolasa, *Prawo międzynarodowe w nowym programie studiów na Wydziale Prawa i Administracji*, in: H. Olszewski (ed.), *Polska i świat. Studia nad prawem międzynarodowym i współczesnymi stosunkami międzynarodowymi. W czterdziestolecie pracy naukowej Profesora Alfonsa Klafkowskiego*, Wydawnictwo Naukowe UAM, Poznań: 1978, pp. 225-235.

¹⁸ J. Kolasa, *Prawo europejskie – nowy przedmiot w programie studiów prawniczych*, in: M. Seweryński, 4 *Studia prawno-europejskie* 23 (1999).

¹⁹ The second edition was released in 1998. In the first volume Prof. Kolasa authored a study on EC internal law (*Prawo wewnętrzne Wspólnot Europejskich. Zarys problemu*, pp. 75-136), and in the second volume he published a study on the constitutional issues in the Treaty of Maastricht (*Traktat z Maastricht. Zarys podstawowych zagadnień konstytucyjnych*, pp. 49-104).

²⁰ J. Kolasa, *Unia Europejska na tle rozwoju prawa i społeczności międzynarodowej*, in: J. Kolasa, A. Kozłowski (eds.), *Prawo międzynarodowe publiczne a prawo europejskie*, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Wrocławskiego, Wrocław: 2003, pp. 159-185; *idem*, *Europa – rodowód i tożsamość*, in: S. Dudzik (ed.), *Konstytucja dla Europy. Przyszły fundament Unii Europejskiej*, Wolters Kluwer Polska, Kraków 2005, pp. 15-28.

Committee of Scientific Research.²¹ The accompanying book crowned almost a decade of research, commenced upon request of the Board of the National Radio Communication Agency, and was successively published in a series “Legal Issues of Telecommunication in Europe”. In the first issue of this series Professor Kolasa clearly underlined the necessity of combining legal expertise with advanced complicated and complex technological developments. He strongly advocated for “constant, long-lasting close cooperation of engineers with lawyers and mutual support and complementing actions for developing this branch of science, and decent Polish domestic legislation in conformity with European requirements.”²² This is yet another manifestation of Professor Kolasa’s legendary stance on combining theoretical and practical issues.

Mention must also be made of the monograph “Disarmament and arms control agreements: a study on procedural and institutional law” (Brockmeyer 1995), which was prepared at the University of Bochum. It contains a meticulous analysis of the respective agreements, constituting, according to the author, a new form of States’ commitments. Formally autonomous, these agreements concern interrelated aspects of the same subject, they are mutually interconnected not only substantively but also in legal-institutional terms. Thus, by being complementary to one another they lead to a certain institutional system constituting a new branch of today’s public international law.

Amongst his many lasting achievements, Professor Kolasa’s contribution to the law of international courts and tribunals is worth mentioning, along with his pioneering studies on procedural law.²³ At a later stage he headed a scientific project on the contemporary international judiciary, the main effect of which was a two-volume work, edited by him. In the first volume, devoted to institutional issues, he tackled the Permanent Court of Arbitration,²⁴ and in the second volume on “Selected legal issues” Professor Kolasa offered an extensive study on the independence of an international judge.²⁵ The latter topic was further developed and also took the form of a brilliant

²¹ W. Gromski, J. Kolasa, A. Kozłowski, K. Wójtowicz, *Europejskie i polskie prawo telekomunikacyjne*, LexisNexis, Warszawa: 2004.

²² J. Kolasa, *Przedmowa* in: *Zarys regulacji w ramach organizacji europejskich*, Warszawa 1996 [Series: *Zagadnienia Prawne Telekomunikacji w Europie*, 1], p. 7.

²³ J. Kolasa, *Regulamin Stałego Trybunału Sprawiedliwości Międzynarodowej. Początki międzynarodowej procedury sądowej*, CLIX Acta Universitatis Wratislaviensis: Prawo 69 (1987); *idem*, *Some Reflections Concerning the Evolution of International Arbitral and Judicial Rules of Procedure*, 14 Polish Yearbook of International Law 99 (1985); *idem*, *Proces Norymberski - aspekt proceduralny*, 5 Państwo i Prawo 55 (1988); *idem*, *Origins and sources of procedural law of international courts: ubi jus, ibi remedium*, in: V. Epping et al. (eds.), *Brücken bauen und begehen. Festschrift für Knut Ipsen zum 65. Geburtstag*, München: 2000, pp. 185-198.

²⁴ J. Kolasa, *Staly Trybunał Arbitrażowy*, in: J. Kolasa (ed.), *Współczesne sądownictwo międzynarodowe, Tom I: Zagadnienia instytucjonalne*, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Wrocławskiego, Wrocław: 2009, pp. 47-73.

²⁵ J. Kolasa, *Niezależność sędziego międzynarodowego. Zarys problemu*, in J. Kolasa (ed.), *Współczesne sądownictwo międzynarodowe, Tom II: Wybrane Zagadnienia prawne*, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Wrocławskiego, Wrocław: 2010, pp. 9-47.

presentation at the reunion of the Polish departments of international law at the Książ Castle in 2010.²⁶

In addition to the above-mentioned fields of interest, one may mention his examinations into international environmental law²⁷ or studies on international responsibility²⁸ and on international trade.²⁹ Professor Kolasa devoted special care and attention to preparing an anniversary study on the restoration of the Republic of Poland for “Przegląd Sejmowy”³⁰ – a topic that had been previously examined by his academic master Professor Hubert.³¹ Lastly, a team convened under Professor Kolasa’s leadership examined the essence of sources of international law. The results of this project, with his important contribution on the legal character of unilateral acts of states,³² are forthcoming also in English.

Without doubt the research conducted by Professor Kolasa was always of great theoretical and practical importance, contributing vastly to the development of the science of international law. In many respects he posed problems in a pioneering fashion. His scientific legacy met with widespread acknowledgement and full respect and was extensively referred to in both the Polish and international legal doctrine, as evidenced by the many glowing reviews of his works in domestic and international scientific journals.

Along with having the highest scientific qualities and attainments, Professor Kolasa was always very strongly engaged in University affairs. At the University of Wrocław he

²⁶ J. Kolasa, *Zasada nemo iudex in causa sua a sądownictwo międzynarodowe*, in: A. Wnukiewicz-Kozłowska (ed.), *Aksjologia współczesnego prawa międzynarodowego. Materiały konferencyjne (Książ, 12-14.05.2010 r.)*, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Wrocławskiego, Wrocław: 2011, pp. 31-60.

²⁷ See J. Kolasa, *Prawnomiędzynarodowe aspekty ochrony wód Odry przed zanieczyszczeniem*, 1 *Przegląd Stosunków Międzynarodowych* 33 (1979); *idem*, *Ochrona środowiska naturalnego Odry w płaszczyźnie prawa międzynarodowego* in: J. Gilas, S. Wajda (eds.), *Status prawnomiędzynarodowy Odry*, Instytut Śląski, Opole: 1982, pp. 159-173.

²⁸ J. Kolasa, *Z zagadnień kodyfikacji zasad odpowiedzialności międzynarodowej państw*, 4 *Przegląd Prawa i Administracji* 91 (1973); *idem*, *Odpowiedzialność majątkowa państw w świetle prac Komisji Prawa Międzynarodowego Narodów Zjednoczonych*, in: H. de Fiumel (ed.), *Problemy odpowiedzialności majątkowej państw Rady Wzajemnej Pomocy Gospodarczej*, Warszawa: 1975, pp. 131-150.

²⁹ E.g. J. Kolasa, *Współpraca gospodarcza między Polską a RFN w świetle umów międzynarodowych*, 5 *Przegląd Stosunków Międzynarodowych* 19 (1974); *idem*, *Die wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit zwischen Polen und der Bundesrepublik Deutschland im Lichte der völkerrechtlichen Verträge*, in: J. Kokot, K. Skubiszewski (eds.), *Staatsangehörigkeit, soziale Grundrechte, wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit: nach dem Recht der Bundesrepublik Deutschland und der Volksrepublik Polen*, Berlin: 1976, pp. 205-224; *idem*, *Prawo państwa do uczestniczenia w handlu międzynarodowym i innych formach współpracy gospodarczej*, 6 *Przegląd Stosunków Międzynarodowych* 23 (1981).

³⁰ J. Kolasa, *Odzyskanie przez Polskę niepodległości w 1918 r. w świetle prawa międzynarodowego*, XVI 5(88) *Przegląd Sejmowy* 9 (2008).

³¹ S. Hubert, *Rozbiory i odrodzenie Rzeczypospolitej*, Zakład Prawa Politycznego i Prawa Narodów U. J. K., Lwów: 1937 and *idem*, *Przywrócenie władzy państwowej (Ius postliminii): rozwój doktryny w teorii i praktyce prawa narodów do początków wieku XIX*, Zakład Prawa Politycznego i Prawa Narodów U. J. K., Lwów: 1936.

³² J. Kolasa, *Charakter prawny aktu unilateralnego państwa*, in: J. Kolasa (ed.), *Istota źródła w porządku prawa międzynarodowego*, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Wrocławskiego, Wrocław: 2016, pp. 9-114.

was a member of the Senate and the University Financial Commission. At the Faculty of Law he led the Department of International Law (later expanded to also include European Law) from the late 1960s – after Professor Hubert stepped down – to the late 1990s.

Professor Kolasa undertook numerous initiatives aimed at opening up the University of Wrocław to international cooperation. It was due to his great personal engagement, as well as that of Professor Knut Ipsen (promoted to *doctor honoris causa* by Jan Kolasa on 15 November 1994), that the cooperation between lawyers from the Universities of Bochum and Wrocław, which has flourished since the mid-1980s, was possible. Professor Kolasa also supervised joint student projects between the undergraduates of German and Polish Universities: Ruhr University Bochum, European University Viadrina, Jagiellonian University and the University of Wrocław. One of the effects of such cooperation was a volume “Architecture of the European Security”, co-edited with Michał Rynkowski (Wrocław: 2002).

Professor Kolasa also initiated close cooperation with the Council of Europe and the European Union, which resulted in, *inter alia*, the organisation of conferences on the relationship between international and domestic law,³³ human rights, and the functioning of the democratic institutions in emergency situations.³⁴ Thanks to his contacts he managed to invite numerous eminent guest lecturers to deliver lectures at the University of Wrocław. At the same time, he did not decline the various invitations he received to present papers at conferences and universities abroad (Princeton, Washington, Leningrad, Brno, Leipzig, The Hague). He served as visiting professor at Princeton University and Ruhr University Bochum. He was also a committed teacher, devoting particular attention to the rigidity and precision of legal reasoning and the responsible use of words.

All his students could always count on his assistance, advice, and support in their academic and other activities. Professor Kolasa always abided by the principle that “the most important things should come first.” His students and colleagues were always encouraged to further their scientific development and to have an open approach to new challenges. Like his academic master Professor Hubert, he always considered taking care of and offering assistance to younger academics as “a sacrosanct university obligation”. Professor Kolasa carefully supervised 17 doctoral dissertations. Many of his former pupils continued their University careers and now serve as professors or assistant professors at various universities in Poland and abroad.

³³ See J. Kolasa, *The supranational character of Community law*, in *The relationship between international and domestic law. Proceedings of the UniDem Seminar organized in Warsaw on 19 to 21 May 1993 in co-operation with the University of Wrocław and the Poznań Human Rights Centre and supported by the Phare Programme of the European Communities, European Commission for Democracy through Law*, Council of Europe Press, Strasbourg: 1994, pp. 70-78.

³⁴ See J. Kolasa, *Rules on emergency powers in human rights treaties*, in: *Human rights and the functioning of the democratic institutions in emergency situations. Proceedings of the UniDem Seminar organized in Wrocław (Poland) from 3 to 5 October 1996 in co-operation with the University of Wrocław and with the support of the Japan Foundation, the European Commission, Bank Zachodni SA of Wrocław, the Konrad Adenauer Foundation, and the European Commission for Democracy through Law*, Strasbourg: 1997, pp. 108-128.

The integration of international lawyers was always very important for Professor Kolasa. He initiated and took active part in the annual reunions of the Departments of International Law, where he often read papers on controversial topics³⁵ and edited collections of conference papers.³⁶ Professor Kolasa frequently served as a reviewer in the proceedings on conferral of a professorial title, for appointments to the post of professor, and in habilitation and doctoral proceedings.

In addition to his University activities, Professor Kolasa served as a member of Advisory Legal Committee to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and as an expert of the Chancellery of the Sejm (the Polish Diet). In 2001 he was appointed a member of the OSCE Court of Conciliation and Arbitration (with the renewal of his appointment in 2007).

For many years he was also a Vice-Chairman of the Bioethical Commission at the Wrocław University of Medicine and was greatly involved in its activities. From 1989 onwards he actively participated in the Friends of Ossolineum Association (acting from 1998-2001 as its Vice-President). With his legal expertise he assisted the Ossolinski National Institute as the chancellor of the Board of Curators for two terms (1995-2005). He was also a member of the Wrocław Scientific Society, the Association of Princeton Alumni, and the International Law Association.

Professor Jan Kolasa passed away suddenly on 13 August 2016. We will dearly miss him, not only as a truly eminent international scholar but first of all as a great mentor and inimitable master, a true *civis academicus* who managed to prove by his life what the University consists in, combining with success and utmost elegance the beautiful tradition of the Lemberg school of the law of nations with the requirements of the present times.

³⁵ E.g. J. Kolasa, *Normatywne podstawy jedności prawa międzynarodowego. Zarys problemu*, in: J. Kolasa, A. Kozłowski (eds.), *Rozwój prawa międzynarodowego - jedność czy fragmentacja?*, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Wrocławskiego, Wrocław: 2007, pp. 11-38.

³⁶ See e.g. J. Kolasa, A. Kozłowski (eds.), *Prawo międzynarodowe publiczne a prawo europejskie*, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Wrocławskiego, Wrocław: 2003.