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Report from the 2nd World Calisia Conference on Family Health, Kalisz, Poland, 24–25 October 2021

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President Stanisław Wojciechowski Calisia University, Kalisz, Poland

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CONFERENCE OUTLINE

The 2nd World Conference on Family Health, which took place at Calisia University on 24–25 October 2021, was a continuation of the deliberations on the health condition of families, launched during its first edition in 2019. This year the main conference theme was “Health at the time of crises and wars”. The meeting was organized among others by the Institute – European Observatory of Health Inequalities at Calisia University. It was held under the honorary patronage of the Polish Ministry of Education and Science, the Ministry of Family and Social Policy and the Ministry of Health. During the inauguration ceremony a letter to the participants of the conference from Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki was read out. The letter reads, *inter alia*:

This valuable initiative with the participation of representatives of the world of science and experts from public health institutions opens the possibility of analysing the results of research conducted in Poland and around the world, identifying new research areas and a fruitful international discussion on threats to family health in times of crises and wars (...). Ladies and Gentlemen, the good of the family is a fundamental value. We need the effort and cooperation of many environments to recognize and support its great importance. I am convinced that the discussion with international experts will result in many constructive conclusions. Thanking the organizers of the event, I hope that the meetings in Kalisz will become a platform for annual conferences, making a significant contribution to the issues of family health in Poland.

This two-day meeting focused on issues related to the development of the health situation in Poland and other Central European countries, tobacco smoking, alcohol consumption and epidemiology of smoking- and alcohol-related diseases, legal consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as family health care in

Poland, Israel, Mozambique and Ukraine (Box 1). One of the sessions was entirely devoted to human rights issues during armed conflicts, using the examples of Rwanda and Albania (see programme outline in Box 1).

The conference was attended by around 30 speakers from 15 countries, including scientists and public health experts from Canada, Germany, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Mozambique, Norway, Poland, Rwanda, Spain, Switzerland, Ukraine, and the United Kingdom (Photo 1, Box 2). Due to sanitary restrictions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the proceedings were held in a hybrid mode. One session block was stationary, and the other was carried out in parallel remotely. It is worth emphasizing that 240 people followed the meeting in a stationary manner, and the potential Internet audience included almost 4.5 thousand listeners, including students of health sciences, as well as research and teaching staff of universities.

INAUGURAL CEREMONY

The first day of the conference was devoted to an inaugural ceremony during which professor Andrzej Wojtyła awarded the title of Doctor Honoris Causa of the Calisia University to Professor Theodor Meron (Photo 2). Professor Meron is a graduate of the universities of Jerusalem, Harvard and Cambridge, expert in civil law, criminal law, author of many books and articles which served as legal basis for the international criminal tribunals, lecturer at many scientific institutions, and currently associated with the New York University Law School and Oxford University. Importantly, this outstanding scientist, judge and diplomat was born in Kalisz in 1930.

During his inaugural lecture Professor Meron said: *Terror and pain is what my family and I experienced during 2nd World War in Poland. This had a profound impact on the decisions I made later in my professional career. This determined the specialization in international*

BOX 1. Calisia Conference programme outline

Day 1: 24 October 2021 – Inaugural ceremony

Meeting of the Senate of the Calisia University, Kalisz, Poland and the inauguration of 2nd World Conference on Family Health *Health at the Time of Crises and Wars*

Ceremony of awarding the title of Doctor Honoris Causa of the Calisia University, Kalisz, Poland to Professor Theodor Meron

Welcome addresses and laudation in honour of Professor Theodor Meron – Professor Andrzej Wojtyła, Rector of the Calisia University, Kalisz, Poland

Speeches of the reviewers: Professor Patrycja Grzebyk, Professor Bogusław Sygit

Inaugural lecture: Professor Theodor Meron, Doctor Honoris Causa of the Calisia University, Kalisz, Poland

Piano Concert by Professor Zbigniew Raubo

Concert of Big Band *Po godzinach*

Day 2: 25 October 2021 – Scientific meeting

Plenary session: Overview of health development in Poland with special attention to years 1990–2020

Chairpersons: Andrzej Wojtyła, Rector of the Calisia University, Kalisz, Poland; Witold Zatoński, Institute – European Observatory of Health Inequalities, Calisia University, Kalisz, Poland

Welcome addresses: Andrzej Wojtyła, Rector of the Calisia University, Kalisz, Poland; Witold Zatoński, Institute – European Observatory of Health Inequalities, Calisia University, Kalisz, Poland; Aurelijus Veryga, Former Minister of Health of Lithuania

Keynote lecture: Health and sustainable development in the light of the pandemic (European report) – Martin McKee, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, United Kingdom

Keynote lecture: Alcohol and health in Central and Eastern EU countries – *status quo* and alcohol policy options – Jurgen Rehm, Campbell Family Mental Health Research Institute, Canada

History and current health situation in Poland – Witold Zatoński and team of the Institute – European Observatory of Health Inequalities, Calisia University, Kalisz, Poland

Discussants: Carlo La Vecchia, Department of Clinical Sciences and Community Health, University of Milan, Italy; Mindaugas Stelemekas, Health Research Institute, WHO Collaborating Centre for the Prevention and Control of NCDs, Lithuania; Mateusz Zatoński, Department for Health, University of Bath, United Kingdom

Parallel session 1 A: Family healthcare in Poland, Israel, Mozambique, and Ukraine

Chairperson: Ewa Sałkiewicz-Munnerlyn, Calisia University, Kalisz, Poland

Family healthcare in Poland – Zofia Małas, Director of the Main Council of Nurses and Midwives, Poland

Family healthcare in Israel – Liat Safri, Western Galilee Medical Center, Israel

Family healthcare in Israel – Ruth Olivia Bitton, Western Galilee Medical Center, Director of the Midwifery Education, Israel

Maternal health care and the SDG in Mozambique – Leonardo Chavane, Eduardo Mondlane University, Mozambique

The birth and the development of the family healthcare in Ukraine – Andriey Bazylewicz, President of the World Federation of Ukrainian Medical Associations, Ukraine

Parallel session 1 B: Recent development of health situation in Central European countries

Chairpersons: Mindaugas Stelemekas, Health Research Institute, WHO Collaborating Centre for the Prevention and Control of NCDs, Lithuania; Katarzyna Zatońska, Department of Social Medicine, Wrocław Medical University, Poland

History of alcohol consumption and cancer burden in Italy – Carlo La Vecchia, Department of Clinical Sciences and Community Health, University of Milan, Italy

The health crisis in 2020: an example from Lithuania – Justina Vaitkeviciute, Health Research Institute, Lithuanian University of Health Sciences, Lithuania

Gender disparities in life expectancy and mortality from preventable diseases in Latvia: 2000–2020 – Inese Gobina, Department of Public Health and Epidemiology, Riga Stradins University, Latvia

How coronavirus affected health situation in Poland? – Katarzyna Zatońska and team of the Institute – European Observatory of Health Inequalities, Calisia University, Kalisz, Poland

Discussants: Mindaugas Stelemekas, Health Research Institute, WHO Collaborating Centre for the Prevention and Control of NCDs, Lithuania; Inese Gobina, Department of Public Health and Epidemiology, Riga Stradins University, Latvia; Witold Zatoński, Institute – European Observatory of Health Inequalities, Calisia University, Kalisz, Poland

Parallel session 2 A: COVID-19 pandemic

Chairperson: Andrzej Trybusz, Calisia University, Kalisz, Poland

The Spanish family law under COVID-19 – Luis Javier Capote Perez, University of La Laguna, San Cristóbal de La Laguna, Tenerife, Spain

Vaccination – the basis to limit the COVID-19 pandemic – Andrzej Trybusz, Calisia University, Kalisz, Poland

Mental health during the pandemic – Jan Chodkiewicz, University of Łódź, Poland

Parallel session 2 B: Smoking and tobacco-related health burden

Chairpersons: Tomasz Zdrojewski, Department of Hypertension and Diabetology, Medical University of Gdansk, Poland; Mateusz Zatoński, Department for Health, University of Bath, United Kingdom

Tobacco smoking and lung cancer in Poland – Witold Zatoński and team of the Institute – European Observatory of Health Inequalities, Calisia University, Kalisz, Poland

Tobacco smoking and smoking-related diseases in Lithuania – Vaida Liutkute-Gumarov, Health Research Institute Lithuanian University of Health Sciences, Kaunas, Lithuania

Tobacco smoking trends and smoking-related health burden in Latvia – Iveta Pudule, Centre for Disease Prevention and Control of Latvia Health inequalities in Poland – Kinga Janik-Koncewicz, Institute – European Observatory of Health Inequalities, Calisia University, Kalisz, Poland

Discussants: Tomasz Zdrojewski, Department of Hypertension and Diabetology, Medical University of Gdansk, Poland; Iveta Pudule, Centre for Disease Prevention and Control of Latvia, Vaida Liutkute-Gumarov, Health Research Institute Lithuanian University of Health Sciences, Kaunas, Lithuania; Mateusz Zatoński, Department for Health, University of Bath, United Kingdom; Witold Zatoński, Institute – European Observatory of Health Inequalities, Calisia University, Kalisz, Poland

Parallel session 3 A: Human rights in times of armed conflicts

Chairperson: Ewa Salkiewicz-Munnerlyn, Calisia University, Kalisz, Poland

Building a just world order – Alfred de Zayas, Geneva School of Diplomacy, Switzerland

The psycho-social impact of the global pandemic in the families of genocide survivors – Assumpta Mugiraneza, the Director of the Iriba Centre for Multimedia Heritage, IRIBA, Kigali, Rwanda

Human rights in times of armed conflicts – Ewa Salkiewicz-Munnerlyn, Calisia University, Kalisz, Poland

Family during the time of crisis in Albania – Father Wojciech Żmudziński, SJ, Poland

Parallel session 3 B: Alcohol consumption and the burden of alcohol-related diseases

Chairpersons: Mindaugas Stelemekas, Health Research Institute, WHO Collaborating Centre for the Prevention and Control of NCDs, Lithuania; Kinga Janik-Koncewicz, Institute – European Observatory of Health Inequalities, Calisia University, Kalisz, Poland

History of alcohol consumption and burden of alcohol-related disease in Poland – Kinga Janik-Koncewicz, Witold Zatoński, Institute – European Observatory of Health Inequalities, Calisia University, Kalisz, Poland

Alcohol excise duty policy in Poland – Jarosław Neneman, Department of Institutional Economics and Microeconomics, University of Lodz, Poland

Alcohol consumption and burden of alcohol-related diseases in Lithuania – Mindaugas Stelemekas, Health Research Institute, WHO Collaborating Centre for the Prevention and Control of NCDs, Lithuania

Alcohol consumption trends and burden of alcohol-related health problems in Latvia – Laura Isajeva, Department of Public Health and Epidemiology, Riga Stradins University, Latvia

The impact of alcohol availability on alcohol-attributable and -related mortality – Relika Stoppel, University of Potsdam, Germany

Discussants: Mindaugas Stelemekas, Health Research Institute, WHO Collaborating Centre for the Prevention and Control of NCDs, Lithuania; Relika Stoppel, University of Potsdam, Germany; Laura Isajeva, Department of Public Health and Epidemiology, Riga Stradins University, Latvia; Jarosław Neneman, Department of Institutional Economics and Microeconomics, University of Lodz, Poland; Witold Zatoński, Institute – European Observatory of Health Inequalities, Calisia University, Kalisz, Poland

Closing remarks

Chairpersons: Andrzej Wojtyła, Rector of the Calisia University, Kalisz, Poland; Witold Zatoński, Institute – European Observatory of Health Inequalities, Calisia University, Kalisz, Poland

Commentators: Leif Aaro, Norwegian Institute of Public Health, Norway; Andrzej Trybusz, Calisia University, Kalisz, Poland



Photo 1. Speakers and guests of the Calisia Conference

criminal law and human rights. For me, the most important thing is that I have reconciled with Poland. I decided to face the past and, together with my French wife, I came to Kalisz, Treblinka, Częstochowa – places so closely related to the war. It was a very painful journey for me. I would never have believed that a direct confrontation with a traumatic past could free me from the demons of the past. The wounding and murdering of children is one of the worst aspects of Nazi evil, because even the worst barbarians, in the cruellest episodes of human history, protected children from massacres and crimes against humanity.

Professor Andrzej Wojtyła in his laudation in honour of Professor Meron emphasized that the entire academic community of Kalisz is proud to accept the fact that such an outstanding judge, a world-renowned scientist, and at the same time a man of impeccable life attitude and decency, involved in public affairs, wished to accept the first honorary doctorate of the Calisia University. During this ceremony, by the decision of Kalisz city councillors, Professor Meron also received the title of Honorary Citizen of the Kalisz City.

SCIENTIFIC MEETING

The second day of the conference began with a plenary session chaired by Professor Andrzej Wojtyła, Rector of the Calisia University and Professor Witold

Zatoński, Director of the Institute – European Observatory of Health Inequalities at the Calisia University. The session opened with a welcome speech from Professor Andrzej Wojtyła who referred to the document of United Nations signed by all countries of the world in 2014 on sustainable development goals to achieve by 2030. The document summarised global indicators of social development, which highlighted poverty eradication, health promotion and promotion of education. Professor Wojtyła emphasized the role of policies designed to ensure the well-being of the family and the role of family itself in achieving these goals, as the family is a natural, elementary social unit in all societies in the world. Professor Witold Zatoński (Photo 3), Director of the Institute – European Observatory of Health Inequalities at Calisia University welcomed all speakers and participants of the conference. He referred to the previous Calisia Conference and expressed hope for continuing annual scientific meetings at Calisia University. Next, Aurelijus Veryga, the Former Minister of Health of Lithuania and current Member of Lithuanian Parliament, who came to politics from being an active researcher and a professor at the Lithuanian University of Health Sciences as well as active non-governmental activist in the field of tobacco and alcohol control, gave a welcoming speech. He highlighted his long collaboration with Professor Zatoński



Photo 2. Professor Theodor Meron during his inaugural lecture



Photo 3. From the left: Professor Andrzej Trybusz, Professor Witold Zatoński, Professor Andrzej Wojtyła, and Professor Leif Aaro on the screen

BOX 2. Speakers at the Calisia World Conference on Family Health (in alphabetical order)

Leif Edvard Aarø, PhD, Senior Researcher, Department of Health Promotion, Norwegian Institute of Public Health, previously Professor of Social Psychology, University of Bergen. Professor Aarø was among the initiators of the WHO Study on Health Behaviour in School-Aged Children. He has evaluated behaviour change interventions in Norway and sub-Saharan Africa. He has received the Golden Honorary Award of the Health Promotion Foundation of Poland.

Andrzej Bazylewicz, President of the World Federation of Ukrainian Medical Associations (since 2016). Is currently a Professor of Danylo Halytsky Lviv National Medical University (since 2013). Since 2019 he is Visiting Professor at President Stanislaw Wojciechowski Calisia University, Kalisz, Poland.

Ruth Bitton, Senior Midwife, Western Galilee Medical Center, Director of the Midwifery Education Israel. Academic teacher, prenatal and breastfeeding consultant.

Luis Javier Capote-Pérez is a lecturer in Private Law at the University of La Laguna, San Cristóbal de La Laguna, Tenerife, Spain. He holds a PhD in Law from the University of La Laguna. His research interests include tourism, land register, family law, cultural and intellectual property and gender perspective of private law.

Leonardo Chavane is a Mozambican physician, public health specialist, holding a master's in public health and a PhD in health sciences. Has 25 years of combined clinical and public health experience. His areas of interest include health policy development and evaluation, health systems and services organization, management, and evaluation with a focus on maternal and child health, reproductive health including the integration of maternal and reproductive health and HIV AIDS programs.

Inese Gobiņa, MScPh, MD, PhD, is associate professor at the Department of Public Health and Epidemiology and researcher at the Institute of Public Health in Riga Stradiņš University (Latvia). Her background is in public health, with a focus on health promotion, and her primary areas of research are health behaviours and adolescent health. Population mortality changes have become a recent focus of research following the COVID-19 pandemic.

Laura Isajeva, (MPH, PhD student) is a Public Health specialist and a researcher in the addiction field. Graduate Master in Public health at Riga Stradins University and current PhD student in medicine. Her research interests are epidemiology of associated risk factors and outcomes of problem drug use and alcohol abuse. In recent years worked as an addiction researcher and policymaker at the CDC of Latvia.

Kinga Janik-Koncewicz, (MSc, PhD student) is a research assistant at the Institute – European Observatory of Health Inequalities, Calisia University, Kalisz, Poland. Her main interest is monitoring consumption of tobacco and alcohol and epidemiology of tobacco- and alcohol-related health burden in Poland. She's a Lead Assistant Editor at the Journal of Health Inequalities and Project Director at the Polish Promotion Foundation.

Carlo La Vecchia is Professor of Medical Statistics and Epidemiology at the School of Medicine at the University of Milan. Dr La Vecchia serves as an editor for numerous clinical and epidemiologic journals. He is among the most renowned and productive epidemiologists in the field with over 2,090 peer-reviewed papers in the literature and is among the most highly cited medical researchers in the world.

Vaida Liutkute-Gumarov, PhD, is a researcher at Health Research Institute Lithuanian University of Health Sciences. As public health professional Vaida has 8+ years of research experience in non-communicable disease prevention and 10+ years is actively involved in the work of Lithuanian Tobacco and Alcohol Control Coalition, that promotes and advocates for evidence-based tobacco and alcohol control policies.

Zofia Małas, Director of the Main Council of Nurses and Midwives. A graduate nurse, a specialist in the preventive and epidemiologic nursing; alumni of the Medical University of Łódź. Her activity prioritizes the high quality of education of nurses and midwives, both before and after graduation, which directly influences the quality of health care, and most importantly, the safety of patients, nurses, and midwives.

Martin McKee is Professor of European Public Health and Medical Director at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. He is also Research Director of the European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies and Past President of the European Public Health Association. He trained in medicine and public health and has written extensively on health and health policy, with a particular focus on countries undergoing political and social transition.

Jarosław Neneman, PhD, is an assistant professor at Faculty of Economics and Sociology at University of Łódź, earlier at Łazarski University in Warsaw. In years 2004–2005, 2006 and 2014–2015 Undersecretary of State at the Ministry of Finance responsible for tax policy and legislation. In years 2010–2014 voluntary counselor to the Polish President dealing with local governments. Since 2011 Chairman of the Council of the Center of Tax Documentation and Studies Foundation in Lodz. While not working for the Ministry of Finance, he teaches Microeconomics, Public Finance, Managerial Economics, Introduction to Game Theory and Tax Policy, alongside writing reports on tax issues and textbooks on applied economics for students.

BOX 2. Cont.

Iveta Pudule works in the Centre for Disease Prevention and Control of Latvia. She has been involved in several research projects as principal investigator, including: the Health Behavior Monitoring Surveys of Latvian Adult Population since 1998, the Health Behavior Study of School-aged Children (HBSC) since 2002, the WHO Global Youth Tobacco survey since 2001. Member of National Tobacco Control Council.

Jürgen Rehm, PhD, is Senior Scientist in the Institute for Mental Health Policy Research and in the Campbell Family Mental Health Research Institute at CAMH. He is Professor and was the Inaugural Chair of Addiction Policy in the Dalla Lana School of Public Health at the University of Toronto, and he also holds professorships and positions in Germany, Spain and Russia.

Liat Safri, Deputy Head Midwife, Western Galilee Medical Center, Clinical Preceptor, Quality Assurance Coordinator. For the past 4 years Liat has held the position of Deputy Head Nurse of Labor and Delivery. She is responsible for the clinical training of student midwives and the assimilation of new midwives. She leads the quality assurance program in the dept and is active in developing obstetric simulation tools to enhance learning ability.

Ewa Sałkiewicz-Munnerlyn, PhD, the Polish diplomat, working at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs from 1991 to 2018. Former charge d'affaires at the Polish Embassy to the Holy See between 1993 and 1994. Polish consul at the Consular Division of the Polish Embassy in Washington D.C. between 1995 and 1999. She has been working several times as a short term observer of the OSCE during parliamentary and presidential elections in Ukraine, Russia, Moldova and Belarus.

Mindaugas Štelemėkas, PhD, is the Head of Health Research Institute, and an Assoc. Prof. at the Department of Preventive Medicine at the Faculty of Public Health, Lithuanian University of Health Sciences. The background education is Public Health and Health Economics, and the main area of academic interest is behavioral health risk factors such as alcohol and tobacco.

Relika Stoppel, is a research assistant at the University of Potsdam and is currently finalizing her PhD in Health Economics. Her main research interest lies in analyzing alcohol control policies and their effectiveness in reducing alcohol-related adverse outcomes, such as alcohol-attributable and -related mortality, and drunk driving.

Andrzej Trybusz, MD, PhD, served in many units and divisions of the army, including the Healthcare Directorate of Central Staff of the Polish Armed Forces. In years 2001–2006 he was the Chief Sanitary Inspector, and subsequently, Greater Poland District Sanitary Inspector, between 2006 and 2020. Currently, he is employed as a visiting professor at the Calisia University. Doctor of Medical Sciences. Doctor of psychiatry, epidemiology, public health, and organization of healthcare specialist.

Justina Vaitkevičiūtė received a PhD degree in Public Health at Lithuanian University of Health Sciences in 2020. Now she works as researcher at the Health Research Institute, Lithuanian University of Health Sciences. In her work, Justina participates in health monitoring studies and various public health projects. Her current research interests include children growth, tobacco and alcohol control.

Aurelijus Veryga, PhD, is currently a Member of Parliament (Seimas) of the Republic of Lithuania, former Minister of Health (2016–2020). He came to politics from being an active researcher and a professor at the Lithuanian University of Health Sciences as well as active non-governmental activist in the field of tobacco and alcohol control. His background education is psychiatry.

Andrzej Wojtyła, MD, PhD, paediatrician, assistant professor in medical sciences, former Minister of Health and Social Welfare, Deputy Minister of Health, and Chief Sanitary Inspector in Poland. He was a visiting Professor at Georgetown University and secretary general of the World Organization of Rural Medicine. Since 2018, he has served as Rector of President Stanisław Wojciechowski Calisia University in Kalisz, Poland.

Katarzyna Zatońska, MD, PhD, Head of the Department of Population Health at the Wrocław Medical University. Vice-Dean for Postgraduate Medical Training at the Wrocław Medical University. Visiting Professor at the Calisia University. Specialty in Diabetology, Specialty in Public Health (in progress). Coordinator of the Polish branch of Prospective Urban Rural Epidemiological (PURE) Study and Population Cohort Study of Wrocław Citizens (PICTURE). Main areas of interest: population health, epidemiology, public health, health promotion.

Mateusz Zatoński, PhD, is an academic researcher and health advocate with 10 years of experience in health promotion, policy research, and capacity building. He is a board member of the Polish Health Promotion Foundation and an editor of the Journal of Health Inequalities. Mateusz has studied at the University of Glasgow, Harvard University, and University College London. In 2019 he completed his PhD in Public Health under the supervision of Prof. Martin McKee, with a thesis on tobacco control in Eastern Europe. He is now based at the Tobacco Control Research Group at the University of Bath, UK, where he leads a research team looking at the problem of tobacco industry policy interference globally and developing resources for local advocates to address it.

Witold Zatoński, MD, Professor of medical sciences, honorary doctor of the University of Aberdeen in United Kingdom. Between 1966 and 1979 he worked as an internist (post-doctoral degree) and as a biochemist at the Medical Academy in Wrocław, Poland. Then, until 2016 he was the director in the Division of Epidemiology and Prevention at the Maria Skłodowska Curie Memorial Cancer Centre and Institute of Oncology in Warsaw. Professor Zatoński is the founder and president of the Health Promotion Foundation. Currently, Director of the Institute – European Observatory of Health Inequalities at the Calisia University, Kalisz, Poland.

Alfred de Zayas, Professor of international law, Geneva School of Diplomacy retired senior lawyer with the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights former UN Independent Expert on International Order 2012–2018 author of *Building a Just World Order* Clarity Press, Atlanta 2021.

Tomasz Zdrojewski, MD, PhD, Professor at the Medical University of Gdańsk; clinician, internist, academic teacher and researcher at the Medical University of Gdańsk and the National Institute of Public Health – National Institute of Hygiene in Warsaw. An expert in the field of monitoring, prevention, and modelling of non-communicable diseases and health policy. Since 2012, chairman of the Public Health Committee of the Polish Academy of Sciences.

Wojciech Żmudziński SJ, Jesuit, Socius to the Provincial of the Greater Poland and Mazovia Province of the Society of Jesus. He graduated in biblical studies at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome and in school administration at Fordham University in New York. He worked in Italy as an educator in a center for heroin addicts (1987–1989) and ran an Addiction Prevention Clinic in Gdynia (2004–2014). In 1992–1993 he worked in Albania, cooperating with Caritas Albania. For 21 years he was the head of the in-service training center for teachers (Centrum Arrupe), and in the years 2002–2007 he was the director of the Jesuit Gymnasium and High School in Gdynia.



Photo 4. Competition commission of the poster session

and his colleagues, and the role of Polish team who did tremendous job on tobacco control demonstrating not just to Polish society but to the international society that tobacco control can be evidence based. He mentioned as well the new challenges in public health brought by the COVID pandemic [2].

Professor Martin McKee from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine presented the keynote lecture on the European report containing data on health and sustainable development in the light of the pandemic [3]. Professor Jurgen Rehm from Institute for Mental Health Policy Research and Campbell Family Mental Health Research Institute, Canadian Center for Addiction and Mental Health, gave a lecture entitled *Alcohol and health in the countries of the central and eastern European Union – the status quo and policy opportunities against alcohol* [4]. Then Professor Witold Zatoński presented the development of the health situation in Poland, with particular emphasis on the last 30 years. Resume of parallel sessions is presented in papers by Leif Aarø *et al.* [5] and by Andrzej Trybusz [6].

POSTER SESSION

An integral part of the conference was a poster session, which consisted of 62 posters showing scientific achievements mainly in the field of health sciences, but also in safety, environmental protection and technical sciences. The graphic presentation of the most important research outcomes aroused great interest among the participants of the conference and was an opportunity for

lively discussion. The competition committee selected the authors of the best posters (Photo 4). Among them were: Zuzanna Chęcińska-Maciejewska, Cezary Wojtyła and Kinga Janik-Koncewicz. In addition, 6 additional posters were distinguished.

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DISCLOSURE

The authors report no conflict of interest.

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AUTHORS' CONTRIBUTIONS

Both authors took part in preparing the final version of the article.