Opening of the Karol Jakubowicz Library
Warsaw, Poland, September 19, 2019

More than 2,500 books collected by Karol Jakubowicz were donated to the Faculty of Journalism, Information and Book Studies at the University of Warsaw. The gift from Małgorzata Semil-Jakubowicz was sent to one of the Faculty rooms, which took the name of the Karol Jakubowicz Library.

The Karol Jakubowicz Library was launched prior to the 5th Congress of the Polish Communication Association. The opening ceremony took place in the main hall of the Faculty. This event was attended by Karol’s family, friends, and colleagues who spoke about Karol’s great contribution to media and democracy: Janusz W. Adamowski — Dean of the Faculty of Journalism, Information and Book Studies, University of Warsaw), Bogusława Dobek-Ostrowska (University of Wrocław), Witold Kołodziejski (Chairman of the National Broadcasting Council), Halina Rostek (The National Broadcasting Council) and Bissera Zankova (Media 21 Foundation, previously The Council of Europe).

Books collected in the Karol Jakubowicz Library will be valuable sources of knowledge for media researchers, but also for political scientists, sociologists, and
psychologists. The catalogue of books was prepared by four PhD candidates at the Faculty of Journalism, Information and Book Studies, University of Warsaw: Anita Kwiatkowska, Daiwa Maksimowicz, Dagmara Sidyk and Marlena Sztyber. Over a couple of months they worked on the Library under the supervision of Alicja Jaskiernia (University of Warsaw) and Michał Glowacki (University of Warsaw).

Text: Anita Kwiatkowska, Daiwa Maksimowicz, Dagmara Sidyk, Marlena Sztyber
Photo by: Ewa Łukomska-Janek, the Faculty of Journalism, Information and Book Studies, University of Warsaw

The Media and Democracy Karol Jakubowicz Award

Since 2018 the Polish Communication Association has been an institutional partner of the Media and Democracy Karol Jakubowicz Award. The Award was established by Małgorzata Semil-Jakubowicz; it is granted to outstanding contributions in the areas of scientific interests of Karol Jakubowicz. The overall goal is to support scholars who contribute to the studies on democracy, human rights, policy-making, media ethics, and public service media. The Executive of the Award includes Iwona Hofman (President of the Polish Communication Association), Małgorzata Semil-Jakubowicz (Founder of the Award), Hanna Machińska (Deputy Commissioner for Human Rights, Poland), Alicja Jaskiernia (University of Warsaw), Beata Klimkiewicz (Jagiellonian University), Elżbieta Matynia (The New School for Social Research), Halina Rostek (The National Broadcasting Council), and Michał Glowacki (Editor-in-chief, Central European Journal of Communication).

In 2018 the Awards were granted to Maria Nowina Konopka (Jagiellonian University) and Jakub Nowak (Marie Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin). An award for long-time contributions to the theory and practice of public service media was granted to Christian S. Nissen, international expert and former Director-General of Danmarks Radio. In 2019 the Media and Democracy Karol Jakubowicz Award was granted to Małgorzata Adamik-Szysiak (Marie Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin) and Maria Łoszewska-Ołowska (University of Warsaw).

In 2020 the Executive and previous award winners nominated six books for the Media and Democracy Karol Jakubowicz Award with — for the first time ever — a book published outside Poland. This is a part of an internationalization strategy adopted by the Executive during the meeting at the Bureau of Commissioner for Human Rights in Poland. Nominating books for next year’s edition will be a joint initiative of Polish and international scholars. The Award winner is announced on April 28th, the day of the passing away of Karol Jakubowicz.