

Kamila Rezmer-Płotka

Nicolaus Copernicus University (Poland)

ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-1458-5076>

e-mail: kamila.rezmer@onet.pl

“Security in the 20th and 21st Centuries”. Rzeszów (April 25, 2020). Conference Report

At the time when a coronavirus pandemic is taking place and safety is a priority, it seems particularly important to reflect on this matter. The organizers of the conference “Security in the 20th and 21st Centuries”, which took place on 25.04.2020 in Rzeszów, are of the same opinion. Due to the global crisis that is taking place, it was organized in an online form, which in no way affected its high level, large number of participants and efficient organization by the Human Rights Scientific Association UR.

The conference lasted all day because eight subsequent thematic panels were organized. The panels focused on students, PhD students and academics, but there were also high school students who wanted to try themselves at a scientific conference, gain new experience and share their scientific interests with other scholars.

As the first speaker in my panel, I presented a study of the rivalry between the US and China during the coronavirus pandemic. I have attempted to answer a research question: does the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19), which is currently taking place in the world, have the potential to contribute to China’s victory in the rivalry of powers from the US? Another presenter represented the University of Białystok and undertook the research on the security of legal entities in the context of COVID-19. Maciej Leńniewski presented the current legal situation in a very accessible way, and indicated the dangers brought by the pandemic. Karol Piękoś from the University of Rzeszów undertook research on security in cyberspace. At present, this seems particularly important because a large part of the activity and education have been moved to the Internet, which, in addition to positive aspects, may also be associated with numerous threats. The presenter also pointed out to useful links that allow to check what data about people are collected by various operating systems, search engines, etc. Next speaker, Sandra Omieczynska, based on her research, described correlations between the phenomenon of local community unemployment and security, and discussed

the main trends. Justyna Augustyn and Mateusz Bielech in a co-author presentation outlined how contemporary terrorism has developed over the years. In their speech they referred to many interesting examples. Then, Malwina Rosłonek, citing the most important provisions in the law, pointed out how to regulate through them the actions taken by the United Nations Security Council for security and ensuring international peace. The last speaker was Jakub Szyszka, who represented the High School in Rzeszów. In a professional speech, he considered contemporary challenges for the energy security of the Republic of Poland.

The proceedings were largely dominated by the topic of pandemics, which is not surprising in the face of the challenges for the whole world and each of us. The coronavirus has dominated the current political discourse and contributed to many considerations regarding the security of individuals and states. The virus caused everyone to adapt to new living conditions. The organized conference clearly showed that we need to talk, develop, and share the results of our research with other scholars. These types of events are very important for scientists, since they allow free exchange of thoughts, and in current conditions the online form is the only one available. It is even more pleasing that the scientific club from Rzeszów undertook this initiative and achieved undoubted success.