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**ASIAN CONFERENCE
AT WROCLAW UNIVERSITY OF ECONOMICS**

DOI: 10.15611/e21.2014.4.10

On 16-17 November 2014 at Wrocław University of Economics there was held an international scientific conference *Redefinition of the Role of Asia-Pacific Region in the Global Economy. Partnership or Leadership?* The conference in the series – Asia-Pacific Region took place for the seventh time, and like every year, attracted great interest of the participants and audience.

The purpose of the conference is to exchange experience and popularize knowledge about the Asia-Pacific Region, in particular Asian economies and societies. The conference is a convenient place for meetings of representatives of the world of diplomacy, science and government.

The conference was held for the first time in 2008 and was an innovative event at ours as well as other Polish universities. Until then problems related to Asian countries had not been widely discussed and there had not been an opportunity for scientific meetings for experts in this field of knowledge.

The topics of the conferences are a continuation of the research problem conducted by the Department of International Economic Relations for many years. The initiator of the conference was prof. Bogusława Drelich-Skulska, who has been the head of the conference to this day. Prof. Skulska created at our university a team of researchers which later transformed into the Asia–Pacific Research Center working at Wrocław University of Economics.

Every year the conference is attended by respected scientists from various centers from Poland and the world, including primarily researchers from Japan and China (prof. Y. Sato and prof. K. Abe from Seikei University (Japan), prof. K. Ando from Shizuoka University (Japan), and PhD Y. Fan from China Foreign Affairs University). Annually we have a great honor to host representatives of the highest levels of diplomacy from Asian countries. Until this year our guests have been Mrs. Penelope Ridings, New Zealand’s Ambassador, Mrs. Ruth Pearce, Australian Ambassador, Mr. Makoto Yamanaka, Ambassador of Japan, Mrs. Jean Dunn, Australian Ambassador, Mr. Hong Ji-in, Ambassador of South Korea, and Mrs. Patricia Ann V. Paez, Ambassador of the Philippines. We welcomed the representatives of the Polish diplomatic services: Ambassador, Mr. Bogdan Góralczyk

and Ambassador, Mr. Michael Łabenda. The world of politics at our conferences has been represented so far by Deputy Minister of Economic Affairs of the Republic of Poland Mrs. Iлона Antoniszyn-Klik, Mr. Krzysztof Szumski, the Director of Asia and Pacific Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Mr. Alain Ruche from the European Commission. Every year the conference receives the honorary patronage of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Economic Affairs and the Ministry of Science and Higher Education. The conferences are a platform for exchange of knowledge and different perspectives on the Asia-Pacific Region, which is why our guests are also representatives of regional authorities and institutional units. During the last conference in 2014 we were honored by the presence of the chairwoman of Wałbrzyska Special Economic Zone Mrs. Barbara Kaśnikowska.

Asian conferences have also a real dimension of science, as our guests prepare scientific articles in English, which are published in the Research Papers of Wrocław University of Economics and which capture attention of researchers and students in Poland.

The eighth conference in the series – *Asia-Pacific Dimensions of Regional Processes in the Asia-Pacific Region* will take place in November 2015. Successfully promoting knowledge of the Asia-Pacific Region in Poland, Asian conferences at University of Economics in Wrocław are permanent scientific events in our country.