

---

A R T I C L E S

---

*Ethnologia Polona*, vol. 35: 2014, 11–24

PL ISSN 0137-4079

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE  
FOR THE STUDY  
OF CARPATHIAN FOLK CULTURE<sup>1</sup>

MARIA GODYŃ

INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND ETHNOLOGY  
POLISH ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

This article presents the achievements of the institution of an international and interdisciplinary character, which is the International Commission for the Study of Folk Culture in the Carpathians (MKKK). The history of its activity dates back to the 50s of the twentieth century. In this article the author discusses the first years of MKKK's activity, the project of three major research assumptions, selected to international, synthetic studies of traditional folk architecture, alpine pastoralism and Carpathian robber folklore. There are also discussed the scheme of works of the international teams of authors, MKKK's organizational structure, the most important conferences, as well as the effects of team works, information on publications and the topics taken consecutively. The further part of the text contains information about the resumption of activities by the Commission after the break caused by political, economic and social changes that have occurred in the member countries in the period of collapsing the communist system.

\* \* \*

Artykuł przedstawia dokonania instytucji o międzynarodowym i interdyscyplinarnym charakterze, jaką jest Międzynarodowa Komisja do Badania Kultury Ludowej w Karpatach (MKKK). Historia jej działalności sięga lat 50. XX wieku. W artykule autorka omawia pierwsze lata działalności MKKK, projekt trzech najważniejszych założeń badawczych, wytypowanych do międzynarodowych, syntetycznych opracowań tradycyjnej architektury ludowej, pasterstwa wysokogórskiego i folkloru zbójnickiego. Omówiony jest przy tym schemat prac międzynarodowych zespołów autorskich, struktura organizacyjna MKKK, najważniejsze konferencje, a ponadto efekty prac zespołowych, informacje o publikacjach oraz o kolejno

<sup>1</sup> The following issues were also discussed in the article entitled *Zarys historii Międzynarodowej Komisji do Badania Kultury Ludowej w Karpatach* (Godyń-Wrzesień 2005, 237–252). The aim of the present text is to inform the English-speaking readers of the activities of the Committee. Selected issues regarding the International Committee for the Study of Carpathian Folk Culture were also presented in a paper by Tylkowa and Godyń-Wrzesień (2005, 9–18). The present article is based on a Master's thesis entitled *Międzynarodowa Komisja do Badania Kultury Ludowej w Karpatach* written in 2002 under the supervision of dr. hab. Danuta Tylkowa, available in the Archive of the Institute of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology of the Jagiellonian University (no. 566).

podejmowanych tematach. W dalszej części tekstu znajdują się informacje o wznowieniu działalności przez Komisję po przerwie, spowodowanej politycznymi, ekonomicznymi i społecznymi zmianami, jakie nastąpiły w krajach członkowskich po upadku systemu komunistycznego.

**Key words:** Carpathian folk culture, history of Polish ethnography, comparative studies.

The International Committee for the Study of Carpathian Folk Culture began its collective ethnographic research as early as the 1950s (Nizińska 1959, 500). In post-war Poland, the research was first conducted by the Institute of Ethnography at the University of Lodz, the Institute for History of Material Culture at the Polish Academy of Sciences in Lodz and the Tatra Museum in Zakopane (Nizińska 1959, 509). In that period, the area of Podhale became a field of interest for the Ethnographic Museum in Cracow, the Polish Ethnological Society and the Department of General Ethnography at the Jagiellonian University (Nizińska 1959, 500–512). In September 1956 Zakopane hosted the 31<sup>st</sup> General Meeting of the Polish Ethnological Society concurrent with the Podhale Conference (Staszczakówna 1959, 512), attended not only by Polish scholars interested in the Carpathian culture, but also by guests from Czechoslovakia. The paper *Concerning International Ethnographic Research in the Carpathians* presented by professor Roman Reinfuss stirred a heated discussion and facilitated the final conclusion that conducting collective comparative research was the right course of action. Such research was initiated two years later by employees of the organisation then called the Institute for the History of Material Culture at the Polish Academy of Sciences (presently: the Institute of Archaeology and Ethnology, Polish Academy of Sciences) and the Department of Ethnography at the Jagiellonian University in Cracow, then chaired by professor Mieczysław Gładysz.<sup>2</sup> They established official contacts with Národopisny Ústav SAV (the Institute of Ethnography, Slovak Academy of Sciences) in Bratislava, represented by doctor Ján Mjartan.<sup>3</sup> In the same year meetings were held in Prague and Bratislava. A decision was made to begin a collective empirical research in the Polish and Slovakian parts of the Carpathian Mountains. Polish representatives included prof. Gładysz, dr. Maria Gładyszowa and dr. hab. Anna Kutrzeba-Pojnarowa. Czechoslovakian representatives were dr. Ján Mjartan and dr. hab. Ján Podolák. As a result of the meeting, a new temporary committee was created in the second half of 1958 at the Department of Ethnography of the Institute for History of Material Culture at the Polish Academy of Sciences (IHMC PAS). This was the Organisational Committee of the International Committee for the Study of Carpathian Folk Culture (ICSCFC).

<sup>2</sup> The information, as well as much other data concerning the activities of the International Committee for the Study of Carpathian Folk Culture, were provided by Professor Bronisława Kopczyńska-Jaworska, whom I sincerely thank.

<sup>3</sup> Due to the fact that the ICSCFC has been active for many years, the names of committee members shall be preceded by the academic degrees they held at the time to which given information refers.

Its purpose was to establish guidelines and directives for the general direction of the research work and to inform the involved domestic and foreign institutions thereof.

In 1959, three more conferences (in Cracow,<sup>4</sup> Bratislava<sup>5</sup> and Warsaw<sup>6</sup>) were held to share information and make further plans. They were attended by representatives of the Institute of Ethnography in Bratislava (a branch of the Slovak Academy of Sciences), the Institute of Ethnography and Folklore in Prague (a branch of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences), as well as of the Departments of Ethnography and History of the IHMC PAS, the Institute of Art of the PAS, the Ethnographic Museum in Cracow and the Tatra Museum in Zakopane. The last of the three conferences also included a delegate from the Ethnography section of the Romanian Academy of Sciences in Bucharest.<sup>7</sup> The aim of the sessions was to review the progress of research conducted in Polish and Slovakian parts of the Carpathian Mountains, to discuss organisational issues within the international research group and, most importantly, to present the plan of action of the International Committee for the Study of Carpathian Folk Culture. This task was entrusted to dr. Mjartan and prof. Gładysz. The project stipulated preparing an ethnographic bibliography and evaluating the state of research of Carpathian folk culture, as well as listing ethnographic museums in the Carpathians and establishing a network of cooperation between them. The aims of the project also included inspecting ethnographic archives and the index of materials incorporated into written historical sources, and drafting a historical outline of scientific research conducted in the Carpathians that would take into consideration regional movements in different countries (Gładysz 1961, 341). Participants of the conferences emphasised the importance of comprehensive research. It was decided to contact institutions with similar fields of interest; future meetings were to include representatives of such bodies. Framing a uniform subject-matter of research and preparing a work timetable was deemed a necessary condition for international and interdisciplinary cooperation. Regionalisation of the Carpathians according to the historical, administrative, geographic, physiographic, economic and linguistic divisions became the basis for the selection of research locations (Gładysz 1961, 342; see also: Kutrzeba-Pojnarowa 1963, 492–494).

<sup>4</sup> The Polish participants: prof. B. Baranowski, prof. K. Dobrowolski, prof. W. Dynowski, prof. M. Gładysz, prof. B. Kopczyńska-Jaworska, dr. hab. A. Kutrzeba-Pojnarowa, prof. J. Pazdur, dr. A. Płachcińska, prof. R. Reinfuss, prof. T. Seweryn, prof. K. Zawistowicz-Adamska. The delegates of the Slovak Institute of Ethnography: dr. M. Markuš, dr. J. Pátková, dr. J. Podolák (Gładysz 1961, 340–341).

<sup>5</sup> Polish delegates: prof. M. Gładysz, dr. hab. A. Kutrzeba-Pojnarowa, W. Molenda MA, W. Paprocka MA, A. Zambrzycka-Kunachowicz M.A. The Slovak Institute of Ethnography was represented by dr. B. Filová (Gładysz 1961, 340–341).

<sup>6</sup> The meeting was attended i.e. by B. Bazińska MA, dr. E. Božkova, prof. M. Gładysz, dr. J. Kuska, dr. J. Paličkova-Pátkova, prof. J. Pazdur, prof. R. Reinfuss, J. Sadownik MA, dr. hab. M. Sobieski, dr. J. Staňkova, dr. R. Žatko (Gładysz 1961, 341).

<sup>7</sup> Prof. I. Vladuțiu (Gładysz 1961, 341).

The series of meetings in 1958 and 1959 resulted in an agreement between the Institute of Ethnography and Folklore in Prague (represented by prof. J. Horák), the Institute of Ethnography in Bratislava (dr. B. Filova) and the Institute for History of Material Culture of the Polish Academy of Sciences (prof. W. Dynowski). It specified the principles of the future cooperation, with particular emphasis on the signatories' promise to create an international committee which would "coordinate the work of research pertaining to Carpathian folk culture" (Gładysz 1961, 343). Members of this committee were to be recruited from among the representatives of countries located along the arc of the Carpathians – the then state of Czechoslovakia, Poland, Romania and the present-day Ukraine. The USSR, Romania and Bulgaria were invited to join the collective research. At the time, however, Bulgaria was not inclined to participate.

In 1960, the organisational framework of the committee was determined and the network of cooperation was expanded to include the representatives of the Department of Ethnography of the Lajos Kossuth University in Debrecen (prof. B. Gunda), the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (prof. Ch. Wakarelski; see: Primowski 1981, 53–54), the Romanian Academy of Sciences in Bucharest (prof. J. Vladuțiu and prof. R. Vuia) and in Kluj (dr. N. Dunăre), the Department of Ethnography of the University of Zagreb<sup>8</sup> (prof. B. Bratanić and prof. M. Gavazzi) (Gładysz 1962, 26). Hungary and Bulgaria became official members of the ICSCFC in 1966, and the USSR in 1967. Seven meetings of the Polish National Committee for the Study of Carpathian Folk Culture were held in 1960,<sup>9</sup> resulting in a decision to issue an international Committee newsletter entitled *Carpatica*. It was published in English, French, Russian and German, and included accounts from conferences and international meetings, bibliographical materials, reviews of academic texts relevant to Carpathian folk culture, announcements and recent information. The first issue of *Carpatica* was published in Bratislava in 1960 (see e.g.: Dobrowolski 1961, 7; Pátková 1960, 12; Pátková 1963, 7; Kopczyńska-Jaworska 1961, 21–34).<sup>10</sup>

<sup>8</sup> From the information provided to the author by prof. B. Kopczyńska-Jaworska it may be implied that Zagreb was never involved in actual cooperation. However, the first meetings were attended by Persida Tomić, a researcher and author of articles concerning shepherding in Eastern Serbia, who worked for the Ethnographic Museum in Belgrade.

<sup>9</sup> Participants included: prof. K. Dobrowolski (Chairman of the National Committee, who that time already published texts on Carpathian culture. See: Dobrowolski 1960, 7–51), prof. M. Gładysz (Secretary), prof. A. Kutrzeba-Pojnarowa (Deputy Secretary), prof. R. Reinfuss, prof. J. Klimaszewska, dr. B. Kopczyńska-Jaworska, dr. A. Kowalska-Lewicka (Gładysz 1962, 25).

<sup>10</sup> The proposal to create an international periodical was put forward by dr. hab. O. Nahodil from Prague during the 31<sup>st</sup> General Meeting of the Polish Ethnographic Society (PES) in Zakopane (September 26–29, 1956). A double issue of the newsletter was published in 1962, followed by another in 1963. Then publication ceased and the next issue appeared only in 1972. It contained the most important information on ICSCFC activities in the years 1964 to 1971 (Frolec 1972, 7).

Representatives of institutions from the founding countries, i.e. Poland and Czechoslovakia, also framed a Charter binding for the two National Committees.<sup>11</sup> It allowed them to retain their organisational and scientific independence and stipulated that plans which were collectively agreed upon and implemented obligate the participants to certain actions. Supervision of the Committee was entrusted to a Scientific Council, whose presiding board consists of four delegates from national committees (elected for a three-year term). From among these delegates a Chairman and a Secretary General are chosen. The latter is to organise his or her technical secretariat. Each time a new Secretary is chosen, the seat of the Committee moves to the country of origin of the person who assumes the function. From the year 1959 to 1971 this post was occupied by prof. Václav Frolec. Since 1993 the duties of the Secretary have been undertaken by prof. Stiepan Pawluk. The newsletter *Carpatica*, prepared by a team of editors recruited from among delegates of the International Committee, was an organ of the Secretariat General.

The preliminary tasks set forward by the Committee included a systematic enlargement of the bibliography of texts pertaining to Carpathian culture. The project was presented at the very first conference in Cracow. It was decided that all member countries should contribute to its completion.<sup>12</sup>

At the initial stage of its existence, the Committee's primary task was ethnographic description of alpine shepherding. According to prof. Gładysz, the most pressing issues included research determining the origins of folk culture in the Carpathian Mountains and studying subjects connected with the role of alpine shepherding. Field research was therefore to be preceded by cataloguing all cultural relics and archaisms. Plans were made to gather information on the following issues: shepherds' work, forms of crop management, the institution of extended family in Slovakia and kinship ties in Podhale, types of holiday resorts, methods of transforming fallows into arable land and choosing initial crops, handicraft and folk art, folklore, traditional knowledge, beliefs and magic. More research projects emerged as further decisions were made. Especially noteworthy are three Carpathian conferences, during which the list of research subject was specified. The first of these meetings took place in Cracow in 1964. It was then that a closer cooperation with representatives of other branches of science was proposed (see: Gładysz 1965, 440–450; Gładyszowa 1969, 250–261).

The second conference of teams of authors was organised in 1976 in Smolenice in Slovakia.<sup>13</sup> At the meeting of the presiding board<sup>14</sup> it was decided that “due to the

<sup>11</sup> After including amendments proposed by Czechoslovakian delegates, the Charter was accepted as the basis for ICSCFC activities.

<sup>12</sup> The project was partially completed (see: Frolec 1981a, 40).

<sup>13</sup> The account of the conference may be found in *Carpatobalcanica* 7 (1–2). 1977.

<sup>14</sup> The meeting was attended by representatives of Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Hungary and the USSR.

expansion of the area under research” (to include the territory of the Balkans), the name of the institution ought to be changed from the International Committee for the Study of Carpathian Folk Culture (ICSCFC) into the International Committee for the Study of Carpathian and Balkan Folk Culture (ICSCBFC) (Frolec 1981a, 39). The changes applied also to the committee’s publications: the periodical *Ethnographia Carpatica* was renamed *Ethnographia Carpatobalcanica*, whereas the newsletter formerly entitled *Carpatica* became *Carpatobalcanica*. As research projects on certain aspects of folk culture in the Carpathian Mountains and the Balkans were well advanced, it was decided to proceed with committing their findings to paper. National branches of the Committee were entrusted with preparing the blueprint for research synthesis: the Czechoslovakian branch dealt with folk architecture (see: Botik 1981, 55–60; Parikowa 1985, 782; Parikowa 1987, 40–50), the Polish branch tackled alpine shepherding (see: Kopczyńska-Jaworska 1981, 85–96), and the USSR branch concentrated on highland robbers’ folklore.

The third important meeting (1979) was organised in Mogilany near Cracow to celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Committee’s inauguration (Burszta 1981, 31–35; Gładyszowa and Tylkowa 1982, 229–301). New decisions included uniformity of the subject matter, the scope of research and its order of importance (Gładysz 1981a, 27), as well as publishing the body of bibliography.<sup>15</sup> The three international sections were to commence completing the successive research theses. The blueprints of research syntheses framed by their future editors were published in the *Carpatobalcanica* newsletter (Putilov 1979, 14–21; Gasparikova 1988, 15–28). The Committee also decreed that each of the syntheses is to be issued in the country of origin of the editor-in-chief for the given research subject. It was planned to arrange a bibliography for selected issues prepared by teams of authors. The editing of the entire publication was entrusted to prof. Frolec and prof. Kubíček. All bibliographies were printed in Brno. The volume on folk architecture appeared in 1981, and the ones devoted to highland robbers’ folklore and alpine shepherding in 1984 (Tylkowa ed. 1981; Kopczyńska-Jaworska ed. 1984; Gašparíková and Stano eds. 1984; Gašparíková and Stano 1988, 21–27).

In 1987, at the next conference, which took place in Družhba near Varna (Bulgaria),<sup>16</sup> the projects of research syntheses were presented. These pertained to:

(1) Folk architecture in the Carpathians and the adjoining region of the Balkans (volume two) – utility buildings (Langer 1986, 23–39). Work on this subject was supervised by dr. Jiří Langer, the author of the outline for the publication (see: Langer 1987, 23–39). The third volume on folk architecture was to describe public buildings and

<sup>15</sup> Sets of bibliography included a selection of the most important works that could be used for drafting national bibliographies pertaining to given issues. They were prepared by members of the relevant teams of authors.

<sup>16</sup> The account of the international meeting of the ICSCBFC can be found in *Carpatobalcanica* (Slavkovsky 1988, 10–14).

church architecture (Gładyszowa 1980, 321–323). However, no outline of its contents was presented.

(2) A synthesis of peasant economy including all issues related to agriculture and husbandry. The outline was drafted by dr. J. Podolák.

(3) Transport and communication in the Carpathian Mountains and the Balkans. The author of the publication outline was dr. M. Pariková (1985, 782; 1987, 40–50).

Following a decision taken by the presiding board of the ICSCBFC in 1988 during the conference in Szentendre near Budapest, the future chapters of research syntheses were to be prepared according to the outlines of national monographs. The chapters were handed to the editor-in-chief, made available to other scholars and discussed at numerous meetings of teams of authors. In theory, syntheses of national research ought to include three issues:

(1) the presence of a given phenomenon in each of the countries; (2) its analogies in the entire area of the Carpathians and the Balkans; (3) genetic and inter-ethnic considerations on the territory included in the research.

Due to the wide scope of research on folk architecture, the publication pertaining to this issue was planned to be divided into three volumes. The first volume focused on traditional house building, the second concentrated on utility and industrial buildings, whereas the third was to describe public buildings and church architecture. The architecture section was managed by prof. Frolec from the Jan Evangelista Purkyně University in Brno (presently: the Masaryk University), who also became the editor of the first volume of the synthesis (see: Frolec 1981b, 97–102). Members of the team of authors included representatives of national branches who wrote monographs on folk architecture in their homelands.<sup>17</sup> The synthesis of house building in the Carpathians and the Balkans was completed and in 1985 handed to the editor-in-chief, prof. Frolec. After his death in 1992, the post of the editor of the volume on folk architecture was offered to dr. Langer from the Open Air Museum in Rožnov pod Radhoštěm, who accepted, but shared the function with dr. Helena Bočková. Unfortunately, both the untimely death of prof. Frolec and the political and social changes that were then taking place in Central and Eastern Europe hindered the work of the Committee.

The international team of authors dealing with the issue of alpine shepherding was headed by prof. Kopczyńska-Jaworska, who also acted as the editor-in-chief of the research synthesis. The above-mentioned political changes in the 1980s and 1990s also took their toll on the work of her team. The successive expansion of the ICSCBFC to include new countries, such as Bulgaria (Georgi Georgijev), Yugoslavia (Petar Vlahović) and Moldavia (its addition suggested by the USSR) had a negative effect on the team's effectiveness. As a result, some member states (Poland and Czechoslovakia) had already

<sup>17</sup> The team comprised: B. Georgijeva (Bulgaria), V. Frolec, J. Botík (then Czechoslovakia), B. Vlahović, L. Djapović (then Yugoslavia), M. Gładyszowa, D. Tylkowa (Poland), I. Vlăduțiu (Romania, mostly as an observer), E. Füzes (Hungary), N. N. Gracianskaja, J. Hoszko (then USSR), W. Zelenczuk (Moldavia).

published parts of their research results, while others were not yet ready with the editing (the USSR – M. D. Mandybura and Romania – N. Dunăre), and still others did not yet move beyond the stage of planning. Equally noteworthy is the fact that at times research work was entrusted to scholars who did not specialise in shepherding, whereas some experts in the field were not asked to join. The Bulgarian specialist Vasil Marinov was left out of the Committee, whereas the Yugoslavian branch decided to include Petar Vlachović, although the issue did not feature in any of his publications.<sup>18</sup> Due to these difficulties, as well as to the lack of contact with individual authors, the materials were not edited systematically and consequently the synthesis remained unfinished. It should be emphasised, however, that most articles were published independently, regardless of the stage of completion of the Committee's projects.<sup>19</sup>

The research synthesis pertaining to highland robbers' culture aimed chiefly to present various aspects of robbers' life: their oral folklore, poetry, songs and proverbs. The fact that at the time of research, highland robbers were already a thing of the past considerably influenced the nature of the study. It consisted primarily of archival queries, with supplementary field research conducted if possible and necessary.<sup>20</sup> The editors were prof. Viera Gašparíková from the Institute of Ethnography of the Slovak Academy of Sciences in Bratislava and prof. Boris Putilov from the Leningrad branch of the Institute of Ethnography of the USSR Academy of Sciences. The research synthesis on highland robbers' culture in the Carpathian Mountains was completed. After the death of prof. Putilov, the text, previously proofread by individual authors from various national sections of the Committee, was entrusted to the co-editor, prof. Gašparíková, and in 1997 handed over to prof. Stiepan Pawluk, President of the Institute of Ethnography of Ukrainian Academy of Sciences in Lviv. The synthesis, entitled *Bohater czy zbójnik: obraz rozbójnika w folklorze Karpat*,<sup>21</sup> was published by the European Folklore Institute in Budapest in 2002.

Members of the Committee also dealt with subjects unspecified in the synthesis. For some of those, sub-sections of the Committee were created, e.g. the musical folklore section, led by dr. Oskár Elschek from Bratislava. The subsection organised two international conferences: one focused on the stratigraphy of folk music in Carpathians and the Balkans (in Smolenice 1965), and the second was devoted to the issues of dance music in the researched area (in Donovaly 1976). The studies conducted by the

<sup>18</sup> All information pertaining to the team of authors writing about alpine shepherding and their works was provided by prof. B. Kopczyńska-Jaworska.

<sup>19</sup> M.D. Mandybura published a study on shepherding in the USSR; in Poland and Czechoslovakia works by several authors appeared in print, i.a.: Kopczyńska-Jaworska 1969; Jostowa, 1972; Kowalska-Lewicka 1980; Podolák 1982; Štika 1997, 140–179; Dorywalska 1969, 85–130.

<sup>20</sup> The team of authors comprised: G. Botezatu (Moldavia), D. Simonides, T. Smolińska (Poland), V. Gašparíková (then Czechoslovakia), S. Myszanycz (then USSR), I. Külös (Hungary).

<sup>21</sup> Published also in Russian (see: Gašparíková *et al.* eds. 2002).



subsection resulted in ethno-musicological publications describing the folklore of the Carpathians and the Balkans.

The Polish Committee also contributed to research on this subject. Its great achievement was the *Bibliography of music culture of the highlanders from Polish Carpathians for the years 1829–1980* prepared by dr. B. Lewandowska, whose manuscript was placed in the archives of the Committee in 1981. The work was supervised by prof. Jan Stęszewski. Dr. O. Elschek arranged a bibliography for the then Czechoslovakia.

Meetings of the members of international teams of authors were organised at least once a year by successive national sections of the Committee. Plans and their implementation were discussed and specialists in the given field were invited to act as consultants.

In 1993, after a break resulting from the political and economic changes in the member states, representatives of National Sections of the International Committee for the Study of Carpathian and Balkan Folk Culture met in Lviv (29<sup>th</sup> November – 1<sup>st</sup> December) and the Committee was reactivated. The meeting was organised by prof. S. Pawluk, prof. M. Hłusko and dr. K. Kutelmach, all from the Institute of Ethnography of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences (Tylkowa and Hermanowicz-Nowak 1994, 227). The remaining national sections were represented by dr. L. Petránová (the Institute of Ethnography and Folklore of the Czech Academy of Sciences in Prague), dr. J. Štik (Open Air Museum in Rožnov pod Radhoštěm), prof. W. Zelenczuk (Institute of Ethnography and Folklore of the Moldavian Academy of Sciences), dr. hab. D. Tylkowa, dr. K. Hermanowicz-Nowak (Cracow branch of the Institute of Archaeology and Ethnology of the Polish Academy of Sciences), dr. R. Majer (Institute of Ethnography and Folklore of the Romanian Academy of Sciences), prof. M. Paríková (Department of Ethnology of the Komensky University in Bratislava), dr. P. Szabó and dr. P. Weresz (Institute of Ethnography of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in Budapest).

Due to the lack of interest in further cooperation from the members from former Yugoslavia and Bulgaria, activities of these sections were suspended, leading to the change of the Committee's name. At present, it functions not as the International Committee for the Study of Carpathian and Balkan Folk Culture (ICSCBFC), but under its original name, i.e. the International Committee for the Study of Carpathian Folk Culture (ICSCFC).

The reactivation was followed by work leading to publishing the research synthesis on folk architecture (volume one: house building). Finishing the research project on alpine shepherding was also planned.

\* \* \*

Research activity of the Polish Committee may be divided into two periods. The first one lasted from 1959 until 1975; the second started in 1976, when the Committee was formally established within the Committee on Ethnological Sciences of the Polish

Academy of Sciences where it continues today. This re-establishment of the Committee made it possible for research to be coordinated on a national scale. Due to the previous lack in formal organisational framework of the Committee, all research contributions had to be voluntary. Members of ethnographic organisations who decided to join in the activities of ICSCFC were forced to accommodate their new duties into the plans of their original institutions.

The Polish Committee comprised representatives of various scientific institutions interested in the Carpathian region. Members of the Committee chose their President, Deputy Presidents and the Scientific Secretariat responsible for all organisational and research issues. The President's office was situated at the Institute of Archaeology and Ethnology of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Cracow (formerly the Institute for Material Culture of the Polish Academy of Sciences). In the years 1959–1984 the post was held by prof. Gładysz (Szromba-Rysowa 1986, 220–222; Godula 1989, 115–136), replaced in 1985 by dr. hab. Gładyszowa (Hermanowicz-Nowak 1989, 151–156). After the death of Maria Gładyszowa, dr. hab. Danuta Tylkowa assumed the function and was formally appointed President of the Committee in 1999 (Godyń 2002). Until 2014 the office was held by Prof. Czesław Robotycki. The Secretariat of the Committee is located at the Institute of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology of the Jagiellonian University.

The formal establishment of the Committee facilitated a closer contact between scholars of various Polish institutions conducting research in the Carpathians. These institutions included the Chair of Slavic Ethnography of the Jagiellonian University in Cracow, the Institute of Ethnography of the University of Łódź and the Cracow, Lodz and Warsaw branches of the Department of Ethnography of the Institute for History of Material Culture at the Polish Academy of Sciences. Cooperation between these organisations was made easier by dividing the area and subjects of research. The Lodz branch focused on alpine shepherding, the Cracow branch concentrated on architecture, whereas the Department of Ethnography of the Institute for Material History in Warsaw conducted research on cultural processes of newly populated areas.

During the first stage of the Committee's existence, its activities revolved primarily around drafting monographs for individual research subjects (Gładysz 1981b, 72), concerning mostly alpine shepherding, architecture and handicraft<sup>22</sup>. The work resulted in preparing ethnographic research syntheses for the Silesian Beskid, Spiš and Bieszczady Mountains. Source materials from the archives and field research was gathered swiftly, owing to uniform questionnaires (e.g. the one for studying the existing forms of alpine shepherding drafted by prof. Kopczyńska-Jaworska; see also: Robotycki 1979, 171–177). These were later amended by dr. hab. J. Podolák and dr. J. Štika, and approved as the basic research instrument for international fieldwork. It should be noted that

<sup>22</sup> Later on more subjects were added, such as pastoral architecture, magic and folk beliefs.

students of ethnography also contributed to the Committee's research by participating in internship programmes. Supervised by scholars from the Jagiellonian University and the Polish Academy of Sciences,<sup>23</sup> students collected research material which by 1975 constituted the basis for 125 MA theses.

Activities conducted after the Polish National Committee was established (1976) were in fact a continuation of the plan delineated in the 1960s. Polish ethnographic institutions maintained their cooperation aiming at the completion of research syntheses for selected aspects of folk culture in Carpathians and the Balkans (alpine shepherding, folk architecture, highland robbers' culture) prepared on an international scale. An ethnographic atlas of the Polish Carpathians was in preparation (prof. J. Klimaszewska).

The Polish Committee contributed to the creation of several teams of specialists, namely:

1) the Museum Subcommittee, established in 1979 and lead by dr. Franciszek Midura. It consisted of representatives of fourteen museums dealing with Carpathian folk culture. The Subcommittee aimed at initiating cooperation between ethnographic museums in the Carpathian Mountains, conducting field research, gathering and publishing source material concerning the folk culture of the region (see: Midura 1981, 79–83);

2) the Ethno-musicological Division, active from 1981 onwards, led by prof. Jan Stęszewski. Its aims included establishing of an institute that would gather materials and publications, creating a database of existing collections and studies in progress, as well as inspiring new research subjects and organising collaboration between ethno-musicological institutions;

3) the team responsible for the creation of a computer database called Prokes. Their work started in 1983 under the supervision of dr. A. Zambrzycka-Kunachowicz from the then Chair in Slavic Ethnography of the Jagiellonian University. At present the team functions within the Department of Museum Theory and Ethnographic Documentation of the Institute of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology at the Jagiellonian University. Until 2014 the two team managers were prof. Robotycki and Elżbieta Duszeńko-Król M.A. The project aims at collecting and sharing information about archival sources.<sup>24</sup> The team was assembled owing to the cooperation between the Polish Committee and the Chair in Slavic Ethnography (currently: Institute of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology) of the Jagiellonian University, where the archive is kept.

<sup>23</sup> Employees of the organization then called the Department of Ethnography of the Institute for History of Material Culture at the Polish Academy of Sciences in Cracow.

<sup>24</sup> Currently the team focuses on registering source materials according to the guidelines included in the information chart which was designed and approved by the Polish Committee. The database of registered sources is based on the model of entries in the library catalogue. Hierarchized subject charts were created, along with a dictionary of keywords for abstracts (see: Robotycki ed. 1995; Duszeńko-Król and Heller 1988, 95).

During the fifty years of the Committee's existence, its activities have proceeded at a varying pace. The Polish National Section, subordinate to the Committee of Ethnological Sciences, is being reactivated. Membership vacancies are being filled. Future activity is planned to encompass both the continuation of the enterprises listed at the Committee's foundation (its scientific achievements thus far will be assessed) and work on new research issues. One of the most important tasks to be completed is adding new relevant studies concerning Carpathians into the index and the Prokes database, in accordance with the model used in previously published bibliographies. According to the initial guidelines accepted by the entire Committee, cooperation shall be established between ethnographic museums in the region of Polish Carpathians with the intention of completing joint projects. New research subjects, currently studied by the Committee members interested in Carpathian issues, shall be incorporated into the agenda. These will include studying the materials gathered by the Institut für Deutsche Ostarbeit<sup>25</sup> and acquired in 2007 from the Smithsonian Institute. The study was started in the Institute of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology of the Jagiellonian University.

#### BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Bo t i k J. 1981. Bilans dwudziestoletniej działalności Czechosłowackiej Sekcji MKKKKB. *Etnografia Polska* 25 (2), 55–60.
- B u r s z t a J. 1981. Otwarcie obrad. *Etnografia Polska* 25 (2), 31–35.
- D o b r o w o l s k i K. 1960. Studia nad kulturą pasterską w Karpatach Północnych. *Wierchy* 29, 7–51.
- D o b r o w o l s k i K. 1961. The pastoral culture of the Carpathians and the Balkans as a subject for international scientific co-operation. *Carpatica* 1, 7.
- D o r y w a l s k a E. 1969. Gospodarka na polanach i wypas szalaśniczy w Żabnicy powiat Żywiec. *Prace i Materiały Muzeum Archeologicznego i Etnograficznego w Łodzi. Seria Etnograficzna* 13, 85–130.
- D u s z e Ń k o - K r ó l E. and H e l l e r K. 1988. Prokes – baza danych o źródłach archiwalnych dotycząca kultury ludowej Karpat Polskich. *Etnografia Polska* 32 (2), 95.
- F ö l d e s L. 1981. Praca Węgierskiej Sekcji MKKKKB. *Etnografia Polska* 25 (2), 61–62.
- F r o l e c V. 1972. Preference. *Carpatica* 4 (1–2), 7.
- F r o l e c V. 1981a. Dwadzieścia lat działalności Międzynarodowej Komisji do Badań Kultury Ludowej w Karpatach i na Bałkanach (MKKKKB). *Etnografia Polska* 25 (2), 35–45.
- F r o l e c V. 1981b. Architektura ludowa w Karpatach i przyległej części Bałkanów (problematyka syntezy). *Etnografia Polska* 25 (2), 97–102.

<sup>25</sup> IDO (German for: Institute of German Work in the East) was a research institution which existed in Kraków in the period of 1940–1945. Its activities included conducting anthropological and ethnographic research in Podhale, the region of Sącz Land and Lemko villages. A part of the material it gathered is currently being reviewed by the Institute of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology of the Jagiellonian University.

- Gašparíková V. and Stano P. 1988. Nationale Synthesen als Vorbedingung zu einem Gesamtwerk über die Räubertraditionen. *Carpatobalcanica* 17 (1), 21–27.
- Gašparíková V. and Stano P. (eds.) 1984. *Bibliographia Ethnographica Carpatobalcanica. Folklorní tradice o zbojnicích*. Brno.
- Gašparíková V., Putilov B., Külöcs I. and Szabó P. (eds.) 2002. *Героймилизбойник: Образ разбойника в фольклоре Карпатско горегуона* (Heroes or Bandits: Outlaw Traditions in the Carpathian Region). Budapest.
- Gładysz M. 1961. Konferencja w sprawie utworzenia międzynarodowej Komisji Badań Kultury Ludowej w Karpatach. *Etnografia Polska* 4, 339–343.
- Gładysz M. 1962. Zarys planu działalności i organizacji Międzynarodowej Komisji do Badań Kultury Ludowej w Karpatach. *Etnografia Polska* 6, 15–38.
- Gładysz M. 1965. Międzynarodowa Konferencja poświęcona badaniom kultury ludowej w Karpatach. *Etnografia Polska* 9, 440–450.
- Gładysz M. 1981a. Jubileuszowa Konferencja Międzynarodowej Komisji do Badań Kultury Ludowej w Karpatach i na Bałkanach (1959–1979). *Etnografia Polska* 25 (2), 27–30.
- Gładysz M. 1981b. Z działalności Polskiej Komisji do Badań Kultury Ludowej w Karpatach. *Etnografia Polska* 25 (2), 71–78.
- Gładyszowa M. 1969. Międzynarodowa Konferencja w sprawie badań kultury ludowej w Karpatach. *Etnografia Polska* 13 (2), 250–261.
- Gładyszowa M. 1980. O projekcie syntetycznego opracowania architektury ludowej na obszarze karpacko-bałkańskim. *Etnografia Polska* 24 (1), 321–323.
- Gładyszowa M. and Tyłkowska D. 1982. Konferencja poświęcona badaniom kultury ludowej w Karpatach i na Bałkanach. *Etnografia Polska* 26 (1), 229–301.
- Godula R. 1989. Rola Mieczysława Gładysza w badaniach kultury ludowej Karpat. *Etnografia Polska* 33 (2), 115–136.
- Godyn M. 2002. *Międzynarodowa Komisja do badania Kultury Ludowej w Karpatach*. Unpublished master's thesis, typescript, the Archive of the Institute of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology of the Jagiellonian University in Kraków, no. 566.
- Godyn-Wrzesień M. 2005. Zarys historii Międzynarodowej Komisji do Badania Kultury Ludowej w Karpatach. *Lud* 89, 237–252.
- Hermanowicz-Nowak K. 1989. Badania Karpackie w Pracowni Etnografii ZE IHKM PAN w Krakowie. Kontynuacja kierunku zainicjowanego przez prof. Mieczysława Gładysza. *Etnografia Polska* 33 (2), 151–156.
- Jostowa W. 1972. *Pasterstwo na Orawie Polskiej*. Wrocław.
- Kopczyńska-Jaworska B. 1961. Investigation de 1960 sur le chalet dans les Carpathes Polonaises. *Carpatica* 2 (1–2), 21–34.
- Kopczyńska-Jaworska B. 1969. *Tradycyjna gospodarka sezonowa w Karpatach Polskich*. Wrocław.
- Kopczyńska-Jaworska B. 1981. Dyskusyjne problemy syntezy badań nad pasterstwem wysokogórskim. *Etnografia Polska* 25 (2), 85–96.
- Kopczyńska-Jaworska B. (ed.) 1984. *Bibliographia Ethnographica Carpatobalcanica. Pastyrńska kultura* 2. Brno.
- Kowalska-Lewicka A. 1980. *Hodowla i pasterstwo w Beskidzie Sądeckim*. Kraków.
- Kutrzeba-Pojnarowa A. 1963. Konferencja Międzynarodowej Komisji do Badań Kultury Ludowej w Karpatach (Smokowiec 17–20.10.1962 r.). *Etnografia Polska* 7, 492–494.
- Langer J. 1986. Projekt. *Carpatobalcanica* 15 (1), 15–24.
- Langer J. 1987. Projekt. *Carpatobalcanica* 16 (1), 23–39.
- Midura F. 1981. Odnowa zabytków kultury Ludowej w Karpatach Polskich (z działalności Podkomisji Muzealnej Polskiej Komisji MKKKB). *Etnografia Polska* 25 (2), 79–83.

- Nizińska I. 1959. Bania nad kulturą Podhala w latach 1951–1956. *Lud* 44, 500–512.
- Parikowa M. 1985. *Slovenský Národnopis* 33 (4), 782.
- Parikowa M. 1987. *Carpatobalcanica* 26 (1), 40–50.
- Pátková J. 1960. Les premieres deliberations en vue de la collaboration dans les etudes de la civilisation carpatique. *Carpatica* 1, 12.
- Pátková J. 1963. La creation de la subcommision pour les artes figuratifs, la production et les wetiers populaires. *Carpatica* 3, 7.
- Podolák J. 1982. *Tradičné ovčiarstvo na Slovensku*. Bratislava.
- Primowski A. 1981. Z działalności Bułgarskiej Sekcji MKKKB. *Etnografia Polska* 25 (2), 53–54.
- Putilov B. 1979. Konzeption für eine internationale Kollektivarbeit "Die Räuber- / Heiducken- / Lieder der slawisch-karpatisch-balkanischen Region vom Ende des 16. bis zum Beginn des 19 Jahrhunderts". *Carpatobalcanica* 9 (1–2), 14–21.
- Robotycki C. 1979. Archiwalne materiały ludoznawcze z teki redakcyjnej Juliusza Zborowskiego. *Rocznik Podhalański Wydawnictwa Muzeum Tatrzańskiego im. T. Chałubińskiego* 2. Kraków–Zakopane, 171–177.
- Robotycki C. (ed.) 1995. Badania porównawcze i baza danych o źródłach etnograficznych do kultury ludowej Karpat. In *Układ słów kluczowych dla bazy danych o źródłach etnograficznych* 343 (Varia). Kraków, 5–9.
- Slavkovsky P. 1988. Die Internationale Konferenz der MKKKB in Warna. *Carpatobalcanica* 17 (1). Bratislava, 10–14.
- Staszakówna Z. 1959. Protokół z XXXI Walnego Zgromadzenia Polskiego Towarzystwa Ludoznawczego i Konferencji Podhalańskiej w Zakopanem (w dn. 26–29 września 1956 r.). *Lud* 44, 512–522.
- Szromba-Rysowa Z. 1986. Mieczysław Gładysz (1903–1984). *Etnografia Polska* 30 (1), 220–222.
- Štika J. 1997. Chov dobytka. In *Těšinsko*. Rožnov, 140–179.
- Tylkowa D. (ed.) 1981. *Bibliographia Ethnographica Carpatobalcanica. Lidová Architektura* 1. Brno.
- Tylkowa D. and Godyń-Wrzesień M. 2005. Międzynarodowa Komisja do Badania Kultury Ludowej w Karpatach. In M. Gotkiewicz (ed.), *Góry i góralszczyzna w dziejach i kulturze pogranicza polsko-słowackiego (Podhale, Spisz, Orawa, Gorce, Pieniny)*. *Kultura i przyroda*. Nowy Targ, 9–18.
- Tylkowa D. and Hermanowicz-Nowak K. 1994. Konferencja Międzynarodowej Komisji do Badań Kultury Ludowej w Karpatach i na Bałkanach. Lwów 29.XI–01.XII. 1993. *Etnografia Polska* 38 (1), 225–228.

Author's address:

Maria Godyń, Ph.D.  
 Institute of Archaeology and Ethnology  
 Polish Academy of Sciences  
 ul. Sławkowska 17  
 31-016 Kraków, POLAND  
 e-mail: godyn.m@gmail.com