



Ojciec prof. Józef Innocenty Maria Bocheński

The Main Topic of the Issue: Józef Maria Bocheński on the Business Enterprise

The year 2020 marks the 25th anniversary of the death of the outstanding Polish scholar, historian of logic, and philosopher, Józef Bocheński (1902–1995)¹. He belongs – besides John Paul II and Roman Ingarden and three other historical figures – to patrons of the year 2020 in Poland².

Józef Franciszek Bocheński became a Dominican and, in the order, took the name Innocenty Maria. After World War Two, Bocheński, like many Polish philosophers associated with the Lvov–Warsaw school, lived in exile³, in his case in Fribourg, Switzerland. The most important of his works were originally published in German. Due to his criticism of Soviet thought, none of his works could be officially published in the countries of the Eastern Block before 1989. As Wojciech Gasparski highlights, Bocheński “was not only a theorist, but also a well-known political expert, a man of strong personality and faith”⁴.

¹ For Bocheński’s life and philosophical contribution see: Moskal 2020; Policki 2018; Bocheński, Parys 1988. It is worth pointing out the latest issue of periodic „Edukacja Filozoficzna” which contains several valuable papers in English concerning Bocheński’s philosophical legacy (see: Brożek 2020).

² The resolution about Józef M. Bocheński was adopted by Senate of *Rzeczpospolita Polska* at October 18th 2019.

³ Such as Jan Łukasiewicz (Dublin), Alfred Tarski (Berkeley), Henryk Hiż (Philadelphia), Czesław Lejewski (Manchester), Bolesław Sobociński (Notre Dame).

⁴ In the article *The Philosophy of the Business Enterprise by Józef Maria Bocheński* in this issue of “Prakseologia”.

In his early years, Bocheński was associated with the “Kraków Circle”, striving to apply tools of mathematical logic to classical philosophy and theology [Woleński 2013, Moskal 2020]⁵. Later Fribourg philosopher contributed mainly to the history of logic [Bocheński 1961], the critical analysis of Soviet thought (Marxism-Leninism), and systematic analysis. His intellectual path could be divided into four routes: neotomistic, historico-logical, sovietological, and analytic [Porębski 2019: 101]⁶.

In the analytic route of his research, Bocheński pursued a variety of subject matters, including philosophy and the methodology of science [Bocheński 1965²], logic of authority [Bocheński 1974], logic of religion [Bocheński 1965¹], philosophical superstitions [Bocheński 1994; cf. Brożek 2013]. One of them was logic and philosophy of the industrial enterprise presented originally in the text *Zur Philosophie der industriellen Unternehmung* – the work vitally related to praxiology [Bocheński 1987].

The close relation between Bocheński’s practical philosophy and praxiology is a result of the subject focused approach of the thinker of Fribourg. As Korneliusz Policki stresses, according to Bocheński, such approach was to determine the practical philosophy and philosophic anthropology. A similar subject and task oriented approach inspired the praxiology by Tadeusz Kotarbiński⁷.

Bocheński’s original concept of philosophy of the industrial enterprise, pertaining to the theory of a system, sheds important

⁵ “Kraków Circle” was associated with wider “Lvov–Warsaw School”; for the latter see: Garrido, Wybraniec-Skardowska 2016. The idea of applying tools of modern logic to revisiting Thomistic ideas returns in some of the author’s late works, which were collected together with earlier papers in the anthology: Bocheński 2003.

⁶ Cz. Porębski calls them: “four periods” “of philosophical development”. However, these “periods” overlap to some extent, so I would call them rather “intellectual routes”; See also: Policki 2018.

⁷ Cf. Policki 2005: 76–77: “Nastawienie na na przedmiot powinno być nie tylko cechą filozofii teoretycznej, ale również filozofii praktycznej, a zwłaszcza antropologii [...] Celem ludzkiego życia nie jest grzebanie we własnej jaźni, myślenie o »trwodze i lęku egzystencjalnym«, lecz poświęcenie się zadaniom, które stoją przed człowiekiem. Konsekwencją zasady przedmiotowości jest zasada dobrej roboty, którą rozwinął w swojej praxiologii T. Kotarbiński” (highlights by M.W.B.).

light on this topic. The work has been, several times, referred to in a praxiology context, especially by W. Gasparski⁸. The dissertation was translated into Polish a few years after the first German publication [Bocheński 1991], but so far, it has not been translated into English⁹. I am very glad that the English translation – *Towards the Philosophy of the Industrial Enterprise* – can be included in this volume of “Prakseologia”. The translation is accompanied by articles devoted to the work, written by Wojciech Gasparski, Timo Airaksinen, Jacek Gniadek and the author of this text.

Great thanks for the help in improving the English translation of Bocheński’s text are due especially to Edward Świderski, and also to Alojzy Czech and Błażej Radomski. I am also grateful to Rev. Korneliusz Policki for the support in realization of this project.

Marcin W. Bukata

Editor-in-Chief of “Prakseologia”

Instytut Filozofii i Socjologii – Polska Akademia Nauk (IFiS PAN)

REFERENCES

referred publications of the J. I. M. Bocheński’s dissertation on philosophy of the industrial enterprise

Bocheński J. I. M. 1987, *Zur Philosophie der industriellen Unternehmung*. Vortrag gehalten am 18. März 1985 auf Einladung der Bank Hofmann AG im Zunfthaus zur Meisen – Zürich, Zürich (Bank Hofmann AG – Zuerich, 13) (reprinted in: J.M. Bocheński, *Autorität, Freiheit, Glaube. Sozialphilosophische Studien*, München–Wien 1988: Philosophia Verlag: 119–138).

Bocheński J. I. M. 1991, *Uwagi filozoficzne o przedsiębiorstwie przemysłowym*, [translated from German by] S. Czech, in: K. Fabiańska, J. Rokita (ed.), *Rozwój przedsiębiorstwa. Problemy teorii i dylematy praktyki*, Katowice 1991: Akademia Ekonomiczna im. Karola Adamieckiego: 105–124¹⁰.

⁸ See especially: Gasparski 2010, and other works referred by the author in his article *The Philosophy of the Business Enterprise by Józef Maria Bocheński* published in this volume of “Prakseologia”; cf. Czech 2005.

⁹ Bocheński 1987. Hereafter cited with reference to the sections of the text, the numbering of which is also repeated in the Polish language versions of the text.

¹⁰ 1st Polish version, the translation authorized by J. I. M. Bocheński

Bocheński J. I. M. 1993, *Przyczynek do filozofii przedsiębiorstwa przemysłowego* [translated from German by] J. Garewicz, in: J. I. M., Bocheński, *Logika i filozofia* [ed. by] J. Parys, Warszawa: Wydawnictwo Naukowe PWN¹¹.

other related works

- Bocheński J. I. M. 1950, *Der sowjetrussische dialektische Materialismus: (Diamat)*, Bern: Francke.
- Bocheński J. I. M. 1961, *A History of Formal Logic*, translated from German by I. Thomas, Notre Dame: University of Notre Dame Press.
- Bocheński J. I. M. 1965¹, *The Methods of Contemporary Thought*, translated from German by P. Caws, Dordrecht: D. Reidel Publishing Company; Polish translation: *Współczesne metody myślenia*, Poznań 1992: W drodze.
- Bocheński J. I. M. 1965², *The Logic of Religion*, New York: New York University Press.
- Bocheński J. I. M. 1974, *Was ist Autorität?: Einführung in die Logik der Autorität*, Freiburg im Breisgau-Basel-Wien: Herder.
- Bocheński J. I. M. 1994, *Sto zabobonów. Krótki filozoficzny słownik zabobonów*, Kraków: Philed (1st edition: Paryż 1987: Instytut Literacki).
- Bocheński J. I. M., Parys J., 1994, *Między logiką a wiarą. Z Józefem M. Bocheńskim rozmawia Jan Parys*, Montricher: Les Editions nor sur Blanc (1st edition: 1988).
- Bocheński J. I. M. 2003, *Gottes Dasein und Wesen: logische Studien zur »Summa Theologiae« I, qq. 2–11*, München-Wien: Philosophia Verlag.
- Brożek A., *Logical Analysis Against Superstitions: Józef M. Bocheński on the Social Role of Philosophy*, "Edukacja Filozoficzna" 70: 39–57.
- Czech A. 2005, *Józef M. Bocheński's Analysis of "System" and "Finality" Notions*, "Journal of Economic & Management" 2: 46–58.
- Gariddo A., Wybraniec-Skardowska U. (ed.) 2016, *The Lvov–Warsaw School. Past and Present*, Cham: Springer.
- Gasparski W. W. 2010, *Entrepreneurship from the Praxiology Point of View*, in: W. W. Gasparski, L.V. Ryan, S. Kwiatkowski (ed.), *Entrepreneurship: Values and Responsibility*, (Praxiology: The International Annual of Practical Philosophy and Methodology, 17), New Brunswick (NY): Transaction Publishers: 23–36.
- Moskal P. 2020, "Bocheński Józef", in: *Universal Encyclopedia of Philosophy – internet version* (<URL: <http://www.ptta.pl/pef/haslaen/b/bochenski.pdf>>, access: 15.12.2020).
- Policki K. 2005, *Filozofia człowieka we wczesnej twórczości J. I. M. Bocheńskiego*, Wrocław: Papierni Wydział Teologiczny we Wrocławiu.
- Policki K. 2016, *Józef I. M. Bocheński*, see: Gariddo, Wybraniec-Skardowska (ed.) 2016: 263–271.
- Porębski Cz. 2019, "Bocheński: Morality, Ethics, and Analysis", in: Idem, *Lectures on Polish Value Theory* (Studien zur Osterreichischen Philosophie, 47), Leiden–Boston (MA): Brill: 100–112.
- Woleński J. 2013, *Józef Maria Bocheński and the Cracow Circle*, "Studies in East European Thought" 65: 5–15; published also in Polish: *Józef M. Bocheński i Koło Krakowskie*, [w:] Łukasiewicz D., Mordalski R. (ed.), *Poza logiką jest tylko absurd. Filozofia Józefa M. Bocheńskiego OP*, Kraków 2014: Fundacja "Dominikańskie Studium Filozofii i Teologii": 5–46.

¹¹ 2nd Polish version.