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# *Geoinformation Issues*

*Problemy geoinformacji*

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# GEOINFORMATION ISSUES

## PROBLEMY GEOINFORMACJI

In the journal there are printed peer-reviewed articles containing the results of research on theoretical, experimental and applicable problems in the field of geodesy, surveying engineering, photogrammetry, cartography, GIS and remote sensing





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## Introduction

Sixty years have now passed since the Office of the Polish Cabinet of Ministers first set up the Polish Institute of Geodesy and Cartography – a research institution with the status of a R&D unit. The Institute is tasked with resolving scientific and technological problems to assist the public geodetic, surveying and mapping services, with facilitating the adoption and development of modern methods and techniques in Polish surveying practice (both public and commercial), and with working to solve research issues, methodological problems, and applied issues arising at the intersection of the fields of business, science, and technology, to which surveying and mapping make significant and increasing contributions.

Reports on the findings and results of the original research projects carried out at the Institute have been published in its main research publication, which since 1948 has been the journal *Proceedings of the Institute of Geodesy and Cartography* (*Prace Instytutu Geodezji i Kartografii*). Although the title of the journal nominally restricted the authors of the papers to Institute staff members, *Proceedings of the Institute of Geodesy and Cartography* has increasingly carried work by authors employed at other institutions. This positive phenomenon has made it appropriate to change the title of the Institute of Geodesy and Cartography's research publication, in order to sanction the publication of such work by authors not directly affiliated with the Institute itself.

A second argument in favor of such a change of title is the dynamic development now being witnessed within the scientific discipline of geodesy and cartography, which without losing its original character is also increasingly becoming the leading discipline in the field of information systems about the Earth and its resource management. Geodesy and cartography are particular responsible for the development and functioning of systems of spatial orientation (georeferential systems), which lay the foundation for all geographic information systems.

The technological advancement of these systems and their enrichment with the information obtained by various disciplines of the Earth sciences (geodesy, geophysics, geology, geography – the leading producers of spatial information and at the same time users of such information for research purposes, and to a certain extent also utilitarian purposes) have led to the emergence of a new, integrative discipline: *geomatics*. Moreover, the term *geoinformation* has been adopted for spatially-referenced information supplied by various producers, integrated within systems of geographic information. Geoinformation has nowadays become the fundamental tool of spatial research.

In organizational terms, these development have found confirmation in the establishment of a geoinformation research network drawing together 13 institutes in Poland, four of them belonging to the Polish Academy of Sciences and nine of them having the status of R&D units. The Institute of Geodesy and Cartography is the coordinator of this network. In reference to these advances and wanting for the title of our publication to best reflect the scope of interests in contemporary geodesy, and surveying and mapping, we have decided to change its name to *Geoinformation Issues* (*Problemy geoinformacji*).

However, the new title of the Institute of Geodesy and Cartography's journal does not mean that it will no longer serve as a forum for work in geodesy, and surveying and mapping, that does not directly bear upon geoinformation. The journal's pages remain open for research in specializations broadly related to geodesy, surveying and mapping as well as to the application of geographic information systems in the Earth sciences.

*Editorial Staff*