

# JOURNAL OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

## *Preface*

In the year 2001 we celebrate the fifty anniversary of the activity of National Institute of Telecommunications. The history of this Institute extends from year 1934, when Professor Janusz Groszkowski founded the first Polish national research institute in telecommunications. Before the second war, the institute had achievements in telephony, radiophony and television. After the second war, in the time of planned, closed economy in Poland, it provided knowledge and expertise in the field of modern telecommunications, preparing Polish equivalents of international solutions of telecommunication devices. In the last decade, National Institute of Telecommunications had to adapt itself to the opening of Polish economy. It started gradually to change its own character, following the liberalisation of the Polish market, looking for the new, long-term tasks.

In the first (invited) paper of this issue written by Andrzej P. Wierzbicki, General Director of the Institute, and entitled *Challenges before National Institute of Telecommunications after fifty years of its activity* the transformation of the Institute is presented. New mission of the Institute, the results of structural changes of the Institute in last five years, an outline of long-term research programme and the challenges before the Institute on the verge of the new millennium are described.

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Editor-in Chief

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