

Copyright© 2026 by the Author(s)


This is an open access journal. All articles are distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License CC BY-NC-ND 4.0

E-ISSN 2451-0858 ISSN 1643-8299
2026, VOL. 26, ART. 001



Editorial

“State and Society” in a New Stage of Development: Quality, Internationalisation and Interdisciplinary Dialogue

Przemysław Łukasz Kowalczewski 

Andrzej Frycz Modrzewski Krakow University, Kraków, Poland

Since its establishment in 2001, “Państwo i Społeczeństwo / State and Society” has provided a space for academic reflection on the functioning of institutions, societies, public systems, and the changing conditions of contemporary life. Over the years, the journal has brought together authors representing different disciplines, research traditions, and methodological approaches. This interdisciplinary identity remains one of its most important strengths. At the same time, academic publishing has changed substantially. Today, a scholarly journal is expected not only to publish valuable research, but also to ensure transparent editorial procedures, reliable peer review, high-quality metadata, open access to content, ethical clarity, international discoverability, and a clear profile that allows authors and readers to understand its scientific mission.

The launch of the new website of “Państwo i Społeczeństwo / State and Society” therefore marks an important moment in the development of the journal. It is not merely a technical change or a visual redesign. It is a visible expression of a broader editorial strategy: to strengthen academic quality, improve the transparency of publishing processes, increase the international visibility of published research, and develop “Państwo i Społeczeństwo / State and Society” as a modern interdisciplinary

Corresponding author

Przemysław Łukasz Kowalczewski
pkowalczewski@uafm.edu.pl

Received: 16.05.2025
Accepted: 12.06.2026
Published: 15.06.2026

Cite this article

Kowalczewski, PŁ. (2026). State and Society in a New Stage of Development: Quality, Internationalisation and Interdisciplinary Dialogue. *Państwo i Społeczeństwo / State and Society* 26, art. 001,
<https://doi.org/10.31749/2451-0858-SaS-2026-001>

platform for scholarly communication. Beginning with the current year, the journal is published as an annual volume with continuous publication of articles. This model allows accepted articles to be made available successively within the yearly volume and should shorten the time between submission, editorial processing, acceptance, and publication. The new website will also improve the exchange of correspondence between authors, reviewers, and editors, making the editorial workflow more efficient and transparent.

The new stage of development of “Państwo i Społeczeństwo / State and Society” is therefore built around several fundamental principles: quality, transparency, internationalization, interdisciplinarity, and public relevance.

First, the journal will continue to strengthen its commitment to academic quality. We aim to publish manuscripts that are methodologically rigorous, conceptually clear, ethically sound, and relevant to ongoing scholarly and professional debates. The journal welcomes original research articles, review articles, case studies, and editorial commentaries that contribute to knowledge, practice, public policy, institutional development, or interdisciplinary understanding. Particular value will be given to manuscripts that go beyond purely descriptive accounts and offer clear theoretical, methodological, empirical, comparative, or practical insight.

Second, we will further develop transparent and responsible editorial standards. A modern academic journal must clearly communicate how manuscripts are assessed, how peer review is organized, what ethical principles guide editorial decisions, and what responsibilities are expected from authors, reviewers, and editors. For this reason, the journal is expanding and systematizing its editorial policies, including author guidelines, double-blind peer review procedures, open access policy, copyright and licensing information, research ethics requirements, and declarations concerning conflicts of interest, funding, data availability, and the use of artificial intelligence tools. Articles submitted to the journal are assessed through double-blind peer review, which protects the independence of reviewers and supports fair evaluation of manuscripts.

These standards are part of the infrastructure of trust on which credible scholarly communication depends. The journal’s ethical and organizational framework is also based on openness for authors. “Państwo i Społeczeństwo / State and Society” does not charge authors submission fees, publication fees, or article processing charges. The absence of author-side costs supports equal access to publication opportunities while preserving rigorous editorial and review standards.

Third, the journal is entering a more deliberate phase of internationalization. Internationalization should not be understood only as the use of English or the aspiration to broader indexing. It is a deeper process of making the journal more visible, accessible, and relevant to an international scholarly audience. This includes improving the quality and consistency of article metadata, strengthening the use of persistent identifiers such as DOI and ORCID, increasing the accessibility

of published content, developing the English-language information architecture of the journal, and encouraging submissions that address issues of broader scientific, institutional, or policy relevance. The journal remains rooted in its academic and institutional context, but its intellectual horizon is increasingly international.

Fourth, "Państwo i Społeczeństwo / State and Society" will preserve and develop its interdisciplinary profile. Contemporary societies cannot be adequately understood from a single disciplinary perspective. Public institutions, health systems, education, governance, communication, management, psychology, and the built environment interact in complex ways. Social and institutional challenges increasingly cross disciplinary borders. For this reason, the journal welcomes research from health sciences, management and quality sciences, public administration, pedagogy, psychology, communication and media studies, architecture, and urban planning. This broad profile is not intended to dilute the journal's identity, but to reflect the complexity of the phenomena it seeks to examine.

Interdisciplinarity is understood here not as a simple accumulation of topics, but as a scholarly method of bringing different specialities into conversation. The journal seeks to create a platform for the exchange of ideas between fields that often address similar problems from different conceptual, methodological, and professional perspectives. Such a platform may help researchers identify shared questions, compare evidence, and translate academic knowledge into institutional, social, and public relevance.

A substantial part of the journal's profile is devoted to health sciences, public health, healthcare organization, quality improvement, and healthcare system performance. These areas are of growing importance in contemporary societies, especially in the context of demographic change, public health challenges, institutional resilience, patient safety, healthcare management, and the need for evidence-informed policy. At the same time, the journal remains open to broader analyses of educational systems, public administration, organizational quality, psychological functioning, communication practices, and spatial development. The common denominator is the relationship between institutions and society, and the ways in which this relationship shapes quality of life.

The new website is an important tool in this process. It provides a more structured and accessible environment for authors, reviewers, readers, and indexing services. It allows the journal to present its aims and scope more clearly, organize the submission and peer review process more effectively, support correspondence between participants in the editorial process, display published content more professionally, and make editorial policies easier to find. The migration to a modern publishing platform also supports the long-term visibility and discoverability of articles. Previous issues and articles remain accessible through the journal's earlier website, ensuring continuity of the published record and respect for the journal's history.

However, the development of a journal is never only a matter of platform, layout, or technology. The true quality of an academic journal depends on the people who create it: authors who submit strong manuscripts, reviewers who provide fair and constructive assessments, editors who make responsible decisions, readers who engage with published research, and institutions that support scholarly communication. I would therefore like to express my appreciation to all those who have contributed to the development of “Państwo i Społeczeństwo / State and Society” over the years: previous editorial teams, members of the Editorial Board, authors, reviewers, readers, and the Publisher.

As Editor-in-Chief, I see the current transformation as a commitment. It is a commitment to build a journal that is more visible internationally, more transparent editorially, more demanding scientifically, and more useful to the communities it serves. This does not mean abandoning the journal’s previous identity. On the contrary, it means strengthening it by adapting it to contemporary standards of scholarly publishing and by clarifying its role in academic debate.

The ambition of “Państwo i Społeczeństwo / State and Society” is to become a recognised forum for high-quality interdisciplinary research on the structures, institutions, and processes that shape contemporary societies. We invite authors to submit manuscripts that are not only formally correct, but intellectually meaningful. We invite reviewers to help us maintain high academic standards through independent, constructive, double-blind peer review. We invite readers to engage with the journal as a space for serious reflection on public life, institutions, health systems, education, management, communication, and social development.

The new stage of “Państwo i Społeczeństwo / State and Society” begins with a clear editorial direction: to combine academic rigour with openness, interdisciplinarity with coherence, and institutional tradition with international ambition. This is the path on which we now continue the development of the journal.