

**ARMENIAN-POLISH COOPERATION: PAST, PRESENT AND PROSPECTS**

On 10 November the Institute of Oriental Studies of the Armenian National Academy of Sciences and the University of Warsaw organized a roundtable discussion entitled «Armenian-Polish Cooperation: Past, Present and Prospects». The Polish side was represented by Jaroslaw Turlukowski, Mikhal Sadlowski, Patrik Kalinowski and Jakub Khovanec from the University of Warsaw. Researchers from various departments of IOS of NAS RA as well as from the Armenian State Pedagogical University participated in the discussion.

The director of the Institute of Oriental Studies, academician Ruben Safrastyan and Jaroslaw Turlukowski delivered an opening speech stressing the high level of Armenian-Polish relations and the importance of scientific discussions.

The Chair of the Department of Eastern Sources and Historiography Azat Bozoyan represented the social and economic life of the Armenian community in Poland, its activities, the self-governing system of Armenians, as well as the relations with Polish authorities in 14-18<sup>th</sup> centuries, and the conversion of the Armenians to the Catholicism.

Deputy chair of the Faculty of History and Philosophy of the Armenian State Pedagogical University Hayk Grigoryan spoke about the reactions towards the Polish rebellion in 19<sup>th</sup> century in the Armenian press. There was a difference how the Eastern Armenian and Western Armenian newspapers covered these events. The ones in Western Armenia were sympathetic to the Polish insurgency against the Russian Empire, while the newspapers in the eastern part of Armenia, which was under Russian rule, mainly had a critical and disapproving approach. Grigoryan also represented the situation in the Armenian

community in the 18th century, the policy of Polish authorities towards the Armenians.

Director of the Institute of Oriental Studies, academician Ruben Safrastyan spoke about the modern era of Armenian-Polish relations and stressed the importance of further development of bilateral relations in the light of complicated geopolitical situation in the world. In this regard R. Safrastyan highlighted the role of Parliamentary diplomacy.

A discussion and question-and-answer followed. The participants of the roundtable expressed their thoughts and views on the issues of history and politics.