

Review of Wioletta Kałamucka, Tadeusz Grabowski, and Krzysztof Kałamucki, eds. *System of Protected Areas of Roztocze in Poland and Ukraine in the Context of Regional Sustainable Development*

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At the end of 2021, the Roztocze National Park and Publishing House of Maria Curie-Skłodowska University published a book entitled *System of Protected Areas of Roztocze in Poland and Ukraine in the Context of Regional Sustainable Development*. The scientific editors of the publication are Wioletta Kałamucka and Tadeusz Grabowski, and the cartographic editor is Krzysztof Kałamucki. The discussed monograph is an extensive publication, consisting of 11 chapters and 382 pages. It ends with a bibliography and abstract in English and Ukrainian. It addresses the issues of protection of the most valuable objects and areas of Roztocze in the context of the implementation of sustainable development, commonly considered an appropriate trend for modern socio-economic transformations.

The publication is the first extensive study systematizing the current state of knowledge on the protected areas and objects of Roztocze in a trans-border approach. It also undertakes an assessment of the effects of different forms of protection in the context of regional sustainable development based on spatial and statistical analyses.

In my opinion, the book can be regarded as a scientific event. It compiles long-term field research by Polish and Ukrainian environmentalists emotionally and professionally related to the region. Therefore, it deserved to be presented to the readers of *Barometr Regionalny*. The monograph is based on rich documentation material. It is an interesting regional study corresponding to the justified principle of environmental policy. Its positive perception is facilitated by figures, photographs, thematic maps, and tables that illustrate and enrich the presented issues.

The primary thematic scope of the book gives unity to the entire publication, prepared by different authors—a total of eleven chapters of varied length. Despite the evident thematic diversity of particular chapters, their mutually complementing contents make the publication a logically coherent whole.

The first chapter covers general information concerning the protected areas as instruments of management of environmental resources in line with the concept of sustainable development. It discusses the role of sustainable development in coordination of social, economic, and environmental

1. The book is published in Polish, original title: *System obszarów chronionych Roztocza w Polsce i na Ukrainie a rozwój zrównoważony regionu*.

processes. It presents modern forms of environmental protection in Poland and Ukraine. This part also offers up-to-date knowledge potentially useful to many researchers and practitioners.

The second chapter discusses protection of the environmental and landscape resources of Roztocze. The shaping of the system of protected areas in the region is presented in the context of Roztocze as a region with exceptional landscape and environmental features.

The subsequent six chapters (from 3 to 8) present issues regarding the mesoregions of Roztocze in a similarly systematized way. The contents of separate subchapters refer to the inventory of forms of environmental protection in a given area.

The main part of the monograph covers chapters three to eight. It includes systematized results, which are based on the latest research, and a description of all forms of nature protection existing in particular subregions of Roztocze designated by J. Buraczyński (1995): Roztocze Gorjaskie, Szczepieszyńskie, Tomaszowskie, Rawskie, and Lwowskie. The part devoted to the Polish part of Roztocze includes descriptions of the Roztocze National Park, four landscape parks—Szczepieszyński, Krasnobrodzki, Puszczy Solskiej, and Południoworoztoczański, three areas of protected landscape, and 15 reserves. The Natura 2000 Areas were also characterized, and smaller forms of nature protection were presented in the form of a table: nature monuments, ecological grounds, and documentation sites. As for the Ukrainian part of Roztocze, various forms of protection of national importance are described—Environmental Reserve “Roztocze,” Yavoriv National Park, Potelytsky hydrological reserve, as well as two objects with regional importance, namely Roztocze Rawskie and Zniesienie landscape parks, along with five reserves of local importance.

The ninth chapter addresses species protection. It includes information concerning protection of plant, animal, and fungi species. It also discusses selected protected species.

The tenth chapter presents the objectives of the UNESCO Man and the Biosphere programme. The preliminary comments on the history of the establishment and tasks of biosphere reserves in Roztocze are followed by descriptions of the “Roztocze” Biosphere Reserve, “Roztochya” Biosphere Reserve, and Trans-border “Roztocze” Biosphere Reserve.

The eleventh chapter analyses the social, economic, and environmental results of the existence of protected areas in Roztocze. It discusses the system of protected areas and selected aspects of the sustainable development of communes in Roztocze. This chapter also discusses changes in the forest cover of Roztocze in the years 1930-2020 in the context of the network of protected areas.

The book presents a wide diversity of issues. Owing to the comprehensive character of the collected material, it has high scientific and cognitive value, familiarizing the reader with one of the most valuable regions in Poland in terms of environment, culture, and landscape.

The value of the publication is enhanced by its rich statistical, cartographic, and photographic documentation (50 tables, 19 figures, 112 photographs, 74 maps), which make the graphic content very engaging. The attractive, modern, and artful layout makes the book very approachable.

The monograph is the effect of the collaboration of 27 authors: scientists from Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin, University of Gdańsk, Ivan Franko International University of Lviv, National Forestry University of Ukraine, members of the Zamość Environmental Association, Lublin Ornithological Association, and employees of the Roztocze National Park and Yavoriv National Park.

The reviewed book is a valuable and long-awaited publication. In my opinion, it substantially contributes to expanding the reader's knowledge of Roztocze. It not only includes scientific information which is of great relevance to the scientific circles but may also attract a much wider readership.