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## Dear Readers

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Artykuł został opracowany do udostępnienia w internecie przez Muzeum Historii Polski w ramach prac podejmowanych na rzecz zapewnienia otwartego, powszechnego i trwałego dostępu do polskiego dorobku naukowego i kulturalnego. Artykuł jest umieszczony w kolekcji cyfrowej [bazhum.muzhp.pl](http://bazhum.muzhp.pl), gromadzącej zawartość polskich czasopism humanistycznych i społecznych.

Tekst jest udostępniony do wykorzystania w ramach dozwolonego użytku.

## **Dear Readers**

The third volume of the "Nurt SVD" is again devoted to the religion of Mohammed<sup>2</sup>. Islam is the recurring topic in mass media in Poland and the rest of Europe, and brings more and more questions to the minds of average Europeans. Those who know more about this religion - political scientists and scholars of religions - point to the far-reaching and irreversible consequences of the fact of the ever growing number of Muslims on the Old Continent and in other, traditionally Muslim parts of the world. Is it the beginning of the end of the preponderance of Christianity in the world? Masses of Muslim believers, storming the borders of Europe on the one hand, and lack of clear immigration policy on the other, prolong the sense of uncertainty and scepticism about European authority, which has been limiting itself to geopolitical declarations only. Even the most moderate experts on the subject do not deny the fact that this religion, which makes its totalitarian aspirations known, has made a huge progress. It may turn out that the next decades belong to Muslims!

Our participation in the debate „Islam, and then what?“ does not go beyond the scope of the religious studies. Contributors to this issue of the „Nurt SVD“ prefer Cartesian prudence to emotions, and approach the problem from different angles, taking into account its various aspects. They hope that forebodings retreat before constructive dialogues with Islam. That is why any arbitrarily unambiguous pronouncement must be judged as a mistaken one. We discover new, unknown „faces of Islam“, all the time looking for its own identity and - despite everything else - showing real ability for dialogues with other believers.

There are about 15 million Muslims in the Western Europe today. What does it mean to be a „European Muslim“? How may one remain Christian in the midst of a „European Islam“? How to respect the common spiritual heritage and the shared, Islamic and Christian civilization?

Enjoy your reading!

*Adam Michatek SVD*

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<sup>2</sup> „Nurt SVD“, *Faces of Islam*, part. I, vol. 138, no. 2, 2015, 472 pp.

„Nurt SVD“, *Faces of Islam*, part. II, vol. 139, no. 1, 2016, 338 pp.

„Nurt SVD“, *Faces of Islam*, part. III, vol. 141, no. 1, 2017, 348 pp.