

JOURNAL OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Preface

This special issue is devoted to the *14th International Conference on Microwaves, Radar and Wireless Communications* MIKON-2002, which was held on May 20–22, 2002, in Gdańsk, the charming old capital of Pomerania, well known around the world for its major historical landmarks. This volume contains 13 papers presented by the finalists of the Young Scientists Contest, which is traditionally organized during the conference.

In the course of MIKON's over 30-year long history, the last conference was already the fifth truly international meeting. MIKON assembles the whole Polish microwave and radiolocation community as well as numerous representatives of our immediate neighbours (especially from the East and South of Europe), MIKON is also privileged to host the leaders of other foreign research centres collaborating with Poland and the Polish origin, now working and living abroad. In 1994, thanks to the IEEE Microwave Theory and Techniques Society support MIKON received the status of an international conference (permanently marked in the world conferences calendar). Since then it has been organized every two years in May and it has been hosted by various Polish cities – biggest research and culture centres.

Last year MIKON moved to Gdańsk, with the record number of 177 papers accepted for presentation: 90 from Poland and 87 from 25 countries all around the world. A majority of foreign papers was submitted by the neighbouring countries, particularly the former Soviet Union – Ukraine, Russia, Belarus, and Lithuania. From Western Europe, the biggest contribution of papers came from the Netherlands. Hungary and the Czech Republic were also well represented. Out of the accepted papers, 98 were oral and 79 poster presentations. We also heard 17 invited speakers, some of the world's leading experts, who agreed to present their works. The MIKON-2002 program comprised 29 sessions in total – 24 oral and 5 poster ones, held in 3 parallel streams. The number of contributions from the area of radar technology has been constantly increasing, and that year 7 sessions were organized on the subject. Traditional MIKON topics such as antennas, CAD methods, measurement techniques and passive components were also very well covered. Although active devices, integrated circuits and optoelectronics attracted less interest in regular papers, they were well represented by invited speakers. The total number of attendees was 263: 172 from Poland and 91 from abroad and among them were many prominent members of the world microwave community, regularly participating in this event.

MIKON-2002 continued the **Young Scientists Contest** addressed to the young engineers and Ph.D. students. That year 41 foreign and Polish young authors presented their papers. Due to the high prestige of MIKON, the European Microwave Association was a co-sponsor of the event for the first time. The winners received diplomas of recognition and financial prizes: the first prizes *Piotr Kozakowski* from Technical University of Gdańsk and *Sean Hum* from University of Calgary, the second prizes Arkadiusz Lewandowski from Warsaw University of Technology and *Attila Zólomy* from Technical University of Budapest, the third prizes *Sandra Pralgauskaitė* from Semiconductor Physics Institute (Vilnius) and *Anton Abramov* from Saratov State University. I hope this volume will find the Reader's interest and will prove to be for practical usage.

Józef Modelski
Guest Editor