

## **IJU Editorial: Introducing the New Journal**



**Dr. Zbigniew Les**

I have a great pleasure to introduce the new scientific journal *International Journal of Understanding*. Understanding is one of the human capabilities that plays a key role in all human activities. The International Journal of Understanding is aimed at creating a suitable environment for exchanging research results obtained in theories and techniques concerning all aspects of understanding. Understanding is a new area of research which will be developing very rapidly. Many philosophical problems can be approached by seeing them as one of the aspects of understanding. Today we can verify very quickly content of many scientific papers that seems to be so “similar” that it put into doubts its scientific contribution and novelty. With emerging new possibilities of accessing knowledge through the internet (www) the current methods of teaching students at university become questionable. Understanding of the vast area of the scientific production requires very new educational method for teaching students. The new teaching method should supply categorical basis for understanding scientific facts and theories from the different scientific fields. It will create a very big challenge for philosophers that should formulate more precisely some old philosophical problems and should see them in the context of limits of our human understanding. Seeing the understanding problem as a problem of the limits of our human understanding creates a new possibility for finding a proper place for the theological discourse. In the light of the research in understanding and building of the thinking machine there is no place in science for reduction the human being to be a mere machine that comes to being as the result of the primitive materialistic evolution. Understanding/thinking machine will be very useful in testing some hypothesis about our human nature. Never in the history of the scientific research were researchers involved in solving such a complex problem - the problem of the mystery of the human nature. From this perspective today’s biological speculation seems to be childish play and we should regard them rather more a fairy-tale than as a serious scientific work.

In the first issue of the *International Journal of Understanding* some historical background will be preserved. All papers included in this issue are written by Z. Les and M. Les. The older papers that were previously not published were included without updating. It will show the evolution of our ideas and the road to the research in understanding/thinking problem. Reference to the author’s book “*Shape understanding system. The first steps in building the visual thinking machine*” will help to understand development of the scientific tolls to cope with the most complex scientific problem – the problem of understanding/thinking. The final paper presents the research on learning of the machine (SUS) to solve the educational tasks.

I sincerely hope that all of you, from all scientific disciplines, would find this journal to be of interest and would consider presenting your own work for submission to this journal.

Furthermore, it is also my hope that you would recommend “International Journal of Understanding” to your library, institution, colleagues and students, and help make this journal a great success.

Thank you and I wish all the best for this new journal.

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