

## SUMMARY

The subjects of the thesis *Antypsychiatria – historia powstania i rozwoju głównych koncepcji radykalnego nurtu krytycznego w psychiatrii w latach 1954-1978* (*Anti-psychiatry: the history of the emergence and development of the main concepts of a radical critical current in psychiatry in the years 1954-1978*) are the genesis and main ideas of the said anti-psychiatry, its evolution, and its theoretical and practical consequences. Anti-psychiatry is presented here as a revolutionary idea seeking change in the system of care extended to those with mental disorders, which was founded by representatives of the medical sciences and inspired by earlier reforming concepts arising within psychiatry itself, as well as in other humanistic and social-science disciplines. This was an idea that yielded varied outcomes – from the introduction of specific changes into psychiatry, through to the latter's negation as a medical and socio-political practice. Anti-psychiatry is further presented here as a phenomenon linked closely with changes ongoing in its era.

More specifically, the successive parts of this work entail:

- consideration of the definition and true nature of anti-psychiatry;
- a description of initiatives from the period under study that sought to achieve reform in approaches to therapy, as well as a deinstitutionalisation of psychiatry generally,
- an analysis of fundamental notions and concepts of antipsychiatry and the linkage between anti-psychiatry and other disciplines.

In this way, this study takes a new look at anti-psychiatry's genesis, and at the way it has influenced the development of psychiatry. Source texts here gain interpretation as regards aspects not taken account of previously in Polish scientific research, or in critical analysis of the subject literature.

This study addresses matters of both historical and contemporary importance. In the first context, the significance lies in the way anti-psychiatry inspired new reflection on the conceptualisation of mental illness and how psychiatry gained its legitimacy in society; as well as changes in therapeutic practice. In the second context, there is direct relevance to structural reforms in psychiatry being either implemented at present, or postulated for the future.