

## Introduction

Even individuals loosely connected to scientific psychology have recently heard about the replicability crisis or even the credibility crisis purportedly experienced by our field. It takes time and distance to assess to what extent the word “crisis” adequately describes the alarming state of affairs and to what extent it is merely a media lure. However, it is difficult to deny that the social sciences have been grappling with numerous methodological problems for years. The current popularity of the topic increases awareness of these issues and broadens the scope of discussions about their desired solutions. *The Review of Psychology* is therefore, within its modest capabilities, joining this positive movement and placing in the hands of its readers a thematic issue dedicated to selected aspects of conducting psychological and broader social research.

The issue opens with a duet of editors focused on key areas of credibility crisis in psychology. Piotr Wolski discusses the consequences of improper understanding and application of statistical inference for reducing the credibility of research. Meanwhile, Arkadiusz Białek focuses on questionable research practices, ways to counteract them, and discusses proposals for creating theories in psychology. In the next article, one of the stalwarts and still active Polish creators of social science methodology, Jerzy Brzeziński, focuses on various methodological and organizational causes of problems he encounters. The editors’ conversation with Jarosław Górniak, an experienced researcher, methodologist, and teacher, contains many inspiring thoughts. It shows how many problems can be avoided by applying old methods more carefully and correctly, but it also emphasizes the need for continuous improvement and expansion of one’s scientific toolkit. Philosopher Marcin Miłkowski draws attention to the role in the current crisis in psychology of the unclear status and function of theories created within it. The researcher presents the proposal of “cognitive metascience” – a new way of analyzing practices and products of theorizing in psychology. The issue concludes with an introduction to causal inference theory by Borysław Paulewicz. The author discusses and illustrates the basic assumptions and methods of Pearl’s causal structural model, attempting to convince psychologists conducting scientific research to adopt it.

We hope that the considerations constituting the content of this issue of *The Review of Psychology* will contribute to the intensification of reflection on the methodology of psychological research and will reveal possibilities for improving research practices in the social sciences.

Arkadiusz Białek, Piotr Wolski  
*Jagiellonian University*