

# IMAGE OF THE POST-SOVIET COUNTRIES IN THE POLISH TRAVEL WRITING (1989–2019). INTRODUCTION

---

DARIUSZ ROTT

**ABSTRACT** *In his article the author reconstructs and analyzes how the image of the Post-Soviet countries has been shaped in Polish travel writing. He begins with the book “Imperium” by the renown Polish journalist, Ryszard Kapuściński (1932–2007). Published in 1993, it is the first and at the same time, the last non-fiction novel which – after 1989 – presented Polish readers with a holistic view on Russia. In the years that followed, some Polish writers like Jacek Hugo-Bader, Igor T. Miecik, Ziemowit Szczerek, among the others, took up an in-depth reflection on Russia which emerged from the Soviet Union's debris and the states which used to be part of it (in the recent years the most focus was on Ukraine). They also report their journeys to Russia and present common citizens with their problems.*

**KEY WORDS** Ryszard Kapuściński, “Imperium”, Polish travel writing, Soviet Union, Russia

**CONTACT** *Instytut Literaturoznawstwa, Wydział Humanistyczny, Uniwersytet Śląski w Katowicach; [dariusz.rott@us.edu.pl](mailto:dariusz.rott@us.edu.pl)*