

## Foreword

This publication presents articles devoted to the widely understood issue of document examination. With its contemporary, multi-faceted approach to the issue in question, the volume offers a review of current achievements in this area. It is to a considerable degree an attempt at exemplification of the presented issues, including studies of strictly forensic nature and those from other disciplines of science concerned with a document and its examination. The published articles were written by experts professionally involved in comparative examination of handwriting, linguistics, graphology, psychographology and technical examination of documents, especially the analysis of inks, surfaces on which they are applied, writing implements and the examination of elements protecting documents against forgery and counterfeiting. This publication features not only the articles devoted to the forensic analysis of handwriting and signatures but also to psychographology, presenting of the results of psychological analyses of the correlation between a person's psycho-physiological condition and his or her handwriting. This volume also presents the articles discussing the vital role played by computer-based techniques used in many disciplines of science, indispensable in document examination and contributing to greater objectivity of the obtained results. Some texts are devoted to the cooperation between an expert and the institutions of the system of justice as well as verification of expert's qualifications. The volume consists of the articles contributed by the authors from various countries, addressing the need of international cooperation and confrontation of views on document examination.

This publication is aimed at the experts professionally involved in document examination, representatives of the widely understood law enforcement and system of justice but also students of law and other

relevant subjects. Those who are not familiar with the specific issue of document examination should be able to find here a number of articles devoted to this interesting area of forensic science, including the subjects hardly ever discussed in the literature. This volume addresses the need to highlight the issues in document examination in their wider and narrower scope, taking into consideration the current potential and achievements to date in this area.

*dr Rafał Cieśla*