

## **Summary**

The Belgian Jean Thiriart (1922-1992) belongs to those not so numerous characters from the borderline of ideology and politics, whose achievements do not pass with their death. The political movements he led disappeared, only to be reborn in „new clothes” shortly after. They never caused, however, a significant breakthrough on the political scene of Western European countries. This lack of a significant success in the field of current politics did not prevent his political heirs from referring to the ideological heritage of Jean Thiriart. It seems that the scale of political acceptance should be considered in the context of the importance of the unsolved dilemmas of unitary Europe and its political independence and self-reliance.

On the road from Young Europe to the „new man” in the Universal State, Jean Thiriart's national-European communitarianism developed mainly in the course of his political activity evolved from the views internalised in his youth into an original worldview. This is the main thesis of the dissertation, and its main goal is to fill the gap existing in Polish political science, where the figure of Thiriart and his communitarianism are virtually absent.

The work consists of five chapters, ranging from ideological inspirations from the youth period, through the successive stages of political activity. Among these stages, a special place is occupied by the most dynamic and creative period of the 1960s, related to the Young Europe project. The fifth (last) chapter is an attempt to make an ideological synthesis covering a relatively wide spectrum.

Looking from today's perspective, it can be seen that the project of the European Union, in its present shape, has lost its development dynamics, and its formal enlargement has ceased to create a new quality. Usually in such a situation, if projects of this type, such as the European Union project, lose their dynamics, one can expect the public debate on the future of unitary Europe gaining momentum. For that reason alone, one cannot exclude a renaissance of interest in the figure and thoughts of Jean Thiriart, especially in the west of Europe.

## **Keywords**

Thiriart, Michel, national-European communitarianism, Europa, empire