

## Foreword

The present volume of the *New Criminal Law Codification* journal contains interesting articles devoted to reliable understood specific forensic handwriting examination (FHE) and questioned document examination (QDE). It includes both strictly forensic articles as well as legal evidence and articles on the borderline of other fields of forensic science. In particular, there are articles emphasizing the use of appropriate research methodology in each forensic examination of handwriting, including signatures, pointing to the key importance for the interpretation of research and the credibility of the expert's conclusions. The reader will also find articles devoted to interesting point of view supported by interesting theses on the subject "variation" vs "individuality" redefinition in handwriting examination, and forensic analysis of handwriting as well as the impact of comparative material on the quality of handwriting expertise. The issues of competence of document experts were raised. Some articles discuss the examination of questioned documents, such as the problems of research on the impact of unusual surfaces and writing instruments on the characteristics of handwriting, the study of stamps and their importance in the examination of questioned documents. The reader will also find interesting issues regarding the basic security features implemented in Indian banknotes. One of the articles discusses an unusual and interesting case of a corn stalk leaf, which in turn led to the identification of a rapist and murderer. It is worth noting that the articles have been written by international forensic document experts, not only theoreticians, but above all practitioners dealing with the issues of examining documents on a daily basis, also at the experimental level. This volume aims to further expand knowledge in this relevant and vast area of FDE and QDE. The problems discussed in the volume indicate the need to conduct

further research on documents and implement their results into practice. The articles take into account the existing possibilities and achievements in the field of broadly understood, interdisciplinary research of documents. The conclusions contained in these texts should be used in practice by document experts, courts, prosecutors, and defense attorneys, as well as other participants involved in the process of taking evidence.

*Rafał Cieśla*