

## Editor



**Irena TWARDOWSKA** is a Research Hydrogeochemist and a Head of the Laboratory of Non-point Contamination of the Terrestrial and Aquatic Environment at the Institute of Environmental Engineering of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Zabrze, Silesia, Poland. She is also Professor of Environmental Engineering at the Pedagogical University in Czestochowa, Poland. Dr. Twardowska received her D.Sc. in Hydrogeology from the University of Mining and Metallurgy in Krakow in 1986, her Ph.D. in Environmental Engineering from Silesia Technical University in Gliwice in 1965, and her M.S. in Sanitary Engineering from the same University in 1960. Her entire carrier has been spent with the Polish Academy of Sciences, Institute of Environmental Engineering in Zabrze, Poland, where she held the positions of senior scientist and research group leader, and since 1987 of associate Professor and Laboratory head.

Dr. Twardowska has published two monographs, more than 190 papers and chapters in books, presented papers at more than 90 international symposia, is an author of 4 patents on industrial waste dumps construction. She has been leading numerous multidisciplinary national and international research projects, currently in collaboration with Germany, India, Israel, and Norway. Her research interests concern the generation, transformations, release, migration and immobilization of contaminants in solid waste disposal sites, soil and vadose zone, effect of these processes on groundwater quality and development of the pollution prevention and control measures.

Dr. Twardowska is a Council Member and past-president of SECOTOX - International Society of Ecotoxicology and Environmental Safety, and co-organizer of its regional sections, in particular of Central and Eastern European and Asia and Pacific Sections. From 1993 to 1996 she was a vice-chair of the Subcommittee for Waste Examination of the Committee of Analytical Chemistry of the Polish Academy of Sciences. Since 1996 she has been a member, and since 2003 a vice-chair, of Technical Committee No. 216 on Solid Wastes of the Polish Standardization Committee and since 1998 a representative of Polish Standardization Committee in CEN/TC 262 on Waste Characterization in European Standardization Committee. She is a member of Editorial Boards of 2 scientific journals.

Dr. Twardowska is a recipient of 3 Awards of the Secretary of the Polish Academy of Sciences, Golden Award of the Polish Ministry of Environment, Silver Cross from the State Council of Poland and Silver and Golden Awards from the Regional Council of Silesia for achievements in environmental research. She has been a certified expert of the Polish Ministry of Environment and the Regional authorities, and a recognized frequent advisor to the industry in the field of the environment protection.