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## **VIII Ukrainian-Polish and III East-European Meeting on Ferroelectrics Physics (September 4–7, 2006, Lviv, Ukraine)**

This issue contains Proceedings of the VIII Ukrainian-Polish and III East-European Meeting on Ferroelectrics Physics (Ukr-Pol 8) held in Lviv on September 4–7, 2006. The Meeting was the continuation of the common Polish-Ukrainian meetings devoted to various problems in physics of ferroelectrics and carried out earlier in Ustroń-Zdrój (2004), Uzhgorod-Synjak (2002), Cracow (2000), Dnipropetrovsk (1998), Kudowa Zdrój (1996), Uzhgorod (1994), Wrocław (1992) and Lviv (1990).

The official organizers of the meeting were the Institute for Condensed Matter Physics of National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (Lviv) and Lviv Polytechnic National University. The Meeting was organized by:

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The Meeting was supported by Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine and the Lviv branch of the JSC “KREDOBANK”.

Nearly 140 scientists attended the Ukr-Pol 8 Meeting, including 77 Ukrainian, 29 Pole and 4 participants from other European countries. There were presented 35 lectures and 72 poster contributions. The scientific programme of the Meeting covered various aspects of physics of dielectric phenomena and phase transitions in ferroelectric systems, urgent problems of theory and experiment, new directions and possibilities of practical application of such materials.

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In this special issue of “Condensed Matter Physics” the second part of the Meeting Proceedings is presented. From a total number of 41 manuscripts submitted by participants of the Meeting, we place here 17 papers (the first part of the Meeting Proceedings will be published in the “Phase Transitions” journal). The main attention in the majority of papers is paid to different aspects of dielectric (linear and nonlinear) properties of ferroelectric systems in the region of phase transitions. A wide list of problems is considered: the field effects and pressure action on phase transitions; the electronic structure, phonon dynamics and domain processes; the size effects in nanostructures in ferroelectric materials. Within the scope there is also theoretical description and experimental investigation of critical region near  $T_c$ . The contributed manuscripts were refereed during and after the meeting. We acknowledge all the reviewers for their timely response and for maintaining high scientific standard.

On the whole, it should be mentioned that the main objectives and tasks of the conference have been achieved from the point of view of discussing and analysing the new scientific results as well as in connection with the deepening and development of scientific contacts and cooperation. We should like to thank all the colleagues who have made efforts to the success of the Meeting, especially lecturers and contributors, all the participants as well as our sponsors. We are looking forward to the next Polish-Ukrainian Meeting that will be held in Poland in 2008.

*Organizing Committee*