



Newsletter

Polish Institute of Arts & Sciences of America

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A Word From the President

First, allow me to thank you for your past generous support of the Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences of America. I am now asking you to support us in a different way.

In the wake of the COVID pandemic inflation has become part of our daily lives, affecting our budgets and reshaping our priorities. PIASA has also been confronted with this new reality of rising costs, no more so than in the costs of producing our multidisciplinary Polish Studies journal, *The Polish Review*, the only one of its kind in North America. A part of these costs can be attributed to the permanent expansion of the journal from 128 to 144 pages, as we attempt to keep pace with an unprecedented number of new submissions of the highest quality that arrive almost every week from established and emerging scholars based in many different countries.

A greater contributor, however, is in the rapidly rising costs faced by academic journal publishing more generally. In other words, *The Polish Review* is hardly alone in this regard.

Other journals have tried to meet these challenges in various ways, among them by substantially raising membership rates to pass on the costs to journal subscribers, and by making online subscriptions the default option or even the only option to save on mailing costs. PIASA, for its part, views such measures as a last resort in providing *The Polish Review* to its members.

What we propose instead is to maintain print copies as the default option for member subscribers while appealing to those members who would be willing, or may even prefer, to receive *The Polish Review* online. One major advantage of an online subscription is that you will be able to read the kind of excellent articles, review essays, and book reviews which have come to define *The*



Polish Review approximately one month earlier than when they would become accessible in hard copy.

To be clear, receipt of *The Polish Review* electronically will be entirely voluntary. We would not move subscribers from the hard copy print option to the online option without their expressed agreement. We understand that some readers simply prefer to have the journal physically in their hands instead of on a computer screen. However, if you are willing and ready to make the switch, and to help PIASA contain costs and reduce our environment footprint in the process, we ask you to send an email to piasany@gmail.com or send a written note addressed to The Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences of America, 208 East 30th Street, New York NY 10016.

— Robert Blobaum, PIASA President

Polish Institute 2023 Conference

Please mark your calendars for the 2023 PIASA conference in New Britain, Connecticut, scheduled for June 9-10. The conference is being held jointly with the Polish Studies Program at Central Connecticut State University, which next year celebrates its fiftieth anniversary. This joint PIASA/CCSU conference comprises the main event of the anniversary celebration. The general theme of the conference is “Migrations,” for which New Britain, Connecticut, a destination of generations of Polish and other immigrants, is a most appropriate setting. It was those Polish immigrants who helped fund an endowed chair in Polish and Polish-American Studies at Central Connecticut State University, whose library also houses the Connecticut Polish American Archive. For those unable to attend the conference in person, there is the possibility of limited virtual participation via Microsoft Teams. Registration for both regular and virtual attendance is now open: please consult the PIASA website page <https://piasa.org/conferences/>, where you will also find infor-

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Polish Institute 2023 Conference

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mation regarding the pre-conference excursion and Saturday banquet as well as transportation and accommodations.

This year there will be over 70 participants, from both the United States and abroad, in the various panels. At over 25 panelists, the Polish contingent is strong, but also participating will be scholars representing Denmark, Germany, Great Britain, and Ireland. A series of award panels, acknowledging the achievements of major scholars and discussing prizewinning books, will be featured. Panelists include the winners of the Lotarski, Lednicki, Halecki, and Malinowski awards from 2022.

Two renowned scholars will also address those present. The keynote lecture will be given by Keely Stauter-Halsted, Professor of History and Hejna Family Chair in the History of Poland at the University of Illinois in Chicago, who will explore the conference theme of “Migrations” in the plenary session. The banquet speaker will be M. B. Biskupski, holder of the S. A. Blejwas Endowed Chair in Polish History at CCSU and past president of PIASA.

Fulbright Scholar Program Accepting Applications

The Fulbright Scholar Program is accepting applications for teaching East European and Eurasian Studies at the Centre for East European Studies (CEES), University of Warsaw. The awardee will teach one course for the BA/MA program “Eastern Studies” per semester and one general university lecture per semester open to all University of Warsaw students, and will also hold consultations with students. The awardee will be encouraged to participate in conferences and academic events organized at CEES as well as participate in collaborative research with CEES scholars.

The award is for either five or ten months; that is, for a semester or an academic year. One-semester grants last either from mid-September through mid-February or from the beginning of February until the end of June; two-semester grants begin only in mid-September. Candidates are encouraged to apply for two semesters. A teaching assistant will be provided to support the awardee. The application deadline is September 15, 2023. For further information see: <https://fulbrightscholars.org/award/teaching-east-european-and-eurasian-studies-centre-east-european-studies-university-warsaw-1>.

Gromada Makes Archival Donations

Dr. Thaddeus V. Gromada, former PIASA president and long-time executive secretary, announced that the archives of the bilingual quarterly *Tatrzański Orzeł/The Tatra Eagle* dedicated to Polish Tatra Highlander Folklore have been deposited at the Instytut Dziedzictwa Ludów Karpackich (Institute of the Heritage of Carpathian Peoples) in Ludźmierz, Poland. The Institute is part of the Mała Polska Library System. The curator of the archives is Prof. Anna Mlekodaj. The journal was co-edited from 1947 to 2019 by Gromada and his sister Jane Gromada Kedron.

Dr. Gromada also announced that part of his personal archive has been donated to the Archiwum Nauki PAN i PAU in Kraków where the director is Dr. Tomasz Pudłocki. Dr. Gromada is member of Polska Akademia Umiejętności (PAU).

Publication Subvention for Baltic Studies

The Association for the Advancement of Baltic Studies is offering a subvention of up to \$5,000 for books, edited volumes, and multiple-authored books in English that make a substantial scholarly contribution to Baltic Studies. Priority will be given to a single author’s first monograph. For further information see: <https://aabs-balticstudies.org/grants-fellowships/aabs-book-publication-subvention/>.

Dissertation Research Grant Program

The Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES) is offering research grants with a stipend maximum of \$6,000, for the purposes of conducting doctoral dissertation research in Eastern Europe and Eurasia in any aspect of Slavic, East European, and Eurasian studies in any discipline.

The grant is for primary dissertation research. Applicant may be a graduate student of any citizenship, in any discipline currently enrolled in a PhD program in the United States and must have successfully achieved PhD candidacy (ABD status) by the start of the proposed research travel. The applicant must have language proficiency to conduct the proposed research. For further information, see:

<https://www.aseees.org/programs/dissertation-grant>.

PIASA Announces Inaugural Karol Pilarczyk Foundation Award

The Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences of America is pleased to announce a call for nominations for its inaugural Karol Pilarczyk Foundation Award to Promote Democracy and the Rule of Law.

The Karol Pilarczyk Foundation Award furthers democracy and the rule of law by funding Polish and non-Polish citizens working in the areas of Polish studies and culture who seek to facilitate these broad goals. It is intended to support individual academics, journalists, writers, researchers, scientists, and artists by recognizing and publicizing the recipient's accomplishments and/or promoting their future endeavors as relevant to the award's general purpose through scholarship and creative work.

The recipient of the Karol Pilarczyk Foundation Award will receive a \$5,000 prize and will also be recognized during PIASA's annual conference in New Britain, Connecticut, June 9-10, 2023.

Criteria:

- The nomination should be based on a book, article, film, play, literary work, or project promoting democracy and the rule of law.
- The nominee's accomplishments or future project must be related to Poland or, if not directly related to Poland, must be authored, created, or proposed by a person of Polish heritage, broadly understood.

Nominations, including self-nominations, should include:

- A cover letter marking the submission as "The Karol Pilarczyk Foundation Nomination."
- A curriculum vitae of the nominee.
- A description of the nominee's accomplishments or future project for which an award is sought and its contribution to democracy and the rule of law.

The **deadline for nominations is May 1, 2023**. The PIASA Board of Directors will serve as the award committee and is expected to reach a decision by May 15, 2023. Nominations should be directed to the President of PIASA, Robert Blobaum, at rblobau@wvu.edu.

Calls for Papers

Polish American Historical Association: PAHA will hold its 80th annual meeting in San Francisco, California, January 4–7, 2024, as part of the 137th yearly meeting of the American Historical Association. PAHA in-

vites proposals for sessions as well as individual papers related to all aspects of the Polish American experience (in history, sociology, literature, art, music, etc.) in North and South America. All scholars are welcome who study the Polish American communities or the greater Polish diaspora, as well as those who deal with migration, ethnic, and/or regional studies.

Individual participants should include the following information when submitting a proposal: (1) paper title(s) and short abstracts of no more than 300 words; (2) a biographical paragraph of up to 250 words; (3) an indication if you are willing to serve as a chair for a session; and (4) an indication if you need A/V. Panel/session organizers should include the following information when submitting a panel proposal: (1) paper/session abstract(s) (up to 300/500 words); (2) e-mail addresses for each participant; (3) biographical paragraph (up to 250 words) for each participant; (4) a chair and commentator for the session; and (5) an indication if you need A/V.

The **deadline for submissions is April 15, 2023**. Abstracts for papers and panel proposals should be submitted to Marta Cieslak at mxcieslak@ualr.edu.

The Anthropocene: from Boundaries to Bonds. Interdisciplinary Crossovers in Knowledge Development: The University of Wrocław and the Academia Europaea Wrocław are accepting proposals for a conference to convene October 19-20, 2023, in Wrocław, Poland.

The conference plans to bring together scholars and speakers from various disciplines research on the Anthropocene. The organizers especially invite proposals focusing on crossing disciplinary boundaries. By bringing together scholars from many areas of research inquiry, the seminar aims at exploring the possibility of inter- and multidisciplinary scholarly work on developing accountable knowledge that needs to be subsequently translated into social and cultural narratives. How do we cooperate across the boundaries within academia, in politics and social organizations as we strive to address the Anthropocene?

There is no conference fee. The Organizers may offer a small travel refund to a limited number of PhD students and emerging scholars. The CFP is located here:

https://www.ae-info.org/ae/Acad_Main/Events/The%20Anthropocene%20from%20boundaries%20to%20bonds.

The **deadline for proposals is May 31, 2023**. An abstract and short biographical note (20 minutes for individual papers; 60 minutes for panels; 45 minutes for roundtables) should be sent to anthropoceneconf@gmail.com.

Upcoming Conferences

April 12-15, 2023—The **Western Association of Slavic Studies Conference** will meet with the Western Social Science Association in Tempe, Arizona. For information, see: <https://westernslavic.aseees.hcommons.org/calls-for-papers/>.

April 20-22, 2023—The **Northwest Regional Conference For Russian, East European, and Central Asian Studies** will convene in Seattle, WA. For information, contact: reecasnw@uw.edu.

April 22, 2023—The **Northeast Slavic, East European and Eurasian Conference** will be held at the Jordan Center for the Advanced Study of Russia (New York University). For information contact: neseees@gmail.com.

May 5-6, 2023—**Kościuszko Conference**: The American Association of the Friends of Kościuszko at West Point will host its annual conference at the Thayer Hotel, U.S. Military Academy, West Point, NY. Each year the event includes a day-long program of presentations on Friday followed by a ceremony at the Kościuszko Monument, a parade and review of the corps of cadets, and a closing luncheon on Saturday. For information, contact Prof. Anthony Bajdek at a.j.bajdek@comcast.net.

May 18-20, 2023—**27th Annual World Convention of the Association for the Study of Nationalities**: Sponsored by the Harriman Institute, the conference will convene at Columbia University in New York City and feature over 150 Panels in two global sections—“Nationalism” and “Migration, Refugees, and Diasporas.” Eight regional sections will focus on the Balkans, Belarus, the Caucasus, Central Europe, Eurasia (Central Asia and China), Russia, Turkey and Greece, and Ukraine. For further information, visit <http://asnconvention.com>.

June 9-11, 2023—**Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences Annual Conference**: The conference will convene at Central Connecticut State University in New Britain, CT. The general theme is “Migrations.” The conference venue and hotel are accessible via various combinations of airplane, train, bus, and taxi. In addition to the conference panels, several events are being organized including a trip to the New England Air Museum to see the new Kościuszko Squadron exhibition. For further information, contact the conference chairs:

Prof. Patrice Dabrowski, at pmd639@g.harvard.edu
Prof. Lynn Lubamersky at lynnlubamersky@gmail.com

June 15-17, 2023—**15th Conference on Baltic Studies in Europe** on the topic of “Turning Points: Values and Conflicting Futures in the Baltics” will meet at Vytautas Magnus University in Kaunas, Lithuania. For more information, see: <https://aabs-balticstudies.org/cbse-2023-in-kaunas/>.

September 28-30, 2023—**24th International Conference on the History of Concepts** will meet in Warsaw, Poland. For further information see: <https://bit.ly/HCG2023>.

October 19-20, 2023—**The Anthropocene: from Boundaries to Bonds. Interdisciplinary Crossovers in Knowledge Development** at the University of Wrocław, Poland. The conference plans to bring together scholars and speakers from various disciplines who research on the Anthropocene. There is no conference fee. The Organizers may offer a small travel refund to a limited number of PhD students and emerging scholars. See the Call for Papers on page 3. The deadline for proposals is May 31, 2023. For information, contact anthropoceneconf@gmail.com.

October 19-20, 2023—**55th annual Association for Slavic, East European, & Eurasian Studies Conference virtual convention** will convene to “explore the theme of decolonization across time, place, field, and institutional setting.” The program will be posted in June 2023 on the ASEES website at <https://www.aseees.org/convention/program>. Questions should be directed to: aseees.convention@pitt.edu.

November 30 - December 3, 2023—**55th annual Association for Slavic, East European, & Eurasian Studies Conference will be held in person** at the Philadelphia Marriott Downtown. See above (October 19-20) listing for further information.

January 4-7, 2024—**Polish American Historical Association**: PAHA will hold its annual meeting in San Francisco, CA, in conjunction with the American Historical Association. See the Call for Papers on page 3.

New Book Series on the Polish Diaspora

The Polish American Historical Association announces the inception of PAHA Books, an initiative for occasional publication of works of merit in the area of Diaspora Studies, broadly defined, of scholarly or cultural merit and interest but limited market potential. Such works could include a broad range of subjects of historical, literary, or other scholarly interest, as well as fiction, poetry, or documents. For further information, contact Neal Pease, Editor-in-Chief, PAHA Books, at pease@uwm.edu.

PIASA Awards Announced

PIASA is pleased to announce its new awardees who have made significant contributions to their fields of research. Congratulations to all of those recognized!

Susanne Lotarski Distinguished Achievement Award:

The award recognizes significantly distinguished accomplishment over time and is presented to **Irena Grudzińska Gross**, Professor Emeritus Princeton University, and **Madeline Levine**, Professor Emeritus, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill.



Oskar Halecki Polish History Award:

Recognizing a book of particular value and significance dealing with the Polish experience, the award goes to two **Kenneth B. Moss**, the University of Chicago, for his book *An Unchosen People: Jewish Political Reckoning in Interwar Poland* (Harvard University Press, 2021). Honorable Mention goes to **Barbara Klich-Kluczewska**, Jagiellonian University, *Family, Taboo and Communism in Poland, 1956-1989* (Peter Lang, 2021).



Wacław Lednicki Humanities Award:

This award is given for the most outstanding book or creative work published, produced or presented in any of the fields encompassed within the Humanities as defined by the National Endowment for the Humanities. The recipient is **Katarzyna Bartoszyńska**, Ithaca College, *Estranging the Novel: Poland, Ireland, and Theories of World Literature* (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2021). Honorable Mention goes to **Aleksandra Kremer**, Harvard University, *The Sound of Modern Polish Poetry: Performance and Recording after World War II* (Harvard University Press, 2021).



Casimir Funk Natural Sciences Award:

The award honors an outstanding scientist of Polish origin (Polish born or of Polish ancestry) living and working in the United States or Canada. It is given to **Thomas Wisniewski**, New York University School of Medicine, and Director of NYU's Alzheimer Disease Center, in recognition of his discoveries of mechanisms that drive development of Alzheimer disease and could potentially lead to therapeutic interventions and development of vaccines.



Bronisław Malinowski Social Sciences Award:

Recognizing a scholar in one of the fields of the social sciences who has written a book or seminal publication of particular value and significance dealing with an aspect of the Polish experience, the 2021 award goes to **Agnieszka Graff**, University of Warsaw, and **Elżbieta Korolczuk**, Södertörn University (Stockholm) and University of Warsaw, for their book *Anti-Gender Politics in the Populist Moment* (Routledge, 2021).



Tadeusz Sendzimir Applied Sciences Award:

Established to recognize excellence, individual achievement and innovative contributions in the field of applied sciences by a Polish-American scientist or engineer in the United States, the award is presented to **Marcin Żukowski**, co-founder and vice president of engineering at Snowflake Computing, one of the world's major cloud-based data platforms, in recognition of his invention of vectorized query execution in databases.



Ludwik Krzyżanowski Polish Review Award:

The award recognizes the best article in *The Polish Review* in 2020. The awardee is **Dariusz Stola**, "There is a Polish-Jewish History beyond the Holocaust," *The Polish Review*, 66, 4 (December 2021): 13-21.



Rachel Feldhay Brenner Award:

Recognizing the best book in Polish-Jewish studies, the committee selected **Alina Molisak**, Warsaw University, *Jewish Warsaw—Jewish Berlin: Literary Portrayal of the City in the First Half of the Twentieth Century* (Peter Lang, 2021). It also identified for Honorable Mention **Jan Rybak**, University of York and University of London, *Everyday Zionism in East-Central Europe: Nation-Building in War and Revolution, 1914-1920* (Oxford University Press, 2021).



Anna Cienciala Award:

Given for the best edited book on Polish studies, the recognition goes to **Katharina Friedla**, Hoover Institution Stanford, and **Markus Nesselrodt**, Europa-Universität Viadrina, eds., *Polish Jews in the Soviet Union (1939-1959): History and Memory of Deportation, Exile, and Survival* (Academic Studies Press, 2021).



New Books on Polish Studies

Amanda Barratt, *Within These Walls of Sorrow: a Novel of World War II Poland* (Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel Publications, 2023), ISBN: 978-0825447013.

Israel Bartal, François Guesnet, Antony Polonsky and Scott Ury, eds., *Promised Lands: Jews, Poland and the Land of Israel. Polin: Studies in Polish Jewry* (Littman Library of Jewish Civilization, Vol. 35, 2023).

Franciszek Longchamps de Brier and Rafael Domingo, eds., *Law and Christianity in Poland: the Legacy of the Great Jurists* (Abingdon, Oxon, UK: Routledge, 2023), ISBN: 978-1032019727.

Cindy Bylander, *Engaging Cultural Ideologies: Classical Composers and Musical Life in Poland 1918-1956* (Boston, MA: Academic Studies Press, 2022), ISBN: 979-8887190211.

Sarah A. Cramsey, *Uprooting the Diaspora: Jewish Belonging and the "Ethnic Revolution" in Poland and Czechoslovakia, 1936-1946* (Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press, 2023), ISBN: 978-0253064950.

John E. Fahey, *Przemysł, Poland: a Multiethnic City During and After a Fortress, 1867-1939* (West Lafayette, IN: Purdue University Press, 2023), ISBN: 978-1612498089.

Piotr Florczyk and Kevin A. Wisniewski, eds. *Polish Literature as World Literature* (New York: Bloomsbury Academic, 2023). ISBN: 978-1501387104.

Janusz Gmitruk, Zbigniew Judycki, Tadeusz Skoczek, eds., *Polacy w Paryżu: historia i współczesność: referaty sympozjalne* (Warsaw: Muzeum Historii Polskiego Ruchu Ludowego, 2022), ISBN: 978-8379013302.

Tomek Grabowski, *Individualism and the Rise of Democracy in Poland* (Rochester, NY: University of Rochester Press, 2023), ISBN: 978-1648250590.

Norbert Haliński, ed., *Stanisław Malachowski: bohater, mit, symbol* (Warsaw: Zamek Królewski w Warszawie – Muzeum, 2022), ISBN: 978-8370222949.

Malgorzata Hanzl, *Jewish Culture and Urban Form: a Case Study of Central Poland before the Holocaust* (Abingdon, Oxon, UK: Routledge, 2023), ISBN: 978-1032069357.

Krzysztof Jacek Hinz, *Polônia-América Latina e o Caribe: antigos e novos desafios* (Warsaw: Ministério das Relações Exteriores da República da Polônia, 2022), ISBN: 978-8366213722.

Tytus Jaskułowski, *Piękna nasza Polska cała: stan wojenny w krzywym zwierciadle Informacji Dziennych MSW 1981-1983* (Warsaw: Wydawnictwa Uniwersytetu Warszawskiego, 2022), ISBN: 978-8323553588.

Lidia Klein, *Political Postmodernisms: Architecture in Chile and Poland, 1970-1990* (Abingdon, Oxon, UK: Routledge, 2023), ISBN: 978-1032016542.

Sophie Hodorowicz Knab, *Spirit of Place: the Roadside Shrines of Poland* (New York: Hippocrene, 2023), ISBN: 978-0781814348.

Samantha K. Knapton, *Occupiers, Humanitarian Workers, and Polish-Displaced Persons in British-occupied Germany* (London: Bloomsbury Academic, 2023), ISBN: 978-1350189256.

Kyrill Kunakhovich, *Communism's Public Sphere: Culture as Politics in Cold War Poland and East Germany* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2022), ISBN: 978-1501767043.

Marek Makowski, Jerzy Mazurek, Eduardo Nadalin, *Polacy dla Brazylii = Poloneses para o Brasil* (Warsaw: Ministerstwo Spraw Zagranicznych RP, 2022), ISBN: 978-8366213661.

Anna Müller, *An Ordinary Life? The Journeys of Tonia Lechtman, 1918-1996* (Athens, OH: Ohio University Press, 2023), ISBN: 978-0821424971.

Andrzej Nowak, *The Forgotten Appeasement of 1920: Lloyd-George, Lenin and Poland* (London, UK: Routledge, 2023), ISBN: 978-1032434636.

Joachim von Puttkamer, *"Ich werde mich nie an die Gewalt gewöhnen." Polizeibrutalität und Gesellschaft in der Volksrepublik Polen* (Hamburg: Hamburger Edition, 2022), ISBN: 978-3868543674.

Michał Szwabe, *Czynniki migracji zarobkowych w świetle emigracji Polaków do Wielkiej Brytanii po akcesji Polski do UE* (Warsaw: Wolters Kluwer, 2023), ISBN: 978-8383280677.

Members' Forum

Anti-Gender Politics in the Populist Moment

The Bronisław Malinowski Social Sciences Award recognizes a book of significance dealing with an aspect of the Polish experience. This year the honor will go to Agnieszka Graff and Elżbieta Korolczuk's *Anti-Gender Politics in the Populist Moment*. In this essay they explain, as the say, "a few words about the book and how it came into being."

Our book *Anti-Gender Politics in the Populist Moment* answers some fairly urgent questions: Why is "gender" being demonized by the populist right? Who is behind these campaigns? What is at stake? When did it all begin? While we discuss the complexity of the struggles around gender, our study does not pretend to be objective. The aim is to understand the inner logic of the campaigns, grasp the thinking behind them and motivations of people who engage in them. We look at the history of this phenomenon, shedding light on its religious origins and subsequent political development. We tell the story of the Polish "war against gender"—attacks on sex education, efforts to ban abortion, anti-LGBTQ campaigns—but also discuss the broader context in which the struggles around gender, sexuality and family develop. We examine both the social and cultural dimension of the anti-gender campaigns: the actors and political dynamics involved, as well as the cultural repertoire—the slogans, images, stories, banners, posters, films, speeches, websites in, we hope, an engaging style.

The book's most important contribution, as we see it, is the conceptual frame it develops to answer the questions: Why gender? Why now? Our claim is that during the last two decades a peculiar symbiosis has unfolded between right wing populist actors (such as PiS in Poland, AfD in Germany, Vox in Spain, etc.) and ultraconservative groups (organizations such as Ordo, HazteOir, Manif pour Tous, or The World Congress of Families to name just a few). We call it an "opportunistic synergy"—a dynamic resulting from ideological coherence but not limited to it. The key point is the right-wing actors draw on anti-gender rhetoric to enhance their appeal in the eyes of traditionalist voters and thicken the weak ideological core of populism. Gender helps them demonize political opponents: associate them with elitism, decadence, perversion, present them as a threat to the family and nation. Ultraconservative organizations also benefit—when their populist allies come into power, they gain access to funding, voice, and political influence, at times entering state institutions and working from within the system to change laws and institutional practices con-



cerning issues such as abortion, gay marriage, or domestic violence. This cooperation is facilitated by the secularization of religious fundamentalists' rhetoric on the one hand, and by a broader trend of culturalization of political divides, on the other. Finally, we claim that the stake in these struggles is the future of democracy—the anti-gender campaigns are a crucial part of the broader trend of de-democratization.

Our study is the outcome of a long journey, one that combines research, activism, and friendship. We have known each other since the year 2000 as feminist activists. Around 2010 we began to write together—initially about the feminist take on the care crisis, motherhood, and the Polish state's failure to develop a social policy that would take the needs of parents into account. The articles were published by *Gazeta Wyborcza* and would occasionally spark public debates.

People often ask us how we manage to write together. The answer is that the process is organic: we meet as friends, to discuss texts, movies, events, issues that are "in the air"—and occasionally written work comes out of these conversations. Writing together is quite thrilling. We learn from each other, inspire each other, and complement each other's styles and perspectives, build on each other's ideas. *Anti-Gender Politics in the Populist Moment* came out of a series of such conversations. It attempts to understand the ideas, values, culture, and political strategy of this movement.

Perhaps most interesting for PIASA members will be the essay on Putin's uses of anti-gender rhetoric. Originally published in *Wyborcza*, it was eventually translated into several languages—the English one can be found here: <https://democracyseminar.newschoo.org/essays/the-culture-war-and-the-actual-war%E2%82%AC%91%E2%82%AC/>. We show that the outbreak of war in Ukraine was justified by Putin and his allies as a necessary intervention in the process of political and cultural liberalization of Ukraine. While mainstream liberal and far-left intellectuals and commentators have a tendency to dismiss struggles over gender, sexuality and identity as secondary to "real" political conflicts, we claim that the global culture war, waged for over a decade now, has played a major part in legitimizing the actual war.

New PIASA Members

Karla Banach received her BA at Brown University, an MEd at St. Joseph College, and a JD at the Boston College Law School. Specializing in law and finance, after working at the Bank of Hartford and Advent Bank she served as General Counsel for Centerbank, a top twenty lender in the United States, she went into private practice specializing in advocating for families with special need children.



Jack A. Jarmon earned his PhD in Global Affairs at Rutgers University specializing in security issues in Eastern and Central Europe. During Russia's period of economic transition he was a USAID technical advisor for the Russian Privatization Committee where he worked with such organizations as the US Russia Investment Fund, European Bank of Reconstruction and Development, and various banks. Following academic appointments at Rutgers, the University of Pennsylvania, and the University of South Florida teaching subjects related to international relations, he currently works for Fiorini & Associates, a Philadelphia-based consulting firm that assists academic institutions, small businesses, and community-based organizations seeking STEM and STEAM related research/grant funding. His most recent book, *The New Era of U.S. National Security: Challenges of the Information Age* (Rowan & Littlefield, 2019) discusses national security risks related to information technology and other issues.



Lizy Mostowski, a native of Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, completed her baccalaureate and master's degrees in English literature at Concordia University in Montréal before enrolling in the Comparative and World Literature program at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Her current fields of research are in Polish-Jewish Studies, the



Holocaust, and Trauma & Memory Theory. Her published works include "Collective Disengagement: Canada's National Holocaust Monument" in *The Holocaust Across Borders*, Hilene Flanzbaum, ed. (Lexington Books); "Teaching Guide to Kadya Molodovsky's A Jewish Refugee in New York trans. Anita Norich" in *Ingeveb: A Journal of Yiddish Studies*, ingeveb.org/pedagogy/teaching-guide-kadya-molodovsky; and "Postmemory in Canadian Jewish Memoirs: The Holocaust and Notions of a Jewish Homeland" in *Israelis*, a bilingual periodical by Israel Studies students, The Ben-Gurion Research Institute for the Study of Israel and Zionism, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.

Kenneth J. Mroczek is an orthopedic surgeon at New York University's Langone Medical Center in New York City. After receiving his Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering from Cornell University in 1990, he earned his Medical Doctorate at the State University of New York Downstate College of Medicine in Brooklyn, New York, in 1994. He is a Fellow of The American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons and has an academic appointment in Orthopedic Surgery at the New York University School of Medicine. Dr. Mroczek has served as a reviewer for the *American Journal of Sports Medicine* and *The Bulletin of the NYU Hospital for Joint Diseases*. He is the author or co-author of 35 reports, reviews, exhibits, and book chapters.

Zbigniew Macdonald Szczepiorkowski received his MD degree from the Medical Academy in Warsaw, Poland (1991) and his PhD (DSc) from the Center for Postgraduate Medical Education, Warsaw, Poland (1997). His medical competencies include Transfusion Medicine and Cellular Therapy with special research interests in Cellular Therapy, Apheresis, and Transfusion Medicine. The author or co-author of more than 120 peer reviewed publications in addition to chapters and books, he is Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at the University of Dartmouth-



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New PIASA Members

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Hitchcock Medical Center and Professor of Medicine at Dartmouth's Geisel School of Medicine. He is currently involved in funded research projects focusing on the Evaluation of Plasma Exchange in patients suffering from Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), sometimes called Lou Gehrig's disease. He serves as National Marrow Donor Program Director for the Apheresis Center, Associate Editor of the *Journal of Clinical Apheresis*, and on the Editorial Boards of the *Journal of Transfusion Medicine*, *Journal of Translational Medicine*, *Vox Sanguinis*, *Acta Hematologica Polonica*, *Drugs and Cell Therapies in Hematology*, and *Plasmatology*.

Anna Wiśniewska-Grabarczyk received an upgrade from graduate to regular membership. An assistant professor at the

University of Łódź, Faculty of Philology, she received her BA, MA, and PhD from the same university. Among her publications are *Censorship of Literature in Post-war Poland: In Light of the Confidential Bulletins for Censors from 1945 to 1956* (Kraków–Łódź: Wyd. Uniwersytet Łódzki–Wyd. Uniwersytet Jagielloński, 2022), "Czytelnik" ocenzone. Literatura w kryptotekstach—recenzjach cenzorskich okresu stalinizmu (na materiale GUKPPiW z 1950 roku) (Warsaw: Wyd. Instytut Pamięci Narodowej, 2018), and "The Censorship Review in the Polish People's Republic as Cryptotext," *The Polish Review*, Vol. 63, no. 1 (2019), 31–49.



Kudos

Cindy Bylander published *Engaging Cultural Ideologies: Classical Composers and Musical Life in Poland 1918-1956* (Boston, MA: Academic Studies Press, 2022).

Kathleen Cioffi published "Jan Sawka: Theatre of Image and Metaphor," *PAJ: A Journal of Performance and Art*, vol. 45, no. 1 (2023): 64-75.

Patrice M. Dabrowski's book *The Carpathians: Discovering the Highlands of Poland and Ukraine* was cited in 2022 by the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs as runner-up in its contest for the "Best Foreign Language Publication Promoting Poland's History."

Anna Frajlich presented on February 23 "The Poetry of Exile and Return. A Reading by Anna Frajlich" at the Harriman Institute, Columbia University, celebrating the first two volumes of her *Wiersze zebrane* (Collected Verse), published in 2022 by Forma Publishers (Szczecin, Poland). The Shevchenko Scientific Society in New York held a book launch event for her *Imię Ojca* (Name of the Father) on February 11.

Christopher Garbowski published "The Long Road to Ukraine" in the February issue of the online humanities journal VoegelinView which was the most read essay of the month. The essay can be found here: <https://voegelinview.com/the-long-road-to-ukraine/>.

John M. Grondelski was part of a 13-person Group Superior Honor Award conferred by the U.S. State Department for "professionalism, dedication to mission, and teamwork ... displayed before, during, and after Russia's large-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022."

Anna D. Jaroszyńska-Kirchmann gave a paper on "Selling Pierogi: Polish American Food and Ethnic Entrepreneurship" at the annual conference of the Polish American Historical Association in Philadelphia in January.

Grażyna J. Kozaczka gave a paper on "Kalisz to Toronto: Eve Zaremba's Feminist Journey" at the annual conference of the Polish American Historical Association in Philadelphia in January.

Anna Müller gave a paper on "Fighting Fascism – A Life Mission or a Life Adventure: Polish Female Volunteers to the Spanish Civil War" at the annual conference of the Polish American Historical Association in Philadelphia in January and published *An Ordinary Life? The Journeys of Tonia Lechtman, 1918-1996* (Athens, OH: Ohio University Press, 2023).

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Kudos

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Dominic Pacyga's award winning book *American Warsaw: The Rise, Fall, and Rebirth of Polish Chicago* will be translated and published this coming fall by the new Museum of Polish History in Warsaw. He is also the head researcher for the exhibit "Back Home: Polish Chicago" which will open at the Chicago History Museum on May 20 and run until June 2, 2024. After that it will travel to the Museum of Polish History in Warsaw.

Neal Pease gave a paper on "Dorothy Day's 'Fellow Traveler': Nina Polcyn Moore and the Catholic Worker Movement" at the annual conference of the Polish American Historical Association in Philadelphia in January.

Jan S. Plachta gave a paper on "Ralph Modjeski: Artist in Concrete and Steel" at the annual conference of the Polish American Historical Association in Philadelphia in January.

Antony Polonsky published "Recent Writing on the Warsaw Ghetto," *Gazeta*, Vol. 29, no. 2 (Fall-Winter, 2022), 13-16 and "Jewish Poland at the Litvak Cultural Forum," *Gazeta*, Vol. 29, no. 2 (Fall-Winter, 2022), 25-27.

James S. Pula had a paper on "Kościuszko — The Universal Altruist" read at the annual conference of the Polish American Historical Association in Philadelphia in January and gave a presentation for the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay on "Mr. Jefferson's Secret Agent" chronicling Tadeusz Kościuszko's role in averting a war between the United States and France in 1797-1798.

Janusz Romanski delivered a paper on "Erazm Jerzmanowski: Patriot, Philanthrope, and His Impact on the Roman Catholic Community in New York City in the 19th Century" at the annual conference of the Polish American Historical Association in Philadelphia in January.

Adam Walaszek and **Serge Cipko** published "Polish and Ukrainian Transatlantic Nationalism 1860-1940," in José Moya, ed., *Atlantic Crossroads: Webs of Migration, Culture and Politics Between Europe, Africa and the Americas, 1800-2020* (London-New York: Routledge, 2021), 85-122. Prof. Walaszek also participated in the annual conferences of the Institute for Regional and Migration Research in Dudelange, Luxembourg, the Association of European Migration Institutions in Fafe, Portugal, and the Polish American Historical Association in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. In 2022 he was elected chair of the Commission to Research the Polish Diaspora of the Polska Akademia Umiejętności in Kraków.

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