

15th Polish Sociological Congress in Szczecin (Poland) **“What after the crisis?”**

The 15th Polish Sociological Congress will be held on 11–14 September 2013 in Szczecin (Poland). It is organized by the Polish Sociological Association (PTS) and the Szczecin University. The main theme of the Congress has been formulated as ‘What after the crisis?’, which implies that participants will be seeking answers about the social order and the model(s) of the post-crisis social organisation.

The Congress will comprise three plenary sessions, four symposiums, a special session, 90 working groups (thematic groups) as well as eight poster sessions.

Keynote Speaker: Jacek Kurczewski

Plenary sessions:

1. *Transformations of social institutions*. Organizers: Grażyna Skąpska and Andrzej Rychard
2. *Values in times of crisis*. Organizers: rev. Janusz Mariański and Irena Machaj
3. *Sociology and the complexity of contemporary world*. Organizers: Rafał Drozdowski and Tomasz Szlendak

Symposiums:

1. *The capitals of the Polish society*. Organizers: Anna Śliz and Tomasz Zarycki
2. *The social consequences of ICT and new media*. Organizers: Krzysztof Konecki and Dominik Batorski
3. *The ‘Western Lands’ and the ‘Northern Lands’ from the regional perspective*. Organizers: Zbigniew Kurcz and Żaneta Stasieniuk
4. *A crisis in capitalism or a crisis of capitalism?* Organizers: Jacek Tittenbrun and Jan Sowa

Special session:

How should we educate sociologists? A panel discussion. Organizers: Krystyna Szafranec and Jacek Nowak

The themes of working groups are varied and relate to a range of issues occurring in Poland and many European countries. They include social change and cultural change, religion and morality, social work, politics and power, family, civil society, crisis, socio-cultural capital, urban and rural areas, ethnic and national minorities, local and regional development, theoretical sociology, sociology of qualitative research and many others.

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From the Address of Prof. Marek S. Szczepański, the President of the Congress Programme Council:

“The 15th Congress of the Polish Sociological Association in Szczecin should meet three functions. First, cognitive, means the multiplication of our knowledge about the deep crisis of the European Union and, in particular, some European countries. This crisis, contrary to many opinions, it is not only an economic collapse. This is a crisis of integration processes, resulting from the different values hierarchies, different assessments about the future of Europe and a different understanding of the nature of social solidarity. (...) Our Congress should also integrate us and the University of Szczecin should become a meeting place for social scientists and scientific dialogue within Poland and abroad. (...) And last but not least, an important, symbolic function. Congress organization is regarded as a sign of maturity of the milieu, which has taken the task of its preparation. We hope that the meeting in Szczecin will successfully fulfill all these functions. We invite you, therefore, to participate.”

The Congress will be held in the venues of the Szczecin University.

Most sessions will be held in Polish, there will be four English-language sessions. Some major parts of the Congress will be interpreted into English.

More information, useful links and addresses are published at the official website of the Congress at **www.15zjazd.whus.pl/english**