Application form for research topics in the field of social sciences for candidates to the Doctoral School in the academic year 2025/2026

Proposed subject matter of a doctorate

A multifaceted analysis of collective memory of 20th-century events at the regional, national and international levels

Scientific discipline

POLITICAL SCIENCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Proposed doctoral thesis supervisor

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Brief description of the research topics with an indication of the scientific issues (max. 350 words)

The subject of the research is various aspects of the collective memory of Polish society regarding events of the 20th century. An issue worth analysing is how diverse events of the 20th century are processed and preserved in the collective consciousness of Polish society. It is crucial to understand how different social groups, cultures and regions construct and preserve memories of historical events and how these memories are modified in response to current political and social changes. The research will focus on analysing the discourse, narratives and symbols used to describe the past, as well as their impact on the formation of national and regional identity.

This area of research is linked to the broadly understood politics of memory, for example, regarding the events of World War II, the fate of the Polish diaspora after World War II, the Sovietisation of the Polish state between 1945 and 1956, the anti-communist movement in the People's Republic of Poland, the systemic transformation after the breakthrough of 1989, etc. Particular attention should be paid to the regional and local conditions of collective memory and the role of local and regional government cooperation in commemorating historical events.

Justification of the purposefulness of taking up the research topics (max. 150 words)

The subject matter is important from both a scientific and social perspective. Collective memory plays a key role in shaping national identity and in processes of social and political integration. Understanding the mechanisms of collective memory allows for a better interpretation of contemporary conflicts and social tensions, and contributes to a more conscious shaping of educational and cultural policies. Studying regional and international differences in collective memory can also contribute to a better understanding of the dynamics of international relations and the impact of globalization on national cultures.

Proposed topics of doctoral theses within the proposed research subject matter (up to 3 topics)

- 1. Determinants of regional collective memory of World War II events in Western Pomerania
- 2. Regional aspects of collective memory about the history of the 20th century on the example of Central Pomerania
- 3. The policy of remembrance of the Third Republic of Poland towards Polish-German relations in the 20th century

The sources of financing of the research topics (the subject matter of currently implemented research grants financed from external sources or as part of subsidies)

Statutory project for 2024-2025 - Poles at home and in exile in the face of global and regional political and economic processes in the 20th and 21st centuries.

Confirmation of the possibility of ensuring access to scientific apparatus and software necessary for the realization of the proposed research topics

FULLY

If the answer is PARTIALLY or NONE please indicate a type of missing scientific apparatus and/or software and the sources of financing an access to them

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List of the supervisor's scientific achievements in the field of indicated scientific problems

A list of up to 5 major supervisor's publications related to the proposed research topics, published in journals indexed in the Web of Science or Scopus for the period of the last 3 years (taking into account the IF Impact Factor and the MNiSW score)

- 1. M. Polak, Obchody rocznic narodowych przez polskie uchodźstwo polityczne w Wielkiej Brytanii w świetle wydawnictw okolicznościowych Juliusza L. Englerta, "Dzieje Najnowsze" nr 2/2019, p. 229-246.
- 2. M. Polak (co-author), W cieniu wielkiej polityki. Londyńskie dzieje pomnika katyńskiego 1971-1979, "Saeculum Christianum", nr 1/2021.
- 3. M. Polak (red. naukowa), *Pamięć i tożsamość. Pomnik Ofiar bolszewizmu w Koszalinie*, edited by P. Michalak i M. Polak, Koszalin 2021, ss. 191.
- 4. M. Polak (współautor), Generał Broni Władysław Anders 1892-1970. Czyny i pamięć, Warszawa 2022.
- 5. M. Polak (współautor), General Władysław Anders. Deeds and Remembrance, Warszawa 2024.

A list of research grants financed by the National Science Centre, the National Centre of Research and Development and the European Research Council for the period of the last 5 years

Koszalińskie "Centrum Badań nad Uchodźstwem i Emigracją". Studia nad dziejami polskiej emigracji, (Umowa nr NdS-II/SP/0154/2023/01)

A list of research services provided for industry related to the proposed research topics for the period of the last 5 years

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