Institute for Western Affairs

Uniwersytet im. Adama Mickiewicza w Poznaniu
Instytut Socjologii

PTS

Conference

The "Next Step" in the Development of Civil Society in Central and Easter Europe

Cooperation

Konrad Adenauer Stiftung

4th December 2014
Instytut Zachodni / Mostowa 27 Street, Poznań / Conference room / 5th floor

Introduction

The civil society as a concept was revitalized in the 1980s. The reason for this rediscovery was related to the phenomenon of the social conflict which had escalated in the Central and Eastern Europe in the end of the so called real socialism. Paradoxically, what liberal theorists named social citizenship actually emerged in the context of this historical period. The next period - the systemic transformation - was the time of decline of the social activism. Ten years later Polish researchers described this phenomenon as the "social non-movement" construct. This non-movement was a kind of social reaction brought about by the deregulation tendencies and the weakening of the modern state. The new phenomenon was in extreme opposition to the mass movement observed just fifteen-twenty years before.

The proposed conference will be devoted to the discussion of this "next step", and next periods in the evolution of the civil society in Central and Eastern Europe. In particular the conference agenda will focus on the following subjects:

1. The description of the evolution of self-organization in particular societies in Central and Eastern Europe;

2. The description of barriers to the articulation of interests by the non-governmental actors: social movements and organizations;

3. The description of the new kinds of social activism with special focus on social movements like urban movement, indignant movement, etc.;

4. New political phenomenon in relation to the national identity with special focus on the phenomenon of "flower", and "colour" revolutions, and contemporary examples of political self-organization Maidan protest movement and the pro-Russian movement in Ukraine.

Program

9.30 **REGISTRATION**

11.00 **INTRODUCTION OF ORGANIZERS OF THE CONFERENCE**

dr *Michał Nowosielski*
Director of the Institute for Western Affairs and the head of the Poznań Branch of Polish Sociological Association

11.15 **SESSION I: CIVIL SOCIETY, CIVIC ACTIVISM AND THE PUBLIC SPHERE**

The session will be translated simultaneously

Civic Engagement in Central and Eastern European Countries: A quantitative comparison
Jochen Roose, Willy Brandt Centre for German and European Studies

Pathogenesis of Polish Modern Public Sphere – Notes Towards an Investigation
Wiktor Marzec, CEU Budapest, *Kamil Śmiechowski*, Uniwersytet Łódzki

Civic Activism as a Source of Trust: the Case of Armenia
Valentina Gevorgyan, Turpanjian Center for Policy Analysis

Volunteering or Compulsory Community Activity: The evidence of Post-soviet Country
Irma Pranaityte, ISM University of Management and Economics

13.00 Coffee break

13.30 The Urban Movement in Poland. The case study of Poznań
Marek Nowak, Przemysław Pluciński, Institute of Sociology at Adam Mickiewicz University

Sociological Vacuum as an Obstacle to the Development of Civil Society in Poland? An analysis of the rhetoric of social sciences
Mikołaj Pawlak, University of Warsaw

14.30 Lunch

15.30 TWO PARALLEL SESSIONS

SESSION II: GROUPS, ACTIVISM AND IDENTITY

Steps forward, steps backward: communist legacy, European Union and feminist movement' organisations
Agnieszka Kwiatkowska, Szkoła Wyższa Psychologii Społecznej, Warszawa

Contemporary Ethos of Young
Polish Intelligentsia and Its Role in the Public sphere. Presentation of some preliminary conclusions
Piotr Kulas, University of Warsaw

Struggle for recognition or organized areas of activism?
Małgorzata Głowania, Institute of Sociology University of Warsaw

SESSION III: URBAN ACTIVISM

Department of Performance Studies), Where is demos in democracy? Performing democracy and the Polish protest against ACTA
Katarzyna Peplińska, Jagiellonian University

Between Social and Political – Civil Society Initiatives Active in Politics. Chosen examples from Czech Republic, Poland and Slovakia
Katarzyna Sobolewska-Myślik, Institute of Political Science Pedagogical University Kraków

Humanization of urban space- the case of Polish Slow Cities,
Justyna Kramarczyk, Institute of Sociology Adam Mickiewicz University

17.30 THE FINAL DISCUSSION, AND RECAPITULATION OF THE CONFERENCE

Moderation:

Michał Nowosielski, Institute for Western Affairs
Piotr Matczak, Institute of Sociology Adam Mickiewicz University

19.30 The (informal) meeting after conference lunch

The venue: http://www.iz.poznan.pl/index.php?p=kontakt&lang=ang