

## Key facts about the Polish Panel Survey POLPAN 1988–2013

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### What is POLPAN?

POLPAN is a study based on face-to-face interviews conducted every five years since 1988 with a representation of adult residents of Poland. Interviews are conducted in accordance with a questionnaire that contains questions about the course of the respondent's career, decisions on education and ongoing training, relations between personal life and career, perceived sources of success in life, views on the role of the state and economic transformations, perception of conflicts in the society, political behaviours and attitudes, physical and psychological well-being and many other issues related to Poles' adaptation to changes occurring in the political and economic system.

The 2013 survey covered a total of 2,196 people, of which 1,699 had participated as respondents in earlier waves, and 497 represented the young generation, aged 21 to 25. The interviews conducted in each wave of the study voluminous data sets are produced. The entire data set, with information collected in 1988, 1993, 1998, 2003, 2008 and 2013, is then prepared for statistical analysis. In order to ensure representativeness of samples for specific fieldwork periods weights are applied to ensure that the shares of various age groups are the same as those that actually prevailed, or currently prevail, in Poland. Thus, POLPAN is a versatile, true-to-life study focussing on the social structure, people's anchoring in that structure as well as various transformations in the past quarter of a century.

### The history of POLPAN in brief

The POLPAN survey was first undertaken during the period where central planning was the mandatory approach in nearly all spheres of life, including science and research. In 1986, the Institute of Philosophy and Sociology of the Polish Academy of Sciences received funding to implement the Central Programme of Basic Research 09.07, entitled *'Transformations of the social structure and awareness as a factor of social and economic development of the Polish socialist society'*. Under that programme, a number of topics were studied, and an analysis of the the structure of the Polish society was undertaken. At that time, a group of

researchers who worked on that aspect conducted a few interrelated studies, the most important one of them having been conducted in 1987 and in early 1988.

Soon after the study was completed, Poland embarked on the road to systemic transformation. It became clear that the situation captured in the study conducted in late 1987 and early 1988 was changing suddenly and radically. The team involved in the organization of the study decided to conduct the survey again with the same people, in order to observe the dynamic aspects of the social structure. Repeating the study was by no means easy in the economic situation of that time: the hyperinflation of 1989–1990 dramatically affected the budgets of academic institutions. Finally, thanks to financial assistance from abroad, the survey was repeated in 1993, but only some of the original participants were interviewed. Since that time, POLPAN has been repeated every five years. The core of the sample is made up of people who gave an interview six times in the years 1988–2013. Thanks to its history, POLPAN contains unique data that allow researchers to observe how the situation and the views of different population groups and of the society as a whole changed between 1988 and the present.

### **Goals and topics of the POLPAN survey**

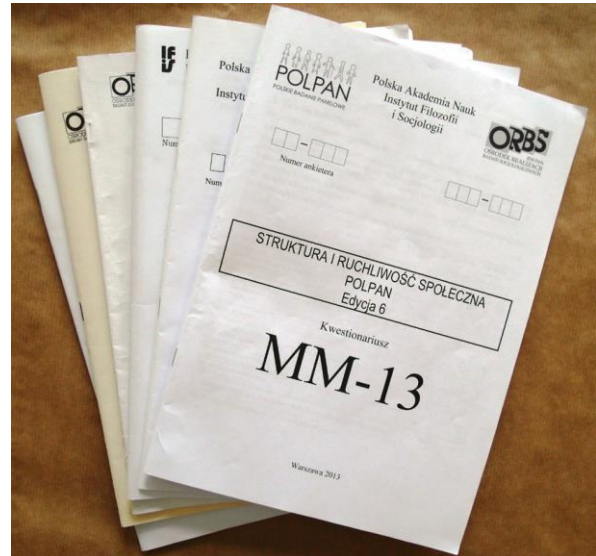
The Polish Panel Survey POLPAN pursues the following goals:

- **to provide an overall profile** of the social structure of the Polish society, including objective differentiations as well as their awareness-related aspects,
- **to present the dynamics** of the social structure in Poland from 1988 until today, with a particular emphasis on adaptation to the ongoing political and economic change.

Research on social structure is classified as basic research, through which other areas of sociology can develop. While many social structure studies are conducted in Poland and around the world, they nevertheless provide a static picture of the society. In order to understand the functioning of the social structure, dynamic studies are needed. POLPAN is unique in this respect: there is no other study in the world that has recorded biographies of individuals from a representative sample for twenty five years, with new cohorts being added over time.

Another reason why POLPAN is unique is the **extent of the material** gathered. In addition to information about socio-demographic characteristics of the

respondents and their families, the survey questionnaire contains a number of questions to measure socio-political attitudes, and a considerable number of those questions are comparable with questions administered in international surveys. The questionnaire also includes new questions as well as the non-verbal **Raven test** (which measures intellectual flexibility as a main component of IQ) and the **Nottingham Health Profile** (self-perception of physical and mental health).



*Questionnaires from various POLPAN editions*

#### Advantages of the POLPAN survey:

- A rigorous theoretical approach
- The right selection of research problems
- A panel study – an opportunity to study change
- A considerable time frame covered in the study
- A representative sample
- Solid research methods and practices
- Well-selected empirical data
- Modern tools for statistical data analysis

#### Theoretical framework and empirical tradition

The theoretical framework of POLPAN originates from the tradition of Polish sociological thinking, taking account of Stanisław Ossowski's analytical approach, Julian Hochfeld's theory of class, Jan Szczepański's historical perspective and Włodzimierz Wesółowski's research programme. Members of the POLPAN team also refer to the classic empirical body of research on social structure in Poland, initiated by the works by Włodzimierz Wesółowski, Adam Sarapata, Stefan Nowak, Stanisław Widerszpil, Jan Malanowski, Krzysztof Zagórski and Michał Pohoski. More recent works which are of relevance for POLPAN include, among others, those by Henryk Domański, Marek Ziółkowski, Edmund Wnuk-Lipiński or Jacek

Wasilewski. The theoretical foundations of POLPAN also invoke the paradigm of rational action and individual biographies, creatively continued in the context of social structure in the work of international researchers (see, e.g., Blossfeld, Perin 1998; Mayer 2009; Goldthorpe 2006; DiPrete 2007; Breen 2010).

Since its early days, POLPAN relied on the theoretical traditions of social structure research. The first of those traditions was the analysis of social structure in terms of social relations and, in particular, control and subordination of some social categories to others (**a class approach**). The second tradition focuses on analysing the distribution of commonly desired goods (**a stratification approach**). The third tradition, tracing its roots to humanistic sociology, analyses psychological states which—when presented in the institutional context of their bearers—can represent a foundation for the formation of social groups (**a socio-psychological approach**).

If theory does not confine control to economic life, particularly to control over the capital market, labour market and consumption market (as they also include the political and cultural sphere) then the notion of social class becomes rich and multidimensional. The situation looks similar in the case of **life chances** which may comprise the spheres of economy, politics and culture. At POLPAN, we try to continue and develop this multidimensional interpretation of social structure, considering both the processes of control over various resources and life chances.

We also assume that a study of the social structure should continue to analyse how individuals achieve a social position and what kind of outcomes the distribution of goods and values brings. In this approach, it is assumed that the family background and the type and level of education largely determine an individual's place in the division of labour and the system of governance. It is the location of an individual (partly indicating the 'expenditures' incurred by that individual) that determines his/her participation in the distribution of 'rewards' or, in other words, the stratification position of the individual. When we study the factors which shape the social strata, we believe that the greatest importance should be attached to those which relate to family influences, the course of education, one's position on the career ladder, the place in a hierarchical system of jobs, and the rules governing the distribution of goods and values.

A particularly important subject-matter of analysis in POLPAN is the interaction between the type of social personality— understood as the idea of self—and a

'life project' selected as worth pursuing, as well as the social conditions. The type of social personality may express how an individual adapts to the political and economic system whereas the life situation pattern provides a framework where the individual social experience is shaped. An analysis of these phenomena leads to a better understanding of trends **structuring** the society—expressed in the emergence of communities that are united by bonds, in the sense of belonging to particular social circles and in the awareness of being a separate group—as well as trends **destructuring** the society. The social atomisation and the existence of a volatile system of social references is an important aspect that we consider when applying the theoretical framework of the socio-psychological approach.

### **Interdisciplinarity**

POLPAN 1988–2013 combines various disciplines of social sciences. The core of the project is sociological *par excellence*, yet with strong links to **demography** (e.g. composition of families, history of marital unions, childbirth rate), **economics** (e.g. household budget, flexibility of expenses on food and culture), **psychology** (e.g. intellectual flexibility measured by the Raven test, indices of authoritarianism and self-image) as well as **political science** (electoral preferences, opinions on political parties, democratic values). Representatives of all those disciplines of social sciences are among those who have collaborated with POLPAN to date and who declare continued interests in such collaboration. The POLPAN 1988–2013 data set will be widely accessible and we will invite demographers, economists, psychologists and political scientists to make use of it. We also hope the data will be of interest to **historians**, who will focus on the collapse of the communist system and the early days of the post-communist transformation.

### **Implementation of the study**

One of important aspects of POLPAN is the organisation of its subsequent editions. Even though the same data collection method is applied in both cases, i.e. a face-to-face interview, the organisation of POLPAN has its singularities vis-à-vis surveys. Aspects which are particularly important in a panel project include data maintenance and updates of panel members' data as well as rules of selecting new members (systematically added to the panel), as well as the quality of fieldwork.

In mid-1980s, Poland did not have a nation-wide sampling frame to draw a random sample of the population. In POLPAN 1988, materials from the Public Opinion Research Center (CBOS) were used as the sampling frame. Two years earlier CBOS had conducted a micro-census covering over 130,000 people aged 12+ from the 815 census districts defined by the Central Statistical Office of Poland (GUS). Pre-defined fractions of households were randomly drawn in those districts and the study covered all household members aged 12+ (Słomczyński et al. 1989, pp. 189–195). The census was conducted by CBOS interviewers in late 1985 and early 1986. The sample of men and women aged 21 to 65 which was drawn for POLPAN 1988 was subdivided into a core sample and a backup sample. The core sample comprised six thousand people. If an interview with the sampled person from the core sample was impossible due to a refusal or for other reasons, a person from the backup sample, from the same census district, was drawn instead. A total of 5,817 interviews were held during that study.

The 1988 project laid the foundation for a panel study. The second edition was planned for 1993. Due to insufficient funding, it was not possible to re-interview all the 5,817 respondents who took part in the study five years earlier. For this reason, respondents were drawn for the core sample and the backup sample to achieve an effective sample of approx. 2,500. In reality, a total of 2,259 interviews were successfully held.

#### **POLPAN – facts & figures: 1988, 1993, 1998, 2003, 2008 and 2013 editions**

- The number of interviews conducted to date in all editions: 15,991 in total, including
  - first edition (1988) – 5,817
  - most recent edition (2013) – 2,196
- Average duration of an interview (all editions) – 1 hour 15 minutes
- Number of interviewers (average per edition) – 180
- Number of regional co-ordinators (most recent edition) – 21
- Duration of interviewer training (average per edition) – 1 hour and 30 minutes
- Percentage of interviews covered by field checks (per each edition) – minimum 10%
- Response rate (per edition) – from 69.1% to 77.6%

**Columns 1988, 1993, 1998, 2003 and 2008** in Graph 1 present a summary of respondent numbers in terms of their POLPAN participation profile since the beginning until 2008. The first row presents the number of 1988 respondents (N = 3,558) who were never interviewed again. The subsequent rows in yellow refer to panel members, i.e. respondents who were interviewed more than once. The second row shows the number of respondents who were interviewed both in the 1988 edition and in the 1993 edition (N = 507). The next row shows that 511 respondents were interviewed in the 1988 edition as well as the 1993 and 1998 editions. Subsequent rows reflect the remaining participation profiles. The **last column** (2013) indicates how many people from among those included in the previous columns took part in the 2013 study. For instance, in 2013 we managed to contact 119 out of the 507 people who took part in POLPAN in 1988 and in 1993. The number of people who were interviewed in 2013 for the first time (N = 497) is shown separately.

Year of POLPAN edition						
1988	1993	1998	2003	2008	2013	
3558	NB	NB	NB	NB	NB	
507	507	NB	NB	NB	119	
511	511	511	NB	NB	169	
303	303	303	303	NB	74	
938	938	938	938	938	711	
		150	NB	NB	42	
		82	82	NB	26	
		151	151	151	110	
			90	NB	25	
			135	135	84	
				581	339	
					497	
<b>Total</b>	<b>5817</b>	<b>2259</b>	<b>2135</b>	<b>1699</b>	<b>1805</b>	<b>2196</b>

NB = the respondents who were not interviewed in that year

**Graph 1.** Number of POLPAN participants (participation profiles)  
Source: POLPAN data, 1988–2013.

Efforts were made to ensure efficient organisation of subsequent waves of the study, and, in particular, to create conditions for effective work of interviewers. As a result, the achieved response rates were very high in comparison with other survey projects. In all editions conducted to date, the **response rate has been close to, or higher than, 70%**. Even though a lot of effort was put in the past to maintain the original panel resources, the sample size in the panel systematically shrank until 2008. After the 1993 study the panel comprised 2,259 members. In 2008, a total of 1,806 interviews were conducted even though only 1,617 of the respondents could become part of the panel as the others failed to sign a document to give their consent to personal data processing. In consequence, the size of the 2008 panel was 71.6% of the size of the 1993 panel. The situation changed for the better in 2013 when researchers made successful efforts to contact also those people who used to be panel respondents (had been interviewed more than once) but did not take part in the 2008 edition. In 2013, the number of panel members was 1,699 (after eliminating individuals who demanded that their information should be removed from the address database). In order to increase the pool of participants for future POLPAN editions, the sample of individuals aged 21 to 25 was increased (successful interviews were held with 497 respondents).

In order for survey implementation to be reliable, not only the right training of interviewers should be held but also checks over their work should be performed. In the course of the interviewer training process, supervisors completed an observation sheet, which gave us a rich and standardised set of information facilitating the evaluation of interviewers' preparation for our study in all regional centres. Interviewers' work in the field was checked on an ongoing basis by regional coordinators and then, at a later date, by specially trained instructors. The reports from follow-up checks prepared by the Centre of Sociological Research at the Institute of Philosophy and Sociology, Polish Academy of Sciences, present convincing evidence that **interviewing quality** in the POLPAN study (a panel study) is relatively high: presumably higher than in many academic *ad hoc* surveys.

The amendments to secondary legislation to the Personal Data Protection Act of 1997 brought about important consequences for the implementation of POLPAN. When the Act entered into force, the storage of personal data (something that enabled us to contact the panel members) was allowed until the end of research-related activities (unless the respondents withdrew their consent). POLPAN met



those requirements: the study was ongoing since further editions were planned and the respondents had given their consent in writing (they mailed back a special sheet from the advance letter) or orally (in contact with the interviewer, at the stage when the interview was being arranged ). In accordance with the amended secondary legislation, applicable during the last two editions of the project, panel members' consent to the processing of their personal data was given only in writing, on a special form. However, as not everyone signed such a consent, the data of non-signing respondents were removed from the sampling database. The databases are registered with the Inspector General for the Protection of Personal Data (GIODO). All available **data are meticulously anonymised**.

### **Research issues and problems to solve**

Many research issues considered in the previous POLPAN editions call for new, multi-faceted analyses by sociologists, demographers, economists, psychologists and historians. Below presented is a list of problems that we intend to look at using the empirical data from 1988–2013.

**1. Old and new elements in the social structure.** During communist times, the so-called 'nomenclature' epitomised the structural essence of the command-driven system, at both the national and regional level. Following the de-communisation processes, this group should be viewed in a new light given their social position. Other relics of the political and economic system of communism (including industrial working class) also deserve a new perspective. We also need to mention the special situation of peasants, the position of office workers in governmental bureaucratic structures, organisers of informal economy or the category of political opposition. Our experience with analysing socio-professional diversification indicates how the necessary information can be obtained and what kind of essential analysis can be conducted. Also, the social structure turned out to have some new elements, related to the development of market economy and democracy. Professional politicians, mid-level capitalists, specialists in banking and electronics are just some examples here. The path to those categories can be captured in the studies we have proposed.

**2. Changes in class structure.** While little dynamics is left in the discussion on the continued importance of class subdivisions in contemporary capitalist countries and whether or not classes are already 'dead', we should nevertheless continuously return to that subject and try out new class patterns. The class

structure typical of nationalised economy based on central planning and political control over economic resources was the historical starting point in our analyses. Those who dispose of the public property (i.e. 'nomenclature' in the broad sense) on the one hand and, on the other, representatives of industrial working class, were the key elements of the class structure in the political and economic system which prevailed in Poland before 1989. Specialists and clerical staff, private entrepreneurs as well as peripheral working class and farmers completed the picture of social classes. The evolution of the political and economic system as well as the development of democracy and capitalism produced a new pattern of social classes. At POLPAN, we have used various patterns of social divisions in order to show the complexity of change in the class structure that occurred in the last quarter of a century.

**3. Social mobility.** The issue of individuals and groups moving within the social structure has been undertaken at POLPAN since the very beginning. In our analyses to date we have managed to distinguish between structural mobility (elimination of certain positions and emergence of new ones) and purely exchange-based mobility, where individuals in the society swap their positions. We will continue our analyses based on this distinction but will expand them to include problems which have turned out to be particularly interesting and which require further research. The following questions call for an in-depth reflection: What happens to people who leave their workplace due to staff reductions or restructuring? Do they find employment in newly created jobs, do they squeeze out others from existing jobs or do they become unemployed? What happens to people who leave stable jobs with a contract for an unspecified term? What about the transition from those positions to those bearing a high risk of losing one's job?

**4. Diversification of living standards.** To date, we have focused on elementary differentiations of living standard, primarily related to expenditure on food and luxury goods. We tested two hypotheses: firstly, a hypothesis that the transition from the centrally planned economy to the market economy reduces the proportion of food expenditure and, secondly, that the spending on luxury goods increases at the expense of savings. We have also showed the class-based differentiation of living conditions, providing strong arguments against the claim about the death of social classes. Of course, the set of changes concerning the living standard is currently much broader than the one considered in the past analyses. We attach particular importance to durable goods which are related to electronic communication and data processing.

**5. Adaptation to market economy.** The question about the segments of social structure which support the market economy and the ones which generate resistance continues to be valid. In previous editions we found that the degree of approval for the systemic transition is influenced by four groups of variables: (a) age-related position on the labour market, (b) dynamically viewed financial situation of individuals, considering the subjective perception of achievement of individual economic interests, (c) cultural capital, primarily educational resources, and (d) personality traits of individuals. Overall, younger people, those well positioned on the labour market, in a favourable financial situation, and with better education expressed a stronger support for systemic transition than people who were older, poorly located on the labour market, in an unfavourable financial situation and less educated. Regardless of the above, individuals who were characterised by a high degree of authoritarianism, anxiety and low self-esteem expressed, on average, a weaker support for systemic transition than those who were less authoritarian, with a lower degree of anxiety, and higher self-esteem. Those mutual dependencies were confirmed in the analysis of data from 1998–2008. However, in our analysis of the 2013 data we intend to incorporate other variables as well.

**6. The position in the social structure versus political attitudes and behaviours.**

To date, our attention was focused on political biographies of panel participants, current political party affinities and support for democracy. One interesting finding was the discovery that both economic hardships experienced by a household and poor macroeconomic situation of the region of domicile strongly enhance the so-called ‘protest voting’ in parliamentary elections (voting for the party which is currently in opposition). This finding is interesting since it shows a strong interaction between micro factors (defined at an individual level) and macro factors (defined at the voivodship level) as well as the impact of that interaction on political behaviours and attitudes. The said interaction influences not only the voting patterns but also support for democracy and other political attitudes. An in-depth analysis has shown that the impact of this interaction among the working class changes over time.

**7. Perception of social divides and conflicts.** So far, we studied the perception of social divisions and conflicts between the rich and the poor, manual workers and white-collar workers, managers and subordinates, people at power and the rest of the society. We intend to expand this list of social divisions, incorporating divisions

related to political orientations. The analyses conducted to date suggest that the position of the individual in the social structure has a significant impact on how the individual perceives social conflicts. However, data analysis have shown that the stratification variables—particularly education, occupational status and income—have weakened its impact on the perception of social conflicts. In turn, psychological variables, particularly views on the past, including the pre-1989 political system, have grown in importance. A question arises whether this trend persists despite the considerable lapse of time after the fall of communism.

**8. Winners, loses and European integration.** Studies have allowed us to largely track the fates of various social groups in the post-transition period and identify the “winners” and the “losers”. However, we will continue to seek answers to the question on what behavioural strategies on the labour market lead to economic success and which ones lead to the fossilisation of considerable economic difficulties and push some households onto the brink of normal existence. These issues will be examined in the context of European integration by analyzing which segments of the social structure have benefited from Poland’s accession to the European Union and which ones have suffered losses.

**9. Health issues.** The original sample, composed of people randomly drawn for POLPAN in 1988, has been aging as a matter of course. In 2013, its youngest members were 46 years old and the oldest ones were 90 years old. Starting from 1998, we have collected data on those respondents’ self-perception of health, both physical and mental. In 2008, we applied the Nottingham Health Profile, enabling dynamic testing of the relationship between health status and individuals’ positions in the social structure. Does the impact of education, occupation and income on individuals’ health increase in the course of their career and throughout life? In which segments of the social structure is this impact particularly noticeable?

**10. Emigration.** Economic emigration from Poland after 2004 became one of the biggest waves in modern European history. Such a mass exodus has necessarily impacted demographic, economic and social phenomena, both in Poland and in the target countries. POLPAN offers a unique opportunity to trace the extent to which selection patterns in migration processes after Poland’s EU accession differed from the patterns prevailing in the pre-accession period. The main hypothesis is that a particularly strong tendency to migrate is observed mainly among relatively well-educated people coming from economically backward

regions with limited employment levels. As we have data about the characteristics of population before and after Poland's EU accession, we can determine who of the respondents emigrated and when. We have undertaken considerable efforts to establish contact with our former respondents who emigrated in 1988–2013.

The issues tackled in this project should be seen as interrelated. Previous analyses have shown that the level of meritocracy—i.e. the extent to which the take-up of high social positions depends on individuals' competence—increased during the period of post-communist transition. Political attitudes and behaviours, the perception of social conflicts and attitudes towards European integration have now built a new foundation for meritocracy, the main dimension of efficiency of distribution. We intend to analyse those circumstances in detail.

The indicators showing the rising intensity of meritocratic trends are associated with declining levels of ascription, i.e. a dwindling impact of demographics and social background characteristics on individual achievements. When considering research issues concerning old and new elements of social structure, social class variation, social mobility or differentiation in living standards, we will focus particularly on the impact of ascription. We will also examine the impact of certain aspects of the IQ (intelligence quotient) measured with the Raven test, at least in terms of their stable elements.

After the publication of Amartya Sen's seminal work *Development and Freedom* (1999), no new studies on social structure can ignore freedom as an essential dimension of human existence. This scholar showed that much of the social inequality is due to political conditions that constrain economic decisions of individuals. Our analysis laid a solid foundation for the analysis of social inequalities in the context of professed democratic values and political participation.

### **The research team**

The research team is positioned at the Institute of Philosophy and Sociology, Polish Academy of Sciences, where it initially worked as part of a working research group and, since 1993, within the Research Group on Comparative Analysis of Social Inequality. Its members also include collaborators from outside the Institute. Since the very beginning, the POLPAN survey has been headed by Professor Kazimierz M. Słomczyński, PhD hab. While there was some fluctuation

on the research team over time, some people have been involved in POLPAN uninterruptedly since 1980s. The members of the team are listed in Table 1.

POLPAN has an established tradition of extensive consultation with scholars in Poland and elsewhere. Since its very beginning, the project has had the following standing international consultants: John Golthorpe, Harry Ganzeboom, Melvin L. Kohn, Rudolf Andorka and many other sociologists of international renown. All foreign sociologists acting as consultants at the early stages of the project are listed in Table 2.

We invite a wide range of specialists from Poland and other countries to collaborate with our team. We hope representatives of various academic disciplines will join forces with us.

### **Funding of POLPAN**

Panel surveys conducted with representative groups of urban and rural population are very expensive. Starting from 1993, the main funding for POLPAN came from the Committee for Scientific Research, the Polish Ministry of Science and Higher Education and then from the National Science Centre in Poland. Additional funding was obtained from a number of other institutions listed in Table 3. Preparation of materials was additionally supported by Cross-National Studies: Interdisciplinary Research and Training Program (CONSIRT) – an organisation established by the Polish Academy of Sciences with the Ohio State University.

### **Where can POLPAN results be found?**

The list of academic publications based on POLPAN results is available from the following website:

[www.polpan.org/publications](http://www.polpan.org/publications). Among them, the most important ones include books and special editions of journals:

Kazimierz M. Słomczyński, Ireneusz Białecki, Henryk Domański, Krystyna Janicka, Bogdan Mach, Zbigniew Sawiński, Joanna Sikorska, Wojciech



Zaborowski, *Struktura społeczna: schemat teoretyczny i warsztat badawczy* [*Social Structure: Theoretical Framework and Research Toolbox*], Wydawnictwo Instytutu Filozofii i Socjologii Polskiej Akademii Nauk, Warsaw 1989.

*Social Patterns of Being Political: The Initial Phase of the Post-Communist Transition in Poland*, ed. Kazimierz M. Słomczyński, Wydawnictwo Instytutu Filozofii i Socjologii Polskiej Akademii Nauk (IFiS Publishers), Warsaw 2000.

*Social Structure: Changes and Linkages: The Advanced Phase of the Post-Communist Transition in Poland*, ed. Kazimierz M. Słomczyński, Wydawnictwo Instytutu Filozofii i Socjologii Polskiej Akademii Nauk (IFiS Publishers), Warsaw 2002.

*Continuity and Change in Social Life: Structural and Psychological Adjustment in Poland*, ed. Kazimierz M. Słomczyński, Sandra T. Marquart-Pyatt, Wydawnictwo Instytutu Filozofii i Socjologii Polskiej Akademii Nauk (IFiS Publishers), Warsaw 2007.

International Journal of Sociology 2012, Vol. 42, No. 1: *Structural Constraints, Gender, and Images of Inequality: The Polish Panel Survey, POLPAN 1988–2008* [a special issue edited by Kazimierz M. Słomczyński and Irina Tomescu-Dubrow].



International Journal of Sociology 2013, Vol. 42, No. 4: *Socio-Demographic Differentiation in a Dynamic Perspective: The Polish Panel Survey, POLPAN 1988–2008* [a special issue edited by Kazimierz M. Słomczyński and Irina Tomescu-Dubrow]

Moreover, POLPAN results were analysed during many conferences and workshops, most of them with participation of scholars from other countries.

### **Selected conferences and workshops devoted to POLPAN**

- Conference 'Radical Social Change in East Central Europe: A Dynamic Analysis of Panel Data,' Warsaw, 10–12 September 2004
- Conference 'Analyzing Dynamic Data: The Polish Panel Survey, 1988–2003 (POLPAN),' Warsaw, 14–17 September 2005
- Conference 'The Polish Panel Survey POLPAN 1988–2003 and Beyond: Planning the 2008 Wave,' Warsaw, 14–17 December 2006
- Workshop 'POLPAN 1988–2008,' Warsaw, 16–17 July 2010
- Workshop in Jabłonna, 7–9 October 2012
- Two-part workshop on panel survey design and data analysis. Part One: 'Panel Design,' Warsaw, 6–12 May 2013; Part Two: 'Panel Analysis,' Columbus, Ohio, USA, 20–26 May 2013

### **Where can POLPAN data be found?**

Anonymised data sets and documentation of subsequent waves of the Polish Panel Survey POLPAN are successively placed at the Polish Social Data Archive ([www.ads.org.pl](http://www.ads.org.pl)) and the database maintained by GESIS – Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences ([www.gesis.org](http://www.gesis.org)). Once the 2013 data have been added, the aggregate (panel) dataset will be available via the Research Group on Comparative Analysis of Social Inequality at the Institute of Philosophy and Sociology, Polish Academy of Sciences (e-mail: [polpan@ifispan.waw.pl](mailto:polpan@ifispan.waw.pl)).

### **Acknowledgements**

The current edition of the POLPAN survey is a complex endeavour, not only in its scholarly aspects but also with respect to administrative work, involving many organisational units of the Institute of Philosophy and Sociology, Polish Academy of Sciences (see Table 4). Members of the Research Group on Comparative Analysis of Social Inequality mentioned in Table 4 would like to extend their thanks to all the staff of those organisational units within the Institute who make the POLPAN implementation possible. Particularly heartfelt thanks go to our respondents: after all, they have devoted considerable time to answer our questions at length during the interviews. We would also like to thank the



**interviewers and regional co-ordinators.** Their meticulous work has contributed to the high quality of data in POLPAN datasets.

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**Table 1.** Members of the POLPAN research team in 1988–2013

<b>Core team</b>	<b>Close collaborators</b>
1987–1988	
Kazimierz M. Słomczyński – Project Director Henryk Domański – Group Manager Ireneusz Białecki, Krystyna Janicka, Bogdan W. Mach, Zbigniew Sawiński, Joanna Sikorska, Wojciech Zaborowski	Paweł Sztabiński, Paweł Daniłowicz, Andrzej Wejland, Franciszek Sztabiński
1993	
Henryk Domański – Project Manager Kazimierz M. Słomczyński – Principal Investigator Krystyna Janicka, Bogdan W. Mach, Wojciech Zaborowski	Zbigniew Sawiński, Paweł Sztabiński, Paweł Daniłowicz, Andrzej Wejland, Franciszek Sztabiński
1998	
Kazimierz M. Słomczyński – Project Manager Krystyna Janicka, Bogdan W. Mach, Wojciech Zaborowski	Henryk Domański, Zbigniew Sawiński, Paweł Sztabiński, Franciszek Sztabiński
2003	
Kazimierz M. Słomczyński – Project Manager Krzysztof Zagórski, Krystyna Janicka, Anna Firkowska-Mankiewicz, Bogdan W. Mach, Elizabeth Osborn, Maciej Kryszczuk, Michał Bojanowski, Marta Czubińska	Henryk Domański, Zbigniew Sawiński, Paweł Sztabiński, Franciszek Sztabiński, Goldie Shabad
2008	
Kazimierz M. Słomczyński – Project Manager Henryk Domański, Krystyna Janicka, Bogdan W. Mach, Irina Tomescu- Dubrow, Anna Kiersztyn, Joshua K. Dubrow	Zbigniew Sawiński, Paweł Sztabiński, Franciszek Sztabiński, Małgorzata Mikucka, Godie Shabad

2013

Kazimierz M. Słomczyński – Project Manager

Principal Investigators: Henryk Domański, Krystyna Janicka, Irina Tomescu-Dubrow, Anna Kiersztyn, Zbigniew Sawiński, Zbigniew Karpiński, Michał Bojanowski, Joshua K. Dubrow  
Team members: Katarzyna Andrejuk, Kinga Wysieńska, Marta Kołczyńska, Anna Baczko-Dombi, Ewa Jarosz, Ilona Wysmułek, Anna Franczak, Danuta Życzyńska-Ciołek

Paweł Sztabiński, Franciszek Sztabiński, Małgorzata Mikucka, Sheri Kunovich, Sandra T. Marquart-Pyatt

**Table 2.** List of international consultants in early editions of the POLPAN survey

Rudolf Andorka, Budapest University of Economics Harry Ganzeboom, University of Utrecht John Golthorpe, University of Oxford Barbara Heyns, New York University Melvin L. Kohn, Johns Hopkins University Tadeusz Krauze, Hofstra University Karl Ulrich Mayer, Max Planck Institute for Human Development Walter Müller, University of Mannheim Tomas Kolosi, TÁRKI Social Research Institute Atsushi Naoi, University of Osaka Clive Payne, University of Oxford Carmi Schooler, National Institute of Mental Health Albert Simkus, University of Tromso Donald Treiman, University of California Los Angeles (UCLS)
Institutional affiliations given in English were valid for the period where the aforementioned individuals acted as consultants for POLPAN.

**Table 3.** Financing institutions of POLPAN

<b>Currently</b> National Science Centre (NCN), Poland
<b>In the past</b> Committee for Scientific Research (KBN), Poland Ministry of Science and Higher Education, Poland Polish Academy of Sciences (PAN) United States Information Agency The Ohio State University Norwegian Research Council National Council for Eurasian and East European Research Mershon Center, The Ohio State University
Preparation of POLPAN materials were also supported by Cross-National Studies: Interdisciplinary Research and Training Program (CONSIRT) – a programme of the Ohio State University and the Polish Academy of Sciences

**Table 4.** Organisational units and individuals involved in the implementation of POLPAN 2013 at the Institute of Philosophy and Sociology, Polish Academy of Sciences

### **Directors**

Director: Professor Andrzej Rychard, PhD hab.

Deputy Director for Sociology: Associate Professor Paweł Sztabiński, PhD hab.

Secretarial office: Monika Grobelna-Skwiercz, M.Sc.

### **Research Group on Comparative Analysis of Social Inequality**

Head of Group: Professor Kazimierz M. Słomczyński, PhD hab.

Employees and collaborators: Krystyna Janicka, PhD hab.; Associate Professor Irina Tomescu-Dubrow, PhD; Joshua Kjerulf Dubrow, PhD; Anna Kiersztyn<sup>1</sup>, PhD; Katarzyna Andrejuk, PhD; Kinga Wysieńska<sup>2</sup>, PhD; Marta Kołczyńska, M.Sc.; Ewa Jarosz<sup>2</sup>, M.Sc.; Ilona Wysmułek<sup>2</sup>, M.Sc.; Anna Franczak<sup>1</sup>, M.Sc.; Dorota Laskowska<sup>3</sup>, Danuta Życzyńska-Ciołek

### **Centre for Sociological Research**

Manager: Associate Professor Franciszek Sztabiński, PhD hab.

Team: Anna Gumbrych, Dorota Laskowska

Data set preparation:

Scientific supervision: Associate Professor Zbigniew Sawiński, PhD hab.

Team: Dorota Laskowska, Andrzej Sawiński<sup>1</sup>

Personal data administrator: Teresa Żmijewska-Jędrzejczyk

### **Research Support Centre**

Manager: Grażyna Drażyk

Administrative and clerical support: Ewa Dworniak

### **HR and Administration**

Acting Manager: Dorota Dawidowicz

### **Finance and Accounting**

Chief Accountant: Wioletta Magiera

Staff: Maria Kozak, Alicja Dylewska, Bożena Łysiak

**Computer Lab**

Waldemar Kwiatkowski, Łukasz Rabczuk

In matters regarding international networking, information is available from Cross-National Study: Interdisciplinary Research and Training Program (CONSIRT) – a programme of the Ohio State University and the Polish Academy of Sciences

<sup>1</sup> Under civil-law contracts (contract of mandate or contract for the performance of specific tasks).

<sup>2</sup> Part-time.

<sup>3</sup> Part-time at the Research Group on Comparative Analysis of Social Inequality and part-time at the Centre for Sociological Research.

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