

Self-presentation

1. **Name and surname:** Eryk Krasucki

2. **Diplomas, scientific degrees (name, place, year obtained, title of thesis):**

- Master of Arts, History, 26 June 2001, Institute of History, University of Szczecin. Master's thesis: *Jaksa z Kopnika – próba biografii postaci z XII-wiecznych dziejów Polski i Polabia oraz jej recepcja w okresie międzywojennym* (Advisor: prof. dr hab. Jan M. Piskorski)
- PhD in Humanities, History, 18 May 2006 (decision of the Council of the Faculty of Humanities, University of Szczecin). PhD thesis: *Jerzy Borejsza a przemiany polskiej kultury w latach 1944–1952* (Advisor: prof. dr hab. Kazimierz Kozłowski; Advisors: prof. dr hab. US Danuta Dąbrowska, prof. dr hab. Jerzy Eisler)

3. **Academic curriculum vitae**

- 2005–2007; 2013–2018 – Institute of National Remembrance, Public Education Office and History Research Bureau, Szczecin Branch
- Since 2007 – Assistant Professor at the Institute of History and International Relations, University of Szczecin

4. **Achievement as specified in articles 16 § 2 of the Law on Degrees and Scientific Titles (14 March 2013: Dz. U. 2016, poz. 882, ze zm. Dz. U. 2016, poz. 1311):**

a. Title of the scientific achievement

„A jednak coraz silniej wierzę”. Życie i los Witolda Kolskiego (1902–1943)

b. Author, title of the publication, year of publication, publisher, peer-reviewers

Eryk Krasucki, „A jednak coraz silniej wierzę”. *Życie i los Witolda Kolskiego (1902–1943)*, Szczecin 2019, Wydawnictwo Naukowe Uniwersytetu Szczecińskiego, pre-reviewers: dr hab. prof. UW Grzegorz P. Bąbiak (Uniwersytet Warszawski), dr hab. Mirosław Szumiło (Uniwersytet Marii Curie-Skłodowskiej w Lublinie)

c. Presentation of the scientific purpose of the above-mentioned achievement and of the results obtained

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In my research activity I have focused from the very start on biographies. This was the case for both my master's thesis and PhD dissertation. Since working on my PhD, I have been working on biographies, primarily in the context of the 20th century history of Poland, with emphasis on the impact of communism on this country – as an ideology and practice, both in the local sense and regional. Thus, my book is a consequence of previously made choices, opening up new research perspectives, for which the common denominator is the Communist International (Comintern) and the interaction between the Moscow Headquarters and the local Section, which was formally the Communist Party of Poland. I am especially interested in how institutional directives, successive political disputes (common in the case of the 3rd International) and the social, political and intellectual climate accompanying them, have impacted the lives of people in the pre-war Communist Party circles of Poland's elites.

This is the case of Witold Kolski – activist of the Communist Party of Poland, member and for some time the head of its National Secretariat, prisoner of Bereza Kartuska, deputy editor-in-chief of Lvov's "Czerwony Sztandar" during the period of Soviet occupation of the city, a political-educational officer in the Red Army, and finally a person appointed to an ill-defined mission inside the central illegal structures of the Polish Workers' Party. The many activities and functions which he had been assigned to in his very short life were obviously part of his individual resume, but also a characteristic of a certain formation to which he belonged and in which he played a significant, rather than background, role. He was not an activist on the scale of Adolf Warski, Maria Koszutska, Edward Próchniak or Julian Leszczyński-Leński. There were several barriers to his entering the circle of the close party elite: lack of participation in the events forming the party (the Russian Revolution, faction fights and the dispute about the identity of the KPP); lack of public clarity despite his clear activity in this field; and ultimately Kolski began to gain significance in the party hierarchy only in the mid-1930s, shortly before its dissolution.

Kolski's secondary position contributes to the research challenge and is further complicated by the fact that the number of sources describing his life are very limited. So, one can ask: Why dedicate a separate book to someone like Kolski? We must consider several facts. The first, in general, is the dearth of publications concerning pre-war Polish communism, due to the fact that the attention of historians after the year 1989 focused on research devoted to the history of post-war Poland. The previously conducted exploratory



research was quite limited, and subject to the prevailing conditions (marked largely by ideological stigma and inability to go beyond the field prescribed by censorship, with its many unspoken or not fully explained rules). The book devoted to Kolski fills a significant research gap, because of its reflection on Polish pre-war communism, its constituent and main inspirations, and rethinking about the extent to which it was an independent being, capable of shaping its distinctness in the context of the influence of the all-Union of the Communist Party (Bolsheviks) and Comintern.

The second major reason for producing the biography of Witold Kolski is that in the area of biographies on pre-war communism, neglect after 1989 was even more significant. Besides the books of Henryk Cimek and Bogdan Gadomski, devoted to Tomasz Dąbal and Józef Mützenmacher-Redyko, there were no other bound publications relating to the life and activity of activists in the KPP's elite. The status is no better when it comes to articles about these subjects. The book brings a model description of a KPP career, which begins with fascination with an idea, leading to activity at the district level up until the achievement of a significant position of authority in the central leadership of the Party. Of equal importance, I also write about the status of Polish communists during the Soviet occupation of Polish territories from 1939 to 1941, which is a subject rarely present in the literature. At this time Kolski was one of the most important figures in Lvov, trying to take on the role of the promoter of the interests of the Polish communists, which earned him the position of the highest-ranking activist in the party structures prior to the war. For various reasons, Kolski's aspirations were impossible to realize.

And the third – and most important – reason is that my research undertaken in the Russian State Archives of Social and Political History in Moscow allowed for a perspective on the life of Witold Kolski in a dimension if not fuller then certainly much deeper than it had been considered thus far (e.g., the writings about Kolski by Żanna Kormanowa, Wojciech Bulgtat, Piotr Gontarczyk, and Bogdan Musiał). Particularly important, alongside the typical documents coming from his party career, for a new view in this case, was a diary written by Kolski in 1941–1943, and thus during his service in the Red Army. The uniqueness of this research material (previously there had been a less detailed diary from this period by Jerzy Borejsza) led me to present it in the book fully in scientific elaboration. The material from the Russian archive was also necessary to verify several existing theses in the literature related to Witold Kolski, especially the one (very popular in recent years and firmly rooted in the literature) saying that in 1943, Georg Dymitrow,

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secretary general of the Comintern, decided that he would take the place of Marcel Nowotko, who was murdered in November 1942, and become the leader of the PPR. I prove that the reliance on one note from the diary of the Bulgarian politician was a mistake, and this supposition is not proven by any other document nor by the analysis of Kolski's political attitude spanning from the outbreak of war to 1943, when the decision was made to send him to the mother country.

These reasons for the topic have influenced the shape of the book. It is written in the classical form of biography, in which the description takes place chronologically along the timeline determined by the birth and death of Witold Kolski. It does not, however, have the character of a pretext biography so popular today, focusing not only on the life of the person described, but also containing insightful explanations of the individual events and issues with which her life has been linked. It means that in several cases showing Kolski in the foreign affair context, where he was part of "great history", I attempt to investigate more deeply (e.g., the Lvov period and his strong efforts to play a prominent role in the environment of the surviving members of the dissolved and "shot" KPP in 1937–1938). However, these are sporadic moments. Therefore, a good term for my idea of the story of Kolski seems to be a "circumstantial biography". I try to extract from research materials not only as much information as possible, but above all the insights that are important for understanding Kolski's biography.

I touch upon the individual threads in an almost chronological way and, for the reader who is accustomed to reading a very extensive biographical work, it is probably too "essential". Going into "the margins" and expanding the story of further threads, however, would seem to me in this case to be redundant, and moreover could somehow distort the narrative of the life and choices made by Kolski. Hence, the book quite briefly presents personal matters and focuses primarily on him as an activist. I also wanted to avoid the impression that Kolski is a person of foreground and that his actions always affect the "great history". It is also a desire to maintain what Philippe Lejeune called the reference pact – the author's commitment to create in the text the "image of reality" (of course, as far as it is possible), not just its illusion.

From this concern came the word "fate", which appears in the subtitle of this work. In my opinion, a "re-reading" of Kolski's biography occurred because he was viewed as one of



the heroes of the story of the birth of Poland in the post-war period. For this purpose, a suitable "story frame" was built. According to it, faithful and free from any unrest, the son of the city of Łódź, with all his life testified to the legitimacy of the communist idea. In such a constructed story, the "difficult" moments were completely omitted. They were smoothed to the limits of possibilities, leaving no room for any interpretation, questions, or doubts. The fact that Kolski did not enter the pantheon of "Communist Saints" was due to the fact that especially in the Lvov period, as the editor of the "Czerwony Sztandar", he was remembered in a shameful way by many significant figures of post-war political and literary life. His aversion to the term "nation" and all its variants was problematic. It was better to remain silent about this difficult-to-expose and difficult-to-defend resume, which is why after 1956 Kolski appeared only incidentally in historiography and memories.

This "silence" impacted the next biographical attempts. It also impacted my own work and that is why I have asked the question: whether, in the face of such limited materials, I am not adding my own interpretation in certain places; does not "life" enter into the description "fate", meaning do I categorize Kolski in the "compartments" as encouraged by the current interpretation of communism – as ideas and practices – marked by the knowledge of its degeneration, distribution and collapse? Recalling Jerzy Czech, Polish translator of Vasily Grossman, we can also ask: is the journey to the "Communist Atlantis" with Witold Kolski still possible? On the last question I answer yes and I try in my work to find for him a suitable place a little behind, for those who have marked pre-war Polish communism most strongly (e.g., Adolf Warski-Warszawski, Julian Leński-Leszczyński, and Julian Brun-Bronowicz). He is for me in the same degree *pars pro toto*, and as well as a separate being. Analyzing the sources of his choices, views and elections, I show that the ideologically-oriented predictability of Kolski can be helpful to interpret the Polish version of one of the most important phenomena of 20th century. Ultimately, I call it "the man of one faith", which is reflected in the title of the book, and certainly distinguishes it from many people of his generation, including friends – such as Jakub Prawin, Leonard Borkowicz, and Wiktor Grosz. This quasi-religious intoxication has also become the cause of his personal tragedy and disconnection with his closest family, as I write about in the work relatively extensively.

The book consists of two parts and is hybrid in nature. Both parts can be treated autonomously as an equivalent scientific achievement, but both create a full picture of

Witold Kolski's biography. The first part is the monographic development of his life and activity. It has been divided into four chapters. In the first part, referring to the years 1902 to 1939, I focused on his childhood years, his access to the communist movement, his career path, and his journalism. Primarily I try to show how a man brought up in an assimilated Jewish family, born as Boruch (Bernard) Cukier, became a communist, which in turn gave him access to the successive levels of his career. It is also a story about how the standard resume of the pre-war Polish communist looked. In the second chapter I describe the Lvov period of Kolski's life from 1939 to 1941, which was the most intense time and perhaps the most interesting. He tried to assume the role of a prominent character in the Polish Communists, and achieved experience and high party status prior to the dissolution of the KPP. Paradoxically, the Soviet authorities saw him as an obstacle and not to be trusted, so Kolski's ambitious plans did not work out. The eastern territories of the II Republic dedicated to the occupant's politics, expressing it for example in the publication of the "Czerwony Sztandar", especially in the condemnation of Polish writers (e.g. Wladyslaw Broniewski and Aleksander Wat) in the text *Zgnieść gadzinę nacjonalistyczną* (*Crush the nationalist reptile*), it brought him a lot of aversion, which also continues in his post-war "post-mortem life". The third and fourth chapters refer to Kolski's service in the Red Army as a political-educational officer and his delegated mission in the country. This time, from 1941 to 1943, was almost completely unknown in history. Thanks to documentation from the Russian archives I managed to recreate many threads and tie them together with existing hypotheses. However, the known documentation prevents all questions to be answered, such as about Kolski's connections with Soviet intelligence or the circumstances of his death. This part of the work complements the introduction and completion/conclusion, in which I try to present, on the one hand, the reasons for taking on the subject, literature and source, methodology, determine the position of Kolski in the KPP and post-KPP hierarchy, and answer the question about his status during the period of the PRL. I can say that if no new documents will be found (e.g., Russian military archives, to which despite my efforts I have not received access), the monographical description of the life and activities of Kolski can be considered as the final word on the subject.

The second part of my work is *Dziennik wojenny 1941–1943* (*War Diary 1941–1943*) by Witold Kolski, developed according to the scientific criteria adopted for the editing of 20th century texts and according to the current publishing instructions. It is an original

diary housed in the Russian State Archives of Social and Political History and is of exceptional value. Daily written dairies from people who were part of the Communist elite do not otherwise exist. Publication of these notes is just as important as their scrupulousness, completeness and suitability for research on the world view of the mentioned political formation. The diary extends our knowledge of the functioning of Polish Communists during their war service, allows for insight into internal relations, and moreover brings forth much information to verify assumptions and theses previously appearing in the literature. I have decided to publish a full and critical diary for two reasons: the first is the uniqueness indicated in the sense of a document relating to a certain political formation; the second is how important it is for the understanding of Witold Kolski's biography. Without the diary, knowledge of communism would be based only on dry documentation in the files and a few very standardized memories from his resume's profile. Thanks to the diary, the reader can more fully confront the main character of the book. I consider it to be of non-trivial value, especially in the methodological context of the declarations that I presented in the introduction to the book.

Most of the documentary material supporting the writing of the book came from the archive of Russian documentation gathered after the Communist International, which is still rarely used by Polish historians. The presented work shows his importance for research on the history of Polish communism and can inspire further exploration, without which our knowledge of the mechanisms of the functioning of the KPP during the pre-war period, and the relationships of its former members of the WKP (b) and Comintern during World War II, remains insufficient and is laden with numerous, often sensational, speculations.

5. Presentation of the other scientific achievements

My other scientific and research achievements revolve around five main issues: a. biographical studies; b. ideological countenance of 20th century (with emphasis on left-wing movements); c. the post-war history of Western Pomerania; d. culture after 1944/45 and the cultural policy of the PRL; e. the history of the Jewish minority in the Western Pomerania in the 20th century. Their common denominator is the chronology of the 20th century, and as far as the area is concerned, it is a study conducted in relation to the Polish lands (with minor exceptions). These include bound works, authored and edited or

co-edited works, as well as single studies. Separately I would like to treat my teaching activity in this self-presentation.

a. Biographical studies

Research in the biographic area is a continuation of my previous interests. They were both in the preparatory phase of my master's thesis (publication in two parts: *Jaksa z Kopnika – próba biografii postaci z XII-wiecznych dziejów Polski i Połabia*, „Akademicki Biuletyn Historyczny »Scriptor«” 2001, nr 2; *Pośmiertne życie Jaksy z Kopnika*, in: *Tym samym pociągiem. Przesiedlenia przymusowe, procesy dezintegracyjne i integracyjne na Pomorzu Zachodnim i Ziemi Lubuskiej w latach 1939–1949 w wyborze prac powstałych na seminarium Jana M. Piskorskiego*, edit by K. Marciszewska, P. Migdalski, Chojna 2013), and in my PhD dissertation (book version: *Międzynarodowy komunista. Jerzy Borejsza – biografia polityczna*, Warszawa 2009). My interests in this subject are manifested in a formalized manner in works at the University of Szczecin Biographical Research Centre and in editorial affiliation of the year book "Polish Biographic Studies". I have often participated in scientific conferences devoted to biographical topics (“Communist Heroes – Rulers, Saints, companions” – Spała, organizers: Institute of West and South Slavic Studies UW, Institute of Polish Culture UW – Laboratory of research on the history and culture of totalitarian and post-totalitarian space, PAT, “Cathedral of Culture” Association, 27 – 29 November 2009; “Szczecin – History is formed by people. Second Educational Conference” – Szczecin, Organizer: Institute of National Remembrance in Szczecin, 11 December 2009; “Piotr Zaremba. Politician, urban planner, Diarist” – Szczecin, Organizer: Institute of Polish and Cultural studies of the University of Szczecin, Institute of Philosophy of the Faculty of Humanities, University of Szczecin, Institute of Architecture and Urban Planning of the West Pomeranian Technological University in Szczecin, the Polish Autobiographical Society, the Association of Polish Urban Planners, 7-9 October 2013; “The biographical. Symposium during the 19th Universal Congress of Polish Historians” – Szczecin, organizer: Polish Historical Society and Centre for Biographical Research in Szczecin, 17 September 2014; “The people create history – Biographies in modern historical Studies” – Łódź, Organizer: Department of the Institute of National Remembrance in Łódź, History Society, Cathedral of Historiography and Auxiliary Sciences of the University of Łódź, 14 – 15 April 2016).



Since 2006, after I defended my PhD work, I have been working on biographies of many significant figures of the West Pomeranian post-war history, m.in. Piotr Zaremba, Edmund Bałuka, Marian Jurczyk, Antoni Walaszek (*O Piotrze Zarembie, jego pamiętnikarskim dziele i o tym, co dziś znaczy dla szczecinian*, in: Piotr Zaremba, *Wspomnienia Prezydenta Szczecina. Pierwszy rok szczeciński rok 1945*, Łódź 2016; *Zaremba non-fiction. Kilka refleksji wokół sporu o biografię*, „Kronika Szczecina” 2012, nr 31, Szczecin 2013; *Ciekawość jako źródło radości. O pamiętnikarskiej przygodzie Tadeusza Bialeckiego*, „Przegląd Zachodniopomorski” 2013, nr 1; *Walaszek Marcowy. Szczecińskie wydarzenia 1968 r. z perspektywy I sekretarza KW PZPR*, „Szczeciński Informator Archiwalny” 2012, nr 21; *Utopijna lewicowość Edmunda Bałuki*, in: *Lewica polska. t. 1 Koncepcje i ludzie*, edit by E. Krasucki, T. Sikorski, A. Wątor, Wrocław 2012; *Marian Jurczyk – w poszukiwaniu (straconej?) biografii (1971–1989)*, in: *Szczecin – historię tworzą ludzie. Druga Konferencja Edukacyjna, Szczecin 11 XII 2009 r.*, edit by K. Rembacka, Szczecin 2010). Interest in the figures important for Szczecin and Western Pomerania was an important part of my studies on the successive versions of Szczecin's breakthroughs, especially March 1968 and December 1970/January 1971. The supplement of biographical achievements about Szczecin are several biographs prepared for the new edition of *Encyklopedia Szczecina*, edited by T. Białecki, including Marek Adamkiewicz, Agata Kulesza, and Katarzyna Nosowska.

I also devoted my attention to the study of the characters known on a nationwide scale, who were important when it comes to the Polish variant of Communism and socialism: Karol Świerczewski, Mirosław Zdziarski and Jerzy Szurig (*Bohater typu instant. Wokół śmierci i pogrzebu gen. Karola Świerczewskiego „Waltera”* in: *Komunistyczni bohaterowie*, vol. 1: *Tradycja, kult, rytuał*, edit by M. Bogusławska, Z. Grębecka, E. Wróblewska-Trochimiuk, Warszawa-Kraków 2011; *W drodze między Warszawą a Moskwą. Typowy życiorys przedwojennego komunisty na przykładzie losów Mirosława Zdziarskiego (1892–1937)*, *Komuniści w międzywojennej Warszawie*, edit by E. Kowalczyk, Warszawa 2014; *Jerzy Szurig*, „Polski Słownik Biograficzny” 2004, z. 202).

Very important for my professional achievements is the article *Dyskusje polskich historyków (krajowych) wokół biografistyki – między „odwilżą” a upadkiem PRL*, „Polish Biographical Studies” 2014, nr 2, which expanded this topic of my lecture during the 19th Universal Congress of Polish Historians in September 2014, 2013. I can add that I worked alongside Prof. Adam Wątor, co-organizer of the section dealing with the

biographic area. Of all my public lectures presented on biographical topics, one that concerned a very important publication titled „*Prawdziwe życiorysy komunistów nigdy nie będą napisane*” – *ale warto próbować! Uwagi o biografistyce zajmującej się działaczami Komunistycznej Partii Polski*, was presented during the conference "Describe and measure. Methods, techniques and tools in historical social, demographic and economic studies" – Pobierowo, Organizer: Uniwersytet Szczeciński, 27-30 September 2016.

b. Ideological countenance of 20th century (with emphasis on left-wing movements)

This part of my acquis mostly includes collaborative work edited together with my closest university colleagues from the History Department of the 19th and 20th centuries of the Institute of History and International Relations. The stimulus for my actions was the willingness to consider and present the important ideologies, political, and social, with which we dealt in the twentieth century in Poland. Particularly much attention has been devoted to left-wing movements. The works of this mainstream are, for example, studies on the Polish left (*Lewica polska*, vol. 1: *Koncepcje i ludzie*; vol. 2: *Działalność*, edit by E. Krasucki, T. Sikorski, A. Wątor, Wrocław 2012), anarchism (*Z dziejów polskiego anarchizmu*, edit by E. Krasucki, M. Przyborowski, R. Skrycki, Szczecin 2011) and liberalism (*Liberalizm nad Wisłą (XIX–XXI wiek). Koncepcje – ludzi – działalność*, edit by E. Krasucki, T. Sikorski, A. Wątor, Szczecin 2014). This work group also includes a book on communism (*Oblicza komunizmu. Wybór problemów*, edit by E. Krasucki, D. Wybranowski oraz A. Fulbiszewski, R. Piścio, Szczecin 2015); however, they are a type of academic script, which are a clearly and simply explained practical application of the communist idea in selected countries from different continents.

The Introduction to this collection was my text titled *Komunizm – marzenie i zbrodnia*, a synthetic reflection on the theoretical and practical dimension of one of the most important ideological phenomena of the 20th century. Similar goals were achieved through my work on the texts *Das Misstrauen – die Haupteigenschaft des Konspiranten. Der Fall der Kommunistischen Partei des Polens (1918–1938)*, „Jahrbuch für Historische Kommunismusforschung” 2016 and *Narzędziewładzy. Państwowy antysemityzm w ZSRR (1945–1953)* in: *Między ideologią asocjotechniką. Kwestia mniejszości narodowych w działalności władz komunistycznych – doświadczenie polskie i środkowoeuropejskie*, edit by M. Semczyszyn, J. Syrnyk, Warszawa-Szczecin-Wrocław 2014. I also conducted

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research on communism through an international project *A Eurocentric revolution? The rise of Bolshevism and its impact over the world of ending Empires 1917–1936* that was implemented at the University of Padua (Coordinator: Prof. Valentine Lomellini) from 2016 to 2018. The Result of my work in this project is the text *The Russian Revolution and Polish communism in the interwar era. Ideas, people, attitudes*, awaiting publication in *Security, Conflict and Cooperation in the Contemporary World*, published by publishing house Palgrave-MacMillan.

Complementing the acquis in this section are two collective works, which are part of the conference that I co-organized at the University of Szczecin devoted to Polish modernization: (*Oblicza polskiej modernizacji. Bilans transformacji systemowej III Rzeczypospolitej*, edit by E. Krasucki, T. Sikorski, A. Szczepańska, Toruń 2011); and Creative implementation of the political ideas of the II Republic in Polish post-war (*Epigoństwo czy twórcza ciągłość? Ideowe dziedzictwo głównych nurtów politycznych Drugiej Rzeczypospolitej w refleksji politycznej po zakończeniu II wojny światowej*, edit by E. Krasucki, T. Sikorski, A. Wątor, Toruń 2011).

c. The post-war history of Western Pomerania

Regional research on West Pomerania occupies a significant part of my post-PhD acquis. This is related to the availability of source material, but it is also dictated by awareness of the significance of conducting these surveys from the point of view of local communities. Many of the works in this section were inspired by various public activities – in university and outside university (as a deputy editor-in-chief in “Przegląd Zachodniopomorski” (since 2013), as a member of the Scientific Council of the Pomeranian Library in Szczecin (since 2016), and as a co-author of the concept of the main exhibition at the Centre for Dialogue of the Breakthroughs, a branch of the National Museum in Szczecin, as a president of Association of Drawsko’s Friends “Meander” (from 2013)). The publications in which I have been writing about the political, social, propaganda and cultural dimensions of the regional past can be divided into three groups.

The first group would be the work devoted to Szczecin "breakthroughs" – that is, the most important post-war events – which today largely determine the identity of the city. Of these, the published works on December'70 and January'71 are the most important. Particularly important is publication *Przesilenie. Szczecińskie społeczeństwo i władza w styczniu i lutym 1971 r. Obraz źródłowy*, which is not only a monograph of the first weeks

of the year 1971 but also a very extensive selection of documents enabling an understanding of the social background of the conflict between society and government. The same thematic group of works contains a set of texts *Historia, miasto, pamięć: Grudzień '70–Styczeń '71 (perspektywa szczecińska)*, edit by M. Kowalewski, E. Krasucki, P. Miedziński, Szczecin 2010, where the dramatic events of the end of the regime of Władysław Gomułka and the beginning of Edward Gierek are presented in an interdisciplinary way. In addition to the published works about labor protests of 1970 and 1971, I have written a number of other works, for example *Die Dezember-Revolution und die Stettiner Identität / Rewolta grudniowa i tożsamość szczecińska*, in: *Stettin. Wiedergeburt einer Stadt. Essays über Odermetropole / Szczecin. Odrodzenie miasta. Eseje o nadodrzańskej metropolii*, edit by B. Kerski, Potsdam 2017; *Grudzień '70/Styczeń '71 – szczeciński przelom*, in: *Poznań, Szczecin, Wrocław. Trzy uniwersytety, trzy miasta, trzy regiony*, edit by W. Łazuga, S. Paczos, Poznań 2010; *Czerwone i czarne. O proteście szczecińskim z 1 maja 1971 r.*, in: *Monady. Polsko-niemiecko-żydowskie po(st)graniczne narracje miejsce*, edit by A. Galant, E. Krasucki, P. Krupiński, P. Wolski, Kraków-Budapeszt 2016; *Baluka i Gierek po angielsku. Film „Trzy dni w Szczecinie” Lesliego Woodheada a rzeczywistość Stycznia '71*, in: *Szczecin z oddali. Piąta Konferencja Edukacyjna, 30 XI 2012 r.*, edit by K. Rembacka, Szczecin 2014.

I also devoted much attention to research on 1956. The work synthesized this period (*Szczeciński rok 1956. Uwagi o naturze zmiany*, „Kronika Szczecina” 2016, t. Szczecin 2017), and within these I look at the most important points of "breakthroughs" in the calendar („*W świetle uchwał XX Zjazdu...*”. *Szczecińskie echa moskiewskich wydarzeń z lutego 1956 roku*, „Zapiski Historyczne” 2012, nr 4; 2013, nr 1). I was particularly interested in the weekly "Ziemia i Morze" published in Szczecin from 1956 to 1957. I devoted several extensive studies to this weekly magazine and several other "breakthroughs" publications (*Tygodnik „Ziemia i Morze” (1956–1957) a (od)budowa lokalnej tożsamości*, „Przegląd Zachodniopomorski” 2017, nr 4; *Niesforne dziecko „odwilży”*. *Tygodnik „Ziemia i Morze” w 1956 roku*, in: *W poszukiwaniu tożsamości. Październik '56 na Pomorzu Zachodnim*, edit by M. Machałek, A. Makowski, Szczecin 2007; *Cenzurując „odwilż”. Urzędowe skreślenia i ingerencje w tekstach w tekstach pisanych dla tygodnika „Ziemia i Morze” (1956–1957)*, in: *Od polonizacji do europeizacji Pomorza Zachodniego. Prace ofiarowane prof. Kazimierzowi Kozłowskiemu z okazji siedemdziesiątej rocznicy urodzin*, edit by M. Machałek, J. Macholak, E.

Włodarczyk, Warszawa-Szczecin 2012; *Tygodnik „Ziemia i Morze” na tle przełomowego roku 1956*, in: *Lech Bądkowski i Jerzy Pachłowski w tygodniku „Ziemia i Morze”*, edit by J. Borzyszkowski, K. Kozłowski, Szczecin-Gdańsk 2010).

The Third of the Szczecin breakthroughs, which was of particular research interest to me, was March 1968. I therefore focused on the actions taken by the local authority against the Jews, how the central dispositions were transferred to the county, and the propaganda dimension of events. In this group of work, I can present the following work: *Marzec '68 w Szczecinie. Kilka refleksji przy okazji 40 rocznicy*, in: „Kronika Szczecina” 2008, t. XXVII, Szczecin 2009; *Syjonista przez samo "ż". Propaganda antyżydowska w szczecińskiej prasie 1967/68 r.*, in: *Prasa regionalna jako źródło do badań historycznych okresu XIX i XX wieku*, edit by J. Nowosielska-Sobel, G. Strauchold, T. Ślepowroński, Wrocław 2011; *Prowincjonalny Marzec. Specyfika szczecińskich wydarzeń z 1968 r.*, in: *Z dala od Centrum. Rok 1968 na Pomorzu Zachodnim*, edit by R. Kościelnego, Szczecin 2009; „Antysyjonistyczne” wątki szczecińskiego Marca '68 (zarys problematyki), in: *Żydzi oraz ich sąsiedzi na Pomorzu Zachodnim w XIX i XX wieku*, edit by M. Jaroszewicz, W. Stępiński, Warszawa 2007.

To a lesser extent I touched upon other "Polish months" in the context of Szczecin, especially those taking place in the 1980s (*Szczecińskie życie codzienne i nastroje społeczne w pierwszych tygodniach stanu wojennego*, in: *Szczecin – codzienność miasta i jego mieszkańców*, edit by K. Rembacka, Szczecin 2012; *Listy do redakcji szczecińskiej „Jedności” z lat 1980–1981 jako źródło do poznania tła historycznego*, in: *Post hominum memoriam. Profesorowi Januszowi Farysiowi – uczniowie i przyjaciele*, Gorzów Wielkopolski 2009; *Strajki sierpniowe 1988 roku w Szczecinie. Działania władz politycznych i administracyjnych – rekonesans*, w: „Zarejestrujcie nam Solidarność!”. *Strajk sierpniowy 1988 r. w Szczecinie*, edit by A. Kubaj, M. Maciejewski, Szczecin 2009).

The second group of works is devoted to the post-war history of West Pomerania, including everything I wrote in relation to the regions other than Szczecin, but also those in which I tried to deeply explore everything that is specifically West Pomeranian. There are very many achievements here, such as the collective work devoted to the village of Tuczno (*Tuczno poprzez wieki*, edit by E. Krasucki, R. Ptaszyński, Drawsko Pomorskie-Szczecin 2015), summarizing with students of history, political science, theology and

ethnography, and an article on the sociological theory of the space before the time of Edward T. Hall to the post-war reality of the Chojński district (*Przestrzeń przed-trwała. Próba opisanie powiatu chojeńskiego wiosną 1946 r.*, in: *Chojna i okolice na przestrzeni wieków*, edit by R. Skrycki, Chojna-Zielona Góra 2007), and several studies devoted to political memory (for example *Szczecińskie mitotwórstwo. Myśli kilka o współczesnym użytkowaniu historii*, in: *Pomorze Zachodnie z Polską*, edit by K. Kozłowski, Szczecin 2015; *Zaślubiny z morzem – powojenny mit założycielski Kołobrzegu. Kilka uwag wokół nieco wstydlivej publikacji*, in: *Kołobrzeg i okolice poprzez wieki*, edit by R. Ptaszyński, Szczecin 2010; *Dekomunizacyjna rewolucja. W związku z usunięciem szczecińskiego pomnika Wdzięczności dla Armii Czerwonej*, „Kronika Szczecina” 2017, t. Szczecin 2018) and the important political and social phenomena associated with post-war West Pomerania (e.g., *Westpommern und die "Völkerwanderung" nach dem Krieg (1945–1948)*, in: *Die Erfahrung der Grenzeraumes. Das polnisch-deutsche Gebiet Pommern in der Geschichte, Literatur und Kultur*, edit by Wolski, Warszawa 2014; *Niemowa odzyskuje głos. Kaszubi i sprawa kaszubska na łamach tygodnika „Ziemia i Morze” (1956–57)*, in: *II Dzień kaszubski w Szczecinie*, edit by K. Kozłowski, Szczecin 2011; *Świetlica w „Warskim” – miejsce jak najbardziej polityczne (na przykładzie strajków z lat 1970/71 i 1980)*, in: *Szczecin i jego miejsca. Trzecia Konferencja Edukacyjna, 10 XII 2010 r.*, edit by K. Rembacka, Szczecin 2011; *W kręgu postaw uczestników szczecińskiego Ruchu Wolność i Pokój*, in: *„Jesteście naszą wielką szansą”. Młodzież na rozstajach komunizmu 1944–1989*, edit by P. Ceranka, S. Stępień, Warszawa 2009; *Alternatywne ruchy młodzieżowe wobec zmian społeczno-politycznych końca lat 80. – zarys problematyki ze szczególnym uwzględnieniem obszaru Pomorza Zachodniego: Narodziny III Rzeczypospolitej. Pomorze Zachodnie w latach 1988–1990*, edit by M. Machałek, J. Macholak, Szczecin 2006).

The third group of works of research on the history of the West Pomerania form a study devoted to my family's town – Drawsko Pomorskie. They consist of two volumes of studies, which were written for the scientific conferences I organized in 2010 and 2017 (*Drawsko Pomorskie i okolice poprzez wieki. Studia i szkice*, Szczecin 2010; *Drawsko Pomorskie i okolice poprzez wieki. Studia i szkice. Odsłona druga*, Drawsko Pomorskie 2017), written together with Lucyna Jabłońska, a guide for primary school teachers to help them implement regional education (*Moja gmina Drawsko Pomorskie. Przewodnik dla nauczycieli realizujących edukację regionalną z elementami edukacji europejskiej w*



młodszych klasach szkoły podstawowej, Drawsko Pomorskie 2016), pop-science publications devoted to municipal and cultural institutions (*Szkolne dziesięciolecia, czyli rzut oka na to, jaką historię opowiadają licealne dokumenty z lat 1945–2005*, in: A. Ignacak, E. Krasucki, J. Kur, *Nowe wyzwania. Liceum Ogólnokształcące im. I Armii Wojska Polskiego w Drawsku Pomorskim w latach 2005–2015*, Drawsko Pomorskie 2015; *Z przytupem i klasą. Opowieść o drawskim zespole „Diabaz”*, Drawsko Pomorskie 2015; *Krótką historia sześćdziesiątlatki. Drawska Biblioteka Publiczna (1947–2007)*, Warszawa 2007) and scientific articles analyzing the important threads of the post-war history of the city, focused on the area of collective memory and the phenomenon of a complicated local identity („Podziemne krety”. *Studium przypadku podziemnej organizacji politycznej w powiecie drawskim (1945–1947)*. *Realia, znaczenie, mit*, in: *Drawsko Pomorskie i okolice poprzez wieki. Studia i szkice. Odłona druga*, edit by E. Krasucki, Drawsko Pomorskie 2017; *Historia i współczesność (nie)chcianego monumentu. O drawskim pomniku wdzięczności Armii Czerwonej*, „Rocznik Chojeński” 2016, z. VIII; *Drawsko Pomorskie – miasto krzyżujących się pamięci*, in: *Drawsko Pomorskie i okolice poprzez wieki. Studia i szkice*, edit by E. Krasucki, Szczecin 2010).

d. Culture after 1944/45 and the cultural policy of the PRL

This part of my achievements/publications is to some extent a continuation of my research carried out in the form of my PhD dissertation devoted to Jerzy Borejszy and his cultural politics. It was followed by several texts devoted to the concept of the "Mild Revolution" and its various manifestations (*Spółdzielnia Wydawnicza „Czytelnik” – fenomen kulturalny lat 1944–1948*, and „*Rewolucja łagodna*” – *nieostry program kulturalny pierwszych lat powojennych*, in: *Zaraz po wojnie*, edit by J. Kordijak, A. Szewczyk, Warszawa 2015; „*Rewolucja łagodna*” w polskiej kulturze (1944–1947). *Projekt rzeczywisty czy zastępczy?*, in: *Doświadczenie i dziedzictwo totalitaryzmu na obszarze kultur środkowoeuropejskich*, edit by J. Goszczyńska, J. Królak, R. Kulmiński, Warszawa 2011; *Major Baruga na polowaniu. Jerzy Borejsza w literackich ujęciach Czesława Miłosza i Jerzego Putramenta*, in: *Trudny wiek XX. Jednostka, system, epoka*, edit by G.P. Bąbiak, J. Nalewajko-Kulikow, Warszawa 2010; *Wcielenie idealów kooperatywy czy propagandowa atrapa? Spółdzielnia Wydawnicza „Czytelnik” z lat 1944–1948*, in: *Marzyciele i realiści. O roli tradycji w polskiej myśli politycznej od upadku powstania styczniowego do XXI wieku*, edit by T. Sikorski, A. Wątor, Szczecin 2009; *Światowy Kongres Intelektualistów w Obronie Pokoju we Wrocławiu (25–28 sierpnia 1948)*, in:

Zwrot polityczny '48. Między polską drogą a projektem uniwersalnym, edit by M. Jabłonowski, W. Jakubowski, T. Krawczak, Warszawa 2013).

I was also interested in how, in the area of Polish post-war culture, "mass culture/popculture" was adapted and the ways in which ruling powers tried to "dam up" it (*Socjalistyczna kultura masowa. W poszukiwaniu definicji na przełomie lat 50. i 60 XX w.*, in: *Popkomunizm. Doświadczenie komunizmu a kultura popularna*, edit by M. Bogusławska, Z. Grębecka, Kraków 2010; *Co towarzysz Wiesław wiedział o bigbicie? Świadomość zjawiska kultury masowej w okresie „popaździernikowym” (1956–1963)*, in: *Kultura popularna w Polsce w latach 1944–1989. Problemy, perspektywy badawcze*, edit by K. Stańczak-Wislicz, Warszawa 2012). An important part of my research was also the idea of "the thaw" in Polish culture. This was due to the importance I attached to the change that occurred in the year 1956 („*Obrona „Grenady” Kazimierza Brandysa w perspektywie zmian w polityce kulturalnej lat 1955–1956*, in: *Partia, państwo, społeczeństwo*, edit by K. Rokicki, Warszawa 2016; *Dobijając „mezozoicznego zwierza”. Uwagi wokół dyskusji na temat kultury polskiej wiosną 1956 r. (w świetle dokumentów partyjnych)*, in: *Październik 1956 w literaturze i filmie*, edit by M. Zawodniak, P. Zwierzchowski, Bydgoszcz 2010). In the analysis of culture in the Stalinist period, I was particularly interested in the film *Żołnierz zwycięstwa* (1953) directed by Wanda Jakubowska, giving enormous opportunities to show the specifics of this time, including its major artistic directions and tendencies in ideals (*Tworząc nowy typ bohatera narodowego. Postać Karola Świerczewskiego w świetle przygotowań do realizacji filmu „Żołnierz zwycięstwa” Wandy Jakubowskiej*, in: *Historia, pamięć, tożsamość. Postaci upamiętniane przez współczesnych mieszkańców różnych części Europy*, edit by M. Kujawska, B. Jewsiewicki, Poznań 2006; *Film jako obowiązek polityczny. Prace nad obrazem „Żołnierz zwycięstwa” Wandy Jakubowskiej w świetle dokumentów partyjnych z lat 1949–1953*, in: *Socrealizm. Fabuły – komunikaty – ikony*, edit by K. Stępnik, M. Piechota, Lublin 2006).

I also devoted a number of my texts to the significant people of post-war cultural life – embedding them primarily in the political context (*Karykatury polityczne Andrzeja Wróblewskiego / Andrzej Wróblewski's Political Caricatures*, in: *Unikanie stanów pośrednich. Andrzej Wróblewski (1927–1957) / Avoiding Intermediary States. Andrzej Wróblewski (1927–1957)*, edit by M. Ziółkowska, W. Grzybała, Warszawa 2014; *Wieszcz i Naczelnik. Czesław Miłosz wobec „solidarnościowego” karnawału (1980/81 r.)*, in:

Milosz i rewolucja, edit by J. Madejski, przy współpracy U. Bielas-Golubowskiej, B. Wolskiej, Szczecin 2011; „*Barwy walki*” – *książka-manifest (nie)znanego autorstwa*, „*Pogranicza*” 2010, nr 5). In the case of two works I was also writing about the activity of a PRL security service directed against artists (*Pod obserwacją* [inwigilacja Heleny Raszki], in: „*Pogranicza*” 2010, nr 2; *FAMA '77 w perspektywie aparatu bezpieczeństwa*, in: *Artyści a Służba Bezpieczeństwa. Aparat bezpieczeństwa wobec środowisk twórczych*, edit by R. Klimentowski, S. Ligarski, Wrocław 2008).

e. The history of the Jewish minority in the Western Pomerania in the 20th century

The last part of my past PhD publishing work is the work devoted to the Jewish people, with the vast majority of them covering the history of this ethnic minority in Western Pomerania in the 20th century. My attention was mainly focused on how intense policies (mainly emanating from totalitarian and authoritarian countries) influenced their conditions, choices and fates. From this interest came studies on, for example, deportation of Szczecin's Jews in 1940 to the territory of the General Government, anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union, refugee policy seen through the prism of the works of Hannah Arendt, the liquidation of the ghetto in Borszczów, and March 1968 in Western Pomerania. Written over the years, they were gathered in the book written by me *Historia kręci drejdem. Z dziejów (nie tylko) szczecińskich Żydów*, which was possible thanks to the Creative Scholarship of the City of Szczecin, which I received in 2017.

To this part of the acquis I can also add participation in the research grant *Po(st) graniczne narracje miejskie. Literackie i archiwalne Re-konstrukcje żydowskiego Szczecina* (director/leader: dr Paweł Wolski) funded under the "Sonata" program by the National Science Centre between 2012 and 2015. As a part of this grant, there was created for example the collaborative work *Monady. Polsko-niemiecko-żydowskie po(st) graniczne narracje*, edit by A. Galant, E. Krasucki, P. Krupiński, P. Wolski, Kraków-Budapeszt 2016; and a scientific conference *Po(st) graniczne narracje miejskie – Szczecin* was organized in October 2014, for which I was a co-organizer.

In Summary, my literary and editorial achievements since my Ph.D. in 2006 are composed of 20 publications (4 original monographs, 3 pop-science monographs, 1 selection of sources, 1 teacher's guide to regional education and 11 works edited and co-edited), 72 scientific papers published in journals or as chapters in book publications and dozens of popular science texts posted both in the press (for example in "Polityka",

"Przegląd", "Gazeta Wyborcza", "Odra", "Wiadomości Historyczne", "Kurier Szczeciński"), as well as in other publications. I regularly review texts in scientific journals and scientific publications.

f. Teaching

Apart from presenting publications and scientific activity, my teaching activities deserve mention as part of the scientific acquis. Since my employment at the Institute of History and International Relations of the University of Szczecin in 2007, I have developed a rich and broad thematic curriculum, covering not only classes from the history of Poland in the 20th century and the post-war history of the West Pomerania, but also classes/lectures introducing/exposing students from departments such as International Relations and Media and Civilization, to the subject of propaganda in totalitarian systems or the most important intellectual phenomena in literature and film of the 20th century. In the program of the course I try to closely connect with the studies conducted by me in different areas, thus preparing students to work independently with the source material. This is also the most important part of my bachelor's pre-seminars and seminars. The subjects chosen by students (sometimes suggested) relate more or less to my research interests. Of special satisfaction to me is delivering monographic lectures, which have focused on issues related to the history of the Communist Party of Poland, the art of the Communist International, the shape of post-war cultural policy in Poland and major intellectual currents in Central Europe after World War II. Together with the students, I have realized two scientific-research projects. The first one – connected with study trips – was devoted to the city of Tuczno and ended with a book publication edited by me and Radosław Ptaszyński; the second project covered events of the year 1956 in Western Pomerania, in which we carried out a bottom-up analysis of how leaving Stalinism looked at a municipal and county level. Some of the texts written in this project were published in the "Przegląd Zachodniopomorski".

Ewa Kucharska