

## DESCRIPTION FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC (IN ENGLISH)

As it is well known, the most important representatives of Polish anti-communist opposition – having their roots in varied political camps – consentaneously accepted a neoliberal program of the *restoration* of capitalism at the end of the last decade of The People's Republic of Poland. The main aim of the proposed project is to undertake an in-depth analysis of the ideas produced by the Polish dissidents and their circles in the two last decades of the People's Republic of Poland (more precisely: between 1968 and 1989). Realization of the project would let us better understand the genesis of the ideology going hand with hand with the Polish economic transformation and the sources of the political imagination of the Polish elites after 1989.

During the planned research, I would like to focus not on the views of particular individuals or political circles, but on the ideas around which the socio-political discourses hostile to The People's Republic of Poland were organized. The ideas which – having done preliminary research – I find the most important are as follows: totalitarianism, democracy, socialism, capitalism, nation, Catholicism, the left, the right, liberalism, Europe, market and – first of all – civil society. These fundamental *building blocks* with which the dissenting world-views were built, the evolution of their meanings and senses, the contexts in which they appeared, will constitute the main area of my interest.

The analysis of the history of the ideas produced by the Polish oppositional intelligentsia between 1968 and 1989 would be incomplete without taking the international contexts of their occurrence into consideration. Due to this fact, during the realization of my project I want to pose and ask three questions: 1) To what extent did the domination of neoliberal ideology which started in the West in the last quarter of 20<sup>th</sup> century influence the ideological transformation of the Polish oppositional intelligentsia? 2) What was the place of the Polish oppositional reflection in the international political debates which were taking place in the United States and Western Europe in the seventies and the eighties? 3) To what degree does the ideological evolution of the Polish opposition in the last period of The People's Republic of Poland occur to be similar to the evolution that took place at the same time in other states of the eastern bloc and in certain political circles in the West?

During the realization of the proposed project I will prepare a scientific monograph, which will constitute an important contribution to the literature concerning the history of the anti-communist opposition before 1989. So far there is no academic book – neither in Poland, nor in the literature written abroad – on the holistic evolution of the ideas produced by Polish anti-communist intelligentsia over the two last decades of the People's Republic of Poland. Because of the fact that the research on the relationships between the evolution of the ideology produced by Polish anti-communist opposition and the transformations in the politics, economy and other social sciences, that took place in the West in the seventies and the eighties constitutes an integral part of my project, the results of my work will be an important contribution to the global history of social thought.