

It is well known that conspiracy theories have recently become a topic of public interest. This is also a problem in Poland, where several politically based conspiracy theories are recognized by an appreciate number of people. Recent studies on conspiracy theorizing suggests that conspiracy beliefs are spreading also in other European Countries .

Surprisingly, the outcome of conspiracy beliefs in a political context has not been systematically investigated so far. Although conspiracy theories are widely prevalent across extremist groups, the role of conspiracy mentality in the radicalization process has not yet been researched at all. The frequency of conspiracy theories suggests that conspirational thinking plays an important functional role within extremism itself and thorough research of the mechanism behind that is central to the proposed project.

Recent research on conspiracy mentality shows, that the mechanism behind the relationship of having a “conspiracy mindset” and belief in specific conspiracies is related to the individual need for uniqueness. It is argued, that conspiracy-driven people are more likely to believe in the theories when they feel that it makes them special and unique in some way.

We will study the relation between conspiracy theories and radicalization. We will answer the question when do conspiracy beliefs become a part of the system justifying myths. Conducting our research will help us to better understand mechanisms, which govern the behavior of society. We strongly believe that the understanding allows for better and more effective development of community based more on knowledge and more open to challenges of the fast evolving world.