

## **"The relationship between national victimhood and attitudes towards violent far-right extremism"**

Several terms are used in the field of political psychology referring to the manner of perceiving the harms done to the nation: siege mentality, martyrological beliefs, group victimhood. The harm and injustices constituting the source of group victimization do not have to affect all group members directly, since memories of them penetrate into the culture and are passed on to subsequent generations. Violent extremism is related to the acceptance of violence being perpetrated for the purpose of achieving specific political, social, or religious goals. Limiting the research to far-right extremism is justified by the external determinants of the research process, namely the increasing influence of extreme right movements in European countries, including Poland.

The central aim of this study is to verify whether different subtypes of national victimhood influence the attitude towards violent far-right extremism. Members of the national group may perceive the group's suffering as entirely unique or see it as similar to the experiences of other groups. Research findings so far point to differences between the group victimization types indicated above in terms of their social consequences.

The first stage of the study involves a pre-test of the dependent variables: 1) attitudes towards extremism, 2) general support for the use of violence to achieve political goals, 3) militant extremist mindset, 4) evaluation of an event associated with violent extremism, 5) attitudes towards immigrants, 6) political views, in the first four experimental groups and in the first four control groups. This is followed by the insertion of the article devoted to the collective memories related to the Polish people's national victimhood, emphasizing their uniqueness or similarity to other groups' experiences. Respondents from the experimental groups and from the control groups are asked to evaluate an event related to violent extremism towards immigrants from Ukraine or the Republic of Turkey. The dependent variables are measured again. The size of each experimental and control group was estimated to be 100 subjects, and the total sample size is approximately 1,600 persons. Individuals of all genders, 18-25 years of age, will be eligible to participate in the study. It is in line with previous studies' methodology concerning young people's attitudes towards the extreme right.

Despite the prevalence of narratives related to Polish martyrdom and the public controversy they seem to evoke, no research on the mechanisms of transmission of victimization has been conducted in Poland. There is still considerable disagreement concerning whether it is possible to generalize the results of studies about far-right movements and ideology conducted in Western European countries to explain processes in Central and Eastern European countries. Therefore, the results of the study could broaden current knowledge about violent far-right extremism and national victimhood.