

Poland's foreign policy in the years 1989-1992 attracted mostly interest of political scientists up today, and historians to a lesser extent. This happened partly due to the limited access to primary sources showing the functioning of institutions involved in the creation and implementation of the Polish foreign policy. The opening of archives makes it possible to apply methodology used by historians and to base conclusions on source searches. Such research has been conducted in other countries and its results have been published.

Taking into account Poland's role in the transformation of the Eastern bloc and its significance for the region, it is also reasonable to look at the mechanism of foreign policy making. The caesuras of the project are marked, on the one hand, by the year 1989 and, on the other, by the opening prospect of NATO accession. This was an important period, involving the establishment of new type of relations with the Soviet Union and, after its collapse, with Russia and successor states; renew relations in the region, with other countries of the former bloc. The Polish government and society were especially interested in developing political and economic contacts with the West.

The planned comprehensive archival research, including both Polish and foreign archives, will make it possible to reconstruct a more complete picture of the internal and external conditions for the activity of the Polish authorities at that time. Comparison of sources of various origins will facilitate a more accurate reconstruction of events. It will show the backstage of domestic and international politics, contribute to the broadening of knowledge about that period and help to eliminate doubts as to the various steps taken at that time.

The research will be made public through articles and presentation of partial results at conferences and in lectures; the overall results will be included in a monograph.