



UNIVERSITY OF
OXFORD



St Antony's
College

Programme on
**Modern
PoLand**





Programme on Modern Poland (POMP) is a wide-ranging interdisciplinary research programme about modern Poland.

POMP, which operates within the European Studies Centre (ESC) at St Antony's College, was launched in July 2013, following the agreement with Dr Leszek Czarnecki's Oxford Noble Foundation from Poland. Its goals are to encourage the further understanding of modern Poland from an international perspective. The Programme coordinates the study and discussion of modern Poland through research, academic exchanges, seminar series, invited lectures, conferences and academic publications. POMP's founders in Oxford include Professors Timothy Garton Ash, Norman Davies, Jan Zielonka and Margaret MacMillan (the Warden of St Antony's).

The Director of the Programme is Dr **Mikołaj Kunicki**, historian of 20th century Poland and Eastern Europe. He received his PhD in History from Stanford University and taught history at the University of California at Berkeley (2005) and the University of Notre Dame (2006–2013). His book, *Between the Brown and the Red: Nationalism, Catholicism and Communism in Twentieth Century Poland*, was published by Ohio University Press in 2012. He is also the author of several articles on 20th century Polish history and cinema. He has published in *Contemporary European History*, *European Review of History*, *East European Politics and Societies*, and *Transit*. He is currently researching a book on national communism in Polish and East European cinema. Members of POMP's steering committee include acclaimed scholars from different University departments and colleges.

POMP is an interdisciplinary initiative that focuses on Poland's politics, history, society, culture and economy. The Programme's presence within the European Studies Centre (ESC) ensures that the study of Poland is removed from the traditional Cold War and Soviet-oriented approaches, and is undertaken in comparative, interdisciplinary and transnational perspectives, bringing in other European countries, regions, institutions and developments. POMP has also established cooperation with Polish and non-Polish state and private institutions of higher learning, government agencies, NGOs and think tanks as well as with academic and research bodies in the United Kingdom and elsewhere.

Scholars

The designers of the Programme include distinguished academics such as **Timothy Garton Ash**—Professor of European Studies, Isaiah Berlin Professorial Fellow and one of Europe's most prominent scholars in history, politics and media; **Norman Davies** CMG FBA—St Antony's Honorary Fellow, Professor Emeritus of London University, a renowned historian of Europe and a recipient of Poland's Order of the White Eagle; **Margaret MacMillan**—Warden of St Antony's College, professor and historian of diplomacy and international relations; **Jan Zielonka**—Professor of European Politics at the University of Oxford and Ralf Dahrendorf Fellow at St Antony's College.

The Steering Committee oversees the Programme and its future directions.

University of Oxford

As the oldest university in the English-speaking world, Oxford is a unique and historic institution. Oxford is comprised of self-governing colleges and halls, each retaining its own character and independence, and associated in a federal system within the University. The collegiate system provides unique advantages for Oxford students. The colleges bring together some of the greatest minds in the world to form intimate academic communities where learned colleagues reach across disciplines in creative interaction, spurring each other on to new levels of excellence.



Opposite page, L-R: Jan Zielonka; Margaret MacMillan; Mikołaj Kunicki; Norman Davies; Timothy Garton Ash.



St Antony's College

St Antony's College, which hosts the Programme on Modern Poland, is one of 38 colleges of the University of Oxford. St Antony's is the leading graduate college in Oxford dedicated to international, interdisciplinary area studies, housing on site seven regional centres focused on Africa, Asia, Europe, Japan, Latin America, the Middle East and Russia & Eurasia, as well as programmes on North America, Burma, Morocco, Poland and Taiwan. The College is sometimes referred to as "the place where future world leaders meet", but that would not happen without the unique collegiate atmosphere that underpins the College. The diversity within St Antony's is a central factor in this integrated community, where students, currently from 77 different countries, investigate key issues of our time.

The College can boast some of the world's most revered academics, industrialists and politicians within its faculty and alumni. *Foreign Policy Magazine's* first annual list of the top 100 global thinkers featured seven of St Antony's faculty and alumni: Fellows Paul Collier and Tariq Ramadan, former members Michael Ignatieff, Paul Kennedy and Mohamed El Erian, as well as Honorary Fellows Thomas Friedman and Aung San Suu Kyi.

The European Studies Centre at St Antony's College

ESC is dedicated to the interdisciplinary study of Europe. It has particular strengths in politics, history and international relations, but also brings together economists, sociologists, social anthropologists and students of culture. It is a meeting place and intellectual laboratory for the whole community of those interested in European Studies at the University of Oxford.



The Centre was established in 1976 with a generous grant from the Volkswagen Foundation. When it was founded, during the Cold War, the Centre was called the West European Studies Centre. To recognise the changes that followed the end of the Cold War, and the collapse of the artificial geopolitical division of the continent into 'West' and 'East', the Centre was renamed the European Studies Centre in 1990. Increasingly, the affairs of the post-communist states of central, eastern and south-eastern Europe have come to be studied in this Centre. There is a special programme devoted to eastern and south-eastern Europe, now entitled South East European Studies at Oxford. This also concerns itself with Turkish affairs, in close cooperation with colleagues in the Middle East Centre. In autumn 2013, the Programme on Modern Poland was set up. The Programme will be the first of its kind implemented abroad—an interdisciplinary study programme of this scale devoted to Poland and its post-1989 transformation. The European Studies Centre, therefore, aspires to study the affairs of the whole of Europe and Europe as a whole.





Mikołaj Kunicki is one of the leading historians of his generation. He studied in Poland, Hungary and the United States. Prior to his appointment in Oxford he taught at the universities of Stanford, Berkeley and Notre Dame. He is particularly known for his work on the Catholic Right in Poland and other countries of Europe. His political biography of Bolesław Piasecki was published with the prestigious Polish series at Ohio University Press. His current work focuses on East European history and film. Kunicki is a very original thinker, able to surprise readers with new concepts and ideas. He has wide academic interest and knowledge and the ability to adjust to different professional expectations and challenges.

—Jan Zielonka

Oxford University has been interested in Poland for decades. Currently, our guests and students from around the world want to know even more about Poland. The Programme on Modern Poland provides them an opportunity to attain a new level of quality in studying the country that is with increasing frequency perceived as a power within the European Union in political, economic, and foreign policy terms. The Programme is an opportunity to create a new familiarity about Poland among elites and students in Europe and around the world.

—Timothy Garton Ash

Today, Poland finds itself at an exceptional moment. We can be proud of how much we have achieved. We are a strong player in Europe, we have a dynamically growing economy, and we have handled the crisis better than others. We have caught up to the pack and have the potential and energy to reach higher. This is precisely the Poland that is worth showing off to the world. I believe that private capital has a serious obligation toward Poland, where, as a result of the transformation, we have had an opportunity to build our businesses. That is why I am honoured today to be able, along with Poland's biggest authorities and great friends of Poland at Oxford, to inaugurate this exceptional project.

—Leszek Czarnecki

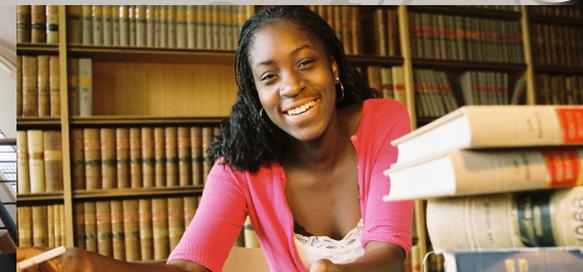
Funding

Dr Leszek Czarnecki and Getin Noble Bank generously donated initial funds to establish the Programme on Modern Poland at Oxford University. A foundation was created by the Bank for this purpose—**St Antony's College Oxford Noble Foundation**.



St Antony's College Oxford Noble Foundation was officially established in October 2012. Its goal is to promote the Programme on Modern Poland at Oxford, and also to involve intellectual and business circles in providing support for the development of the Programme. The foundation will also be responsible for on-going cooperation with St Antony's College in terms of promoting and supporting the Programme, including through events, conferences, and publications in Poland that are related to the Programme.

Dr Leszek Czarnecki is the Chair of the Council of St Antony's College Oxford Noble Foundation and Chairman of the Supervisory Board of Getin Noble Bank. Mr Czarnecki graduated from the Wrocław University of Technology, and he also holds a PhD in economics at the Wrocław University of Economics.





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