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“Common Europe – role of regions”

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Introduction

On 23-24 October 2013 „Common Europe- Role of Regions” conference” took place in Warsaw. It was focused on tasks of the regions in creation of European Union policy and was organized by Mazowieckie Voivodeship and financed by Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Poland.

Amongst participants of the conference were representatives from Poland, Mazovian partnership regions from EU – France and Germany, as well as experts from Croatia new member of EU and Ukraine, which aspires to join EU in the future. Discussion divided into five thematic panels was dedicated to issues of self-government dimension of foreign policy and cooperation with special attention to challenges and opportunities of common Europe for role of regions and self-governments of all levels in the shaping of common Europe, forms of financing and programming of international cooperation on all levels of self-government in connection with national foreign policy’s priorities, local dimension of foreign policy and cooperation of self-governments in the field of social matters, youth, education, art and regional development. Amongst the speakers were self-government officers, representatives of science, art and cultural institutions as well as non-government organizations, specialists in regional development planning and social matters.

The meeting created a chance to exchange experiences between regions and to establish or expand direct contacts between regional governments, counties and municipalities with their counterparts, inter alia, in the field of economic and cultural cooperation. Speakers underlined increasing role of the regions in the EU policy, their significance in introducing effective development policy. It was agreed that Europe must be developed by their citizens on the basis of self-governments. Ukrainian participants of the conference gave recognition to Polish self-government policy, which is the basis for the administration’s reform in their country.

Conference was realized within the frameworks of Ministry’s of Foreign Affairs competition „Support of civil and self-government dimension of Polish foreign policy 2013”.

List of Speakers

- **Leszek Ruszczyk** – Deputy Marshal of the Mazowieckie Voivodeship
- **Anna Pawłowska** – Councilor of the Minister of the Foreign Affairs
- **Filip Skawiński** – Political Analysis Section in Representative of European Commission Office in Poland

Regional Representatives

- **Stjepan Kožić** – Prefect of the Zagreb County
- **Vlado Horina** – Chairman of the Board, Committee for interregional and international cooperation, Assembly of Zagreb County
- **Wolfgang Balint** – Deputy Chief of European and International Affairs Division in the Ministry of Economy and European Affairs of Brandenburg
- **Oleg Romanets** – Chief of the Department of Organization and cooperation with Self-governments of Vinnitsa Oblast Council
- **Zlatko Herček** – Director of Zagreb County Regional Development Agency
- **Arkadij Gubernyk** – Deputy of Odessa Oblast Council, Head of the Interregional and International Cooperation and Investments Commission
- **Rafał Zięba** – Deputy Director of the Marshals' Chancellery

Representatives of world of science

- **Prof. dr hab. Radosław Zenderowski**– Director of the Institute of Political Science in Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw (UKSW)
- **dr Krzysztof Cebul**, Institute of Political Science in Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw (UKSW)

Representatives of local self-governments

- **Edward Marek Wroniewski**, Head of Pułtusk Powiat
- **Jan Grabiec**, Head of Legionowo Powiat
- **Andrzej Rymuza**, Secretary of Siedlce Powiat
- **Željko Turk** , Mayor of the City Zaprešić in Croatia
- **Antoni Krężlewicz**, Head of Czosnów Gmina
- **Maciej Dobrzański**, consultant concerning international cooperation in City of Grodzisk Mazowiecki

Representatives of Self-government Organizational Units of Mazowieckie Voivodeship

- **Barbara Kucharska**, Deputy Director of Mazovian Centre of Social Policy
- **Tomasz Sławiński**, Deputy Director of Mazovian Office of Regional Planning
- **Marcin Śliwa**, Head of Education Department in Mazovia Centre of Culture and Art

Representatives of NGOs

- **Andrzej Kawuniec**, Deputy Director of International Organization „Ukraine-Poland-Germany”.
- **Konstanty Szydłowski**, Project Coordinator in Genshagen Foundation

Adam Struzik – biographical note

Adam Krzysztof Struzik (born on January 1st, 1957 in Kutno) – doctor of medicine, parliamentarian, politician, committed to the community and self-government. Marshal of the Senate of the Republic of Poland from 1993 to 1997, senator of II, III, and IV tenure, since 2001 – the Marshal of the Mazowieckie Voivodeship.



Social and professional work

Graduate from the Physician Department of Medical Academy in Lodz. Internal diseases specialist. He completed postgraduate studies in the field of organization and economics of healthcare, as well as managerial studies in the field of public administration at the Management Department of University of Warsaw.

From 1990 to 1997 he was the General Manager of Joint Voivodeship Hospital in Płock.

He was a volunteer fireman and member of Voivodeship and General Board of Directors of Union of Voluntary Fire Service in the Republic of Poland.

Political activity

Since 1984 he is a member of The Polish People's Party, sits on the voivodeship and national authorities of the party. He is Member of the European Peoples' Party (EPP).

He was a senator of the Republic of Poland from 1991 to 2001. Chairman of Social and Health Policy Commission in II tenure of Senate. From 1993 – 1997 he was the Marshal of the Senate of the Republic of Poland. In 1997 he was Vice-Chairman of the National Assembly, which enacted The Constitution of the Republic of Poland.

In 2007 he was elected a Member of Parliament of the VI tenure of Sejm of Republic of Poland, but he resigned from the mandate to keep the seat of the Marshal of Mazowieckie Voivodeship.

Self-government activity

Since 1984 he is committed to self-government activity. Since 1998 he is the Councillor of Mazowieckie Voivodeship. Chairman of the Health and Physical Culture Commission of I tenure of Sejmik of Mazowieckie Voivodeship.

In December 2001 he became the Marshal of the Mazowieckie Voivodeship. In 2007 he was chosen to be the Vice-chairman of the Union of the Voivodeships of the Republic of Poland, the main tasks of which are: support for the idea of territorial self-government, the protection of mutual interests of voivodeships, the aspiration for social and economic development of the polish voivodeships.

He is a member of the Bureau of the Committee of the Region and works in COTER (Commission for Territorial Cohesion Policy) and ENVE (Environment, Climate Change and Energy) commissions.

Since October 2011 he is a member of Joint Consultative Committee EU-the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

Mazowieckie Voivodeship – General Information

Name of the region:	Mazowieckie Voivodeship	
Capital:	Warsaw	
Population:	5 285 604	
Area:	35 558,47 km ²	
Major cities:	Warsaw, Radom, Płock, Siedlce, Pruszków, Ostrołęka	
Administrative division:	314 gminas, 37 powiaty, 5 city powiaty.	
The most important sectors for the regional economy	Agriculture, food and petrochemical industry are playing dominating role. Other important branches are: energy, chemical and machine industry. What is specific for Mazovian economy is very quick development of innovative sectors such as finance-insurance services, ICT, pharmaceutical or electronic industries. Mazovia has 649 354 companies registered, including 23 502 with foreign capital.	
Foreign partners of the region:	Brandenburg, Saxony Anhalt (Germany), Brussels Capital Region (Belgium), Ile-de-France (France), Stockholm Region (Sweden), Veneto Region (Italy), Bratislava Region (Slovakia), Central Bohemian Region (Czech Republic), Pest Komitat (Hungary), Uusimaa Region (Finland), Moscow and Smolensk Oblasts (Russian Federation), Kiev, Lviv, Vinnitsa and Odessa Oblast (Ukraine), Akmola Oblast (Kazakhstan)	
Regional authorities:	Adam Struzik – Marshal of the Mazowieckie Voivodeship Management Board of Mazowieckie Voivodeship Sejmik (Regional Council) of the Mazowieckie Voivodeship	
Contact details:	Office of the Marshal of the Mazowieckie Voivodeship in Warsaw Urząd Marszałkowski Województwa Mazowieckiego w Warszawie Ul. Jagiellońska 26 03-719 Warszawa Tel: +48 22 59 79 100 Fax: +48 22 59 79 290 e-mail: urzad_marszalkowski@mazovia.pl	
Web page:	www.mazovia.pl	

Zagreb County – General Information

Name of the region: Zagreb County

Capital: Zagreb

Population: 317 642

Area: 3.078km²

Major cities: Dugo Selo, Ivanić-Grad, Jastrebarsko, Samobor, Sv.Ivan Zelina, Velika Gorica, Vrbovec, Zaprešić and Sv.Nedelja.

Administrative division: The county is divided into nine cities and 25 municipalities. At the head of the county prefect Stjepan Kožić. The legislative branch makes the County Assembly headed by the President Dražen Bošnjaković.

The most important sectors for the regional economy Major economic sectors of Zagreb County are: 1.st Manufacturing (production of food products, metal industry, production of non-metallic mineral products and mechanical engineering-22, 5% of total employment) 2.nd Retail and trade (20% of employees), 3.rd Construction (14%), 4.th Agriculture (leader in livestock production, fruit production and forage crops, and among the leaders in producing milk, eggs, wine, grapes), 5.th tourism

Foreign partners of the region: Foreign partners are: Slovenia, Austria, Italy, German, Hungary, Ukraine, Bosnia and Herzegovina , Albania.

Regional authorities: The structure of government Zagreb county is the following:-Prefect of the County Assembly-Governing bodies:-Assembly Expert Service-Education service of the head-office of the county Department of Economy, Department of Agriculture, Rural Development and Forestry-Department of Transport and utility infrastructure-Management department of Health and social Welfare-department of education, Culture, Sports, and technical education. Department of Finance-Department of environment planning, construction and environmental protection-Internal Audit Department.

Contact details: Phone: 00 385 1 6009 401


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Web page: www.zagrebacka-zupanija.hr



Île-de-France – General Information

Name of the region:	Ile-de-France		
Capital:	Paris		
Population:	11,7 million residents, (18,5 % of France's population)		
Area:	12 012 km ²		
Major cities:	Melun , Versailles, Nanterre, Evry, Bobigny, Cergy-Pontoise, Créteil		
Administrative division:	1281 town cities, 25 districts, 317 cantons, 543 towns.		
The most important sectors for the regional economy	Public transportation and mobility, High Schools education, Vocational training, internships and employment, housing, economic development , tourism, innovation, research, higher education, renewed support for small businesses of the region, health and social involvement, territorial planning, environment, culture and sports.		
Foreign partners of the region:	Antananarivo (Madagascar), Hanoi (Vietnam), Kayes (Mali), Gauteng Province (South Africa), Beirut (Lebanon), Nouakchott (Mauretania), Erevan (Armenia), South Jerusalem (Israel), Haiti, Quebec (Canada), Santiago (Chile), Sao Paulo (Brasil), Budapest City Council (Hungary), Mazowieckie Voivodeship (Poland), Brussels Capital Region (Belgium), North Rhine-Westphalia and Brandenburg (Germany), Catalonia (Spain), Lombardia (Italy), London (Great Britain).		
Regional authorities:	The Regional Council consists of an executive, a regional assembly and an administration which is responsible for executing decisions ; the executive consists of the President as well as 15 Vice-Presidents each in charge of a specific area of expertise ; the President prepares and executes the decisions of the regional assembly, manages the assets ; the regional assembly is elected by direct universal suffrage and includes 208 regional councillors ; it votes on the main decisions involving the Region's future in terms of financial matters. In the regional administration 10 400 officials work in the services of the different departments responsible for implementing and applying the decisions of the assembly and executive.		
Contact details:	International and European affairs department - 35 boulevard des Invalides – 75007 PARIS Helene d'Alançon Tel. + 33 (0)1 53855385 Fax + 33 (0) 1 53856219 Secretary : ana.blat@iledefrance.fr		
Web page:	www.iledefrance.fr		

Land Brandenburg – General Information

Name of the region: Land Brandenburg

Capital: Potsdam

Population: 2 448 000

Area: 29 485,63 km²

Major cities: Potsdam, Frankfurt (Oder), Brandenburg (Havel), Cottbus

Administrative division: 14 administrative districts

4 urban districts



The most important sectors for the regional economy

Brandenburg boasts special expertise in nine economic clusters. For the five with Berlin transnational constructed Clusters Energy Technology, Healthcare Industries, ICT/Media and Creative Industries, Transport/Mobility and Logistics and Photonics as well as three Brandenburg state Clusters Food Industry, Plastics and Chemistry and Metal you will find specialized consultants at the Brandenburg Economic Development Board. The Cluster Tourism Industry is managed by the Tourismus Marketing Brandenburg GmbH. Brandenburg's cluster policy is primarily aimed at promoting the growth of businesses and boosting their competitive edge on international markets using investment incentives.

Foreign partners of the region:

Voivodeship Mazovia, Lubusz, Lower Silesian, West Pomeranian, Podlaskie, Greater Poland
Romania (Centru), Moscow-Region, Kaliningrad, Ile-de-France

Regional authorities:

State of Brandenburg
Dr. Dietmar Woidke, Prime Minister

Contact details:

Ministry for Economic and European Affairs
Heinrich-Mann-Allee 107
14473 Potsdam
Phone: + 49 331 866-1840
Fax: + 49 331 866 1845
Email: wolfgang.balint@mwe.brandenburg.de

Web page:

www.mwe.brandenburg.de

Lviv Oblast – General Information

Name of the region:	Lviv Oblast
Capital:	Lviv
Population:	2 792 900
Area:	21,833 km ²
Major cities:	Boryslav, Drohobych, Sambir, Stryi, Chervonohrad
Administrative division:	20 raions (administrative districts), 44 cities, 12 of which are of Oblast' subordination, 34 urban-type settlements, and 1850 villages.
The most important sectors for the regional economy	Machine building, wood processing, chemical industry coal mining, light industry, food industry. In the GDP structure industry contributes to 22,9%,, transport and communication (15,2%) and agriculture (11,6%).
Foreign partners of the region:	Styria (Austria), Free State of Thuringia (Germany), Subcarpathian, Lublin, Lesser Poland, Silesian, Mazowieckie Vovivodeships (Poland), Minsk and Brest Oblasts (Belarus), Prešov Region (Slovakia), Zlin Region (Czech Republic), Smiltene Municipality (Latvia)
Regional authorities:	Lviv Oblast Council Lviv Oblast State Administration
Contact details:	Lviv Oblast State Administration ул. Винниченка 18 Львов
Web page:	http://loda.gov.ua



Kyiv Oblast – General Information

Name of the region:	Kyiv Oblast		
Capital:	Kiev (Separate administrative unit)		
Population:	1 723 869 (retrieved 01.08.2013)		
Area:	28 131 km ²		
Major cities:	Bila Tserkva, Brovary, Boryspil, Fastiv, Irpin, Vyshneve, Bucha, Vasytkiv, Obuhiv, Pereyaslav-Hmelnitskiy, Vyshgorod		
Administrative division:	25 raions (administrative districts), 25 cities, 12 of which are of Oblast' subordination, 30 urban-type settlements, and 1127 villages.		
The most important sectors for the regional economy	<p>The Kyiv Oblast is an industrial and agricultural region of Ukraine.</p> <p>The leading position in GDP breakdown is taken by the industry, then comes agricultural production of grain and sugar beet, meat and milk, followed by construction, transportation and service sector. The industrial sector is based on power production, food, mechanical engineering and metal-working, chemical and petrochemical industries.</p>		
Foreign partners of the region:	Briansk, Volgograd, Kaluga, Leningrad, Moscow, Murmansk, Nizhniy Novgorod, Novgorod, Rostov, Sverdlovsk Oblasts of the Russian Federation; Brest, Gomel, Minsk Oblasts of the Belarusian Republic, the Mazowieckie Voivodeship of the Republic of Poland, Zagreb and Split-Dalmatia Counties of Croatia, the Bratislava Region of Slovakia, Vilnius Region of Lithuania, the Crete of the Hellenic Republic, Federal lands of Upper and Lower Austria of the Austrian Republic, the Guangdong and Hubei Provinces of the People's Republic of China, the Bihn Thuan Province of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, etc.		
Regional authorities:	The local self-government of the Oblast is exercised by the Kyiv Oblast Council, executive power is represented by the Kyiv Oblast State Administration. The Head of the Oblast is represented by the Chairmen of the Oblast State Administration appointed by the President of Ukraine.		
Contact details:	Kyiv Oblast State Administration 1 Lesia Ukrainka square, Kyiv, Ukraine, 01196		
Web page:	http://koda.gov.ua		

Odessa Oblast – General Information

Name of the region:	Odessa Oblast		
Capital:	Odessa		
Population:	2 448 200		
Area:	33 300 km ²		
Major cities:	Odessa, Izmail, Ilyichyovsk, Belgorod-Dnestrovskiy		
Administrative division:	26 administrative districts, 19 cities including 7 cities of regional significance and 12 towns of district significance, 33 urban-type settlements, 439 rural councils and 1125 rural-type settlements		
The most important sectors for the regional economy	Industry, Agriculture, Tourism, Transport, Maritime complex, Investment activity, Capital construction, Trade		
Foreign partners of the region:	Russia, Turkey, France, Belarus, Poland, China, Indonesia, Egypt, Moldova, Panama, Switzerland, Virgin Islands, Cyprus, Great Britain, Germany		
Regional authorities:	Odessa Regional Council Odessa Regional State Administration Odessa City Council		
Contact details:	Odessa Regional Council 4, Shevchenko ave., Odessa, 65032, Ukraine tel.: +38 048 7189-459 e-mail: orada_kanc@odessa.gov.ua		
Web page:	http://oblrada.odessa.gov.ua/		

Vinnitsia Oblast – General Information

Name of the region:	Vinnitsa Oblast		
Capital:	Vinnitsa		
Population:	1 625 367		
Area:	26 500 km ²		
Major cities:	Vinnitsa, Khmilnik, Illintsi, Nemyriv, Tulchyn, Zhmerynka, Koziatyn, Ladyzhyn, Mohyliv-Podilskyi		
Administrative division:	27 raions (administrative districts), 18 cities, 6 of which are of Oblast' subordination, 29 urban-type settlements, and 1460 villages.		
The most important sectors for the regional economy	Agriculture, food industry, agriculture machine building, light industry, production of construction materials.		
Foreign partners of the region:	Poland (cooperation agreements with 10 voivodeships), Moldova, Romania, Lithuania, Russian Federation (Sverdlovsk and Belgorod Oblasts), France, Georgia		
Regional authorities:	Vinnitsa Oblast Council Vinnitsa Oblast State Administration		
Contact details:	Vinnitsa Oblast Council 21100 м. Винница, ул. Соборная, 70 Tel: +380 432 614 441 Faks: +380 432 530 054		
Web page:	http://vinrada.gov.ua		