On behalf of the Institute of National Remembrance and the Head Office of the State Archives we would like to invite you to participate in the international scientific conference: “Polonica in foreign institutions – research on the history of the Polish political emigration 1939–1990” – which will take place in Warsaw, at the Janusz Kurtyka IPN Educational Centre at Marszałkowska 21/25 from 20 to 22 April 2016.

During World War II and after its end a number of Polish citizens, including mostly intellectual and political elite, emigrated from Poland. Furthermore, among the emigrants were soldiers of the Polish Armed Forces in the West, prisoners of liberated prison camps, concentration camps and forced labour camps sent to the Third Reich. Around half a million of Poles decided to stay abroad with hope that the geopolitical situation in Poland would change.

Moreover, there were another waves of Polish emigration during the Cold War period. In March 1968, an anti-Semitic campaign was unleashed by the communist authorities. As a result, around 15 000 citizens were forced to leave Poland without the right to come back.

The imposition of martial law in December 1981 caused another wave of emigration. Thousands of scientists, doctors and engineers were forced to abandon their homeland. Young Poles, who did not believe in positive changes to the political system in Poland, followed their example.
During the meeting we should continue the debate which started at the last year’s international congress entitled „Archives for the History of Polish political emigration 1939–1990.

The crucial aims of the meeting are:

• exchanging knowledge, information and experience on the above-mentioned issues;
• creating a specific database regarding the fate of Polish emigration;
• opening new fields of research.

The collected information will help with queries. Analysis of the archival resources shall take into consideration following issues:

• the political history of emigration, its deployment, strength, social structure;
• complex relationships, interactions, attitude of emigrants towards the evolution of the situation in the country, as well as their impact on the country;
• the aspects of social, cultural, scientific and everyday life;
• the role of Polish emigrants in the broader context of the Central European emigration of the Cold War;
• the so-called Solidarity emigration, as one of the most important social phenomena in the Polish history.

All interested parties are encouraged to participate.

Should you have the opportunity to identify other individuals and centres that could be interested in presenting collections which record the history of Poles outside the country after 1939, please let us know and contact us.

The deadline for submitting the conference paper is 30th September 2015.

Your proposal should include the following, according to the registration form attached to this cfp:

• an abstract comprising between 300-500 words
• a name of proposer (or a lead contact for group proposals)
• a name of institution
• contact details
• a submission title (or a working title)
• a brief biography/ies of speakers
• special equipment needed (AV equipment etc.)
• any other information
Please send your submission to: agnieszka.jedrzak@ipn.gov.pl

- please provide as detailed information about your proposal as possible – this could help the Committee to select the papers and to prepare the schedule of the sessions;
- try to be relevant and representative: consider looking at a topic from opposing viewpoints or focus on a broader picture.

The organisers will reimburse the speakers for the costs of travel and stay (accommodation, meals).

The conference will be held in Polish and English.

The programme of the conference and the list of speakers will be available in October.

Kontakt

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