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Migracje polityczne na ziemiach polskich (1939-1950)

[Political migrations on Polish territories (1939-1950)]

Piotr Eberhardt

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During World War II and immediately after it, Polish lands were the site of massive forced relocations of civilian population. In total, nearly 30 million Poles, Germans, Jews and Ukrainians were resettled. Ruthlessness winners of consecutive stages of the war forced inhabitants who did not meet some criteria, be it of ethnicity, religion or social class, to leave their homeland, sometimes forever. Despite the passage of many decades, the issue is not only of a cognitive significance. It is a tool recurrently used in both domestic and international politics.

In a critical and eloquent way, Piotr Eberhardt analyses major forced political migrations which took the form of displacement, deportation, expulsion, escapes, or repatriation. He carefully tries to determine their scale, geographical directions, as well as their demographic and geopolitical consequences. Complex historical and demographic issues are communicated in a clear and concise way. Using abundant data, the author identifies the initiators and principal executors of resettlement policies. Numerous excellent number tables, maps and charts help the reader understand the scale and course of the processes described.