

POLSKA

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The Polish Western Border

*Poland, Germany and the Genesis
of World War II*

Neue Wache (1818-1993)

*The German Democratic Republic's
Attitude Towards the Nazi Past*

*The Border Controversy
in the Pomeranian Bay*

*The Most Common Polish Surnames
in Germany*

*Restoration of the Rights of Poles
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*Poles on the German Job Market
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About the Strategy of Promoting Poland

*The Priorities of Poland's Presidency
in the Council of the European Union*

Polish Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)



*Czasopismo
Instytutu
Zachodniego
w Poznaniu*

**PRZEGLĄD
ZACHODNI**

2012

Special
number

PRZEGLĄD ZACHODNI

SPECIAL NUMBER 2012

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Language verification: Christopher Whyatt

Research financed within "The National Programme for the Development of Humanities"
under the auspices of the Minister of Science and Higher Education in 2012



NARODOWY PROGRAM
ROZWOJU HUMANISTYKI

Editor's address: Instytut Zachodni, 61-854 Poznań, ul. Mostowa 27

All articles are indexed on the Internet at: www.cceol.com and www.ebscohost.com,
abstracts in English available at: www.cejsh.icm.edu.pl

Peer-reviewed journal

Reviewing procedure and information for authors available at: www.iz.poznan.pl
The Publisher has implemented procedures to prevent ghostwriting and guest authorship practices.
The hardcopy paper version is the primary (reference) version.

PUBLISHER: INSTYTUT ZACHODNI, INSTYTUT NAUKOWO-BADAWCZY
61-854 POZNAŃ, UL. MOSTOWA 27

tel. (061) 852 28 54; fax (061) 852 49 05; e-mail: wydawnictwo@iz.poznan.pl; www.iz.poznan.pl
www.pz.iz.poznan.pl

PRINTING: UNI-DRUK s.j.

62-030 Luboń, ul. Przemysłowa 13, tel. (0-61) 899 49 49 do 52

"Przebieg Zachodni" ("Western Review") is a scientific journal of the Institute of Western Affairs in Poznań. It has been published without a break since 1943; at present it is a quarterly with an interdisciplinary character. It includes mostly academic articles, reviews, reports from conferences, etc., but also polemics and reviews written by Polish and foreign authors.

In the almost seventy-year-long history of the "Przebieg Zachodni" the primary profile of the journal has not changed. However, the layout of issues on particular issues has undergone a slow evolution which was demonstrated by different thematic priorities in different periods and as consequence since 2001 all the issues have been provided.

Currently the subject matter of the journal mainly fits into the slogan "Poland – Germany – Europe". However, it is frequently expanded by topics of significant importance for understanding the contemporary world and the new challenges which are facing societies and states.

Making reference to the image of the journal developed over many years as devoted to German studies, the problems of Germany (internal or analyzed in the general European or international context) and Polish-German relations remain one of the main topics.

For several years now there has been a noticeable increase of interest in European issues in articles presented in the journal, among others in the various stages and aspects of the transformation of the European Union, in overcoming divisions in Europe, and in the trend of integration of the entire continent.

Still a lot of attention is devoted to Poland including both its past and present. It is expressed, among others, in the renaissance of interest in Western and Northern Regions, although the current research questions concern mainly other issues, e.g., the regional diversity of Poland, the shaping of local identity, the degree of identifying with the "private homeland", or issues which were so far left unmentioned e.g., German cultural heritage in these regions, expulsions of Germans, wasteful expatriation by Russians, or the resistance movement after 1945.

The special issue of "Przebieg Zachodni" which we have prepared includes selections of articles from the years 2008-2011 which present Polish research and opinions concerning various aspects of relations between Poland – Germany – Europe. It contains articles about: war-torn borders of World War II, attitudes towards the war in Ukraine, the border controversy between the Polish People's Republic and West Germany, and the migration of Poles in Germany. Successive articles make an attempt to evaluate the usefulness of the Polish-German Treaty on Good Neighbourhood and Friendly Cooperation (the rights of Poles in Germany, access to the German job market and cultural cooperation) as well as pointing out the change of character in Polish-German political relations after 2007.

The subject matter of the last group of articles is related to the European Union. They concern the normalizing of Polish-German relations in the EU, the attitudes of Poles towards integration, Polish foreign direct investment, strategies for promoting Poland and its Polish residents in the Council of the European Union.

Such a selection of subject matter aims at disseminating the results of Polish research into the cooperation between the relations of Poland – Germany – Europe among the readers from outside the Polish language community.

We trust that the articles published in this issue will provide mutual understanding needed to follow further issues of "Przebieg Zachodni" prepared also in English. They will be devoted to the evolution of the Polish residency in the EU Council and the future of Europe.