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New Social Movements and Transformation of the Polish Society



New Social Movements

- Theories and Empirical examples:
collective actions, collectivities, groups,
organizations, institutions
- Definition:
 - **Social Movements:** Collective actions
attempting at execution of social change or,
contrary, prevention society from social
change (P. Sztopka)

Types of social movements

- scope
 - reform movements
 - radical movements
- type of change
 - innovation movements
 - conservative movements
- targets
 - group-focus movements
 - individual-focused movements

Types of social movements

- methods of work
 - nonviolent, peaceful movements
 - violent movements
 - terrorist movements
 - the state and the church movements
- range
 - global movements
 - local movements
 - multi-level movements
- old and new

New Social Movements

- Life cycle (dynamics): creation, growth, successes or failures and eventually, routinisation, formalization and transformation into institutions or organizations or dissolution and eradication

Old Social Movements:

Most of the 19th century movements fought for specific social groups, such as the working class, peasants, whites, aristocrats, Protestants, men.). They were usually centered on some materialistic Most of the 19th century movements fought for specific social groups, such as the working class, peasants, whites, aristocrats, Protestants, men.). They were usually centered on some materialistic goals

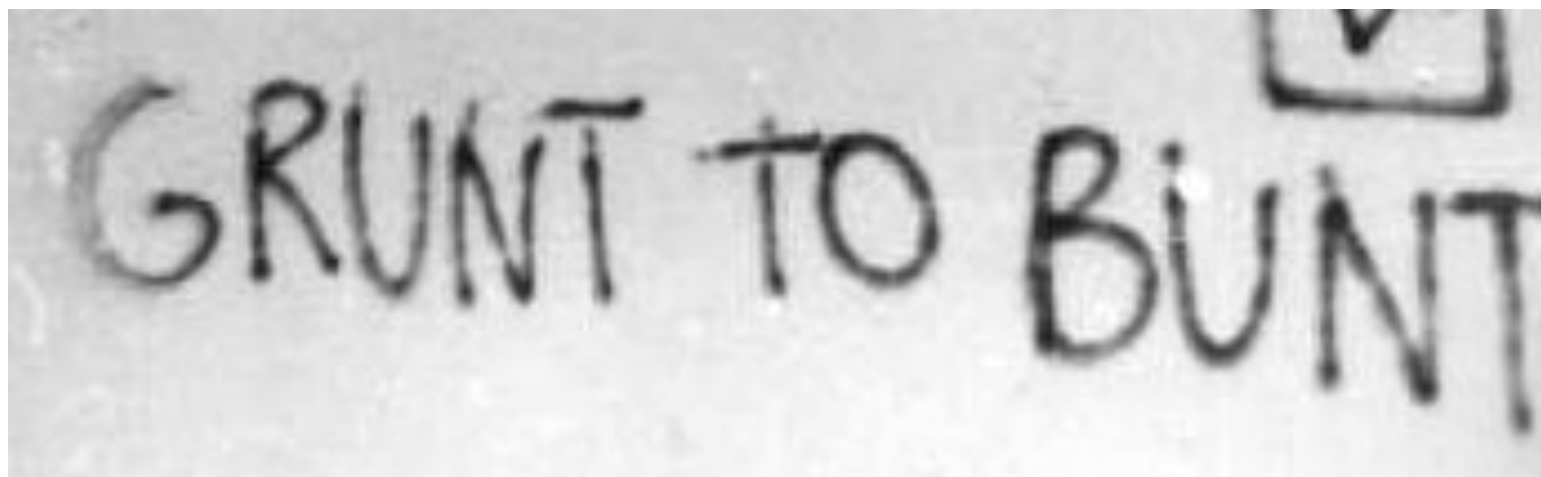
New Social Movements:

Movements which became dominant from the second half of the 20th century - like the [feminist movement](#) Movements which became dominant from the second half of the 20th century - like the feminist movement, [pro-choice movement](#) Movements which became dominant from the second half of the 20th century - like the feminist movement, pro-choice movement, [civil rights movement](#) Movements which became dominant from the second half of the 20th century - like the feminist movement, pro-choice movement, civil rights movement,

New Social Movements and the Polish Society

- a) practically impossible until 1976
 - marginal cultural movements (groups of *beatnicks*), and marginal hippie movement
 - student and intellectuals' protests of 1968
- b) KOR, and other political opposition movements established in 1976
- c) "Solidarity" as a Social Movement, eruption of social activity
- d) Martial Law of 1981-1983: activity out of the state control was persecuted
- e) underground world of independent politics and culture
- f) creation of civil society and new social movements after 1989

Jarocin Festival of New Generation Music



Jarocin Festival

- one of biggest and most important [rock music](#)one of biggest and most important rock music festivals in the 1980s Europe, by far the biggest festival of alternative music in the [Warsaw Pact](#) countries.
- Founded in 1980Jarocin's Festival was generally patterned on famous American [Woodstock Festival](#), thus it sometimes was called the Polish Woodstock. In the 1980s it was regarded as some kind of a springboard from drab, poor reality of late-Communist Poland. It lasted for 3 days, usually at the beginning of August.
- The Festival attracted thousands of fans (e.g. in 1986 there were more than 30 000 of them), who lived in tents and came to listen to music which was otherwise hardly (or never) played in Polish radio and TV. Still, many believe that Jarocin was a design of Communist secret services, which created a “safety outlet” for restless Polish youth.

Jarocin Festival

- Music that was played during the Festival's 3 days differed, but generally it was "alternative" - [blues](#) Music that was played during the Festival's 3 days differed, but generally it was "alternative" - blues, rock, [heavy metal](#) Music that was played during the Festival's 3 days differed, but generally it was "alternative" - blues, rock, heavy metal, [punk rock](#) Music that was played during the Festival's 3 days differed, but generally it was "alternative" - blues, rock, heavy metal, punk rock, [reggae](#) Music that was played during the Festival's 3 days differed, but generally it was "alternative" - blues, rock, heavy metal, punk rock, reggae. Bands played on two stages, with the bigger one located on local [soccer](#) pitch. Interesting was the fact that several fans brought with them tape recorders and during concerts, held them above their heads. This was the only chance to record and distribute music unwanted by official mass-media.
- Jarocin Festival lost its message and kick since early

Jarocin Festival



Jarocin Festival



Orange Alternative

(*Pomarańczowa Alternatywa*)

An underground [protest](#) An underground protest movement which was started and led by [Waldemar Fydrych](#) (sometimes misspelled as Frydrych), then commonly known as *Major (Commander of the Festung Breslau)*, in [Wrocław](#), in Wrocław in [1983](#), in Wrocław in 1983. Its main purpose was to protest peacefully by using absurd and nonsensical elements. By doing this, Orange Alternative participants could not be arrested by the police for opposition to the communist regime. It organized [happenings](#), in Wrocław in 1983. Its main purpose was to protest peacefully by using absurd and nonsensical elements. By doing this, Orange Alternative participants could not be arrested by the police for opposition to the communist regime. It organized happenings and painted ridiculous [graffiti](#), in Wrocław in 1983. Its main purpose was to protest peacefully by using absurd and nonsensical elements. By doing this, Orange Alternative participants could not be arrested by the police for opposition to the communist regime. It organized happenings and painted ridiculous graffiti on walls. It was the most picturesque element of [Polish](#), in Wrocław in 1983. Its main purpose was to protest peacefully by using absurd and nonsensical elements. By doing this, Orange Alternative participants could not be arrested by the police for opposition to the communist regime. It organized happenings and painted ridiculous graffiti on walls. It was the most picturesque element of Polish opposition against [communism](#). Among other things they organized happenings which demanded "Freedom for Santa Claus" and painted big orange smiling dwarfs on buildings. It suspended activity in 1989, but reactivated in 2001 to organize the action *Vote for dwarfs: Only dwarfs can save the country!*.

- Some utterances ascribed to Waldemar Fydrych:
 - *In Poland there are only three places when you can feel free: In churches, but only for the meditations, in prisons, but not everyone can go to prison, and on the streets: they are the freest places.*
 - *The Western World will find out much more about the situation in Poland from hearing that I was put to jail for giving tampons to a woman, than from reading the books and articles written by other people from the opposition.*
 - *Can you treat a police officer seriously, when he is asking you the question: "Why did you participate in an illegal meeting of dwarfs?"*
- Orange Alternative movement may also have inspired and influenced the [Pora](#) Orange Alternative movement may also have inspired and influenced the Pora and the so called [Orange Revolution](#) Orange Alternative movement may also have inspired and influenced the Pora and the so called Orange Revolution movement in [Ukraine](#) which was in turn supported by Poland

Orange Alternative

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Polish Army's Day.

Great Fall Maneuvres, Świdnicka Street 11



Ukrainian Orange Revolution



Waldemar Fydrych („Major”)



Major Waldemar Fydrych at Krakow Book Fair October 2006





THE GREAT ORCHESTRA OF CHRISTMAS CHARITY FOUNDATION (GOCC)

Wielka Orkiestra Świątecznej Pomocy (The Great Orchestra of Christmas Charity) is the biggest and most prosperous charity organization in Poland. Its objectives are **saving children's lives, health promotion and education in the field of preventive treatment.**

Between 1993 and 2006 The Great Orchestra of Christmas Charity has collected and spent over **\$65 mln** for saving lives. Besides humanitarian work, the Foundation is also a powerful medium spreading the **ideology of kindness, friendship, tolerance, and openness.**

THE GREAT ORCHESTRA OF CHRISTMAS CHARITY

In 1992, Jurek Owsiak, a well-established performer and the author of an avant-garde TV and radio shows, used his pop-culture status to help under-financed Pediatric Cardio Surgery Division in The Children Memorial Health Institute in Warsaw.

In his TV show, Owsiak encouraged his audiences to join the forces and help. His idea was to combine rock'n'roll, fun, and charity. He believed in the great potential of the people getting together regardless of whether they have much or little money.

THE GREAT ORCHESTRA OF CHRISTMAS CHARITY

In ten years, the Foundation has completed 8 gigantic projects. It has bought the medical equipment needed on the numerous pediatric divisions specializing in: **cardio-surgery, neonatal medicine, oncology, post-traumatic surgery, pediatric nephrology, diagnostics, newborns' surgery, and newborns & children under 5 years old divisions.**

Jerzy Owsiak









Rospuda



ROSPUDA



Grupa Antynazistowska (GAN)



Grupa Anty Nazistowska

Our group was established in 1992 in response to the growing wave of racism and anti-Semitism in postcommunist Poland. Our aim is to promote human rights, multicultural understanding and to contribute to the development of a democratic civil society in Poland. Nigdy Wiecej is particularly concerned with the problem of education against racial and ethnic prejudices among the young. Nigdy Wiecej is an independent organisation, not linked to any political party.

MORE: <http://www.nigdywiecej.prh.pl/english/nw.php>



STOWARZYSZENIE "NIGDY WIECEJ" **"NEVER AGAIN" ASSOCIATION**

The mission of 'NEVER AGAIN'

Association is to promote multicultural understanding and to contribute to the development of a democratic civil society in Poland. 'NEVER AGAIN' is particularly concerned with the problem of education against racial and ethnic prejudices among the young.

It had existed as an informal group since 1992 and it was officially registered in 1996.



NIGDY WIĘCEJ

Objectives

The major objectives of 'NEVER AGAIN' Association include:

- breaking the silence and raising awareness of the problem of racism and xenophobia in contemporary Poland
- building a broad and inclusive movement against racism and discrimination
- eliminating or marginalizing racist, xenophobic and antisemitic tendencies in various spheres of life

'NEVER AGAIN' is an independent organization, not linked to any political party.



NIGDY WIĘCEJ

‘NEVER AGAIN’ closely monitors racism and xenophobia on the ground. Through its national network of voluntary correspondents and regular grass-roots contacts with various minority communities, ‘NEVER AGAIN’ has built the most extensive register of racist incidents and other xenophobic crimes committed in Poland, the ‘Brown Book’.

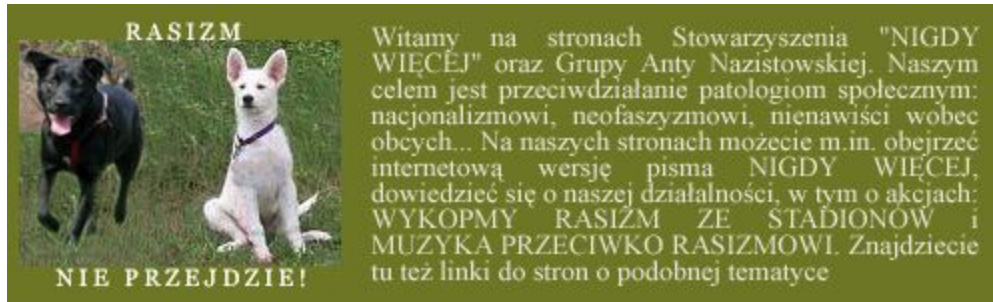
The ‘NEVER AGAIN’ Association also provides information directly to journalists and researchers interested in the problem of racism and xenophobia. ‘NEVER AGAIN’ has consulted numerous programs on the national television, as well as assisted in writing many articles for the national and international press. About 2,000 press articles, books, TV and radio broadcasts have been prepared with the assistance of ‘NEVER AGAIN’.



NIGDY WIĘCEJ

'NEVER AGAIN' has launched the 'Delete Racism' project to combat racism and antisemitism on the Internet. It has also conducted successful high-profile educational campaigns in the field of popular culture, 'Music Against Racism' and 'Let's Kick Racism out of the Stadiums'. It is currently planning major educational activities to take place before and during the European Football (Soccer) Championship in Poland and Ukraine in 2012.

Logos of the *Nigdy Więcej* Actions





Gay and Lesbian Movement LGBT Rights in Poland

Homosexuality legal since 1932

Equal age of consent since 1932

Anti-discrimination laws in employment since 2003

Anti-discrimination laws in the provision of goods and services
(**bill 2007**)

Anti-discrimination laws in all other areas (incl. indirect
discrimination, hate speech)

Same-sex marriage(s) & recognition of same-sex couples

Adoption by same-sex couples

Gays allowed to serve in the military

Right to change legal gender Access to IVF for lesbians

MSM allowed to donate blood since 2005

Logos of New Social Movements in Poland

