

## RSA Polish Section Plenary Session: Social and Economic Development in Central and Eastern Europe: Stability and Change after 1990

*Professor Grzegorz Gorzelak, Centre for European Regional and Local Studies (EUROREG), University of Warsaw, Poland*



**Grzegorz Gorzelak** is a professor of economics, specialising in regional and local development, regional policies and strategy building. Until 2016, he has been the director of the Centre for European Regional and Local Studies (EUROREG) at the University of Warsaw. He has coordinated several national and international research projects; the most recent ones are the ESPON TERCO project on territorial cooperation and the FP7 project “Growth – Innovation – Competitiveness: Fostering Cohesion in Central and Eastern Europe” (GRINCOH).

He has collaborated with the World Bank, OECD, DG Regio of the European Commission, and several agencies of Polish and Ukrainian governments, as well as regional and local authorities.

G. Gorzelak has published (as author and editor) over 50 books (several of them in English) and 260 articles. He is Editor-in Chief of a quarterly scientific journal “*Studia Regionalne i Lokalne*” and former president of the Polish Section of the Regional Studies Association.

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*Dr Maciej Smetkowski, Centre for European Regional and Local Studies (EUROREG), University of Warsaw, Poland*



**Maciej Smetkowski** – Ph.D. in earth sciences, specialty socio-economic geography, associate professor at the Centre for European Regional and Local Studies (EUROREG), University of Warsaw. Chairman of the Polish Section of the Regional Studies Association. Author of over 100 publications on metropolisation process, instruments of regional policy and cross-border co-operation including books “Regional Development and Regional Policy in Central and Eastern European Countries in the period of transformation and globalisation” (in Polish) and “The European Metropolises and Their Regions: from Economic Landscape to Metropolitan Networks”. He has extensive experience in evaluation of public policies. He has been involved in number of research projects carried-out within research framework programmes of the EU and HORIZON 2020 as well as ESPON Programme (European Spatial Planning Observatory Network).

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*Dr Agnieszka Fihel, Centre of Migration Research, University of Warsaw, Poland*



**Agnieszka Fihel** is a demographer. After obtaining a PhD from the University of Warsaw, she carried out post-doctoral research (in 2009, 2011) and other research projects (2014–2016) in the *Institut national d'études démographiques* in Paris, she taught at the University Paris Nanterre, Paris 1 – La Sorbonne and Sciences Po. Since 2018 she has been a fellow at the Centre of Migration Research, University of Warsaw, and *Institut Migrations Convergences*, Paris. She conducted several research projects, both as a collaborator and a leader, on demographic changes in post-communist countries, and international migration to and from Poland.

*Professor Tomasz Komornicki, Institute of Geography and Spatial Organization, Polish Academy of Sciences, Poland*



**Tomasz Komornicki** is a graduate of the Warsaw University (1988), holds a PhD in Polish Academy of Sciences (1998), is head of the Department of Spatial Organization in the Institute of Geography and Spatial Organization Polish Academy of Sciences (PAS), professor at the Faculty of Earth Sciences and Spatial Management, Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin; President of the Committee for Spatial Economy and Regional Planning, PAS, head and participant of many Polish and international research project (including HORIZON, ESPON and INTERREG); member of the Consulting Board for preparation of the new Spatial Development Concept of Poland up to 2030 (in the Ministry of Regional Development); member of the international scientific team preparing the Territorial Agenda of the European Union 2020. He is the author of more than 400 scientific publications. His main areas of interest are socio-economic geography, transport geography and spatial planning.

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*Dr Martin Ferry, European Policies Research Centre, United Kingdom*



**Martin Ferry** is a Senior Research Fellow at the European Policies Research Centre at the University of Strathclyde in Glasgow and at the Technical University of Delft in the Netherlands. He has long-standing research interests in the comparative study of regional development in Europe at different spatial scales and in the design, implementation and evaluation of EU Cohesion Policy. He has a particular interest in the governance and implementation of national regional policy and Cohesion policy in Central and Eastern Europe, and is developing a new EPRC research programme on sustainable urban development in Europe.