



## **The 1st School for Leaders for the Polish Community Abroad – Western Europe**

This is an educational project. The School for Leaders for the Polish Community Abroad is being held under the patronage Senate Marshall of the Republic of Poland Bogdan Borusewicz.

Project will take form of two fourteen-day sessions of the School for Leaders for the Polish Community Abroad and it will be held in Poland. The programme of the school includes a series of lectures and study visits. The project is addressed to socially active representatives of the Polish communities and Poles, who lives in the United States, Canada and the Western Europe (Great Britain, Ireland, Portugal; Spain, Italy, Austria, Switzerland, Belgium, Holland, Denmark, Greece, Malta, Luxembourg, Finland, Sweden, Norway).

Project's schedule:

- School for Leaders for the Polish Community of the United States and Canada – **29th June – 12th July**
- School for Leaders for the Polish Community of the Western Europe – **24th August – 6th September**

Recruitment for the School for the Polish Community of the Western Europe will be held in the period  
**11th May – 7th June 2009**

Advertisement (in Polish and English), application form, rules and regulations, and further information (in Polish) can be found at [www.szkola-liderow.pl](http://www.szkola-liderow.pl)

Successful applicants will be obliged to sign the "Principles of participation" and to attend the School for Leaders for the Polish Community Abroad. The organizers will bear the costs of participating in the School for Leaders including accommodation and meals and will reimburse the participants for the travel expenses up to the amount of 500 zloty.

### *Premises of the School for the Polish Community Abroad Programme*

The programme of the School for the Polish Community Abroad is targeted at activities supporting the development of participants' leadership skills and strengthening their bond with Poland and their national identity, as well as at forming civil attitudes. During the session of the school the participants will be engaged in a series of workshops and lectures.

The school will comprise three modules.

- Leadership skills development workshop – 2 days
- Study visits – 6 days (1+5)
- Follow-up to the leadership skills development workshop – 5 days

Moreover, during each module the participants will take part in lectures and will meet the representatives of politics, culture and social activists.

During the session of the school, the participants will be divided into two groups and each of the two will be accompanied by a supervisor who will be responsible for: facilitation, providing the participants with the information concerning the syllabus and plans for the further days, explaining doubts that might arise, every evening conducting a meeting to sum up the day, and taking actively part in study visits. The School for Leaders has gained positive experience regarding assigning

### **Stowarzyszenie Szkoła Liderów**

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supervisors to groups of foreign participants of the school. The supervisor takes care of the participants and is available to answer their questions or address their doubts.

Syllabus:

A. Leadership skills development workshop (32 hours):

Session: Prerequisites for effective team work (16 hours)

- Teamwork
- Team roles
- Engaging others in activities
- Team's life cycle
- Effective communication
- My strengths and weaknesses as a leader - analysis

Session: Introducing changes ( 16 hours)

- Introducing changes in the local community
- Role of change
- Analysis of the local community and its needs
- How to introduce changes?

B. Follow-up to the leadership skills development workshop (16 hours)

The syllabus of the workshop will be drafted on the grounds of expectations and needs of the participants voiced during preceding workshop sessions. Classes on communication, self-presentation, giving public speeches, conducting discussions etc. will be offered to the participants.

Workshops will be held in the training centre near Warsaw. Classes will be run in two groups formed according to the Polish language proficiency. Classes in the less advanced group will be conducted by a bilingual trainer.

C. Lectures and meetings

During workshops and study visits the participants will, on a daily basis, meet public figures: politicians, artists, social activists, representatives of the media, and leaders. Moreover, there will be lectures shaped in such a way as to facilitate insight into the recent history and the real situation of Poland.

The lectures will, among others, concern:

- Transformation of the political system in Poland;
- Poland in the international organisations;
- Relationship between Poland and Russia;
- Market economy and its shortcomings;
- Foundations of democracy and civil society;
- Poland's recent history;
- Contemporary/ modern patriotism in Poland;
- Polish national minorities in cooperation with the Polish state;
- Local government in Poland;
- Social role of culture;

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Lectures will be interpreted into English.

#### D. Study visits

The objective of the study visits is to provide a more comprehensive insight into Poland in the scope of tourism and sightseeing, and also to set forth issues included in the premises of the project. The participants will visit places concerning Poland's recent history and monuments of culture. Moreover, they will have the opportunity to meet the representatives of the public and cultural institutions, activists of the non-governmental organisations, business representatives, and socially active young Poles. The syllabus of the study visits will be formed on the basis of expectations voiced in the application forms.

The itinerary will be organised thematically:

- Gdańsk – transformation of the political system in Poland
- Toruń – realisation of the idea of civil society
- Cracow – development of the local government in Poland
- Warsaw – local cultural initiatives; contemporary patriotism

Detailed itinerary will be drafted on the basis of information included in the application forms, suggestions and interests voiced therein, as well as particular character of the places to be visited. Study visits will be held in two groups. During meetings and sightseeing the groups will be accompanied by an interpreter.

#### *Contact details:*

Coordinators of the project "The 1st School for Leaders for the Polish Community Abroad":

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Application forms can be filled in either the Polish or English language. Should you have any queries, please contact a coordinator.

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