INVITATION
TO PARTICIPATE IN THE COMPETITION FOR MEMOIRS OF RESEARCHERS WITH MIGRATION EXPERIENCE

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

Do you conduct research or teach in Poland or abroad? Do you have experience of academic stays abroad, or reflections on academia that you would like to share? Did a period at a foreign university accelerate your career, open up new opportunities, or give you a fresh appreciation of education in Poland? Or perhaps you would like to write about what surprised or disappointed you, or about unfinished projects?

If your answer to any of the above questions is yes, then it is you we invite to submit your memoir!

Our invitation to participate in the Competition extends to all those who:

- were born and received part of their education in Poland (at secondary or higher education level),
- hold at least a doctoral degree (obtained in Poland or abroad),
- have spent a minimum of 12 months abroad (which may be the sum of several stays) working in a research and/or teaching capacity, having gone abroad between 1990 and 2025,
- spent part of that period in the **United Kingdom**, **the United States**, **Canada**, or **Australia.**

COMPETITION TASK:

Memoirs, written in Polish or English, should be submitted to the following e-mail address: kontakt@diasporaintelektualna.pl and monika.jania.szczechowiak@uni.lodz.pl until **31.10.2026**.
The Organiser does not set a minimum or maximum length for the entry, but recommends that reminiscences be written across at least 20 pages. Photographs, sketches, drawings, and other additional materials are welcome.

PRIZES

The best memoirs will be awarded prizes:

- 1st prize: 7,000 PLN
- 2nd prize: 5,000 PLN
- 3rd prize: 3,000 PLN
- distinction: 1,500 PLN (up to 6 distinctions). The final allocation of prizes shall be decided by the Jury.

Together with your submission, please complete a form in which you indicate:

- Whether you wish to remain anonymous.
- Whether you consent to the publication of your reminiscences in a book or on a website.

The most interesting entries will be published (in full or in part) in the form of a book or on the website www.diasporaintelektualna.pl
We reserve the right to edit texts and make any necessary abridgements. Granting or withholding consent to publication shall have no bearing on the assessment of competition entries.

The Competition Regulations are available here.
Further information may be obtained from Dr. Monika Jania-Szczechowiak monika.jania.szczechowiak@uni.lodz.pl

Share your story!

The Competition is a part of the project “Biography and Academic Imaginarium Polish Intellectual Diaspora in the Autobiographies of Migrant Scholars” financed by the National Science Center under the Sonata Bis competition (UMO-2023/50/E/HS6/00189).