Poland and the Crossroads
International Conference, Warsaw, 17 – 19 Nov 2017

What is it all about?
Poland has been in the news a lot recently. Soon after the “Law and Justice Party” (PiS) won the last parliamentary elections, it started ‘reforming’ the country, in particular the state media and the juridical system. While the parliamentary opposition remains fragmented, we have seen many protests on the street, regularly dominated by young people considering themselves ‘European’. The Polish society seems deeply divided between supporters of a consolidation of catholic state putting the “nation” first and proponents of a liberal society in an increasingly “European” Poland.

How will it work?
We are glad to meet you in Warsaw – no matter your age, background and origin. Simply come and join us – for an insightful meeting with interesting people. We arrange the programme together with our local partners. If needed, we can give you hints regarding hotels and hostels. Your ideas, suggestions and contributions are more than welcome, both regarding content and logistics.

Tell us ASAP if you want to come and if you would like to contribute something yourself. Please, write to office@citizens-of-europe.eu stating „Citizens Weekend 2017” in the e-mail topic.

Who are we?
Citizens of Europe is a politically independent, non-governmental and non-profit oriented network of people from diverse backgrounds which is open for everybody perceiving diversity as an opportunity. We initiate and cooperate in a wide range of projects. We support each other to assure high quality standards in everything we do. We are active as we want to contribute to an active civil sociecty in Europe and to learn and gain experience. For more info hav a look at: http://www.citizens-of-europe.eu or https://www.facebook.com/Citizens.of.Europe/

Tell us ASAP if you want to come and if you would like to contribute something yourself. Please, write to office@citizens-of-europe.eu stating „Citizens Weekend 2017” in the e-mail topic.
PROGRAMME

Friday, 17 November
(Polska Fundacja im. Roberta Schumana, Aleje Ujazdowskie 37/5, 00-540 Warszawa)

19:00 Opening
Welcome, Introduction
Overview: The political Poland. People, parties, constellations
Dr Martin Dahl, Lazarski University Warszawa

Saturday, 18 November
(Łazarski University, ul. Świeradowska 43, 02-662 Warszawa)

09:00 Common breakfast

Chapter I: Current debates in Poland

09:30 Workshop 1: Juridical reform [Sektor F, 7th floor, room 763]
Anna Wojcik, Institute of Law Studies at the Polish Academy of Sciences

Workshop 2: Education Reform [Sektor F, 7th floor, room 764]
Ela Kielak, Trainer, Activist, Antidiscrimination Education Association

10:30 Coffee Break

11:00 Workshop 3: The role of religion [Sektor F, 7th floor, room 763]
Dr Justyna Bokajło, Wroclaw University

Workshop 4: The role of media [Sektor F, 7th floor, room 764]
Maria Kadzielska, Wprost Journalist and Book Author

12:00 Lunch Break

13:30 Summing up the workshops: Controversies and findings
[Sektor F, 7th floor, room 761]

Chapter II: Contemporary challenges in Poland and beyond

15:00 Panel Debate
What is going on in Poland? What are the similarities with other countries?
How could the current controversies become so tensed?
Are we facing a transformation crises?
Or a turn towards different political paradigms?

Dr Adrian Chojan, Polish Academy of Science
Dr Jan Grzymski, Lazarski University, Warsaw
Dr Ostap Kushnir, Lazarski University Warsaw

17:00   End of conference day one
City tour
Pub crawl

Sunday, 19 November
(Lazarski University, ul. Świeradowska 43, 02-662 Warszawa)

Chapter III: Europe – Problem or Solution?

10:00   Final Debate
Marcin Swiecicki, President of the European Movement Poland
Member of the Sejm
Prof. Dr. Andrii Verstiak, Czernivtsi University

12:00   Evaluation of the project – any future plans?
12:30   Common Lunch
14:00   General assembly of Citizens of Europe e.V.

Our partners:

Lazarski University
Warsaw
Polish Robert Schuman Foundation
Warsaw
Polish European Movement
Yuriy Fedkovych
Cernivtsi National University