

# Wojciech Furman

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## Polish-German-Ukrainian student seminar: „Poland, Germany and Ukraine in the process of European integration”, Rzeszów, 12–18 September 2004

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Polityka i Społeczeństwo nr 2, 244-245

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2005

Artykuł został opracowany do udostępnienia w internecie przez Muzeum Historii Polski w ramach prac podejmowanych na rzecz zapewnienia otwartego, powszechnego i trwałego dostępu do polskiego dorobku naukowego i kulturalnego. Artykuł jest umieszczony w kolekcji cyfrowej [bazhum.muzhp.pl](http://bazhum.muzhp.pl), gromadzącej zawartość polskich czasopism humanistycznych i społecznych.

Tekst jest udostępniony do wykorzystania w ramach dozwolonego użytku.

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SEMINAR: „POLAND, GERMANY AND UKRAINE  
IN THE PROCESS OF EUROPEAN INTEGRATION”  
RZESZÓW, 12–18 SEPTEMBER 2004**

Two 15-people student groups, members of academic societies at the University in Bielefeld and Lvov University, were invited to participate in the seminar. They were hosted by two academic societies of political scientists at Rzeszów University and Wyższa Szkoła Społeczno-Gospodarcza [Higher Socio-Economic School] in Tyczyn. Altogether, 62 people participated in the seminar since it turned out that in fact the guests had arrived as 16-people groups.

The beginning of the seminar was dedicated to getting to know each other: a shared dinner, a city tour the following day and a visit to the townhall. Two following days were devoted to exchange of views and discussions (held in English); each day they had been preceded by three short presentations stating the Polish, German and Ukrainian points of view.

During the first day of the seminar, the discussion focused on politics of the European Union, sovereignty of the member states, mutual relations between the old and the new member states of the Union as well as on a European option for Ukraine. As far as the last issue is concerned, the participants were fully supportive of European aspirations on the part of Ukraine. Nevertheless, they also pointed out that accession to the Union is premised on fulfilling several conditions.

On the second day of the seminar, the discussion was related to European cultural heritage and the feeling of identity – national and European. The statements in the discussion varied but were frank, arousing visible curiosity and mutual interest. Ukrainian participants additionally

believed that the fact that only students and not politicians took part in the discussion, was an additional advantage. The discussion was supplemented with a visit to the premises of a regional daily „Nowiny” and the regional TV station.

The third day of the seminar was more relaxed, it was spent in Tyczyn. After meeting the school authorities, the students sat down at computers and put down their impressions from the seminar. What they wrote may be accessed *via* the Rzeszow University web-site. Later, the seminar was evaluated jointly and further co-operation was discussed. The seminar was believed to be valuable and efficiently organized. Critical remarks concerned the possibility of carrying out not only plenary discussions but also discussions within working groups. The participants declared they would exchange addresses and would keep in touch. The Ukrainian delegation proposed that the next meeting be held at the university of Lvov during the second half of 2005. The proposal was received well.

The last day of the seminar was dedicated to culture. The students visited Galeria Fotografii (Photography gallery) and the underground tourist route below the Rzeszow market place. They watched a film about Rzeszow’s past at Archiwum Państwowe [the State Archive]. Those interested went on to visit the Łańcut castle. The farewell party was held at the student club „Indeks”.

The seminar would be impossible to organize without financial support from Polsko-Niemiecka Wymiana Młodzieży [Polish-German Youth Exchange Programme], Rzeszow University and Wyższa Szkoła Społeczno-Gospodarcza in Tyczyn.

The seminar had a good organizational pace, provided opportunities to meet and learn more about the neighbouring countries; it also gave rise to more intensive foreign language learning. We are interested in preparing its sequel planned for the second half of August 2005.