

Bridging the Gap

European Alcohol Policy Conference

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Presentations by Minister Barbara Labuda, Secretary of State at the President's Office in Poland

DECORATIONS AWARDED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND TO PERSONS WHO HAVE DISTINGUISHED THEMSELVES IN THE AREA OF PREVENTION AND ALCOHOL-RELATED PROBLEM SOLVING IN POLAND

Eleven years ago, a system transformation commenced in Poland in the area of prevention and alcohol-related problem solving. The substance of these changes consisted in decentralization of tasks and transferring a number of competences in the area of local alcohol policy development to local community self-governments. The new legal regulations adopted by the Parliament within the last decade resulted in creating a stable system of financing the operations in the area of prevention of alcohol-related problems. The said system of financing is based mainly on non-governmental funds obtained from fees for permits to trade in alcohol.

The State Agency for Prevention of Alcohol-Related Problems has played a significant role in this transformation. The Agency monitors the processes taking place in this area, develops and disseminates modern pilot programmes and cooperates with government and self-government administrations and with the Parliament in the area of developing and implementing new legal regulations. The key partners of the Agency in all these tasks include non-government organizations and local community and regional self-governments.

The transformations achieved within the last dozen years or so in the Polish system of dependence treatment and assistance to families of dependent patients, in the system of counteracting violence in families and school and environmental prevention programmes would not have been possible without great enthusiasm and involvement of thousands of people around the world. Today, we are happy to introduce to you and award on behalf of the President of the Republic of Poland a group of leaders who by their professional attitude and constancy of purpose have considerably furthered the transformations achieved, and are still actively working to the benefit of the public health in Poland.

Member Cross of Order of Polonia Restituta has been awarded to:

Anna Dodziuk

Psychologist and psychotherapist, trainer in the Institute of Health Psychology of the Polish Psychological Association, journalist. In the years 1978-1980, Anna Dodziuk was the editor of an underground paper *Robotnik*, and until 1988 – of *Tygodnik Mazowsze*. From the mid 80s, she co-ordinated the activities aimed at developing self-help groups in Poland as part of the programme: *People Helping People with Alcohol Problems*. Since 1991, she has managed the project executed by the Institute of Health Psychology called *The Programme of Personal Development*, which encompasses trainings for the so-called non-professionals (sobering alcoholics with a record of several-years abstinence) who support the process of dependent persons' therapy. Since 1994, Ms Dudziak has worked as the editor in chief of a monthly magazine *Świat Problemów* devoted to prevention and alcohol-related problem solving in self-help groups and local communities.

Dr Teresa Kobrzyńska

Since 1999, dr Kobrzyńska has acted as the Plenipotentiary of the Wielkopolskie Region Board for Dependency Issues. In the years 1991-1998, she acted as the plenipotentiary of the president of Kaliskie region for counteracting alcoholism. She was an initiator and coordinator of implementing a special course devoted to health damage caused by using alcohol and drugs in teaching curricula of the Medical Academy of Poznań. She is a university lecturer and author of a script for students for the above-mentioned course. Regional coordinator (Wielkopolska) of the national prevention and educational campaign *Alcohol steals freedom* (1999). She coordinated the regional section of the international survey among school-age young people on the use of psychoactive substances – ESPAD – European School Survey Project on Alcohol and Drugs (2003). She organized numerous trainings and conferences in the area of alcohol-related problem solving and counteracting violence in families on the territory of Wielkopolska province. She has actively supported the process of transformation and modernization within the dependence treatment system on the territory of Wielkopolskie region. She was a member of the Polish government delegation at the ministerial Conference on Young People and Alcohol organized in Stockholm in 2001. In 1988, dr Kobrzyńska was decorated with the Bronze Cross of Merit.

Dr Jacek Moskalewicz

Manager of the Department of Research on Alcoholism and Toxicomanias of the Institute of Psychiatry and Neurology in Warsaw. In the years 1979-1989, dr Moskalewicz acted as Secretary of the Team of Experts of the Commission for Fighting Alcoholism reporting to the Council of Ministers. He participated in development projects of the key legal acts on

dependencies (the Act on Upbringing in Sobriety and Counteracting Alcoholism, 1981–1983; the Act on Preventing Drug-Addiction, 1985; the National Health Programme, 1998–2003; the National Programme of Counteracting Drug-Addiction, 2001). He has been the National Coordinator of Phare Programmes within the scope of drug-addiction. He is a member of editorial and consulting panels of a number of magazines: *Addiction*, *European Addiction Research*, *Journal of Substance Use*. He is the author of the Polish adaptation of the international project on prevention of alcohol-related problems and counteracting drug-addiction, called *Odlot*.

Andrzej Nagiel

One of the founders and leaders of abstinence associations and clubs in Poland. He was one of the creators of the idea of the Warsaw Council of Abstinence Clubs, and has been its chairman for many years (from 1987 until now). In 1988, he was appointed deputy chairman of the Federation of Abstinence Clubs in Poland. Since 1991, he has been one of the organizers of the national rallies of abstinent families in Murzasichle – attended each year by over a thousand families of persons dependent on alcohol, who after undergoing dependence therapy have maintained abstinence. In 1992, he created the programme *Family without Violence*, which has been under realization until today. The purpose of the programme is to undertake interventions against perpetrators of violence in families, brought from a family row into the Warsaw sobering-up centre, and to launch an aid programme for family violence victims. Since 1999, he has acted as plenipotentiary of the mayor of the Raszyn local community for dependency issues. Since 2002, Mr Nagiel has been the Chairman of the Polish Council of the Abstinence Movement. He has organized a number of national conferences of the abstinence associations and has worked as an expert of the State Agency for Prevention of Alcohol-Related Problems for developing local prevention and alcohol-related problem solving programmes.

Witold Skrzypczyk

Founder and director of the Centre of Prevention and Development for Children and Young People *PROM* in Łódź. He is the author and co-author of numerous prevention programmes for children and young people: *Yes or No, I'm OK!*, *Safe School*, *TUKAN*, *MOPR*. Since 2000, he has coordinated the *Orange Line* programme dealing with assistance to children with alcohol problems and their parents. He is the author of projects in the area of sociotherapy. He is a therapist, educator and coordinator of sociotherapeutic sessions for children of alcoholics organized since 1993 under the name *Strzyżyna* (held in Strzyżyna). Mr Skrzypczyk is the author of articles and publications on help to children from families of alcoholics, including: *Listy (Letters)*, *Dzieci alkoholików – zdarzenia traumatyczne (Children of alcoholics – traumatic events)*.

Gold Cross of Merit has been awarded to:

Prof, Dr, Hab. Kazimierz Frieske

Professor of sociology at the University of Warsaw, manager of the Social Problems and Social Planning Department. Deputy Chairman of the Sociology Committee of the Polish Academy of Science. Editor in chief of a monthly magazine *Polityka Społeczna*. Member of the Social Dialogue Council. Author of several books and more than 80 articles devoted to social issues. In the years 1994-2002, he was a member of the Programme Council for Research on Alcohol-Related Problems initiating competitions and evaluating research plans and reports on execution of research on alcohol-related problems. Professor Frieske initiated and coordinated several sociological research projects devoted to social marginalization processes and social reintegration mechanisms, as well as to development strategies of local programmes of prevention of alcohol-related problems.

Jacek Kasprzak

One of the experts of the State Agency for Prevention of Alcohol-Related Problems in the area of dependence treatment. He is a member of the Council for Verification of Professional Qualifications of Dependence and Co-dependence Therapists and a lecturer of the School for Dependence Therapy – a specialist school run by the Institute of Health Psychology for workers of dependence treatment centres. In 1989, he was a co-founder of one of the first dependence therapy centres in Poland (in Zabłoty) which applied modern treatment methods of persons dependent on alcohol. In 1992, he participated in creating a magazine for dependence treatment workers entitled *Twój Problem* (at present, the magazine is published under the name *Terapia Uzależnienia i Współuzależnienia*). Since 1999, Mr Kasprzak has been the director of the Dependence Treatment Hospital in Czarny Bór in Dolnośląskie region, being one of the leading dependence treatment centres in the country. He holds the trainer and supervisor recommendations of the Polish Psychological Association.

Henryk Kędziński

One of the experts of the State Agency for Prevention of Alcohol-Related Problems in the area of dependence treatment. He actively participated in a project run by a team of specialists to prepare the curriculum for the School for Dependence Therapy. Until the present time, he has been the School's lecturer. In the years 1987-1992, he was a member of the Dependence Treatment Group by the National Team of Specialists in the Area of Psychiatry. In the years 1992-1998, he was a plenipotentiary of the president of Koszalińskie region for Prevention and Alcohol-Related Problem Solving. Since 1999, he has been a member, and since 2002 – Chairman of the Council for Verification of Professional Qualifications of Dependence and Co-dependence Therapists. He is the Chairman of the Examination Committee verifying professional qualifications of

dependence and co-dependence therapists. Mr Kędzierski is the Director of the Regional Alcohol Dependence and Co-dependence Therapy Centre in Stanomino (Zachodniopomorskie region), one of the leading dependence treatment centres in Poland.

Waldemar Pajor

An expert of the State Agency for Prevention of Alcohol-Related Problems in the area of developing regional programmes of prevention of alcohol-related problems. In the years 1991-2001, he acted as a plenipotentiary of the president of Wrocławskie region for Prevention and Alcohol-Related Problem Solving, and then performed the same function for the president of Dolnośląskie region. In the 90s, he was a co-founder of the system of professional environmental prevention in the area of dependencies in the Wrocławskie region. Mr Pajor is a regional consultant and advisor of the Agency's director in the area of legislative projects in connection with changes to the Act on Upbringing in Sobriety and Counteracting Alcoholism. In the years 1999-2001, he worked in the team of experts of the Pompidou Group of the Council of Europe.

Bogusław Prajsner

Co-founder and deputy director of the State Agency for Prevention of Alcohol-Related Problems. Co-author of the concept and assumptions of the National Programme of Prevention and Alcohol-Related Problem Solving and an expert of the Parliamentary Health Committee participating in legislative work on the recent amendments to the Act on Upbringing in Sobriety and Counteracting Alcoholism. He was one of the inventors and organizers of several national conferences supporting the development of regional and local community prevention programmes (three of them were organized in the Parliament with the cooperation of the Health Committee). Co-author of the curriculum and lecturer at the School for Local Alcohol-Related Problem Solving *Strategia* and at the School of Leaders *Strategia II* in the years 1997-1999. Mr Prajsner was one of the inventors and founders of the project called "Network of Local Communities Leading in Prevention of Alcohol-Related Problems" (Approximately 130 local communities operate systematically within the network). Since 1993, he has continuously cooperated with a group of plenipotentiaries of presidents of various regions (from 1999 – plenipotentiaries of Regional Boards) for alcohol-related problems on the issues of improving the regional programmes of prevention of alcohol-related problems, monitoring the extent of these problems and damage caused by them.

Bogdan Ratajczak

Psychologist, dependence therapy specialist. Currently, he manages the Regional Dependence and Co-dependence Therapy Centre in Poznań. Since 1994, he has been a lecturer of the School of Dependence Therapy of the Institute of Health Psychology. He conducts various trainings for dependence treatment workers, teachers and students in the areas of prevention and dependence treatment. He participated in the formation and modification of therapeutic programmes, and training of therapeutic teams in many alcohol treatment centres throughout the country. Mr Ratajczak participates in execution of prevention programmes for young people as part of the Association for Helping Persons Dependent and Threatened with Dependency on Alcohol *Od Zaraz* in Poznań. He cooperates on an on-going basis with abstinence clubs and Anonymous Alcoholics Groups.

Michał Tatarek

Since 1999, he has acted as plenipotentiary of the Warmińsko-Mazurskie region Board for Dependency Issues. Before, from 1997, he was a plenipotentiary of the president of Elbląskie region for Prevention and Alcohol-Related Problem Solving. In the years 1995-1996, as part of the Regional Programme of Supporting Changes in Local Communities, he organized and participated in conducting tens of trainings for health service representatives, welfare workers, teachers, administration of justice and the police. More than a thousand persons participated in these trainings. He supported the process of transformation and modernization of the dependence treatment system in the Warmińsko-Mazurskie region, and was actively involved in national prevention and education campaigns against drinking of alcohol by young people (for example, *Alcohol Steals Freedom* and *Don't Poison Yourself*) by organizing regional conferences with the participation of specialists and representatives of local communities. Mr Tatarek supports and monitors the process of implementing the *Blue Card* procedure in the system of interventions undertaken by the police in the cases of family violence, by promoting and propagating formation of "blue rooms" – special rooms in which children – victims of family violence – are investigated.

Dr Antoni Zieliński

Sociologist researching various aspects of alcohol problems. Dr Zieliński works at the Department of Research on Alcoholism and Toxicomanias in the Institute of Psychiatry and Neurology in Warsaw. In the years 1994-1995, he acted as an expert of the international Pompidou Group preparing the concept and assumptions for the survey on use of alcohol and other psychoactive substances by school-age young people - ESPAD (The European School Survey Project on Alcohol and Drugs). He is the author of more than 50 publications and scientific articles related to alcohol problems and based primarily on his own research (national and local). He initiated the research on the AA Movement in Poland – and works on the international project on this subject. He is the author of

several research projects concerning problems related with drinking of alcohol by young people ("Positive and negative consequences of various drinking patterns in the young generation", 1997; The European Programme School Survey Project on Alcohol and Drugs – ESPAD, 1995 and 1999).

Silver Cross of Merit has been awarded to:

Krzysztof Kościelecki

Sobriety Apostle with many years of experience. Co-founder of educational programmes in the scope of alcohol-related problem solving and counteracting family violence, addressed to priests and monks throughout Poland, conducted in the Sobriety Apostleship Centre in Zakroczym. He organized retreats for members of families with alcohol problems. Since 1997, he has acted as Director of the Sobriety Apostleship Centre in Zakroczym, editor in chief of a bi-monthly *Trzeźwymi Bądźcie* presenting the activities of abstinence movements and associations functioning in cooperation with the Catholic Church. He has conducted trainings for priests and seminarians who help families with alcohol problems.

Marta Mordarska

Plenipotentiary of the Małopolskie Region Board for Prevention and Counteracting Dependencies. An expert of the State Agency for Prevention of Alcohol-Related Problems in the area of developing regional programmes of prevention of alcohol-related problems. In the years 1994-1998, she was a plenipotentiary of the president of Nowosądeckie region for prevention and alcohol-related problem solving. She supports and monitors the process of implementing the *Blue Card* procedure in the system of interventions undertaken by the police in the cases of family violence, by promoting and propagating formation of "blue rooms" – special rooms in which children – victims of family violence – are investigated. Recently, Ms Mordarska participated in the formation of the Regional Centre for Family Support in Cracow in cooperation with UNDP and *Juvenes* association.

Zofia Sobolewska-Mellibruda

An expert of the State Agency for Prevention of Alcohol-Related Problems in the area of dependence treatment. The author of many programmes of modernization and development of dependence treatment centres in Poland, executed as part of the Programme of Stimulating Dependence Treatment Centres. She was a co-preparer of the "Report on the condition of the dependence treatment system in Poland in the years 1994-1995". Since 1993, she has directed trainings of dependence therapists as part of the School of Dependence Therapy. She formed and until 2001 acted as director of the Regional Alcohol Dependence and Co-dependence Therapy Centre in Gdańsk. In that period, she performed the

function of expert supervisor over dependence treatment centres in Pomorskie region. In the years 1998-2002, Ms Sobolewska-Mellibruda was the Chairman of the Council for Verification of Professional Qualifications of Dependence and Co-dependence Therapists. After the term of office, she remained a member of the Council and chairman of the Examination Committee verifying professional qualifications of dependence and co-dependence therapists. She developed and now conducts trainings as part of the psychotherapy programme for Adult Children of Alcoholics within the Institute of Health Psychology.

Eugeniusz Poloczek

One of the leaders of the abstinence movement in Poland. Member of the National Council of the Abstinence Movement, the National Alliance of Persons and Institutions for Counteracting Family Violence *Blue Line*. He was a founder and for 13 years now has coordinated the Culture and Tourism Sobriety Association. Mr Poloczek was the originator and organizer of many national sobriety events addressed to families of persons dependent on alcohol, for example, a rally of abstinent families in Murzasichle where more than a thousand families of persons dependent on alcohol have been meeting for 13 years. Through his work, he has shown to many sobering alcoholics an alternative, alcohol-free model of life. Currently, he provides professional help to alcoholics undergoing treatment as a dependence therapy instructor in the dependence therapy centre in Katowice-Szopienice.

Janusz Sierosławski

Sociologist researching various aspects of alcohol problems, an expert of the State Agency for Prevention of Alcohol-Related Problems in the area of diagnostic research on alcohol consumption patterns and social attitudes towards and opinions on alcohol problems. He works at the Department of Research on Alcoholism and Toxicomanias in the Institute of Psychiatry and Neurology in Warsaw. Since 1999, he has coordinated the Polish edition of the European School Survey Project on Alcohol and Drugs (a project coordinated by CAN from Stockholm on the European level). Mr Sierosławski is the author of approx. 70 articles and scientific publications on alcohol-related problem solving and counteracting drug-addiction. He coordinated several national epidemiological surveys on consumption of alcohol in Poland (1992, 1993, 1995, 1999, 2002 and 2003).

Bronze Cross of Merit has been awarded to:

Wanda Paszkiewicz

Clinical psychologist, supervisor of the Psychoprevention Association, trainer of the Psychological Association. Deputy manager for clinical issues of the National Emergency Service for Victims of Family Violence *Blue Line*. From the beginning of the 80s, she has dealt with therapy of persons and families dependent on alcohol and drugs. She conducted professional trainings for workers of health service, schools and psychology and formation centres in the area of sociotherapy and dependence prevention. She participated in developing and executing the programme of psychological assistance to persons entangled in violence: adult victims, abused children and perpetrators of violence. She supervises the technical aspects of local trainings on prevention of family violence. Ms Paszkiewicz is the manager of the School for Counteracting Family Violence – she participated in the formation of the training and now conducts classes.

Dorota Piątek

An expert of the State Agency for Prevention of Alcohol-Related Problems in the area of developing regional programmes of prevention of alcohol-related problems. Since 1999, she has acted as plenipotentiary of the Dolnośląskie Region Board for prevention and alcohol-related problem solving and has been actively involved in national social and educational campaigns in the area of alcohol problem solving. Since 2001, she has acted as Chairman of the Dolnośląskie Region Association for Preventing Social Pathologies. She organized numerous trainings and conferences on alcohol-related problem solving and counteracting family violence for local community self-governments. Ms Piątek supports and monitors the process of implementing the *Blue Card* procedure in the system of interventions undertaken by the police in the cases of family violence, by promoting and propagating formation of “blue rooms” – special rooms in which children – victims of family violence – are investigated