

**Call for Papers**  
International Scientific Conference  
**The Downfall of Communism in East-Central and Southern Europe:  
An Attempt of Comparative Perspective**

Deadline for the submission of abstracts:

**22 April, 2019**

Place and time of conference:

**Poznań, Poland, 24–25 June, 2019**

**Keywords:** communist regimes, dissidence, political opposition, political surveillance, dissident political thought, intellectual history, protests, revolutions,

**Fields:** history, sociology, political sciences, anthropology, cultural studies, economy

In 1989, 30 years had passed since the fall of communism – a system installed in Central and Southern Europe following World War II. The changes which took place in 1989–1991 were the beginning of a political transformation in the states of Central and Southern Europe as well as in the Soviet Union. The triple transformation encompassed the reconstruction of free market economy, parliamentary democracy, and – in the case of the former Soviet Union, Yugoslavia, or Czechoslovakia – state building.

The aim of the conference is, in particular, to analyze, in the comparative perspective:

- the role and significance of the opposition in particular societies of Central and Eastern Europe,
- the position and role of churches and denominational associations in the transformation process,
- various paths of the transition from the totalitarian system in the communist version to a democratic one in particular states of Central and Eastern Europe, combined with an attempt at a verification of various models of the fall of communism (the domino effect, structural contradictions of centrally planned economy, the breakdown of the faith in Marxism, etc.)
- strategies (or the lack thereof) of implementing free market economy,
- relationships of the states of Central and Eastern Europe with the external world: the USSR, the USA, EEC, and NATO, and attitudes toward globalization processes,
- settlement of the communist past in the form of lustration and decommunization, and the presence of communism in historical memory.

**Conference language:** English

**Please send paper proposals consisting of paper title, a brief (up to 250 words) abstract and a short biographic entry (up to 100 words) to Prof. Krzysztof Brzechczyn (krzysztof.brzechczyn@ipn.gov.pl)**

**Conference Organizers:**

Institute of National Remembrance, Poznań Branch

Institute of Philosophy, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań

Polish Philosophical Society, Poznań Branch