

Institute of National Remembrance

<https://ipn.gov.pl/en/news/6928,The-Office-of-Search-and-Identification-its-mission-and-work.html>

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The Office of Search and Identification: its mission and work

The Office head Krzysztof Szwagrzyk says, "These are not ordinary archaeological works, . . . which are only aimed at finding remains and identifying persons; this is a matter of national importance . . . because this is the way the Polish state, but also we as citizens . . . do our utmost best to preserve the memory of our heroes."



The 20th century marks a period during which Poland suffered extraordinary losses. Wars, crimes of totalitarian regimes and ethnic cleansing cost the lives of over 6 million of its citizens. The

remains of the victims were often hidden in unknown locations, hindering families from ensuring their loved ones a dignified burial. The murdered were to be deprived of graves and erased from memory forever. Today, we are restoring that memory.

The Office of Search and Identification

- carries out research,
- locates places of burial,
- restores identity to victims,
- honours heroes.

Learn more about the Office mission and work from this downloadable, three-language booklet:

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[The Office of Search and Identification: the booklet \(pdf, 4.35 MB\)](#)

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