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The IPN's Historical Research Office welcomes guests from the Republic of Korea







On 29 March 2017, a seven-member delegation from the Ministry of

Unification of the Republic of Korea visited the IPN's Historical Research Office. The Director of the Intelligence and Analysis Office of the Ministry of Unification, Lee Moo Il chaired the meeting on behalf of the Korean representatives. The purpose of the visit was primarily to familiarise the Koreans with the Polish experience of political and economic transformation after 1989. The guests were welcomed by the President of the IPN, Dr Jarosław Szarek, who said that the most difficult task facing Koreans after their unification would be to make the inhabitants of North Korea aware of the scale of lies and propaganda in which they had previously lived. The President of the IPN also declared that the Institute is ready and willing to share its experience in this field with the Korean side.

The proceedings were chaired by the Director of the IPN Archive, Marzena Kruk, who discussed the significance of materials produced by the security apparatus of the People's Republic of Poland in the process of settling communist crimes. Scholars from the Historical Research Office: Marek Hańderek, Sylwia Szyk and Grzegorz Wołk also delivered speeches on related topics.

It is worth noting that this was not the first time that IPN staff shared their knowledge with representatives of Korean institutions responsible for preparing the unification of the peninsula. In October 2016, scholars from the Historical Research Office - Marek Hańderek and Dr Przemysław Gasztold-Seń, participated in a conference in Budapest devoted to the experience of the political transformation of countries forming the Visegrad Group and valuable lessons stemming from it for

Korea. In turn, in December 2016, Marek Hańderek took part in a conference of a similar profile organised in Seoul.

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