

Communist Poland Stories

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-17754512>

Communist rule

- 1947** - Poland becomes a Communist People's Republic after Soviet-run elections, under the Stalinist leadership of Boleslaw Bierut.
- 1955** - Poland joins the Soviet-run Warsaw Pact military alliance.
- 1956** - More than 50 people killed in rioting in Poznan over demands for greater freedom. Liberal Communist leader Wladislaw Gomulka takes over.
- 1970** - Food price riots in Gdansk. The protests are suppressed, hundreds are killed. Edward Gierek becomes party leader.
- 1970s** - Poland enjoys relative economic prosperity based on foreign loans. Successive US presidents Nixon, Ford, Carter visit.
- 1978** - Karol Wojtyla, Cardinal of Krakow, elected Pope.
- 1980** - Disturbances at the shipyard in Gdansk lead to the emergence of the Solidarity trade union under Lech Walesa.
- 1981** - Martial law imposed. Many of Solidarity's leaders, including Walesa, are imprisoned.
- 1983** - Martial law lifted.

Success for Solidarity

- 1989** - Round-table talks between Solidarity, the Communists and the Catholic Church pave the way for fall of communism in Poland. Partially free elections see landslide win for Solidarity, which helps form coalition government. Tadeusz Mazowiecki becomes the first non-Communist Polish prime minister since 1946..
- 1990** - Walesa elected president of Poland. Market reforms, including large-scale privatization, are launched.
- 1991** - First parliamentary elections since fall of communism. Soviet troops start to leave Poland.

<https://webapps.lsa.umich.edu/ii/polishroundtable/pdf/chronology.pdf>

The Fall of Communism in Poland: A Chronology 13 1978 April Lech Wałęsa, Andrzej Gwiazda, and others create the "Committee for Free Trade Unions on the Coast"; later webapps.lsa.umich.edu

COLD WAR movie May 2018 Pawel Pawlikowski won the award for Best Director at the Cannes Film Festival. His film COLD WAR is loosely inspired by his parents' lives.

Cold War – Paweł Pawlikowski | #film | Culture.pl

<https://culture.pl/en/work/cold-war-pawel-pawlikowski>

Still from the film Cold War directed by Paweł Pawlikowski, 2018, depicted: ... The Polish director deliberately refrains from them, choosing to tell the story of Zula.....

"Cold War is like a film poem weaved of semitones and yearning. Pawlikowski has created one of the funniest and most beautiful melodramas in the history of Polish cinema." - Culture.pl

"With Cold War Polish director Pawel Pawlikowski (Ida) introduces a superb East-block love story about a young singer (the stunning Joanna Kulig) and a pianist (Tomasz Kot, looking like a Polish Clive Owen) who tumble into a world of romantic torture. so tragic for them – but heaven for us. - Stephanie Zacharek, TIME

4 books South Central library, 2 in UW Library.



• **Marzi: A memoir** by Marzena Sowa b.1979

A teen graphic novel, "a story of an ordinary girl in turbulent, changing times."

"funny sweet complex and beautifully illustrated I recommended for every bookshelf." Jill Thompson

[Marzi – a memoir by Marzena Sowa - WordPress.com](https://marzimemoir.wordpress.com/)

<https://marzimemoir.wordpress.com/>

Marzena Sowa has made appearances at a few Comic cons with the most notable being at New York. She has also made appearances at the Conrad Festival ..

https://www.amazon.com/Marzi-memoir-Marzena-Sowa/dp/140122959X#productDescription_secondary_view_div_1527911797710

"I am Marzi, born in 1979, ten years before the end of communism in Poland. My father works at a factory, my mother at a dairy. Social problems are at their height. Empty stores are our daily bread. I'm scared of spiders and the world of adults doesn't seem like a walk in the park."

Told from a young girl's perspective, Marzena Sowa's memoir of a childhood shaped by politics feels remarkably fresh and immediate. Structured as a series of vignettes that build on one another, MARZI is a compelling and powerful coming-of-age story that portrays the harsh realities of life behind the Iron Curtain while maintaining the everyday wonders and curiosity of childhood. With open and engaging art by Sylvain Savoia, MARZI is a moving and resonant story of an ordinary girl in turbulent, changing times.

Marzena Sowa on Marzi: I landed in the world of comics somewhat by chance. I had studied literature, and I always dreamed of writing, but I never imagined I'd become a comic book author. It's all thanks to Sylvain. Before meeting him, I didn't really read comics (I must have read Tarzan when I was 13, and my next comic book was Blue Pills by Frederik Peeters when I was 23).

Stupidly, I believed that comics were for children, for men who refused to grow up or for people who didn't like to read very much. In Poland, where I was born, no one tried to change my mind. There, during my childhood, comics were a marginal art form. Thanks to Sylvain, I plunged into comics not only as a reader but almost simultaneously as an author. The Marzi adventure started in 2005.

..... One day, I met a Polish illustrator: Krzysztof Gawronkiewicz. I liked his drawings a lot, and I wanted to work with him. At the time, I was in the midst of reading the poems of a Polish poet who wrote about the war.

words in MARZI:

Mirabelle plum
ptyś
Huta Stalowa Wola
The Lord's Ark (Kościół Arka Pana)
nettle shampoo
ZOMO

people in MARZI:

Ferenc Molnár
Julian Tuwim
Reksio
Władysław Gomułka
Bolesław Bierut
Józef Cyrankiewicz



• **The Dog Called Hitler** by Walerian Domanski
b.1946 "An eclectic gathering of short stories illustrating the burden of communism... a beautifully written collection of historically poignant vignettes...delivered with style and wit." ~ Kirkus -*Several copies available to share.
<https://readersfavorite.com/book-review/the-dog-called-hitler>

<https://www.quora.com/Why-do-Polish-people-often-skip-articles-a-an-and-the-when-speaking-English>

Why do Polish people often skip articles (a, an and the ...

As I explained to a Star Trek fan on this question that assumed articles are necessary Brian Collins' answer to Where online can I translate English into Vulcan? www.quora.com

<https://www.expatspoland.com/polish-english-mistakes>

7 English mistakes Poles always make when speaking English

I've been [teaching English in Poland](#) for almost two years now. ...But I've noticed that a lot of students have the same problems. Today, I'm going to go over the most common English mistakes that I've seen Poles make with their English and what to do to fix them! *Lecimy!*

Much/many
'TH' sound
Past tenses
Teach vs Learn vs Study.
Phrasal verbs
Pronunciation.
From, to, for, until & since.

<https://pronunciationstudio.com/polish-speakers-english-pronunciation-errors/>



Polish Speakers' English
Pronunciation Errors
What are the top 10 most common English pronunciation mistakes for Polish speakers? From vowel positioning to 'th' sounds and sentence stress. pronunciationstudio.com

<http://www.dummies.com/education/history/world-history/visiting-the-homeland-with-pope-john-paul-ii/>

Visiting the Homeland with Pope John Paul II - dummies

The year 1979 was the 900th anniversary of the martyrdom of St. Stanislaus, and Pope John Paul II made it clear that he had every intention of returning to his native Poland (under Communist rule, at the time) to take part in the festivities honoring his predecessor as Archbishop of Krakow. Polish authorities stood in ...

11.05.2018

<http://www.thenews.pl/1/11/Artykul/362901,Millions-of-deaths-exhibition-shows-legacy-of-communism>

Millions of deaths: exhibition shows legacy of communism ...



An exhibition that commemorates all those who lost their lives under communism as well as those who fought the totalitarian system is on show in the central Polish city of Radom. www.thenews.pl

<https://culture.pl/en/article/10-mind-boggling-oddities-of-communist-poland>



10 Mind-Boggling Oddities of Communist Poland | Article ...

We are all taught at school about the communism as a social system but do we really know what it meant for those who had a chance to experience it themselves?

10 Mind-Boggling Oddities of Communist Poland

by Wojciech Oleksiak Published: Mar 23, 2015 "We are all taught at school about communism as a social system, but do we really understand what it meant for those who had a chance to experience it firsthand? Empty stores, propaganda, and censorship, but also a plethora of funny details, born of attempts to make the best out of life."

1. You could hire someone to stand in line for you
2. There was 0% unemployment, but a lot of workers with nothing to do
3. Attending parades was mandatory
4. There were inferior quality substitute goods for everything
5. Dachshunds were crazily popular
6. There was normal petrol and 'commercial' petrol
7. There was hardly anything to watch on the telly
8. There were vending machines with glasses attached
9. You needed to wait 20 years to have a phone installed
10. There was only one shop selling foreign goods, and it did not accept local currency

24.04.2018

<http://www.thenews.pl/1/9/Artykul/360444,Polish-Cold-War-hero-honoured-with-monument>

Polish Cold War hero honoured with monument

A monument honouring Ryszard Kukliński, a Polish army colonel who worked for the CIA during the communist era, has been erected in the southern city of Kraków.