Commemorating the Story of Poland: The Cold War

The Cold War was a significant period in Poland's history, beginning in 1947 with the emergence of Communist rule, which lasted until the fall of communism in 1989. The story of Poland during this time is marked by political tension, social change, and cultural expressions.

### Communist Poland Stories


**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.
- **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 April 1978

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 – Pawel Pawlikowski | #film | Culture.pl**

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

Still from the film Cold War directed by Pawel 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

- 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

**Marzena Sowa: a memoir**

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
• 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


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


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


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


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?

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.