

KRESY-SIBERIA®

Dedicated to research, remembrance and recognition of Poland's citizens fighting for freedom and survival in eastern Poland and in forced exile during World War II.



KRESY-SYBERIA®

Powołana do badania, upamiętnienia i uznania obywateli polskich walczących o życie i wolność w okresie II wojny światowej, w okupowanych Kresach Wschodnich Polski i na uchodźstwie.

VIRTUAL MUSEUM www.KRESY-SIBERIA.org **WIRTUALNE MUZEUM**

 Fundacja Kresy-Syberia, ul Marszałkowska 115, 00-102 Warszawa

Tel. +48 22 211 88 88

Fundacja@Kresy-Syberia.org



Kresy-Siberia Foundation 2016

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT
KRESY-SIBERIA FOUNDATION
FOR ACTIVITY IN 2016
(INCLUDING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS)**

Warsaw, 30 June 2017

**Ministerstwo
Kultury
i Dziedzictwa
Narodowego.**

Supervision over the substantive activities of the Foundation is carried out by the Minister of Culture and National Heritage of the Republic of Poland

Report prepared on the basis of the Regulation of the Minister of Justice of 8 May 2001 (Journal of Laws No. 50, item 529, as amended) on the scope of reporting on foundation activities



1. FOUNDATION DETAILS

1.1 Name: KRESY-SIBERIA FOUNDATION (in Polish, FUNDACJA "KRESY-SYBERIA")

1.2 Registered address: 115 Marszałkowska Street, 00-102 Warsaw (from 24.01.2017)

1.3 Contact details:

- telephone: +48 22 211 88 88
- e-mail: fundacja@kresy-siberia.org
- website: <http://www.kresy-siberia.org>

1.4 Registration information:

- NCR (KRS) number: 0000326445
- REGON: 141782163
- Tax Number (NIP): 527-259-63-92

1.5 Establishment Fund: 2500 PLN

1.6 Accounts:

- Bank Zachodni WBK: 08 1090 1030 0000 0001 1372 8484
- PayPal: Paypal@kresy-siberia.org

2. FOUNDATION AUTHORITIES IN THE REPORTING PERIOD

2.1 Supervisory Authority:

- Foundation President, Stefan Wiśniowski

2.2 Composition of the Management Board:

- Anna Pacewicz (Chair)
- Tim Bucknall (member)

2.3 Accounting and reporting

On June 28, 2017, the Management Board adopted the Foundation's 2016 financial report, together with a description of the Foundation's activities.

This report is based on the accounting records maintained by the Foundation's accountant, Ms. Bożena Skorupska, with registered address at 20 Koszykowa St., apt. 9, 00-555 Warsaw, NIP 526-137-09-74, with whom it has entered into a permanent accounting service agreement on 23.01.2017.

The Foundation is currently conducting an internal audit over its accounting books. Thus, it expects that the financial statements may be revised in subsequent reports, in particular in accounting for the assets and liabilities of the Foundation, in accordance with Poland's Act on Accounting Reporting.

3. STATUTORY OBJECTIVES OF THE FOUNDATION

The Kresy-Siberia Foundation (in Polish "Fundacja Kresy-Syberia"), was founded by Stefan Wisniowski, under a notarial deed of 25 November 2008, repertory A. No. 6505/2008, signed before notary public Joanna Deczkowska based at the legal office at 68 Filtrów Street, Suite 3, Warsaw. The Foundation operates under the Law of Foundations of 6 April 1984 (the legal bulletin Dziennik Ustaw of 1991 no. 46, item 203 with further amendments). The Foundation was registered in the National Court Register on 23.03.2009.

The objective of the Foundation to inspire, promote and support research, commemoration and dissemination on a global scale of the fate of Polish citizens during World War II in occupied Poland and exile, and in doing so to:

- a. include Polish citizens' lives in Poland before and during the Second World War and their life in exile during and after the war;



- b. initially focus on the experiences of Polish citizens affected by the Soviet invasion and occupation of eastern Poland, including their subsequent experiences;
- c. preserve the memory of the former Eastern Borderlands of the Second Republic of Poland prior to Soviet occupation and of the Polish citizens of different ethnicities and religions who had lived there for centuries;
- d. support the exiled Polish citizens and their descendants to research the fate of their families, to widen their knowledge about their Polish roots and strengthen their connections with the Polish nation;
- e. undertake and support cooperation between the members of Polonia and Poles living abroad with the Polish nation in the areas of education, research, culture, religion and economics;
- f. build the knowledge and appreciation of Polish culture in Polonia communities;
- g. deepen the knowledge and appreciation inside Poland of Polonia and the Polish emigration;
- h. organise various means of promoting the scientific and cultural achievements of Poles and of Polonia.

4. METHOD FOR IMPLEMENTING THE OBJECTIVES DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD

4.1 Conducting the "Kresy-Siberia" discussion group on the web

The "Kresy-Siberia" Foundation has its roots in the international Kresy-Siberia Group on the Internet, founded in 2001 by Stefan Wiśniowski and dedicated to the study, commemoration and recognition of Polish citizens fighting for survival and freedom during World War II in the Eastern Borderlands and exile. The Kresy-Siberia Group is located at www.facebook.com/groups/KresySiberiaGroup.

In 2016, the Kresy-Siberia Group had over 1,300 members in its ranks - Poles scattered all over the world, who themselves, or whose ancestors, came from the former Eastern Borderlands of Poland and who mostly had survived deportations and imprisonment under Soviet occupation during the Second World War. Members of the "Kresy-Siberia" group live mainly in the United Kingdom, USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand as well as in Poland. Their main purpose for years has been to popularize and commemorate these tragic and little-known events in Polish history, as well as to better understand or even discover their Polish roots. The members of the Group support each other significantly in the discovery of their family and national history.

Membership of the group is open to all who introduce themselves, describe their interest in the group, confidentially register their contact details and respect the following group policies:

- We restrict the discussion to the group topic.
- We are a friendly and mutually supportive group of people who strive to learn together rather than a debating club where we try to score points.
- We do not abuse or offend other members of the group.
- We avoid commenting on current politics so as not to cause dissension within the group.
- We do not tolerate prejudiced religious or racial remarks.
- Moderators reserve the right to warn, suspend or remove anyone who does not follow these rules.

4.2 Operating the Kresy-Siberia Virtual Museum

After seven years of operation, in 2008 members of the Kresy-Siberia Group decided to officially register themselves, and so the Kresy-Siberia Foundation was established with headquarters in Warsaw and branches in major Polish centers throughout the world, in the United Kingdom, USA, Canada and Australia. The Foundation implemented an ambitious plan for the creation of the Kresy-Siberia Virtual Museum ("KSVM"), for the 70th anniversary of the Soviet invasion of Poland on 17.09.2009, with a grant from the Polish Community Association ("Wspólnota Polska") funded by the Senate of Poland's Polonia Office.

The works of the Kresy-Siberia Group, used to create the KSVM, consisted of, among others, an extensive gallery of unique photographs originating mainly from Sybiraks living in the West after World War II, and a large collection of unique documents related to the lives of members of the group or their families in the Eastern Borderlands as well as to their subsequent fates.

The KSVM exists only on the Internet, at www.Kresy-Siberia.org, exploiting the power of electronic technology and reaching a wide range of people in Poland and abroad – in Polish and English language



versions – about the fate of the citizens of the Second Polish Republic during World War II, especially the impact of Soviet aggression on the lives of many thousands of families. The intention of the Museum's creators is to present historical events through memories of people - diaries, photographs, audio reports and videos. The main aim of the Museum is to show the influence of the Soviet and German occupations on the fate of the citizens of the Second Republic of Poland, to commemorate the combatants and civilians repressed in their struggle for life and freedom. The KSVM creates a central information base for these events by digitizing source material and acquired documents, forming an important source of often otherwise undisclosed information and knowledge.

During the reporting period, the number of users registered to contribute information and materials in KSVM increased by 23%, from 969 at the beginning of the period to 1,201 at the end of the period. These were from 33 countries, including the largest number from Poland, Great Britain, United States, and Australia.

Number of users registered in the KSVM in the 2016 reporting period.

RANK	COUNTRY	REGISTERED	%
–	Overall	1,201	100.0%
1	Poland	343	28.6%
2	United Kingdom	288	24.0%
3	United States	200	16.7%
4	Canada	138	11.5%
5	Australia	88	7.3%
6	New Zealand	43	3.6%
7	South Africa	14	1.2%
8	France	10	0.8%
9	Argentina	9	0.7%
10	Netherlands	8	0.7%
11	Italy	5	0.4%
12	Ukraine	5	0.4%
13	Mexico	4	0.3%
14	Germany	4	0.3%
15	Brazil	3	0.2%
16	Sweden	3	0.2%
17	Denmark	3	0.2%
18	Ireland	3	0.2%
19	Russia	3	0.2%
20	Israel	2	0.2%
21	Venezuela	2	0.2%
22	Belarus	2	0.2%
23	Belgium	2	0.2%
24	Norway	2	0.2%
25	Barbados	1	0.1%
26	Czechia	1	0.1%
27	Greece	1	0.1%
28	Panama	1	0.1%
29	Qatar	1	0.1%
30	Turkey	1	0.1%
31	Uganda	1	0.1%
32	Zambia	1	0.1%
33	Spain	1	0.1%
34-152	All others	1,682	3.1%



The number of visitors to KSVM during the reporting period has fallen by 40%, from 89,626 people in the previous year to 53,651. They were from 152 countries, including nearly half from Poland, followed by Great Britain, the United States and Canada. The number of people dropped mostly due to a technical failure of the site. The heaviest drop was from the United States, where the number of visitors dropped by 65%, from 20,047 to 5,953. However, by the end of the reporting period, after the KSVM site had been restored, the frequency of visits began to return to the previous level. The total time spent on the KSVM site by visitors was almost half from Poland, although the total fell by 40%, from 296,969 minutes in total in the previous period to 218,234 during this period.

Number of people visiting KSVM in the 2016 reporting period

RANK	COUNTRY	VISITORS	%	MINUTES
–	Overall	53,651	100.0%	218,234
1	Poland	26,440	49.3%	98,027
2	United Kingdom	6,522	12.2%	36,132
3	United States	5,953	11.1%	21,952
4	Canada	2,439	4.5%	14,113
5	Germany	1,827	3.4%	4,953
6	Australia	1,689	3.1%	14,990
7	France	1,110	2.1%	2,069
8	Russia	722	1.3%	1,508
9	New Zealand	641	1.2%	4,001
10	Ukraine	497	0.9%	1,848
11	Italy	446	0.8%	1,514
12	Netherlands	396	0.7%	1,468
13	India	306	0.6%	726
14	Belarus	265	0.5%	1,426
15	Brazil	232	0.4%	281
16	Spain	227	0.4%	769
17	Sweden	226	0.4%	674
18	Ireland	225	0.4%	1,048
19	Argentina	210	0.4%	1,162
20	South Africa	191	0.4%	1,640
21	Belgium	179	0.3%	559
22	Israel	174	0.3%	561
23	Lithuania	146	0.3%	255
24	Norway	142	0.3%	917
25	Kenya	138	0.3%	334
26	Czechia	136	0.3%	300
27	Austria	113	0.2%	218
28	Switzerland	111	0.2%	196
29	Japan	98	0.2%	360
30	Denmark	87	0.2%	371
31	China	81	0.2%	132
32 -152	All others	1.682	3.1%	3.331



In 2016, the development of the Virtual Museum included filming many interviews with witnesses of history and the ongoing addition of biographies of people to the Wall of Tribute and scans of photographs and historical documents to the Hall of Images. By the end of the reporting period, the Virtual Museum contained over 94,600 historical information as listed below.

Information held in KSVM by the end of 2016.

TYPE OF HISTORICAL MATERIALS	ROUND NUMBERS
Excerpts of interviews with Survivors in the Hall of Testimonies	1,600
Scans of photos and documents in the Hall of Images	15,000
Names, including completed biographies, on the Wall of Tribute	68,000

During the reporting period, KSVM was provided IT services by "ART4NET Artur Golicz", with registered office at 18 Zabrodzka St., 52-336 Wrocław woj. Dolnośląskie, Poland, NIP 899-216-60-66, headed by Artur Golicz, a former subcontractor of the former IT company serving KSVM, "Seven Green Promotion Mariusz Wąsiak".

4.3 Conducting the "Generations Remember" international Conference

In September 2016, the Foundation organized its third international "Generations Remember" conference, with the support of the Sybirak Association, the History Meeting House, and the Katyn Museum. Financial support was provided by the Office of Veterans and Repressed Persons. The conference marked the 75th anniversary of the "amnesty" and release of Poles from Soviet captivity.

The conference was attended by 52 people, including delegates, speakers and guests. Of these, 30 were from Poland and 22 from outside the country - in America, Canada, UK, South Africa and Australia. Of these, 9 people were from the wartime generation and the rest from younger generations – that is their children and grandchildren. Participants commemorated the experiences of Poles during World War II at ceremonies at the Katyn Museum and at the Monument to the Fallen and the Murdered in the East. Several participants of the conference also joined the 16th March of Living Memory of Polish Sybir in Białystok a week before the conference.

The conference and its topics were broadcast in interviews with participants in WNET Radio and in TVP Polonia [see <https://youtu.be/v4SQBd2M-Zk>] over its full network of Polonia listeners. Finally, plans were agreed for further commemoration work. The number of people sharing the results of the event was greatly multiplied by traditional media interviews and sharing of images, impressions and discussions on social media.

On 17 September, participants of the conference took part in a Holy Mass at the Katyn Museum in the Warsaw Citadel, and then visited the Katyn Museum. Later, they participated in the Generations Remember March under police escort, from the Katyn Museum to the Monument to the Fallen and the Murdered in the East. Ceremonies at the Monument included speeches by various dignitaries, prayers for exiles by representatives of the four religions, the singing of the Sybirak Hymn, and the laying of wreaths, while the red sun set behind the monument.

On 18 September, the solemn opening of the conference was held in the "White House" on Nowy Świat Street. Kresy-Siberia Foundation President Stefan Wiśniowski, and vice-president of the Sybirak Association Mieczysław Pogodziński welcomed participants to the conference. Speeches were made by Senator Anna Maria Anders and by Head of the Office of Veterans and Repressed Persons Jan Józef Kasprzak. The head table also included Kresy-Siberia Foundation Management Committee Chair Anna Pacewicz and Paweł Warczyński representing the Katyn Museum. After lunch, the conference participants had the opportunity to ask questions to the guests, and then to take part in the discussions in small groups about Poland-Polonia cooperation in order to preserve and promote Kresy-Siberia history and refugee life during World War II. After the break, the participants attended to a vocal-music concert at the Actor's House, on Ujazdowskie Avenue.

On 19 September, the conference was held at the History Meeting House on Karowa Street. The participants had an opportunity to better understand the dilemmas and fate of those who decided to return to Poland after the Second World War, by hearing from 4 speakers from Poland and by informal meetings during conference workshops and during meals. Participants also better understood the dilemmas and fates of people who



remained after World War II outside the country, by hearing 4 presentations by speakers from abroad. These included:

- Maya Trochimczyk, Polish poet from California in the United States, began by reading her poem collection, "The Rainy Bread: Poems from Exile," specially written for this conference;
- Adrian Pałka, lecturer at the University of Coventry in Great Britain, delivered a paper entitled "Deportations and the Art of the 2nd Generation";
- Dima Panto, a filmmaker working at the Museum of the Second World War in Gdansk, addressed the topic "1936 Deportations to Kazakhstan";
- Irena Kossakowski-Clarke, the daughter of a Sybirak and the veteran, read excerpts from her new book, "A Homeland Denied";
- Tomasz Kuba Kozłowski, director of the Warsaw Kresy Initiative, delivered a speech entitled "Expulsion from the Kresy in 1946";
- Władysław Czapski, Sybirak and "Isfahan child" from Wrocław, delivered the lecture "In Exile, 1939-1947";
- Jacek Wałaszczyk, Policeman from Warsaw, delivered a speech on "The State Police of the 2nd Republic of Poland";
- Arkadiusz Olszewski, film director from the Pabianice, presented his new film "Genocide."

To finish up, after a summing up of the conference by Foundation President Stefan Wiśniowski, the participants gathered in the "Kamanda Lwowska" restaurant on Foksal Street for a Kresy Dinner Feast.

5. RESOLUTIONS OF THE FOUNDATION'S MANAGEMENT BOARD

5.1 Resolution No. Z-2016-01

The Kresy-Siberia Foundation Management Board, with registered office in Warsaw, on 30 June 2016 on the adoption of simplified accounting rules for micro entities.

The Kresy-Siberia Foundation's Management Board, acting on the basis of § 20 of its Statute and Art. 3 sec. 1a and art. 4 sec. 4 of the Act on Accounting Reporting, resolves as follows:

§ 1 The Kresy-Siberia Foundation is a micro unit referred to in Art. 3 sec. 1a para. 2 of the Act on Accounting Reporting.

§ 2 The Kresy-Siberia Foundation will prepare its financial report, including simplified rules for micro entities introduced by the Act of July 11, 2014 amending the Accounting Act, ie applying Art. 46 sec. 5 pt 4, art. 47 par. 4 pt 4, art. 48 sec. 3, art. 48a. 3, art. 48b para. 4 of the Accounting Act.

§ 3 The resolution comes into force on the day of its adoption.

Anna Pacewicz and Tim Bucknall participated in the vote. The resolution was adopted unanimously.

6. FINANCIAL ASPECTS OF ACTIVITIES

6.1 Financing operations

Most of the Foundation's work was carried out free of charge. The necessary costs for running operations were covered by earned revenues, which included, among others, donations, grants and receipts from the statutory activities of the Foundation.

6.2 Activities commissioned by state entities

In this reporting period, the Foundation received a grant of PLN 6,000.00 from Poland's Office of Veterans and Repressed Persons (UdSKIOR). However, upon receipt of the Foundation's report, UdSKIOR called on the Foundation to reimburse PLN 2,688.50 from the grant, together with interest at the rate determined for tax arrears, claiming that this part was not spent in accordance with the contract, because the invoice for the cost of the task, although it was executed within the agreed deadline, was incorrectly issued by the supplier and only after its correction was paid after the deadline. The Foundation has challenged the basis of this decision, relying on the provisions of the contract. The Foundation further considers the administrative decision of UdSKIOR as unlawful under the case law of the Supreme Administrative Court (GSA 362/08, II GSK 777/08, II GSK 159/13, II GSK 1675/15). However, under of UdSKIOR's urging, the Foundation decided



not to proceed in court in the first instance. Instead, the Foundation submitted an application to the Head of UdSKIOR for the forgiveness of the liability, based on the important public interest of "promotion and support of culture, national heritage, science and education", in accordance with Art. 67a par. 1 and Art. 67b par. 3d Law of Tax Code and in accordance with the provisions of the Code of Administrative Procedure (KPA) as well as the concluded contract. As of the date of this report, this issue of reimbursement of part of the grant remains in the process of resolution.

6.3 Revenue information

Total revenues in 2016:	<u>26,297.43 PLN</u>
Revenue structure:	
– funds from public sources, including the state budget:	5,670.00 PLN
– donations	16,288.12 PLN
– Other statutory income:	4,339.31 PLN

6.4 Cost information

Total Foundation costs in 2016:	<u>15,894.82 PLN</u>
Cost structure:	
– Realization of statutory objectives:	12,747.42 PLN
– Administration (rent, telephone charges, postage, etc.):	2,603.43 PLN
– Other costs and losses:	543.97 PLN

6.5 Information on employment and employment costs

The Foundation did not employ any workers during the reporting period.

• Total remuneration paid:	0.00 PLN
• Total remuneration paid to members of foundation authorities:	0.00 PLN
• Total remuneration paid to contract workers:	0.00 PLN

6.6 Financial result for the year

The financial year ended with a profit that will be fully designated for the statutory purposes of the Foundation:	10,402.61 PLN
--	---------------

6.7 Information on financial resources

As at 31 December 2016, amounts deposited in bank accounts:	<u>23,603.21 PLN</u>
– Bank Zachodni WBK	6,201.04 PLN
– PayPal S.A.:	17,402.17 PLN

6.8 Value of assets and liabilities

As of 31 December 2016, the value of the foundation's capital:	<u>32,699.75 PLN</u>
• Assets:	196,498.98 PLN
• Liabilities:	16,799.23 PLN

6.9 Tax returns

In the reporting period, the Foundation filed a CIT-8 declaration, being 2014 income:	6,593.52 PLN
---	--------------

7. REMAINING INFORMATION

7.1 Audits

During the reporting period, on 05.02.2016, Poland's Ministry of National Defence carried out an audit within the Foundation, with the subject: "Correctness of disbursement of grants for the performance of public tasks." The period under review was 25.08.2013 - 28.12.2014 and the audit objectives were:

- “1) analysis of the proper usage and reporting of targeted grants transferred under the contracts:



- a) „From Oka to the outskirts of Brandenburg - outdoor exhibition” - task carried out under contract No. 272/2013/546 of 10.10.2013;
 - b) „1st Polish Armored Division in combat” - task performed under contract number 262/2013/515 of 21.08.2013
- 2) improving the functioning of the investigated task areas."

The result of the audit was that:

"The funds were spent in accordance with the contract. During the audit, the audit team did not identify any other issues that would affect the performance of the task. From the above presented facts it follows that the grant was properly spent within the time period of the task and for the intended purposes."

7.2 Other information

During the reporting period, the Foundation:

- did not run commercial activities;
- did not provide cash loans;
- did not purchase bonds;
- did not issue shares and did not acquire shares in commercial companies;
- did not acquire real estate;
- did not incur tax or insurance obligations related to the employment of employees.


Executive Committee Chair




Foundation President