



**Assembly of European Regions
Secretariat for Youth of Zachodniopomorskie Province**

European Citizens' Forum

20 years later...

Polish transitions and prospects for Europe

19th June 2009

Szczecin, zachodniopomorskie (PL)

Venue:

The University of Szczecin

Cukrowa 8

Szczecin

Forum

The 20th anniversary of free elections in Poland marked by a historical milestone all over Europe. Twenty years ago the Polish government did something without precedent, something that was about to change the history of not only Poland, but also Europe. It goes without the question that a lot of changes have happened since then, but what are the prospects for young Europeans? What is their understanding of free Poland and its role in the contemporary Europe? What is its role in the future development of Europe on the eve of its institutional crisis?

Situated on the Polish-German boarder, zachodniopomorskie region has been played a significant role in terms of transnational as well as transregional cooperation. Cooperation that would be out of the question if it had not been for the free elections...

Participants

Guests

Tadeusz Mazowiecki

Politician, journalist, lawyer; one of the advisors to the Solidarity trade union in 1980, later editor of the weekly 'Solidarnosc'; an active participant in the Round Table talks of 1989. The first Prime Minister of the 3rd Republic of Poland (1989-1990). He was the special Envoy for the UN High Commissioner on Human Rights to the former Yugoslavia in 1992-1995. In 1998 awarded the French Legion d'Honneur.

Włodzimierz Pużyna

Politician, lecturer, 1991-2001 a Member of Parliament; Chancellor of the Higher School of Public Administration in Szczecin, a member of 'Solidarnosc' trade Union.

Lona

Real name: Adam Zielinski; born in Szczecin, Lona is one of the most remarkable and outstanding rappers of young generation. His lyrics have been a significant source of inspiration for the contemporary Polish youth and an incentive for reflection for the older generations.

Participants

Nearly 150 people from regional youth and students organisations

Debate

The main debate will consist of a common discussion between the invited guests and 150 young people. Invited guests will create a panel of experts.

The debate will be moderated by Michał Matlak, member of the AER Youth Regional Network.

PROGRAMME OF THE FORUM

10.00 - 10.10	Welcome by Justyna Hejman, AER
10.10 - 10.20	Adam Zielinski, Lona
10.20 - 10.30	Włodzimierz Pużyna
10.30 - 10.50	Tadeusz Mazowiecki
10.50 - 12.00	Debate