

Country: Poland National Delegate: Ewa Gruszczyńska

Conferences and meetings

- ✓ The 25th Anniversary of the Health Psychology Section of Polish Psychological Association was celebrated in October 2016. The following members were awarded for their special contribution to development of the Section:
 - Prof. Helena Wrona-Polańska - current President, 2013-2018
 - Dr. Dorota Włodarczyk – Past President, 2008-2012
 - Dr. Barbara Mroziak – Past President, 2006-2007, National Delegate at the EHPS till 2005
 - Prof. Helena Sęk - Past President, 2002-2005
 - Prof. Irena Heszen – in recognition of her special merits
 - Prof. Tadeusz Ostrowski – in recognition of his special merits

Also, the special issue of the [Polish Psychological Bulletin](#) is about to be published to commemorate this jubilee.

The anniversary is a perfect occasion to mention that relationship of the Health Psychology Section with the EHPS has been strong and vivid from its very beginning, especially due to early efforts of late prof. Kazimierz Wrześniewski, continued by dr. Barbara Mroziak as the first national delegate . In terms of political, economic and social order the world was so different then. With impressive 25 years of history of health psychology in Poland behind us, we are ready for what may come.

- ✓ The 11th national conference was held in May 2017 in Poznań. Within three days, participants may have attended 13 parallel oral sessions, 2 poster sessions and 4 keynote addresses. It gives a comprehensive picture on current developments at the national level as the bi-annual conference is the single most important event for the Polish scientific community of health psychologists. The next conference is planned for May 2019 in Katowice.
- ✓ Two board meetings took place during last year: one in October 2016 and the second one in May 2017. The autumn meeting was devoted to the customary annual report on the Section activity. The spring meeting was more strategic one: current issues and plans for the nearest future were discussed.

Activity of the Section members was quite impressive during last year: they were authors or co-authors of 4 books, editors of 5 books, authors or co-authors of 14 papers in Polish and 36 in English. They play a role of PIs or members of research teams in 12 ongoing projects funded from external funds. They were also presenters at various international conferences, including the EHPS 2016 conference in Aberdeen (Eleanora Bielawska-Batorowicz was awarded there for her [poster presentation](#)).

Legislation

There has been no progress in the legislation process so the profession of a psychologist (not even mentioning a health psychologist) has been in legal vacuum for more than 25 years now. Realistically speaking, there is a little chance for any action turn in the nearest future, although some assume that using a national qualifications framework may change a game.

Education

The situation has been stable since last year. Health psychology programs, as a separate curriculum or as a part of clinical psychology programs, are present at most universities in Poland. The relevant courses are also provided for students of medical universities. Members declared 4 new courses related to health psychology introduced last year.