



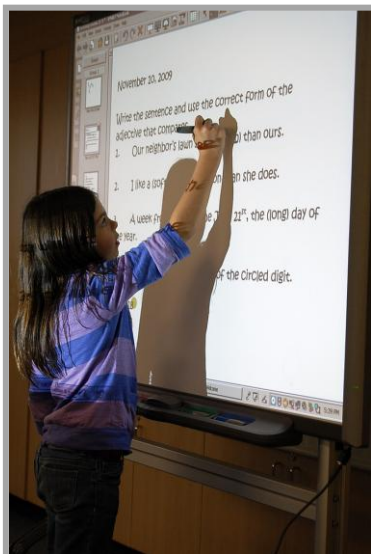
**EMEDUS**  
Europe Media Education

## **WP3. Formal Media Education**

**POLAND**



## 1. Education System



The Ministry of National Education in Poland coordinates and implements state policies in education, oversees the work of regional delegates and cooperates with other agencies in the field of education.

On a regional level the *kuratoria* are responsible for the management of education in each of the regions which the country is divided into.

Districts within the regions control general secondary education, vocational training, postsecondary schools and other institutions that provide more specific education in specialized fields.

Municipalities or *comunas* are responsible for the management of preschool institutions, primary and junior secondary schools.

Formal education in Poland starts at age five with pre-school (*przedszkole*) which was optional until 2013 but is compulsory from 2014 onwards. Primary education starts at age six (*szkoła podstawowa*) and secondary education (or *gimnazjum*) goes from the ages of thirteen to sixteen. At the end of *gimnazjum* students sit exams that determine their professional future at one of three types of educational institutions: *Lyceum* (senior secondary), *Technikum* (vocational training) or *zasadnicza szkoła zawodowa* (apprenticeships).

## 2. Policies in Media Literacy

According to Piotr Drzewiecki, an expert in media education in Poland, the Ministry of National Education has done little to develop the field of media education. By contrast, the National Council of Radio Broadcasting and Television (KRRiT), together with non-governmental organizations and the Catholic Church, have stimulated interest in media literacy in the country.

**Since the 1970's some components of Film Education have appeared in the official curriculum within the subject of Language**

In 1998 education reform introduced media education in schools as a complementary program. In 2008 another reform made it part of the other subjects and the teacher responsible for integrating it into their classes.

In 2009 the Polish Film Institute developed a program of Film Education ("School Film Library") and started promoting media education in Christian schools. In the same year the National Media Education Program was established and the Polish Association for Media Education was

created which organized a conference in Warsaw on the problems of media education in the country.

In 2010 Piotr Drzewiecki created a program to promote media education in schools. It aims to promote theoretical and practical knowledge of the media through various activities.

From April 2012 until August 2013 the Polish government launched the National Digital School Pilot program to develop the skills of students and teachers in ICT.

### 3. Media Literacy and National Curricula

Media education is not compulsory in Poland but certain aspects of this subject are worked on in an integrated way in other subjects.

The new curriculum which came into force in 2009 includes the following objectives in primary education: the development of skills related to knowledge and information in order to perform tasks and solve problems. In secondary education reference is made to the efficient use of ICT to search for, select and analyze information critically.

The Catholic Church has played a pivotal role in media education given that the experts who have published studies and developed materials in the subject are Catholic and have assigned it a religious approach.

Despite the introduction of Film Education in the curriculum through subjects such as IT and Mass Media Literacy Education, the debate on media education remains the same: Compulsory, specific subject or interdisciplinary, cross-curricular topic?

### 4. Tools to measure the Level of Competencies

Evaluation systems to measure media literacy skills for students or teachers have not been found in formal education.

### 5. Teacher Media Training

Since the 1970's "Education technology" has been a subject on the university curriculum in teacher training.

Within the *Operational Programme Human Capital 2007-2013 Priority III*, the programs "Implementation of General Core Curriculum at Schools and Kindergartens" and "Teacher Professional Development System," which are complementary and coordinated with the "Digital School" program, establish a new teaching methodology for teacher training based on ICT and improving the relationship

**The "Digital School" program heralds the transformation of education in Poland with the figure of the E-teacher and E-student**

between students, parents and schools through new technologies. In order to accomplish this the following have been proposed:

- The training of 40 e-trainers and 1,200 e-moderators to support schools in the implementation of ICT.
- The professional development and a support network of 19,000 e-coordinators to use ICT in the teaching of different subjects.
- The preparation of new training materials.
- The creation of an educational platform to organize support networks for schools.

In 2012-2013 the Polish Centre for Citizenship Education and the Evens Foundation launched the *"Turn on. Youth and Media"* program aimed at primary and junior school students and their teachers within the program *Evens Foundation's Media Literacy Train-the-Trainer Program*. The aim is to demonstrate that media education can be carried out in different contexts and not only for entertainment purposes and social activities.

## 6. ICT in Schools

ICT appears in primary school subjects like Computer Classes and Computer Sciences, in secondary school under the name of Information Technology and Technology Classes and in vocational training as Information Technology.

The most important program for revitalizing ICT for schools is "Digital School" (*Cyfrowa szkoła*) which expires in 2015. A large budget has been allocated to purchase new digital equipment and for teacher training. The project includes 18 eBooks with 14 topics and 2,500 materials that supplement the textbooks. These resources are public in *Scholaris* which is a portal that has 25,000 resources including 75 films from the Khan Academy.



According to Schoolnet the inclusion of ICT in Polish schools can be summarized as follows:

- The most pressing problems are the lack of infrastructure, equipment and financing for the purchase of educational software.
- Although some teachers are reluctant to change their methodologies many of them see the need to increase the number of computers in class, obtain internet access, DVD players and TVs in order to develop teaching strategies based on technological innovation and thus make learning interactive and more appealing (Galaj, 2008b:15)

- The program "Digital School" will put into practice the e-schools, e-students, e-teachers and e-resources with training sessions for teachers and free access to educational materials for both teachers and students.
- The program will also have an assessment process to identify problems with the implementation of ICT in schools and identify the best practices.

## Annex. Country Key Features

(a)	Languages	Polish (official) 97.8%, other and unspecified 2.2% (2002 census)
	Population	38,383,809 (July 2013 est.)
	Major cities	WARSAW (capital) 1.71 million; Krakow 756,000 (2009)
	Government type	Republic
	GDP (Purchasing Power Parity)	\$799.2 billion (2012 est.)
	GDP real growth rate	2% (2012 est.)
	GDP per capita (PPP)	\$21,000 (2012 est.)
	GDP composition by sector	Agriculture: 3.5% Industry: 34.2% Services: 62.3% (2012 est.)
(b)	GDP per head (PPS)	65.0 (year 2011) (Index, EU27=100)
(c)	Year of EU entry	2004
	Currency	Zloty (zł)
	Schengen area	Member of the Schengen area since 2007
(d)	Pupils and students (ISCED levels 1-6) (1 000)	7.570,1 (year 2011)
	Pupils at ISCED level 1 (1 000)	2.191,9 (year 2011)
	Pupils at ISCED level 2 (1 000)	1.287,3 (year 2011)
	Pupils and students at ISCED level 3 (1 000)	1.727,9 (year 2011)
	Students at ISCED level 4 (1 000)	282,7 (year 2011)

Source: Original authorship, using data from:

- (a) Central Intelligence Agency (2013). *The World Factbook 2013-14*. Washington, DC [Retrieved from: <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/index.html>]
- (b) European Commission (2012). *Country Fact Sheet: Poland*. Directorate-General Regional Policy. Analysis Unit C3. European Commission [Retrieved from: [http://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/information/brochures/pages/country2012/index\\_en.cfm](http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/information/brochures/pages/country2012/index_en.cfm)]
- (c) European Union (2013). Member states of the EU. European Union [Retrieved from: [http://europa.eu/about-eu/countries/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/about-eu/countries/index_en.htm)]
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