

Sarmatian Review Data

Social pedagogy in the Polish Ministry of Education under Prime Minister Donald Tusk

Number of signatures on a petition against the Ministry's arbitrary rule that children should begin school at age 6 instead of 7, as has been the case until now: 1 million.

Amount of money spent by the Ministry on advertising intended to persuade Polish society that 6 is the right age to begin schooling: 5 million zlotys (ca. \$1.7 million dollars).

Source: Portal <wsumie.pl>, 28 November 2013 <<http://wsumie.pl/polityka-i-biznes/76107-jak-men-do-szkoly-maluchy-wysylal>> (accessed on the same day).

Bureaucracy under Prime Minister Tusk

Number of persons employed in various Polish ministries under Tusk: 41,000.

Increase in the number of government officials under Tusk: 30,000 persons.

Amount of money spent on salaries for government officials: 3 billion zlotys, or 110 zlotys per each citizen of Poland.

Source: Portal <http://wpolityce.pl/wydarzenia/69110-tanie-panstwo-donalda-tuska-za-rzadow-po-psl-przybylo-w-polsce-30-tys-urzednikow> (accessed 9 December 2013).

Total number of persons employed in government bureaucracy in 2013: 1.9 million.

Amount of money spent on their salaries: 88 billion zlotys, or ca. 30 billion dollars.

Percentage of Poles who make less than the average salary of government employees: 70 percent.

Source: *Wynagrodzenia w administracji publicznej. Raport Fundacji Republikańskiej* (December 2013) <http://cafr.pl/analiza-wynagrodzen-w-sektorze-publicznym/> (accessed 13 December 2013).

19 chauffeurs in one ministry

Number limousine chauffeurs the Polish Labor Minister Zenon Kosiniak-Kamysz has at his disposal: 19.

Number of deputy ministers in Polish Labor Ministry: six.

Number of unemployed in Poland in December 2013: 2 million.

Source: "Ministra pracy wozi aż 19 kierowców!" *Fakt*, 16 December 2013 <http://www.fakt.pl/ministra-pracy-wladyslawa-kosiniaka-kamysza-wozi-az-19-kierowcow-,artykuly,434511,1.html> (accessed 16 December 2013).

Gender experiments in Polish kindergartens

Number of kindergartens in Poland where "gender classes" have been introduced (consisting among other things of dressing boys like girls and girls like boys): 83.

Who knew and who did not know about the introduction of these programs: they were introduced with the knowledge and approval of the Ministry of Education but without consulting the parents of the children involved.

Source: Polish MP Beata Kempa, who received this information by querying the Ministry of Education, as reported in <<http://wpolityce.pl/artykuly/70174-faceci-w-rajtuzech-nalecz-wyznaje-ze-chodzi-w-rajstopkach-kiedy-brakuje-argumentow-najlatwiej-udawac-glupiego>> (23 December 2013), accessed on the same day.

Illicit financial flows from developing European countries

The largest exporters of illicit capital in Europe: Poland, Belarus, Russia, and Serbia. Illicit outflows from developing Europe amount to 21.5 percent of total illicit world outflows.

Ranking of Poland among top exporters of illicit capital in the last ten years: 18.

Estimated amount of capital exported: US \$49.39 billion.

Source: "Illicit Financial Flows from Developing Countries: 2002–2011," *Global Financial Integrity* <<http://iff.gfintegrity.org/iff2013/2013report.html>> (accessed 26 December 2013).

The budding outsourcing industry in Poland

Number of people in Poland employed by foreign firms in the business services industry: ca. 140,000.

By comparison, the number of people in the public sector (employed by the government): ca. 4 million.

Percentage of Poles 25 to 34 years old who have university degrees: 39 percent, or second in Europe after Norway.

Source: Jack Ewing, "Midsize cities in Poland Develop as Service Hubs for outsourcing Industry," *NYT*, 22 December 2013 <nytimes.com/2013/12/23/business/international/midsize-cities-in-poland-develop-as-service-hubs-for-outsourcing-industry.html?pagewanted=1&_r=0> (accessed 7 January 2014).

Cost vs. quality of education in the United States

Increase in the price of higher education since 1985: 538 percent.

Increase in medical costs and in the consumer price index, respectively, in the same period: 286 percent and 121 percent.

Status of core curriculum at 29 colleges and universities considered the best in the nation: three require U.S. government or history, two require economics, and five have no requirements at all—all courses are freely chosen by the student.

An example of a course that may be taken instead of basic history or government: “Mad Men and Mad Women” at Middlebury College, an examination of masculinity and femininity in mid-twentieth-century America based on TV show “Mad Men.”

Administrative budgets versus funds spent on instruction: in 22 out of 29 top schools, more than one-third of the presidents earn an administrative salary greater than that of the president of the United States (\$400,000), even though some of these elite schools have fewer than 2,000 students.

Source: American Council of Trustees and Alumni study, http://www.goacta.org/publications/education_or_reputation, accessed 30 January 2014; Kathleen Parker, “As cost of college rises, education quality slips,” *Houston Chronicle*, 30 January 2014.

Recently exhumed victims of Soviet rule in Poland

Estimated number of Polish citizens (a crushing majority of them Roman Catholics) who disappeared without a trace from prisons in the Białystok region of eastern Poland after the Red Army “liberated” Poland from the Germans in 1945: 150,200.

Number of executions of political prisoners who have been identified: 330.

Estimated number of political prisoners who died under torture in various localities in the Białystok region: several hundred.

Source: Institute of National Memory-Podlasie region, as reported by Marek Kozubal, “Pokażmy ubeckie katownie,” *Rzeczpospolita*, 10 February 2014

<<http://www.rp.pl/artykul/153227,1085831-Pokazmy-ubeckie-katownie.html>> (accessed 10 February 2014).

Poles in the USSR before the Second World War

Estimated number of persons of Polish nationality inhabiting the USSR before the Second World War: 1 million.

Number of Poles executed by the NKVD for being Polish “spies” during the “Polish Operation” begun on 20 August 1937: ca. 600,000, or two out of three persons of Polish nationality in the USSR.

Source: Jacek Borkowicz, “Co trzeci Polak,” *Rzeczpospolita Plus-Minus*, 22 November 2013 (accessed 28 November 2013).

Ranking of opinion-making media in Poland, from the most influential to the least

Internet portals: onet.pl; sportowefakty.pl; gazeta.pl; wpolityce.pl; tvn24.pl; wp.pl; wirtualnemedi.pl; money.pl; newsweek.pl; niezalezna.pl.

Newspapers: *Rzeczpospolita* (ranked number one among 9,000 titles monitored).

Radio: RMF FM (number one among 67 radio stations monitored).

Television: TVN24 (number one among 36 stations monitored).

Source: Instytut Monitorowania Mediów <www.instytut.com.pl/raporty> (accessed 10 February 2014).

Results of police interrogation in Russian-controlled Tatarstan in 2013

Number of suicides in Tatarstan jails after interrogation by security forces: 11.

Age of the youngest Tatar suicide: 17.

The main reason for suicide, as stated in a note of another 2013 suicide: torture during interrogation.

Source: Tatyana Kolchina, „Nochnye doprosy doveli do suicida,” <*gazeta.ru*>, 27 February 2014 (accessed on the same day).

Russia and economic crime

Ranking of Russia in economic crime, according to a survey by PricewaterhouseCoopers: number one in the world (58 percent of polled companies reported bribery, with the global average being 37 percent).

Typical fraudster profile: a man aged between 31 and 40 who joined his company more than three years ago and has a university diploma.

Source: “Russia Leads in Economic Crime, PwC Says,” *Wall Street Journal*, 20 February 2014 <<http://blogs.wsj.com/emergingeuropa/2014/02/20/>> (accessed 1 March 2014).