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## EDUCATION

### **08/04-Present Vanderbilt University, Nashville, USA**

- Ph.D. Candidate (ABD) in Political Science – specializing in Comparative Politics and International Relations
- Doctoral Fellowship, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, 2007-08
- Doctoral Fellowship, Council for European Studies, Columbia University, 2007-08
- Graduate Fellow, Interdisciplinary Workshop, Center for the Americas, Vanderbilt University, 2007-08
- *Lecturer*: PSCI 101: Introduction to Comparative Politics (52 students), 2008
- Participated in Interdisciplinary Mellon Foundation Seminar, “Souls of Brutes”, 2007.
- Summer Research Award, College of Arts and Science 2006
- Conference Paper “Introducing the Core Executive to Multi-Level Governance Perspectives of Foreign Policy Cooperation in Northern Europe” presented at Council of European Studies Annual Conference, Chicago, 2006.
- Editorial intern Journal of Politics
- Participated in Interdisciplinary Program on Social and Political Thought at Vanderbilt University, 2005.

### **09/02-01/04 The Jagiellonian University, Krakow, Poland**

- Master of Arts (MA) in Central and East European Studies
- Thesis: “Northern Dimension: Multilevel Governance as a Model for the European Union’s Foreign Policy Making”
- 2002-03 Rotary International Academic Ambassadorial Scholar

### **09/01-09/02 The London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), London, UK**

- Master of Science (MSc) in European Politics and Policy graduate program (high merit)
- Merit entrance award
- Thesis: “The Effects of Increased Voter Turnout on Party Choice: The Polish Case”
- London Goodenough Association of Canada Scholar
  - Member of Goodenough College for promising graduates and professionals who—with Queen Elizabeth II as patron—further international peace through cooperation in their academic and professional development.

### **09/97-06/01 Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada**

- Bachelor of Journalism and History (Combined Highest Honours)
- Dean’s List All Four Years
- 2001 Gordon Sinclair Fellowship given to two graduates of journalism from four competing Canadian universities
- 2001 Journalism Achievement Award for most outstanding graduate as selected by his or her peers
- 2001 K. Wilson Award for promising journalism graduate who best represents Canadian Affairs
- 2001 recipient of the Polonia Centre graduate scholarship for academic excellence
- 2000 E. Norman Smith Memorial Award for Journalistic Promise in Canada
- 2000 Clarence C. Gibson Scholarship
- 1999 Murdoch Maxwell MacOdrum Scholarship
- 1998 A. Davidson Dunton Scholarship
- 1997 President’s Scholarship

### **06/00-07/00 Summer University of Polish Culture, Rome, Italy**

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### **06/04-07/04 Intern at the Office of the Minister of Energy of Ontario, Toronto, Canada**

### **09/03-03/04 Intern at the Foreign Ministry of the Republic of Poland, Warsaw, Poland**

- Fellowship sponsored by the Department of Foreign Affairs of Canada and the Atlantic Council of Canada
- Researching, writing, and translating political analyses, position papers, talking points and speeches for officials
- Working in Department of Americas and Department of European Union

Irek W. Kusmierczyk

**09/01-09/02 The Globe and Mail national newspaper, London, UK**

- Research assistant in the London bureau

**05/01-07/01 Constituency office of MPP D. Duncan—Opposition House Leader, Windsor, Canada**

- Summer student assistant

**01/01-04/01 Consultant and Rapporteur for Canadian Foundation for the Americas, Ottawa, Canada**

- Organized a symposium on Canadian media coverage of the Americas
- Produced a report for the **Canadian Centre for Foreign Policy Development**

**01/01- 04/01 Editor and reporter Capital News Online—winner of prestigious award, Ottawa, Canada**

- Weekly online publication reporting on national issues
- Received **first place** in N. America, from the Association of Educators in Journalism and Mass Communication

MOST RECENT VOLUNTEER WORK

- 2008: World Peace Summit, Rotary International, Windsor, Ontario, April 2008 – Speaker “Absence of Want”.
- 2007 Co-Chair, 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Vanderbilt University Lecture Series on the Holocaust and Other Genocides
- 2007: Speaker at Presidents-Elect Training Seminar, Rotary International District 6400, Kalamazoo, Michigan.
- 2006: Member Vanderbilt University Holocaust Lecture Series planning committee.
- 2006: United Nations Association of Nashville, guest speaker on the Solidarity Movement in Poland.
- 2005: Keynote speaker at Rotary Conference in Livonia, Michigan, on “The Impact of Youth Ambassadors”.
- 2005: Spoke at Rotary Conference in Cincinnati on “The Role of Cross-Cultural Exchanges in Fostering Understanding, Peace, and Democracy Abroad”
- 2005: Correspondent for cultural magazine Profile.
- 2003: Spoke at Rotary Conference in Poznan, Poland, on the role of Rotary in European integration
- 2003: Helped organize weekend conference on international cooperation between France, Germany, Poland and Ukraine. Worked with Villa Decjusz Association, which promotes East-West integration.
- 2002: Spoke at Rotary Conference in Michigan to raise money for Polio eradication and scholarship foundation
- 2002: Project Oradea member—building schools and clinics for the Roma minority in Romania
- 2001: Organized a seminar at Carleton University on the media’s role in reporting Middle East violence.
- Promoted Polish culture in Windsor and Detroit through public relations and sponsoring cultural events
- 2000: Organized exhibit entitled ***Solidarnosc: 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Solidarity Movement***
  - Researched, produced and distributed eight-page pamphlet on the history of Solidarity
  - Authored a full-page article published in The Windsor Star newspaper about Solidarity
- 1999: Helped organize exhibit ***Graphica Polska***, which showcased Polish-Canadian artists and their work.(co-sponsored by Polish Consulate General in Toronto and Polonia Centre, Windsor)

ADDITIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

- Invited by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland in August 2001, as one of two young journalists from Canada participating in a three-week **Foreign Correspondents Program** in Helsinki.
- Invited by University of St. Petersburg to attend seminars on **Russia’s post-communist transition**.
- Hiked across Poland on foot in 1997 (700 kilometres—425 miles—in 18 days)
- Participated in the Jubilee 2000 Pilgrimage to Rome where I met Pope John Paul for the second time.

SPECIAL SKILLS

- Fluent in English and Polish.