

Polish diaspora organisations in Ireland: good practices and venues for enhanced cooperation with other civic stakeholders

DSAI webinar, 18th of June 2021
Barnaba Dorda, Forum Polonia



Migrants in Ireland

Census 2011

544k non-Irish in Ireland, Western Europeans and North America: approx 158k, Eastern Europe: 221k, the rest 164k. **Polish diaspora: 122k.**

Census 2016

535k non Irish in Ireland, Western Europeans and North America: approx 160k, Eastern Europe 258k, the rest: 117k. **Polish diaspora: 122k**

Relatively significant amount of citizenship receipients (2010-2016) amongst third countrry Nationals could impacted overall data.



Polish Diaspora challenges

- **Language barriers**
 - **Lower chances to hold managerial position** (ESRI publications)
 - **Low skill low pay jobs**
 - **Covid-19 impact on employment**
 - **Access to services, mental health support**
 - **High cost of naturalisation**
 - **Language heritage**
 - **Discrimination and racism**
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- **Relateively limited access to funding and grants**

Polish Diaspora's community networks

- Polish Parishes
- Polish Saturday's complimentary Schools, circa 52
- Polish shops
- Polish solicitors
- Polish medical centres
- Polish media outlets
- Social media support groups



Polish Diaspora's organisations

CULTURE:

- Irish Polish Society (established in 1979)
- The Polish Social & Cultural Association
- MyCork
- Gorey.pl
- Biblary Dublin
- Midlands Polish Community



EDUCATION (Polish language heritage)

- Polish Irish Education Association (Arklow)
- Polish Educational Society
- KID-Polish Educational Federation



Other Polish Diaspora's organisations

SUPPORT SERVICES:

- Together Razem Centre (Cork)
- CKU (Dublin)



ADVOCACY

- Forum Polonia Ireland



Polish Diaspora's festivals

- Polish Art Festival Limerick
- Polska Eire Festival



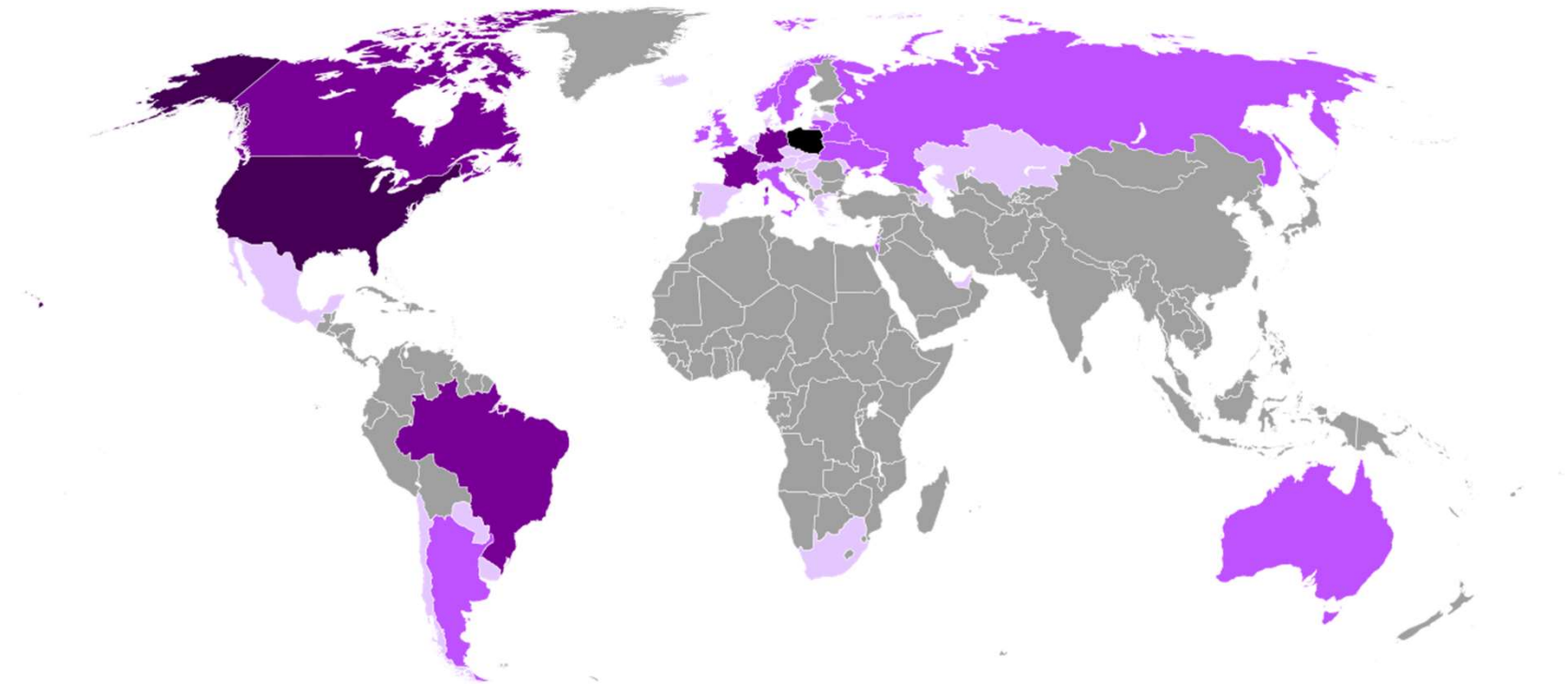
Other organisations

- **Mymind**
- **Immigrant Council of Ireland**
- **Migrants Rights Centre Ireland**
- **New Community Partnership**
- **Cairde**
- **NASC**

others



Global Polish Diaspora



Cooperation

- **Political engagement projects:**
 - „Vote! You are at home” campaign,
 - „Local Leaders” project,
 - „Migrants for election” project



Cooperation

- „Good cause” initiatives - „Bloody Foreigners” campaign



Cooperation

Cultural projects – „Polska Eire Festival”, „Polish Art Festival Limerick”



Possible fields of cooperation

- Labour market challenges
- Discrimination and racism
- Good casue initiatives and cultural projects

Racism and discrimination

- **Is racism and discrimination an issue for Polish community in Ireland?**
- **ESRI publications on racism and discrimination**
- **ECRI report on Ireland, 2019**
- **INAR's iReports and shadowing report for CERD, December 2019**
- **The CERD committee's concluding remarks, December 2019**
- **Call for National Action Plan Against Racism**
- **Anti-Racism Committee and Public Consultation on NAPAR**

Racism and discrimination

Anti-Racism Committee interim recommendation

- 1. Remove reservation to article 4 of CERD**
- 2. Take steps to put in place ethnic equality monitoring across all public services**
- 3. Remove all barriers to accessing support for migrant women experiencing gender based violence**

Thank you

