



Joanna Wojdon, PhD, associate professor and deputy dean at the University of Wrocław, Poland in the department of methodology of teaching history; Fulbright (Loyola University, Chicago) and Kościuszko Foundation (Immigration History Research Center, Minneapolis, and Hoover Institution at Stanford University) alumna; visiting professor at Hebrew University of Jerusalem in 2010/2011. I have developed [the first MA program in public history in Poland](#) in 2014 and have been working on introducing the concept of public history to the Polish historiographical discourse which resulted in the book [Historia w przestrzeni publicznej](#), with over 50 authors, published in 2018 by PWN, a leading scholarly publisher in Poland. I am also interested in the history of the Polish diaspora in the United States ([White and Red Umbrella. The Polish American Congress in the Cold War Era](#), Helena History Press, 2015 was awarded [Oskar Halecki Prize](#) from the [Polish American Historical Association](#)) and in history didactics/ history education. I have published on the political uses of education under communism, in particular by the means of school textbooks ([Textbooks as Propaganda](#), Routledge, 2018), with special focus on the reading primers in all countries of the Soviet bloc ([Świat elementarzy](#) – The World of the Reading Primers, was published in 2015, the English version is forthcoming). I am a board member of the [International Society for History Didactics](#) (ISHD), a member of presidium of the [Committee on Migration Research of the Polish Academy of Science](#); and a board member of the Polish American Historical Association (PAHA).

I have been engaged in various activities of the International Federation for Public History for a number of years, from participation in the conferences (in person and on-line) with presentations, panels, round-tables, through organizing Public History Summer School for young researchers and practitioners of public history from all over the world in Wrocław in 2018 (the second edition is scheduled for 2019), to engaging public history students from Wrocław in IFPH's blog and other activities. I am engaged in promoting the international and transnational public history as a core author of "[Public History Weekly](#)", a managing editor of the [Journal of History Didactics, History Education and History Culture \(JHEC\)](#) (published by the ISHD, listed in Scopus – its leading theme of the 2018 was [History Didactics and Public History](#)), a project team member of the [Jean Monnet Network on Applied European Contemporary History](#) and as a contributor to numerous other projects, including [A Companion to Public History](#), edited by David Dean, conferences of the Association of Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies, International Standing Conference of the History of Education, museum exhibits, lesson plans etc.

As a Delegate in the Steering Committee of the IFPH I would like to use my Polish background and proficiency in Russian (having completed 6 grades of Russian primary school) and concentrate on public history in East-Central and Eastern Europe which somehow remains on the margins of interest of the Western scholars despite vivid debates on recent and not so recent past, such as the WWII and Holocaust, the legacy of communism and the Cold War but also of the Polish Lithuanian Commonwealth or Byzantine empire that refer to the issues of identity and politics. The IFPH should play a role therein, e.g. using public history practices developed elsewhere and promoting the concept of public history which still remains largely unknown in this region. On the other hand, experiences and recent achievements in organizing history museums and cultural institutions, or in archival management in East-Central Europe can be of interest to the international community of public historians. I will also continue and develop the International Public History Summer School and encourage and stimulate a dialogue between public historians and history teachers and researchers of history didactics. I will be happy to join other project and initiatives of the IFPH, especially those aimed at students and young scholars and at dealing with difficult (in particular, communist) pasts and to use my contacts in other organizations and societies, such as [Euroclio](#) – European Association of History Educators, PAHA, ISHD.