

**IREP§O** EDUKACJA.  
PRAWO.  
OBYWATEL.

# Mission of IREPSO



The **IREPSO** Team consists of the representatives of the young generation who act for the benefit of young people in Poland.

Our work is based on the performance of reliable studies which support the decision-making process in the field of so-called “youth policy”.

We act in areas which are of critical importance for young Europeans. In our work, legal education, technological balance, just transition and sustainable development are particularly important.

We associate experts from all over Poland, focusing on the areas of: education, law and civil participation. We support the functioning of civil society and stimulate the development of modern social strategies.

We do all this in order to create a reality which would be friendly to young people, in which their voice would matter.

*Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,*

The idea of establishing IREPSO was born in 2019 in Taipei, as part of a wave of enthusiasm and an exchange of energy with other representatives of the young generation. When at the end of the year this idea only budded in our minds, no-one expected what challenges we would have to face in the post-pandemic reality.

New, unknown problems, in time of pandemic-related restrictions, aggravated the fear and feeling of uncertainty of the young generation. On a daily basis, it became certain that difficult times needed unconventional, highly specialised solutions. Therefore, we decided to investigate the needs of young people and provide decision-makers with knowledge about what the young generation is really afraid of.

Drawing on the long-term experiences of our experts and in cooperation with our partners, we deliver solutions which intrinsically respond to the needs of young people. The outcomes of this cooperation include, among others, the “At the Ready!” application.

We expect that in this way we will inspire young people to undertake brave actions corresponding to the challenges of the contemporary world.

**TOMASZ OPAR**

**FOUNDER, PRESIDENT OF THE FOUNDATION BOARD**



*Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,*

We take action to ensure that the voice of young people is not treated instrumentally. We carry out innovative social projects which enable our peers to more actively influence the reality around them.

Since the foundation of IREPSO we have managed to achieve a good deal in the field of the public participation of young people. In our reports we analyse successive institutions and solutions created for the benefit of young people. One of them is newly established Council for Youth Affairs of the President of the Republic of Poland. However, this does not mean that we should sit back complacently.

Decision-makers must particularly closely watch the issues and recommendations submitted by young people. After all, it is the young who will build the future.

PIOTR DRZEWIECKI  
CIVIC PARTICIPATION ADVISOR



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# Our history

Tomasz Opar was one of the founders of the Institute. He is an experienced lawyer and educator, a former member of the Council for Dialogue with the Young Generation established as part of the Chancellery of the Prime Minister. The projects which he carried out and the ideas which he presented were awarded a distinction in 2019 during the Global Youth Trends Forum in Taipei. After he returned from the Conference, Tomasz got young experts together and established the **Institute for the Development of Legal Education and Civil Society**. Since the beginning of 2020 we have implemented three large projects with support from large institutional partners. To date, our projects have engaged **more than 250,000 young people**. In 2022, we have started to implement a pioneering project – to create an online platform which would automate career counselling and verify contracts of young people, protecting them against abuse.



*Global Youth Trends Forum, Taipei (2019).*



*Tomasz Opar, receiving his nomination for a member of the Council for Dialogue with the Young Generation from Prof. Piotr Gliński, Deputy Prime Minister (2020).*

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# What is IREPSO?



*The IREPSO Conference on Sustainable Development (2021)..*

The idea of establishing the Institute for the Development of Legal Education and Civil Society (**IREPSO**) was born in 2019 when we decided to gather in one place know-how and persons who had for many years acted for the benefit of

young people in Poland, e.g. in advisory youth bodies, the Polish Council of Youth Organisations (PROM), or Poland's UN Youth Delegate Programme, or the experts of the EU Youth Dialogue, the most important programme of the European Commission targeting young people.

Ever since we have united young people who take action for a strong voice of the young generation in our country. We have carried out studies, monitored legislation, launched public campaigns, held events with representatives of public administration and youth organisations. We act in those areas that need changes which would be beneficial for young people.



*Presentation of a policy paper regarding youth employment, Belvedere Palace (2021).*

# Publications that matter

A key area of the activities of the Institute is the performance of **social research and analytical studies**. Over 2 years we have issued **more than 10 comprehensive publications on the situation of young people in Poland**. The materials which our experts have prepared concern, among others: a systemic approach to legal education in Poland, the importance of the United Nations and sustainable development for young people, the post-pandemic mental health of the young generation and the rules for the operation of the advisory youth bodies within the public administration. The publications reach the representatives of the most important authorities in the State. **We also prepare legislative recommendations in the area of the situation of young people in Poland.**



*The first major analytical publication of IREPSO containing proprietary quantitative research (2021).*



*Bogna Janke, Secretary of State at the Chancellery of the President of the Republic of Poland reading an IREPSO report during a meeting of the Council for Youth Affairs (2021).*

**Partycypacja społeczna młodego pokolenia**  
Wybór treści analitycznych



**DIALOG NOWEJ GENERACJI**

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**Pandemia COVID-19 a zdrowie psychiczne młodych**  
Wybór tekstów



**OKIEM MŁODYCH**

**IREPŚO** EDUKACJA. PRAWO. OBYWATEL.

**Młodzieżowe organy doradcze przy naczelnych organach administracji publicznej**



**OKIEM MŁODYCH**

**IREPŚO** EDUKACJA. PRAWO. OBYWATEL.

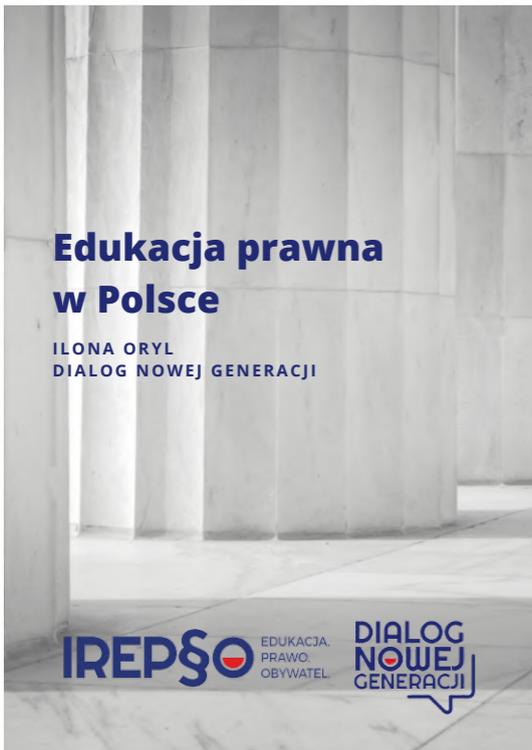
**Kadencja młodzieżowej rady jednostki samorządu terytorialnego, wybór jej członków oraz rozwiązania w tym zakresie przyjęte na skutek pandemii SARS-CoV-2**



**OKIEM MŁODYCH**

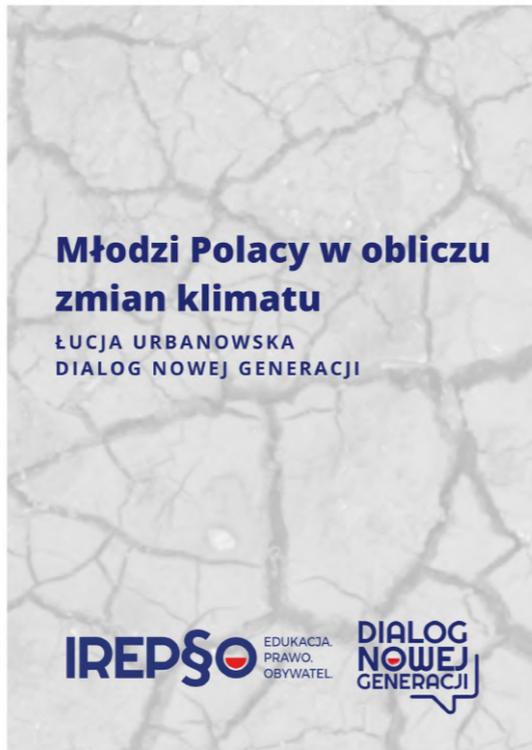
**IREPŚO** EDUKACJA. PRAWO. OBYWATEL.

**Edukacja prawna w Polsce**  
ILONA ORYL  
DIALOG NOWEJ GENERACJI



**IREPŚO** EDUKACJA. PRAWO. OBYWATEL. **DIALOG NOWEJ GENERACJI**

**Młodzi Polacy w obliczu zmian klimatu**  
ŁUCJA URBANOWSKA  
DIALOG NOWEJ GENERACJI



**IREPŚO** EDUKACJA. PRAWO. OBYWATEL. **DIALOG NOWEJ GENERACJI**

**ONZ i zrównoważony rozwój – rola młodych ludzi**  
WERONIKA SZYSZKA  
MARTA SKOBEL



**IREPŚO** EDUKACJA. PRAWO. OBYWATEL. **DIALOG NOWEJ GENERACJI**

**Uwarunkowania prawne partycypacji społecznej młodzieży w Polsce**  
ILONA ORYL  
DIALOG NOWEJ GENERACJI



**IREPŚO** EDUKACJA. PRAWO. OBYWATEL. **DIALOG NOWEJ GENERACJI**

*Selected Institute publications in the area of youth policies.*

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# We support the representation of youth

The experts of the Institute are well-recognised in the community creating so-called “youth policy”. The persons involved in IREPSO projects have participated, among others, in the work of: the **National Working Group on the EU Youth Dialogue**, coordinated by the Ministry of National Education and the European Commission; the **Council for Youth Affairs** which advises the President of the Republic of Poland; the **Council for Dialogue with the Young Generation**, an advisory body of the Chancellery of the Prime Minister. On a regular basis, we provide advice on matters related to the everyday life of young people. In our activities, we remain **apolitical and independent** so as to objectively describe the reality around us.



*Mr. Andrzej Duda, President of the Republic of Poland, handing out a nomination for a member of the Council for Youth Affairs to Piotr Drzewiecki (2021).*



*Our activities are based on the work of a well-integrated team of experts, researchers, lawyers and social activists who are keen to build a strong position of youth in Poland.*

Our team consists of more than 20 young persons, including researchers, lawyers, youth workers and volunteers. Their average age is **24 years**. In accordance with the policy of the Institute, **we do not offer unpaid apprenticeships and internships**. Everyone who starts to work at IREPSO receives an appropriate remuneration for it. The number of

persons who collaborate with the Institute continues to grow. We also work on international cooperation. We would like to gain foreign partners who could share their experience in working with young people. We cooperate with organisations from Croatia and Macedonia in the field of local youth strategies.

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# We engage business and assist the administration

Our activities could not be possible without financial support allocated to the implementation of our social projects. Among others, our partners include: the National Bank of Poland, the ORLEN Foundation, and the Energa Foundation. We believe that social activity must be transparent. In our work, we are guided by the principles of: **independence, objectivity, non-partisanship and neutrality of worldview.** The experts and members of the

research teams of the Institute enjoy **full intellectual freedom** in their work. We are proud of it. Our Institute also has a well-developed network of contacts, associating social organisations with which it collaborates. Among others, they include: the Polish Council of Youth Organisations (PROM), various City Youth Councils, the District Youth Councils, the Regional Youth Assemblies and nongovernmental organisations which operate for the benefit of young people, such as e.g. the Foundation for Pupils' Rights or School 2.0.



*Leaflet provided for the high school students during the Dialogue of the New Generation project (2020-2021).*





*Our partners – youth non-governmental organisations from all over Poland.*



*The Conference on Youth and Climate with the participation of representatives of youth communities, renowned law firms and environmental organizations (2021).*

The thematic areas to which we pay special attention include **sustainable development, public participation, legal education and modern technologies**. We have enjoyed a huge success in effectively lobbying for the award the prestigious title of the European Youth Capital to Lublin. We treated the changes forced by the COVID-19 pandemic as an opportunity. As a result of this, the events which we organise

are broadcast live, enabling young people all over Poland to watch them. However, we go beyond what we already have. The members of our team continuously improve their skills and participate in international events, such as COP climate summits (including those in Katowice and Madrid) or EU Youth Conferences.



*The presentation of the report “The Young in the Palace” summing up the yearlong consultations (2021).*



*A debate on the future of youth participation organised by IREPSO (2021).*



*The press conference on the occasion of the official signing of an amendment to the Act on the Activities of Youth Councils (2021).*

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# ”At the Ready!”

We are just launching a new project called „At the Ready!” Its aim is to support young people in taking up employment by means of a mobile application, which automates the provision of simple, free, individualized and immediate professional consultations regarding the conditions of employment for a young person.



*At the Ready! app will be a public and free platform to support career choices for young people.*

In this way, we face the problem of lack of adequate preparation in the basics of law and economics, which allow to make the right decisions on the labor market. The young do not know their basic rights. As a result, they are exposed to abuses and pathologies, which later influence their entering the labor market or working "illegally", affecting finances, the process of gaining experience and the decision to become independent.

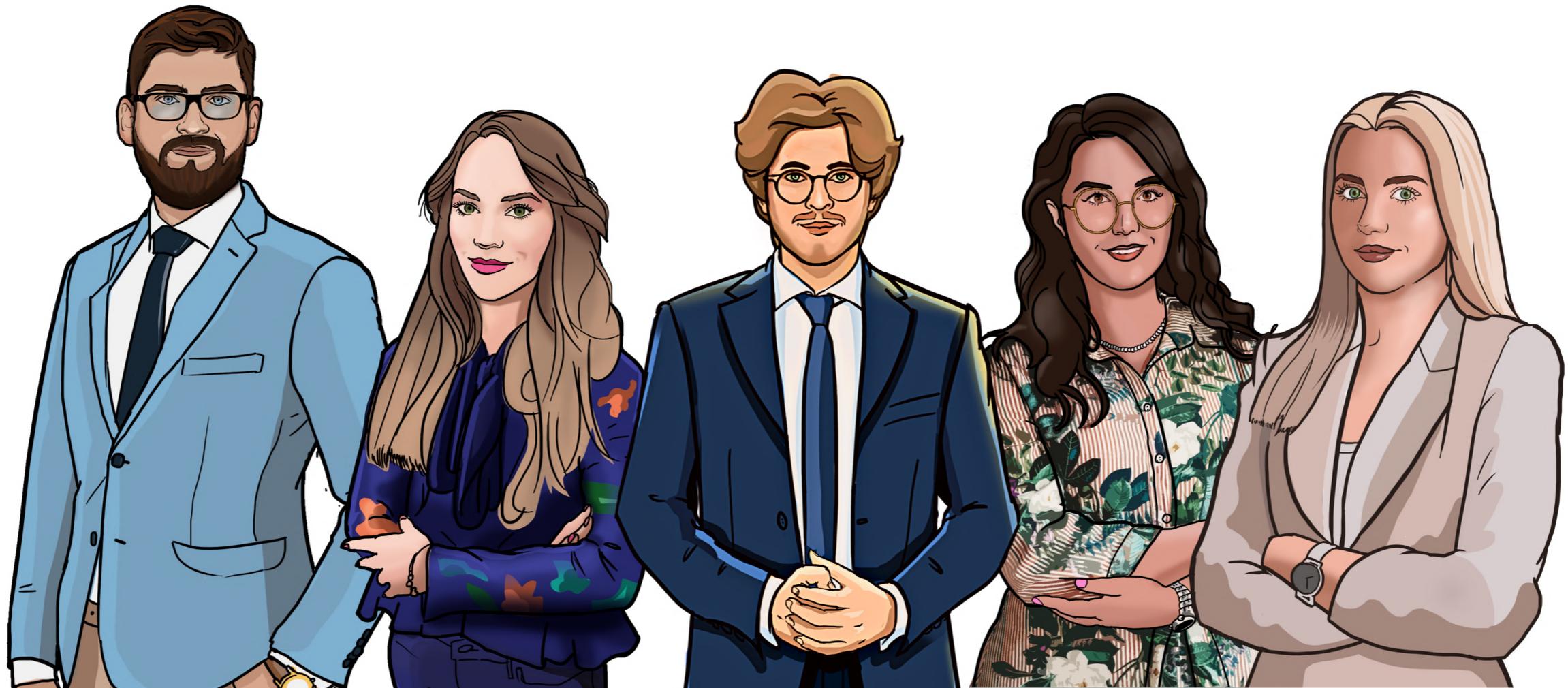
In practice, a young person will answer a series of simple questions about the potential type of employment (civil law contract, employment contract, contract of enterprise, potentially b2b) and the conditions of this employment (e.g. working time, salary). In response, the user receives a simple simulation - whether the proposed working conditions are legal, and a simple simulation of the best type of contract from the economic point of view - taking into account the so-called tax relief for the young, and potential differences in types of contracts. The application will not download or collect personal data.

Project is financed by the National Bank of Poland.

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# Find out more about our work

[irepso.pl](http://irepso.pl) | [oko.irepso.pl](http://oko.irepso.pl) | [dialog.irepso.pl](http://dialog.irepso.pl)



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