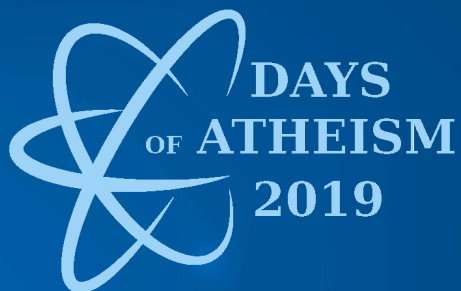


PROGRAM



International Conference

„100 years of women's vote: celebration or mobilization?“

In 2018, after the end of the World War I, women received the voting rights in many European countries. For Poles it was a very special moment, because not only Poland regained its independence but at the same time Polish women gained the independence with the right to vote. The World War I significantly changed the legal, social and professional situation of women. This has contributed not only to gaining the voting right but also to the gradual acquisition of economic, political and reproductive rights by women.

What is the legacy of this centennial for women? Is it a moment for a jubilant celebration of the progress women have made? Unfortunately, one hundred years later, yet they remain hugely under-represented in all areas of public life and their fundamental rights are threatened in many countries. Even though women's votes have led to more women's rights being enshrined in law, in practice - women still are not treated equally to men. In the private sphere the situation is even worse. In Poland, for example, almost 4 million women are victims of physical or sexual violence perpetuated by their partner, 22 % have experienced rape; 23 % rape attempt; 38 % have been forced to unwanted sexual activity; 88 % have expe-

rienced sexual harassment. At the same time 30% of Polish men believe that sex without the consent of the female partner can be justified.

Our conference is therefore an opportunity to analyze the adverse factors affecting the progress towards gender equality and women's empowerment such as social inequalities, religious („cultural“) pressure or wars and to formulate strategic demands concerning not only equality in theory, but the conditions enabling the implementation of women rights and gender equality in practice.

The conference will start with the panel on historical context of women's voting rights in Europe, followed by the debate on current situation of women both in law and practice and on strategies of further fight for its effective improvement. The conference features many renowned experts and feminist activists from Poland and other countries.

Many events have been already organized to commemorate the history of women's struggle for voting rights and to celebrate the centennial of obtaining them in 1918 in Poland. Divers feminist activities took place, i.e. the great event run by the Congress of Women or smaller ones which organized theater spectacles, exhibitions, concerts etc. The first ever (sic!) film about the Polish suffragettes was made for this occasion by Marta Dzido and Piotr Sliwiński.

Our conference will analyze also an additional aspect that has not been addressed in the previous events. While the contribution of Polish women, including in armed struggle, to the independence of Poland has been largely recalled, the voice of women demanding an end to war and bringing to peace is little known. Today, when war is again in Europe, not far from the Polish border, the reminder of women's voice for peace is important.

The event is part of the international project "Women for Peace" coordinated by the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, the oldest female pacific organization founded in 1915 in Hague during the International Women's Congress. Several organizations from many European countries are involved in the project. The culminating point of the project will be the international conference in Zurich in May 2019. Its program includes the reenactment of the Congress 1919, where women condemned the Treaty of Versailles, warning that it would not bring peace but new war.



Days of Atheism 2019

29-31 march 2019

We welcome you to the unique event attended not only by our guests coming from different places in Poland but also by those coming from different countries. In 2019 we have pleasure to host many Polish and international speakers from 14 countries of Europe, 2 of Africa, 1 of Asia, 2 of North America and 2 of South America. We have no doubts it will be an unforgettable meeting. You will have occasion to listen and talk to the eminent atheist and feminist intellectuals and activists such as Annie Laurie Gaylor and Dan Barker from the Freedom from Religion Foundation, the largest non-theistic organization in the US or Armin Navabi whose website Atheist Republic has 5 million hits per week. Or Maryam Namazie (Iran/UK) awarded with all possible prizes for promoting secularism, feminism and atheism, or Michael Nugent from Ireland, where atheistic activity brings astonishing results. Our Polish atheist community will be also represented by several great speakers i.e. prof. Paweł Golik or prof. Jan Hartman. We will host atheists from countries where atheism is still heavily punishable. We strive to help them with our modest opportunities. All together more than 30 speakers come to commemorate the 330th anniversary of the execution of Kazimierz Łyszczyński, the patron of Polish atheists, and to pay tribute to him. That's why the Days of Atheism 2019 are truly unique.

But there is another anniversary to commemorate: 100 years of women's vote. In 1918, after the end of the World War I, women received voting rights in many European countries. Poland regained its independence but at the same time the independence gained the Polish women receiving the right to vote. The World War I changed the situation of women, contributing to the gradual acquisition of economic, political and reproductive rights by women. But one hundred years later, women still are not treated equally to men. That's why we organized the international conference „100 years of women's vote: celebration or mobilization?” The conference features many renown Polish and international experts and feminist activists.

We decided to combine these two anniversaries and two conferences. Religions have been oppressing women for centuries, assigning them a "traditional" low status of subjugation in the patriarchal society. Without liberating women from religious oppression there will be no equality, and without equality there will be no democracy. On the other hand, atheism needs women because without them it will remain an exclusive male club, unable to change the society. The mass women's protests for their rights have shown that women are now a powerful force standing in defense of democracy.

Program

Friday, 29 March. Palace of Science and Culture, Rudniew Hall, 4th floor

International Conference: 100 years of women's vote: celebration or mobilization? Warsaw, 29-31 March 2019

13.00: Registration

13:30: Opening of the Conference:

Heidi Meinzolt (WILPF Germany), Nina Sankari (KLF, Poland).

13.40: Panel I „History of women's fight for the right to vote”.

Marta Dzido (filmmaker, Poland), Małgorzata Tkacz-Janik (Kongres Kobiet, Poland), Heidi Meinzolt (WILPF Germany), Judit Morva (Le Monde Diplo, Hungary), Gwendoline Coipeault (Femmes Solidaires, France), Nada Peratović (Freethinkers Association, Switzerland). Chair: Monika Szymańska (SWOR, Poland).

14.50: Panel II „Women's rights and gender equality today. Prospects and challenges.

Ewa Dąbrowska-Szulc (Pro Femina, Poland), Marta Lempart (Polish Women on Strike, Poland), Stasa Zajović (Women in Black, Serbia), Nada Peratović (Civil Courage Center, Croatia), Maryam Namazie (One Law for All, Iran/GB). Chair: Wanda Nowicka (RóNo, Poland).

16.00: Violence against women:

Cora Jensen, Hanna Kolbjørnsen, Assia Chelaghma and Shobika Suthahar (Jurk Association, Norway).

16.30: Women and Religion:

Annie-Laurie Gaylor (Freedom from Religion Foundation, (USA).

17.00: Coffee@snack break

International Days of Atheism 2019

18.00: Opening:

Marek Łukaszewicz (FKL, Poland), Nina Sankari (FKL, Poland), Marek Gura (Atheist Alliance of America, USA)

18.10: Opening speeches:

Prof. Paweł Golik (Warsaw University, Institute of Genetics and Biotechnology), Sanal Edamaruku (Rationalist International, India/Finland), Dan Barker (Freedom from Religion Foundation, USA)

19.30: Panel discussion „Blasphemy laws – the shame of the 21th century”.

Elisabeth O'Casey (HI, Great Britain), Waleed Al-Husseini (Ex- Muslims, Palestine/France), Kacem El-Ghazzali (HI, Morocco/Switzerland), Abderrahmane M'hiri (Freethinkers Association, Tunisia), Michael Nugent (Atheist Ireland), Michael Godicheau (BECLP, France). Chair: Nina Sankari (FKL, Poland),

20.45: End of program

Saturday, 30 March. Staszic Palace, Mirrors Hall

09.30: Registration and welcome coffee

10.00: International Conference „Right to Die as fundamental human right”.

Dr Anna Alichniewicz (Department of Bioethics, Medical University of Łódź) Jean-Luc Romero (President RtD France), Micheline Claes (RtD, France, CAL Belgium), Michael Nugent (RtD Ireland), Nina Sankari (KLF Poland).

11.30: Presentation: 330 Anniversary of Kazimierz Lyszczyński death. Kazimierz Łyszczyński Foundation Declaration on Kazimierz Lyszczyński

12.00: Parade of Atheists: „We the Atheists”:

Michael Nugent (Atheist Ireland), Vesna Puhovski (Protagora, Croatia), Dan Barker (FFRF,USA), Stasa Zajovic (Women in Black, Serbia), Prof. Stanisław Tyrlík (Polska), Ibtissame Lachgar (MALI, Maroko), Anna Grodzka (Medium Publiczne, Poland), Pierre Gueguen (Free Thought France), Prof. Joanna Senszyn (Poland), Kacem Al-Ghazzali, Annie-Laurie Gaylor (FFRF US), Piotr Szumlewicz (Bez Dogmatu, Poland).

13.30: Mark Gura Speech

(Atheist Alliance of America, USA)

14.00: Lunch break

15.00: March of Atheists with the Feminist Section and reenactment of Kazimierz Lyszczyński death

16.45: Rise of atheism worldwide:

Maryam Namazie (One Law for All, Great Britain), Armin Navabi (Atheist Republic, US), Nina Sankari (FKL, Poland), Sadia Hameed (Ex-Muslims, Great Britain)

17.45: Break

18.00: Jarred Dunn plays Chopin (Canada)

18.30: Dan Barker playing piano&singing

19.00: Walk to the Gala Dinner Hall

19.30: Atheist Gala Dinner.

Program: Atheist of the Year Award, Performance of Victoria Gugenheim (Great Britain), Atheist LGBT Engagement Ceremony, Maria Evans playing.

23.00: End of program

Sunday, 31 March,

Palace of Culture and Science, Mirrors Hall

International Conference „Freedom of Conscience as a fundamental democratic value. Fighting discrimination based on religious motivation”

(współorganizowana z Fundacją Wolność od Religii)

09.00: Registration&welcome coffee

10.00: Panel I „Black pages of the Church (pedophilia, financial scandals, far right support):

Michał Charzyński (Poland), Piotr Szumlewicz (Bez dogmatu, Poland), Marek Lisiński („Nie lękajcie się” Poland), Katarzyna Wójtowicz (Dość milczenia, Poland), Marta Abramowicz (Poland).

11.10: Not so Holy Father:

Hugo Estrella (Argentina)

11.30: Discussion

12.00: Coffee& snacks break

12.30: Panel II „In defense of freedom of conscience and of the rights of women, LGBT, atheists, children.

Ketevan Bakradze (AHA Austria, Georgia), Ibtissame Lachgar (MALI Morocco), Nidhal Gharsi (INARATunisia), Vesna Puhowski (Protagora, Croatia), Andrzej Wójcik (Fundacja Wolność od Religii Poland), Monika Rak (Lesbijska Inspira, Polska).

14.00: Feminist Panel: “Women vote peace”:

Stasa Zajović (Women in Black, Serbia), Solange Cidreira (French CDD France/Bresil), Maki Y. Kimura (WILPF UK, Japan), Heidi Meinzolt (WILPF Germany), Nada Peratovic (Center for Civil Courage, Croatia).

15.15: Discussion

16.45: Closing remarks

16.00: End of event

**JARRED
DUNN**

**GRA
CHOPINA**

PROGRAM

NOCTURNE IN C MINOR

Op. 48 nr. 1 c. 5'

Scherzo in E Major

Op. 54 c. 12'

Polonaise-Fantasia

Op. 61 c. 12'



Pałac Staszica
ul. Nowy Świat 72
Warszawa

FUNDACJA IM.
KAZIMIERZA
ŁYSZCZYŃSKIEGO

30 marca, 2019
Sobota, g.18.00
Wstęp wolny

Speakers



Marta Abramowicz (Poland)

Is an expert on anti-discrimination issues and author of the largest researches on social situation of LGBT people in Poland. In 2016 she published the first reportage about the life of Polish nuns "The nuns leave quietly", in 2018 was released her second book "Children of Priests. Our common secret."



Dr Anna Alichniewicz (Poland)

Is a Polish philosopher, Head of the Chair of Humanities (Department of Bioethics) of Medical University of Lodz. Her main interests are phenomenology of embodiment, philosophical thanatology and bioethical end-of-life issues, human enhancement, gender stereotypes in medicine and bioethics. She is also the head of English teaching programs in Philosophy and Bioethics at the Medical University of Lodz.



Nacer Amari (Tunisia)

Is a member of the Association of Tunisian Freethinkers and the founder of the association "Prometheus Europe". He is actively engaging in providing help for atheists-ex-Muslims at risk. Blogger who criticizes Islam and Islamism.



Ketevan Bakradze (Georgia)

Is a Georgian atheist, feminist and peace activist, the representative of the AHA Austria, participant of the Women Vote Peace Project.



Dan Barker (USA)

Is a co-President of the Freedom from Religion Foundation, co-host of Freethought Radio and Freethought Matters and co-founder of the Clergy Project. He has written numerous articles and is the author of several books including *Losing Faith in Faith: From Preacher to Atheist*. His last book published in December of 2018 offers a simple compass for navigating life's most difficult moral and ethical dilemmas without religion.



Dr. Elisabeth O'Casey (UK)

Is the Director of Advocacy at Humanists International. She is specialized in human rights and equality issues; particularly in relation to freedom of thought and expression, LGBTI rights, rights of women, reproductive rights, and harmful religious, traditional and cultural practices. She manages advocacy of Humanists International in UN in Geneva, New York and Paris and in the Council of Europe. She is an international legal adviser at the Raif Badawi Foundation.



Michal Charzyński (Poland)

Is a political journalist specialized in topics related to the Roman Catholic Church and the state-church relations. He collaborated with the weekly "Facts and Myths", then with the weekly *Faktycznie* (as deputy editor-in-chief).



Assia Chelaghma (Norway)

Is a JURK member (the female law students organization advocating for women's rights and against violence against women)



Solange Cidreira (France/Brazil)

Is an international feminist activist, member of the French Committee for the Defence of democracy in Brazil. Solange had already participated in the Days of Atheism 2016 and participated with us in the first Black Protest in Warsaw.



Micheline Claes (Belgium/France)

Is a member of the French RtD association, Centre d'Action Laïque in Belgium, a retired lecturer at the Free University of Brussels. She participated in multiple panels of the previous Days of Atheism.



Gwendoline Coipeault (France)

International Relations Officer of Board of the Femmes Solidaires, the largest French feminist organization, the co-founder of RIFL (The International Feminist and Secular Network).



Ewa Dąbrowska-Szulc (Poland)

A famous Polish feminist, atheist, left-wing social activist. Founder of the Association Pro Femina, co-founder of the "Let's Save Women" project committee, member of the 8 March Alliance Committee.



Carine Delahaie (France)

The editor-in-Chief of the "Clara Magazine", a member of the "Femmes Solidaires" Board, co-founder of RIFL (International Feminist and Secular Network). She participates for the third time in the Days of Atheism in Warsaw.



Marta Dzido (Poland)

is a Polish feminist writer, journalist and filmmaker. Co-author of the first film on Polish suffragettes. Previously she worked on another film on Polish women "Underground Women's State" - an image of Polish women reality under the anti-abortion law.



Sanal Edamaruku (India/Finland)

Is an eminent Hindu rationalist in exile in Finland, founder and editor of the "Rationalist International", winner of the Atheist of the Year 2014 Title. Author of several books and of dozens of articles translated into many languages. His rationalist activity caused a mental "silent revolution" in the Indian countryside.



Hugo Estrella (Argentina)

Is an activist for peace and human rights, Executive Officer for international missions at the Center for Inquiry in Geneva, United Nations (2006-2009). Founder and director of the Argentine Secular Humanist Association. Since 2014, the director for Latin America at the Institute of Secular Politics.



Annie Laurie Gaylor (US)

Is the founder and co-president of the American Freedom from Religion Foundation, the largest American organization promoting the non-theistic worldviews and defending the rights of atheists (30 thousand members), author of the fundamental books on the relationship between religion and women. In 2019 she joined the Jury of the Atheist of the Year Contest 2019.



Kacem El Ghazzali (Morocco/Switzerland)

Writer and journalist, known for his publicly voiced atheism and defense of freedom of thought. In 2017 El Ghazzali was granted Swiss citizenship and was chosen as one of the 14 most influential Swiss intellectuals of the year. El Ghazzali was also named Swiss of the Year 2018 by the Sunday newspaper Sonntags Zeitung. Since 2012 has been a Humanist International (former IHEU) envoy to the UN Human Rights Council.



Nidhal Gharsi (Tunezja/Hiszpania)

Is an atheist activist, member of the Union of atheists and free thinkers in Spain. He is also the founder and the President of the Tunisian Atheist Association INARA, formed by intellectuals of the Tunisian society.



Michel Godicheau (France)

Is a Board member of the French Free Thought Council, member of the International Association of Free Thought, chairman of the European Agency for Coordination of Free Thought. Participant of Atheism Days 2015.



Prof. Paweł Golik (Poland)

Is a Director of the Institute of Genetics and Biotechnology of the University of Warsaw. He deals with the treatment and stability of RNA in the mitochondria of yeast and vertebrates, with evolutionary biology and bioinformatics, as well as with molecular phylogenetics.



Anna Grodzka (Poland)

Is a social activist, chair of the FAIR Society Association, co-founder of the Foundation Transfuzja and of the LGBT Business Forum. She is a journalist of the "Public Medium", was a MEP for the Polish Parliament of the 7th term, the initiator of the the 5th Polish Republic movement. Member of the Atheist of the Year Contest Jury.



Pierre Gueguen (France)

Is the Deputy Secretary General of the French Federation of Free Thought and chairman of the Free Thought Association of the Department of Upper Garonna.



Victoria Guggenheim (UK)

Is an artist, performer, atheist, feminist. Her art covers a very wide range of bodypainting, makeup, photography, performances, installations, digital art, clothes design, drawing and painting, combining with science and technology. She rejects any restrictions in art.



Mark W. Gura (USA)

Is the President of the Atheist Alliance of America and the host of the Richard Dawkins Award. He is also the president of the nonprofit Association of Mindfulness Meditation and Secular Buddhism (AMMSB.org). Author of books Atheist Meditation Atheist Spirituality and Exploring Your Life, as well as co-founder and host of the iSecularBuddhist podcast. He seeks to eliminate dogma and indoctrination by empowering individuals to learn evidence-based meditation techniques and to encourage science, reason, critical thinking, and humanism.



Sadia Hameed (Great Britain)

Is an Ex-muslim, anti-theist socialist, secularist, women's rights activist. She is a Spokesperson of the Council of Ex-Muslims of Britain and has been featured in a 2016 film, "Islam's Non-Believers", by award-winning filmmaker Deeyah Khan. She is Winner of IKWRO Special Recognition: Activist of the Year 2017.



Waleed Al-Husseini (Palestinian Autonomy/France)

Is a Palestinian author, publicist, imprisoned and tortured under accusation of blasphemy. He managed to escape and find asylum in Paris; Author of the books "Blasphemy! In the prisons of Allah "and" The French betrayal. " Winner of the title of the Atheist of the Year 2016, since then the member of the Atheist of the Year Contest Jury.



Cora Jensen (Norway)

JURK member (female law students organization advocating for women's rights and against violence against women)



Maki.Y.Kimura (Japan)

Japanese atheist, feminist and peace activist, representative of the Women International Ligue for Peace and Freedom UK.



Hanna Kolbjørnsen (Norway)

JURK member (female law students organization advocating for women's rights and against violence against women)



Elżbieta Kunachowicz

is a Polish atheist, feminist and secular activist, a member of the SWOR association promoting rationalism. She writes an atheist blog on the polskiateista.pl website.



Ibtissame Betty Lachgar (Morocco)

Feminist, atheist, human rights activist, LGBT rights defender. Clinical psychologist by profession. Co-founder and leader of the alternative movement for individual freedom, which organizes the actions of civil disobedience and of taboo breaking, ex. picnics during Ramadan, public event "Kiss in" or invitation of abortive ship "Women on Waves" to Morocco. She is a victim of sexual violence by the police during her arrest in 2016.



Marta Lempart (Poland)

Is a co-founder and leader of the National Women on Strike, which mobilised tens of thousands of women both in large cities and small towns to actively resist violations of women's rights in Poland, especially of women's reproductive rights. The organizer of the multiple demonstrations, including Black Monday in Wrocław in 2016 and Black Friday in Warsaw in 2018.



Marek Lisiński (Poland)

Co-founder and president of the association "Nie lękajcie się" defending the rights of the victims of pedophilia in the church and acting to prevent Church sexual abuse.



Heidi Meinzolt (Germany)

Is a member of the Board of the International Women's League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) in Europe, the oldest women peacekeeping organization, twice the laureate of the Nobel Peace Prize. In Germany, she is the founding member of the "Women's Safety Council", which promotes the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution No 1325, since 2016 she's been coordinating the work of the women's and men's working Group on the OSCE Social Solidarity Platform.



Abderrahmane M'hiri (Tunisia)

Leader of the Association of Free Thinkers from Tunisia, the first registered free thought organization in the region. He organized protests in Tunisia against religious laws ("Leave Me Alone"), against LGBT criminalization, and campaign of eating and drinking in public during Ramadan ("Not against My Will"), which ended up with arrests.



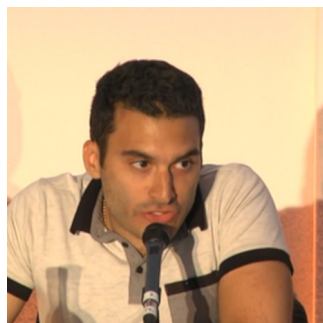
Judit Morwa (Hungary)

Left-wing activist, feminist, atheist, anti-fascist and pacifist. Chief editor of the Hungarian version of "Le Monde Diplo" and "Transforme!". She participated in the Days of Atheism in 2016, and the foundation had the opportunity to attend conferences she organized in Hungary.



Maryam Namazie (Iran/Wielka Brytania)

is an Iranian born secular, feminist and social activist. She is co-spokesperson for One Law for All, the Council of Ex-Muslims of Britain and Fitnah. She hosts a weekly television program Bread and Roses. Raif Badawi Foundation Board member, NSS Honorary Associate; a columnist for The Freethinker; awarded numerous prizes&awards for promoting secularism and her campaigning work defending free thought and free speech. Atheist of the Year 2014.



Armin Navabi (Iran/Canada)

Is the legendary creator of the world's largest online atheist community, the Atheist Republic which already has hundreds of consulates worldwide, and its site on FB get more than 5 million hits per week. Armin Navabi is the finalist of the Atheist of the year 2019 Contest.



Wanda Nowicka (Poland)

is a Polish social activist, feminist, politician, chair of the Federation for Women and Family Planning for many years, MEP and Deputy Speaker of the Polish Parliament of the 7th term. The merit of Wanda Nowicka for secularism, freedom from religion and women's rights cannot be overestimated.



Michael Nugent (Ireland)

is a Chairman of Atheist Ireland, organisation for atheism, rationalism and ethical secularism in Ireland and globally. Member of the board of Atheist Alliance International. Writer, author of books ("Dear John – The John Mackay Letters", "Dear Me – The Diary of John Mackay") and musical "I, Keano". Jury member of the Atheist of the Year Contest.



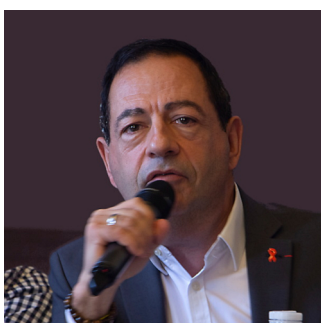
Nada Peratović (Croatia/Switzerland)

is a feminist and humanist activist. Founder and president of the association "Centre for Civic Courage" in Croatia and the Board member of the Association of Swiss Freethinkers. Author of the book "Humanism for Children". She currently is writing the book "Good Human Being".



Vesna Puhovsky (Croatia)

is the President of the Croatian Association "Protagora", which acts for equality of people regardless of their religion and against discrimination of different social groups from religious motivation, demonstrating the damaging effects of religion for society as a whole.



Jean-Luc Romero (France)

is a politician, writer and social activist. Since 1980, the President of the ADMD (Association for the Right to Dignified Death), an organization fighting for the right of every person to decide on time and way of his/her own death. The main objective of ADMD is to legalize euthanasia. Activist of organizations fighting homophobia and HIV-AIDS phobia, actively fights for equal rights for sexual minorities. Author of books "My death belongs to me" and "The thefts of our freedom".



Nina Sankari (Poland)

is a feminist and atheistic activist, co-founder and vice-president of the Kazimierz Lyszczyński Foundation, co-founder and speaker of the International Free Thought Association. She published in ex. in *Racjonalista.pl*, weekly "Facts and Myths", "Faktycznie", in "La Raison", "Charlie Hebdo", 50/50. Co-founder and editor-in-chief of the "Atheist review". Selected by "Gazeta Wyborcza" as one of 50 courageous women of 2018 who are changing the world for the better.



Prof. Joanna Senyszyn (Poland)

is an eminent Polish atheist and feminist. In 2001 – 2009 she was a member of the Parliament of the fourth, fifth and sixth parliamentary terms, from 2009 to 2014 a MEP. She writes in her column "Professor Joanna S's chair" in the weekly "Facts and Myths". Her articles have been published also in the weekly "Nie", "Przegląd" and "Trybuna".



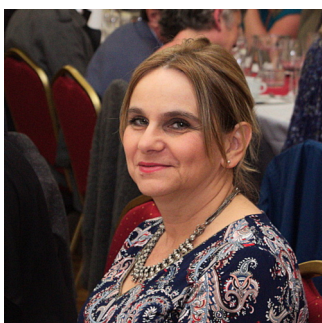
Shobika Suthahar (Norway)

JURK member (female law students organization advocating for women's rights and against violence against women)



Piotr Szumlewicz (Poland)

is a writer, columnist, radio journalist, editor of the quarterly "Without Dogma" and of the website *lewica.pl*, trade union activist. Declared atheist, author of talks with eminent Polish atheists "Atheist's kit".



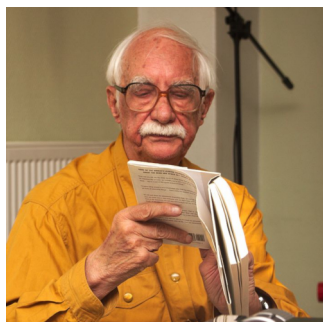
Monika Szymańska (Poland)

is a feminist, atheist, secular activist, Board member of the Association "Wszechnica Oświeceniowo-Racjonalistyczna", left-wing social activist and columnist.



Dr Małgorzata Tkacz-Janik (Poland)

is a social activist, feminist, lecturer, Silesian city council of the 4th term, of the Women's Congress for the centennial of Women's Rights to vote, the initiator of the Silesian Women's route, associated with the Urban Movement Congress.



Prof. Stanisław Krystyn Tyrlik (Poland)

is a retired chemistry lecturer. He has been cooperating for years with the Polish rationalist and atheist organizations promoting the worldview based on scientific knowledge and secular ethics. He was a speaker at numerous conferences organized by the Kazimierz Lyszczyński Foundation.



Andrzej Wójcik (Poland)

is a Polish atheist and secular activist, member of the board of the Polish Freedom from Religion Foundation



Katarzyna Wójtowicz (Poland)

is a Polish secular activist, atheist and feminist. Leader of the group "Enough silence" acting for the settlement of the "sins" of the church, including the crimes of pedophilia and for reparation to victims. The group organizes a weekly demonstration at the Old Town grand place as well as the public debates on the real history and activities of the Church.



Staśa Zajović (Serbia)

She organized about 2000 performances, peaceful marches and other street events. Feminist, atheist, co-founder and president (since 1991) of the feminist anti-war organization "Women in Black" (Belgrade). She is always against the patriarchy, war, nationalism and militarism. On the photo she is wearing the tee-shirt with the inscription: "I don't give money to the Church."



Atheist of the Year Award

U

st as the Atheist Days are a unique event in Europe and beyond, so is the Atheist of the Year contest. Prizes associated to non-theistic worldviews are awarded in many countries: The Prize of the Secularism in France, Secularist of the Year in UK, the Humanist of the Year in Australia and other secular and humanist awards are given by international humanist organizations, such as Humanism International (former IHEU). Skeptics and rationalists in various countries also award prizes. The competition for the Atheist of the Year, however, takes place only in Poland.

Naturally, the most prestigious and highly valued trophy in the atheist world is the Richard Dawkins Prize. While maintaining a sense of proportion and modesty, it is worth emphasizing the specificity of the criteria of our competition.

Its purpose is to honor individuals, organizations or institutions for special achievements in promoting the atheistic worldview and freedom from religion, to counteract discrimination based on world-view and to integrate the Polish and international atheist movements. It is these last two criteria that set our contest apart.

The Title of the Atheist of the Year is awarded annually in two categories, national and international, with their own independent Jury. The

winners are selected separately in each category by the Jury from among nominees submitted to the organizer of the competition.

The contest winners are announced at the Atheist Banquet which is hosted during the annual Days of Atheism. For the first time, the title of Atheist of the Year was awarded during the Days of Atheism **2014**. The winner in the national category was the outstanding Polish atheist **prof. Jan Hartman**. There were two prizes awarded in the international category won by the exiled Iranian social activist - **Maryam Namazie** and by **Sanal Edamaruku**, a rationalist who had to flee India after debunking an alleged miracle in a Catholic church in Mumbai.

In subsequent years, the winners of the competition were:

2015

Jerzy Urban (Poland, "Nie" weekly)

Waleed Al-Husseini (Palestinian Authority, founder of the Council of Ex-Muslims in France, author of "The Blasphemer: The Price I Paid for Rejecting Islam")

2016

Agnieszka Abemonti-Świrniak (Poland, author of "Marta and the religious education")

Mario Ramadan (Lebanon, founder of the Lebanese Free Thinkers group).

2017

Grażyna Juszczyk (Poland, she was persecuted after she took a cross off a wall in a public school, sued the school in court and won)

Michael Nugent (Ireland, President Atheist Ireland, Atheist Alliance International) ex-aequo with Fauzia Ilyas (Pakistan, founder of Atheist & Agnostic Alliance Pakistan)

2018

Alan Wysocki (Poland, junior high school student who took a cross off his classroom's wall)

David Silverman (USA, author of the book "Fighting God", former longtime president of the American Atheists)

Association of Tunisian Freethinkers (the first association of atheists officially registered in a Muslim country).



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