

Brussels, 19/02/2020

*Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentelman,
Dear Colleauges,*

Thank you for accepting the invitation for tonight. I would like to summarize the activities of the PolSCA Office under my leadership, during my time in "Brussels bubble".

Taking up the management role in the Polish Academy of Sciences office in Brussels my main goal was to build a community, according to the motto "*Together we can do more*".

For this reason, in the strategy of PolSCA office's activities, I put emphasis on lobbying and advocacy for science and the scientific community. I started these activities with my team in November 2017 and continued them in the following years.

During this time, together with partners from the Visegrad group V4, we co-organized 4 editions of trainings for research project managers and several conferences.

As a PolSCA office we were also active within IGLO (Informal Group of Liaison Offices).

Several times we took part in consultations of the Horizon Europe (HEU) framework programme (2021-2027). We conducted permanent monitoring of the research and innovation policy (research and innovation) by providing information to the Academy and the scientific community in Poland.

I would like to stress the important role of cooperation with Polish regional offices and economic representations, for which we organized 25 seminars with the participation of scientists, experts and officials from European institutions regarding current issues of science and research policy.

Having said that, I would like to thank my former students from the Warsaw School of Economics (SGH)/Sciences PO European Studies Programme, nowadays working for European institutions – your constant support is much appreciated.

PolSCA also promotes scientific achievements by promoting books or films. As part of these activities we co-organized screenings of 2 documentary films: (i) one dedicated to Leopold Unger, titled "*Journalist*" directed by M. Kasiak and (ii) in cooperation with the Polish Institute, the film titled "*Solidarity According to Women*" directed by M. Dzido and P. Śliwowski.

In the European Parliament, the PolSCA co-organized the debate titled "Is another politics possible? The legacy of Prof. S. Stomma in European politics" with the participation of Prof. R. Ptaszyński, author of the book "Stommism").

While managing the PolSCA office I started cooperation with the Scientific Station of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Paris. In 2018, both Stations presented themselves in the European Parliament, during a seminar on the representation of Polish interests in Brussels, co-organized, among others, with the Office of the Polish Bank Association.

Together we organized several events, including a conference with PISM (The Polish Institute of International Affairs/ Polish Institute of International Studies) and Sciences PO on the future of the European Union in October 2019.

To sum up, during my tenure as a PolSCA office Director:

- we organized over several dozen scientific or popularization events;
- we conducted 4 trainings with the V4 group;
- we participated in the consultation process several times;
- we also organized two press breakfasts to spark interest among Polish journalists accredited in Brussels in scientific policy issues.

Thanks to our activity we have become a recognizable member of the IGLO network (Informal Group of Liaison Offices).

I would like to thank all of you for your cooperation and support.

Many thanks to our partners from the V4 network, IGLO family, the Polish Embassy in Brussels, the Polish Institute in Brussels and the Permanent Representation of Poland to the EU.

Thank you: the PolSCA Team: Dr Adam Knapik, Dr. Justyna Kramarczyk and Dr. Tomasz Poprawka for their joint activities.

Members of the Scientific Council of our Station – Ms. Magdalena Pszcólkowska, Deputy Director of the Polish Institute in Brussels and Agata Janaszczyk, Research Advisor, I would like to thank you for your support.

I would like to inform you that Tomasz Poprawka was nominated by the President of the Polish Academy of Sciences as an acting director, effective as of the first of March. Tomasz, I wish you success in your everyday job!

Thank you for your attention. Let's enjoy together the rest of the evening.