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Activation policy.
The Polish experience
(in the European context)


PolSCA seminar

**Brussels,
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Structure of the presentation:

- (1) Towards reconstruction of the European welfare states;
- (2) Activation policies: Poland and Europe;
- (3) Institute of Public Affairs (IPA) research in a field.

The European welfare states on a cross-road:

- (1) rolling back the (welfare) state,
 - (2) defending the welfare state 'as we know',
 - (3) reconstructing the welfare state
(towards capturing the middle grown).
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Reconstructing the welfare state:

- Activation policy (active social policy), and promotion of active social citizenship,
 - Flexicurity (not the same as de-regulation),
 - Governance in stead of governing (plus civic dialogue),
 - From welfare state to welfare society,
 - Decentralisation (increasing the role of local-governments),
 - Welfare mix model (in social services).
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Evolution of social policy in Poland

➤ 1989–2002

Domination of „passive” social transfers used to counteract side-effects of the economic transformation while EU old-15 made a shift towards active social policy,

➤ 2003–2012 Social policy reshaped to include activation approach – Poland on the same course as other EU member states.

Activation policy: problems and challenges

- (1) a lot has been done specially in legislation and creation of new institution (CIS, KIS, ZAZ, WISE) – monitoring is welcome;
- (2) The lack of functional co-operation between social services and job services (how to integrate the reintegration?);
- (3) ‘Double’ social policy (weak links between spending budget money and EU resources),
- (4) The domination of administrative rules over merits in EU programmes.

IPA research in a field (2003–2012)

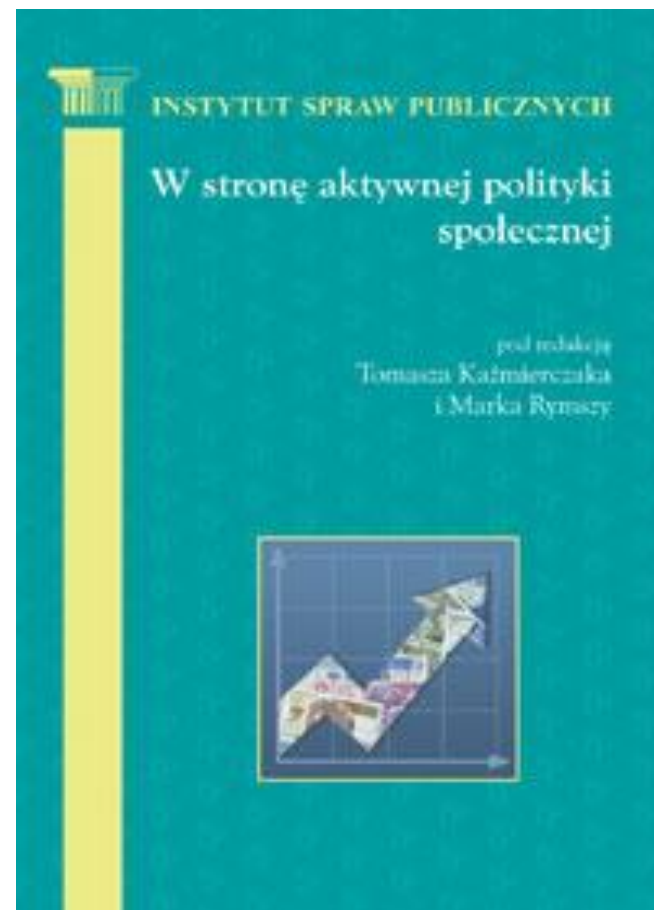
(1) 4 big research projects:

- (the starting project financed by NPB 2002–2003,
- The partner initiative under IW EQUAL 2004–2008 with IPA as the administrator,
- Two systemic projects for the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy (IPA as a research–partner in a team) 2009–2013;

(2) More than 15 books plus soft publications;

(3) quantitative and qualitative research on activation institution and services (CIS, KIS, ZAZ WISE, social workers).

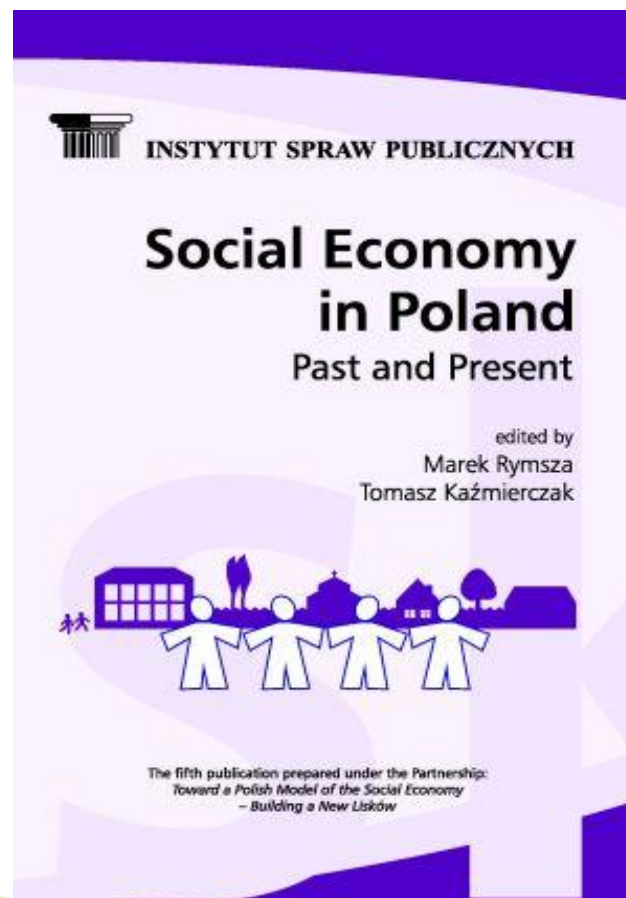
- ▶ T. Kaźmierczak, M. Rymśza (ed.), „W stronę aktywnej polityki społecznej” [*Towards an active social policy*], 2003



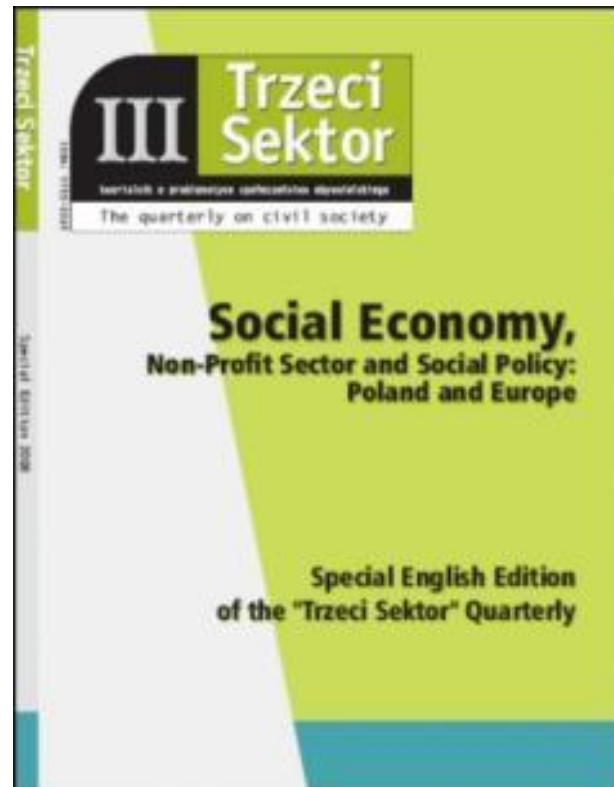
- ▶ T. Kaźmierczak, M. Rymcza (ed.), „Kapitał społeczny. Ekonomia społeczna” [*Social Capital. Social Economy*], 2004



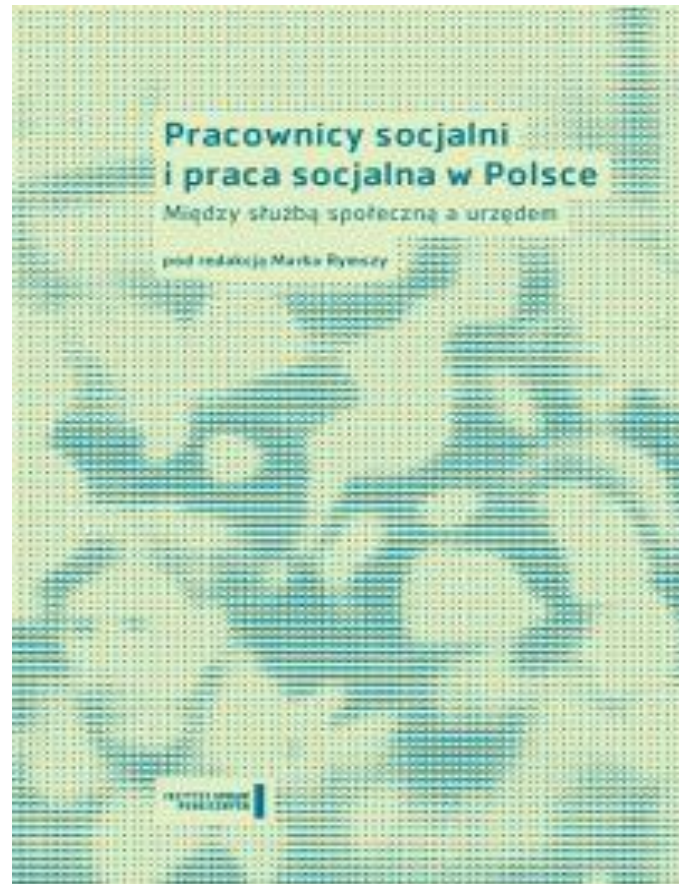
- ▶ M. Rymsza, T. Kaźmierczak (ed.), *Social Economy in Poland. Past and Present*, 2008



- ▶ „Third Sector” quarterly” – special edition – *Tsocial Economy, Non-Profit Sector and Social Policy. Poland and Europe, 2008*



- ▶ M. Rymśza (ed.), „Pracownicy socjalni i praca socjalna w Polsce [*Social Workers and Social Work in Poland*], 2012



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