

POLISH ACADEMY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Report of the Secretary General
of the Polish Academy
of Arts and Sciences for the year 2023



KRAKOW 2024

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Report of the Secretary General of the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences (PAU¹) for the year 2023

The Report on the Activities of the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences covers the calendar year, i.e. the period from 1 January to 31 December 2023. Traditionally, this report does not include financial matters, including an analysis of the Academy's costs and expenses. The report on the implementation of the financial plan in the reporting year was discussed by the PAU Management Board and the Audit Committee. It was unanimously adopted by these bodies. It also received a positive opinion from the statutory auditor, prepared by the PROFIN office.

General information

The Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences corporation consists of 1 honorary member, 145 regular members, 161 corresponding members, and 172 foreign members. The 2023 election of new Academy members was held at the General Assembly on 17 June. This election resulted in the selection of 9 regular members, 7 new corresponding members, and 5 foreign members.

During the reporting year, the Academy suffered severe losses. The following persons have passed away:

From Class I

Professor Peter Wiesinger – foreign member, passed away on 23 June 2023

¹ Polska Akademia Umiejętności.

Professor Michał Głowiński – regular member, passed away on 29 September 2023

Professor Jan Prokop – corresponding member, passed away on 18 December 2023

From Class II

Professor Szewach Weiss – foreign member, passed away on 3 February 2023

Professor Zenon Kałuża – foreign member, passed away on 5 June 2023

Professor Jan Machnik – regular member, passed away on 7 October 2023

Professor Shlomo Avineri – foreign member, passed away on 1 December 2023

From Class III

Professor Stanisław Jadach – corresponding member, passed away on 26 February 2023

Professor Zenon Waszczyszyn – regular member, passed away on 28 February 2023

Professor Stanley George Wójcicki – foreign member, passed away on 31 May 2023

Professor Bogumił Jeziorski – regular member, passed away on 15 September 2023

Professor Dominique Delande – foreign member, passed away on 3 October 2023

Professor Ryszard Sosnowski – regular member, passed away on 6 December 2023

From Class IV

Professor Wojciech Narębski – regular member, passed away on 27 January 2023

Professor Kazimierz Zarzycki – regular member, passed away on 20 February 2023

Professor Jerzy Rzędowski – foreign member, passed away on 28 March 2023

Professor Andrzej Ślącza – regular member, passed away on 9 June 2023

Professor Krystyna Urbańska – foreign member, passed away on 12 July 2023

Professor Aleksander Guterch – corresponding member, passed away on 28 December 2023

From Class V

Professor Ryszard Jerzy Gryglewski – regular member, passed away on 30 January 2023

Professor Anne-Lise Haenni – foreign member, passed away on 26 March 2023

From Class VI

Professor Witold Cęckiewicz – regular member, passed away on 30 January 2023

Activity of Classes, Commissions, and Stations

The number of members of each Class and the number of scientific meetings held are shown in Table I.

Table I. Classes of the Academy of Arts and Sciences (PAU)

Class	Number of regular members	Number of corresponding members	Number of foreign members	Number of scientific meetings
Class I: Philology	25	30	35	10
Class II: History and Philosophy	24	33	30	2
Class III: Sciences and Technology	23	33	37	–
Class IV: Natural Sciences	23	33	26	4
Class V: Medicine	24	32	38	8
Class VI: Artistic Creativity	26	–	6	–
Honorary member	1			
Total	145	161	172	24
Total number of members (status as at 31 December 2023)	479			

In the reporting year in the PAU 39 Commissions were active – 24 Class Commissions and 15 Inter-Class Commissions, including 5 operating at Scientific Stations (cf. Tables II–VIII). These tables show the number of scientific meetings and sessions held.

Table II. PAU Class I Commissions: Philology

Commission	Scientific meetings	Scientific sessions
PAU Commission on Classical Philology	7	–
PAU Commission on Modern Languages	7	–
PAU Commission on Slavonic Culture	9	–
PAU Commission on Art History	8	2
PAU Commission on Communication Ethics	1	–

Table III. PAU Class II Commissions: History and Philosophy

Commission	Scientific meetings	Scientific sessions
PAU Commission on Central Europe	8	1
PAU Commission on Eastern Europe	3	1
PAU Commission on Law	3	–
PAU Commission on the History and Culture of Jews	7	1
PAU Commission on the Prehistory of the Carpathians	6	–
PAU Commission on Economic Sciences	8	–
PAU Commission on Ethnography	6	1
PAU Commission on the History of Wars and Military Science	6	–
PAU Commission on Archaeology of Mediterranean Countries	8	–
PAU Commission on Media Studies	7	1
PAU Biographical Commission	9	1

Table IV. PAU Class III Commissions: Sciences and Technology

Commission	Scientific meetings	Scientific sessions
PAU Commission on Astrophysics	21	–
PAU Commission on Technical Sciences	6	–
PAU Commission on Complex Systems	5	–

Table V. PAU Class IV Commissions: Natural Sciences

Commission	Scientific meetings	Scientific sessions
PAU Commission on Geoinformatics	5	1
PAU Commission on Quaternary Palaeogeography	2	–
PAU Commission on Development Biology	1	1
PAU Commission on Agricultural, Forest, and Veterinary Sciences	7	–
PAU Commission on Geography	9	1

Table VI. PAU Inter-Class Commissions

Commission	Scientific meetings	Scientific sessions
PAU Commission on the History of Science	14	9
PAU Commission on European Matters	2	–
PAU Commission on Threats to Civilization	9	–
PAU Commission on the Philosophy of Sciences	7	1
PAU Commission on the Evaluation of Textbooks	8	1
PAU Commission for the Studies on the Polish Diaspora	5	–

Table VI cont.

Commission	Scientific meetings	Scientific sessions
PAU Commission on Anthropology	3	–
PAU Commission on Ergonomics	3	1
PAU Commission on Culture and Media Management	6	–
Polish CIHEC Subcommittee Commission Internationale d’Histoire Ecclésiastique Comparé	–	–

Apart from the Classes and Commissions, there are also three Scientific Stations within the structure of the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences: the Science Station in Gdańsk, the Science Station in Katowice and the newly created Science Station in Poznań. The latter was created by virtue of the decision of the PAU General Assembly on 11 March 2023. The Station’s headquarters in Poznań is located in the Collegium Maius building and is headed by Professor Waldemar Łazuga. The scientific activity of the Stations is presented in Table VII.

Table VII. PAU Science Stations

Science Station	Scientific meetings	Scientific sessions
PAU Science Station and Kashubian Commission in Gdańsk	1	1
PAU Science Station in Katowice		
– PAU Commission on Silesian History in Katowice	2	–
– PAU Commission on Mathematical Sciences	–	–
– PAU Commission on Natural Sciences	4	–
– PAU Commission on Law	1	–
– Scientific and Cultural Village in Gliwice	10	–
PAU Science Station in Poznań	2	1

Conferences, sessions and regular projects

Conferences and scientific sessions are an important part of PAU's activities. The removal of restrictions on the organisation of meetings and gatherings (in effect during the COVID-19 epidemic) resulted in a significant increase in the number of conferences and sessions organised and co-organised by the Classes, Commissions and Stations of the PAU. In the reporting year, 26 scientific sessions and conferences were organised; 7 of them were international.

At this point it is also necessary to mention regular meetings coordinated by the PAU and open to the wider public: Science Café, Science Tea Room and interviews conducted by Professor Dominika Dudek titled *Conversations on Humanity*.

Scientific activities

For the past four years, the PAU structure has been home to the first scientific research unit in Poland to conduct Armenological research – the Research Centre for Armenian Culture in Poland. The Centre is financed by a separate budget from the Ministry of Education and Science subsidy.

In the reporting year, 10 research projects (grants), funded by external sources, were carried out at PAU.

In addition, PAU is carrying out an indefinite project, funded by the Lanckoroński Foundation, entitled *Acta Nuntiaturae Polonae*. Within the framework of this project reports and documents of apostolic nuncios in Poland from 1519 to the successively edited. In the reporting year, 2 volumes of *ANP* were published, while others are in various stages of preparation for printing.

Publishing activity

A significant part of PAU's activity is its publishing activity. A total of 22 journals were published or co-edited by PAU in 2023. Table VIII shows the scoring of PAU journals, taken from the last two lists of journals of the Ministry of Education and Science.

Table VIII. PAU journals

PAU Journals	Points 2023 ²	Points 2024 ³
Acta Archaeologica Carpathica	70	70
Acta Militaria Mediaevalia	20	20
Acta Physica Polonica B	70	70
Journal of Criminal Law and Penal Sciences	40	40
Folia Historiae Artium	100	20
Folia Quaternaria	20	20
Geoinformatica Polonica	40	20
Slavonic Culture. Yearbook of the Commission on Slavonic Culture	100	100
Philosophical Quarterly	20	20
Private Law Quarterly	70	70
Lehahayer. A journal devoted to the history of Polish Armenians	20	20
Polish Review	100	100
Geographical Works	70	70
Yearbook of the Scientific Library of the PAU and PAN	20	20
Geomorphologica Carpatho-Balcanica Studies	20	20
Studia Historiae Scientiarum	100	100
Migration Studies – Review of Polish Diaspora	100	70
Central European and Balkan Studies	70	70

In addition, 11 book titles were published in the reporting year. The total volume of all the published volumes is 1,110.75 printing sheets (326.75 book publication sheets + 784 periodical sheets). The

² According to the announcement of 3 November 2023.

³ According to the announcement of 5 January 2024.

level of our publications is ensured by the PAU Publishing Committee. All submitted texts are reviewed by independent reviewers, and only works that have received unequivocal positive reviews are accepted for publication. The Committee is presently chaired by the Vice-President of the PAU, Professor Andrzej Mączyński.

International cooperation

The list of scientific units with which the PAU has valid (current) cooperation agreements is presented below:

- Czech Academy of Sciences
- Slovak Academy of Sciences
- Slovenian Academy of Sciences
- Ukrainian Academy of Sciences
- Austrian Academy of Sciences
- Hungarian Academy of Sciences
- Macedonian Academy of Sciences
- Romanian Academy of Sciences
- Institute of History of the Republic of Lithuania
- The ExtreMe Matter Institute
- Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences
- Polish Scientific Society in Zhytomyr
- The Royal Society of Edinburgh
- Hungarian Academy of Arts
- Scientific Library of The Vasyl Stefanyk Precarpathian National University in Ivano-Frankivsk, Ukraine
- Ivan Franko National University of Lviv

In 2023, researchers from the Czech Academy of Sciences, the Slovenian Academy of Sciences, and the Institute of Lithuanian History of the Republic of Lithuania completed short-term internships at PAU.

Moreover, PAU is a member of two international organisations: the International Union of Academies (UAI) and the All European Academies (ALLEA). Cooperation with the Polish Institute of Science (PIASA) in the United States and the Polish Institute of Science in Canada (PIASC) in Montreal should also be mentioned here. Both of these institutes formally have the status of PAU research stations. We publish a journal entitled “The Polish Review” together with the Institute in New York (compare Table VIII).

Research support activity

Three units of the PAU are involved in such activities: The Scientific Library of PAU and PAN⁴ in Krakow, The Archives of the Science of PAN and PAU in Krakow, and the Lanckoroński Photothèque.

The Scientific Library is a joint unit of the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences and the Polish Academy of Sciences. In the reporting year, this unit was included in the National Library Network by the decision of the Minister of Culture and National Heritage.

In the reporting year, the Library's collections were presented at 7 exhibitions:

- *Ólrausch und Huzulenkult. Fotografische Streitobjekte aus Galizien und der Bukowina*, Volkskundemuseum Vienna, Austria.
- *Wandering Images. Małgorzata Mirga-Tas*, International Cultural Center; Krakow;
- *The Exhibit of the Month*, Museum of the Memory of Siberia in Białystok;
- *Amber. Treasure of the Baltic*, Museum in Gliwice;
- *Dutch Master of Detail. Jacob Mertens and Cracow Painting around 1600*, Wawel Royal Castle – State Art Collections;
- *Gifts of the Sun King*, Wawel Royal Castle – State Art Collections;
- *Mystery of the Sun. Copernicus, Son of the Renaissance*, District Museum in Toruń.

The Scientific Library of the PAU and PAN carried out its own publishing activity. In 2023 it published:

- *Cracoviae: Ex Officina Typographica – 550 years of Cracow printing: program*, ed. A. Fluda-Krokos;
- *Catalog of the Print Room of the Scientific Library of the PAU and PAN in Krakow: German School – 16th, 17th and 18th centuries. German School Václav Hollar*, ed. A. Olszewska;
- *Artificem commendat opus. Studies about Graphics*, ed. M. Adamska, A. Fluda-Krokos;
- the 68th volume of the “Yearbook of the Scientific Library of PAU and PAN in Krakow”.
- a calendar for 2024 (jointly with PAU).

⁴ Polish Academy of Sciences.

In 2023 the Library organised an international scientific conference: *Cracoviae: Ex Officina Typographica – 550 years of Cracovian printing* and co-organised the conference *VILNIUS and other EUROPEAN CAPITALS through the prism of Auxiliary Historical Sciences*. The latter event was prepared by the Institute of Lithuanian History on the occasion of the 700th anniversary of Vilnius.

It is worth emphasising that in the reporting year the Library staff conducted classes for students of higher education institutions in Krakow.

A full report on the Library's activities will be published in the 69th volume of the "Yearbook of the Scientific Library of the PAU and PAN in Krakow".

The **Archive of Science** is a joint unit of the Branch of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Krakow and the PAU.

On the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the cooperation with the Archives of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic (later the Masaryk Institute), an exhibition was organised at the Archives of Science of the PAN and PAU:

- *Between Krakow and Prague – Between Two Archives*; the exhibition was accompanied by a methodological colloquium *The Archivist, "His" Legacy and His Problems*.

The reporting year also saw the launch of a project dedicated to the compilation and digitalisation of the legacy of Professor Waclaw Felczak. This research received funding from the *Waclaw Felczak Alapítvány* (W. Felczak Foundation).

The Lanckoroński Photothèque. In 2023, work on the collections of the PAU's Lanckoroński Photothèque was closely linked to the implementation of research carried out as part of the externally funded project, "PAUart-5. Catalogue of Scientific and Artistic Collections. Iconographic Sources and Their Documentary Context" (NPRH/DN/SP/494959/2021/10). As in previous years, in the reporting year classes (conservatories and internships) were organised at Photothèque for students of Jagiellonian University, the Pontifical University of John Paul II and the University of the National Education Commission. It is also worth noting that in 2023 the resources of the Photothèque were used in the preparation of two master's theses completed at the Pontifical University of John Paul II's Institute of the History of Art and Culture.

The Polish Library in Paris

After long efforts, in the reporting year the PAU obtained formal confirmation of the ownership of the Polish Library building in Paris at Quai d'Orléans 6. Next, on 9 October 2023, a tripartite agreement was signed between the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage, the PAU and the Historical and Literary Society of Paris (THL) on the establishment of the Institute Polish Library in Paris as a cultural institution co-managed by the aforementioned entities. According to the provisions contained in the agreement and in the Institute's statutes, PAU retained ownership of the Library building and the collection, and has the right to nominate a candidate for the Institute's director (together with the THL), one of the deputy directors and three members of the Institute's 9-member Council. The start of the Institute Polish Library in Paris is envisaged for the second half of 2024, at which time funding for the Institute will be provided by the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage. PAU, as owner of the Library building, will bear only part of the costs of maintenance and insurance of the property. The procedure for the election of the director of the Institute was also successfully completed Professor Maciej Forycki was appointed to this function.

Prizes, awards and scholarships

As every year, also in the reporting year, the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences granted distinctions and prizes. The most prestigious of them is the **Erazm and Anna Jerzmanowski Prize**. This prize is given for scientific, cultural and charitable activities, and in the reporting year was financed by the Marshal of the Małopolska Region and the Mayor of the City of Krakow. The fourteenth recipient – after the reactivation of the prize – was Ryszard Krynicki. The Award ceremony took place on 12 June 2023 at Wawel Castle.

The Tadeusz Browicz Prize award is given by PAU at the request of Class V: Medicine. In the reporting year, the Tadeusz Browicz Prize was given to Mateusz Siedliński, PhD (Chair of Internal Medicine and Rural Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, Jagiellonian University) for a series of publications entitled *The Contribution of T-lymphocytes and Phosphosphingosine to Cellular and Molecular Mechanisms of Hypertension*. The Tadeusz Browicz Prize for a young researcher

was given to Marcin Magierowski, PhD (Chair of Internal Medicine and Rural Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, Jagiellonian University) for a series of publications entitled *Physiological and Molecular Mechanisms of Action of Hydrogen Sulphide- and Carbon Monoxide-Releasing Drugs*.

The Marian Mięśowicz Prize is given at the request of Class III: Science and Technology. In 2023 it was awarded to Professor Tomasz Skwarnicki (Syracuse University, USA) for playing a leading role in the analyses leading to the discovery of rare pentaquark states containing heavy quarks.

In the reporting year, at the request of the PAU Inter-Class Commission on the Evaluation of Textbooks, the PAU also awarded the textbook *Learn about the Past Literature, language, culture. Class 2. Part 1* (authors Dorota Siwicka and Aleksander Nawarecki), issued by the Stentor Publishing House.

The Lanckoroński Foundation and the Lanckoroński of Brzezie Foundation Scholarships were awarded by a Committee chaired by Professor Andrzej Borowski. In addition to PAU representatives, it is composed of delegates from the Foundation, Jagiellonian University in Krakow, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, University of Warsaw, Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń and University of Wrocław. In the reporting year, the committee awarded 25 scholarships.

Renovation works and investments

In the reporting year, planned renovation works at the PAU headquarters have been continued. They were financed by the Academy's own funds and a subsidy from the National Fund for Revalorisation of Krakow's Monuments. As part of these works, the central heating installation in the building at ul. Sławkowska 17 and replacement of part of the water and sewage risers were completed. The renovation of the premises previously occupied by the "U Babci Maliny" restaurant also commenced.

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Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences' art collection

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