



**POLSKO-LITEWSKI
FUNDUSZ WYMIANY
MŁODZIEŻY**

"Miracle of Freedom "
PLF/2020/F1/U/0050
24.09-30.09.2020
Poronin



Miracle of freedom

Polish-Lithuanian interactions




Introduction to our common history

- **Polish–Lithuanian relations** date from the 13th century, after the Grand Duchy of Lithuania under Mindaugas acquired some of the territory of Rus' and thus established a border with the then-fragmented Kingdom of Poland. Polish-Lithuanian relations subsequently improved, ultimately leading to a personal union between the two states. From the mid-16th to the late-18th century Poland and Lithuania merged to form the Polish–Lithuanian Commonwealth, a state that was dissolved following their partition by Austria, Prussia and Russia.

Polish–Lithuanian Commonwealth

- The **Polish–Lithuanian Commonwealth** – formally, the Crown of the Kingdom of Poland and the Grand Duchy of Lithuania and, after 1791, the Commonwealth of Poland – was a country and bi-federation of Poland and Lithuania ruled by a common monarch in real union, who was both King of Poland and Grand Duke of Lithuania. It was one of the largest and most populous countries of 16th- to 17th-century Europe. At its largest territorial extent, in the early 17th century, the Commonwealth covered almost 1,000,000 square kilometres (400,000 sq mi) and as of 1618 sustained a multi-ethnic population of almost 12 million. Polish and Latin were the two co-official languages



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- The Commonwealth was established by the Union of Lublin in July 1569, but the Crown of the Kingdom of Poland and the Grand Duchy of Lithuania had been in a *de facto* personal union since 1386 with the marriage of the Polish queen Hedwig and Lithuania's Grand Duke Jogaila, who was crowned King *jure uxoris* Władysław II Jagiełło of Poland. The First Partition in 1772 and the Second Partition in 1793 greatly reduced the state's size and the Commonwealth was partitioned out of existence with the Third Partition in 1795.



The continuation of relations after partitions, II World War and fall of communism

- The fall of communism in the years between 1989 and 1991 led to a formal reestablishment of relations by the Polish and Lithuanian states. Poland was highly supportive of Lithuanian independence, and became one of the first countries to recognize independent Lithuania (on 26 August 1991).

Modern times

- On 28 September 1992 the foreign ministers of both nations signed a declaration of friendship and neighborly relations and a consular convention, rejecting any territorial claims and promising to respect the rights of their corresponding minorities. On 26 April 1994 during the meeting of presidents of both countries in Vilnius they concluded the mutual Friendship Treaty. Both countries joining the NATO (Poland in 1999, Lithuania in 2004, with Poland being a vocal supporter of Lithuania's accession) and European Union (both in 2004).





Polish-lithuanian youth`s interactions nowadays

Youth exchange programs and projects

Erasmus+

- Erasmus+ is the EU's programme to support education, training, youth and sport in Europe. Its budget of €14.7 billion will provide opportunities for over 4 million Europeans to study, train, and gain experience abroad.



Erasmus +

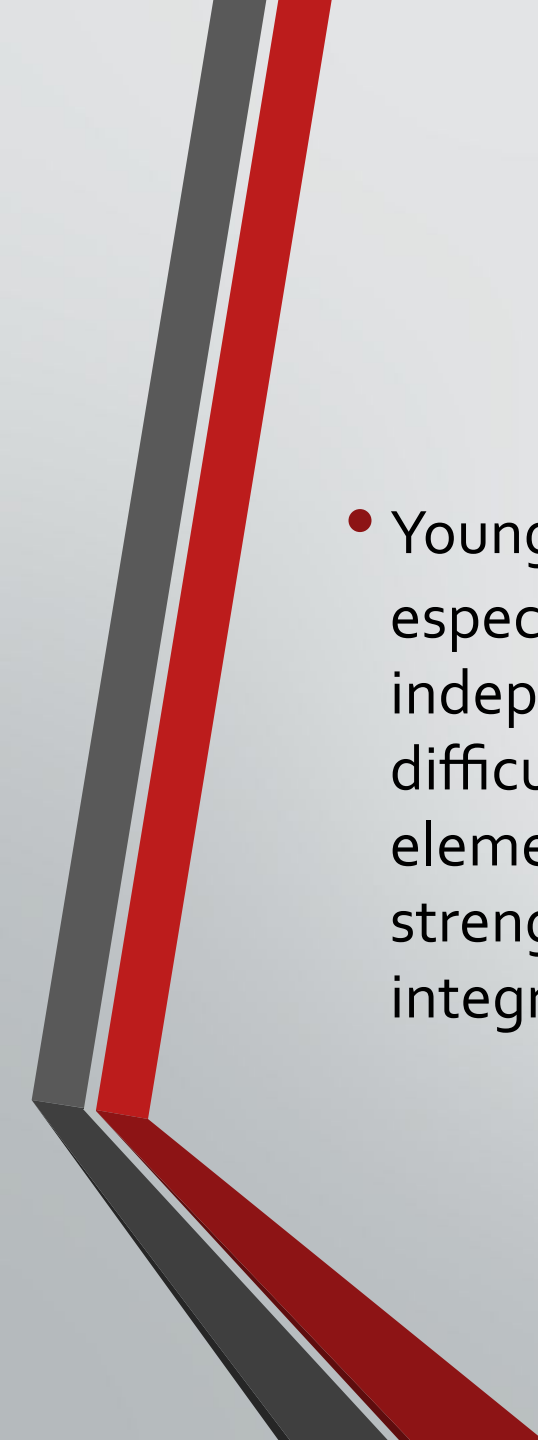


The opportunities for erasmus+ participants

- Erasmus+ provides grants for a wide range of actions including the opportunity for students to undertake work placements abroad and for teachers and education staff to attend training courses.

Students exchange fund "POLE AND LITHUANIAN - BROTHERHOOD OVER DIVISIONS"

- The project of APURE THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE REGIONS under the name POLE AND LITHUANIAN BROTHERS OVER DIVISIONS was financed under the Polish-Lithuanian Youth Exchange Fund. The project was carried out from 15-21.10.2018 in Poland. Participants were young people from APURE – the Association for Development of Regions, Poland and Kurybines ateities idejos, Lithuania. The aim of the project was to establish and strengthen intercultural dialogue, deepen mutual understanding, learned about the history and cultural heritage of both nations, overcome prejudices and stereotypes in the perception of common history and contemporary relationships, overcome barriers and stereotypes by building attitudes and tolerance among young people and seek what unites our countries.

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- Young people talked about a common cultural and historical heritage, especially in the context of the hundredth anniversary of regaining independence, the chances of strengthening mutual relations as well as the difficulties encountered and the ways of solving them. An important element was visiting memorial sites, presenting national culture, strengthening integration and acceptance of participants through integration and animation activities.



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Project "Miracle of Freedom"

info about project "Miracle of Freedom"

- project type: Youth Exchanges (Polish Lithuanian Youth Exchange Fund)
- priority: role of St. John Paul II, a friend of youth, in regaining freedom and independence by Poland and Lithuania.
- main topic: art and culture