

Constitution

Aims and objectives

The Polish Studies Group is interdisciplinary, international and non-partisan. It brings together researchers – including students and independent researchers – as well as teachers and others engaged in Polish studies. 'Polish studies' is understood broadly, to encompass studying/teaching any aspect of Poles and Poland. The Group aims to promote discussion about critical perspectives emerging in the field of Polish studies and encourage the adoption of critical approaches in research. It is intended to advance the place of Polish studies in British academia in general and in BASEES in particular. It also makes a contribution to Polish studies worldwide.

The Group seeks to foster research collaboration and exchange of ideas and expertise between those engaged in Polish studies. It organises annually: panels for the main BASEES conference; a workshop in the north of England; and a two-day conference, jointly with University College London SSEES Polish Studies Research Group.

By arranging workshop sessions for postgraduate students, the Group aims to support scholars preparing for their first research trips to Poland. Via networking events and workshops addressed to early career researchers, it fosters communication and supports grant bidding. Networking within the UK and with academics working in Poland and other countries facilitates the exchange of ideas and dissemination of research outcomes. Additionally, we address the growing popular interest in Poland and its history by inviting members of the public to our events.

Membership

Membership of the Group is free and members do not have to be members of BASEES or live in the UK. To join the Group, potential members contact the Mailing List Manager, who may enquire about their reasons for wanting to join (normally only in cases where they do not provide a university email address). Everyone registered on the mailing list is considered to be a member of the Group.

Committee

The PSG committee meets online several times a year to discuss the Group's activities. There are three main officers: the Secretary, the Treasurer and the Mailing List Manager(s) (who may combine this role with Secretary or Treasurer).

The Secretary convenes meetings, keeps records, and has overall responsibility for liaising with BASEES and dealing with general queries.

The Treasurer maintains the PSG bank account and deals with any income and expenses which are not the responsibility of PSG workshop and conference organisers.

The Mailing List Manager(s) maintain the mailing list. They also respond to queries from people wishing to join the PSG.

The Committee does not have a fixed number of members and any member of the mailing list may volunteer to sit on the Committee, with or without a fixed role. The membership will be decided annually at an annual general meeting. In cases where there is competition for a particular officer role, those present at the AGM will be asked to vote.