

The members of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology of Custom and Law are currently conducting research on the following topics:

- Women's Rights (Professor Małgorzata Fuszara) Her research of many years is currently focused on two forms of women's political activity: a) on women's participation in institutionalised politics and in the upcoming elections, and b) on the creating of both a formal and informal women's movement as an expression of an emerging identity of resistance.

- Dispute Patterns and How They are Resolved (Professor Jacek Kurczewski and Professor Małgorzata Fuszara). The fundamental aspect of the analysis concerns the choice between a private or official (especially judicial) means of resolving disputes. Their research has shown this choice to be based on general stereotypes regarding the functioning of the justice system rather than on personal experience.

- Antagonism and Reconciliation in Multicultural Environments (Professor Jacek Kurczewski). Patterns of peaceful dispute resolution were examined at an international level, focusing on Poles' relations with their neighbours (Jews, Germans, Czechs, Slovaks, Ukrainians, Belarusians, Lithuanians and Russians). This revealed a prevalence of conciliatory attitudes, as well as antagonistic potential – connected to historical conflicts and how they are interpreted today – susceptible to rekindling. Local experiences in contact and conflict play an important role in how different people view one another.

- Whistleblowing in Poland's Public Administration (Jolanta Arcimowicz, dr hab.). The research embraces: a) practices in public offices regarding whistleblowing and informing on others by the public, b) changes that have occurred in Poland related to such practices, c) the social assessment of informants and whistleblowers, and these practices, and d) legislation pertaining to whistleblowers. We are interested in determining whether (and how) practice in public offices towards whistleblowing and informing on others has changed over time.

- Nature and a Person's Sex and Gender. Natural Law Concepts in an Ecological Approach and the "Humanistic Coefficient" (Aneta Gawkowska, dr hab.). The analysis concerns the concept of nature in the light of natural law combined with the idea of the human person, and in particular the body and sex/gender – understood as torn between biological determinants and cultural constructs. The author debates Florian Znaniecki's "humanistic coefficient" in combination with an ecological approach to human nature.

- Woman's Cultural Knowledge (Aleksandra Herman, PhD): The goal of the research is to identify knowledge that is both shared and jointly created by women, especially knowledge sustaining a community's ethnic and religious identity. Unearthing this knowledge and acknowledging it as separate from general masculinised knowledge was enabled by research conducted among displaced women belonging to national and ethnic minorities.

- The Constructing of Cultural Gender During Childhood (Anna Krajewska, PhD): The research focuses on the issues of equality and inequality during the process of the constructing gender development that occurs during childhood, and embraces selected elements of material culture concerning childhood, analysed both from the point of view of gender and the evolving theories of childhood.

- Tradition or Modernity? (Joanna Śmigielska, PhD): The research concerns transformations in rural family customs, and the transmission of lifestyles and professed values and attitudes in everyday life – especially customs passed down from one generation to the next and related to the division of responsibilities in the family, women's position and rights, and the impact that this passing down has on the shape of the family today.