

Ukrainian students at Polish universities: case study of the Maria Curie- Skłodowska University in Lublin

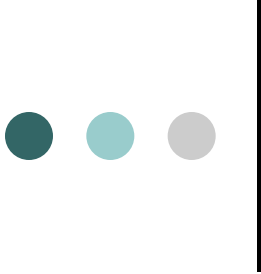
dr Łukasz Lewkowicz

Faculty of Political Science, Maria Curie-Skłodowska
University, Lublin

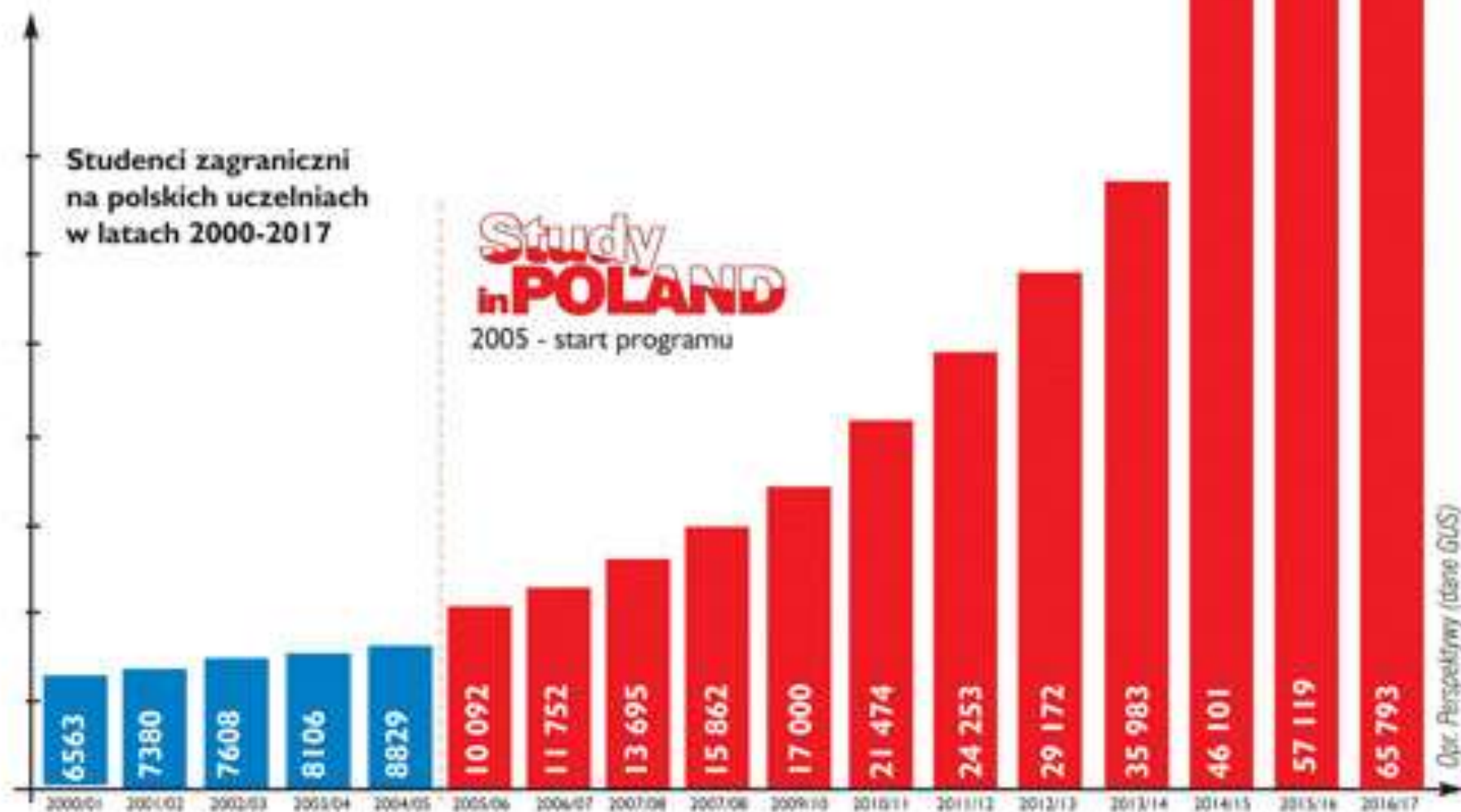


Ukrainian students in Poland

- In the 2016/17 academic year, **65.793 foreign students from 166 countries studied in Poland** (over 8.500 more than a year earlier).
- Since 2005, Polish universities have consistently **increased the number of foreign students who currently constitute 4.88% of all students in our country** (eight years ago they were only 0.61%).
- **The students from Ukraine have been the dominant group of foreigners at Polish universities** for several years. In the academic year 2016/17, **35 584 Ukrainians** were studying in Poland.

- 
- A large influence on the growing number of Ukrainians at Polish universities has, among others:
 - activities of the "Study in Poland" program
 - other activities at the regional and central level
 - marketing activities of the university
 - similar culture and language
 - close neighborhood
 - Poland's membership in the EU
 - wide range of fields of study, high level of lecturers
 - Polish Card
 - conflict in East Ukraine

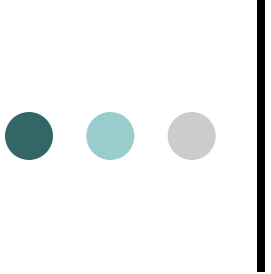
Wykres 19. Wzrost liczby studentów zagranicznych w Polsce 2000-2017



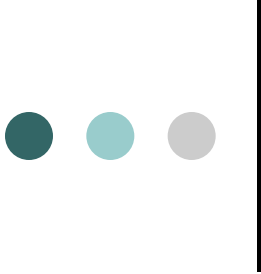


Ukrainian students at MCSU

- **The Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin (MCSU)** is a **leader in Poland** in terms of the number of foreign students.
- Currently, **1,600 students from abroad study at the university**, which is **6.75%** of all students (data from 2016).
- Among the foreigners, **students from Ukraine dominate** (in 2016 - **1397 students**).

- 
- Ukrainian students choose Lublin because:
 - convenient geographical location
 - proximity to the border
 - good communication connections
 - promotion activity
 - Most of them come from the western regions of Ukraine (including the following districts: Chmielnicki, Lviv, and Volyn).

- 
- **The largest number of foreign students study at the Faculty of Political Science.**
 - In 2014, over **180 people** studied there from Eastern European countries, the vast majority of Ukrainians.
 - They study mainly in the field of **International Relations. Journalism and Social Communication** are also popular among them.
 - The Faculty appointed in 2014 **the Plenipotentiary for Students from Eastern Europe.**

- 
- **The main problems faced by Ukrainian students at MCSU are:**
 - problems with the Polish language at the beginning of studies
 - conflicts with Polish students (accusations from Polish students about taking places in dormitories and taking internships)
 - negative stereotypes and national prejudices, accusations of promoting Ukrainian nationalism
 - misunderstanding of Polish realities by students (often very young people, aged 16-17)
 - non-payment for a dormitory, interrupting studies absenteeism.



Thank you for your attention!