

## SUMMARY

In my doctoral dissertation, I address fundamental questions: who were the settlers of the Western and Northern Lands of Poland, where did they come from, why did they come there, and what were the consequences in the context of integration, rooting, and identity building, both then and in subsequent generations. I place these questions within the framework of the relationships between factors related to integration and identity processes and areas concerning generally understood development (social, cultural, economic), i.e. economic/regional innovation, crime, and social mobility, analyzed in relation to social, cultural, and creative capitals. This allows me to obtain a relatively complete picture of the consequences of the social and cultural transformations that took place in the settlement regions of Poland after World War II.

This work was made with the partial use of cultural analysis tools based on the culturalist model supplemented with a structuralist element in order to analyze the consequences of social and cultural transformations in the Western and Northern Lands of Poland after World War II. In my work, I emphasize the need for a complementary analysis of social and cultural processes in order to understand the long-term consequences of these transformations for subsequent generations of inhabitants of these areas. Only then will it be possible to conduct sound empirical research.

The work consists of four parts, within which:

1. I analyze the Western and Northern Lands of Poland as a social and cultural phenomenon, examining integration barriers and identity challenges. This concerns the different motives for coming to the Western and Northern Lands of Poland, cultural differences, as well as social, cultural, and economic processes in two periods: after 1945 and after 1989, and the relationships between these issues.

2. I focus on the dialogue between memory and identity, analyzing the impact of propaganda on the memory deposit and the consequences of the faulty mechanism of reproducing different types of memory in subsequent generations of multicultural societies, formed as result of the settlement process in the Western and Northern Lands of Poland.

3. I characterize the development deficits of the Western and Northern Lands of Poland in the context of social, cultural, and creative capitals, analyzing their impact on innovation, crime, and social mobility.

4. I diagnose the initial economic conditions of the Western and Northern Lands of Poland, with a focus on the Lubuskie Voivodeship and Gorzów Wielkopolski, and propose

remedies for the development of settlement regions. I also ask about settlement regions as "non-places".

Keywords: identity, integration, memory studies, innovation, crime, social mobility, capital, Western and Northern Lands of Poland.