

**Report
on the Activity
of the National
Institute for
Museums
in 2023**

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Report on the Activity

of the National Institute for Museums

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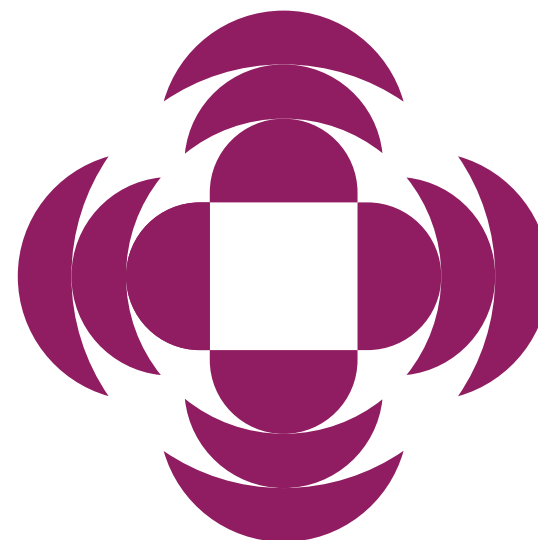
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Introduction

Dear All

Museums never stop changing, and neither do we. The year 2023 was for us a year of intense evolution (and not revolution), targeted at adjusting the profile of the Institute's operations to the needs and expectations of the museum community in Poland. The National Institute for Museums, NIM, earlier operating as the National Institute for Museums and Public Collections, NIMOZ, was established as the follow-up of the Centre for Preservation of Public Collections founded over 30 years ago, which was one of the rare institutions worldwide specializing in the security of heritage facilities, museums, and their collections. In 2011, upon the decision of the Minister of Culture, the Centre's tasks were extended to include those identifying and promoting standards valid in museology. The changes introduced in 2023 consisted merely in a certain re-adjustment and minor practicalities, boiling down to the change of the name and amendments to the statute currently covering three key areas of activity:



- ① identification and promotion of standards and good practices in museology and collection safeguarding, as well as supporting the development of museum staff;
- ② initiating and boosting cooperation among museums, their organizers, and other institutions and organizations, as well as the public, supporting the development of museums and their activity favouring socio-economic progress;
- ③ activities aimed at securing Polish museums and their collections.

The introduced changes also implied a new logo manifesting the dynamic character of our activities and the impact on the entire museum sector in Poland, our new office in central Warsaw encouraging to contact us, and, last but not least, the mission defined briefly as: ‘We Support Development of Museums!’, succinct, but extremely meaningful.

Our greatest challenge for the nearest years which befits this phrasing of our mission is the building of and putting into operation of THE PANOPTI-CUM: Competence Centre for museums which will offer storage space of the highest conservation standards to all the interested organisations amassing collections, while also providing services enabling preservation and studying of the collected exhibits.

Therefore, the NIM team are faced with many challenges, however, bearing in mind our to-date commitment and the range of the implemented tasks whose record you can find in the present Report, we regard no mission as impossible.

Paulina Florjanowicz PhD
Director of the National Institute for Museums



On behalf of the Board of the National Institute for Museums (NIM), I am pleased to introduce our annual report for the year ended 2023. It marks an important milestone for the organization as it aligns the aspirations of museums across Poland with a supporting organizational framework, collectively responsible to the future generations of Poles.

NIM is working hard to ensure museums are places for learning, inspiration, and well-being. Grounded in a long-term vision and a core mission for the museum sector, NIM's new strategy comes at a time of transformation in Poland. Key to this transformation is ensuring the museum workforce in Poland is skilled and empowered at the highest level to ensure the best delivery to the public.

NIM encourages and supports museums in building and strengthening their collections as well as the scholarship, research, and conservation around them. Engagement with collections is critical in benefiting all types of visitors and ensuring museum work remains relevant.

We are proud to have been appointed to deliver a landmark storage facility for museums in Poland. The new Central Storage Facility at Lesznów, known as The PANOPTICUM, will provide critical infrastructure for museums across Poland and act as a catalyst for new collaborations and training.

NIM is at the forefront in connecting museums in Poland to internationally relevant agendas. Our strong international connections ensure museums in Poland that value is attracted and added for all those who engage with them. NIM’s work in supporting the museum workforce in Ukraine is contributing positively to knowledge exchange, creating new opportunities for collaboration between Poland and Ukraine.

I take this opportunity to acknowledge the active support of my fellow Board members in guiding NIM towards the successes it has achieved this year. I would also like to express the Board’s appreciation to Minister Bartłomiej Sienkiewicz and his team for taking such an interest in our work.

Finally, all members of the Board join me in congratulating NIM’s Director Dr Paulina Florjanowicz and her staff for the great successes described on the following pages and ensuring our work continues to remain critically relevant for the entire museum sector in Poland

Prof. Jack Lohman CBE
Chair

Management of the National Institute for Museums

Paulina Florjanowicz, PhD

Director

An archaeologist, expert in cultural heritage management. A graduate from the University of Warsaw, she was conferred a doctoral degree at the Institute of Archaeology and Ethnology of the Polish Academy of Sciences. Since 2023 Director of the National Institute for Museums (formerly National Institute for Museums and Public Collections), in 2016–2022, Director of the Department of Cultural Heritage at the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage responsible for supervision over museums and memory policy. Co-author and the main coordinator of the ‘Independent’ Multiyear Programme (2017–2022). For the last 20 years also affiliated to NGOs (e.g., Batory Foundation in 2001–2003) and agencies of the public sector (e.g., National Centre of Culture, National Institute for Museums and Public Collections, National Institute of Cultural Heritage: Director in 2011–2013).



Katarzyna Zielonka-Kořtońska

Deputy Director for Museum Knowledge

An art historian, expert in museum collection stewardship, particularly with the use of modern technologies for the purpose. A graduate from the University of Gdansk and of Wrocław. Affiliated to the National Institute for Museums since 2012, she has been its Deputy Director since 2020. Earlier, she had worked at the National Museum in Gdansk (Chief Inventory Officer in 2008–2012). At NIM she is responsible for documentation and conservation, collection security, grant awarding programmes, statistics, and museum parametrization. Since 2021 she has been running the MUSEOMETER Programme aiming at an integrated system of parametrization and effectivity assessment of museums and other cultural institutions operating within the domain of memory policy.



Bartosz Skaldawski

Deputy Director for Cooperation with Museums

An archaeologist, expert in heritage management and in the development potential of cultural heritage. A graduate from the University of Warsaw. Since 2022 Deputy Director of the National Institute for Museums. Earlier, for many years affiliated to the National Institute of Cultural Heritage (its Director in 2018–2021). Co-author of the National Programme of the Preservation of Intangible Cultural Heritage. He also contributed to the work on the guidelines and content of the National Programme of the Preservation and Guardianship of Cultural Heritage for 2014–2017.



Policy Board of the National Institute for Museums for 2022–2025

Bartosz Bartyzel

Press Spokesperson and Head of the Press Office of the Auschwitz Museum. A graduate in political science and international relations from the Jagiellonian University.

Andrzej Betlej

An art historian, Associate Professor at the Institute of Art History of the Jagiellonian University. In 2016–2019, Director of the National Museum in Krakow. Director of the Wawel Royal Castle – State Art Collection.

Dorota Folga-Januszewska

An art historian, museologist, art critic. Professor at the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw, Deputy Director of Museum of King John III's Palace at Wilanów.

Jacek Friedrich

An art historian, museum curator. Professor at the Institute of Art History at the University of Gdansk. In 2013–2020, Director of the Gdynia City Museum, since 2020 Director of the National Museum in Gdansk.

Bishop Michał Janocha

Auxiliary Bishop of Warsaw, an art historian, theologist, professor at the University of Warsaw. Chairman of the Council for Culture and National Heritage at the Polish Episcopal Conference.

Wojciech Kucharski

A historian, archaeologist, Deputy Director for Research at the Wrocław ‘Remembrance and Future’ Centre.

Jack Lohman

(Council’s Chairperson)

A professor, art historian; in 1999–2002, Director of the National Museums of South Africa; in 2012–2021, Director of the Royal British Columbia Museum. A world-class specialist in museums.

Karol Nawrocki

President of the Institute of National Remembrance. A graduate from the Institute of History of the University of Gdansk, a doctor in humanities, a social activist. In 2017–2021, Director of the Museum of the Second World War in Gdansk.

Marzena Szmyt

(Council’s Deputy Chairperson)

An archaeologist, professor at the Faculty of Archaeology of the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan, Director of the Archaeological Museum in Poznan.

Standard Identification and Promotion

The operation scope of the National Institute for Museums covers, among other tasks, identifying and promoting standards and good practices in museology and collection preservation. When fulfilling this very task, in 2023, the Institute continued working within the Official Statistics Programme of the Statistics Poland, GUS. NIM’s staff conducted the survey ‘Infrastructure and Security’ whose results, transparently ordered in a report, were published on the Institute’s website. The survey details are discussed below. Furthermore, we shared our knowledge and expertise in museum statistics with other institutions, developing topics e.g., for Statistics Poland (*Culture and National Heritage in 2022*) as well as for the National Centre of Culture (*Rocznik Kultury Polskiej 2023*). Neither did we forget about the international experience exchange. Last year we participated in the Plenary Meeting of the European Group on Museum Statistics (EGMUS) in Belgrade.

In 2023, the Institute implemented the 2nd stage of the MUZEOMETR (Museometer) Project and the historical-research DECORUM Project. The goal of the first is to formulate transparent financing principles following an algorithm for museums based on the indexes of museum assessment. The second Project focuses on the provenance research into borrowings of museum exhibits

to non-museum institutions in Communist Poland. Both Projects are more extensively discussed below.

Moreover, we would like to share with you information on the RE-ORG Method developed to enhance the conditions of storing museum exhibits within the already existing storage spaces without the need to have new spaces planned and built. In harmony with the agreement signed with the National Museum in Poznan. NIM has been working on the implementation of the methodology of organizing museum storages.



NIM also served as the Competence Centre for digitizing museum objects as part of the governmental programme Digital Culture 2023, offering e.g., training support for Programme beneficiaries and current consultations with respect to digitizing. In 2023, we accepted materials from 21 beneficiaries produced in projects financed with the Programme. Furthermore, in cooperation with the Polish History Museum we organized the Conference 'Digitizing in Museums: a Debate Panel' connected with the training in the State Information Architecture in the context of digital projects within the sector of culture.

Moreover, the National Institute for Museums executes tasks commissioned by the Minister of Culture and National Heritage concerning drafts of museum regulations and charters. It also participates in the process of awarding so-called museum immunity. In 2023, on behalf of the Minister of Culture and National Heritage, we conducted the coordination process for 26 charters and 66 museum regulations. We examined 61 applications for museum immunity for 5 exhibitions from 3 museums. In coordination with the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage we organized training for museum representatives interested in using so-called museum immunity for mounting temporary exhibitions. NIM commissioned a report on the provisions of legal protection of objects lent for temporary exhibitions stipulated in the legal systems of foreign states, formulating recommendations for potential amendments to the Ordinance of the Minister of Culture and National Heritage of 14 October 2015 on the application to provide legal protection to a movable object of historical, artistic, or scientific value borrowed from abroad for a temporary exhibition mounted within the territory of the Republic of Poland.

NIM is the Managing Authority of the government programme in culture and national heritage: Support for Museum Activities. Since 2020 the Institute has been running its own grant programme: Development of Museum Collections, and since 2023 the Halls of Memory Programme. Institute's staff conduct evaluation procedures of the applications submitted to the Programmes, they coordinate works of steering committees assessing the applications, and supervise and control task financing. In 2023, we conducted competitive grant procedures in the above-mentioned Programmes, awarding 74 grants in the Support for Museum Activities Programme,



25 grants in two calls for proposals in the Development of Museum Collection Programme, and 40 grants for Halls of Memory. The details are discussed below, while the full grant list is attached at the end of the Report.

Furthermore, NIM's staff systematically update the 'Overview of Grant Competitions' and the guide 'Acquiring External Resources for Museum Operations'. You can find these on our website. Additionally, please consult the corpus of studies addressed

to museum curators and museology-related professionals.

As part of the support for museum staff NIM has prepared a teaching offer: last year we conducted 28 trainings, including trainings and study visits for Ukrainian museum curators. We will elaborate on this aspect of our work below.

We additionally encourage you to review Institute's publishing activity. Further on, we will discuss our major projects in more detail.

We would also like to draw your attention to NIM's podcasts titled *Museum Curators Talk* being a series of conversations with museum curators telling us about their work, tackling, among others, display, educational, conservation, and publishing projects. We talk about the public, challenges, and transformations the Polish museum sector is undergoing. To-date two podcast series have been released: the first season was dedicated to the laureates of the 43rd edition of the Sybilla 2022 Museum Event of the Year. In the second

the floor was given to the laureates of the Museum Book of the Year 2023 Competition, providing thus an overview of the publishing activity of Polish museums. The interviewer is Martyna Kliks, an art historian and Netherlandish Studies graduate, author of the *Display Cabinets* podcasts dealing with museums and art collections. The podcasts are available on different streaming platforms: Spotify, Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, and YouTube, and are thus widely available to the general public.

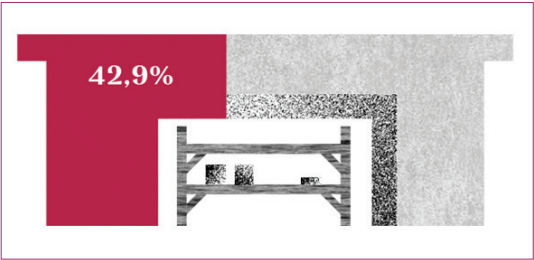
Museum Statistics Project

In early 2023, the National Institute for Museums conducted research in the subsequent edition of the Museum Statistics Project – Infrastructure and Security (KK-3 IB). It was participated by a record-breaking number of respondents, namely museums entered in the register of the Minister of Culture and National Heritage: 86% of museums being cultural institutions (329 institutions, 606 together with branches) and 23% of museums of no legal personality (137 institutions, 141 together with branches).

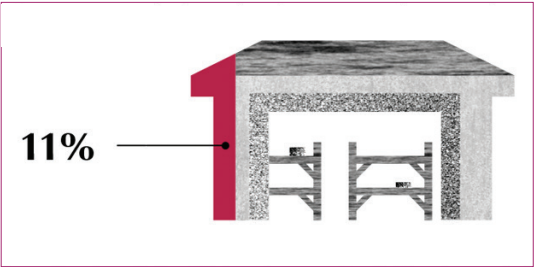
The research aimed at identifying the condition of the infrastructure museums have, and the analysis of the security of collections and people. On the grounds of the elaboration and analysis of the collected data the Report *Infrastructure and Security 2019–2022* was released on NIM’s website. The Report demonstrates that the vast majority of museums which are cultural institutions and participated in the survey had collection storage spaces (95.1%, N = 326), but only in the case of not fully 43% of the institutions the storage space was sufficient for the current number of their exhibits (N = 310). Precisely 65.5% of the surveyed museums had all storages for their collections climate-controlled, while a partial control of the climate was conducted by 6.1% (N = 310).

The Ministry of Culture and National Heritage together with the National Institute for Museums co-author the research topic Facilities and Activity of Cultural Institutions (symbol: 1.28.01) implemented within the Statistical Survey Programme of Official Statistics (Pbssp) in the area of culture. The survey titled ‘KK-3 – Survey Related to Museum Statistics’ has been included in the Programme since Pbssp 2022, thus turning into a compulsory survey for museums registered by the Minister of Culture and National Heritage.

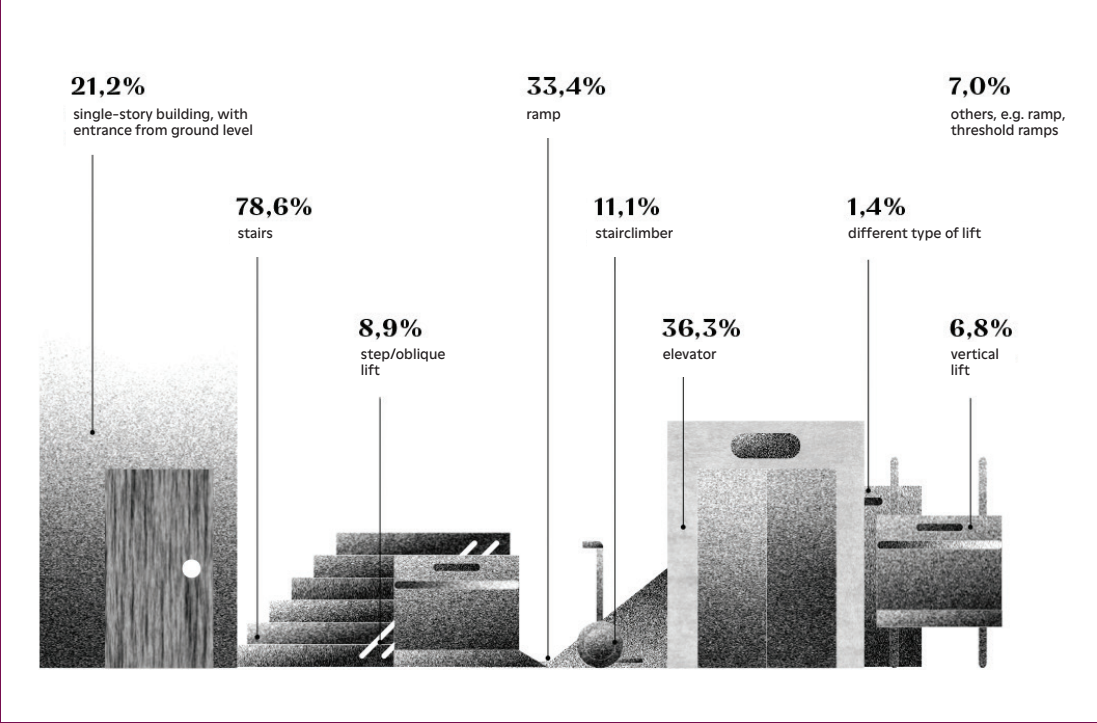
Owing to its specificity, the survey is conducted annually, however, divided into four areas repeated



Infographic from the Report *Infrastructure and Security 2019–2022* – museums in which the warehouse space was sufficient for the current number of collections (data for 310 museums participating in the study).



Infographic from the Report *Infrastructure and Security 2019–2022* – average ratio of warehouse space to the total area of buildings in use (data for 582 museums participating in the study).



Infographic from the Report *Infrastructure and Security 2019–2022* – solutions ensuring the availability of horizontal and vertical communication used in museums (data for 584 museums participating in the study).

in 4-yearly cycles (Infrastructure and Security KK-3 IB – Pbssp 2022, subsequently in 2026; Organisation and Management KK-3 OZ – Pbssp 2023, subsequently in 2027; Collection Stewardship KK-3 ZZ – Pbssp 2024, subsequently in 2028; Disseminating Activity KK-3 DU, Pbssp 2025, subsequently in 2029).

The data from the surveys are analysed, allowing to identify effective methods of supporting museums. The analyses of the amassed data additionally yield publications of informative and academic character cyclically published by NIM, and prepared in cooperation with experts. Online versions are available on the Institute’s website and that of the Museum Statistics Project.

In 2023, the National Institute for Museums implemented the 2nd stage of the MUSEOMETER Project: an integrated system of parametrization and effectivity evaluation of museums and other cultural institutions operating within the area of memory policy.

The Project has been implemented since June 2021 on the initiative of the Department of Cultural Heritage at the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage in cooperation with the SWPS University within the operations of the Centre for Research on the Economics of Memorial Sites. The main goal of the many-year Project is the remodelling of the to-date system of effectivity evaluation and financing of museums and cultural institutions amassing collections and performing display activity. In the course of the works plans are made to establish and test a management model targeted at the effectiveness of the implementation of institutions' social strategic goals containing the definition and indexes of goal implementation. The final target is to create an algorithm measuring effectiveness, and providing a cost-benefit analysis. The Project's implementation in subsequent stages will conclude with elaborating a prototype of an IT tool enabling to measure effectivity of such institutions, and allowing to calculate and settle their annual subsidies, as well as with providing recommendations for legislative changes.

In the to-date implemented activities, resorting to Desk Research and a number of data, the algorithm guidelines have been worked out. The algorithm will be composed of three assessment elements: quantitative, qualitative, and organizational. The first of these was the focus of Project's Stage I. In Stage II, based on qualitative interviews with the museums from the test group the prototype for qualitative assessment was worked out. On the grounds of the survey research, participated by 183 museums, and the statistical data collected, the tool serving to estimate the number of staff was tested.



On 7 December 2023, NIM held a conference at the Polish History Museum summing up the Project's results; it was attended by 90 participants representing ca 50 institutions.

For the algorithm to become a useful and credible tool the Project requires more thorough consultations with experts and representatives of the museum-related circles. Plans for the Project's future assume focus on the second assessment element: the qualitative aspect of the algorithm. It has been decided to consult representatives of the museum community in order to develop a methodology for qualitative surveys.

The implementation of Stage II of the MUSEOMETER Project: an integrated system of parametrization and effectivity evaluation of museums and other cultural institutions operating within the area of memory policy was subsidized by the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage from the central government budget.

DECORUM Historical-Research Project

The DECORUM Project is the first comprehensive and extensive research project dedicated to the loss of museum exhibits in the period of so-called People’s Poland, i.e., Communist Poland (PRL).

In 2023, it was implemented by the National Institute for Museums in cooperation with the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage, the Central Archives of Modern Records in Warsaw, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Institute of National Remembrance in cooperation with research teams from selected museums (National Museum in Warsaw, Royal Łazienki Museum in Warsaw, Museum of King John III’s Palace at Wilanów, National Museum in Gdansk, National Museum in Kielce, National Museum in Poznan, National Museum in Lublin, National Museum in Wroclaw, National Museum in Krakow, Malbork Castle Museum).

One of the basic Project’s goals was to search for information on borrowings of museum exhibits to non-museum institutions, namely for the purpose of decorating offices and organisations in 1945–1989, which have not been returned to museums and whose whereabouts remain unknown. The Project supported provenance research of some selected museums financially and by providing a platform for

experience exchange. Its additional effect can be seen in the recommendations formulated for further research into museum collections for this very purpose.

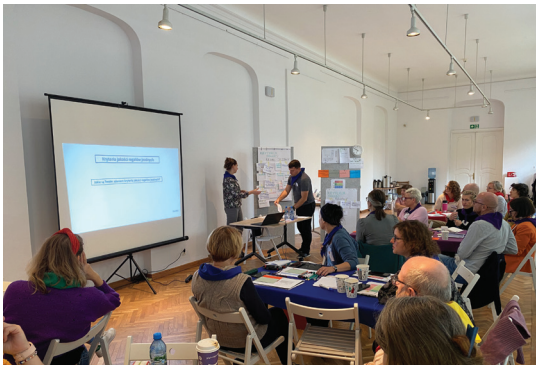


The RE-ORG Method was devised to improve conditions for storing museum exhibits within the existing storage spaces, without the necessity to have new facilities planned and built. The RE-ORG was developed in 2011 by ICCROM and UNESCO in reaction to the research conducted a year earlier pointing to the overload of museum storages and the conditions there endangering 60% of the collections stored.

In Poland the organization which initiated cooperation with ICCROM in this respect was the National Museum in Poznan which, following their participation in the international 'RE-ORG China' workshop in 2015, decided to resort to the method to reorganize a part of their storage space. In 2022, thanks to the subsidy of the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage, the Museum organized nationwide workshops in whose course the participants reorganized storages of subsequent branches of the National Museum in Poznan.

In 2023, the National Institute for Museums and the National Museum in Poznan signed a cooperation agreement to popularize the RE-ORG Method in Poland.

A training for trainers was conducted by the Method's co-author Gaël de Guichen, Special Advisor to ICCROM Director General, Aida Nunes of the Museum of Lisbon, and Marjolijn Debulpaep heading the Preventive Conservation Unit at the Royal Institute of Cultural Heritage (KIK-IRPA) in Brussels. Competence certificates were awarded to employees of the National Museum in Poznan, National Museum in Gdansk, National Museum in Warsaw, Museum of Textiles in Lodz, and the Tatra Museum in Zakopane.



It was also in 2023 that the first practical workshops were organized, for the first time run in Polish and by Polish trainers. The workshops' task was to reorganize storages of the New Art Museum, branch of the National Museum in Gdansk. The workshops were of a regional scope: museum curators who were invited to participate came from the Pomeranian, Kuyavian-Pomeranian, and Warmian-Masurian Voivodeships.

Currently, work is underway on preparing the Polish version of the manuals supporting the use of the RE-ORG Method and on developing the strategy to disseminate the method in Poland.

Grant Programmes
Support for Museum Activities
Government Programme

The Support for Museum Activities Government Programme, for which the National Institute for Museums is the Managing Authority, was created as one of the programmes of the Minister of Culture and National Heritage showing the care for safeguarding, preservation, and dissemination of cultural heritage resources. Its goal is to support activities in the sphere of conservatory guardianship of museum exhibits, archival resources, and of book collections, as well as the presentation of collections in cognitively attractive display and publishing projects.

Applications for the Programme can be submitted by local-government cultural institutions, NGOs, as well as Churches and religious associations. The scope of tasks eligible for financing has been devised in a way permitting to fulfil almost all statutory needs of museums and institutions conducting museum activities. Beneficiaries of the Programme perform the following tasks: mounting temporary museum exhibitions, modernizing or creating permanent museum exhibitions, mounting virtual displays, publishing free catalogues for exhibitions or museum collections, conducting collection conservation, and equipping conservation labs.

The Programme has been very popular with museum curators for years. In 2023, the number of submitted applications amounted to 229, of which 74 projects were selected of the total financing value standing at around PLN 7 million. Thanks to the provided financing new permanent exhibitions have been created (e.g., *Glitter of Gold and Silver, Namely Money in the Baroque* at the Museum of Archaeology and History in Głogów; *In the Borderland...The Oldest History of the Jarosławiec Land* at the Museum of the Orsetti Tenement House) and so have temporary ones (e.g., a jubilee exhibition on the 100th anniversary of the foundation of the Wyżółkowski District Museum in Bydgoszcz; *Mystery of the Sun. Copernicus, the Son of the Renaissance* at the District Museum in Torun; *Jakub Szczęsny. Polish*



Designs Polish Designers at the Gdynia City Museum). Several existing exhibitions have been modernized (e.g. Museum of Emigration in Gdynia, Warsaw Rising Museum). Some collections have undergone conservation, e.g., paper heritage items (Diocese Library in Pelplin, Smółka Public Library in Opole, and others), historic technology items (Kashubian Ethnographic Park Museum at Wdzydze, History of Industry Museum in Opatówek, etc.), textiles (Oporów Castle Museum, Museum of the Eastern Borderline in Lubaczów, etc.). Conservation labs have been retrofitted (e.g., Archaeological Museum in Poznan, Upper Silesian Museum in Bytom). Moreover, catalogues have been published for collections (e.g., State Ethnographic Museum in Warsaw titled *Warsaw Female Painters*; Nicolaus Copernicus Museum in Frombork called *75 Years of the Nicolaus Copernicus Museum in Frombork*) and for exhibitions (e.g., *City – Fashion – Machine* of the Central Museum of Textile in Lodz).

Development of Museum Collections Grant Programme

The Development of Museum Collections is NIM's genuine grant programme in operation since 2020. Its basic goal is to develop Polish public collections through providing additional financing to museums for the purchase of valuable objects. The maximum sum applied for in a single call for proposals stands at PLN 500,000.00. The programme is processed through an online system securing easy access and quick processing. In harmony with the Programme regulations the submitted applications can be financed in up to 100% of the project costs.

In reaction to the needs expressed by the museum community, in 2023, the group of eligible applicants was extended to include museums which have completed the process of coordinating their charter with the Minister of Culture and National Heritage, with the only exception of museums entered in the Register of Cultural Institutions of the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage (in the previous editions the Programme was addressed exclusively to the institutions from the State Museum Register).

Not only is the Programme a format of financial support and preservation of cultural goods, but it also constitutes a tool helping to promote good practices in developing and implementing the policy of collection amassing and acquisition procedures in harmony with the regulations of domestic and international law. The Programme regulations provide guidelines for identifying the provenance of the objects planned for purchase, thus promoting the principles formulated in the ICOM Code of Ethics, motivating museums to undertake provenance studies. Thanks to fixed dates for calls for proposals museums stand an opportunity to meticulously prepare for the purchase procedure. For many institutions submitting applications for the Programme has become a permanent item in their schedule for financing applications.

The financed purchases cover a varied range of items, and can apply both to works of art, photography, crafts, ethnographic collections, pieces of applied art, or technology heritage objects.



In 2023, museums were awarded the total financing standing at PLN 3,500,000 allocated to 25 projects. The purchases made with the grants included Olga Boznańska's *Portrait of Czesław Wierusz-Kowalski* and Czesław Wierusz-Kowalski's *Sledging* for the collection of Wierusz's works at the District Museum in Suwałki; a 1 zloty treasury note from 1794 for the numismatic collection of the Kościuszko Uprising at the Museum of Papermaking in Duszniki-Zdrój; a collection of Biedermeier furniture for the Pomeranian Dukes' Castle Museum in Darłowo; 16th- and 17th-century icons for the Museum of the Eastern Borderland in Lubaczów and the Podlaskie Museum in Białystok; a collection of objects and drawings related to the House of Zofia and Oskar Hansen at Szumin for the Museum of Modern Art in Warsaw; historic vehicles for the collection of the National Museum of Agriculture and Food Industry at Szreniawa, Museum of Aviation, and the Museum of Agriculture in Ciechanowiec; as well as a collection of costumes for the District Museum in Rzeszów, the Central Museum of Textiles in Łódź, and the Municipal Museum in Żywiec.



Grant Scheme

Halls of Memory

Programme

When aspiring to preserve and promote cultural heritage of local communities, the National Institute for Museums set up a Halls of Memory Grant Programme addressed to commune social circles and local governments. It responds to the growing social need to create places at which knowledge of the history of small homelands can be preserved and passed to the coming generations.

Applicants for the Programme rank among cultural institutions operating on commune levels and NGOs. The Programme finances and supports establishing Halls of Memory resulting as grassroot initiatives of local communities in cooperation with local governments. The value of this approach boils down to minimizing organizational costs sparing the establishment of new cultural institutions. Programme’s beneficiaries include community centres, libraries, foundations, associations, and museums from different regions of Poland. The majority of them operate in the areas lacking durable cultural offer.



Opowiedzcie swoją historię!

Zgromadźcie zbiory – stwórzcie wystawę!

Izby Pamięci – nowy program dotacyjny NIMOZ
Nabór wniosków do 15 sierpnia 2023 r.

Adresowany do organizacji pozarządowych i instytucji kultury szczebla gminnego

Dofinansowano ze środków Ministerstwa Kultury i Dziedzictwa Narodowego

Ministerstwo Kultury i Dziedzictwa Narodowego

NARODOWY INSTYTUT MUZEALNICTWA I OCHRONY ZBIORÓW

Izby Pamięci – nowy program dotacyjny NIMOZ
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Ministerstwo Kultury i Dziedzictwa Narodowego

NARODOWY INSTYTUT MUZEALNICTWA I OCHRONY ZBIORÓW

In Programme’s Stage I for which call for proposals was announced in 2023, 40 entities were awarded grants to amass, study, and preserve collections, as well as to develop the concept of a permanent exhibition. Cooperation with the local government or local business is of key relevance for Programme’s implementation, since it guarantees a venue for the Hall. In cooperation with the Remembrance and Future Centre in Wroclaw, NIM organizes training and workshops run by experts from museums and memorial institutions which allow beneficiaries to gain some know-how to acquire objects, preserve, and inventory them, as well as to conduct activities connected with making their collection accessible to the public and promoting it.

In Stage II to be implemented in 2025 the beneficiaries who have effectively fulfilled tasks from Stage I will be given the opportunity to apply for further grants. The goal of those will be to mount permanent exhibitions and develop operations programme for Halls of Memory which, in harmony with the Programme’s assumptions, will permanently consolidate local communities and their identity. A long-term goal of the Programme is to boost social capital, and construct Halls of Memory meant to shape the local cultural heritage in the future.

**Trainings organised
by the National Institute
for Museums**

One of the statutory activities of NIM, a specialized institution focused on major museology areas and guardianship of public collections is the support provided to the development of museum staff. In 2023, the Institute continued its training activity. This constitutes a permanent expert support to the museum-related community, serving to develop and boost professional competences. It is first of all museum staff who are addressed NIM's training offer. However, the trainings are also attended by staff of other cultural institutions holding cultural goods in custody, employees working at historic facilities, and representatives of companies dealing with design, or installing and conserving security systems in facilities.

In 2023, the didactic offer of the Institute covered 28 trainings with open recruitment, in total amounting to 55 training days. That scheme included the major areas of museum operations in its range, namely museum management, collection stewardship (including documenting and digitizing), security and preservation of collections, making collections open to the public, the public in museums, and legal regulations in museum operations. The trainings were conducted both online and on-site, and in the course of the last year they were attended by 1,152 participants, including 283 museum curators from Ukraine.

The latter resulted from the continuation of the training offered to Ukrainian museum curators. The ABC of Polish Museums training was carried out on 19–21 June 2023 online with a simultaneous translation into Ukrainian. The training was complemented with study visits organized to four Warsaw museums (National Museum in Warsaw, POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews, Royal Łazienki Museum in Warsaw, Museum of King John III's Palace at Wilanów). On 11–12 October 2023, another online training with a simultaneous translation into Ukrainian was held: 'Digital Resources of Cultural Institutions in Poland and the Potential for their Use'.



The “Muzealnictwo” annual

The *Muzealnictwo* annual is already 72 years old. It is one of the major journals dealing with the issues of the preservation of cultural heritage museums form an inseparable part of. Published since 1952, it has documented the history of Polish museums and their today presenting the history of collecting, theory and praxis of museology, questions connected with education, digitizing, provenance, conservation, and promotion, as well as organizational and legislative solutions. The journal's fore-runners were the following periodicals published historically: *Przegląd Muzealny*, *Pamiętnik Muzealny*, or *Kwartalnik Muzealny*, while its initiator and the first Editor-in-Chief was Prof. Kazimierz Malinowski. Since 2011 the periodical has been published by the National Institute of Museums..

Parametrized by the Ministry of Science and Higher Education, *Muzealnictwo* ranks among other journals with its score standing at 100 points. Furthermore, the annual is indexed in the major international journal databases: Scopus, CEEOL (Central and Eastern European Online Library), CEJSH (The Central European Journal of Social Sciences and Humanities), DOAJ (Directory of Open Access Journals), ERIH Plus (European Reference Index for the Humanities and Social Sciences), Google Scholar, Index Copernicus Journals Master List, or Ulrich's Periodicals Directory.

The academic papers published in the journal are subject to a double-blind peer review. We also publish shorter non-parametrized texts. The annual aspires to have an international relevance, this clearly seen in three special English-translated volumes over the last years, the translation of all the articles into English, and the extension of the composition of the Policy Board to include renown experts in museology from international circles.

The main topic of Volume 64/2023 was *museum identity*. We published 22 academic papers and 5 non-parametrized texts. Last year's edition was co-authored by e.g., Leszek Karczewski, culture educator; Katarzyna Mieczkowska, Director of the National Museum in Lublin; Michał Niezabitowski, Director



of the Museum of Krakow; Robert Kotowski, Director of the National Museum in Kielce; Kamil Zeidler, author of over 500 works, including several hundred books on preservation of cultural heritage, museum law, international law, law theory and philosophy; Tomisław Giergiel, Head of the Historical Department of the Castle Museum in Sandomierz and Museum Director's Representative for Research. Furthermore, last year, when working on the issue, we cooperated with e.g., the Museum of Post and Telecommunication in Wrocław, National Museum in Warsaw, Nature Education Centre at the Jagiellonian University, Museum of King John III's Palace at Wilanów, and the Malbork Castle Museum.

Regulations for publishing in the *Muzealnictwo* annual and all the information on the journal, as well as the list of topics for subsequent issues are available on NIM's website.

“Monuments
of Polish Museology”
publishing Series

Launched in 2019, the *Pomniki Muzealnictwa Polskiego* [Monuments of Polish Museology] Series published in cooperation with Państwowy Instytut Wydawniczy is a project presenting written output of Polish museum curators and the history of museums in Poland and abroad.

Respective volumes are usually composed of texts from before 1939 published either in the press of the time or as separate publications (as a rule not easily available). Each book features an introduction shedding light on the author and the context in which the paper or text collection was created, containing necessary footnotes with essential explanations and complementary information on the discussed institution or phenomenon. The series boasts an elegant and clear graphic layout as well as a handy size, with the books available both in their paper and digital formats. The Policy Board composed of museology theoreticians and practitioners supervises the selection and academic quality of the publications.

Four volumes have been published to-date: *Muzea Współczesne* [Contemporary Museums] by Mieczysław Treter (2019), *Muzeum Tatrzańskie im. T. Chałubińskiego w Zakopanem* [Chałubiński Tatra Museum in Zakopane] by Bronisław Piłsudski (2020), selected texts *Siła do ujarzżenia* [Force to Harness] by Marian Gumowski (2021), and a selection of papers by Polish female ethnographers *Żywe ogniwa* [Living Links] (2022).



In 2023, we published volume five: selected papers by Roman Jakimowicz *O społecznej roli zabytków przedhistorycznych: pokazać, by nauczyć* [On the Social Role of Pre-historic Heritage Pieces: Show in Order to Teach], academically compiled and preliminarily researched by Aldona Tołysz.

Roman Jakimowicz is an outstanding figure in Polish archaeology and museology. His contribution as a promoter, organizer, and the first Director of the State Archaeological Museum cannot be overestimated. The volume opens with the introduction by Wojciech Brzeziński, and the majority of papers concern the very Museum. The remaining ones relate to logistic and legal issues concerning the preservation of archaeological heritage. Not only are Roman Jakimowicz’s reflections of the time topical at present, but many could be repeated word by word today.

The publication’s launch held at the Archaeological and Ethnographic Museum in Lodz on 22 January 2024 was hosted by Director Paulina Florjanowicz who moderated a panel with Aldona Tołysz and Wojciech Brzeziński, the event’s recording being available on NIM’s website.

HISTORY: SEARCH Project

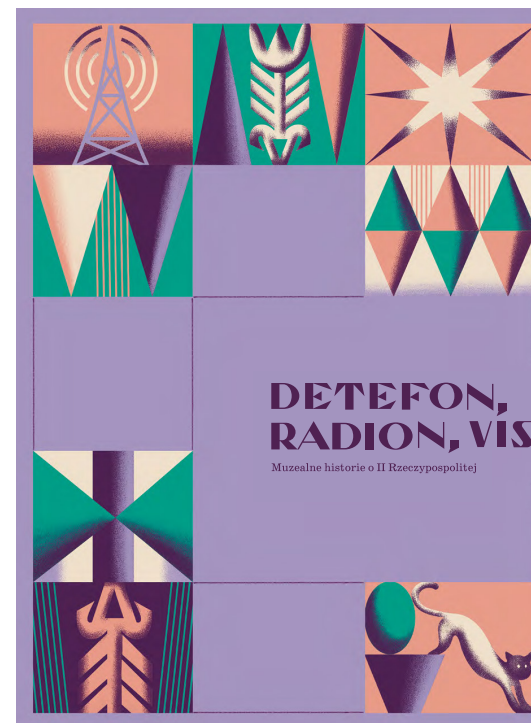
The HISTORIA: POSZUKAJ [HISTORY: SEARCH] Project is a nation-wide educational project of NIM addressed mainly to teenagers, teachers, and museum educators, and meant to promote history and Poland's cultural heritage. An interactive online portal: the Project's basic communication tool, permits to discover history not merely through political and military events, but also through art, architecture, musical works, and films..

The portal presents individuals who had an impact on the reality in a given period. Providing a closer perspective on rulers and politicians, as well as illustrious artists, scientists, collectors, athletes, social activists, and (un)ordinary citizens, it reminds users that the Polish state used to be multiethnic and multireligious, though not necessarily appreciating the role of women. Museums and the exhibits they have amassed are very special witnesses to history, therefore the vital part of the portal is made up of stories about the past as seen through museum objects.

Thanks to the Project's cooperation with national, district, municipal, and open-air museums, the portal permits its users to become acquainted with works of art which are important for both local and national history. A rich selection of illustrations creates an iconographic source for given historical periods, as well as a valuable teaching material.

To-date we have published over 1,300 papers on the portal. Several dozen of them have an audio version (sic!) in the format of podcasts on streaming platforms. We have established cooperation with about a hundred authors who have agreed to share their expertise with the readers. Their group is composed of historians, art historian, museologists, film experts, museum educators, thus professionals who in their majority have bonded their career and future with museums.

The HISTORY: SEARCH Project also encompasses educational activity at schools and museums throughout Poland. The goal is to introduce teenagers to the history of their region, and to encour-



age them to visit local museums to get to know their collections. As part of the HISTORIONAUTS Programme students visit local museums, pick a museum object, following which they write an essay about it with the best texts published on the Project's website. We have held some dozen museum classes and workshops. Educational activities have been conducted at e.g., the National Museum in Warsaw, the National Museum in Wrocław, and the Gdynia City Museum.

Furthermore, we target our educational activity at the Polish community living outside Poland. With them in mind we have prepared a series of online classes HISTORIA: ZOBACZ [HISTORY: SEE], dedicated to some selected art works. The series was implemented in 2018–2021.

It is with teachers and school students in mind that we have developed the HISTORY: DOWNLOAD tab. It contains 20 packages of didactic material helpful in teaching history, history of art, or Polish. They are complemented with 200 flashcards assisting the revision of knowledge.

The Project is accompanied by four publications. *Historia z bliska* [History from Near] (2016) encourages to visit some tens of places on the contemporary map of Poland important for the history of our statehood and culture. *Gra o niepodległość* [A Game to Win Independence] (2018) harmonizes with the celebration of 100 years of independence, showing the way Poles covered from the third partition to regaining sovereignty. *Podjąć wyzwanie. II Rzeczpospolita na drodze do nowoczesności* [To Meet the Challenge. The Second Polish Republic on the Way to Modernity] (2019) depicts the effort of modernizing the country after it regained independence. *DETEFON, RADION, VIS. Muzealne historie o II Rzeczypospolitej* [DETAFON, RADION, VIS. Museum Stories of the Second Polish Republic] (2022) looks from near at the everyday life of the residents of the Second Polish Republic, showing 112 museum objects in 26 thematic sections. All the publications are available on the Project's website in their PDF format.





Museum networking

One of the major tasks of NIM in 2023 was initiating and consolidating cooperation among museums, their organizers, and other institutions and organisations. Having undertaken many activities aiming at integrating and networking the museum-related community, NIM consolidated the cooperation among museums boosting their activity favouring socio-economic progress.

Last year the National Institute for Museums hosted two cyclical meetings of the directors of cultural institutions supervised by the Department of Cultural Heritage at the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage, this in cooperation with the Central Museum of Prisoners of War, Silesian Institute, Museum of the Silesian Piasts in Brzeg, and the Wojciech Kętrzyński Northern Institute in Olsztyn.

We organized yet another, already 43rd edition of the Sybilla 22 Museum Event of the Year Competition (in 2023, for the first time museum public awarded their prize). The ceremony of awarding the prizes and honorary distinctions hosted at the Wawel Royal Castle was accompanied by the First Congress of Registered Museums held at the Manggha Museum of Japanese Art and Technology in Krakow.

In cooperation with the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw we prepared the 2nd edition of the Museum Book of the Year 2023 Competition. The awarding ceremony and the gala were held at the Czapski Palace, home for the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw. Furthermore, as part of the Competition we held publishing workshops focusing on managing the publishing process.

And last, but not least, let us mention the remaining activities, e.g., together with the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage and the National Museum in Poznan, NIM coordinated a display and educational project related to the history of the 'silver part' of the Fund of National Defence; it also organized a study trip to museum storages in Denmark, participated by representatives of the major museums in Poland; it signed an agreement with the Museum of King John III's Palace at Wilanów and the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw to establish a bookshop dedicated to museum-related publications; it also served as the national correspondent for the EMYA Awards.

**Meeting of directors
of museums and cultural
institutions from the area
of memory policy supervised
by the Ministry of Culture
and National Heritage**

Cyclical encounters of directors of cultural institutions either run or co-run by the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage had been held for several years by 2023 when the National Institute for Museums took over their organization from the Ministry's Department of Cultural Heritage

The first meeting of the series, organized in cooperation with the Silesian Institute, the Central Museum of Prisoners of War, and the Museum of the Silesian Piasts in Brzeg, took place on 24–26 April 2023 in Opole, Brzeg, and Łambinowice and was attended by 75 individuals. During plenary sessions panellists discussed, among other things, the questions of awarding so-called museum immunity, they spoke about dilemmas of display policy, and analysed the conclusions from the evaluation of the Independent 2017–2022 Programme; furthermore, the concept of the storage and conservation centre of NIM was presented. The attendees had the opportunity to participate in study visits to the Central Museum of Prisoners of War in Łambinowice and Opole, the Museum of Opole Silesia, and to the Museum of the Polish Song in Opole.

The second directors' meeting hosted by the Wojciech Kętrzyński Northern Institute was held in Olsztyn on 13–15 November 2023. Sixty-eight participants discussed, e.g., the challenges of the present day with respect to preparing museums for an

emergency and war, programmes of cooperation among museums and the protection of industrial property and brand in cultural institutions. The encounter concluded with a study visit to the Castle of Bishops of Warmia in Lidzbark Warmiński.



Sybilla Museum Event of the Year Competition

The Sybilla Museum Event of the Year Competition has for years been the most important form of appreciation for outstanding achievements of Polish museums operating and fulfilling their statutory tasks in Poland and abroad. Furthermore, Sybilla is a priceless source of knowledge of the development directions in Polish museology. Organizing the Competition is one of NIM's priorities

In 2023, the Institute organized the 43rd edition of the Competition for 2022 introducing to its regulations some solutions which, as we may state with satisfaction, were received positively by museums, such as restoring a financial award to Competition's laureates, introducing a new category: investment project, or the award of the public through online voting. Importantly, a new regulation was formulated allowing to choose the venue where the culmination of the Sybilla Competition would take place, so the museum awarded the Grand Prix of the given year's edition can co-host the final gala.

Headed by Michał Woźniak, the jury judged over 140 museum projects submitted in six categories, namely: conservation and cultural heritage preservation, education, scientific research projects, new and modernized permanent exhibitions; temporary exhibitions, development project. The jury decided to award the Grand Prix Sybilla 22 to the Museum of Architecture in Wroclaw for the Architecture Laboratory Project aimed at making children sensitive to the space they live in, encouraging them to realize that architecture is not only about raising structures, but the backdrop to everyday life which has a direct impact on us.

The laureate gala took place at an exceptional venue for the history of Poland, namely the Senators' Hall at the Wawel Royal Castle. It was for the first time that together with the Sybilla gala a conference for representatives of museums entered in the State Museum Register was held. And thus we celebrated the annual International Museum Day honouring the best achievements of Polish museums, while also discussing the challenges they face.



The list of laureates of the 43rd edition of the Sybilla 2022 Museum Event of the Year is as follows:

Grand Prix

MUSEUM OF ARCHITECTURE
IN WROCLAW

Architecture Laboratory

Consevation and cultural heritage preservation

Prize NATIONAL MUSEUM
IN KRAKOW










Joachim Lelewel's Etchings. Catalogue of Lelewel's etching matrices from the collection of the National Museum in Krakow










Distinction award INDEPENDENCE MUSEUM
IN WARSAW

Conservation of plasters with inscriptions in prison cells at the Mausoleum of Struggle and Martyrdom

Distinction award MUSEUM OF THE PRZEWORSK PALACE
AND PARK ENSEMBLE

Conservation of the Star 20 fire engine from 1953 from the Department of the History of Firefighting at the Przeworsk Museum

Education		
Prize	 MUSEUM OF ARCHITECTURE IN WROCŁAW	Architecture Laboratory
Distinction award	 T. P. POTWOROWSKI MUSEUM OF THE KĘPNO REGION	Singing Watercolours. Replacing Plinths with Musical Instruments
Distinction award	 MUSEUM OF THE KŁODZKO LAND IN KŁODZKO	Design and Execution: Sculpture Master Franz Wagner of Kłodzko
Scientific-research projects		
Prize	 SILESIAN MUSEUM IN KATOWICE	Scientific-research project related to the edition of sources in the form of source texts from the so-called Archives of Silesian Uprisings containing genuine materials, namely those produced in 1919–1921
Distinction award	 NATIONAL MUSEUM IN KIELCE	Museotherapy: a Way for Difficult Times. Conference
Distinction award	 GLIWICE MUSEUM	Hallstatt Cemetery of Lusatian Culture at Świbie (site 16), Gliwice County
New and modernized permanent exhibitions		
Prize	 WAWEL ROYAL CASTLE – STATE COLLECTIONS OF ART	New Treasury of the Crown
Distinction award	 MUSEUM OF PHOTOGRAPHY IN KRAKOW	What Takes Pictures?
Distinction award	 MUSEUM OF KING JOHN III’S PALACE AT WILANÓW	Art Collecting in the Potocki Family

Temporary Exhibitions		
Prize	 NATIONAL MUSEUM IN WARSAW	Witkacy. Seismograph of the Acceleration Age
Distinction award	 NATIONAL MUSEUM IN LUBLIN	Tamara Łempicka. A Woman in Travel
Distinction award	 NATIONAL MUSEUM IN WROCLAW	Abakanowicz. Total
Investment		
Prize	 POLISH NAVAL MUSEUM IN GDYNIA	Study storage at the Polish Naval Museum in Gdynia
Distinction award	 MUSEUM OF FOLK CULTURE IN KOLBUSZOWA	Forestry: a complex of historic buildings of old forest settlements at the Ethnographic Park of the Museum of Folk Culture in Kolbuszowa
Distinction award	 NATIONAL MUSEUM IN KIELCE	Modernisation of the Wiślica Archaeological Museum as the branch of the National Museum in Kielce
Prize of the public		
	 WAWEL ROYAL CASTLE – STATE ART COLLECTION	New Treasury of the Crown
Special prizes		
	 THE REMEMBRANCE MUSEUM OF THE LAND OF OŚWIĘCIM IN OŚWIĘCIM	
	 PILECKI FAMILY MUSEUM IN OSTROWIA MAZOWIECKA	

First Conference
of Registered Museums

The State Museum Register groups museums of which each boasts a collection of unique importance for Polish culture, the collection's stewardship is of the highest standards, the museum employs highly competent staff, and prides on excellency in research.

In 2023, the National Institute for Museums met the challenge of holding the First Conference of Registered Museums; the initiative stemmed from the conviction that there was a need for a free exchange of experience and the debate on the most important topics related to museums' daily operations, that is networking for museums and museum curators, and for promoting activities boosting standards in museum management, all these consolidating a strong and discernible brand of the State Museum Register, PRM.

Held on 31 May – 1 June 2023 at the Manggha Museum of Japanese Art and Technology in Krakow, the Conference was attended by almost 120 representatives of museums as well as of the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage and NIM.

In the course of four Conference sessions the questions discussed in the delivered papers concerned the issues related to e.g., developing the policy of collection amassing, challenges museums face with respect to digital heritage, or the quality and development of museum staff. The Conference participants had the opportunity to become acquainted with and individually consult Institute's employees coordinating the projects NIM has been implementing. A presentation was also made of several selected projects recently implemented by some museums.

A special point on the Conference's agenda was the 43rd gala of the laureates of the Sybilla 2022 Museum Event of the Year Competition organized at the Wawel Royal Castle.



Museum Book of the Year Competition



In 2023, the National Institute for Museums held the 2nd edition of the Museum Book of the Year Competition whose basic goal is an overview of the publishing activity of museums and giving prizes and distinction awards to publishers deserving them in the Jury’s judgement. The Competition’s 2nd edition was partnered by the Warsaw Academy of Fine Arts.

In harmony with the regulations the prizes and distinction awards were given in three categories: academic publishers, exhibition catalogues, and educational publications. Furthermore, the Jury awarded one additional prize: for the best published book in terms of the layout and editing.

The number of publications submitted by 98 museums in total stood at 171.

The Competition Jury composed of: Ewa Klekot (Chairperson), Przemysław Deles, Paweł Osiał, Ewa Siwek, and Anita Wincencjusz-Patyna judged the books in terms of their factual and didactic qualities, aesthetical harmony combining technological and design elements, as well as the distribution strategy, promotion, and sharing.

On 24 November 2023, the gala of the Museum Book of 2023 was held at the Czapski Palace of the Academy of Fine Arts. On that same day we organized workshops on managing the publishing process run by representatives of the Manggha Museum of Japanese Art and Technology: Director Katarzyna Nowak and Wioletta Laskowska-Smoczyńska, as well as by Tomasz Stelmaski of the Warsaw Academy of Fine Arts, who is a graphic designer and a visual artist. The workshop took place at the Academic Printing House of the Academy of Fine Arts.

The laureates of the 2nd Edition of the Museum Book of the Year Competition are presented below.

Academic publication Category

Prize
(ex aequo)

Privilegia Casimiriana. Przywileje króla Kazimierza IV Jagiellończyka dla Gdańska z okresu wojny trzynastoletniej

PUBLISHER: **MUZEUM GDAŃSKA**
INTRODUCTION, COMPILATION, COMMENTARY,
AND TRANSLATION: **MARCIN GRULKOWSKI**
GRAPHIC AND TYPOGRAPHIC DESIGN,
TYPESETTING, PREPRESS: **ANITA WASIK**

Antologia spojrzeń. Getto warszawskie – fotografie i filmy

PUBLISHER: **MUZEUM WARSZAWY I ŻYDOWSKI
INSTYTUT HISTORYCZNY IM. EMANUELA RINGELBLUMA**
CONCEPT, SELECTION, AND COMPILATION:
ANNA DUŃCZYK-SZULC, AGNIESZKA KAJCZYK
GRAPHIC DESIGN, TYPESETTING, AND POSTPRODUCTION:
ANIA NAŁĘCKA-MILACH

Distinction
awards

Macierz. Szczecińskie muzea i sztuka dla nowego Pomorza. 1910–1945

PUBLISHER: **MUZEUM NARODOWE W SZCZECINIE
I AKADEMIA SZTUKI W SZCZECINIE**
AUTHOR: **SZYMON PIOTR KUBIAK**
GRAPHIC DESIGN AND TYPESETTING:
PIOTR NIKODEM WARDZIUKIEWICZ

**Lagrowi ludzie. Śledztwo i pierwszy proces stutthofski (1945–1946).
Opowieść o przemianie**

PUBLISHER: **MUZEUM STUTTHOF W SZTUTOWIE,
KSIĘŻY MŁYN DOM WYDAWNICZY MICHAŁ KOLIŃSKI,
WYDAWNICTWO REGION JAROSŁAW ELLWART**
AUTHOR: **MARCIN OWSIŃSKI**
COVER DESIGN: **ZOFIA ZĄBKIEWICZ**
TYPESETTING: **GRZEGORZ SZCZEPANIAK**

**Rozkazy dowództwa Powstania Warszawskiego,
część 1: 10 czerwca – 2 września 1944 r.,
część 2: 3 września – 4 października 1944 r.**

PUBLISHER: **MUZEUM POWSTANIA WARSZAWSKIEGO**
EDITORIAL TEAM: **KATARZYNA UTRACKA,
RAFAŁ BRODAKCI, ANDRZEJ CHMIELARZ, GRZEGORZ JASIŃSKI**
GRAPHIC DESIGN: **JOANNA GÓRSKA (HOMEWORK)**
TYPESETTING: **MARTA DUDA, TOMASZ KUC / DOBRY TYPESETTING**

Exhibition catalogue

Prize



Zgruzowstanie. Przeszłość i przyszłość ruin w architekturze

PUBLISHER: MUZEUM WARSZAWY
PUBLICATION’S CONCEPT AND FACTUAL EDITING:
ADAM PRZYWARA
COVER DESIGN, GRAPHIC DESIGN, AND TYPESETTING:
KAJA KUSZTRA

Distinction
awards



Włodzimierz Pawlak. Dzienniki 1989–2022

PUBLISHER: MUZEUM SZTUKI W ŁODZI
EDITORIAL TEAM: **ANDRZEJ BIERNACKI,**
PAULINA KURC-MAJ
GRAPHIC DESIGN, TYPESETTING, AND PHOTO PROCESSING:
RYSZARD BIENERT



Bez gorsetu. Camille Claudel i polskie rzeźbiarki XIX wieku

PUBLISHER: MUZEUM NARODOWE W WARSZAWIE
CATALOGUE’S CONCEPT AND SCHOLARLY EDITING:
EWA ZIEMBIŃSKA
GRAPHIC DESIGN, TYPESETTING, AND ILLUSTRATION
PROCESSING FOR PRINT: **STUDIO ELIPSY, KAMILA**
SCHINWELSKA, MARCIN GWIAZDOWSKI



Jacek Malczewski. Malarz

PUBLISHER: MUZEUM NARODOWE W POZNANIU
EDITOR: **MARIA GOŁĄB**
GRAPHIC DESIGN: **MARCIN MARKOWSKI**
TYPESETTING: **LUCYNA MAJCHRZAK, TOMASZ NIZIOŁEK**

Educational publication

Prize



Leksykon tradycyjnych wzorów japońskich

PUBLISHER: MUZEUM SZTUKI
I TECHNIKI JAPOŃSKIEJ MANGGHA
AUTHOR: **JOANNA HABA**
GRAPHIC DESIGN AND DTP: **MARTA SZMYD**

Distinction
awards



**Intrygujące! Nasze fascynacje.
Muzeum Narodowe we Wrocławiu 2018–2023**

PUBLISHER: MUZEUM NARODOWE WE WROCŁAWIU
EDITORIAL TEAM: **PIOTR OSZCZANOWSKI,**
DOROTA SZECHIŃSKA, ALEKSANDRA ZIEMLAŃSKA
GRAPHIC DESIGN: **MAGDALENA GAZUR**
TYPESETTING AND MAKE-UP: **PAULINA HANDTKE**



Gdańsk dla młodych podróżników

PUBLISHER: MUZEUM GDAŃSKA
TEXT: **JACEK FRIEDRICH**
ILLUSTRATIONS AND COVER DESIGN: **ADAM PĘKAŁSKI**
GRAPHIC DESIGN: **ADAM PĘKAŁSKI, PAWEŁ GEŁESZ**
TYPESETTING: **PAWEŁ GEŁESZ**



Przepisy Paula Tremo

PUBLISHER: MUZEUM PAŁACU KRÓLA JANA III
W WILANOWIE
SCHOLARLY EDITING: **JAROSŁAW DUMANOWSKI**
DESIGN AND GRAPHIC LAYOUT:
WOJCIECH STANIEWSKI / STUDIO 2X2

Special prize for the the best published book in terms
of the layout and editing (ex aequo)



Obietnica szczęścia. Maria Papa Rostkowska

PUBLISHER: MUZEUM ŁAZIENKI KRÓLEWSKIE
SCHOLARLY EDITING:
MAŁGORZATA MARIA GRĄBCZEWSKA
GRAPHIC DESIGN AND TYPESETTING:
URSZULA TOFIL / SYFON STUDIO



Raport z działalności Muzeum Gdańska za lata 1970–2020

PUBLISHER: MUZEUM GDAŃSKA
EDITORIAL TEAM: **WALDEMAR OSSOWSKI,**
EWA BARYLEWSKA-SZYMAŃSKA,
ANNA FRĄCKOWSKA, JANUSZ MARSZALEC
GRAPHIC DESIGN, TYPESETTING, AND MAKE-UP:
EURYDYKA KATA, RAFAŁ SZCZAWIŃSKI

The European Museum Forum is an independent NGO founded with the support of the Council of Europe in 1977 on the initiative of the journalist and museum curator Kenneth Hudson. Since that time two major awards: the European Museum of the Year Award, EMYA, and the Council of Europe Museum Prize, have been awarded uninterruptedly.

Only museums located within one of the 47 member countries of the Council of Europe can take part; furthermore, this applies only to museums newly-opened to the public over the last three years or which have been substantially modernized or extended. Every year, about 45 museums from all over Europe apply.

An Institute’s representative acts as the national correspondent for the EMYA award scheme in Poland. Polish museums have regularly applied for the Award since 2016. Since then they have won EMYA, and have twice been awarded the Council of Europe Museum Prize, while four have been honoured with distinction awards. The list of laureates is as follows:

● special distinction award

2016	POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews EMYA European Solidarity Centre COUNCIL OF EUROPE MUSEUM PRIZE State Ethnographic Museum in Warsaw
2017	Emigration Museum in Gdynia Royal Łazienki Museum in Warsaw Living Museum of Gingerbread in Torun, branch of the District Museum in Torun Silesian Museum in Katowice ●
2018	Museum of Silesian Uprisings in Świętochłowice Shipwreck Conservation Centre in Tczew, branch of the National Maritime Museum in Gdansk
2019	Antonia Leśniewska Museum of Pharmacy, branch of the Museum of Warsaw Four Domes Pavilion of the Museum of Contemporary Art – branch of the National Museum in Wrocław Master Thaddeus Museum, branch of the Ossoliński National Institute ● The Centre of Dialogue Upheavals, branch of the National Museum in Szczecin ●



2020	Municipal Museum in Żory Upper Silesian Jews House of Remembrance, Museum’s branch in Gliwice Depot History Centre Museum of Warsaw Museum of the Polish Song in Opole
2021	Princes Czartoryski Museum, branch of the National Museum in Krakow Museum of Krakow – Thesaurus Cracoviensis branch – Artefacts Interpretation Centre ●
2022	Copernicus House, branch of the District Museum in Torun ●
2023	Coal Mining Museum, Queen Louise Adit Complex
2024	Sybir Memorial Museum COUNCIL OF EUROPE MUSEUM PRIZE Mazovian Museum in Płock National Museum in Lublin Museum and Memorial in Sobibór, branch of the State Museum at Majdanek ● Raclawice Panorama, branch of the National Museum in Wrocław

Activities to secure Polish museums and their collections

In harmony with the provisions of NIM's statute, its activity should aim to support the process of evaluating and enhancing security systems for collections and their preservation, including preparation of museums for emergencies. NIM's staff initiate and conduct analyses preparing reports on the security of and safeguarding collections, museum safety, and crime prevention with respect to museums and collections. NIM cooperates with the police, prosecutor's office, judicial organs, State Fire Service, Polish Armed Forces, National

Revenue Administration, and other institutions in order to adequately secure museums and safeguard collections. As authorized by the Minister of Culture and National Heritage, the Institute administers the list of museums and historic buildings which require fire alarm systems.

In 2023, NIM employees prepared 76 opinions on the plans of security systems in museums and historic facilities, they conducted 15 inspections of museums and historic buildings in terms of safety, as well as coordinated 85 transports of museum collections. Furthermore, on the grounds of reports submitted by museums, they have developed a report on the security of museums and other structural units reporting to or supervised by the Minister of Culture and National Heritage in 2022.



The Institute participated in the works of a group of experts in a civil-military cooperation in the protection of cultural heritage as well as conducted consultations with museums in order to prepare recommendations for reaction in emergency situations.

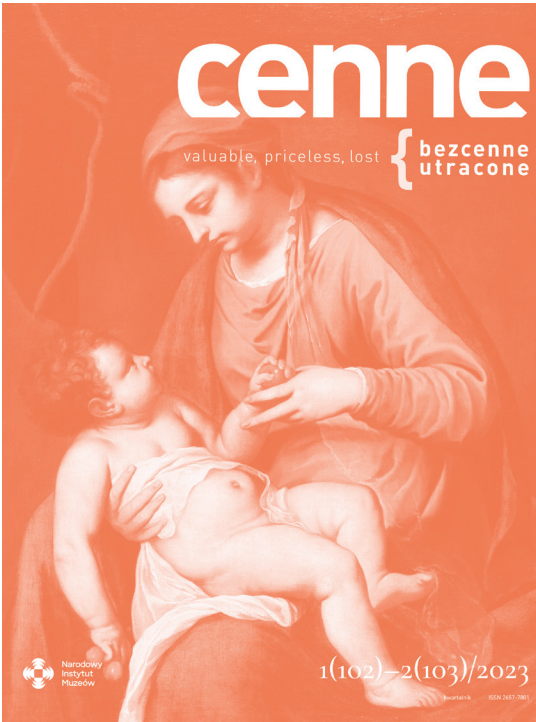
We also conducted a survey *Crisis and War*, summing up museums’ knowledge of and experience in preparation for war and emergency situations.

In 2023, NIM employees participated in numerous conferences and trade seminars, and had an opportunity to deliver a paper at ICOM ICMS’s Conference in Japan.

We have not given up running the service: *Museum Losses, Heritage Item Losses*, where we present updated information on fires, thefts, acts of vandalism, and other events harming cultural goods in Poland and worldwide (102 pieces of information in 2023).

After a three-years’ interval, we published a new edition of the *Cenne, Bezcenne, Utracone* quarterly, being the only journal in Poland dedicated to the recovery and restitution of the lost national heritage.

More information on the selected activities of the National Institute for Museums to be found below.

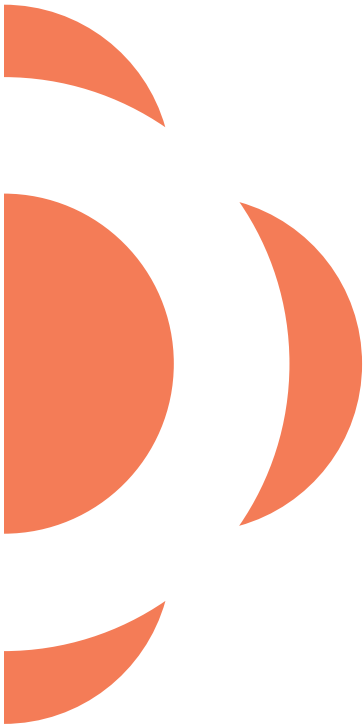


Coordination of museum collection transport security

One of the tasks of the National Institute for Museums is the supervision of security logistics of transport of collections of a value higher than 15 computation units or those which have been granted guarantee for compensation payment by the State Treasury. However, even when the value of the transported collection does not exceed 15 computation units, while the collection is of a fundamental value for a given museum or region, the museum can also apply to the Institute for assistance and coordination for such a transport.

The coordination consists in collecting all the necessary information and submitting it to the Police Headquarters who inform relevant territorial units about the transport’s route, this allowing to monitor its passage. The collection of data and their further submission under the pressure of statutory deadlines require much dedication and prioritizing the task from Institute’s employees. Quite often a need arises for the transport to have a police escort through places of high traffic density or along diversions caused by road works. In such cases a relevant request is submitted by NIM to the Police Headquarters to provide the escort. Each transport of the kind is secured by guards of the Specialized Armed Protection Formations in the number proportional to the museum exhibits’ value.

In 2023, the National Institute for Museums coordinated 85 transports of museum collections. In comparison to recent years, a higher number of collection transports coming from abroad was observed. In some cases the coordination form also changed. It was difficult to obtain precise data and to make precise plans owing to complications at border crossings and emergency situations in border zones. All these factors required intensified activities on part of NIM. Nevertheless, no negative events connected with the security of the transported collections were noted.



Emergency situations:
recommendations
for museums

In 2023, when preparing recommendations for reactions in emergency situations, including a war, NIM employees sent out surveys to selected museums to gain knowledge of their preparedness and experience within the area. The emergency survey consisted of questions related to a real organizational condition in the museum, bearing in mind the specificity of its operations and reporting structure. The questions concerned e.g., valid and implemented documents required in Poland by the valid legislation, conducted trainings and exercises, potential storage and transport capacity in the event of evacuation, as well as cooperation with rescue and law enforcement services, and public administration. Furthermore, in the course of visits to and consultations in museums, NIM staff discussed and analysed documentation related to emergency plans for the respective institution. These allowed to identify museums’ preparedness and actual needs in this respect.

Over the same time, NIM conducted meetings with and consulted Ukrainian museum curators who shared with them their knowledge and experience in protecting collections and their evacuation of danger zone. When presenting testimonies to the collection rescue actions and the change of museum operations in wartime they pointed to the fact that the regulations valid at the time were inappropriate to the war situation, beginning with the lack of means and materials meant to secure collections up to staff shortages and difficulties with collection transporting.

When analysing all the available materials, gathered information, and amassed knowledge, the National Institute for Museums prepared recommendations for museums in an emergency and a war. They are in line with the valid legal regulations, and are an optional and real element under the current conditions.

ICOM ICMS Conference
in Tokyo

On 10–14 October 2023, representatives of the National Institute for Museums took part in the international ‘Building a Community-Based Disaster Prevention and Security Network: Case Studies on Synergies Generated by Cooperation’ Conference held in Tokyo by the International Committee of Museum Security, ICOM ICMS.

ICMS is a committee of the International Council of Museums (ICOM) grouping experts in security from across the world. As an institution specializing in security issues, NIM has been Committee’s member for many years.

Director Paulina Florjanowicz took the floor at the Tokyo Conference, emphasizing the importance of the cooperation of all the Polish museums focused on assisting Ukraine who are fighting the war. The contribution of Polish museums to assisting Ukraine was described in English and Japanese in a post-Conference publication.

Ever since the beginning of the war, NIM staff have been gathering information on the assistance provided to Ukraine, and have supported communication between Polish museums and Ukrainian citizens staying in Poland as well as Ukrainian museums. We have been gathering information on and promoting projects undertaken by Polish museums to assist Ukraine.

Furthermore, the ICOM ICMS Conference provided an opportunity for the attendees to become

acquainted with security solutions applied in Japanese museums. In study visits the Conference participants were invited to see the Tokyo National Museum, Nikko Toshogu Shrine, and the Tokyo Fuji Art Museum.



“Cenne, Bezcenne, Utracone”

The *Cenne, Bezcenne, Utracone* journal is the only one in Poland dedicated to the recovery and restitution of the lost cultural heritage.

Ever since its first issue in 1997 the journal has been publishing information on works plundered during World War II and present losses: art and heritage pieces robbed from museums, churches, galleries, or private collections.

Following a three-years' interval, NIM resumed publishing the quarterly in 2023, giving it a new graphic layout. The released issue tackled some major topics which had dominated the media during the journal's inactivity, namely the war in Ukraine and the COVID-19 pandemic. There was also room for papers on the history of works' losses and their returns.

The latest issue opened with an essay by Anastasiia Cherednychenko, Chair at ICOM Ukraine. Translated from English for the journal's readers, the paper describes the circumstances of the creation of the Red List of endangered cultural property in Ukraine.

The topic of the pandemic was included in two texts. Magdalena Lewicka of the Museum Statistics and Parametrization Department at NIM discussed statistical data related to the operations of Polish museums during the pandemic, while Magdalena Piorunek, Editor-in-Chief of *Cenne, Bezcenne, Utracone* presented the timeline of events in 2020–2022 as well as the data provided by the Police Headquarters on crime against cultural goods in Poland over that period.

For the cover we chose the painting *Madonna and Child* attributed to Alessandro Turchi. The extraordinary story of the identification of that war loss and its return from Tokyo was described by Elżbieta Przyłuska of the Department for Restitution of Cultural Goods at the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage. Department's backstage operations were also presented by Ewa Witkowska in a paper discussing objects found in private hands within Polish territory, and voluntarily returned to museum collections.



Moreover, Superintendent Marek Łuczak, PhD, of the Provincial Police Headquarters in Szczecin described the preservation of historic tombs discovered in the Oder River, while Emilia Kłoda, PhD, of Ossolineum thoroughly described the story of Dürer's paintings from the Lubomirski Museum lost during WW II. Małgorzata Karolina Piekarska, in her turn, recalled the story of an audacious robbery of Aleksander Sochaczewski's painting from the Museum of Independence in 1998. The issue was closed with the catalogue of losses put together by Paulina Gut-Florczak of the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage.

The PANOPTICUM: Competence Centre for Museums

The idea to create The PANOPTICUM, a Competence Centre for Museums, was conceived at the Department of Cultural Heritage at the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage in response to the needs of Polish museums related to the tasks they are obliged to fulfil. These concern mainly collection conserving and documenting aimed at preserving collections for future generations, promoting the solutions favouring preservation of heritage caring for sustainable development, enhancing the quality of the offer of cultural institutions in Poland, promoting availability of cultural resources, securing their widest possible use, society's education with respect to cultural heritage, and promotion of the profession of a museum curator. In harmony with these

guidelines, The PANOPTICUM shall be a model project having a positive impact also on museum sectors in other countries, particularly owing to its location in East-Central Europe. The Project's implementation has been entrusted to NIM.

In 2023, NIM conducted the analysis of demand, collecting detailed information on the collections planned to be transferred to The PANOPTICUM by the interested museums. Over a half of the surveyed museums amounting to about 100 (those supervised by the Minister of Culture and National Heritage and local-governments in Mazovia) showed interest in both using the storage services, as well as those dealing with conservation, digitizing, or training.



The idea to raise a facility joining storage functions with a centre providing museum services is a solution successfully applied for over 10 years, particularly in Scandinavian countries, the Netherlands, or Great Britain.

The PANOPTICUM Project is located on an 18-hectare plot owned by the Treasury of State in the Lesznawola Commune, with the backing of the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage allocated for the purpose free of charge by the National Support Centre for Agriculture.

The multi-function PANOPTICUM building will be composed of several sectioned spaces: storage space (modern one- and two-storeyed storages giving the opportunity to variously store objects, rooms for admitting and collecting objects, as well as study rooms), educational and conference spaces (with an educational hall, multifunction conference and training hall, display room, bookshop), and space for administrative use. The current Project involves plans to raise one facility and develop the remaining land around. The estate's size will allow to raise further storage facilities if the need arises in the future.

The Project foresees the development of the plot in the strict vicinity of the building: setting out a park, a playground, cycling lanes and walking paths, rest areas, access roads, car parks, and electric vehicle charging stations. Thus, not only will The PANOPTICUM be a Competence Centre for Museums, but also a friendly open space, boosting local community integration. The PANOPTICUM will contain solutions friendly to people with special needs. We also envisage social participation activities. Furthermore, through creating adequate infrastructural conditions the Project will favour active participation in culture and social life. It is not merely addressed to specialists, but containing a strong educational component, it will target at all society.



The Project will generate new jobs, while enhancing digital transformation through the application of modern technologies in the process of collection digitizing and educational activities, at the same time boosting tourism.



The PANOPTICUM is environment-friendly, with the building having been designed to meet the requirements of BREEAM certification (it will be the first BREEAM-certified Competence Centre for Museums guaranteeing the lowering of operating costs). The design ensures the maximum energy-efficiency, meeting the requirements of green economy, use of rain-water and heat pumps, and placing PV panels on the roof. To NIM's knowledge, it will be the first such environment-friendly structure in the Polish public sector.

The Project: 'The PANOPTICUM: Competence Centre for Museums: supporting museums in the process of innovation for socio-economic development' containing a part of works connected with the construction and furnishing of the service section and developing the building's vicinity was allocated financing by the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage from the FEnKS 2021–2027 Programme in the non-competitive selection mode, which emphasizes that the Project is of key importance. The major goal of FEnKS is to enhance state's development conditions through building of the technological and social infrastructure in harmony with sustainable development, also through boosting the role of culture in social and economic development.

We were granted the building permit on 10 October 2023. In compliance with the work schedule, by the end of last year we had completed earthworks and work on the foundations, as well as the works connected with external installations. All the construction works planned for 2023 were completed and so was the financial reporting for the funds allocated for 2023. A special

team of NIM staff focused on the The PANOPTICUM's construction was formed. We also cooperate with external experts providing their advice on e.g., conservation, diagnostic imaging, and the RE-ORG Method.

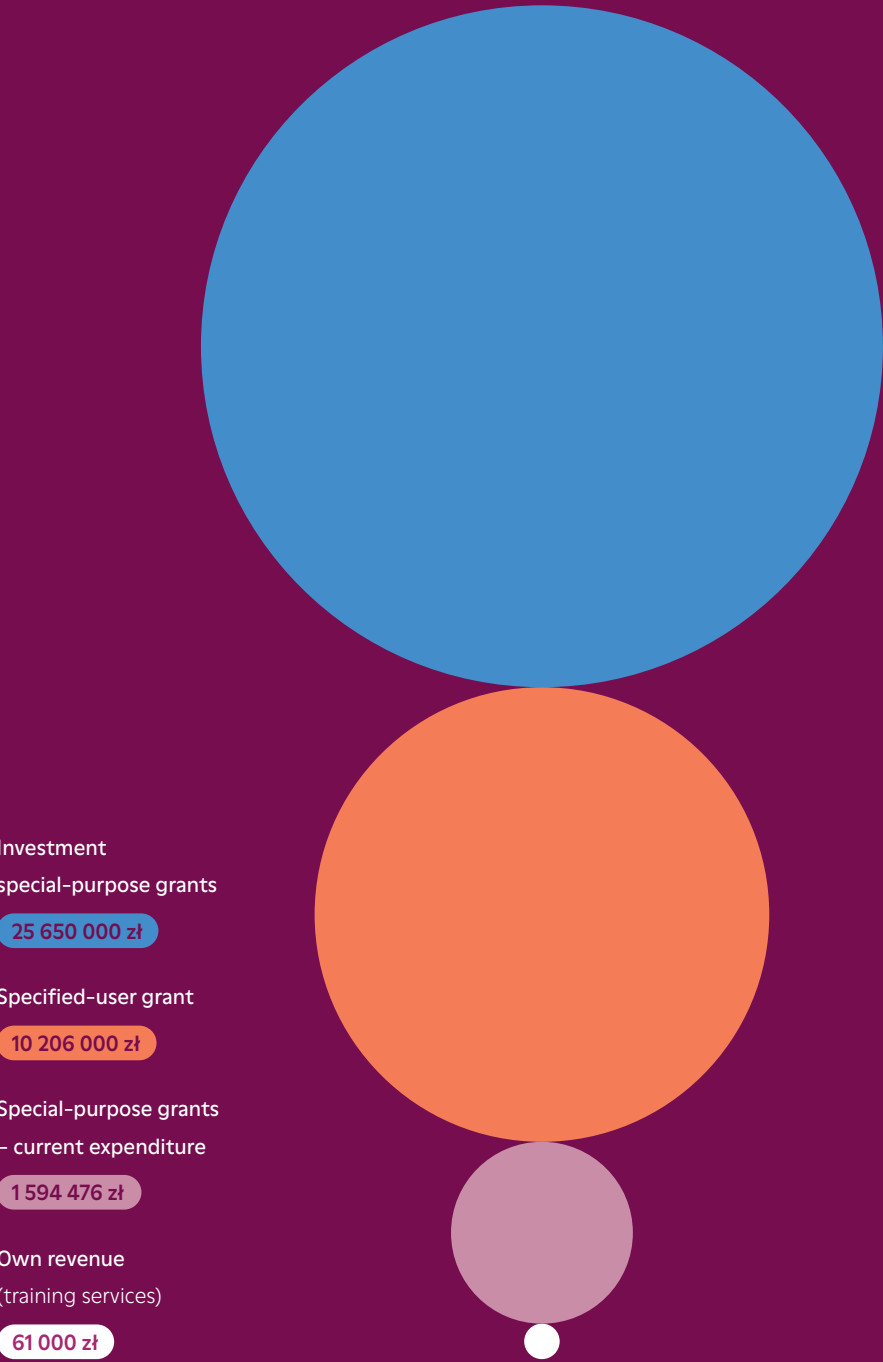
Furthermore, 2023 was the year when we organized two study trips to similar inter-museum joint storage and conservation centres in Denmark and Finland. We invited staff members of multi-departmental museums who are planning storage projects for their own use to join us (National Museum in Poznan, National Museum in Warsaw, Wawel Royal Castle).

The year 2024 will mean the continuation of the raising of the building namely raising reinforced concrete walls and structure to support internal ways. Furthermore, we will work on the application for the FEnKS Programme, and will start raising the complex of the future NIM branch.

The PANOPTICUM as NIM's branch will provide a wide range of services to museums from all over Poland, turning into a major institution supporting the development of museum staff, guaranteeing security of the collections museums hold in custody, educating and facilitating access to culture.

Already at this design stage The PANOPTICUM has been pointed to on the European platform as a model sustainable museum project. It is a perfect example of combining culture with economic development, boosting social inclusion and innovation through introducing new quality of actions both in the sphere of culture and economy.

Funding



Investment special-purpose grants:

- Construction of The PANOPTICUM: Competence Centre for Museums: 22 000 000 zł
- Development of Museum Collection Programme: 3 500 000 zł
- Purchase of the licence and operation of the WITKAC system: 150 000 zł



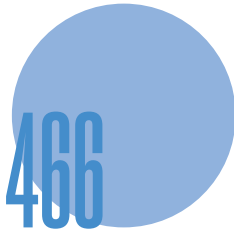
Special-purpose grants – current expenditure:

- Cooperation with museum curators from Ukraine in order to enhance security of museum collections and promotion of the digital resources of cultural heritage: 200 000 zł
- Operation of the Competence Centre for digitizing museum resources: 119 000 zł
- Operation of the Joint Programming Initiative on Cultural Heritage: 210 000 zł
- Costs of the implementation of the DECORUM historical-research Programme: 240 000 zł
- 2nd stage of the task MUSEOMETER: integrated system of parametrization and effectivity assessment of museums and other cultural institutions operating within the domain of memory policy: 183 616 zł
- Organization of the Congress of representatives of the museums entered in the State Museum Register run by the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage and the 43rd edition of the Sybilla 2022 Museum Event of the Year Competition: 250 000 zł
- Administrative support to the A.2.5.1 Project: Programme of support to creative entities to stimulate their development contained in the National Recovery and Resilience Plan: 210 515 zł
- Operating costs of the Development of Museum Collections Programme as own programme: 33 650 zł
- Operating costs of the Halls of Memory Programme as own programme: 125 000 zł
- Operating costs of the government programme in preservation of culture and national heritage Administrative Support for Museum Activities: 22 695 zł

NIM in figures

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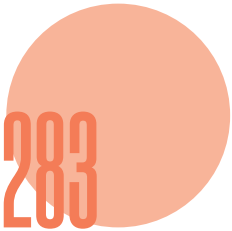
total number of trained
museum curators



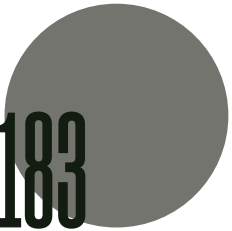
museums participated
in the 'Infrastructure
and Security' Survey



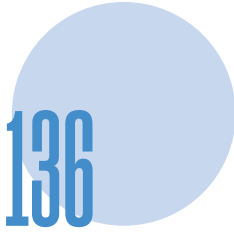
number of applications
for competitions
organized by NIM



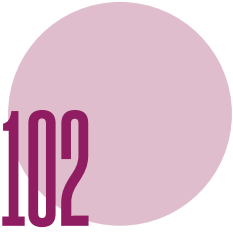
trained museum
curators from Ukraine



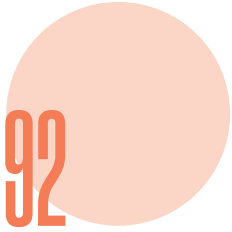
museum surveys
submitted in the
MUSEOMETER Project



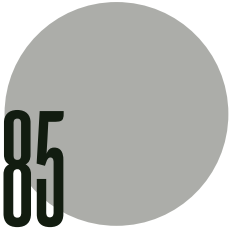
grants allocated to
projects as part of the
NIM's Programmes



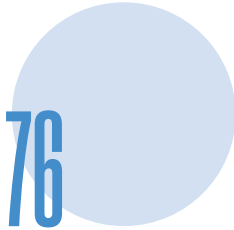
information published in
the Losses of museums,
losses of heritage pieces



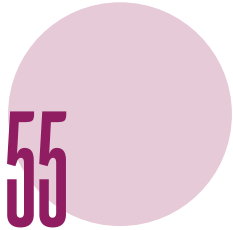
coordinated museum
charters and regulations



coordinated museum
collection transports



opinions on security
systems in museums
and historic facilities



total number
of training days



awarded museum
immunities



employees



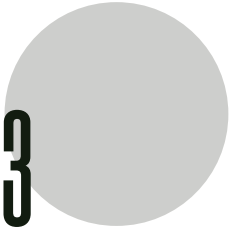
conducted
trainings



inspections
of museums and historic
buildings in relations
to security issues

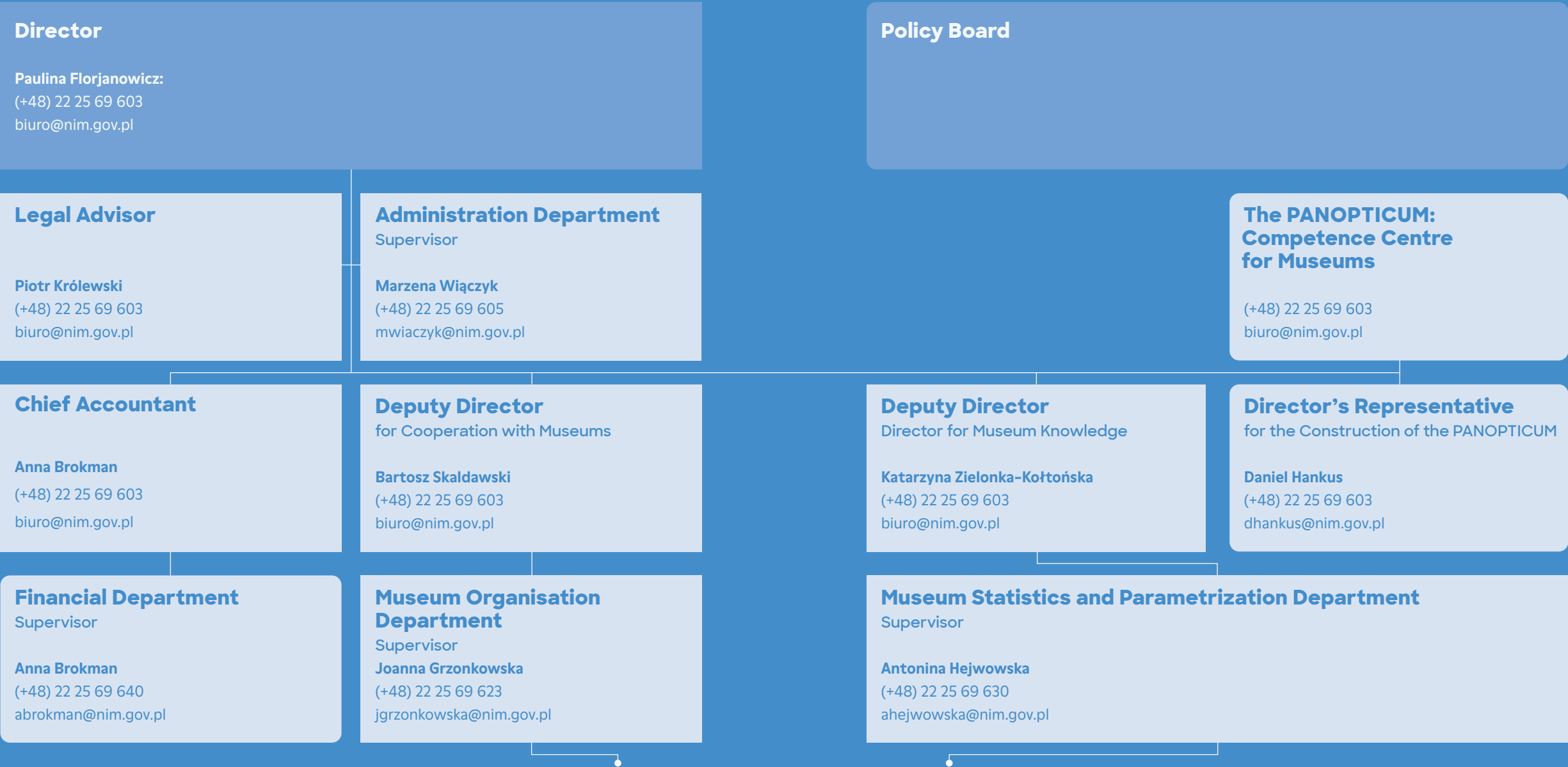


current special-purpose
grants



specified-user
investment subsidies

National Institute for Museum's Structure



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