

BROWN BOOK 2010

East Europe Monitoring Centre

„NEVER AGAIN” Association

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Brown Book 2010 is a register of racist and xenophobic incidents as well as neo-fascist crimes. This monitoring project has been carried out by the East Europe Monitoring Centre and the anti-fascist “NEVER AGAIN” magazine supported by the “Remembrance, Responsibility, Future” Foundation (Stiftung “Erinnerung, Verantwortung und Zukunft”) within the scheme of the “Monitoring Hate Crimes in Poland” project.



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YEAR 2010

JANUARY

WROCŁAW. During early morning hours on January 3rd, in the vicinity of Pasaż Niepolda – a popular local site of nightlife in Wrocław, known for its clubs and pubs – two black brothers from the Netherlands, Kenneth and Ramon V., were beaten up. The men had been partying at one of the clubs, Metropolis. Upon leaving the club, they were attacked by a group of ten racist men. “At first, they abused us verbally, then physically. They beat us and kicked us, breaking my brother’s arm”, said Kenneth, who lives and works in Wrocław as a DJ. This was not the first time he had been attacked because of his skin color. “When the police officers came, it was all over. While they were searching the area of Ruska Street, they found two black men with two women. One of them was sitting on the pavement. They told us they had been beaten up but they would not be able to recognize the attackers”, said Paweł Petrykowski, a spokesman of the Lower Silesia Police Department. The police launched investigating procedures.

ŁOMŻA. On January 4th, the Regional Public Prosecutor’s Office in Łomża made a decision to bring charges against the author of xenophobic films about Chechens. “We would like to bring two charges against this person. The first one is about insulting a group of people of Chechen nationality and the second one concerns public calling to racial hatred”, said Maria Kudyba, a public prosecutor and a representative of the Regional Public Prosecutor’s Office. These charges could lead to three years of imprisonment. On August 23rd, 2010, the “Rescue” Foundation (Fundacja “Ocalenie”) informed the “NEVER AGAIN” magazine (magazyn “NIGDY WIĘCEJ”) about incidents inflicted on Chechen community in the cities of Łomża and Białystok. On internet sites such as YouTube, Demotywatory.pl and, patrz.pl there were secretly recorded films about Chechens living in refugee camps. Authors of these materials (one of them had a nickname *jargibin*) added some xenophobic remarks: “Muslims will rule the world because they are strongly united and, contrary to Europeans, they consider their own religion and nation the most important things”, “Flats – a decent Polish person doesn’t get any, [but] Chechens get brand new flats just after a few years of living in Poland”, “Paedophile – for the Poles [is] a pervert even worse than gay, and for Chechens – almost God”. Satsita Khumaidova, a Chechen woman who works for the “Rescue” Foundation, said: “We feel threatened. People who survived the war ask if they should leave Łomża. It’s unthinkable that we’re treated like animals, hunted in the places where we live. I don’t look into other people’s trolleys in the shop, I’m not interested in what they buy”.

WROCŁAW. During the nighttime of January 4th, in Świdnicka Street, a twenty-seven year old assailant Robert R. severely beat up a citizen of Ghana, Solomon D. The attacker shouted: “You are in Poland nigger, get out!” and kicked him in the stomach. When the victim bent over, Robert R. hit him two more times in the head with his fist. The witness of the event, Adam M. who was driving by, stopped and helped Solomon D. He also notified the police. Robert R. was accused of racial prejudice and assault, for which the maximum penalty is five years in prison. On September 23rd, Robert R. was sentenced to eighteen months of imprisonment suspended for five years. The sentence was not legally binding.

KOZIENICE. On January 8th, the Foundation for the Preservation of Jewish Heritage in Poland (FODZ) reported about devastation of the fence of the local Jewish cemetery. It involved anti-Semitic and vulgar inscriptions and symbols. FODZ informed the police about the incident.

WARSZAWA. During the nighttime of January 9th, soon after a concert of At Daggers Drawn Daggers, Calm The Fire and Government Flu bands, which had taken place at “Elba” squat, a neo-fascist squad of seven people armed with telescopic batons attacked two participants of the concert, who were on their way home. It happened at a bus stop in Elbląska Street. Those attacked were taken to a hospital as they had their heads injured. One of the patients was claimed to have had a concussion. The police launched investigation into the case.

BOCHNIA. On January 10th, a xenophobic incident took place on a bus going from Kraków to Brzesko. The victims were two men studying and repeating out loud basic phrases in German. One of them had been preparing himself to leave the country and search for a job in Germany. At one point, a young woman sitting next to them called two acquaintances of hers (they had short hair and were about 25-27 years old), telling them that “there are some Germans on the bus”. After a while, these men attacked the two conversing men. One of them was brutally dragged out of the bus and beaten up. The assailants were kicking his whole body, including his head, while he was lying on the ground. They shouted “Zaj...ć Goebbelsa!” (“F...king kill Goebells!”). The whole incident was seen by the passengers and the bus driver who did not move the vehicle until the offenders had stopped the beating. Nobody reacted nor called the police. The beaten-up man’s skull was bruised, he also suffered other head injuries and chest contusion. The police and the Public Prosecutor’s Office in Bochnia are investigating the case.

SZCZECIN. On January 14th, an appeal against the decision pronounced in a case of infringement of personal interests was brought into Appeal Court. It concerned Ryszard Giersz, a 25-year-old homosexual man from Wolin, who had been offended in public by his neighbor, Anna Sz. The woman had called him offensive names, including “pedał” (“faggot”). For her behavior, she was fined to pay the plaintiff 15,000 zlotys and ordered by the court to apologize to the man. During the trial in an appellate instance, she tried to convince the jury that the word “pedał” was not offensive for a homosexual person. Her attorney pleaded for quashing the sentence. On February 4th, 2010, the Appeal Court confirmed the former decision, reducing the amount of compensation to 5,000 zlotys.

WARSZAWA. In mid-January, a controversial poster was published on the Internet. It depicted Adolf Hitler advertising a dancing party *Melanż ostateczny* (*The Final Melange*) in the “Skłot” club on Żąbkowska Street. The poster referred to a mocked version of the movie *The Downfall* presenting the final days of the Third Reich’s Fuhrer. The changed version of the film, which had been very popular on the Internet, presented subtitles suggesting Hitler discussing with his officers about condition of discos in contemporary Warsaw. The placing of the poster online triggered a wave of protests both in the media and among many residents of Warsaw. However, the club manager, Kalina Koślińska, upon her seeing the poster said only: “This can be fun”. The District Public Prosecutor’s Office has warned the author of the poster that there might be serious legal consequences of this incident.

WARSZAWA. On January 17th, Jacek Adler, the editor-in-chief of the web portal Gaylife.pl, sent to Public Prosecutor’s Office of Appeal in Warsaw a notice concerning the offence committed by Stanisław Pięta, a member of parliament for the Law and Justice party (PiS). The politician issued an open letter to Catholic priests in Wrocław, in which he called upon them to reprimand the Minister of Culture, Bogdan Zdrojewski, for his lack of objection to an exhibition under preparation in the National Museum depicting homosexual threads in Polish art. In the letter, the politician compared homosexuals to “necrophiles, paedophiles and zoophiles”. The Prosecutor’s Office denied the motion to

investigate the case. A prosecutor, Andrzej Tylenda, justified his decision claiming that there was no public interest in prosecution of this deed.

WROCŁAW. On January 20th, a xenophobic incident took place in a local high-school. One of the school's employees beat up (including the use of a chair) a janitor employed in the same place. The man was screaming at her, calling her "Ukrainian". She went to a doctor for examination and reported the case to the police. This man had behaved aggressively towards her even before. The woman with her husband (they are both Russians who come from Ukraine and have been working for this school for a few years) requested help from the Honorary Consul of Ukraine in Wrocław and from the "Nomada" Association for the Integration of Multi-cultural Society. The case has been brought to the court.

GDAŃSK. On January 22nd, the District Public Prosecutor's Office reopened the proceedings against Klaudiusz Wesolek, a former anarchist, member of the Republican League, and a candidate of the National Rebirth of Poland (NOP) in the parliamentary elections in 2005, in order to withhold the execution of his sentence. Wesolek had been sentenced to five months in prison for contempt of a prosecutor of the Institute of National Remembrance (IPN) in 2004. The prosecutor refused to launch proceedings concerning a 1988 case, in which Wesolek was sentenced by a misdemeanor court for taking part in a demonstration at a passport office. Wesolek maintained that the punishment was a communist crime because in his IPN file he found an SB notice saying that the verdict had been biased due to the communist secret police's manipulation. However, IPN authorities did not share his convictions and charged Wesolek with "contempt of a government functionary" because in his letter to the IPN Wesolek called the prosecutor "a communist scoundrel who joined IPN to protect his pals". As a result, Wesolek was sentenced to ten months of community work. On March 6th 2005, Wesolek ran with a belt at associate judge Radosław Wyrwas in the Local Court in Gdynia, as Wyrwas rejected Wesolek's appeal in this case. On September 10th 2009, the sentence was automatically changed into five months of imprisonment because the accused was not respecting his summons. Wesolek was ordered to appear in the Kurkowa Street jail in Gdańsk no later than December 30th.

WROCŁAW. On January 22nd, in Świdnicka Street, in front of the Solpol shopping centre, three young men accosted a citizen of Ghana, a student of the Erasmus Mundus exchange program in Poland. The assailants tried to provoke the African man to fight, and when he did not allow to be provoked, the men taunted him and one of them spat on him. Despite the fact, that the street was full of people, none of the passers-by reacted. The student told his university group tutor about the incident and she went with him to the police station on Trzemeska Street to submit a notice on the offence. The police officer listened to their story but said that he was unable to do anything. "He said that in Poland everybody can spit in anybody's face (unless the latter is the president) since it is not considered a crime" – the tutor reported. The woman did not give up and asked about the recordings from CCTV cameras located in Świdnicka Street. Then she heard that even if the recordings existed, nothing would result from it, because the police didn't have a facial recognition system and wouldn't be able to identify the man who was spitting. The incident was reported by the local media.

WROCŁAW. On the night of January 22nd, unknown perpetrators once again destroyed the memorial plaque located near the entrance to a tenement house on Włodkowica Street and dedicated to Jakub Rotbaum, a Jewish theatre director and a painter. The anti-Semites daubed the plaque with the SS symbols and swastikas. On January 26th, the sign "Jude raus" appeared on the plate.

ROME (ITALY). On January 24th, an Italian Catholic web portal "Pontifex Roma" published an interview with a Polish bishop Tadeusz Pieronek, in which the bishop claimed, among others, that "Shoah itself is a Jewish figment". The church hierarch also said that "Without doubt, mostly Jews had been dying in concentration camps, but there were also some Poles, Gypsies, Italians and Catholics on this list. (...) One cannot appropriate this tragedy in order to cultivate propaganda. But the Jews have good press because they have tremendous financial means, enormous power and unconditional support of the United States, and this is conducive to that kind of arrogance which I personally find unbearable". When asked the following day about this issue, the bishop denied having anything in common with the quoted words and blamed the journalist for altering his utterance. However, he did not intend to submit a rectification to the portal. He sustained his previous opinion: "Shoah is a figment of Jews in the sense that this word comes from Jewish communities". (sic!) Responding to the bishop's words, the portal announced handing over the case of the dispute with bishop to an attorney in order to "undertake possible legal actions for the sake of portal's business and image", and the editor-in-chief of "Pontifex Roma" confirmed all the words of the hierarch based on the audio recording he possessed.

FEBRUARY 2010

WARSZAWA. In February, the "Replika" magazine published information about an incident, which took place near Metro Centrum station. A group of men assaulted and beat up another man who was passing by. The attack probably had homophobic background as the men also abused him and called him "homo". The case is being investigated by the public prosecutor's office.

TORUŃ. On February 3rd and 4th, Radio Maryja broadcasted an anti-Semitic statements of Stanisław Michalkiewicz. He said "Aleksander Kwasniewski (...) must feel satisfied with a sort of night watchman job at some Jewish organization in Europe". Then, on February 10th, Michalkiewicz who is also a publicist of "Najwyższy Czas!" magazine ("High time!") said on the air that ranks of authors and editors of "Gazeta Wyborcza" daily are "dominated by representatives of the Jewish lobby". Previously, Michalkiewicz expressed anti-Semitic statements on numerous occasions. Such were the remarks made on March 27th, 2006, where in a broadcast of the Father Tadeusz Rydzyski's radio station, Michalkiewicz said: "Judaites surround us from behind trying to force our government to pay tribute they call revindication". In this context he also spoke about "overblowing the incident in Jedwabne". "Gazeta Wyborcza" was described as "an exceptional example of the Jewish fifth column in Poland", working for "Holocaust industry". He also added that Poland was being humiliated by the Jews quarrelling "in the Auschwitz camp, exaggerating the incident in Jedwabne, and currently preparing for a grand propaganda event in Kielce on the anniversary of the so-called pogrom". On April 2nd, 2006, the Council of Media Ethics reprimanded Radio Maryja for broadcasting anti-Semitic contents. At the same time the Jan Karski Association notified the District Prosecutor's Office in Torun about committing a public crime by Michalkiewicz who insulted Jews. On August 28th, 2006, District Prosecutor in Toruń discontinued the inquiry. According to the decision of the prosecution "Michalkiewicz was not insulting anyone, but only commented", and "he did not deny any of nazi crimes".

KAZIMIERZA WIELKA. On February 8th, the county's secretary Marek Krupa placed an entry on a local internet forum insulting a local businessman. Krupa wrote: "Be quiet!!! Or Mociiek [a distortion of the offended man's name, which can be associated with the Jewish name Mosiek, a diminutive of Moses] will

call his family's little Mossad and will blow you away!!!!". The insulted businessman brought his complaint to the Local Prosecutor's Office about a slander action. The Prosecutor, however, refused to investigate his case, telling him that he should start a private prosecution. On September 5th, the insulted man brought his private prosecution against Marek Krupa to the Local Court in Kazimierza Wielka.

ŻAGAŃ. On February 10th, the newspaper "Gazeta Lubuska" published an article about the conflict between the club authorities of third-division Czarni Żagań and former player Paschal Ekueme. The club authorities accused the Nigerian of illegally signing a contract with their league rivals Olimpia Grudziądz. However, Ekueme accused the club's chairman of racism, notably of calling him a "bambus" ("coon"). The day before the beginning of matches in the spring round of the league, the conflict remained unsolved.

ŁOMŻA. On February 22nd, local press informed about two legal proceedings commenced by Local Public Prosecutor's Office concerning on-line entries that insulted on racial, national and ethnic grounds Chechen and Polish people. The authors of these utterances, presenting themselves as the Poles and Chechens respectively, exchanged insults. The case is related to the autumn attack and beating of Chechen persons who live in a refugee center in Łomża. Since then, relations between the Chechens and their Polish neighbors have become very tense.

POZNAŃ. On February 22nd, in the vicinity of the former synagogue on Stawna Street, there appeared an anti-Semitic inscription "You will not jewify Poland!" The day before, in the same spot, a happening entitled "I miss you, Jew!" organized by Rafał Betlejewski took place. The participants painted the main slogan on the wall opposite to the synagogue and took a group photo which was published on the website www.tesknie.com. The anti-Semitic incident was a response to the happening as the graffiti created during this event was also damaged by the vandals.

WARSZAWA. On February 22nd, the editorial office of "NIGDY WIECEJ" ("NEVER AGAIN") magazine received information about numerous incidents of desecration of Jewish graveyard located in Bródno, Warsaw. Most of Jewish matzevot (tombstones) were covered with anti-Semitic inscriptions and symbols: swastikas, Celtic crosses, SS signs, images of pigs, slogans ("Jews out", "Jude raus", "Polen ohne", "Jews are shit"), as well as runic writings forming the word "Skins". In the graveyard, there were many empty alcohol bottles, rubbish and droppings of dogs that are walked there by local inhabitants.

BIAŁYSTOK. On February 23rd, Local Court sentenced four culprits accused of distributing anti-Semitic materials to imprisonment ranging from one year and a half to ten months with suspension for two and three years. One person was acquitted. A week before, due to poor health condition of the accused, the case of Leszek Bubel, the leader of the Polish National Party, was excluded from this proceedings and handed over to separate legal dealings. In 2005, the convicted were pasting anti-Semitic posters and published anti-Semitic texts on the Internet and in the press (the texts were published as a special supplement inserted into two journals issued by Bubel) The sentence is not legally binding.

ŁOMŻA. On February 24th, the police apprehended two nineteen year old residents of Łomża, who were suspected of putting up racist posters directed against Chechens residing in the local refugee center. These posters were also distributed in shops, buses and other public places throughout the city. "I would like to think that this is just a juvenile prank, but it looks more like an organized campaign" – claimed Kamil Kamiński from the "Rescue" Foundation (Fundacja "Ocalenie"), which helps refugees residing in Łomża. "The stickers were made very neatly. There are Russian signs on them, saying: 'We do not want you here' and 'Get out of

our city", and Chechen flag crossed out" – says Kamiński. There is an investigation in progress against the two suspects. Both of them pleaded guilty. On February 25th, the Prosecutor accused them of publicly insulting persons of Chechen nationality and put them on probation. Also they cannot leave the country. The campaign was probably connected with the demand to remove the refugee center from Łomża. This demand was brought by 800 inhabitants of Łomża to the Office for Refugees in Warsaw. The petition was distributed with the help of the Member of Parliament from the Law and Justice (PiS) party, Lech Kołakowski. The opponents of the refugee center were also supported by the city mayor, Jerzy Brzeziński.

KIELCE. On the 24th of February, right after the end of the handball First League match between Wisła Płock and Vive Targi Kielce, pseudo-fans of the home team shouted "Wenta nigdy nie będziesz Polakiem!" ("Wenta, you will never be a Pole!") aimed at the coach of the visitors team and the Polish national selector, Bogdan Wenta. Similar situation took place during a league match in 2009. In both cases, Wenta's dual nationality, Polish and German, served as a pretext for nationalistic incidents. Wenta is one of the best players and selectors in the history of Polish handball. As Polish national selector he won World Vice-championship in 2007, third place in 2009 World Cup, fifth place during the Olympics in Beijing and fourth place in European championships in 2010. Chauvinists accuse him of betrayal of his country, because he played 46 matches in German national team.

RADOM. On February 24th, the editorial staff of "Stadion" magazine received information about anti-Semitic and homophobic stickers distributed by "fans" of fourth-division Radomiak Radom, directed at local rivals Broń Radom. One of them depicted the Star of David, the name of Broń Radom and insults aimed at its fans. Sympathisers of feuding teams frequently hurl anti-Semitic insults at rival in Polish stadiums. The word "Żyd" ("Jew") is considered the worst invective in such circles.

WARSZAWA. On February 25th, the Court of Appeal decided that an ex-MP, Wojciech Wierzejski, who belonged to the League of Polish Families (LPR) party, was to apologize to Adam Michnik for spreading false information about Michnik's PZPR membership (the Polish United Workers' Party – the ruling party before 1989). Wierzejski was also sentenced to pay 10,000 zlotys. In September, 2006, Wierzejski said on TVN channel that Michnik had been a member of PZPR, then he resigned from the party, and after that in 1989, he again came to terms with the party authorities. In 2009, the case, after several appeals, was handed over to be reargued by the Supreme Court.

WARSZAWA. On February 25th, the TVP Info broadcast titled *Minęła dwudziesta (It's past 8:00 PM)* hosted professor Bogusław Wolniewicz who commented the construction of a mosque by the Muslim League in Poland as well as on building the centre of Islamic culture in Ochota near Zesłańców Syberyjskich roundabout. Wolniewicz's opinion was supported by the journalist host of the show, Danuta Holeccka-Dunin. The professor said: "Building the mosque in Poland is a part of Islamic invasion on Europe. [And] it is the invasion of terrorist civilization on Poland". "We [Poles] don't want any mosques or minarets". He also said: "People who are erecting these buildings here are terrorists". The broadcast and the intensity of islamophobia promoted in the discussion on public TV channel outraged Muslim community living in Poland.

DUBIECKO. On February 26th, the editorial office of "NIGDY WIECEJ" ("NEVER AGAIN") magazine received information about anti-Semitic posters which appeared in this village located near Przemyśl. The posters showed the map of Poland with a centrally-placed inscription that read: "The Country of the Righteous Among the Nations" and included false information about the

massacre of Jews in Jedwabne ("The State Archive in Łomża revealed files with testimonies of witnesses confirming that the murder in Jedwabne was committed by the Germans"), a postwar pogrom in Kielce ("devised and lead by Jewish Security Service officers"), and a murder of Jews in Dubiecko ("The massacre in Dubiecko committed by the Germans in 1940. Who is going to be blamed when the Jews find out about it? We have to defend ourselves and forget about the Jews living on Dubiecko land"). The posters were probably hung in response to an attempt to endow a plaque commemorating the Jewish inhabitants of Dubiecko village murdered during World War II.

STRZELCE OPOLSKIE. On February 26th, there began a trial held against Krzysztof F. and Karol L., members of the delegalized National-Radical Camp (ONR). The suspects were accused of making nazi gestures during a ceremony of placing flowers at the monument of the Insurgent Act at St. Anne's Mountain in May, 2008. Both men had been found guilty of propagating nazi political system in 2006 and 2007, when they also performing the nazi salute during celebrations at St. Anne's Mountain. The court of first resort sentenced them to half year imprisonment in suspension for three years, supervision of a probation officer and fined them to 1,000 zlotys. Despite the appeals, the District Court in Opole upheld the sentence.

MARCH 2010

OLSZTYN. In early March, Ukrainian minority's paper "Nasze Słowo" published information about an incident which affected Ukrainians working for a local construction company. On one of the buildings situated on Turkowskiego Street, in Jarota district, somebody wrote xenophobic inscriptions: "Get out from the construction site, you Russian homos, yokels. Faggots, f...king slovens!" The author of the article also described the situation of employees in the company that hires people from the East. The company's owner would address the workers by saying: "You stupid Ukrainians" or "Swines". The owner also delayed the payment of wages.

GRZECHYNIA. On March 2nd, father Piotr Natanek, rector of the parish in Maków Podhalański municipality and a collaborator of Radio Maryja was forbidden to preach and express other public statements. Such decision came from cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz who in this way responded to the priest's statements and articles in which the latter called for the "conversion of the Jews" and traced Masonic symbols on religious medals. The cardinal's decision sparked outrage and attacks from the extreme right-wing circles, carried out mainly on internet portals and discussion forums. Some people also initiated a letter and email campaign addressed to the Kraków Curia. They demanded cancelling of the ban on teaching which was put on father Natanek.

PRZEMYSŁ. On March 3rd, Jan Martynia, Przemyśl-Warsaw Greek-Catholic Archbishop, sued two people who accused him of "favoring Bandera's people". The respondents were 26-year-old Piotr K. who lives in Kolbuszowa and 27-year-old Tomasz S. from Gorzyce near Tarnobrzeg. On August 7th, 2009, at the Polish-Ukrainian border in Medyka these men protested along with several other people against crossing Polish border by the group of cyclists from Ukraine following the so-called Stepan Bandera route. Bike riders planned to visit places where units of the UPA (Ukrainian Insurgent Army) were active after World War II, and then they were planning to get to Munich, to visit the grave of the OUN-UPA (Organisation of Ukrainian Nationalists – Ukrainian Insurgent Army) founder. The archbishop felt hurt by the contents of one of the banners displayed during the protest in Medyka. The banner read: "The defense of OUN-UPA has become the official

policy of the Ukraine's government. The recognition of OUN-UPA means Ukraine takes responsibility for the crimes of the OUN-UPA. The lack of condemnation of OUN-UPA by the Polish authorities cannot be justified. We consider as "banderowcy" the following circles: activists of the Union of Ukrainians in Poland, Archbishop Jan Martyniak". The demonstrations were attended by representatives of the All-Polish Youth (Młodzież Wszechpolska), the Right Wing of the Republic of Poland (Prawica Rzeczypospolitej) and the Association of Eaglets of Przemyśl. The defendants were supported by a district council's deputy, Bogusław Tofilski of the League of Polish Families (LPR). Tofilski himself was also active during the Medyka protest.

WARSZAWA. On March 3rd, there were xenophobic incidents during the football friendly between the national teams of Poland and Bulgaria. Poland "fans" shouted insults aimed at Bulgarian players and hurled anti-Semitic abuse at journalists present at the stadium.

CHRYSZCZATA. On March 5th, the editors of "NIGDY WIĘCEJ" magazine received information from the Union of Ukrainians in Poland concerning the decision of the District Public Prosecutor's Office in Sanok to discontinue the investigation regarding "the profanation and devastation of the monument dedicated to UPA (the Ukrainian Insurgent Army)". The monument is situated in Komańcza Forest District area in Duszatyn. It was erected and dedicated to "the memory of UPA soldiers killed on January 23rd, 1947, while protecting an underground hospital against the WP (Polish Army) soldiers", without consulting the Council for the Protection of Struggle and Martyrdom Sites. On April 29th, 2009, the Union of Ukrainians submitted information about the devastation of the monument and the desecration of the cross, both caused by "unknown culprits". Simultaneously, the notification also contained information with quotes concerning anonymous entries sent to several on-line forums, which incited to destroy the monument, assaulted the initiators of the monument, and propagated hatred towards the Ukrainians. However, the second part of the notification was ignored by the public prosecutor's office.

GDAŃSK. On March 11th, the District Court rejected the prosecutor's appeal from the acquittal of an artist Dorota Nieznalska. The defendant is the author of an art installation titled *Pasja*, which was charged with offence against religious feelings. The complaint was filed by the League of Polish Families (LPR) party members and MPs, Robert Strąg and Gertruda Szumska, in 2003. Since then, the artist was afflicted, among others, by Grzegorz Sielatycki, then the leader of the All-Polish Youth's local branch, who placed the following comment on a local web portal: "We will fuck up any similar exhibition in Tricity and hang each artist". This internet site also included other All-Polish Youth members' views that artists such as Nieznalska should "have their heads shaved and be hung". The lawsuit against Nieznalska lasted eight years. The sentence was legally binding.

ORCHOWO. On March 12th, the „Pałuki” weekly newspaper informed that the rector of the local All Saints parish, father Tomasz Ryś, did not allow a 9-year old boy with Down syndrome to receive the First Holy Communion. The boy's family wanted the celebration to be held this year but faced the priest's refusal. Father Ryś explained that, in order to receive the First Holy Communion, the boy should be "initiated [into the mystery of this sacrament] during an individual teaching programme". This decision was supported by Mariola Michalska, who teaches religion in the local Kindergarten-Primary School Complex. That is what she said about the boy: "So far he has been only physically present in religion classes but he has no contact with religion itself. He can only cross himself". According to the boy's mother, in 2008 at a wedding ceremony in the Przybyśzewscy family, the priest ordered the boy to be taken out of the church in order to prevent him from disturbing the mass.

WAŁCZ. On March 12th, the District Court sentenced Michał W. for promoting fascist system of government via the website *mojagenereacja.pl*. The man was sentenced to two months of restriction of freedom including mandatory unpaid social work for 20 hours per month. The verdict was made legally binding on March 20th.

ŁĄSZÓW. On March 13th, the day before international ceremonies to commemorate the 67th anniversary of the liquidation of Kraków Ghetto that had been located on the area of former concentration camp, there was an act of profanation of the monument commemorating those past tragic events. "Unknown perpetrators" desecrated the main monument on the camp area. They drew swastika symbols, letters "SS" and Stars of David hanging on the gallows and wrote anti-Semitic slogans on the monument: "Jude Raus", "Hitler Good". "F...k the Jews", "Go back to Israel, you sidelockers". The next day, Krakow citizens and guests from other cities and from abroad were to gather on Ghetto Heroes' Square (Plac Bohaterów Getta) to march in silence to the monument on the area of the former concentration camp. This march was to commemorate the events of March 13th and 14th, 1943, when Kraków Jews walked the same way during the ghetto liquidation. The police started investigation concerning the act of vandalism. The next day, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Radosław Sikorski condemned the perpetrators and stated that he hoped that "Public Prosecutor's Office will not be lenient with perpetrators and that they will experience the consequences of their deeds and will be justly punished". On August 19th, the district prosecutor's office in Kraków discontinued the case as no perpetrators had been found.

WARSZAWA. On March 16th, VII Civil and Registry Department of District Court called in doubt three of four symbols submitted by the National Rebirth of Poland (NOP) to the register of political parties. Registered political parties, including NOP, are obliged to present – apart from the statute of a party – an official emblem and other symbols they want to adopt. The court had reservations about the following symbols provided by NOP: "crowned eagle with lictor's bundle of rods and an ax (...) as it is a common knowledge that fasces, i.e. the bundle of rods, have been an emblem used by fascists (the name of the party was derived from fasces); Celtic cross (...) being a neo-fascist symbol" and the sign "faggotry forbidden", which points to the party's policy to promote social intolerance". In accordance with the Act on Political Parties the dispute between the District Court in Warsaw and NOP shall be decided by the Constitutional Tribunal.

BIAŁYSTOK. On March 18th, the District Court upheld sentences against Rafał Sochoń and Łukasz Sienkiewicz sentenced for insulting on racist grounds a black female student from Sweden. Sochoń also hit the woman. In the first instance, the court sentenced them to imprisonment ranging from six to ten months, suspended for five years and probation. On March 10th, 2009, around 12:50 p.m. at the "Galeria Biała" shopping mall, three men attacked the black-skinned woman, Swedish citizen of Cuban origin, who was shopping together with her Swedish husband. They insulted the couple with vulgar and racist phrases such as "White Power". One of them struck the student in the face. Perpetrators managed to run away from the security of the mall. One week after this incident, in Zaścianki near Białystok, the police arrested Rafał Sochoń who finally pleaded guilty. He was charged with insulting on the basis of race and for causing minor injury. On March 25th, two other perpetrators, Łukasz Sienkiewicz and Daniel T., presented themselves to the police but after hearing the allegations they were released and no preventive measures were used against them. They were supposed to show up at any time after having been called for the prosecution. Store security guard, who had failed to intervene, was fired from his job. The judicial sentence of the District Court was pending appeal. One of the perpetrators, Daniel T., did not

file an appeal and judicial sentence of the Court of First Instance against him gained legal force.

OŚWIĘCIM. On March 18th the District Court sentenced three thieves who stole the inscription "Arbeit macht frei" from the National Museum in Auschwitz-Birkenau. Radosław M. was sentenced to 2.5 years of imprisonment. His brother Łukasz M. was sentenced to 2 years and 4 months of imprisonment, Paweł S. with 1.5 years. The first two took off a commemorative plaque, the third one was their driver. Each of them also had to pay 10,000 zlotys to the Auschwitz-Birkenau Foundation. A historic plaque was stolen from the former camp site on the night of December 17th-18th, 2009. Two days later, on December 21st, before midnight, in Czernikowo and Lipno near Toruń, the police arrested five men suspected of committing this crime. Four of them, Andrzej S., Paweł S., and brothers Łukasz and Radosław M., accounted for theft, and the fifth, Marcin A., was its principal. The prosecution charged them with theft of the monument and the good of special importance for culture, inscribed on the UNESCO list. Marcin A. was commissioned by Anders Hoegstroem, a former member of the Swedish neo-nazi organization called National Socialist Front (Nationalsocialistisk Front), against whom the District Prosecutor's Office presented a charge of incitement to theft and asked for the deportation to Poland, which subsequently was accepted by the Swedish side after he had been arrested. Another man, Vladimir Z., a Serb who lives in Sweden, was probably helping Hoegstroem. Andrzej S. and Marcin A. were staying in jail, still awaiting the punishment. On November 25th, Kraków's public prosecutor sent an indictment against three individuals to the court. Hoegstroem was accused of inducing to steal commemorative plaque placed above the gate at the former Auschwitz camp. During the investigation he pleaded not guilty. There was impending punishment of one to 10 years imprisonment. Similar charges were presented to Marcin A. The third suspect, Andrzej S., was accused of taking part in theft together with three other people, already convicted in this case.

OŁAWA. On March 19th, "Gazeta Oława" published an article about a 17-year-old boy who uploaded regularly to YouTube and other online portals short videos of highly racist or neo-fascist content. On one of the websites he launched "Oława TV" to "serve the good of the nation". The background image of his internet profile composed of the multiplied figure of Plinio Salgado, the pre-WWII fascist and the leader of the Brazilian Integralist Action. The welcome message to the visitors to the website was "88" (in neo-nazi symbolism the numeral stands for "Heil Hitler" as H is the 8th letter of the alphabet). The boy continued to pursue his internet activity for several months without any censorship and punishment. After the article was published, the District Public Prosecutor's Office decided to look into the case.

ZIELONA GÓRA. On March 20th, in the 76th minute of a third-division match between Lechia Zielona Góra and Olimpia Grudziądz, after a player from the latter club, Dah Valentin, got the ball a group of over twenty home supporters made monkey chants. The referee paused the match for about a minute. Lechia's captain appealed to fans to behave properly. "The appeal happened to be effective", according to the report of Jan Żołnierek, match delegate of the PZPN, Polish Football Association. Dah Valentin was born in Burkina Faso, and has played for Olimpia since 2009. The PZPN fined Lechia 7,000 zlotys (around €1,780).

STANISŁAWÓW. On March 21st, during a Siedlce district football league match between Tęcza Stanisławów and Hutnik Huta Czecha, home "fans" shouted anti-Semitic slogans, but met with no reaction from the referee, club officials, players or other fans.

PRUSZKÓW. On March 21st, during a Warsaw district football league match between Znicz II Pruszków and Orkan Sochaczew, away "fans" hung club flags on the fence and shouted anti-Semitic

slogans. Their behaviour met with no reaction from the players or other spectators. For years, Orkan Sochaczew's fans were a commendable exception and an anti-racist example among hundreds of other Polish clubs. They never allowed any xenophobic behaviour during sports events or and in other settings. Unfortunately, as of spring 2010, the situation seemed to belong to the past.

BRWINÓW. On March 26th, the editorial staff of the "NIGDY WIĘCEJ" magazine was informed about anti-Semitic inscriptions "F...k Jews" that appeared on walls of the local train station a year ago. Despite the numerous requests from citizens for removal of the offensive graffiti, nothing has been done about it since then. Piotr Kłosek-Krawcowicz, who informed us about the situation, offered to paint over the walls himself but did not receive permission from the Masovian Railways. "The racist signs did not annoy anyone when the Masovian Railways were pompously opening a new parking lot nearby. My friend, a Jew from Amsterdam, is coming soon to participate in the events commemorating the anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising. Even though he has never been to Poland, he speaks Polish very well. When he leaves the train station and sees the graffiti, he will think the place is inhabited by anti-Semites" – said Kłosek-Krawcowicz. The situation was to change after the article had been published in "Życie Warszawy" on March 30th.

WARSZAWA. On March 27th, throughout the first half of the Ekstraklasa first-division match between Polonia Warszawa and Arka Gdynia, there was a banner on the pitch-side fence with the *Totenkopf* skull and crossbones symbol, identical to that used by the nazi German SS and contemporary neo-nazis from the English organisation Combat 18. It was unfurled by racist "fans" from Gdynia. The same group displayed a xenophobic banner during the match, which read: "Stop Islamizacji Europy" ("Stop Islamisation of Europe"). The incident appeared related to the construction of a mosque in the Ochota district of the capital city.

WARSZAWA. On March 28th, Al Jazeera's Polish correspondent, Adam Khan, was attacked by several persons – opponents of the construction of a mosque and Muslim Cultural Centre, located near Zesłańców Syberyjskich roundabout. The journalist was attacked while taking pictures. "I am a Polish citizen and a Muslim", shouted the assaulted journalist. "I am also against terrorism but this protest leads to hatred only". About two hundred people, mobilized by the demonstration organizer, the Future Europe Association (Stowarzyszenie Europa Przyszłości), protested against the construction of the mosque. Jan Wójcik, the representative of the association, suggested that the Muslim League in Poland, the main construction developer, should sign the *Charter of Agreement with Muslim People*, which would establish the authenticity of loyalty declarations. The Muslims would declare that they respect "all civilizations, cultures, and traditions of other nations", they would fight with terrorism, but recognize some Koran verses as being "unislamic", and they would allow "sermons preached in the mosque to be observed and monitored". Around March 21st, the Future Europe Association distributed posters throughout the city, which called for an anti-mosque demonstration and included a slogan "Stop! To building radicals' mosque in Warsaw". Next to them, there hung posters with lama Oleg Nydahl, Buddhist leader of the Diamond Way (Karma Kagyu), advertising a meditation course titled "Lama, Jidam, Guardians". It was not a coincidence – Jan Wójcik was a member of Karma Kagyu Buddhist Association Board, and Nydahl himself was notorious for his racist beliefs, especially islamophobic ones. He once claimed that "Muslims are filthy and terrifying". During the ant-mosque rally, apart from the Future Europe Association, there were also protesters from All-Polish Youth. A few dozen of anti-racists gathered on the site to show their counter-protest under the slogan "No for islamophobia". After the nationalist rally, on the fence

around the construction site some racist slogans were sprayed: "Islams [sic!] to Iceland", "Stop islamisation", "Polonia Antemurale Christianitas" (Latin: Poland is a bulwark of Chistianity).

WROCŁAW. On March 29th, "unknown perpetrators" desecrated a commemorative plaque dedicated to the victims of Operation Vistula. The plaque is placed on the outer wall of the Greek-Catholic vestibule of Saint Vincent and Saint Jacob Cathedral at Nankiera Street. The perpetrators painted over the bilingual inscription: "Депортованим в Акції Вісла у 1947 р". ("To those expelled in Operation Vistula in 1947"). The municipal authorities have been informed about the incident. The Greek Catholic Bishop of Wrocław and Gdańsk, Włodzimierz R. Juszcak, made a statement, in which he claimed that "the incident in Wrocław is part of the anti-Ukrainian campaign that has been arranged in Poland by extreme organizations and it seems that the purpose of it is to destroy current good relations between Poland and Ukraine".

LUBLIN. On March 30th, officials of the Internal Security Agency apprehended an owner of a villa at Kossaka Street, who was suspected of propagating neo-fascism. Plausibly, it was Wojciech Ciepliński vel. *Cieply*, the leader of a nazi rock group called The Gits and the owner of a tattoo studio Valhalla in Lublin. The man has been taken to District Attorney in Wrocław, where he was accused of belonging to an organization propagating neo-nazism. As part of the same action, officials of the ISA searched six places in the Dolnośląskie and the Lubelskie provinces. "Police officers have found materials serving as a way to propagate fascist ideologies and racism. We have apprehended three people. They are suspected of being members of an organized criminal gang, which propagated fascism, called for hatred on the ground of differences in race, nationality, ethnic, and religious beliefs" – said lieutenant-colonel Katarzyna Konieczpolska-Wróblewska, the press spokesman of the ISA. Prosecutors from Wrocław launched investigation in 2009. Six people have been apprehended so far.

WARSZAWA. On March 31st, an employee of a company [identity details restricted, available to the "NIGDY WIĘCEJ" editing staff] was dismissed because of racism. According to the harmed person, the reason for her dismissal was her boss's prejudice, who could not accept the employee's relationship with a man of Arab origin. Half a year earlier during a conversation the boss said that "Arabs better stay where they come from". She also added that she "will not have her employee in relationship with that man, and if he 'acts up', she will deal with him". The employee was dismissed after she got married. She was notified about it upon returning from vacation. The harmed person received legal advice from a representative of the "NIGDY WIĘCEJ" Association.

APRIL 2010

KLUCZBORK. On 3rd April, during a second-division match in MKS Kluczbork and Znicz Pruszków, a Polish Football Association observer ignored a banner reading "Precz z Komuną" ("Down with Commies") and a slogan typical of neo-fascist groups worldwide reading "Good Night Left Side" in English and showing a nazi skinhead kicking his opponent.

RZESZÓW. On April 3rd, there was an anti-Semitic incident during a third-division match Resovia Rzeszów and Pelikan Łowicz. Andrzej Tomaszewski, a delegate from the Polish Football Association, the PZPN, wrote in his match report: "In the 90th minute, in the stand where fans with scarves have their seats, home fans shouted three times "Greetings ŁKS – we don't give a shit about Jews"". The slogan was aimed at players and fans of another club, Widzew Łódź, dubbed "Jews" by their opponents and called anti-Semitic names. Resovia fans have an official agreement with fans of ŁKS Łódź, the main proponents of anti-Semitic slogans against Widzew.

PRZEMYŚL. During the night of April 16th-17th, unknown perpetrators broke grave lights placed next to balustrades, under Polish and Ukrainian flags with a black mourning band tied to them, by the entrance to Greek Catholic Metropolitan Cathedral. The grave lights were placed there during funeral ceremony to commemorate the casualties of the President's plane crash in Smoleńsk. According to the congregation and members of Association of the Ukrainians in Poland, the incident was meant to harm the Ukrainian minority.

BYDGOSZCZ. On April 17th, in Długa Street and in other main parts of the city there appeared posters with the image of Adolf Hitler and a slogan "Aryans only", that were meant as an advertisement of a party organized by "Yakiza" club. The posters also included an eagle, that used to be an emblem by the nazi regime of the Third Reich. The party was advertised as "dark wave" style – many dark wave performers openly express their fascination with nazism (vide: Zbigniew Michalczyk: *Gotycki faszyzm. "NIGDY WIĘCEJ"* no. 13, spring 2003). After the intervention of GAN Bydgoszcz (Grupa Anty-Nazistowska – Anti-Nazi Group) the posters were removed.

BIELSKO-BIAŁA. On April 19th, "unknown perpetrators" destroyed a fifty-meter-long anti racist graffiti. The graffiti was painted on the occasion of the International Day of Struggle Against Racism by artists working with the "NEVER AGAIN" Association and 3Fala. The graffiti was added fascist symbols, swastikas, SS signs, and also insults towards the animator of the antiracist action. In the evening of April 4th, on Easter Sunday, the animator also received a phone call with threats. Police have launched an inquiry in the both cases.

MIŃSK MAZOWIECKI. On April 20th, "unknown perpetrators" broke a tablet commemorating Jews murdered during the second World War. The tablet was recently renovated. It contained text in Polish and Hebrew, and was placed in the Jewish cemetery. For many years vandals have been damaging tombstones there and profaning the territory of Jewish necropolis.

BIAŁYSTOK. On April 24th at 2 pm an anti-fascist demonstration was to take place next to St. Roch's church. About an hour prior to the demonstration's start a group of 30-40 nazi-skinheads arrived with presumably hostile intentions. They provoked a fight and the security force had to intervene. The Police also undertook appropriate actions and arrested some of the neo-fascists – among them were Marcin Ł. and Artur W., aka *Wiatrak*, an aggressor, whose name is often mentioned in the *Index of Incidents – The Brown Book*. The police officers also arrested participants of a would-be anti-fascist demonstration. The overall number of arrested people reached 134. Some of them carried dangerous objects: knives, brass knuckles, wooden clubs, stones, metal pipes, telescopic truncheons, chains, and even tear gas. A few days later, three anti-fascist activists were assaulted in their own homes by far-right squads.

POZNAŃ. On April 25th, a tablet in the Citadel commemorating Red Army soldiers who died liberating Wielkopolska region during the Second World War, was covered with spray paint. "Unknown perpetrators" painted the symbols of sickle and hammer and the word "Katyń". The Police was not notified about this rusophobic profanation. City Council stated that the administrator of the property – Board of the City Green Areas – will repair the damage.

OLEŚNICA. During the night of April 25th-26th, on the monument dedicated to Polish-Russian Brotherhood of Arms, a xenophobic slogan was written: "For Kaczyński – Death to Russkies", a symbol of Fighting Poland (so-called *anchor*) and the letters AK appeared (probably standing for the Armia Krajowa – Home Army). The head of the statue depicting a Russian soldier was covered by a spray-painted bucket. The Police secured the evidence and opened an investigation. It is possible that the incident was instigated by Radio

Maryja and "Nasz Dziennik" – media that accuse Russia of plotting against Poland and causing the president's plane to crash. The offenders' crime is punishable by 3-5 years of imprisonment.

WROCŁAW. On April 29th, a Jewish cemetery in Lotnicza Street was devastated once again. "Unknown perpetrators" knocked over and broke matzevot [Jewish tombstones] and covered them with anti-Semitic slogans. In 2002, 16 tombstones were damaged there and in 2003 as many as 80. In 2007, another 41 tombstones were destroyed. In December 2009, anti-Semites broke around 60 tombstones. The Police was notified of the devastation and launched an investigation.

WROCŁAW. On April 29th, Court of Appeal sustained the verdict in the case of Marek S., who published Adolf Hitler's book *Mein Kampf*. On May 25th, the owner of "XXL" publishing company was sentenced to three months of imprisonment suspended for two years and 10,000 zlotys fine for publishing the book without having the copyright (the copyright's owner is Bundesland Bavaria). During the first trial, the court conditionally discontinued the case. Marek S. was found guilty in the second trial.

MAY 2010

BYTOM. On May 1st, under the pretext of Labour Day, a demonstration organized by neo-fascist activists took place. Among the participants there were representatives of "White Eagles" Association, National Socialism Option, Autonomous Nationalists (who used the name "Krzyk 14" – "Scream 14" – the number 14 is a reference to western neo-nazis, the so-called 14 words: *we must secure the existence of our people and a future for White children*) and Radical-National Camp (ONR). They were chanting nationalist and xenophobic slogans, such as: "Work only for Poles", "Lisbon Treaty – Shame for Poland!" About 50-60 neo-fascists participated in the demonstration. The Police did not interfere.

NOWY SĄCZ. On May 1st, during a second-division match between Sandecja Nowy Sącz and Warta Poznań, referee Tomasz Wajda allegedly mocked Warta player Krzysztof Strugarek, who wears hearing aid. The players and coach of Warta claimed that the referee said: "What are you lisping about? Deaf!". Wajda denied the accusations: "Such a situation did not take place. Maybe we were on first-name terms, but I certainly wasn't insulting anybody". However, three days later, he changed tack: "I said to the player: 'Please, go away. I can't understand what you're saying'".

GÓRA ŚW. ANNY. On May 2nd, the 89th anniversary of the Third Silesian Uprising was celebrated. As usually, it has become a pretext to manifestations for extreme right-wing organisations: National Rebirth of Poland (NOP), Falanga and Nationalist Association "Zadruga". Anti-German slogans were chanted: "Silesian land always Polish", "The black bird's not our sign" (Germany's emblem is a black eagle), "NOP!", "National Radicalism", "Great Poland, Catholic Poland". The representatives of neo-pagan Zadruga carried flags showing the so-called axeagle and a stylized swastika. The policing service did not intervene.

ANTONINÓW. On May 6th, District Attorney's Office stated that Stanisław B. living in this town near Łódź did not break the law when he hung on a fence surrounding his property a number of tablets with anti-Semitic, anti-Christian and xenophobic slogans, and white and red flag with a swastika. He also announced that his property becomes Slavic Republic Polania. The tablets were covered with the following slogans: "The illegal, criminal, murky, mafia, the Third Republic of Poland is Kraut, Jewish and Brussels fences shithouse", "To Edward Gierek: We are sorry for our innocent blindness and terrifying stupidity of workers and peasants. Now we're being kicked around by larcenous capital, Jewish HIV,

and collaborating traitorous pigs – signed: Slav”, “Jewish, syphilitic whore, The Third Republic of Poland aka Judeopolonia is a mass extermination camp for enslaved Polish idiots. The chief of this camp in The Third Republic of Poland is a criminal, liar, swindler, crawler, fat pig’s snout, Jewish resident Olo [short for Alexander – translator] Sztolcman [surname of Jewish origin – translator] Kwaśniewski. According to Stanisław B.’s neighbours he has mental disorder. Nonetheless, his tablets remained and were displayed to unlimited number of people, thus being a public matter. On December 17th, local Prosecutor’s Office in Poddębice accused Stanisław B. of insulting constitutional bodies of Polish Republic as well as offending a group of people on ethnic grounds. The trial was scheduled to take place in a local court. If found guilty, the accused might face up to 3 years of imprisonment.

LUBLIN. In the evening of May 8th, at the Lipowa Street cemetery of Soviet soldiers, who died in the fights to liberate the city, there appeared a number of wreaths with offensive slogans written on ribbons: “To unknown rapists – the Polish society” and “To the owners of our grandfathers’ watches”. On the next day, Lublin city dwellers visited the cemetery leaving flowers and lighting grave lights. They came there after an appeal made by Orthodox bishop Abel and a Catholic archbishop Józef Życiński. The archbishop initiated a nation-wide campaign to commemorate soldiers of the Red Army. Thousands of people from all over the country participated. Both hierarchs celebrated an ecumenical mass at the Lublin cemetery. Meanwhile, outside of the cemetery a group of people linked to nationalist, integristic protestant periodical “Go against the tide” (“Idź pod prąd”) organized a protest against honouring soviet soldiers. The magazine is related to a fundamentalist New Covenant Church (Kościół Nowego Przymierza) and published texts by: Janusz Korwin-Mikke, Stanisław Michalkiewicz and Tomasz Sakiewicz.

RZESZÓW. On May 8th, during a third-division derby between Stal Rzeszów and Resovia Rzeszów, there was yet another anti-Semitic incident involving “fans” of Resovia. They exhibited a banner showing a silhouette of a man with a characteristic yarmulke in the colours of Israel: white and blue. These colours are also the club colours of Stal. The yarmulke itself was stylised as the striped uniform of concentration camp inmates during the Holocaust. Another banner was displayed above the caricature saying: “Death to hook noses”. Stal “fans” meanwhile displayed a banner with a drawing of a rat wearing a Resovia club shirt with a Star of David instead of an emblem. Neither the match organisers nor the police (several of whom were standing right in front of the gigantic banners) reacted. Nor did the delegate of the PZPN, Jan Kowalski, the referee or the commentator. Resovia’s president Aleksander Bentkowski – who is a former justice minister and a member of the PSL party which is part of Poland’s coalition government – explained that he did not notice the banners because he was sitting in the VIP box. In his report, the PZPN delegate wrote only that: “1) The fans of K.S. Stal Rzeszów – continuously shouted the following slogan: ‘Resovia – Jude, Jude, Jude’; 2) The fans of K.S. Resovia Rzeszów – in the 43rd and 59th minute shouted the following slogan: ‘ZKS – Jude, Jude ZKS’”. Crowd of several thousand Resovia fans had already marched to the match under a banner reading “The Aryan Horde is Coming”. They were observed by the police, but they entered the stadium without difficulty. The “fans” of Resovia have been openly racist and anti-Semitic for many years. Piotr Kadłcik, the head of the Jewish Community in Warsaw, sent a protest letter to the president of the PZPN and the mayor of Rzeszów. “I find it painful that such incidents are tolerated by football and city authorities”, he wrote. In addition, the American-Jewish Anti-Defamation League (ADL) submitted a letter of protest to Andrzej Rusko, the president of Ekstraklasa SA, Poland’s first division. The

police responded only after May 13th. “We are analysing video surveillance recordings. We are hoping that it will be possible to identify the persons who could have carried, unfurled or held these banners”, said Paweł Międlar, the spokesman of the Sub-Carpathian regional police. On May 14th, police announced the detention of Mateusz S. and Rami H. (under Polish legal practice, suspects’ last names are not released). The two, both 18 years old, were suspected of holding a banner. They were identified thanks to video surveillance from the stadium. They face trial not only for inciting hatred towards Jews – a crime punishable by up to two years in prison – but also for threatening to kill. On May 14th, police detained three men, all 26 years old, and the prosecutor’s office announced subsequent arrests. Despite the stadium video surveillance, only one more “fan” was arrested. The PZPN decided that Stal Rzeszów, as hosts of the match, would have to pay a 2,500 zlotys fine (around €638) and ordered to club to play in an empty stadium for the following three weeks. Resovia, meanwhile, was ordered to play its home and away matches without fans for a month. In November, the charges against two individuals were changed to insulting Jews. The inquiry against four other men was dismissed on December 23rd. Łukasz Harpula, deputy head of the District Prosecutor’s Office in Rzeszów, justified his decision in the following manner: “Those people were not aware of the fact that the banners incorporated anti-Semitic content and all doubts have to be considered in favour of suspects or defendants. Moreover, the banners were really large. There would be no doubts if the hooligan was holding, for example, a flag with a slogan ‘Jude Won’” (“Jews Out”, combining German and Polish). On January 6th, 2011, Poland’s Attorney General Andrzej Seremet ordered an urgent investigation by the Appellate Prosecutor’s Office of the decision to dismiss the case, and the delivery of the relevant documents to his own office. On January 11th, the Appellate Prosecutor’s Office in Rzeszów found that the decision of the District Prosecutor’s Office to dismiss the case had been justified. “The opinion of the Appellate Prosecutor’s Office is not binding for the Attorney General. He will familiarise himself with it, but the decision will be his own. The files from this investigation will be given to our prosecutor for examination. The final decision belongs to the Attorney General”, said Maciej Kujawski from the Attorney General’s Office. On January 30th: “Attorney Andrzej Seremet acknowledged that the decision to dismiss the investigation by the Prosecutor’s Office in Rzeszów was ill-founded, and therefore premature. In his opinion the Prosecutor’s Office in Rzeszów did not show evidential initiative” – stated Mateusz Martyniuk, spokesman for the Attorney General’s Office.

WROCŁAW. On May 12th, on the city’s Rynek (main square), leaflets showing four SS officers in a car were distributed. Leaflets implied that the driver was Donald Tusk’s father. Leaflets were also left in post boxes in Krzyki district. According to the description, the photograph was taken in September 1939 in Opatów, near Sandomierz when Jews were being arrested and transported to camps. The action was supervised by SD, the Security Service of the SS. The photograph came from the collection of German Federal Archive, and was handed over free of charge to Wikipedia. As the newspaper “Gazeta Wyborcza” found, the father of the prime minister, Donald Tusk, was 9 years old at that time, and even if he was old enough to enroll, he could not wear a German uniform, as he lived in the Free City of Danzig (the first conscription there took place in 1940). Moreover, he was a son of a Polish railway man, which made it impossible for him to join SS (only “tested” and declared Germans could join this elite unit). The leaflet also contained information that Bronisław Komorowski, two hours before President Kaczyński’s plane crashed in Smoleńsk, knew it was going to happen and quoted Komorowski’s radio statement from a year before, which said: “The presidential

election will come, or the President will be flying somewhere, and it will all change". Jarosław Chałupowicz, who coordinated Komorowski's presidential campaign said: "This must have been done by some home-grown extremists". The incident that took place in Wrocław was meant to arouse anti-German phobias and dislike towards members of political party Civic Platform (PO) who allegedly are descendants of German minority living in Silesia and Kaszuby, and who were forced to join Hitler's army.

KATOWICE. On May 12th, after a second-division match between GKS Katowice and Widzew Łódź, the observer and delegate from the PZPN, the Polish Football Association, Jerzy Kowalski, wrote in the fourth paragraph of his report: "Behaviour of the audience (home team fans) – 33rd minute – shouting 'Jude, Jude, Widzew, Jude'". The report was submitted for examination to the PZPN's disciplinary department.

KRAKÓW. On May 15th, during Equality March, members of National Rebirth of Poland (NOP) and All-Polish Youth (MW) organizations provoked homophobic incidents. The participants of the March, which was organized in Kraków for the sixth time, went from Wolnica Square, Kazimierz district, along Krakowska, Stradom and Grodzka Streets, towards the Main Square. The march was secured by the police. Near Grodzka Street a few dozens of extreme right-wing activists threw eggs, flower pots, and firecrackers at police officers. They were screaming "A boy and a girl, a normal family" and "We won't surrender Kraków to you". The police arrested one person.

LUBLIN. On May 15th, a local journal "Dziennik Wschodni" reported that in the province authorities office building located at 19 Czechowska Street, in room 114 of European Social Funds Department, Polish territory at the map of Europe bore a hand-written word "Israel". The map was visible from the corridor. The clerks who worked there were not bothered by it at all. The map was removed after journalists' intervention. Still, one of the clerks stated: "What's the matter? Who did it bother? It just hangs here. It's not anti-Semitic. As I recall from *The Schindler's List* there aren't many Jews in Poland. No need to exaggerate". Clerks who worked in that room were responsible for the Department's promotion and information activities.

KIELCE. On May 16th, for the first time in this city, a March of Silence against homophobia was organized. The March was disrupted by a few dozens of aggressive young men. The opponents gathered at Freedom Square, where the demonstration was to start. They were dressed in black, with hoods covering their heads and eyes. The police had to protect the participants of the March. Counter-demonstration participants followed them and chanted: "A boy and a girl, a normal family", "Gays and Lesbians – Poland laughs at you", "A good gay is a dead gay", "When we catch you, we'll break your bones". Near the Artists Square they pulled out a banner with a slogan "Faggotry forbidden" and yelled "Get the f...k out". Among the participants of counter-demonstration, Mirosław Gębski was present, a member of political party Law and Justice (PiS), leader of this party in Kielce region. When asked by journalists what he was doing there, he replied that he felt "closer in beliefs" with the homophobic counter-protesters. After the march, he announced he would address a question to the region's council on the subject of counter-demonstrators being taken to their homes by the police. He added that the men in hoods, who were opposing the march, were fans of Korona Kielce football club.

KALISZ. On May 19th, a weekly magazine "Życie Kalisza" published an aggressive article on the March of Silence organized two days earlier by the LGBT community on the occasion of The International Day Against Homophobia. The author of the text, signed as "q", among other statements, wrote "A group of tolerates tried to band together people living in Kalisz in front of the city

hall to protest against co-called homophobia". He referred to the participants of the march as "perverts", and called their demands "rubbish".

LUBLIN. On May 19th, an unknown man using a restricted phone number called an employee of "Tektura" club, a local centre of alternative culture, known for example for organizing anti-fascist events and concerts, and said "We'll f...k you, dirtbags, up on Saturday". On that day, a neo-fascist demonstration was to be organized by the National-Radical Camp (ONR). The police was notified about the threats and undertook actions to determine the man's identity and to protect the club. A police car that was on a patrol near "Tektura" club scared off a large group of men with their hair cut short, who were probably planning to attack the club.

BIELANKA. On May 20th, unknown perpetrators destroyed a bilingual board, which was standing on the border strip between Bielanka and Leszczyny. Since 2008 in this village situated in the Lower Beskids there has been a dispute between Polish and Lemko communities, which was started after the Lemkos won the voting for writing the name of the village in both languages. Over the past few months, the boards written in Cyrillic were devastated several times. These incidents took place mostly before important cultural events or Christmas and Easter celebrated according to the Julian calendar. On July 17th, 2009, a week before the Lemkos' holiday called "Watra" in Zdynia, unknown perpetrators stole the board at the road leading to Leszczyny. Another one on the road to Szymbark was completely devastated. Two days later someone tried to destroy the signpost on the road leading to the Łoś village. Similar situations took place in January 2010 and on April 3rd, during the Orthodox Holy Saturday. The "NEVER AGAIN" Association was informed about these incidents by the Union of Ukrainians in Poland. Once again, unknown perpetrators devastated the bilingual boards on the road leading to the village on the night of June 19th-20th. One of the signs written in Cyrillic was painted over and the other one was knocked down. The Representative of the organisation called Unification of Lemkos, Stefan Hładyk, informed the police about the incident.

SZPROTAWA. During the night on May 21st-22nd, "unknown perpetrators" painted anti-Ukrainian and offensive slogans on a wall of the local Transfiguration of Jesus Greek-Catholic parish located at 13 Koszarowa Street. The police investigation is underway.

LUBLIN. On May 22nd, with the consent of city authorities a demonstration organized by the National-Radical Camp (ONR – a far right organisation banned in October 2009) took place on the pretext of 76th anniversary of founding of the ONR. Among the participants were members of Camp of Great Poland (OWP), National Rebirth of Poland (NOP), Autonomous Nationalists, White Eagles and Nationalist Association "Zadruga". Some demonstrators wore T-shirts of a neo-nazi group Blood & Honour, others carried banners: "Camp of Great Poland", "National Rebirth of Poland" (displaying w Celtic cross – a symbol of *White Power*) and chanted "Great National Poland", "National Radicalism", "ONR", and "Our homes, our streets". Among them was also present Konrad Rękas, ex-activist of anti-Semitic National Party "Szczerbiec" [*szczerbiec* is a coronation sword of Polish kings], the National Right (PN), and National-Democratic Party (SND), who also cooperated with Leszek Bubeł (Rękas published articles in Bubeł's newspaper) and Bolesław Tejkowski. He was also a councilor of the party Samoobrona. In his statement for "The National Bulletin" (edited by Grzegorz Wysok) he spoke about an MP, Janusz Palikot, who "serves the world Zionist government". Local anti-fascists associated in Lublin Alliance for Tolerance (among others, it incorporates Anti-Nazi Group, GAN) organized a counter-demonstration to oppose intolerance and xenophobia. The

ONR march ended with a rally at the memorial dedicated to *Zaporczycy* [Soldiers of Hieronim Dekutowski aka *Zapora*] located at the foot of castle in Lublin. One of the organizers spoke there: "I am glad to speak to you now, despite the wild cry of these monkeys. (...) Let's not forget: today we scream, tomorrow we act". He also criticized the way a newspaper "Gazeta Wyborcza" described the march of nationalists on the November 11th, 2009 in Warsaw: "Articles of these villains simultaneously speak of tolerance and call to stone our march. Probably some of their reporters feel close with the Old Testament tradition of stoning the enemies". Two hours after the rally, an Austrian citizen, who participated in the anti-fascist counter-demonstration, was assaulted at a bus stop on Narutowicza Street. He was attacked with a flagpole of a furled white-red flag.

WARSZAWA. On May 23rd, at a bazaar at the 10th Anniversary Stadium (Stadion Dziesięciolecia), a police officer shot to death Maxwell Itoya, a 36 years old citizen of Poland of Nigerian descent. According to the police, officers were attacked by a group of black tradesmen during an inspection. The police claim that one of the tradesmen attempted to take officer's weapon and was shot in self-defense during a tussle. The witnesses, meanwhile, claimed that the policemen were hostile towards the Africans: "They caught and cuffed one of them, Maxwell asked that they release him. Then the police officer said: 'Back off, or I shoot you', and he fired" – stated one of tradesmen from the bazaar. His testimony was confirmed by another witness: "I saw a police officer in civilian clothes tussling with a black man. The man freed himself, and then another black man came there, yelling at the policeman why he treated people this way. The police officer held the captured man in one hand, with the other he reached for his gun and pointed it at the man in front of him. That man asked that the policeman put his weapon away, because it scared the people around. The police officer answered 'Step back'. And then a fire was shot. The black man fell to the ground. The policeman put his gun away and tried to save the man by pressing the wound. People around became aggressive and started throwing stones and other objects. I think the policeman was hit with a chair and withdrew". He added: "Once the police were checking my ID, but I didn't understand everything that they were saying, so I asked if they could speak English. They replied: 'F...king Negro, you're in Poland, get the f...k out'. How could a police officer talk like that?" Another witness, Dominika Cieślukowska, who specializes in inter-cultural psychology, believes that on the attempt of checking the identity of tradesmen, the police officers could have over-interpreted the behaviour of black men due to cultural differences. "Before the incident, I was passing by three white men arguing with two black tradesmen. I noticed how they raise their voices and gesticulate. The first idea that came to my mind was that most likely white men perceive the behaviour of tradesmen as aggressive. However, I believe that everyone involved in that incident was equally aggressive. Shots were fired shortly after". Six policemen were wounded in the incident. The security forces arrested 32 people, all of them dark-skinned. Initially, the media presented only the police's version. The next day Prosecutor's Office opened two investigations. The first concerned the assault on the police officer, the second – exceeding authority by the officer, which resulted in death of one person. On May 24th, a couple dozens of people gathered in front of the police station in Grenadierów Street, where the officer who fired the shot was working. They were screaming: "The police have blood on their hands", "Murderers in uniforms", "1,2,3,4 racism be no more" and "No man is illegal". Another demonstration against racism and violence of the police took place on May 30th in front of the Police Headquarters, near Mostowsky Palace. A group of neo-fascists also appeared there, among them Bartłomiej Kurzeja,

known from the so-called internet "National Television" ("Telewizja Narodowa"). The protesters didn't let themselves be provoked and no confrontation took place. On December 6th, a newspaper "Dziennik. Gazeta Prawna" published a peculiar article entitled: *The Nigeria Mafia. Ugly wives and drugs*, where the Nigerian tradesmen working at the bazaar were said to be drug dealers, while their wives were called "intellectually under-developed". (sic!).

SANOK. On May 26th, District Attorney's Office refused to open an investigation concerning an anti-Semitic article that was published in December 2009 at www.aferyprawa.com. Among the author's statements were: "This totally pissed me off – no thief should steal from the Polish, appearing as their friend. That's why I don't keep money in Jewish banks. Just like the Union [most likely the EU, a mistake was made in the word "Union"] was built by Jews to take control over European economy and deprive the countries and citizens of their rights and currency". In the year 2009 "Open Republic" ("Otwarta Rzeczpospolita") – an association opposing anti-Semitism and xenophobia notified the Prosecutors Office about crime against articles 256 and 257 of the Penal Code, and later, in June 2010, lodged an appeal against the prosecutor's decision.

LUBLIN. On May 26th, during a second-division match between Motor Lublin and Stal Stalowa Wola, PZPN delegate Paweł Kobylecki wrote in his report: "In the 16th minute of the match, a group of 50 fans of the home team hooted for a few seconds, when the black player no. 8 of Stal Stalowa Wola received the ball". The report was submitted for examination to the PZPN's disciplinary department.

JUNE 2010

WARSZAWA. In early June, in Praga Hospital (Szpital Praski), an anti-Muslim incident against Muslim married couple (Polish woman with a foreigner) occurred. During the follow-up visit after the birth of a child who had been discharged from hospital a few days earlier with jaundice (at the level of medium-severity with recommendation for a medical check-up in a few days), a doctor accused woman of stealing diapers and told her to buy so-called "Brick" to the hospital worth 25 zlotys, although the examination was free. Two days later, during a telephone conversation with a nurse, who gave the results of blood tests of the infant, her mother was recommended to "never turn again with her child for treatment to the hospital". The parents decided to treat his daughter in another hospital, where because of her poor health she spent ten days. According to the injured woman, what influenced the behavior of the hospital's staff was her appearance. She was wearing a scarf on her head and her whole body was completely covered which is in accordance with principles of Muslim religion.

SOSNOWIEC. In early June, two kinds of posters were stuck up at public transport stops, signed by an extreme-right group called Autonomous Nationalists "Krzyk 14". One of them, related to the World Cup which was taking place in the Republic of South Africa, read: "RSA 2010 – football in the shadow of genocide". It featured manipulated information littered with racism about the alleged "extermination" and "discrimination" by South Africa's black majority against the Afrikaners, the minority of European descent who ruled the country during the Apartheid era. The second poster, with the slogan "Stop the genocide of Afrikaners!" featured a tribute to Eugène Terre'Blanche, the leader of the fascist and extreme-racist group Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging, who was killed in his ranch by two farm workers in a dispute over unpaid wages. The poster also included a Celtic cross, a symbol of the racist *White Power* movement. To date, "Krzyk 14" was known primarily for its website krzyk14.pl. The number "14" in

its name refers to the so-called “fourteen words” – the neo-nazi slogan: “We must secure the existence of our people and a future for White children” – coined by David Lane, the leader of racist terrorists from the American group The Order. The slogan was inspired by an excerpt (part I, chapter VIII) from *Mein Kampf* by Adolf Hitler.

WARSZAWA. On June 1st, the head of the Government Protection Bureau, General Marian Janicki applied to the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Administration for permission to assign the protection of Władysław Bartoszewski. The decision was due to more than hundred letters with threats and insults which Bartoszewski received after his speech on May 16th in Warsaw’s Baths Park. He supported Bronisław Komorowski in the presidential election and said Komorowski’s opponent Jarosław Kaczyński “is only experienced in keeping fur-bearing animals”. Most of the letters were anonymous. The authors wrote: “Die, begone, you devil’s pig, you ugly Jew”, “Traitor, you betrayed in Auschwitz and still you betray”, “You Jew scab, a pity that Hitler had not arranged for you”, “Hitler did not teach you enough, but we’ll show you”, “Your days are numbered”, “At the first better opportunity, we will put you into a pretty mess so the devil will not recognize you, you will not show up anywhere and you will not tell a word to anyone”, “You ugly Jew! You should be given priority to pass through the crematorium chimney”. The letters most often were signed by: “A true patriot” and “A true Pole”. Bartoszewski was a prisoner in the Auschwitz concentration camp, the Army soldier, an activist of the Polish Underground State, a participant in the Warsaw uprising. Twice he served as foreign minister, was a fourth term senator, and now is the Secretary of State in the government of Donald Tusk.

WROCŁAW. On June 2nd, Local District Court passed the sentence in the case of National Rebirth of Poland (NOP) and National Association “Zadruga” – organizers of a racist demonstration that took place on March 21st, 2007. Dawid G., Dariusz P., Maciej P., Szymon L., Sebastian J. and Łukasz D. were sentenced to 5 to 7 months of community work, 20 hours a month, moreover, each of them had to pay 1,000 zlotys to “Pomocna Dłoń” – an association that helps the poor and aims at preventing pathology in society. During the march they were screaming: “Whole Poland all white”, “Poland for Poles”, “Europe for whites, Africa for HIV”, “White Power”, “It is our duty to kick Blacks from here”. They were also holding banners “Europe for whites, Africa for HIV”, “All different, all white”. Finally, they made a proclamation: “Poland has Christian and Latin roots, a civilization of a white man. For the benefit of both, the Whites and the Coloured, the division of civilizations and cultures must remain, and we all should live where the Almighty placed us”. The police did not intervene. The Prosecutor’s Office opened an investigation after the media publicized the case. All six organizers of the demonstration were charged with propagating fascism and attempting to instigate hate towards people of bodily features different from the white race, including people with darker skin. The court decided that by carrying flags and swastikas, and taking into consideration the slogans proclaimed by the defendants, they were propagating a totalitarian system – nazism. All the defendants announced they will lodge an appeal.

HRUBIESZÓW. On June 7th, the district court dropped charges against Arkadiusz Ł., an activist of the National Rebirth of Poland (NOP). The man was accused of religious persecutions towards the followers of Judaism. In January 2006 he was putting up posters around the city with a *Prayer for the faithless Jews*. The prayer was being said in the Catholic church during a Good Friday liturgy since the 6th century until modern times (it was removed from the liturgy by the Second Vatican Council). The posters were an objection against the ecumenical idea of the Day of Judaism, which has been celebrated for several years in the Catholic church

on January 17th. The posters were also put up in Lublin, Zamość, Chełm, Radzyń Podlaski, Łęczna, Włodawa and Milejów. On May 11th, the regional prosecutor filed a charge against Łygas. “The posters said that Jews were faithless and blinded, what was insulting towards them” – stated Józef Pokarowski, the regional prosecutor. According to the bill of indictment, Łygas put up 25 posters in public places of Hrubieszów and Zamość. He can be sentenced for up to three years in prison.

ŚWIDNICA. On June 7th, the police searched the flat belonging to Dawid Gaszyński, the spokesman and board member of National Rebirth of Poland (NOP). On the same day, he published an open letter on the webpage nacionalista.pl, in which he stated: “The system in Poland has turned into totalitarianism. (...) Lists of proscribed, inconvenient activists are made, the number of direct actions rises”. Gaszyński believes that the police actions are connected with NOP’s members’ participation in the celebration of anniversary of the Third Silesian Uprising at Mount-Saint-Anne on May 2nd, 2010. During the celebration, members of extreme right-wing organizations chanted xenophobic slogans and carried flags displaying stylized swastikas and other symbols.

OŚWIĘCIM. On June 9th, a Swedish man staying in Kraków arrest, Anders Hoegstroem, a former member of the Swedish neo-nazi organization National Socialist Front, charged with stealing the plate with words “Arbeit macht frei” from the State Museum in Auschwitz-Birkenau, testified that he felt persuaded by his legal guardian, Lars W. to commit the crime. Lars W. was accused of persuading Hoegstroem to hire and pay Poles, who dismantled the inscription of the gates of the camp and later tried to deliver it to Hoegstroem. The theft took place at the night of December 17th-18th, 2009. Two days later the board was found. The police held five men suspected of committing this crime in Lipno and Czernikowo near Toruń. Four of them, Andrzej S., Paweł S., and brothers Łukasz M. and Radosław M., accounted for theft and a fifth, Marcin A. was the intermediate principal. Each of the suspects was threatened with 10 years imprisonment. The prosecution charged them of theft of a monument and a good of crucial importance for culture, inscribed on the UNESCO list. Marcin A. received a contract from Hoegstroem (he was deported to Poland on April 9th, 2010), against whom District Prosecutor’s Office in Kraków presented a complaint of incitement to theft. On December 30th, Hoegstroem received a penalty of two years and eight months of imprisonment. In January he was to be taken to a prison in Sweden. Two other defendants were also found guilty: Marcin A. was punished with 2 years and 6 months for incitement to theft and Andrzej S. with 2 years and 4 months for complicity in the theft. All defendants were also punished with a fine of 10,000 zlotys.

ŁÓDŹ. On June 10th, the District Court sustained the sentence of court of first instance ordering Warsaw Redemptorist Province – the owner of Radio Maryja – to pay 10,000 zlotys compensation to Stefan Niesiołowski, deputy Speaker of the Parliament. Redemptorists also had to reimburse the costs of trial. The sentence was legally valid. On November 9th, 2008, during father Bene-dykt Cisoń’s a programme broadcasted at Radio Maryja it was stated that Niesiołowski after being arrested in 1970 he “started selling his friends” from *Ruch* organization and, “as a reward for his stance”, he was given a mild sentence.

LUBLIN. On June 13th, around 8 p.m. in a gate-passage leading to a housing estate (near the Brama Grodzka center – The NN Theatre) two nazi-skinheads severely beat up a young man who was playing a guitar. Also they shouted insults like “faggot” or “slob” at him. The perpetrators wore swastikas and Celtic crosses on their clothes. The injured man reported the incident to the police. The man was a well-known figure in Lublin, he used to play in the city center every day arising positive feelings in people

around. The cause of the attack was an ideologically motivated hatred towards people with appearance inconsistent with fascist standards of "true Poles".

KIELCE. On June 14th, anti-Semitic pamphlets were scattered near the Church of the Immaculate Heart of Virgin Mary on Mielczarskiego Street. The pamphlets insulted Bronisław Komorowski, one of the candidates for president. The slogans on them said: "Komorowski is a Jew, an agent, a thief and a fraudster", "Do not vote for Komorowski the fraudster, he will sell Poland" and "Komorowski is a Jew from the Platform" (a reference to his party's name: the Civic Platform, PO). Also there was the name of Prime Minister Tusk with a swastika drawn over it and the sign "Solidarity".

RYMANÓW. On June 15th, the editorial team of "NIGDY WIĘCEJ" magazine was informed about an incident that occurred in the local synagogue during the Sabbath. While Jews were celebrating at a holiday table, "unknown perpetrators" broke windows with stones. The police arrived at the crime scene and questioned the witnesses, however, the identity of the aggressors was not discovered in the course of investigation. The local Jewish cemetery was also devastated multiple times. In all of these cases perpetrators remained unknown.

WARSZAWA. On June 15th, the editorial team of "NIGDY WIĘCEJ" magazine was informed about anti-Semitic incidents aimed at an orthodox rabbi from the USA, who was visiting Poland. After one of his meetings, the rabbi was attacked by a group of young men. When he was approaching his car, they started insulting him and running towards the car. Fortunately, he reached the safety of his car. The aggressors tried to damage the car, hitting the rear glass and car's bodywork with bare fists. The same rabbi, during his stay in Poland, heard anti-Semitic slogans addressed to him on some other occasions. Among these insults were: "Jude Raus", "It's a shame Hitler didn't kill you all".

WARSZAWA. On June 16th, in the Central Research Hospital of the Ministry of Central Affairs and Administration (MSWiA) a xenophobic incident was noted. An orthopaedist refused to treat a refugee from Chechnya who came to the hospital for a scheduled appointment. When the man tried to enter the doctors treatment room, the doctor said: "I do not treat refugees, because I do not want to". The "Rescue" Foundation informed doctor Adam Tołkacz, the coordinator for the treating of refugees, about the incident.

ŻARY. Probably during the night of June 17th-18th, The House of the Jewish Community which belongs to the Social-Cultural Society of Jews in Poland was wrecked and desecrated. The perpetrators damaged the front door, toppled over furniture, smashed the windows and destroyed the lighting. They searched almost every room and smashed everything that caught their attention. They also desecrated the Torah. On a board in one of the offices they wrote a sign: "Hitler did this" and next to that initials "H.S." and painted a swastika. From the boiler room they stole some tools: a shovel, a scythe and a rake, with which they probably made most of the damages. According to the police they probably got inside through the roof next to the lean-to. The investigation was conducted by the County Police Department in Żary and the Provincial Police Department in Gorzów Wielkopolski. The investigations showed that the perpetrators were boys aged from 9 to 12. The police established, that they entered the building several times in the last few days before devastating it. The police picked up their trail after one of the boys came to the hospital with a seriously injured leg. While devastating the building he kicked a glass cabinet. Before that he tried to break it with his hand. All of the boys were interrogated by police specialists who work with juvenile criminals. The parents of the boys will be charged for the damages.

KATOWICE. During the night of June 19th-20th, in the Third of May Street, located in the center of the city, two young men beat up

a 24 year old citizen of Egypt. The incident was of racial basis. While assaulting the man the perpetrators were mocking the color of his skin and his descent. The 21- and 22-year-old attackers were noted for assaults in the past. On the night of the incident they accosted two men and a woman who was walking with them. After a verbal taunt they started to struggle with one of the men. They were kicking and hitting him. After that they jumped into a passing tram. The woman accompanying the two Egyptians immediately notified the police. A police patrol which was nearby stopped the tram and arrested the two men. They were charged with ethnic slurs. The two men are facing a sentence of up to 5 years in prison.

GORLICE. On June 22nd, The Union of Ukrainians in Poland informed the "NEVER AGAIN" Association about xenophobic incidents, which took place in that city in the years 2008 and 2009. Unknown perpetrators wrote offensive slogans: "Lemkos to the gas chamber" on parts of a bridge in the Zawodzie district.

GDĄSK. Probably on June 24th or 25th, unknown perpetrators once more devastated the Jewish cemetery in the district Chełm. On the upper terrace, concrete walls were damaged within a 10 meter radius, and on the lower terrace openwork elements surrounding the cemetery were devastated. Behind the fence there was a concrete sewer ring, which was probably used by the perpetrators to damage the structures. Also they used a hack saw to cut threw the fence. The Jewish community was informed about the incident by prisoners from the correctional facility in Gdańsk-Przeróbka. They were voluntarily working on the premises of the cemetery (as part of the Polish-Israeli project "Tikkun-Naprawa" ("Tikkun-Repair")) cleaning it out of weeds. The police used a special team of criminological technicians, who secured the evidence on the crime scene. "During the last three years, the cemetery was devastated many times. The police comes and goes, and the matter keeps repeating. That is why I think that this time we should publicize this case. I have notified the Israeli embassy as well as several foreign journalists" – said Mieczysław Abramowicz, the spokesman for the Jewish community.

DEBRZNO WIEŚ. At the end of June unknown perpetrators desecrated a local Jewish Cemetery. They knocked down almost every gravestone and damaged some of them. This Jewish cemetery which is located on the border of Wielkopolska and Pomerania provinces was established in the 17th century. The oldest surviving gravestone (matzevah) dates back to 1715. The case is being investigated by the police department in Złotowo. "Our police officers have already conducted an examination of the area. It is hard to say anything about the perpetrators at this time" – said Alicja Fidler, the spokesperson for the police department in Złotowo.

SUWAŁKI. At the end of June, another Jewish cemetery was devastated. A monument and lapidarium which are based on the premises of the cemetery were covered with paint and grease. Foundation for the Preservation of Jewish Heritage as well as the local conservation officer have already filed a complaint in this matter.

OŚWIĘCIM. On June 27th, two teachers from Canada who were taking a tour of Auschwitz-Birkenau museum at the site of the former concentration and death camp, tried to steal joints that were used to assemble railroad tracks at a loading ramp. After being questioned by the police they were set free. No charges were brought against them. The county police department in Oświęcim, working under the regional prosecutor's office, dismissed their case at the end of June and the beginning of July. "The police had no grounds to continue the investigation. There were no signs of theft of important cultural heritage" – explained the deputy of the regional prosecutor in Oświęcim, Mariusz Słomka. The head office of The National Museum of Auschwitz-Birkenau filed a com-

plaint on that decision. The Head of the Board of Jewish Communities in Poland, Piotr Kadłcik, was also outraged by this decision: "The loading ramp in Birkenau – a place from which hundreds of thousands of Jews, as well as many Polish citizens went on their last journey, has a very significant meaning to the whole world, but obviously not to the local police and prosecutor" – he said in a formal statement. On August 19th, local court in Oświęcim decided that the district court in Krakow will examine the dismissal of the case of theft. The decision was not legally valid.

BIELSKO-BIAŁA. On June 29th, the regional prosecutor's office dismissed a case of threatening to destroy private property, on account that no suspect was apprehended. The threatened person is an anti-racist activist who cooperates with the "NEVER AGAIN" Association as well as the artistic group 3Fala. On October 15th, 2009, an unknown man shouted insults at the artist who was at that time painting anti-racist graffiti. Furthermore the assailant threatened to destroy his car.

JULY 2010

GOSTYŃ. Around July 7th, a German cemetery was devastated. The cemetery, which dates back to the 14th century, was sold to a private person as an ordinary real estate. At the end of June, construction works were initiated. After the workers found human bones while digging in the site, they notified the Regional Disease Control Centre in Kamień Pomorski. The Disease Control Office ordered that the bones should be buried in a single coffin on a different cemetery in Gostyń. Not all the bones were collected, however. The ones that were not, got thrown away at the city dump near the water treatment plant in Pobierowo. "That is just barbarism, I have never seen anything like it before. (...) Several trucks full of dirt with bones and skulls sticking out of them" – said doctor Andrzej Ossowski, an expert from the Office of Forensic Medicine in Szczecin, who was supervising the extraction of the bones from the ground. There were about three hundred people buried on that cemetery. The prosecutor in Kamień Pomorski did not investigate the case. He was waiting for the police to finish their investigation. After the owner of the cemetery was found, the conservation officer announced that he will inform the prosecutor about the incident one more time.

KRAKOW. On July 9th, during the Festival of Jewish Culture the representatives of the National Rebirth of Poland (NOP) organized an anti-Semitic picket. During the rally they were shouting offensive slogans towards the participants of the festival and were handing out pamphlets which said "Bomb Israel – this is the time!" The police was notified about the incident and an intervention was carried out. However, no one was arrested.

WARSZAWA. On July 12th, a young man took down a rainbow flag from Pride House situated in the "Brave New World" Cultural Center. A few moments later, the organizers of the EuroPride parade (which was held in Warsaw next week) hanged out another flag, which was also taken down by unknown perpetrators. The rainbow flag is the symbol of the LGBTQ movement which fights for the rights of sexual minorities.

WARSZAWA. On July 14th, "unknown perpetrators" desecrated the grave of Irena Sendlerowa. On the gravestone they wrote "Jude wont" ("Jews out!"). The anti-Semitic inscription was removed from the gravestone the same day. The investigation is being led by the police department from Wola district. "We will interrogate members of the family as well as look for witnesses who could have seen the incident" – said the deputy inspector Maciej Karczyński, the spokesperson for the chief of the police in Warsaw. During the World War II Irena Sendlerowa rescued about 2,5 thousand children from the ghetto in Warsaw. In 1965 she was

honored by the Israeli institute Yad Vashem with the Righteous Among the Nations medal.

WROCŁAW. During the night July 14th-15th, on the side of a building at 51 Żeromskiego Street, "unknown perpetrators" painted the anti-Semitic slogan: "Welcome to the streets of terror. F...k Jews", and the abbreviations "WKS" (suggesting the perpetrators were "fans" of WKS Śląsk Wrocław) and "JP" (a Polish acronym for "f...k the police"). By doing so, they destroyed a large mural promoting tolerance, equality and intercultural communication, which had been made by artists from Poland, Germany and the USA as part of Divercity, an international week of socially-involved organised by the Edyta Stein Association from Wrocław. The city law enforcement authorities were informed about the incident. "Such texts constitute the crime of inciting hatred. The case was handed over to police, who will lead an investigation in order to establish the identity of the perpetrators", said Sławomir Chełchowski, the spokesman of the Wrocław city law enforcement. The anti-Semitic slogan was painted over by the project participants.

VILNIUS (LITHUANIA). On July 14th, racist incidents occurred during a training friendly between Lithuanian club Žalgiris Vilnius and Polish first-division side Lechia Gdańsk. "Fans" of the Polish team imitated monkey sounds and chanted: "F...k the nigger, Lechia's a white team" and "Kafar (Tomasz Kafarski is the coach of Lechia Gdańsk – editor's note) is a laughing stock, quickly take the nigger off", when Brazilian Luiz Carol Santos, a new Lechia player, got the ball. After the match the player said: "It never came to my mind that they were fans of my team. I found out about it the next day, when we were already back in Poland. It made me feel sad and heavy on the heart".

ŠIAULIAI (LITHUANIA). On July 15th, police detained 44 "fans" of Polish first-division club Wisła Kraków. They were arrested for disturbing the peace during a football match in the second round of the Europa League against Lithuania's FC Šiauliai. Police stopped buses and cars with Polish "fans" which were travelling on the road into the city, as they had information that individuals were in possession of weapons including knives, swords and daggers. Lithuanian police were also concerned by the fact that only 500 tickets had been sold to Polish fans, whereas over 900 of them arrived to see the match. Dangerous items were found in 13 of the inspected vehicles, and 80 individuals were cautioned by police and had to return to Poland. After the match a few brawls were launched by Wisła Kraków supporters. Over 44 were detained, most of whom were released a few hours later. On July 16th, two remained behind bars in Lithuania awaiting a court. They faced a fine or imprisonment.

ROGOŹNICA. On July 17th, an anti-Semitic incident was noted on the premises of the former concentration camp Gross-Rosen. When a group of American doctoral students from the New York's New School for Social Research was taking a tour of the museum, three young men and one woman drove up to the museum in a cab. The men had their shirts off, some were drinking beer. They were acting offensively towards the Americans. At some point one of the drunk men came to the crematory furnace and started acting like he was operating it, putting bodies into it. He was counting out loud: "One, two, three...". When the Polish tour guide asked them to stop, she heard: "F...k off b...tch, take care of your tour!". The woman did not react to this in any way. After some time the men left the premises of the museum. Janusz Barszcz, the head of the Museum, said: "The tour guide should have immediately informed security about that event. I don't know why she didn't do it. We have appropriate procedures for such situations". He added, that such situations take place from time to time. "During the opening hours the security are not present at the museum. They start their job when we close. However, in situations like this, when called, they should intervene in no more than 15 minutes".

WARSZAWA. On July 17th, members of the All-Polish Youth (MW) and the illegal National-Radical Camp (ONR) organized the so-called “Grunwald March” – they were celebrating the 600th anniversary of Polish victory in the battle at Grunwald. At the same time a march called EuroPride, organized by sexual minorities, was taking place. During those events, homophobic incidents were noted. About 300 demonstrators, among them members of the National Rebirth of Poland (NOP) as well as representatives of the far-right party Jobbik from Hungary, set off from the Roman Dmowski’s monument at the corner of Szucha Avenue and Ujazdowskie Avenue to the grave of the Unknown Soldier. The demonstrators were being led by Robert Winnicki, the president of the All-Polish Youth. The participants of the march were carrying banners with slogans such as: “Should gays spit in our faces?”, “Deviants go away to Berlin”. Also they shouted through the megaphone: “The great catholic Poland”, “Grunwald has taught us that Poles are masters”, “Just like Jagiełło defeated Teutonic Knights, so will we defeat the lefties”, “A boy and a girl makes a normal family”, “Today Poland is being run by fags”, “Pedofiles, lesbians and gays, the whole Poland is laughing at you”. Around noon, near the PrideHouse located at the Nowy Świat Street, a group of foreigners was waving to the marching picketers. The foreigners were holding a banner with words “Smash homophobia”. After seeing the rainbow flags the demonstrators started shouting: “Faggots get the f... out”, “Beat the faggots with the sickle and the hammer”. They also threw bottles of water and eggs at the flag and fired a flare at it. At the grave of the Unknown Soldier, an MP from Law and Justice (PiS), Artur Górski, spoke: “Remember that today another battle awaits us, another Grunwald. We have to defeat a new kind of barbarity, which spreads in our streets and in our parliament”. A few minutes later, the demonstrators started a new kind of demonstration called “A demonstration in the defense of Europe’s Christian roots”. The demonstrators started walking towards the Bank Square, where the EuroPride was supposed to begin. They were carrying a banner “Today lesbians and gays, tomorrow pedophiles. This is not democracy, this is syphillacy”. When they reached the Senatorska Street and after seeing the members of EuroPride parade they started chanting: “Whores and trash, you will not get out of Warsaw!” After that they threw stones, bottles and firecrackers at them. The police cordoned the aggressive protesters off. One of the protesters attacked a policeman, who had to be hospitalized. The protesters were singing “Aushwitz-Birkenau sialalala”. The police arrested nine persons: one for assaulting an officer, one for assault and battery of an officer, six for misdemeanors and one for possession of drugs.

ŁÓDŹ. On July 19th, “Gazeta Wyborcza Łódź” informed about anti-Semitic slogans and symbols, which were painted on the acoustic screens built along Pabianicka Street. The letters SS and swastikas were placed under the pictures of black hawks which were painted to decorate the screens, so that the whole composition reminded of the Third Reich’s national emblem. “We could order to clean the screens right away. However, our subcontractor, The Public Utility Company of Łódź does not have the appropriate equipment to do it. The bidding to buy the equipment has already begun and it will be concluded at the end of August. Then we will order to clean the paintings” – explained Aleksandra Kaczorowska, the spokesperson for the Board of Transportation and Roads, which is responsible for the screens. On July 30th, the “Open Republic” Association that fights against anti-Semitism and xenophobia requested help from Tomasz Sadzyński, the city mayor of Łódź, to immediately erase the anti-Semitic slogans and symbols.

BIELAWA. On July 21st, during a Polish cup match between fifth-division Bielawianka Bielawy and third-division Czarni Żagań, home fans team booed the visitors’ black Brazilian player Andrade

Felix, who plays under the nickname Filipe. At the end of the first half, someone threw a banana onto the pitch in his direction. The football league fined Bielawianka 5,000 zlotys (around €1,275).

BIAŁYSTOK. On July 22nd, a group of skinheads attacked an apartment of an anti-racist activist. The apartment was located on Gruntowa Street in the Osiedle Młodych housing estate. A group of masked hooligans armed with clubs, machetes and rocks destroyed the entrance to the staircase, broke the windows and tried to assault residents who were spending time in the backyard. They dropped a Molotov cocktail in the playground. On the walls of the building they painted racist slogans. This was the last of a series of attacks. The aggrieved man claims that there were a dozen or so attacks of this kind in the past. The apartment was hurled with rocks and bottles filled with gasoline. The doors were damaged and the walls were covered with racist slogans and symbols, such as “White Power” and swastikas. The police managed to apprehend one of the assailants. He was convicted by the court to pay a fine, but he did not pay for any of the damages.

LIMANOWA. On the night of July 23rd-24th, in housing estate at Witosa and Factory St., riots between groups of Poles and Romani occurred. The reason for this incident was information of dog’s attack on a pregnant woman and aggressive behavior of its Romani owner. In the evening, the crowd was rising quickly. More than one hundred people tried to break into a Romani family’s flat. During the riots bottles with gasoline were used and some tussling took place. Only an immediate intervention of the police protected the Romani family. Police officers checked some dozen people. “We explain how the event proceeded and whether dangerous items were used. The fact is that the incident was so serious that local police officers requested support from Kraków. They were to prevent the escalation of the conflict” – Krzysztof Raczek, Press Officer of Limanowa police station said. Mayor of Limanowa, Marek Czeczółka, claims the incident has its roots in years of conflict between inhabitants of the housing estate and the Romani family considered as allegedly “pathological”. Limanowa’s police officers admit that tensions between the two communities were in the air for a longer time. In 2009, about 20 interventions were notified. The officers were called for by both Polish and Romani sides. Some of the interventions ended up pressing charges and sending the matter to court. The town mayor suggested that Romani family should move from their flat to a residential container. The family did not agree with this suggestion. The deputy mayor, Rudolf Zaczyński, announced that at the entrance to the apartment building, CCTV cameras would be installed. The President of the Association of Roma in Poland, Roman Kwiatkowski, notified the prosecutor about possible crime: the use of violence and illegal threats on ethnic grounds. In his opinion, the issue of conflict between residents and the Romani family took a form of racist, nationalist and xenophobic violence. On January 11th, 2011, the District Prosecutor of Limanowa set the allegations in the case. The Roma were the only defendants in this case. Mieczysław D. was accused of 15 allegations of threats and assaults (after the events in July, further quarrels and struggles with neighbours occurred). His son was also accused in the case. Kwiatkowski of the Association of Roma in Poland, said: “If the family D. is guilty, then it certainly should hear charges. (...) But I wish that the same standards to measure their Polish neighbors were applied. How can we say that nothing had happened in Limanowa, when the police called for reinforcements from Kraków to calm down the crowd?” “Due to the lack of offense”, the prosecution refused to initiate proceedings for incitement to hatred on grounds of nationality (such was the complaint issued by Kwiatkowski). Other proceedings were also discontinued on the threats directed at the Roma family. “Victims did not apply for the prosecution. Without it we can do nothing”

– Janina Tomasik, head of the Prosecutor’s Office said. On February 23rd, the Association of Roma in Poland received a note from the Limanowa prosecutor’s office concerning the launching of investigation into the attempt of lynch on Romani family in Limanowa. This step was made after the General Prosecutor’s intervention. The local prosecutor’s office will deal not only with inciting to racial hatred but also with “the use of violence, incitement to use it as well as punishable threats of killing by burning – against members of the Romani family because of their racial and ethnic identity”.

WŁOCŁAWEK. On July 27th, the industrial tribunal acknowledged that the prosecutor’s office in L. [detailed information only for the editors of the “NEVER AGAIN” magazine] did not discriminate against its former employee who was fired after losing the ability to walk, as a result of an accident. In 2004 the woman was employed for 3 years in the prosecutor’s office as an assessor. In January 2007 she had an accident in which her spine was damaged. After rehabilitation she regained the use of her hands, but her legs remained paralyzed. In July 2008 she returned to work to finish her training and become a prosecutor. To her application she added a statement from a doctor, that she is able to work as a prosecutor. However the prosecutor’s office made her undergo another medical examination (which ended with the same kind of statement as the previous one) and then the third one, claiming, that the job has many harmful factors, such as working at night, conducting inspections, visits to crime sites, autopsies, trips on training courses and physical effort. After that the doctor stated, that the woman could not work as a prosecutor. On February 2nd, 2009, the general prosecutor fired her. The decision was justified that the sick leave lasted over one year and that the doctor’s examination states that she is unable to work as a prosecutor. “The court estimated only whether the prosecutor had any grounds to fire her. They did not conduct any research whether or not she is able to do this kind of work” – said Irmina Pacho from the Helsinki Foundation of Human Rights. The organisation issued an appeal to the prime minister to ratify the UN convention on rights of people with disabilities. The convention states what needs to be done to ensure that disabled persons can fully use their civil rights and not be discriminated.

WARSAWA. On July 27th, an MP from the Civic Platform party (PO), Janusz Palikot, petitioned to the Regional Prosecutor’s Office of Northern-Central Warsaw to start an investigation against a group of people who were picketing next to the cross which was set up in front of the presidential palace after the plane crash in Smoleńsk. Palikot claims that they were inciting to racial hatred and that they insulted a group of people on national grounds. The picketing group demanded that the cross remained in the spot outside the palace. Palikot justified his petition by quoting some of the slogans, which the picketers used against those who wanted to remove the cross, towards authorities and people from the media: “You Jews”, “To the gas chamber with you”, “Russians”, “Friends of Russians and Germans”, “The sellers of Poland” and “Non-Poles”. He also added: “Apart from that, various materials promoting hatred towards other people and conspiracy theories are being displayed in front of the palace”. The media were informing about this kind of actions for several weeks until the cross was taken from the Palace on September 16th.

BIAŁYSTOK. On July 29th, the county court adjourned until the half of September the case of four men Daniel, Artur and Dawid Apoń and Konrad Zawistowski, accused of assaulting and insulting on racial background a dark-skinned citizen of France, Legre Cheick Karamoko. On July 26th, the victim was supposed to testify, but he asked to change the sworn translator, as he could not understand his translation. The court decided to postpone the trial and to replace the translator. On April 30th, Karamoko was beat up by

three gangs of racists. Two days before he had come to Poland to spend some time with his fiancé. He decided to accept the invitation given to him by the players of Jagiellonia football club and train with them. While on his way to a training on the Armii Krajowej Street on Leśna Dolina housing estate he was attacked. “At first I heard the sounds of a monkey and I saw gestures of masturbation. After that, a group of ten men ran up to me and started hitting me with their fists. I saw hate in their eyes. They were hitting me as though they wanted to kill me” – said Karamoko to the journalists. For a longer period no one tried to help the victim. Passers by were pretending that nothing was going on. After some time two older ladies showed up and helped the man. The victim went to the police. After three hours from the event, two suspects were apprehended. It turned out they were twin brothers aged 17 who live in Białystok. They were charged with assault and battery on racial grounds. One of them was put in jail and the other was released on bail of 2,000 zlotys. He also got police supervision and was banned from leaving the country. On the May 5th, the police apprehended two more assailants: 17 and 21 year old men. The prosecutor decided to let the media show the faces of three of them, to revile those who try to commit similar offences. Those were the brothers Daniel, Artur and Dawid Apoń. The fourth hooligan was Konrad Zawistowski, who was 17 years old. Karamoko was attacked the same day, evening time, around 6:00 p.m., by a man wearing a black sweat suit. The assailant pushed Karamoko onto a car which was about to park near them. Karamoko with his fiancé went to the police station, but was feeling so bad that he was unable to testify. These were not the only signs of racism he confronted in the city: “It started when I got to Białystok. I feel like there is a hunt going on for me. Everywhere I look, I see gestures of hate or hear racist remarks. Either on the bus, in the street or in a store. I do not feel comfortable here, but I will come back here whenever I will have the opportunity so that the racist will not have satisfaction”.

THESSALONIKI (GREECE). On July 29th, during a Europa League qualifying match between Greek club Aris Saloniki and Polish first-division side Jagiellonia Białystok, “fans” of the Polish club displayed a banner with a Celtic cross, a symbol of the racist *White Power* movement.

LUBLIN. On July 30th, the “Open Republic” Association Against Anti-Semitism and Xenophobia turned to the president of Lublin with a question about how he planned to secure the remnants of a local Jewish cemetery and make it available to tourists. The questions concerned the devastation of the lapidarium which commemorates the Jewish cemetery.

AUGUST 2010

OSTRÓW WLKP. On August 3rd, editors of the “NEVER AGAIN” magazine were informed about xenophobic incidents that targeted a young inhabitant of the city. The reason of the hostility towards the victim was her German-sounding surname. The same man repeatedly acted aggressively against the woman by performing the nazi greeting gesture and shouting “Heil Hitler”. He was also shouting her name late at night at the window of the block of flats where the woman lived.

STRZELCE OPOLSKIE On August 5th, the District Court concluded that Krzysztof F. and Karol L., members of the banned National-Radical Camp (ONR), by performing prohibited nazi greeting gesture while placing flowers at the monument of Silesian Uprisings on the Saint Anna’s Mountain in May 2008, once again publicly advocated the nazi regime. The men were sentenced to four months imprisonment, suspended for three years. The court also granted them probation and obliged to refrain from doing

the forbidden gesture. Judgment was not legally binding. Both men had already been found guilty, in December 2008, of public promotion of the Nazi regime in the trial for the incidents that happened in 2006 and 2007, when they performed Hitler's gestures during the ceremony at the St. Anna Mountain. The Court of the First Instance sentenced them to six months imprisonment suspended for three years, the supervision of a probation officer and 1,000 zlotys of fine. Despite appeals, the District Court in Opole upheld verdicts in force.

SZCZECIN. On August 5th, a train conductor of the WARS company threw a wheelchair of a disabled passenger from a PKP Intercity Szczecin-Katowice train. The girl with disability sat with her caregiver in a compartment and left the wheelchair in the hall. During a stop-off, a worker of the passenger train who earlier had checked tickets, threw the wheelchair from the train to the platform. When the girl's caregiver expressed her indignation, he replied: "Such people should not travel by train". The wheelchair which cost over 4,000 zlotys was destroyed. The Intercity spokeswoman, Małgorzata Sitkowska said that "The conductor's behavior was without doubt improper". After the intervention of the TV station TVN24, the board of directors of WARS train agreed to buy a new wheelchair for the disabled girl.

ŁĘBORK. On August 6th, a district court received an indictment against Rafał W. (in Polish legal custom, suspects' surnames are not revealed) for insulting Brazilian-origin Poland international Roger Guerreiro. The man pleaded guilty and voluntarily agreed to pay a fine of 1,500 zlotys (around €380). In October 2009, Rafał W. had given an interview to the magazine "Szalikowiec – Przegląd Sceny Kibicowskiej" ("Football Hooligan – Fans' Scene Review"). In the text, published a month later, he called Roger "another monkey in the national team". The prosecutor's office in Łębork was informed thanks to an anonymous tip-off.

ŁÓDŹ. On August 7th, during a first-division match between Widzew Łódź and Lech Poznań, home "fans" shouted anti-Semitic slogans. On August 12th, the football league fined Widzew Łódź 6,000 zlotys (around €1,530).

MSZCZONÓW. On August 7th or 8th, "unknown perpetrators" desecrated local Jewish cemetery. On the fence surrounding the cemetery (from the eastern side) they wrote "Bombs on Israel". Representatives of the Foundation for the Preservation of Jewish Heritage informed the police about this incident.

RZESZÓW. On August 14th, during a third-division match between Stal Rzeszów and Wisła Płock, home "fans" behaved reprehensibly. During the game they chanted "Jude, Jude Resovia" several times. The anti-Semitic slogans were aimed at Stal's local rivals, Resovia. Football authorities fined the club 2,000 zlotys (around €510).

OSSÓW. On the night of August 14th-15th the "unknown perpetrators" destroyed the grave of 22 soldiers of the Red Army, located on the so-called Polakówka Górka, which was to be unveiled by Polish and Russian government representatives next day. Red stars were painted on the grave. The commemorating chart on the grave was carrying words in Polish and Russian language "The grave of 22 soldiers from the 235th and 236th Rifle Regiments of the Red Army Brigade, who died during the battle in Ossowo on 14th and 15th August 1920". From the early morning of August 15th, a dozen or so people protested against Russian-Polish reconciliation with banners carrying words: "Monument of disgrace" and "Do not let us into the hands of Polish liberal governors of Germany and Russia", "Shame" and "It is an act of contempt for the Poles". Hanna Wujkowska (a former advisor to the women and family affairs in the government of Law and Justice party (PiS) and the former advisor to the Minister Roman Giertych for promotion of life, journalist of conservative-nationalist newspaper "Nasz Dziennik" – "Our Daily") and a Vice-chairman of the

Pomorskie Regional Assembly on behalf of the PiS, Waldemar Bonkowski were among the demonstrators. To avoid an international scandal (the ambassador of Russia was to take part in the ceremony), Andrzej Krzysztof Kunert, the General Secretary of the Council for the Protection of Memory of Struggle and Martyrdom, decided that the ceremony would take place at another time. Further desecration of the grave occurred on September 20th. Someone wrote in red paint: "Broniek – we will not forgive you the removal of the cross" and "Katyń 2010". The event took place in four days after the cross was transferred from the Presidential Palace to the presidential oratory. The Employees of the City Council in Zielonka, the commune to which Ossów belongs, notified the prosecution. On November 2nd during the ceremony of grave's unveiling, demonstrators were protesting and held banners saying: "What the president is, such the patriotism is", "Candle – yes, the monument – it's a disgrace". Bonkowski was the organizer of the picket. After the ceremony the demonstrators sang the Polish national anthem and shouted: "Betrayal", "Shame". On January 3rd, 2011, the District Prosecutor in Wołomin, due to undetected delinquents, dropped the investigation on destroying the graves of Red Army soldiers in Ossów as perpetrators were not caught.

WROCŁAW. On August 20th, during a first-division match between Śląsk Wrocław and Legia Warszawa, home "fans" shouted offensive slogans at Dickson Choto, a black Zimbabwean Legia player. Whenever he had the ball, they imitated the sounds of a monkey. On August 25th the league fined Śląsk 5,000 zlotys (around €1,275).

BEŁCHATÓW. On August 21st, during a first-division match between GKS Bełchatów and Ruch Chorzów, home "fans" sang anti-Semitic songs. On August 25th, the league fined Bełchatów 7,000 zlotys (around €1,785), with the penalty also covering improper organisation of match safety.

ŁÓDŹ. On August 21st, during a first-division match between Widzew Łódź and Wisła Kraków, home "fans" shouted anti-Semitic slogans and the visiting team and personally insulted one of the players. However, members of the Wisła crowd chanted slogans of the same kind aimed at Widzew's players. On August 25th, the league fined Widzew with 10,000 zlotys (around €2,550) and Wisła, 5,000 zlotys (around €1,275).

ŁOMŻA. On August 23rd, the "Rescue" Foundation (Fundacja "Ocalenie") informed editors of the magazine "NEVER AGAIN" about xenophobic incidents targeting Chechen community living in Białystok. Individuals with transient personalities (one of them was using nickname *jargibin*) were recording from the hide Chechens in their reception centers, and then publishing the videos on Internet portals such as YouTube, patrz.pl and DemotyATORY.pl. The materials were titled: Chechens' car, Chechens' Life (to which the author had created a poster bearing the logos of well-known medias' patrons) and were carrying comments: "Chechens can afford good phones. You're working so that they are well off", "Muslims will get the power over the world because they are highly consolidated and, unlike the Europeans their and their own nation is above all for them", "Flats – honest Pole does not get any, the Chechens get a brand new, having spent several years in Poland". "Pedophile – a pervert worse than gay for Pole, for the Chechen: almost God". Satsita Khumaidova, a Chechen woman who works at the "Rescue" Foundation, said: "We feel threatened. People who survived the war, again are asking if they are to run away from Łomża. It is not unbelievable that we are treated like animals, hunted in places where we live. I do not look into anyone else basket in a store". The case was reported to the police. On January 4th, 2011, investigators in Łomża District Prosecutor's Office issued a decision to bring charges of the filmmaker. "The perpetrators are guilty on the charge of several issues:

The first is the insult on Chechens and the second is related to the public incitement to hatred on grounds of nationality" – said prosecutor Maria Kudyba, a spokesman for the District Prosecutor's Office. Such incidents were charged with up to three years of imprisonment.

WARSZAWA. On August 27th, Warsaw District Prosecutor of Ochota refused, without support of any legal grounds to initiate an investigation concerning inclusion on the websites such as www.jewish.org.pl; www.gazeta.pl www.kaczka.blog.pl, comments promoting fascist ideology and promoting envy on grounds of nationality, ethnicity, race and religion. Probably the same people put pictures of the banner and the scarf presenting racist symbolism.

SEPTEMBER 2010

WARSZAWA. On September 1st, the District Prosecutor's Office for the Śródmieście-Warsaw district discontinued an investigation into the case of incitement to hatred and promotion of fascism during the National-Radical Camp (ONR) demonstration that had taken place in the city on November 11th, 2009. On that day, which was the National Independence Day, a few-hundred-person group of members and supporters of the ONR, Camp of Great Poland (OWP), National Rebirth of Poland (NOP), Slavic Union as well as "Zadruga" marched through the capital's centre. The demonstrators chanted: "National socialism!", "Down with the Jewish chauvinism!", "Down with the Jewish occupation", "Roman Dmowski – Poland's liberator", "Great Catholic Poland!", "Lisbon Treaty – the Fifth Partition of Poland!", "I haven't cried over the loss of Wejchert!" The neo-fascist demonstration ended with a rally near a monument of Roman Dmowski and a speech delivered by Artur Ziemkiewicz: "Hopefully, next year there won't be two, three or four national demonstrations on November 11th but only one – one that will shake the foundations of this liberal democratic mess. One, decent demonstration that will wipe all that out like a typhoon". Having said that, he raised his hand in a gesture of the nazi salute: "Sieg Heil". The majority of demonstrators responded in the same manner. The policemen did not intervene. On November 15th, the police launched, under the supervision of the District Prosecutor's Office for Warszawa-Śródmieście, the investigation into the case of incitement to hatred and promotion of fascism during the demonstration. On October 5th, a month after the investigation concerning the neo-nazis was called off, three anti-nazi activists who had protested against the ONR march were tried before the Warsaw's court. All persons were charged with assault of intervening police officers, and two of them additionally with insult to police officers.

ELBLĄG. On September 2nd, the Circuit Court ruled that Waldemar Bonkowski, deputy president of the Pomorskie Regional Council (who represented the political party Law and Justice – PiS), had instigated his subordinate to forge documents related to the fuel distribution in the Agricultural Enterprise in Bielnik during the period of his presidency in the said enterprise. Bonkowski was subject to a fine of 2,500 zlotys. Thus, the court affirmed in its entirety a judgement entered by the first instance court in April. The judgement has not become legally binding. In April, Bonkowski took part in a controversial movie "Solidarni 2010" by Jan Pospieszalski about an aircraft catastrophe that came about in Smoleńsk on April 10th. Persons who appeared in the movie accused the Russians of President Kaczyński's assassination and made many russophobic statements. In August and November, Bonkowski protested against the unveiling of the Russian soldiers' mass grave in Ossów.

ŁÓDŹ. On September 4th, during a friendly between Poland and Ukraine, several xenophobic incidents were noted. After the

game, two young Polish hooligans attacked supporters from Ukraine, spitting at and insulting them. The aggressors were arrested after police intervened. One of them can be seen on the picture on the left (between two police officers). Before the match, a security guards tore down a banner reading "Lwów – cradle of Polish football" and emblems of pre-war Polish football clubs such as Czarni Lwów, Lechia Lwów and Pogoń Lwów. The banner was displayed by "fans" of fourth-division Unia Tarnów, who are often accused of provoking racist incidents. The banner also features the emblem of the pre-war city of Lwów – today's Lviv in Ukraine – as well as the top Polish medal of valour, the Virtuti Militari inscribed, which the city received in 1920, when the locals defeated Ukrainian forces. The city was contested by the Polish and Ukrainian independence movements when the Tsarist Russian empire crumbled, making it highly symbolic for nationalists from both sides. In 1918, Ukrainian independence was declared there. The city remained part of Poland until the Second World War. The banner at the match was therefore considered by the Ukrainian side as a provocative Polish nationalistic and anti-Ukrainian gesture. It was taken down after the intervention of Hryhorij Surkis, president of the Ukrainian Football Federation and the leader of Ukraine's organisation of the 2012 European Championships, which the country will host jointly with Poland. During the match, Poland "fans" displayed scarves with a Celtic cross, a symbol of the racist *White Power* movement. Their Ukrainian counterparts had scarves with the portrait of Stepan Bandera (1909-1959), the controversial leader of the Organisation of Ukrainian Nationalists.

WARSZAWA. On September 7th, Shaminder Puri, a British citizen of Indian origin and a practising Sikh, sued the Polish Border Guards for humiliating him during a routine check at the airport that was carried out prior to the boarding. As reported by Puri, after he had put aside all metal items before a metal detector, he went through it with his turban on and it did not give off any sound. Still, a functionary demanded that the man remove the turban. The Sikh explained in fluent Polish that his religion forbade him to do so and suggested that the guard checked his turban manually. Yet, the guard repeated his demand. The idea behind it was to make sure that no explosives had been hidden between the fabric rolls. As this kind behaviour on the part of the border guards continued during checks, Puri considered it to hurt his pride and violate freedom of religion. He expected apologies and demanded that the board guards be obliged to adopt procedures in keeping with the norms of other European countries that respect the Sikhs. He also insisted that a foundation helping children who suffer from leukaemia be paid 30,000 zlotys. Airport procedures all over the world allow for checking the Sikhs with a respect for their religious beliefs. The followers of the said religion believe that a turban covers an intimate part of the body and that a request to remove it, especially without a reason, is a highly intrusive act and a serious affront. "I have visited many airports across the world and, apart from Warsaw, Poland, nowhere, even in the United States, have I been treated in such a way. A demand to remove a turban is, in my opinion, humiliating" – said Puri. The incident occurred for the first time in December, 2009. The Sikh refused to remove the turban and had to pay a fine of 500 zlotys for "the refusal to follow the officers' orders" and "hindering the security check". The man turned to the ambassador of Poland to India, the chief commanding officer of the Board Guards and some other institutions – but the procedure would not have changed. For that reason, Puri resolved to start an action against the Board Guards before the Circuit Court in Warsaw. He received assistance from the Helsinki Foundation of Human Rights and other organisations. Colonel Wojciech Lechowski, spokesman for the chief commanding officer of the Border Guards, said: "Let us wait for the court's judgement. Personally, I don't think there is anything we should

be worried about". On September 20th, while at the airport, Puri was asked again to remove his turban. Karolina Rusiłowicz of the Helsinki Foundation of Human Rights, who was also present at the airport, said that once the Sikh refused to follow the order, he was subject to another fine of 500 zlotys, but this time he did not accept the ticket and was detained. A motion to punish him was to be filed with the municipal court. On December 8th, District Court, V Criminal Division for the city of Warsaw turned to the Polish Constitutional Tribunal for a review of provisions under which the British citizen had been fined. The court had some doubts about their constitutionality (Article 210 (1) (7) of the aviation law).

WARSAWA. Around September 10th, in areas in the centre of the capital including Marszałkowska Street, homophobic stickers with racist undertones appeared. They appeared to have been placed by "fans" for Legia Warszawa and directed their club's city rivals, fellow first-division side Polonia Warszawa. The stickers showed a crossed-out emblem of Polonia Warszawa and the words: "Black Faggot Hunters" and a rhyme: "We are distinguished by a thing you know well, We are chasing, you run away". The slogan "Black Faggot Hunters" had a double meaning. It referred to the official colour of Polonia, black, but undoubtedly had a racist context, which served to add an extra insult.

SOSNOWIEC. On September 11th, during a third-division match between Zagłębie Sosnowiec and Tur Turek, home "fans" shouted racist insults directed at a player from the opposing team. On November 5th, the disciplinary department of the Polish Football Association fined Zagłębie 5,000 zlotys (around €1,275).

RZESZÓW. On September 12th, yet another anti-Semitic incident took place during a third-division derby between Resovia Rzeszów and Stal Rzeszów. Five minutes before kick-off, Stal "fans" chanted "Resovia Jude, Jude, Jude". The fans of Resovia responded with a similarly offensive slogan "F...k you, Jewish dog". The league fined both clubs 5,000 zlotys (around €1,275). Moreover, no organised groups of supporters were allowed to attend the subsequent three away matches of each team.

OSTROŁĘKA. On September 15th, during a fifth-division match between Korona Ostrołęka and Nadnarwianka Pułtusk, several visiting "fans" sang a homophobic and anti-Semitic song: "Referee, you faggot, you have family in Israel". A delegate from the Mazovian Football Association, which oversees the regional league, included the incident in his match report. In October, Nadnarwianka were fined 400 zlotys (around €100).

KAŁUSZYN. On September 15th, during half-time at a local league match between Victoria Kałuszyn and Sęp Żelachów, "fans" of the home team hung a banner on the pitch-side fence reading "Better dead than red", with a picture of a Celtic cross, the symbol of the racist *White Power* movement. The banner remained on the fence until the end of the match.

WARSAWA. On September 15th, the Supreme Court managed to adjudicate after a 17-year-long trial on the case of two former police officers accused of the unlawful detention of the Komitet Prymasowski members. In 2009, Edward M. and Janusz S. were sentenced to 2 and 1,5 years of imprisonment. The Supreme Court dismissed a last resort appeal, i.e. cassation, filed by their advocates (they demanded that the trial be repeated). On May 3rd, 1983, the militia men abducted workers of the primate's Komitet Pomocy Uwięzionym and abused them. Misztal, who had left the militia in 1989, set up a private security company and collaborated with Janusz Bryczkowski, head of the Polish National Front (PFN). Among other things, he protected Władimir Żyrinowski during his stay in Poland. Misztal's company was also responsible for security at Legia Warszawa's football matches.

POZNAŃ. On September 16th, a lawsuit against Manuel Arboleda, a former Zagłębie Lubin player who had transferred to fellow first-division club Lech Poznań, was scheduled in a local court.

Arboleda was accused of publicly defaming Lubin's ex-president Robert Pietryszyn. On March 24th, 2009 Arboleda revealed in an interview for the sports daily "Przegląd Sportowy" a racist incident which took place in the club. After coach Czesław Michniewicz named black Colombian Arboleda captain, the player was called into president's office. While there, Pietryszyn, according to Arboleda, told him that he was no team captain, because there had never been a foreign captain, let alone a black one. Pietryszyn denied the report and sued Arboleda. The case was adjourned, as the parties were considering an amicable resolution.

TURIN (ITALY). On September 16th, during a Europa League group-stage match between Juventus Turin and Lech Poznań, "fans" from Poland displayed two banners on the pitch-side fence. On them were slogans such as "Legion Piła, the blood of our race" – used by racist Lech supporters from the city of Piła – and "Terror-machine" with a white fist on a broken shield, which is a modern symbol of the racist *White Power* movement. The symbol was used in the Second World War by the nazi German Waffen-SS.

GDAŃSK. On September 17th, during a first-division match between Lechia Gdańsk and Cracovia Kraków, "fans" of the home team, who are known for their extreme right sympathies, chanted anti-Semitic slogans. They were noted by the observer from the PZPN, the Polish Football Association. On September 24th, the league fined Lechia 5,000 zlotys (around €1,275).

ŁÓDŹ. On September 17th, during a first-division match between Widzew Łódź and Śląsk Wrocław, visiting "fans" chanted anti-Semitic slogans directed against the home side. On September 24th, the league fined Śląsk 5,000 zlotys (around €1,275).

WARSAWA. On September 20th, "Otwarta Rzeczpospolita" Association Against Anti-Semitism and Xenophobia, turned to the Institute of National Remembrance as to launch an investigation into the case of nazi crimes denial allegedly committed by David Irving, an author of revisionist publications. In a letter addressed to Dariusz Gabrel, director of the Institute of National Remembrance – Commission for the Prosecution of Crimes against the Polish Nation, members of the association's management board wrote that in connection with Irving's visit to Poland they put forward a motion to launch an investigation under the Act of the Institute. In their view: "It is very likely that Irving has committed the so-called *Auschwitz lie* on the territory of Poland". The Holocaust denial found its way into one of Irving's books, one that was published in 2009. Accompanied by his followers, Irving planned to visit the site of a former extermination camp in Treblinka, the site of the former Warsaw ghetto as well as former quarters of Hitler in Kętrzyn. Editorial staff of both the "NEVER AGAIN" Association and the British monthly "Searchlight" objected to the planned visit and informed the public opinion about it.

KRAKÓW. On September 25th, the "Face2Face" club organized a neo-nazi concert of the following bands: Ad Hominem from France as well as MasseMord from Katowice and Iperyt from Kielce – Polish bands playing the so-called NSBM (National Socialist Black Metal). The French group, whose songs glorify genocide, performed a piece "Auschwitz rules" and many others. During one of the band's concerts in Belgium their fans wore badges with the swastika, SS-troops symbols and uniforms from the time of III Reich. The club's owner informed the police about the event in advance. Anti-nazi groups together with the Center for Information on New Religious Movements and Sects protested against it.

KRAKÓW. On September 25th, during a first-division match – the opening game in the new stadium at Kałużny Street – between Cracovia Kraków and Arka Gdynia, visiting "fans" displayed a banner with the words: "Arka Gdynia White Brothers. United Patriots. Tolerance is the virtue of people without beliefs" and the so-called "rune of death", a symbol of nazi movements including

the American National Alliance (a racist organisation established by William Pierce, the author of *The Turner Diaries*, a cult novel in extreme right-wing circles and an inspiration for terrorist Timothy McVeigh, whose 1995 bombing of a US federal building in Oklahoma City claimed 167 lives).

WARSZAWA. On September 27th, Rafał Sobczak, a spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs informed that, following the Ministry's intervention, an anti-Semitic comment concerning Radosław Sikorski, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, was removed from the onet.pl forum. Beneath an article on a conference on the role of Poland in the system of international cooperation for development, the following text appeared: "A Jew Sikorski's task is to protect the interests of Israel, not Poles. This is why it is high time for us to forbid such politicians to occupy high-ranking positions in Poland". It was the "NIGDY WIĘCEJ" Association that informed the Ministry about the comment.

OCTOBER 2010

BYTOM. On October 1st, during a first-division match between Polonia Bytom and Widzew Łódź, home "fans" shouted anti-Semitic slogans. On October 13th, the league fined Bytom 5,000 zlotys (around €1,275).

JAWORZNO. On October 2nd, during fifth-division Silesian Group derby between Szczakowianka Jaworzno and Victoria Jaworzno, visiting "fans" displayed a Confederate flag – a symbol of the racist South during the American Civil War in the 19th century and still used by extremist movements such as the Ku Klux Klan on the pitch-side fence. They also had a banner with the slogan "Victoria", where a Celtic cross, a symbol of the racist *White Power* movement, was inscribed in the letter "O".

WARSZAWA. On October 6th, a member of the "NIGDY WIĘCEJ" Association noticed that a monument of George Washington, the first president of the United States, situated in the Rondo Waszyngtona, had been vandalized by neo-nazis. A slogan: "America delenda est" ("America is destroyed") appeared on the monument along with the *falanga* symbol – a characteristic hand carrying a sword (the sign used by Polish fascists from the pre-WWII National-Radical Camp, ONR, and nowadays adopted by the National Rebirth of Poland, NOP). The writing referred to Marcus Porcius Kato, a politician of ancient Rome, who used to finish his every speech in the senate as follows: "Ceterum censeo Karthaginem delendam esse" (Moreover, I advise that Carthage must be destroyed) with the intention to provoke the outbreak of the Third Punic War and the ultimate destruction of Carthage. The US embassy was informed about the incident.

STALOWA WOLA. On October 9th, during a third-division match between Stal Stalowa Wola and Olimpia Elbląg, visiting "fans" displayed a banner on the pitch-side fence with a red and white chequered pattern, the words "Olimpia Elbląg" and a so-called *falanga*, a symbol of a hand with a sword, which was used by Polish fascist organisations during the inter-war period. The symbol has been adopted by present-day extreme-right groups such as the National-Radical Camp and National Rebirth of Poland. Due to a league delegate's intervention, the banner was removed at half-time. On October 14th, the Polish Football Association's disciplinary department fined Elbląg 5,000 zlotys (around €1,275).

WARSZAWA. On October 10th, there were racist incidents during the international charity football match between Polish first-division club Legia Warszawa and Dutch side FC ADO Den Haag. Home "fans" displayed a banner with the words "White Legion" and the symbol of so-called *Wolf's Hook* (a kind of stylised swastika, originally used by armoured divisions of the Nazi German SS and the post-Nazi terrorist organisation Werewolf) and

a flag with a Celtic cross, a symbol of the racist *White Power* movement). Moreover, Warsaw "fans" sang anti-Semitic songs: "Hamas, Hamas, Jude raus" and shouting "Jihad Legia". The security service did not react.

LUBLIN. On October 11th, an anti-Semitic incident took place at the Marie Curie University in Lublin (UMCS). Barbara Jedynek, a professor and lecturer at the Institute of Cultural Studies of the Faculty of Humanities shouted in front of students to Dr. Marzena Zawadowska who teaches a course in Jewish studies: "You Jewish woman! How dare you reprimand me!" It was a reaction to Zawadowska's pointing out that Jedynek's class lasted for too long and thus prevented her own student from entering the classroom. Two days later, students filed a complaint about Jedynek's behaviour with the head of department's office. Due to public protests, a university disciplinary officer looked into the matter. On October 20th, the university's rector suspended Barbara Jedynek from teaching. On November 23rd, the District Prosecutor's Office for Lublin-Południe resolved not to launch an investigation into Jedynek's conduct. The main argument was that Dr. Zawadowska, who had been called "a Jewish woman", was not in fact a Jew (sic!). Thus, investigators overruled offence under Article 257 of the Penal Code as the said article refers to insults on grounds of nationality (punishable by up to three years of imprisonment). On January 20th, 2011 professor Krzysztof Mielańczyk, the university disciplinary officer, discontinued disciplinary proceedings. On the same day, based on the rector's decision, professor Jedynek regained her position. It was also stated that Jedynek would receive compensation for the period during which she had been unable to work.

BIAŁYSTOK. On October 12th, a private complainant in a public prosecution filed with the Supreme Court a final resort appeal from a judgement of October 2009 passed by the Appeal Court in Białystok. The Supreme Court allowed the appeal and the case was remanded. The said court was to hear the case of the Czwarta Edycja group again and rule as to whether the group was a criminal organization. Its members faced charges of vandalising a Jewish cemetery in Wschodnia Street, devastating a monument of Ludwik Zamenhoff and commemorative plaques and other anti-Semitic actions that came about in Białystok in 2007. On January 30th, 2009, the district court sentenced Piotr Giedwiz, Krzysztof Dzikowski and Patryk Oleńczuk, leaders of the neo-fascist group to 20 months, 18 months and 12 months of imprisonment respectively. The court found them guilty of propagating the fascist ideology and inciting to hatred on grounds of national and religious differences and made their names publicly known. Two other individuals, a man and a woman, that were accused in the same trial, were acquitted. In addition, the two convicts were to pay 600 zlotys and 850 zlotys to cover losses incurred due to their actions. However, on October 20th, the Court of Appeal decided against the imprisonment of the Nazi-skinheads and changed their punishments to a more lenient ones in suspension. On March 10th, 2011, the Court of Appeal stated that the Białystok District Court should reconsider whether the persons sentenced in legally-binding verdicts for propagating fascism and spreading racial hatred can be identified as having acted in an organised criminal group. In this regard, the Court quashed of several suspects and made the District Court to review the cases.

ŁÓDŹ. On October 15th there were numerous incidents, including ones of an anti-Semitic nature, before and after a first-division match between Widzew Łódź and Legia Warszawa. An hour before kick-off, Legia "fans" began to sing in Dutch: "Hamas, Hamas, Juden auf den gas". Legia "fans" threw flares and bangers towards police and the home fans' stands. Police used tear gas to maintain order. More riots took place during the match. "Fans" of both teams tried to force the fence dividing the home and away stands. Widzew "fans" set alight several Legia scarves and

attacked security officers. Legia “fans” threw a smoke bomb and a few flares onto the pitch, as well as bangers towards the home stand. The referee had to interrupt the match for a few minutes. Police apprehended seven people during the riot. All interrogated and charged. In addition, visiting “fans” displayed a banner with the address of the niepodlegli.net website, calling for people to come to a neo-fascist march organised in Warsaw on November 11th – Poland’s independence day – by groups including the National-Radical Camp and All-Polish Youth. For several years, there have been anti-Semitic shouts, nazi “Sieg Heil” salutes and scuffles with anti-fascists trying to stop such marches on independence day.

ZAKOPANE. On October 16th, in Krupówki Street, a neo-fascist incident came about during preparations for the Cannabis Liberation March that had been organized by the “Free Cannabis” initiative. The organisation works toward the legalisation in Poland of the so-called soft drugs, mainly marijuana. While demonstrators were unfurling the banner that read “Legalize”, a few members of the National-Radical Camp “Podhale” (ONR’s regional branch in Podhale) approached them and after a brief but angry exchange they trampled the banner. The march was cancelled. Its organizer, Damian Jaworski, said: “These people attacked us. They threatened me and my father”. The police did not get involved. A few days later Jaworski was expelled from the Salesian High School in Czarny Dunajec that he had attended. In December, following a decision made by the chief education officer, he returned to school.

KLEBARK WIELKI. On October 18th, in this town located in Olsztyn county, the police detained four men in connection with a battery of two Georgian men that had occurred a few days earlier. The foreigners came to Klebark to work for the nearby Catholic parish. According to Dawid Stefański from the press office of the Regional Police Headquarters in Olsztyn, the course of events was as follows: “Everything began at the bus stop. Apart from the two Georgian men there was also one local villager. At one point, the strangers and the man had a disagreement and they even started a fight. The man from Klebark rang up his friends. As they joined him, they all battered the Georgian men”. The police did not think their motives had anything to do with racism. However, villagers’ opinions were different. “One of the attackers told the Georgian man that this street were not for him and that he should have gotten the fuck out of Klebark” – recounted one witness. He added that many onlookers were present. “They stood in their windows as the Georgian men shouted ‘Don’t beat us’. But nobody got involved. Only one man behaved honourably and tried to drag the attackers from the strangers”. The prosecutor’s office is establishing the circumstances of the incident.

OSTRÓW WLKP. On October 18th, the District Court dismissed a former MEP Witold Tomczak’s case under the statute of limitations (he represented the League of Polish Families). Tomczak was accused of insult to a police officers. In June 1999, Tomczak was subject to a test by the policemen who had noticed the man driving the wrong direction up a one-way street in Ostrów Wlkp. According to an indictment, he insulted the policemen. His action was heard by many courts of different instances. As an MP and later on an MEP, Tomczak relied on his parliamentary immunity for a few years. At last, his trial began on February 9th, 2009, before the District Court in Ostrów. The proceeding were continuously interrupted by supporters of the accused who, coordinated by the Radio Maryja, appeared at the hearing. At the beginning of March, following anonymous threats made by Tomczak’s followers, a judge was put under police protection. On April 28th, 2009, before the subsequent hearing the court guards detained a 70-year-old man who attempted to enter a court room with three knives. Earlier, Tomczak became “famous” for destroying

Maurizio Cattelana’s sculpture representing the pope John Paul II crushed by the meteorite that was displayed in the Warsaw’s “Zachęta” art gallery. He left there a letter addressed to Anda Rottenberg, the gallery director, filled with anti-Semitic insults. He could have faced up to 5 years of imprisonment. In an opinion, the judge Renata Szenfeld stated that due to both Tomczak’s and witnesses’ repetitive absences and motions filed by his advocates, the court did not have a chance to adjudicate whether the accused was guilty or not.

WŁOSZCZOWA. On October 19th, the police detained a 34-year-old resident of the town who was suspected of promoting the ideology of fascism. Investigators maintained that he was the author of spray-painted drawings that depicted swastikas and other symbols, which were displayed on walls of public buildings, blocks of flats and houses over the course of several days. A detainee was also suspected of damaging public property. His offences are punishable by up to 5 years of imprisonment.

WODZISŁAW ŚL. On October 19th, numerous anti-Semitic comments appeared on an Internet portal. They followed the information about the Jewish Culture Week that was about to begin in a few days’ time. What’s more, on the night of October 19th in Rybnicka Street, on the outskirts of Radlin, someone burnt a 2.5 meters long banner advertising the event. “Unfortunately, we think that both incidents are interrelated. I am shocked because we’re organising this event for the third time in a row and we have yet to encounter such a behaviour” – said Grzegorz Meisel, head of a local association “Jerusza – Dziedzictwo” who contacted the police about the offensive comments and the burning of the banner.

AUGUSTÓW. On October 24th, fire fighters of the County Unit of the State Fire Brigade filed a complaint with a Regional SFB chief about their District SFB chief and his deputy who displayed forms of behaviour that could have been interpreted as promoting fascism. The fire brigade chiefs were reported to greet their subordinates with the Roman salute and refer to them by the words such as “faggots” and “Heil Hitler f...ks you’re a...s”. Fire fighters substantiated 27 allegations against their superiors that were signed by 40 individuals, that is the majority of the unit members. According to the complaint, the men also used the company equipment and premises for personal gains. They forced the fire fighters to provide services for them and their acquaintances during working hours. After the complaint had been filed, a verifying procedure was launched. “It seems that the fire chiefs will have to face disciplinary procedure and may even be dismissed. The disciplinary committee will decide about the nature of punishment once the investigation is complete” – explained Marcin Janowski, a spokesman for the Regional SFB Chief in Białystok. He added: “Some points of the complaint are reviewed by the prosecutor’s office. The prosecutor’s office acts independently but the moment the regional SFB chief is informed that the action has been started, they will be immediately suspended from their job functions”.

KRAKÓW. On October 26th, neo-nazi incidents took place during a Polish cup match between Wisła Kraków and Widzew Łódź. Visiting “fans” made nazi salutes.

CHEŁM. At the end of October, on the walls of a war cemetery located in the proximity of the Borek woods (near Strupin Łanowy village) “unknown perpetrators” drew swastika and swear words. The police failed to capture individuals responsible for the devastation. At the cemetery are buried Austrian, Russian and German soldiers who fell in WWII. Beside them, lie Polish soldiers who died in the interbellum period and those who were killed in WWII. The office of the district governor in Chełm put the cemetery under the CCTV surveillance.

WARSZAWA. At the end of October, an open-air exhibition “God’s Beavers – the Forgotten World of the Olender”, organized by the State Ethnographical Museum, was vandalised again. “Unknown

perpetrators" curved out swastika on Martin Luther's portrait. The exhibition told the story of tolerance in Poland. The display depicted the history of the Olender – farmers from Frisia and the Netherlands – who came to Poland and settled here in the 16th century as to avoid religious persecution in their home country. The exhibition situated in front of the Museum office, was already exposed to xenophobic vandalism two or three time in the past. Display-boards were smudged and broken.

NOVEMBER 2010

CHOJNICE. On November 6th, racist incidents took place during a third-division match between Chojniczanka Chojnice and Raków Częstochowa. Home "fans" made nazi salutes and shouted "Sieg Heil". They also displayed a banner on the pitch-side fence with a so-called *falanga*, an image of a hand holding a sword – a symbol today's Polish extreme-right wing borrowed from pre-war Polish fascists.

GDYNIA. On November 6th, during a first-division match between Arka Gdynia and Korona Kielce, home "fans" displayed a banner on the pitch-side fence with a racist slogan: "Arka Gdynia White Brothers. United Patriots. Tolerance is the virtue of people without beliefs" and the so-called "rune of death", a symbol of nazi movements including the American National Alliance (a racist organisation established by William Pierce, the author of *The Turner Diaries*, a cult novel in extreme right-wing circles and an inspiration for terrorist Timothy McVeigh, whose 1995 bombing of a US federal building in Oklahoma City claimed 167 lives).

ŁÓDŹ. On November 9th, it came to the attention of one of the city dwellers that a shop located near the city centre, owned by Barbara Z., which offered military items, sold also wine with labels that bore fascist symbols. The symbols were: Adolf Hitler's image, swastikas, III Reich's emblems and a slogan first used by the Prussian invader and later the nazi army that occupied Poland: "Gott mit uns". The Łódź inhabitant informed the Polsat Television about the incident. The shop owner saw nothing reprehensible in selling alcohol with such symbols. She claimed the wine had been imported through the agency of her acquaintance in Belgium on a regular basis. The bottles had no tax stamps, no information concerning a producer, its composition or alcohol content. The incident was reported to the police and the Customs Chamber. During a search, police officers requisitioned illegal alcohol. "Labels on the bottles promoted, in our opinion, fascist contents. We also seized weapon elements and ammunition that were displayed in the shop" – said Magdalena Zielińska of the Police Headquarters in Łódź. "Alcohol had no tax stamps and thus its possession is a violation of law" – said Beata Bińczyk with the Customs Chamber of Łódź. The Belgium police are going to look into the matter as well.

RADOM. On November 9th, councillor Krzysztof Gajewski (of Radomianie Razem) revealed that at the beginning of July he had become a target for a series of slandering comments placed on the gazeta.pl forum. While examining the incident, the District Prosecutor's Office established that an Internet user hidden under the nickname "zbforyjude" had used a computer in an office of an MP of the Law and Justice party (PiS), Krzysztof Sońta. The nickname user logged to the portal as Hans Koschnik (Hans Koschnik is a social democratic politician from Germany) residing in Berlin, 3 SStrasse. On-line he placed derogatory comments about Jews, Russians and the Roma. Paweł Sońta said: "I confirm that the comment concerning Mr. Gajewski's past that was made on July 2nd was sent from my office but I do not know its author and I was unable to establish who had done it. Many people, 300 or so, visited my office and had easy access [to the computer, editor's note].

I was at the seaside on that day". At the beginning of November, Mr. Gajewski was notified by the prosecutor's office that the case had been dropped due to the failure in determining a perpetrator. Gajewski filed a complaint.

OPOLE. During the night on November 10th-11th, on the wall of a building in Konopnicka Street, that houses the office of Towarzystwo Społeczno-Kulturalne na Śląsku Opolskim, someone painted a red symbol of "Polska Walcząca" ("fighting Poland"). Perpetrators remain unknown. Ryszard Donitza, an office director, said: "There were Polish flags put on the building, so it is hard to understand why someone did it". The director considered the installation of CCTV that would help record similar occurrences in the future. Earlier on, an "unknown perpetrator" vandalised the office's information board.

WARSZAWA. On November 11th, on the National Independence Day, the Independence March in the city centre was organized by an outlawed organisation National-Radical Camp (ONR) together with the All-Polish Youth (MW). The permission to organise the demonstration was given by the municipal authorities and the participants were protected by the police. Members of National Rebirth of Poland (NOP) joined subsequently. Demonstrators chanted: "Roman Dmowski – Poland's saviour!", "Great Catholic Poland", "In place of leaves – Communists will be hung on the trees", "With a sickle, with a hammer, treat the red rabble". Members of the Polish Nation's Sovereignty (SNP) movement carried a banner: "You sold Poland in the Lisbon Treaty" (distorted spelling of "Lisbon" as the authors of the banner probably intended to make a reference to "lesbians" thus showing their homophobic stance) while Sławomir Zakrzewski, their leader, shouted to anti-nationalist counter-demonstrators: "You must have come from Tel Aviv" and "Shalom Aleichem". Flags that far-right participants carried depicted the king Chrobry's sword (a symbol of the far right movement in Poland) and a Celtic cross (a racist symbol of the *White Power*). Anti-fascist demonstrators who tried to block nationalists gathered in Krakowskie Przedmieście, near Zamkowy Square as well as the Senatorska and Miodowa junction. The demonstration was organized by the 11 November Alliance (Porozumienie 11 Listopada) – a coalition of over 40 organisations. There were violent clashes between the police and both groups of demonstrators. Piotr Ikonowicz (a former leader of the Polish Socialist Party) had his head injured. Nationalists were forced to change the route of march. The Independence March ended near the monument of Roman Dmowski in Na Rozdrożu Square. The participants of the march shouted to counter-demonstrators: "Faggots, faggots!" Speeches were delivered by Janusz Korwin-Mikke (a former leader of the Real Politics Union, UPR) and Artur Zawisza (an MP representing the Right Wing of the Republic of Poland). In addition, the public committee supporting the march was joined by the senator Ryszard Bender (Law and Justice – PiS), Maciej Giertych (a former MEP representing the League of Polish Families – LPR), Paweł Kukiz (a popular rock artist and the leader of a band Piersi), professor Jerzy Robert Nowak, an MP Stanisław Pięta (PiS), columnists Jan Pospieszalski and Rafał Ziemkiewicz and professor Jan Żaryn. The police detained 33 persons – participants of both demonstrations. Amongst them was Robert Biedroń of the Campaign Against Homophobia (KPH), who claimed he had been beaten up three times by the police officers, of which the most severe beating took place in a police car when Biedroń was handcuffed. Again, the police charged him with assault and battery of a policeman, an offence punishable by up to three years of imprisonment. On November 12th, Biedroń reported a crime committed by a police officer to the prosecutor's office. There were a few thousands of people protesting in the streets in total. Once the nationalist demonstration was over, two men, supporters of Polonia War-

szawa, who took part in the nationalist march, were attacked and stabbed by a much larger group supporting Legia Warszawa. The men were admitted to hospital in critical condition. On this day, far right demonstrations took place in other cities as well, for example in Bytom, Gdynia, Kraków, and Wrocław. In Wrocław, during the March of Patriots (organised by the National Rebirth of Poland – NOP), Władysław Frasyński, a former member of democratic opposition under the Communist rule, was attacked. He joined the anti-nationalist demonstration. In Świdnicka Street, a group of men assaulted him. The attackers accused Frasyński of betraying ideals he used to fight for and “siding with the wrong kind of people”. Earlier, the same men attacked a group of young people with whistles – they shook their fists at them, called them “Faggots” and spat on them. The police were not around. In Bytom, organisers of the nationalist demonstration (neo-pagans from Zadruga and White Eagles) chanted: “The place of the left is on the gallows” and “In place of leaves – Communists will be hung on the trees”.

POZNAŃ. On November 13th, during a first-division match between Lech Poznań and Lechia Gdańsk, visiting “fans” displayed a flag with the slogan “CHWM” (“Chuligani Wolnego Miasta” – “Hooligans from the Free City”, a reference to Gdańsk’s inter-war history) and a stylised “Sword of Chrobry”, a symbol used by pre-war Polish fascists and adopted by present-day extreme nationalists to tap into that tradition.

CZĘSTOCHOWA. On November 14th, there were neo-nazi incidents during a third-division Western Group match between Raków Częstochowa and Olimpia Grudziądz. Visiting “fans” made nazi salutes. Moreover, they displayed two banners on the pitch-side fence. One showed the words “Narodowa Częstochowa” (“National Częstochowa”) and a so-called *falanga*, a symbol of an arm holding a sword, which was used by inter-war Polish fascists and adopted by contemporary extreme-right movements such as the National-Radical Camp and National Rebirth of Poland. On the other banner read “Warsaw. Han pasado” (“Warsaw. They passed”, in Spanish). It was a reference to the words chanted by the fascist soldiers of General Franco during the Spanish Civil War (1936-1939), to mock the defeated Republican army’s slogan “No pasaran!” (“They shall not pass!”). The slogan on the second banner was directed at participants in an anti-fascist demonstration against a march in Warsaw on November 11th, Poland’s independence day, which had been organised by the National Rebirth of Poland and National-Radical Camp. On November 29th, the football league fined Częstochowa 5,000 zlotys (around €1,275).

WARSZAWA. On November 17th, “unknown perpetrators” vandalized the statue of Soviet Soldiers located at Żwirki i Wigury Street. In the morning, it was discovered that the plinth of the Mausoleum had been covered with a red paint slogan “Tusk, we want the truth about Smoleńsk”. The deputy head of the board of Warsaw Municipal Cemeteries, Stanisław Jankowski, admitted that even though the area was monitored, it was impossible to recognize perpetrator’s face. The slogan was to be removed the following day. The costs of cleaning of the monument were estimated at between 1,500 and 2,000 zlotys. A meeting between representatives of Russian Embassy and Warsaw Municipal Cemeteries devoted to the issue of improving cemetery’s security was to take place at the beginning of December.

POZNAŃ. On November 17th, during a friendly football match between Poland and Ivory Coast, “fans” of the home team displayed a flag on the pitch-side fence with the words: “Śląsk Wrocław. Be proud of who you are. The symbol of the eagle’s might will lead us”, with the badge of the club Śląsk Wrocław combined with a stylised logo of Blood and Honour, an international neo-nazi organisation which has branches in Poland. The words on the flag where a lyric from a song by a neo-nazi rock band Honor, which is very popular among such “fans” in Poland.

BIAŁYSTOK. On November 20th, during a first-division match between Jagiellonia Białystok and Cracovia Kraków, home “fans” displayed a banner which they had stolen a week before from anti-fascists who had been protesting against an extreme-right march in Warsaw on November 11th, Poland’s independence day. The march, which had wound through the streets of the capital Warsaw, with partici-pants including football hooligan hit-squad members from Legia Warszawa, Polonia Warszawa and Jagiellonia. Anti-fascist activists organised a counter-demonstration. Some of them were attacked and beaten by neo-fascists, and their banner seized. Shortly afterwards, hit-squad members from Jagiellonia boasted about their trophy on the Internet (picture on the right). During the November 20th match, a Polish Football Association observer ordered the flag to be removed from the fence.

GDAŃSK. On November 20th, information about a racist announcement by “fans” of first-division Lechia Gdańsk was published in the Internet version of the sports newspaper “Przegląd Sportowy”. According to a club official quoted in the story, they demanded that Brazilian Luiz Carlos Santos Deleu be the last ever black player at the club. The player had faced racist “fans” of his own club before. On July 14th, during an international warm-up match between Lithuanian club Žalgiris Vilnius and Lechia Gdańsk, such “fans” made no key sounds and chanted: “F...k the nigger, Lechia is a white team” and “Kafar (Tomasz Kafarski is the coach of Lechia Gdańsk – editor’s note) is a laughing stock, quickly take the nigger off” when he got the ball.

GDAŃSK. On November 20th, during a first-division match between Lechia Gdańsk and Widzew Łódź, home “fans” shouted anti-Semitic slogans on the streets in the city: “We beat the shit out of Judaic swines”. The editors of “NEVER AGAIN” magazine were informed about the incident by a member of “Open Republic” an association against anti-Semitism and xenophobia.

POZNAŃ. On November 20th, opponents of that day’s Equality March – or gay pride parade – demonstrated in the city centre. The demonstration was called by Adam Szyndler, former activist of the right-wing Unia Polityki Realnej. A few days earlier, on the Internet forum of “Wiara Lecha” association of Lech Poznań fans, Szyndler encouraged them to “express a firm protest against gay propaganda”. Demonstration participants shouted homophobic chants: “Go and faggot, queers!”, “Once with a sickle, once with a hammer on the rainbow rabble!”, “Stay away from children, faggots, stay away from children”, “Perverts, dykes, gays, the whole of Poland’s laughing at you”, “Stop faggoting! Perverts”. They also threatened participants of the Equality March: “If we catch you, we will smash you”. Such “fans” carried national flags of Poland and Lech scarves. After the homophobic demonstration they went to a league match. Approximately 200 people took part in the demonstration. It ended when Equality March began. Both events were secured by police units.

BIELSK PODLASKI. On November 25th, at the junction of Kazimierzowska and Kazanowskiego streets, opposite to the former ghetto’s gates, “unknown perpetrators” destroyed a plaque dedicated to the local Jewish community. The plaque was to be unveiled the next day. Doroteusz Fionik, the head of Little Homeland Museum in Studziwody, who also initiated the actions to commemorate Jews from Bielsk, said that “by setting the plaque we meant to teach respect to others, particularly to those, who suffered in ghetto in Bielsk, as well as pay our respects to people, who survived the Holocaust and currently live all around the world”. The plaque was to be unveiled despite the damage. The police launched an investigation.

GDYNIA. On November 27th, during a first-division between Arka Gdynia and Śląsk Wrocław, home “fans” displayed a banner with the slogan: “Arka Gdynia White Brothers. United Patriots. Tolerance is the virtue of people without beliefs” and the so-called

“rune of death”, one of the symbols of the neo-nazi movement. This time the slogan “White Brothers” remained covered during a part of the match, probably to avoid a reaction from Polish Football Association’s observer, who is obliged to remove flags with extreme right-wing symbols from stands. The flag was clearly visible on the website of Arka Gdynia in a report from the stands prepared by club’s official TV station.

ŁÓDŹ. On November 27th, during a first-division match between Widzew Łódź and Górnik Zabrze, visiting “fans” shouted anti-Semitic chants. They were directed at fans of Widzew, who are often called “Jews” by opponents, particularly by those with extreme right-wing beliefs. On December 2nd, the league fined Górnik Zabrze 5,000 zlotys (€1,275).

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WARSZAWA. On December 4th, a far right weekly magazine “High Time!” published Natalia Dueholm’s interview with Mariusz Dzierżawski of the “PRO – the right to Live” Foundation, who claimed that “Owsiak’s hooligans stole an exhibition, which was covered by media repeatedly”. This remark alludes to an event at Przystanek Woodstock in Kostrzyn (in 2010) – the representatives of the “PRO” Foundation set up an anti-abortion exhibition “Choose Life” at the entrance to the festival. The exhibition’s organizers claim that it was destroyed by members of the Peace Patrol who are responsible for security at the festival. The exhibition displayed drastic photographs of aborted fetuses paralleled with photos of war casualties. On December 15th, a lawyer hired by Jerzy Owsiak and “Wielka Orkiestra Świątecznej Pomocy” Foundation demanded that the magazine put right the information that tarnishes their good name. Mariusz Dzierżawski has been the chairman of extreme right-wing party Real Politics Union (UPR).

STRZELCE OPOLSKIE. On December 4th, at the entrance to the building where Nigerian, Senegalese and Zimbabwean players of LZS Piotrówka lived, and on the two adjacent façades, “unknown perpetrators” painted racist slogans and symbols. On the front of the building located in the corner of Żeromskiego Square and at Wajdy Street two swastikas and the slogan “Nigger Raus” was painted in black paint. They also painted the words “My tu zawsze będziemy” (“We will always be here”) and swastikas on the neighbouring building at Grunwaldzka Street. A swastika was also painted on the front door casing in the building where the players live. “On Monday morning we noticed slogans painted on the wall, but, as we did not want to be a medium for such content, the building administration removed them” – said Piotr Jagielski, director of a branch of the bank PKO BP in Strzelce Opolskie which was among the graffitied sites. The bank’s management did not report the incident to the police. Officers received information about it from journalists. Beata Kocur from county police headquarters in Strzelce Opolskie said: “We will be investigating the case. The legal basis is an article of the penal code which says that propagating a totalitarian system is punishable by a fine, restriction of liberty or up to two years’ imprisonment”.

UŁANÓW. On December 6th, Polish Jews Forum informed that, thanks to the intervention of the “Open Republic” Association Against Anti-Semitism and Xenophobia and the Foundation for Preservation of Jewish Heritage in Poland, the Ursynów Municipal Council removed anti-Semitic motifs from a low relief located at the entrance to the Town Hall. The plaque commemorating inhabitants of Ursynów who died during and after World War II incorporated motifs of snakes and Stars of David next to communist symbols (stars and sickles with hammers), which, according to the “Open Republic” Association, resembled propaganda pictures

in the nazi magazine “Stürmer”. Anti-Semitic motifs were reported on by descendants of Ułanów Jews, citizens of Israel who visited the town in June, 2010.

BIELSKO-BIAŁA. Probably during the night of December 12th-13th, “fans” of BKS Stal Bielsko-Biała painted insults aimed at a “NEVER AGAIN” associate on a pro-ecology mural on the walls of the “Na Blachach” Gallery, which was his work. Among the insults were: “queer”, “paedophile”, “Jew”. His name and an abbreviation of his surname were also included. The perpetrators signed themselves as “BKS” at the bottom in the same spray paint. The incident was reported to the police. On December 30th, Wojciech Podsiadło from the District Prosecutor’s Office in Bielsko-Biała issued a ruling to dismiss an investigation on ground of “lack of public interest”.

WROCŁAW. On December 14th, District Court sentenced three men for editing neo-fascist web-page Redwatch: Andrzej P. (member of Polish division of neo-nazi organization Blood and Honour and the website administrator) was sentenced to 18 months of imprisonment, Bartosz B. to 13 months, Mariusz T. to 15 months. The court recognized the time on a remand as part of the sentence. On February 8th, District Attorney Office launched an investigation in the case of Redwatch database built on the internet by the Polish division of Blood and Honour. “The list of enemies” that is located on a neo-fascist server in the USA, includes left-wing organization members, anti-fascists, and feminists from various cities. “The list of enemies” provides information such as photographs, descriptions, home, workplace and school addresses, birthdates, places where “enemies” spend their free time, as well as phone numbers. The prosecutor took measures after the case was publicized in the media, which were alarmed by the “NIGDY WIĘCEJ” association.

WROCŁAW. On December 15th, District Court found Dawid G. of National Revival of Poland (NOP) and Dariusz P., Maciej P., Szymon K., Sebastian J. and Lukasz D. of Nationalist Association “Zadruga” innocent of propagating fascism and instigating racially-motivated hatred. The judge, Robert Zdych, explained in the justification of the sentence, that slogans claiming the superiority of the white race are merely classics of “French and English 19th and 20th century ideologues”. The demonstrators’ manifesto (“Poland is a country belonging to Christian and Latin civilization – the civilization of the white man. We will not allow our heritage to be replaced by a culture of bush and bamboo. For the sake of us all, both white and coloured, separation of cultures and civilizations must be maintained, and each of us should live where the hand of the Almighty placed them”) was interpreted in the following way: “by propagating purity of blood, the protestors did not depreciate any skin colour; the idea is meant to be the warrantor of ‘maintaining the biological features of the nation; its original and unique beauty’”. On March 21st, 2007, they (along with other members of NOP, “Zadruga”, neo-nazi organization Blood and Honour and Conservative Punk-Division Poland group) disrupted anti-fascist demonstration organized on the occasion of the International Day Against Racism. The protestors carried banners with stylized swastikas and racist slogans: “White Power” and “All different, all white”. They were chanting „Whole Poland all white”, „Europe for Whites, Africa for HIV”, “Poland for Poles”, “White Power, black plague”. They were yelling the words of Benito Mussolini: “There is place in our country for the black ones – but only for the black shirts” and: “Mixing races is a crime against the law of nature”. After the trial, Małgorzata Klaus, the spokesperson for District Prosecutor’s Office in Wrocław, said: “We do not agree with the verdict; we requested the justification and we are considering requesting for annulment. On January 14th, Polish Ombudsman announced that he would investigate the acquittal, and the Constitutional Tribunal of the Republic of Poland will look into whether the symbols of NOP are in accor-

dance with the constitution. The Supreme Court examined the acquittal by second instance court. On January 20th, professor Irena Lipowicz announced that if the prosecutor does not annul the acquittal in the case of the NOP members instigation to racism-based hate, she will do it herself. She stated: "Instances of xenophobia and instigating to racism-based hate are of particular interest for the Polish Ombudsman. Such cases contravene the most basic human rights and they threaten freedom and democracy; they violate the legal standards in Poland and European Union. For this reason the Polish Ombudsman wants to investigate this case thoroughly". On February 16th, Wrocław Public Prosecutor's Office made a cassation appeal to the District Court.

LUBLIN. On December 17th at 11 p.m., "unknown perpetrators" broke glasses and threw bricks with black painted swastikas into the apartment of Tomasz Pietrasiewicz, the founder of a world-wide known centre "Brama Grodzka – Teatr NN". A firecracker was mounted on one of the bricks. Pietrasiewicz informed the police. In his opinion, the reason for the attack was his involvement in Polish-Jewish relations. He said: "When I looked at the brick I could feel intense hate of someone who threw it. The kitchen was demolished. If there was anyone of my family or I, it could result in tragedy. For the first time in my life I felt like Jews, whose windows were smashed. Apart from fear it's a terrible helplessness. Nevertheless, I will not change anything in my life, install bars in my windows or move out, because this is exactly what the aggressors expect me to do". A month earlier, someone threw a bottle into one of his windows, but at that time he considered it to be "some hooligan's excess". Beata Syk-Jankowska, the spokesperson for district prosecutor's office in Lublin, announced that on December 27th a decision would be made whether the incident should be categorized as an offence against property or investigators should take it into consideration as an offence against person. Initially, the investigators qualified the attack as a multiple crime: devastation of property and endangering the man's health or life. The prosecutor's office did not take into account anti-Semitic nature of the attack, since the harmed person admitted he was not Jewish and his only connection to Jewish culture is through his work and hobby.

WROCŁAW. On December 17th, District Court judged that grounds for physical assault on a Nigerian, Franklin U., committed by Mateusz B. and Michał R. were not racist. Judge Beata Kinstler changed the charge to participation in a fight and refrained from imposing a punishment. They were sentenced to a fine of 200 zlotys to be paid to a charity. On June 8th, 2009, before 4 a.m. students Mateusz B. and Michał R. saw two black men at a bus stop located at John Paul II Square. These men were Franklin U. and Idam W., Nigerian students of Wrocław University of Technology. Poles shouted racist insults: "Nigger!", "Coon!" and attacked Franklin U. The assaulted man tried to defend himself and the incident was noticed by two policemen. When they intervened, the third of Poles present there, Bartosz K., started insulting them and tussle with them. The police detained three men. On January 11th, 2010, Stare Miasto District Prosecutor's Office charged Mateusz B. and Michał R. with racially-based physical assault. Bartosz K. was charged with insulting the police officers and assaulting them and found guilty in the trial. The case of insulting Idam W. was to be investigated separately.

STAPORKÓW. On December 27th, "Gazeta Wyborcza Kielce" newspaper wrote about the case of a Russian woman living in Poland, who was insulted with xenophobic words by Teresa Cz., sister of her husband. In April 2009, the woman was standing on the balcony and was taking photographs, when Cz. Shouted: "Tell this Russky, to take photos of her p...y, and not my house". The Russian woman informed the Police and Cz. was charged under article 216, paragraph .1 of the penal code. Xenophobic insults by her husband's family appeared before: "Russian b...ch", "Russian prostitute", "Russian slut". Her son, who was born in Poland, often heard he was referred to as "that Russky". The First Instance Court acquitted Cz., the reason being insufficient proofs that she really uttered the above words. After an appeal, District Court in Kielce stated that the case be re-examined. On August 2nd, in the second verdict the court pronounced that the statement was uttered but it was not recognized as an insult. The justification of the sentence says: "The word 'Russky' is a name that contains a small element of dislike and disrespect toward people of Russian origin, but it is not insulting and contemptuous. In the case of private prosecutor and her son, the word 'Russky' was commonly used by country folk". The harmed made another appeal, in which she wrote: "I come from Russia. I am Russian! I am proud of it! The fact that it happened that I have been living in Poland for the last 20 years, does not make me worse and it doesn't mean I have no rights here. (...) And this verdict is a consent for other people to call me contemptuous and disrespectful names with absolutely no consequences (...)". On January 4th, 2011, District Court acquitted Teresa Cz.

BYTOM. On December 29th, "Gazeta Wyborcza Katowice" daily informed about a series of assaults on the Roma over the previous months. Perpetrators tried to extort protection money from a Romani family and threatened to break their son's legs if they refused. His mother stopped sending him to school. At the end of the year he was battered in "Agora" shopping centre. Even though the family pointed at the perpetrators, they were still harassed. As a result, the family had to move from their own home to a hotel. Similar incidents happened to another Romani family. It was not before the media became interested in this case that the provincial governor initiated a meeting devoted to this subject. The meeting took place on December 26th and afterwards a judge of the Romani Tribunal commented: "I am glad the meeting took place, but no one offered protection to those, who are scared for their lives. Nobody declared there would be peace in Bytom".

BYDGOSZCZ. On December 31st in the evening, there was an anti-Semitic incident in front of a block of flats in Twardzickiego Street. A group of a few people made a penis-shaped snowman. A star of David and an inscription "BKS" (Budowlany Klub Sportowy from Bydgoszcz) was placed on top of it and flares were burning on either side. Passersby did not react, nor did the police intervene.

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WARSAW 2011