



PROGRAM

2nd Forum of Rectors of Poland and Türkiye

Gdańsk, 8 May 2026

Venue:

Main Library of the University of Gdańsk, Oliwa Campus

Organizers:

University of Gdańsk

Ministry of Science and Higher Education (Poland)

Council of Higher Education in Türkiye (YÖK)

Conference of Rectors of Academic Schools in Poland (CRASP)

Inter-University Board in Türkiye (ÜAK)

Perspektywy Education Foundation

Polish National Agency for Academic Exchange (NAWA)

Foundation for the Development of the Education System (FRSE)

09:00 - 09:30

Participant registration and networking

(simultaneously)

09.00 - 09.15

A press conference with the participation of Minister Marcin Kulasek and President Erol Özvar, President of CRASP, Rector UG and representatives of NAWA, Perspektywy and FRSE

09:15 – 09:20

Official opening of the Polish - Turkish Studies Centre at the University of Gdańsk by Minister Marcin Kulasek and President Erol Özvar in the presence of the rectors of Istanbul University, Istanbul Technical University, Istanbul University Cerrahpaşa and Gazi University

09:30 – 11:00**Opening Session: Political and Strategic Frameworks for Polish–Turkish Cooperation in Higher Education**

(Language: English and simultaneous interpretation: Polish / Turkish)

- National anthems
- Welcome address by the host: Prof. PIOTR STEPNOWSKI, Rector of the University of Gdańsk
- Dr MARCIN KULASEK, Minister of Science and Higher Education of Poland
- Prof. EROL ÖZVAR, President of the Council of Higher Education of Türkiye (YÖK)
- RAUF ALP DENKTAŞ, Ambassador of the Republic of Türkiye to Poland
- Prof. BOGUMIŁA KANIEWSKA, President of CRASP
- Prof. HÜSNÜ KAPU, Term Chairman of Inter-universities Board
- Dr WOJCIECH KARCZEWSKI, Director of NAWA
- Prof. UĞUR ÜNAL, Rector of Gazi University (host of the 1st Forum)
- Dr BIANKA SIWIŃSKA, President of the Perspektywy Education Foundation
- ADA GUŻNICZAK, Member of FRSE Board

11:00 – 11:10**Ceremonial signing of the Memorandum of Cooperation in Science and Higher Education**

Minister MARCIN KULASEK and President EROL ÖZVAR

11:10 – 11:15

Photo session

11:15 – 11:30

Coffee break

11:30 – 12:15

Panel I: Development of Dual-Use Technologies at Technical Universities in Poland and Türkiye

(Language: English)

Moderator:

Prof. MAREK PAWEŁCZYK, Rector of Silesian University of Technology

Panelists:

Prof. HASAN MANDAL, Rector of Istanbul Technical University

Prof. TEOFIL JESIONOWSKI, Rector of Poznań University of Technology

Prof. NACI ÇAĞLAR, Rector of Bursa Technical University

Prof. KRZYSZTOF JÓŻWIK, Rector of Łódź University of Technology

Prof. MEHMET KUL, Rector of Sivas University of Science and Technology

Prof. KRZYSZTOF WILDE, Rector of Gdańsk University of Technology

12:15 – 13:00

Panel II: Perspectives for Polish–Turkish Cooperation in Social Sciences and Humanities

(Language: English)

Moderator:

Prof. MUSTAFA HATİPLER, Rector of Trakya University

Panelists:

Prof. RAFAŁ MATERA, Rector of University of Łódź

Prof. HÜSEYİN DALGAR, Rector of Burdur Mehmet Akif Ersoy University

Prof. ROMAN CIEŚLAK, Rector of SWPS University

Prof. OSMAN BÜLENT ZÜLFİKAR, Rector of Istanbul University

Prof. MARIUSZ POPŁAWSKI, Rector of Białystok University

Prof. MEHMET CAHİT GÜRAN, Rector of Hacettepe University

13:00 – 13:15

Intervention I: Cooperation in joint research projects - CEZARY BŁASZCZYK, National Centre for Research and Development (NCBR)

13:15 – 14:15

Lunch

14:15 – 14:30

Intervention II: (comparative analysis) NCN's experience to date in organizing and funding bilateral programmes - JUSTYNA WOŹNIAKOWSKA, National Science Centre (NCN)

YUNUS ALPER ALTAY, Vice Chairman of Turkish National Agency

14:30 – 15:15

Panel III (*under the patronage of NAWA*): **Institutional Partnerships, Language Support and Research Centres as Bridges for Cooperation**

(Language: English)

Moderator:

Dr DAMIAN SYJCZAK, Deputy Director of NAWA

Panelists:

Prof. HACI ALI MANTAR, Rector of Gebze Technical University

Prof. MARTA KOSIOR-KAZBERUK, Rector of Białystok University of Technology

Prof. YUSUF BARAN, Rector of Izmir Institute of Technology

Prof. JAN KAZAK, Wrocław University of Environmental and Life Sciences

Prof. OSMAN NURİ ÇELİK, Rector of Konya Technical University

Prof. HACER TOPAKTAŞ ÜSTÜNER, Istanbul University

15:15 – 16:00

Panel IV **Opportunities for Polish–Turkish Cooperation in Medical and Natural Sciences**

(Language: English)

Moderator:

Prof. Dr. HAMIT EMRAH BERİŞ, Rector of Çukurova University

Panelists:

Prof. BAYRAM YILMAZ, Rector of Dokuz Eylül University

Prof. KAROLINA PAWLAK, Vice-Rector of Poznań University of Life Sciences

Prof. AHMET HACİMÜFTÜOĞLU, Rector of Atatürk University

Prof. LUCYNA WOŹNIAK, Vice-Rector of the Medical University of Łódź

Prof. NURI AYDIN, Rector of Cerrahpaşa University

Prof. MICHAŁ MARKUSZEWSKI, Rector of Medical University of Gdańsk

16:00 – 16:30

Coffee break

16:30 – 17:15

Panel V: *(under the patronage of FRSE): Polish-Turkish academic cooperation – from Erasmus mobility to partnerships*

(Language: English)

Moderator:

RENATA DECEWICZ, FRSE Deputy Director

Panelists:

Prof. BOGUMIŁA KANIEWSKA, Rector of Adam Mickiewicz University

Prof. SAMBOR GRUCZA, Vice-Rector of University of Warsaw

EMRE CAN ALPTEKIN Ph.D., University of Wrocław

HATICE KÜBRA ÖZ, student of Adam Mickiewicz University

17:15 – 18:00

PANEL VI: Realizing Potentials and Opportunities in Turkish Universities for Polish Students and Academicians

Moderator: Prof. UĞUR ÜNAL, Rector of Gazi University

Panelists:

Prof. HAMDULLAH ÇUVALCI, Rector of Karadeniz Technical University

Prof. ADNAN OZCAN, Rector of Eskisehir Technical University

Prof. RAMAZAN BAYINDIR (Vice Chairman of Turkish Quality Council (YÖKAK))

Assoc. Prof. ESAT İPEK, Council of Higher Education in Türkiye (YÖK)

18:00 – 18:10

Summary and closing of the Forum

18:10 – 18:30

Time for signing inter-university agreements

18:30 – 22:00

Gala dinner