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0521838959 - The Political Economy of Poland's Transition: New Firms and Reform Governments

Edited by John E. Jackson, Jacek Klich and Krystyna Poznanska

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## THE POLITICAL ECONOMY OF POLAND'S TRANSITION

NEW FIRMS AND REFORM GOVERNMENTS

In the time span of a two-term U.S. presidency, Poland changed from being an authoritarian one-party state with a faltering centrally planned economy to become a relatively stable multiparty democracy with a market economy with one of the highest GDP growth rates in Europe. A central feature of these economic and political reforms is a high entry rate for new, domestically owned firms. Using detailed economic and political data, this book examines how these new firms contributed to the Polish transition. The authors test propositions about why some regions have more new firms than others and how the success of these new firms contributed to political constituencies that supported economically liberal parties. The book concludes by contrasting the Polish transition with the experiences of other transitional countries.

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# THE POLITICAL ECONOMY OF POLAND'S TRANSITION

*New Firms and Reform Governments*

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AWS	Akcja Wyborcza Solidarność (Solidarity Electoral Action)
AWSP	Akcja Wyborcza Solidarność-Prawicy (Solidarity Electoral Action of the Right)
BBWR	Bezpartyjny Blok Wspierania Reform (Nonpartisan Bloc for Reform)
EBRD	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
EU	European Union
GDR	German Democratic Republic
GUS	Główny Urząd Statystyczny (Central Statistical Office)
IMF	International Monetary Fund
KLD	Kongres Liberalno-Demokratyczny (Liberal-Democratic Congress)
KOR	Komitet Obrony Robotników (Worker Defense Committee)
KPN	Konfederacja Polski Niepodległej (Confederation for an Independent Poland)
LPR	Liga Polskich Rodzin (Polish Families League)
MSzP	Magyar Szocialista Párt (Hungary Socialist Party)
OECD	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
OPZZ	Ogólnopolskie Porozumienie Związków Zawodowych (All Polish Alliance of Trade Unions)
PC	Porozumienie Centrum (Center Alliance)
PGSS	Polskie Generalne Sondáže Społeczne (Polish General Social Surveys)
PiS	Prawo i Sprawiedliwość (Law and Justice)
PO	Platforma Obywatelska (Civic Platform)
PSL	Polskie Stronnictwo Ludowe (Polish Peasants' Party)
PZPR	Polska Zjednoczona Partia Robotnicza (Polish United Workers Party)

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ROP	Ruch Odbudowy Polski (Movement for the Reconstruction of Poland)
SLD	Sojusz Lewicy Demokratycznej (Democratic Left Alliance)
SLD/UP	Sojusz Lewicy Demokratycznej/Unia Pracy (Democratic Left Alliance/Labor Union)
SOE	state-owned enterprise
SRP	Samoobrona Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej (Self-Defense of the Polish Republic)
UD	Unia Demokratyczna (Democratic Union)
UP	Unia Pracy (Labor Union)
UW	Unia Wolności (Freedom Union)
ZChN	Zjednoczenie Chrześcijańsko-Narodowe (Christian National Alliance)