

# Civic education in POLAND - getting emancipated from history



JOANNA WOJDON  
(UNIVERSITY OF WROCLAW)  
joanna.wojdon@uni.wroc.pl



1. Bologna-process
2. Curricula for teacher education
3. Relation between history and civic education
4. Relation between didactics of history and didactics of civic education
5. Who is allowed to teach the subject 'civic education' in secondary school?
6. Internet, eLearning for trainee students



# The history of civic education (after WWII)



- propaganda objectives under the communist regime
- 1952-56: „knowledge about the Constitution”
- no official textbook
- since 1980s - knowledge about the society (WOS)

# Civic education vs history (1)



- primary school: one subject: history & society
- lower secondary level: separate subjects: history and ‘knowledge about the society’ (WOS) combining economy, political science, sociology, law and history
  - civic education
  - economy
  - sexual education
- upper secondary: separate subjects
- vocational schools: one subject: history & society

## Civic education vs history (2)



- Where to teach contemporary history?
- Pupils chose WOS
- Who can teach civic education?
  - ~~traditionally: history teachers~~
  - legal dispute about the „similar subject”
  - ITT training offered for students of history, sociology, political science
  - post-graduate courses focused on civic education ITT

# ITT Standards (2004)



## **Bachelor level:**

2 subjects, choice depends on the courses offered in the institution

min. 400 h courses of the second subject

## **MA level:**

1 or 2 subjects

min. 550 h courses of the second subject

# U of Wrocław



- history + civic education
- history + English
  
- English + history
- geography + history
- civic education + history



# **WHAT IS CIVIC EDUCATION?**



# Curriculum of the „second subject”

institution  
resources

school  
curriculum

2nd  
subject

U of Wrocław, Bachelor level	ECTS	HRS
Contemporary political systems	3	30
European integration	3	30
European Union decision-making systems	1	15
Political thought of the 19-20. c.	3	30
Elements of sociology	2	30
International relations	2	30
Globalization	3	30
Selected elements of law	2	30
Political system of the Republic of Poland	3	30
Ethics	1	15
Local policy	3	30
Economy basics	5	45
Media in the contemporary World	2	30
Seminar	4	30
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>405</b>

U of Wrocław, MA level	ECTS	HRS
Ecology	3	30
Political problems of the World in the 21st c.	3	30
Poland in the World politics in 20.-21. c.	3	30
International organizations	3	30
World socio-economical changes in 20.-21. c.	3	30
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>150</b>

# ITT Standards - 2



- main academic discipline
- second subject
- general pedagogy, psychology, voice emission
- IT, foreign language, physical training
- subject didactics of 2 subjects

# Didactics of civic education



- Few publications
- No journal
- No textbook
- Centrum Edukacji Obywatelskiej (NGO)

# Other subjects



- cultural education (WOK) - upper secondary
- 'entrepreneurship' (economy) - upper secondary
- geography
  - no relation to history, separate ITT
  - part of 'nature' at primary school,
  - separate subject in secondary education