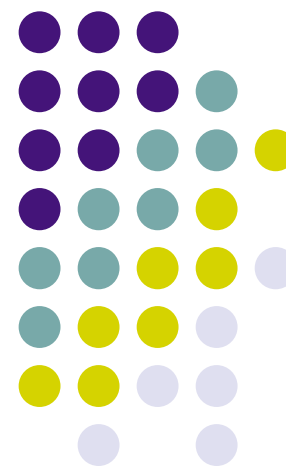


Internship at the Office of the Committee for European Integration



June – July 2008





Overview

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- How is UKIE structured?
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- What did I learn during my time at UKIE?
- What type of person should seek an internship at UKIE?



eng.komora.net/.../tabid/1001/Default.aspx



What is UKIE?

- UKIE is the Office of the Committee for European Integration
- It is sort of like a Ministry of European Affairs that coordinates that work of all the other ministries and institutions that deal in issue areas related to Poland's integration into the European Union



www.zgwrp.org.pl/5kongres/



Why does UKIE exist?

- UKIE acts like a secretariat to the Committee on European Integration (KIE) in Council of Ministers
- UKIE coordinates the activities of working groups
- The Office plans legal changes to align with EU decision making processes
- It supervises foreign assistance expenditure
- UKIE informs Polish citizens about the EU
- UKIE delegates representatives to EU working groups

"Some basic facts concerning the role of UKIE in the Polish central administration structure. February 2006.



How is UKIE structured?

- UKIE is a governmental institution that employs public policy experts and lawyers as well as administrative support staff
- About 400 people work for UKIE while 27 people work in my department, the Department of Analyses and Strategies
- UKIE is extremely effective at resolving disputes between the different governmental ministries in order to create Poland's coherent EU policy position

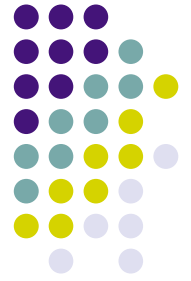


<http://www.tvn24.pl/0.1532679.wiadomosc.html>

**The Head of UKIE is
Mikołaj Dowgielewicz**

How is UKIE Structured?

Departments in UKIE



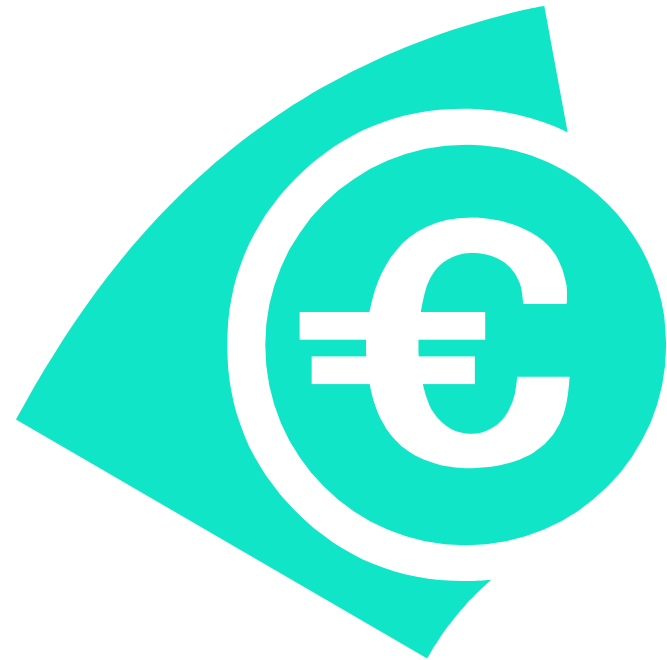
- Political Cabinet of the Chairman of the Committee for European Integration
- Integration Policy Department
- European Union Law Department
- ***Department of Analyses and Strategies***
- National Aid Coordinator Department
- Department for Institution Building Programmes
- European Information Department
- European Training Department

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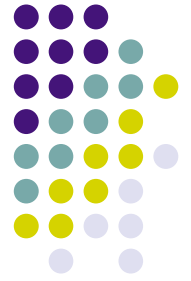


How is UKIE funded?

- UKIE is funded through the budget of the Polish government
- UKIE monitors the distribution of funds from the European Union related to foreign assistance and institution building



What does the Department of Analyses and Strategies look like?



- There are 27 people who work in the Department of Analyses and Strategies and one other intern
- Chief Experts in the department specialize in various issues related to the EU from migration patterns to agricultural policies



What does the Department of Analyses and Strategies do?

- Prepares long-term strategic analyses
- Participates in the preparation of instructions for working groups and the Council of Ministers
- Monitors the implementation of internal conclusions
- Initializes the preparation of government positions on draft legislation

UKIE Logo



www.natolin.edu.pl

What was the nature of my internship? The Substance



- Because I interned in the Department of Analyses and Strategies, I did an immense amount of research on different issues related to EU policy
- I worked in several different policy areas including migrations and social policy, budget review, agricultural and energy issues, and regional and cohesion policy issues
- My day to day tasks involved compiling and summarizing policy positions of different states and think tanks around the globe

What was the nature of my internship? Issue Areas



- An example of a research issue is the upcoming European Union Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region that will be presented during the Swedish Presidency at the end of 2009
- Our department deals with long term issues, so we are concerned not only about Poland's current policy position, but whether Poland should consider the Strategy further during its EU Presidency at the end of 2011



http://www.eu2007.pt/UE/vFN/Conheca_a_UE/O_que_UE/

EU member states must first fully develop their own policy positions before negotiations of compromise begin

What was the nature of my internship? Effectiveness



- By spending a lot of time on this issue area, I began to understand how far in advance policy must be dictated and the complexity of issues
- For instance, the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region is a result of enlargement in 2004, but it will be a long term plan spanning several decades
- I learnt the policy positions of a many EU member states on a variety of issues

What did I learn during my time at UKIE? Experientially



- Because my Political Science studies at the University of Pittsburgh focus on the European Union, it was extremely rewarding to see EU policy implementation and position creation in practice
- I was able to put a lot the knowledge that I have learned in books to practical use
- I also gained a lot of additional practical knowledge that I could have never obtained from a book, journal article, or lecture

What was the nature of my internship? Administrative Tasks



- On a day to day basis, I did not have many administrative duties
- Occasionally, I proofread articles or program descriptions for English grammatical correctness
- The most exciting administrative task was the day that I got to proofread an article written by Prime Minister Tusk that was printed in the *Financial Times* the next day



Poland is celebrating four years of European Union membership this year.

http://www.poland.gov.pl/The_priorities_of_Polish_European_policy_459.html

What did I learn during my time at UKIE? Career Oriented



- I discovered that research in the public administration sector is not my forte
- Instead, I know now that I am much more interested in case studies concerning particular laws
- My internship at UKIE enable me to create a much clearer picture about my career aspirations and the nature of working in a governmental, public administration format

What type of person should seek an internship at UKIE?



- A person who interns at UKIE in the Department of Analyses and Strategies must be extremely self motivated because day to day tasks involve a lot of independent research
- An intern in my department must be adaptable to change and open to researching topics that do not seem that exciting or applicable on the surface
- Overall, my internship was very rewarding and someone else seeking a rewarding internship would also find this placement valuable