

Invitation to the International Scientific Conference

“Science Diplomacy in Border Regions: Building Relations Between Neighbouring Countries”

Szczecin, 25 November 2026 | Technopark Pomerania

We cordially invite you to participate in a conference dedicated to the role of science and expert cooperation in fostering relations between neighbouring countries.

The conference will explore the significance of science diplomacy in border regions, with a particular focus on Polish-German cooperation.

The discussion will focus on how universities, research institutions, public administration bodies and other stakeholders operating on both sides of the border can contribute to building mutual trust and fostering lasting relations through scientific cooperation and knowledge exchange. The conference will also examine the role of such cooperation in developing joint responses to social, economic and environmental challenges.

Conference Programme

8:30–9:00 | Registration

9:00–9:30 | Opening Session

- Prof. Kinga Flaga-Gieruszyńska,
Vice-Rector for Organisation, University of Szczecin
- Professor Gerd Teschke
Rector, Hochschule Neubrandenburg
- Prof. Daniel Wacinkiewicz
President of Technopark Pomerania, University of Szczecin

9:30–10:15 | Keynote Lecture

- Dr hab. n. med. Andrzej Ossowski,
Pomeranian Medical University in Szczecin

10:15–11:45 | Panel Discussion: *Science Diplomacy: Knowledge, Cooperation and Challenges*

Moderator: Prof. Pierre-Frédéric Weber, University of Szczecin

Panellists:

1. Dr Tim Flink – Verband Forschender Arzneimittelhersteller / Humboldt University of Berlin
2. Dr Agnieszka Łada-Konefał – German Poland Institute (online)
3. Dr Kalterina Shulla – University of Bonn
4. Dr Monika Szkarłat – Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin (online)
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11:45–12:00 | Coffee Break

12:00–13:30 | Panel Discussion: *Building Science Diplomacy: Mobility, Universities and Partnerships*

Moderator: Prof. Monika Machoy-Rakoczy – Pomeranian Medical University in Szczecin

Panellists:

1. Dr Klaudia Knabel – German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)
2. Prof. Gerd Teschke – Hochschule Neubrandenburg
3. Dr Damian Syjczak – Polish National Agency for Academic Exchange (NAWA)
4. Jan Jerzy Malicki – Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland (online)
5. Dr Magdalena Sajdak – Ethics Advice Mechanism to the European Commission

13:30–14:00 | Lunch Break

14:00–15:30 | Panel Discussion: *From Research to Innovation: Science, Technology and Industry in Science Diplomacy*

Moderator: Paweł Szeremet – Head of the Office for Innovation, Science and Smart Specialisations, West Pomeranian Region

Panellists:

1. Dr Norbert Obrycki – University of Szczecin
2. Prof. Rafał Rakoczy – West Pomeranian University of Technology in Szczecin
3. Marcin Zamaro – Regional Fund for Environmental Protection and Water Management in Szczecin
4. Representative of German local government

15:30–15:45 | Closing Remarks

Participation in the conference is free of charge.

The conference will feature simultaneous interpretation between Polish and German.

Those interested in attending are kindly **requested to register** using the [registration form](https://www.sciencediplomacy.usz.edu.pl/en), available on the conference website: www.sciencediplomacy.usz.edu.pl/en

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