

F u n d a c j a  
Auschwitz  
  
Birkenau  
F o u n d a t i o n

**SUBSTANTIVE REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES  
OF THE AUSCHWITZ-BIRKENAU FOUNDATION IN 2017**

The Auschwitz-Birkenau Foundation was established in January 2009 by Władysław Bartoszewski. Its objective is to collect 120 million Euros for the Perpetual Capital, the profits from which will finance conservatory work at the Memorial Site Auschwitz-Birkenau.

## **I. FORMAL INFORMATION**

Auschwitz-Birkenau Foundation  
KRS (National Court Register) No: 0000328383,  
REGON (statistical number): 141817074.  
Registered office:  
Warsaw (00-534), Mokotowska 56/9

Official website: [www.fundacja.auschwitz.org](http://www.fundacja.auschwitz.org)

In 2017, the Foundation was managed by the Management Board.

The members of the Board are:

Piotr M. A. Cywiński – President of the Board  
Maciej Antosik – Vice-President of the Board, Financial Director  
Anna Miszewska – Member of the Board, Director General  
Rafał Pióro – Vice-President of the Board  
Łukasz Rozdeiczek-Kryszkowski – Vice-President of the Board

The principles, forms and the extent of the Foundation's statutory activity are detailed in the uniform text of the Auschwitz-Birkenau Foundation Statutes, adopted by the Council of the Foundation Resolution No. 3/2011 of May 31, 2011. The document has been published at the Foundation's official website.

The detailed information regarding income and its sources, as well as the costs of implementation of the statutory objectives, is detailed in the Financial Statement for 2017. The Statement also presents information on salaries and the value of the Foundation's assets in 2017. The document has been published at the Foundation's official website.

Information regarding the balance of the Foundation's bank accounts (as of December 31, 2017):

PLN current accounts:	PLN 30,516,273.47
EUR current accounts:	PLN 9,249.76
USD current accounts:	PLN 3,464,339.46

PLN Short-term deposit yield 1.35% as of 11.05.2018: PLN 18 415.06

Accrued interests – short term deposits: PLN 158.70

Banks: PKO BP, PEKAO S.A., BNP Paribas Fortis, BGŻ BNP Paribas

Information on securities held by the Foundation:

In 2017, the Foundation purchased with the Perpetual Capital funds government and corporate bonds with the total gross value of PLN 2,762,253.49 and USD 8,506,766.92. The issuers of the securities held by the Foundation in 2017 are: Allianz SE, Electricite de France, State Treasury, National Road Fund, Capital City of Warsaw, Government of Lithuania, PKN ORLEN, Landesbank Berlin, DEPFA, Government of Slovenia, Morgan Stanley, Standard Chartered, Deutsche Bank, Rabobank, Credit Suisse, Abbey National, HSBC Holdings, UBS, Citigroup, PKO BP, mBank, Europejski Fundusz Leasingowy, eBay, AT&T, BNP Paribas.

The total balance sheet value of the bonds in the Foundation's possession as of December 31, 2017 was PLN 438,969,644.64.

All securities transactions in 2017 from the Perpetual Capital funds were made through PEKAO S.A., Rabobank, and BNP Paribas Fortis.

Information on other purchased fixed assets:

In 2017 the Foundation purchased fixed assets in the amount of PLN 3,999.

Information on the value of assets and liabilities for statistical purposes:

Total assets: PLN 473,670,128.77

Total liabilities: PLN 310,364.65

Information on the Foundation's settlements of incumbent tax liabilities and information on filed tax declarations:

PIT-4R and CIT-8 declarations were filed for 2016. As of December 31, 2017, short-term liabilities to the Tax Office (US) and Social Insurance Institution (ZUS) due to salaries totalled PLN 27,640.63.

In November 2011, the Foundation was assigned the status of a Public Benefit Organization, which means that individuals paying income tax in Poland may now decide to donate 1% of their tax to the Foundation.

Information on the total annual or average monthly remuneration paid to the members of the Management Board and other Foundation's bodies:

In the financial year, the total gross remuneration paid by the Foundation to the members of the management and supervisory bodies was PLN 382,251.50.

Information on remuneration paid for contract services:

Contract services in 2017 totalled PLN 247,076.39 gross.

Information on inspections performed at the Foundation:

There were no inspections at the Foundation in 2017.

## **II. ACTIVITIES AND COMPETENCIES OF THE FOUNDATION'S BODIES**

### **1. Council of the Foundation**

The Foundation is governed by the Council of the Auschwitz-Birkenau Foundation. The Council members in 2017 were: Marek Zając (Chairman), Marcin Barcz, Eleonora Bergman, Piotr Kadlčik, Serge Klarsfeld, Edward Kosakowski, Paweł Machcewicz, Zbigniew Nosowski, Jürgen Rüttgers, Wojciech Soczewica, Józef Wancer, Henryk Wujec. In 2017, the meeting of the Council was held on June 19.

In 2017, the Council adopted unanimously the following resolutions, both during the meeting and by circulation:

- Selection of the statutory auditor to audit the Foundation's financial statements (Resolution No. 1/2017 of 1 February 2017);
- Dismissal of a member of the International Committee (Resolution No. 2/2017 of 1 February 2017);
- Appointment of a member of the International Committee (Resolution No. 3/2017 of 1 February 2017);
- Appointment of members of the Foundation's Council (Resolution No. 4/2017 of 30 March 2017);
- Appointment of members of the Foundation's Council (Resolution No. 5/2017 dated 19 June 2017);
- Appointment of the Chairman of the Foundation's Council (Resolution No. 6/2017 dated 19 June 2017);
- Approval of the Substantive Report on the Foundation's activity in 2016, delivered by the Board (Resolution No. 7/2017 of 19 June 2017);
- Approval of the Financial Statement of the Foundation for the year 2016 (Resolution No. 8/2017 of 19 June 2017);
- Approval of the Foundation's Perpetual Capital investment strategy (Resolution No. 9/2017 dated 19 June 2017);
- Approval of the annual action plan of the Foundation and the financial plans for the year 2017 (Resolution No. 10/2017 dated 19 June 2017);
- Granting a vote of approval to Piotr Cywiński for the discharge of duties of the President of the Management Board in 2016 (Resolution No. 11/2017 dated 19 June 2017);
- Granting a vote of approval to Rafał Pióro for the discharge of duties of the Vice-President of the Management Board in 2016 (Resolution No. 12/2017 dated 19 June 2017);
- Granting a vote of approval to Łukasz Rozdeiczer-Kryszkowski for the discharge of duties of the Vice-President of the Management Board in 2016 (Resolution No. 13/2017 of 19 June 2017);

- Granting a vote of approval to Anna Miszewska for the discharge of duties of the Member of the Management Board – Director General in 2016 (Resolution No. 14/2017 dated 19 June 2017);
- Granting a vote of approval to Maciej Antosik for the discharge of duties of the Vice-President of the Management Board – Financial Director in 2016 (Resolution No. 15/2017 of 19 June 2017);
- Appointment of a member of the International Committee (Resolution No. 16/2017 of 19 June 2017);

## **2. Management Board of the Foundation**

The Management Board of the Auschwitz-Birkenau Foundation is the body managing and representing the Foundation to external actors: dr Piotr M.A. Cywiński (President), Maciej Antosik (Vice-President, Finance Director), Anna Miszewska (Member of the Board, Director General), Łukasz Rozdeiczer-Kryszkowski (Vice-President), Rafał Pióro (Vice-President). In 2017, the Management Board held 4 meetings (March, May, September, November). Its particular duties included: preparing action plans and financial plans for the Foundation, managing the Foundation's assets, determining the size of the Foundation's staff and the amount of funds spent on salaries of the employees, according to the approved financial plan, accepting donations, inheritances, bequests, subsidies and donations. In managing the Foundation's current activities, the Management Board is supported by the Foundation Office, operating on the premises rented from the Jewish Community of Warsaw.

In 2017, the Board's activities focused on soliciting new states for the Foundation's project, primarily from the Balkans, as well as the cooperation with state donors. In addition, the Management Board continued the cooperation with the Auschwitz-Birkenau Foundation Committee (former Friends of Auschwitz-Birkenau Foundation).

In 2017, the Management Board also concentrated on transferring the income earned on the Perpetual Capital for the conservation of the Memorial Site.

2017 was the sixth year during which the Foundation financed the conservation work in the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum within the Master Plan for Preservation (Resolution of the Management Board No. 1/12/2016 dated 19 December 2016 on allocation of the profit of PLN 11,000,000.00 earned on the Perpetual Capital in 2016 to the conservation of the Memorial Site). According to the needs of the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum, PLN 7,664,742.85 was transferred to the Museum's account. The Museum spent PLN 8,733,269.14. The difference was covered from the transferred resources that remained in the Museum's account at the end of December 2016.

The funds remaining on the Foundation's accounts, intended for the allocation on conservation works, may be used by the Museum at any time.

The following projects were implemented under the Master Plan for Preservation in 2017:

Projects started in the previous years and completed in 2017:

- Preservation of museum and archive objects from the collection of the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum in Oświęcim – conservation of textile objects – stage I.

Within the framework of the project, 20 items of clothing – prisoners' clothes – were preserved.

- Preservation and conservation of the BI section along with all the elements connected to it – stage IV.

Design and execution documentation was prepared for features B91 (kitchen), B138 (living barrack), B112 (bath), B141 (latrine), as well as the documentation concerning the construction of a technical lift to the BI section.

An expert construction and structural survey of living barracks B72, B75 and B87, as well as B16 guard tower was conducted.

A laser scan was carried out for the design documentation of B137 and B139 living barracks, as well as B144 washroom with B146 ruins.

Conservation work plans were prepared together with necessary examinations for the following features: B91 (kitchen), B138 (living barrack), B112 (bath), B141 (latrine).

Necessary intervention works were continued.

Within the project, a pilot activity was carried out with the use of BIM (Building Information Modeling) for the facility B124 (living barrack).

- Modernization of the warehouse for textile items from the collection of the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum in Oświęcim – stage II.

26 special customized cabinets were manufactured to store textile items.

- Preservation and protection of ruins of gas chambers and crematoria of the former Auschwitz II-Birkenau – stage I.

After the examinations and the preparation of a conservation works plan, building works and preservation works related to the protection of the changing room wall along with the photogrammetric documentation were carried out.

The scope of building works and archaeological monitoring was extended due to the discovery of a historical pavement.

### Projects started and completed in 2017.

- Conservation of museum and archive items in the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum in Oświęcim. Preservation of museum items: suitcases, cyclone B cans, and crematorium parts. Conservation of archive items: 'Camp letters', plans of the Zentralbauleitung team – stage II

50 suitcases, 20 wicker baskets 15 cans of cyclone B, and 30 crematorium parts were examined and preserved.

11 volumes of camp letters (738 letters) were preserved and digitized; 65 plans of the Zentralbauleitung team were preserved, and 850 digitized.

### On-going projects, started in 2017 and in previous years

- Regulation of hydrographical conditions of the former KL Auschwitz II-Birkenau

Within the project, a comprehensive concept of the regulation of hydrographical conditions was prepared, piezometric measurements were continued, the construction design for the regulation of hydrographical conditions was being prepared.

- Preservation and conservation of the BI section along with all connected objects – conservation of B123 and B124 brick barracks.

Preservation, renovation and construction works were carried out with the aim to open the barracks to visitors in future. All the works are carried out under the author's, archaeological, conservation and investor supervision.

- Preservation of museum and archive items from the collection of the Auschwitz-Birkenau Stage Museum in Oświęcim – conservation of archaeological features – stage I.

The inventory of historical features was made, alongside additional works (e.g. preliminary mechanical cleaning). 3,942 archaeological feature cards were made.

- Preservation and protection of the ruins of gas chambers and crematoria of the former Auschwitz II-Birkenau – stage II.

Design documentation for the structural protection of the southern wall of the gas chamber changing room and crematorium III was prepared.

Sections of the external plumbing of facilities were reinforced. Ongoing intervention and protection works were continued.

- Maintenance of wooden features of the former KL Auschwitz II-Birkenau – stage III.

Design documentation together with a preservation work programme was prepared for the B167 barrack.

In 2017, the activity of the Foundation was made possible thanks to the profit from the Perpetual Capital investment, part of which, in accordance with the Foundation's statutes, was used to finance current activities, and thanks to the funds donated for administration activities by KPMG Audyt Sp. z o.o. and Deloitte Doradztwo Podatkowe Tokarski i Wspólnicy Sp.k. (formerly Deloitte Doradztwo Podatkowe Sp. z o.o.).

In 2017, the Auschwitz-Birkenau Foundation employed five members of staff:

Member of the Board, Director General – Anna Miszewska  
Vice-President of the Board, Financial Director – Maciej Antosik  
Office Manager – Katarzyna Złoch  
Director for Preservation Projects – Anna Barbur  
Assistant to the Management Board – Aleksandra Maj

The structure of administration costs of the statutory activity in 2017 financed from the statutory part of profit from the Perpetual Capital, the donation from KPMG Audyt Sp. z o.o. and the donation from Deloitte Doradztwo Podatkowe Tokarski i Wspólnicy Sp.k. is presented below.

<b>ADMINISTRATION COSTS OF THE STATUTORY ACTIVITY</b>	<b>PLN</b>
Depreciation	4,941.43
Materials and energy consumption	17,532.08
Outsourced services	587,753.94
Taxes and charges	0
Salaries	800,567.35
Social security and other benefits	162,504.07
Other prime costs	225,028.34
<b>TOTAL administration costs of the statutory activity</b>	<b>1,798,327.21</b>

**Detailed information on the cost of salaries and other costs is included in the Foundation's Financial Statement for the financial year 2017.**

In 2017, an audit was conducted in the Foundation's Office for the year 2016. Following the resolution of the Foundation's Council, the audit was conducted by KPMG Audyt Sp. z o.o. spółka komandytowa. In the audit report, the auditor expressed no objections. The audit report as well as all the statements in Polish and English are available at the Foundation's official website.



### **3. Financial Committee**

The members of the Financial Committee of the Auschwitz-Birkenau Foundation are: Józef Wancer (Chairman of the Committee), Alfred Finz, Włodzimierz Grudziński, Peter Hommelhoff, Antoni F. Reczek, Ekkehard Thiesler, Claude Trink.

In 2017, the Committee held 4 meetings. Its recommendations were based on the investment strategy for the Foundation's Perpetual Capital, approved in 2013 by the resolution of the Foundation's Council and updated in 2017. The Committee monitors the Foundation's assets and advises the Management Board on investment decisions on the on-going basis.

### **4. International Committee**

The International Committee of the Auschwitz-Birkenau Foundation consists of the representatives of donor states. The role of the Committee is to advise and express opinions. On 24 October 2017, the 7th Meeting of the International Committee of the Auschwitz-Birkenau Foundation took place.

The meeting was attended by:

- Belén Alfaro representing the Kingdom of Spain;
- Johanna Birkstedt representing the Republic of Finland;
- Ronald van Dartel representing the Kingdom of the Netherlands;
- Michael Groß representing the Federal Republic of Germany,
- Ivan Jestřáb representing the Czech Republic,
- Dainius Junevičius representing the Republic of Lithuania,
- Gerard Keown representing Ireland;
- Karsten Klepsvik representing the Kingdom of Norway;
- Dušan Krištofík representing the Slovak Republic;
- Benjamin Labarrère representing the Principality of Monaco,
- João Silva Leitão, representing the Republic of Portugal,
- Hannah Lessing representing the Republic of Austria,
- Kent Mullen representing the United States of America,
- Jean-Claude Müller representing the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg,
- Eric Pickles representing the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;
- Chasper Sarott representing the Swiss Confederation;
- Aleksander Shkolnik representing the Russian Federation,
- Frédéric de Touchet representing the French Republic,
- Jens-Christian Wagner representing the Federal Republic of Germany,
- Paul Wojciechowski representing the Commonwealth of Australia,
- Edoardo Vitali representing the Italian Republic.

The 7th meeting of the International Committee of the Auschwitz-Birkenau Foundation was a momentous event in the Foundation's history, as the representatives of donor states for the

very first time met to deliberate in Oświęcim, and for the first time they were able to see in person the progress of the conservation works carried out at the Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial Site. During the meeting, a Report on the Foundation's Activity in 2016, Financial Statement, Foundation's employment structure and audit report were presented. Activities within the Master Plan for Preservation were discussed as well. The situation of the Perpetual Capital and the activities of the Financial Committee were also presented.

### **III. SOLICITING DECLARATIONS OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THE PERPETUAL CAPITAL**

#### **1. Countries**

The letter sent out in February 2009 by the Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk, informing the leaders of over forty countries about the key objectives of the Auschwitz-Birkenau Foundation, as well as the task to collect EUR120 million for the Perpetual Capital, was received very well among many governments and heads of states. The letter of the Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk was sent out again in 2014 to twelve leaders of European and non-European countries and was also received very well. By the end of 2017, 37 countries worldwide were involved in the Foundation's project. In October 2017, the Foundation was notified that The Hellenic Republic is joining the project. The amount of its declared donation is EUR 5,000. In addition, Slovakia increased its contribution to the Perpetual Capital by EUR 2,000. Contributions and declarations from 2017 and previous years amount to the total sum of ca. 112 million EUR, which provides an optimistic outlook on the plans of the complex conservation of the remains of the former Nazi German concentration and extermination camp Auschwitz-Birkenau according to the intentions of the authorities of the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum and the will of the International Auschwitz Council. In 2018, other states are expected to join the project. The Auschwitz-Birkenau Foundation conducts intensive negotiations, among others, with Armenia, Romania and Bulgaria, as well as Balkan states, on joining the Foundation's project.

#### **2. Individual donors and the "18 Pillars of Remembrance" project**

According to the decision made in 2012, the Auschwitz-Birkenau Foundation extended its activities in the United States. In 2013, the Friends of Auschwitz-Birkenau Foundation was established, an American organization raising funds for the Foundation. Owing to that, in 2014, the Auschwitz-Birkenau Foundation and the Friends of Auschwitz-Birkenau Foundation were able to initiate the "18 Pillars of Remembrance" campaign. The aim of the campaign is to invite 18 philanthropists – individuals and institutions – to the project. Each of them will become a symbolic "Pillar of Remembrance" by supporting the Auschwitz-Birkenau Foundation with the amount of EUR 1 million. The Foundation has solicited 9 "Pillars of Remembrance" so far. There is also a number of people who decided to support the Foundation with amounts of less than EUR 1 million, but still quite significant contributions.

In 2016, on the initiative of Ronald S. Lauder, the Auschwitz-Birkenau Foundation Committee was set up. The Committee members are the current donors of the Foundation who thanks to their involvement and understanding of the Foundation's mission invite other interested parties to join the Committee. The objective of the Auschwitz-Birkenau Foundation Committee is to help building the Perpetual Capital among individual and institutional donors.

In 2017, the Friends of Auschwitz-Birkenau Foundation was officially renamed to the Auschwitz-Birkenau Foundation Committee.

#### **IV. EXTERNAL SUPPORT FOR THE STATUTORY ACTIVITIES**

In 2017, the Foundation cooperated with law and accounting firms. Legal assistance is provided free of charge by the Weil, Gotshal & Manges law firm. Tax advice, accounting and HR and payroll services are provided by Deloitte Doradztwo Podatkowe Tokarski i Wspólnicy Sp.k The Foundation has access to office space, courtesy of the Jewish Community of Warsaw. The audit was performed by an independent auditor, KPMG Audyt Sp. z o.o. spółka komandytowa.

The Auschwitz-Birkenau Foundation Committee, whose goal is the same as that of the Foundation, conducts and supports fundraising activities of the Auschwitz-Birkenau Foundation in the United States. In 2017, the Auschwitz-Birkenau Foundation continued activities aimed at obtaining a tax exemption for it Canadian donors. In this matter, the Foundation is represented *pro bono* by the Olser, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP law firm.

#### **V. PLANS FOR 2018**

In 2018, the main emphasis will be put on soliciting new state donors with a special focus on the states with which the Foundation is conducting negotiations, including Romania, Bulgaria, Armenia, Denmark and Balkan states. The Auschwitz-Birkenau Foundation will continue its close cooperation with the Auschwitz-Birkenau Foundation Committee to solicit individual donors.