

10 years with the EFC Foundation 2009-2019





EFC Foundation

PROF. ROMAN CZERNECKI (1904-1986) - THE EFC PATRON

A passionate teacher, lecturer, activist, on a life-long mission to bring good education to everybody, no matter who they were and where they came from. During WWII, he organized underground education for over 1000 students in Słupia Jędrzejowska. After the war, he became the first principal of the school in Szczekociny, which collaborates with the EFC Foundation today. He later became the chief of the Department of Education in the Zielonogórskie province, the dean at the Pedagogical University in Gdańsk, a lecturer at the Warsaw University of Technology... he dedicated his life to improving the quality of education for young people all around Poland. His biography shows the importance of great, motivated teachers, who have the power to change their community and inspire future generations.

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INTRODUCTION

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Andrzej and Igor Czernecki, Emilia Gromadowska

Dear readers,

another important and eventful year for the EFC Foundation and Polish education is behind us. We started out strong, with an idea to change our scholarship program, so that it meets the needs of 21st century students as effectively as possible. In order to bring this project to life, we met, numerous times, with our team and partners from the Starak Foundation, Forum for Dialogue, Association 61, the Bronisław Geremek Center, School with Class and the Center for Research and Social Innovation STOCZNIA. Together, we reinforced the program by shifting its axis from attaining success at school to finding balance between studying, developing social skills and the formation of character. It is our answer to the following question - how to support the development of young Poles so that they can think critically, be open towards others and responsible, and so that they feel part of Europe, Poland and their local community on equal parts?

Horizons are also the result of our observations. We need changes in the education system; methodology in Polish schools still dates back to the XIXth century. How can we teach students to be socially engaged and to work together, when authoritarian relationships prevail in classrooms? How can we prevent low turnout in elections and the growing attraction of populist ideologies? Education faces many challenges - also ones regarding how the government treats our teachers. Unprecedented teacher protests were an important signal and at the EFC Foundation we immediately felt we must respond. After all, teachers are indispensable for the future of Poland. Education Inspiration is our way of appreciating our educators - the program supports teachers from small towns who wish to carry out challenging, creative projects with students outside the classroom. It's our small contribution to changing schools into places, in which young people become more open towards what's new and different.

Further, we wish to promote those, who make room for the subject of education in the public debate. As a result, since 2018, we award the Roman Czernecki Prize to exceptional scientists,

journalists and educators who write about education. In the first edition of the contest, we gave a special prize to Jędrzej Malko's *Śpięcie*, a one of a kind project which brought journalists from five different magazines together. They decided to write about education under one flag, regardless of their ideological and political differences. Keep up the good work!

We also wrapped up our first year of the EFC Patron Schools program in Szczekociny. It is an attempt to promote self-government, motivation, responsibility and social engagement among the Szczekociny students. The school is beginning to change, becoming a center for social activism for students, but also teachers, local institutions and the community, which is especially important in rural areas. Both the School in Szczekociny and the EFC team were glad to hear that in 2018, Mirosław Skrzypczyk, the vice principal of the school, was given the Irena Sendlerowa Prize for "fixing the world".

There are many more opportunities for collaboration at the EFC. At the beginning of 2019, we organized another Family Foundation Meeting. In partnership with the Polish Business Roundtable and the Polish Donors Forum, we created a space for discussion for family foundation staff and board members as well as those, who wish to embark on a philanthropic journey. We believe that thoughtful, systematic social engagement makes sense - we wish to share our knowledge and passion with others and learn from the experience. We have the pleasure of doing so thanks to the Starak Foundation. We wouldn't be able to expand and develop the Horizons Scholarship Program if not for Jerzy and Anna Starak's wise decision. Now, we can celebrate sending off our first graduates into the world; some of them are heading to Oxford!

At the EFC Foundation, we believe we must continue to grow, and a year full of new challenges was a great opportunity to do so. Ask anyone on our team - we never stay in one place for long.

Yours sincerely
Igor Czernecki
Head of the EFC Governing Council

Dear friends,

the EFC is celebrating its 10th birthday. I am honoured that I could spend one third of this period as President of the Board. I have to thank my predecessors, Joanna Bochniarz and Jacek Michałowski, who built our team and contributed to the growth of the Foundation. We try to follow the steps of our founder, Andrzej Czernecki. He knew how to anticipate and prepare for difficult challenges, and how to turn those difficulties into success.

Our biggest challenge this year was to monitor the consequences of the education system reform for the Horizons Scholarship Program. As a result, the goal of our program shifts from providing scholars with material and scientific aid to giving them an experience which shapes their character and help them find balance between scientific and personal development. We accompany Horizons participants on their road to an independent, grown up life, we give them courage and inspire them to engage socially. Our regional coordinators are enhancing their professional skills - they will be working individually with our scholars as tutors. Part of the initiative will be also handed over to the scholars themselves - they will create EFC clubs, dedicated places for working together, helping others and developing new interests. We are happy to observe the achievements of our older scholars, who are beginning their PhD studies or who are just starting out at university, in Oxford and Cambridge.

The Horizons program is changing, the foundation is changing, but some things remain the same - most importantly, a strong community built around values cherished by our patron, prof. Roman Czernecki. We react to changes in education together. This year was particularly tough for schools and their staff; we know that thanks to keeping in touch with Education Inspiration teachers (we've just finished the 2nd edition of the program). April protests were a difficult experience not only for teachers, but also students and their parents. We immediately decided to take action by organizing Civic Councils - conference meetings about

education held all around Poland. We believe that an open discussion of different environments - parents, students, teachers, representatives of governmental institutions - can serve positive changes. Based on our conversations with Horizons scholars, we created a report - a unique summary of students' thoughts on the strike. We were surprised and proud of how constructive, respectful and open our scholars were when expressing their opinions.

We wouldn't get that far if not for our partners. So thank you, and thank you to the entire EFC community - to our scholars for accepting the Horizons challenge, to their coordinators who support them on their way to becoming wise, conscious grownups, to our team for spreading the news out in the world and taking care of administration. Thanks to all of you, working at the EFC is so purposeful. I derive much satisfaction from thinking about what we've managed to achieve and I look forward to what we can learn next. After all, we all share a common goal - good education in Poland.

Yours sincerely
Emilia Gromadowska
President of the EFC Board

BIRTHDAY WISHES FOR THE EFC TEAM

Business and philanthropy - the EFC Foundation successfully combines those two fields. Andrzej Czernecki was a businessman and co-founder of the Polish Business Roundtable (PRB). He dedicated his fortune to building a social organization - what a great example for other entrepreneurs! Wanting to appreciate his gesture, since 2016 the PRB gives the Andrzej Czernecki Prize to those, who make the world a better place. Happy birthday and good luck with inspiring social activism among Poles. I am thrilled that, together with the EFC Foundation, we can encourage generations of businessmen and women to engage in philanthropy.

Wojciech Kostrzewa
President of the Polish Business Roundtable

Every institution, no matter how well-organized, is only as great as the people, that create it. Thanks to the EFC Foundation we have the opportunity to work with the best. Thank you and we wish you more successful decades to come!

Kornelia Dziadula
Head of the EFC Alumni Association

Dear Foundation, changing education is one of the most difficult challenges one can take up in philanthropy. It requires great responsibility and conscious, thoughtful decisions about how to shape young people and what values to instill in them. We are happy that, thanks to our collaboration, we can successfully point our scholars towards a smart, balanced and resourceful direction - a path of finding balance between scientific or professional achievements and personal growth, the ability to cooperate with others and social engagement. For your 10th birthday, we wish you all the best - may your efforts to change education for the better, also through the Horizons Scholarship Program, shape future generations of inspired and motivated young people who can change the world..

Jerzy Starak and the Board of the Starak Foundation

I wish the Foundation all the best in the world - for its 10th birthday and for all the decades to come. May it work as well as it works now, ideally combining professionalism and enthusiasm, the young generation with the old, science and fun, pleasure and work and may it teach us to do the same!

Hanna Wróblewska
Director of Zachęta the National Gallery of Art

*Dear EFC team,
for your beautiful anniversary, let us, the entire School with Class team, wish you all the best. Our foundations are tied by the belief that each student deserves equal educational opportunities and that the school should be a space where one can develop one's individual passions, learn how to work with others and to be responsible for one's surroundings. There are few non-profit organizations in Poland that are independent enough to pursue this goal with such consequence and perseverance. Thanks to the EFC, hundreds of young Poles become conscious, responsible and open citizens of Poland, Europe and our planet. It is a privilege and a huge responsibility to have that freedom. We are proud that for the past few years we have had the opportunity to accompany you in working on your initiatives and programs. Birthdays are always a time to set new goals. That's why we wish you ongoing enthusiasm for work, openness to change and courage to implement those changes, but, most of all, future success.*

**Agata Łuczyńska
and Marta Puciłowska
School with Class
Foundation Board**

Education is undeniably crucial in our lives and at the EFC everyone knows that. I wish the entire team endless challenges and joy derived from their work. May each day be a lesson - in the most positive way possible. May it bring new talents, creative endeavours and satisfaction and pleasure from work.

**Justyna Suchecka
Journalist at TVN24**

Thinking about the EFC, I think of the words of Jan Zamoyski - "such will be the Commonwealths as the upbringing of their youth." What can I say - thanks to the EFC we have "commonwealths" filled with open minds and hearts, courageous and empathetic souls and curious, astute brains. For this beautiful 10th birthday, I wish to thank you all for shaping such youth and I wish you more to come in the following decades - so that we can be constantly inspired and surprised by the young people around us.

**Agnieszka Maciejowska
co-founder of Evena.pl**

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Generations of education - how it all began

A FEW WORDS ABOUT US, FROM US

The Roman Czernecki EFC Educational Foundation was founded in 2009 by Andrzej Czernecki and has one goal - to increase the quality of education in Poland. We support the scientific and personal development of young students, we increase professional skills of Polish teachers, we distinguish activists and publicists who shape modern education. We promote social engagement and philanthropy. We wish to maintain a strong, audible voice in the debate around the quality of learning and teaching.

The EFC is one of the largest family foundations in Poland which works in the field of education and promoting philanthropy. It is an organization built on the belief that education should be accessible to everyone. Values, such as openness towards others, equality, inclusivity, have been passed down in the Czernecki family from generation to generation - beginning with Roman CZernecki, an exceptional educator and the Foundation's patron. Those values are still alive in the community which thrives around the EFC and which finds education especially important and close to their hearts. The effects of this common engagement is visible in our work - in rational educational programs, including the most complex scholarship program for high school students in Poland.



AN INTERVIEW WITH ANDRZEJ AND IGOR CZERNECKI, ABOUT WHAT IS BEHIND THEM AND WHAT IS AHEAD OF THEM AT THE EFC FOUNDATION

What does the EFC Foundation mean to you?

Igor: most importantly, it is the pillar that defines our identity as the Czernecki family and it is a huge challenge - there is always so much to do! We are constantly learning, but, from the very beginning, we have been learning through empiria, through practice. We signed up for a super intensive course in working in the third sector, but we are glad to take up that challenge. We are aware that many things can be done better. This element of constant learning is equally important as preserving the identity of our family.

Andrzej: I derive great professional satisfaction from my work at the EFC and I am grateful to our father for being so wise and for building something of this magnitude before he died. At the EFC, we have the chance to work by thinking about others, about the community, in a non-egoistic sense. It is hard to convince people who are used to different lives that social engagement is a great way to live; I don't know if I would be so close to this notion myself if not for our dad. But I can honestly say that the opportunity to help young people and teachers brings a lot of joy and satisfaction.

Why education? It's a pretty popular field for social organizations.

Andrzej: It all began with our grandfather, Roman Czernecki, and the heritage he left behind him. There was a need to translate the respect that our father had for teachers, professors, academics, instilled in him by his father, into concrete action. This was intertwined with dad's deep belief that education is a mechanism that accelerates individual growth but also the development of the whole country.

Igor: There's another element as well - a belief that fighting for education is a crucial element of fighting for the future of Poland. We can feel it even more today. The Internet negatively altered the way in which people reach for knowledge and in which they communicate. One of our biggest challenges is to teach students how to distinguish

fake news, think critically and obtain dependable information. Plus, we are worried about populism gaining momentum in Poland, Europe, the US, also thanks to online culture (or lack of it). Finally, the strained education system in Poland... the frustration of teachers and educational staff is palpable. We cannot be indifferent to what's happening. We strongly believe that what the foundation does is crucial for the future of our country.

The EFC is a unique form of institution in Poland - it is a family organization, in which family values are an important foundation. What are the advantages of a foundation run by a family?

Andrzej: Good question! Family foundations are distinguished by their structure, which is tied to an endowment fund - a form of security, guarantee that the foundation can make safe financial decisions. This gives us independence from political pressures and passing trends. Still, although it is some form of specificity, it applies to other forms of foundations as well. I'd have to say that the biggest advantage lies in personal benefits for the family. A family foundation is a fantastic way of integrating family members, creating mutual goals. It is a great way to nourish bonds. Our work certainly had a positive impact on me and Igor.

You're brothers, working together for the EFC, you both live abroad... How do you find a common language at work?

Igor: We're lucky. We chose our responsibilities in a completely natural way based on our competences. My brother majored in mathematics and has an MBA from Columbia University. He's very enthusiastic about managing our foundation's funds. I am more invested in current affairs and the program development of the foundation. I think that's why we get along so great.

Andrzej: In key subjects regarding the direction of what we do, we consult each other and make a unanimous decision. I live in New York and I can observe how social organizations work abroad; sometimes, I add a new perspective to the mix. Igor is always close to what's actually happening in Poland and in the team. We appreciate those differences in each other. We are really, really lucky in that department.

The Foundation has its own funding, it can develop its own programs. At the same time, it cooperates with partners. Why?

Andrzej: First of all, we are aware of the scale of challenges in Polish education. We also have an effective, good team, which enables us to reach further. Our appetite is constantly growing, and thanks to our partners the scope of what we do is much larger than if we'd only stick to our resources. Plus, there's the element of the "Polish promise", which is our local version of the American giving pledge. We encourage others to create their own organizations or to support experienced foundations which are effective in carrying out their mission. Thanks to our cooperation with partners, we see that social engagement is worth our time. Together we can achieve more and grow quicker.

The Polish Business Roundtable organizes the Andrzej Czernecki Prize, named after your father. What role does the EFC Foundation play in promoting philanthropy in Poland?

Igor: Although my father died seven years ago, his gesture - an idea to put all his fortune to good use and establish a foundation - is still unique. It is a valid symbol of what we'd expect from people, who achieved financial success in post-transformation Poland. I can see, also thanks to our Family Foundation Meetings, that the new generation is more open towards philanthropy than their parents, who were very success-oriented in the 90s. Having our father's gesture in mind, I hope that the EFC Foundation will be an important point of reference in this domain and an example of how much joy and satisfaction philanthropy can actually bring.

Looking back at the last 10 years - what is the Foundation's biggest success?

Igor: I'd say that gaining the trust of our partners, for instance of such a large foundation like the Starak Foundation, is a considerable success. The fact, that an external institution believe that we do something well enough to trust us and do it together, is a very important message. I also think that our last year cooperation with organizations, who helped us create the Horizons Scholarship Program, was a sign that we are treated seriously by the environment. I hope that the Horizons program will

be a success as well, but we will be able to assess those results in a few years. There are numerous little successes on the way, equally important, as the big ones - friendships maintained throughout the scholarship program, the joy we derive from watching our scholars become adults. We get to experience this satisfaction each day and each of their achievements is both big and important to our team.

A renowned high school, university studies, a good job - is this how you imagine the perfect path of a Horizons scholar?

Igor: Not necessarily. Horizons have different ambitions. We believe in values, such as responsibility for the environment, knowing where we come from, an openness to the world, a strong sense of self-worth. Those elements are part of an attitude, which doesn't have to be shaped by a classic, neoliberalist, individualism-oriented career. We lean towards a social experience, towards togetherness. We wish for our scholar to become a person who builds valuable relationships with others, who can take responsibility for his country and the place, he lives in, for the environment, for the political situation.

You touched upon an important issue regarding the shape of education in Poland. What needs to be done so that it effectively meets the needs of the dynamic, modern world?

Igor: There are experts who know better than me. There is definitely a XIXth century, Prussian way of viewing the teacher-student relationship in Polish classrooms. It is no surprise that the political atmosphere in the country among young adults is becoming so radical. If there is no democracy in class, there won't be any democrats among students. Additionally, there should be a stronger emphasis put on teaching students how to think instead of what to think. Information is easily accessible online. But knowing how to choose information and synthesize, analyze it in a smart way - this is a crucial skill. Just as it is crucial to know how to work with others. I could keep on going...

Andrzej: We also have a feeling that the educational environment is neglected and marginalized. Without a strong theoretical background, we won't be able to change education in Poland. Each country has its own

specifics. We cannot copy external models, we must look for solutions based on analyzing what is happening in Poland. The Roman Czernecki Prize is meant as a form of stimulation for those, who, for instance, wish to concentrate on education in their scientific studies. It is also dedicated to teachers, who write about their profession and publicists, who write about education and know how to engage their readers. We stumbled upon a niche, here.

A decade of hard work is behind you. What are your plans for the next 10 years?

Andrzej: We have tons of ideas. One of the key elements of our future programs is supporting teachers. The last couple of months showed that there is a lot to do in this area - modern teaching methods, enhancing teachers' competences and skills, supporting the importance of their role in society - this is what we wish to concentrate on. Developing the Horizons Scholarship Program will also be a big challenge, which excites us but also requires hard work.

Igor: We have a program which supports local schools; we are currently carrying out its pilot edition in Szczekociny. It is an attempt to support the local community around the school in a complex way. We also have a grant program for teachers - Education Inspiration. But maybe we are ready for an enterprise, which will somehow integrate those projects into one. I'd be happy if, in ten years, I could say that the EFC Foundation is a reliable partner for Polish teachers.

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At the EFC Foundation we deal with education. Our aim is three-fold: we strive to create equal access to education, to promote creative, innovative ways of thinking about education in the light of the challenges of the XXI century, and to broaden its definition to include social responsibility and civic engagement.

In order to reach those goals, we have launched programs based on those components. We believe that good education should be based on finding balance between personal growth and scientific development, between discovering one's individual potential and a sense of belonging to a community - local, national, European, global. By promoting such model of education we constantly remain open towards what's different and new, including teachers, schools, scientists and experts as beneficiaries of our programs. We are confident about what we do and equally confident that another ten years of hard work is still ahead of us!

HORIZONS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM - A NEW CHAPTER

The EFC Foundation scholarship program offers complex support to students from all around Poland who wish to study in the most compelling high schools and technical schools in big cities. We give our scholars courage, teach them how to cooperate with others and inspire them to help others. We encourage their personal growth both at school and after school.

In the light of educational reforms introduced in 2018 in Poland, as well as challenges ahead of us in the XXIst century, we decided to take a closer look at our scholarship program. Its new form is a result of a deliberate, thought-through process comprising of workshops, consultations with social organizations, our partners and the entire Foundation team. In effect, we created a roadmap of program changes which will be introduced in the upcoming years.

These are the key program changes:

- increasing commitment to projects aimed at helping others and supporting the local community among young scholars;
- creating a space where scholars will be able to discuss and carry out new initiatives, study and spend time together outside their dorms (EFC clubs);
- collaborating closely with schools which put an emphasis on social activity among students;
- increasing professional skills of our program coordinators, who will be working as tutors and accompanying our scholars in discovering their own path.

We want the Horizons program to help scholars attain balance between studying and personal growth. Thankfully, we are supported by program graduates, who are members of the EFC Alumni Association. Their members are in continuous touch with scholars and actively participate in the Foundation’s life. They are eager to promote social engagement among their younger peers. Currently, we are working with over 130 program alumni.



Horizons scholars



EFC Alumni Association Board

10 Years of the horizons scholarship program

735 young people who became Horizons scholars

231 scholars currently in the program

130 program graduates in the EFC Alumni Association

20 program graduates studying abroad

34 schools and **27** dormitories all around Poland working with the EFC

11 regional coordinators who take care of our scholars

97% of scholars who plan to continue their education on a university level

83% of scholars who believe Horizons influenced their scientific and professional choices

30 000 000 PLN invested in the education of our scholars

Horizons in the 2018/2019 academic year:

- 2018**
 - X - Warmia - the EFC works on changes in the Horizons program with partners and experts
 - XII - Warsaw - annual Christmas meeting of our Horizons alumni, regional coordinators and the EFC team
- 2019**
 - I - Karpacz - scholars are learning how to ski and snowboard during their winter vacation
 - II - we begin our 2019/2020 application process and officially introduce the name "Horizons" to mark the new chapter
 - New regional coordinators join our team
 - VI - new scholars are accepted to the program
 - VI - Warsaw - we bid farewell to another class of scholars
 - VII - Olsztynek - Horizons summer vacation
 - VIII - Olsztyn - the Champion's Dinner for scholars
 - VIII - Gdańsk - we get to meet new scholars on our annual integration trip



The Horizons Scholarship Program is executed in cooperation with our strategic partner - the Starak Foundation.



EDUCATION INSPIRATION PROGRAM - TEACHERS IN ACTION

Discovering and nourishing the potential in students and engaging them in group projects requires wise, open teachers. That's why, since 2017, we support Polish educators as part of our Education Inspiration grant program. We provide teachers from small towns (of up to 30 000 citizens) with grants for creative educational projects in secondary schools. Program participants strengthen their professional skills, stimulate students' creativity and develop their interests. Together with their young pupils, teachers build relationships based on trust and partnership. We offer financial aid, individual consultations and workshops which can help teachers adapt their projects to their students' needs.

These are the key elements of Education Inspiration:

- appreciating teachers by strengthening their professional skills and their sense of responsibility for the quality of teaching;
- bolstering the position of teachers in the school community;
- reinforcing the image of schools as important centers of local social activity;
- inspiring children to break patterns and think creatively and critically;
- building self-confidence and a sense of responsibility for their environment in students.



67 teachers (which means
67 grants worth **194 924** PLN)

1136 students who participated in
projects

workshops and projects conducted
in **13** provinces

an online map of inspiring teachers
from all around Poland



Education Inspiration is carried out in cooperation with
the School with Class Foundation.



THE IRENA SENDLEROWA AWARD “FOR FIXING THE WORLD” - DISTINGUISHING EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATORS

Openness, tolerance, solidarity - we try to instill those values in our scholars and that's why we work with teachers who respect them. As a token of gratitude to exceptional educators, since 2018 we co-fund the Irena Sendlerowa Prize “For fixing the world.” It is an award given to teachers who educate and inspire to action in the spirit of dialogue, acceptance and consideration for others. Awarded teachers play an important role in their school and the local community spreading values which were close to Irena Sendlerowa's heart. Through their projects and teaching methods, they help nourish diversity and tolerance in school environments all across Poland.

In 2018, the Award committee distinguished Mirosław Skrzypczyk, a fantastic teacher from the Szczekociny School Complex, who helps preserve the memory of Jews who lived in his region and their culture.

The Irena Sendlerowa Prize in numbers:

- 12 award winners;
- over 60 distinguished teachers in 12 editions on the contest;
- almost 50 lesson scenarios, manuals and articles developed by award winners in the Laboratory of Knowledge and Good Practices.



The contest is organized by the Civic Education Center.



EFC PATRON SCHOOLS - THE POTENTIAL IN SMALL TOWNS

Working with Education Inspiration teachers, we've realized that small town schools can be not only friendly places to work and study, but they can also bring the community together and serve as centers for social initiative. At the same time, we discovered there are few complex programs that are dedicated directly to individual Polish schools. That's why we created the EFC Patron Schools program, in which we support building a strong, open, safe institution, that can become a significant point on the map of the region. We invest in the professional development of teachers, we inspire students to carry out social projects together with the local community, we transform the space of the school itself.

EFC Patron Schools is a program which can be introduced in every small town school in the country, regardless of its socio-economic circumstances. It is tailored to the school's needs, it uses local resources as well as encourages a close collaboration of citizens with students, teachers and local institutions. We have also integrated civic education into the program, so that young people learn how to carry out their own initiatives, embedding the school into the town's life and changing it into a welcoming place to study.

In the 2018/2019 academic year, we've completed the first stage of our pilot edition of the program in the Roman Czernecki School Complex in Szczekociny. Based on our evaluation, we intend to build a 5-year model of cooperation, which will be easy to introduce in other schools in Poland.

Szczekociny in the 2018/2019 academic year:

- students' projects - creating a "map of potentials" of Szczekociny - interesting places worth visiting, exploring or bringing back to life;
- participatory budgeting for 2020, which will enable creating a place dedicated especially to students who work together with the community and local institutions;



- teachers' projects - a series of training with an expert on teacher education, which enhanced the Szczekociny staff's skills in working with children and conducting social projects.

The program is carried out together with the Center for Research and Innovation, STOCZNIA.



THE ROMAN CZERNECKI PRIZE - A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE ON EDUCATION

Education is an important subject in Poland's public debate. We wish to encourage publicists to explore this field further and we wish to appreciate those, who support a substantial discussion about education. As a result, each year we award writers with the Roman Czernecki Prize. It is a way to distinguish authors of articles which contribute to deepening the debate about education in Poland. Awarded scientists, educators, journalists, write about education with a sense of responsibility, curiosity and creativity. Just as Roman Czernecki, the award's patron, they treat Polish education as a field of utmost importance and relevance today.

The Roman Czernecki Prize is the only contest in Poland dedicated solely to authors who write about education. It supports an important, contemporary subject by appreciating those, who write with passion, engagement and a fresh perspective, especially in the light of the april teacher protests and a chaotically introduced educational reform.

1st edition winners (2018)

“Scientific article” category:

- dr Sylwia Bedyńska, dr hab. Izabela Krejtz, prof. dr hab. Grzegorz Sędek, Chronic Stereotype Threat Is Associated with Mathematical Achievement on Representative Sample of Secondary Schoolgirls: the Role of Gender Identification, Working Memory, and Intellectual Helplessness, in: “Frontiers in Psychology”.
- - dr Anna Baczko-Dombi, Ucieczka od matematyki. Rekonstrukcja procesu w kontekście społecznego wizerunku przedmiotu, in: “Edukacja”.

„Journalist article” category

- Justyna Suchecka, Kto ty jesteś? Obywatel cyfrowego świata, in: „Gazeta Wyborcza”.



Special award:

- Jędrzej Malko, project Spięcie

The variety of publications we received during the 1st edition indicated the need for another category of articles - ones, that were not written by journalists or members of the academia, but which remain an important voice in the discourse about education. That's why in 2019, we added the “professional article” category to the 2nd edition of the contest, which includes authors, such as educators and other representatives of the educational staff.

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The EFC Foundation is a dream of a courageous man come true. Andrzej Czernecki wanted to give young people from rural areas of Poland an opportunity to make their own choices about what they learn, how they learn and what they want for their future. He translated his passion for business into creating a professional organization which, until today, influences hundreds of people around the country. It is a result of his dedication, determination and devotion to values, such as hard work and empathy towards others.

There are few things that give more satisfaction than helping those in need. Philanthropy can be a valuable enrichment of one's business, it can inspire others to act, it can help build relationships in the family or - simply - prove to be a good way of life. Knowing this notion to be true, we wish to share our knowledge and experience with others - businessmen and women, who are thinking about beginning their adventure with systematic philanthropy and other philanthropists, who are searching for inspiration and support.

THE ANDRZEJ CZERNECKI PRIZE - COURAGE AND COMMITMENT

Andrzej Czernecki was a businessman who appropriated his entire fortune to social causes and, in consequence, became one of the most prominent philanthropists in modern Poland. The Polish Business Roundtable decided to acknowledge his contribution to popularizing social engagement among entrepreneurs. Since 2016, the Andrzej Czernecki Prize is given to non-profit organizations and philanthropists, who initiate necessary social changes with courage and determination and which work towards the benefit of those in need. We hope that the prize serves as an inspiration to other businessmen and women to make the world a better place.

In 2019, the committee awarded Róża Rzeplińska, chairwoman of Association 61 and founder of the mamprawowiedziec.pl online service, which gathers information about government officials. She is also the author of numerous workshops about the election process and civic society conducted for the Horizons scholars.



The award is given by the Polish Business Roundtable.



FAMILY FOUNDATION MEETINGS - COMMON CHALLENGES, COMMON SOLUTIONS

The EFC Foundation is a family foundation. We know how much collective effort it takes to create an organization that can thrive, year after year. Why not profit from the experiences of others; those, who went through a similar struggle, faced common challenges and found answers to questions posed by many beginning philanthropists?

Since 2018, we have been organizing Family Foundation Meetings. We wish to create a space where those questions can be discussed; a space for dialogue for family foundations' staff as well as businessmen, who wish to embark on a philanthropic journey. Our meetings are chance to exchange experiences and create a network of Polish family foundations. They are an opportunity to observe different managing styles and strategies. They are the first and only meetings dedicated solely to representatives of family foundations and family businesses in Poland.



The Family Foundation Meetings are organized in cooperation with the Polish Business Roundtable and the Polish Donors' Forum.



WORKING TOGETHER PAYS OFF - OUR PARTNERSHIP WITH THE STARAK FOUNDATION

A purposeful, profound partnership brings benefits to both sides. It is a chance to reach towards more ambitious goals, embark on new projects and launch more challenging enterprises.

In 2016, we joined forces with another family foundation - the Starak Foundation. Both the FRS and the EFC are focused on education and the development young people. As a consequence, what we do is focused on students and teachers. Our biggest common achievement is maintaining the quality of and introducing quality changes to the Horizons Scholarship Program. We share knowledge, exchange experiences, and reach out for advice and inspiration. Another example of our cooperation is the launch of a new grant program, established in 2019, by the Starak Foundation - the Wena Grant Program. It motivates high school students to creative artistic activity and encourages critical thinking about art.

We believe our model of cooperation can serve as an inspiration for other philanthropists and family foundations, which intend to carry out new projects. We remain open to collaborating with partners, who can help us further the scope of our activity.



Wiesława Giedroń and Jerzy Starak
at the Horizons graduate party

WHO IS WHO?

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GOVERNING COUNCIL



dr Igor Czernecki, PhD
Head of Governing Council



Andrzej Czernecki Jr.



Jan Krzewiński



Marta Drozd

BOARD



Emilia Gromadowska
President of the Board

PROGRAM COMMITTEE



Jacek Michałowski
Head of the Program Committee



Krzysztof Arciszewski



Grażyna Czetwertyńska, PhD
Kościuszko Foundation Poland



prof. Michał Federowicz
Polish Academy of Science



prof. Mikołaj Herbst
Warsaw University



Urszula Malko



Alicja Pacewicz
Civic Education Center



Przemysław Sadura, PhD
Warsaw University

TEAM



Michał Sitek, PhD
Educational Research Institute



Małgorzata Chmielecka
Horizons Scholarship Program manager



Agnieszka Sawczuk
Communications director



Agata Bańkowska
Communications manager



Zofia Jaworowska
Communications specialist

HORIZONS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM REGIONAL COORDINATORS



Magdalena Gołębiowska
Roman Czernecki Prize coordinator



Ulyana Buzenko
Administration specialist



Marek Michałowski
supervisor



Igor Brewka
regional coordinator in the
warmińsko-mazurskie province,
administration manager



Joanna Utrata
Accountant



Krystyna Kielbowicz
Accountant



Elżbieta Broda
regional coordinator in the pomorskie and
kujawsko-pomorskie provinces



Izabela Buczek
regional coordinator in the podlaskie
province



Aneta Ceglarek
regional coordinator in the dolnośląskie
and opolskie provinces



Agnieszka Jabłońska-Buchla
regional coordinator in the wielkopolskie
and łódzkie provinces



Łukasz Krzemiński
regional coordinator in the małopolskie
and śląskie provinces



Andrzej Piękoś
regional coordinator in the mazowieckie
and świętokrzyskie provinces



Maria Starzewska
regional coordinator in the podkarpackie
province



Robert Walków
regional coordinator in the lubuskie and
zachodniopomorskie provinces



Maciej Ziółkowski
regional coordinator in the lubelskie
province

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FINANCIAL BALANCE

As of 31.09.2019

Based on Appendix 6 to the Accounting Act

ASSETS	Beginning of the year	End of the year
A. Fixed assets	0,00	0,00
I. Intangible assets	0,00	0,00
II. Tangible fixed assets	0,00	0,00
III. Long-term receivables	0,00	0,00
IV. Long-term investments	0,00	0,00
V. Long-term prepayments	0,00	0,00
B. Current assets	1 533 744,20	1 809 473,26
I. Inventory	0,00	0,00
II. Short-term receivables	46 643,81	74 534,29
III. Short-term investments	1 448 275,89	1 701 359,70
IV. Short-term prepayments	38 824,50	33 579,27
C. Due payments for statutory fund	0,00	0,00
TOTAL ASSETS	1 533 744,20	1 809 473,26

LIABILITIES	Beginning of the year	End of the year
A. Equity	1 428 645,02	1 675 552,21
I. Statutory fund	205 000,00	205 000,00
II. Other capitals	0,00	0,00
III. Previous years' profit (loss)	441 712,88	1 224 225,62
IV. Net profit (loss)	781 932,14	246 326,59
B. Liabilities and provisions for liabilities	105 099,18	133 921,05
I. Provisions for liabilities	0,00	0,00
II. Long-term liabilities	0,00	0,00
III. Short-term liabilities	60 820,40	124 698,60
IV. Accruals	44 278,78	9 222,45
TOTAL LIABILITIES	1 533 744,20	1 809 473,26

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

For the period of 01.09.2018-31.08.2019

Based on Appendix 6 to the Accounting Act

	Previous year	Current year
A. Basic operational activity revenues	5 455 664,00	5 604 272,00
I. Revenues from unpaid statutory activity	5 455 664,00	5 604 272,00
II. Revenues from paid statutory activity	0,00	0,00
III. Revenues from other statutory activity	0,00	0,00
B. Costs of basic operational activity	3 920 352,89	4 585 322,22
I. Costs of unpaid statutory activity	3 920 352,89	4 585 322,22
II. Costs of paid statutory activity	0,00	0,00
III. Costs of other statutory activity	0,00	0,00
C. Profit (loss) from statutory activity (A-B)	1 535 311,11	1 018 949,78
D. Business revenues	0,00	0,00
E. Business expenses	0,00	0,00
F. Profit (loss) on business activities	0,00	0,00
G. General and administrative costs	764 427,53	793 025,13
H. Profit (loss) on operating activities (C+F-G)	770 883,58	225 924,65
I. Other operating revenues	0,00	8 039,37
J. Other operating expenses	327,76	360,25
K. Financial revenues	12 181,55	13 837,02
L. Financial expenses	805,23	143,20

M. Gross profit (loss) (H+I-J+K-L)	781 932,14	247 297,59
N. Income tax	0,00	971,00
O. Net profit (loss) (M-N)	781 932,14	246 326,59



**THE EFC FOUNDATION FOUNDER
- ANDRZEJ CZERNECKI (1939-2012)**

The EFC Foundation began thanks to the initiative of Andrzej Czernecki, an exceptional Polish businessman and visionary. In 1981, Andrzej Czernecki established the High Tech Lab company and quickly became one of the largest producers of laboratory equipment in the world. After almost 20 years in business, he sold the company and concentrated on his philanthropic endeavours. At the end of his life, he created the EFC Foundation, which is now managed by his two sons - Igor and Andrzej Jr.. He was one of the most prominent modern philanthropists in Poland.

EFC Foundation

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