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## **School: Sad Duty or Enriching Necessity? Effects of Long-Established Norms on Educational Attitudes**

### **Background**

Attitudes towards education vary between the regions and countries. Differences in educational attitudes cannot be fully explained by direct inputs as textbooks, class size or curriculum. An also important issue is a persistence of long-term historical institutions. The concept of *longue durée* was introduced by Fernand Braudel (1980). Later on, path dependency was discussed for example by North (1995) and Putnam et al. (1993).

### **Aim**

The aim of this presentation is to explain regional differences in attitudes towards education, while referring to the historical events that took place in nineteenth century in Polish territories. During the Partitions, the Kingdom of Prussia, Russian Empire and Habsburg Austria divided Poland and imposed their educational systems. It is expected that it exists an effect of historical, nineteenth-century borders on the attitudes towards education in present-day Poland.

### **Methods**

Considerations are based on a research which combined different methods including quantitative techniques as well as qualitative tools<sup>1</sup>. Questionnaire (CAPI) was held in October 2017. In total, 2500 answers were received. In-depth interviews were carried out in June 2017 during the study-visits of the project team.

### **Results**

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The results suggest that the period of Partition have had longer term effects on educational attitudes. Inhabitants of the Western regions of Poland perceive an education as a tool to gain practical skills, when residents of former Galicia prefer general education. It can be explained by the development of vocational training in these regions and in general, schooling program implemented in this areas.

## **Conclusions**

An analysis shows that there exists a clear difference in the educational attitudes between regions which were under different rules in nineteenth and early twentieth century. Understanding of path-dependency phenomenon is important to design schooling, address social problems and affect socio-economic development.

## **References**

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