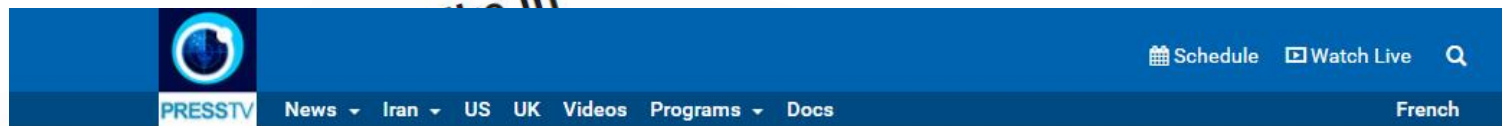




# The role of municipal governments in **solving health problems of urban communities** in post-transitional Poland.

**Joanna Stępień**  
Department of Socio-Economic  
Geography  
University of Gdańsk

# POLISH HEALTH CARE SYSTEM IN CRISIS



## Thousands of doctors in Poland protest against overtime deals

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Wed Jan 3, 2018 06:17PM



The photo taken on October 14, 2017 shows young doctors, medical students and supporters demonstrating in front of the government building in Warsaw, Poland, to demand better working conditions. (Photo by AFP)

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# POLISH HEALTH CARE SYSTEM IN CRISIS

State-funded health care system is chronically:

- underfunded
- understaffed
- poorly organized

The waiting time for „free” procedures can take many years.

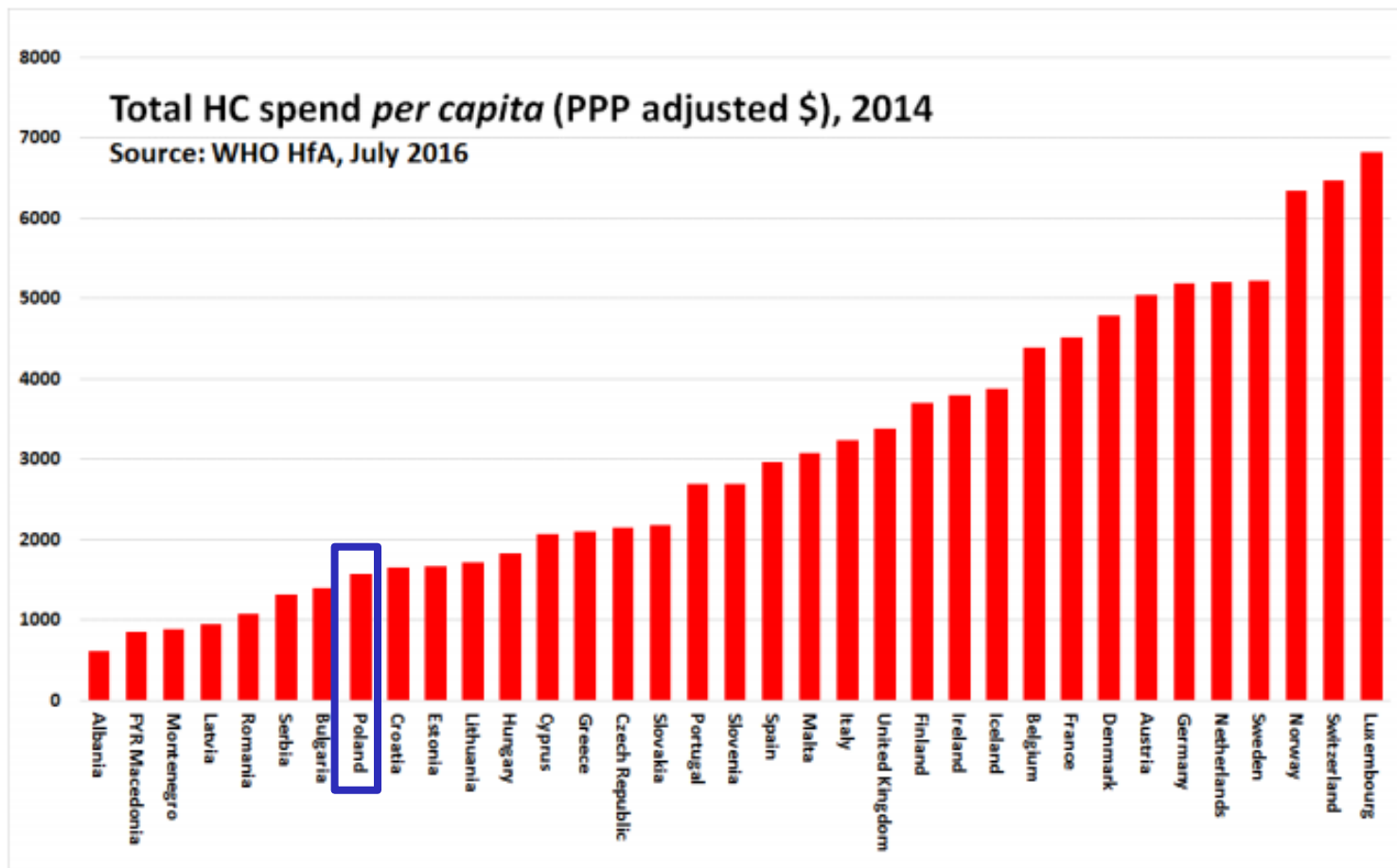
# POLISH HEALTH CARE SYSTEM IN CRISIS

- Low earnings are forcing doctors to work overtime,
- Or/and take additional jobs at private clinics,
- or to emigrate;

**"If junior doctors are receiving lower salaries than supermarket cashiers, then there's a problem,"** - NIL president Maciej Hamankiewicz (Chamber of Physicians and Dentists)

- Doctors, especially young, work between 300 and 400 hours a month, often in a state of chronic fatigue

# SPENDINGS ON HEALTH CARE



# POLISH HEALTH SYSTEM PERFORMANCE

- WHO: Poland 50. (France – 1., UK – 18.)
- EHCI (Euro Health Consumer Index): Poland 31. (out of 35)

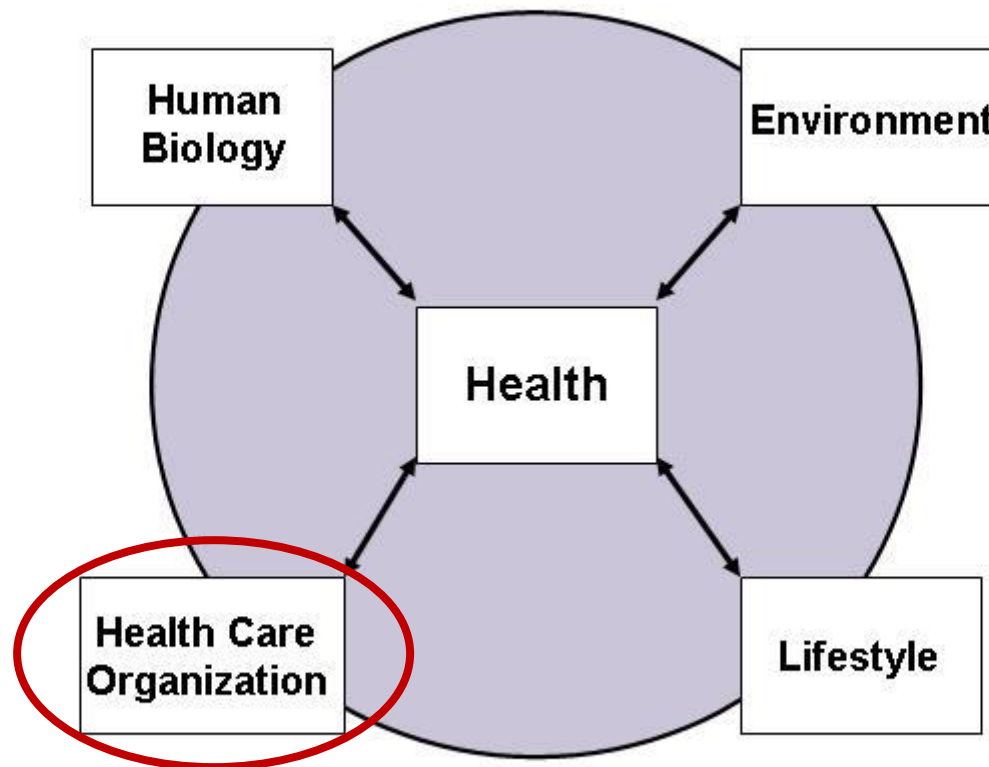
According to president Hamankiewicz, **around 25,000 Polish doctors currently work abroad**, including 13,000 in other EU states





# DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH

Lalonde's Health Field Concept (1974)





# CITIZENS' HEALTH INITIATIVES IN POLAND



## ROLE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

- Prevention, selected medical procedures (in-vitro)
- Dedicated forms of health care (e.g. geriatric centers)
- Citizens' initiatives (e.g. civic budget)
- Urban greenery
- Recreation

## PREVENTIVE ACTIONS FOR URBAN CITIZENS

- Preventive programs – in addition to obligatory ones e.g. free HPV vaccination, screening tests
- Prevention days (free medical check up)
- Medical programs aimed at children at schools

# LOCAL MEDICAL INITIATIVES

In-vitro financing





# ELDERLY CARE

## Geriatric centers

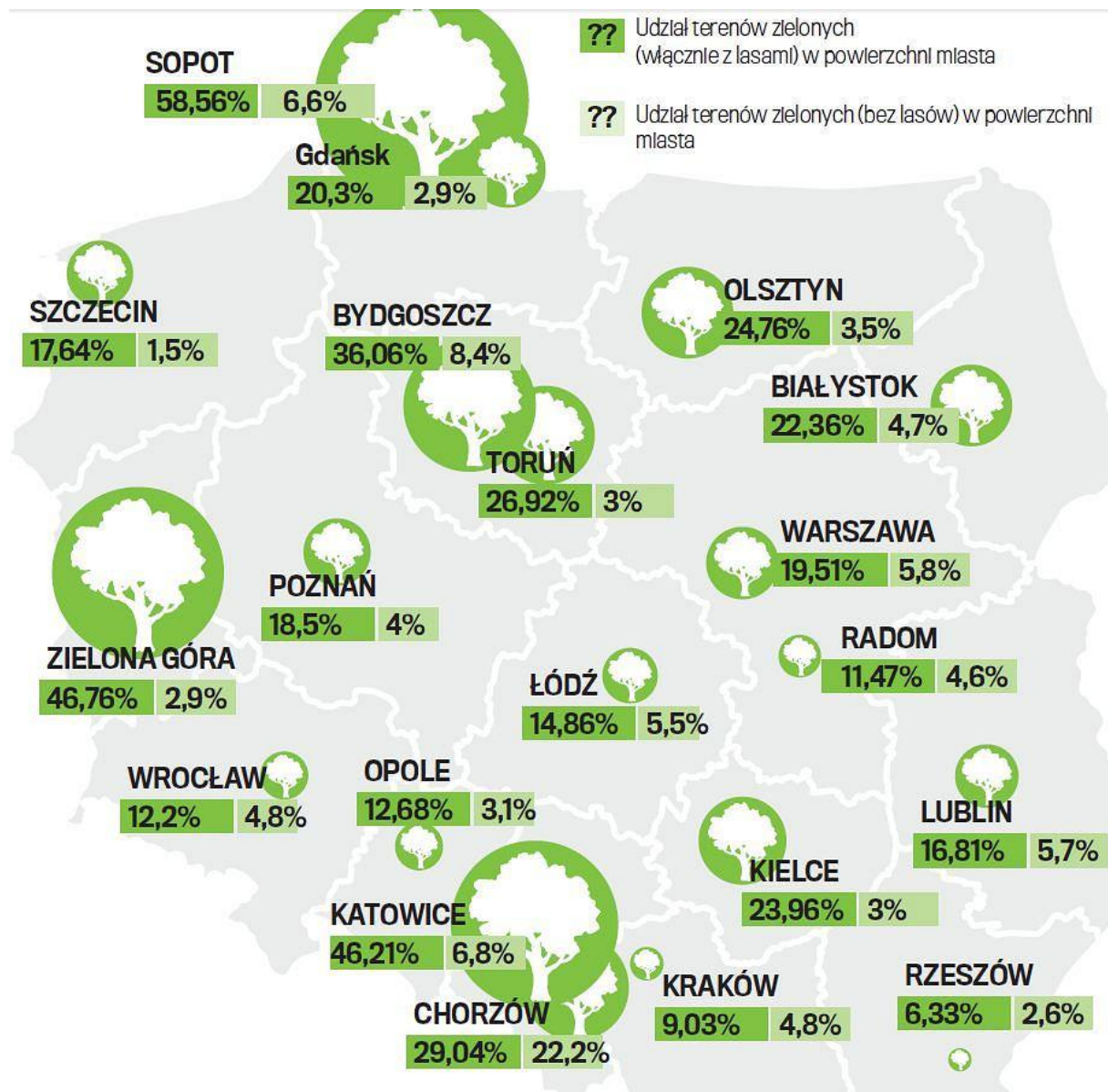
Ranking 28 państw UE pod wz

**Postrzegany stan zdrowia jako dobry / bardzo dobry w populacji w wieku 65+ (OECD, 2013)**

AAI	Państwo
44.9	Szwecja
40.3	Dania
40.0	Holandia
39.7	Wielka Brytania
39.0	Finlandia
38.6	Irlandia
35.8	Francja



# URBAN GREENERY





# RECREATION

MAREK LIPiŃSKI - BURMISTRZ DZIELNICY BEMOWO M.ST. WARSZAWY ZAPRASZA NA:

J  
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- **LETNIE KONCERTY W ALTANIE** | NIEDZIELE LIPCA I SIERPŃIA, GODZ. 17.00, PARK ŹRÓDLISKA I
- **JOGA W PARKU** | PARK ŹRÓDLISKA II, PARK NA ZDROWIU, PARK PONIATOWSKIEGO
- **TAI CHI** | PARK PONIATOWSKIEGO, PARK ŹRÓDLISKA I
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# CITIZENS' INITIATIVES

Civic budget:

- First aid trainings for citizens
- Defibrillators in public spaces



## WHY LOCAL INITIATIVES MATTER?

- People get sick locally
- Local governments know more about their citizens, also about local health problems and needs
- Financing directly local health problems save money across the whole country
- People get involved more if they are given initiative (e.g. civic budget actions)



**Thank you for your attention!**