Open Meetings in Chełm with the Participation of IPN President Karol Nawrocki and New Technology Division Director Magdalena Hajduk

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On November 12, a series of meetings took place in Chełm with Dr. Karol Nawrocki, President of the Institute of National Remembrance (IPN), and Magdalena Hajduk, Director of the New Technology Division. These events featured lectures and discussions, including on Poland's recent history. Additionally, Director Hajduk delivered a presentation on immersive historical education, and guests were invited to explore the New Technology Zone.

An Array of Attractions in Chełm

The agenda included meetings with residents of Chełm, the Kamień Municipality, and the Chełm County; a visit to the New Technology Zone; tours of the Museum of Remembrance for Victims of the Volhynia Massacre and the President Lech Kaczyński Center for Truth and Reconciliation; and a concert titled "*Grateful for the Gift of Independence"* at General Gustaw Orlicz-Dreszer High School No. II—just a portion of the attractions in Chełm that day. The series of activities began with a meeting with the city's Mayor, Jakub Banaszek, followed by an event with high school students. During the latter, Magdalena Hajduk presented on immersive historical education to an audience of over 250 attendees. Inspired by the lecture, students enthusiastically flocked to the New Technology Zone, where they experienced engaging educational games, films, and applications designed for effective learning.

Youth Meeting with IPN President Karol Nawrocki

At an event held at the Maria Paulina Orsetti Public Library in Chełm, IPN President Karol Nawrocki addressed numerous questions from young participants. Topics included the Institute's work, the vetting of election candidates, files stored in the IPN Archive, efforts to locate and identify victims, and Poland's history.

> "*We are a national community because we share a cultural heritage. This common legacy stems from over a thousand years of Polish experience. We are a national community—we are Poles—because our past unites us. Finally, we are Poles because we can communicate in the beautiful, resonant Polish language. History and our shared past have profound significance for who we are today,*" *noted Nawrocki.*

The day concluded with a lively discussion with Chełm residents about local patriotism, Poland's history, and the vital role historical education plays in shaping civic attitudes. The discussion was moderated by Member of Parliament Anna Dąbrowska-Banaszek. We thank all participants and guests of the meetings. It was a day filled with enriching and unforgettable experiences.

Previous Page
Next Page