Patrycja Anna Sasnal (Poland)

I. Profile

Patrycja Sasnal is a political scientist, Arabist and philosopher, specializing in IR in the Middle East with a focus on radicalization, political violence, postcolonial theory and migration. She is currently the Head of Research at the Polish Institute of International Affairs (PISM). She is a member of the Council of the European Council on Foreign Relations, European Working Group on Egypt and of the Polish Ombudsman’s Expert Commission on Migration. She was a 2010/2011 Fulbright scholar at Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), Johns Hopkins University in Washington, DC and associate at the American University in Beirut and studied at Sorbonne Nouvelle, Paris III. She has written for *The Guardian, Le Monde* and *Polityka*. Her latest book is *Arendt, Fanon and Political Violence in Islam* (Routledge, 2019).

Dr. Sasnal lead several European research projects: EuroMeSCo’s project on the Terrorist Threat in the Euro-Mediterranean Region, the „SPRinT” Strategic Partnership in Transition project (Marie Curie IRSES Fellowship) and a EuroMeSCO project on the role of religion in transitional processes in the Arab world.

She speaks English, Arabic, French and Polish.

II. Education

2010-2013 **PhD** in Political Science, Jagiellonian University, Poland PhD dissertation: “Between Stabilization and Stagnation – U.S. in the Arab World 2005-2011”

2010-2011 **Fulbright fellow** at the Center for Transatlantic Relations, Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), Johns Hopkins University, Washington DC, U.S.

2015-2018 **MA** in Philosophy, Warsaw University, Poland Thesis: “Arendt vs. Fanon: On Political Violence in Islam”

1999-2005 **MA (Hons)** in International Relations (American Studies), Jagiellonian University, Poland Thesis: “Syria in the American Era – Syrian-American bilateral relations 1989-2003”

2000-2005 **MA (Hons)** in Arabic Philology, Jagiellonian University, Poland   
Thesis: “Secularism in Arabic Thought. An Overview of the Phenomenon of Secularism in the Works of Modern Arab Intellectuals. Cases of Samīr Amīn, Burhān Ġalyūn and Edward Said”

III. Professional Experience

2019- **Head of Research,** Polish Institute of International Affairs (PISM), Poland

2018-2019 **Deputy Head of Research**, PISM, Poland

2018 - **Member of the Council of the European Council on Foreign Relations**, UK/Germany

2015-2016 **Member of Anna Lindh Foundation expert task force**, ALF, Alexandria, Egypt

2015- **Member of European Working Group on Egypt** – expert advocacy group established by International Crisis Group, ECFR and Carnegie Europe.

2015- **Member of the Ombudsman’s Expert Commission on Migration**, Office of the Ombudsman, Poland.

2012-2019 **Head of the Middle East and North Africa Programme and Senior Research Fellow**, PISM, Poland.

2014-2015 **Lecturer in political sciences** – Jagiellonian University, Krakow & Institute for Advanced Studies, Warsaw

2007- 2012 **Research Fellow** for the Middle East and “Strategic Files” managing editor, PISM, Warsaw.

IV. Research and grants

2018-2021 Researcher (radicalization) - EU-LISTCO project led by Freie Universität Berlin - Europe's External Action and the Dual Challenges of Limited Statehood and Contested Orders - https://www.eu-listco.net (Horizon 2020)

2018-2019 Coordinator - "Cooperation with Religious Institutions as a European Policy Tool” Project, European Institute of the Mediterranean, Barcelona/EuroMeSCo

2015 Co-chair (with ACPSS, Cairo; Carnegie, Beirut and GERM, Morocco) of the EuroMeSCo Working Package on "Terrorist Threat in the Euro-Mediterranean Region"

2014 Chair of the “Role of Religion in Transition” study group – part of the “Arab transitions in comparative perspective”, a research project of the EuroMeSCo and the European Institute of the Mediterranean

Jan 2014 - Jan 2016

Coordinator of “SPrinT” Strategic Partnership in Transition Project – run by PISM, the Finnish Institute of International Affairs, AlAhram Center for Political and Strategic Studies part of Marie Curie IRSES Fellowship in the 7th European Community Framework Programme

May 2013 Anna Lindh Foundation Citizens for Dialogue – research project in Cairo, Egypt

2012 Creator and coordinator of Youth-to-Youth in Transitional Diplomacy project run by PISM in Egypt (with ACPSS, Cairo), Tunisia (CEMI, Tunis) and Algeria (CSS, Algiers).

2010-2011 Fulbright Program Scholarship - Advanced Research Grant

2004-2005 Associate, American University of Beirut, Lebanon – research project on secularization in modern Arab thought, Sasakawa Young Leaders Fellowship Fund grant

2004 Researcher at IFEAD (Institut Français d’Etudes Arabes à Damas), Damascus, Syria.

2003-2004 Researcher at I.N.A.L.C.O. (Institut National des Langues et Civilisations Orientales) in Paris, France.

2003-2004 Socrates/Erasmus student – Sorbonne Nouvelle Paris 3, Paris, France.

V. Selected recent publications

A. Monographs & edited volumes

* 2019: [*Arendt, Fanon and Political Violence in Islam*](https://www.routledge.com/Arendt-Fanon-and-Political-Violence-in-Islam/Sasnal/p/book/9780367259594); Abingdon, Routledge, ISBN 9780367259594;
* (ed.) 2019: [*Cooperation with Religious Institutions as a European Policy Tool*](https://www.euromesco.net/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Joint-Policy-Study-14_Cooperation-with-religious-institutions-as-a-europan-policy-tool.pdf), Joint Policy Study 14, European Institute of the Mediterranean;
* 2017: [*Pseudo-stabilization. The problems of contemporary U.S. policy in the Middle East*](https://ksiegarnia.pwn.pl/Pseudostabilizacja,689473995,p.html) [in Polish], Warszawa: PWN (Polish Scientific Publishing), ISBN 978-83-01-19132-0;
* (ed.) 2015: [*Irregular migration to the European Union – implications for Poland*](https://www.pism.pl/files/?id_plik=20992) [in Polish], PISM Report, November 2015, ISBN 978-83-64895-67-8;
* 2014: [*Myths and Legends: Modern History and Nationalistic Propaganda in Egyptian Textbooks*](https://www.files.ethz.ch/isn/180939/Myths%20and%20Legends_%20Modern%20History%20and%20Nationalistic%20Propaganda%20in%20Egyptian%20Textbooks.pdf), Warszawa: PISM/FIIA, ISBN 978-83-62453-89-4;
* (eds. Behr, T., Sasnal, P.) 2012: [*Still Awake: The Beginnings of Arab Democratic Change*](https://css.ethz.ch/content/specialinterest/gess/cis/center-for-securities-studies/en/services/digital-library/publications/publication.html/154349), Helsinki, Warsaw: Finnish Institute of International Affairs & PISM, ISBN 978-83-62453-41-2;

B. Book chapters & articles:

* [accepted] (Fahmi, G., Sasnal, P.) 2020: *Resilience to violent radicalization*: *Why haven’t more Islamists taken up arms in Egypt since 2013?*, Democratization;
* 2019: [*Points of Tangency Between State and Religious Institutions in Europe*](https://www.euromesco.net/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Report-24_Cooperation-with-religious-institutions.pdf)*– Institutionalisation of State Religion Policy*, in: Sasnal, P. (ed.) Cooperation with Religious Institutions as a European Policy Tool, Joint Policy Study 14, European Institute of the Mediterranean;
* 2018: [*Domesticating the Giant: The Global Governance of Migration*](https://www.cfr.org/report/domesticating-giant-global-governance-migration)*,* Council on Foreign Relations, New York;
* 2018: *The looming peace in Syria*, „Orient”, I/2018, Deutsches Orient Stiftung;
* 2017: [*Brothers in Arms, Strangers in Love: Mapping the Trajectory of Flows Between Two Different Socio-Religious Models in Egypt and Saudi Arabia*](https://www.jstor.org/stable/j.ctt1m3p2f0), in: Mason, R. (ed.): Egypt and the Gulf: A Renewed Regional Policy Alliance, Berlin & London: Gerlach Press;
* 2016: [*The Reasons for Radical Groups’ Appeal among European and Arab Citizens: The Case of ISIS*](https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=&ved=2ahUKEwius7Cy85zsAhURGewKHQboCZAQFjAAegQIBhAC&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.iemed.org%2Fpublicacions-es%2Fhistoric-de-publicacions%2Fjoint-policy-studies%2Fterrorist-threat-in-the-euro-mediterranean-region%2Fat_download%2Farxiu_relacionat&usg=AOvVaw3Nxlm7RLD0U5uXHRJyzmfN), [in:] Terrorist Threat in the Euro-Mediterranean, A. Mukhtar, F. Ammor, D. Ghanem-Yazbeck, P. Sasnal, Joint Policy Study 3, European Institute of the Mediterranean;
* 2016: *Faith Brings Down Regimes. The Role of Religion in Transitional Processes*, [in:] The Arab Transitions in a Changing World. Building Democracies in Light of International Experiences, S. Florensa (ed.), Barcelona;
* 2016: *Universal Utopia: Weighing the Reasons for the Appeal of the Islamic State*, in: PISM Strategic Files, 1 (82);
* 2015: *Poland: from onlooker to wannabe agenda-setter*, in: Behr, T., Tiilikainen*,* T. (eds.): Northern Europe and the Arab World: From the Cold War to the Arab Spring, Aldershot, Burlington, Singapore, Sydney: Ashgate;
* 2015: *Pulling the Rope: The Struggle between Official and Popular Islam in Egypt*, in: PISM Policy Papers, 2(104);
* 2015: *Who Are They? Two Profiles of Syrian Refugees*, in: PISM Policy Papers, 36 (138);
* *co-authored with Uzelac, A.* 2014: *Unaided Refugees Make ISIS Stronger: Europe and the Worst Humanitarian Crisis of the 21st Century*, in: PISM Policy Papers, 19(102);
* 2014: *Apples and Oranges? Not Really. Common Hard and Soft Security Concerns in the V4 and the Maghreb*, in: Rozsa, E., Szalai, M. (eds.): Raising Awareness – Finding Common Ground: The V4 and the Maghreb, Budapest: Hungarian Institute of International Affairs;
* 2014: *Bulanda wa ihtimam jadid fi mintaqat ash-Sharq al-Awsat* [Poland and the new interest in the Middle East, in Arabic], in: Halat al-Alam [State of the World] March/April 2014;
* 2012: *The Pessoptimist’s Arab Revolution: A Mismatch Between Social Evolution and Political Revolution*, Insight Turkey, 14/4;
* 2012: *The Middle East in Transition: Clues from Poland*, in: European Institute of the Mediterranean Papers, 13;
* 2011: *Market Dynamics, Strategic Interactions and Balance of Power in the Mediterranean Region*, in: Morillas, P. (ed.) EUROMED+15: New Paths of cooperation Across the Mediterranean, EuroMeSCo/IEMed;
* *co-authored with Levy, D.* 2011: *Palestinian UN Vote and Triple-faced EU Policies*, in: PISM Policy Papers, 16;
* 2010: *The challenge of Middle East Peace before the EU-U.S. Lisbon Summit*, PISM & Center for Transatlantic Relations, SAIS, Johns Hopkins University Policy Paper, 2.

C. Policy papers and press articles

* co-authored with El Menouar, Y. 2020: [*There's a social pandemic poisoning Europe: hatred of Muslims*](https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2020/sep/28/europe-social-pandemic-hatred-muslims-blm), “The Guardian,” 28 September 2020;
* co-authored with Zaręba, S. 2020: [*The UN at Seventy-Five: How to Make it Relevant Again: Think Big But Think Real*](https://www.cfr.org/article/un-seventy-five-how-make-it-relevant-again), Council on Foreign Relations;
* 2020: [*Mistaking Panacea for Pathogens: The Case for Existential Multilateralism*](https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=2ahUKEwiO0o3uyIzsAhUB_aQKHQoIAb4QFjAAegQIAxAB&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cfr.org%2Fsites%2Fdefault%2Ffiles%2Fpdf%2FMistaking%2520Panacea%2520for%2520Pathogens%252C%2520The%2520Case%2520for%2520Existential%2520Multilateralism.pdf&usg=AOvVaw3nILbelYRbjCkPUweHJZSR), Council on Foreign Relations;
* co-authored with Fahmi, G. 2020: [*State Religious Institutions in the MENA: Can They Prevent Violent Radicalization?*](https://www.cidob.org/en/publications/publication_series/project_papers/eu_listco/state_religious_institutions_in_the_mena_can_they_prevent_violent_radicalization), EU-LISTCO Policy Paper Series, Barcelona Centre for International Affairs (CIDOB);
* 2019: [*Six Takeaways on European Migration Management since the Adoption of the Global Compact for Migration*](https://www.pism.pl/file/faace11c-15fd-4447-b57e-f0cb4e8f1c7e), PISM Strategic File no. 2 (90);
* 2019: [*Peace According to Real Estate Dealers*,](https://www.euromesco.net/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/Brief102_Peace-accordin-to-real-estate.pdf) EuroMeSCo Policy Brief no. 102, 25 October 2019, Barcelona;
* 2016: [*The International Dimension of the Fight for Aleppo in Syria*](https://isnblog.ethz.ch/conflict/the-international-dimension-of-the-fight-for-aleppo-in-syria), Center for Security Studies, Zurich;
* *co-*authored *with Minda A.* 2016: The Crisis in Libya and the Rise of Jihadism and Migration, PISM Bulletin, 21 (1371);
* 2015: [Saudi Arabia: On the Inside Track in Egypt](https://www.theglobalist.com/saudi-arabia-middle-east-extremism-egypt/), The Globalist, July 2015;
* 2014: Syria and Egypt: Two Counterrevolutions in Action, The Globalist, 3 June;
* 2014: Egypt: How Freedom Finally Arrives, The Globalist, 11 February;
* 2013: 1989 المصالحة الوطنية في بولندا بعد عام (National reconciliation in Poland after 1989, in Arabic), *Le Monde Diplomatique*;
* 2013: *Recession and terrorism foster Islamophobia in EU*, Public Service Europe, 29 May;
* 2012: Egypt’s Foreign Policy: Post-Western and Pan-Islamic, Euro-Mediterranean Study Commission Brief 34;
* 2012: Six Milion Mubaraks, International Relations and Security Network (ISN), 23 July;
* 2011 : Du faux chocolat et de l’islam politique, «Le Monde», 5 December;
* الدروس المستفادة من ثورتي بولندا‏1989‏ ومصر 2011 [Lessons from two revolutions: Poland (1989) and Egypt (2011)], “Al-Ahram”, 29 September 2011;
* 2011: UN-EU-ropean lessons, Italian Institute for International Political Studies, September 2011;
* 2011: The Arab democratic wave and the Middle East: a window of opportunity?, EUISS Washington Forum Debate, September 2011;
* 2011: Fake chocolate and political Islam, EUobserver, 17 March 2011;
* التحول الديمقراطي في بولندا والتجربة المصرية2011 [Democratic Transition in Poland and the Egyptian case], Arab Forum for Alternatives, Egypt, 2011;

D. Selected conference talks

* *Reflections on ways to address radicalization in Iraq,* US-Europe-Iraq Track II Dialogue, Atlantic Council, Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, Berlin, 2-4 March 2020;
* *Roundtable on Fanon, Arendt and Political Violence in Islam,* University of Haifa, Israel, 16 February 2020;
* *Roundtable on Current Events in Iran*, German Marshall Fund, Warsaw, 14 January 2020;
* *Ten Years Ahead: Insights Into the Agendas of International Think Tanks*, French Institute of International Relations, Paris, 25 November 2019;
* *Radicalisation and counter-terrorism in the MENA*, European University Institute, Florence, 11 October 2019;
* *Roundtable on Fanon, Arendt and Political Violence in Islam – book launch*, European University Institute, Florence, 14 October 2019;
* *Cooperation with Religious Institutions as a European Policy Tool*, Euro-Mediterranean Study Commission Annual Conference, Barcelona, 19 June 2019;
* *Multilateral Conflict Management: Yemen,* Council on Foreign Relations, Washington, 6-7 May 2019;
* *Governance Breakdown and Violent Conflict in the Middle East*, Global Public Policy Institute, Berlin, 25-26 March 2019;
* *Post-war reconstruction in Syria: war by other means?*, University of California LA, Center for Middle East Development, Doha, 30-31 October 2018;
* *The Syrian theatre: where is it headed?,* EU-US-Israel Strategic Dialogue, Hudson Institute, Washington, 22-23 October 2018;
* *Cooperation with Religious Institutions as a European Policy Tool*, OCP Policy Center, Rabat, 13 July 2018;
* Mid-term risks for violent conflicts and governance breakdown in the region between the Eastern Mediterranean and Afghanistan, Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, Jerusalem, 21 June 2018;
* *Global Governance of Migration*, Council on Foreign Relations, New York, 7-8 May 2018;
* *Political Islam, Official Islam, and Salafism: Toward a New Equilibrium?*, University of California LA, Center for Middle East Development, Prague, 23 February 2018;
* *Preventing, countering and deradicalising. Confronting violent extremism in the Euro-Mediterranean region*, European Institute of the Mediterranean, Barcelona 1-2 June 2017;
* *Shaping a Transatlantic Strategy in Counterterrorism,* German Marshall Fund of the United States, Brussels, 19 June 2017;
* *What happens after finding refuge? Integration of Syrian refugees in Germany and Turkey: Challenges and prospects*, Instituto Affari Internazionali/Mercator, Berlin, 7-8 May 2017;
* *Social, Economic, and Political Impacts of Migration on Host Countries*, Enriching the Middle East’s Economic Future, UCLA Center for Middle East Development, Doha, 12-13 November 2017;
* *Radicalization in a transatlantic perspective*, Atlantic Dialogues, German Marshall Fund of the U.S/OCP Policy Center, Marakkesh, 14-16 December 2016;
* *The Future of Syria,* Global Political Trends Center, Istanbul Kültür University, Istanbul, 10 October 2016;
* *From War to Migration to Terrorism: Transatlantic Security and the Middle East*, Wroclaw Global Forum, Atlantic Council/PISM, Wroclaw, 3 June 2016;
* *Syria and the Importance of the UN,* Fifth Annual Council of Councils Conference, Council on Foreign Relations, New York, 14-17 May 2016;
* *The Reasons for Radical Groups’ Appeal among European and Arab Citizens: The Case of ISIS,* Towards a security architecture for the Mediterranean: A Challenge for Euro-Mediterranean relations, Breugel-IEMed, Brussels, 14 April 2016;
* *The Struggle between Official and Popular Islam and the rise of Radicalism. The Case of Egypt, Young* Woman Leadres Forum 2016, Woman Democracy Association, Gaziantep (Turkey), 11-14 April 2016;
* *From War to Migration to Terrorism: Transatlantic Security and the Middle East,* Wroclaw Global Forum, Atlantic Council & PISM, 3 June 2016;
* *Toward an Ethical Migration Policy of the EU*, Cultural Literacy of Migration: Affects, Memory, Concepts, Polish Academy of Sciences, 18-19 May 2016;
* *Brothers in arms, strangers in love? The impact of different socio-religious models in Egypt and Saudi Arabia on their bilateral relations*, Gulf Research Center, Cambridge University, August 2015;
* *Containment, resolution or intervention: European Security Policy faced with an Arc of Crisis*, 8th Weimar Triangle Working Session, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Stiftung Genshagen, Genshagen, 19-21 March 2015;
* *Religion, Democracy and Women in Egyptian Textbooks before and after 2011*, Asfari Institute, American University of Beirut, 20-22 February 2015.
* *Recommendations for a sound EU migration policy*, European Council on Foreign Relations, Paris , June 2015;
* *Religion, Democracy and Women in Egyptian Textbooks before and after 2011*, „Religious Education and the State” workshop, Center for Interdisciplinary Research ZiF, Bielefeld University, Germany, 31 July -1 August.
* *Faith brings down regimes. The role of religion in transitional processes*, “Visegrad Group– Jordan: Successful Beneficiaries of NATO and EU Heritage”, Al Rai Center for Studies, Amman, 4 May 2014.
* *The challenge of ISIS and its impact on Europe*, BESA-PISM Strategic Dialogue, Bar Ilan University, Tel Aviv, 1 December 2014.
* *Citizenship in Polish transition,* “Citizenship and democratic transition. The role of education and religion in politics”/ المواطنة والتحول الديموقراطي, Arab Forum For Alternatives, Cairo, February 2014
* *Teaching history, shaping worldviews after 1989 in Poland – clues for Egypt*, “Memories of School. Educational System and Historical Change”, PISM-AlAhram Center for Political and Strategic Studies, Cairo, 19 Feb 2014;
* *The EU and the Mediterranean*, The European Union in a Multipolar World: German, French and Polish perspectives on EU external action, Stiftung Genshagen, Genshagen, Germany, 25 August 2014;
* *The role of religion in transitional processes*, “Strategic Studies Summit: (R)evolution”, Strategic Studies Network, Euro-Mediterranean Study Commission, Bangkok, 24 February 2014.
* *Arab Uprising (Islamic Awakening) & its Consequences for the Region*, The Institute for Political and International Studies, Teheran (Iran), 16 December 2013;
* *Regional Developments and Their Social Aspects*, Institute of Diplomatic Studies, Riyadh (Saudi Arabia), 11-12 December 2013;
* *National reconciliation in the Polish Transition*, Club de Madrid, Port-au-Prince, Haiti, 21 July 2014;
* *Cultural aspects of a democracy in the digital world*, LAB 17: Making movies, making society, World Forum of Democracy, Strasbourg, 26-29 November 2013;
* *Struggling for power: a comparison between the situation in Egypt and Libya and its impact on European foreign policies*, German-Polish Exchange of experience in the context of the Arab Spring, Europaeische Akademie Berlin/European Academy Berlin, 31 July 2013;
* *Transatlantic Agenda for the Middle East*, Wroclaw Global Forum, Wroclaw (Poland), 7 May 2013;
* *The Middle East in Transition: Clues from Poland*, Youth-to-Youth in Diplomacy, Centres des Etudes Strategiques et Securitaire, Algiers, 17 December 2012; Centres des Etudes Mediterraneennes et Internationales, Tabarka (Tunisia), 6 December 2012; Regional Center for Strategic Studies, Cairo (Egypt), 21 November 2012; Al-Ahram Center for Political and Strategic Studies, Cairo (Egypt), 20 November 2012;
* *Apprendre des experiences europeennes et arabes de participation*, Youth-to-Youth in Diplomacy, Anna Lindh conference: Citoyens pour le Dialogue - Echanges, dialogue interculturel et participation dans la vie publique: bonnes pratiques et regards croisés, Algiers, 15 December 2012;
* *The national reconciliation and the external actors*, National Reconciliation in Transitional Realities, PASSIA, Ramallah-Jerusalem, 14-15 November 2012;
* *Geostrategic consequences of the Arab Spring*, EuroMeSCo Annual Conference, Barcelona, 4-5 October 2012;
* *Making the Arab Spring Politically Secure: building democratic institution*, The Arab Spring: Towards a Coherent US-EU Approach, Atlantic Council of the U.S., Washington, 8-9 November 2011.