Since 1983, CICA has organised as many as 36 international meetings, with past venues scattered across the Americas, Europe, Africa, and Asia. This year the XXXVII CICA Conference is co-organized by two Polish universities: Kazimierz Wielki University of Bydgoszcz and the University of Zielona Góra.

The Conference sets out to study the phenomena of aggression and conflict resolution using a comprehensive, integrated and interdisciplinary approach which takes into account both biological and psycho-socio-cultural factors. The Conference is an opportunity to meet those with an interest in contemporary trends in research on aggression and conflict and the ways to resolve them. It will also provide a venue where to discuss the rising aggression we see among contemporary people in the new 21st century. In addition to traditional sessions with oral and poster presentations, the attendees at this year’s Conference have also registered two discussion panels, two workshops, and a film, all concerned with the problems of aggression and the phenomenon of violence, and the ways of dealing with them.

This year, almost one hundred scientists, students and esteemed guests from 15 countries are gathered to share their thoughts and ideas on aggression and terrorism. They come from Europe (Czech Republic, Germany, Italy, Poland, Spain, Ukraine), Asia (India, Mongolia, Pakistan, Russia, Syria), America (Canada, Colombia, USA), and Africa (South Africa).

During the XXXVII CICA we will be talking about Developmental and Social Conditions of Conflict and Aggression. All participants will have the opportunity to listen to two keynote speakers, eight sessions of scientific presentations, one poster session and two panel discussions. All these kinds of activities will be focused on a variety of types of conditionings of aggression and violence, on methods to measure readiness for aggression and on the practical implications of this knowledge to be used by specialists and practitioners.

We are pleased to welcome our keynote speakers from the USA and from Poland. Alice LoCicero, Co-Founder and First President of the Society for Terrorism Research, Core Faculty Member at the Center for Multicultural Training in Psychology (Boston Medical Center, Boston MA, USA) and Member of the Advisory Board of Society for Research in Adult Development, will consider the issue relating to “Recruitment of young people for engagement in violence: approaches to a global problem”. Adam Frączek, prominent scientist, professor, former President of the International Society for Research on Aggression, former Rector of The Maria Grzegorzewska Academy of Special Education (Warsaw, Poland), will inform us about “The nature and the measure of personal readiness for interpersonal aggression”.

The XXXVII CICA event that will be hosted this year in Poland is unique in that it is organised by CICA and two middle-sized universities: Kazimierz Wielki University of Bydgoszcz, and the University of Zielona Góra. Both universities were established after World War II and both have had notable accomplishments as educators of teachers and promoters of culture in the so-called “Regained Lands”.

We would like to give you a very warm welcome to Poland, a country that is the ninth most populous nation of Europe, and has for centuries provided cultural and trade links between the East and the West, and the North and the South of our continent. Geographically, Poland lies at the heart of Europe, just where the midpoint of Europe is located. The character of Polish climate is transitional between maritime and continental. Location and landscape are the main factors constituting the specific climate in Poland. The weather here is extremely changeable and might surprise everyone. Poland is often recognized as the country of Frederic Chopin, the Solidarity movement, Lech Wałęsa, Pope John Paul II, Czesław Miłosz or Krzysztof Penderecki.

Our history abounds in events which show the significance of co-operation and the negative consequences that follow when there is none. Thanks to the Polish-Lithuanian union of the 15th century, Poland became one of the most important European nations. Literally, the country’s name at that time meant the Commonwealth of Two Nations (Polish and Lithuanian). Later on, Poland became the first European nation to adopt a Constitution (Constitution of May 3, 1791), and the world’s second-oldest constitution after the USA, as a legal act to regulate rights, liberties and duties of the state towards its citizens, and vice versa.

In the years that came after, in the early 1980s, the Poles became known for their heroic struggle for independence and for the phenomenon of the Solidarity movement, which became the first independent labor union in a Soviet-bloc country. Solidarity gave rise to a broad, non-violent, anti-communist social movement.
that, at its height, claimed some 9.4 million members. It is considered to have contributed greatly to the fall of communism. Solidarity’s example led to the spread of anti-communist ideas and movements throughout the Eastern Bloc, weakening communist governments. This process later culminated in the Revolutions of 1989.

Currently, we have just celebrated the 10th anniversary of Poland’s incorporation to the European Union. We appreciate the many possibilities provided by the United Europe.

CICA

Our first “Coloquio Internacional sobre Cerebro y Agresión” (CICA) was organized in Seville, as a post-conference meeting after a very interesting meeting in Fes (Morocco) on the relationships between the brain and the mind. One year later, Robert Hinde and Grazia Attili were kind enough to come to Seville and share with us their scientific experiences on aggression in children. Following one of the suggestions of the ISRA officials, we decided to institutionalize the Colloquia and also to organize meetings outside Seville in order to disseminate the research on aggression among scholars. During the last quarter of the previous century and the beginning of the present one, CICA has addressed different aspects of this topic with scholars from multiple disciplines in an effort to focus a multidisciplinary attention on this important individual and societal issue. Recently, we are focusing more carefully on one of its most extreme expressions, terrorism, by organizing joint conferences on the topic with the Society for Terrorism Research, as well as on the analysis and resolution of conflicts.

Up to now, about one thousand scholars of all the continents and quite different scientific disciplines have participated in 37 meetings organized in four continents. The most selected scientific contributions from these meetings have also been published in more than thirty volumes.

UKW: Kazimierz Wielki University in Bydgoszcz

Founded in 1969, in recent years, Kazimierz Wielki University in Bydgoszcz has seen a dynamic development as an institution of tertiary education, and today is the largest university in the city and second largest in the whole of Kujawsko-Pomorskie Province in terms of the number of professors, majors, courses offered, students and graduates.

Over 700 academic staff members share their knowledge, including about 150 professors. Today, a comprehensive educational range of studies covers 30 majors at three levels: bachelor (and bachelor in engineering), master and doctoral studies. The university also provides over 30 postgraduate courses, developing qualifications and conferring new rights. Step by step, new majors are approved by the Polish Accreditation Committee.

Over the last few years, our University has offered education to about 5,000 new students annually. Only one-third of all students live in Bydgoszcz, a city of about 400,000, and over one-third of all students come from outside the Kujawsko-Pomorskie Province. Kazimierz Wielki University has ever greater impact on the region and the surrounding provinces.

Since 1997, when the Senate of the then Pedagogical College passed a resolution on academic and research staff enhancement and on developing humanities majors and accelerating the development of mathematical and natural sciences, which would facilitate the conversion into a university, the University has doubled its scientific and teaching potential as well as its infrastructure. Contrary to other Polish cities which, while creating a new university, combined the potential of different schools of higher education, our University has, on its own and in a relatively short time, gone quite a long way to convert from a teacher training school to a multi-profile university of humanities and natural sciences. We are the 18th youngest multi-profile university in Poland. We are aware of a multitude of tasks to be completed. Professors at our University, however, have shown themselves to be determined and effective in their pursuits.

Uniwersytet Zielonogórski in Zielona Góra

The University of Zielona Góra, located in the elite group of classical Polish universities, was founded on the basis of the Parliamentary Law of June 7th, 2001. The date may be misleading, though, as the academic tradition of the city goes back to 1965 when the Higher School of Engineering was founded and subsequently transformed into the Technical University. In 1971, the academic offer of Zielona Góra was extended to prospective teachers when the Teacher Training College was founded and later (1973)
transformed into Tadeusz Kotarbiński Pedagogical University. The University of Zielona Góra was founded through a merger of the Technical University and the Pedagogical University, becoming the biggest state institution of higher education in the Lubuskie Province. In the academic year 2012/2013, the University offered undergraduate, postgraduate and doctoral courses to 15,500 of intramural and extramural students.

The University is entitled to confer post-doctoral degrees in five areas: Astronomy, Civil Engineering, Electrical Engineering, History and Mathematics, and doctoral degrees in 15 areas: Astronomy, Automatics and Robotics, Biology, Machine Building and Operation, Civil Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Philosophy, Physics, History, IT, Environmental Engineering, Literature Studies, Mathematics, Environment Protection and Education.

The mission of the University of Zielona Góra is to provide equal opportunities for the development of the region and its inhabitants and to increase the intellectual, economic and artistic potential by educating well-qualified staff and conducting advanced research. The task of the University is to prepare highly qualified employees to meet the demands of the region, Poland and United Europe.

At both our Universities we are looking for opportunities to develop and change. Their location in mid-sized cities is conducive to local community engagements and facilitates mutual assistance and exchange among business, society and the academia.

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Place of Conference

A great care was taken to select the venue for the XXXVII CICA event. The choice was mostly driven by the considerations of a convenient cross-border location and the climate of multiculturalism. Zielona Góra is located in the Lubuskie Province, close to the borders with Germany and the Czech Republic. The name of the town means “green mountain” in Polish, Czech, and German. For centuries, Zielona Góra has sat along the trade routes linking what are now Poland, the Czech Republic and Germany, and the history of these three countries is what has given the city its unique character. It is in Zielona Góra where protestants fleeing the Czech state sought their shelter, and it is also here (or in Zabór, 12 km off Zielona Góra) where Wilhelmina, the last German Empress, had her palace.

This city has a population of about 300,000 within its metropolitan area, including three neighboring counties (2011), and is one of the capital cities of the region (the other being Gorzów). As a cultural and academic hub of the province, it is a host to Zielona Góra University, Zielona Góra Philharmonie, Leon Kruczkowski Theatre, and a large number of cinemas, galleries and art exhibitions. Zielona Góra is considered to be the capital city of the Polish cabaret with its numerous indigenous cabaret groups that are known and appreciated across the country. Another event of importance is the Russian Song Festival, a cultural fixture that has made Zielona Góra a familiar name over our eastern border. Lastly, Świebodzin, a town close to Zielona Góra, boasts the world’s tallest statue of Jesus Christ.

Zielona Góra is known for its centuries-old tradition of viticulture and this notable page in the city’s history is celebrated during an annual Zielona Góra Wine Festival. Despite the adverse climate, a number of local vineyards manage to produce wine of unique taste and character. You will be able to get a taste of that tradition thanks to a planned visit to Poland’s only Wine Museum and to the Vine Hill Palm House, a vineyard located in the heart of the city. As such, the conference will be a time for both scientific discussions and more leisurely meetings in a nice “aromatic” atmosphere. You will find the same atmosphere of fun when looking for Bachusiki along the Bacchus’s Trail.

During Conference you could see and listen. We start on Sunday with a Chamber Concert sponsored by Children’s Fund (represented by Adam Frączek) and prepared by Natalia and Paulina Tomczuk – two young musicians from National Music School in Zielona Góra. Next day you may listen to a concert sponsored by the Socio-cultural Society German Minority in Zielona Góra and prepared by Grunberger Band and Roma.

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1 Bachusiki are bronze-cast Bacchus miniatures which represent some attribute or a trade or profession and their founders include a variety of businesses and organisations.
Family. This evening will be very exciting too. And on Tuesday a movie's evening will be offered. Our students from the Scientific Circle have prepared the movies *Jail obstacles* and *The Quarreterer*. One of these movies is a documentary about the art therapy they have made in prisons for 5 years.

Finally, on behalf of the entire Organizers, we would like to thank all attendees for coming. Our thanks are also due to our associates, students, volunteers and sponsors. Thank you for your help and for the opportunity to meet, know and get to like each other during what was nearly a year of preparations. We have also learnt a lot.

Welcome and have a good time!

Camilla Pagani  
Marzanna Farnicka  
Hanna Liberska  
J. Martin Ramirez

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2 The name of movie is from “25 years jail time”