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Franciszek Mróz, PhD,

University of the National Education Commission, Krakow; Department of Tourism and Regional Studies in Krakow. Socio-economic geographer born in 1975 in Przeworsk, an academic (assistant professor) at the Department of Tourism and Regional Research of the Institute of Law and Economics at the Pedagogical University of Krakow. Member of the International Committee of Experts of the Way of St. James (*Comité Internacional de Expertos del Camino de Santiago*). Consultant in the Migration, Tourism and Pilgrimage Council of the Polish Episcopal Conference. Instructor of Polish cultural and regional studies. His present research interests are concentrated on, for example, issues related to pilgrimages, religious and cultural tourism in Poland, geography of care, origins and functioning of pilgrimage centres in Europe, and European cultural routes, especially *Camino de Santiago* – the Way of St. James. He is the author of more than 130 scientific publications, 2 monographs, more than 80 popular science publications, editor of 15 collective works, co-author of 1 monograph and 3 tourist guides in this field. Since 2008, he has been the co-organiser of annual international scientific conferences devoted to the history and functioning of the Way of St. James in Europe.

Profile

Socio-economic geographer born in 1975 in Przeworsk, an academic (Assistant Professor) at the Department of Tourism and Regional Research at the University of the National Education Commission, Krakow. In 2006 he received the title of Doctor of Earth Sciences (PhD) in geography based on a doctoral dissertation entitled *Origins and Typology of Sanctuaries in Poland*, written under the supervision of Professor Antoni Jackowski, PhD, of the Institute of Geography and Spatial Management at the Jagiellonian University. In 1999 he completed post-graduate studies in Częstochowa in the field of “Pilgrimages. Religious Tourism.”

Member of the International Committee of Experts of the Way of St. James (*Comité Internacional de Expertos del Camino de Santiago*). Consultant in the Migration, Tourism and Pilgrimage Council of the Polish Episcopal Conference. Member of Archicofradía Universal del Apóstol Santiago. Instructor of Polish cultural and regional studies. Chairman of the Brotherhood of St. James in Więclawice Stare. Member of the Consultation Team for the preparation of the Action Plan for the development of religious tourism in Cracow until 2020, nominated by the Mayor of Cracow.

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He is also a happy husband and father of three wonderful kids: Piotr (22), Michał (20) and Anna (15). He is interested in cultural and regional studies, photography and sports. Since 2006, he has been on pilgrimage along various sections of the Camino de Santiago in Europe – (in stages) from Tallinn to the tomb of St. James the Apostle in Santiago de Compostela.

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