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***A self-orientalizing positioning towards the European ‘core’***

*Working notes on making good and bad citizens in Poland*

Polish citizenship politics, either in the interbellum (1918–1939) period, or during the post-communist era, have exhibited moralization mechanisms, encouraging the public to participate in the civic sphere and comply with the ideals of the Republic, embodied by the figure of the intelligentsia member: the educated, politically responsible individual. The proposed presentation will discuss the Polish intelligentsia strategies to establish a hegemonic code of legitimate moral citizenship, in which imagery, the excluded are subjects who supposedly fail to comply with the normative ideals – those who do not fulfil the culturally defined boundaries of the nation. I will argue that in the post-communist era, boundary-settings between ‘lordish’ and ‘boorish’ citizens (and non-citizens) have largely been characterised by antagonistic tensions between liberal and conservative intelligentsia fractions. This is not to deny, however, that the ‘entrepreneurial secular individual’ who – according to this ideal – is capable of managing various types of risks (such as employment risks), achieved a high level of prominence in the 1990s. Accordingly, it will be discussed how self-proclaimed ‘real Europeans’ among the post-1989 liberal intelligentsia expressed a moral superiority attitude (typical of this stratum) towards ‘not real Europeans’ on the basis of possessing entrepreneurial qualities required for a successful European integration.