



# ISPP

International Society  
of Political Psychology

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The International Society for Political Psychology is deeply committed to academic freedom, which means we must be vigilant when our colleagues anywhere in the world are persecuted as a result of their identities or areas of study. We are therefore deeply concerned about the treatment of our colleague, Professor Michal Bilewicz, from the University of Warsaw. Professor Bilewicz has been a target of political attacks in the past as a result of his work to understand and eliminate racism and anti-Semitism. An accomplished and internationally respected scholar of social psychology, Bilewicz's appointment to Professor was approved by the Central Commission for Degrees and Titles in November 2018. The President of Poland's signature is required on all professorship appointments, but the current President, Andrzej Duda, has delayed the process for a year. We are concerned this delay is a thinly veiled threat to all scholars of political psychology working on group conflict, and undermines the freedom and independence of academic institutions not just in Poland but around the world. The ISPP implores President Duda to grant his signature on the nomination for professor of our former governing council member, Michał Bilewicz from the University of Warsaw.

Sincerely,  
The Executive Committee of ISPP