

## Social Movement Unionism in Poland: Towards Revitalization of Organized Labor?

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The system of industrial relations in Poland is generally closer to the pluralist than corporatist type. Correspondingly, there are grounds to expect Polish trade unions to revitalize through building coalitions with social movements. In this paper I assess different modes of union-movement coexistence: possibilities for permanent and discrete cooperation, learning by trade unions from social movements, active and passive outsourcing by trade unions, and ignoring of the social movements by the labor organizations. Interviews demonstrate that large trade unions are hindered in building coalitions with social movements by the legacies of their politicization in the 1990s. Smaller and less centralized trade unions are more successful in it. Availability of European Structural Funds appears to be able to stimulate NGOs to cooperate with the unions. Generally, I find very few signs of labor organizations forming coalitions with social movements or of the existing connections being conducive to union revitalization. *[Article copies available for a fee from The Transformative Studies Institute. E-mail address: journal@transformativestudies.org Website: <http://www.transformativestudies.org> ©2009 by The Transformative Studies Institute. All rights reserved.]*

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