

**Summary of doctoral dissertation titled "The process of precarisation of labour. Analysis and evaluation of the discourse on the new directions of global socio-economic changes" written by Eliza Kania (MA), supervised by prof. UAM dr hab. Maciej Walkowski at the Faculty of Political Science and Journalism (Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan).**

Subject of this paper refers to the process precarisation of labour, affecting a significant transformation within the system of organization of labour and increasing job insecurity. This process has also led to the constitution of new social movements and to start of discussions on the newly created category in the social sciences: the precariat and its political potential. This category includes all persons affected by systematic transformation of the organization of labour, increasing flexibility of employment, rising unemployment and salaries below expectations. Moreover this category is an attempt to capture the contemporary human condition in relation to that transformation and its impact on the political empowerment of people affected by this process.

The work on this dissertation started in 2011. It was a very important turning point for three reasons. Firstly, during this period a large scale analysis of the social impact of the global economic crisis from 2008 has begun. This reflection was carried out parallel to the implementation of the austerity policy by the governments of countries mostly affected by the crisis. Secondly, these actions entailed mass social protests as a manifestation of rejection to shifting the costs of the crisis on societies of European countries (Iceland, Spain and Italy, Greece) or in the United States. The most massive social resonance was connected with actions of Indignados / as (15-M) in Spain and the Occupy Wall Street movements. Thirdly, it was a beginning of broad debate on social change, brought about not only the effects of the economic crisis, but also neoliberal reforms, started in 70s of the twentieth century, changes in the organization of work and globalization. An important point for these considerations was based on three academic concepts: the precariat, process of precarisation of labour and precarity. They were popularised by the work of british researcher Guy Standing („The precariat: The new dangerous class”, „*A precariat charter: From denizens to citizens*”). In this context, it was indispensable to answer the question, how categories mentioned above can be related to changes in the structure of consciousness and formation of a new political subjectivity of modern societies in developed countries, and to what extent they describe only transient condition of some social groups in the conditions of advanced globalization. An interesting research task was also an analysis of assumptions, ideas and proposals for solutions presented by representatives of mass social movements, based on the precarity frame, which began its wider operations in 2011, and its political resonance.

A complete description and understanding of these processes requires citing historical sources dating back to the early twentieth century, and changes in the system organization of labour starting from 70s (XX century). Attention was also given for the constitution of

precarity frame: years 2000-2006, during the operation of European initiatives and social movements, including EuroMayDay. Then the phenomena and processes occurring in years 2008-2016 were analysed. The most extensive part of the discussion was devoted to trends, escalating since the onset of the global economic crisis in 2008, which escalated in 2011, and the discussion about the political overtones society continues to this day.

The work includes an introduction, five chapters, conclusion, a list of tables and bibliography. The first chapter includes both confrontation with the historical genesis and evolution process of precarisation of labour and analysis of theoretical approaches to the concepts related to this topic and their diffusion to the activities of social movements. The second chapter contains an analysis of the impact of the effects of the economic crisis of 2008 on the constitution of the precarity. In the third chapter the author analyzes both: the processes of constitution of social movements based on the precarity frame (Indignados / as and Occupy Wall Street), and the solutions proposed on the scientific field. In the fourth chapter the author presents the most important critical approaches to the theories related to the process of precarisation of labour, precarity and the precariat. The fifth chapter contains attempts to measure the discursive power of analysed categories and its real political possibilities and practice in respect of the process of gaining political subjectivity. In this dissertation following research methods were used: the historical method, the method of genetic explanation, the method of content analysis, statistical method, comparative method and the scenario-building method. The significant part of this dissertation was also based on extensive literature, studies, texts and press releases, derived especially from such periodicals as "The Economist", "The Guardian" and "Financial Times."