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**Post-war migrations of the Poles from the Eastern borderlands during 1944–1946: repatriation or expatriation?**

In the post-war period, over a million inhabitants came to Poland from the Eastern Territories of the Second Polish Republic, who, as a result of the decisions of the Big Three, were forced to leave their homelands in 1944–1946. Moreover, it should be remembered that the mass of these trips was influenced by the Soviet authorities who made arrests, applied propaganda and administrative pressure.

In the paper below, I would like to deal mainly with the terminology related to this topic. Dealing with it is quite justified, as it concerns such an important issue as the heritage of the Eastern Territories of the Second Polish Republic. The basis for the presentation of the lecture is archival documentation, literature on the subject and memories of people who came from the East.

In the literature on the subject, there are at least a few terms that were created in the communist period and after 1989. Despite the passage of time, all of them function in scientific and popular science texts. Although it should be noted that after the period of systemic transformation, there were visible changes in the naming of people from the Borderlands. People started to think about the correctness of the term repatriation and repatriates, and instead use a more adequate term such as expatriation and expatriates, which also became crucial in the further discussion of historians studying the migration of Poles from the Eastern Borderlands. The paper will also deal with other, more or less known terms, such as contamination, evacuation and resettlement, appearing quite often in various types of texts, including scientific ones. The possibility of compiling them all in one paper will allow for a deeper reflection on their use.