



Joanna Pandra PhD

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ABOUT ME

I am the founder and President of Forum Energii, a think tank dedicated to supporting the energy transition and achieving climate neutrality.

As a senior expert in energy markets, carbon markets, renewable energy, and international energy policy, I have gained extensive experience working in both Poland and Germany. I have authored and co-authored over 200 publications on energy and climate, many of which have been widely cited and have influenced key policy decisions. My work goes beyond policy recommendations—I am particularly focused on practical implementation and strategies that make the energy transition both socially acceptable and beneficial to broader areas such as energy security.

From 2007 to 2011, I held high-level positions in the Polish government, including Deputy Minister during the Polish Presidency of the EU and Head of Cabinet for the Minister. These roles gave me invaluable insights into the challenges of implementing climate and energy policy and taught me how to navigate complex political landscapes with creative solutions. Leading a think tank for eight years under a conservative, right-wing government in Poland further strengthened my ability to bridge policy and practice.

Currently, I also work at the University of Florence as part time Professor, where I contribute to academic research and policy initiatives in the field of energy and climate.

I have extensive international experience, not only through my work abroad but also as a member of various international councils, advisory bodies, and scholarship programs.

And above all—I'm a natural-born optimist.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Professor (Part time)

European University Institute, School of Transnational Governance [01/09/2024 – Current]

City: Florence | Country: Italy

main topics - social aspects of energy and climate policies, international carbon markets, climate policy policy briefs, teaching, dialogues on climate

President

Forum Energii [01/07/2016 – Current]

City: Warsaw | Country: Poland

- Development of the political strategy and work programme
- Cooperation with government institutions, European institutions, market participants
- Commissioning and coordinating research projects, writing analyses, opinion articles
- Inspiring the decision makers to act
- Communication - conferences, intensive media work
- Fundraising
- Managing and motivating the team

Senior Associate

Agora Energiewende [01/12/2013 – 31/08/2016]

City: Berlin | Country: Germany

- Monitoring of Central and Eastern Europe climate and energy policies - Czechia, Slovakia, Hungary and mainly Poland
- Cooperation with policy makers
- Preparation of analysis and publications
- Creation of a platform for progressive energy and climate policies in Poland

Director, market development

DONG Energy/Oersted [01/02/2012 – 30/11/2013]

City: Warsaw, Copenhagen | Country: Poland

- Offshore and onshore wind market development
- Renewables and energy regulations
- Warsaw management team member

Deputy Minister of Environment

Ministry of Environment [01/02/2011 – 31/12/2011]

City: Warsaw | Country: Poland

- Coordination and execution of the Polish EU presidency programme (ie. UNFCCC)
- Cooperation with the EU institutions - European Commission, European Parliament (Trilogue)
- Preparation and participation in the Environment council
- Supervision of ministry departments
- Coordination of climate and environment regulation portfolio with other ministries

Head of Cabinet of Minister

Ministry of Environment [01/12/2007 – 01/02/2010]

City: Warsaw | Country: Poland

- Support to the Minister in developing a political strategy
- Support the implementation of key projects for the Ministry - liaising with departments and other ministries, progress monitoring
- Organisation of the Polish Presidency within the UNFCCC (COP14) - participation in negotiations, support of COP President Prof. Maciej Nowicki
- Negotiations of the EU climate - energy package
- Head of the team: negotiations on the sale of emission allowances to Spain, Ireland and Japan under the Kyoto Protocol
- Negotiations with EU institutions on sensitive climate and environmental issues with Poland
- Cooperation with politicians, sectoral organisations
- Team management

Advisor to the minister (part time)

Ministry of Environment [01/06/2010 – 04/2011]

City: Warsaw | Country: Poland

- Advising the minister on the EU presidency
- Advising on long term country strategies (project with the Prime Minister's Office)

Project manager

Coordination Center for Environmental Projects [01/12/2006 – 30/11/2007]

City: Warsaw | Country: Poland

- Activities in relation to the establishment of the new institution
- Project management
- Participation in the national EU funds programming

Scientific employee

University in Potsdam [01/09/2003 – 31/08/2006]

City: Potsdam | Country: Germany

- Scientific research
- Publications, presentations and posters
- German – Polish environment cooperation

Internship (Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt)

Umweltbundesamt (Federal Environmental Agency) [01/03/2001 – 01/02/2002]

City: Berlin | Country: Germany

- Analysis of different European, German and Polish Environmental regulations
- Reports on renewables development
- German – Polish environment cooperation

PhD Student

Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań [01/10/2002 – 31/08/2007]

City: Poznań | Country: Poland

- Scientific research
- Lectures
- Papers
- Grant manager
- PhD Thesis: comparison of the German and Polish best practices in environmental impact assessment methodologies for infrastructure projects

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Doctor of philosophy (PhD)

Adam Mickiewicz University [01/10/2001 – 09/2007]

City: Poznań | Country: Poland | Website: <https://amu.edu.pl/>

Master of science

Adam Mickiewicz University [01/10/1995 – 31/08/2000]

City: Poznań | Country: Poland | Website: <https://amu.edu.pl/>

Erasmus student

Christian Albrechts University Kiel [01/03/1999 – 09/1999]

City: Kiel | Country: Germany | Website: <https://www.uni-kiel.de/en/>

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Mother tongue(s): Polish

Other language(s):

English

LISTENING C2 READING C2 WRITING C1

SPOKEN PRODUCTION C2 SPOKEN INTERACTION C2

German

LISTENING C2 READING C2 WRITING C1

SPOKEN PRODUCTION C2 SPOKEN INTERACTION C2

Levels: A1 and A2: Basic user; B1 and B2: Independent user; C1 and C2: Proficient user

NETWORKS AND MEMBERSHIPS

[01/09/2024] Warsaw

State Institute for Environmental Protection, Scientific Council

Advising the Institute on strategic topics

Link: <https://ios.edu.pl/rada-naukowa/dr-joanna-mackowiak-pandera/>

[01/04/2023 – Current] EU

ECFR advisory board member

It brings together more than 320 eminent Europeans from the 27 countries of the Union and beyond, including current and former heads of government and current and former foreign ministers, creating an environment for reflection on the EU's strategy in international politics. Council members shape the direction of ECFR's research and disseminate its results within and outside Europe.

Link: <https://ecfr.eu/warsaw/pl/rada/>

[01/06/2022 – Current] Warsaw

Council on Energy Security and Climate, Co-Founder and member

The aim of the Council is to develop joint recommendations and initiate dialogue in areas of key importance to improving Poland's energy security and climate protection. The council is made up of individuals with a broad range of experience in energy and economy, industry, international affairs - ready to share their knowledge.

Link: <https://rada-energetyczna.pl/>

[01/12/2021 – Current] Brussels

European Council Agora Energiewende

The Agora for Europe Council, established in December 2021, brings together key representatives of European governments, the European Parliament, the European Commission, industry associations and civil society for regular, confidential exchanges on the key elements of the Fit for 55 package. Council members discuss their views informally and under Chatham House rules with the aim of deepening common understanding on the most pressing issues and policy options.

Link: <https://www.agora-energiewende.de/ueber-uns/eu-rat-der-agora/>

[01/09/2024] global

International Network of Energy Transition Think Tanks, Board Member

Advising think tanks globally, keeping the rules on global collaboration on energy transition

HONOURS AND AWARDS

[01/03/2025] Forbes Woman

Forbes Woman 25 most influential woman in energy

Link: <https://www.forbes.pl/25-kobiet-polskiej-energetyki-sylwetki-wyroznionych/7e0v2sz>

[10/10/2024] University in Cracow, KER

Creator of New Energy System

Link: <https://kongres.energetyka-rozproszona.pl/kreator-nowej-energetyki/>

[01/03/2013] German Marshall Fund

Marshall Memorial Fellowship 2013

[01/09/2001] Maciej Nowicki Foundation

Prof. Maciej Nowicki Award for the best graduate in environmental protection in 2001 in Poland (first place)

SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

[01/02/2002 – Current]

Alumni network of the DBU Foundation (Association Środowisko dla Środowiska)

[01/09/2011 – 01/09/2016] Warsaw

National Committee for the Environmental Impact Assessment, Ministry of Environment

[07/04/2023 – Current] Europe

Advisory Council European Council on Foreign Relations (ECFR)

[01/04/2023 – 10/10/2024] Warsaw

Programme Board (energy and climate working group), Warsaw Security Forum

[12/12/2021 – Current] Brussels

European Council Agora Energiewende