

Eras Journal - Bamforth, T. Abstract

Abstract of Bamforth, T. Democratisation, economic reform and human rights in Poland - conflict or consonance?

This paper examines some of the conflicts underlying the apparently neutral and technical policies to bring about marketisation and democratisation in Poland.

In particular, it looks at whether the underlying understanding of political activity and conceptions of human rights inherent in the political/economic reforms were consistent with Poland 's historical experience and rights traditions.

The paper argues that the legacy of economic reform in Poland has undermined more culturally entrenched systems of economic production and democracy and has fragmented social understandings of what rights are in such a way as to undermine the legitimacy of the political and economic transition.