

The teacher's union movement before the independence of 1918

Summary

The teachers' union movement in Poland was initiated during the partitions. Germanization and Russification policies to which the Poles were subjected, particularly in the second half of the nineteenth century, prevented the establishment of a national organization. Teachers were under the special supervision of the occupation authorities, which prevented them from taking any action of a professional nature. Even so, at the end of the nineteenth century, as a result of the political autonomy introduced in areas under Austrian rule, several local teachers' organizations formed. Only the development of the peasant movement and the revolution of 1905 revived the teachers' environment. Apart from Galicia, organizations also arose in the Kingdom of Poland. In the Prussian partition, the first organizations of this type were established before the end of the First World War. After regaining independence organizations from the three partitions began to unite leading in the 1930s to the formation of Polish Teachers' Union, which acts today.