

## The Genesis of Tadeusz Mazowiecki's Government – Main and Secondary Characters

### Abstract:

This political science article proposes a new explanation of the genesis of T. Mazowiecki's government. It describes the political events of 1989 from the conclusion of the Round Table contract to the decision on the designation of the first noncommunist Prime Minister in Poland since 1945. The article identifies the public protest initiated by Rakowski's government's decision to subject food prices to market forces as the reason for this development. Fearing a revolt, General W. Jaruzelski and his closest collaborators, General Cz. Kiszczak and General F. Siwicki, came to an understanding with Church hierarchy, and agreed to designate the episcopacy's choice – T. Mazowiecki – as Prime Minister. The article recognizes that L. Wałęsa's efforts to split the coalition of the Polish United Workers Party with the United People's Party and the Alliance of Democrats played an important role in the creation of T. Mazowiecki's government, however it attaches more importance to public protest, contrary to the current scientific consensus.

**Keywords:** Round Table, 1989 Polish legislative election, Wojciech Jaruzelski, Polish episcopacy, food prices, Tadeusz Mazowiecki's government.