

Małgorzata Prochwicz - O'Shaughnessy

A graduate of the Faculty of Foreign Trade at the Main School of Planning and Statistics (now the Warsaw School of Economics).

In 1990, she started working for Visa at its headquarters in London, which at that time employed less than 100 people across Europe. She was hired for the newly formed Eastern Europe team with the task of developing cashless payments on the Russian market.

During her 30 years at Visa, she was responsible for developing cashless payments practically from scratch in many countries in Central and Eastern Europe, including Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, the Baltic states, the Czech Republic, and Slovakia, and above all in Poland, which under her leadership transformed from a fully cash-based country into one of the most innovative markets in terms of payment technology in the world. Under her leadership, the first international payment card in Poland, the first contactless card, the first mobile payment, and the world's first cross-sector program for the development of an electronic payment acceptance network, the progenitor of the "Cashless Poland" program, were implemented. At the turn of 2015 and 2016, she worked at Visa Europe's headquarters in London, where, as a member of the organization's senior management (regional president), she was responsible for the flow of information between headquarters and the managing directors of all Visa Europe regions.

She has been actively supporting Polish students for years; she has participated in conferences organized by, among others, the Polish Student Society in Cambridge and the LSE in London. She was a panelist at numerous conferences on innovation in finance. She is also the winner of many awards and distinctions, including the ranking of the most influential women in Poland (Forbes, 2008), the most influential women in the financial industry (Innovative Economy Institute, 2015), and the Prof. Remigiusz Kaszubski Award (Polish Bank Association, 2017). She also received the title of Personality of the Electronic Economy (Electronic Economy Congress, 2018).

She is currently involved in volunteering and mentoring, as she feels it is time to share her knowledge, experience, and give others the support she received in her youth. She is a member of the Honorary Council of the ABCXXI Cała Polska Czyta Dzieciom Foundation and actively supports the foundation's programs. She chairs the jury of the EFC (European Financial Congress) Academy and sits on the Program Council of the European Financial Congress, as well as on the Council of the Women's Entrepreneurial Network Foundation (SPK). She is a mentor in the SPK and Business Women's Foundation programs.

Anna Zabłocka – Wiercińska

She graduated from the Faculty of Economic Sciences at the University of Warsaw (field of study: Economics) and the Faculty of Journalism and Political Sciences at the University of Warsaw (field of study: International Relations). She also completed an Executive Master of Business Administration program organized by the Warsaw University of Technology Business School in cooperation with London Business School, HEC Paris, and NHH (Bergen).

He has over 20 years of professional experience gained in the transport, logistics, and energy industries in the areas of planning and controlling, finance, and accounting. She specializes in financial projections and investment efficiency analyses. Among her achievements, she highlights her active participation in the IPO of PKP CARGO S.A. – the first successful share offering of a national rail freight carrier in the EU. As a member of the Management Board, in addition to the financial sphere, she also supervised the areas of public procurement, purchasing and warehouse management, environmental protection, IT, administration, and the leasing of commercial and advertising space.

He also has experience in corporate supervision, gained while serving on the supervisory boards of companies from the PKP and PGE capital groups.

He believes that people are a company's greatest strength, which is why he derives the greatest satisfaction from working with people.

Tomasz Siemiątkowski

Associate Professor, Habilitated Doctor, attorney-at-law – graduated from one of the oldest secondary schools in Poland (the nearly 850-year-old Marshal Stanisław Małachowski High School in Płock, the city of his childhood and youth). Graduate (1994) of the Faculty of Law and Administration at the University of Warsaw (summa cum laude), since 1999 attorney at the Bar Association in Warsaw. Doctor of Economic Sciences, habilitated doctor of legal sciences, professor at the Warsaw School of Economics (head of the Department of Economic Law). In 2000–2021, he was a research and teaching staff member at the Faculty of Law and Administration of Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw (since 2010 as an associate professor). Member of the Civil Law Codification Commission (2015–2019 term, dissolved in December 2015). He established the Academy of Companies Postgraduate Studies at the Warsaw School of Economics, which he has headed since its inception. From 1999 to 2011, he lectured on corporate governance (in terms of Polish and American law) in the MBA program run jointly by the Warsaw School of Economics and the University of Minnesota (in 2007, he received the WEMBA Outstanding Instructor First Prize, and in 2008 and 2010, the WEMBA Outstanding Instructor Second Prize). In 2012, he was also recognized by Polish students, receiving the “Inspiration of the Year” award from the Independent Monthly Magazine of SGH Students “Magiel.” He has been a visiting professor at renowned foreign research centers: University of Minnesota, Carlson School of Management (visiting professor, 1999), University of California – Berkeley, Boalt Hall School of Law (visiting scholar – scholarship holder of the Foundation for Polish Science, 2002–2003) and Max Planck Institute for Comparative and International Private Law in Hamburg (visiting fellow – MPI scholarship holder, 2004). As part of his academic work abroad, he studied American corporate governance under Professor R. Buxbaum (Boalt Hall School of Law, UC Berkeley) and comparative corporate governance under Professor K. J. Hopta (MPI, Hamburg). He also received a Kosciuszko Foundation Fellowship to the University of California at Berkeley (2004). He has participated in numerous international conferences and scientific symposia (including Columbia, Hong Kong Polytechnic University, New York University, Princeton, Stanford, and Tokyo University).

Professor Siemiątkowski's expertise in legal practice – since 2009 at the Głuchowski Siemiątkowski Zwara law firm, and previously at the Tomasz Siemiątkowski Law Firm, two American law firms, and the T. Siemiątkowski Law Firm, Advocates and Advisors – focus on corporate law, corporate governance, mergers, acquisitions and restructuring, capital market law, arbitration, commercial litigation and health care law. He participated, among other things, in the preparation of the prospectus for the first company established under foreign law whose shares were admitted to public trading in Poland, represented the Polish Confederation of Private Employers “Lewiatan” in a case before the Constitutional Court concerning the introduction of mandatory official margins and rules for pricing imported medicines, obtaining a favorable ruling for his client, and participated in the development and implementation of the first concept of dividend payment in “bonus” shares on the Polish public market. He served as a member of the supervisory board of, among others, PKO BP S.A. (and chairman of the audit committee of that board), PLL LOT S.A. and Polbank S.A. In 2013–2017, he was chairman of the supervisory board of Polska Grupa Zbrojeniowa S.A. In addition, he was a member of the supervisory board of Royal Bank of Scotland Polska S.A. (2016–2019). From 2022 to 2024, he was a member of the supervisory board of SPR Wisła Płock S.A. (on behalf of the owner – the Municipality of Płock). Currently, he is the chairman of the Energy for Europe Foundation (FEDE) Council, chairman of the PZPN Football Arbitration Court, and vice-chairman of the PZPN Polish Football Foundation Council. In addition, since February 2024, he has once again been a member of the supervisory board of Polska Grupa Zbrojeniowa S.A. (vice – chairman). In October 2024, he was appointed by the Minister of Justice, Professor Adam Bodnar, to the position of Member of the Advisory Team to the Minister of Justice on European Union Law. Co-author of a draft amendment to the Commercial Companies Code and member of a team of experts working under the leadership of Professor S. Sołtyński (2001–2003). In 2003–2005, he was a member of a task force appointed by the Chairman of the Civil Law Codification Commission, which prepared a draft law introducing the European company into the Polish legal system (in this team, he was responsible for developing regulations for a monistic corporate governance system), and then participated as a government expert in parliamentary work on this draft. In December 2009, he was appointed by the Chairman of the Civil Law Codification Commission to the permanent task force of the Civil Law Codification Commission for the amendment of the Commercial Companies Code (co-author

of the draft implementation of Directive 2009/109/EC on reporting and documentation in the case of mergers and divisions of companies). In 2011, he was appointed by the Chairman of the Civil Law Codification Commission to the team for company law. Since 2011, he has been a member of the Legislative Commission of the Supreme Bar Council (chairman of the economic and commercial law team of this commission). Professor Siemiątkowski was also the originator and co-author (together with attorney R. Potrzebacz and Professor P. Wiórek) of the Act on the Control of Certain Investments, adopted by the Parliament almost unanimously in 2015. He also served as legal advisor to a social campaign for historical justice (known as Appeal 141), which between July 2020 and March 2021 led to the adoption of an act amending the act on anti-communist opposition activists and persons repressed for political reasons. This campaign, initiated and carried out by former anti-communist opposition activists (J. M. Goliszewski, L. Stall, and G. Kostrzewa-Zorbasa), made it possible to “contribute” to periods of opposition activity, thereby increasing the basis for calculating the pension and disability benefits of former oppositionists. Professor Siemiątkowski is an arbitrator at the Court of Arbitration at the Polish Chamber of Commerce in Warsaw and the Court of Arbitration at the Polish Confederation of Private Employers “Lewiatan,” as well as a member of the American Law & Economics Association. He is the author of two monographs: *Proxy in Commercial Law Companies*, (LexisNexis 1999) and *Civil Liability in Capital Companies*, (C.H. Beck, 2007), co-author and co-editor of a four-volume commentary on the Commercial Companies Code published by LexisNexis – *Partnerships* (2011), *Limited Liability Companies* (2011), *Joint Stock Companies* (2012), *Mergers, Divisions and Transformations of Companies* (2011), co-author of the *Private Law System*, vol. 16 – *Law of Partnerships*, edited by A. Szajkowski, and vol. 17 – *Capital Companies Law*, edited by S. Sołtysiński, author or co-author of several dozen articles on civil and commercial law, published in, among others, *Palestra*, *Przegląd Prawa Handlowego*, *Przegląd Sądowy*, and *Przegląd Ustawodawstwa Gospodarczego*. In addition, he is the Chairman of the Editorial Board of the quarterly “*Przegląd Corporate Governance*” (*Corporate Governance Review*). In 2016, he was included by *Dziennik Gazeta Prawna* in the “Ranking of the 50 most influential lawyers in Poland” and awarded the “Golden Paragraph” – a prize granted for outstanding achievements in the field of law (for activities promoting law and the economy). In 2022, he received the “Award for pro bono activities for media freedom in Poland” from the *Rzeczpospolita* daily (from the laudation: “for his commitment to defending freedom of speech, activities aimed at demonstrating the dangers associated with the entry into force of the so-called LEX TVN”). In 2018, 2020, 2021, and 2022, he was the leader of the *Rzeczpospolita* Law Firm Ranking in the field of “company law and commercial law.” In 2023, 2024, and 2025, leader in the field of “commercial law, corporate law, mergers, and acquisitions” in this ranking.