

# Dr. Michał

# Parzuchowski

University of Gdańsk graduate. In 2008 he completed with distinction a doctoral programme at the University of Social Sciences and Humanities (thesis supervisor: Prof. Bogdan Wojciszke). Currently an assistant professor at the SWPS University in Sopot performing the function of Head of the Social Cognition Lab. Apart from being the creator of the [www.badania.net](http://www.badania.net) website posting honest discussions concerning current research, he is a promoter of use of the Internet in psychological tests.



DURATION OF THE SCIEX PROJECT:  
**1.10.2013–30.09.2014**

PROJECT:  
**GRL : DSSL Gender Representation in Language: Diminutive Suffixes in Sexist Language**

University of Social  
Sciences and  
Humanities

PL

CH

University  
of Fribourg

### What was the objective of your project implemented as part of the SCIEX programme?

Gender disparity is one of the problems that Europe is currently grappling with. The project intended to study the cognitive mechanisms of gender stereotyping – beliefs concerning men's and women's different capabilities to play social roles. The project was implemented in cooperation with dr. Pascal Gygaks from the University of Fribourg who has considerable achievements in this field.

### What were the outcomes of the project?

The results of the research are the main outcomes of the project. They are intended to contribute to the development of knowledge about what causes sexist behaviour and – in the future – to the use of non-discriminatory language. We are at the stage of writing a manuscript discussing the sex discrimination mechanism whose functioning we investigated there. We are hoping to persuade academia to recognise our research results.

### What impact did the fellowship have on your professional and private life?

A year-long mobility abroad is never a comfortable thing for somebody who is the father of two children. However, in the end I managed to reconcile my family life and academic career. From the professional viewpoint, my mobility to Switzerland and the

opportunity to work in dr. Gygaks's lab was an exceptionally valuable experience. It was important to see a different approach to work and verify my knowledge and skills in a new academic context.

On top of that, I had the opportunity to meet an exceptional group of young and ambitious scientists and we became friends. My host mentor and I were able to develop our common passions not related to work – we spent weekends rambling and playing futsal.

### If not for the fellowship...

... I would not have believed in my competences. My fellowship made me realise that Polish scientists' knowledge is on a par with that of their colleagues from foreign HEIs. The system of work, however, is what differs. Not only do the Swiss spend more time at their HEIs but their work culture (e.g. popping out together for lunch every day) strengthens integration within a team and their motivation to carry on working.