



## ALEKSANDRA DULKIEWICZ

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Born July 10, 1979, in Gdańsk – Polish local government activist and lawyer, deputy mayor of Gdańsk for economic policy (2017–2019) and the city’s mayor since 11 March 2019.

Ms Dulciewicz studied law at the University of Gdańsk (2006) and Paris Lodron University in Salzburg (2004–2005). She was active even in primary school and became politically involved before she had the right to vote herself, supporting Hanna Gronkiewicz-Waltz’s election campaign for Polish president (1995). It was here that she encountered the Young Conservatives Association.

She was a volunteer in Gdański Areopag, a forum for the exchange of ideas which for several years had a strong influence on the intellectual landscape of Gdańsk (2000–2012). She started earning her political stripes as assistant to Gdańsk

mayor Paweł Adamowicz (2006). She took part in Gdańsk’s preparations for the 2012 UEFA European Championship (2008–2009) and worked at the European Solidarity Centre (2007–2014), before being employed at the Gdańsk Economic Development Agency, InvestGDA (2014–2017). She was twice elected deputy to the Council of the City of Gdańsk from the Civic Platform (PO) list.

In March 2017, the mayor of Gdańsk, Paweł Adamowicz, made her his deputy for economic policy. In the local elections in 2018, she was the head of the campaign staff for Adamowicz, who started out with the support of the “Everything for Gdańsk” association that he had founded. She suspended her membership in the Civic Platform (PO) party and was re-elected to the City Council, again taking up the office of deputy mayor.

After the assassination of mayor Adamowicz on January 13, 2019 she took on his duties as acting mayor of Gdańsk. As a result of by-election that took place on March 3, Aleksandra Dulciewicz was elected city mayor winning over 80% of votes. She was sworn in on March 11, 2019 as the first woman mayor in the history of Gdańsk. As a successor to the late mayor’s political legacy she is determined to continue to work for Gdańsk with passionate commitment and deep concern for the most important values cherished by the people of Gdańsk: freedom and solidarity.

Shortly after being sworn in, Ms Dulciewicz took up the initiative started by mayor Adamowicz – the organization of the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first free parliamentary elections in Poland (June 4, 1989). The jubilee events in Gdańsk in 2019, which attracted over 250 thousand people, were a manifestation of the attachment to the values of freedom and solidarity and a strong declaration to follow democratic principles. Gdańsk Declaration of Freedom and Solidarity was signed to this effect.

Recently Gdańsk has been pronounced a laureate of the prestigious Princess of Asturias Award for Concord 2019. The jury recognized Gdańsk as “both a historic and present-day symbol of the daring fight for civil liberties at a crucial spot where the spirit of Europe manages to be reborn time and again against intolerance and oppression.” The application process was started by Mr Adamowicz and then continued by Ms Dulciewicz.

Similarly to mayor Adamowicz, Ms Dulciewicz stresses the importance of local government in creating national policy and is committed to defending its status now seriously threatened by the central government.

She is a member of the board of the Union of Polish Metropolises which promotes cooperation between the biggest cities in Poland and creates a platform for joint initiatives endorsing the role of local governments in national policy.

Most recently, she has been involved in defending the status of Westplatte peninsula – a very important symbol not only for Gdańsk and Poland but also for the whole global community and a place where the authorities of Gdańsk organize the commemorative ceremony of the anniversary of the outbreak of the Second World War on September 1, each year since 1999 – the initiative also started by mayor Adamowicz.

Mayor Dulciewicz joined the Committee of the Regions on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2020 and has been a member of two commissions: Commission for Citizenship, Governance, Institutional and External Affairs (CIVEX) and Commission for Economic Policy (ECON).

On 23<sup>rd</sup> January Aleksandra Dulciewicz was nominated one of the Executive Presidents of the Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR).

Aleksandra Dulciewicz is a single mother with a daughter, Zosia.