# Table of Contents

Map of Poland’s Post-war Border Changes .......................... 9  
Map of Poland’s Baltic ‘Recovered Territories’, Border Changes and Administrative Boundaries, 1939-50 .......................... 9  

**Introduction** .................................................. 11  

**Chapter One: Compromise and Conflict in Poland’s Baltic ‘Recovered Territories’, 1945**  
- Allied discussions regarding Poland’s post-war borders .......................................................... 31  
- The first Polish settlers arrive in the Oder-Neisse lands – February and March 1945 .................. 35  
- Further Plans for ‘Degermanisation’ and ‘Repolonisation’ .................................................... 39  
- Problems Arise between Polish Settlers and the Red Army .................................................. 41  
- Unforeseen Complications of Uncontrolled ‘Degermanisation’ ........................................... 50  
- The Potsdam Conference and the Oder-Neisse Lands .............................................................. 54  
- Conflict and Compromise among Polish Settlers, Germans and Indigenous ‘Poles’ ............. 60  
- The Roman Catholic Church and Polish-Soviet difficulties .................................................... 63  
- Polish settlement and ‘degermanisation’ stepped up .......................................................... 70  
- ‘Degermanisation,’ depopulation and organised transports .................................................... 74  
- The growth of the regime’s control of the Baltic provinces ................................................... 78  

**Chapter Two: 1946: the Year of Expulsion and Settlement**  
- Main issues of the time period .................................................. 85  
- Organised ‘transports’ of Germans continue .......................................................... 87  
- Local issues and the appearance of the armed underground .................................................... 90  
- The expulsions and international developments .......................................................... 94  
- The increasing momentum of the expulsions and the PSL threat ....................................... 100  
- The armed underground attempts to destabilise the ‘Three Times ‘Yes’’ referendum .................. 108  
- Polish settlement and the political fallout from the referendum ........................................... 112  
- Jewish affairs and Polish settlement in summer 1946 ............................................................ 115  
- The fallout from Secretary Byrnes’ speech .......................................................... 119  
- Upcoming elections and the decline of the armed underground ........................................... 122  
- Conclusion ........................................................................ 129
Chapter Three: Open Conflict: 1947-1948
Main issues of the time period
Electoral fraud and the decline of the political opposition – January-April 1947
Increasing communist economic and political control – April-December 1947
Division points to ‘unification’ – January-August 1948
The impact of Gomułka’s fall in the Baltic provinces – August-December 1948
Conclusion

Chapter Four: Conflict Intensifies, 1949-1953
Main issues of the time period
Attempts to sovietise youth and peasants prove difficult – January-December 1949
Problems with the clergy and collectivisation – January-December 1950
The unexpected impact of the ‘Gryfice incident’ – January-December 1951
The failure of collectivisation becomes apparent – January-December 1952
The impact of Stalin’s death and the Berlin Uprising – January-December 1953
Conclusion

Chapter Five: Conflict Gives Way to Compromise, 1954-1956
The communists’ illusory hold on power
Party activists feel increasing pressure – January-December 1954
The period of shock upon shock – January-October 1956
The Polish October and its fallout in the Baltic Recovered Territories – October-December 1956
Conclusion

Conclusion

Bibliography

Acknowledgements