

# Retaining and Re-creating Identity among Polish Migrants in the United Kingdom

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## Abstract

After Poland's accession to the European Union in 2004, the United Kingdom experienced an unprecedented immigration wave. Thousands of Polish people decided to settle in Britain with hopes of an improved quality of life. With an aim of highlighting cultural aspects of migration as opposed to statistics and economic data, this paper presents selected findings of a qualitative research study *Translating Cultures - Adapting Lives* with regard to cultural, national and social identity issues Polish migrants experience in the host culture. The concluding remarks emphasize the fact that the Polish community in the UK retains and re-creates their identity in everyday life and through well-established online communities.<sup>1</sup>

**Keywords:** cultural identity, national identity, social identity, migration, Polish migrants in the UK