

22nd EAJWS Workshop for Doctoral Students

August 24-25, 2026

Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń

Workshop Participants

Local organizers (Nicolaus Copernicus University)

Dr. Przemysław Sztafiej

Dr. Marcelina De Zoete Leśniczak

Dr. Monika Lecińska-Ruchniewicz

Senior advisors

Dr. Paola Cavaliere, The University of Milan

Prof. Marcos Centeno Martin, Universitat de València

Prof. Tomasz Majtczak, Jagiellonian University in Krakow

Dr. Satoko Naito, University of Turku, University of Helsinki

Doctoral Students

Martina Bottazzo (The University of Osaka)

Sandra Cegiełka-Posłuszny (University of Warsaw)

Alessia Cofone (University of Oxford)

Matthew Cooper (University of Leeds)

Damiana De Gennaro (Stockholm University)

Oliver Eccles (University College London)

Agnese Fallica (Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies)

Antonio Giuseppe Fazzari (Sapienza University of Rome)

Ruskin Harding (University of Oxford)

Dávid Horváth (Eötvös Loránd University)

Alexandra Maiuga (Ritsumeikan University)

Johanna Fritzi Momm (Freie Universität Berlin)

Antonella Morgillo (Arizona State University)

Sara Morini (Sapienza University of Rome)

Julia Olsson (Lund University)

Ana Prieto (University of Valencia)

Matea Radaković (University of Ljubljana / Juraj Dobrila University of Pula)

Marco Scotto di Clemente (Kyushu University)

Chihiro Toya (SOAS University of London)

Maaïke van der Burg (University of Oslo)

Workshop Program

Day 1, Sunday, 23 August 2026

18:00 Welcome dinner at restaurant Monka

Day 2, Monday, 24 August 2026

The Workshop sessions take place in the Ludwik Kolankowski Classroom (no. 307), located at the second floor of the Collegium Maius building (street: Fosa Staromiejska 3)

8:00 – 8:10 **Short welcome and information**

Session 1

8:10 – 8:50 Damiana DE GENNARO: *Tanka as a Relational Aesthetic Technology: Communities, Gender, and Media in Contemporary Japan (1926–2026)* (Comment: Satoko NAITO)

8:50 – 9:30 Sandra CEGIEŁKA-POŚLUSZNY: *Between China, the West, and Indigenous Tradition: The Genology of the Japanese Novel (1600–1900) from the Perspective of Cultural Transfer* (Comment: Satoko NAITO)

9:30 – 10:10 Antonio Giuseppe FAZZARI: *Hiraga Gennai and the Transformation of Ningyō Jōruri: Innovations and Influence on Kabuki* (Comment: Satoko NAITO)

10:10 – 10:40 **Coffee break**

Session 2

10:40 – 11:20 Sara MORINI: *(Re)designing Narratives: A Game Studies Approach to East Asian Post-Colonial Histories* (Comment: Marcos CENTENO MARTIN)

11:20 – 12:00 Alexandra MAIUGA: *Imagining and (Re)Producing Japan Migrant Creative Workers in the Video Game Industry* (Comment: Marcos CENTENO MARTIN)

12:00 – 12:10 **Break**

Session 3

12:10 – 12:50 Martina BOTTAZZO: *To Be Raised in High-Cost Religious Groups in Japan: An Exploration of Adverse Religious Childhood Experiences and Their Aftermath from the Perspectives of Children and Parents* (Comment: Paola CAVALIERE)

12:50 – 13:30 Maaike VAN DER BURG: *Anti-Cult Measures at Japanese Universities: Constructing religion as a category and its ramifications* (Comment: Paola CAVALIERE)

13:30 – 14:30 Lunch break (inside the building)

Session 4

14:30 – 15:10 Ruskin HARDING: *A Reconstruction of Proto-Japonic* (Comment: Tomasz MAJTCZAK)

15:10 – 15:50 Marco SCOTTO DI CLEMENTE: *A descriptive grammar of the Ei variety of Kagoshima Japanese* (Comment: Tomasz MAJTCZAK)

15:50 – 16:30 Dávid HORVÁTH: *Politeness Strategies and Speech Styles in the Context of Japanese as a Foreign Language Education* (Comment: Tomasz MAJTCZAK)

18:00 Dinner at Chleb i Wino restaurant

Day 3, Tuesday, 25 August 2026

Session 5

8:00 – 8:40 Matea RADAKOVIĆ: *A Comparative Analysis of the Regulation and Social Perceptions of Prostitution in Postwar Japan and Socialist Yugoslavia* (Comment: Marcos CENTENO MARTIN)

8:40 – 9:20 Chihiro TOYA: *Participatory Ethnography Through Filmmaking: Documenting Japanese Sex Work Activism* (Comment: Marcos CENTENO MARTIN)

9:20 – 9:30 Break

Session 6

9:30 – 9:40 Julia OLSSON: *The physicality of depopulation: exploring landscapes of fragile futures and time-space anomalies in rural Japan* (Comment: Paola

CAVALIERE)

10:10 – 10:50 Alessia COFONE: *Who cares? The multi-directionality of care in contemporary Japanese literature and popular culture* (Comment: Paola CAVALIERE)

10:50 – 11:20 Coffee Break

Session 7

11:20 – 12:00 Matthew COOPER: *The Supernatural, the Monstrous and the Gothic in the Works of Enchi Fumiko, Takahashi Takako and Amparo Dávila* (Comment: Satoko NAITO)

12:00 – 12:40 Oliver ECCLES: *Customs and Duties: The Making of Early Detective Fiction in Japan (and Argentina)* (Comment: Satoko NAITO)

12:40 – 12:50 Break

Session 8

12:50 – 13:30 Johanna Fritzi MOMM: *Human Rights in Contestation: Discursive Dynamics in the Japanese Parliament* (Comment: Tomasz MAJTCHAK)

13:30 – 14:10 Agnese FALLICA: *Foreign Policy and Human Rights: The Changing Security Role of the EU and Japan* (Comment: Paola CAVALIERE)

14:10 – 15:10 Lunch break (inside the building)

Session 9

15:10 – 15:50 Antonella MORGILLO: *Interwoven Gazes in the Cinematic Representation of the Ainu, 1898–1935* (Comment: Marcos CENTENO MARTIN)

15:50 – 16:30 Ana PRIETO: *Fractures in the image: Historiographical Reinterpretation of the Representation of the Ainu People in Edo and Meiji Period through Ukiyo-e* (Comment: Marcos CENTENO MARTIN)

18:00 Dinner at Esencja restaurant

.....

The workshop is generously funded by the [Toshiba International Foundation](#) (TIFO)

TOSHIBA
Toshiba International Foundation

Travelling to Toruń

We recommend travelling by train, as it is generally more comfortable than coach services such as FlixBus. You can check available train connections here: <https://rozkład-pkp.pl/en>. Once you have found a suitable connection, you can use the links on the website to book your ticket directly with the train operator. Alternatively, you can purchase your ticket at the railway station.

We do not recommend buying a ticket on board the train. Unless you inform the train staff immediately after boarding (which may not be possible, as they are often difficult to locate), you may be fined for travelling without a valid ticket. Even if you do notify the staff, an additional fee is charged for purchasing a ticket on board.

There are two main railway operators:

- PKP Intercity (<https://www.intercity.pl/en/>) – generally faster services with compulsory seat reservations.
- Polregio (<https://bilety.polregio.pl/en/>) – slower regional services without seat reservations, but often offering comfortable carriages.

Travel times from major Polish cities to Toruń are approximately as follows:

- ✧ Poznań – approx. 1.5–2 hours
- ✧ Warsaw – approx. 2.5 hours
- ✧ Gdańsk – approx. 2–2.5 hours
- ✧ Wrocław – approx. 3–4 hours

Accommodation and transport in Toruń

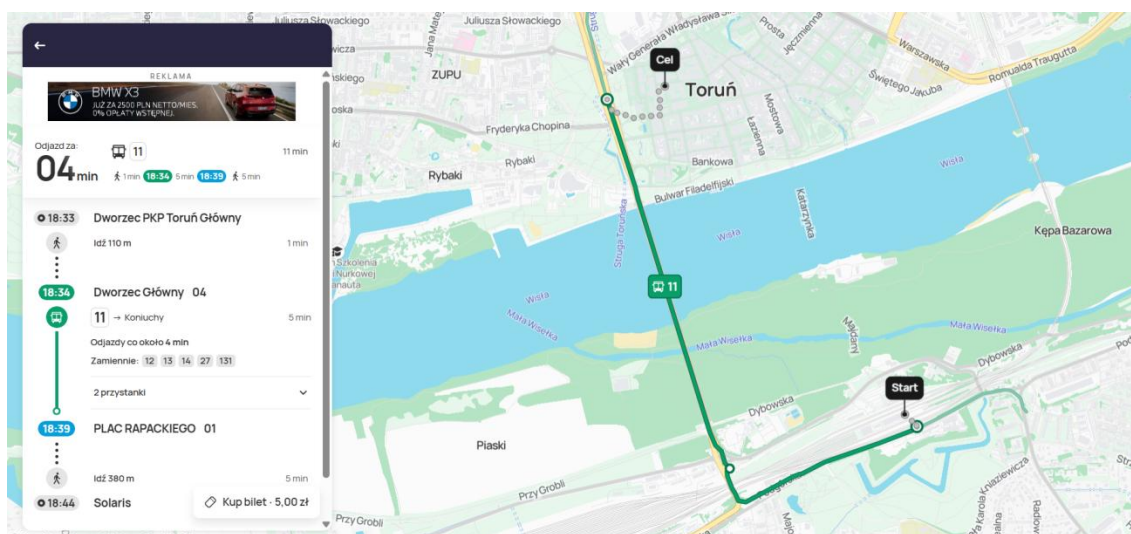
Participants will be accommodated at either Hotel Solaris (Panny Marii 9/11; less than a 5-minute walk from the venue) or Hotel Spichrz (Mostowa 1; a 10–15-minute walk from the venue), both of which are located in the Old Town. Breakfast is included in your stay.

You can reach the hotels from the main railway station (Toruń Główny) either by bus or by taxi/Uber. If you choose public transport, take bus no. 11, 12, 13, 14, 80, or 131 and

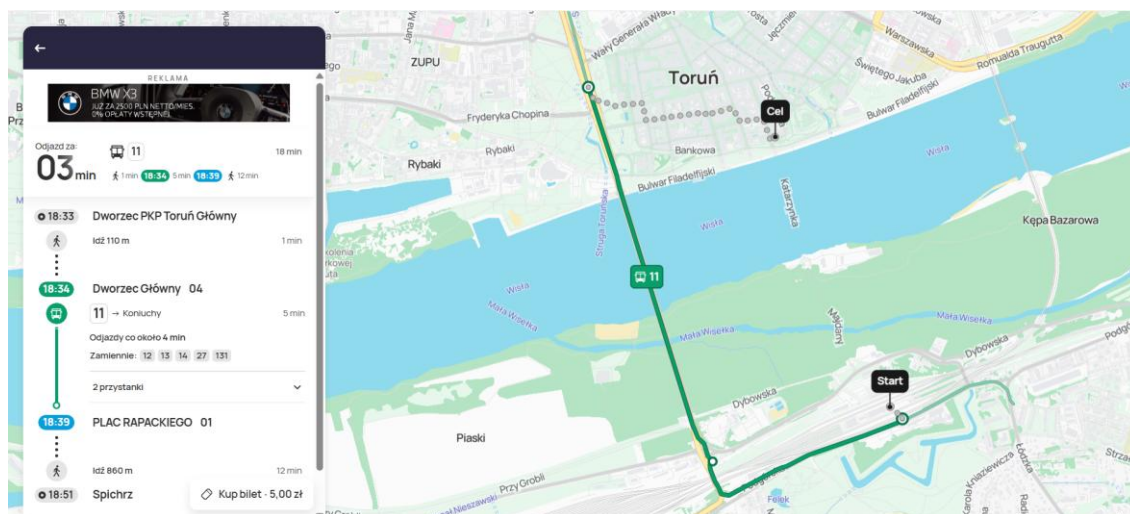
get off at the second stop, Plac Rapackiego (the first stop after crossing the long bridge, which offers a magnificent view of the Old Town on the right-hand side).

Paper bus tickets can be purchased at the railway station (from convenience stores or ticket machines) or from the ticket machines inside the bus. We recommend buying your ticket before boarding, as you may be fined if the on-board ticket machine is out of order. All paper tickets, including those purchased on board, must be validated immediately after boarding using one of the ticket validation machines. Travelling with an unvalidated ticket may result in a fine.

Alternatively, you can purchase tickets using the Mobicat app, which allows you to buy public transport tickets in many Polish cities, including Warsaw and Poznań. The app operates on a prepaid wallet system: after adding funds to your account, you can purchase a ticket directly before boarding. A 60-minute ticket costs PLN 4.60 (just over €1).

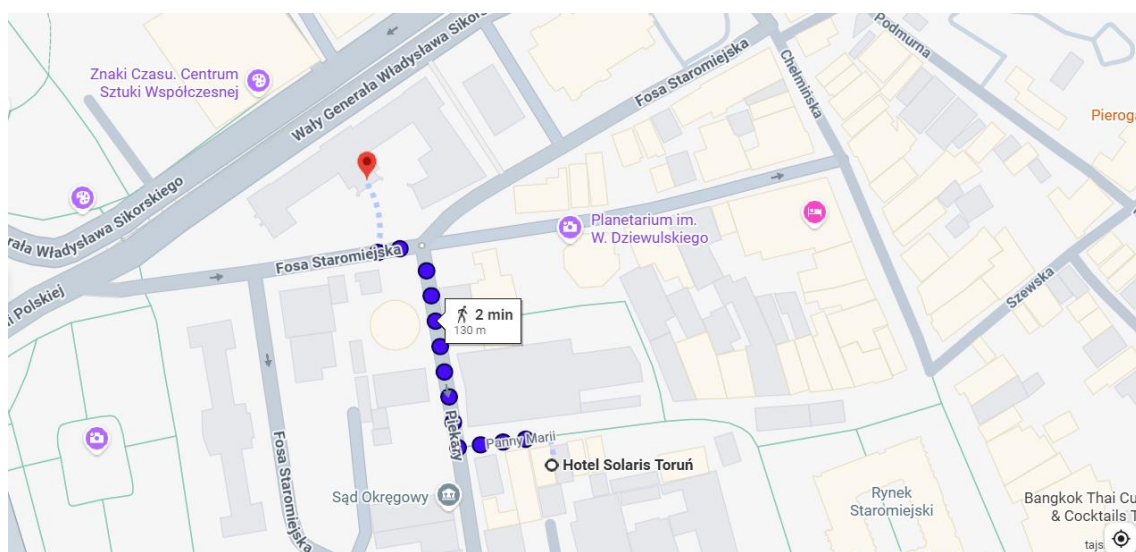


Bus ride and walk to Hotel Solaris (as seen on the <https://jakdojade.pl/> website).

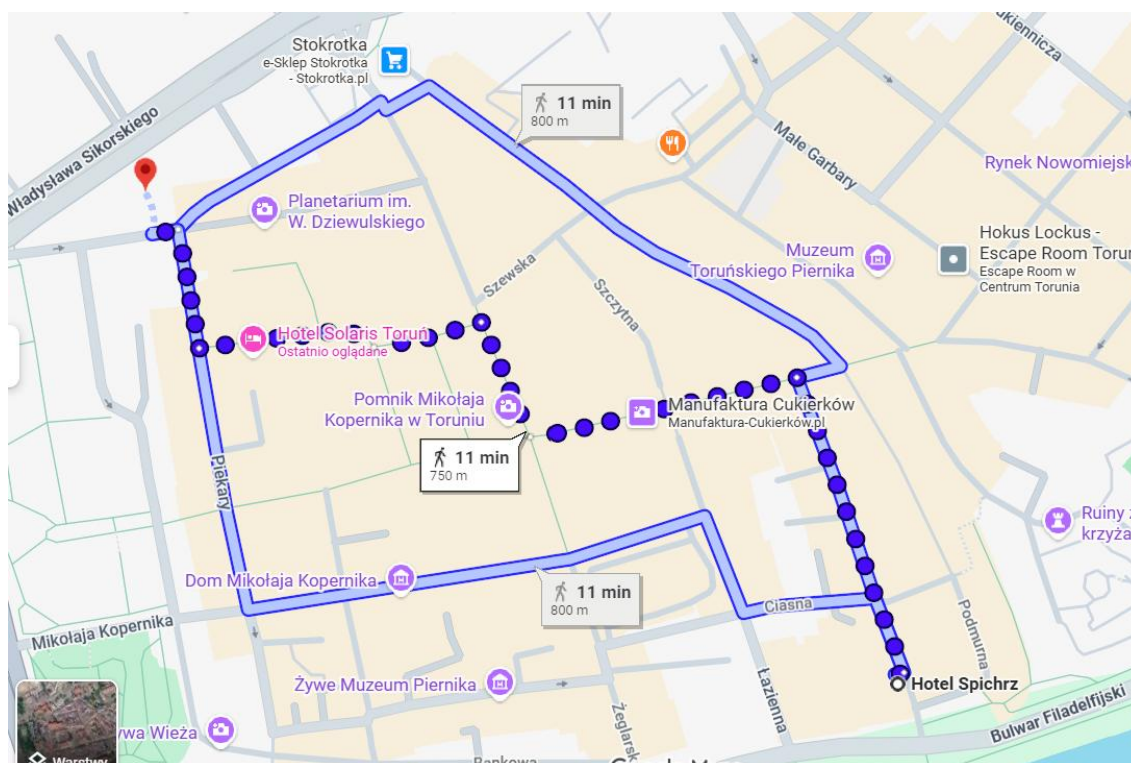


Bus ride and walk to Hotel Spichrz (as seen on the <https://jakdojade.pl/> website).

Access to the venue



Walk from Hotel Solaris to the venue



Walk from Hotel Spichrz to the venue

Useful tools for planning travel:

<https://rozklad-pkp.pl/en> – for checking train connections and timetables

<https://www.intercity.pl/en/> – main site of PKP Intercity train operator

<https://bilety.polregio.pl/en/> – main site of Polregio train operator

<https://jakdojade.pl/> – a site for checking public transport connections and timetables in most Polish cities (app version offers English)

<https://mobilet.eu/pl/> – website of the application for purchasing public communication tickets

Dinner locations

Welcome dinner on Sunday Aug 23

We will meet at **Monka** at 6 pm, the restaurant is open until 9pm. Alcoholic drinks and non-alcoholic drinks not included in the preset menu have to be purchased separately by the participants.

[Monka](#)

Piekary 2, 87-100 Toruń

Dinner on Monday Aug 24

We will meet at **Chleb i Wino** at 6 pm, the restaurant is open until 11pm. Alcoholic drinks and non-alcoholic drinks not included in the preset menu have to be purchased separately by the participants.

[Chleb i Wino](#)

Rynek Staromiejski 22, 87-100 Toruń

Dinner on Tuesday Aug 25

We will meet at **Esencja** at 6 pm, the restaurant is open until 9pm. Alcoholic drinks and non-alcoholic drinks not included in the preset menu have to be purchased separately by the participants.

[Esencja](#)

Szpitalna 4, 87-100 Toruń