Carolin Heilig, School of Slavonic and East European Studies (SSEES)
Polish Studies Today and Tomorrow
13.09.2021
c.heilig@ucl.ac.uk

UCL

Civil Society in the Face of Pillarization: Insights from Krakow

Populist and Illiberal Developments in Poland since 2015

"Choice, no ban"

"The [Constitutional] Tribunal has issued the final decision: eugenic abortion is unconstitutional"

Rafal Guz/EPA

Zycierodzina.pl

Pillarization of Society

"Pillarization is the vertical segregation of civil society into distinct compartments with limited interaction across a dividing boundary (religious, ethnic, political). This creates the potential for social conflicts, contentious mobilization and political instability" (Ekiert, 2019)
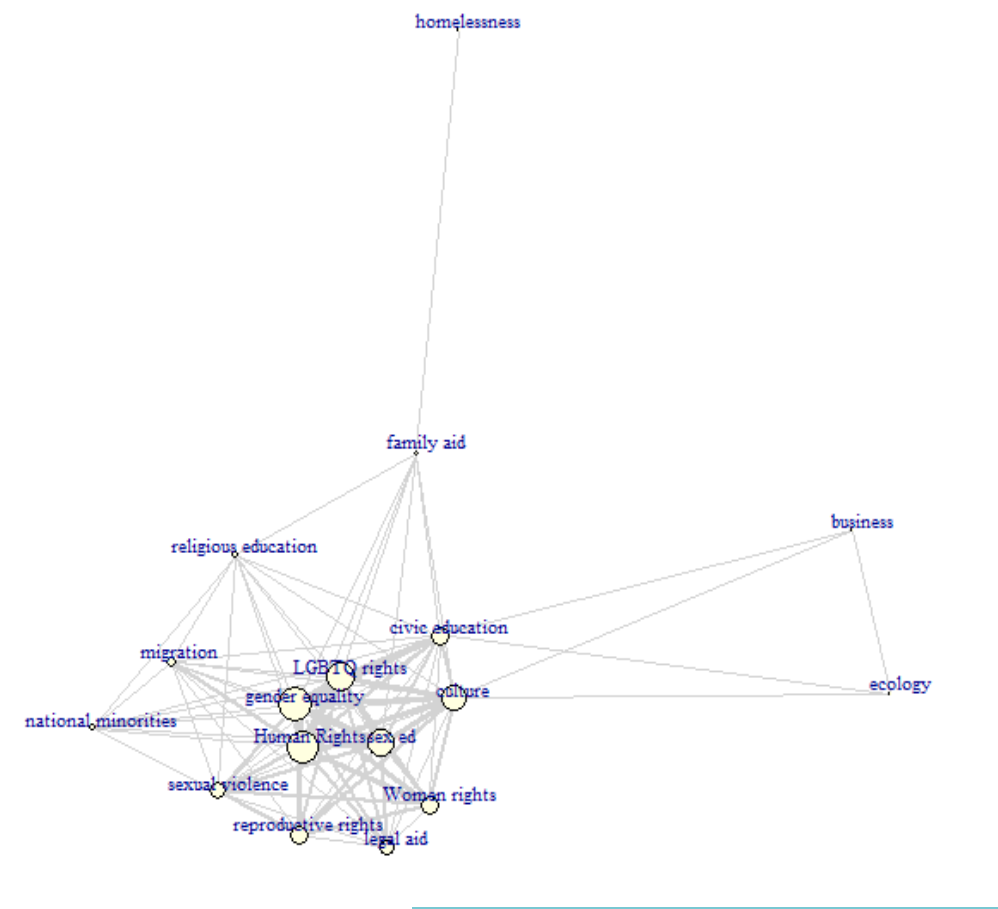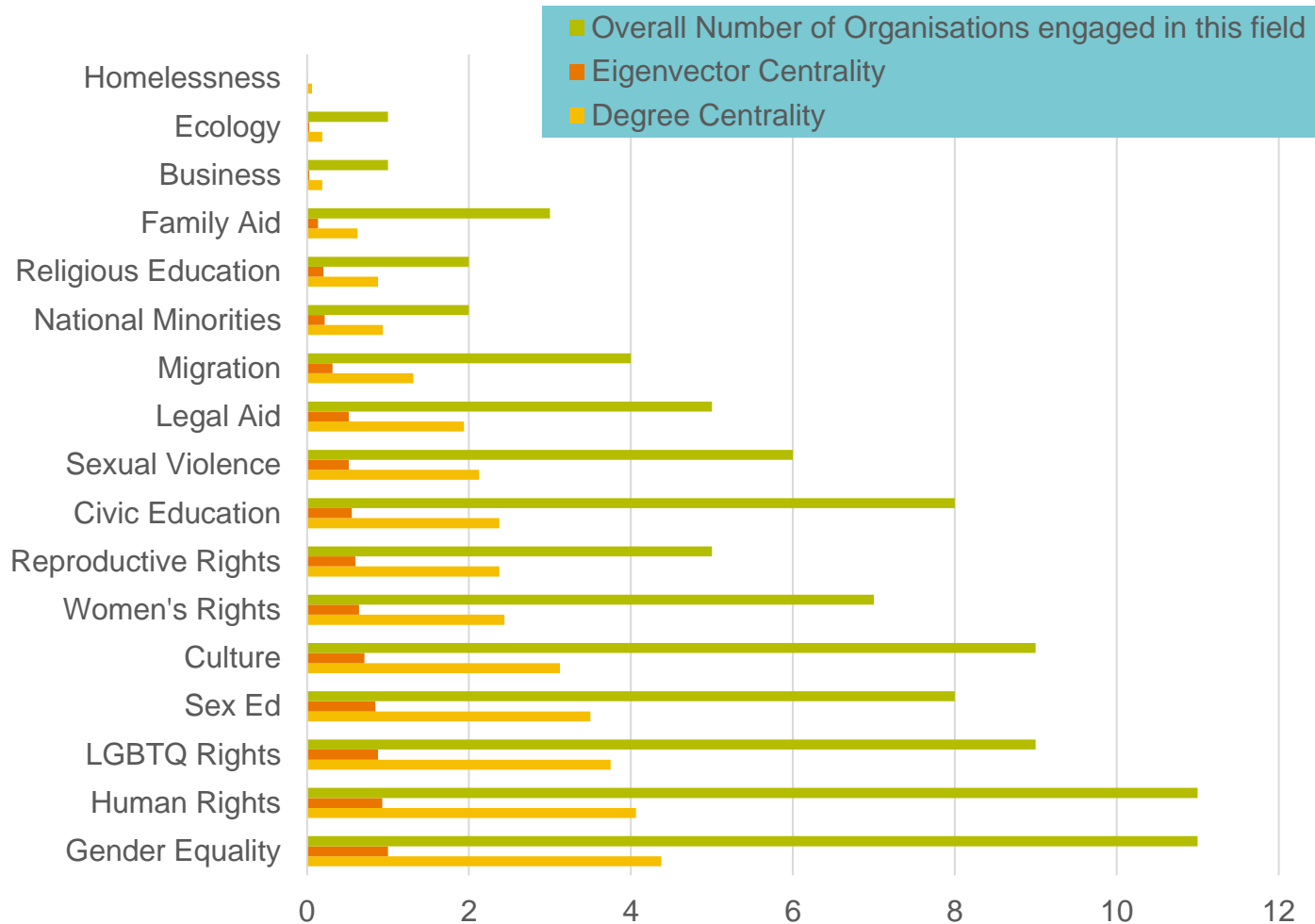
Illiberal Pillar

Liberal Pillar

Tracing a Social Network

Cooperation Ties (selection)	Value-sharing ties
Co-organising events	Sharing similar goals
Sharing information	Sharing the same vision of society
Sharing material or office spaces	Agreement with activities and methods
Funding ties	Based on values (would) like to cooperate with each other

Mobilization around Gender in Krakow

Centrality Scores- Fields of Engagement and overall number of organisations
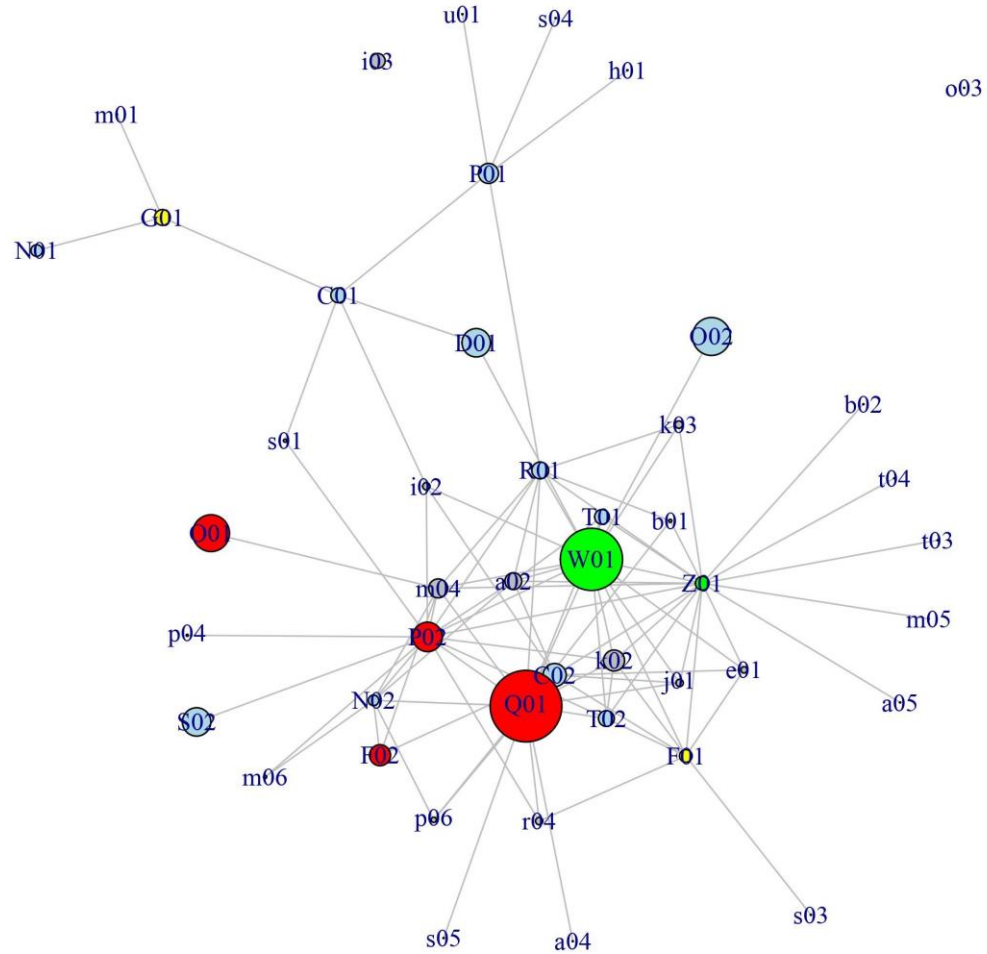

Legend:
- Overall Number of Organisations engaged in this field
- Eigenvector Centrality
- Degree Centrality

Fields (top to bottom): Homelessness, Ecology, Business, Family Aid, Religious Education, National Minorities, Migration, Legal Aid, Sexual Violence, Civic Education, Reproductive Rights, Women's Rights, Culture, Sex Ed, LGBTQ Rights, Human Rights, Gender Equality
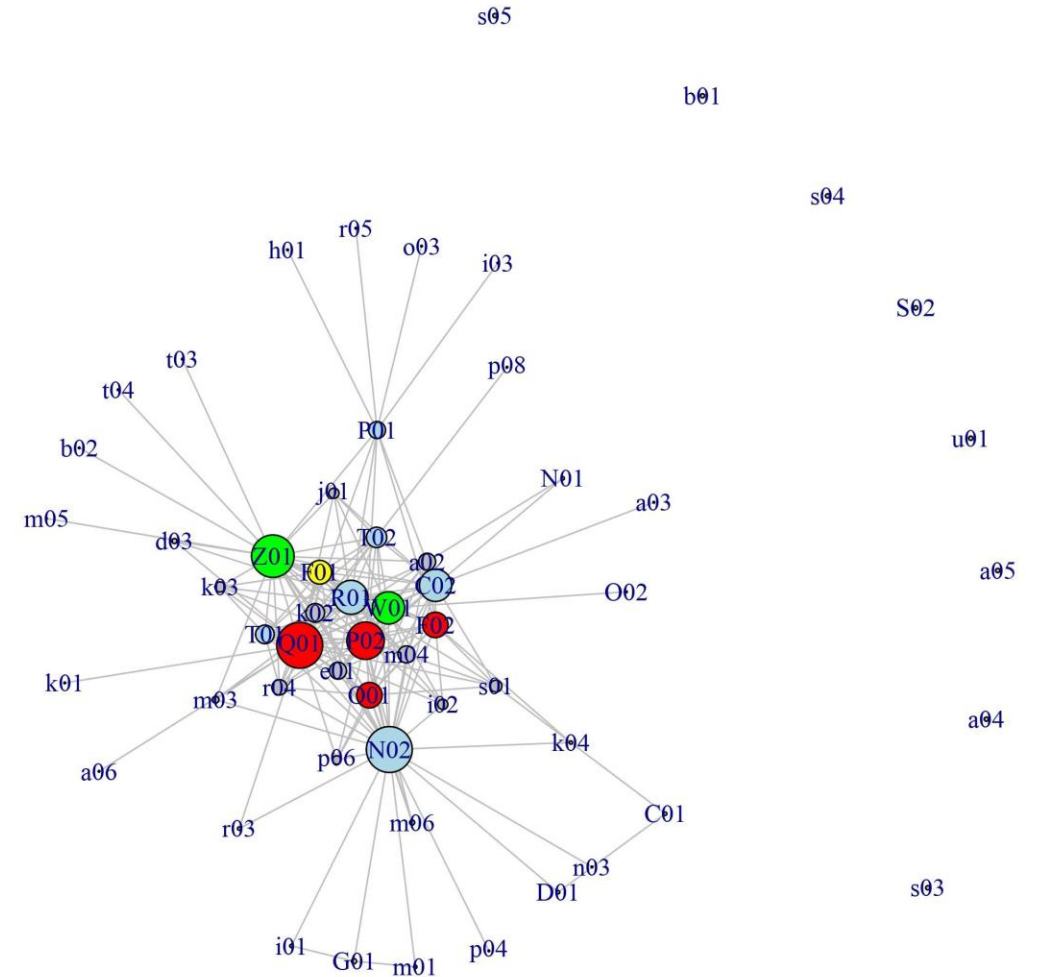
Network of Fields of Engagement

Mobilization around Gender in Krakow

Field of engagement	Number of groups active	Number of apolitical groups active	Other political positions
Gender Equality	12	7	1 liberal, 2 left, 2 other
Human Rights	11	7	1 liberal, 2 left, 1 other
LGBTQ+ Rights	9	4	1 liberal, 2 left, 2 other
Culture	9	4	1 liberal, 1 left, 2 other
Civic Education	8	3	2 liberal, 1 left, 2 other
Sexual education	8	4	1 liberal, 1 left, 2 other
Women's Right	7	4	3 left
Sexualised Violence	6	4	1 liberal, 1 left
Reproductive rights	5	2	3 left

Ties within Civil Society
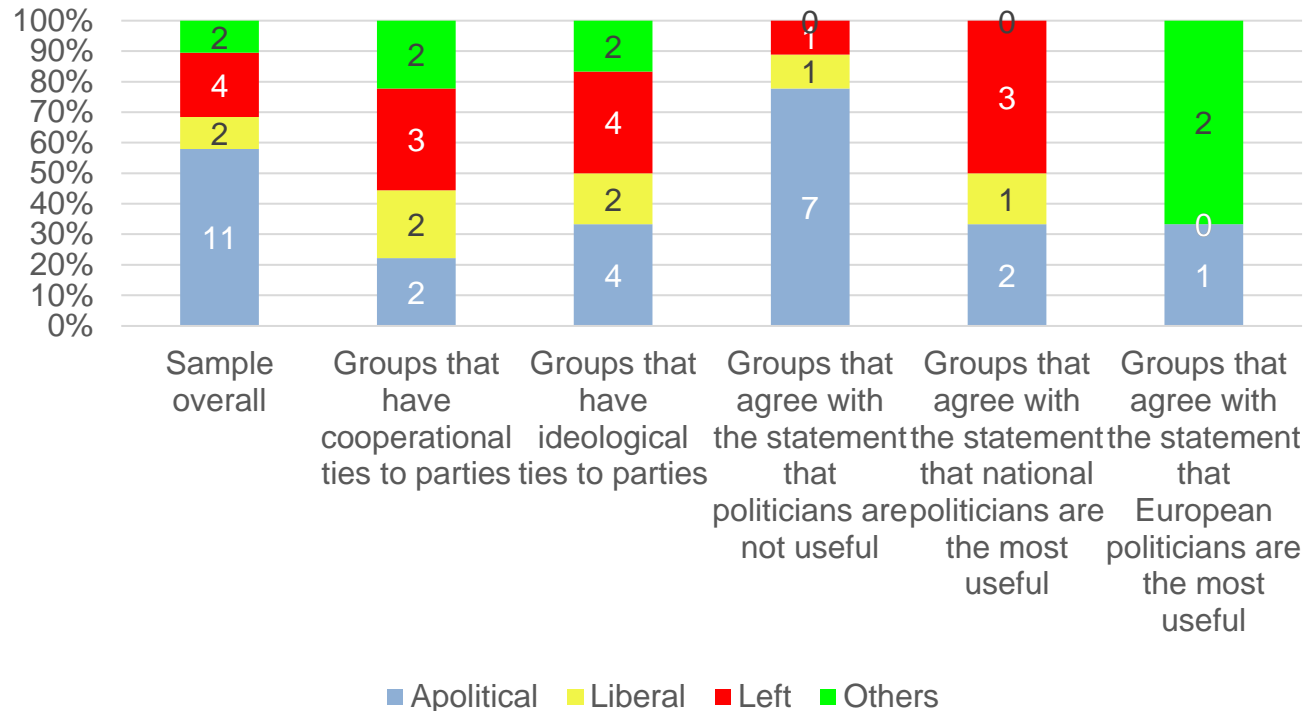

Network of Cooperation Ties

Network of Value Ties

Ties with Civil Society: Types of Ties

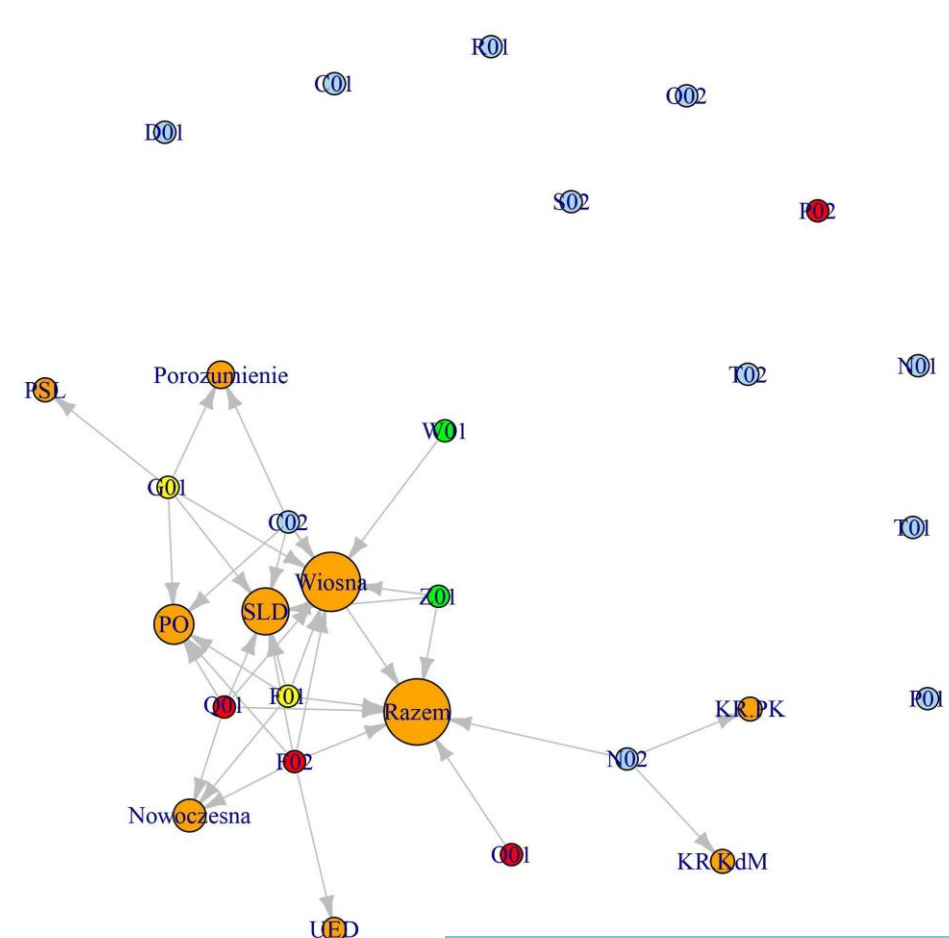| Type of ties within civil society: Cooperation	Count (203)	Type of ties within civil society: Values	Count (456)
Mutual organisation of activities	58	Similar values and goals	124
Participation in activities organised by one of the groups	54	Shared vision of society	127
Financial support (receiving or granting funds; receiving funding together)	7	Based on parties' ideas and values, CSO value or would like to work with other CSO	105
Receiving or providing office space and materials	7	CSO agrees with activities and forms of activism of other CSO	100
Sharing of information	44		
Joint membership	33		

Ties between Civil and Political Society

Overview: Ties to political parties by self-ascribed ideology

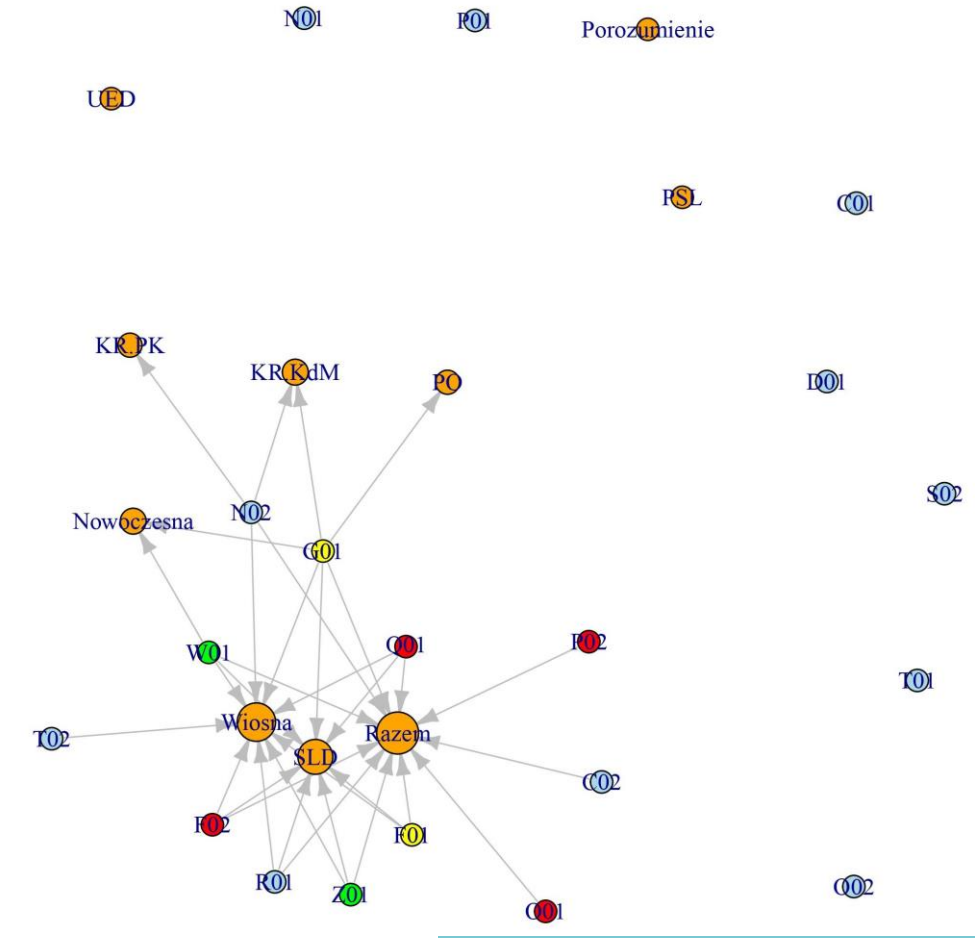| Type of ties between civil and political society: Cooperation	Count (83)	Type of ties between political and civil society: Values	Count (76)
CSO takes place in events organised by parties	15	Similar values and goals	27
Collaborate organisation of events	6	Vision of society in accordance with CSOs activities and values	23
Political parties come to events organised by CSO	30	Based on parties' ideas and values, CSO value or would like to work with these parties	9
CSO joins political consultations with these parties	12	CSO agrees with activities and campaigns of parties	17
CSO supports these political parties in their election campaign	0		
Joint membership of individuals btw CSO and parties	6		
Political parties provide office space, materials, or locations for CSO's activities	1		
CSO provide information to parties	13		

Ties between Civil and Political Society

Network of Cooperation Ties

Network of Value Ties

Summary

- This paper took the liberal pillar as a starting point to explore pillarization in civil society mobilised around gender in the city of Krakow

- Division between liberal and illiberal pillar in civil society mobilised around gender

- Within the liberal pillar, civil society actors' position in the network is influenced by their stance "political vs. apolitical"; this effect is much more relevant in relations to political parties

- Need to explore the role of apolitical civil society actors