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Her main research interests and teaching experience involve border studies, regional policy of the European Union, collective memory, social identity, narratives in Europe and the German-Polish relations. In this framework, as Principal Investigator she is currently leading two research projects – "Poland and Germany in the European Union. New forms and models of bilateral relations in foreign policy and cross-border cooperation" (funded by the German-Polish Science Foundation) and "(De/Re)Constructing borders – narratives and imaginaries on divided towns in Central Europe in comparative perspective" with focus on Frankfurt (Oder)/Słubice and Cieszyn/Český Těšín (funded by the Polish National Science Center, NCN).

Recently she published: Opiłowska, E. et. al. (eds.): Studia nad granicami i pograniczami. Leksykon, Warszawa: Scholar 2020; Opiłowska, E: La coopération germano-polonaise transfrontalière: une normalisation réussie?, in: Th. Serrier and P.-F. Weber (eds.), Allemagne-Pologne au XXIe siècle: une normalisation inachevée?, Villeneuve d'Ascq, Presses universitaires du Septentrion (=Allemagne d'aujourd'hui, 228, 2019), pp. 29-39; Opiłowska, E.: Reconciliation through Europeanization: Secondary foreign policy in the German–Polish borderlands, in: M. Klatt and B. Wassenberg (eds.), Secondary Foreign Policy in Local International Relations. Peace-building and Reconciliation in Border Regions, Abingdon: Routledge 2018, pp. 79-100

During her stay at the European University Viadrina Elżbieta Opiłowska would like to strengthen her teaching experience in an interdisciplinary, cross-faculty programme of European Studies, exchange ideas with researchers from the Viadrina University and to conduct her empirical research in Frankfurt (Oder) and Słubice within the NCN-project.