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Pawel Kowal is a political scientist, historian, columnist, expert on Eastern policy, co-founder of the Museum of the Warsaw Rising, Assistant Professor (adjunct) in the Institute of Political Studies at the Polish Academy of Sciences, postdoctoral research fellow at the College of Europe Natolin, lecturer at the University of Warsaw and Chairman of the Scientific Council of the Research Station of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Kyiv. In 2005-09 he was a Member of the Polish Parliament (Sejm), in 2006-07 Secretary of State in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and was also a member of the National Security Council. In 2009-14 he was a Member of the European Parliament and its Foreign Affairs Committee, and Chairman of the EU delegation to the EU-Ukraine Parliamentary Commission. The author of numerous publications on the transformation processes in Central Europe, among his most important works are the books *Koniec systemu władzy. Polityka ekipy gen. Wojciecha Jaruzelskiego w latach 1986-1989* (2012) and (with Mariusz Cieślík), *Jaruzelski. Życie paradoksalne* (2015).