This article presents and analyses an important segment of Polish science policy, which was implemented in 2012-2015 as part of the National Programme for the Development of Humanities (NPRH) by the Ministry of Science and Higher Education. Based on the experience of The Józef Tischner Institute, one of the entities for which the programme was addressed, the paper identifies discrepancies between the objectives of the programme, having the aim of supporting the most important projects concerning Polish culture, the arts and national heritage, and the actual activities undertaken by the Ministry and the board of the NPRH, which are far from the goals they have set. This specific case study presents irregularities in the functioning of the NPRH, which seem to go beyond the mere imperfection of institutions or carelessness of people, and points to organized activities with even structural relevance.

**Keywords:** Tischner, humanities, philosophy, science policy