Zegota

(Rada Pomocy Zydom, Council for Aid to Jews; Tymczasowy Komitet Pomocy Zydom, Provisional Committee for Aid to Jews), Polish code name for the underground Council for Aid to Jews. Zegota operated from December 1942 until the Liberation of Poland in January 1945.

Zegota originated as the Provisional Committee for Aid to Jews, initiated by writer Zofia Kossak-Szczucka, and consisted of democratic Catholic activists. It was soon revamped as Zegota, an organization which included both Jews and non-Jews from many different political movements. Despite their differences, they were motivated to fight the injustices perpetrated by the Nazis.

Zegota was funded by the Delegatura, the Bund, and the Jewish National Committee. By the summer of 1944, Zegota was helping 4,000 Jews. However, they were unable to provide aid for more people due to a chronic shortage of funding.

Zegota furnished many Jews with false identification papers, money, and safe hiding places. Despite the death penalty imposed on people who hid Jews, Zegota members successfully placed thousands of Jewish children in foster homes, public orphanages, and convents. They also provided medical care to Jews in hiding. In addition, Zegota tried very hard to convince the Polish Government-In-Exile and the Delegatura to implore the Polish people to help the Jews.