Maciej Leśny graduated from the faculty of Economics University of Warsaw. The subject of his Master thesis concerned VAT – which was at that time new idea in Europe. He studied VAT problems 20 years before this tax was introduced in Poland.

Upon graduation he started his professional career as data processing analyst in shipyard industry in Poland. Once again he was involved in a field new in Poland. He took different courses in IT given by British ICL company specialists and had worked in IT for ten years.

At the end of the seventies of the last century he moved into government work. He specialized in International trade. He had a chance to develop his knowledge in this field while studying in the USA – for the first time in 1987 at the University of Michigan and in 1992-93 at American University in Washington D.C. During this last stay he was particularly interested in the policy against unfair competition in the foreign trade. He had studied this problem in the World Bank and IMF for four months.