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ASSUMPTIONS
POLISH SECURITY POLICY

AND

SAFETY POLICY
AND DEFENSE STRATEGY
POLISH REPUBLIC

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The "Guidelines of the Polish Security Policy", *signed by the President of the Republic of Poland, define the basic principles of our country's policy in the field of internal and external security. The* **"Security Policy and Defense Strategy of the Republic of Poland"** *is a document that develops and specifies these principles. aimed at strengthening Poland's sovereignty and security, conducive to the civilizational development of our country and the growth of its position in Europe.*

Work on the defense strategy - or in other words: the doctrine - was undertaken by an inter-ministerial team appointed by the order of the President of the Republic of Poland of August 5, 1991 and organized by the National Security Bureau. The team included representatives of the Ministry of National Defence, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of the Interior, the Office of the Council of Ministers, the Central Planning Office, the General Staff of the Polish Army, as well as employees and consultants of the National Security Bureau.

The work of the team was led by the Secretary of State for National Security, the Head of the National Security Bureau. Subsequent versions of the draft document were discussed at the meetings of the National Defense Committee on February 5 and July 30, 1992, and at the meetings of the Parliamentary National Defense Committee. The final version was adopted by the National Defense Committee on November 2, 1992, composed of: chairman - Lech Waÿÿsa, President of the Republic of Poland; members - Hanna Suchocka, Prime Minister; Wiesÿaw Chrzanowski, Speaker of the Sejm of the Republic of Poland; August Cheÿkowski, Speaker of the Senate of the Republic of Poland; Krzysztof Skubiszewski, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Janusz Onyszkiewicz, Minister of National Defense; Andrzej Milczanowski, Minister of the Interior; Jerzy Osiatyÿski, Minister of Finance; Gen. Tadeusz Wilecki, Chief of the General Staff of the Polish Armed Forces; Mieczysÿaw Wachowski, Head of the Office of the President of the Republic of Poland; Jerzy Milewski, Secretary of the KOK, Head of the National Security Bureau.

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President
of the Republic of Poland

Assumptions of the Polish security policy

1. Basic assumptions

The contemporary content of the concept of state security includes both political and military issues, as well as economic, ecological, social and ethnic aspects. In each of these areas, Polish security policy is consistent with international law, in particular with the law of the United Nations, with the provisions and decisions of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe and with bilateral and multilateral agreements to which Poland is a party.

The Republic of Poland treats its borders as inviolable and has no territorial claims against its neighbors. It respects the sovereignty of other states and renounces the use of force, including the threat of force, in bilateral relations with other states. Poland wishes to cooperate particularly closely with neighboring countries.

2. Integration with Western Europe

Poland's future membership in the European Communities is of fundamental importance for our country. Economic integration with the West is also guided by political motives and goals. We treat the association as a stage in the pursuit of full membership in the European Communities in the shortest possible time, or in the future European Union, which will be established instead of the Communities. This is a difficult task requiring the introduction of many adjustment changes and consistent cooperation of the entire society.

We can overcome our civilizational backwardness and become an equal partner of developed countries only by quickly and effectively including Poland in the process of economic and political integration of Western Europe. Voluntary isolation and failure to take advantage of the opportunity for rapid development would inevitably lead to the marginalization of the Polish economy and the impoverishment of society, and this would threaten the loss of freedom and sovereignty. Relations with the European Communities will facilitate, and membership in them will determine our participation in the North Atlantic Alliance (NATO), if it had not happened earlier.

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3. International security system

The formation of new relations between nations in Europe after the collapse of the Soviet empire is still significantly influenced by the political and military factor. Poland is looking for links with existing defense alliances and security systems and strives to strengthen these structures.

Recognizing that the North Atlantic Alliance remains an essential factor of political stability and peace in Europe, Poland particularly values the Euro-Atlantic nature of this alliance and advocates the presence of American troops on our continent.
Poland's strategic goal in the 1990s was membership in NATO and the Western European Union as the European pillar of NATO and an important factor in the European system of collective security. We are currently developing our relationship with the Alliance mainly through the North Atlantic Cooperation Council. Our country's future membership in NATO will have a positive impact on Polish-German and Polish-Russian relations.

Poland cooperates with the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. The CSCE defines the principles of international relations. It creates a framework for conflict prevention and resolution, promotes arms reduction and control, and enables the establishment of peacekeeping military missions.

The Polish contribution to strengthening international security is and will continue to be the participation of our armed forces in peacekeeping missions established by the UN, and in the future also by European international institutions.

4. New regional cooperation

The collapse of the USSR and the emergence of new independent states, especially Ukraine, created an opportunity to permanently increase security in Eastern Europe.
However, it is now a politically unstable region. There is a significant military potential on its territory. The possibility of local conflicts is a serious threat. If extended to a larger area, they could also cover Poland. Armed conflicts may cause a huge wave of refugees from the East, dangerous for our security, as well as cut off or significantly reduce the supply of strategic raw materials.

Poland's cooperation with Ukraine, Russia and Belarus, based on concluded bilateral treaties, serves to reduce these threats. They include both economic cooperation and cooperation in the sphere of security, including in some areas of the military.

The reduction of these threats is also helped by the regional cooperation developed by Poland with Hungary and CSRF, and soon - in its place - with the Czech Republic and Slovakia. Regardless of the direction of political changes in our southern neighbors, we strive to maintain cooperation within the Visegrad Group. This arrangement does not have the characteristics of a military alliance, but it strengthens the sense of security and stability in the region.

Poland strives to effectively cover the countries of Central and Eastern Europe in the Euro-Atlantic security system. We support the efforts of the new states of this area to forge ties with Western countries and adapt their own structures to democratic standards.

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5. Defense

Poland has its own military potential and state defense system. We are determined to defend our sovereignty and territorial integrity and to oppose any aggression. We are currently undergoing a deep transformation adapting defense structures to the needs of a sovereign, medium-sized European state, which is Poland. The basic element of the defense system are the armed forces, which are constantly ready to take up combat tasks and to be deployed in war.

In the event of a local conflict affecting our territory, we will take immediate military action to stop and break up the enemy. In principle, Poland should achieve this goal on its own, but the use of political or material assistance from other countries may turn out to be advisable. In the event of a war going beyond a local conflict, the strategy of the Polish armed forces will be to put up organized resistance as long as possible in order to: stop the invasion - by inflicting maximum losses on the aggressor, demonstrating the determination of defense and gaining time for the reaction of other states and international institutions.

Poland does not see a threat in any of the existing states. The armed forces are deployed fairly evenly throughout the country to repel any attack from any direction. The size of the army and basic armament is in line with the international commitments adopted by Poland, which also include our neighbours. The army of the Republic of Poland is made up of soldiers from compulsory and universal conscription and professional staff, whose percentage share in the armed forces will gradually increase. This guarantees the professional and civic character of the armed forces and secures an appropriate number of trained reservists in the event of mobilization.

6. Internal security

Radical political changes taking place in Poland inevitably result in a temporary increase in internal threats. These are non-military political and socio-economic threats. They weaken the structure of the state and increase its susceptibility to external pressure. The consequences of the breakdown of the so-called socialist economy and the inevitable social costs of transition to a market economy - especially unemployment - are conducive to the spread of frustration, disorganization, emigration, crime and other pathological social phenomena. The situation is aggravated by threats resulting from the progressing degradation of the natural environment.

The main way to limit the negative effects of these phenomena is to strive to shorten the transition period. The success of the transformations being carried out depends to a large extent on the successful course of the privatization process and the effectiveness of the administrative reform undertaken, strengthening the state management structure and increasing the efficiency of the bodies enforcing the application and observance of the law.

Lech Walesa

Warsaw, *November 2, 1992*

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Security policy and defense strategy Polish Republic

1. Introduction

Poland's geopolitical location is particularly convenient for maintaining close contacts with many European countries. At the same time, however, the location of our country on the European geostrategic axis makes the problems of defense and security a key issue of the Polish raison d'état.

The aim of the Republic of Poland is to defend and strengthen an independent, sovereign statehood, guaranteeing respect for human rights, freedoms and civil liberties. A stable, independent and secure existence of the state is a prerequisite for the formation of an efficient democratic system based on the principles of civil society and for the successful implementation of market reforms that improve the national economy. Poland, a country with a thousand-year-old tradition of statehood, adopted Christianity from Rome, joining the circle of Western civilization. After a half-century break, the Polish nation wants to restore its general civilizational orientation towards the West. By consolidating its independence and security, Poland wishes to participate in building European unity and creating a new, just international order.

The above premises, as well as the nature of the existing and potential threats to the country's security, are the basis for the security policy and defense strategy of the Republic of Poland.

2. Conditions and threats

The fundamental changes that took place at the turn of the 1980s and 1990s in Central and Eastern Europe created new conditions for the security of the Republic of Poland.

The collapse of the Soviet empire took place as a result of the rejection of the totalitarian political system and communist ideology. This disintegration brought all the states and nations of Central and Eastern Europe a chance to liberate themselves from foreign domination imposing a totalitarian political system and communist ideology. Poland was the first to take advantage of it, then our southern neighbors: Hungary and CSRF, countries with similar economic opportunities and political aspirations, took advantage of this opportunity. Soon after, communism was overthrown in Bulgaria, Romania and Albania. Poland found itself between the unifying Western Europe and the disintegrated former USSR.

Striving for connection with the European Communities creates the greatest hopes for Poland for the consolidation of independent statehood, democracy and successful economic development. This is a geostrategic direction not only of political and economic rapprochement, but also of Poland's participation in an effective Western system of collective security.

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Our largest and most developed neighbor is the Federal Republic of Germany. Cooperation with Germany is one of the main roads leading Poland to an integrated Western Europe. The development of the Polish economy also needs partnerships with the German economy.

The collapse of the Soviet empire and the emergence of independent states alongside Russia, especially Ukraine, create a new geostrategic quality. In the east of Europe, a completely different balance of power is emerging, enabling a permanent increase in security on a continental scale. Poland uses this opportunity.

The process of change in the East, however, causes a number of threats that may emerge in the near future. A serious danger would be the rejection by the states which are heirs of the USSR of the disarmament commitments inherited from that empire. This could lead to the uncontrolled proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and unconstrained conventional forces. The risk of an outbreak of armed conflicts on border, ethnic or economic grounds between new political entities cannot be ruled out either, with the involvement of neighboring countries, including Poland, or even the entire region, in the orbit of military action. A threat to our security may be: a great wave of migration from the east, from or through the territories of neighboring countries, as well as the economic consequences of breaking off trade contacts, in particular the interruption of supplies of strategic raw materials and cutting off from traditional markets.

Radical political changes always cause a temporary increase in internal threats. These are primarily non-military political, socio-economic and ecological threats that weaken our state and increase its susceptibility to external pressure and infiltration. The inevitable social costs of the crisis of the centrally planned economy and the reforms carried out, especially recession and unemployment, are conducive to the spread of frustration, disorganization, mass emigration, crime and other pathological social phenomena. A social atmosphere is created that enables the spread of dangerous chauvinistic tendencies. The main means of countering these threats is to accelerate the transformation process as much as possible and to shorten the transition period. Prolonging the period of reconstruction would inevitably lead to deepening tensions and social disturbances.

The processes of democratization of the political system, introduction of a market economy and liberalization of social relations require changes in old structures and habits, which often meet strong resistance. The progress of transformation is hampered both by the inefficiency of parts of the state apparatus, as well as by conscious opposition from the apologists of the old order and by extremist forces. There are blocks of awareness of the society, which are the result of long-term sovietization, which make it difficult to adapt to new conditions.

Overcoming the recession and enabling Poland's further economic development is of great importance for the pace and effectiveness of political changes. This requires widespread privatization and a fundamental change in the system of controlling the economy.
An important role here is also played by partnership cooperation with the West and its help, both in the material and institutional dimension. The success of the transformations is to a large extent also conditioned by the administrative reform consolidating and stabilizing the structure of the state and increasing the effectiveness of its functioning.

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3. External aspects of security policy

Basic rules

Poland pursues a security policy consistent with international law, in particular with the provisions of the United Nations Charter, and other international acts, both bilateral and multilateral. This policy is also in line with the provisions of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

We consider it particularly important in international relations to respect the inviolability of existing borders in Europe, resignation from territorial claims, respect for sovereignty, non-intervention in internal affairs, and renunciation of the use of force or the threat of force. In order to ensure security, our country wants to cooperate closely with all its neighbors and does not intend to enter into military alliances with one neighbor against another.

We also treat neighborly and regional cooperation as a way to facilitate joint inclusion in the future pan-European system of collective security. Poland is interested in building such a system of collective security that would cover Europe and North America. We are in favor of the development and adoption by all states of a model of non-confrontational military doctrine, which assumes increasing the security not only of a given country, but also the security of other, especially neighboring countries.

Poland supports increased transparency and building international trust in the military sphere. We believe that eliminating the atmosphere of uncertainty and mutual suspicion is an important factor in reducing war threats.

We consider the idea of creating multinational armed forces and Poland's participation in them worthy of development. We consider it possible to create mixed military units together with our neighbors. We will continue to direct the Polish Army units to participate in the UN Peacekeeping Force or to act in other UN, CSCE, NATO, North Atlantic Cooperation Council or Western European Union missions.

Disarmament

Poland supports disarmament initiatives and will continue to actively participate in the relevant negotiations. We consider the negotiations and the resulting agreements on the reduction and limitation of armed forces, especially conventional forces in Europe, to be of particular importance. Poland will strive to create a new military order in Europe that would eliminate the possibility of a surprise attack and large-scale offensive operations. Our country stands for strict observance of the principle of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and for the reduction of nuclear arsenals.

Having our own defense potential is one of the basic attributes of our sovereignty. In accordance with the disarmament process, Poland is currently carrying out the necessary restructuring and conversion of the arms industry, which was excessively developed and biased during the period of forced membership in the Warsaw Pact.

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international cooperation

Poland intends to develop contacts and cooperation in the field of defense with its neighbors and other countries. We want to expand the forms of military scientific, training and cultural cooperation. We are interested in joint conferences, exchange of students and military trainees and organizing joint practices, exercises and maneuvers. We consider mutual visits and familiarization events to be desirable.

In eliminating the sources of potential armed conflicts, Poland also attaches great importance to areas of human activity other than political and military. Our country strives to expand economic cooperation and opposes the use of discriminatory restrictions in this sphere. We are against using the economic advantage of some countries to impose our will on other countries. We recognize that economic partnership in the international arena and a healthy market economy at home are important factors of political stabilization that reduce the risk of armed conflict. We are in favor of facilitating all interpersonal contacts that ensure the free flow of information, the penetration of cultures and the elimination of nationalist prejudices.

It is in Poland's interest to co-create an international security system that will be more and more effective in eliminating military threats and conducive to building a balance of interests and cooperation in solving global problems and challenges. The basic principle of our country's external security policy is to treat Europe and North America as a single security area. The gradually created European security system may become the main guarantor of the sovereignty and independence of the Republic of Poland in the future.

Poland works to develop a cooperative security system consisting of many complementary and overlapping international institutions.
We intend not only to develop, but also to initiate new forms of bilateral ties, primarily with neighboring countries, with other European countries and with the countries of North America. We strive to participate in multilateral ties, especially with the European Communities and the North Atlantic Alliance. Our country is an active participant in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

North Atlantic Alliance

The North Atlantic Alliance (NATO) remains the main factor of stability and security in Europe. We consider the continued military presence of the US in Europe to be indispensable, as it has a positive impact on the processes of political transformation in our region and stabilizes the situation on the entire continent.

Poland is striving to become a member of NATO. We will continue to develop the system of our contacts, cooperation and political consultations with various structures of this organization. We will act to create a network of bilateral agreements with individual NATO members on defense and security matters.
We are interested in developing and intensifying cooperation within the North Atlantic Cooperation Council, to which we belong.

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CSCE process

It is in the interest of the Polish state to contribute to the activities and increase the effectiveness of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. Our activity will focus on using CSCE mechanisms and institutions to prevent conflicts and defuse tensions between member states. Poland will also support the process of broadly understood European integration, the introduction and strengthening of common norms and standards, initiated by the CSCE. Poland intends to use this process when arranging bilateral relations with other countries.

We will participate in the disarmament negotiations conducted under the CSCE, contributing to the creation of a system of limited armaments in Europe and the transparency of military effort.

For Poland's interests, the CSCE process is particularly important as a politically and militarily stabilizing mechanism for the new member states established in the territories of the former USSR. The CSCE also strengthens the ties of the USA and Canada with Europe and the practical involvement of these countries in the affairs of our continent.

European Communities

The long-term priority of Polish foreign policy is to achieve membership of our country in the European Communities. It will be the best protection of our political and economic interests. An association agreement with the EC has already been concluded. We belong to the Council of Europe, which is conducive to integration in a broader sense. It is necessary to ratify a number of European conventions and thus adapt our legal, economic, technical and environmental standards to European standards.

Poland's economic and political integration with the unifying Western Europe is a difficult and long-term process. We can be admitted to the European Communities after getting the country out of the crisis and reducing the lag of our development in relation to Western countries. Until then, the Communities may enlarge to include new Member States and extend the scope of their activities.

Poland favors the evolution of the European Communities towards giving them an economic and political character, including also security issues. We follow with interest the development of the Western European Union as a possible future military structure of the European Community and, at the same time, the European part of NATO. We will strive to develop relations with the WEU and to obtain a position in it parallel to that in the Communities.

Regional and neighborhood

agreements New regional agreements have now emerged in the center and south of Europe, based on geographic and historical similarities and regional specificities. This is the nature of cooperation between Poland, CSRF and Hungary, i.e. the so-called Visegrad Triangle.

What connects Poland with Hungary and CSRF, and soon with the Czech Republic and Slovakia as separate countries, is not only a significant similarity in the levels of socio-economic development and the direction of reforms and political strategy, but also the burden of recent history, especially the active fight against Soviet domination. Effective cooperation in the Triangle becomes a test of the integration capacity of these countries with the western part of the continent.

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After the transformations that CSRF is undergoing and the emergence of the Czech Republic and Slovakia as independent states, the Visegrad Agreement should continue to contribute to the consolidation of political stability in our region and thus have a positive impact on security conditions in Europe. Our common strategic goal is to join the Western European system. We do not intend to create an independent bloc or a defense coalition of the countries concerned. However, the possibility of extending the functioning of the Triangle (Quartre) should not be ruled out, both in the subjective and objective dimension. Poland will make every effort to maintain and develop the cooperation carried out so far in the Triangle in the changed situation.

It is in Poland's interest to develop friendly relations and cooperation, based on respect for the norms and principles of international law, with our eastern neighbors: Russia, Ukraine, Belarus and Lithuania. We attach great importance to the treaty with Russia and hope that the commitment to withdraw Russian troops from Poland will be kept. The system of economic ties with the East should create new prospects for regional cooperation, corresponding to our common needs and interests. Especially cooperation between Poland and Ukraine should become an important factor stabilizing the situation in our region. Visegrad cooperation can also play a positive role as a kind of link between the European Community and Ukraine, Belarus and other countries in the region.

In building relations with the Federal Republic of Germany, the community of interests resulting from the proximity and European ties of both countries should be expanded. Prejudice inherent in the traditional mentality must be overcome. This is a task not only for both countries, but also for both nations.

In the current situation, when hopes for a lasting arrangement of Poland's relations with Germany on the basis of friendship and good-neighbourly cooperation may materialize, particular care should be taken to shape contacts and cooperation free of accents of nationalism, hegemony or xenophobia. This applies to the political and economic spheres, both in the pan-European and regional dimension. The Federal Republic of Germany is clearly superior to Poland in potential and the possibility of economic expansion. The more important our country attaches to the process of European integration, which makes it easier for us to build bilateral relations on a partnership basis. We hope that European integration will enable us to finally overcome mutual grudges and resentments.

4. Economic and defense aspects

From the point of view of national security, the primary task
of the economy is to meet the material defense needs of the state, in particular:

- ensuring optimal conditions for maintaining and training the armed forces in peacetime,

- preparation of the base for the execution of tasks by the army in times of threat to state security and during war,

- creating conditions for the survival of the population in extreme situations.

The tasks of the economy to ensure national security are determined by the supreme legislative and executive authorities of the state, and they implement all

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entities of state, local government and economic administration. The obligation to create and maintain economic and defense infrastructure rests mainly with heads of ministries and voivodes. The functions of meeting current needs should be combined with defensive functions. All regions of the country must also be equally prepared for anti-terrorist prevention and protection against the effects of natural disasters, environmental disasters and other non-military civilization and biological threats.

Bearing the costs related to maintaining the independence of the state is the duty of all citizens of the Republic of Poland. In situations of increasing threat, actions will be taken by the state authorities to finance the needs from extra-budgetary funds, such as a national loan, deposits, tributes or public collections. The general duty of defense also imposes obligations on local government and economic entities as well as on individual citizens to bear the costs related to the defense preparations of the state. The scope of these obligations is regulated by the Constitution and by law.

The basic source of equipment for the armed forces as well as institutions and bodies appointed to care for national security is the production of domestic industry. The functioning of selected defense industry plants will be protected by state guarantees. The state will support the development of those branches of the defense industry whose products will meet the criteria of usefulness on the modern battlefield and competitiveness on foreign markets. At the same time, favorable conditions will be created for engaging private, state and cooperative capital in activities related to defence. There will also be incentives to introduce flexible production programs by some producers, so that it is possible to switch production to defense purposes in the shortest possible time.

The development of scientific research is important for the national security system. The state will create conditions for the development of those fields of science which will contribute to the qualitative and quantitative strengthening of the defense potential of the country. They will be financed both from general expenditure on science and from the own funds of entities carrying out defense tasks.

The current strategic directions of activities aimed at preparing the country's economic infrastructure for defense purposes will be maintained. Works related to the preparation of communication routes and lines, energy and gas lines for operations in wartime conditions, as well as the accumulation of food reserves as well as raw materials and strategic materials will be continued. Due to the incorrect distribution of these reserves, they will be moved in such a way as to locate them fairly evenly throughout the country and not too close to the borders.

In order to guarantee the country's energy security, conditions for the purchase of crude oil and natural gas from various, independent sources will be ensured in the current decade.

Great opportunities to strengthen national security lie in international cooperation in the field of economic and defense. Poland is interested in cooperation in the defense industry, trade in equipment and armaments, and in conducting joint research and implementation in the field of defense with NATO member states, CSRF and Hungary, as well as with other countries. This will allow for a more effective use of the potential of the armaments industry of the cooperating countries and will become another factor conducive to building mutual trust.

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5. Assumptions of defense strategy

The strategic goal of the defense of the Republic of Poland is to preserve the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of the state. This goal is pursued by:

- preparation, development and maintenance of the state's defense infrastructure; - defense preparation of society;
- defensive and intervention activities of the Polish armed forces undertaken in times of need.

The defense strategy of the Republic of Poland does not assume the existence of a specific enemy and a fixed scenario of warfare. It is focused on controlling and solving crisis situations of a military nature.

Poland will strive to resolve any disputes through negotiations, mediation, conciliation, arbitration or international judiciary, as well as other methods used by the UN, CSCE or in the future by other organizations of which our country will be a member. If it is impossible to prevent an armed conflict to which the Republic of Poland will be a party (or participant, if it results from concluded international agreements), we will actively oppose armed aggression while continuing diplomatic efforts to end the conflict.

In the event of a war going beyond a local conflict, Poland's strategy will be to resist the invasion as long as possible in order to: stop the invasion - by inflicting maximum losses on the aggressor, demonstrating the determination of defense and gaining time for the reaction of other states and international institutions. In the event of a less intense conflict, independent defense and intervention activities will be conducted in order to locate, stop and break up the enemy invasion group as soon as possible. Patrol, cover, blocking, anti-diversion and anti-terrorist actions will also be taken.

To ensure the functioning of the state and the life of the nation in the conditions of war it will be necessary to implement three groups of tasks:

- protection of the population and state structures, - organizing and supplementing the logistical support of the armed forces,
- organizing and meeting the material and spiritual needs of the population.

The protection of the population and state structures in time of war is ensured by counteracting the penetration of intelligence and special forces of the enemy, enforcing the observance of the law and decisions of the competent administrative and military authorities, and eliminating the effects of military operations. Organizing and supplementing the logistical support of the armed forces includes in particular: strengthening these forces with reserve soldiers and conscripts, supplying them with technical equipment and material resources, medical assistance and all kinds of spiritual services and moral support.

Satisfying the needs of the armed forces and the population in the conditions of war will require subordinating the national economy to war goals. It will be necessary to watch over the size and range of production of goods of basic use and the distribution of these goods, as well as to conduct information and cultural activities integrating the nation around the implementation of basic wartime tasks.

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Poland's participation in international security systems assumes the possibility of its military involvement in resolving conflicts outside the territory of our country on the basis of treaties binding us and on the basis of decisions of competent international bodies. Therefore, the Polish Army must be constantly prepared to form operational groups in order to perform various tasks as part of military missions and expeditions as part of multinational allied forces.

6. Defense system

In order to counteract war threats, as well as to carry out external and internal defense tasks, the defense system of the Republic of Poland is maintained in peacetime and developed in times of threat and war. Its main elements are:

- armed forces,
- non-military defense units,
- defense management system.

The Armed

Forces The Polish Armed Forces stand guard over the sovereignty and independence of the Polish Nation as well as its security and peace. They are nationwide in nature and operate in accordance with the Polish raison d'état.

Their main task is to immediately resist any military aggression. The armed forces carry out this task in cooperation with other structures of the defense system. In the event of an attempt to violate state borders with the intention of depriving Poland of its sovereignty or territorial integrity, the armed forces will use against the aggressor means and forms of combat deemed necessary in a particular situation. If the ability to conduct regular operations is lost, the armed forces will switch to other forms of combat, including guerrilla warfare. In addition, the Armed Forces of the Republic of Poland are prepared to perform tasks resulting from international obligations and agreements binding Poland at the time of conflict. The armed forces can also be used to eliminate the effects of failures, catastrophes and natural disasters.

The Armed Forces of the Republic of Poland are based on the system of compulsory and professional military service. The share of professional soldiers in the Polish army will increase to about 60-70%. Basic armament equipment will be maintained at a level not exceeding the limits set in the disarmament treaties.
The composition, equipment and deployment of the troops on the territory of the country are to ensure: maintaining part of the armed forces in readiness for immediate action, efficient implementation of the mobilization development of the combat potential and transition of the state to the war management and supply system. Over the next few years, it is necessary to relocate troops so that they correspond to the new geostrategic situation of sovereign Poland.

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The Armed Forces of the Republic of Poland consist of three types of troops:

- land forces,

- air force and air defense,

- navy.

Their structures include operational troops as well as territorial defense forces and means. Operational troops are prepared to perform the main tasks during hostilities. The territorial defense forces support and secure the operations of operational troops and carry out independent protective and defense activities in designated areas of responsibility.

The land forces are the backbone of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Poland. They are designed to repel the aggressor's land and air strikes with active defensive actions in cooperation with other types of troops, in any region of the country, in any direction and against any form of military threat.

The air force and air defense are the type of armed forces with the highest degree of combat readiness in peacetime. Their main task is to ensure the protection of the territory of the Republic of Poland and prevent violations of Polish airspace.

The navy is intended mainly to defend the sea border of the state, protect shipping and economic interests in Polish maritime areas and defend the coast in cooperation with other types of armed forces.

The combat capability of the Polish Armed Forces is achieved through high morale, discipline and training of soldiers, as well as equipping the troops with modern armament and equipment. Priority is given to the improvement of military organizational structures, the development of means and systems for reconnaissance, command, radio-electronic warfare, fire control, as well as air and anti-tank defence. Efficient functioning of the armed forces will be ensured by a logistic support system for the army, using the dedicated potential of all sectors of the national economy.

In peacetime, the armed forces are kept in combat and mobilization readiness, ensuring efficiency in the event of the need for their operational development. The potential of the army in peacetime is adapted to the strategic and operational needs and economic capabilities of the state. The degree of completion of units and the system of their replenishment are differentiated according to the tasks planned for the time of war.

The transition of the armed forces from the structure and numbers of peacetime to the structures and numbers of wartime takes place through their mobilization development. The main factor guaranteeing the achievement of the required combat potential of military units is the planned accumulation of trained personnel reserves as well as means of transport and material. In this process, apart from military command and management links, certain bodies of general government administration and local governments also participate. The command of the troops in times of threat and war is carried out by the developed military command system of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Poland. It is an integral part of the state defense management system.

The Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Poland is the President of the Republic of Poland. In peacetime, the overall activity of the armed forces is managed by the Minister of National Defence.

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Non-military defense links

Protection of the population against catastrophic industrial hazards, natural disasters and the effects of warfare is a constitutional obligation of all authorities, state and local government administration, as well as the obligation of social organizations and business entities. The tasks resulting from this obligation consist mainly in recognizing, preventing and combating all forms of threats to the security of the nation and the state. This applies to the defense of the state, the prevailing order and public security as well as the life and property of the population in times of peace and war.

Serious threats to people's health and property, not directly related to military operations, are criminal offences. Preventing them, as well as disclosing and combating them is the basic statutory duty of all specialized services subordinated to the Minister of the Interior, i.e.: the State Protection Office, the Police, the Border Guard and other formations. The assistance of citizens in the implementation of these tasks is their legal and moral duty towards the state and their own environment.

The Civil Defense of the Country is entrusted with the coordination of the activities of all forces and means to protect the life and property of the population and cultural goods, as part of the state defense system. Civil Defense, in accordance with the provisions of the international law of war, is committed to:

- planning projects in the field of protection of life and health of the population, protection of workplaces, public utility facilities and cultural assets against the effects of warfare,

- organizing the detection of threats in the above scope,

- warning and alerting the population and its evacuation,

- preparation of protective facilities, -

supplying the population with equipment and personal protective equipment,

- protecting goods necessary for survival,

- organizing rescue operations and liquidation of contamination.

The Civil Defense of the Country is provided with conditions and opportunities for efficient operation. For this purpose, staff is prepared and appointed, appropriate conditions for its functioning are created and the necessary materials and means are provided. Training is organized in the general system of national education, in specialized centres, in local units of state administration, local government and workplaces. The mass media is also involved for this purpose.

Warfare is the highest form of threat of mass loss of life and property of the population. The use of munitions of destruction may additionally cause industrial and ecological disasters. Civil defense in time of war maintains armed neutrality.
Its task is to prepare and implement actions to help the population, also in areas temporarily occupied by the enemy.

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Defense management system

The basic functions in the state defense management system in peacetime are defined in the Constitution of the Republic of Poland. They are implemented by: the President of the Republic of Poland and the Prime Minister and the Council of Ministers.

State defense is managed by all state and local authorities and administration bodies, in accordance with the powers and defense tasks assigned to them in the Constitution and other laws. Their common goal is to prepare and maintain the defense potential of the state at an appropriate level in peacetime, and to efficiently develop and effectively use this potential in the event of a threat or war.
Adequate infrastructure shall be created and maintained in peacetime to ensure that state authorities are able to perform this task efficiently.

Each year, the Sejm adopts the amount of funds for state security and defense under the Budget Act, including for the maintenance and development of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Poland. Parliament also enacts all other defense laws and controls their application.

The President of the Republic of Poland coordinates the development of the state defense strategy and, as the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, determines the main directions of their development. The President controls the course of defense preparations carried out under the direction of the Prime Minister by ministers, voivodes and other public administration bodies. The executive body of the President in this respect is the National Security Bureau.
The main defense tasks at the government level are assigned to the Minister of National Defence, the Minister of the Interior and the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

In the event of a threat to security, the war system of state management is developed. The highest decision-making centers in times of danger and war are: the President and the Government. The Sejm appoints the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Poland for the period of war, and when the Sejm is not in session, he is appointed by the President. The Supreme Commander, reporting directly to the President, exercises strategic command over the entire armed forces. In peacetime, the president determines the composition and tasks of the advisory bodies, and in wartime - the president's military staff.

In times of danger and war, the Prime Minister continues to direct the work of the government, ministers, voivodes and other state administration bodies responsible for the functioning of all non-military structures of the state. A special task of the Prime Minister and the ministries subordinated to him is to organize support, supply and service of the armed forces by the civilian sector and to protect the population against the effects of warfare. Voivodes are authorized to make decisions on defense matters, binding on all administrative, economic and local government units operating in the voivodeship defense system.

7. Conclusion

Detailed executive tasks resulting from this document will be defined by the relevant authorities and state administration as well as the management of organizations and institutions, according to the scope of their competence in defense matters.

This document was unanimously adopted at the meeting of the National Defense Committee on November 2, 1992.