

No. 29478

**FRANCE
and
POLAND**

**Treaty of friendship and solidarity. Signed at Paris on 9 April
1991**

Authentic texts: French and Polish.

Registered by France on 27 January 1993.

**FRANCE
et
POLOGNE**

Traité d'amitié et de solidarité. Signé à Paris le 9 avril 1991

Textes authentiques : français et polonais.

Enregistré par la France le 27 janvier 1993.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

TREATY¹ OF FRIENDSHIP AND SOLIDARITY BETWEEN THE FRENCH REPUBLIC AND THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND

The French Republic and the Republic of Poland,

Desiring to develop their traditional relations of friendship and strengthen their cooperation in the political, economic and cultural spheres,

Reaffirming their commitment to the values of democracy, freedom and justice, and their desire to ensure that these values are effectively upheld,

Aware that the future of relations between the two States is inseparably linked to the strengthening of peace, security and stability in Europe,

Faithful to their obligations under international law, in particular the Charter of the United Nations,

Confirming the obligations they have undertaken within the framework of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) and recognizing the importance of the decisions adopted at the Paris meeting of the heads of State and Government of CSCE,

Convinced of the need to strengthen European solidarity,

Bearing in mind the areas of competence of the European Communities and considering that the Communities are an essential element in European solidarity and that the strengthening of the Communities in the economic, monetary and political fields is of paramount importance for the future of Europe and the world,

Convinced that the development of direct contacts between nationals of the two countries will contribute significantly to understanding, cooperation and friendship between the two peoples,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

1. The French Republic and the Republic of Poland undertake to strengthen understanding, solidarity and friendship between the peoples of the two countries. They shall encourage closer cooperation between them in a spirit of mutual comprehension, respect and trust.

2. The Parties shall organize their cooperation, particularly through a network of bilateral contacts for the harmonization and coordination, at various levels, of joint activities.

3. The Parties shall conclude, as necessary, other agreements and arrangements, with a view to implementing the provisions of this Treaty.

Article 2

1. The French Republic and the Republic of Poland shall participate in the building of a Europe based on peace and solidarity; to this end, they shall develop their political cooperation at the bilateral and multilateral levels.

¹ Came into force on 7 November 1992, i.e., 30 days after the exchange of the instruments of ratification, which took place at Warsaw on 8 October 1992, in accordance with article 12 (1).

2. The Parties shall strive to achieve the unity of Europe, so that it may become a community governed by the rule of law and democracy, which could take the form of a confederation.

3. The French Republic undertakes to foster the development of close relations between the Republic of Poland and the European Communities.

It shall support the earliest possible conclusion of an agreement of association between the Republic of Poland and the European Communities.

It considers as positive the prospect of the accession of the Republic of Poland to the European Communities, when the required conditions have been fulfilled.

4. The obligations undertaken by the French Republic in bilateral Franco-Polish agreements shall respect the areas of competence of the European Communities and the provisions laid down by their institutions.

Article 3

The Parties shall work together to maintain peace and strengthen security in Europe. Within the framework of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, they shall strive to increase stability on the European continent and pursue a balanced process of conventional disarmament and confidence-building. They shall cooperate in the establishment of such institutional structures as may enhance the effectiveness of the CSCE process.

Article 4

1. In accordance with article 1, paragraph 2, of this Treaty, the French Republic and the Republic of Poland shall establish a mechanism for regular consultations on bilateral questions and major international issues, in particular the basic issues of security and disarmament in Europe, and the question of European integration, which includes relations between Poland and the European Communities.

To this end, meetings at the highest level shall be organized by agreement between the Parties, and the Ministers for Foreign Affairs shall meet at least once a year.

Consultations between the competent ministers responsible for cooperation shall be held once a year.

Working meetings between representatives of the two ministries of foreign affairs shall be held at least twice a year.

2. In the event that a situation arises, particularly in Europe, which, in the opinion of either Party, might constitute a threat to peace or a breach of peace or jeopardize its vital security interests, that Party may propose to the other Party that joint consultations on the matter be held without delay. The Parties shall endeavour to adopt a common position on the means of resolving the situation.

Article 5

1. The French Republic and the Republic of Poland shall encourage the development of their economic and financial relations and shall accord priority to such relations in their bilateral cooperation and in the context of the building of a Europe based on solidarity.

2. The Parties shall assist in the establishment of direct ties of cooperation between economic operators of the two countries. They shall develop their cooper-

ation, in particular in the areas of economic management and training of managerial staff and technicians as well as the establishment of market-economy mechanisms.

To this end, the French Republic undertakes, in particular, to pursue activities already in progress.

3. The Parties shall develop close cooperation in areas of particular importance for their future and in the context of European integration, especially in the following fields:

- Telecommunications;
- Transport and infrastructure;
- Environment;
- Industry;
- Energy;
- Development of agriculture and the farm-produce industry;
- Health;
- Administrative and decentralized cooperation;
- Audio-visual media and communication.

4. Each Party shall endeavour to improve conditions for the operation of enterprises of the partner country in its territory, particularly in the fields of direct investment and the protection of invested capital. The Parties shall cooperate with a view to increasing the share of French capital invested in the Polish economy. They shall devote particular attention to cooperation projects involving small- and medium-sized enterprises. The Republic of Poland shall ensure that loans from the French Government are fully utilized for investments in its territory. The Parties shall encourage the development of financial institutions in Poland, in particular by drawing on French experience.

5. The Parties shall encourage the establishment of close cooperation between, on the one hand, the Republic of Poland and, on the other, international economic institutions and finance organizations.

They shall cooperate closely within the framework of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

6. The French Republic shall support efforts to solve the problem of Polish debt in the appropriate forums.

Article 6

1. The French Republic and the Republic of Poland, drawing on their heritage of a common culture and shared values, shall strengthen their cooperation in the fields of science, technology, education and culture. To this end, they shall establish the appropriate mechanisms, as the need arises.

2. In the same fields, the Parties shall facilitate cooperation between governmental and non-governmental organizations and institutions, and between private persons.

3. Each Party shall endeavour to make its population more aware of the scientific, technological and cultural achievements of the other Party and to this end shall facilitate, in particular, the dissemination of the partner country's books and press.

4. The Parties shall support, as a matter of priority, scientific activities of mutual interest that are consistent with Community programmes, as well as cultural activities that can become part of a European cultural area.

5. The Parties shall promote the teaching of the French language in Poland and of the Polish language in France, especially in schools, universities and outside the school system.

6. In order to ensure better understanding between the Polish and French peoples, the Parties shall develop their cooperation in the field of the media.

Article 7

The French Republic and the Republic of Poland, recognizing the importance of environmental protection, shall cooperate closely in this field. They shall broaden this cooperation as necessary.

Article 8

1. With a view to implementing this Treaty, the French Republic and the Republic of Poland shall consult each other on programmes relating to the various areas of cooperation.

2. Such programmes shall specify the planned activities, and the rules, conditions and timetable for carrying them out.

3. The implementation of the various programmes shall be evaluated periodically by competent representatives of the Parties.

Article 9

1. The French Republic and the Republic of Poland shall promote cooperation between the parliaments and parliamentarians of the two countries.

2. The Parties shall encourage direct contacts and cooperation between local authorities of the two countries, with due regard for the objectives set forth in this Treaty.

3. The Parties shall also facilitate cooperation between the two countries' political, social and trade-union organizations.

Article 10

1. The French Republic and the Republic of Poland shall encourage personal contacts between nationals of the two States, especially exchanges of French and Polish youth.

2. To this end, the Parties shall create conditions conducive to the free movement of their nationals between the two countries. Each Party shall consider the possibility of waiving the visa requirement for the nationals of the other Party.

Article 11

The provisions of this Treaty shall in no way affect the Parties' obligations to third States and shall not be directed against any of those States.

Article 12

1. This Treaty is subject to ratification and shall enter into force 30 days after the exchange of the instruments of ratification, which shall take place at Warsaw.

2. This Treaty is concluded for a period of 10 years. It shall be automatically extended for successive five-year periods, unless one of the Parties notifies the other Party in writing of its decision to denounce the Treaty at least one year prior to the expiry of the current period of validity.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the President of the French Republic and the President of the Republic of Poland have signed this Treaty.

DONE at Paris on 9 April 1991 in duplicate in the French and Polish languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the French Republic:

[Signed]

FRANÇOIS MITTERRAND
President of the French Republic

[Signed]

MICHEL ROCARD
Prime Minister

[Signed]

ROLAND DUMAS
Minister of State
Minister for Foreign Affairs

For the Republic of Poland:

[Signed]

LECH WAŁĘSA
President of the Republic of Poland

[Signed]

JAN KRZYSZTOF BIELECKI
Prime Minister

[Signed]

KRZYSZTOF SKUBISZEWSKI
Minister for Foreign Affairs