



True Voice from Poland

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November 11th – Polish Independence Day



In the fall of 1918, our fatherland gained independence thanks to the enormous efforts and sacrifices of thousands of Polish women and man. The reinstated country was giving thanks, decorating with the Independence Medal to insurgents, soldiers, conspirators and teachers, who were generating the spirit of Polishness into thousands of the peasant' children. Until 1939, when Germany and Russia again killed our independence, Presidents of the Republic of Poland awarded 88,753 medals, including 11,259 posthumously.

We Act on the **Side of Good**
Fathers of the **Independence**

page 2

page 3

We Act on the Side of Good



■ We won by a miracle in 1920. We fell down between 1939 and 1944 because we were forced. The whole nation fought. Kids were fighting and suffering. Were those bloody efforts necessary? Were they not wasted? ALBERT ŁYJAK

Decimated and left without the brightest, abused and strangled, we did not lose our spirits under pressure. Exceptionally oppressed, we were able to achieve more than other nations in present times. We uplifted our ruined country. We educated and hoisted new elites. We preserved the faith of our fathers. We gave the church a pope. We gave the lightning rod of Solidarity. We did not give in to communism. We overcame it collectively and stubbornly.

Thanks to the millions of fallen, millions of dead and living Polish people, Europe and the world is safer militarily and is more humane.

Neither Nazis, nor Soviets, with their murderous ideologies, did not rule the world. We did participate in a major, courageous way to achieve that.

Deluded by illusions of a beautiful new world order, succumbed into the abyss of evil, we the Polish people, as a society, were able to define ourselves and act on the side of good.

We hope that this collective grace and wisdom will not leave us.

Hopefully, in distress and in fortune, we will be able to further ourselves, our motherland and others – wrote in August of

2017 Kornel Morawiecki, now deceased.

Generations of Polish people lived in our homeland always subjected to others. Would that 'underground' river of subconsciousness of the Poles, determine their capacity to look and evaluate the reality? Indeed, it looks that way.

A logical evaluation of the former prime minister Tusk's governance shows incompetence, lack of elementary care for the common good, and propensity towards political, energy and economic dependence. A court announcement illustrates very well Tusk's achievements: – *In the Lower Silesia*

they closed 120 companies. There are 500 bankruptcy petitions awaiting in the Court. Despite the fact, that there are still two months till the end of the year, there is already the same number of bankruptcy petitions as in the year 2012. In all of the Lower Silesia voivodship, there could be over 500 bankruptcies. In comparison, couple of years ago those numbers were twice, or three times as low. – This explanation was given by Jaroslaw Horobiowski, a chairman of the VIII Economic Branch of the Regional Court in Wroclaw.

That was year 2013 – there was no pandemic, there was no

war behind our eastern border, there was no energy crisis.

Criticizing the government at present time is not only a primitive political fight, arousing bad emotions and belittling real achievements of the government. The opposition **REALLY DOES NOT UNDERSTAND** what the government is doing. Any forms of the country's governance, outside the "ripping off or selling cheap", are abstract to them.

Therefore, we are facing a real exam. Its results will define – WHAT POLAND WILL BE? DEPENDENT? OR INDEPENDENT?

Two Weeks in a Glance



Representatives of the Polish diplomacy were visiting graves of the Poles, wherever in the world they were buried. Over 25 sites were visited in East Germany; in Montmorency in France, candles were lit on the grave of famous poet from 19th century, Cyprian Kamil Norwid, and in Lally-en-Val on ambassador's Kajetan Morawski's as well as in the famous Pere Lachaise cemetery in Paris, on the grave of Frederick Chopin.

In Monte Cassino, Italy, a mass was held commemorating all the Polish soldiers who died in the famous battle and flowers were placed in burial sites in San Vittore del Lazio and Mignano Monte Lungo. In Moscow, ambassador Krzysztof Krajewski visited on Saturday Donski Cemetery, where leaders

of the Polish Underground State are buried. They were tricked and abducted to the Soviet Union, later convicted in the famous process of the 16 leaders – general Leopold Okulicki and Stanislaw Jasiukowicz, among others. Similar ceremonies were held in Peking, London, Doylestown USA, and in Hungary.

However, 'celebrating our Polish traditions in Belarus could be dangerous', warned the spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Lukas Jasina. It could invite Lukashenko's regime to oppress and even arrest Poles and Belarusians of Polish origin. Similar situation is in all Russia, not only in Moscow. Official representatives of the government have diplomatic immunity, but persons without that privilege could be arrested. States hostiles towards Poland, show one more time, how democracy is understood East of our country.

entrepreneurs and businessmen for networking and discussions, together with representatives of the government and European business. Under the auspices of the Polish President Andrzej Duda, it will be held on November 17th and 18th. The leading topic this year will be international cooperation of the Three Seas countries – implementation of joint infrastructure projects and scientific and cultural exchange. You can find out more on <https://kongres590.pl/en/7th-edition-rzeszow/>



For all the jazz lovers – Jazz Jamboree festival took place in Warsaw for the 64th time. It is one of the oldest jazz festivals in Europe. It was initiated in 1958 in the student's club "Stodola" (the barn) and all those years later, at the end of October 2022, jazz players were performing at that same place. Among the guests' players were Krzysztof Scieranski, Enzo Favata, Ben LaMar Gay Quintet, all well-known jazz musicians. Among world famous jazz players, who came to perform at the Warsaw Jazz Jamboree during past six decades, were Miles Davis, Ray Charles, Thelonious Monk, Dizzy Gillespie, Duke Ellington, Wynton Marsalis. The list is much longer and includes also Polish jazz players, who performed in famous clubs from New York, Berlin, London, Chicago and New Orleans. Zbigniew Namysłowski, Michal Urbaniak, Jan Ptaszyn Wroblewski – our Polish jazz musicians were – and are – also world famous. The festival takes place usually at the end of October, so next time you plan to visit Warsaw, you will know where to go to enjoy good jazz.



For the seventh time **Congress 590** will be held in Rzeszów. It is an opportunity for Polonia's

Fathers of the Independence



ARTUR
ADAMSKI

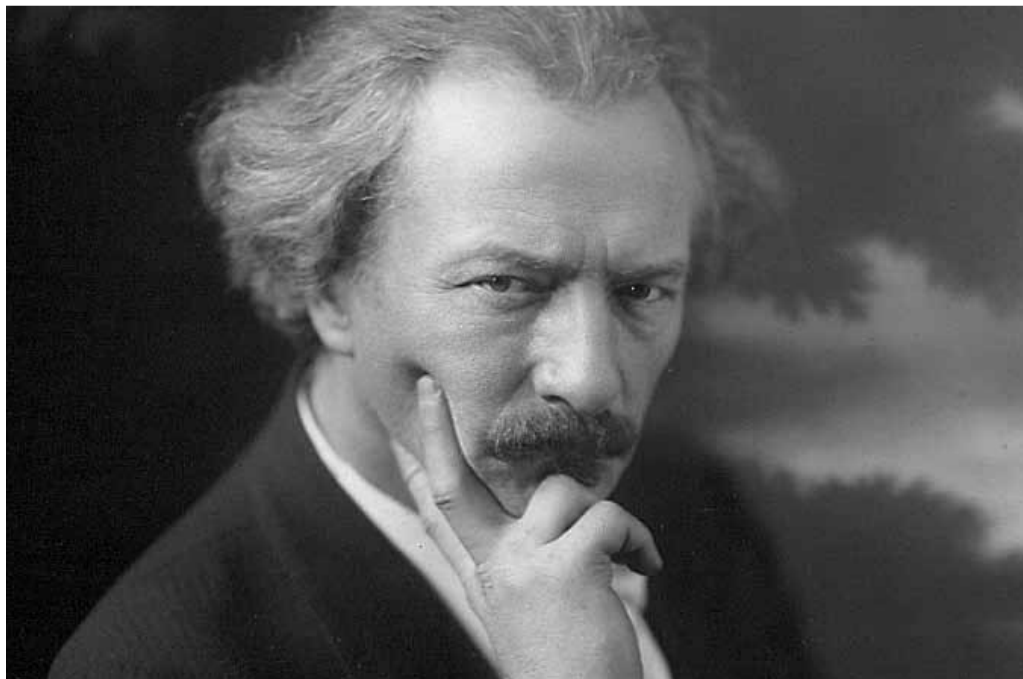
■ Majority of our heroes probably will remain anonymous, which does not release us from our duty to inscribe on memorial plaques the names of those who liberated our cities and villages, all the participants of the fight for independence. And having in our memory all those nameless fighters, we should still appreciate the efforts and greatness of the persons who were directing the fight for the right to independence.

Josef Pilsudski

He considered the labor movement to have the best potential to join into the fight for independence. He took advantage of every occasion to form armed forces – Combat Organization of PPS (Polish Socialist Party), Shooting Brigades, the Legions, and the Polish Military Organization. He took the position of the Interim Chief of State in 1918. He was the Commander of the triumphant army, whose victory in 1920 saved not only Poland, but the whole Europe. The opposition to our independence was counting on a fiery conflict between the two parties – Pilsudski's and Dmowski's. We do not always remember, that several years earlier, their supporters were having deadly fights. Many considered a certainty, that the country will be torn as a result of the disturbing fights between both of them, about who will represent Poland in the conference that was establishing the shape of Europe. However, Pilsudski knew, that Dmowski will be met in Versailles with better appreciation and asked his biggest rival to represent the Polish delegation. Many historians, following comments from those days, among them German, cite that *"the Poles showed the amazed world their masterful abilities to play on all the possible pianos"*.

Roman Dmowski

He was the creator of the nationalistic movement, which in the decisive way formed the conscience of the largest group of Polish people. Peasants, who were indifferent during the January Uprising, thanks to the decades of the enormous educational efforts of thousands of teachers from that movement, half a century later became determined patriots. Reading historic books by the Nobel prize winner Henry Sienkiewicz, **The Teutonic Knights** and **The Deluge** (published in 1886) to the peasant children, played a substantial role in forming the knowledge of their own history. Following those educational efforts, a number of grassroots movements were formed, building a modern and effective society and economy. That enabled the devastated and looted country to momentarily form an army, able to push back the marching Soviet genocide army in 1920. And it is worth reminding, that each of the three occupying states were making sure, that there would



not be a single munitions factory on the Polish land.

In the beginning of the Versailles Conference, the deciding parties were convinced, that the territory of the independent Poland would have the size of the former Duchy of Warsaw. The accession to the sea, as stated by the 13th point of the president Wilson declaration, was giving the shipping rights to the port of Gdansk, which was supposed to remain German. The deciding day came, when Dmowski persuaded the powerful of the world the real vision of how his country should look like. Prime Minister of Great Britain, David Lloyd George, in his memoirs wrote, how he was astounded, when "that Pole circled on the map half of Europe and declared that this should be Poland!" Dmowski gave his speech fluently in few languages, listened by the dumbfounded leaders of the world. All admitted later, that they listened to the presented story in awe and agreed to its logic.

Ignacy Jan Paderewski

Poland in the beginning of the XX century was not popular among the Western European countries. Both England and France were making efforts to have good relations with Russia, and Poland was identified as a destroyer of the existing beautiful order, named Belle Epoque. The powerful few rulers at that time, did envisioned formation of a country of Poland – which would be governed by another State. That would happen after an upcoming war, which was expected by many to begin soon. The press on both sides of the Atlantic was not favorable towards Poland. However, the dramatic change was brought by a popular piano player, known and admired in Europe and in the USA – Ignacy Jan Paderewski. The power of his persuasive personality was enormous – and he not only played music, but also gave speeches – about Poland. Thanks to his influence, president Woodrow Wilson began to look at our country in a favorable manner, which resulted in the point 13th of his declaration. Ignacy Paderewski gave concerts all over the world – and a big portion of his earning he gave to support Polish culture, history and – the army. His most decisive achievement was probably the message he conveyed to the millions of people all over the world: *"Poland must be reborn, as it is Paderewski's country"*.

DID YOU KNOW, THAT POLAND HAS A ROYAL OPERA HOUSE?



AGNIESZKA
MARCZAK

■ A new cultural institution was established on August 1st in 2017 – The Polish Royal Opera. It was formed by musicians and music lovers, who wanted to satisfy the need for a different cultural formation. The sponsorship was undertaken by the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage. The Opera's director is Mr. Andrzej Klimczak, who was engaged from the beginning in the organization of the opera.



POLSKA
OPERA
KRÓLEWSKA

The opera is engaging in presenting the music in three different areas:

- new productions of world renowned operas
- presentation of Polish, sometimes forgotten pieces of musical art – operas as well as other types of classic repertoire
- concerts playing not only classical chamber music and symphonies, but also modern repertoire

All compositions and operas are rehearsed and prepared with great care, as the musicians know that they are presenting their own 'house' and their performance will be judged by a demanding public.

The musicians are working full time in the opera, which ensures that their time will be spent in rehearsals and preparations and that they will perform on the highest level. Their team is formed by soloists, cho-

rus and the orchestra, as well as their own special ensemble "Capella Regia Polona". The latter plays on period instruments, offering an authentic music from the past. Top class world soloists, conductors and directors are often invited to play in particular productions.

The Polish Royal Opera has a special program – OPERA ON THE ROAD concerts. They perform in different places in Poland, to present the culture in towns and cities where there is no access to cultural institutions. They also organize events all over the country, which are becoming increasingly popular.

The Royal Opera also organizes two festivals:

- the Summer Festival, which presents the best performances from the past season and became a permanent cultural event in July



- Music of the Kings of Poland Festival, which started its first performance in the fall

of 2019. It aims to popularize music composed centuries ago by Polish musicians. That music is often heard by the public for the first time, as the pieces were not performed – at least not often – by any philharmonic or opera houses.

The concept of the Royal Opera House goes back to the time, when Poland was ruled by kings who loved and sponsored music and the opera. King Władysław IV founded the first opera theatre in Poland, which was also one of the first in Europe in the 16th century. The first performance was played in the Royal Castle in Warsaw. The King was known in other capitals of Europe for the excellence of the music played in the Chapel Royal of the Castle. Another renowned place was the Royal Theatre at the Łazienki Park in Warsaw, built and sponsored during the reign of King Stanisław August Poniatowski. Today, listening to the performances during summer time at the Łazienki Park is a special treat, reminding of the great

Polish artistic achievements from couple of centuries ago.

The Polish Royal Opera house mission is to preserve and popularize heritage of the musical art of Poland as well as to strengthen the Polish and European ideals, formed on Platonic ideals: Truth, Goodness and Beauty. We know that all three will be found by all who will attend and listen to the music performed by the Polish Royal Opera.

True Voice from Poland

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