

Message from the U.S. Ambassador

America in Poland

Warsaw Voice, July 2010

It is a privilege to work with the men and women of Warsaw's vibrant business and expatriate communities. You are at the heart of the strong relationship between Poland and the United States.

It has been a dynamic year, and a sad one. Poland's democracy has demonstrated its strength and resiliency in response to the tragedy in Smolensk. Poland's economy and market have remained strong, and the world has taken notice.

Poland is one of our closest allies and over the past year our security relationship has deepened. We have concluded important new agreements.

We have brought long-sought programs to fruition. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton will soon be in Cracow for the meeting of the Community of Democracies—high-level meetings are part of the regular rhythm of our relationship.

Our security ties are, of course, fundamental. Of equal importance is broadening and deepening our relationship by promoting the "three e's:" energy, economics, and education.

Polish Foreign Minister Radosław Sikorski and Secretary Clinton committed our countries to strengthened cooperation on energy, and in a few short months, we have started turning that commitment into action. We work together on new technologies like shale gas, wind energy, nuclear energy, and the next generation of clean coal and biofuels.

U.S. investments in Poland—by most counts more than \$20 billion since 1989—have helped to fuel Poland's remarkable economic success. U.S. investments here have created jobs—well into the hundreds of thousands—and have provided yet another outlet for one of the most dynamic and talented work forces and entrepreneurial communities in all of Europe.

Not only is economics at the heart of the bilateral relationship, U.S. businessmen and women have shown Poland America's heart. Among the many businesses doing good works is UPS, which has generously supported Polish flood victims. In addition, IBM is supporting Europride 2010, and Philip Morris and Citibank are among the supporters of Fundacja 10 April.

We are also actively seeking to expand educational ties. In addition to the excellence of our Fulbright program and other government exchange programs, we are promoting partnership with the American and Polish business communities and working with the Polish-American caucus of the Polish Parliament to identify and explore new educational opportunities.

In just a few days, I will host our traditional Independence Day reception, which will highlight "Real American Cities." The mayors of Chicago, New York, New Orleans, Seattle, and Miami have sent greetings to the people of Poland. The St. Louis gospel group, Oscar Williams Jr. and Perfected Praise, will provide the music, along with a Polish military band.

I thank The Warsaw Voice and its readers for enriching Warsaw economically, culturally, and intellectually. I look forward to working closely together to create opportunities on both sides of the Atlantic.