

**Ambassador Feinstein's Remarks at Łańcut Castle Reception, on the occasion of his Visit  
to Podkarpackie**  
February 6, 2012

Witam wszystkich Państwa bardzo ciepło i cieszę się, że mogli Państwo przybyć na to spotkanie pomimo trudnych warunków pogodowych.

Witam posłów Parlamentu Europejskiego i Polskiego, Senatorów, władze wojewódzkie i miejskie Rzeszowa, rektorów, prezydentów miast, burmistrzów i reprezentantów wielu instytucji na Podkarpaciu.

Dziękuję wszystkim, którzy pomogli w zorganizowaniu mojej wizyty, a w sposób szczególny dziękuję Panu Marszałkowi Regionu Podkarpackiego, który jest współgospodarzem przyjęcia.

Podkarpackie has played an important role in the development of modern Poland. It stands at the frontier of Eastern and Western Europe and guards the borders of both Europe and NATO. Here you have a dynamic aviation sector which not only attracts major international investors, but also creates its own success stories. “Podczas mojej wizyty miałem okazję przekonać się, że Podkarpackie to naprawdę przestrzeń otwarta.”

[Translation: „During my visit here I really have seen that Podkarpackie is a region of unlimited possibilities.” – *Note:* “*Unlimited Possibilities*” is Podkarpackie’s motto.]

Podkarpackie impresses me as a dynamic part of Poland, increasingly at ease with its own internal diversity and ready to face the challenges of a globalized world. Tomorrow I will visit students from the Wyższa Szkoła Prawa i Administracji, where I look forward to meeting bright and engaged students who are well-trained by competent educators and university administrators. It's no wonder that this is one of the fastest growing regions in Poland.

Now I'd like to turn to a special aspect of our visit here at Łańcut Castle. You all know what a crack team I have working for me in Krakow, but tonight we have a very concrete example of their creativity.

Not too long ago, Director Wojtowicz asked Consul General Allen Greenberg if the Consulate could help him get information about two historic catalogs of the Museum's collection that the Director believed were at the Getty Research Institute in California. Director, correct me if I'm wrong, but it is thought that in 1944 Count Potocki took the catalogs with him when he fled Poland in advance of the Russian Army. Later they were purchased by the Getty Research Institute, where they are now held in the Institute's Research Library.

Not only did Allen confirm that they were at the Getty Research Institute, but he asked the Institute to scan them, which they happily did, moving them to the front of the line in their digitization project. I am deeply appreciative to the Getty Research Institute for making these catalogs available online and to the Krakow team for preparing these facsimiles. The Getty Institute's responsiveness is a great example of the friendship between the people of the United States and Poland and our shared goal of advancing knowledge and scholarship.

Director, (hand over the catalogs) I hope that the digital access to these catalogs will be an important aid in the museum's work. On the monitors, you'll be able to see digital scans of the catalogs.

It is truly a pleasure for me to be here tonight. I look forward to meeting you and to learning more about what makes the Podkarpackie region such a special place.

Thank you again for your very warm welcome.