

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Office of the Spokesman

For Immediate Release

December 11, 2009

2009/1265

STATEMENT BY IAN KELLY, SPOKESMAN
U.S. - Poland Supplemental Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA)

We are pleased to announce that Under Secretary of State Ellen Tauscher and Polish Under Secretary of Defense Stanislaw Komorowski signed the “Agreement Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Poland on the Status of the Armed Forces of the United States of America in the Territory of the Republic of Poland” today in Warsaw.

This bilateral status of forces agreement will supplement the multilateral NATO Status of Forces Agreement signed June 19, 1951. It defines the legal status of United States military personnel and United States nationals working in Poland in joint programs in support of our mutual security. The agreement will facilitate a range of mutually agreed activities including joint training and exercises, deployments of U.S. military personnel, and prospective Ballistic Missile Defense deployments.

The SOFA demonstrates the strength of the U.S.-Poland strategic alliance.

###