

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, 4 JULY 2014

The National Assembly heard the message of President of the Republic of Poland, Bronisław Komorowski.

In his message, President Bronisław Komorowski declared the elections of 4 June 1989 and the results thereof decisive for the success of Poland's road to freedom. They meant reassigning the Sejm with the role of a key actor in Polish democracy. Twenty five years ago, election results resolved the appointment of the coalition government with the first post-war non-communist Prime Minister, Tadeusz Mazowiecki. The President emphasized that the transformation was the decision of the Nation, which opposed the lack of sovereignty.

The President said that the 25 years of free Poland has been the time of a dynamic development of the national economy, of a stable political system functioning in accordance with the democratic principles, of integration and good international relations. He stressed that Polish systemic transformation had been an impulse for similar changes throughout the whole region.

Bronisław Komorowski expressed his hope, that the young Poles, born past 1989, use the next 25 years of freedom well. He pointed to Poland's perspectives and challenges, such as demographic crisis and building a more competitive Polish and European economy on the global market, as well as the Ukrainian crisis, evoking strong emotions. Referring to national security, the President emphasized the importance of ensuring

Poland's defence capabilities, as well as strengthening such elements of security as NATO, the EU and strategic partnerships, especially that with the United States.

Addressing the joint chambers of the parliament, the President talked of patriotism, of everyday respect for the state and its laws. He remarked that modern patriotism signifies appreciation for Poles' entrepreneurship and an interest in not only domestic but also European matters. At the same time, the President declared that safe, competitive and sovereign Poland is a reason for pride for all its citizens. "Let us not want to be like other countries. Let us do all that is in our power so that other countries want to be like Poland," he announced.

At the Debate Hall there were present i.a. the presidents of: Bulgaria – Rosen Plevneliev, Croatia – Ivo Josipović, Finland – Sauli Niinistö, France – François Hollande, Germany – Joachim Gauck, Hungary – János Áder, Latvia – Andris Bērziņš, Romania – Traian Băsescu, president elect of Ukraine – Petro Poroshenko, as well the Secretary General of the Council of Europe Thorbjørn Jagland, government representatives, presidents and deputy presidents of parliaments of 11 states. Great Britain and Northern Ireland were represented by Prince Edward, and Luxembourg – by Prince Henry.

In the sitting, there participated former presidents of the Republic of Poland Lech Wałęsa and Aleksander Kwaśniewski, as well as Deputies and Senators of the Sejm of the 10th term and the Senate of the 1st term.

69th SITTING OF THE SEJM 5, 6, 10 JUNE 2014

THE SEJM PASSED THE ACTS

- amending the Geological and Mining Law and some related acts;
- amending the Geodetic and Cartographic Law and the act on administrative enforcement proceedings;
- amending the Environment Protection Law and some related acts;
- amending the act on occupational and social rehabilitation and on employment of disabled persons;
- amending the act on the system of monitoring and controlling the fuel quality and some related acts;
- amending the Accountancy Act;
- amending the act on the Supreme Court (*print no. 1591*);
- amending the act on the Supreme Court (*prints no. 2055, 2120*);
- amending the act on the National School of the Judiciary and Prosecution Service and the Law on the system of common courts;
- amending the Electoral Code and some related acts;
- amending the act on the principles for use or presence of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Poland beyond the borders of the state;

- amending the act on protection of agricultural land and woodland;
- amending the act on forests;
- on protection of the symbol of Fighting Poland.

THE SEJM ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

- commemorating the 70th anniversary of the victorious battle of Monte Cassino;
- concerning granting the consent by the Sejm of the Republic of Poland to bring Deputy Mariusz Kamiński to criminal accountability (*during the in camera part of the sitting, the Sejm did not grant its consent; 419 Deputies took a vote on the motion, 216 – for, 160 – against, 43 – withheld; an absolute statutory majority – 231*);
- concerning changes within personal composition of the Sejm committees.

THE SEJM CONSIDERED THE SENATE'S RESOLUTIONS CONCERNING THE ACTS

- amending the act on competition and consumer protection and the Code of Civil Procedure (*the Senate's amendments were accepted*);

- amending the act on quartering of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Poland (*the Senate's amendments were accepted*);
- amending the act on plant protection (*the Senate's amendment was accepted*).

THE SEJM REFERRED TO COMMITTEES

- Government bill on principles for realization of programmes in the scope of the cohesion policy in the financial perspective 2014–2020;
- Government bill amending the Penal Code and some related acts;
- Deputies' bill amending the Penal Code;
- Deputies' bill amending the Labour Code;
- Committee bill amending the Family and Guardianship Code and the Code of Civil Procedure;
- Deputies' bill amending the act on the personal income tax and the act on the corporate income tax;
- Deputies' bill amending the act on the personal income tax, as well as amending some related acts;
- Government bill on the reversed mortgage;
- Government bill amending the act on genetically modified organisms and some related acts;
- Deputies' bill on the status of an Anti-communist Opposition Veteran and the Corps of Veterans of the Anti-communist Opposition against the communist dictatorship in the People's Republic of Poland in the years 1956–1989, as well as amending some related acts.

THE SEJM REJECTED IN THE FIRST READING

- Deputies' bill amending the act on the goods and services tax and some related acts;
- Deputies' draft resolution appointing the Investigative Committee to examine the correctness of actions of the organs of government administration as regards tenders organized in accordance with the procedure of public procurement in the years 2007–2010 for the purchase of IT equipment and services by the IT Project and Services Centre of the

former Ministry of Interior and Administration and the Police Headquarters, as regards tenders in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 2011 for attendance to the Polish Presidency in the European Union, and as regards tenders for realization of IT projects for the Central Statistical Office of Poland in 2011 and the Voivodeship Emergency Notification Centre in Warsaw (*the Sejm accepted the motion to reject the draft resolution, submitted at the 68th sitting*);

- Deputies' draft resolution appointing the Investigative Committee to examine anomalies as regards public procurement for the purchase of IT equipment and services by the IT Projects Centre of the former Ministry of Interior and Administration and the Police Headquarters in 2007–2010 for the sum of over PLN 2 000 000 000 and as regards public procurement for the attendance to the Polish Presidency in the European Union for the sum of PLN 34 000 000, realization of IT projects for the Central Statistical Office of Poland for the sum of PLN 6 000 000 and for the Voivodeship Emergency Notification Centre in Warsaw for the sum of PLN 24 000 000, as well as public procurement realized by CAM Media S.A. with its seat in Warsaw (*the Sejm accepted the motion to reject the draft resolution, submitted at the 68th sitting*).

THE SEJM CONSIDERED THE CURRENT INFORMATION

on undertakings related to the preparation of anti-flood infrastructure and to the aid addressed to both natural persons and self-governments which incurred damages due to recent unfavourable meteorological phenomena.

THE DEPUTIES' OATH WAS TAKEN BY: Piotr Łukasz Babiarz, Antoni Błądek, Przemysław Czarnecki, Piotr Krzysztof Ćwik, Piotr Król, Aldona Młyńczak, Marek Niedbała, Beata Rusinowska, Jan Rzymełka, Jerzy Sądziel, Andrzej Smirnow, Kazimierz Smoliński, Krzysztof Sońta, Aleksander Sosna, Michał Stuligrosz.

