

RESOLUTION
of the Sejm of the Republic of Poland
of 5 December 2002
on Poland's integration with the European Union

Poland's participation in the historical act of creating a united Europe is dictated by *raison d'État*. Should our country remain outside the European Union, it would be alone in combating the difficult problems which face us in the coming decade. Our righteous place in the European Union brings hope for a dignified and secure life of the current and future generations of Poles. Making good use of this historical opportunity is the strategic objective of the Polish policy. At the end of 2002, the greatest challenge is to create favourable conditions for our membership.

Poland, which never accepted the division of Europe, knows the price of freedom. We know the price of regained freedom. This is the perspective we have taken on European cooperation. We want the European Union to be a strong association of sovereign nation states, which respects the variety of cultures and national identities. We want to participate in creating a community of nations based on the principles of subsidiarity and solidarity.

The quality of Poland's membership of the European Union depends inasmuch on the effects of accession negotiations as on the country's internal adaptation to benefit from the membership.

We believe that the European Union is lacking the capacity to adopt compromise solutions. The public finance situation requires seeking tangible and positive cash flows for Poland in 2004 and subsequent years. The social importance of agriculture forces us to strive for higher direct payments, reference yields and production quotas than those proposed. We do not demand special privileges, but observance of the principles of equal opportunities and justice, which are written on the banners of the European Union. We urge the government of the Republic of Poland to be a tough negotiator at the last stage of talks with the European Union. The content and style of the last negotiation round will affect the results of the 2003 referendum. The quality of the European Union information campaign, which should be much better than so far, is going to be equally important.

However, Poland's position in the European Union will also depend on our country's ability to benefit from the opportunities created by the united Europe. Only a

strong economy, healthy public finance and a competent government administration may secure “first-class” membership for Poland.

All governments which contributed to the rebirth of democracy and market economy should be given credit for Poland’s membership of NATO and the invitation to join the European Union. It is the crowning achievement of an enormous national effort undertaken in post-1989 Poland. No-one should have the right to appropriate this historical achievement for his own political purposes. It is our common responsibility towards future generations to ensure that the debate on Poland’s place in Europe be held in the spirit of truth and in accordance with the Polish *raison d’État*.

Marshal of the Sejm: Marek Borowski