## **Poland National Day Special**

## Excellent potential for deeper cooperation

PAWEL MILEWSKI
AMBASSADOR OF POLAND



Warm greetings to the readers of The Japan Times on Constitution Day, which Poland and Japan celebrate on the same day.

The Polish Constitution was adopted in 1791. It was the

first document of its kind in Europe, and second globally, following the American one of 1789. The text emphasized the importance of respect for the rule of law, individual and collective freedoms and rights as well as religious tolerance. These principles, which until recently seemed to be fully acknowledged and adhered to by the international community, survived the bloody conflicts of the 20th century. Lately, however, we have been faced with an erosion of trust in the international sphere and a consistently deteriorating international environment. The world as we have grown to know it is rapidly moving toward the uncertain.

In such challenging times, Poland is glad to acknowledge that its friendship with Japan is as strong as ever, and the prospects



laboration with the embassy. The views expressed here do not necessarily reflect those of the

for deeper cooperation are bright. This is reflected by a growing number of highlevel exchanges between our countries.

In February, Poland's Foreign Minister Radosław Sikorski visited Japan. He met, among others, with his Japanese counterpart Takeshi Iwaya and Defense Minister Gen Nakatani. The open and honest talks confirmed the willingness of both countries to take our relations to new heights based on a newly signed plan of action for the implementation of the strategic partnership between our countries through 2029. This document, signed by Sikorski and Iwaya on Feb. 28, highlights areas for action of particular interest to both Poland and Japan, including security, the economy, culture and people-to-people exchanges. It is a good foundation for further action.

Another event that will surely contribute to tightening the relationship between our countries is the 2025 Osaka Expo. The Polish Pavilion was inaugurated on April 13 in the presence of a big delegation of Polish officials with Economic Development and Technology Minister Krzysztof Paszyk at its helm.

We have high expectations for the expo. The team of the Polish Trade and Investment Agency, which is formally responsible for the pavilion and Poland's participation in the expo, has planned a

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Left: Neptune's Fountain is one of Gdansk's iconic sculptures. Right: A view of central Lodz, Poland's fourthlargest city.

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range of engaging activities and attractions meant to show Poland's potential in various spheres, demonstrate the country's beauty and encourage Japanese and other travelers to visit Poland. We hope to see as many readers of The Japan Times as possible visit the Polish Pavilion.

Let me also mention how glad we are that our neighbor, Ukraine, will partake in the expo at the invitation of the Japanese government. This is despite the ongoing Russian aggression, now in its fourth year. Poland and its citizens continuously support Ukraine in its fight, and we are grateful to the Japanese authorities for their righteous stance on this matter as well as the assistance shown to Ukraine.

Happy Constitution Day!

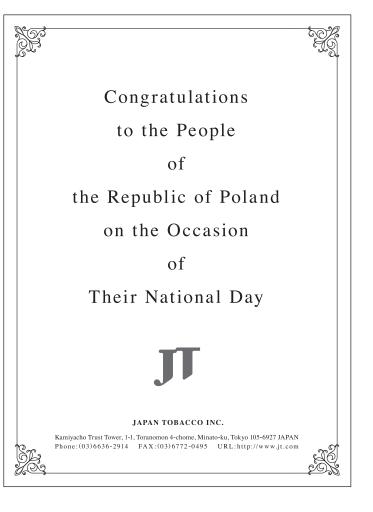
## Congratulations e People of the Republic of Pol

to the People of the Republic of Poland on Their National Day

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## **Congratulations**

to the People of the Republic of Poland on Their National Day



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