



October 29, 2008

Mr. Frank Spula
President
Polish American Congress
1612 K Street, NW Suite 410
Washington, DC 20006

Dear Mr. Spula,

I share your concern about Poland's exclusion from the U.S. visa waiver program. Poland is not only a steadfast and valued ally of the United States, we have the potential of growing to be much closer partners than we are now. Requiring visas from Poles seeking to travel here is inconsistent with our current relationship, not to mention the deeper and broader relationship we must work together to foster. I support the inclusion of Poland in the visa waiver program and will make it a top priority of my administration to make it happen.

Poland is a friend and partner to the United States. We have worked together to bring peaceful democratic change in Europe, we have fought together in Iraq and Afghanistan to make the world safer, we are cooperating to fight terrorism and organized crime, we are taking the hard decisions like missile defense that will better protect our countries, and we are standing together now to support the fledgling democracy in Georgia against intimidation and aggression by Russia. These factors should have been weighted in the judgment about Poland's status.

When I am President, I will revisit Poland's exclusion from the visa waiver program as a priority. It is important not only as a symbol of the deep friendship between the United States and Poland, but for the commerce, tourism and family gatherings that Poles and Polish Americans benefit from.

Thank you and the Polish American Congress for being a strong voice of freedom, of human rights, of spreading democracy, of the cultural heritage of Polish Americans and their current contributions in all these areas. America is enriched and strengthened by your activities.

Sincerely,



Paid for by John McCain 2008

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