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The Ambassador  
of the Republic of Poland  
to the Court of St James's

*Dear Friends of Poland,*

London, 29 January 2019

It gives me a great pleasure to invite you to join in the nationwide celebrations of the Polish Heritage Days, which will be inaugurated on the 4 and 5 of May 2019. Last year, over 80 events were organised in 65 towns and cities throughout the UK, attracting close to 40 000 participants. This year, as we celebrate the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the formal establishment of Polish–British diplomatic relations and the centenary of the renewal of Polish–British bilateral relations, we have another opportunity to gather together and to celebrate. I encourage all, Polish and British organisations and institutions alike, to host cultural events and projects throughout the month of May in order to promote and share the richness of Polish culture and heritage within your local communities. By showcasing the values which are important to us, such as openness, tolerance, civic engagement and friendliness to our neighbours, we not only challenge the stereotypes but also demonstrate to our local communities how much active civic participation is important to us as a nation.

Let us join together in organising events, activities, initiatives and projects which will promote and inform others in your local communities about the richness of Polish culture and heritage as well as celebrate the contribution of the Polish community to your local communities. Together, in an atmosphere of friendship and cordiality, we can celebrate these important anniversaries. As you organise your events, we encourage you to invite members of the local government and inform the local media about your projects to generate great interest among the locals.

As in the past years, a funding scheme has been opened to support your initiatives. Please, take a look at the details at [londyn.msz.gov.pl](http://londyn.msz.gov.pl) and send your proposals by **15 March 2019** to the email address that is most relevant to your place of residence: [polishday.london@msz.gov.pl](mailto:polishday.london@msz.gov.pl), [polishday.manchester@msz.gov.pl](mailto:polishday.manchester@msz.gov.pl), [polishday.edinburgh@gov.pl](mailto:polishday.edinburgh@gov.pl), [belfast.kg.sekretariat@msz.gov.pl](mailto:belfast.kg.sekretariat@msz.gov.pl). The results will be announced by **31 March 2019**.

I hope we will work together to promote what is best in our culture and national heritage. I hope that this year and in the years to come we will all combine our efforts to make Poland and its culture better known in the UK, and thus become true Ambassadors of Poland in the United Kingdom.

With my very best wishes to all my countrymen,

Arkady Rzegocki

47 Portland Place  
W1B 1JH London

tel. 0 20 7291 3522  
[london@msz.gov.pl](mailto:london@msz.gov.pl)