



Security Council

Distr.: General
20 August 2025

Original: English

Note verbale dated 20 August 2025 from the Permanent Mission of Poland to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Poland to the United Nations in New York has the honour, on behalf of the Republic of Poland, to transmit the act of withdrawal of the Republic of Poland from the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction (done at Oslo on 18 September 1997). The reasoning for the withdrawal from said Convention is presented fully in the act of withdrawal (see annex).*

The act of withdrawal is being simultaneously communicated to the Secretary-General and to all States Parties to said Convention.

The Permanent Mission would be grateful if the present note verbale and its annex could be circulated to the members of the Security Council and issued as a document of the Council.

* Circulated in the language of submission only.



**Annex to the note verbale dated 20 August 2025 from the
Permanent Mission of Poland to the United Nations addressed to
the President of the Security Council**

On behalf of the Republic of Poland
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND
makes it publicly known:

The Republic of Poland has withdrawn from the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction, done at Oslo on the 18th day of September 1997.

In witness whereof, the present Act is issued to which the seal of the Republic of Poland has been affixed.

Done at Warsaw, on the 5th day of August 2025.

PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND
/-/ Andrzej Duda

PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
/-/ Donald Tusk

1. The Republic of Poland unequivocally condemns the aggressive and destabilizing actions of the Russian Federation and the Republic of Belarus - both neighbouring states to the Republic of Poland – whose behaviour, including through the ongoing war of aggression against Ukraine, continue to demonstrate blatant disregard for the most fundamental principles of international law, while at the same time posing a serious and persistent threat to the Euro-Atlantic community.
2. The deteriorated security environment created as a result of the above mentioned actions, has forced the Republic of Poland to evaluate and strengthen its deterrence and defence capabilities.
3. The Republic of Poland recognizes the significance of the 1997 Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction (“the Ottawa Treaty”) as a vital instrument of disarmament diplomacy.
4. However, continued adherence to the Ottawa Treaty places the Republic of Poland at a grave disadvantage, as possible hostile actors may exploit the military asymmetry created by our legal and moral restraint.
5. Accordingly, and with deep regret, the Republic of Poland hereby announces its withdrawal from the Ottawa Treaty in accordance with its Article 20.
6. This decision, made in the interest of national security, is without prejudice to the full commitment by the Republic of Poland to the principles of international humanitarian law, including the protection of civilian population and civilian objects during armed conflict. Our values remain unchanged - as the tools of our national defense evolve to meet the growing threats to our security.
7. The Republic of Poland will continue to uphold humanitarian standards, minimize potential harm to civilians, and employ any lawful military means with proportionality and subject to military necessity. These principles will guide all future decisions related to national defence.
8. Furthermore, the Republic of Poland reaffirms its commitment to cooperation within the European Union, including in support of the initiatives aimed at promoting mine action, post-conflict demining, and assistance to victims of landmines worldwide.