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Permanent Mission  
of the Republic of Poland  
to the Organization for Security  
and Co-operation in Europe  
in Vienna

No. 17 / 2021

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Poland to the Organization for Security and Co - operation in Europe presents its compliments to all Missions and Delegations of the participating States to the OSCE and to the Conflict Prevention Centre of the OSCE, and, with reference to FSC Decision No. 7/04, has the honor to herewith enclose an updated version of the Polish response to the OSCE Questionnaire on Anti- Personnel Mines and on Explosive Remnants of War.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Poland to the Organization for Security and Co - operation in Europe avails itself of this opportunity to renew to all Missions and Delegations of the participating States to the OSCE and to the Conflict Prevention Centre of the OSCE the assurances of its highest consideration.

Vienna, 21 May 2021



**To:**

**All Missions and Delegations of the participating States to the OSCE**

**OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre**

**Vienna**

**COVER PAGE<sup>1</sup>**  
**OF THE ANNUAL ARTICLE 7 REPORT**

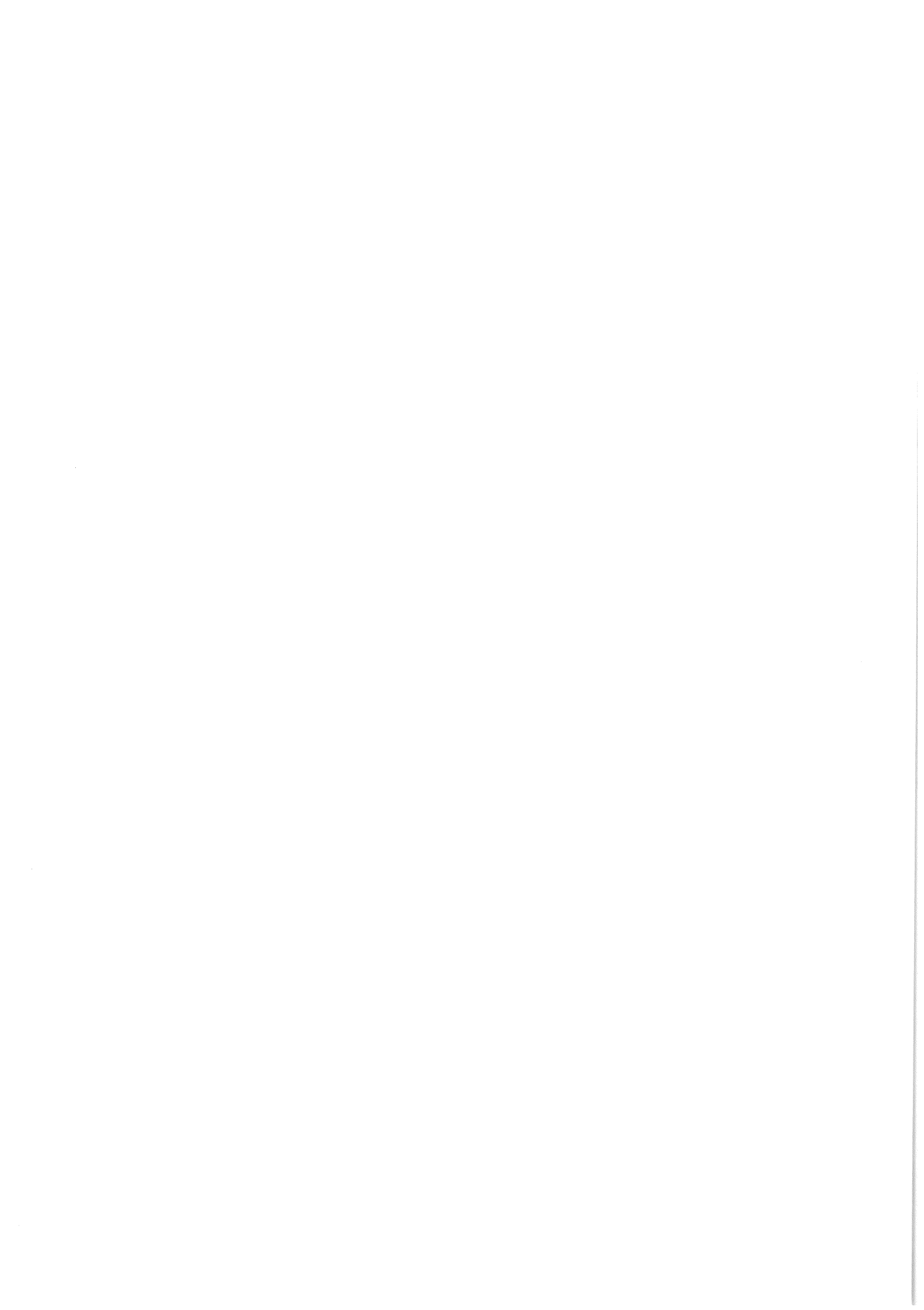
**NAME OF STATE [PARTY]:** Poland

**REPORTING PERIOD:** 01/01/2020 to 31/12/2020  
(dd/mm/yyyy) (dd/mm/yyyy)

<p><b>Form A: National implementation measures:</b> changed x unchanged (last reporting: 2013)</p>	<p><b>Form F: Programme of APM destruction:</b> changed x unchanged (last reporting: 2017) non applicable</p>
<p><b>Form B: Stockpiled anti-personnel mines:</b> changed x unchanged (last reporting: 2017) non applicable</p>	<p><b>Form G: APM destroyed:</b> changed x unchanged (last reporting: 2013) non applicable</p>
<p><b>Form C: Location of mined areas:</b> changed x unchanged (last reporting: 2013) non applicable</p>	<p><b>Form H: Technical characteristics:</b> changed x unchanged (last reporting: 2013) non applicable</p>
<p><b>Form D: APMs retained or transferred:</b> changed x unchanged (last reporting: 2017) non applicable</p>	<p><b>Form I: Warning measures:</b> changed unchanged (last reporting: yyyy) x non applicable</p>
<p><b>Form E: Status of conversion programmes:</b> changed unchanged (last reporting: yyyy) x non applicable</p>	<p><b>Form J: Other Relevant Matters:</b>  changed unchanged (last reporting: yyyy) x non applicable</p>

<sup>1</sup> Notes on using the cover page:

1. The cover page could be used as a **complement** to submitting detailed forms adopted at the [First and Second] Meetings of the States parties in instances when the information to be provided in some of the forms in an annual report is the same as it would be in past reports. That is, when using the cover page, only forms within which there is new information would need to be submitted.
2. The cover page could be used as a **substitute** for submitting detailed forms adopted at the [First and Second] Meetings of the States parties only if all of the information to be provided in an annual report is the same as in past reports.
3. If an indication is made on the cover sheet that the information to be provided with respect to a particular form would be unchanged in relationship to a previous year's form, the date of submission of the previous form should be clearly indicated.



## Reporting

At the Fourth Review Conference in 2019, all States Parties, in adopting the Oslo Action Plan committed to take a number of actions to contribute to the effective implementation of the Convention.

In accordance with your State's outstanding obligations and commitments under the Convention and the Oslo Action Plan, your State is encouraged to ensure that the following information is provided within your Article 7 Report due on **30 April 2021**. Your State is also encouraged to employ the [Guide to Reporting and annexed sample report](#) to support your reporting efforts.

## Universalization (Actions #11 - #12)

In order to promote continued universalisation of the Convention and the strengthening of its norms must continue, all States Parties will take the following actions:

Oslo Action Plan	Areas for which information would be welcome in your State's Article 7 report
<b>Action 11:</b> Use all available avenues to promote ratification of/accession to the Convention by States not party including by encouraging their participation in the work of the Convention.	In 2020, has your State undertaken actions to promote ratification of / accession to the Convention by States not party? If yes, can you provide details on these actions?
<b>Action 12:</b> Continue to promote universal observance of the Convention's norms and objectives, condemn violations of these norms, and take appropriate steps to end the use, stockpiling, production, and transfer of anti-personnel mines by any actor, including by armed non-State actors.	In 2020, has your State taken actions to promote universal observance of the Convention's norms and objectives? Or to condemn violations of these norms and take appropriate steps to end the use, stockpiling, production, and transfer of anti-personnel mines by any actor, including by armed non-State actors? If yes, can you provide details on these actions?  <b>All the soldiers of the Polish Armed Forces are trained in the International Humanitarian Law of Armed Conflict, including the rules set by the Anti-Personnel Mines Convention. This training can take the form of, i.a.:</b>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- military and postgraduate studies, defense policy studies, operational-tactical studies, operational-strategic studies and qualification courses for officer candidates, officers, military commanders and legal advisors organized by relevant Military Universities, Academies and Officer's Schools;</li> <li>- training, special and qualification courses for officers, non-commissioned officers, privates and civilian personnel conducted in training centers of all armed services and in all military units;</li> <li>- the routine process of improving professional qualifications of military personnel conducted by superiors and legal advisors in all military units;</li> <li>- military exercises which require taking into account specific rules of the International Humanitarian Law norms and regulations;</li> <li>- conferences related to the International Humanitarian Law of Armed Conflict (including the Anti-Personnel Mines Convention);</li> </ul> <p>Training in international law of armed conflicts and protection of cultural heritage is an important element of training of personnel of peacekeeping and stabilization missions. All mission members are obliged to attend such training before deployment.</p> <p>Civilian students obtain relevant information concerning International Humanitarian Law of Armed Conflict (including the Anti-Personnel Mines Convention) during optional or obligatory courses organized by Polish Military Universities, Academies and Officer's Schools. The Polish Naval Academy annually published scientific journal (including the Anti-Personnel Mines Convention topics) delivered to military academies and civilian faculties of law.</p>
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**International Cooperation and Assistance (Actions #42 to #47)**

With a view to enhancing cooperation in order to meet the Convention's obligations and aspirations as soon as possible, States Parties will take the following actions:

Oslo Action Plan actions	Areas for which information would be welcome in your State's Article 7 report
<p><b>Action 42:</b> Do their utmost to commit the resources needed to meet Convention obligations as soon as possible and explore all possible alternative and/or innovative sources of funding.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. If you are a mine-affected State Party, what national financial commitments did you make in 2020 to the implementation of your obligations under the Convention?</li> <li>2. In 2020, did your State provide financial or other support to affected States Parties? Can you provide details of this support?</li> <li>3. In 2020, did your State explore alternative and/or innovative sources of financing?</li> <li>4. In 2020 did your State obtain resources from alternative and /or innovative sources?</li> </ol>
<p><b>Action 43:</b> States Parties seeking assistance will develop resource mobilisation plans and use all mechanisms within the Convention to disseminate information on challenges and requirements for assistance, including through their annual Article 7 transparency reports and by taking advantage of the individualised approach. States Parties will share the outcomes of the individualised approach with the wider mine action community in order to maximise its impact.</p>	<p>If your State requires support, can you provide information on the challenges you face and your requirements for assistance? Have you developed a resource mobilisation plan? Can you provide information on this plan?</p>
Oslo Action Plan actions	Areas for which information would be welcome in your State's Article 7 report

<p><b>Action 44:</b> States Parties will strengthen national coordination including by ensuring regular dialogue with national and international stakeholders on progress, challenges and support for implementation of their obligations under the Convention. They will consider, where relevant, establishing an appropriate national platform for regular dialogue among all stakeholders.</p>	<p>Does your State have an in-country platform for dialogue among all stakeholders that meets on a regular basis? If yes, could you provide details about this mechanism?</p> <p>If your State does not have an in-country platform for dialogue among all stakeholders, has is ever considered establishing one?</p>
<p><b>Action 45:</b> States Parties in a position to do so will provide assistance to other States Parties in the implementation of their obligations under the Convention, in line with their development policies. In doing so, they will support the implementation of clear, evidencebased national strategies and work plans that respond to the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities and are built on sound gender, age and disability analysis. Support to victim assistance can be provided through the mine action budget, and/or through integrating victim assistance into broader development and humanitarian efforts.</p>	<p>1. In 2020, did your State provide financial or other support to affected States Parties for the implementation of their obligations under the Convention? If yes, could you provide details of this support?  <b>Since 2015 Poland has been voluntarily providing funds to actions under the umbrella of UNMAS, to landmines and ERWs removal, post conflict reconstruction and risk-awareness implementation in the Gaza Strip. The overall contribution of Poland to Gaza Emergency Response amounted until now to 290,000.00 USD, of which approximately almost 54,000.00 alone were transferred in 2020. In the above mentioned case the funding to mine action is compliant with Poland’s national multi-year development assistance program covering 2021-2030.</b></p> <p>2. In 2020, did your State provide support to victim assistance? If yes, did this support come from the mine action budget or is it part of broader development and humanitarian efforts? Could you provide details of this support?</p> <p>3. In 2020, did your State provide support to mine clearance activities? If yes, could you provide details of this support?  <b>In 2020, because of the obstacles resulting from COVID-19 pandemics, the Polish Armed Forces personnel of the peacekeeping and</b></p>

	<p><b>stabilization missions did not provide support to mine clearance activities.</b></p>
<p><b>Action 46:</b> States Parties in a position to provide assistance will, where possible using existing mechanisms, coordinate their support for the effective implementation of Convention obligations by affected States Parties.</p>	<p>In 2020, did your State coordinate its support for the effective implementation of the Convention?</p>
<p><b>Action 47:</b> Continuously explore opportunities for cooperation, including international, regional and bilateral, cooperation between</p>	<p>In 2020, which cooperation activities did you engage in order to promote the implementation of the Convention?</p>
<p><b>Oslo Action Plan actions</b></p>	<p><b>Areas for which information would be welcome in your State's Article 7 report</b></p>



<p>affected States Parties or South-to-South, with a view to voluntary sharing of best practices and lessons learned. Cooperation of this kind may include making mutually supporting clearance commitments in border areas, sharing experience of integrating gender and taking the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities into account into programming, and, in line with Article 6, exchanging equipment, material and scientific and technological information (or donating them after one State Party reaches completion) in order to promote the implementation of the Convention.</p>	<p><b>In 2020, because of the obstacles resulting from COVID-19 pandemics, the Polish Armed Forces personnel of the peacekeeping and stabilization missions did not engage in cooperation activities in order to promote the implementation of the Anti-Personnel Mines Convention.</b></p>
<p><b>Action 3:</b> Ensure that the different needs and perspectives of women, girls, boys, and men are considered and inform all areas of Convention implementation and mine action programmes, in order to deliver an inclusive approach. Strive to remove barriers to full, equal and gender balanced participation in mine action and in Convention meetings.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Does your State’s cooperation and assistance efforts integrate gender and take the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities into account?</li> <li>2. Please provide information on how your cooperation and assistance efforts promote and help ensures the integration of gender and the divers needs and experience of people in affected communities?</li> </ol>

## AMENDED PROTOCOL II

**PROTOCOL ON PROHIBITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE OF MINES,  
BOOBY-TRAPS AND OTHER DEVICES, AS AMENDED ON 3 MAY 1996, ANNEXED  
TO THE CONVENTION ON PROHIBITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE OF  
CERTAIN CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS WHICH MAY BE DEEMED TO BE  
EXCESSIVELY INJURIOUS OR TO HAVE INDISCRIMINATE EFFECTS  
(Protocol II as amended on 3 May 1996)**

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### REPORTING FORMATS

for Article 13 paragraph 4 and Article 11 paragraph 2

NAME OF THE HIGH  
CONTRACTING PARTY: POLAND

DATE OF SUBMISSION: 30/03/2021

NATIONAL POINT(S) OF  
CONTACT: Department of Security Policy

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

al. Szucha 23

00-580 WARSZAWA

POLAND

tel. +48 22 523 84 65

[dpb.sekretariat@msz.gov.pl](mailto:dpb.sekretariat@msz.gov.pl)

(Organization, telephones, fax, e-mail)

This information can be available to other interested parties and relevant organizations:

YES

NO

**AMENDED PROTOCOL II**

Partially, only the following forms:

A

B

C

D

E

F

G

## AMENDED PROTOCOL II

### Form A                      **Dissemination of information**

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Article 13,  
paragraph 4 (a)

“The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the  
Depositary [...] on [...]:

(a) dissemination of information on this Protocol to their armed forces and  
to the civilian population;”

*Remark:*

High Contracting Party:

**POLAND**

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Reporting for time period

from: **01/01/2020**

dd/mm/yyyy

to: **31/12/2020**

dd/mm/yyyy

#### **INFORMATION TO THE ARMED FORCES:**

**All soldiers of the Polish Armed Forces are trained on the International Humanitarian Law of Armed Conflict, including the rules set by the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons and its annexed Protocols. This training can take the form of, i.a.:**

- military and postgraduate studies, defense policy studies, operational-tactical studies, operational-strategic studies and qualification courses for officer candidates, officers, military commanders and legal advisors organized by relevant Military Universities, Academies and Officer's Schools;**
- training, special and qualification courses for officers, non-commissioned officers, privates and civilian personnel conducted in training centers of all armed services and in all military units;**
- the routine process of improving professional qualifications of military personnel conducted by superiors and legal advisors in all military units;**
- military exercises which require taking into account specific rules of the International Humanitarian Law norms and regulations;**
- international and national conferences related to the International Humanitarian Law of Armed Conflict (including CCW and its Protocols);**

**Training in international law of armed conflicts and protection of cultural heritage is an important element of training of personnel of peacekeeping and stabilization missions. All mission members are obliged to attend such training before deployment.**



## AMENDED PROTOCOL II

### **Form E                      International technical information exchange, cooperation on mine clearance, technical cooperation and assistance**

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Article 13,  
paragraph 4 (e)

“The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the  
Depositary [...] on [...]:

(e) measures taken on international technical information exchange, on  
international cooperation on mine clearance, and on technical cooperation  
and assistance;”

*Remark:*

High Contracting Party:

**POLAND**

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Reporting for time period

from: **01/01/2020**

dd/mm/yyyy

to:

**31/12/2020**

dd/mm/yyyy

#### **INTERNATIONAL TECHNICAL INFORMATION EXCHANGE:**

#### **INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ON MINE CLEARANCE:**

**In 2020 the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Poland contributed approx. 54.000,00 USD to supporting UNMAS program in Gaza Strip for the removal of ERWs and mines (Gaza Emergency Response project). Poland's contribution amounted to 287.483,55 USD over the period 2015-2020.**

#### **TECHNICAL COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE:**



**The Republic of Poland**

**OSCE QUESTIONNAIRE ON ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES**

**Reporting period: 2020**

**Part I**

1. Is your country a State Party to the 1996 Amended Protocol II on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-Traps and Other Devices annexed to the 1980 Convention on Conventional Weapons (CCW)?

**YES.**

**If yes:**

2. Please attach the most recent annual report submitted by your country in accordance with Article 13 of the Amended Protocol or give the appropriate electronic address for the report.

**Please, find enclosed the report for the 2020 reporting period.**

**Part II**

7. Has your country ratified or acceded to the 1997 Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction?

**YES.**

- 8.(a) If yes, please attach the most recent report submitted by your country in accordance with Article 7 of the Convention or give the appropriate electronic address for the report.

**Please, find enclosed the report for the 2020 reporting period.**

- (b) If no, is your country considering ratification/accession to the Convention?

**Refer to 7.**

- (c) Has your country adopted legislation to address the humanitarian objectives of the convention, or taken any specific measures regarding the use, production, storage, transfer and destruction of anti-personnel landmines? In case a moratorium has been introduced, what is its scope and duration and when was it introduced?



**In our initial report which is available at the following link:**

**<https://geneva-s3.unoda.org/artvii-database-dump/Poland/2013.pdf>**

**we listed the legal measures that were introduced to implement the Convention in Poland (Form A, “National implementation measures”).**

9. Does your country have any specific measures in place to provide assistance to victims?

**No, but as far as Polish citizens are concerned general regulations exist. Mine/UXO survivors are entitled to the same standards of public healthcare as all other insured persons. Military casualties are entitled to medicine and orthopaedic equipment free of charge.**

10. Does your country require assistance in mine clearance, stockpile destruction, mine awareness and/or victim assistance? If so, please describe.

**NO.**

11. Does your country have the capacity to assist others in mine action? If so, please describe.

**Poland has some capacities in this respect but any such engagement would have to be subject to a specific request and additional arrangements.**

## **The Republic of Poland**

### **OSCE QUESTIONNAIRE ON EXPLOSIVE REMNANTS OF WAR**

**Reporting period: 2020**

1. Has your country notified the Depositary of its consent to be bound by the 2003 CCW Protocol V on Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) once it enters into force?

**Poland ratified PV on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2011 and in the following year it entered into force (26<sup>th</sup> March 2012).**

Is your country considering doing so?

**Refer to 1.**

2. If yes, at what stage is the process?

**Refer to 1.**

3. Would your country be interested in receiving assistance in clearing or otherwise minimizing the risks and effects of ERW? If so, please describe.

**NO.**

4. Does your country have the capacity to assist others in clearing and minimizing the risks and effects of ERW? If so, please describe.

**Poland has some capacities in this respect but any such engagement would have to be a subject to a specific request and additional arrangements.**