



Minister
of Foreign Affairs
Witold Waszczykowski



MINISTER OF NATIONAL DEFENCE
OF THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND

Warsaw, November 2017

Dear Madam High Representative,

We have the pleasure to inform you that after governmental considerations Poland intends to join the Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO).

Notwithstanding the above, we would like to draw your attention to the following issues that determine our national participation in PESCO.

First, the PESCO commitments should increase the effectiveness of Member States in developing defence capabilities for the EU crisis management operations. However, the majority of Member States has undertaken commitments within the NATO framework to ensure the availability and appropriate quality of capabilities for the wide spectrum of operations, including those of high intensity and large scale. In both of these areas we have to cope with significant shortfalls. Thus, it is important that PESCO, while addressing European gaps, respects priorities of the NATO Defence Planning Process or even helps to mitigate the shortfalls identified within this framework. Therefore, special consideration shall be given to PESCO projects responding both to the EU and NATO requirements.

Second, the capabilities development within PESCO should assure its beneficial effect to all interested Member States and their enterprises, should ensure a competitive, innovative and balanced basis for development of European defence industry.

Third, we also stress hereby that active EU external policy should be guided by a 360 degree approach to the perception of threats and challenges faced by the EU and its Member States, including in the Eastern Flank.

During the discussion on PESCO notification we made specific proposals on how to address the principles mentioned above in a clear and unambiguous way. Not all of them were included.

Therefore, let us express our hope that the guiding principles of Poland's participation in PESCO are clear, self-explanatory and shared by other Member States.

Yours sincerely,

Antoni Macierewicz

Witold Waszczykowski

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All EU Ministers of Foreign Affairs

All EU Ministers of Defence

Her Excellency
Ms Federica Mogherini
High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy
and Vice-President of the European Commission
European Commission
Brussels