

# Institute of National Remembrance

<https://eng.ipn.gov.pl/en/news/13644,Our-shared-love-of-freedom.html>

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## Our shared love of freedom

From 2 to 5 October 2026, a delegation from the Institute of National Remembrance, headed by Deputy President Karol Polejowski, is visiting the United States.

















The delegation's programme includes a ceremony dedicated to presenting state decorations, participation in the Pulaski Day Parade, and numerous meetings with representatives of Polish diaspora institutions across the United States.

On the first day of the visit, the IPN Deputy President met with Ambassador Krzysztof Szczerski, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Poland to the United Nations in New York. The meeting focused on prospects for developing scientific and archival cooperation between the IPN and the United Nations.

The talks also addressed the possibility of presenting the Institute's work at the United Nations, including its research and documentary activities and the IPN's contribution to preserving historical memory.

IPN Deputy President Karol Polejowski also met with Dr John Radziłowski, Director of the Polish Institute of Culture and Research at Orchard Lake Schools. The meeting took place at the headquarters of the Polish Army Veterans' Association in America. It is worth recalling that the Association is a recipient of the Custodian of National Memory Prize, one of the IPN's distinguished honours.

At the Józef Piłsudski Institute of America, Karol Polejowski attended a lecture by Dr Marcin Gadocha entitled *Poland between Reform and Revolt: Stanisław August, the Bar Confederation, and Kazimierz Pułaski's Path to Freedom*. Drawing on both earlier chapters of Polish history and events from several decades ago, the IPN Deputy President addressed the large group of young people gathered for the event:

“In his Christmas address in December ’81, following the imposition of Martial Law in Poland, Ronald Reagan addressed the Polish people and told them that Poles have the greatest traditions of refusing to submit to subjugation. We simply refuse to accept being ruled by someone else. And that is what we have in common with Americans. The entire idea of the United States is founded on freedom — on the freedom of the individual, protected by the Constitution of the United States and by the whole system that was created here. That is why so many Poles feel a connection with the history of the United States.”

The IPN delegation also travelled to Jersey City, where they laid a wreath at the Katyń Memorial in tribute to the victims of the Katyń Massacre. Flowers were also laid at the monument to Father Jerzy Popiełuszko in New York.

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