

United States Embassy in Warsaw

A letter from the Polish ICT industry to friends in the United States.

On behalf of the largest organizations in the ICT industry in Poland: the Polish Information Technology Society, the Polish Chamber of Information Technology and Telecommunications and the Digital Poland Association, we ask to change the position of the US government regarding the export of the latest generation of microprocessors to Poland. This is about including Poland in the First Category of recipients of the latest generation of microprocessors.

The situation that has arisen is an unpleasant surprise for Polish partners, resulting from the adoption by the outgoing administration of President Biden of the so-called Rule on Artificial Intelligence.¹

This document introduces restrictions on the purchase of the latest microprocessors. The countries of the world have been divided into three categories, and Poland has been placed in the second category, which means that we can buy a maximum of 50,000 high-end (e.g. AMD MI300X, NVIDIA H100) GPUs over 2 years, with the possibility of increasing this pool.

It is particularly difficult for us to understand that as a country that is one of the closest allies of the United States, we have not been included in the highest category of countries that can continue to buy the latest chips without restrictions, such as Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Korea, Spain, Sweden, Taiwan and the United Kingdom.

We understand the reasons for the ban on exports to countries that have been recognized as enemies of the United States and have lost access to American chips (e.g. China and Russia), but we do not understand the decision regarding Poland.

The decision regarding Poland is all the more surprising because it is a border country of NATO, constituting its eastern flank. It should be supported by access to the most modern technologies in every area of strategic and defense significance. In the first place, these activities should include access to modern technologies, which are currently of key importance in the hybrid actions that the Russian Federation uses against NATO members. This is a fundamental element of the security of the entire Alliance.

As of today, the limits of restrictions on the import of microprocessors to Poland do not affect the implementation of specific AI projects, but the aforementioned regulation is a threat to the development of Poland and the European Union. It may inhibit the development of AI and HPC in Poland and the possibilities of creating and conducting projects and developing staff, especially in such important and sensitive areas as scientific research, national defense or the entire economy based on knowledge and the development of the telecommunications industry.

¹ <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2025/01/13/fact-sheet-ensuring-u-s-security-and-economic-strength-in-the-age-of-artificial-intelligence/>

The question also arises as to what extent this regulation limits the possibilities of exporting AI models from Poland and constitutes a restriction on their significance or value.

We strive to create optimal conditions for the development of Polish AI projects, which provide access to the most modern knowledge and material base with the latest large-scale supercomputers (HPC). We proudly emphasize the importance and achievements of Polish AI experts and managers who find employment and succeed in the largest, global AI companies, especially American ones. In Poland, significant American companies operate successfully in the telecommunications market, for which the Polish government has created favorable conditions for business activity and which are members of our organizations, thus influencing the development of the advanced technology market in our country.

Including Poland in the second category was also perceived by the industry and leading managers as a serious blow to the belief of Poles that we are close allies of the USA. We remember many good things that Poland has experienced from the USA since regaining independence, but also our contribution to the development of allied relations with the United States. On the one hand, this image is reinforced by the presence of American soldiers in Poland, significant purchases of American weapons, and on the other hand, Polish participation in missions in Afghanistan and Iraq and the current role in strengthening and defending NATO's Eastern Flank.

In connection with the above, we request that the new administration, as soon as possible, reverse the decision of its predecessors and that Poland be included in the first category of countries, thus confirming our role as a close ally of the USA in these challenging times.

Warsaw, January 27, 2025

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