



MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Jerusalem, April 26, 2015

Excellency,

It is with profound sorrow that I received the news of former Foreign Minister Władysław Bartoszewski's passing away this past weekend.

Mr. Bartoszewski was a great friend of the Jewish People and he enjoyed immense admiration in Israel. He worked tirelessly for the commemoration of the Holocaust. Recognized as one of the "Righteous Among the Nations" for courageously saving Jews during the Second World War and as Chairman of the International Auschwitz Council, he served as an unsurpassed moral authority. Indeed, it is difficult to express in words the depth of our appreciation for him and for everything he represented.

In the post-war period, Mr. Bartoszewski continued to be instrumental in maintaining ties with the State of Israel, even in the absence of formal diplomatic relations. As former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Poland, and in his capacity in recent years, Mr. Bartoszewski played an invaluable role in strengthening ties between our two countries. His visits to Israel are remembered exceptionally fondly and we are very proud that he was distinguished as an Honorary Citizen of Israel. Only several days ago, we were honored to be joined by him at our Independence Day celebration in Warsaw.

We are committed to continuing his path and to striving for a further deepening of the ties between our nations.

Mr. Bartoszewski's passing is a great loss, not only to Poland and to Israel, but to all who will sorely miss his voice of moral acuity, which he did not hesitate to sound even at the cost of paying a very grave personal price.

May his memory be blessed and may his legacy serve as an indelible inspiration to us all.

Sincerely yours,

Avigdor Liberman

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Avigdor Liberman', written over a horizontal line.

H.E. Grzegorz Schetyna
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Republic of Poland