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Embassy  
of the Republic of Poland  
in Reykjavik

Reykjavík, 06 September 2021

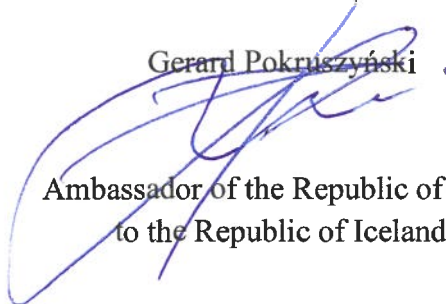
*Dear Chairwoman,*

The appearance of your party's candidate Eyjólfur Ármannsson on television in which he made a distasteful joke about the Polish diaspora in Iceland has caused severe distress among members of the Polish community.

As Ambassador of Poland to the Republic of Iceland it is my duty to intervene when my countrymen and women become subject to discrimination or targeted hate speech. The Polish diaspora in Iceland has been growing over the last few years. The reason why so many of my compatriots are drawn to this country are not only its good economic conditions and the job opportunities but also the fact that immigrants feel welcomed and accepted in the Icelandic society. I know that Iceland takes great pride in promoting openness and tolerance both internally and on the international stage. It is therefore all the more distressing that a language of hate and intolerance arises during the election campaign.

The Polish community in Iceland has been making an important contribution to Icelandic society. Many of its members have lived in Iceland for a long time, they consider Iceland their home and, I hope, will continue to feel welcomed in this society. I therefore believe that clear actions need to be taken to show that such statements as that by Eyjólfur Ármannsson have no place in Icelandic public life.

Gerard Pokruszyński



Ambassador of the Republic of Poland  
to the Republic of Iceland

**Ms. Inga Sæland**  
Member of Parliament,  
Chairwoman of the People's Party.  
Reykjavík