

AMENDED PROTOCOL II

**PROTOCOL ON PROHIBITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE OF MINES,
BOOBY-TRAPS AND OTHER DEVICES, AS AMENDED ON 3 MAY 1996, ANNEXED
TO THE CONVENTION ON PROHIBITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE OF
CERTAIN CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS WHICH MAY BE DEEMED TO BE
EXCESSIVELY INJURIOUS OR TO HAVE INDISCRIMINATE EFFECTS**

(Protocol II as amended on 3 May 1996)

SUMMARY SHEET

Summary Reporting Format for Article 13 paragraph 4 and Article 11 paragraph 2, pursuant to the decision of the Fifth Annual Conference of the States Parties to CCW Amended Protocol II as stipulated in paragraph 20 of its Final Document, CCW/AP.II/CONF.5/2

NAME OF THE HIGH
CONTRACTING PARTY: POLAND

DATE OF SUBMISSION: 30.03.2017

NATIONAL POINT(S) OF

CONTACT: Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Security Policy Department
Al. Szucha 23
00-580 Warsaw, POLAND
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(Organization, telephones, fax, e-mail)

This information can be available to other interested parties and relevant organizations:

YES

NO

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Reporting for time period

from: **01/01/2016**

dd/mm/yyyy

to: **31/12/2016**

dd/mm/yyyy

Form A: Dissemination of information:

changed

unchanged

(last reporting year:)

Form B: Mine clearance and rehabilitation programmes:

changed

unchanged

(last reporting year: 2003)

Form C: Technical requirements and relevant information:

changed

unchanged

(last reporting year: 2003)

Form D: Legislation:

changed

unchanged

(last reporting year: 2003)

Form E: International technical information exchange, co-operation on mine clearance, technical co-operation and assistance:

changed

unchanged

(last reporting year:)

Form F: Other relevant matters:

changed

unchanged

(last reporting year: 2003)

Form G: Information to the UN-database on mine clearance:

changed

unchanged

(last reporting year: 2003)

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(Protocol II as amended on 3 May 1996)**

REPORTING FORMATS

for Article 13 paragraph 4 and Article 11 paragraph 2

NAME OF THE HIGH
CONTRACTING PARTY: POLAND

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This information can be available to other interested parties and relevant organizations:

YES

NO

Partially, only the following forms:

A B C D E F G

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Form A **Dissemination of information**

Article 13,
paragraph 4 (a)

“The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the
Depositary [...] on [...]:

(a) dissemination of information on this Protocol to their armed forces and
to the civilian population;”

Remark:

High Contracting Party:

Poland

Reporting for time period

from: 01/01/2016

dd/mm/yyyy

to: 31/12/2016

dd/mm/yyyy

INFORMATION TO THE ARMED FORCES:

All soldiers of the Polish Armed Forces are instructed and trained in the International Humanitarian Law of Armed Conflict including the rules set by the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons and its annexed Protocols.

The relevant information is disseminated to them in the framework of:

- military and postgraduate studies, operational-tactical studies, operational-strategic studies and qualification courses dedicated for candidates for professional officers, officers, military commanders and legal advisers organized by Military Universities, Academies and Officer's Schools;**
- training, special and qualification courses for officers, non-commissioned officers, privates and civilian personnel realized in training centers of all armed services;**
- the routine process of improving professional qualifications of military personnel conducted by superiors and legal advisers in all military units;**
- military exercises which require taking into account specific rules of the International Humanitarian Law norms and regulations.**

Training in international law of armed conflicts and protection of cultural heritage is an important element of the preparation process of personnel for the peacekeeping and stabilization missions. All mission members are obliged to attend such training before deployment. In 2016 Polish Air Force Academy (PAFA) and Polish Naval Academy (PNA) organized international science conferences related to the International Humanitarian Law of Armed Conflict (including CCW and annexed Protocols). They were addressed to civilians and military personnel. Additionally PNA published the "International Humanitarian Law" yearbook.

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INFORMATION TO THE CIVILIAN POPULATION:

Civilian students received relevant information concerning the International Humanitarian Law of Armed Conflict (including CCW and annexed Protocols) during optional or obligatory courses organized by Polish Military Universities, Academies and Officer's Schools.

The Center for the Dissemination of International Humanitarian Law (IHL) under the auspices of the Main Board of the Polish Red Cross (PRC), operating since 1977 is tasked with the dissemination of information on IHL and the mission of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

The Center is running the largest IHL Library (over 5 thousand volumes) which contains a special section on conventional weapons regulations. The library is used by students and post-graduates in law, political sciences, and international relations, as well as secondary school students and PRC workers and volunteers from across the country.

During 2016 the PRC Center for Dissemination of IHL organized a number of seminars, meetings and lectures devoted to international humanitarian law. Most of them were focused on legal aspects of landmines (including II Protocol to the CCW). It is worth mentioning a couple of the most important events:

- XX Polish School of International Humanitarian Law of Armed Conflict in Radziejowice
- an annual 5-day course for law and international relations students from civil and military universities, representatives of the Armed Forces, the Police, the Border Guard, the State Fire Service, Red Cross employees and volunteers. Lectures were given by experts on IHL from major Polish Universities and Armed Forces,
- Several lectures on means and methods of warfare during IHL courses for armed forces organized by War Studies University,
- Continuation of a e-learning course "Exploring humanitarian law" dedicated to the teachers of basic and secondary schools,
- XIX edition of Professor Remigiusz Bierzanek contest for the best PH. D., MA and BA thesis in humanitarian law and human rights and knowledge about the International Red Cross and Red Cross Movement;
- Coordination of the activities of the Commission for the Protection of the Emblem and related actions, including assessment of applications for use of the emblem and interventions in the event of misuse on a national scale,
- Coordination of the activities of the IHL Dissemination Commission including initiatives on promotion and dissemination of IHL, networking and knowledge sharing and publication and promotion of books.

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Form E **International technical information exchange, cooperation
on mine clearance, technical cooperation and assistance**

Article 13,
paragraph 4 (e)

“The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the
Depositary [...] on [...]:

(e) measures taken on international technical information exchange, on
international cooperation on mine clearance, and on technical cooperation
and assistance;”

Remark:

High Contracting Party:

Poland

Reporting for time period

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dd/mm/yyyy

to: 31/12/2016

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INTERNATIONAL TECHNICAL INFORMATION EXCHANGE:

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ON MINE CLEARANCE:

In 2016 the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs contributed with 50 thousand US dollars in support of UNMAS's actions in Gaza ("Mitigation of the threat posed by explosive hazards in Gaza"). In the last two years Poland's total financial assistance to mine action and mitigation in Gaza amounted to 85 thousand US dollars. Gaza continues to be contaminated with ERWs consisting of uexploded aircraft bombs, tank shells and other munitions. For 2017 UNMAS has identified the following priorities in Gaza: protection of civilians from ERW threats, support to reconstruction activities and emergency preparedness.

At the reporting period Polish Armed Forces contributed to the alleviation of humanitarian problem caused by landmines, unexploded ordnance (UXO), improvised explosive devices (IEDs) and other explosive remnants of war (ERW). This was possible through the participation of the Polish Engineering Forces personnel in the stabilizing mission in Afghanistan. The PEF activities among others included: removal and destruction of mines, UXO, IEDs and other explosive remnants of war (in cases of emergency).

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In 2016 6 Polish deminers formed an emergency team for demining and clearing operations. The unit remained on stand by and did not participate directly in mine clearance activities.

TECHNICAL COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE:

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