

FULL TEXT AND SIGNERS OF LECH WALESZA'S OPEN LETTER TO DONALD TRUMP  
REGARDING TRUMP'S FEB 29, 2025 OVAL OFFICE MEETING WITH  
VOLODYMYR ZELINSKY

Dear Mr. President,

We watched the report of your conversation with the President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky with horror and distaste. We consider your expectations regarding showing respect and gratitude for the material assistance provided by the United States to Ukraine fighting against Russia to be offensive. Gratitude should be given to the heroic Ukrainian soldiers who shed blood in defense of the values of the free world. They have been dying on the front lines for over 11 years in the name of these values and the independence of their homeland attacked by Putin's Russia.

We do not understand how the leader of a country that is a symbol of the free world can not see this.

We were also horrified by the fact that the atmosphere in the Oval Office during this conversation reminded us of the one we remember well from interrogations by the Security Service and from the courtrooms in communist courts.

Prosecutors and judges, commissioned by the all-powerful communist political police, also explained to us that they held all the cards and we held none. They demanded that we cease our activities, arguing that thousands of innocent people were suffering because of us. They deprived us of our freedom and civil rights because we refused to cooperate with the authorities and did not show them gratitude. We are shocked that you treated President Volodymyr Zelensky in a similar way.

The history of the 20th century shows that every time the United States wanted to maintain a distance from democratic values and its European allies, it ended up threatening itself. President Woodrow Wilson understood this, deciding that the United States would enter the First World War in 1917. President Franklin Delano Roosevelt understood this, deciding after the attack on Pearl Harbor in December 1941 that the war in defense of America would be fought not only in the Pacific, but also in Europe, in alliance with the countries attacked by the Third Reich.

We remember that without President Ronald Reagan and American financial involvement, it would not have been possible to bring about the collapse of the Soviet Union empire. President Reagan was aware that millions of enslaved people were suffering in Soviet Russia and the countries it conquered, including thousands of political prisoners who paid for their sacrifice in defense of democratic values with their freedom.

His greatness consisted, among other things, in the fact that he did not hesitate to call the USSR an "evil empire" and gave it a decisive fight. We won, and today the monument to President Ronald Reagan stands in Warsaw opposite the US Embassy.

Mr. President, material aid - military and financial - cannot be an equivalent for the blood shed in the name of independence and freedom of Ukraine, Europe, and the entire free world. Human life is priceless, its value cannot be measured in money. Gratitude is due to those who make the sacrifice of blood and freedom. For us, the people of "Solidarity", former political prisoners of the communist regime serving Soviet Russia, this is obvious. We call on the United States to honour the guarantees it and Great Britain gave in the Budapest Memorandum in 1994, which explicitly stipulates a commitment to defend the inviolability of Ukraine's borders in exchange for Ukraine's surrender of its nuclear weapons. These guarantees are unconditional: there is not a word about treating such aid as economic exchange.

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Lubusz (Poland)

Signed by

Lech Wałęsa, former political prisoner, leader of Solidarity, president of the Third Polish Republic

Marek Beylin, former political prisoner, editor of independent publications

Seweryn Blumsztajn, former political prisoner, member of the Workers' Defense Committee

Teresa Bogucka, former political prisoner, activist of the democratic opposition and Solidarity

Grzegorz Boguta, former political prisoner, activist of the democratic opposition, independent publisher

Marek Borowik, former political prisoner, independent publisher

Bogdan Borusewicz, former political prisoner, leader of the underground Solidarity in Gdańsk

Zbigniew Bujak, former political prisoner, leader of the underground Solidarity in Warsaw

Władysław Frasyniuk, former political prisoner, leader of the underground Solidarity in Wrocław

Andrzej Gincburg, former political prisoner, activist of the underground Solidarity

Ryszard Grabarczyk, former political prisoner, activist of Solidarity

Aleksander Janiszewski, former political prisoner, Solidarity activist

Piotr Kapczyński, former political prisoner, democratic opposition activist

Marek Kossakowski, former political prisoner, independent publicist

Krzysztof Król, former political prisoner, independence activist

Jarosław Kurski, former political prisoner, democratic opposition activist

Barbara Labuda, former political prisoner, underground Solidarity activist

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Lubusz (Poland)

Bogdan Lis, former political prisoner, leader of underground Solidarity in Gdańsk

Henryk Majewski, former political prisoner, Solidarity activist

Adam Michnik, former political prisoner, democratic opposition activist, editor of independent publishing houses

Sławomir Najnigier, former political prisoner, underground Solidarity activist

Piotr Niemczyk, former political prisoner, journalist and printer of underground publishing houses,

Stefan Konstanty Niesiołowski, former political prisoner, independence activist

Edward Nowak, former prisoner political, underground Solidarity activist

Wojciech Onyszkiewicz, former political prisoner, member of the Workers' Defense Committee, Solidarity activist

Antoni Pawlak, former political prisoner, democratic opposition and underground Solidarity activist

Sylvia Poleska-Peryt, former political prisoner, democratic opposition activist

Krzysztof Pusz, former political prisoner, underground Solidarity activist

Ryszard Pusz, former political prisoner, underground Solidarity activist

Jacek Rakowiecki, former political prisoner, underground Solidarity activist

Andrzej Seweryn, former political prisoner, actor, director of the Polish Theatre in Warsaw

Witold Sielewicz, former political prisoner, printer of independent publishing houses

Henryk Sikora, former political prisoner, Solidarity activist

Krzysztof Siemieński, former political prisoner, journalist and printer of underground publishing houses

Grażyna Staniszeńska, former political prisoner, leader Solidarity of the Beskid region

Jerzy Stępień, former political prisoner, democratic opposition activist

Joanna Szczęsna, former political prisoner, editor of the underground Solidarity press

Ludwik Turko, former political prisoner, underground Solidarity activist

Mateusz Wierzbicki, former political prisoner, printer and journalist for independent publishing houses

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