

National Security Bureau

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President Komorowski and Secretary of the NSDC of Ukraine on east Ukraine and military cooperation

President Bronislaw Komorowski on Thursday received Secretary of the National Security Council and Defense of Ukraine Oleksandr Turchynov to discuss the situation in east Ukraine and Polish-Ukrainian military cooperation.

The head of Poland's National Security Bureau, General Stanislaw Koziej, told PAP after the meeting that Komorowski and Turchynov also covered possible developments of the situation in east Ukraine in the context of the February Minsk agreements on a cease-fire between Ukrainian government forces and Ukrainian pro-Russian separatists.

"The two spoke of chances as well as of risks for which Ukraine as well as the international community has to be prepared for," said Koziej.

The sides also referred to bilateral cooperation in security matters, "including assistance which Poland can offer Ukraine." "Pointed out, among others, were Polish activities in the EU and NATO to rally support for Ukraine," Koziej told PAP.

During the meeting President Komorowski stressed the importance of the Polish-Lithuanian-Ukrainian brigade as a good instrument for transforming Ukraine's armed forces and its adjustment to NATO standards.

The president also confirmed Poland's readiness to train Ukrainian non-commissioned officers and specialists. "The sides also spoke of technical and military stressing the need to move on from public debate to talks among experts," Koziej said.

Earlier in the day, Oleksandr Turchynov took part in the opening of an exhibition in Poland's parliament building marking the first anniversary of the events at the Kiev Maidan.

Attending the ceremony, Sejm Speaker Radoslaw Sikorski assured of Poland's support for Ukraine which, as he put it, must defend and at the same time reform itself.

Turchynov spoke of Polish-Ukrainian friendship. "We are thankful to our Polish friends for support which is felt by Ukraine. Ukraine is resisting Russian aggression, is leading a defensive war for its independence."

On Friday, Oleksandr Turchynov will meet with PM Ewa Kopacz.

Source: PAP

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