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## Polish National Security Bureau chief in Washington talks

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**During a trip to Washington, the head of Poland's National Security Bureau (BBN), Pawel Soloch, has discussed current issues concerning Polish-US relations with the Trump administration.**

On a three-day trip to the US capital that started Monday, Soloch held meetings with the State Department at the Pentagon and in Congress as well as spoke with representatives of political advisory circles, including a group of experts of Polish origin.

On Monday, Soloch had several meetings at the US Department of State. Among others, he met with the Acting Assistant Secretary of State for Political-Military Affairs Tina Kaidanow and Bruce Turner of the bureau of arms control, verification and compliance.

Before flying back on Wednesday (Thursday Polish time), the BBN chief is scheduled to hold high-level talks with officers of the US Department of Defense, including Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs Katie Wheelbarger and the director of the Europe department at the Pentagon's Missile Defense Agency, Dave Welch.

Soloch will also visit the Centre for European Policy Studies, the only one of over 50 Washington think-tanks specialising in Central and Eastern European issues as well as the Atlantic Council, where he is scheduled to meet Alexander Vershbow, the former deputy secretary general of NATO.

Soloch's this year's second visit to Washington takes place against the backdrop of intensified Polish-US political, military and economic contacts. Examples of the tighter cooperation are the Trump administration's consent on November 14 for Poland to buy the latest version of the Patriot anti-Aircraft and anti-missile defence system, among other arms deals, and the signing last week of a contract for Polish gas monopolist PGNiG to buy American liquefied natural gas.

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