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Polish president to meet Council of Europe's Committee of Ministers

Poland's President Andrzej Duda will meet in Strasbourg on Nov. 16 with the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, PAP was told on Friday by presidential minister Krzysztof Szczerski.

The meeting will be held on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of Poland's membership of the Council of Europe, Krzysztof Szczerski added.

Minister Szczerski said that the Polish president had accepted the invitation extended to him by Secretary General of the Council of Europe Thorbjoern Jagland.

According to the minister, President Duda will address the meeting, which is to focus on modern European political, economic and social challenges.

"This will be an occasion to jointly commemorate the 25th anniversary of Poland's membership of the Council of Europe," minister Szczerski said.

In a letter sent by Thorbjoern Jagland and posted on Twitter by the head of the presidential press office, Marek Magierowski, the president had been asked to deliver a speech in Strasbourg by the secretary general, who stressed that this would be a great occasion to confirm both the existing good cooperation between Poland and the Council of Europe and the willingness to further strengthen it.

Thorbjoern Jagland wrote that Poland, which was a leader of transformations and struggle for independence and democracy behind the Iron Curtain, is a very important country of dialogue, which is a source of common reflection regarding political, economic and social challenges facing Europe.

Poland joined the Council of Europe in 1991. The organisation's statutes were signed by Poland's then foreign minister Krzysztof Skubiszewski on Nov. 26.

The Committee of Ministers is the Council of Europe's statutory decision-making body. It is made up of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of member states. Source: PAP, <u>president.pl</u>



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