Europoltech 2015 open

#Strategia i polityka 16 kwietnia 2015

***Europoltech 2015*, the 5th International Fair of Technology and Equipment for the Police and National Security Services, and the 7th International Police Conference, the largest events of law enforcement services. It attracted great interest, bringing together representatives of all key institutions, industry and invited guests, including foreign.**

Opening ceremony – left to right: President Andrzej Kasprzak, Chief Inspector Wojciech Olbryś, Vice-Minister Grzegorz Karpiński and Commander in Chief of the Police, Chief Inspector Krzysztof Gajewski / Photo: Michał Likowski

The opening ceremony was started by Andrzej Kasprzak, President of Gdansk International Fair, the organizer of the event, who welcomed the participants. He was followed by Chief Inspector Wojciech Olbryś, Deputy Head of Police, who discussed the main directions of operation of his service. He focused on issues of technical modernisation: the 2013-2015 infrastructure investment programme worth 1 billion zlotys, the purchases of equipment, including vehicles, and the ongoing replacement of uniforms. He also reminded about the *Supernowoczesny* (*Supermodern*) competition conducted during the fair. It was announced in order to promote innovative technologies used in the work of uniformed services. The winner of the contest will be awarded the *Gold Star of the Police*.

The fair was opened officially by Grzegorz Karpiński, Secretary of State in the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

This year's Europoltech event brought together representatives of law enforcement services, including the Police HQ members, Chief Inspector Krzysztof Gajewski, Commander in Chief of the Border Guard, Major General Dominik Tracz (Border Guard),

Brigadier General Wiesław Leśniakiewicz, Commander in Chief of the State Fire Service, Brigadier General Krzysztof Klimek, Head of the Government Protection Bureau, General Jacek Kitliński, Director General of the Prison Service and Colonel Dariusz Łuczak, Head of the Internal Security Agency.

The Armed Forces were represented mainly by representatives of the Military Police, Special Forces, and Professor Brigadier General Zygmunt Mierczyk, the Rector of the WAT (Military Technical University), Europoltech was also visited by diplomatic corps representatives of about a dozen countries and by several official foreign delegations.

This year's event started an hour before the official opening, with the inauguration of the 7th International Police Conference *Protection of the Financial Interests of the Polish Republic and the European Union*. It gathered a few hundred selected guests, including foreign ones.

When opening the conference Vice-Minister Grzegorz Karpiński pointed out that financial crimes are the most serious from the point of view of the interests of the state, and also very harmful for the industry. In our country they affect mainly the fuel, tobacco, spirits and banking industries, as well as gambling or insurance. The speaker pointed out that the conference coincided with the announcement of the draft *Programme of Prevention and Fight Against Economic Crime for 2015-2020* by the Ministry of the Interior, in cooperation with the Ministry of Finance and the General Prosecutor's Office. It is now subject to public consultation that will also involve a broad range of experts participating in *Europoltech 2015*.

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