



**United States Department of State  
and the Broadcasting Board of Governors  
Office of Inspector General**

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**Inspection of Embassy Warsaw  
and Consulate General Krakow, Poland**



*Exterior of Embassy Warsaw*

Embassy Warsaw skillfully manages U.S.- Polish relations, which have entered a delicate stage since Poland's formation of a coalition government that includes partners from its minority parties. The mission is successfully maintaining traditionally close and cooperative relations with Poland while reaffirming U.S. positions of principle.

Leadership of the mission is effective in conducting relations with Poland. The Ambassador plays to his strengths as a former mayor, traveling throughout Poland to meet with local and regional officials. He maintains a heavy load of representational responsibilities in addition to meeting with senior officials of the Polish government. The deputy chief of mission is an experienced manager who oversees operations in the embassy and provides day-to-day policy guidance.

The consulate general building in Krakow is dangerously inadequate and a threat to life and safety. This deficiency was identified in the Office of Inspector General's (OIG) inspection report on Embassy Warsaw five years ago. The Bureau of Overseas Buildings Operations (OBO) plans to begin construction of a new office building in FY 2008, and this plan must be implemented as a matter of urgency.

The consular renovation project at Embassy Warsaw has been funded but has lagged because of conflicting assignment of responsibilities. OBO in Washington needs to appoint a single project director with overall responsibility and a site construction manager to oversee implementation.

Embassy Warsaw will need to assure adequate security coverage of Krakow following the loss of the assistant regional security officer (ARSO) position by ensuring that a Warsaw-based ARSO spends at least half his time in Krakow. The Bureau of Diplomatic Security will need to fund that ARSO's travel and per diem payments.

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OIG Report ISP-I-06-42, Inspection of Embassy Warsaw and Consulate General Krakow, Poland

The fieldwork for this report was conducted by the Office of Inspections in Poland between May 9 and June 1, 2006. This is an unclassified summary of a full report, which receives limited official distribution. Both the report summary and the full report reflect the conditions reviewed during the fieldwork.

Embassy Warsaw's Mission Performance Plan emphasizes strengthening U.S.-Polish ties in defense, security, and foreign policy. The mission gives priority to assisting Poland in expanding its contributions to the global war on terrorism and to disruption of criminal organizations. In addition, the United States cooperates with Poland in its regional democratization efforts.

The mission promotes additional rapid growth of the Polish economy to support U.S.-Polish common agendas. The United States is the second largest investor in Poland, and the mission seeks to expand U.S. access to trade and investment opportunities. The mission's public affairs section seeks to ensure that Polish youth continue to be drawn to U.S. exchange opportunities despite competition from programs that became available with Poland's membership in the European Union.

### **Background: Poland**

With accession to the European Union and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), Poland has achieved integration into European and Euro-Atlantic security, political and economic institutions, its primary, post-Cold War national security goal. Poland strongly supports further NATO enlargement, actively mentors NATO-aspirant countries in their transitions, and promotes democracy, security, and stability among its neighbors in Eastern Europe.

The United States and Poland have historic ties, and for several years have enjoyed close strategic relations. Polish public opinion generally supports U.S. policies and American ideas about democracy and free markets. Although a majority of Poles oppose the war in Iraq, the Polish government maintains troops in Iraq and Afghanistan.

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### **Office of Inspector General**

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