



Why Polish-Americans should vote for Donald Trump

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Introduction

Polish-Americans, a largely conservative and anti-communist community of nearly 10 million, are a critical bloc in the upcoming presidential elections on November 5, with a major presence in swing states such as Wisconsin, Michigan and Pennsylvania. Media attention to the ethnic Polish vote has surged in recent weeks, with an article recently published in *Foreign Policy* [titled](#), “Harris Needs Polish American Votes to Win”, detailing Democrats’ efforts to make the case to Polish-Americans that Democrats best serve their interests, while *Politico* has [described](#) how a Ukraine-focused campaign by Kamala Harris for ethnic Polish votes appears to be falling flat, as it fails to meet expectations of Polish-Americans in other crucial fields.

In recent months, the Trump campaign has also made concerted efforts to reach out to Polish-American voters. Within the last few weeks, President Trump has signed a commemoration honoring the anniversary of the martyrdom of Polish champion of freedom blessed Fr Jerzy Popielusko, and conducted an interview with Michal Rachon, a prominent anchor at the conservative TV Republika station in Poland.

One major issue for Polish-American voters is the current state of U.S.-Poland relations, which we will examine in this report, and the prospects for improved relations under a potential Trump administration.

Energy and U.S. investment in Poland

The Tusk government, formed in 2023, is far from homogenous. It contains a wide range of progressive political voices, from self-proclaimed Christian democrats to liberals to the far-left. This has created a muddy and unstable political environment, creating challenges for U.S. companies, particularly in the critical fields of energy, airport and port infrastructure. Many of these companies are owned by or employ Polish-Americans, who play an important role as interlocutors between the U.S. and Poland.

The Tusk government has pursued an EU-centric economic policy that has placed Poland’s historic rival, Germany, over its traditional ally, the United States. Moreover, the Tusk government has opened the door to wider Chinese involvement in Poland’s economy, in line with the general EU approach of openness towards China.

Unfortunately, the general approach of Brussels towards China differs greatly from that of Washington. Whereas American policy, even under Biden, relatively favors competing against China in the strategic fields of new energy, electric vehicles, semiconductors, and AI, Brussels has largely resigned nearly the entire European continent to being dependent on cheap imports from China, implicitly announcing to the rest of the world that it has given up on ever competing against China in these strategic fields, a mindset it seems bent on forcing upon Poland now that Warsaw is now ruled by those more pliable to this approach.

Due to the general political affinity between the U.S. Democrat administration and the new Tusk regime, Biden officials have often overlooked this. A Trump administration would apply greater incentives for the current Polish government to strengthen economic ties between the U.S. and Poland.

Projects invented and built by the Law and Justice government, such as the Baltic Pipeline and LNG terminal, have ended its dependence on Russian gas. It is important to mention that both

projects were criticized by the Tusk party, while having strong support from Republicans and the Trump administration.

During the Trump administration, Poland's energy security strengthened significantly through [policies](#) that both targeted Russian energy hegemony and prioritized reliable transatlantic partnerships. The U.S. imposed firm sanctions on Nord Stream 2, disrupting the expansion of Russia's gas monopoly in Europe and, thereby, shielding Eastern European countries from the potential grip of Russian energy blackmail. This decisive stance helped Poland secure alternative energy sources, especially through the Świnoujście LNG terminal, developed by Law and Justice government. U.S. LNG quickly became Poland's primary gas supply, with 41 shipments by 2020, enabling Poland to diversify away from Russian sources. This transition was critical, as the dangers of European reliance on Russian gas became evident, particularly after Russia's aggressive actions against Ukraine. For Europe, securing non-Russian energy supplies from allies like the U.S. emerged as essential for economic stability and deterrence against Russian aggression, reducing Russian gas's share in the EU from 41% in 2021 to just 8% by 2023. The Trump administration's robust LNG export strategy also reinforced the transatlantic alliance's role as a guarantor of security, stabilizing Europe's energy supply and minimizing its vulnerability to Russian political manipulation. Biden's decision of halting new licenses to export LNG contradicts all these efforts. Despite the Biden administration's environmental justifications for its stance, U.S. LNG has been shown to be cleaner than Russian or Middle Eastern alternatives.

Moreover, the Law and Justice government has announced a programme to shift into nuclear energy, seeking partnership with US companies, generating thousands of American jobs. Unfortunately, the Tusk government, with silence from the Biden administration, is canceling small nuclear reactors projects or postponing the main nuclear power plant project.

Industrial policy

Both Poland and the Polish-Americans of the Midwest have a proud industrial heritage. Factory production remains an important part of ethnic Polish life on both sides of the Atlantic. Although Law and Justice has long had historic relationships with labor unions, the Republican Party had long avoided them, advocating for trade policies that risked the fundamental interests of workers. This has started to change under President Trump, with Vice President JD Vance being a prominent advocate of industrial policy and a worker-first approach.

In Wisconsin in particular, the Polish-American population is heavily concentrated in the city of Milwaukee and its surrounding satellite cities and have historically featured disproportionately in the region's labor movements. In addition to this, the original Polish immigrants to Wisconsin mostly came from the western parts of what is today Poland, areas that were historically controlled by Germany and voted heavily against PiS. However, to use American political parlance, Polish-Americans, who tend to vote more for the Democrat Party than the Republican Party due to their history of labor organization, are disproportionately so-called "Blue Dog" Democrats, meaning that while they tend to favor economically proactive policies, they are also socially conservative, as evidenced by their heavy influence in the evolution of American Catholicism. Therefore, Polish-Americans, if anything, would very likely be swayed by an economic populist candidate such as Donald Trump and shift their voting patterns accordingly.

The green agenda

Moreover, Donald Tusk, a key protege of former German Chancellor Angela Merkel has aligned Poland fully with the Berlin- and Brussels-imposed 'European Green Deal'. Instead of bringing energy independence and lowering prices, this policy caused a crisis in crucial industrial sectors, particularly steel and the motor industry, and has increased energy bills and brought poverty to many families.

This policy took direct inspiration from the 'Green New Deal', a key component of the Biden agenda. Similarly, the Green New Deal threatens to eliminate ethnic Polish jobs in the United States. Indeed, Polish-Americans are highly concentrated in so-called "Rust Belt" states, in particular Wisconsin and Michigan, states that would be acutely devastated due to foolish industrial policy, something that the left on both sides of the Atlantic seem committed to pursuing whenever they have the opportunity to do so. Under President Trump's leadership, the United States will no longer be involved in promulgating deindustrialization initiatives that harm both North America and Europe.

United in border security: Poland and the United States

Both Poland and the United States have large land borders with substantially poorer and unstable countries. In particular, Poland has a roughly 250-mile border with Belarus, a close ally of Russia. Due to their generous visa policies, large numbers of migrants from the Middle East and Africa have flown into Belarus and Russia on tourism visas, with the intention of illegally immigrating to the European Union through the Polish-Belarusian border. In recent months, this [culminated](#) in the spear-killing of a Polish Border Guard. This situation is not unlike the one on the U.S.-Mexico border, where large numbers of migrants are attempting to violently flood the border.

In recent years, a border wall has been constructed between Poland and Belarus, and Poland has taken a strong stance against illegal migration. In both instances, conservative governments made substantial efforts to address the influx of migrants, efforts that were contested by liberal and leftist politicians, including Tusk and Harris, respectively. The political impetus for this was in-part driven by President Trump's advocacy for a wall on the U.S.-Mexico border. However, due to the smaller size of the Polish border and fewer political challenges, this barrier was completed at a faster rate, and later, Polish border policies became an inspiration for Americans as well. Nevertheless, the Biden administration is taking a soft and weak stance towards the security of the U.S.-Mexico border, removing this crucial area of joint learning and common ground.

As a matter of simple supply and demand, the influx of millions of migrants into America from the Global South acts to put substantial downward pressure on the wages of Americans who they end up competing against.

In the Midwest, this phenomenon can be seen in certain manufacturing sectors. For example, the city of Green Bay, the third largest city in Wisconsin and home to the Green Bay Packers, is well-known historically for its meat packing industry. In fact, the prominence of the meat-packing industry was the impetus in naming the city's famous American football team the Packers. Historically, the factories provided a steady source of dignified employment for the German and Polish settlers that built the city from scratch. This role of the meat-packing industry and other manufacturing sub-sectors was further amplified as the labor movement established reasonable wage and workplace safety standards befitting a First World nation.

Unfortunately, the economic security that the manufacturing industry has provided these legacy workers, who never lost their work ethic despite rising living standards, has been severely eroded by the dual forces of globalization and mass immigration, policies that a hypothetical Harris administration is very likely to double-down on. In the particular case of the meat-packing industry, something that is thankfully difficult to outsource, the main driver of its deterioration has been the treacherous decisions made by globalist corporations to take advantage of the Biden administration's mass immigration policies and use it as leverage against workers to accept worse inflation-adjusted pay and working conditions. What this has effectively done is turn back the clock on industrial development and set America's manufacturing sector on a course to return to the early days of industrial development, where the capital-to-labor ratio was far lower and workers therefore had next to no bargaining power with regards to asking for dignified working conditions and that wages keep pace with productivity growth.

In addition to placing greater and unnecessary economic hardship on Polish-Americans, mass immigration from the Global South, in particular Latin America and the Caribbean, has also led to a large influx in gangs such as Tren de Aragua and MS-13 in many cities in the Midwest. Indeed, gang warfare in cities like Chicago, where many Latin American migrants head to after coming into the country, has resulted in increased safety concerns for local Polish-Americans who must now incur higher costs in order to maintain their businesses. Moreover, the different Latin American nationalities that inhabit America in large numbers also harbor significant animosities toward each other, quite often resulting in lower levels of social trust in the American communities they inhabit, further reducing the quality of life of local Americans.

Worse still, some immigrant groups bring with them social practices that are completely incompatible with Western culture and society. For example, Wisconsin and Minnesota, home to many Polish and Scandinavian Americans, became targets of the American government for the resettlement of Somali and Hmong refugees. A Trump administration would recognize these cultural incompatibilities, much as the Law and Justice government in Poland did during its own tenure.

Biden's neglect of Central and Eastern Europe

Former President Donald Trump expressed strong support for the Three Seas Initiative, launched by Poland's Law and Justice government in 2015, viewing it as a strategic framework to strengthen Central and Eastern European infrastructure and energy independence. His backing underscored U.S. interest in reducing Europe's reliance on Russian energy and enhancing regional security, aligning with broader U.S. economic and geopolitical priorities. The Trump administration actively promoted investment in the region's energy and digital projects, aiming to bolster trade relations and reinforce alliances with the initiative's member countries.

Since its inception, the Trump administration has maintained its commitment to the initiative, recognizing that a more integrated, prosperous Central and Eastern Europe bolsters the international rules-based order.

The initiative not only advances Central and Eastern European prosperity but also reinforces a united, democratic Europe. As Russia's actions continue to challenge European stability, the Three Seas Initiative stands as a vital platform for driving regional independence and resilience. Its success lies in forging public-private partnerships and delivering tangible infrastructure advancements that strengthen connectivity, support shared democratic values, and create a robust framework for transatlantic cooperation. President Trump recognizes these, while Biden's administration continues to advance a Germany-first Europe policy that neglects both Polish

and American interests.

The U.S.-Poland strategic partnership

Democrat outreach to Polish-Americans is often framed in the context of the Ukraine conflict, suggesting that a Republican victory would put Polish security at risk. All major political forces in Poland express support for Ukraine, and Poland remains one of Ukraine's most vital allies and military backers.

Both the occupation of Crimea in 2014 as well as the full-scale invasion in 2022, took place during Biden in office. President Trump, contrary to false media narratives, made enormous efforts to improve security of Central and Eastern Europe, moving more troops from Germany to Poland than any US administration. President Trump's stance towards NATO countries is clear - if they reserve over 2% of their GDP for defense, they are abiding by the agreements underlying NATO. Currently, thanks to the Law and Justice government, Polish military expenditure is 4.7% of GDP, the highest in NATO, making Poland an excellent example of a nation actively contributing to the body rather than simply benefiting from U.S. financial assistance.

Democracy in Poland

The perspective of Polish-American voters who vote for conservative parties in Polish elections is of particular note. According to the [results](#) of the 2023 Sejm election, a plurality – 40.1% – of Polish-American voters backed Law and Justice, the former ruling party of Poland and currently the main opposition party in the country, which advocates for a national-conservative approach not dissimilar from that of President Trump. In recent months, Law and Justice has faced unprecedented repression, mirroring the persecution of prominent Republicans in the United States, including President Trump, Steve Bannon and Peter Navarro.

The Biden administration appears to prioritize its liberal agenda over its relationships with Poland's most pro-American political factions. By supporting the Berlin-aligned Tusk government, which is perceived as having a more EU-focused agenda, the administration may be sidelining those who align more closely with U.S. interests in Central Europe. Furthermore, the openly biased actions of the U.S. Ambassador to Poland in promoting certain political directions only exacerbate these concerns.

On 13 December 2023, a new Council of Ministers was appointed, with Donald Tusk assuming the role of head of government. Since then, the Tusk government has exhibited authoritarian behavior by exerting control over every aspect of the State's operations. This included an unlawful encroachment on public media, complete subjugation of the prosecution service, and refusal to acknowledge legally established constitutional bodies such as the Constitutional Tribunal and the National Council of the Judiciary.

The recently constituted Polish government, acting on the basis of resolutions adopted by the Sejm of the Republic of Poland, has initiated a series of actions that are in contravention of the principles of a democratic state based on the rule of law. These actions are designed to establish a form of 'transitional period' order that would effectively subvert the foundations of the Polish constitutional order. The term 'transitional period' was employed in the resolution of the Sejm of the Republic of Poland of 19 December 2023 pertaining to the restoration of legal order and the impartiality and integrity of the public media and the Polish Press Agency. Based on the

Tusk government's actions so far, it is apparent that this period will consist of unconventionally authoritarian mechanisms that diverge from any conception of a traditional democratic state.

The current situation represents a significant threat to the principles of democracy and freedom. Those who view the current situation in Poland with sincerity and without preconceived notions can discern that the objective of Donald Tusk and his political associates is not to uphold the rule of law, freedom of the media, or the independence of the courts. Rather, their aim is to consolidate and retain absolute authority without genuine opposition, undermine ideological diversity in the public sphere, and silence conservative voices.

Since assuming office on 13 December, Donald Tusk has exhibited a marked reluctance to adhere to the tenets of the rule of law, the Constitution, and the principles of political decency. This was exemplified by the detention of two opposition MPs, despite the immunity granted to them and the pardon issued by the President of Poland. On 20 December 2023, the second-instance court handed down a two-year prison sentence to former Chief of the Central Anti-Corruption Bureau (CBA) Mariusz Kaminski and his deputy, Michal Wąsik. Kaminski and Wąsik had been elected as deputies in the 10th term of the Polish Parliament during the parliamentary elections held on 15 October 2023. The two MPs were arrested while being guests of President Duda and subsequently incarcerated. Witnesses have alleged that the police used excessive force during the arrest, with a dozen police officers storming the Presidential Palace. The MPs were held in harsh conditions and resorted to a hunger strike. President Duda was compelled to pardon them once more to secure their release. Just hours before the release, and without medical justification, Kaminski was force-fed, amounting to torture. The case has been submitted to the European Court of Human Rights.

Another noteworthy action occurred on 3 July, when Bodnar's prosecutors, accompanied by police officers, conducted a raid on the premises of the Polish National Judicial Council (KRS) and removed files pertaining to disciplinary proceedings against judges with ties to the current government. Similarly, the President of the Warsaw Court of Appeal, who was dismissed in February by the Minister of Justice without the legally required approval from his court's panel of judges, has just been searched, in contravention of his immunity as a judge. Since the judicial reforms voted through by the PiS majority in 2017, the current coalition has been challenging the legitimacy of this KRS. They have also sought to discredit the judges appointed or promoted during the eight years of conservative government as 'neo-judges'. These actions are supported by left-wing judges who began their office during communist times.

Another disturbing development is the case of Father Olszewski, president of the Profeto organization, who has been detained in prison on the grounds of having benefited from a public subsidy provided by the PiS government for the construction of a reception center for victims of violence. The edifice in question has indeed been erected, but the current administration has accused the cleric of having incorrectly drafted the articles of association for his association, which would render him ineligible to apply for public subsidies.

In addition, there is the case of Marcin Romanowski, the former Vice-Minister of Justice. The Office of the Prosecutor has asserted that Romanowski perpetrated 11 criminal acts and caused over PLN 111 million in damages to the property of the State Treasury. The Sejm waived the immunity of Romanowski and concurred with the decision to detain and provisionally arrest him. Romanowski was apprehended by officers of the Internal Security Agency (ABW) on Monday, July 15th. It was brought to the attention of the relevant authorities at an early juncture that the former minister was entitled to separate immunity from national immunity in his capacity as a delegate to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe. Nevertheless, the decision

was taken to detain him, in contravention of international law. The possession of immunity and the necessity to request it in advance was subsequently corroborated in numerous letters from the highest authorities of the Council of Europe. Consequently, a Polish court ordered the immediate release of the MP protected by immunity. The manner in which this case was handled, the authorities' disregard for the information in their possession, represents a clear attempt to politicize the detention and intimidate MPs in opposition to the Tusk government.

The final act of the Tusk administration involved the withdrawal of PLN 57.6 million from the Law and Justice party. This decision was made following the rejection by the State Electoral Commission of the financial statement submitted by the Law and Justice election committee, citing an alleged breach of electoral campaign regulations. There were several legal deficiencies observed in the issuance of this ruling. However, the most severe accusation is that the State Electoral Commission applied double standards - while Tusk's party engaged in similar actions during the election campaign, it did not face any financial penalties.

The primary objective of the Tusk government appears to be political retaliation against the main opposition party. They are employing various methods, including the infringement of human rights, while receiving no objection from Brussels and Washington. Indeed, shortly after these incidents, U.S. Ambassador Mark Brzezinski gave a dystopian [endorsement](#) of the Tusk government's actions, which he bizarrely described as "leading to the restoration of the rule of law in Poland".

It is evident that the Tusk government persists in pursuing unlawful actions without relenting. The objective appears to be the dismantlement and discrediting of the opposition, with the assistance of compliant media and a pliant judiciary. Nevertheless, the US diplomacy under Biden did nothing in combating the prevailing lawlessness in Poland, and in many cases, actively endorsed the Tusk government's political crackdowns.

Media freedom

Media pluralism and freedom of speech are essential pillars of democracy, safeguarding a society where diverse perspectives can be voiced and debated. Since the fall of communism, however, Poland's media landscape has largely marginalized outlets that diverge from liberal-left perspectives. Many significant media enterprises have been acquired by foreign, predominantly German, companies, leading to further homogenization of viewpoints.

When Tusk's government assumed power, it moved to consolidate control over Poland's public media. This takeover reportedly involved unlawful measures, including secret service tactics, bypassing legislative requirements, infringing on Polish law. Such actions not only sidelined conservative voices but also reinforced a monopoly of liberal narratives. Once again, the Biden administration made no comment on these moves, despite vocal past Democrat criticism of potential restrictions on foreign media ownership under the Law and Justice government, illustrating the heavy Democrat bias against Polish conservatives and patriots.

This was demonstrated by the illegal appropriation of the public media and the appointment of journalists who are wholly subservient to the new government. This assault was initiated through a mere resolution passed by the Polish Sejm on 19 December 2023, without any changes to the statutory law.

The European media did report on the forceful [takeover](#), conducted by private security firms, of the public broadcaster TVP in December 2023 by the Tusk government. However, in addition, the left-wing Minister of Justice, Adam Bodnar, assumed control of the public prosecutor's office through the circumvention of established legal procedures. Following the replacement of the national prosecutor without first seeking the opinion of President Andrzej Duda, as required by law, he has proceeded to gradually replace prosecutors at lower levels. Similarly, in the judicial system, the Minister of Justice is replacing presidents and vice-presidents of courts without the necessary approval from the National Council of the Judiciary, and is disregarding the rulings of the Constitutional Court. These efforts have some passing similarities in result to the American left's legal battles against conservative media outlets and media figures in the United States, particularly Steve Bannon's War Room and InfoWars.

Moreover, Tusk-aligned liberal media, supported by high-profile political figures, launched campaigns pressuring businesses to withdraw advertising from conservative media outlets, further restricting the diversity of available viewpoints. In a troubling development, Tusk's administration continues to limit access for conservative media, denying them participation in press conferences even during critical moments, such as the recent flood crisis. This stance signals an unwillingness to engage with media pluralism, undermining the democratic discourse crucial to Poland's political health, but also security of citizens.

Conclusion

President Trump is the only candidate who will prioritize strengthening the U.S.-Polish relationship on all levels, as he did in his first term. Kamala Harris's progressive worldview, which includes open borders and globalist green policies, conflicts sharply with the outlook of most Polish-Americans, particularly the plurality that votes for the Law and Justice party and other conservative political parties in Poland. Moreover, President Trump will not shy away from exposing abuses committed against Polish conservatives by the Tusk government.

We therefore encourage all Polish-Americans to cast their votes for President Donald Trump, particularly if they live in critical swing states such as Wisconsin, Michigan and Pennsylvania. This vote will ensure the stability of the U.S.-Polish relationship.

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