



Poland No. 1 (2020)

Agreement

between the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the
Republic of Poland on the Participation in Certain Elections of Nationals
of Each Country Resident in the Territory of the Other

Warsaw, 29 May 2020

[The Agreement is not in force]

*Presented to Parliament
by the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs
by Command of Her Majesty
June 2020*



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**AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT
BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND THE REPUBLIC OF
POLAND ON THE PARTICIPATION IN CERTAIN ELECTIONS OF
NATIONALS OF EACH COUNTRY RESIDENT IN THE TERRITORY OF
THE OTHER**

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Republic of Poland, hereinafter referred to as “the Parties”;

- *Desiring* to further strengthen and consolidate the existing relations between the Parties and the close friendship that traditionally unites their nations;
- *In view of* the migration of the Parties’ nationals between the Parties’ territories and the importance that the Parties attach to the facilitation of the integration of the other Party’s nationals resident in their territory;
- *Desiring* to continue to encourage the social and political participation of the other Party’s nationals resident in their territory;
- *Considering* that it is desirable to promote the participation of nationals of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland resident in the Republic of Poland in local elections;
- *Considering* that it is desirable to promote the participation of nationals of the Republic of Poland resident in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in local elections;
- *To this end*, desiring that nationals of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland resident in the Republic of Poland participate in the Republic of Poland’s local elections;
- *To this end*, desiring that nationals of the Republic of Poland resident in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland participate in the United Kingdom’s local elections;
- *And considering* that participation in the elections by the Parties’ nationals resident in the territory of the other, to which the Agreement refers, will allow greater integration and will promote their political and social rights;

Have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE 1

Definitions

For the purposes of this Agreement:

- 1) “*local elections*” - in relation to the United Kingdom means:
 - a) local government elections,
 - b) mayoral elections, and
 - c) combined authority mayoral elections,as defined in the United Kingdom’s legislation;
- 2) “*local elections*” - in relation to the Republic of Poland means:
 - a) municipal council elections (wybory do rad gmin),
 - b) elections of commune heads, mayors and presidents of cities (wybory wójtów, burmistrzów i prezydentów miast),as defined in the Republic of Poland’s legislation;
- 3) “*nationals of the United Kingdom*” - has the meaning given by the Declaration of 13 December 2007 by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on the definition of the term ‘nationals’ in the Treaty on European Union and the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, as it had effect on the date on which it was made; and
- 4) “*United Kingdom*” - means the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

ARTICLE 2

Entitlement of resident nationals of the United Kingdom to vote and/or to stand in local elections in the Republic of Poland

1. The Republic of Poland grants to nationals of the United Kingdom who are legally resident in the Republic of Poland the rights to vote and/or to stand as candidates in local elections in the Republic of Poland subject to the same conditions as citizens of the European Union who are not nationals of the Republic of Poland.
2. This Article shall not affect the right of nationals of the United Kingdom who are legally resident in the Republic of Poland to participate in communal referenda in the Republic of Poland, which shall continue to be governed by domestic law.

ARTICLE 3

Entitlement of resident nationals of the Republic of Poland to vote and/or to stand in local elections in the United Kingdom

1. The United Kingdom grants to nationals of the Republic of Poland who are legally resident in the United Kingdom the rights to vote and/or to stand as candidates in local elections in the United Kingdom subject to the same conditions as nationals of the United Kingdom.
2. This Article shall not affect the rights of nationals of the Republic of Poland who are legally resident in the United Kingdom to vote and/or to stand in other elections in the United Kingdom, which shall continue to be governed by domestic law.

ARTICLE 4

Notification on changes in domestic law

The Governments of the Parties shall notify each other on changes to the franchise in their domestic law that are relevant to the scope and implementation of the Agreement.

ARTICLE 5

Amendments

1. The Agreement may be amended by written agreement between the Parties.
2. Any amendments of the Agreement shall enter into force pursuant to the conditions specified in Article 7 of the Agreement.

ARTICLE 6

Settlement of Disputes

Any disputes concerning the interpretation, application or implementation of the Agreement shall be resolved solely by negotiation between the Parties.

ARTICLE 7

Entry into force

1. The Parties shall notify each other through diplomatic channels on the implementation of their respective internal requirements necessary for the entry into force of the Agreement.
2. The Agreement shall enter into force 30 days after the date of the receipt of the later of the notifications referred to in paragraph 1.

ARTICLE 8

Duration and termination

1. The Agreement is concluded for an indefinite period.
2. Either Party may terminate the Agreement by giving written notification to the other Party. In such case the Agreement shall terminate 30 days after the day of receipt of the termination notification through diplomatic channels.
3. Termination of this Agreement shall not affect the mandates of nationals of the Parties who are elected in local elections during the period that this Agreement is in force.

Done at London this Twenty-ninth May 2020 in duplicate, in the English and the Polish languages, both texts being equally authentic.

**For the United Kingdom of
Great Britain and Northern Ireland:**

For the Republic of Poland:

JONATHAN KNOTT

PIOTR WAWRZYK

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