

COMMEMORATIVE BROCHURE

The Role of Poland and Polonia in the Current Global Balance of Power

Lecture by Dr. Jacek Bartosiak



**Montante Cultural Center
Canisius College
2001 Main Street
Buffalo, NY 14224**

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Jacek Bartosiak, Ph.D.

Dr. Jacek Bartosiak is a renowned expert on geo-strategy, especially the relationship between the United States and China as well as the position of Poland and Polonia in the global balance of power. He is the author of (2016) *"Pacyfik i Eurazja. O wojnie."* (*Pacific and Eurasia. On War.*), a book that focuses on the competition among world powers in Eurasia and the possible war in the Western Pacific; (2018) *"Rzeczpospolita między lądem a morzem. O wojnie i pokoju."* (*Polish Commonwealth between Land and Sea. About War and Peace.*), which deals with the geostrategic reality Poland and Europe face in an era of competition among great powers. It is an in-depth study of the Central and Eastern European Theater of War and modern warfare, including the Revolution in Military Affairs. The third Dr. Bartosiak's book is (2019) *"Przeszłość jest prologiem."* (*Past is the Prologue*), which is a dynamic presentation of Poland's role and position in the context of global tensions. All of his books are bestsellers in Poland and are now awaiting publication in English, German, and other languages.

Dr. Bartosiak is the CEO and founder of Strategy & Future (S&F) with vast international viewership on the Internet at <strategyandfuture.org>. He is Senior Fellow of the Washington, D.C. based Potomac Foundation, Director of Wargaming & Simulations Program at the Casimir Pulaski Foundation in Poland, and co-founder of Play of Battle, a wargaming and simulation games studio. Dr. Bartosiak is also a contributor to Nowa Konfederacja I Warsaw, Poland and New Generation Warfare Center in Washington, D.C. Dr. Bartosiak is a former (2018-2019) CEO of Solidarity Transport Hub, a national initiative to build a new city in the center of Poland that will serve as a global airport, road and rail transportation hub consolidating the territory of Poland and connecting it into the global network of commerce. The military importance of Solidarity and Transport Hub cannot be overestimated. Dr. Bartosiak is a graduate of the Warsaw University Law School. Since 2004, he has been the Managing Partner of his Warsaw based law office specializing in corporate, business and financial law. As a renowned expert on geopolitics, Dr. Bartosiak has been a leading voice in the debate on the strategic balance of power in Central and Eastern Europe, Eurasia and the Western Pacific. He has participated in countless conferences and speaking engagements worldwide on that subject.

The security of global arrangements after World War II, which brought an unprecedented period of peace and prosperity to the community of nations, has been

recently threatened. The emergence of China as a global power, wars in the Middle East and Africa, uncertain relationships among the US, Russia and the European Union, exacerbated by Brexit, bring a period of trade confrontation. Recently, rather than encouraging peace and cooperation, the US demands that countries arm themselves. At the same time, while we are moving our military attention to the Pacific theatre and away from Europe, the US has deployed an armored brigade to Poland. It is critical to understand the importance of Poland in this increasingly polarized world. Dr. Bartosiak is uniquely qualified to present the role Poland has been playing in the global balance of peace and war both throughout the centuries and currently.

Retired Lieutenant General Frederick Benjamin “Ben” Hodges III, former commander of US army Europe, states that Bartosiak’s book *Polish Commonwealth between Land and Sea* is an insightful and relevant work in the context of Russia’s revisionist policies. Respected geostrategist Dr. George Friedman recommends that the book is a must read, especially for American military and particularly those rotating into the Polish theatre of operations.

The best way to begin following Jacek’s impressive geo-political vision of the world with systematic weekly updates is through Strategy and Future (S&F) at <strategyandfuture.org>. S&F’s core mission is to explain unfolding events and trends that impact the lives of people and shape the destinies of nations around the world.

The Lecture

The Role of Poland and Polonia in the Current Global Balance of Power

In a format of one hour lecture and one hour question and answer session, Dr. Bartosiak clarified a seemingly confusing difference between the US declarations of pivoting towards the Pacific and away from Europe while at the same time deploying the US military to Poland. Why moving the US GIs and Abrams tanks to Poland when the US is bringing its attention closer to China? The lecture has been streamed live and drew large international audience.

Poland developed successfully as a country and then the melting pot of nations, races and religions for 800 years. It all ended with the partitions of Poland by absolute monarchs of Russia, Prussia and Austria who united to fight Poland's elected monarchy, religious, ethnic and racial tolerance and our progressive May 3, 1791 Constitution. After the partitions of Poland in 1795, an unprecedented series of world wars ensued, with most of human loses and destruction occurring on the former Polish territory: Napoleonic Wars, World Wars I and II.

Today, Russia is still a predator state threatening the world with fear of atomic aggression and destroying peaceful coexistence by waging wars and grabbing territories of other countries, recently Ukraine. Germans are growing into a sole leading force in Western Europe and begin to openly question American leadership role. There are those in Washington who believe that a strong Poland is the only viable support to the continued peace and stability in Europe, and as the consequence, the world. Strong Poland supported by the United States and able to coordinate the defenses of neighboring countries would be an effective balancer between the power of Russia and Germany.

A mistake in calculating how much we should support and build Polish political, economic, and military strength could lead to WW III. Some of those who benefit from current American support are concerned that if American support for Poland grows, the support for them will diminish. We must do everything possible to ensure that our decision makers hear and consider the voice of Polish experts and Polonia when deciding on the level and quality of Polish-American cooperation. Dr. Bartosiak is one of these experts.

The current map of Poland was dictated by Joseph Stalin in 1943 in Tehran with little resistance from Roosevelt and Churchill who were anxious to stop WW II and limit human loses. The ultimate details were approved in Yalta in 1945. As a result, parts of Poland annexed by the Soviet Union during their war of aggression on Poland in September 1939 remained with the Soviet Union as the Republics of Lithuania, Belarus and Ukraine. Today, they are all independent countries. Lithuania is relatively safe as a part of NATO and the European Union. Ukraine just lost a part of its territory to Russia and is not able to close its border to continuous

Russian military incursions and attacks on Ukrainian defenses. Belarus is controlled by the Russians with Russian army units present on its territory, able to use Belarus as a launching pad for attacks on Poland or the Baltic countries. Russians also control Kaliningrad, an enclave to the north west of Poland saturated with Russian soldiers, artillery and the whole Anti Access Area Denial (A2AD) weaponry ready to stop NATO forces from effectively intervening in the defense of Poland or the Baltic countries.

Neither the Soviet Union nor Germany were ready to attack Poland without working together and attacking simultaneously from the west and from the east. It is in the Russians' interest today to deal with the countries that used to be a part of pre partition Poland separately. A word that aptly describes these countries is Intermarium (from Latin: between the seas) It is in the interest of the Intermarium countries to coordinate their political and military posture as a deterrent against continuous Russian threat and aggression. Through continuous Russian influence, the Intermarium countries are blocked from openly working together on their defenses. The following map illustrates the theatre of war between rivers Oder, Dniro and Daugava (Polish Dźwina) as well as the Baltic and the Black Seas.



From a military perspective, the geographic terrain of the Intermarium countries is one continuous theatre of war and has been for centuries. It is convenient for the Russians to divide this terrain and influence, intimidate, or openly attack portions of it separately at their leisure

while other countries of the Intermarium are passively watching unable to intervene due to their isolation, weakness and political pressure from their allies, which do not want to provoke Russia. If the Russians kill a Ukrainian soldier in Ilovaisk or Slovyansk, they weaken Poland's defenses. If they deploy S 400 A2AD rockets in Kaliningrad, it weakens Ukrainian's position in Luhansk or Slovyansk.

Once these countries of the Intermarium unite in their defense and coordinate their actions, they would be able to effectively defend themselves from Russia. An obvious aggressive posture by the Russians who build military bases in Syria and buzz the Baltic States with their planes is proof that the free world should demand Kaliningrad to be demilitarized. If not, in case of any further aggression from Russia against for example Ukraine, NATO should consider pushing the Russians out of Kaliningrad and handing this territory to Poland and Lithuania as a deterrent from eventual Russian aggression.

There are those in Washington and the Pentagon who believe that supporting Poland in their economic and military development will be a means to balance the influence of Russia and Germany in Europe. Such a deterrent will facilitate American engagement in the Pacific theatre of war.

SPONSORS

The reaction to a prospect of Dr. Bartosiak's lecture in Buffalo, NY has been overwhelming. It reflects the need for information regarding Poland and Polonia in the current global balance of power from a perspective of a Polish expert. The world has learned through centuries that miscalculating the role of Poland led to countless wars, which impacted global community. Here is a list of the organizations and individuals who consented to have their names listed in the brochure. The list is longer but we respect the privacy of those donors who wished to remain anonymous.

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They are a select group that decided to commit a minimum of \$1,000 to the event.

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