

Resolutions

Approved during the meeting of the Council of National Directors
September 15-17, 2016, Chicago, IL

Resolution I: Frances X. Gates Resolution

Submitted by Barbara B. Andersen, Ph.D.

Whereas Frances X. Gates served as a National Director of the Polish American Congress over the course of more than two decades representing the Polish Singers Alliance of America, and

Whereas Frances X. Gates served on and chaired various committees of the Council of National Directors of the Polish American Congress during this time and also was an officer or director of other Polish American organizations, such as the Polish Singers Alliance of America, the American Association of the Friends of Kosciuszko at West Point, The Kosciuszko Foundation, and the Pulaski Day Parade on Fifth Avenue in New York City, and

Whereas Frances X. Gates' strong record of wide-ranging support for Polish American causes, her considerable contributions to the management and direction of Polonia's organizations, and her many contributions to the Polish American Congress make her a true example to all Polish Americans and a model of dedicated activism, unbiased judgment, and focus on the greater good of Polonia organizations and the Polish community at large.

Let it be resolved, that the Council of National Directors of the Polish American Congress that gathered on September 15-17 in Rosemont, IL expresses its deep appreciation for the many years of Frances X Gates' selfless, dedicated, and exemplary service, and wishes her good health, satisfaction with all she has done, and the proverbial Sto Lat!

Resolution II: Resolution by the Polish American Congress' Participants

in the First Forum of American Polonia. July 26-30, 2016, Rzeszow, Poland

Whereas on July 26, 2016 the Polish American Congress met for the first time in its history, one that spans more than seven decades, outside the borders of the United States, in Rzeszow, Poland as a part of the historic First Forum of American Polonia, and

Whereas the Polish American Congress is today the largest and one of the oldest organizations that brings together Americans of Polish

descent in an effort of unifying the Polish American community to work together for the common benefit of the United States and Poland, and

Whereas since its inception, the Polish American Congress has been a champion for many causes of a free and independent Poland, including providing humanitarian aid as well as strong support for Poland's membership in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization which was accomplished in 1999, and

Whereas the unprecedented 2016 Forum in Rzeszow was spearheaded by the Marshal's Office of the Podkarpackie Voivodeship to not only present the great potential of the Podkarpackie area but also to bring attention to its many possibilities for foreign investments and partnerships.

Therefore be it resolved that the Polish American Congress expresses its great appreciation and gratitude to the Marshal's Office of the Podkarpackie Voivodeship for its generous invitation as well as for the development of a very informative and rich program to acquaint the Forum participants with the extensive economic, educational, and cultural possibilities of the region. For many participants this was a one of a kind opportunity to experience first hand the proverbial Polish hospitality, as well as to witness great innovation and business development of the Podkarpackie province.

Be it resolved that the Polish American Congress hopes that the 2016 Forum of American Polonia in Rzeszow will become a model and inspiration for other similar initiatives both in Poland and in the United States. These future forums will not only promote and enhance business, educational, and cultural relationships, but also, and foremost, provide a platform for greater dialog and strengthening ties between the two nations.

Be it resolved that the Polish American Congress will work diligently to maintain its close and continuing contacts with both local governments in Poland, as well as at the national level. The PAC recognizes the key importance of such events as the 2016 Rzeszow Forum as a foundation for tangible successful business, educational, and cultural enterprises.

Resolution III: Appreciation Resolution

Submitted by Stephen Flor on behalf of the Polish Falcons of America

Whereas, the Polish American Congress has functioned successfully for 72 years, primarily as an umbrella organization, unifying the Polish American Community of the United States, and

Whereas, we dedicate these proceedings to our members of the Polish American Community, that our incoming Officers and Directors have the leadership, inspiration, vision and motivation to guide our organization and to value all members, regardless of opinion, diversity, geography or philosophy to ensure our growth and stability, and

Whereas, we look forward to the future with a dedicated spirit, unafraid to discuss, but united in purpose, and

Whereas, we continually work to build up and support our youth through athletic, cultural, scholarship and leadership programs, therefore,

Be it resolved that we express our heartfelt gratitude to the Organizers for a successful meeting; to the National Office for warmly hosting our events; to all of the volunteers especially to those who tirelessly worked behind the scenes to make things proceed and to the City of Rosemont, for any and all assistance provided to the Polish American Congress.

Resolution IV: 1050th Anniversary of Christianity and May 3rd Constitution in Poland

Submitted by Stephen Flor on behalf of the Polish Falcons of America

Whereas the year 2016 marks the 1050th Anniversary of Poland's acceptance of Christianity, and

Whereas, the year 2016 marks the 225th Anniversary of the signing of the Polish Constitution of May 3rd, 1791, known as the "First Constitution in Europe and the Second in the World to that of the United States, therefore,

Be it resolved that all Polish Americans commemorate these events appropriately and exhibit special pride in the historic bond between the people of the United States and Poland in the evolutionary development of democratic government.

Resolution V: World War One Centennial Commission

Submitted by Stephen Flor on behalf of the Polish Falcons of America

Whereas the year 2014 marked 100 years since the beginning of World War I in Europe, and

Whereas the year 2017 will mark 100 years since the entry of the United States into the "Great War", and

Whereas some 300,000 Polish Americans served in the Armed Forces of the United States during World War I, and

Whereas the Polish American Community was instrumental in the recruitment and formation of 22,000 volunteers from America to General Jozef Haller's Polish "Blue" Army in France, and

Whereas the Congress of the United States established the World War One Centennial Commission, and the year 2018 will mark the end of World War I, to be celebrated on November 11th, as Veterans' Day, and

Whereas, November 11th will mark the 100th Anniversary of the Rebirth of Poland at the end of World War I, therefore

Be it resolved that all research and develop the recognition of those Polish Americans who served, working closely with the American Legion formed by U.S. Veterans from World War I and Polish Army Veterans Association (SWAP) formed by the returning soldiers of Gen. Jozef Haller's Army and commemorate Veterans' Day in an appropriate manner, and

Be it further resolved that all Polish Americans promote the historic continuity of the resolve of the American people for the Freedom and Independence of Poland.

Resolution VI: Support for NATO and U.S. Troops Worldwide

Submitted by Stephen Flor on behalf of the Polish Falcons of America

Whereas, the members of the Polish American Community have been good and conscientious citizens of the American nation since its inception and cherish their rights and liberties, engaged at a moment of growing civil unrest within the United States, and recognize that liberty should be denied to none, but protected for all, and

Whereas, in July of 2016, the Polish American Congress had witnessed the NATO Summit, held for the first time in Warsaw, Poland, and

Whereas, all Polish Americans encourage fellow citizens to support the good mission of NATO to preserve and defend the freedom and independence of our nation's greatest ally - Poland, therefore,

Be it resolved that we continue to show support for our troops worldwide and for Law Enforcement, as well as our Democratic process in the upcoming 2016 Presidential election.

PAC Resolutions Committee: Theresa Bunk (Chair), Richard Brzozowski, James Lawicki, and David Tokarski.