

Warsaw hosted NATO summit



More than 2,000 delegates from 28 NATO allies and 26 partner countries have arrived in Warsaw for the two-day NATO summit, to be held for the first time in Poland July 8-9. "NATO will show unity, it will show that it reacts in an adequate way to the security situation in the world, Polish President Andrzej Duda said after meeting with NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg at the Belvedere Palace in Warsaw on Thursday afternoon.

Objectives to be set by NATO at this year's summit are: strengthening the alliance's eastern flank, co-operating with Ukraine and running a dialog with Russia, but not at any cost.

Before the official inauguration of the summit, President Duda will meet with US President Barack Obama to discuss, among other subjects, security and economic issues.

"An over 30-minute meeting will be held at the National Stadium," Szczerski said, adding that a press conference of the two presidents is also planned.

A Wednesday communique from the White House suggested that US President would ask his Polish counterpart about the political conflict in Poland.

The New York Times urged Obama to chastise the ruling party Law and Justice (PiS) leader Jaroslaw Kaczynski for behaving "increasingly like a Putin clone," the daily Gazeta Wyborcza reported.

On Friday morning Duda and Stoltenberg will open an expert forum titled "NATO - in the defense of peace: 2016 and later" at Warsaw's PGE National Stadium.

On Saturday, President Duda will take part in plenary sessions and hold six bilateral meetings with other leaders, presidential minister Krzysztof Szczerski said.

Press conferences of the Polish president and the NATO secretary general will be held after the conclusion of the summit, Szczerski said.

Polish PM Beata Szydlo will meet with UK PM David Cameron on the sidelines of the NATO summit on Friday to discuss Britain's situation after the decision to leave the EU, the rights of Poles living in the UK as well as cooperation within NATO, the government's spokesperson Rafal Bochenek told PAP Polish news agency.

Some 79% of Poles support Poland's presence in NATO, a survey by CBOS pollster showed. Only 4% of respondents oppose Poland's NATO membership, according to the survey.

Source: The Warsaw Voice