

Declaration of Intent

between

the Federal Ministry of Defence of the Federal Republic of Germany

and

the Minister of National Defence of the Republic of Poland

on

Enhanced Maritime Cooperation

The Federal Ministry of Defence of the Federal Republic of Germany
and
the Minister of National Defence of the Republic of Poland

hereinafter referred to as the “sides”,

- bear in mind the common interests in the domain of international peace and security,
- are committed in the spirit of the Charter of the United Nations and the North Atlantic Treaty and the Treaty on European Union,
- welcome the excellent cooperation between the German and Polish Navy in the field of training and education,
- acknowledge the existing twinning arrangement between the German and Polish naval academies,
- refer to the Agreement between the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Government of the Republic of Poland on bilateral defence cooperation, dated 21 June 2011; share the understanding that this Declaration of Intent will be regarded as a confirmation of the existing excellent relations and will provide a sound basis for the further enhancement of the German-Polish Naval cooperation in the future.

Scope

The enhancement of the maritime cooperation will comprise a broad spectrum of aspects in the field of operations, concept development, training, exercises and education, logistic support- and capability development as well as armament and procurement.

Cooperation on Operations

In this context particular attention will be paid to common planning, preparation and pre-deployment training and exercises when the German and Polish Navy are engaged in operations where multinational interaction and cooperation at operational and tactical level is required.

Future cooperation will comprise a variety of operational aspects, in particular Mine Warfare, and in current operations, mutual manning and common use of specific C2 functionalities, such as submarine operating authority (SUBOPAETH), as well as maritime situational awareness in the Baltic Sea Area enhancing and supporting maritime security regimes within the maritime domain.

Cooperation on Capabilities

Multinational Approaches and Pooling&Sharing are instruments within a NATO and European framework to cope with the decrease in defence budgets and the necessity to close capability gaps as well as to ensure the provision of adequate military capabilities at the same time.

The cooperation could foster a coordinated approach to support capability development, procurement and operation of selected naval platforms and weapon systems.

Cooperation on Training and Exercises

Combined training and exercises as well as the exchange of new knowledge and lessons learned will substantially improve mutual understanding between the German and Polish maritime forces, contributing to enhanced interoperability during UN-, NATO-, or EU-led operations and ultimately increasing the effectiveness of our Navies. This will comprise combined operational training and mutual participation in training courses including follow-up agreements on training cooperation and exchange of experiences, exchange of personnel, common use of training facilities and means, ashore and afloat, as well as exercise areas of both sides.

Both sides share the understanding that the permanent exchange of liaison officers at Naval Headquarters/Maritime Operation Centres as well as the regular exchange of personnel in their national units and of instructors, students and cadets at military education and training facilities should be considered too as far as improving language skills enable further interaction.

Cooperation on Maritime Logistics

This aspect of cooperation will aim at an increased bilateral logistic cooperation in order to make efficient use of resources and to bring forward multinational solutions regarding NATO policies and procedures. This may include the option of common test, storage and maintenance sites for selected types of ammunition;

Conclusion

Being firmly convinced that the further enhancement of our cooperation will contribute to cope with future challenges and will have a positive impact on European Security and Defence, both sides declare their intent to

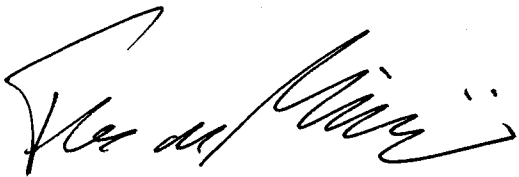
- continue the mutual beneficial, professional and friendly partnership in the interest of both sides and
- based on reciprocal analysis, examination of opportunities and areas that are of mutual interest, to further enhance cooperation between both Navies regarding conceptual, operational, logistic and training.

In order to coordinate, facilitate and further develop this broad cooperation, both sides recognize that their Navies will continue to conduct regular naval staff talks.

Permanent German-Polish Naval working groups will be established for the purpose of enabling and facilitating a bilateral and standing cooperation between both Navies.

Both sides express their wishes to further expand and deepen their naval cooperation, aiming to intertwine leading on the long term to more integration on a number of activities attached as annex to this declaration in order to achieve adequate results.

Signed in duplicate in Rostock-Warnemünde, Germany on the 27th May 2013



Dr. Thomas de Maizière
Federal Ministry of Defence
of the Federal Republic of Germany



Tomasz Siemoniak
Ministry of National Defence
of the Republic of Poland

Annex:

Possible maritime related cooperation opportunities for the further enhancement of the bilateral relations between Germany and Poland¹:

1. POL-DEU cooperation in the field of submarines
2. Common development/procurement and manning of Joint Support Ships (JSS)
3. Common development and common operation of new oilers/tankers
4. Common development and procurement of mission modules derived from the new DEU Multi-Role Combat Ship (MRCS 180 class)
5. Cooperation on the field of Aerial Pollution Control in the Baltic Sea
6. Establishment of a permanent DEU-POL Naval Working Group
7. Establishment of a temporary DEU-POL MCM Group
8. Establishment of a DEU-POL Submarine Operating Authority
9. Provision of Training and Exercise Assets
10. Intensification of cooperation in assignment and use of exercise areas
11. Enhancement of interoperability at Air Defence Network Operations
12. Investigation of further cooperation opportunities in the field of maritime air tasks
13. Embarkation of helicopter detachments on the other nation's ships
14. Mutual support in the training of ship-helicopter operations
15. Embarkation of Boarding or Protection Elements
16. Cooperation in the collection of Rapid Environmental Assessment data
17. Cooperation in the field of deployable harbour and force protection
18. Support of DEU navigational training by POL training ship
19. Establishment of personnel exchange programme (PEP)
20. Attendance of POL Representative in DEU/NLD Anti Air Warfare (AAW) Course
21. Use of DEU Naval Damage Control Training Centre by POL units
22. Cooperation and twinning agreements between DEU and POL Naval Schools
23. Sharing experience in Computer Aided Training (CAT)
24. Use of DEU Navy Tactical Training facilities by POL students
25. Cooperation concerning use, maintenance, storage and training in conjunction with RBS 15 MK3 missiles
26. Cooperation concerning maintenance, storage and training in conjunction with MU90 torpedoes
27. Sharing of shipping and cargo assets in multinational operations
28. Sharing of manning, equipment and facilities in multinational operations within logistics

¹ Procurement and manning are subject to national decisions to be taken by the respective national bodies.