Poland.

The CEE's
Regional Leader

Six Good Reasons For Investors To Choose Poland



As a President of the Board of the Polish Investment and Trade Agency (PAIH), the question I'm asked most often by investors is: "Why Poland?"

That's why I asked my talented team of experts to prepare this publication. In it we highlight, out of many, the FIVE BEST REASONS TO CHOOSE POLAND. And that's precisely what you'll find on the pages that follow.

I would, however, like to add a SIXTH – my experienced, knowledgeable and enthusiastic team of people, each of whom is committed to providing investors with the highest standard of professional support. This helps them to make successful investments and – in turn, has a positive impact on Poland's economy.

We hope to welcome you to Poland in the near future.

Andrzej Dycha



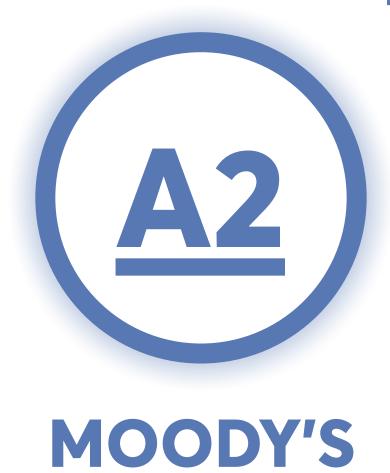
THE FIRST GOOD REASON

Poland's Economic Stability and Investment Potential

THE GREEN LIGHT FROM CREDIT RATING AGENCIES



POLAND'S RATING



Moody's ANALYTICS



S&P





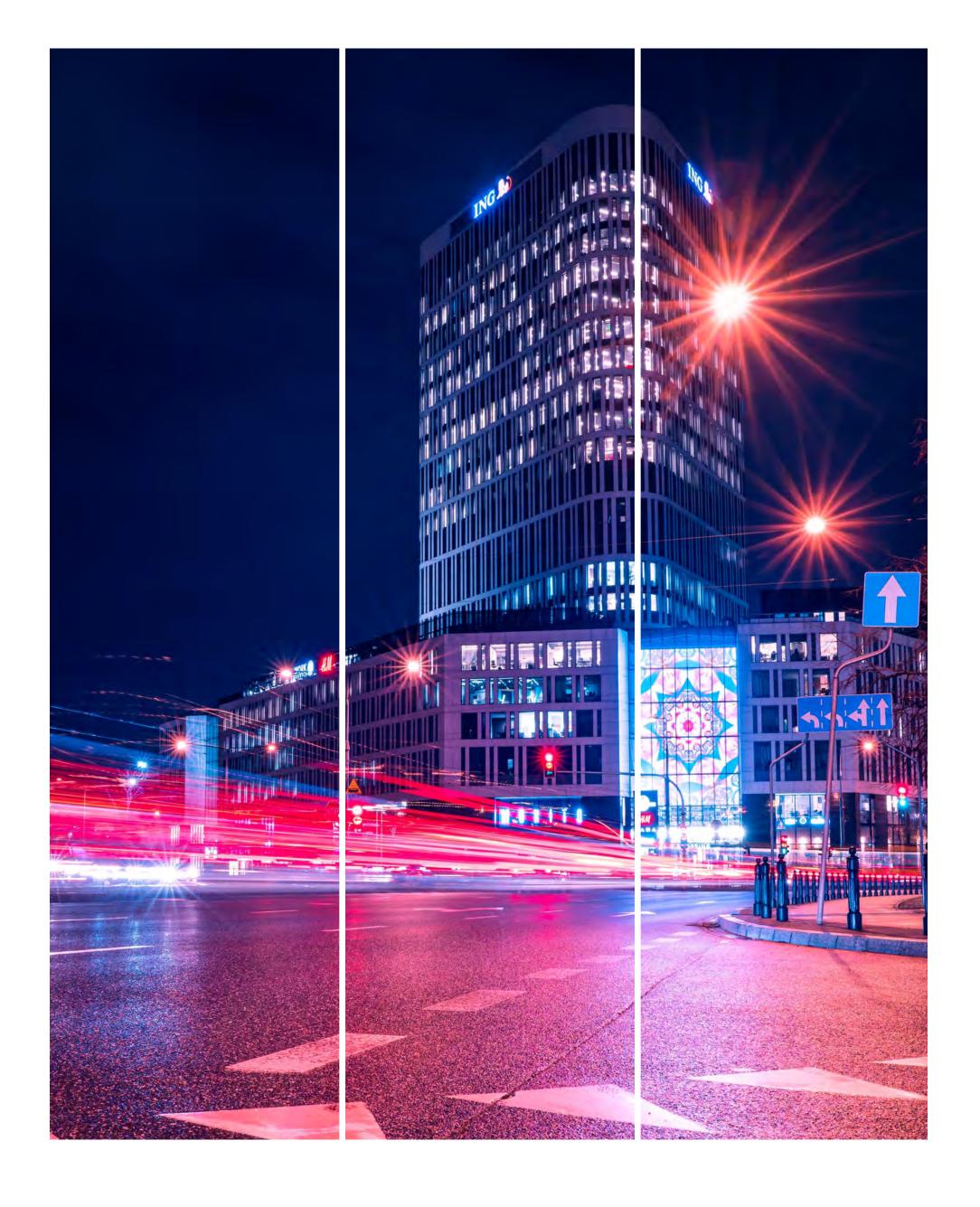
FitchRatings

RESISTANT TO CRISIS

Poland has only experienced a recession once since 1989 – in 2001 – and that one lasted just a few months.

It was thanks to a diversified and competitive economy that Poland's GDP growth remained strong – even through the financial crisis of 2008. Our economy also grew in the first quarter of 2020, with **Poland's GDP increasing by 2% year-to-year**. In the era of COVID-19 an economic setback is inevitable, but in the long run economists expect Poland to come out relatively unscathed. According to data from the Polish Statistical Office, the GDP decline was only -2,8% in 2020, lower than the European Commission estimates of -4.6%.

That will make Poland's recession the smallest among the EU countries. Over the last three decades, Poland's GDP has grown faster than any other in Europe.



MACROECONOMIC CERTAINTY

Poland is considered to be one of the most economically stable and fastest developing countries in the world.

According to the International Monetary Fund, since 1981, the GDP per capita in Poland has increased more than nine-fold. The IMF forecasts indicate a further dynamic growth in Poland's GDP.

GDP PER CAPITA IN POLAND

PURCHASING POWER PARITY SOURCE: WWW.CEICDATA.COM



*IMF forecast

A BUSINESS-FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT

DOING BUSINESS 2020

Poland 40

Czech Republic 41

Slovakia 45

Hungary 52

Romania 55

Bulgaria 61

Saudi Arabia 62

GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS REPORT 2023

PLACE

Czech Republic	18
Poland	43
Hungary	46
Romania	48
Slovakia	53
Bulgaria	57

CORRUPTION PERCEPTION INDEX 2022

	PLACE
Czech Republic	41
Poland	45
Slovakia	49
Romania	63
Bulgaria	72
Hungary	77

The country's strong position on the map of business-friendly places is reflected in actual business activities.

Last year, Poland was ranked highest in the CEE region and eighth in Europe in terms of the number of inward foreign direct investments.¹



THE MOST FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENTS (EY)

PLACE	COUNTRY	NUMBER OF FDI's IN 2022
1	France	1259
2	Great Britain	929
3	Germany	832
4	Spain	324
5	Turkiye	321
6	Portugal	248
7	Italy	243
8	Poland	237
9	Belgium	234
10	Ireland	184

In 2023, Poland was also ranked highest in the CEE region and fifth in Europe in terms of number of manufacturinng projects with the number of 81 and 13,365 new jobs created.

The Coronavirus pandemic did not reverse positive invesment trends in Poland. While in Europe the future investments had the 65% projected success rate after pandemic, in Poland the success rate was projected to be over 80%.



POSITION	COUNTRY	NUMBER OF PROJECTS IN 2022
1	France	547
 2	Turkiye	257
 3	Great Britain	175
4	Germany	106
5	Poland	81
 6	Spain	
 7	Belgium	57
 8	Italy	51
 9	Serbia	47
 10	Ireland	40

TOP 10 EUROPEAN COUNTRIES WITH THE MOST MANUFACTURING PROJECTS IN 2022

EY Europe Attractiveness Survey 2023

NUMBER OF RECTS IN 2022

INVESTMENTS WITH GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

Investors can count on support from State institutions.

THE POLISH INVESTMENT ZONE

Tax incentives for enterprises are available throughout Poland. Projects implemented in areas with a high unemployment rate and/or which have an impact on the competitiveness and innovation of a region's economy are rewarded. The whole of Poland has become a Special Economic Zone. This means that companies investing anywhere in the country can count on corporate income tax exemptions. The decision to grant such an exemption, is made after certain criteria have been met and support is granted for a fixed period (usually 10 to 15 years) – this is the longest income tax exemption period available to companies in the CEE region.



R&D TAX RELIEF

Companies can deduct up to 200% from their tax base (and 250 % in the case of R&D centres) of eligible costs, for expenses related to e.g. wages and salaries, equipment or the purchase of materials intended for scientific research.

INNOVATION BOX

There is a 5% preferential tax rate on income obtained from the sale of intellectual property rights. This preferential rate applies throughout the entire period of patent protection and is also fully compliant with the OECD's nexus approach.





PROGRAM SUPPORTING INVESTMENTS OF SIGNIFICANT IMPORTANCE TO THE POLISH ECONOMY

A government cash grant program allows companies to recieve support of up to 20% of eligible project costs, in the case of strategic or innovative manufacturing projects or highly advanced service centers.

The Polish Government reacts dynamically to the needs and expectations of entrepreneurs operating in Poland: An example of such active business support is the so-called "Anti-crisis Shield" system, that helps companies affected by the Coronavirus pandemic. This Shield scheme has made PLN 100 billion (about EUR 22 billion) available to companies needing support.

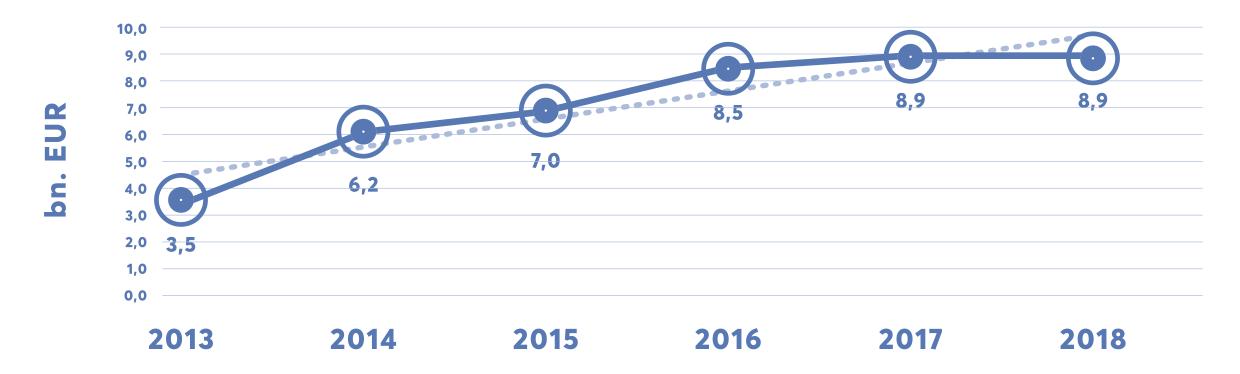
REINVESTMENT

The inflow of foreign direct investment into Poland was significantly higher than in the previous year. It total amounted to PLN 114.2 billion.

The structure of FDI transactions was dominated by reinvestment of profits (PLN 75.6 billion).²



GLOBAL REINVESTMENT TREND



SUPPORT FROM THE EUROPEAN UNION

Poland's membership in the European Union is one of the most important guarantees of stability in the legal and administrative system.

The single market, free trade and free movement of citizens and a common agricultural policy are all cornerstones of Poland's economic foundations.

Poland is the largest beneficiary of the EU's financial programs. As established at the European Council summit, for the years 2021-2027 where Poland is to receive EUR 173 billion from the EU's budget in the form of direct grants and privileged loans. Poland will also, yet again, be the largest beneficiary of the EU's cohesion policy programs, in the years 2021-2027. We are going to receive **EUR 76 billion.** A large part of these funds will go to companies in an effort to increase the innovativeness of our economy.

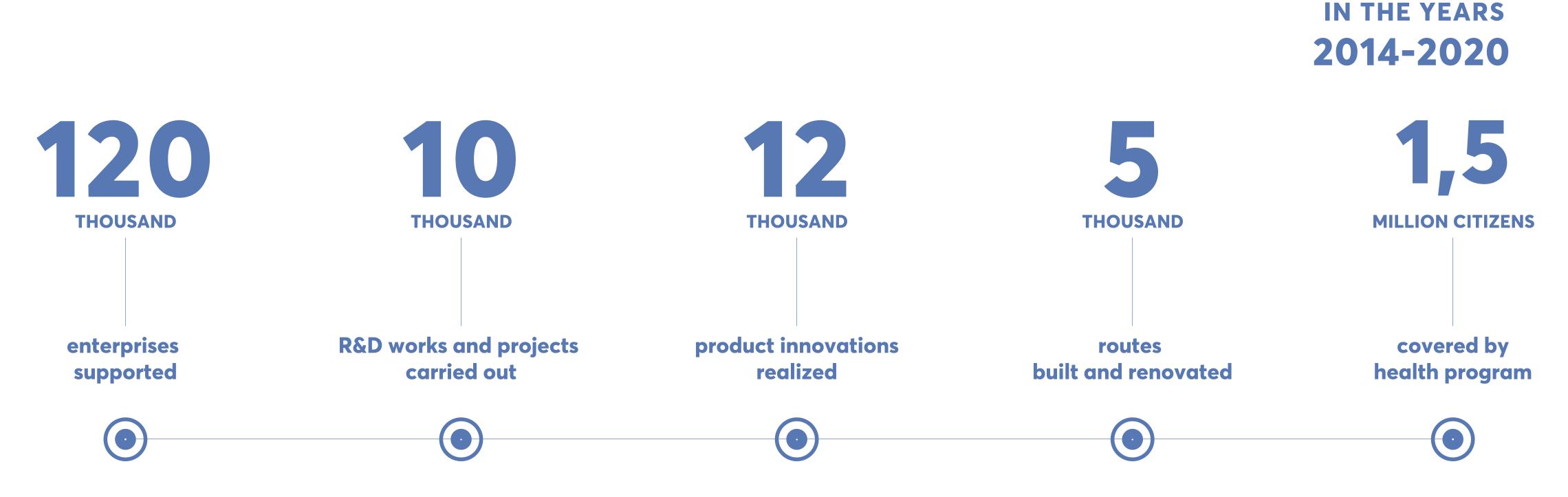


Until now, under the EU's Cohesion Policy, in 2014-2020 Poland received **EUR 86 billion** and, in 2007-2013, we received **EUR 67 billion**.

At that time EU funds were provided to areas for work related to the environment, infrastructure, energy, education, innovation, R&D, revitalization, healthcare and cultural improvements.

As the biggest beneficiary of the Cohesion Policy, Poland can also count on support in the times of the Coronavirus crisis. The largest **EUR 7.4 billion pool of funds** – from an EU initiative valued at a total of EUR 37.3 billion – is aimed at mitigating the impact of the Coronavirus on our economy.

EFFECT OF THE EU FUNDS INVESTMENTS



support for thousands of projects based on cooperation between research centers and members of the business community

THE SECOND GOOD REASON

Poland's
Strategic Location

THE HEART OF EUROPE

The pandemic has disrupted existing supply chains and forced companies to revise their strategies.

Therefore Poland – which connects Asia with Western Europe by its excellent transport infrastructure and its very good trade relations with Europe and the US, as well as having the opinion of a proven European partner (e.g. in the automotive industry) – may be among those who stand to gain the most from this new situation.

"The virus, which has shown how concentrated the supplier base is, together with the uncertainty related to trade policy **should lead to a rethinking of global supply chains**" – says Prof. Beata Smarzyńska-Javorcik, Chief Economist of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development.⁴

The Polish Economic Institute estimates that as a result of ongoing business relocations, Poland may gain the most out of all the EU member states – up to **USD 8.3 billion annually**.



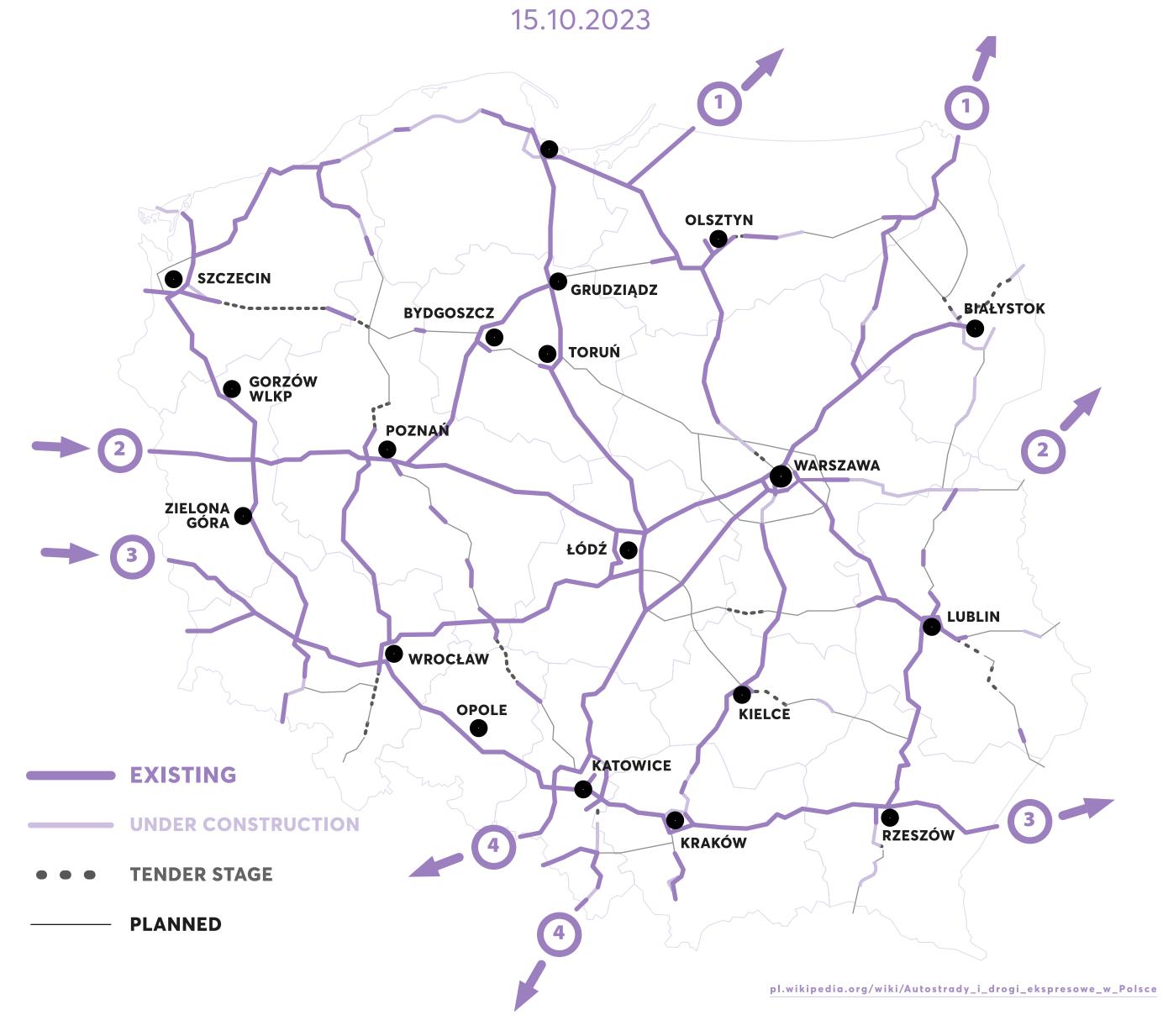
MOTORWAYS AND EXPRESSWAYS

2.

AT THE CROSSROADS OF TRADE ROUTES

Four main European trade corridors, on which transit transport travel, intersect in Poland.

TRADE ROUTE	COURSE	NUMBER OF COUNTRIES
4	HELSINKI – TALIN – RIGA –	
1	WARSAW / GDAŃSK	6
	BERLIN	
2	WARSAW	4
	MINSK – MOSCOW – NIŻNY NOWOGRÓD	
	BERLIN / DRESDEN	
3	WROCŁAW – KATOWICE – KRAKÓW	3
	RZESZÓW – LVIV – KIEV	
	GDAŃSK – GRUDZIĄDZ – TORUŃ	
4	ŁÓDŹ – KATOWICE	3
	ŻYLINA – OSTRAVA	





INTERMODAL TERMINALS IN POLAND FROM THE CSO REPORT

Poland ranks fifth in Europe in terms of total length of expressways (over 4,000 kilometers) and has the fourth longest rail network in the EU.

In 2022, 248,6 millions tons of cargo were transported using intermodal transport. In the years 2014-2025, expenditure on road construction is estimated to be in total PLN 168 billion (approx. EUR 37 billion) and investments under the National Railway Program – in 2014-2023 – are expected to reach PLN 76 billion (approx. EUR 16.7 billion).



stat.gov.pl/obszary-tematyczne/transport-i-lacznosc/transport/transport-wyniki-dzialalnosci-w-2022-roku,9,22.html



RAILWAY LINKS

Three key corridors pass through Poland's territory:

- The Baltic Sea-Adriatic Sea (RFC5 Baltic-Adriatic) freight corridor: runs through Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Austria, Slovenia and Italy.
- The North Sea-Baltic Freight Corridor No. 8 (RFC8 North Sea-Baltic): runs through Poland ,Belgium, the Netherlands, Germany, the Czech Republic and Lithuania.
- The Amber Freight Corridor No. 11 (RFC11 Amber): connects South-East Poland, Slovakia, Hungary and Slovenia with Belarus.

Poland is one of the key players in the **New Silk Road** project. The land "Belt" is to connect China with Central Asia and Europe, and the sea "Route" – the Far East with the Middle East and Africa.





GDAŃSK – THE KEY LOGISTIC HUB IN EUROPE

The Deepwater Container Terminal Gdańsk (DCT Gdańsk) and the Central Port in Gdańsk are two projects thanks to which the Tri-City of Gdańsk, Gdynia and Sopot, will soon become one of the most important logistic points on the map of Europe.

Launched in 2005, DCT Gdańsk is the largest container terminal in Poland and the only deep-water terminal in the Baltic Sea region.

It is the fastest growing container port on the continent. In turn, as part of the Central Port in Gdańsk, nine terminals, four turning areas and three approach fairways will also be built. Ultimately, by 2045, the port is to handle 100 million tons of goods annually.





A KEY ROLE IN INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT PROJECTS

Poland also plays an important role in the two international routes currently under construction: the Via Carpatia and Via Baltica.

The first will connect Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria, Greece and Turkey. The second – Via Baltica – runs through Poland, Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia.



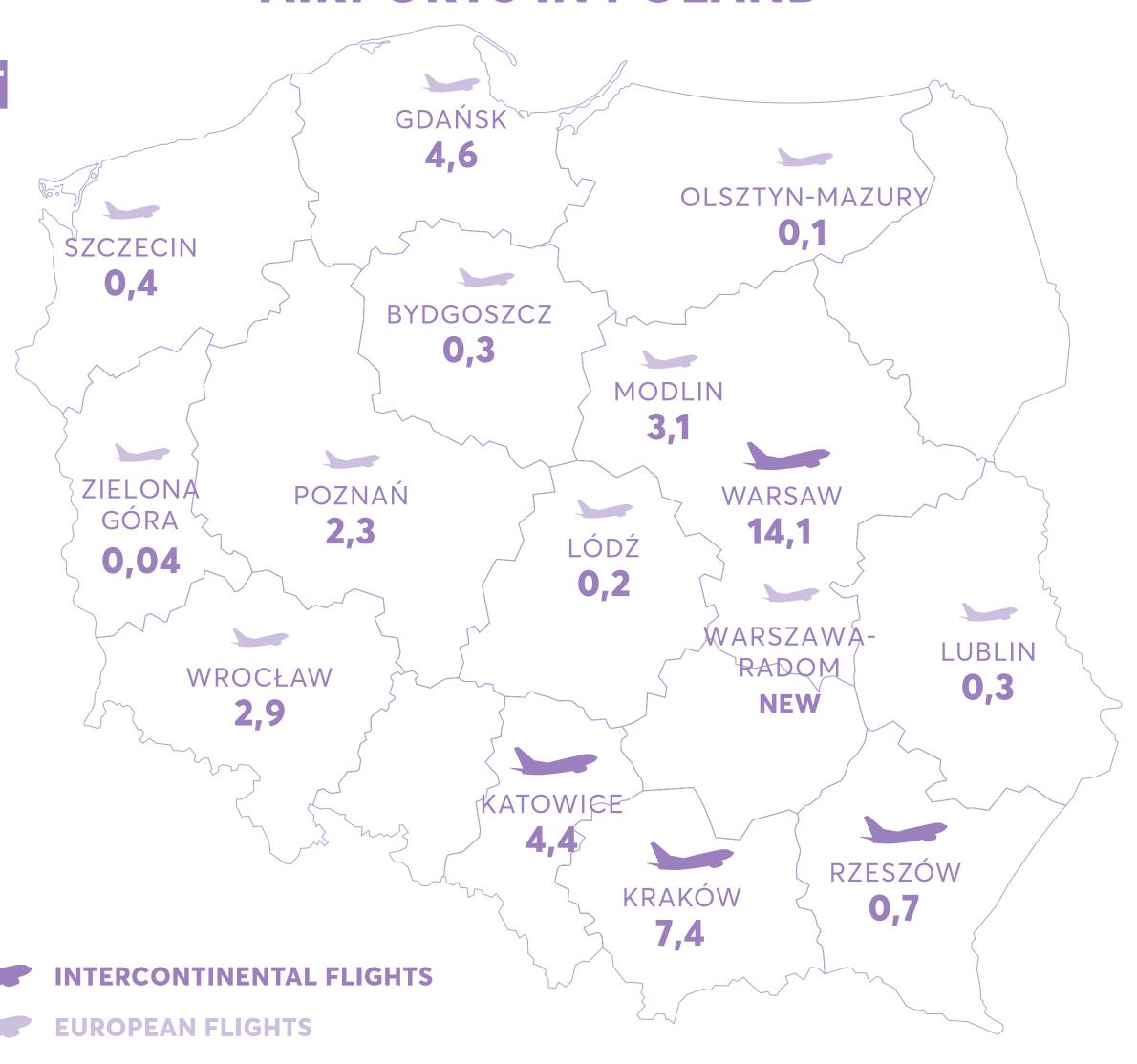
AIRPORTS IN POLAND

WIDE AVAILABILITY OF AIR TRANSPORT

In 2022, Polish airports handled **41,1 million passengers**, the most in the CEE region. Regional airports handled 26,7 million pasangers and Warsaw Chopin Airport registered 14,4 million passengers. The air traffic is still recovering from the pandemic, for comparison in 2019, Polish airports served over 49 million passengers.

APPROXIMATE TIME OF AIR TRAVEL FROM WARSAW

Warsaw – Berlin	1.5h
Warsaw – Sofia	1.5h
Warsaw – Warna	1.5h
Warsaw – Paris	2h
Warsaw – Stockholm	2h
Warsaw - Moscow	2.5h
Warsaw – London	3h
Warsaw – Madrid	4h
Warsaw – Beijing	9h
Warsaw – New York	10h
Warsaw – Seoul	11h
Warsaw – Tokyo	11h
Warsaw – Singapore	12h



THE THIRD GOOD REASON

Poland's
Human Capital

VERY WELL EDUCATED POPULATION

As many as 93 percent of Poland's citizens, aged 25-64, have at least a secondary education.⁵

This is one of the best results among all OECD countries. It's well above the average, which is 79%.

There are almost 1.3 million students studying at Polish universities.

This places us fourth in Europe in terms of our number of students.

What makes the Polish higher-education system stand out is the large number of students majoring in STEM faculties (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics).

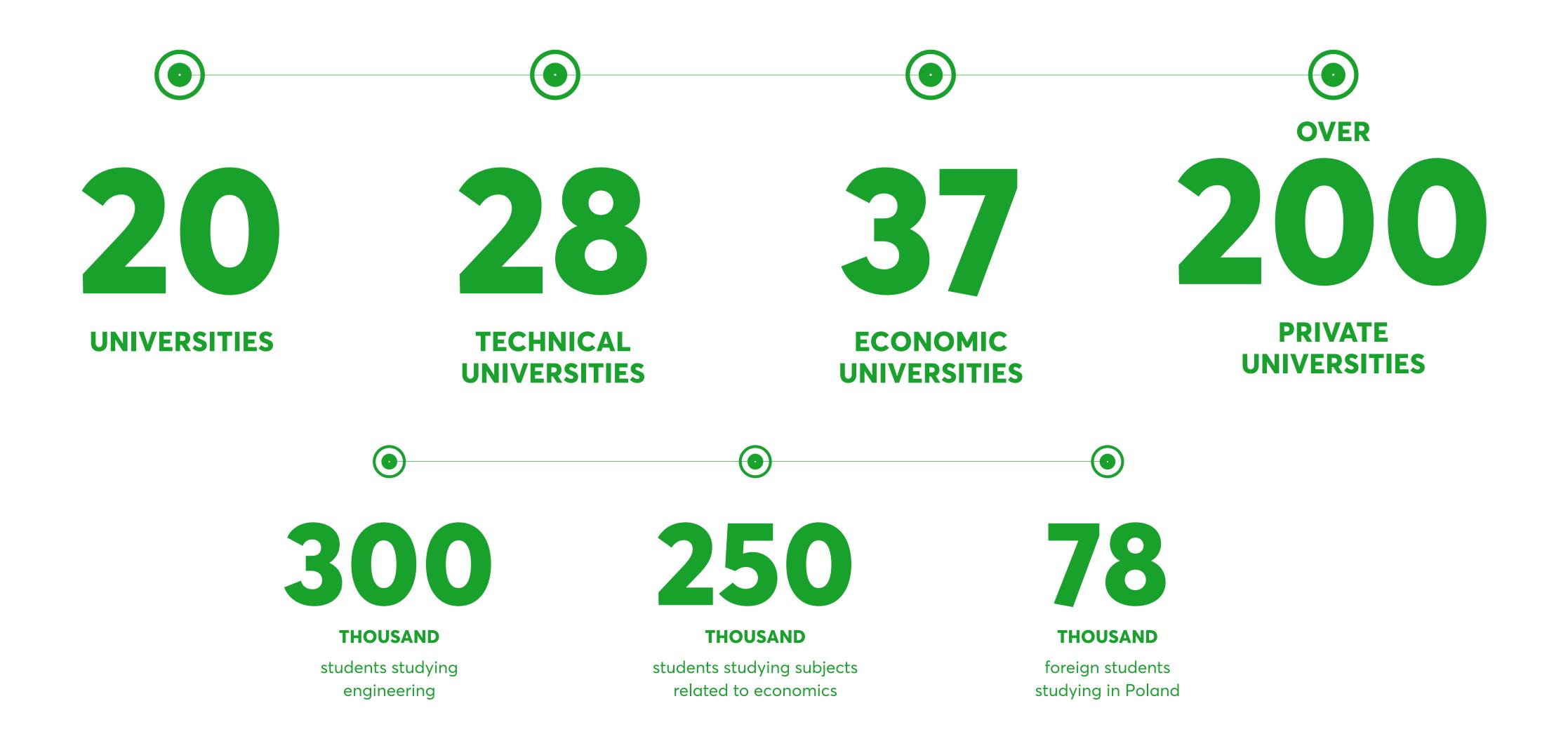


093%

Poland's citizens with at least a secondary education

HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

AND THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS



THE NEXT GENERATION

In 2018, our 15-year-olds were ranked

3rd in Europe in the PISA knowledge survey.

PLACE	COUNTRY	SCORE
1.	Estonia	525,3
2.	Finland	516,3
3.	Poland	513,0
4.	Ireland	504,7
5.	Slovenia	503,7
5.	Great Britain	503,7
7.	The Netherlands	502,3
8.	Sweden	501,0
9.	Denmark	500,3
9.	Germany	500,3



SCORE in Europe in the PISA knowledge survey

INNOVATIVE CONSUMERS

Companies in Poland have access to a market of progressive consumers – frequent online shoppers who are open to tech innovations and fond of modern banking solutions.



Poland's place in the "The Top 10 Cashless Countries in Europe" ranking⁶

The ranking took into account, among other things, the percentage of debit card holders in a given population and the frequency of contactless payment transactions.



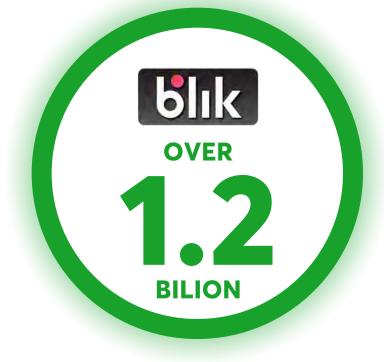
PAYMENT TERMINALS IN POLAND

All of them allowing contactless payments.



PKO BP mobile

The best application in the world according to the "Retail Banker International" magazine.



BLIK TRANSACTIONS

In 2022 Poles made over 1,2 billion transactions using **BLIK (Polish Payment Standard)** system, which enables payments to be made using a smartphone.



REVOLUT CLIENTS

Poland is one of the largest markets for Revolut. Over a million Poles already use the company's solutions.

merchantmachine.co.uk/top-10-cashless-countries

KNOWLEDGE OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES? NO PROBLEM!

In 2022, Poland was listed 13th out of 111 in the "EF EF English Proficiency Index", which ranks countries in terms of their command of the English language among non-native speakers.

Additionally, according to an analysis in the ABSL report, the modern business services sector in Poland provides services in **38 languages**.



https://www.ef.com/assetscdn/WIBIwq6RdJvcD9bc8RMd/cefcom-epi-site/reports/2022/ef-epi-2022-english.pdf

THE FOURTH GOOD REASON

An Innovative Nation with a Large Domestic Market

THE CEE REGIONAL LEADER

In the years 2017-2021, countries from the CEE region, including Poland, recorded a **3,6% increase of GDP per capita**, while GDP in the countries of the European big five grew by only 0,2%.8

Poles account for about one quarter of the 150 million people in CEE.

We are the sixth largest economy in Europe and the largest in our region – our nominal GDP in 2021 was EUR 589 billion.



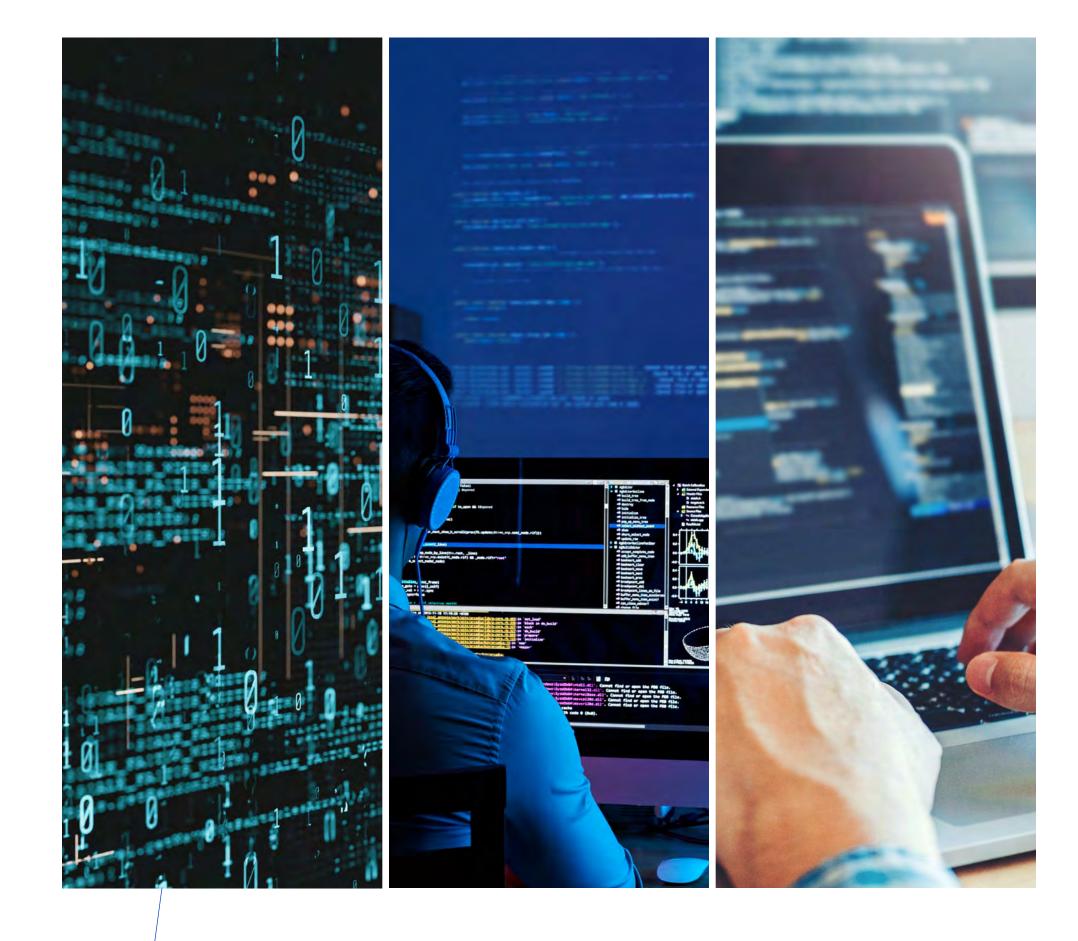
3 6 % increase of GDP per capita CEE region - 2017-2021

stat.gov.pl/podstawowe-dane

PROGRAMMING EXPERTS

Polish programmers are among the world's best.
In 2016, we took third place in the global developer ranking of HackerRank and – three years later – were on the podium of the SkillValue ranking.
According to HackerRank Polish Developers are best in the world in Java and second best in Phyton and Algorithms

Poland has the largest population of programmers in the CEE region, estimated at 401,000.9 That is more than the sum of all the programmers in Romania (139,000), the Czech Republic (130,000) and Hungary (105,000).



6 3 rd

global developer ranking of HackerRank

and on the podium of the SkillValue ranking

pfr.pl/dam/jcr:0d64a858-2b4e-4dbd-b933-50591f82c638/Polish-and-CEE-tech-ecosystem-outlook-Final-2.pdf

A BREEDING GROUND FOR START-UPS

The entrepreneurship and resourcefulness of Poles is **reflected in our start-ups** .In 2022 EUR 811.8 million flowed through the Polish VC market. This is the total value of capital that Polish and foreign funds invested in 460 deals in 435 start-ups.

Polish start-ups specialize in areas such as AI and machine learning, ecommerce, MedTech and analytics. 40% of start-ups work with worldwide corporations, with 21% of them having strategic clients in this segment. ¹⁰

Many start-ups owe their existence to the Academic Incubators of Entrepreneurship (AIP's) – a foundation designed to promote entrepreneurship. The companies that have grown from under the wings of AIP's **employ over 150,000 people** and have an annual turnover exceeding PLN 32 billion (ca. EUR 7.2 billion).



811.8 flowed through the Polish VC market MILLION

uploads.strikinglycdn.com/files/cc354dae-2b6d-4739-bdad-b375c096a437/Polskie%20Startupy%202020%20COVID%20EDITION%20PL_%20www.pdf



CEE countries with the most funding rounds in 2022:

PFR and Dealroom

4.

THE FASTEST OF THE FAST

The CEE market is growing faster than any other in Europe in terms of the investment value of Venture Capital Funds.¹¹

In 2022 the value of VC investments in Poland amounted to PLN 3,616 million.

• - 150
Estonia

91 - ©
Czech Republic

The result of this ever-faster developing start-up ecosystem shall be the creation, in the near future, of our first so-called Unicorn – a private start-up which has achieved a valuation of at least a billion dollars.

The biggest VC investment rounds in recent years



One of the largest platforms in the world which connects patients with doctors. DocPlanner has, to date, raised EUR 135 million in financing from investors.



A platform for social learning visited by over 340 million users; has obtained EUR 68 million from investors.



One of the world's largest beauty salon appointment platforms; has already collected EUR 60 million in financing.



135
MILLION EUR

financing from investors



MILLION EUR

obtained
from investors



60
MILLION EUR
collected
financing

pfrventures.pl/dam/ventures/documents/Raporty/ENG/Polish-VC-Market-Outlook-2020.pdf



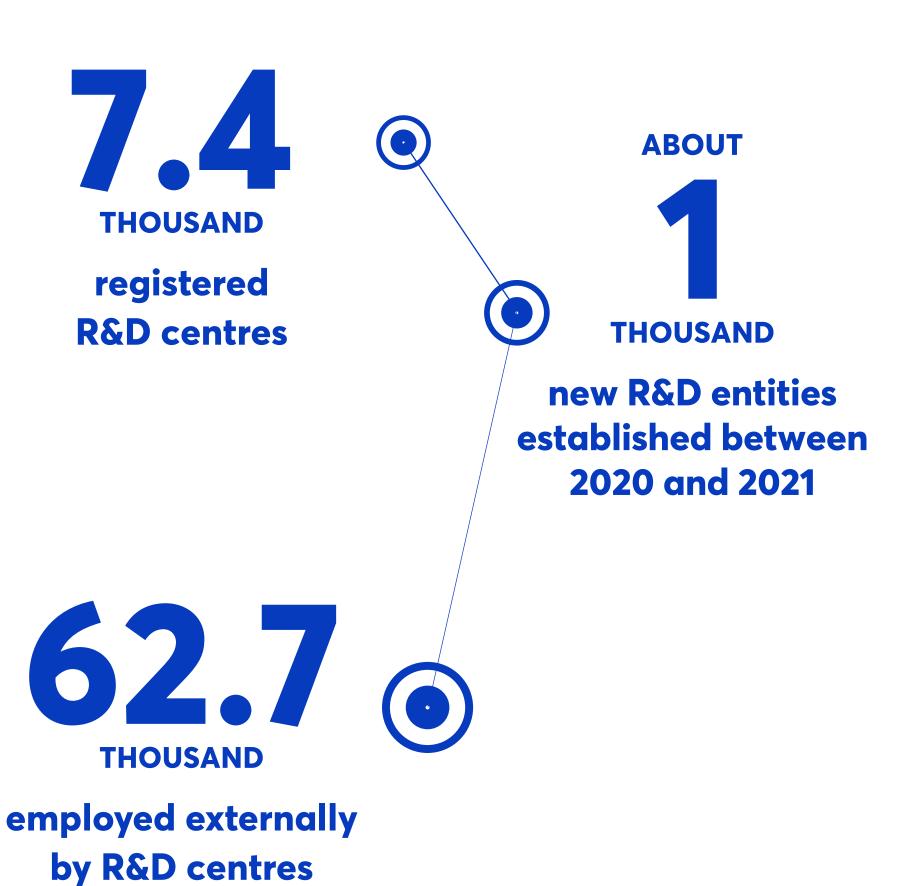
RESEARCH - POLAND'S HOBBY HORSE

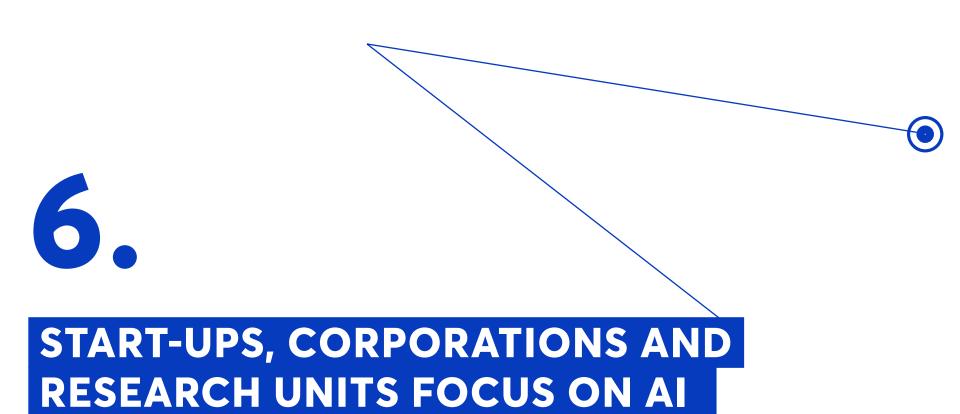
The Łukasiewicz Research Network is **one of the** largest research network in Europe.

The organization is made up of 22 institutes in 12 cities, several hundred laboratories and about 7,000 employees. The network implements projects worth up to PLN 5 billion (approx. EUR 1.1 billion).

By establishing this network, the country is supporting a long-term mission to ensure the Poland's economy is one based on new technology and innovation. In 2021, gross domestic expenditure on R&D amounted to PLN 37.7 billion, which is an increase of 16.3% compared to the previous year.

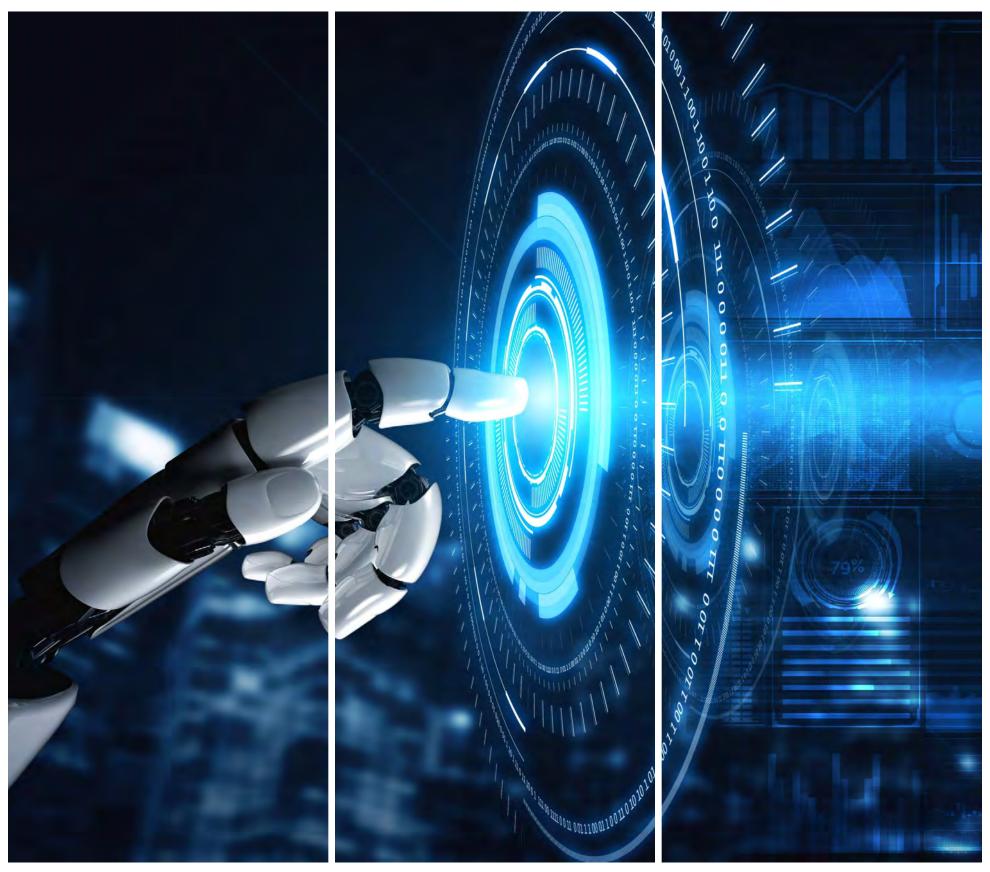
POLISH R&D





In Poland, over 200 companies (start-ups and corporations) invest in Artificial Intelligence and over 40 companies are R&D centers that focus on AI, Big Data and IT products.

It is estimated that up to 260 Polish companies create solutions based on artificial intelligence. This interest in AI innovations is also clearly visible in Polish universities – between 2013 and 2018 – 6,500 Polish scientists prepared a total of **12,000 publications on AI**.



THE GIANTS BELIEVE IN US

Poland's potential is recognized by the world's largest tech companies:

In 2020, **Microsoft** announced that it will join the "National Cloud" project and invest one **billion dollars** in a modern data center.

In the same year, **Google** announced a huge investment in Poland. The company will allocate **USD 2 billion** to build a data center in Warsaw.





WARSAW - CITY OF THE FUTURE

The capital of Poland was ranked 2nd in the "European Cities and Regions of the Future 2022/23" in the category of Business Friendliness.



12. Future 2022/2023 fDi 13 Real Estate Digital Data

In the first quarter of 2023, total modern office stock in Warsaw accounted for 6,256,300 m².13



The following companies have located their business centers and R&D centers in Warsaw – Google, Microsoft, Samsung, Accenture, Mars, Citibank, Goldman Sachs and Roche.



There are about 80 universities in Warsaw, providing a large pool of qualified employees from various sectors.

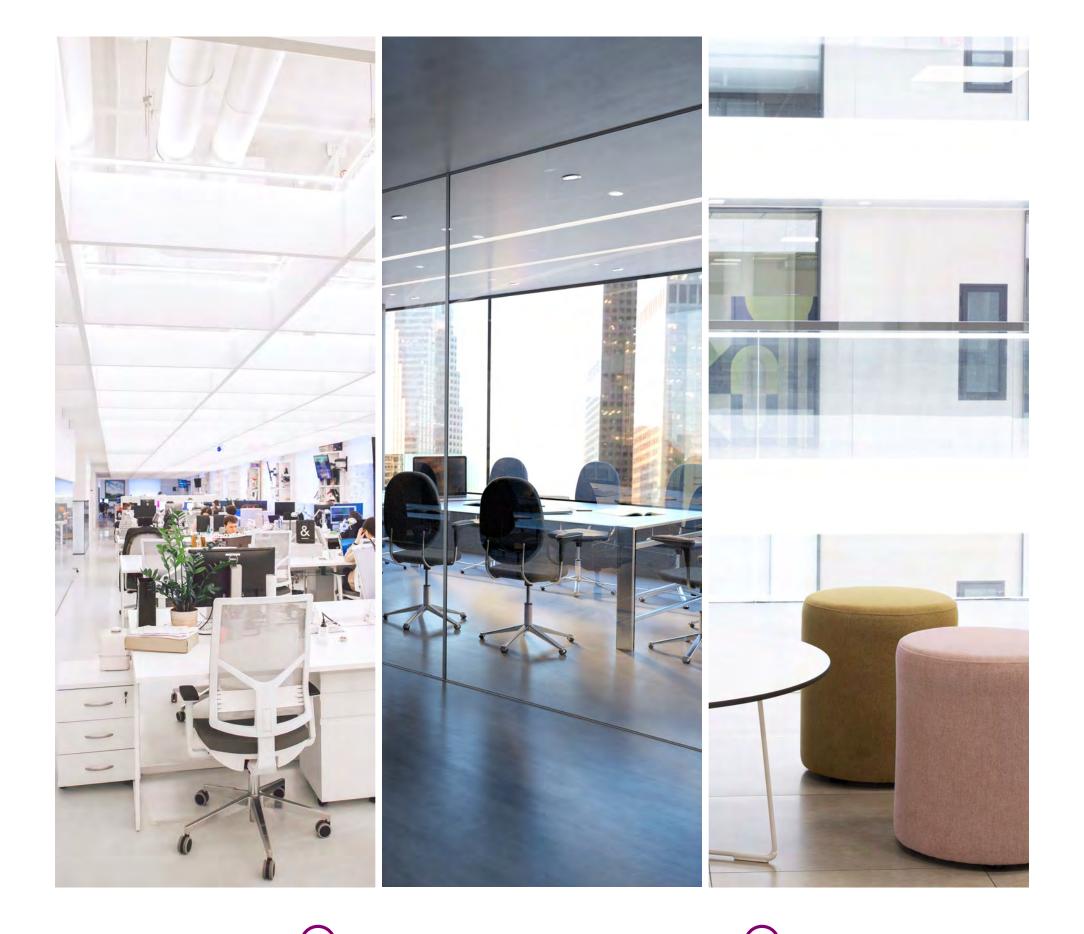
THE FIFTH GOOD REASON

Expertise in Many Sectorsof Industry

THE BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR

Between 2008 and 2022, employment in the modern business services industry in Poland increased from 50,000 to over 400,000.¹⁴

In 2021, the estimated value of exports from the Polish BSS sectoramounted to USD 26.4 billion. There are 102 Fortune Global 500 investors in the Polish Business Service Sector.



400 26.4 **THOUSAND**

employed in the business service industry

BILLION USD

estimated value of exports in 2021

THE AUTOMOTIVE SECTOR

In 2017, the revenues of automotive manufacturers in Poland amounted to EUR 37.5 billion. Companies dealing in the sale of vehicles, their parts and accessories, as well as repairs, earned EUR 46 billion.

In 2021, 383,200 passenger cars and light commercial vehicles were produced. Poland is one of the largest producer of this type of vehicles in Europe.

In 2017, 471,600 Poles were employed in the automotive industry. The following leading vehicle manufacturers have production plants in Poland: Volkswagen, FCA, Daimler and Toyota.



37.5
BILLION EUR

automotive manufacturers' revenue

46

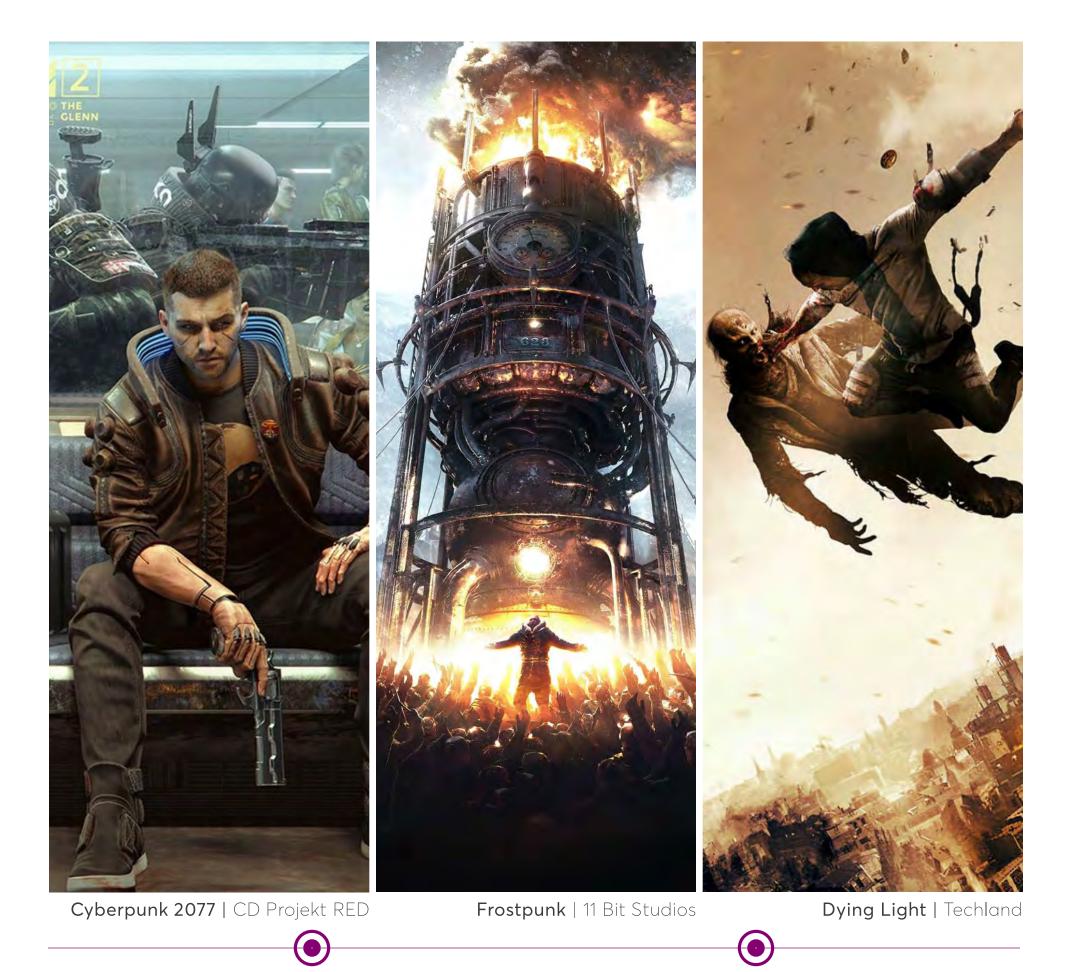
BILLION EUR

total automotive industry earnings

THE GAMING SECTOR

In February 2021, the total capitalization of Polish game producers listed on the Warsaw Stock Exchange exceeded PLN 36.5 billion (ca. EUR 8.1 billion).

Warsaw's CD Projekt, is the company that created the cult series of games about "The Witcher" and "Cyberpunk 2077" and is **the public company with the highest value in Poland**. At the end of February 2021, its capitalization exceeded PLN 27 billion (ca. EUR 6.0 billion).



8.1
BILLION EUR

game industry's total capitalization in 2021



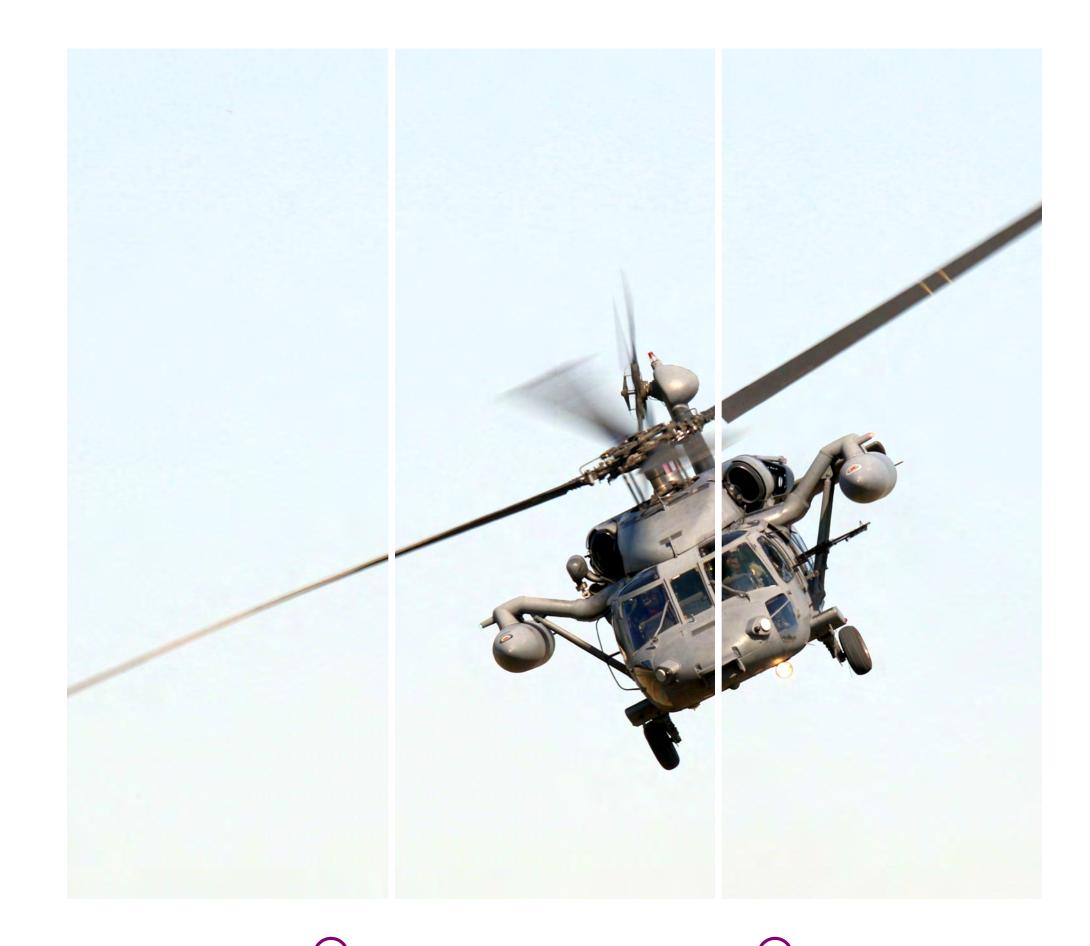
CD Projekt RED capitalization in 02.2021

www.gpw.pl/spolka?isin=PLOPTTC00011

THE AVIATION SECTOR

There are over 140 aviation-related companies in Poland, whose sales value in 2020 amounted to EUR 1.25 billion. They employ a total of around 17,9 thousand people.

Five of the largest aircraft engine manufacturers in the world have located their production plants in Poland: Lufthansa, GE Aviation, Sikorsky, UTC Aerospace Systems and AugustaWestland. The Lockheed Martin factory in Mielec is the aerospace giant's largest production plant outside of the US.



140

aviation-related companies

1.25

BILLION EUR

sales value in 2020

stat.gov.pl/obszary-tematyczne/roczniki-statystyczne/roczniki-statystyczne/rocznik-statystyczny-przemyslu-2019, 5, 13. html.

THE RENEWABLE ENERGY SECTOR

At the beginning of January 2023, over 22.7 GW of renewable energy was installed in Poland, of which 12.4 GW came from solar PV installations. That is a 55% year-on-year growth from the end of January 2022, when total solar capacity amounted to 8 GW.

According to Global Market Outlook for Solar Power 2023-2027, Poland is on 3rd position in EU Countries where the most solars were installed.



3rd

in Europe with the most solar installed 12.4

GIGAWATT

possible capacity of installations

wise-europa.eu/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Pr%C4%85d-Zmienny-Panorama-niskoemisyjnych-inwestycji-w-energetyce.pdf



They came, They saw and

THEY INVESTED

LG CHEM

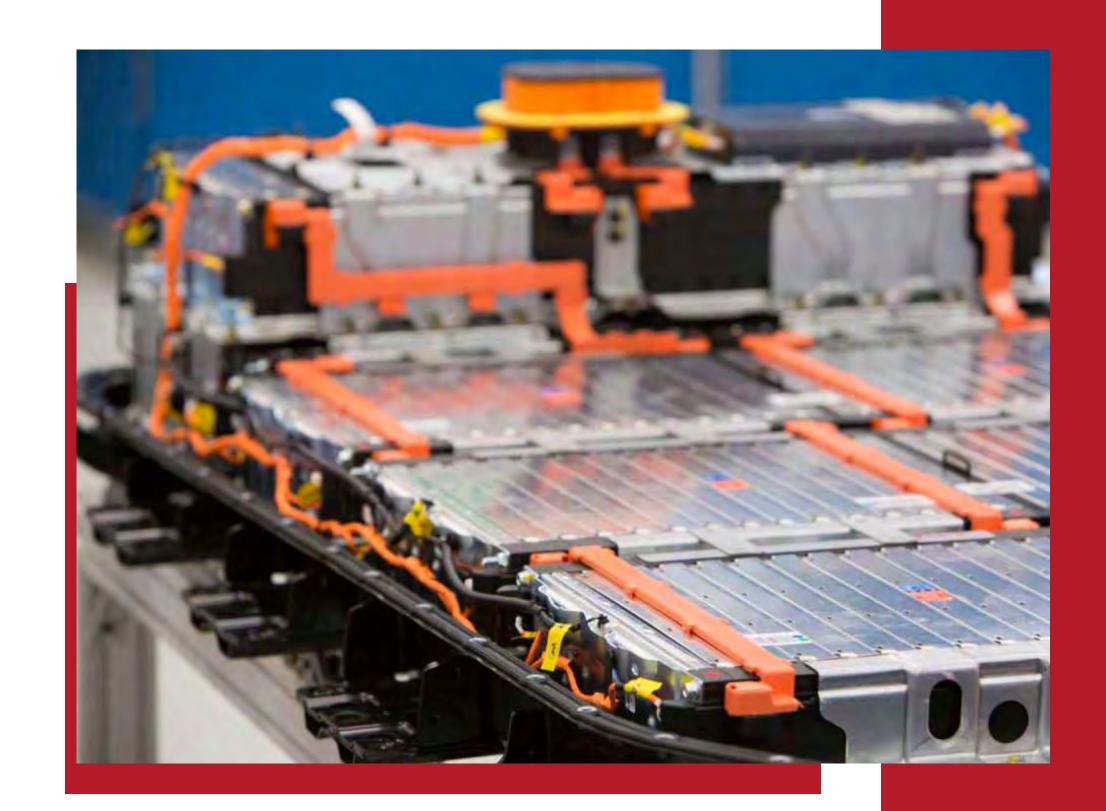
LG Chem has been present in Poland since 2005, when they first invested in Polarizer's manufacturing facilities and later in 2011 expanded their operations into Engineering Plastics.

"In 2015, when a location for a new EV battery manufacturing plant was being selected, in Poland – the Wrocław/Kobierzyce area to be precise – was one of the potential choices. Ultimately, also due to support from the Polish Government, the construction of the very first EV battery factory began in Biskupice Podgórne in 2016.

Since then, our factory has expanded to become not only the biggest EV battery manufacturing site belonging to LG Chem, but also one of the largest enterprises in Poland – providing stable employment to nearly seven thousand people and ensuring growth in the region. Over its four years of operation, the EV business of, LG Chem in Poland has created the first and largest EV battery hub in Europe – attracting numerous other investments, bringing the newest, cutting-edge technology to Poland, and making Poland an EV industry leader."

— Yong Girl Lee

Business Support Department Leader, LG Chem Wrocław Energy





DAIMLER

The new Mercedes-Benz engine plant in Poland is a key element in the growth strategy of the Mercedes-Benz Cars division.

With the new site in Jawor, we are ensuring the efficient supply of our vehicle plants with highly-efficient engines.

"Jawor was chosen in 2016, out of 35 locations in 7 Central and Eastern European countries considered by Mercedes-Benz Cars. That new engine plant has established standards for application of innovative Industry 4.0 technologies in global powertrain production. The high-tech and CO2 emission free factory produces conventional engines for hybrid vehicles and combustion engines, meeting Mercedes-Benz's proven top-quality standards.

The friendly investment climate in the region of Lower Silesia, excellent cooperation with the Polish Government on a national level and local authorities, as well as the support of such institutions as PAIH and WSSE and, last but not least, the potential of the highly skilled workforce led to our second investment: an electric battery factory, announced in January 2019, that is to start production before the end of 2020. Eventually 1,300 people will be working in both high-tech plants to produce highly-efficient engines and batteries for Mercedes-Benz passenger cars worldwide."

— dr Ewa Łabno-Falęcka

Head of Corporate Communication and External Affairs, PR, MBCE, Mercedes-Benz Sp. z o.o.





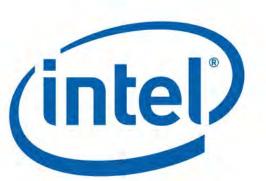
INTEL

In 2023, Intel announced that it is going to open its semiconductor integration and testing facility in Miękinia, near Wroclaw. It is the largest high-tech investment in this region of Europe and the largest foreign direct investment in Polish history with the investment value of 4.6 billion dollars.

"We are not asking for handouts, we are asking for competitiveness," Pat Gelsinger, Intel CEO, said in an interview. "Poland was just a little bit hungrier to win this site," he said when announcing the project.

Decisive factors in Intel's decision were the infrastructural facilities and the proximity of the academic center with a strong technical University. Polish Investment and Trade Agency and the Industrial Development Agency, in cooperation with the Ministry of Digital Affairs and the Legnica Special Economic Zone highly contributed to securing the investment. The new factory will bring 10 000 new work places, 2000 of which will be filled by highly qualified specialists and engineers working directly at the site. The completion is estimated for 2027.





VISA

Visa, one of the world's leading digital payments companies, plans to open a global retail and product facility in Poland, which will be the first project of its kind in Central and Eastern Europe. The investment aims to support a 24/7 innovation development model and further drive the rapid growth of digital commerce and payments.

This investment will be Visa's fifth global technological-product hub of strategical importance. This investment project in Poland is part of Visa's drive to innovate and invest in the European region. Visa will explore new ways to leverage the skills of young CEE professionals as well as to accelerate product development and innovation on a wide scale, benefiting both consumers and its customers, as well as buyers and sellers around the world. By 2025, the Hub will employ 1500 technology specialists. Poland has highly qualified employees and a dynamically developing IT sector. That's why it's an ideal place to attract new talent and create new payment solutions in partnership with our partners and companies - said Rajat Taneja, Visa's Chief Technology Officer.

As a company with operations in more than 200 countries and territories, we attach great importance to investing in local talent and creating regional technology hubs, as this allows us to serve our global network of clients better and better - added Charlotte Hogg, Visa's CEO in Europe.





VOLVO

Volvo Cars is one of the most well-known and respected car brands in the world with sales to customers in more than 100 countries.

Company's ambition is to become a fully electric car maker by 2030 and to be a climate-neutral by 2040 which they are aiming for through continyous reduction of its carbon footprint.

Swedish carmaker Volvo will launch a technology center in Krakow, Poland, where it plans to employ up to 600 people by 2025. It will be their fourth tech hub in the world.

Volvo's Krakow hub is to be a center for software development - from core safety technologies to software for autonomous driving. This hub is a part of the company's move towards all electric production.

"[It will] play a crucial role in our strategic ambitions to be a fully electric brand by 2030 and a leader in new technology, not least through in-house software development," says the firm. "The tech hub will carry full responsibility for developing complete and key features on our new fully electric cars."

Volvo says Kraków was chosen because "the city is an emerging tech centre, with a broad network of tech firms in the region...[and] a large telecom sector".



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