

Foreign Intelligence Agency

<https://aw.gov.pl/en/people/competence/186,Status-and-Competence-of-the-Agency-Head.html>
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Serving Poland in the shadows

The Head of the Foreign Intelligence Agency, within the scope of his powers and duties:

issues ordinances, decisions, orders, guidelines and instructions specifying the way of operating of the Foreign Intelligence Agency;

through ordinances, grants organisational regulations to the organisational units of the Foreign Intelligence Agency, defining their internal structure and detailed tasks;

may create or establish, within his area of competence and as the needs require, permanent or ad hoc teams, as well as collegiate advisory and opinion-forming bodies, as well as establish, modify and wind up training centres within the Foreign Intelligence Agency;

manages the Foreign Intelligence Agency, directly or through deputies, as well as through the directors of particular Agency bureaus and departments; he may also authorise subordinate officers of the Foreign Intelligence Agency to deal with specific matters on his own behalf;

requests the Prime Minister to appoint and dismiss the Deputy Heads of the Foreign Intelligence Agency;

presents the Foreign Intelligence Agency annual action plans and reports on its activity to the Prime Minister;

while performing tasks, cooperates with the Head of the Internal Security Agency, taking into account the detailed division of

responsibilities between these special services and in accordance with the principles, scope and procedure laid down by the Prime Minister;

within the scope of his competence, in order to perform the tasks of the Foreign Intelligence Agency, he may - after obtaining the Prime Minister's consent - cooperate with competent authorities and services of other countries;

attends the meetings of the Governmental Council for Special Services;

within the scope of his competence (issues related to the protection of the external security of the state), immediately forwards to the President of the Republic of Poland and the Prime Minister information which may be relevant to the security and the international position of the Republic of Poland;

if the information obtained concerns matters falling under the scope of activity of the competent minister - he shall provide it to this minister, unless the Prime Minister decides otherwise;

receives information relevant to the external security and the international position of the Republic of Poland from the government administration bodies; passes this information on to the President of the Republic of Poland and the Prime Minister, competent ministers, as well as - within the scope of his competence - to the Head of the Internal Security Agency;

determines the circulation of information (including classified information) in the Foreign Intelligence Agency and grants permits to current and former officers and employees of the Foreign Intelligence Agency, as well as persons assisting them in performing operational and reconnaissance activities, to provide classified information to a specific person or institution;

is competent in personal matters of officers in the following areas: acceptance of officers for service in the Foreign Intelligence Agency, appointment to official positions, transfer, delegation, secondment (including outside the Foreign Intelligence Agency), dismissal and removal from official positions, suspension in official duties, lifting suspension, dismissal from service and determination of the expiry of the service relationship, and, in a specified scope, appointment to a rank;

has disciplinary authority over the Foreign Intelligence Agency officers, being competent to impose penalties and to award distinctions; in relation to the Foreign Intelligence Agency officers, while dealing with misdemeanours, exercises the powers of the Police resulting from the provisions of the Code of Conduct on misdemeanours;

is competent in other personal matters of officers, in particular with respect to: granting permissions to officers going abroad, as well as for membership in foreign or international organisations or associations, and taking decision on referring an officer to

psycho-physiological examinations.