



## Mariusz M. Brymora

Counsel General of Poland  
in Los Angeles

Mariusz M. Brymora was appointed the Consul General of Poland in Los Angeles on September 7, 2013. Previously, he worked as the Deputy Director of the Department of Public and Cultural Diplomacy of the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Earlier he served as the Polish consul in Chicago (1999 – 2003) and as public affairs counselor of the Embassy of Poland in Washington D.C. (2005 – 2009).

He is the recipient of the Polonus award for activist of the year in the contest organized by Wietrzne Radio, Radio Station for most influential people of the Polish community in Chicago (2002) and Golden Link Award awarded by Polish American Association for outstanding service to Polonia (2003), as well as the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (2008). He is the co-author and editor of 400 Years of Polish Immigrants in America, the album published in 2008 to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the first Poles' arrival

at Jamestown, Virginia. He also wrote a short history of The Embassy of Poland in Washington DC, published in 2009. While working in Warsaw, he supervised the screenplay and production of Polska?Tak! - a short documentary on Poland's image as seen through the eyes of the world's greatest cultural celebrities.

Consul Brymora is a graduate of the Faculty of English of Maria Skłodowska Curie University in Lublin, Poland, and holder of postgraduate diplomas in British Culture and History from Warsaw University and Ruskin College, Oxford (England). Apart from English and Polish, he speaks Russian and little Italian.

Consul General Brymora is married to Grazyna and they have two adult children.

*"Consul General of Poland in Los Angeles, Mr. Mariusz M. Brymora, is not only an experienced diplomat, but also an accomplished educator and author. He is uniquely qualified to address current issues in Poland and the European Union as well as the history of Polish immigrants in America. We are honored to have him lecture at our university and are looking forward to his insights."*

**Associate Vice President for  
UVU International Affairs &  
Diplomacy, Rusty Butler**

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### WHO WE ARE

The Office of International Affairs & Diplomacy actively supports UVU's global engagement efforts by advancing UVU's presence and prestige in the International community; helping UVU students become globally competent graduates; promoting cultural literacy and diversity both on campus and in the community.

### CONTACT US

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## INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT

# Poland

## THE FLAG OF Poland



### MEANING

The flag of Poland consists of two horizontal stripes of equal width, the upper one white and the lower one red. The two colors are defined in the Polish constitution as the national colors. White and red were officially adopted as national colors in 1831. They are of heraldic origin and derive from the tinctures (colors) of the coats of arms of the two constituent Nations of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth.

Information gathered from: [worldfactbook.com](http://worldfactbook.com), [wikipedia.com](http://wikipedia.com), [polandinside.com](http://polandinside.com), [polandpoland.com](http://polandpoland.com), [tastingpoland.com](http://tastingpoland.com), [weekendnotes.com](http://weekendnotes.com)

- The name "Poland" originates from the name of the tribe "Polanie" which means "people living in open fields".
- Poland is located in Central Europe, and represents the ninth largest European country. The republic of Poland has a population of over 38 million people.
- Poland's economy was the only one in the EU to avoid a recession through the 2008-09 economic downturn.
- Kraków (Cracow) was the former capital and a relic of Poland's Golden Age of Renaissance. It contains the place of coronation of most Polish kings.
- Seven countries share a border with Poland including Russia, Lithuania, Belarus, Slovakia, Ukraine, the Czech Republic, and Germany.
- Gdansk Old Town has the largest brick church in the world (*photo below*). St. Mary's Church is 105.5 meters long and 66 meters wide, and inside the church is room for 25,000 people.



- The Polish zloty (PLN) is considered to be among the most stable currencies worldwide.
- Famous musical composer Frederic Chopin was Polish and was born in Żelazowa Wola, a village in east-central Poland.



- Wieliczka salt mines built in the 13th century produced table salt until 2007. The mine is yearly visited by 1.2 million people.
- Agriculture is very important in Poland. More than sixty percent of Poland's total area is taken up by farming. The most important crops are grains (rye, wheat, barley, and oats).
- Bialowieza is a forest listed on the UNESCO World Heritage list and is yearly visited by 100,000 tourists.
- Poland boasts 17 Nobel Prize winners, including four Peace Prizes and five in Literature.



- Pierogi are one of the most popular foods in Poland. They have been made since the thirteenth century.