

SENATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND

**20th Anniversary of the U.S. Congress Assistance
to the new Senate and Sejm of the Republic of Poland**



Senate Chancellery, June 2010

EDITOR

Analyses and Documentation Office

ILLUSTRATIONS

From private collections
and the Senate and Sejm Archives

DESIGN AND LAYOUT

Editorial Department

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Warsaw 2010

Concurrent resolution of the U.S. Senate and House
of Representatives authorizing the "Gift of Democracy"
from the U.S. Congress to the new Sejm and Senate in Poland,
October 3, 1989

101st CONGRESS
1st Session

S. CON. RES. 74

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 3, 1989
Referred to the Committee on House Administration

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Authorizing the "Gift of Democracy" from the United States Congress to the new Senate and Sejm in Poland. This gift is comprised of equipment and training that is determined to be most useful in helping Poland establish an effective parliamentary system.

Whereas Poland is undertaking the historic process of organizing its new Sejm and Senate, the first parliament in Poland where a majority of its members were democratically elected in more than half a century;

Whereas these new citizen-legislators, from many walks of life, are taking on the tremendous responsibility of forming the legislative branch of their government without the benefit of previous legislative experience;

Whereas these new legislators are united in their commitment to dramatically reform the social and economic structure of Poland;

Whereas these new legislators are dedicated to permanently establishing individual freedom and a renewed hope and confidence for the future of Poland;

Whereas the new legislators are faced with reviving the economy and creating the necessary government entities to facilitate an efficient means of governing the country;

Whereas among the many other challenges facing Poland's Parliament over the coming months is the lack of equipment, research, and legislative resources; and

Whereas the United States Congress has a well established system for operating a legislative body and an impressive research capability in the form of the Library of Congress and the Congressional Research Service: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That:

(1) This concurrent resolution may be cited as the "United States Congressional Gift of Democracy to Poland Resolution".

(2) The Speaker of the House, the minority leader of the House and majority and minority leaders of the Senate, and the Librarian of the Congress shall assign staff having expertise in software, office equipment, legislative research and parliamentary procedure, and other lawmaking skills to travel to Poland. The congressional staff assigned to this mission shall assess the training and equipment needs of the Polish Sejm and Senate, and assist Poland in developing an effective

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Parliament. Not later than thirty days after completing the assessment, such staff shall submit a report to the Congress and the Librarian of Congress on its findings.

(3) Upon receipt of the report of the congressional staff, the leadership of Congress shall endeavor to identify and secure the ways and means to implement an appropriate United States congressional gift of democracy to Poland in the form of equipment and training for the new Senate and Sejm.

(4) The leadership is encouraged to coordinate this effort with private and public sector experts such as the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs and the National Republican Institute for International Affairs and with parliaments in Western Europe.

(5) Travel expenses incurred by the Senate and the House of Representatives to carry out subsections (2) and (3) shall be reimbursed out of the respective contingent funds of the two Houses of Congress in accordance with rules governing such funds.

Passed the Senate September 27 (legislative day, September 18), 1989.

Attest:

WALTER J. STEWART,

Secretary.

5009 74 RPT

2010 marks the 20th anniversary of the U.S. Congress Assistance given to the Senate and the Sejm in various forms over the first half of 1990's. The idea of the assistance was initiated by the U.S. Senate by adopting the *Gift of Democracy* program follo-

BIBLIOTEKA SEJMOWA
Warszawa, dn. 15th February 1990
ul. Wiejska 4, Tel. 28.73.09

Mr. James H. Billington
The Librarian of Congress
Washington D.C.

Dear Mr. Billington,

I am taking the advantage of the meeting with Mr. Hardt and other members of the "Gift of Democracy" delegation to send you our best regards and remind about our invitation to visit Poland extended to you last year by Mr. Wirowski, Chief of the Chancellery of the Polish Diet, through the Polish Embassy in Washington.

Let me acquaint you with the course of our meeting with the "Gift of Democracy" delegation. We have shown the delegates our library, its achievements and troubles, with the latter falling into three groups:

- 1/ lack of space; there is an urgent need to build a new building for storage of books;
- 2/ trouble with assuring continuous supply of new publications from the United States; the financial difficulties may lead i. a. to suspending subscription for some american scientific journals, heretofore available to our readers for many years;
- 3/ technical difficulties: we have to undertake strong efforts to modernize our Library and supply it with modern library equipment.

I wish to underline that during the meeting our guests had raised also the possibility of inviting representatives from our Library to the United States.


During the discussion, I had also spoken of our need to initiate cooperation with some scientific institution in the United States; however, this cooperation should be beneficial for both sides - and I had mentioned by way of example the services which could be probably rendered by us for such a partner.

Next year Poland shall celebrate the 200th anniversary of our oldest Constitution - the Constitution of the 3rd of May 1791 /the oldest constitution in Europe/. This occasion shall lead in Poland to a variety of publications, also in foreign languages. During our meeting we had been discussing also the possibility of initiating a bi-lingual joint publication of our libraries devoted to this anniversary; what do you think about?

These are just few remarks I have on the visit of the "Gift of Democracy" delegation in our Library. I hope that our cooperation will develop in future!

Yours sincerely
Prof. Andrzej Gwiżdż
Prof. Andrzej Gwiżdż

Letter of Professor Andrzej Gwiżdż, Director of the Sejm Library, to the Librarian of Congress James H. Billington concluding the American visit to Poland, February 1990


The Speaker
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

May 25, 1990

Dear Marshal Kozakiewicz:
Dear Marshal Stelmachowski:

We are pleased to commend to your attention a special bi-partisan Task Force on the Development of Parliamentary Institutions in Eastern Europe. We established this Task Force in recognition of the dramatic events occurring in Poland and throughout Eastern Europe. The building of multi-party parliamentary democracies in the region is applauded by the people of the United States and, in particular, the House of Representatives.

This letter is to introduce the special bi-partisan Task Force on the Development of Parliamentary Institutions in Eastern Europe. This Task Force, which we appointed, reflects not only our own deep personal interest in the work you are carrying out, but the commitment of the House of Representatives to be helpful in a positive and supportive manner over the coming months.

The Task Force looks forward to cooperating with you and members of your parliament as you focus on institutional needs, such as parliamentary procedure, staff and Member training, and other support activities.

We wish to thank you for the courtesies you have extended to the Task Force during their visit and assure you of our strong and continuing desire to help in the building of an ever deeper relationship between Poland and the United States.

Sincerely,
Robert H. Michel
Robert H. Michel
Republican Leader
Thomas S. Foley
Thomas S. Foley
Speaker

The Honorable Mikolaj Kozakiewicz
Marshal of the Sejm
Warsaw, Poland

The Honorable Andrzej Stelmachowski
Marshal of the Senate
Warsaw, Poland

Letter from the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives Thomas Foley to the Marshals of the Polish Sejm and Senate commending to their attention the establishment of a special bi-partisan Task Force on the Development of Parliamentary Institutions in Eastern Europe, May 25, 1990.

wing the motion of Senator Pete Domenici, who was supported by George Mitchell, the Majority Leader and Bob Dole, the Minority Leader. Soon after, in April of 1990, Thomas S. Foley, the Speaker of the House of the

Representatives appointed a two-party, five-person *Special Task Force on the Development of Parliamentary Institutions in Eastern Europe*, named *Frost Task Force* after its chairman, Congressman Martin Frost; it was later called *Frost-Solomon Task Force*, to commemorate the support given by the Republican Minority Leader, Gerald B. Solomon. The other three Task Force members were congressmen: Douglas Bosco, Bart Gordon and Jim Leach.

In the fall of 1989, after the June election – which included fully free election to the Senate and partially-free election to the Sejm – Senator Pete

The Polish parliament was the first legislative body in Central and Eastern Europe to have received the U.S. assistance.

Domenici, a Republican from New Mexico, paid a visit to Warsaw, where he met with Polish members of parliament elected in democratic elections. The delegation which participated in the conference on the role of parliament in the process of building the state economic policy included four eminent congressmen: Walter Mondale, former Vice-President and senator, chairman of NDI (National Democratic Institute); Howard Baker, former Senate Republican Minority Leader; Thomas Eagleton, former senator and democrat and James R. Jones, democrat, former chairman of the Budget Committee of the House of Representa-

tatives. The delegation met, among others, with Andrzej Stelmachowski, President of the Senate, Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki and Bronisław Geremek, chairman of the Civic Parliamentary Club.

As a result of its activity and support of many other senators, the U.S. Congress senators passed the decision to “give the new Polish parliament a unique, first gift of democracy in the form of most urgently needed technical assistance”, to quote Domenici.¹

In its resolution of 26 October 1989, the U.S. Congress decided that in view of the historical process of organizing the first parliament in Poland in more than half a century with a majority of members democratically elected, the parliament dedicated to social and economic reforms and individual freedom on the one hand, and on the other lacking experience, training, technical equipment, research service and parliamentary procedure, the Congress, with its well established legislative operations capability, approved the *Gift of Democracy* from the U.S. Congress to the new Senate

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

May 25, 1990

The Honorable Andrzej Stelmachowski
Marshal of the Senate
Warsaw, Poland

The Honorable Mikolaj Kozakiewicz
Marshal of the Sejm
Warsaw, Poland

Dear Marshal Stelmachowski:
Dear Marshal Kozakiewicz:

We, the members of the Task Force on the Development of Parliamentary Institutions in Eastern Europe, are pleased to present this report on the provision of parliamentary assistance to the Polish Senate and Sejm by the United States Congress.

Pursuant to a concurrent resolution of Congress, the Gift of Democracy delegation visited the Polish parliament in February to explore ways in which the United States Congress might provide equipment, parliamentary training, and other appropriate assistance. The delegation made its report to Congress in March, and included recommendations on equipment, parliamentary and technical training, and library development.

We are pleased to report that final Congressional Leadership approval of the report of the Gift of Democracy delegation, combined with the imminent passage of appropriating legislation, will implement Gift of Democracy plans to send 215 surplus United States Senate computers to Poland within three to four weeks. A second shipment of \$900,000 to \$1 million of copying machines, printers, fax machines, supplies and service will soon follow.

The Task Force is also interested in pursuing bilateral relations between your Parliament and the Congress of the United States. We hope such a relationship would include the development of exchange programs and continuing dialogue on matters of mutual interest.

Letter from five Representatives, members of the Task Force on the Development of Parliamentary Institutions in Eastern Europe, to the Polish Senate and Sejm Marshals presenting a report following the visit to Poland, May 25, 1990.

and Sejm in Poland. The gift included hardware, software, training and study visits deemed most needed in the process of implementing an effective parliamentary system in Poland.

¹Boca Raton News, 2.10.1989



Study visit in the U.S. Congress, May 1990.

Jeri Thomson, Assistant Secretary of the Senate, Jacek Michalowski, Senate of Poland Chancellery



Visit in the Virginia General Assembly – presentation of the electronic voting system.

Zdzisław Choromański, Sejm of Poland Chancellery, Jarosław Deminet, Senate of Poland Chancellery

In 1989, the Congress allocated USD 2.25 million for Gift of Democracy program, which sum was disbursed over the following years. The assistance process was administered by the Secretary of State Walter (Joe) Stewart, his deputy, Ms. Jeri Thomson as well as the Chancellery of the Polish Sejm and Senate. In the early 1990's, renowned specialists of the Congressional Research Service, Walter Oleszek and John Hardt as well as CRS Deputy Director William H. Robinson started a series of visits at the Polish parliament in order to determine the needs and the scope of assistance. The Congressional Research Service was responsible for training and study visits of both: American experts at the Polish parliament and the Senate and Sejm employees at



Visit in the Virginia General Assembly – presentation of the electronic voting system.



Visit in the Virginia General Assembly – presentation of the electronic voting system, May 1990.



Visiting Virginia Governor, L. Douglas Wilder, May 1990.

Jarosław Deminet, Senate of Poland Chancellor, Jacek Michałowski, Senate of Poland Chancellor, Teresa Mozdzyńska, Sejm of Poland Chancellor, Governor L. Douglas Wilder, Robert Harris, U.S. Senate



Bob Brown/The Richmond News Leader

Dean Salman, of FileNet Corp., demonstrates a computer at a convention at the Omni Richmond Hotel as members of a Polish government delegation and others attending the conference look on.

Delegation from Poland studies Assembly's use of computers

By John Lyle
News Leader business writer

When foreign governments come to the United States in search of computer technology, images of stops in Washington and the Silicon Valley immediately come to mind.

But a Polish delegation on a mission to evaluate computerized information systems decided to come to Richmond.

The group also spent time this week in Washington, but the group came here because the Eastern European government has something in common with the Virginia General Assembly, The Polish Sejm, or lower house, and the Virginia General Assembly use Hewlett Packard computers to track legislative activity.

Four Polish Parliament staff members were here yesterday and today to look at Virginia's system in hopes it might be adaptable to use by their legislature.

Robert D. Harris, director of infor-

mation systems and technology for the U.S. Senate's Committee on Rules and Administration, said the visit was designed to enable the Polish delegates to "see how our systems could be adapted to the Sejm and to Poland's new Senate, which will soon meet for the first time since 1939."

The visitors met yesterday afternoon with Gov. L. Douglas Wilder and then stopped in on a computer exhibit at a convention of the Data Processing Management Association at the Omni Richmond Hotel.

The delegation also will study management systems used by Congress and telecommunication systems and mainframe and personal computers that could be used by their Parliament, said Harris, who holds the additional title of chairman of the state's Council on Information Management.

Members of the delegation were Jaroslaw Deminet, adviser to the secretary of the senate for information systems and technology, Jacek Mi-

chalowski, special adviser to the deputy speaker of the senate; Teresa Mozdzyńska, director of the computer system for the Sejm, and Zdzisław Choromanski, deputy director of the Sejm's computer center.

The two-week visit to the United States was sponsored by a \$17,000 grant from the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs, a political development institute affiliated with the U.S. Democratic Party. Virginia Sen. Charles S. Robb is a member of the organization.

Sue Grabowski, a spokesperson for the institute, said, "We do not view this as a teaching exercise or force-feeding the American way. Rather, we are sharing information and experiences with our Polish colleagues in hopes that they can learn from our mistakes and apply whatever may be useful to their own uniquely Polish institution.

"Efficiency and good management techniques cross all borders."

"Delegation from Poland studies Assembly's use of computers" – article from the *Richmond News Leader*, 27.04.1990.

the US Congress. As a result of mutual visits, research service concepts were developed for the Polish parlia-

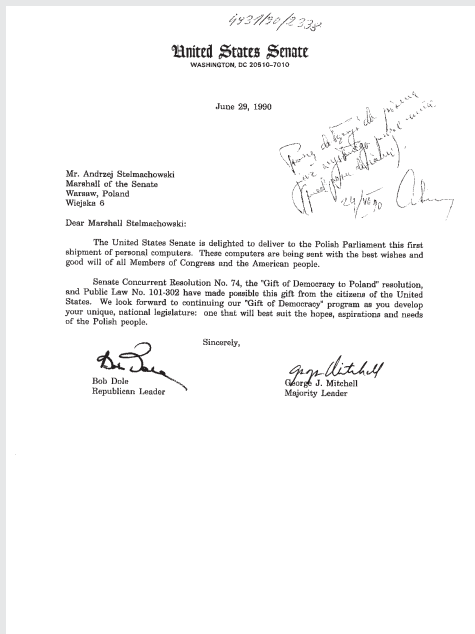
ment. During their first visits at the US Congress and state legislatures, the representatives of the Polish Sejm and

Senate had the opportunity to learn how a parliament functions in a democratic state.

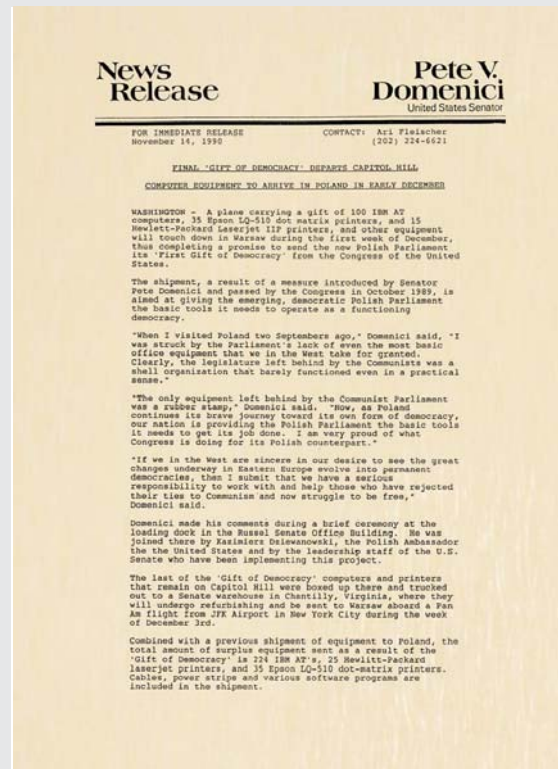


Study visit in the U.S., May 1990.

Walter J. Oleszek, CRS, and his spouse, Zdzisław Choromański, Sejm of Poland Chancellery



Letter of the majority leader George J. Mitchell and Republican Leader Bob Dole to the Senate of Poland Marshal Andrzej Stelmachowski informing of the delivery of the first shipment of personal computers made possible thanks to the "Gift of Democracy", June 1990.

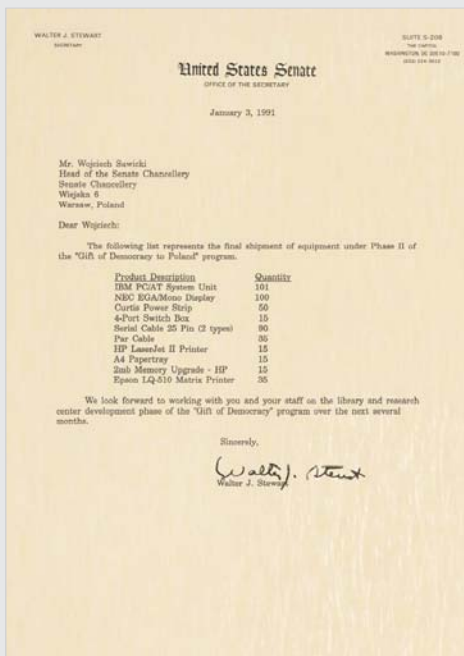


News release from the office of the senator Pete V. Domenici on the final "Gift of Democracy" (first installment), November 1990

However, the most urgent need for the Polish parliament was to provide modern equipment, including computerization as well as to set up a system for publishing stenographic records on the next day after the session. It is hard to believe now that one of the first orders

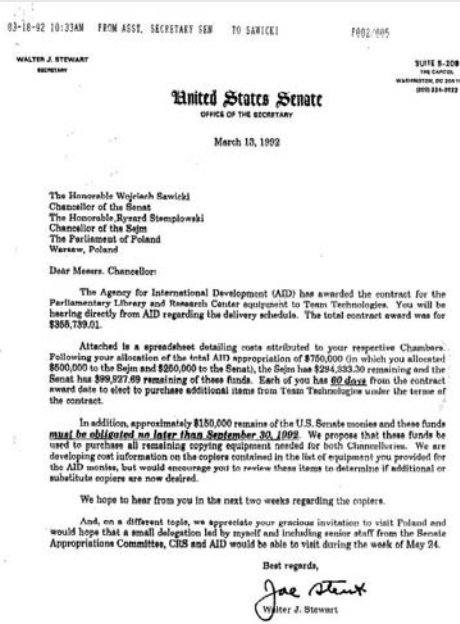
of the Senate Proceedings Office and the then Legal Office placed in response to the assistance offer listed typing machines on top of the list, before computers and printers. The order also included answering machines, photocopiers, dictaphones and fax machines.

The people who greatly contributed to the technical assistance included heads and personnel of IT services of both Houses of the US Congress, such as Robert D. Harris (Senate), John F. Kelley (CRS) or Catherine Brickman and William Freeman (House of Representatives).



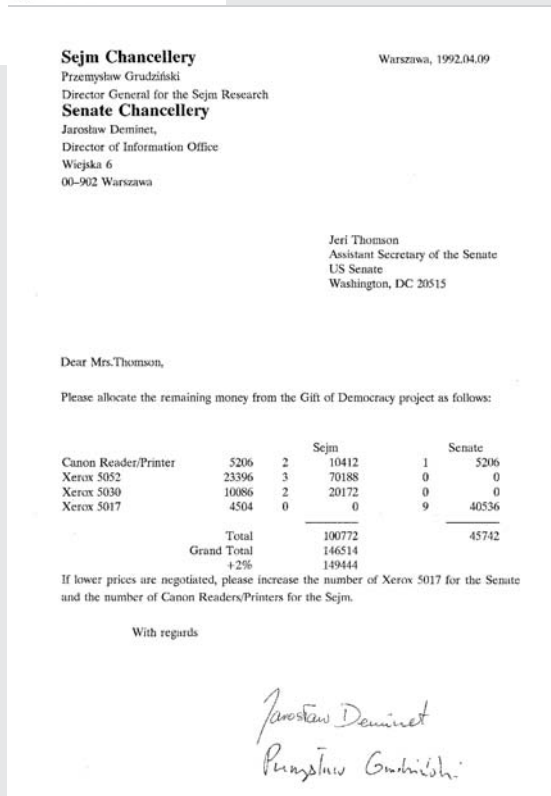
Letter from the Secretary of the U.S. Senate Walter Joe Stewart to the Head of the Chancellery of the Senate of Poland Wojciech Sawicki on the final shipment of equipment under Phase II of the "Gift of Democracy", January 1991.

In mid-1990's, Gift of Democracy program started delivering to the Sejm and Senate computer hardware, printers, photocopiers as well as large printing presses and equipment for reading and printing microfiche and microfilm contents. To present the scale of the assistance, the deliveries included over 300 computers and nearly as many printers. The assistance program, in addition to hardware, also included software, access to legal and information databases, as well as books and professional magazine subscriptions, including CD publications, which became a seed capital for



Letter from the Secretary of the U.S. Senate Walter Joe Stewart to the Head of the Chancellery of the Senate of Poland Wojciech Sawicki and of the Sejm of Poland Ryszard Stempłowski on successive procurement of equipment under "Gift of Democracy", March 1992.

Letter of the Polish Sejm and Senate officials, Przemysław Grudziński and Jarosław Deminiet to Jeri Thomson, Assistant Secretary of the U.S. Senate, on the subject of the final procurement of equipment under "Gift of Democracy", April 1992.



the future library of the research office of the Senate Chancellery.

One must not forget urgently needed and highly valuable assistance in the form of English language classes given to the parliament personnel in 1989–1991 by employees of the U.S. Embassy in Warsaw, mainly on a voluntary basis. The process was managed by Ms. Helen Davies, wife of John Davies, the then US ambassador.

Frost Task Force program, headed by Kristi E. Walseth, the head of congressman Martin Frost's office, was launched in 1991 and operated until 1995, utilizing resources of CRS, IT services of the House of Representatives, commission services and house sessions. The program value closed at over USD 4 million. The assistance program included continuous delivery of professional literature and maga-



Training within the framework of the Parliamentary Institute established by CRS under Frost-Solomon Task Force, 1991.

Iván Rónai, Library of the Hungarian Parliament, Jacek Michałowski, Senate of Poland Chancellery, William H. Robinson, Congressional Research Service, Hermina Mekutova Instytut Parlamentarny, Czechosłowacja, 1991

zines in line with orders placed, library materials as well as office equipment and hardware. It seems that the most important part of the program included training for the Polish parliament personnel organized at CRS. The training touched upon all the issues in which the services had to be fluent in order to make the parliament an effective legislator: from the foundations of the democratic system and legislative procedures to IT and research support.

Thanks to the program heads including William H. Robinson, Mary Nell Bryant, Nancy A. Davenport as well as numerous experts and staff representing the CRS, the Library of Congress, the Senate Library and other U.S. Congress services, the training was provided to numerous employees of the



Meeting in the State Department in the framework of the study visit in the USA of the Polish Senate and Sejm functionnaires: *Tadeusz Chabiera (Senate), Teresa Krynicka (Sejm), Andrzej Krawczyk (Sejm), Danuta Grabowska (Senate), Maria Borejsza (Sejm), Grażyna Szymalska (Senate), May 1991*



Training in the framework of the CRS Parliamentary Institute, 1991.

Jacek Michałowski, Senate of Poland Chancellery, Przemysław Grudziński, Sejm of Poland Chancellery, William H. Robinson, (CRS)



Training in the framework of the CRS Parliamentary Institute, presentation of the data bases, 1992.

Mary Nell Bryant, Aletta Waterhouse – CRS, Frost Task Force



Meeting during CRS Parliamentary Institute in Washington DC, 1992.

Kristi Walseth (second from the left) – Frost Task Force, William Robinson (third from the left), Nancy Davenport (second from the right), Mary Ellen Callaban (third from the right) – CRS, Frost Task Force



Parliamentary Libraries Workshop in the framework of the Frost Task Force, Budapest, September 1994.

Kristi Walseth, Frost Task Force, Iván Vitányi, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, William H. Robinson, (CRS), Iván Rónai, Library of the Hungarian Parliament



Parliamentary Libraries Workshop in the framework of the Frost Task Force, Budapest, September 1994.

Karel Sosna, Library of the Czech Parliament, Wojciech Kulisiewicz, Polish Sejm Library, Francis Miko, (CRS), Anita Dudina, Latvian Parliament



Moment to relax – participation in the Annual Meeting of National Conference of State Legislatures, training in the CRS Parliamentary Institute, July 1993.

Katalin Haraszti, Library of the Hungarian Parliament, nm, Mary Nell Bryant, CRS, Hanna Popowska, Polish Sejm Library, Małgorzata Korzeniouska, Senate of Poland Chancellery



The Mermaid – Warsaw-California common motif. Moment to relax – participation in the Annual Meeting of National Conference of State Legislatures, training in the CRS Parliamentary Institute, July 1993.



Parliamentary Libraries Workshop in the framework of the Frost Task Force, Prague, May 1995.

Anita Dudina, Latvian Parliament, Jacek Michałowski and Ewa Nawrocka, Senate of Poland Chancellery, Wojciech Kulisiewicz and Barbara Karamać, Polish Sejm Library



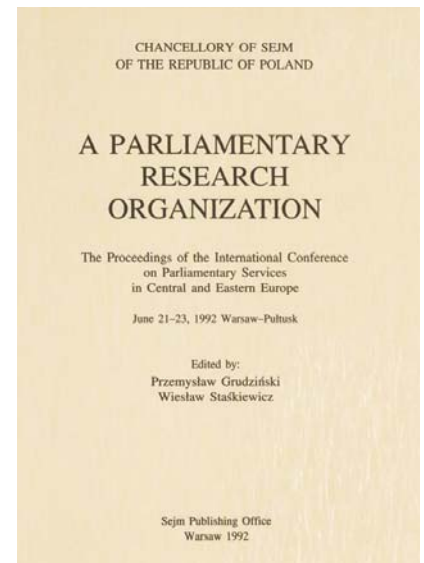
Parliamentary Libraries Workshop in the framework of the Frost Task Force, Prague, May 1995.

Eric A. Johnson, William H. Robinson and Robert R. Newlen, (CRS), Wojciech Kulisiwicz, Polish Sejm Library, Karel Sosna, Library of the Czech Parliament

Polish parliament, both in Poland and in the USA, where, within the CRS framework, a special structure was set up: the Parliamentary Institute, which organized training sessions for Central and Eastern Europe parliamentary services several times a year. The training program was customized to individual trainee needs and included working with the representatives of the respective Congress services. Seminar participants included personnel

of various services: apart from research services experts, there were secretaries of commissions, plenary sessions, IT services, information and press personnel, legal and international affairs personnel. During their study visits in the USA, the representatives of CEE parliamentary services had the opportunity to participate in national conferences, such as SLAC (Specialist Library Association Conference) or NCSL (National Conference of State Legislatures), accompanied by exhibitions presenting the latest organizational and technology solutions in given areas. For IT specialists from Poland and other new democracies a visit at the world largest IT conference COMDEX was organized in 1992 within the framework of the program. There were also specialist conferences organized in Budapest, Prague and Tallinn.

Publications of materials of three conferences in Pułtusk with assistance of Frost Task Force, 1992–1994



**Information Technology
in Parliaments**

Pultusk, June 20-22, 1994



Kancelaria Senatu RP

RULES OF PROCEDURE
AND
PARLIAMENTARY PRACTICE



*Bureau of Research
Chancellery of the Sejm of the Republic of Poland*

РЕГЛАМЕНТЫ
В ПАРЛАМЕНТСКОЙ
ПРАКТИКЕ



*Бюро по исследованиям и экспертным заключениям
Канцелярии Сейма Республики Польша*

**Information Technology
in Parliaments**

Pultusk, June 20-22, 1994



Part 2

Kancelaria Senatu RP

RULES OF PROCEDURE
AND
PARLIAMENTARY PRACTICE

The Proceedings of the International Conference
on Parliamentary Rules of Procedure
and Parliamentary Practice
Pultusk, 8 - 11 May 1994

Edited by
Danuta Łukasz
Wiesław Staszkiewicz

*Bureau of Research
Chancellery of the Sejm of the Republic of Poland
Warsaw 1995*

РЕГЛАМЕНТЫ
В ПАРЛАМЕНТСКОЙ
ПРАКТИКЕ

Материалы международной конференции:
"Регламенты в парламентской практике"
Пултуск, 8 - 11 мая 1994 г.

Редакторы составители:
Данута Лукаш
Веслав Стаськевич

*Бюро по исследованиям и экспертным заключениям
Канцелярии Сейма Республики Польша
Варшава 1995*



Opening of the conference in Pułtusk *Rules of Procedure and Parliamentary Practice*, May 1994.

Wiesław Staśkiewicz, Sejm of Poland Chancellery, Kristi Walseth, Chief of Staff, Frost Task Force, Józef Oleksy, Marshal of the Sejm, Maciej Graniecki, Head of Sejm of Poland Chancellery, Klaus Poehle, European Parliament



Conference workshop *Rules of Procedure and Parliamentary Practice*, Pułtusk, May 1994.

Ulf Christofferson, Riksdag, David Blackman, European Parliament, Lucien N. Nedzi, U.S. Congress, Jacek Michałowski, Senate of Poland Chancellery



Conference in Pułtusk *Rules of Procedure and Parliamentary Practice*, May 1994.

Paul Rundquist, (CRS), Włodzimierz Borodziej, Senate of Poland Chancellery

The technical assistance provided by CRS experts greatly influenced the decision on forming an Analyses and Documentation Office of the Senate Chancellery as well as Bureau of Research of the Sejm Chancellery, follo-

wed by development of the operating concept for those institutions. As a result of the cooperation efforts, several international conferences were organized in Poland, e.g. on the Sejm research services (Pułtusk, 21–23.06.1992), infor-

mation technology in parliaments (Pułtusk, 20–22.06.1994), parliamentary rules of procedure and practice (Pułtusk, 08–11.05.1994) followed by post-conference publications (*Parliamentary Research Organization*, Przemysław Grudziński, Wiesław Staśkiewicz, Warszawa 1992; *Information Technology in Parliaments*, by Jarosław Deminet, Warszawa 1994; *Rules of Procedure and Parliamentary Practice*, by Danuta Łukasz, Wiesław Staśkiewicz, Warszawa 1995 – published in Russian and English).

As a result of the successful launch of Frost-Solomon Task Force program and Parliamentary Institute, they became model institutions to the US Congress, and are now referred to as an example by American congressmen, such as David Price (member of the US Congress delegation to Poland in 1992, headed by Martin Frost), when applying for programs aimed at strengthening democracy throughout the world. The proof of Frost Task Force program team's commitment and appreciation expressed by the Congress is the fact that the experience of CRS specialists – William Robinson, Francis Miko, Paul Rundquist, Mary Nell Bryant and Kristi Walseth, the head of Frost's office and program director – is still used in new, contemporary assistance programs offered to 13 countries within *House Democracy Partnership*.



Congressional delegation – members of the Frost Task Force and the officials in Warsaw – meeting with Wojciech Sawicki, Head of the Chancellery, and directors of the Senate Chancellery, April 1992.

John Kelley (CRS), Representatives John P. Hammerschmidt, Martin Frost, David Price, Lucien N. Nedzi, officials of the Polish Senate Chancellery Bogdan Skwarka, Marek Kęsy, Zofia Romaszewska, Stanisław Włodarz, Wojciech Sawicki (Head of the Chancellery), Anna Syska

Congressional delegation – members of the Frost Task Force and the officials in Warsaw – meeting with Wojciech Sawicki, Head of the Chancellery, and directors of the Senate Chancellery, April 1992.

Representatives John P. Hammerschmidt, Martin Frost, David Price, Lucien N. Nedzi, William Lehman





Congressional delegation – members of the Frost Task Force and the officials in Warsaw, April 1992.

John Kelley (CRS) and Representative Martin Frost



Congressional delegation — members of the Frost Task Force and the officials in Warsaw, Senat Hall, April 1992

Representatives Martin Frost and David Price, Polish senator Edward Wende, Head of the Chancellery of the Polish Senate Wojciech Sawicki, representative John P. Hammerschmidt, Deputy Marshal of the Senate Zofia Kuratowska, Polish senators Tomasz Jagodziński and Krzysztof Piesiewicz



Congressional delegation - members of the Frost Task Force and the officials in Warsaw, Senat Hall, April 1992

Representatives David Price and Martin Frost, Head of the Chancellery of the Polish Senate Wojciech Sawicki, Polish senators Edward Wende and Tomasz Jagodziński



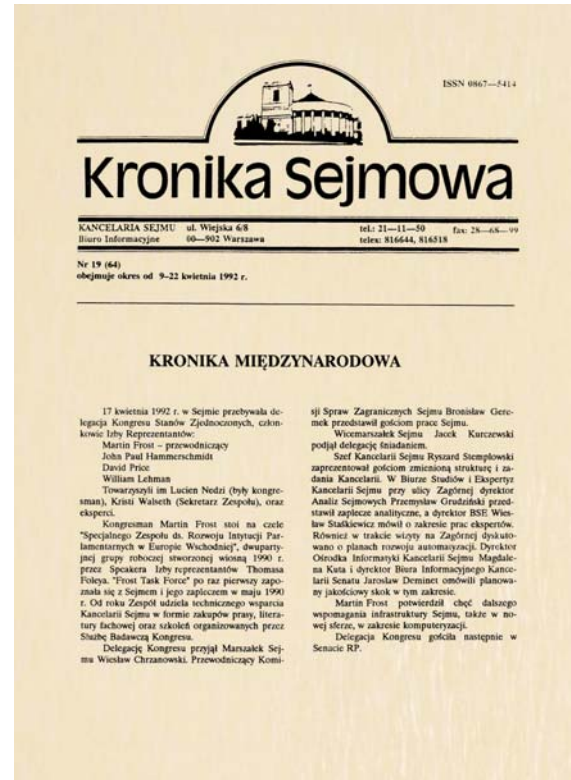
Congressional delegation – members of the Frost Task Force and the officials in Warsaw, Senate Information Office, April 1992.

Jaroslav Deminet, Senate of Poland Chancellery, William Freeman, House of Representatives, Representative John P. Hammerschmidt, Martin Frost and David Price, Cathy Brickman House of Representatives, Head of the Senate of Poland Chancellery Wojciech Sawicki, Kristi Walseth, Chief of Staff, Frost Task Force



Congressional delegation – members of the Frost Task Force and the officials in Warsaw, Senate Information Office, April 1992.

Representatives David Price, John P. Hammerschmidt and Martin Frost, William Freeman, House of Representatives, Jarosław Deminet, Senate of Poland Chancellery



Journal published by the Sejm Chancellery relating the visit of the U.S. Congress delegation, April 1992.



Social meeting following the official program of the Frost Task Force visit in Warsaw, 1992.

Kristi Walseth, Frost Task Force, Jacek Michałowski, Senate of Poland Chancellery, Mary Nell Bryant, CRS and Frost Task Force

As a result of establishing professional services of the Polish parliament, they were in turn able to support building similar services in parliaments of Central and Eastern Europe, including in particular information, research and IT offices. Employees of the Polish parliament provided expert advice during subsequent editions of Frost Task Force program, e.g. in Estonia. They also shared their knowledge and experience during study visits at the Senate and Sejm organized under the program for regional parliaments employees, including Albania, Lithuania, Estonia and Bulgaria.

"Bild" Baltlastele avati maailm



Mary Nell koob infovörku. Foto: Valto Kruser (Press Studio JV)

Täna õpib Rahuasamutuskogu nimetatud päramilts kolmepäevane ja häid rahuvahelise ürituse. USA Kongress on käivitand programmi, mille eesmärk on kaasa aidata Ida-Euroopa noorukei parlamentide õkkaalidele demokraatiale. Programmi ajatas kolm aastat tagasi Texas kongressmen Martin Frost. Endisele ühiskondade riigisid teid ta, et USA võiks arenevad demokraatid aidata just parlamentidavahelise sõdemis arendades.

Seele projekti raames on Tallinnas USA Kongressi Raamatukogu spetsialistid, et meie raamatukogutöötajatele parlamentidavahelise ümberkäimist õpetada. Mary Nell Bryant Kongressi Raamatukogust Ühis, Tallinnas on kutsutud ka Liili ja Leedu parlamentidavahelise õpetajad. Kohal on ka Poola ja Ungari



"Sin ei ole õppijaid ega õpetajaid..." Foto: Valto Kruser (Press Studio JV)

esindajad, kes jagavad oma kogemusi rahvusvahelise ühendamisega viisakemist. Nuna tänapäevale eelilatakse ja edastatakse õhviolisa informatsioonit eelkõrvilistelt. Hõlmas suure osa seminarist arvutuskoolitust ning rahuvahelisele dialoogidele sõltumise õpetamine, millest peamine on Internet. Selle võrgus on hälvika olemas USA Kongressi Raamatukogu kataloogid. Internetiga on juba sõlunud ka Eesti Raahuasamutuskogu. Liili ja Leedu parlamentidavahelise õpetajad parlamentidavahelise kogumisele ja kogude koostamiseks. Ida-Euroopa raamatukogude suurim haldaj on püüdnud arvutust e-Infotööriühendusteks. Aga inimesed on küll väga aktiivsed ja täis lootustamis," ütles Mary Nell Bryant.

Analoogilist tööd seminarit tutvustatuga on Tallinnas juba kolm kuud toimud Ede Johnson, kelle saatmisega Amerikast Raamatukogude Assotsiatsioon. Esimest korda oli ta Eestis 1993. aastal ja see on hr. Johnsoni kuus külastus. Varem on ta sõltunud veel Lätis, Leedus, Venemaal ja Ukrainas.

Silpsoolne korraldaja Velli Verre välisloetuse osakonnast oli rõõmus, et nüüd on parlamentidavahelisele töötajatele võimalus õppust ja kompetentset teadmisi õppida. "Meie inimesed tegelevad praegu CD-ROMide



Visit in the Library of the Czech Parliament in the framework of the Frost Task Force, 1994.

Jiří Brix, Karel Sosna

Baltic Parliamentary Libraries Workshop within the Frost Task Force program with the participation of Polish parliament experts, Tallin, Estonia, June 1993.

Tallin newspaper, June 18, 1993



Visit in the Library of the Parliament of Albania in the framework of the Frost Task Force, 1994.

Zana Bufi, Vjollca Hysenbegasi



Visit in the Library of the Czech Parliament in the framework of the Frost Task Force, 1994.

Standing: Ivana Francová, Jindřiška Vačková, Olga Karfíková, Helena Dolečková, Jiří Rubin; sitting: Alexandra Šulcová, Pavlína Kindlová, Tomáš Samek, Mary Nell Bryant (CRS), Karel Sosna i Jiří Brix



Parliamentary Libraries Workshop in the framework of the Frost Task Force, Prague, May 1995.

Margareta Angelova, Library of the Bulgarian Parliament, Katalin Haraszti and Iván Rónai, Library of the Hungarian Parliament, Mary Nell Bryant, CRS, Renata Blagniene, Lithuanian Parliament, Georgina Gadusová, Slovak Parliament

The network of contacts among parliaments within the region built as a result of the US Congress programs later developed into a cooperation network, in particular in the area of library studies and research.

American assistance provided during the first years of the Polish transformation greatly contributed to building the foundations for effective parliament operations and strengthening the parliament as a main institution for democracy. The services established by the Senate and Sejm at that time have become model of reference for parliamentary services in countries included in the transformation process



Meeting of the officials of the Frost Task Force, Council of Europe and European Parliament in Warsaw, October 1994.

William H. Robinson, (CRS), Ennie Wessedijk-Waechter, International Institute for Democracy, Jacek Michalowski, Senate of Poland Chancellery, Dick Toomstra, European Parliament, Kristi Walseth, Chief of Staff, Frost Task Force



Conference of Secretaries General of Parliaments of Central and Eastern Europe, October 1994.

Kristi Walseth, Chief of Staff, Frost Task Force, Jacek Michalowski, Senate of Poland Chancellery, Francis Miko, CRS, Karl William Propst, Secretary General of the Estonian Parliament, Endel Ilves, Estonian Parliament

U.S. Congressmen, U.S. Congress Officials and Staff committed together with U. S. Government representatives to assisting the new Senate and Sejm of Poland over the first half of 1990's

1. Congressmen

□ The resolution initiating the *Gift of Democracy* was signed by the following senators:

Pete V. Domenici (initiator), George Mitchell (majority leader), Bob Dole (minority leader), Alan Cranston, Bob Kasten, Paul Simon, Barbara Mikulski, Frank Murkowski, Carl Levin, Ted Stevens, Daniel Patrick Moynihan, Connie Mack, John Glenn, Edward Kennedy, Daniel Inouye, Wendell Ford, John Kerry, Charles Robb, Bob Graham.



□ The following members were appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives Thomas S. Foley to the *Task Force on the Development of Parliamentary Institutions in Eastern Europe* (known as *Frost-Solomon Task Force*): Martin Frost (chairman), Douglas H. Bosco, Bart Gordon, Jim Leach and Gerald B.H. Solomon (representing republican minority).

□ Paid visits to Poland successively:

Pete V. Domenici, Walter Mondale, Howard Baker, Thomas Eagleton, Jim Jones, Beverly Benton, Barbara Mikulski, Barbara B. Kennelly, Helen D. Bentley, John Heinz, Jake Garn, John H. Chafee, Christopher Bond, Lucien N. Nedzi, Christopher J. Dodd, Martin Frost, Douglas H. Bosco, Bart Gordon, Jim Leach, Gerald B.H. Solomon, Richard

Shelby, David L. Boren, Howell Heflin, Orrin G. Hatch, Richard G. Lugar, Butler Derrick, David Price, John P. Hammerschmidt, William Lehman, Donald G. Brozman, William H. Brown, Paul Simon, Harry Reid, Hank Brown.

2. U.S. Congress and government officials and staff working for the assistance programs

□ U.S. Senate: Walter Joe Stewart (Secretary of the Senate), Jeri Thomson (Assistant Secretary of the Senate), Michael E. Bartell, Robert W. McCormick, Roger K.Haley, Robert Harris, Ronald T Ledlow, Ann Womeldorf,

□ U.S. House of Representatives and congressmen' offices: Kristi Walseth (Frost Task Force Chief of Staff), Linda Berdine, James W. McCormick, Cathy Brickman, Bud Collins, Joseph R. Crapa, William E. Freeman, James M. Kulikowski, Karen L. Lightfoot, Tom O'Donnel,



□ Library of Congress: James H. Billington (Librarian of Congress), Frances Ann Buffalo, Judy C. McDermott, Louis Drummond, Patricia Gardner, Prosser Gifford, Jeffrey C. Griffith, Imre Jarmy, Eric A. Johnson, Kahleen Price, Paige Whitaker,

□ Congressional Research Service: Joseph E. Ross (Director), William H. Robinson, Mary Nell Bryant, Stanley Bach, Sandra A. Baumgardner, Vita Bite, Mary Ellen Callahan, Linda H. Cox, Nancy A. Daven-



port, Martha Dexter, Pam Dragovich, Felicia Giedrys Kolp, Jeanne B. Hamilton, John P. Hardt, John F. Kelley, Francis Miko, Cynthia Moore, Daniel P. Mulholan, Robert R. Newlen, Walter Oleszek, Alice Rabinovitz, Jill W. Roberts, Paul S. Rundquist, Robert Schrott, Sherry Shapiro, Aletta Waterhouse, Margaret E. Whitlock,

□ U.S. Department of State: John R. Davis (U.S. Ambassador to Poland) and his spouse, Helen Davis, John Boris, Michael L. Braxton, Daniel Fried, Michael Hornblow, Ann Sigmund,



□ USAID: Nina Majer, Melanie Mamrack Chen, Richard Blue,

□ USIA: Walter Raymond, Ann M. Chermak, Anna E. Wilbik.