



Committee Members



Grzegorz Banaś (N)



Stanisław Bisztyga (PO)



Jan Dobrzyński (PiS)



Jan Wyrowiński (PO)

Committee Chair



Tadeusz Gruszka (PiS)



Stanisław Iwan (PO)



Stanisław Jurcewicz (PO)



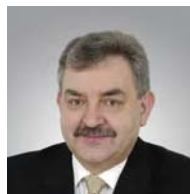
Stanisław Kogut (PiS)



Marek Trzciński (PO)

Committee
Deputy Chair

Committee
Deputy Chair



Kazimierz Kleina (PO)



Krzysztof Majkowski
(PiS)



Tomasz Misiak (N)



Antoni Motyczka (PO)



Władysław Ortyl (PiS)



Andrzej Owczarek (PO)



Eryk Smulewicz (PO)

The Committee considers issues related to Poland's current and future economic policy. Matters within the Committee's scope of responsibilities include: the transformation of ownership relations, restructuring of the national economy, State Treasury matters, operation of state-owned enterprises, anti-monopolistic rules, spatial development and housing management, as well as construction, transport, communications, information technology, maritime economy, energy, mining, tourism, and foreign economic relations.

Like other Senate committees, the National Economy Committee, within its remit, examines the Budget Act and transmits its opinion to the Budget and Public Finance Committee, which is the only committee to present a budget report at plenary sessions of the Senate.

The National Economy Committee is one of 16 standing committees in the 7th Senate (2007-2011).

(PO) Civic Platform
(PiS) Law and Justice
(N) unaffiliated

The National Economy Committee is a successor of several committees functioning in the Senate of the Second Polish Republic (1922-1939). At the time, in the Upper House of the Polish Parliament, matters related to economy, infrastructure and state finances were handled by the Treasury and Budget Committee, the Social Economy Committee, the Economy and Treasury Committee, the Budget Committee, the Communications Committee, and the Economy Committee. After the Second World War, the Senate did not resume its activity, as it was abolished by the Communist government following the rigged national referendum in 1946.

The National Economy Committee was one of the first standing committees established by the restored Senate in 1989. Between 1989 and 2009, all matters concerning the state budget and financial system fell within the remit of the Committee. During that period, the Committee played a leading role in the process of creating the Budget Act. Since November 2008, budgetary issues have been transferred to the standing Budget and Public Finance Committee, appointed by the Senate.

The activities undertaken by the National Economy Committee correspond to the scope of activity of the Ministry of Economy, the Ministry of Infrastructure, and the Ministry of Treasury.

The Committee cooperates with independent experts.

The Committee in the First Six Terms

of the Restored Senate

(1989-2007)

In the early years of the transformation following the fall of communism in 1989, the Committee focused mainly on Poland's shift from centrally planned to market economy. The Committee's task was to evaluate Poland's economic standing and the Government's economic policy programmes. The Committee proposed legislation defining principles of new ownership relations. It put forward suggestions for new regulations on taxes, monetary and credit policy, cooperative activity, and laws related to the reduction of Poland's external debt. The Committee also worked on new anti-monopolistic regulations and amendments to the Commercial Code.

Upon the Committee's initiative, a draft resolution on threats stemming from economic and political changes was adopted by the Senate. The Committee also submitted a bill on local economic self-government and a number of legislative proposals on the restitution of property taken over by the communists.

Other important initiatives of the Committee include: the acquisition of real estate by foreigners in Poland, insurance and free enterprise issues as well as amendments to the Labour Code and The Construction Law. Much attention was paid to the restructuring of the mining, gas, and petroleum industries. The Committee also dealt with regional development.

The Committee in the 7th Senate

(2007-2011)

The Committee focused on the legislation that aimed at reducing of bureaucracy, and on the proposed changes to socio-economic policy. In the years 2007-2010 the Committee organised fifty seminars on topics such as the analysis of the implementation of energy laws, public-private partnership, and consumer bankruptcy. In particular, the Committee devoted much of its time to the examination of the security of energy in Poland,

ownership changes in the energy sector, the development of entrepreneurship in Poland, and the global financial crisis.

The Committee regularly monitors matters related to road infrastructure and safety as well as the property of the State Treasury. It was upon the Committee's initiative that two Senate plenary debates on the privatisation of State Treasury property were held.

Non-legislative Activities

The Committee has organised a number of conferences on nuclear energy development, promoting small enterprises and the retail market, as well as 21st century electronic communications (this conference was attended by Viviane Reding, the EU Commissioner for Information Society and Media).

In 2010, a conference on the conditions for Polish business investors in Russia was held.

The Committee, together with other bodies of the Polish Parliament, issues opinions on EU draft legislation. So far, it has expressed its opinion on EU legislative proposals pertaining to labour migrations, stays of third country nationals, and State aid to facilitate the closure of non-competitive mines.

The Committee Chair and Members actively participate in international meetings organised by EU institutions, Parliaments of EU Member States, and third countries.