

## Marshall Center professor addresses National Defense Academy of Poland

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**Warsaw, Poland** — A Marshall Center professor helped the National Defense Academy of Poland open its new academic year recently with a lecture on transatlantic security relations with emphasis on the current International Security Assistance Force mission in Afghanistan.



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Marshall Center Professor Dr. Andrew A. Michta addresses the National Defense Academy of Poland.

(Photo by Karlheinz Wedhorn)

Professor of National Security Studies Dr. Andrew A. Michta visited the Akademia Obrony Narodowej, or AON, at the invitation Academy President Major General Jozef Buczynski. The chief of the Polish General Staff, a number of government officials, and representatives of the National Security Bureau, the Office of the Prime Minister and other senior Polish military officers attended the ceremony, which included the presentation of diplomas to the academy's new graduates.

"The topic of my lecture was 'Transatlantic Security Relations,'" Dr. Michta said. "It covered the evolution of U.S.-European relations, with the focus on NATO post-9/11 and especially on the significance of the current ISAF mission in Afghanistan. The U.S. puts great emphasis on NATO transformation and on the importance of the Afghanistan NATO mission. In that light, this was a highly relevant topic for me to speak about in Poland, especially since the Poles had recently committed additional 1,000 troops to Afghanistan."

Despite the ceremonial nature of the event the lecture was followed by a lively question-and-answer session.

"The audience asked good questions," Dr. Michta observed. "The feedback I got both immediately after the lecture and since has been very positive. The AON is planning to publish the lecture in both Polish and English in the academy's journal."