

Warsaw July 21, 2017

An appeal to Mr. Andrzej Duda, the President of Poland

We ask the President of the Republic of Poland to use his right to veto the laws on the National Judicial Council, the system of the common courts and the Supreme Court.

These laws contain provisions, which are contradictory to the Constitution of the Republic of Poland, violate the principle of a tripartite system of government, compromise the independence of the courts and the independence of the judges, lead to politicization of the judiciary. They deprive citizens of their right access to a court as provided in Art. 45 of the Polish Constitution and Art. 6 Convention on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms. The changes provided for in these laws will in no way improve the judiciary, but subordinate the judiciary to the executive.

In the hands of the President lies the fate of our Fatherland. Without independent courts and independent judges we will not be a democratic state of law.

We hope that the President will stand on the side of law and democracy.

President of the Association of Polish Judges Iustitia

Dr hab. professor of the Silesian University Krystian Markiewicz – judge of the Regional Court in Katowice