

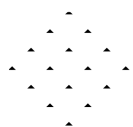
## **Odezwa Władysława Sikorskiego do Narodu Polskiego - Tłumaczenie angielskie**

Dear Fellow Countrymen! It is only acts, not words that matter for the nation at this historic moment. Hence, driven by my duty as a soldier, I have decided to act. In close consultation with the President of the Republic and with his approval, I have taken the lead of the Government of National Unity and became the Commander-in-Chief of the Polish Army.

I do solemnly swear to you, Polish Nation, to the shadows of the defenders of our homeland and freedom, to the heroes of Warsaw, Modlin, Westerplatte and Hel and to all unknown soldiers of the Republic who have served their sacred duty towards Poland, that I will serve it as well, as demanded by my honour as a soldier and by Poland. So help me God.

I declare in my own name and in the name of the Government that the only purpose of the Government of National Unity will be the restoration of great and well-governed Poland, which will be equally just for all its citizens. I wish for my words to become truly embedded in the hearts of all Poles who – together with our heroic Army – have proven their profound love and devotion for our homeland.

The blood shed by the whole nation, by millions of people from all classes and all estates was not shed in vain. The moral debt the western powers have run with Poland will be paid. According to the declarations of our noble allies, they will persist with us in our fight for the final victory of freedom, law and justice. Poland will end this fight stronger so that it can last forever.



The causes of the whole territory of Poland being occupied by Germany and Russia will be determined by our history and the nation after our lands are liberated.

I would like to officially state now in the name of the Government of the Republic and the nation and in the presence of the whole world that a new partition of Poland is an act of violence that we will never acknowledge. Our allies and friends will not acknowledge it either, on no condition.

Poland, its nation, its spirit and its civilization achievements from a thousand years are immortal. Ignacy Paderewski is a living symbol of the greatness of the Polish spirit. In his presence I would like to repeat my vows that we will faithfully, honestly, persistently and unwaveringly serve Poland with all our might.

I solemnly swear to our powerful allies that Poland will remain absolutely faithful to the promises we have made. Under my command, the Polish Army, formed in the French territories, takes over the fight for the greatness of our homeland from the hands of the blood-covered nation. Serving its historic role, it will defend our faith, honour, freedom and our eternal rights to an independent state with absolute devotion.

Taking my hat off to the shadows of our heroes who fell in battle, I appeal to all Poles, wherever they are, to join the devoted and disciplined military service and relentlessly fight for our sacred rights with us.

Paris, 6 October 1939

President of the council of Ministers  
(—) Division General Władysław Sikorski

Quoted in: <http://prawo.sejm.gov.pl/isap.nsf/download.xsp/LMP19392450004/O/LMP19392450004.pdf>