

Kielce has again hosted exhibitors presenting cutting-edge military equipment and technologies. This year's International Defence Industry Exhibition is genuinely exceptional. The whole world has faced the coronavirus pandemic, an invisible enemy which has forced changes. Everyday life, as well as in events planning, have been altered.

The Kielce trade show has been the experience-exchange arena which abounds with expert panels. MSPO has been the place to conclude contracts which enhance defence potential. Since I took the Minister of National Defence office, the support for the domestic defence industry and its technology use wherever possible has been one of my priorities. Therefore, it is especially important to emphasise this opportunity for the international promotion of Polish arms manufacturers.

MSPO has successfully continued and developed the opportunity to present and showcase cutting-edge defence technologies.

The September trade show is of extraordinary importance for Poland's defence industry, which plays a significant role in the context of the Polish Armed Forces' modernisation. It is worth noting the fact that Polish producers and suppliers have utilised 65% of the modernisation budget earmarked for the new weapons for the Polish Army. We do understand the difficult situation faced by companies and enterprises during the epidemic. Thus Polish products prioritising, offered by the domestic arms industry, provides a solution which makes it possible to endure this difficult period. We have been implementing this approach in the Polish Armed Forces' modernisation process for several years.

I am convinced that this year's 28th International Defence Exhibition in Kielce is an excellent opportunity to promote the Polish defence industry on a global scale.

I wish the organisers and institutions involved in the XXVIII International Defence Industry Exhibition organisation achieve their goals. May the efforts invested into this year's expo contribute towards Poland's economic potentials growth and the Armed Forces' development.

I wish all companies and enterprises which showcase their offer at the Kielce trade fair successful transactions. May all of you develop essential business contacts, engage in fruitful talks which result in research and development works and expand the production capacities.

Mariusz Błaszczak

Minister of National Defence