

European Company Lawyers Association

Hon. Andrzej Duda President of the Republic of Poland Chancellery of the President of the Republic of Poland ul. Wiejska 10 00-902 Warszawa Poland

July 24th 2017

Re: Amendments to the Polish Act on the National Council of the Judiciary and the Law on Common Courts Organization

Your Excellency,

I am writing to you on behalf of the European Company Lawyers Association, representing over 40.000 company lawyers throughout Europe, to express our deep concerns over the potential impact on the independence of the judiciary and the legal profession in Poland of the recently adopted parliamentary Act on the National Council of the Judiciary and the Act amending the Law on Common Courts Organization.

The implementation of these amendments, particularly as regards the manner of appointment and dismissal of judges, would create serious doubts on the independence and impartiality of the judiciary.

We urge your Excellency and the Polish Government to avail yourself of your veto rights to reject this legislation in order to guarantee the independence of the legal profession and the separation of powers, and to promote the rule of law in Poland.

Sincerely,

Jønathan Marsh

President