
Current Intelligence Report Circular

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Report Topic: Responses to the Russo-Ukrainian war in Poland, Slovakia, Hungary, and Romania

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Poland's proposed peacekeeping mission to Ukraine and increase in COVID-19 cases

Poland's Prime Minister, Mateusz Morawiecki, has said Poland will propose a peacekeeping mission to Ukraine at the next North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) summit on 24 MAR. The idea of a peacekeeping mission was first announced when the prime ministers of Poland, Slovenia, and the Czech Republic visited Kyiv on 16 MAR. Jaroslaw Kaczynski, Poland's ruling party leader, described a peace mission by NATO as necessary in order to strive for peace, provide humanitarian aid, and bring protection to fleeing refugees. United States President Joe Biden announced his plan to travel to Poland for a bilateral meeting with Polish President Andrzej Duda on 25 MAR. The two plan to discuss the humanitarian and human rights crises created by the Russo-Ukrainian War. They will also discuss Poland's proposed peacekeeping mission. Additionally, there has been an increase in COVID-19 cases in Poland. On 21 MAR, 10,149 new confirmed cases were reported along with 133 deaths. This surge in cases has placed more strain on Poland's healthcare system, as there are now 6,745 active COVID-19 hospitalizations. 413 out of 1,530 available ventilators are being occupied by COVID-19 patients in Poland. Over half of Poland's population is fully vaccinated, with approximately one-third having received a booster shot. END

CMCD Note

Mateusz Morawiecki's proposed peacekeeping mission involves armed forces in efforts to protect the soldiers and refugees seeking safe migration out of areas in Ukraine that are heavily affected by war. Morawiecki further commented, that this mission should involve NATO, but also a "wider international structure" to either provide armed protection, or carry out the peaceful parts of the mission. US President Biden's trip to Poland will likely resemble that of US Vice President Harris' visit, which aimed to affirm the United States' full support of Poland. The increase of Poland's COVID-19 cases is likely a direct result of the influx of Ukrainian refugees. Only 35.7% of Ukraine total population has had two COVID-19 vaccines, with the rate of administered doses severely decreasing due to the war. COVID-19 infections in Ukraine have fallen 29% over the last three weeks, signaling that refugees who are infected are likely responsible for the rising COVID-19 rates in countries like Poland and Hungary.

Sources

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