

# SPCC magazine

IN THE

SPCC

ON THE

GREEN WAY

FROM

MEMBERS

II ON THE GREEN WAY CONFERENCE SUMMARY.  
HOW TO BUILD THE SAFE AND SUSTAINABLE  
ENERGY SYSTEM?

HOW TO KEEP YOUR MOST IMPORTANT DATA SAFE?  
- INTERVIEW WITH JĘDRZEJ SABLŃSKI, CEO PIQŁ

POLAND AT 5G THRESHOLD - ERICSSON REPORT



No 2/2021

SPCC Patrons:



# SPCC magazine

IN THIS ISSUE:



## IN THE SPCC

3-9

LETTER FROM THE MANAGING DIRECTOR  
RECENT ACTIVITIES  
UPCOMING EVENTS  
EXPERT SUPPORT

## ON THE GREEN WAY

10-12

II ON THE GREEN WAY CONFERENCE SUMMARY

## FROM MEMBERS

13-24

HOW TO KEEP YOUR MOST IMPORTANT DATA SAFE? - PIQL

CAN WE INTRODUCE 5G AND REDUCE ENERGY CONSUMPTION? - Ericsson's Report

EU VACCINE FOR POLISH ECONOMIC PROBLEMS - DNB BANK

TAX ALERT - THE ECONOMIC EMPLOYER CONCEPT IN SWEDEN - LAW OFFICE MARUTA

POLISH LEADERS OF THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY HAVE BEEN SELECTED - STENA RECYCLING



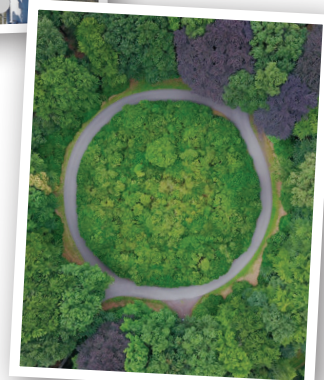
p. 4



p. 16



p. 10



p. 24

SPCC Magazine: *Scandinavian-Polish business community online*

Magazine is a quarterly publication in online format distributed by Scandinavian-Polish Chamber of Commerce (SPCC) among wide group of readers interested in Scandinavia and Scandinavian-Polish cooperation. We reach SPCC Members, business organizations, media and individual readers interested in topics related to Scandinavia.

Editor: Ewa Lisiewska-Szczygieł  
PR & Communication Manager  
Scandinavian-Polish Chamber of Commerce  
elisiewska@spcc.pl  
phone 22 849 74 14

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## LETTER FROM MANAGING DIRECTOR



### Dear Members,

For over a year we have been in the new reality but, together with the spring weather, the vaccination programme is bringing the hope of change. We are all looking forward to the economy reopening and the trade picking up.

The GDP growth forecasts are moderately optimistic: from 3.5% predicted by the World Bank, to 4.1% forecasted by NBP and Fitch. The growth in consumption is to be the driving force of the economy. Despite the fact that the consumption by households suffered in 2020, in the end it led to the high level of savings. The gradual removal of restrictions will increase sales, this is probably the most apparent as the e-commerce sector in Poland develops even more dynamically.

In SPCC, we make sure that our member companies, despite the continuing lockdown, have access to the current economic data from the top experts. In the first quarter of 2021, we organised four online meetings with outstanding economists, including Nadeem Ilahi (International Monetary Fund) and Jakob Ekholdt Christensen (Danske Bank), Jerzy Hausner, Piotr Bujak (PKO BP) and Artur Tomaszewski (DNB Bank Polska).

We also share this knowledge in our Magazine - I would like to encourage you to read the article entitled **EU vaccine against Polish economic problems**, in which you can find among other things conclusions from DNB Bank Polska's report: *Directions 2021. New Marshall's Plan. Reconstruction of Polish economy after COVID-19* (p. 18).

Scandinavian investors are scrutinising Poland with particular care in terms of investment opportunities

in the energy sector. In February, Poland was in the lead in terms of foreign investments announced according to fDi Markets. And it was Swedish Northvolt that proved to be the largest investor - it intends to create 500 new jobs in its factory in Gdańsk. This shows how important the energy cooperation between Poland and Scandinavia is as a topic - we talked about its potential during another conference held by SPCC - **"On the green way"** with the participation of the Undersecretary of State in Ministry of Climate and Environment, Adam Guibourgé-Czetwertyński, Ambassadors for Nordic countries, and experts from the Scandinavian energy market. I recommend that you have a look at the report from this debate.

This topic is also presented to you from another perspective - the ICT sector that is responsible for 1.4% of the world CO2 emissions but has the capacity of achieving a 15% reduction in other sectors, such as the energy sector, manufacturing industry, or transport - you can read about this in Ericsson's report.

In order to respond to your needs for attracting business partners, the Chamber various networking formats, for example in March, together with the French and German Chambers, and the Lewiatan Confederation, we hosted an online meeting for 150 business representatives open to the exchange of knowledge and contacts. The following edition will take place already on 25 May.

It is worth regularly checking SPCC's event calendar - you can find topics there that, from the point of view of conducting business operations in Poland, are of key importance.

It is our mission to build the awareness of the importance of the role played by your activities in Poland's economy, this is why we consistently and regularly conduct a dialogue with various stakeholders, including representatives of the Polish government. In March, under the auspices of IGCC, a meeting was held with Grzegorz Piechowiak, Plenipotentiary of the Government for Foreign Investments. Currently, we are also conducting a joint survey of 17 Chambers of Commerce (IGCC) on the perception of the situation in Poland by foreign investors. We will definitely share the results on the pages of the Magazine and in the form of a webinar.

Of course, we miss normal meetings with you over a coffee and we hope that we will be able to hold them again soon in our new office at 142 Marszałkowska Street. You are already kindly invited!

**Agnieszka Zielińska**  
Managing Director

# IN THE SPCC

## We Have Moved!

A few first months of the year have already passed. One of the highlights during that period was SPCC's relocation to the new office. Yes, after 15 years we left well-known office in Mokotów. By the end of February we have moved to the new, more economical location, in the nearest neighbourhood of the Embassy of Denmark.

We'll be more than pleased to welcome you, our Members in our new premises at Marszałkowska 142!

## B2G

In February, a draft bill on additional proceeds of the National Health Fund, National Fund for the Protection of Heritage Monuments and on the creation of the Fund for Support of Culture and National Heritage in the Media Area, was announced by the Polish government. The proposal has caused concerns, therefore The International Group of Chambers of Commerce (IGCC) of which SPCC is a member, held a consultation among international chambers. As a result IGCC presented the common position on the draft bill.

Here you can find the IGCC's statement (in Polish).

Within the scope of the IGCC's activities, SPCC participated actively in a meeting with Grzegorz Piechowiak, Secretary of State, Government Plenipotentiary for Foreign Investment. We use this opportunity to share with Mr. Piechowiak investors concerns and to present "Foreign Direct Investment in Poland", report prepared by international chambers.



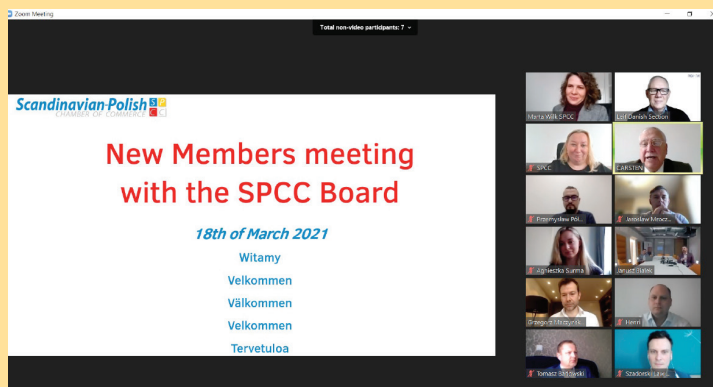
View from the SPCC new office on the Saski Garden

SPCC actively associate itself with the dialogue about the health care system in Poland within The Chambers Coalition for Health (KIH). One of latest activities was participation in consultation and work on formulating common position on National Recovery Plan.

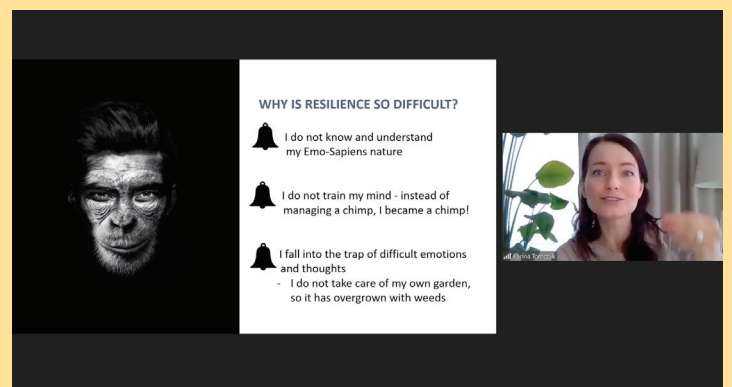
## Events

For safety reasons we still run number of activities online. In recent weeks, our members had the opportunity to participate in the 2<sup>nd</sup> ON THE GREEN WAY Conference, Economic Outlooks and over 30 webinars.

Pandemic fatigue encourage us to search for new solutions to strength our resilience. During workshops "Building your resilience" we learned about ways to strengthen mental and emotional resources. An important factor is rest and relaxation. Although possibilities for social



New members met SPCC Board - during pandemic 37 new companies joined the SPCC - We constantly look for new form and possibilities for online networking.



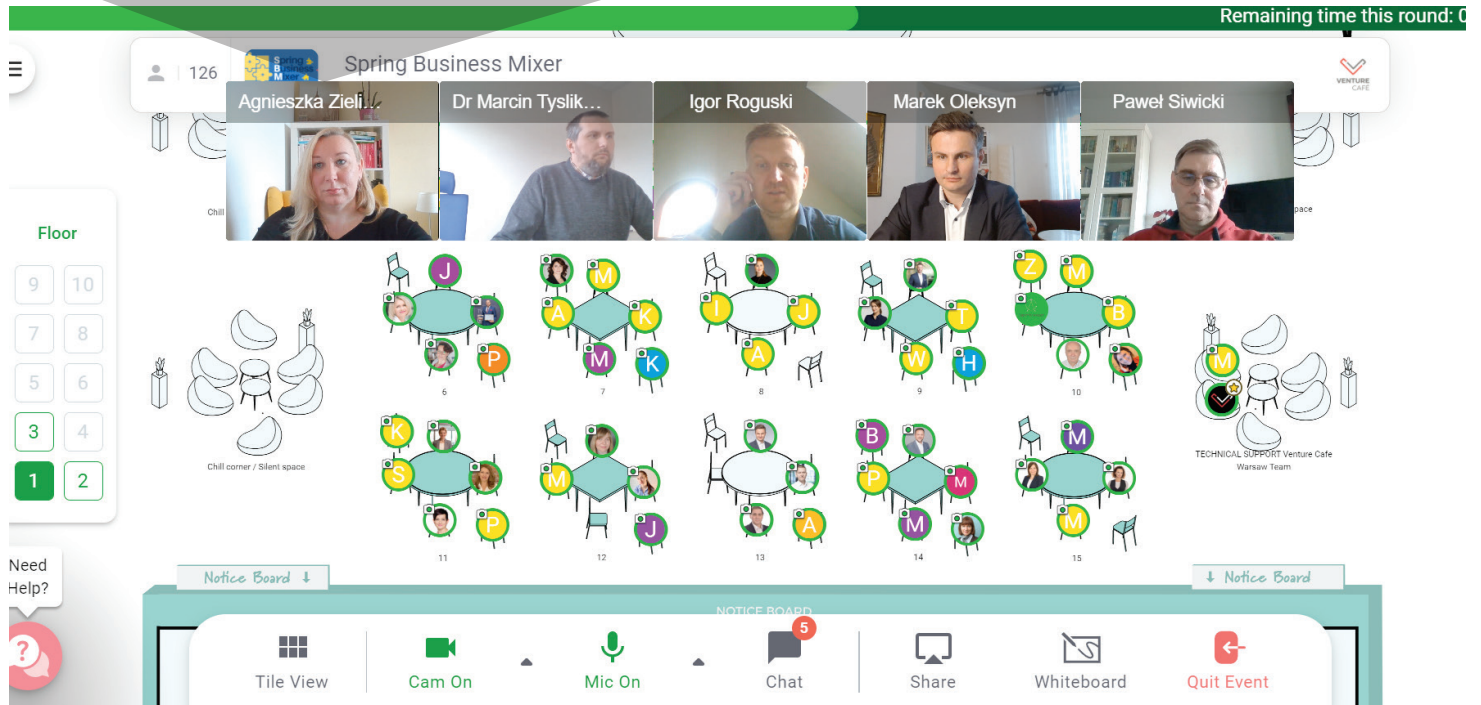
Workshop „Building your resilience”



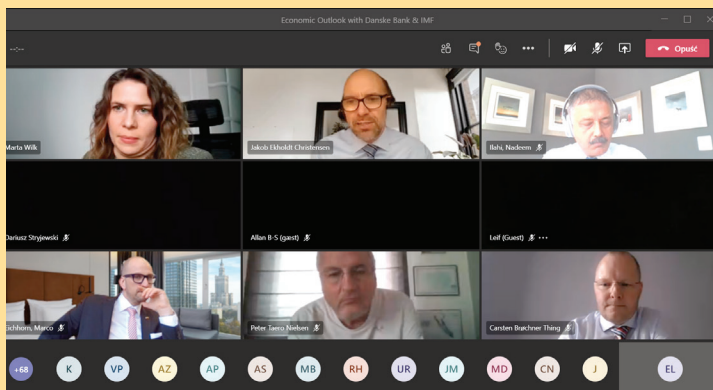
events are very limited now, it turns out we can still enjoy meeting over a glass of wine, even if it is online.



Wine testing online? Thanks to the good planning everything is possible! The members of the Swedish section of SPCC received before the meeting a box of wines selected for testing. During the virtually tasting participants met a real wine enthusiast, Robert Mielżyński.



Business Mixers are always very popular among our members, even online. More than 150 companies participated in the March International Business Mixer!



Economic Outlook with Danske Bank and guest speaker, Nadeema Ilahi from International Monetary Fund. The meeting gathered more than 110 participants from Poland and Nordic countries.



Economic Outlook with Piotrem Bujakiem, Chief Economist at PKO Bank Polski: "The situation is still difficult, but is just around the corner."

## MAY & JUNE EVENTS CALENDAR

We have already planned a number of activities for the next two months. When the face to face activities are again possible we will be happy to use the opportunity and organize offline events. We hope it happens soon.

In the meantime, please check a few of our virtual proposals for May and June. Save dates in your calendars already today!

Detailed Information about other events will be available soon in SPCC Events Calendar.



### Resilient Workplace Insights from the leading Nordic companies 13.05.2021, 10:00

The Covid-19 pandemic has accelerated many processes and redefined operations models, those formed by unique conditions, have initiated permanent changes.

The pandemic has triggered new solutions on the labour market and new needs and habits of employees, it has reshaped office real estate market as well. How are Nordic employers preparing for the changes?

We invite you to join the SPCC next "Scandinavian Workplace" panel debate. We are happy to announce guest speakers who kindly accepted our invitation:

- Lilia Bońska, Head of Large Corporate Coverage, SEB
- Mikkel Lyngbo Nielsen, Chief Real Estate Officer, Ericsson
- Karolina Radziszewska, Executive Vice President Human Resources, Skanska
- Jakub Strzemżalski, Vice President, 7N
- Aleksander Szybilski, Team Leader of Workplace Strategy, Associate Director, Cushman & Wakefield.

### Scandinavian Days in Szczecin, 18-23.05.2021

Already for the 7<sup>th</sup> time Scandinavian Days will be held in Szczecin. The event organized by local authorities aims to strength Polish-Nordic relations. Within the framework of Scandinavian Days, SPCC invites you especially to join two panels of SPCC Members.

On May 19<sup>th</sup> webinar about energy transformation and cooperation in this field will be held. And on May 20<sup>th</sup> Agnieszka Zielińska, Managing Director of moderates the Corporate Social Responsibility debate.

Both events will be held online.

### Business Mixer, 25.05.2021

That is already the third time in this year when SPCC members and representatives of other industry associations operating in Poland, meet during virtual business mixer. To maintain existing and build new relations is the basis of a successful business. SPCC members are aware of it and therefore are always willing to participate in this kind of events, also online. The previous mixer was attended by more that 150 entrepreneurs!

### III ON THE GREEN WAY Conference. The Green (R)evolution in cities. 9.06.2021

The last before summer ON THE GREEN WAY Conference.

How business, administration, municipalities and NGOs can effectively lead the green revolution in the Polish cities?

We invite you to take a part in debate devoted to selected areas of this wide topic: smart cities, green buildings, waste management and transport.

### SPCC Annual General Meeting, 17.06.2021

Just as last year, the Scandinavian-Polish Chamber of Commerce Annual General Meeting will be held online.

Detailed information will be available soon.





# BUSINESS GARDEN

natural space for business



## Business Garden Warsaw

Phase II completed  
5 office buildings, 56,000 m<sup>2</sup>



## Business Garden Poznan

Phase II completed  
5 office buildings, 46,000 m<sup>2</sup>



## Business Garden Wroclaw

Phase II completed  
6 office buildings, 79,000 m<sup>2</sup>

Business Garden is an innovative business park, combining a mixture of efficient offices with easy transport connections as well as exceptional amenities. Business Garden offers inspiring and environmentally-friendly workplaces.

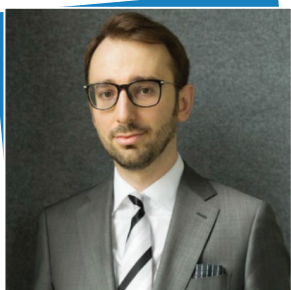
More information:

[www.businessgarden.pl](http://www.businessgarden.pl)

Project by **VASTINT**

## EXPERT SUPPORT - A NEW FORM OF SUPPORT FOR MEMBER COMPANIES

Expert Support is one of new SPCC programmes launched in 2020. Experts representing many of SPCC member companies from law, finance, HR, IT, e-commerce sectors offer a free consulting session to other members from our organisation.



MARUTA WACHTA  
LAW FIRM

**mec. Hubert  
Bińkiewicz**

Covid-19 and anti-crisis  
regulations  
Corporate and contract  
law



PROAKTIVE

**Leif Christiansen**

Cultural values and  
behaviours  
Coaching of Top Managers  
Cohesive Management  
Teams  
Mobilization of Leaders



ENODO ADVISORS

**mec. Hubert Cichoń**

Covid 19: special tax  
measures in the anti - crisis  
regulations. Direct taxes  
and tax disputes.



AV AUS MARKETING  
INNOVATIONS

**Jakub Dąbkowski**

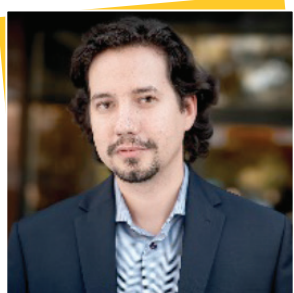
Digital transformation.  
Marketing & Sales  
automation.  
AI Implementation.



UNUM ŻYCIE TU I R SA

**Ewelina Gładkowska**

Group Life Insurance  
Products  
Online Implementations



PETER NIELSEN  
& PARTNERS LAW OFFICE

**mec. Lech Gniady**

Public aid  
Public subsidies related  
to Covid-19 pandemic



ARTHUR HUNT  
CONSULTING

**Dorota  
Grudzień-Molenda**

Crisis Management  
& communication.  
Career / personal  
development. Recruitments  
& assesments. Interim  
Management. Leadership  
Excellence.



ISS FACILITY SERVICES

**Filip Janicki**

Workplace advisory  
Adaptation of work  
spaces - safety  
& comfort for  
employees



## How does it work?

Any SPCC member can send a request for a consultation with an expert of their choice to: [expert-support@spcc.pl](mailto:expert-support@spcc.pl), and we will put interested parties in touch with each other.

An additional benefit of the Expert Support programme is the opportunity to build new business relationships, especially important in times when personal contact is made more difficult by the pandemic.



NEXT TECHNOLOGY  
PROFESSIONALS

**Piotr Jurek**

IT Recruitment  
How to find the best talents and recruit effectively during the crisis?



WECO-TRAVEL

**Wojciech Kożuchowski**

Travel management  
New Travel Policy  
Travel safety  
Travel cost optimization  
Travel technology



CYBERCOM

**Wojciech Kubiak**

Migration to the cloud  
Cost optimization  
WAR audits; Development of applications in the cloud (AWS)



DOMAŃSKI ZAKRZEWSKI  
PALINKA LAW FIRM

**mec. Michał Kucharski**

Contract Law



CRESA

**Tom Listowski**

Industrial & warehouse lease advisory.  
Occupancy costs.  
New Space acquisition or relocation.  
Land acquisitions



ENODO ADVISORS

**Piotr Litwin**

Covid-19: special tax measures in the anti-crisis regulations  
VAT and tax disputes



ENTERCULTURE

**Katarzyna Mołęda**

Cross - cultural collaboration  
Virtual teams  
Resilience and managing uncertainty



CRESA

**Artur Sutor**

Office Lease  
Renegotiation  
Office relocation  
Audit of services charges  
Occupancy cost reduction  
Return to Work solutions

## SCANDINAVIAN SOLUTIONS ON THE POLISH PATH TO ENERGY TRANSITION. HOW TO BUILD THE SAFE AND SUSTAINABLE ENERGY SYSTEM?

Already the second “On The Green Way” conference was held in February. This time we focused on the challenges faced by the Polish energy sector. The special guest, Undersecretary of State in Ministry of Climate and Environment, Adam Guibourgé-Czetwertyński presented the assumptions about the future energy system presented in the strategic document - Polish Energy Policy 2040. Mr. Czetwertyński emphasised there is a wide range of possibilities for Polish-Scandinavian cooperation in this area.

The transformation planned for the next two decades is supposed to be a path towards a new energy system, similar in size to the current one, but based solely on zero-carbon energy sources. This is a serious challenge, but as mentioned by the deputy minister, its implementation is fully possible in cooperation with the private sector.

### Stable and clear rules

Ambassadors of Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden stressed the important role of a stable climate policy and cooperation with entrepreneurs in the process of the green transformation.

- A stable climate policy with a horizon exceeding one parliamentary term, in conjunction with the free market, technological development, cooperation of the government, entrepreneurs and citizens will yield tangible results. - said H.E. Stefan Gullgren, the Ambassador of Sweden, recalling the experiences of his country.

H.E. **Juha Ottman**, Ambassador of Finland, emphasized the key role the business sector plays in the process of changes. As the example of Finland shows, it was entrepreneurs who became the main driving force behind the green transformation. Some sectors have set their own ambitious roadmaps on its journey to climate neutrality. According to H.E. **Anders H. Eide**, Ambassador of Norway, despite the pandemic crisis investors have never before been more deeply aware of climate change risks. The industry



Undersecretary of State in Ministry of Climate and Environment

is pushing for changes in order to maintain its competitiveness and market place.

### Green solutions

- Nordic companies have been present on the Polish market for years, we can already today indicate many common projects implemented effectively. Among others, the Baltic Pipe Project, which will allow transport of gas from Norway to the Danish and Polish markets as early as 2022. And the natural gas will play important roll as transition element on the way to non-carbon energy system. Danish Ørsted and PGE Polska Grupa Energetyczna have signed an agreement to form a 50/50 joint venture for the development, construction, and operation of offshore wind farms in the Baltic Sea, Norwegian Equinor together with Polenergia are developing



## Keynote Speaker



**Adam Guibourgé-Czetwertyński**

Undersecretary of State,  
Ministry of Climate  
and Environment

## Opening statements by Nordic Ambassadors



**H.E. Ole Toft**

Ambassador  
of Denmark



**H.E. Juha Ottmam**

Ambassador  
of Finland



**H.E. Anders Eide**

Ambassador  
of Norway



**H.E. Stefan Gullgren**

Ambassador  
of Sweden

two offshore projects. However, there is still an important potential to exploit - notes **Agnieszka Zielińska**, managing director of the Scandinavian-Polish Chamber of Commerce.

So what do entrepreneurs need to make the green transformation to be more dynamic and the potential has been unleashed?

**Marek Roszak**, director of the energy department of DNV GL, sees PEP 2040 rather as a preliminary draft:

- This is an important step, but we need a more detailed framework. What is even more important, however, it is not up to the government to give us ready-made plans.

The roadmap for the next years should be a result of joint work of all stakeholders: administration, business, the scientific community and citizens, with the government in the coordinating and supervising role.

The offshore sector has been waiting a long time for proper regulations, this problem has now been solved: on February 18<sup>th</sup>, the Offshore Act entered into force. Two days earlier, a draft regulation was announced on the maximum price for electricity generated in the offshore wind farm. Michał Kołodziejczyk, President of the Management Board of Equinor Polska, assesses the level of prices specified in the regulation as very ambitious and challenging for the sector, which is why he also points to the need for a multilateral dialogue.

## Pathways to deep decarbonization of industry

Moderator: Artur Tomaszewski, SPCC Board Member, DNB Bank Polska



**Daniel Larsson**

Counselor, Head  
of Business Promotion  
and Communication  
Embassy of Sweden



**Izabela Van den Bossche**

VP Corporate  
Communications  
Fortum



**Tobias Svensson**

Managing Director  
SSAB Poland



**Artur Tomaszewski**

DNB

## New priorities Scandinavian - Polish energy cooperation in the context of European Green Deal

Moderator: Artur Tomaszewski, SPCC Board Member, DNB Bank Polska



**Thomas Rizk**

Minister Counsellor  
Commercial Affairs  
Royal Danish Embassy



**Michał Kołodziejczyk**

Country Manager Poland,  
Renewable Energy  
Equinor Polska



**Piotr Kuś**

Deputy Director of the Gas  
Market Development Division  
Gaz-System



**Marek Roszak**

Head of Department Energy  
Poland and CEE  
DNV GL

**Izabela Van den Bossche**, Fortums Vice President of Communications, points to fuel flexibility as an effective way to reduce emissions in district heating. Like in the modern multi-fuel Fortum CHP plant in Zabrze, which use refuse-derived fuel (RDF) and coal. It can also be fueled by biomass. In the case of heating, emission reduction is costly, but technologically relatively simple. The real challenge is heavy industry. In this area, at the current stage of technology advancement CCS seems to be an irreplaceable solution. Carbon capture and storage technology is already used, among others at the Fortum Oslo Varme waste-to-energy plant in Norway.

### Just energy transition

A challenge for Poland is its dependence on the fossil fuels and the related social context of the energy transition; Undersecretary of State **Adam Guibourgé-Czetwertyński** stressed the importance of a just energy transformation and the role of an appropriate labour market adjustment. The Ambassador of Denmark, Ole Toft mentioned also the same aspect, pointing out the necessity of retraining employees in sectors that will be changed by the energy transformation.

According to the energy mix provided for in PEP 2040, about 11-14 GW of power is to come from offshore wind energy.

Michał Kołodziejczyk estimates this will generate significant investments in the country. It is a potential and an opportunity, also for local suppliers, providing the possibility to create new jobs.

### On the Green Way

- We cannot afford to be passive at this stage of the climate crisis. For historical reasons, the energy transformation is a great challenge for Poland. Fortunately we can build on experience, good practices and proven technologies, tested e.g. by our northern neighbors. As the Scandinavian-Polish Chamber of Commerce, through the On The Green Way project, we engage in a green transformation, creating a platform for dialogue, identifying problems and looking for the best solutions. - summarizes **Agnieszka Zielińska**.

### About "On The Green Way" Project

OnTheGreenWay is a project focusing on the green economy. As a part of it a series of conferences and events will be held, as well as other projects promoting Polish-Scandinavian cooperation in We cannot afford to be passive at this stage of the climate crisis he field of the green transformation and recovery from pandemic crisis.

More about the project: [www.spcc.onthegreenway.com](http://www.spcc.onthegreenway.com)

## DATA SAFE FOREVER. HOW TO KEEP YOUR MOST IMPORTANT DATA SAFE?

Few months ago, the media reported that the works of the Polish Nobel Prize winner, Olga Tokarczuk, were placed in the Arctic World Archive. In this so-called Doomsday Library, there are already many digitized works of literature and culture from all around the world. According to Jędrzej Sabliński, CEO of Piql Polska, this “time capsule” will last at least 500 years thanks to Piql’s unique solution.

### Photosensitive tape does not jump to mind when thinking of 21st century technology, why did you choose this direction when looking for a solution that will last for centuries?

Indeed, you may first associate photosensitive tape with analog technology, but piqlFilm is a medium on which data is digitally recorded, similar to LTO tape, which is commonly used for backup storage. The inventor of piqlFilm, Rune Bjerkestrand has extensive experience from the film industry. He dealt with the transfer of films, in digital form, to photosensitive tape, which was distributed to cinemas. In the 1990s, the cellulose film base began to be replaced with an extremely durable polyester. This material is so strong you can tow a car on it! Rune Bjerkestrand, using this medium, began to work on a technology that would allow not only movies, but all possible data to be recorded on this kind of a tape. In 2008, the first attempts to convert data and save them on photosensitive tape were made, silver crystals became the data carrier, which additionally increased the durability of the medium.



### You mentioned LTO tapes, how do they differ from tapes used by Piql?

Longevity is the key word. Magnetic tapes may be demagnetized and, as a result, the data may be damaged, while in the case of piqlFilm the information carrier is silver crystals, which guarantee the longevity of the recording for at least 500 years. Although our research shows the tape can last up to 1500 years. The piqlFilm has a smaller capacity, one roll holds 120 gigabytes.

This solution is also secure and environmentally friendly. The data is stored offline, so it is not threatened by cyber attacks and piqlFilm does not need an energy source. We must remember that storage centres are responsible for 10% of global energy consumption. And last but not least piqlFilm is independent of the future technological development.



### Speaking of technology, do we have confidence that the data preserved on piqlFilm will be readable in 500 or even 1500 years?

Piql’s creators took their inspiration from the Rosetta Stone, on which the same



text was written in three types of writing: hieroglyphs, demotic writing, and the Greek alphabet. Thanks to this, researchers managed to find the key to deciphering Egyptian hieroglyphs. Similarly, with Piql technology, the idea is to have a reading key on each individual reel. At the beginning of each tape there is a given source code, that allows decoding of the content stored in the universal binary code. Data can also be preserved in visual form, such as photos and scans of documents.

### **Piql technology is used, among others, to protect cultural heritage in the event of natural disasters and unforeseen circumstances. Can only public institutions use the Arctic World Archive?**

First of all, it is necessary to distinguish between the data archiving service on piqlFilm and the storage of rolls in the Arctic World Archive. The archive contains information that is important to the cultural heritage of all humanity. This is not confidential, carefully guarded data. In addition to working with cultural institutions, we work also with commercial entities that simply need a reliable medium. These customers store data tapes in their own archives.

### **How does the implementation of such a project look like in practice?**

The data is delivered to us online using a dedicated platform or to Piqls headquarters in a given country on hard drive or online. Later, the data is converted into a suitable format that will allow it to be recorded on the photosensitive tape. The next step is chemical treatment, like in case of film or microfilm. The last stage is data control - each roll is scanned and checked for



PiqlFilm is stored in a box designed to be as long-lived as the piqlFilm itself.

the correctness of the saved data whether there are any scratches or blurriness. If the reel passes the inspection stage, it goes into a box made of a material as durable as piqlFilm itself. The implementation of the project obviously depends on the amount of data and on its form, whether it is already digitized or in paper form.

### **Can you name some examples of projects you have done with commercial entities?**

A major project has been archiving the extensive paper archive of the Brazilian beer company Ambev. Stored in over 100,000 boxes, the documents are difficult to access and expensive to store. The documents go from various locations in Brazil to one warehouse, where the digitization process is carried out using high-speed scanners that process more than a million pages a day. It's a huge logistical operation, but of course not every company has such an extensive paper archive.

We implemented a very interesting project in our southern neighbors in Slovakia, for a transmission grid operator. Each case is different and we always plan the scope of work very individually. Generally we can say, in the case of paper documents, about 650,000 pages can be stored on a single roll of piqlFilm.

### **About PIQL**

PIQL is a tech company dealing with digitization and long-term archiving of files (up to 500 years). The data is preserved in visual form and / or binary on a specially prepared polyester carrier coated with silver emulsion. Optionally, we offer data storage in the Arctic World Archive. We consult and develop a digitization and archiving strategy. In Poland, PIQL has been operating since February 2020.



Arctic World Archive.

# ERICSSON REPORT: CAN WE INTRODUCE 5G AND REDUCE ENERGY CONSUMPTION?

The ICT sector accounts for 1.4% of global carbon dioxide emission, but it may be reduced in 15% in other sectors, such as energy, industry or transport. If the 5G network is implemented in the same way as previous generations, energy consumption will increase sharply. The current annual global energy costs associated with the operation of mobile networks are USD 25 billion. Both from the point of view of expenditure and carbon footprint, energy consumption is one of the greatest challenges for the industry. Ericsson's experts stress that solutions should be put in place which enable operators to use as little energy as possible while managing the expected increase in data transfer and meeting the needs of current and future 5G networks.

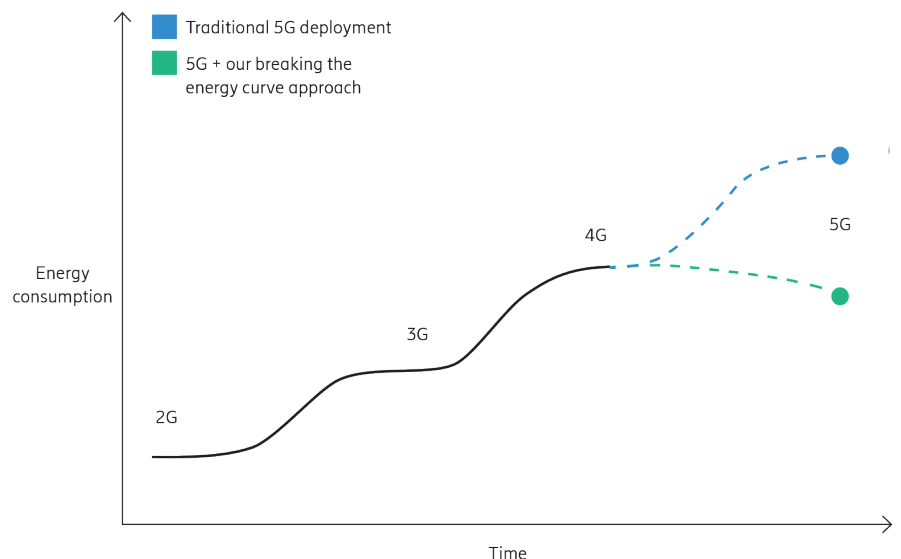
## How to break the growing energy curve

"It is possible to break the energy curve, i.e. to reduce the total energy consumption of the mobile network compared to the current level and to meet the huge challenge of increasing traffic. We believe that this is indeed our responsibility, together with the other actors in the ICT industry. Thanks to our extensive research carried out for more than 20 years, we have proven that mobile broadband networks are a factor conducive to sustainable development, economic growth and reducing carbon dioxide emission," says Marcin Sugak, Ericsson's expert.

The ICT sector accounts for only 1.4% of global carbon dioxide emission, but has the potential to allow 15% reduction in other sectors such as energy, industry and transport. From a life-cycle perspective, the main part of our carbon footprint comes from everyday electrical devices, e.g. computers and smartphones. Energy consumption will increase dramatically if 5G is implemented in the same way as 3G and 4G. Some communications service providers estimated even the doubling of energy consumption in order to meet the increasing demand for traffic, while improving the network and introducing 5G. This is not sustainable in terms of costs or environmental protection.

"Thanks to the 5G standard and efforts of, among others, Ericsson's research and development centre in Łódź and Kraków, it is possible to

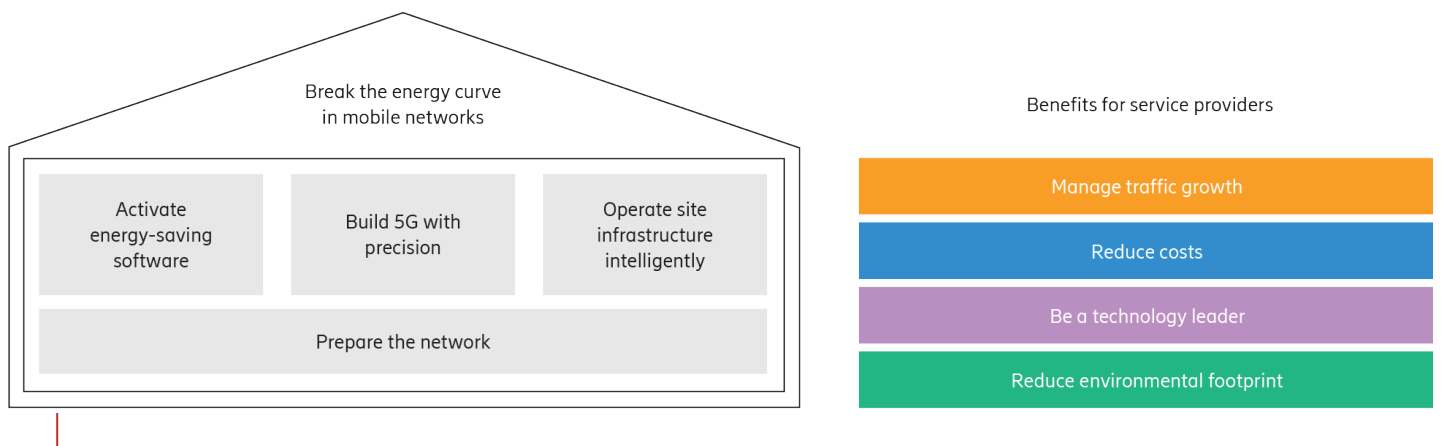
Our breaking the energy curve approach



significantly reduce energy consumption. 5G is the most energy-conscious standard. It allows the mobile system to make more efficient use of smart sleep modes. In addition, it allows extension of coverage by using lower bands while increasing capacity and speed thanks to aggregation of operators," explains Marcin Sugak.

In order to break the curve of increasing energy consumption in mobile networks, it is important to remember about the four main elements of the 5G network deployment strategy. "Together with our customers, we have improved various solutions in order to achieve significant energy savings. Execution of the first step brings immediate savings and provides data that can be used at a later stage," says Ericsson's expert.

**The elements and benefits of breaking the energy curve**



**Preparation of the network**

Modernisation of the network technology even in low-traffic areas will bring return on investment after three years, taking into account only the savings resulting from lower energy use. By modernising the network with the use of the latest technologies and exchanging old devices, new business opportunities can be realised, while at the same time significant energy savings can be achieved. The implementation of previous generations of mobile networks has often been managed by adding new equipment while preserving existing network resources. This practice must change.

**Activation of energy saving software**

Energy saving functions are already available through Radio Access Network (RAN) and can be activated immediately. Adding a machine learning element will bring further savings. Smart power management functions such as microsleep Tx (MSTx) can reduce its consumption by up to 15% for radio equipment while maintaining the same comfort of use. 5G software has saved energy savings in its DNA. Its advanced functions will continue to develop and network performance will increase over time.

**Construction of 5G with precision**

It is important to have appropriate equipment in the right place. Building 5G with precision consists in optimising network efficiency on new 5G frequencies, while maintaining capital expenditures and maintenance costs within certain limits. It is possible to quickly implement 5G without the need to add further energy-intensive devices. This means that service providers can

reduce the increase in energy consumption when introducing 5G.

**Intelligent management of local infrastructure**

Thanks to artificial intelligence, service providers can operate the network infrastructure more actively. The available energy budget and even the space itself are often limited and therefore require compact and energy-efficient solutions. - "It is necessary to introduce tools to control passive devices and to enable preventive maintenance and touchless solution of problems in order to reduce costs, energy consumption and on-site visits. Customers' cases show that, thanks to intelligent facility management solutions, service providers have reduced their energy consumption at the plant by up to 15%. In addition, although many functions are available to optimise active elements of the facility (i.e. radio equipment), passive elements supporting the radio access network (RAN) are often omitted, even though they may account for more than 50% of the total power consumption in the facility" - explains Ericsson's expert.

**Poland at 5G threshold**

Ericsson's equipment has been ready to work in the 5G network since 2015. This is possible thanks to updates to 5G by remote software installation. The European Commission expects Member States to have a wide coverage of the 5G network by 2025. Ericsson is an active promoter of 5G solutions in Poland - it has implemented the first commercial 5G network in Poland with Polkomtel, 5G in Play network, test network in Warsaw with Orange and 5G





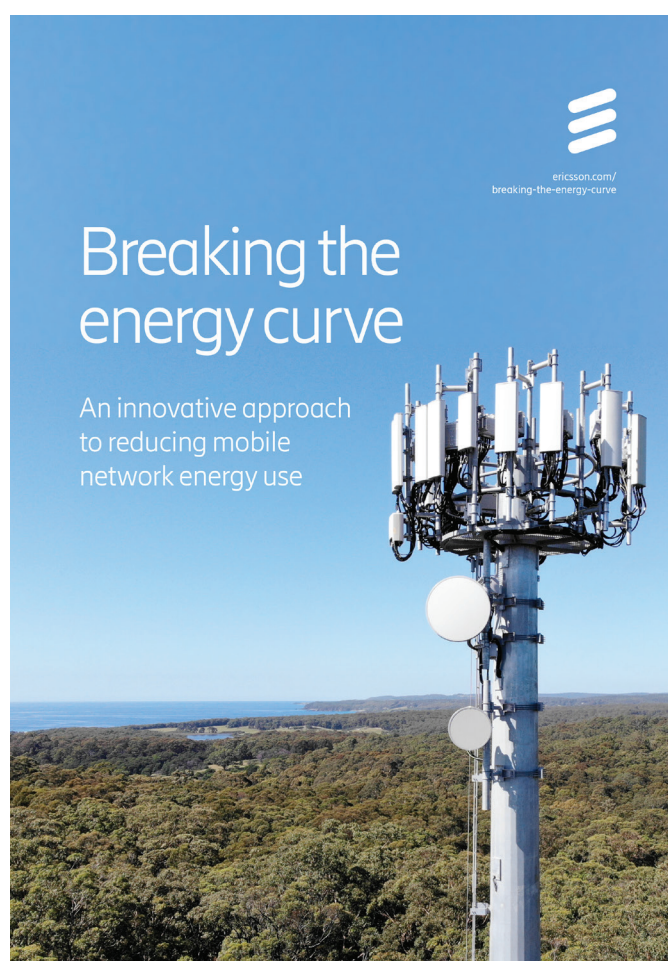
campus at Łódź University of Technology. Ericsson cooperates with operators, research and development centres, academia, start-ups and industry.

Ericsson currently has more than 134 commercial 5G agreements, 83 of which are active networks operating in more than 40 countries. Ericsson is also a leader in standardisation of 5G, with the majority of shares for 4G and 5G. Taking into account the declarations made to the European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI) using the necessary filter, Ericsson is at the top of the 5G patent race. According to the analysis of Bird & Bird law firm, Ericsson has the largest number of significant SEP patents (standard-essential patent) related to 5G worldwide (15.8%).

Ericsson's report "Breaking the energy curve. An innovative approach to reducing mobile network energy use" can be found [here](#)

**Katarzyna Pałk**  
Head of Marketing & Communications  
[Katarzyna.pak@ericsson.com](mailto:Katarzyna.pak@ericsson.com)

More information:  
[www.youtube.com/ericssonpolska](https://www.youtube.com/ericssonpolska)  
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## EU VACCINE FOR POLISH ECONOMIC PROBLEMS

Undoubtedly, the year 2020 was a test for the world both with respect to health and economic problems brought by the pandemic. Even though the crisis is not over yet, we must start thinking how to mitigate its effects. According to the “Directions 2021. New Marshall Plan. Recovery of the Polish economy after the COVID-19” report, prepared by DNB Bank Polska and Deloitte, one of the factors helping us to return to normalcy will be the Recovery Plan for Europe. The EU funds will allow Poland to create over 155,000 new jobs, whereas the Polish GDP will grow by PLN 66.7 billion already next year. For Polish companies, this is an opportunity for more intense actions in the area of digitisation and environmental protection. However, it is quite surprising to learn that Polish businesses remain quite sceptical about the European aid.

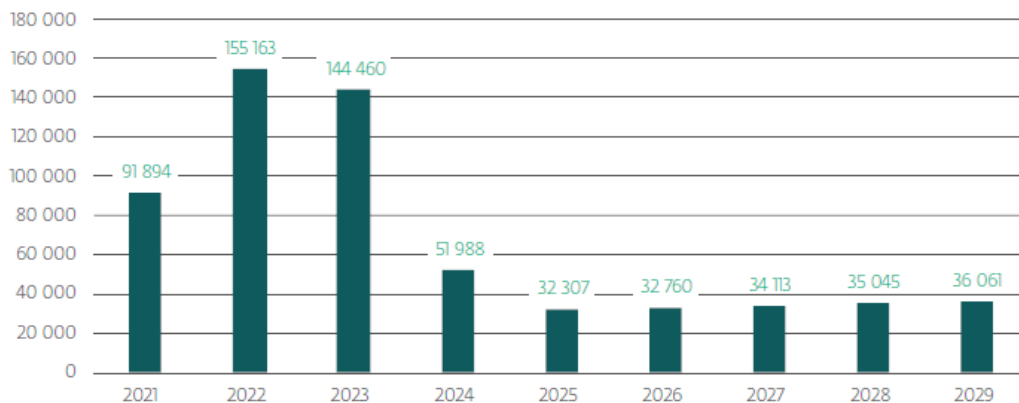
Member states can count on funds from two programmes. The first of them is the new EU budget, namely the Multi-annual Financial Framework (MFF) for years 2021-2027 and the anti-crisis Recovery Plan for Europe - Next Generation EU (NGEU), compared to the Marshall Plan. In total, they have at their disposal an amount exceeding EUR 1.8 trillion, which constitutes almost 13 percent of the European Union's GDP.

In the “Directions 2021. New Marshall Plan. Recovery of the Polish economy after the COVID-19” report, we focused on the NGEU and the effects of its implementation. The programme was divided into three main pillars. The first of them are investments and reforms, including the Recovery and Resilience Facility which makes up 90% of the entire NGEU. The second pillar is stimulation of the EU economy by encouraging private investments. It primarily encompasses programmes based on loans and guarantees. The last area is drawing conclusions from the crisis, including EUR 13.5 billion for the

Horizon Europe programme. The scale of aid offered by the European Union is immense. Its best use is in the interest of all of us.

The promises of the European Union are obviously encouraging, but will the New Marshall Plan have an actual impact on the Polish economy? The substantive partner of our report, the consulting company Deloitte prepared a simulation pertaining to the effects of the programme for the needs of the report. It follows from it that already in 2022 the Polish GDP will grow thanks to the NGEU by PLN 66.7 billion. Between 2022-2023, the inflow of the NGEU funds will make up over a half of the total GDP growth in this period, whereas in the subsequent years, it will remain on a significant level. The EU funds will also affect the structure of employment. Next year, they will be used to create and maintain over 155,000 jobs. In this case, services and the processing industry will be the special beneficiaries. After 2025, the annual NGEU projects will maintain over 30,000 jobs.

Simulation results - aggregate change in employment (the number of the maintained places of work)



Source: Directions 2021 report .



## What is the companies' reaction?

For the needs of the "Directions 2021. New Marshall Plan. Recovery of the Polish economy after the COVID-19", we circulated a survey among our clients. These are primarily large companies and corporations from selected economy sectors: renewable energy, FMCG, trade, services, automotive, manufacturing, TMT (telecom, media and technology). The results show that the companies are sceptical about the European promises. It is only in the case of the "Power-Up" initiative where more than a half of the companies included in the survey indicated that it may contribute to the company's development. The priority assumes development of clean technologies and thus use of renewable energy sources, including the hydrogen promoted by the European Union.

This may result from the fact that large Polish companies have a limited experience with procuring EU funds. Only one-third of the respondents made such attempts in the past and have extensive knowledge about it. On the other hand, 23% of companies have limited experience with the EU funds, but they wish to be educated in this area.

Thus, our report shows that companies not only are not familiar with the premises of the Recovery Plan, but also have limited knowledge about all EU funds. Thus, they do not include them in their business plans for the near future. In case of the question pertaining to the sources of financing new investments, own funds were listed most frequently, both as the mode of financing primary investments and auxiliary ones (80%). The second place in this respect is taken by banking products (43%). Only slightly



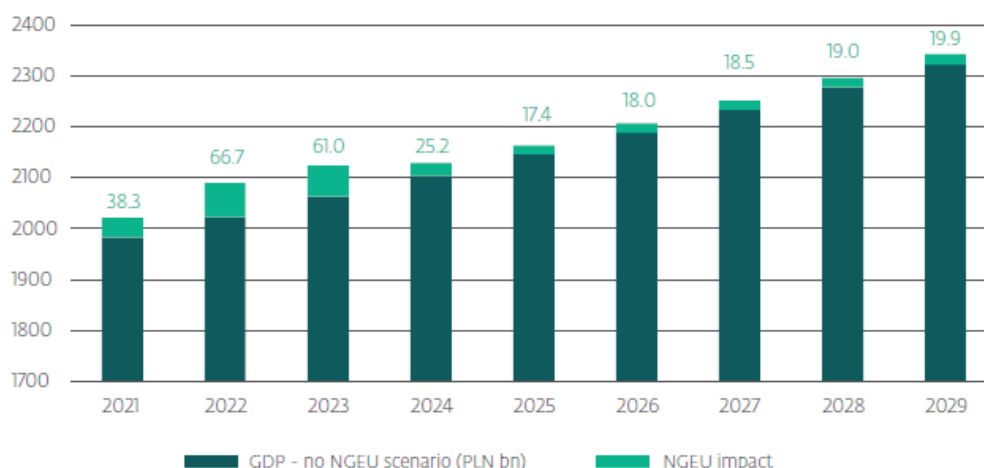
less than one-fourth of the respondents wish to use the EU funds when financing their basic investments.

### Assumptions - the size and structure of expenditures under the Next Generation EU in Poland (PLN bn)

PROGRAM/FACILITY - ALLOCATION IN PLN BN	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Recovery and Resilience Facility - subsidies	10.31	20.62	36.08	30.92	5.15
React-EU	3.50	2.58	2.62	0.00	0.00
Development of rural areas	0.37	0.73	1.28	1.10	0.18
Just Transformation Fund	1.56	3.13	5.48	4.69	0.78
<b>Total</b>	<b>15.74</b>	<b>27.06</b>	<b>45.45</b>	<b>36.72</b>	<b>6.12</b>

Source: Directions 2021 report .

The impact of NGEU funds on the GDP level in 2021-2029



Source: Directions 2021 report

## Technological and ecological plans

Recovery after the pandemic crisis cannot be measured with economic criteria only. In its projects, the European Union makes the member states liable for acting in areas of digitisation and environmental protection, i.e. in areas where Poland nowadays has significant investment deficiencies.

Therefore, we asked our clients which activities they take and plan to take in the case of the areas promoted by the EU. It should not come as a surprise that as far as the use of the digital technologies is concerned, the most popular is remote work (97%). On the other hand, least common is robotisation and automation of business processes (35%). In the case of environmental initiatives, as many as 70% of companies already took actions aimed at more efficient energy consumption.

As far as plans of companies are concerned, 48% of them are planning implementation of robotisation and automation of business processes, as well as big data (28%). A half of the respondents intend to use the renewable energy sources and to develop more environmentally friendly products and services. The results show that the Polish companies wish to grow stronger in areas that were designated as neglected in the DESI and SDG indexes, i.e. sets of indexes determining a state's advancement in the area of technology and environment protection.

The "Directions 2021. New Marshall Plan. Recovery of the Polish economy after the COVID-19" report shows that the Recovery Plan for Europe will exert a significant impact on recovery from the pandemic crisis. Simultaneously, large Polish companies are sceptical to its premises. Many of them did not have any experience with seeking EU funds. The public institutions should inform and educate the enterprises about the modes in which they can expand their operation, and simultaneously assist the economy by using the EU funds.

**Artur Tomaszewski,**  
President of the Board,  
DNB Bank Polska S.A.

### DNB Bank Polska

DNB Bank Polska S.A. has been operating in Poland since 2002. The Bank's owner is DNB Group - the largest Norwegian financial group, holding high long-ratings (AA, according to Standard & Poor's and AA2 according to Moody's). The Group operates in 19 countries. DNB has branches in major financial centres in the world, including London, New York and Singapore, whereas its shares are listed at the Oslo stock exchange. DNB Bank Polska S.A. is a specialist corporate bank servicing large enterprises and the public sector. The Bank focuses on servicing and financing companies from selected sectors, such as: energy, including renewable energy sources, wholesale and retail trade, communication and technologies, automotive industry, packaging, food production and services.



## TAX ALERT - THE ECONOMIC EMPLOYER CONCEPT IN SWEDEN

### Introduction

On 1 January 2021, Sweden introduced the concept of so-called economic employer, and thereby new routines and reporting obligations for foreign companies, which will affect many Polish companies, sending short-workers and business travellers to Sweden. The change in the tax legislation reduces the opportunities for staff from abroad to avoid Swedish taxation for temporary work performed in Sweden. Two sectors in which Polish companies will be strongly affected are construction and IT, both of which send Polish hired labour to Sweden in large numbers.

### What does the legislative change imply?

In short, the change in the legislation consists of three parts.

- Obligation for foreign companies to register with the Swedish Tax Agency and to withhold and monthly report tax from the salaries of employees who work temporarily in Sweden, if the so-called 183-day rule is not met.
- Obligation for Swedish companies to make tax deductions from compensation for work to a foreign company, that is not approved for F-tax.
- Foreign companies that conduct certain activities in Sweden must provide specific information for assessing their tax liability.

### Economic employer concept

Previously, an employee could stay up to 183 days in Sweden during a 12-month period and not be liable to tax on his/her earnings in Sweden if;

- the employer, i.e., the person who pays salaries to the employee and who is thus the formal employer, does not have a permanent establishment in Sweden, or



- the employee's salary is not invoiced, or should have been invoiced, to a permanent place of business or permanent establishment (PE) that the formal employer has in Sweden.

The implication of the legislative change is that the 183-day rule does not apply when it comes to hiring of the labour. By introducing an exception to the 183-day rule when hiring labour, Sweden has introduced an economic employer concept.

An economic employer is one who is the client when hiring labour. Such hiring of labour requires that the client is:

- a natural or legal person who is liable to tax on income from business activities in Sweden,
- a Swedish trading company, or a legal person taxed abroad as a shareholder where one or more partners in the company or the legal person is liable to tax on income from business activities in Sweden, or

- the Swedish state, Swedish municipality or Swedish region.

Limited taxable employees who are employed by a Swedish company or a foreign company that has a PE in Sweden are not covered by the hiring-out rule, and are taxed in accordance with the provisions under the Special Income Tax on Non-Residents Act (SINK).

If the employee is employed instead by a foreign company and is hired out for such an activity, the hiring of labour is deemed to exist. The client for whom the employee performs the work is in that case considered to be the employee's economic employer. The employee can thus not take advantage of the exemption from taxation in SINK (183-day rule) and must be taxed.

Hiring out of labour is not considered to exist when the employee performs the work directly for his or her own employer. The decisive factor for whether the employee is to be taxed in Sweden is whether the employer has a PE in Sweden. The 183-day rule will therefore continue to be applied when foreign employees, who are employed by a foreign company that does not have a PE in Sweden, temporarily work in Sweden, and the work is performed on behalf of the foreign employer.

A foreign company that does not have a PE in Sweden can hire out an employee to another foreign company that does not have a PE in Sweden. This is because a foreign company that does not have a permanent place of business in Sweden cannot be such a client that the hire-out rule may apply to. The employee can continue to apply the 183-day rule in SINK if all conditions are met.

The new legislation means that if the individual is a part of the staff in a business in Sweden, under the control and management of a Swedish company, i.e., either through hiring out between different companies or customary work between companies within groups, the Swedish company is considered to be the employee's economic employer. In assessing whether the employee performs the work on behalf of his/her formal employer, or whether the circumstances surrounding the work performed indicate that there is an employer relationship other than the formal one, it is important to evaluate who bears the liability and risk for the result of the employee's work.

If the Swedish company is considered to have control and management over the employee in a weighted assessment, the Swedish company can be seen as the economic employer. In short, these situations are referred to as "hiring out of labour" whereby the employee becomes taxable for income from service from day 1, since there is a Swedish employer (economic), i.e., the client in Sweden. However, some very short jobs should be excluded. The Government has determined that if the employee stays in Sweden for a maximum of 15 consecutive working days and a maximum of 45 working days per calendar year, it is not a question of hiring out labour and no tax liability for service income arises. If the employee exceeds the 45-day limit, (possibly) tax liability only arises at and from the time the limit is exceeded. There are some exceptions in the new rules so that the change in legislation does not affect companies that are part of international groups.

The formal employer, i.e., the foreign company must register as an employer in Sweden and include preliminary tax of 30%, and possibly pay social security contributions on a monthly basis. For those who have a so-called SINK decision, i.e., a decision on special income tax for non-residents, a 25% tax applies. For others, 30% applies.

## **Withholding tax from invoices**

A general obligation is introduced for Swedish companies to make tax deductions from compensation for work performed in Sweden to foreign companies that are not approved for F-tax. In summary:

- If a foreign company is not approved for F-tax, 30% of the invoice amount must be withheld.
- The deducted A-tax is credited to the recipient in connection with the final tax calculation.
- If the foreign company does not submit an income tax return, a so-called automatic zero taxation applies.
- Surplus from the tax account is paid to the foreign company after final tax calculation.

Due to the change, it is the foreign employer who must report the individual's income each month, and who must include and pay the preliminary tax to the Swedish Tax Agency.



## Obligation to provide specific information for assessment of tax liability

The fact that foreign companies have staff in Sweden indicates that they conduct or intend to conduct business in Sweden. The Swedish Tax Agency therefore wants to be able to make an assessment of whether the business can constitute a permanent place of business in Sweden, which is made possible by the foreign company submitting specific information to the Swedish Tax Agency.

## What needs to be done?

For Polish employers with temporary staff in Sweden, three steps should be taken to ensure that they fulfil their obligations from the start of 2021:

- Make a review to determine which staff travel to Sweden and investigate the employees' travel patterns and tasks, whether it can be considered that there is an economic employer in Sweden.

- Make an analysis of the current situation and become aware of the risks, in order to put in place everything that is required in practice to be able to comply with the new regulations, that might involve the company's registration in Sweden, withholding Swedish tax, submitting employer tax returns, including the salary relating to work performed in Sweden etc.
- Create routines and processes to handle the increased administration and reporting to the Swedish authorities.

You are more than welcome to contact Maruta Wachta's Nordic Desk for advice on both the current legislative change and other legal issues. We will guideline you through and ensure that you are following the applicable regulations in Sweden.

**Daniel Jastrun**  
[djastrun@maruta.pl](mailto:djastrun@maruta.pl)

**Karolina Henriksson**  
[khenriksson@maruta.pl](mailto:khenriksson@maruta.pl)



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**FOREO**  
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## POLISH LEADERS OF THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY HAVE BEEN SELECTED!

The idea of a circular economy is becoming more and more popular. In Poland, this trend is also gaining in importance. More and more companies are trying to move away from the linear model to the circular economy. The fundamental issue in pursuing such an economy model is a change in both business and consumer attitudes. According to a survey "Poles about circular economy", commissioned by Stena Recycling, 65% of respondents expect manufacturers to use more recycled materials in their products and 37% of respondents said they would pay more for such a product.

### POLACY O GOZ

**56%** BADANYCH POLAKÓW UWAGA, ŻE WPROWADZANIE ZASAD GOZ MOŻE MIEĆ POZYTYWNY WPŁYW NA NASZE OTOCZENIE

#### WYBORY KONSUMENCKIE A GOZ

**66%** BADANYCH CHCIAŁOBY ABY ULUBIONE PRODUKTY POCHODZIŁY ZE ZRÓWNOWAŻONEJ PRODUKCJI

**61%** RESPONDENTÓW CHETNIE DOWIEDZIĄŁOBY SIĘ CZY FIRMA, Z KTÓREJ USŁUG LUB PRODUKTÓW KORZYSTA DZIAŁA NA RZECZ WPROWADZANIA ZASAD GOZ

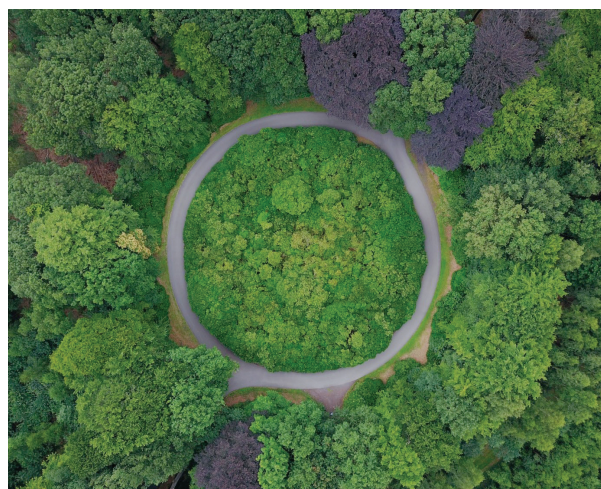
**58%** ANKIETOWANYCH BYŁOBY SKŁONNYCH ZMENIĆ SWOJE PRZYWCZYKAJENIA KONSUMENCKIE I ZREZYGNOWAĆ Z USŁUG/PRODUKTÓW ULUBIONEJ FIRMY NA RZECZ TAKIEJ, KTÓRA DOBROWOLNIE WDRĄŻA ZASADY GOZ

#### GLÓWNE KORZYŚCI REALIZACJI IDEI GOZ

**68%** LEPSZY STAN ŚRODOWISKA **29%** OSZCZĘDNOŚCI FINANSOWE ZWIĄZANE Z ZAKUPEM TRWAŁYSZYCH PRODUKTÓW  
**48%** CZYSTSZE POWIETRZE **23%** NOWE MIEJSCA PRACY

#### STOSUNEK DO PRODUKTÓW Z RECYKLINGU

**65%** RESPONDENTÓW OCZEKUJE, ŻE PRODUCENCI BĘDĄ WYKORZYSTYWAĆ W SWOICH PRODUKTACH WIĘCEJ MATERIAŁÓW POCHODZĄCYCH Z RECYKLINGU  
**44%** BADANYCH JEST SKŁONNYCH ZAPŁACIĆ WIĘCEJ ZA PRODUKT, KTÓRY LEPIEJ NIŻ INNE NADAJE SIĘ DO RECYKLINGU  
**37%** ANKIETOWANYCH PRZYNAŁO, ŻE ZAPŁACI WIĘCEJ ZA PRODUKT WYKONANY Z MATERIAŁÓW Z RECYKLINGU



\*WYNIK BADANIA „POLACY O GOZ” PRZEPROWADZONEGO NA ZLECENIE STENA RECYCLING METODĄ WYWIADÓW ON-LINE (CZAS W DNIACH OD 10.10.2020 - 05.10.2021 NA REPREZENTATYWNEJ PRÓBIE 1001 POLAKÓW POWYŻEJ 16 ROKU ŻYCIA.



## Circular Economy Leaders 2020

Recognizing the need to support companies in implementing circular economy solutions and promoting the benefits of circular economy, Stena Recycling has been organizing the Stena Circular Economy Award since 2017. The 4th edition of the competition received 57 projects in 3 categories. The jury awarded 4 main prizes and 5 distinctions.

The first place in the category "Implemented practices in the area of circular economy" were awarded ex-aequo to three companies: Carrefour Poland and Swapp! for joint launch of a cosmetics refill machine, which reduces the use of single-use plastic packaging and Creative Publishing Katarzyna Drewniany for "Circular Scrap" which is the first platform in the fashion industry that specialises in recycling post-production textile waste. Distinctions for implemented practices in the area of circular economy were awarded to: BASF Poland for creating the compostable polymer Ecovio®, and Żywiec Zdrój for fulfilling its commitment to collect and recycle as much plastic as the company introduced to the market in 2020.

The "Fix, don't throw away" initiative implemented by North.pl was recognized as the best solution in the "Implemented activities promoting circular economy" category. The platform supports home repairs of household appliances and electronics by offering spare parts as well as the help of professionals. Distinctions in this category were also awarded to the following companies: Jeronimo Martins Poland (Biedronka chain store) for placing colourful pictograms of segregation on the packaging of private label products and Amazon Fulfillment Poland for implementing grassroots activities and initiatives in the field of sustainable development and transferring them to the scale of the entire enterprise.

Among the "Proposals for the implementation of circular economy" submitted by students, the main prize was awarded to Łukasz Ziemia (Academy of Fine Arts in Katowice) for his "Łach" project, which involves prison inmates in the production of mobile device cases. The cases would be made from leftover materials from the production of work clothing. An additional distinction was awarded to Piotr Długosz and Jacek Organiściak (Technical University of Lodz) for their project of introducing reusable courier packaging made of "green" polymers.

## about us



The Scandinavian-Polish Chamber of Commerce (SPCC) is a non-profit organization created by entrepreneurs for entrepreneurs



Our mission is to promote, support and develop commercial relations between Poland and other countries in the Baltic Sea Region



We have been inspiring, connecting, and representing member companies for over 17 years

## experience

SPCC in numbers

3



The third largest international chamber of commerce in Poland

> 17



Over 17 years of experience in cooperation with Scandinavian companies

400



Close to 400 Members representing the most important economy sectors