

MAJOR INITIATIVES

JUNE – DECEMBER 2024

E-services: E-delivery; Real-time GNSS signal monitoring system to be launched; New features on M-Obywatel e-gov app.

Privacy: Polish alternative to CSAM/Chat Control to protect minors online.

Red tape increase, EU transposition: NIS2 transposition; AI Act; Electronic communications law.

Concepts, strategies, institutional changes: Upcoming Polish Presidency of the Council of the EU; AI factory in Krakow; AI Fund; Polish Digitalization Strategy 2035; Semiconductor strategy; INTEL plans stopped in Poland; IDEAS institute for AI research launched; Polish telco & media companies listed as strategic companies.

E-SERVICES

OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE WITH E-DELIVERY

December 2024

From January 1, 2025, electronic delivery will become mandatory in Poland for communication with most public institutions, offering a faster, cheaper, and more efficient alternative to traditional registered mail.

REAL-TIME GNSS SIGNAL MONITORING SYSTEM

November 2024

Poland is developing the "GNSS Signal Monitoring System in Poland (RTGMS)". The system, combining stationary stations and a mobile platform, will detect and neutralize GNSS disruptions, providing real-time alerts and data to users. This initiative enhances navigation safety and reliability, particularly amidst heightened geopolitical risks.

NEW FEATURES IN THE MOBYWATEL APP

Polish e-gov app - mObywatel - has added significant features to enhance both security and user convenience. New services include: 1) the PESEL Number Reservation to protect against identity theft, 2) the Safe Online Service for reporting cyber threats, 3) the Knowledge Base offering expert advice on internet safety, 4) ePayments for managing government-related financial obligations, 5) "Your Matters" for tracking application statuses, 6) "My Company" for accessing business data, 7) "Collision" module for documenting road accidents.

PRIVACY

POLISH ALTERNATIVE TO CSAM: END-TO-END ENCRYPTION UNHARMED

December 2024

Poland presented a draft act aimed at protecting minors from harmful online content, focusing on mechanisms to limit access to pornography while respecting users' privacy. The act will mandate a domain register for unprotected pornographic content, empower regulatory oversight, and require telecommunications companies to block non-compliant domains to ensure safer online environments for minors. This initiative stands in contrast with the European Union's proposals for CSAM, also known as Chat Control, which will affect private end-to-end encryption on chat platforms.

RED TAPE INCREASED; EU TRANSPOSITION

AI ACT

December 2024

Poland has completed public consultations on the draft AI Act implementation bill. Over 2,000 comments and suggestions from 110 participants were received, such as simplifying oversight systems and expanding stakeholder involvement.

The act's key provisions include establishing an AI Development and Security Commission, creating a Social Council for inclusive AI policymaking, and promoting ethical AI practices through regulatory sandboxes, transparency measures, and annual reporting on energy and computing needs.

NIS2

October 2024

Poland finalized amendments to the National Cybersecurity System Act, introducing measures to better protect Poland's critical infrastructure from cyberattacks. Key changes include improved supervision over strategic sectors, ad hoc inspections for immediate threat responses, updated principles for fines, and new regulations for monitoring officers.

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS LAW SIGNED

August 2024

President Andrzej Duda has signed the *Electronic Communications Law (ECL)*, introducing key changes to improve the telecommunications market and enhance consumer protection in Poland. Effective in November 2024, the law mandates universal phone chargers to reduce waste, clearer contract terms, refunds for unused prepaid balances, and enhanced consumer safety against unfair offers.

CONCEPTS, STRATEGIES, INSTITUTIONAL CHANGES

POLISH EU PRESIDENCY PRIORITIES

December 2024

Poland will begin its Presidency of the Council of the European Union on January 1, 2025. Polish priorities for the presidency include strengthening cybersecurity, advancing artificial intelligence, and ensuring effective implementation of existing digital regulations without overregulating.

AI FACTORY IN KRAKOW

November 2024

Poland's first AI Factory is set to emerge in Krakow, with nearly PLN 70 million allocated to expand Cyfronet AGH's resources, enhancing the Helios supercomputer and connecting it to the European AI ecosystem.

AI FUND

November 2024

Poland signed a letter of intent to create the Artificial Intelligence Fund, involving key government ministries and institutions. This initiative aims to coordinate AI investments, ensure ethical and responsible AI development, and position Poland as a leader in European AI innovation over the next decade.

POLAND'S DIGITALIZATION STRATEGY 2035

October 2024

Poland presented its' first comprehensive *Digitalization Strategy 2035*, aiming to enhance citizens' quality of life through digital transformation. The strategy emphasizes cross-sector collaboration, cybersecurity, digital inclusion, and responsible use of AI, targeting ambitious goals like 85% digital literacy, full e-governance capabilities, and 20 million citizens with digital identity wallets by 2035.

DIGITAL DECADE PLAN

October 2024

The Polish government has adopted the *National Action Plan for the Digital Decade*, outlining key priorities to accelerate digital transformation by 2030. The plan focuses on expanding 5G, ensuring universal access to fast internet, boosting digital competences, supporting SMEs with modern technologies, and enhancing e-services for citizens and businesses.

IDEAS RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR AI INNOVATION

October 2024

The IDEAS Research Institute, focused on advancing artificial intelligence, will start working in January 2025. The institute will prioritize AI applications in health, defense, and public administration, driving innovation and addressing modern societal challenges.

SEMICONDUCTOR STRATEGY TO BE DEVELOPED

September 2024

Poland is planning to create a *National Framework for Supporting Strategic Semiconductor Investments*, a multi-year policy coordinated by the Ministry of Digital Affairs. The strategy aims to position Poland as an attractive hub for semiconductor investments, particularly following the temporary suspension of Intel's plans.

INTEL SUSPENDS SEMICONDUCTOR FACTORY PLANS

September 2024

Intel has announced a two-year suspension of its plans to build semiconductor factories in Germany and Poland due to financial challenges. Preparations for Intel's proposed factory near Wrocław had already received a green light for aid notification, signaling readiness for future opportunities.

TELCO AND MEDIA COMPANIES ADDED TO STRATEGIC COMPANIES LIST

December 2024

Poland added key media and telecommunications firms, including *TVN*, *Polsat*, *Play operator P4*, and *T-Mobile*, to its list of strategic companies, requiring government approval for any takeovers. This is a precaution move against foreign interference amid regional "hybrid war" concerns, particularly in light of alleged Russian meddling in neighboring countries.