



Prezydent
Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej

Warsaw, September 5 2016

Your Grace,

Many of my compatriots have chosen the United Kingdom as their place of residence. Since the opening of Britain's borders in 2004, after our accession to the European Union, Poles have become the largest ethnic minority in the UK. Furthermore, the Polish language have grown to be England's main spoken language after English. We are grateful to have been received warmly by the British society. The Poles living in Great Britain have worked strenuously to become a pigment of the vast British mosaic by contributing their fullest potential to the socio-economic condition of the UK.

Unfortunately, over the last weeks we have witnessed incidents that have caused deep concerns to the Polish nation in general, and to myself in person. On 27 August, a Polish national named Arkadiusz Jóźwik, together with his friend, were attacked by a group of teenagers in the town of Harlow, which resulted in his death. A week after, and hours following the vigil in honour of the Pole, another two Polish men were assaulted again, in what police are describing as a possible hate crime.

Dear Archbishop,

It is of utmost importance, and I am sure Your Grace will agree, that these sort of incidents do not occur again, as they have a potential of creating a formidable ridge between the Polish and English people. This could, in turn, lead the erosion of the local community characterised by a genuinely positive presence of Poles in England.

Bearing in mind Your Grace's words on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the Anglican Centre in Rome, that "unity between Christians is of vital importance in an increasingly divided world," permit me, Your Grace, to draw Your attention to this problem. Allow me also to plea for a constructive effort on the part of the Church of England and its local parishes in order to mitigate the negative impact of intolerance and xenophobia, including what seems to be an aversion and animosity towards Poles.

**The Most Reverend and Rt Hon. Welby,
the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury
Lambeth Palace
London**

My appeal has its roots in my deep concern regarding the well-being of my fellow countrymen living and working in the United Kingdom, and the conviction that the issue of respect towards minorities is also a priority to Your Grace. Only through mutual understanding and consideration for one another a thriving community can be achieved..

Yours Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Angela Khan', written in black ink.