

Title: Polish delegation

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Content:

The partnership between the German district of Middle Franconia and the Polish district of Pommern has existed for five years. The first idea for it is even older. The idea was born in September 1993, when the heads of state of France, Poland and Germany met in Gdansk, the capital of Pommern. In the Middle of May, a Polish delegation came to Middle Franconia. Among which, the most famous citizens of its hometown, Gdansk. It goes without saying that they did do nothing but celebrate during their 4-day stay.

Text:

The Frauenkirche, a famous church in Nuremberg, was built by the emperor Charles IV, one of those who built bridges from the west to the east. In the middle of May, a German-Polish church service for peace took place on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the partnership between Middle Franconia and Pommern. The German-Polish history that is full of suffering was the centre of the intercessions of the Nuremberg dean Hans Reeg.

Quote

60 years after the end of the war, German and Polish people pray together, a very emotional moment for Antoni Szymanski, member of the Pommern parliament, the partner district of Middle Franconia.

O-Tone: Antoni Szymanski, member of the Pommern parliament

My family also suffered losses during the war. I wished from deep down of my heart that peace would last.

Before, the delegation visited the agricultural educational establishment in Triesdorf that is financed by the district of Middle Franconia and the land of Bavaria. Here, the idea of staples that are open even during the winter was born. They are easy to build, cheap to maintain, produce just as much milk and animals fall ill less often.

The pioneering environmental technology, the first biogas plant of its kind in Germany, which annually saves its operators 22,000 litre heating oil and atmosphere of the earth 66 tons of carbon dioxide.

The plant in Triesdorf: Here the latest technology of agricultural devices is tested in order to see whether they are practical or not. The delegation from Pommern is very interested, for agriculture is also very important in Pommern. Modern technology from the west stands a good chance on the market.

The capital of Pommern is Gdansk, which used to be called Danzig. Now it is the district's cultural, economic and tourist centre. 2. 2 million people live in Pommern, most of them from shipbuilding, tourism, and since Poland joined the EU more and

more from agriculture. For especially the German food industry buys products that grow on the fields of Pommern.

Modern marketing methods in agriculture are another point of interest of the delegation's visit of the Middle Frankonian city of Triesdorf.

O-Tone: Antoni Syzymanski

We have similar establishments in Pommern. But they are much smaller, says Antoni Syzymanski. It is surely worth thinking about organizing cooperation between our establishments and theirs.

Lech Walensa, one of the most prominent people of the district of Gdansk. His courageous battle on the shipyard in Gdansk, 25 years ago, was the beginning of the end of communism. Thanks to Lech Walensa, human rights, to which Nuremberg dedicated a street, were also introduced in Poland and big parts of the Eastern block. The story of the way to freedom is told in an exhibition in the university's library in Erlangen, which was opened by Mr. Walensa.

Discussions with students from Erlangen and Gdansk. Mr. Walensa is clearly in a good mood and asks young people to build a new Europe and search for new democratic ways. Poland joining the EU was only one step. A task for the present and future generations.

Music open

The new generation: Anna and Matthias Wielopolski. They got to know each other during a German-Polish exchange program. In the meantime, they are married and admire Mr. Walensa, the pioneer for their partnership.

O-Tone: Matthias Wielopolski

In the meantime there are numerous partnerships between cities from Pommern and Middle Franconia, among them Wendelstein and Zukowo. Cheers to the 5th anniversary from major Wychowski of Zukowo and his colleague Mr. Kelsch. There have been more than 40 encounters.

O-Tone: Albin Wychowski, mayor of Zukowo

We hope that the partnership will not only bring the citizens of the two cities closer but also the regions.

O-Tone: Wolfgang Kelsch, mayor of Wendelstein

Reception at the imperial castle in honour of Mr. Walensa and on the occasion of the fifth anniversary of the partnership. In the meantime, economic relations have become more and more important for the Polish delegation. For according to Mr. Walesa, the downside of the downfall of communism was that the country's economy was ruined.

For the economic recovery of Poland, the partnership could be very useful, according to the president of the regional parliament of Pommern, Bruno Synak. And the other way round, cooperation in trade and business could be very good for the partnership

O-Tone: Bruno Synak, president Sejm Pommern

Economic cooperation will make our ties even stronger and stabilize our partnership.

The heads of state from Wales, Mr. Mitterrand and Mr. Weizsäcker in Gdansk, in September 1993. Here the idea for the partnership was born. The Middle Franconian president Richard Bartsch hands a reprint of the first page of the newspaper Nürnberger Nachrichten over to Mr. Walesa.

Quote Lech Walesa

Peace between the people has to be everybody's first priority.

I invite you to come to Poland to see what has changed. Such partnerships are very important stepping stones for Poland's future, says Mr. Walesa.

O-Tone: Antoni Szymanski, member of the Pommern parliament

I take a lot of positive impressions home with me. Our partnership is well on its way.

The dark times of the relationship between Germany and Poland are obviously over.