Ref: TO EUR 37/2020.001

Adam Bodnar Biuro Rzecznika Praw Obywatelskich Aleja Solidarności 77 00 - 090 Warszawa Poland

1 October 2020

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL



AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT

Peter Benenson House, 1 Easton Street London WC1X ODW, United Kingdom

T: +44 (0)20 7413 5500 E: amnestyis@amnesty.org F: +44 (0)20 7956 1157 W: www.amnesty.org

Dear Commissioner, dear Adam

On behalf of Amnesty International we express our deepest gratitude and admiration for your work as Ombudsman. The Ombudsman's Office as an essential independent national human rights institution has played a key role in the fight for human rights and human dignity in Poland.

In your role as Ombudsman, you have spoken out publicly in support of victims of human rights abuses in Poland and have sought to hold those who perpetrate such abuses accountable.

By standing up for principle, cooperating with so many partners, and withstanding so many personal attacks with calmness and dignity, you have given so many people hope and determination to fight for their rights.

We assume it is difficult to leave the post you have served in so honourably.

There is the uncertainty of what will follow your departure, what will happen to your team, how much of your legacy will be respected. Due to your good work, many people now understand the importance of an independent ombudsman institution in safeguarding human rights.

History will be very kind to you and note that you used your position in full integrity to try to slow down the backsliding and rally resistance.

We are honoured to have worked with you and to consider you a friend.

With the very warmest regards and wishing you a well-deserved rest,

Nils Muiznieks Director, Europe Regional Office

Nih ling

Draginja Nadazdin Director, Amnesty International Poland

Maging Jadasdin