



**ZJEDNOCZENIE POLSKIE W WIELKIEJ BRYTANII.  
FEDERATION OF POLES IN GREAT BRITAIN C.I.O.**

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His Excellency, Ambassador Maxim Yermalovich,  
Embassy of the Republic of Belarus,  
6 Kensington Court,  
London, W8 5DL.

2 April 2021

Your Excellency,

The Federation of Poles in Great Britain CIO – the umbrella organization that has represented the voice of the Polish community in Great Britain since 1947 were dismayed when our friend, Andżelika Borys, President of our sister organization, the Union of Poles in Belarus (ZPB), was arrested by Militia functionaries.

The 1 million strong Polish Community in the United Kingdom was particularly shocked that she had been arrested on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March this year, on the pretext of the ZPB organizing a traditional Polish fair celebrating the popular feast of St Casimir.

The trial took place on March 24<sup>th</sup>, at which the only prosecution witnesses were members of the Militia, and judge Ruslan Gurin sentenced Andżelika Borys to 15 days' detention. This conduct by the Belarusian authorities is clearly an example of persecution and is contrary to the international undertakings given by Belarus with regard to the treatment of national minorities.

For many years Andżelika Borys has been a much respected leader of the Polish minority in Belarus which is active in maintaining Polish traditions and the Polish language for the younger generations of ethnic Poles.

We strongly protest in the name of the Federation of Poles in Great Britain against the arrest, conviction and continued detention of Andżelika Borys and appeal to the Belarusian authorities for her immediate release.

Włodzimierz Mier-Jędrzejowicz

President of the Federation of Poles in Great Britain, CIO