
Trump says US will 'probably' relocate some troops from Germany to Poland as 'signal' to Russia

By: RT
24/06/2020



Some of the US troops leaving Germany will be going to Poland at Warsaw's expense, US President Donald Trump has announced during a joint press conference with Polish President Andrzej Duda in Washington.

Warsaw *"will be paying for the sending of some additional troops, we'll probably be sending them from Germany to Poland,"* Trump said on Wednesday.

Earlier this month, he confirmed that the US will be removing up to 9,500 troops from its bases in Germany, leaving 25,000 or so in place.

[Also on rt.com Trump CONFIRMS pullout of US troops from Germany. until Berlin pays 'delinquent' NATO bills](#)
"Some will be coming home and some will be going to other places, but Poland would be one of those places, other places in Europe," the US president added.

His comments came after Duda told reporters he had asked the US not to remove troops from Europe at all, arguing that their presence was needed to guarantee security for Poland and other nations against the threat of *"Russian aggression."* The US has had a military presence in Germany since the end of WWII.

Talks with Poland about a permanent US base there have not been successful, but Duda has been keen for an additional US military presence on a rotational basis. He is visiting Washington ahead of the Polish presidential election on Sunday.

[Also on rt.com Duda goes to US to ask for MORE American troops in Poland. but I'm deeply uncomfortable with ANY foreign soldiers on European soil](#)

Trump has justified the decision to pull out troops from Germany by citing Berlin's failure to live up to its commitment to spend at least 2 percent of its GDP on the military. The US president has repeatedly called this out as unacceptable, accusing the Europeans of freeloading on the US, which spends almost a trillion dollars every year on the military – and has seen its spending rise under Trump.

Only eight NATO members, Poland being one of them, have so far hit that target.

[Also on rt.com Poland naming Russia as its biggest security threat shows 'depressing irresponsibility' of its government – top Russian diplomat](#)

Moscow has denounced Poland's calls for US presence as irresponsible, and the country's new security strategy claiming a threat from Russia as "*propagandist*" and fictitious.

"Whatever military potentially ends up threatening us from Polish territory," Deputy Foreign Minister Vladimir Titov told RIA Novosti earlier this month, Russia "will take comprehensive measures in response."
