

## **Extract from the provisions**

### **Polish Citizenship Act**

as of 2 April 2009

## **Chapter 1**

### **General Provisions**

**Article 1.** The Act defines the principles, conditions and procedures for acquisition and loss of Polish citizenship, confirming the fact of its possession or loss, as well as the competence of the authorities in these matters.

**Article 2.** On the entry into force of this Act, the Polish citizens are the people who have Polish citizenship on the basis of existing regulations.

**Article 3.** 1. A Polish citizen at the same time holding the citizenship of another country has the same rights and obligations in respect to the Republic of Poland as the person who has only Polish citizenship.

2. A Polish citizen cannot rely with a legal effect vis-à-vis the authorities of the Republic of Poland on a simultaneously held citizenship of another country and on the rights and obligations resulting thereof.

**Article 4.** The Polish citizenship can be acquired in the following ways:

- 1) by virtue of law;
- 2) by granting the Polish citizenship;
- 3) by recognizing the Polish citizen;
- 4) by restoring the Polish citizenship.

**Article 5.** Marriage of a Polish citizen with a person who is not a Polish citizen does not affect the citizenship of the spouses.

**Article 6.** 1. The changes in determining the person or the citizenship of one or both parents are taken into account in determining the citizenship of a minor if they occurred within one year from the date of birth of the minor.

2. The changes in determining the father, arising from court order issued as a result of an action for denial of paternity, or annulment of recognition shall be taken into account in determining the citizenship of a minor unless the minor has come of age or upon his consent if he has reached 16 years of age.

**Article 7.** 1. Granting Polish citizenship to parents, recognizing them as Polish citizens and expressing consent to the renunciation of Polish citizenship affect the minor who remains under their parental authority.

2. Granting Polish citizenship to one of the parents, recognizing him as a Polish citizen or expressing consent to the renunciation of Polish citizenship affects the minor who remains under parental authority, where:

- 1) the other parent is not entitled to parental authority;
- 2) the other parent has made a declaration to consent to the acquisition or loss of Polish citizenship by a minor.

**Article 8.** A minor's declaration about expressing his consent is necessary for granting the Polish citizenship to a minor who is over 16 years, for recognizing him as a Polish citizen and for the loss of his Polish citizenship as a result of the renunciation of the citizenship by his parents.

**Article 9.** The declaration referred to in the Act, in matters relating to the acquisition or loss of Polish citizenship, are recorded in the minutes by:

- 1) the province governor competent as for the place of residence – from a Polish citizen residing in the territory of the Republic of Poland and from a foreigner residing lawfully in the Polish territory, except on the basis of residence under visa or visa waiver;
- 2) the consul – from a person residing abroad.

**Article 10.** 1. In matters of granting Polish citizenship and expressing consent to the renunciation of Polish citizenship, the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Code and the Act on proceeding before administrative courts as of 30 August 2002 are not applicable, subject to article 28 section 5 and article 53.

2. In matters regulated by this Act within the competence of consuls, the provisions of the Act on the functions of the consuls of the Republic of Poland as of 13 February 1984 shall be applicable, unless otherwise provided by this Act.

3. In matters other than those listed in section 1 and 2, the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Code shall be applicable, unless otherwise provided by this Act.

4. In matters within the jurisdiction of a province governor, the body of a higher instance, within the meaning of the Administrative Procedure Code, is the minister responsible for internal affairs.

**Article 11.** Province governor and the minister responsible for internal affairs may waive part of the justification of decisions made under this Act, if it is required by considerations of defence or national security or for the protection of public safety and order.

**Article 12.** Applications, declarations and documents required in matters regulated by this Act, drawn up in a foreign language, shall be submitted with their translation into Polish, prepared or certified by a sworn translator or by a consul, unless otherwise provided by an international agreement binding for Poland.

**Article 13.** 1. The data of a foreigner, a minor, an applicant, a person or an ascendant, required under art. 20 section 1 point 1 and section 2 point 1, art. 33 section 1 point 1 and section 2 point 1, art. 40 section 1 point 1, art. 48 section 1 point 2 and section 2 point 1 as well as art. 56 section 1 include:

- 1) name(s) and surname;
- 2) surname at birth;
- 3) date and place of birth;
- 4) father's name and surname;
- 5) mother's name and maiden surname;

- 6) sex;
- 7) citizenship;
- 8) marital status;
- 9) Social Security Number, if assigned.

2. The data of the foreigner's or applicant's spouse, required under art. 20 section 1 point 7, art. 33 section 1 point 4 and art. 48 section 1 point 4, shall include:

- 1) name(s) and surname;
- 2) citizenship.

## **Chapter 2**

### **Acquisition of Polish citizenship by virtue of law**

**Article 14.** A minor acquires Polish citizenship by birth if:

- 1) at least one parent is a Polish citizen;
- 2) he was born on Polish territory, and his parents are unknown, have no citizenship or their citizenship is not specified.

**Article 15.** A minor acquires Polish citizenship if he was found on Polish territory, and his parents are unknown.

**Article 16.** A minor foreigner, adopted by a person or persons having Polish citizenship, acquires Polish citizenship if the full undissolvable adoption took place before the minor reached 16 years of age. In this case, it is assumed that the minor foreigner has acquired Polish citizenship on the day of his birth.

**Article 17.** The provisions of the Act on the repatriation as of 9 November 2000 shall be applicable to the acquisition of Polish citizenship through repatriation.

## **Chapter 3**

### **Granting Polish citizenship**

**Article 18.** The President of Poland may grant Polish citizenship to the foreigner.

**Article 19.** 1. Granting Polish citizenship takes place at the request of a foreigner.

2. Granting Polish citizenship to a minor foreigner takes place at the request of his legal representatives.

3. In case of disagreement between his legal representatives, each of them may apply to court for determination.

**Article 20.** 1. The application for granting Polish citizenship shall include:

- 1) the foreigner's data;
- 2) address of residence;
- 3) information about the foreigner's parents and further ascendants, if they had Polish citizenship;
- 4) information about having Polish citizenship in the past, its loss and the date of acquiring the citizenship of another country;

- 5) information about the foreigner's sources of income, his professional achievements, political and social activities;
- 6) information on the foreigner's command of the Polish language;
- 7) the data about the foreigner's spouse;
- 8) information whether the foreigner applied for the acquisition of Polish citizenship in the past;
- 9) justification.

2. A foreigner holding the parental authority of a minor foreigner additionally includes the following in the application:

- 1) the minor's data;
- 2) information whether there was a statement to consent to the acquisition of the citizenship referred to in art. 7 section 2 point 2 and art. 8, and before which official body it was made.

3. The application of the legal representative for granting Polish citizenship to a minor foreigner contains the data and information specified in section 1 points 1, 3-6, 8 and 9 and in section 2 point 2. The application shall also contain the legal representative's name, surname and address.

4. The application for granting Polish citizenship shall be attached with:

- 1) the evidence of the data and information contained in the application referred to in section 1 points 1, 5, 7 or in section 2;
- 2) the documents confirming the information referred to in section 1, points 3 and 4;
- 3) the photographs of people covered by the application.

5. The application for granting Polish citizenship shall be submitted on the form set out in the provisions issued under art. 29 section 1.

**Article 21.** 1. The application for granting Polish citizenship is submitted via the province governor or consul, in person or by mail with an officially certified signature. Article 9 shall be applied accordingly.

2. If the application does not meet the requirements set out in art. 20 sections 1, 2 or 3, or it has not been attached with the documents referred to in art. 20 section 4, the competent authority shall request the applicant to rectify the failures within 30 days of receipt of the request with the instruction that failing to provide the information will result in the application not being examined.

3. A province governor and a consul shall submit the application for granting the Polish citizenship to the President of the Republic of Poland via the minister responsible for internal affairs, along with the documents required under art. 20 section 4 and their own opinion.

4. The minister responsible for internal affairs, before submitting the application to the President of Poland, addresses the Chief of Police, the Chief of Internal Security Agency, and where necessary other authorities for information that may be of importance when granting Polish citizenship, and draws up the opinion concerning the application.

5. The bodies referred to in section 4, are required to provide written information within 30 days of receipt of the request. In particularly justified cases this period may be extended to 3 months, as notified to the minister responsible for internal affairs by the authority obliged to provide the information.

**Article 22.** 1. Where, on the basis of the documents attached to the application for granting Polish citizenship, the province governor has doubts whether the foreigner does not have Polish citizenship, he shall initiate ex officio proceedings to confirm the fact that the foreigner holds the Polish citizenship.

2. Where, on the basis of the documents attached to the application for granting Polish citizenship, the consul, the minister responsible for internal affairs or the President of Poland, have doubts whether the foreigner does not have the Polish citizenship, they forward the application to the province governor in order to conduct proceedings to confirm the fact that the foreigner holds the Polish citizenship.

3. In the situation when the proceedings for granting the Polish citizenship are pending and it is confirmed that the foreigner is a Polish citizen, the province governor issues a decision on the confirmation of Polish citizenship, and the application for granting the Polish citizenship is not further examined.

**Article 23.** Where the application for granting Polish citizenship to a foreigner was made while conducting the proceedings in respect of this foreigner for recognizing him as the Polish citizen or the proceedings to restore his Polish citizenship, the proceedings for recognizing him as a Polish citizen or the proceedings to restore his Polish citizenship shall be dismissed.

**Article 24.** 1. The province governor, the consul and the minister responsible for internal affairs shall forward the application for granting the Polish citizenship directly to the President of Poland in every case when the President so decides, regardless of the stage of the proceedings.

2. In the case referred to in section 1, the province governor and the consul inform the minister responsible for internal affairs of forwarding to the President of Poland the application for granting the Polish citizenship.

**Article 25.** 1. The President of the Republic of Poland shall grant Polish citizenship or shall refuse to grant it in the form of a decision.

2. The Chief of the Chancellery of the President of the Republic of Poland shall submit a copy of the decision referred to in section 1 to the minister responsible for internal affairs.

**Article 26.** The foreigner acquires Polish citizenship on the date when the President of Poland issues the decision to grant Polish citizenship.

**Article 27.** 1. The Chief of the Chancellery of the President of the Republic of Poland shall draw up the acts of granting Polish citizenship and a notice of refusal to grant Polish citizenship.

2. The act of granting Polish citizenship and the notice of refusal to grant Polish citizenship, referred to in section 1, include:

1) the information about the content of the decision issued by the President of Poland, the date of its issuance and the number;

2) the data of the foreigner whom the act on granting Polish citizenship or a notice of refusal to grant Polish citizenship concerns:

a) name(s) and surname,

b) date and place of birth,

c) father's and mother's name;

3) indication of the official body which has drawn up the act granting Polish citizenship or a notice of refusal to grant Polish citizenship and the date of drawing up the act or the notice.

**Article 28.** 1. The Chief of the Chancellery of the President of the Republic of Poland, in order to serve it to the applicant, shall provide the act of granting Polish citizenship and a notice of refusal to grant Polish citizenship to:

1) the minister responsible for foreign affairs – if the act of granting Polish citizenship or a notice of refusal to grant Polish citizenship applies to a foreigner whose application for granting Polish citizenship was made via the consul;

2) the province governor who has accepted the application for granting Polish citizenship.

2. The minister responsible for foreign affairs shall immediately notify the applicant – via the consul who received the application for granting Polish citizenship – of granting Polish citizenship, or the refusal to grant Polish citizenship. The information can be given by means of a device that enables reading and writing the characters on paper or via telecommunications networks.

3. The minister responsible for foreign affairs serves the applicant – via the consul who received the application for granting Polish citizenship – with the act of granting Polish citizenship or a notice of a refusal to grant Polish citizenship.

4. The province governor who received the application for granting Polish citizenship, shall serve the applicant with the act of granting Polish citizenship or a notice of refusal to grant Polish citizenship.

5. The provisions of the Administrative Procedure Code on service of documents shall be applicable to the service referred to in section 4.

**Article 29.** 1. The President of the Republic of Poland shall determine, by means of a regulation, a form for granting Polish citizenship, the requirements for the photograph that shall be attached to the application and the model of the act of granting Polish citizenship and the notice of a refusal to grant Polish citizenship.

2. The model application form for granting Polish citizenship includes the data and information referred to in art. 20 sections 1-3.

3. A model form of granting Polish citizenship and the notice of a refusal to grant Polish citizenship includes the data referred to in art. 27 section 2.

## Chapter 4

### Recognition as the Polish citizen

**Article 30.** 1. Recognition as a Polish citizen can take place in relation to:

1) the foreigner residing continuously in the Polish territory for at least 3 years under a settlement permit, a residence permit for a long-term EC resident or under the permanent residence permit, who has a stable and regular source of income in Poland as well as the legal title to dwelling premises;

2) the foreigner residing continuously in the Polish territory for at least 2 years under a settlement permit, a residence permit for a long-term EC resident or under the permanent residence permit, who:

a) remains for at least 3 years married to a Polish citizen or

b) has no citizenship;

3) the foreigner residing continuously in the Polish territory for at least 2 years under a settlement permit, obtained in connection with having a refugee status granted in the Republic of Poland;

4) a minor foreigner whose parent is a Polish citizen, residing on Polish territory on the basis of a settlement permit, a residence permit for a long-term EC resident or under the permanent residence permit, and the second parent who does not have Polish citizenship, has agreed to this recognition;

5) a minor foreigner, whose at least one parent has been restored Polish citizenship, if a minor resides on Polish territory on the basis of a settlement permit, a residence permit for a long-term EC resident or under the permanent residence permit, and the second parent who does not have Polish citizenship, has agreed to this recognition;

6) a foreigner residing continuously and legally on the Polish territory for at least 10 years, who meets all the following conditions:

a) he has a settlement permit, a residence permit for a long-term EC resident or a permanent residence permit,

b) he has a stable and regular source of income in Poland as well as the legal title to dwelling premises;

7) a foreigner residing continuously on the Polish territory for at least 2 years under a settlement permit, obtained in connection with Polish ancestry.

2. A foreigner applying to be recognized as a Polish citizen, except for a foreigner referred to in section 1 points 4 and 5, is obliged to have the command of Polish language, confirmed under an official certificate referred to in art. 11a of the Act on the Polish language as of 7 October 1999, school graduation certificate in the Republic of Poland, or a certificate of graduating from the school abroad, with the Polish language of tuition.

3. The art. 64 section 4 of the Foreigners Act as of 13 June 2003 shall be applied accordingly to determine whether a foreigner resides continuously in the Polish territory.

**Article 31.** A foreigner shall be refused the recognition as a Polish citizen if:

1) he does not meet the requirements referred to in art. 30;

2) the acquisition of Polish citizenship by him is a threat to national defence or national security or the protection of public safety and order.

**Article 32.** 1. The recognition of a foreigner as a Polish citizen takes place at his request, and in the case of a minor foreigner – at the request of his legal representatives.

2. In case of a disagreement between the legal representatives, each of them may address the court for a settlement.

**Article 33.** 1. The application for recognizing a foreigner as a Polish citizen shall include:

1) the foreigner's data;

2) address of residence;

3) information about the foreigner's sources of income in Poland, the premises occupied by him, his professional achievements, political and social activities;

4) the data about the foreigner's spouse;

5) information whether the foreigner applied for the acquisition of Polish citizenship in the past and whether he had Polish citizenship;

6) justification.

2. A foreigner holding the parental authority of a minor foreigner additionally includes the following in the application:

1) the minor's data;

2) information whether there was a statement to consent to the acquisition of the citizenship referred to in art. 7 section 2 point 2 and art. 8, and before which official body it was made.

3. The application of the legal representative for recognizing a minor foreigner as a Polish citizen contains the data and information specified in section 1 points 1, 3, 5 and 6 and in section 2 point 2. The application shall also contain the legal representative's name, surname and address.

4. The application for recognition as a Polish citizen shall be attached with:
- 1) the evidence of the data and information contained in the application referred to in section 1, points 1, 3 and 4, and section 2;
  - 2) the documents confirming the information referred to in section 1 point 5;
  - 3) an official statement referred to in art. 11a of the Act on the Polish language as of 7 October 1999, school leaving certificate in Poland or a foreign school leaving certificate obtained in a school with the Polish language of tuition, where required;
  - 4) the photographs of people covered by the application.

5. The application for recognition as a Polish citizen shall be made on the form set out by the provisions issued under art. 37 section 1.

**Article 34.** The application for recognition as a Polish citizen shall be submitted to the province governor.

**Article 35.** 1. Where an application for recognition of a foreigner as a Polish citizen was made when there were pending proceedings in respect of this foreigner for granting Polish citizenship, the proceedings for recognition as a Polish citizen shall be dismissed.

2. Where an application for recognition of a foreigner as a Polish citizen was made while there were pending proceedings in respect of this foreigner for the restoration of Polish citizenship, the proceedings for recognition as a Polish citizen shall be suspended pending the outcome of the proceedings for the restoration of Polish citizenship.

**Article 36.** 1. The decision on the recognition of a foreigner as a Polish citizen is issued by the province governor competent as for the domicile of the person in question.

2. Before issuing the decision referred to in section 1, the province governor addresses the provincial police commander, the director of the Delegation of Internal Security Agency and, if necessary, other bodies for information, whether the acquisition of Polish citizenship by a foreigner is not a threat to the national defence or national security or for the protection of public safety and order.

3. The procedure of providing the information referred to in section 2 shall be governed by the provisions of article 21 section 5, except that the authority obliged to give information shall notify the province governor about the extended deadline.

**Article 37.** 1. The minister responsible for internal affairs shall specify, by means of a regulation, a form for application for recognition as a Polish citizen and the requirements for the photograph that shall be attached to the application.

2. A model application form for recognition as a Polish citizen includes the data and information referred to in art. 33 sections 1-3.

## **Chapter 5**

### **Restoration of Polish citizenship**

**Article 38.** 1. The foreigner who lost his Polish citizenship before 1 January 1999 based on:

- 1) art. 11 or 13 of the Act on Polish citizenship as of 20 January 1920,
  - 2) art. 11 or 12 of the Act on Polish citizenship as of 8 January 1951,
  - 3) art. 13, 14 or 15 of the Act on Polish citizenship as of 15 February 1962
- may be restored Polish citizenship at his request.

2. The Polish citizenship shall not be restored to a foreigner who:

- 1) voluntarily joined the Axis powers or their allies in the period from September 1, 1939 to May 8, 1945;
- 2) held a public office in the period from September 1, 1939 to May 8, 1945 in the Axis powers or their allies;
- 3) acted to the detriment of Poland, and especially its independence and sovereignty, or participated in violations of human rights.

3. Polish citizenship shall not be restored to the foreigner if it constitutes a threat to the national defence or national security or to the protection of public safety and order.

**Article 39.** 1. Polish citizenship shall be restored by the minister responsible for internal affairs by means of the decision.

2. Acquisition of Polish citizenship shall take place on the date on which the decision to restore Polish citizenship has become final.

**Article 40.** 1. The foreigner referred to in art. 38 section 1, submits an application for restoration of Polish citizenship, which includes:

- 1) the foreigner's data;
- 2) address of residence;
- 3) the statement that he has a history of Polish citizenship and the information about the circumstances of its loss;
- 4) the address of last residence on Polish territory before the loss of Polish citizenship;
- 5) resume.

2. The application for the restoration of Polish citizenship shall be attached with:

- 1) the documents proving the identity and citizenship;
- 2) the documents confirming the change of name and surname, if such occurred;
- 3) the documents proving the loss of Polish citizenship;
- 4) a photograph of the applicant.

3. The application for restoration of Polish citizenship shall be made on the form set out by the provisions issued under art. 45 section 1.

**Article 41.** 1. Where an application for restoration of Polish citizenship was made when there were pending proceedings in respect of this foreigner for granting Polish citizenship, the proceedings for restoring Polish citizenship shall be dismissed.

2. Where an application for restoration of Polish citizenship was made while there were pending proceedings in respect of this foreigner for recognition as a Polish citizen, the proceedings for recognition as a Polish citizen shall be suspended pending the outcome of the proceedings for the restoration of Polish citizenship.

**Article 42.** 1. The application for restoration of Polish citizenship shall be submitted to the minister responsible for internal affairs. A foreigner residing outside the Polish territory shall submit an application for restoration of Polish citizenship via the consul competent as for the foreigner's place of residence.

2. The consul immediately submits the application for restoration of Polish citizenship to the minister responsible for internal affairs, along with the documents required under art. 40 section 2 and the information and documents relevant to the case.

**Article 43.** 1. Before issuing the decision referred to in art. 39 section 1, the minister responsible for internal affairs addresses the Chief of Police, the Chief of Internal Security Agency, and where necessary other authorities for information whether the restoration of Polish citizenship is not a threat to the national defence or national security or to the

protection of public safety and order, and whether the foreigner who has submitted an application for restoration of Polish citizenship, did not act to the detriment of Poland, and especially its independence and sovereignty, or did not participate in violations of human rights.

2. Before issuing the decision referred to in art. 39 section 1, the minister responsible for the internal affairs may address the President of the Institute of National Remembrance – the Commission for the Prosecution of Crimes against the Polish Nation to provide the information about the content of the documents about the person seeking the restoration of Polish citizenship and require access to them.

3. The bodies referred to in sections 1 and 2, are required to provide written information within 30 days of receipt of the request. In particularly justified cases this period may be extended to 3 months, and the authority required to provide the information shall notify this fact to the minister responsible for internal affairs.

**Article 44.** 1. Where, on the basis of the documents attached to the application for restoration of Polish citizenship, the minister responsible for internal affairs or the consul have doubts as to whether the foreigner does not have Polish citizenship, they forward the request to the province governor in order to conduct the proceedings of confirming the Polish citizenship.

2. In the situation when the proceedings for confirming the Polish citizenship are pending and it is confirmed that the foreigner is a Polish citizen, the province governor issues a decision on the confirmation of Polish citizenship and the application for restoring the Polish citizenship is not further examined.

**Article 45.** 1. The minister responsible for internal affairs shall determine by means of a regulation, in consultation with the minister for foreign affairs, a model form of the application for the restoration of Polish citizenship and the requirements for the photograph attached to the application.

2. A model application form includes the data and information referred to in art. 40 section 1.

## Chapter 6

### Loss of Polish citizenship

**Article 46.** A Polish citizen who renounces the Polish citizenship, loses Polish citizenship after obtaining the consent of the President of the Republic of Poland for renunciation of Polish citizenship.

**Article 47.** 1. At the request of the Polish citizen, the President of the Republic of Poland may grant consent to this citizen for renunciation of Polish citizenship.

2. The consent for renunciation of Polish citizenship by a minor who remains under the sole parental authority of the person or persons without Polish citizenship, takes place at the request of his legal representatives.

3. In case of a disagreement between the legal representatives, each of them may apply to court for the determination.

**Article 48.** 1. The application for granting the consent for renunciation of Polish citizenship includes:

1) the applicant's statement of renouncing Polish citizenship;

- 2) the applicant's data;
- 3) the address of residence;
- 4) the data of the applicant's spouse;
- 5) the information about the last place of residence on Polish territory if the applicant resides outside that territory.

2. A Polish citizen exercising parental authority over a minor, includes the following additional data in the application:

- 1) the data of the minor;
- 2) the information whether there was a statement to consent to the loss of the Polish citizenship referred to in art. 7 section 2 point 2 and art. 8, and before which official body it was made.

3. The application of the legal representative for granting a consent for renouncing the Polish citizenship by a minor contains the data and information specified in section 1 points 1, 2 and 5 and in section 2 point 2. The application shall also contain the legal representative's name, surname and address.

4. The application shall be attached with:

- 1) the evidence of the data and information contained in the application referred to in section 1 point 2 and 4, or section 2;
- 2) the documents confirming that the applicant is a Polish citizen;
- 3) the evidence of holding the citizenship of another state or the promise of granting it;
- 4) the photographs of people covered by the application.

5. The application for granting the consent for renunciation of Polish citizenship shall be made on the form set out by the provisions issued under art. 54. section 1.

**Article 49.** 1. The application for the consent for renunciation of Polish citizenship is made in person or by mail, with an officially certified signature, via the province governor or the consul. The provisions of art. 9 shall apply accordingly.

2. If the application does not meet the requirements set out in art. 48 section 1, 2 or 3, or it has not been attached with the documents referred to in art. 48 section 4, the requested authority shall call the applicant to rectify the failures, within 30 days of receipt of the notification together with the instruction that failing to submit the data will result in leaving the application without examination.

3. The province governor and the consul shall immediately submit to the President of the Republic of Poland, via the minister responsible for internal affairs, the application for granting consent for renunciation of Polish citizenship, along with the documents required under art. 48 section 4.

4. The minister responsible for internal affairs, before forwarding the application to the President of the Republic of Poland, addresses the Chief of Police, the Chief of Internal Security Agency, and where necessary other authorities for information that may be of importance in granting the consent for renunciation of Polish citizenship, and he issues an opinion concerning the application.

5. The procedure of granting the information referred to in section 4, shall be governed by art. 21 section 5.

**Article 50.** 1. The province governor, the consul and the minister responsible for internal affairs shall submit the application for granting consent for renunciation of Polish citizenship directly to the President of the Republic of Poland in every case when the President decides so, regardless of the stage of the proceedings.

2. In the case referred to in section 1, the province governor and the consul inform the minister responsible for internal affairs of submitting to the President of the Republic of Poland the application for granting the consent for renunciation of Polish citizenship.

**Article 51.** 1. The President of the Republic of Poland expresses his consent to the renunciation of Polish citizenship or he refuses to grant such a consent in the form of a decision.

2. The loss of the Polish citizenship takes place after a period of 30 days from the date the decision of the President of the Republic of Poland has been issued.

3. The loss of the Polish citizenship can take place within a shorter period than specified in section 2, indicated in the decision issued by the President of the Republic of Poland.

4. The Chief of the Chancellery of the President of the Republic of Poland shall submit a copy of the decision referred to in section 1 to the minister responsible for internal affairs.

**Article 52.** 1. The Chief of the Chancellery of the President of the Republic of Poland shall draw up the notifications of the contents of the decisions in cases of consent for renunciation of Polish citizenship.

2. The notice referred to in section 1, shall include:

1) the information about the content of the decision issued by the Polish President, the date of its issuance and the number;

2) the data of the person to whom the notice relates to:

a) name(s) and surname,

b) the date and place of birth,

c) father's and mother's name;

3) indication of the authority drawing up the notice and the date when it has been drawn up.

**Article 53.** Article 28 shall be applicable to the service of the notices about the content of the decisions concerning the consent for renunciation of Polish citizenship.

**Article 54.** 1. The President of the Republic of Poland shall determine by means of a regulation, a model form application for granting the consent for renunciation of Polish citizenship, the requirements for the photograph that shall be attached to the application and the model notice of the content of the decision on the consent for renunciation of Polish citizenship.

2. A model application form for granting the consent for renunciation of Polish citizenship includes the data and information referred to in art. 48 sections 1-3.

3. A model notice of the content of the decision concerning the consent for renunciation of Polish citizenship includes the data and information referred to in art. 52 section 2.

## Chapter 7

### Confirmation of holding the Polish citizenship or a loss thereof

**Article 55.** 1. The decision on the confirmation of holding the Polish citizenship or its loss is issued, at the request of the person whom the proceedings concern or the entity who proves a legal interest or its duty to obtain a decision, by the province governor competent as for the

place of residence or last place of residence in Poland of the person whom the proceedings concern and in the absence of such grounds – the governor of Mazovia.

2. The proceedings referred to in section 1 may also be initiated ex officio.

**Article 56.** 1. The application for confirmation of holding the Polish citizenship or the loss thereof shall include the data of the person whom this confirmation applies to, his ascendants to the second degree and the relevant information about the circumstances necessary to establish the factual and legal basis.

2. The person and the entity requesting the confirmation of holding the Polish citizenship or a loss thereof are required to attach the evidence of the data and information contained in the application, unless the problems in obtaining these documents are difficult to overcome.

**Article 57.** 1. The application for confirmation of holding the Polish citizenship or the loss thereof shall be submitted to the province governor. A person residing outside the Polish territory may submit the application for the confirmation of holding the Polish citizenship or the loss thereof via the consul competent as for his place of residence.

2. The consul immediately submits the application to the province governor, along with the attached documents as well as the documents and information about the person whom the proceedings concern.

**Article 58.** The minister responsible for internal affairs shall determine by means of a regulation, in consultation with the minister for foreign affairs, a model form for the application of confirming the fact of holding the Polish citizenship or the loss thereof, taking into account the data of the person whom the confirmation concerns, and his ascendants to the second degree as well as the relevant information about the circumstances necessary to establish the factual and legal basis.