



The Kościuszko Mound  
Committee in Kraków  
established 1820



# American Initiatives of *The Kościuszko Mound Committee in Kraków* Marking the 250th Anniversary of United States Independence

## USA250 and The Kościuszko Mound in Kraków: Celebrating 250 Years of U.S. Independence Through Polish–American Friendship

On September 28–30, 2026, The Kościuszko Mound Committee in Kraków, located at 1 George Washington Avenue, Kraków, plans to host the celebrations of the 250th anniversary of U.S. Independence. Nowhere could these celebrations find a more fitting stage than The Kościuszko Mound in Kraków,

the most symbolic Polish–American landmark and a lasting source of inspiration rooted in Tadeusz Kościuszko's legacy. This historic celebration in the **very heart of Poland's history** will serve as a **powerful symbol of the enduring friendship** between Poland and the United States.

Two Nations – One Friendship

Let's celebrate together!



# Polish–American Center at The Kościuszko Mound in Kraków

## A Transatlantic Bridge Between Nations Shared legacy. Common future

The Polish–American Center (PAC) at The Kościuszko Mound in Kraków will be officially inaugurated in 2026, as part of the USA250 celebrations.

The Polish–American Center is a platform dedicated to building bridges between our nations, fostering meaningful dialogue, and promoting cooperation across academia, culture, and business. Its mission is to strengthen transatlantic ties by cultivating a vibrant and engaged community – all with the support of the more than 10-million-strong Polish–American diaspora.

Tadeusz Kościuszko is the greatest Polish–American hero and a universal symbol of freedom and civic virtue. Inspired by his legacy, the Center will serve as a living symbol of transatlantic friendship, common values, and enduring cooperation.

## The Polish–American Center is, above all, about people.

Our team brings together leaders from the Polish–American community, including alumni of U.S. Department of State programs, academics, entrepreneurs, and civic leaders who are actively engaged in giving back and building lasting transatlantic connections.

### Our unique location:

- The Kościuszko Mound – a site of profound significance for Americans, Poles, and the Polish–American diaspora; widely regarded as the most American place in this part of Europe.
- 1 George Washington Avenue – a place where Polish and American histories converge, both symbolically and physically.
- Kraków – the historic and cultural heart of Poland.
- Southern Poland – a dynamic intellectual, technological, and business hub with strong international reach.

### Join us!

We invite partners, institutions, and leaders to join us in shaping the next chapter of Polish–American cooperation.



**Polish–  
American  
Center**



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**To get involved please contact**

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# Light for Independence

To mark the 250th anniversary of U.S. Independence in 2026, a symbolic light installation, “Light for Independence”, will be unveiled at The Kościuszko Mound in Kraków, celebrating the enduring friendship between Poland and the United States. The installation will be commissioned by the newly established Polish-American Center within The Kościuszko Mound Committee in Kraków, one of the oldest civic institutions in Europe, founded in 1820 and dedicated to preserving the legacy of a renowned Polish-American hero, Tadeusz Kościuszko.

Inspired by global commemorative projects such as New York’s Tribute in Light, the installation draws on shared ideals of freedom,

equality, and solidarity, exemplified above all by Tadeusz Kościuszko. It will be the first installation of its kind in Poland.

“Light for Independence” will stand as a living monument, linking shared history with the present and future. Illuminated on commemorative occasions, including key Polish and American historical dates, it will serve as a powerful expression of freedom and transatlantic unity.

“Light for Independence” aims to symbolically connect Poland and the United States, transforming a historic landmark into a modern space for reflection on shared values upheld by each generation.



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# US-CEE Connection Weekend



## Transatlantic Challenges in Law, Business & Policy

The Kościuszko Mound Committee in Kraków is proud to support the US-CEE Connection Weekend as a strategic partner, in alignment with its mission to promote initiatives that strengthen transatlantic dialogue and cooperation.

The US-CEE Connection Weekend is an annual conference, co-sponsored by The Catholic University of America Columbus School of Law in Washington, D.C., and the Jagiellonian University in Kraków, held in the representative halls of Poland's oldest university as part of their 35-year partnership.

Each June, the US-CEE Connection Weekend brings together lawyers, business leaders, academics, government officials, civil society representatives, and students interested in the evolving relationship between the United States and the countries of Central and Eastern Europe.

### Numbers (2025 edition):

- 500+ registered attendees
- 70+ renowned speakers
- 50+ opinion leaders
- 75 institutional patrons and partners

### Our keynotes:



**The Honorable Mark T. Uyeda**,  
Commissioner, U.S. Securities and  
Exchange Commission (SEC)

*2026 edition*



**The Honorable Phyllis C. Borzi**,  
Former Assistant Secretary for  
Employee Benefits Security in the  
U.S. Department of Labor

*2024-2026 edition*



**Eric J. Pan**, President of the Invest-  
ment Company Institute (ICI) and  
Chair of the International Investment  
Funds Association

*2025 edition*



**The Honorable Summer K. Mersinger**,  
Commissioner, U.S. Commodity  
Futures Trading Commission (CFTC)

*2025 edition*



**The Honorable Hester M. Peirce**,  
Commissioner, U.S. Securities and  
Exchange Commission (SEC)

*2024 edition*

Join us on 12-13 June 2026 in Kraków!



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