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## Survey: Poles Support Missile Defense Plan

### The Associated Press

WARSAW, Poland — Poland's foreign minister said the country's citizens "have the right to feel threatened" by Russian rhetoric over plans to install a U.S. missile defense base here, according to an interview published Monday.

Foreign Minister Radek Sikorski also believes NATO should take a stand on the matter, the interview in the Dziennik daily said.

A new poll, meanwhile, said Polish support for the missile defense pact with the U.S. has soared after Russia's military campaign in Georgia and its threats against Poland.

According to the new poll, 58 percent of those surveyed support the missile defense plan — compared with 30 percent in March 2007, early on in the negotiations. The poll was published in the Rzeczpospolita daily.

It was the first time a majority of Poles surveyed have backed the U.S. missile defense plan, according to lead researcher Maciej Siejewicz from the Gfk Polonia polling agency.

The poll said 37 percent believe the deal is bad for Poland.

Negotiations between Washington and Warsaw on placing 10 missile interceptors in Poland began in early 2007. Both sides struck a deal last week during the Russia-Georgia conflict.