



**WITOLD
BAŃKA**

**MINISTER
OF
SPORT
AND
TOURISM**

PERSONAL DATA

- | Date of birth: 3.10.1984
- | Place of birth: Tychy
- | Country: Poland
- | Phone: +48 22 24 43 142
- | E-mail: sekretariat.minister@msit.gov.pl

SPORTS CAREER

- | Multiple representative of Poland in international 400m race events
- | Twice a silver medallist in the Polish Athletics Junior Championships in 2005 and 2006
- | A gold medallist in 4x400 metres relay in the 2005 European Athletics U23 Championships in Erfurt
- | A gold and silver medallist in the Summer Universiade in Bangkok in 2007 and in Belgrade in 2009, respectively
- | **A bronze medallist in the World Athletics Championships** in Osaka in 2007
- | Officially ended his sports career in 2012

EDUCATION

- | A graduate of the University of Silesia in Katowice, the Faculty of **Social Sciences**



PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

In 2009, he was the youngest-ever delegate to the reporting and electoral assembly of the **Polish Athletics Association**, where he represented the Silesian Athletics Association.

In 2010, he was elected the president of the Association for the Promotion of Athletics.

Before taking the ministerial position, he worked in the **public relations** sector and delivered training courses in media relations and image management; he cooperated with leading Polish companies on advertising production creation and PR strategy building.

On 16 November 2015, he was appointed the Minister of Sport and Tourism in the government of Prime Minister Beata Szydło.



EXPERIENCE IN THE FIGHT AGAINST DOPING

In March 2016, he hosted a visit of the **Monitoring Group of the Anti-Doping Convention**. Recommendations from the visit were used for the purpose of changing Poland's legislation on the fight against doping.

In 2016, he took the initiative to amend the Act on Sport with the aim to strengthen the anti-doping system in Poland (the exclusive powers of the national sports associations to adjudicate in **disciplinary proceedings** relating to the use of doping in sport were transferred to the Commission Against Doping in Sport).



He is the author of the **Bill on the Fight Against Doping in Sport**, which comprehensively regulates all matters relating to combating doping in Poland. The bill was approved by the Polish Government on 20 December 2016. The bill provides, inter alia, for the establishment of the Polish Anti-Doping Agency which will replace the Commission Against Doping in Sport. The Agency will have broad powers, including the cooperation in investigations with the Police, Customs Service, Border Guard, Military Police and prosecutors.

He submitted, jointly with the municipal authorities of Katowice, the city's expression of interest to host the World Conference on Doping in Sport in 2019.



CHARITY WORK

He attaches great importance to charitable activities. He takes part in charity races. He also participates in fundraising events organized to support a disabled girl (they run marathons together).

LANGUAGES

Polish **mother tongue**
English **fluent**