

Memorandum by Lech Walesa, "On Starting the Roundtable Talks"

4 September 1988

On starting the [Roundtable] talks

Right now we can begin to discuss the topics for negotiations, which I presented in my statement of 26 August. I think that in the beginning of next week talks should be concerned with two questions:

1) implementation of the promise made by the authorities that there would be no repression toward striking workers, and that those [repressive measures] have been applied, will be annulled,

2) union pluralism and within its framework the legalization of NSZZ "Solidarity", consistent with the postulate of the striking crews.

I think that the first stage of implementing the principle of the "Roundtable" as a process should be a factual discussion of the above topics and preliminary decisions. The composition of the meeting should initially be trilateral, as was our meeting on 31 August. I am going to present personal proposals separately.

A positive consideration of the above mentioned questions will allow for a broader debate on economic and political reforms in our country.

Gdansk, 4 September 1988

[signed]

[Source: Andrzej Stelmachowski Papers. Translated by Jan Chowaniec for CWIHP.]