

Marek Belka

President, Narodowy Bank Polski
Professor of Economics



Born in January 1952 in Łódź (central Poland), Marek Belka graduated from the University of Łódź with a Master's degree in economics in 1972, and continued his academic career at the Institute of Economics of his *alma mater*. He received his Ph. D. in 1978, which was followed by a postdoctoral degree in economics ("habilitation") in 1986. Associated with the Polish Academy of Sciences since 1986, Marek Belka was a research fellow at the Columbia and Chicago Universities (1978-79, 1985-86) and at the London School of Economics (1990). He received the title of Professor of Economics in 1994.

Professor Belka has published over 100 scientific papers devoted primarily to the theory of money and anti-inflation policy in developing countries. He specializes in applied economics and contemporary economic thought.

From 1990 to 1996, he worked as a consultant and adviser at the Polish Ministry of Finance, and subsequently at the Polish Ministry of Ownership Transformations and at the Central Planning Office. He became a consultant to the World Bank in 1996.

From 1994 to 1996, Professor Belka was Vice-Chairman of the Council of Socio-Economic Strategy at the Council of Ministers, and next economic adviser to the President of the Republic of Poland.

Professor Marek Belka served twice as Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Finance: in the government of Włodzimierz Cimoszewicz in 1997 and in the government of Leszek Miller from 2001 to 2002.

From May 2004 to October 2005, Professor Belka served as Prime Minister of Poland.

Professor Belka has also held numerous high ranking positions within the international community. In 2003, he served as Chairman of the Council for International Coordination for Iraq and as Director of Economic Policy in the Coalition Provisional Authority (2003-2004), where he was responsible for the currency reform, the development of a new banking system and supervision of the Iraqi economy. From 2006 to 2009, he held office in the United Nations as Executive Secretary of Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) in Geneva. In January 2009, he assumed office as Director of the European Department at the International Monetary Fund.

On 10 June 2010, Professor Marek Belka was approved by the Parliament of the Republic of Poland as President of Narodowy Bank Polski and Chairman of the Monetary Policy Council.

In January 2011, Professor Marek Belka was elected for a 3-year term of office in the Steering Committee of the European Systemic Risk Board. Since November 2011 he has chaired the World Bank/IMF Development Committee and, since June 2012, the Vienna 2.0 Initiative Steering Committee. In May 2013, Professor Belka became a Member of the Central Bank Governance Group at the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) in Basel.

Professor Belka is married and has two adult children.