

- Ladies and Gentlemen,
- One of the most important urban issues is the efficient reconstruction and support of areas that suffered as a result of war or natural disasters.
- This subject was widely discussed within the framework of the Urban Crisis Track – one of the components of the official programme of the WUF11 in Katowice in June this year.
- Armed conflicts continue with varying degrees of strength in different parts of the world. There are new ones, such as the war in Ukraine, just beyond the Polish border.
- It reminds us of the importance of an efficient process of urban reconstruction – social and economic one – for millions of people living in war-torn areas.
- Also damages caused by natural disasters are an important topic, in particular in times of climate change, which affects the intensity and frequency of extreme weather phenomena.
- If the process of bringing aid and restoring conditions to normal functioning after the damage is to be effective, dialogue and cooperation with local communities and self-government authorities are necessary.
- It is also particularly important to involve international organizations in helping those areas, that suffer the most from contemporary threats.
- In this context, the readiness of UN-Habitat to support the Ukrainian side in the long-term urban projects and urban planning related to reconstruction of the areas destroyed during hostilities, is of great importance and highly appreciated.
- Poland is ready to play an active role in the post-war reconstruction of Ukraine by engaging in cooperation at the government, regional, local and non-governmental levels. We are also ready to cooperate with UN-Habitat in this area. Thank you very much.

Małgorzata Jarosińska-Jedynak
Secretary of State
Ministry of Development Funds and Regional Policy
Poland