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## **BELARUS: LESSONS FROM POLISH SOLIDARITY**

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By Andrzej Sadoś

There are unexpectedly many similarities between what is going on in Belarus now and what was taking place in Poland in 1980. The peaceful awakening in Belarus deserves Europes backing, including expert and financial help, writes Andrzej Sadoś.

*Andrzej Sadoś is the permanent representative of Poland to the European Union. This opinion piece has been submitted exclusively to EURACTIV.*

Exactly 40 years ago, striking shipyard workers and the communist regime signed an agreement. The renowned August Agreement was a political deal. It led to the creation of the Solidarity trade union and initiated a process of defeating Communism in Poland and Eastern Europe.

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