

Poland passes 'Russian influence' law that could target opposition

Critics say Poland's ruling party is creating a mechanism that would allow it to mobilise legal apparatus against political opponents.

Poland's lawmakers voted on Friday to approve a divisive law on Russian influence criticised by the European Union and the US.

There are fears the law, proposed in May by Poland's ruling right-wing Law and Justice party (PiS) could be used to target the political opposition.

When it takes effect, it will create a powerful committee of experts who can investigate alleged Russian interference in Poland and name politicians who allegedly allow it.

The committee could then bar those concerned from holding public positions.

However, critics say it is primarily targeting former Prime Minister Donald Tusk, who is expected to stand in a parliamentary election later this year.

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