

## LOT Polish Fact sheet

### LOT Polish Airlines

- Among the world's oldest airlines, established on 29<sup>th</sup> December 1929
- Originates from Warsaw Chopin Airport
- Member of the Star Alliance
- Host 9 million passengers every year,
- Flies from Warsaw to over 110 destinations in Poland, Europe, North America and Asia
- Flies six long-haul flights from Warsaw to Asian destinations
- Operates one of the youngest aircraft fleets flying in Europe
- 30 minutes minimum connecting time – one of the shortest connecting times in Europe, guaranteeing smooth and fast travel
- LOT is the number one quietest carrier on the Heathrow Airport, thanks to the modern Boeing 737 MAX 8s and precision landing techniques used by Polish pilots
- Among top ten most punctual airlines in the world in a prestigious OAS Ranking
- 7-time winner of Best European Airline at World Travel Awards

### Economy

- Poland is the largest economy in Central and Eastern Europe
- Currently said to be experiencing a 'golden age' in economic and cultural development
- Champion of GDP Growth in the EU – averaging 4.2% per annum between 1992-2019
- Seventh largest economy in the EU with a total GDP of €524 billion
- Population of 38 million vs SL's 21 million
- Vibrant entrepreneurial landscape of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)
- Large domestic market – potentially lucrative target for Sri Lankan exporters
- Strong competitive advantages in neighbouring European countries
- The only EU country to avoid recession in the Global Financial Crisis of 2008
- Population with a large disposable income per capita of USD 19,814
- Strong growth in 'New Economy' – including sectors like
  - Tech, e-commerce
  - Video game development
    - 300 game developing companies - including world famous CD Projekt - operating in Poland and over 20 are listed on the Warsaw Stock Exchange.
- Rich history and culture, home to 16 world heritage sites
- Thriving music culture with world famous artists spanning everything from classical music to jazz, EDM, and heavy metal

### Benefits to Sri Lanka – Poland bilateral relations

- The total trade between Poland and Sri Lanka in 2018 recorded as \$ 97 million, while Sri Lanka's exports to Poland amounted to \$ 45 million.
- Strong potential to support increased tourist arrivals to Sri Lanka
  - Tourist arrivals from EU to Sri Lanka: 800,000 tourists (2018)
  - Tourist arrivals from Poland to Sri Lanka – 20,000 (2018)
- Improves potential to strengthen economic cooperation on:
  - Trade
  - Investment
  - Finance
  - Education
  - Cultural exchange between Sri Lanka and Poland
- Sri Lankan trade delegation has already visited Poland, facilitated by EDB
- Strong opportunities for Sri Lankan Exporters