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Russia Denies Involvement in Polish Tape Scandal

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Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov says disparaging comments about the U.S.-Polish ties allegedly made by Poland's foreign minister showed "political realism."

In one of the leaked conversations released by a Polish magazine, Foreign Minister Radek Sikorski was heard denouncing the alliance with the U.S. as worthless and describing it in obscene terms.

Lavrov said Saturday that allegations of Russia's hand in the scandal were aimed at deflecting public attention from the awkward situation.

Lavrov said he was unaware of details of U.S.-Polish relations, adding that Russia wants to see EU nations conduct an independent policy.

Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk has suggested that foreign interests might have been involved in the eavesdropping. He did not name any country, but said businessmen trading coal and gas from Russia were being investigated.

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