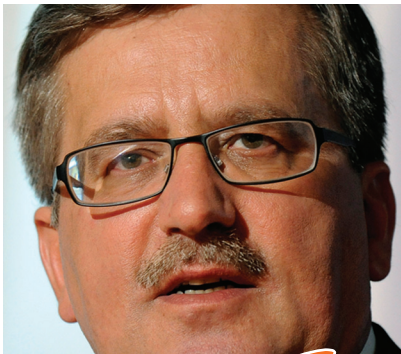


# Tragedy sets tone in race for Polish president

Two months after President Lech Kaczynski was killed in a plane crash along with 95 others, Polish citizens will cast their ballots in an early presidential election to choose his successor



**Bronislaw Komorowski, 58**  
**Civic Platform**  
Parliament speaker and acting president since April 10 tragedy



**Former Solidarity activist belongs to moderate and market-friendly governing party of Prime Minister Donald Tusk. As president, would give Tusk's government green light for further pro-market reforms**

Backs economic reform agenda, which includes privatising more state industries and raising retirement age to cut high deficit. Also supports government's aim to adopt euro in next five years or so

**Has pledged to end conflict between presidential palace and prime minister's chancellery that has marked past three years**



**Jaroslaw Kaczynski, 61**  
**Law and Justice**  
Former prime minister and identical twin brother of late president



**Known for his social conservatism and combative style, has enjoyed popularity surge in past weeks as he traversed Poland to meet voters, striking uncharacteristically moderate and conciliatory tone**

Less keen on euro adoption, fearing it could cause price hikes that would hurt poor. Conservative views on gays and preserving country's strict abortion laws seem out of step with European mainstream

**Usually critical of close ties with Moscow, has recently expressed hope that Poland-Russia relations could become mutually beneficial**