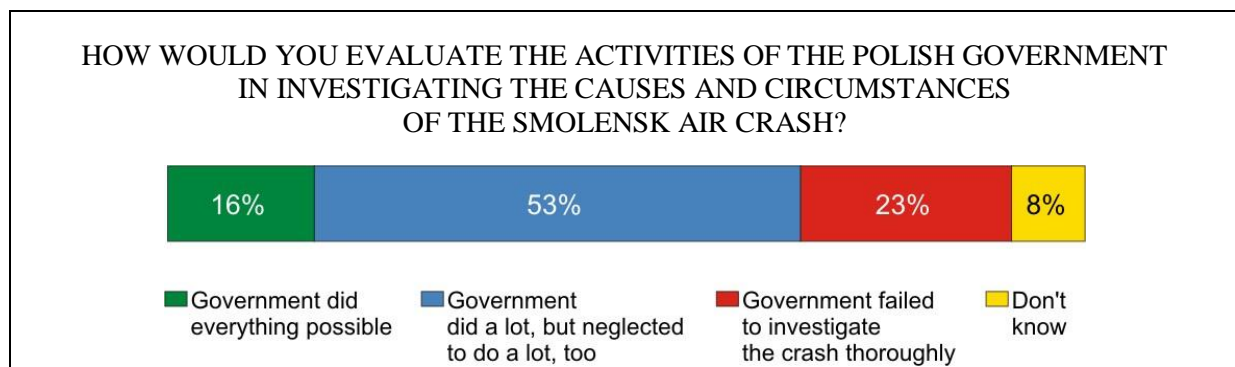


SMOLENSK CRASH AND BELIEF IN ASSASSINATION THEORY

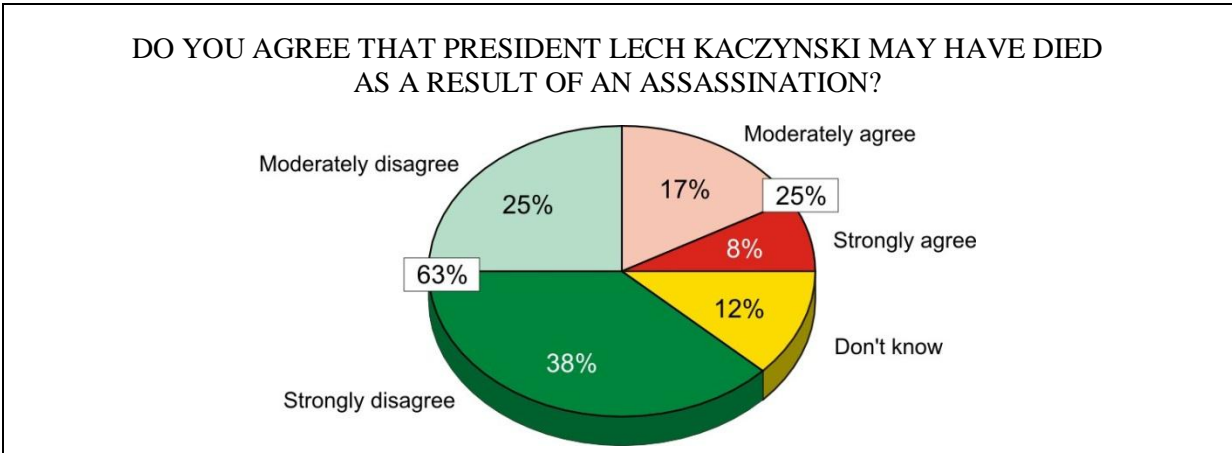
In April, two years have passed since the Smolensk air crash in which president Lech Kaczyński and 95 other people died, among them many politicians. They were going to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the Katyń mass murder. In spite of the actions taken to investigate this incident (e.g. published findings of the government commission chaired by Jerzy Miller), there are still doubts and speculations about the causes of this crash. In public discourse there is an assassination theory, according to which the crash was caused by an explosion close to the ground.



According to the majority of respondents (53%), the Polish government did a lot to investigate the causes of the Smolensk crash, but also neglected a lot. Almost a quarter (23%) are even more critical and believe that the government failed to investigate the disaster at all. Only 16% of respondents think that the government did everything that was possible.

A vast majority of Poles accept the official findings of the government commission investigating the Smolensk air crash. However, a quarter of respondents takes into

consideration the possibility that the airplane was a victim of an attack. Most potential voters (60%) of the Law and Justice party (PiS) share this view. Electorates of the other parliamentary parties are rather sceptical.



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: *"Smolensk crash: who believes in assassination theory"*, June 2012. Fieldwork for national sample: May 2012, N=1017. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.