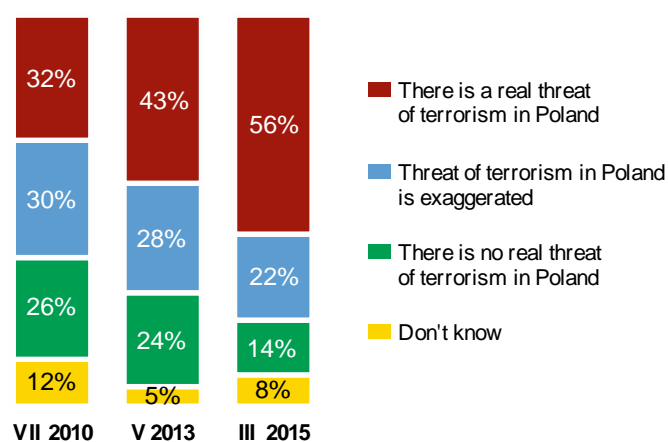


Threat of terrorism

In public opinion, terrorist threat in Poland is more severe than before. At present over half of respondents consider it as real (56%, a 13-point increase since 2013 and 24-point rise since 2010). In the last two years, the proportion of people who think that the threat is exaggerated and the number of those questioning it altogether has decreased.

Which view is closest to your own opinion?

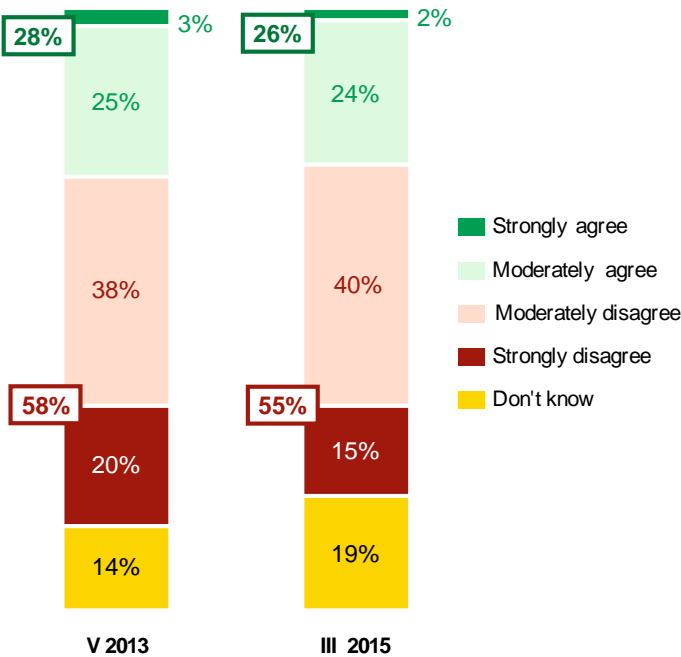


In the last two years, there has also been an increase in the level of anxiety related to terrorist attacks. While the majority (57%) are still not afraid, this group has decreased since 2013 by 15 percentage points. There has been a similar increase in the proportion of

respondents expressing fear (41%, a 15-point rise). Current level is comparable to the anxiety recorded two years after the 9/11 attack, but lower than the level recorded after the terrorist attack in Madrid in March 2004. The increased perception of threat may have been caused by incidents such as the attack on the French magazine “Charlie Hebdo” and strengthening of the fundamentalist Islamic State. Moreover, the situation in Ukraine and tensions between Russia and the West may also have influenced the perception of threat and subjective security in Poland.

Respondents are usually sceptical about the competence of Polish authorities and state institutions in security matters. Over half (55%) think that they are not well prepared to prevent terrorist attacks, while a third (26%) express the opposite opinion. In the last two years, critical opinions about the level of preparedness of Polish authorities for terrorist threat have remained essentially unchanged.

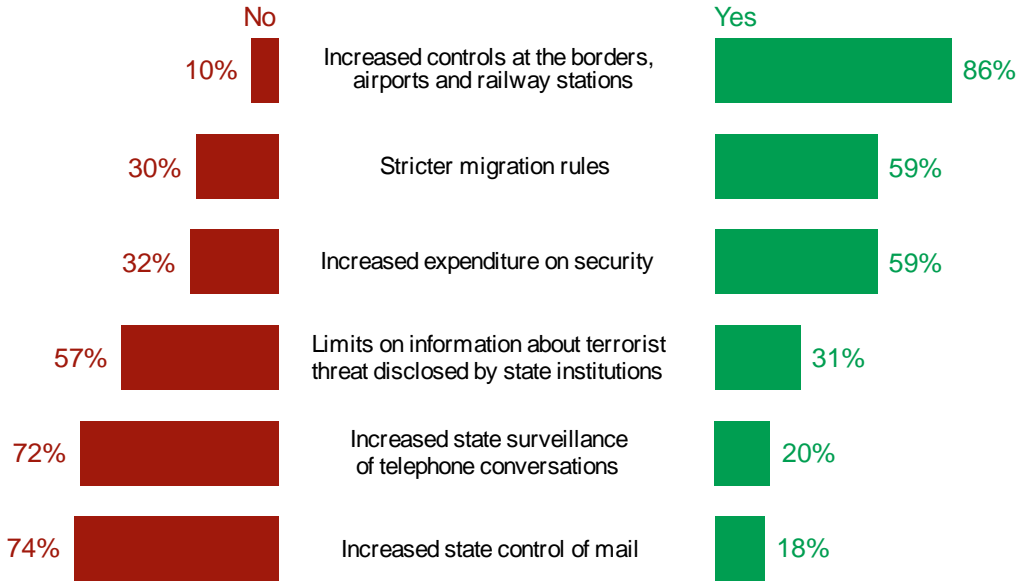
Do you agree that Polish authorities and state institutions are well prepared to prevent terrorist attacks in Poland?



A vast majority of respondents would agree to increased controls at the borders, airports and railway stations. Almost six out of ten would accept stricter migration rules. The same proportion would accept increased expenditure on security. However, the majority would not agree to limits on information about terrorist threat disclosed by state institutions.

Measures that could violate privacy, such as monitoring of citizens' movements, mail and telephone conversations, are rejected the most.

Would you agree to the following measures to increase your security?



"Don't know" omitted

More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Threat of terrorism", April 2015. Fieldwork for national sample: March 2015, N=1062. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.