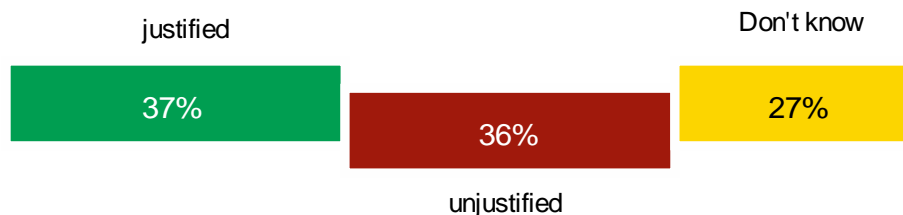


## **Poland in the European Union**

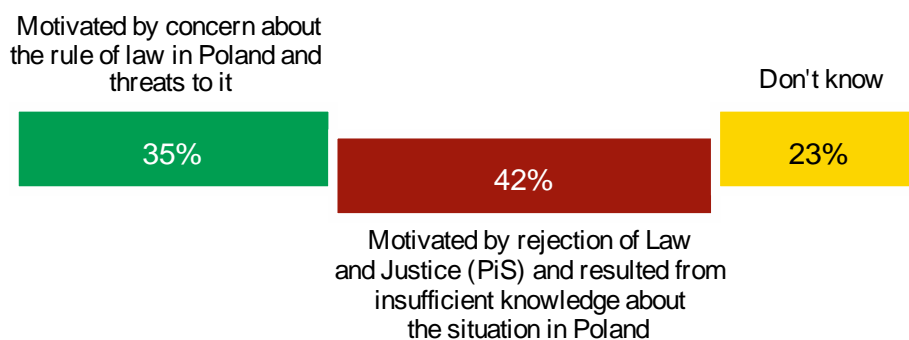
The new Polish authorities put more stress than their predecessors on policy independence from the European Union and prioritise cooperation with other countries in this region, in particular with the Visegrad Group states. The question of national sovereignty was invoked in recent months in the context of the mandatory so-called refugee quotas, as well as more recently, due to the initiation by the European Commission of procedures for monitoring the threats to the rule of law in Poland.

Polish public opinion is divided about the validity of the EC decision to initiate the procedure for monitoring the rule of law in Poland. The number of people considering the decision as justified and opposing it are almost the same. The EC motives are also perceived differently: the conviction that the decision was motivated by the rejection of Law and Justice (PiS) and resulted from insufficient knowledge about Poland was more common than the view that it was a result of concern about threats to the rule of law in Poland.

## Was the decision by the European Commission to initiate a procedure to monitor the rule of law in Poland...

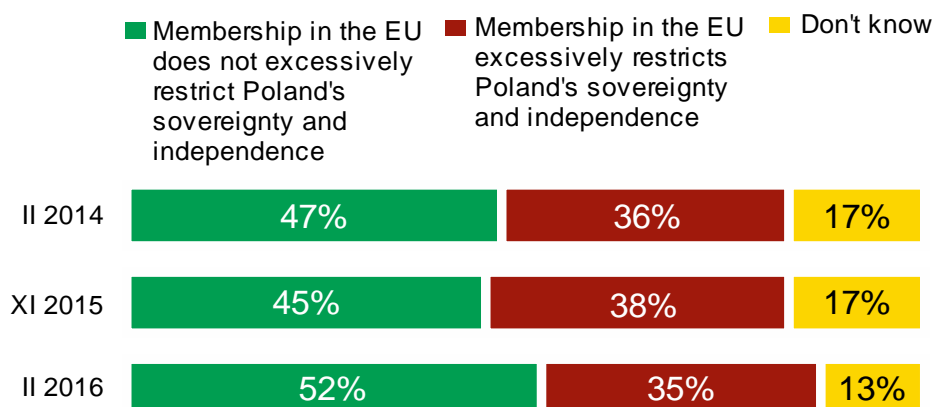


## Was the decision by the European Commission ...



In spite of controversies around the actions of the European Commission, there is no increase in concern about the sovereignty of Poland within the EU. The majority of Poles believe that EU membership does not excessively reduce Poland's sovereignty. This view is now expressed more often than in November 2015. Slightly more than a third of respondents share the opinion that EU membership imposes excessive restrictions on Poland's independence.

## Which opinion is closer to your own view?



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Poland in European Union", February 2016. Fieldwork for national sample: February 2016, N=1000. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.