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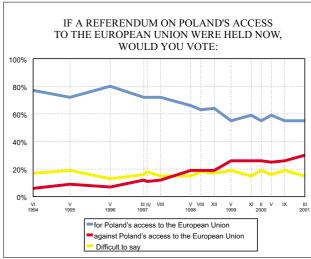
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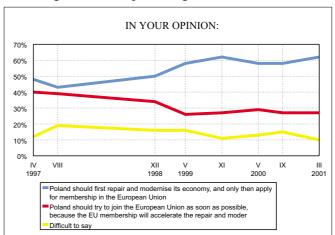
# POLES ON THE INTEGRATION WITH THE EUROPEAN UNION

A certain increase of euroscepticism has been recorded among Poles during the last six months. Although the number of supporters of Poland's integration with the European Union (55%) did not change in March, the percentage of its opponents grew to its highest

point so far (30%). An increased number of people believe also that current relations between Poland and the European Union member countries have been more beneficial for the latter.

Since September 2000, the opinions on potential benefits for the entire Polish economy and specifically for the Polish agriculture resulting from Poland's integration with the European Union have become a little less frequently expressed. However, the percentage of respondents who believe that the Polish economy will benefit from the integration (49%) is still higher than the percentage of

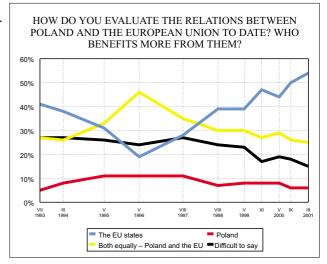




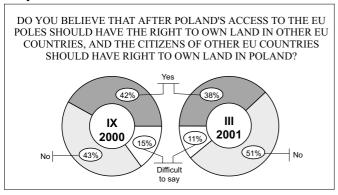
those who believe the opposite (33%). As far as the impact of the integration on the agricultural sector is concerned, the opinion that the accession will be more beneficial for the EU countries than for Poland prevails (50%).

In the last few months the fears of foreigners buying land in Poland have become stronger. At present, half of respondents declare that in their opinion EU citizens should not be allowed to buy land freely in other EU member countries.

Taking into account the whole population, the percentage of Poles who are totally uninterested in looking for work in other EU countries is much bigger (35%) than the percentage of those who are interested (13%). A great number have an ambivalent attitude. However, if we consider the working population, the unemployed and students, the percentage of those who declare that they definitely want to seek employment in one of the EU countries (18%) is almost the same as the percentage of those who would definitely reject a job offered



to them in one of those countries (17%). The largest proportion of this group of respondents said that it was too early to make such a decision.

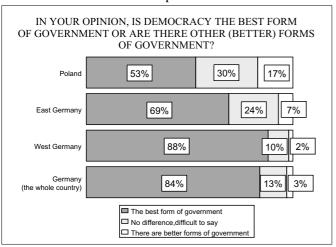


Despite the progress of the negotiations, the proportion of Poles who believe that Poland still has a long way to go before it becomes a member of the Union has grown in the last ten months. As in previous years, the largest group of respondents (47%) estimate that we are now half-way to becoming a member of the Union. Among the remaining respondents, the belief that Poland is still far from the EU membership is much more frequent (40%, an increase by 5 percentage points) than the opinion that we are close to becoming a member of the Union (11%, a decrease by 3 percentage points).

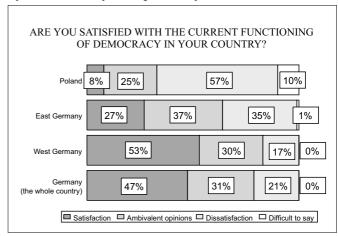
More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS reports "The expected effects of Poland's integration with the European Union" and "Opinions on Poland's integration with the European Union", March 2001.

### DEMOCRACY AND THE FREE MARKET -OPINIONS OF GERMANS AND POLES

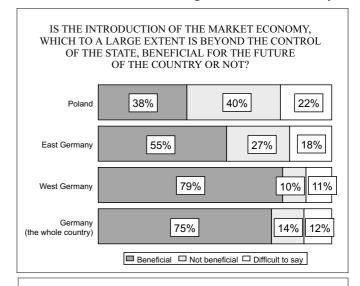
The acceptance of the democratic system of government is wider in Germany than in Poland. However, in both countries most respondents believe that democracy is the best form of government. The opinions of Germans from "old federal states" and those from the former GDR differ in this respect: in the West the belief in the superiority of democracy is very common (88%), while in the East it is less frequent.

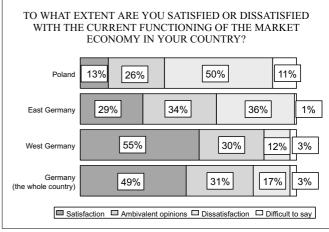


Poles do not have a very high opinion on the current functioning of democratic system in their country. The Germans evaluate their democratic political system definitely more positively.



The Poles evaluate the introduction of the free market much less positively than the residents of the former GDR. Moreover, they are more frequently dissatisfied with the functioning of the market economy.





Both Poles and Germans opt for a strong position of the state in social policy. Almost all respondents believe that the government should guarantee a satisfactory standard of living for old people and medical care for everybody. The opinions that the state should guarantee a satisfactory standard of living for the unemployed are only slightly less frequent. The respondents from West Germany express such expectations a little less frequently than the Poles and the East Germans.

In both countries, respondents expect the state to carry out an active economic policy. As many as 92% of Poles and 86% of Germans believe that the state should be obliged to guarantee employment for everybody. This opinion is slightly less widespread in West Germany than in the former GDR and Poland. A definite majority of Poles (85%) and Germans (85% in the East and 73% in the West) believe that the state should reduce the differences in income.

The opinions of Poles and Germans are somewhat different as far as the desired way of managing enterprises is concerned. In both countries, the largest groups of respondents opt for a model where both the owners and employees of an enterprise appoint the management. However, this opinion is more frequent in Germany (50%) than in Poland (39%). The Germans more frequently than Poles believe that the management should be entirely in the hands of the owners (37% and 26%, respectively). The Poles (11%) are willing to accept public ownership in the economy more frequently than Germans (3%) and more frequently opt for the decisive role of workers' self-government (13% of indications in Poland, 5% in Germany).

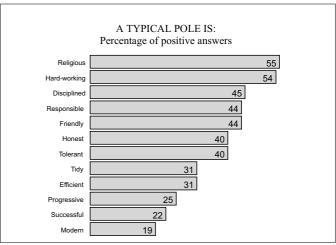
More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report "Attitudes to the free market and democracy in Poland and Germany", April 2001. The survey was partly financed by the Polish-German Cooperation Foundation. In Germany the survey was conducted by Wissenschaftzentrum Berlin für Sozialforschung.

### A DOUBLE PORTRAIT POLES ON BRITONS, BRITONS ON POLES

The Poles are rather liked by the British. Almost two-fifths of the British respondents (38%) declared that they liked the Poles and only one-eighth said that they disliked them (12%). Among the seven nations included in the survey, only the Swedes are liked by the Britons more than the Poles. The French, Germans, Czechs, Russians and Hungarians are liked less.

The British believe that a typical Pole is first and foremost religious and hard-working. In the opinion of over two-fifths of the respondents, a Pole is also disciplined, responsible and friendly. On the other hand, the British think that a typical Pole is old-fashioned rather than modern, but at the same time more respondents think that Poles are rather progressive (25%) than conservative (20%).

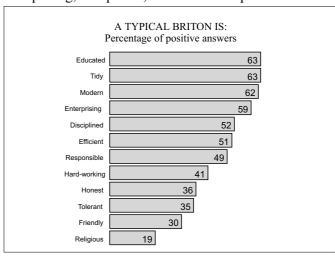
It should be noted, however, that in the case of all the characteristics that the British respondents were asked about (except for religiousness, readiness to work hard, and, although to a lesser extent, discipline), the largest group, often exceeding half of all respondents, expressed an ambivalent opinion. It confirms the supposition that Poles are not well known in Britain.



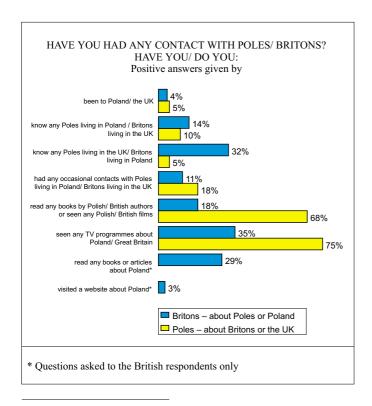
Among the candidates to the European Union evaluated by the British respondents, Poland enjoys the strongest support. Over a quarter of the British (27%) believe that Poland should become a EU member within the next five years. A similar proportion (28%) of the respondents believe that it should happen later. Less than one in ten Britons (9%) believe that Poland should not become a member of the Union at all. The support for quick access of Hungary and the Czech Republic, as well as Bulgaria, Slovenia and Slovakia, is weaker.

Over two-fifths of the Poles (42%) declare that they like the Britons. However, among the seven nations included in the survey, the British are rated by Poles a little lower than the Poles are rated by the British. Poles prefer the Swedes, French, Czechs and Hungarians to the Britons.

How do the Poles see a typical Briton? Above all, he or she is educated, tidy and modern. In the opinion of at least half of the respondents, a typical Briton is also enterprising, disciplined, efficient and responsible.



Direct knowledge of Great Britain in Poland and Poland in Great Britain is rather poor. More or less one in twenty Poles have visited the United Kingdom and one in twenty five Britons have visited Poland. One in ten Poles declare that they know a British citizen personally and almost one-fifth have had occasional contact with British people. One in seven Britons know a Pole living in Poland and one in nine have had occasional contact with Polish people.

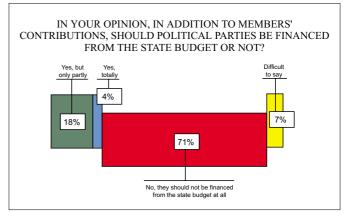


More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS/ISP reports "Britons on Poles, Poles on Britons" and "Britons and Poles about each other and the mutual relations", March 2001. In the United Kingdom the survey was conducted by ICM Research and sponsored by the British Embassy in Warsaw. The survey constitutes a part of broader research on mutual national stereotypes conducted by the Institute of Public Affairs, Warsaw.

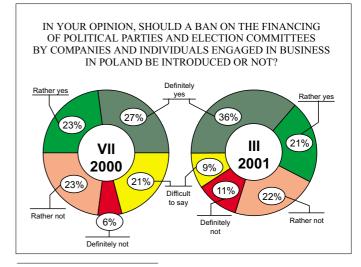
#### FINANCING POLITICAL PARTIES

The Polish Parliament has presented a draft law, which restricts the possibilities of sponsoring political parties by the business, at the same time extending the scope of financing from the state budget. These proposals aroused criticism in some political circles.

A definite majority of Poles are against the financing political parties from the state budget. Most of them believe that the members' contributions should be their main source of income (68%).



The percentage of people convinced that individuals and business organisations should not be allowed to sponsor political parties is growing.



More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report "Financing of political parties", March 2001.

## In addition to the reports referred to above, the following have been published recently (in Polish):

- ◆ Poles on NATO membership
- ◆ Opinions on the provisions of the electoral law
- ◆ Political party preferences in March
- Before the parliamentary elections certainty of support, election alternatives, negative electorates
- Why are we critical about the development of the situation in Poland? Social moods in March
- ◆ Trust in politicians in March
- ◆ The attitude to the government, the Parliament and the President

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