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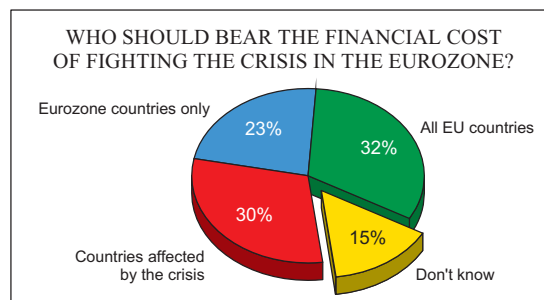
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## OPINIONS ABOUT THE EUROZONE AND EUROPEAN INTEGRATION

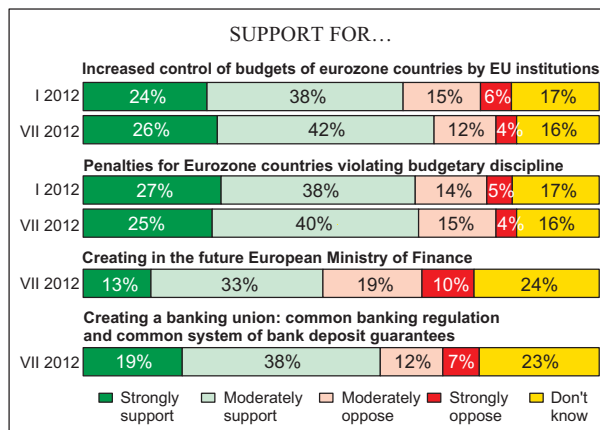
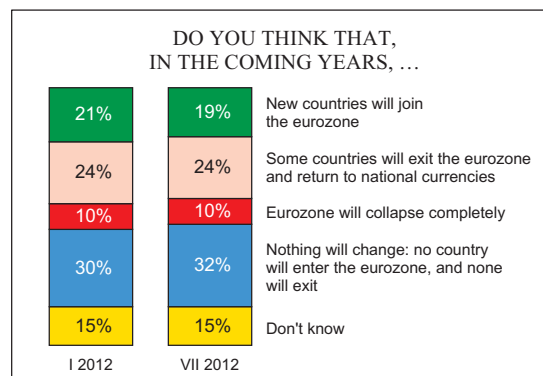
In spite of the efforts of the European Union member states to combat the financial crisis, the situation in the eurozone is a source of uncertainty. In the opinion of Poles, there are several possible scenarios for the development of the situation in the countries using the common currency. One-third (34%) think that in a short time the eurozone will shrink or collapse. Almost the same proportion (32%) think that the status quo will remain, meaning no country will exit the eurozone, and none will enter. Only one in five (19%) think that the eurozone will admit new members.

In general, the public opinion believes that the countries in crisis should not be left to fend for themselves, but should be able to count on financial support from other EU

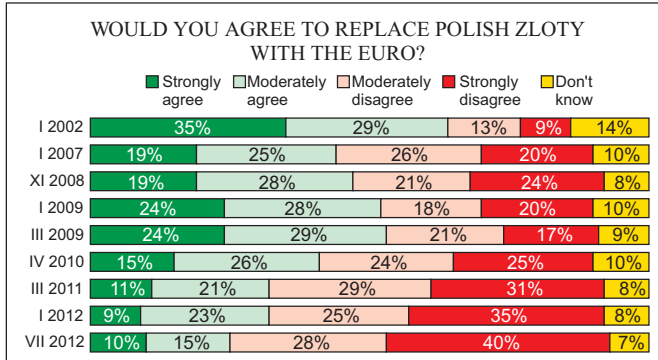


interest. Less than one-third (30%) believe that the affected countries should be left to themselves to deal with the crisis.

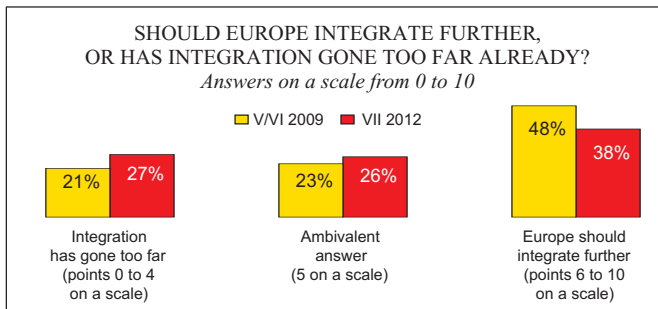
Poles react positively to the planned and proposed steps aimed at preventing financial crises in the eurozone. The majority accept the fundamental rules of the fiscal pact concerning budgetary restrictions on the countries using the euro. Over two-thirds (68%) support increased control over member state budgets by EU institutions. The support for this measure rose in the last 6 months by 6 percentage points. Almost two-third (65%) agree for the EU to impose penalties on member states violating budgetary discipline (allowing excessive budget deficit or public debt). Moreover, almost half of respondents (46%) support further fiscal integration and creating a future European Ministry of Finance. The creation of a banking union, whose harbinger is the recent decision to found common banking regulation and perhaps, in the future, a common system of bank deposit guarantees, is supported by 57% of adult Poles.



The continuing uncertainty about the future of the euro has contributed to the increased scepticism about the introduction of the common currency in Poland. In the last half a year, the proportion of opponents of introducing the euro has increased by 8 points and now, at 68%, is the highest recorded so far. Only a quarter of respondents support introducing the euro (25%, 7 points less than at the beginning of the year 2012).



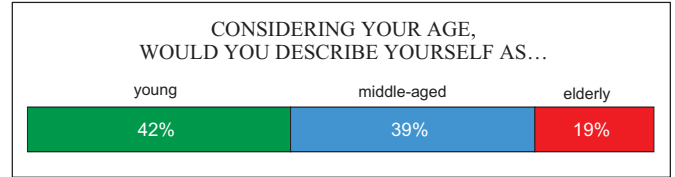
The difficulties in the eurozone not only contribute to the scepticism about the introduction of the euro, but have other far-reaching consequences. The conviction that further integration is desirable weakens. While three years ago almost half of Poles tended to agree that Europe should integrate further, by now less than two-fifths share this view (38%). Compared with the previous survey, more people now think that integration has gone too far (increase from 21% to 27%). However, the proponents of deeper integration are still more numerous.



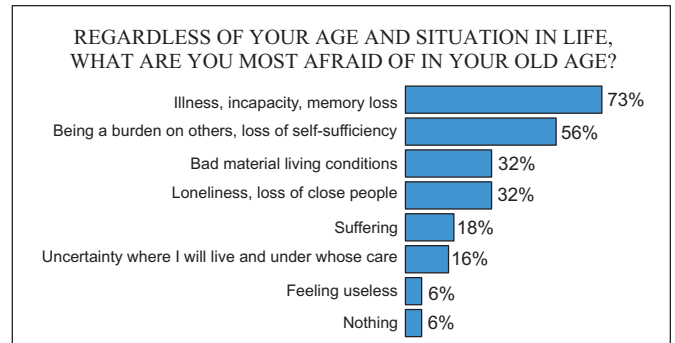
More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Opinions about the eurozone and European integration", July 2012. Fieldwork for national sample: July 2012, N=960. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

## ATTITUDES TO AGEING

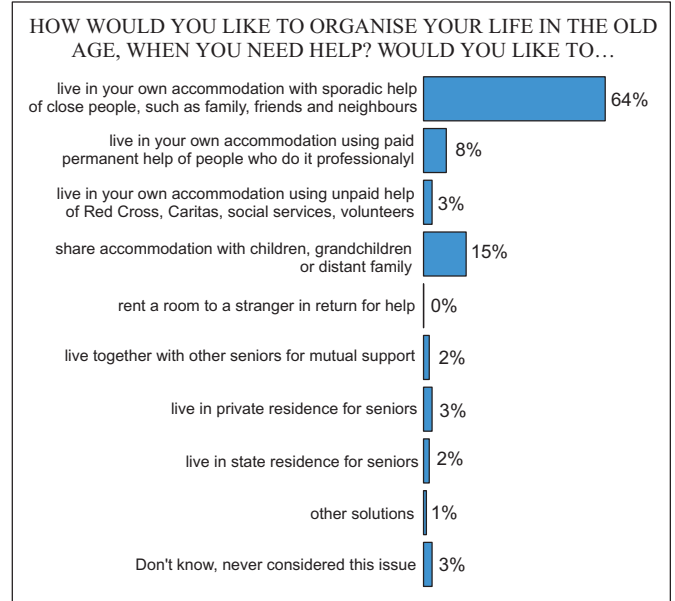
Declarations indicate that over two-fifths of Poles (42%) consider themselves young, while almost two-fifths (39%) think of themselves as middle-aged, and one-fifth (19%) as elderly. Until they reach the age of 40, most people think they are young. Most people in the age bracket 40-64 consider themselves as middle-aged, while the majority of respondents aged 65 and more think they are seniors.



Irrespective of age and life situation, respondents fear illness, incapacity and memory loss in their old age (73%). Over half (56%) are afraid of losing their self-sufficiency, being a burden on others, and dependence on other people. One-third (32%) are afraid of deteriorating living conditions and material problems, while a similar proportion (32%) fear loneliness and the loss of close persons. Smaller group are afraid of suffering (18%) or admit uncertainty about who they will live with and under whose care (16%). One in seventeen respondents (6%) is afraid of being useless.



Almost two-thirds of respondents (64%) would like to live in the old age in their own accommodation with sporadic help of close people, such as family, friends and neighbours. Every seventh (15%) prefers to live in the old age together with children, grandchildren or distant family. One in ten respondents would like to live in their own accommodation using either paid permanent help (8%), or unpaid help of Red Cross, Caritas, social services, volunteers, etc. (3%).

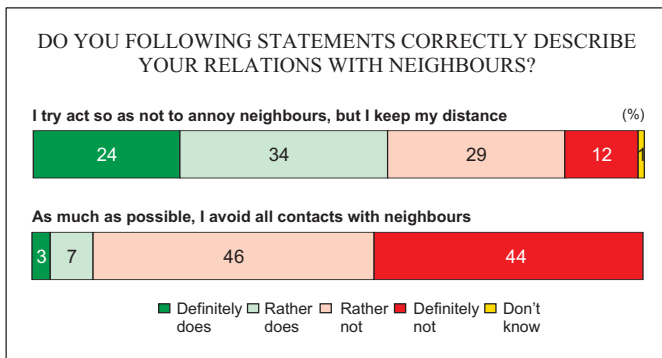


Other forms of organizing life in the old age, such as: state or private residence for seniors, or living together with other seniors for mutual support were mentioned sporadically.

More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Attitudes to ageing", July 2012. Fieldwork for national sample: May 2012, N=1017. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

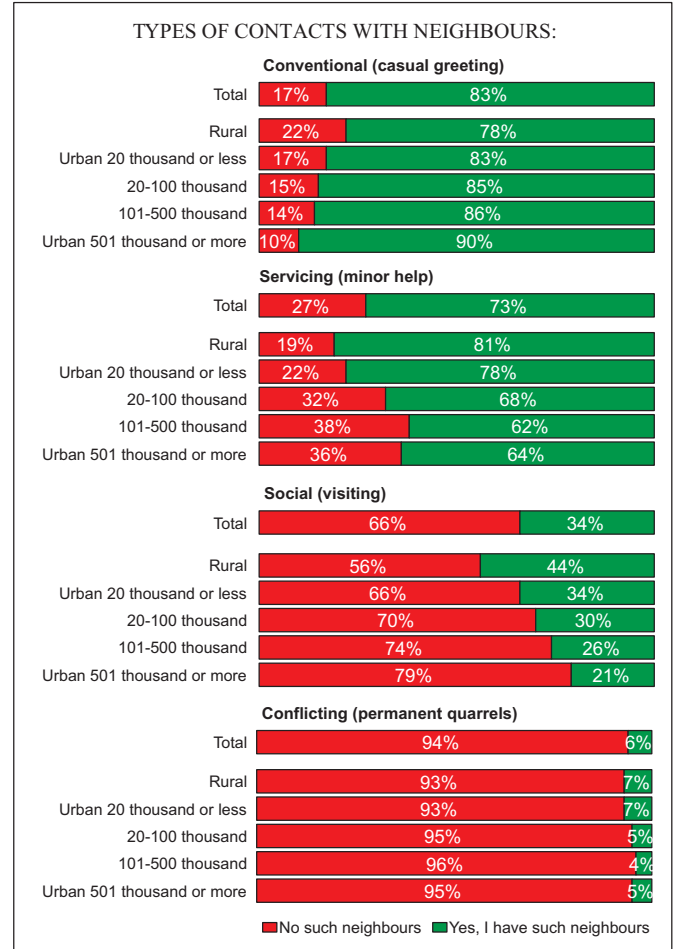
## CONTACTS WITH NEIGHBOURS

Currently, traditional social ties based on territorial proximity are weakening. Thus, contacts with neighbours tend to weaken as a part of this process. The majority of Poles (58%) keeps their distance to neighbours. They want proper but distant relations with them. Distance does not mean cutting off all ties. Only one in ten adults (10%) avoids all contacts with neighbours.



The most common attitude is restricting relations to the level of greeting a neighbour. Over four-fifths (83%) maintains this type of contact. It is also common (73%) to give minor help, such as lending something or minding a child. Every third respondent (34%) maintains social contacts with some neighbours, such as visiting or attending family celebrations. A small group (6%) is in conflict with neighbours.

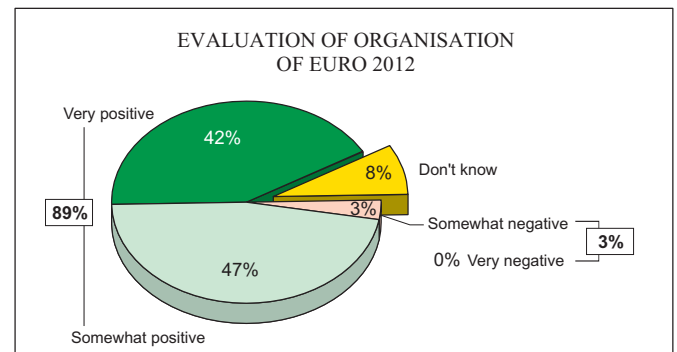
Contacts with neighbours depend on the type of the local community. In the rural communities, over four-fifths (81%) claim that they can depend on their neighbours for help, for instance when they need to borrow something, or need help in minding a child. Almost half (44%) of residents in rural areas have social contacts with some neighbours. In the biggest cities the corresponding proportions are: 64% and 21%. Residents in urban areas tend to maintain conventional contacts consisting in casual greetings (90% among big-city residents vs. 78% in villages). Permanent conflicts are rare, irrespective of the type of community.



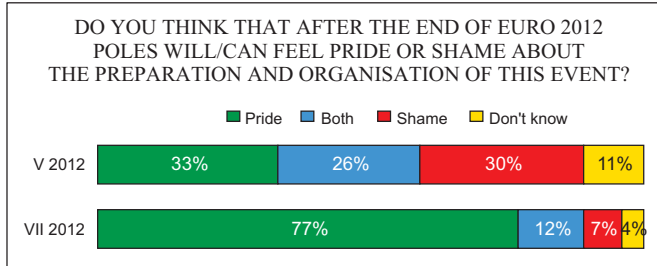
More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Contacts with neighbours and other social ties", July 2012. Fieldwork for national sample: June 2012, N=1013. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

## SUCCESS OF EURO 2012

In the beginning of July, the Euro 2012 football championship finished in Poland and Ukraine. Poland was for the first time an organiser of a sports event of such magnitude. The preparation and organisation of this event was a major challenge and caused a great deal of uncertainty. Ex post, a vast majority of respondents (89%) evaluates the organisation of Euro 2012 positively.

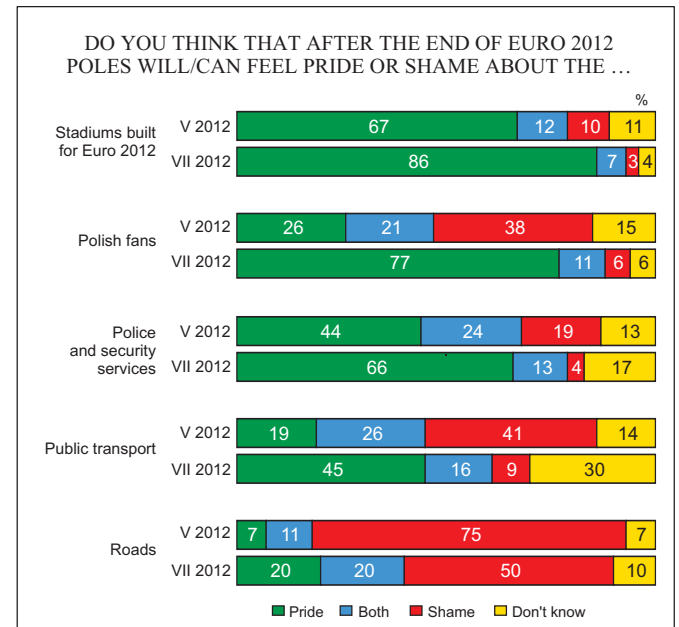


Contrary to the pessimistic predictions of almost one-third of respondents who in May 2012 expected Poland to be compromised by the event, there is nothing to be ashamed of. A large majority (77%) of respondents think that Poles can be proud of preparing and organising this prestigious event.



In the public opinion, we can be proud of the newly built stadiums (86%). While satisfaction with the sports facilities was predictable, it is surprising that the Polish football fans are seen positively as well. A month before the championship, almost two-fifths (38%) were afraid that we would have to be ashamed of them, whereas after the event a vast majority (77%) believe that the attitude of Polish fans, their support and atmosphere at the matches can be a reason to be proud (a 51-point increase). Security service also received exceptionally good evaluations. Two thirds (66%) of respondents think that we can be proud of the police and security services. Compared with May, it is a 22-point increase in positive evaluations. Public transport also fared better than expected: 45% of respondents are satisfied with its

organisation and efficiency during matches (26 points more than in May). Considering the infrastructure, only the state of the roads can be a source of shame in the prevailing opinion of 50% of respondents. However, the shame about unfinished motorways is lower than expected: in May 75% were afraid about them.



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Success of Euro 2012", July 2012. Fieldwork for national sample: July 2012, N=960. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

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

- ◆ Trust in Football Activists and Opinions About PZPN and UEFA
- ◆ Political Authoritarianism
- ◆ Opinions About Deregulation Of Professions
- ◆ Party Preferences in July
- ◆ Opinions About Public Institutions
- ◆ Social Discontent and Attitude to Various Forms of Protest
- ◆ Attitude to Government in July
- ◆ Trust in Politicians in July
- ◆ Social Moods in July
- ◆ XXX Summer Olympic Games in London

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