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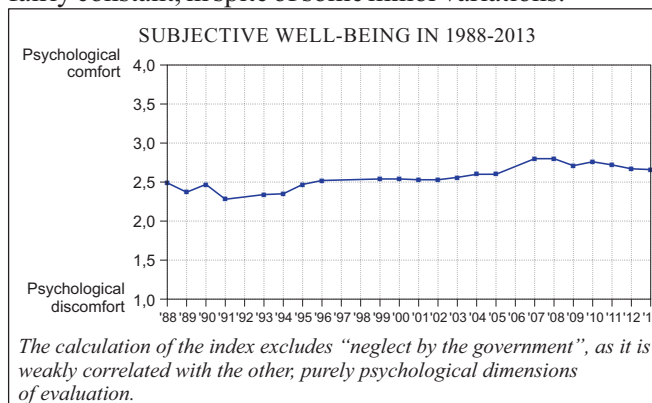
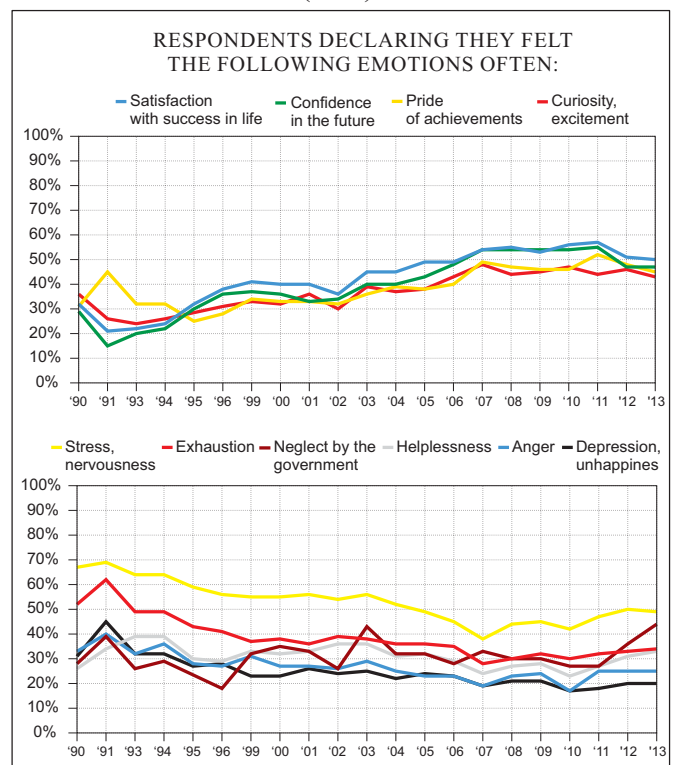
SUBJECTIVE WELL-BEING IN 2013

The psychological state of the Polish society has not changed significantly in the last year. As in 2012, respondents experienced most emotional states included in the survey. In 2013, there was an increase in the proportion of people who felt ignored by the government. At present, it is at record levels.

In the past year, half of respondents (50%) often felt satisfied with success in life. A slightly smaller group felt that everything is moving in the right direction (47%), were proud of their achievements (45%), and were interested and excited (43%).

Around half of Poles (49%) claim being often stressed in the year 2013, while a slightly smaller group (44%) felt ignored by the government. The other negative emotional states were experienced far less frequently. One-third of respondents (34%) were often tired and exhausted, and similar proportion (33%) felt helpless. A smaller group were angry (25%) or depressed, unhappy (20%).

From a long-term perspective, it is clear that subjective well-being has improved since the 1990s. Since then, there has been a marked increase in the number of people satisfied with their achievements, confident about the future, and excited. At the same time, the proportion of respondents experiencing negative emotions such as stress, exhaustion, anger and unhappiness decreased. The relative number of the helpless remains fairly constant, in spite of some minor variations.



The fairly constant state of psychological well-being is confirmed by a synthetic index of well-being measuring both positive and negative dimensions. At present, its value is 2.66, which is almost exactly the same as a year earlier (2.67). Polish society was in its worst psychological state in the initial years of the systemic transformation. Subsequently,

the well-being improved until 2007-2008, when the level was highest. In 2009 there was a slight drop and the index values stabilized on a level slightly lower than in 2007-2008.

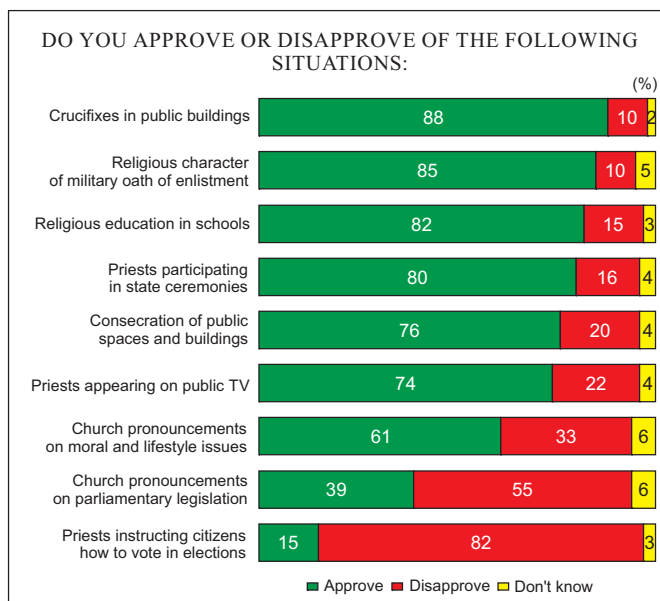
Considering the socio-demographic factors, it is clear that material situation improves psychological well-being (index value of 2.89 for people in good conditions). High values of well-being are characteristic of the youngest adults, i.e. 18-24 age group (2.82), as well as residents of the biggest cities of over 0.5 million (2.80).

More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: *"Psychological well-being in 2013"*, December 2013. Fieldwork for national sample: December 2013, N=910. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

RELIGION AND THE CHURCH IN PUBLIC SPACE

The relations between the Church and the state are a topic of numerous public debates and legal analyses. One could claim that studies of the Church-state relations have become a new discipline of knowledge.

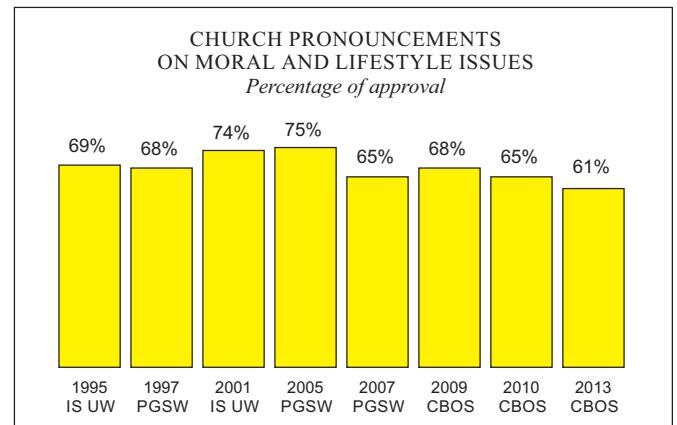
In Poland, the presence of religious symbols, Church and priests in the public sphere is strongly grounded in culture. The vast majority of Poles do not object to crucifixes in public buildings (88%), religious character of military oath (85%), religious education in school (82%), participation of the clergy in state ceremonies (80%), consecration of public space and buildings (76%) or priests on public television (74%). Even people who rarely or never attend religious service rarely or never and respondents with left-wing political views in their majority do not object to the above-mentioned practices.



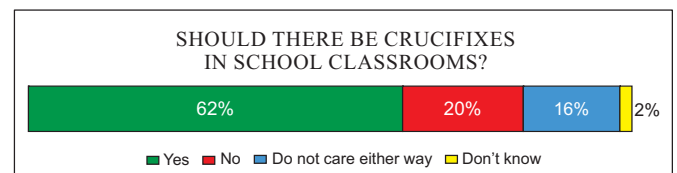
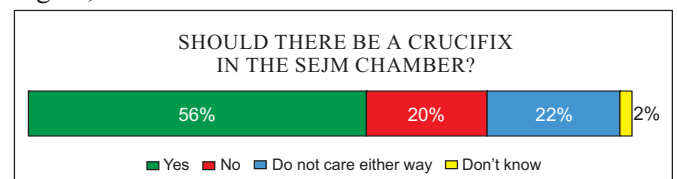
Church pronouncements on moral and lifestyle issues are more controversial; however, approval prevails (61%). Moral teaching of the Church offends the majority of people who do not practice religion (52%), almost half of people who go to church incidentally (46%), as well as a significant proportion of supporters of the political left wing (45%).

The majority of respondents reject Church influence on politics: expressing views on legislation (55%), and, especially, priests giving instructions how to vote (82%). Even the most religious respondents, such as people attending service several times a week (54%) and supporters of political right wing (76%) oppose priests advising citizens on voting behaviour.

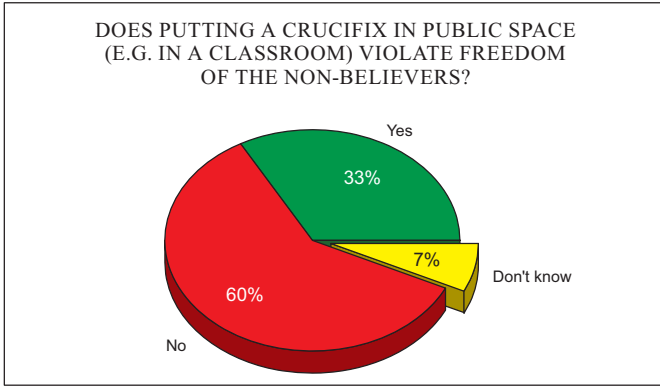
In the last 18 years, the opinions about the public presence of the Church have remained stable, in spite of some context-dependent fluctuation. However, Church pronouncements on moral issues and lifestyle have become increasingly unacceptable for the public opinion.



While nine-tenths approve of a crucifix in public buildings, its presence in Sejm is accepted by 56% of respondents. Its acceptance in schoolrooms is slightly higher, at 62%.



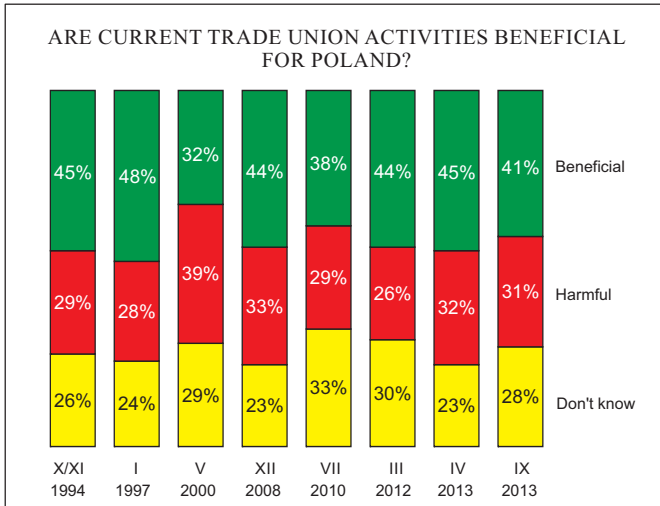
Sometimes the argument is invoked that the crucifix in public space violates the freedom of non-believers. This opinion is rejected by 60% of respondents, while one-third (33%) agree that it may indeed be the case.



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: *"Religion and the Church in public space"*, December 2013. Fieldwork for national sample: August 2013, N=904. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

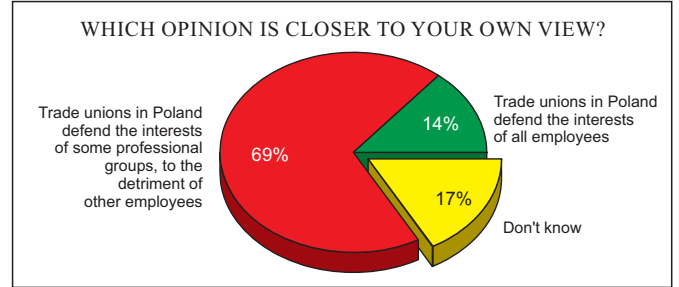
INTEREST REPRESENTATION OF TRADE UNIONS

The activities of trade unions in Poland are generally evaluated positively. Over two-fifths (41%) consider them as beneficial for the country, while one-third (31%) think that they bring more harm than good. As expected, the opinions are better among trade union members than among the others. Over three-fifths (62%) of respondents belonging to a union think that current activity of labour organizations is beneficial for Poland, while one-third (31%) disagree.

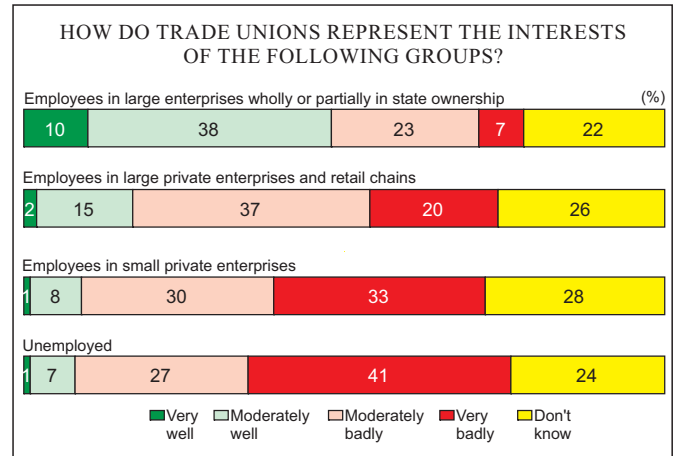


Sometimes trade unions are faced with the accusation that they defend the interests of their members only, while ignoring the situation of the other employees. The public opinion shares such a view: over two-thirds of respondents (69%) agree that trade unions defend the interests of some groups only, to the detriment of other employees. Only a small group (14%) thinks that their

actions have a wider scope and that unions defend the interests of all employees.



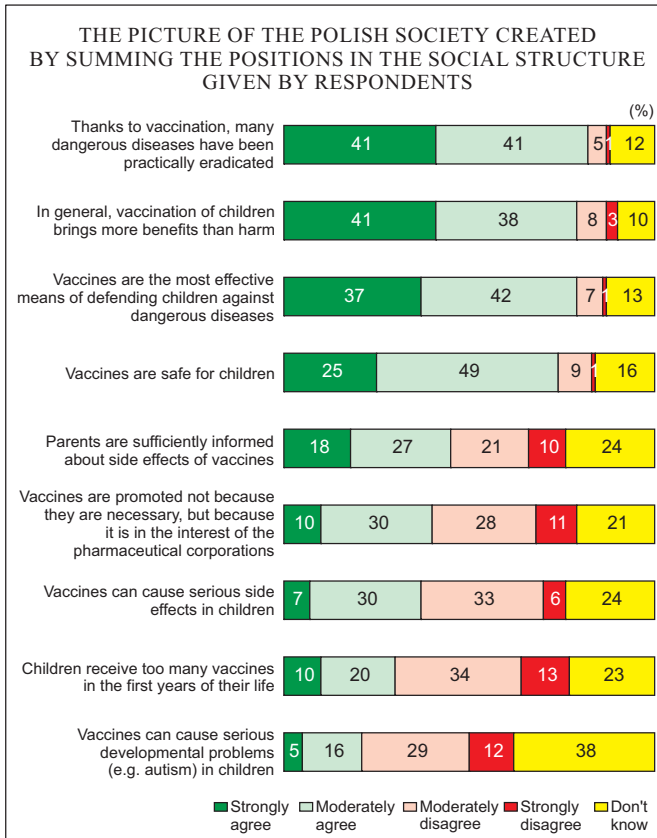
In public opinion, trade unions in Poland well represent the interests of employees of big enterprises at least partly in state ownership (48% agree). However, they cannot or do not want to stand for other employees. The majority of respondents (57%) think that trade unions do a poor job representing the employees of big private companies and retail chains. They are even less effective in standing for people working in small private enterprises (63% think they badly represent these workers). The opinion that trade unions fail to represent the interests of the unemployed is even more widespread (68%).



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: *"Interest representation of trade unions"*, December 2013. Fieldwork for national sample: September 2013, N=911. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

VACCINATION OF CHILDREN

Issues related to vaccination of children are sometimes raised in public debates. Supporters of immunization argue that it is the most effective means of defence against dangerous diseases. Some of them have been practically eradicated in this way. The opponents of immunization claim that children receive too many vaccines in the initial years of their life. They question the safety of vaccines quoting the errors committed by the pharmaceutical industry and vaccine side effects.



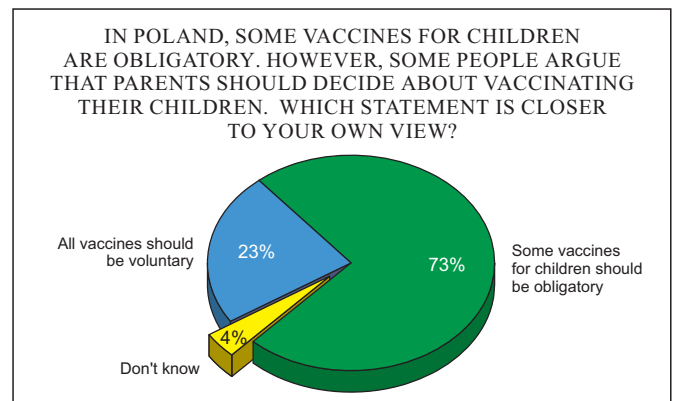
In general, Poles have positive attitude to vaccination of children. According to the vast majority of respondents (79%), immunization has, on balance, positive effects. Most Poles are convinced that, thanks to vaccines, many dangerous diseases have been eliminated (82%) and that they are the best defence against dangerous diseases (79%). Three-quarters (74%) think that vaccines are, in general, safe. However, almost two-fifths (37%) share the opinion that they can cause serious

side effects, while one-fifth (21%) think that they can lead to developmental problems, e.g. autism. Almost half of respondents (45%) evaluate the information about side effects of vaccines as sufficient, while a smaller group (31%) disagree.

A minority of adults (30%) share the opinion that children receive too many vaccines, while close to half (47%) disagree with this view.

Two-fifths (40%) believe that vaccines are promoted not because they are necessary, but because it is in the interest of the pharmaceutical corporations to do so. The proportion of people who disagree with this view is almost the same (39%).

In Poland, according to government regulation, some vaccines are obligatory, while others are recommended. Almost three-quarters of Poles (73%) agree that at least some vaccines should be mandatory, while a quarter (23%) support voluntary immunization.



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Vaccination of children", December 2013. Fieldwork for national sample: November 2013, N=990. 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):

- ◆ Opinions about Proposed Changes to OFE (Open Pension Funds)
- ◆ What Connects People in Poland?
- ◆ Attitude Towards Influenza Vaccination
- ◆ Party Preferences in December
- ◆ Opinions about Parliament and President
- ◆ Christmas 2013 – Commercial or Traditional?
- ◆ Social Moods in December
- ◆ Attitude to Government after Cabinet Reshuffle
- ◆ Trust in Politicians after Cabinet Reshuffle
- ◆ Evaluations of the Year 2013 and Forecasts for the Year 2014
- ◆ Event of the Year 2013 in Poland and in the World

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Yearly subscription rate for "Polish Public Opinion" is 80 USD

Circulation: 70 copies

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