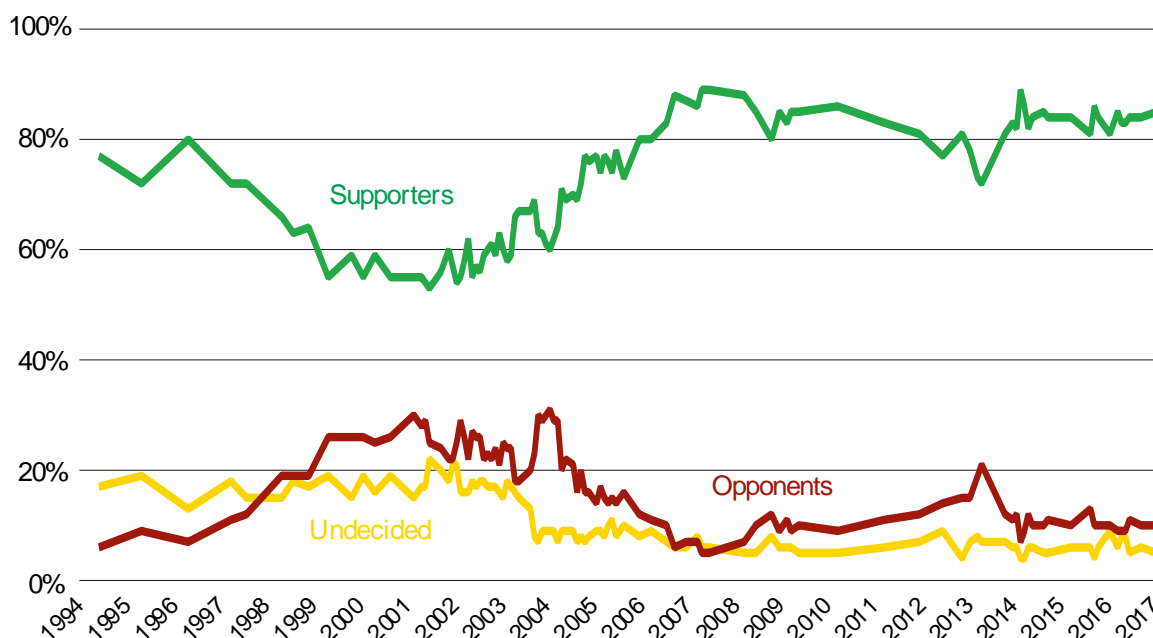


Preferred model of the European Union

Support for Poland's membership in the European Union is on the highest level since March 2014. Membership has the support of 88% of adult Poles, while only 8% are opponents.

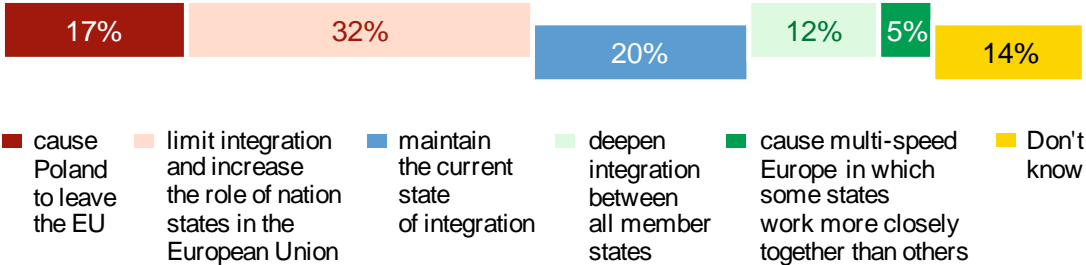
Attitude to Poland's membership in the EU



Law and Justice (PiS) is perceived as halting, rather than a deepening European integration. In the opinion of the plurality of respondents (32%), the ruling party seeks to limit

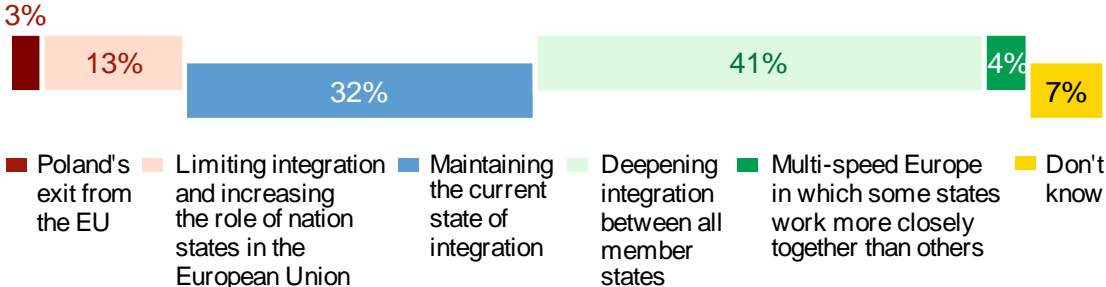
integration and increase the role of nation states in the European Union. Every fifth respondent (20%) thinks that PiS's goal is to maintain the current state of integration. The conviction that the ruling party wants Poland to leave the EU is also not an exception, despite the assurances of PiS to the contrary: 17% of respondents express such view. Every eighth respondent (12%) thinks that PiS activities aim at deepening the integration of member states. Only a few (5%) believe that PiS wants multi-speed Europe in which some states work more closely together than others.

Perceived attitude of Law and Justice (PiS) and Polish authorities to the future of Poland and the European Union. In public opinion they want to...



The perceived PiS policy on European integration is quite far from social expectations. The largest share of respondents (41%) would like to deepen the integration between all member states. Nearly one-third (32%) advocate retaining the status quo. By contrast, far fewer people (13%) support limiting integration and increasing the role of nation states. Only a few support the exit of Poland from the European Union (3%) or the creation of a multi-speed Europe (4%).

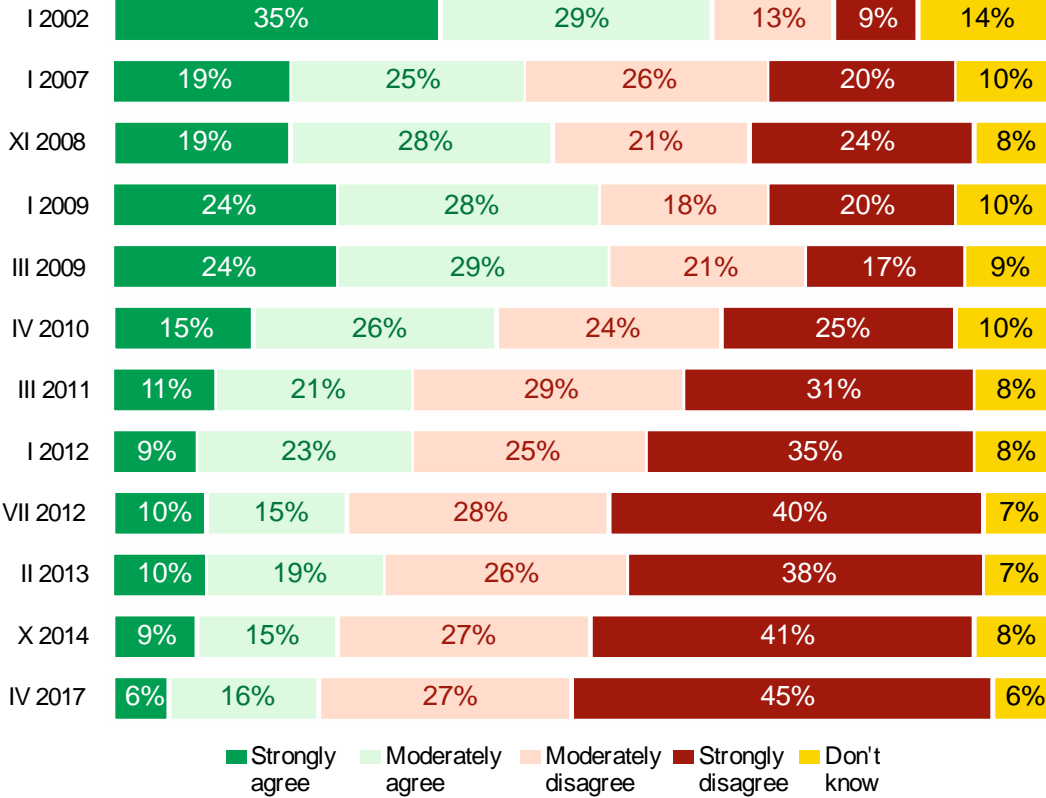
Preferred future of Poland and the European Union.



Despite the very high level of public support for membership in the EU and considerable approval of deepening European integration, there is a clear opposition to the introduction of the euro in Poland. Opposition to this move is expressed by 72% of adult Poles, more than

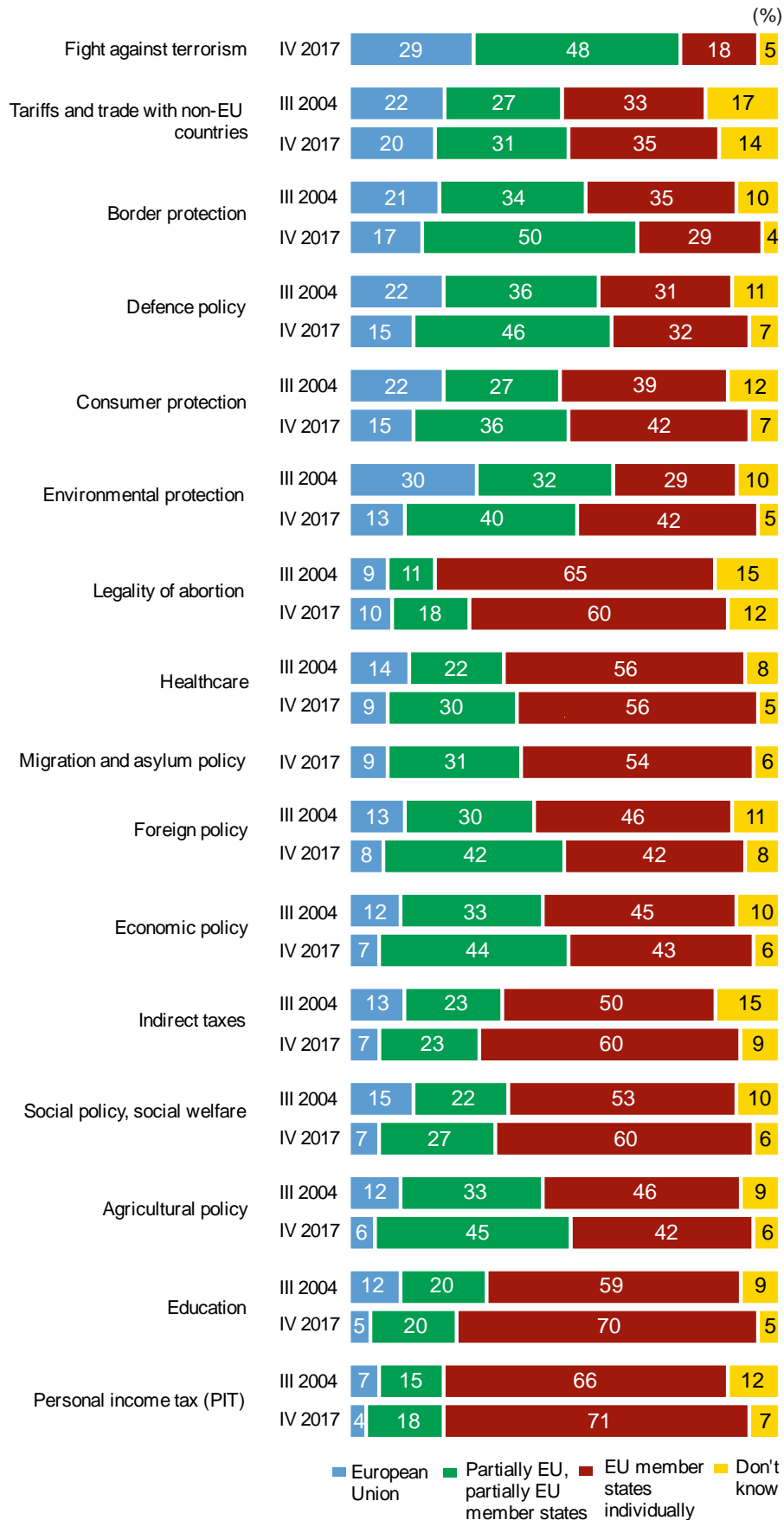
ever in CBOS surveys (4 percentage points more than in October 2014, when this issue was last studied). At the same time, the percentage of euro supporters is the lowest in the history of CBOS surveys: now only 22% of respondents support this idea (2 percentage points less than last time it was measured).

Do you agree that PLN should be replaced with the Euro?



The ideas of Poles on European integration are reflected more precisely in the opinions on the postulated division of competences between the European Union and its member states. In general, in the opinion of respondents, decisions in any area mentioned in the study should not be undertaken exclusively by the European Union. Taking into account the degree of social acceptance of EU taking over competences of member states, two areas may be distinguished: 1) areas where, in the opinion of at least half of respondents, member states should share competence with the Union; 2) areas which should be the exclusive competence of member states, in the opinion of at least half of respondents.

Should European Union or EU member states decide on the following policy areas?



The area with highest support for delegating some (or, less commonly, all) responsibility to the EU level is security: the fight against terrorism (77% in total), border protection (67%) and defence policy (61%). More than half of respondents accept EU (co-)decision-making on tariffs and trade with non-EU countries (51% in total), environmental protection (53%), economic policy (51%), agricultural policy (51%), consumer protection (51%) and foreign policy (50%).

In public assessment, each EU state should set its own tax policy: first of all, personal income taxes (71%) but also indirect taxes (60%). Most respondents believe that sole competences of the member states should also include legal regulation of abortion (60%) and social policy: education system (70%), social welfare (60%) and health (56%). In the opinion of over half of respondents (54%) member states should decide on migration and asylum policy.

Over the last 13 years, the percentage of people accepting exclusive EU competence has fallen in almost every area included in both surveys. At the same time, in the majority of cases, the support for the division of competence between the EU and member states has increased. Acceptance of EU decision-making power on environmental protection has declined considerably, and the view has strengthened that decisions on this issue should be left to each member state. There has also been an increase in the number of people who think that individual countries should make their own decisions on tax issues (personal and indirect), education and social policies. At the same time, the view has strengthened that the EU, at least to some extent, should have an impact on the regulation of abortion, and that it should co-decide on border protection.

More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "What European Union Do Polish People Want?", April 2017. Fieldwork for national sample: April 2017, N=1075. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.