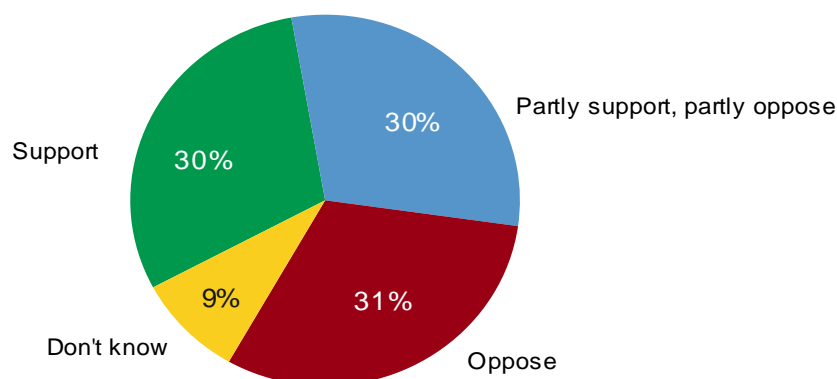


## Opinions about changes in the judiciary

Public assessment of changes in the judicial system introduced by the government of Law and Justice (PiS) in the previous and current term is ambiguous. There are three nearly equal groups among all respondents: supporters of changes (30%), their opponents (31%) and those partly supportive, and partly opposed (30%).

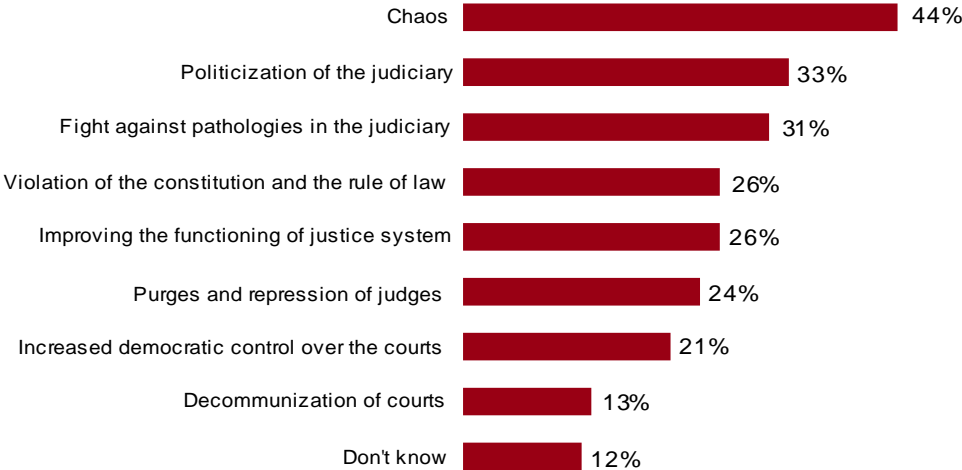
**Do you support the changes in the judiciary introduced by Law and Justice (PiS) governments in the previous and current term of office?**



Commenting on the development of the situation in the judicial system, respondents most often notice chaos (44%). The other terms most often chosen to illustrate the situation contained elements of two opposing narratives: on the one hand, the politicization of the

judiciary was mentioned (33%), on the other hand the fight against pathologies in the judiciary (31%).

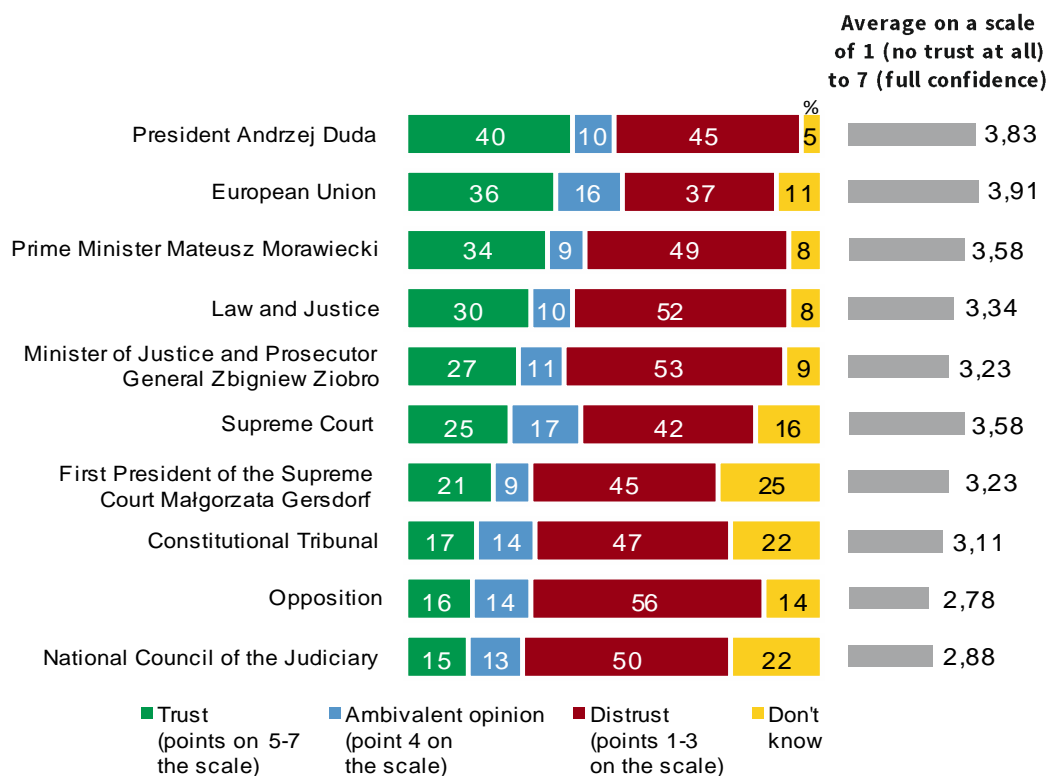
**Which of the following statements best describe changes in the judicial system in Poland?**



Proponents of the changes introduced by successive PiS governments in the previous and current term describe them most often as combating pathologies in the judiciary (56%), improving the functioning of the justice system (49%) and increasing democratic control over the courts (40%). Opponents usually see the politicization of the judiciary (66%), as well as a violation of the constitution and the rule of law (58%), chaos (58%) and repressions of the judicial community (52%). People ambiguously assessing the changes taking place above all see chaos in the justice system (51%), followed by the fight against pathologies in the judiciary (38%).

The severe political conflict over changes in the judiciary has attracted a lot of attention and engaged emotions, making it difficult to identify people or institutions who enjoy universal authority and are considered credible in assessing changes in the judiciary. From among the persons, institutions and communities included in the study, President Andrzej Duda and the institutions of the European Union have relatively the greatest confidence. Given the proportions of declarations of trust and distrust and the average on a scale, Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki and the Supreme Court enjoy a relatively good standing. The National Council of the Judiciary and the opposition are considered the least credible in the context of the dispute over the judiciary.

## Which institutions, communities and people do you trust in the dispute regarding changes in the judiciary?



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Public Opinion on Changes in Judiciary", February 2020. Fieldwork for national sample: February 2019, N=958. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.