

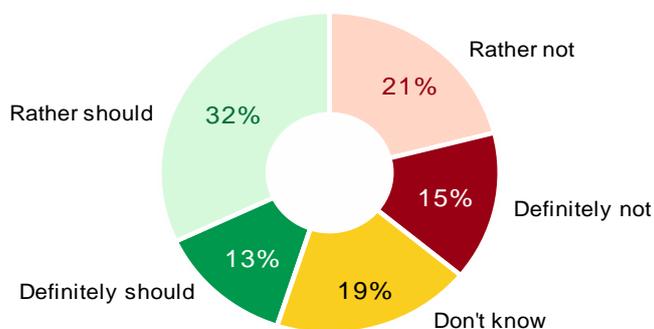
Public opinion on surveillance

Recently, there has been information about the surveillance of public persons by special services using the Pegasus spyware, including the political opponents of the current government.

Three-fourths of respondents (75%) heard about the surveillance of public figures in Poland using the Pegasus system, most often the better educated people who follow what is happening in the country more closely.

Among the respondents who have heard about the surveillance of public figures using the Pegasus system, the prevailing opinion is that Polish secret services should be able to use this type of software in their operational work (45%). More than one in three people who have heard about the use of Pegasus by special services (36%) are against the possibility of using such operational techniques.

Should Polish secret services be able to use such software as Pegasus in their operational work?



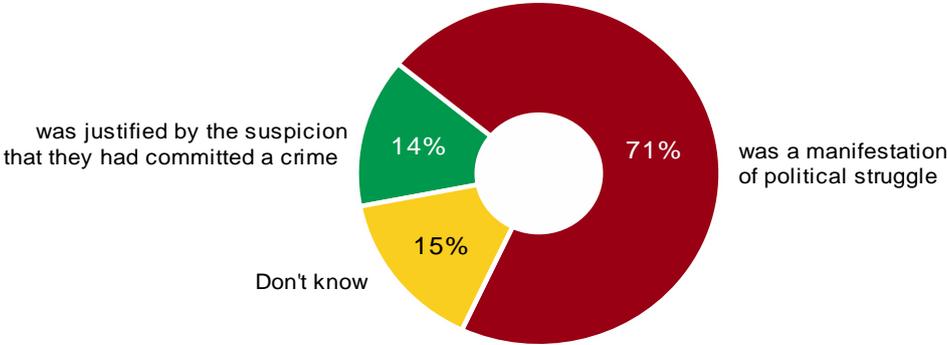
Answers of people who have heard about the use of the Pegasus system for surveillance of public figures.

Opinions on this subject are differentiated primarily by the political orientation and party preferences. The possibility of using such a system as Pegasus in operational work is supported mainly by respondents declaring right-wing political views (62%), while it is advocated much less often those who identify themselves with the left (35%) or describe their views as centrist (41%). In the party electorates, the majority of Law and Justice (PiS) voters (70%) support the use of systems such as Pegasus. Among the supporters of the opposition, the consent to use such programs is much lower. According to the socio-demographic characteristics, the attitude to using such a system as Pegasus is determined primarily by gender. It is much more likely to be supported by men (55% of those who have heard about Pegasus surveillance support its use) than women (36% for, 43% against). Relatively high support for the use of programs such as Pegasus is noted among older people, i.e. those aged 65+ (52%), respondents with higher education (52%) and respondents with at least average income per capita, i.e. PLN 1,500 or above (52%).

The vast majority of people who came across information about the use of Pegasus in Poland believe that using it in surveillance of political opponents was a manifestation of political struggle (71%). Only a relatively small proportion of respondents (14%) believe that the use of such software in relation to these people was justified by the suspicion that they had committed a crime.

The opinion that the Pegasus software was used in political struggle prevails in all socio-demographic categories, as well as all groups distinguished for political views and party preferences. This view is also shared by a large number of Law and Justice voters (42%).

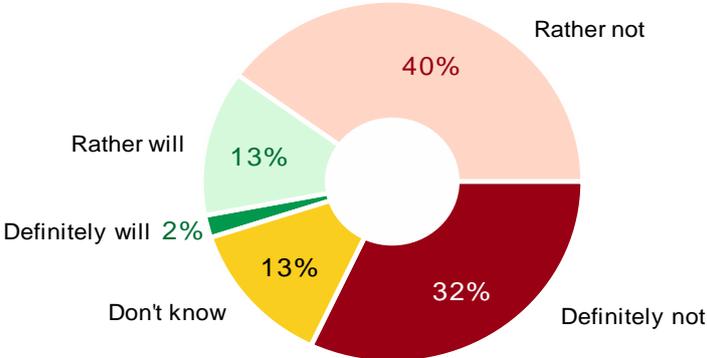
Which opinion is closer to your own view? Do you think that the use of the Pegasus system in surveillance of political opponents:



Answers of people who have heard about the use of the Pegasus system for surveillance of public figures.

Since mid-January, a Special Committee has been operating in the Senate to investigate cases of illegal surveillance. At the same time, the fate of the appointment of a Sejm committee on this matter, which would have investigative powers, is undecided. So far, Poles are sceptical as to whether the use of the Pegasus system by secret services in Poland will be thoroughly explored. Almost three-quarters (72%) of those who have heard about this case do not believe that the matter will be cleared, while only 15% of them count on a thorough examination of the case.

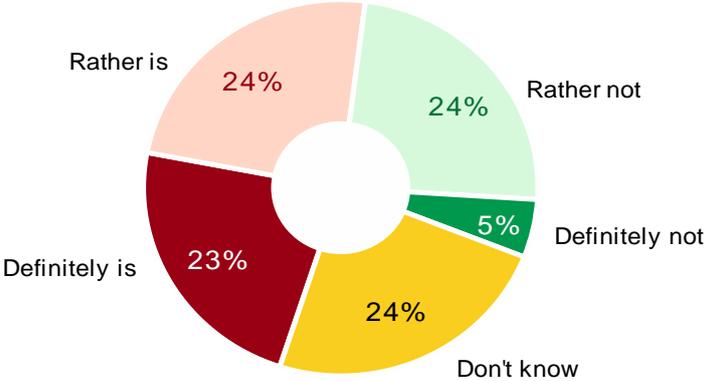
In your opinion, will the use of the Pegasus system by secret services in Poland be thoroughly investigated or not?



Answers of people who have heard about the use of the Pegasus system for surveillance of public figures.

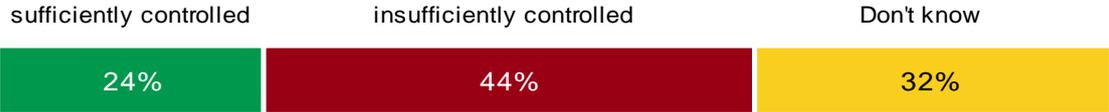
Almost half of all respondents (47%) believe that in Poland there is a problem of abuse by the state (e.g. the police, secret services) of such operational techniques as wiretapping or Internet activity control, while over a quarter (29%) are of the opposite opinion.

Is there a problem in Poland of abusing operational techniques such as wiretapping or Internet activity control by the state (e.g. the police, secret services)?



The prevailing opinion in Polish society is that the use of such operational techniques as wiretapping or Internet activity control in Poland is not sufficiently controlled (44%, vs. 24% who believe that the control is sufficient).

In your opinion, is the use by the state (e.g. the police, special services) of such operational techniques as wiretapping or Internet activity control in Poland:



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Public Opinion on Surveillance", February 2022. Fieldwork for national sample: February 2022, N=1065. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.