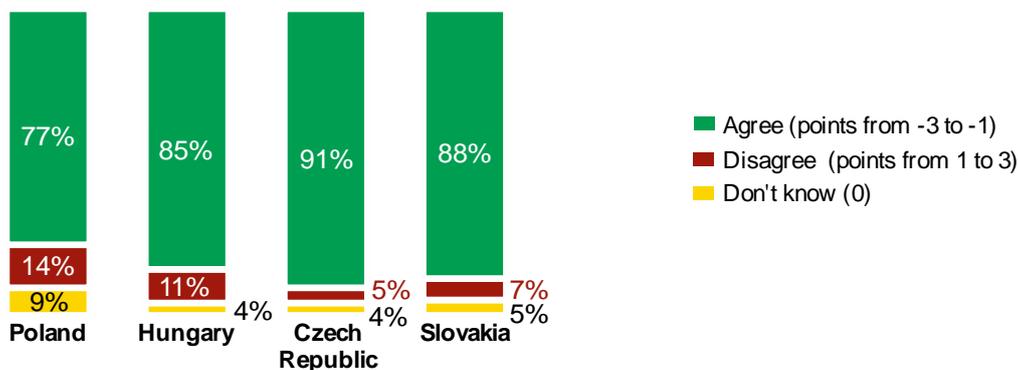


Attitude to immigrants in the Visegrad Groups countries

Respondents from the four countries of the Visegrad Group were asked to express their attitude to different opinions about negative consequences of the presence of a large number of immigrants in their countries. On a scale from -3 to +3 they indicated, to what extent they shared these anxieties. The responses allow for measuring the scope and strength of xenophobic attitudes, understood as fear of migrants.

Do you agree with the following statements?*

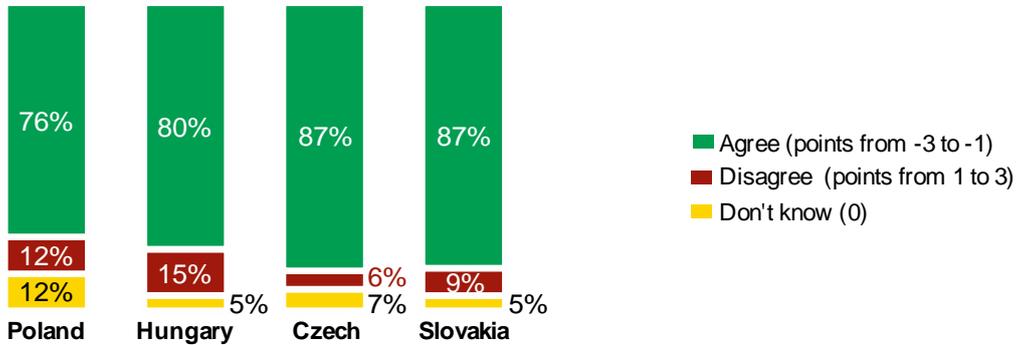
I doubt that that immigrants will put our country's interests first



* -3 strongly agree, -2 agree, -1 moderately agree, 1 moderately disagree, 2 disagree, 3 strongly disagree

Do you agree with the following statements?

I am afraid that in case of war or other political tensions immigrants will be loyal to their country of origin

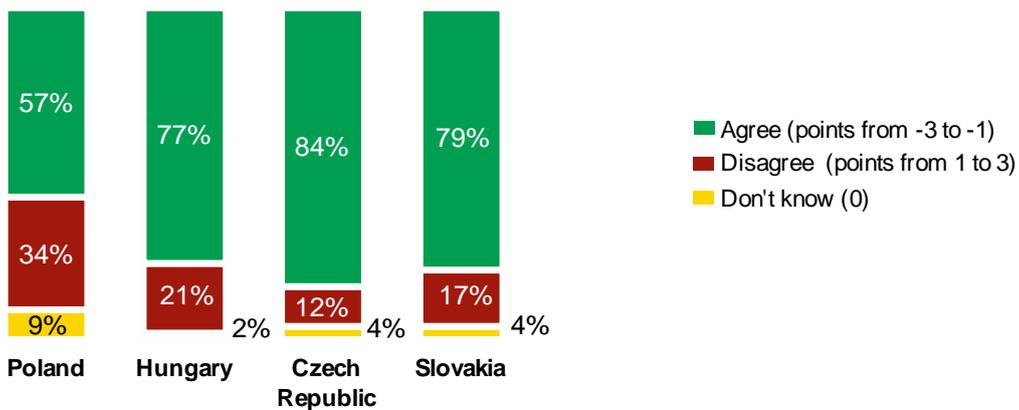


The most common reservations are related to immigrants' attitude to receiving countries. A vast majority of respondents in all four countries doubt that immigrants will prioritise the interests of the receiving country and are afraid that, in case of war or political tensions, they will be loyal to their country of origin.

In Czech Republic, Hungary and Slovakia there are also fairly widespread fears that the increase in immigration will lead to deterioration of the way of life and that immigrants will spread atypical diseases. In Poland such concerns are less frequent, but are nevertheless shared by a large proportion of the society.

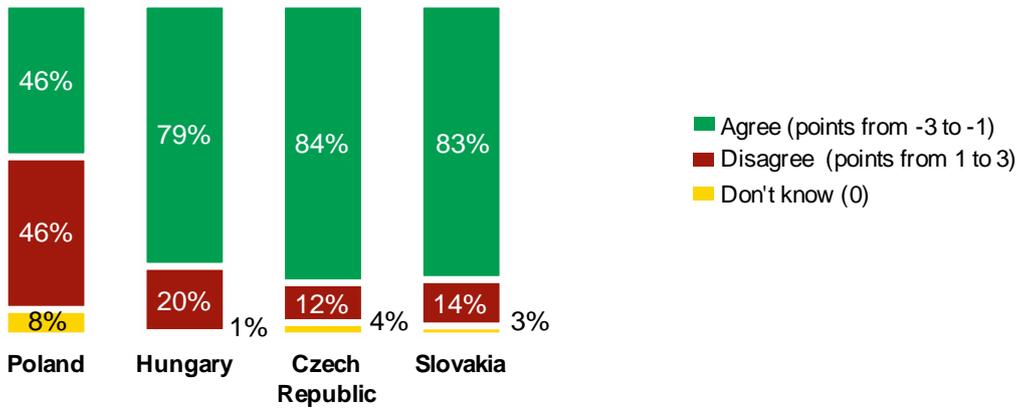
Do you agree with the following statements?

I am concerned that immigration will cause our way of life to deteriorate



Do you agree with the following statements?

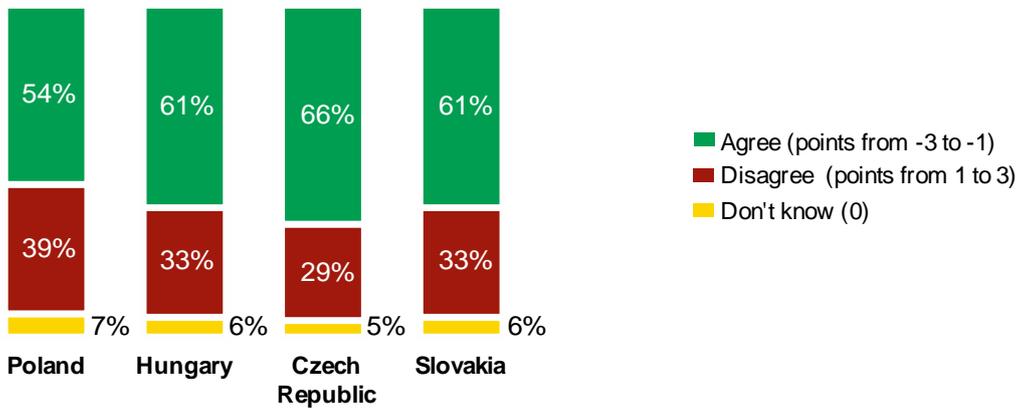
I fear that migrants may spread atypical diseases



The smallest differences between the Visegrad Group countries are in the scale of concerns about the situation on the labour market. In all four countries the majority of citizens share the opinion that immigrants take jobs away from the native population. The fears are least pronounced in Poland.

Do you agree with the following statements?

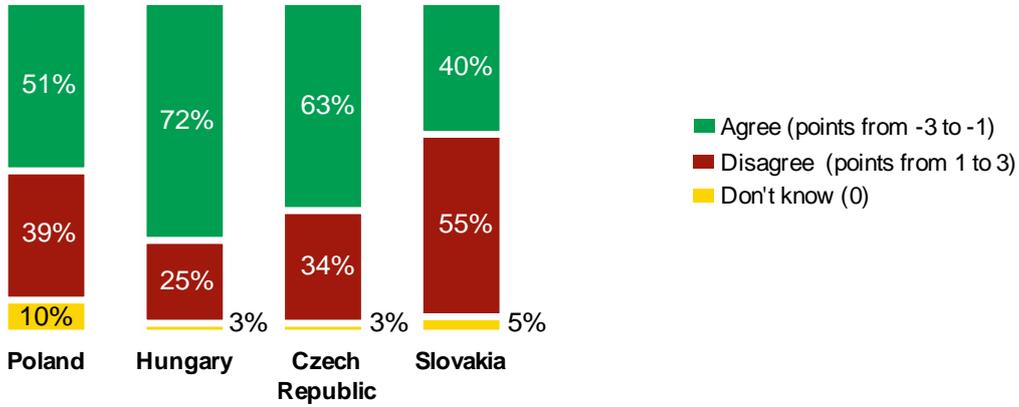
Immigrants take away jobs from the people who live here



The biggest differences between the societies concern the control over immigration. It is the only issue in which Slovaks are the least concerned. Hungarians, on the other hand, more often than others are afraid that immigration has slipped out of control. It is understandable in the context of recent events, when Hungary became a transit country for the masses of migrants and refugees heading for Germany.

Do you agree with the following statements?

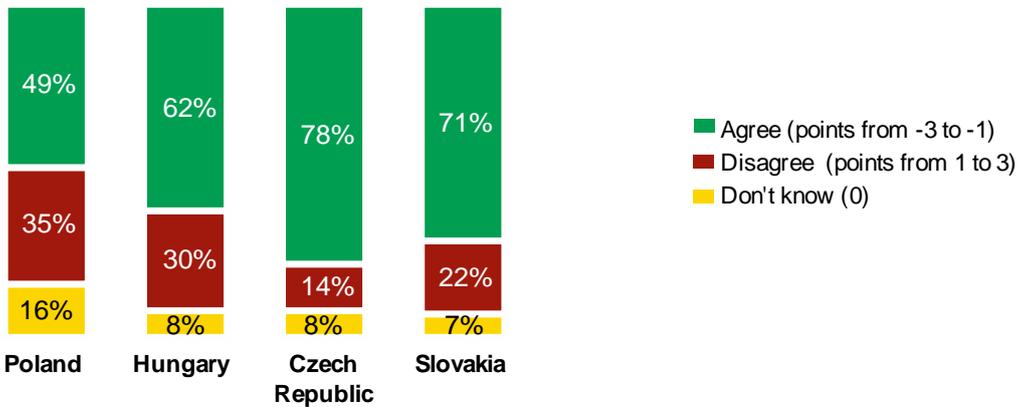
Immigration to our country is out of control



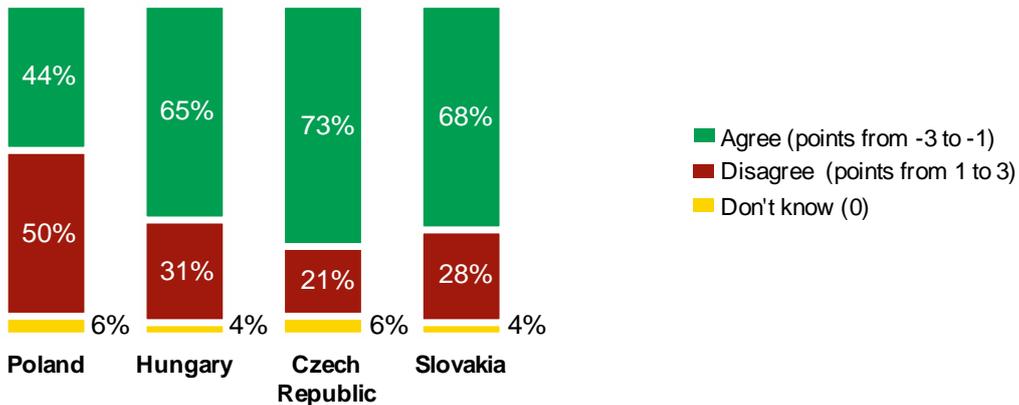
In Hungary, Czech Republic and Slovakia there are widespread concerns about the increase in criminality and threat to culture due to immigration. In Poland slightly less than half of respondents share the fear of criminality or threat to culture due to the influx of immigrants.

Do you agree with the following statements?

Immigrants contribute to the increase in criminality



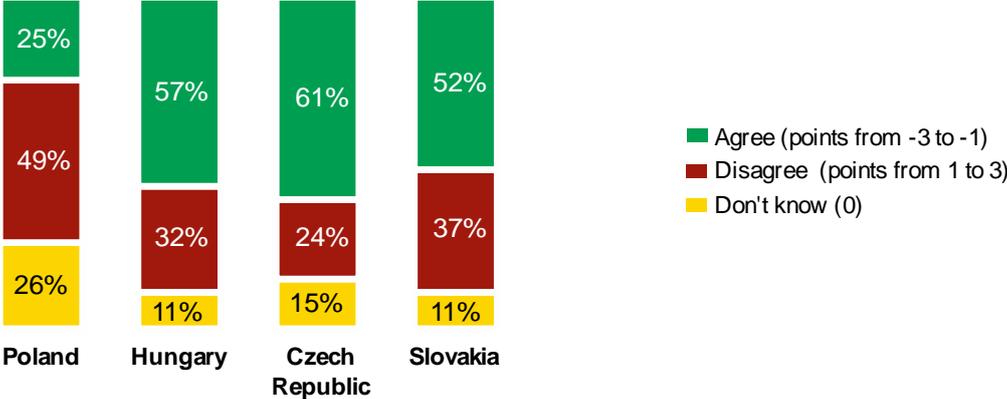
I am afraid that we will lose our culture due to increased immigration



There is less fear about personal contact with immigrants. In Poland a quarter of respondents are uncomfortable, in the other countries more than a half.

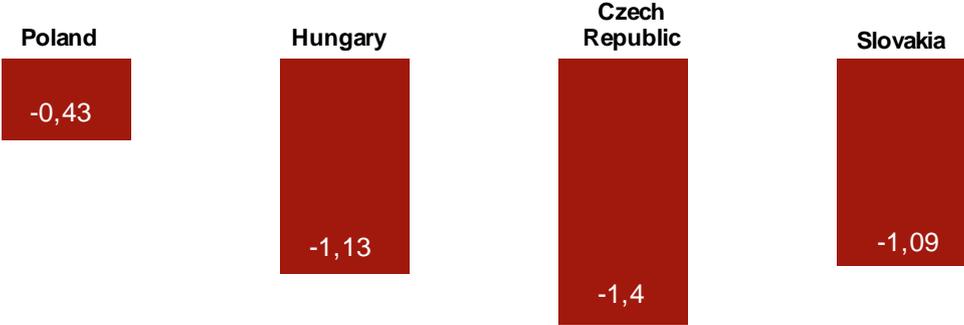
Do you agree with the following statements?

I am uncomfortable in contacts with immigrants



The composite index of anxiety about consequences of immigration (mean value of all answers on the scale from -3 to +3) shows that the concern is highest in Czech Republic (-1.40), slightly lower in Hungary (-1.13) and Slovakia (-1.09), and lowest in Poland (-0.43).

Index of anxiety about consequences of immigration



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Attitudes towards Immigrants in Visegrad Group Countries", December 2015. Fieldwork for national sample in Poland: October 2015, N=1114; Czech Republic (CVVM Sociological Institute): October 2015, N=1045; Hungary (TARKI): October 2015, N=1003; Slovakia (FOCUS): October 2015, N=1032. The samples are representative for adult populations.