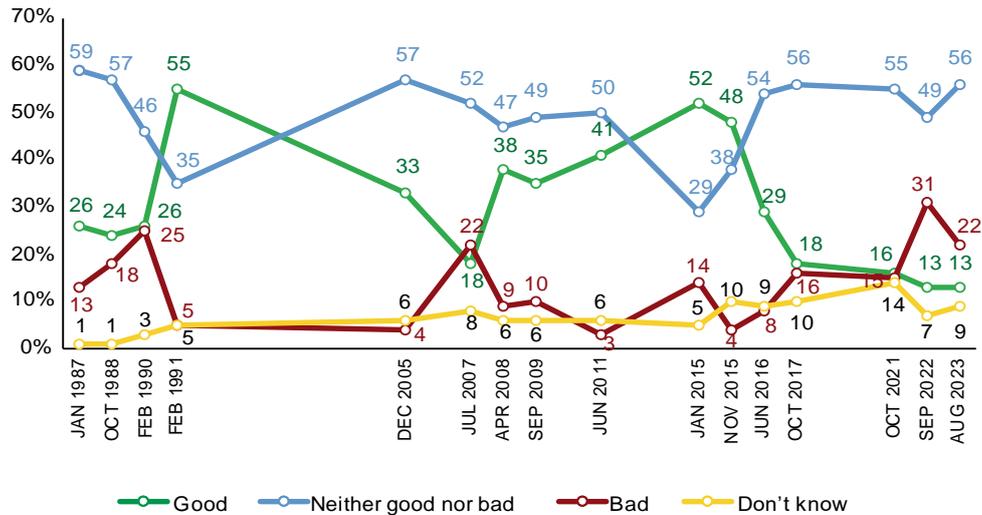


Views on Polish-German relations and reparation claims

The majority of Poles (56%) perceive current Polish-German relations as "neither good nor bad". Just over a fifth (22%) think they are bad, while only 13% describe them as good. Compared to September last year, when, in the opinion of respondents, Polish-German relations were the worst in the history of CBOS research on this topic, i.e. since 1987, we have noted improvement. There was a significant decrease in the number of people who said they were bad (a drop by 9 percentage points), and an increase in those who considered them "neither good nor bad" (a rise by 7 points). Public opinions about relations between Poland and Germany are very dynamic. In CBOS research, they were rated best in February 1991, shortly after the signing of the Polish-German border treaty. Positive assessments also dominated at the end of the Civic Platform-Polish People's Party (PO-PSL) coalition government in 2015. After PiS took power at the end of 2015, the perception of relations between Poland and Germany deteriorated quite quickly and visibly.

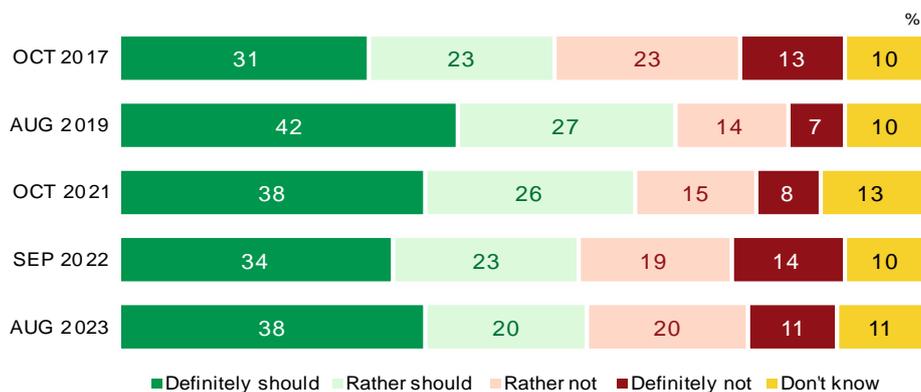
How do you assess current Polish-German relations?



During World War II, Poland suffered huge human and material losses - in a report prepared a year ago by a parliamentary team and experts from various fields, they were estimated at over PLN 6 trillion. The Polish government began efforts to obtain reparations resulting from German aggression and occupation in 1939-1945. However, in the opinion of the German government, the issue of reparations and compensation for war losses is closed.

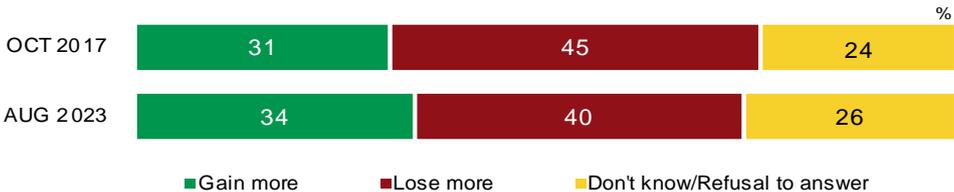
Poland's announcements to demand war reparations were positively received by respondents from the very beginning. The most supporters of reparation claims were recorded in July 2019 (69%). Currently, a total of 58% of respondents support applying to Germany for compensation. In total, less than one-third of respondents (31%) are opposed to this. Compared to September last year, support for making reparation claims against Germany has not changed significantly.

In your opinion, should Poland demand reparations (compensation) from Germany for losses suffered during World War II?



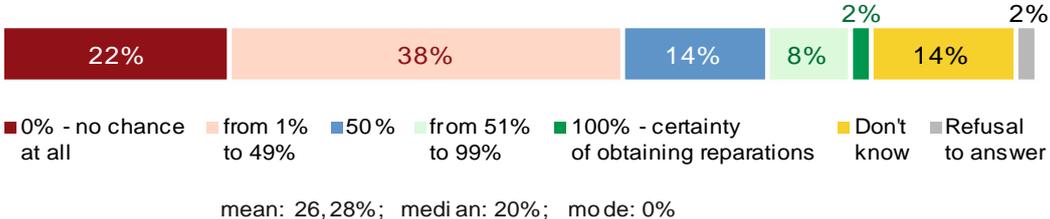
Despite significant public support for applying for war reparations from Germany, a large number of respondents fear that by raising this issue, Poland may lose more than it gains. Nevertheless, over the almost six years between both studies, the group of people convinced that such actions may bring more losses than benefits to Poland has decreased (down from 45% to 40%), while the group of people convinced that Poland can gain more from it has slightly increased (rise from 31% to 34%).

In your opinion, can Poland gain or lose more by demanding reparations (compensation) from Germany for the losses suffered during World War II?



The chances of obtaining reparations from Germany are generally assessed quite low - the arithmetic mean of indications on a scale from 0% (no chance at all) to 100% (certainty of obtaining reparations) was only 26.28%, and the median of the distribution was 20%. More than one-fifth (22%) said that there was no chance of this happening, and only 2% of respondents were 100% sure that Poland's efforts to obtain reparations from Germany would result in them being obtained.

Please indicate the chances of obtaining reparations from Germany as a percentage, assuming that "0" means no chance of obtaining reparations at all and "100" means certainty of obtaining them



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "About Polish-German Relations and Poland", September 2023. Fieldwork dates for the sample: August 2023, N=1024, mixed-mode interviews. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.