

ATTITUDES TO INTEGRATION WITH THE EUROPEAN UNION

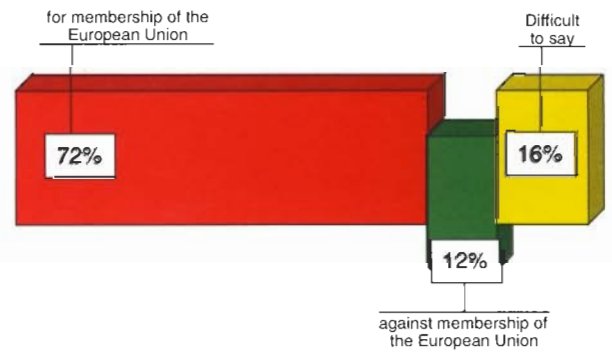
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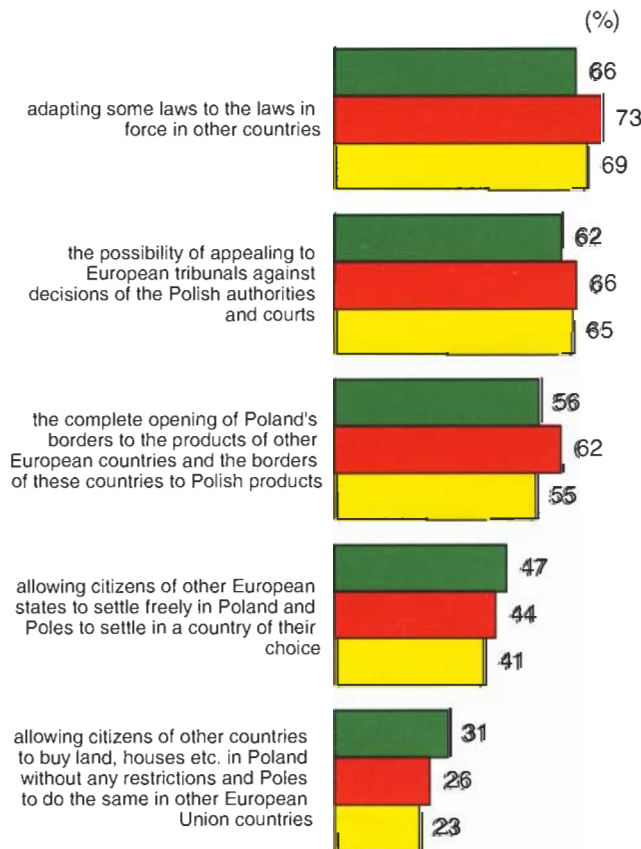
There continues to be much support for Poland joining the European Union. However compared with last year the number of people declaring that they would vote "yes" in a possible referendum on the issue fell, while at the same time the number of opponents of Poland's integration with the EU rose.

The supporters of Polish membership of the EU are first of all people of a high socio-professional status: management staff and the intelligentsia, the well-educated respondents. An interest in politics is conducive to support for our country joining the EU - the percentage of supporters of integration exceeds 80% among respondents declaring a major interest in politics.

IF THERE WAS A REFERENDUM IN POLAND ON THE QUESTION OF POLAND JOINING THE EUROPEAN UNION, WOULD YOU VOTE:



DO YOU THINK POLAND SHOULD JOIN THE EUROPEAN UNION OR NOT, IF THAT WERE TO MEAN: (PERCENTAGE OF AFFIRMATIVE ANSWERS)



Farmers above all would vote no in a possible referendum on entering the EU - this group also shows the biggest drop in support for EU entry in the last year.

In the period between May 1996 and March 1997 a small decrease in the acceptance of the legal principles in force in the European Union area also took place. Above all the support for the liberalisation of trade within this organisation decreased. It is also noticeable that the lowest ever approval for purchase of land and property without restrictions was recorded. The biggest acceptance concerned as before the adaptation of some laws to the legislation in force in EU countries and the possibility of appealing against the decisions of Polish authorities and courts to European tribunals.

Source: CBOS bulletin "Attitudes to integration with the European Union", March '97.

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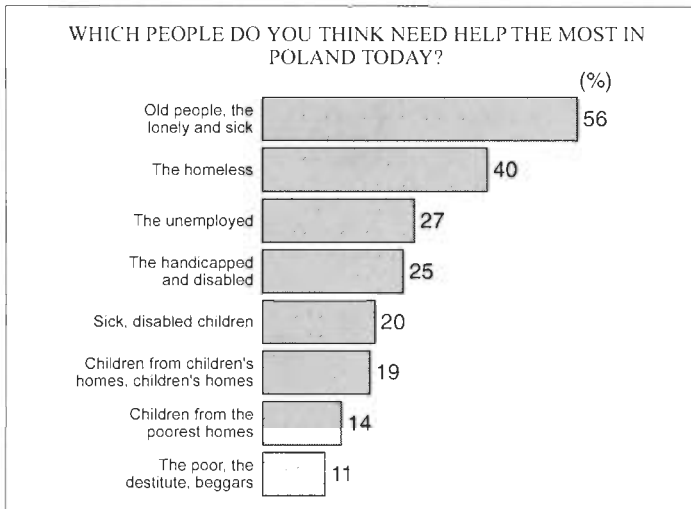
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POLES' CHARITY ACTIVITIES

The costs of the transformation of the system include among other things the ranks of claimants for social welfare, people who are not doing so well in the new conditions, and those whom the social welfare and insurance system either fails to cover or does not ensure they receive enough to live on. Poles consider the old, the lonely, the sick, the homeless, the unemployed, the disabled and children who are sick, disabled and those living in children's homes as the people most in need of help.

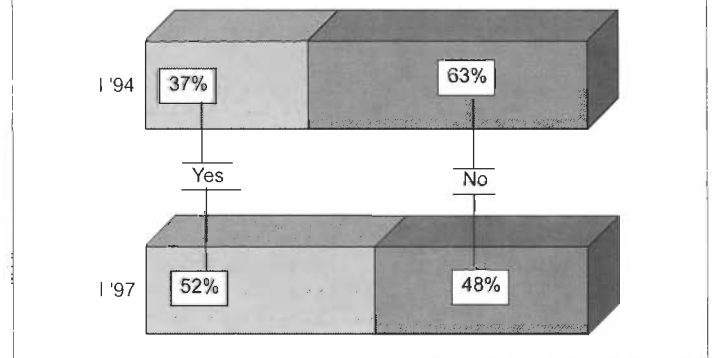
The preferences of respondents concerning charity aid seem to be based on the criteria of deserved and undeserved poverty and independence in solving life-problems. They are most moved by the fate of children, who are not to blame for their difficult situation. They also have a lot of understanding for old people and the disabled, who in comparison with children however seem less defenceless. In connection with this the desire to help is addressed most often to sick and disabled children, although the old and lonely are mentioned more often as needing help. Respondents show much less sensitivity towards drug addicts and former prisoners who, despite being deprived of welfare security, do not arouse such pity since to a large degree "they have only themselves to blame".



A clear majority of Poles think that the public authorities, above all the state authorities, should take care of the needy. In this context the helpful role of the local authorities is less often mentioned, but hopes in them are anyway more common than expectations of any non-public institution. Among the latter institutions the Church and Church organisations and social foundations and associations are most often indicated as organisers of aid.

The most popular form of good works for Poles is the donation of money. Somewhat fewer people would support the needy by giving them some of their things, and the lowest number would give of their time and work. The readiness to give money rises together with the rise in the material standard of living.

HAVE YOU GIVEN ANY MONEY RECENTLY TO ANY GOOD CAUSES?

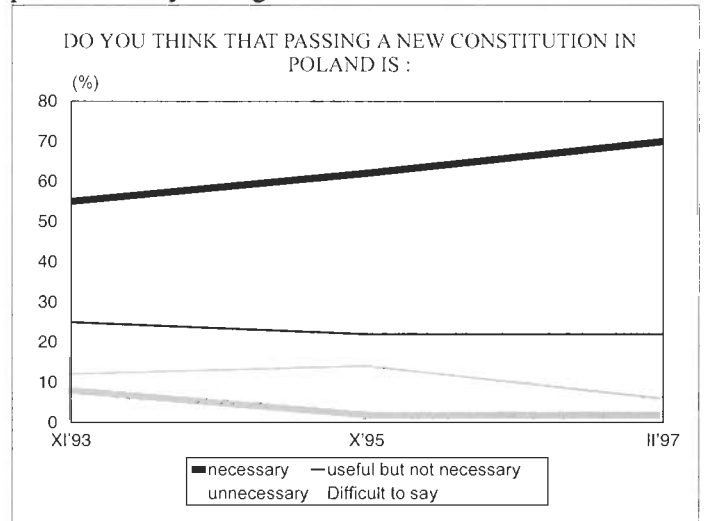


Over half the respondents (52%) say that they have given money to good causes recently. They state that this help was mainly given to needy children.

Source: CBOS bulletin "Poles' charity activities", March '97.

POLES ON THE CONSTITUTION AND THE REFERENDUM TO APPROVE IT

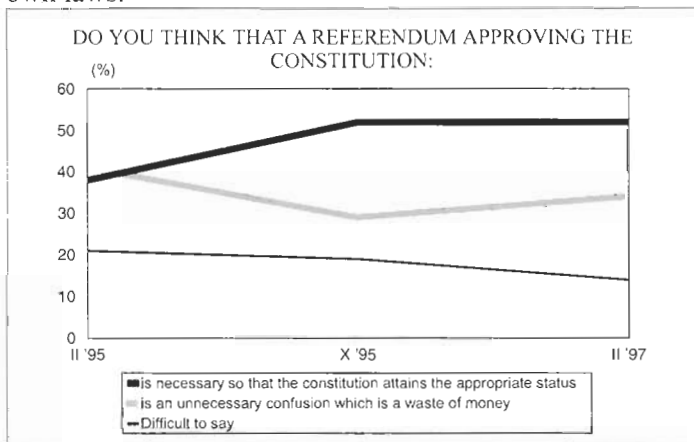
Poland is one of the last countries emerging from "real socialism" in which a new constitution has not yet been passed. Law and order in the country continues to be regulated by some of the articles of the 1952 constitution, those not superseded by the Small (Interim) Constitution passed a few years ago.



It is becoming more and more obvious to people that a new constitution is needed - 70% of respondents are of this opinion at present (62% in 1995). A big majority of those polled (79%) also think that no state can function properly without a constitution.

The current expectations concerning the constitution are not especially excessive or unrealistic. Two years ago the biggest hopes involved an improvement in the observation of laws in Poland: more than half the respondents expected that after the constitution

was passed civil rights would be better protected. Today this factor has great significance for a similar percentage of respondents although the dimension of the prestige of the new constitution turns out to be no less important. Over half the respondents think that after it is passed our significance on the international arena will increase. They quite sceptically assess the chances of the passing of the constitution increasing the influence of citizens on questions of national importance - somewhat more than one in three of those polled expects this. Just as two years ago the greatest doubts concerned the significance of the new constitution for the functioning of the economy. The increase in number of those sceptical on this count (from 37% in 1993 to 49% today) confirms the argument that the Polish economy is more and more freeing itself from the influence of politics and it is equally becoming obvious to non-experts that it is governing itself by its own laws.

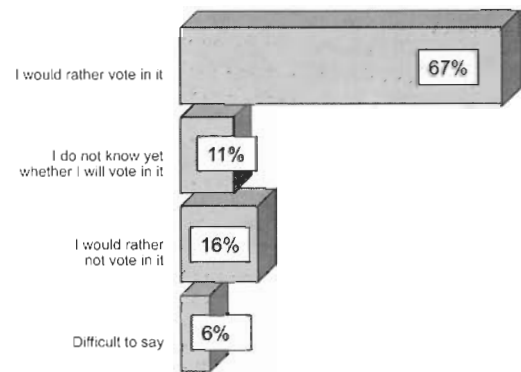


The majority of respondents (61%) favour the current Sejm passing the constitution despite the fact that part of the electorate is not represented there. The electorates of the SLD and UP express the most support for the constitutional rights of the present parliament. The sympathisers of the PSL and UW also opt for this solution as do people who are undecided or who do not intend to vote. In the case of the AWS opinions on the question are divided although somewhat more people tend to accept the constitutional rights of the present parliament. The electorate of ROP was definitely opposed to the constitution being passed by parliament.

The present state of knowledge on the subject of both constitution drafts is very poor - it is close to complete ignorance. The parliamentary draft is somewhat better known than the civic draft. In the public's consciousness the differences between both drafts have the character of an ideological stereotype - Poles are convinced that the differences mainly concern the attitudes to abortion, the reference to God and natural law and the relationship between Church and State.

Over half those polled (52%) think that the referendum approving the completed constitution draft is necessary so that it can achieve the appropriate status. In addition the majority of respondents (60%) say that the constitutional referendum will be valid if at least half the people entitled to vote take part in it.

WOULD YOU VOTE IN THE REFERENDUM IF IT WAS BASED ON THE ACCEPTANCE OR REJECTION OF THE DRAFT CONSTITUTION PRESENTED BY THE SEJM AND SENATE?



Two thirds of those polled confirm they will vote in the referendum in which people will vote for or against the parliamentary draft. People who are active in politics far more often declare their intention of voting in the referendum, those of left-wing sympathies somewhat more than right-wingers. A greater knowledge of the text of the draft which will be the object of voting tends to go together with the intention of participating in the referendum.

Source: CBOS bulletin "Poles on the constitution and the referendum to approve it". March '97.

ON LOVE AND LOVERS

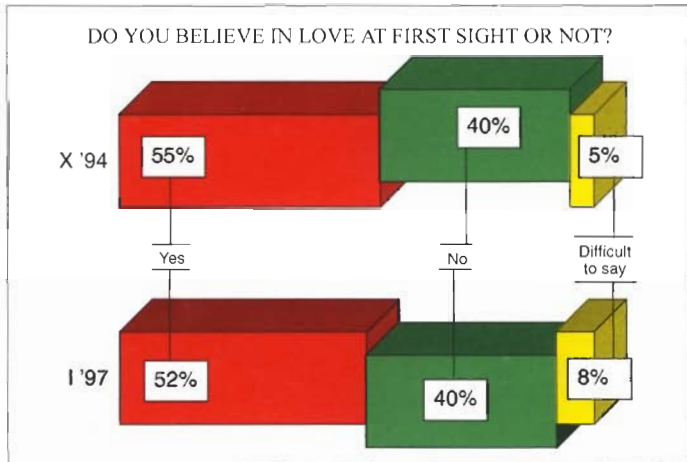
Real love is neither an abstraction for Poles nor a sublime spiritual concept. In the replies of those polled love appears mainly as a feature in a successful relationship between two people. Both Polish women and men most often define real love in the same way as a good marriage could be defined. The most important features of real love concern mutual relations between two people. According to the majority of those polled real love is first of all the ability to understand one another, tolerance and acceptance (24%) then fidelity, loyalty and trust (22%) and mutual respect (19%).

A significant percentage of the respondents (11%) characterised real love referring almost directly to descriptions connected with matrimonial love and the family - identifying it as a shared life, community of interests and preferences, being together "for better or worse". Respondents stressed the exceptional nature of love in their replies, speaking of it as the greatest value in life, the emotion that gives it meaning.

Over half of those polled are convinced that love at first sight exists. It is interesting that the youngest maintain the greatest scepticism in this area, especially school students and students - more than half of them do not believe in love at first sight.

Despite defining real love mainly in the category of permanence, almost half the people in the survey do not believe that such love occurs in life only once.

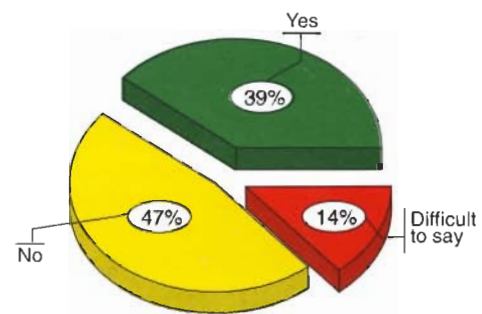
Women believe in emotional monogamy more than men. Old age goes with this view as does a lower level of education and a lower socio-professional status. The younger we are, the better educated, the better off, the more often do we not believe that there can be only one real love.



The respondents are divided on the question of whether real love must involve sex. Almost half the respondents (45%) express the view that real love cannot do without sex and almost the same number (44%) believe in Platonic love, i.e. "pure" asexual feelings. Women more often believe in Platonic love than men. Most young people also share this view as do the oldest respondents and the deeply religious. Real love without physical fulfilment cannot be imagined most often by well educated people, and above all by management staff and the intelligentsia.

The youngest respondents were the most susceptible to falling in love. Nearly two thirds of the people in this group claim that they have already experienced a great love, and one in two declare that they are in love at present. The oldest respondents, more mature emotionally, clearly differentiate between great passion and less intensive feelings. They are more often ready to admit that they feel love for someone (76%), but at the same time a significant proportion of them (42%) say that they have never experienced a great love.

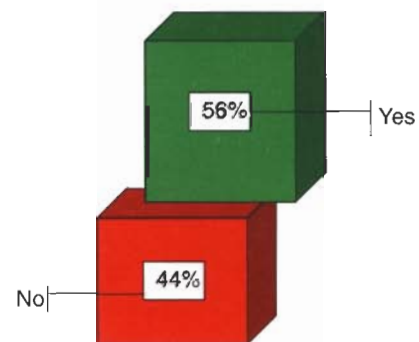
DO YOU BELIEVE THAT REAL LOVE HAPPENS ONLY ONCE IN LIFE OR NOT?



In our culture the traditional sign of love has been giving the beloved woman flowers. From men's declarations it turns out that they remember to show such evidence of feeling but they do not abuse it. Over one third of them say that last year they offered flowers to a beloved woman completely spontaneously and without this being a special occasion.

Giving flowers is connected above all with the stage of adoration, of trying to win the favours of the fair sex, and it is much more rarely an expression of feeling in lasting relationships, especially those lasting many years. If among married men one in three recently (not longer go than last year) gave his heart's desire flowers, then among single men the percentage is 50%.

DO YOU FEEL YOU ARE IN LOVE AT PRESENT?



Source: CBOS bulletin "On love and lovers". March '97.

In addition to the bulletins referred to above, the following have been published recently:

- Knowledge of the constitution drafts
- Poles on the constitution and the referendum to approve it
- Attitudes to the government. The government and the election campaign
- Should Andrzej Milczanowski stand before the Tribunal of State?
- Views on public institutions
- The rankings of television programmes and stations according to violent scenes shown
- The electorates of political parties and the possibility of "transfer" between them
- The problem of abortion in state hospitals

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