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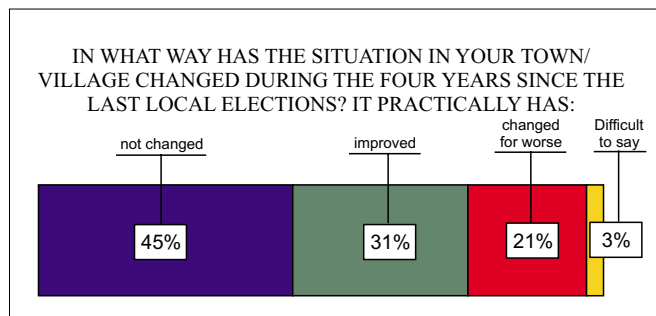
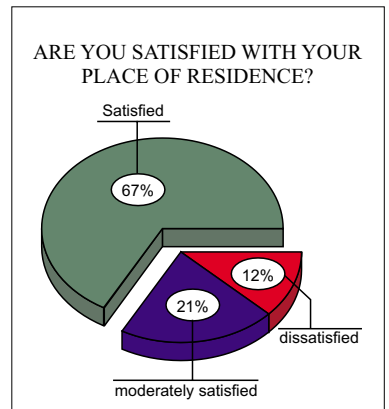
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MY TOWN

The Poles are generally satisfied with their place of residence. Only one in eight respondents is dissatisfied, one in five describes his/her satisfaction as "moderate" and two-thirds of the respondents are fully satisfied with the town or village they live in.

The present four-year term of the local authorities will end this year. During these four years, one-third of the respondents have noticed changes for better in their place of residence and one-fifth changes for worse.

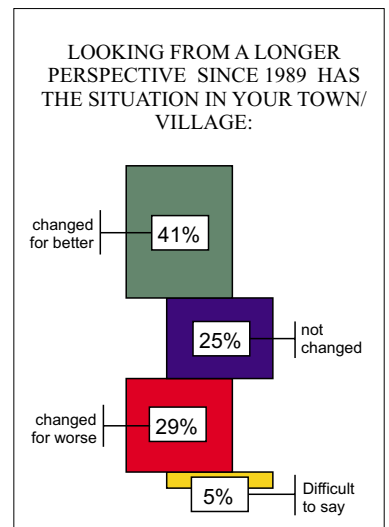
From the perspective of the last 13 years (i.e. since the beginning of the transformation in 1989), most respondents notice positive changes, although a



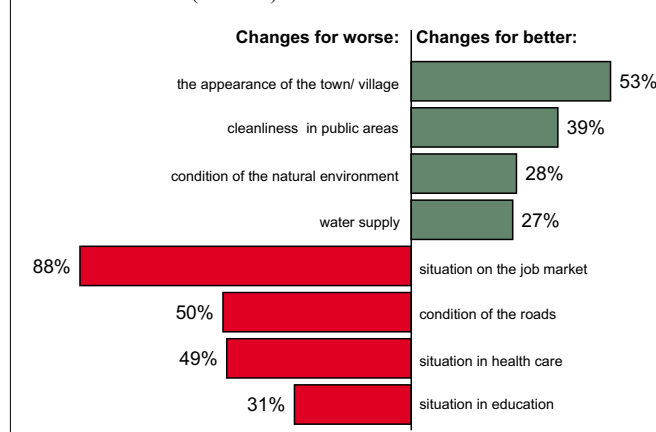
Looking from the perspective of the last four years, the residents of villages and big cities notice positive changes in their place of residence the most frequently. Such changes are noticed the least frequently by the residents of small towns with a population of up to 20 thousand. However, in a longer perspective of transformation period, positive changes are noticed by the residents of big cities the most frequently. Such changes are noticed less frequently in villages and small towns.

The most frequently noticed changes for better in the last four years are related to the general appearance of towns and villages, their cleanliness, the condition of the natural environment and the water supply. On the other

significant proportion points out some changes for worse as well. Only one in four respondents claims that nothing has really changed in his/ her town or village.

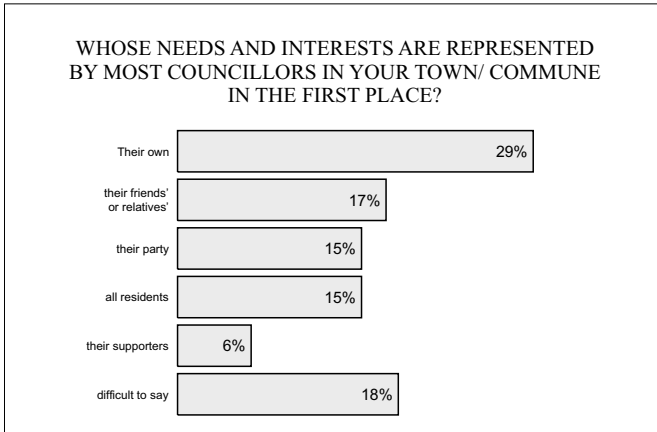


DURING THE FOUR YEARS SINCE THE LAST LOCAL ELECTIONS, WHAT CHANGES HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN YOUR COMMUNE (GMINA) OR TOWN/ VILLAGE:



hand, the most frequently noticed changes for worse concern the situation on the job market, in the health care and education.

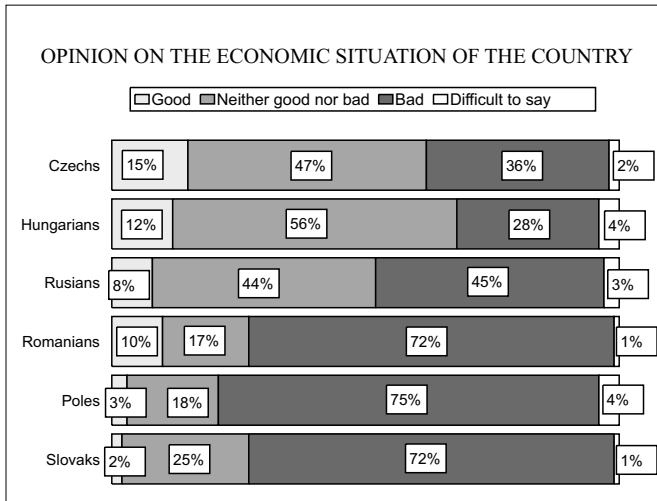
Near the end of their term, the present local authorities are criticised. According to the majority opinion, they are bad at financial management (41% against 29% of positive opinions) and most councillors represent their own interests and the interests of their friends or relatives.



More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report "My town/ village opinions before the local elections", February 2002 (in Polish). A random address sample of the general population of Poland. N=973.

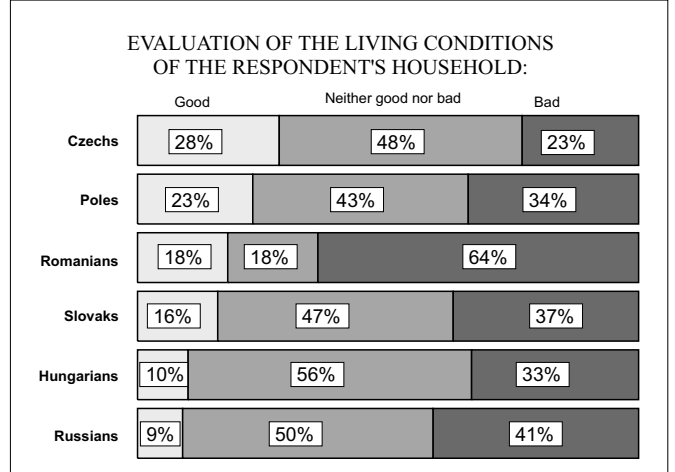
ECONOMIC SITUATION AND LIVING CONDITIONS IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE

The respondents' opinions on the condition of the economy are varied. Three quarters of the respondents in Poland, Romania and Slovakia evaluate the economic situation of their country as bad. The same opinion is expressed by less than half of the Russians, approximately two-fifths of the Czechs and only slightly more than a quarter of the Hungarians.

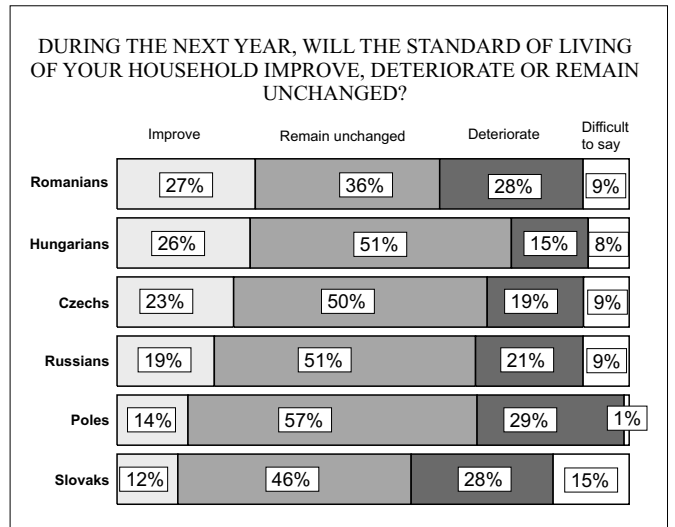


As compared to previous years, the evaluations of the economy in the Czech Republic and Hungary have visibly improved, while in Poland they have deteriorated.

The evaluations of the material conditions of living are the best in the Czech Republic. The Poles evaluate their living conditions somewhat less positively. The Hungarians, Slovaks and Russians are even more critical and the Romanians have by far the worst opinion on their standard of living.



The hopes for the future look differently. The biggest proportion of respondents hoping for an improvement of the living conditions of their households during the next year can be found in Romania and Hungary, although in Romania the proportion of optimists is the same as the proportion of pessimists, while in Hungary optimists clearly outnumber pessimists. The level of optimism is slightly lower in the Czech Republic and in Russia and the lowest in Poland and Slovakia.



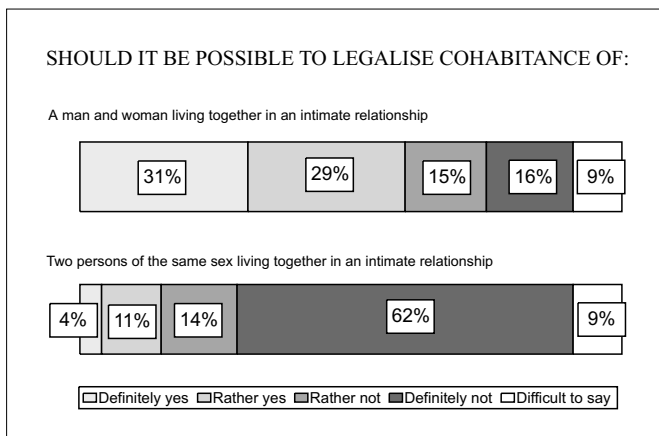
As compared with the previous year, the hopes for improvement of the respondents' standard of living have risen visibly in the Czech Republic and Hungary, where the percentages of those who expect such improvement increased by 9 and 5 percentage points, respectively, and the percentages of those who expect a deterioration decreased (by 8 and 11 points, respectively). In Poland, the number of optimists decreased by 2% and the number of pessimists increased by an equal proportion.

More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report "Opinions on the economic situation and the material conditions of living in selected countries of Central and Eastern Europe", March 2002 (in Polish). Survey co-ordinated by CEORG, with the participation of: CBOS (Poland), CVVM (Czech Republic), TARKI (Hungary), FOCUS (Slovakia), IMAS (Romania), WCIOM (Russia).

LEGAL RECOGNITION OF COHABITANCE

A draft law recognising cohabitance is being prepared in Poland. Under this law, partners in a relationship would have some (although not all) rights of married persons. It would apply to both heterosexual and homosexual relationships.

Most Poles accept the right of a man and woman to legalise such a relationship, in which they would have e.g. some economic rights associated with marriage, but could not adopt children. Approximately one-third of the respondents are against legal recognition of heterosexual cohabitance. At the same time, legal recognition of homosexual relationships meets with strong opposition. Three quarters of the respondents are against it and only 15% find it acceptable.



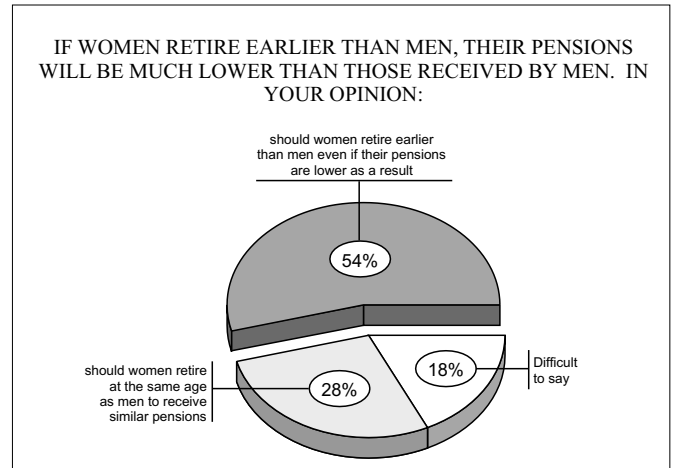
Young people accept recognition of homosexual relationships much more frequently a quarter of the respondents aged below 35 accept it as compared to 13% in the 35-44 age group and approximately one-tenth of older respondents.

More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report "Heterosexual and homosexual relationships", March 2002 (in Polish). A random address sample of the general population of Poland. N=1065.

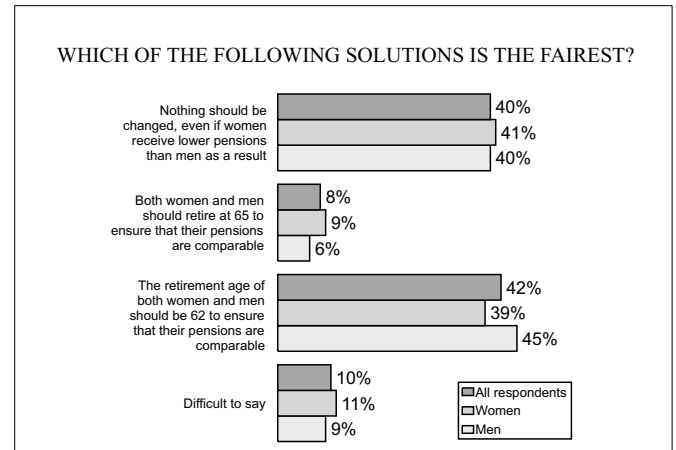
RETIREMENT AGE OF MEN AND WOMEN

After the reform of the pension system in Poland, the amount of retirement pension is closely related to the number of years worked. Women, who retire earlier (the retirement age of women is 60 years; the retirement age of men is 65), will receive lower pensions. Nevertheless, the number of respondents who believe that women should retire earlier is almost twice as big as the number of those who share the opposite opinion.

There is no difference in this matter between the views of female and male respondents in general. A difference can be noticed in the youngest age group only (up to 24 years of age). Among women in this age group, the supporters of earlier retirement of women outnumber those who opt for an equal retirement age of men and women only slightly (48% and 42%, respectively).



Apart from the youngest women, the largest proportion of supporters of equal retirement age and, in consequence, comparable pensions for both sexes, can be found among both male and female respondents with higher education (41% of women and 45% of men with higher education).



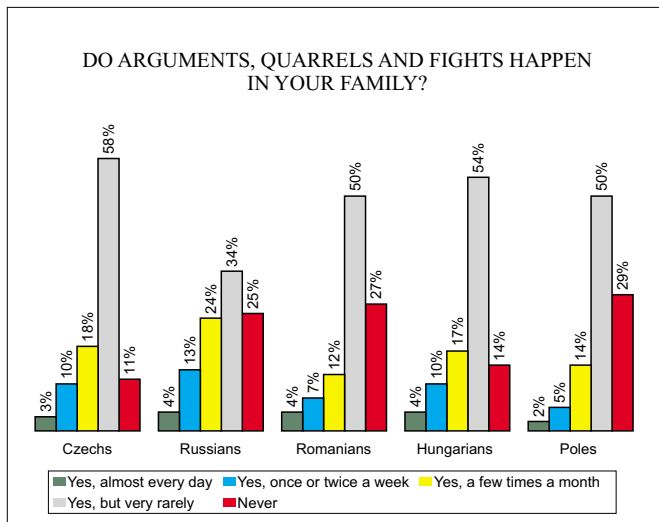
As far as the equalisation of the retirement age of Polish men and women is concerned, two options are being considered: increasing the retirement age of women to 65 years (the current retirement age of men) or the introduction of the same retirement age of 62 years for both genders. The respondents' opinions are divided between the acceptance of the current regulation (60 years for women, 65 years for men) and the introduction of the same retirement age for both sexes at 62 years. The idea of increasing the retirement age of women to 65 years is supported by very few respondents. The differences between the opinions of women and men are negligible.

In the group of women aged below 45, the equalisation of the retirement age of men and women (which for women always means increasing it) is accepted more frequently than in the other age groups. On the other hand, women aged above 44 opt for maintaining the *status quo* more frequently than younger women, even if it means lower pensions.

More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report "Opinions on the retirement age of women and men", March 2002 (in Polish). A random address sample of the general population of Poland. N=1065.

DOMESTIC CONFLICTS AND VIOLENCE IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE

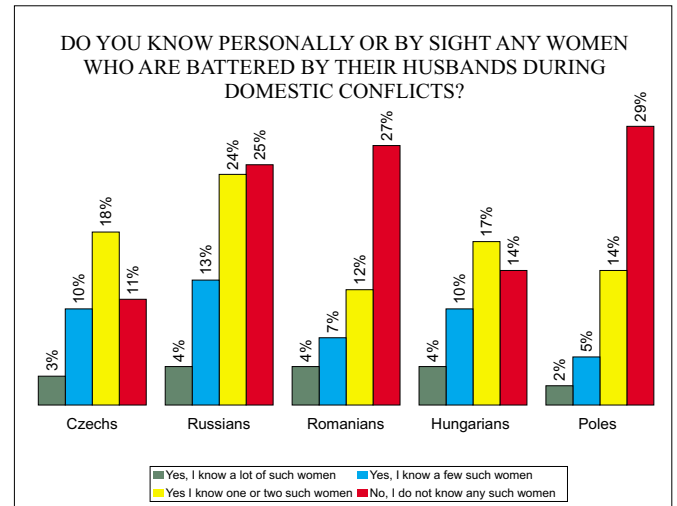
Arguments and conflicts in the family are a particularly sensitive issue, so it is difficult to study them in a public opinion survey. Therefore, any conclusions drawn from such surveys must be treated with caution, especially as far as the scale of the problem is concerned.



A definite majority of the respondents in the five countries participating in the survey admit that arguments and fights happen in their families. However, with the exception of the Russians, they all declare that such domestic conflicts are rare in their families.

The respondents were also asked about domestic violence against women observed around them. The scale

of domestic violence noticed by the respondents is the biggest in Russia. Over half of the Russian respondents know at least one woman who is beaten by her husband. One-third of those respondents know at least a few battered women.



The question about physical violence in the respondent's marriage was asked in Poland and Romania only. One in ten respondents in Poland (10% of all respondents, 12% of women and 9% of men) and one in eight in Romania (13% of all respondents) declared having been hit by his/her spouse in a fight at least once (only the respondents living in permanent relationships were asked this question).

More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report "Domestic conflicts and violence in selected countries of Central and Eastern Europe". Survey co-ordinated by CEORG, with the participation of: CBOS (Poland), CVVM (the Czech Republic), TARKI (Hungary), IMAS (Romania), WCIOM (Russia).

In addition to the reports referred to above, the following have been published recently (in Polish):

- ◆ What are we like? The trust of Poles in people and public institutions and readiness to co-operate
- ◆ Opinions on the mission of Polish troops in Afghanistan
- ◆ Domestic violence facts and opinions
- ◆ Evaluations of the activity of the government and parliamentary opposition in selected countries of Central and Eastern Europe
- ◆ The attitude to the government in March
- ◆ Support for Poland's integration with the European Union and opinions on the European Convent
- ◆ Changes in the health care system
- ◆ Opinions on the publications about the archbishop of Poznań
- ◆ Poles on unemployment
- ◆ Opinions on the work of the Sejm, Senate, President and local authorities
- ◆ Poles on vetting and the amendments to the Vetting Act
- ◆ Women on the prevention of breast cancer and cervical cancer
- ◆ About the traditions of Lent and unholy celebrations
- ◆ Opinions on Poland's integration with the European Union

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