

**IN THIS ISSUE:**

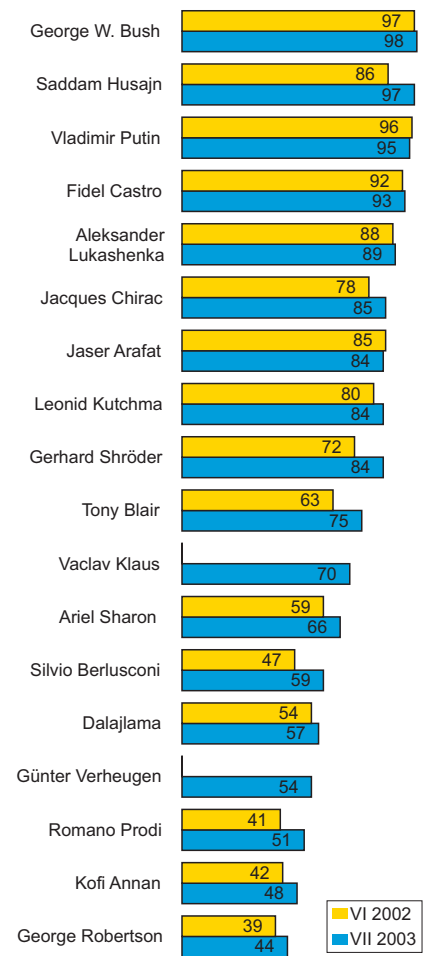
- LIKED AND DISLIKED POLITICIANS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES
- SUPPORT FOR THE POLISH PRESENCE IN IRAQ
- THE HOMES OF THE POLES
- VOTING IN THE REFERENDUM ON POLAND'S ACCESSION TO THE EUROPEAN UNION

### LIKED AND DISLIKED POLITICIANS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES

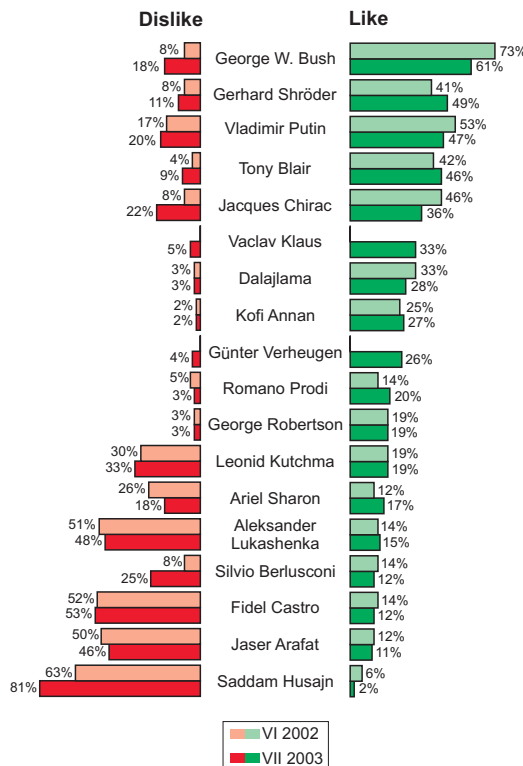
A definite majority of the Poles identify the leaders of great powers and the neighbours of Poland, as well as the politicians who currently receive big media coverage or who are long time present on the political scene. George W. Bush, Saddam Hussein, Vladimir Putin and Fidel Castro are known to almost all respondents. The representatives of international organisations, such as the UN, EU and NATO are much less known.

The respondents described their attitude to 18 selected politicians using a 11-degree scale from (-5) „deeply dislike” to (+5) „like very much”. Apparently, the Poles like George W. Bush the most, although this feeling has cooled significantly during the last year. Jacques Chirac has also lost considerably in the eyes of the Poles, for quite an opposite reason.

THE PERCENTAGES OF THE RESPONDENTS WHO IDENTIFY THE PARTICULAR PERSON



CHANGES IN THE ABSOLUTE RANGE AMONG ALL RESPONDENTS\*



\* "Don't know" not shown.

PUBLIC OPINION RESEARCH CENTER - CBOS -

4a Żurawia  
00-503 Warszawa  
POLAND

Ph: (48 22) 629 35 69  
(48 22) 628 37 04  
(48 22) 693 46 91

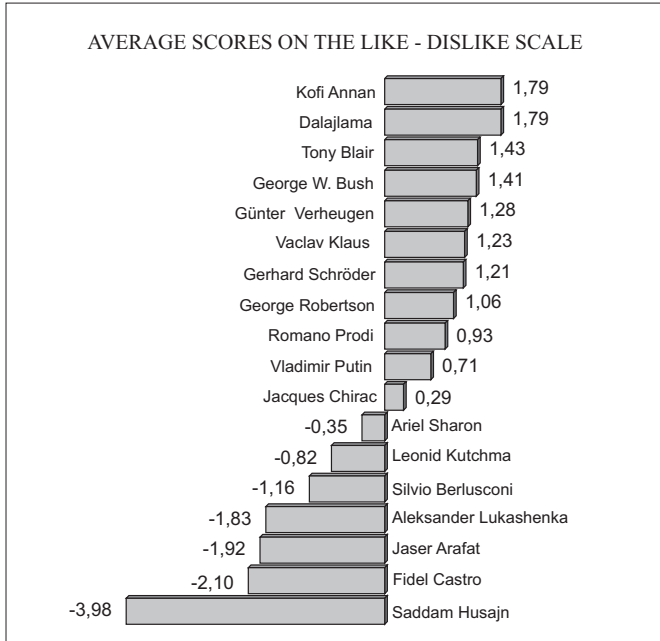
Fax: (48 22) 629 40 89

E-mail: sekretariat@cbos.pl  
http://www.cbos.pl

© COPYRIGHT BY CBOS 2003

ALL SOURCES MUST BE CREDITED WHEN ANY PART OF THIS PUBLICATION IS REPRODUCED

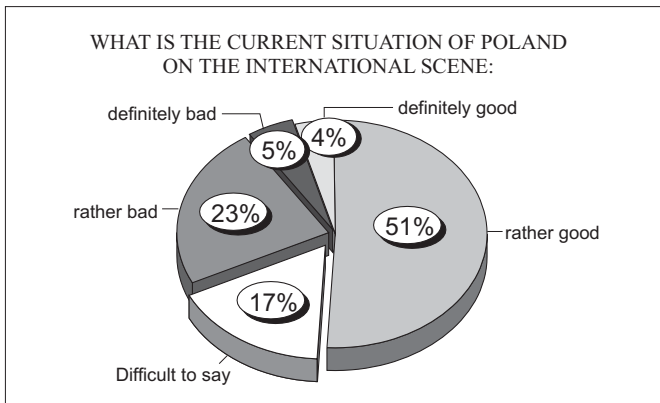
If we compare the average scores assigned on the scale to the politicians by those respondents who identify them, we obtain an adjusted picture, with relatively less known, but uncontroversial persons in the top positions (Kofi Anan and Dalaylama). The bottom of the list, with politicians clearly associated with undemocratic rule or terrorism does not change, though.



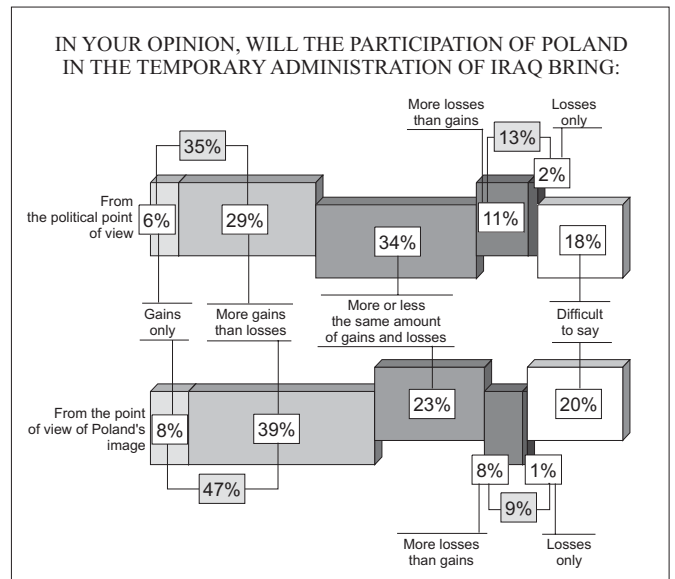
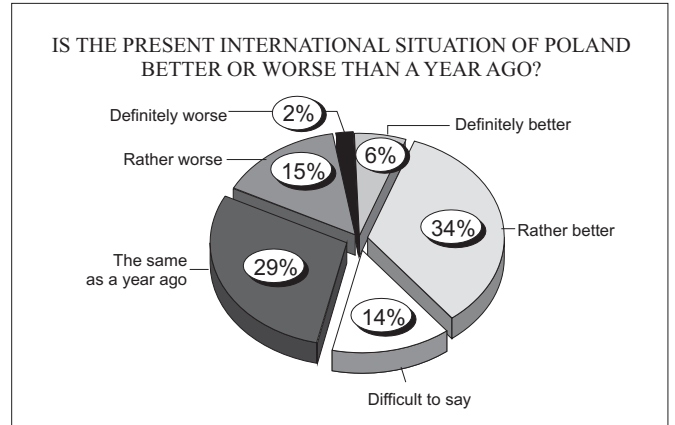
More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report (in Polish): "The Poles' attitude to foreign politicians", July 2003. A representative random-address sample of the general adult population of Poland. N=952 persons.

## INTERNATIONAL SITUATION OF POLAND IN THE CONTEXT OF THE IRAQ ISSUE

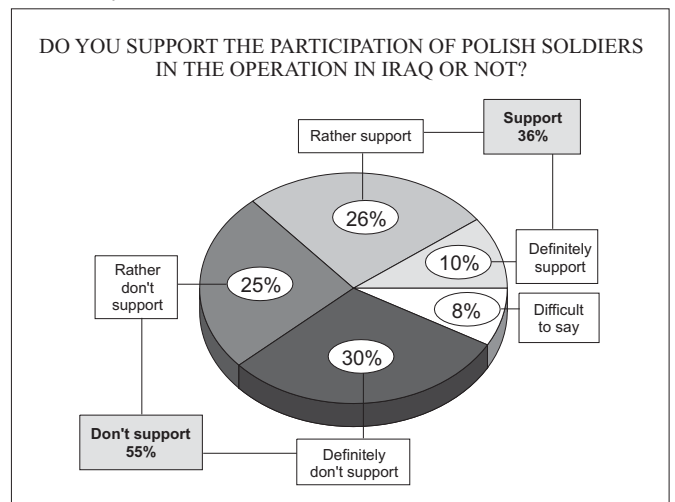
Most Poles evaluate the current situation of Poland on the international scene as good. Moreover, the prevailing opinion is that it is better now than a year ago.

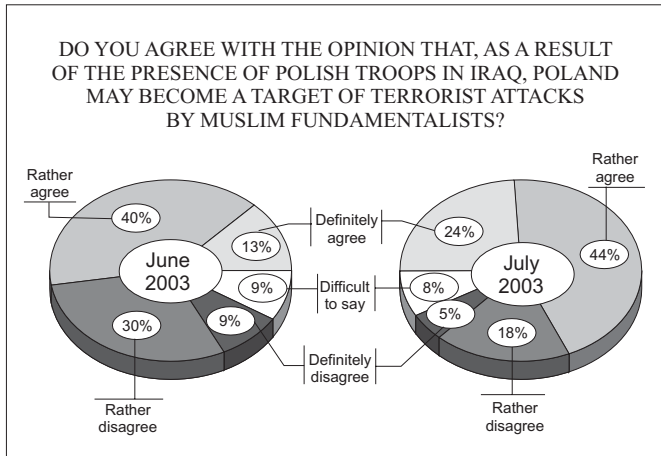


The prevailing opinion is that the participation in temporary administration of Iraq will have rather positive political implications for Poland, bring more gains than losses, or there the gains and losses will be balanced. The respondents have even bigger expectations regarding the impact of the participation in this operation on Poland's image. Only less than one-tenth of the respondents believe that the participation in the temporary administration of Iraq will have a negative effect on the image of Poland.



Despite the prevailing opinion that the balance of political gains and losses arising from participation in the temporary administration of Iraq will be positive and the image of Poland will improve as a result, most respondents do not support the participation of Polish troops in the operation in Iraq. It is probably a result of the growing fear that Poland may become a target of terrorist attacks by Muslim fundamentalists.

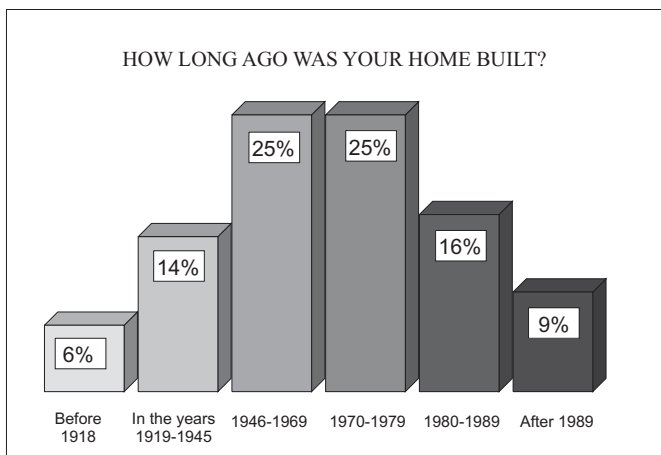




More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS reports (in Polish): "About the international situation and the participation of Poland in the reconstruction of Iraq", July 2003. Survey executed in June 2003. A representative random-address sample of the general adult population of Poland. N=1260 persons. And: "Support for the presence of Polish troops in Iraq", July 2003. Survey executed in July 2003. A representative random-address sample of the general adult population of Poland. N=952 persons.

### THE HOMES OF THE POLES

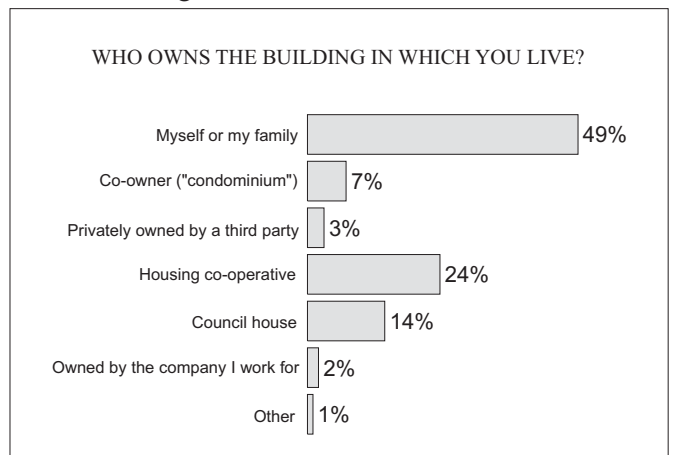
One in ten Poles lives in a building constructed in the last decade of the previous century. Half of the respondents live in relatively new buildings (constructed after 1970), while 6% live in buildings constructed in the 19th century or in the first years of the 20th century.



Old buildings (constructed before 1945) are usually the homes of people with a lower social standing and a lower income. Such buildings are more frequently found in the country and in small or medium towns. Also the buildings built in 1945-1959 are more frequently inhabited by less educated and elderly people. On the other hand, there is no significant correlation between the fact of living in a building built in the 1970s or 1960s and the person's social standing. However, among the residents of the newest buildings (built after 1989) there

are relatively many better educated people, satisfied with their financial situation, members of such social groups as the intelligentsia, managers and owners of businesses.

Half of the Poles live in houses owned by them or their families. However, this happens mostly in the country (87% of all respondents living in the country) and small towns (47%). One-fifth of the residents of cities with a population of 100,000 to 500,000 and one-tenth of those in bigger cities (over 500,000 inhabitants) live in their own houses. Council housing residents constitute 14% of all respondents, but in the cities with 101,000 to 500,000 thousand inhabitants 29% of people live in such houses, and in the largest cities - 21%. A very small percentage of the respondents rent flats in privately owned buildings.



It should also be mentioned that almost one-fifth of the respondents (19%) live in buildings that require some repairs, and 2% describe the condition of their houses as so bad that it is not worthwhile to repair it.

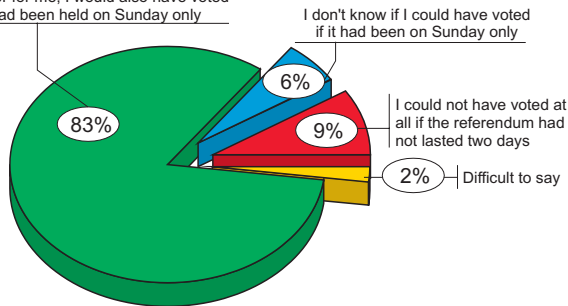
More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report (in Polish): "The homes of the Poles", July 2003. Survey executed in June 2003. A representative random-address sample of the general adult population of Poland. N=1260 persons.

### VOTING IN THE REFERENDUM ON POLAND'S ACCESSION TO THE EUROPEAN UNION

The referendum on the accession to the European Union was the first one in Poland, that lasted two days. According to the official data, almost a third (29%) of the voters (17% of those eligible to vote) voted on Saturday. Over four-fifths of the respondents who voted in the referendum said that the fact that it was spread over two days was irrelevant for them, they would take part in it anyway. The others said that it allowed or made it easier for them to vote in the referendum.

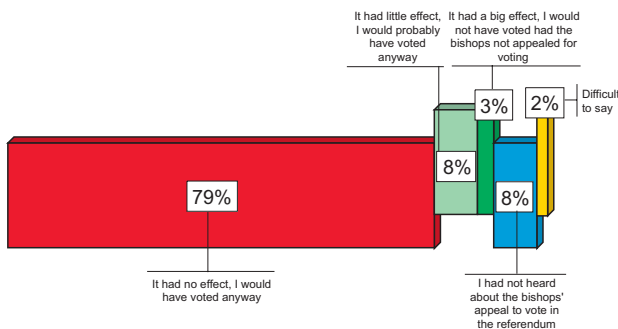
**DID THE FACT THAT THE REFERENDUM LASTED TWO DAYS MADE IT EASIER FOR YOU TO TAKE PART IN IT OR WAS IT IRRELEVANT FOR YOU?**

Spreading the voting over two days did not matter for me, I would also have voted if it had been held on Sunday only



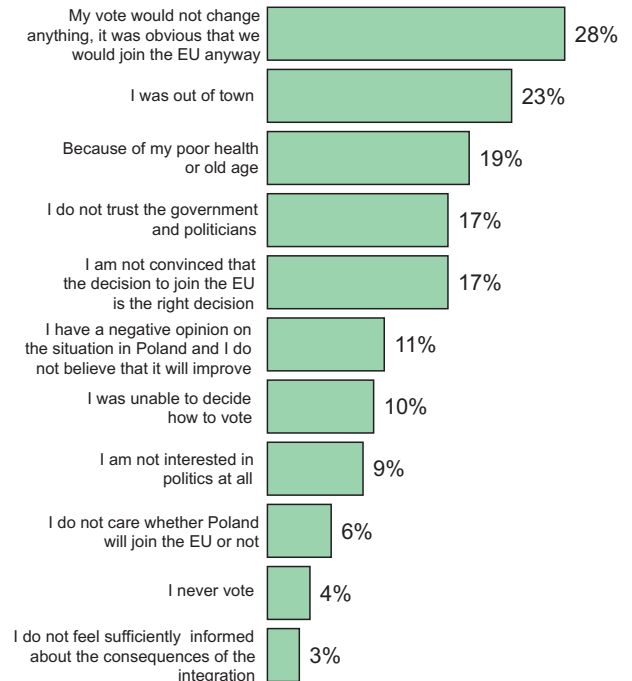
The Polish Roman Catholic bishops appealed for voting in the referendum. Over 90% of the respondents who took part in the referendum had heard about this appeal. However, few of them admitted that they would not have voted if the bishops had not appealed for voting. A bigger group said that the appeal affected their decision to vote, but to a small extent only.

**WHAT WAS THE EFFECT OF THE BISHOPS' APPEAL TO THE PUBLIC TO TAKE PART IN THE REFERENDUM ON YOUR DECISION WHETHER TO VOTE OR NOT?**



The respondents who did not take part in the referendum usually gave such reasons as their belief that their vote was irrelevant, absence at the place of residence, poor health or old age.

**WHY DID YOU NOT VOTE IN THE REFERENDUM?**



*The total exceeds 100, because the respondents could select two answers.*

More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report (in Polish): "After the accession referendum", July 2003. A representative random-address sample of the general adult population of Poland. N=952 persons.

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

- ◆ Old and new buildings the likes, dislikes and opinions of the Poles
- ◆ The attitude to the government in July
- ◆ Political party preferences in July
- ◆ Social moods in July
- ◆ The anniversary of the Volyn massacre memory and reconciliation
- ◆ After the SLD (Democratic Left Alliance) congress
- ◆ Opinions on the work of the Parliament and the President
- ◆ Opinions on the work of the parliamentary commission investigating the so-called Rywingate
- ◆ Trust in politicians in July

For more information on CBOS services and publications please contact:

CBOS POLAND  
4a, Żurawia, 00-503 Warsaw  
Phones: (48 22) 629 35 69, 628 37 04  
Fax: (48 22) 629 40 89

E-mail: sekretariat@cbos.pl

Http://www.cbos.pl

Yearly subscription rate for "Polish Public Opinion" is 80 USD

Circulation: 210 copies

CBOS expertise in providing professional, accurate and timely research studies has made us the leading authority in political, social and consumer research in Poland.