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### 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>

Editors:  
Krzysztof Zagórski  
and Beata Roguska  
Translated by  
Kinga Pawłowska

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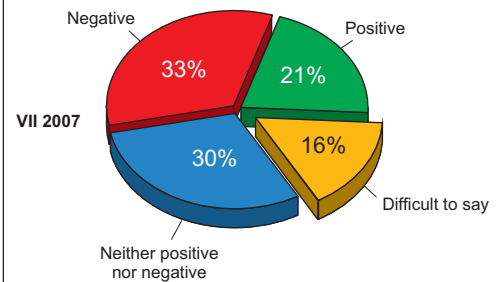
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## THE POLICY OF POLAND IN THE EU AND THE RELATIONS WITH GERMANY

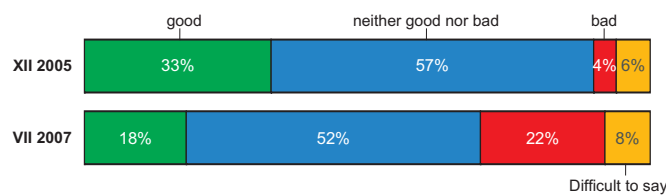
The Polish foreign policy, in particular within the European Union, raises a lot of controversy. Polish authorities claim that Poland takes good care of its interests and its role in the European Union is growing. On the other hand, Polish and foreign critics believe that Poland is unable to cooperate with other countries and will therefore lose its chance to build a strong position in Europe.

The public evaluations of the European policy of Poland are divided, though critical opinions are more common than positive ones. One in three respondents believe that the policy of the Polish government has an adverse effect on the position of Poland in the EU. Only one in five respondents believe otherwise.

DOES THE POLICY OF THE POLISH GOVERNMENT HAVE A POSITIVE OR A NEGATIVE EFFECT ON THE POSITION OF POLAND IN THE EU?



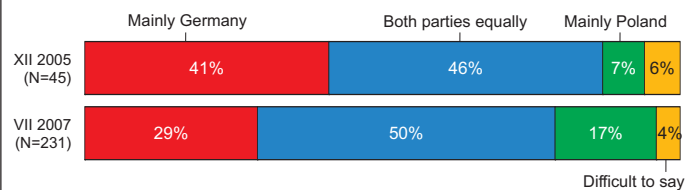
HOW DO YOU EVALUATE THE CURRENT POLISH-GERMAN RELATIONS?



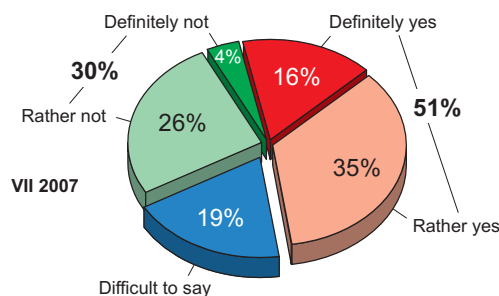
The evaluations of the Polish-German relations have deteriorated significantly over the last eighteen months. More than half of the respondents describe them as "neither good nor bad". The others describe them as bad more frequently than as good.

In the opinion of those who believe that the Polish-German relations are bad, both countries are to blame for this. However, compared with December 2005, more respondents believe that the fault lies mainly with Poland.

WHICH COUNTRY IS MORE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE BAD STATE OF THE POLISH-GERMAN RELATIONS?



IN YOUR OPINION, SHOULD POLAND BE AFRAID OF A STRONGER POSITION OF GERMANY IN THE EU OR NOT?



Due to the deterioration of Polish-German relations, more than half of the respondents believe that Poland should be afraid of Germany becoming stronger in the European Union.

More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report (in Polish): *Opinions about the international position of Poland and the relations with Germany*, July 2007. Survey executed in July 2007. A representative random sample of adult Poles. N = 1064.

## THE ALLIES OF POLAND IN THE EU

Although Poland has been a member of the European Union for a relatively short time, the opinions about which Member States are the most friendly towards Poland, and which are unfriendly, are frequently changing. The perceived attitude of the EU countries towards Poland is visibly affected by the current political events, such as the EU summit held in June in Brussels, where the leaders of the Member States discussed the provisions of the new Constitution Treaty.

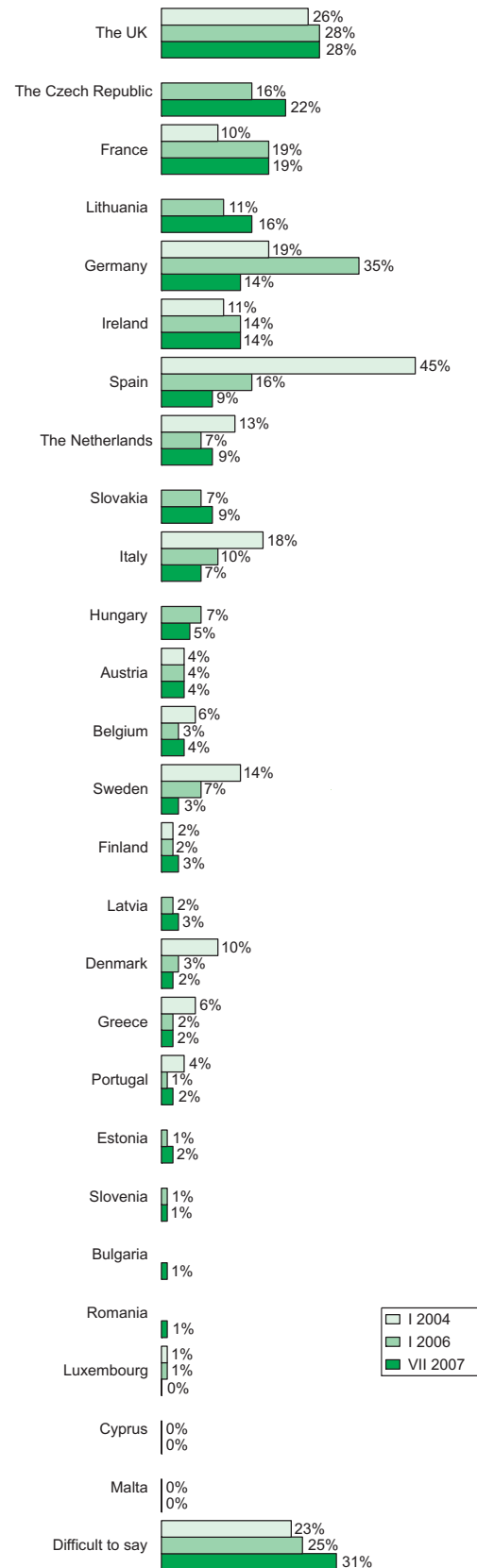
Generally, most of the Member States are believed to be friendly towards Poland, although hardly any are seen as unconditional allies of Poland in the European Union.

At present, the United Kingdom, the Czech Republic and Lithuania are the most frequently mentioned as the countries which are the best friends of Poland. The opinion about the positive attitude of the United Kingdom or France towards Poland has not changed during the last eighteen months, whereas the perceived attitude of the Czech Republic and Lithuania towards Poland has improved. This is probably due to the policy of both these states at the last EU summit in Brussels, namely their objection to Angela Merkel's proposal to exclude Poland from the work on the new Treaty.

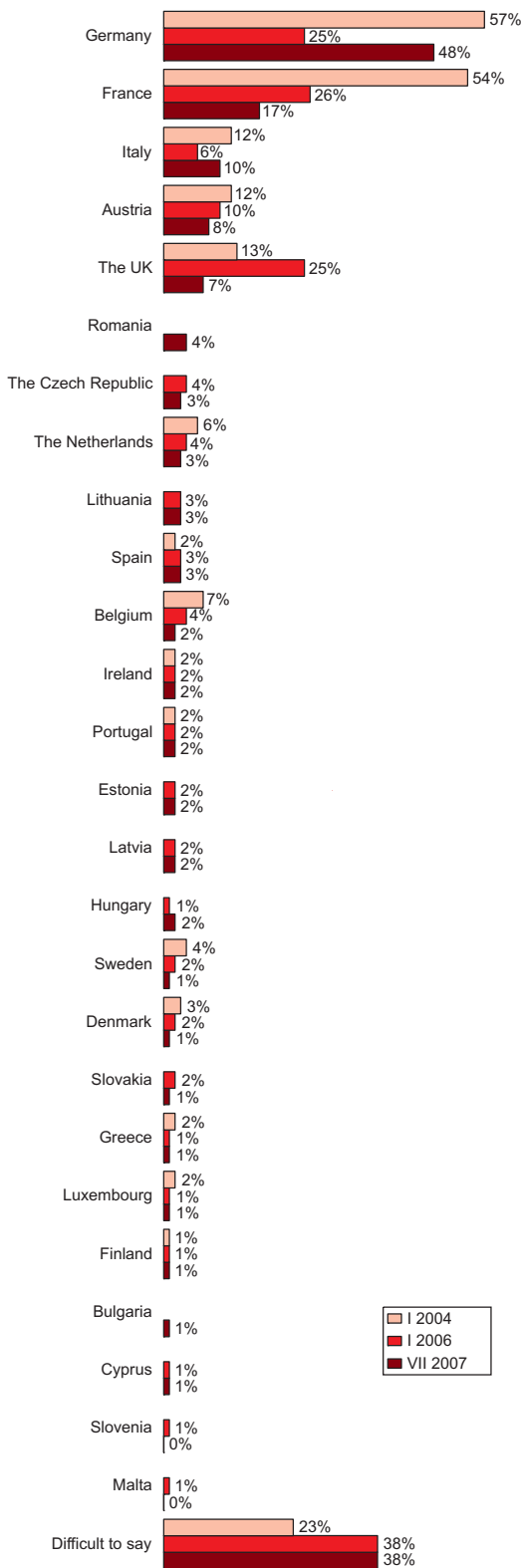
Other countries which are seen as friendly towards Poland include Ireland and Germany. However, while the perceived attitude of Ireland to Poland has not changed recently, the perceived attitude of Germany to Poland has deteriorated significantly. When Angela Merkel became Chancellor, the perceived attitude of Germany towards Poland improved considerably compared with the time when Gerhard Schröder was the head of the government. In January 2006, Germany was mentioned as the biggest ally of Poland in the European Union more frequently than any other country. Today, not only is this country mentioned among the biggest allies of Poland much less frequently than eighteen months ago, but it is actually believed to be the most unfriendly towards Poland of all the Member States (48% of the responses).

The second most unfriendly state, according to the respondents, is France. In January 2004, this country was seen as unfriendly towards Poland almost as frequently as Germany. However, while the perceived attitude of Germany towards Poland improved first to deteriorate again, the belief in an unfriendly attitude of France towards Poland is declining gradually.

WHICH EU MEMBER STATES ARE CURRENTLY THE BEST ALLIES OF POLAND? PLEASE MENTION UP TO THREE SUCH STATES.



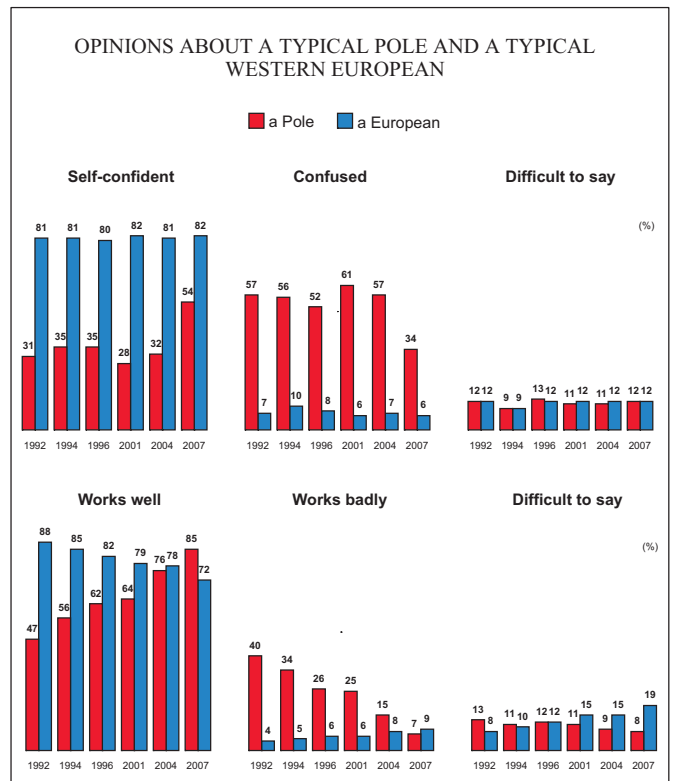
WHICH EU MEMBER STATES ARE CURRENTLY THE STRONGEST OPPONENTS OF POLAND? PLEASE MENTION UP TO THREE SUCH STATES.



More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report (in Polish): *The allies of Poland in the EU*, July 2007. Survey executed in July 2007. A representative random sample of adult Poles. N = 1064.

## CHANGES IN THE SELF-IMAGE OF THE POLES AFTER THREE YEARS OF THE MEMBERSHIP IN THE EU

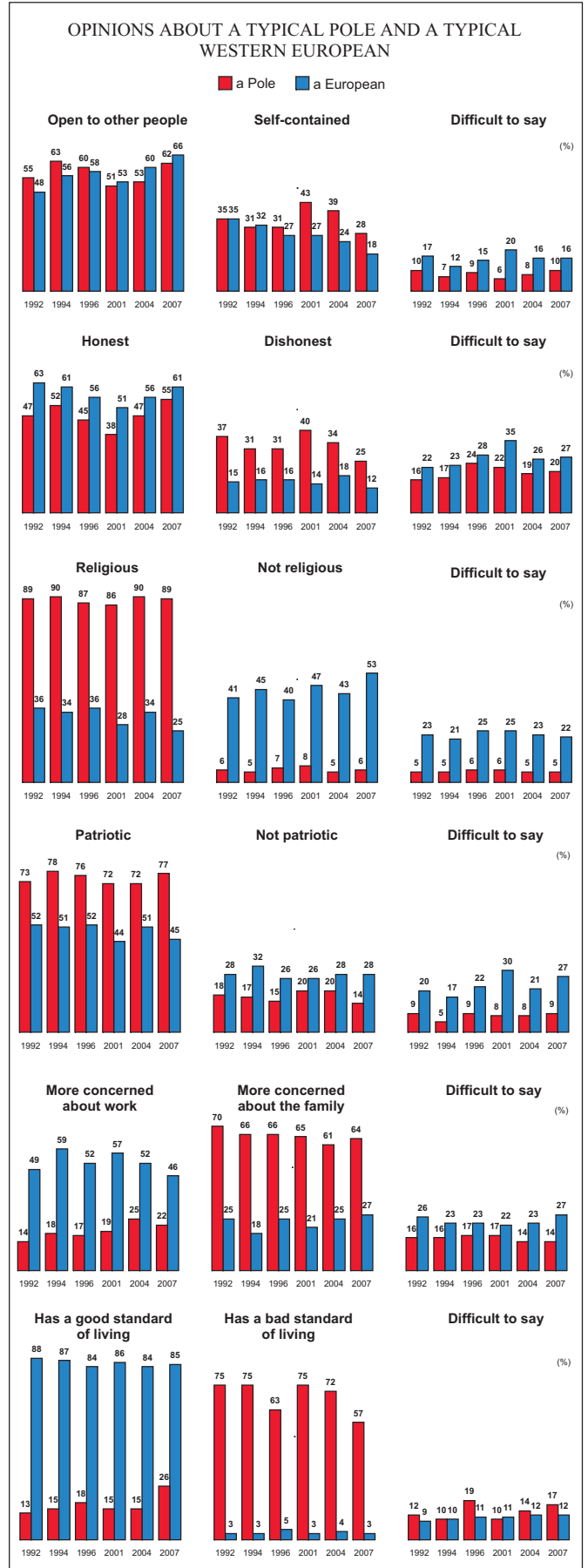
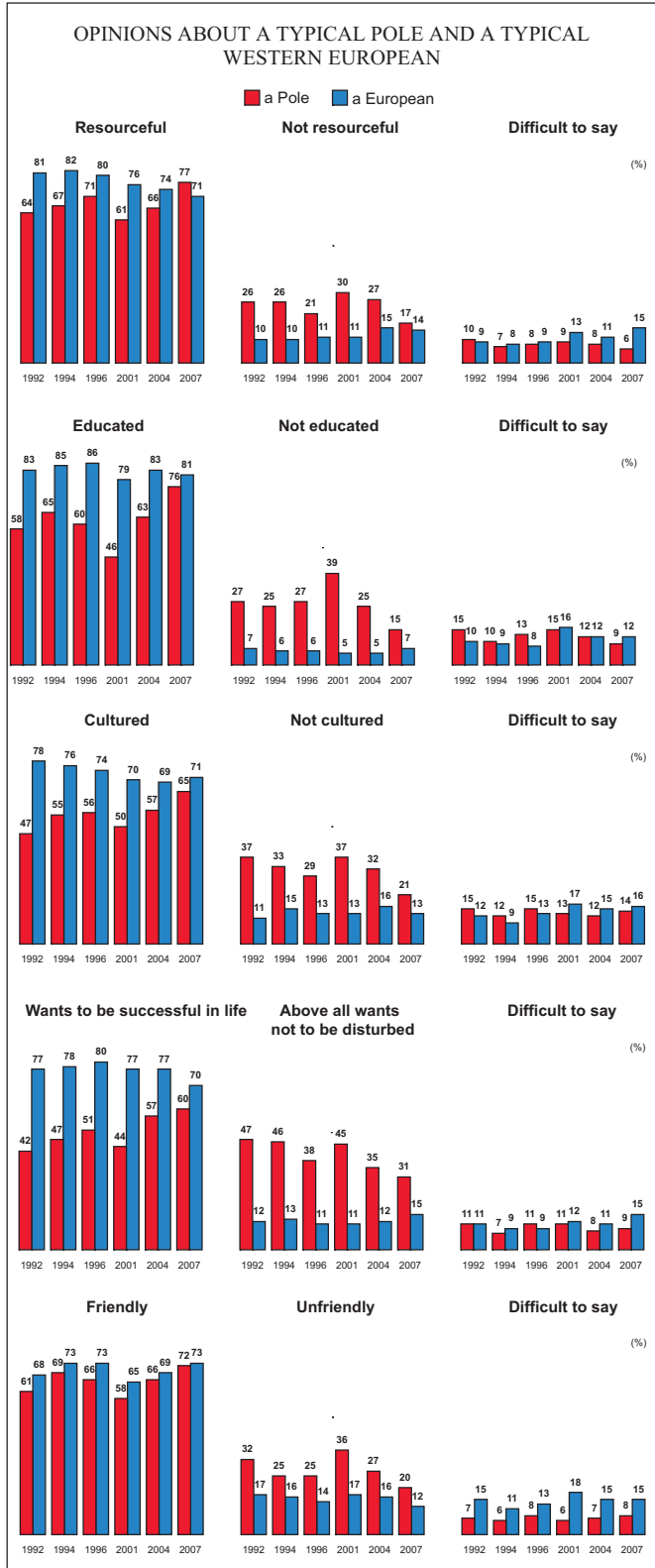
To date, in the opinion of the Poles, the membership in the European Union has brought Poland significant benefits. The Poles associate the accession mainly with positive socio-economic changes such as acceleration of the economic growth, better development opportunities for Polish companies and farms, inflow of European funds, better opportunities to find employment abroad. Moreover, the accession appears to have considerably affected the way the Poles see and evaluate themselves. During the last three years, i.e. since the accession of Poland to the European Union, the self-image of a Pole has improved significantly. One could even argue that the Poles have begun to get rid of their complexes. Compared to the Western Europeans, they have begun to notice not only their shortcomings, but their advantages as well. The biggest changes are related to the self-confidence of the Poles, which used to be rather poor until recently, whereas now the Poles have become more aware of their own worth.



A typical Pole is seen nowadays as more hard-working than a citizen of "old" Europe.

The Poles see themselves as almost as well educated and cultured as a European, and equally ambitious.

Perceived interpersonal skills of the Poles are also improving – they believe they have become more open, friendly and honest.



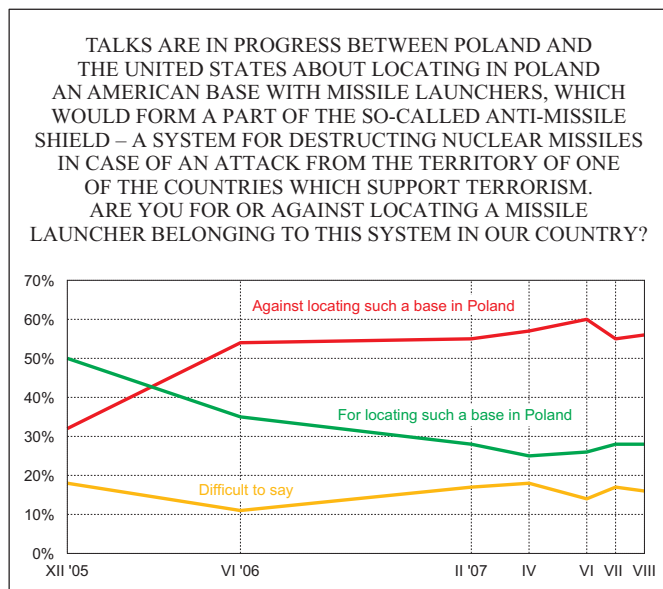
The Poles feel more European, at the same time preserving or even enhancing their cultural and national self-identity. They remain religious, patriotic and attached to the family.

This optimistic self-image could be disturbed by the differences between the standard of living of the Poles and the inhabitants of Western Europe, which are still significant. However, the Poles see that they begin to catch up with Europe in this area as well.

More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report (in Polish): *The changes in the image of a Pole and a European after three years of Poland's membership in the EU*, July 2007. Survey executed in July 2007. A representative random sample of adult Poles. N = 903.

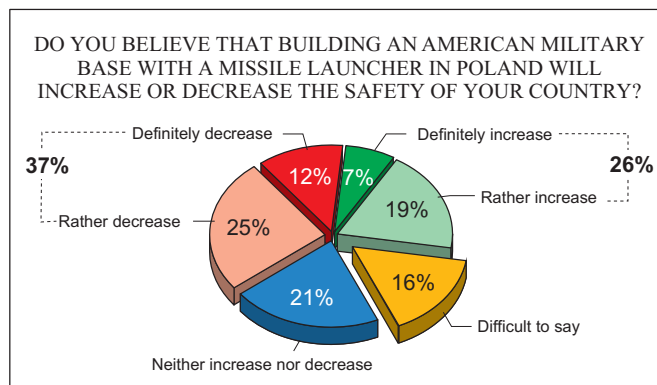
## THE INSTALLATION OF THE ANTI-MISSILE SHIELD IN POLAND

Initially, the Poles' reactions to the information about a possible installation of some elements of the American anti-missile shield in Poland were positive. In December 2005, this project had the support of more than half of all the respondents (52%). However, after a short time its justifiability started to be questioned. Nowadays most Poles (56%) are against the construction of elements of the anti-missile shield in Poland.

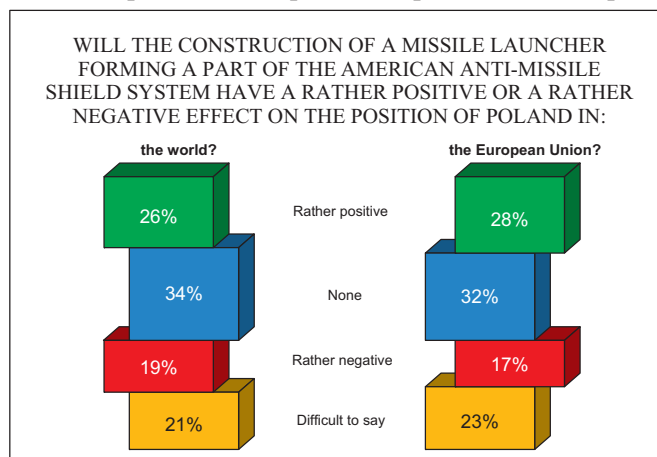


The opposition to locating an American military base with a missile launcher in Poland results from the fact that the consequences of this project are uncertain. Almost two-fifths of the respondents are afraid that the construction of a part of the anti-missile shield would have an adverse effect on the safety of their country. They probably believe that Poland could become a target

of terrorist attacks. They may also be afraid of a hostile reaction of Russia.



The opinions about the potential impact of the construction of the anti-missile system in Poland on the position of Poland in Europe and in the world are divided. However, pessimistic expectations prevail in this respect.

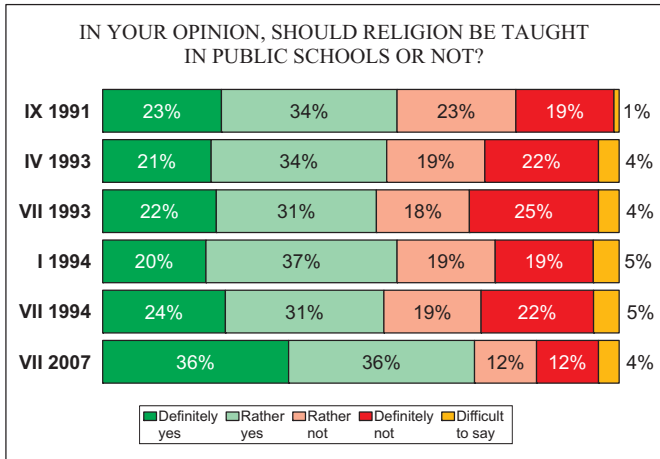


More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report (in Polish): *Opinions about the installation of the anti-missile shield in Poland*, August 2007. Survey executed in August 2007. A representative random sample of adult Poles. N = 859.

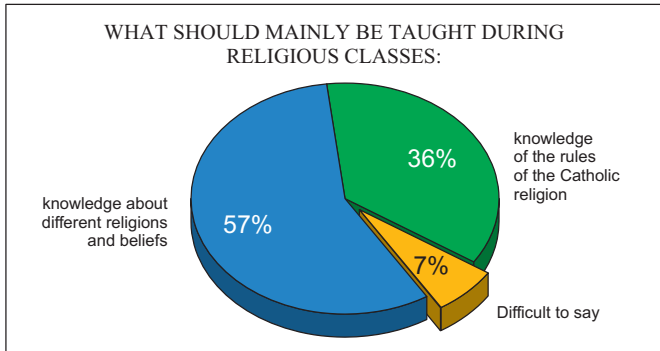
## OPINIONS ABOUT TEACHING RELIGION

The decision to introduce religious education to schools, which was implemented in 1990, was very controversial. A number of influential groups protested against transferring religious education from the church to school. The public opinion was divided. In the first half of the 1990s more than half of the Poles supported this decision, although at the same time a significant proportion (about two-fifths) opposed it. Today it seems that the Poles have got used to the presence of religion in schools, because this issue does not cause any significant controversy any more. More than three quarters of the Poles accept teaching religion in public schools. The supporters prevail in all socio-demographic groups.



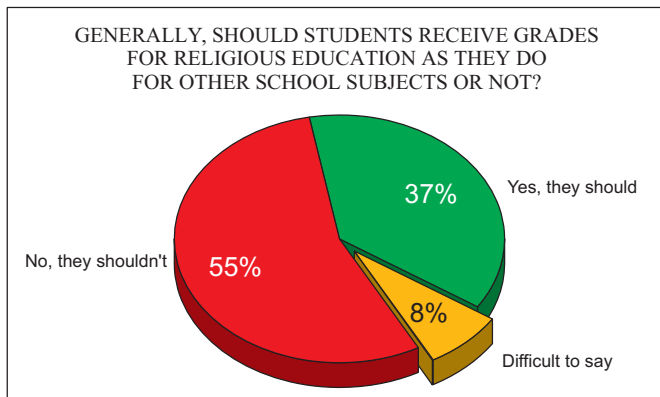


The Poles expect students to be taught about different religions and beliefs during their religious classes rather than about the rules of Catholicism only.

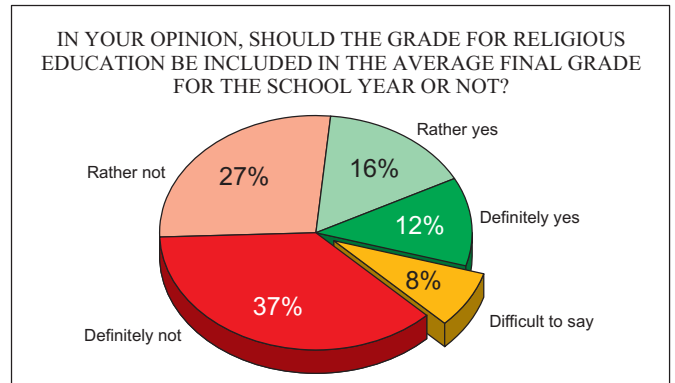


To date, the Polish students have received grades for religious education just as for any other school subject, but these grades were not included in the average grade presented on the school certificate. This will change in the new school year. Grades for religious education will be included in the average grade, which will affect the chances to be accepted for studies on the tertiary level. The opinions about this decision are mostly critical.

According to the public opinion, religious education should not be treated at par with other school subjects. More than half of the respondents believe that no grades should be given for religious education at all.



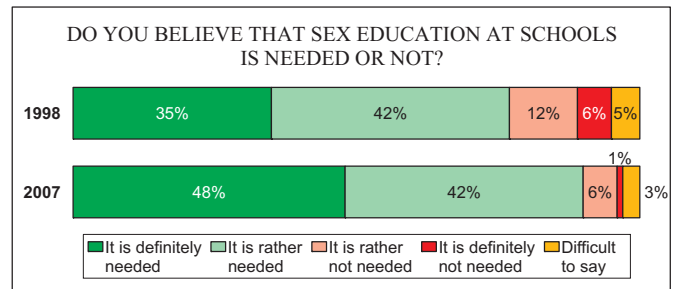
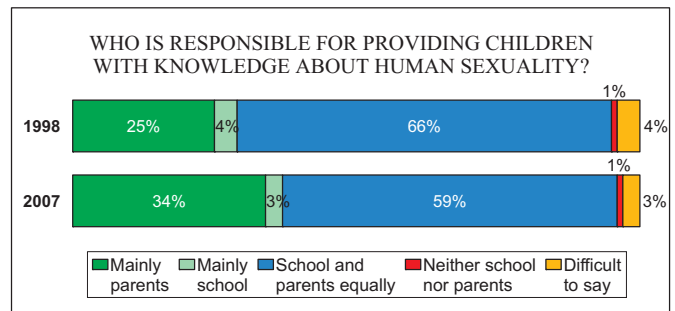
Even more respondents (almost two-thirds) are against including the grades for religious education in the average final grade for the school year.



More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report (in Polish): *Opinions about teaching religion*, July 2007. Survey executed in July 2007. A representative random sample of adult Poles. N = 1064.

## SEX EDUCATION OF ADOLESCENTS

A majority of the Poles believe that the responsibility for providing children with knowledge about sexuality lies equally with the parents and with school. However, the others believe that the parents are mainly responsible for preparing their children for sexual life. The opinion that providing sex education to the young generation is primarily a task for parents is more common now than it was a few years ago (in 1998).

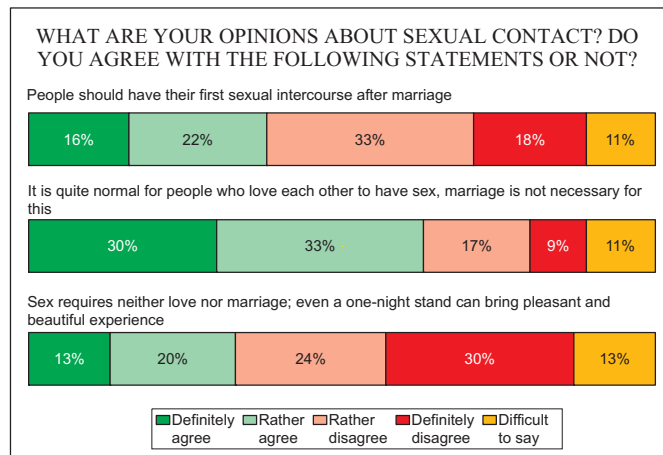


Despite the fact that a growing number of the respondents say that the responsibility for the sex education of adolescents lies with their parents, the belief

that schools should teach about human sexuality is becoming more and more common.

In the opinion of 84% of adult Poles, adolescents should learn at school about different methods of contraception.

The Poles' views on the issue of sexual initiation are not liberal, although they are not strictly traditional and consistent with the teaching of the Catholic Church, either. According to the public opinion, sex does not need to be associated with marriage. However, it should always be associated with love. In the opinion of adult Poles, sex without marriage is natural between two people who love each other and form a steady relationship, but occasional sexual contact is inadvisable.

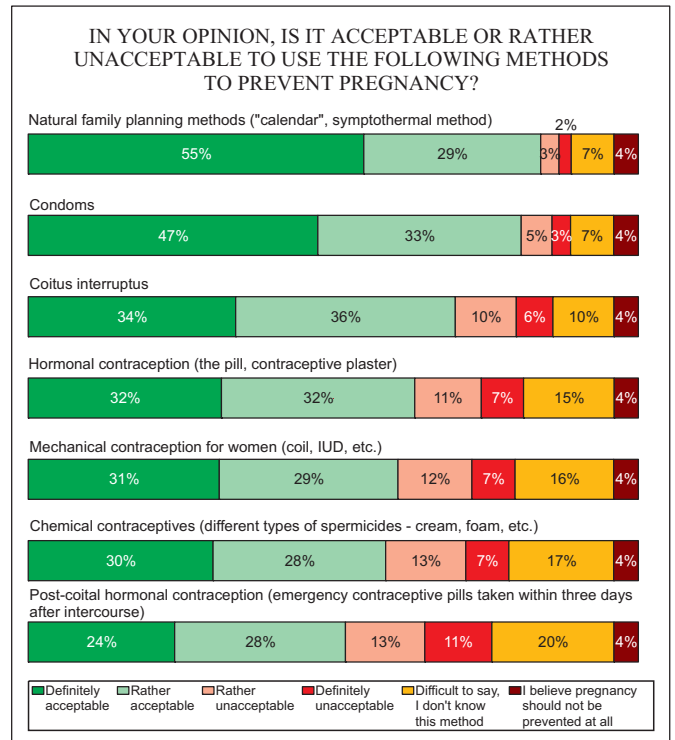


The opinions about premarital and extramarital sex to a large extent depend on gender, education and political views of the respondents, as well as on their perceived standard of living and declared frequency of participation in religious practices. Women, persons with poor education, those who evaluate their standard of living as bad, declare right-wing political views and, first and foremost, those whose religious involvement is the strongest, are significantly less liberal than the others in their opinions about non-marital sex.

The attitude of the Poles to contraception also differs from the position of the Catholic Church. The Poles accept using different methods of contraception. The preferred ones are the so-called natural methods, approved by the Church. However, a similar proportion of the respondents accept condoms. Post-coital hormonal contraception is accepted the least frequently, although even such methods are acceptable for more than half of the respondents.

The acceptance of any methods aimed at preventing pregnancy, other than the so-called natural family planning methods, is much lower among the persons with right-wing political views and those who frequently participate in religious practices than the average in the whole population. Furthermore, the

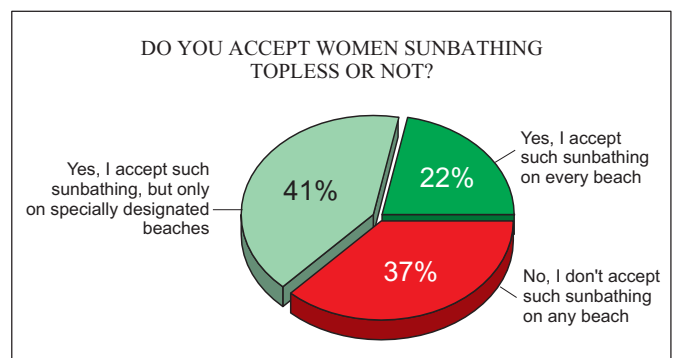
acceptance for using different methods of contraception is relatively lower among farmers, pensioners, persons aged above 54, those with primary education and persons who are dissatisfied with their standard of living.



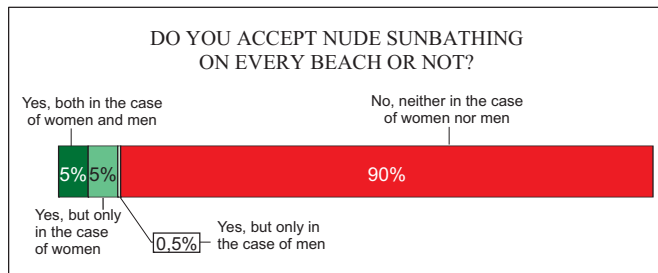
More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report (in Polish): *About sex education of adolescents*, August 2007. Survey executed in July 2007. A representative random sample of adult Poles. N = 1064.

## TOPLESS AND NUDE SUNBATHING

Most Poles (63%) accept women sunbathing topless, although a majority of this group believe that this should only be allowed on specially designated beaches. Only slightly more than a fifth of the respondents accept topless sunbathing on every beach. More than a third are against topless sunbathing on any beach.

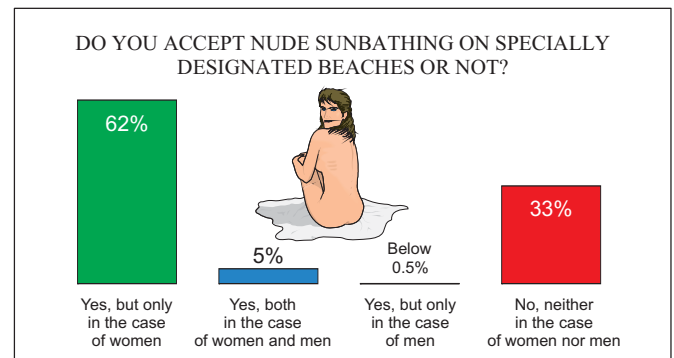


Men accept such behaviour much more frequently than women, irrespective of the type of beach (30% and 15% respectively), although even they usually think that women should only sunbathe topless in specially designated places (47%). Almost half of the women (49%) do not accept topless sunbathing at all. Unconditional disapproval for such behaviour grows with the respondents' age (acceptance prevails in the below 45 age group). Furthermore, religious respondents who live in small towns or villages and have low education tend to disapprove of topless sunbathing more frequently.

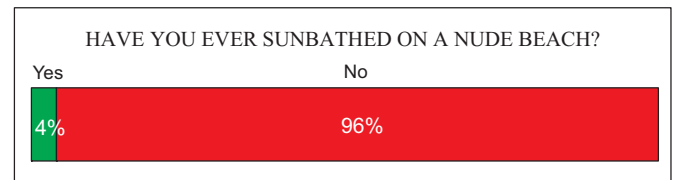


The Poles generally do not accept the presence of naked persons on beaches accessible to the general public. Only one in twenty respondents would accept nudity on a beach. The same percentage would have nothing against nude sunbathing, but only in the case of women.

The opinion about nude sunbathing on specially designated beaches is different. Almost two-thirds of the Poles tend to accept nudism with regard to both sexes in such circumstances. One-third express their disapproval.



Relatively few persons have sunbathed on a nude beach.



More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report (in Polish): *Topless and nude sunbathing in the public opinion*, August 2007. Survey executed in August 2007. A representative random sample of adult Poles. N = 859.

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

- ◆ The Poles about the political group of Marek Jurek
- ◆ Political party preferences in July
- ◆ The attitude to the government
- ◆ Opinions about the results of the Brussels EU summit
- ◆ Trust in politicians in July
- ◆ The Poles about the anti-missile shield
- ◆ Evaluations of the work of the President and the Parliament
- ◆ The Poles about the protests of health service employees
- ◆ Social moods in July
- ◆ The Poles about military involvement in Afghanistan
- ◆ Social perception of conservatism and liberalism
- ◆ The Poles' opinions about road accidents
- ◆ Political party preferences in August
- ◆ Opinions about the work of the Parliament and the President
- ◆ The attitude to the government
- ◆ Social moods in August
- ◆ Trust in politicians in August, shortly before dissolution of the ruling coalition
- ◆ The public opinion about holidays of the Parliament and the government.
- ◆ The Poles about building a road through the Rospuda valley
- ◆ Expectations concerning early Parliamentary elections and their consequences
- ◆ What do we read to our children?
- ◆ The extent of informing the public about the military plans of the government
- ◆ The attitude to the participation of Polish soldiers in the stabilization mission in Iraq

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