

CONTENTS

Opinions about Lech Wałęsa

Support for socio-economic government policy

Reception of the Responsible Development Plan

Evaluation of professional honesty and integrity

IN ADDITION

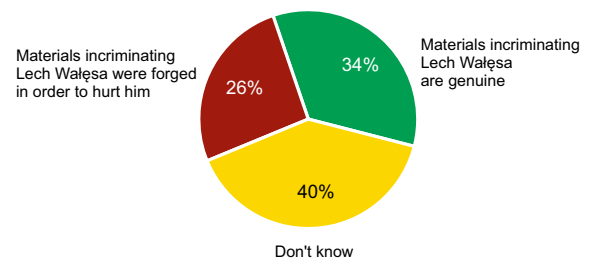
TO THE REPORTS REFERRED TO ABOVE,
THE FOLLOWING HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED
RECENTLY (IN POLISH):

- Interest in Situation in Ukraine and Sense of Threat
- Energy Conservation and Prosumer Energetics
- Climate Change in Comparison to Other Civilization Threats and Awareness of Sources of Global CO2 Emission
- Party Preferences in March
- State of Natural Environment and Climate Change
- Charity in Poland
- Attitude to Government after 100 Days of Activity
- Social Moods in March
- Opinions about Public Institutions
- Party Preferences after Intensification of Constitutional Crisis
- Trust in Politicians in March
- Easter
- Opinions About Job Market and Threat of Unemployment
- Evaluations and Forecasts of Economic Situation and Living Conditions of Households in Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia and Hungary

Opinions about Lech Wałęsa

In recent weeks the Institute of National Remembrance released to journalists and historians documents found in the home of general Czesław Kiszczak, minister of internal affairs in 1981-1990. This brought back into public debate the question of cooperation of Lech Wałęsa with secret police. The documents purportedly prove that Lech Wałęsa was in the years 1970-1976 a secret collaborator of the security police with the codename "Bolek". They would confirm information contained e.g. in a book *Secret police and Lech Wałęsa. A contribution to biography* published in 2008 by Sławomir Cenckiewicz and Piotr Gontarczyk. The release of these materials and the debate accompanying them covered not only the biography of Lech Wałęsa, but also the evaluation of the Polish model of systemic transition and became another field of political conflict. Committee for Defence of Democracy defended Lech Wałęsa as the legend of "Solidarity" movement and a symbol of Polish transformation.

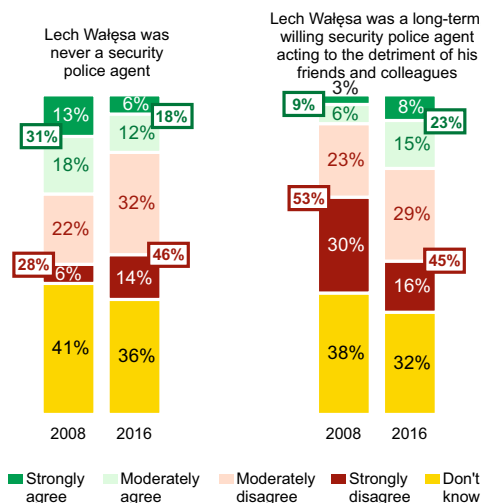
Which view is closer to your own opinion?



Reliability of materials incriminating Lech Wałęsa is evaluated equivocally. A large part of the public opinion (40%) is disoriented and does not know how to judge them. A third of respondents (34%) consider them as genuine, while a fourth (26%) doubt their authenticity.

In spite of doubts regarding the reliability of materials related to Lech Wałęsa, their release apparently convinced a part of the public opinion that accusations levelled at the first leader of "Solidarity" had some grounding. Since 2008 the proportion of people believing that he had been a secret police agent increased markedly (from 28% to 46%). Moreover, whereas eight years ago only 9% of respondents believed that Lech Wałęsa, as a conscious and long-term

Do you agree with the following statement?

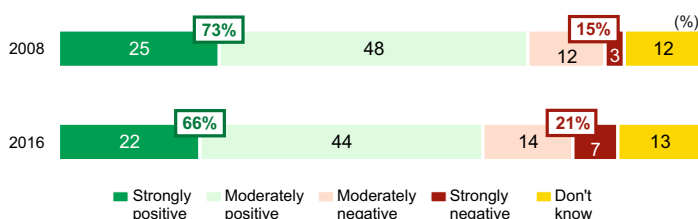


collaborator acted to the detriment of his friends and colleagues, at present almost a quarter (23%) share this opinion. In spite of the fact that presently the opinions about Lech Wałęsa's past are better crystallized than in 2008, many people leave the question of alleged collaboration of Lech Wałęsa with security police open and refrain from taking a clear position.

Although accusations levelled at Lech Wałęsa about his alleged involvement with the security

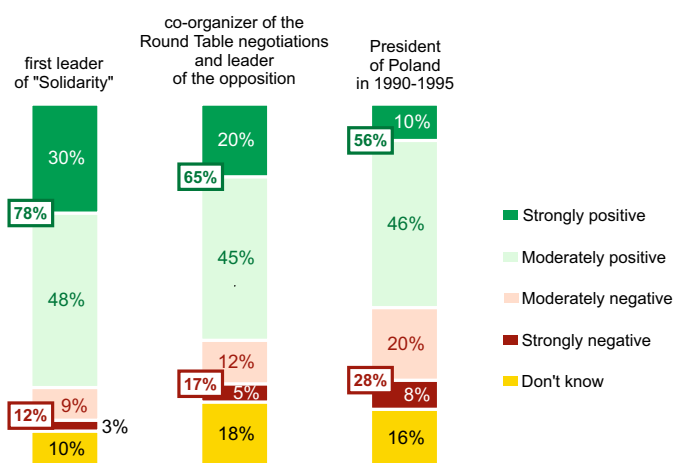
police have now gained credibility, they have only limited effect on the perception of his role in Polish history. While the proportion of respondents critical towards Lech Wałęsa has increased since 2008, his historical achievements are appreciated by the majority of Polish society. Two-thirds of respondents (66%) think that, in general, Lech Wałęsa played a positive role in the history of Poland. The opposite view is shared by about a fifth of respondents (21%).

Evaluation of the role of Lech Wałęsa in recent history of Poland



The role of Lech Wałęsa as the first leader of “Solidarity” is evaluated very well (78% approval). Almost two-thirds of respondents (65%) think that Lech Wałęsa served Poland well as the co-organizer of the Round Table negotiations and the leader of the opposition at that time. His presidency is evaluated slightly worse, but, nevertheless, the majority (56%) give it a positive note. The evaluation of Lech Wałęsa as president from a long-term perspective is better than recorded during his term in office.

Evaluation of the role of Lech Wałęsa as...



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Opinions on Lech Wałęsa, His Past and Historic Role", March 2016. Fieldwork for national sample: March 2016, N=1034. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

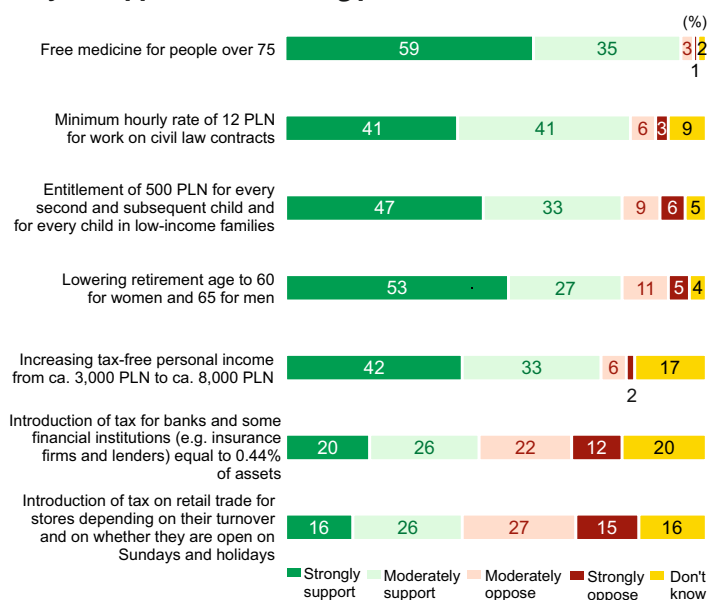
Support for socio-economic government policy

Law and Justice (PiS) made many socio-economic promises during the election campaign. Some of them are already realized, while others are planned or prepared. The so-called bank tax is effective starting in February (it is

equal to 0.44% of assets) and from 1 April the program “Family 500+” is realized, which introduces the entitlement of 500 PLN for every second and subsequent child up to the age 18 and for every child in low-income families. Sejm has accepted the draft of legislation introducing free medicines for people over 75. Other announced changes, including minimum hourly wage of 12 PLN for civil law contract work, raising tax-free income, and lowering retirement age, have not been voted in the Sejm or are in the phase of preparation.

All announced policies with the exception of bank tax and retail trade tax are supported by a vast majority of respondents. Introducing free medicine for seniors is almost universally approved. Similar support, at the level about 80%, is given to the following policies: minimum hourly wage for civil contract work, program “Family 500+”, lowering the retirement age and increasing the tax-free personal income. The opinion are divided about the bank tax and retail trade tax. The introduction of the bank tax has more supporters than opponents (46% v. 34%), while tax on retail trade is supported and opposed by groups of similar size (42% each).

Do you support the following policies?



Over half of Poles claim that they personally or members of their household would benefit from the increase in tax-free income, lowering retirement age and free medicine for seniors. Taking out respondents without clear opinion and those claiming a policy would not have a significant impact on the situation of their household, it could be said that the program “Family 500+” is more often beneficial than detrimental for the households (36% v. 12%). Similarly, minimum hourly wage could be beneficial (34%) rather than having negative consequences (9%). On the other hand, in respondents' opinion, taxes on retail trade and on banks and some other financial institutions could have negative consequences for them or their households.

What would be the consequences of the following policies for you personally and for your household?



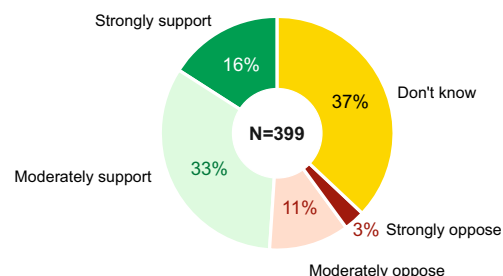
More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Public Opinion on New Solutions in Socio-economic Policy", March 2016. Fieldwork for national sample: March 2016, N=1034. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

Reception of the Responsible Development Plan

In February Mateusz Morawiecki, deputy prime minister and minister for the economy, presented the Responsible Development Plan. It listed major traps constituting threats for the Polish economy: middle income trap (related to the exhaustion of sources of income, such as low labour costs); imbalance between national and foreign capital (related to insufficient share of Polish capital in the economy); average product trap (related to insufficient innovativeness of the Polish economy); demographic trap (related to the ageing of the society), and weak institutions trap (related to low effectiveness of public institutions). Deputy prime minister Morawiecki outlined the concept of development based on five pillars: reindustrialization, development of innovative firms, increased investment, international expansion of Polish firms and more balanced socio-economic development. Two-fifths of respondents (39%) heard about the Responsible Development Plan proposed by the government, in which 15% declared in-depth knowledge and 24% heard the name, but were not familiar with it.

About half of respondents who have heard about the "Morawiecki plan" support it, while one-seventh oppose it. Almost two-fifths have no opinion on that matter.

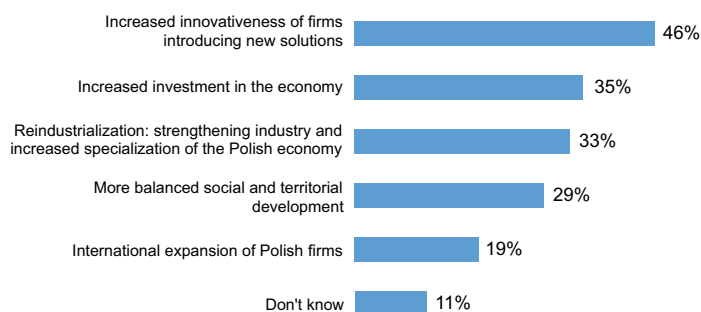
Do you support the "Morawiecki plan"?



Responses of people who have heard about the "Morawiecki plan"

In public opinion the most important goal of the "Morawiecki plan" is increasing innovativeness of firms introducing new solutions. It was mentioned by almost half of respondents who have heard about this plan. Secondly, comparable groups mentioned: increasing the level of investment, reindustrialization (strengthening industry) and increased specialization of the Polish economy.

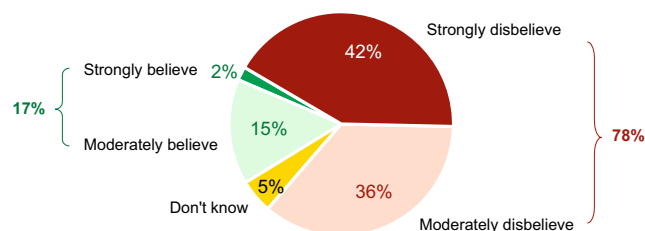
Which goals of the "Morawiecki plan" are the most important?



Responses of people who have heard about the "Morawiecki plan" (N=399)
Up to two answers possible

Deputy prime minister Morawiecki announced that in fifteen years the average Pole will earn the EU average. Relatively few people believe this prediction: more than one-sixth agree, but a vast majority have the opposite opinion. This conviction differentiates the degree of knowledge of the "Morawiecki plan." Among respondents familiar with it, two-fifths (41%) believe that earnings in Poland will match EU average in fifteen years.

Do you believe the prediction of deputy prime minister Morawiecki that in fifteen years the average wage in Poland will match the average wage in the European Union



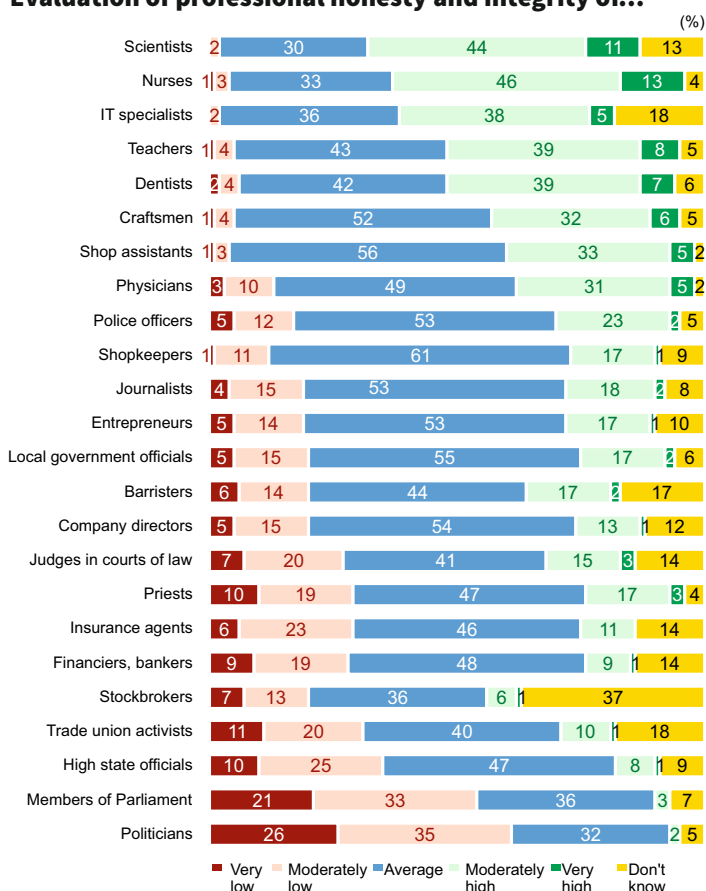
More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Opinions about the Plan for Responsible Growth", March 2016. Fieldwork for national sample: March 2016, N=1034. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

Evaluation of professional honesty and integrity

Trust in professionals is rather limited in Poland. It results from average or low evaluation of professional honesty and integrity of representatives of different professions.

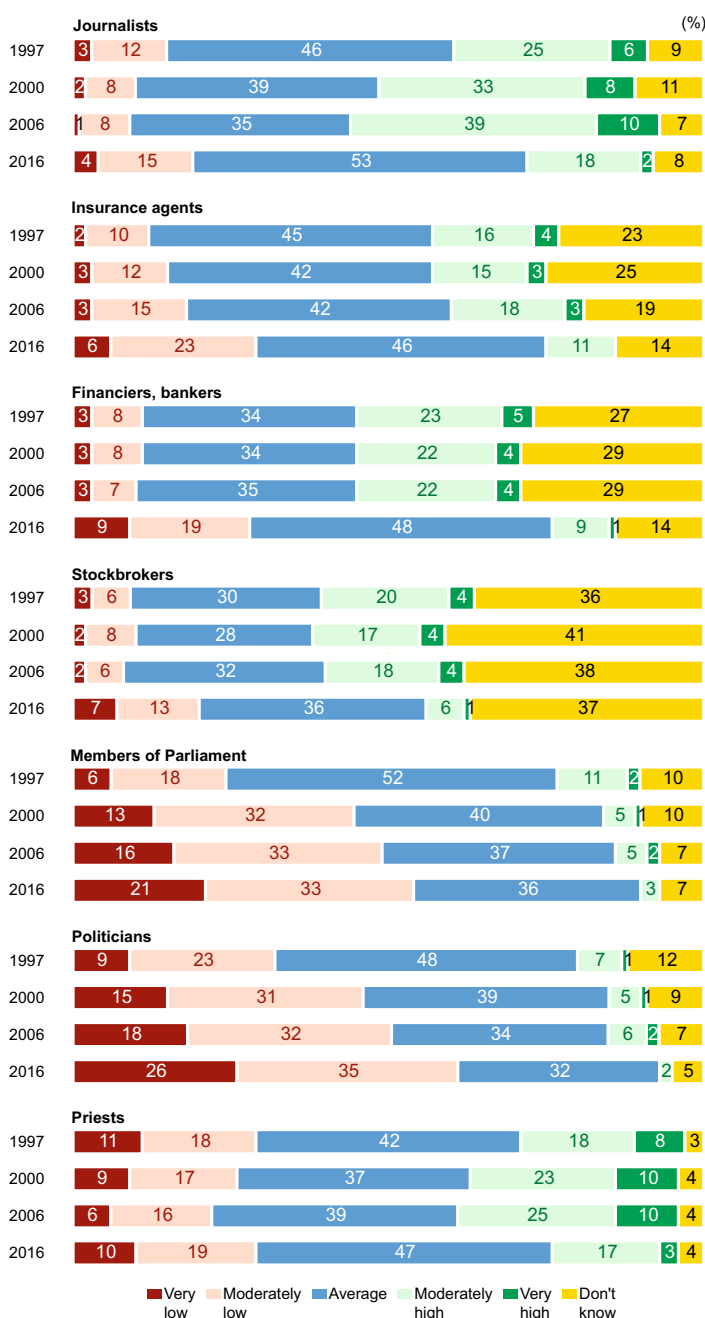
The highest evaluation of professional honesty and integrity is given to scientists, nurses, IT specialists, teachers and dentists. Positive opinions prevail over negative in case of craftsmen, shop assistants, physicians, police officers and shopkeepers. For four professions (journalists, entrepreneurs, local government officials and barristers) good and bad ratings are equally common. Negative opinions prevail in case of the other professions. As usual, the worst evaluations are given to higher state officials, Members of Parliaments and politicians.

Evaluation of professional honesty and integrity of...



In general, this year's evaluations of professional honesty and integrity are the lowest since measurement started. The ratings of journalists, financial sector professionals, MPs, politicians and priests are the worst since 1997.

Evaluation of professional honesty and integrity of...



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Professional Diligence and Fairness", March 2016. Fieldwork for national sample: February 2016, N=1000. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

For more information on CBOS services and publications please contact:

CBOS

5/7, Świętojska, 00-236 Warsaw, Poland

Phones: (48) 22 629 35 69, 22 628 37 04 Fax: (48) 22 629 40 89

e-mail: sekretariat@cbos.pl www.cbos.pl

Yearly subscription rate for "Polish Public Opinion" is 80 USD
Circulation: 70 copies

CBOS EXPERTISE

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

All sources must be credited when any part of this publication is reproduced

© COPYRIGHT BY CBOS, 2016