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Opinions about the National Independence Day and the politics of memory

The National Independence Day commemorating the rebirth of the Polish state in 1918, after 123 years of absence from the maps of Europe, has a special place in the calendar of Polish public holidays. After the Second World War, in the period of the People's Republic, the date of November 11 was condemned to oblivion. The policy of negation of the achievements of the interwar republic retained influence on the shape of the collective memory of Poles. Back in the second half of the 1990s, only a few were able to answer the question about what was celebrated on November 11 and why.

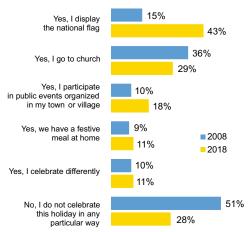
Currently, the vast majority of respondents (81%) correctly identify the date of 11 November. In comparison to 2008, the percentage of people correctly identifying this date increased by 5 percentage points.

Currently, the vast majority of **November 11 is a public holiday. What** respondents (81%) correctly **anniversary do we celebrate on this day?**



Currently, unlike a decade ago, the majority of Poles (72%) declare celebrating the Independence Day in some way (an increase by 23 percentage points). The most popular ways of celebrating 11 November are displaying the national flag (43%) and attending a mass (29%). Less often respondents declare that they take part in public celebrations (18%), celebrate the anniversary at home with a festive meal or in another way (11% each).

Do you personally celebrate the Independence Day on November 11?



 $Respondents\ could\ choose\ more\ than\ one\ answer.$

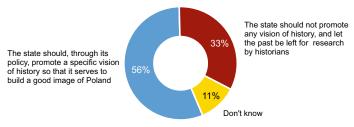
Compared to 2008, there has been an increase in the percentage of respondents who display the national flag and participate in public celebrations in their place of residence. There has been a decrease in participation in religious services.

November 11 is regarded by the public as the most important of the Polish anniversaries. Most respondents, when asked to indicate the dates that deserve a special commemoration, mention the National Independence Day (76%).

The Independence Day celebrations are part of the broadly understood historical policy (or politics of memory). This term covers all kinds of tools at the disposal of the state serving the creation of historical awareness, ranging from the content of school programs to the calendar of national holidays. It can be an instrument of strengthening the unity of the community, but it can also serve to build an image of the state and its position on the international arena.

Public opinion about the need to conduct historical policy are ambiguous. Clearly, however, proponents of the view that the state, through its policy, should promote a specific vision of history so that it would serve to build a good image of Poland prevail numerically (56%). A third of respondents (33%) are of the opinion that the state should not promote any vision of history, and let the past be left for research and discussion to historians.

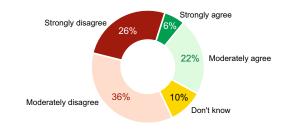
Which view is closer to your own opinion?



The politics of memory or historical policy can be pursued not only at the level of national states. An example of an attempt to build a common European memory is the House of European History opened in 2017: a museum dedicated to the history of Europe. For years, there have also been ideas for creating a common European textbook (strictly speaking: a handbook addressed to the citizens of the European Union).

The possibility of agreeing on one version of historical events in the form of a common European textbook arouses scepticism. Most respondents (62%) think that creating such a textbook is not possible, whereas 28% of respondents believe in the possibility of creating a common history textbook that would present the past in a way accepted by all countries.

Do you agree that it is possible in Europe to create a common history textbook that would present the past in a way that is acceptable to all states?

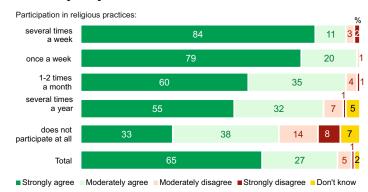


More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "National Independence Day and Politics of Memory", October 2018. Fieldwork for national sample: September 2018, N=1023. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

Memory of Pope John Paul II

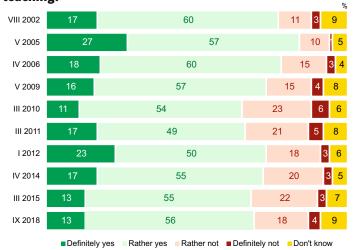
The memory of John Paul II is still alive in Polish society. For the vast majority of respondents (92%), the Pope remains an important moral authority. Although participation in religious practices has a certain impact on the recognition of the Polish Pope as a moral authority, even people who do not practice at all perceive him as such (71%).

Do you agree that Pope John Paul II is an important moral authority for you?



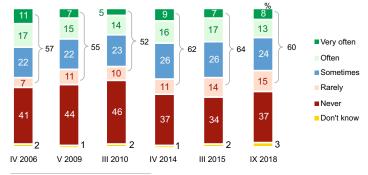
Over two-thirds of respondents (69%) declare that they follow the directions of John Paul II in life. The percentage of people who, in their own opinion, are guided by the teaching of John Paul II in life has not changed much in recent years. After 2005 we recorded a downward trend, however, after the beatification of the Pope (1 May 2011) it was halted and since then, the percentage of declarations regarding following the teaching of John Paul II has remained at a relatively stable level.

Do you consider yourself a person guided by John Paul II's teaching?



Three-fifths of respondents (60%) admit they prayed to ask John Paul II for help in some specific matter, including 21% praying to him many times.

In the last year did you pray to John Paul II asking him for help in a specific matter?



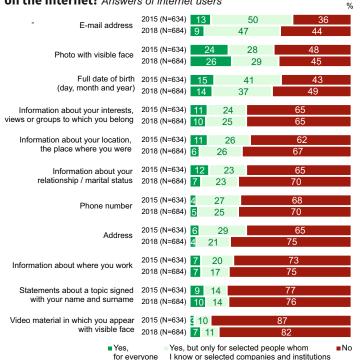
More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "The Memory of John Paul II Is Still Alive", October 2018. Fieldwork for national sample: September 2018, N=1023. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

Safety online

The key issue when it comes to online security is skilful privacy management. Along with the development of the Internet, including social networks, more and more data about us are available on the web and, importantly, most of them are voluntarily placed by users themselves. The most frequently available information online is: an e-mail address that has been placed by more than half of users (56%, including 9% who made it available for everyone), a photo with the face of the user (55%, including 26% sharing it with everyone), as well as the date of birth (51%, including 14% disclosing this information to all). About one third of internet users have published online (usually giving access to selected people or companies/ institutions) information about their interests, views or group affiliation (35%), location (32%), about their relationship/marital status (30%), as well as their telephone number (30%). Data with address of residence (25%), place of employment (24%), statements signed with name and surname (24%) and video materials enabling identification of the person publishing them (18%) were less frequently published online.

At present, less frequently than three years ago, users disclose their home and email addresses, birth dates, location information (where they are) and marital or relationship status online. In the case of the relationship status and location, there has been a decrease in the number of people who share the information with everyone. Compared with 2015, video materials where the user is recognizable are made available slightly more often.

Have you shared the following information about yourself on the Internet? Answers of internet users

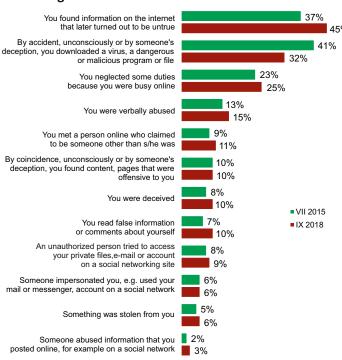


"Don't know" was omitted.

Personal information was almost universally posted on the Internet by people under 35 years of age, especially the youngest (18-24 years). They often published material available for all potential recipients.

The vast majority of Internet users (92%) define their way of using the web as safe. Nevertheless, a large part of users have had some negative experiences resulting from their presence on the web. The most frequently indicated risk associated with the use of the Internet is false information. Almost half of users read falsehood online (45%), most of them (40%) more than once. Viruses are second in the ranking. Malicious programs or infected files were downloaded by one third of respondents (32%), including one in five (20%) who did it more than once. A quarter (25%) neglected some obligation because of online activity, with the majority of them (23%) at least several times. About one-seventh (15%) have been verbally abused by someone online, including one-ninth (11%) who experienced it more than once. On the other hand, one tenth of internet users (10%) opened pages containing offensive content, with the majority of them (7%) several times or more. Every ninth Internet user (11%) met a person who claimed to be someone other than s/he was in reality. A similar percentage of users (10%) fell victim to fraud on the Internet and the same number (10%) saw false information or comments about themselves. Nine out of one hundred (9%) claim that an unauthorized person has tried to obtain or obtained access to their private files, e-mail or social network account.

Have you ever experienced the following situations while using the Internet? Affirmative answers of Internet users



In comparison to the results of the survey conducted three years ago, the scale of most negative experiences related to the use of the Internet remains relatively stable. The magnitude of the so-called fake news has increased: in

comparison to 2015, more Internet users declare that they have encountered false information on the Internet (an 8 point increase). On the other hand, contact with viruses and various other harmful applications has diminished (decrease by 9 points).

There is a link between posting personal information online and the experience of negative events (apart from the abuse of the Internet and contact with false information).

Percentage of users who experienced negative events in connection with Internet use.



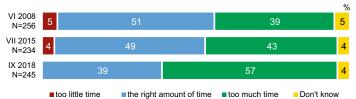
More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Internet Safety", October 2018. Fieldwork for national sample: September 2018, N=1023. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

Children and young people on the Internet in view of their guardians

Respondents with children or grandchildren aged between 6 and 19 years old, living with them in one household, usually (87%) declare that at least one of these children uses the Internet.

In your opinion, children / grandchildren spend on the Internet...

Answers of people who in their household have children or grandchildren aged 6 to 19 using Internet

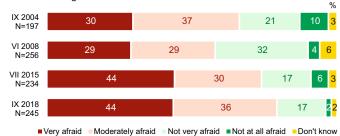


Over half of the carers (57%) believe that children or grandchildren living with them in one household spend too much time online. In the last three years this percentage has increased by 14 points.

Eight out of ten respondents are afraid of threats that children can face online. It is an increase by 6 percentage points compared to 2015 and by as much as 13 points compared to 2004.

Are you personally afraid of dangers children face on the Internet?

Answers of people who in their household have children or grandchildren aged 6 to 19 using Internet



Responses to an open-ended question show that adults are primarily concerned about dangerous contacts and friendships that a child can make online (54%, compared to 2015 a decrease by 4 percentage points), of which 30% express concerns about dangers of sexual nature, above all paedophilia. Parents or grandparents are concerned that minors will find harmful and inappropriate content on the web (37%), the biggest concerns being pornographic content (20%), less often violence, drastic and violent scenes in movies or games (6%). A quarter (25%, an increase of 7 percentage points compared to 2015) are concerned about dangers related to information security and finances, including disclosure of private information, use of personal data in a harmful way (4%). Parents or grandparents are concerned that their children or grandchildren will be exposed to bullying, slander, criticism or hate (14%, in the last 3 years this percentage has increased by 8 points). Relatively few respondents (8%) are afraid that minors will become addicted to the Internet or of other problems resulting from spending too much time online. Few (3%) believe that children can make online contact with sects and other dangerous groups. Compared to 2015, there has been a decrease in the percentage of people worried that children can get access to legal or illegal drugs or alcohol online (6% in 2015 and 2% currently).

More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Kids and Teenagers Online – Parents and Grandparents about Use of Internet and Threats", October 2018. Fieldwork for national sample: September 2018, N=1023. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

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