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26%

No. not interested

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Opinions on the protests in Belarus

Recently, the attention of world public opinion has been focused on peaceful social protests in Belarus, which broke out in response to the announcement of the results of the August presidential election, won, according to official

announcements, by the incumbent president, Alexander Lukashenko, who has held this office since 1994.

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Almost three quarters of

Almost three quarters of Poles (73%) declare their

interest in the recent events in Belarus, including one-seventh of the total (14%) who are very interested in them.

Do you agree that the results of the presidential elections in Belarus, according to official announcements won by the incumbent president Alexander Lukashenko, were falsified?



Almost three-quarters of respondents (73%) believe that the elections in Belarus were not fair and that their official result, which indicates that Alexander Lukashenko won, was rigged. Only six out of a hundred respondents (6%) are of the opposite opinion.

Two-thirds of Poles (59%) sympathize with the Belarusian protesters, who demand Alexander Lukashenko's resignation and fair presidential elections. Few of the respondents (4%) do not have a favorable

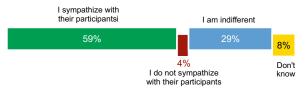
What is your attitude towards the protests organized by Belarusian citizens after the results of the presidential elections were announced?

Are you interested in recent events in Belarus?

Yes, moderately

interested

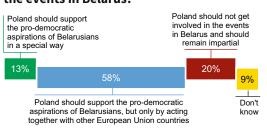
59%



attitude towards them. A large group (37%) are indifferent in this matter (29%) or are unable to respond (8%).

In the opinion of seven out of ten respondents (71%), Poland should take measures to support the pro-democratic aspirations of Belarusians, with the





majority of this group believing that we should act jointly with other European Union countries, while relatively few are in favour of unilateral action by Poland. According to one-fifth of respondents (20%), our country should remain impartial and not get involved in Belarus.

More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Poles about Protests in Belarus", September 2020. Fieldwork for national sample: August 2020, N=1149. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

Evaluation of validity of presidential elections

The vast majority of adult Poles (81%) claim that they did not notice any irregularities in the conduct of this year's presidential elections. The belief that some irregularities had occurred was expressed by 12% of respondents, which is much more than after last year's elections to the Sejm and Senate, when only one in a hundred respondents believed that there were some irregularities during those elections. The assessment of the correctness of the presidential elections is differentiated by respondents' vote in the second round of the elections. In the group of Andrzej Duda's voters, only 4% claim that there were some irregularities in the conduct of these elections. The voters of Rafał Trzaskowski, the rival of the incumbent president, have noticed irregularities in the last presidential elections much more often (27%).

Did you notice any irregularities in the conduct of the last presidential elections?



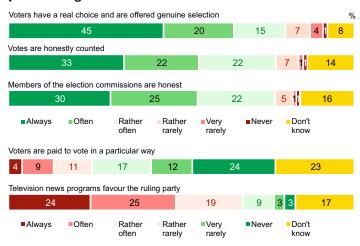
People who noticed electoral irregularities most often (22% in this group, i.e. 3% of all respondents) pointed to one-sided broadcasts on public television in support of Andrzej Duda's candidacy and unequal access of candidates to public media. Organizational problems with holding presidential elections abroad were indicated relatively often, which may have resulted in decreased participation of the Polish community abroad (19% of those who noticed any irregularities, which constitutes 2% of all respondents). Moreover, concerns were expressed about possible electoral fraud, including doubts about the conduct of these elections among people staying in nursing homes (18%, i.e. 2% of the total). Other irregularities were mentioned less frequently.

In general, in the opinion of most adult Poles, electoral procedures work properly in Poland. Four-fifths (80%) feel that voters have a real choice and are offered genuine selection. Slightly fewer people believe that members of election commissions are generally honest (78%) and the votes are counted correctly (77%). Moreover, over half of respondents (53%) believe that in Poland voters are paid to vote rarely or never at all. The picture is much worse as regards the impartiality of the media in Poland. According to over two-thirds of respondents (68%), TV news programs favour the candidates of the ruling party.

Assessments of the television stations in election campaigns are significantly differentiated by the vote in the second round of the last presidential election. The conviction that TV news programs during the elections in

Poland generally favour the ruling party is more often shared by Rafał Trzaskowski's voters from the second round (87%) than by voters of Andrzej Duda (57%).

How often, in your opinion, the following situations take place during the elections in Poland?

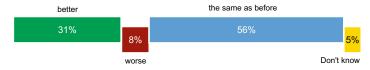


More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Evaluation of the Course of Presidential Elections and Functioning of Democratic Mechanisms and Electoral Procedures", September 2020. Fieldwork for national sample: August 2020, N=1149. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

President Andrzej Duda's second term in office: predictions and expectations

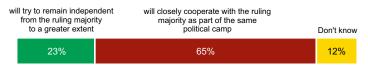
The survey shows a clear discrepancy between the predictions and expectations regarding the second term of President Andrzej Duda. Most people think that the president will perform his duties as before (56%). The others generally hope that Andrzej Duda's second term will be better than the previous one (31%). Only a few (8%) believe that the president will do his duties worse than before.

Do you think that during his second term in office, President Andrzej Duda will perform his duties:



Almost two-thirds of the respondents (65%) believe that the president will closely cooperate with the ruling majority, as part of the same political camp. Only about a quarter (23%) think that he will try to remain independent from PiS (Law and Justice) to a greater extent.

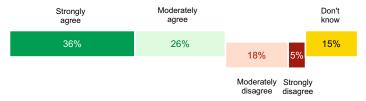
Do you think that in his second term in office, President Andrzej Duda:



Most people (62%) believe that President Andrzej Duda should change something in the way he performs his function. Less than a quarter (23%) do not wish for changes. Understandably, the voters of the opposition want changes in the way the president exercises power. However, these wishes also find a large group of supporters among the President's voters from the second round (43% of them are in favour of changes), and also among supporters of Law and Justice (37%).

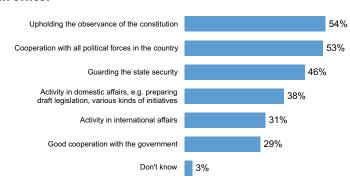
People who saw the need for change generally declared that the president should be more independent from the ruling majority (61% of this group).

Do you agree that Andrzej Duda should change the way he performs his office during his second term?



The most frequently expressed demands of the president concern guarding the observance of the constitution in Poland (54% of all respondents) and cooperating with all political forces in our country (53%). The third priority is taking care of state security, indicated by 46% of respondents.

What do you expect from the president in his second term in office?

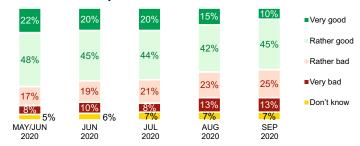


More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "President's Andrzej Duda Second Term of Office – Predictions and Expectations", September 2020. Fieldwork for national sample: August 2020, N=1149. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

September assessment the government policy on the epidemic

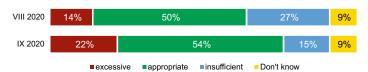
Opinions on the effectiveness of the government in fighting the epidemic are deteriorating month by month. Still, the majority of Poles (55%) positively assess the government actions aimed at combating the epidemic, whereas 38% are critical of the policy.

How do you assess the government policies to combat the coronavirus epidemic in Poland?



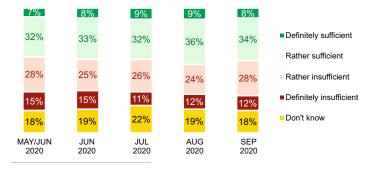
Despite the deterioration of the opinions on the government's effectiveness in combating the epidemic which occurred between August and September, the number of people satisfied with the scale of the restrictions in operation grew during this period. Moreover, the percentage of Poles who believe that restrictions are excessive has increased, and the proportion of respondents who think they are insufficient has decreased. According to more than half (54%), the currently binding restrictions are adequate to the situation. Others more often consider them too farreaching (22%) than think that they are insufficient (15%).

Are current restrictions related to coronavirus:



Until August, with each passing month, Poles improved their assessment of the government actions aimed at helping Polish enterprises and their employees. This positive trend collapsed in September. Currently, a total of 42% of respondents believe that the state support for companies and employees is sufficient, while 40% consider it to be insufficient.

Are the government actions aimed at helping Polish companies and their employees:



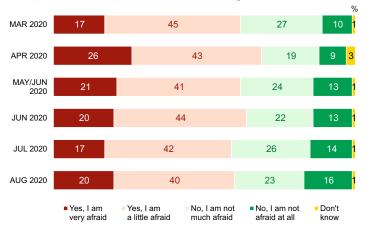
More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "The Government against Coronavirus Epidemic – Opinions in September", September 2020. Fieldwork for national sample: September 2020, N=1149. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

Attitude towards the epidemic

The level of anxiety related to coronavirus infection among Poles is fairly stable, and the fear of the disease in

subsequent measurements changes only to a small extent. In March, when the first case of coronavirus infection was recorded in Poland, a total of 62% of adult Poles expressed their fears in this respect, and currently 60% do.

Are you personally afraid of contracting the coronavirus?



Age is the factor that differentiates the fear of COVID-19 to the greatest extent. The lowest level of concern is characteristic of the youngest respondents, up to 34 years of age (44% in August). People from the age group in which the course of the disease is the most severe, i.e. the oldest over 65, fear infection the most (81%).

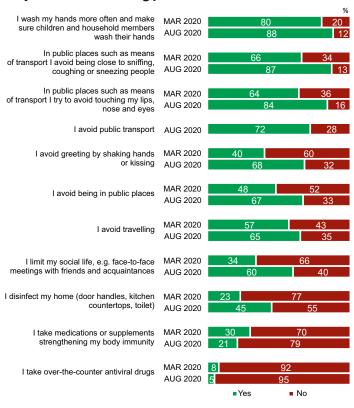
The coronavirus outbreak has modified everyday social behaviour. Compared to the beginning of the coronavirus epidemic in Poland, the social sphere related to direct contacts with other people has changed the most. In March, only two fifths of the respondents (40%) declared that they did not greet others by shaking hands or kissing. Currently, more than two thirds of Poles avoid doing it (68%). We also observe other changes in social habits. Compared to March, the percentage of people limiting social contacts (personal meetings with friends or acquaintances) has increased significantly. Currently, three-fifths of respondents (60%) consciously limit their social life, while in March such declarations were made by only one-third (34%).

Poles care more about hygiene in their home or apartment, disinfecting door handles, kitchen worktops and toilets more often than in March (45%, an increase of 22 percentage points). To a greater extent, they try to consciously control their surroundings and their behaviour during stays in public places. In transport and

other places where many people are present, they avoid being near people with visible signs of infection, such as runny nose, coughing or sneezing (87%, an increase of 21 points). They try not to touch their mouth, nose and eyes with their hands (84%, an increase of 20 points). Many people physically limit their activity and have closed themselves in the sphere of privacy, avoiding as much as possible public places (67%, an increase of 19 points). The number of people limiting travel has increased less; the increase is also small in case of the already high percentage of people declaring frequent and careful washing of their hands (65% and 88% respectively, in both cases an increase of 8 percentage points).

On the other hand, the percentage of people taking drugs or diet supplements to strengthen their immunity decreased slightly compared to March (drop by 9 points), and fewer respondents use over-the-counter antiviral drugs (drop by 3 points).

Do you use the following preventive measures:



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Changes in Preventive Behaviours during the Epidemic", September 2020. Fieldwork for national sample: August 2020, N=1149. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

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