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Opinions about the dispute with the EU and membership in this organization

The dispute between the Polish authorities and the European Union has intensified recently. The issue of the greatest importance is the change in the judiciary. The reservations of the European Commission regarding the reform of the justice system in Poland were once again shared by the Court of Justice of the EU, stating in the judgment of 15 July 2021, inter alia, that the Disciplinary Chamber of the Supreme Court "does not fully guarantee independence and impartiality, and in particular is not protected against direct or indirect influence of the Polish legislative and executive authorities". Another issue evoking a lot of emotions in which a decision unfavourable for Poland was issued concerns the suspension of coal extraction in the Turów mine. The Polish authorities question the decisions and judgments of the CJEU in both of these cases. The issue of the so-called resolutions against the LBGT ideology adopted by local government authorities at various levels is currently less prominent, as some local authorities have already withdrawn them. The Polish-European Union dispute was exacerbated by the judgment of the Polish Constitutional Tribunal, which ruled that some provisions of the EU Treaty are inconsistent with the Polish Constitution, confirming the supremacy of the Constitution over EU law. In addition, due to reservations regarding compliance with the rule of law, the European Commission is delaying the approval of the Polish National Reconstruction Plan and the transfer of money from the Reconstruction Fund to Poland.

Should the state authorities suspend extraction in the Turów mine pending a hearing by the Court of Justice of the European Union or not?



The uniformity of opinions in Polish society is greatest regarding the decision to suspend the operation of the Turów mine until the case is considered by the CJEU. Most respondents (60%) believe that

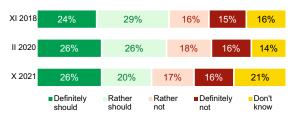
Poland should not suspend mining. The opposite opinion is expressed by slightly more than one-fifth (21%).

The other two issues are more controversial, and each of them shows a greater willingness to make concessions than in the case of the Turów mine.

Overall, 46% of respondents believe that Poland should take into account the

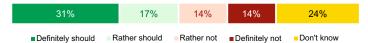
recommendations and decisions of EU bodies regarding the reform of the judiciary. Every third respondent (33%) is against it. In previous studies carried out in 2018 and 2020, the percentage of supporters of concessions was slightly higher than today (53% and 52%, respectively).

Should the state authorities take into account the recommendations and decisions of the European Union bodies regarding the reform of the judiciary or not?



Almost half of Poles (48%) believe that local government authorities should withdraw from the adopted resolutions "against LGBT ideology". More than a quarter (28%) are of the opposite opinion.

Should local authorities withdraw from the adopted resolutions "against LGBT ideology" or not?



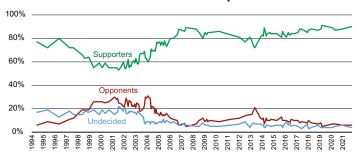
Almost half of the people (49%) believe that the delay by the European Commission of the approval of the National Reconstruction Plan and the payment of money for Poland from the EU Reconstruction Fund is an unacceptable form of pressure on the Polish authorities. The EC's activity is approved by nearly one-third (31%).

Is the delay by the European Commission of the approval of the National Reconstruction Plan and the payment of money for Poland from the EU Reconstruction Fund:



Despite the escalating dispute between Poland and the European Union, public support for Poland's membership in the EU remains very high. Our country's membership in this organization is supported by 90% of adult Poles. Only 6% are against our presence in the Community.

Attitude towards Poland's membership in the EU



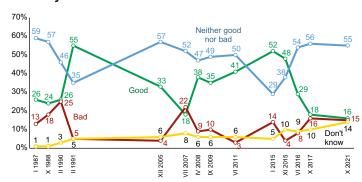
More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Poles about Dispute with the EU and Membership in This Organization", October 2021. Fieldwork for national sample: October 2021, N=1161. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

Perception of Polish-German relations

More than half of Poles (55%) perceive the current Polish-German relations as average, i.e. neither good nor bad. Others describe them as good (16%) or bad (15%). The assessments of Polish-German relations are similar to those recorded four years ago and are among the worst since January 1987, when we asked Poles about this issue for the first time. Public opinion on relations between Poland and Germany are characterized by high volatility. In CBOS surveys, they were best assessed in February

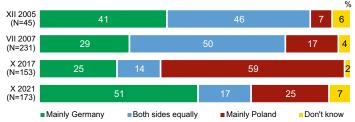
1991, shortly after the signing of the Polish-German border treaty. Positive assessments of mutual relations also prevailed at the end of the rule of the PO-PSL coalition in 2015. After Law and Justice (PiS) took government at the end of 2015, the perception of relations between Poland and Germany deteriorated quite quickly and very clearly.

How do you evaluate the current Polish-German relations?



Four years ago in October 2017, people who assessed Polish-German relations as bad, usually thought that the responsibility for bad relations was mainly borne by the Polish side. Currently, more than half of people who perceive Polish-German relations as bad (51%) blame the German side for this state of affairs.

Which side is more responsible for the poor condition of Polish-German relations?



Answers from people who think that the current Polish-German relations are bad.

In order to understand the reason for the poor assessments of Polish-German relations, respondents were asked to identify which issues are currently the biggest problem in mutual relations. Respondents answered an open question, formulating their own opinions. The answers generally referred to current political issues (often presented in a broader EU context), and less frequently to historical problems. When it comes to historical references, the issue of war reparations for Poland was raised the most frequently (12% of respondents in total). The remaining persons generally mentioned the Second World War and the events related to it (2%) or generally indicated the historical burdens on Polish-German relations (2%).

A large group of people criticized the attitude of both, or, more often, one of the parties. In this context, people mentioned Germany's domination in Europe and pressure on Poland, including through EU institutions, and German interference in the internal affairs of our country (5%). Those who were critical of the policy of the Polish authorities indicated their anti-German rhetoric

and a hostile attitude towards Germany (3%). Some respondents (3%) stated that there was a problem with mutual understanding and a lack of goodwill in neighbourly relations.

Some specific points of dispute and controversy were indicated. The most frequently mentioned was the construction of the Nord Stream II gas pipeline (12%) and the German-Russian rapprochement in general (1%). Economic problems in Polish-German relations were pointed out relatively often (5%), though generally quite briefly. Fears of German economic domination were directly expressed. The differences of positions between Poland and Germany regarding the admission of refugees and the migration policy were relatively often pointed out (4%). The divergent views on energy, climate and environmental policy were also emphasized (3%). Reference was also made to EU funds and the EU budget: apart from quite vague statements, there was talk of the distribution of money in the EU being unfavourable for Poland, as well as to the postponed payment of money for Poland from the Reconstruction Fund (2% in total). The other issues were: the dispute over the rule of law (1%), the pressure from Germany on the Polish justice system (1%), attitudes towards LGBT people (1%), the legal regulation of abortion (1%) and the functioning of the European Union in general, its future shape and disputes within this organization (1%). Respondents also sometimes referred to the inequality of living conditions. The differences in the standard of living in Poland and Germany as well as the disproportions in earnings (1%) were indicated. Moreover, some people referred to economic emigration of Poles to Germany and discrimination of Poles on the German labour market (1%).

Almost half of respondents could not identify any problem in Polish-German relations (47%) or, less frequently, claimed that they did not see any problems, and that cooperation between Poland and Germany was good (4%).

Angela Merkel leaves the office of the German chancellor after 16 years of holding her position. Most people (56%) believe that from Poland's point of view, taking into account the entire period of her rule, Angela Merkel was a good chancellor of Germany. One-fifth (20%) are of the opposite opinion.

From Poland's point of view, was Angela Merkel a good chancellor of Germany, taking into account the entire period of her rule?



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Polish-German Relations - Evaluation and Perceived Problems", November 2021. Fieldwork for national sample: October 2021, N=1161. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

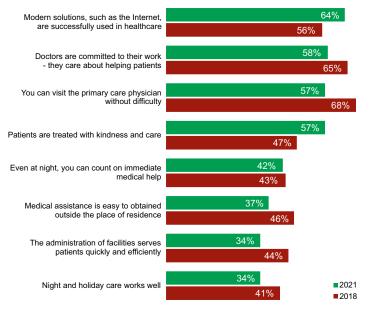
Strengths and weaknesses of public health service

Most respondents appreciate the professional level of doctors (66%) and their commitment to work (58%). More than a half are positive about the availability of primary care physicians (57%) and their diagnoses, claiming that they correctly recognize patients' problems and make appropriate decisions as to what to do next (55%). Most Poles are also positive about the use of modern solutions used in treatment, e.g. the Internet (64%), and the use of modern medical equipment (53%). Almost half believe that patients treated under the National Health Fund are treated with kindness and care (47%). Positive opinions prevail in the assessments of the availability of medical assistance outside the place of residence (37% positive, 25% negative), although a significant number of people do not have an opinion on this subject (38%). On the other hand, in the evaluation of the availability of night and holiday care and the availability of immediate assistance at night, opinions are divided: positive and negative opinions are formulated comparably often (34% versus 33% and 42% versus 42%, respectively). Negative opinions prevail in the evaluation of the remaining aspects of the functioning of the health care system. About half of Poles have reservations about the location of the facilities (51%) and the quick and efficient service of patients by the administration of the facilities (54%). Most respondents negatively assess the availability and the possibility to quickly perform diagnostic tests under the National Health Fund (66%). The vast majority are dissatisfied with the insufficient number of staff in hospitals (71%) and difficulties in accessing specialists (82%).

In comparison with 2018 (i.e. to the period before the pandemic), the assessments of most of the aspects of health care have deteriorated, and many of them are among the worst recorded in the history of CBOS surveys. The percentage of respondents positively assessing nighttime medical assistance (a decrease by 16 percentage points), positively perceiving the availability of primary health care physicians (a decrease by 11 points), believing that patients are treated with care and kindness (a decrease by 10 points), satisfied with the speed and efficiency of service by the administration (a decrease by 10 points), convinced that it is easy to obtain assistance outside their place of residence (a decrease by 9 points), and confident that medical care uses modern medical equipment (a decrease by 6 points) fell significantly. These aspects of healthcare system are among the worst assessed since we started monitoring them. Compared to 2018, the proportion of people convinced that doctors are involved in their work (a decrease by 7 points) and that doctors are competent (a decrease by 4 points) also fell.

Compared to 2018, the percentage of people who believe that modern solutions, e.g. the Internet are successfully used in healthcare, increased by 8 points.

Do you agree with the following opinions on the medical services available under the general health insurance in the National Health Fund? Affirmative answers.

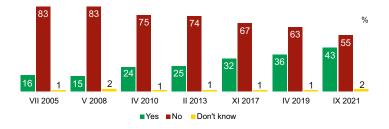


More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Opinions about Healthcare System", October 2021. Fieldwork for national sample: September 2021, N=1218. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

Attitude towards homosexual people

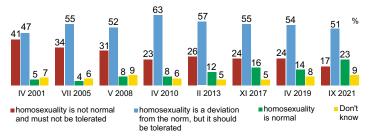
Since 2008, the percentage of respondents who personally know someone with a homosexual orientation has been gradually increasing. In 2021, this percentage increased by 7 points compared to the previous study and reached a record level (43%). This is almost three times more than thirteen years ago, when the proportion was 15%.

Do you personally know a gay or a lesbian?



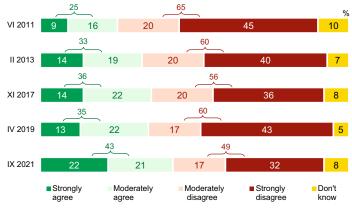
The increase in the percentage of people who personally know someone with a homosexual orientation is accompanied by a clear change in the attitude of Poles towards this group. In 2021, almost a quarter considered homosexuality as normal (23%), which is an increase by 9 percentage points compared to the survey from two years ago. The prevailing opinion is that homosexuality is a deviation from the norm, but should be tolerated - this view is shared by about half of respondents (51%). On the other hand, there is a clear decrease in the number of respondents who believed that homosexuality is abnormal and should not be tolerated. Their number has fallen by 7 percentage points since 2019, and now they constitute 17% of Poles. In 2001, 41% of respondents had this opinion.

Which view is closest to your own opinion:



Public support for legalizing gay and lesbian partnerships is growing. Currently, 43% of Poles are in favour of the possibility of same-sex couples entering into formal partnerships (compared to 35% in 2019), while the plurality are against it (49%, a decrease by 11 points).

Do you agree that two people of the same sex living together should be able to enter into formal partnerships?



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Improvement of Attitude towards Homosexuals", October 2021. Fieldwork for national sample: September 2021, N=1218. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

For more information on CBOS services and publications please contact:

CBOS

5/7, Świętojerska, 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

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