

# POLISH **PUBLICOPINION** 4/2022

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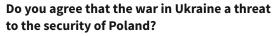
## **IN ADDITION**

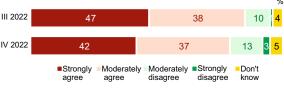
TO THE REPORTS REFERRED TO ABOVE. THE FOLLOWING HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED **RECENTLY (IN POLISH):** 

- The 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Polish Constitution
- Opinions about Public Institutions
- The Political Scene in Spring 2022 -**Electoral Alternatives and Negative** Electorates
- Political Party Preferences in April
- Lent and Easter in 2022
- Opinions about Parliament and President
- Trust in Politicians in April
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- The End of the Coronavirus Epidemic?
- Attitude to Government in April

## **Opinions of Poles about support** for the fight in Ukraine

Since March, the sense of threat related to the Russian attack on Ukraine has diminished somewhat. Still. the vast majority of Poles (79%, 6 points less than last month) believe that the war in

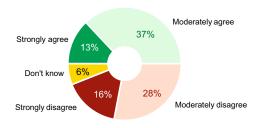




Ukraine threatens the security of our country.

The international community reacted to the outbreak of the war in Ukraine in a more decisive manner than in the case of earlier conflicts caused by Putin's Russia. Western countries support Ukraine, incl. preparing and implementing

Do you agree that the international community doing enough to help Ukraine?



subsequent packages of sanctions, providing it with weapons and various types of assistance. However, many politicians consider the measures to be insufficient. Public opinion in Poland is divided in the assessments of the scale of international support for Ukraine. Half of respondents believe that the

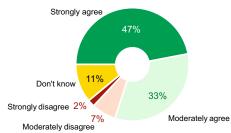
international community is doing enough to help Ukraine, but a slightly smaller percentage (44%) is of the opposite opinion.

The perception of the scale of support for Ukraine is to some extent conditioned by fears of the spread of the conflict to Poland. Respondents strongly expressing the conviction that the war threatens the security of our country more than others criticize the insufficiency, in their opinion, of the aid provided to Ukraine (in total 54% of them judge it as insufficient).

The embargo on energy resources is one of the most severe sanctions against Russia. For now, the European Union has approved a ban on the import of Russian coal (from mid-August 2022). The demand for an embargo on Russian oil and gas is much more controversial among the Member States. However, this

move meets with an almost unequivocally favourable attitude of the public opinion in Poland. Overall, four-fifths of respondents (80%) support the ban of Russian gas and oil imports, whereas only 9% are against it. The overwhelming majority (93%) of those in favour of the EU's imposition of an embargo on Russian oil and gas declare that they maintain their support

#### Do you agree that the European Union should ban the import of gas and oil from Russia?

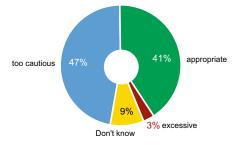


for this move, even if it is associated with an increase in the prices of these commodities. This means that among all respondents, the percentage of those in favour of blocking the import of Russian gas and oil by the EU, even if it causes their prices to rise, is 76%.

The Member States of the North Atlantic Alliance have been supplying Ukraine with weapons since the beginning of the invasion, but at the same time NATO firmly rejects the possibility of direct involvement in the war. Due to fears of an escalation of the conflict, the closure of the airspace over Ukraine was refused. President Zelensky continually reiterates calls to supply Ukraine with weapons: air defence systems, aircraft, tanks, other armoured vehicles, artillery systems and ammunition.

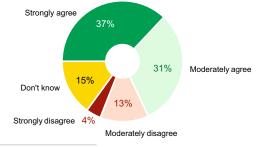
Public assessment of NATO's actions in relation to the war in Ukraine is ambiguous. Nearly half of respondents (47%) consider them as too cautious. However, a slightly smaller group (41%) believe the actions of the alliance to be appropriate. Only very few (3%) assess them as excessive.

#### Are NATO's actions in the war in Ukraine:



Overall, more than two-thirds of respondents (68%) support the transfer by NATO of offensive weapons to Ukraine, such as tanks and combat aircraft.

# Do you agree that NATO should give Ukraine offensive weapons (e.g. tanks, combat aircraft)?

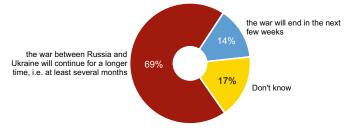


More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Poles about Support for Fighting Ukraine", April 2022. Fieldwork for national sample: April 2022, N=1030. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

# Scenarios of the development of the situation in Ukraine

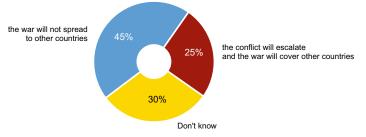
In public opinion, there is no quick end to the war in Ukraine. According to 69% of respondents, the conflict will last longer, at least several months. Only 14% believe that the end of hostilities is a matter of the next few weeks.

#### Which view is closer to your own opinion:



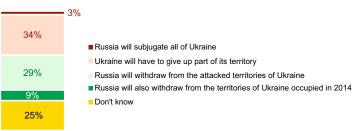
Defining the geographical scope of the war in the future is more difficult than predicting the duration of hostilities. The prevailing opinion is that the conflict will not spread to other countries (45%). The involvement of other countries in the war is expected by one-fourth of Poles.

#### Which view is closer to your own opinion:



Poles are divided in their opinions as to whether the war will be settled in their favour by the Russians or the Ukrainians. If the Ukrainians' victory in the war is considered to be at least the restoration of the status quo before February 24, 2022, then, based on the declarations, the chances of achieving this goal are half and half. Russia's withdrawal from the attacked territories of Ukraine is predicted by 29% of respondents, and a further 9% hope that Russia will also be forced to hand over the areas it occupied in 2014 to Ukraine. The group of pessimists is more or less equal: they are people forecasting that Ukraine will have to give up a part of its territory (34%) or believing that Russia will be able to subjugate all of Ukraine (3%).

#### How do you think the war will end?



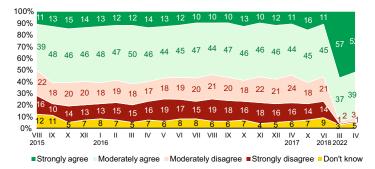
More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Scenarios for the War in Ukraine", April 2022. Fieldwork for national sample: April 2022, N=1030. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

## Ukrainian refugees in Poland

About 3 million people from Ukraine have entered Poland since Russia's invasion of Ukraine. The influx of such a huge number of people presents the state and Polish society with unprecedented challenges consisting in the need to organize assistance for Ukrainian refugees and their integration.

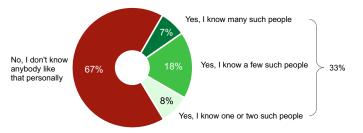
There remains an almost unanimously favourable attitude towards the reception of refugees from Ukraine in Poland. The belief that our country should accept them is expressed by more than nine out of ten respondents (91% vs. 94% in March).

# Do you agree that Poland should accept Ukrainian refugees from the areas affected by the conflict?



Three-quarters (75%) state that there are people who came from Ukraine to escape the war in their area of residence. One-third of the general public (33%) know personally someone who came to Poland from Ukraine after February 24 this year.

## Do you know personally someone who came to Poland from Ukraine after February 24 this year?



Respondents are divided in their predictions as to whether refugees from Ukraine who came to Poland after the outbreak of the war will remain in our country. The belief that most of them will leave when the war is over prevails minimally (45% versus 40%).

# Do you think that the majority of refugees from Ukraine in Poland, after the end of the war...

will stay in our country	will leave Poland	Don't know	
40%	45%	15%	

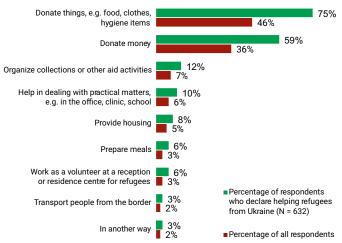
Almost two-thirds (63%) claim that someone in their household helps refugees from Ukraine. Helping is facilitated by a higher socio-economic status. It is more often done by respondents with higher education (79%), respondents with relatively high income per person in the household (PLN 3,000 or more: 76%) and residents of the largest cities (73%). People who are most involved in religious practices (77%) also stand out in this respect. Do you or someone in your household offer help to refugees from Ukraine voluntarily and free of charge?

 Yes
 No

 63%
 37%

Most often, material and financial assistance is provided. Three-quarters of respondents who reported that their household helps refugees donate items such as clothes, hygiene products or food (75%), and about six out of ten give money (59%). Forms of assistance based on direct involvement are less widespread. They include: organizing collections and other aid actions (12%), assisting in various matters, e.g. in offices, clinics, schools (10%), providing refugees with a house or apartment (8%), preparing meals (6%), working as a volunteer at a reception and accommodation point (6%) and transporting people from the Polish-Ukrainian border (3%). Other, spontaneously mentioned forms of help were such activities as: involvement in information campaigns on the Internet, education (language teaching, tutoring in other subjects), free medical assistance, job offers, free provision of various services and donation of firewood.

Do you or someone from your household do the following to help refugees from Ukraine? Please indicate all applicable answers.

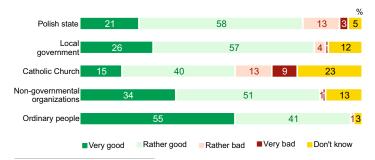


Two-thirds of Poles (67%) believe that the help our country offers to refugees from Ukraine is sufficient. Among the remainder, the belief that the aid is too big (18%) is more frequent than the opinion that it is too small (7%).

The majority of respondents positively perceive the actions of the Polish state towards refugees (79% as compared to 16% who were of the opposite opinion). The involvement of local governments (83% compared to 5%) and non-governmental organizations (85% compared to 2%) is assessed even better. Against this background, opinions about the Catholic Church actions towards refugees are slightly more diverse, as more than half of Poles (55%) evaluate them positively, and more than one-fifth (22%) have a bad opinion. A relatively high percentage does not have a clear opinion about them (23%). Poles almost universally (96%) positively assess the

involvement of ordinary people in activities for refugees from Ukraine.

# How do you generally assess the actions of [...] towards refugees from Ukraine?



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Poles on Refugees from Ukraine", April 2022. Fieldwork for national sample: April 2022, N=1030. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

### Assessment of Joe Biden's visit to Poland and Polish-American relations

On 25–26 March this year, one month after the start of Russia's armed invasion of Ukraine, the President of the United States, Joe Biden, visited Poland. The visit began in Rzeszów with a meeting with the American soldiers stationed there. The president also met with representatives of the Polish authorities and with a delegation of the Ukrainian government and gave a speech in the courtyard of the Royal Castle in Warsaw, whose content was widely reported around the world. During his visit, President Biden reiterated his assurances about allied obligations regarding the possible defence of Polish borders in connection with Russia's armed aggression against Ukraine.

Nearly two-thirds of Poles appreciate the importance of the recent visit by US President Joe Biden to Poland, with 21% believing that, overall, it was very important, and 44% saying it was important.

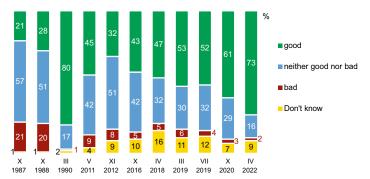
Before the last presidential election in the United States in October 2020, more than two-fifths of adult Poles (41%) believed that, from Poland's point of view, Donald Trump, the Republican incumbent seeking re-election, would be a better president than Joe Biden, representing the Democratic Party (15%). Currently, Poles most often (37%) say that President Joe Biden performs in his office better than they expected, including 11% for whom the difference between their expectations and the actual activities of the current US leader is a strong positive. Nearly a third (32%) say the presidency of Joe Biden is about what they expected, and only 7% express disappointment with the way the current US president holds office. Respondents declaring right-wing political views (52%) most often admitted to being positively surprised by the presidency of Joe Biden.

#### In your opinion, is the President of the United States, Joe Biden, performing his duties in office:

							/0
	11	26	32		52	24	
1	much bette			slightly worse		much worse	Don't
	than expe	cted than expected	as expected	than expecte	d 1	han expected	know

Currently, Polish-American relations are positively assessed by nearly three-fourths of respondents (73%). From October 2020, the percentage of people positively assessing Polish-American relations has increased by 12 percentage points, and since July 2019 by as much as 21 points.

#### **Evaluation of the current Polish-American relations**



Public assessments of Polish-American relations are currently the best since March 1990, when 80% described them as good. In the 21st century, these assessments changed dynamically. Mutual relations were perceived worst in November 2012, when less than one-third (32%) considered them good. In the following years, the ratings gradually improved.

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More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Assessment of Joe Biden's Visit in Poland, His Presidency and Polish-American Relations", April 2022. Fieldwork for national sample: April 2022, N=1030. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.