

# **POLISH PUBLICOPINION**

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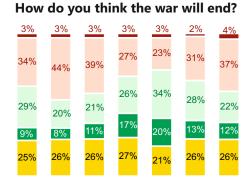
TO THE REPORTS REFERRED TO ABOVE. THE FOLLOWING HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED **RECENTLY (IN POLISH):** 

- Attitude to Government in January
- Year of War The Most Important Event of the Year 2022 for Poland and for the World
- · Outside the Blocs and Coalitions -Support for Political Parties if They Were Running Independently
- Poles about Nicolaus Copernicus
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- · Trust in Politicians in February
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### War in Ukraine and the international reaction

Since the beginning of the year, we have been observing a decrease in Poles' optimism regarding the outcome of the war in Ukraine. While at the end of last

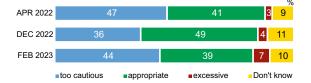
year most respondents believed in a favourable scenario for Ukraine, currently negative forecasts prevail. The largest part of respondents believe that Ukraine will have to give up part of its territory (37%), and some (4%) even predict that the Russians will take control over all of Ukraine. The withdrawal of Russia from the territories attacked a year ago is predicted by 22% of respondents, and the withdrawal of Russian forces from the territories occupied in 2014 is a scenario for 12%.



- ■Russia will subjugate all of Ukraine
- Ukraine will have to give up part of its territory
- Russia will withdraw from the attacked territories of Ukraine
- Russia will also withdraw from the territories of Ukraine occupied in 2014
- Don't know

Since December last year, there has also been an intensification of the feeling that the actions of NATO countries in the face of the war in Ukraine are too cautious. This opinion is currently shared by

### Are the actions of NATO member states towards the war in Ukraine...



44% of respondents. Only a slightly higher percentage consider them as appropriate or - rarely - as excessive (46% in total).

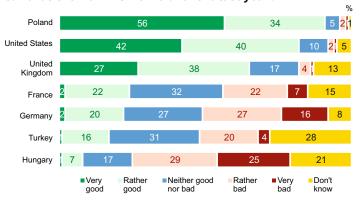
During the year of the war in Ukraine, many countries

around the world reacted to the conflict through official declarations, imposition of sanctions, humanitarian aid or supplies of military equipment, more or less explicitly supporting one of the sides of the conflict. From the very beginning, Poland took a clear position, supporting the attacked Ukraine in various ways and calling on other countries to do the same. Meanwhile, within the European Union alone, clear differences in approach to the Russian invasion have become apparent, making it sometimes difficult for it to speak with one voice.

Poles appreciate the actions of their country in the face of the war in Ukraine: 90% of respondents speak positively of them. Most respondents also praise the attitude of the United States (82%) and Great Britain (65%). In case of the remaining countries, negative assessments prevailed over favourable ones. Hungary received the worst rating (54% negative and only 8% positive), indicating that its resistance to sanctions against Russia and rejection of military support for Ukraine weakened the previously close relations between our countries. Secondly, Germany received the most critical ratings (43% vs. 22% positive); this country was repeatedly accused of being indecisive, having links

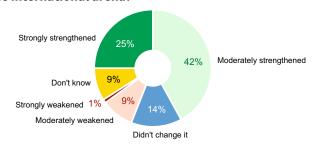
with Russia, or for supporting Ukraine to an extent not commensurate with its economic potential. With regard to the other two countries in our ranking, i.e. France and Turkey, negative ratings outweighed positive to a lesser extent, and ambivalent answers ("neither good nor bad") dominated (32% for France and 31% for Turkey).

# How do you assess the attitude of the following countries towards the war in Ukraine over the last year?



Most respondents (67%) feel that the year of war in Ukraine has strengthened Poland's position on the international arena. One-seventh (14%) believe that it has not changed, and only one-tenth (10%) claim that it has weakened.

# In your opinion, has the year of war in Ukraine strengthened or weakened Poland's position on the international arena?



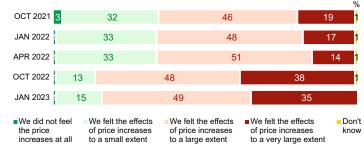
More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Poles on the War in Ukraine One Year after Its Outbreak", February 2023. Fieldwork for national sample: February 2023, N=982. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

## Inflation and public finances

Inflation in Poland remains high. According to preliminary data of the Central Statistical Office, in January the increase in prices of consumer goods and services was higher than in the previous month and amounted to 17.2%, compared to 16.6% in December 2022.

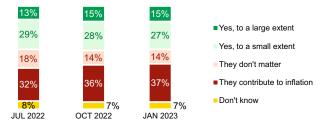
Inflation is strongly felt by Poles. Currently, nearly half of respondents feel the effects of price increases to a large extent (49%), and more than one third (35%) experience them to a very large extent. On the other hand, the people who feel them to a small extent (15%) or do not feel them at all (1%) are a small minority.

### To what extent are price increases felt in your household?



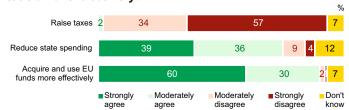
Assessments of the government's policy on mitigating price increases and its effects on citizens are quite ambiguous. A significant proportion of respondents believe that the government's actions contribute to mitigating price increases and its effects on citizens (42%), including 15% who believe that to a large extent. Oneseventh believe that they are of little importance (14%), and a considerable number of respondents believe that they actually contribute to inflation (37%). Opinions on this subject have practically not changed in the last three months.

# Do government actions contribute to mitigating price increases and their impact on citizens?



Referring to the current economic and financial situation of the country, the vast majority of respondents currently expect more effective acquisition and use of EU funds (90%). A clear majority are also in favour of cutting state spending (75%). Almost universal opposition (91%) is raised by the possibility of raising taxes.

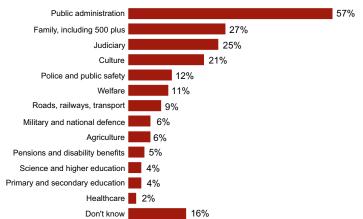
# What should be done in the current economic and financial situation of the country?



If it were necessary to reduce state expenditure, Poles would first look for savings in expenditure on public administration (57%), and secondly, much less often, they would reduce spending on supporting families, including the Family 500 plus program (27%), the judiciary (25%) and culture (21%). More than one in ten would be willing to reduce spending on the police, public safety and welfare programs. On the other hand, Poles do not want to reduce spending on health care, primary and secondary education as well as on science and higher education.

## If it were necessary to reduce state expenditure, in what areas should there be savings?

Responses of people who believe that state expenditure should be reduced (N=773)



Poles have high hopes for the National Reconstruction Plan, the money from which, according to the vast majority (73%), will have a significant impact on the economic and financial situation of the country.

### Do you agree that the money from the National Reconstruction Plan will have a significant impact on the economic and financial situation of the country?



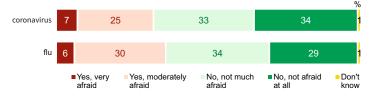
More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "On Inflation and Public Finance", February 2023. Fieldwork for national sample: January 2023, N=1028. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

# COVID-19 and flu: which is the bigger threat

Two years after the WHO gave the official name COVID-19 to the disease caused by the new coronavirus, following lockdowns and other non-pharmaceutical interventions to slow the spread of the virus, and above all after the development of vaccines and a mass vaccination campaign, SARS-CoV-2 is starting to be treated like other viruses that cause respiratory diseases in humans.

In February, more adult Poles declared that they were personally afraid of contracting influenza than coronavirus (36% vs. 32%), with the percentages of people declaring very high fears similar in both cases (6% and 7%, respectively).

#### Are you personally afraid of contracting ...



Declared fear of being infected with both viruses is most differentiated by the age of respondents. People aged 65+ are afraid of infection much more often than younger respondents (56% for both viruses). In particular, the oldest part of this age group, i.e. respondents who are at least 75 years old are particularly concerned (67% declare fear in the case of coronavirus and 57% for influenza).

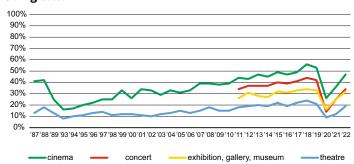
More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "COVID-19 or Influenza - Which Are We More Afraid of?", February 2023. Fieldwork for national sample: February 2023, N=982. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

# Activities and experiences of Poles in 2022

Changes in the scale of activity of Poles in 2022 indicate that after two weaker years, with restrictions experienced due to the COVID-19 pandemic, everyday life is returning to normal.

Compared to 2020-2021, the scale of participation of Poles in cultural events has clearly increased. Almost half of respondents (47%, 11 percentage points more than in 2021) went to the cinema last year. Compared to 2021, there were also noticeably more people at concerts (34%, increase by 9 points), at the exhibitions in galleries or museums (32%, increase by 7 points) and in theatres (19%, increase by 7 points). While going to the cinema and to a concert are still less frequent than before the epidemic, museums, galleries and theatres are already enjoying popularity similar to 2019. It is also worth remembering that not all changes and processes should be attributed solely to the epidemic. For example, the decline in the popularity of the cinema can be the result of the growing audience of streaming services, which may mean that going to the cinema will never be as frequent as it used to be.

## Activities in a given year (participation at least once). Going to...



The COVID-19 epidemic limited social life, although 2021 was already noticeably better than 2020 in this respect. In 2022 there was further improvement. Compared to 2021, the popularity of going out to restaurants with family or friends has increased. It was reported by three-quarters of respondents (76%, an increase of 8 percentage points).

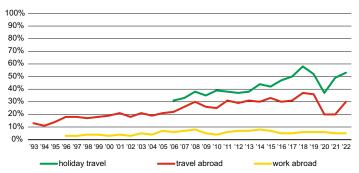
There were also more people who organized a party for a group of friends and acquaintances (increase from 63% to 70%). The popularity of reading a book remains unchanged compared to 2021. In 2022, six out of ten Poles (60%) read a book for pleasure. The scale and frequency of reading books has been stable in the last four years. Nearly a third of adults (30%) attended a sporting event last year. This is more than in 2021 by 8 percentage points, but still slightly less than before the COVID-19 epidemic.

#### Activities in a given year (participation at least once):



Despite high inflation, the percentage of Poles going on vacation last year reached the pre-pandemic level. At least one such trip is reported by more than half of respondents (53%, an increase of 4 percentage points from 2021). Many more people than in 2020-2021, but still less than before the epidemic, went abroad. They account for almost a third of adults (30%, 10 points more than in 2021). The percentage of people working abroad has also remained stable since 2016, currently at 5%.

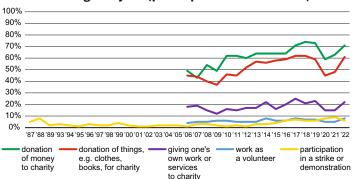
#### Activities in a given year (participation at least once):



In 2022, the scale of charitable activity increased significantly, which can be associated with a wave of aid to Ukrainians affected by the war. In the past year, seven out of ten respondents (71%) donated money to charity. This is 8 percentage points more than in 2021 and almost as much as in 2019. Many more Poles than in 2020-2021

provided material assistance (61%, an increase of 13 points compared to last year). The scale of this form of aid is similar to the level before the epidemic. After two weaker years, the percentage of respondents who donated their own work to charity returned to its previous level. In 2022, they accounted for over one-fifth (22%, 7 points more than in 2021). The number of volunteers also increased from 5% to 8%. The percentage of Poles participating in demonstrations was slightly lower than in 2021 (6%, a decrease of 3 percentage points), but it is worth noting that in 2021 it was at a record high level.

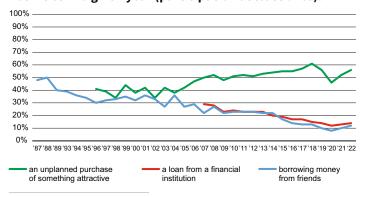
#### Activities in a given year (participation at least once):



In 2022, despite high inflation, Poles were slightly more than in 2021 inclined to buy something attractive and unplanned. Last year, the percentage of people who made such a spontaneous purchase (56%, 4 percentage points more than in 2021) returned to the level recorded before the epidemic.

The scale of loan-taking remains relatively stable in the last few years, both from financial institutions (14%) and from friends (12%).

#### Activities in a given year (participation at least once):



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Activities and Experiences of Poles in 2022", February 2023. Fieldwork for national sample: January 2023, N=1028. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

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