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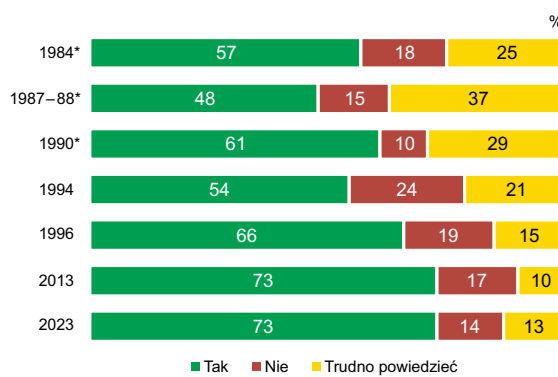
TO THE REPORTS REFERRED TO ABOVE, THE FOLLOWING HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED RECENTLY (IN POLISH):

- Trust in Politicians in February
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- Attitude Towards the Government in February
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- Activities and Experiences of Poles in 2023

## Perception of social conflicts

Currently, nearly three-quarters of respondents (73%) are convinced of the existence of social conflicts in Poland, and one-seventh believe that they do not exist (14%). The perception of conflict in society is currently similar to that recorded a decade ago, but clearly higher than at the end of the Polish People's Republic and in the first years of the current system. At that time, conflicts were

**People talk and write about social conflicts in Poland. Do you think such conflicts actually exist?**



\* „Polacy '90. Raport z badań empirycznych”, IFIS PAN, ISP PAN, Warszawa 1991.

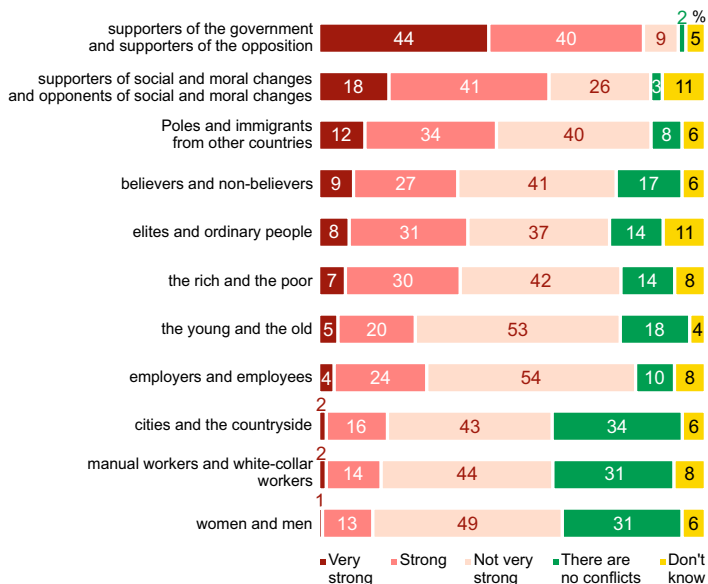
less frequently noticed, and a significant number of respondents did not have a specific opinion on this subject. Apart from the processes of democratization of social life, the spread of the Internet may have contributed to the increased awareness of the existence of various conflicts and social divisions, which was reflected in the increased sense of social conflict in the years 1996–2013.

The analyses show that the perception of social conflicts depends primarily on political views measured on a left-centre-right scale. Conflicts are perceived relatively most often by people identifying with the left (76%) and the centre (77%). Taking into account other socio-demographic characteristics, it can be noticed that this view is expressed more often by the better educated people, i.e. those with at least secondary education (75% among people with secondary education, 79% among those with higher education), inhabitants of the largest cities (80%), respondents with lower income per capita (78% among respondents with income up to PLN 1,499 per person). The oldest respondents aged 65 or more express this view less often than others (68%).

According to declarations, the strongest dividing lines are currently at the political level. Conflicts between supporters of the government and the opposition are perceived as very strong or strong by the vast majority of respondents (84%). More than half of Poles notice clear dividing lines between supporters of social and moral changes and their opponents (59% consider these conflicts to be very strong or strong). Only very few do not see conflicts in these two dimensions (2%-3%). The analyses show that the perception of both types of conflicts is quite closely related. The divisions between Poles and immigrants from other countries were third in terms of the intensity of conflict (46% of respondents consider them to be very strong or strong). Relatively few people believe that such conflicts do not occur (8%). In terms of the degree of conflict, the divisions between elites and ordinary people, the poor and the rich, and believers and non-believers are perceived in a quite similar way (36%-39% of respondents consider them to be very strong or strong). Divisions between employers and employees are slightly less frequently noticed (28% consider

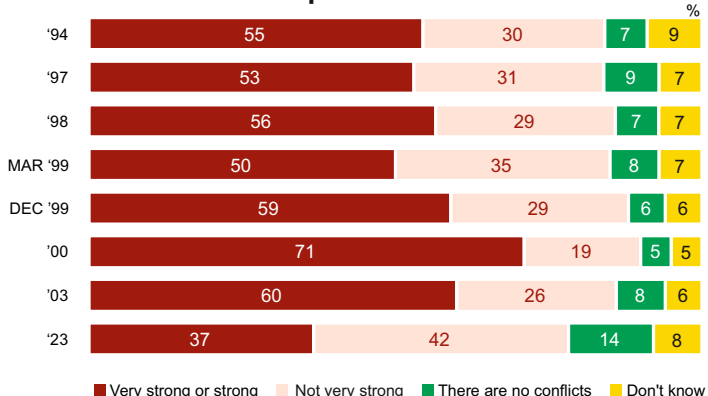
them strong or very strong). Similarly, a quarter see a conflict between different generations. i.e. the young and the old (25% consider them strong or very strong). However, divisions between the city and the countryside, those working manually and intellectually, as well as between women and men are not significant sources of conflict in our society (between 14% and 18% of respondents consider them to be very strong or strong).

### In your opinion, how strong are the conflicts in Poland between:



Over the last two decades, there have been major changes in the perception of social divisions and conflicts. The importance of economic divisions has decreased. The share of Poles who perceived very strong or strong divisions between the poor and the rich decreased from 60% to 37%. It is worth mentioning in this context that over the last twenty years, not only have the subjective assessments of the financial conditions of households improved significantly, but also (taking into account, for example, changes in the value of the Gini coefficient) social stratification has decreased.

### In your opinion, how strong are the conflicts in Poland between the rich and the poor.



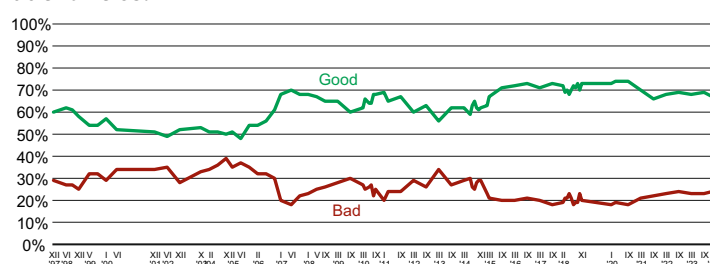
More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "About Social Conflicts", February 2024. Fieldwork dates for the sample: December 2023, N=961, mixed-mode interviews. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

## Opinions about local government

In April, Poles will elect councillors at various levels, as well as commune heads (wójt) and mayors.

Poles have been consistently satisfied with the functioning of the local government for decades. At the beginning of this year, two-thirds (67%) evaluate the work of local government officials in their commune/town positively, and approximately a quarter (24%) assess it negatively. The ratings of local authorities are currently slightly worse than in the corresponding period preceding the local government elections in 2018.

### Evaluation of the activities of the commune/municipal authorities.

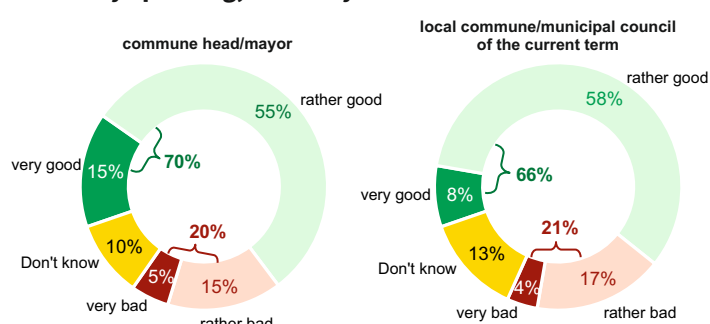


"Don't know" responses omitted.

In subsequent measurements, we have observed a relatively constant differentiation of assessments depending on the size of the town where the respondents live. In general, we have noted better opinions among rural residents, and worse among respondents from the largest cities (population of 500,000 or more).

Most Poles evaluate both the work of local authorities (70%) and the activities of their commune/municipal council (66%) as positive.

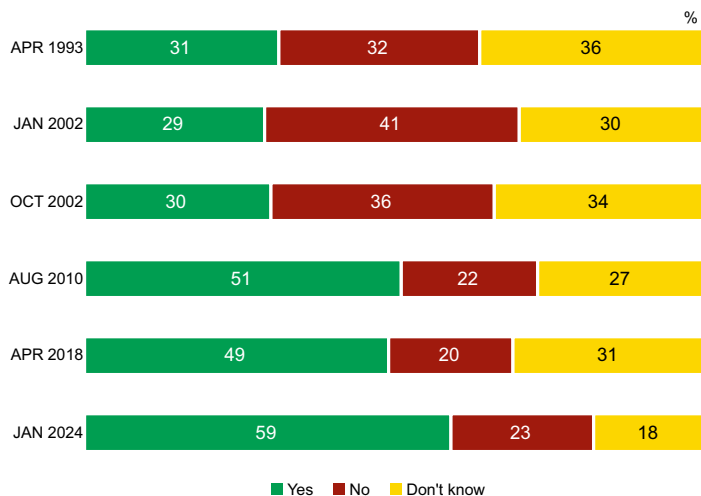
### Generally speaking, how do you evaluate the work of the:



Most respondents (59%) believe that local authorities in their city or commune spend the money at their disposal appropriately. Nearly a quarter (23%) have the opposite opinion. Currently, the way in which money from local budgets is spent is met with greater approval than in previous decades, especially in 1993 and 2002, when financial management by local government aroused considerable controversy. It seems that the improvement in the assessment of the way local authorities spend money should be associated with Poland's accession to

the European Union and the use of EU funds by local governments for, among others, infrastructure projects.

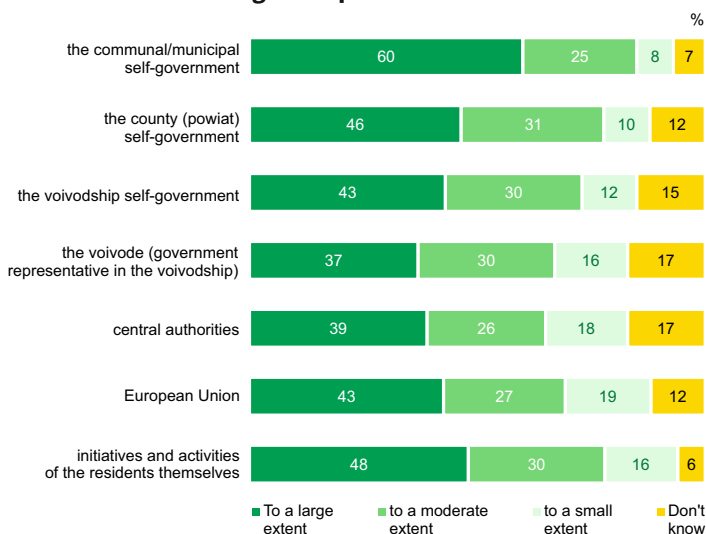
### In your opinion, do the local commune/city authorities properly spend the money at their disposal?



The conviction that financial resources are properly used by local governments is not differentiated by the size of the locality, with the exception of the largest cities, where two-fifths of respondents express doubts about it.

Respondents attribute the greatest influence on the situation in their town to local self-governments (60%). The grassroots initiatives of the residents themselves are also of great importance in their own perception (48%). The next places in the hierarchy of perceived influence are: the county (powiat) self-government (46%), voivodeship self-government (43%) and the European Union (43%), although the latter - in the opinion of over one-fifth of respondents - has little to do with it. Respondents attribute less impact on the development of their town to voivodes (37%) and central authorities (39%).

### To what extent does the development of your town/village and its immediate region depend on:



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Opinions about Local Authorities", February 2024. Fieldwork dates for the sample: January 2024, N=1015, mixed-mode interviews. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

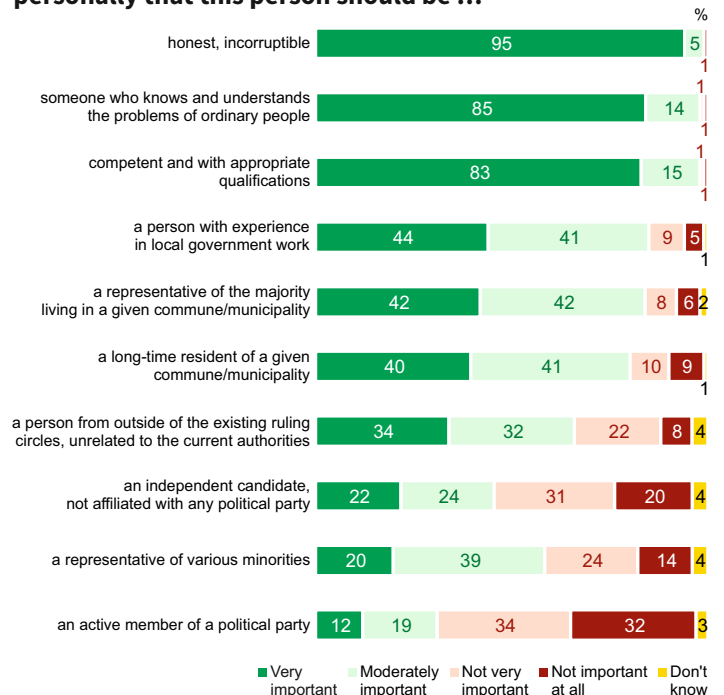
## The ideal candidate for mayor or commune leader

In public opinion, the most important attribute of the ideal candidate in local government elections is honesty. Poles almost universally (95%) believe that it is very important that a candidate for commune leader or mayor should be an honest and incorruptible person. Secondly, the ideal candidate is a person who knows and understands the problems of ordinary people: 85% of Poles consider this feature to be very important. A slightly smaller percentage of respondents (83%) expect the ideal candidate to have appropriate competences and qualifications.

Features such as experience in local government work, representing the interests of the majority of residents and long-term residence in a given city or commune are also considered important (40-42% of them consider it very important), but not crucial.

There is less agreement about other attributes of the ideal city or commune leader. For most respondents, it is relatively important that the mayor or commune head should be a person from outside of the existing cliques and should also be a representative of minorities. However, party affiliations or lack thereof are rather unimportant.

### In your opinion, what should the ideal candidate for mayor or commune leader be like? Is it important for you personally that this person should be ...



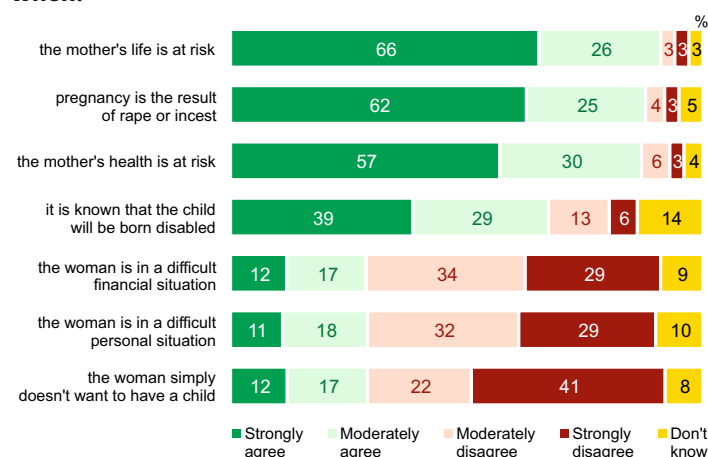
More information about this topic can be found in CBOS Flash publication in Polish: "The ideal candidate for mayor or commune leader", February 2024. Fieldwork dates for the sample: February 2024, N=1000, telephone interviews. The quota sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

# Views on the regulation of abortion

From 2021, abortion is permitted in Poland in two cases: when the pregnancy threatens the woman's life or health and when it is the result of a prohibited act (e.g. rape or incest). The current ruling coalition has announced the liberalization of the abortion law, but the coalition members do not agree on how far it should be liberalized.

Poles overwhelmingly agree that abortion should be allowed by law when the mother's life (92%) or health (87%) are at risk. There is also almost universal support for the legality of terminating a pregnancy in a situation where it is the result of rape or incest (87%). Moreover, the majority of respondents (69% in total) believe that termination of pregnancy should be allowed in a situation where it is known that the child will be born with a disability. According to society, other circumstances should not constitute a legal basis for terminating pregnancy. In total, 29% of respondents believed that termination of pregnancy should be permissible by law when a woman is in a difficult financial or personal situation and when she simply does not want to have a child. Opposition to the legality of abortion in these situations is expressed by 61% to 63% of respondents.

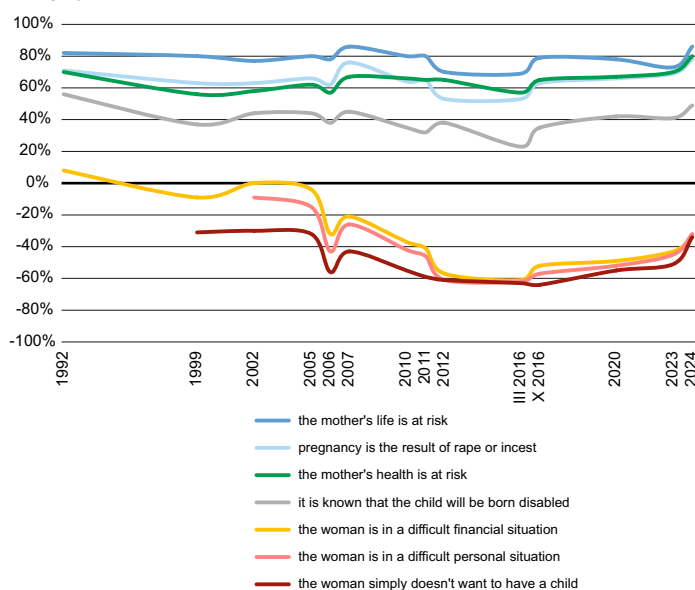
## Do you agree that abortion should be permitted by law when:



Compared to last year, there has been a significant increase in support for the legal of termination of pregnancy in all cases included in the study. The biggest change concerns the situation when a woman simply does not want to have a child: from 18% in 2023 to 29% now,

which means an increase of 11 percentage points. Support for the legality of terminating a pregnancy when a woman is in a difficult personal situation increased by 9 percentage points, and when she is in a difficult financial situation increased by 8 points. The belief that abortion should be permitted by law in other circumstances is also stronger than last year (a rose of 6 points if it is known that the child will be born with a disability, and a 10 percentage point increase in acceptance of abortion if the mother's life is at risk).

## Do you agree that abortion should be permitted by law when:



Difference between strongly/moderately agree and strongly/moderately disagree. "Don't know" omitted.

Opposition to the current abortion law is most common among young people, people who do not practice religion and those declaring left-wing political views. It is in these groups that the greatest change in thinking about the legal regulation of termination of pregnancy has recently occurred. In 2023, just over one-third of the youngest respondents (34%), people who did not practice religion (36%) and people with left-wing views (36%) believed that abortion should be permissible by law in a situation when a woman simply does not want to have a child A year later, the percentages in these groups are: 48%, 58% and 51%, respectively.

More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Poles' Attitude Towards Abortion and the Morning-After Pill", February 2024. Fieldwork dates for the sample: February 2024, N=994, mixed-mode interviews. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

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