

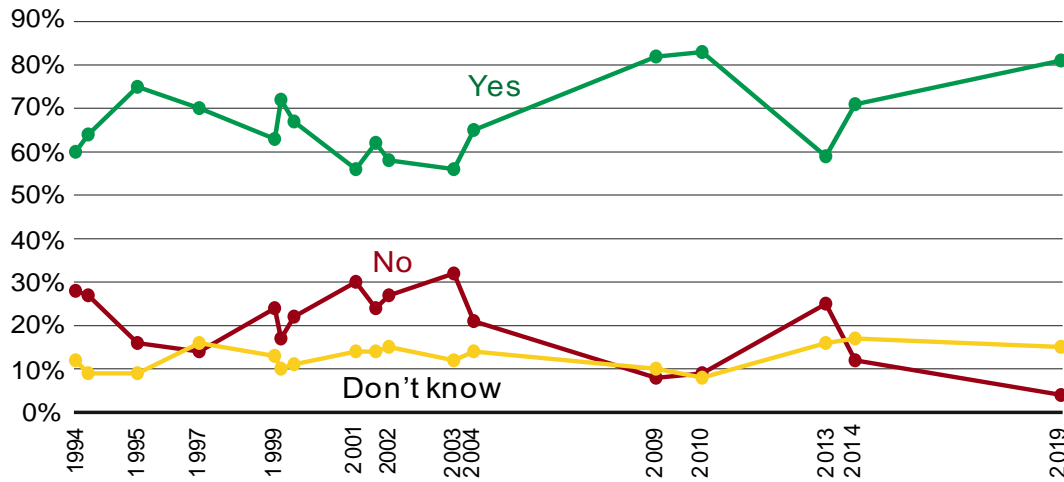
## **Assessment of systemic transformation**

30 years ago, on 4 June 1989, Poland held partly free elections, as a result of which our country became the first state of the Eastern bloc, where representatives of the democratic opposition gained a real influence on the exercise of power. These elections are for many a symbol of the beginning of the political transformation in Poland.

Over four-fifths of respondents (81%) think that in 1989 it was worth changing the system. Only four out of a hundred adult Poles think that it was not worth undertaking a systemic transformation.

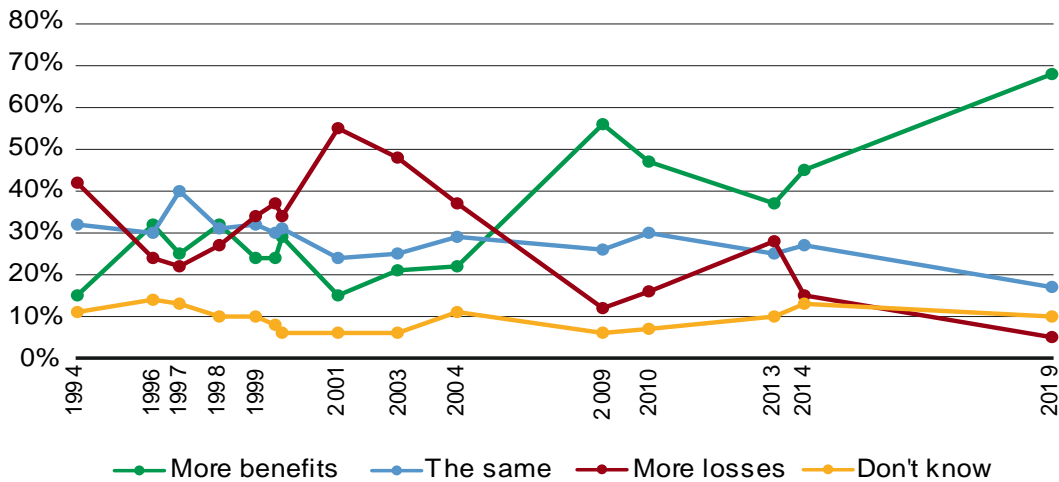
The attitude to transformation is now much more enthusiastic than it was five years ago (increase in support by 10 percentage points). This year's result in terms of the level of support for political transformation is one of the best in the history of research on this issue. It is worth noting that the level of acceptance of political changes initiated in 1989 never fell below 56%.

**In retrospect, was worth changing the system in Poland in 1989?**



After more than 30 years, the assessment of the social effects of transformation is better than ever before. Currently, over two-thirds of respondents (68%) say that the changes that have taken place in Poland since 1989 have brought people more benefits than losses. Only 5% believe that the transformation brought more losses than benefits to people in Poland.

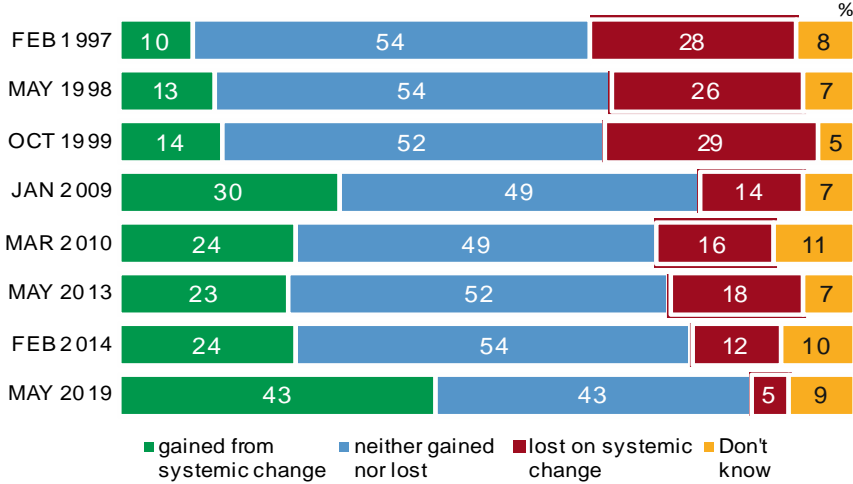
**Have the changes taking place in Poland since 1989 brought more benefits or losses to people?**



The social effects of changes taking place in Poland since 1989 have been assessed to a large extent through the prism of individual experiences. At present, the largest group in the history of research count themselves and their families as those who have gained (43%). The same proportion of respondents believe that the transformation did not affect their situation in any way; this group is far less numerous than in previous studies, when such an

opinion was prevalent. The group of respondents who believe that they and their families lost on changes is least numerous in history: currently only 5% say so.

**Have you and your family...**



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: “Was It Worth to Change the Political System? Evaluation of Changes after Year 1989”, June 2019. Fieldwork for national sample: May 2019, N=1079. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.