Discussions about politics

More than three-quarters of respondents (76%) claim that they sometimes talk about politics, and the majority of this group (45% of the total) do it - according to declarations - rather rarely. Less than one-third of respondents (31%) admit to talking about this topic frequently. In June 2023, prior to the campaign before the parliamentary elections, politics was the topic of conversation among Poles slightly more often than in October 2017, i.e. in the middle of the term of office of the previous parliament. Politics is most often discussed by people who are interested in it and have specific political affiliations. However, this is more often done by supporters of the opposition (55% of them say that they talk about this topic very often or quite often) than of the ruling camp (36%).

Responses show that conversations about politics are most often held with family members or other close people, such as a partner or fiancée (64% of those who at least sometimes talk about this topic). However, respondents who generally discuss political topics in conversations with acquaintances, colleagues or friends are in the minority (36%). One-tenth of Poles (10%) usually discuss politics with people they meet at work, at university or at school, and 6% most often talk about politics with their neighbours.
How often do you talk about politics?

Compared to October 2017, the percentage of respondents saying that in their environment there are people whose views and political sympathies are difficult for them to accept has increased significantly. Declarations show that political divisions affect even the immediate family - a total of 38% of adult Poles have family members with whom they differ greatly in their political sympathies and views. Declarations regarding respondents' close friends are similarly distributed (39% have at least one friend with unacceptable political views and sympathies) and, likewise, 40% have such acquaintances, neighbours, or colleagues from work.

Are there people in your environment whose views or political sympathies are difficult for you to accept? Do you have such people:

Percentages of affirmative answers

Differences in political views and sympathies, especially when they are difficult for the other party to accept, may lead to conflicts. Three out of ten respondents (30%) know people in
their environment - among family members, friends, acquaintances or neighbours - whose differences in political views have led to an open conflict and who, for political reasons, seriously quarrelled and insulted each other. Compared to October 2017, there are now more respondents who declare that they know many such people and those who say that there are several such people in their environment. Respondents who are supporters of the opposition (45% in total) mention serious political conflicts in their environment more often than supporters of the current government (26%).

Are there people in your environment - among family members, friends, acquaintances or neighbours - who are in conflict with each other because of different views or political sympathies?

More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: “Conversations about Politics and Political Divisions in Context”, August 2023. Fieldwork for national sample: June 2023, N=1054, mixed-mode interviews. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.