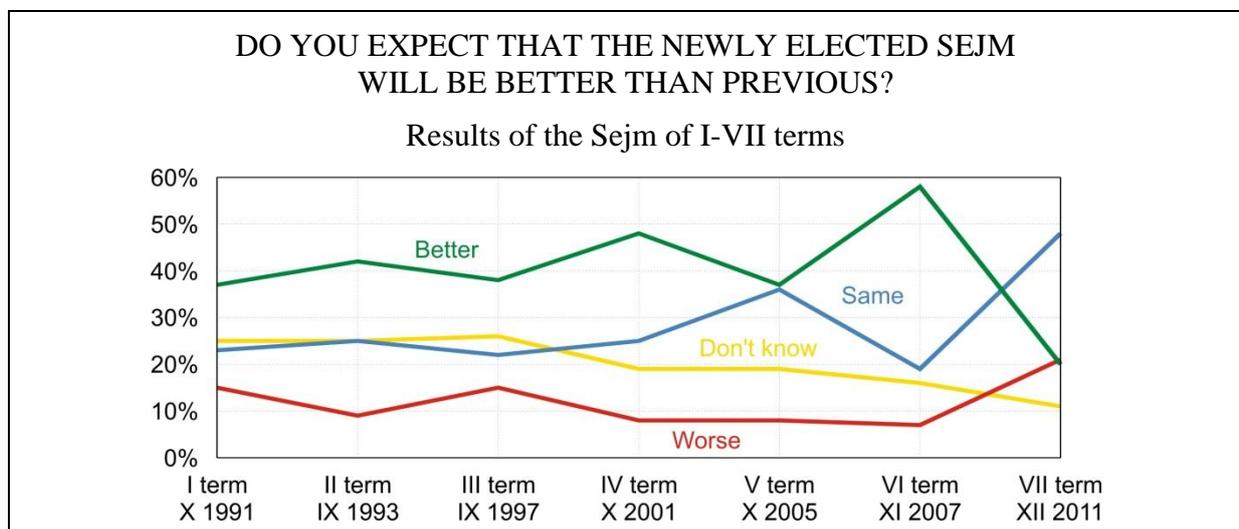


POST-ELECTORAL EXPECTATIONS FROM NEW SEJM AND GOVERNMENT

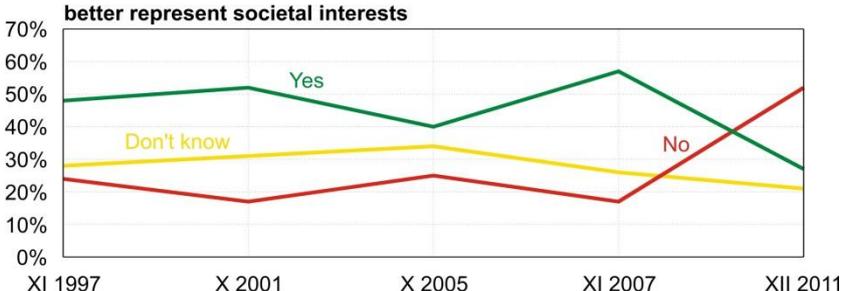
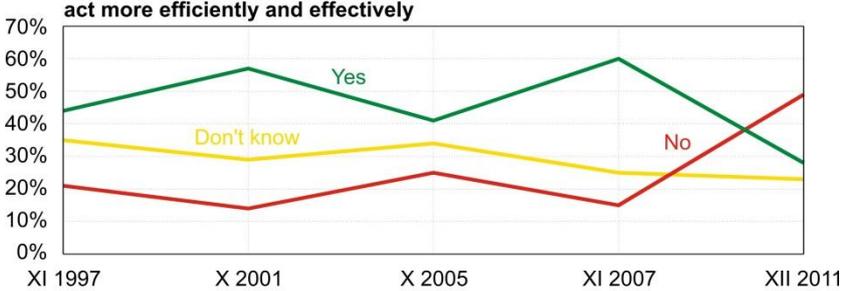
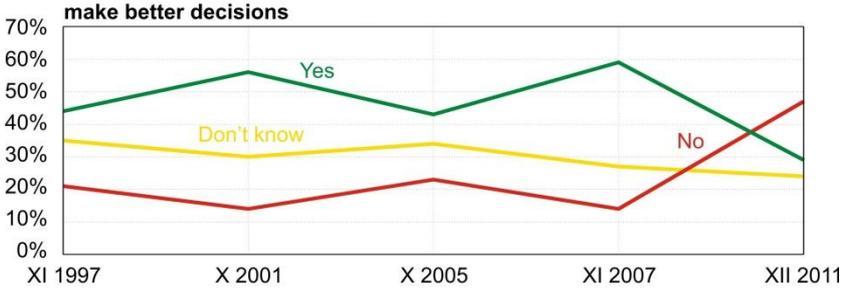
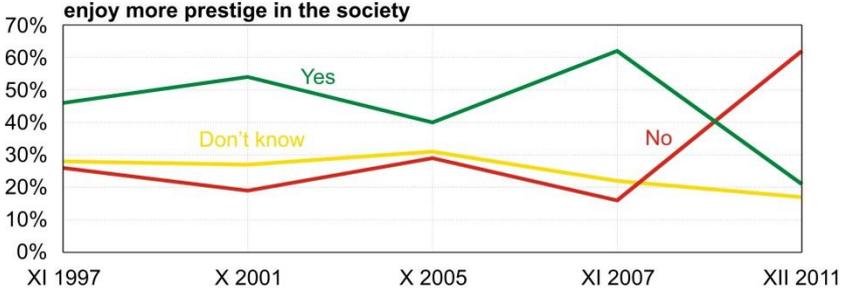
The Autumn parliamentary elections did not significantly change the balance of power on the Polish political scene. For the first time since democracy was restored, the governing coalition retained power. Donald Tusk again became the Prime Minister of the government formed by PO (Civic Platform) and PSL (Polish Peasant Party). The opposition is, again, composed of MPs for PiS (Law and Justice) and SLD (Alliance of the Democratic Left). The novelty is the presence in parliament of Palikot Movement, a party appealing to the left-wing electorate.

The expectations from the new Sejm are the lowest since 1989. Until now, at the beginning of the new parliamentary term, Poles usually hoped it would be better than the previous one. This time, pessimists (21%) are as numerous as optimists (20%). Almost half of respondents (48%) believe that the new Sejm will be as good as the previous. Probably, the least favourable reception of the Sejm since 1989 is due to the effect of continuation, i.e. of replicating the same majority as before.

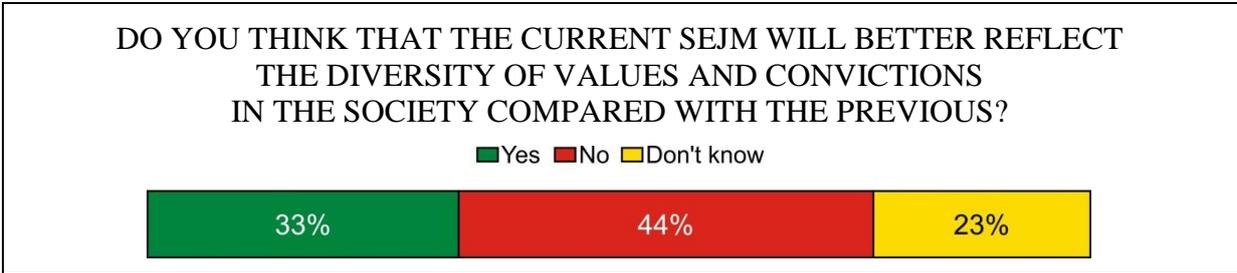


Relatively few respondents expect change as far as the prestige and effectiveness of the Sejm are concerned. Only slightly more than a quarter hope that the current legislature will make better decisions (29%), act more efficiently and effectively (28%), and better represent the societal interests (27%). About one-fifth (21%) expect the current Sejm to enjoy better reputation in the society. Improvement in this respect is expressed by half as many respondent as at the beginning of the previous legislative term, and much fewer than at the beginning of the III, IV and the V term.

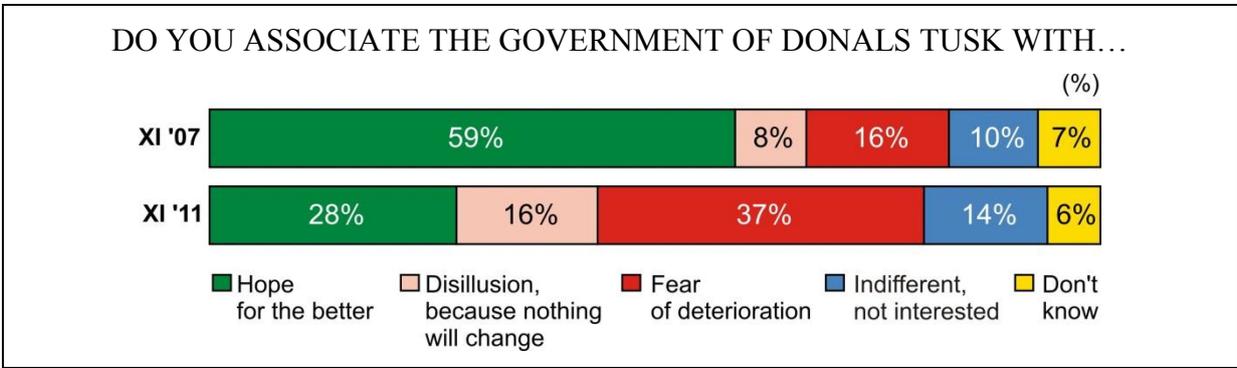
DO YOU THINK THAT THE CURRENT SEJTM WILL, COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS,...



The current parliament is best evaluated for its representativity. One-third of the Poles (33%) think that it will better reflect the diversity of values and convictions. However, a plurality (44%) disagree with that opinion.



Little has remained from the expectations accompanying the formation of the government of Donald Tusk over four years ago. The first PO-PSL government started in favourable economic conditions and improving living standards, which added credibility to the electoral promises of further improvement of the situation in the country. The current government begins its term in the shadow of the crisis in the Eurozone and uncertainty about the future of Poland and Europe. This time, the expose of the Prime Minister was short on promises, and long on restrictions and reductions. It is not surprising that the new government is associated more often with fears about deterioration (37%) than with hope for improvement (28%).



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS reports in Polish: *"Expectations from the new Sejm"* and *"Attitude to the new government of Donald Tusk"*, December 2011. Fieldwork for national sample: December 2011 (N=950). The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.