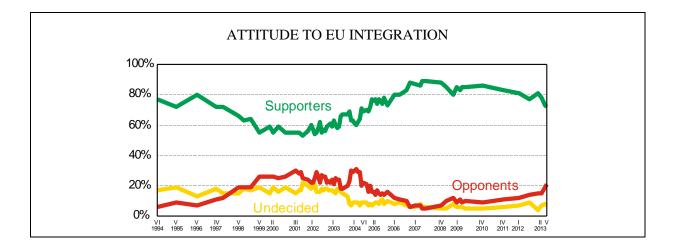
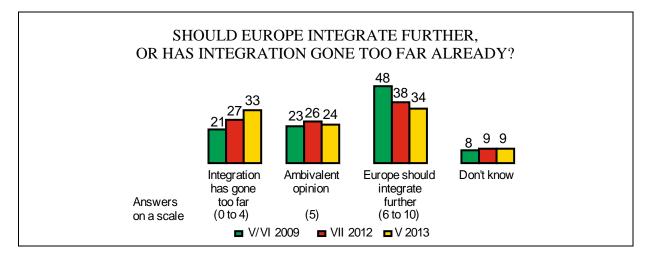


ATTITUDE TO THE EUROPEAN INTEGRATION

The May survey confirms that the support for European integration is diminishing. At present, 72% support Poland's membership in the European Union, while one-fifth (21%) oppose it. Similar results were noted in the initial months after EU accession.

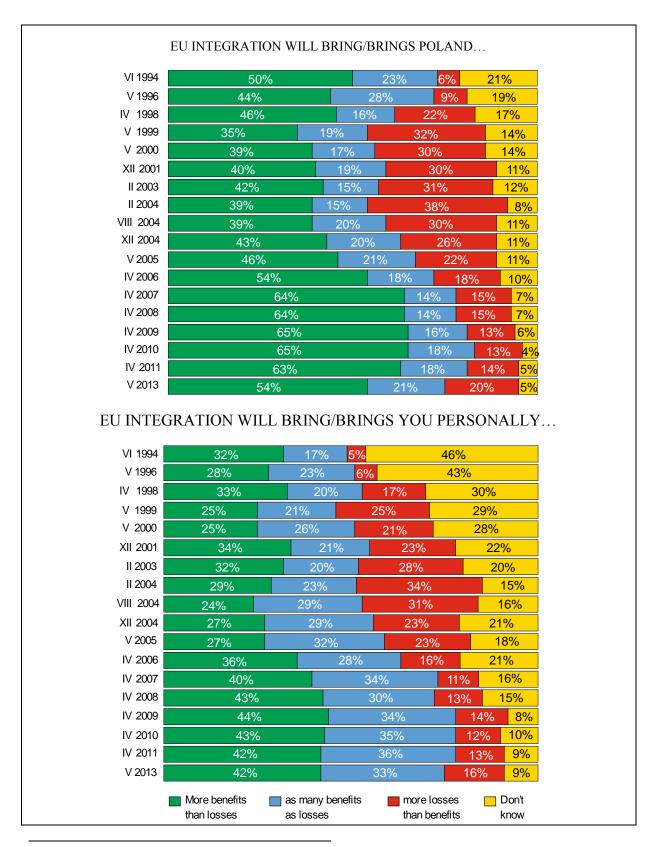


The persistent crisis in the eurozone and, possibly, insufficient effectiveness of EU institutions in combating it contribute to the growing scepticism about further cooperation within the EU framework. Four years ago, the proportion of supporters of further integration within EU was twice as large as the percentage of people believing that the integration had gone too far. Even last year, the supporters of further unification numerically outnumbered the opponents. At present, the two groups are roughly equal in size, both numbering about one-third of respondents.



Increased scepticism to EU integration is accompanied by the deterioration in perception of the results of EU membership for Poland. The crisis in the eurozone, which triggered economic slowdown in Poland, diminished the conviction that integration is beneficial. Nevertheless, the majority of Poles (54%) evaluate the consequences of membership positively, while one-fifth (20%) consider the balance of costs and benefits to be negative. A similar proportion of respondents (21%) believe that costs are equal to benefits.

Since the beginning of our surveys of expected and perceived effects of EU membership, the impact of the EU was evaluated better in national than in personal perspective. This is also true today: more people see positive effects for the country than for themselves. What is interesting, the perception of personal benefits did not diminish simultaneously with the decrease in perceived benefits for Poland and falling support for integration. Two-fifths of respondents (42%) evaluate the personal balance of integration positively, while 16% experience primarily losses, and one-third (33%) are ambivalent.



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "*Poles' Attitudes Towards European Integration*", May 2013. Fieldwork for national sample: May 2013, N=1101. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.