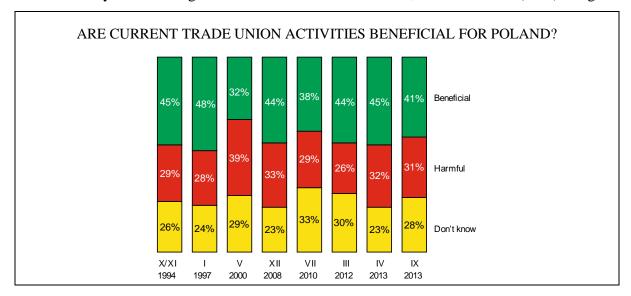


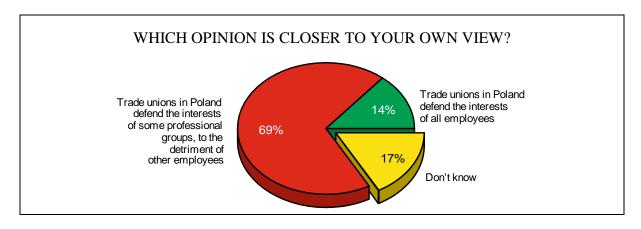


INTEREST REPRESENTATION OF TRADE UNIONS

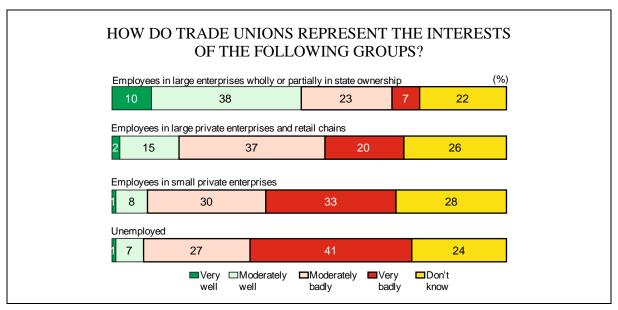
The activities of trade unions in Poland are generally evaluated positively. Over two-fifths (41%) consider them as beneficial for the country, while one-third (31%) think that they bring more harm than good. As expected, the opinions are better among trade union members than among the others. Over three-fifths (62%) of respondents belonging to a union think that current activity of labour organizations is beneficial for Poland, while one-third (31%) disagree.



Sometimes trade unions are faced with the accusation that they defend the interests of their members only, while ignoring the situation of the other employees. The public opinion shares such a view: over two-thirds of respondents (69%) agree that trade unions defend the interests of some groups only, to the detriment of other employees. Only a small group (14%) thinks that their actions have a wider scope and that unions defend the interests of all employees.



In public opinion, trade unions in Poland well represent the interests of employees of big enterprises at least partly in state ownership (48% agree). However, they cannot or do not want to stand for other employees. The majority of respondents (57%) think that trade unions do a poor job representing the employees of big private companies and retail chains. They are even less effective in standing for people working in small private enterprises (63% think they badly represent these workers). The opinion that trade unions fail to represent the interests of the unemployed is even more widespread (68%).



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Interest representation of trade unions", December 2013. Fieldwork for national sample: September 2013, N=911. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.