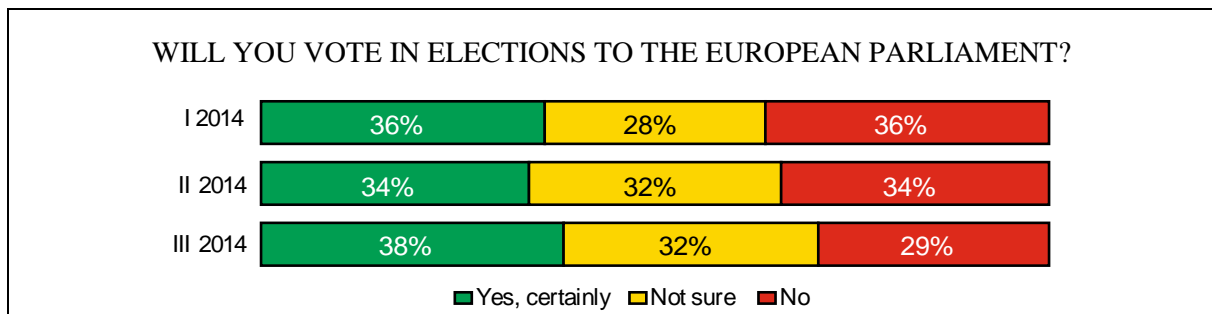


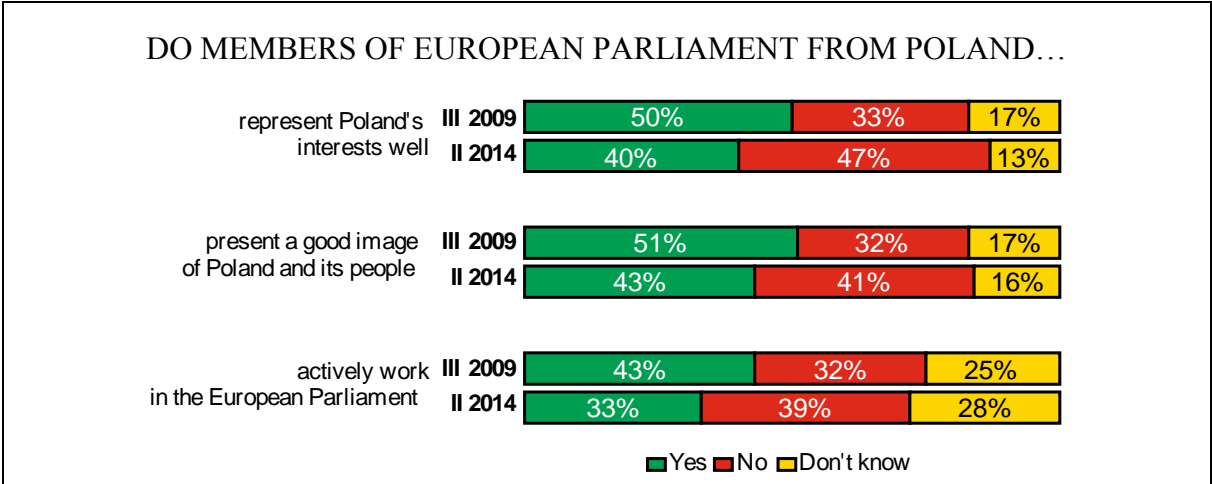
## ELECTIONS TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

The upcoming elections to the European Parliament are not very interesting for the Polish society. In spite of a slight increase in the level of interest in participating in the vote, the proportion of respondents who say they will go to vote is low (38%). Considering that the actual participation is lower than declared, it seems probable that the turnout this year will not be higher than five years ago.

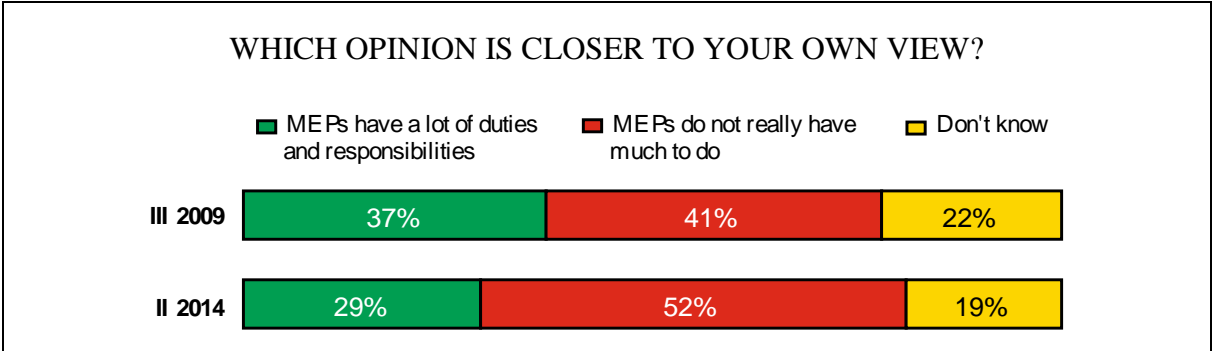


One of the reasons for low interest in voting in the EP elections is the persistent rejection of politics and critical evaluation of the Polish political elite. Opinions about the activity of Polish Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) are divided and rather critical. Almost half

of respondents (47%) think that they do not sufficiently defend Poland's interests, while two-fifths (40%) express a positive opinion. Over two-fifths (43%) are satisfied with how they represent Poland, whereas a similar group (41%) express the opposite view. Almost four-tenths (39%) do not think that that Polish MEPs are active in the EP, while one-third (33%) evaluate them positively in this respect. At the end of the previous term of the EP the attitude to MEPs from Poland was more favourable, and their work was generally approved of.



Poles have relatively negative image of MEPs in general (not necessarily elected from Poland), and during the last 5 years this criticism has strengthened. Over half of respondents (52%, an 11-point increase from 2009) think that MEPs have little work to do. Over a quarter (29%, an 8-point drop) express the opposite opinion, thinking that this position involves a lot of duties.



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS reports in Polish: "Elections to the European Parliament" and "Polish MEPs and elections to the European Parliament", March 2014. Fieldwork for national sample: February (N=1020) and March 2014 (N=1098). The random address samples are representative for adult population of Poland.