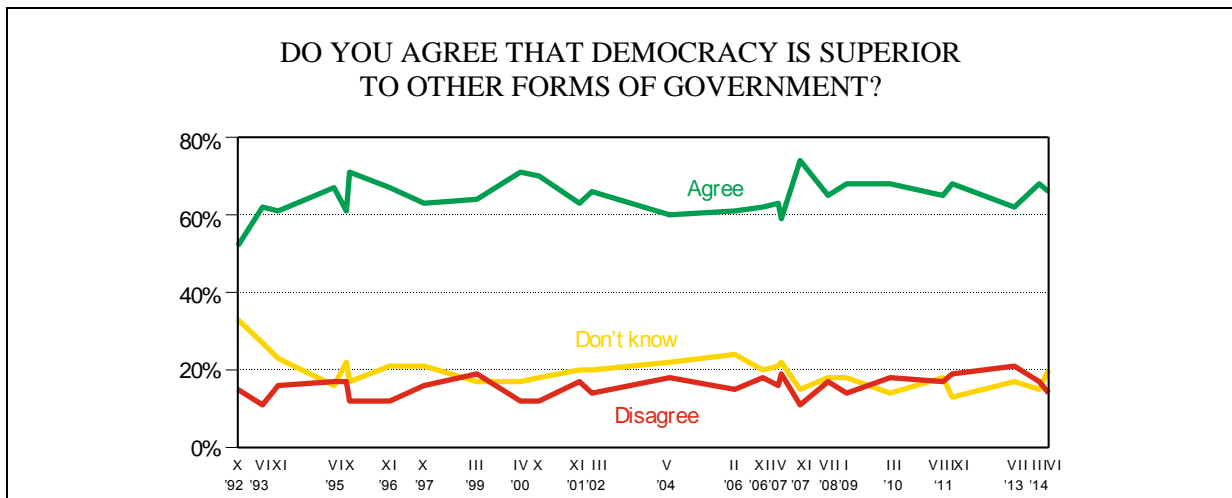


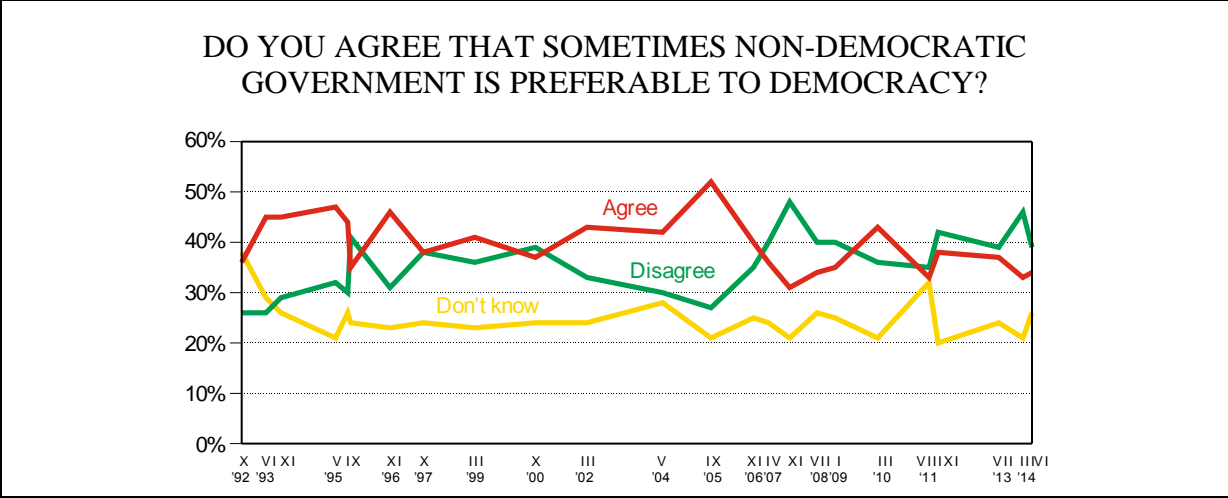
ATTITUDE TO DEMOCRACY

CBOS has conducted studies on the attitude to democracy since the beginning of the systemic change. Throughout this time, Poles have supported the democratic system. In the last survey, fielded after the elections to the European Parliament, two-thirds of respondents agreed that democracy is superior to other forms of government.

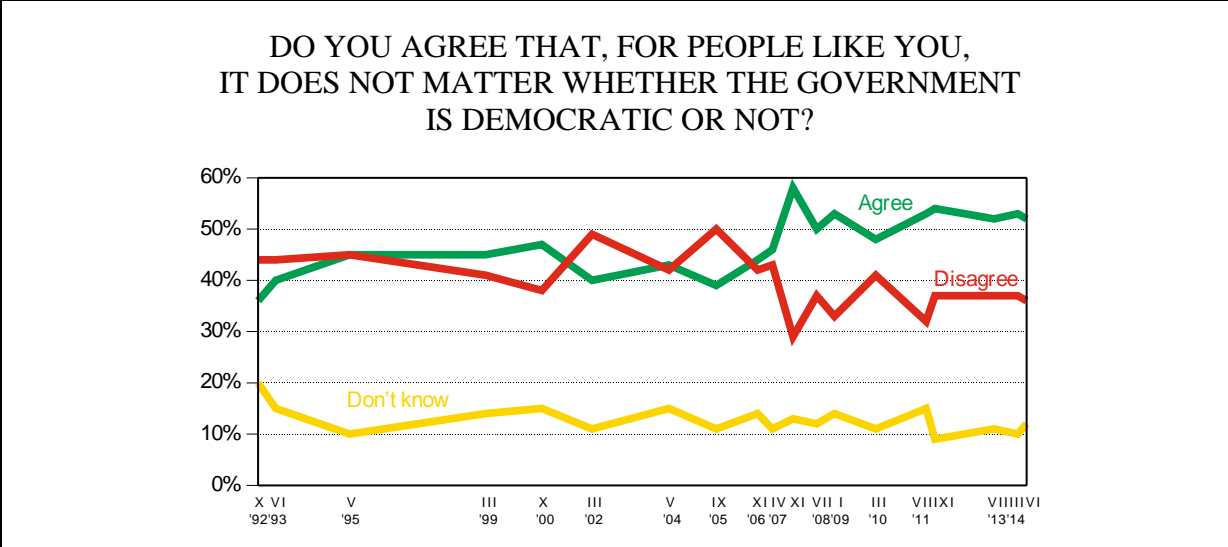


In spite of the general acceptance of democracy, this system has never been perceived as universal. From a 20-year perspective it can be seen that the level of acceptance of non-democratic government is at present relatively low. A third of respondents (34%) think that

sometimes undemocratic government is preferable to democracy, while almost two-fifths (39%) disagree.



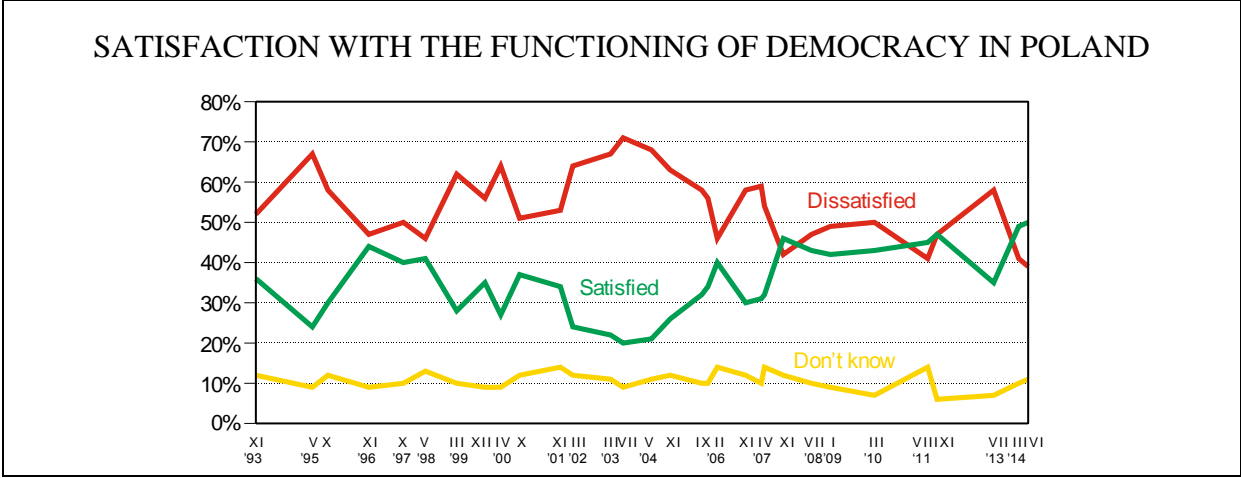
In recent years, identification with the democratic system has strengthened. However, political alienation remains widespread. Currently over a third of Poles (36%) believe that, for people like them, the form of government does not matter. The majority (52%) oppose this view.



Although Polish people have generally supported democracy since the beginning of the current system, opinions about democratic practice have differed. The functioning of democracy in Poland still does not meet societal expectations, but satisfaction is now greater than ever before.

The improvement in the perception of democracy in Poland may have been influenced by the events in Ukraine. The crisis in that country consolidated different political groups and caused them to adopt a common stand, which was received positively. Moreover, the events

in Ukraine demonstrated the importance of democracy and showed that it is not a good given forever, and it is easily lost.



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: *"Attitude to democracy and its practical consequences"*, July 2014. Fieldwork for national sample: June 2014, N=1044. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.