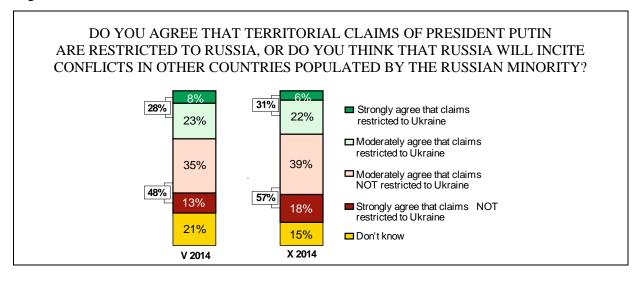
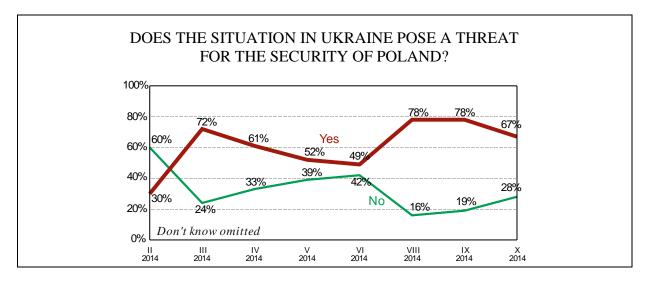


FEARS RELATED TO THE SITUATION IN UKRAINE

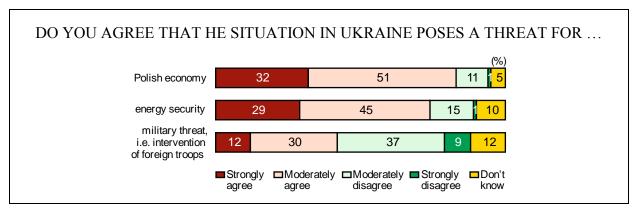
The majority of Poles (57%) are concerned that the territorial claims of Russia do not end in Ukraine and that Russian government will incite territorial conflicts in other countries populated by a Russian minority. This anxiety is more widespread now than several months ago.



The fear related to the developments in Ukraine was strongest in August and September. Still, at present, in spite of some improvement, the majority of respondents (67%) consider the situation in Ukraine as dangerous for Poland.

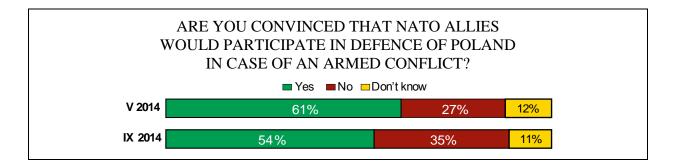


A vast majority of Poles (83%) are concerned about the impact of the developments in Ukraine on the Polish economy. Three-quarters of respondents (74%) believe that there is a threat for the energy security, while two-fifths are afraid that foreign troops may enter Polish territory.

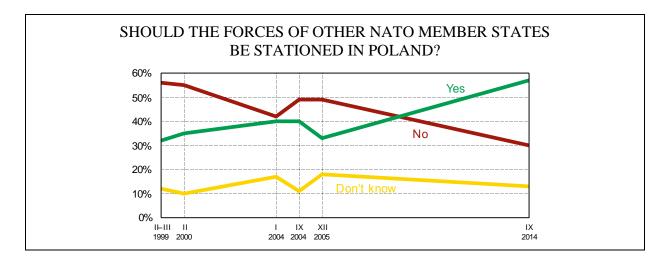


The September summit of NATO was devoted to the crisis in Ukraine. The leaders of 28 member states, who gathered in Newport in Wales, condemned Russia for illegal military intervention in Ukraine. They reiterated that the mutual defence of the allies remains a priority and agreed to maintain permanent presence and activity of air, land and naval forces in the eastern part of NATO on rotating basis. They also decided on forming a "spearhead" force of several thousand land troops ready to deploy within a few days, with the support of air, sea and special forces. In order to strengthen the eastern borders of NATO, command and control centres will be installed and equipment will be located. NATO will strengthen intelligence cooperation, update defence plans and conduct exercises. The leaders of NATO member states also undertook the obligation to increase their countries' defence expenditure to 2% of GDP, and to allocate at least 20% of the defence budget to technical modernization. The capabilities of the Multinational Corps North East in Szczecin will be increased and its

role strengthened. However, the decisions made during the September NATO summit did not dispel doubts about the commitment of NATO allies to the defence of Poland in an armed conflict scenario. A little over half of respondents are convinced that Poland can be confident that allies would fight to defend Polish borders.



The leaders of NATO member states did not decide to establish permanent bases on the territory of the "new" member states. However, the majority of Poles (57%) are convinced that forces of other NATO member states should be based in Poland. The support for military presence of NATO forces is at present the highest ever recorded.



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS reports in Polish: "Interest in the situation in Ukraine and perception of external threat in October" and "NATO summit in Newport", October 2014. Fieldwork for national sample: September and October 2014, N=919 and N=946. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.