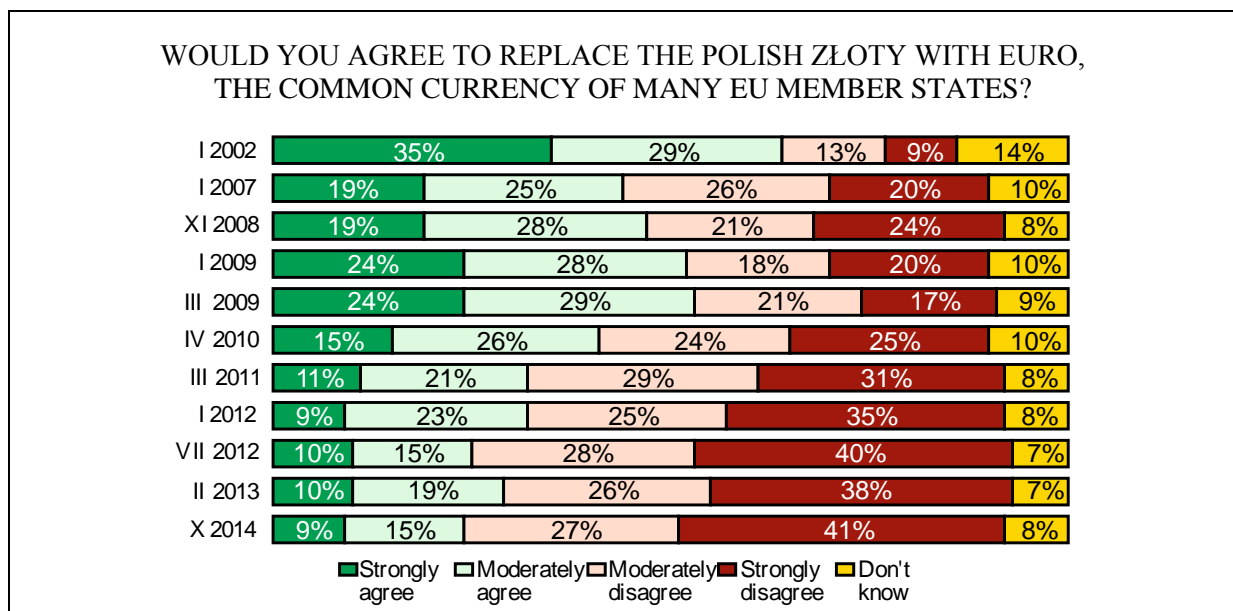


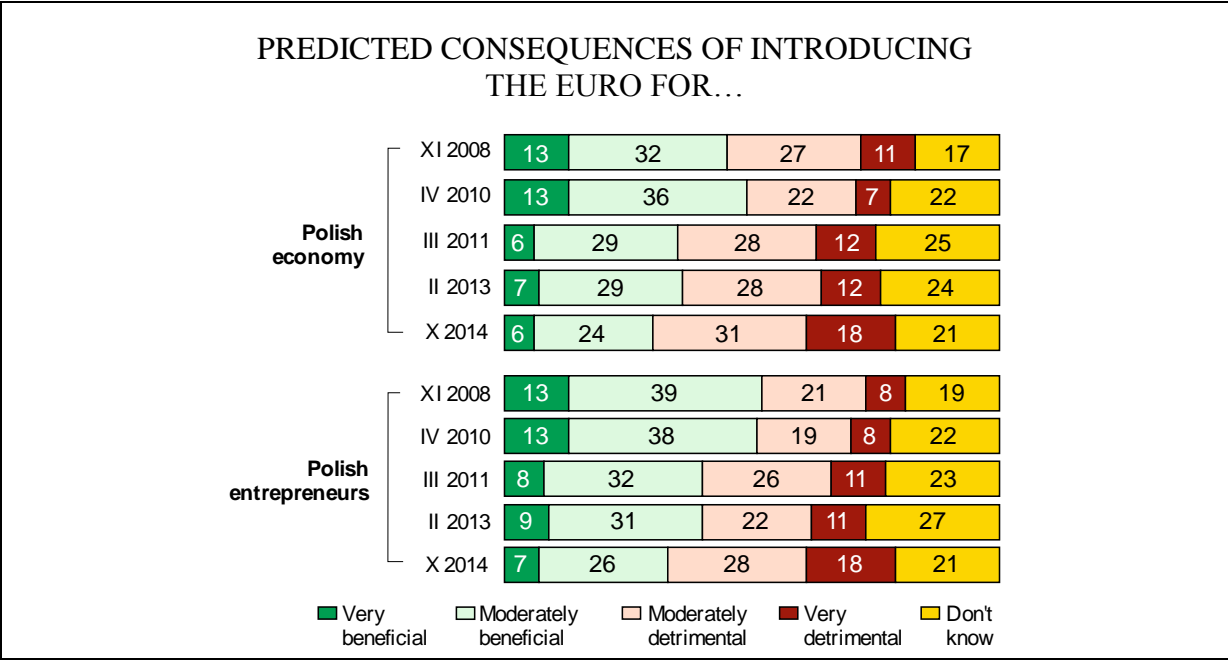
CONCERNS RELATED TO THE INTRODUCTION OF THE EURO

Poles have a more sceptical attitude to the introduction of the euro than ever before. Only less than a quarter of adults support changing the currency.

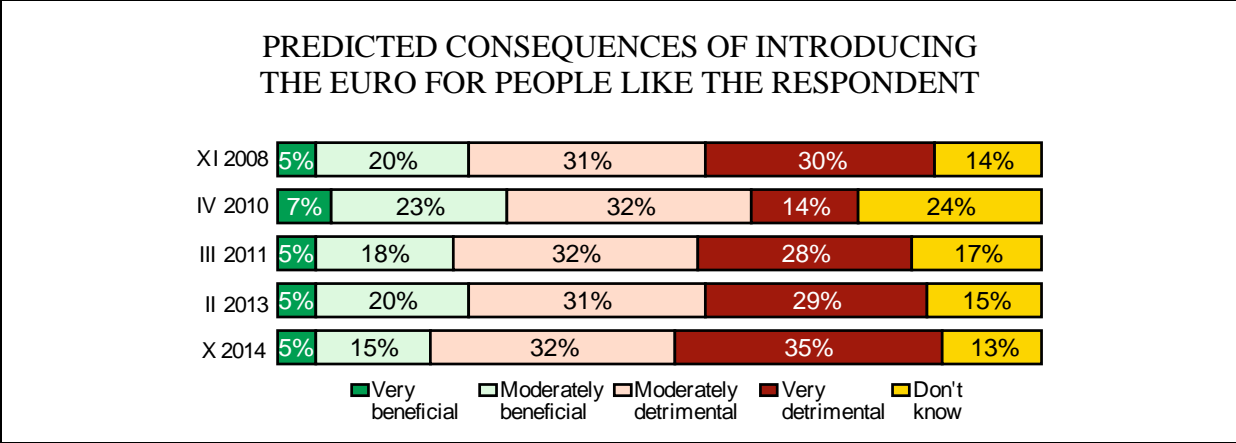


With increasing scepticism towards joining the eurozone, the predicted consequences of such a move have also deteriorated. At present, more people than in previous years question the economic benefits of sharing the euro. Almost half of respondents (49%) are afraid that introducing the euro would harm the Polish economy, while 30% expect benefits.

Close to half of respondents (46%) are of the opinion that Polish entrepreneurs will suffer losses as a consequence of the introduction of the common currency, while one-third (33%) expect benefits for businesses.

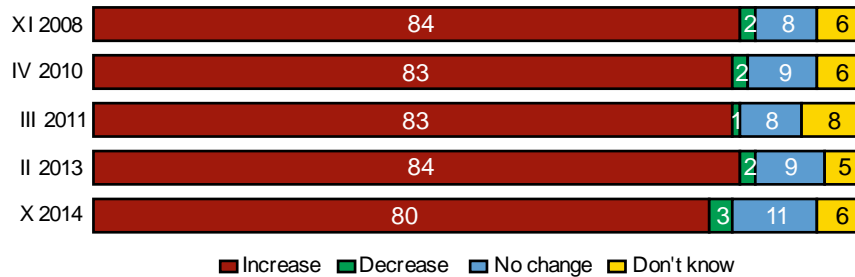


Even in times of relatively high social acceptance of the euro, when economic hopes related to it predominated, most respondents believed that people like them would lose as a result of its introduction. At present, these fears are more widespread than ever before: 67% of respondents expect negative consequences for ordinary people. The opposite opinion is shared by one-fifth of Poles.



The conviction that prices of most goods and services would increase after the introduction of the euro is almost universal (80%).

**AFTER THE EURO IS INTRODUCED, DO YOU THINK
THAT PRICES OF MOST BASIC GOODS AND SERVICES
WILL INCREASE?**



The arguments of the opponents of the euro are more convincing than those put forward by its supporters. The fears related to the exchange rate at which the currencies will be converted is widespread: 80% of respondents think that Poles will lose as a result of the unfavourable exchange rate. Over two-thirds (68%) think that it is too early to introduce the euro, because the differences in economic development between Poland and the eurozone states are too big. As is commonly known, economic divergence between countries that use the euro contributed to the crisis in the eurozone. This crisis is another argument for a large part of the public opinion (65%) that the common currency does not function properly. There is slightly less agreement with argument that eurozone membership requires abandoning sovereign monetary policy: 56% of respondents agree with this rather obvious fact.

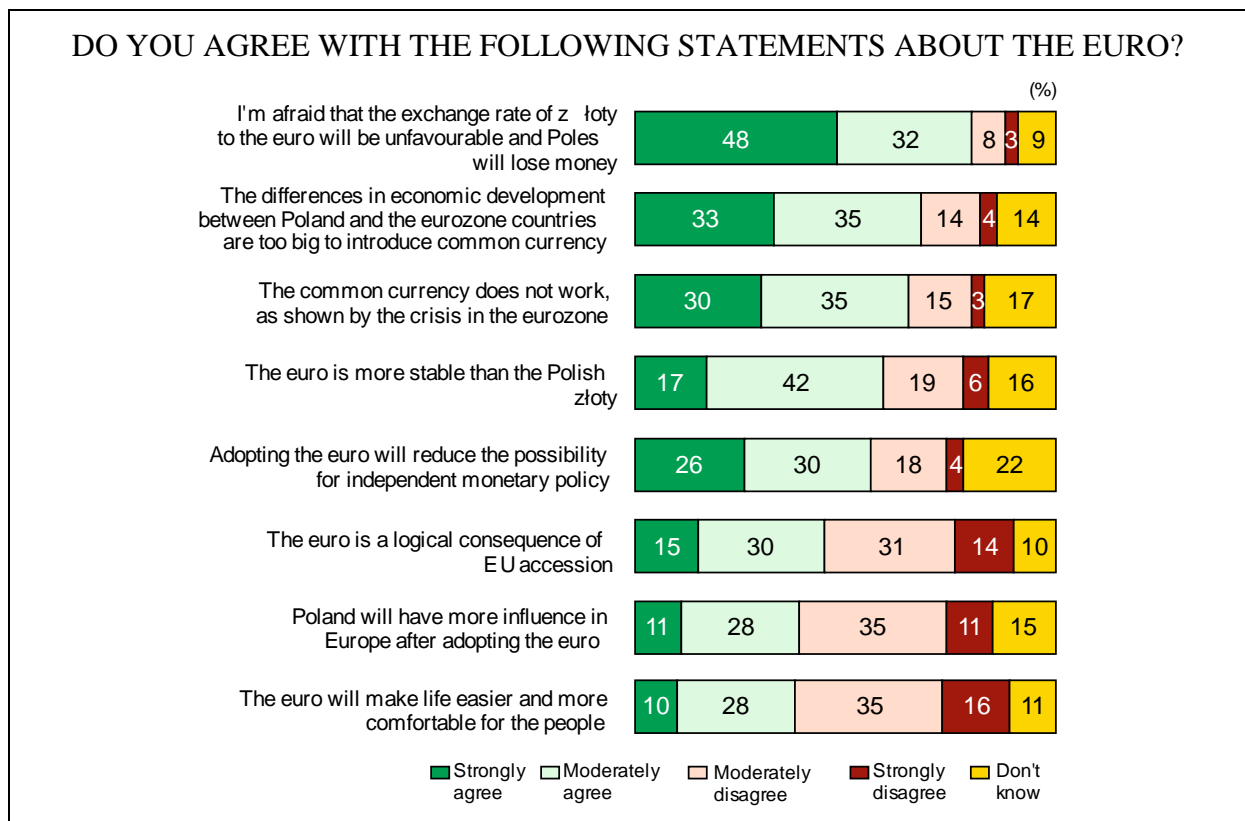
One of the benefits of the euro is the elimination of risks related to floating exchange rate of zloty. While Poles see fewer and fewer reasons to change the currency, they nevertheless agree (59%) that the euro will be a more stable currency.

Another frequent argument for a quick change of currency is the need to be in the mainstream of the European integration in order to have more influence on EU policy. Poles are not fully convinced that Poland will be more influential after adopting the euro: 39% agree and 46% disagree with such a statement.

When the Polish people decided to enter the EU, they also agreed (consciously or not) to adopt the common currency in unspecified future. Many people (45%) think that entering the eurozone is a logical consequence of the EU accession, it is the next step of the European integration. However, a group of the same size question this view.

The deteriorating climate around eurozone accession is also visible in the high proportion of people rejecting the view that the euro will mean that life will be easier and

more convenient (51%). Less than two-fifths (38%) agree with this apparently uncontroversial opinion.



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: *"Concerns related to the introduction of the euro"*, November 2014. Fieldwork for national sample: October 2014, N=919. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.