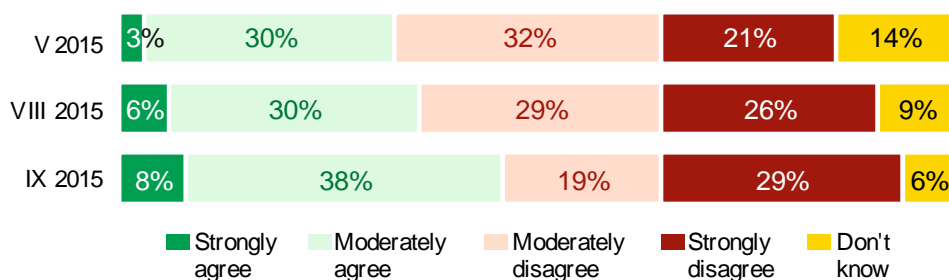


## **Attitude to refugees**

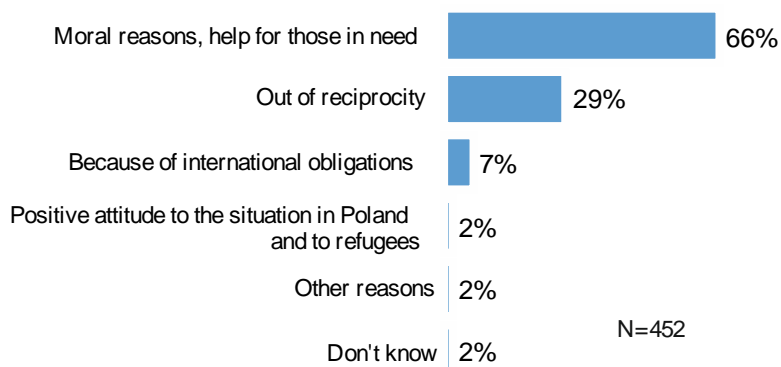
Polish society is divided in its opinions about refugees from Africa and the Middle East. Similar numbers of respondents support and oppose receiving them. However, it has to be stressed that the proportion of Poles who support accepting refugees coming now to Europe has increased since August by 11 percentage points. Opinions about accepting refugees from the Middle East and Africa are differentiated by age. The younger the respondents are, the more often they oppose accepting refugees from these regions. Most respondents below 35 oppose it (60% in the age group 18-24 and 56% in the age group 25-34). Opinions are also differentiated by per capita income. A majority (61%) of the wealthiest support letting Middle Eastern and African migrants come to Poland, while among the poorest only 37% share this opinion.

### Do you agree that Poland should accept some of the refugees coming from the Middle East and Africa to Europe?



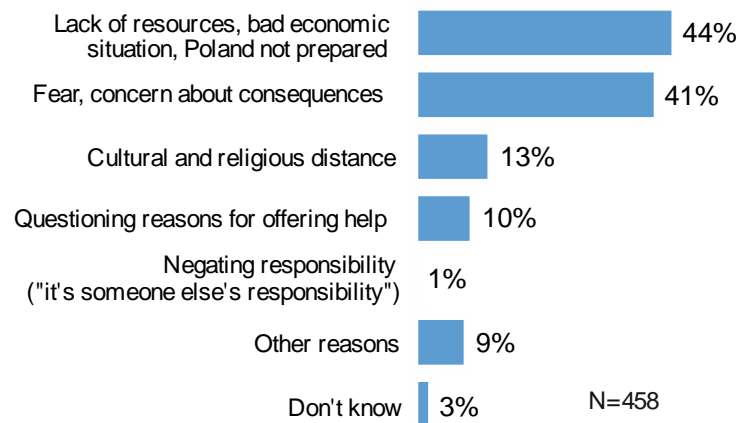
Respondents were asked to justify their support or opposition to receiving refugees from the Middle East and Africa. The most important motives for the acceptance of a part of the refugees are humanitarian concerns, i.e. the conviction that it is necessary to help those in need. More than a quarter of respondents supporting their reception invoke the principle of reciprocity. Moreover, some supporters mentioned international obligations or expressed positive opinions about the situation in Poland or about the consequences of accepting refugees.

### Why should Poland accept refugees from the Middle East and Africa?



The most common justification for rejecting the influx of refugees from the Middle East and Africa is the lack of resources and preparedness, which makes it impossible to help them. Almost as commonly mentioned were threats caused by the presence of refugees, e.g. respondents were concerned about Islamisation of Poland and Europe, terrorism, crime, competition on the labour market and social conflicts. One-eighth of the opponents mentioned cultural and religious distance from these migrants which, while not dangerous, justifies distance. One-tenth doubt the sense of offering help.

## Why shouldn't Poland accept refugees from the Middle East and Africa?



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More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Opinions about Refugees on the Eve of EU Summit Dedicated to Migrant Crisis", September 2015. Fieldwork for national sample: September 2015, N=972. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.