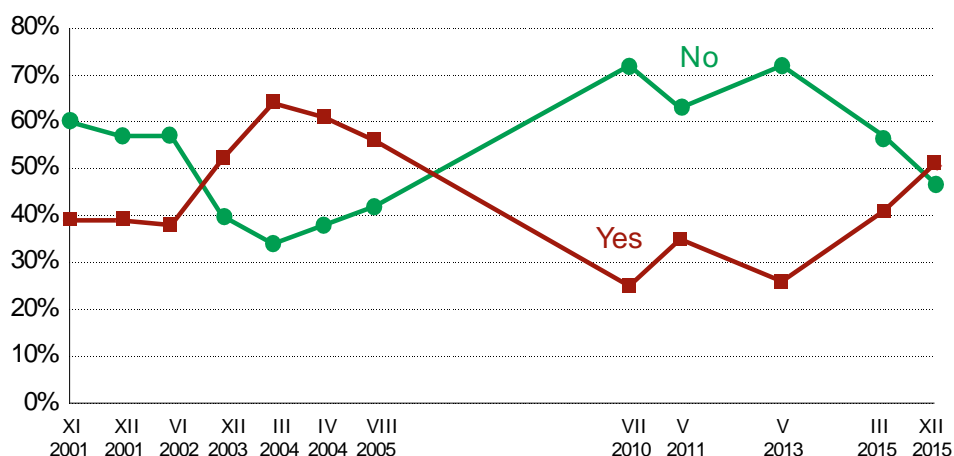


Terrorism threat after Paris attacks

The November terrorist attacks in Paris and Saint-Denis markedly increased the perception of threat of terrorism. Personal concerns about possible terrorist attacks in Poland have significantly increased since March 2015. At present, over half of respondents (51%, a 10-point increase) are afraid of them. The current level of anxiety is highest recorded in the last five years. However, it is still lower than between December 2003 and August 2005, when public opinion was affected by spectacular attacks in Bali, in Moscow at Dubrovka Theatre, in a school in Beslan, and, above all, in Madrid and London, where Polish citizens were among the victims.

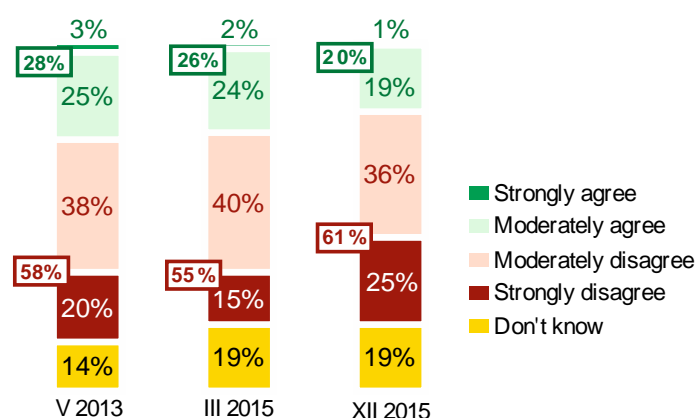
Subjective personal fear of terrorism is strongly related to respondents' gender. Women (59%) are afraid far more often than men (42%).

Are you personally afraid of terrorist attacks?



The evaluation of preparedness of Polish authorities and institutions for preventing terrorist attacks has markedly deteriorated since March, even though public opinion was predominantly sceptical even earlier. Presently the majority of Poles (61%) believe that Polish authorities are not well prepared to prevent terrorist attacks, while only one-fifth (20%) have a positive opinion.

Do you agree that Polish authorities and institutions are well prepared for preventing terrorist attacks in Poland?



As far as costs of increasing security are concerned, they can be both material and in terms of restricting civil liberties. Poles overwhelmingly agree to enhanced controls on the borders, at railways stations and airports (94%) and to more restrictive migration law (82%). Two-thirds of respondents (67%) declare their readiness to bear financial cost of increased expenditure on security. These three ways of increasing citizens' security are accepted more frequently than nine months ago. This concerns in particular restricting migration law (23-point increase).

On the other hand, a vast majority of respondents are opposed to increasing the power of authorities to control mail (65%) and monitor telephone conversations (61%). Over half oppose limiting media information about terrorist threat (56%). It is worth noting that, while the acceptance of state control of mail and telephone has markedly increased (10 points in both cases), the support for state censorship of media information on terrorist threat is relatively stable.

More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Terrorism Threat after the Attacks in Paris", December 2015. Fieldwork for national sample: December 2015, N=989. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.