## Polish-German relations 25 years after signing the Treaty of Good Neighbourship

On 17 June 2016 was the 25th anniversary of the Treaty of Good Neighbourship and Friendly Cooperation, signed by Poland and Germany. It supplemented the Polish-German treaty confirming the existing border, signed on 14 November 1990 and ratified in 1991. This document stresses the significance of Polish-German relations for the unity of Europe, regulates the rights of national minorities living on the other side of the border, promotes the cooperation of Polish and German youth and cultural contacts. It was one of the milestones towards establishing good relations between Poland and Germany after World War II.

After 25 years of the Treaty, the majority of Poles (54\%) evaluate Polish-German relations ambivalently, considering them neither good nor bad. The others tend to see them positively (29\%), rather than having a bad opinion (8\%). Compared with 2015 the opinions are much worse. However, the relations are still seen as better than in 2007, when Jarosław Kaczyński was prime minister. At that time Polish-German relations were seen as bad more often than good.

## Evaluation of Polish-German relations



In the view of over two-fifths of Poles (44\%), in the last year Polish-German relations have remained unchanged. The others observe deterioration (28\%) rather than improvement (9\%) of mutual relations.

Compared with a year ago, Polish-German relations are...


As before, Poles are convinced that Polish-German relations can be friendly and based on partnership (79\%).

Do you agree that it is possible for Polish-German relations to be friendly and based on partnership?

| 14\% | 19\% | 17\% | 17\% |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 64\% | 65\% | 64\% | 62\% | Strongly agree Moderately agree Moderately disagree Strongly disagree Don't know |
| $\frac{15 \%}{6 \%} 1 \%$ | $\frac{8 \%}{7 \%} 1 \%$ | $\frac{11 \%}{7 \%} 1 \%$ | $\frac{12 \%}{8 \%} 1 \%$ |  |
| VI 2009 | IX 2009 | VI 2011 | VI 2016 |  |

As in previous years, the majority of Poles (73\%) are opposed to the increased role of Germany in Europe and in the world.

## Do you agree that Germany should have a stronger role in Europe and in the world?

| 4\% | 2\% | 3\% | 1\% |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 12\% | 14\% | 12\% |
|  | 51\% | 51\% | 50\% |
| 17\% | 21\% | 18\% | 23\% |
| 14\% | 14\% | 14\% | 14\% |
| 2005* | 2008* | VI 2011 | VI 2016 |

- Strongly agree

Moderately agree

- Moderately disagree
- Strongly disagree

Don't know
*Research of the Institute of Public Affairs

More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Relations between Poland and Germany 25 Years after Signing the Treaty of Good Neighbourship", June 2016. Fieldwork for national sample: June 2016, $\mathrm{N}=1002$. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

