

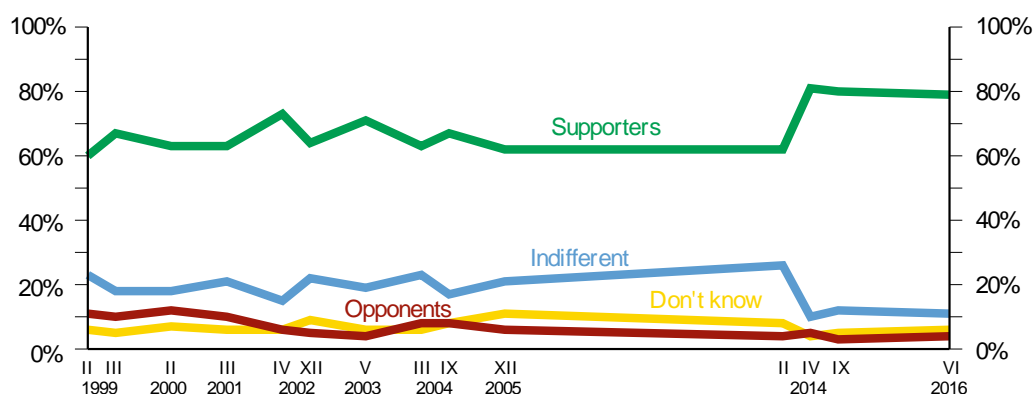
Attitude to NATO and to the presence of allied forces in Poland

On 8-9 July the NATO summit took place in Warsaw. It was a meeting of leaders of all states constituting this organization. Among other decisions, the Warsaw summit approved rotational presence of allied forces on the eastern flank of NATO, i.e. also in Poland.

In the last seventeen years NATO membership enjoyed the support of the vast majority of Poles, but this attitude was never as strong as in the last two years. The increase in support for NATO membership is clearly linked to the situation in eastern Ukraine. In February 2014 support for Poland's NATO membership was similar to the level noted before accession. At that time 62% of Poles advocated it. Rapid increase in support was noted in April 2014, after the “referendum” in the Crimea and its annexation by the Russian Federation: 81% of respondents (a 19-point increase from Feb. 2014) supported NATO membership in the aftermath of these events.

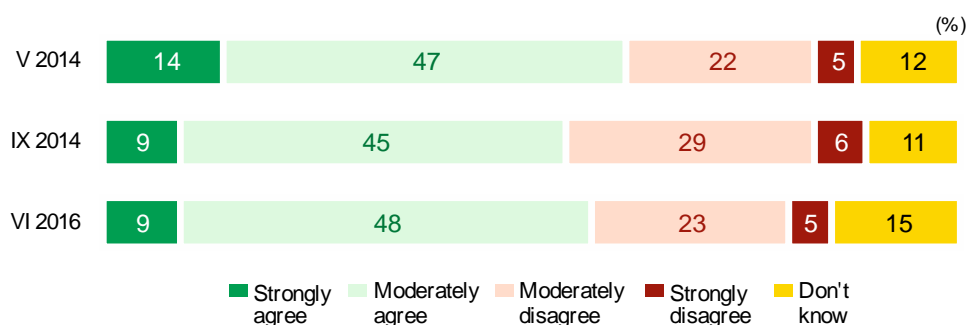
High social support for Poland's NATO membership continues. Before the July summit 79% of Poles approved of Poland's participation in this organization.

Attitude to Poland's membership in NATO



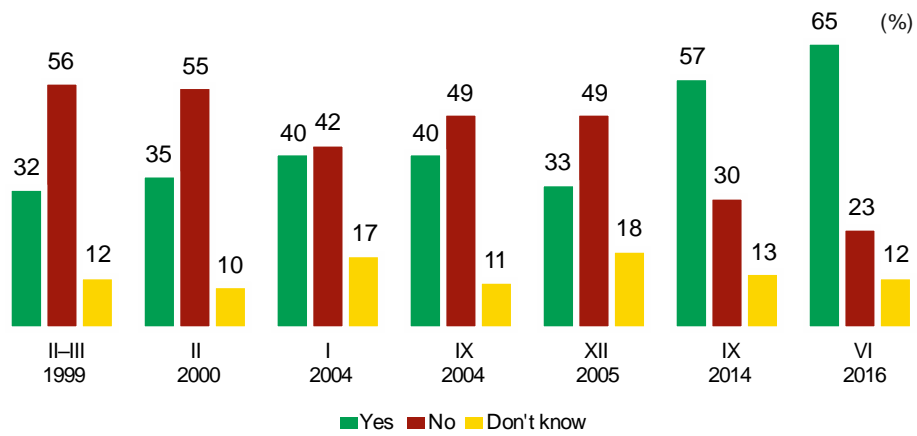
As in previous years, the majority of respondents (57%) think that Poland may be sure of allies' engagement in case of a need to defend our borders, while 28% have doubts about it.

Do you agree that Poland may be sure that NATO allies would engage in case of a need to defend our borders?



In the last ten years the acceptance of permanent presence of forces of other NATO members has markedly increased. Presently almost two-thirds of respondents (65%) share the opinion that troops of other NATO member states should be located in on the Polish territory. Opponents of their presence constitute less than a quarter (23%) of respondents. The support for locating forces of other NATO members in Poland is now the highest in the history of CBOS surveys. Supporters of this policy prevailed numerically over opponents after Crimea and Sevastopol were incorporated into Russian Federation and armed conflict started in eastern Ukraine.

Do you agree that armed forces of other NATO member states should be stationed in Poland?



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Attitude to NATO and Presence of Allied Troops in Poland", July 2016. Fieldwork for national sample: June 2016, N=1002. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.