

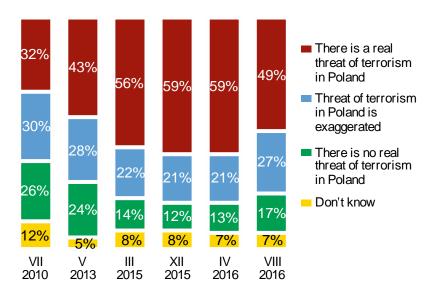
PUBLICOPINION

Solid and Professional

Perception of threat of terrorism

In the last months the perceived terrorist threat has diminished. At present almost half of Poles (49%) believe that there is real threat of a terrorist attack in Poland, which means that the proportion dropped by 10 percentage points relative to April 2016.

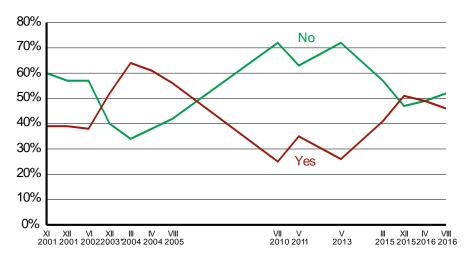
Which view is closest to your own opinion?



The scale of fears related to terrorism changed only slightly. However, it can be noted that, unlike in previous surveys taken in the aftermath of terrorist attacks (in April 2016 after the

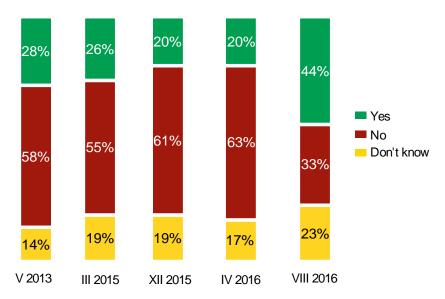
Brussels attack and in December 2015 after the Paris attack), currently people unafraid of terrorism prevail numerically over those worried (52% v. 46%).

Are you personally afraid of terrorist attacks?



After Poland organized the NATO summit and World Youth Day 2016, the perception of competence of Polish authorities and state institutions with regard to public safety changed significantly. Earlier the majority of citizens had a negative opinion about their preparedness for preventing terrorist attacks. At present over two-fifths of respondents (44%, a 24-point increase since April 2016) believe that Polish authorities and state institutions are well prepared, while a third (33%, a 30-point drop) express the opposite opinion.

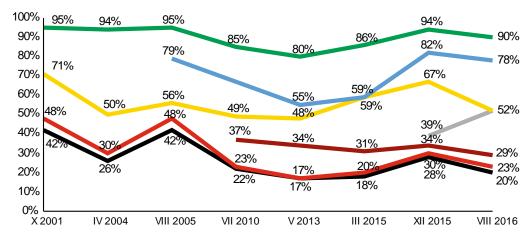
Do you agree that Polish authorities and institutions are well prepared for preventing terrorist attacks in Poland?



In order to reduce the threat of terrorist attacks and feel safer, nine-tenths of respondents (90%) would approve of enhanced controls at the borders, airports and railway stations. Over three-quarters (78%) would accept stricter migration rules. Half of respondents (52%) declare their readiness to bear the costs related to increased expenditure on security, while two-fifths would not accept them. The majority of adults would not agree to limits on information about terrorist threat disclosed by state institutions (60% disagree, 29% agree), as well as stricter control of the internet (52% disagree, 39% agree). The highest resistance is recorded in case of measures aimed at increased state control of mail (73% disagree, 20% agree) and monitoring of telephone conversations (70% disagree, 23% agree).

Although there have been terrorist attacks in western Europe since the previous survey (conducted in December 2015, shortly after the Paris attack), the support for measures potentially enhancing security has decreased. This concerns in particular the readiness to bear extra costs related to security (a 15-point decrease).

Percentage of Poles who would agree to the following measures to increase their security



- Increased controls at the borders, airports and railway stations
- Stricter migration rules
- Increased expenditure on security
- Limits on information about terrorist threat disclosed by state institutions
- Increased state surveillance of telephone conversations
- Increased state control of mail
- Increased state control of internet

More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Terrorist Threat", September 2016. Fieldwork for national sample: August 2016, N=1033. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.