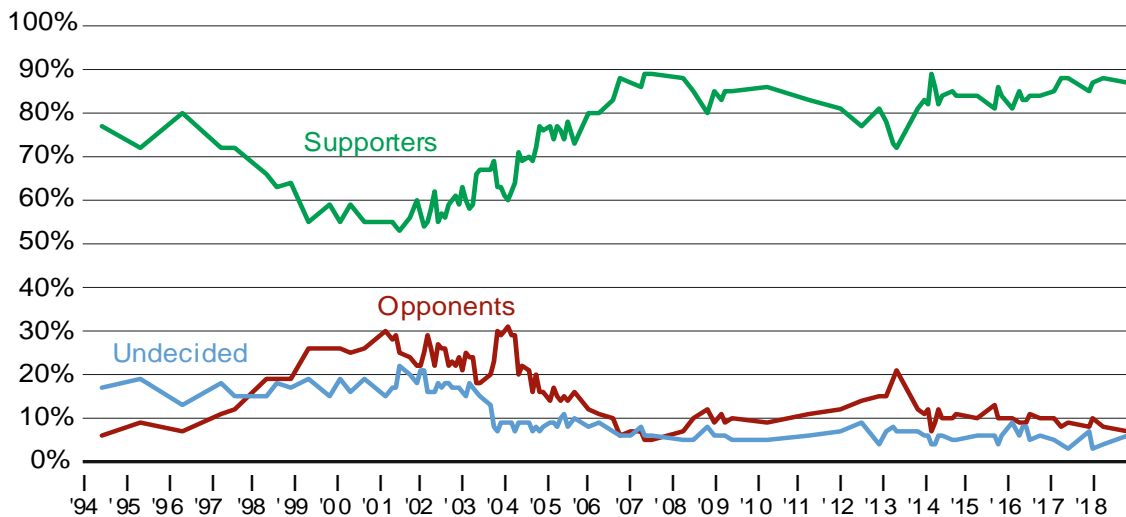


Poland in the European Union

A very high level of public support for Poland's membership in the European Union persists, as 87% of respondents are in favour, while only 7% are against it.

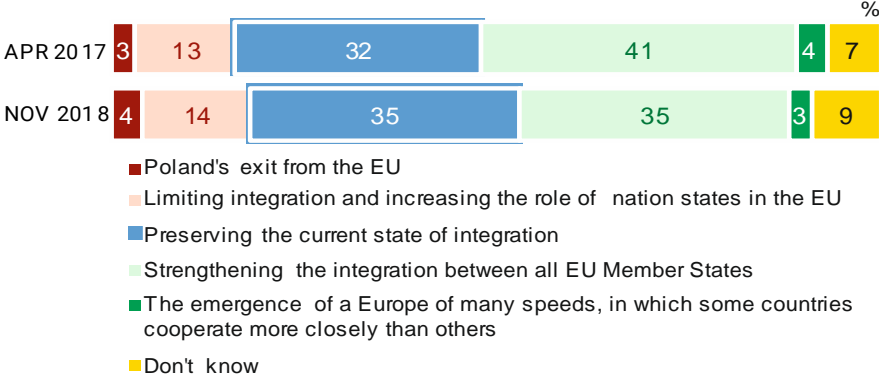
Attitude to Poland's membership in the EU



Poles most often declare being advocates of maintaining the current state of integration (35%) or deepening it (35%), whereas 14% of respondents opt for limiting integration and increasing the role of nation states. Few support Poland's exit from the EU (4%) or the emergence of a Europe of many speeds (3%). Since April last year, the percentage of

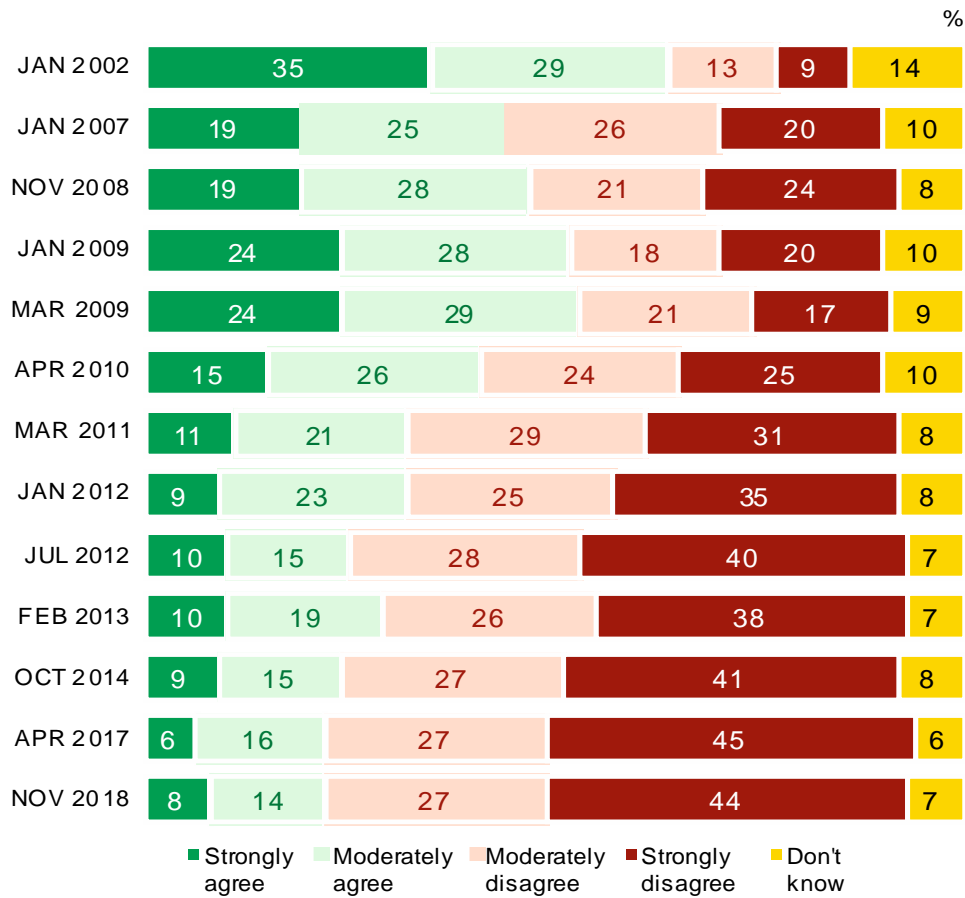
supporters of closer integration has decreased by 6 percentage points, with a corresponding increase in the proportion of people who support the status quo (a 3-point rise).

Which of these possible visions of the future of Poland and the European Union do you personally like most?



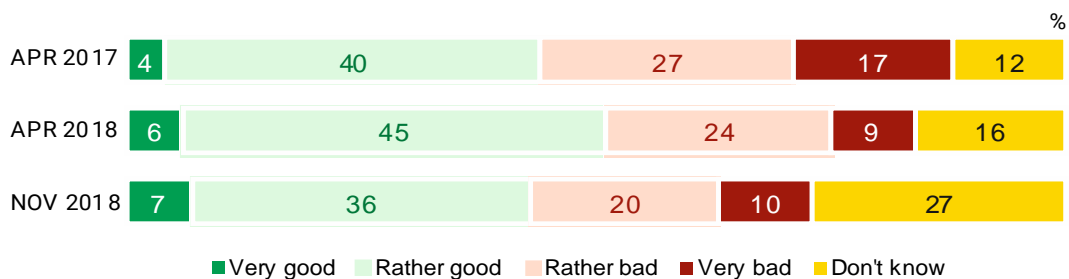
There is a persistent disapproval of the adoption of the euro by Poland. At present 71% of adult Poles are opposed to this move. The introduction of the single currency is supported only by 22% of respondents. The largest support for replacing the PLN with the euro (64%) was recorded in January 2002, before Poland's accession to the EU. After Poland joined the EU, the acceptance of our country's accession to the euro zone weakened. In the first quarter of 2009, after Slovakia's accession to the euro area and during the discussion on the feasibility and rationale of Poland's early adoption of the euro, support for the introduction of the single currency increased again to over 50%. In the following years, when the financial problems of Greece and later other European countries were already known, acceptance of the introduction of the single currency in our country weakened.

Do you agree that Poland should replace the PLN with the euro?



Opinions about Poland's policy on the EU forum are ambiguous, but more people rate it positively (43%) than negatively (30%). The perception of Poland's policy on the EU arena varies depending on current events: in April 2017 it was evaluated more critically, while in April 2018 the assessment was better than now.

How do you assess Poland's policy on the forum of the European Union?



Those who express their approval of Poland's actions at the EU forum pay particular attention to the subjectivity of Polish policy. They emphasize the determination of Polish

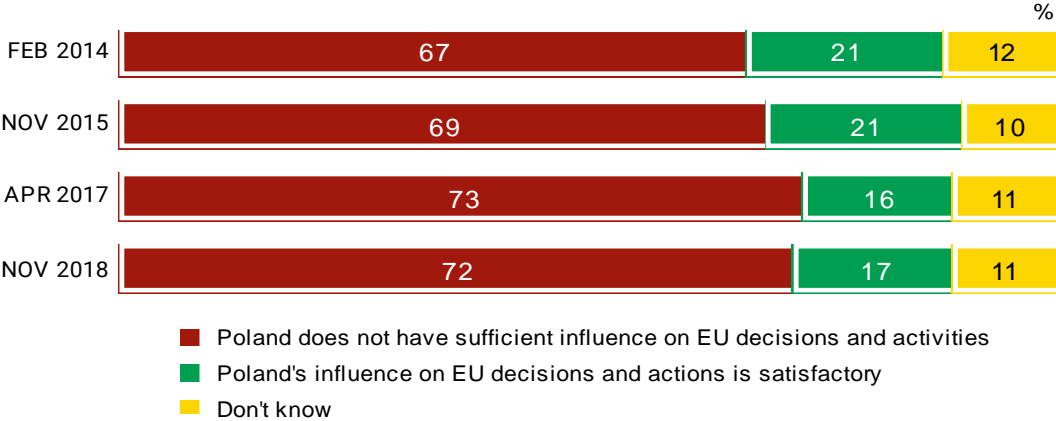
authorities to articulate their point of view, not succumbing to pressure, expressing their opinion clearly and being ready to defend it (20%). They assess that the policy on the EU forum serves the pursuit of Polish interests, is beneficial for our country (11%). In their opinion, the authorities defend the sovereignty and independence of Poland in the EU and take care to preserve the national identity (7%). In the opinion of this group, actions taken at the EU forum are conducive to strengthening Poland's position in the Union, building more equal relations with the most influential countries (7%). Among the specific areas in which Poland wants to and should run its own policy, the immigration policy was mentioned above all (7%). Poland was rarely praised for good cooperation, seeking agreement and adherence to EU recommendations and requirements (3%). People who evaluate Poland's policy well on the EU arena often justify their assessments with benefits related to membership in the Union (12% in total). Among them, the most frequently mentioned were the use of EU funds, including the implementation of infrastructure investments. A large group (14%) expressed general approval of Poland's policy on the EU forum and generally the policies of the current authorities. A small part of respondents (2%) explained positive opinions about policy on the EU forum with a good assessment of Polish representatives in the EU institutions, including the head of the European Council Donald Tusk and MEPs. A large group of respondents (22%) could not justify positive assessments of Poland's policy on the EU arena.

It was less frequent that people dissatisfied with Poland's activities on the European Union forum were not able to motivate their opinions (9%). The largest part of respondents commented on insufficient cooperation on the EU level and its adverse effects. They most frequently mentioned disputes and disagreements with EU institutions (24%). Among the effects of such a policy, in their view are, above all, marginalization of Poland's importance in the EU (7%), as well as the decline in the credibility of our country (2%) and its loneliness in the Union (2%). A large group of people critically assessing politics at the EU forum indicated the failure of Poland to observe EU laws and values, non-compliance with treaties and recommendations of EU institutions (19%). Among specific issues, changes in the judiciary were mainly mentioned (7%). Some people (6%) accused the authorities of euroscepticism, the desire to move Poland out of the Union, and of being exclusively

focused on financial benefits from membership. Other reservations regarding the actions of the current authorities concerned the weakness of Polish diplomacy (6%), the mismatch between internal policy and the position on the EU forum (2%) or were generally critical of governmental actions in the EU (9%) and inland (2%). Critical remarks concerned not only the current authorities but also the activities of the entire political class. Therefore, respondents mentioned lack of unity on the EU forum: party disputes to the EU arena (4%), the opposition was accused of reporting on Poland to Brussels (3%).

Almost three-quarters of respondents (72%) feel that Poland does not have sufficient influence on the decisions and actions of the Union. Only 17% of respondents believe that the impact of our country on EU affairs is satisfactory. Opinions in this matter have practically not changed since April 2017.

Which of the statements is closer to your own opinion?



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Poland in European Union", December 2018. Fieldwork for national sample: November 2018, N=999. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.