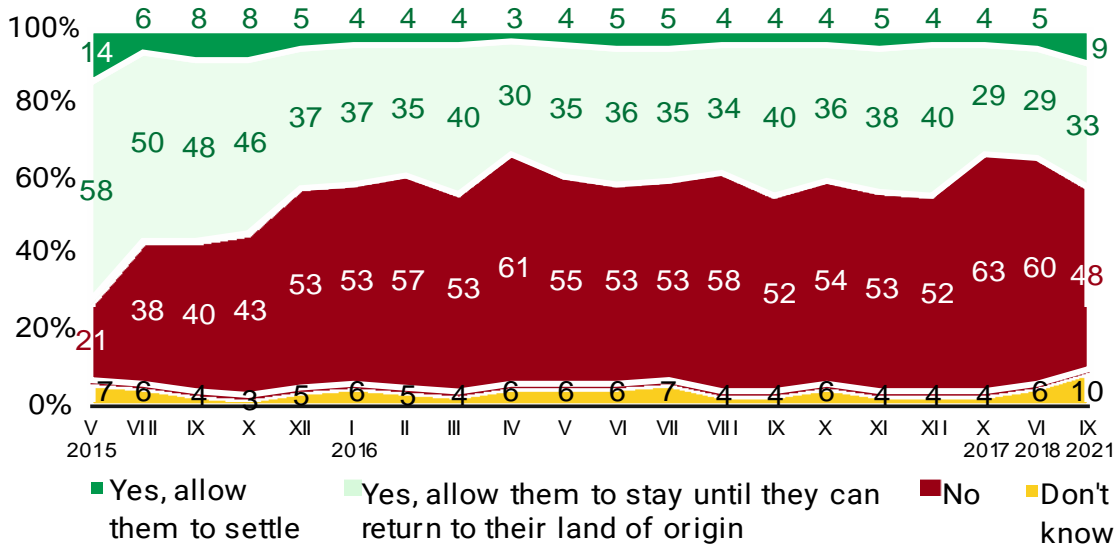


Attitude to refugees and the situation of migrants at the border

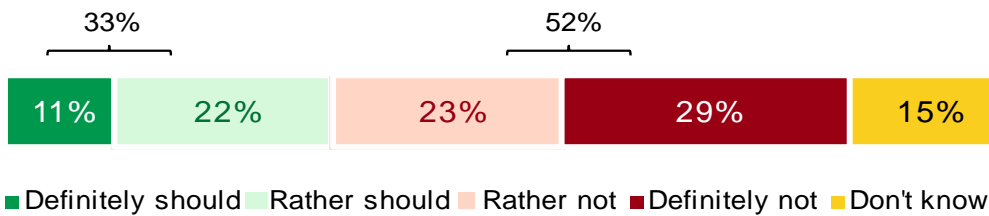
The attitude of Poles to receiving refugees is varied; however, it is more often negative than favourable. Almost half of respondents (48%) do not want to accept refugees from countries affected by armed conflicts, while two fifths (42%) approve of it, with the majority of this group (33%) believing that our country should shelter them only until they can return to their country, and about a tenth (9%) also agree to their settlement in Poland. Since the previous study on this subject more than three years ago (which was carried out in a different global situation), the attitude of Poles towards accepting refugees has clearly improved: there are fewer people unwilling to welcome them and more approving of both temporary asylum and permanent residence. From a historical perspective, it can be seen that until the terrorist attack in Paris in November 2015, Poles were generally favourable to accepting refugees, although they mostly preferred temporary asylum for them. After this event, rejection has prevailed.

Should Poland accept refugees from countries affected by armed conflicts?



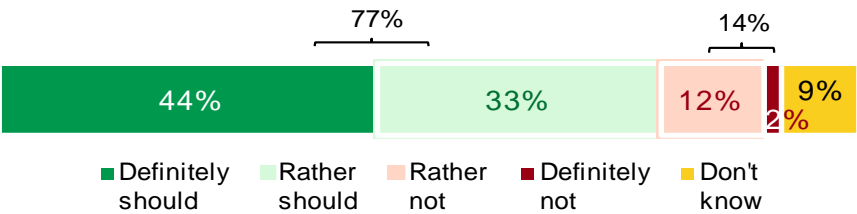
The attitude to asylum seekers from the countries of the Middle East, Africa and Afghanistan who are on the Polish-Belarusian border is more negative than the general attitude to accepting refugees, which results from the fact that the perception of the whole situation overlaps with suspicions of deliberate transfer of migrants across the border with Poland (as well as with Lithuania and Latvia). The belief that migrants on the Polish-Belarusian border should be allowed to apply for asylum in our country is expressed by one-third of Poles (33%), while over half are of the opposite opinion (52%).

Poland, Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia accuse Belarus of organizing the transfer of migrants, e.g. from Afghanistan, some Middle East countries and Africa to their territories. Should the Polish authorities allow migrants staying on the Polish-Belarusian border to apply for asylum in our country or not?



Poles approve of the strengthening of controls on the border with Belarus. Such actions are supported by over three-fourths of respondents (77%), and only a few (14%) consider it unnecessary.

In the current situation, should Poland strengthen the control of the border with Belarus?



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Public Opinion on Refugees and Situation of Migrants on the Border with Belarus", September 2021. Fieldwork for national sample: September 2021, N=1218. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.