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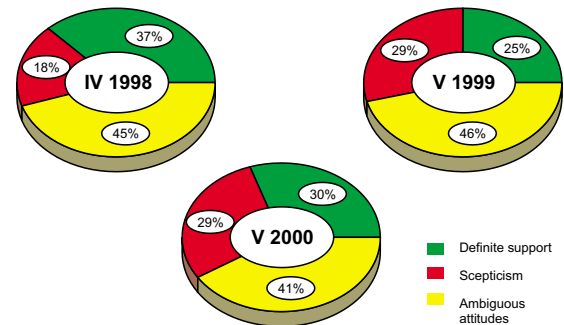
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## OPINIONS ON THE RESULTS OF POLAND'S INTEGRATION WITH THE EUROPEAN UNION AND THE PROCESS OF ACCESSION NEGOTIATIONS

After a decline of the Poles' support for European integration since 1997, the number of those who support our access to the European Union stopped falling the last year and the number of persons who without hesitation opt for our membership has even slightly increased. Evaluation of expected results of integration remains stable. The analyses show that positive attitudes towards the integration are positively associated with the anticipated improvement of the economic situation of the country and with living conditions of citizens.

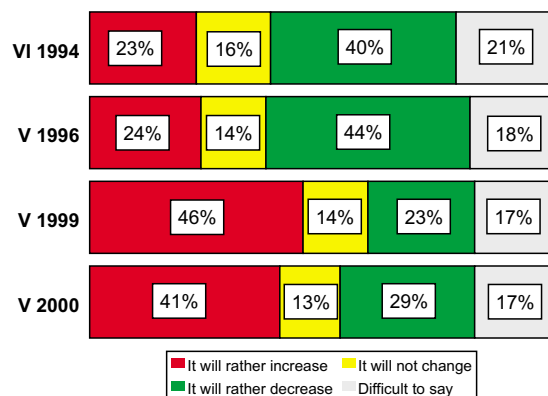
A general belief that the integration will have a positive effect on the condition of the Polish economy remains in force and is now expressed by half of respondents. Economic gains associated with our access to the Union are expected first and foremost by respondents with a higher social and material status, who at the same time support the integration the most. Almost half of respondents (48%) expect that Poland's access to the Union will make it easier for us to reduce the distance in the economic development between Polish and the European Union economies. Most respondents also expect that the condition of the environment in Poland will improve after our admission to the EU. A prevailing percentage look forward to positive changes in the level of education of Poles, their work ethics, compliance with the law and the functioning of the political system in Poland.

THE GENERALISED ATTITUDE TO POLAND'S INTEGRATION WITH THE EUROPEAN UNION (composite scale)



Note: The scale constructed as a mean of five different items (issues).

IN YOUR OPINION, WILL UNEMPLOYMENT IN POLAND INCREASE OR RATHER DECREASE AS A RESULT OF POLAND'S INTEGRATION WITH THE EUROPEAN UNION?



More than a third of respondents (35%) declare interest in finding a job in one of the EU countries after Poland's access to this organisation. One in five is going to look for such a job himself/herself. There are two groups willing to seek the employment abroad more often the others. The first consists of young people who have just started their career. The second consists of people with vocational education and relatively low income.

Generally speaking, a large part of the Polish society does not have any knowledge of the accession negotiations. Over two fifths of respondents (43%) are unable to evaluate their pace and over half (51%) the tactics of the Polish negotiators. Those who feel competent to discuss this matter usually believe that the pace of the negotiations is adequate (25%) or too slow (22%). The opinion that the Polish negotiators are too complaisant is relatively common (26%). A little less persons believe that they act properly (20%) and very few (3%) accuse them of a too rigid and uncompromising approach. On the whole, however, two-thirds of respondents (66%) are convinced that Poland will be in the first group of new member states admitted to the European Union.

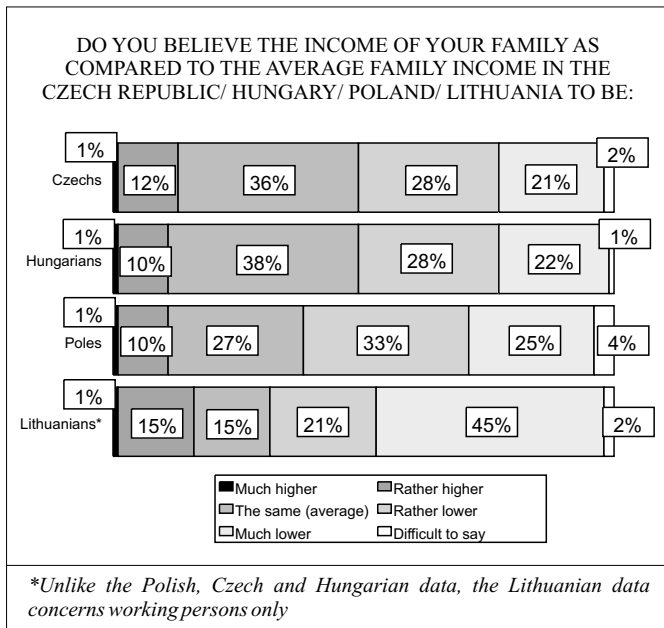
More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report: "Opinions on the results of Poland's integration with the European Union and the process of accession negotiations", July 2000.

## EVALUATIONS OF THE STANDARD OF LIVING IN POLAND, THE CZECH REPUBLIC, HUNGARY AND LITHUANIA

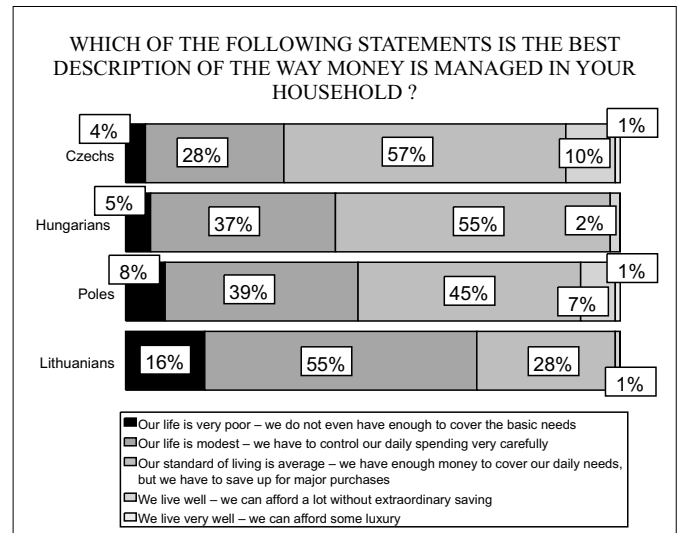
Public discussions on the changes taking place in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe usually stress the fact that the dynamics of the transformation and economic growth differ from country to country. That results in rapidly growing differences between former Eastern bloc countries, as well as growing social inequalities in each of these countries. Therefore it should be interesting to compare the perceived standard of living of respondents and their families in different countries of the region.

In all the societies compared in our study respondents tend to perceive their income as lower than the income of an average family in their country. The number of those who evaluate their income as higher than average is relatively small. The families that see themselves as financially underprivileged are several times more numerous than the families who see themselves as financially privileged.

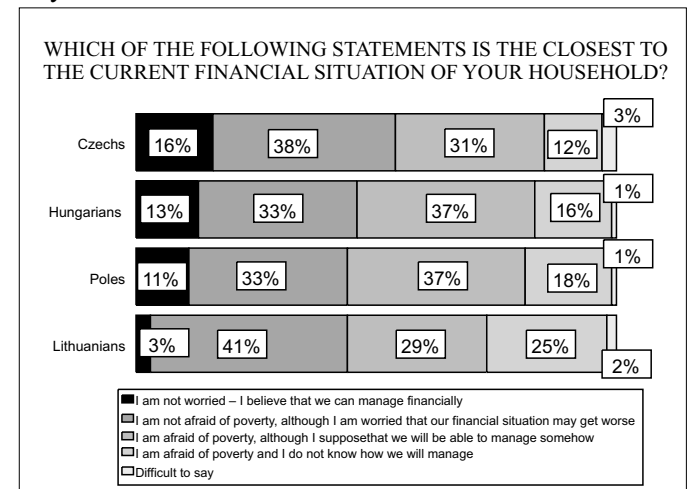
The Czechs and Hungarians evaluate the relative level of income of their families similarly. The feeling of a relatively bad financial situation is more common among the Poles. The Lithuanians evaluate their relative income the lowest.



The subjective standard of living of families in the Czech Republic and Hungary is similar and higher than in Poland. The Poles declare that they live in poverty (do not have enough money to cover their basic needs) more frequently than Hungarians and Czechs. Furthermore, the Polish respondents less frequently describe their standard of living as average. However, among the countries taking part in the survey, Lithuanians have by far the worst subjective living conditions. 16% of Lithuanian respondents declare that their families live in poverty and further 55% declare living in modest conditions.



As compared to the societies of other countries, the Lithuanians feel more vulnerable to poverty and their feeling of material safety is relatively the weakest. They declare having personal experience of poverty more frequently than the Poles, Czechs and Hungarians. Their estimations of the scale of poverty in their country are also higher. According to the average opinion of Lithuanian respondents, 48% of the Lithuanian society lives in poverty. The Poles estimate that 40% of their fellow citizens live in poverty, Hungarians 35% and Czechs only 20%.

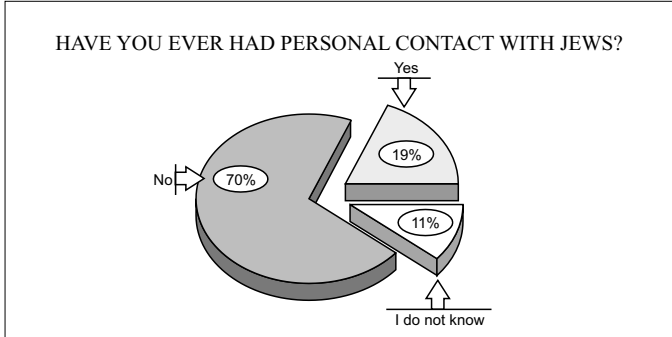


More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report: "Evaluations of the standard of living and the perception of the poverty sphere in Poland, the Czech Republic, Hungary and Lithuania", July 2000. Surveys in other countries were conducted by: IVVM in the Czech Republic, TARKI in Hungary, VILMORUS in Lithuania.

## POLES AND JEWS AFTER THE POPE'S VISIT

The March pilgrimage of the Pope John Paul II was an important event for the relations between Christians and Jews. A definite majority of Poles (83%) was following this pilgrimage in the news. In the opinion of the majority, the Pope's visit to Israel will contribute to the improvement of the relations between Catholics and Jews (60%) and between Poles and Jews (54%).

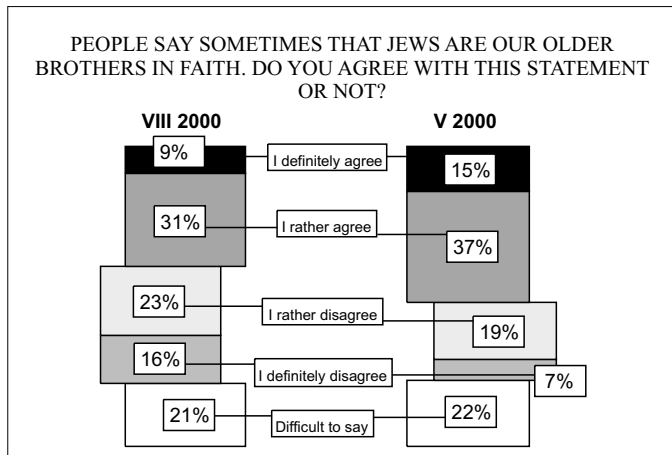
Three quarters of respondents (75%) evaluate the present relations between Catholics and Jews as correct. In this group, over half of the total sample described these relations as neutral (54%) and one-fifth (21%) as good. Less than one-seventh of respondents (14%) believe that the relations between Catholics and Jews are bad.



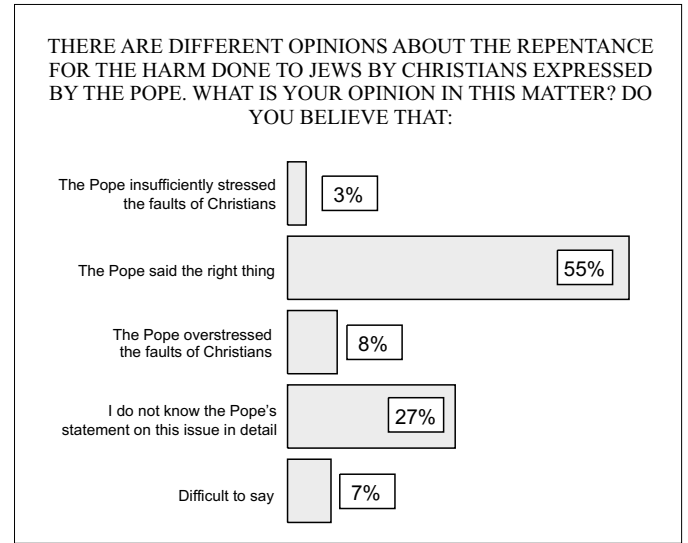
Despite the relatively not too bad evaluation of the relations between Poles and Jews, quite a lot of respondents see the indications of anti-semitism in their environment. Only one in four respondents has never come across any signs of ill will or hostility towards Jews. Over half of respondents have noticed that negative opinions concerning Jews are still preserved in the common beliefs about politics. They have heard the opinion that Poland is ruled by Jews (55%). Moreover, almost half of respondents have come across an anti-semitic belief that Jews rule the world (49%). Quite a lot of respondents notice anti-semitic stereotypes in popular thinking or speech habits. One in three sees open expressions of anti-semitism in the street in the form of anti-Jewish graffiti.

Respondents condemn the acts of profanation of Jewish cemeteries the most. About 80% regard this as a crime which should be prosecuted by law and further 13% believes that it should be publicly condemned, though not necessarily prosecuted. Acts of verbal aggression in the form of graffiti are disapproved of by almost the same number of respondents - 87% believe that they should be prosecuted or condemned. The so-called Auschwitz lie, i.e. the attempts at denying that the Jews were exterminated during World War II, meet with equally strong opposition (80%).

The results of our survey indicate positive changes in the attitude of Poles towards Jews. During the last four years the number of people who acknowledge common religious roots of Christians and Jews has grown.



At present every other Pole sees Jews as our older brothers in faith and only one in five denies the existence of such a bond. Over half of respondents fully sympathise with the Pope in his repentance for the harm done by Christians.



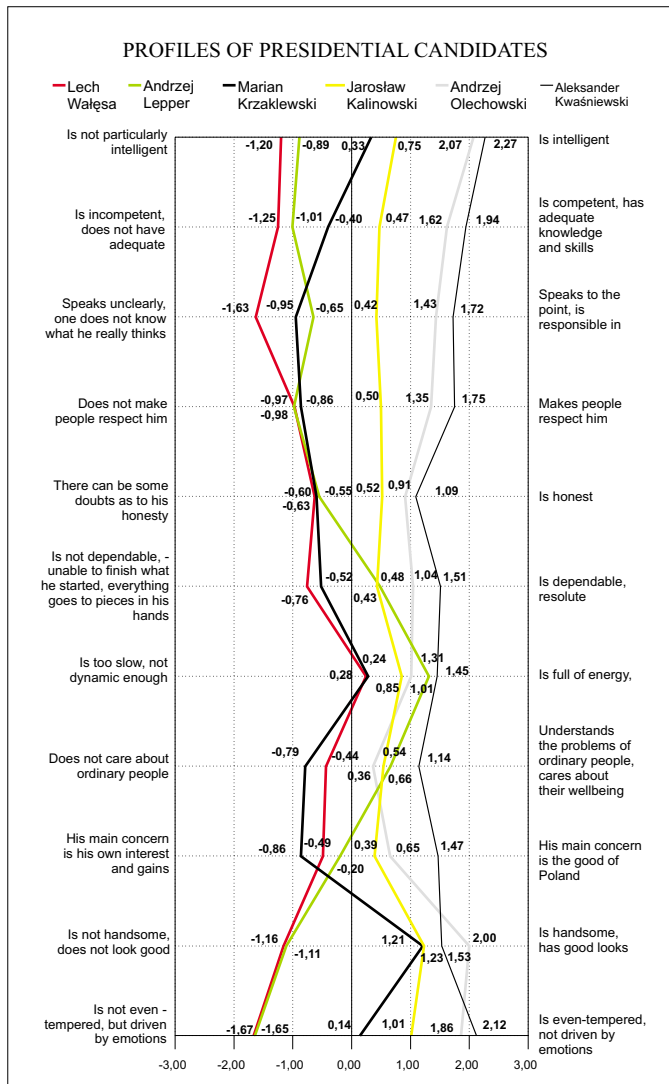
More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report: "Poles - Jews", July 2000.

### PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES IN THE OPINION OF POLES

At the very beginning of the election campaign we asked our respondents to evaluate six politicians running for the highest office in Poland, who so far have obtained the highest ratings in opinion polls: Aleksander Kwaśniewski (62% of support declarations in July), Andrzej Olechowski (11%), Marian Kwaśniewski (7%), Lech Wałęsa, Andrzej Lepper and Jarosław Kalinowski (3% each).

Aleksander Kwaśniewski, who so far has won by far the most potential voters, is also (with the exception of one feature) generally evaluated more positively than any other candidate. The social image of Andrzej Olechowski is favourable as well. As compared to other candidates, Jarosław Kalinowski from the PSL is also evaluated positively. In contrast, the social image of Marian Krzaklewski is not as good. The "Solidarity" leader obtained positive evaluations in four categories only, while in the remaining seven he was evaluated negatively. Among the candidates analysed here, the opinions on Andrzej Lepper and Lech Wałęsa are the least favourable.

At the beginning of the election campaign most respondents regard Aleksander Kwaśniewski as the most appropriate candidate for the next presidential term. Such characteristics of the current President as intelligence, calmness and the ability to control his emotions were evaluated the highest. His widely recognised advantages also include high competence, respect of people, communication skills and the ability to present himself in a favourable light. Aleksander Kwaśniewski did not obtain the highest evaluations in one category only, namely his appearance.



**Andrzej Olechowski** was evaluated as the most handsome of all six candidates (over two-fifths of definitely positive evaluations). His intelligence and the ability to control emotions were also evaluated highly. Other highly rated characteristics of this candidate are knowledge and skills, the ability to communicate with people and social respect that he enjoys. On the other hand, sensitivity to social issues obtained worse evaluations. The opinions on whether Andrzej

Olechowski puts the good of the country before his personal interest or not are also rather divided. On the whole, with the exception of "presidential" looks, this candidate was rated only slightly lower than the current president.

**Marian Krzaklewski** is evaluated relatively high for his good looks, intelligence, energy, calmness and the ability to avoid too emotional behaviour. The weaknesses of the "Solidarity" leader include: not clear enough motivations, making a large number of respondents suspect that he cares more about his own interest and gains or that of his group than the good of the country, and finally the impression that he does not care about ordinary people (in the last two categories he obtained the lowest evaluations of all candidates). His presentation skills are also evaluated negatively. In the respondents' opinion, he speaks unclearly and has problems communicating with the society. The evaluations of his social prestige were also relatively low.

The opinions on **Jarosław Kalinowski** are all positive on the average and at the same time unvaried. His assets are primarily good looks, emotional balance and the ability to control his emotions. Other advantages of this candidate are energy and intelligence.

**Lech Wałęsa**, the best-known politician, has a negative image well-established in the public opinion during his previous term as a president. People may respect him for his past role in Solidarity but do not see him as suitable for presidency. Energy is his only feature that respondents evaluated relatively well. His supporters also appreciate his clear intentions, i.e. the fact that he puts the good of Poland before everything else in his political activity. His temper and appearance, communication skills and competence were evaluated the lowest.

The public image of **Andrzej Lepper** is not positive, either. His greatest advantages include dynamism and energy, as well as determination and consistency. He is perceived by the public as a politician who represents the interests of ordinary people, understands their problems and cares for them. He obtained the lowest evaluations for his inability to control emotions and not very good appearance, knowledge, skills and intelligence.

More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report: "Portraits of presidential candidates", June 2000.

**In addition to the bulletins referred to above, the following have been published recently (in Polish):**

- "Corruption and bribery in public life"
- "Presidential candidates motivations and certainty of support, election alternatives and negative electorates"
- "Institutions of the administration of justice"
- "Opinions on the activity of the government"
- "Social moods in July"
- "The reform of education from the perspective of the last school year"
- "Opinions on trade unions"
- "The attitude to politicians at the beginning of July"

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