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PUBLIC OPINION RESEARCH CENTER - CBOS -

> 4a Żurawia 00-503 Warszawa POLAND

Ph: (48 22) 629 35 69 (48 22) 628 37 04 (48 22) 693 58 94

Fax:(48 22) 629 40 89

E-mail: sekretariat@cbos.pl

http://www.cbos.pl

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#### HOW FAST TO THE EUROPEAN UNION?

80%

60%

40%

0%

The support for Poland's integration with the European Union has been stable for about two years. Over half of the respondents would opt for integration if a referendum were held on that issue. In June, 54% of the respondents supported Poland's access to the EU, 29% were against and the remaining 17% had no opinion. It should be stressed that a significant proportion of those who would vote against Poland's membership in the EU now do not exclude access at a later date.

The proportion of the Poles who would be rather against Poland entering the European

Union as soon as possible has decreased a little in the last quarter. Although still most respondents (57%) believe that Poland should first modernise its economy and then enter the

the last quarter. Although still most dernise its economy and then enter the EU, this percentage is also slightly lower now than three months ago. The number of those uncertain has increased. That may be a result of current complications in the

IF A REFERENDUM WERE HELD NOW ON POLAND'S

ACCESS TO THE EUROPEAN UNION, WOULD YOU VOTE:

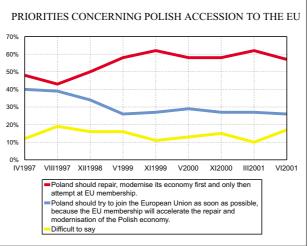
for Poland's access to the European Union

Difficult to say

against Poland's access to the European Union

negotiations with the EU.

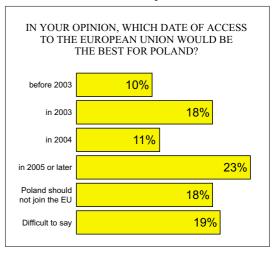
The respondents seem to believe that an immediate access to the Union would not be the best solution for Poland. One in ten respondents (10%) believe that it would be the best for Poland to join the EU before 2003. 18% opt for the year 2003, i.e. the date preferred by the government. Less than one-fifth of the respondents (18%) believe that we should not join the EU at all.



Thus, the percentage of those who believe that Poland should never join the EU is much smuller than the percentage of those who would vote against, if it the referendum is held nowadays.

Only 8% of Poles believe that they have sufficient knowledge about integration with the EU, a little more than one-third (36%) believe that their knowledge is average and over half (52%) of the Poles feel that they do not have sufficient information on that subject.

More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report "The attitude to integration with the European Union", June 2001.

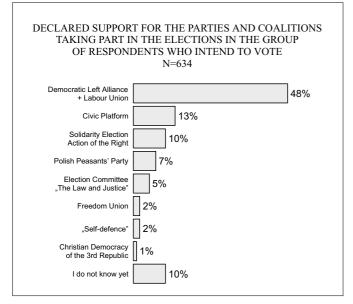


## BEFORE THE PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS

The elections to the Polish Parliament will be held in September. The alignment of power is very disadvantageous for the right-wing parties, as most opinion polls show an enormous advantage of the coalition formed by the post-communist Democratic Left Alliance, the left-wing Labour Union and some less known groups (SLD-UP) over the post-Solidarity or right-wing groups. The current situation resembles the alignment of power before the 2000 presidential election: a sole leader far ahead of the other competitors. If the elections were held in June, almost every other voter (48%) would support the SLD-UP coalition. The declared support for the remaining serious political groups is much lower.

The Solidarity Election Action of the Right (AWSP) has inherited all political burdens and pays the price for the actions of its predecessor, the AWS, which has been in power for the last four years. Currently, it has the strongest negative image among all political parties.

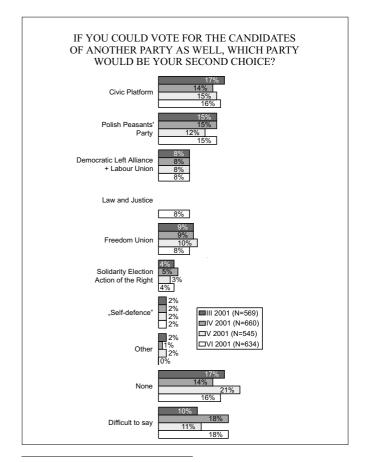
The situation of the Freedom Union (UW), which has been part of the ruling coalition over the last years (till 2000), is catastrophic. Its popularity among voters is so low that it may even not be able to win any seats in the Parliament.



The SLD-UP coalition is not only the most popular, but also has the most stable electorate. Its supporters are the most determined to vote and convinced that no other party is worth their support.

The SLD-UP coalition, despite being an undisputable leader in respect of voting preferences, is relatively seldom mentioned as a party of the "second choice".

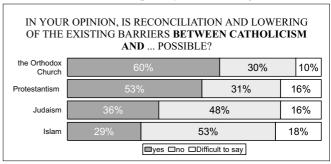
The Civic Platform (PO) has the best chance of taking votes away from other parties and winning more support. The establishment of this political group was initiated at the beginning of this year by a former presidential candidate Andrzej Olechowski.



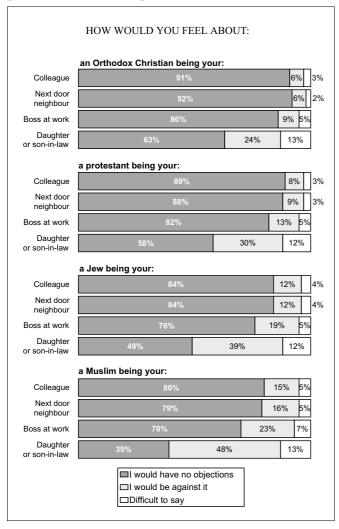
More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS reports "Political party preferences in June", "Before the Parliamentary elections certainty of support, election alternatives, negative electorates", June 2001.

#### THE ATTITUDE OF POLISH CATHOLICS TO FOLLOWERS OF OTHER RELIGIONS

A definite majority of Poles are Roman Catholics. In 1999, in Poland there were approximately 35 million baptised Catholics, 560 thousand Orthodox Christians, 158 thousand Protestants, 5,200 Muslims and 1,200 Jews. The Poles believe that reconciliation and lowering of the existing barriers is possible mainly between Catholics and the members of other Christian Churches (the Orthodox and Protestant Churches). The chances of establishing closer relations between Catholicism and other monotheist religions (Judaism and Islam) are much less frequently acknowledged.



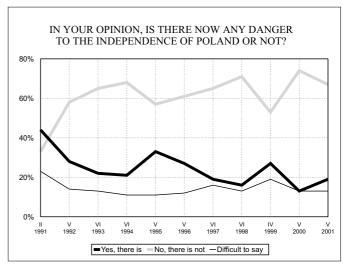
The attitudes to other religious in Poland are quite complex. Most respondents would have nothing against working with members of other religions or being their next door neighbours. However, they would be somewhat less happy if people of different faith played important roles in their professional life (e.g. as a superior). A possibility of admitting members of another religion to a respondent's family (a daughter or son-in-law) meets with significant opposition, though only Muslims instigate negative feelings more frequently than positive ones in this respect.



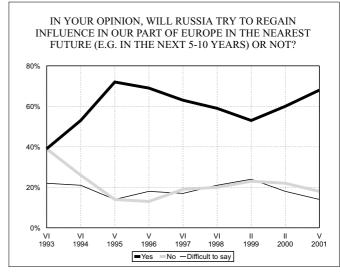
More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report "Social distance or tolerance and openness? Attitudes towards Orthodox Christians, Protestants, Jews and Muslims", June 2001

### THE SITUATION OF POLAND ON THE INTERNATIONAL SCENE

As compared with the last year, when in the respondents' opinion the independence of Poland was endangered less than ever before, the proportion of those who notice such danger has increased a little.



Almost two-thirds of the respondents who believe that there is a danger to the independence of Poland think that Russia is the country we should be afraid of (64%), while a little more than one-third (35%) pointed to Germany as a potential source of threat. Belorussia is another country mentioned by a substantial group of the respondents (11%).

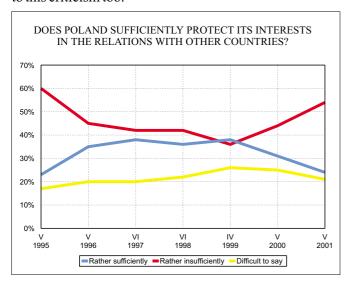


The opinion that Russia will try to regain domination in Central and Eastern Europe is the most common among young people, especially students. The higher the respondents' education, the more frequently they share this opinion. It seems also to be more popular among people with right-wing political views.

The respondents who believe that the security of Poland is at risk were also asked which countries, in the event of a real threat, Poland can count on. The most frequently mentioned countries were the United States (24%), Germany (12%), France (10%) and the Czech Republic (7%). However, the biggest percentage (27%) believes that there is no such country and the Poles can only rely on themselves.

The evaluations of the effectiveness of the Polish foreign policy are worse than last year. However, the critical opinions in this respect result mainly from the respondents' criticism of the policy of the government as

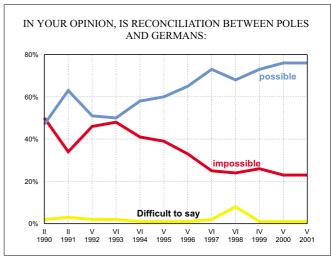
a whole rather than from their negative opinion on any specific foreign policy problems or actions. Current difficulties in EU accession negotiations may contribute to this criticism too.



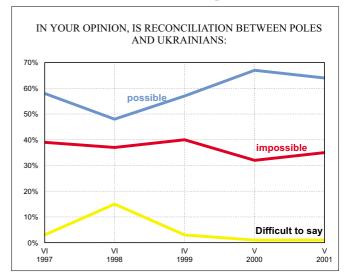
More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report "The situation of Poland on the international scene", July 2001

# THE RELATIONS WITH GERMANY AND THE UKRAINE

The relations of Poland with both Germany and the Ukraine are particularly affected by the past, especially by the dramatic events of World War II, but also earlier history. The last decade brought a fundamental change in the relations of Poland with Germany and the Ukraine. The percentage of the Poles convinced that reconciliation with Germany is possible has been growing at a high pace since 1994. At the moment, over three-quarters of the respondents believe that such reconciliation is possible.



The relations between Poland and the Ukraine are seen in a little more pessimistic light. However, most Poles share the opinion that the reconciliation between the Poles and the Ukrainians is also possible.



More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report "The relations with neighbours", July 2001.

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

- ◆ Knowledge of patients' rights
- Political parties before the elections who cannot be missing from the new Parliament
- Informing patients about the state of their health and the course of treatment
- ◆ The self-portrait of pensioners
- Social moods in June
- ◆ 2000 tax settlements
- Opinions on the attitude to patients in health care establishments

For more information on CBOS services and publications please contact:

CBOS POLAND 4a, Żurawia, 00-503 Warsaw Phones: (48 22) 629 35 69, 628 37 04 Fax: (48 22) 629 40 89

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