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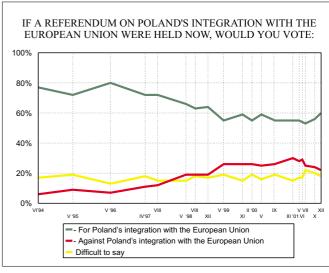
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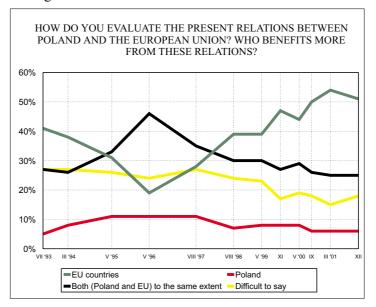
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# SUPPORT FOR THE INTEGRATION WITH THE EUROPEAN UNION AFTER THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE NEW NEGOTIATION POSITION OF THE POLISH GOVERNMENT

The new government of the Prime Minister Leszek Miller has proposed shorter transition periods for the purchase of land in Poland by the European Union nationals than considered before. Although the Poles are very sensitive to the issue of the purchase of land by foreigners, so far this fact has not negatively affected the Poles' attitude to the European Union. After the announcement of the new negotiation position of Poland in the talks with the European Union, 60% of the respondents still opted for the integration.



The basic social factors affecting the attitudes to Poland's integration with the European Union have not changed for a long time. The higher the respondents' education and satisfaction with their material status, the more frequently they support Poland's integration with the EU. The proportion of the supporters of the integration is the highest among the managers and the intelligentsia and owners of private businesses; it is the lowest among farmers.

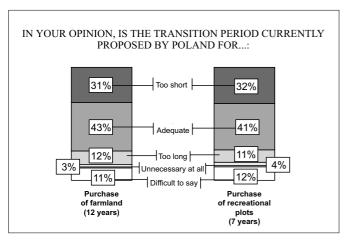


The perception of the relations between Poland and the European Union has not changed much for two years. A definite majority of the respondents believe that the EU countries benefit more from the mutual relations than Poland.

Over two-fifths of the Poles are convinced that the Polish negotiators are too submissive and their demands are insufficient (44%). A minority of the respondents evaluate the conduct of the negotiations by Poland as adequate (27%) and only one in

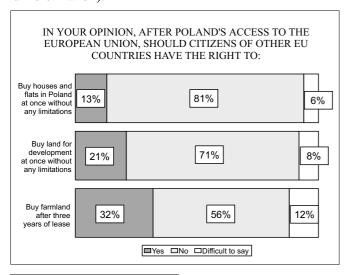
twenty (5%) believes that the requirements of Poland are excessive.

Most respondents accept the transition periods for the free purchase of farmland (12 years) and recreational plots (7 years) proposed by the Polish government in the new negotiation position.



Farmers share particularly restrictive views with regard to the transition periods for the purchase of land. In the opinion of over half of them (53%), the 12-year transition period for the purchase of farmland is too short. Moreover, almost half of all farmers (48%) think that the 7-year transition period for the purchase of recreational plots is insufficient. The opinion that these periods are too long is very rare in this group of respondents (5% and 4%, respectively). In this respect, the managers and the intelligentsia are situated on the opposite end of the scale of opinion, particularly with regard to the 12-year period. In this group, more respondents think that this period is too long than too short (24% and 16%, respectively).

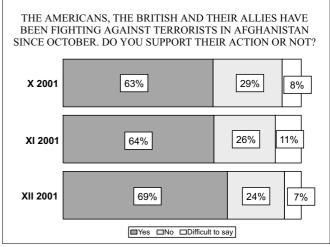
At the same time, a definite majority of the respondents disagree with the government proposals of elimination of transition periods for the purchase of houses, flats and land for development by the European Union nationals, as well as with the right to purchase farmland in Poland after a 3-year lease (the survey was conducted before the recent modification of the position of Poland on the latter issue, which introduced regional differentiation).



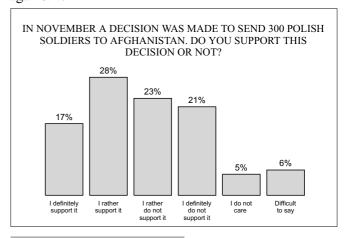
More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report "The attitude to the integration with the European Union after the announcement of the new negotiation position", January 2002.

#### **CONFLICT IN AFGHANISTAN**

The support for the anti-terrorist action in Afghanistan is growing. At present, over two-thirds of the Poles support the intervention and a quarter are against it.



At the same time, the support for the participation of Poland in the NATO action has been shrinking since September. Immediately after the terrorist attack on New York and Washington, 77% of the respondents believed that Poland should join the military action of NATO. In October and November 2001, over half of the respondents maintained this opinion (60% and 54%, respectively). In December, the percentage of the supporters of Polish participation in the international action dropped again (to 48%). Only a slightly lower proportion of the Poles believe that Poland should rather not join the international action in Afghanistan (43%). The opinions on sending Polish troops to Afghanistan are divided: over two-fifths of the respondents (45%) are for this decision and almost the same percentage (44%) are against it.

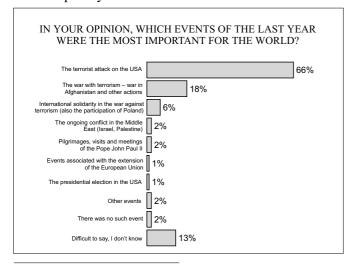


More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS reports "Opinions on the military action in Afghanistan and on letters allegedly containing anthrax bacteria" and "Opinions on sending the Polish troops to Afghanistan and on the anti-terrorist actions of NATO", December 2001 January 2002.

### THE MOST IMPORTANT EVENTS OF THE YEAR 2001

In the respondents' opinion, the parliamentary elections held in September were the most important event of the year in Poland (44%). For a significant proportion of the respondents, not only the fact that a new parliament was elected is important, but also the change of the government, the defeat of the right political alliance (3%), the victory of the left (2%) and the rise of the SLD (Democratic Left Alliance) to power (12%). Other events associated with the elections include the success of a populist leader Andrzej Lepper and the presence of his political base, namely Samoobrona (Self-Defense) in the Sejm (3%). Respondents also occasionally mentioned such events as the efforts of Poland to join the European Union or the involvement in the war with terrorism. Few persons mentioned economic or social problems, such as growing unemployment or the consequences of the flood.

As far as the events of the last year that affected the whole world are concerned, the unprecedented terrorist attack on the USA and its consequences, such as the war in Afghanistan and the formation of the international coalition against terrorism are by far the most frequently mentioned.

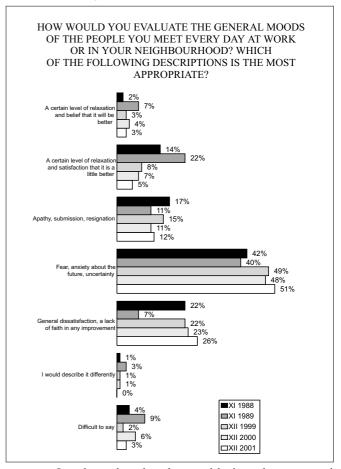


More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report "The most important events of 2001 for Poland and for the world", December 2001.

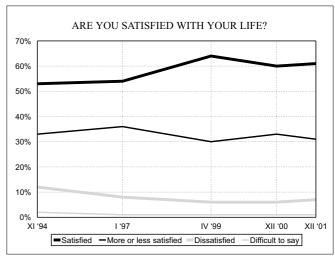
## THE POLES' MOODS DURING THE LAST YEAR

This year, the moods of Poles have been characterised by particularly strong dualism. On the one hand, the respondents are very pessimistic in their evaluations of the social climate. Over half of them believe that the Poles are generally afraid about their future. Another one-fifth of the respondents notice mainly frustration and a lack of faith in any possibility of

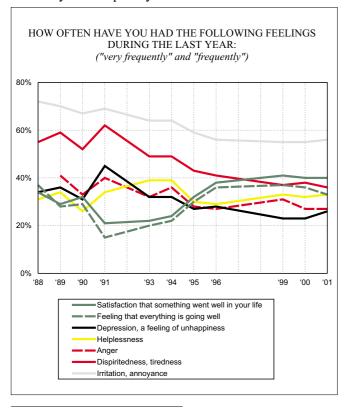
improvement of the current situation. The present pessimism is even more apparent than in the late eighties, before the beginning of the transformation of the political and economic system.



On the other hand, considering the personal feelings of the respondents and their evaluations of different aspects of their own life, the situation does not look so bad. Both the level of satisfaction with life in general and the level of satisfaction with different aspects of life are quite positive. Moreover, the satisfaction with most of the aspects of life analysed here is higher than in the first half of 1990s.



In 2001, the respondents' moods were not too bad. The Poles were satisfied with their personal successes more than ever before in the analysed period. The largest proportion of the respondents had reasons to be curious or excited. Furthermore, in 2001 the Poles were less prone to annoyance and irritation than in the first half of 1990s. Also, they were dispirited or tired relatively less frequently.

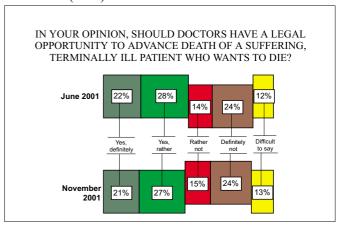


More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report: "The moods of Poles in 2001", January 2001.

#### POLES ON THE LEGALISATION OF EUTHANASIA

In two European countries it is legal to put to death terminally ill and suffering patients who wish to die. Have the views of Poles on euthanasia changed in connection with the legal changes in Belgium, which were widely discussed in the media?

A majority of the Poles believe that doctors should have the legal opportunity to advance death of terminally ill, suffering patients who wish to die (48%). Less than two-fifths of the respondents are against euthanasia (39%).



The Poles' opinions and attitudes to euthanasia seem rather firm and are ideological in nature (religious people and those with right-wing views are against euthanasia more frequently than other respondents). The events that take place in other countries have little influence.

More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report "Opinions on the legalisation of euthanasia", December 2001.

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

- Opinions on the future of the government coalition
- Trust in politicians
- Social support for democracy and the political and economic changes in Poland
- ◆ Twenty years after the marshal law
- Social moods in December
- Christmas Eve AD 2001
- The attitude to the government and the Prime Minister Leszek Miller
- The attitude to politicians
- ◆ Opinions on the dismissal of Andrzej Lepper from the position of the Vicemarshal of the Sejm

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