ATTITUDES TO POLAND'S INTEGRATION WITH THE EU

The number of all those who declare voting in the accession referendum has not changed for a few months, but the number of those who declare that they will certainly vote has increased recently. The better the respondents' education, the more frequently they declare an intention to vote in the referendum on Poland's access to the European Union.

Looking back a few months, an increase in the support for Poland's membership in the EU can be noticed among those who declare an intention to vote in the referendum. At the same time the number of opponents of the integration slightly exceeds the number of supporters among those who are not going to vote in the referendum. It means that the support for the integration in the society as a whole is lower than among those who most probably will vote.

The interest in the issues related to the European integration is much higher than in the previous years, but it is not growing any more. At the same time, the respondents feel that their knowledge of those issues has improved in the last six months.
As compared with the mid 1990s, much more respondents believe that young people have better chances for success in life nowadays than ten years ago. However, the opinions about poorer chances of the current young generation still prevail.

It is commonly believed that a high social standing of the parents greatly increases the chances of the children for similar success. According to 85% of the respondents, the children of well-off people, owners of big businesses or high government officials, are privileged as far as the chances for achieving a high position in the society are concerned. The peasant children are believed to have the poorest chances for success.

In the respondents' opinion, success in life is achieved mainly through social network and backing, professional qualifications, hard work and initiative.

More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report (in Polish): "Evaluations of the prospects of the young generation of Poles", November 2002. A representative random-address sample of the general adult population of Poland N=1231.

"Difficult to say" answers were disregarded.
POLISH AGRICULTURE AND THE EUROPEAN INTEGRATION

The number of people who believe that the condition of the Polish agriculture will improve as a result of Poland's integration with the European Union has grown during the last three and a half years. The farmers, however, remain sceptical. Less than a quarter of them (23%) expect that the integration will have a positive effect on agriculture.

In general, the Poles express critical opinions on the situation in agriculture.

DO YOU AGREE OR NOT WITH THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>All respondents</th>
<th>Farmers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Polish farming is underdeveloped and not efficient enough</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>there are too many small farms in Poland</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the number of people working in agriculture should be reduced</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>farmers are not active enough and have little initiative</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the state should spend much more on agriculture</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the government should organise intervention purchases of agricultural produce</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the state should protect Polish agriculture by maintaining high customs duties for imported products</td>
<td>97%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>better farms must take over the land from those with serious problems</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


DO POLES VALUE EDUCATION?

The number of the Poles who believe that education pays off is much bigger now than ten years ago.

During the last ten years, the percentage of people who appreciate the importance of education increased equally in all socio-demographic groups. There is one significant exception: this increase was much bigger among the unemployed than in other social groups (from 64% to 91%).

WHY DO PEOPLE STRIVE TO GET EDUCATION? DO THEY WANT IN THE FIRST PLACE:

The percentages do not sum up to 100, because the respondents could select more than one answer.
**CHANGES BEFORE LOCAL ELECTIONS**

Nearly half of the respondents (47%) say that the situation in their place of residence did not change much during the previous term of the local government. Residents of big cities are relatively the most satisfied with the changes and those who live in the country or small towns the least.

The position of education among the goals in life declared by the Poles has increased in the last decade. In 1993, education was the tenth most important goal in life (out of eleven). Now it is the sixth.

**WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING GOALS IN LIFE ARE IMPORTANT FOR YOU?**

| Goal                                      | Family happiness | Interesting job | Independence | Comfortable life | Wealth, big money | Education | Helping others, being useful | Respect of other people | Travelling, getting to know the world | Self-development, personal improvement | Participation in power | N=1231
|-------------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|--------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|---------
| XI '93                                   | 23%              | 31%             | 36%          | 31%              | 31%                | 14%       | 16%                         | 17%                      | 14%                                    | 16%                           | 15%                  | 2%      
| X '02                                     | 25%              | 34%             | 36%          | 32%              | 32%                | 14%       | 16%                         | 17%                      | 14%                                    | 16%                           | 15%                  | 2%      


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

- Evaluation of the work of the Parliament, President and the outgoing local authorities
- The parents' spending on education of school-aged children
- Political party preferences in November
- Opinions on the right to abortion
- The Poles about their education growing dissatisfaction
- Opinions on the government proposal of the state budget for the next year
- The attitude to the government and the Prime Minister Leszek Miller
- Situation on the job market and fear of unemployment
- The attitude to politicians in November
- Social moods after the local elections
- Holidays 2002
- Evaluations of the work of the Parliament and the President

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