ISSN 1233 - 7250

#### IN THIS ISSUE:

- > HOW DO POLES EVALUATE THE YEAR 2003, WHAT DO THEY EXPECT IN 2004?
- ➤ FOREIGN CAPITAL IN THE POLISH ECONOMY
- > THE ATTITUDES TO ORGAN TRANSPLANTS
- ➤ THE DESIRED

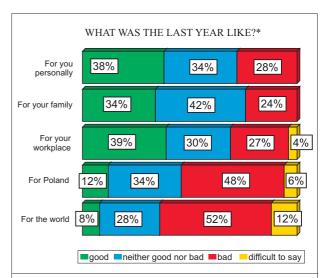
  RETIREMENT AGE

  FOR MEN AND WOMEN

# HOW DO POLES EVALUATE THE YEAR 2003, WHAT DO THEY EXPECT IN 2004?

The Poles see the past year in a quite different light from the private perspective concerning their personal, family and professional affairs, than from the public perspective concerning the national and global affairs. Most respondents consider the year 2003 a good or at least an average (neither good nor bad) for themselves, their families and their workplace. On the other hand, most Poles believe that the last year was bad for Poland and, above all, for the world.

As far as personal matters are concerned, the evaluations of the year 2003 are similar to those a year ago. The years 2002 and 2003



\*The respondents used a seven-degree scale. The column "good" includes the answers "very good", "good" and "rather good"; the column "bad" includes "rather bad", "bad" and "very bad".

#### 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 46 91

Fax:(48 22) 629 40 89

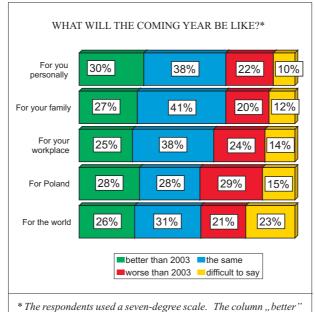
E-mail: sekretariat@cbos.pl http://www.cbos.pl

Editors

Krzysztof Zagórski and Michał Strzeszewski

Translated by Kinga Pawłowska

© COPYRIGHT BY CBOS 2003 ALL SOURCES MUST BE CREDITED WHEN ANY PART OF THIS PUBLICATION IS REPRODUCED



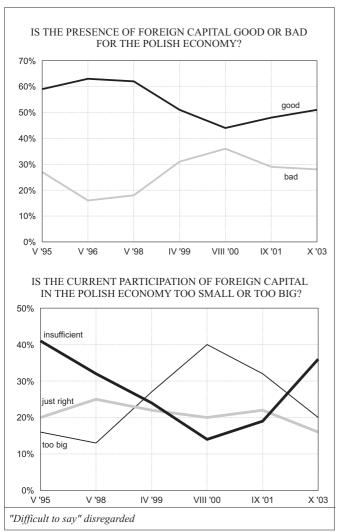
includes the answers "much better than 2003", "better" and "a little better"; the column "worse" includes "a little worse", "worse" and "much worse than 2003".

are considered worse than the years 1995-1996 have been, but better than the first half of the 1990s. As far as the problems of the world and, in particular, of Poland are concerned, the year 2003 was evaluated as worse than 2002. In this respect, the last year was evaluated as one of the worst in the last 15 years. The Poles look forward to the year 2004 with moderate optimism. They expect the new year to be at least as good as the previous one or better both in the private and the public sphere. Pessimists are in a minority. However, the level of optimism is below the average of past fifteen years, although some years (e.g. 1993) were welcomed with much more anxiety.

More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report (in Polish): "Evaluations of the year 2003 and forecasts for the year 2004", December 2003. A representative random sample of the general adult population of Poland. N=1000.

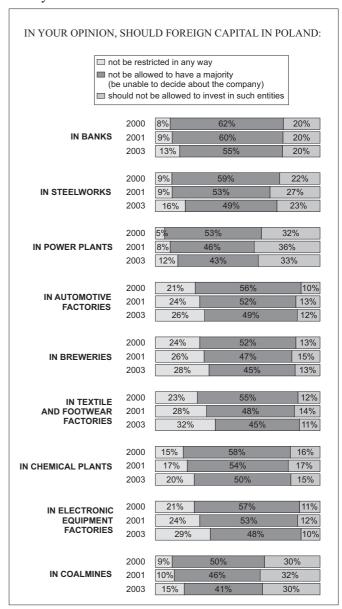
## FOREIGN CAPITAL IN THE POLISH ECONOMY

Most Poles believe that the presence of foreign capital is good for the Polish economy, although the opinions tend to change over time. In 1995-1998, about three-fifths of the respondents appreciated the presence of foreign capital in Poland. As the economic situation deteriorated in the following years, the support for foreign investment decreased to slightly more than two-fifths in 2000. That was accompanied by a growing belief that the participation of foreign capital in the Polish economy was too big. Afterwards, however, the percentage of the respondents noticing the advantages of the presence of foreign capital and convinced that its participation in the Polish economy was insufficient, started to grow.



Most respondents accept foreign investment in each of the nine sectors of the economy mentioned in our question. Each time, however, the statement that foreign capital should not have the majority and hence should be unable to make essential decisions concerning the

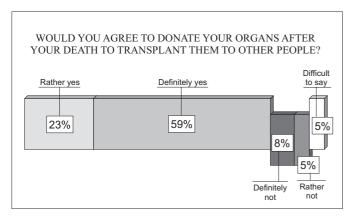
company, was selected the most frequently. Nevertheless, the opinion that it should not be restricted in any way has been slowly gaining support over the last three years.



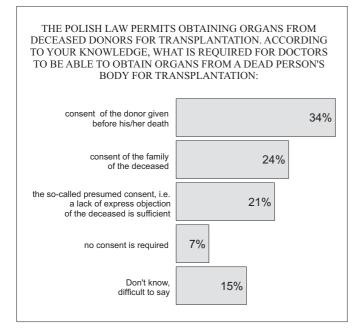
More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report (in Polish): "Foreign capital in the Polish economy", December 2003. Survey executed in October 2003. A representative random sample of the general adult population of Poland. N=1016.

### THE ATTITUDES TO ORGAN TRANSPLANTS

In Poland, transplants of organs obtained from deceased donors meet with general approval 90% of the respondents approve of them (67% - strongly). Also, almost all respondents declare their consent to donating their organs after death for transplantation.

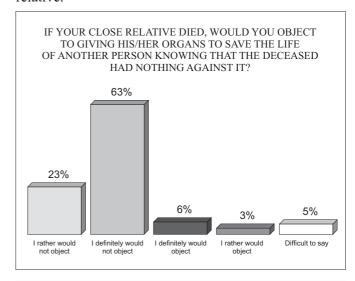


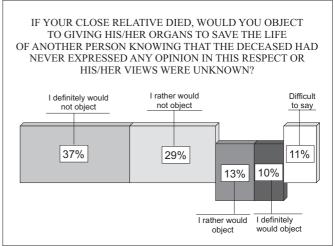
Most respondents do not know that under the Polish law organs can be obtained from a deceased person's body on the basis of the so-called presumed consent, i.e. it is sufficient if the deceased did not object to it before his/her death. The respondents usually think that the donor's express consent or the consent of the family of the deceased is required.

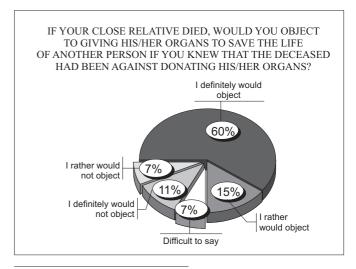


In practice, doctors usually seek approval of the family of the deceased. The respondents usually declare that they would agree to donate organs of their dead relative if they knew that the deceased had not objected to it. A much bigger proportion of the respondents would object to using the organs of their dead relative for transplantation if they did not know the wishes of the deceased or his/her views on organ donation. However, a definite majority of the respondents would still agree to donate organs under such circumstances. On the other hand, if the deceased was known to have been against organ donation, a definite majority of the respondents would disagree (usually strongly) to using his/her organs for transplantation. However, almost one-fifth of them declare that they would nevertheless give their consent.

The chance of saving someone's life would probably encourage them to ignore the wishes of their deceased relative.



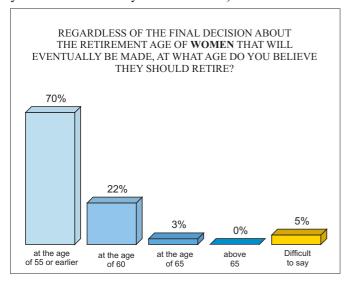


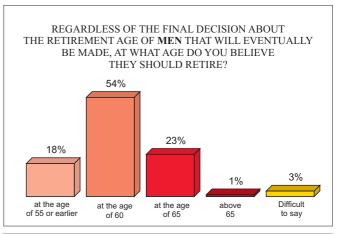


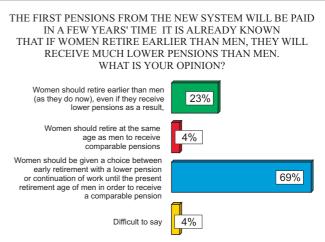
More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report (in Polish): "The attitudes to organ transplants" November 2003. Survey executed in September 2003. A representative random sample of the adult population of Poland. N=1105.

#### THE DESIRED RETIREMENT AGE FOR MEN AND WOMEN

In a few years, the first Poles covered by the new pension system will retire. Under this system, women who retire earlier than men will have considerably lower pensions. Therefore, the issue of equal retirement age for men and women is currently being discussed. A definite majority of the Poles believe that women should be given a choice between early retirement with a lower pension or working until they reach the present retirement age of men to receive a comparable pension. At the same time, most respondents opt for as early retirement as possible for both genders, maintaining the present five years' difference (the present retirement age in Poland is 65 years for men and 60 years for women).







More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report (in Polish): "Retirement age of women and men", December 2003. A representative random sample of the general adult population of Poland. N=1000.

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

- ◆ The attitude to other nations likes and dislikes
- The Poles' opinions about the so-called Rywingate shortly before the beginning of Mr Rywin's trial
- Opinions about the transformation 1989 since
- ♦ What have the Poles been doing in their leisure time in 2003?
- Political party preferences in late November early December
- Homosexual partnerships
- ◆ About the European Constitution immediately before the EU summit in Brussels
- Political party preferences of the undecided
- Attitude to the government and the Prime Minister immediately before the Brussels summit
- ◆ Social moods in December
- Christmas Eve 2003 family traditions and plans
- Political party preferences in December
- The Poles about presidential candidates
- ◆ Trust in politicians in December
- Situation on the job market and the threat of unemployment in December
- New Year's Eve 2003 dreams for the New Year

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

E-mail: sekretariat@cbos.pl

Http://www.cbos.pl

Yearly subscription rate for "Polish Public Opinion" is 80 USD

Circulation: 210 copies

CBOS expertise in providing professional, accurate and timely research studies has made us the leading authority in political, social and consumer research in Poland.