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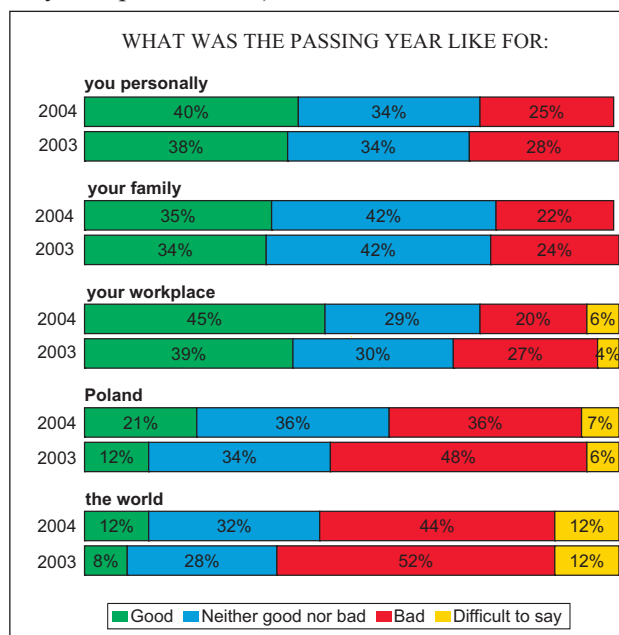
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## EVALUATIONS OF THE LAST YEAR AND PREDICTIONS FOR THE YEAR 2005

The year 2004 was bevaluated better than the previous one. The evaluations were better first of all for Poland and for the world. The situation at the workplaces also improved. On the other hand, changes for better were less noticeable in the respondents' personal and family life. Nevertheless, as in the previous years, the Poles evaluate the state of their private affairs (personal, family and professional) as better than the situation of Poland and the world.

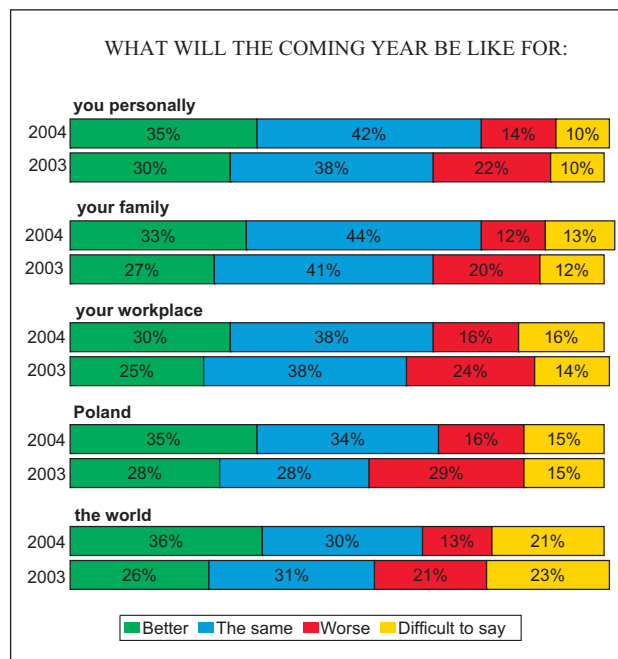
Two-fifths of the respondents said that the year 2004 was a good year for them personally. Other respondents evaluated it as average (34%) rather than bad (25%). At the same time, the respondents usually described the past year as average for their families (42%); one in three evaluated it as good (35%) and one in five (22%) as bad. From the perspective of the last seventeen years, one may say that the year 2004 was relatively good for the Poles and their families.

The last year should be regarded as one of the best in



the last several years for the respondents' workplaces. In the opinion of the working persons, only the year 1996 was better. 45% of the respondents described the year 2004 as good for their workplaces; others more frequently evaluated it as average (29%) than bad (20%).

While positive or average evaluations prevail with regard to personal, family and professional matters, the opinions about the situation of Poland and the world in the past year are more critical. The year 2004 was considered as clearly better for Poland than the previous one. The year 2003 was described as a bad year by nearly



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half of the respondents (48%), whereas 2004 was described as bad and as average by equal proportions of the respondents (36%). Better evaluations of the last year are probably associated with the positive reactions of the public opinion to the accession of Poland to the European Union. The last year was the best for Poland in the last five years. Only the first years of the transformation (1989-90) and the second half of the nineties were better evaluated.

The Poles also believe that the year 2004 was better for the world than 2003, but the opinion that the 2004 was a bad year for the world still prevails (44%).

The Poles welcome the year 2005 with more hope than they had at the beginning of 2004. They expect more good in their personal, family and professional life as well as for Poland and for the world. The expectations associated with the new year are the most optimistic in six years.

While the greatest number of the respondents believe that the year 2005 will be the same as 2004 for themselves and their families, the proportion of those who believe that the new year will be better than the previous one is considerably bigger than the proportion of those who believe that it will be worse.

As far as the expectations concerning the situation at the workplace are concerned, the prevailing opinion is that the new year will not bring any significant changes, though the number of those who declare optimism is almost twice greater than the number of pessimists.

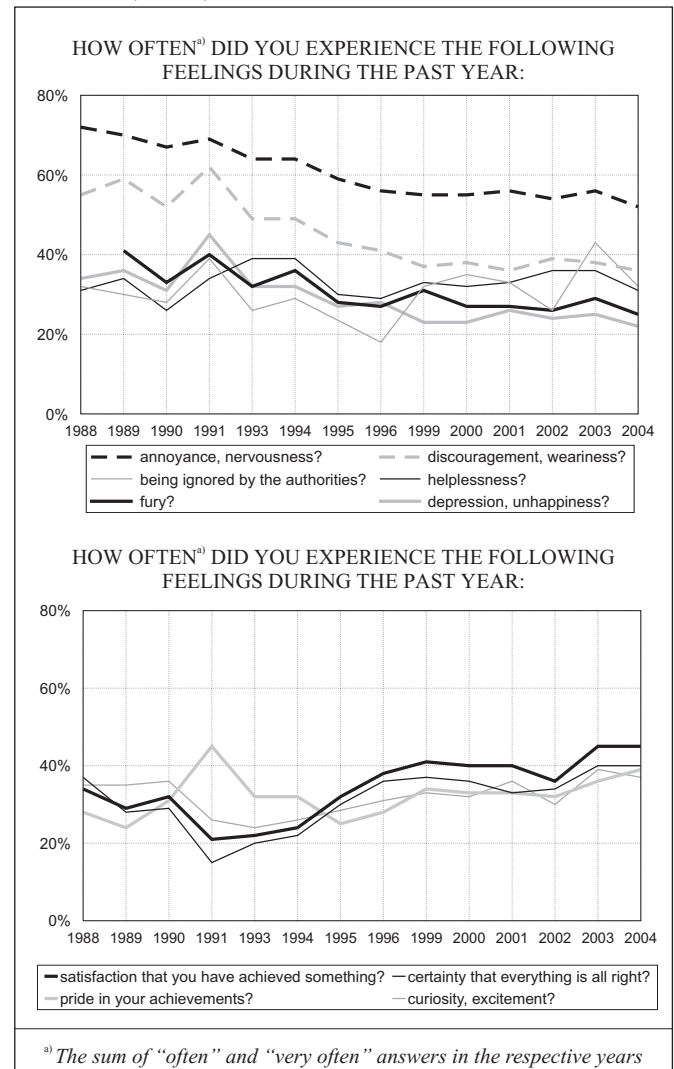
With regard to the situation of Poland and the world, most of Poles, believe that the coming year will be better than the year 2004. Others usually expect it to be the same as the previous year rather than worse.

More information about this subject can be found in the CBOS report (in Polish): *Evaluations of the passing year and forecasts for the year 2005*, December 2004. Survey executed in December 2004. A representative random sample of adult Poles. N = 973.

## THE POLES' PSYCHOLOGICAL WELL-BEING, 1989-2004

The psychological conditions of the Poles improved last year. Although the percentages of persons who experience positive feelings did not change substantially as compared with the year 2004, the negative emotions decreased. An improvement of the moods is even more visible from a longer perspective. Since 1989, such negative emotions as the feelings of nervousness and annoyance have decreased. In the last year, more than half of the Poles (52%) experienced such

feelings, as compared with almost three quarters (70%) fifteen years ago. The proportions of the respondents who experience other negative emotions also decreased. In the last year, 36% of the respondents felt disheartened and weary on many occasions, whereas in 1989 more than half (59%) had such feelings. A quarter of the respondents were frequently furious in the past year, as compared with over two-fifths (41%) in the breakthrough year 1989. Slightly more than a fifth of the respondents (22%) often felt depressed last year. Fifteen years ago more than a third of the Poles (36%) often experienced such feelings. The percentage of the respondents who feel helpless did not change both in 1989 and in 2004, nearly a third of the respondents often felt helpless. Invariably, quite a large proportion of the Poles feel ignored by the authorities. Such a feeling was declared by every third Pole.



As the negative emotions weaken, the positive feelings become stronger. The percentage of the Poles satisfied with their own achievements grew considerably in the last fifteen years - from 29% in 1989

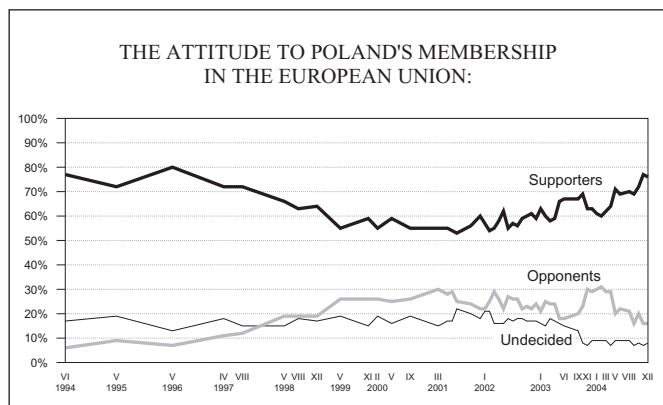
to 45% in 2004. In 2004, two-fifths of the respondents were sure that everything was all right, as compared with only slightly more than a quarter (28%) in 1989. Nearly two-fifths of the respondents (39%) were proud of their achievements, as compared with less than a quarter (24%) fifteen years ago.

The 1991 was one of the most difficult years in this respect. It was the time of transition to market economy, marked i.a. by unemployment on a previously unknown scale and by growing inequalities. At that time, apart from annoyance and nervousness, the Poles often felt discouraged and weary, depressed and unhappy. Furthermore, many of them felt being ignored by the authorities. All of these contributed to a feeling of fury and (although less frequently) helplessness.

More information about this subject can be found in the CBOS report (in Polish): *The frame of mind of the Poles in the years 1989-2004*, December 2004. Survey executed in December 2004. A representative random sample of adult Poles. N = 973.

## OPINIONS ABOUT THE EFFECTS OF POLAND'S MEMBERSHIP IN THE EU

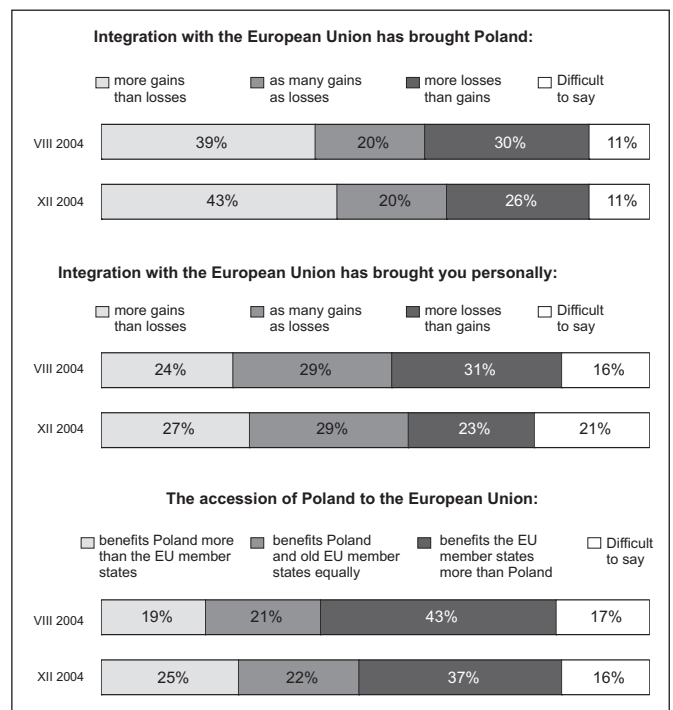
Since the accession of Poland to the European Union, a high level of support for Poland's membership in this organization has been maintained. In the last months of the past year, the number of supporters of the integration increased further. At present, over three quarters of the Poles (76%) support the membership of Poland in the EU, and one in six (16%) are against it.



Recently, growing support for the membership of Poland in the European Union has been accompanied by more and more positive evaluations of the effects of the integration. In the period from August to December 2004, the number of persons who believe that the membership in the EU brings Poland more gains than losses increased.

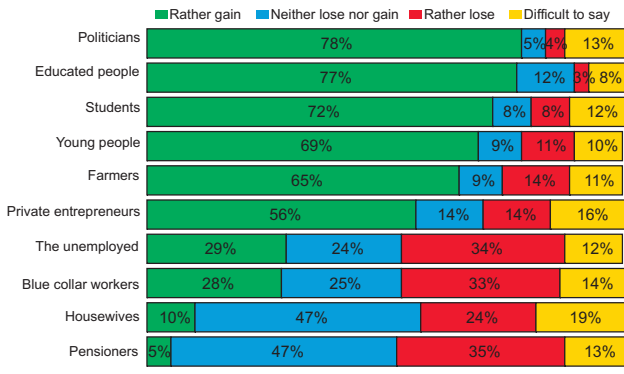
As a result, the positive opinions about the effects of the integration outnumber negative ones more visibly. The evaluations of the effects of the integration from the personal perspective also improved. Three months after the accession, negative opinions about the effect of the integration on the respondents' personal situation outnumbered positive ones. Currently, positive opinions slightly outnumber negative ones.

The number of those who believe that Poland has gained more than the "old" Member States as a result of the EU extension has also increased since August. However, the respondents who believe that the extension mainly benefits the "old Europe" still prevail.



According to the public opinion, different social groups and circles do not equally benefit from the accession. Most respondents believe that the beneficiaries are: politicians, educated people, students, young people, farmers and (less frequently indicated) private entrepreneurs. The respondents differ in their opinions about the effects of Poland's membership in the European Union on the situation of blue collar workers and the unemployed. They rather tend to believe that these social groups have lost rather than gained as a result of the accession. The smallest group of the respondents noticed a positive effect of the accession on the situation of housewives and pensioners. The prevailing opinion is that both these groups have neither gained nor lost as a result of the accession. However, considerable proportions of the respondents believe that the housewives and pensioners mainly experience negative results of the integration.

IN YOUR OPINION, WHICH SOCIAL GROUPS GAIN AND WHICH SOCIAL GROUPS LOSE AS A RESULT OF POLAND'S MEMBERSHIP IN THE EU:



More information about this subject can be found in the CBOS report (in Polish): *Opinions about the effects of Poland's membership in the European Union*, December 2004. Survey executed in December 2004. A representative random sample of adult Poles. N = 973.

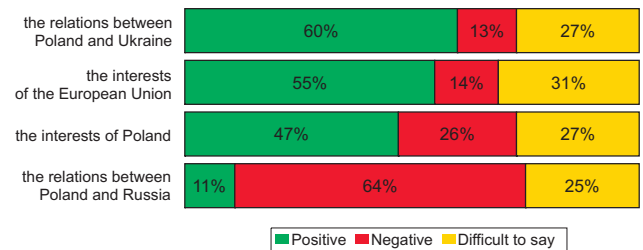
## REACTION TO THE EVENTS IN UKRAINE

Polish politicians were deeply involved in solving the political crisis in Ukraine. In the opinion of a majority of the Polish society, this involvement should have a positive effect on the relations between Poland and Ukraine and on the interests of the European Union. Nearly half of the Poles believe that it is in the interest of Poland. At the same time, almost two-thirds believe that the Polish participation in the mediation will harm Polish-Russian relations.

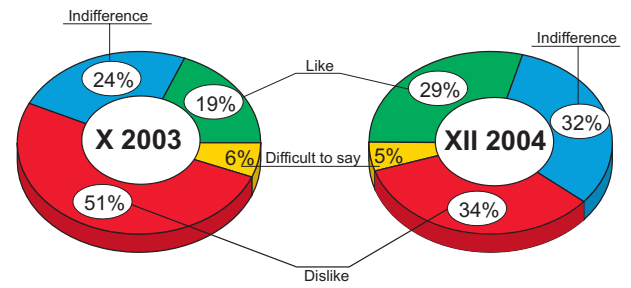
The Polish society backed the "orange revolution". The events in Ukraine contributed to a significant improvement of the attitude of the Poles to the Ukrainians. Due to the tragic history of the Polish-

Ukrainian relations, until recently the Ukrainians were intensely disliked by the Poles and ranked at the bottom in every measurement of the Poles' attitudes to other nations. Now they are near the middle of the list of the nations liked by the Poles. The proportion of the respondents disliking the Ukrainians decreased from 51% a year ago to one-third (34%) now.

POLISH POLITICIANS WERE INVOLVED IN SOLVING THE CONFLICT ASSOCIATED WITH THE RESULTS OF THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS IN UKRAINE. IN YOUR OPINION, WILL THE INVOLVEMENT OF POLISH POLITICIANS HAVE A POSITIVE OR A NEGATIVE EFFECT ON:



HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR ATTITUDE TO THE UKRAINIANS:



More information about this subject can be found in the CBOS report (in Polish): *Reaction to the events in Ukraine, The effect of the recent events in Ukraine on the attitude of the Poles to the Ukrainians*, December 2004. Survey executed in December 2004. A representative random sample of adult Poles. N = 973.

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

- ◆ The Poles about the parliamentary committee investigating the Orlen affair
- ◆ Opinions about further extension of the European Union
- ◆ The Poles about the stabilization mission in Iraq
- ◆ Political party preferences in December
- ◆ Opinions about the job market and the threat of unemployment in December
- ◆ Social moods in December
- ◆ The attitude to the presence of Polish troops in Iraq
- ◆ The attitude to the government and the Prime Minister in December
- ◆ Christmas gifts
- ◆ Opinions about the work of the Sejm, the Senate and the President
- ◆ Evaluations of the passing year and forecasts for the year 2005
- ◆ Trust in politicians in December

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