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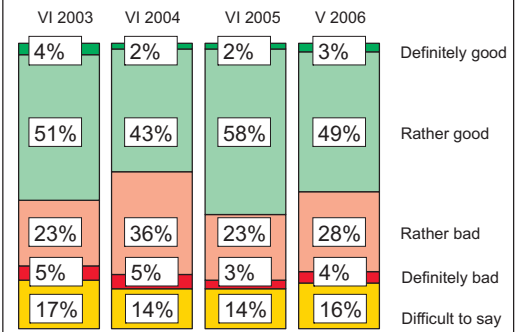
POLAND ON THE INTERNATIONAL SCENE

The membership of Poland in the two most important structures of the Western world the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (for seven years) and the European Union (for two years), is not sufficient to guarantee the country a stable position on the international scene. For quite a long time, Polish-Russian relations have been rather poor. The relations with the other big neighbour of Poland, Germany, are not as good as they were in the 1990s, either.

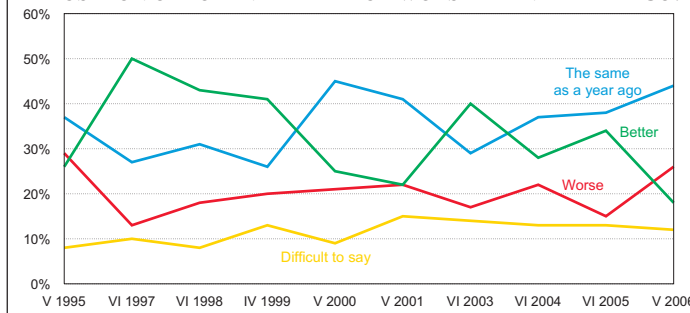
Recently, the plans to build the Baltic pipeline to transport gas to Germany omitting the Polish territory have been strongly criticized in Poland. On the other hand, the success of the Law and Justice (PiS) in the Polish parliamentary and presidential elections and the subsequent establishment of a government coalition with parties which are seen by some as populist and nationalist has caused concern abroad, in particular in the EU member states. The reactions of foreign media to the change of the ruling parties in Poland have been widely quoted and commented in the country.

The position of Poland on the international scene is currently seen in a more negative light than a year ago, which could be due to the fact that the Poles have no hope for an

HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE THE PRESENT INTERNATIONAL POSITION OF POLAND?



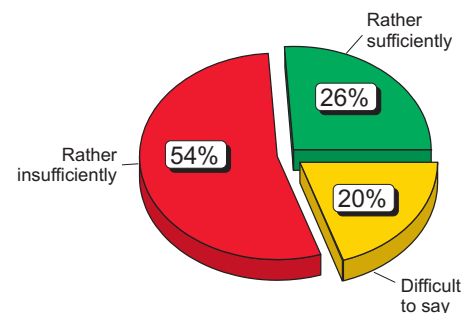
IN YOUR OPINION, IS THE CURRENT INTERNATIONAL POSITION OF POLAND BETTER OR WORSE THAN A YEAR AGO?



improvement of the relations between Poland and its neighbours and the position of Poland in the European Union. Despite this deterioration of the opinions a majority of the Poles (52%) still describe international position of Poland as good. Although the respondents describe the position of Poland on the international scene as good, they also believe that the country does not do enough to protect its interests. Currently more than half of the Poles (54%) share this opinion. The belief that the interests of Poland are sufficiently protected in the relations with other countries prevailed slightly only once during the last decade - immediately after the accession of Poland to the NATO.

The growing concern about the situation of Poland on the international scene has not had an adverse effect on the perceived national security. On the contrary, the belief that the independence of Poland is not at risk has increased. Almost three quarters of the Poles share this opinion (74%). To date, such a big proportion of the Poles believing that there is no risk to the security of Poland was recorded only once (in 2000, after the accession to the NATO).

HOW WOULD YOU EVALUATE THE CURRENT FOREIGN POLICY OF POLAND? DOES POLAND SUFFICIENTLY PROTECT ITS INTERESTS IN THE RELATIONS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES?



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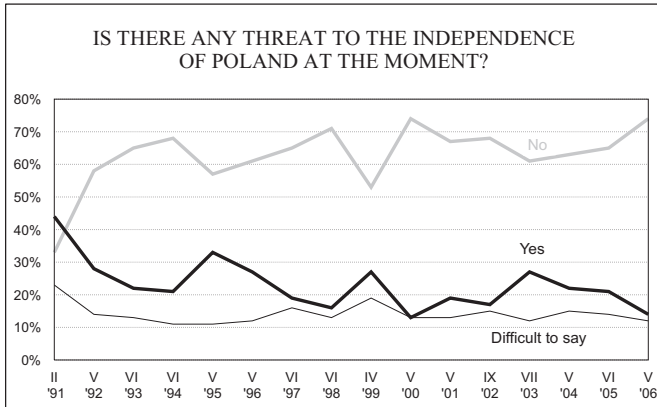
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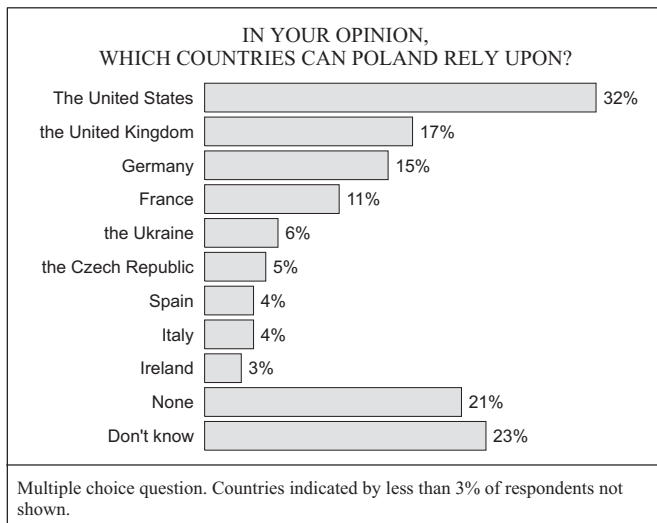
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More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report (in Polish): *The perception of the situation of Poland on the international scene*, June 2006. Survey executed in May 2006. A representative random sample of adult Poles. N=991.

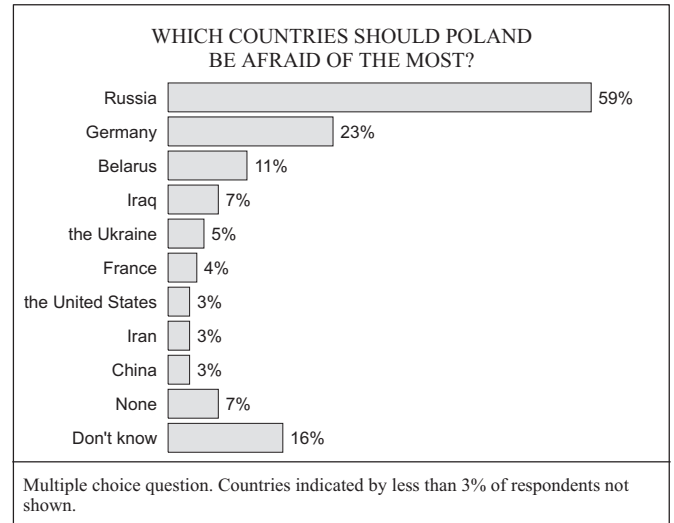
WHO CAN POLES RELY UPON, WHO SHOULD THEY BE AFRAID OF

Due to the dramatic history of Poland, the complex relations with its neighbours and difficult common past, the Poles find it easier to indicate the countries that could present a threat for Poland than its allies. More than a fifth of the respondents (21%) believe that currently there are no countries that Poland could rely upon and it must count on itself. Almost a quarter of the respondents (23%) are unable to indicate such a country. Others usually mentioned the United States as an ally of Poland. The second most frequently mentioned country, the United Kingdom, was mentioned by a half of this proportion.



Only 7% of the respondents believe that Poland currently has no enemies and 16% are unable to indicate a country which Poland should be afraid of. Others mention Russia the most frequently. The position of

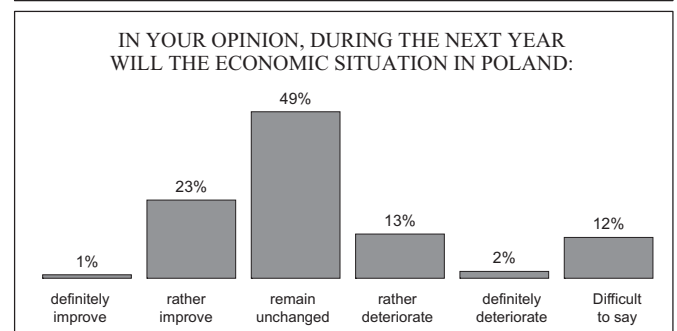
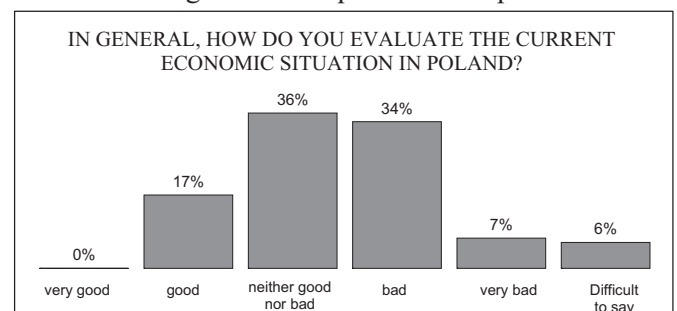
Germany in both these rankings is quite interesting. It ranks third among the countries seen as the allies of Poland, and second among the potential enemies.



More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report (in Polish): *The opinions about the relations with Russia, Germany and the Ukraine. Who can the Poles rely upon, who should they be afraid of*, June 2006. Survey executed in May 2006. A representative random sample of adult Poles. N=991.

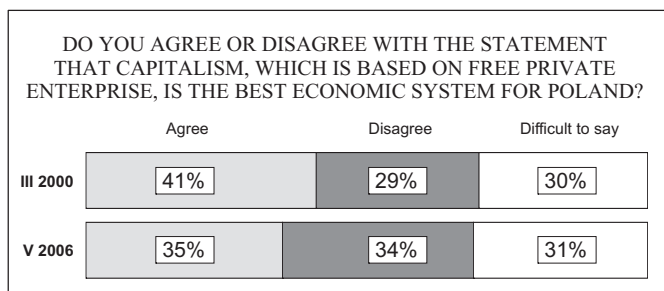
THE POLES ABOUT FREE MARKET ECONOMY

The current figures indicate that the condition of the Polish economy is quite good. According to the last reports of the Ministry of Finance, in the 1st quarter of 2006 the economic growth (GDP growth) exceeded 5% and was higher than expected. The forecasts concerning the future changes in this respect are also optimistic.

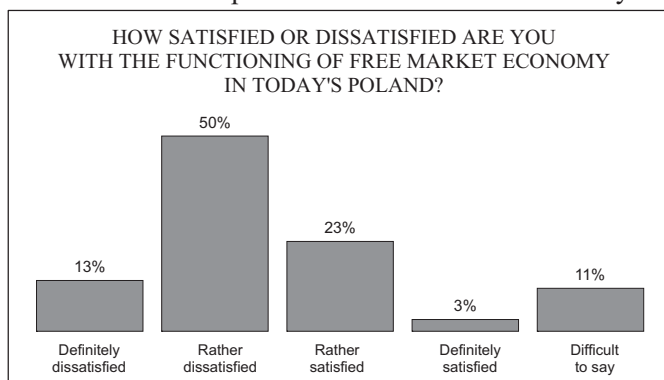


However, this optimism is not directly reflected in the Poles' opinions about the economic situation. Despite an improvement in the opinions about the condition of the economy over the last few years, no more than roughly every sixth respondent describe it as good, a little more than one in three describe it as average (neither good nor bad) and two-fifths express critical opinions. The expectations concerning the future changes in this respect are not very optimistic, either. Only one in four respondents hope that the condition of the economy will improve, half expect stagnation and one in seven - a deterioration.

Although the tradition of free market economy in Poland is longer and longer, it is still not generally accepted by the Poles. The approval for capitalism as the best economic system for Poland has decreased over the last six years. At present, equal proportions of the respondents agree and disagree with the opinion that capitalism, which is based on free private enterprise, is the best economic model for Poland.



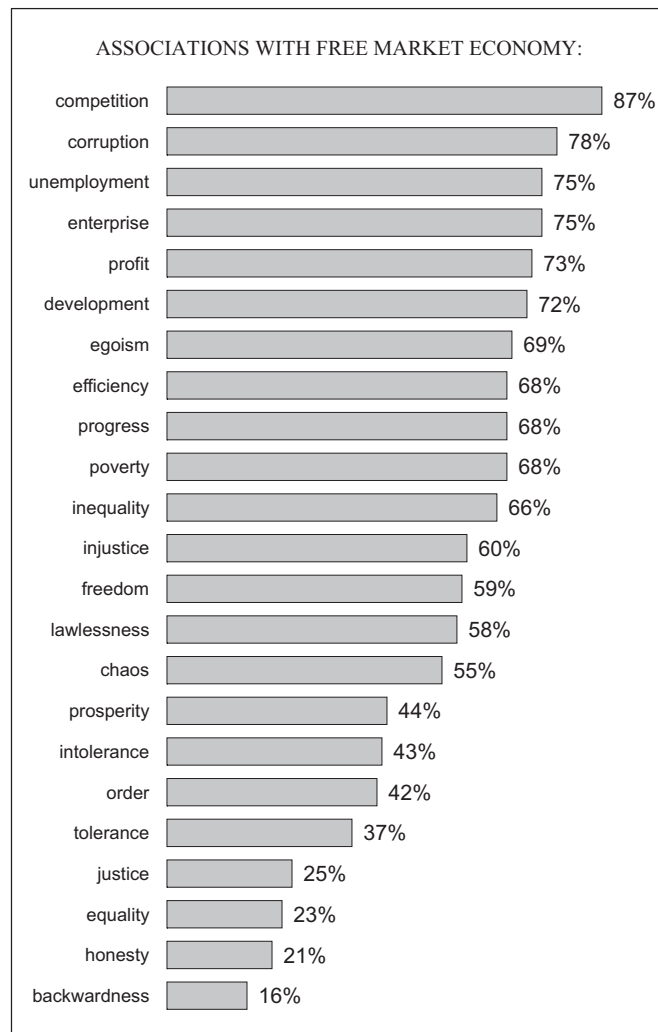
The ambivalent feelings about capitalism as an economic system are to a large extent associated with the negative evaluations of its functioning in Poland. In the opinion of nearly two-thirds of the respondents, the current free market practice in Poland is unsatisfactory.



The level of satisfaction with the functioning of free market economy in Poland is associated mainly with the general satisfaction of the Poles with their life and their material status. The political views of the respondents have a slightly lesser impact on their opinion on this issue (those with right-wing views tend to express more positive opinions).

The relatively low level of acceptance of free market economy and the negative evaluations of its

functioning in Poland to a large extent result from the critical opinions about the characteristics of this economic system. The most common associations with capitalist economy, besides competition and the spirit of enterprise, include corruption and unemployment. Furthermore, it is usually associated with poverty rather than prosperity, chaos rather than order. Free market economy is rarely associated with such values as honesty, equality and justice.

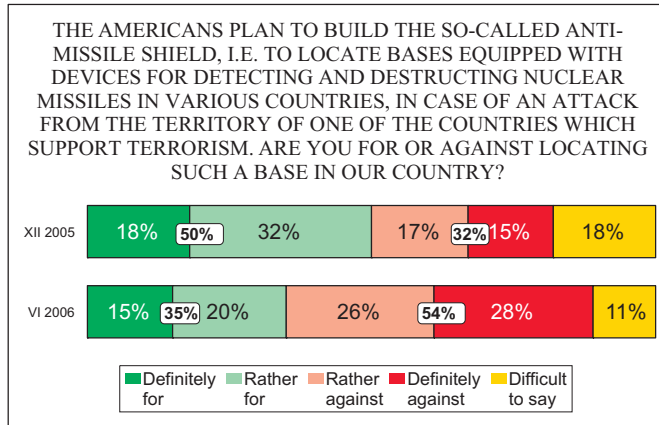


More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report (in Polish): *The Poles about free market economy*, June 2006. Survey executed in May 2006. A representative random sample of adult Poles. N =991.

THE ATTITUDE TO LOCATING THE ANTI-MISSILE SHIELD IN POLAND

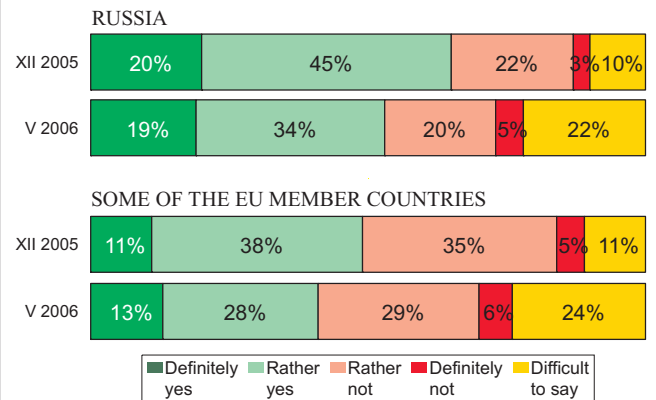
The first reaction of the Polish society to the idea of locating a base built as part of the American anti-missile shield in Poland was rather positive. In December 2005, it was supported by half of the respondents.

However, these views changed dramatically six months later. Today most Poles oppose the idea of building the anti-missile shield in their country.



The supporters of building the anti-missile shield now tend to attach more importance to the opinion of Russia and the impact of such a decision on the Polish-Russian relations than six months ago. However, most of the anti-missile shield supporters would still accept the “protective umbrella” even if it had an adverse effect on the relations with Russia. The possible deterioration of the relations with some of the EU member states is still a more convincing argument against locating anti-missile bases in Poland. If detrimental for Polish-EU relations, the shield would still have the support of slightly more than two-fifths of its original supporters.

WOULD YOU STILL SUPPORT LOCATING SUCH A BASE IN POLAND IF IT CAUSED A DETERIORATION OF THE RELATIONS WITH RUSSIA OR SOME OF THE EU MEMBER COUNTRIES?



Answers of those, who support the shield on the Polish territory in general.

The marked change in the attitude of the public opinion to the idea of building an anti-missile base in Poland, which occurred during the last few months, could be the result of recurring allegations concerning secret CIA prisons located in Poland, as well as decreasing trust in the United States and their policy.

More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report (in Polish): *The attitude to locating the anti-missile shield in Poland*, June 2006. Survey executed in June 2006. A representative random sample of adult Poles. N = 1041.

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

- ◆ Protests and strikes in the healthcare sector
- ◆ Tax settlements for 2005
- ◆ How will the PiS - Self-Defence - LPR coalition work?
- ◆ Perception of the situation of Poland on the international scene
- ◆ Expectations associated with the PiS- Self-Defence - LPR coalition
- ◆ Political party preferences in June
- ◆ The World Cup 2006
- ◆ The attitude to the government in June
- ◆ Evaluations and expectations concerning the situation in Poland
- ◆ Trust in politicians in June
- ◆ The May meeting with Benedict XVI - the words and thoughts of the Pope as Poles remember them
- ◆ Opinions about the work of public institutions
- ◆ About patients' claims and damages granted
- ◆ Are the Poles superstitious?
- ◆ The attitude of the Poles to different religions and the moral principles of Catholicism
- ◆ On the world energy crisis and building nuclear power stations in Poland

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