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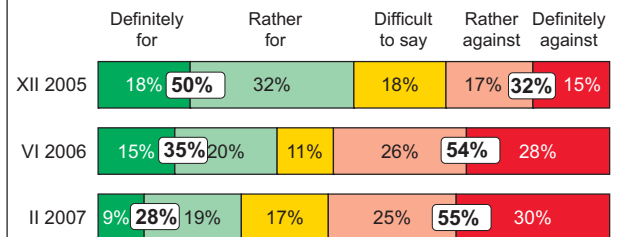
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## THE POLES ABOUT THE ANTI-MISSILE SHIELD

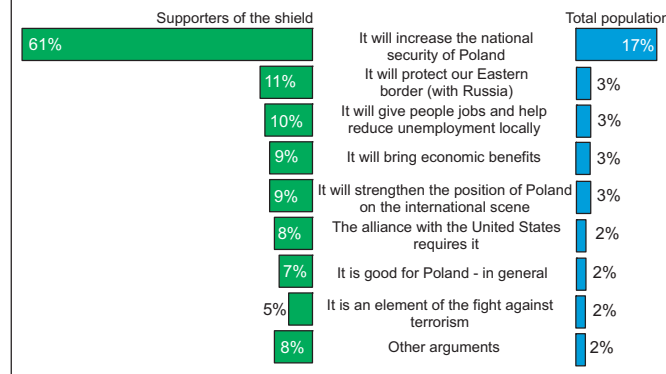
The talks about locating a military base in Poland as part of the American anti-missile shield system are entering the decisive phase. At the same time, the social support for this project is declining.

From June 2006 to February 2007, the support for locating a missile launcher in Poland decreased by 7 percentage points, whereas the opposition remained at the same level. The number of those who do not have an opinion in this matter is bigger now than a year ago. It could mean that some of the supporters of

THE TALKS ARE UNDER WAY BETWEEN POLAND AND THE UNITED STATES ON LOCATING AN AMERICAN MILITARY BASE WITH A MISSILE LAUNCHER IN POLAND AS PART OF THE SO-CALLED ANTI-MISSILE SHIELD - A SYSTEM FOR DESTROYING NUCLEAR MISSILES IN CASE OF AN ATTACK FROM THE TERRITORY OF ONE OF THE COUNTRIES WHICH SUPPORT TERRORISM. ARE YOU FOR OR AGAINST LOCATING A MISSILE LAUNCHER BELONGING TO THIS SYSTEM IN OUR COUNTRY?



### WHY ARE YOU FOR LOCATING SUCH A BASE ON THE POLISH TERRITORY?



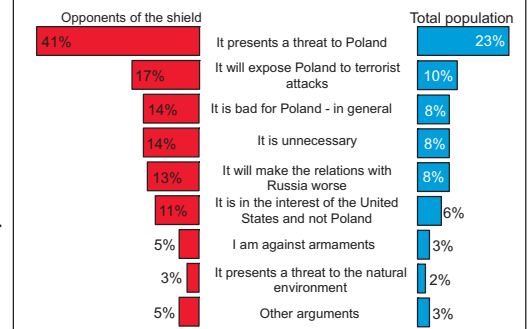
the installation have started to feel certain doubts, but have not joined the opponents of the project yet.

The attitude to locating a part of the anti-missile shield in Poland is strongly determined by the perceived influence of such a decision on the national security. The supporters of the missile launcher hope that it will help improve the national security and protect us from

Russia. Other given reasons for locating the military base in Poland include: reduction of unemployment, economic benefits and improvement of the position of Poland on the international scene.

The opponents of the installation of a missile launcher are afraid that it will constitute a threat to Poland and could expose the country to terrorist attacks. Some people think that locating such a military base in Poland would be generally bad for the country or simply unnecessary, and would benefit the United States only. Some are afraid that it would contribute to a further deterioration of the relations with Russia.

### WHY ARE YOU AGAINST LOCATING SUCH A BASE ON THE POLISH TERRITORY?



More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report *The Poles about the anti-missile shield*, February 2007. Survey executed in February 2007. A representative random sample of adult Poles. N=931

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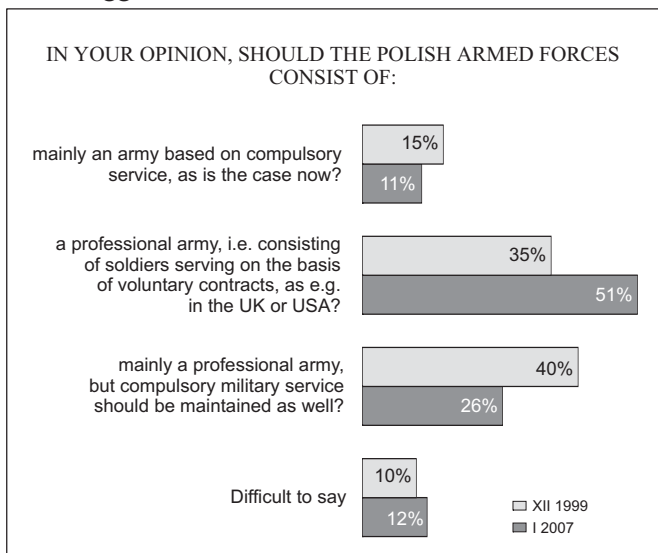
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## OPINIONS ABOUT MILITARY SERVICE

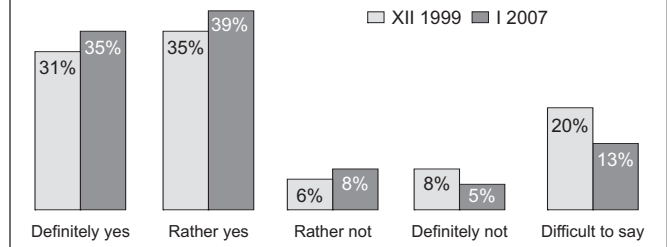
The support of the Polish society for the idea of transforming the present Polish army, which is now mainly based on compulsory service, into a fully professional army is growing. During the last seven years, the percentage of supporters of replacing compulsory service with voluntary contracts has grown by as many as 16 percentage points (from 35% to 51%). One in four respondents (26%, a drop of 14 p.p. since December 1999) believe that professional soldiers should constitute a substantial part of the Polish army, although the drafting should be maintained as well. Only one in nine respondents (11%, a drop of 4 p.p.) do not see a need for any changes in the present conscription method.

The support for the idea of an entirely voluntary professional army declines with the respondents' age. It is the lowest among the oldest respondents, aged 65 or above (27%), and the highest among the youngest (aged 18-34; 61%), and in particular among students (63%), i.e. those who are now obliged to serve in the army in one form or another. The support for a professional army is higher among better educated respondents and those who live in bigger cities.

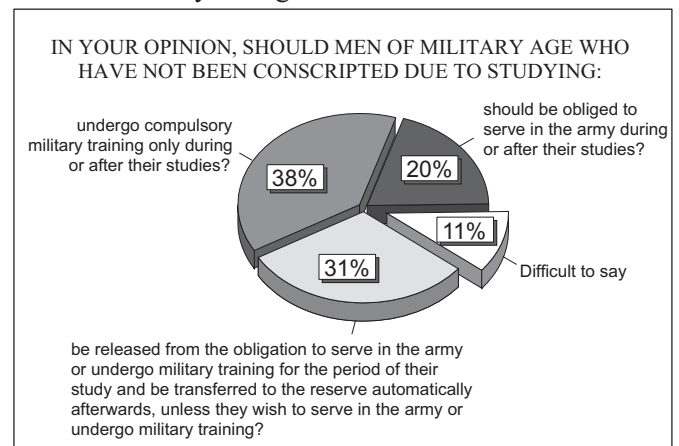


Substituting compulsory military service with civilian service due to religious beliefs or moral views is allowed by the Polish law and more and more commonly accepted by the society. Almost three quarters of the respondents (74%, a growth of 8 percentage points since December 1999) believe that it is a good solution.

THE POLISH LAW PROVIDES A POSSIBILITY OF SUBSTITUTING COMPULSORY MILITARY SERVICE WITH SUBSTITUTE CIVILIAN SERVICE DUE TO RELIGIOUS BELIEFS OR MORAL VIEWS. DO YOU BELIEVE THAT IT IS A GOOD SOLUTION OR NOT?



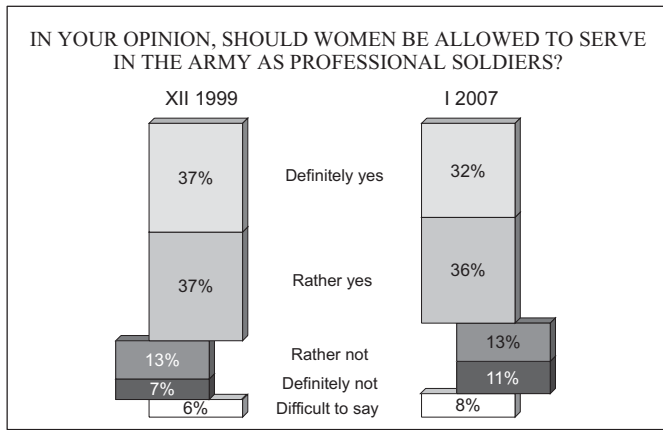
More than two-thirds of the Poles believe that men of military age who have not been conscripted, because they continue their education, should be released from this duty. A majority of this group (38% of all respondents) suggest, however, that students who do not serve in the army should undergo compulsory military training during or after their studies. The others (31%) believe that men of military age who continue their education should be released both from compulsory military service and from the obligation to undergo military training. In the opinion of this group, such men should be automatically transferred to the reserve after completing their education, unless they volunteer to serve in the army or undergo training. Only one in five respondents opt for an unconditional obligation to serve in the army for those who have not been conscripted due to studying. According to this opinion such people should serve in the army during or after their studies.



The idea that compulsory military service for those who continue their education should be abolished entirely is the most popular in the 18-24 age group (49%), particularly among students (45%), i.e. those who are directly affected. In the other age groups, however, most respondents support compulsory military training for such persons in place of the military service.

Since 1988, the Polish women can serve in the army on a professional basis. Year on year, they use this opportunity more and more frequently. In 1990, 32 women served in the Polish army; in 1995 - more than 100, five years later - almost 300, in 2005 - almost 600, and in 2006 more than 650. These figures are still low compared with the armies of some Western countries, such as e.g. the US and Canada, where women constitute 15% of the force, although they usually serve in auxiliary rather than combat positions. In Poland, less than 1% of all soldiers are women.

Despite the growing number of women serving in the army, the social support for allowing women to serve as professional soldiers is decreasing. Nevertheless, a definite majority of the Poles (68%) still opt for allowing women to serve in the army on a professional basis.



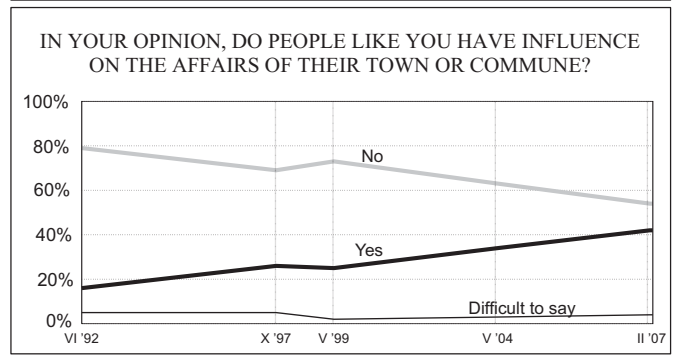
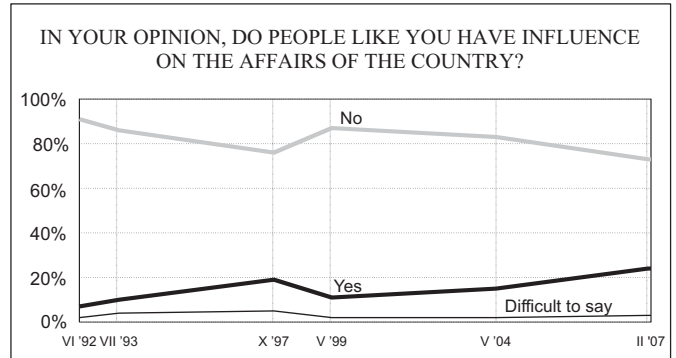
More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS reports: *The attitudes to military service* and *Opinions about military service of women*, February 2007. Survey executed in January 2007. A representative random sample of adult Poles. N=922

### THE FEELING OF INFLUENCE ON PUBLIC AFFAIRS

More and more Poles have a feeling that they can influence public affairs, although still most believe that they have no power to influence the affairs of their local community (*gmina*) and, particularly, the whole country. At present, below a quarter of the Poles (24%) feel that people like themselves can to a certain extent shape the situation in the country. Compared with the early 1990s, this percentage has almost tripled.

The feeling of having influence on local affairs is stronger. More than two-fifths of the respondents (42%) declare that people like themselves have some influence on the affairs of their town or commune (*gmina*). The percentage of those who feel that they have

influence on local affairs has grown more than 2.5 times since 1992.

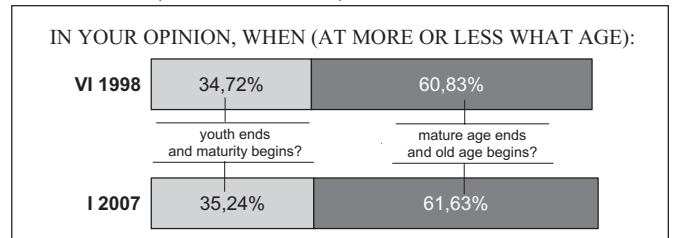


More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report *Does an ordinary citizen feel that he/she has influence on public affairs?*, February 2007. Survey executed in January 2007. A representative random sample of adult Poles. N=922

### BETWEEN YOUNG AND OLD AGE

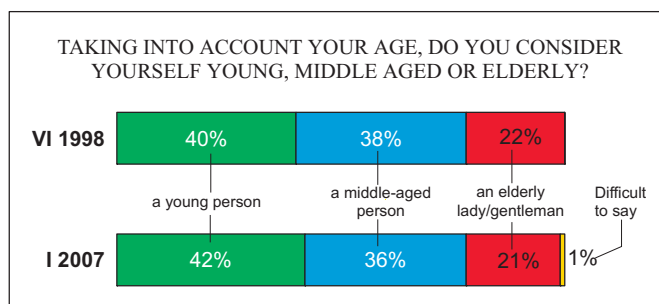
Although the division of human life into life cycles is closely connected with its biological rhythm, the boundaries between childhood, young age, maturity and old age depend on cultural and historical context as well. According to the Poles, youth is over at 35 (on average at the age of 35 years and three months). From that moment maturity begins and lasts almost until the 62<sup>nd</sup> birthday (precisely until the age of 61 years and eight months), when a person enters the autumn of life, i.e. the old age.

The boundaries between these stages of life as perceived by the respondents, have changed somewhat in the last nine years. Now youth ends (and maturity begins) a little (six months) later. Similarly, the old age begins later as well (10 months later).

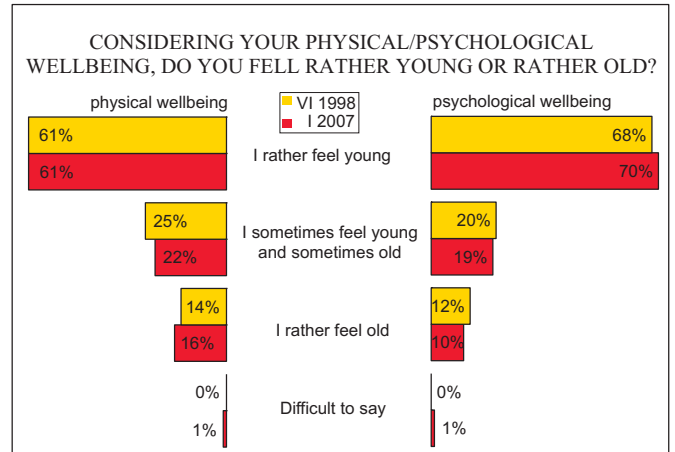


The definition of the boundaries of these stages of life to a certain extent depends on the respondents' age. Young people tend to place them earlier, and older people later in life. This tendency is particularly well visible among the youngest and the oldest respondents. Persons aged 18 to 24 set both the end of youth and the beginning of old age somewhat earlier in life. In their opinion, youth on average ends at 31 (at 30 years and eight months of age precisely), whereas old age begins after turning 57 (on average at 57 years and three months). The oldest respondents, on the other hand (the 70+ age group) push the end of youth and the beginning of maturity forward to the 38<sup>th</sup> year (37 years and eight months) and the beginning of old age - to the 65<sup>th</sup> year of life (65 years and two months).

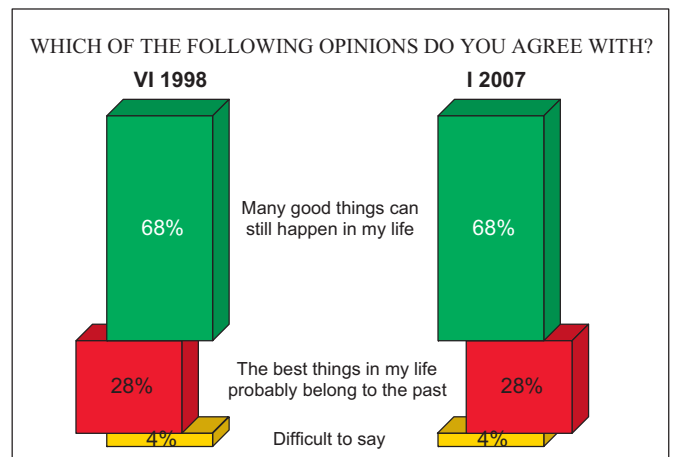
A definite majority of adults feel young or middle-aged. More than two-fifths of the respondents describe themselves as young, and more than a third as middle aged. Only one in five respondents consider themselves elderly. These self-identifications are stable since 1998.



Most Poles feel young both physically and mentally.



Most Poles hope that many good things can still happen in their lives. More than a quarter believe that all the best things in life have probably already happened to them.



More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report *Between young and old age*, February 2007. Survey executed in January 2007. A representative random sample of adult Poles. N=922

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

- ◆ The Church on vetting
- ◆ Opinions on the work of public institutions
- ◆ Some situations from the Polish life in the last year
- ◆ The public opinion on the participation of Polish soldiers in foreign missions and the last events in Iraq
- ◆ Political party preferences in February
- ◆ Support for political parties - election alternatives and negative electorates
- ◆ Social moods in February
- ◆ Trust in politicians in February
- ◆ The attitude to the government
- ◆ Detailed evaluations of the work of the government
- ◆ Islam and the Western culture in the opinions of people from 27 countries
- ◆ The opinions on the work of the Parliament and the President
- ◆ Does the Poles' attitude to old age change?
- ◆ Perceived representativeness of political parties
- ◆ Sexual harassment

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