

**IN THIS ISSUE:**

- THE ATTITUDE TO THE PRESENCE OF POLISH SOLDIERS IN IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN
- OPINIONS ABOUT ABORTION
- RETIREMENT AGE OF WOMEN AND MEN
- EVALUATION OF PUBLIC OFFICES

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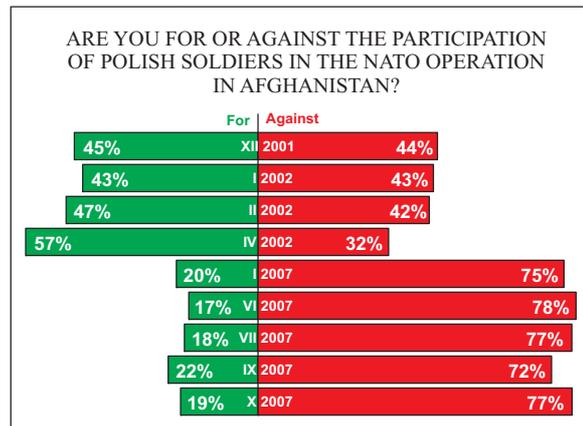
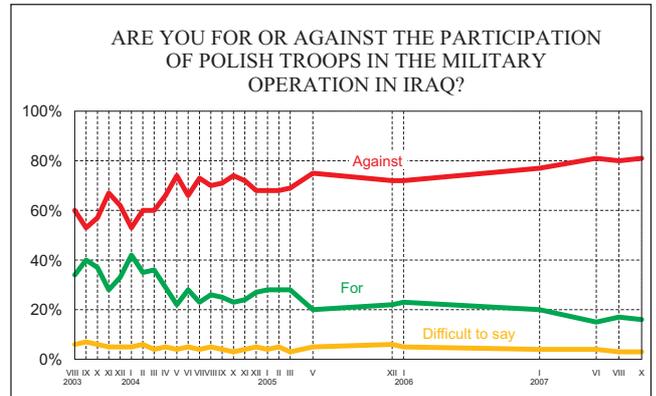
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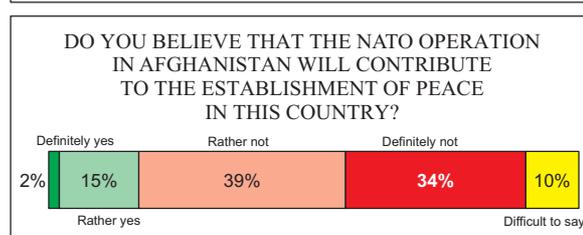
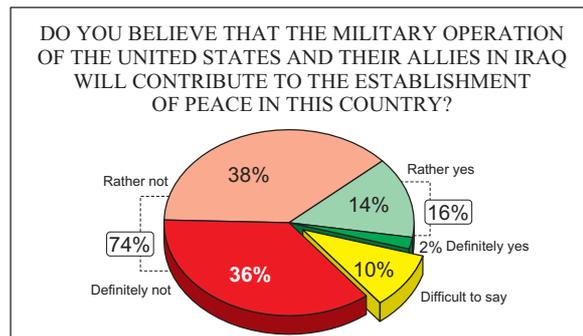
### THE ATTITUDE TO THE PRESENCE OF POLISH SOLDIERS IN IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN

Most Poles are against the participation of Polish soldiers both in the stabilization mission in Iraq and in the NATO operation in Afghanistan. The opinions about this issue are generally not affected by the differences in the nature of the tasks performed by the Polish soldiers in each country.

Only one in six Poles (16%) support the presence of Polish soldiers in Iraq. The support for the



"Difficult to say" answers were disregarded.



More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report (in Polish): *The attitude to the presence of Polish soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan*, October 2007. Survey executed in October 2007. A representative random sample of adult Poles. N=1385.

military presence of Poland in Iraq has been so low since the middle of the year. Although the supporters of this presence have always been in a minority, they exceeded a third of all respondents before spring 2004. During the following year (from April 2004 to March 2005), they constituted around a quarter. From May 2005 to January 2007 only a fifth of the respondents still supported the participation of Polish soldiers in the stabilization mission in Iraq.

The attitude to the involvement of Polish soldiers in the NATO operation in Afghanistan is very similar. It has remained generally unchanged since the beginning of 2007, while the supporters of the Polish participation prevailed during the first stage of this operation.

A lack of support for the participation of Polish soldiers in the military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan is associated with a prevailing belief that neither operation will bring the desired effect, i.e. establish peace in the country concerned.

## OPINIONS ABOUT ABORTION

The Poles' opinions about the legal regulation of abortion are ambiguous. The proportions of those who believe that abortion should be legal (overall 47%) and those who are against it (45%) are almost equal. According to the most common view, abortion should be legal, although with certain restrictions (35%). Slightly fewer respondents express the opinion that abortion should be banned, although with certain exceptions (32%). 12% of the respondents are against any restrictions, and 13% opt for an absolute ban on terminating pregnancy.

Until January 2005, the largest group of the respondents (at least half of all Poles) believed that abortion should be legal (with or without restrictions). Such persons constituted about three-fifths of the population in 1992-1994. This group decreased a little between 1995 and 2005, but still prevailed. In 2006, the proportions reversed: the opponents of making abortion legal for the first time constituted a majority. After a period of significant radicalization of the public opinion on legality of abortion, the acceptance for making it legal grew again this year.



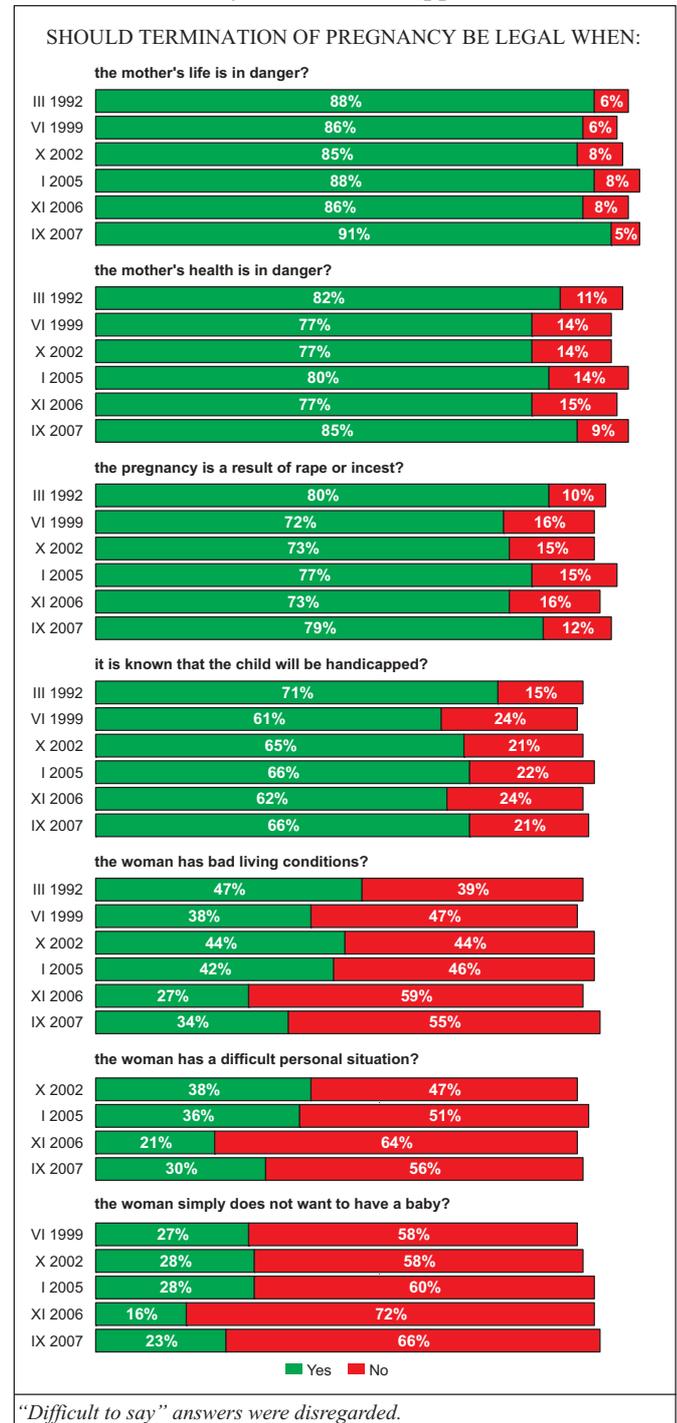
The Poles accept terminating pregnancy in the situations in which the current regulations allow it. The belief that abortion should be possible when the mother's life or health is in danger is almost universal. A vast majority of the respondents also believe that abortion should be legal when pregnancy is a result of rape or incest. Two-thirds of adults believe that abortion should be legal when it is known that the child will be handicapped.

The acceptance of abortion for social reasons is much lower. A third of the respondents believe that it should be legal when a woman is in bad living conditions, and a slightly smaller proportion would accept it when her personal situation is difficult. Only below a quarter believe that terminating pregnancy should be legal when a woman simply does not want to have a baby.

The opinions about acceptability of abortion when the mother's life or health is in danger or when the pregnancy is a result of rape or incest practically did not change between 1992 and 2007. A clear majority have always supported the view that abortion should be legal

in such cases. This proportion has slightly increased during the last year.

A significant majority of the respondents (although fewer than in 1992) accept abortion when it is known that the baby will be handicapped.



In the last fifteen years, the acceptance of abortion in the case of "bad living conditions" has decreased significantly. In 1992, the supporters outnumbered the opponents, but in 1999 the proportion reversed. In the meantime, the law changed. Economic reasons no longer make it possible to have a legal

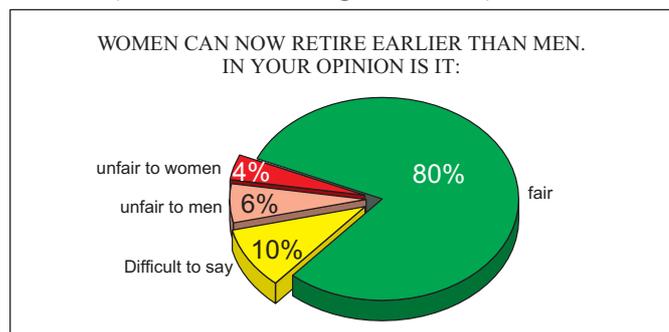
abortion - and the public opinion has adjusted to these changes. In 2006, the public opinion became more radical again. Currently, most Poles are against allowing abortion when the mother's conditions of living are poor.

Since 2002, the views on whether abortion should be legal when a woman is in a difficult personal situation or simply does not want to have a baby have shifted towards the pro-life option (which was particularly popular in 2006). At present, more respondents than a year ago believe that abortion should be legal in such cases, although this is still a minority view.

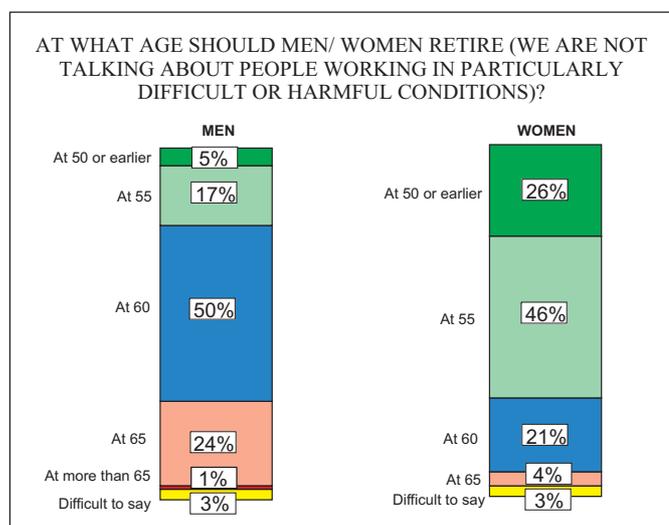
More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report (in Polish): *Opinions about abortion*, October 2007. Survey executed in September 2007. A representative random sample of adult Poles. N=844.

### RETIREMENT AGE OF WOMEN AND MEN

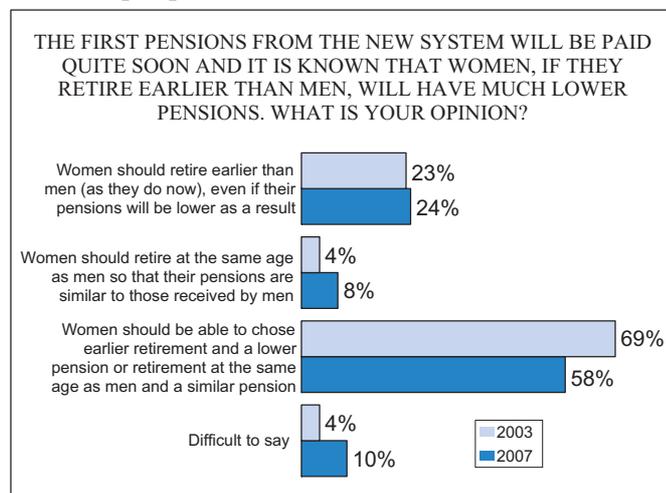
In Poland women can retire at the age of 60, and men at 65. A clear majority of the society believe that this solution (earlier retirement age of women) is fair.



Most Poles believe that generally people should retire earlier than it is allowed nowadays. In the opinion of a majority, women should not work after they reach 55 years of age, and men should retire at 60 or even earlier.



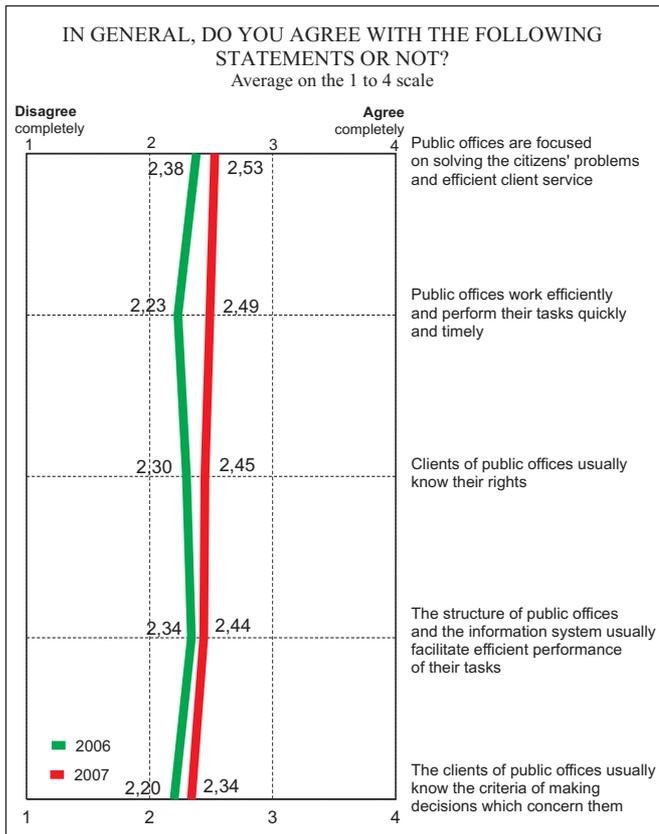
A new pension system, being a combination of the capital-based and the pay-as-you-go system, was adopted a few years ago, as part of a wider reform of the Polish system of social benefits. A part of an employee's pension contributions are paid into individual's account with a pension fund. The more is paid into such an account, the higher the future pension. This means that women, who retire earlier, will receive significantly lower pensions than men. Although generally the public opinion supports the idea of different retirement age of women and men, most people believe that women should be able to choose earlier retirement (and a lower pension) or later retirement (and a higher pension). A quarter of the Poles believe that women should retire earlier than men even if their pensions will be lower as a result. Relatively the fewest respondents believe that women should retire at the same age as men, so that both genders would receive equal pensions.



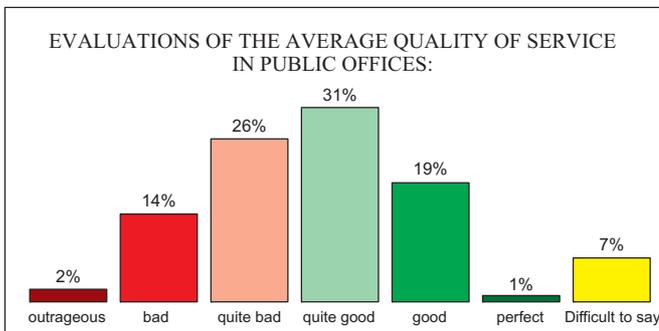
More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report (in Polish): *Retirement age of women and men*, October 2007. Survey executed in September 2007. A representative random sample of adult Poles. N=844.

### EVALUATION OF PUBLIC OFFICES

The opinions about public offices and the quality of work of their staff are divided, but much more positive than a year ago. Every other person believes that the public offices are focused on solving the citizens' problems and providing efficient service to their clients (53%) and perform their tasks quickly and timely (50%). Nearly half of the respondents (46%) are of the opinion that the structure of the public offices and the information system usually facilitate efficient performance of their tasks. The smaller proportions of the respondents believe that the clients of public offices know their rights (44%) and the criteria of making decisions which concern them (38%).

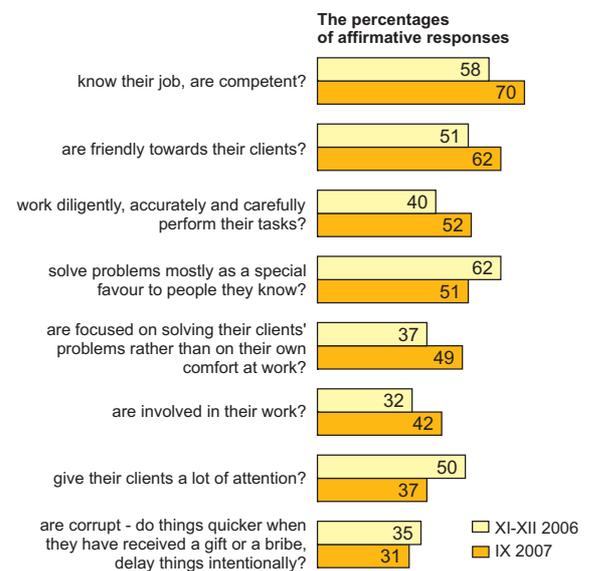


Evaluations of the quality of service provided by the public offices in Poland are quite good.



However, the public share the opinion that many aspects of the work of public officers could still be improved. The most serious faults that the Poles find in public officers include solving problems mainly as a special favour to private acquaintances and a lack of involvement and due care. Despite these reservations, the work of public officers is evaluated more and more positively. During the last year, the percentage of people who believe that they are corrupted has decreased significantly. At the same time, the number of those who believe that they know their job, are competent, perform their tasks with due care and diligence and are focused on solving their clients' problems has grown.

HOW WOULD YOU EVALUATE THE WORK OF MOST PUBLIC OFFICERS IN POLAND? DO THEY USUALLY:



More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report (in Polish): *About public offices and their staff in Poland*, October 2007. Survey executed in September 2007. A representative random sample of adult Poles. N=844.

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

- ◆ The attitude to the participation of Polish soldiers in the NATO operation in Afghanistan
- ◆ Visiting the administration - experiences relating to handling official matters
- ◆ Opinions about the pension system
- ◆ Political party preferences a week before the elections
- ◆ Social moods in October
- ◆ The Kaczyński government ratings shortly before the end of its term
- ◆ Trust in politicians during the election campaign
- ◆ Evaluations of the work of the President before the parliamentary elections
- ◆ Parents' spending on education of schoolchildren in the years 1997-2007

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