

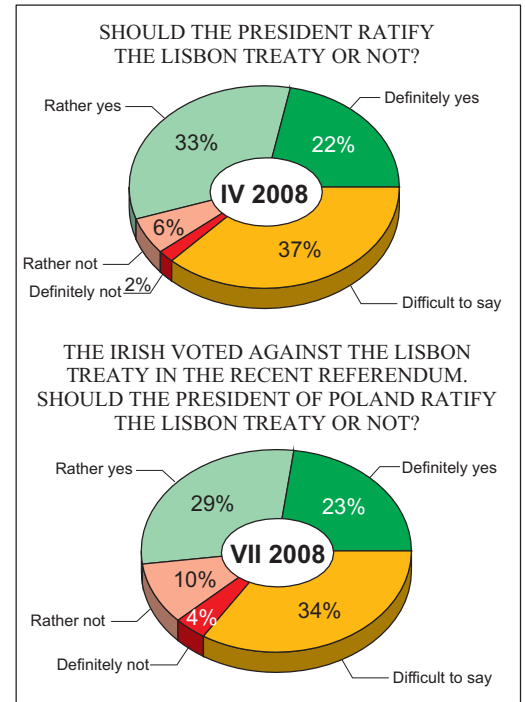
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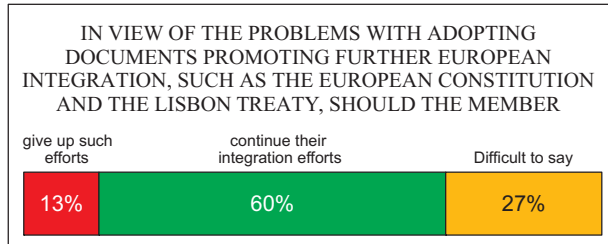
OPINIONS ABOUT THE LISBON TREATY AFTER THE REFERENDUM IN IRELAND

After the Irish referendum rejecting the Lisbon Treaty, the questions about the future of the united Europe returned. They concern such issues as how to persuade the European nations to support further integration and how to agree on a common vision of the European Union. Many politicians, including the leaders of the largest member states, believe that the Lisbon Treaty can still be saved, since the result of the Irish voting did not stop the ratification process. Belgium, the Netherlands, Cyprus and Italy ratified the Treaty after the Irish referendum. In Poland, the ruling parties (PO and PSL) appealed to the President Lech Kaczyński to sign the ratification documents. The President assured the public opinion that he had no intention to hamper the European integration and would ratify the Treaty if the Irish changed their decision.

Despite the fact that the Irish have rejected the Lisbon Treaty, the Poles believe that the process of its ratification should be continued. The support for this document has decreased only slightly compared with April. More than half of the respondents (52%) say that the President Lech Kaczyński should sign the Lisbon Treaty, while 14% believe otherwise.

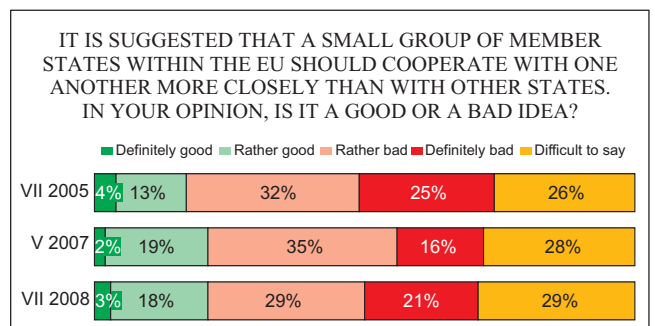


The Poles believe that a solution should be adopted to make it possible to adopt the provisions of the Lisbon Treaty. More than a fifth (22%) believe that repeating the referendum in Ireland would be the best idea. Almost the same percentage (21%) opt for entering the most



important provisions of the Treaty into a new document, which would be adopted by all EU countries. Some respondents (4%) even accept the idea of Ireland leaving the EU, so that the Treaty could enter into force after its ratification by the remaining member states. Only 11% of respondents believe that the EU should give up the Lisbon Treaty and the Nice Treaty should remain in force. A relatively large group of the respondents (37%) have no definite opinion in this matter.

Generally, most Poles are of the opinion that, despite the problems with adopting documents promoting further European integration (such as the European Constitution and, more recently, the Lisbon Treaty), the member



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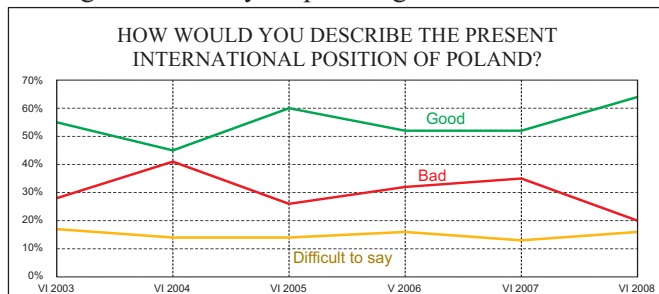
states should continue their integration efforts. Only 13% of respondents believe that the member states should give up such efforts.

After the Lisbon Treaty fiasco in Ireland, the concept of a two- or even multi-tier Europe returned. The Poles have never liked the prospect of enhanced cooperation between a selected group of the member states. However, the criticism is not as strong now as it was three years ago, when the French and the Dutch voted against the Constitution Treaty. A fifth of respondents support the idea of a core group of closely cooperating states. Half are against it.

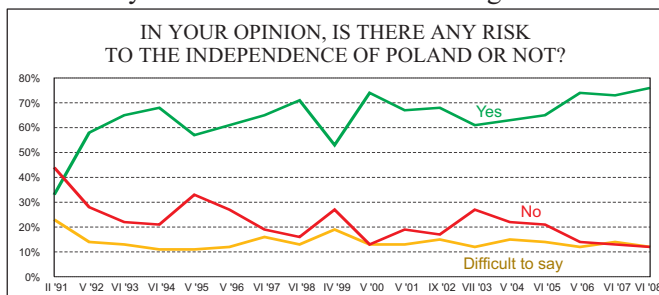
More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report (in Polish): *Opinions about the Lisbon Treaty after the referendum in Ireland*, July 2008. Survey executed in July 2008. A representative random sample of adult Poles. N=1094

THE SITUATION ON THE INTERNATIONAL SCENE AND THE EASTERN POLICY OF POLAND

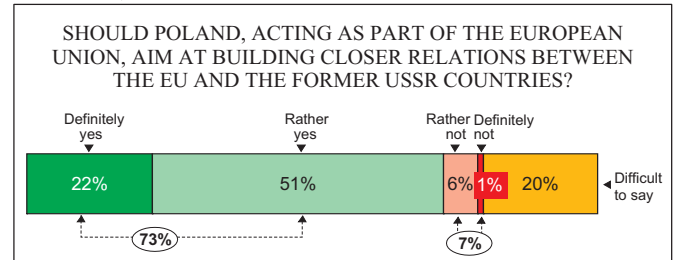
The situation of Poland on the international scene is now seen in a much more positive light than a year ago. The percentage of respondents who describe it as good is the highest in five years. This improvement seems to be associated with a change in the style of foreign policy making introduced by the present government.



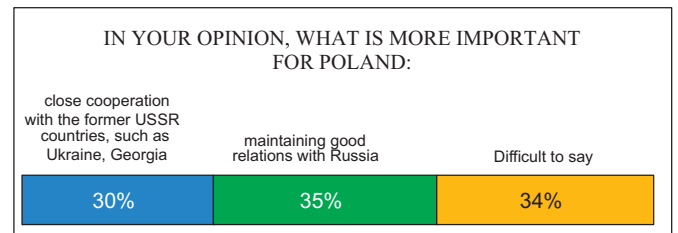
A large majority of Poles (76%) believe that currently there is no external threat to the country's safety. This belief has prevailed for more than ten years and has become particularly strong in the last three years, probably due to Poland's membership in the European Union. A further (slight) increase was recorded this year. Consequently, the feeling that there is no risk whatsoever to the safety of Poland has never been stronger.



Poland and Sweden have recently put forward a proposal for Eastern Partnership, a project aimed at enhancing the Eastern policy of the European Union) It involves building closer relations with Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Armenia and Byelorussia) A definite majority of the respondents support the actions of the Polish government aimed at building closer relations with the former USSR countries)



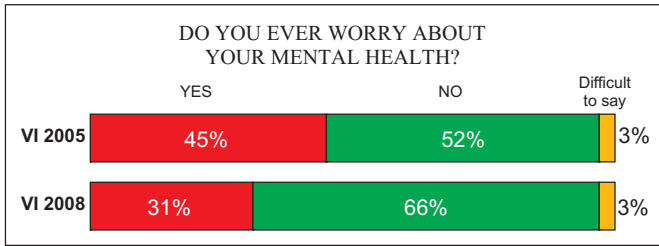
Despite the support for the Eastern Partnership concept, the opinion on what is more important for Poland: cooperation with the former USSR countries or maintaining good relations with Russia, is divided. A slightly bigger proportion of the respondents believe that building good relations with Russia is more important for Poland.



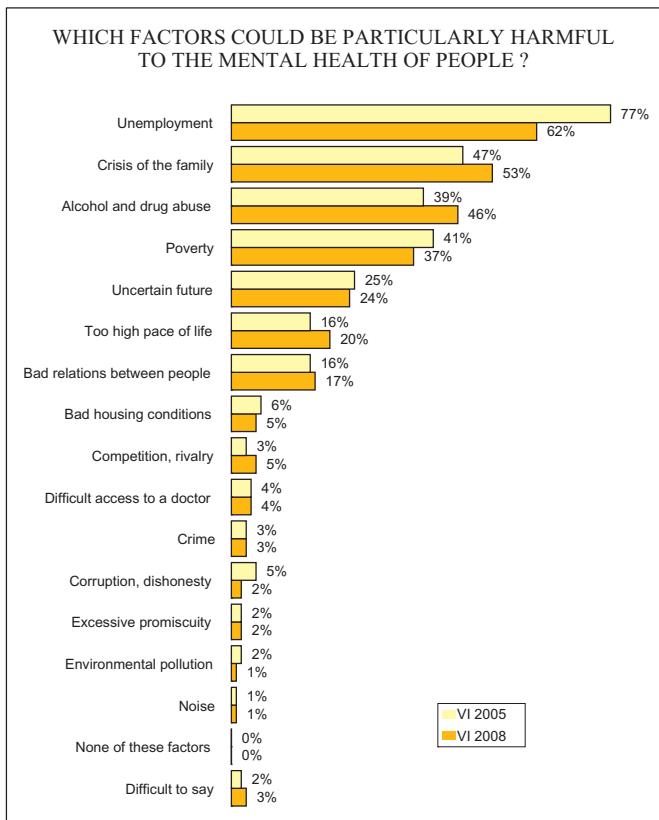
More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS reports (in Polish): *Evaluation of the position of Poland on the international scene and Opinions about the Polish-Russian relations and the chances for Polish-German and Polish-Ukrainian reconciliation*, July 2008. Survey executed in June 2008. A representative random sample of adult Poles. N=1107

RISKS AND EXPECTATIONS CONCERNING MENTAL HEALTH

In the last three years, the fears of the Poles concerning their mental health have decreased significantly. At present, nearly a third of respondents report such fears (31%; a drop of 14 percentage points compared with 2005). A majority (66%; a 14 percentage points increase) do not have such fears. These changes, reflecting an improvement in the psychological well-being of the Polish society, seem to be related to an increase in optimism and a better situation of the Polish society in the recent years (a drop of unemployment, economic growth, improvement of the conditions of living of Polish households).

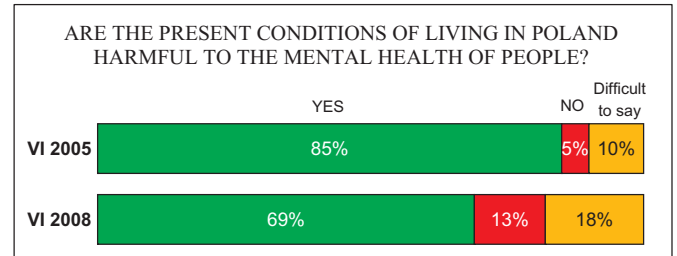


Respondents believe that being unemployed presents the biggest threat to the mental health. It should be stressed, however, that now it is mentioned much less frequently than in 2005, which is certainly due to the improvement of the situation on the job market in Poland. On the other hand, respondents mention the crisis of the family and related problems, such as alcohol and drug abuse, more frequently than three years ago. A significant, but falling, proportion also stressed the negative effect of poverty on the psychological wellbeing of people. Moreover, one in four respondents associated a risk to mental health with uncertainty about the future, and roughly one in five with too high pace of life and bad relations between people. Other factors are considered less important.



In July the Sejm adopted a law, which will form a basis for the implementation of the National Mental Health Protection Programme. The implementation of this programme should improve the functioning of the mental health care system in Poland. The changes include replacing the hospital-based system of treatment with the model based on care in the community, i.e. outside the

hospital. Most Poles believe that actions aimed at improving prevention of mental diseases and modernizing the mental health care system are necessary. However, three years ago more respondents saw the need for developing the National Health Protection Plan. The decrease in the support for this programme seems to be related to the recent improvement in the psychological wellbeing of the Poles.



More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report (in Polish): *The Poles about the anxieties, risks and expectations concerning mental health*, July 2008. Survey executed in June 2008. A representative random sample of adult Poles. N=1107

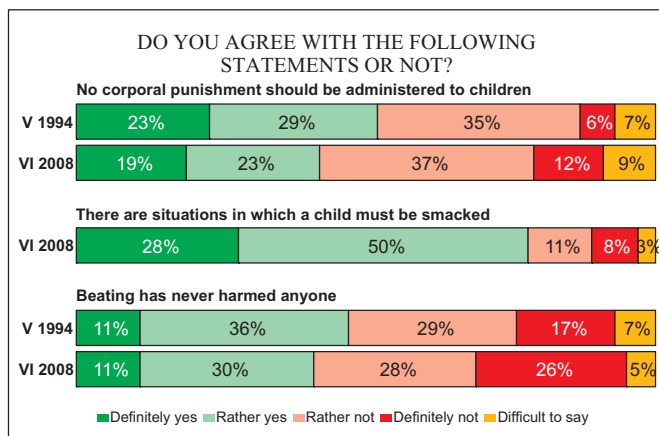
PUBLIC TOLERANCE TO CORPORAL PUNISHMENT FOR CHILDREN

In recent years, a growing number of countries have banned corporal punishment for children. After a series of reports of beaten children, the Prime Minister Donald Tusk proposed to introduce such a ban in Poland. This announcement stirred emotions and raised a lot of controversy.

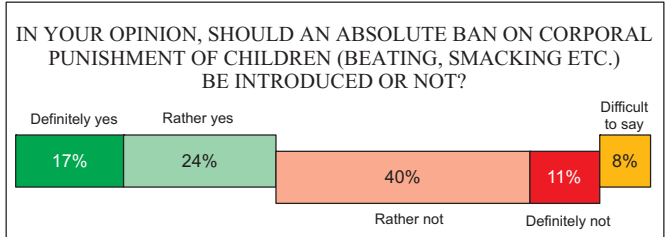
Although crimes against children receive widespread condemnation, it does not mean that the Poles reject corporal punishment as a method of disciplining children. Using corporal punishment by way of correction still has many supporters in Poland. Moreover, the percentage of Poles who accept such methods has increased in the last fourteen years (by 8 percentage points, to 49%). Consequently, those who approve administering physical punishment to children have become a majority. The increase in the number of those who tolerate using corporal punishment to discipline children is most likely a reaction to the proposed legal prohibition of beating children, which would limit the list of acceptable methods of correcting behaviour (physical punishment still being an important one).

The term “physical punishment of children” includes both “innocent” smacking and more painful forms of beating. This distinction seems to be crucial for understanding the way of thinking of the Poles about physical punishment of children. Most adults can hardly imagine bringing up a child without smacking, which is treated as an integral part of the process. More

than three quarters of respondents (78%) agree with the opinion that there are situations in which a child must be smacked. However, the tolerance for more serious corporal punishment is significantly lower. Slightly more than two-fifths of the respondents (41%) agree with the opinion that "beating has never harmed anyone". The percentage of the Poles who accept beating children has decreased in the last fourteen years by 6 percentage points. However, it should still be considered high. The decrease in the percentage of persons tolerating "beating", accompanied by a growth in the tolerance for corporal punishment, reflect the fears of criminalization and, perhaps most importantly, penalization of disciplining children with the use of physical punishment rather than growing indifference to violence against children.

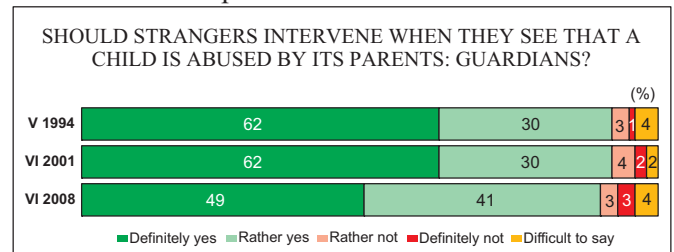


The opinions about criminalization of corporal punishment for children are divided. The opponents of a legal ban on beating children (51%) outnumber the supporters of this regulation (41%). Socio-demographic features of the respondents have very little effect on these opinions.



Irrespective of whether a legal ban on beating children will be introduced in Poland or not, the most important thing is to make the public opinion more sensitive to the problem. Violence against children is frequently possible due to a lack of sufficient reaction of the community: the family, the neighbours, teachers and doctors.

It is commonly believed that a person who sees a child being abused by its parents should intervene. Surprisingly, however, this belief is not as strong now as it was a few years ago. In 2001, almost two-thirds of respondents (62%) had no doubts that one must react to violence against children. Now slightly less than half (49%) firmly believe so. Most probably, the proposed ban on using corporal punishment has caused fears of excessive, unjustified interference by third parties in the relations between parents and children.



More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report (in Polish): *Public approval for beating children*, July 2008. Survey executed in June 2008. A representative random sample of adult Poles. N=1107

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

- ◆ Public perception of the relations between the President and the cabinet
- ◆ Second-hand goods
- ◆ Volhynia 1943
- ◆ Do the Poles care about the natural environment?
- ◆ Political party preference in July
- ◆ Opinions about the work of the President, the Sejm and the Senate
- ◆ Party identification of the Polish people
- ◆ Social moods in July
- ◆ Consumer behaviour
- ◆ The attitude to the government in July
- ◆ Democracy: evaluations, attitudes, perspectives
- ◆ Opinions about Lech Wałęsa and his past
- ◆ Trust in politicians in June

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