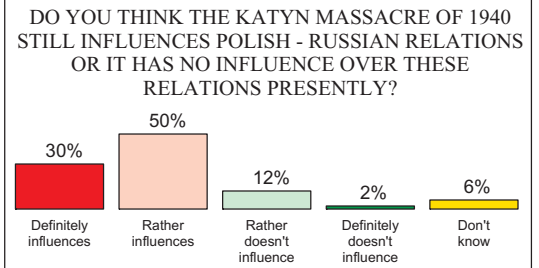


CONTENTS:

- THE KATYN MASSACRE AND ITS IMPACT ON POLISH-RUSSIAN RELATIONS
- ATTITUDES TO DEMOCRACY
- CORRUPTION AND LOBBYING
- SOCIAL NETWORKING IN INTERNET

THE KATYN MASSACRE AND ITS IMPACT ON POLISH-RUSSIAN RELATIONS

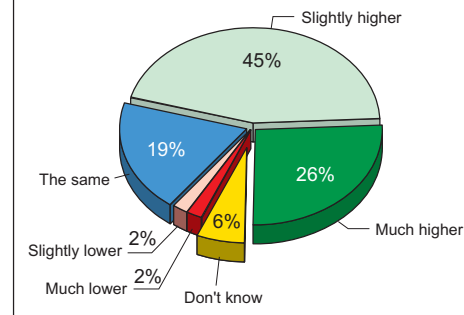
On 10th April 2010, the president of Poland was killed in a plane crash near Smolensk, Russia. The president's wife, many prominent politicians, military elite as well as Church representatives died too. The passengers intended to commemorate the mass killings of Polish officers perpetrated by NKVD in Katyn, Russia. According to many political commentators, the Russian Government's conduct after the Smolensk tragedy indicates a turn in Polish - Russian relations. The highest hopes concern the explanation of the circumstances of the Katyn massacre. This would finally allow Poland and Russia to close the chapter of their countries' history, which has been the bone of contention for many years.



The mass murder of the Polish officers of Armed Forces, Polish Police and Border Protection Corps perpetrated in many places in the USSR in late April and early May 1940 is called "the Katyn massacre". In the public consciousness, all these tragic events are symbolised by Katyn - the place near which the first mass graves were discovered.

A vast majority of Poles (80%) believe that the Katyn massacre still influences Polish - Russian relations. Only one respondent in seven (14%) has the opposite opinion.

WHAT DO YOU THINK ARE THE CHANCES OF EXPLAINING THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE KATYN MASSACRE OF 1940 AFTER THE PLANE CRASH NEAR SMOLENSK?



Seven out of ten Poles (71%) think that the chances to explain the circumstances of the Katyn massacre after the Smolensk plane crash are higher than before. A fifth of respondents (19%) do not think that these two events are connected. They consider the chances to explain the Katyn massacre to be the same as before the crash. Only few (4%) believe that this explanation is less likely to happen now.

More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "The Katyn massacre and its impact on Polish-Russian relations", May 2010. Fieldwork for national sample: May 2010, N=1000. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

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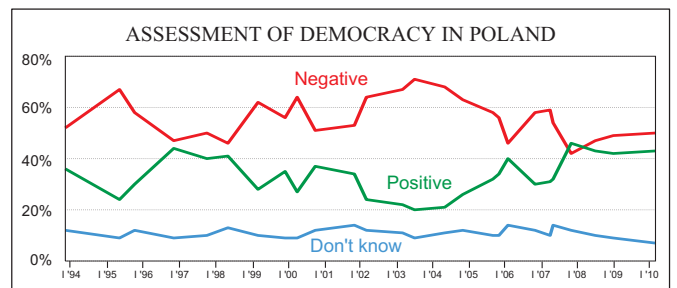
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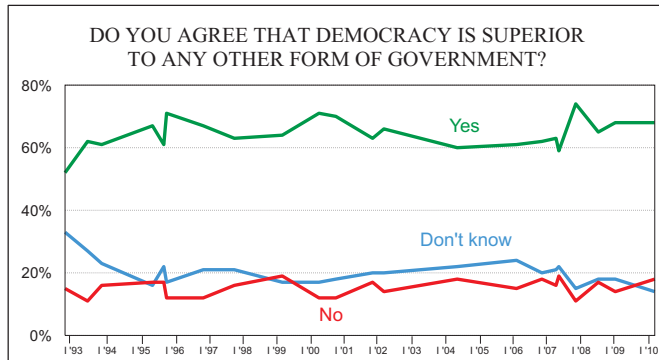
ATTITUDES TO DEMOCRACY

Public opinions about democracy in Poland have been mostly negative since we started to monitor them. Positive opinions about democracy slightly prevailed over negative ones only in the 2007 poll, soon after the Parliamentary Elections. This year two fifths of

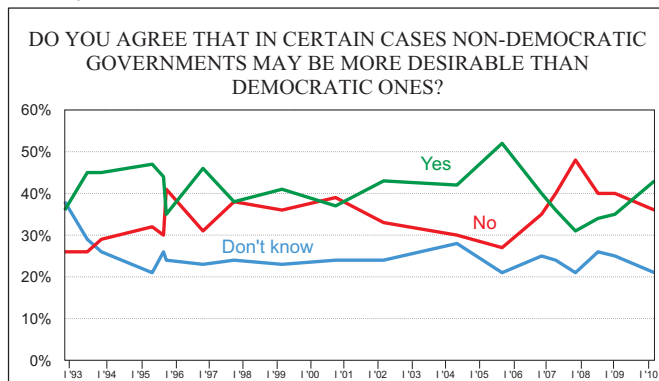


Poles assess the democracy in Poland positively (43%) and a half (exactly 50%) negatively. In the last three years the attitude to democracy in Poland has not changed significantly.

In very general terms, Poles approve of democracy as a political system. Ever since the political changes in our country began, Poles believe in the superiority of democracy above any other political system. Presently democracy is approved of by 68% of respondents and it has not changed much since 2008.

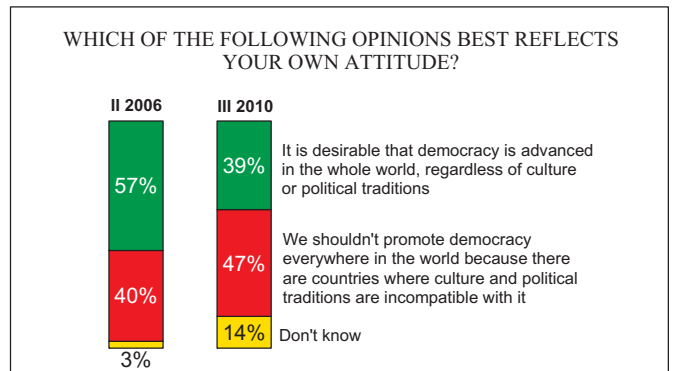
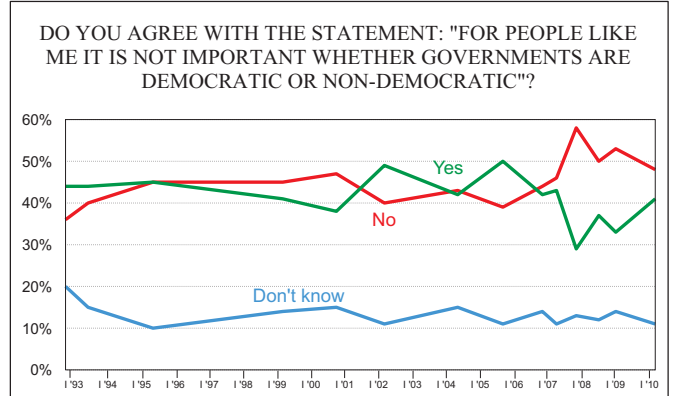


Despite the general support for the democratic system, the majority of respondents (43%) say that sometimes non-democratic governments may be more desirable. The percentage of people allowing non-democratic governments in certain cases has grown significantly in recent years. Hence we may say that authoritarian tendencies are intensifying in the Polish society.



In recent years we have noted a rise in the acceptance of non-democratic governments and a decline in the level of identification with democracy. Over two fifths of respondents claim (41%) that for people like them it is not important whether governments are democratic or non-democratic. Such an opinion is rejected by less than a half (48%).

Since 2006, opinions about the universal value of democracy have changed. The majority believed then that democracy can flourish regardless of culture or political traditions of each country. Presently, more people think that the advancement of democracy is limited (47%) and fewer Poles believe it has a universal value (39%).



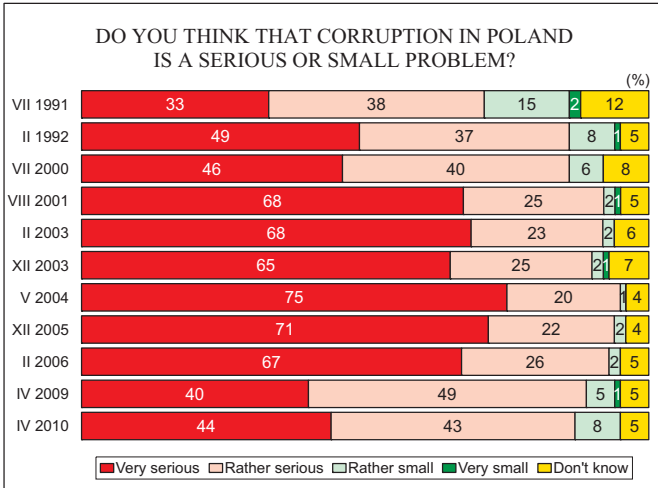
More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Attitudes to democracy - its understanding and assessment", May 2010. Fieldwork for national sample: March 2010, N=995. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

CORRUPTION AND LOBBYING

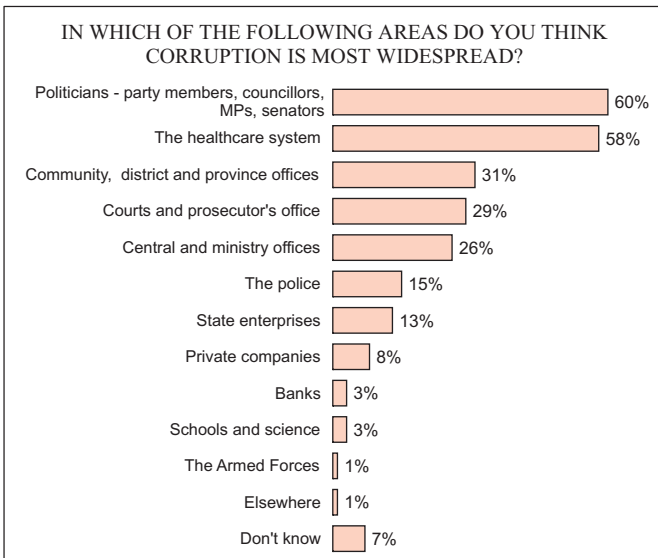
According to Corruption Perceptions Index published by Transparency International the problem of corruption was growing from mid 90s - when Poland was first included in the research - till 2005. Since 2006, the situation has been improving but corruption still remains a major social issue. In terms of corruption Poland ranks lower than other countries of the so-called old European Union. Still, it is on a similar level as in Hungary, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Lithuania or Latvia.

The research conducted by CBOS also shows that Poles believe corruption is a grave problem in our country. Presently 87% of the surveyed people think that corruption is a serious issue. Among them 44% believe it to be very serious.

The opinions about the importance of this problem have been surveyed for nearly twenty years, i.e. almost since the beginning of transformations in Poland. The number of respondents who thought corruption was a serious social issue was growing since 1991 and in 2004 and 2005 this conviction was particularly strong. Since then the percentage of people sharing such a view has been falling yet, none the less, it is still held by a vast majority of society.

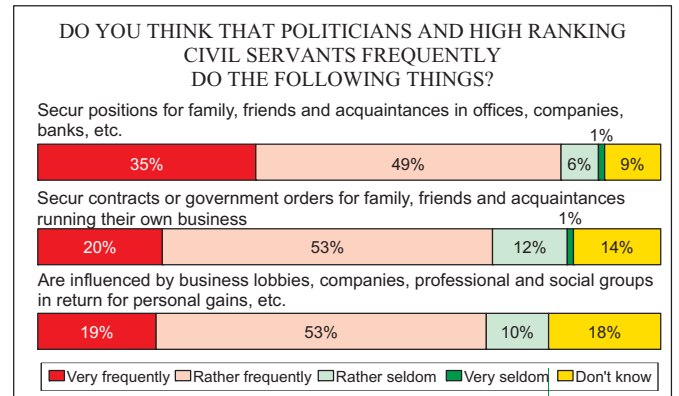


Respondents consider politics and the healthcare system to be most corrupted areas of public life. At least a quarter of Poles think that corruption is particularly widespread in district and province offices, courts and prosecutor's office, central and ministry offices. About every seventh Pole believes that corruption is most widespread among police officers. Fewer people declare that state enterprises and private companies are corrupted most. Very few Poles think that corruption is frequent in banks, the Armed Forces, schools and science.

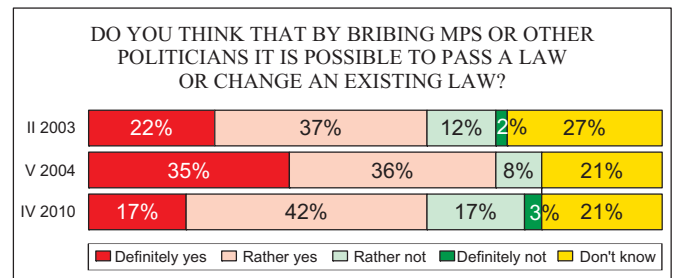


High ranking civil servants and politicians are most frequently accused of nepotism. Over four fifths of respondents (84%) think that they secure positions in offices, companies, banks and other institutions for their relatives and friends very often. The problem of nepotism and favouritism is also manifested in securing contracts for friends and family running their own business. This behaviour is particularly characteristic of politicians and high ranking civil servants according to almost three quarters of respondents (73%). Nearly the same number of Poles (72%) are convinced that - when it is profitable for them - politicians and high ranking civil servants are

influenced by business lobbies, companies, professional and social groups in securing contracts or government orders.



Over half of respondents (59%) believe that by bribing MPs and other politicians it is possible to shape the law. However, this opinion is less popular than a few years ago.



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Corruption and lobbying in Poland", May 2010. Fieldwork for national sample: April 2010, N=1056. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

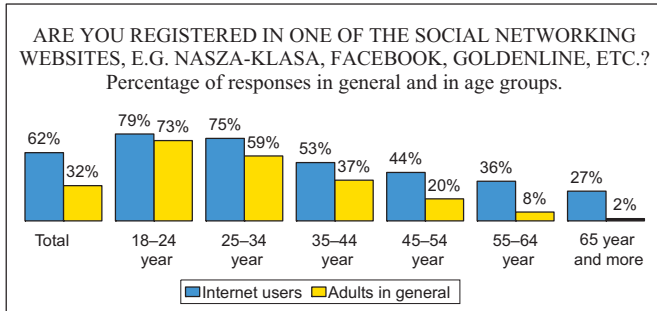
SOCIAL NETWORKING IN INTERNET

According to Internet World Stats, there were nearly two billion of Internet users around the world at the end of 2009. In Poland alone there were over twenty million (52% of the whole Polish population). In countries where Internet use is most popular (Iceland and Norway) as much as 90% of all inhabitants used the Internet.

At first, communication through the Internet was limited mainly to sending emails and participating in discussion groups. Later came forums, instant messengers and blogs. Presently, the most thriving form of Internet use is social networking which incorporates all the previous forms of Internet communication. Online communities may focus on free time activities, maintaining contact with friends and making new acquaintances (related to private or business life).

Nearly a third of adult Poles (32%, or two thirds of Internet users) registered in some social networking

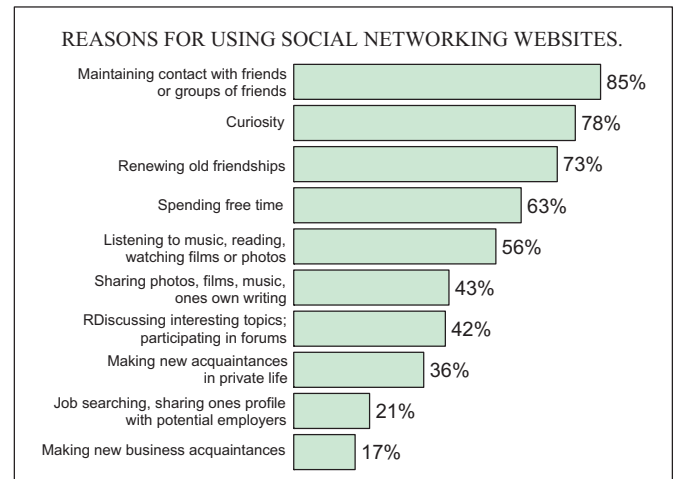
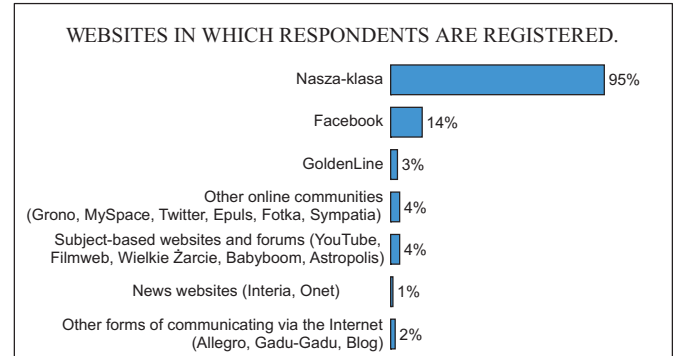
websites, e.g. Nasza-klasa, Facebook, GoldenLine. The degree of interest in social networking is strictly connected with the age of Internet users. A vast majority of people between 18 and 24 years of age belong to some online community. Among people between 25 and 34 years of age, more than half admit they belong to one of the online communities. The older the respondents, the less likely they are to own a profile on one of the social networking websites.



Among those belonging to at least one online community, almost everyone (95%) is registered in Nasza-klasa - a website created in the second half of 2006. Its main aim was and still is to maintain contact with schoolmates. The second most popular website is Facebook (14% of users) - an international social network created in 2004 in the US. In Poland Facebook is not the most popular social networking website but it is the best known website in the world giving its users the broadest choice of options. The third most popular online community (3%) is GoldenLine, a Polish website which focuses on career development.

For the prevailing number of members of online communities, it is most important to maintain contact with friends. Nearly the same number of people belong there out of curiosity. Slightly fewer people hope to renew their old friendships and, for many people, it is a form of spending free time. With regard to artistic activity more people participate in communities passively (they listen

to music, read, watch films or photos), rather than actively (sharing pictures, films, music, their own writing). The respondents also use online communities to discuss interesting topics, participate in forums as well as make new acquaintances in their private life. Business reasons (job searching, sharing ones profile with potential employers or making new business acquaintances) were least frequently mentioned.



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Social networking in internet", May 2010. Fieldwork for national sample: April 2010, N=1056. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

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

- ◆ Unemployment and the Unemployed in Public Opinion Research
- ◆ Who Should Have More Power - Government or President
- ◆ Preferences in Presidential Elections
- ◆ Party Preferences in May
- ◆ Opinions About Public Institutions
- ◆ Social Moods in May
- ◆ Attitude to Government in May
- ◆ Evaluation of "Solidarity" Trade Union Support for Jaroslaw Kaczynski
- ◆ Trust in Politicians in May
- ◆ Tax Returns 2009
- ◆ Beatification of Fr. Jerzy Popiehuszko

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