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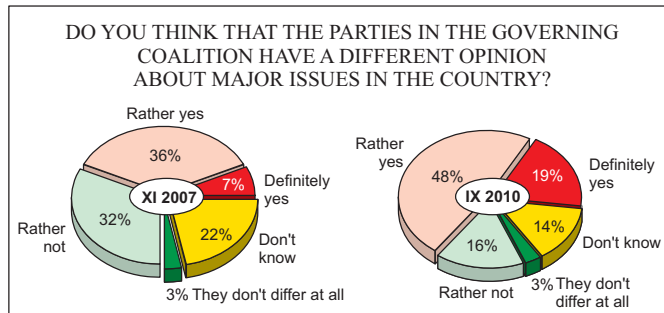
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OPINIONS ABOUT COALITION GOVERNMENT OF THE CIVIC PLATFORM AND POLISH PEOPLE'S PARTY (PO-PSL)

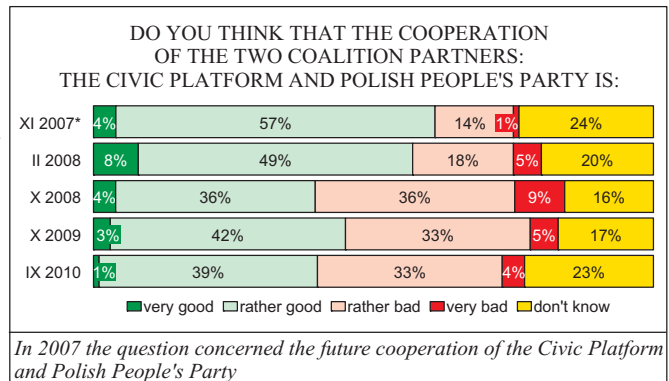
The coalition of the Civic Platform and Polish People's Party was the most favourably evaluated of all coalition governments in the Third Republic. Even though many people



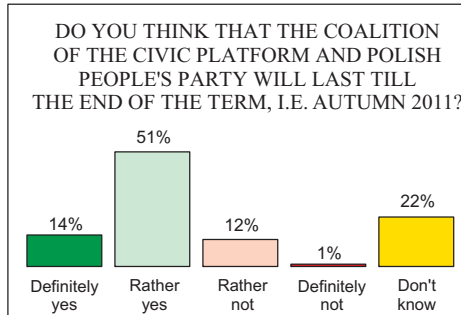
noticed the political differences between the two parties from the very beginning, these discrepancies were not as prominent as in the case of former coalitions. The smooth process of coalition forming moved political differences into the background. However, the three years of shared

government brought the points where the parties disagree into the light. Immediately after the coalition government had been formed, 43% of respondents admitted they noticed differences in the political agenda of the two parties. Presently, 67% claim they are aware of the discrepancies. Fewer than a fifth do not see any major differences (19%, compared to 35% three years ago).

Despite certain tensions within the coalition, the cooperation of the two parties is rather harmonious, especially if we compare it to the situation in previous coalitions. The present government may therefore be the first after 1989 to govern the country together with a coalition partner for the whole term. The respondents' opinions about the



cooperation between the two parties are divided. Despite political differences between the Civic Platform and Polish People's Party, slightly more people assess the cooperation positively (40%, compared to 37% who assess it negatively). Presently, the opinions about the coalition are worse than two years ago, but still they have not changed much in the two years from the formation of the coalition.



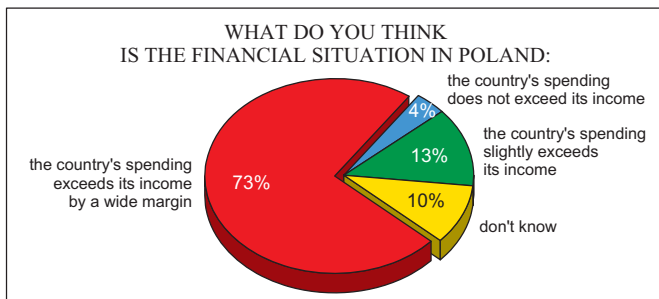
The stability of the coalition government is the reason why, on the whole, people expect the cooperation to continue. The majority of respondents (65%) believe that the present coalition will last till the end of the term, and 13% doubt it.

More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Opinions about coalition government of the Civic Platform and Polish People's Party", September 2010. Fieldwork for national sample: September 2010, N=1041. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

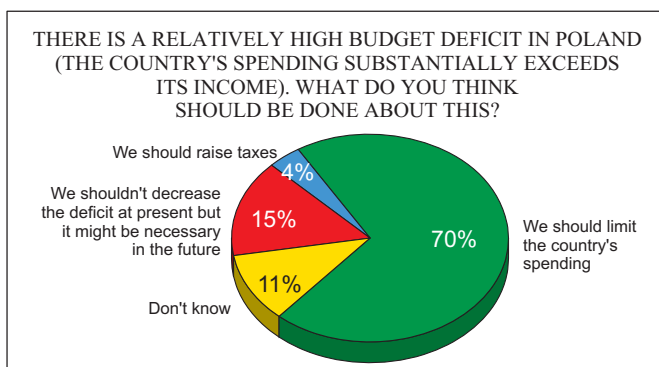
BUDGET DEFICIT AND TAX INCREASES

In recent months, there has been much debate about the state of public finances. The growing budget deficit in Poland (in 2008 it was 1.9% GDP and in 2009 – 7.1% GDP) made the Government accept a long term financial plan which involves increasing VAT next year. Earlier on, similar steps were taken by other EU countries.

A vast majority of respondents are aware that the country's budget balance is not maintained. Nearly three quarters (73%) think that Poland's spending exceeds budget income by a wide margin. About one respondent in eight (13%) thinks that spending exceeds income only slightly. Few people (4%) believe that the country's income fully covers its spending.

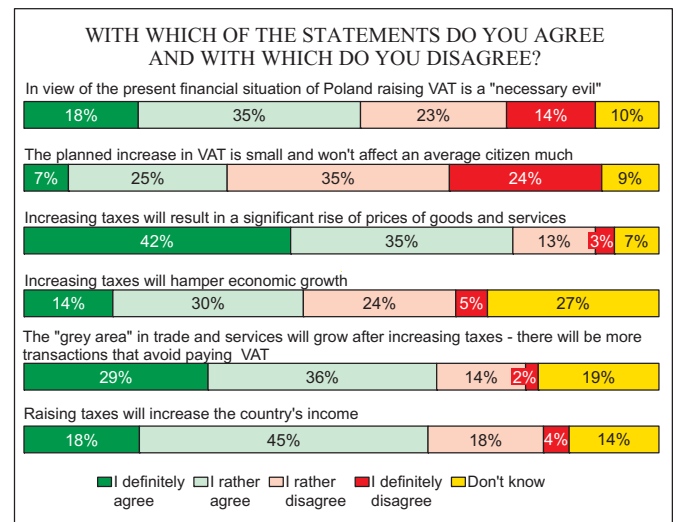


Data show that Poles are aware of the country's considerable budget deficit. The surveyed people would rather see the problem solved by cutting the Poland's spending (70%) than raising taxes (4%). Probably, the respondents' preferences largely depend on their assessment of how each solution would affect the society and themselves. Raising taxes appears to have a more direct influence on individual household budget. The effect of limiting the country's expenses seems to be more vague. Moreover, many people might favour limiting spending over increasing taxes because they believe that public money should be more rationally managed than is the case at present. In October 2009, 16% of respondents thought that Donald Tusk managed public money well, 39% believed it was satisfactory and 32% - said it was unsatisfactory.



Poles showed some understanding for the decision to increase VAT. Over half of the surveyed people (53%) agree that it is a "necessary evil".

In public opinion (63% of respondents), the country's income will increase by increasing VAT, but the move will have negative effects as well. More than half (59%) are not convinced that raising VAT will be insignificant and will not be felt by an average Pole. It is a widely held belief (77%) that it will result in a considerable increase in the prices of goods and services. Nearly two thirds of respondents (65%) share entrepreneurs' conviction that the "grey area" in trade and services will grow, i.e. there will be more transactions that avoid paying VAT. A smaller yet significant number of people (44%) think that increasing this tax will hamper economic growth.



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Budget deficit and tax increases.", September 2010. Fieldwork for national sample: August 2010, N=986. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

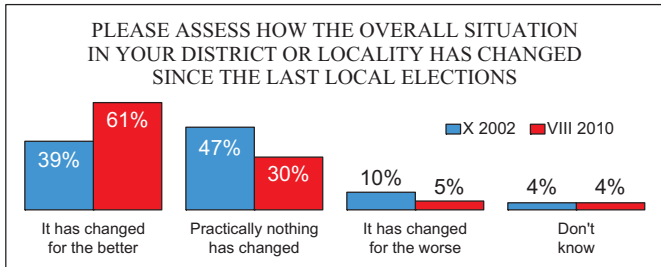
LOCAL GOVERNMENT

In this year's oncoming local elections, Poles will choose local government, city presidents, mayors and district leaders. This is an opportunity for Poles to directly and democratically evaluate the work of local government in different administrative units in Poland.

Poles perceive the closing term as rather successful for local governments. Nearly two thirds of respondents (61%) claim that in the four years from the last elections the overall situation in their district or locality has changed for the better. Only one respondent in twenty (5%) claims that the situation has changed for the worse in the last four years and less than a third say it has practically remained the same.

In 2002, when elections to local governments were taking place, Poles were asked to assess the changes in the overall situation in their localities between 1998

and 2002. Compared to that assessment, Poles now view the changes in the last four years far more positively. The access to EU funds and their more widespread and effective use by local governments seems to have helped to improve public opinion in this matter.

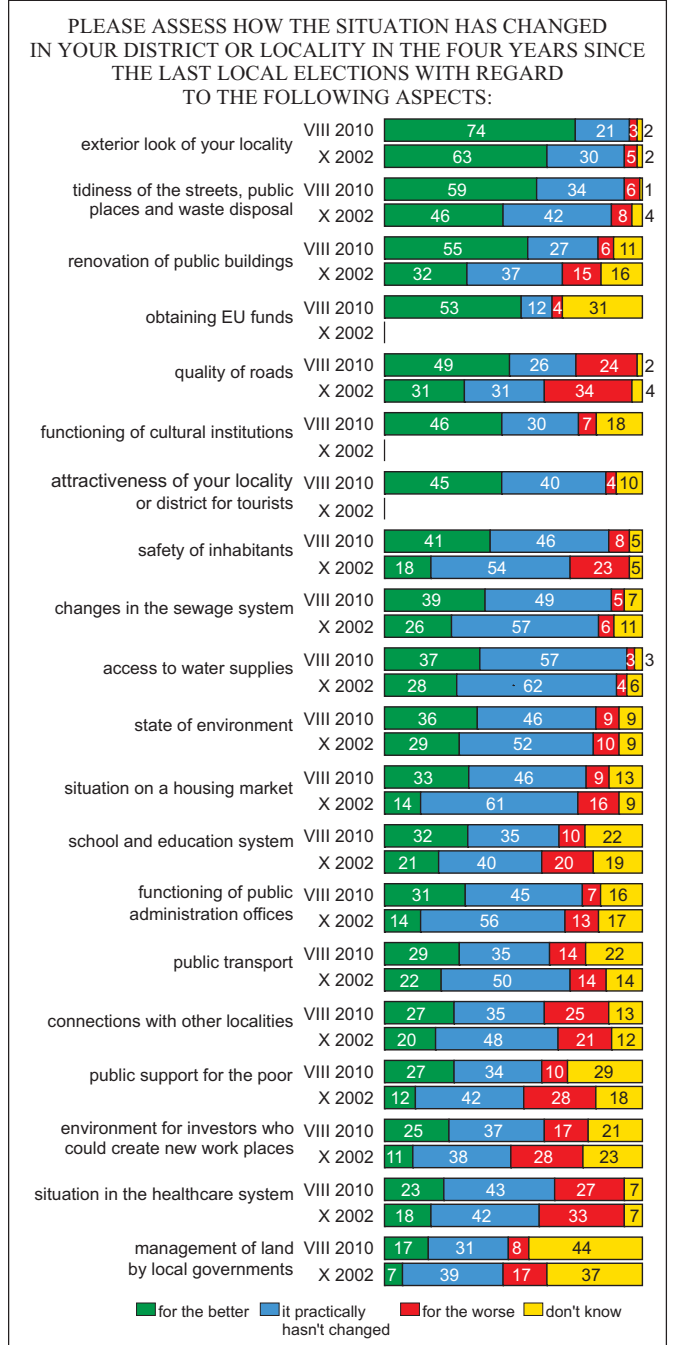


The most frequently mentioned changes that took place since the last elections concern the exterior look of their localities. Three quarters of respondents (74%) claim that their locality looks better than four years ago. Three fifths (59%) mentioned that the tidiness in the streets and other public places has improved and more than a half (55%) approve of the renovation of public buildings. About every second respondent notices an improvement in the ability to obtain EU funds (53%), the quality of roads (49%) and an improvement in the way cultural institutions function (46%). The fact that their locality or district became more attractive for the tourists is noticed by 45% of respondents.

All other aspects (i.e. the safety of inhabitants, changes in the sewage system, access to water supplies, state of environment, situation on a housing market, school system, functioning of public administration offices, public transport, connections with other localities, public support for the poor, environment for investors who could create new work places, situation in the healthcare system and the management of land by local governments) are said to be working on a similar level as four years ago.

Poles are most critical about local governments' involvement in improving the healthcare system (27% said that the situation in the healthcare system has deteriorated in the last four years), connections with other localities (25%), quality of roads (24%) and environment for investors creating new work places (17%).

Compared to opinions in 2002, when local government's term in office was drawing to an end, the present assessment of changes that have been taking place for the last four years improved in all respects. The most prominent differences regard the safety of inhabitants (positive opinions have increased by 23 percentage points), renovating public buildings (+ 23%), the situation on the housing market (+19%), the quality of roads (+18%), the work of public administration offices (+17%), public help for the poor (+15%), environment for investors creating new work places (+14%), changes in the sewage system (+13%) and tidiness of streets and public places (+13%).

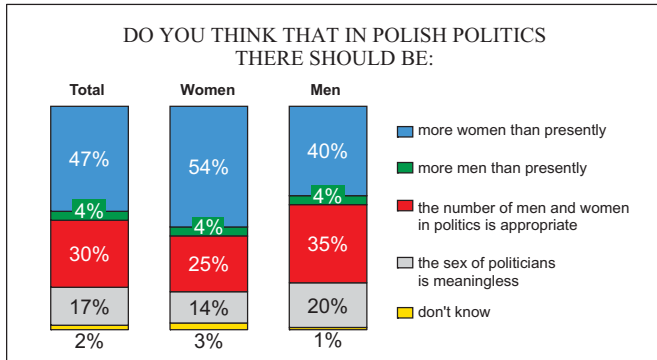


More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Local governments and the assessment of changes that have taken place since last local elections", September 2010. Fieldwork for national sample: August 2010, N=986. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

PARITY - A LEGAL SAFEGUARD AGAINST UNDER-REPRESENTATION OF WOMEN IN POLITICS.

Presently in Poland, there is much debate about increasing the number of parliamentary seats for women

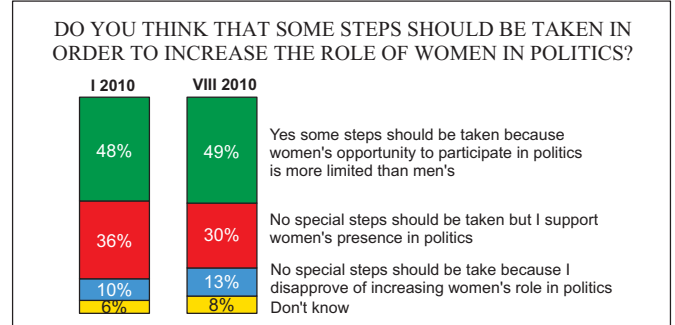
and broadening their influence in politics by passing an act defining the percentage of women in Polish parliamentary elections, European parliamentary elections and elections to local governments. Polish Women's Congress (Kongres Kobiet Polskich) put forth in December last year a bill that would ensure women's stronger presence in Polish politics. The women who initiated the idea believe that the existing law in Poland does not sufficiently allow women to access key political roles on par with men. The bill proposes to follow the example of some countries and introduce parity system.



The prevailing number of respondents believe that more women should be holding important political seats in Poland (47%). Less than a third (30%) think that the number of men and women in politics is appropriate. Only four in a hundred claim there should be more men in politics. It is worth noticing that about one in six (17%) mentioned that, for them, the sex of politicians is meaningless. Women far more frequently than men support the idea of increasing the role of women in the country's politics and men claimed more often that the present number of men and women in politics is appropriate.

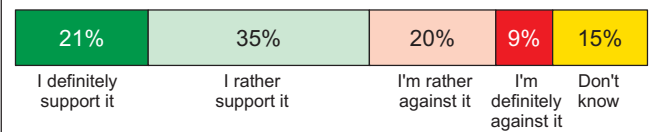
Nearly every second respondent (49%) sees the necessity to take some steps in order to increase the

number of women in politics. Slightly fewer people (43%) are against taking special measures to increase the role of women in politics. However, only one out of eight respondents (13%) justifies his/her negative opinion on this issue by admitting they would not like to see the role of women in politics increased.



According to the bill put forth by the Polish Women's Congress, the number of women on electoral registers should be at least equal with the number of men. Over half of respondents (56%) support this idea and less than a third (29%) oppose it.

IN DECEMBER 2009, A BILL WAS PUT FORTH IN THE POLISH PARLIAMENT ACCORDING TO WHICH THE NUMBER OF WOMEN ON ELECTORAL REGISTERS TO POLISH PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION, EUROPEAN PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS AND ELECTIONS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS SHOULD BE AT LEAST EQUAL WITH THE NUMBER OF MEN. DO YOU SUPPORT THIS IDEA?



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Parity - a legal safeguard against under-representation of women in politics.", September 2010. Fieldwork for national sample: August 2010, N=986. 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):

- ◆ Local Elections 2010
- ◆ Preferred and Actual Housing Conditions
- ◆ Party Preferences in September
- ◆ Attitude to Government
- ◆ Social Moods in September
- ◆ Presidential Election in the Shadow of Smolensk Air Disaster
- ◆ Opinions About Public Institutions
- ◆ Trust in Politicians in September
- ◆ Public Opinion About the Events Outside Presidential Palace, so-called 'Defenders of the Cross' and their Opponents
- ◆ Public Opinion About Polish-Russian Relations
- ◆ Local Elections - Significance and Declared Participation

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