

## CONTENTS:

- INTEREST IN ELECTIONS TO EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT
- ATTITUDE TO OTHER NATIONALITIES
- INTERPERSONAL TRUST
- HOLIDAY TRAVEL IN 2013

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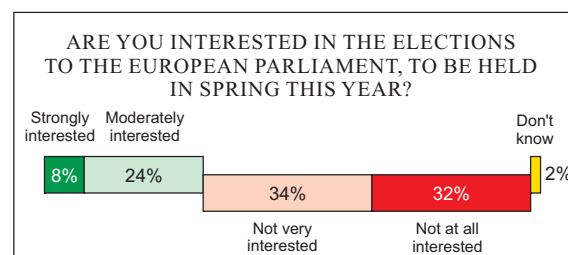
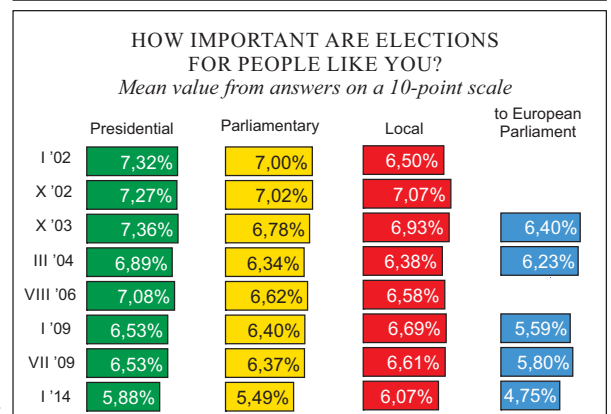
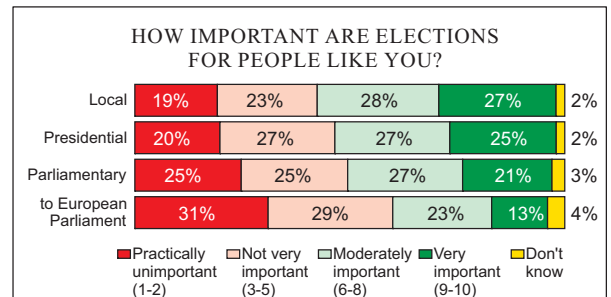
## INTEREST IN ELECTIONS TO EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

In May 2014, elections to the European Parliament will take place. It will be the third time that Poles will vote in them. So far, European elections did not attract a lot of interest in the Polish society. In the first EP vote, in 2004, the turnout was only 20.87%. It was lower than in most countries of the EU; out of 25 countries where the vote was held, Polish turnout was second lowest, ahead of Slovakia only. In the subsequent election, in 2009, the turnout was only slightly higher, at 24.53%. The survey indicates that this time it will be very low as well.

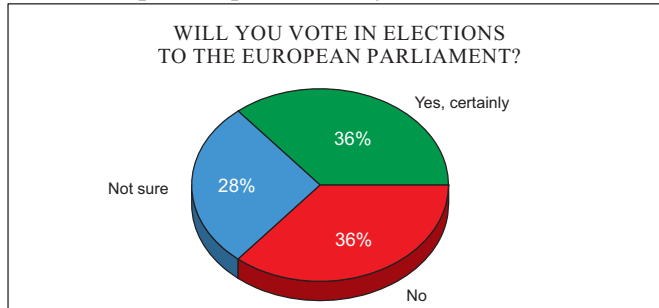
Poles do not consider the EP election to be especially important. In their opinion, it is the least important of the elections held in Poland. It is considered by far less significant than the vote on national and regional level (parliamentary, presidential and local). Only about one-third (36%) of people eligible to vote consider it important who will be elected from Poland to the European Parliament. The majority (60%) dismiss this vote's significance, attaching low (29%) or even negligible (31%) importance. From the perspective of Polish citizens, the most important are local elections (55%), followed by presidential (52%) and parliamentary (48%).

Current evaluation of the significance of the EP election is lower than ever before. It is worth noting that European elections were considered most important before Poland's EU accession. Later on, their perceived importance declined strongly. This drop was particularly steep since the last EP election. Compared with January 2009, i.e. the time before the previous vote, the proportion of respondents considering the election as important declined by 14 percentage points (from 50% to 36%), while the average score on a 10-point scale fell by 1.05 points. This decrease in perceived significance of the elections to the European Parliament is related not only to their specificity, but also to a more general tendency of decline in importance of representative bodies, as perceived by the public opinion. This tendency is gaining in strength.

So far, the Polish society is not very interested in the approaching elections to the European Parliament. According to declarations, about a third of adult Poles (32%) express interest.



Over one-third (36%) of eligible voters declare their intention to vote in the EP election. A similar group (36%) claim that they will not go to the poll, while over a quarter (28%) do not yet know whether they will vote. Usually, actual turnout is much lower than the level declared in public opinion surveys.



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Interest in elections to European Parliament", February 2014. Fieldwork for national sample: January 2014, N=1046. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

## ATTITUDE TO OTHER NATIONALITIES

Czechs are at the top of the ranking of best-liked nationalities. Half of Poles have positive attitude to them. Slightly smaller groups express warm feelings for Italians, Slovaks, Spaniards and the Irish.

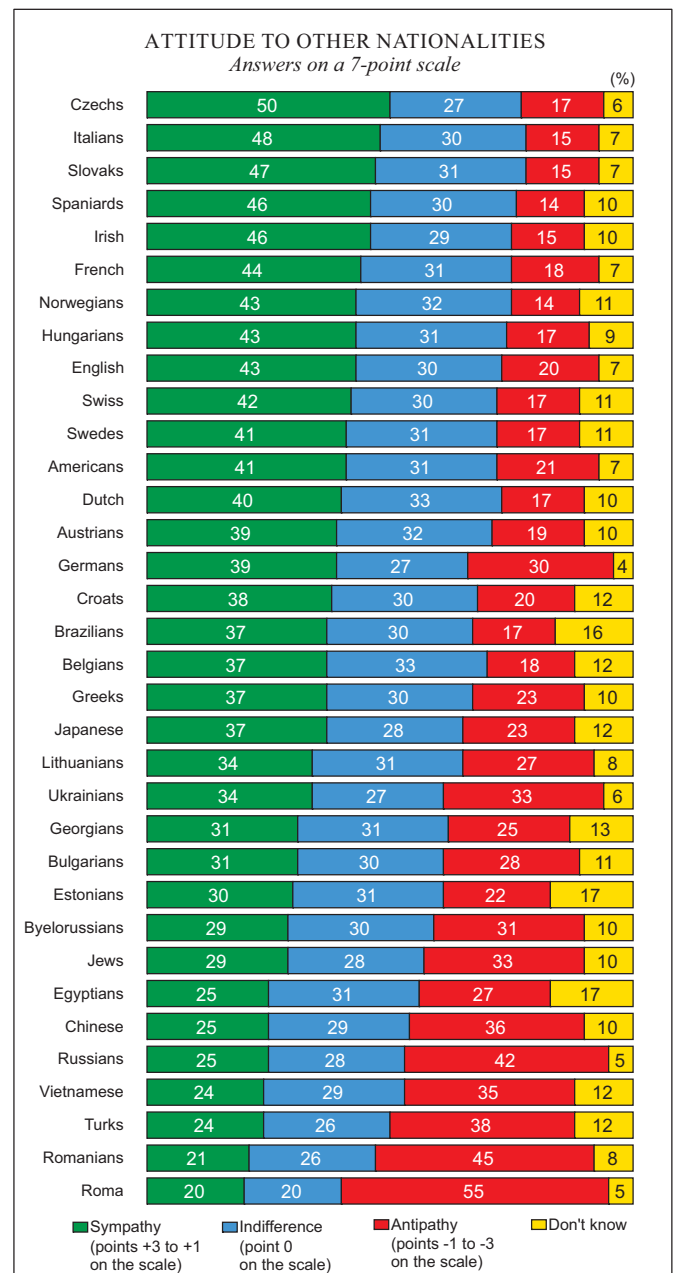
At least two-fifths of respondents have good feelings for the French, Norwegians, Hungarians, the English, the Swiss, Swedes, Americans, and the Dutch. Almost two-fifths are positive about Austrians, Germans, Croats, Brazilians, Belgians, Greeks and the Japanese. Sympathy for these nationalities is more widespread than antipathy. In case of Germans, the difference between positive and negative emotions is smaller than in other cases. About a third of respondents have good feelings for Lithuanians, Ukrainians, Georgians, Bulgarians and Estonians, with sympathy slightly more prevalent than antipathy in most cases.

Negative feelings prevail in attitudes to the other nationalities in the study. Their prevalence is relatively low in case of Byelorussians, Egyptians and Jews. Dominance of bad emotions is clear in attitudes to the Chinese, Russians, the Vietnamese, Turks, Romanians and Roma.

In the last year, the attitude to most nationalities in the study changed little; however, there is slight deterioration in most cases.

Attitude to other nationalities is influenced by a set of factors, among them: national stereotypes, current socio-political events, historical legacies and personal experience. For many years it has been clear that better attitudes were recorded for nationalities enjoying high

standard of living: they are a positive reference point. Poles identify with them and want to belong to this group. On the other hand, nationalities on lower level socio-economic development are a negative reference point: Poles separate themselves from them and express negative attitudes. From a long-term perspective, another relation is discernible. Some nationalities which used to be treated negatively, e.g. Roma, Romanians, Ukrainians, Bulgarians, and Byelorussians, are now better liked than 20 years ago. On the other hand, the attitude to some well-liked nationalities (e.g. Americans, the French) deteriorated.

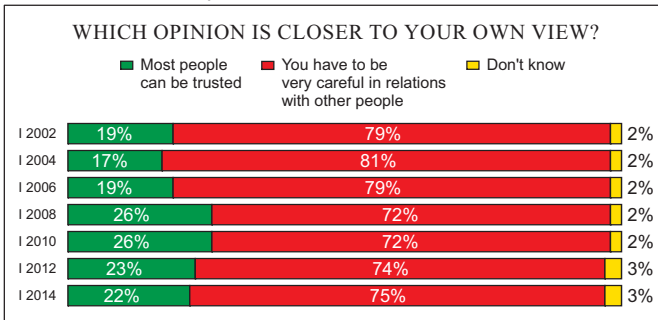


More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Attitude to other nationalities", February 2014. Fieldwork for national sample: January 2014, N=1067. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

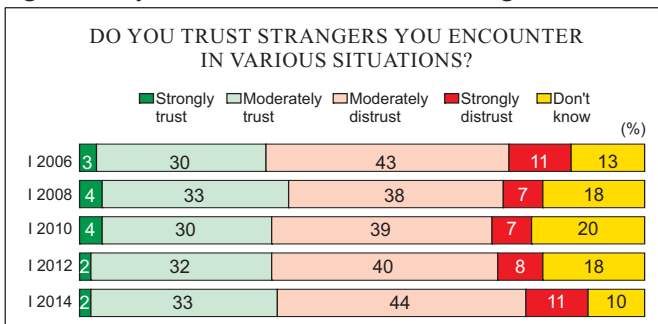
## INTERPERSONAL TRUST

Trust is one of the foundations of the society. Social capital in the form of trust in the relations with other people stimulates citizens' involvement in social and political life.

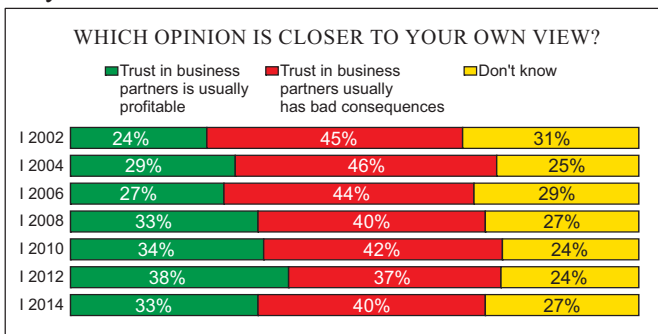
Poles much more commonly advocate vigilance in contacts with other people (75%) than openness to others (22%). The belief that most people can be trusted is expressed now a little more frequently than in 2002-2006, but less commonly than in 2008 and 2010.



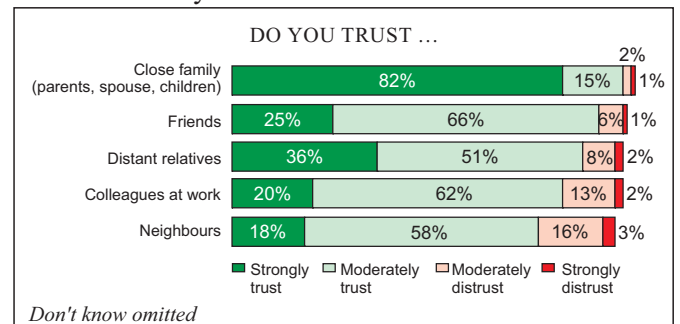
Only a little over one-third of respondents (35%) declare trust in strangers encountered in various situations. The majority (55%) do not trust them. In the last two years, distrust to strangers has increased significantly, but trust has remained unchanged.



Limited trust is also seen in business relations. One-third of respondents (33%) share the view that trusting business partners is usually profitable, while two-fifths (40%) think that excessive trust brings no good. After a brief increase two years ago, we have now noted a decline in the perception of profitability of trust in business relations. Nevertheless, its level is higher than in the years 2002-2006.



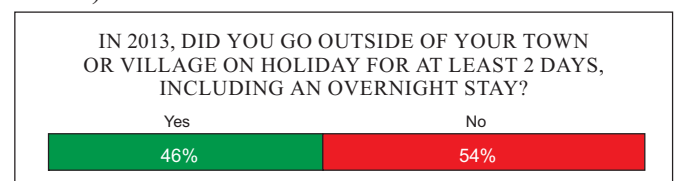
The general attitude of limited trust in interpersonal relations seems, in practice, to operate in relations with “strangers”, i.e. unknown people from whom we do not know what to expect. Relations with our immediate social circle, with the people we encounter in everyday life, are largely based on confidence. Poles trust their close family (97%), friends (91%) and distant relatives (87%). Only slightly smaller proportion of respondents declare trust in colleagues at work (82%) and neighbours (76%). However, while trust in parents, spouses and children is usually strong, corresponding attitude to distant relatives, colleagues, neighbours and friends is usually moderate.



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Interpersonal trust", February 2014. Fieldwork for national sample: January 2014, N=1067. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

## HOLIDAY TRAVEL IN 2013

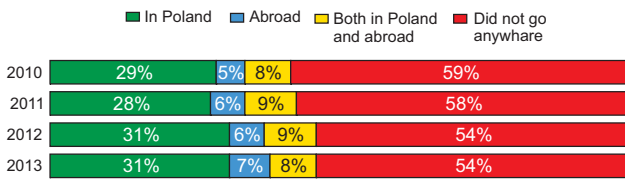
Although the majority of Poles (54%) planned to go on holiday, according to a survey from early 2013, eventually less than half (46%) of respondents went on vacation outside of their place of residence for at least 2 days. It is the same proportion as the year before. On average, Poles were on holiday for 15 days (mean is equal to 14.7).



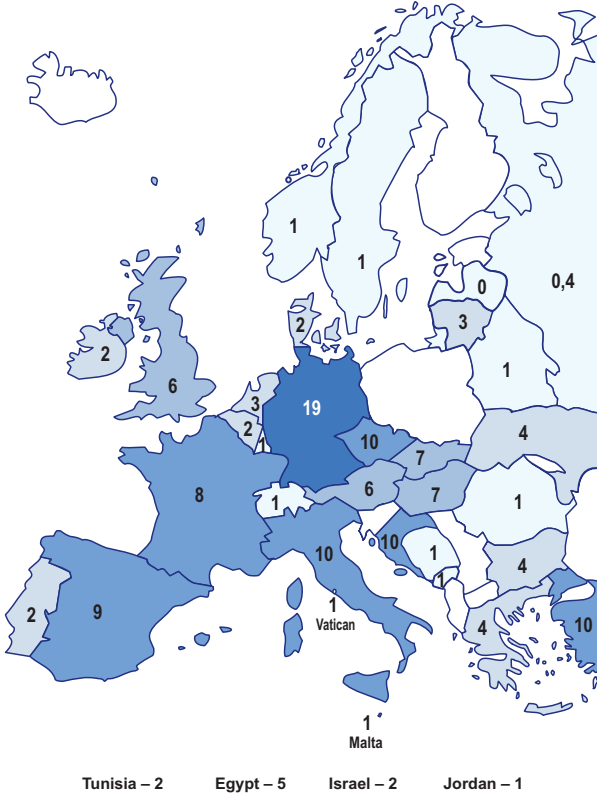
As in previous years, most common holiday destinations were in Poland (85% of holiday makers, i.e. 39% of all Poles). One-third of people who took vacation (15% of all Poles) went on holiday abroad. The results are almost identical to the data recorded in 2012.

Similarly to 2012, two-thirds of holidaymakers (67%, i.e. 31% of all respondents) travelled in Poland only. Close to one-fifth of people who took at least two days of holiday outside of their place of residence (18%, or 8% of the total) went both inland and abroad, while 15% (7% of the total) went on vacation abroad.

## WHERE DID YOU GO ON HOLIDAY?



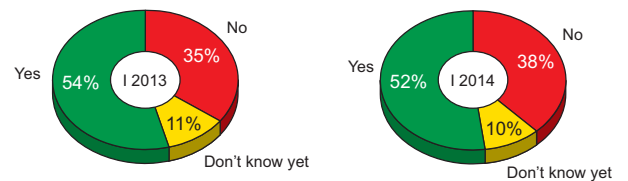
## PERCENTAGE OF HOLIDAYMAKERS TAKING VACATION ABROAD WHO WENT TO THE FOLLOWING COUNTRIES



Most travellers going outside of Poland on holiday chose European destinations. As in the previous year, the most popular country for holidaymakers was Germany (19% of travellers). Its popularity increased relative to 2012 by 5 percentage points. Croatia (10%) remained popular. The other countries on top of the ranking are: Italy (10%), Czech Republic (10%), Spain (9%) and France (8%). Turkey gained significantly in popularity (10%, 6-point increase), as did Hungary, to a smaller extent (7%, 3-point increase). In spite of the political turmoil in Egypt, its popularity as a holiday destination did not diminish significantly (5%, 1-point drop).

Holiday plans for 2014 are slightly less optimistic than in the previous year. More than half (52%) of respondents want to go vacation for at least two days this year, while almost two-fifths (38%) have no such plans, and one-tenth (10%) have not decided yet.

## THIS YEAR, DO YOU PLAN TO GO ON HOLIDAY FOR AT LEAST 2 DAYS, INCLUDING AN OVERNIGHT STAY?



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Holiday travel in 2013 and plans for 2014", February 2014. Fieldwork for national sample: January 2014, N=1067. 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):

- ◆ Opinions on Corruption and Standards in Public Life in Poland
- ◆ Religiousness and Moral Principles
- ◆ 25th Anniversary of Round Table Agreement
- ◆ Activities and Experiences in 2013
- ◆ Opinions on National Safety
- ◆ Party Preferences in February
- ◆ Attitude towards Protests in Ukraine
- ◆ The Poles about the Development of the Situation in Ukraine
- ◆ Opinions about Parliament and President
- ◆ Attitude to Government in February
- ◆ Social Moods in February
- ◆ Trust in Politicians in February
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