

Research Center

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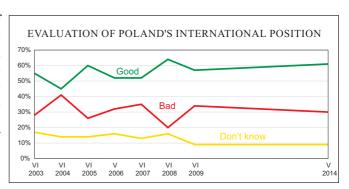
Translated by Michał Wenzel

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POLAND'S INTERNATIONAL POSITION

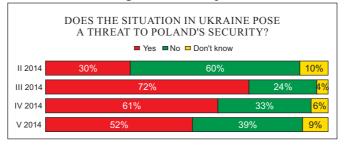
The majority of respondents (61%) evaluate Poland's international position positively. Negative opinions are half as prevalent (30%). In spite of the unstable situation in Ukraine, the opinions are now better than five years ago, after the beginning of the financial crisis. It is interesting to note that, after 2003, the opinions



were worst immediately after the EU accession, when there was a great deal of uncertainty about the consequences of membership. The best evaluations were noted in June 2008, several months after the coalition of Civic Platform and the Peasant Party (PO-PSL) formed the government. It was related to the change in the style of foreign policy introduced by this coalition, following the blunt rhetoric of the government of Jarosław Kaczyński, with its stress on the defence of Polish interests.

Analyses indicate that the opinions about international position of Poland are related to the perception of threat resulting from the destabilization of Ukraine and, more than anything else, on the attitude to the EU membership. Thus, Poland's international position is perceived in a broader context determined by membership in NATO and, above all, the European Union.

Recent events in Ukraine caused a great deal of anxiety in Poland. The strongest fears were recorded during the Russian operation of takeover of Crimea. At that time, in March,



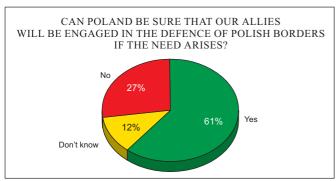
almost three-quarters of Poles (72%) shared the opinion that the situation in Ukraine was a threat to Poland's security. In subsequent months the anxiety subsided to 61% in April and 52% in the present moment.

People perceiving the situation in Ukraine as a threat to

Poland evaluate Poland's international position much worse than respondents who do not consider events beyond the eastern border as a threat. Importantly, in both groups positive evaluations of Poland's international position prevail (accordingly 53% and 74%).

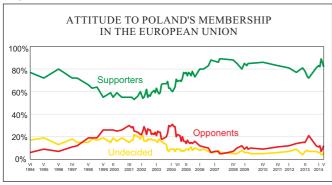
The events in Ukraine caused an increase in the support for Poland's membership in NATO: the proportion of respondents supporting Poland's membership in this organization increased from 52% to 81% in the period from February to April 2014, reaching the level never recorded before. The most recent survey confirms that Poles attach a lot of confidence in the alliance. Most (61%) think that Poland can be sure of allied engagement in border defence in case of armed conflict, while a quarter (27%) have doubts.

The conviction that Poland, in case of external threat, may count on the help of its NATO allies improves the perception of international security. Respondents declaring confidence in NATO predominantly have a positive opinion about Poland's international position (72%). People who have doubts about our alllies are divided in their opinions (46%) positive, 48% negative).



The destabilization in Ukraine caused the increase in support for the membership in the European Union. In March, when the fears related to the situation beyond the eastern border was strongest, the proportion of people in favour of Poland's membership in the EU reached 89%, which was the level noted never before. In subsequent months the support subsided slightly, but, at 82%, it remains higher than in 2012-2013.

The attitude to the European integration has strong influence on the evaluation of Poland's international position. Those in favour of EU membership have positive opinion about Poland's international position (69%), while the opponents hold a negative view (72%).



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "International situation and the security of Poland", June 2014. Fieldwork for national sample: May 2014, N=1074. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

SECURITY INLAND AND IN THE PLACE OF RESIDENCE

Police statistics indicate that the number of criminal acts in Poland has declined. In the year 2013 the crime rate was lower than in 2012, and far lower than a decade ago. The positive trend is confirmed by public opinion research.

In the opinion of the majority of respondents (70%), Poland is a safe country to live. This conviction strengthened in the course of the last year. From a long-term perspective, the trend varied. From 1989 onwards, the subjective safety deteriorated, reaching lowest level

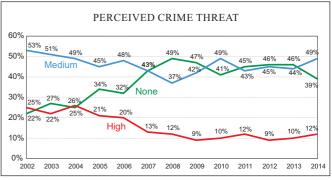
in 2001. In the following years, the situation improved. In the previous decade, the number of people considering Poland as a safe country increased more than two-fold, and current evaluations are among the best recorded since 1989.



As in previous surveys, Poles evaluate the safety of their neighbourhood better than in the country as a whole. The perception of safety in the place of residence is good and has remained stable for years. At present, nine-tenths (90%) of respondents feel safe around their home. Residents of rural areas feel safest, while people living in big cities feel least secure.



Over two-fifths of respondents (45%) are afraid that they may be victims of a crime; however, only a few (5%) are very concerned about this. The fear is more widespread about members of the family (55%, in which 10% are very concerned).



Taking into account the answers to both questions, an index of subjective crime threat was calculated. Two-fifths of respondents (39%) feel no threat either for themselves or their family members. Almost half of respondents (49%) express concern in either one of these areas, without being strongly worried.

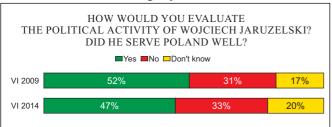
Relatively few people (12%) are very concerned about crime. Compared with last year, the proportion of respondents who have no concerns decreased, while the number of those feeling moderately anxious increased.

More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Security inland and in the place of residence", June 2014. Fieldwork for national sample: April 2014, N=1028. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

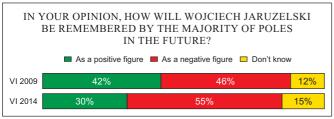
OPINIONS ABOUT WOJCIECH JARUZELSKI

General Wojciech Jaruzelski died in May 2014. He introduced the martial law, but also initiated the Round Table agreements and became the first president of the independent Poland. He was buried at the Pawazki cemetery with military honours, which caused protests of his opponents. The disturbances accompanied the ceremony itself. These controversies revived the unfinished discussion about his role in the history of Poland.

Poles are divided in their opinions about general Jaruzelski. Almost half (47%) think he served Poland well, while a third (33%) express the opposite opinion. One-fifth cannot judge him as a politician. The evaluation of the political activity of Wojciech Jaruzelski has not changed significantly in the last 5 years. Since 2009, the number of respondents positively judging his service for Poland has diminished slightly.



Although the plurality of respondents have a positive opinion about Jaruzelski's service, the opinions about collective memory about him are different. The majority (55%) think he will be remembered by the society as a negative figure, while less than a third (30%) think he will be remembered positively. The belief that the collective memory will perpetuate the negative image of Wojciech Jaruzelski is now more common than five years ago.



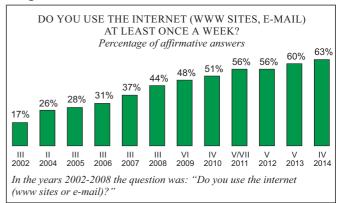
Assessing the historical role of Wojciech Jaruzelski is inextricably linked to his decision to introduce martial law in Poland in December 1981. Almost half of respondents (46%) believe that it was the correct decision, while one-third (32%) disagree. The conviction that it was the right decision is less widespread than in the 1990s and early 2000s.



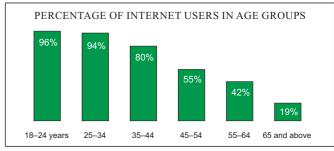
More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Opinions about Wojciech Jaruzelski", June 2014. Fieldwork for national sample: June 2014, N=1044. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

INTERNET USE IN 2014

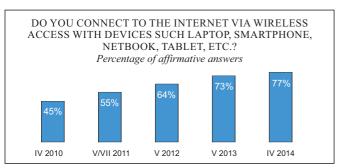
Since 2010, the majority of Poles have used the internet. In recent years the proportion of regular users has grown.



Age is the factor determining internet use to the largest extent. Almost all young respondents (up to the age 34) use the web, as do the vast majority of people in the 35-44 age bracket. Internet use is least common among the oldest respondents.



Every year, the popularity of mobile devices and wireless access increases.



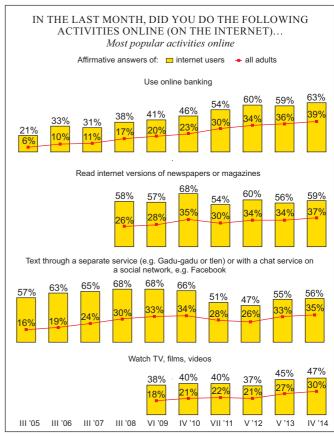
The range of internet-based activities is wide. In the month preceding the survey, more than one-third of internet users (36%, or one fifth of all adults) shopped online. In the long-term perspective, there is increased interest in shopping online.

With every year, the proportion of users of online banking increases. At present, two-thirds of internet users (63%, or two fifths of all Poles) use such services. The popularity of paid access to content remains low: in the last month, 10% of users bought it. Almost two-fifths of users (37%, i.e. a quarter of all adults) downloaded free software, music or films.

In the month preceding the survey, almost two-fifths of all adults, or three-fifths of internet users (59%) read newspapers or magazines online. Almost one-third of adults, which means close to half of internet users (47%), watch TV, films or videos on the web. Compared with previous years, the number of online viewers has increased. The percentage of people listening to radio on the net remains stable (one-fifth of all adults, or 34% of internet users). In recent years there has been an increase in the number of people who publish online their films or pictures. In the month preceding the survey, over a quarter (26%) of internet users, or one-sixth of all adults published such materials. The proportion of internet users who write a blog or have their own web page remains stable at 6%.

In the month before the survey was conducted, over half of internet users (56%, or about one-third of all

respondents) used a texting service which is either a separate program or a part of another web page. More people than ever before (39% of web users, or a quarter of all adults) telephoned over the internet. One—third of web users (33%, or a fifth of all adults) wrote something on a forum or on a social network site. Compared with other forms of communication, playing games online is less popular, being done by a fifth of internet users.



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Internet use in 2014", June 2014. Fieldwork for national sample: April 2014, N=1028. 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):

- ◆ Tax Dilemmas of the Poles
- Visiting Religious Websites and Internet Portals
- Party Preferences after Elections to the European Parliament
- Opinions about Public Institutions
- Attitude to Government at the Beginning of June
- Social Moods at the Beginning of June
- Trust in Politicians at the Beginning of June
- Is It Worth to Stay in OFE (Open Pension Funds)?
- Interest in World Cup 2014 and Opinions about Social Impact of Organization Such Events
- ◆ Polish School AD 2014

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