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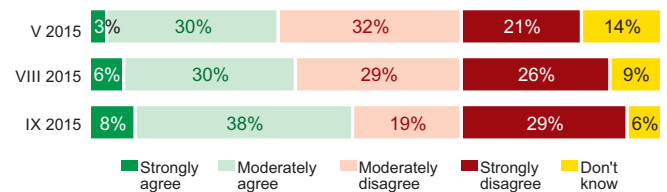
TO THE REPORTS REFERRED TO ABOVE, THE FOLLOWING HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED RECENTLY (IN POLISH):

- Poles about Referendum Decried by President Bronislaw Komorowski
- Attitudes towards Refugees in the Context of Migration Crisis in Europe
- Voters Decisions
- Use of Mobile Phones
- The Self-portrait of Poles and Perceived Cultural Distance toward Neighbours
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## Attitude to refugees

Polish society is divided in its opinions about refugees from Africa and the Middle East. Similar numbers of respondents support and oppose receiving them. However, it has to be stressed that the proportion of Poles who support accepting refugees coming now to Europe has increased since August by 11 percentage points.

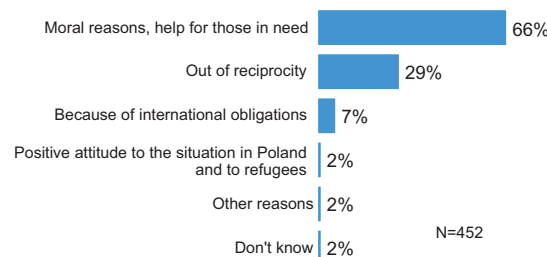
**Do you agree that Poland should accept some of the refugees coming from the Middle East and Africa to Europe?**



Opinions about accepting refugees from the Middle East and Africa are differentiated by age. The younger the respondents are, the more often they oppose accepting refugees from these regions. Most respondents below 35 oppose it (60% in the age group 18-24 and 56% in the age group 25-34). Opinions are also differentiated by per capita income. A majority (61%) of the wealthiest support letting Middle Eastern and African migrants come to Poland, while among the poorest only 37% share this opinion.

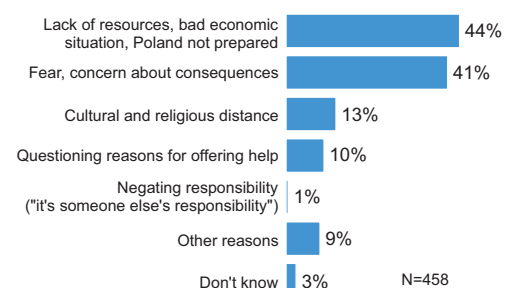
Respondents were asked to justify their support or opposition to receiving refugees from the Middle East and Africa. The most important motives for the acceptance of a part of the refugees are humanitarian concerns, i.e. the conviction that it is necessary to help those in need. More than a quarter of respondents supporting their reception invoke the principle of reciprocity. Moreover, some supporters mentioned international obligations or expressed positive opinions about the situation in Poland or about the consequences of accepting refugees.

**Why should Poland accept refugees from the Middle East and Africa?**



The most common justification for rejecting the influx of refugees from the Middle East and Africa is the lack of resources and preparedness, which makes it impossible to help them. Almost as commonly mentioned were threats caused by the presence of refugees, e.g. respondents were concerned about Islamisation of Poland and Europe, terrorism, crime, competition on the labour market and social conflicts. One-eighth of the opponents mentioned cultural and religious distance from these migrants

**Why shouldn't Poland accept refugees from the Middle East and Africa?**



which, while not dangerous, justifies distance. One-tenth doubt the sense of offering help.

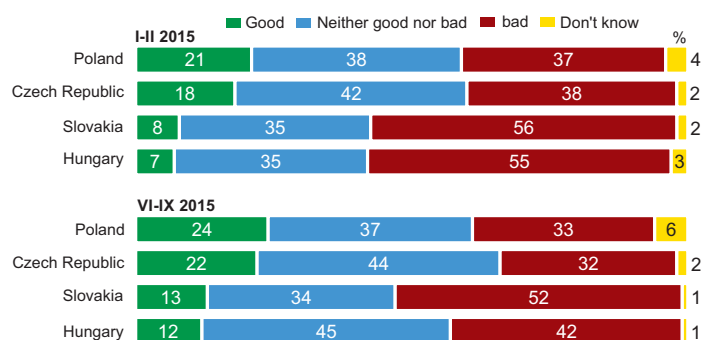
More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Opinions about Refugees on the Eve of EU Summit Dedicated to Migrant Crisis", September 2015. Fieldwork for national sample: September 2015, N=972. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

## Evaluations of economic situation and material living conditions in Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia and Hungary

Poles and Czechs are more satisfied with the economic situation in their countries than Slovaks and Hungarians. Opinions in Poland and Czech Republic are comparable: about a third of residents in each of these countries evaluate the economy as bad, more than one-fifth have a positive opinion and the plurality are ambivalent, assessing the condition of the economy as neither good nor bad. Slovaks have the worst opinion about their country's economy: the majority think it is in bad shape.

Since the beginning of the year the opinions about the economic situation have improved in all four countries. The rise is strongest in Hungary, as the proportion of positive opinions has increased by 5 percentage points, with a 13-point decline in negative evaluations.

### Evaluation of economic situation

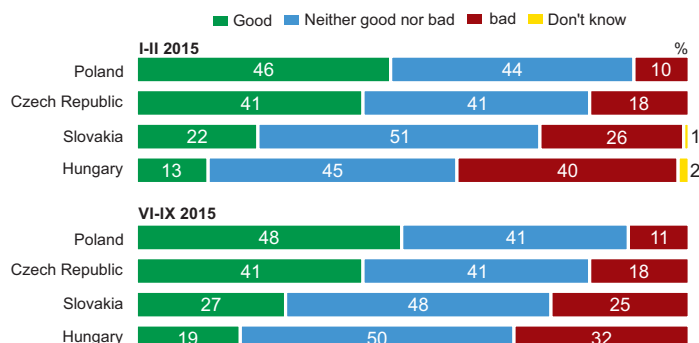


Evaluation of household material living conditions varies in the Visegrad countries. Poles are the most satisfied: almost half assess their conditions as good. In Czech Republic similar proportions of people think their conditions are good and assess them as average (neither good nor bad). In Slovakia equal numbers are satisfied and dissatisfied, while in Hungary the dissatisfied are more numerous than the satisfied.

Evaluations of household material living conditions in Poland and Czech Republic have changed little since the beginning of the year. In Slovakia and Hungary, on the

other hand, satisfaction with material situation has increased. The change has been particularly positive in Hungary, where the proportion of positive evaluations of material living conditions has increased by 6 percentage points and negatives have decreased by 8 points.

### Evaluation of household material living conditions



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Evaluations and Forecasts of Economic Situation and Living Conditions of Households in Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia and Hungary", September 2015. Fieldwork for national sample in Poland: August 2015, N=1040; Czech Republic (CVVM Sociological Institute): June 2015, N=982; Hungary (TARKI): July 2015, N=1001; Slovakia (FOCUS): September 2015, N=1003. The samples are representative for adult populations.

## Perception of Poland's neighbours

The attitude of Poles to neighbours is differentiated. It is best towards Czechs and Slovaks, to whom about half express positive feelings, and worst towards Russians, approached positively by about one-fifth of respondents. In order to detect what lies at the source of this attitude, an open question was asked in which respondents enumerated typical attributes of neighbouring nationalities. On this basis, stereotypical images of residents of states bordering Poland can be drawn.

About half of respondents (51%) have some image of a typical Czech. It is dominated by qualities related to good-natured character: he is perceived as a happy, smiling, person with a good sense of humour (16%). A typical Czech, in Polish view, is a good, helpful person (7%), nice and polite (7%). Czechs are considered to be beer-drinkers (5%). Just as often, Polish people think that Czechs enjoy life, like to have fun (4%). The other positive qualities associated with Czechs are: openness and tolerance (3%), hard work (2%), pragmatism, and entrepreneurship (2%), as well as being good neighbours (2%). Negative qualities appeared relatively rarely. Some respondents consider Czechs to be bad neighbours, hostile towards us (2%).

Although attitudes to Czechs and Slovaks are very similar, characterising a typical Slovak was more difficult than describing an average Czech. Almost two-thirds of respondents (63%) could not give any characteristic attributes. The remainder most commonly think that a typical Slovak, is happy, merry and good-natured (7%), nice and polite (7%), as well as helpful, friendly and good (6%). Less commonly, respondents mentioned such qualities as: hard-working (2%), enterprising, clever (2%), open and tolerant (2%), positive towards us (2%), enjoying life (2%). There are no negative traits in the image of a typical Slovak.

Stereotypical image of Poland's western neighbours is clearer: only 23% of respondents have no mental associations with a typical German. His primary attributes are related to order and discipline. In this group there are traits such as: exact, well-organised, disciplined, orderly, punctual, law-abiding (27% altogether). Most of these references were positive or neutral, but sometimes this "German order" appeared in a negative context. Some respondents characterized a typical German as pedantic, stiff, unable to improvise (3% in total). Other frequent traits are: hard work (14%) and trustworthiness, being honest and reliable (14%). Another commonly mentioned attribute is entrepreneurship and industriousness. In this context respondents think that Germans are thrifty, pragmatic and resourceful (12%). A smaller group characterised Germans as nice, polite and cultured (7%). Less frequently there appeared such characteristics as: good, friendly, helpful, sensitive (4%) and open, tolerant (2%). Some respondents described Germans as self-assured, confident, decisive (5%). Others focused on their appearance, saying they are tidy and neat (3%). In their image there are also such positive traits as: patriotism (2%), intelligence and competence (2%). In the answers there were references to high living standards, wealth (4%). Among the negative traits associated with Germans are conceit and arrogance (7%). A smaller proportion spoke about bad relations between Poles and Germans (3%), and described Germans as unpleasant, impolite (3%). They are sometimes seen as serious and lacking a sense of humour (2%). Other negative descriptions are: stingy, mean with money, excessively economical (2%).

Respondents had severe difficulties describing a typical Lithuanian: seven-tenths (71%) had no associations at all. The others most commonly mentioned hostile attitude of Lithuanians to Poles living in Lithuania. In this context they referred to their negative attitudes to Poland and Poles, or absence of good relations (6%). The catalogue of negative traits includes such as: unpleasant, rude (2% in total), vengeful, envious, quarrelsome, intransigent (2% altogether). Some positive traits associated with Lithuanians are: good, friendly, helpful (3%), nice, polite (2%), hard-working (2%).

## Images of Poland's neighbours

### Typical Czech

Don't know

Hard-working  
Similar to us  
**Sense of humour**  
Nice  
Bad neighbour  
Good neighbour  
Good  
Beer-drinker  
Open, tolerant  
Enjoying life  
Clever  
Normal  
Unemotional

### Typical Slovak

Don't know

Good neighbour  
Clever  
**Sense of humour**  
Good  
Nice  
Open, tolerant  
Similar to us  
Hard-working  
Enjoying life  
Normal

### Typical German

Don't know

Decisive  
Trustworthy  
Bad neighbour  
Clever  
Orderly  
Nice  
Rich  
Stingy  
Tidy  
Good  
Hard-working  
Patriot  
Open, tolerant  
Conceited  
Stiff  
Normal  
Historical associations  
Unpleasant  
Educated, intelligent  
Unemotional  
Lacks sense of humour

### Typical Lithuanian

Don't know

Similar to us  
Unpleasant  
Good  
Evil  
Nice  
Bad neighbour  
Hard-working  
Normal

### Typical Ukrainian

Don't know

Nice  
Hard working  
Poor  
Brave  
Good  
Evil  
Dishonest, insincere  
Intimidated, frightened  
Cheat  
Similar to us  
Bad neighbour  
Historical associations  
Unpleasant  
Decisive  
Normal  
Unpredictable

*Properties mentioned by at least 2% of respondents*

The image of a Ukrainian is quite distinct and complex. Only less than two-fifths of respondents declared ignorance in this matter. According to annual CBOS surveys on attitudes to other nationalities, the attitude to Ukrainians is highly polarized: the groups of people declaring sympathy and antipathy are almost equal. This

ambivalence is reflected in answers to the question about attributes of a typical representative of this nationality. On the one hand, Ukrainians are perceived as hard-working (6%), good, friendly, (5%), nice, pleasant (4%), brave, courageous (4%), strong, decisive (3%). On the other hand, the image of Ukrainians bears many negative qualities. Some respondents perceive Ukrainians as evil, vengeful, envious, ruthless (10%), dishonest, fake in manner (4%), hostile, mean-spirited, quarrelsome (3%), corrupt, lawless (2%), unpredictable (2%), bad neighbours in general, with negative attitude to Poles (3%). Some respondents referred to difficult material situation of the Ukrainian people (4%). A number of answers contained references to current events in Ukraine. Ukrainians were described as subjugated, persecuted, they were called a nation striving for peace and freedom (5%). There were also references to difficult events in Polish-Ukrainian history (3%).

Most respondents (62%) were unable to name typical qualities of a Belarussian. Respondents relatively frequently questioned the existence of a stereotype when it comes to Belarussians: they said that there are all kinds of Belarussians, or that they are ordinary, grey, average (5%). The other respondents, when naming typical traits, usually called them good people, friendly and good-natured (4%), hard-working (4%), not very wealthy or even poor, living in bad material conditions (4%), similar to us (4%). According to other opinions, they are intimidated, frightened, subordinated by the authorities in a non-democratic country (4%). Some respondents referred to current events (3%), sometimes mentioning the president of Belarus. Positive traits associated with Belarussians include: nice and polite (3%), honest and sincere (2%), clever (2%), hospitable (2%). Among negative traits are: uneducated, simple (2%), drunks, people who abuse alcohol (2%).

In the attitude to Russians there is an ambivalence of evaluations which can be summarised by the phrase: the people are good, their government is bad. A third of respondents (35%) could not name any attributes of a typical Russian. The remainder commonly characterized people of that nationality by reference to drink and lack of moderation in its consumption (10%). Somewhat less frequently, the associations with Russians concerned unequivocally negative traits, such as: evil, cruel, vengeful, envious, ruthless (8%). Slightly less often a

## Images of Poland's neighbours

### Typical Belarussian

Hospitable Nice  
 Good Similar to us  
 Hard-working Normal Poor Heavy drinker  
 Trustworthy Intimidated, frightened  
 Clever Associations with current situation

### Typical Russian

Brave Cheat Good Nationalist, occupant  
 Poor Decisive Evil Easily manipulated  
 Conceited Nice Heavy drinker Relaxed  
 Enjoying life Bad neighbour Unpleasant  
 Hospitable Trustworthy Normalny Dishonest, insincere  
 Open, tolerant Emotional Intimidated, frightened  
 Associations with current situation

*Properties mentioned by at least 2% of respondents*

typical Russian is seen as someone good, friendly, warm, benevolent (6%), as well as polite, nice and cultured (4%). Russians are also seen as strong, decisive, resolute, stubborn and self-assured (5%), as well as emotional (2%). Some of the other positive traits of Russians are: the ability to enjoy life, have fun, be careless (3%), openness, ability to compromise (2%), hospitality (2%), calm nature and happiness (2%). Sporadically respondents mentioned bad material situation of Russians (2%). Among their negative characteristics are: intolerance, xenophobia, imperialistic tendencies (4%). Some people referred to Polish-Russian relations, claiming that Russians are bad neighbours (4%). Others think that Russians are easily manipulated by propaganda (5%), suppressed and intimidated by the authorities (2%) or referred to the current political situation in Russia (2%). Other negative descriptions of Russians are: impolite, arrogant, rude (4%), dishonest or fake in behaviour (3%), conceited, too self-assured (3%) and references to lawlessness and lack of respect for law: cheat, thief, thug, fraud (2%).

More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "How Do We Perceive People from Neighbouring Countries", September 2015. Fieldwork for national sample: July 2015 (N=1044) and August 2015 (N=1040). The random address samples are representative for adult population of Poland.

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