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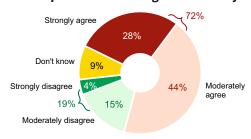
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Opinions about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict intensified last autumn. After Hamas, i.e. the Islamist organization that has controlled the Palestinian Gaza Strip for several years, launched a surprise attack on Israel in early October, Israel responded with a large-scale invasion on the aggressor's territory, which continues to this day and is aimed at the complete destruction of Hamas. Very early on, the conflict also began to arouse huge controversy abroad, polarizing public opinion in many Western countries. The war in the Middle East was also an important topic of conversation among Poles. The November CBOS survey showed that it was mentioned less often than the problems of high prices and difficulties in access to doctors, which more directly affect Polish society, and slightly more often than the ongoing war in Ukraine, occurring beyond our borders.

From the first days of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the opinion was voiced that it could quickly expand. The possibility of Hezbollah, another Islamist organization based in Lebanon and supported by Iran, joining the war was particularly feared. Active involvement of Iran would, in turn, force the United States to react clearly and would threaten an uncontrolled escalation of the conflict. Such a scenario is considered possible by the vast majority of

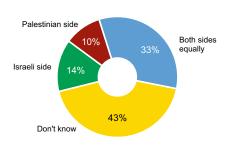
Do you agree that the Israeli-Palestinian conflict poses a threat to global security?



Pro-Israel sympathies slightly predominate in Polish society (14%), compared to 10% who have a more favourable attitude towards the Palestinian side. It is worth emphasizing, however, that people with clear views on the war are a minority. The dominant answers here are "don't know" (43%) and declarations of sympathy for both sides to an equal extent (33%).

respondents (72%), and only less than one-fifth (19%) reject this possibility. It is worth noting that after the outbreak of the war in Ukraine, a very similar percentage of Poles (75%) considered the Russian invasion a threat to global security, although it obviously posed a more immediate threat to Poland than the war in the Middle East.

Which side of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict do you sympathize with more?



In November, the YouGov research centre asked respondents from Great Britain and the United States the question about their sympathies towards the parties to the conflict. In both of these countries, the percentages of "don't know" answers were significantly lower than in Poland (31% in the UK and 21% in the USA), so more people had strong opinions about the ongoing conflict in the Middle East. In

Great Britain, pro-Israel and pro-Palestinian sympathies were at the same level in November (19%), although even before the October attack by Hamas (when the Israeli-Palestinian conflict remained relatively dormant), pro-Palestinian sentiments prevailed. In the United States, the predominance of pro-Israel sympathies was even more pronounced than in Poland (37% compared to 15% pro-Palestinian sympathies).

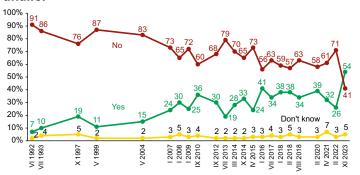
Among Poles, pro-Israel sympathies significantly outweigh pro-Palestinian sympathies among men (18% vs. 10% of pro-Palestinian sympathies), respondents aged 55-64 (18% vs. 6%) and people with higher education (18% vs. 9%). Pro-Palestinian sympathies are clearly more common among the youngest respondents (19% compared to 6% of pro-Israel sympathies) and among school and university students (26% compared to 3%).

More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Poles' Opinions about the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict", December 2023. Fieldwork dates for the sample: December 2023, N=961, mixed-mode interviews. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

Perception of influence on public affairs

On October 15, elections to the Sejm and Senate were held in Poland, as a result of which, after eight years of rule by Law and Justice (PiS), the coalition of the Civic Coalition (KO), the Third Way and the New Left took power in Poland. This contributed to strengthening Poles' sense of civic subjectivity. After the October elections, over half of Poles (54%) believe that ordinary people can influence the course of affairs in the country. In the minority (41%) are those who do not have a sense of agency and claim that what is happening in the country does not depend on them or people like them. The current declarations are the best since 1992, when we first conducted research on the sense of civic subjectivity. Never before has the sense of citizens' agency on national issues been as great as it is now, and what is more, until now, Poles have been more or less convinced that ordinary citizens, i.e. people like them, have no influence on the course of events in the country.

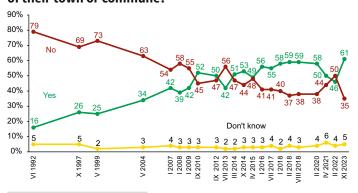
Do you think people like you have influence on the national affairs?



Currently, men (58%) are more likely than women (50%) to believe that citizens can influence Poland's affairs. The sense of civic subjectivity is clearly fostered by younger age, higher level of education, as well as higher per capita income and positive assessments of one's own financial situation. The people most likely to feel positive about the ability of citizens to influence what is happening in our country are young people, between 18 and 24 years of age (68%), respondents with a university degree (66%), residents of large cities from 100,000 to 500,000 (64%) and the largest metropolitan areas over 500,000 (65%), respondents assessing their financial conditions as good (60%) and those declaring income per person in the family of over PLN 4,000 (64%).

For years, Poles have been more likely to be convinced of the possibility of ordinary citizens influencing what is happening in their immediate surroundings (a city or commune) than what is happening at the national level. Also currently, more people have a sense of agency at the local level than at the national level. Three-fifths of respondents (61%) believe that they can influence what is happening in their city or commune. People who feel helpless in this respect are in the minority (35%). Also in this dimension, current ratings are definitely better than those last recorded, in February 2022, and also slightly better than the best ones recorded so far.

Do you think people like you have influence on the affairs of their town or commune?



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Citizens' Sense of Influence on Public Affairs", December 2023. Fieldwork dates for the sample: November 2023, N=1072, mixed-mode interviews. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

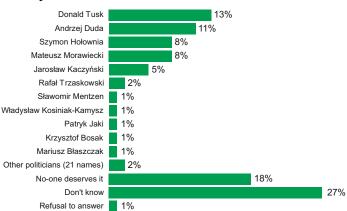
Politician of the year 2023 in Poland and in the world

In public opinion, the title of politician of the year 2023 goes to the leader of the main party of the coalition winning the autumn elections, Prime Minister Donald Tusk. He was chosen for this title by 13% of all respondents. The second place, with a slight distance to the Prime Minister, was taken by the winner of last year's ranking, President Andrzej Duda (11%). High places in the ranking were taken by the new Speaker of the Sejm, the

leader of Poland 2050 Szymon Hołownia and former Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki (8% of votes each). The leader of PiS Jarosław Kaczyński also achieved a good result (5%).

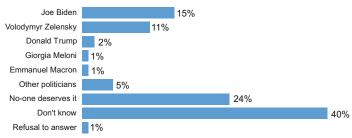
Nearly half of respondents (46%) did not name any person who, in their opinion, deserved the title of the politician of the year. Among them, the largest group were respondents declaring no interest in politics and no opinion on the subject (27%). Fewer Poles, i.e. less than one-fifth (18%), believed that none of the representatives of the domestic political scene they knew stood out in a positive way in the past year.

Which Polish politician deserves the title of the politician of the year 2023?



Poles awarded the title of world politician of the year 2023 to US President Joe Biden. This was the opinion of one-seventh of respondents (15%). The previous winner, President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky, was in second place in the ranking. He was recognized as the politician of the year 2023 by 11% of respondents. In terms of the number of votes obtained, both leaders outclassed all other representatives of world politics. Choosing a politician of the year among representatives of the international political scene poses even more difficulties for respondents than selecting the most outstanding representative of domestic politics. In December 2023, two-fifths (40%) had a problem with this, and another quarter (24%) believed that none of the foreign politicians they knew deserved this name.

Which foreign politician active on the world arena deserves the title of the politician of the year 2023?



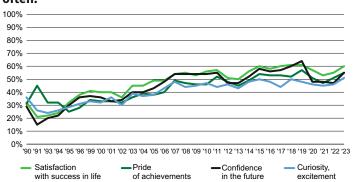
More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Politician of the Year 2023 in Poland and in the World", January 2024. Fieldwork dates for the sample: December 2023, N=961, mixed-mode interviews. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

Subjective well-being of Poles in 2023

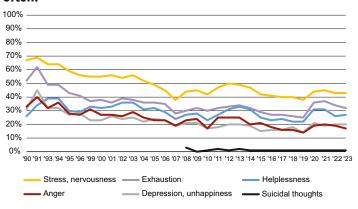
In 2023, Poles most often felt satisfied that they had achieved something (60%). More than half felt proud of their achievements (55%) and confident that everything was going well (55%). Slightly fewer people (51%) said that they were often curious about something, interested or excited. Experiencing negative emotions was less frequently reported. Among them, the most commonly experienced were nervousness and irritability: 43% of respondents felt it many times in the past year. One-third (32%) often felt discouraged and tired, and more than one-fourth (27%) felt helpless. Every fifth respondent in 2022 was unhappy many times (20%), and slightly fewer people (17%) were angry. Some respondents (1%) had suicidal thoughts.

Compared to 2022 and, more broadly, compared to the pandemic years, the well-being of Poles has improved. This is visible primarily in the increase in the frequency of positive emotions. There is a rise in the number of people declaring that in the past year they were often sure that everything was going well (an increase of 8 percentage points compared to 2022). More people often felt satisfied that something had been achieved in life (an increase of 5 points) and experienced curiosity and excitement (an increase of 5 points). The percentage of respondents who declared pride in their own achievements also rose (an increase of 4 points). The intensity of positive emotions (except for the certainty that everything is going well) is currently similar to that recorded in 2019, when Poles' well-being was the best in the entire period under study in Poland under its current system. While the intensity of experiencing positive emotions has increased significantly over the last year, the intensity of experiencing negative emotions has not changed much during this time. There was a slight decrease in the number of respondents declaring that in the past year they often felt discouraged and tired (down by 2 points) and the proportion of people admitting that during this time they were often overcome with anger (down by 2 points).

Respondents declaring they felt the following emotions often:



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Statistical analyses confirm that mental well-being depends largely on the material situation. The better the assessment of material living conditions, the better one's well-being.

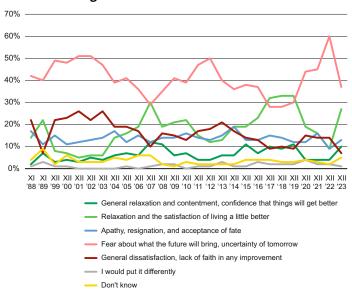
The analysis of the experience of emotions shows that people in the worst financial situation not only feel negative emotions more often and positive feelings less frequently than better-off people, but also generally experience negative rather than positive emotional states. People who negatively assess the financial conditions of their household more often than the better off Poles experienced discouragement, fatigue (76%), helplessness (65%) and felt unhappy (58%) in the past year. However, they were much less likely than people in a better living situation to be sure that everything would be fine (only 13% of them often experienced this feeling) and they felt less proud of their own achievements (23%).

When describing the moods in their environment, i.e. among the people they meet on a daily basis, Poles more often notice negative emotions (57% in total) than positive ones (37%). When characterizing the social climate in their environment, respondents most often note fear and concern about what the future will bring (37%), but also some relaxation and satisfaction that things are now better (27%).

The social mood is now much better than a year ago, which - to a large extent - is probably the result of the parliamentary elections and the increased sense of civic subjectivity. Compared to the end of 2022, the percentage

of people who notice mainly negative emotions in their environment decreased by 26 percentage points, while the proportion of Poles who observe mostly positive emotions increased by 24 points. During this time, there was a decrease in the number of people who noticed anxiety in their surroundings and fear of what the future would bring (a decrease of 23 percentage points). Fewer people than a year ago notice mainly dissatisfaction and lack of faith in any improvement (a decrease of 7 points). At the end of 2022, we recorded the lowest percentage in the history of our research of respondents who observed mainly apathy, resignation, and acceptance of fate in their environment, but now it is noticed slightly more often (an increase from 9% to 13%). Compared to the previous measurement, satisfaction with the fact that things are or will be better is clearly more visible (by 18 and 6 points, respectively). As a result of these changes, it can be said that in December 2023 the perceived social mood was the best since the end of 2019.

How would you in general describe the current mood among people with whom you come into contact on a daily basis at your workplace and your place of residence? Which of the following terms best describes it?



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Psychological Wellbeing in 2023", January 2024. Fieldwork dates for the sample: December 2023, N=961, mixed-mode interviews. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

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