

# **POLISH PUBLICOPINION**

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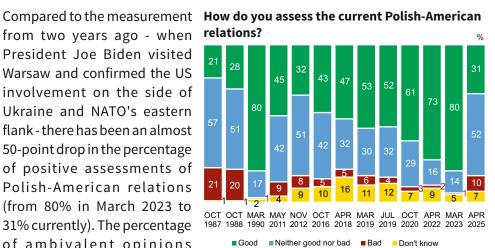
TO THE REPORTS REFERRED TO ABOVE, THE FOLLOWING HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED **RECENTLY (IN POLISH):** 

- Electoral portraits of Rafał Trzaskowski and Karol Nawrocki
- · Political Party Preferences in the third decade of April (CATI)
- · Social Mood in April
- Trust in Politicians in April
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- · Assessment of the Activities of the Parliament and the President in April
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- Presidential styles, or what we expect from a head of state
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- Presidential preferences in the first round of elections
- · Quarterly Balance of Social Mood
- Party preferences in the first decade of April (CATI)
- · Work for Foreigners in Poland
- · Poles' Associations with the Word "Immigrant"
- Assessment of the Financial Situation of Households
- Who are the voters of Slawomir Mentzen, Karol Nawrocki and Rafal Trzaskowski?
- Ratings of public institutions in march
- Who will change Poland for the better as president?
- Poles about the presidential election
- Poles on NATO and possible construction of joint armed forces by EU countries

## **Polish-American Relations** and Donald Trump's Presidency

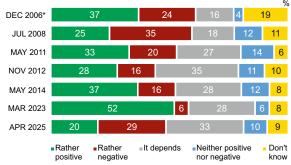
After two years, we have decided to ask again about Poland's relations with the United States, which is in many areas our key and strongest ally. Since Donald Trump was sworn in as US president earlier this year, a number of events have taken place that could have significantly affected the image of the United States in the eyes of Poles: the Trump administration attempted to end the war in Ukraine by making significant concessions to Russia and limiting support for Ukraine; imposed high trade tariffs on over 70 countries, including European Union Member States; suggested withdrawing or significantly reducing its involvement in NATO, which is the foundation of Poland's security; and finally, repeated announcements of the occupation of Greenland, which would potentially mean open conflict with European allies.

from two years ago - when President Joe Biden visited Warsaw and confirmed the US involvement on the side of Ukraine and NATO's eastern flank - there has been an almost 50-point drop in the percentage of positive assessments of Polish-American relations (from 80% in March 2023 to 31% currently). The percentage of ambivalent opinions



increased from 14% to 52%, but the number of negative opinions also rose, from 1% to 10%. It is worth noting that the current results are not much better than those recorded by CBOS before 1989, when Poland was part of a bloc hostile to the US and subordinate to the USSR.

#### Overall, do you think the United States has a positive or negative influence on the world?



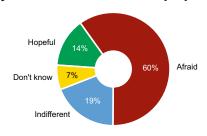
\*In December 2006, the answers were worded: "Mostly positive" and "Mostly negative."

The percentage of Poles who consider the US influence on the world to be rather positive has also fallen to a record low, from 52% two years ago to 20% now. On the other hand, the share of those who consider it as rather negative has increased significantly from 6% to 29%. To a lesser extent, there has also been a rise in the number of people who

answered "it depends" (from 28% to 33%) or consider the US influence to be "neither positive nor negative" (from 6% to 10%).

Finally, we asked about expectations related to the presidency of Donald Trump, in which many Poles – especially voters of the Confederation and Law and Justice – had pinned certain hopes before the election. As it turned out, it currently arouses fears in most respondents (60%). One-fifth declared indifference (19%), and one-seventh have hopes (14%).

#### How do you feel about Donald Trump's presidency?



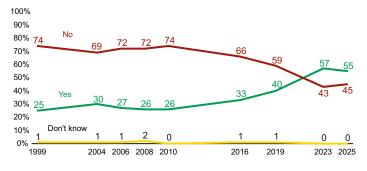
More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "On Polish-American Relations and Donald Trump", April 2025. Fieldwork dates for the sample: April 2025, N=1030. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

## Presence of foreigners in Poland

In February, we conducted extensive research on the perception of foreigners settling in Poland. In recent years, Poland has been attracting more and more foreigners, transforming from a typical emigration country into an immigration country, i.e. one where more people come than leave. There is no exact data on the number of foreigners staying in Poland, although according to some estimates it has almost reached 4 million. Official statistics indicate that they are most often citizens of Ukraine, followed by Belarus and Georgia.

Between 2019 and 2023, the percentage of Poles declaring personal knowledge of a foreigner living in Poland increased very significantly, i.e. from 40% to 57%. Over the past two years, this percentage has stabilized.

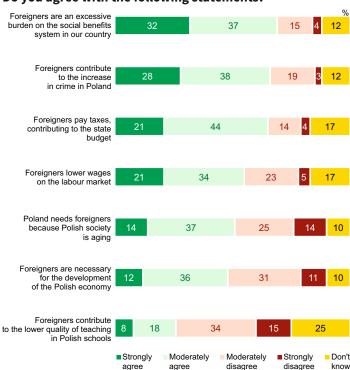
#### Do you personally know a foreigner living in Poland?



Assessments of the effects of the presence of foreigners in Poland are varied – neither unequivocally positive nor negative. Two-thirds of respondents (69%) agree with the opinion that foreigners excessively burden the social

benefits system. Almost the same number of people (66%) share the belief that their presence contributes to the increase in crime in the country. Over half (55%) believe that foreigners lower wages on the labour market. At the same time, however, almost two-thirds (65%) are aware that foreigners contribute to the state budget by paying taxes, and over half (51%) share the belief that our country needs foreigners because Polish society is aging. Almost half (48%) agree with the opinion that foreigners are necessary for the development of the Polish economy (however, 42% of respondents have the opposite opinion). Almost half (49%) question the belief that foreigners contribute to the lower quality of education in Polish schools.

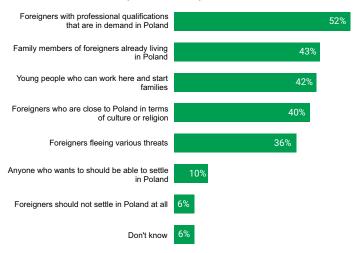
#### Do you agree with the following statements?



Regarding who should be allowed to settle in Poland, Poles indicate that we should first and foremost accept people we need, and only then those who need it themselves. The majority of respondents (52%) agreed that foreigners with professional qualifications that are in demand in our country should be allowed to settle in Poland. Over two-fifths (43%) are in favour of accepting family members of foreigners already living in Poland. Almost the same number (42%) believe that young people who want to work and start families here should be allowed to settle in Poland. Two-fifths (40%) believe that foreigners who are close to Poles in terms of culture or religion should be accepted. Slightly fewer people (36%) are open to the influx of refugees into Poland - people fleeing various threats. One in ten believes that anyone who is willing should be able to settle in Poland. Only 6% are against foreigners settling in Poland at all.

## In your opinion, what kind of foreigners should be allowed to settle in Poland?

Please indicate as many answers as you like



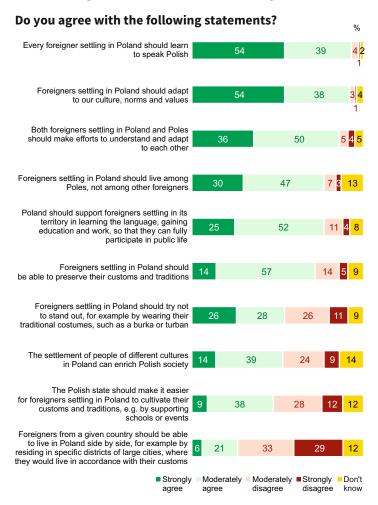
More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "The Perceived and Postulated Presence of Foreigners in Poland", April 2025. Fieldwork dates for the sample: February 2025, N=965. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

## Model of integration of foreigners

Since Poland has only recently begun to attract many immigrants, the model of their integration is still taking shape and has not taken on such a clear form as in Western countries. What strategy should Poland choose? In Europe, two models of integration are the main points of reference. On the one hand, there is the assimilation model (most fully implemented by France), in which immigrants are expected to become similar to members of the host society and to accept their norms, values and customs as their own, at the expense of the traditions of their country of origin. On the other hand, there is the multicultural model (attempted to implement by, for example, Great Britain), in which immigrants are not required to abandon their culture or traditions, but only to respect the law that applies to everyone. In the first model, responsibility for integration is attributed to a greater extent to immigrants, while in the second it falls to the host society. Which way does Polish public opinion lean?

To find out, we asked Poles to respond to 10 statements relating to the integration of foreigners. It turned out that the statements closer to the assimilation model were met with the greatest support. Almost everyone agreed that foreigners settling in Poland should learn to speak Polish (93%) and adapt to Polish culture, norms and values (92%), and the vast majority also believed that they should live among Poles, not among other foreigners (77%). Opinions were quite divided, however, in the case of the statement most inclined towards the assimilation

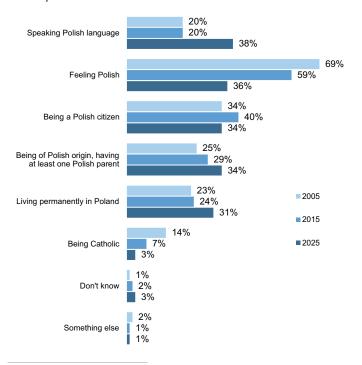
pole, that foreigners in Poland should try not to stand out, and therefore give up, for example, wearing traditional costumes such as burka or turban in public spaces - although slightly over half of the respondents agreed with it (54%), a significant number (37%) were against it.



The majority also supported intermediate statements emphasizing the two-sided nature of the integration process. Among the statements closer to the multicultural pole, the highest level of support was recorded for the two mildest ones, stating that foreigners settling in Poland should be able to maintain their customs and traditions (71%, although only 14% agreed strongly) and that the settlement of people of different cultures in Poland can enrich Polish society (53%, again only 14% of decisive opinions and 33% against). Less than half agreed with the statement that the Polish state should make it easier for foreigners to cultivate their customs and traditions, e.g. by supporting schools or clubs (47% for, 40% against). On the other hand, opposing voices significantly prevailed in the case of the statement that foreigners from a given country should be able to live side by side, e.g. inhabiting specific districts of large cities, where they would live in accordance with their customs (62%), potentially creating so-called ghettos.

Regardless of whether we are closer to the assimilationist or multicultural model, successful integration should make a foreigner an equal member of society. We were interested in how the respondents imagined this final stage of successful integration. To find out, we decided to return to the question we asked ten and twenty years ago—what is necessary to recognize someone as a Pole? It turned out that over the years (and with the influx of immigrants), the requirements placed on people aspiring to be Poles have changed in many aspects and, generally speaking, have rather increased. Compared to 2005, respondents attach much less importance to whether someone identifies as a Pole (a drop from 69% to 36%) and more to whether they speak Polish (38% compared to 20% in 2005), have Polish ancestors (34% compared to 25%) and live in Poland permanently (31% compared to 23%).

In your opinion, what is necessary to recognize someone as Polish? Please choose the two most important features from the list provided

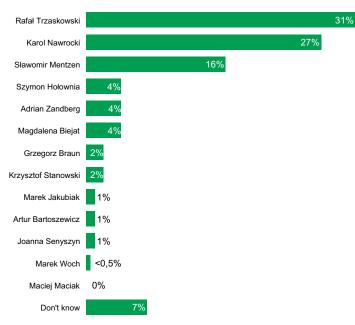


More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "On the model of integration of foreigners in Poland", April 2025. Fieldwork dates for the sample: February 2025, N=965. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

## **Presidential elections**

The first round of the Polish presidential election is scheduled to take place this month, on May 18. In our latest survey from the second half of April, 73% of respondents were at least 99% likely to vote. If the first round of the election were to take place now, the largest proportion of declared voters would support the KO candidate Rafał Trzaskowski (31%, a 2-point drop since the beginning of April). His main rival, Karol Nawrocki supported by PiS, could count on the votes of just over a quarter of potential voters (27%, a 2-point increase). In third place is the candidate of the Confederation, Sławomir Mentzen, with 16% of supporters (a 1-point drop). The other candidates for the presidency enjoy much less support. Szymon Hołownia, designated by the Third Way, and left-wing candidates - Magdalena Biejat, representing the Left, which is part of the ruling coalition, and Adrian Zandberg, the candidate of the Razem party would each receive 4% of the votes. Even fewer people would like to vote for Grzegorz Braun and Krzysztof Stanowski (2% each), while Marek Jakubiak, Artur Bartoszewicz and Joanna Senyszyn would only get 1% of the votes. Seven out of a hundred potential participants in the May vote do not know who they would vote for (7%).

#### Who would you like to vote for in the presidential election?



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS Flash reports in Polish: "Preferences in presidential elections in the second half of March" and "Presidential preferences in the first round of elections", April 2025. Fieldwork dates for the sample: April 2025, N=1001. The quota sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

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