

# "Why are youth (students) in Eastern Europe Protesting? Case study of Poland and Ukraine"



**Instytut Nauk o Polityce  
i Administracji  
Uniwersytet Pedagogiczny  
w Krakowie**

**Institute of Political  
& Administrative Sciences  
Pedagogical University of Krakow**

**Mateusz  
Kamionka (PhD)**

**KATEDRA STOSUNKÓW MIĘDZYNARODOWYCH  
I STUDIÓW OBSZAROWYCH**

**DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL  
& AREA STUDIES**

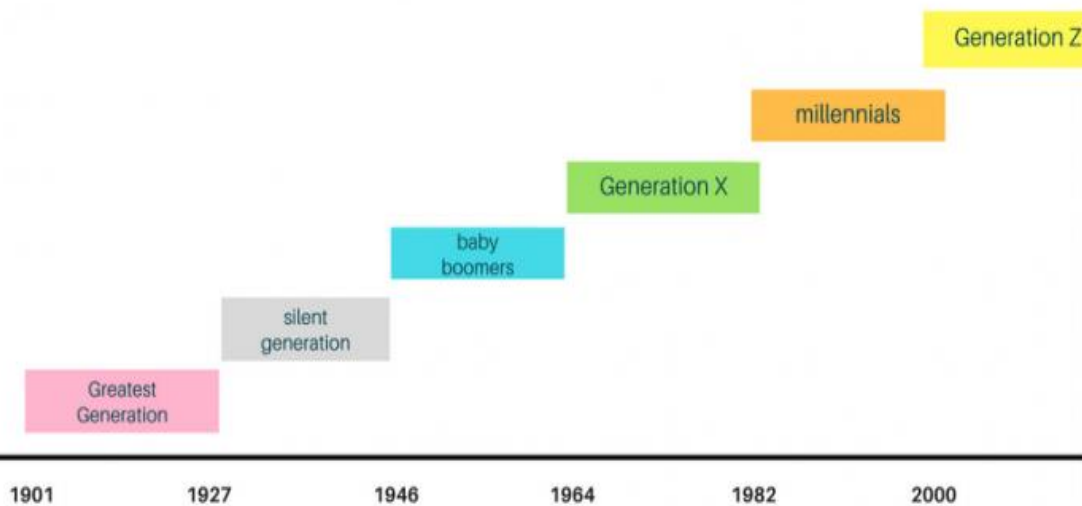
**MATEUSZ.KAMIONKA@UP.KRAKOW.PL**



# GENERATION Z

The generation after Millennials

## A Rough Guide to Generations



Generation Z colloquially also known as **zoomers** is the demographic cohort succeeding Millennials and preceding Generation Alpha. Researchers and media use the mid-to-late 1990s as starting birth years and the early 2010s as ending birth years. Most members of **Generation Z** are **children of Generation X**. As the first social generation to have grown up with access to the Internet and portable digital technology from a young age, members of Generation Z have been dubbed "**digital natives**", even though they are not necessarily digitally literate. Compared to previous generations, members of Generation Z in some developed nations tend to be well-behaved, abstemious, and risk-averse. They tend to live more slowly than their predecessors when they were their age, have lower rates of teenage pregnancies, and consume alcohol less often, but not necessarily other psychoactive drugs.

# GENERATION Z

## The Next Generation



1

### SOCIAL

Gen Z is naturally social and spend **7.6 hours per day** socializing with friends and family.

2

### MULTI-TASKERS

Gen Z prefers to work on multiple tasks at the same time. On average, Gen Z will work off of **5 screens at once**.

3

### ENTREPRENEURS

Gen Z desires independent work environments. **72% of teens** want to start their own business someday.

4

### EDUCATED

Gen Z is constantly learning. **1 in 2** will have a college education.

5

### PHILANTHROPISTS

Gen Z wants to do good in the world. **93% say that an organization's impact on society** affects their decision to work there.

### DIGITAL NATIVES

Gen Z are the first true natives to the digital era. **This generation spends 15.4 hours per week on their smartphones.**

6

### INTERACTIVE

Gen Z likes to interact with people. **34% are most concerned with boosting their people management skills.**

7

### TECH-SAVVY

Have a question? Google it. **66% say that technology makes them feel that anything is possible.**

8

### LESS FOCUSED

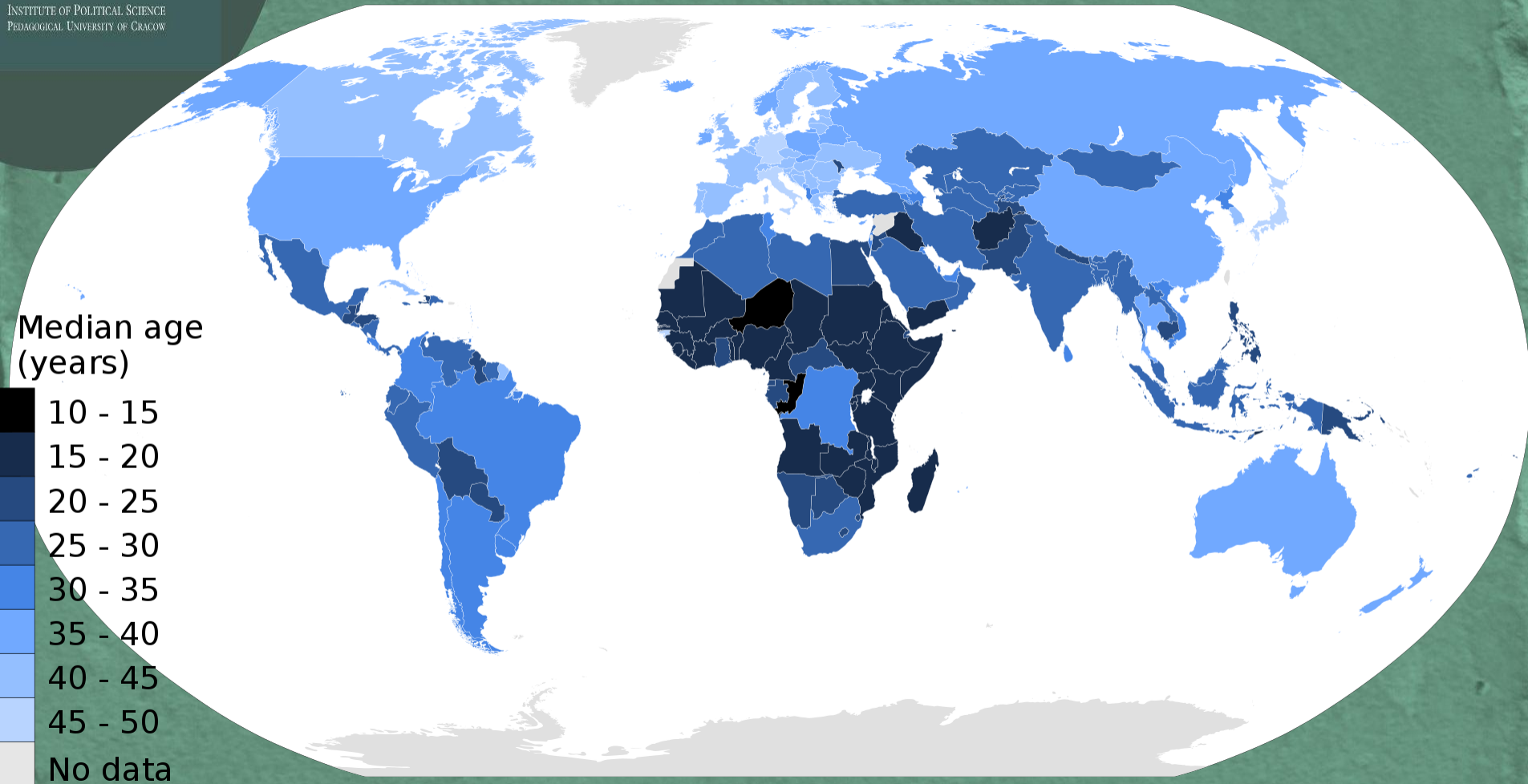
Gen Z needs continuous updates and stimulation. It's no surprise that this generation has an **attention span of 8 seconds.**

9

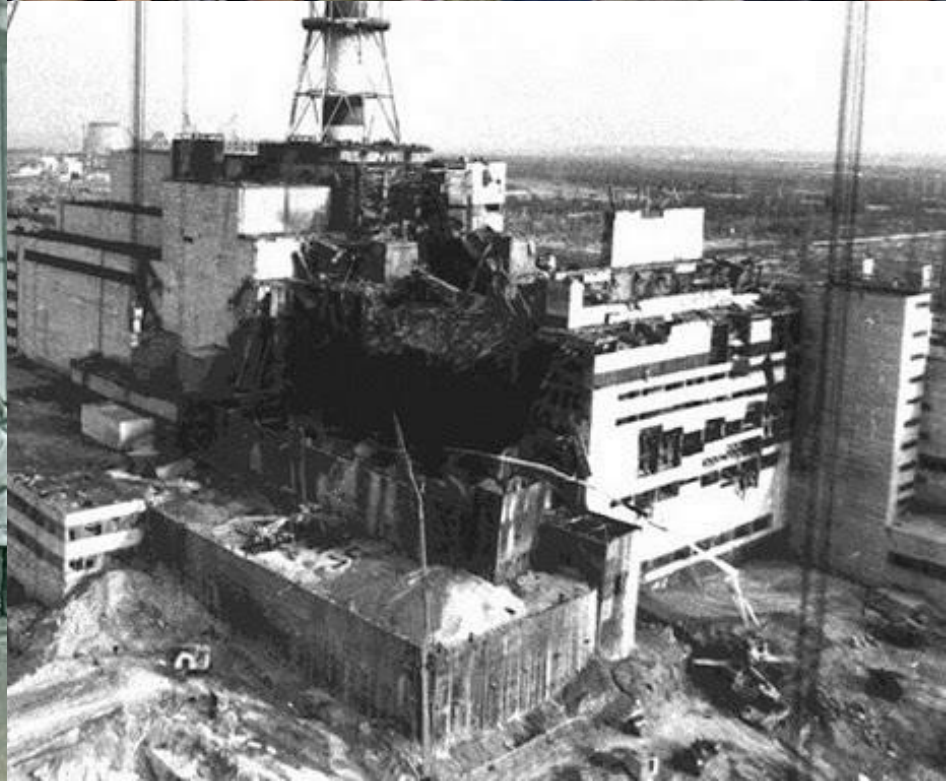
### CAUTIOUS

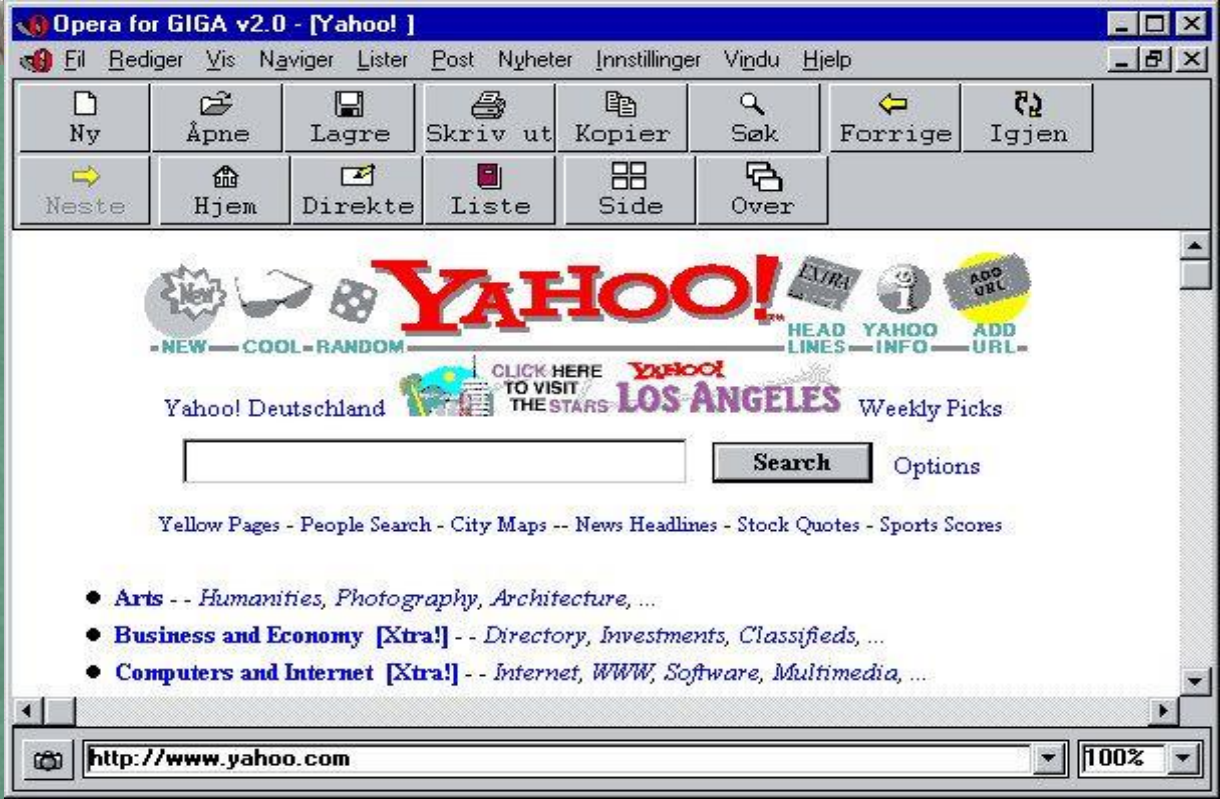
As a result of growing up during the Great Recession, Gen Z tends to be more careful with their expenses. **57% would rather save their money than spend.**

10



Source: Data table compiled by United Nations ESA (2017)







## Head of State:

-Germany Olaf Scholz 64 yr.

-Poland Jarosław Kaczyński 73 yr.

-Hungary Viktor Orbán 59 yr.

-Russia Wladimir Putin 69 yr.

-USA Joe Biden 79 yr.

-Belarus Alexander Lukashenko 68 yr.

- Czechia Miloš Zeman 77yr.

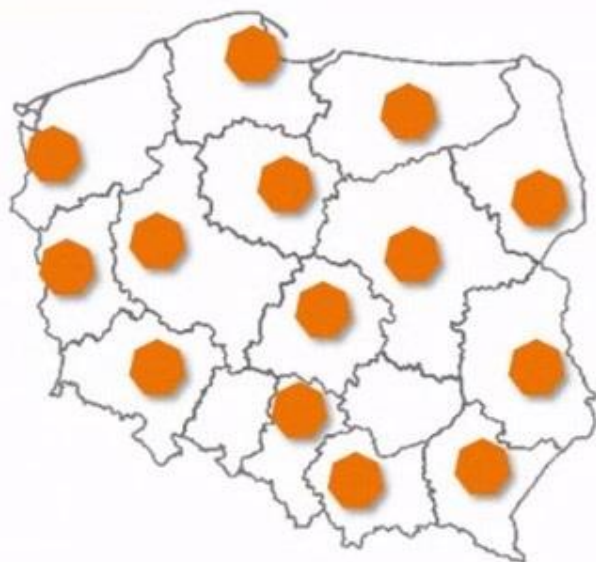






# Representative research

## Methodology



Quantitative level (survey)  
Qualitative level (in-depth interviews)

September 2017 - April 2019

Research Sample: 980 (PL) + 1043 (UA)

28 (14+14) academic centers in Poland and Ukraine



**Mustafa Nayyem**

21 листопада 2013 р. · 🌐

Встречаемся в 22:30 под монументом Независимости. Одевайтесь тепло, берите зонтики, чай, кофе, хорошее настроение и друзей. Перепост всячески приветствуется!

[Подобається](#) · [Коментувати](#) · [Поширити](#)

We meet at 10.30pm at the Independence Monument. Dress warmly, bring umbrellas, tea, coffee, good attitude and friends. Please share this information.





## The attitude of Ukrainian youth toward democracy

INSTITUTE OF POLITICAL SCIENCE  
PEDAGOGICAL UNIVERSITY OF CRACOW

Democracy - **the freedom and rights of everyone**, freedom of speech and thought, without offending the rights and views of others (Student 1 Uzhgorod).

Democracy in my understanding is the possibility of **influencing citizens on political and social processes** in the country (Student 2 Sumy).

Democracy is the **freedom of choice** and freedom of every human being, but a freedom that is not meant to violate the freedom of others. It is so that everyone can reasonably do what is not prohibited, but emphasizing the fact that you do not do something to the detriment of other people (Student 1 Lviv).

Democracy is a **free man**, and as I mentioned before, the freedom of one person begins when the freedom of another person ends (Student 2 Kyiv).

When I hear democracy, I associate it with the values of the 21st century, the values of the civilized world, the voice of man. Democracy is when a person has wide possibilities. The state participates in these three categories - it issues laws, controls the economic situation and participates in cultural life. And the rest belongs to civil society, and **real democracy for me is when there is a strong civil society that is responsible for their actions** (Student 5 Nizhyn).

For me, **democracy is a whole system of values and views that helps society to develop in a positive direction**. It is freedom of speech but not permissiveness. We often confuse these terms, because democracy first and foremost includes the opposition aspect, all sentences must count (Student 1 Kyiv).



*For me, **democracy is chaos**. Especially at the moment when we have a hybrid war and when we observe social manipulation. No values come to mind because I think democracy is chaos, people watch TV and think that everything is so beautiful, people have their opinions and can express it freely, and that politicians act according to democratic principles, but in the end, that's actually not the case (Student 1 Sumy).*

***Democracy is the mother of chaos**, the best form of government out of the worst. Now it is like a democracy system in Ukraine. For me, democracy is when a person can express his opinion, this is the most important thing that was not in Soviet times (Student 6 Nizhyn).*



## Opinions on democracy in Poland and Ukraine, data in percent.

*Do you think that the political system in Poland/Ukraine can be considered democratic?*

	Poland	Ukraine
Definitely yes	9,1	2,3
Rather yes	43,8	29,6
Rather no	23,5	34,7
Definitely not	5,8	11,5
Hard to say	17,8	21,9

Source: Author's own study



## Student opinions about democracy, data in percent

<i>Which of the following statements about democracy are closest to you?</i>	Poland	Ukraine
Democracy always has the advantage over all other forms of government	42,8	34,4
Sometimes undemocratic governments can be better than democratic governments	27,9	24,5
For people like me, it doesn't really matter if the government is democratic or undemocratic	3,1	5,3
Democracy is a bad form of government	3,6	11,0
Hard to say	22,6	24,8

Source: Author's own study



*How important is it for you that Poland / Ukraine should be governed in a democratic way? Please rate on the scale below, where '1' means 'not important at all' and '5' means 'very important' (research made in 2019)*

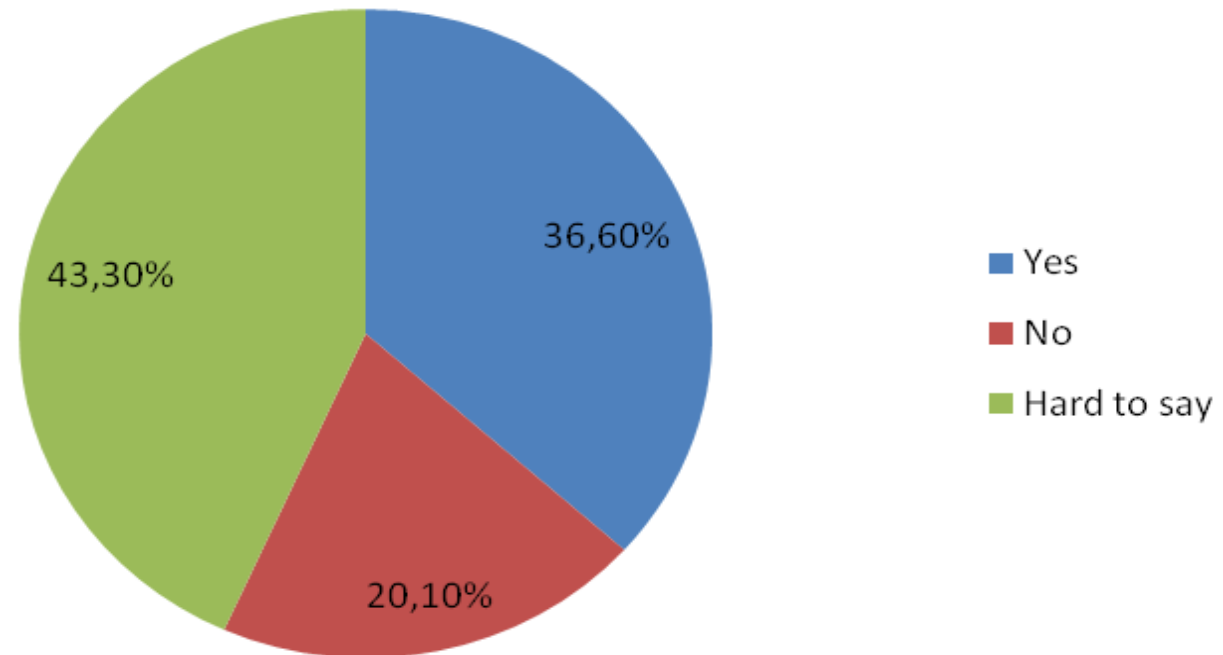
	Does not matter (1-2)	Indifference (3)	Important (4-5)	Average on a scale 1-5*
	Data in percent			
Poland	14,1	11,1	<b>74,8</b>	4,11
Ukraine	28,6	21,5	49,9	3,40

Do you personally care more about :

	To participate in governing	To be well-ruled	Hard to say
Poland	<b>25,9%</b>	42,5%	31,7%
Ukraine	41,4%	26,2%	32,3%



# Readiness of Ukrainian youth for long-term protests.



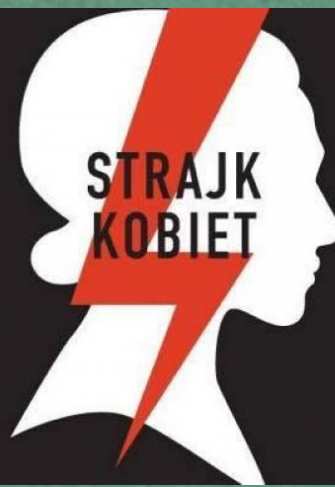




Kład rzeczka opodal kraczka, mieszkała kaczka-dzwaczka,  
Lece zamiast trzymać się rzeczki, zaczęła rządzić krajem  
i zabierać nam prawa!!!



INSTITUTE OF POLITICAL SCIENCE  
PEDAGOGICAL UNIVERSITY OF CRACOW





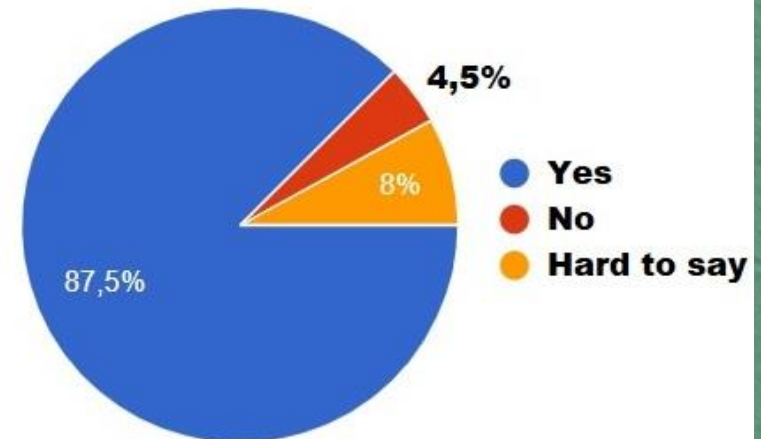
# Methodology

The presented results were obtained by means of an **internet survey** within the **Facebook** "Protest Piekło Kobiet Olkusz" (*Women's Hell protest in Olkusz*) group at the initial stage of its creation, when the quantity of participants was less than 1000. **Two hundred** people filled the survey with 30 questions at **october 24-26, 2020**.

## Snowball sampling methodology

It is **not representative** and not capable of concluding the studied sample on the population.

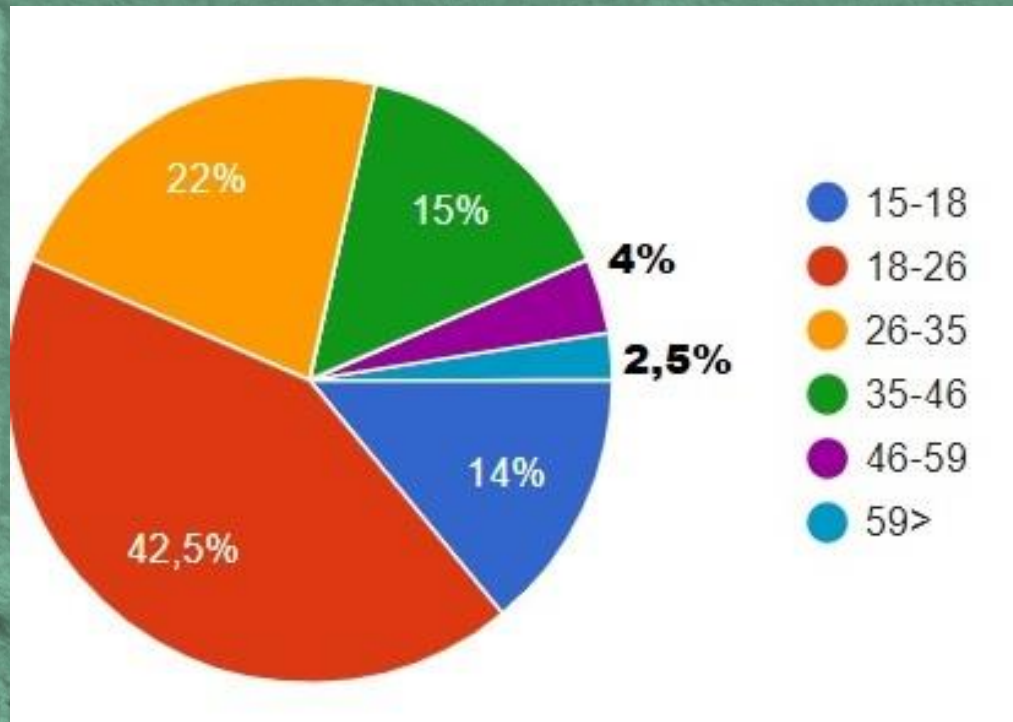
“Are you going to participate in the upcoming “Woman’s Hell” protests in Olkusz?”





People born from 1997 to 2012.

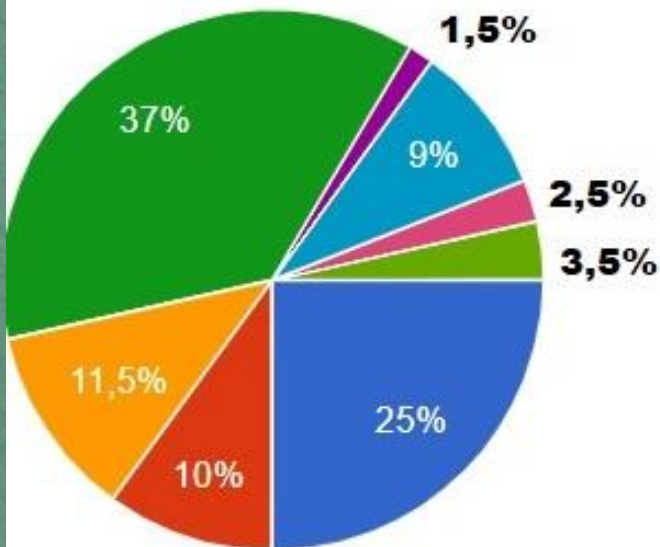
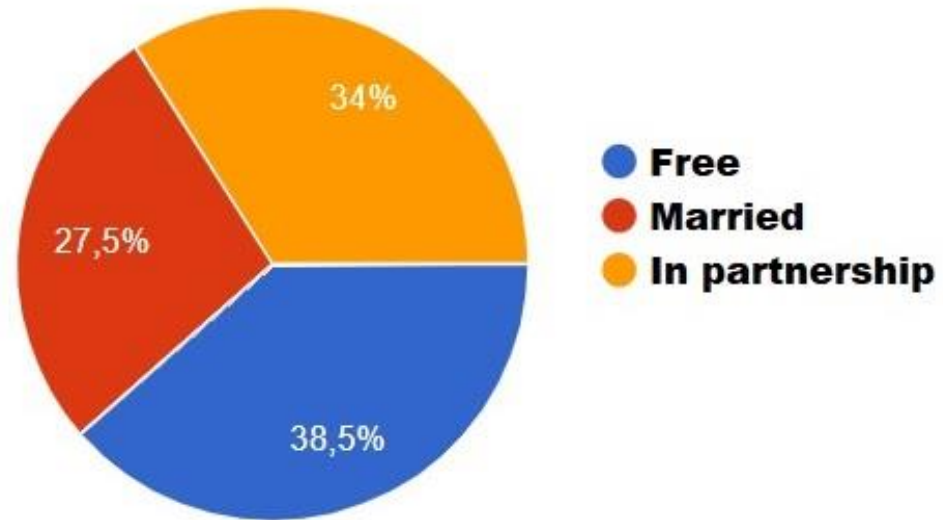
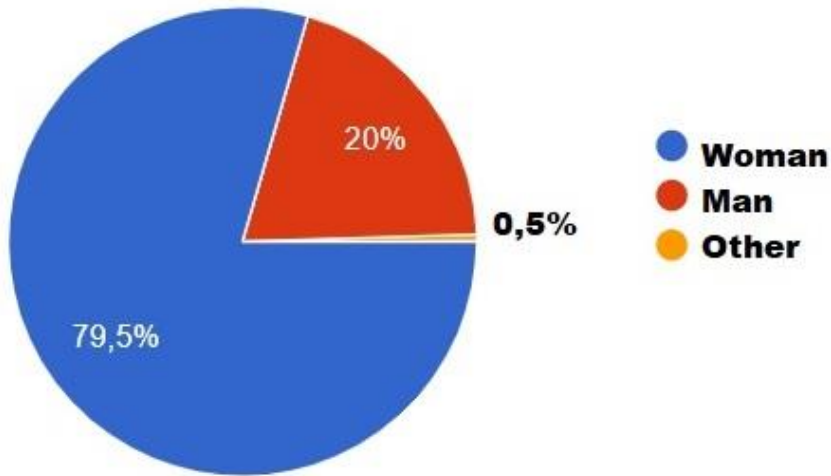
## Question: How old are you?



Protest had the most significant number of supporters among the youngest respondents aged 18-24 - in this group almost every third, 29 per cent. - participated in "walks" (Sondaż Kantaru: 70 procs., 2020).



## More interesting data....

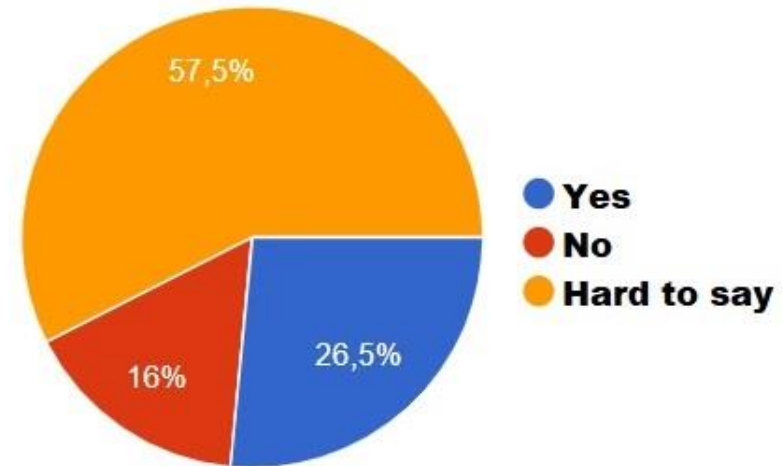


- **I'm still studying at school**
- **I study at the University**
- **I studies and works**
- **I works under a contract of employment**
- **I Works under a mandate contract / contract for work (freelancer)**
- **I have my own business**
- **I am retired**
- **I am unemployed**

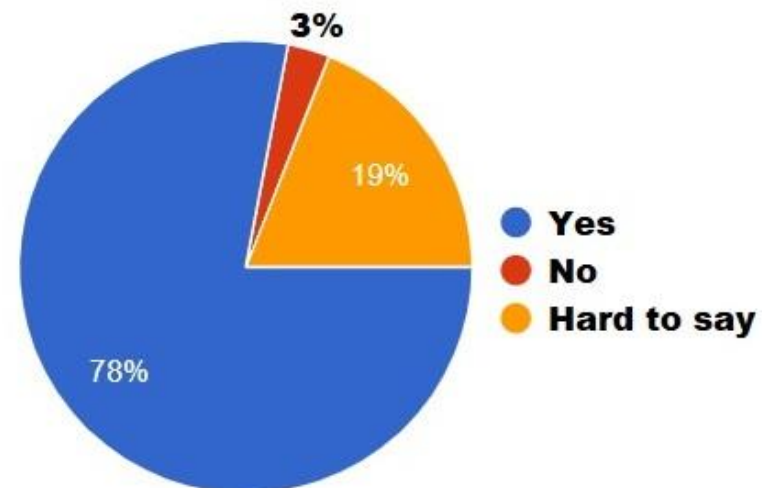


# Protests

Do you think the protests will bring the intended results



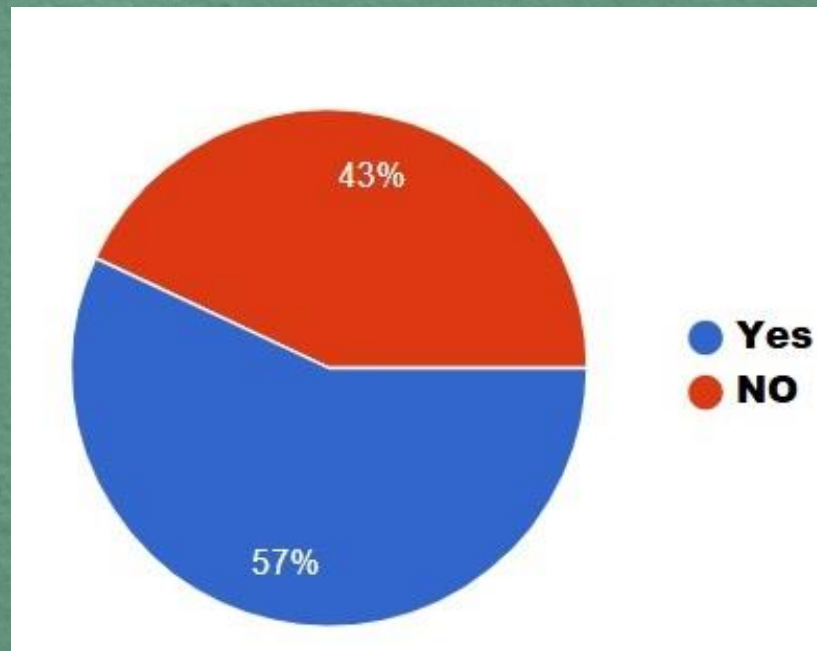
Would you be willing to participate in a long-term demonstration or protest to implement your demands





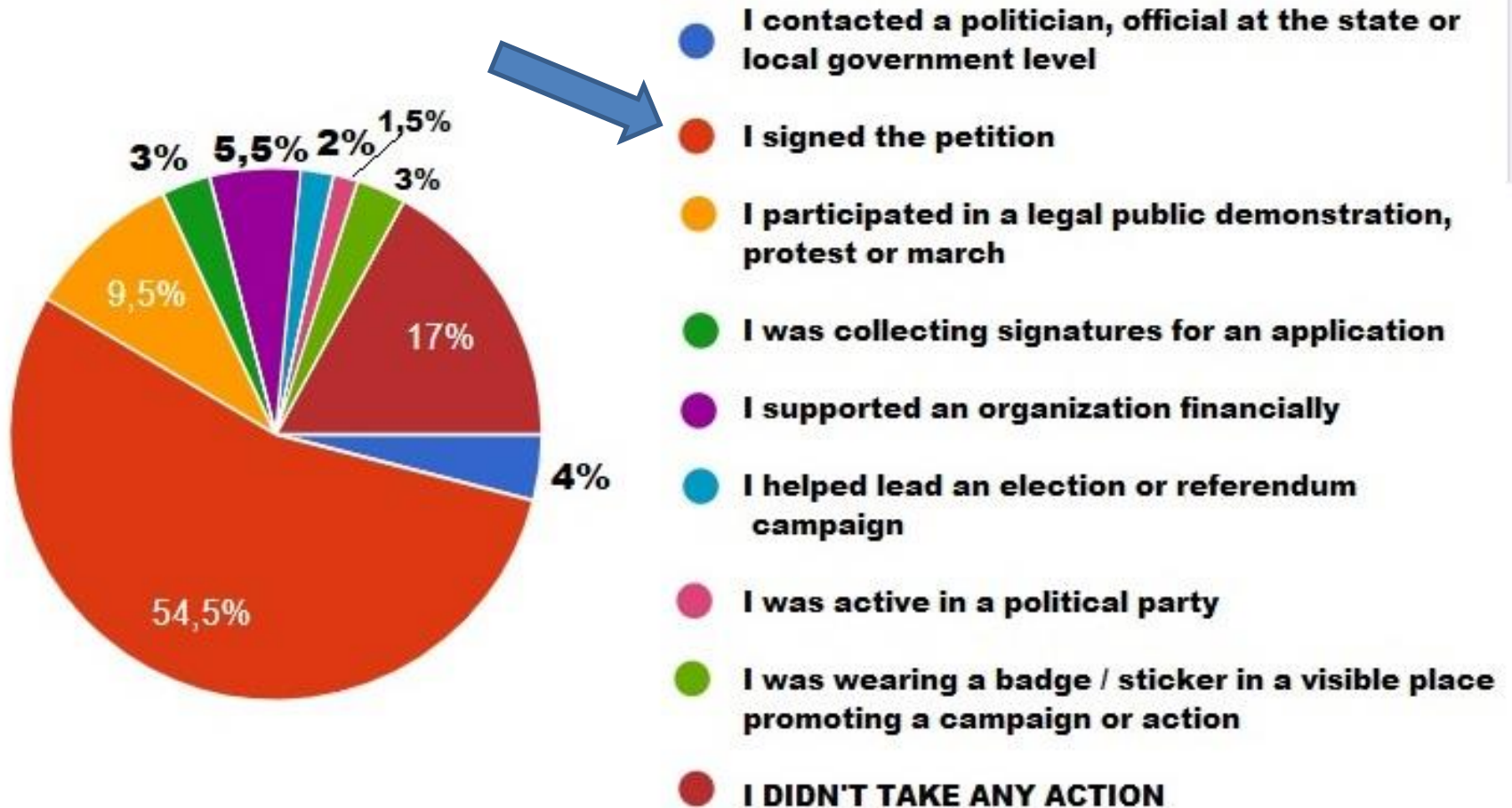
# Civic activity

During the LAST YEAR, did you ever get involved in activities for the benefit of the local community (local district, town, parish, neighbourhood, village).





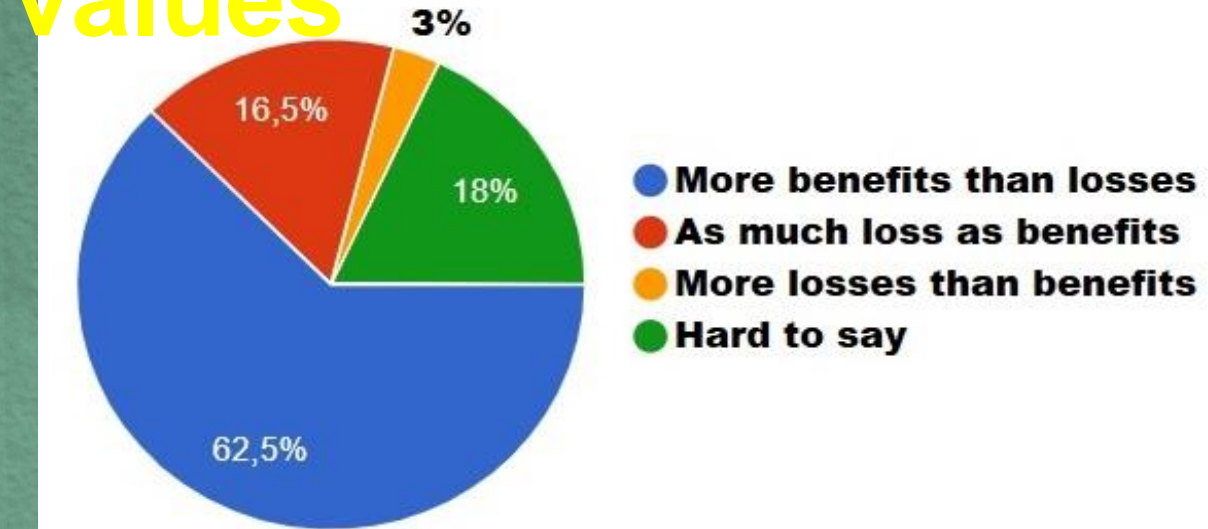
# During the LAST YEAR, did you take any of the following actions?





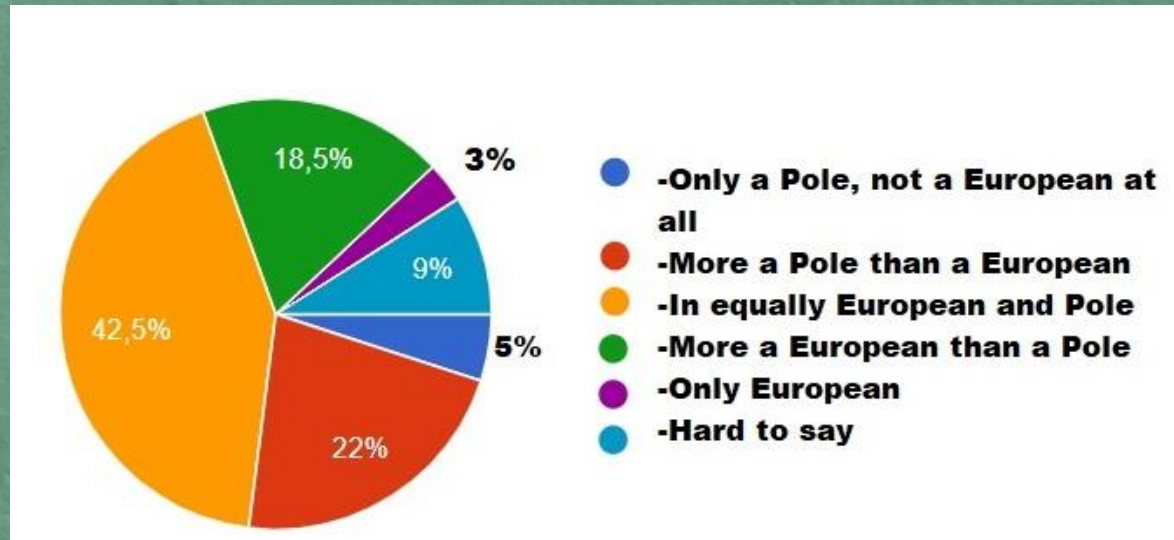


# European values



In your opinion, has membership in the European Union brought Poland.

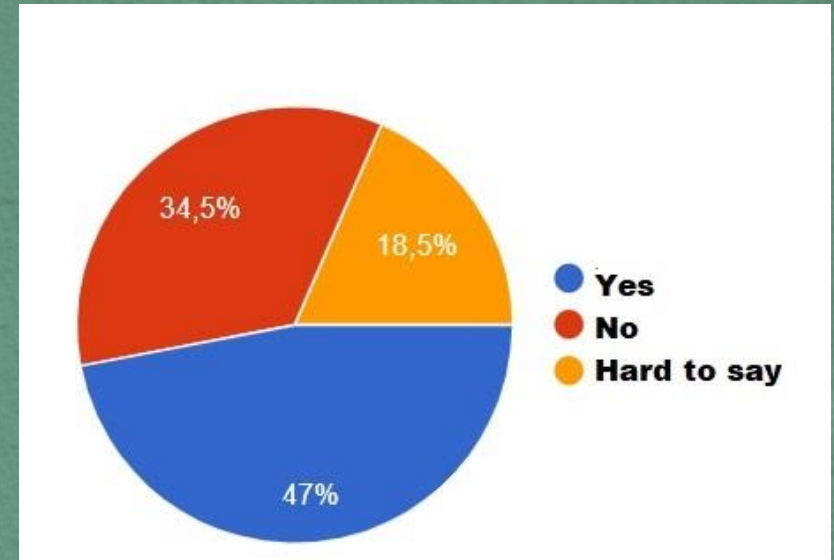
How do you feel which of the following statements best describes whom you feel.



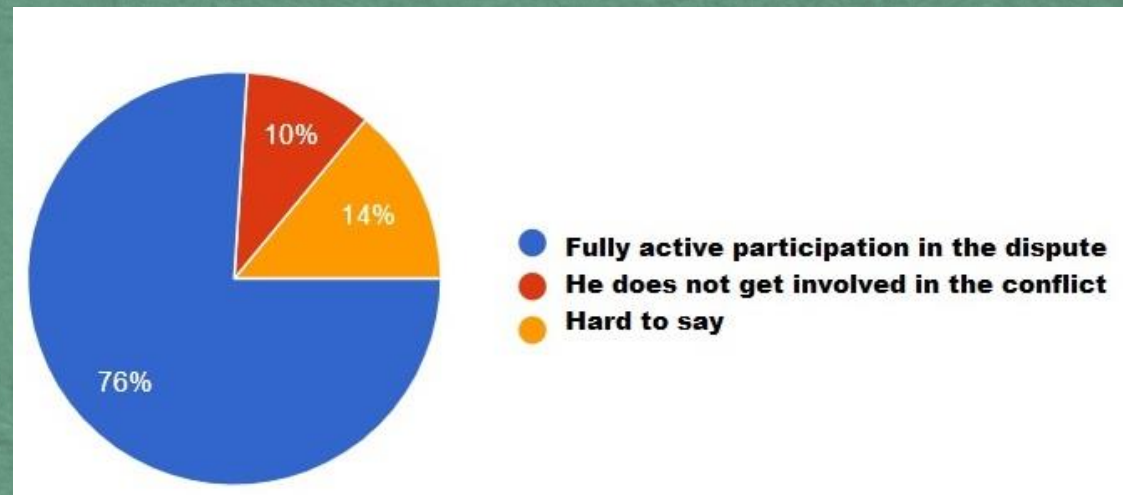


# Faith

Are you a person who believes in God.



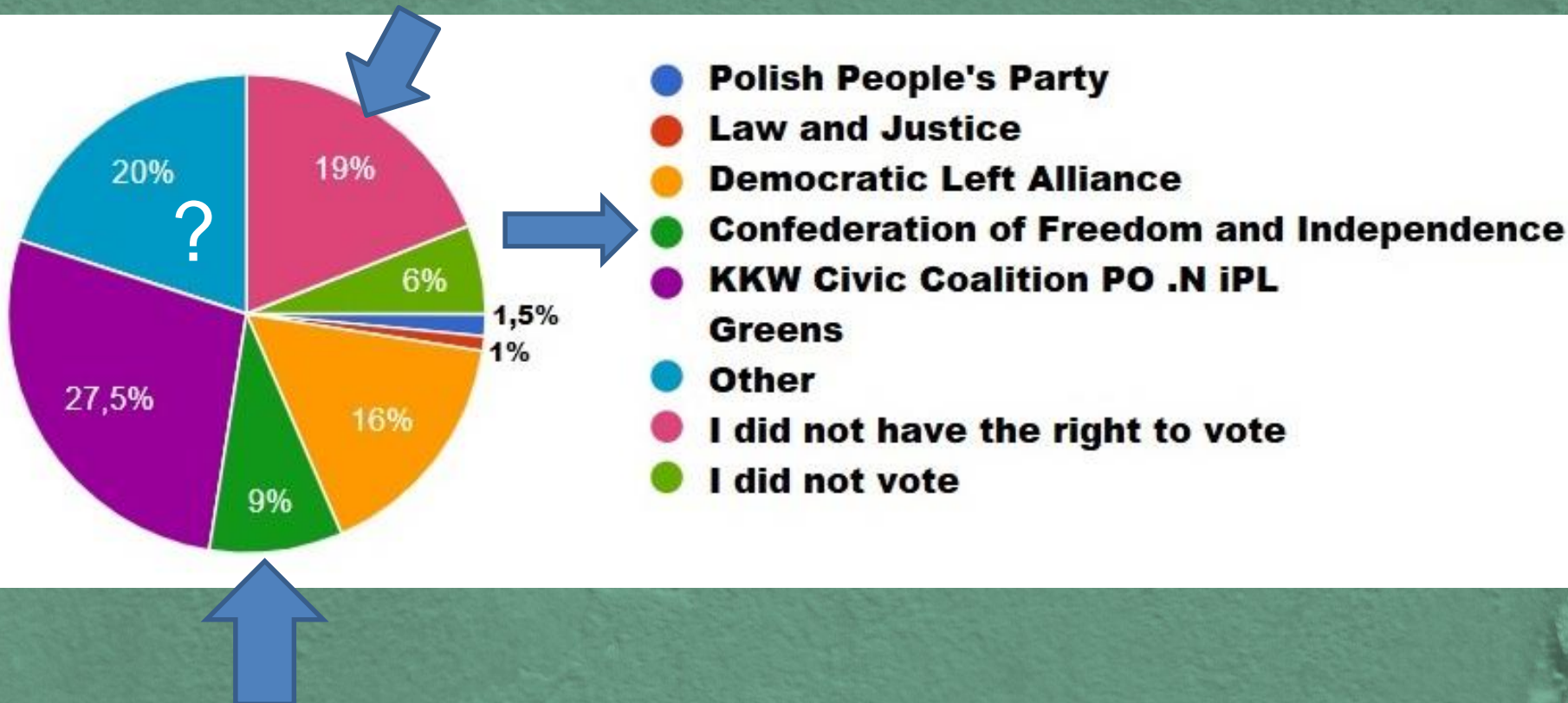
What is your opinion on the participation of the Catholic Church in the abortion dispute





# Protesters and politics

Question: For whom did You vote for in the parliamentary election in 2019.



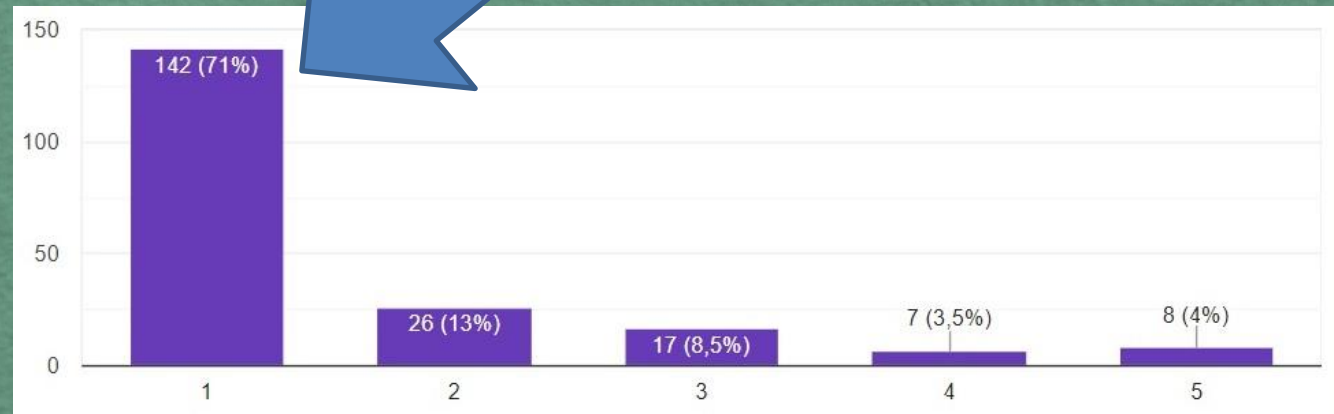
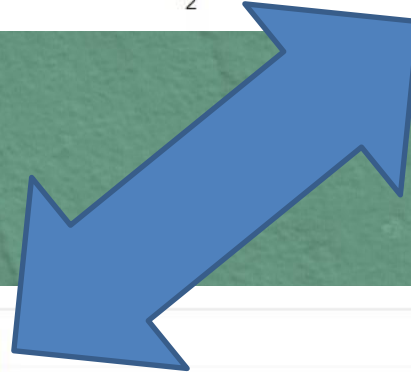
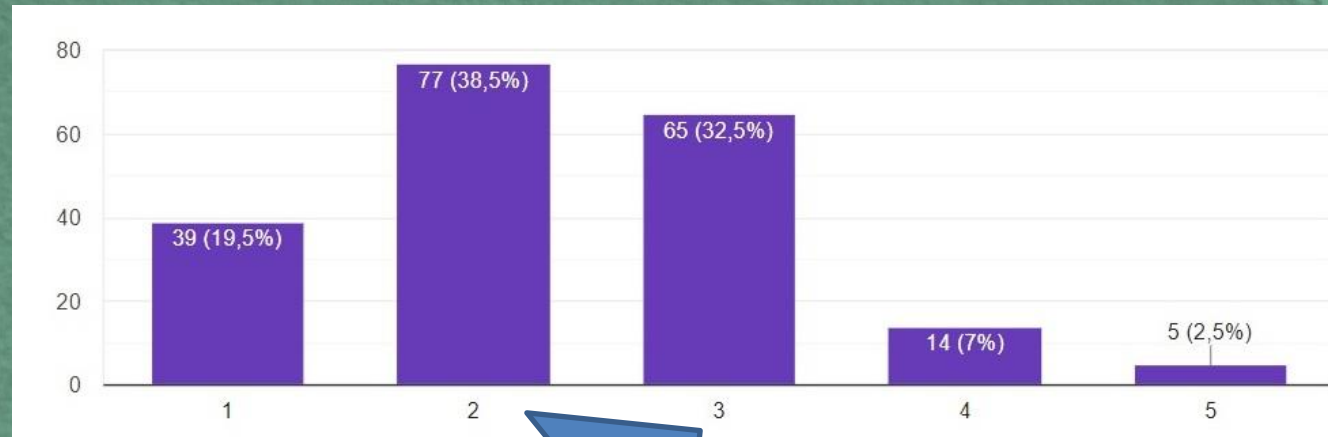


## Where would you place political views on the scale

1- left-wing views;  
5- right-wing views

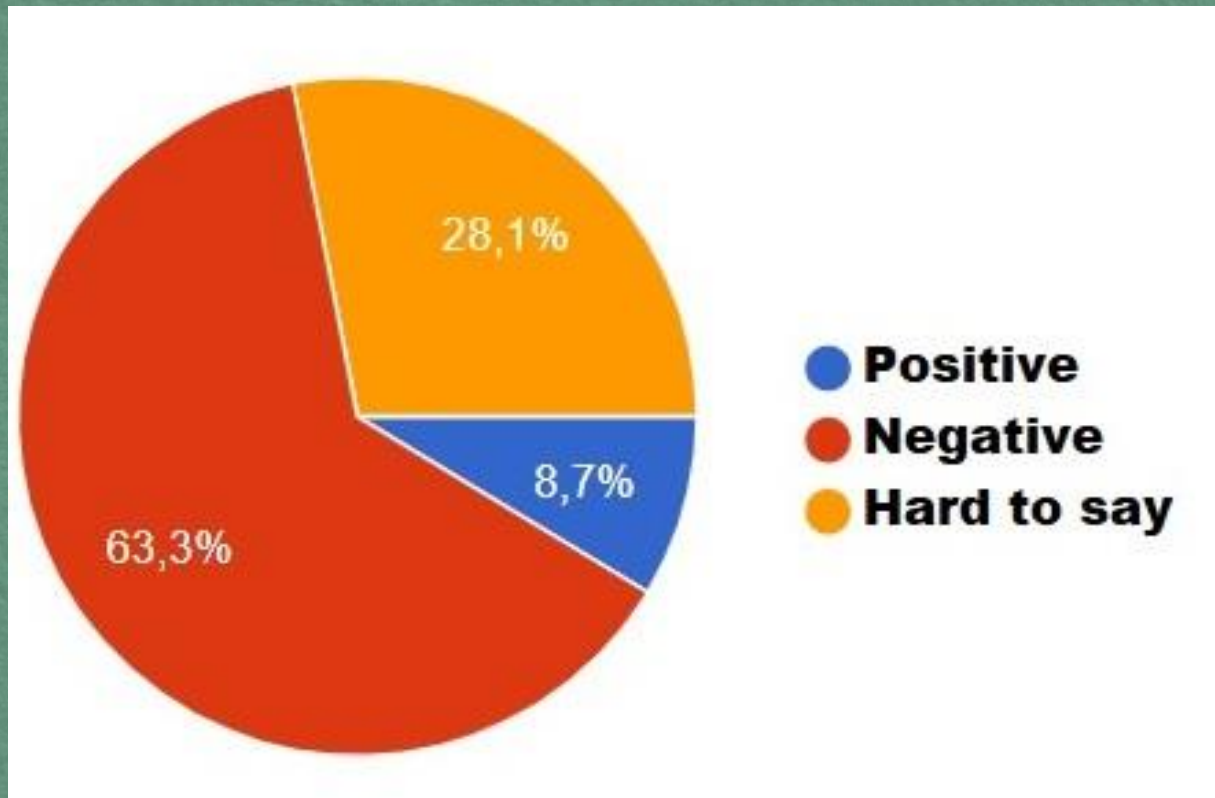
Please mark your opinion on the following points on the scale.

1-The law should allow same-sex partnership;  
5- The law should not allow same-sex partnership.





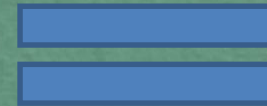
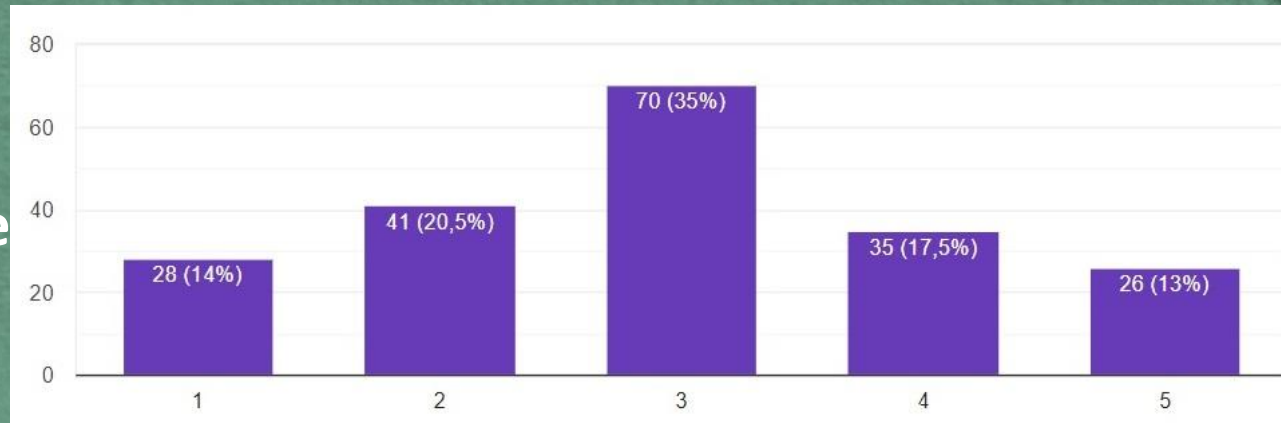
## What is your attitude towards the 500+ program (social benefits for having kids about 130\$ per child every month till he/she finish 18 years old)



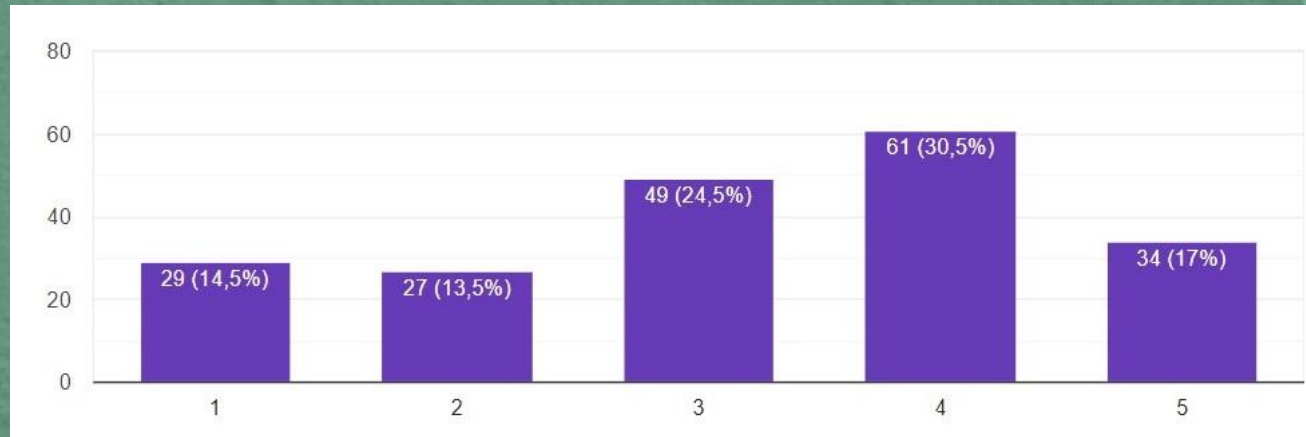
However, according to the CBOS survey results in March 2017, the majority of Poles - **77%** - approved of the "500+ Family" programme



**Do people like You influence the affairs of your Town/village (1-Definitely Yes; 5- Definitely No).**

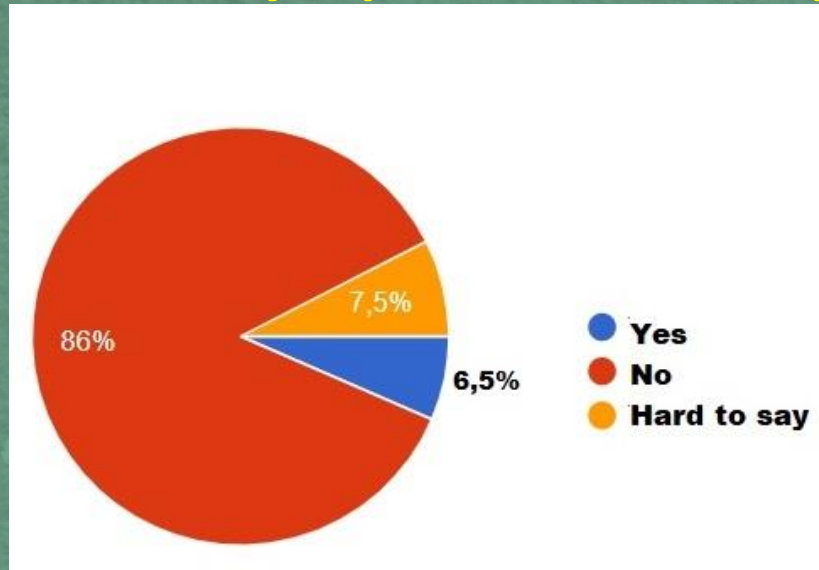


**Do people like You, influence the affairs of your country (1-Definitely Yes; 5- Definitely No)**

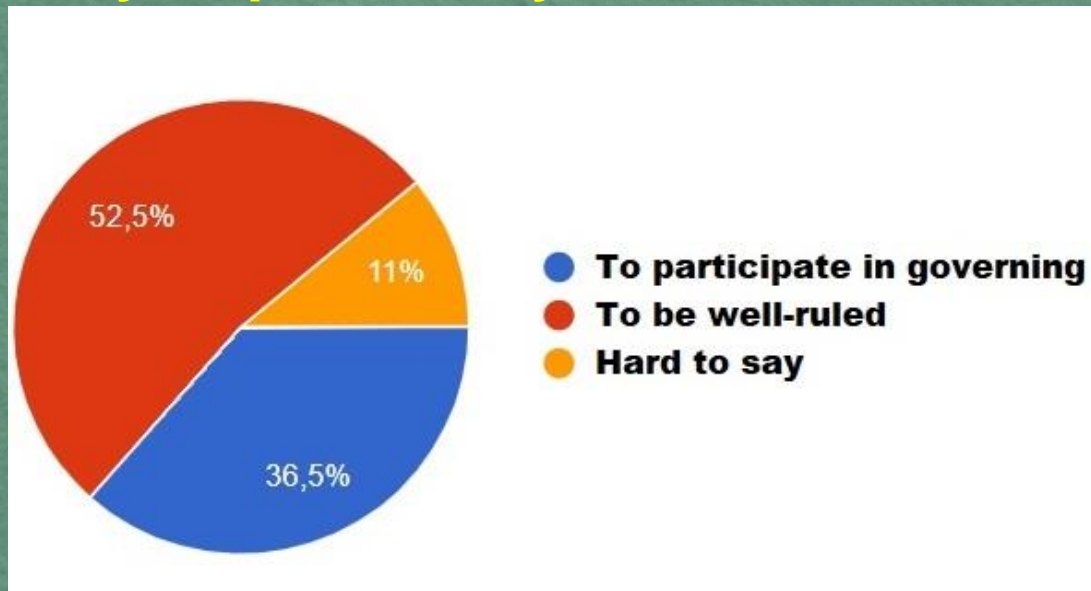




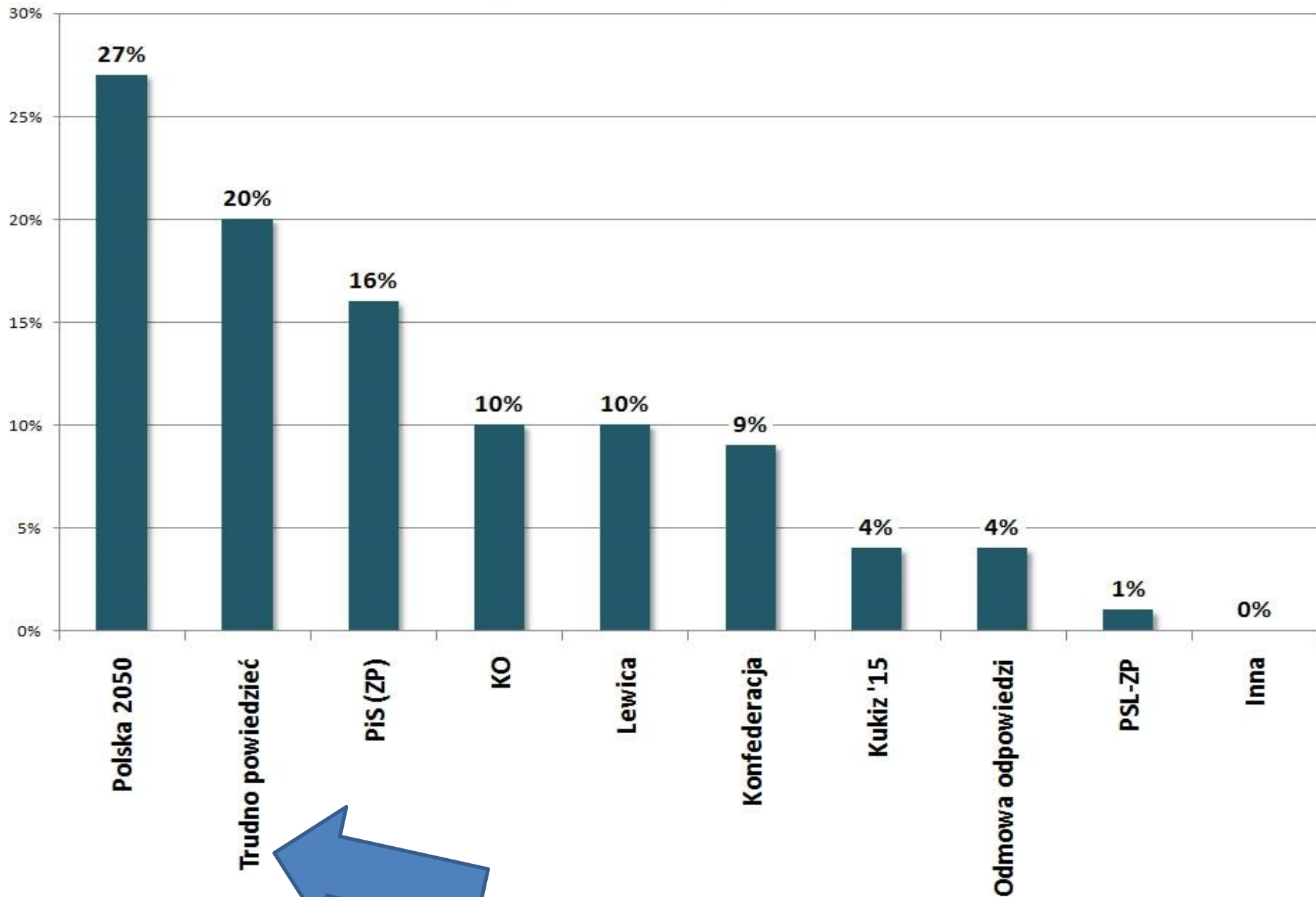
**Do you think young people's interests and problems are sufficiently represented in the public debate.**



**Do you personally care more about:**



## Wyborcy w wieku 18-24 lata







INSTITUTE OF POLITICAL SCIENCE  
PEDAGOGICAL UNIVERSITY OF CRACOW

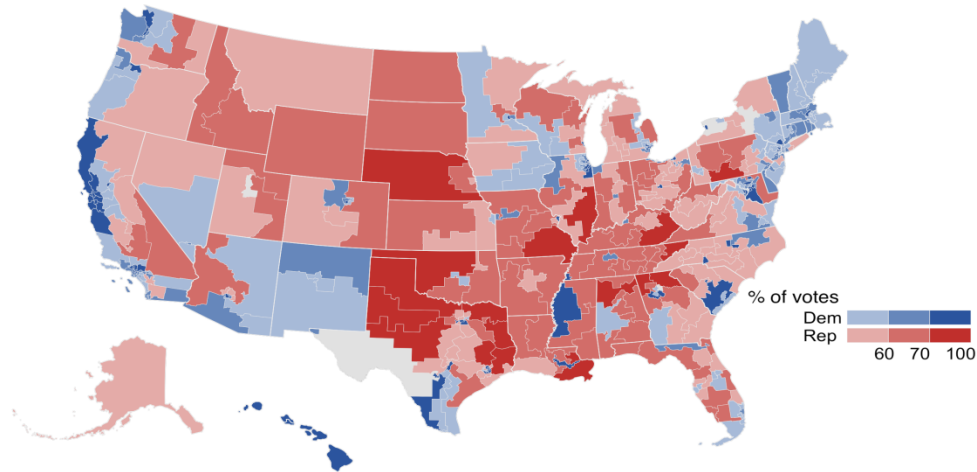


# Democrats take the House

Dem 232

218 to win

Rep 198

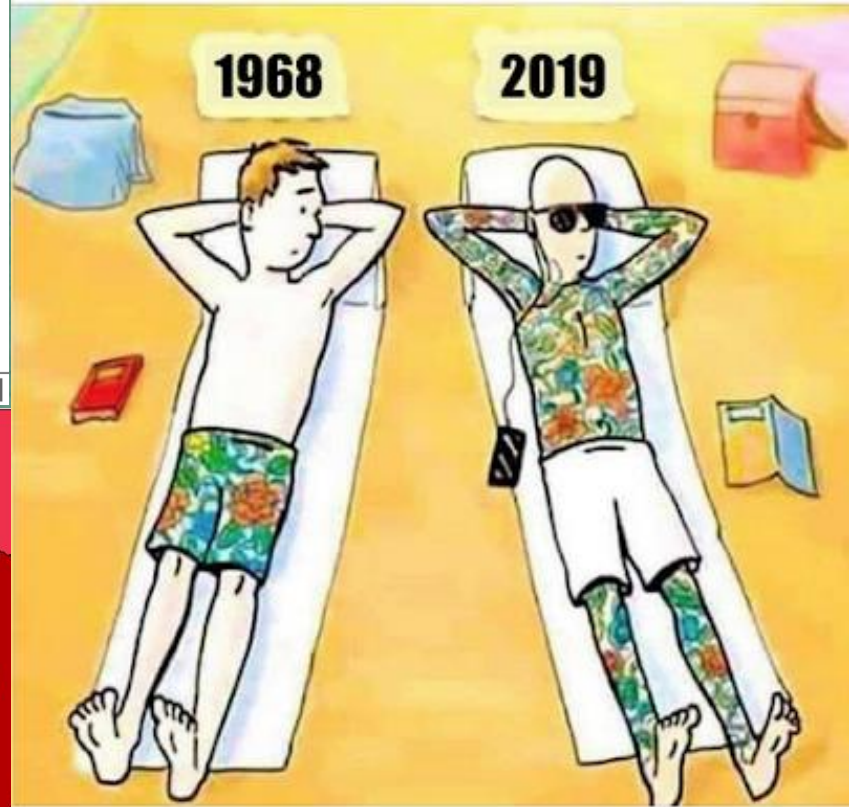
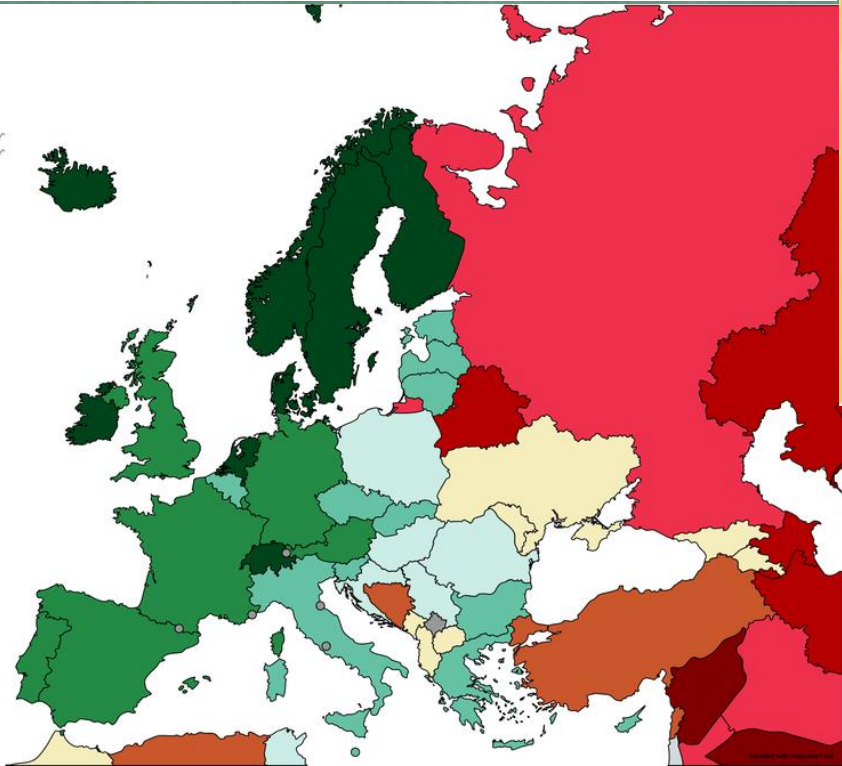


Source: AP. Grey districts are undeclared

BBC

## Countries and their Democracy Index scores

- 9-10 | "Full Democracy"
- 8-8.99 | "Full Democracy"
- 7-7.99 | "Flawed Democracy"
- 6-6.99 | "Flawed Democracy"
- 5-5.99 | "Hybrid Regime"
- 4-4.99 | "Hybrid Regime"
- 3-3.99 | "Authoritarian"
- 2-2.99 | "Authoritarian"
- 1-1.99 | "Authoritarian"
- No data





INSTITUTE OF POLITICAL SCIENCE  
PEDAGOGICAL UNIVERSITY OF CRACOW



**THANK YOU  
FOR  
LISTENING AND  
WATCHING  
MY PRESENTATION**

KeepCalmAndPosters.com