

EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

(To be filled in and uploaded as deliverable in the Portal Grant Management System, at the due date foreseen in the system.)

 *Please provide one sheet per event (one event = one workpackage = one lump sum.)*

| PROJECT | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Participant: | Projekt: Polska |
| PIC number: | 953473917 |
| Project name and acronym: | Bruised but not broken: reviving the appeal of the EU in the minds of V4 citizens. — RevivEU |

| EVENT DESCRIPTION | | | |
|--|---|---------------------------------|---|
| Event number: | 7.1 | | |
| Event name: | Public consultations on climate and migration | | |
| Type: | Public consultations | | |
| In situ/online: | in-situ | | |
| Location: | Regions of Poland (specified by NUTS 1 division) | | |
| Date(s): | 7-21.02.2023 | | |
| Website(s) (if any): | http://reviveu.net/activities/research/citizens-attitudes-towards-migration-and-climate/ | | |
| Participants | | | |
| Female: | 144 | | |
| Male: | 159 | | |
| Non-binary: | 0 | | |
| From country 1 [Poland]: | 303 | | |
| From country 2 [name]: | | | |
| From country 3 [name]: | | | |
| ... | | | |
| Total number of participants: | 303 | From total number of countries: | 1 |
| Description | | | |
| <i>Provide a short description of the event and its activities.</i> | | | |
| The first round of public consultations was carried out in multiple locations in the whole country. For the purpose of the project, Poland was divided into seven macroregions (South, North-West, South-West, North, Central, East and Mazovia) and participants from all these regions participated in | | | |

consultations. Consultations took place in small villages, towns, and big cities (including capital Warsaw).

In the consultations the following methodology was used: In-person individual consultations with Polish people aged 18+ carried in the whole territory of Poland (see previous paragraph) by professional facilitators (sociologists). The results of in-person consultations were supplemented by online survey (over 600 additional participants). The format used was chosen due to the nature of questionnaire and to facilitate as efficient consultations as possible. The average length of one interview was around 28 minutes, with about 78% of the time dedicated to the participants' answers to the pre-prepared questions and the rest of the time allowed for questions and feedback of the participants. These consisted of inquiries about the project, its goals and institutions behind it, as well as more topical questions about the EU, climate and migration.

The dominant feeling in Polish society is that things are going in the wrong direction. A total of 74% of respondents agree with this opinion. The period from Poland's accession to the European Union is rated the best. A total of 80% of respondents are satisfied with this fact. Changes after 1989 are also positively evaluated - a total of 70% of the consultations' participants feel satisfied. The period of the last 5 years receives the worst assessments - for 63% of the respondents it was a bad time, for 37% it was a good time (this result generally coincides with the electorate of the ruling party). The economic situation is perceived negatively. This is the opinion of a total of 72% of participants (compared to 29% who are of the opposite opinion). The feeling of distrust prevails in Polish society. Only 32% of participants agree with the statement that most people can be trusted - 67% are of the opposite opinion.

At the same time, participants have a strong sense of belonging to Europe. As many as 75% of them agree with this statement, 25% disagree with it. According to 56% of participants, our national interests align with those of the European Union - 45% think otherwise. It should be noted, however, that due to the dispute between the Polish government and EU institutions, this question raises some difficulties in interpretation (e.g. Poland's interests should align with those of the EU, but currently they are not). Participants are against the introduction of the euro currency. This is the opinion of as many as 72% of the participants. Euro supporters account only for 29%.

If elections to the European Parliament were held in the following week, 68% of consultations participants declared that they would take part in them (29% definitely). Their political preferences show equal support for the two main parties: PiS 25.9% (ruling party) and Civic Coalition 25% (the largest opposition party). The anti-European Confederation has a high score (11.8%). It should be noted, however, that the survey was carried out in February, and the current preferences have slightly changed. However, there is an increase in support for the aforementioned right-wing Confederation. The vast majority of participants are in favor of Poland remaining in the European Union. 82% of respondents think so. Willingness to stay in the EU is positively correlated with the level of interest in politics (the more we are interested in politics the more positively we perceive EU).

A positive attitude towards the European Union is expressed by a total of 71% of consultations participants, 22% rather negatively and only 8% negatively. Women and young people (aged 18-29) have a slightly more positive attitude towards the EU. The older the participant, the lower the acceptance for the European Union, although this is a very weak correlation. The EU is also supported by better educated and wealthy people. However, there is no statistically significant correlation between the financial situation of the participants and their attitude towards the European Union. The highest support for the European Union is also recorded in large cities. Sentences regarding the distribution of power between individual member states and the European Union are divided: 35% think that individual member states should have more power than now, while 21% think that it's EU that should have more power than now; 20% are comfortable with the distribution of powers as it is now. Many of participants (25%) have no opinion on this question.

The consultations brought interesting answers that confirmed findings of previous research confirming widespread polarization of Polish population, and deep anger of the opposition supporters. Very intriguing finding were four attitudes that influence attitudes towards migrants: 1. A positive assessment of ties with the EU influences a positive assessment of the phenomenon of migration in the cultural and economic aspect. 2. Along with the increase in wealth, the positive assessment of the economic and cultural contribution of migrants increases. 3. Liberal attitudes influence positive attitudes towards migration. 4. It should be noted that economic views do not affect the assessment of migrants, as well as the generalized sense of optimism/openness of the respondents.

The most essential, and politically sensitive, was part of the consultations regarding Ukrainian migrants in Poland. Still majority of Poles believe Poland should help refugees from Ukraine, but the trend is changing. 60% of participants are afraid that the arrival of Ukrainian refugees in Poland will lead to reduction in the quality of public services for our citizens, and 51% are afraid that the arrival of Ukrainian refugees in Poland will result in weakening of the economy. 44% of participants think that Poland should provide less support to Ukrainian refugees. 1/3 of them changed their opinion about people from Ukraine into a worse one, since the full-scale invasion started. With the increase in negative opinions about the EU, the reluctance to allow Ukrainian citizens to stay in Poland increases.

These data should be elaborated by Polish authorities and NGO, and further in-depth research is necessary.

Regarding climate change, the most interesting finding is that the participants indicate that the greatest responsibility for combating climate change lies with "business and industry" and countries outside the European Union (USA, China). The smallest responsibility rests with individuals and non-governmental organizations. People strongly associated with the EU indicate the UN countries and the governments of EU countries as the main causes of climate change. In turn, people who notice climate change in their everyday lives consider non-EU countries as well as business and industry to be the main responsible of climate change effects.

The consultation should definitely be considered a success, since it brought new, intriguing data about attitudes of Poles that should be analyzed in detailed. This data set is a promising starting point for further activities within the RevivEU project and will contribute to a useful comparative report.

| HISTORY OF CHANGES | | |
|--------------------|------------------|------------------|
| VERSION | PUBLICATION DATE | CHANGE |
| 1.0 | 29.06.2023 | Initial version. |
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