

POLAND

To the West through the East and South

Ela Drazkiewicz-Grodzicka

2009 Annual Report
POLAND'S
DEVELOPMENT
CO-OPERATION

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND
Development Co-operation Department



Polish aid



POLSKA POMOC
ZAGRANICZNA 2009



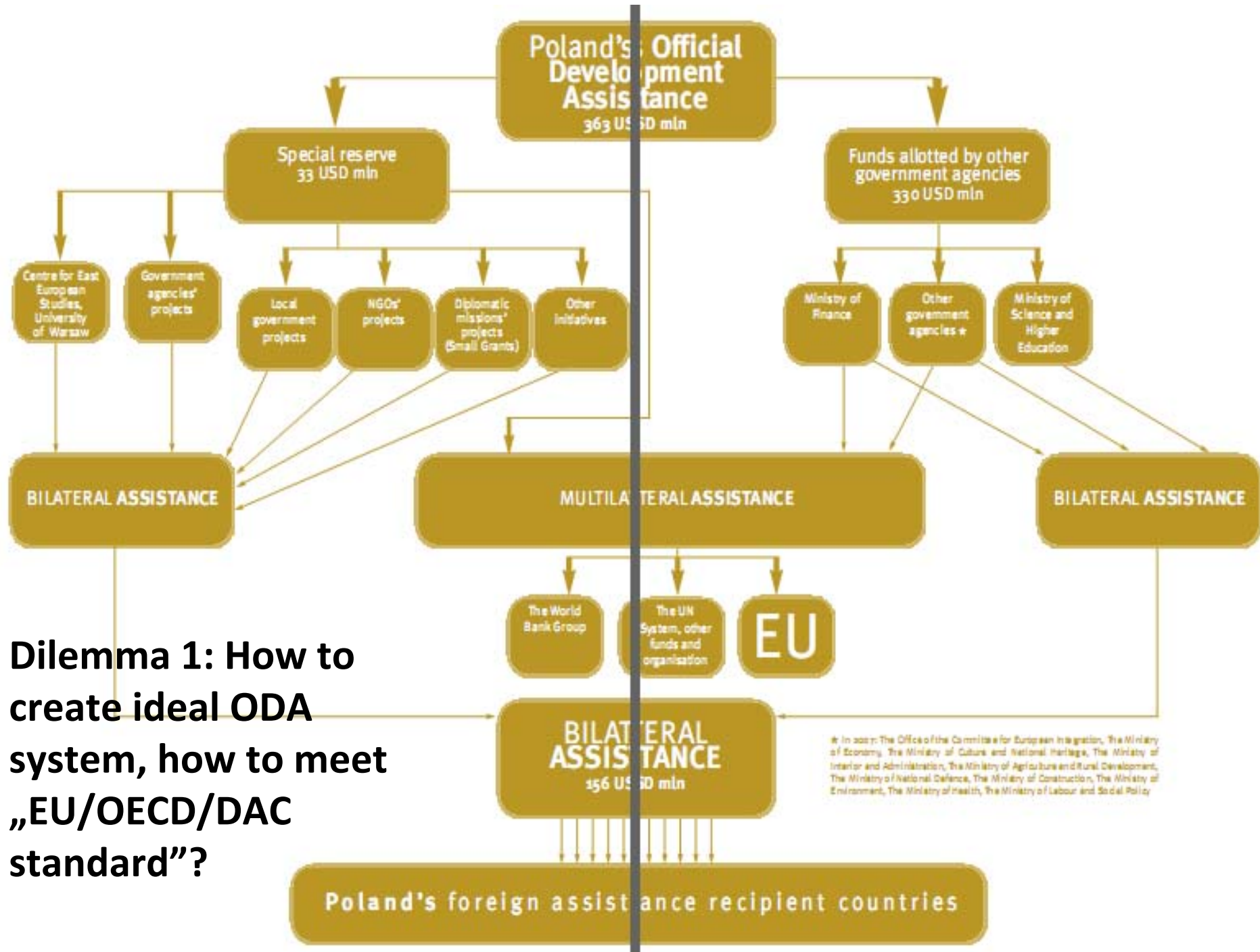
WARSZAWA 2010

To the West through the East and back..

From recipient to donor?

Poland and development: historical perspective

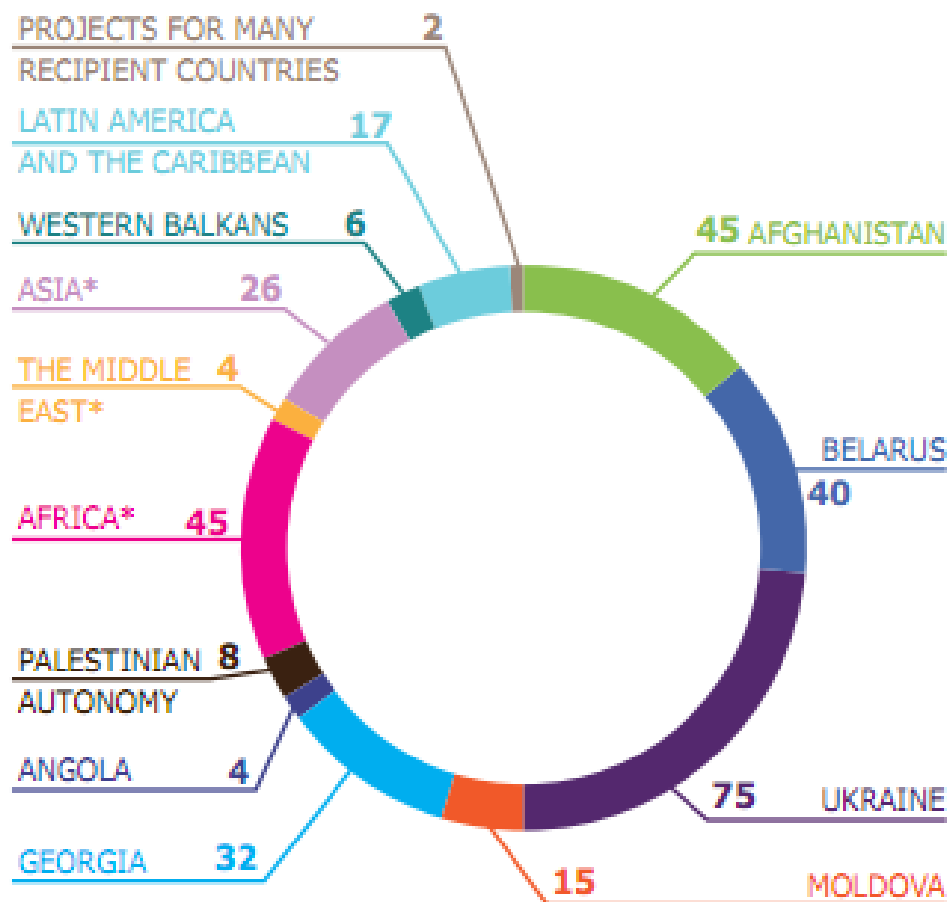
- Poland as a donor within Comecon community
- Poland as aid recipient (1970s and 1980s)
- Poland as subject of development schemes (Sachs, Balcerowicz, the EU)
- Poland as EU donor



Dilemma 1: How to create ideal ODA system, how to meet „EU/OECD/DAC standard“?

PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED IN 2009 AND FINANCED BY MFA /divisions by countries and regions/

Source: MFA own elaboration



**Dilemma 2:
Directions of Polish
Aid:
Going East or Going
South?**

POLES ON DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

Dilemma 3: Support vs. Ignorance

*Findings from a TNS OBOP Study for
the Ministry of Foreign Affairs*

Warsaw, December 2010.

IN YOUR OPINION, SHOULD POLAND SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT OF LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES OR NOT? ¹⁾							
	Sept. 2004	Dec. 2005	Dec. 2006	Nov. 2007	Dec.2008	Nov.2009	Nov.2010
definitely should	12%	12%	25%	28%	24%	28%	19%
<i>SHOULD</i>	<i>63%</i>	<i>69%</i>	<i>75%</i>	<i>77%</i>	<i>84%</i>	<i>83%</i>	<i>79%</i>
probably should	51%	57%	50%	49%	60%	55%	60%
probably should not	24%	20%	12%	10%	8%	8%	11%
<i>SHOULD NOT</i>	<i>35%</i>	<i>25%</i>	<i>17%</i>	<i>13%</i>	<i>12%</i>	<i>12%</i>	<i>16%</i>
definitely should not	11%	5%	5%	3%	4%	4%	5%
<i>don't know</i>	<i>2%</i>	<i>6%</i>	<i>8%</i>	<i>10%</i>	<i>4%</i>	<i>5%</i>	<i>5%</i>
NET SUPPORT	28	44	58	64	72	71	63

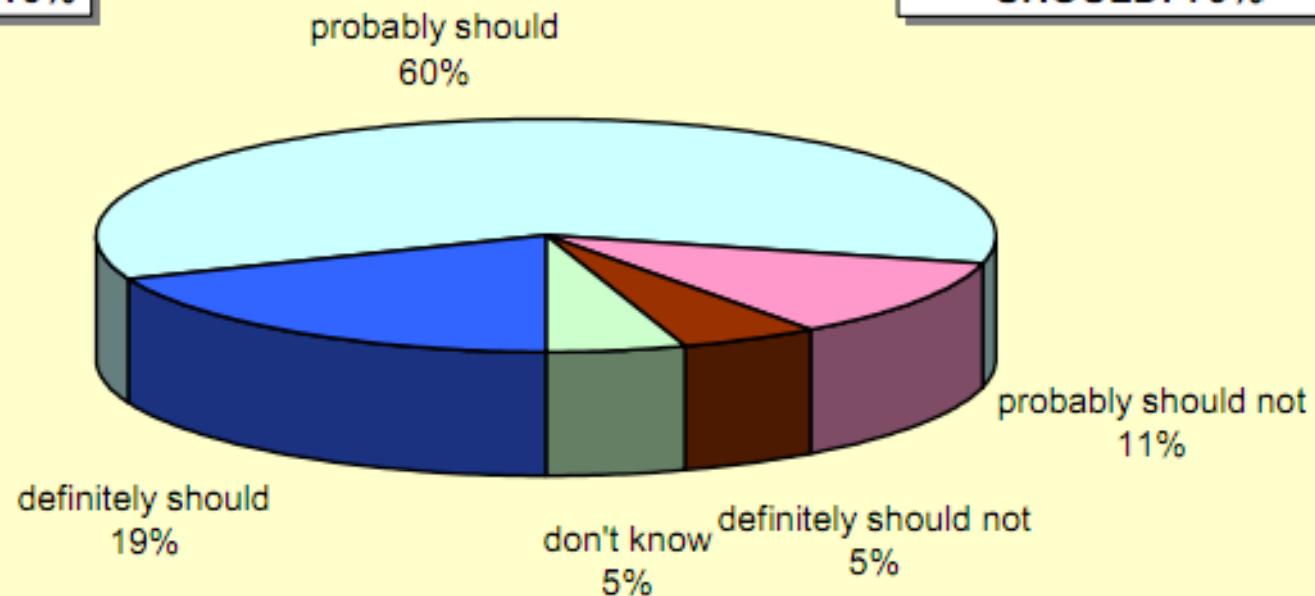
Answers given in italics were not read out to the respondents

MANY COUNTRIES AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT OF LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. THEY HELP THEM FINANCIALLY AND MATERIALLY AND SEND SPECIALISTS. THE AIM OF THAT ASSISTANCE IS TO SUPPORT ECONOMIC GROWTH, REDUCE POVERTY, SUPPORT DEMOCRATIC REFORMS, THE RULE OF LAW AND SELF-GOVERNANCE, PREVENT DOMESTIC CONFLICTS AND IMPROVE GLOBAL SAFETY. DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE IS NOT THE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE WHICH IS PROVIDED AD HOC IN THE CASE OF HUMANITARIAN CRISES, NATURAL DISASTERS, MILITARY CONFLICTS, ETC. BUT IS AIMED TO SUPPORT SUSTAINABLE GROWTH OF POOR COUNTRIES.

IN YOUR OPINION, SHOULD POLAND SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT OF LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES OR NOT?

SHOULD NOT: 16%

SHOULD: 79%



'Don't know' was not read out to the respondents as an answer option

IF SO, WHY?

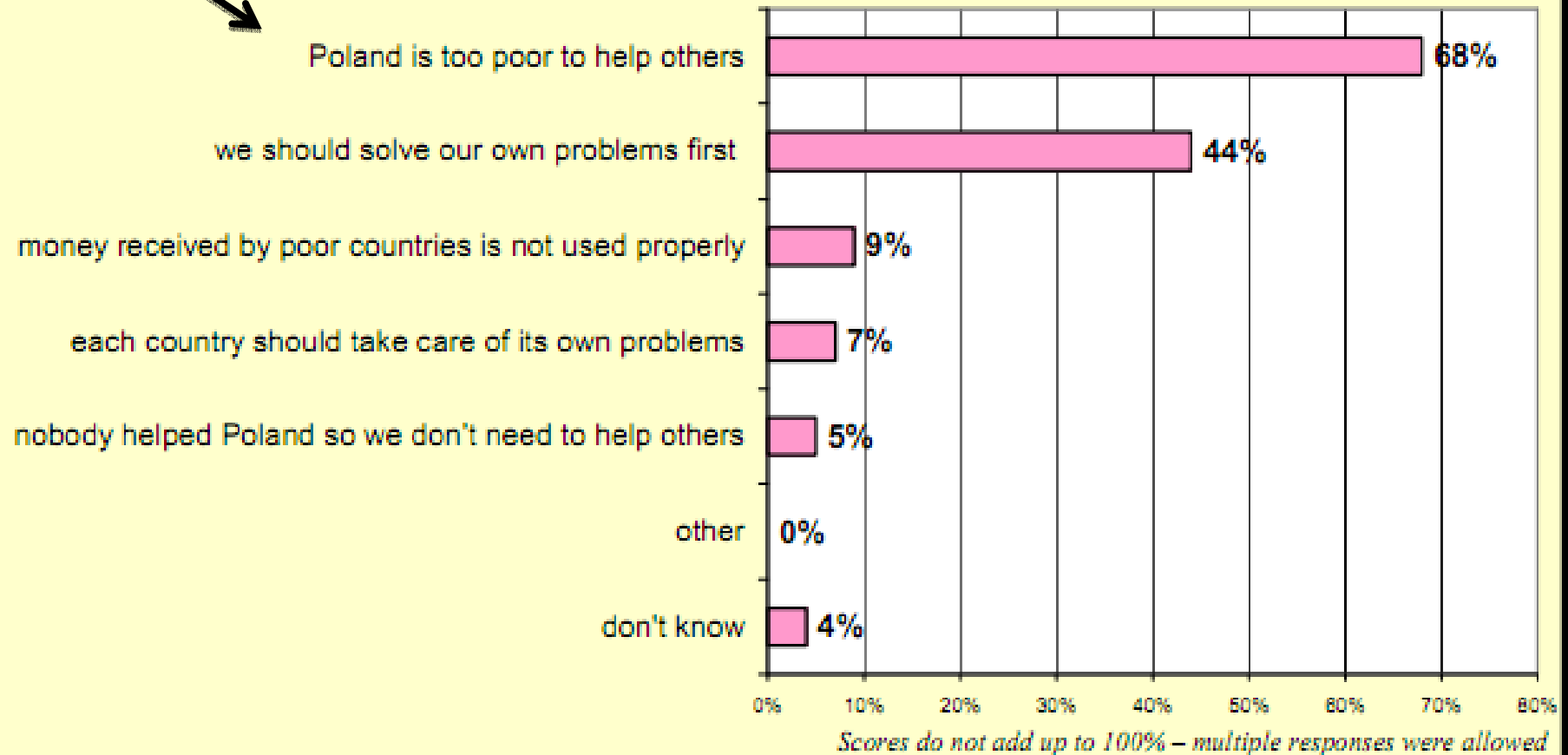


Scores do not add up to 100% – multiple responses were allowed

N=794

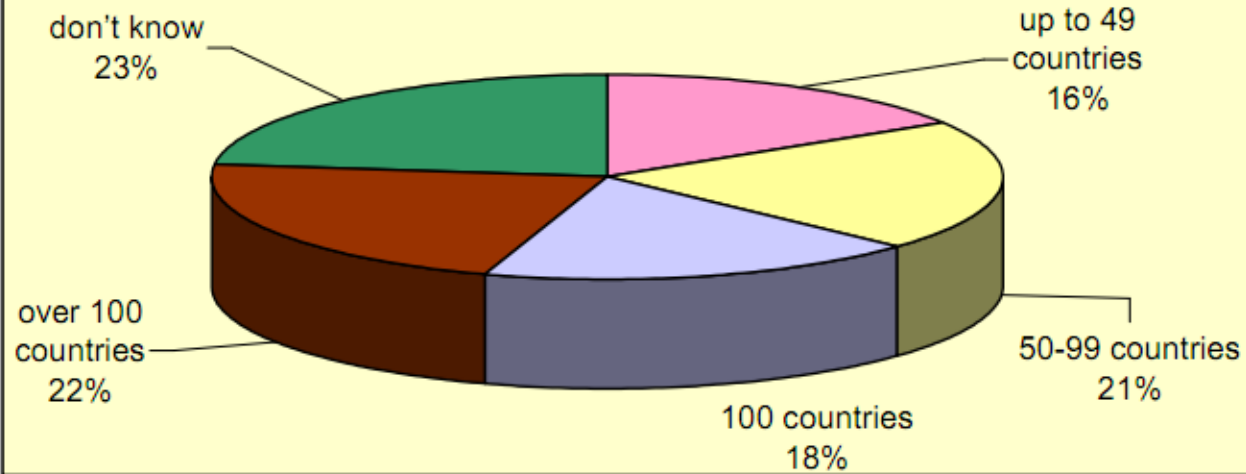
'Don't know' was not read out to the respondents as an answer option

IF NOT, WHY?

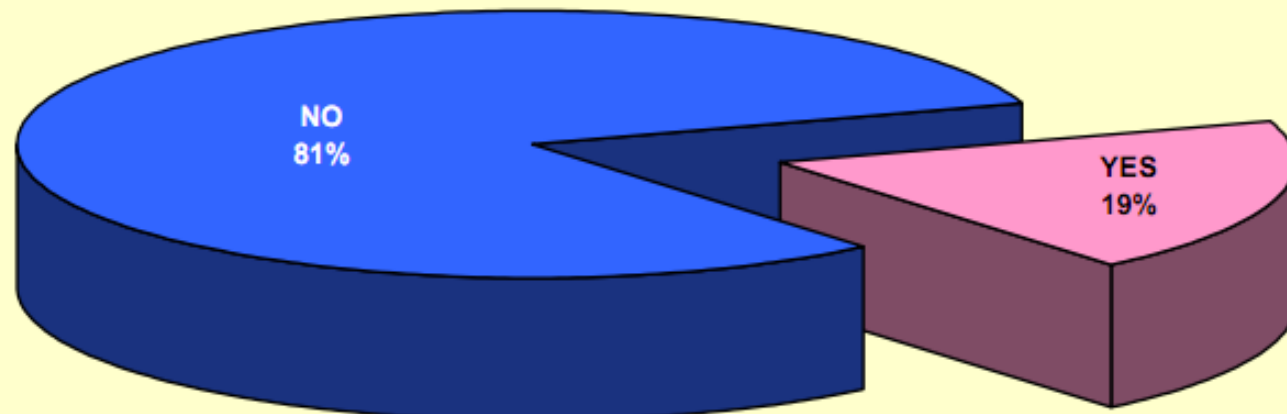


N=162

HOW MANY OF THE 200 COUNTRIES IN THE WORLD DO YOU THINK ARE POORER AND LESS DEVELOPED THAN POLAND?



HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT UN MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS AIMING TO REDUCE WORLD POVERTY BY 2015?



“Izabela Wilczyńska, PAH: In European Parliament there is an ongoing debate about development cooperation. Is Poland on the same “track” with EU on that subject?

Filip Kaczmarek, EU MP: Not always. Poland is very much focused on itself. It is understandable. After years of dependency from the powerful neighbor we are enjoying the possibility of undertaking independent foreign policy. It is clear that for Poland the most important is European Neighboring policy, with a special emphasis on its Eastern Dimension.

Development Cooperation is perceived as an exotic. However it must not be dismissed, because for the reasons difficult to understand in Poland, EU pays a lot of attention to it. It means that Poland is not dismissing it but rather does not exactly understands the meaning of development cooperation (...)

I.W.: Why do we have such a small knowledge about those issues?

F.K.: There are various reasons behind that. We have never been especially interested in Africa, and we do not feel this moral burden resulting from colonialism. Furthermore we often think that firstly we should take care of the poverty in Poland. If we want Poles to understand development issues well we have to continuously carry out intensive educational actions”

**Co trzeba zrobić
w sprawie,
którą popiera
84% Polaków**

POLSKA WSPÓŁPRACA NA RZECZ ROZWOJU

**Educating Polish
society:**

***Development
education**

budget of approx 1mln PLN

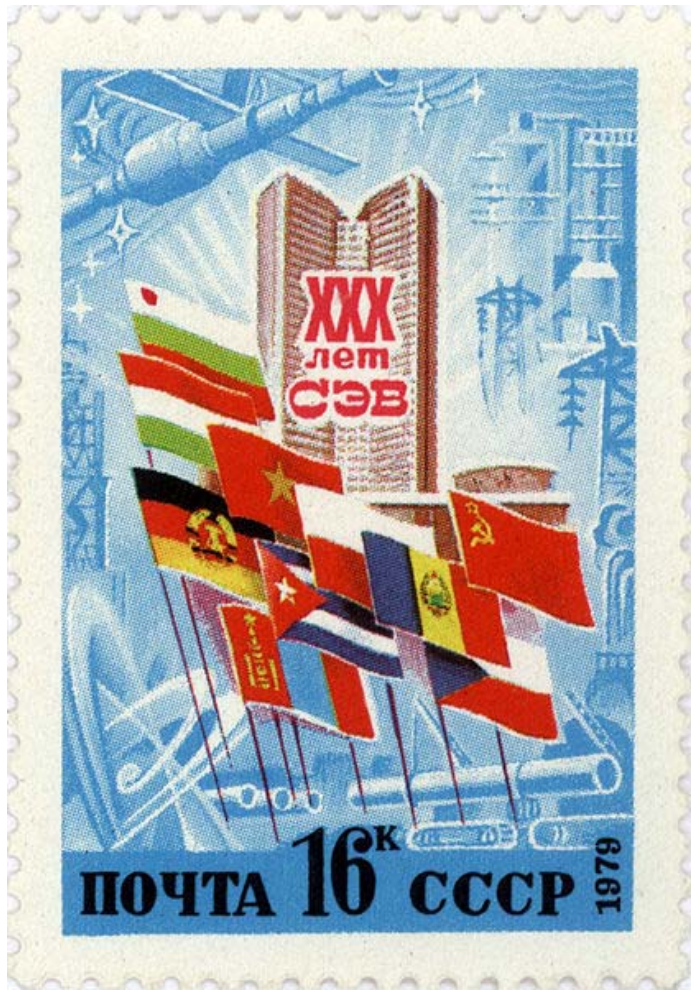
Development discourses

1. (non) Historical perspective:

according the 2003 Strategy For Poland's Development Cooperation (MFA 2003):

“the primary factors influencing international development co-operation include: a) Globalisation in the world economy, combined with liberalisation of financial transfers and the emergence of a knowledge-based economy on a world scale; b) **The end of the Cold War** and democratisation in Central and Eastern Europe, which increased the competition for aid funds between developing countries and those undergoing systemic transformation (...)”.





polska  pomoc



**2. Poland as an „Emerging Donor”
vs. „Established Donors”
Becoming a donor = „international
obligation”,
„EU standard” = becoming member
of the western club, becoming
„modern”**



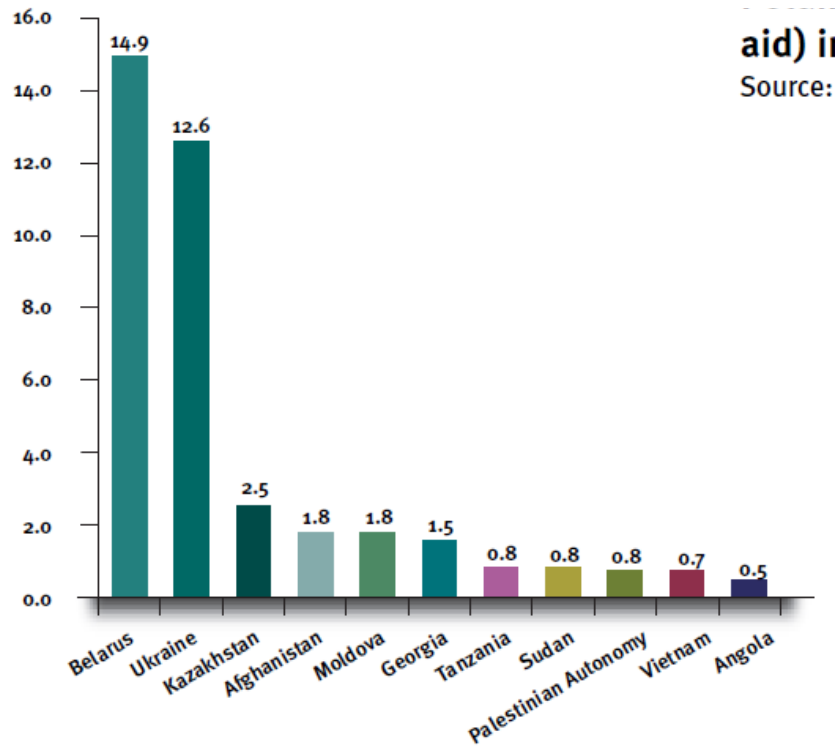
With the accession to the EU in 2004 Poland started to fulfill its obligations resulting from the membership in the community of countries deeply engaged in development aid and dedicating to that goal the biggest percentage of their budgets.

The prospect of Polish Presidency in 2011 requires the creation of the aid system, which would enable **Polish leadership** among the countries which have in this field extensive experience as well as powerful institutions and budgets. It is a **chance to become known in the international public opinion** – both among donors as well as recipients of aid – **as a country which is responsible, generous and strong.** (Wojtalik 2008: 3)

3. AID AS A GIFT

- **General logic of the gift chain – the obligation to participate in the exchange**
- **Particular logic of the gift:**
„You have had a personal debt with French people. But at the same time, we all got “debited” with them, and others, we that is a nation” (Ochojska and Bonowicz 2000: 102)

4. Sharing experiences



“We support our eastern neighbours in their reform efforts. **Poland**, which in Central and Eastern Europe **paved the way towards** market economy, **towards democratic rule of law, towards building a civic society**, has extensive experience in these matters. We are prepared to share this experience even further with countries that are transforming their economies and state institutions or that intended to embark upon the reform track”

(Lech Kaczynski 2006)

This week, I flew to Benghazi to meet Libya's Transitional National Council (TNC), (...)

I was the first Western foreign minister to travel to Libya since the crisis began. What I saw reminded me of my country 20 years ago, (...).

Peoples in transition from authoritarian rule - peaceful in Poland in 1989, bloody in Libya today - grapple with decisions that determine their fate for decades. (...) The former communist world made those choices 20 years ago. But very different choices - for better and for worse - were made in Poland, Hungary, and Czechoslovakia, in the Baltic states, across the former Soviet Union, in Central Asia, and in East Germany.

Today's Arab reformers thus can draw on our successes - and avoid our mistakes.

We central Europeans knew the misery of communism. Yet we knew what we wanted to replace it with - a system based on modern European democratic market values. Building democratic structures requires time, discipline, pain, and patience. But it pays off. In July, Poland will assume the EU presidency for the first time; **we have earned this responsibility to lead European affairs over the next six months.**

Radek Sikorski, *The frontline of democracy,*

<http://english.aljazeera.net/indepth/opinion/2011/05/2011516133851132430.html>

“We know what it is like to receive aid”

- Institutional arrangements
- The choice of „partners”
- Morality vs. international politics

4. Global interconnectivity

Jak mówić o większości świata

Jak rzetelnie informować
o krajach globalnego Południa



The Code of Conduct on Images and Messages
How to Talk About the Majority of the World:
how to honestly inform about the countries of the global South

Global Education?

- Development/global education aims to **“open people’s eyes and minds to the realities of the world,** and awaken them to bring about a world of greater justice, equity and human rights for all. Global Education is understood to encompass Development Education, Human Rights Education, Education for Sustainability, Education for Peace and Conflict Prevention and Intercultural Education; being the global dimensions of Education for Citizenship” (Europe-wide Global Education Congress 2002).

Discovering Africa

*More than anything, one is struck by the light. Light everywhere. Brightness everywhere. Everywhere, the sun. ... Suddenly, still rubbing our eyes, we find ourselves in a humid inferno. We immediately start to sweat. ...Something else strikes the new arrival even as he descends the steps of the airplane: the **smell of the tropics**.*

Ryszard Kapuściński





edrazkiewicz@gmail.com

Acknowledgments:

CAMBRIDGE GATES TRUST
PEMBROKE COLLEGE