



# PULSE OF THE WEEK

## #10

Researching public opinion on the most important events of the week

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# AS RUSSIAN FEDERATION BEGINS ENERGY TERROR, UKRAINE IN RESPONSE STRENGTHENS AIR DEFENSE AND COLLECTS FUNDS FOR ENERGY SUPPORT

In recent weeks, Russia attacked energy infrastructure facilities 60 times with various types of weapons, the press service of the Ministry of Energy of Ukraine reports.

Just in one day, on November 6, more than 32,000 consumers were reconnected to power.

Major General Vadym Skibitskyi, a representative of the Defence Intelligence of the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine, suggests that the Russians are waiting for the temperature to drop below zero in order to deliver massive strikes exactly when electricity consumption reaches its peak.

“After each new attack, the need for energy equipment grows, so the help partners provide to the Ukrainian energy sector is extremely important,” the Ministry of Energy said in a statement.

On November 7, the President of Ukraine, Volodymyr Zelenskyi, spoke about strengthening Ukrainian air defense before winter. Additional NASAMS systems from partners were put on combat duty.

According to the head of the Ministry of Energy Herman Halushchenko, the Ukraine Energy Support Fund has become an effective tool for attracting grant funds from partners to purchase equipment and conduct restoration. 192 million euros were actually transferred to the Fund’s account from 15 public and private sector donors from different countries. Also, there was an announcement about the contributions in the amount of 322 million euros, which are expected in the Fund’s account in the near future.

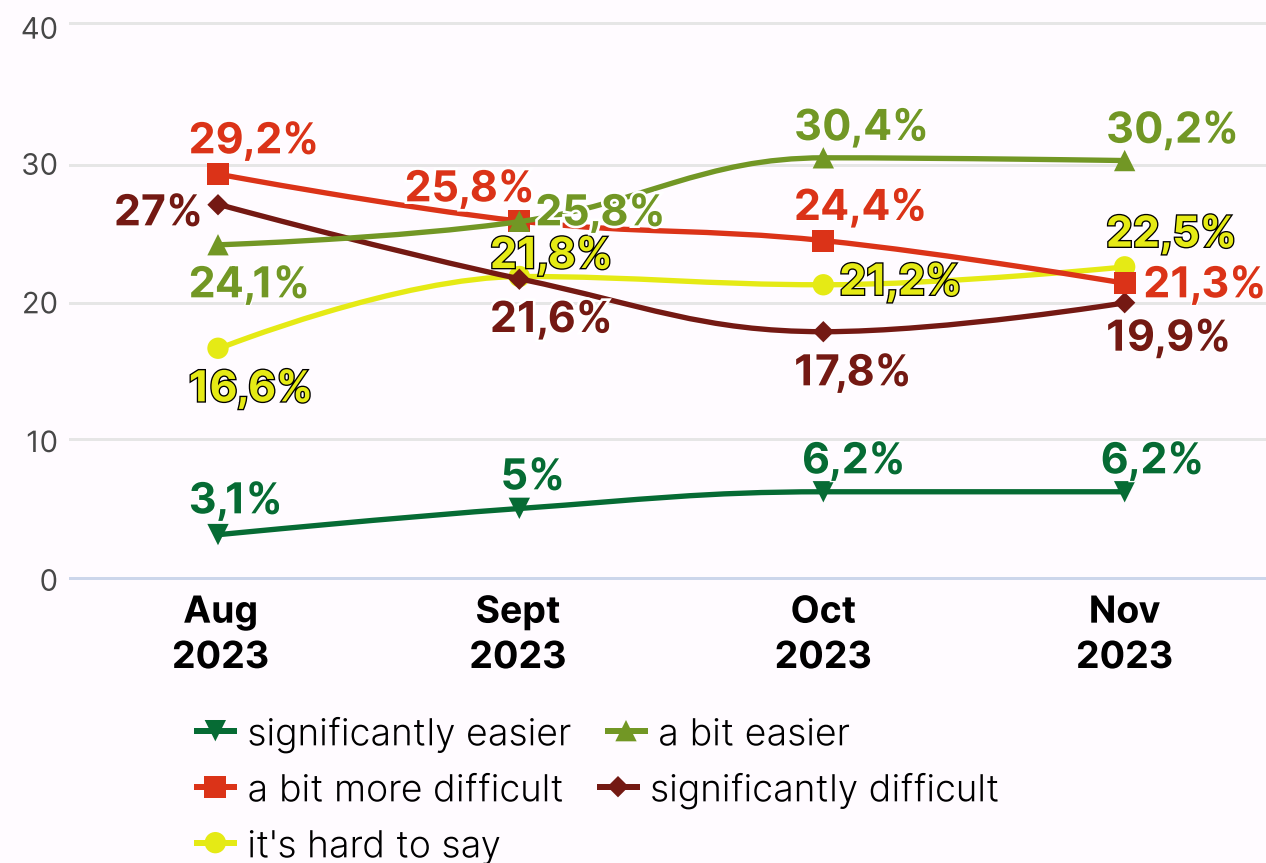
The working group has already approved requests for the purchase of equipment and fuel worth more than 310 million euros. And for the period from January to the beginning of October 2023, within the framework of the Fund, more than 200 agreements were concluded to purchase energy equipment.

**Sources:** UNIAN, Ukrinform, Suspilne

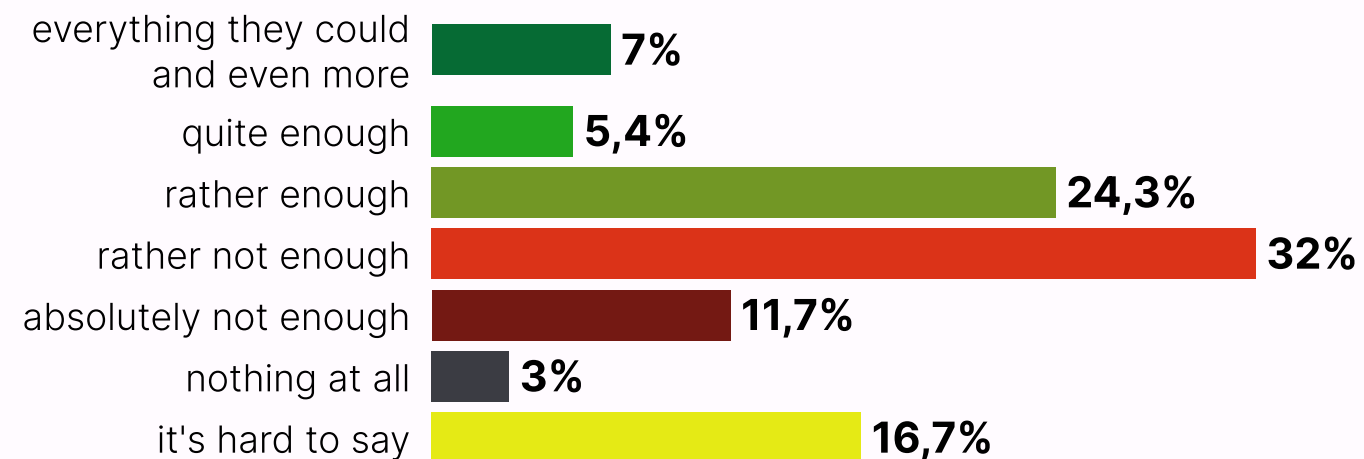


**Public opinion**

**In your opinion, will the next winter for the energy systems of Ukraine be more difficult or easier than the previous one?**



**In your opinion, have the Ukrainian authorities done enough to protect energy infrastructure?**



# THE CONCEPT OF UKRAINE'S MINISTRY OF DEFENSE MILITARY PERSONNEL POLICY WAS APPROVED

The Minister of Defense of Ukraine Rustem Umierov signed an order approving the Ministry's Concept of Military Personnel Policy until 2028.

"The main emphasis of the concept is to make sure that the needs of the Armed Forces of Ukraine in personnel during a full-scale war are met, integration into the Euro-Atlantic security space, interoperability of Ukraine's Armed Forces with the armed forces of NATO member states," the Ministry of Defense explained.

The implementation of the concept, as expected, will result in the Armed Forces switching to military service under a contract. Long-term military service will be replaced by intensive military training of citizens of conscription age. A people-centered approach to the management of servicemen's careers is going to be provided for, taking into account their education, professional development, and gender equality. Equal opportunities for men and women in the Armed Forces.

The list of innovations also includes an improved electronic military accounting system; automated and digitalized personnel management processes; expanded cooperation between Ukrainian universities and universities of NATO and EU member states; an effective and transparent system of monetary support for military personnel and providing them with housing.

The concept addresses also the issue of improved psychological support; a new culture of relations between commanders and subordinates; appropriate conditions for the transition from military career to civilian life for the servicemen who are subject to release from military service.

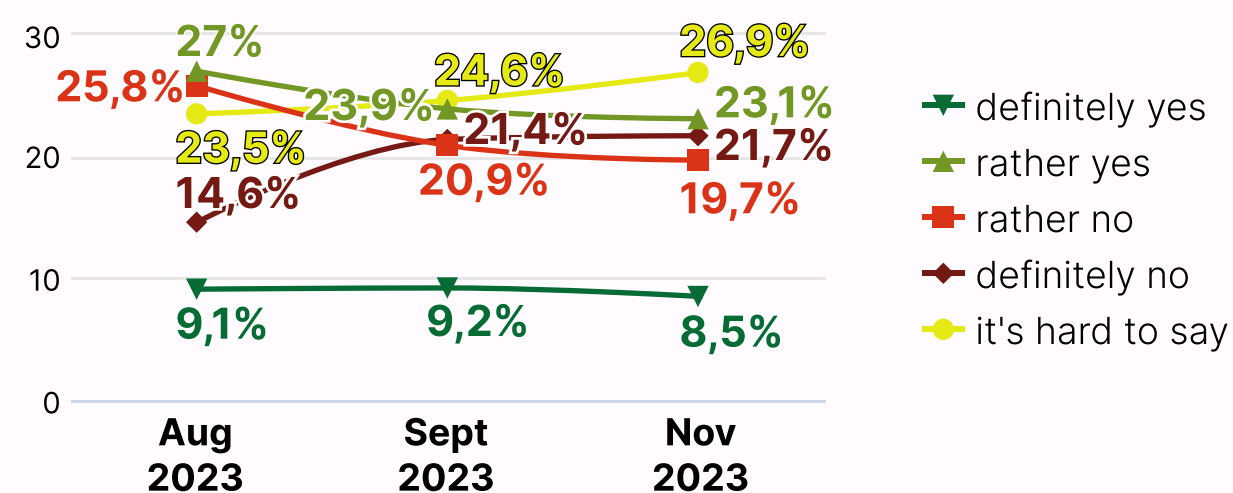
The Personnel Management Committee in the system of the Ministry of Defense will conduct the monitoring and evaluation of the results of the implementation of the concept.

**Sources:** Radio Svoboda, UNIAN

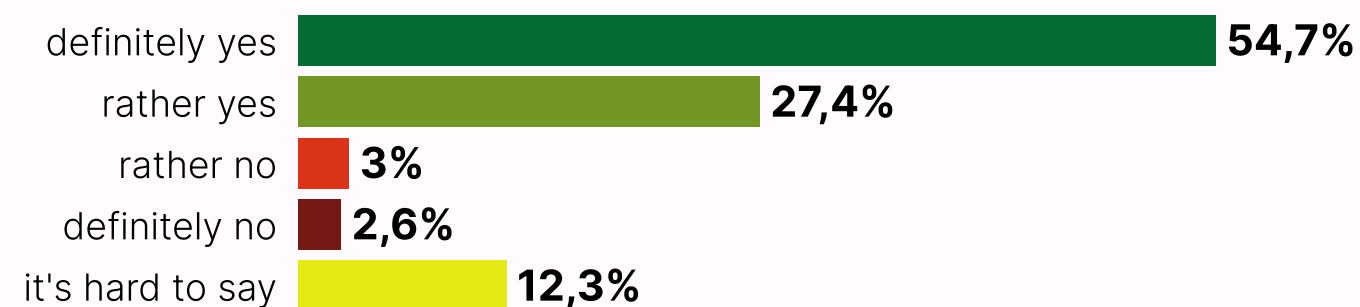


Public opinion

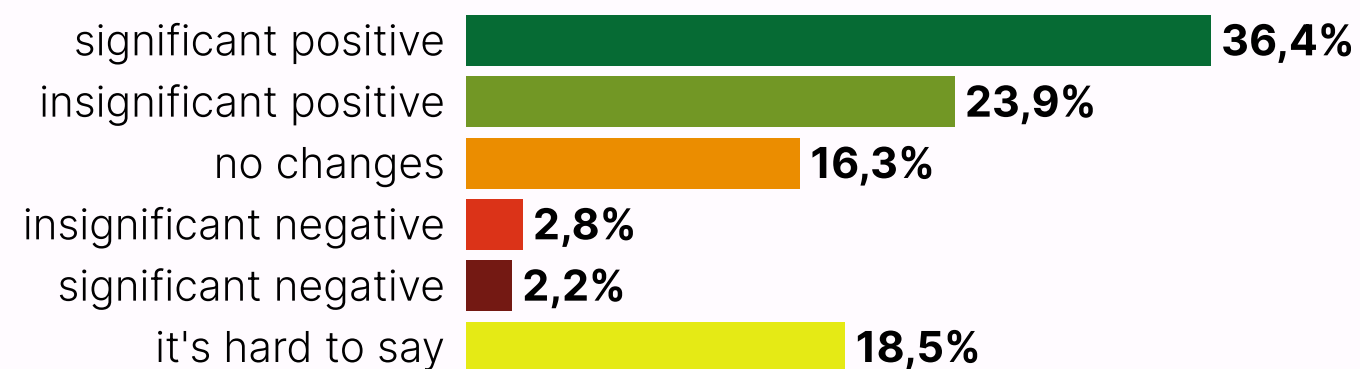
## In your opinion, should the mobilization be strengthened in Ukraine?



## Should the military personnel policy be reformed in Ukraine?



## What changes in the conditions of service in the AFU do you expect due to implementation of the new concept of the military personnel policy?



# CAN UKRAINE START NEGOTIATIONS ON JOINING THE EU?

The European Commission recommends the European Council to start negotiations on Ukraine's accession to the European Union, but so far more than 90% of the reforms have been implemented, not 100%.

Therefore, in March 2024 the European Commission will present its report on Ukraine implementing the necessary reforms. President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen said this at a press conference on November 8. According to her, Ukraine has demonstrated progress in reforming the justice system, in selecting members for the Supreme Council of Justice, regarding the anti-corruption program, the fight against money laundering, it has taken important measures to limit the influence of oligarchs on state politics, as well as approved the new law on media and made progress in the issue of national minorities protection.

President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, commenting on the statement of the President of the EC, emphasized that despite all the difficulties, Ukraine is moving forward in this matter. Thus, already in December, he is expecting a political decision from the European Council.

However, not all EU countries are inclined to support Ukraine's European integration path. In particular, the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Poland Pawel Jablonskyi said that Ukraine will not join the EU until the victims of the Volyn massacre are exhumated. The official also noted that the Polish authorities will continue to work on issuing a permit for exhumation quickly.

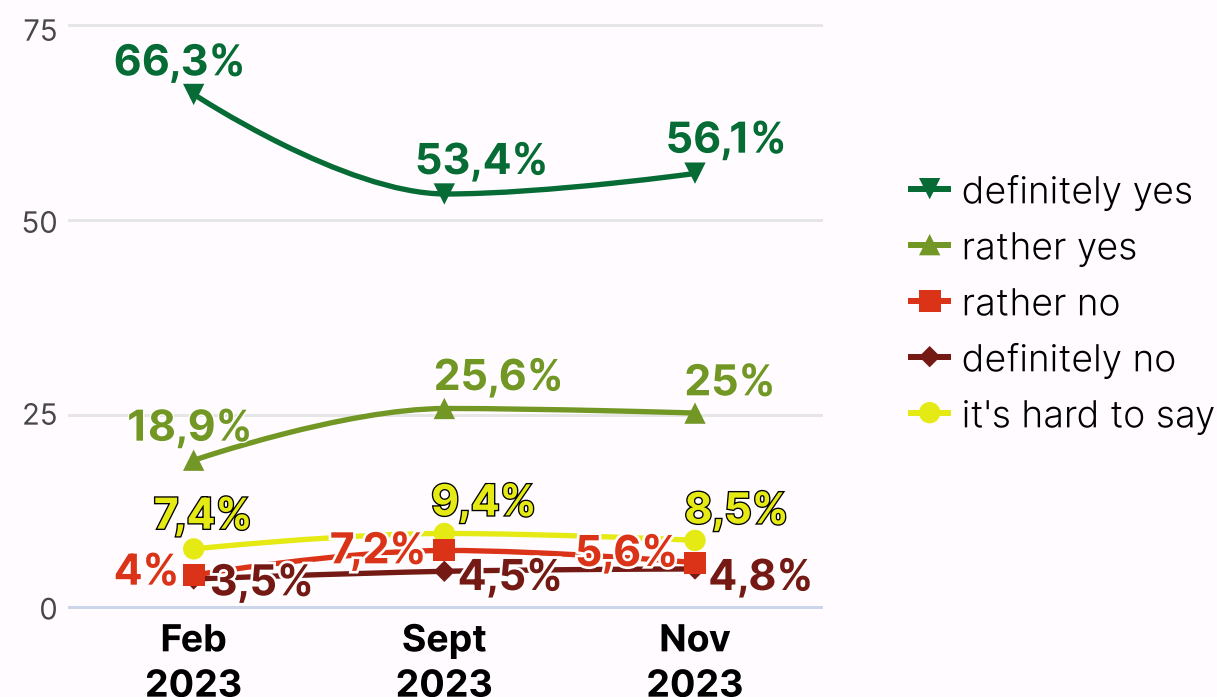
Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orbán also spoke out against the negotiations on Ukraine becoming a member of the EU. At the same time, Orbán noted that Brussels "owes Hungary money", but denied that the issue of Ukraine is somehow related to the dispute between Brussels and Budapest.

Sources: UNIAN, Interfax-Ukraine, Radio Svoboda

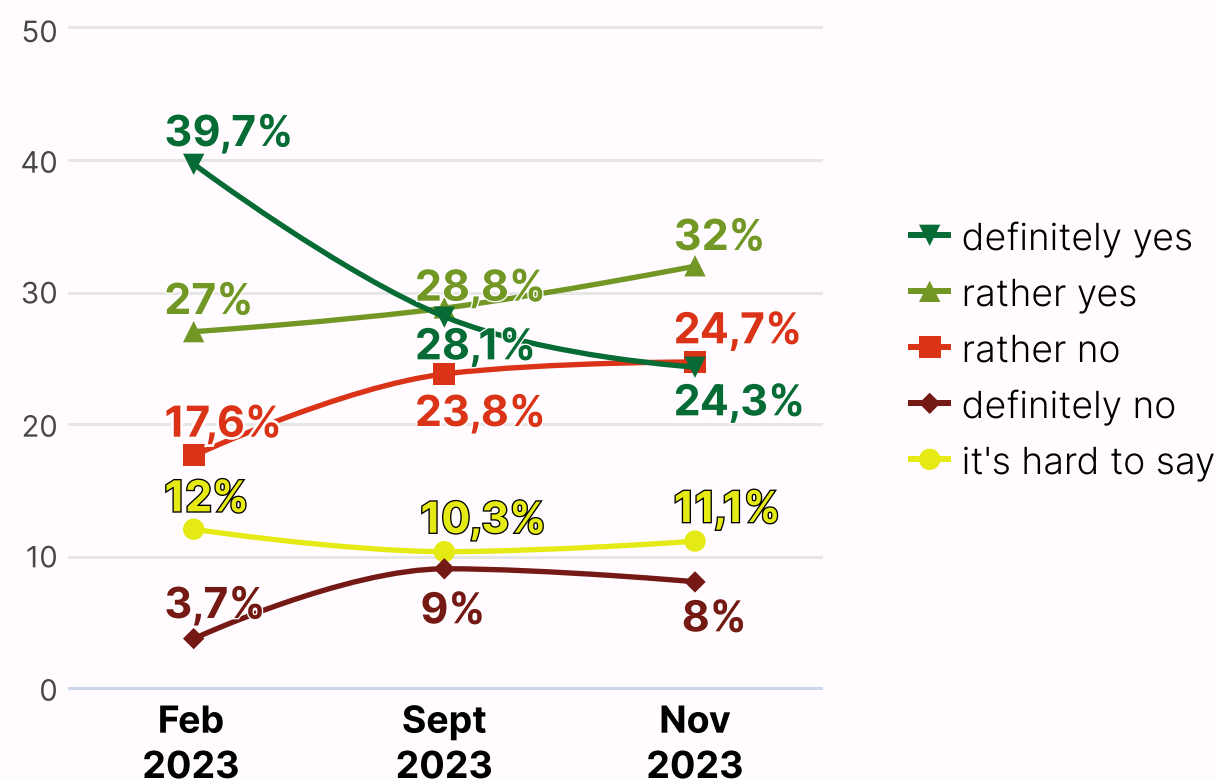


Public opinion

## Should Ukraine become a member of the European Union?



## Does the European Union need Ukraine?



# POLISH CARRIERS STAGED A STRIKE AT THE BORDER WITH UKRAINE, BLOCKING THE MOVEMENT OF TRUCKS

On November 9, the movement of about 1,700 vehicles was blocked at the checkpoints “Yagodin”, “Krakivets” and “Rava-Ruska” due to a strike by Polish carriers.

Half of this number of cars is staying on the route to the checkpoint “Yagodin”.

The organizers of the protest announced their intention to allow one truck per hour, as well as vehicles with cargo of a secure, humanitarian nature, those transporting animals, and perishable products.

The Ministry of Development of Communities, Territories and Infrastructure of Ukraine said that blocking the border harms the interests of both countries and creates risks for the operation of the “Paths of Solidarity” initiative.

“If there is an official and reasoned position from the Polish partners, we are open to a constructive dialogue. It is important for us that the interests of the carriers from both countries are taken into account. We want to assure carriers and exporters: the team is working around the clock to find solutions to unblock checkpoints as soon as possible,” the Ukrainian ministry said.

Andriy Demchenko, the spokesman of the State Border Service, noted that the participants of the action do not obstruct the movement of buses and passenger vehicles. The official added that the situation on the border with Poland will only get more complicated, as Polish carriers are planning a long-term protest.

Demchenko also noted that there is complication with crossing the border only in three directions, and the Polish carriers have not made any official demands to any representatives of Ukraine.

**Sources:** Suspilne, Ukrinform, UNIAN

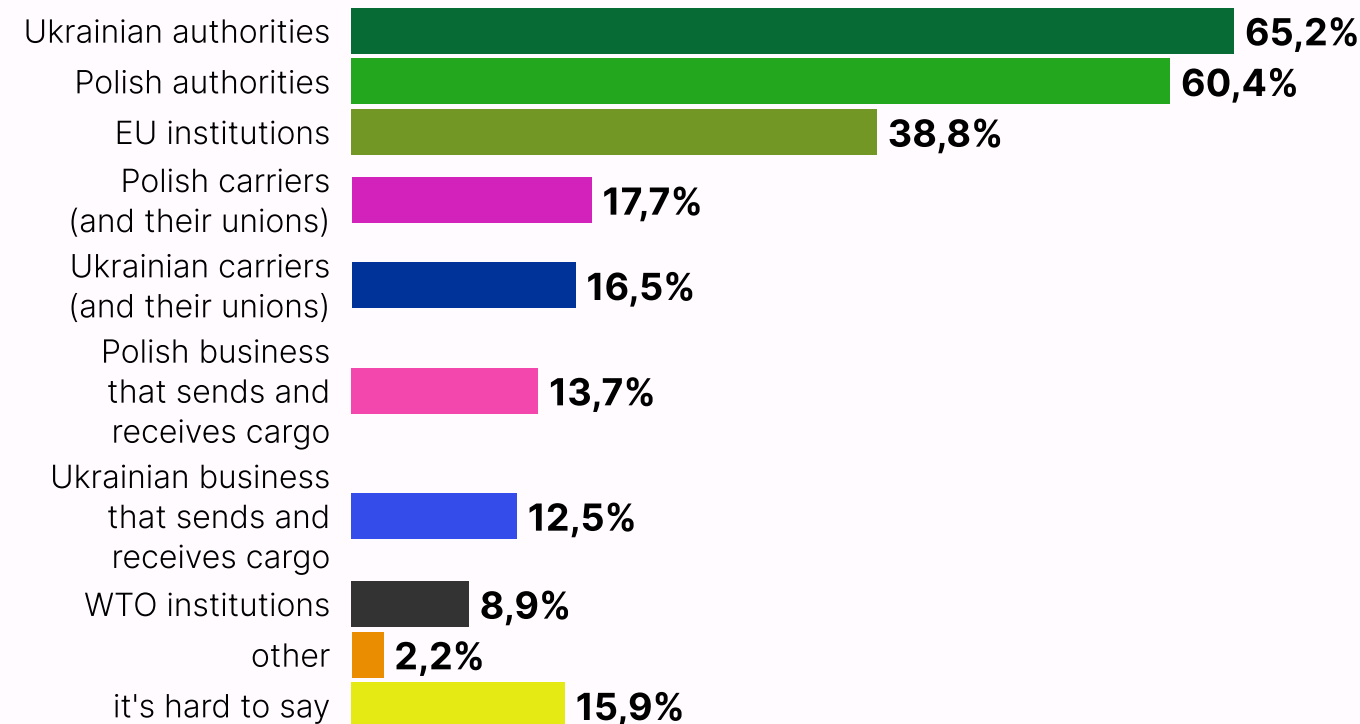


## Public opinion

### Have you heard of Polish carriers blocking the border with Ukraine?



### Who should resolve the situation with the blocking of the border?



### In your opinion, how will this strike impact the Ukraine-Poland relations?

