

## **70% women in Poland against fur farming**

According to the newest research, conducted by an opinion research institute Homo Homini (<http://www.homohomini.com.pl/>) on request of the Open Cages association, which has campaigned to ban fur farming in Poland since its founding in 2012, 55% of the society supports the ban on breeding animals such as minks, raccoon dogs or foxes for their fur.

The research was conducted early this year (2014) on randomly chosen respondents. It proved that **among the opponents of fur farming, women are the majority - almost 70% of them is against it.** The ban on fur farming in Poland is supported mostly by **the young , in the age group of 18-35 years old. Almost 70% of this group supports the ban.**

The opposition to fur farming among the villagers is fully justifiable. Fur farming in Poland mostly consists of large mink farms, mink being an invasive species. **Although the farmers use modern precautions, the animals escape frequently.** This situation is influenced by the workers' negligence to a large extent. Presence of a large number of the animals belonging to an invasive species may cause **many losses in farms and seriously disrupt the ecosystem.**

The fact that the escapes of the animals are a big problem is confirmed by the numerous complaints of the people living nearby mink farms. Examples of the malpractice on the fur farms can be also observed on the footages published in 2013 by the Open Cages association. **It is not only the mink farms that may endanger the ecosystems, but also the raccoon dogs farms.** They are less widespread, but the raccoon dog, as well as the mink, is an invasive species. It should be also noted that the precautions on raccoon dogs farm are far less well-functioning.

**The negative approach of the society towards the fur farming in Poland** can be a significant factor when it comes to the efforts to include American minks and raccoon dogs in the list of invasive species, which the fur industry is opposing.

55% of the society that are against fur farming is also a good argument for the representative Pawel Suski (PO - Civic Platform) who has been working since 2011 with a group of 33 representatives on the amendment in the animal welfare law that would include i.a. **the delegalisation of fur farming.**

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## **METHODOLOGY**

**Time of the research:** 7th February 2014

**Place:** an all-Polish research

**Research group:** amount and random, a numerical representation of the demographical traits in the general adult public in Poland, taking the territorial distribution into account (according to the Central Statistical Office - GUS)

The respondents were randomly selected from the teleadress database, being a widely acknowledged list containing the necessary address points and meeting the following essential methodological requirements: timeliness, completeness, exclusivity and availability.

Phone numbers are sourced with use of the Random Digit Dialing technique - the numbers are randomly chosen from the database established through generating the numbers on the basis of prefixes assignment to the operators of the land-based telephony by the Office of the Electronic Communication (UKE).

**Research group:** n= 1102; estimation error = 3%.; confidence level 0,95

**Research technique:** standardized computer assisted telephone interview (CATI)

**Do you think that Poland should ban breeding animals (such as minks, racoon dogs, foxes) for fur?**

|  |                               | Frequency | Percentage |
|--|-------------------------------|-----------|------------|
|  | Strongly agree                | 408       | 37.0       |
|  | Rather agree                  | 200       | 18.1       |
|  | Rather disagree               | 202       | 18.3       |
|  | Strongly disagree             | 220       | 20.0       |
|  | I don't know/It's hard to say | 72        | 6.5        |
|  | In total                      | 1102      | 100.0      |

**Cross tabulation Do you think that Poland should ban breeding animals (such as minks, racoon dogs, foxes) for fur? \* Size of your locality with respect to the number of inhabitants:**

|                                                                                                          |                               | Size of your locality with respect to the number of inhabitants |                              |                                |                         |                             |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
|                                                                                                          |                               | village                                                         | a small town (less than 50k) | a medium-sized city (50-250k ) | A large city (250-500k) | Metropolis (more than 500k) |
| <b>Do you think that Poland should ban breeding animals (such as minks, racoon dogs, foxes) for fur?</b> | Strongly agree                | 40.2%                                                           | 24.7%                        | 40.4%                          | 33.6%                   | 47.9%                       |
|                                                                                                          | Rather agree                  | 15.2%                                                           | 18.1%                        | 33.2%                          | 20.8%                   | 1.2%                        |
|                                                                                                          | Rather disagree               | 18.6%                                                           | 23.0%                        | 9.0%                           | 17.4%                   | 23.6%                       |
|                                                                                                          | Strongly disagree             | 21.4%                                                           | 21.0%                        | 12.6%                          | 23.5%                   | 22.4%                       |
|                                                                                                          | I don't know/It's hard to say | 4.6%                                                            | 13.2%                        | 4.9%                           | 4.7%                    | 4.8%                        |
| In total                                                                                                 |                               | 100.0%                                                          | 100.0%                       | 100.0%                         | 100.0%                  | 100.0%                      |

**Cross tabulation Do you think that Poland should ban breeding animals (such as minks, racoon dogs, foxes) for fur? \* Gender:**

|                                                                                                   |                               | Gender |        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------|--------|
|                                                                                                   |                               | female | male   |
| Do you think that Poland should ban breeding animals (such as minks, racoon dogs, foxes) for fur? | Strongly agree                | 50.6%  | 22.3%  |
|                                                                                                   | Rather agree                  | 19.0%  | 17.2%  |
|                                                                                                   | Rather disagree               | 9.9%   | 27.4%  |
|                                                                                                   | Strongly disagree             | 14.3%  | 26.1%  |
|                                                                                                   | I don't know/It's hard to say | 6.1%   | 7.0%   |
| In total                                                                                          |                               | 100.0% | 100.0% |

**Cross tabulation Do you think that Poland should ban breeding animals (such as minks, racoon dogs, foxes) for fur? \*What age group are you in?**

|                                                                                                   |                               | What age group are you in? |        |        |        |        |             |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------------|
|                                                                                                   |                               | 18-24                      | 25-34  | 35-44  | 45-54  | 55-64  | 65 and more |
| Do you think that Poland should ban breeding animals (such as minks, racoon dogs, foxes) for fur? | Strongly agree                | 44.7%                      | 42.0%  | 36.9%  | 38.9%  | 27.7%  | 33.7%       |
|                                                                                                   | Rather agree                  | 21.1%                      | 13.8%  | 28.9%  | 10.5%  | 18.8%  | 17.1%       |
|                                                                                                   | Rather disagree               | 15.8%                      | 12.5%  | 15.5%  | 26.8%  | 17.8%  | 12.3%       |
|                                                                                                   | Strongly disagree             | 14.3%                      | 29.0%  | 13.4%  | 18.4%  | 25.7%  | 24.6%       |
|                                                                                                   | I don't know/It's hard to say | 4.1%                       | 2.7%   | 5.3%   | 5.3%   | 9.9%   | 12.3%       |
| In total                                                                                          |                               | 100.0%                     | 100.0% | 100.0% | 100.0% | 100.0% | 100.0%      |

