

Michał Przeperski from Sopot in Poland presents the attitudes of Polish political parties towards the nuclear energy. He covered the governing parties "Platforma Obywatelska" and "Stronnictwo Ludowe", the opposition left-wing and the right-wing parties and also the environmental Party "Zielonie 2004".

Opinions Poland

The main parties of the Polish political scene are in favour of nuclear energy. Current government is held by Platforma Obywatelska (centre-right party) together with Polskie Stronnictwo Ludowe (Peasant Party). The prime minister, Donald Tusk (PO) stated: Poland has an ambitious target to build at least one nuclear plant until 2020". The deputy prime minister Waldemar Pawlak stated: "Although nuclear plants are definitely very important, we should not forget about saving energy and making use of biofuels". This is the main line of division within the Polish government nowadays, because there is no doubt that the problem of energy shortages in Poland is an urgent one.

Opposition differs very much as it comes to the problem of energy.

Good many of the parties is of the opinion that this issue is rather important and either nuclear plant should be built or special program of power saving should be introduced. The main opposition party Prawo i Sprawiedliwość (right-winged) is also very much for the nuclear plants, yet it is quite sceptical about the abilities of building the plant so quickly. Deputy chairman of the party, Beata Szydło stated, about current Polish energy politics: "We will not be able to modernize Polish coal energy plants till 2013. It is even harder to imagine that Polish nuclear power will come into being". Similar opinions were expressed also by second the biggest party SLD (left-winged).

To show the complete picture one should also mention "Zieloni 2004" marginal proenvironmental party which is completely against the development of the Polish nuclear power program. Similar notions were expressed by *Greenpeace* and miners' trade unions. The latter are directly endangered by closing mines which will become unprofitable thanks to building the nuclear plant. One of such trade unions (Polska Partia Pracy – „Sierpień 80") stated, that Polish government acts irresponsibly and actually against the will of the Polish citizens, who are not at all interested in developing nuclear energy.