



Standard Eurobarometer 96  
Winter 2021-2022

# Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities

Report

Fieldwork: January-February 2022

Survey conducted by Kantar on behalf of Kantar Belgium  
at the request of the European Commission, Directorate-General for Communication

Survey coordinated by the European Commission, Directorate-General for Communication  
(DG COMM "Media monitoring and Eurobarometer" Unit)

Project title	Standard Eurobarometer 96
	"Europeans opinions' about the EU's priorities"
Language version	EN
Catalogue number	NA-AO-22-004-EN-N
ISBN	978-92-76-49174-3
ISSN	1977-3927
	doi:10.2775/195387

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<https://www.europa.eu/eurobarometer>

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# INTRODUCTION



**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
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The Standard Eurobarometer 96 (EB96) survey winter 2021-2022 was conducted from 18<sup>th</sup> January to 14<sup>th</sup> February 2022 in 39 countries or territories: the 27 Member States of the European Union (EU)<sup>1</sup>, the five candidate countries (Albania, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia and Turkey), the Turkish Cypriot Community in the part of the country not controlled by the Government of the Republic of Cyprus, as well as in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iceland, Kosovo<sup>2</sup>, Norway, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

The full report of the Standard Eurobarometer 96 survey consists of multiple volumes. The first volume presents the results of general questions about the state of public opinion in the European Union. Three other volumes present Europeans' opinions about the following topics: the EU and the coronavirus pandemic, the European Union's priorities, European citizenship; media use in the European Union.

This volume of the winter 2021-2022 Standard Eurobarometer survey analyses European citizens' opinions about the European Union's priorities, and more specifically the six priorities set by the European Commission:

- “A stronger Europe in the world”: do Europeans think that the EU is strong enough in the world, in terms of the economy and diplomacy? Should there be further integration of EU policies at an international level?
- “A new impetus for democracy”: are Europeans satisfied with how democracy works in their country and in the European Union? Are the interests of their country properly taken into account in the European Union? Are EU citizens' voices sufficiently taken into account in decisions relating to the future of Europe?
- “An economy that works for its citizens”: do Europeans support economic and monetary union? Are they in favour of various measures aimed at reducing inequalities within the EU (creation of a public-private fund for SMEs; improvement of gender equality)? Do they view globalisation as an opportunity?
- “Promoting the European way of life”: how do Europeans feel about the EU's values, such as fundamental rights and democracy? How do they view immigration and asylum policy at a European level? How do they feel about the free movement of citizens in the EU?
- “A European Green Deal”: what do Europeans feel should be the priority objectives in a European Green Deal? Do Europeans want a common energy policy among EU Member States?
- “A digital single market within the EU”: are Europeans in favour of a digital single market within the EU?

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<sup>1</sup> The survey was conducted in Member States of the European Union at the time of the survey.

<sup>2</sup> This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/99 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

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**Methodology used for this survey**

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, in some countries **alternative interview modes** to face-to-face were necessary as a result of the situation.

When possible, the methodology used was that of the Standard Eurobarometer surveys carried out by the Directorate-General for Communication ("Media monitoring and Eurobarometer" Unit)<sup>34</sup>.

Following the EU General Data Protection Regulation<sup>5</sup> (GDPR), respondents were asked whether or not they would agree to be asked questions on issues that could be considered "sensitive".

Note: In this report, EU countries are referred to by their official abbreviation. The abbreviations used in this report correspond to:

Belgium	BE	Lithuania	LT
Bulgaria	BG	Luxembourg	LU
Czechia	CZ	Hungary	HU
Denmark	DK	Malta	MT
Germany	DE	The Netherlands	NL
Estonia	EE	Austria	AT
Ireland	IE	Poland	PL
Greece	EL	Portugal	PT
Spain	ES	Romania	RO
France	FR	Slovenia	SI
Croatia	HR	Slovakia	SK
Italy	IT	Finland	FI
Republic of Cyprus	CY *	Sweden	SE
Latvia	LV		

European Union – weighted average for the 27 Member States	EU27
BE, FR, IT, LU, DE, AT, ES, PT, IE, NL, FI, EL, EE, SI, CY, MT, SK, LV, LT	euro area
BG, CZ, DK, HR, HU, PL, RO, SE	Non euro area

\* Cyprus as a whole is one of the 27 European Union Member States. However, the 'acquis communautaire' has been suspended in the part of the country which is not controlled by the government of the Republic of Cyprus. For practical reasons, only the interviews carried out in the part of the country controlled by the government of the Republic of Cyprus are included in the 'CY' category and in the EU27 average.

We wish to thank the people throughout the European Union who have given their time to take part in this survey.

Without their active participation, this study would not have been possible.

<sup>3</sup><https://www.europa.eu/eurobarometer>

<sup>4</sup>The results tables are annexed. It should be noted that the total of the percentages indicated in the tables in this report may exceed 100% when the respondent was able to choose several answers to the same question.

<sup>5</sup>2016/679

## I. A STRONGER EUROPE IN THE WORLD



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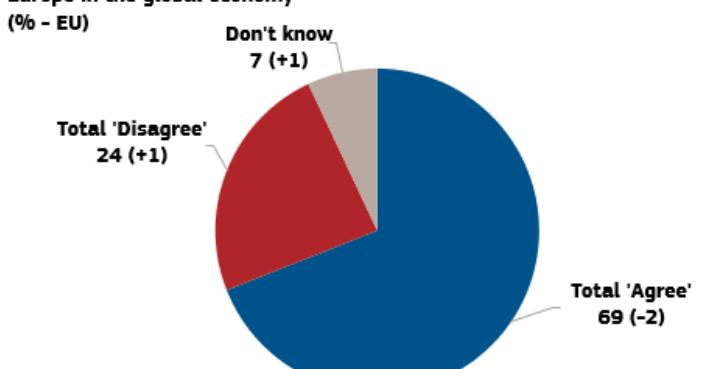
Almost seven in ten Europeans think that the EU has sufficient power and tools to defend the economic interests of Europe in the global economy

69% of Europeans (-2 percentage points since spring 2021) consider that the EU has sufficient power and tools to defend the economic interests of Europe in the global economy<sup>6</sup>, including 21% (-2) who "totally agree" and 48% (=) who "tend to agree". On the contrary, 24% (+1) of Europeans disagree with this statement, including 19% (=) who "tend to disagree" and 5% (+1) who "totally disagree", while 7% (+1) of respondents did not provide an answer.

67% of respondents in the euro area countries agree with this statement. This is a slight increase of two percentage points since spring 2021. Despite a slight decrease of three percentage points, levels of approval remain higher in the non-euro area countries (72%).

A majority of respondents in all 27 Member States (unchanged since spring 2021) consider that the EU has sufficient power and tools to defend the economic interests of Europe in the global economy.

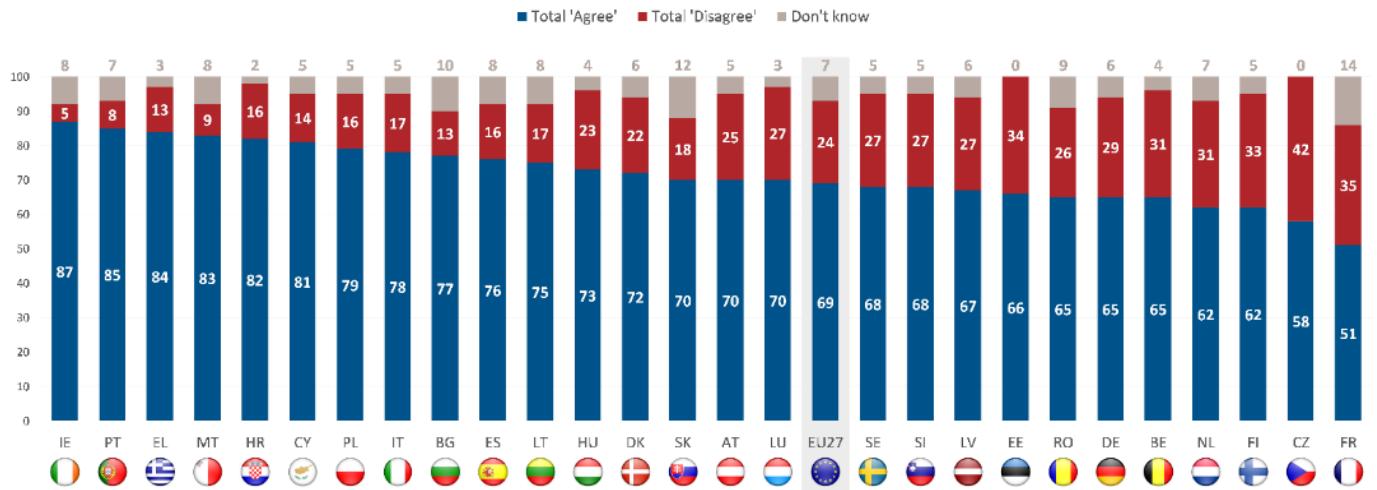
**QB4.1 For each of the following statements, do you totally agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree or totally disagree.**  
**The EU has sufficient power and tools to defend the economic interests of Europe in the global economy**



(Winter 2021/2022 - Spring 2021)

However, levels of approval range from highs of 87% in Ireland and 85% in Portugal, to a low of 51% in France. Moreover, the latter, together with Czechia (58%), are the only two countries where less than six in ten respondents agree upon this statement.

**QB4.1 For each of the following statements, do you totally agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree or totally disagree.**  
(% - The EU has sufficient power and tools to defend the economic interests of Europe in the global economy)



<sup>6</sup> QB4.1 Please tell me whether you totally agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree or totally disagree with each of the following statements. The EU has sufficient power and tools to defend the economic interests of Europe in the global economy

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**Since spring 2021**, the proportion of Europeans who think that the EU has sufficient power and tools to defend the economic interests of Europe in the global economy has increased in 8 Member States (compared with 12 in the previous survey), particularly in Luxembourg (70%, +7 percentage points) and Malta (83%, +6).

On the other hand, levels of support have decreased in 18 countries, most markedly in Romania (65%, -8) and Portugal (85, -6). Proportions remained unchanged in Croatia (82%).

**QB4.1** For each of the following statements, do you totally agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree or totally disagree.  
The EU has sufficient power and tools to defend the economic interests of Europe in the global economy (%)



	Winter 2021/2022	69	70	83	78	65	87	66	72	81	82	77	75	79	62	70	68	65	84	51	73	70	68	76	62	58	67	85	65
Total 'Agree'	Δ Spring 2021	▼2	▲7	▲6	▲5	▲4	▲3	▲2	▲1	▲1	=	▼1	▼1	▼1	▼1	▼2	▼2	▼3	▼3	▼3	▼3	▼3	▼3	▼4	▼4	▼5	▼5	▼6	▼8
Total 'Disagree'	Winter 2021/2022	24	27	9	17	31	5	34	22	14	16	13	17	16	33	18	27	29	13	35	23	25	27	16	31	42	27	8	26
Don't know	Δ Spring 2021	▲1	▼3	▲1	▼4	▼8	▼11	▼2	▲1	=	▲3	▲2	▼7	▲1	▼4	▼1	▼2	▲3	▲3	▲1	▲2	▲2	=	▲3	▼1	▲11	▲3	▲5	▲6

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The socio-demographic data show that a majority of respondents in almost all categories agree with the statement that the EU has sufficient power and tools to defend the economic interests of Europe in the global economy.

Levels of support range from 78% among students and 81% among people who have a positive image of the EU, to 46% amongst those who have a negative image of the EU. The latter is the only category amongst whom this opinion is only held by a minority (vs 47% "disagree").

**QB4.1** For each of the following statements, do you totally agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree or totally disagree.

**The EU has sufficient power and tools to defend the economic interests of Europe in the global economy**

(% - EU)

	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Don't know
EU27	69	24	7
 Gender			
Man	70	25	5
Woman	68	23	9
 Age			
15-24	74	18	8
25-39	73	22	5
40-54	70	25	5
55 +	65	26	9
 Education (End of)			
15-	67	18	15
16-19	68	25	7
20+	68	28	4
Still studying	78	15	7
 Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	71	25	4
Managers	71	26	3
Other white collars	75	21	4
Manual workers	70	24	6
House persons	63	23	14
Unemployed	60	30	10
Retired	64	26	10
Students	78	15	7
 Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	58	31	11
From time to time	68	25	7
Almost never/ Never	70	23	7
 Consider belonging to			
The working class	65	23	12
The lower middle class	66	27	7
The middle class	72	23	5
The upper middle class	67	29	4
The upper class	79	20	1
 Image of the EU			
Total 'Positive'	81	15	4
Neutral	66	24	10
Total 'Negative'	46	47	7

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**Just over seven in ten Europeans are in favour of a common foreign policy of the Member States of the EU**

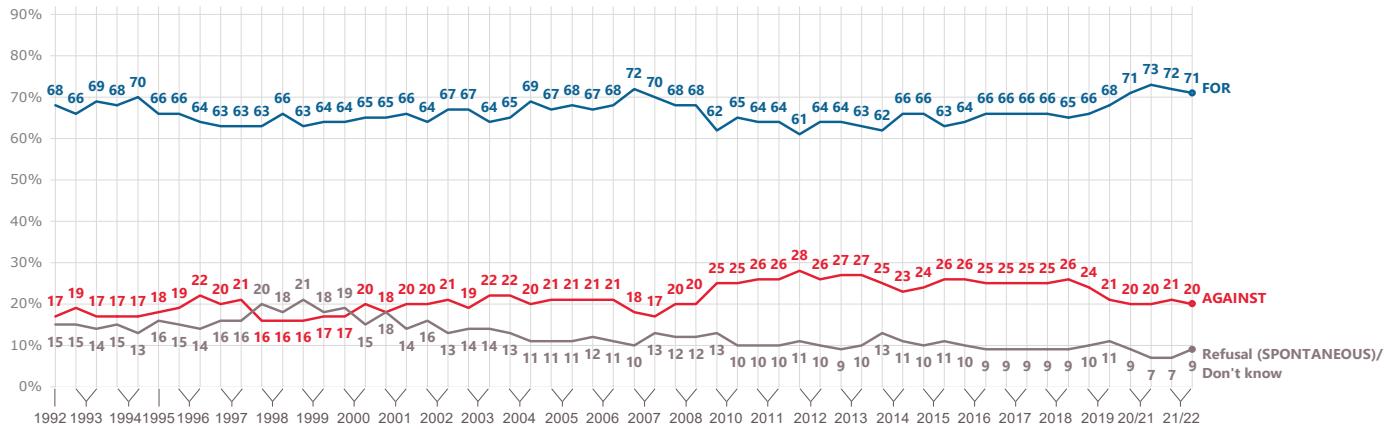
**71% of Europeans are in favour of a common foreign policy of the Member States of the EU<sup>7</sup>.** After four consecutive increases between autumn 2018 and winter 2020-2021, support for this policy has decreased for the second consecutive time (-1 percentage point since spring 2021 and -2 percentage points since winter 2020-2021).

In contrast, 20% (-1 percentage point since spring 2021) of Europeans oppose a common foreign policy of the Member States of the EU and 9% (+2) say that they "don't know" or do not provide an answer.

Despite a slight decrease of one percentage point, support for a common foreign policy of the Member States of the EU remains stronger in the **euro area** countries (73%) than in the **non-euro area** countries (66%, +2).

**QB6.1** What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell me for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.

**A common foreign policy of the Member States of the EU (%) - EU**



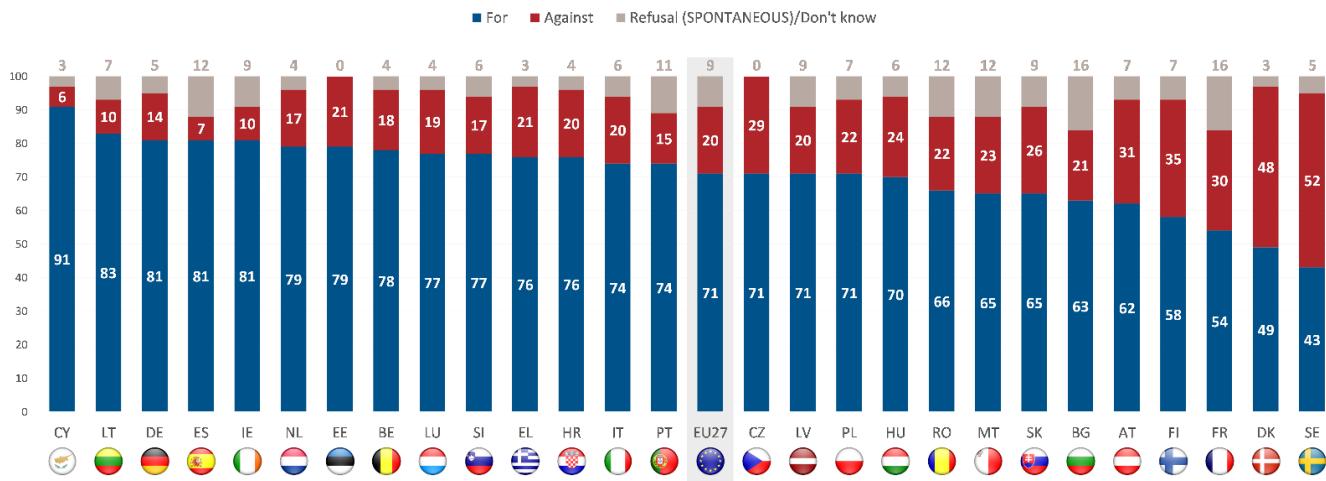
<sup>7</sup> QB6.1 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell me for each statement, whether you are for it or against it. A common foreign policy of the Member States of the EU

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A majority of respondents in 25 Member States of the European Union (compared with 26 in spring 2021) support the idea of a common foreign policy of the EU. However, within this group of countries, proportions range from 91% in Cyprus and 83% in Lithuania, where support is highest, to 54% in France, where it is lowest.

In Sweden (43% "for" vs 52% "against") and Denmark (49% "for" vs 48% "against") supporters of a common foreign policy of the EU Member States are in the minority.

**QB6.1 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.  
 (%) - A common foreign policy of the Member States of the EU)**



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**Since spring 2021**, support for a common foreign policy of the Member States of the EU has increased in eight Member States (compared to six in the previous survey), most notably in Malta (65%, +14 percentage points), while proportions remained unchanged in three countries, namely Lithuania (83%), Germany (81%) and Greece (76%).

In contrast, support has decreased in 13 Member States, particularly in France (54%, -8) and Belgium (78%, -7).

Q86.1 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.  
A common foreign policy of the Member States of the EU (%)

		EU27																											
		MT	CZ	IE	CY	HR	NL	PL	PT	IT	EE	RO	DE	EL	LT	BG	DK	ES	LU	AT	HU	SI	FI	LV	SK	SE	BE	FR	
For	Winter 2021/2022	71	65	71	81	91	76	79	71	74	74	79	66	81	76	83	63	49	81	77	62	70	77	58	71	65	43	78	54
	△ Spring 2021	▼1	▲14	▲5	▲5	▲5	▲4	▲4	▲4	▲4	▲3	▲2	▲2	=	=	=	▼1	▼1	▼1	▼1	▼1	▼2	▼3	▼4	▼6	▼7	▼7	▼8	
Against	Winter 2021/2022	20	23	29	10	6	20	17	22	15	20	21	22	14	21	10	21	48	7	19	31	24	17	35	20	26	52	18	30
	△ Spring 2021	▼1	▼9	▼1	▼14	▼1	▼3	▼6	▼3	▼4	▼3	▼2	▼4	▲1	=	▼7	▲2	▲4	▼1	▲2	▲3	▲1	=	▼4	▲1	▲4	▲2	▲3	▲5
Refusal (SPONTANEOUS)	Winter 2021/2022	2	1	0	1	1	2	1	3	1	1	0	4	1	2	1	3	0	2	1	3	3	1	0	1	3	1	1	1
	△ Spring 2021	▲1	▼1	▼1	▲1	▼2	▲1	=	▲1	▲1	▼1	=	▲1	=	▲1	▲1	=	▼1	▲1	=	▼1	▲1	=	=	▲1	▲1	▲1	▼1	
Don't know	Winter 2021/2022	7	11	0	8	2	2	3	4	10	5	0	8	4	1	6	13	3	10	3	4	3	5	7	8	6	4	3	15
	△ Spring 2021	▲1	▼4	▼3	▲8	▼2	▼2	▲2	▼2	▼1	▲1	=	▲1	▼1	▼1	▲6	▼1	▼2	▲1	▼1	▼1	=	▲2	▲7	▲3	▲1	▲3	▲3	▲4

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The socio-demographic data reveal that a majority of respondents in all categories support a common foreign policy of the Member States of the EU. Levels of support are highest among managers (80%), people who never or almost never have difficulties paying their bills (75%), those who see themselves as upper middle class (78%) or upper class (83%) and those who have a positive image of the EU (85%).

In contrast, support is lowest among house persons (64%) and those who have a negative image of the EU (47%), the only category where less than half of respondents are in favour of such a policy (44% "against").

**QB6.1** What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.

**A common foreign policy of the Member States of the EU**

(% - EU)

	For	Against	Refusal (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU27	71	20	2	7
<b>Gender</b>				
Man	73	22	1	4
Woman	70	19	2	9
<b>Age</b>				
15-24	72	19	2	7
25-39	73	21	1	5
40-54	72	22	1	5
55 +	70	20	2	8
<b>Education (End of)</b>				
15-	66	19	2	13
16-19	69	23	2	6
20+	77	18	1	4
Still studying	74	19	1	6
<b>Socio-professional category</b>				
Self-employed	74	20	2	4
Managers	80	16	1	3
Other white collars	75	20	1	4
Manual workers	67	25	2	6
House persons	64	21	1	14
Unemployed	62	27	2	9
Retired	70	19	2	9
Students	74	19	1	6
<b>Difficulties paying bills</b>				
Most of the time	57	32	3	8
From time to time	66	25	2	7
Almost never/ Never	75	18	1	6
<b>Consider belonging to</b>				
The working class	66	21	2	11
The lower middle class	68	24	1	7
The middle class	74	20	1	5
The upper middle class	78	18	1	3
The upper class	83	16	0	1
<b>Image of the EU</b>				
Total 'Positive'	85	10	1	4
Neutral	68	21	2	9
Total 'Negative'	47	44	2	7

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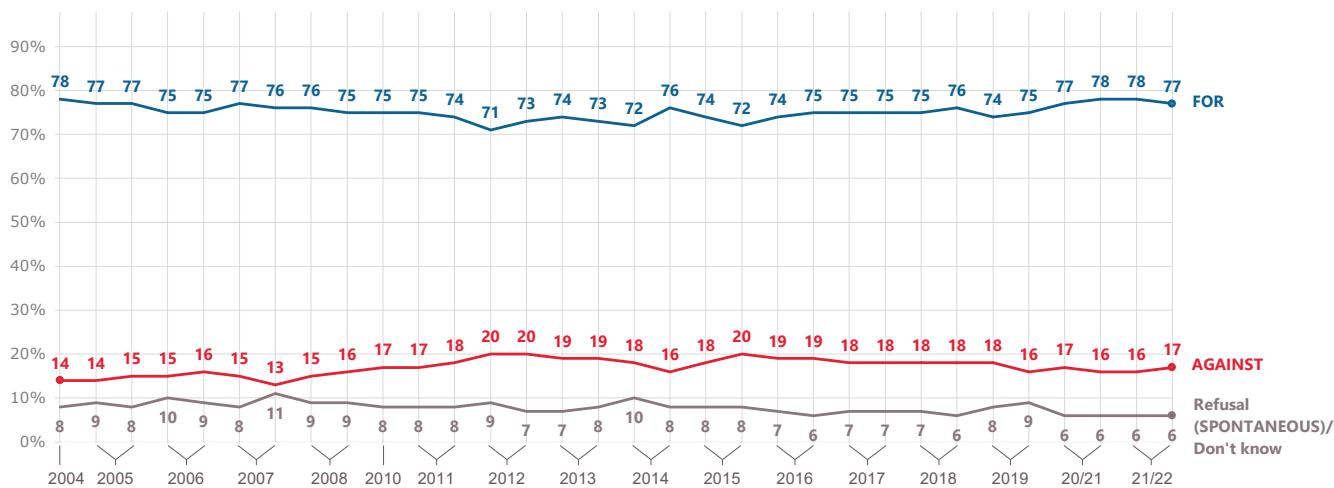
**More than three-quarters of Europeans are in favour of a common defence and security policy among EU Member States**

77% of respondents are in favour of “a common defence and security policy among EU Member States”<sup>8</sup>. Support for a common defence and security policy has reached its highest levels in winter 2020-2021 and spring 2021 since this question was introduced in autumn 2004.

Despite a slight decrease of one percentage point in this EB96 survey from winter 2020-2021, support for this policy remains at a high level.

In contrast, 17% (+1) of respondents oppose the idea of a common defence and security policy among the EU Member States and 6% (=) of respondents did not provide an answer or say that they “don't know”.

**QB6.2** What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.  
**A common defence and security policy among EU Member States (% - EU)**



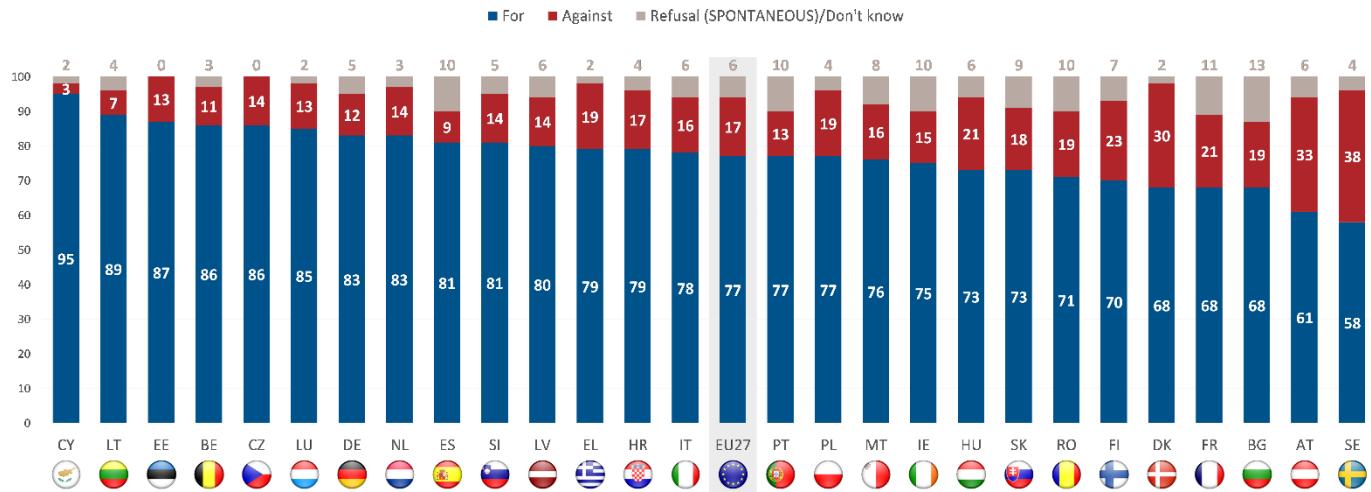
<sup>8</sup> QB6.2 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell me for each statement, whether you are for it or against it. A common defence and security policy among EU Member States

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In all 27 Member States (unchanged since spring 2021) more than one in two respondents support a common defence and security policy among EU Member States, with support being highest in Cyprus (95%) followed by Lithuania (89%) and Estonia (87%).

Support is lowest in Austria (61%) and Sweden (58%), the only Member State where less than six in ten respondents support such a policy. Most notably, Austria (33%) and Sweden (38%) are also the only two Member States where more than a third of respondents oppose this policy.

**QB6.2 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.  
(% - A common defence and security policy among EU Member States)**



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Since spring 2021, support for a common defence and security policy among EU Member States has gained ground in eleven Member States (compared with nine in the previous survey), most notably in Ireland (75%, +9), while proportions remained unchanged in Estonia (87%), Germany (83%) and Greece (79%).

Conversely, support has decreased in 13 Member States, particularly Slovakia (73%, -7), France (68%, -6) and Belgium (86%, -5).

QB6.2 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.  
A common defence and security policy among EU Member States (%)

		EU27 IE HR CY PT RO CZ IT MT LU NL PL DE EE EL LT BG LV HU AT DK ES FI SI SE BE FR SK																											
For	Winter 2021/2022	77	75	79	95	77	71	86	78	76	85	83	77	83	87	79	89	68	80	73	61	68	81	70	81	58	86	68	73
	Δ Spring 2021	▼1	▲9	▲5	▲5	▲4	▲4	▲3	▲3	▲3	▲2	▲2	▲2	=	=	=	▼1	▼2	▼2	▼2	▼3	▼3	▼3	▼4	▼4	▼5	▼6	▼7	
Against	Winter 2021/2022	17	15	17	3	13	19	14	16	16	13	14	19	12	13	19	7	19	14	21	33	30	9	23	14	38	11	21	18
	Δ Spring 2021	▲1	▼19	▼4	▼1	▼5	▼5	▼1	▼5	▲3	▲2	▼4	▲1	▲1	=	=	▼3	▲3	=	▲1	▲3	▲6	▲1	▼4	▲1	▲1	▲3	▲5	▲3
Refusal (SPONTANEOUS)	Winter 2021/2022	1	2	2	1	1	4	0	2	1	0	1	2	1	0	1	1	2	1	2	3	0	2	0	2	1	1	0	3
	Δ Spring 2021	=	▲2	=	▼2	▲1	▲1	=	▲1	=	▼2	▲1	▼1	=	=	=	▲1	▼1	▲1	▼1	=	▼1	▲1	=	▲2	▲1	▲1	▼1	▲2
Don't know	Winter 2021/2022	5	8	2	1	9	6	0	4	7	2	2	2	4	0	1	3	11	5	4	3	2	8	7	3	3	2	11	6
	Δ Spring 2021	=	▲8	▼1	▼2	=	=	▼2	▲1	▼6	▼2	▲1	▼2	▼1	=	=	▲3	=	▲1	▲2	▼1	▼2	▲1	▲7	▲1	▲2	▲1	▲2	▲2

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The socio-demographic data reveal that at least seven in ten respondents in almost all categories support a common defence and security policy among EU Member States.

Support is lowest among people who have a negative image of the EU (56%).

**QB6.2** What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.

**A common defence and security policy among EU Member States**

(% - EU)

	For	Against	Refusal (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU27	77	17	1	5
 Gender				
Man	77	18	1	4
Woman	76	16	2	6
 Age				
15-24	78	16	1	5
25-39	77	18	1	4
40-54	77	18	1	4
55 +	76	15	2	7
 Education (End of)				
15-	72	15	2	11
16-19	75	19	1	5
20+	81	15	1	3
Still studying	81	14	1	4
 Socio-professional category				
Self-employed	80	17	1	2
Managers	83	13	1	3
Other white collars	80	16	1	3
Manual workers	73	20	2	5
House persons	68	19	1	12
Unemployed	65	25	2	8
Retired	77	14	2	7
Students	81	14	1	4
 Difficulties paying bills				
Most of the time	65	26	3	6
From time to time	72	21	2	5
Almost never/ Never	80	14	1	5
 Consider belonging to				
The working class	71	18	2	9
The lower middle class	75	18	2	5
The middle class	79	16	1	4
The upper middle class	82	15	1	2
The upper class	89	10	0	1
 Image of the EU				
Total 'Positive'	88	8	1	3
Neutral	74	17	2	7
Total 'Negative'	56	37	2	5

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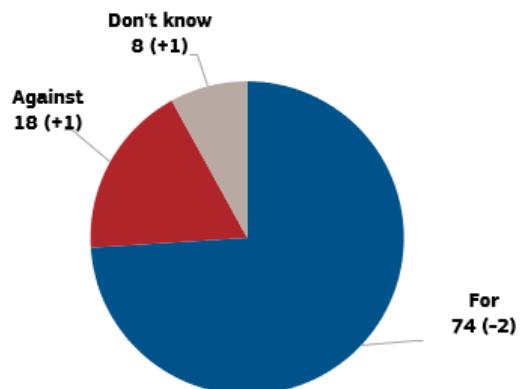
**Almost three-quarters of Europeans support the EU's common trade policy**

**74% of respondents (-2 percentage points since spring 2021) are in favour of the EU's common trade policy**, while 18% (+1) oppose such a policy and 8% (+1) do not express an opinion.

Levels of support are higher within the countries of the **euro area** (76%, -2), than in the **non-euro area** countries (70%), although support increased slightly in the latter by one percentage point.

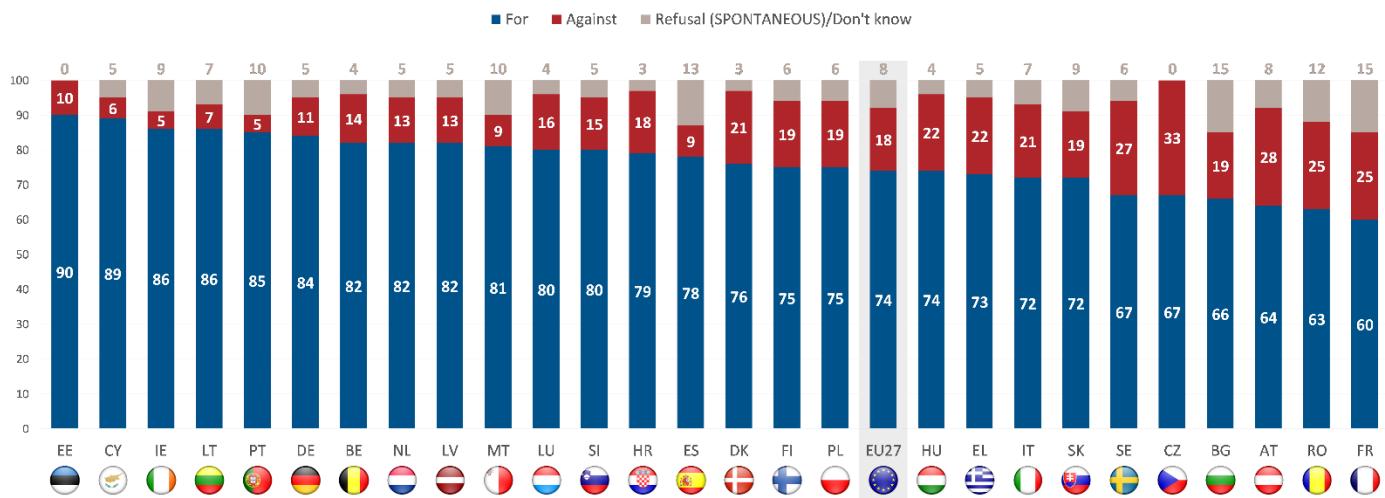
At least six in ten respondents in all 27 Member States (unchanged since spring 2021) are in favour of the EU's common trade policy. Levels of support range from 90% in Estonia and 89% in Cyprus, where they are highest, to 64% in Austria, 63% in Romania and 60% in France, where they are lowest. In contrast, over a quarter of respondents oppose such a policy in Sweden (27%), Austria (28%) and Czechia (33%).

**QB6.3 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.**  
**The EU's common trade policy (% - EU)**



(Winter 2021/2022 - Spring 2021)

**QB6.3 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.**  
**(% - The EU's common trade policy)**



**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
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**Since spring 2021**, support for the EU's common trade policy has gained ground in nine Member States (compared with eight in the previous survey), particularly in Croatia (79%, +6 percentage points) and Malta (81%, +6), while it is unchanged in Denmark (76%) and Austria (64%).

Conversely, the proportion of respondents in favour of such a policy has decreased in 16 countries, most notably in Ireland (86%, -8), France (60%, -7), Spain (78%, -7) and Belgium (82%, -7).

Q86.3 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.  
The EU's common trade policy (%)

		EU27	EURO AREA	NON-EURO AREA	HR	MT	PL	CY	EE	IT	DE	LV	RO	DK	AT	CZ	BG	HU	PT	SI	LT	SK	EL	LU	NL	FI	SE	BE	ES	FR	IE
For	Winter 2021/2022	74	76	70	79	81	75	89	90	72	84	82	63	76	64	67	66	74	85	80	86	72	73	80	82	75	67	82	78	60	86
	Δ Spring 2021	▼2	▼2	▲1	▲6	▲6	▲5	▲4	▲3	▲2	▲1	▲1	▲1	=	=	▼1	▼2	▼2	▼2	▼3	▼4	▼4	▼6	▼7	▼7	▼7	▼8				
Against	Winter 2021/2022	18	16	23	18	9	19	6	10	21	11	13	25	21	28	33	19	22	5	15	7	19	22	16	13	19	27	14	9	25	5
	Δ Spring 2021	▲1	=	=	▼4	=	▼2	=	▼3	▼3	▼1	▼2	▼2	▲2	▼2	▲6	▲3	▲2	=	▼4	▲2	▲4	▲5	=	=	▲1	▲3	▲2	▲6	▼1	
Refusal (SPONTANEOUS)	Winter 2021/2022	2	1	2	1	1	2	2	0	2	1	1	5	0	3	0	2	1	1	1	3	3	1	1	0	1	1	2	1	1	1
	Δ Spring 2021	=	=	=	=	▲1	▼1	▼1	=	=	▼1	▲1	▲2	▼1	▲1	▼2	▼1	=	=	▲1	▲1	▲1	=	▲1	=	▲1	▲1	▼1	▲1		
Don't know	Winter 2021/2022	6	7	5	2	9	4	3	0	5	4	4	7	3	5	0	13	3	9	4	6	6	2	3	4	6	5	3	11	14	8
	Δ Spring 2021	▲1	▲2	▼1	▼2	▼7	▼2	▼3	=	▲1	▲1	=	▼1	▼1	▲1	▼3	=	=	▲2	▲1	▲6	=	▼1	▼1	▲3	▲6	▲4	▲3	▲4	▲2	▲8

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

The socio-demographic data reveal that in almost all categories at least six in ten respondents support the EU's common trade

policy, the only exception being the respondents for whom the EU's image is negative with 49% (vs 42% "against").

**QB6.3** What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.

**The EU's common trade policy**

(% - EU)

	For	Against	Refusal (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU27	74	18	2	6
 Gender				
Man	76	18	1	5
Woman	73	17	2	8
 Age				
15-24	78	15	1	6
25-39	77	17	1	5
40-54	74	20	1	5
55 +	72	18	2	8
 Education (End of)				
15-	66	18	2	14
16-19	72	21	1	6
20+	80	15	1	4
Still studying	81	13	1	5
 Socio-professional category				
Self-employed	77	18	1	4
Managers	83	13	2	2
Other white collars	79	16	1	4
Manual workers	70	22	2	6
House persons	62	21	2	15
Unemployed	65	24	1	10
Retired	73	17	2	8
Students	81	13	1	5
 Difficulties paying bills				
Most of the time	61	28	2	9
From time to time	68	23	2	7
Almost never/ Never	78	15	1	6
 Consider belonging to				
The working class	68	19	2	11
The lower middle class	72	21	1	6
The middle class	77	17	1	5
The upper middle class	80	15	2	3
The upper class	82	17	0	1
 Image of the EU				
Total 'Positive'	87	8	1	4
Neutral	71	18	2	9
Total 'Negative'	49	42	2	7

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

**Slightly less than half of respondents are in favour of a further enlargement of the EU to include other countries in future years**

**47% of Europeans (+1 percentage point since spring 2021) are in favour of a further enlargement of the EU to include other countries in future years<sup>9</sup>.** Support for a further enlargement of the EU first became the majority opinion in spring 2019 and has maintained this position.

Conversely, just over four in ten respondents (42%, -1 percentage point) oppose this idea and 11% (stable) answer "don't know" or refuse to answer.

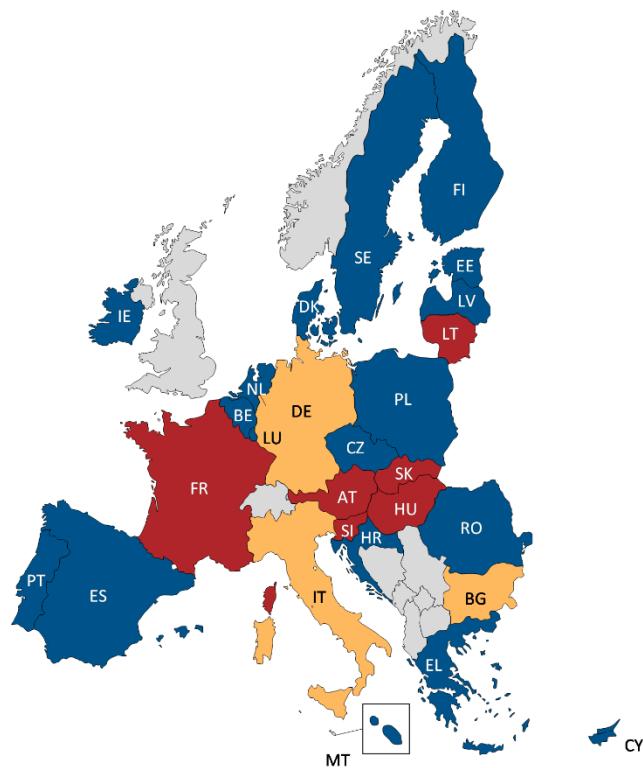
There are marked differences between the euro area countries and the non-euro area countries, since a strong majority of 60% of respondents (+3 percentage points since spring 2021) support this policy in the **non-euro area** countries, compared with only a minority of respondents in the **euro area** countries (43%, +1, vs 45% "against", -2).

**QB6.6 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell me for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.**  
**Further enlargement of the EU to include other countries in future years (%) - For)**

	BE	45	▲11
	MT	64	▲10
	PT	59	▲10
	DK	44	▲7
	EE	62	▲7
	CZ	57	▲7
	PL	67	▲5
	SE	41	▲5
	LU	37	▲5
	NL	34	▲4
	HR	72	▲3
	FI	32	▲3
	IE	60	▲2
	LV	60	▲2
	CY	56	▲2
	ES	68	▲1
	RO	60	▲1
	EL	51	▲1
	BG	53	=
	IT	51	=
	DE	32	=
	AT	28	▼-1
	FR	28	▼-2
	HU	69	▼-2
	SI	65	▼-3
	SK	48	▼-7
	LT	68	▼-10
<b>EU27</b>			

**Map Legend**

	Positive
	Stable
	Negative



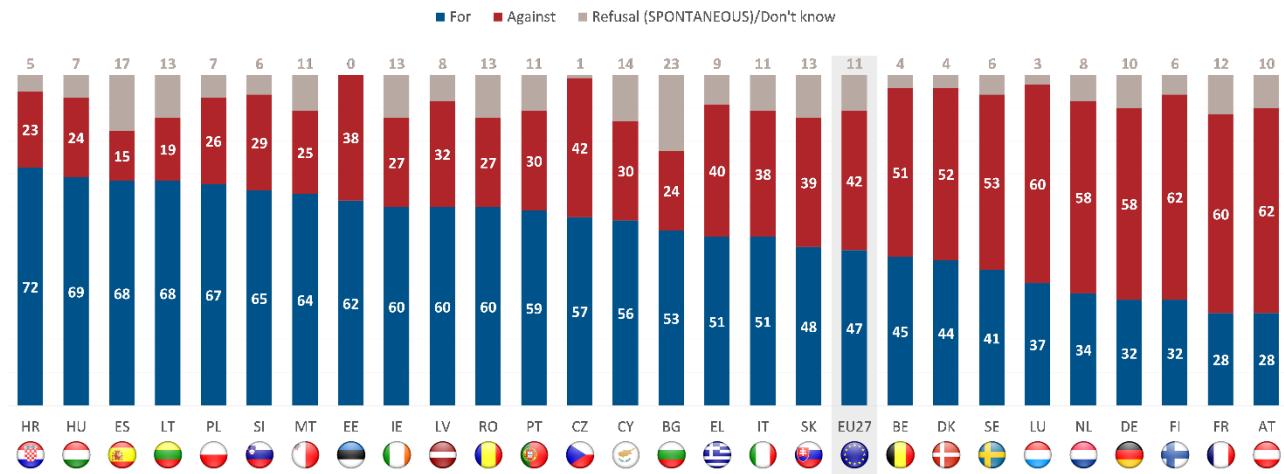
<sup>9</sup> QB6.6 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell me for each statement, whether you are for it or against it. A further enlargement of the EU to include other countries in future years

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

A majority of respondents in 18 Member States (unchanged since spring 2021) support a further enlargement of the EU to include other countries in future years. Within this group of countries support is strongest in Croatia (72%) and Hungary (69%) and lowest in Slovakia (48% vs 39% "against", with a "don't know/Refusal" rate of 13%).

Conversely, only a minority of respondents support a further enlargement of the EU to include other countries in future years in nine Member States. In two countries less than three in ten respondents support this idea, namely Austria and France (both 28%).

**Q86.6 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.**  
(% - Further enlargement of the EU to include other countries in future years)



**Since spring 2021**, support for a further enlargement of the EU to include other countries in future years has increased in 18 Member States (compared with 11 in the previous survey), with increases of at least ten percentage points in Belgium (45%, +11), where this is still the minority opinion, Malta (64, +10) and Portugal (59%, +10).

The levels of support for a further enlargement are unchanged in three countries, namely Italy (51%), Bulgaria (53%) and Germany (3%). Conversely, support has decreased in six countries, most strikingly in Lithuania (68%, -10) and to a lesser extend in Slovakia (48%, -7).

**Q86.6 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.**  
Further enlargement of the EU to include other countries in future years (%)

		EU27	BE	MT	PT	CZ	DK	EE	LU	PL	SE	NL	HR	FI	IE	CY	LV	EL	ES	RO	BG	DE	IT	AT	FR	HU	SI	SK	LT	
For	Winter 2021/2022	47	45	64	59	57	44	62	37	67	41	34	72	32	60	56	60	51	68	60	53	32	51	28	28	69	65	48	68	
	△ Spring 2021	▲1	▲11	▲10	▲10	▲7	▲7	▲7	▲5	▲5	▲5	▲4	▲3	▲3	▲2	▲2	▲2	▲1	▲1	▲1	▲1	=	=	=	▼1	▼2	▼3	▼7	▼10	
Against	Winter 2021/2022	42	51	25	30	42	52	38	60	26	53	58	23	62	27	30	32	40	15	27	24	58	38	62	60	24	29	39	19	
	△ Spring 2021	▼1	▼15	▲8	▼10	▼2	▼3	▼7	▼1	=	▼10	▼9	▼2	▼9	▼15	▼3	▼3	▲1	▼2	▼3	▲1	▲1	=	▲1	▲4	▲3	▲1	▲5	▼3	
Refusal (SPONTANEOUS)	Winter 2021/2022	3	1	1	2	0	0	0	2	3	1	2	2	0	3	5	1	4	3	5	3	3	3	4	2	3	2	3	3	
	△ Spring 2021	=	▲1	▼12	▼1	▼2	▼1	=	=	▼1	▲1	▲1	=	=	▲3	=	=	▼1	=	▲2	▼1	=	▼1	▼1	=	=	▲1	=	▲3	
Don't know	Winter 2021/2022	8	3	10	9	1	4	0	1	4	5	6	3	6	10	9	7	5	14	8	20	7	8	6	10	4	4	10	10	
	△ Spring 2021	=	▲3	▼6	▲1	▼3	▼3	=	▼4	▼4	▲4	▲4	▼1	▲6	▲10	▲1	▲1	▲1	▼1	▲1	▲1	▼2	▼1	▲1	▲2	▲10				

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

The question of a further enlargement of the EU splits public opinion and the **socio-demographic data** reveal significant differences among categories.

A majority of respondents are in favour of further enlargement of the EU to include other countries in future years among Europeans aged 15-24 (60%) and 25-39-year-olds (53%), but also among 40-54-year-olds (46% for vs 45% against), the self-employed (47% vs 46%), managers (48% vs 43%), students (63%), other white collars (53%), manual workers (48% vs 42%), house persons (42% vs 39%), people who have difficulties paying their bills from time to time (45% vs 43%) or almost never (49% vs 42%) and those who see themselves as belonging to the working class (46% vs 39%), middle class (49% vs 42%) or upper class (47% vs 44%) of society, and those who have a positive image of the EU (59%).

In contrast, a majority of respondents in several socio-demographic categories are against a future enlargement of the EU; this is the case in particular among Europeans aged 55+ (48% against vs 40% for), retired people (49% vs 39%), and those who see themselves as belonging to the lower middle class of society (46% vs 44%) or those who have a negative image of the EU (65% vs 25%).

People who see themselves as belonging to the upper middle class of society (46% vs 46%) and those, who finished full-time education at the age of 16-19 (45% vs 45%) are evenly divided.

**QB6.6** What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.

**Further enlargement of the EU to include other countries in future years**  
(% - EU)

	For	Against	Refusal (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU27	47	42	3	8
<b>Gender</b>				
Man	47	45	2	6
Woman	47	40	3	10
<b>Age</b>				
15-24	60	29	3	8
25-39	53	36	3	8
40-54	46	45	2	7
55 +	40	48	3	9
<b>Education (End of)</b>				
15-	42	41	3	14
16-19	45	45	3	7
20+	47	44	3	6
Still studying	63	27	2	8
<b>Socio-professional category</b>				
Self-employed	47	46	3	4
Managers	48	43	3	6
Other white collars	53	38	3	6
Manual workers	48	42	3	7
House persons	42	39	3	16
Unemployed	43	44	2	11
Retired	39	49	3	9
Students	63	27	2	8
<b>Difficulties paying bills</b>				
Most of the time	38	48	4	10
From time to time	45	43	3	9
Almost never/ Never	49	42	2	7
<b>Consider belonging to</b>				
The working class	46	39	3	12
The lower middle class	44	46	2	8
The middle class	49	42	3	6
The upper middle class	46	46	3	5
The upper class	47	44	0	9
<b>Image of the EU</b>				
Total 'Positive'	59	32	3	6
Neutral	43	44	3	10
Total 'Negative'	25	65	3	7

## **II. A NEW IMPETUS FOR DEMOCRACY**



**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

## 1. The way democracy works

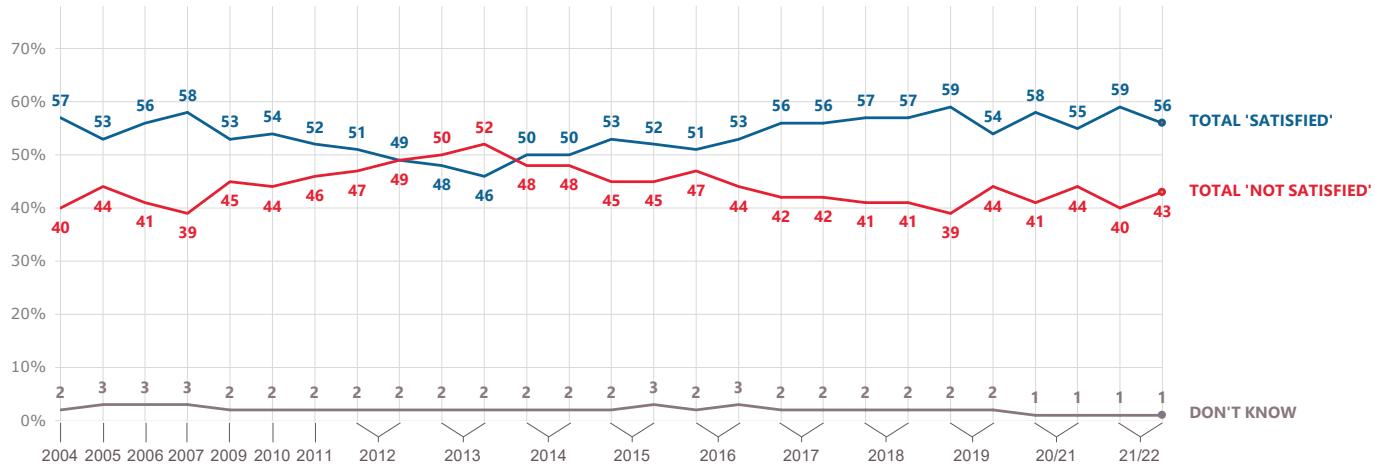
**More than half of the respondents are satisfied with the way democracy works in their country**

56% of Europeans are satisfied with the way democracy works in their country, including 9% "very satisfied" and 47% "fairly satisfied"<sup>10</sup>. Compared with spring 2021, the total level of satisfaction has decreased by three percentage points, after a sharp and significant increase of four percentage points between winter 2020-2021 and spring 2021.

On the other hand, dissatisfaction has increased notably by three percentage points to 43% (including 30% (+1) "not very satisfied" and 13% (+2) "not at all satisfied") and is therefore now just slightly lower than in winter 2020-2021 when it stood at 44%.

It is noteworthy, that total satisfaction levels are higher within the **euro area** countries (58%, -2) than in the **non-euro area** countries (52%, stable).

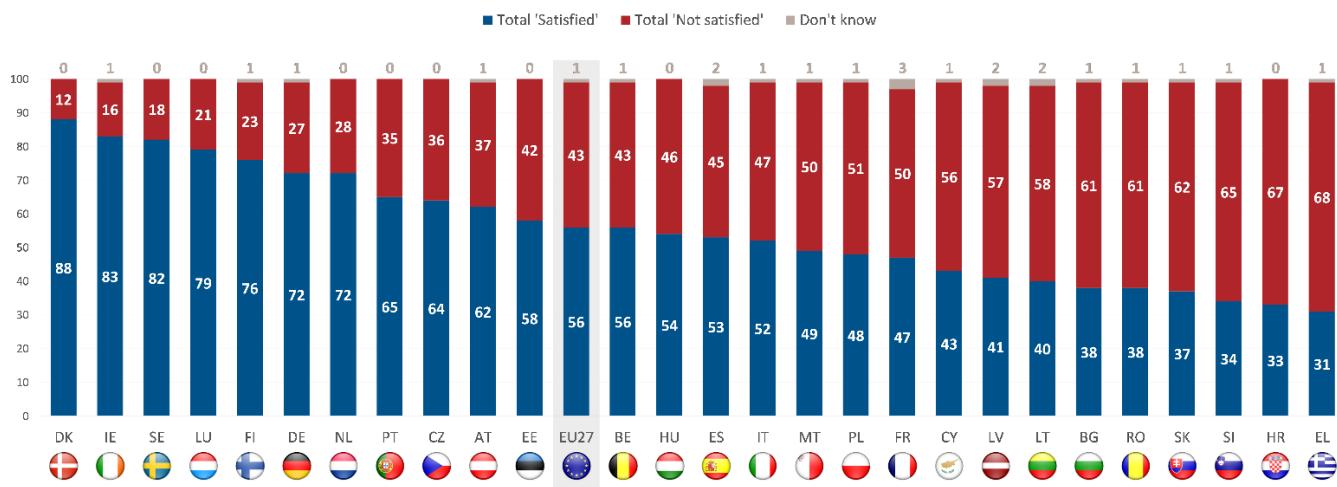
**SD18a** On the whole, are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied or not at all satisfied with the way democracy works in (OUR COUNTRY)? (% - EU)



A majority of respondents in 15 Member States (compared with 17 in spring 2021) are satisfied with the way democracy works in their country. Within this group of countries satisfaction is highest in Denmark (88%), Ireland (83%) and Sweden (82%), while it is lowest in Italy (52%).

In 12 Member States only a minority of respondents are satisfied, with the lowest level of satisfaction being recorded in Greece (31%) and Croatia (33%), where a third or less of respondents say that they are satisfied with the way democracy works in their country.

**SD18a** On the whole, are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied or not at all satisfied with the way democracy works in (OUR COUNTRY)? (%)



<sup>10</sup> SD18a. On the whole, are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied or not at all satisfied with the way democracy works in (OUR COUNTRY)?

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

**Since spring 2021,** the proportion of respondents who are satisfied with the way democracy works in their country has increased in 11 Member States (compared with 17 in the previous survey), most significantly in Ireland (83% +11) and Czechia (64%, +10), where increases are at least ten percentage points.

Conversely, satisfaction has decreased in 14 Member States, but with decreases of less than ten percentage points in all countries. Proportions decreased most strikingly in Austria (62%, -9) and France (47%, -8). In two Member States the proportion of respondents who are satisfied with the way democracy works in their country remained unchanged, namely in Germany (72%) and Poland (48%).

SD18a On the whole, are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied or not at all satisfied with the way democracy works in (OUR COUNTRY)? (%)

	EU27	IE	CZ	SE	EE	PT	BE	NL	ES	FI	BG	LU	DE	PL	CY	HU	SI	SK	DK	EL	GR	HR	LV	MT	LT	RO	IT	FR	AT
Total 'Satisfied'	Winter 2021/2022	56	83	64	82	58	65	56	72	53	76	38	79	72	48	43	54	34	37	88	31	33	41	49	40	38	52	47	62
	△ Spring 2021	▼3	▲11	▲10	▲7	▲5	▲4	▲3	▲3	▲2	▲2	▲1	▲1	=	=	▼1	▼1	▼1	▼1	▼3	▼4	▼5	▼5	▼6	▼6	▼7	▼8	▼9	
Total 'Not satisfied'	Winter 2021/2022	43	16	36	18	42	35	43	28	45	23	61	21	27	51	56	46	65	62	12	68	67	57	50	58	61	47	50	37
	△ Spring 2021	▲3	▼12	▼10	▼7	▼5	▼2	▼4	▼3	▼3	▼3	=	▲1	=	▲1	▲1	▲1	▲1	▲1	▲3	▲3	▲5	▲4	▲6	▲4	▲7	▲7	▲8	▲9
Don't know	Winter 2021/2022	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	2	1	1	1	3	1	
	△ Spring 2021	=	▲1	=	=	=	▼2	▲1	=	▲1	▲1	▼1	▼2	=	▼1	=	=	=	=	▲1	=	▲1	▼1	▲2	▼1	=	=	=	

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

The socio-demographic data show that a majority of respondents are satisfied with the way democracy works in their country in nearly all categories. More than six in ten respondents among students (64%), managers (69%), those who finished their full-time education aged 20 or later (63%), those who see themselves as middle class (61%), upper middle class (68%) or upper class (62%), those who almost never or never have difficulties in paying their bills (64%) and those who have a positive image of the EU (73%) are satisfied.

On the other hand, only a minority of unemployed people (36%), those who have difficulties paying their bills most of the time (32%), those who see themselves as working class (47%), and those for whom the EU's image is negative (26%) are satisfied with the way their national democracy works.

**SD18a** On the whole, are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied or not at all satisfied with the way democracy works in (OUR COUNTRY)?  
 (% - EU)

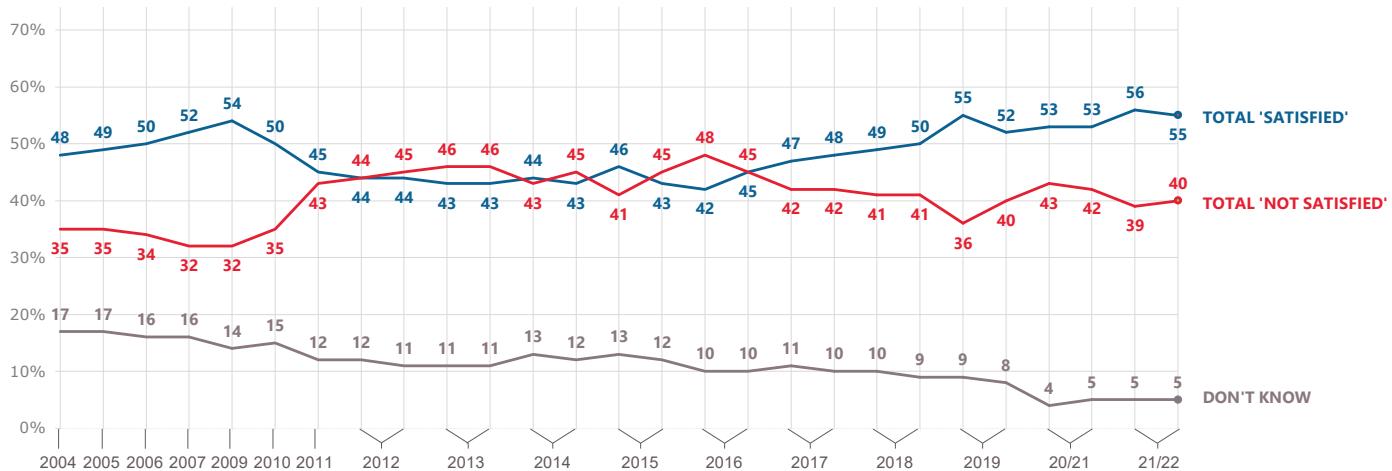
	Total 'Satisfied'	Total 'Not satisfied'	Don't know
EU27	56	43	1
<b>Gender</b>			
Man	57	42	1
Woman	56	42	2
<b>Age</b>			
15-24	59	39	2
25-39	55	45	0
40-54	54	45	1
55 +	58	41	1
<b>Education (End of)</b>			
15-	52	46	2
16-19	52	47	1
20+	63	37	0
Still studying	64	34	2
<b>Socio-professional category</b>			
Self-employed	55	45	0
Managers	69	31	0
Other white collars	55	44	1
Manual workers	50	49	1
House persons	51	47	2
Unemployed	36	62	2
Retired	59	39	2
Students	64	34	2
<b>Difficulties paying bills</b>			
Most of the time	32	67	1
From time to time	46	53	1
Almost never/ Never	64	35	1
<b>Consider belonging to</b>			
The working class	47	51	2
The lower middle class	51	49	0
The middle class	61	38	1
The upper middle class	68	32	0
The upper class	62	38	0
<b>Image of the EU</b>			
Total 'Positive'	73	26	1
Neutral	52	47	1
Total 'Negative'	26	73	1

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

**More than half of Europeans are satisfied with the way democracy works in the EU**

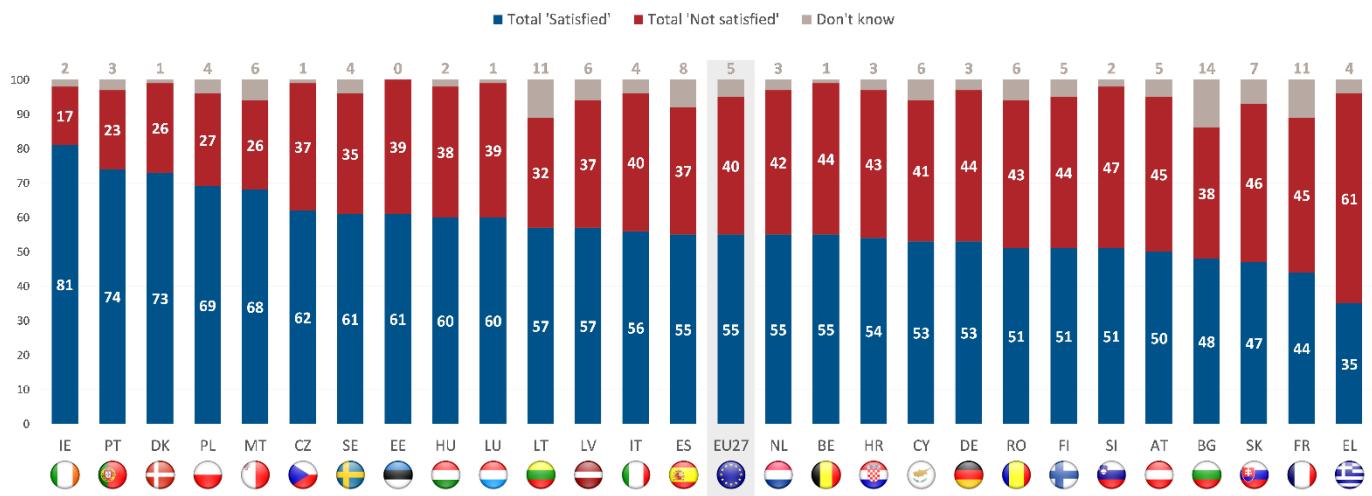
**55% of Europeans (-1 percentage point since spring 2021) are satisfied with the way democracy works in the EU, including 6% (stable) "very satisfied" and 49% (-1) "fairly satisfied"**<sup>11</sup>. Despite a slight decrease since spring 2021, satisfaction with the way democracy works in the EU remains high and stays at its second highest level since this indicator was introduced in autumn 2004.

**SD18b And how about the way democracy works in the EU?**  
 (%) - EU)



A majority of respondents in 25 Member States of the European Union (compared with 24 in spring 2021) are satisfied with the way that democracy works in the EU. Within this group of countries, levels of satisfaction are highest in Ireland (81%) and Portugal (74%), and lowest in Slovakia (47% vs 46% "dissatisfied").

**SD18b And how about the way democracy works in the EU?**  
 (%)



Conversely, 40% (+1 percentage point) of respondents are dissatisfied with the functioning of democracy in the EU, while 5% (stable) did not provide an answer or answered "don't know".

It is noteworthy that respondents in the **non-euro area** countries are more likely than those in the **euro area** countries to be satisfied with the way democracy works in the EU: 61% (-2) vs 53% (-1).

Conversely, only a minority of respondents are satisfied with the functioning of democracy in the EU in two countries, namely France (44% vs 45%) and Greece (35% vs 61%).

<sup>11</sup> SD18b. On the whole, are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied or not at all satisfied with the way democracy works in the EU?

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

**Since spring 2021**, satisfaction with the way democracy works in the EU has increased in 10 Member States (compared with 18 in the previous survey), most particularly in the Netherlands (55%, +7 percentage points) and Ireland (81%, +6).

Because of these evolutions, levels of satisfaction became a majority opinion in the Netherlands and Finland (51%, +2). Levels of satisfaction are unchanged in Germany (53%). On the other hand, they have decreased in 16 Member States, particularly in Lithuania (57%, -9).

SD18b And how about the way democracy works in the EU?

(%)

		EU27	NL	IE	BE	EE	FI	SE	CZ	LU	PL	PT	DE	DK	SK	EL	ES	FR	IT	CY	MT	AT	LV	HU	SI	BG	HR	RO	LT
Total 'Satisfied'	Winter 2021/2022	55	55	81	55	61	51	61	62	60	69	74	53	73	47	35	55	44	56	53	68	50	57	60	51	48	54	51	57
	Δ Spring 2021	▼1	▲7	▲6	▲4	▲3	▲2	▲2	▲1	▲1	▲1	▲1	=	▼1	▼2	▼3	▼3	▼3	▼3	▼3	▼4	▼5	▼5	▼6	▼6	▼6	▼9		
Total 'Not satisfied'	Winter 2021/2022	40	42	17	44	39	44	35	37	39	27	23	44	26	46	61	37	45	40	41	26	45	37	38	47	38	43	43	32
	Δ Spring 2021	▲1	▼9	▼8	▼4	▼3	▼7	▼5	▼1	=	▼1	▲2	=	▲2	▲1	▲3	▲1	▲3	▲2	▲7	▲5	▲2	▲2	▲8	▲5	▲4	▲6	▲5	▼2
Don't know	Winter 2021/2022	5	3	2	1	0	5	4	1	1	4	3	3	1	7	4	8	11	4	6	6	5	6	2	2	14	3	6	11
	Δ Spring 2021	=	▲2	▲2	=	=	▲5	▲3	=	▼1	=	▼3	=	▼1	▲1	=	▲2	=	▲1	▼4	▼2	▲1	▲2	▼3	=	▲2	=	▲1	▲11

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The socio-demographic data show that a majority of respondents in most categories are satisfied with the way democracy works in the European Union.

Satisfaction is highest among Europeans aged 15-24 years (61%), students (66%), managers (66%), those who say they belong to the upper class of society (71%), those who never or almost never have difficulties in paying their bills (60%) and those who have a positive image of the EU (79%).

Conversely, only a minority of unemployed people (37% vs 58%), those who have difficulties paying their bills most of the time (32% vs 61%) or from time to time (47% vs 48%), and those for whom the EU's image is negative (14% vs 82%) are satisfied.

**SD18b** And how about the way democracy works in the EU?  
 (% - EU)

	Total 'Satisfied'	Total 'Not satisfied'	Don't know
EU27	55	40	5
<b>Gender</b>			
Man	54	42	4
Woman	55	38	7
<b>Age</b>			
15-24	61	33	6
25-39	57	40	3
40-54	55	42	3
55 +	52	41	7
<b>Education (End of)</b>			
15-	46	44	10
16-19	51	44	5
20+	60	36	4
Still studying	66	29	5
<b>Socio-professional category</b>			
Self-employed	56	41	3
Managers	66	32	2
Other white collars	59	36	5
Manual workers	50	46	4
House persons	49	42	9
Unemployed	37	58	5
Retired	52	40	8
Students	66	29	5
<b>Difficulties paying bills</b>			
Most of the time	32	61	7
From time to time	47	48	5
Almost never/ Never	60	35	5
<b>Consider belonging to</b>			
The working class	46	46	8
The lower middle class	47	47	6
The middle class	59	37	4
The upper middle class	65	33	2
The upper class	71	28	1
<b>Image of the EU</b>			
Total 'Positive'	79	18	3
Neutral	46	47	7
Total 'Negative'	14	82	4

## 2. Are personal and national interests taken into account?

**Just under six in ten Europeans think that the interests of their country are well taken into account in the EU**

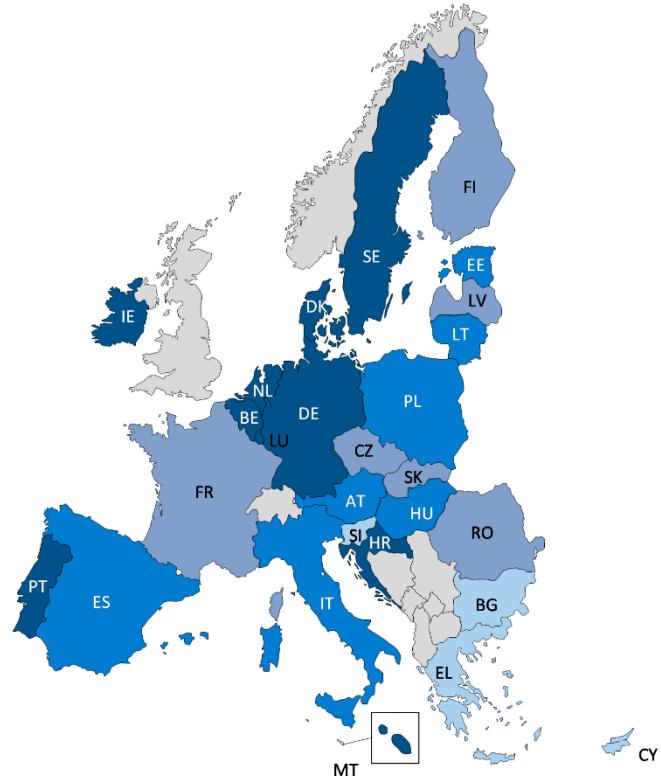
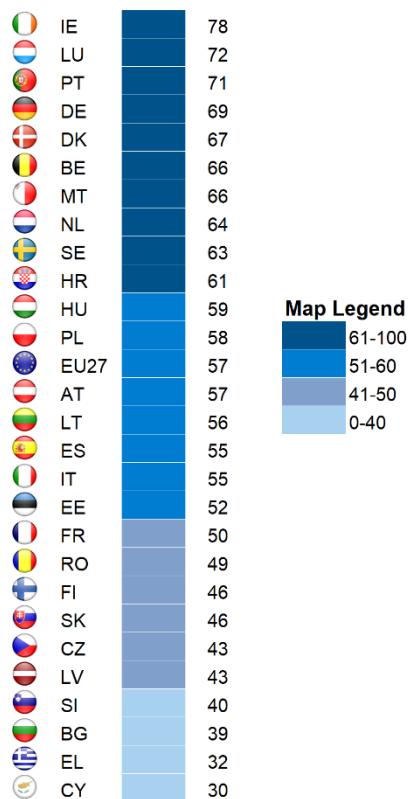
57% (-3 percentage points since spring 2021) of respondents agree with the statement that “the interests of their country are well taken into account in the EU”<sup>12</sup>, including 14% (-2) who “totally agree” and 43% (-1) who “tend to agree”. On the other hand, 35% (+1) disagree with this statement, including 25% (=) who “tend to disagree” and 10% (+1) who “totally disagree”, while 8% (+2) provided no answer to this question.

Despite a decrease of four percentage points, respondents in the **euro area** countries are more likely to agree with the statement (down to 58%) than respondents in the **non-euro area** countries (54%, -3).

A majority of respondents in 20 Member States (unchanged since spring 2021) agree with the statement that the interests of their country are well taken into account in the EU. Within this group of countries levels of approval are highest in Ireland (78%), Luxembourg (72%) and Portugal (71%), where more than seven in ten respondents agree with the statement

On the other hand, in seven Member States only a minority of respondents agree with the statement that the interests of their country are well taken into account in the EU. Levels of approval are lowest in Greece (32%) and Cyprus (30%), where less than a third of respondents agree with the statement.

**QB1.1 To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.  
The interests of (OUR COUNTRY) are well taken into account in the EU (% - Total 'Agree')**

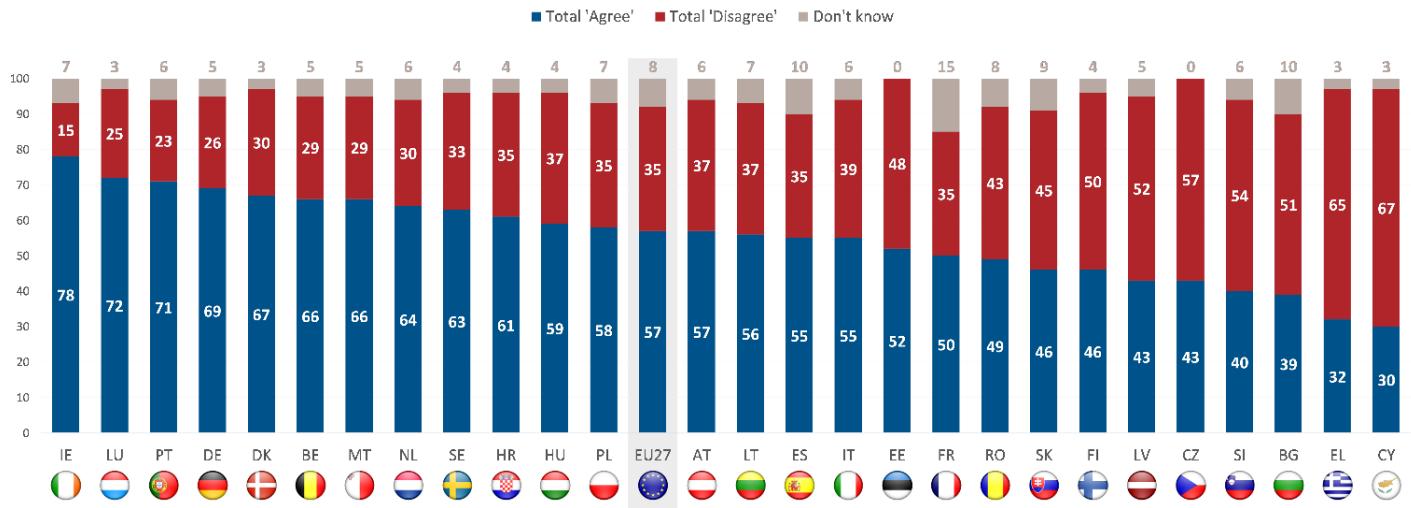


<sup>12</sup> QB1.1 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. The interests of (OUR COUNTRY) are well taken into account in the EU

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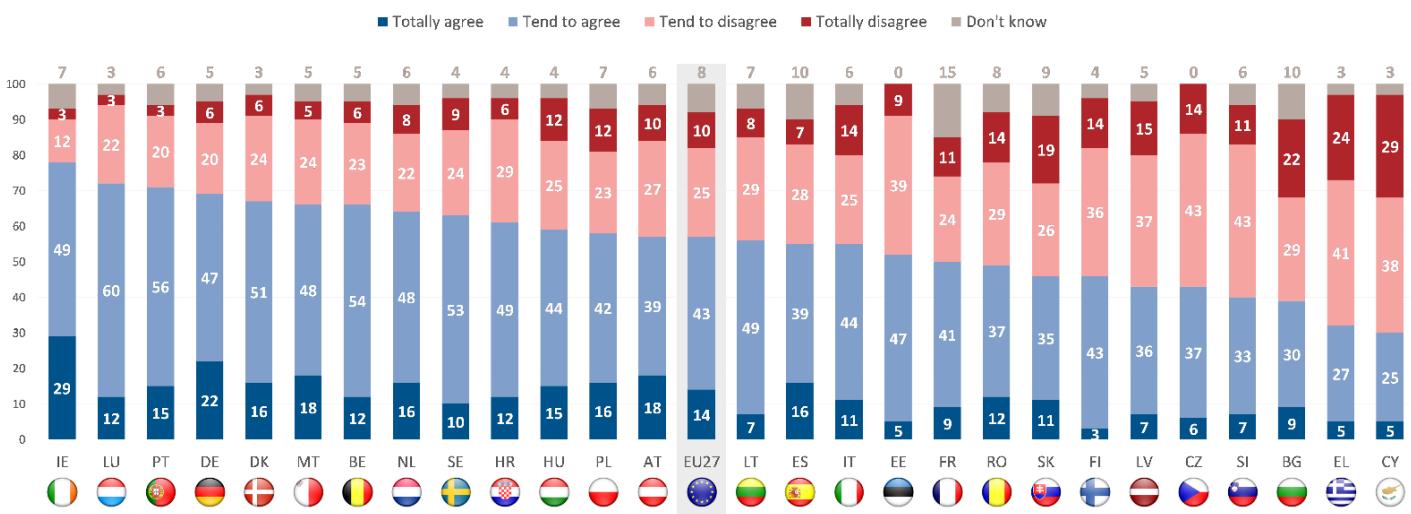
**QB1.1 To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.**

(% - The interests of (OUR COUNTRY) are well taken into account in the EU)



**QB1.1 To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.**

(% - The interests of (OUR COUNTRY) are well taken into account in the EU)



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**Since spring 2021** the proportion of respondents who believe that the interests of their country are taken into account in the EU has gained ground in nine Member States of the European Union (compared with 16 in the previous survey), particularly in Finland (46%, +4) but also in Latvia (43%, +1).

Despite these increases in those two countries, the balance of opinion remains negative. Levels of satisfaction have remained unchanged in Italy (55%) while they have declined in 17 Member States, most strikingly in Portugal (71%, -9), France (50%, -9) and Bulgaria (39%, -9).

QB1.1 To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

The interests of (OUR COUNTRY) are well taken into account in the EU (%)

		EU27	SE	FI	HR	LU	NL	EE	SI	IE	LV	IT	DK	EL	MT	HU	RO	SK	LT	AT	BE	CZ	DE	PL	CY	ES	BG	FR	PT
Total 'Agree'	Winter 2021/2022	57	63	46	61	72	64	52	40	78	43	55	67	32	66	59	49	46	56	57	66	43	69	58	30	55	39	50	71
	Δ Spring 2021	▼3	▲5	▲4	▲3	▲3	▲3	▲2	▲2	▲1	▲1	=	▼1	▼1	▼1	▼2	▼2	▼2	▼3	▼3	▼4	▼4	▼4	▼6	▼8	▼9	▼9	▼9	
Total 'Disagree'	Winter 2021/2022	35	33	50	35	25	30	48	54	15	52	39	30	65	29	37	43	45	37	37	29	57	26	35	67	35	51	35	23
	Δ Spring 2021	▲1	▼9	▼8	▼1	=	▼7	▼2	▼4	▼8	▼3	▼2	▲2	=	▲6	▲2	=	▼1	▼4	▲2	=	▲8	▲4	▲5	▲8	▲6	▲9	▲7	▲9
Don't know	Winter 2021/2022	8	4	4	4	3	6	0	6	7	5	6	3	3	5	4	8	9	7	6	5	0	5	7	3	10	10	15	6
	Δ Spring 2021	▲2	▲4	▲4	▼2	▼3	▲4	=	▲2	▲7	▲2	▲2	▼1	▲1	▼5	=	▲2	▲3	▲7	▲1	▲4	▼4	=	▼1	▼2	▲2	=	▲2	=

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
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The socio-demographic data show a majority of respondents in most categories think that the interests of their country are well taken into account in the EU.

In contrast, only a minority of Europeans who have difficulties paying their bills most of the time (37% vs 52%) and those who have a negative image of the EU (23% vs 71%) share this opinion.

Europeans aged 15-24 years (64%), those who continued their education up to the age of 20 or beyond (65%), managers (69%), students (67%), people who see themselves as upper middle class (70%) or upper class (67%) of society, and those who perceive the EU positively (79%) are the most likely to agree with this statement.

**QB1.1** To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

**The interests of (OUR COUNTRY) are well taken into account in the EU**  
 (% - EU)

	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Don't know
EU27	57	35	8
 Gender			
Man	59	36	5
Woman	56	35	9
 Age			
15-24	64	27	9
25-39	59	36	5
40-54	57	38	5
55 +	55	36	9
 Education (End of)			
15-	48	40	12
16-19	53	40	7
20+	65	30	5
Still studying	67	24	9
 Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	59	36	5
Managers	69	28	3
Other white collars	60	35	5
Manual workers	53	39	8
House persons	50	37	13
Unemployed	40	52	8
Retired	55	36	9
Students	67	24	9
 Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	37	52	11
From time to time	50	43	7
Almost never/ Never	62	31	7
 Consider belonging to			
The working class	47	42	11
The lower middle class	50	42	8
The middle class	62	32	6
The upper middle class	70	26	4
The upper class	67	32	1
 Image of the EU			
Total 'Positive'	79	16	5
Neutral	49	41	10
Total 'Negative'	23	71	6

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

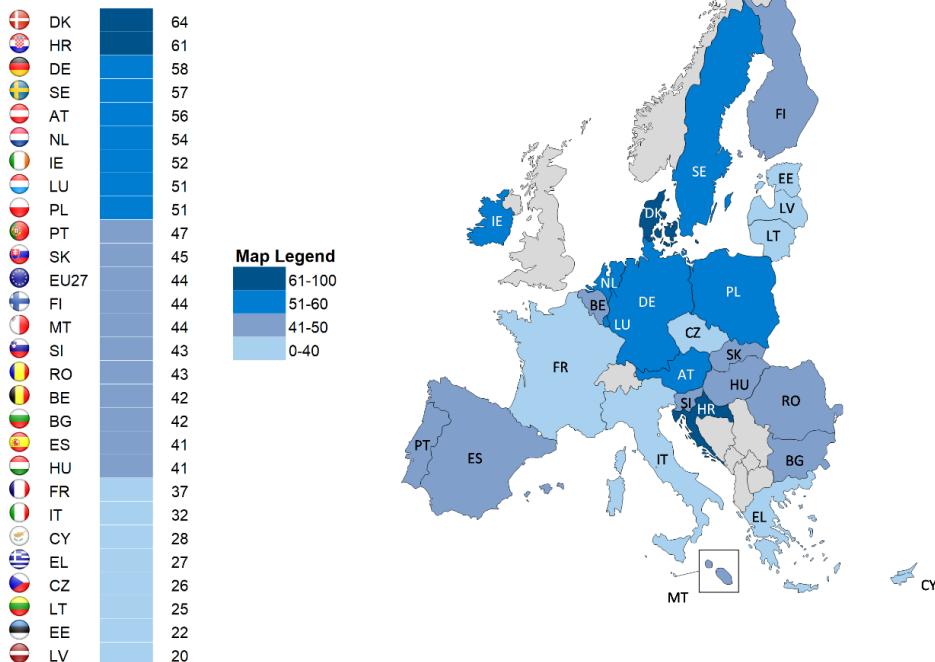
**Over four in ten Europeans consider that their voice counts in the EU**

A majority of Europeans (52%) believe that their voice does not count in the European Union<sup>13</sup>. After having remained unchanged between summer 2020 and spring 2021, this negative opinion decreased slightly by one percentage point in this EB96 survey in winter 2021-2022. On the contrary, a minority of respondents consider that their voice counts in the EU (44%). Positive opinions have increased slightly by one percentage point since spring 2021. Since 2004, when this indicator was introduced, positive opinions have outweighed negative opinions only twice, namely in autumn 2018 and in spring 2019.

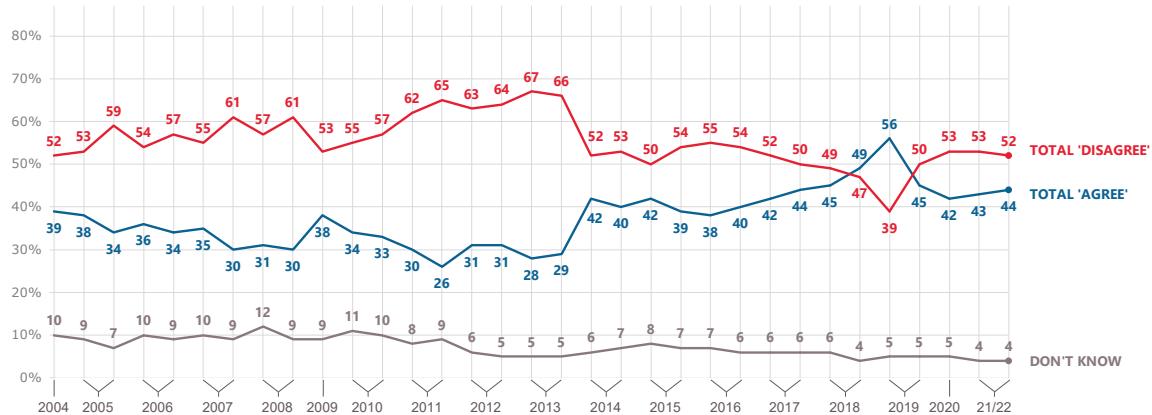
The view that personal interests are taken into account at the level of the European Union remains the minority opinion in the **non-euro area** countries (47% vs 49%).

As regards the **euro area**, despite a small increase (+2), respondents who believe that their voice counts in the EU remain a minority in this group of countries: 44% who "agree" vs 52% who "disagree".

D72.1 To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.  
**My voice counts in the EU (%) - Total 'Agree'**



D72.1 To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.  
**My voice counts in the EU (%) - EU**



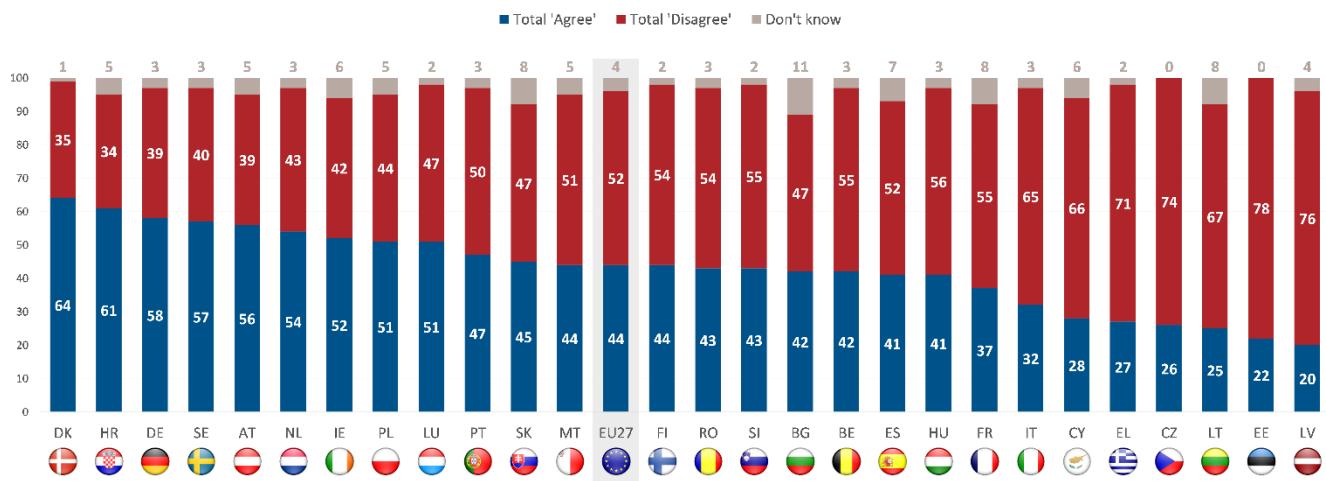
<sup>13</sup> D72.1 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. My voice counts in the EU

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
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In nine Member States of the EU (compared with seven in spring 2021 and eight in summer 2020) a majority of respondents consider that their voice counts in the EU. Within this group of countries, the scores range from 64% in Denmark to 51% and in both Poland and Luxembourg.

On the contrary, only a minority of respondents support this statement in 18 countries, with the lowest scores being recorded in Latvia (20%) and Estonia (22%).

D72.1 To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.  
 (% - My voice counts in the EU)



Since spring 2021, the proportion of respondents who think that their voice counts in the EU has increased in 12 Member States of the European Union (compared with 14 in the previous survey), most strikingly in Luxembourg (+11) and Ireland (+8), where this opinion now holds a majority.

Opinions remained unchanged in five countries, namely in Malta (44%), Slovenia (43%), Hungary (41%), Czechia (26%) and Latvia (20%). On the other hand, the level of agreement has decreased in 10 countries, most particularly in Lithuania (-25%, -13), and to a lesser extent in Croatia (61%, -6).

D72.1 To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.  
 My voice counts in the EU (%)

	EU27	LU	IE	BE	ES	NL	FI	DE	EL	SE	EE	DK	PL	CZ	LV	HU	MT	SI	FR	IT	CY	PT	SK	AT	RO	BG	HR	LT
Total 'Agree'	44	51	52	42	41	54	44	58	27	57	22	64	51	26	20	41	44	43	37	32	28	47	45	56	43	42	61	25
△ Spring 2021	▲1	▲11	▲8	▲6	▲6	▲6	▲6	▲6	▲4	▲4	▲4	=	=	=	=	▼2	▼2	▼2	▼2	▼2	▼3	▼5	▼6	▼13				
Total 'Disagree'	52	47	42	55	52	43	54	39	71	40	78	35	44	74	76	56	51	55	55	65	66	50	47	39	54	47	34	67
△ Spring 2021	▼1	▼9	▼14	▼9	▼8	▼8	▼8	▼3	▼7	▼7	▼3	=	▲3	▼1	▲1	▲4	▲1	=	▲2	▲3	▲2	▼1	▲1	▲4	▲7	▲5	▲6	
Don't know	4	2	6	3	7	3	2	3	2	3	0	1	5	0	4	3	5	2	8	3	6	3	8	5	3	11	5	8
△ Spring 2021	=	▼2	▲6	▲3	▲2	▲2	▲2	▼1	=	▲3	=	▼1	▼2	▼3	▲1	▼1	▼4	▼1	▲2	=	▼1	=	▲3	▲2	▼1	▼2	▲1	▲7

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

The socio-demographic data show that the various categories are divided on the question of whether or not their voice counts in the EU:

A majority of managers (57%), students (47% vs 46%), those who stayed in fulltime education until the age of 20 years or longer (52%), those who see themselves as belonging to the upper class (68%) or upper middle class of society (59%), those who never or almost never have difficulties of paying their bills (50%) and those who have a positive image of the EU (64%) feel that their voice counts in the EU.

In all other categories only a minority of respondents share this view, particularly those who finished their education aged 15 or earlier (34%), the unemployed (31%), house persons (36%), those who have difficulties paying their bills most of the time (25%), those who see themselves as belonging to the working class of society (34%) and those who have a negative image of the EU (17%) agree with this statement.

**D72.1** To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

**My voice counts in the EU**  
(% - EU)

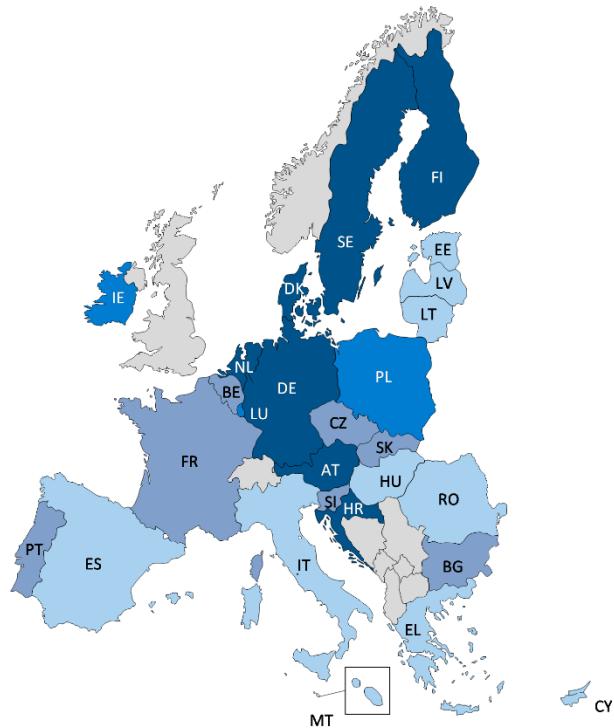
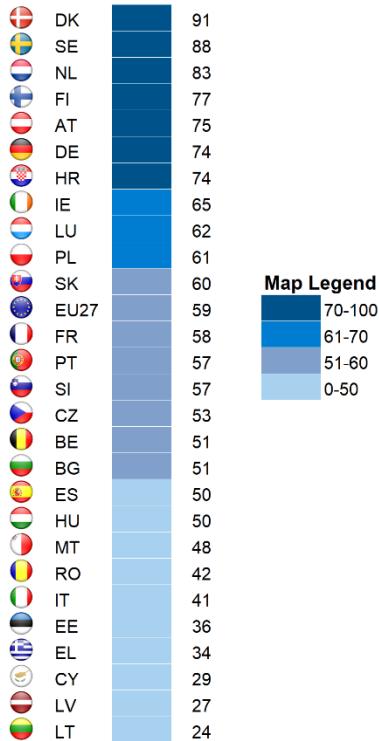
	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Don't know
EU27	44	52	4
<b>Gender</b>			
Man	46	51	3
Woman	43	52	5
<b>Age</b>			
15-24	45	48	7
25-39	47	50	3
40-54	44	53	3
55 +	44	51	5
<b>Education (End of)</b>			
15-	34	59	7
16-19	42	54	4
20+	52	45	3
Still studying	47	46	7
<b>Socio-professional category</b>			
Self-employed	45	52	3
Managers	57	40	3
Other white collars	47	50	3
Manual workers	41	55	4
House persons	36	58	6
Unemployed	31	66	3
Retired	44	50	6
Students	47	46	7
<b>Difficulties paying bills</b>			
Most of the time	25	71	4
From time to time	37	59	4
Almost never/ Never	50	45	5
<b>Consider belonging to</b>			
The working class	34	60	6
The lower middle class	37	59	4
The middle class	49	47	4
The upper middle class	59	38	3
The upper class	68	32	0
<b>Image of the EU</b>			
Total 'Positive'	64	32	4
Neutral	35	60	5
Total 'Negative'	17	81	2

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
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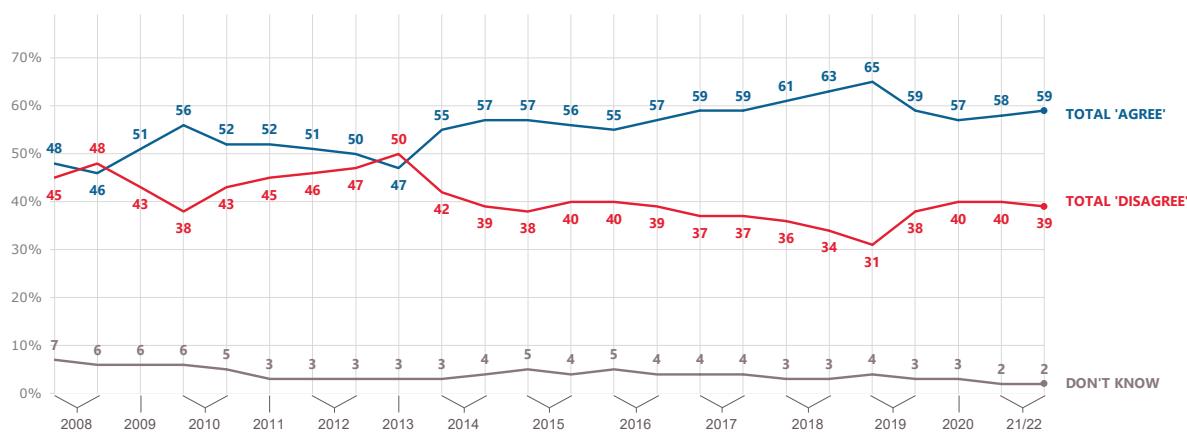
**59% of Europeans (+1 percentage point since spring 2021 and +2 since summer 2020) say that their voice counts in their country<sup>14</sup>,** while just under four in ten respondents (39%, -1 since spring 2020) disagree with this statement. The proportion of respondents who think that their voice is taken into account in their country has increased for the second time in a row after two consecutive decreases between autumn 2019 and summer 2020.

The proportion of respondents who agree with this statement increased slightly in the **non-euro area** countries (60%, +2 percentage points since summer 2020) as well as in the **euro area** countries (58%, +1).

**D72.2 To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.**  
**My voice counts in (OUR COUNTRY) (% - Total 'Agree')**



**D72.2 To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.**  
**My voice counts in (OUR COUNTRY) (% - EU)**



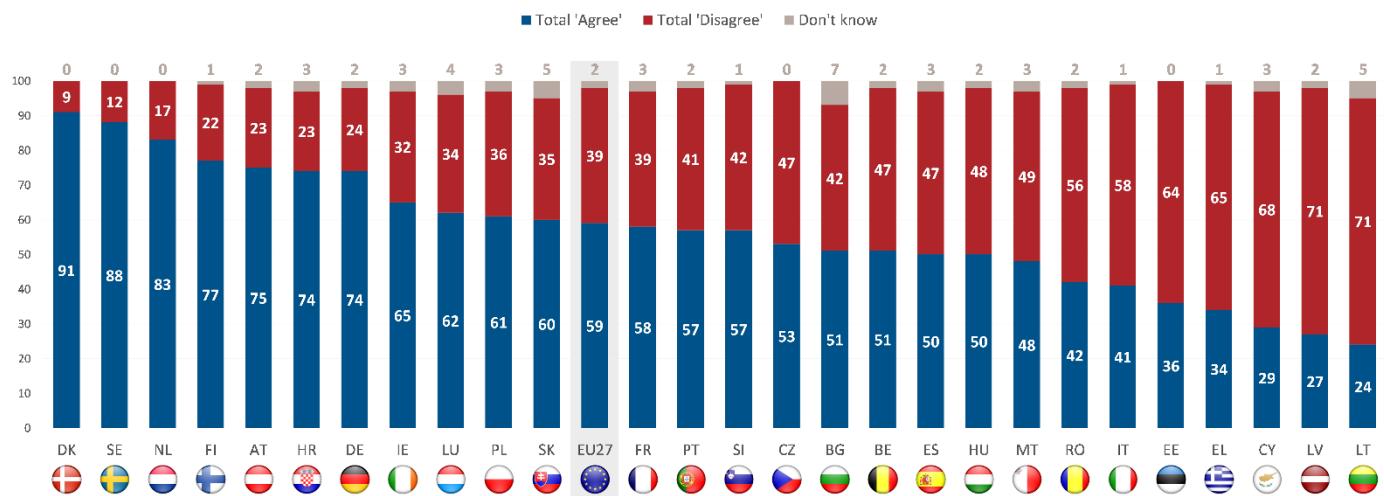
<sup>14</sup> D72.2 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. My voice counts in (OUR COUNTRY)

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
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A majority of respondents agree with the statement "my voice counts in (OUR COUNTRY)" in 19 Member States (compared with 15 countries in summer 2020), most notably in Denmark (91%), Sweden (88%) and the Netherlands (83%), where support exceeds 80%.

In the other eight Member States only a minority of respondents agree with this statement. Respondents in Lithuania (24%) and Latvia (27%) are the least likely to think that their voice counts in their country.

**D72.2 To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.  
(% - My voice counts in (OUR COUNTRY))**



Since spring 2021, agreement with the view that their voice counts in their country has gained ground among respondents in 13 Member States, most strikingly in the Netherlands (83%, +9), Spain (50%, +7) and Estonia (36%, +6), where this is still the minority opinion.

The proportion of respondents who agree with this statement is unchanged in four countries, namely in Denmark (91%), Germany (74%), Luxembourg (62%) and France (58%). On the contrary, it has decreased in 10 countries, particularly in Lithuania (24%, -9) and to a lesser extend in Croatia (74%, -5) and Cyprus (29%, -5)

**D72.2 To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.  
My voice counts in (OUR COUNTRY) (%)**

		EU27	NL	ES	EE	BE	CZ	IE	SI	EL	HU	SE	MT	PL	BG	DK	DE	FR	LU	LV	FI	RO	IT	AT	SK	PT	HR	CY	LT
Total 'Agree'	Winter 2021/2022	59	83	50	36	51	53	65	57	34	50	88	48	61	51	91	74	58	62	27	77	42	41	75	60	57	74	29	24
	Δ Spring 2021	▲1	▲9	▲7	▲6	▲5	▲5	▲5	▲5	▲4	▲4	▲3	▲2	▲2	▲1	=	=	=	=	▼1	▼1	▼2	▼3	▼3	▼3	▼4	▼5	▼9	
Total 'Disagree'	Winter 2021/2022	39	17	47	64	47	47	32	42	65	48	12	49	36	42	9	24	39	34	71	22	56	58	23	35	41	23	68	71
	Δ Spring 2021	▼1	▼9	▼8	▼6	▼7	▼3	▼8	▼4	▼4	▼3	▼3	▲3	▼2	=	▲1	=	▲1	▲1	=	▲3	▲3	▲2	▲1	▲1	▲4	▲5	▲4	
Don't know	Winter 2021/2022	2	0	3	0	2	0	3	1	1	2	0	3	3	7	0	2	3	4	2	1	2	1	2	5	2	3	3	5
	Δ Spring 2021	=	=	▲1	=	▲2	▼2	▲3	▼1	=	▼1	=	▼5	=	▼1	▼1	=	▼1	▼1	▲1	▲1	▼1	=	▲1	▲2	=	▲1	=	▲5

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The socio-demographic data show that a majority of respondents in practically all categories think that their voice counts in their country.

However, there are some exceptions. Thus, this view is shared by only a minority of those who finished their education at 15 years old or earlier (47% vs 50%), the unemployed (40% vs 58%), house persons (48% vs 49%), Europeans who have difficulties paying

their bills most of the time (31% vs 67%) or from time to time (48% vs 50%), those who see themselves as belonging to the working class of society (48% vs 49%), and those who have a negative image of the EU (35% vs 63%).

**D72.2** To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

**My voice counts in (OUR COUNTRY)**

(% - EU)

	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Don't know
EU27	59	39	2
<b>Gender</b>			
Man	59	39	2
Woman	58	39	3
<b>Age</b>			
15-24	58	37	5
25-39	59	40	1
40-54	57	41	2
55 +	60	38	2
<b>Education (End of)</b>			
15-	47	50	3
16-19	57	41	2
20+	66	32	2
Still studying	60	35	5
<b>Socio-professional category</b>			
Self-employed	57	42	1
Managers	73	27	0
Other white collars	60	38	2
Manual workers	56	42	2
House persons	48	49	3
Unemployed	40	58	2
Retired	60	37	3
Students	60	35	5
<b>Difficulties paying bills</b>			
Most of the time	31	67	2
From time to time	48	50	2
Almost never/ Never	66	32	2
<b>Consider belonging to</b>			
The working class	48	49	3
The lower middle class	50	48	2
The middle class	63	35	2
The upper middle class	75	24	1
The upper class	82	18	0
<b>Image of the EU</b>			
Total 'Positive'	74	24	2
Neutral	52	45	3
Total 'Negative'	35	63	2

### **III. AN ECONOMY THAT WORKS FOR ITS CITIZENS**



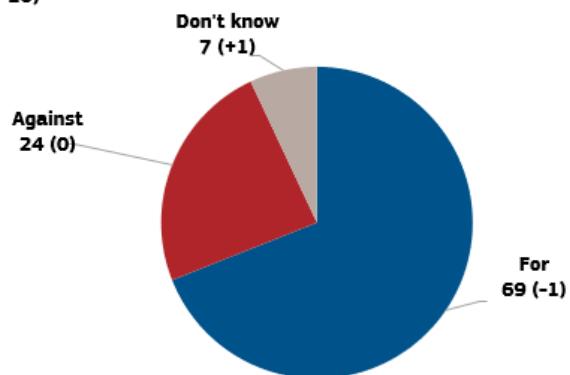
**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

**Almost seven in ten Europeans are in favour of a European economic and monetary union with one single currency, the euro**

**69% of Europeans are in favour of a European economic and monetary union with one single currency, the euro<sup>15</sup>.** Despite a slight decrease by one percentage point since spring 2021, level of support now stands at its second highest level since this indicator was introduced in 2004 (at 63%). On the other hand, less than a quarter of Europeans are “against” a European economic and monetary union with one single currency, the euro (24%, =), while 7% of respondents did not provide an answer or answered “don’t know” (+1).

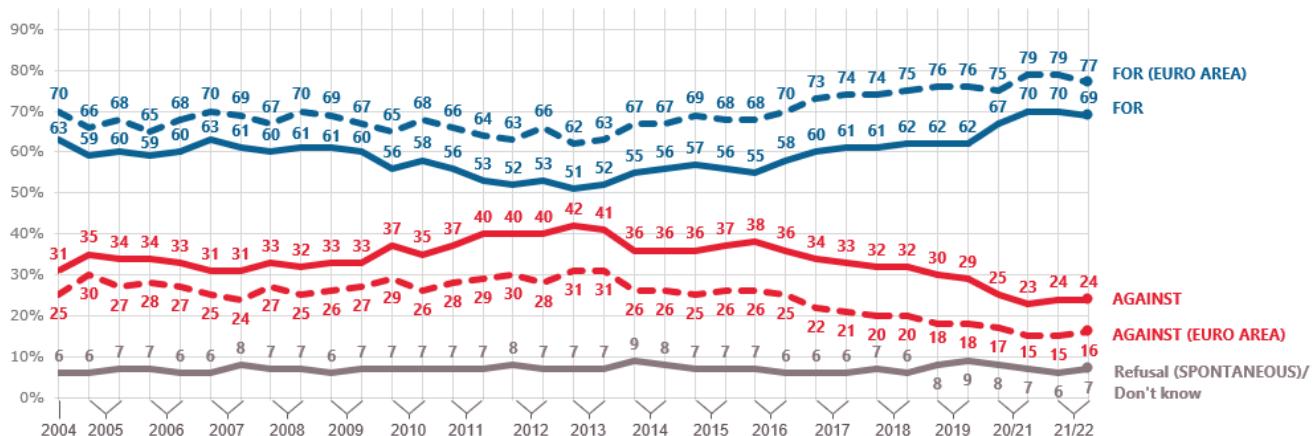
Support for a European economic and monetary union with one single currency, the euro, also remains at its highest ever level **in the euro area** with 77% (-2) of citizens supporting the euro. At the same time, the proportion of respondents who are opposed to the euro remains historically low (16%, +1).

**QB3.1 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.**  
**A European economic and monetary union with one single currency, the euro (% - EU)**



(Winter 2021/2022 - Spring 2021)

**QB3.1** What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.  
**A European economic and monetary union with one single currency, the euro (% - EU)**



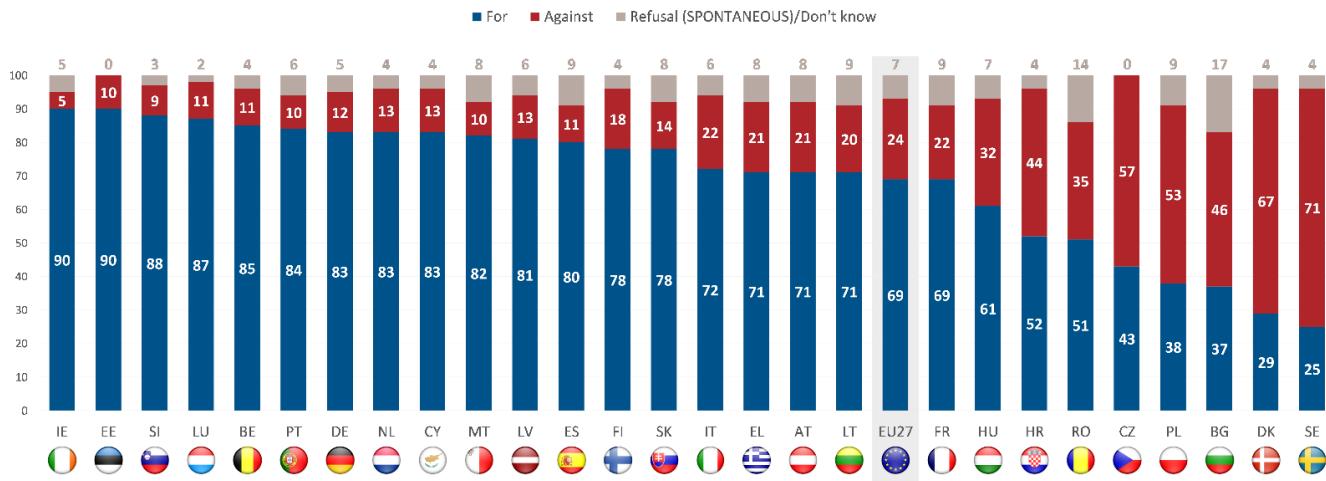
<sup>15</sup> QB3.1 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell me for each statement, whether you are for it or against it. A European economic and monetary union with one single currency, the euro

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

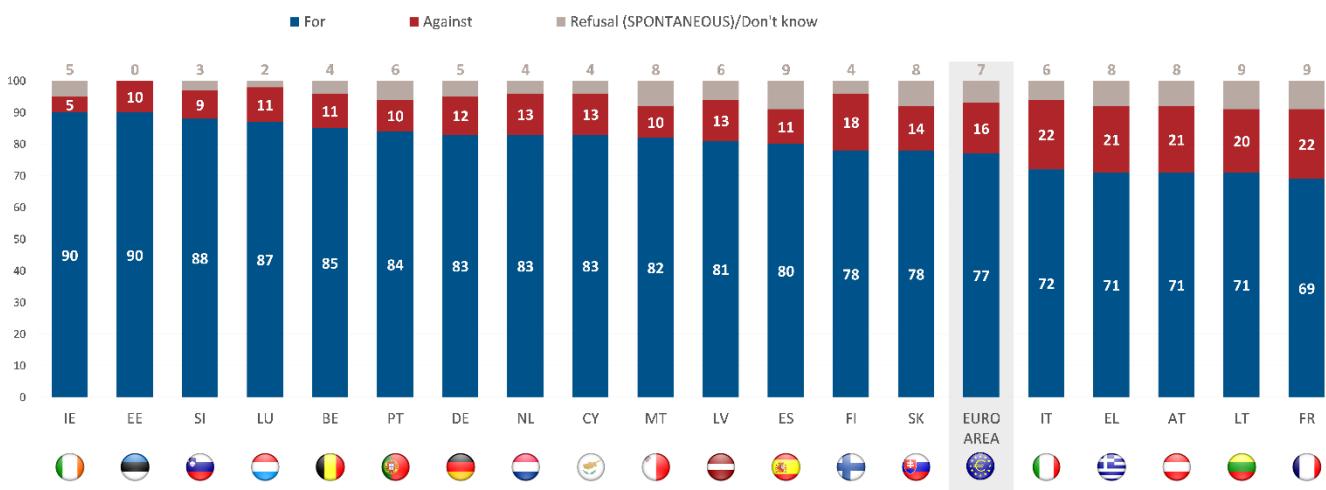
A majority of respondents are in favour of “a European economic and monetary union with one single currency, the euro” in 22 EU Member States (unchanged since spring 2021). Support is highest in Estonia (90%), Ireland (90%) and Slovenia (88%) and lowest in Croatia (52%) and Romania (51%). In contrast, in five Member States only a minority supports a European economic and monetary union with one single currency, the euro, namely in Czechia (43%), Poland (38%), Bulgaria (37%), Denmark (29%) and Sweden (25%).

Within the **euro area**, 77% of respondents are in favour of the euro. Respondents are predominantly in favour of the single currency in three **non-euro area countries**: Hungary (61%, -6 compared with spring 2021), Romania (51%, -2) and Croatia (52%, +7), where support became majority opinion in this EB96 survey from winter 2021-2022.

**QB3.1 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.**  
(% - A European economic and monetary union with one single currency, the euro)

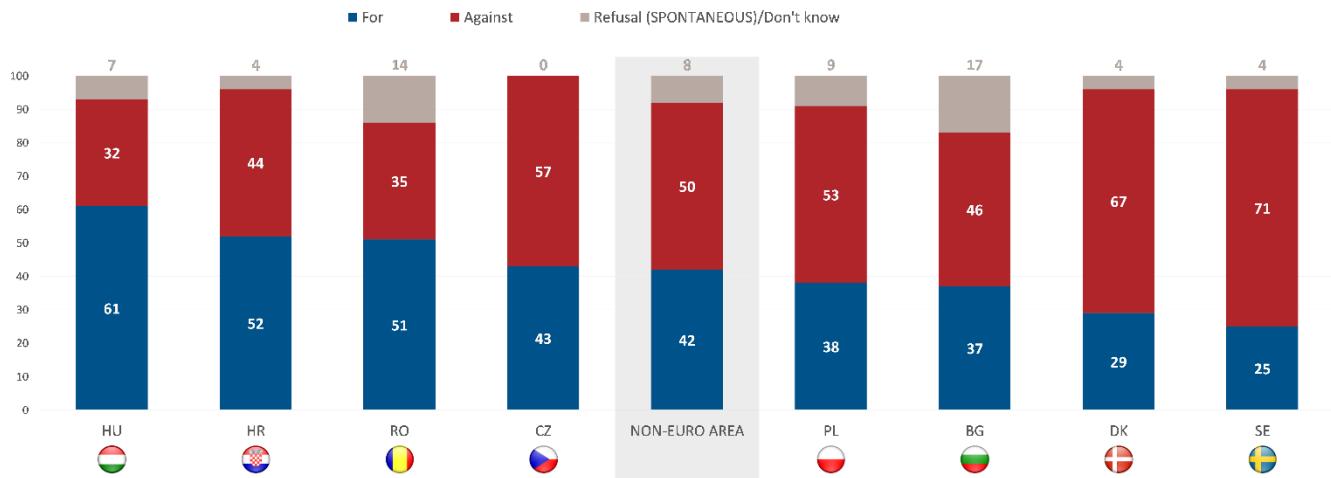


**QB3.1 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.**  
(% - A European economic and monetary union with one single currency, the euro)



**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
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**QB3.1 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.**  
 (% - A European economic and monetary union with one single currency, the euro)



Since spring 2021, support for a “European economic and monetary union with one single currency, the euro” has increased in 11 Member States (compared with eight in the previous survey), in particular in Czechia (43%, +10), where, despite this increase, support remains a minority opinion (vs 57%, -6 “against”).

In Ireland (90%), support is unchanged and in 15 countries the proportion of respondents in favour of this policy has decreased, most strikingly in Lithuania (71%, -12 percentage points) and to a lesser extent in Belgium (85%, -7).

**QB3.1 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.**  
 A European economic and monetary union with one single currency, the euro (%)

	EU27	EURO AREA	NON-EURO AREA	CZ	CY	HR	LU	PL	IT	MT	SE	DE	EE	FI	IE	DK	NL	PT	EL	LV	AT	RO	SI	SK	BG	FR	ES	HU	BE	LT	
For	Winter 2021/2022	69	77	42	43	83	52	87	38	72	82	25	83	90	78	90	29	83	84	71	81	71	51	88	78	37	69	80	61	85	71
	Δ Spring 2021	▼1	▼2	▲1	▲10	▲9	▲7	▲4	▲3	▲2	▲2	▲2	▲1	▲1	=	▼1	▼1	▼1	▼2	▼2	▼3	▼3	▼5	▼5	▼6	▼6	▼7	▼7	▼12		
Against	Winter 2021/2022	24	16	50	57	13	44	11	53	22	10	71	12	10	18	5	67	13	10	21	13	21	35	9	14	46	22	11	32	11	20
	Δ Spring 2021	=	▲1	=	▼6	▼5	▼4	▼3	▼1	▼1	▲2	▼6	=	▼1	▼5	▼5	▲3	▼2	=	▲1	=	▲1	=	▲1	▲2	▲8	▲3	▲2	▲5	▲4	▲3
Refusal (SPONTANEOUS)	Winter 2021/2022	2	2	2	0	2	2	1	3	1	2	0	2	0	0	1	0	2	1	5	1	3	5	1	2	2	1	2	1	2	
	Δ Spring 2021	=	=	▼1	▼1	▼3	▲1	=	▼1	▼1	▲1	=	▼1	=	=	▲1	▼2	▲1	=	▲2	▲1	▼1	▲1	=	=	▼2	=	▲1	▲1	▲1	▲2
Don't know	Winter 2021/2022	5	5	6	0	2	2	1	6	5	6	4	3	0	4	4	4	2	5	3	5	5	9	2	6	15	8	7	5	3	7
	Δ Spring 2021	▲1	▲1	=	▼3	▼1	▼4	▼1	▼1	=	▼5	▲4	=	=	▲4	▲4	=	▲2	▲1	▼1	▲1	▲2	▲1	▼1	▲2	▲3	=	▲2	▲7		

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

The socio-demographic data show that a majority of respondents in almost all categories support a European economic and monetary union with one single currency, the euro. Support is particularly high among respondents who see themselves as belonging to the upper middle class of society (75%), students (77%), managers (78%), and those for whom the EU's image is positive (83%).

In contrast, people who have difficulties paying their bills most of the time (53%) and those who see themselves as belonging to the working class of society (60%) are slightly less likely to support the idea of a European economic and monetary union with one single currency, the euro. Respondents for whom the EU's image is negative are the only exception, since only a minority of them support the euro: 42% "for it" vs 50% "against it"

**QB3.1** What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.

**A European economic and monetary union with one single currency, the euro**  
(% - EU)

	For	Against	Refusal (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU27	69	24	2	5
<b>Gender</b>				
Man	70	24	2	4
Woman	68	24	2	6
<b>Age</b>				
15-24	74	19	1	6
25-39	70	24	2	4
40-54	68	25	2	5
55 +	67	25	2	6
<b>Education (End of)</b>				
15-	65	24	2	9
16-19	66	27	2	5
20+	73	22	2	3
Still studying	77	16	1	6
<b>Socio-professional category</b>				
Self-employed	73	24	2	1
Managers	78	18	1	3
Other white collars	72	23	2	3
Manual workers	63	29	2	6
House persons	60	29	3	8
Unemployed	60	31	1	8
Retired	67	24	2	7
Students	77	16	1	6
<b>Difficulties paying bills</b>				
Most of the time	53	35	3	9
From time to time	64	28	2	6
Almost never/ Never	72	21	2	5
<b>Consider belonging to</b>				
The working class	60	29	2	9
The lower middle class	67	27	2	4
The middle class	73	21	2	4
The upper middle class	75	20	2	3
The upper class	71	28	0	1
<b>Image of the EU</b>				
Total 'Positive'	83	13	1	3
Neutral	66	25	2	7
Total 'Negative'	42	50	2	6

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

**Over half of Europeans in the euro area countries consider that the introduction of the euro banknotes and coins had a positive impact on the economy of their country and the economy of the EU**

As the year 2022 marks the 20th anniversary of the introduction of euro banknotes and coins in the countries then belonging to the Euro area, respondents were asked if, over this period, the Euro has been very positive, rather positive, rather negative, very negative or neither the one nor the other for the economy of their country and the economy of the EU<sup>16</sup>.

■ 53% of Europeans in the euro area countries think that the introduction of the euro banknotes and coins twenty years ago had a positive impact on the economy of their country, including 13% "very positive" and 40% "rather positive". One third (33%, including 12% "very negative"), oppose this perception, 9% think that the introduction of the currency was neither positive nor negative and 5% say that they "don't know".

■ A slightly higher proportion of 63% consider that the introduction of the euro banknotes and coins twenty years ago had a positive impact on the economy of the EU, including 15% "very positive" and 48% "rather positive". Just one fifth oppose this idea (21%) and 8% say that the impact was neutral, whilst 8% say that they don't know.

**QB8 The year 2022 marks the 20th anniversary of the introduction of euro banknotes and coins in the countries then belonging to the Euro area. Would you say that, over this period, the Euro has been very positive, rather positive, rather negative, very negative or neither the one nor the other for... (% - EU)**

The economy of the EU



The economy of (OUR COUNTRY)



- Very positive
- Rather positive
- Rather negative
- Very negative
- Neither the one nor the other
- Don't know

<sup>16</sup> QB8 The year 2022 marks the 20th anniversary of the introduction of euro banknotes and coins in the countries then belonging to the Euro area. Would you say that, over this period, the Euro has been very positive, rather positive, rather negative, very

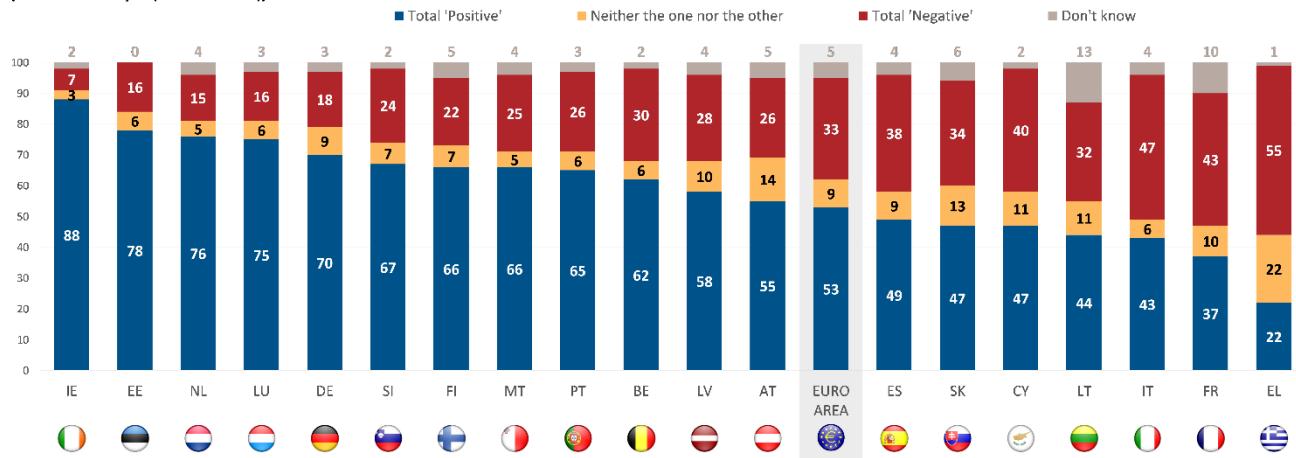
negative or neither the one nor the other for... 1. The economy of (OUR COUNTRY); 2. The economy of the EU

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

A majority of respondents in 16 countries of the euro area consider that the introduction of euro banknotes and coins had a positive impact on the economy of their country. However, levels of positive perceptions vary widely among Member States. Positive views are highest in Ireland (88%), Estonia (78%) and the Netherlands (76), where more than three-quarters hold this view, and are lowest in Lithuania with 44% (vs 32% "negative").

On the contrary, negative views are predominant in three countries, namely in Italy (43% "positive", vs 47% "negative"), France (37% "positive", vs 43% "negative") and Greece (22% "positive", vs 55% "negative").

QB8.1 The year 2022 marks the 20th anniversary of the introduction of euro banknotes and coins in the countries then belonging to the Euro area. Would you say that, over this period, the Euro has been very positive, rather positive, rather negative, very negative or neither the one nor the other for...  
 (% - The economy of (OUR COUNTRY))



**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

The socio-demographic data show that more than half of respondents in almost all categories think that the introduction of euro banknotes and coins had a positive impact on their country's economy. This perception enjoys particularly strong support among managers (71%), those who see themselves as upper class (81%) and those who think that the situation of their national economy is good (76%).

In contrast, support drops under the 50%-line among respondents who left full-time education aged 15 or earlier (39%), housepersons (38%), unemployed (34%), those who have most of the time difficulties in paying their bills (25%), those who say they belong to working class (40%) or lower middle class (43%) of society and those who consider that the situation of their national economy is bad (39%).

**QB8.1** The year 2022 marks the 20th anniversary of the introduction of euro banknotes and coins in the countries then belonging to the Euro area. Would you say that, over this period, the Euro has been very positive, rather positive, rather negative, very negative or neither the one nor the other for...

**The economy of (OUR COUNTRY) (%) - EU)**

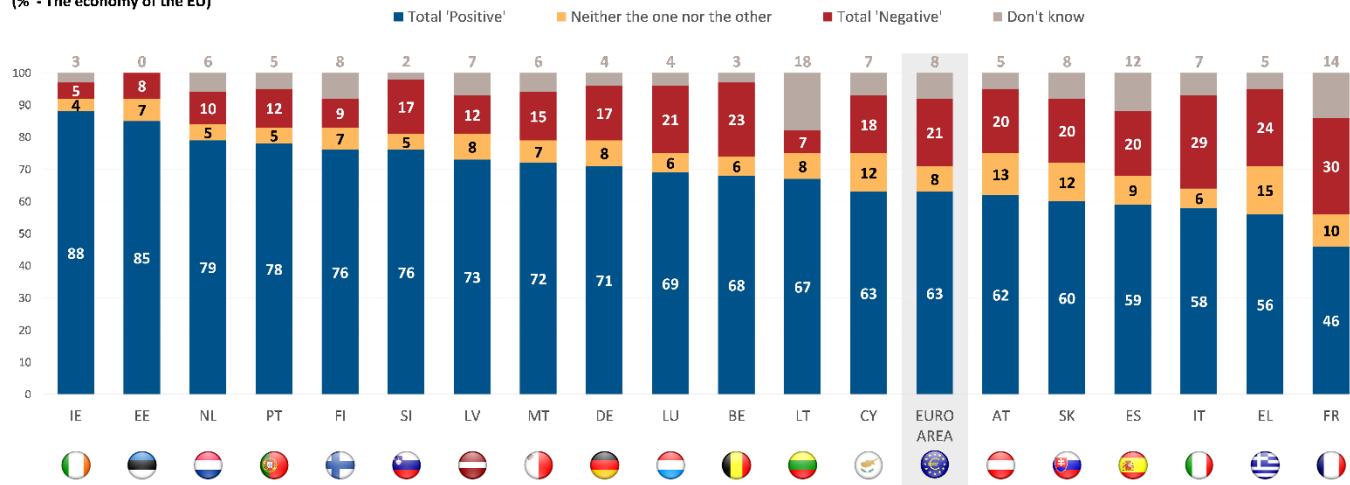
	Total 'Positive'	Total 'Negative'	Don't know
EU27	53	33	5
<b>Gender</b>			
Man	56	31	4
Woman	50	35	6
<b>Age</b>			
15-24	58	24	9
25-39	53	34	5
40-54	52	36	3
55 +	53	34	4
<b>Education (End of)</b>			
15-	39	45	6
16-19	49	37	4
20+	62	27	4
Still studying	63	19	9
<b>Socio-professional category</b>			
Self-employed	53	33	3
Managers	71	20	3
Other white collars	56	32	4
Manual workers	44	40	5
House persons	38	47	7
Unemployed	34	53	4
Retired	54	32	5
Students	63	19	9
<b>Difficulties paying bills</b>			
Most of the time	25	62	4
From time to time	42	44	4
Almost never/ Never	61	25	5
<b>Consider belonging to</b>			
The working class	40	43	6
The lower middle class	43	43	5
The middle class	60	28	4
The upper middle class	73	19	3
The upper class	81	14	5
<b>Situation of national economy</b>			
Good	76	13	4
Bad	39	47	4

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

The majority of respondents in all countries of the euro area consider that the introduction of euro banknotes and coins had a positive impact on the EU's economy.

Positive views are highest in Ireland (88%), Estonia (85%) and the Netherlands (79%) and are lowest in Greece (56%) and France (46% vs 30% "negative"), where less than one in two respondents hold this view.

QB8.2 The year 2022 marks the 20th anniversary of the introduction of euro banknotes and coins in the countries then belonging to the Euro area. Would you say that, over this period, the Euro has been very positive, rather positive, rather negative, very negative or neither the one nor the other for...  
 (% - The economy of the EU)



**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

The socio-demographic data show that more than half of respondents in almost all categories think that the introduction of euro banknotes and coins had a positive impact on their country's economy. This perception enjoys particularly strong support among managers (78%), those who see themselves as upper class (82%), those who think that more decisions should be made on the EU-level (72%) and those who say that they understand how the EU works (74%).

In contrast, support drops under the 50%-line among respondents who left full-time education aged 15 or earlier (49%), housepersons (48%), unemployed (46%), those who have most of the time difficulties in paying their bills (42%) and those who say they belong to the working class of society (49%).

**QB8.2** The year 2022 marks the 20th anniversary of the introduction of euro banknotes and coins in the countries then belonging to the Euro area. Would you say that, over this period, the Euro has been very positive, rather positive, rather negative, very negative or neither the one nor the other for...

**The economy of the EU (%) - EU)**

	Total 'Positive'	Total 'Negative'	Don't know
EU27	63	21	8
<b>Gender</b>			
Man	66	20	6
Woman	59	23	10
<b>Age</b>			
15-24	66	16	10
25-39	63	22	7
40-54	63	22	6
55 +	60	23	9
<b>Education (End of)</b>			
15-	49	29	13
16-19	58	24	8
20+	72	16	5
Still studying	70	13	10
<b>Socio-professional category</b>			
Self-employed	67	19	5
Managers	78	13	4
Other white collars	66	22	5
Manual workers	53	28	8
House persons	48	28	18
Unemployed	46	34	8
Retired	62	20	9
Students	70	13	10
<b>Difficulties paying bills</b>			
Most of the time	42	38	10
From time to time	54	30	7
Almost never/ Never	68	16	8
<b>Consider belonging to</b>			
The working class	49	28	12
The lower middle class	54	29	8
The middle class	68	18	6
The upper middle class	80	12	4
The upper class	82	11	5
<b>Understand how the EU works</b>			
Agree	74	15	4
Disagree	50	30	11
<b>More decisions should be taken at EU level</b>			
Agree	72	16	6
Disagree	50	33	6

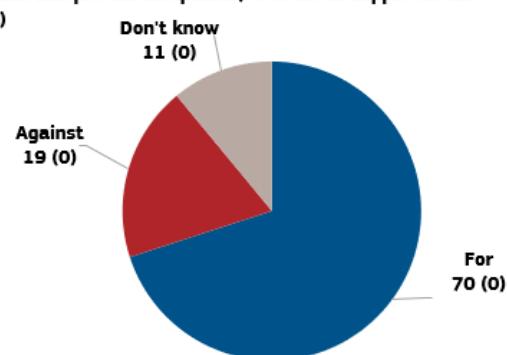
**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

**Seven in ten Europeans are in favour of the creation of a European public-private fund to support SMEs**

70% (unchanged since spring 2021) of respondents are in favour of creating "a European public-private fund (with funding from both public authorities and private companies) in order to support SMEs"<sup>17</sup>. A stable proportion of less than one in five respondents (19%) are against this policy and 11% (=) answered "don't know" or refused to answer

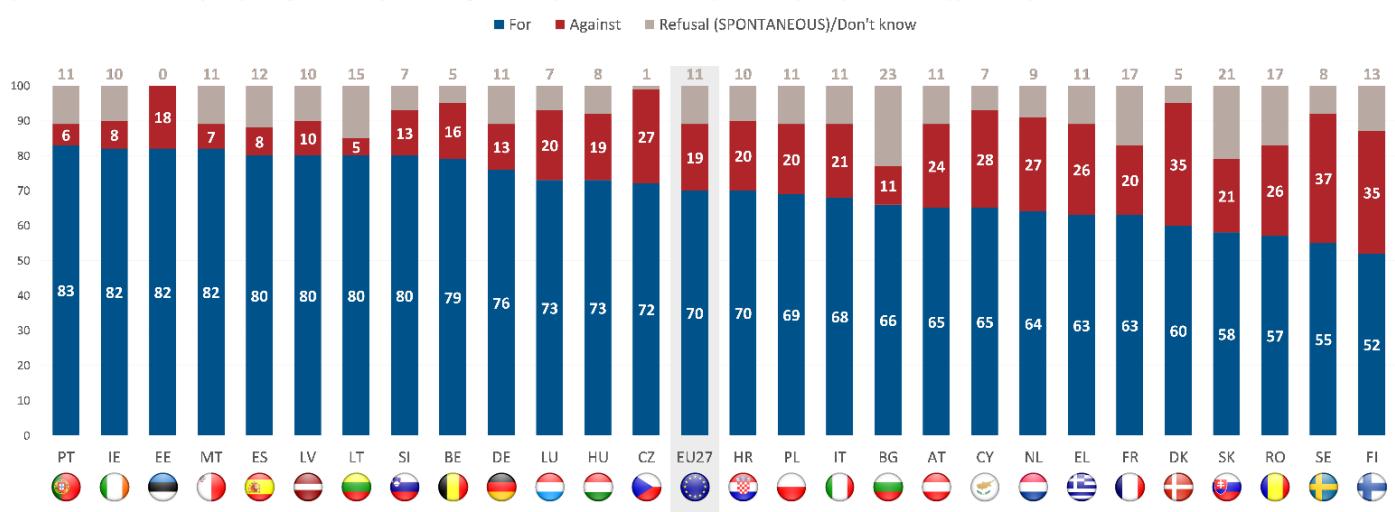
In all 27 Member States of the European Union (unchanged since spring 2021) a majority of respondents support the creation of a European public-private fund (with funding from both public authorities and private companies) in order to support SMEs. However, levels of support range from 83 % in Portugal and 82% in Estonia, Ireland and Malta, to 52% in Finland, where support is lowest. Support for this idea is more widespread in the euro area countries (71%, stable since spring 2021), than in the non-euro area countries (65%, -2).

**QB3.3 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.**  
**The creation of a European public-private fund (with funding from both public authorities and private companies) in order to support SMEs**



(Winter 2021/2022 - Spring 2021)

**QB3.3 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.**  
(% - The creation of a European public-private fund (with funding from both public authorities and private companies) in order to support SMEs)



<sup>17</sup> QB3.3 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell me for each statement, whether you are for it or against it. The creation of a European public-private fund in order to support SMEs

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

**Since spring 2021**, support for the creation of a European public-private fund in order to support SMEs has gained ground in nine Member States (compared with eight countries in spring 2021), with the largest increases being recorded in the Netherlands (64%, +6 percentage points).

The level of support is unchanged in two countries, namely Cyprus (65%) and Slovenia (80%). On the other hand, support has decreased in 16 Member States, particularly in Lithuania (80%, -8) and Sweden (55%, -7).

QB3.3 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.  
The creation of a European public-private fund (with funding from both public authorities and private companies) in order to support SMEs (%)

		EU27	EURO AREA	NON-EURO AREA	NL	CZ	DE	EL	IT	LV	LU	EE	MT	CY	SI	BG	DK	ES	AT	PL	PT	RO	BE	HU	HR	SK	FR	IE	FI	SE	LT	
For	Winter 2021/2022	70	71	65	64	72	76	63	68	80	73	82	82	65	80	66	60	80	65	69	83	57	79	73	70	58	63	82	52	55	80	
	Δ Spring 2021	=	=	▼2	▲6	▲4	▲4	▲3	▲3	▲3	▲2	▲1	▲1	=	=	▼1	▼1	▼1	▼1	▼1	▼2	▼3	▼3	▼4	▼5	▼6	▼7	▼8				
Against	Winter 2021/2022	19	17	24	27	27	13	26	21	10	20	18	7	28	13	11	35	8	24	20	6	26	16	19	20	21	20	8	35	37	5	
	Δ Spring 2021	=	=	▲2	▼11	▲2	▼2	▼3	▼2	▼5	=	=	▲3	▲2	▼1	▲2	▲5	▲1	=	▲2	▲2	▼2	▼2	▲3	=	▲2	▲3	▼4	▼6	=	▼7	
Refusal (SPONTANEOUS)	Winter 2021/2022	2	2	3	2	0	3	4	3	1	2	0	0	2	2	3	0	2	3	3	1	7	1	3	3	5	1	1	0	1	2	
	Δ Spring 2021	=	=	=	▲1	▼2	=	▲1	▲1	▲1	▼1	=	▼1	▼1	=	▼1	▼1	=	▼1	=	▲1	▲3	▲1	=	▲2	▲3	=	▲1	=	▲1	▲2	
Don't know	Winter 2021/2022	9	10	8	7	1	8	7	8	9	5	0	11	5	5	20	5	10	8	8	10	10	4	5	7	16	16	9	13	7	13	
	Δ Spring 2021	=	=	=	▲4	▼4	▼2	▼1	▼2	▲1	▼1	▼1	▼3	▼1	▲1	=	▼3	=	▲2	▼1	▼2	=	▲3	▼1	▲1	▼2	▲1	▲12	▲6	▲13		

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

The socio-demographic data show that more than half of respondents in all categories are in favour of creating a European public-private fund in order to support SMEs. The creation of such a fund enjoys particularly strong support among students (77%), managers (75%), those who see themselves as upper class (71%) or upper middle class of society (71%) and respondents for whom the EU's image is positive (81%).

The idea is slightly less popular among people who completed their education at the age of 15 or earlier (61%), unemployed persons (61%) and those who struggle to pay their bills most of the time (56%). Support for this policy is lowest among people who view the EU negatively (49% vs 38% "against" and 13% "don't know/refusal").

**QB3.3** What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.

**The creation of a European public-private fund (with funding from both public authorities and private companies) in order to support SMEs (% - EU)**

	For	Against	Refusal (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU27	70	19	2	9
<b>Gender</b>				
Man	71	19	2	8
Woman	69	17	3	11
<b>Age</b>				
15-24	74	14	2	10
25-39	73	18	2	7
40-54	71	20	2	7
55 +	66	19	3	12
<b>Education (End of)</b>				
15-	61	17	3	19
16-19	69	19	3	9
20+	73	19	2	6
Still studying	77	12	2	9
<b>Socio-professional category</b>				
Self-employed	71	22	2	5
Managers	75	18	2	5
Other white collars	76	16	2	6
Manual workers	67	22	2	9
House persons	62	20	4	14
Unemployed	61	24	2	13
Retired	66	18	3	13
Students	77	12	2	9
<b>Difficulties paying bills</b>				
Most of the time	56	24	4	16
From time to time	66	22	3	9
Almost never/ Never	73	16	2	9
<b>Consider belonging to</b>				
The working class	63	18	3	16
The lower middle class	69	19	3	9
The middle class	73	18	2	7
The upper middle class	71	22	2	5
The upper class	71	23	3	3
<b>Image of the EU</b>				
Total 'Positive'	81	11	1	7
Neutral	66	19	3	12
Total 'Negative'	49	38	3	10

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

**Almost eight in ten Europeans are in favour of new measures at the EU level to improve gender equality in the workplace remains high**

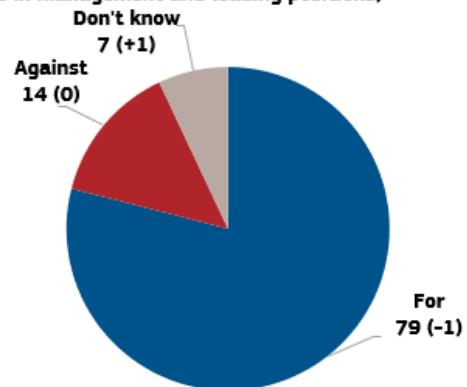
**79% (-1 percentage point since spring 2021)** of Europeans are in favour of the implementation of new measures at the EU level to improve gender equality in the workplace (e.g. pay-transparency measures or quotas to improve gender balance in management and leading positions)<sup>18</sup>. On the other hand, 14% (unchanged) of respondents oppose this idea, while 7% (+1) do not provide an answer.

More than six in ten respondents in all 27 Member States (unchanged since winter 2020-2021) support new measures at the EU level in order to improve gender equality in the workplace. Levels of support are highest in Cyprus (93%) and Greece (91%), and lowest Czechia (60%), which is also the only Member State where four in ten respondents oppose this idea. Opposition is also strong in Estonia with 30% of respondents saying that they are against such measures.

**QB3.4 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.**

**Implementation of new measures at the EU level to improve gender equality in the workplace (e.g. pay-transparency measures or quotas to improve gender balance in management and leading positions)**

(% - EU)

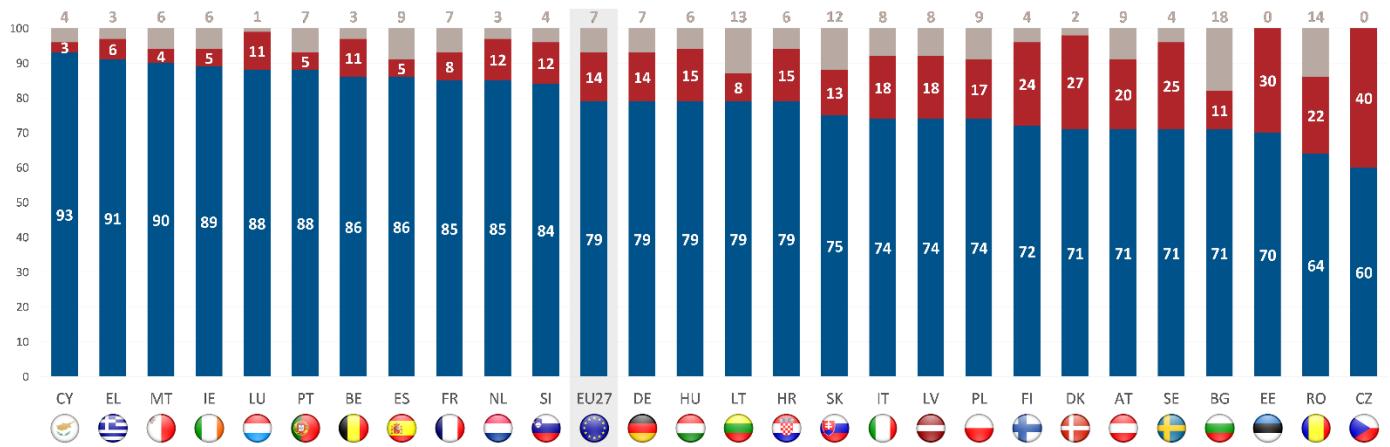


(Winter 2021/2022 - Spring 2021)

**QB3.4 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.**

(% - Implementation of new measures at the EU level to improve gender equality in the workplace (e.g. pay-transparency measures or quotas to improve gender balance in management and leading positions))

■ For ■ Against ■ Refusal (SPONTANEOUS)/Don't know



<sup>18</sup> QB3.4 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell me for each statement, whether you are for it or against it. Implementation of new measures at the EU level to improve gender equality in the workplace

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

**Since spring 2021**, support for measures at the EU level to improve gender equality in the workplace has gained ground in 11 Member States (compared with eight in spring 2021), with the strongest increases being recorded in Malta (90%, +4 percentage points) and Ireland (89%).

Support has remained unchanged in four countries, namely in Belgium (86%), Bulgaria (71%), Greece (91%) and Italy (74%). Conversely, support has decreased in 12 countries, especially in Portugal (88%, -7) and Czechia (60%, -8).

QB3.4 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.

Implementation of new measures at the EU level to improve gender equality in the workplace (e.g. pay-transparency measures or quotas to improve gender balance in management and leading positions) (%)

		EU27	MT	IE	CY	EE	HR	LU	LV	PL	RO	FI	SE	BE	BG	EL	IT	DE	NL	AT	FR	LT	ES	HU	SI	DK	SK	PT	CZ
For	Winter 2021/2022	79	90	89	93	70	79	88	74	74	64	72	71	86	71	91	74	79	85	71	85	79	86	79	84	71	75	88	60
	△ Spring 2021	▼1	▲4	▲3	▲3	▲2	▲2	▲2	▲1	▲1	▲1	▲1	▲1	=	=	=	=	▼1	▼1	▼1	▼3	▼3	▼4	▼4	▼5	▼5	▼7	▼8	
Against	Winter 2021/2022	14	4	5	3	30	15	11	18	17	22	24	25	11	11	6	18	14	12	20	8	8	5	15	12	27	13	5	40
	△ Spring 2021	=	=	▼9	=	▼2	▼2	▼1	▼4	▼2	▼3	▼5	▼5	▼3	▲1	=	=	▲1	▼2	=	▲1	▼10	▲2	▲4	▲2	▲7	▲1	▲4	▲12
Refusal (SPONTANEOUS)	Winter 2021/2022	2	0	2	0	0	2	0	1	3	6	0	1	1	3	2	1	2	2	3	1	3	2	3	2	0	3	1	0
	△ Spring 2021	=	=	▲2	▼3	=	▲1	▼1	▲1	▲1	▲2	=	▲1	▲1	▼1	=	▼1	▼1	▲2	▼1	▲1	▲3	▲1	=	▲1	▼1	▲1	▼1	
Don't know	Winter 2021/2022	5	6	4	4	0	4	1	7	6	8	4	3	2	15	1	7	5	1	6	6	10	7	3	2	2	9	6	0
	△ Spring 2021	▲1	▼4	▲4	=	=	▼1	=	▲2	=	▲4	▲3	▲2	=	=	▲1	▲1	▲1	▲2	▲1	▲10	▲1	=	▲1	▼1	▲3	▲2	▼3	

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

The socio-demographic data show that at least six in ten respondents in all categories are in favour of the implementation of measures at the EU level to improve gender equality in the workplace.

Support is particularly high among students (85%) and those for whom the EU's image is positive EU (87%). Support is lowest among respondents who perceive the EU negatively (64%).

**QB3.4** What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.

**Implementation of new measures at the EU level to improve gender equality in the workplace (e.g. pay-transparency measures or quotas to improve gender balance in management and leading positions) (% - EU)**

	For	Against	Refusal (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU27	79	14	2	5
<b>Gender</b>				
Man	76	17	2	5
Woman	81	11	2	6
<b>Age</b>				
15-24	83	10	2	5
25-39	80	15	1	4
40-54	79	15	2	4
55 +	77	14	2	7
<b>Education (End of)</b>				
15-	73	12	2	13
16-19	78	15	2	5
20+	81	14	2	3
Still studying	85	9	2	4
<b>Socio-professional category</b>				
Self-employed	76	19	2	3
Managers	82	14	1	3
Other white collars	82	14	2	2
Manual workers	77	16	2	5
House persons	72	16	3	9
Unemployed	74	17	1	8
Retired	78	12	2	8
Students	85	9	2	4
<b>Difficulties paying bills</b>				
Most of the time	72	17	3	8
From time to time	75	17	2	6
Almost never/ Never	81	12	2	5
<b>Consider belonging to</b>				
The working class	77	12	2	9
The lower middle class	78	15	2	5
The middle class	80	14	2	4
The upper middle class	78	18	2	2
The upper class	81	19	0	0
<b>Image of the EU</b>				
Total 'Positive'	87	9	1	3
Neutral	77	14	2	7
Total 'Negative'	64	28	2	6

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

**Eight in ten Europeans support the idea that every new trade agreement concluded by the EU should ensure the highest standards of climate, environmental and labour protection**

**80% of Europeans support the idea that every new trade agreement concluded by the EU should ensure the highest standards of climate, environmental and labour protection<sup>19</sup>.** This proportion decreased by three percentage points since spring 2021. On the other hand, just over one in ten Europeans (12%, +1 percentage point) oppose this idea and 8% (+2) answer "don't know" or refuse to give an answer.

More than seven in ten respondents in 26 Member States are in favour of ensuring that every new trade agreement concluded by the EU has the highest standards of climate, environmental and labour protection. Within this group of countries, levels of support vary among Member States, ranging from 94% in Cyprus and 91% in Greece, where they are highest, to 71% in Czechia. The only exception is Romania, where just under two thirds of respondents support this idea (65%).

**QB3.5 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.**

**The insurance that every new trade agreement concluded by the EU will have the highest standards of climate, environmental and labour protection**

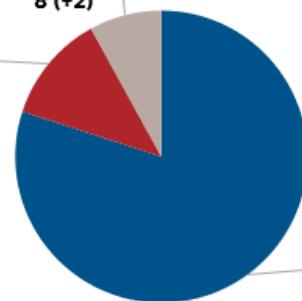
(% - EU)

**Don't know**

**8 (+2)**

**Against**

**12 (+1)**



**For  
80 (-3)**

**Against  
12 (+1)**

**Don't know  
8 (+2)**

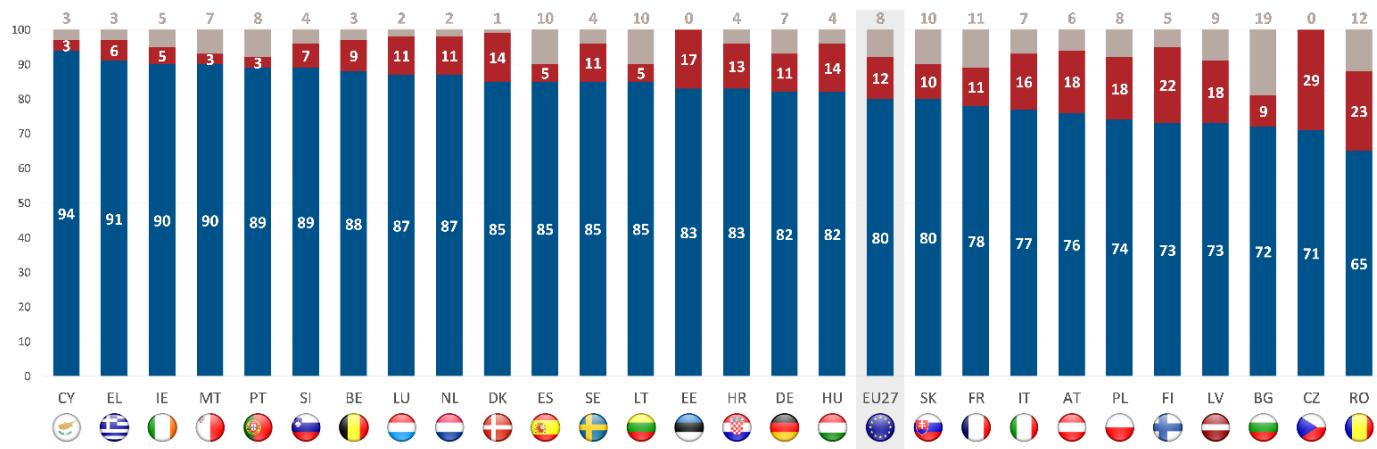
(Winter 2021/2022 - Spring 2021)

In three countries the proportion of respondents opposing this idea exceeds 20%, namely in Czechia (29%), Romania (23%) and Finland (22%).

**QB3.5 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.**

**(% - The insurance that every new trade agreement concluded by the EU will have the highest standards of climate, environmental and labour protection)**

**■ For ■ Against ■ Refusal (SPONTANEOUS)/Don't know**



<sup>19</sup> QB3.5 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell me for each statement, whether you are for it or against it. The insurance that every new trade

agreement concluded by the EU will have the highest standards of climate, environmental and labour protection

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

**Since spring 2021**, support for ensuring that every new trade agreement concluded by the EU has the highest standards of climate, environmental and labour protection has increased in six Member States (unchanged compared with the previous survey), most markedly in Cyprus (94%, +6 percentage points).

Support has remained unchanged in Austria (76%) and Portugal (89%). On the other hand, levels of support have dropped in 19 countries, particularly in Czechia (71%, -6), Latvia (73%, -6), France (78%, -6) and Spain (85%, -6).

QB3.5 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.  
The insurance that every new trade agreement concluded by the EU will have the highest standards of climate, environmental and labour protection (%)



	For	Winter 2021/2022	80	94	90	83	87	87	77	76	89	91	89	83	65	72	82	90	73	85	85	82	74	88	85	80	71	85	78	73
	Against	Winter 2021/2022	12	3	3	13	11	11	16	18	3	6	7	17	23	9	11	5	22	11	14	14	18	9	5	10	29	5	11	18
	Refusal (SPONTANEOUS)	Winter 2021/2022	2	0	0	1	0	0	2	2	1	2	2	0	5	3	3	1	0	1	0	2	3	1	1	3	0	2	1	1
	Don't know	Winter 2021/2022	6	3	7	3	2	2	5	4	7	1	2	0	7	16	4	4	5	3	1	2	5	2	9	7	0	8	10	8
		Δ Spring 2021	▼3	▲6	▲4	▲3	▲2	▲2	▲1	=	=	▼1	▼1	▼2	▼2	▼3	▼3	▼3	▼3	▼4	▼4	▼4	▼5	▼5	▼6	▼6	▼6	▼6	▼6	

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

The socio-demographic data reveal that more than two-thirds of respondents in almost all categories consider that every trade agreement concluded by the EU should ensure the highest standards of climate, environmental and labour protection.

This opinion is shared by 86% of students, 87% of managers and 90% of those for whom the EU invokes a positive image. Respondents who perceive the EU negatively are the only exception. Amongst this group levels of support are smaller (62%).

**QB3.5** What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.

**The insurance that every new trade agreement concluded by the EU will have the highest standards of climate, environmental and labour protection**

(% - EU)

	For	Against	Refusal (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU27	80	12	2	6
 Gender				
Man	79	14	2	5
Woman	81	11	2	6
 Age				
15-24	84	9	2	5
25-39	82	14	1	3
40-54	80	14	2	4
55 +	78	12	2	8
 Education (End of)				
15-	74	11	3	12
16-19	78	14	2	6
20+	84	12	1	3
Still studying	86	8	1	5
 Socio-professional category				
Self-employed	80	15	3	2
Managers	87	10	1	2
Other white collars	85	11	2	2
Manual workers	76	17	2	5
House persons	73	15	3	9
Unemployed	73	17	2	8
Retired	79	10	2	9
Students	86	8	1	5
 Difficulties paying bills				
Most of the time	70	19	3	8
From time to time	74	17	3	6
Almost never/ Never	83	10	2	5
 Consider belonging to				
The working class	75	12	3	10
The lower middle class	78	15	2	5
The middle class	83	12	1	4
The upper middle class	84	13	2	1
The upper class	80	18	0	2
 Image of the EU				
Total 'Positive'	90	6	1	3
Neutral	77	13	3	7
Total 'Negative'	62	28	3	7

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

**A stable proportion of two-thirds of Europeans consider that public money should be used to stimulate private sector investment at EU level**

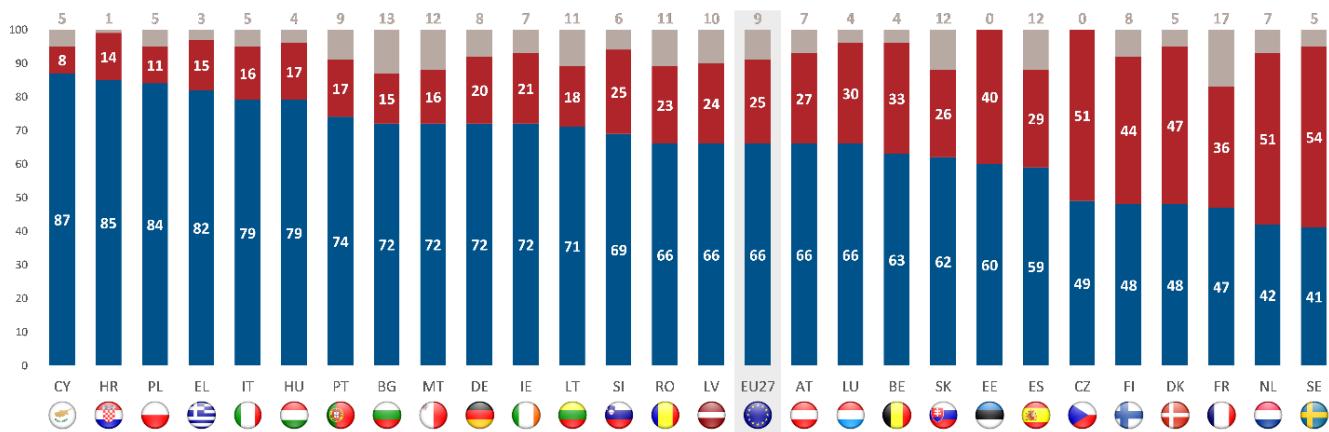
**66% (unchanged since spring 2021 but also since winter 2020-2021) consider that public money should be used to stimulate private sector investment at EU level<sup>20</sup>, whereas 25% (-1) oppose this idea and 9% (+1) answer "don't know".**

Levels of support differ slightly between the **euro area** countries and the **non-euro area** countries: 65% (+1) in the euro area countries compared with 70% (-2) in the non-euro area countries, narrowing down the gap between the two areas from 8 percentage points in spring 2021, to 5 points in this EB96 survey from winter 2021-2022.

In 24 Member States a majority of respondents support this policy. Within this group of countries, support is strongest in Cyprus (87%) and Croatia (85%), while the majority is shortest in Denmark (48% vs 47% "disagree") and Finland (48% vs 44%). In Czechia (49% vs 51% "disagree"), France (47% vs 36%), the Netherlands (42% vs 51%) and Sweden (41% vs 54%) only a minority of respondents consider that public money should be used to stimulate private sector investment at EU level.

**QB4.2 For each of the following statements, do you totally agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree or totally disagree.**  
 (% - Public money should be used to stimulate private sector investment at EU level)

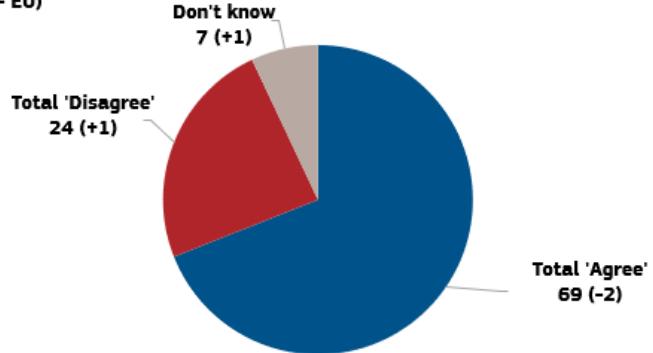
■ Total 'Agree' ■ Total 'Disagree' ■ Don't know



**QB4.2 For each of the following statements, do you totally agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree or totally disagree.**

**Public money should be used to stimulate private sector investment at EU level**

(% - EU)



(Winter 2021/2022 - Spring 2021)

<sup>20</sup> QB4.2 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell me for each statement, whether you are for it or against it. Public money should be used to stimulate private sector investment at EU level

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

Since spring 2021, the proportion of respondents who think that public money should be used to stimulate private sector investment at EU level has increased in eight Member States (compared with nine in the previous survey), most particularly in Ireland (72%, +12), Lithuania (71%, +7) and Luxembourg (66%, +7), while levels of support for this idea are unchanged in Sweden (41%), Spain (59%) and Poland (84%).

On the contrary, support for this idea has decreased in 16 Member States, particularly in Portugal (74%, -11) and Czechia (49%, -9), where this has become a minority opinion.

QB4.2 For each of the following statements, do you totally agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree or totally disagree.  
 Public money should be used to stimulate private sector investment at EU level (%)

		EU27	EURO AREA	NON-EURO AREA	IE	LT	LU	BE	DE	IT	CY	AT	ES	PL	SE	DK	EE	EL	NL	BG	HR	HU	SI	FI	RO	FR	LV	MT	SK	CZ	PT
Total 'Agree'	Winter 2021/2022	66	65	70	72	71	66	63	72	79	87	66	59	84	41	48	60	82	42	72	85	79	69	48	66	47	66	72	62	49	74
	Δ Spring 2021	=	▲1	▼2	▲12	▲7	▲7	▲5	▲4	▲2	▲1	▲1	=	=	=	▼1	▼1	▼1	▼2	▼2	▼3	▼4	▼5	▼6	▼6	▼9	▼11				
Total 'Disagree'	Winter 2021/2022	25	26	24	21	18	30	33	20	16	8	27	29	11	54	47	40	15	51	15	14	17	25	44	23	36	24	16	26	51	17
	Δ Spring 2021	▼1	▼1	▲2	▼19	▼18	▼4	▼8	▼3	▼2	▼1	=	=	▲1	▼4	▲5	▲1	▲2	▼3	▲3	▲5	▲1	▼5	=	▲4	▲2	▲7	▲5	▲16	▲11	
Don't know	Winter 2021/2022	9	9	6	7	11	4	4	8	5	5	7	12	5	5	5	0	3	7	13	1	4	6	8	11	17	10	12	12	0	9
	Δ Spring 2021	▲1	=	=	▲7	▲11	▼3	▲3	▼1	=	=	▼1	=	▼1	▲4	▼4	=	▼1	▲4	▼1	▼3	▲1	▲3	▲8	▲4	▲1	▲4	▼1	▲1	▼7	=

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

The socio-demographic data show that, in all socio-demographic categories, but one, more than six in ten respondents think that public money should be used to stimulate private sector investment at EU level.

This policy enjoys particularly strong support among self-employed respondents (70%) and those for whom the EU invokes something positive (74%). Although a majority of respondents who view the EU negatively support this policy (49% vs 42% "disagree"), the level of support is lower.

**QB4.2** For each of the following statements, do you totally agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree or totally disagree.

**Public money should be used to stimulate private sector investment at EU level**

(% - EU)

	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Don't know
EU27	66	25	9
<b>Gender</b>			
Man	67	27	6
Woman	64	25	11
<b>Age</b>			
15-24	64	26	10
25-39	67	26	7
40-54	67	27	6
55 +	65	24	11
<b>Education (End of)</b>			
15-	65	21	14
16-19	70	22	8
20+	62	31	7
Still studying	64	26	10
<b>Socio-professional category</b>			
Self-employed	70	26	4
Managers	64	31	5
Other white collars	68	26	6
Manual workers	68	25	7
House persons	62	23	15
Unemployed	58	32	10
Retired	65	23	12
Students	64	26	10
<b>Difficulties paying bills</b>			
Most of the time	60	30	10
From time to time	67	24	9
Almost never/ Never	66	26	8
<b>Consider belonging to</b>			
The working class	62	24	14
The lower middle class	65	28	7
The middle class	69	24	7
The upper middle class	63	32	5
The upper class	69	27	4
<b>Image of the EU</b>			
Total 'Positive'	74	20	6
Neutral	64	25	11
Total 'Negative'	49	42	9

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

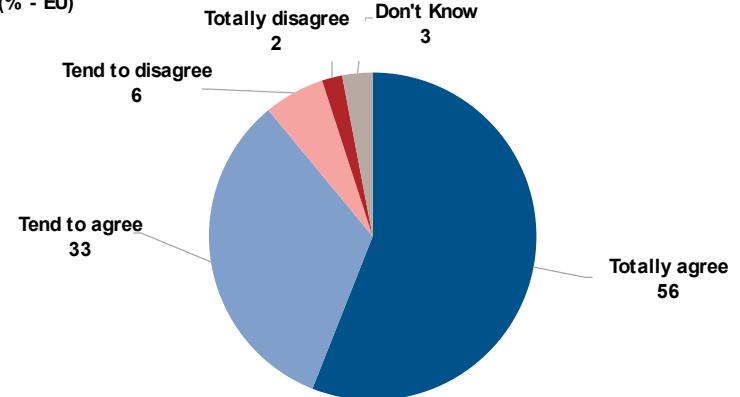
**Almost nine in ten Europeans think that the EU should build partnerships with countries outside the EU to invest in sustainable infrastructure and connect people and countries around the world**

**89% of Europeans consider that the EU should build partnerships with countries outside the EU to invest in sustainable infrastructure and connect people and countries around the world**, including 56% who “totally agree” and 33% who “tend to agree”. Conversely, less than one in ten oppose this idea (8%) and 3% don’t provide an answer or say that they don’t know.

More than seven in ten Europeans in all 27 Member states support the idea that the EU should build partnerships with countries outside the EU to invest in sustainable infrastructure and connect people and countries around the world. Levels of support range from 95% in Cyprus and 94% in Ireland, where they are highest, to 76% in Sweden and 73% in Romania, where they are lowest. It is noteworthy that in Cyprus 84% express that they “totally agree”, exceeding 80%.

**QB4.3 For each of the following statements, do you totally agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree or totally disagree.**

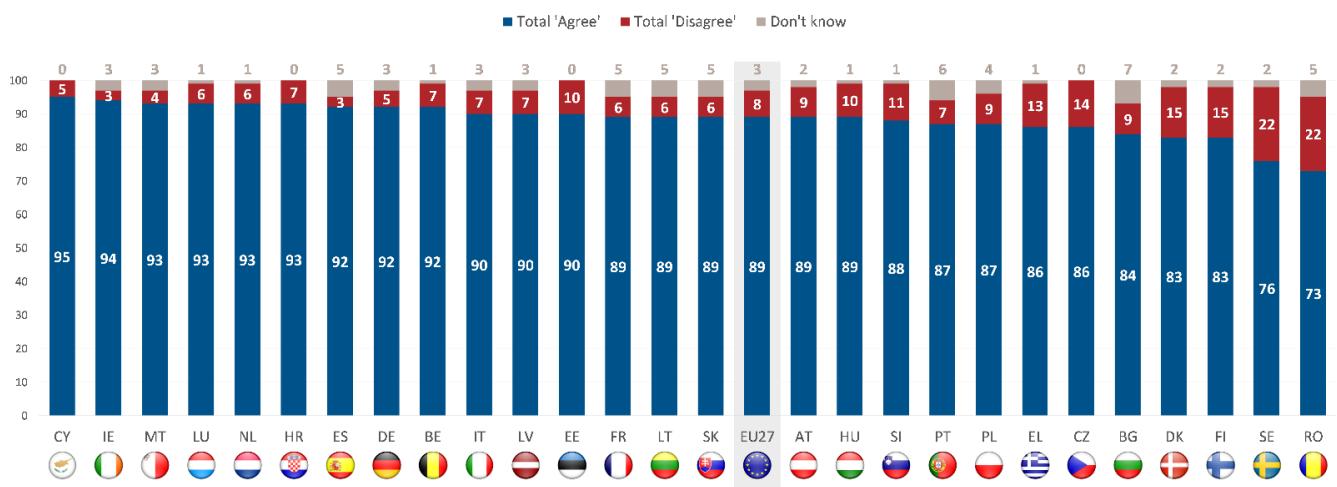
**The EU should build partnerships with countries outside the EU to invest in sustainable infrastructure and connect people and countries around the world (%) - EU)**



(Winter 2021/2022)

**QB4.3 For each of the following statements, do you totally agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree or totally disagree.**

**(% - The EU should build partnerships with countries outside the EU to invest in sustainable infrastructure and connect people and countries around the world )**



**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

**The socio-demographic data** show that in all categories more than eight in ten respondents agree with the idea that the EU should build partnerships with countries outside the EU to invest in sustainable infrastructure and connect people and countries around the world.

Support is particularly high among respondents for whom the EU conjures up a positive image (93%), whereas it is slightly lower (83%) among those who perceive the European Union negatively.

**QB4.3** For each of the following statements, do you totally agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree or totally disagree.

**The EU should build partnerships with countries outside the EU to invest in sustainable infrastructure and connect people and countries around the world**

(% - F11)

	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Don't know
EU27	89	8	3
<b>Gender</b>			
Man	89	8	3
Woman	89	7	4
<b>Age</b>			
15-24	90	7	3
25-39	89	9	2
40-54	90	8	2
55 +	87	8	5
<b>Education (End of)</b>			
15-	87	6	7
16-19	90	7	3
20+	90	8	2
Still studying	91	6	3
<b>Socio-professional category</b>			
Self-employed	89	9	2
Managers	91	7	2
Other white collars	90	8	2
Manual workers	88	9	3
House persons	84	9	7
Unemployed	89	7	4
Retired	88	7	5
Students	91	6	3
<b>Difficulties paying bills</b>			
Most of the time	85	10	5
From time to time	86	11	3
Almost never/ Never	90	7	3
<b>Consider belonging to</b>			
The working class	88	6	6
The lower middle class	89	8	3
The middle class	90	8	2
The upper middle class	87	11	2
The upper class	88	10	2
<b>Image of the EU</b>			
Total 'Positive'	93	5	2
Neutral	86	9	5
Total 'Negative'	83	13	4

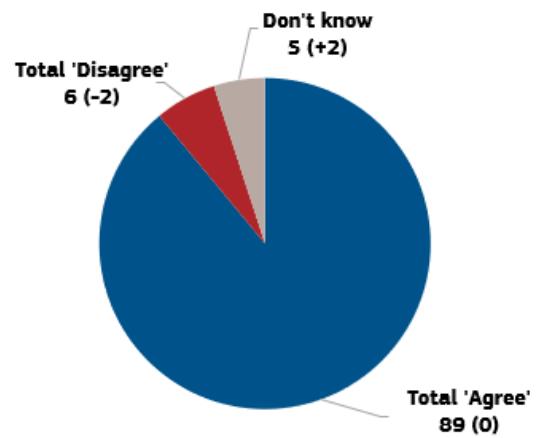
**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

**Almost nine in ten respondents consider that each EU Member State should have a minimum wage for workers**

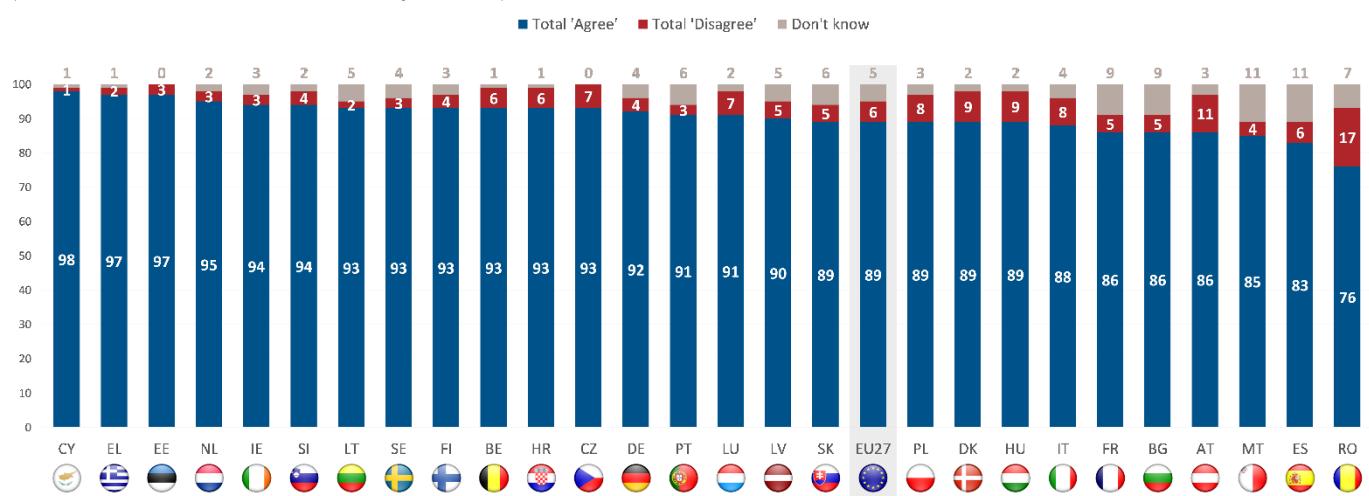
**89% of respondents (unchanged since spring 2021) say that each EU Member State should have a minimum wage for workers<sup>21</sup>,** while 6% (-2) disagree and a quite equivalent proportion of 5% (+2) answered "don't know".

Over three-quarters of Europeans in all 27 Member States (unchanged since spring 2021) agree with the statement that each EU Member State should have a minimum wage for workers, with the highest scores being recorded in Cyprus (98%), Estonia and Greece (all 97%), and the lowest in Romania (76%), the only country where less than eight in ten respondents agree upon this statement.

**QB4.4 For each of the following statements, do you totally agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree or totally disagree.**  
**Each EU Member State should have a minimum wage for workers (% - EU)**



**QB4.4 For each of the following statements, do you totally agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree or totally disagree.**  
**(% - Each EU Member State should have a minimum wage for workers)**



<sup>21</sup> QB4.4 Please tell me whether you totally agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree or totally disagree with each of the following statements. Each EU Member State should have a minimum wage for workers

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

Since spring 2021, the proportion of respondents who agree with this statement has increased in 12 Member States (compared with 21 in the previous survey), most strikingly in Sweden (93%, +15 percentage points) and Lithuania (93%, +12), the only two countries where increases are higher than 10 percentage points. Levels of approval have remained unchanged in the Netherlands (95%) and Slovakia (89%).

Conversely, support has declined in 13 countries, particularly in Spain (83%, -10) and to a lesser extent in Malta (85%, -4).

QB4.4 For each of the following statements, do you totally agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree or totally disagree.  
 Each EU Member State should have a minimum wage for workers (%)

	EU27		EURO AREA		NON-EURO AREA		SE	LT	EL	CZ	FI	SI	EE	CY	PL	DK	HR	IT	NL	SK	BG	DE	IE	FR	LV	LU	BE	RO	HU	AT	PT	MT	ES		
Total 'Agree'	Winter 2021/2022	89	89	87	93	93	97	93	93	94	97	98	89	89	93	88	95	89	86	92	94	86	90	91	93	76	89	86	91	85	83				
	Δ Spring 2021	=	▼1	▲2	▲15	▲12	▲9	▲8	▲8	▲7	▲6	▲4	▲3	▲2	▲1	=	=	▼1	▼1	▼1	▼1	▼1	▼1	▼1	▼2	▼3	▼3	▼4	▼10						
Total 'Disagree'	Winter 2021/2022	6	5	9	3	2	2	7	4	4	4	3	1	8	9	6	8	3	5	5	4	3	5	5	7	6	17	9	11	3	4	6			
	Δ Spring 2021	▼2	▼2	▼3	▼19	▼17	▼9	▼5	▼11	▼8	▼6	▼3	▼2	▼1	▼1	▼2	▼2	▼1	▼1	▼2	▼2	▼2	▼2	▼2	▼2	▼1	▼1	▼1	▲1	▼1	▲2	▲2	▲1	▲1	▲2
Don't know	Winter 2021/2022	5	6	4	4	5	1	0	3	2	0	1	3	2	1	4	2	6	9	4	3	9	5	2	1	7	2	3	6	11	11	11			
	Δ Spring 2021	▲2	▲3	▲1	▲4	▲5	=	▼3	▲3	▲1	=	▼1	▼1	▼1	▼1	▲1	▲2	▲1	▲2	▲1	▲3	▲3	▲3	▲1	▲1	▲3	▲1	▲1	▲1	▲2	▲3	▲8			

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
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The socio-demographic data show that in all categories more than eight in ten respondents agree with the idea that each EU Member State should have a minimum wage for workers.

Support is particularly high among respondents for whom the EU conjures up a positive image (93%), whereas it is slightly lower (85%) among those who perceive the European Union negatively.

**QB4.4** For each of the following statements, do you totally agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree or totally disagree.

**Each EU Member State should have a minimum wage for workers**

(% - EU)

	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Don't know
EU27	89	6	5
 Gender			
Man	91	6	3
Woman	88	5	7
 Age			
15-24	88	7	5
25-39	90	6	4
40-54	90	6	4
55 +	88	5	7
 Education (End of)			
15-	82	6	12
16-19	89	6	5
20+	93	4	3
Still studying	89	6	5
 Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	93	4	3
Managers	94	4	2
Other white collars	92	5	3
Manual workers	86	9	5
House persons	81	9	10
Unemployed	86	7	7
Retired	89	4	7
Students	89	6	5
 Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	84	9	7
From time to time	86	9	5
Almost never/ Never	91	4	5
 Consider belonging to			
The working class	85	5	10
The lower middle class	87	8	5
The middle class	91	6	3
The upper middle class	92	6	2
The upper class	90	9	1
 Image of the EU			
Total 'Positive'	93	4	3
Neutral	87	6	7
Total 'Negative'	85	10	5

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
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**After a sharp decrease just over three-quarters of Europeans are in favour of a fair taxation of large technology companies in the EU**

**77% of respondents consider that there should be a fair taxation of large technology companies in the EU<sup>22</sup>.** Since spring 2021 support for this idea dropped sharply by 12 percentage points, including 31% (-27 points) of respondents who "totally agree" and 46% (+15) who "tend to agree".

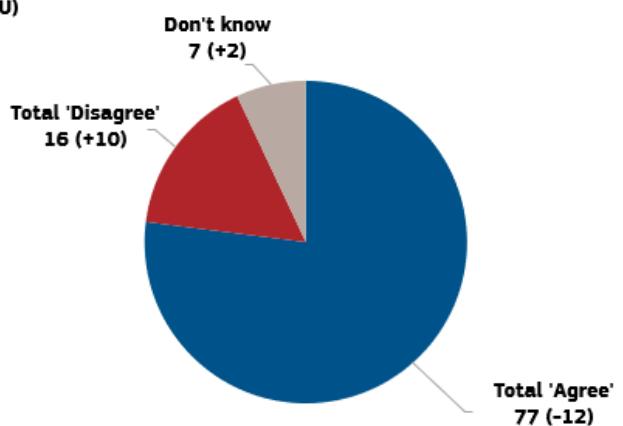
On the other hand, 16% (+10) now disagree with this statement and 7% (+2) did not express an opinion or said that they don't know.

Drops of levels of support are almost twice as strong in the countries of the **euro area** (76%, -13) than in the countries of the **non-euro area** (79%, -7). Because of this trend, approval in the non-euro area actually outnumbers support in the euro area.

However, in all 27 Member States of the European Union more than six in ten respondents consider that there should be a fair taxation of large technology companies in the EU.

**QB4.5 For each of the following statements, do you totally agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree or totally disagree.**

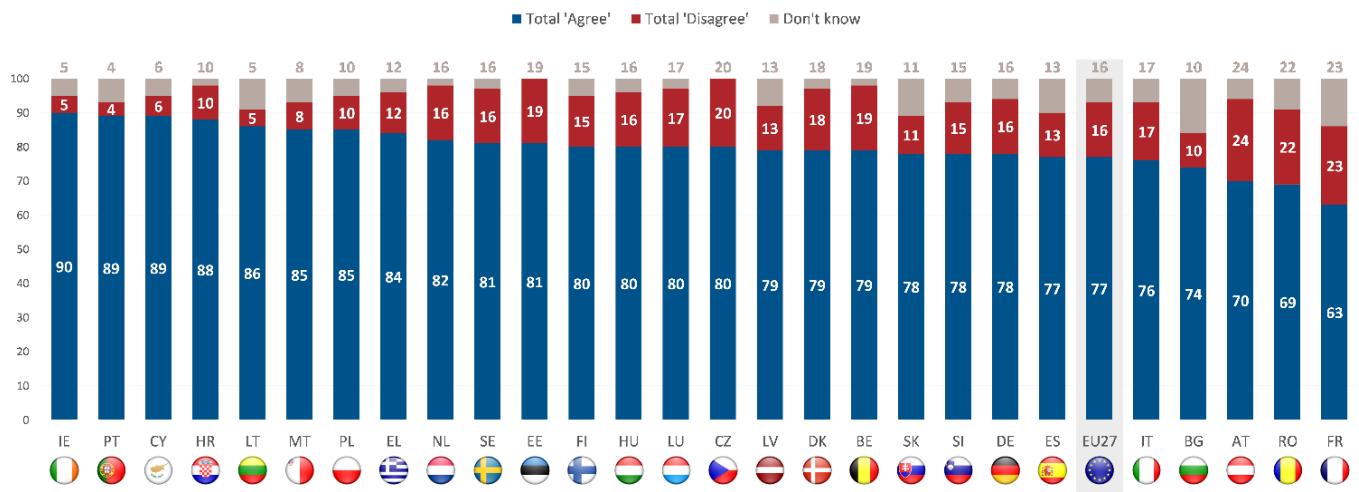
**There should be a fair taxation of large technology companies in the EU (% - EU)**



(Winter 2021/2022 - Spring 2021)

Support varies between 90% in Ireland and 63% in France. The latter is the only Member State, where less than two-thirds of respondents support the idea of a fair taxation of large technology companies in the EU.

**QB4.5 For each of the following statements, do you totally agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree or totally disagree.**  
(% - There should be a fair taxation of large technology companies in the EU)



<sup>22</sup> QB4.5 For each of the following statements, do you totally agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree or totally disagree. There should be a fair taxation of large technology companies in the EU

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**Since spring 2021**, support for a fair taxation of large technology companies in the EU dropped in all Member States but one. Support has most notably decreased in France (by 24 percentage points down to 63%), Belgium (79%, -19) and Austria (70%, -18).

Malta is the only exception, as levels of approval have remained unchanged at 85%.

QB4.5 For each of the following statements, do you totally agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree or totally disagree.  
 There should be a fair taxation of large technology companies in the EU (%)

	EU27	EURO AREA	NON-EURO AREA	MT	HR	PL	PT	RO	IE	IT	CY	LT	CZ	ES	LU	HU	DK	NL	SK	SE	EL	BG	LV	SI	DE	EE	FI	AT	BE	FR	
Total 'Agree'	Winter 2021/2022	77	76	79	85	88	85	89	69	90	76	89	86	80	77	80	79	82	78	81	84	74	79	78	81	80	70	79	63		
	Δ Spring 2021	▼12	▼13	▼7	=	▼2	▼2	▼3	▼4	▼5	▼7	▼7	▼9	▼10	▼10	▼10	▼11	▼12	▼13	▼13	▼14	▼15	▼15	▼16	▼16	▼17	▼18	▼19	▼24		
Total 'Disagree'	Winter 2021/2022	16	16	15	8	10	10	4	22	5	17	6	5	20	13	17	16	18	16	11	16	12	10	13	15	16	19	15	24	23	
	Δ Spring 2021	▲10	▲10	▲5	▲5	▲4	=	▲3	▲1	=	▲6	▲5	=	▲13	▲9	▲10	▲9	▲13	▲10	▲7	▲11	▲11	▲7	▲9	▲9	▲13	▲16	▲12	▲15	▲17	▲18
Don't know	Winter 2021/2022	7	8	6	7	2	5	7	9	5	7	5	9	0	10	3	4	3	2	11	3	4	16	8	7	6	0	5	6	2	14
	Δ Spring 2021	▲2	▲3	▲2	▼5	▼2	▲2	=	▲3	▲5	▲1	▲2	▲9	▼3	▲1	=	▲2	▼1	▲2	▲6	▲2	▲3	▲8	▲6	▲6	▲3	=	▲5	▲3	▲2	▲6

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The socio-demographic data show that around two-thirds of respondents in almost all categories agree with the idea that there should be a fair taxation of large technology companies in the EU. Support is particularly high among managers (86%), students (86%), those who consider themselves as upper class of

society (88%) and those for whom the EU's image is positive (88%). People who hold a negative image of the EU are the only category where less than six in ten respondents (58%) approve this policy.

**QB4.5** For each of the following statements, do you totally agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree or totally disagree.

**There should be a fair taxation of large technology companies in the EU**

(% - EU)

	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Don't know
EU27	77	16	7
 Gender			
Man	78	17	5
Woman	75	16	9
 Age			
15-24	83	12	5
25-39	79	16	5
40-54	78	17	5
55 +	73	17	10
 Education (End of)			
15-	67	18	15
16-19	75	18	7
20+	82	14	4
Still studying	86	9	5
 Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	80	17	3
Managers	86	11	3
Other white collars	81	14	5
Manual workers	74	20	6
House persons	69	17	14
Unemployed	67	23	10
Retired	72	16	12
Students	86	9	5
 Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	68	23	9
From time to time	72	20	8
Almost never/ Never	80	13	7
 Consider belonging to			
The working class	69	18	13
The lower middle class	75	18	7
The middle class	80	15	5
The upper middle class	85	12	3
The upper class	88	10	2
 Image of the EU			
Total 'Positive'	88	8	4
Neutral	73	17	10
Total 'Negative'	58	33	9

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

**Free trade, the digital transformation of the economy and society, globalisation and protectionism<sup>23</sup>**

For more than three-quarters of Europeans (76%, -2 percentage points since spring 2021) the term **free trade** brings to mind something positive, while 16% (+1) see it negatively and 8% (+1) answer "don't know" or do not provide an answer.

Despite this slight decrease in this spring 2021 survey this indicator remains at its third highest level since 2007.

Just over two-thirds of Europeans (64%, -3) view **the digital transformation** of the economy and society positively, while 25% (+2) perceive this term negatively and 11% (+1) do not provide an answer.

Almost six in ten Europeans (59%) view **globalisation** positively, down slightly by one percentage point. On the other hand, negative views have increased slightly by one percentage points, from 31% in spring 2021 to 32% in the actual survey. Less than one in ten respondents did not provide an answer (9%, =). Despite this slight decrease in positive views of globalisation, those views still stand higher than the levels measured between spring 2005 and spring 2019.

While **protectionism** was judged positively in spring 2021 (45% "positive" vs 43% "negative"), in this winter 2021-2022 survey negative perceptions outweigh positive perceptions, following a slight decrease in the former: 43% (-2) "positive" vs 44% (+1) "negative". Finally, just over one in ten respondents (13%, +1) did not express an opinion.

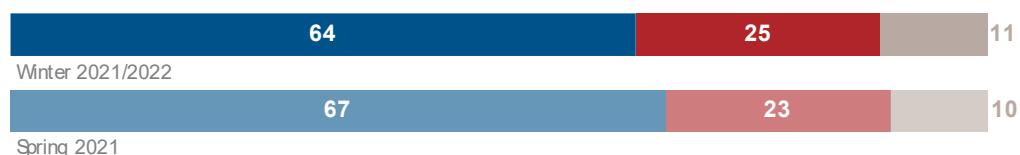
**QB2 Could you please tell for each of the following, whether the term brings to mind something very positive, fairly positive, fairly negative or very negative?**

(% - EU)

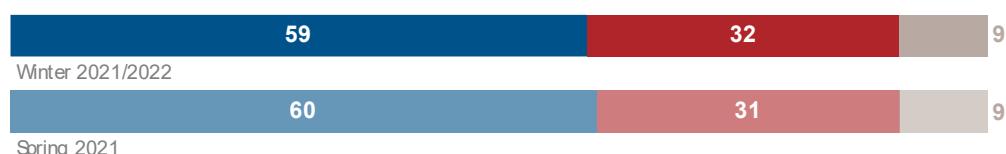
**Free trade**



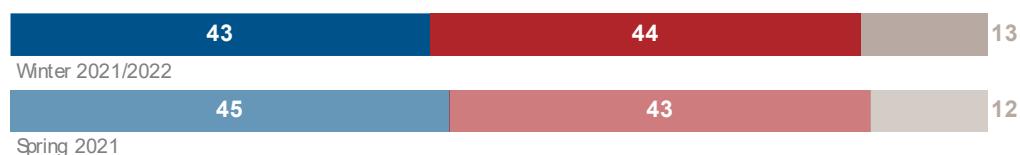
**The digital transformation of the economy and society**



**Globalisation**



**Protectionism**



■ Total 'Positive' ■ Total 'Negative' ■ Don't know

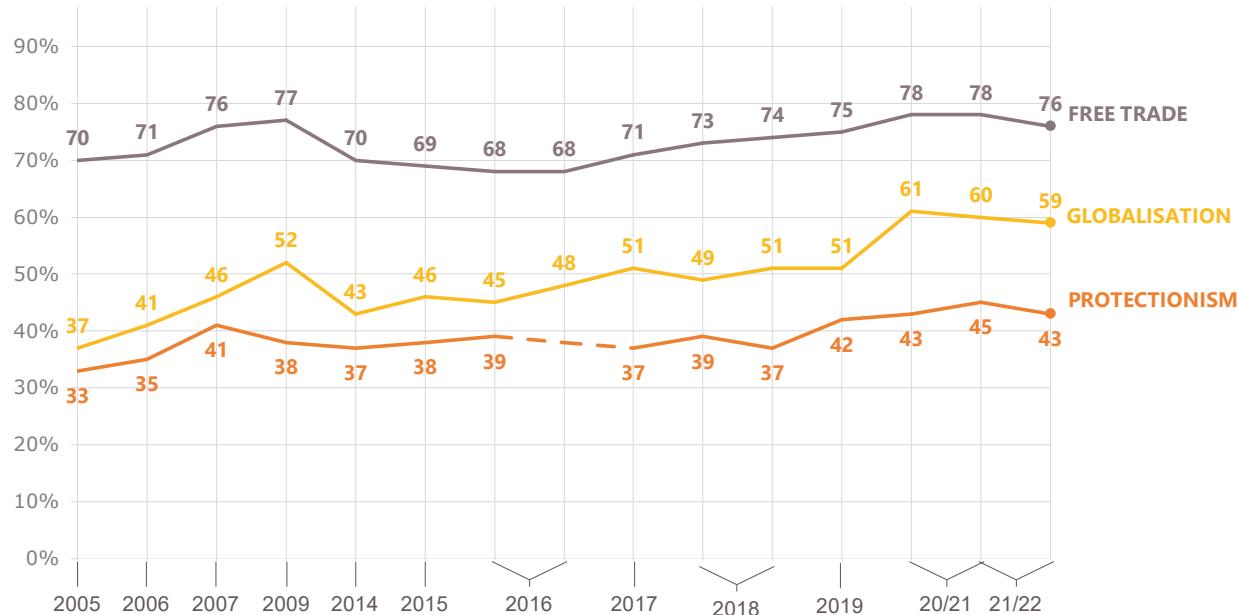
<sup>23</sup> QB2 Could you please tell for each of the following, whether the term brings to mind something very positive, fairly positive, fairly negative or very negative? 1. Free trade;

2. Globalisation; 3. Protectionism; 4. The digital transformation of the economy and society

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

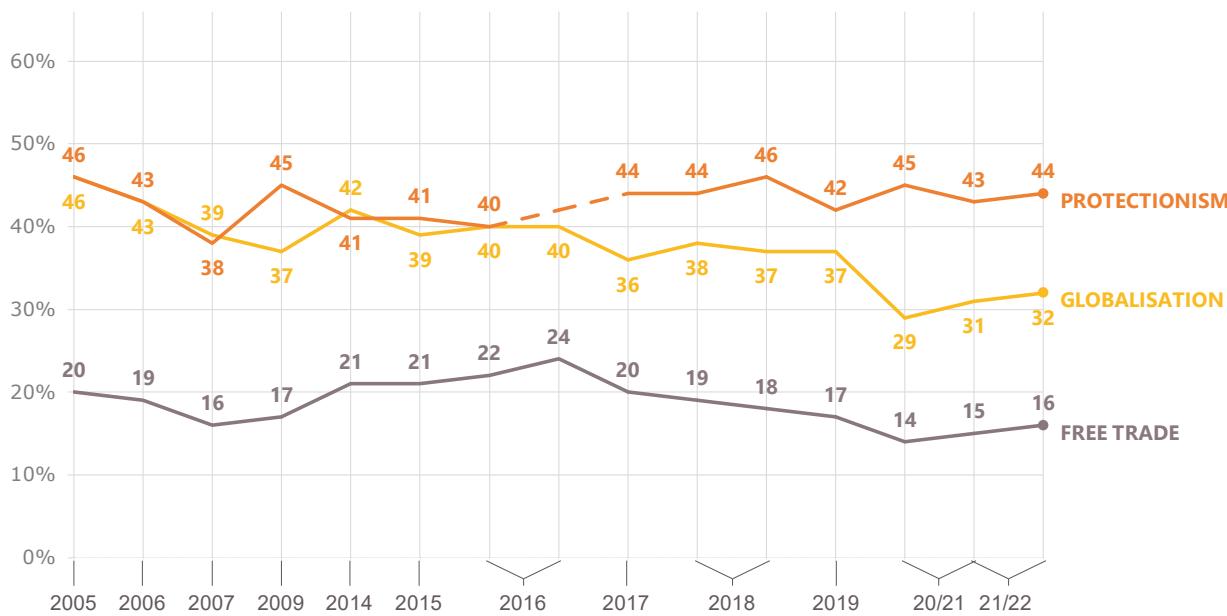
**QB2** Could you please tell for each of the following, whether the term brings to mind something very positive, fairly positive, fairly negative or very negative?

(% - EU - TOTAL 'POSITIVE')



**QB2** Could you please tell for each of the following, whether the term brings to mind something very positive, fairly positive, fairly negative or very negative?

(% - EU - TOTAL 'NEGATIVE')



**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
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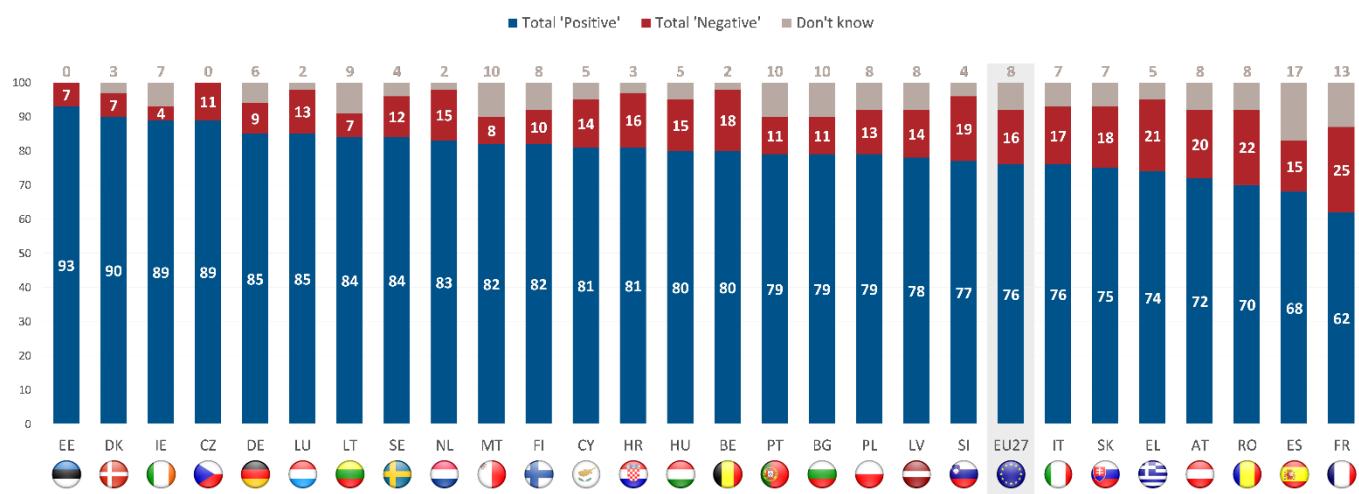
"Free trade" is viewed positively by at least six in ten respondents in all 27 EU Member States, most notably in Estonia (93%) and Denmark (90%), where positive opinions are held by at least nine in ten respondents. Positive views are lowest in France (62%) and Spain (68%).

In four countries more than a fifth of respondents perceive free trade negatively: France (25%), Romania (22%), Greece (21%) and Austria (20%).

The proportion of respondents who view free trade positively remains lower in the **euro area** countries (75%, -2) than in the **non-euro area** countries (80%, =).

**Since spring 2021**, positive perceptions of free trade have increased in seven Member States, most particularly in Cyprus (81%, +11), while they have decreased in 17 countries, notably in Lithuania (84%), Finland (82%) and Spain (68%) by eight percentage points (all). In three countries levels of positive views remained unchanged, namely in Bulgaria (79%), Croatia (81%) and Malta (82%).

**QB2.1 Could you please tell for each of the following, whether the term brings to mind something very positive, fairly positive, fairly negative or very negative?**  
 (% - Free trade)



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The socio-demographic data show that in all categories, more than six in ten respondents view "free trade" positively. Scores are highest for respondents for whom the EU has a positive image (87%) and for those who consider belonging to the upper class of

society (88%), while they are lowest for those who hold a negative image of the EU: 61% "positive", 31% "negative" and 8% "don't know".

**QB2.1** Could you please tell for each of the following, whether the term brings to mind something very positive, fairly positive, fairly negative or very negative?

**Free trade (% - EU)**

	Total 'Positive'	Total 'Negative'	Don't know
EU27	76	16	8
<b>Gender</b>			
Man	79	15	6
Woman	74	16	10
<b>Age</b>			
15-24	81	13	6
25-39	81	14	5
40-54	79	16	5
55 +	71	17	12
<b>Education (End of)</b>			
15-	64	17	19
16-19	75	17	8
20+	82	14	4
Still studying	83	11	6
<b>Socio-professional category</b>			
Self-employed	79	16	5
Managers	86	11	3
Other white collars	84	13	3
Manual workers	75	18	7
House persons	63	20	17
Unemployed	66	23	11
Retired	71	16	13
Students	83	11	6
<b>Difficulties paying bills</b>			
Most of the time	61	27	12
From time to time	71	20	9
Almost never/ Never	80	13	7
<b>Consider belonging to</b>			
The working class	65	20	15
The lower middle class	74	19	7
The middle class	81	14	5
The upper middle class	85	13	2
The upper class	88	9	3
<b>Image of the EU</b>			
Total 'Positive'	87	8	5
Neutral	72	17	11
Total 'Negative'	61	31	8

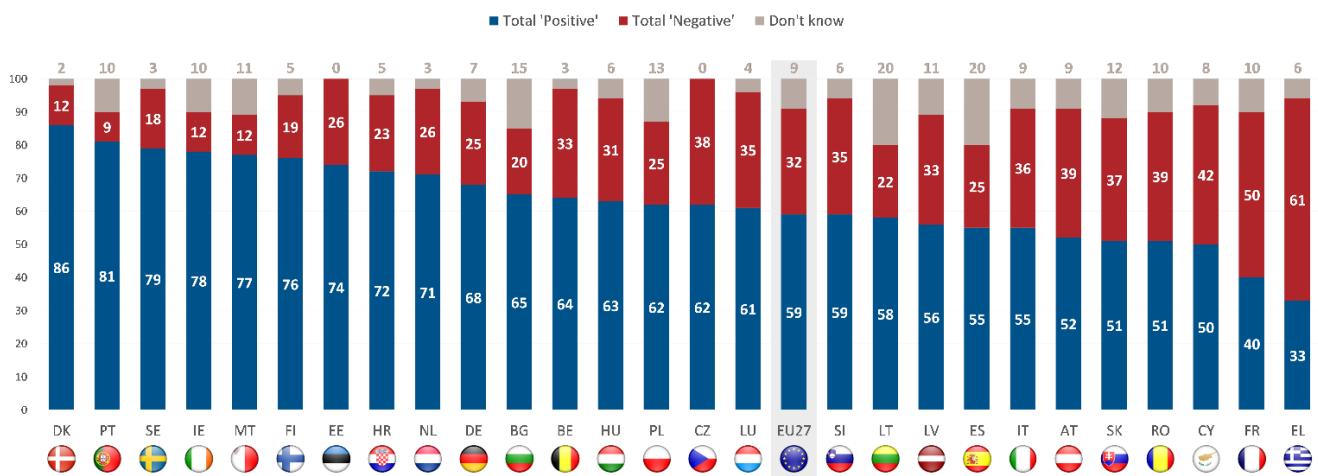
**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

Even if the term “**globalisation**” is less popular than “free trade” on the EU-level and although there are greater variations among Member States, it brings nevertheless to mind something positive for a majority of Europeans in 25 Member States (unchanged since spring 2021), most notably in Denmark (86%), followed by Portugal (81%), with a narrower balance of opinion in Cyprus (50% vs 42% “negative”) and Slovakia (51%). Conversely, negative perceptions are predominant in two countries: Greece (61% vs 33% “positive”), and France (50% vs 40%).

Positive perceptions in the **non-euro area** countries, where over six in ten respondents (64%, +1) view globalisation positively, outnumber the proportion of positive views in the **euro area** countries (57%, -3 percentage points since spring 2021).

**Since spring 2021**, positive views have gained ground in eight EU Member States, most significantly in Czechia (62%, +7) and to a lesser extend in Croatia (72%, +3). On the other hand, positive perceptions have lost ground in 16 countries, most strikingly in Lithuania (58%, -16), and to a lesser extend also in Slovakia (51%, -7) and Austria (52%, -7).

**QB2.2 Could you please tell for each of the following, whether the term brings to mind something very positive, fairly positive, fairly negative or very negative?**  
(% - Globalisation)



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The socio-demographic data show some significant differences among different categories. While more than seven in ten respondents among 15-24 year-olds (73%), students (75%), managers (72%), those who see themselves as upper middle class (74%) or upper class (71%) of society and those for whom the EU's image is positive (74%) view globalisation as something positive,

this view is shared by less than one in two of those who left full-time education at the age of 15 or earlier (42% "positive" vs 35% "negative" and 23% "don't know"), those who have difficulties paying their bills most of the time (44%), house persons (45%), unemployed (47%), those who consider themselves as working class of society (47%) and those who perceive the EU negatively (33%).

**QB2.2** Could you please tell for each of the following, whether the term brings to mind something very positive, fairly positive, fairly negative or very negative?

**Globalisation (%) - EU)**

	Total 'Positive'	Total 'Negative'	Don't know
EU27	59	32	9
<b>Gender</b>			
Man	60	33	7
Woman	57	31	12
<b>Age</b>			
15-24	73	19	8
25-39	67	28	5
40-54	59	35	6
55 +	51	35	14
<b>Education (End of)</b>			
15-	42	35	23
16-19	57	34	9
20+	64	31	5
Still studying	75	17	8
<b>Socio-professional category</b>			
Self-employed	61	33	6
Managers	72	25	3
Other white collars	64	32	4
Manual workers	58	34	8
House persons	45	35	20
Unemployed	47	43	10
Retired	50	35	15
Students	75	17	8
<b>Difficulties paying bills</b>			
Most of the time	44	43	13
From time to time	54	36	10
Almost never/ Never	62	29	9
<b>Consider belonging to</b>			
The working class	47	36	17
The lower middle class	53	38	9
The middle class	64	30	6
The upper middle class	74	23	3
The upper class	71	22	7
<b>Image of the EU</b>			
Total 'Positive'	74	20	6
Neutral	53	34	13
Total 'Negative'	33	59	8

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
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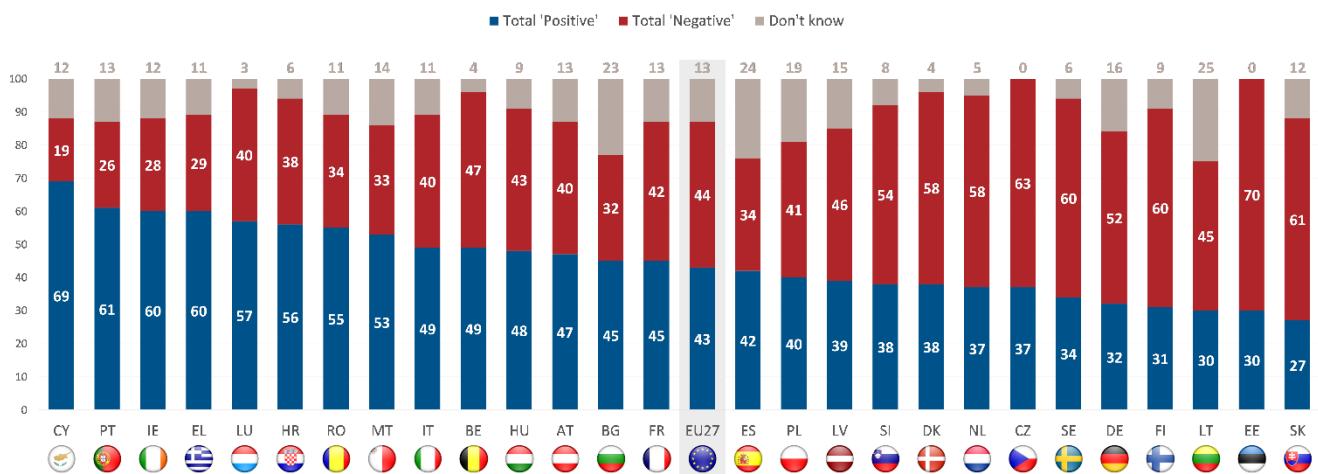
A majority of Europeans see the term “**protectionism**” in a positive light in 15 Member States (compared with 13 in spring 2021). Within this group of countries positive views range from 69% in Cyprus and 61% in Portugal, where they are the strongest, to 42% in Spain (vs 34% “negative” and 24% “don’t know”).

On the other hand, negative perceptions are predominant in 12 countries, most strikingly in Estonia (70%), where seven of ten respondents view “protectionism” negatively. Lithuania (25%), Spain (24%) and Bulgaria (23%) stand out by the fact that over one in five respondents do not provide an answer or say that they “don’t know”.

Proportions of positive opinions in the **non-euro area** countries are (44% “positive”, -4 vs 44% “negative”, +4) outnumber those in the countries of the **euro area** (42%, -2 percentage points since spring 2021 vs 44%, unchanged of “negative” views).

**Since spring 2021**, positive perceptions of the term “protectionism” have gained ground in eight Member States, most notably in Ireland (60%, +18 percentage points) and to a lesser extend in Luxembourg (57%, +9 after a six-point increase in the previous survey), while they are unchanged in Hungary (48% vs 43% “negative”, +1, and 9% “don’t know”, -1). On the other hand, positive perceptions have lost ground in 18 countries, most markedly in Lithuania (30, -14) and in Romania (55%, -8).

**QB2.3 Could you please tell for each of the following, whether the term brings to mind something very positive, fairly positive, fairly negative or very negative?**  
(% - Protectionism)



**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
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The socio-demographic data show that:

**Positive perceptions** of the term “protectionism” are most widespread among respondents aged 15-39 (48% “positive” vs 38% of those aged 55+), those who finished their full-time education aged 16-19 (45% vs 41%), other white collars (46% vs 47%), manual workers (49% vs 38%), students (46% vs 43%), those who have difficulties paying their bills from time to time (48% vs 39%), and those who see themselves as belonging to the lower middle class of society (45% vs 42%) and those for whom the EU has a positive image (45% vs 45%).

On the other hand, at least half of respondents see the term in a negative light among those who stayed in full-time education until the age of 20 or beyond (53% “negative”), managers (52%), those who see themselves as belonging to the upper middle class (59%) or upper class of society (60%) and those who perceive the EU negatively (50%).

**QB2.3** Could you please tell for each of the following, whether the term brings to mind something very positive, fairly positive, fairly negative or very negative?  
**Protectionism (%) - EU)**

	Total 'Positive'	Total 'Negative'	Don't know
EU27	43	44	13
<b>Gender</b>			
Man	43	46	11
Woman	42	42	16
<b>Age</b>			
15-24	48	41	11
25-39	48	43	9
40-54	44	45	11
55 +	38	44	18
<b>Education (End of)</b>			
15-	39	34	27
16-19	45	41	14
20+	39	53	8
Still studying	46	43	11
<b>Socio-professional category</b>			
Self-employed	43	49	8
Managers	41	52	7
Other white collars	46	47	7
Manual workers	49	38	13
House persons	43	37	20
Unemployed	42	42	16
Retired	36	44	20
Students	46	43	11
<b>Difficulties paying bills</b>			
Most of the time	43	38	19
From time to time	48	39	13
Almost never/ Never	40	47	13
<b>Consider belonging to</b>			
The working class	40	37	23
The lower middle class	45	42	13
The middle class	44	46	10
The upper middle class	36	59	5
The upper class	35	60	5
<b>Image of the EU</b>			
Total 'Positive'	45	45	10
Neutral	42	41	17
Total 'Negative'	38	50	12

## **IV. PROMOTING THE EUROPEAN WAY OF LIFE**



**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

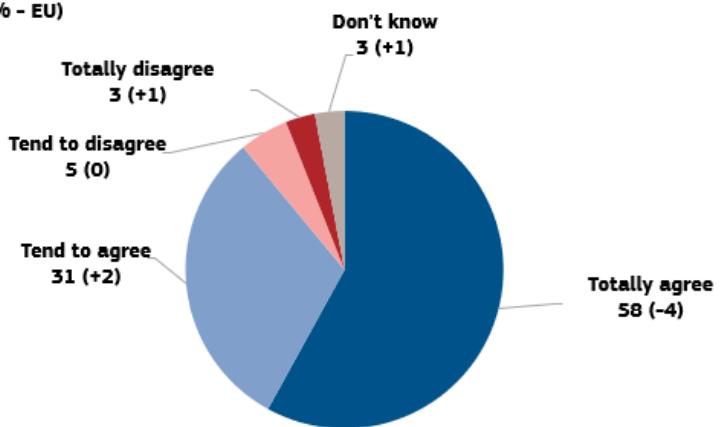
## 1. Core values of the European Union

Almost nine in ten Europeans support the idea that all EU Member States should respect the core values of the EU, such as fundamental rights and democracy

89% of Europeans think that "all EU Member States should respect the core values of the EU, such as fundamental rights and democracy"<sup>24</sup>. Since spring 2021, the proportion of respondents who agree with this statement has declined slightly by two percentage points. Within this group, 58% (-4 percentage points) "totally agree" with this statement and 31% (+2) "tend to agree". In contrast, 8% of respondents oppose this idea (5%, =, "tend to disagree", 3%, +1, "totally disagree"), while 3% (+1) did not provide an answer.

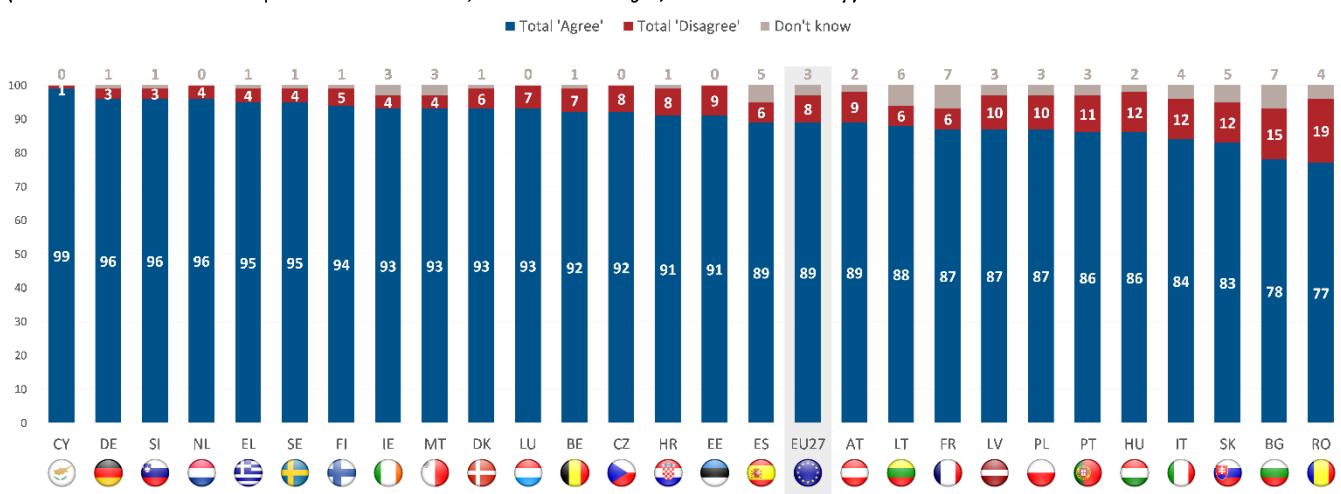
More than eight in ten respondents in 25 Member States (compared with 26 in spring 2021 and 27 in winter 2020-2021) think that all EU Member States should respect the core values of the EU. Support for this idea is highest in Cyprus (99%), and lowest in Romania (77%) and Bulgaria (78%), which are the two Member States where less than eight in ten respondents agree with this statement. In two countries, Sweden (81%) and the Netherlands (80%), at least eight in ten respondents say that they "totally agree".

**QB1.2 To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. All EU Member States should respect the core values of the EU, such as fundamental rights, rule of law and democracy (% - EU)**



(Winter 2021/2022 - Spring 2021)

**QB1.2 To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. (% - All EU Member States should respect the core values of the EU, such as fundamental rights, rule of law and democracy )**



<sup>24</sup> QB1.3 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. All EU Member States should respect the core values of the EU, such as fundamental rights and democracy

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

Since spring 2021, support for the idea that all EU Member States should respect the core values of the EU has gained ground in five Member States, notably in Malta (93%, +4 percentage points). In five other Member States support has remained unchanged: Denmark (93%), Germany (96%), Greece (95%), the Netherlands (96%) and Austria (89%).

On the other hand, support has decreased in 17 Member States, most particularly in Slovakia (83%, -8), and to a lesser extent in Spain (89%, -5), and Lithuania (88%, -4), France (87%, -4) and Bulgaria (78%, -4).

QB1.2 To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.  
All EU Member States should respect the core values of the EU, such as fundamental rights, rule of law and democracy (%)

		EU27	MT	CZ	CY	SI	EE	DK	DE	EL	NL	AT	IT	LU	SE	IE	PL	RO	BE	HR	LV	HU	PT	FI	BG	FR	LT	ES	SK
Total 'Agree'	Winter 2021/2022	89	93	92	99	96	91	93	96	95	96	89	84	93	95	93	87	77	92	91	87	86	94	78	87	88	89	83	
	△ Spring 2021	▼2	▲4	▲2	▲2	▲2	▲1	=	=	=	=	=	=	▼1	▼1	▼1	▼2	▼2	▼2	▼3	▼3	▼3	▼3	▼4	▼4	▼5	▼8		
Total 'Disagree'	Winter 2021/2022	8	4	8	1	3	9	6	3	4	4	9	12	7	4	4	10	19	7	8	10	12	11	5	15	6	6	6	12
	△ Spring 2021	▲1	=	=	▼2	▼2	▼1	=	=	=	=	=	▼1	▲2	=	▼1	▲2	▲2	▲3	▲3	▲2	▲2	▲4	▲2	▲5	▲2	▼2	▲3	▲6
Don't know	Winter 2021/2022	3	3	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	2	4	0	1	3	3	4	1	1	3	2	3	1	7	7	6	5	5
	△ Spring 2021	▲1	▼4	▼2	=	=	=	=	=	=	=	▲2	▼1	▲1	▲3	=	=	=	▲1	▲1	▼1	▲1	▲2	▲6	▲2	▲2	▲6		

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

The socio-demographic data show that more than three-quarters of respondents in all categories believe that all EU

Member States should respect the core values of the EU, such as fundamental rights and democracy.

**QB1.2** To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

**All EU Member States should respect the core values of the EU, such as fundamental rights, rule of law and democracy (%) - EU**

	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Don't know
EU27	89	8	3
<b>Gender</b>			
Man	89	8	3
Woman	89	7	4
<b>Age</b>			
15-24	89	7	4
25-39	89	9	2
40-54	91	7	2
55 +	88	8	4
<b>Education (End of)</b>			
15-	85	8	7
16-19	88	9	3
20+	93	6	1
Still studying	91	6	3
<b>Socio-professional category</b>			
Self-employed	90	9	1
Managers	95	4	1
Other white collars	92	6	2
Manual workers	86	11	3
House persons	81	11	8
Unemployed	84	10	6
Retired	90	6	4
Students	91	6	3
<b>Difficulties paying bills</b>			
Most of the time	78	16	6
From time to time	84	12	4
Almost never/ Never	93	5	2
<b>Consider belonging to</b>			
The working class	86	8	6
The lower middle class	87	11	2
The middle class	91	7	2
The upper middle class	93	6	1
The upper class	92	8	0
<b>Image of the EU</b>			
Total 'Positive'	96	3	1
Neutral	87	9	4
Total 'Negative'	78	17	5

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

## 2. Immigration and asylum policy

**More than seven in ten Europeans support a common European policy on migration**

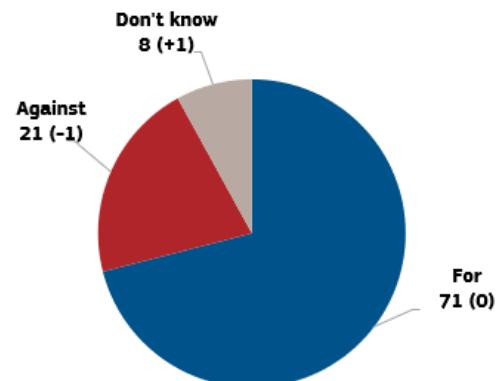
**Just over seven in ten respondents (71%) are in favour of a common European policy on migration<sup>25</sup>.** Since winter 2020-2021, the proportion of respondents who support this idea remained unchanged. On the other hand, just over one fifth of respondents (21%, -1 percentage point) now say that they oppose such a policy and 8% (+1) did not provide an answer or say that they "don't know".

A majority of respondents in 26 Member States (compared with 25 in spring 2021) support a common European policy on migration. Within this group of countries, support varies from 88% in Cyprus and the Netherlands, where it is highest, to 53% in Austria and Hungary. In Slovakia, only a minority of respondents support a common European policy on migration (40% vs 50%).

48 percentage points (compared with 46 in spring 2021) separate the country where support is the highest and the one where it is the lowest.

It should also be noted that there are marked differences between the **euro area** countries, where 74% (-2 percentage points) of respondents support the idea of a common European policy on

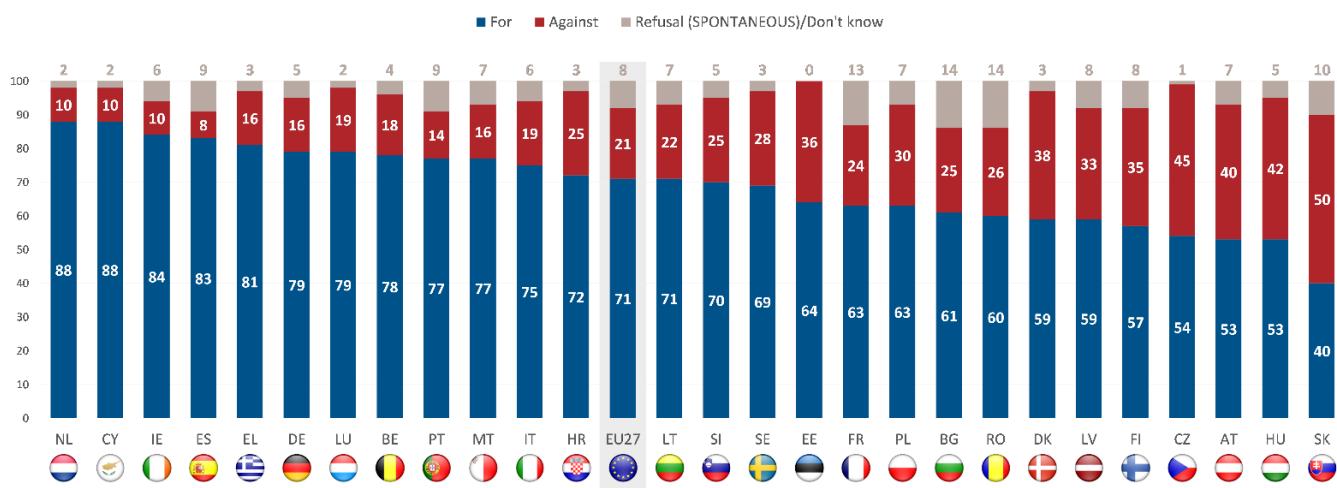
**QB6.4 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.**  
**A common European policy on migration (% - EU)**



(Winter 2021/2022 - Spring 2021)

migration, and the **non-euro area** countries, where the proportion of respondents in favour of such a policy is significantly lower despite a sharp increase of four percentage points (up to 61%).

**QB6.4 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.**  
**(% - A common European policy on migration)**



<sup>25</sup> QB6.4 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell me for each statement, whether you are for it or against it. A common European policy on migration

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

**Since spring 2021**, support for a common European policy on migration has increased in 13 Member States, most significantly in Czechia (54%, +10), Malta (77%, +7) and Poland (63%, +7).

Support has remained unchanged in Latvia (59%), while it has decreased in 13 Member States, particularly in Finland (57%, -11) and Belgium (78%, -10).

QB6.4 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.  
A common European policy on migration (%)

		EU27	CZ	MT	PL	EE	HR	NL	IT	IE	PT	RO	CY	AT	SE	LV	BG	DE	HU	SK	DK	EL	LU	ES	SI	LT	FR	BE	FI		
For	Winter 2021/2022	71	54	77	63	64	72	88	75	84	77	60	88	53	69	59	61	79	53	40	59	81	79	83	70	71	63	78	57		
	△ Spring 2021	=	▲10	▲7	▲7	▲6	▲6	▲6	▲4	▲3	▲3	▲3	▲2	▲2	▲1	=	▼1	▼1	▼2	▼2	▼3	▼3	▼3	▼4	▼4	▼5	▼7	▼10	▼11		
Against	Winter 2021/2022	21	45	16	30	36	25	10	19	10	14	26	10	40	28	33	25	16	42	50	38	16	19	8	25	22	24	18	35		
	△ Spring 2021	▼1	▼7	▼5	▼4	▼6	▼4	▼8	▼4	▼8	▼6	▼4	▼1	▼2	▼4	▼2	▲3	=	▲1	=	▲4	▲2	▲5	▲2	▲2	▼2	▲5	▲6	▲3		
Refusal (SPONTANEOUS)	Winter 2021/2022	2	0	1	3	0	1	1	2	0	1	6	1	4	0	1	2	2	2	3	0	1	0	2	1	2	2	1	0		
	△ Spring 2021	=	▼1	▲1	▼1	=	=	▲1	=	=	▲1	▲2	=	▲1	=	=	▼1	▲1	▲1	▲1	▼1	▲1	▼1	=	▼1	▲1	=	▲2	▲1	▲1	=
Don't know	Winter 2021/2022	6	1	6	4	0	2	1	4	6	8	8	1	3	3	7	12	3	3	7	3	2	2	7	4	5	11	3	8		
	△ Spring 2021	▲1	▼2	▼3	▼2	=	▼2	▲1	=	▲5	▲2	▼1	▼1	▼1	▲3	▲2	▼1	=	=	▲1	=	▲1	▼1	▲1	▲2	▲5	▲1	▲3	▲8		

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

The socio-demographic data show that over half of respondents in all categories support a common European policy on migration. However, support varies widely amongst categories. Thus, proportions are highest among managers (79%), students (79%) people who stayed in full-time education until the age of 20 or beyond (77%), those who see themselves as belonging to the upper middle class (80%) or upper class of society (83%), and people for whom the EU's image is positive (84%).

Support is lower among respondents who finished their education aged 15 or earlier (67%) or aged 16-19 (68%), manual workers (64%), house persons (64%), unemployed people (65%), those who have difficulties paying their bills most of the time (61%) or those who see themselves as belonging to the working class of society (64%) or lower middle class (68%). Support for this idea is lowest among respondents who hold a negative image of the EU (50%).

**QB6.4** What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.

**A common European policy on migration**

(% - EU)

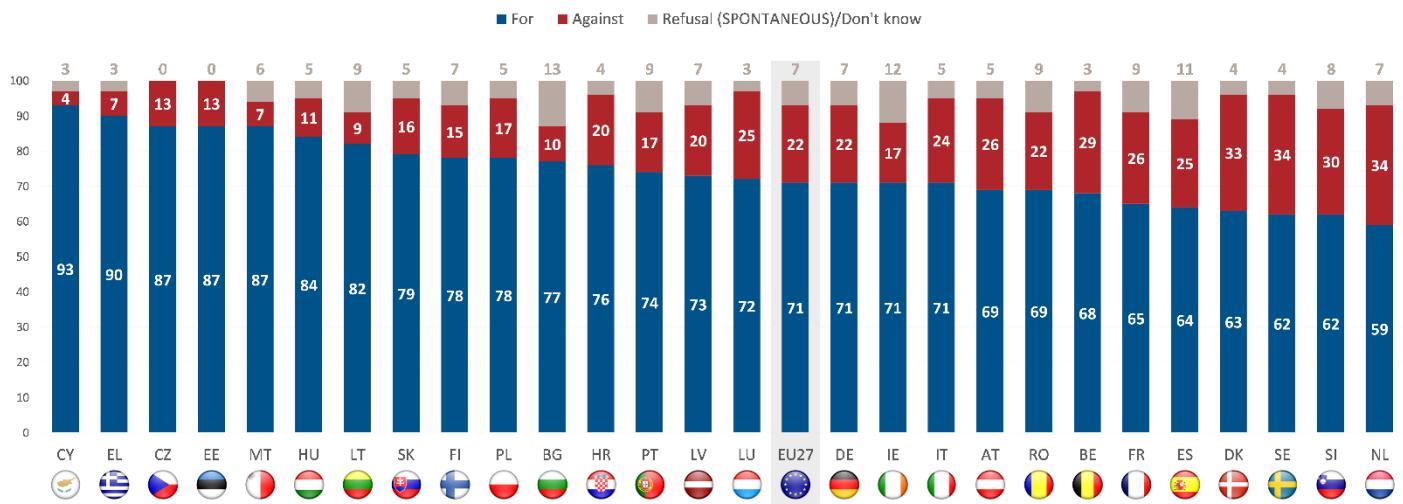
	For	Against	Refusal (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU27	71	21	2	6
<b>Gender</b>				
Man	72	22	2	4
Woman	71	20	2	7
<b>Age</b>				
15-24	74	18	2	6
25-39	71	23	2	4
40-54	72	23	1	4
55 +	70	21	2	7
<b>Education (End of)</b>				
15-	67	20	2	11
16-19	68	25	2	5
20+	77	18	2	3
Still studying	79	15	2	4
<b>Socio-professional category</b>				
Self-employed	74	21	2	3
Managers	79	16	2	3
Other white collars	75	21	1	3
Manual workers	64	27	2	7
House persons	64	23	2	11
Unemployed	65	27	1	7
Retired	71	20	2	7
Students	79	15	2	4
<b>Difficulties paying bills</b>				
Most of the time	61	29	4	6
From time to time	65	27	2	6
Almost never/ Never	75	18	2	5
<b>Consider belonging to</b>				
The working class	64	24	2	10
The lower middle class	68	25	2	5
The middle class	74	20	2	4
The upper middle class	80	17	1	2
The upper class	83	13	3	1
<b>Image of the EU</b>				
Total 'Positive'	84	12	1	3
Neutral	68	23	2	7
Total 'Negative'	50	42	3	5

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

More than seven in ten respondents (71%) support “**a reinforcement of EU external borders with more European border guards and coast guards**”<sup>26</sup>, while 22% are against such a policy and 7% answered “don't know” or refused to answer. Since spring 2021, support for a reinforcement of EU external borders with more European border guards and coast guards has increased by two percentage points.

After an increase of 5 percentage points in the **non-euro area** countries, more than three-quarters of respondents support a reinforcement of EU external borders with more European border guards and coast guards in these countries (up to 76%). Support also slightly increased within the **euro area** by one percentage point (up to 69%).

**Q87.2 And what is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.**  
(% - A reinforcement of EU external borders with more European border guards and coast guards)



Since spring 2021, support for a reinforcement of EU external borders with more European border guards and coast guards has gained ground in 11 Member States of the European Union (compared with 10 in the previous survey), most notably in Luxembourg (72%, +11), Germany (71%, +10) and Poland (78%, +10), where increases are at least ten percentage points. Support for this idea remained unchanged in Belgium (68%).

**Q87.2 And what is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.**  
A reinforcement of EU external borders with more European border guards and coast guards (%)

		EU27																												
		Winter 2021/2022	71	72	71	78	71	87	93	69	63	73	87	76	68	77	71	84	87	90	64	65	69	78	62	82	79	59	62	74
For	Winter 2021/2022	71	72	71	78	71	87	93	69	63	73	87	76	68	77	71	84	87	90	64	65	69	78	62	82	79	59	62	74	
	△ Spring 2021	▲2	▲11	▲10	▲10	▲8	▲6	▲4	▲3	▲2	▲1	=	▼1	▼1	▼1	▼1	▼1	▼1	▼1	▼2	▼2	▼3	▼3	▼5	▼8	▼8	▼10			
Against	Winter 2021/2022	22	25	22	17	17	13	4	22	33	20	13	29	10	24	11	7	7	25	26	26	15	34	9	16	34	30	17		
	△ Spring 2021	▼2	▼8	▼10	▼4	▼20	▼3	▼2	▼3	▲1	▼4	▼1	▼1	▼3	=	▲1	=	▲4	▲2	▲1	▲3	▲3	▲3	▲1	▲5	▲5	▲4	▲7		
Refusal (SPONTANEOUS)	Winter 2021/2022	1	1	2	2	2	0	1	2	1	1	0	2	1	1	2	0	2	2	1	3	0	1	2	2	2	1			
	△ Spring 2021	▼1	=	=	▼2	▲2	▼1	▼1	=	=	=	▲1	▲1	▼2	=	=	=	▼1	▼1	▲1	=	▲1	▲2	▲1	▲1	▲1	=			
Don't know	Winter 2021/2022	6	2	5	3	10	0	2	7	3	6	0	2	2	12	4	3	6	1	9	8	2	7	3	7	3	5	6	8	
	△ Spring 2021	▲1	▼3	=	▼4	▲10	▼2	▼1	=	▼3	▲2	=	▼1	▲2	▲3	=	▲1	▼3	=	▲2	=	▼1	▲6	▲2	▲7	▼1	▲2	▲3	▲3	

<sup>26</sup> QB7.2 And what is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell me for each statement, whether you are for it or against it. A reinforcement of EU external borders with more European border guards and coast guards

Around six in ten respondents in all 27 Member States of the EU are in favour of a reinforcement of EU external borders with more European border guards and coast guards. However, levels of support range from 93% in Cyprus and 90% in Greece, where they are highest, to 62% in Sweden and 59% in the Netherlands.

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

The socio-demographic data show that over six in ten respondents in all categories support a reinforcement of EU external borders with more European border guards and coast guards. However, younger respondents (63% of 15-24 year-olds) and students (62%) are less supportive of this idea than older respondents (73% among respondents aged 55+) and retired persons (74%).

It is noteworthy that the levels of support for this proposal are almost identical between respondents who have a positive image of the EU and those for whom its image is negative (71% vs 69%).

**QB7.2** And what is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.

**A reinforcement of EU external borders with more European border guards and coast guards (% - EU)**

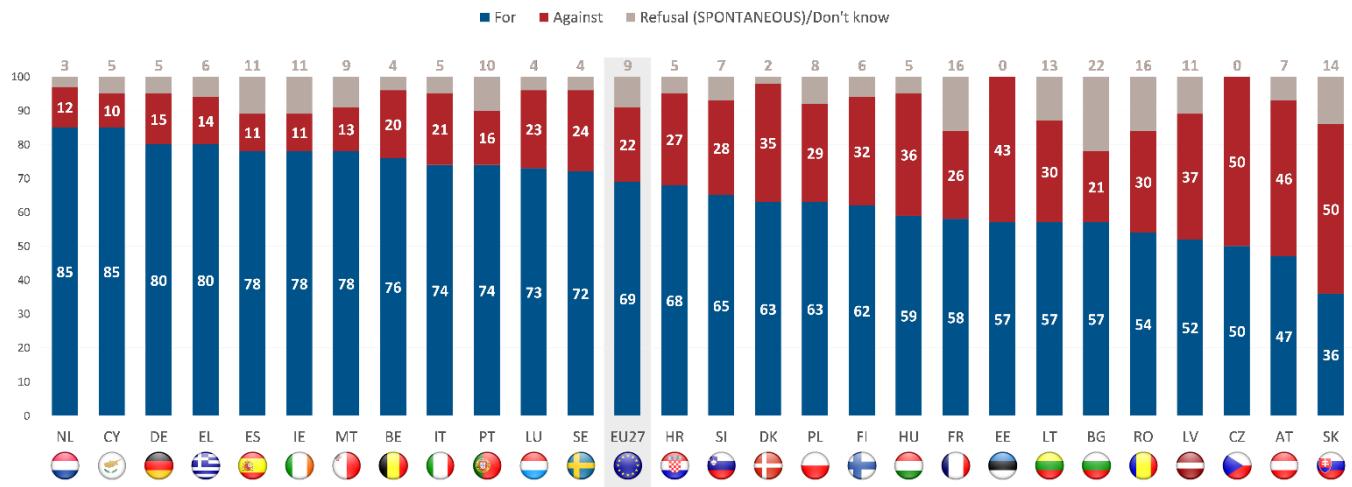
	For	Against	Refusal (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU27	71	22	1	6
Gender				
Man	72	22	1	5
Woman	69	23	1	7
Age				
15-24	63	29	2	6
25-39	69	25	1	5
40-54	72	23	1	4
55 +	73	20	1	6
Education (End of)				
15-	75	15	1	9
16-19	74	20	1	5
20+	67	27	2	4
Still studying	62	31	1	6
Socio-professional category				
Self-employed	69	27	1	3
Managers	67	27	1	5
Other white collars	73	22	1	4
Manual workers	73	21	2	4
House persons	68	21	2	9
Unemployed	69	21	3	7
Retired	74	18	1	7
Students	62	31	1	6
Difficulties paying bills				
Most of the time	72	20	2	6
From time to time	68	25	2	5
Almost never/ Never	71	22	1	6
Consider belonging to				
The working class	72	19	1	8
The lower middle class	73	21	1	5
The middle class	70	24	1	5
The upper middle class	67	27	2	4
The upper class	63	30	4	3
Image of the EU				
Total 'Positive'	71	23	1	5
Neutral	71	21	1	7
Total 'Negative'	69	25	2	4

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

Almost seven in ten respondents (69%, +1 percentage point since spring 2021) of respondents support "a common European asylum system"<sup>27</sup>, while 22% (-1) are against such a policy and 9% (=) did not provide an answer.

Although respondents within the **non-euro area** countries are more likely to support the idea of a common European asylum system than they were in spring 2021 (61%, +5), they are still less likely to do so than those in the **euro area** countries (72%, =).

**QB7.1 And what is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.**  
 (% - A common European Asylum system)



Since spring 2021, support for a common European asylum system has increased in 12 Member States (compared with 10 in the previous survey), particularly in Czechia (50%, +9) and Poland (63%, +9), while support has remained unchanged in Bulgaria (57%) and Romania (54%).

A majority of respondents in 25 Member States (unchanged) say that they are in favour of a common European asylum system. Within this group of countries, support ranges from 85% in Cyprus and the Netherlands, where it is highest, to 52% in Latvia and 47% in Austria (vs 46% "against"), where it is lowest. In Czechia opinions are evenly split (50% "for" vs 50% "against"), while only a minority supports this idea in Slovakia (36% "for" vs 50% "against").

In contrast, support has lost ground in 13 countries, most strikingly in Belgium (76%, -8) and Slovakia (36%, -7).

**QB7.1 And what is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.**  
 A common European Asylum system (%)

	EU27	CZ	PL	ES	PT	EE	HR	IT	NL	CY	IE	LV	HU	BG	RO	MT	SI	SE	DE	EL	LU	AT	DK	FR	LT	FI	LT	RI	SK	BE
For	Winter 2021/2022	69	50	63	78	74	57	68	74	85	78	52	59	57	54	78	65	72	80	80	73	47	63	58	57	62	36	76		
	Δ Spring 2021	▲1	▲9	▲9	▲7	▲6	▲5	▲5	▲5	▲3	▲2	▲2	▲2	=	=	▼1	▼2	▼2	▼3	▼3	▼3	▼5	▼5	▼6	▼6	▼7	▼8			
Against	Winter 2021/2022	22	50	29	11	16	43	27	21	12	10	11	37	36	21	30	13	28	24	15	14	23	46	35	26	30	32	50	20	
	Δ Spring 2021	▼1	▼5	▼3	▼5	▼5	▼5	▼4	▼4	▼7	▼1	▼12	▼5	▼3	=	▼4	▲6	=	▼2	▲2	▲4	▲3	▲3	▲7	▲2	▼7	=	▲3	▲4	
Refusal (SPONTANEOUS)	Winter 2021/2022	2	0	3	2	1	0	1	1	1	2	1	1	2	3	4	1	1	1	2	2	1	4	0	1	4	0	3	2	
	Δ Spring 2021	=	▼1	▼1	▼1	▼1	=	=	▲1	=	▲1	▼1	▲2	▲1	=	▲1	▲1	=	▲1	▲1	=	▲1	=	▲4	=	▲1	=	▲1	▲2	
Don't know	Winter 2021/2022	7	0	5	9	9	0	4	4	2	3	10	10	3	19	12	8	6	3	3	4	3	3	2	15	9	6	11	2	
	Δ Spring 2021	=	▼3	▼5	▼1	=	=	▼1	▼1	▲1	▼2	▲9	▲3	=	▲1	▲2	▼6	▲2	▲3	=	▼1	=	▼1	▼2	▲3	▲9	▲6	▲3	▲2	

<sup>27</sup> QB7.1 And what is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell me for each statement, whether you are for it or against it. A common European asylum system

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

The socio-demographic data show that over half of respondents in almost all categories are in favour of a common European asylum system. This proportion is highest among those who continued their education up to the age of 20 or beyond (76%), managers (77%), students (74%), those who see themselves as upper middle class (78%) and Europeans for whom the EU's image is positive (82%).

The majority of respondents who support such a system is lower among Europeans who finished their education aged 15 or earlier (63%), the unemployed (58%), those who have difficulties paying their bills most of the time (58%), and those for whom the EU's image is negative (47%), the only category where less than one in two respondents support the idea of a common European asylum system.

**QB7.1** And what is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.

**A common European Asylum system (% - EU)**

	For	Against	Refusal (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU27	69	22	2	7
 Gender				
Man	69	24	1	6
Woman	69	21	2	8
 Age				
15-24	71	21	2	6
25-39	70	23	1	6
40-54	71	22	2	5
55 +	67	23	2	8
 Education (End of)				
15-	63	22	2	13
16-19	65	26	2	7
20+	76	18	2	4
Still studying	74	18	2	6
 Socio-professional category				
Self-employed	74	21	1	4
Managers	77	17	2	4
Other white collars	75	20	1	4
Manual workers	64	27	2	7
House persons	64	22	2	12
Unemployed	58	30	2	10
Retired	68	22	1	9
Students	74	18	2	6
 Difficulties paying bills				
Most of the time	58	31	2	9
From time to time	63	28	2	7
Almost never/ Never	73	19	1	7
 Consider belonging to				
The working class	62	24	2	12
The lower middle class	68	25	1	6
The middle class	72	21	2	5
The upper middle class	78	18	1	3
The upper class	76	19	2	3
 Image of the EU				
Total 'Positive'	82	12	1	5
Neutral	65	24	2	9
Total 'Negative'	47	44	2	7

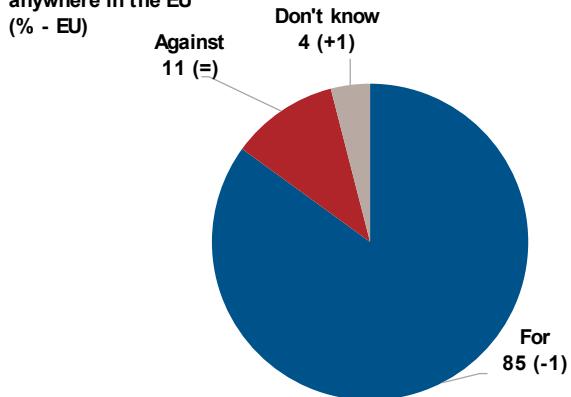
### 3. Free movement of citizens in the EU

**Over eight in ten Europeans are in favour of the free movement of EU citizens who can live, work, study and do business anywhere in the EU**

**85% of respondents (-1 percentage point since spring 2021) support the principle of the free movement of EU citizens who can live, work, study and do business anywhere in the EU<sup>28</sup>.** On the other hand, opposition to this principle is stable (11%), 4% (+1) answered "don't know" or did not express an opinion.

Over the long term, support for the principle of the free movement of EU citizens has decreased slightly for the first time after four consecutive increases (+5 percentage points between spring 2019 and spring 2021). However, support remains high and actually stands at its second highest level since this indicator was first introduced in 2015. At that time the level of support was at 78%, i.e. seven percentage points lower than in this winter 2021-2022 Standard Eurobarometer survey.

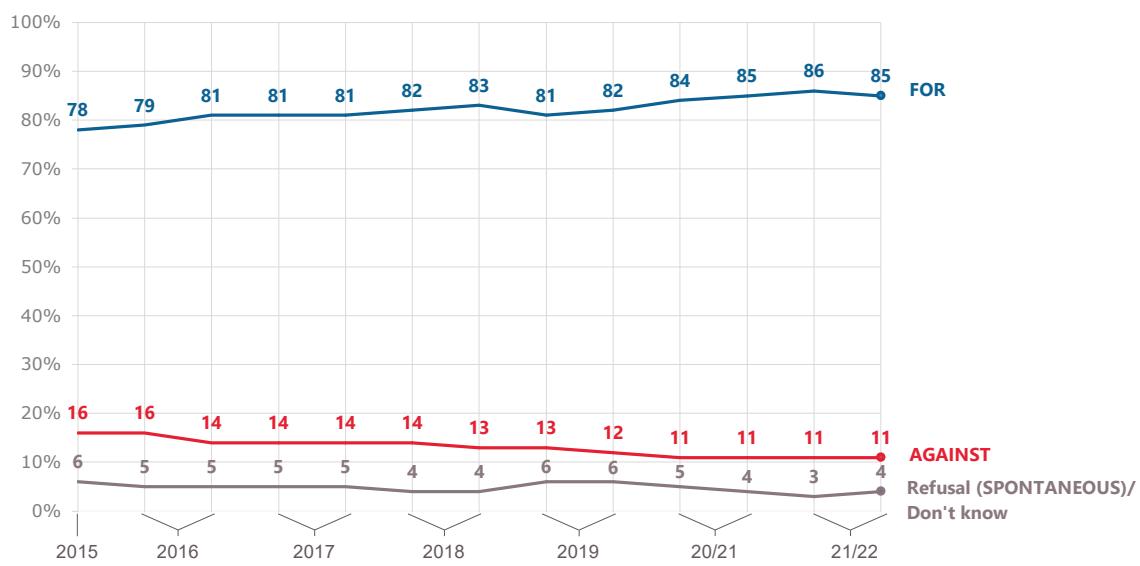
**QB6.7 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.**  
**The free movement of EU citizens who can live, work, study and do business anywhere in the EU**



(Winter 2021/2022 - Spring 2021)

**QB6.7** What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.

**The free movement of EU citizens who can live, work, study and do business anywhere in the EU**  
 (% - EU)



<sup>28</sup> QB6.7. What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell me for each statement, whether you are for it or against it. The free movement of EU citizens who can live, work, study and do business anywhere in the EU

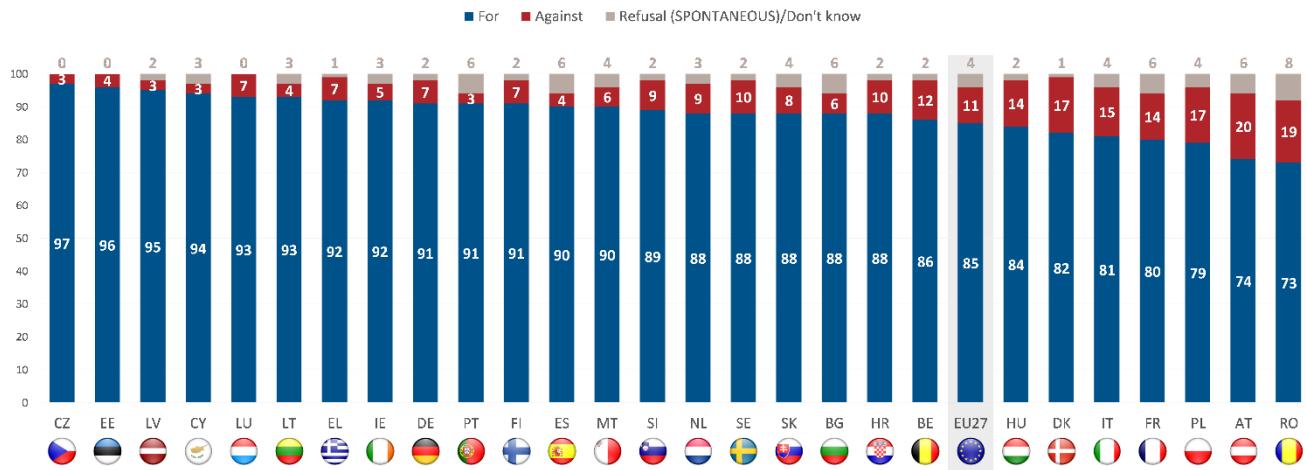
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More than seven in ten respondents in all 27 Member States (unchanged since spring 2021) support the free movement of EU citizens who can live, work, study and do business anywhere in the EU, with levels of support ranging from highs of 97% in Czechia,

96% in Estonia and 95% in Latvia, to lows of 74% in Austria and 73% in Romania.

In Austria 20% of respondents oppose this principle.

**QB6.7 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.**  
 (% - The free movement of EU citizens who can live, work, study and do business anywhere in the EU)



Since spring 2021, support for the free movement of EU citizens who can live, work, study and do business anywhere in the EU has gained ground in 16 Member States (compared with seven in the previous survey), most particularly in Czechia (97%, +7 percentage points after a sharp decrease of six percentage points in the previous survey) and Sweden (88%, +6), while levels of support are unchanged in Austria (74%).

In contrast, support for this principle has decreased in 10 Member States, most markedly in Belgium (86%, -6) and France (80%, -5).

**QB6.7 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.**  
 The free movement of EU citizens who can live, work, study and do business anywhere in the EU (%)

		EU27	CZ	SE	IT	CY	MT	EL	NL	DE	LV	BG	DK	EE	HR	LU	RO	FI	AT	LT	SI	PL	PT	SK	HU	IE	ES	FR	BE
For	Winter 2021/2022	85	97	88	81	94	90	92	88	91	95	88	82	96	88	93	73	91	74	93	89	79	91	88	84	92	90	80	86
	Δ Spring 2021	▼1	▲7	▲6	▲5	▲5	▲4	▲3	▲3	▲2	▲2	▲1	▲1	▲1	▲1	▲1	▲1	▲1	=	▼1	▼1	▼2	▼2	▼3	▼5	▼5	▼6		
Against	Winter 2021/2022	11	3	10	15	3	6	7	9	7	3	6	17	4	10	7	19	7	20	4	9	17	3	8	14	5	4	14	12
	Δ Spring 2021	=	▼5	▼8	▼3	▼4	▲2	▼3	▼5	▼1	▼2	=	▲1	▼1	▼1	▲1	▼1	▼3	=	▼2	=	▲3	▼1	▲1	▲3	▲2	▲2	▲4	▲4
Refusal (SPONTANEOUS)	Winter 2021/2022	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	2	0	0	1	0	4	0	3	0	1	2	1	1	1	0	1	1	
	Δ Spring 2021	=	=	▲1	▼2	▼1	▼2	=	▲1	=	=	=	=	▲1	=	=	▲2	=	=	=	▲1	▼1	=	▲1	=	▲1	=	▼1	▲1
Don't know	Winter 2021/2022	3	0	1	3	2	4	0	2	1	2	4	1	0	1	0	4	2	3	3	1	2	5	2	1	2	5	6	1
	Δ Spring 2021	▲1	▼2	▲1	=	=	▼4	=	▲1	▼1	=	▼2	▼2	=	=	▼2	▼2	▲2	=	▲3	=	=	▲3	=	=	▲2	▲3	▲2	▲1

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The socio-demographic data show that more than seven in ten respondents in all categories support the free movement of EU citizens, although support is particularly high among Europeans aged 15 to 24 years (89%), those who continued their education up to 20 years old or beyond (90%), managers (92%), students (91%), those who see themselves as upper middle class (91%) and those who have a positive image of the EU (94%).

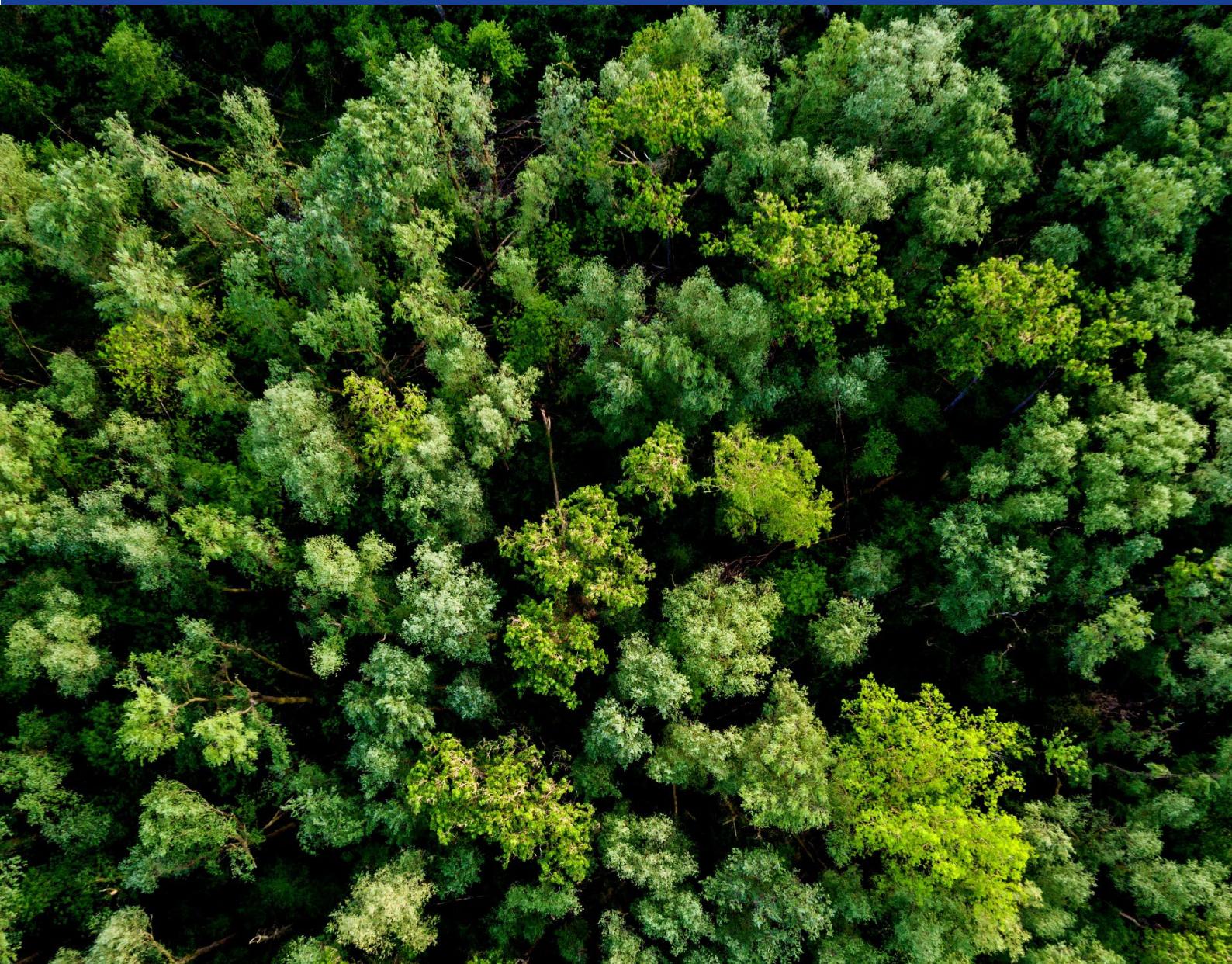
In contrast, support is lowest among people who have a negative image of the European Union (72%).

**QB6.7** What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.

**The free movement of EU citizens who can live, work, study and do business anywhere in the EU (%) - EU**

	For	Against	Refusal (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU27	85	11	1	3
Gender				
Man	86	11	1	2
Woman	85	10	1	4
Age				
15-24	89	8	1	2
25-39	87	10	1	2
40-54	86	11	1	2
55 +	84	11	1	4
Education (End of)				
15-	80	12	1	7
16-19	83	13	1	3
20+	90	8	1	1
Still studying	91	6	1	2
Socio-professional category				
Self-employed	88	10	1	1
Managers	92	6	1	1
Other white collars	89	9	1	1
Manual workers	81	14	2	3
House persons	79	12	1	8
Unemployed	79	16	1	4
Retired	84	11	1	4
Students	91	6	1	2
Difficulties paying bills				
Most of the time	75	18	3	4
From time to time	79	16	2	3
Almost never/ Never	89	8	1	2
Consider belonging to				
The working class	81	13	1	5
The lower middle class	83	13	1	3
The middle class	88	9	1	2
The upper middle class	91	7	1	1
The upper class	86	13	0	1
Image of the EU				
Total 'Positive'	94	5	0	1
Neutral	83	12	1	4
Total 'Negative'	72	23	2	3

## V. A EUROPEAN GREEN DEAL



**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

**Support for the main priorities of a European Green deal remains high: developing renewable energy and fighting against plastic waste and single use plastic continue to top the list**

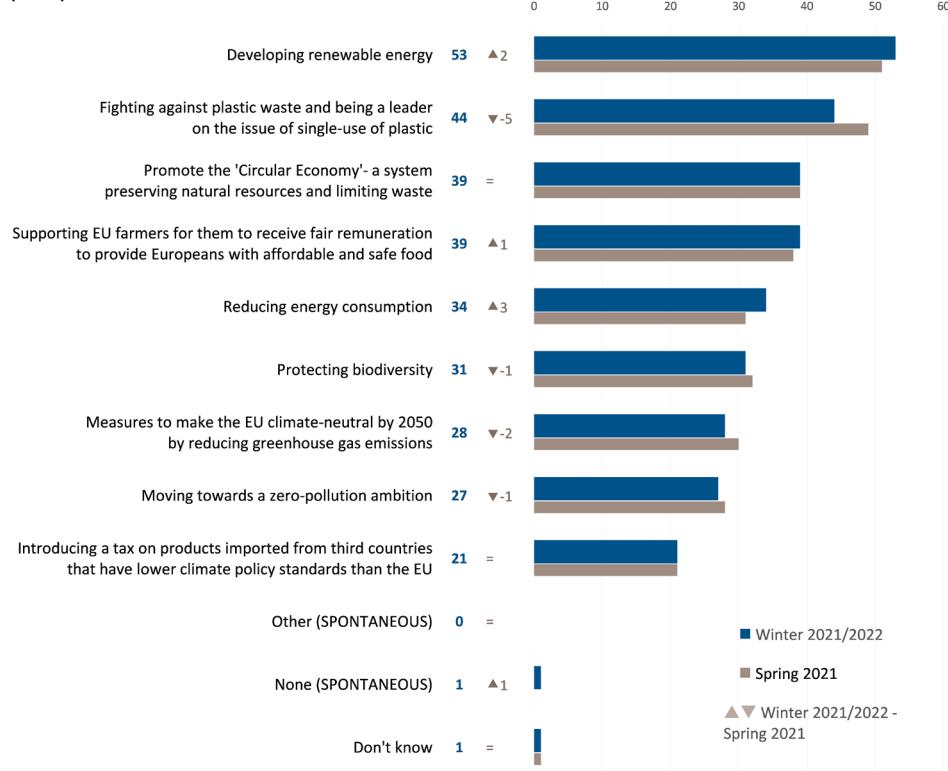
Respondents were asked to choose from a list of objectives which should be prioritised in a European Green Deal, with the possibility of naming up to four objectives from a list of nine statements<sup>29</sup>:

- The item “developing renewable energy” tops the ranking of the main priorities in a European Green Deal with 53% of respondents mentioning this topic. After a slight increase of 2 percentage points since spring 2021 this topic consolidates its first position;
- “Fighting against plastic waste and being a leader on the issue of single use plastic” comes second. However, support decreased by five percentage points since spring 2021. This topic is now mentioned 44% of Europeans;

- Nearly four in ten respondents mention “promoting the ‘Circular Economy’ – a system preserving natural resources and limiting waste” (39%, unchanged) which is in third place, sharing this position with the item “supporting EU farmers for them to receive fair remuneration to provide Europeans with affordable and safe food” (39%, +1);
- Around a third of Europeans mention “reducing energy consumption” (34%), which, after an increase of three percentage points, has moved from sixth to fifth place. This item is closely followed by “protecting biodiversity” (31%, -1);
- The goal of taking “measures to make the EU carbon neutral by 2050 by reducing greenhouse gas emissions’ effects to zero” is mentioned by less than three in ten respondents (28%, -2);
- With a score of 27% (-1) “moving towards a zero-pollution ambition” remains in eighth position;
- Finally, “introducing a tax on products imported from third countries that have lower climate policy standards than the EU” is ranked in last place, but is still mentioned by more than one in five Europeans (21%, unchanged since two consecutive surveys).

In sum, it is noticeable that support has increased for three environmental priorities, has remained stable for two and has decreased for four of them.

QB5 In your opinion, which of the following objectives should be given top priority in a European Green Deal, a set of measures to protect the environment and fight climate change? (MAX. 4 ANSWERS)  
(% - EU)



<sup>29</sup> QB5. In your opinion, which of the following objectives should be given top priority in a European Green Deal, a set of measures to protect the environment and fight climate change? (MAX. 4 ANSWERS)

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In 20 Member States of the European Union (compared with 15 in spring 2021), “developing renewable energy” is the most frequently mentioned item when it comes to the leading objectives in a European Green Deal. Support for this goal is most marked in Cyprus (70%) and Denmark (71%), where at least seven in ten respondents quote this item. In Estonia (60%) and Finland (56%), this item shares the first place with “Promoting the ‘Circular Economy’ – a system preserving natural resources and limiting waste”. Slovakia is the only country, where this item is not ranked in the top-three.

“Fighting against plastic waste and leading on the issue of single use plastic” is the most frequently mentioned objective in three Member States (compared with eight in spring 2021). It strikes a chord in particular in Latvia (51%) and Lithuania (52%) where more than one in two respondents quote this topic. Finland, Sweden and Italy are the only countries where this topic is not ranked in the top-three.

“Promoting the ‘Circular Economy’ – a system preserving natural resources and limiting waste” is seen as the primary objective in four Member States: Finland (56%), Estonia (60%), the Netherlands (56%) and Czechia (52%).

“Supporting EU farmers for them to receive fair remuneration to provide Europeans with affordable and safe food” is ranked first in two Member States (unchanged since the previous survey), namely France (50%) and Slovakia (50%).

The other topics tested do not top the list in any Member State of the European Union:

- “Reducing energy consumption” is in second place in Italy (46%) and comes third in Ireland (36%), Lithuania (39%) and Poland (34%);
- “Protecting biodiversity” is ranked third in Finland (49%) and comes second in Sweden (48%);
- “Moving towards a zero-pollution ambition” is mentioned by 46% of respondents in Malta, where it ranks third;
- Finally, “measures to make the EU climate-neutral by 2050 by reducing greenhouse gas emissions” is not in the top-three in any country but obtains high scores in Germany and the Netherlands (each 38%) and Sweden (36%).

Q55 In your opinion, which of the following objectives should be given top priority in a European Green Deal, a set of measures to protect the environment and fight climate change? (MAX. 4 ANSWERS)  
 (%)

	EU27	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	IE	EL	ES	FR	HR	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE
Developing renewable energy	53	58	42	44	71	57	60	55	58	58	46	56	54	70	41	47	51	55	54	51	50	50	58	35	57	34	56	63
Fighting against plastic waste and being a leader on the issue of single-use of plastic	44	42	46	48	44	50	41	45	44	45	45	48	37	46	51	52	48	47	52	52	44	46	47	32	53	47	42	30
Promote the ‘Circular Economy’- a system preserving natural resources and limiting waste	39	34	31	52	40	47	60	29	39	28	35	39	39	40	33	35	38	41	32	56	49	28	45	29	46	38	56	46
Supporting EU farmers for them to receive fair remuneration to provide Europeans with affordable and safe food	39	43	39	48	28	40	51	29	48	37	50	34	30	43	45	30	44	27	38	46	43	29	39	35	38	50	48	47
Reducing energy consumption	34	33	27	35	28	34	19	36	35	32	32	32	46	35	26	39	28	34	35	27	34	34	23	28	29	31	15	27
Protecting biodiversity	31	39	33	29	39	26	38	33	43	29	44	31	23	29	32	36	43	26	29	36	32	19	31	23	24	29	45	48
Measures to make the EU climate-neutral by 2050 by reducing greenhouse gas emissions	28	26	20	15	38	38	18	32	31	21	21	25	29	31	17	20	26	27	34	38	31	25	30	25	30	23	18	36
Moving towards a zero-pollution ambition	27	23	26	13	25	17	28	28	33	35	26	29	38	23	25	15	23	32	46	27	21	29	33	25	23	28	15	24
Introducing a tax on products imported from third countries that have lower climate policy standards than the EU	21	23	16	26	18	23	21	22	25	13	23	21	19	17	15	8	28	21	13	19	32	18	18	19	17	22	31	24
Other (SPONTANEOUS)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
None (SPONTANEOUS)	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	
Don't know	1	0	5	0	1	1	0	1	0	4	1	0	2	2	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	2	3	0	1	2	0
1st MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM																												
2nd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM																												
3rd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM																												

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

The following changes since spring 2021 are noteworthy for the four most frequently mentioned priorities of a European Green Deal:

- “Developing renewable energy” has gained ground in 17 Member States (compared with six in spring 2021), with the most significant increases being recorded in the Netherlands (51%, +10 percentage points) and Estonia (60%, +7). Support for this item is unchanged in three countries, namely Croatia (56%), Malta (54%) and Romania (35%). On the other hand, the proportion of respondents mentioning “developing renewable energy” has decreased in seven countries, most significantly in Ireland (55%, -12);
- “Fighting against plastic waste and leading on the issue of single use plastic” is more frequently mentioned in seven Member States (compared with eight in spring 2021), most notably in Slovenia (53%, +2) and Latvia (51%, +2). Support remains unchanged in Luxembourg (48%) and Cyprus (46%). On the other hand, the proportion of respondents mentioning this item has decreased in 18 countries, particularly in Slovakia (47%, -11), Ireland (45%, -11) and Spain (45%, -11).
- “Promoting the “Circular Economy” – a system preserving natural resources and limiting waste” has gained ground in 12 countries (unchanged since spring 2021), most particularly in the Netherlands (56%, +11). In 12 other Member States the proportion of respondents mentioning this objective of a European Green Deal has decreased, most strikingly in Belgium (34%, -16) and Ireland (29%, -12). Support remained unchanged in Romania (29%), Italy (39%) and France (35%).

- “Supporting EU farmers for them to receive fair remuneration to provide Europeans with affordable and safe food” has gained ground in 14 Member States (compared with nine in spring 2021), with particularly strong increases in Malta (38%, +7). However, the proportions of respondents mentioning this item have decreased in nine countries, most significantly in Ireland (29%, -19) and to a lesser extend in the Netherlands (46%, -5). Support remained unchanged in four countries: Greece (48%), France (50%), Poland (29%) and Portugal (39%).

Variations by more than 10 percentage points can be observed for other items:

- “Measures to make the EU climate-neutral by 2050 by reducing greenhouse gas emissions” has decreased by 10 percentage points in Belgium (26%), by 19 in Lithuania (20%), while it gained 12 percentage points in Italy (31%);
- “Moving towards a zero-pollution ambition” has increased by 12 percentage points in Portugal (33%) and 11 percentage points in Cyprus (26%);
- “Reducing energy consumption” has notably gained ground in Belgium (33%, +11), Ireland (36%, +13), Lithuania (39%, +13);
- Finally, “Moving towards a zero-pollution ambition” dropped by 11 points in Lithuania (8%);

QBS In your opinion, which of the following objectives should be given top priority in a European Green Deal, a set of measures to protect the environment and fight climate change? (MAX. 4 ANSWERS)

	EU27	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	IE	EL	ES	FR	HR	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	
Developing renewable energy	Winter 2021/2022	53	58	42	44	71	57	60	55	58	58	46	56	54	70	41	47	51	55	54	51	50	50	58	35	57	34	56	63
	Δ Spring 2021	▲2	▲4	▲4	▲2	▲5	▲3	▲7	▼12	▲3	▼5	▲2	=	▲6	▲4	▼1	▼4	▲2	▲4	=	▲10	▲4	▲2	▼10	=	▼1	▼2	▲1	▲5
Fighting against plastic waste and being a leader on the issue of single-use plastic	Winter 2021/2022	44	42	46	48	44	50	41	45	44	45	48	37	46	51	52	48	47	52	52	44	46	47	32	53	47	42	30	
	Δ Spring 2021	▼5	▲1	▼2	▼2	▼10	▼5	▼5	▼11	▼4	▼11	▼4	▼1	▼4	=	▲2	▲1	=	▼3	▼4	▼4	▼4	▼1	▼7	▲1	▲2	▼11	▲1	▼1
Promote the ‘Circular Economy’- a system preserving natural resources and limiting waste	Winter 2021/2022	39	34	31	52	40	47	60	29	39	28	35	39	39	40	33	35	38	41	32	56	49	28	45	29	46	38	56	46
	Δ Spring 2021	=	▼16	▼1	▲3	▼2	▼3	▲1	▼12	▲3	▲1	=	▲3	=	▼4	▼5	▼9	▲2	▲2	▼3	▲11	▼1	▲2	▲6	=	▲4	▼3	▼8	▲4
Supporting EU farmers for them to receive fair remuneration to provide Europeans with affordable and safe food	Winter 2021/2022	39	43	39	48	28	40	51	29	48	37	50	34	30	43	45	30	44	27	38	46	43	29	39	35	38	50	48	47
	Δ Spring 2021	▲1	▲1	▼1	▲3	▲4	▲3	▼1	▼19	=	▲4	=	▼2	▲2	▲4	▼1	▲3	▲2	▼4	▲7	▼5	▲1	=	=	▼2	▼1	▲5	▲2	▲5
Reducing energy consumption	Winter 2021/2022	34	33	27	35	28	34	19	36	35	32	32	46	35	26	39	28	34	35	27	34	34	23	28	29	31	15	27	
	Δ Spring 2021	▲3	▲11	▲3	▲5	▲6	▲4	▲2	▲13	▲1	▼2	▼1	=	▲5	=	▲6	▲13	▼3	▼4	▼2	▲5	▲4	▲5	▼8	=	▼1	▲5	▼2	▲4
Protecting biodiversity	Winter 2021/2022	31	39	33	29	39	26	38	33	43	29	44	31	23	29	32	36	43	26	29	36	32	19	31	23	24	29	45	48
	Δ Spring 2021	▼1	▲1	▼2	▲3	▼4	=	▼2	▼6	=	▼5	▼3	▼4	▲3	▼4	▼1	▲6	=	▲2	▲2	▲2	▲1	▼2	▼9	▼4	▼3	=	▼4	▼3
Measures to make the EU climate-neutral by 2050 by reducing greenhouse gas emissions	Winter 2021/2022	28	26	20	15	38	38	18	32	31	21	21	25	29	31	17	20	26	27	34	38	31	25	30	25	30	23	18	36
	Δ Spring 2021	▼2	▼10	▼2	▼8	▼1	=	▼4	▼3	▲4	=	▼4	▲3	▼2	▲12	▼5	▼19	▼3	▼3	▼6	▲1	▼5	▼4	▲8	=	▲3	=	▼1	▼6
Moving towards a zero-pollution ambition	Winter 2021/2022	27	23	26	13	25	17	28	28	33	35	26	29	38	23	25	15	23	32	46	27	21	29	33	25	23	28	15	24
	Δ Spring 2021	▼1	▼1	▼2	▼4	=	▼4	▼2	=	▼1	▲3	▼4	▼1	▼1	▼3	▼1	▼8	=	▲4	▼6	=	▲1	=	▲12	▼3	=	▲2	=	▲3
Introducing a tax on products imported from third countries that have lower climate policy standards than the EU	Winter 2021/2022	21	23	16	26	18	23	21	22	25	13	23	21	19	17	15	8	28	21	13	19	32	18	18	19	17	22	31	24
	Δ Spring 2021	=	▼7	▼5	▲4	▼4	▲4	▼3	=	▼2	=	▲1	▲6	▼2	▼2	▼2	▼11	▲8	▼3	▲2	▼3	▲4	▼1	▼4	▼7	▼2	▼6	▼2	
Other (SPONTANEOUS)	Winter 2021/2022	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Δ Spring 2021	=	=	=	=	=	=	=	=	=	=	=	=	=	▲1	=	=	=	=	=	=	=	=	=	=	=	=	=	
None (SPONTANEOUS)	Winter 2021/2022	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
	Δ Spring 2021	▲1	=	▲1	▲1	=	▲1	=	=	=	▲1	=	▲1	=	=	▼1	=	▲1	=	▲1	=	▲1	=	▲1	=	▲1	=	▲1	=
Don't know	Winter 2021/2022	1	0	5	0	1	1	0	1	0	4	1	0	2	2	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	2	3	0	1	2	0
	Δ Spring 2021	=	=	▲1	=	▼1	▲1	=	▲1	=	▲2	=	▼1	▲1	▲1	=	▲1	▼1	▼1	=	▼1	▲1	=	▼1	=	▲2	=		

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

**Socio-demographic data** reveal that the four most frequently mentioned priorities are quite evenly supported across all categories. However, students (60%) and those who consider themselves belonging to the upper class of society (64%) are more likely to mention "developing renewable energy", whereas promoting the 'Circular economy' enjoys support in particular among managers (48%) and those who see themselves as upper middle class (46%).

Fighting against plastic waste and being a leader on the issue of single-use of plastic is quoted more often by respondents considering themselves as working class of society (48%) and the retired (48%).

**QB5** In your opinion, which of the following objectives should be given top priority in a European Green Deal, a set of measures to protect the environment and fight climate change?  
(MAX. 4 ANSWERS) (% - EU)

	Priority Objectives (%)																																			
	Developing renewable energy			Fighting against plastic waste and being a leader on the issue of single-use of plastic			Promote the 'Circular Economy'- a system preserving natural resources and limiting waste			Supporting EU farmers for them to receive fair remuneration to provide Europeans with affordable and safe food			Reducing energy consumption			Protecting biodiversity			Measures to make the EU climate-neutral by 2050 by reducing greenhouse gas emissions			Moving towards a zero-pollution ambition			Introducing a tax on products imported from third countries that have lower climate policy standards than the EU			None (SPONTANEOUS)			Don't know			Other (SPONTANEOUS)		
EU27	53	44	39	39	34	31	28	27	21	1	1	0																								
<b>Gender</b>																																				
Man	54	42	39	37	34	30	29	27	23	1	1	0																								
Woman	51	47	38	40	33	31	27	27	19	1	2	0																								
<b>Age</b>																																				
15-24	57	45	36	34	34	35	31	33	17	0	1	0																								
25-39	55	42	41	37	33	33	29	28	21	1	0	0																								
40-54	53	42	42	38	34	32	29	27	22	1	1	0																								
55 +	50	47	37	42	34	27	26	25	20	1	3	0																								
<b>Education (End of)</b>																																				
15-	48	47	28	40	38	23	20	28	18	1	5	0																								
16-19	51	46	37	39	35	27	26	26	20	1	1	0																								
20+	55	43	45	40	30	36	32	27	24	0	0	0																								
Still studying	60	43	39	33	35	38	33	35	16	0	1	0																								
<b>Socio-professional category</b>																																				
Self-employed	55	42	42	36	35	31	29	29	23	1	1	0																								
Managers	58	42	48	38	32	35	35	26	26	0	0	0																								
Other white collars	54	42	44	39	33	33	31	29	21	0	0	0																								
Manual workers	50	45	36	39	33	28	26	25	20	1	1	0																								
House persons	48	43	28	36	38	30	20	28	15	1	5	0																								
Unemployed	51	46	35	40	32	33	23	26	21	2	2	0																								
Retired	50	48	36	42	34	26	25	25	20	1	3	0																								
Students	60	43	39	33	35	38	33	35	16	0	1	0																								
<b>Difficulties paying bills</b>																																				
Most of the time	47	43	37	43	28	30	21	25	18	1	3	0																								
From time to time	48	43	37	39	34	30	26	29	22	1	2	0																								
Almost never/ Never	55	45	39	39	34	31	30	27	20	0	1	0																								
<b>Consider belonging to</b>																																				
The working class	49	48	33	41	33	30	22	27	17	1	3	0																								
The lower middle class	52	44	39	42	32	28	26	26	20	1	1	0																								
The middle class	54	43	40	38	35	31	29	27	22	0	1	0																								
The upper middle class	56	42	46	35	33	34	37	28	23	0	0	0																								
The upper class	64	41	45	25	25	27	48	30	33	0	0	0																								

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

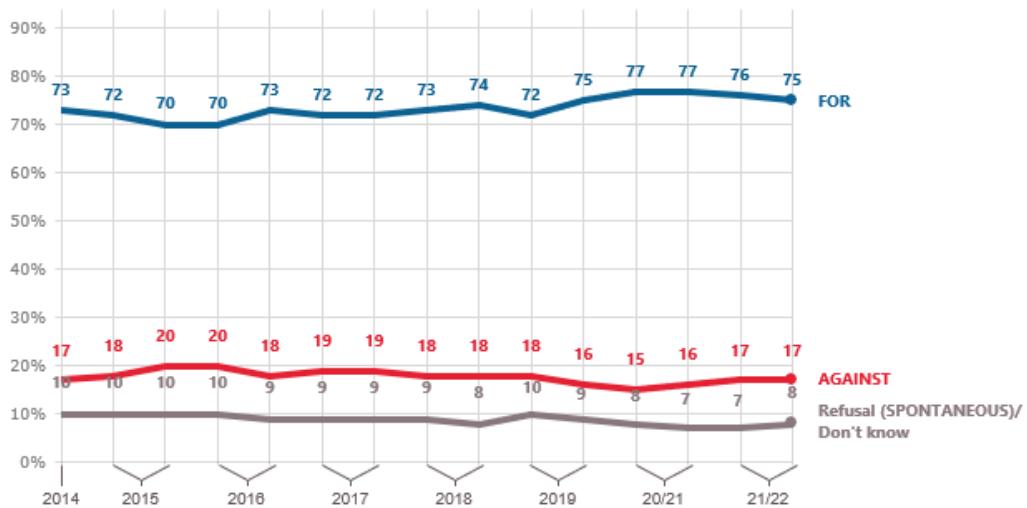
**Three-quarters of Europeans support a common energy policy among EU Member States**

**75% of Europeans are in favour of a common energy policy among EU Member States.** The proportion of respondents supporting this policy has decreased slightly since spring 2021 (-1 percentage point). On the other hand, 17% (unchanged) of respondents are against this policy and 8% (+1) answered "don't know" or did not provide an answer. Despite this slight decrease, support for a common energy policy among EU Member States remains higher than between autumn 2014, when this indicator was introduced, and spring 2019.

Support for a common energy policy among EU Member States is stronger in the **euro area** countries (78%, -1 compared with spring 2021) than in the **non-euro area** countries (67%, -1).

**QB6.5** What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.

**A common energy policy among EU Member States (% - EU)**

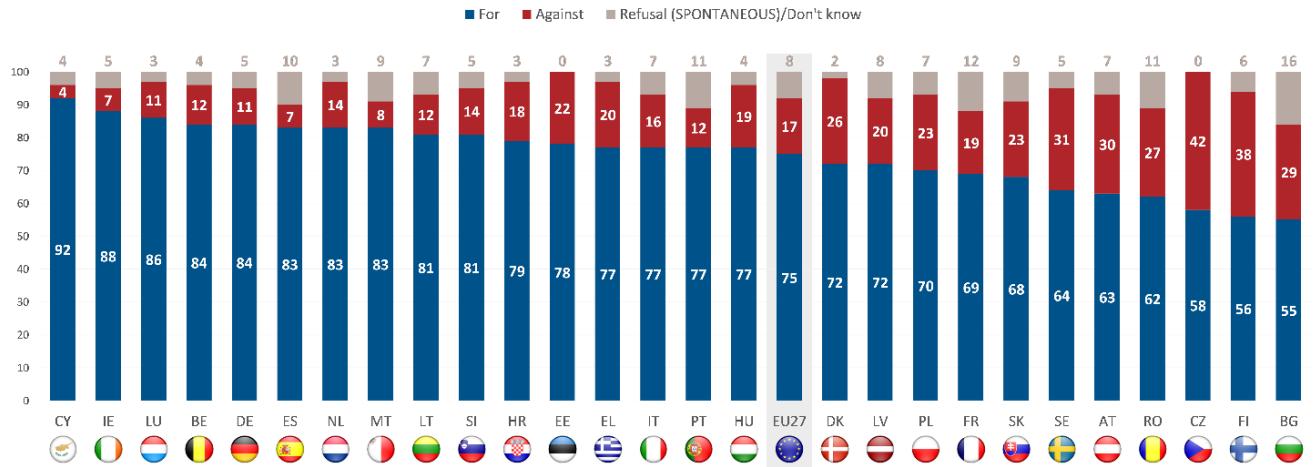


**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

At least half of respondents in all 27 Member States of the EU (unchanged since spring 2021) support a common energy policy among EU Member States. However, levels of support range from 92% in Cyprus and 88% in Ireland, where around nine in ten respondents are in favour of this policy, to 58% in Czechia, 56% in Finland and 55% in Bulgaria, where less than six in ten respondents support this policy.

In two Member States more than a third of respondents are against a common energy policy, namely Finland (38%), Czechia (42%).

QB6.5 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.  
 (% - A common energy policy among EU Member States)



Since spring 2021, support for a common energy policy among EU Member States has gained ground in nine Member States (unchanged since the previous survey), most markedly in Croatia (79%, +5) and Cyprus (92%, +5).

On the other hand, support has decreased in 14 countries, most strikingly in Finland (56%, -10) and Sweden (64%, -9), while support is unchanged in Germany (84%), Spain (83%), Luxembourg (86%) and Malta (83%).

QB6.5 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.  
 A common energy policy among EU Member States (%)

	EU27	HR	CY	IT	PT	NL	AT	PL	RO	IE	DE	ES	LU	MT	EL	EE	LV	SI	CZ	HU	DK	BE	LT	FR	BG	SK	SE	FI	
For	Winter 2021/2022	75	79	92	77	77	83	63	70	62	88	84	83	86	83	77	78	72	81	58	77	72	84	81	69	55	68	64	56
	Δ Spring 2021	▼1	▲5	▲5	▲4	▲4	▲3	▲3	▲2	▲2	▲1	=	=	=	=	▼1	▼2	▼2	▼2	▼3	▼3	▼4	▼5	▼5	▼6	▼8	▼8	▼9	▼10
Against	Winter 2021/2022	17	18	4	16	12	14	30	23	27	7	11	7	11	8	20	22	20	14	42	19	26	12	12	19	29	23	31	38
	Δ Spring 2021	=	▼2	▼3	▼5	▼6	▼4	▼2	▲1	▼1	▼5	=	▼1	▲1	▲3	▲2	▲2	▼1	▼1	▲8	▲3	▲6	▲1	▼2	▲6	▲8	▲6	▲5	▲4
Refusal (SPONTANEOUS)	Winter 2021/2022	2	1	2	2	1	1	2	2	4	0	1	2	1	1	2	0	1	1	0	2	0	2	1	1	2	2	1	0
	Δ Spring 2021	=	=	▼1	▼1	▲1	=	▼1	▼1	=	=	=	▲1	=	▲1	▲1	=	▲1	▲1	▼1	▼1	▲2	▲1	=	▼1	=	▲1	=	
Don't know	Winter 2021/2022	6	2	2	5	10	2	5	5	7	5	4	8	2	8	1	0	7	4	0	2	2	2	6	11	14	7	4	6
	Δ Spring 2021	▲1	▼3	▼1	▲2	▲1	▲1	=	▼2	▼1	▲4	=	=	▼1	▼4	▼2	=	▲2	▲2	▼4	▼1	▼1	▲2	▲6	=	▲1	▲2	▲3	▲6

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

The socio-demographic data reveal that more than half of respondents in all categories support a common energy policy among EU Member States. However, support is particularly high among people who continued their studies up to the age of 20 or beyond (79%), students (82%), managers (82%), respondents who never or almost never have difficulties paying their bills (80%) and those who see themselves as belonging to the upper middle class (83%). Support is particularly high amongst respondents who hold a positive image of the EU (87%).

In contrast, it is lower among Europeans who left school at the age of 15 or earlier (71%), people who have difficulties paying their bills most of the time (64%), house persons (68%), and those who see themselves as belonging to the working class of society (68%). Support is lowest amongst respondents for whom the EU evokes negative representations (52%).

**QB6.5** What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.

**A common energy policy among EU Member States**

(% - EU)

	For	Against	Refusal (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU27	75	17	2	6
<b>Gender</b>				
Man	76	19	1	4
Woman	75	16	2	7
<b>Age</b>				
15-24	79	14	2	5
25-39	77	18	1	4
40-54	75	20	1	4
55 +	74	17	2	7
<b>Education (End of)</b>				
15-	71	16	2	11
16-19	74	19	1	6
20+	79	17	1	3
Still studying	82	13	1	4
<b>Socio-professional category</b>				
Self-employed	78	19	1	2
Managers	82	14	1	3
Other white collars	80	16	1	3
Manual workers	71	22	2	5
House persons	68	18	1	13
Unemployed	66	24	1	9
Retired	75	16	2	7
Students	82	13	1	4
<b>Difficulties paying bills</b>				
Most of the time	64	26	2	8
From time to time	68	24	2	6
Almost never/ Never	80	14	1	5
<b>Consider belonging to</b>				
The working class	68	20	2	10
The lower middle class	74	19	2	5
The middle class	78	17	1	4
The upper middle class	83	14	1	2
The upper class	77	17	2	4
<b>Image of the EU</b>				
Total 'Positive'	87	9	1	3
Neutral	73	17	2	8
Total 'Negative'	52	40	2	6

## VI. A DIGITAL SINGLE MARKET WITHIN THE EU



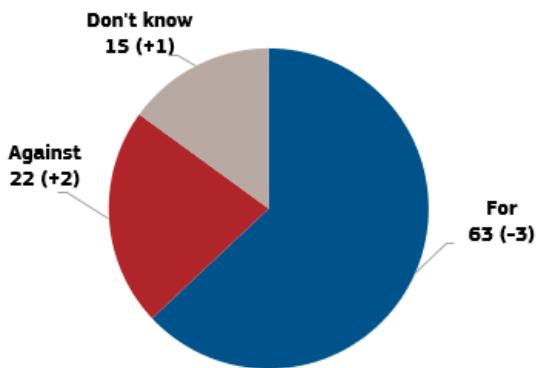
**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

**Over six in ten Europeans are in favour of a digital single market within the EU**

63% (-3 percentage points since spring 2021) of Europeans are in favour of "a digital single market within the European Union"<sup>30</sup>, while more one fifth (22%, +2) of respondents oppose a digital single market within the EU and the don't know/refusal rate has increased by one percentage point to 15% (+1).

Despite a decrease of three percentage points since spring 2021, support for a digital single market within the EU remains at its third highest level since this indicator was first introduced in autumn 2015. In this EB96 survey from winter 2021-2022, the approval rate is 10 percentage points higher than it was in autumn 2015 (53%), when this question was introduced. Nevertheless, it is noteworthy that after an increase of two percentage points, opposition to the idea of a digital single market within the EU reaches its highest level since spring 2016.

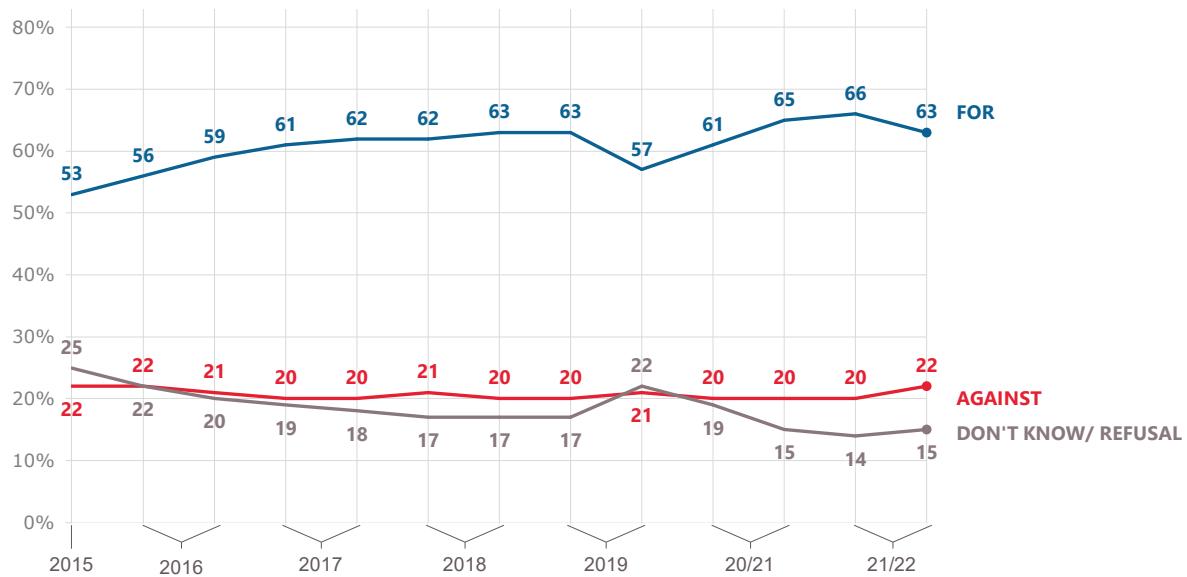
**QB3.2 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.**  
**A digital single market within the EU (%) - EU)**



(Winter 2021/2022 - Spring 2021)

**QB3.2** What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.

**A digital single market within the EU (%) - EU)**



<sup>30</sup> QB3.2 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell me for each statement, whether you are for it or against it. A digital single market within the EU

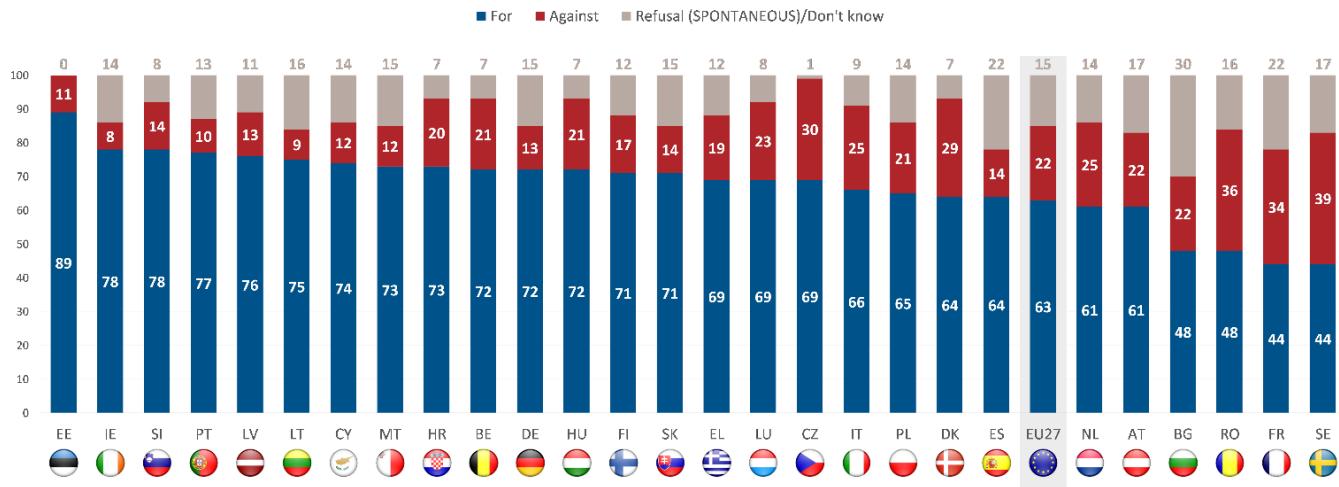
**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

A majority of respondents in all 27 Member States (unchanged since spring 2021) are in favour of a digital single market within the EU. Levels of support vary widely, from 89% in Estonia, where support is highest, to 44% in France and Sweden and 48% in Bulgaria and Romania, where less than half of respondents support this idea.

On the other hand, opposition to a digital single market within the EU is strongest in Sweden (39%), Romania (36%) and France (34%), where over one third of respondents are opposed to a digital single market within the EU.

The “Don't know/Refusal” slightly increases in Bulgaria (30%, +2) and outnumbers the proportion of respondents opposing this policy (22%).

**QB3.2 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.**  
 (% - A digital single market within the EU)



**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

**Since spring 2021,** the proportion of Europeans supporting the idea of a digital single market within the EU has increased in seven Member States (compared with 14 in the previous survey), most significantly in Cyprus (74%, +10), Czechia (69%, +6) and Portugal (77%, +6). Support has remained unchanged in four Member States, namely in Denmark (64%), Greece (69%), Malta (73%) and Austria (61%).

On the other hand, support has decreased in 16 Member States, most notably in Sweden (44%, -15, vs 39%, -1, "against" and 16%, +15, "don't know"), Finland (71%, -14) and the Netherlands (61%, -13).

Q3.2 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.  
A digital single market within the EU (%)

		EU27		EURO AREA		NON-EURO AREA		CY	CZ	PT	HR	IT	LU	PL	DK	EL	Greece	MT	AT	DE	EE	LV	HU	RO	BG	SK	IE	ES	SI	FR	BE	LT	NL	FI	SE
For	Winter 2021/2022	63	64	60	74	69	77	73	66	69	65	64	69	73	61	72	89	76	72	48	48	71	78	64	78	44	72	75	61	71	44				
	Δ Spring 2021	▼3	▼3	▼1	▲10	▲6	▲6	▲5	▲4	▲3	▲3	=	=	=	=	▼1	▼1	▼3	▼3	▼3	▼4	▼5	▼6	▼6	▼6	▼9	▼10	▼10	▼13	▼14	▼15				
Against	Winter 2021/2022	22	20	27	12	30	10	20	25	23	21	29	19	12	22	13	11	13	21	36	22	14	8	14	14	34	21	9	25	17	39				
	Δ Spring 2021	▲2	▲1	▲1	▼4	▲1	▲1	▼5	▼3	▼2	▼3	▲5	▲2	▲6	▼3	▲1	▲1	▼1	▲3	▲4	▲2	▲3	▼8	▲2	▲2	▲8	▲4	▼6	▲5	▲3	▼1				
Refusal (SPONTANEOUS)	Winter 2021/2022	2	2	3	3	0	1	2	1	1	4	1	4	1	5	3	0	0	2	6	4	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	0	1					
	Δ Spring 2021	=	=	=	▼2	▼2	▲1	▲1	▼1	▼2	▲1	▼1	▲1	=	▲2	=	=	=	=	=	▲1	▲3	▲2	▲1	=	▲2	▲2	▲1	=	▲1					
Don't know	Winter 2021/2022	13	14	10	11	1	12	5	8	7	10	6	8	14	12	12	0	11	5	10	26	12	11	19	6	20	5	14	12	12	16				
	Δ Spring 2021	▲1	▲2	=	▼4	▼5	▼8	▼1	=	▲1	▼1	▼4	▼3	▼6	▲1	=	=	▲4	=	▼1	▲2	▲1	▲11	▲2	▲3	▲1	▲4	▲14	▲7	▲11	▲15				

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

The socio-demographic data show that a majority of respondents in almost all categories are in favour of a digital single market within the EU. However, the level of support is at least 70% among those who have a positive image of the EU (76%), students (73%), managers (72%) and other white collars (71%), as well as respondents who see themselves as upper middle class (70%) or upper class (78%).

On the contrary, support is lowest among those who have a negative image of the EU (39% "for" vs 46% "against") where only a minority supports this idea.

**QB3.2** What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.

**A digital single market within the EU**

(% - EU)

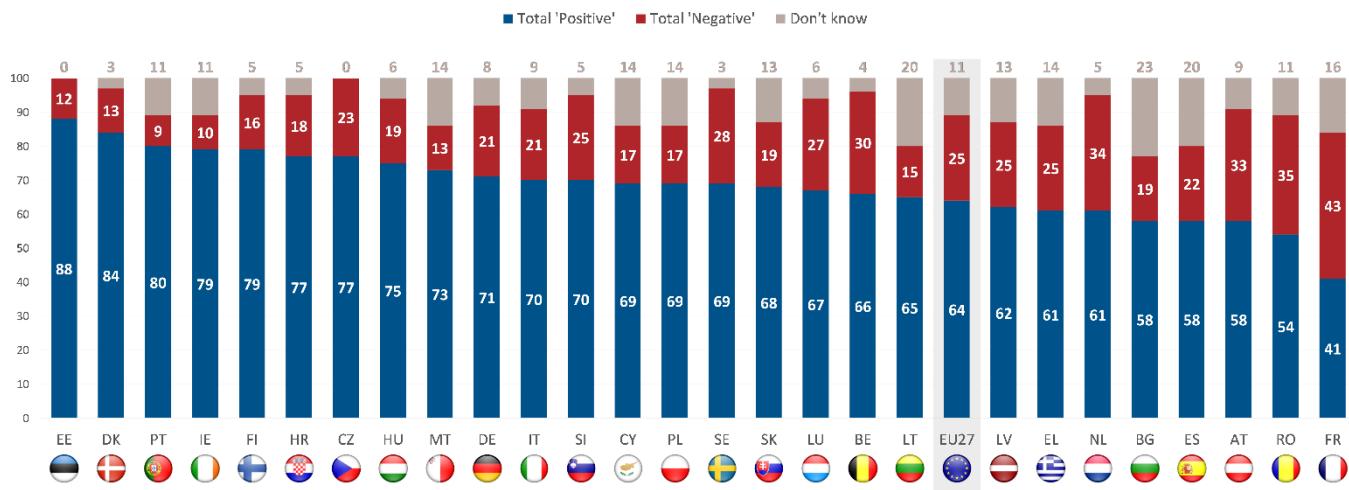
	For	Against	Refusal (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU27	63	22	2	13
<b>Gender</b>				
Man	66	22	2	10
Woman	60	22	3	15
<b>Age</b>				
15-24	68	20	2	10
25-39	68	21	2	9
40-54	64	23	3	10
55 +	58	22	3	17
<b>Education (End of)</b>				
15-	53	20	3	24
16-19	62	24	3	11
20+	67	21	2	10
Still studying	73	15	2	10
<b>Socio-professional category</b>				
Self-employed	68	22	3	7
Managers	72	16	2	10
Other white collars	71	20	2	7
Manual workers	59	28	3	10
House persons	50	28	3	19
Unemployed	55	29	2	14
Retired	57	21	3	19
Students	73	15	2	10
<b>Difficulties paying bills</b>				
Most of the time	48	31	4	17
From time to time	58	28	3	11
Almost never/ Never	66	19	2	13
<b>Consider belonging to</b>				
The working class	53	25	3	19
The lower middle class	62	23	2	13
The middle class	67	21	2	10
The upper middle class	70	18	2	10
The upper class	78	15	0	7
<b>Image of the EU</b>				
Total 'Positive'	76	12	2	10
Neutral	59	23	3	15
Total 'Negative'	39	46	3	12

**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

More than half of respondents in 26 Member States of the EU view the digital transformation of the economy and society in a positive light (compared with 27 in the previous survey), but with differing levels of intensity: ranging from 88% in Estonia and 84% in Denmark, to 54% in Romania. After a sharp decrease of 11 percentage points, France is actually the only country where negative opinions are in the majority: 41% "positive", vs 43% "negative".

Since spring 2021 positive views have gained ground in six Member States, most notably in Czechia (77%, +13) and Cyprus (69%, +11), where gains exceed ten percentage points. Positive views remain unchanged in Croatia (77%) and Luxembourg (67%). In contrast, they have lost ground in 19 countries, with losses of at least ten percentage points in Sweden (69%, -10), the Netherlands (61%, -10), France (41%, -11) and particularly in Lithuania (65%, -16).

**QB2.4 Could you please tell for each of the following, whether the term brings to mind something very positive, fairly positive, fairly negative or very negative?**  
 (% - The digital transformation of the economy and society)



**Standard Eurobarometer 96**  
**Europeans' opinions about the European Union's priorities**  
**Winter 2021-2022**

The socio-demographic data show that more than half of respondents in almost all categories view the digital transformation of the economy and society positively, except in the case of those for whom the EU conjures up a negative image (39% answering positively vs 51% answering negatively), those who left

full-time education at the age of 15 or earlier (47% vs 26% and 27%) and those who have difficulties most of the time in paying their bills (48% vs 35% and 17%).

**QB2.4** Could you please tell for each of the following, whether the term brings to mind something very positive, fairly positive, fairly negative or very negative?

**The digital transformation of the economy and society (% - EU)**

	Total 'Positive'	Total 'Negative'	Don't know
EU27	64	25	11
<b>Gender</b>			
Man	68	24	8
Woman	61	25	14
<b>Age</b>			
15-24	75	19	6
25-39	71	23	6
40-54	67	26	7
55 +	55	27	18
<b>Education (End of)</b>			
15-	47	26	27
16-19	61	28	11
20+	71	24	5
Still studying	79	14	7
<b>Socio-professional category</b>			
Self-employed	70	24	6
Managers	78	18	4
Other white collars	73	23	4
Manual workers	61	30	9
House persons	51	29	20
Unemployed	52	36	12
Retired	53	27	20
Students	79	14	7
<b>Difficulties paying bills</b>			
Most of the time	48	35	17
From time to time	59	30	11
Almost never/ Never	68	22	10
<b>Consider belonging to</b>			
The working class	50	29	21
The lower middle class	61	28	11
The middle class	69	23	8
The upper middle class	77	20	3
The upper class	76	18	6
<b>Image of the EU</b>			
Total 'Positive'	78	14	8
Neutral	59	26	15
Total 'Negative'	39	51	10

