



Standard Eurobarometer 86

Autumn 2016

Report

Public opinion in the European Union

Fieldwork
November 2016

Survey requested and co-ordinated by the European Commission,
Directorate-General for Communication

This document does not represent the point of view of the European Commission.
The interpretations and opinions contained in it are solely those of the authors.

Standard Eurobarometer 86 – Wave EB86.2 – TNS opinion & social

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(DG COMM "Strategic communication" Unit)

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INTRODUCTION

The Standard Eurobarometer 86 survey was carried out between 3 and 16 November 2016¹ in 34 countries or territories: the 28 Member States of the European Union, the five candidate countries (the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Montenegro, Serbia and Albania), and the Turkish Cypriot Community in the part of the country not controlled by the government of the Republic of Cyprus.

The Standard Eurobarometer survey of autumn 2016 was conducted shortly after the European Commission published its autumn 2016 economic forecasts². In 2016, GDP growth was expected to reach 1.8% in the EU and 1.7% in the euro area, slightly lower than the 2015 figures. In comparison, the GDP growth forecasts were 1.6% in the United States, 0.7% in Japan, 6.6% in China and 3% worldwide.

At the same time, the overall employment situation is continuing to improve. The unemployment rate is still falling in the EU, from 9.1% in October 2015 to 8.3% in October 2016, representing a 0.8-percentage point decline. In the euro area, it has fallen below 10% for the first time since April 2011 (9.8% compared with 10.6% in October 2015, again a fall of -0.8)³.

Since the Standard Eurobarometer survey of spring 2016, the UK referendum on whether or not to stay in the European Union has been held, last 23 June, and UK citizens voted to leave. This Standard Eurobarometer survey of autumn 2016 is the first post-referendum survey. On 14 July, the city of Nice in France was struck by a terrorist attack, leaving 86 dead and 434 injured. Also in France, two other terrorist attacks were carried out, one in Magnanville on 13 June, and one in Saint-Étienne-du-Rouvray on 26 July. There were also two attacks in Germany, in Wurtzbourg and in Ansbach, Bavaria, on 18 and 24 July respectively.

Parliamentary elections were held in Spain, Croatia and Lithuania and presidential elections were held in Estonia and Bulgaria (just after the start of the fieldwork, on 6 November). The fieldwork coincided with campaigning for the constitutional referendum in Italy and for the second round of the Presidential election in Austria, both of which were held on 4 December.

Outside the EU, the 58th US Presidential election held on 8 November resulted in a victory for the Republican candidate, Donald Trump.

The full report of the Standard Eurobarometer 86 survey consists of several volumes. This volume presents the state of public opinion in the European Union (EU). Three further volumes present the opinions of Europeans on other themes: the EU's priorities; European citizenship; media use in the EU.

¹ Please consult the technical specifications for the exact interview dates in each country.

² http://ec.europa.eu/economy_finance/publications/eeip/pdf/ip038_en.pdf

³ <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/2995521/7752348/3-01122016-AP-EN.pdf/5f785386-b824-4b65-a09d-99d8bed9958a>

The methodology used is that of the Standard Eurobarometer surveys of the Directorate-General for Communication (“Strategic communication” Unit)⁴. The same methodology has been applied in all the countries and territories covered by the survey. A technical note describing how the institutes within the TNS opinion & social network conduct the interviews is included in the report’s annexes. This note also indicates the confidence intervals⁵, which enable us to assess the accuracy of a survey’s results, according to the size of the sample polled in relation to the total size of the population studied.

Note: In this report, the countries are designated by their official abbreviation. The abbreviations used in this report are as follows:

Belgium	BE	Lithuania	LT
Bulgaria	BG	Luxembourg	LU
Czech Republic	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	United Kingdom	UK
Turkish Cypriot Community			CY (tcc)
Albania	AL	Turkey	TR
Montenegro	ME	Serbia	RS
Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia			MK**
European Union – weighted average for the 28 Member States			EU28
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, UK			Non-euro area

* Cyprus as a whole is one of the 28 European Union Member States. However, the “acquis communautaire” has been suspended in the part of the country 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 EU28 average. The interviews carried out in the part of the country not controlled by the government of the Republic of Cyprus are included in the “CY (tcc)” category [tcc: Turkish Cypriot Community]

** Provisional abbreviation that in no way prejudices the definitive name of this country, which will be agreed once the current negotiations at the United Nations have been concluded

We wish to thank all the people interviewed

throughout Europe who took the time to participate in this survey.

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

⁴ <http://ec.europa.eu/commfrontoffice/publicopinion/>

⁵ 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 respondents were able to choose several answers to the same question.

I. LIFE IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

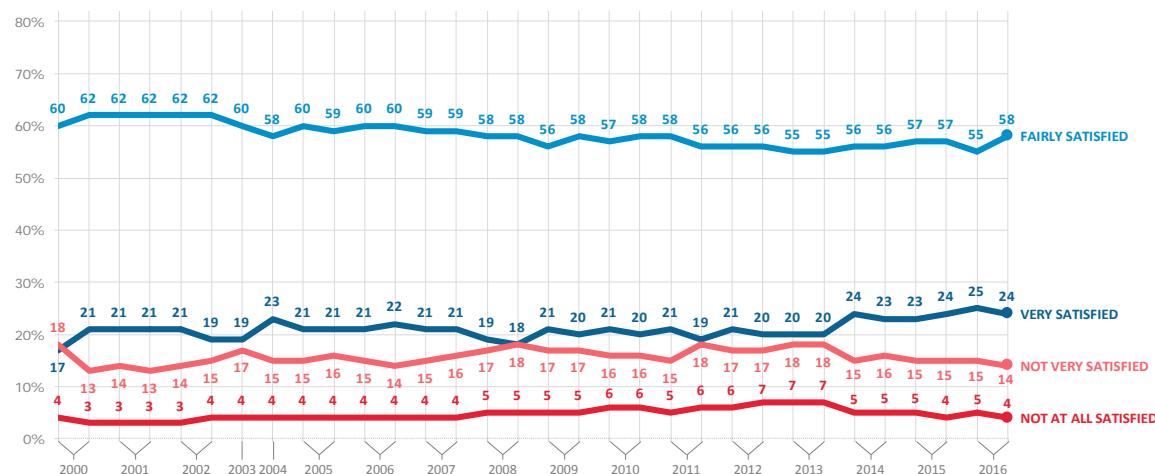
1 The personal situation of Europeans

More than eight in ten Europeans are satisfied with the life they lead

The vast majority of Europeans are satisfied with the life they lead⁶, and this satisfaction has increased since the Standard Eurobarometer survey of spring 2016 (EB85): 82% are satisfied, an increase of two percentage points, while 18% are dissatisfied (-2). Just under a quarter of Europeans are “very satisfied” (24%, -1).

This indicator has been relatively stable over time. Satisfaction has ranged between a low of 75% (in autumn 2011 (EB76), spring 2013 (EB79) and autumn 2013 (EB80)) and a high of 83% (between autumn 2000 and spring 2002 (EB54, EB55, EB56 and EB57)).

D70 On the whole, are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied or not at all satisfied with the life you lead? (% - EU)



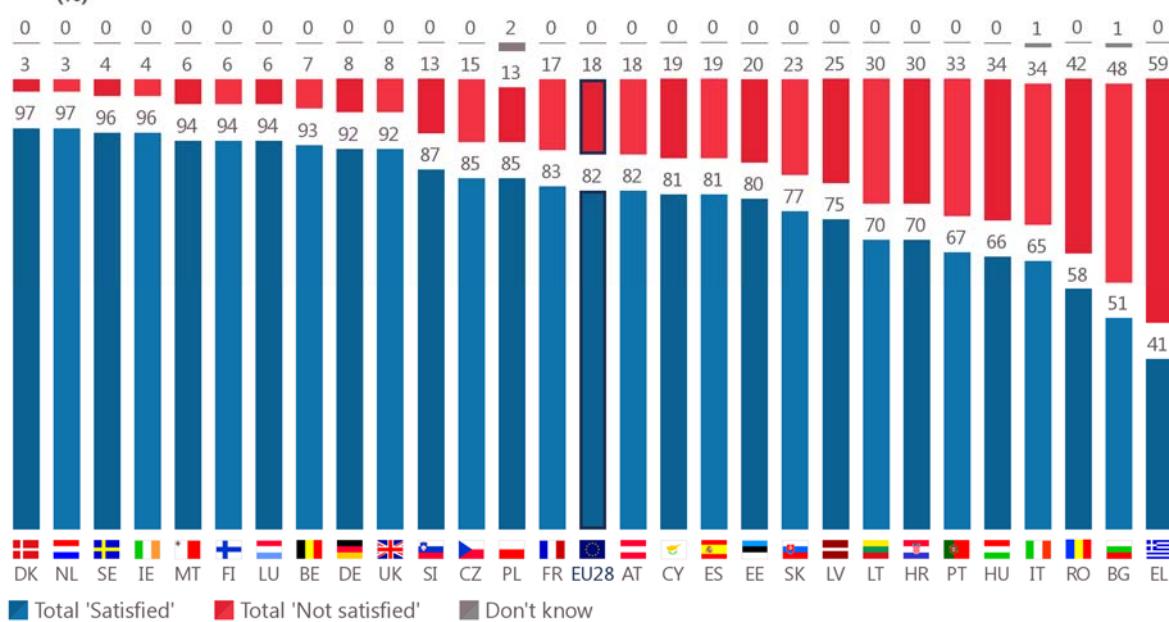
Personal satisfaction has increased by two percentage points since the Standard Eurobarometer survey of spring 2016 (EB85) in the **euro area** countries (81%), thereby reducing the slight gap with the **non-euro area** countries (82%, unchanged).

⁶ D70. On the whole, are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied or not at all satisfied with the life you lead?

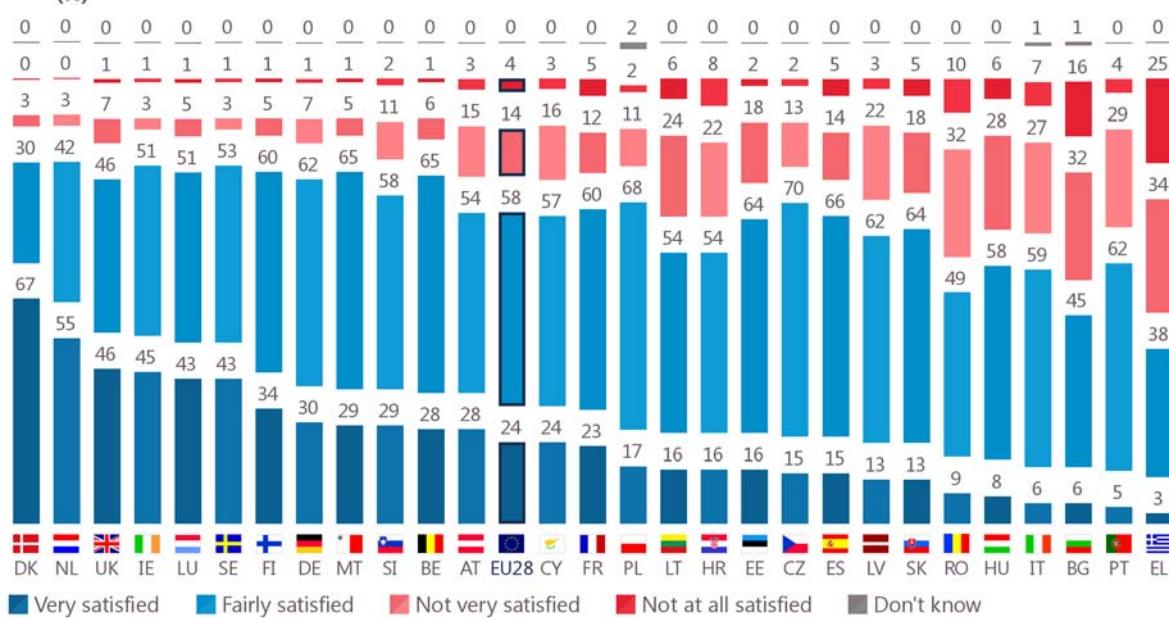
A majority of respondents are satisfied in 27 Member States (compared with 26 in spring 2016), with scores of more than 90% in ten of them: Denmark (97%), the Netherlands (97%), Ireland (96%), Sweden (96%), Luxembourg (94%), Malta (94%), Finland (94%), Belgium (93%), Germany (92%) and the United Kingdom (92%).

Greece remains the only Member State in which a majority of respondents are dissatisfied, but positive opinions have gained ground considerably since spring 2016 (41% satisfied, +7 percentage points, compared with 59% dissatisfied, -7). More than four in ten respondents are also dissatisfied in Romania (42%) and Bulgaria (48%).

D70 On the whole, are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied or not at all satisfied with the life you lead? (%)



D70 On the whole, are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied or not at all satisfied with the life you lead? (%)

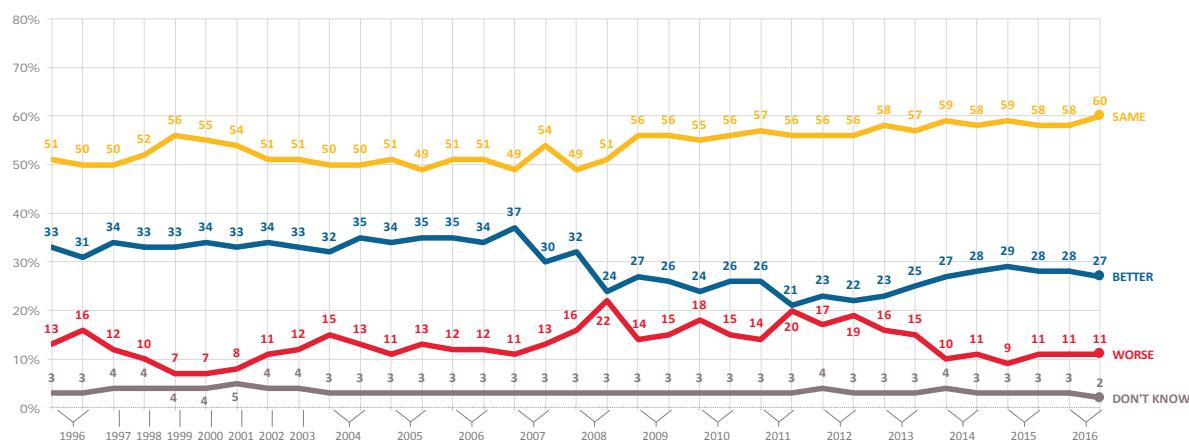


Details of answers

Looking ahead over the next twelve months⁷, six out of ten Europeans expect their life in general to stay “the same”, an increase of two percentage points since the Standard Eurobarometer survey of spring 2016 (EB85). This is the highest score recorded for this indicator since it was first measured in spring 1996 (EB45). Since then it has varied between 49% and 59%.

The proportion of Europeans who expect that the next twelve months will be “better” has decreased by one percentage point (27%). An unchanged 11% expect life in general to be “worse”.

QA2a.1 What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...? Your life in general (% - EU)

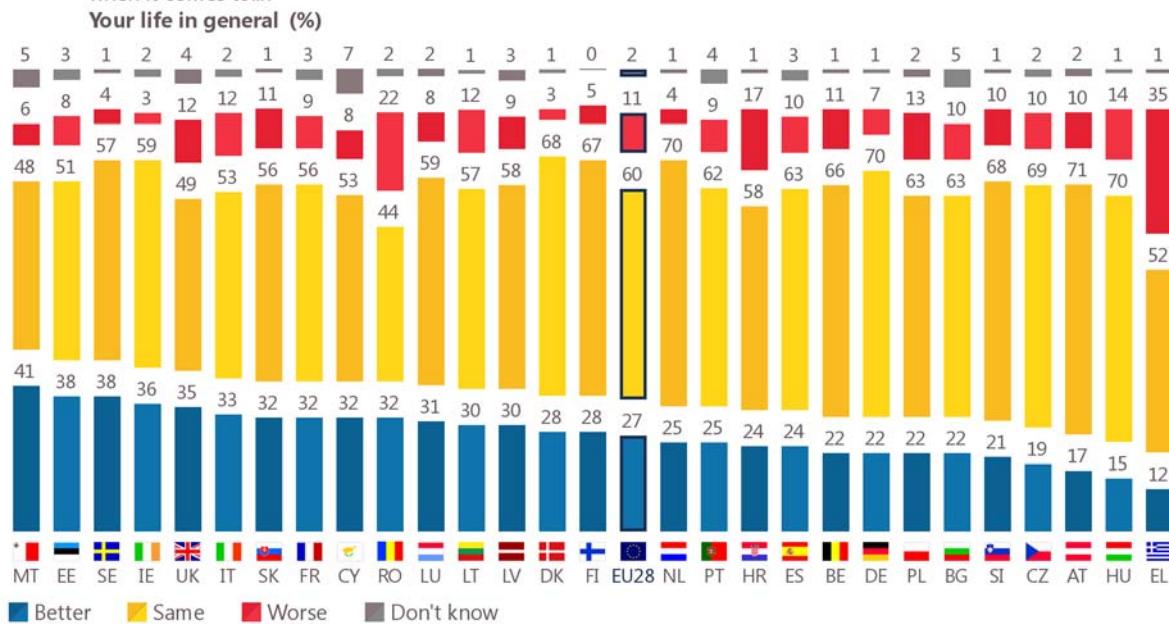


⁷ QA2a.1 What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...? Your life in general.

As in spring 2016, more respondents are optimistic than pessimistic in 27 Member States. Optimism is particularly strong in Malta (41% of respondents think that life in general will be "better" over the next twelve months), Estonia (38%) and Sweden (38%).

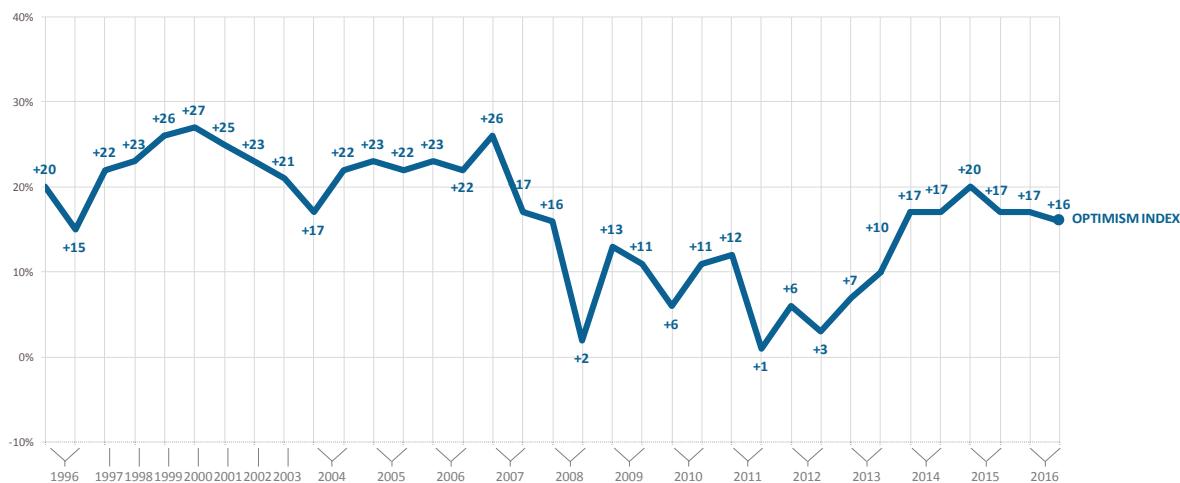
Pessimism outweighs optimism in Greece, but has decreased significantly since the Standard Eurobarometer survey of spring 2016 (EB85): 35% think that the next twelve months will be "worse" (-8 percentage points), while 12% think that they will be "better" (unchanged). There has been a sharp increase in the majority opinion that the next twelve months will stay "the same" (52%, +8).

QA2a.1 What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...?



The optimism index⁸ has fallen by one index point since the Standard Eurobarometer survey of spring 2016 (EB85) and stands at +16. It has improved in 13 Member States, in particular in Greece (+8 index points to -23). It has deteriorated in 12 Member States, most notably in Latvia (-8 index points to +21). The optimism index for life in general is stable in three Member States: Lithuania (+23), Spain (+14) and Hungary (+1).

QA2a.1 What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...?
Your life in general (EU - OPTIMISM INDEX (BETTER - WORSE))



⁸ Difference between positive ("better") and negative ("worse") answers.

QA2a.1 What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...?

Your life in general (INDEX)

		Better - Worse Sp.2016	Better - Worse Aut.2016		Aut.2016 - Sp.2016
EU28		+17	+16	▼	1
EL		-31	-23	▲	8
BG		+5	+12	▲	7
PT		+10	+16	▲	6
MT		+30	+35	▲	5
DE		+10	+15	▲	5
PL		+4	+9	▲	5
HR		+2	+7	▲	5
IT		+18	+21	▲	3
SK		+18	+21	▲	3
SI		+8	+11	▲	3
CY		+22	+24	▲	2
EE		+29	+30	▲	1
LT		+17	+18	▲	1
LU		+23	+23	=	
ES		+14	+14	=	
HU		+1	+1	=	
FI		+26	+23	▼	3
NL		+24	+21	▼	3
BE		+14	+11	▼	3
AT		+10	+7	▼	3
SE		+38	+34	▼	4
DK		+29	+25	▼	4
RO		+14	+10	▼	4
IE		+38	+33	▼	5
UK		+28	+23	▼	5
FR		+29	+23	▼	6
CZ		+15	+9	▼	6
LV		+29	+21	▼	8

The following tables show the results by socio-demographic criteria in the European Union as a whole (EU28 average), in the six largest EU countries and in the countries benefiting or having benefited from European Union support to deal with the financial and economic crisis.

D70 On the whole, are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied or not at all satisfied with the life you lead?
(% - TOTAL 'SATISFIED')

	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
TOTAL	82	92	81	83	65	85	92	41	67	96	81
Gender											
Male	82	91	79	85	67	83	92	44	68	95	82
Female	81	92	82	82	64	87	93	39	65	96	80
Age											
15-24	89	92	87	97	73	92	96	75	88	98	94
25-39	85	91	84	91	70	91	93	49	80	96	82
40-54	81	90	79	78	66	84	91	44	64	93	81
55 +	77	93	78	78	61	78	91	26	53	96	73
Education (End of)											
15-	69	85	75	70	56	68	89	24	51	93	74
16-19	80	91	81	79	67	83	92	40	73	95	75
20+	89	97	89	90	74	90	94	48	85	97	92
Still studying	91	93	91	96	85	92	96	85	86	98	95
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	83	95	77	91	75	84	94	48	75	97	81
Managers	94	98	94	96	91	93	97	50	86	98	100
Other white collars	85	96	92	83	69	93	93	48	83	96	91
Manual workers	83	90	93	84	65	88	92	45	70	97	82
House persons	76	96	78	84	56	93	93	37	28	97	71
Unemployed	60	58	57	78	39	56	77	25	47	78	68
Retired	77	94	77	76	60	77	91	25	50	97	70
Students	91	93	91	96	85	92	96	85	86	98	95

D70 On the whole, are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied or not at all satisfied with the life you lead?
(% - TOTAL 'NOT SATISFIED')

	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
TOTAL	18	8	19	17	34	13	8	59	33	4	19
Gender											
Male	18	9	20	15	32	14	8	56	32	5	18
Female	19	8	18	18	36	11	7	61	35	4	20
Age											
15-24	10	7	13	3	25	6	4	25	12	2	6
25-39	15	9	16	9	30	8	7	51	20	4	18
40-54	19	10	21	22	34	13	9	56	36	7	19
55 +	22	7	21	21	38	19	9	74	47	4	27
Education (End of)											
15-	31	15	24	29	44	30	11	76	49	7	26
16-19	20	9	19	21	33	15	8	60	27	5	25
20+	11	3	11	10	26	7	6	52	15	3	8
Still studying	8	6	9	4	13	6	4	15	14	2	5
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	17	5	23	9	25	13	6	52	25	3	19
Managers	6	2	6	4	9	5	3	50	14	2	0
Other white collars	15	4	8	17	31	6	7	52	17	4	9
Manual workers	17	10	7	16	35	10	8	55	30	3	18
House persons	24	4	22	16	44	7	7	63	72	3	29
Unemployed	39	42	43	21	61	39	23	75	53	22	32
Retired	22	6	22	23	39	20	9	75	50	3	30
Students	8	6	9	4	13	6	4	15	14	2	5

2 The main concerns of Europeans

a. The concerns of Europeans

Rising prices remain the main personal issue for Europeans

Europeans say that **rising prices, inflation and the cost of living** (28%) are the most important problems now facing them personally⁹. This issue has gained two percentage points since the Standard Eurobarometer survey of spring 2016 (EB85), after declining significantly in recent surveys (falling by 19 percentage points between spring 2012 and spring 2016).

Health and social security is now seen as the second biggest personal concern of Europeans (16%), one percentage point up since spring 2016. **Pensions** are ranked in third place (15%, -1 percentage point). Concerns about these issues have not varied significantly since spring 2012 (EB77).

The next most important personal issue for Europeans is the **financial situation of their household** (14%, -1 percentage point). Its score seems to have stabilised after peaking at 19% in autumn 2014 (EB82).

Unemployment is ranked in fifth place among the main issues facing Europeans personally (12%). The proportion of respondents mentioning this issue has decreased by two percentage points since spring 2016, and has fallen almost continuously since spring 2013 (-10 points over the period), the exception being a one-point increase between autumn 2013 and spring 2014.

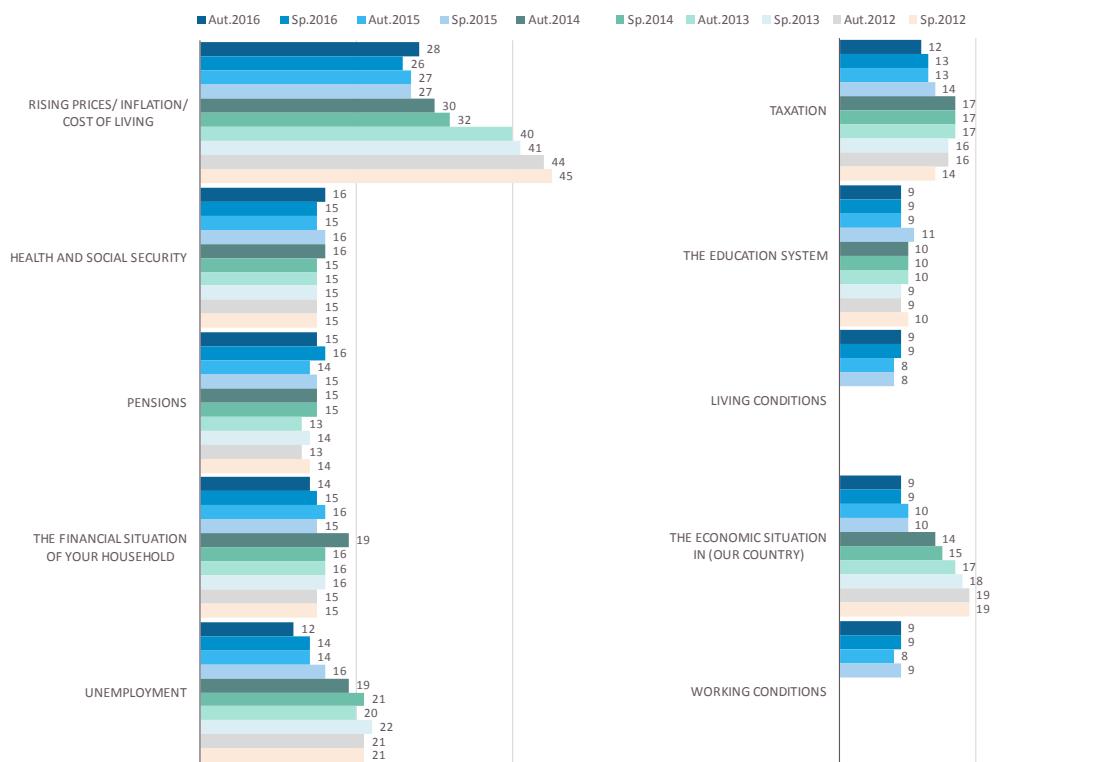
This item is ranked equally with **taxation** (12%, a fall of one percentage point since spring 2016).

Next, with fewer than 10% of mentions, and with equal scores, come **the education system** (9%, unchanged), **living conditions** (9%, =), **the national economic situation** (9%, =) and **working conditions** (9%, =). Europeans' concern about the economic situation in their country decreased sharply between autumn 2012 and spring 2015 (-9 percentage points), but has stabilised since then.

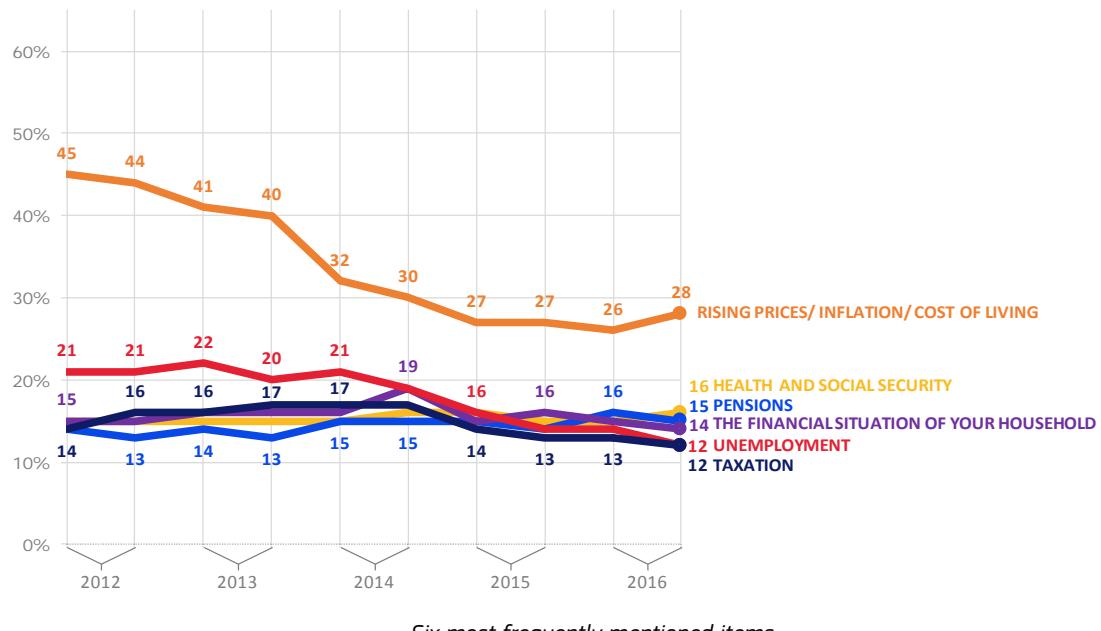
To a much lesser extent, Europeans also mention **the environment, climate and energy issues** (7%, +1 percentage point), **immigration** (6%, -2), **crime** (6%, unchanged), **housing** (6%, +1) and **terrorism** (5%, =). It will be remembered the issue of immigration gained ground almost continuously between autumn 2012 and autumn 2015 (+7 percentage points to 9%). Since then it has fallen back by three percentage points.

⁹ QA4a. And personally, what are the two most important issues you are facing at the moment?

QA4a And personally, what are the two most important issues you are facing at the moment?
(% - EU)

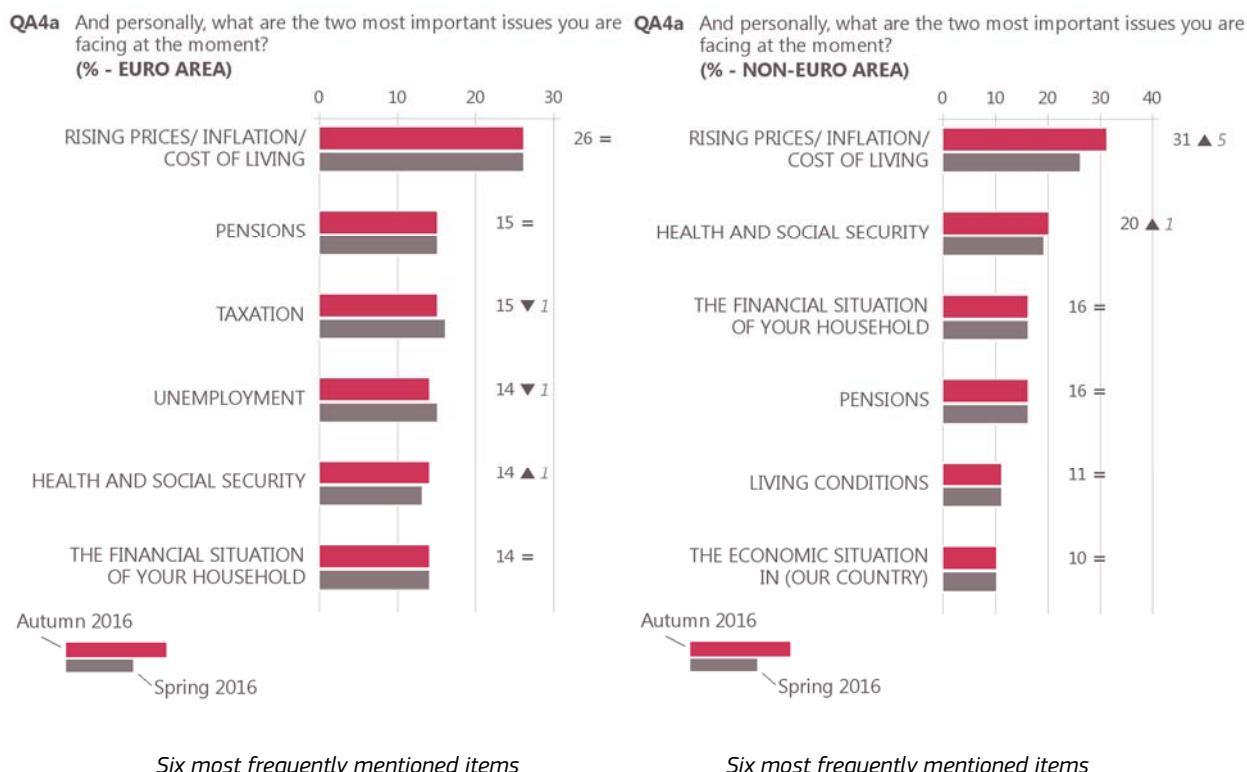


QA4a And personally, what are the two most important issues you are facing at the moment?
(% - EU)



The order in which Europeans rank their personal concerns varies slightly between the **euro area** countries and the **non-euro** area countries:

- **Rising prices, inflation and the cost of living** is the leading issue in both groups of countries, but with a higher score in the non-euro area, where it has also gained considerable ground (31%, +5 percentage points, and 26%, unchanged in the euro area countries);
- **Pensions** are seen as the second most important issue in the euro area countries (15%, unchanged), equally with **taxation** (15%, -1 percentage point). Pensions are also frequently mentioned in the non-euro area countries (16%, =), where they are behind **health and social security** (20%, +1 percentage point) and equal with the **household financial situation** (16%, =).



Rising prices, inflation and the cost of living tops the list of personal concerns in 17 Member States (compared with 16 in spring 2016), with the highest scores recorded in Lithuania (63%) and Portugal (45%).

This issue has gained ground in the United Kingdom (36%, +9 percentage points), Ireland (37%, +7), Latvia (35%, +7) and Malta (31%, +7).

In Latvia, it is mentioned as frequently as **health and social security** (35%). This is the leading issue in five Member States: Sweden (42%), Finland (37%), the Netherlands (35%), Estonia (31%) and Denmark (15%).

Pensions are the main personal issue in Slovenia (20%).

The household financial situation is singled out as the most important personal issue in Cyprus (37%) and Greece (33%).

Respondents are most concerned about **unemployment** in Spain (27%) and **taxation** in Italy (26%).

Other findings include:

- **Living conditions** are a particular concern for respondents in Romania (21%), as is the **national economic situation** in Cyprus (19%) and Greece (19%), and **working conditions** in Spain (14%);
- **The education system** figures prominently among the concerns of respondents in the Netherlands (23%), as do **environment, climate and energy issues** in Sweden (24%);
- **Immigration** continues to be a major concern in Italy (15%), as is **housing** in Luxembourg (18%), **crime** in France (11%), and **terrorism** in Belgium and France (9% in both countries).

QA4a And personally, what are the two most important issues you are facing at the moment?
(%)

	Rising prices/ inflation/ cost of living	Health and social security			The financial situation of your household			Unemployment			Taxation			The education system			Living conditions			The economic situation in (OUR COUNTRY)			Working conditions			The environment, climate and energy issues			Immigration			Crime			Housing			Terrorism		
EU28	28	16	15	14	12	12	9	9	9	9	9	7	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	5	5	5	5	5	5	5									
BE	37	11	14	13	8	15	7	7	9	9	7	10	9	10	9	10	9	10	9	10	9	10	9	10	7	9	9	10	7	9	9									
BG	30	20	21	24	11	5	7	7	17	12	9	3	3	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2									
CZ	41	16	17	19	5	6	6	9	4	4	10	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4								
DK	10	15	10	10	9	5	14	5	7	8	9	9	11	7	7	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6									
DE	19	13	16	9	7	7	13	7	3	5	7	7	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9								
EE	24	31	22	20	9	10	9	8	12	8	8	3	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5								
IE	37	22	9	12	12	13	11	5	12	6	6	6	3	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8								
EL	30	11	20	33	23	27	6	9	19	6	6	1	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3								
ES	25	15	18	14	27	14	12	10	13	14	14	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2									
FR	33	8	14	15	15	15	7	8	8	9	10	3	3	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11									
HR	33	13	15	27	15	6	5	15	15	9	9	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3								
IT	23	11	10	12	18	26	4	9	10	13	5	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15									
CY	21	15	6	37	26	3	10	9	19	7	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2								
LV	35	35	19	14	11	18	7	7	14	6	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2								
LT	63	13	22	11	10	23	5	6	9	6	1	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2								
LU	27	5	6	10	6	10	15	8	5	7	13	5	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8								
HU	27	25	22	21	11	7	9	13	10	13	3	3	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8								
MT	31	13	16	9	3	7	8	4	3	9	15	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11									
NL	14	35	20	14	7	6	23	5	9	9	21	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3								
AT	31	17	13	10	7	6	11	15	6	11	8	8	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9								
PL	30	19	18	18	9	8	7	15	6	12	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4								
PT	45	13	16	13	15	24	4	11	8	12	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2								
RO	31	24	19	17	8	10	9	21	14	11	4	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3								
SI	19	17	20	13	12	10	7	16	8	11	5	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3								
SK	34	20	13	19	9	5	7	7	11	11	5	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3								
FI	13	37	17	21	12	8	13	8	17	9	17	5	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4								
SE	6	42	18	12	6	4	19	11	9	6	24	12	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7								
UK	36	18	12	12	8	6	10	4	13	5	6	6	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5							

Highest percentage per country

Lowest percentage per country

Highest percentage per item

Lowest percentage per item

QA4a And personally, what are the two most important issues you are facing at the moment?
(%)

		Rising prices/inflation/ cost of living	Health and social security	Pensions	The financial situation of your household			Unemployment	Taxation	The education system	The economic situation in (OUR COUNTRY)			Working conditions			The environment, climate and energy issues			Immigration	Crime	Housing	Terrorism	
EU28		28	16	15	14	12	12	9	9	9	9	9	7	6	6	6	6	5	6	10	9	10	7	9
BE		37	11	14	13	8	15	7	7	7	9	9	7	10	9	10	9	10	7	6	7	6	7	9
BG		30	20	21	24	11	5	7	17	12	9	3	5	5	5	5	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
CZ		41	16	17	19	5	6	6	9	4	10	4	4	4	5	5	9	2	2	2	2	2	9	2
DK		10	15	10	10	9	5	14	5	7	8	9	11	7	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
DE		19	13	16	9	7	7	13	7	3	5	7	9	9	9	9	6	6	6	6	6	6	5	5
EE		24	31	22	20	9	10	9	8	12	8	3	5	5	1	4	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
IE		37	22	9	12	12	13	11	5	12	6	6	3	8	8	11	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
EL		30	11	20	33	23	27	6	9	19	6	1	3	3	3	3	1	1	1	3	3	1	1	1
ES		25	15	18	14	27	14	12	10	13	14	3	2	3	5	2	2	2	2	3	5	2	2	2
FR		33	8	14	15	15	15	7	8	8	9	10	3	11	5	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
HR		33	13	15	27	15	6	5	15	15	9	2	2	3	5	2	2	2	2	3	5	2	2	2
IT		23	11	10	12	18	26	4	9	10	13	5	15	8	2	2	2	2	2	5	8	2	5	5
CY		21	15	6	37	26	3	10	9	19	7	1	2	2	4	1	1	1	1	2	2	4	1	1
LV		35	35	19	14	11	18	7	7	14	6	1	2	1	7	1	1	1	1	7	1	1	1	1
LT		63	13	22	11	10	23	5	6	9	6	1	3	2	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
LU		27	5	6	10	6	10	15	8	5	7	13	5	8	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
HU		27	25	22	21	11	7	9	13	10	13	3	8	5	6	3	3	3	3	6	3	5	6	3
MT		31	13	16	9	3	7	8	4	3	9	15	11	9	5	4	4	4	4	9	5	4	4	4
NL		14	35	20	14	7	6	23	5	9	9	21	3	3	3	5	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
AT		31	17	13	10	7	6	11	15	6	11	8	9	8	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	4
PL		30	19	18	18	9	8	7	15	6	12	4	4	4	2	4	3	3	3	4	2	4	3	3
PT		45	13	16	13	15	24	4	11	8	12	2	2	1	3	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	1
RO		31	24	19	17	8	10	9	21	14	11	4	3	4	5	3	1	6	1	5	3	4	5	3
SI		19	17	20	13	12	10	7	16	8	11	5	3	1	6	1	1	1	1	6	1	1	1	1
SK		34	20	13	19	9	5	7	7	11	11	5	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	9	9	2	2	2
FI		13	37	17	21	12	8	13	8	17	9	17	5	4	4	9	2	2	2	9	2	2	2	2
SE		6	42	18	12	6	4	19	11	9	6	24	12	7	7	14	2	2	2	14	2	14	2	2
UK		36	18	12	12	8	6	10	4	13	5	6	6	5	10	5	5	5	10	5	5	5	5	5
1st MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM								2nd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM								3rd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM								

The following tables show the results by socio-demographic criteria in the European Union as a whole (EU28 average), in the six largest EU countries and in the countries benefiting or having benefited from European Union support to deal with the financial and economic crisis.

QA4a And personally, what are the two most important issues you are facing at the moment?
(% - RISING PRICES/ INFLATION/ COST OF LIVING)

	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
TOTAL	28	19	25	33	23	30	36	30	45	37	21
Gender											
Male	26	17	21	34	19	30	35	28	45	34	19
Female	29	21	29	33	26	31	36	32	45	40	22
Age											
15-24	22	15	15	25	10	27	35	26	36	31	24
25-39	32	17	28	46	23	35	49	37	51	43	20
40-54	28	23	21	35	22	32	33	33	48	36	23
55 +	26	19	29	29	26	27	29	26	43	35	19
Education (End of)											
15-	27	20	25	28	24	36	30	27	44	43	18
16-19	31	22	27	38	22	33	39	30	47	41	18
20+	26	16	25	33	27	25	37	34	50	33	27
Still studying	17	13	6	22	11	31	18	27	23	33	27
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	29	25	20	21	26	39	43	34	54	39	25
Managers	26	13	26	42	18	30	38	40	46	33	36
Other white collars	31	22	30	38	26	25	51	32	45	31	27
Manual workers	34	24	26	43	21	36	42	47	55	49	17
House persons	32	15	36	38	26	35	44	41	55	41	12
Unemployed	23	21	20	34	8	21	36	14	30	25	10
Retired	26	20	26	27	27	26	26	23	44	33	19
Students	17	13	6	22	11	31	18	27	23	33	27

QA4a And personally, what are the two most important issues you are facing at the moment?
(% - HEALTH AND SOCIAL SECURITY)

	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
TOTAL	16	13	15	8	11	19	18	11	13	22	15
Gender											
Male	15	13	15	6	12	17	16	9	11	21	15
Female	17	14	15	9	10	21	20	13	15	23	15
Age											
15-24	5	0	7	2	2	5	4	4	2	7	13
25-39	11	9	14	1	10	18	9	8	4	17	9
40-54	16	16	14	8	11	19	20	8	10	23	14
55 +	23	18	19	14	13	25	29	17	24	34	21
Education (End of)											
15-	19	18	17	13	13	15	27	15	22	29	24
16-19	16	13	12	8	10	20	18	11	7	27	13
20+	18	15	16	7	12	23	17	9	7	21	10
Still studying	5	0	9	1	3	4	5	5	2	4	18
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	15	19	14	6	8	39	11	6	5	18	15
Managers	16	12	25	8	11	21	14	10	4	19	8
Other white collars	15	13	18	5	17	12	10	12	9	27	8
Manual workers	13	12	13	5	9	13	12	10	10	22	12
House persons	12	9	16	2	8	13	17	11	26	29	12
Unemployed	7	11	6	0	2	7	10	2	10	12	7
Retired	25	19	23	16	14	28	35	20	27	37	28
Students	5	0	9	1	3	4	5	5	2	4	18

QA4a And personally, what are the two most important issues you are facing at the moment?
 (% - PENSIONS)

	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
TOTAL	15	16	18	14	10	18	12	20	16	9	6
Gender											
Male	14	16	16	13	10	15	11	19	11	9	6
Female	17	17	21	16	10	21	13	20	21	10	6
Age											
15-24	2	3	1	1	3	6	1	1	1	0	0
25-39	4	8	1	1	3	7	6	1	3	2	0
40-54	9	12	8	8	6	12	10	5	5	6	0
55 +	31	28	41	30	18	34	22	45	37	23	19
Education (End of)											
15-	29	27	35	38	16	33	20	46	26	11	17
16-19	15	18	8	17	7	20	12	12	7	12	4
20+	11	11	7	8	6	14	11	10	5	9	3
Still studying	2	4	1	1	1	6	1	1	1	0	0
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	8	11	2	3	7	12	7	4	2	7	0
Managers	9	9	2	9	3	12	16	6	8	9	0
Other white collars	7	6	6	3	6	15	11	3	5	10	0
Manual workers	9	17	5	6	6	10	8	2	8	6	1
House persons	18	21	36	21	9	2	3	20	42	12	10
Unemployed	6	3	9	3	4	7	9	3	3	4	2
Retired	34	31	48	32	23	38	19	60	46	21	24
Students	2	4	1	1	1	6	1	1	1	0	0

QA4a And personally, what are the two most important issues you are facing at the moment?
 (% - THE FINANCIAL SITUATION OF YOUR HOUSEHOLD)

	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
TOTAL	14	9	14	15	12	18	12	33	13	12	37
Gender											
Male	13	9	14	12	11	16	12	29	14	11	35
Female	16	10	15	18	13	20	13	36	13	12	39
Age											
15-24	12	13	9	14	7	15	10	28	10	10	29
25-39	16	8	17	15	17	16	17	36	11	12	43
40-54	17	11	18	24	13	22	17	34	13	13	37
55 +	12	8	12	11	11	18	7	32	15	11	37
Education (End of)											
15-	15	12	15	13	15	24	12	33	16	11	45
16-19	16	11	16	19	14	19	14	37	14	14	45
20+	12	7	13	11	7	17	11	31	7	11	30
Still studying	10	7	6	17	5	11	6	24	11	9	24
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	13	10	19	15	6	18	15	26	12	20	39
Managers	10	5	3	8	6	16	13	25	7	8	22
Other white collars	14	5	6	14	13	24	16	36	9	9	40
Manual workers	17	10	18	18	20	13	16	40	13	12	44
House persons	18	7	16	22	17	14	14	39	17	16	53
Unemployed	28	35	27	27	23	35	22	49	27	25	54
Retired	11	8	8	11	9	20	6	27	12	6	28
Students	10	7	6	17	5	11	6	24	11	9	24

b. The main concerns at national level

Health and social security, rising prices and pensions have gained ground among the national concerns of European

For Europeans, **unemployment** remains the main issue currently facing their country¹⁰. However, the proportion of respondents mentioning this item (31%) has decreased by two percentage points since the Standard Eurobarometer survey of spring 2016 (EB85), thereby confirming the downward trend recorded since spring 2013 (51% at that time, -20 percentage points over the period).

Europeans see **immigration** as the second most important national issue (26%), also down two percentage points, and again confirming a downward trend (-10 percentage points since autumn 2015). Concerns about immigration had risen steadily between autumn 2012 and autumn 2015 (+28 percentage points over the period).

The national economic situation is the third most important concern at national level (19%). The proportion of respondents mentioning this item has been stable since autumn 2015, after falling almost continuously after autumn 2011 (-23 percentage points over the period).

Two issues have gained ground in this Eurobarometer EB86 survey of autumn 2016, confirming an upward trend:

- **Health and social security:** 18%, up two percentage points since spring 2016 and four percentage points since autumn 2015;
- **Pensions:** 15%, also up two percentage points since spring 2016 and five percentage points since autumn 2015. This is the highest score recorded for this indicator since spring 2007.

The issue of **rising prices/inflation/cost of living** has also gained two percentage points since spring 2016 (to 15%) after remaining fairly stable since autumn 2014. This indicator had previously fallen steadily (-13 percentage points between spring 2011 and autumn 2014).

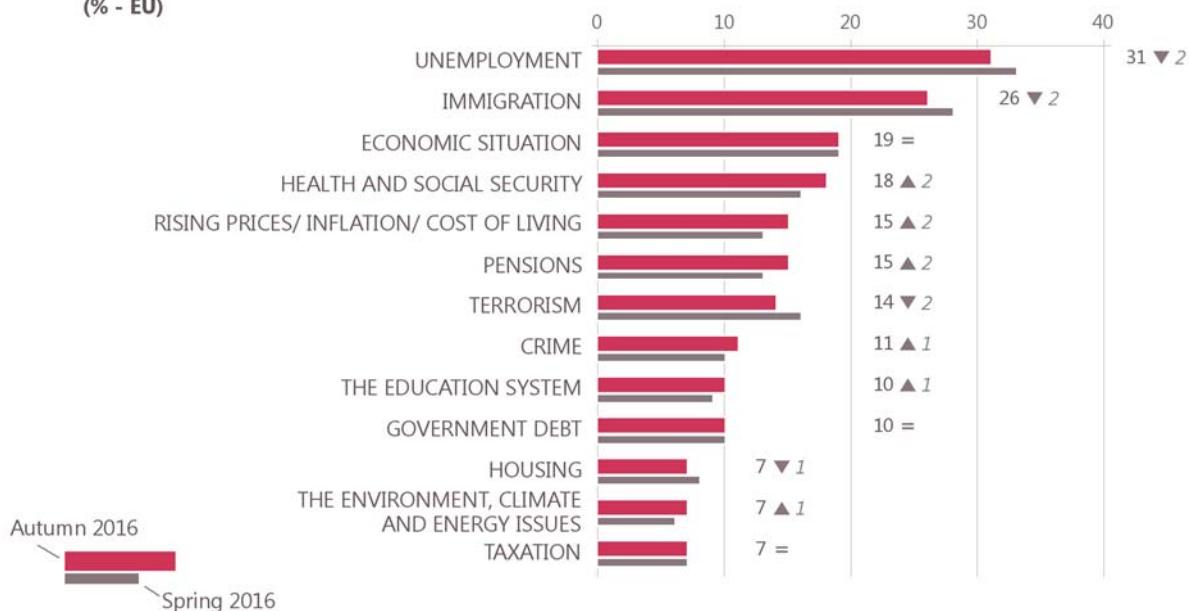
Terrorism has slipped from fourth to seventh place among national concerns, with a decrease of two percentage points since spring 2016 (to 14%).

Next, with similar scores, come **crime** (11%, +1 percentage point), the **education system** (10%, +1) and **government debt** (10%, unchanged).

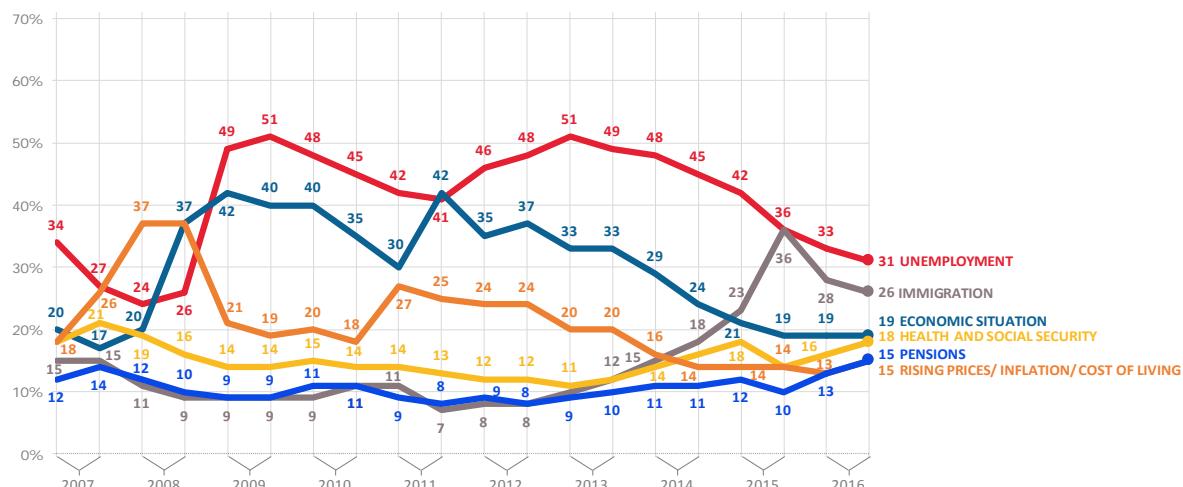
Housing (7%, -1 percentage point, **the environment, climate and energy issues** (7%, +1) and **taxation** (7%, unchanged) bring up the rear.

¹⁰ QA3a. What do you think are the two most important issues facing (OUR COUNTRY) at the moment?

QA3a What do you think are the two most important issues facing (OUR COUNTRY) at the moment? (MAXIMUM 2 ANSWERS)
(% - EU)



QA3a What do you think are the two most important issues facing (OUR COUNTRY) at the moment? (MAXIMUM 2 ANSWERS)
(% - EU)

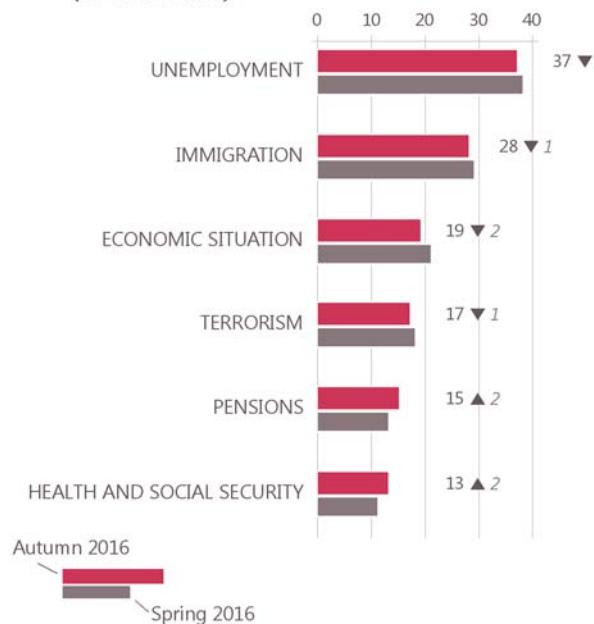


Six most frequently mentioned items

The order in which respondents rank the issues facing their country differs between the **euro area** countries and the **non-euro area** countries:

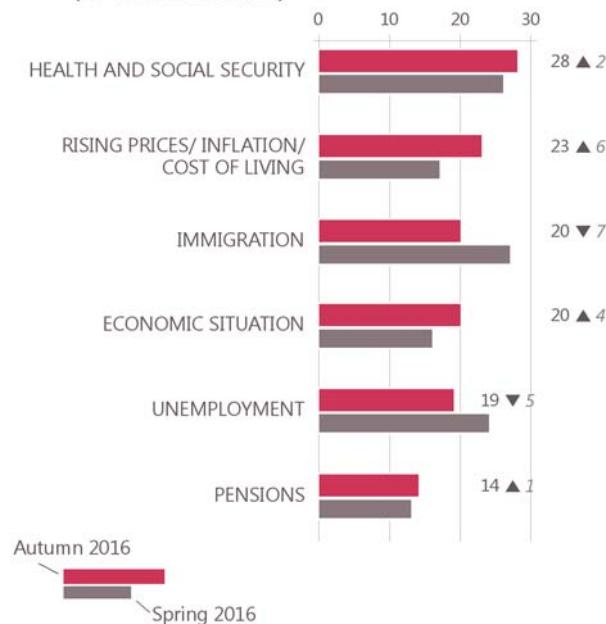
- **Unemployment** is the main national concern in the euro area countries (37%, -1 percentage point), but is in only fifth place in the non-euro area countries (19%), with a significant five-point decrease since spring 2016;
- Respondents in the non-euro area countries see **health and social security** as the most important national issue (28%), up two percentage points since spring 2016. This issue is ranked only sixth in the euro area;
- Respondents in the non-euro area countries are also very concerned about **rising prices/inflation/cost of living** (in second place with 23%, up six percentage points since spring 2016), while this issue does not figure among the six leading issues in the euro area;
- **Immigration** is perceived as the second most important national concern in the euro area countries (28%, -1 percentage point). The proportion of respondents mentioning this item in the non-euro area countries has fallen sharply (20%, -7).

QA3a What do you think are the two most important issues facing (OUR COUNTRY) at the moment?
(% - EURO AREA)



Six most frequently mentioned items

QA3a What do you think are the two most important issues facing (OUR COUNTRY) at the moment?
(% - NON-EURO AREA)



Six most frequently mentioned items

Unemployment is seen as the most important national issue in ten Member States (compared with 11 in spring 2016). Concerns are particularly high in Spain (66%), Cyprus (62%), Croatia (59%) and Portugal (58%).

Concerns about this issue have decreased significantly since spring 2016 in Poland (21%, -13 percentage points), Bulgaria (30%, -8) and Hungary (22%, -7).

Immigration is the leading national concern in six Member States (compared with nine in spring 2016): Malta (46%), Germany (45%), Denmark (41%), Austria (36%), Sweden (35%) and Belgium (27%).

Evolutions vary considerably from country to country. The proportion of respondents who say that immigration is an important national issue has fallen by more than ten percentage points since spring 2016 in Denmark (-16 percentage points to 41%), the United Kingdom (-13 to 25%), the Netherlands (-12 to 34%), Germany (-11 to 45%) and Estonia (-11 to 19%), but has gained more than ten percentage points in Bulgaria (+16 to 29%) and Italy (+14 to 42%).

The **national economic situation** tops the list of important national issues in Bulgaria, jointly with unemployment (30%), and in Romania, jointly with health and social security (32%).

Health and social security is seen as the most important national issue in six Member States (compared with four in spring 2016). Concerns are particularly widespread in the Netherlands (49%), Latvia (42%) and Estonia (41%).

The proportion of respondents mentioning this item has increased by more than ten percentage points since spring 2016 in Slovenia (+16 to 33%), Estonia (+14 to 41%) and the Netherlands (+13 to 49%).

The issue of **rising prices, inflation and the cost of living** is the leading national concern in Lithuania (51%) and the Czech Republic (27%).

This issue has gained ground since spring 2016 in the United Kingdom (+9 percentage points to 23%), Ireland (+8 to 22%) and Croatia (+8 to 25%).

Housing is the main national concern in Luxembourg (51%), up 14 percentage points since spring 2016, and Ireland (42%, -3).

Other findings include:

- **Pensions** are frequently mentioned in Poland (25%);
- **Terrorism** is a major concern in France (31%, +1 percentage point). However, this issue has lost ground since spring 2016 in Belgium (-10 percentage points to 23%);
- **Crime** is mentioned more than average in Malta (19%, +8 percentage points); concern about this issue has decreased sharply in Ireland (-10 percentage points to 10%);
- **The education system** remains an important issue in Sweden (31%);
- **Government debt** continues to be a cause of concern at national level in Greece (26%) as does **taxation** in Latvia (26%);
- **The environment, climate and energy issues** were frequently mentioned in Malta (26%, +9 since spring 2016).

QA3a What do you think are the two most important issues facing (OUR COUNTRY) at the moment? (%)

	Unemployment	Immigration	Economic situation	Health and social security	Rising prices/ inflation/ cost of living	Pensions	Terrorism	Crime	The education system	Government debt	Housing	The environment, climate and energy issues	Taxation
EU28	31	26	19	18	15	15	14	11	10	10	7	7	7
BE	22	27	12	14	20	16	23	14	6	17	6	9	9
BG	30	29	30	22	26	11	5	14	8	5	1	4	3
CZ	11	25	14	18	27	24	6	17	7	20	4	6	10
DK	18	41	14	27	4	8	13	13	17	5	4	21	6
DE	8	45	4	11	8	22	28	17	15	7	9	11	3
EE	24	19	33	41	18	19	3	3	8	1	1	4	11
IE	24	10	13	29	22	5	2	10	9	9	42	7	8
EL	55	15	40	9	15	11	1	3	3	26	0	0	19
ES	66	8	34	15	8	12	4	6	10	13	4	2	5
FR	49	19	16	6	13	10	31	14	11	9	6	10	5
HR	59	6	28	9	25	10	3	11	4	22	3	2	6
IT	47	42	24	6	9	13	8	11	3	10	3	4	16
CY	62	6	54	11	12	5	3	6	6	9	1	1	4
LV	30	8	22	42	20	21	1	2	9	4	4	1	26
LT	26	15	19	13	51	21	1	6	9	8	3	2	20
LU	19	21	4	8	24	8	6	6	21	5	51	12	4
HU	22	30	25	33	17	16	8	8	11	7	4	3	5
MT	3	46	4	10	25	13	5	19	5	3	8	26	3
NL	15	34	12	49	9	17	18	7	7	1	4	20	2
AT	30	36	16	13	18	11	8	13	16	13	7	8	4
PL	21	11	18	31	27	25	5	4	10	15	7	5	11
PT	58	4	34	11	24	13	2	3	3	24	1	1	12
RO	19	5	32	32	24	16	4	11	13	8	7	7	11
SI	46	14	26	33	6	15	2	6	3	14	2	2	10
SK	34	10	19	33	22	16	5	10	10	11	6	5	7
FI	40	17	26	33	7	9	2	5	12	22	4	13	6
SE	19	35	10	34	3	6	3	10	31	2	14	23	5
UK	15	25	18	27	23	6	15	10	11	8	19	7	4

Highest percentage per country

Lowest percentage per country

Highest percentage per item

Lowest percentage per item

QA3a What do you think are the two most important issues facing (OUR COUNTRY) at the moment? (%)

	Unemployment	Immigration	Economic situation	Health and social security	Rising prices/inflation/cost of living	Pensions	Terrorism	Crime	The education system	Government debt	Housing	The environment, climate and energy issues	Taxation
EU28	31	26	19	18	15	15	14	11	10	10	7	7	7
BE	22	27	12	14	20	16	23	14	6	17	6	9	9
BG	30	29	30	22	26	11	5	14	8	5	1	4	3
CZ	11	25	14	18	27	24	6	17	7	20	4	6	10
DK	18	41	14	27	4	8	13	13	17	5	4	21	6
DE	8	45	4	11	8	22	28	17	15	7	9	11	3
EE	24	19	33	41	18	19	3	3	8	1	1	4	11
IE	24	10	13	29	22	5	2	10	9	9	42	7	8
EL	55	15	40	9	15	11	1	3	3	26	0	0	19
ES	66	8	34	15	8	12	4	6	10	13	4	2	5
FR	49	19	16	6	13	10	31	14	11	9	6	10	5
HR	59	6	28	9	25	10	3	11	4	22	3	2	6
IT	47	42	24	6	9	13	8	11	3	10	3	4	16
CY	62	6	54	11	12	5	3	6	6	9	1	1	4
LV	30	8	22	42	20	21	1	2	9	4	4	1	26
LT	26	15	19	13	51	21	1	6	9	8	3	2	20
LU	19	21	4	8	24	8	6	6	21	5	51	12	4
HU	22	30	25	33	17	16	8	8	11	7	4	3	5
MT	3	46	4	10	25	13	5	19	5	3	8	26	3
NL	15	34	12	49	9	17	18	7	7	1	4	20	2
AT	30	36	16	13	18	11	8	13	16	13	7	8	4
PL	21	11	18	31	27	25	5	4	10	15	7	5	11
PT	58	4	34	11	24	13	2	3	3	24	1	1	12
RO	19	5	32	32	24	16	4	11	13	8	7	7	11
SI	46	14	26	33	6	15	2	6	3	14	2	2	10
SK	34	10	19	33	22	16	5	10	10	11	6	5	7
FI	40	17	26	33	7	9	2	5	12	22	4	13	6
SE	19	35	10	34	3	6	3	10	31	2	14	23	5
UK	15	25	18	27	23	6	15	10	11	8	19	7	4
1st MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM				2nd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM				3rd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM					

c. The main concerns at European level

Immigration and terrorism are still seen as the main issues facing the EU, despite a decline

The order in which Europeans rank the issues facing the European Union¹¹ is almost the same as in the Standard Eurobarometer survey of spring 2016 (EB85), but the level of mentions has changed in some cases.

Immigration is seen as the main issue currently facing the EU (45%). This issue has recorded a decline of three percentage points, following a 10-point fall between autumn 2015 and spring 2016. However, immigration had gained ground sharply between autumn 2012 and autumn 2015 (+50 percentage points).

Terrorism is the second issue at EU level (32%), but concerns have eased by seven percentage points since spring 2016, after a sharp rise between spring 2014 and spring 2016 (+33 percentage points).

The economic situation is seen as the third most important issue facing the European Union (20%), up one percentage point since spring 2016. This slight increase brings to a halt the sharp downward trend recorded between autumn 2011 and spring 2016 (-40 percentage points).

The state of Member States' public finances is in fourth place (17%, +1 percentage point), just ahead of **unemployment** (16%, +1). These two issues had previously been on a downward trend (-18 percentage points for the state of Member States' public finances between spring 2012 and spring 2016, and -23 for unemployment between spring 2013 and spring 2016).

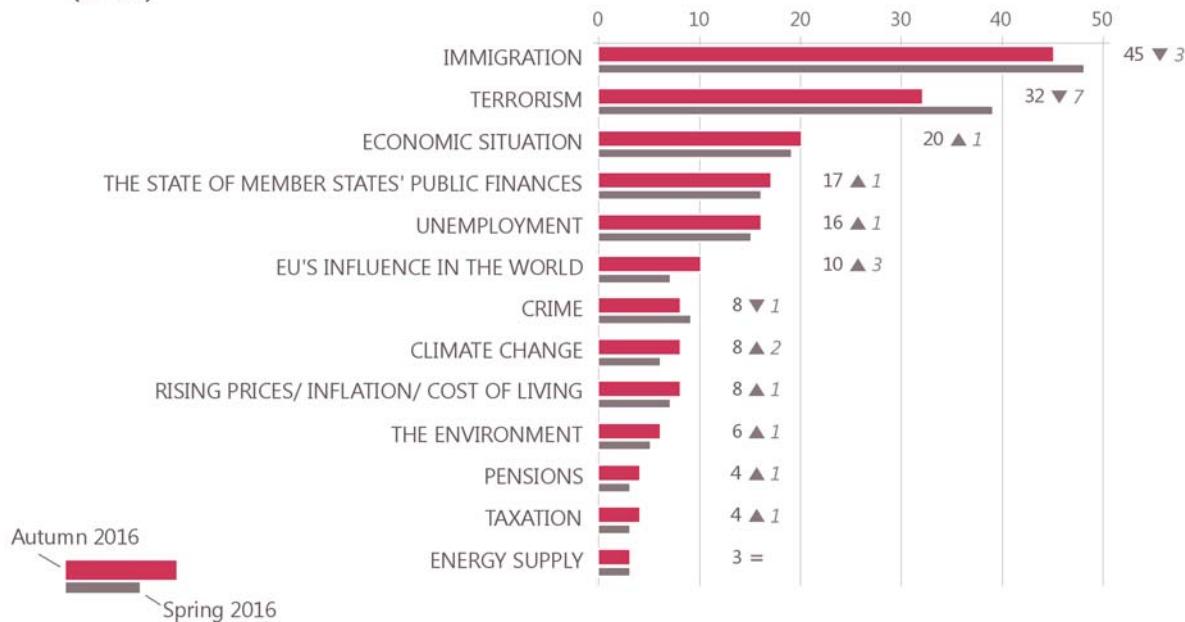
The European Union's influence in the world has gained three percentage points since spring 2016, rising to 10%, the highest score recorded for this item since autumn 2010.

Next, in equal proportions, come **crime** (8%, -1 percentage point), **climate change** (8%, +2) and **rising prices/inflation/cost of living** (8%, +1).

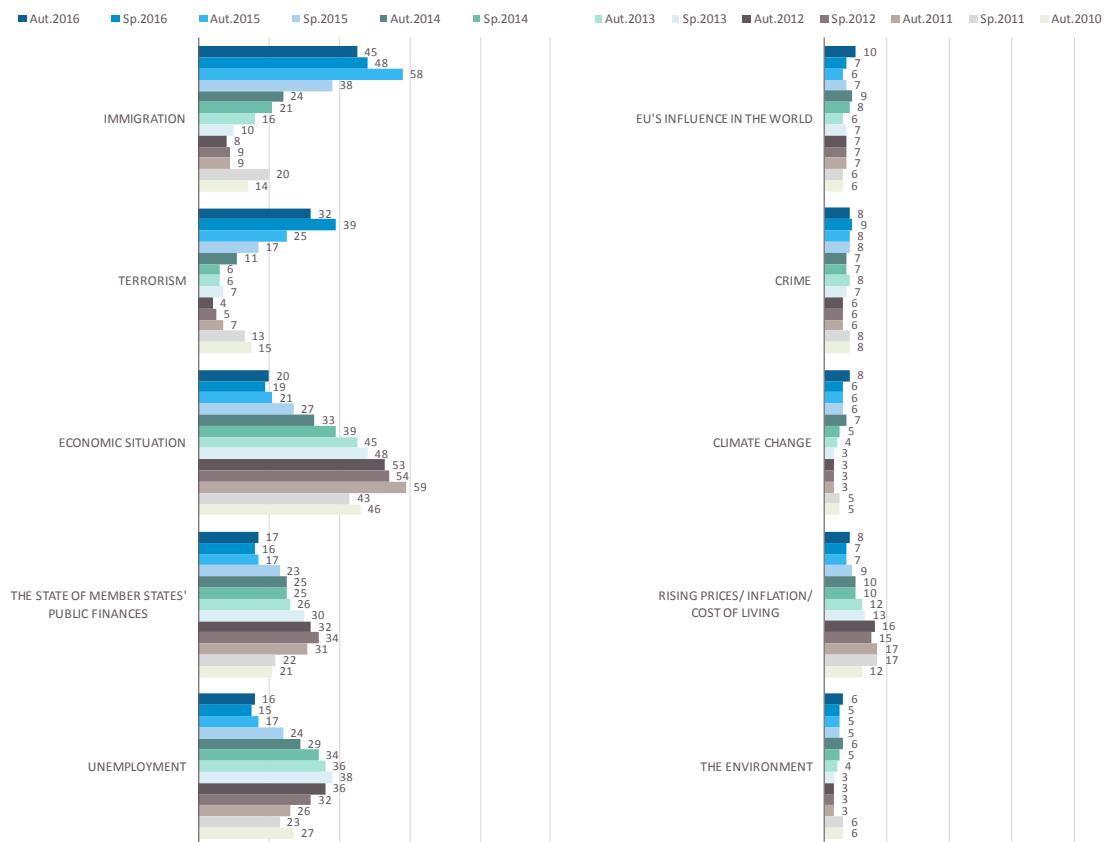
The environment (6%, +1 percentage point), **pensions** (4%, +1), **taxation** (4%, +1) and **energy supply** (3%, unchanged) bring up the rear.

¹¹ Q5. What do you think are the two most important issues facing the EU at the moment?

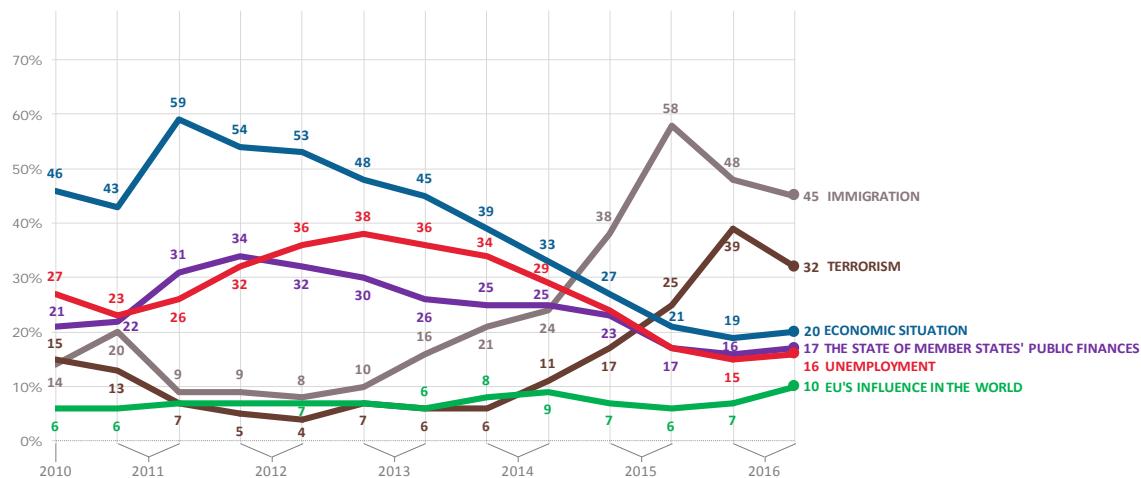
QA5 What do you think are the two most important issues facing the EU at the moment? (MAXIMUM 2 ANSWERS)
(% - EU)



QA5 What do you think are the two most important issues facing the EU at the moment? (MAXIMUM 2 ANSWERS)
(% - EU)



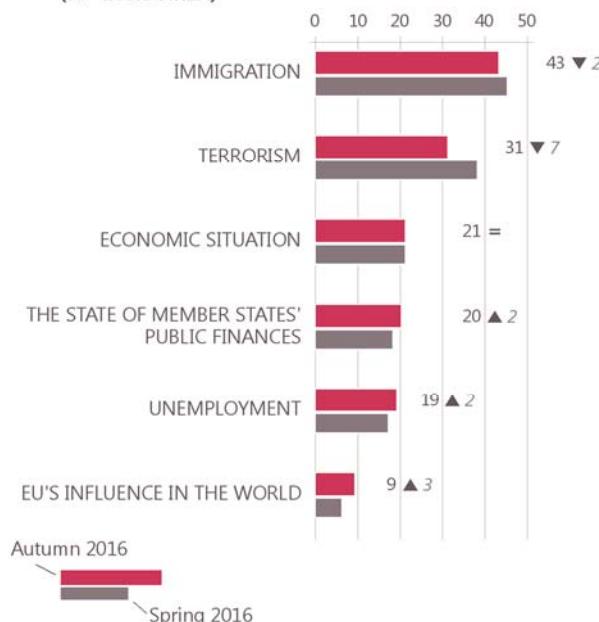
QA5 What do you think are the two most important issues facing the EU at the moment? (MAXIMUM 2 ANSWERS)
(% - EU)



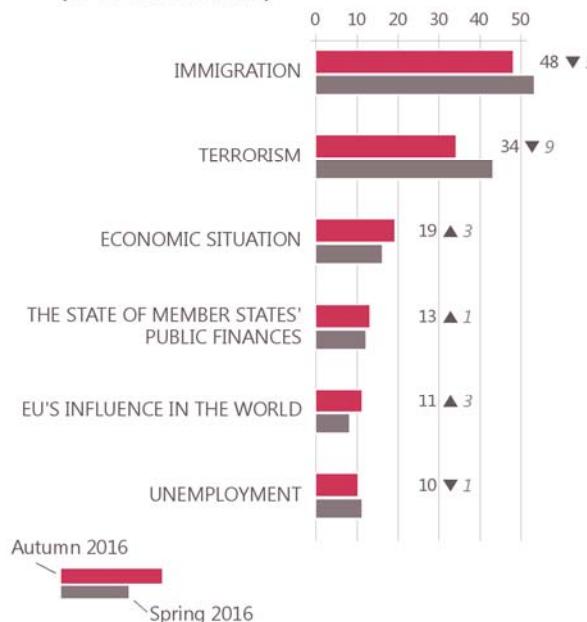
Six most frequently mentioned items

The order in which respondents place the six most important issues facing the EU is almost identical within and outside the euro area, despite some slight differences in the rate of mentions. Euro area respondents are more likely to mention **the state of Member States' public finances** (20%, +2 percentage points since spring 2016, compared with 13%, +1 in the non-euro area countries). Respondents in the non-euro area countries are slightly more likely (11%) than euro area respondents (9%) to mention **the EU's influence in the world**, but this issue has gained three percentage points in both groups of countries.

QA5 What do you think are the two most important issues facing the EU at the moment?
(% - EURO AREA)



QA5 What do you think are the two most important issues facing the EU at the moment?
(% - NON-EURO AREA)



Six most frequently mentioned items

Six most frequently mentioned items

Immigration is now seen as the principal issue facing the EU in 26 Member States (compared with 20 in spring 2016), with very high scores in Estonia (70%), Hungary (65%) and Malta (65%). However, this issue has lost ground significantly since spring 2016 in Denmark (-12 percentage points to 59%), Latvia (-10 to 57%) and Finland (-10 to 38%).

Respondents in Spain say that **terrorism** is the most important issue facing the EU (33%).

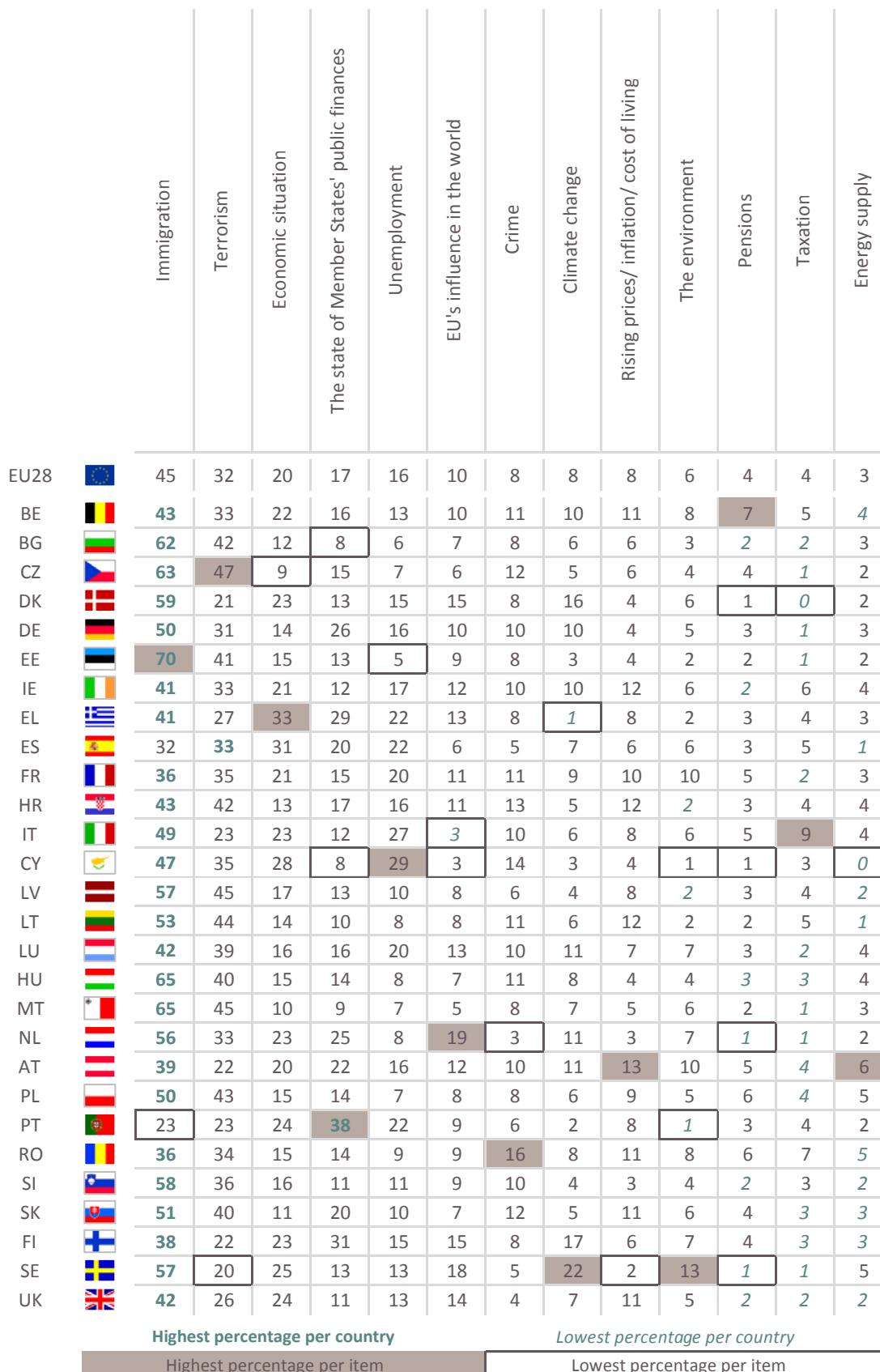
The proportion of respondents mentioning this issue has fallen by more than ten percentage points in seven Member States: Ireland (-17 percentage points to 33%), Portugal (-17 to 23%), Cyprus (-15 to 35%), Romania (-15 to 34%), the United Kingdom (-12 to 26%), Italy (-11 to 23%) and Sweden (-11 to 20%).

In Portugal, the **state of the Member States' public finances** is seen as the most important issue facing the EU at the moment (38%).

Other findings include:

- **The economic situation** was frequently mentioned as one of the main issues facing the EU by respondents in Greece (33%), while almost three in ten respondents mentioned **unemployment** in Cyprus (29%);
- The **EU's influence in the world** receives special attention in the Netherlands (19%, +6 percentage points). Concern about this issue has increased by 12 percentage points in Sweden since spring 2016 (18%);
- Respondents in Sweden are also more likely than average to mention **climate change** (22%) and the **environment** (13%);
- **Crime** was frequently mentioned in Romania (16%).

QA5 What do you think are the two most important issues facing the EU at the moment?
(%)



QA5 What do you think are the two most important issues facing the EU at the moment?
(%)

		Immigration	Terrorism	Economic situation			Unemployment	EU's influence in the world	Crime	Climate change	Rising prices/ inflation/ cost of living	The environment	Pensions	Taxation	Energy supply
EU28		45	32	20	17	16	10	8	8	8	6	4	4	4	3
BE		43	33	22	16	13	10	11	10	11	8	7	5	4	4
BG		62	42	12	8	6	7	8	6	6	3	2	2	3	3
CZ		63	47	9	15	7	6	12	5	6	4	4	1	2	2
DK		59	21	23	13	15	15	8	16	4	6	1	0	2	2
DE		50	31	14	26	16	10	10	10	4	5	3	1	1	3
EE		70	41	15	13	5	9	8	3	4	2	2	1	1	2
IE		41	33	21	12	17	12	10	10	12	6	2	6	4	4
EL		41	27	33	29	22	13	8	1	8	2	3	4	3	3
ES		32	33	31	20	22	6	5	7	6	6	3	5	1	1
FR		36	35	21	15	20	11	11	9	10	10	5	2	2	3
HR		43	42	13	17	16	11	13	5	12	2	3	4	4	4
IT		49	23	23	12	27	3	10	6	8	6	5	9	4	4
CY		47	35	28	8	29	3	14	3	4	1	1	3	0	0
LV		57	45	17	13	10	8	6	4	8	2	3	4	2	2
LT		53	44	14	10	8	8	11	6	12	2	2	5	1	1
LU		42	39	16	16	20	13	10	11	7	7	3	2	4	4
HU		65	40	15	14	8	7	11	8	4	4	3	3	4	4
MT		65	45	10	9	7	5	8	7	5	6	2	1	3	3
NL		56	33	23	25	8	19	3	11	3	7	1	1	2	2
AT		39	22	20	22	16	12	10	11	13	10	5	4	6	6
PL		50	43	15	14	7	8	8	6	9	5	6	4	5	5
PT		23	23	24	38	22	9	6	2	8	1	3	4	2	2
RO		36	34	15	14	9	9	16	8	11	8	6	7	5	5
SI		58	36	16	11	11	9	10	4	3	4	2	3	2	2
SK		51	40	11	20	10	7	12	5	11	6	4	3	3	3
FI		38	22	23	31	15	15	8	17	6	7	4	3	3	3
SE		57	20	25	13	13	18	5	22	2	13	1	1	5	5
UK		42	26	24	11	13	14	4	7	11	5	2	2	2	2
1st MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM			2nd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM					3rd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM							

A comparison between the main concerns of Europeans at personal, national and European levels reveals that:

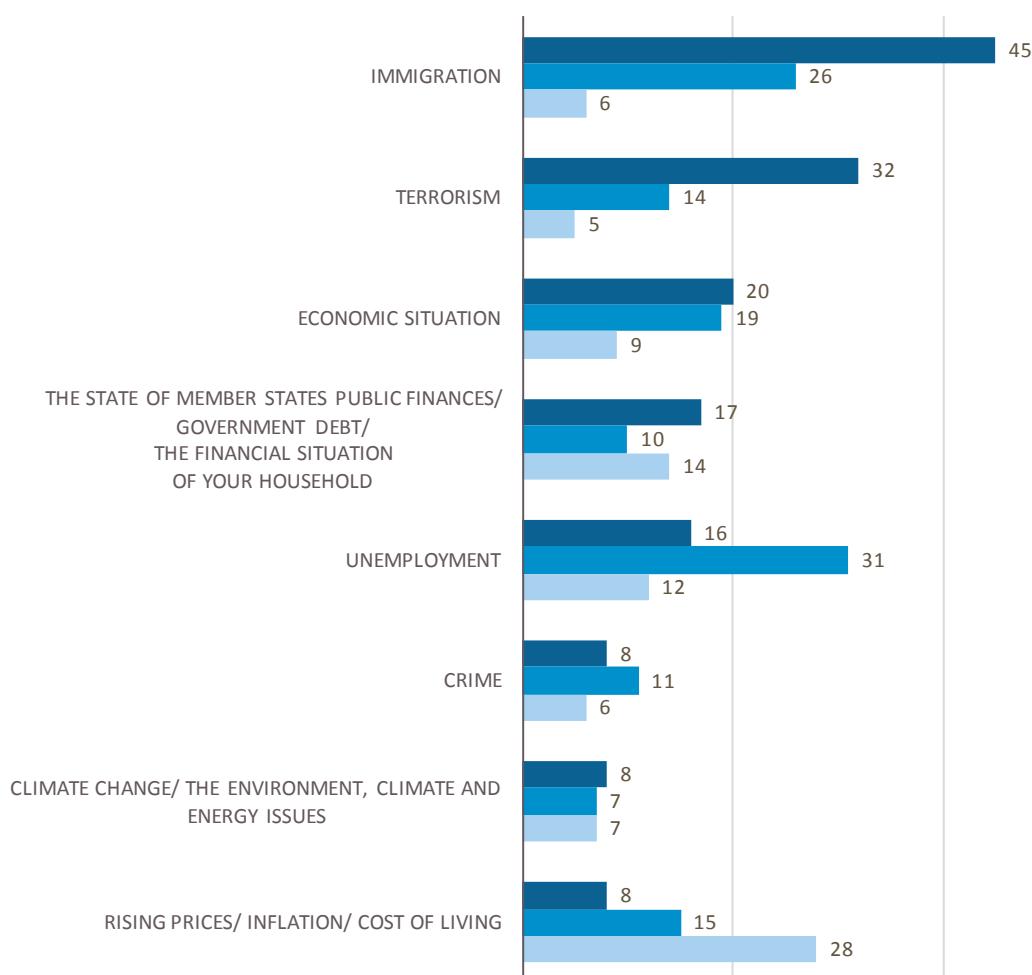
- **Immigration** and **terrorism** remain major concerns at European and national levels, but are seen as far less important than economic and social issues in personal terms;
- **The economic situation** remains a core issue at European and national levels, with almost identical scores at EU (20%) and national levels (19%). However, the **state of the Member States' public finances** (17%) is seen as a more important issue for the EU than **government debt** at national level (10%);
- Purchasing power remains a key personal concern, both in terms of **rising prices/inflation/cost of living** (28%, compared with 15% at national level and 8% at European level) or the **financial situation of the household** (14%);
- **Unemployment** is seen as more important issue at national level (31%) than at European level (16%) or personally (12%);
- **The environment, climate and energy issues** are less mentioned at all levels: European (8%), national (7%) and personal (7%).

QA3aQA4aQAS

What are the two most important issues facing ... at the moment?

(% - EU - COMPARABLES ITEMS QUOTED BY MORE OF 5% OF
RESPONDENTS AT EU LEVEL)

■ ... the EU ■ ... (OUR COUNTRY) ■ ... you personally



QA4a And personally, what are the two most important issues you are facing at the moment?
(% - EU)

	Rising prices/ inflation/ cost of living	Health and social security	Pensions	The financial situation of your household			Unemployment	Taxation	The education system			Living conditions	The economic situation in (OUR COUNTRY)			Working conditions			Immigration	Crime	Housing	Terrorism	Other (SPONTANEOUS)	None (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU28	28	16	15	14	12	12	9	9	9	9	9	9	7	6	6	6	5	2	8	1					
 Gender	26	15	14	13	13	14	9	9	10	9	9	7	7	6	6	6	5	2	8	1					
Man	26	15	14	13	13	14	9	9	10	9	9	7	7	6	6	6	5	2	8	1					
Woman	29	17	17	16	12	11	10	10	8	9	9	7	5	6	5	4	2	7	1						
 Age	22	5	2	12	18	7	27	12	9	11	9	6	5	10	5	2	8	2							
15-24	22	5	2	12	18	7	27	12	9	11	9	6	5	10	5	2	8	2							
25-39	32	11	4	16	16	15	10	10	9	13	7	5	5	10	4	2	6	1							
40-54	28	16	9	17	14	15	10	9	10	12	6	7	7	5	4	2	6	1							
55 +	26	23	31	12	8	10	3	8	8	4	6	7	7	2	5	2	9	1							
 Education (End of)	27	19	29	15	13	12	3	10	7	6	3	7	6	2	5	2	8	1							
15-	27	19	29	15	13	12	3	10	7	6	3	7	6	2	5	2	8	1							
16-19	31	16	15	16	15	12	5	9	9	9	5	7	7	6	5	2	7	1							
20+	26	18	11	12	9	14	11	8	11	11	11	4	6	7	4	2	8	2							
Still studying	17	5	2	10	14	6	38	10	7	8	11	7	5	8	5	3	10	2							
 Socio-professional category	29	15	8	13	7	29	7	8	13	10	8	7	7	4	5	2	6	1							
Self-employed	29	15	8	13	7	29	7	8	13	10	8	7	7	4	5	2	6	1							
Managers	26	16	9	10	4	14	16	7	11	10	12	7	6	8	5	3	8	2							
Other white collars	31	15	7	14	9	16	8	11	10	15	7	7	5	8	4	2	7	1							
Manual workers	34	13	9	17	10	12	7	11	9	15	5	6	7	7	5	2	7	1							
House persons	32	12	18	18	17	13	8	10	11	8	3	6	6	5	4	2	6	1							
Unemployed	23	7	6	28	61	6	4	10	9	9	3	3	4	5	3	1	2	1							
Retired	26	25	34	11	5	9	3	8	7	2	6	7	7	3	5	2	9	2							
Students	17	5	2	10	14	6	38	10	7	8	11	7	5	8	5	3	10	2							

QA3a What do you think are the two most important issues facing (OUR COUNTRY) at the moment?
(% - EU)

	Unemployment	Immigration	Economic situation	Health and social security	Rising prices/ inflation/ cost of living	Pensions	Terrorism	Crime	The education system	Government debt	Housing	The environment, climate and energy issues	Taxation	Other (SPONTANEOUS)	None (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU28	31	26	19	18	15	15	14	11	10	10	7	7	7	1	0	1
Gender																
Man	31	27	20	16	14	14	13	11	10	12	8	8	8	2	0	0
Woman	31	25	18	20	16	15	15	11	11	9	7	7	6	1	1	1
Age																
15-24	33	24	16	12	17	10	17	9	16	9	8	11	7	1	1	1
25-39	31	22	22	16	19	11	12	9	12	11	10	8	8	1	1	1
40-54	31	28	22	20	14	12	14	9	11	10	8	6	8	2	0	0
55 +	31	27	17	20	12	20	14	13	7	10	6	7	6	2	0	0
Education (End of)																
15-	38	28	19	16	14	19	12	13	5	9	6	3	8	1	1	1
16-19	31	28	18	18	18	15	16	11	8	10	8	5	7	1	0	0
20+	27	23	22	21	13	12	13	9	15	12	8	11	7	2	0	0
Still studying	32	25	17	13	12	11	15	9	21	8	7	14	6	2	0	1
Socio-professional category																
Self-employed	28	28	22	16	17	11	11	9	7	15	9	9	14	1	1	0
Managers	19	24	22	20	14	13	14	8	18	13	10	12	5	2	0	1
Other white collars	28	27	25	21	14	13	12	10	9	13	7	8	7	2	1	0
Manual workers	34	25	18	17	18	13	16	11	9	9	7	5	8	1	0	1
House persons	39	21	23	18	20	14	12	9	7	8	8	3	7	1	1	1
Unemployed	50	22	21	15	19	9	11	8	8	8	8	4	6	2	1	1
Retired	29	28	15	20	12	20	15	14	8	10	6	6	6	1	0	1
Students	32	25	17	13	12	11	15	9	21	8	7	14	6	2	0	1

Q45 What do you think are the two most important issues facing the EU at the moment?
(% - EU)

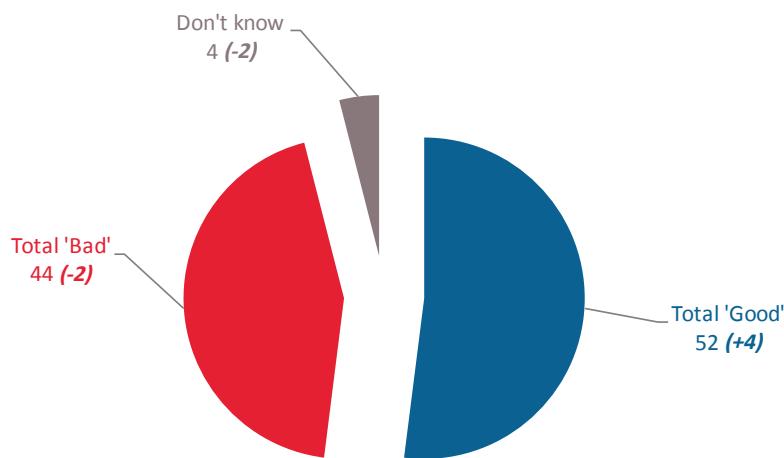
	Immigration	Terrorism	Economic situation			The state of Member States' public finances			Unemployment			EU's influence in the world			Crime			Climate change			Rising prices/ inflation/ cost of living			The environment			Pensions			Taxation			Energy supply			Other (SPONTANEOUS)			None (SPONTANEOUS)			Don't know		
EU28	45	32	20	17	16	10	8	8	8	8	6	4	4	3	2	1	4																											
 Gender																																												
Man	46	31	21	19	16	10	8	8	7	6	4	4	4	4	2	1	3																											
Woman	44	32	20	16	16	10	9	8	8	6	3	4	3	3	1	1	5																											
 Age																																												
15-24	43	35	20	13	15	10	7	11	8	8	4	3	3	3	1	1	6																											
25-39	44	32	23	17	15	11	8	7	9	6	3	3	4	2	1	3																												
40-54	47	30	21	20	16	11	8	8	8	6	4	3	4	2	1	2																												
55 +	45	32	19	17	17	8	10	7	7	6	4	5	3	2	0	5																												
 Education (End of)																																												
15-	41	32	18	16	19	5	10	6	8	5	5	5	5	3	1	1	7																											
16-19	47	34	19	16	16	9	9	7	9	5	3	4	3	2	1	4																												
20+	46	29	24	21	14	14	7	10	6	7	2	3	4	2	0	2																												
Still studying	45	32	20	15	15	11	6	12	6	9	4	3	3	2	1	4																												
 Socio-professional category																																												
Self-employed	47	29	21	23	14	11	7	11	7	6	3	2	3	2	1	2																												
Managers	49	27	23	23	13	15	5	10	5	7	2	3	4	3	0	2																												
Other white collars	49	31	24	18	16	11	8	8	7	7	3	4	4	2	0	1																												
Manual workers	43	36	19	17	15	10	9	6	10	5	4	4	4	1	1	4																												
House persons	38	30	22	13	18	7	11	7	9	5	5	5	5	3	1	0	7																											
Unemployed	41	31	21	14	23	6	8	5	10	6	6	6	3	2	1	1	7																											
Retired	45	32	18	17	17	8	10	7	7	5	4	5	3	2	1	5																												
Students	45	32	20	15	15	11	6	12	6	9	4	3	3	2	1	4																												

3 The provision of public services in the European Union

A majority of Europeans are positive about the provision of public services in their country¹², and their opinions have improved since the Standard Eurobarometer survey of spring 2016 (EB85): 52% say that it is “good”, a rise of four percentage points since spring 2016, while 44% think it is “bad” (-2 percentage points), and 4% (-2) gave no response.

QA1a.6 How would you judge the current situation in each of the following?

The provision of public services in (OUR COUNTRY) (% - EU)



(Autumn 2016 - Spring 2016)

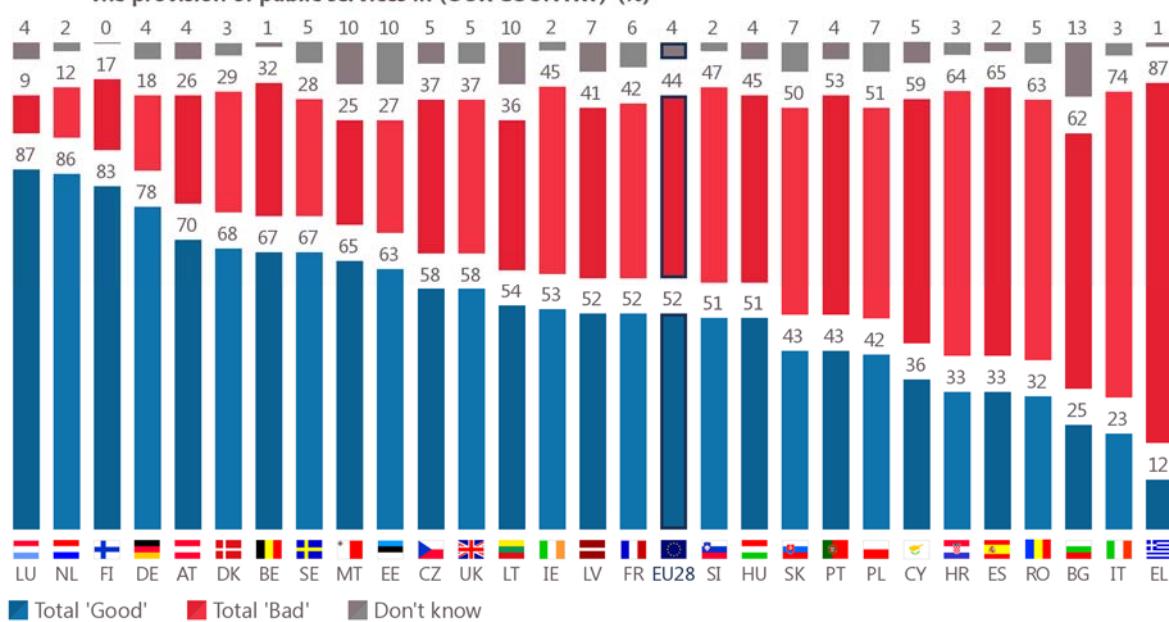
¹² QA1a.6 How would you judge the current situation in each of the following? The provision of public services in (OUR COUNTRY).

More respondents have positive than negative opinions of the provision of public services in 18 Member States (compared with 16 in spring 2016). More than three-quarters of respondents are satisfied in four countries: Luxembourg (87%), the Netherlands (86%), Finland (83%) and Germany (78%). At the other end of the scale, respondents are particularly dissatisfied in Greece (87% say that the provision of public services is "bad" in their country) and Italy (74%).

Positive opinions have gained ground in 20 Member States since spring 2016, most markedly in Germany (+11 percentage points to 78%), Ireland (+8 to 53%), Belgium (+7 to 67%) and Portugal (+7 to 43%). They have lost ground in six countries and are stable in France and Italy.

Q1a.6 How would you judge the current situation in each of the following?

The provision of public services in (OUR COUNTRY) (%)



A socio-demographic analysis shows that young people (59% of 15-24 year-olds), those who studied up to the age of 20 and beyond (58%), managers (66%) and students (63%) are slightly more likely to be satisfied. In contrast, satisfaction is lower among the oldest respondents (49% of 40-54 year-olds and 48% of those aged 55 and over), those who left school at the age of 15 or earlier (39%), unemployed people (37%) and house persons (41%).

QA1a.6 How would you judge the current situation in each of the following?

The provision of public services in (OUR COUNTRY) (% - EU)

	Total 'Good'	Total 'Bad'	Don't know
EU28	52	44	4
 Gender			
Man	52	44	4
Woman	50	45	5
 Age			
15-24	59	34	7
25-39	53	43	4
40-54	49	48	3
55 +	48	47	5
 Education (End of)			
15-	39	55	6
16-19	50	46	4
20+	58	39	3
Still studying	63	30	7
 Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	46	51	3
Managers	66	32	2
Other white collars	51	47	2
Manual workers	51	44	5
House persons	41	54	5
Unemployed	37	58	5
Retired	49	46	5
Students	63	30	7

4 Political aspects

a. Interest in politics

The index measuring how interested Europeans are in politics¹³ has remained unchanged since the Standard Eurobarometer survey of spring 2016 (EB85): 17% of Europeans have a “strong” interest in politics, while 46% have a “moderate” interest, 19% have a “slight” interest and 18% are “not at all interested”.

Almost a quarter of Europeans “frequently” discuss **national political matters** with friends and relatives (23%, unchanged since spring 2016) and more than half do so “occasionally” (54%, =). Almost a quarter of Europeans “never” talk about political issues (23%, =).

Europeans are almost as likely to discuss **local political matters** as national political matters: 19% talk about them “frequently” (-1 percentage point), while 54% do so “occasionally” (+2) and 27% “never” discuss them (-1).

European political matters lag somewhat behind: 15% of respondents “frequently” talk about European political issues with friends and relatives (unchanged), while 52% do so “occasionally” (+2 percentage points) and a third “never” discuss them (33%, -1).

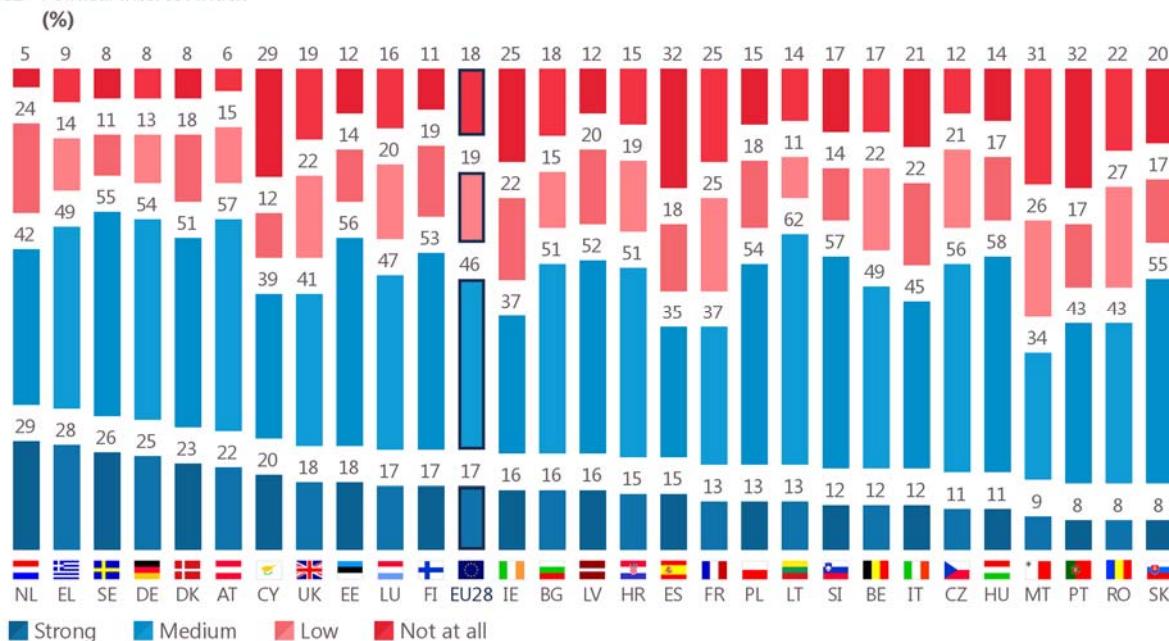
D71a When you get together with friends or relatives, would you say you discuss frequently, occasionally or never about...?
(% - EU)



¹³ The question is as follows: “When you get together with friends or relatives, would you say that you discuss frequently, occasionally or never about...? National political matters/European political matters/local political matters”. A score is then attributed to each answer: “Never” = 0; “Occasionally” = 1; “Frequently” = 2. An index is then constructed by adding together the scores for the three dimensions (local, national, European). Each group corresponds to a different index level: “not at all interested in politics” = 0; “slightly” = 1 to 2; “moderately” = 3 to 4; “strongly” = 5 to 6.

Respondents in the Netherlands (29% “strongly” interested), Greece (28%) and Sweden (26%) are particularly interested in politics, while those in Spain (32%), Portugal (32%) and Malta (31%) are the most likely to be “not at all interested in politics”.

C2 Political interest index (%)



b. Trust in the institutions

1. National institutions

Trust in national political institutions has increased slightly

How far do Europeans trust the institutions in their country¹⁴? Europeans are now more likely to trust their national political institutions, following a previous decline.

- Although only a minority of respondents trust their **national government**, trust has increased (31% “tend to trust”, +4 percentage points since spring 2016, versus 64% “tend not to trust”, -4), whereas distrust had increased by five percentage points between spring 2015 and spring 2016;
- Trust in the **national parliament** has also increased, but this institution is still trusted by only a minority of respondents (32%, +4 percentage points, compared with 62%, -3);
- Only very small minority of respondents trust **political parties** (16%, +1 percentage point, versus 78%, -1).

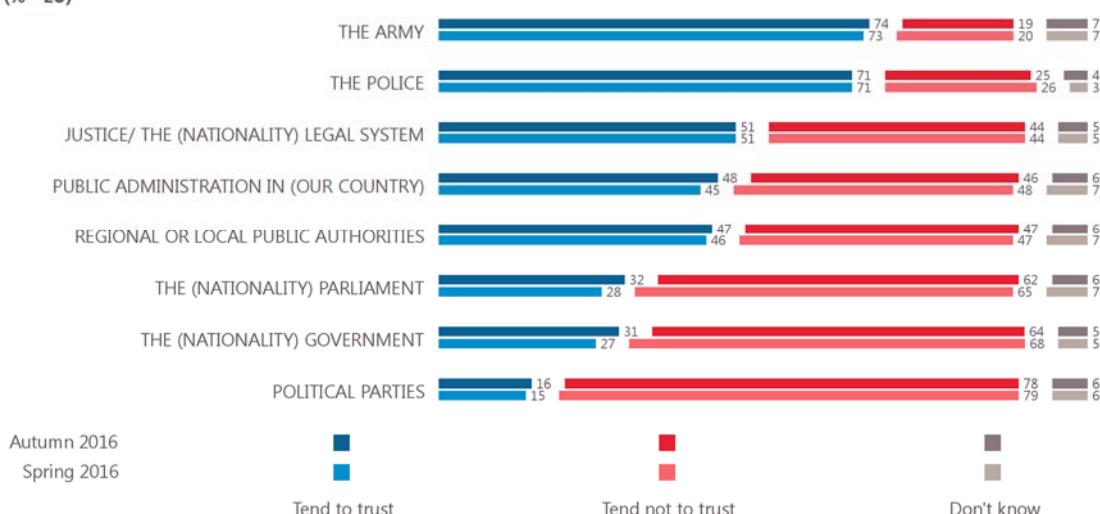
Trust in **regional and local public authorities** remains higher, but Europeans are evenly divided on this question: 47% “tend to trust” (+1 percentage point since spring 2016, while 47% “tend not to trust”, unchanged).

A clear majority of Europeans trust the **army** (74%, +1 percentage point since spring 2016, versus 19%, -1) and the **police** (71%, unchanged, versus 25%, -1).

A narrow majority of respondents trust **justice/the legal system** (51% “tend to trust”, unchanged, versus 44%, =).

Trust in **public administration** has increased since spring 2016, and is now the majority position: 48% “tend to trust” it (+3 percentage points), versus 46% (-2).

QA8a I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain media and institutions. For each of the following media and institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.
(% - EU)

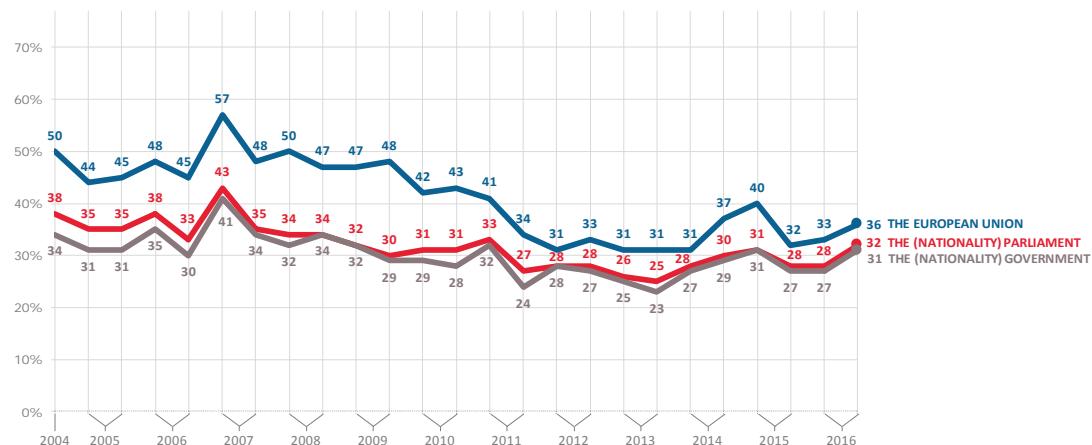


¹⁴ QA8a. I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain institutions. For each of the following institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.

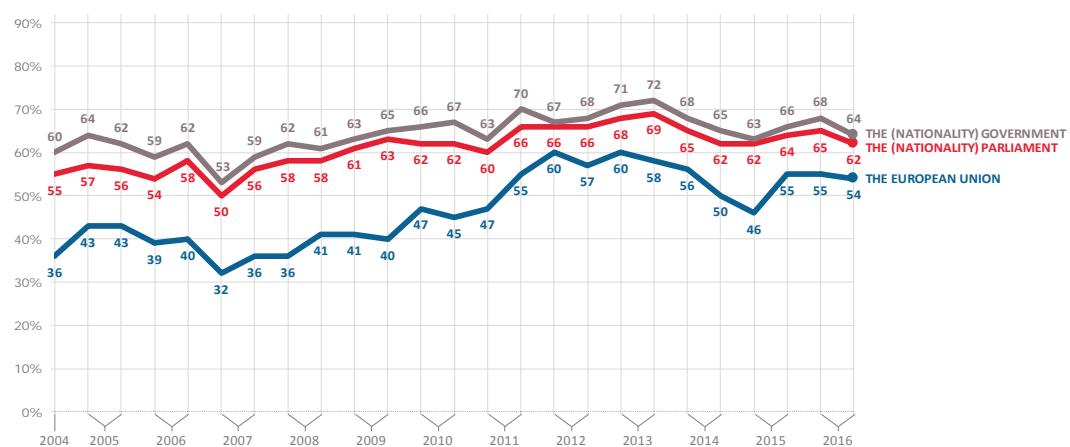
The national government and parliament

A long-term trend analysis shows that, after a sharp improvement in 2007, trust in national political institutions (government and parliament) decreased almost continuously up to autumn 2013. It then recovered significantly until spring 2015, before falling sharply again between spring and autumn 2015, followed by a fresh improvement. Trust in national political institutions often evolves in parallel with trust in the European Union, while remaining at a slightly lower level.

QA8a I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain media and institutions. For each of the following media and institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.
 (% - EU - TEND TO TRUST)

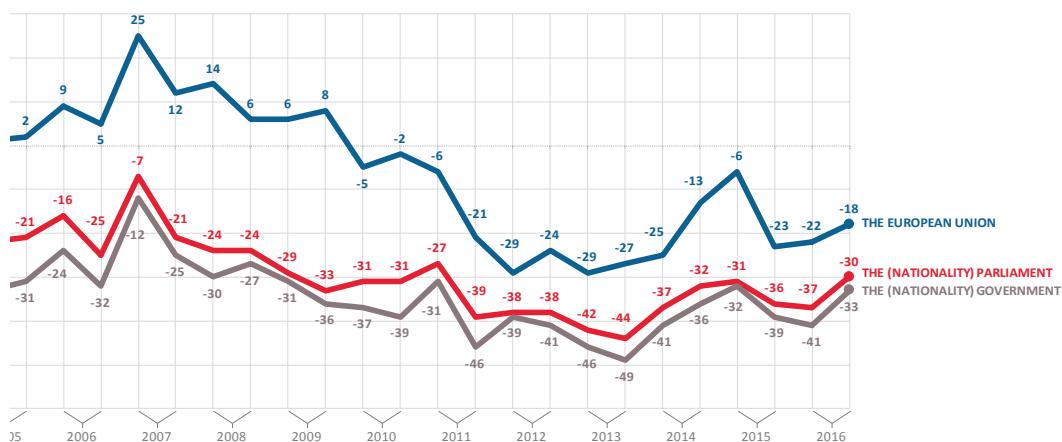


QA8a I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain media and institutions. For each of the following media and institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.
 (% - EU - TEND NOT TO TRUST)



The trust index¹⁵ for national political institutions has been negative since 2004 (that is to say, distrust has always outweighed trust), whereas the trust index for the European Union was positive between 2004 and 2009.

QA8a I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain media and institutions. For each of the following media and institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.
 (EU - TEND TO TRUST - TEND NOT TO TRUST)

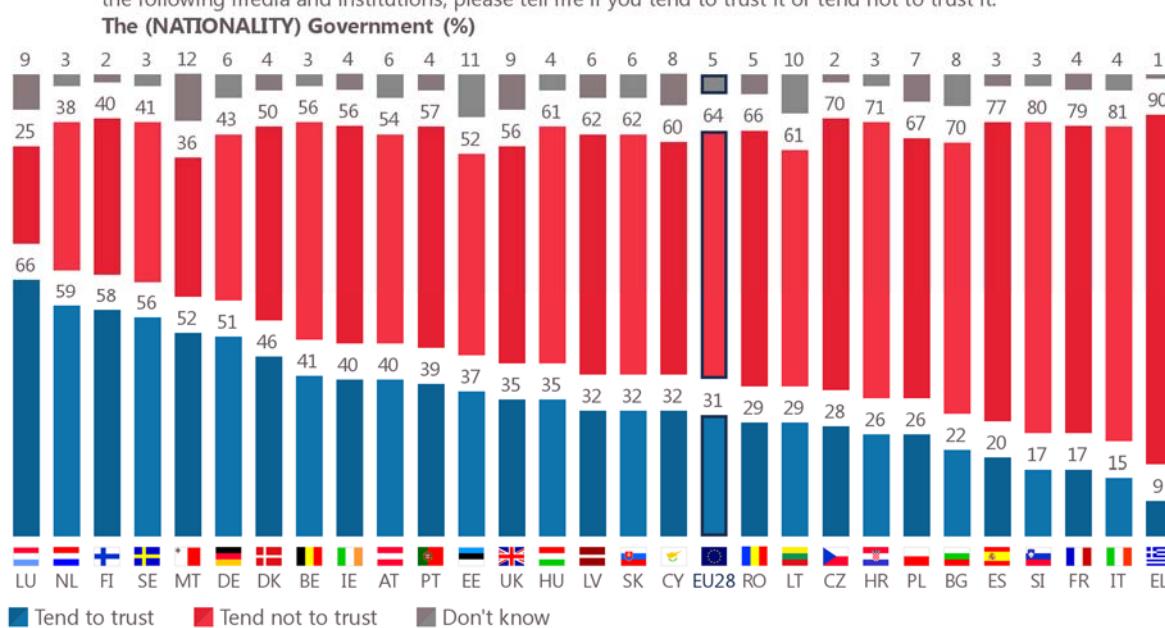


¹⁵ Difference between the “tend to trust” and “tend not to trust” percentages

A majority of respondents tend to trust their **national government** in six Member States (compared with three in spring 2016): Luxembourg (66% "tend to trust" versus 25% "tend not to trust"), the Netherlands (59% versus 38%), Finland (58% versus 40%), Sweden (56% versus 41%), Malta (52% versus 36%) and Germany (51% versus 43%). In contrast, in five Member States more than three-quarters of respondents distrust their national government: Greece (9% versus 90% "tend not to trust"), Italy (15% versus 81%), Slovenia (17% versus 80%), France (17% versus 79%) and Spain (20% versus 77%).

Trust in the national government has increased by more than ten percentage points in six Member States: Finland (+17 percentage points since spring to 58%), Luxembourg (+13 to 66%), Germany (+12 to 51%), Ireland (+12 to 40%), Sweden (+11 to 56%, after a 10-point fall between autumn 2015 and spring 2016) and Croatia (+11 to 26%, also following a 10-point decline).

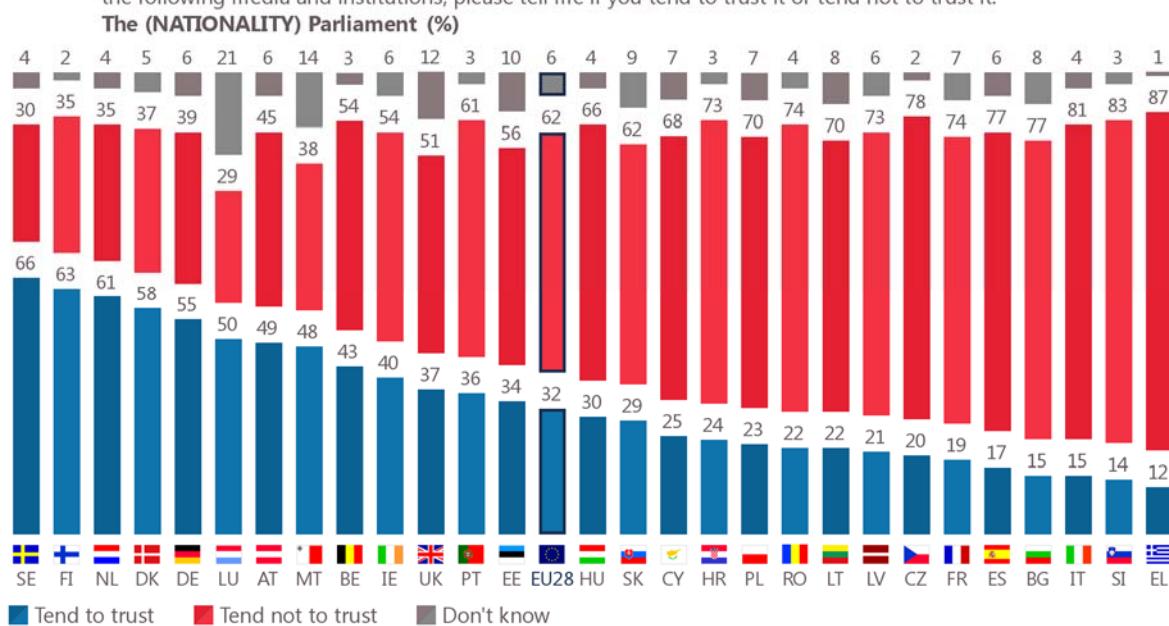
QA8a.12 I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain media and institutions. For each of the following media and institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.



Trust in the national parliament outweighs distrust in eight Member States (compared with six in spring 2016). These include the six countries in which a majority of respondents trust their national government – Sweden (66% “tend to trust” versus 30% “tend not to trust”), Finland (63% versus 35%), the Netherlands (61% versus 35%), Germany (55% versus 39%), Luxembourg (50% versus 29%) and Malta (48% versus 38%) – plus Denmark (58% versus 37%) and Austria (49% versus 45%). In six Member States, more than 75% of respondents distrust their national parliament, most notably in Greece (12% versus 87% “tend not to trust”), Slovenia (14% versus 83%) and Italy (15% versus 81%).

Trust in the national parliament has increased by more than ten percentage points since spring 2016 in Germany (+14 percentage points to 55%), Lithuania (+12 to 22%) and Ireland (+11 to 40%).

QA8a.13 I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain media and institutions. For each of the following media and institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.

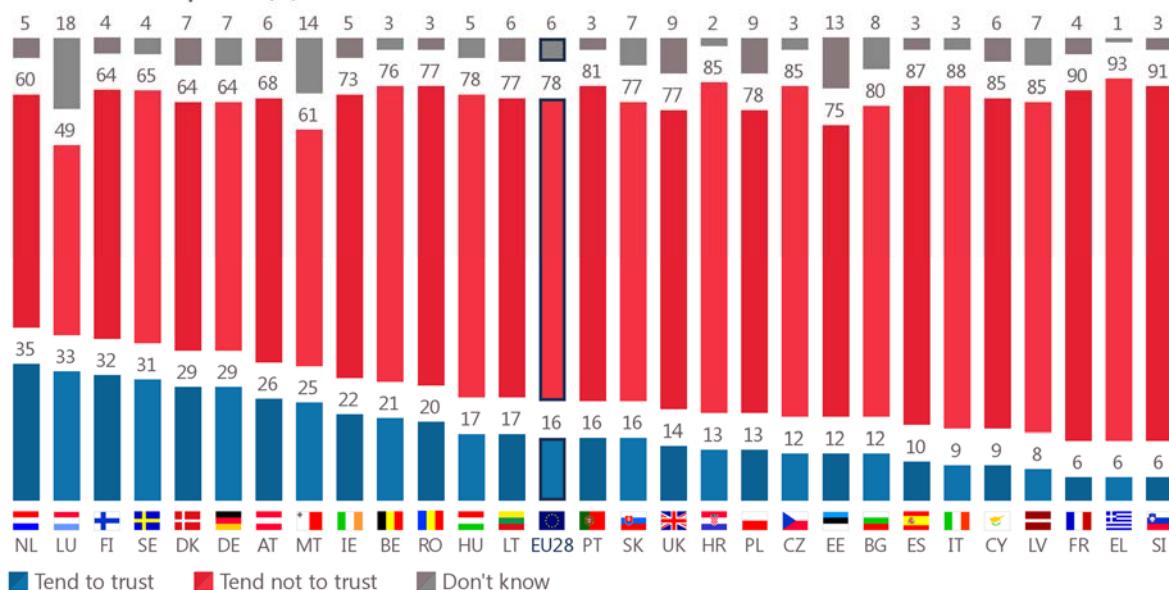


Political parties

A majority of respondents in all Member States, as in spring 2016, distrust **political parties**, but distrust has decreased by ten percentage points in Lithuania (to 77%).

QA8a.10 I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain media and institutions. For each of the following media and institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.

Political parties (%)

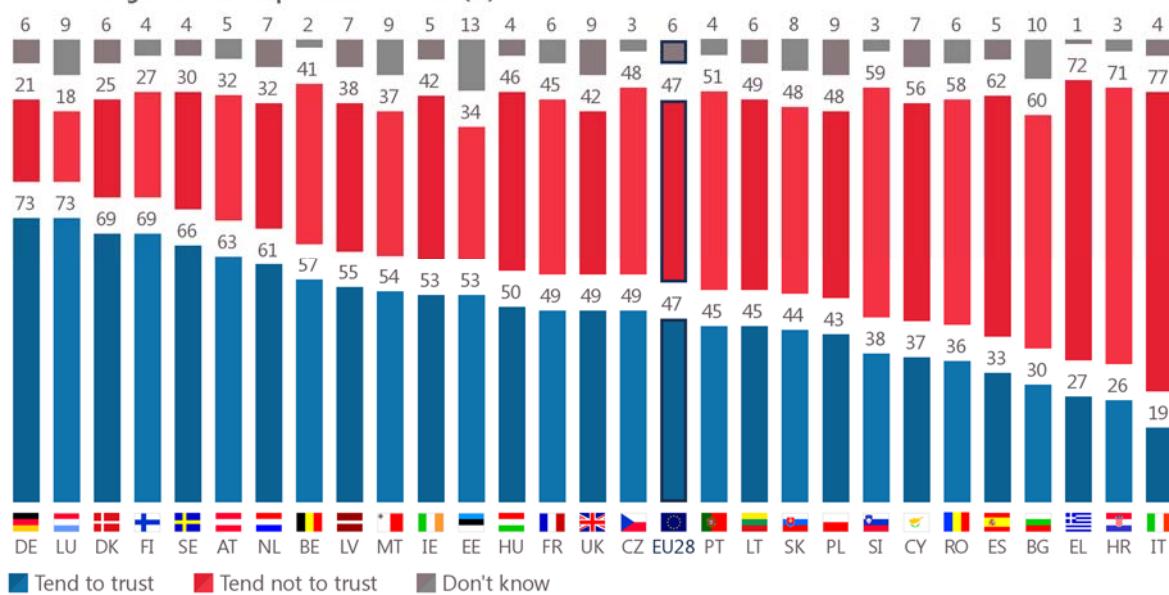


Regional and local public authorities

A majority of respondents in 16 Member States (compared with 15 in spring 2016) trust regional and local public authorities, especially in Germany (73% “tend to trust” versus 21% “tend not to trust”) and Luxembourg (73% versus 18%). Distrust exceeds 70% in Italy (19% versus 77%), Greece (27% versus 72%) and Croatia (26% versus 71%).

QA8a.11 I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain media and institutions. For each of the following media and institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.

Regional or local public authorities (%)



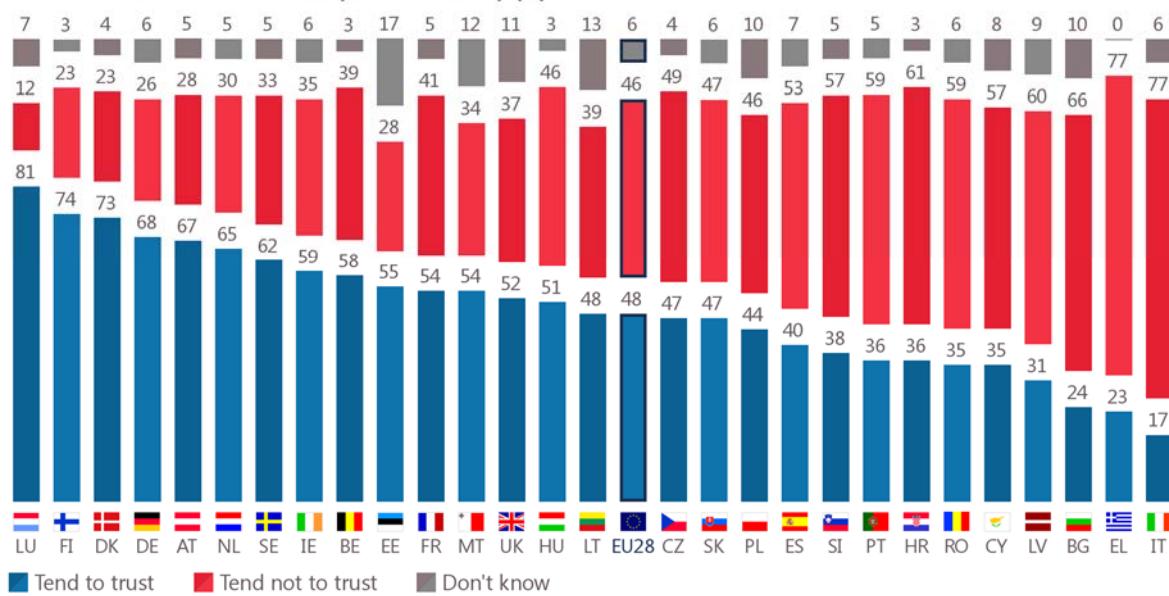
Public administration

A majority of respondents in 15 Member States (compared with 14 in spring 2016) trust **public administration**, most notably in Luxembourg (81% versus 12%), Finland (74% versus 23%) and Denmark (73% versus 23%). Distrust is widespread in Italy (17% “tend to trust” versus 77%) and Greece (23% versus 77%).

Opinions on national public administration have improved considerably – by more than ten percentage points – in Finland (+13 percentage points to 74%), the Netherlands (+12 to 65%) and Germany (+12 to 68%).

QA8a.9 I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain media and institutions. For each of the following media and institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.

Public administration in (OUR COUNTRY) (%)

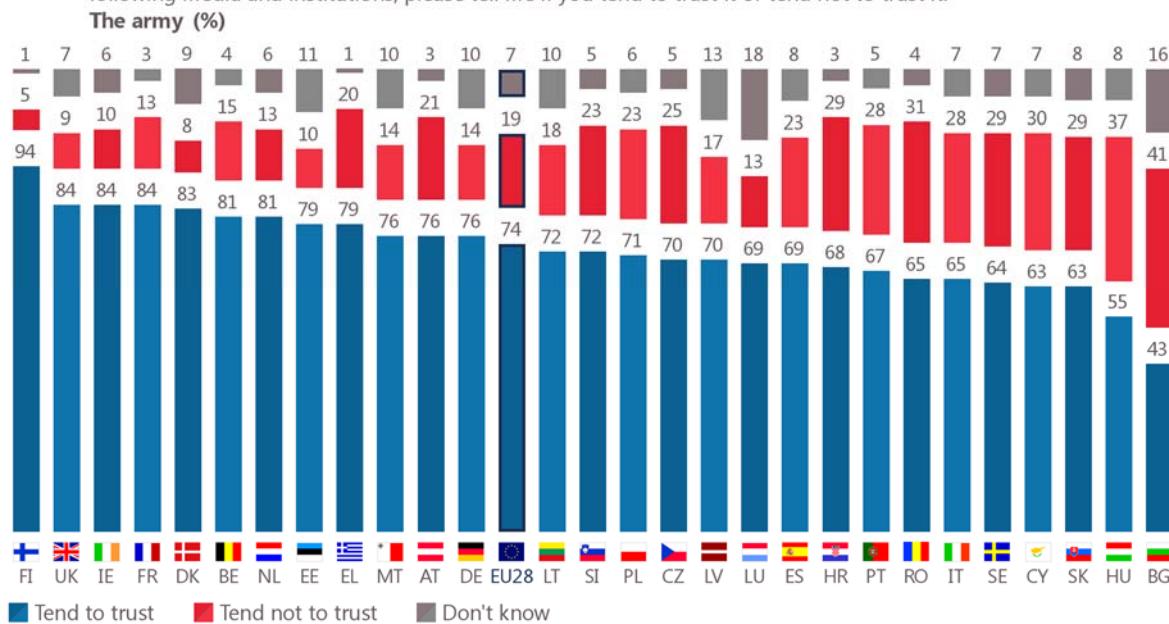


The army, the police and the justice system

As was the case in spring 2016, a majority of respondents in all 28 Member States of the European Union **trust the army**. However, trust varies considerably between countries: the highest score was recorded in Finland (94% versus 5%), while respondents are far more divided in Bulgaria (43% “tend to trust” versus 41% “tend not to trust”).

Trust has increased significantly since spring 2016 in Luxembourg (+12 percentage points to 69%) and the Netherlands (+11 to 81%).

QA8a.8 I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain media and institutions. For each of the following media and institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.

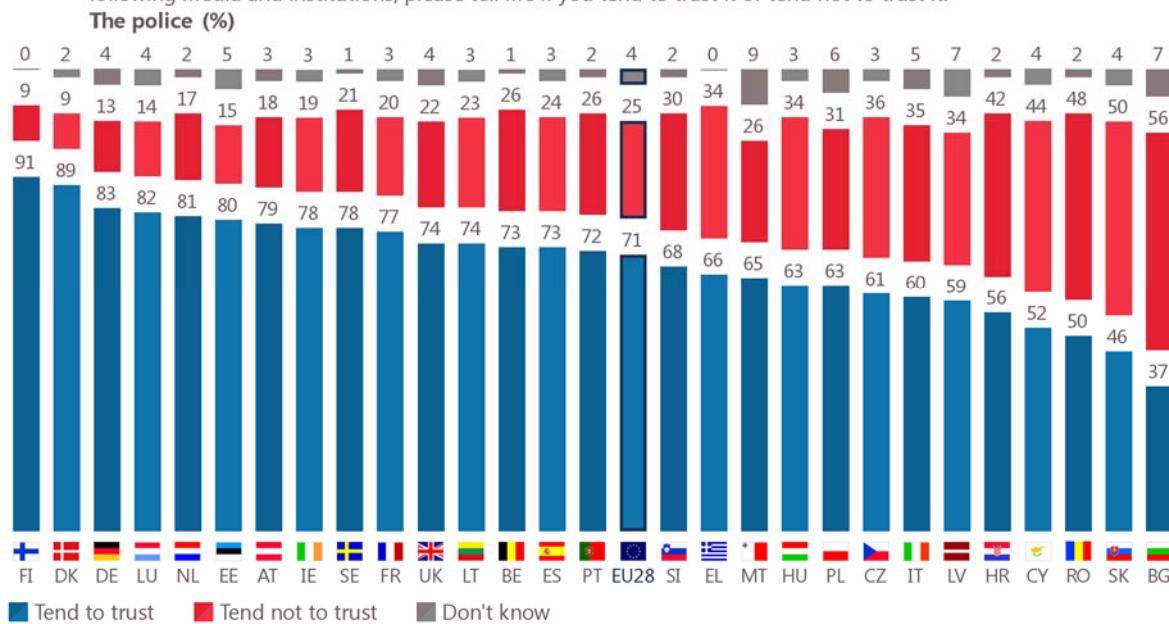


A majority of respondents in 26 Member States (versus 25 in spring 2016) trust **the police**, most markedly in Finland (91% “tend to trust” versus 9% “tend not to trust”) and Denmark (89% versus 9%).

A majority of respondents distrust the police in Bulgaria (37% versus 56%) and Slovakia (46% versus 50%).

Trust in the police has increased since spring 2016 in Poland (63%, +13 percentage points) and Croatia (56%, +9), where it is now the majority view.

QA8a.7 I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain media and institutions. For each of the following media and institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.

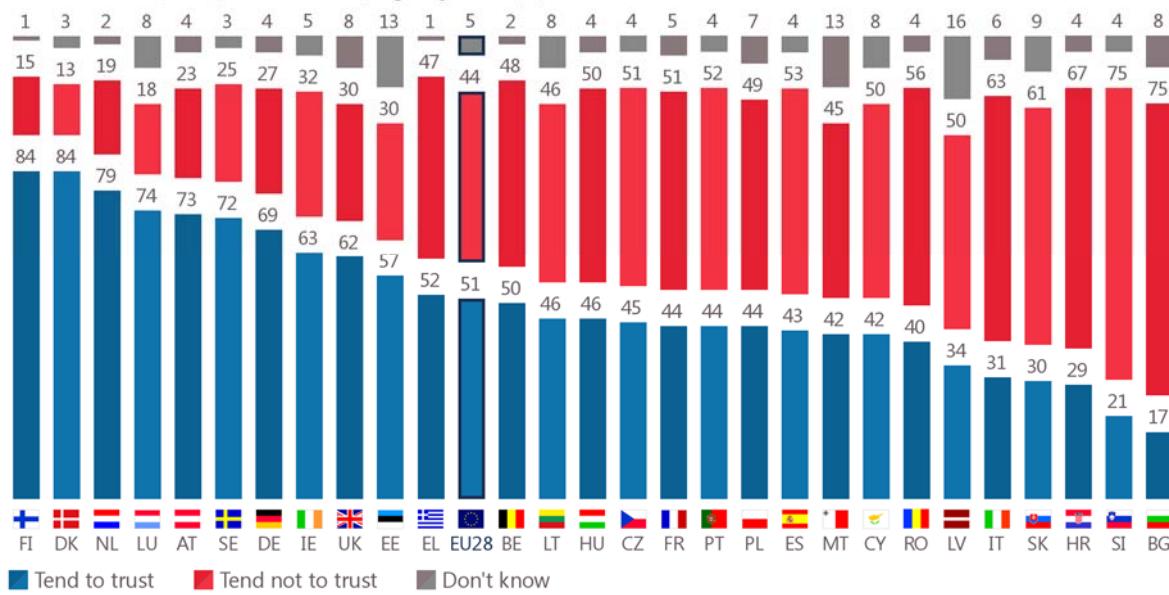


A majority of respondents in 12 countries trust the **justice/legal system**, as in spring 2016. Trust exceeds 80% in Finland (84% “tend to trust” versus 15% “tend not to trust”) and Denmark (84% versus 13%). However, three-quarters of respondents distrust the justice system in Bulgaria (17% versus 75% “tend not to trust”) and Slovenia (21% versus 75%).

Trust in justice and the legal system has increased significantly in Germany (69%, +11 percentage points since spring 2016).

QA8a.6 I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain media and institutions. For each of the following media and institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.

Justice/ the (NATIONALITY) legal system (%)



QA8a

I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain media and institutions. For each of the following media and institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.

(% - TEND TO TRUST)

	EU28	EU	The army		The police		Justice/ the (NATIONALITY) legal system		Public administration in (OUR COUNTRY)	
			Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016				
EU28	EU	EU	74	▲ 1	71	=	51	=	48	▲ 3
BE	Belgium	Belgium	81	▼ 1	73	▼ 4	50	▲ 1	58	▲ 7
BG	Bulgaria	Bulgaria	43	▼ 1	37	▼ 2	17	▼ 3	24	▼ 3
CZ	Czech Republic	Czech Republic	70	▼ 3	61	▼ 1	45	▲ 2	47	▼ 2
DK	Denmark	Denmark	83	▲ 2	89	▼ 2	84	=	73	▲ 4
DE	Germany	Germany	76	▲ 8	83	▲ 4	69	▲ 11	68	▲ 12
EE	Estonia	Estonia	79	▲ 1	80	=	57	▼ 5	55	▲ 2
IE	Ireland	Ireland	84	▼ 1	78	▲ 7	63	▲ 7	59	▲ 8
EL	Greece	Greece	79	▲ 1	66	▲ 3	52	▲ 6	23	▲ 3
ES	Spain	Spain	69	▲ 1	73	▲ 5	43	▲ 3	40	▲ 6
FR	France	France	84	▼ 2	77	▼ 4	44	▼ 8	54	▼ 3
HR	Croatia	Croatia	68	▲ 5	56	▲ 9	29	▲ 4	36	▲ 10
IT	Italy	Italy	65	▼ 1	60	▼ 5	31	▼ 5	17	▼ 6
CY	Cyprus	Cyprus	63	▲ 9	52	▲ 2	42	▲ 5	35	▲ 5
LV	Lithuania	Lithuania	70	▲ 7	59	▼ 1	34	▼ 8	31	▲ 3
LT	Lithuania	Lithuania	72	▲ 2	74	▲ 5	46	▲ 6	48	▲ 8
LU	Luxembourg	Luxembourg	69	▲ 12	82	▲ 1	74	▲ 9	81	▲ 4
HU	Hungary	Hungary	55	▲ 2	63	▲ 5	46	▲ 1	51	▲ 5
MT	Malta	Malta	76	=	65	▲ 6	42	=	54	▼ 2
NL	Netherlands	Netherlands	81	▲ 11	81	▲ 2	79	▲ 6	65	▲ 12
AT	Austria	Austria	76	▲ 2	79	▼ 2	73	▲ 1	67	▲ 2
PL	Poland	Poland	71	▲ 3	63	▲ 13	44	▲ 2	44	▲ 5
PT	Portugal	Portugal	67	=	72	▲ 5	44	▲ 1	36	=
RO	Romania	Romania	65	▼ 7	50	=	40	▲ 5	35	▲ 5
SI	Slovenia	Slovenia	72	▲ 5	68	▲ 6	21	▲ 2	38	▲ 6
SK	Slovakia	Slovakia	63	=	46	▼ 1	30	▲ 1	47	▲ 6
FI	Finland	Finland	94	▲ 3	91	▼ 3	84	=	74	▲ 13
SE	Sweden	Sweden	64	▲ 8	78	▼ 6	72	▼ 6	62	▲ 1
UK	United Kingdom	United Kingdom	84	▼ 4	74	▼ 5	62	▼ 5	52	▼ 2

QA8a

I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain media and institutions. For each of the following media and institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.

(% - TEND TO TRUST)

	EU28	EU	Regional or local public authorities		The (NATIONALITY) Parliament		The (NATIONALITY) Government		Political parties	
			Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016
EU28	EU	47	▲ 1	32	▲ 4	31	▲ 4	16	▲ 1	
BE	Belgium	57	▲ 1	43	▲ 6	41	▲ 7	21	▲ 3	
BG	Bulgaria	30	▼ 2	15	▲ 3	22	▼ 2	12	▲ 1	
CZ	Czech Republic	49	▼ 2	20	▲ 3	28	▲ 1	12	▼ 1	
DK	Denmark	69	▲ 1	58	▲ 2	46	▲ 3	29	▼ 1	
DE	Germany	73	▲ 8	55	▲ 14	51	▲ 12	29	▲ 7	
EE	Estonia	53	=	34	▲ 1	37	▼ 6	12	▼ 2	
IE	Ireland	53	▲ 7	40	▲ 11	40	▲ 12	22	▲ 5	
EL	Greece	27	▲ 4	12	▲ 2	9	▼ 2	6	▲ 1	
ES	Spain	33	▲ 7	17	▲ 2	20	▲ 6	10	▲ 4	
FR	France	49	▼ 2	19	▲ 1	17	▲ 3	6	▲ 2	
HR	Croatia	26	▲ 4	24	▲ 9	26	▲ 11	13	▲ 3	
IT	Italy	19	▼ 3	15	▼ 4	15	=	9	▼ 3	
CY	Cyprus	37	▲ 2	25	▲ 2	32	▲ 4	9	▲ 3	
LV	Lithuania	55	▲ 2	21	▲ 4	32	▲ 5	8	▲ 1	
LT	Lithuania	45	▲ 7	22	▲ 12	29	▲ 5	17	▲ 9	
LU	Luxembourg	73	▲ 4	50	▲ 6	66	▲ 13	33	▲ 4	
HU	Hungary	50	▼ 1	30	▲ 4	35	▲ 5	17	=	
MT	Malta	54	▼ 3	48	▼ 1	52	▼ 3	25	▼ 2	
NL	Netherlands	61	▲ 4	61	▲ 7	59	▲ 5	35	=	
AT	Austria	63	▲ 1	49	▲ 6	40	▲ 4	26	▼ 1	
PL	Poland	43	▲ 1	23	▲ 4	26	▲ 4	13	=	
PT	Portugal	45	▼ 2	36	▲ 4	39	▲ 6	16	▲ 3	
RO	Romania	36	▲ 1	22	▲ 8	29	▲ 5	20	▲ 7	
SI	Slovenia	38	▲ 3	14	▲ 2	17	▲ 1	6	▼ 1	
SK	Slovakia	44	▲ 3	29	▼ 3	32	▼ 1	16	=	
FI	Finland	69	▲ 6	63	▲ 9	58	▲ 17	32	▲ 7	
SE	Sweden	66	=	66	▲ 6	56	▲ 11	31	▲ 4	
UK	United Kingdom	49	▼ 3	37	▲ 2	35	▲ 1	14	▼ 3	

The following tables show the results by socio-demographic criteria in the European Union as a whole (EU28 average), in the six largest EU countries and in the countries benefiting or having benefited from European Union support to deal with the financial and economic crisis.

QA8a.8 I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain media and institutions. For each of the following media and institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.

The army

(% - TEND TO TRUST)

	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
TOTAL	74	76	69	84	65	71	84	79	67	84	63
Gender											
Male	74	77	69	83	62	71	85	79	72	87	64
Female	74	74	69	84	66	71	83	79	63	82	61
Age											
15-24	75	74	71	83	63	81	82	81	72	81	64
25-39	72	72	63	81	65	64	81	77	70	82	55
40-54	74	75	71	84	65	67	84	72	67	86	64
55 +	75	78	72	85	64	74	87	84	64	86	68
Education (End of)											
15-	72	81	67	85	61	56	91	84	62	85	73
16-19	74	75	68	84	68	74	85	77	67	83	61
20+	75	74	73	82	68	68	79	75	71	86	53
Still studying	77	73	70	86	69	82	87	87	77	80	70
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	72	73	75	78	68	61	82	79	74	83	64
Managers	80	81	68	84	73	72	86	77	68	91	57
Other white collars	72	72	59	85	73	73	77	70	75	84	53
Manual workers	72	74	69	79	63	68	83	78	67	81	61
House persons	73	66	79	84	65	64	90	80	65	83	58
Unemployed	66	68	66	84	42	59	80	66	52	79	59
Retired	75	79	69	87	62	73	85	87	64	88	72
Students	77	73	70	86	69	82	87	87	77	80	70

QA8a.7 I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain media and institutions. For each of the following media and institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.

The police

(% - TEND TO TRUST)

	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
TOTAL	71	83	73	77	60	63	74	66	72	78	52
Gender											
Male	69	84	69	75	56	58	73	62	73	78	54
Female	73	83	77	79	64	67	75	70	72	78	50
Age											
15-24	72	86	65	68	63	69	77	66	76	80	57
25-39	69	79	67	74	59	56	76	54	77	78	47
40-54	71	82	78	79	56	62	72	62	71	76	53
55 +	73	86	75	81	63	66	74	76	70	79	53
Education (End of)											
15-	68	84	71	74	57	47	67	77	66	74	57
16-19	69	82	75	77	59	62	72	61	75	73	44
20+	76	85	75	79	68	65	78	60	77	85	50
Still studying	76	86	68	72	71	72	87	78	77	79	63
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	67	91	77	74	60	50	67	57	73	75	50
Managers	79	87	83	80	70	65	78	71	68	86	41
Other white collars	72	82	69	83	62	73	77	56	80	89	46
Manual workers	68	80	75	72	54	57	72	59	75	76	54
House persons	74	81	84	79	67	63	81	73	83	76	58
Unemployed	59	62	63	70	40	42	66	54	59	61	43
Retired	72	87	71	82	61	66	71	79	70	77	55
Students	76	86	68	72	71	72	87	78	77	79	63

Q8a.6 I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain media and institutions. For each of the following media and institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.

Justice/ the (NATIONALITY) legal system

(% - TEND TO TRUST)

	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
TOTAL	51	69	43	44	31	44	62	52	44	63	42
Gender											
Male	52	70	39	46	32	41	67	49	48	65	44
Female	51	68	46	42	30	47	58	55	39	60	39
Age											
15-24	56	73	46	51	38	48	60	58	48	65	38
25-39	53	68	35	50	30	49	66	44	45	65	40
40-54	53	71	48	43	34	43	64	50	42	63	45
55 +	48	66	43	38	27	40	59	55	42	60	43
Education (End of)											
15-	43	63	44	31	28	27	50	57	38	51	39
16-19	46	64	42	30	29	46	57	49	44	56	44
20+	60	76	42	56	38	44	74	45	46	73	37
Still studying	63	78	45	69	40	51	78	68	51	62	47
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	49	64	47	55	32	32	57	50	49	70	43
Managers	68	80	37	62	54	48	72	61	50	82	36
Other white collars	52	71	36	46	39	48	64	45	50	62	33
Manual workers	48	66	44	35	24	49	56	39	41	56	40
House persons	48	67	51	46	29	45	56	63	53	54	49
Unemployed	40	43	42	36	23	28	57	42	32	49	44
Retired	47	67	38	36	25	40	60	55	40	62	46
Students	63	78	45	69	40	51	78	68	51	62	47

Q8a.9 I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain media and institutions. For each of the following media and institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.

Public administration in (OUR COUNTRY)

(% - TEND TO TRUST)

	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
TOTAL	48	68	40	54	17	44	52	23	36	59	35
Gender											
Male	48	68	40	56	16	41	54	19	38	61	33
Female	48	67	41	53	19	48	49	26	34	57	37
Age											
15-24	51	69	44	45	18	50	61	26	37	60	30
25-39	49	66	37	61	19	41	59	16	31	56	35
40-54	48	68	44	54	18	36	50	19	34	57	37
55 +	47	69	38	55	16	49	44	27	39	62	37
Education (End of)											
15-	40	65	38	50	16	47	37	30	33	55	42
16-19	46	66	40	52	17	44	49	19	37	55	39
20+	54	72	46	60	16	43	59	17	40	62	32
Still studying	54	69	42	51	26	50	71	33	41	59	28
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	39	66	49	43	14	31	47	15	32	63	34
Managers	62	76	47	65	32	45	60	28	48	65	41
Other white collars	50	70	46	67	25	45	56	21	48	60	28
Manual workers	46	64	38	49	19	39	50	17	29	58	37
House persons	45	77	45	61	14	45	48	31	21	55	64
Unemployed	37	48	38	50	7	29	47	14	20	35	30
Retired	47	67	34	55	13	52	44	26	39	64	38
Students	54	69	42	51	26	50	71	33	41	59	28

Q8a.11 I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain media and institutions. For each of the following media and institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.

Regional or local public authorities

(% - TEND TO TRUST)

	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
TOTAL	47	73	33	49	19	43	49	27	45	53	37
Gender											
Male	47	73	30	49	19	40	52	25	49	57	39
Female	48	73	36	50	19	46	46	30	42	50	36
Age											
15-24	52	74	44	60	16	45	57	17	43	54	47
25-39	47	68	23	52	21	39	60	24	40	57	31
40-54	46	73	34	46	20	36	42	29	47	50	31
55 +	48	76	37	46	19	50	42	31	47	52	42
Education (End of)											
15-	43	76	37	48	17	47	41	33	50	49	47
16-19	45	68	28	47	19	41	46	27	45	48	40
20+	52	79	33	48	24	44	52	24	42	58	28
Still studying	55	78	41	64	18	48	66	23	36	60	46
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	39	71	25	26	21	35	49	26	42	52	38
Managers	59	77	41	52	29	46	57	36	43	62	21
Other white collars	46	78	27	48	29	36	40	22	54	53	29
Manual workers	46	69	32	49	20	39	50	24	44	50	34
House persons	42	82	35	53	16	46	36	31	16	49	45
Unemployed	36	46	31	43	9	29	52	22	45	39	38
Retired	48	76	36	48	15	51	41	33	51	55	43
Students	55	78	41	64	18	48	66	23	36	60	46

Q8a.13 I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain media and institutions. For each of the following media and institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.

The (NATIONALITY) Parliament

(% - TEND TO TRUST)

	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
TOTAL	32	55	17	19	15	23	37	12	36	40	25
Gender											
Male	32	56	19	20	15	21	39	11	38	45	24
Female	31	54	16	18	15	24	36	13	33	36	25
Age											
15-24	35	60	21	23	14	17	46	11	35	41	20
25-39	30	49	13	18	16	24	38	9	38	42	15
40-54	32	58	17	17	15	20	36	14	35	40	28
55 +	32	55	20	20	14	26	34	13	34	38	33
Education (End of)											
15-	24	47	19	15	9	27	26	16	32	31	26
16-19	29	50	14	15	15	23	35	11	36	34	27
20+	39	65	20	22	22	22	41	11	42	51	22
Still studying	39	61	16	32	17	16	59	11	37	37	23
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	29	53	20	18	19	22	33	10	29	47	16
Managers	47	72	18	31	34	20	39	15	43	56	30
Other white collars	31	52	16	12	22	20	40	9	45	42	16
Manual workers	27	47	15	13	12	25	32	16	37	34	23
House persons	25	55	20	13	13	19	40	8	26	30	46
Unemployed	20	31	19	14	3	12	29	12	23	21	20
Retired	32	55	18	20	10	26	37	15	34	46	32
Students	39	61	16	32	17	16	59	11	37	37	23

QA8a.12 I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain media and institutions. For each of the following media and institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.

The (NATIONALITY) Government
(% - TEND TO TRUST)

	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
TOTAL	31	51	20	17	15	26	35	9	39	40	32
Gender											
Male	32	50	18	18	15	26	36	8	42	45	31
Female	31	51	20	16	14	26	35	10	36	35	33
Age											
15-24	34	59	20	17	11	17	42	6	33	40	29
25-39	30	43	11	20	17	25	38	9	41	41	22
40-54	30	51	21	13	16	20	31	10	40	42	34
55 +	32	53	23	17	14	33	33	10	38	37	40
Education (End of)											
15-	26	45	22	17	13	29	28	9	39	25	37
16-19	29	46	17	14	14	31	34	9	40	35	35
20+	36	60	21	18	20	22	35	10	44	50	28
Still studying	37	58	15	25	12	17	55	7	32	38	29
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	28	41	20	21	21	21	32	7	35	47	35
Managers	42	61	19	21	23	21	36	17	44	54	36
Other white collars	31	53	14	12	26	20	28	8	47	39	26
Manual workers	28	41	18	15	12	29	31	13	43	35	28
House persons	28	54	29	18	11	18	44	6	21	30	54
Unemployed	20	30	18	11	3	20	30	8	31	24	17
Retired	32	54	21	17	11	33	36	10	37	44	43
Students	37	58	15	25	12	17	55	7	32	38	29

QA8a.10 I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain media and institutions. For each of the following media and institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.

Political parties
(% - TEND TO TRUST)

	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
TOTAL	16	29	10	6	9	13	14	6	16	22	9
Gender											
Male	16	30	8	6	10	12	16	7	18	24	9
Female	16	28	11	5	9	15	12	6	13	20	9
Age											
15-24	20	38	8	9	10	12	23	1	23	19	17
25-39	15	24	6	7	9	14	15	6	17	26	5
40-54	16	29	8	4	12	10	14	8	14	21	6
55 +	16	29	14	5	7	15	9	7	14	20	12
Education (End of)											
15-	14	25	12	10	6	10	11	7	14	16	11
16-19	14	26	9	3	10	15	12	7	17	21	9
20+	18	33	8	5	10	14	12	7	14	26	6
Still studying	22	40	2	11	11	9	33	0	23	19	16
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	13	26	6	3	8	11	12	8	11	30	14
Managers	21	35	7	2	17	13	11	8	19	23	8
Other white collars	17	27	7	4	18	14	4	5	25	24	6
Manual workers	14	21	5	8	8	14	14	11	14	25	2
House persons	16	33	17	0	10	16	17	4	3	17	23
Unemployed	12	15	13	5	4	11	19	7	11	11	8
Retired	16	31	13	5	4	14	12	7	14	24	11
Students	22	40	2	11	11	9	33	0	23	19	16

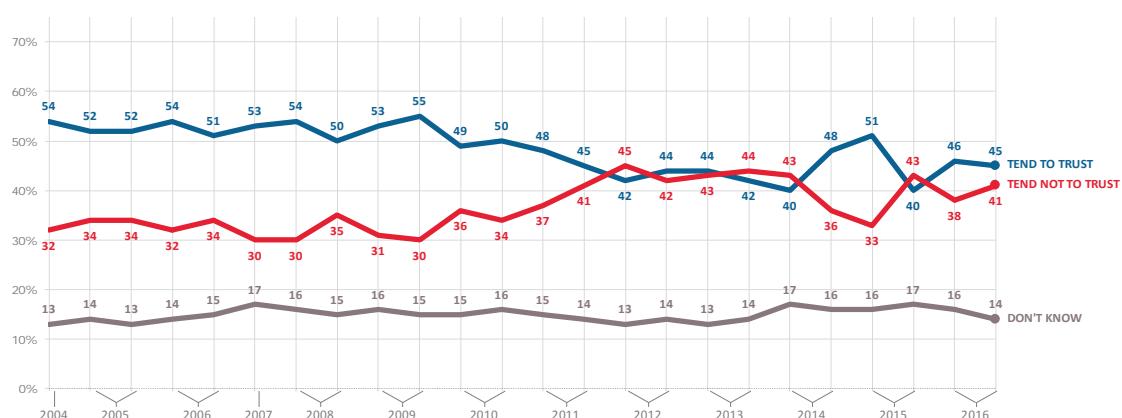
2. The United Nations

Trust in the United Nations has dipped slightly

A majority of Europeans trust the United Nations¹⁶, but slightly fewer do so than at the time of the Standard Eurobarometer survey of spring 2016 (EB85): 45% “tend to trust” the UN, representing a fall of one percentage point, and 41% “tend not to trust”, up three percentage points.

This means that a majority of respondents still trust the United Nations, whereas they tended to distrust this institution in spring 2012, autumn 2013, spring 2014 and autumn 2015.

QA8a.15 I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain media and institutions. For each of the following media and institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.
The United Nations (% - EU)



A majority of respondents in 18 Member States (down from 20 in spring 2016) trust the United Nations, most notably in Denmark (71% “tend to trust” versus 18% “tend not to trust”), Sweden (70% versus 25%) and Finland (69% versus 24%). Distrust is particularly strong in Greece (23% “tend to trust” versus 74%) and Cyprus (28% versus 60%).

A majority of respondents distrust the United Nations in three Member States where trust was predominant in spring 2016: the Czech Republic (40% “tend to trust”, -3 percentage points, versus 46% “tend not to trust”, +8), Croatia (44%, -1, versus 47%, +5) and France (43%, -2, versus 44%, +7). However, a minority of respondents now distrust the UN in Spain (44% “tend to trust”, +4, versus 42%, -4). The proportion of respondents who distrust the UN has increased sharply in the Netherlands (60% “tend to trust”, -5, versus 31%, +9), but they remain the minority.

¹⁶ QA8a.15. I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain institutions. For each of the following institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it. The United Nations.

QA8a.15

I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain media and institutions. For each of the following media and institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.

The United Nations (%)

		Tend to trust	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Tend not to trust	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Don't know
EU28		45	▼ 1	41	▲ 3	14
PL		49	▲ 6	34	▲ 2	17
BG		43	▲ 6	31	▼ 2	26
PT		63	▲ 4	27	▼ 3	10
ES		44	▲ 4	42	▼ 4	14
IE		59	▲ 3	30	▲ 5	11
CY		28	▲ 3	60	▼ 4	12
SE		70	▲ 2	25	▼ 1	5
EE		45	▲ 2	23	▲ 5	32
EL		23	▲ 2	74	▼ 2	3
LT		57	▲ 1	23	▲ 3	20
RO		47	▲ 1	43	▲ 5	10
DE		41	▲ 1	43	▼ 1	16
DK		71	=	18	▲ 3	11
BE		52	=	43	▲ 7	5
LU		45	=	35	▲ 6	20
SK		42	=	43	▲ 1	15
HU		45	▼ 1	42	=	13
HR		44	▼ 1	47	▲ 5	9
LV		44	▼ 1	30	=	26
SI		34	▼ 1	54	▲ 4	12
FR		43	▼ 2	44	▲ 7	13
AT		38	▼ 2	50	▲ 4	12
FI		69	▼ 3	24	▲ 5	7
UK		54	▼ 3	31	▲ 3	15
CZ		40	▼ 3	46	▲ 8	14
NL		60	▼ 5	31	▲ 9	9
MT		53	▼ 6	20	▲ 4	27
IT		32	▼ 6	50	▲ 6	18

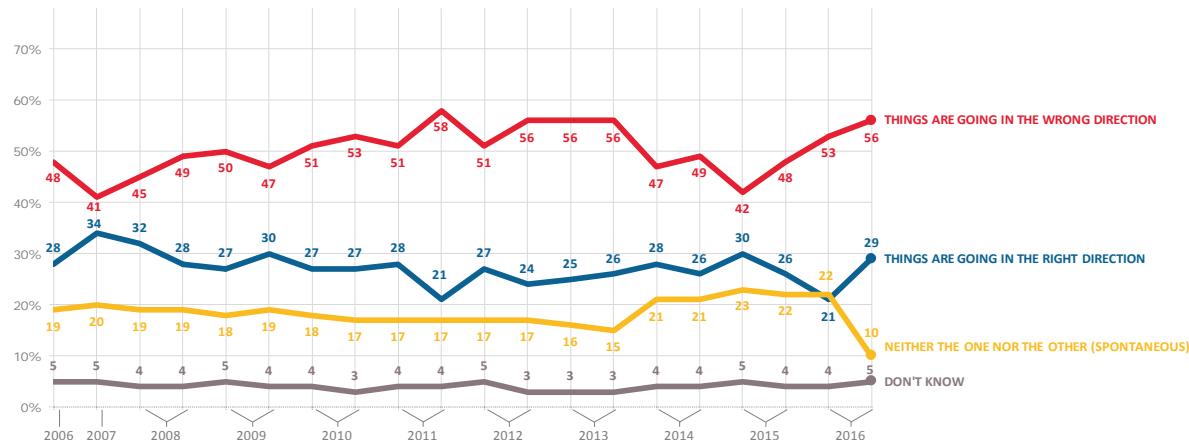
5 The direction in which things are going

The impression that things are going in the wrong direction nationally and in the EU continues to grow, though positive impressions have also improved

The direction in which things are going at national level

A growing majority of Europeans think that things are going “in the wrong direction” in their country¹⁷. This opinion is shared by 56% of respondents, an increase of three percentage points since the Standard Eurobarometer survey of spring 2016 and 14 percentage points since spring 2015. However, the impression that things are going “in the right direction” has also gained ground: 29% of respondents gave this answer (+8 percentage points since spring 2016). The proportion of respondents who answered *spontaneously* that things are going in neither the right nor the wrong direction has fallen sharply (10%, -12).

D73a.1 At the present time, would you say that, in general, things are going in the right direction or in the wrong direction, in...? (OUR COUNTRY) (% - EU)



¹⁷ D73a.1. At the present time, would you say that, in general, things are going in the right direction or in the wrong direction? In (OUR COUNTRY).

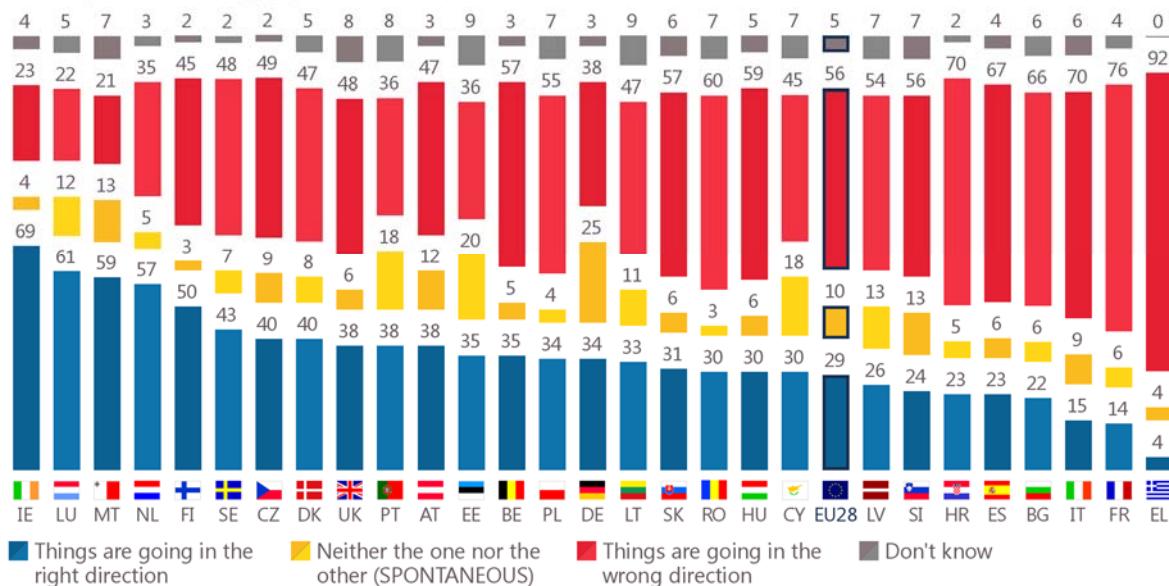
A majority of respondents in six Member States (compared with four in spring 2016) feel that things are going “in the right direction” in their country: Ireland (69% versus 23% “in the wrong direction”), Luxembourg (61% versus 22%), Malta (59% versus 21%), the Netherlands (57% versus 35%), Finland (50% versus 45%) and Portugal (38% versus 36%).

More than three-quarters of respondents in Greece (4% versus 92%) and France (14% versus 76%) have the impression that things are going “in the wrong direction”.

Opinions on this indicator have evolved significantly since spring 2016: the impression that things are going “in the right direction” has gained ten or more percentage points in 16 Member States, led by Luxembourg (+18 percentage points to 61%), Finland (+14 to 50%), Ireland (+14 to 69%), Lithuania (+14 to 33%) and Hungary (+14 to 30%), while respondents are significantly more likely to feel that things are going “in the wrong direction” in Italy (+17 to 70%), Bulgaria (+13 to 66%), Slovakia (+10 to 57%) and the United Kingdom (+10 to 48%).

D73a.1 At the present time, would you say that, in general, things are going in the right direction or in the wrong direction, in...?

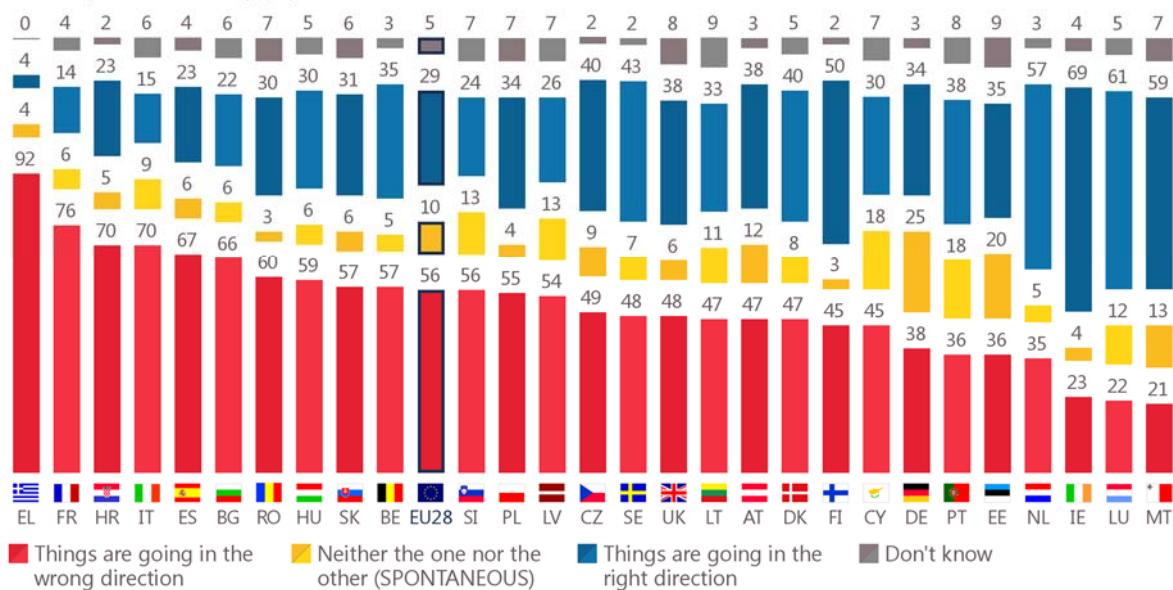
(OUR COUNTRY) (%)



Breakdown of the answer “Things are going in the right direction”

D73a.1 At the present time, would you say that, in general, things are going in the right direction or in the wrong direction, in...?

(OUR COUNTRY) (%)



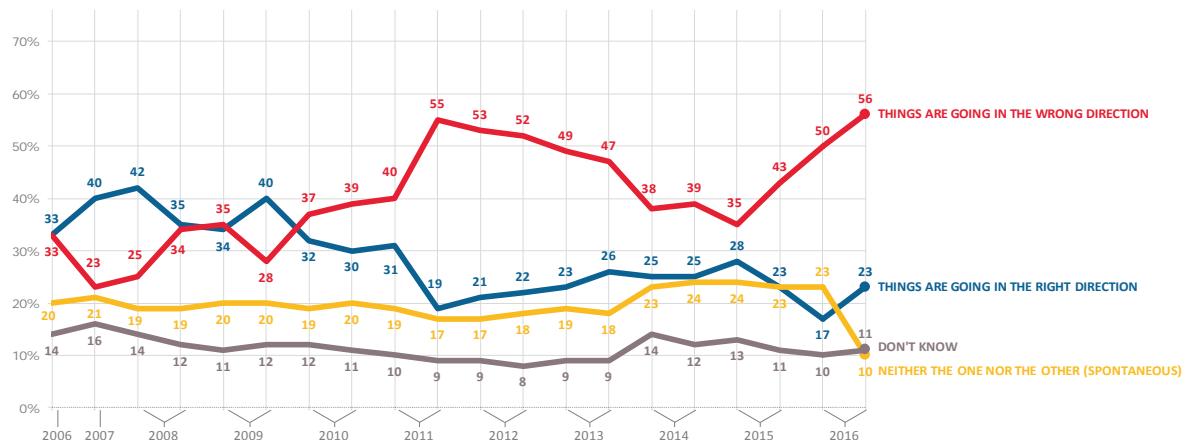
Breakdown of the answer "Things are going in the wrong direction"

The direction in which things are going in the European Union

The views of Europeans on the direction taken by the European Union parallel their feelings about the national direction: the impression that things are going "in the wrong direction" has gained ground (56%, +6 percentage points since spring 2016), but so has the impression that things are going "in the right direction" (23%, +6). At the same time, the proportion of respondents giving the spontaneous response "neither the one nor the other" has decreased significantly (10%, -13).

D73a.2 At the present time, would you say that, in general, things are going in the right direction or in the wrong direction, in...?

The European Union (% - EU)



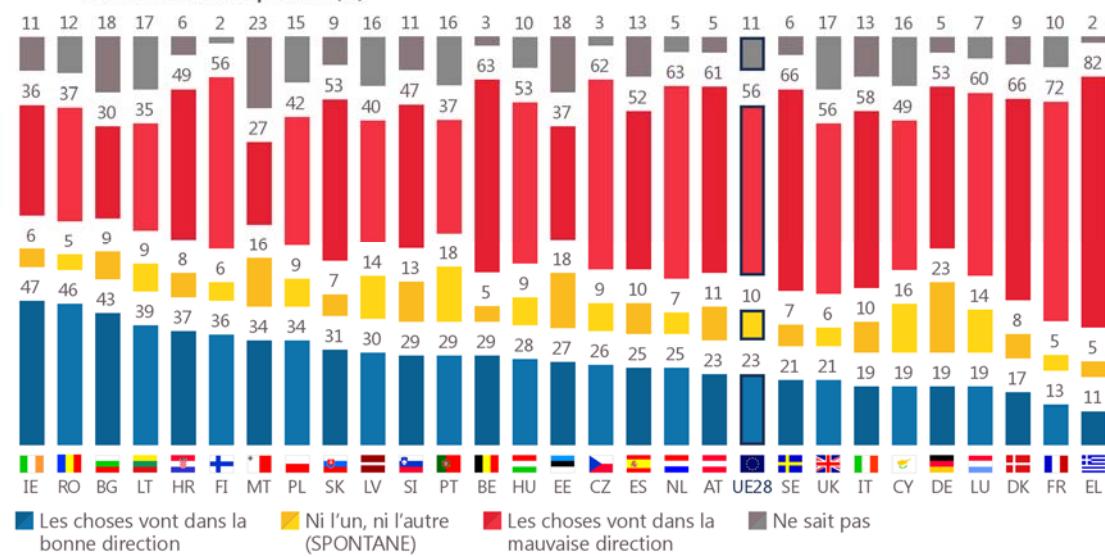
As in spring 2016, a majority of respondents in 23 Member States think that things are going “in the wrong direction” in the European Union. This view is particularly widespread in Greece (11% “in the right direction” versus 82% “in the wrong direction”) and France (13% versus 72%). Opinions are predominantly positive in Ireland (47% versus 36%), Romania (46% versus 37%), Bulgaria (43% versus 30%), Lithuania (39% versus 35%) and Malta (34% versus 27%).

Just as at national level, the impression that things are going “in the right direction” in the EU has gained ten or more percentage points in many Member States (nine in total), led by Poland (+15 percentage points to 34%).

However, the impression that things are going “in the wrong direction” in the EU has also gained significant ground, and by at least ten percentage points in eight countries, in particular in Croatia (+17 percentage points to 49%), Italy (+16 to 58%) and Finland (+13 to 56%).

D73a.2 En ce moment, diriez-vous que, d'une manière générale, les choses vont dans la bonne direction ou dans la mauvaise direction ... ?

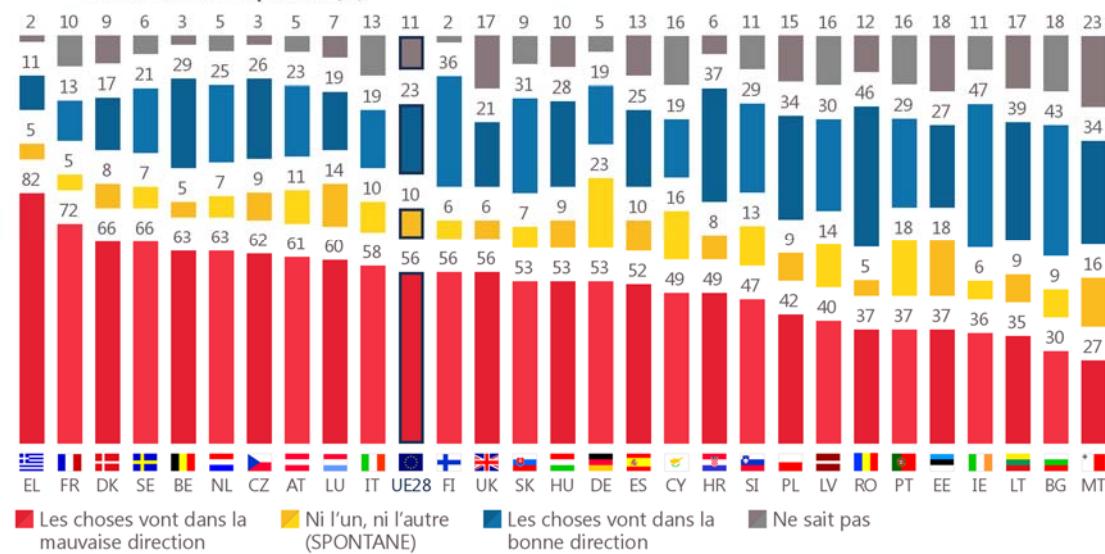
Dans l'Union européenne (%)



Breakdown of the answer “Things are going in the right direction”

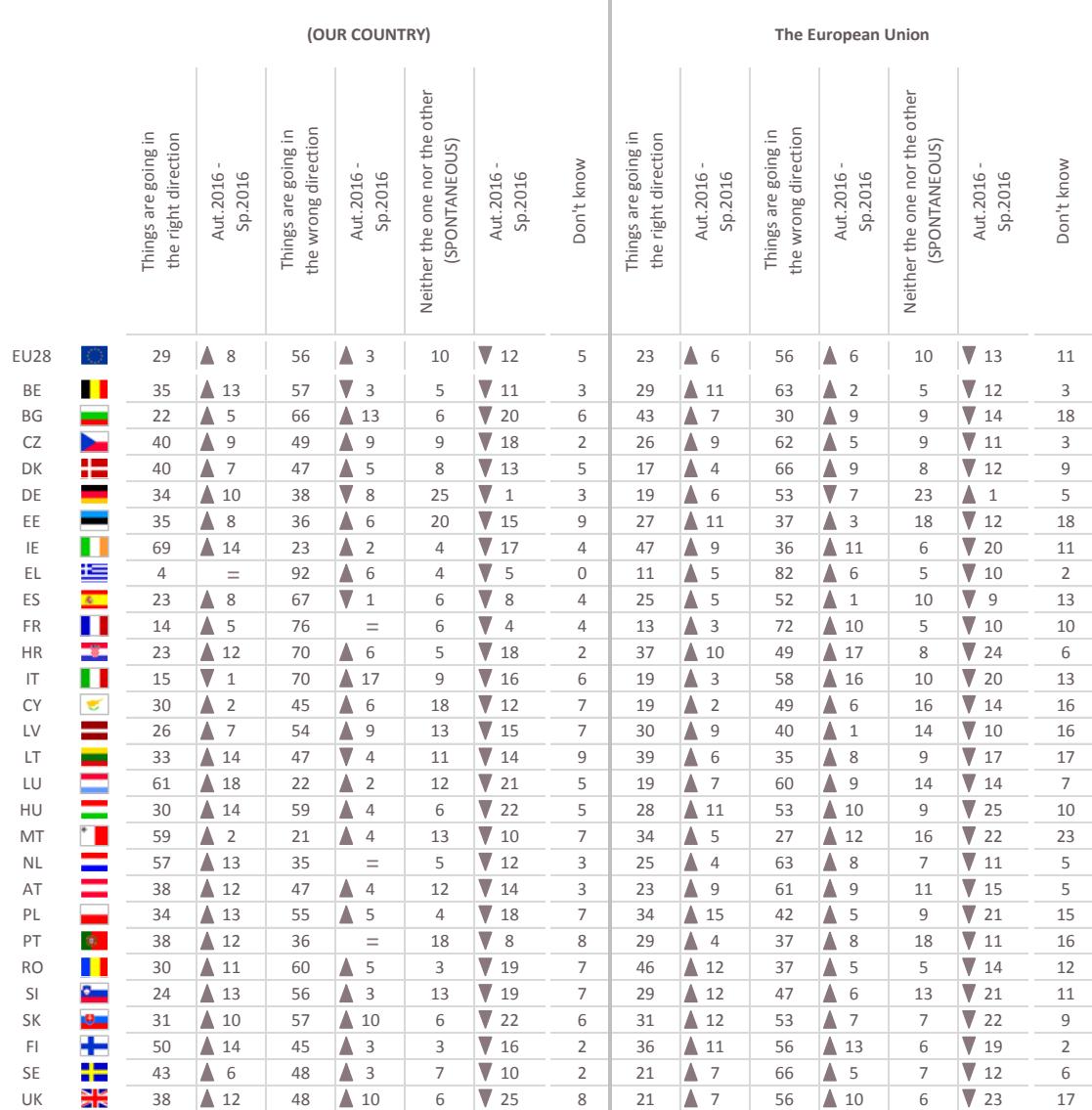
D73a.2 En ce moment, diriez-vous que, d'une manière générale, les choses vont dans la bonne direction ou dans la mauvaise direction ... ?

Dans l'Union européenne (%)



Breakdown of the answer “Things are going in the wrong direction”

D73a At the present time, would you say that, in general, things are going in the right direction or in the wrong direction, in...? (%)



The following tables show the results by socio-demographic criteria in the European Union as a whole (EU28 average), in the six largest EU countries and in the countries benefiting or having benefited from European Union support to deal with the financial and economic crisis.

D73a.1 At the present time, would you say that, in general, things are going in the right direction or in the wrong direction, in...?

(OUR COUNTRY)

(%- THINGS ARE GOING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION)

	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
TOTAL	29	34	23	14	15	34	38	4	38	69	30
Gender											
Male	31	34	28	18	15	36	42	5	40	72	36
Female	27	34	19	11	14	32	33	4	35	67	24
Age											
15-24	33	40	31	19	13	34	28	4	45	78	32
25-39	29	32	16	16	18	36	31	3	38	72	27
40-54	28	33	26	12	17	27	36	5	41	66	31
55 +	29	34	24	12	12	36	47	5	33	66	31
Education (End of)											
15-	25	30	26	11	10	41	47	4	32	53	26
16-19	28	32	19	10	14	33	40	5	41	64	34
20+	32	36	26	17	25	33	29	4	39	77	29
Still studying	36	44	23	26	21	37	30	5	50	80	28
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	28	26	26	18	18	34	35	3	40	76	42
Managers	38	42	22	15	40	31	38	11	42	79	25
Other white collars	30	33	32	13	20	32	29	2	42	73	24
Manual workers	27	27	20	12	13	36	36	3	41	69	32
House persons	25	46	22	7	16	40	25	6	17	63	34
Unemployed	18	14	19	11	1	31	31	4	27	43	28
Retired	29	35	28	13	7	32	48	5	31	65	30
Students	36	44	23	26	21	37	30	5	50	80	28

D73a.1 At the present time, would you say that, in general, things are going in the right direction or in the wrong direction, in...?

(OUR COUNTRY)

(%- THINGS ARE GOING IN THE WRONG DIRECTION)

	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
TOTAL	56	38	67	76	70	55	48	92	36	23	45
Gender											
Male	56	40	64	72	74	55	47	92	34	22	46
Female	57	37	69	79	67	55	49	93	37	23	45
Age											
15-24	52	35	58	68	66	57	56	86	26	14	50
25-39	58	43	74	76	71	53	54	94	34	21	42
40-54	58	40	65	79	73	62	51	93	32	26	48
55 +	56	37	65	77	70	52	38	92	42	26	43
Education (End of)											
15-	60	40	66	79	73	47	38	93	41	36	46
16-19	58	43	69	81	73	55	45	92	35	26	43
20+	54	33	65	73	66	56	59	94	35	17	41
Still studying	48	32	64	59	52	57	54	83	15	14	55
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	60	50	68	72	72	60	52	92	42	14	24
Managers	48	28	65	71	59	63	54	88	34	17	51
Other white collars	57	35	61	80	69	60	55	97	32	19	50
Manual workers	58	47	70	81	72	51	44	92	29	22	44
House persons	60	28	68	83	68	39	58	93	43	27	40
Unemployed	69	58	68	80	86	58	56	95	50	43	47
Retired	56	37	64	76	74	53	38	92	44	27	43
Students	48	32	64	59	52	57	54	83	15	14	55

D73a.2 At the present time, would you say that, in general, things are going in the right direction or in the wrong direction, in...?

The European Union

(% - THINGS ARE GOING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION)

	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
TOTAL	23	19	25	13	19	34	21	11	29	47	19
Gender											
Male	24	18	28	15	21	32	22	12	30	49	22
Female	22	19	22	10	16	36	20	10	28	45	16
Age											
15-24	30	29	37	15	24	39	25	12	39	54	32
25-39	25	16	22	16	18	36	22	13	30	43	19
40-54	24	18	31	13	21	36	24	10	34	46	14
55 +	20	17	19	10	16	29	17	11	22	48	15
Education (End of)											
15-	18	18	23	14	10	26	15	9	25	39	11
16-19	23	18	24	9	20	33	22	9	32	46	21
20+	25	18	30	15	26	36	22	14	29	47	19
Still studying	31	25	32	21	30	42	26	15	40	56	29
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	22	11	31	10	21	27	18	10	32	46	33
Managers	26	22	30	13	45	27	22	17	28	52	11
Other white collars	27	18	32	13	25	38	25	12	37	35	15
Manual workers	24	18	23	14	15	38	25	11	33	51	19
House persons	20	27	18	7	15	43	16	11	10	43	12
Unemployed	18	9	25	12	8	26	19	8	22	32	14
Retired	19	17	22	10	11	30	18	11	21	49	16
Students	31	25	32	21	30	42	26	15	40	56	29

D73a.2 At the present time, would you say that, in general, things are going in the right direction or in the wrong direction, in...?

The European Union

(% - THINGS ARE GOING IN THE WRONG DIRECTION)

	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
TOTAL	56	53	52	72	58	42	56	82	37	36	49
Gender											
Male	58	56	54	72	60	46	63	82	38	39	55
Female	54	51	51	72	57	39	50	83	36	33	43
Age											
15-24	50	49	42	63	47	40	54	72	26	29	41
25-39	56	53	62	70	58	46	55	82	39	40	53
40-54	57	54	51	77	60	39	56	85	38	40	55
55 +	57	54	50	74	60	43	58	84	39	32	46
Education (End of)											
15-	56	48	51	72	64	41	57	83	36	38	43
16-19	57	54	59	77	59	42	54	86	41	36	48
20+	58	54	52	71	58	45	61	83	44	37	53
Still studying	49	54	49	54	42	36	56	65	17	28	46
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	61	66	54	73	62	53	63	82	46	28	44
Managers	57	47	49	72	44	58	66	78	47	37	55
Other white collars	54	51	55	72	52	46	49	86	40	45	54
Manual workers	55	54	53	73	65	41	46	84	33	36	54
House persons	52	44	42	77	61	29	52	84	41	31	39
Unemployed	61	62	57	80	63	42	55	88	44	46	54
Retired	58	54	57	74	63	39	60	83	37	35	42
Students	49	54	49	54	42	36	56	65	17	28	46

II. THE EUROPEAN UNION AND ITS CITIZENS

1 Attachment to the European Union

a. What does the European Union stand for?

“Freedom of movement”, “the euro” and “peace” are the representations the most frequently associated with the European Union

“The freedom to travel, study and work anywhere in the EU” is the most frequently mentioned representation associated with the European Union (49%, -1 percentage point since spring 2016)¹⁸, ahead of **“the euro”** (35%, unchanged), and **“peace”** (28%, +1), which, as a result of minor changes, has moved into third place above **“cultural diversity”** (26%, -2). Next, in fifth, sixth and seventh places we find three negative representations: **“bureaucracy”** (25%, -1), **“a waste of money”** (24%, -2) and **“not enough control at external borders”** (24%, -1). These are closely followed by two positive representations of the European Union, namely **“a stronger say in the world”** (22%, =) and **“democracy”** (21%, +1). All the other representations were mentioned by fewer than 20% of respondents: **“more crime”** (15%, -2), **“economic prosperity”** (13%, =), **“unemployment”** (13%, -1), **“loss of our cultural identity”** (13%, -2) and **“social protection”** (10%, +1). 2% of respondents spontaneously mention another item (-1), and 3% expressed no opinion (=).

Since it was first introduced in the Standard Eurobarometer of spring 2002 (EB57), this indicator characterising the representations associated with the European Union has remained fairly stable over time, with freedom of movement within the EU and the euro always ranked highest, significantly ahead of the other items.

¹⁸ QA11. What does the EU mean to you personally?

QA11 What does the EU mean to you personally?

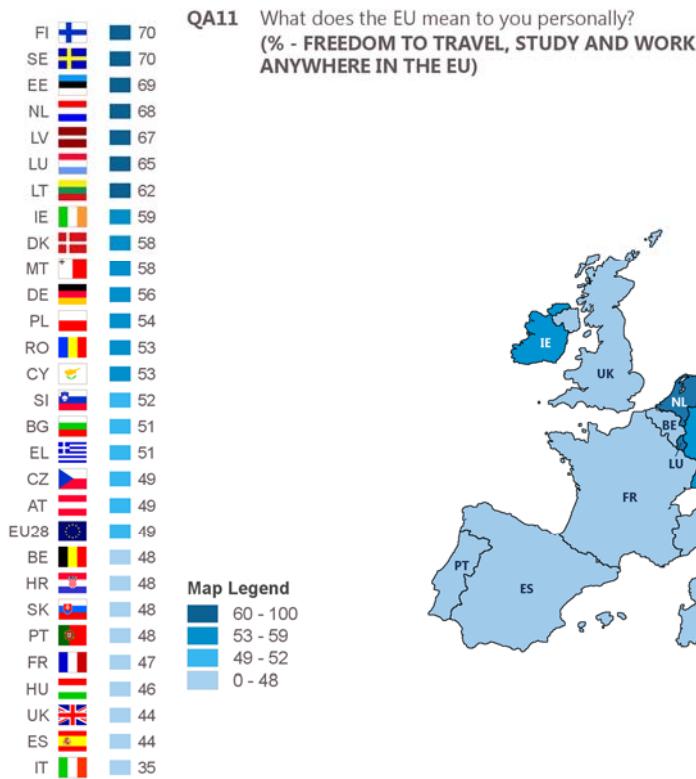
(% - EU)



"The freedom to travel, study and work anywhere in the EU" is the most frequently mentioned representation in both the **euro area** (49%, ahead of "the euro" (44%) and "peace" (29%) and the **non-euro area** countries (50%, ahead of "peace" (24%) and "cultural diversity", "a stronger say in the world" and "bureaucracy", ranked equally (23%)).

It tops the list of representations associated with the European Union in 25 Member States, with scores in excess of 50% in 17 countries, led by Sweden (70%), Finland (70%), Estonia (69%), the Netherlands (68%) and Latvia (67%). It is ranked equally with "the euro" in Belgium (48%).

"The euro" is the representation the most frequently associated with the EU in Austria (55%) and Italy (37%).



Respondents in Germany (48%), Luxembourg (48%), Denmark (44%) and Sweden (42%) are the most likely to associate “**peace**” with the European Union.

Respondents are most likely to associate “**cultural diversity**” with the EU in Luxembourg (44%), Sweden (35%), Finland (35%), Austria (34%) and Malta (34%).

Respondents in Sweden (58%), Finland (47%), the Netherlands (45%) and the Czech Republic (41%) are the most likely to associate “**bureaucracy**” with the European Union.

Lastly, among national particularities, we found that respondents in Austria (43%), the Czech Republic (42%) and France (38%) are more likely than the European average to mention “**a waste of money**”. This also holds true in Austria (47%) and the Czech Republic (40%) for “**not enough control at external borders**”; in Sweden (42%), Malta (37%) and Denmark (35%) for “**a stronger say in the world**”; and lastly in Cyprus (44%), Greece (35%) and Austria (32%) for “**unemployment**”.

QA11 What does the EU mean to you personally?
(%)

		Freedom to travel, study and work anywhere in the EU		Euro		Peace		Cultural diversity		Bureaucracy		Waste of money		Not enough control at external borders		Stronger say in the world		Democracy		More crime		Economic prosperity		Unemployment		Loss of our cultural identity		Social protection	
EU28		49	35	28	26	25	24	24	24	22	21	15	13	13	13	13	10												
BE		48	48	30	28	22	33	33	25	21	19	17	17	17	13	13	14												
BG		51	9	22	21	10	12	19	17	23	9	15	5	11	12														
CZ		49	17	31	16	41	42	40	23	18	28	12	12	15	7														
DK		58	19	44	33	38	16	28	35	31	16	17	9	15	13														
DE		56	49	48	33	39	34	30	22	32	29	16	12	10	7														
EE		69	44	24	28	26	18	23	15	14	9	9	8	14	11														
IE		59	40	25	24	22	11	14	27	21	7	23	9	11	17														
EL		51	46	27	23	10	17	22	24	13	14	6	35	26	11														
ES		44	42	17	25	20	14	13	18	16	5	13	10	5	10														
FR		47	45	28	33	23	38	35	22	16	9	6	17	15	7														
HR		48	23	20	24	18	14	15	22	21	13	22	7	13	15														
IT		35	37	14	20	14	18	20	18	16	15	7	20	11	7														
CY		53	35	22	31	20	23	25	15	20	30	5	44	27	14														
LV		67	32	21	28	22	18	17	11	12	8	15	14	13	12														
LT		62	28	33	32	13	15	11	20	23	7	17	4	8	16														
LU		65	58	48	44	26	24	25	30	35	16	19	11	8	17														
HU		46	16	20	21	15	11	23	18	20	14	14	8	9	10														
MT		58	36	25	34	20	15	25	37	31	10	20	10	13	15														
NL		68	55	39	29	45	23	23	34	19	15	27	8	19	7														
AT		49	55	37	34	30	43	47	28	25	42	19	32	34	18														
PL		54	20	27	22	18	12	11	26	26	7	14	7	9	10														
PT		48	35	12	23	9	13	19	26	19	16	13	17	9	10														
RO		53	23	28	20	17	18	17	18	29	16	21	12	17	17														
SI		52	47	35	24	27	22	20	15	18	23	14	14	11	8														
SK		48	43	25	16	26	25	21	23	16	20	14	12	13	7														
FI		70	58	36	35	47	31	23	20	22	19	14	10	10	10														
SE		70	24	42	35	58	35	21	42	32	17	12	10	10	9														
UK		44	10	17	23	20	19	23	21	14	5	16	8	16	12														
1st MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM		2nd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM		3rd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM																									

The freedom to travel, study and work anywhere in the EU is the most frequently mentioned representation in all socio-demographic categories (equal with the euro among respondents who left school at the age of 15 or earlier). However, it is more frequently mentioned by 15-24 year-olds (59%), students (64%), those who studied up to the age of 20 and beyond (62%), managers (64%) and those who see themselves as “upper middle class” (68%), than by respondents aged 55+ (42%), those who left school at the age of 15 or earlier (34%), unemployed people (44%), retired people (42%), house persons (38%), those who struggle to pay their bills most of the time (40%), and those who see themselves as “lower middle class” (44%) or “working class” (43%).

15-24 year-olds (39%), those who studied up to the age of 20 and beyond (40%), students (42%) and those who see themselves as “upper middle class” (47%) are more likely than the oldest respondents (31% of those aged 55+), those who completed their education between the ages of 16 and 19 (31%) and those who see themselves as “working class” (30%) to **associate the euro with the European Union**.

Representations associating peace with the European Union are slightly more widespread among respondents aged 55+ (30%), those who studied up to the age of 20 and beyond (32%), managers (33%), and above all among those who see themselves as “upper middle class” (42%) or “upper class” (44%).

QA11 What does the EU mean to you personally?
(% - EU)

	Freedom to travel, study and work anywhere in the EU	Euro	Peace	Cultural diversity	Bureaucracy	Waste of money	Not enough control at external borders	Stronger say in the world	Democracy	More crime	Economic prosperity	Unemployment	Loss of our cultural identity	Social protection
EU28	49	35	28	26	25	24	24	22	21	15	13	13	13	10
Gender														
Man	49	35	28	25	28	26	25	23	22	15	14	14	13	9
Woman	49	35	27	27	21	22	23	21	20	14	13	13	12	10
Age														
15-24	59	39	27	32	15	13	15	23	25	9	16	9	7	14
25-39	56	37	25	30	23	20	20	24	22	11	15	12	11	10
40-54	50	37	27	28	28	26	26	24	22	16	14	14	13	10
55 +	42	31	30	21	27	28	28	20	19	18	11	15	15	8
Education (End of)														
15-	34	34	24	14	18	26	25	14	15	18	8	18	14	8
16-19	45	31	26	23	26	28	27	20	20	17	12	15	14	9
20+	62	40	32	37	31	21	22	30	25	12	18	9	11	10
Still studying	64	42	31	35	18	11	12	26	28	5	16	7	7	15
Socio-professional category														
Self-employed	54	37	26	28	29	22	22	25	21	12	16	12	12	9
Managers	64	37	33	37	32	19	20	34	28	10	22	8	10	11
Other white collars	53	38	27	28	26	22	21	25	24	13	14	11	13	10
Manual workers	48	34	23	24	22	26	27	19	19	17	12	13	13	10
House persons	38	36	22	22	16	19	21	17	16	10	11	14	10	8
Unemployed	44	37	20	25	26	27	24	16	17	19	9	25	14	9
Retired	42	31	32	21	26	30	29	20	18	18	11	15	15	8
Students	64	42	31	35	18	11	12	26	28	5	16	7	7	15
Difficulties paying bills														
Most of the time	40	30	19	21	21	32	27	16	14	19	8	27	20	10
From time to time	43	33	22	22	19	24	24	20	18	16	12	17	14	10
Almost never/ Never	53	36	31	29	28	23	24	24	23	14	15	10	11	9
Consider belonging to														
The working class	43	30	23	19	21	26	25	16	17	15	10	16	14	9
The lower middle class	44	32	25	23	26	28	27	19	17	17	12	17	15	9
The middle class	52	38	29	30	26	22	23	26	23	14	15	11	12	10
The upper middle class	68	47	42	39	33	20	20	33	30	12	20	7	9	9
The upper class	58	34	44	32	29	11	18	41	43	11	24	12	15	11

The following tables show the results by socio-demographic criteria in the European Union as a whole (EU28 average), in the six largest EU countries and in the countries benefiting or having benefited from European Union support to deal with the financial and economic crisis.

QA11 What does the EU mean to you personally?

(% - FREEDOM TO TRAVEL, STUDY AND WORK ANYWHERE IN THE EU)

	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
TOTAL	49	56	44	47	35	54	44	51	48	59	53
Gender											
Male	49	54	47	49	35	53	43	52	51	62	50
Female	49	59	41	46	36	55	44	49	46	57	55
Age											
15-24	59	67	53	64	41	57	53	63	58	75	59
25-39	56	61	50	52	50	56	53	60	62	59	51
40-54	50	55	52	41	34	55	47	52	53	62	62
55 +	42	52	31	43	28	50	30	41	34	49	44
Education (End of)											
15-	34	50	35	32	22	42	21	35	41	47	40
16-19	45	48	47	36	39	52	39	49	54	53	56
20+	62	69	55	59	48	58	62	60	57	66	52
Still studying	64	70	54	72	49	63	58	70	63	75	69
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	54	62	39	64	44	55	54	51	64	72	54
Managers	64	64	53	69	44	66	60	50	62	65	67
Other white collars	53	60	53	47	41	55	45	56	45	55	55
Manual workers	48	53	47	41	36	46	41	49	54	63	51
House persons	38	46	26	29	35	61	44	37	15	49	66
Unemployed	44	49	52	44	29	51	26	53	49	54	49
Retired	42	51	36	40	24	51	32	46	33	46	37
Students	64	70	54	72	49	63	58	70	63	75	69

QA11 What does the EU mean to you personally?

(% - EURO)

	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
TOTAL	35	49	42	45	37	20	10	46	35	40	35
Gender											
Male	35	47	42	45	34	22	8	46	35	39	41
Female	35	51	43	44	39	19	11	46	34	42	29
Age											
15-24	39	56	42	55	41	25	10	54	31	50	47
25-39	37	50	49	49	41	25	9	50	32	40	38
40-54	37	50	39	49	35	22	13	46	34	34	34
55 +	31	45	41	36	34	14	8	41	37	41	25
Education (End of)											
15-	34	49	40	28	41	17	7	42	39	33	27
16-19	31	46	41	35	33	17	9	46	37	43	34
20+	40	51	45	57	41	24	11	47	26	40	35
Still studying	42	57	44	58	35	29	14	53	34	44	49
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	37	58	50	49	33	27	11	43	34	36	46
Managers	37	52	40	59	32	16	8	43	27	38	45
Other white collars	38	56	47	46	39	23	7	53	32	43	31
Manual workers	34	43	41	46	33	24	12	50	36	41	37
House persons	36	35	43	45	38	19	14	48	32	43	23
Unemployed	37	56	44	40	43	11	5	45	31	30	32
Retired	31	46	37	35	37	15	8	40	38	42	24
Students	42	57	44	58	35	29	14	53	34	44	49

QA11 What does the EU mean to you personally?
(% - PEACE)

	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
TOTAL	28	48	17	28	14	27	17	27	12	25	22
Gender											
Male	28	46	17	34	13	26	20	25	13	26	24
Female	27	50	18	23	15	29	14	30	11	24	21
Age											
15-24	27	48	19	22	13	22	15	31	16	31	32
25-39	25	38	15	22	17	25	20	28	13	24	12
40-54	27	52	10	29	13	24	20	26	13	21	21
55 +	30	49	23	34	14	33	14	27	10	27	27
Education (End of)											
15-	24	43	22	39	11	30	13	25	10	20	31
16-19	26	45	16	23	14	29	13	28	13	22	21
20+	32	52	11	31	20	27	27	26	16	29	16
Still studying	31	54	18	28	17	23	15	38	15	28	36
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	26	59	7	36	16	18	16	22	11	34	20
Managers	33	49	6	36	18	20	24	19	23	26	21
Other white collars	27	45	20	18	21	31	16	34	8	34	23
Manual workers	23	39	15	21	13	23	15	20	13	23	15
House persons	22	42	17	26	11	30	18	24	0	13	23
Unemployed	20	39	14	23	4	25	10	27	17	18	16
Retired	32	52	26	34	13	35	17	29	9	28	27
Students	31	54	18	28	17	23	15	38	15	28	36

b. Support for EU membership and the perceived benefits of membership (candidate countries)

Support for EU membership has fallen sharply in Montenegro, Serbia and Turkey

Support for EU membership has increased since spring 2016 in Albania and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, but has decreased sharply in Montenegro, Serbia and Turkey. Approval is still the majority position in Montenegro, while opinions are now more or less evenly balanced in Serbia and supporters of membership are now in the minority in Turkey.¹⁹

QA6 Generally speaking, do you think that (OUR COUNTRY)'s membership of the EU would be...?
(%)

	A good thing	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016		Aut.2016 - Sp.2016		Neither good nor bad	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Don't know
		A bad thing	Neither good nor bad	A bad thing	Neither good nor bad			
CY (tcc)*	60	▲ 11	10	▼ 4	23	▼ 4	7	
AL	84	▲ 5	3	▼ 1	12	▼ 2	1	
MK	57	▲ 4	14	=	26	▼ 3	3	
ME	41	▼ 12	12	▲ 1	36	▲ 6	11	
RS	32	▼ 7	31	▲ 2	32	▲ 7	5	
TR	28	▼ 11	39	▲ 13	25	▼ 1	8	

* In the Turkish Cypriot Community, the question was:

"Generally speaking, do you think that for the Turkish Cypriot Community, the full application of EU legislation would be ...?"

¹⁹ QA6. Generally speaking, do you think that (OUR COUNTRY)'s membership of the EU would be...?

Support for the idea that membership of the European Union would be beneficial for their country has fallen sharply in Montenegro, where it nevertheless remains the majority opinion; in Serbia, where negative opinions have almost caught up; and in Turkey, where a minority of respondents now believe that membership would be beneficial.²⁰

QA7 Taking everything into account, would you say that (OUR COUNTRY) would benefit or not from being a member of the EU?
(%)

	Would benefit	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Would not benefit	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Don't know
CY (tcc)*	65	▲ 8	14	▼ 9	21
AL	88	▼ 2	7	▲ 2	5
MK	69	▲ 2	22	▼ 3	9
ME	59	▼ 10	25	▲ 5	16
RS	43	▼ 7	42	▲ 3	15
TR	44	▼ 9	46	▲ 8	10

* In the Turkish Cypriot Community, the question was: "Taking everything into consideration, would you say that the Turkish Cypriot Community would benefit or not from the full application of the EU legislation?"

The already very strong support for EU membership in Albania has consolidated even further: 84% of respondents (+5 percentage points since spring 2016) consider that "membership of the EU" would be "a good thing" for their country and 88% (-2) think that their country would benefit from membership.

Support for EU membership has also gained ground in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia: 57% of respondents (+4 percentage points) are in favour of their country joining the European Union while 14% (unchanged) are opposed and 26% (-3) are undecided. More than two-thirds of respondents (69%, +2) say that EU membership would be beneficial for their country.

Although a majority of respondents in Montenegro continue to favour EU membership, support has fallen sharply: 41% (-12 percentage points) of respondents in Montenegro say that the country's membership of the EU would be "a good thing", while 12% (+1) believe it would be "a bad thing", 36% (+6) consider that it would be "neither good nor bad" and 11% (+5) expressed no opinion. A large, but reduced majority of respondents continue to believe that EU membership would be beneficial (59%, -10).

²⁰ QA7. Taking everything into account, would you say that (OUR COUNTRY) would benefit or not from being a member of the EU?

After narrowing in spring 2016, the opinion ratio has deteriorated further in Serbia, and opinions are now almost evenly balanced: 32% (-7 percentage points) of respondents in this country consider that Serbia's membership of the EU would be a "good thing", while 31% (+2) say that it would be "a bad thing" and 32% (+7) think that it would be "neither good nor bad". Opinions are also almost evenly balanced on the perceived benefits of membership: 43% (-7) consider that EU membership would benefit their country while 42% (+3) take the opposite view.

Lastly, the balance of opinion regarding membership of the European Union has turned negative in this survey in Turkey: 28% (-11 percentage points) of respondents are in favour of their country joining the EU, while 39% (+13) are opposed to membership and 25% (-1) consider that it would be "neither good nor bad". The belief that EU membership would be beneficial has also declined significantly in this survey: 44% (-9) of respondents think that Turkey would benefit from joining the EU, while 46% (+8) disagree, and this is now the majority view.

c. Would it be easier to face the future outside the EU?

58% of Europeans (+3 percentage points since spring 2016) disagree that their country "could better face the future outside the EU", while 32% (-1) agree and 10% (-2) expressed no opinion²¹.

An increased majority of respondents believe that it is better to be inside than outside the EU in both the **euro area** (61%, +2 percentage points) and the **non-euro area** countries (50%, +3 versus 40%, +1).

This is the view of a majority of respondents in 24 Member States, with scores of at least 50% in 22 countries, led by the Netherlands (79%), Luxembourg (76%), Denmark (75%) and Germany (74%).

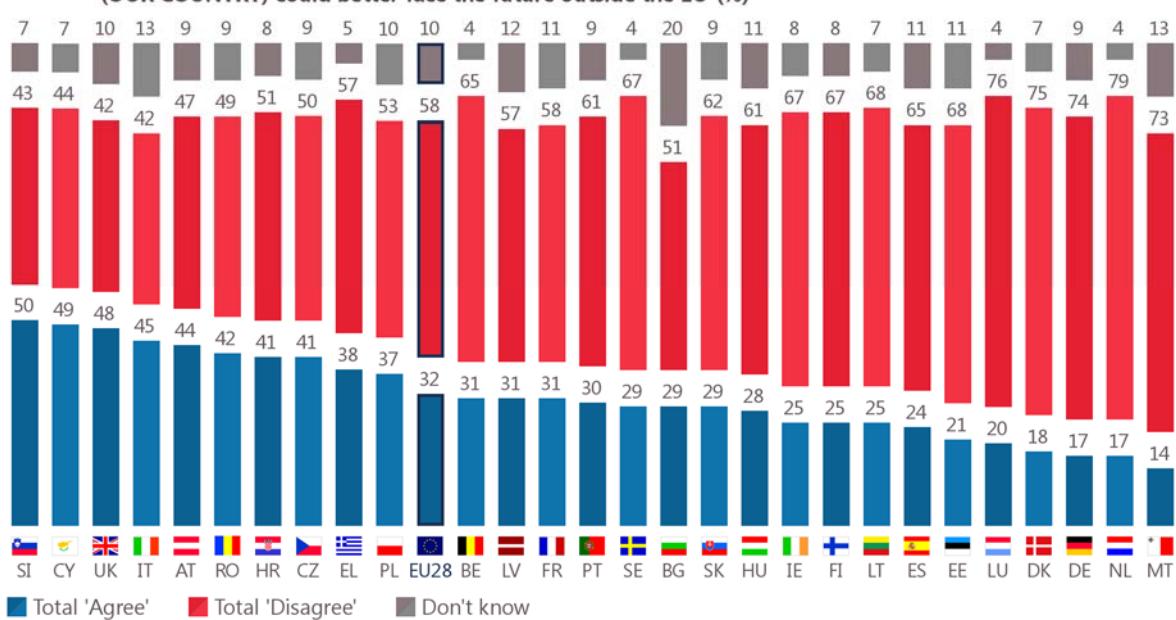
A majority of respondents agree with the statement in four Member States: Slovenia (50% "agree" versus 43%), Cyprus (49% versus 44%), the United Kingdom (48% versus 42%)²² and Italy, where this has become the majority opinion in this survey (45% versus 42% compared with 42% versus 46% in spring 2016).

Compared with spring 2016, opposition to leaving the EU has strengthened in 21 Member States, most notably in Malta (73%, +9 percentage points), Portugal (61%, +9), Germany (74%, +8) and Greece (57%, +7).

²¹ QA19a5. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with the following statement. (OUR COUNTRY) could better face the future outside the EU.

²² This trend was already apparent in the United Kingdom in the Standard Eurobarometer survey of spring 2016 (45% versus 37%).

QA19a.5 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.
(OUR COUNTRY) could better face the future outside the EU (%)



A majority of respondents in all socio-demographic categories believe that it would be easier to face the future inside rather than outside the EU, though to varying degrees. This belief is significantly more widespread among 15-24 year-olds (63%), managers (71%), students (70%), those who studied up to the age of 20 and beyond (68%) and those who never or almost never have difficulties paying their bills (62%) than among those aged 55+ (54%), manual workers (53%), unemployed people (47% versus 39%), those who left school at the age of 15 or earlier (48% versus 38%) and those who struggle to pay their bills most of the time (46% versus 41%).

QA19a.5 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

(OUR COUNTRY) could better face the future outside the EU (% - EU)

	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Don't know
EU28	32	58	10
Gender			
Man	34	59	7
Woman	31	57	12
Age			
15-24	27	63	10
25-39	31	60	9
40-54	34	58	8
55 +	35	54	11
Education (End of)			
15-	38	48	14
16-19	38	52	10
20+	25	68	7
Still studying	21	70	9
Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	31	62	7
Managers	24	71	5
Other white collars	33	60	7
Manual workers	37	53	10
House persons	35	52	13
Unemployed	39	47	14
Retired	35	54	11
Students	21	70	9
Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	41	46	13
From time to time	41	48	11
Almost never/ Never	29	62	9

The following tables show the results by socio-demographic criteria in the European Union as a whole (EU28 average), in the six largest EU countries and in the countries benefiting or having benefited from European Union support to deal with the financial and economic crisis.

QA19a.5 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

(OUR COUNTRY) could better face the future outside the EU

(% - TOTAL 'AGREE')

	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
TOTAL	32	17	24	31	45	37	48	38	30	25	44
Gender											
Male	34	19	23	30	50	36	51	40	28	29	47
Female	31	17	25	32	42	38	44	37	32	22	41
Age											
15-24	27	10	20	23	44	28	37	27	28	24	50
25-39	31	16	23	28	41	44	35	38	25	25	53
40-54	34	18	27	38	45	42	48	42	31	30	52
55 +	35	21	23	31	48	32	60	40	33	23	42
Education (End of)											
15-	38	24	26	37	44	24	67	43	33	25	52
16-19	38	2	27	42	45	39	53	37	30	3	48
20+	25	11	17	21	45	39	33	39	23	26	46
Still studying	21	8	20	12	42	29	25	26	21	23	52
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	31	15	21	10	46	29	41	44	21	25	42
Managers	24	13	14	10	57	37	38	26	21	37	41
Other white collars	33	23	21	28	41	50	42	35	45	21	45
Manual workers	3	19	25	43	45	46	49	36	24	22	52
House persons	35	15	27	46	42	35	51	47	25	23	53
Unemployed	39	34	27	45	42	40	46	45	37	27	64
Retired	35	20	24	31	48	28	62	37	34	23	40
Students	21	8	20	12	42	29	25	26	21	23	52

QA19a.5 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

(OUR COUNTRY) could better face the future outside the EU

(% - TOTAL 'DISAGREE')

	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
TOTAL	58	74	65	58	42	53	42	57	61	67	44
Gender											
Male	59	75	68	62	42	56	42	57	63	67	47
Female	57	72	62	55	40	49	44	56	59	67	41
Age											
15-24	63	84	68	65	43	59	52	70	64	65	44
25-39	60	74	67	61	47	51	55	59	70	65	38
40-54	58	73	65	53	49	48	42	53	58	64	43
55 +	54	70	64	57	34	55	31	53	57	71	50
Education (End of)											
15-	48	63	62	50	33	56	23	50	57	65	41
16-19	52	68	62	47	46	51	36	55	62	68	45
20+	68	83	77	69	50	54	61	58	72	70	46
Still studying	70	89	71	75	42	59	65	73	67	64	41
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	62	82	72	80	48	63	51	50	72	64	52
Managers	71	82	86	83	42	58	55	74	76	61	50
Other white collars	60	68	67	64	52	41	54	63	53	68	47
Manual workers	53	69	66	44	48	46	39	57	65	70	40
House persons	52	71	59	41	42	55	35	45	49	68	38
Unemployed	47	50	57	46	38	43	33	51	54	61	33
Retired	54	71	65	58	30	58	30	55	55	72	53
Students	70	89	71	75	42	59	65	73	67	64	41

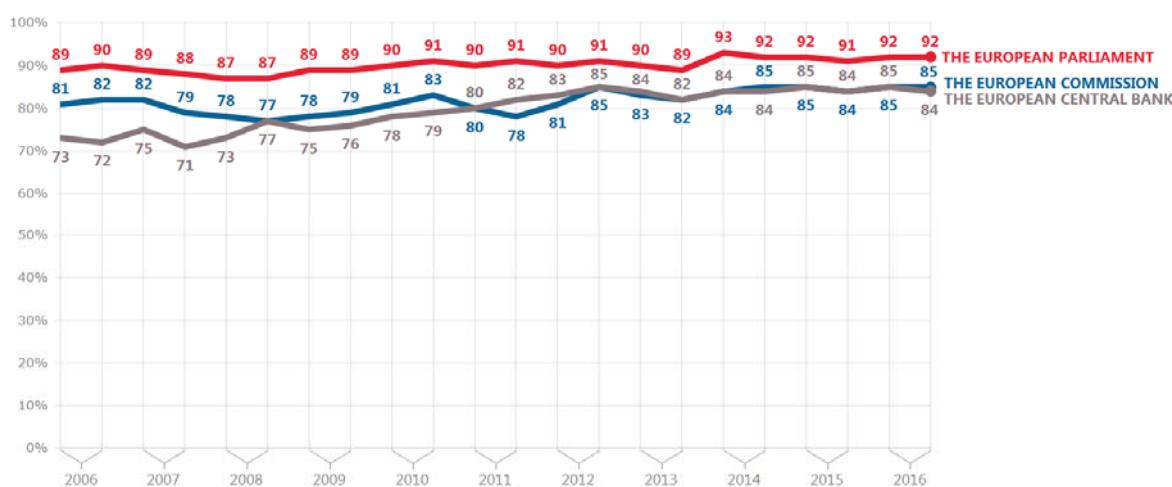
2 The European institutions

a. Awareness of the European institutions and the trust they inspire

92% of Europeans (unchanged since spring 2016) have heard of the European Parliament, 85% (=) are aware of the European Commission and 84% (-1) have heard of the European Central Bank. These levels of awareness have been relatively stable since spring 2014.²³

QA14 Have you heard of...?

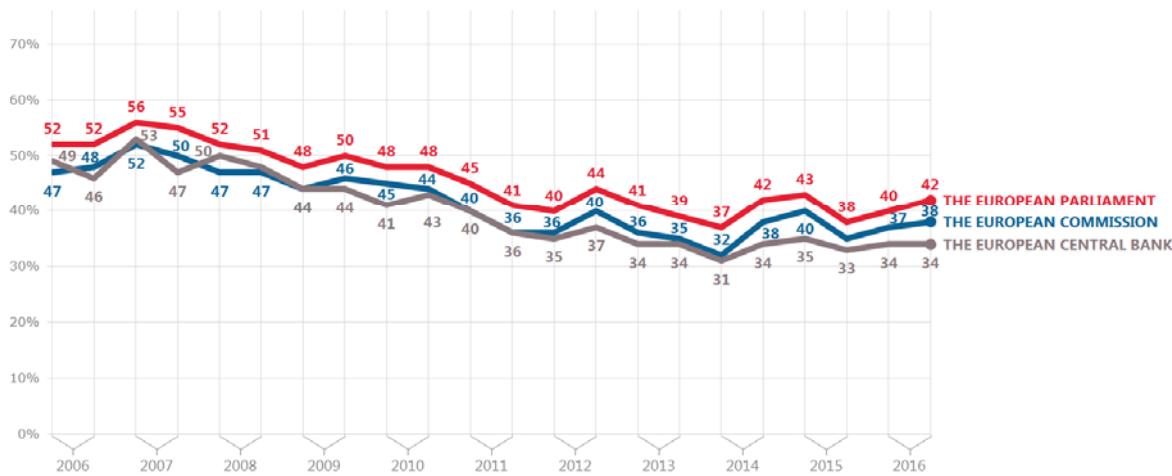
(% - EU - YES)



The slight recovery in trust in the European Parliament and the European Commission, which began in spring 2016, has continued in this survey with an increase of two percentage points for the European Parliament (+4 versus autumn 2015) and one percentage point for the European Commission (+3 versus 2015). The trend is less clear-cut for the European Central Bank, trust in which has remained more or less stable over the period²⁴.

QA15 And please tell me if you tend to trust or tend not to trust these European institutions.

(% - EU - TEND TO TRUST)



²³ QA14.1+2+3. Have you heard of the European Parliament? The European Commission? The European Central Bank?

²⁴ QA15.1+2+3. And please tell me if you tend to trust or tend not to trust these European institutions. The European Parliament; The European Commission; The European Central Bank.

However, these changes are not enough to reverse the opinion ratio, and a majority of respondents continue to distrust these institutions. The trust indices²⁵ for all three institutions remain negative: -3 for the **European Parliament** (compared with -6 in spring 2016 and -9 in autumn 2015), -7 for the **European Commission** (versus -8 in spring 2016 and -11 in autumn 2015) and -15 for the **European Central Bank** (compared with -14 in spring 2016 and autumn 2015).

In this survey, trust in all three European institutions has increased significantly, in particular in Germany (+7 percentage points for trust in the European Parliament, +6 for the European Commission and +3 for the European Central Bank), Luxembourg (+7, +10, +4), Portugal (+7, +6, +8) and Slovakia (+7, +6, +3). In contrast, trust has deteriorated the most sharply in France (-4, -4, -4) and Denmark (-4, -2, -4).

²⁵ Difference between the “tend to trust” and “tend not to trust” percentages.

QA15 And please tell me if you tend to trust or tend not to trust these European institutions.
(%)

	EU28	The European Parliament			The European Commission			The European Central Bank								
		Tend to trust	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Tend not to trust	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Tend to trust	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Tend not to trust	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Tend to trust	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Tend not to trust				
EU28	EU	42	▲ 2	45	▼ 1	13	38	▲ 1	45	=	17	34	=	49	▲ 1	17
Euro Area		42	▲ 2	46	▼ 1	12	37	▲ 1	48	▲ 1	15	33	=	53	▲ 1	14
Non-Euro Area		44	▲ 3	42	▼ 2	14	41	▲ 2	41	=	18	37	▲ 1	40	=	23
BE	🇧🇪	59	▲ 6	38	▼ 1	3	53	▲ 3	42	▲ 1	5	49	▲ 2	43	▲ 3	8
BG	🇧🇬	49	=	34	▲ 2	17	47	▲ 3	32	▲ 2	21	46	▲ 2	31	▲ 1	23
CZ	🇨🇿	31	▲ 1	60	▲ 6	9	30	▲ 2	57	▲ 6	13	35	▲ 2	51	▲ 8	14
DK	🇩🇰	51	▼ 4	36	▲ 3	13	50	▼ 2	33	▲ 2	17	56	▼ 4	25	▲ 3	19
DE	🇩🇪	48	▲ 7	39	▼ 7	13	41	▲ 6	41	▼ 5	18	33	▲ 3	55	▼ 3	12
EE	🇪🇪	48	▲ 1	26	▲ 1	26	45	▲ 1	26	▲ 2	29	44	▲ 1	26	▲ 2	30
IE	🇮🇪	54	▲ 3	34	▲ 2	12	51	▲ 6	34	▼ 1	15	45	▲ 5	42	▼ 3	13
EL	🇬🇷	28	▲ 3	71	▼ 1	1	19	=	78	▲ 2	3	18	▲ 3	80	▼ 1	2
ES	🇪🇸	33	▲ 1	57	▲ 1	10	30	▲ 2	57	▲ 1	13	24	=	66	▲ 4	10
FR	🇫🇷	34	▼ 4	51	▲ 5	15	31	▼ 4	50	▲ 3	19	29	▼ 4	52	▲ 5	19
HR	🇭🇷	46	▼ 3	44	▲ 6	10	43	▲ 2	45	▲ 3	12	36	▼ 2	51	▲ 7	13
IT	🇮🇹	38	=	48	▲ 1	14	31	▼ 4	49	▲ 4	20	28	▼ 1	52	▲ 1	20
CY	🇨🇾	34	▲ 5	54	▼ 3	12	28	=	58	=	14	23	▲ 1	65	▲ 1	12
LV	🇱🇻	44	▼ 1	40	▲ 3	16	43	=	38	▲ 1	19	41	▼ 2	35	▲ 1	24
LT	🇱🇹	61	▲ 5	25	▲ 2	14	58	▲ 3	26	▲ 5	16	58	▲ 7	25	▲ 1	17
LU	🇱🇺	64	▲ 7	29	=	7	63	▲ 10	28	▼ 3	9	57	▲ 4	28	▼ 2	15
HU	🇭🇺	50	▲ 1	41	▼ 1	9	47	▲ 1	41	=	12	39	▲ 1	45	▼ 1	16
MT	🇲🇹	55	=	23	▼ 3	22	52	▲ 1	21	▼ 6	27	51	▼ 2	19	▼ 4	30
NL	🇳🇱	52	▲ 2	40	▲ 1	8	51	▲ 1	36	▲ 3	13	52	▲ 1	36	▲ 2	12
AT	🇦🇹	42	▲ 2	52	▲ 1	6	41	▲ 3	50	▲ 2	9	45	▲ 4	48	▼ 1	7
PL	🇵🇱	51	▲ 5	34	▼ 2	15	50	▲ 5	33	▼ 1	17	38	▲ 3	37	▲ 2	25
PT	🇵🇹	48	▲ 7	42	▼ 7	10	45	▲ 6	44	▼ 6	11	44	▲ 8	46	▼ 7	10
RO	🇷🇴	55	▲ 3	37	▼ 1	8	50	▼ 1	37	=	13	43	▼ 1	42	▲ 2	15
SI	🇸🇮	32	▼ 2	57	▲ 1	11	33	=	55	=	12	31	▲ 3	57	▼ 2	12
SK	🇸🇰	46	▲ 7	45	▼ 6	9	43	▲ 6	44	▼ 3	13	43	▲ 3	43	=	14
FI	🇫🇮	61	▲ 1	32	▲ 3	7	58	▲ 2	34	▲ 3	8	67	▲ 6	26	▼ 2	7
SE	🇸🇪	59	▲ 1	32	=	9	54	▲ 1	32	▲ 6	14	57	▲ 1	31	=	12
UK	🇬🇧	32	▲ 3	50	▼ 4	18	29	▲ 1	48	▼ 1	23	28	▲ 1	42	▼ 3	30

The European Parliament

42% of Europeans (+2 percentage points since spring 2016) “tend to trust” the European Parliament, while 45% (-1) “tend not to trust” it and 13% (-1) expressed no opinion.

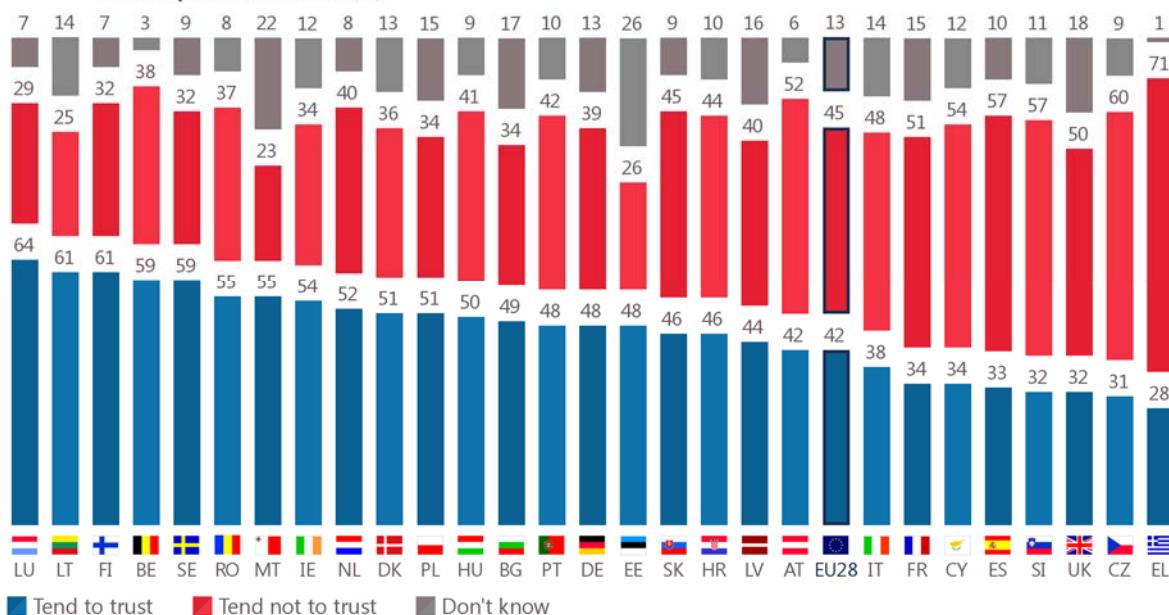
A majority of respondents in 19 Member States (compared with 16 in spring 2016) trust the European Parliament, reaching at least 50% in 12 countries. The highest scores were recorded in Luxembourg (64%), Lithuania (61%) and Finland (61%). In this survey, majorities now trust this institution in Germany (48% versus 39%, compared with 41% versus 46% in spring 2016), Portugal (48% versus 42%, compared with 41% versus 49%) and Slovakia (46% versus 45%, compared with 39% versus 51%).

A majority of respondents continue to distrust the European Parliament in nine Member States: Greece (71%), the Czech Republic (60%), Spain (57%), Slovenia (57%), Cyprus (54%), Austria (52%), France (51%), the United Kingdom (50%) and Italy (48% versus 38%).

The trust index for the European Parliament has improved since spring 2016 in 17 Member States, above all in Germany (+14 index points), Portugal (+14), Slovakia (+13) and Cyprus (+8). It is stable in Spain and Estonia and has deteriorated in nine Member States, most perceptibly in Croatia (-9) and France (-9).

QA15.1 And please tell me if you tend to trust or tend not to trust these European institutions.

The European Parliament (%)



■ Tend to trust

■ Tend not to trust

■ Don't know

The European Commission

38% of Europeans (+1 percentage point since spring 2016) “tend to trust” the European Commission, while 45% (unchanged) “tend not to trust” it and 17% (-1) expressed no opinion.

The index of trust in the European Commission has therefore improved slightly (-7 compared with -8 in spring 2016 and -11 in autumn 2015) but remains negative, as it has been since the Standard Eurobarometer survey of autumn 2011 (EB76), except in spring 2015 (EB83), when it was 0.

Following a two-percentage point increase in trust, opinions are now evenly balanced in this survey in the **non-euro area** countries (41% versus 41%, compared with 39% versus 41% in spring 2016). However, in the **euro area** countries, the situation is unchanged since spring 2016 and the trust ratio remains negative (37% “tend to trust” the European Commission versus 48%, compared with 36% versus 47%).

A majority of respondents in 16 Member States (compared with 15 in spring 2016) trust the European Commission, with the highest scores in the Benelux countries (63% in Luxembourg, 53% in Belgium and 51% in the Netherlands), the Nordic countries (58% in Finland, 54% in Sweden and 50% in Denmark), Lithuania (58%), Malta (52%), Ireland (51%), Romania (50%) and Poland (50%). Majorities now trust this institution in Portugal (45% versus 44%, compared with 39% versus 50% in spring 2016).

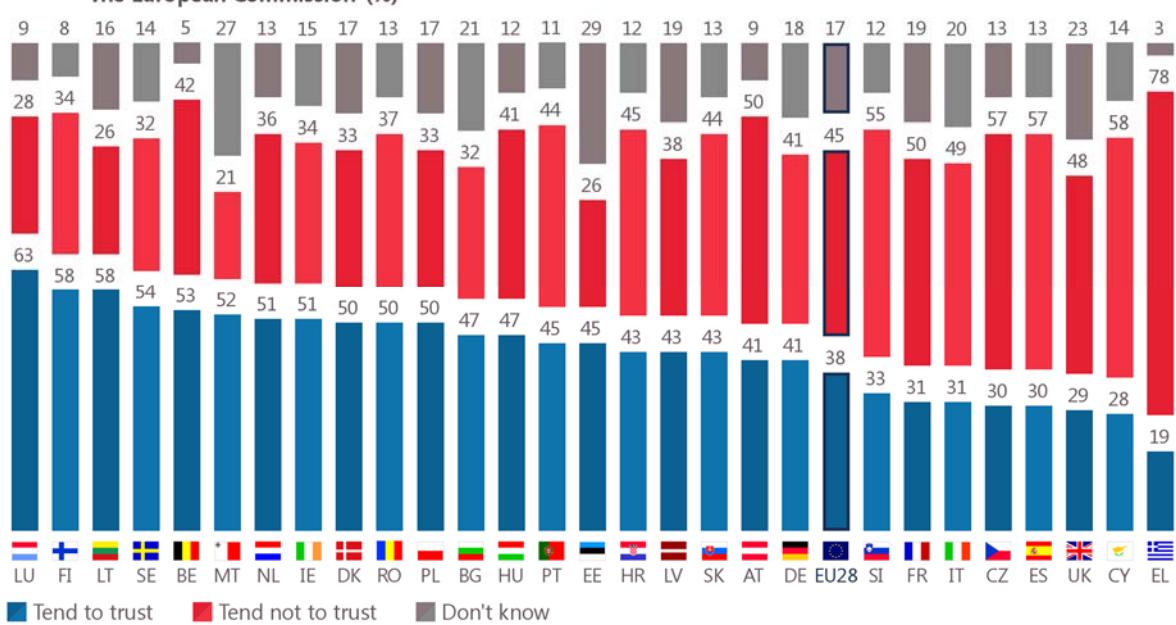
In Germany, the ratio of trust to distrust has improved in this survey and opinions are now evenly balanced (41% versus 41%), whereas the ratio was markedly negative in spring 2016 (35% versus 46%).

As a result of these evolutions, a majority of respondents now tend to distrust the European Commission in 11 Member States (compared with 13 in spring 2016), namely Greece (78%), Cyprus (58%), Spain (57%), the Czech Republic (57%), Slovenia (55%), Austria (50%), France (50%), Italy (49% versus 31%), the United Kingdom (48% versus 29%), Croatia (45% versus 43%) and Slovakia (44% versus 43%).

The index of trust in the European Commission has improved since spring 2016 in 13 Member States, most significantly in Luxembourg (+13 index points), Portugal (+12), Germany (+11) and Slovakia (+9). It is stable in Slovenia and Cyprus and has deteriorated in 13 Member States, most notably in Italy (-8) and France (-7).

QA15.2 And please tell me if you tend to trust or tend not to trust these European institutions.

The European Commission (%)



The European Central Bank

The ratio of trust to distrust for the European Central Bank remains negative (34% versus 49%), and is almost identical to that recorded in spring 2016 (34% versus 48%).

This ratio remains largely negative in the **euro area** countries (33% versus 53%, compared with 33% versus 52% in spring 2016). It is also negative, but more narrowly, in the **non-euro area** countries (37% versus 40%, compared with 36% versus 40%).

A majority of respondents trust the European Central Bank in 14 Member States, most notably in the Nordic countries (67% in Finland, 57% in Sweden and 56% in Denmark), Lithuania (58%) and Luxembourg (57%).

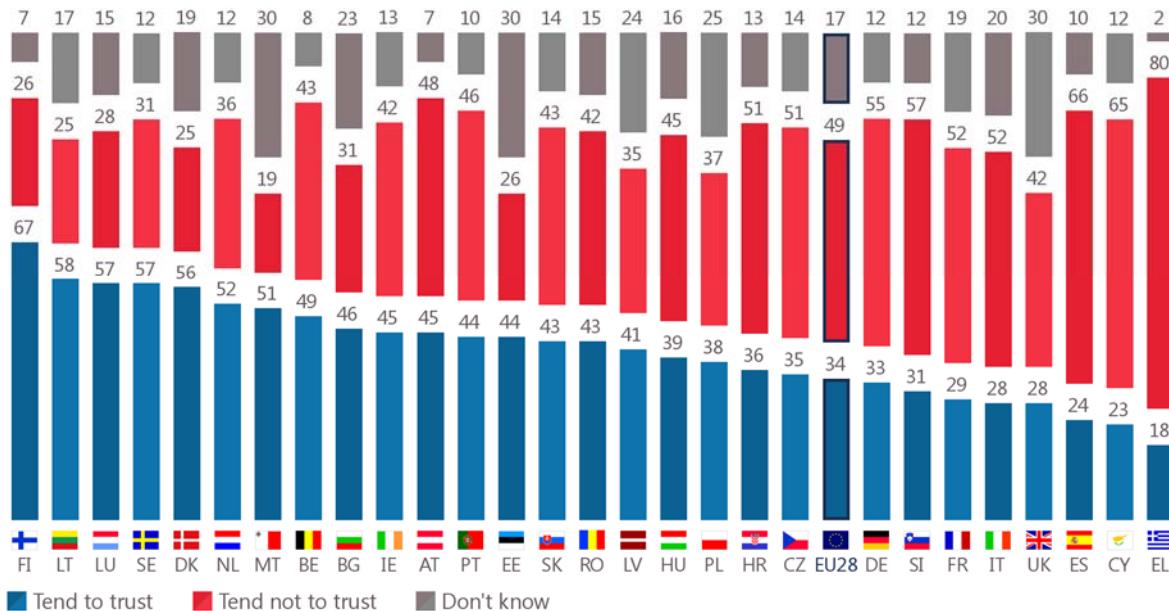
Respondents are predominantly distrustful of this institution in 13 Member States, led by Greece (80%), Spain (66%), Cyprus (65%), Slovenia (57%) and Germany (55%).

Opinions are evenly divided in Slovakia (43% versus 43%).

The index of trust has improved in 16 Member States, most significantly in Portugal (+15 index points), Finland (+8) and Ireland (+8). It is stable in Cyprus and has deteriorated in the 11 remaining countries, most markedly in France (-9) and Croatia (-9).

QA15.3 And please tell me if you tend to trust or tend not to trust these European institutions.

The European Central Bank (%)



QA15 And please tell me if you tend to trust or tend not to trust these European institutions.
(INDEX)

The European Parliament			The European Commission			The European Central Bank			
	Tend to trust - Tend not to trust Aut.2016	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016		Tend to trust - Tend not to trust Aut.2016	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016		Tend to trust - Tend not to trust Aut.2016	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	
EU28	EU	-3	▲ 3	EU28	-7	▲ 1	EU28	-15	▼ 1
EURO AREA		-4	▲ 3	EURO AREA	-11	=	EURO AREA	-20	▼ 1
NON-EURO AREA		+2	▲ 5	NON-EURO AREA	0	▲ 2	NON-EURO AREA	-3	▲ 1
DE	DE	+9	▲ 14	LU	+35	▲ 13	PT	-2	▲ 15
PT	PT	+6	▲ 14	PT	+1	▲ 12	FI	+41	▲ 8
SK	SK	+1	▲ 13	DE	0	▲ 11	IE	+3	▲ 8
CY	CY	-20	▲ 8	SK	-1	▲ 9	LT	+33	▲ 6
LU	LU	+35	▲ 7	MT	+31	▲ 7	LU	+29	▲ 6
BE	BE	+21	▲ 7	IE	+17	▲ 7	DE	-22	▲ 6
PL	PL	+17	▲ 7	PL	+17	▲ 6	AT	-3	▲ 5
UK	UK	-18	▲ 7	BE	+11	▲ 2	SI	-26	▲ 5
RO	RO	+18	▲ 4	UK	-19	▲ 2	UK	-14	▲ 4
EL	EL	-43	▲ 4	BG	+15	▲ 1	EL	-62	▲ 4
LT	LT	+36	▲ 3	HU	+6	▲ 1	SK	0	▲ 3
MT	MT	+32	▲ 3	AT	-9	▲ 1	MT	+32	▲ 2
HU	HU	+9	▲ 2	ES	-27	▲ 1	HU	-6	▲ 2
SE	SE	+27	▲ 1	SI	-22	=	SE	+26	▲ 1
IE	IE	+20	▲ 1	CY	-30	=	BG	+15	▲ 1
NL	NL	+12	▲ 1	FI	+24	▼ 1	PL	+1	▲ 1
AT	AT	-10	▲ 1	EE	+19	▼ 1	CY	-42	=
EE	EE	+22	=	RO	+13	▼ 1	EE	+18	▼ 1
ES	ES	-24	=	LV	+5	▼ 1	NL	+16	▼ 1
IT	IT	-10	▼ 1	HR	-2	▼ 1	BE	+6	▼ 1
FI	FI	+29	▼ 2	LT	+32	▼ 2	IT	-24	▼ 2
BG	BG	+15	▼ 2	NL	+15	▼ 2	LV	+6	▼ 3
SI	SI	-25	▼ 3	EL	-59	▼ 2	RO	+1	▼ 3
LV	LV	+4	▼ 4	DK	+17	▼ 4	ES	-42	▼ 4
CZ	CZ	-29	▼ 5	CZ	-27	▼ 4	CZ	-16	▼ 6
DK	DK	+15	▼ 7	SE	+22	▼ 5	DK	+31	▼ 7
HR	HR	+2	▼ 9	FR	-19	▼ 7	HR	-15	▼ 9
FR	FR	-17	▼ 9	IT	-18	▼ 8	FR	-23	▼ 9

b. Trust in the European Union

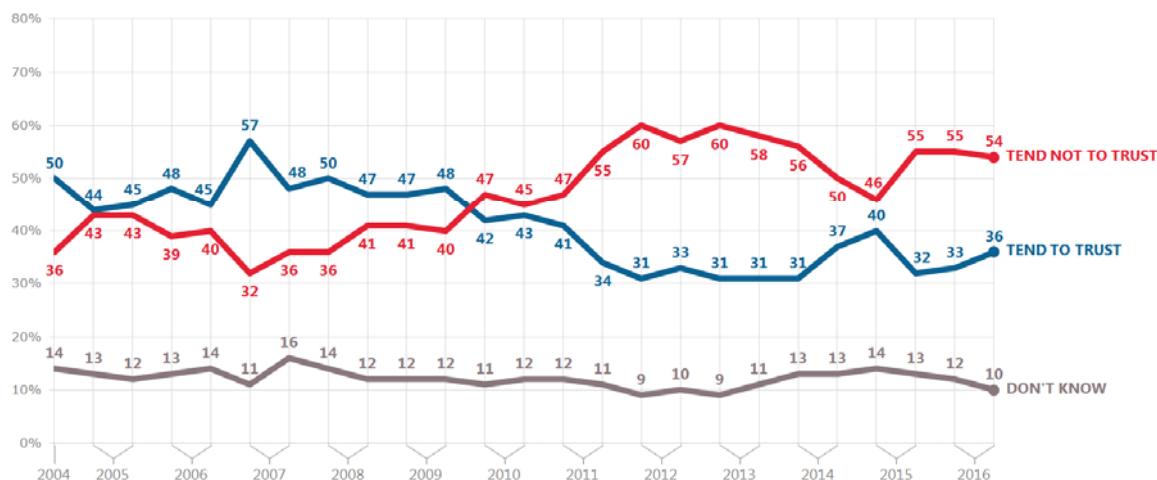
Though still the minority view, trust in the European Union has begun to rise again.

36% of Europeans (+3 percentage points since spring 2016) trust the European Union, while 54% (-1) do not trust it and 10% (-2) expressed no opinion.²⁶

At -18 (compared with -22 in spring 2016 and -23 in autumn 2015), the trust index for the EU is improving, climbing from the record low of -29 measured in spring 2012 and 2013. However, it remains significantly below the best score recorded over the last five years: -6 in spring 2015.

QA8a.14 I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain media and institutions. For each of the following media and institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.

The European Union (% - EU)



The ratio of trust to distrust has improved slightly, while remaining unfavourable, in both the **non-euro area** (39% versus 50%, compared with 37% versus 51% in spring 2016) and the **euro area** countries (34% versus 56%, compared with 32% versus 56%).

A majority of respondents trust the EU in 11 Member States, compared with nine in spring 2016. Trust continues to predominate in Lithuania (55%), Malta (52%), Romania (52%), Finland (51%), Luxembourg (51%), Bulgaria (49% versus 34%), Ireland (49% versus 42%), Latvia (45% versus 40%) and Estonia (44% versus 36%), as in spring 2016, and these countries have now been joined by Portugal (48% versus 42%, compared with 43% versus 47%) and Poland (45% versus 42%, compared with 39% versus 43%).

Respondents predominantly distrust the EU in 17 Member States, with scores of 50% or more in Greece (78%), the Czech Republic (66%), France (65%), Cyprus (63%), Austria (58%), Italy (58%), Slovenia (57%), the United Kingdom (56%), Spain (54%), Germany (53%), the Netherlands (51%), Hungary (50%) and Croatia (50%).

²⁶ QA8a.14. I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain institutions. For each of the following institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it. The European Union.

Compared with spring 2016, the index of trust in the European Union has improved in 17 Member States, most markedly in Germany (+16 index points), Belgium (+12) and Portugal (+10). It is stable in three Member States (Finland, Austria and Latvia) and has deteriorated in eight, most notably in France (-10), Lithuania (-9) and Croatia (-7).

QA8a.14 I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain media and institutions. For each of the following media and institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.

The European Union (%)

		Tend to trust	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Tend not to trust	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Don't know
EU28	EU	36	▲ 3	54	▼ 1	10
EURO AREA		34	▲ 2	56	=	10
NON-EURO AREA		39	▲ 2	50	▼ 1	11
DE	DE	37	▲ 9	53	▼ 7	10
LU	LU	51	▲ 8	41	▲ 1	8
BE	BE	48	▲ 8	49	▼ 4	3
PL	PL	45	▲ 6	42	▼ 1	13
RO	RO	52	▲ 5	41	▼ 2	7
IE	IE	49	▲ 5	42	▲ 4	9
PT	PT	48	▲ 5	42	▼ 5	10
FI	FI	51	▲ 3	43	▲ 3	6
DK	DK	45	▲ 3	46	▲ 1	9
CY	CY	28	▲ 3	63	▼ 3	9
EL	EL	20	▲ 3	78	▼ 4	2
SE	SE	43	▲ 2	48	▼ 1	9
NL	NL	42	▲ 2	51	▲ 1	7
SK	SK	42	▲ 2	47	▼ 3	11
SI	SI	37	▲ 2	57	▲ 3	6
AT	AT	35	▲ 2	58	▲ 2	7
ES	ES	34	▲ 2	54	▼ 2	12
LV	LV	45	▲ 1	40	▲ 1	15
HU	HU	42	▲ 1	50	▼ 3	8
UK	UK	31	▲ 1	56	▼ 3	13
IT	IT	30	▲ 1	58	▲ 4	12
CZ	CZ	29	▲ 1	66	▲ 4	5
MT	MT	52	=	28	▼ 1	20
BG	BG	49	=	34	▲ 1	17
EE	EE	44	=	36	▲ 4	20
HR	HR	43	▼ 2	50	▲ 5	7
LT	LT	55	▼ 3	29	▲ 6	16
FR	FR	26	▼ 4	65	▲ 6	9

A socio-demographic analysis shows that majorities among managers (47% versus 46%, compared with 43% versus 47% in spring 2016) and those who see themselves as “upper middle class” (48% versus 46%, compared with 44% versus 46%) or “upper class” (57% versus 36%, compared with 44% versus 48%) now trust the European Union. Students (52%) and 15-24 year-olds (47% versus 42%) continue to do so. A majority of respondents in the other age and social categories distrust the EU, in particular retired people (57%), manual workers (57%), unemployed people (64%), those who left school at the age of 15 or earlier (61%), and those who see themselves as “lower middle class” (59%) or “working class” (58%).

QA8a.14 I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain media and institutions. For each of the following media and institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.

The European Union (% - EU)

	Tend to trust	Tend not to trust	Don't know
EU28	36	54	10
Gender			
Man	36	56	8
Woman	36	52	12
Age			
15-24	47	42	11
25-39	39	52	9
40-54	35	57	8
55 +	31	57	12
Education (End of)			
15-	25	61	14
16-19	33	57	10
20+	42	50	8
Still studying	52	37	11
Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	36	58	6
Managers	47	46	7
Other white collars	39	53	8
Manual workers	33	57	10
House persons	32	52	16
Unemployed	26	64	10
Retired	31	57	12
Students	52	37	11
Consider belonging to			
The working class	30	58	12
The lower middle class	31	59	10
The middle class	39	52	9
The upper middle class	48	46	6
The upper class	57	36	7

The following tables show the results by socio-demographic criteria in the European Union as a whole (EU28 average), in the six largest EU countries and in the countries benefiting or having benefited from European Union support to deal with the financial and economic crisis.

QA8a.14 I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain media and institutions. For each of the following media and institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.

The European Union
(% - TEND TO TRUST)

	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
TOTAL	36	37	34	26	30	45	31	20	48	49	28
Gender											
Male	36	36	38	26	28	43	30	20	49	51	27
Female	36	38	31	27	30	47	32	20	47	47	29
Age											
15-24	47	48	47	35	40	57	44	25	63	54	43
25-39	39	36	33	31	33	43	41	21	55	50	23
40-54	35	37	32	22	31	42	30	18	48	47	28
55 +	31	34	33	22	24	43	19	19	40	47	25
Education (End of)											
15-	25	30	32	20	15	31	11	19	43	39	19
16-19	33	33	34	19	32	40	28	15	49	44	26
20+	42	41	38	30	43	50	41	23	54	56	31
Still studying	52	53	41	49	44	61	53	33	72	53	48
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	36	35	41	30	34	33	32	17	48	55	26
Managers	47	49	42	38	50	52	39	28	57	58	37
Other white collars	39	39	29	22	35	46	41	20	57	50	30
Manual workers	33	27	36	20	30	43	26	16	50	47	22
House persons	32	46	25	24	27	37	41	9	11	43	32
Unemployed	26	16	31	21	14	36	31	19	37	31	16
Retired	31	34	37	22	21	44	18	21	40	48	27
Students	52	53	41	49	44	61	53	33	72	53	48

QA8a.14 I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain media and institutions. For each of the following media and institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.

The European Union
(% - TEND NOT TO TRUST)

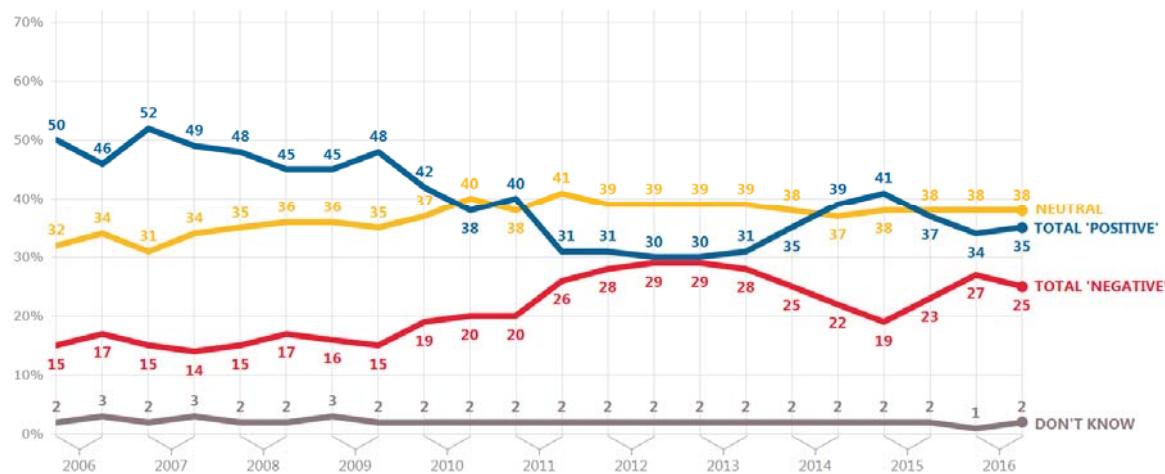
	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
TOTAL	54	53	54	65	58	42	56	78	42	42	63
Gender											
Male	56	55	55	67	63	46	60	79	42	43	69
Female	52	51	54	63	54	39	52	78	42	41	59
Age											
15-24	42	40	39	48	43	32	46	74	29	36	49
25-39	52	52	63	62	61	45	43	78	38	42	72
40-54	57	55	62	74	58	46	59	82	44	45	66
55 +	57	56	48	68	61	42	67	78	46	42	62
Education (End of)											
15-	61	62	53	69	67	42	73	77	44	50	63
16-19	57	55	61	74	57	49	60	84	43	46	68
20+	50	52	56	62	51	39	47	77	40	37	65
Still studying	37	37	43	34	46	26	33	65	23	38	43
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	58	62	57	62	58	57	59	82	49	35	72
Managers	46	43	50	54	44	39	53	72	39	35	56
Other white collars	53	53	64	72	56	40	43	80	36	42	69
Manual workers	57	58	59	73	60	46	58	84	39	44	72
House persons	52	46	49	67	50	44	52	88	51	47	43
Unemployed	64	77	60	74	70	54	50	80	57	55	77
Retired	57	56	49	68	64	40	69	75	44	42	58
Students	37	37	43	34	46	26	33	65	23	38	43

c. The European Union's image

A majority of Europeans continue to have a neutral image of the European Union (38%, unchanged since spring 2016, and stable since spring 2015), while 35% have a positive image (+1 percentage point) and 25% (-2) a negative image.²⁷

After a phase of deterioration in autumn 2015 and spring 2016, the EU's overall image has recorded a very slight improvement.

QA9 In general, does the EU conjure up for you a very positive, fairly positive, neutral, fairly negative or very negative image?
(% - EU)



In the non-euro area countries, respondents are most likely to have a positive image of the EU, an opinion which has gained ground (41% (+4) versus 22% (-4) for the negative image and 35% (-1) for the neutral image). Positive opinions are stable (32%) in the euro area countries, behind neutral opinions (40%, +2), but ahead of negative opinions (26%, -2).

QA9 In general, does the EU conjure up for you a very positive, fairly positive, neutral, fairly negative or very negative image?
(%)

	Total 'Positive'	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016		Neutral	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016		Total 'Negative'	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016		Don't know
		Aut.	Sp.		Aut.	Sp.		Aut.	Sp.	
EU28	35	▲ 1		38	=		25	▼ 2		2
EURO AREA	32	=		40	▲ 2		26	▼ 2		2
NON-EURO AREA	41	▲ 4		35	▼ 1		22	▼ 4		2

²⁷ QA9. In general, does the EU conjure up for you a very positive, fairly positive, neutral, fairly negative or very negative image?

Positive assessments of the EU's image occupy first place in seven Member States, namely Ireland (55%), Poland (51%), Romania (50%), Bulgaria (49%), Portugal (48%), Luxembourg (47%) and the United Kingdom (34%).

Neutral perceptions of the EU's image lead the way in 20 Member States.

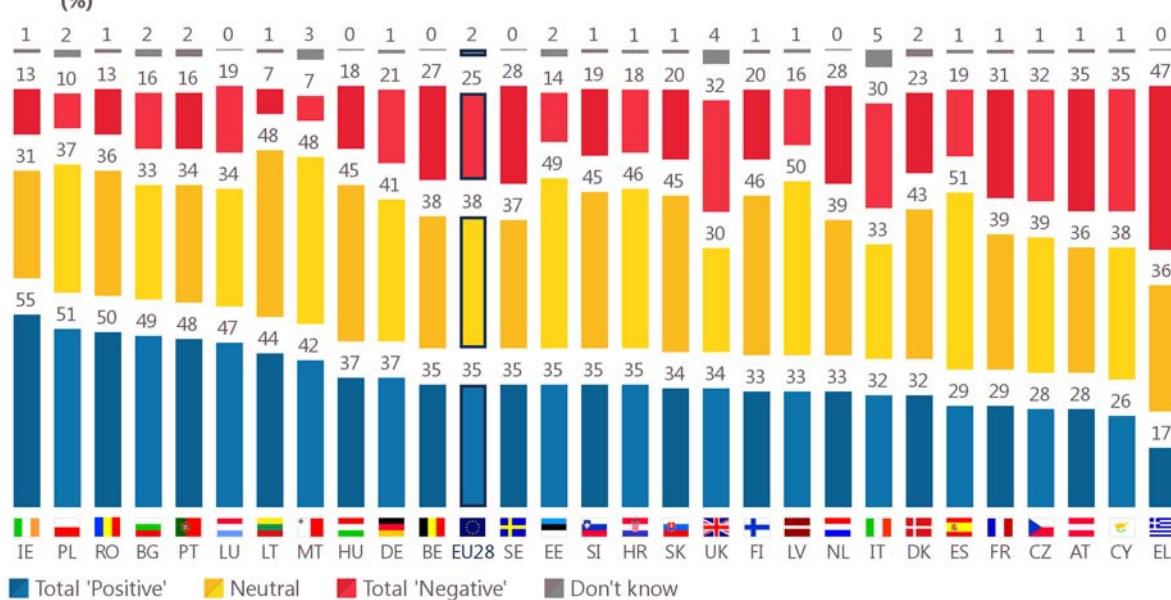
Greece (47%) is the only country where a majority of respondents have a negative image of the EU.

An analysis of the image index²⁸ shows that the positive image is predominant in 23 Member States (compared with 22 in spring 2016). The opinion ratio is now positive in Germany (37% of positive opinions versus 21% of negative opinions, compared with 29% versus 29%) and the United Kingdom (34% versus 32%, compared with 31% versus 36%). However, it has reversed and is now negative in France (29% versus 31%, compared with 36% versus 29%).

Respondents are more likely to have a negative than a positive image in five Member States: Greece and France, as mentioned previously, plus Cyprus (35% "negative" versus 26%), Austria (35% versus 28%) and the Czech Republic (32% versus 28%).

Positive judgements of the EU's image have gained ground in 15 Member States, in particular in Germany (+8 percentage points), Romania (+8) and Portugal (+7). They are stable in four countries (Belgium, the Netherlands, Finland and Italy) and have lost ground in nine countries, most notably in France (-7).

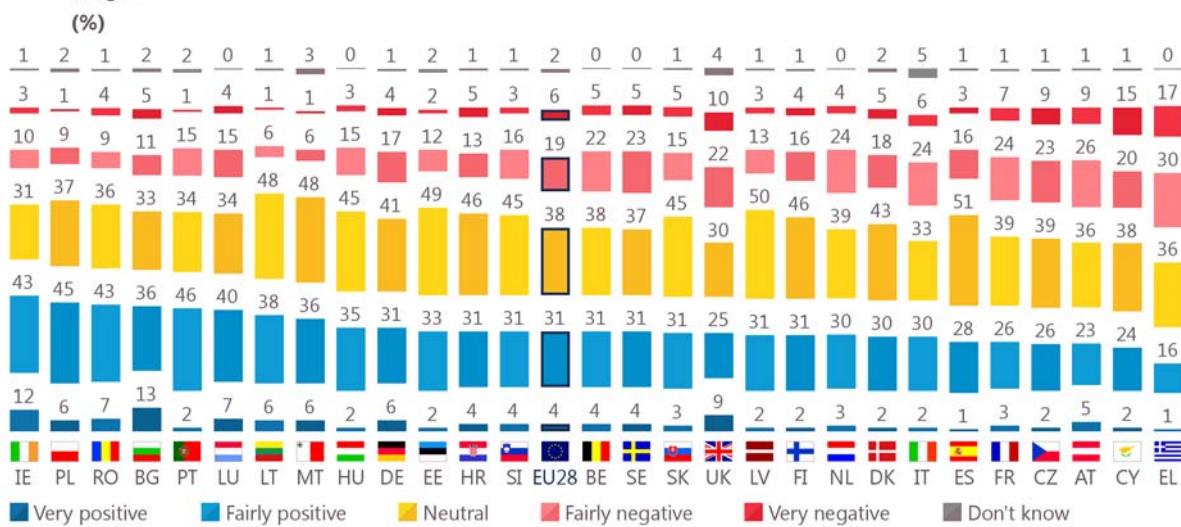
QA9 In general, does the EU conjure up for you a very positive, fairly positive, neutral, fairly negative or very negative image? (%)



Breakdown of total "positive" answers

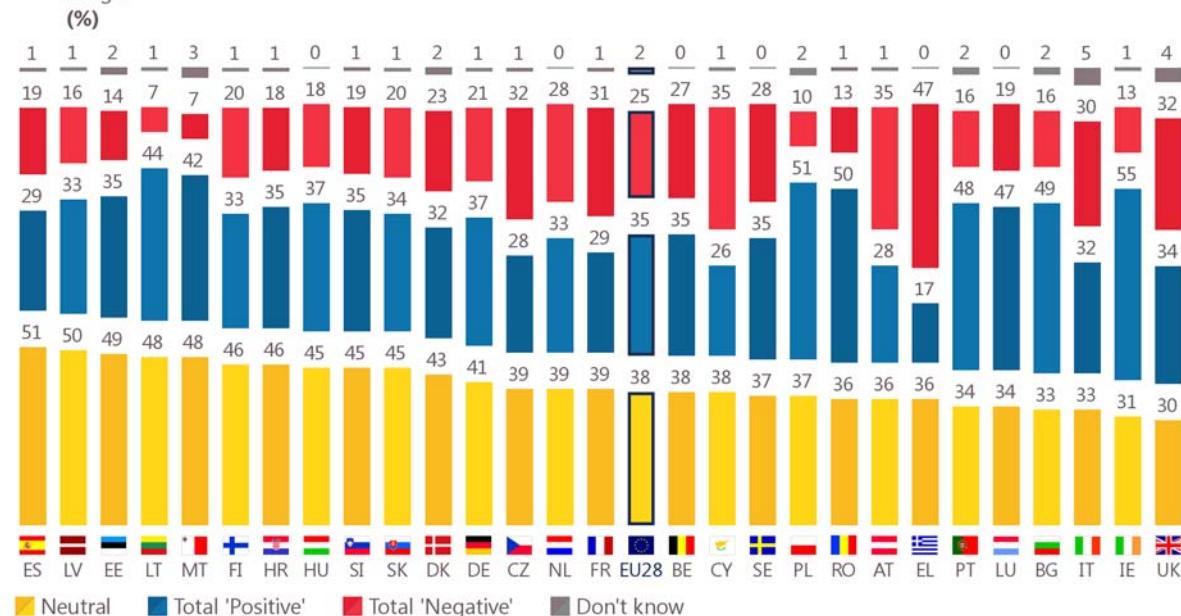
²⁸ Difference between "positive" and "negative" answers.

QA9 In general, does the EU conjure up for you a very positive, fairly positive, neutral, fairly negative or very negative image?



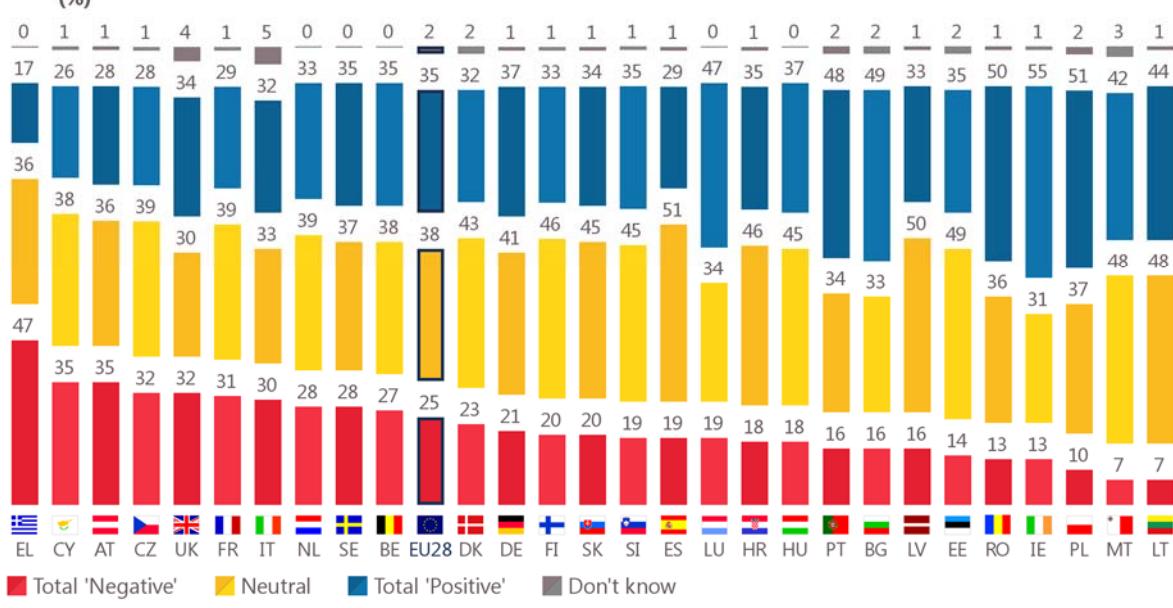
Breakdown of total "positive" answers - Details of answers

QA9 In general, does the EU conjure up for you a very positive, fairly positive, neutral, fairly negative or very negative image?



Breakdown of "neutral" answers

QA9 In general, does the EU conjure up for you a very positive, fairly positive, neutral, fairly negative or very negative image?
(%)



QA9 In general, does the EU conjure up for you a very positive, fairly positive, neutral, fairly negative or very negative image?
(%)

		Total 'Positive'	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Neutral	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Total 'Negative'	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Don't know
EU28		35	▲ 1	38	=	25	▼ 2	2
RO		50	▲ 8	36	▼ 7	13	▼ 1	1
DE		37	▲ 8	41	=	21	▼ 8	1
PT		48	▲ 7	34	▼ 5	16	▼ 2	2
PL		51	▲ 4	37	=	10	▼ 5	2
HU		37	▲ 4	45	▲ 4	18	▼ 7	0
SK		34	▲ 4	45	▲ 2	20	▼ 6	1
SI		35	▲ 3	45	▼ 1	19	▼ 1	1
UK		34	▲ 3	30	▼ 1	32	▼ 4	4
LU		47	▲ 2	34	▲ 2	19	▼ 3	0
EE		35	▲ 2	49	▲ 2	14	▼ 3	2
LV		33	▲ 2	50	▲ 1	16	▼ 2	1
CZ		28	▲ 2	39	▼ 1	32	▼ 2	1
LT		44	▲ 1	48	▲ 1	7	▼ 2	1
MT		42	▲ 1	48	▲ 5	7	▼ 6	3
EL		17	▲ 1	36	▲ 3	47	▼ 4	0
BE		35	=	38	▲ 5	27	▼ 4	0
NL		33	=	39	▲ 1	28	▼ 1	0
FI		33	=	46	▲ 2	20	▼ 2	1
IT		32	=	33	▼ 5	30	▲ 3	5
SE		35	▼ 1	37	▼ 1	28	▲ 2	0
ES		29	▼ 1	51	▲ 7	19	▼ 4	1
CY		26	▼ 1	38	▲ 6	35	▼ 6	1
BG		49	▼ 2	33	▲ 3	16	▼ 1	2
HR		35	▼ 2	46	▲ 3	18	▼ 1	1
DK		32	▼ 2	43	▲ 1	23	=	2
IE		55	▼ 3	31	▲ 4	13	▼ 1	1
AT		28	▼ 4	36	▲ 6	35	▼ 2	1
FR		29	▼ 7	39	▲ 6	31	▲ 2	1

A socio-demographic analysis shows that the age, education and social standing of respondents to a great extent determines their image of the European Union.

Thus, the proportion of respondents who have a positive image of the European Union decreases with age: 42% (versus 16% who have a negative image) among 15-24 year-olds, 39% (versus 20%) among 25-39 year-olds, 35% (versus 26%) among 40-54 year-olds and 31% (versus 29%) among those aged 55+.

It increases with the level of education, from 25% (versus 30% with a negative image) among those who left school at the age of 15 or earlier, to 44% (versus 21%) among those who studied up to the age of 20 and beyond, and to 47% (versus 13%) among students.

Lastly, the EU has a far more positive image among the most advantaged categories than in the more modest categories of the population: 49% of managers, 47% of those who see themselves as “upper middle class” and 55% of those who say they are “upper class”, and 39% of those who never or almost never have difficulties paying their bills have a positive image of the European Union, compared with only 25% of unemployed people, 29% of those who see themselves as “working class” and 28% of those who say they are “lower middle class”, and 20% of those who struggle to pay their bills most of the time.

QA9 In general, does the EU conjure up for you a very positive, fairly positive, neutral, fairly negative or very negative image?
(% - EU)

	Total 'Positive'	Neutral	Total 'Negative'	Don't know
EU28	35	38	25	2
Gender				
Man	37	35	27	1
Woman	34	41	22	3
Age				
15-24	42	40	16	2
25-39	39	39	20	2
40-54	35	38	26	1
55 +	31	38	29	2
Generation				
Total 'Before 1946'	29	39	29	3
1946 - 1964 "BB"	32	37	29	2
1965 - 1980 "X"	37	39	23	1
After 1980 "Y"	41	39	18	2
Education (End of)				
15-	25	41	30	4
16-19	31	40	27	2
20+	44	34	21	1
Still studying	47	39	13	1
Socio-professional category				
Self-employed	36	37	26	1
Managers	49	32	19	0
Other white collars	40	38	21	1
Manual workers	32	43	23	2
House persons	27	46	23	4
Unemployed	25	38	34	3
Retired	30	37	30	3
Students	47	39	13	1
Difficulties paying bills				
Most of the time	20	37	40	3
From time to time	32	40	26	2
Almost never/ Never	39	38	22	1
Consider belonging to				
The working class	29	40	28	3
The lower middle class	28	40	30	2
The middle class	40	37	22	1
The upper middle class	47	34	19	0
The upper class	55	24	21	0

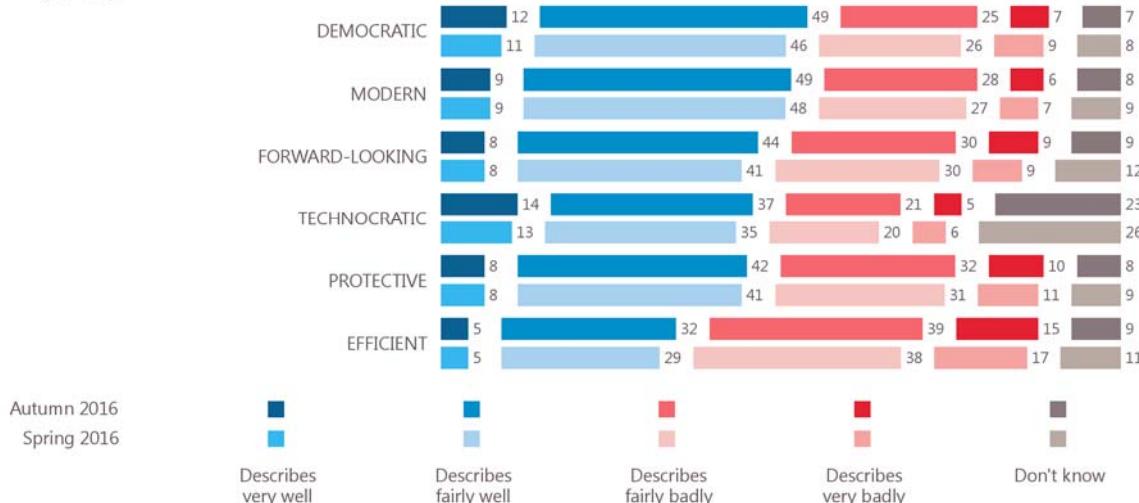
The attributes of the European Union's image

Testing the image attributes shows that a majority of Europeans continue to regard the European Union as “democratic”, “modern”, “forward-looking” and “protective”. It is the EU's image as democratic that has gained the most ground (+4 percentage points) since spring 2016.

In terms of negative attributes, a majority of Europeans continue to see the European Union as “inefficient” and “technocratic”. Perceptions of the European Union as technocratic have increased (+3 percentage points since spring 2016), but its image as inefficient have decreased slightly, while the proportion of Europeans who see the EU as efficient has increased by three percentage points.

QA12 Please tell me for each of the following words if it describes very well, fairly well, fairly badly or very badly the idea you might have of the EU.

(% - EU)



All the positive image attributes of the European Union have gained significant ground in this survey in Germany, Spain, Poland, Portugal and Slovakia.

QA12 Please tell me for each of the following words if it describes very well, fairly well, fairly badly or very badly the idea you might have of the EU.

(% - TOTAL 'DESCRIBES WELL')

		Democratic	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Modern	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Forward-looking	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Technocratic	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Protective	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Efficient	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016
EU28	EU	61	▲ 4	58	▲ 1	52	▲ 3	51	▲ 3	50	▲ 1	37	▲ 3
BE	Belgium	62	▲ 2	58	▲ 8	52	▲ 7	62	▲ 5	58	▲ 3	41	▲ 5
BG	Bulgaria	76	▲ 3	76	▲ 5	68	▲ 6	53	▲ 7	62	▲ 5	62	▲ 4
CZ	Czech Republic	60	▲ 1	62	▲ 1	46	▼ 1	51	▲ 3	52	▼ 1	40	▼ 2
DK	Denmark	65	▼ 4	46	▼ 1	46	▲ 1	51	▲ 5	60	▼ 4	25	▲ 1
DE	Germany	68	▲ 10	52	▲ 2	61	▲ 9	55	▲ 1	55	▲ 6	34	▲ 5
EE	Estonia	62	▼ 4	68	▲ 5	52	▲ 2	51	▲ 3	63	▲ 6	37	=
IE	Ireland	73	▲ 1	75	▼ 7	70	▲ 1	63	▲ 4	68	▲ 2	57	▲ 1
EL	Greece	41	▲ 8	48	▲ 4	23	▲ 3	74	▼ 1	23	=	20	▼ 1
ES	Spain	59	▲ 6	57	▲ 7	52	▲ 7	45	▲ 9	50	▲ 10	34	▲ 5
FR	France	53	▼ 3	48	▼ 3	39	▼ 6	54	▲ 1	38	▼ 2	22	▼ 3
HR	Croatia	73	▲ 3	78	▲ 1	69	▼ 1	67	▲ 7	60	=	62	▲ 4
IT	Italy	57	▲ 1	57	▼ 4	45	▲ 1	47	▲ 2	38	▼ 4	40	▲ 1
CY	Cyprus	53	▲ 9	47	▲ 3	33	▲ 1	61	▲ 1	40	▲ 3	31	=
LV	Lithuania	66	▲ 3	75	▲ 3	56	▲ 2	49	▲ 8	58	▲ 5	39	▲ 1
LT	Lithuania	80	▲ 3	78	▲ 2	71	▲ 3	55	▲ 3	75	▲ 2	70	▲ 8
LU	Luxembourg	74	▲ 5	64	▼ 2	57	▲ 3	60	▲ 4	61	▲ 8	35	=
HU	Hungary	63	▲ 2	64	=	56	▲ 3	45	▼ 2	54	▲ 3	51	▲ 5
MT	Malta	75	▲ 3	80	▲ 2	75	▲ 6	68	▲ 12	70	▲ 8	54	▼ 1
NL	Netherlands	58	▼ 3	45	▲ 1	42	=	47	▲ 7	60	▼ 1	17	▲ 1
AT	Austria	55	▲ 1	66	▲ 4	55	▲ 2	64	▲ 10	46	▲ 3	45	▲ 6
PL	Poland	74	▲ 8	75	▲ 6	65	▲ 7	51	▲ 5	59	▲ 5	57	▲ 7
PT	Portugal	66	▲ 8	74	▲ 1	67	▲ 4	48	▲ 1	50	▲ 6	48	▲ 4
RO	Romania	72	▲ 2	78	▲ 5	67	▼ 1	56	▲ 2	55	▼ 4	57	=
SI	Slovenia	60	▲ 2	57	▲ 1	53	▲ 2	57	▲ 6	49	▲ 1	37	▲ 2
SK	Slovakia	63	▲ 3	71	▲ 4	60	▲ 7	53	▲ 8	58	▲ 8	51	▲ 8
FI	Finland	62	▲ 2	66	=	45	▼ 1	58	▲ 10	53	▼ 3	30	▲ 1
SE	Sweden	63	=	53	▲ 3	40	=	43	▼ 2	52	▼ 5	17	▲ 1
UK	United Kingdom	51	▲ 5	51	▼ 3	49	=	44	▲ 3	58	▲ 5	34	▲ 3

Positive image attributes

“Democratic”

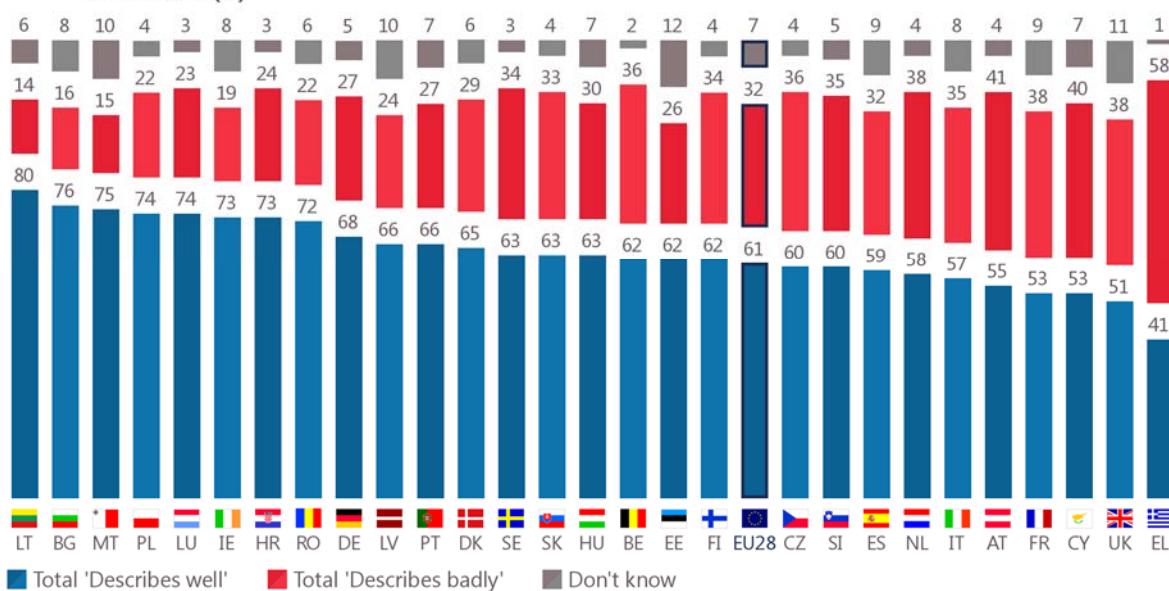
The European Union is increasingly perceived as democratic. More than six in ten Europeans (61%, +4 percentage points since spring 2016) say that “democratic” aptly describes the European Union, while 32% (-3) take the opposite view and 7% (-1) expressed no opinion.

With the sole exception of Greece (where 58% believe that “democratic” is a bad descriptor of the EU), the European Union is seen as democratic by an absolute majority of respondents in all Member States, led by Lithuania (80%), Bulgaria (76%) and Malta (75%).

Since spring 2016, perceptions of the EU as democratic have gained ground in 23 Member States, most notably in Germany (68%, +10 percentage points), Cyprus (53%, +9), where the ratio of opinion has been reversed and is now positive, Poland (74%, +8), and Portugal (66%, +8), as well as in Greece (41%, +8), where it nevertheless remains negative. However, this opinion has declined in four countries and remains unchanged in Sweden.

QA12.2 Please tell me for each of the following words if it describes very well, fairly well, fairly badly or very badly the idea you might have of the EU.

Democratic (%)



"Modern"

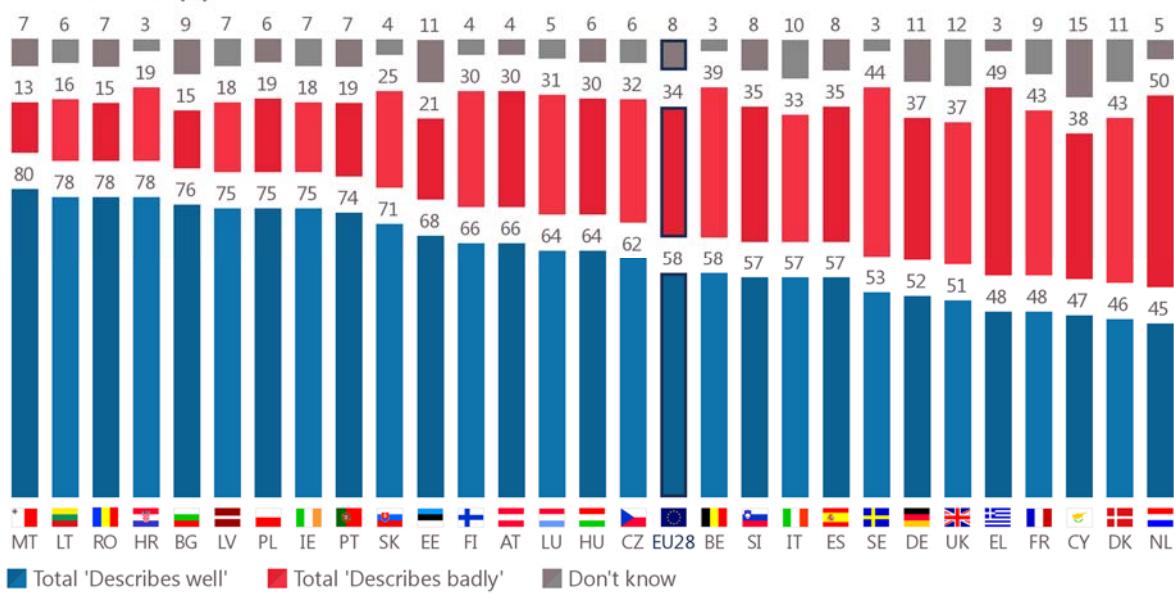
The European Union is seen as "modern" by 58% of Europeans (+1 percentage point since spring 2016), while 34% (unchanged) disagree and 8% (-1) expressed no opinion.

A majority of respondents in 26 Member States say that the EU is a modern institution. More than half do so in 23 countries, led by Malta (80%), Lithuania (78%), Romania (78%) and Croatia (78%). However, a majority of respondents in the Netherlands (50% versus 45%) and Greece (49% versus 48%) think that "modern" describes the EU badly.

Since spring 2016, the belief that the EU is modern has gained ground in 20 Member States, most strikingly in Belgium (58%, +8 percentage points) and Spain (57%, +7). It has lost ground in six countries and is stable in Finland and Hungary.

QA12.1 Please tell me for each of the following words if it describes very well, fairly well, fairly badly or very badly the idea you might have of the EU.

Modern (%)



■ Total 'Describes well'

■ Total 'Describes badly'

■ Don't know

"Forward-looking"

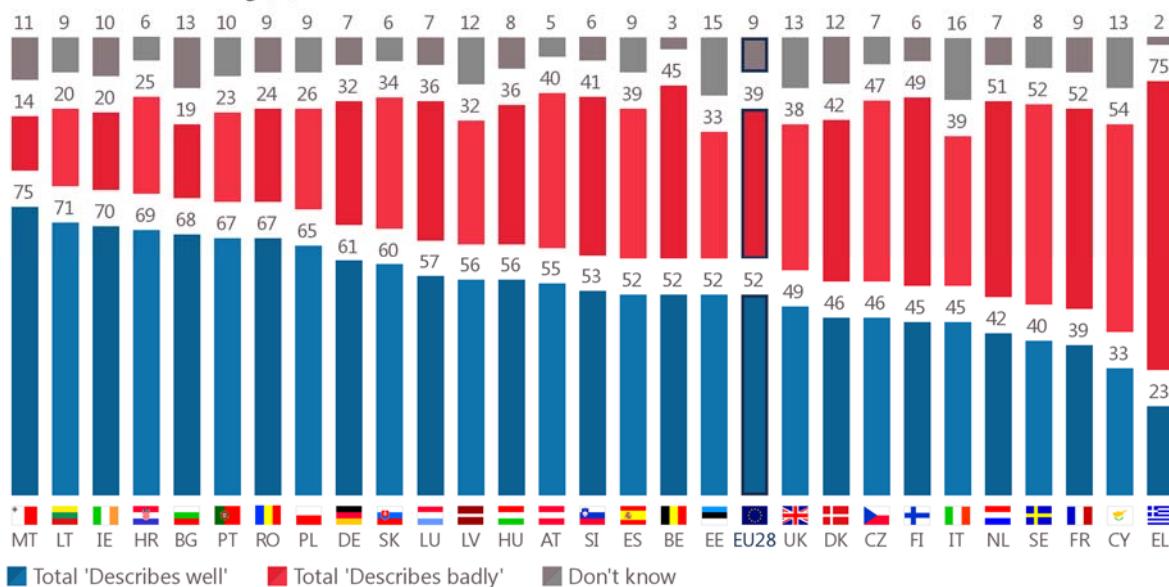
More than half of Europeans (52%, +3 percentage points since spring 2016) see the European Union as a forward-looking institution, while 39% (unchanged) take the opposite view and 9% (-3) expressed no opinion.

A majority of respondents in 21 Member States say that the European Union is "forward-looking", with the highest scores in Malta (75%), Lithuania (71%) and Ireland (70%).

This view is shared by only a minority of respondents in seven Member States, led by Greece (23% versus 75%), Cyprus (33% versus 54%), France (39% versus 52%), Sweden (40% versus 52%) and the Netherlands (42% versus 51%).

Since spring 2016, this belief has gained ground in 20 Member States, most significantly in Germany (61%, +9 percentage points), Poland (65%, +7), Slovakia (60%, +7), Belgium (52%, +7) and Spain (52%, +7). It has lost ground in five countries, but has only declined significantly in France (39%, -6). Lastly, it is unchanged in the United Kingdom, the Netherlands and Sweden.

QA12.6 Please tell me for each of the following words if it describes very well, fairly well, fairly badly or very badly the idea you might have of the EU.

Forward-looking (%)

"Protective"

Half of Europeans (50%, +1 percentage point since spring 2016) say that "protective" is an apt description of the European Union, while 42% (unchanged) think that it describes the EU badly and 8% (-1) expressed no opinion.

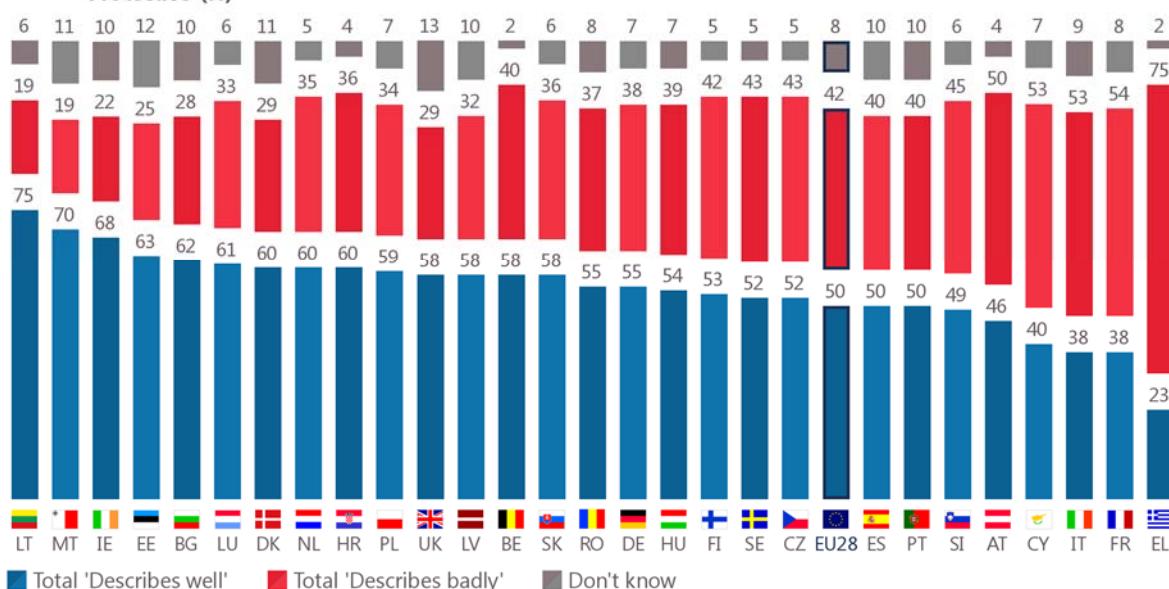
A majority of respondents in 23 Member States (compared with 21 in spring 2016) regard the EU as a "protective" institution. This perception has gained ground in Portugal (50% versus 40%, compared with 44% versus 45%) and Spain (50% versus 40%, compared with 40% versus 49%). It is the most widespread in Lithuania (75%), Malta (70%) and Ireland (68%).

Only a minority of respondents agree in five Member States: Greece (23% versus 75%), France (38% versus 54%), Italy (38% versus 53%), Cyprus (40% versus 53%) and Austria (46% versus 50%).

Since spring 2016, the representation of the EU as protective has gained ground in 18 Member States, led by in Spain (50%, +10 percentage points), Malta (70%, +8), Luxembourg (61%, +8) and Slovakia (58%, +8). It has lost ground in eight countries and is unchanged in Croatia and Greece.

QA12.3 Please tell me for each of the following words if it describes very well, fairly well, fairly badly or very badly the idea you might have of the EU.

Protective (%)



Negative image attributes

"Technocratic"

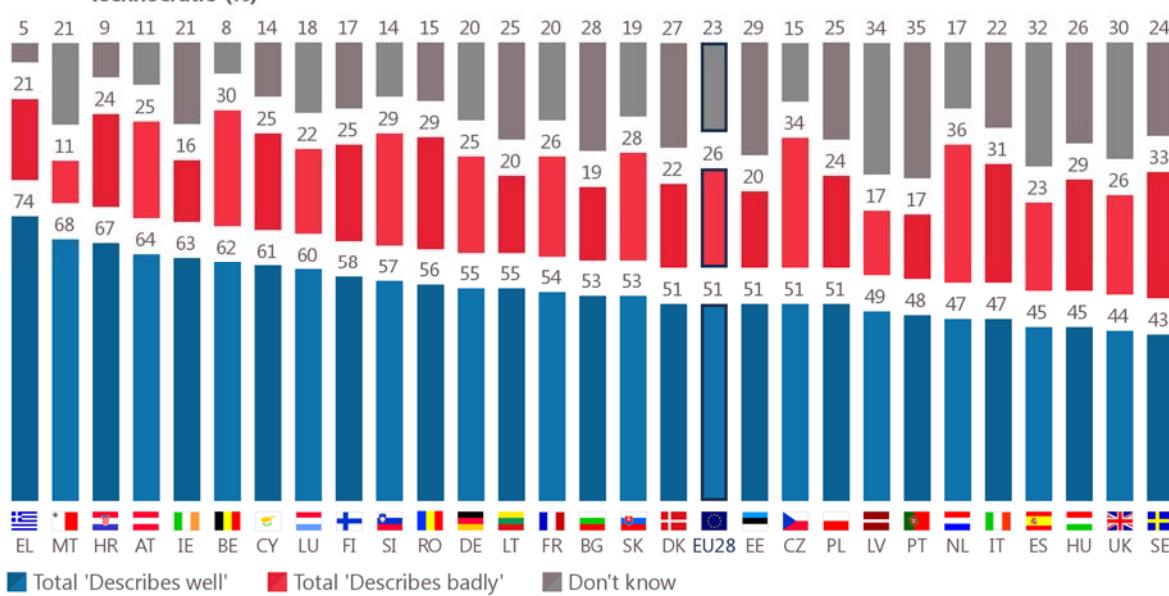
The belief that "technocratic" is an apt description of the European Union has gained ground, and is now shared by 51% of Europeans (+3 percentage points since spring 2016), while 26% (unchanged) take the opposite view. A significant proportion of Europeans expressed no opinion on this item (23%, -3).

The EU is seen as technocratic by a majority of respondents in all Member States, with scores of more than 50% in 20 countries, led by Greece (74%), Malta (68%) and Croatia (67%). A very high "DK" rate was recorded for this indicator in Portugal (35%), Latvia (34%), Spain (32%) and the United Kingdom (30%).

Since spring 2016, this image of the EU as technocratic has gained ground in 25 Member States, most markedly in Malta (68%, +12 percentage points), Austria (64%, +10), Finland (58%, +10) and Spain (45%, +9). It has lost ground very slightly in the remaining three countries.

QA12.5 Please tell me for each of the following words if it describes very well, fairly well, fairly badly or very badly the idea you might have of the EU.

Technocratic (%)



"Inefficient"

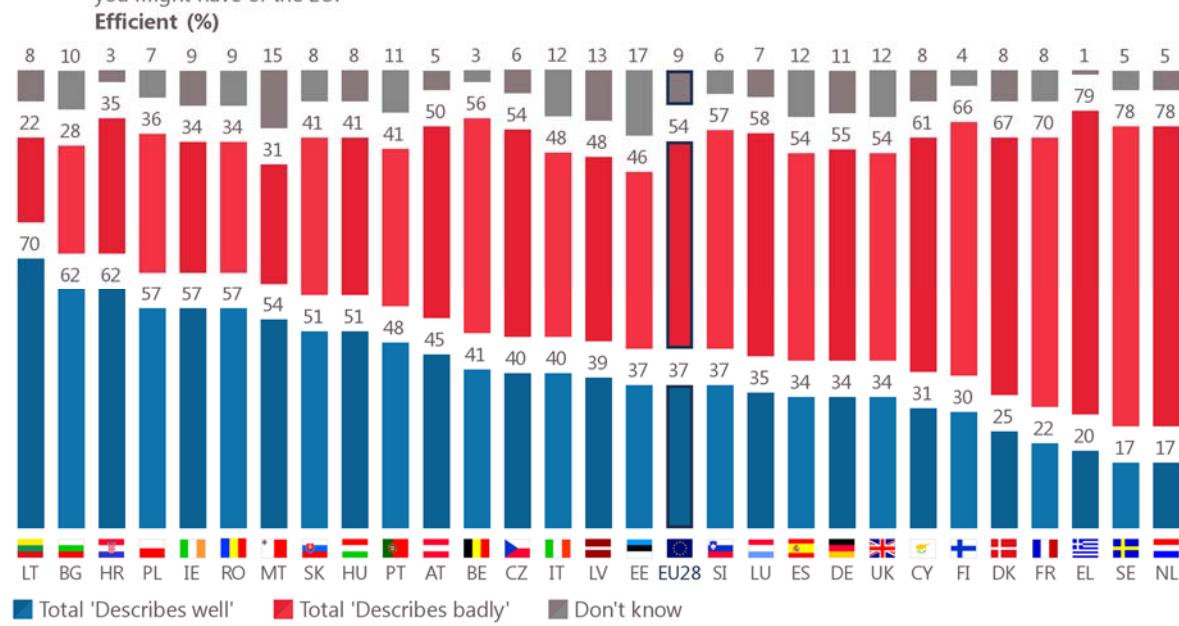
Despite a three-percentage point increase since spring 2016 in the proportion of Europeans who say that the European Union is "efficient", this is still the minority view (37% versus 54 (-1), with a "DK" rate of 9% (-2)).

A majority of respondents in ten Member States (compared with seven in spring 2016) see the European Union as "efficient". This is now the majority opinion in Slovakia (51% versus 41%, compared with 43% versus 48% in spring 2016), Hungary (51% versus 41%, compared with 46% versus 48%) and Portugal (48% versus 41%, compared with 44% versus 46%), and it continues to be so in Lithuania (70%), Bulgaria (62%), Croatia (62%), Poland (57%), Ireland (57%), Romania (57%) and Malta (54%).

The EU is predominantly seen as inefficient in 18 Member States, and by at least half the respondents in 15 countries, led by Greece (79%), the Netherlands (78%), Sweden (78%) and France (70%).

Since spring 2016, perceptions of the European Union as efficient have gained ground in 20 Member States, most markedly in Lithuania (70%, +8 percentage points), Slovakia (51%, +8) and Poland (57%, +7). They are unchanged in four countries and have lost ground slightly in the remaining four.

QA12.4 Please tell me for each of the following words if it describes very well, fairly well, fairly badly or very badly the idea you might have of the EU.

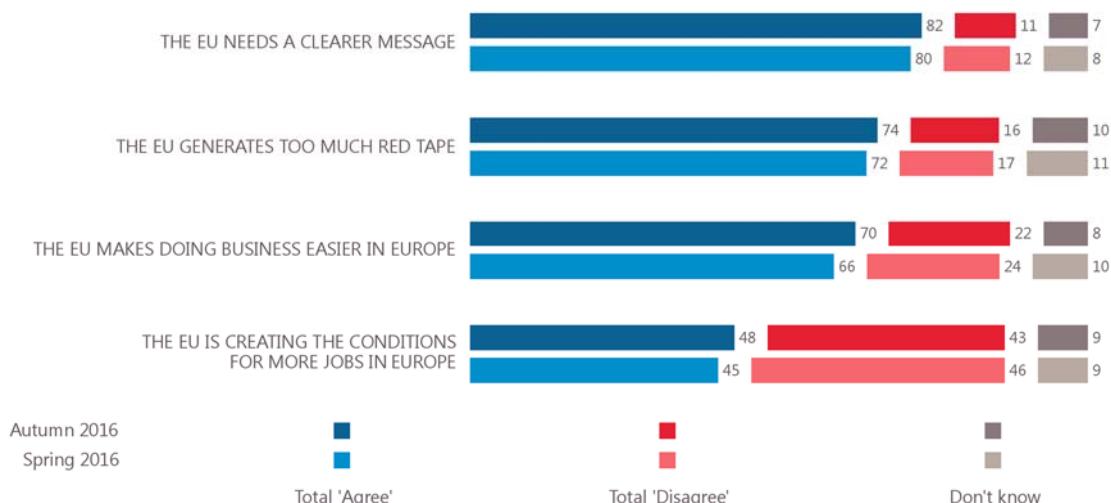


The representations associated with the European Union and its policies

This Standard Eurobarometer also included questions on how Europeans see the EU's role, the way it works and its policies. The main evolution is a significant improvement in perceptions of the EU's role in creating jobs in Europe, where the opinion ratio has recovered since spring 2016²⁹. This improvement should be seen in the context of improved assessments of the European economic situation, also evident in this survey³⁰.

A large majority of respondents already agreed with the other items in spring 2016, and agreement with all three statements, namely that the EU is business-friendly, that it generates too much red tape and that it needs a clearer message, has increased in this survey.

QA13 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.
(% - EU)



²⁹ QA13. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

³⁰ See part 3 of this report: Economic issues.

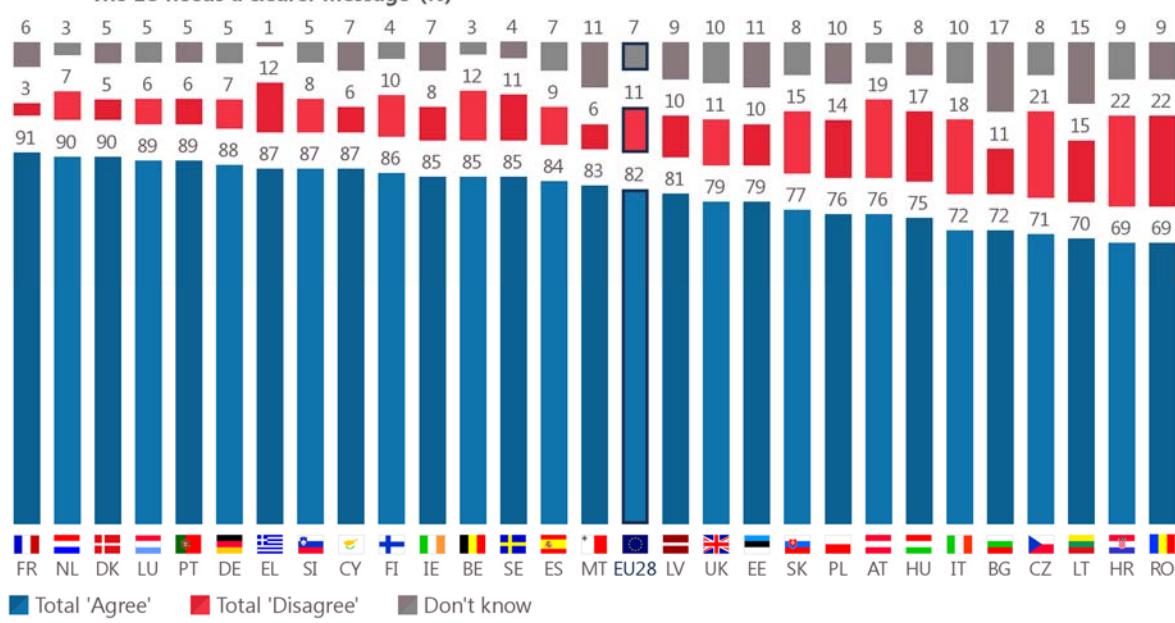
"The EU needs a clearer message"

More than eight in ten Europeans (82%, +2 percentage points since spring 2016) believe that "the European Union needs a clearer message", while 11% (-1) take the opposite view and 7% (-1) expressed no opinion.

This call for a clearer message from the European Union is expressed by more than two-thirds of respondents in all Member States, with scores ranging from 69% in Romania and Croatia to 91% in France.

QA13.4 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

The EU needs a clearer message (%)



This opinion is shared by a large majority of respondents in all socio-demographic categories of the European population, especially in the most advantaged categories, such as those who studied up to the age of 20 and beyond (86%), managers (86%) and those who see themselves as "upper middle class" or "upper class" (86% in both categories).

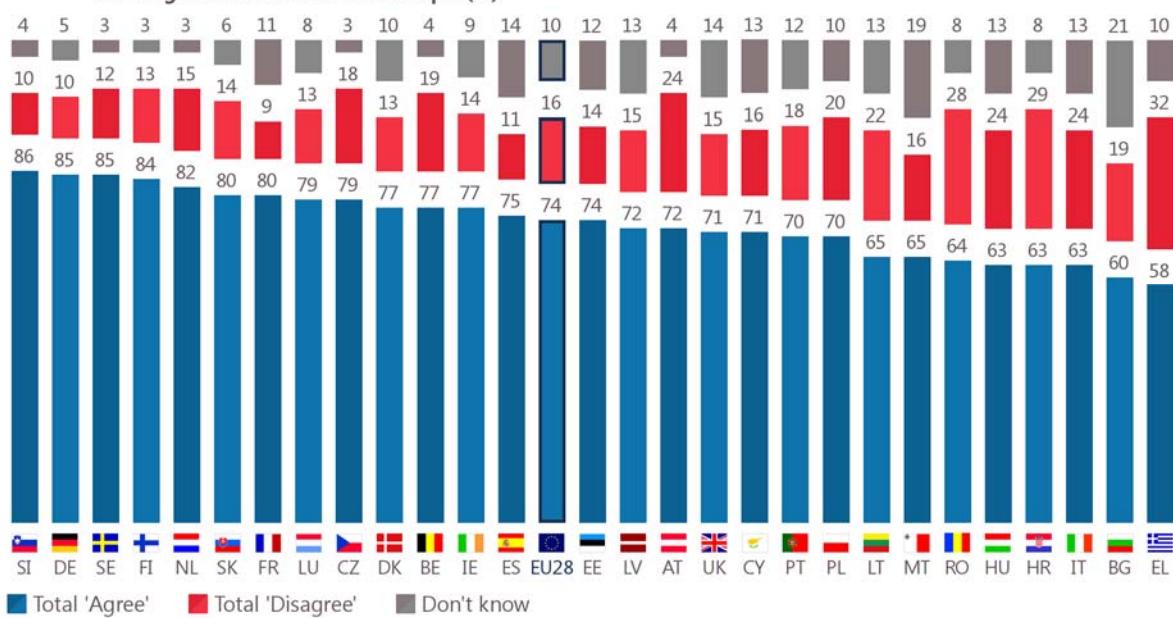
"The EU generates too much red tape"

Almost three-quarters of Europeans (74%, +2 percentage points since spring 2016) agree that "the EU generates too much red tape in Europe", while 16% (-1) disagree and 10% (-1) expressed no opinion.

More than half of respondents in all Member States agree that the European Union generates too much red tape, with scores ranging from 58% in Greece to 86% in Slovenia.

QA13.3 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

The EU generates too much red tape (%)



A socio-demographic analysis shows that a clear majority of respondents in all categories of the European population share this opinion, especially retired people (78%), managers (79%) and those who studied up to the age of 20 and beyond (78%). This view correlates relatively little with trust in the EU: 80% of those who do not trust the EU say that it generates too much red tape compared with 70% of those who trust it.

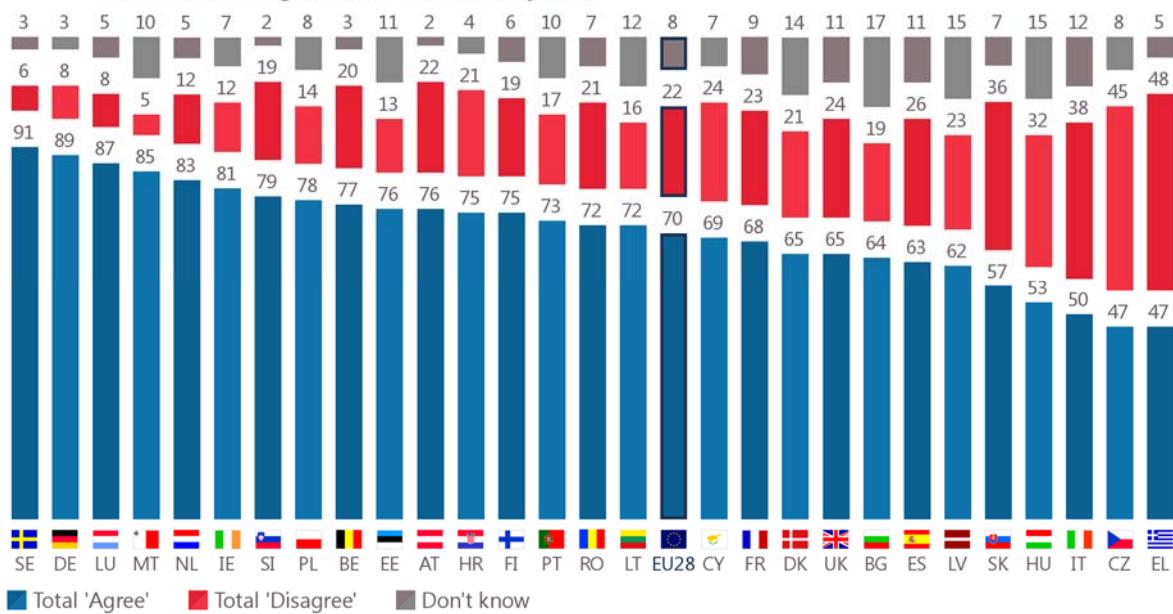
"The EU makes doing business easier in Europe"

Seven out of ten Europeans (70%, +4 percentage points) agree that the EU makes it easier to do business in Europe, while 22% (-2) disagree and 8% (-2) expressed no opinion.

A majority of respondents in 27 Member States consider that the European Union provides a business-friendly environment, a view held by at least half the respondents in 26 countries and a relative majority in the Czech Republic (47% versus 45%). Respondents in Sweden (91%), Germany (89%) and Luxembourg (87%) are the most likely to agree. Greece is the only country where this is – narrowly – the minority opinion (47% versus 48%).

QA13.2 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

The EU makes doing business easier in Europe (%)



A socio-demographic analysis reveals that a majority of respondents agree in all categories of the European population, but this view is especially widespread among the most educated categories (79% of those who studied up to the age of 20 and beyond and 77% of students), managers (83%) and self-employed people (73%).

"The EU is creating the conditions for more jobs in Europe"

Respondents are now more likely to acknowledge the EU's role in creating jobs: 48% of Europeans (+3 percentage points since spring 2016) think that the EU "is creating the conditions for more jobs in Europe", while 43% (-3) take the opposite view and 9% (unchanged) expressed no opinion. The ratio of opinion on this indicator has been reversed since spring 2016 and is now positive.

An increased majority of respondents in the **non-euro area** countries (63%, +3, versus 29%, -2) have a positive impression of the EU's role in employment. This view has gained a little ground in the **euro area** countries, but such respondents remain in the minority (40%, +2, versus 51%, -2).

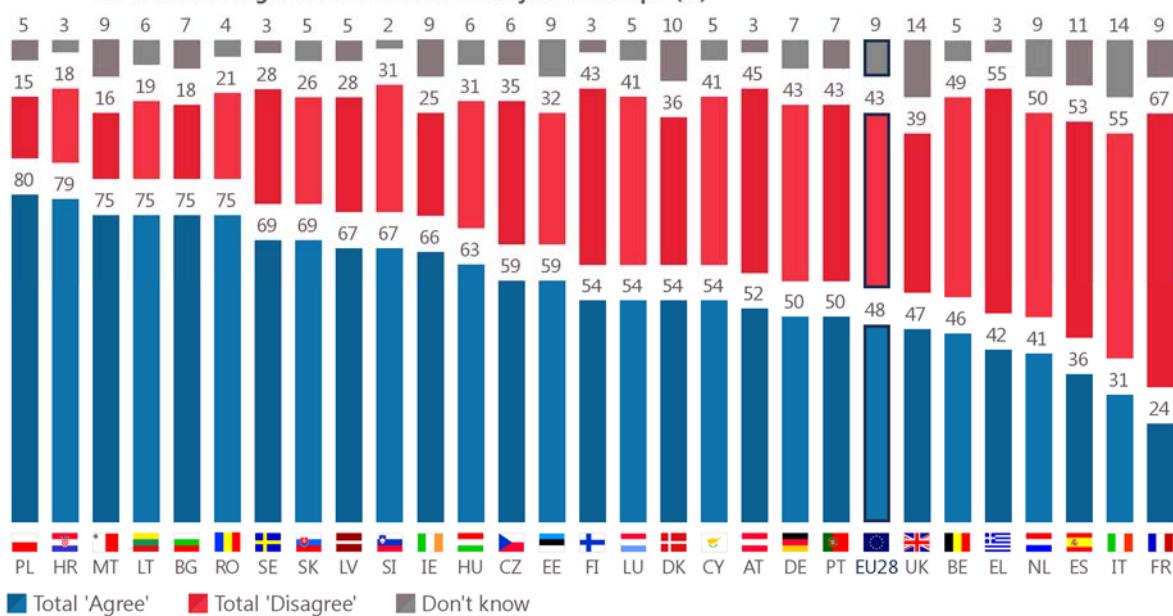
A majority of respondents in 22 Member States (versus 20 in spring 2016) agree that the EU is creating the conditions for job creation. The ratio of opinion has reversed in this survey and is now positive in Portugal (50% versus 43%, compared with 44% versus 47% in spring 2016) and Germany (50% versus 43%, compared with 43% versus 52%). Respondents in Poland (80%) and Croatia (79%) are the most likely to agree.

Respondents predominantly disagree with this statement in France (67%), Greece (55%), Italy (55%), Spain (53%) and the Netherlands (50% versus 41%), as do those in Belgium (49% versus 46%), albeit by a narrower margin.

Positive judgments of the European Union's role in creating jobs have gained ground since spring 2016 in 21 Member States, most notably in Malta (75%, +9 percentage points), Estonia (59%, +9), Spain (36%, +8), Romania (75%, +7) and Germany (50%, +7). They are stable in Latvia and have lost ground slightly in the remaining six countries.

QA13.1 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

The EU is creating the conditions for more jobs in Europe (%)



A socio-demographic analysis reveals significant divisions within the European population regarding the EU's role in job creation. This role is predominantly seen as beneficial by 15-24 year-olds (55% versus 36%), 25-39 year-olds (51% versus 42%), those who studied up to the age of 20 and beyond (53% versus 40%), managers (58% versus 36%), those who see themselves as "upper middle class" (55% versus 38%) or "upper class" (68% versus 30%), and those who almost never have difficulties paying their bills (51% versus 40%). However, it is perceived negatively by a majority of those aged 55+ (46% "disagree" versus 43%), those who left school at the age of 15 or earlier (51% versus 35%), unemployed people (58% versus 33%), those who see themselves as "lower middle class" (52% versus 41%) or "working class" (47% versus 43%), and those who struggle to pay their bills most of the time (62% versus 30%).

QA13 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.
(% - EU)

	The EU needs a clearer message		The EU generates too much red tape		The EU makes doing business easier in Europe		The EU is creating the conditions for more jobs in Europe	
	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'
EU28	82	11	74	16	70	22	48	43
 Gender								
Man	83	11	76	17	72	22	49	45
Woman	80	11	71	16	67	22	47	42
 Age								
15-24	78	14	61	22	73	20	55	36
25-39	82	12	72	19	73	20	51	42
40-54	84	11	77	16	72	22	49	45
55 +	82	9	77	12	65	24	43	46
 Education (End of)								
15-	75	13	71	14	55	30	35	51
16-19	83	10	76	16	69	24	47	45
20+	86	10	78	16	79	16	53	40
Still studying	79	14	61	23	77	16	56	35
 Socio-professional category								
Self-employed	85	11	75	18	73	23	51	43
Managers	86	11	79	17	83	13	58	36
Other white collars	82	13	74	20	74	21	53	41
Manual workers	83	11	74	16	70	22	48	44
House persons	74	15	64	20	54	31	40	48
Unemployed	79	11	75	13	60	29	33	58
Retired	82	9	78	12	64	24	43	46
Students	79	14	61	23	77	16	56	35
 Difficulties paying bills								
Most of the time	79	12	71	16	52	37	30	62
From time to time	79	14	71	19	64	28	45	46
Almost never/ Never	83	10	76	15	74	18	51	40
 Consider belonging to								
The working class	79	11	72	15	61	26	43	47
The lower middle class	82	11	75	15	65	27	41	52
The middle class	84	11	75	17	75	19	52	41
The upper middle class	86	11	76	20	82	16	55	38
The upper class	86	11	82	15	87	12	68	30

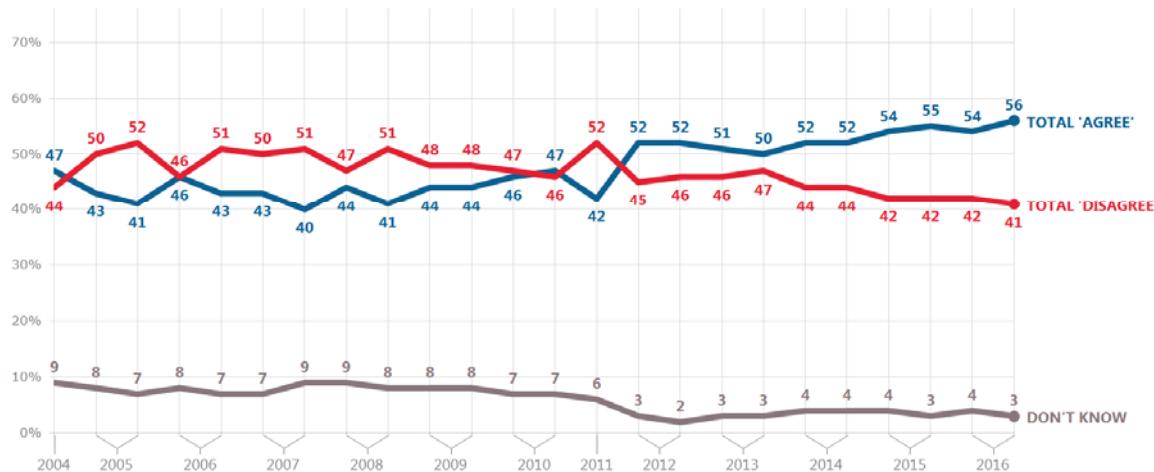
3 Knowledge of the European Union

a. Knowledge of how the European Union works

Respondents increasingly believe that they understand how the European Union works, and this belief is now at its highest level since 2004: 56% of Europeans (+2 percentage points since spring 2016) say that they understand how the EU works, while 41% (-1) take the opposite view and 3% (-1) expressed no opinion³¹.

QA19a.1 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

I understand how the EU works (% - EU)



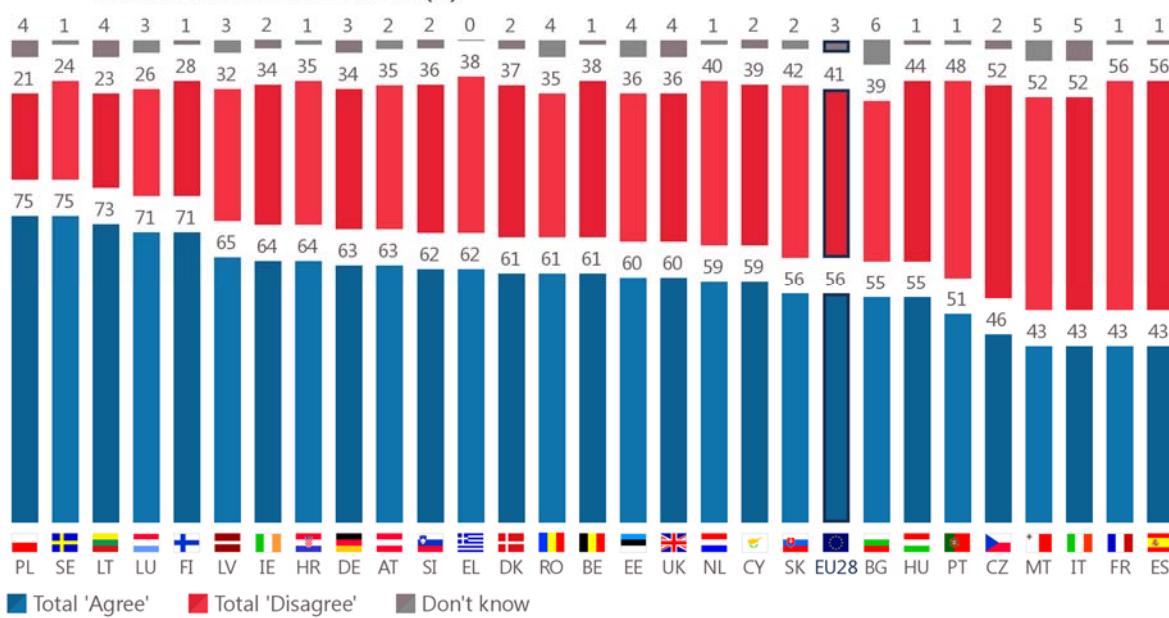
³¹ QA19a.1 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. I understand how the European Union works.

A majority of respondents in 23 Member States (as in spring 2016) feel that they understand how the EU works, with the highest scores in Poland (75%), Sweden (75%), Lithuania (73%), Luxembourg (71%) and Finland (71%).

However, a majority of respondents in Spain (56%), France (56%), Italy (52%), the Czech Republic (52%) and Malta (52%) disagree that they understand how the EU works.

QA19a.1 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

I understand how the EU works (%)



A socio-demographic analysis shows that the feeling of understanding how the European Union works is heavily correlated with the education and social status of respondents. Thus, a large majority of those who studied up to the age of 20 and beyond (69%) and managers (74%) say they understand how it works, while a majority of those who left school at the age of 15 or earlier (60%), house persons (58%) and unemployed people (52%) disagree.

Young people (60% of 15-24 year-olds and 61% of 25-39 year-olds) are far more likely than those aged 55+ (50% versus 46%) to feel that they understand how the EU works, as are men (63%) compared with women (50% versus 47%).

QA19a.1 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

I understand how the EU works (%) - EU

	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Don't know
EU28	56	41	3
 Gender			
Man	63	35	2
Woman	50	47	3
 Age			
15-24	60	38	2
25-39	61	37	2
40-54	58	40	2
55 +	50	46	4
 Education (End of)			
15-	36	60	4
16-19	54	43	3
20+	69	30	1
Still studying	63	36	1
 Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	66	32	2
Managers	74	24	2
Other white collars	63	35	2
Manual workers	54	43	3
House persons	39	58	3
Unemployed	46	52	2
Retired	48	48	4
Students	63	36	1

The following tables show the results by socio-demographic criteria in the European Union as a whole (EU28 average), in the six largest EU countries and in the countries benefiting or having benefited from European Union support to deal with the financial and economic crisis.

QA19a.1 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

I understand how the EU works

(% - TOTAL 'AGREE')

	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
TOTAL	56	63	43	43	43	75	60	62	51	64	59
Gender											
Male	63	69	53	52	48	79	66	70	59	71	68
Female	50	57	33	35	40	71	54	55	44	58	52
Age											
15-24	60	58	46	55	55	82	63	60	54	62	57
25-39	61	69	46	51	59	83	62	71	61	62	57
40-54	58	63	52	36	42	76	68	65	57	69	66
55 +	50	61	34	38	34	65	52	56	40	62	58
Education (End of)											
15-	36	49	29	30	25	43	40	45	41	45	39
16-19	54	58	51	35	48	73	60	63	59	55	62
20+	69	77	58	54	61	84	70	77	69	79	69
Still studying	63	65	53	57	61	82	61	61	52	67	64
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	66	76	55	65	56	83	67	73	57	78	58
Managers	74	80	65	55	71	86	74	87	77	81	77
Other white collars	63	62	53	47	54	85	66	73	69	71	67
Manual workers	54	59	45	40	41	81	57	63	50	53	58
House persons	39	44	22	27	29	73	61	41	12	56	41
Unemployed	46	45	48	40	31	56	56	59	48	54	57
Retired	48	60	34	37	31	60	49	55	37	59	53
Students	63	65	53	57	61	82	61	61	52	67	64

QA19a.1 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

I understand how the EU works

(% - TOTAL 'DISAGREE')

	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
TOTAL	41	34	56	56	52	21	36	38	48	34	39
Gender											
Male	35	29	47	47	49	19	31	30	40	29	32
Female	47	40	66	63	53	24	41	44	55	39	45
Age											
15-24	38	40	53	43	43	16	35	40	45	34	41
25-39	37	30	54	48	39	15	34	29	38	37	41
40-54	40	34	48	63	55	22	29	35	41	30	32
55 +	46	36	64	60	58	29	43	43	59	36	40
Education (End of)											
15-	60	50	70	69	64	46	53	54	59	52	60
16-19	43	38	49	63	49	23	36	37	40	43	37
20+	30	21	42	45	39	14	28	23	29	20	30
Still studying	36	33	47	41	38	16	38	39	46	33	33
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	32	22	45	33	41	14	32	27	43	21	39
Managers	24	17	33	45	29	12	23	13	22	19	21
Other white collars	35	35	46	52	43	14	33	27	29	26	33
Manual workers	43	40	55	58	53	15	38	37	49	45	42
House persons	58	51	76	73	65	27	37	59	88	44	59
Unemployed	52	52	52	60	66	41	39	41	51	42	39
Retired	48	37	64	60	60	33	46	44	62	38	44
Students	36	33	47	41	38	16	38	39	46	33	33

b. Objective knowledge of the European Union

After measuring the *subjective* extent of understanding of the European Union, this Standard Eurobarometer then set out to assess *objective* level of knowledge of the European Union. For this purpose, respondents were asked a quiz-type question in which they were asked to say whether three statements were true or false: “the EU currently consists of 28 Member States”; “the members of the European Parliament are directly elected by the citizens of each Member State”; “Switzerland is a Member State of the EU”.

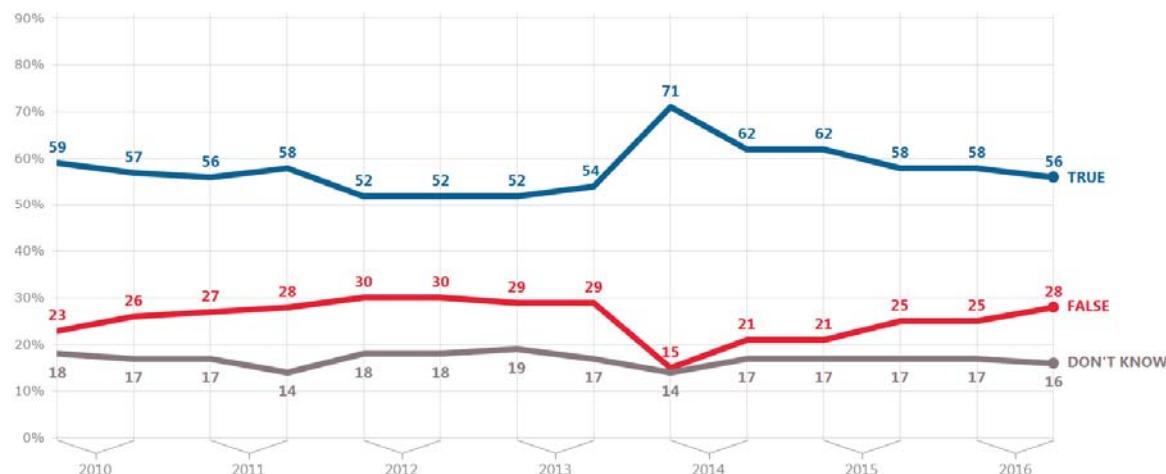
The level of objective knowledge of the European Union has remained more or less stable since spring 2016. 34% of Europeans (-1 percentage point) gave three right answers to the quiz questions. Respondents are the most knowledgeable in Slovenia (56% of respondents in this country gave three right answers), Croatia (54%), Luxembourg (54%) and Greece (53%). In contrast, respondents in the United Kingdom (27%), the Netherlands (28%), France (28%), Latvia (29%) and Spain (29%) are the least knowledgeable³².

In more detail:

“The members of the European Parliament are directly elected by the citizens of each Member State”

Knowledge regarding the way members of the European Parliament are elected decreases as time elapses since the last European elections³³: 56% of Europeans (-2 percentage points since spring 2016, -16 since spring 2014) know that members of the European Parliament are directly elected in each Member State, while 28% (+3) gave the wrong answer and 16% (-1) said they did not know.

QA16.2 For each of the following statements about the EU could you please tell me whether you think it is true or false.
The members of the European Parliament are directly elected by the citizens of each Member State (% - EU)



³² QA16. 1+2+3. For each of the following statements about the EU could you please tell me whether you think it is true or false?

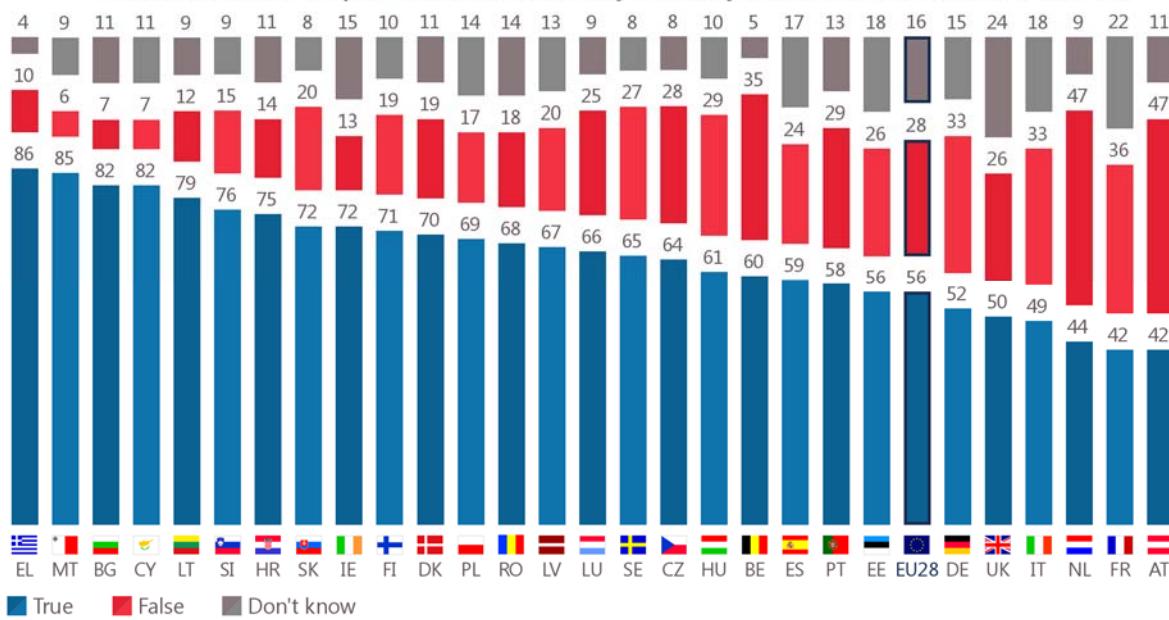
³³ The last European elections were held on 22-25 May 2014, just before the Standard Eurobarometer of spring 2014.

An aggregation of the wrong and “DK” answers reveals a majority of respondents in France (58%), Austria (58%), the Netherlands (56%) and Italy (51%) do not know how MEPs are elected. Respondents in the United Kingdom are evenly divided between right and wrong answers (50% versus 50%).

A majority of respondents gave the right answer in all the other Member States, led by Greece (86%), Malta (85%), Bulgaria (82%) and Cyprus (82%).

QA16.2 For each of the following statements about the EU could you please tell me whether you think it is true or false.

The members of the European Parliament are directly elected by the citizens of each Member State (%)

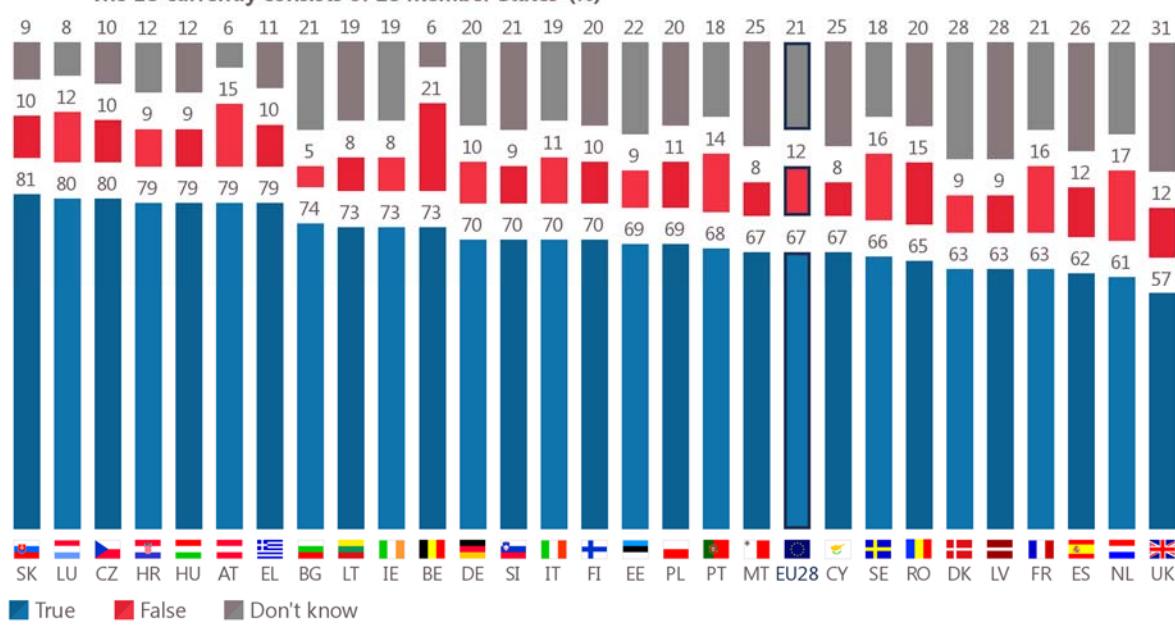


"The EU currently consists of 28 Member States"

67% of Europeans (-1 percentage point since spring 2016) know that the EU currently consists of 28 Member States, while 21% (-2) did not answer and 12% (+3) answered incorrectly.

More than half of respondents in all the Member States of the European Union know how many countries make up the EU, with the highest scores in Slovakia (81%), Luxembourg (80%) and the Czech Republic (80%). Respondents in the United Kingdom (57%), the Netherlands (61%) and Spain (62%) were the least likely to give the right answer.

QA16.1 For each of the following statements about the EU could you please tell me whether you think it is true or false.
The EU currently consists of 28 Member States (%)

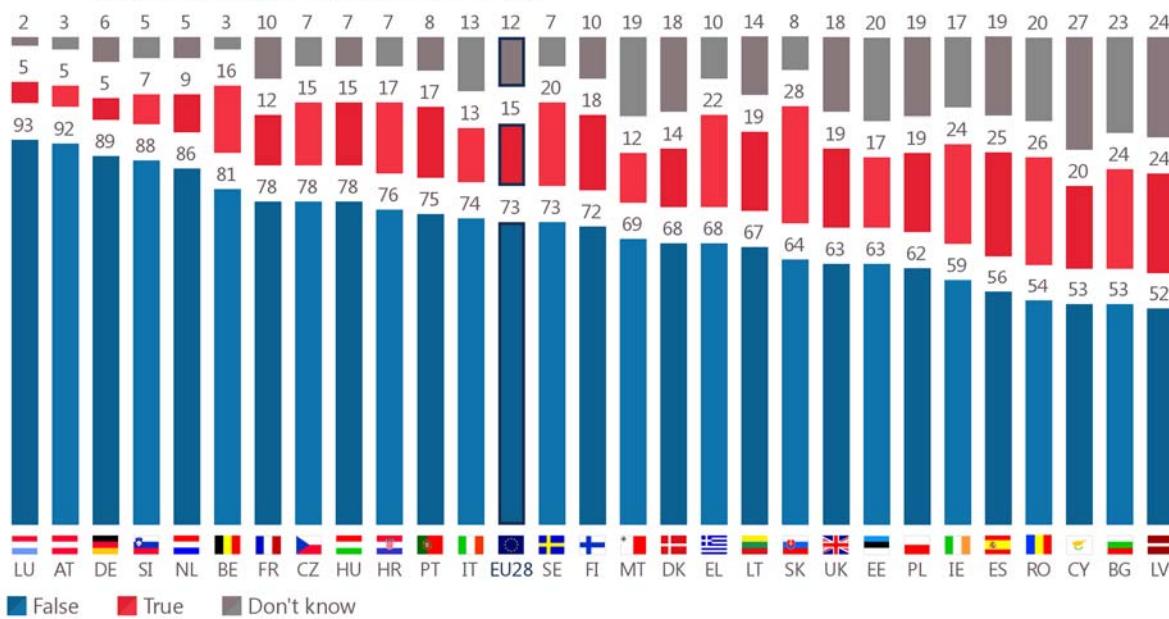


"Switzerland is a Member State of the EU"

More than seven in ten Europeans (73%, +3 percentage points since spring 2016) know that Switzerland is not a Member State of the EU, while 15% (-1) wrongly think that it is and 12% (-2) said they did not know.

More than half the respondents in all Member States know that Switzerland is not a member of the EU, but within a wide range, passing from 52% in Latvia to 93% in Luxembourg.

QA16.3 For each of the following statements about the EU could you please tell me whether you think it is true or false.

Switzerland is a Member State of the EU (%)

QA16 For each of the following statements about the EU could you please tell me whether you think it is true or false.

(%)

	The EU currently consists of 28 Member States	True		The members of the European Parliament are directly elected by the citizens of each Member State		Switzerland is a Member State of the EU	
		True	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	True	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	False	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016
EU28		67	▼ 1	56	▼ 2	73	▲ 3
EURO AREA		68	=	53	▼ 1	77	▲ 3
NON-EURO AREA		65	▼ 1	62	▼ 3	64	▲ 1
BE		73	▲ 8	60	▲ 3	81	▲ 4
BG		74	▲ 1	82	▼ 1	53	▲ 1
CZ		80	▲ 1	64	▲ 4	78	▲ 7
DK		63	▼ 2	70	▼ 4	68	▼ 6
DE		70	=	52	▲ 2	89	▲ 4
EE		69	▲ 5	56	▼ 1	63	▲ 8
IE		73	▲ 1	72	▲ 2	59	▼ 2
EL		79	▼ 1	86	▲ 4	68	▲ 6
ES		62	▲ 2	59	▲ 1	56	▲ 3
FR		63	▼ 5	42	▼ 3	78	▼ 1
HR		79	▼ 2	75	▼ 2	76	▲ 1
IT		70	▲ 2	49	▼ 8	74	▲ 5
CY		67	▼ 10	82	▲ 2	53	▲ 1
LV		63	=	67	▲ 3	52	=
LT		73	▲ 3	79	▼ 3	67	▲ 8
LU		80	▲ 1	66	▲ 6	93	=
HU		79	▼ 2	61	▲ 2	78	▲ 2
MT		67	▲ 3	85	▼ 1	69	▲ 8
NL		61	=	44	▲ 3	86	▲ 3
AT		79	▼ 7	42	▼ 4	92	▼ 2
PL		69	▲ 4	69	▼ 1	62	▲ 6
PT		68	▼ 4	58	▼ 1	75	▲ 2
RO		65	▼ 4	68	▼ 4	54	=
SI		70	▼ 3	76	▲ 2	88	▲ 3
SK		81	▲ 3	72	▼ 2	64	▼ 4
FI		70	▲ 5	71	▼ 1	72	▲ 5
SE		66	▲ 1	65	▼ 2	73	▼ 1
UK		57	▼ 3	50	▼ 7	63	▼ 2

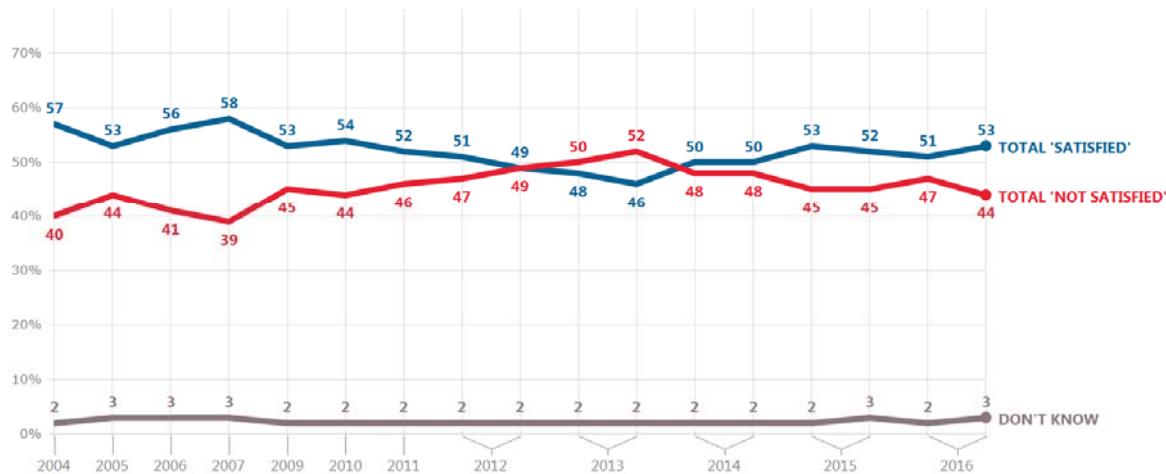
4 Democracy in the EU

a. The way in which democracy works

The way in which democracy works at national level

Assessments of the way in which democracy works at national level have improved since spring 2016: 53% of Europeans (+2 percentage points) are satisfied with the way in which democracy works in their country, while 44% (-3) are dissatisfied and 3% (+1) expressed no opinion³⁴.

QA18a 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)?



Assessments of the way in which democracy works at national level vary significantly between Member States.

A majority of respondents in 16 Member States (compared with 15 in spring 2016) are positive about their country's democratic system. Satisfaction has become predominant in Portugal (52% versus 47%, compared with 45% versus 53%). Respondents in the Nordic countries (91% in Denmark, 79% in Sweden and 77% in Finland), the Benelux countries (87% in Luxembourg, 78% in the Netherlands and 69% in Belgium), Ireland (73%) and Germany (69%) are the most likely to be satisfied with the way democracy works in their country. Narrower majorities are satisfied in the Czech Republic (53% versus 45%), Latvia (52% versus 46%) and, as we have seen, Portugal (52% versus 47%).

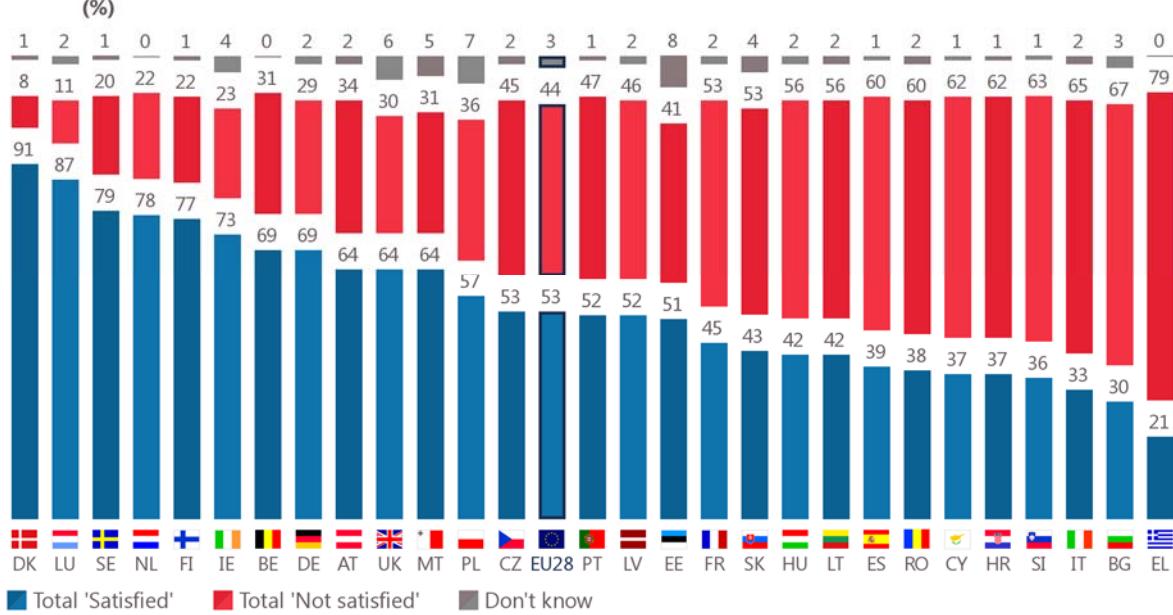
Within this group of countries, satisfaction has consolidated significantly in Poland (57%, +7 percentage points), Portugal (52%, +7) and Belgium (69%, +6), but has decreased in the Czech Republic (53%, -5).

A majority of respondents are dissatisfied with the way in which their national democracy works in 12 Member States, led by Greece (79%), Bulgaria (67%), Italy (65%), Slovenia (63%), Croatia (62%) and Cyprus (62%).

³⁴ QA18a. 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)?

Within this group of countries, dissatisfaction has increased significantly since spring 2016 in Italy (65%, +7 percentage points), but has decreased sharply in Lithuania (56%, -11), Hungary (56%, -9), Romania (60%, -8), Slovakia (53%, -7) and Spain (60%, -6).

QA18a 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)? (%)



QA18a 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
EU28	53	44	3
EURO AREA	51	47	2
NON-EURO AREA	57	39	4
 Gender			
Man	54	44	2
Woman	52	45	3
 Age			
15-24	56	40	4
25-39	54	43	3
40-54	53	45	2
55 +	52	46	2
 Education (End of)			
15-	44	53	3
16-19	50	47	3
20+	61	37	2
Still studying	61	36	3
 Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	48	50	2
Managers	69	30	1
Other white collars	55	43	2
Manual workers	51	46	3
House persons	47	50	3
Unemployed	36	61	3
Retired	52	45	3
Students	61	36	3
 Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	27	71	2
From time to time	45	53	2
Almost never/ Never	60	38	2
 Consider belonging to			
The working class	46	51	3
The lower middle class	48	51	1
The middle class	58	40	2
The upper middle class	66	33	1
The upper class	62	38	0

The following tables show the results by socio-demographic criteria in the European Union as a whole (EU28 average), in the six largest EU countries and in the countries benefiting or having benefited from European Union support to deal with the financial and economic crisis.

QA18a 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)?
 (% - TOTAL 'SATISFIED')

	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
TOTAL	53	69	39	45	33	57	64	21	52	73	37
Gender											
Male	54	69	38	50	33	59	65	21	55	75	36
Female	52	70	39	41	32	57	64	21	50	71	38
Age											
15-24	56	78	38	41	36	53	61	26	67	71	33
25-39	54	68	30	43	39	64	61	24	59	76	31
40-54	53	64	45	47	35	55	65	21	55	73	28
55 +	52	71	41	47	28	56	68	17	42	72	50
Education (End of)											
15-	44	68	36	38	28	55	65	16	44	57	40
16-19	50	65	40	40	30	60	62	21	51	69	38
20+	61	74	44	54	42	56	65	21	62	82	34
Still studying	61	79	35	43	47	55	73	30	73	71	40
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	48	60	37	41	35	51	58	21	52	79	61
Managers	69	83	46	61	49	57	70	29	67	84	40
Other white collars	55	64	42	41	44	68	65	23	65	78	28
Manual workers	51	60	37	43	33	63	57	24	53	70	31
House persons	47	71	46	28	27	56	71	20	57	67	43
Unemployed	36	43	37	37	9	43	47	16	36	52	22
Retired	52	72	36	48	26	54	70	16	40	75	46
Students	61	79	35	43	47	55	73	30	73	71	40

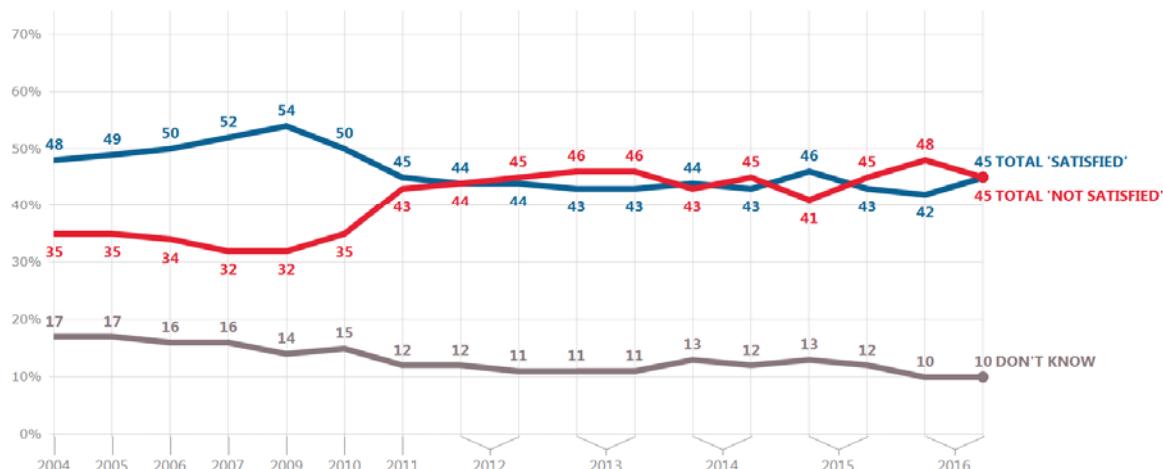
QA18a On the whole, are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied or not at all satisfied with the way democracy works in (OUR COUNTRY)?
 (% - TOTAL 'NOT SATISFIED')

	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
TOTAL	44	29	60	53	65	36	30	79	47	23	62
Gender											
Male	44	30	61	49	66	36	30	79	44	24	63
Female	45	28	59	57	64	35	30	79	49	22	62
Age											
15-24	40	20	56	56	61	39	31	74	30	17	67
25-39	43	29	69	57	58	31	32	76	41	21	69
40-54	45	34	55	53	64	38	28	79	44	25	71
55 +	46	28	58	50	69	36	29	83	57	25	49
Education (End of)											
15-	53	31	62	56	71	35	29	84	55	39	58
16-19	47	34	59	59	68	33	31	79	48	26	61
20+	37	24	56	46	58	38	31	79	37	17	66
Still studying	36	19	63	54	46	39	21	70	23	16	60
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	50	36	63	59	64	41	37	79	48	19	39
Managers	30	15	52	39	51	41	27	71	33	16	60
Other white collars	43	35	56	59	54	24	28	77	34	18	70
Manual workers	46	37	63	56	65	32	34	76	46	25	68
House persons	50	26	53	66	70	36	23	80	43	27	57
Unemployed	61	55	60	63	90	42	40	84	62	47	78
Retired	45	27	63	49	71	38	27	84	59	23	53
Students	36	19	63	54	46	39	21	70	23	16	60

The way in which democracy works in the European Union

After reaching a peak in the previous Standard Eurobarometer survey of spring 2016 (EB85), dissatisfaction with the way in which European democracy works has decreased by three percentage points in this survey. At the same time, satisfaction has also increased by three percentage points and, as a result, opinions are now evenly balanced, at 45% versus 45% (10%, unchanged, expressed no opinion). Except for the peak of dissatisfaction recorded in spring, opinions of how democracy works in the EU have overall been fairly evenly balanced between satisfaction and dissatisfaction since 2011³⁵, far from the generally positive levels found before the economic crisis.

QA18b And how about the way democracy works in the EU?
(% - EU)



Without any significant evolutions, a majority of respondents in the **euro area** remain dissatisfied (50%, -1 percentage point, versus 41%, +1), but satisfaction has increased significantly in the **non-euro area** countries (52%, +4, versus 35%, -4).

³⁵ QA18b. 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?

A majority of respondents in 18 Member States (compared with 15 in spring 2016) are satisfied with the way in which democracy works in the European Union. Satisfaction is now predominant in Portugal (49% versus 41%, compared with 44% versus 46% in spring 2016), Hungary (49% versus 43%, compared with 43% versus 48%), Slovakia (48% versus 42%, compared with 42% versus 47%) and the United Kingdom (44% versus 41%, compared with 38% versus 48%). Satisfaction stands at 50% or more in 12 Member States, with the highest scores in Luxembourg (67%), Ireland (63%), Lithuania (63%) and Poland (63%).

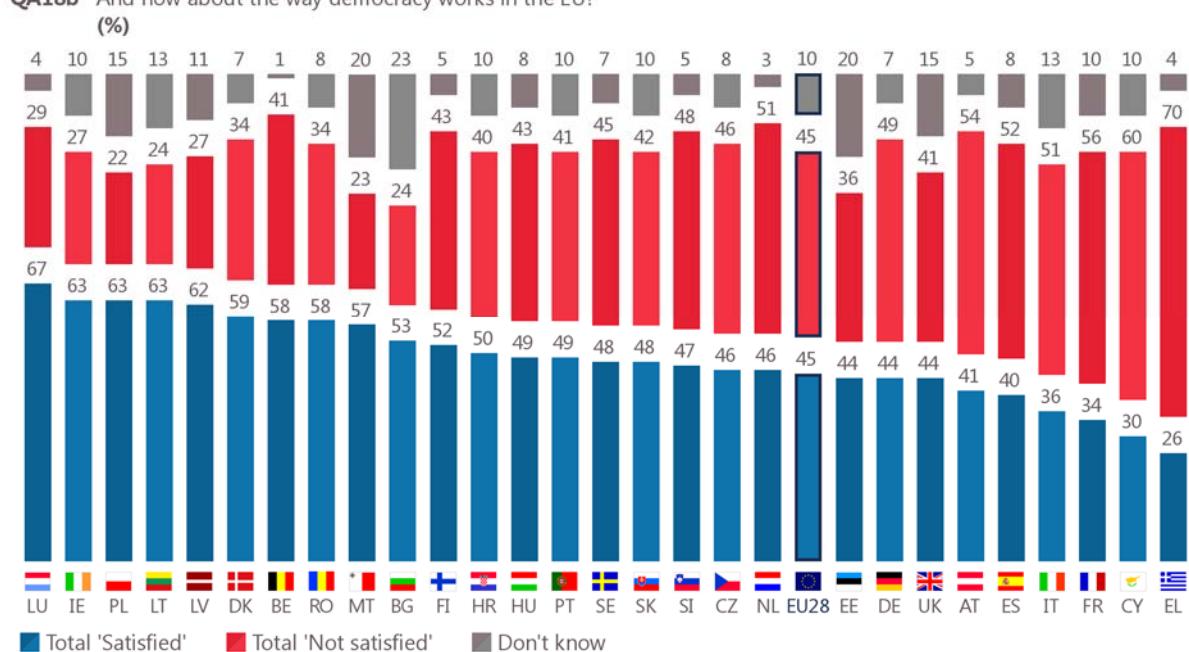
Within this group of countries, satisfaction has increased significantly in Poland (+7 percentage points) and Luxembourg (+7).

Opinions are now evenly divided in the Czech Republic (46% versus 46%), whereas a narrow majority of respondents were satisfied in spring 2016 (49% versus 44%).

A majority of respondents are dissatisfied in nine Member States. Over half of respondents are dissatisfied in seven countries, namely Greece (70%), Cyprus (60%), France (56%), Austria (54%), Spain (52%), Italy (51%) and the Netherlands (51%), while a relative majority are dissatisfied in Germany (49% versus 44%) and Slovenia (48% versus 47%).

Dissatisfaction has decreased sharply in Germany (-6 percentage points), but has increased in France (+6), Cyprus (+4) and Italy (+4).

QA18b And how about the way democracy works in the EU?



A socio-demographic analysis reveals significant variations in assessments of the way democracy works within the European Union. Satisfaction clearly predominates among 15-24 year-olds (53%), those who studied up to the age of 20 and beyond (50% versus 44%), students (56%), managers (54%), and those who see themselves as “middle class” (49% versus 43%), “upper middle class” (54%) or “upper class” (62%). However, a majority of respondents are dissatisfied among those aged 55+ (49% versus 39%), those who left school at the age of 15 or earlier (50% versus 35%), unemployed people (54%), self-employed people (51%) and those who see themselves as “lower middle class” (52%) or “working class” (48% versus 39%).

QA18b And how about the way democracy works in the EU?
(% - EU)

	Total 'Satisfied'	Total 'Not satisfied'	Don't know
EU28	45	45	10
EURO AREA	41	50	9
NON-EURO AREA	52	35	13
 Gender			
Man	45	47	8
Woman	44	44	12
 Age			
15-24	53	34	13
25-39	49	44	7
40-54	45	48	7
55 +	39	49	12
 Education (End of)			
15-	35	50	15
16-19	44	46	10
20+	50	44	6
Still studying	56	34	10
 Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	42	51	7
Managers	54	39	7
Other white collars	51	43	6
Manual workers	46	45	9
House persons	42	46	12
Unemployed	35	54	11
Retired	39	48	13
Students	56	34	10
 Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	27	61	12
From time to time	42	48	10
Almost never/ Never	49	42	9
 Consider belonging to			
The working class	39	48	13
The lower middle class	39	52	9
The middle class	49	43	8
The upper middle class	54	41	5
The upper class	62	35	3

The following tables show the results by socio-demographic criteria in the European Union as a whole (EU28 average), in the six largest EU countries and in the countries benefiting or having benefited from European Union support to deal with the financial and economic crisis.

QA18b And how about the way democracy works in the EU?
(% - TOTAL 'SATISFIED')

	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
TOTAL	45	44	40	34	36	63	44	26	49	63	30
Gender											
Male	45	45	42	38	37	61	44	29	52	64	29
Female	44	44	39	30	36	64	45	24	48	63	31
Age											
15-24	53	49	45	42	43	68	52	40	67	65	32
25-39	49	45	37	35	46	67	51	27	61	67	24
40-54	45	42	46	36	33	64	50	26	52	59	28
55 +	39	44	38	31	33	57	32	23	35	61	36
Education (End of)											
15-	35	46	38	26	27	49	29	20	40	45	23
16-19	44	42	46	29	38	63	43	25	50	60	33
20+	50	45	41	40	48	65	51	30	59	70	30
Still studying	56	51	39	43	56	71	61	41	73	66	33
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	42	35	44	25	42	52	50	26	58	73	44
Managers	54	51	47	47	55	63	51	36	58	70	35
Other white collars	51	49	47	34	44	77	47	31	59	63	18
Manual workers	46	40	41	38	35	66	44	24	53	64	30
House persons	42	44	37	24	34	66	59	21	41	61	28
Unemployed	35	36	41	26	12	53	36	24	40	38	24
Retired	39	44	36	31	30	55	32	22	33	62	34
Students	56	51	39	43	56	71	61	41	73	66	33

QA18b And how about the way democracy works in the EU?
(% - TOTAL 'NOT SATISFIED')

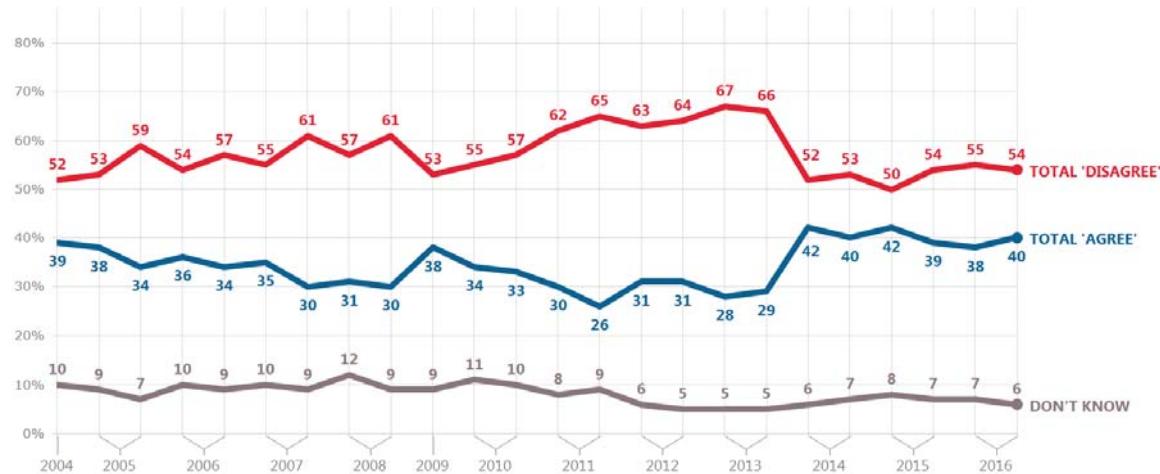
	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
TOTAL	45	49	52	56	51	22	41	70	41	27	60
Gender											
Male	47	50	52	53	54	26	46	68	40	30	65
Female	44	47	51	59	48	19	35	72	42	23	55
Age											
15-24	34	39	44	46	39	19	28	48	28	21	65
25-39	44	48	59	57	46	24	35	71	33	23	66
40-54	48	52	47	58	59	23	37	72	42	32	63
55 +	49	49	50	57	50	21	52	74	50	29	50
Education (End of)											
15-	50	45	51	59	55	27	51	74	48	39	53
16-19	46	51	50	60	54	23	40	74	42	28	56
20+	44	50	55	53	44	22	40	69	36	25	65
Still studying	34	40	58	45	29	15	21	45	23	18	65
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	51	61	55	64	50	32	43	72	34	23	48
Managers	39	41	49	42	39	26	42	64	39	25	54
Other white collars	43	45	47	60	51	13	38	68	38	28	71
Manual workers	45	54	52	55	53	24	37	73	40	26	62
House persons	46	48	47	63	59	23	22	75	46	25	51
Unemployed	54	59	51	68	72	25	38	73	47	51	69
Retired	48	49	53	56	48	21	52	74	50	27	50
Students	34	40	58	45	29	15	21	45	23	18	65

b. Are personal interests properly taken into account nationally and at EU level?

The feeling that “my voice counts in the EU”

40% of Europeans (+2 percentage points since spring 2016) feel that their voice counts in the EU, while 54% (-1) disagree and 6% (-1) expressed no opinion³⁶. Since the sharp improvement noted in spring 2014, just after the 2014 European elections, this ratio of opinion has remained relatively stable.

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



A majority of respondents in 12 Member States (compared with ten in spring 2016) feel that their voice counts in the EU. This is now the majority view in Germany (55% versus 38%, compared with 47% versus 47% in spring 2016) and Ireland (48% versus 46%, compared with 47% versus 47%), as was already the case in the Nordic countries (67% in Sweden, 64% in Denmark and 55% in Finland), the Benelux countries (58% in the Netherlands, 57% in Belgium and 51% in Luxembourg), Austria (55%), Croatia (53%), Malta (49% versus 34%) and, by a narrow margin, in Poland (46% versus 45%).

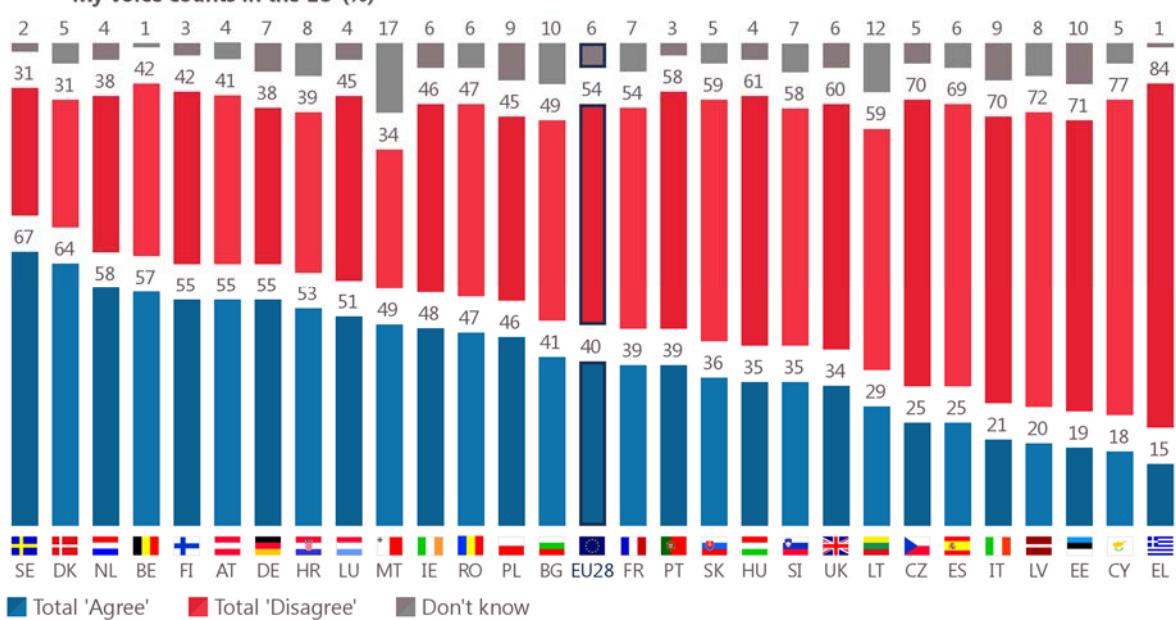
Opinions are now evenly balanced in Romania (47% versus 47%), whereas they were predominantly negative in spring 2016 (41% versus 52%).

A majority of respondents feel that their voice does not count in the EU in 15 Member States, most notably in Greece (84%), Cyprus (77%) and Latvia (72%).

³⁶ D72.1. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. My voice counts in the EU

D72.1 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

My voice counts in the EU (%)



The feeling that “my voice counts in (OUR) country”

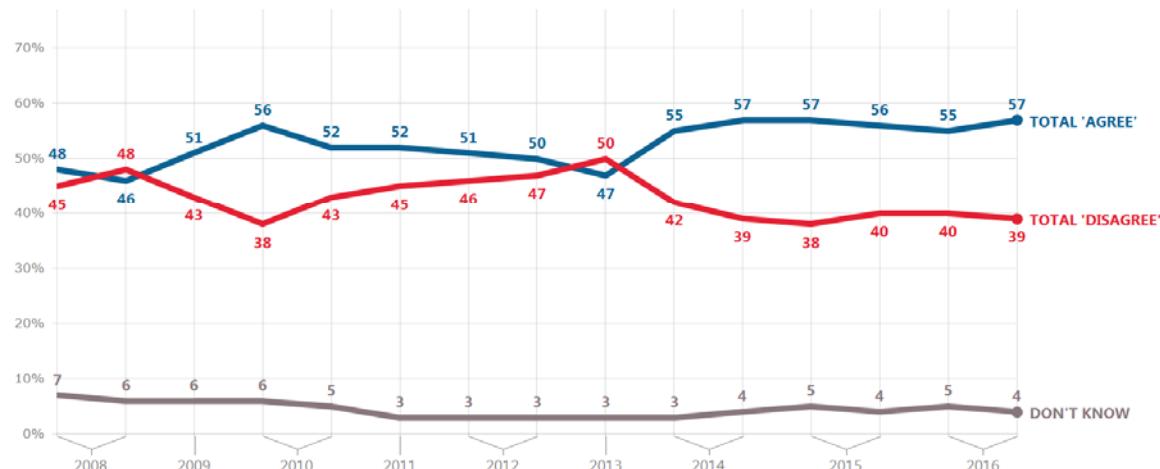
57% of Europeans (+2 percentage points since spring 2016) agree that their voice counts in their country, while 39% (-1) disagree and 4% (-1) expressed no opinion³⁷.

A majority of respondents in 18 Member States (compared with 16 in spring 2016) feel that their voice counts in their country. This opinion is now predominant in Bulgaria (48% versus 45%, compared with 45% versus 46% in spring 2016) and Portugal (50% versus 47%, compared with 45% versus 52%). Respondents in the Nordic countries (92% in Denmark and Sweden, and 81% in Finland), the Netherlands (83%) and Austria (80%) are the most likely to agree.

A majority of respondents disagree, saying that their voice does not count in their country, in ten Member States, most markedly in Greece (80%), Cyprus (70%) and Italy (65%).

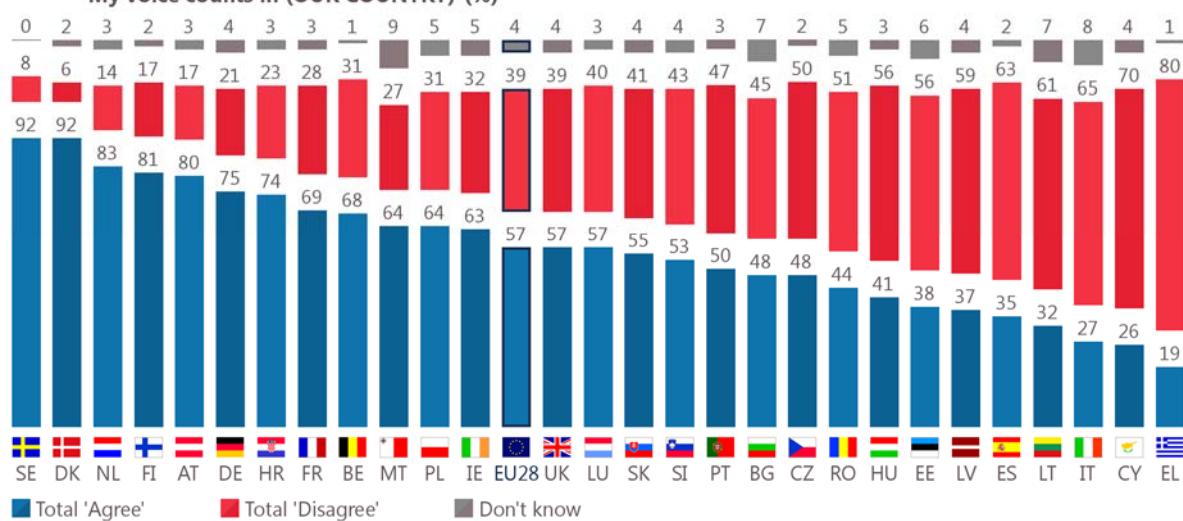
D72.2 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

My voice counts in (OUR COUNTRY) (% - EU)



D72.2 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

My voice counts in (OUR COUNTRY) (%)



³⁷ D72.2. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. My voice counts in (OUR COUNTRY).

D72 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

(%)

		My voice counts in (OUR COUNTRY)			My voice counts in the EU		
		Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Total 'Agree' - Total 'Disagree'	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Total 'Agree' - Total 'Disagree'
EU28		57	39	+18	40	54	-14
EURO AREA		56	40	+16	40	54	-14
NON-EURO AREA		58	38	+20	41	52	-11
DK		92	6	+86	64	31	+33
SE		92	8	+84	67	31	+36
NL		83	14	+69	58	38	+20
FI		81	17	+64	55	42	+13
AT		80	17	+63	55	41	+14
DE		75	21	+54	55	38	+17
HR		74	23	+51	53	39	+14
FR		69	28	+41	39	54	-15
BE		68	31	+37	57	42	+15
MT		64	27	+37	49	34	+15
PL		64	31	+33	46	45	+1
IE		63	32	+31	48	46	+2
UK		57	39	+18	34	60	-26
LU		57	40	+17	51	45	+6
SK		55	41	+14	36	59	-23
SI		53	43	+10	35	58	-23
PT		50	47	+3	39	58	-19
BG		48	45	+3	41	49	-8
CZ		48	50	-2	25	70	-45
RO		44	51	-7	47	47	0
HU		41	56	-15	35	61	-26
EE		38	56	-18	19	71	-52
LV		37	59	-22	20	72	-52
ES		35	63	-28	25	69	-44
LT		32	61	-29	29	59	-30
IT		27	65	-38	21	70	-49
CY		26	70	-44	18	77	-59
EL		19	80	-61	15	84	-69

Does the EU's voice count in the world, and does the EU take account of national interests?

The European Union's international role is widely acknowledged. **Almost seven out of ten Europeans (69%, +1 percentage point since spring 2016) say that “the EU's voice counts in the world”**, while 25% (unchanged) disagree and 6% (-1) expressed no opinion³⁸.

However, Europeans are more divided on the question of whether national interests are properly taken into account in the European Union: 49% (-1 percentage point since spring 2016) think that their country's interests are not properly taken into account within the EU, while 43% (+2) take the opposite view and 8% (-1) expressed no opinion³⁹.

QA19a Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.
(% - EU)



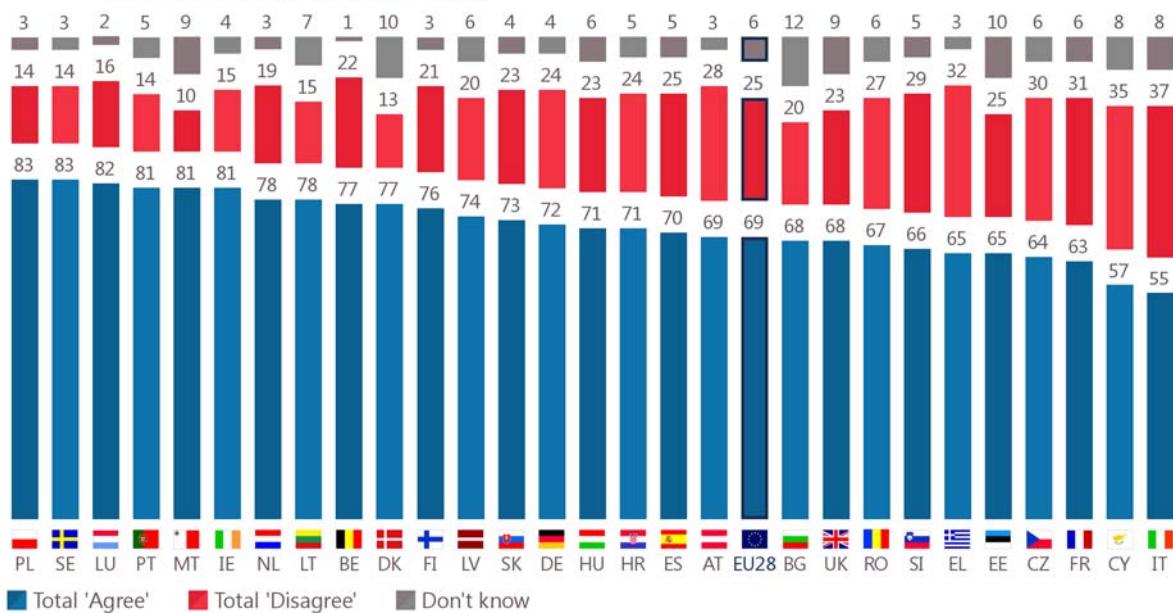
³⁸QA19a3. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. The EU's voice counts in the world.

³⁹QA19a2. 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.

A majority of respondents in all Member States agree that the European Union's voice counts on the international stage, with scores ranging from 83% in Poland and Sweden to 55% in Italy and 57% in Cyprus.

QA19a.3 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

The EU's voice counts in the world (%)



The question of whether the EU takes proper account of national interests arouses a greater diversity of national opinions.

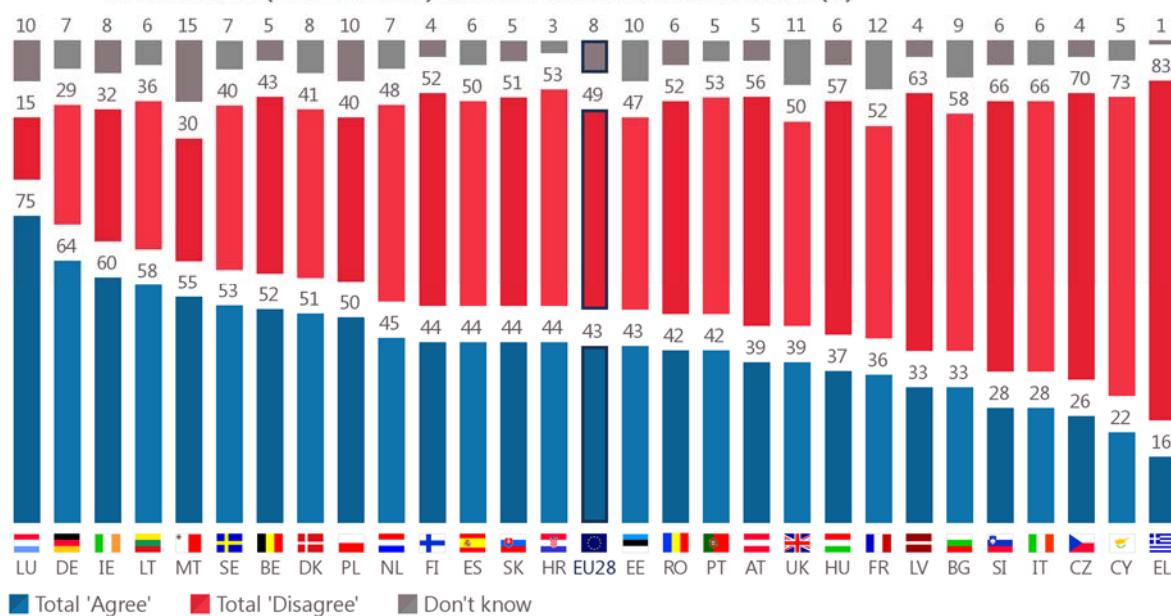
A majority of respondents in nine Member States (as in spring 2016) believe that the EU takes adequate account of national interests: in Luxembourg (75%), Germany (64%), Ireland (60%), Lithuania (58%), Malta (55%), Sweden (53%), Belgium (52%), Denmark (51%) and Poland (50% versus 40%).

Within these countries, this opinion has gained very considerable ground in Germany (+12 percentage points) and Luxembourg (+9).

In all the remaining Member States a majority of respondents say that the European Union does not properly take their national interests into account. This opinion is the most widespread in Greece (83%), Cyprus (73%) and the Czech Republic (70%). The proportion of respondents who share this opinion has increased significantly in Italy (66%, +7 percentage points) and Bulgaria (58%, +7), but has decreased sharply in Slovakia (51%, -9).

QA19a.2 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 (%)



5 Political and economic issues

a. Positive and negative connotations

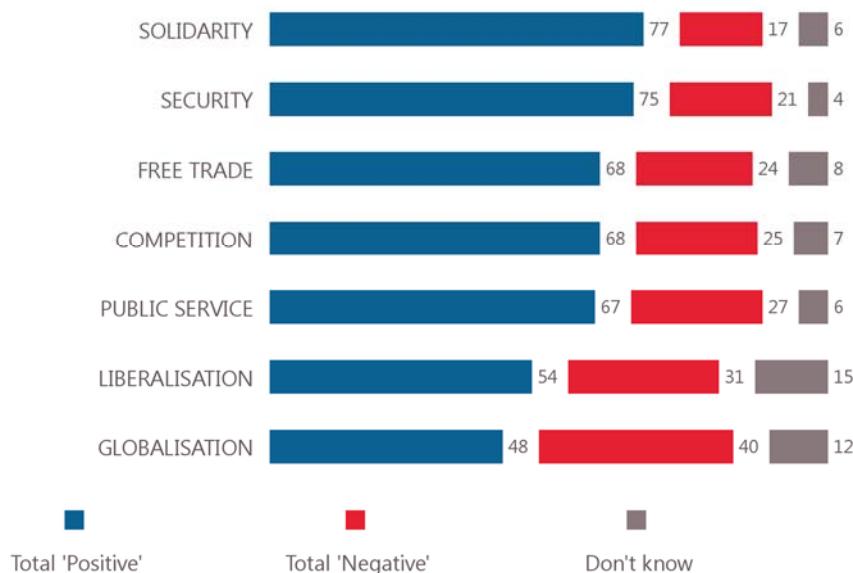
In this Standard Eurobarometer survey, respondents were asked whether seven words or terms referring to economic and political concepts brought to mind “something positive” or “something negative”.⁴⁰

The terms “solidarity” (77%) and “security” (75%) are the items seen most positively, as at least three-quarters of respondents agree.

Next, three items are said to have positive connotations by around two-thirds of Europeans, namely the concepts of “competition” (68%), “free trade” (68%) and “public service” (67%).

Finally, the concepts of “liberalisation” (54%) and “globalisation” (48% versus 40%) received lower scores but still have positive connotations for a majority of respondents.

QA10 Could you please tell me for each of the following, whether the term brings to mind something very positive, fairly positive, fairly negative or very negative?
(% - EU)



Evolutions since spring 2016 are fairly minor. The most significant changes concern the three-percentage point rise in the number of positive mentions for the concepts of “public service”, “liberalisation” and “globalisation”.

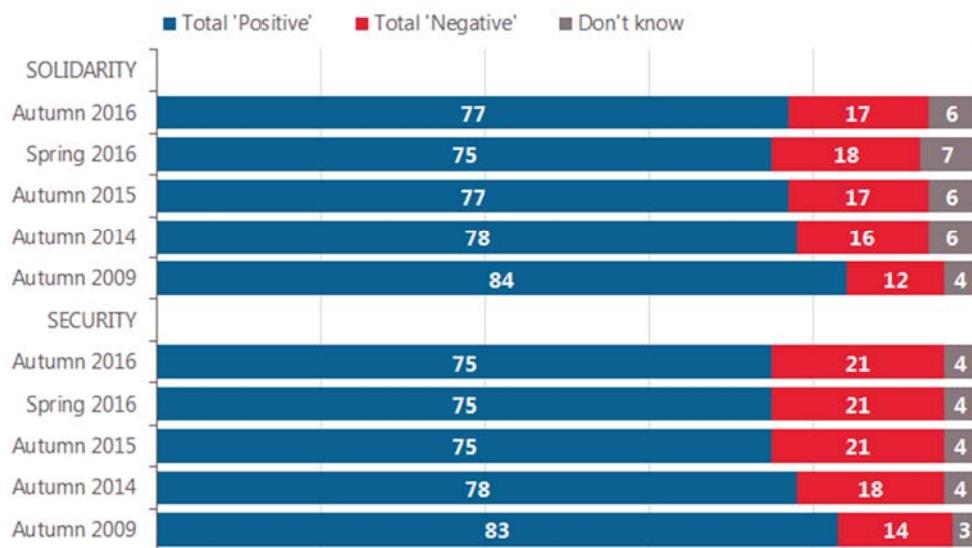
⁴⁰ QA10. Could you please tell me for each of the following, whether the term brings to mind something very positive, fairly positive, fairly negative or very negative.

Solidarity and security

There is still a broad consensus among Europeans about the values of “solidarity” and “security”: 77% (+2 percentage points since spring 2016) have positive connotations for the word “solidarity” (versus 17%, -1), and for 75% (unchanged) the word “security” continues to bring to mind something positive (versus 21%, =).

The popularity of these words remains slightly below the highest levels recorded in autumn 2009, when “solidarity” and “security” obtained scores of 84% and 83% respectively.

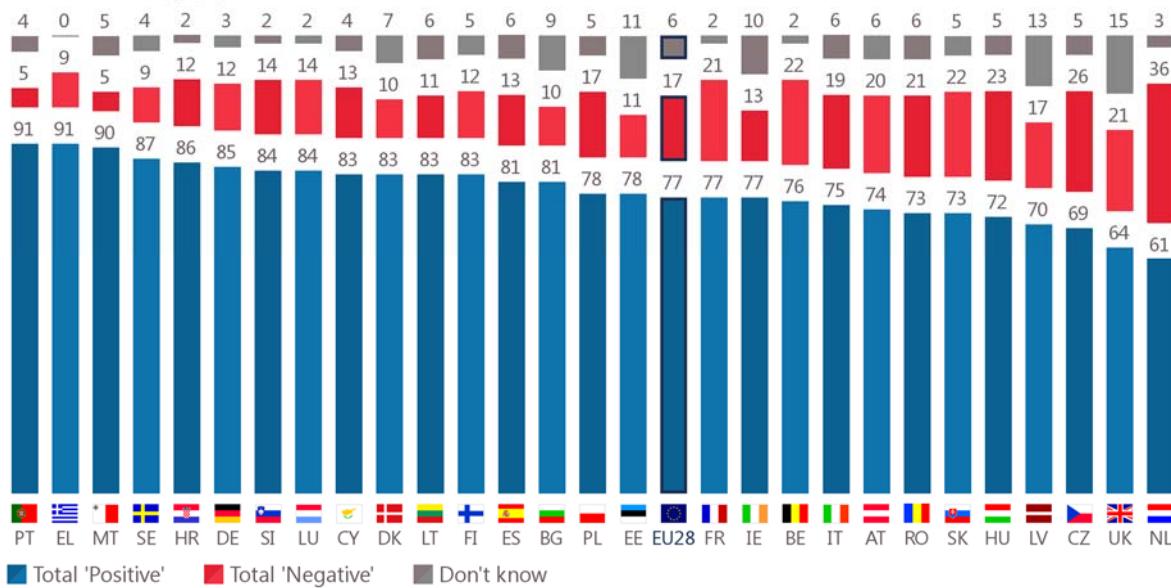
- QA10** Could you please tell me for each of the following, whether the term brings to mind something very positive, fairly positive, fairly negative or very negative?
(% - EU)



More than six in ten respondents in all Member States have positive connotations for the word “**solidarity**”, with a score of 75% or more in 20 countries. Scores range from 61% in the Netherlands to 91% in Portugal and Greece.

QA10.7 Could you please tell me for each of the following, whether the term brings to mind something very positive, fairly positive, fairly negative or very negative?

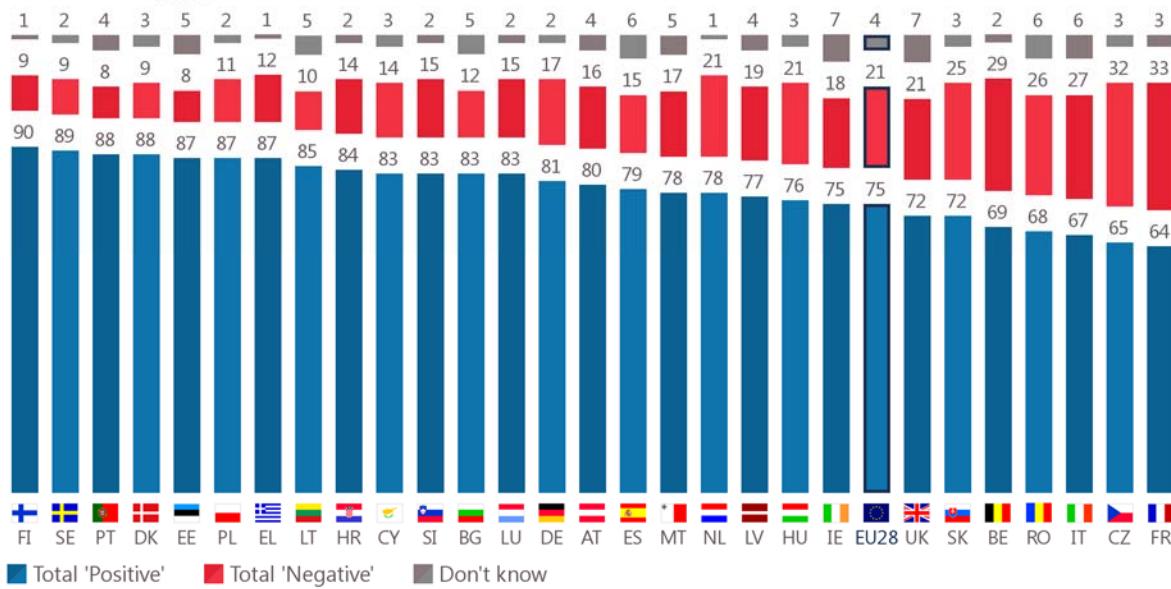
Solidarity (%)



The proportion of respondents for whom “**security**” brings something positive to mind ranges from 64% in France to 90% in Finland. It therefore has a positive connotation for six out of ten respondents in all Member States, with scores of at least 75% in 21 countries.

QA10.6 Could you please tell me for each of the following, whether the term brings to mind something very positive, fairly positive, fairly negative or very negative?

Security (%)



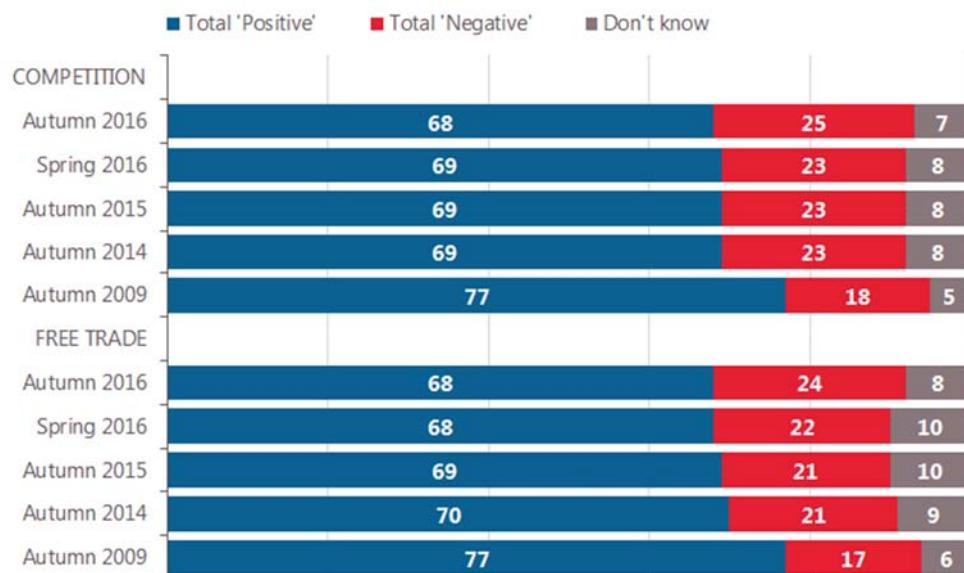
Competition and free trade

The core market economy values remain popular with Europeans.

Thus, the word “**competition**” has positive connotations for 68% of respondents (-1 percentage point since spring 2016), while 25% (+2) regard it in a negative light and 7% (-1) expressed no opinion. The proportion of respondents for whom this word brings to mind something positive has therefore remained more or less stable since autumn 2015, but is nine percentage points below the level of autumn 2009.

For 68% of Europeans, the term “**free trade**” brings to mind something positive (unchanged since spring 2016), while for 24% (+2 percentage points) it has negative connotations and 8% (-2) expressed no opinion. The positive associations of this word have thus also remained more or less stable since autumn 2014, but have decreased by nine percentage points since autumn 2009.

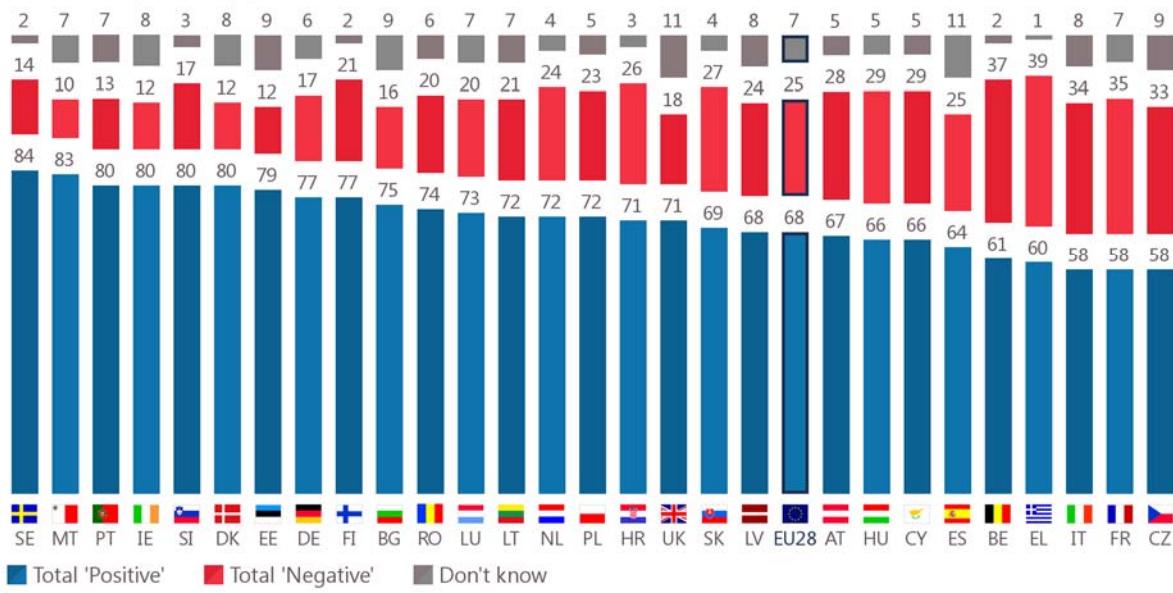
QA10 Could you please tell me for each of the following, whether the term brings to mind something very positive, fairly positive, fairly negative or very negative?
 (% - EU)



More than half of respondents in all Member States are positive about the term “**competition**”, most strikingly in Sweden (84%) and Malta (83%), and to a lesser extent in Italy (58%), France (58%) and the Czech Republic (58%).

QA10.4 Could you please tell me for each of the following, whether the term brings to mind something very positive, fairly positive, fairly negative or very negative?

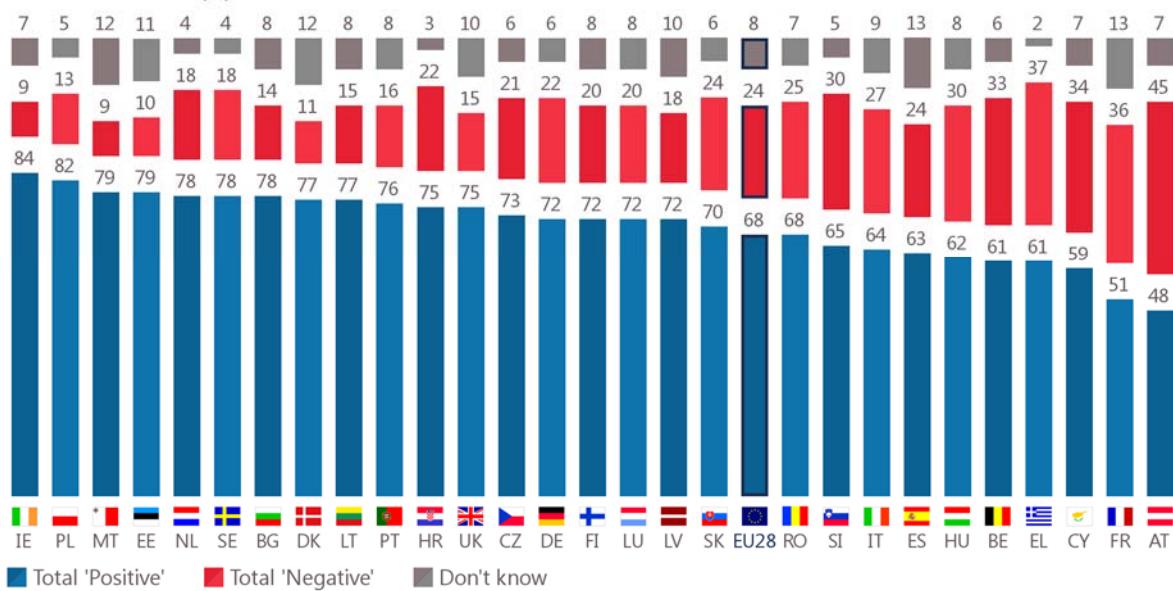
Competition (%)



The term “**free trade**” brings to mind something positive for a majority of respondents in all Member States. At least half the respondents agree in 27 countries, and a relative majority of respondents do so in Austria (48% versus 45%). The highest scores are recorded in Ireland (84%), Poland (82%), Malta (79%) and Estonia (79%), but results are below the European average in France (51%) and Austria (48%).

QA10.1 Could you please tell me for each of the following, whether the term brings to mind something very positive, fairly positive, fairly negative or very negative?

Free trade (%)

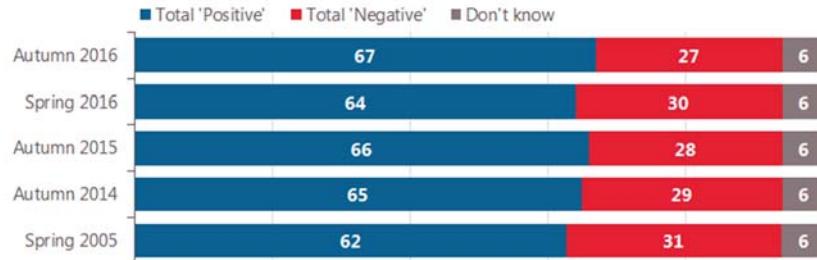


Public service

More than two-thirds of Europeans (67%, +3 percentage points since spring 2016) see the term “**public service**” positively, while 27% (-3) see it negatively and 6% (unchanged) expressed no opinion. This is the highest positive score recorded for this term since spring 2005, up five percentage points since then.

QA10.5 Could you please tell me for each of the following, whether the term brings to mind something very positive, fairly positive, fairly negative or very negative?

Public service (% - EU)



A majority of respondents in 25 Member States (compared with 23 in spring 2016) have positive connotations for the concept of “**public service**”. This is now the majority opinion in Croatia (54% versus 42%, compared with 43% versus 50% in spring 2016) and Italy (48% versus 45%, compared with 43% versus 51%). The highest scores are found in Finland (88%), Luxembourg (87%) and Lithuania (80%).

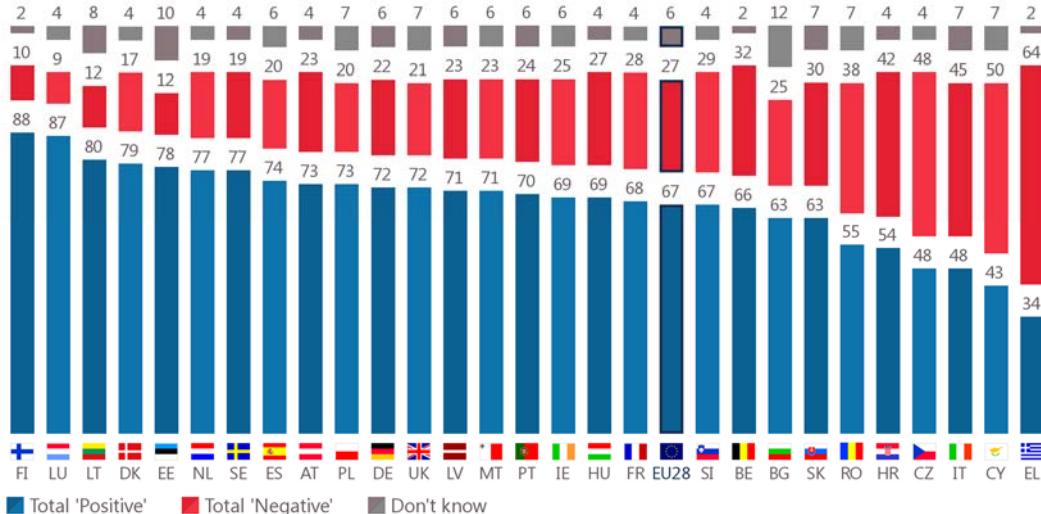
Opinions are evenly divided in the Czech Republic (48% versus 48%), whereas the balance of opinion was negative in spring 2016 (43% versus 51%).

In total, opinions are now predominantly negative in only two Member States, namely Greece (64%) and Cyprus (50% versus 43%).

Positive perceptions of the term “**public service**” have gained ground in 17 Member States, most notably in Portugal (70%, +13 percentage points), Croatia (54%, +11), Poland (73%, +10) and Hungary (69%, +9). However, they have lost ground in eight countries, most markedly in Sweden (77%, -8), and are unchanged in Finland, Luxembourg and the Netherlands.

QA10.5 Could you please tell me for each of the following, whether the term brings to mind something very positive, fairly positive, fairly negative or very negative?

Public service (%)



Liberalisation and globalisation

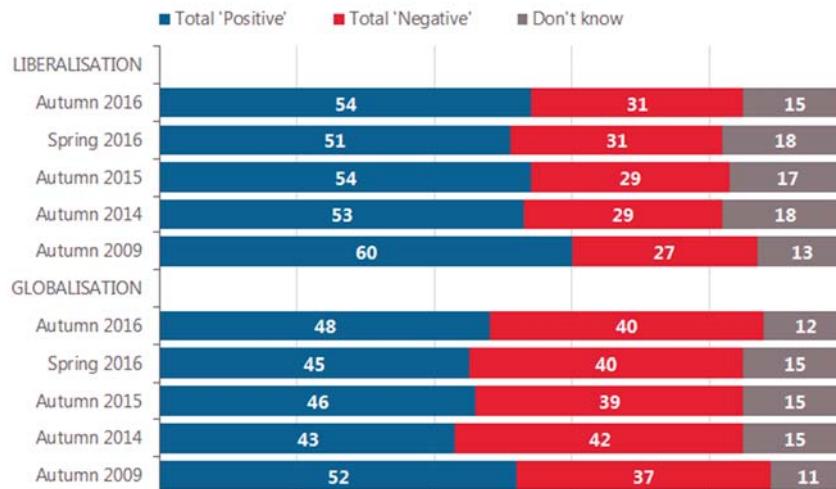
"**Liberalisation**" and "**globalisation**" both have positive connotations for the majority of Europeans, but with lower scores and more pronounced national differences than those noted for "competition" and "free trade".

The term "**liberalisation**" has positive connotations for 54% of respondents (compared with 31%, and 15% who expressed no opinion).

The term "**globalisation**" brings to mind something positive for 48% of Europeans (compared with 40% and 12% who expressed no opinion).

Although approval of these two terms has increased by three percentage points since spring 2016, they have still not returned to the levels recorded in autumn 2009, when the proportion of respondents reacting positively to all the terms referring to economic liberalisation reached record levels.

QA10 Could you please tell me for each of the following, whether the term brings to mind something very positive, fairly positive, fairly negative or very negative?
(% - EU)



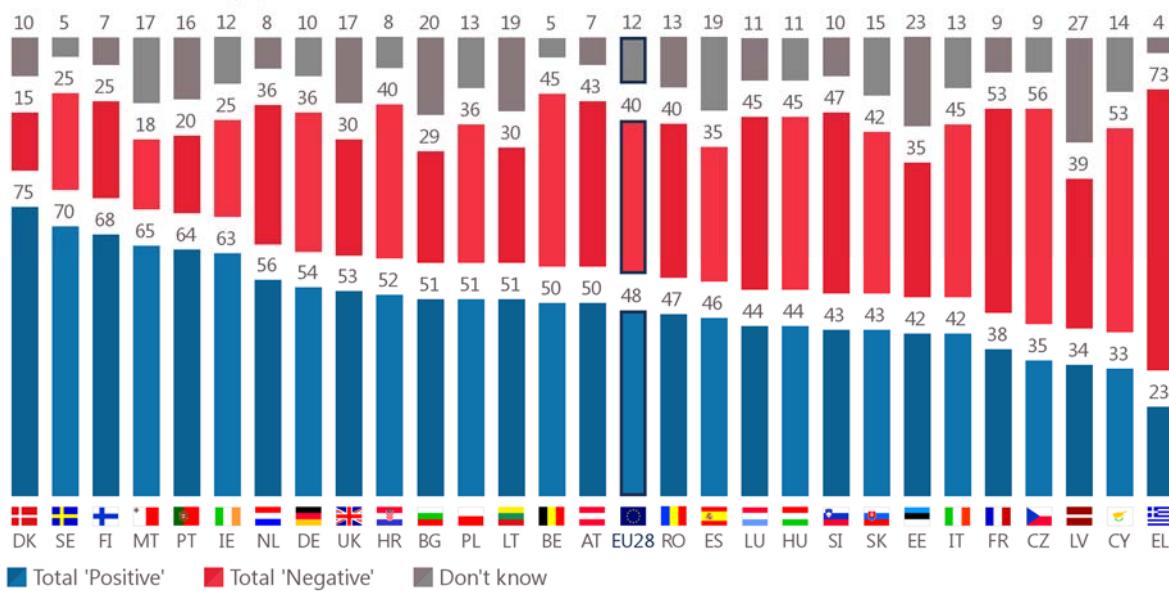
The word “**globalisation**” is the one that generates the most national variations in its assessment. It has negative connotations for a majority of respondents in nine Member States, led by Greece (73%), the Czech Republic (56%), France (53%) and Cyprus (53%). Respondents are predominantly positive about this word in 19 Member States, most notably in the Nordic countries (75% in Denmark, 70% in Sweden and 68% in Finland), Malta (65%) and Portugal (64%).

Since spring 2016, positive impressions have become predominant in Croatia (52%, +11 percentage points, versus 40%, -7), Austria (50%, +4, versus 43%, -4), and Belgium (50%, +7, versus 45%, -3), and also, by a narrow margin, in Slovakia (43%, +5, versus 42%, -6). Positive opinions have also gained significant ground in Bulgaria (51%, +9), Portugal (64%, +8) and Ireland (63%, +8).

Conversely, following a fall of five percentage points, positive connotations are now in the minority in Italy (42% versus 45%, compared with 47% versus 37% in spring 2016). This is also the case, to a lesser extent, in Luxembourg (44% versus 45%) where they were in the majority in spring 2016 (46% versus 41%), and in Latvia (34% versus 39%) where opinions were evenly divided in spring 2016 (34% versus 34%).

QA10.2 Could you please tell me for each of the following, whether the term brings to mind something very positive, fairly positive, fairly negative or very negative?

Globalisation (%)



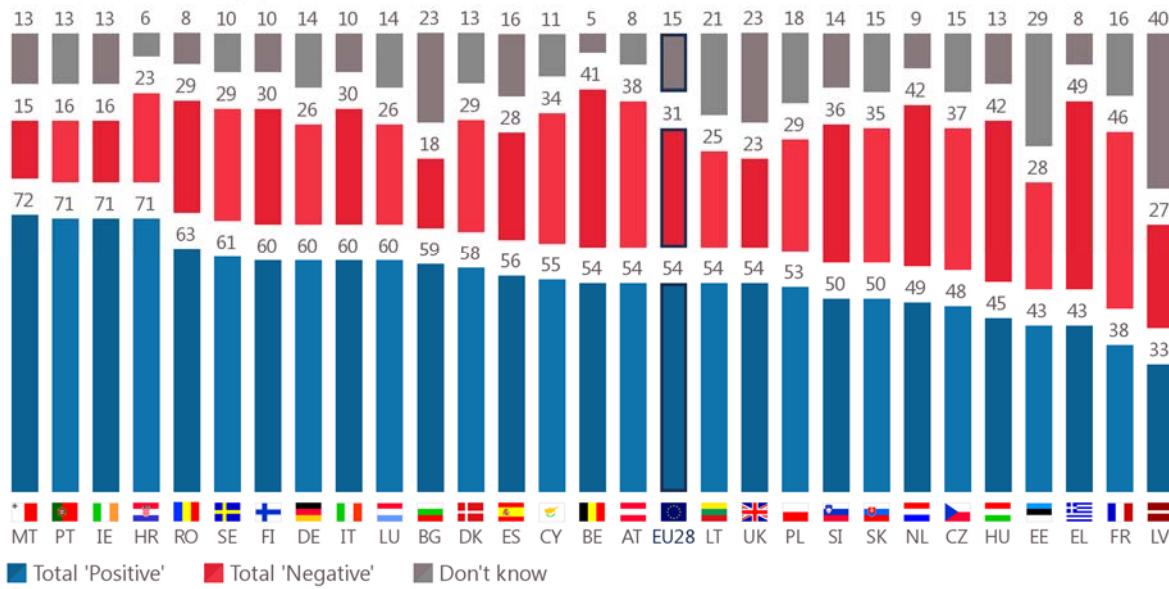
The word “**liberalisation**” has predominantly positive connotations in 26 Member States (compared with 25 in spring 2016), most markedly in Malta (72%), Portugal (71%), Ireland (71%) and Croatia (71%). The opinion ratio is close in Hungary (45% versus 42%), but has reversed favourably since spring 2016 (40% versus 46%). It is positive in Latvia (33% versus 27%), but with a high “DK” rate (40%).

The only two countries where a majority of respondents see this word negatively are Greece (49% versus 43%), where negative mentions have nevertheless decreased by six percentage points, and France (46% versus 38%), where they have instead increased by three percentage points.

Positive perceptions of the term “liberalisation” have gained ground since spring 2016 in 22 Member States, most notably in Bulgaria (59%, +14 percentage points), Croatia (71%, +10), Poland (53%, +9), Slovenia (50%, +9), Slovakia (50%, +9) and the Czech Republic (48%, +9). They have lost ground in six countries.

QA10.3 Could you please tell me for each of the following, whether the term brings to mind something very positive, fairly positive, fairly negative or very negative?

Liberalisation (%)

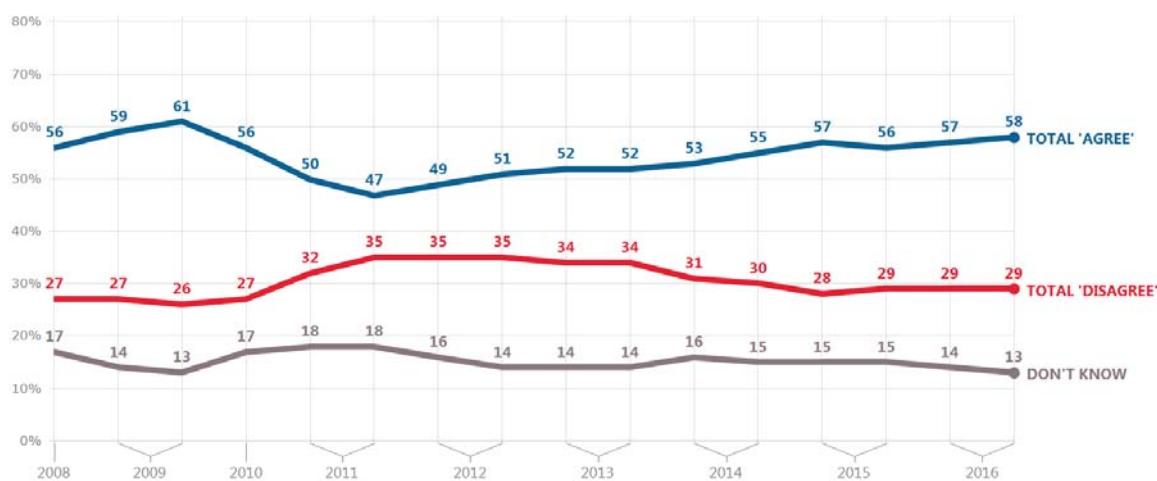


b. Europeans and globalisation

58% of Europeans (+1 percentage point since spring 2016) see globalisation as an opportunity for economic growth, while 29% (unchanged) take the opposite view and 13% (-1) expressed no opinion⁴¹. The representation of globalisation as an economic opportunity has gained ground almost continuously since spring 2012 and in this survey it has reached its highest level since autumn 2009.

QA19a.4 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

Globalisation is an opportunity for economic growth (%) - EU)



The belief that globalisation represents an economic opportunity is shared by almost identical proportions of respondents in the **euro area** (57%, unchanged since spring 2016) and **non-euro area** countries (59%, +2).

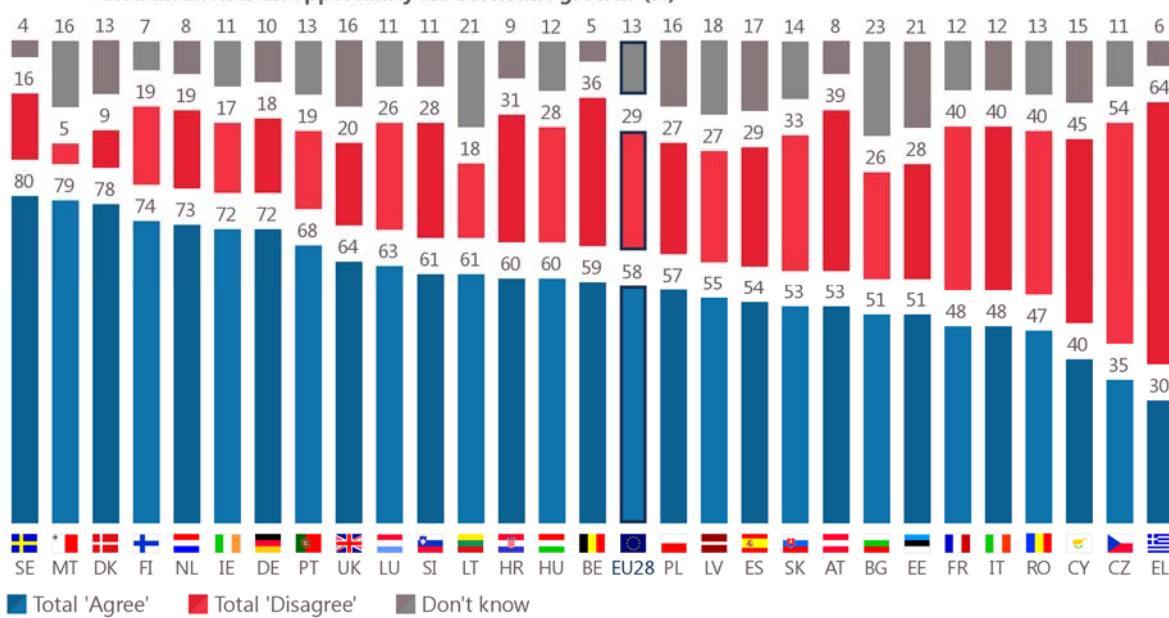
⁴¹ QA19a.4 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. Globalisation is an opportunity for economic growth.

This view of globalisation is shared by a majority of respondents in 25 Member States (as in spring 2016), most markedly in the Nordic countries (80% in Sweden, 78% in Denmark and 74% in Finland), Malta (79%) and the Netherlands (73%). Respondents in Greece (30% versus 64%), the Czech Republic (35% versus 54%) and Cyprus (40% versus 45%) continue to be more likely to disagree.

Since spring 2016, support for globalisation has increased in 18 Member States, led by Spain (54%, +7 percentage points) and Croatia (60%, +7). It is stable in six countries and has decreased in the other four countries.

QA19a.4 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

Globalisation is an opportunity for economic growth (%)



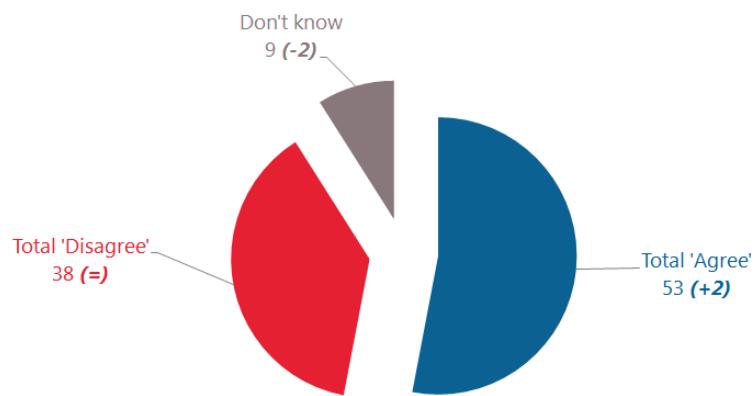
6 The European Union today and tomorrow

a. Should more decisions be taken at European level?

53% of Europeans (+2 percentage points since spring 2016) believe that “more decisions should be taken at EU level”, while 38% (unchanged) disagree and 9% (-2) expressed no opinion⁴². The opinion ratio for this question has improved slightly since spring 2016.

QA19a.6 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

More decisions should be taken at EU level (% - EU)



(Autumn 2016 - Spring 2016)

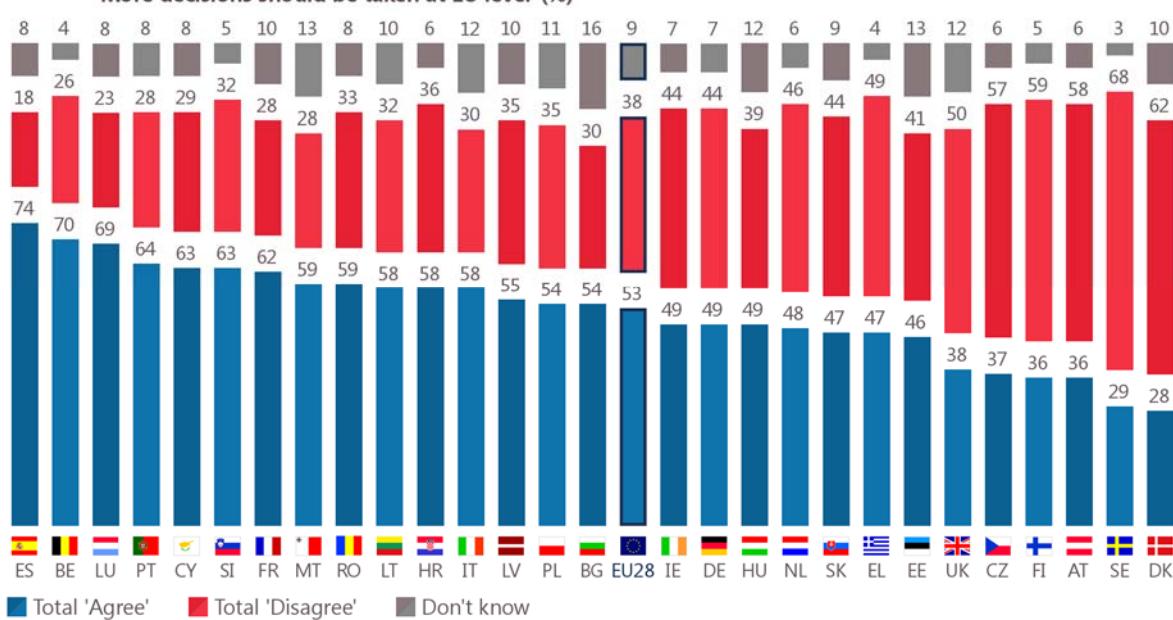
A majority of respondents in 21 Member States (compared with 20 in spring 2016) would like more decisions to be taken at EU level, by a very large majority in Spain (74%), Belgium (70%) and Luxembourg (69%), and by a narrower majority in the Netherlands (48% versus 46%) and Slovakia (47% versus 44%).

The idea is rejected by a majority of respondents in seven Member States, most emphatically in the Nordic countries (68% in Sweden, 62% in Denmark and 59% in Finland), Austria (58%) and the Czech Republic (57%). The opinion ratio remains unfavourable, but has narrowed considerably in Greece (49% versus 47%, compared with 55% versus 41% in spring 2016), as well as in the United Kingdom (50% versus 38%, compared with 56% versus 32%).

Since spring 2016, support for more decision-making at European level has increased in 21 Member States, most markedly in Malta (59%, +9 percentage points). It has decreased by one percentage point in four countries and is stable in the remaining three.

⁴² QA19a.6. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. More decisions should be taken at EU level.

QA19a.6 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.
More decisions should be taken at EU level (%)



QA19a.6 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

More decisions should be taken at EU level (%)

		Total 'Agree'	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Total 'Disagree'	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Don't know
EU28		53	▲ 2	38	=	9
EURO AREA		57	▲ 2	34	▼ 1	9
NON-EURO AREA		45	▲ 3	45	▼ 1	10
MT		59	▲ 9	28	▼ 9	13
PT		64	▲ 6	28	▼ 5	8
SI		63	▲ 6	32	▼ 2	5
EL		47	▲ 6	49	▼ 6	4
UK		38	▲ 6	50	▼ 6	12
FI		36	▲ 6	59	▼ 3	5
BE		70	▲ 4	26	▼ 2	4
LV		55	▲ 4	35	▲ 1	10
SK		47	▲ 4	44	▼ 2	9
EE		46	▲ 4	41	▲ 3	13
AT		36	▲ 4	58	▼ 3	6
ES		74	▲ 3	18	▲ 1	8
LU		69	▲ 3	23	▼ 1	8
PL		54	▲ 3	35	▼ 1	11
NL		48	▲ 3	46	▲ 2	6
FR		62	▲ 2	28	▲ 1	10
LT		58	▲ 2	32	▲ 1	10
RO		59	▲ 1	33	▲ 5	8
BG		54	▲ 1	30	▼ 1	16
DE		49	▲ 1	44	▲ 1	7
CZ		37	▲ 1	57	▲ 1	6
IE		49	=	44	▲ 3	7
HU		49	=	39	▼ 1	12
SE		29	=	68	▲ 4	3
CY		63	▼ 1	29	▲ 1	8
HR		58	▼ 1	36	▲ 7	6
IT		58	▼ 1	30	▼ 1	12
DK		28	▼ 1	62	=	10

A socio-demographic analysis reveals that a majority of respondents in all socio-demographic categories want more decision-making at EU level. However, there are significant differences, in particular by age. The youngest respondents (62% of 15-24 year-olds) are far more likely to agree than those aged 55+ (48% versus 42%). On the other hand, the social differences, which traditionally determine the trust and image indicators for the European Union, have little impact on views on more EU decision-making. Levels of support for this idea are fairly similar among managers (52%), manual workers (55%) and unemployed people (52%).

QA19a.6 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

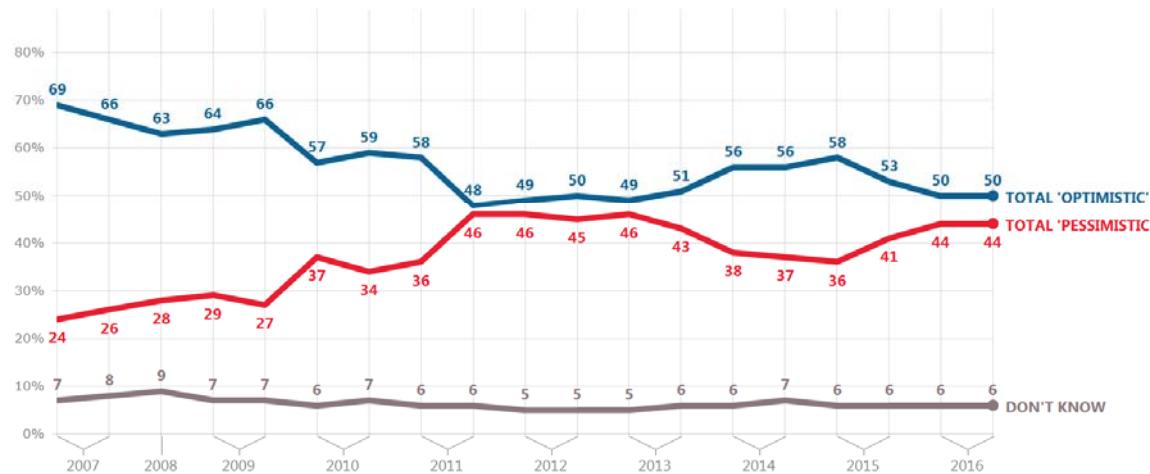
More decisions should be taken at EU level (% - EU)

	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Don't know
EU28	53	38	9
Gender			
Man	54	39	7
Woman	53	36	11
Age			
15-24	62	27	11
25-39	58	34	8
40-54	53	40	7
55 +	48	42	10
Generation			
Total 'Before 1946'	46	42	12
1946 - 1964 "BB"	50	42	8
1965 - 1980 "X"	54	38	8
After 1980 "Y"	60	30	10
Education (End of)			
15-	49	39	12
16-19	52	39	9
20+	55	39	6
Still studying	64	25	11
Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	56	39	5
Managers	52	42	6
Other white collars	57	37	6
Manual workers	55	36	9
House persons	51	35	14
Unemployed	52	36	12
Retired	48	42	10
Students	64	25	11
Consider belonging to			
The working class	49	39	12
The lower middle class	52	40	8
The middle class	57	36	7
The upper middle class	53	41	6
The upper class	66	31	3

b. The future of the European Union

Expectations regarding the future of the European Union are identical to those recorded in spring 2016. Half of Europeans (50%, unchanged) are optimistic about the future of EU, while 44% (=) are pessimistic and 6% (=) expressed no opinion⁴³.

QA20 Would you say that you are very optimistic, fairly optimistic, fairly pessimistic or very pessimistic about the future of the EU? (% - EU)



As in spring 2016, the optimism index⁴⁴ stands at +6, its lowest score since autumn 2013.

QA20 Would you say that you are very optimistic, fairly optimistic, fairly pessimistic or very pessimistic about the future of the EU? (EU - OPTIMISM INDEX (TOTAL 'OPTIMISTIC' - TOTAL 'PESSIMISTIC'))



Without any significant changes, the ratio of optimism to pessimism regarding the future of the EU is more favourable in the **non-euro area** (53%, -1 percentage point, versus 40%, +1) than in the **euro area** countries (49%, +1, versus 46%, unchanged).

⁴³ QA20. Would you say that you are very optimistic, fairly optimistic, fairly pessimistic or very pessimistic about the future of the EU?

⁴⁴ Difference between the "optimistic" and "pessimistic" answers.

However, the overall stability of the ratio at European level should not mask the significant and contrasting evolutions in trends at national level. Optimism has gained ground and is now predominant in Germany (50% versus 45%, compared with 42% versus 51% in spring 2016), Hungary (53% versus 42%, compared with 44% versus 52%) and, by a very narrow margin, in the Czech Republic (49% versus 47%, compared with 48% versus 50%).

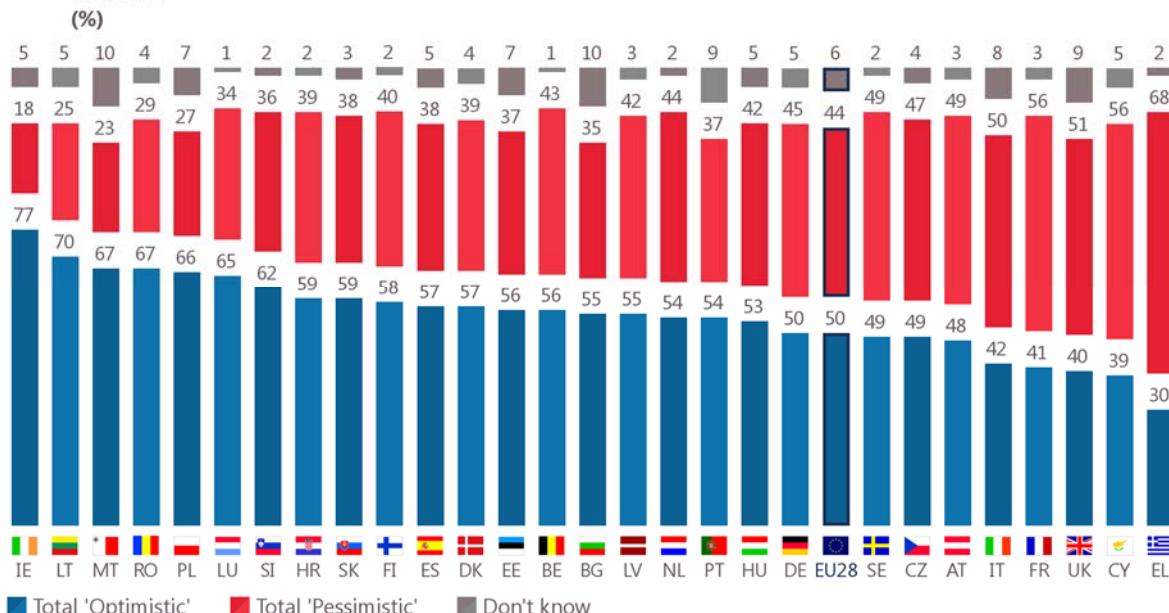
However, it has lost ground in Italy (42% versus 50%, compared with 49% versus 44%), Austria (48% versus 49%, compared with 50% versus 46%) - two countries in which optimists are now a minority - and Sweden, where optimists and pessimists are evenly divided (49% versus 49%, compared with 55% versus 44%).

In total, as in spring 2016, optimism predominates in 21 Member States, led by Ireland (77%), Lithuania (70%), Malta (67%) and Romania (67%).

In contrast, respondents are predominantly pessimistic in six Member States: Greece (68%), Cyprus (56%), France (56%) and the United Kingdom (51%), which have now been joined by Italy (50%) and Austria (49% versus 48%).

An analysis of evolutions in the optimism index by country shows the extent of the contrasting changes at national level. The index has improved in 12 Member States, markedly in Hungary (+19 index points), Germany (+14), Slovenia (+12), Slovakia (+9) and Estonia (+9), while it is stable in Ireland and has deteriorated in 15 Member States, significantly in Croatia (-15 index points), Italy (-13), Sweden (-11), the United Kingdom (-9) and France (-8).

QA20 Would you say that you are very optimistic, fairly optimistic, fairly pessimistic or very pessimistic about the future of the EU?



A socio-demographic analysis reveals the profile of the categories of Europeans who are most and least optimistic about the EU's future.

Optimism predominates among the younger generations (60% of 15-24 year-olds, 54% of 25-39 year-olds and 63% of students) and in the most socially and economically advantaged categories (56% of those who studied up to the age of 20 and beyond, 56% of managers, 54% of those who never or almost never have difficulties paying their bills, 55% of those who see themselves as "middle class", 60% of those who see themselves as "upper middle class" and 56% of those who see themselves as "upper class").

In contrast, majorities are pessimistic among the older generations (50% versus 44% of those aged 55+) and categories with financial difficulties or who are at the bottom of the social scale (52% of those who left school at the age of 15 or earlier, 52% of unemployed people, 63% of those who struggle to pay their bills most of the time, 52% of those who see themselves as "lower middle class" and 48% (versus 44%) of those who see themselves as "working class").

QA20 Would you say that you are very optimistic, fairly optimistic, fairly pessimistic or very pessimistic about the future of the EU?
(% - EU)

	Total 'Optimistic'	Total 'Pessimistic'	Don't know
EU28	50	44	6
Gender			
Man	49	47	4
Woman	51	42	7
Age			
15-24	60	34	6
25-39	54	41	5
40-54	51	45	4
55 +	44	50	6
Generation			
Total 'Before 1946'	42	50	8
1946 - 1964 "BB"	46	48	6
1965 - 1980 "X"	51	45	4
After 1980 "Y"	57	37	6
Education (End of)			
15-	40	52	8
16-19	48	46	6
20+	56	41	3
Still studying	63	32	5
Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	48	49	3
Managers	56	41	3
Other white collars	58	38	4
Manual workers	52	43	5
House persons	46	46	8
Unemployed	40	52	8
Retired	44	49	7
Students	63	32	5
Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	31	63	6
From time to time	47	46	7
Almost never/ Never	54	41	5
Consider belonging to			
The working class	44	48	8
The lower middle class	44	52	4
The middle class	55	41	4
The upper middle class	60	38	2
The upper class	56	44	0

The following tables show the results by socio-demographic criteria in the European Union as a whole (EU28 average), in the six largest EU countries and in the countries benefiting or having benefited from European Union support to deal with the financial and economic crisis.

QA20 Would you say that you are very optimistic, fairly optimistic, fairly pessimistic or very pessimistic about the future of the EU?
 (% - TOTAL 'OPTIMISTIC')

	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
TOTAL	50	50	57	41	42	66	40	30	54	77	39
Gender											
Male	49	49	56	44	41	64	39	32	56	78	37
Female	51	52	59	38	42	67	42	29	53	76	41
Age											
15-24	60	57	63	54	52	75	53	52	74	81	58
25-39	54	52	51	39	51	71	51	33	63	82	32
40-54	51	47	63	41	45	62	43	28	54	77	31
55 +	44	50	55	38	32	61	25	25	43	71	40
Education (End of)											
15-	40	45	54	35	28	46	26	22	46	59	33
16-19	48	48	56	34	45	66	36	30	62	73	39
20+	56	56	67	45	53	68	50	33	57	84	38
Still studying	63	51	57	66	63	73	60	53	81	83	55
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	48	51	53	52	43	50	38	30	51	81	36
Managers	56	61	63	49	60	63	38	39	66	88	37
Other white collars	58	53	65	41	55	79	51	34	67	80	36
Manual workers	52	43	61	42	43	69	45	32	59	78	37
House persons	46	51	51	24	35	83	43	19	20	67	27
Unemployed	40	26	56	27	25	57	44	29	51	60	30
Retired	44	53	55	36	29	60	27	25	38	72	44
Students	63	51	57	66	63	73	60	53	81	83	55

QA20 Would you say that you are very optimistic, fairly optimistic, fairly pessimistic or very pessimistic about the future of the EU?

(% - TOTAL 'PESSIMISTIC')

	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
TOTAL	44	45	38	56	50	27	51	68	37	18	56
Gender											
Male	47	48	41	53	52	29	55	66	36	18	60
Female	42	41	35	59	48	25	46	69	37	18	52
Age											
15-24	34	36	33	43	37	23	33	45	24	14	41
25-39	41	43	46	57	43	25	38	66	31	14	65
40-54	45	49	36	57	50	28	51	71	38	18	64
55 +	50	45	37	58	57	29	66	72	44	23	52
Education (End of)											
15-	52	47	41	63	60	37	60	74	45	29	52
16-19	46	46	39	63	48	26	54	69	32	21	56
20+	41	42	32	52	45	26	47	66	35	14	61
Still studying	32	44	41	31	29	27	24	43	17	11	43
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	49	46	46	44	53	40	60	67	41	15	58
Managers	41	36	37	46	37	34	58	61	31	12	63
Other white collars	38	42	33	59	40	18	39	66	25	15	60
Manual workers	43	49	36	57	50	24	44	67	34	18	58
House persons	46	39	40	69	56	7	46	78	47	26	65
Unemployed	52	69	38	70	60	34	35	71	44	34	67
Retired	49	43	38	60	59	28	64	72	48	20	47
Students	32	44	41	31	29	27	24	43	17	11	43

III. ECONOMIC ISSUES IN THE EU

I. HOW EUROPEANS PERCEIVE THE ECONOMIC SITUATION

1 Personal aspects

Assessments of the economic situation and outlook are stable

a. Assessments of the personal job and financial situations

With no significant evolutions since the Standard Eurobarometer survey of spring 2016 (EB85), a majority of Europeans express satisfaction with their personal job and financial situations and do not expect any major changes over the next twelve months:

- More than two-thirds of them (69% "good", +1 percentage point since spring 2016) are positive about the financial situation of their household, while 28% (-1) say that it is "bad" and 3% (unchanged) expressed no opinion. Their expectations for the future are almost identical to what they were in spring 2016: 63% of Europeans (+1) expect their financial situation to remain unchanged (replying "the same"), while 22% (=) expect it to improve ("better") and 12% (-1) think that it will deteriorate⁴⁵ ("worse").
- Almost six in ten respondents (59%, +1) evaluate their personal job situation favourably, while 22% (-2) are negative and 19% (+1) expressed no opinion. Here too, forecasts are stable: 60% of respondents (-1) expect their job situation to stay the same over the next twelve months, while 20% (=) think that it will be better and 8% (=) think that it will be worse⁴⁶.

QA1a How would you judge the current situation in each of the following?
(% - EU)



QA2a What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...?
(% - EU)



YOUR PERSONAL JOB SITUATION



YOUR PERSONAL JOB SITUATION



Autumn 2016
Spring 2016



Autumn 2016
Spring 2016



⁴⁵ QA1a3-4. How would you judge the current situation in each of the following? The financial situation of your household/your personal job situation.

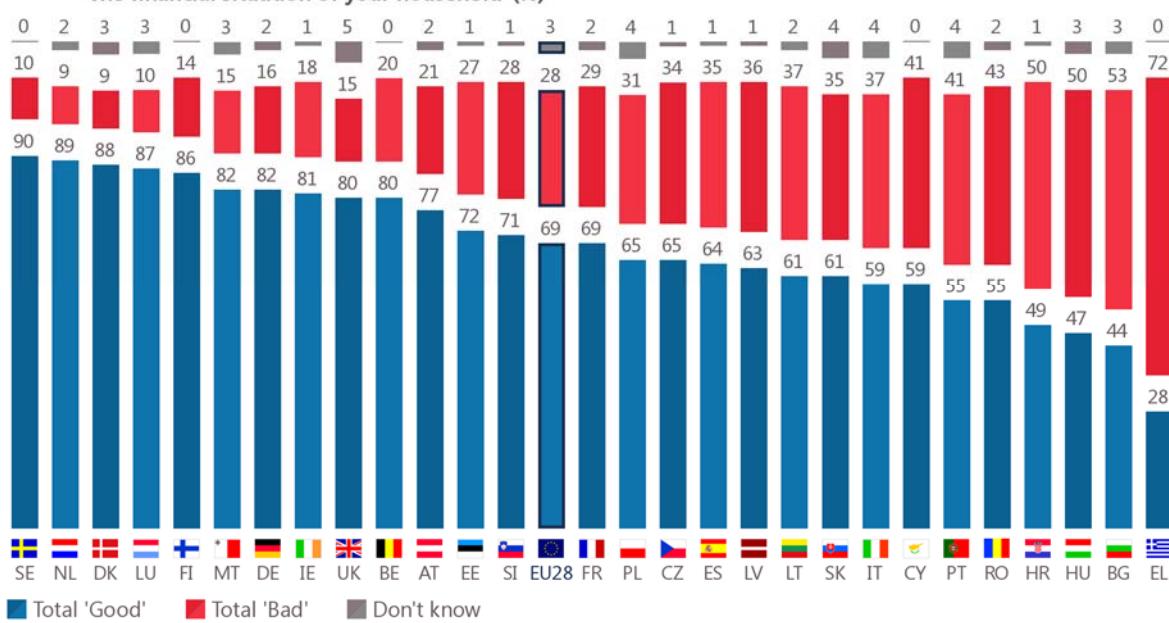
⁴⁶ QA2a3-5. What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...? The financial situation of your household/your personal job situation.

A majority of respondents in 24 Member States are satisfied with the financial situation of their household, most notably in the Nordic countries (90% in Sweden, 88% in Denmark and 86% in Finland), the Benelux countries (89% in the Netherlands, 87% in Luxembourg and 80% in Belgium), Malta (82%), Germany (82%), Ireland (81%) and the United Kingdom (80%).

However, a majority of respondents in Greece (72%), Bulgaria (53%), Hungary (50% versus 47%) and Croatia (50% versus 49%) think that it is “bad”.

QA1a.4 How would you judge the current situation in each of the following?

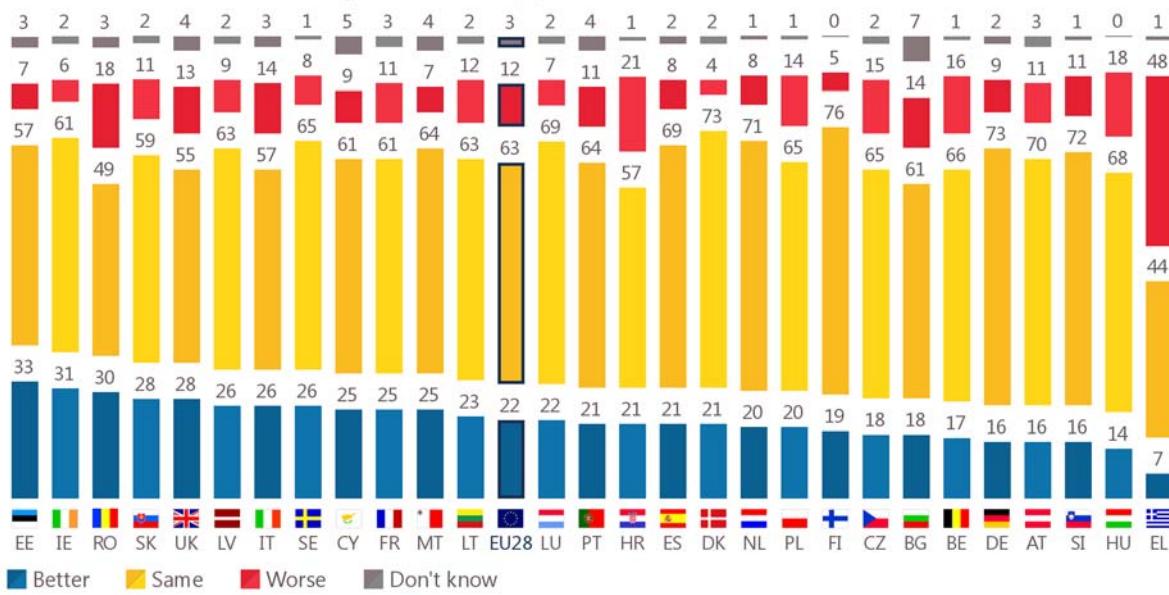
The financial situation of your household (%)



Except for Greece, where respondents are predominantly pessimistic about the outlook (48% "worse" versus 44% "the same" and 7% "better"), a majority of respondents in all the other Member States expect the financial situation of their household to stay the same. Within the minority of respondents who do expect their financial situation to change, optimistic forecasts outweigh pessimistic forecasts in 25 Member States. The optimism index⁴⁷ is the highest in Estonia (+26) and Ireland (+25). It is negative in Hungary (-4) and evenly balanced (0) in Croatia.

QA2a.3 What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...?

The financial situation of your household (%)



Since spring 2016, the optimism index has improved in 14 countries, is stable in four and has deteriorated in ten Member States.

⁴⁷ Difference between positive ("better") and negative ("worse") answers.

QA2a.3 What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...?

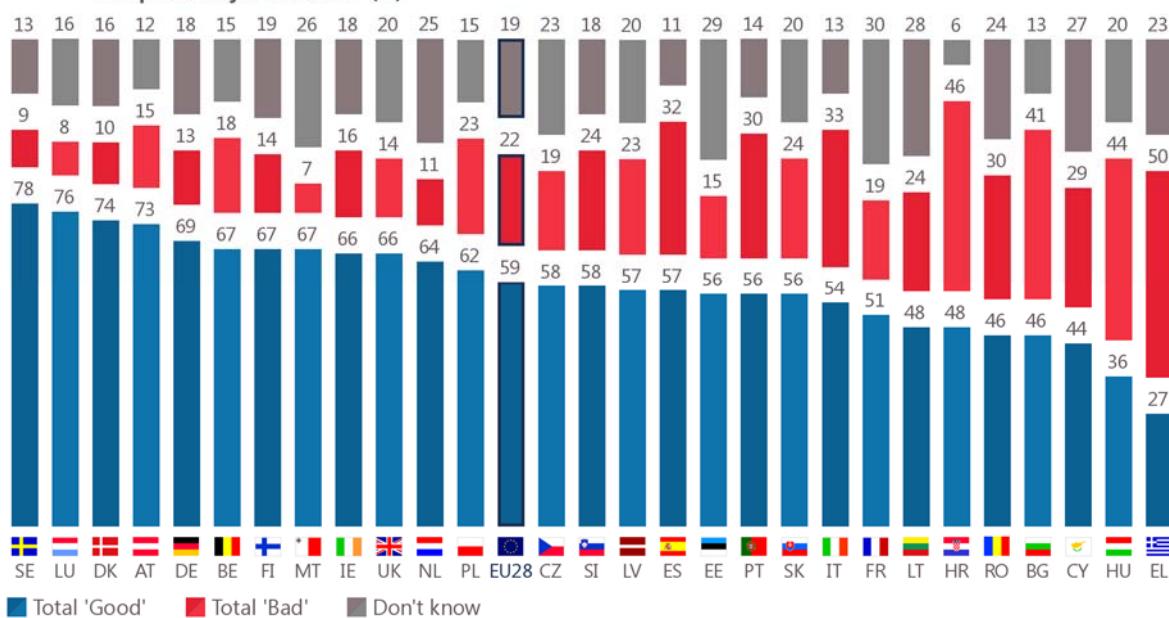
The financial situation of your household (INDEX)

		Better - Worse Sp.2016	Better - Worse Aut.2016	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016
EU28		+9	+10	▲ 1
PT		+4	+10	▲ 6
PL		0	+6	▲ 6
HR		-5	0	▲ 5
SK		+12	+17	▲ 5
LU		+10	+15	▲ 5
BG		-1	+4	▲ 5
EL		-45	-41	▲ 4
MT		+15	+18	▲ 3
ES		+10	+13	▲ 3
EE		+24	+26	▲ 2
CY		+14	+16	▲ 2
IT		+10	+12	▲ 2
NL		+10	+12	▲ 2
SI		+3	+5	▲ 2
DK		+17	+17	=
DE		+7	+7	=
CZ		+3	+3	=
HU		-4	-4	=
IE		+27	+25	▼ 2
FR		+16	+14	▼ 2
FI		+16	+14	▼ 2
BE		+3	+1	▼ 2
LT		+14	+11	▼ 3
AT		+9	+5	▼ 4
SE		+23	+18	▼ 5
UK		+20	+15	▼ 5
LV		+24	+17	▼ 7
RO		+19	+12	▼ 7

A majority of respondents in 26 Member States (as in spring 2016) see their personal job situation in a positive light, most notably in Sweden (78%), Luxembourg (76%), Denmark (74%) and Austria (73%). However, respondents are predominantly dissatisfied in Greece (50% "bad" versus 27%) and Hungary (44% versus 36%).

QA1a.3 How would you judge the current situation in each of the following?

Your personal job situation (%)

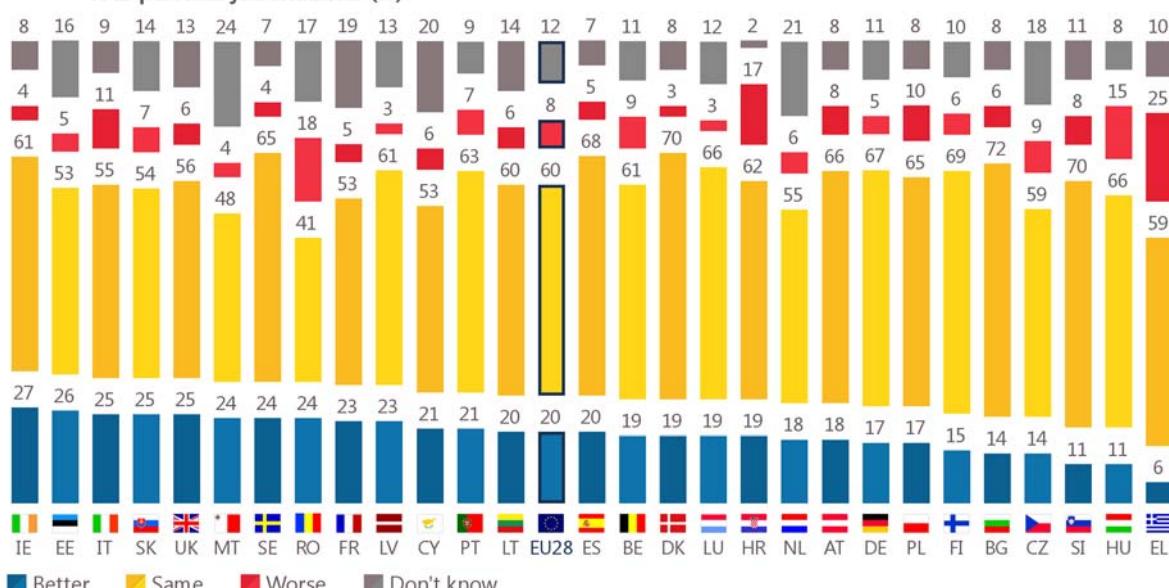


A majority of respondents in all Member States expect their personal job situation to remain the same over the next twelve months.

Among those who expect their situation to change, optimists outnumber pessimists in 26 Member States. The optimism index is the highest in Ireland (+23), Estonia (+21), Latvia (+20), Malta (+20) and Sweden (+20). It is negative in Greece (-19) and Hungary (-4).

QA2a.5 What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...?

Your personal job situation (%)



The index of optimism regarding the personal job situation of respondents has improved in 12 Member States since spring 2016. It is unchanged in three others and has deteriorated in the remaining 13 countries.

QA2a.5 What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...?

Your personal job situation (INDEX)

		Better - Worse Sp.2016	Better - Worse Aut.2016	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016
EU28		+12	+12	=
PL		0	+7	▲ 7
PT		+9	+14	▲ 5
DE		+8	+12	▲ 4
EL		-23	-19	▲ 4
SK		+15	+18	▲ 3
CY		+12	+15	▲ 3
AT		+7	+10	▲ 3
BG		+5	+8	▲ 3
HR		-1	+2	▲ 3
IT		+12	+14	▲ 2
HU		-6	-4	▲ 2
BE		+9	+10	▲ 1
LV		+20	+20	=
UK		+19	+19	=
NL		+12	+12	=
IE		+24	+23	▼ 1
EE		+22	+21	▼ 1
MT		+21	+20	▼ 1
LU		+17	+16	▼ 1
ES		+16	+15	▼ 1
DK		+18	+16	▼ 2
CZ		+7	+5	▼ 2
LT		+17	+14	▼ 3
FI		+12	+9	▼ 3
SI		+6	+3	▼ 3
SE		+24	+20	▼ 4
FR		+23	+18	▼ 5
RO		+12	+6	▼ 6

2 Economic aspects

a. Assessments of the current economic situation

1. The national and European situations

Perceptions of the national and European economic situations have improved

Although respondents who are positive about the European and national economic situations remain clearly in the minority, positive assessments have gained ground since the Standard Eurobarometer survey of spring 2016 (EB85), particularly for the European economy⁴⁸.

41% of respondents are positive about the **national economy**, an increase of two percentage points since spring 2016, while both negative (56%) and “DK” answers (3%) have decreased by two percentage points.

39% of respondents are positive about the **European economic situation**, an increase of four percentage points, while negative (50%) answers have decreased by three percentage points and the “DK” rate (11%) has fallen by one percentage point.

QA1a How would you judge the current situation in each of the following?
(% - EU)

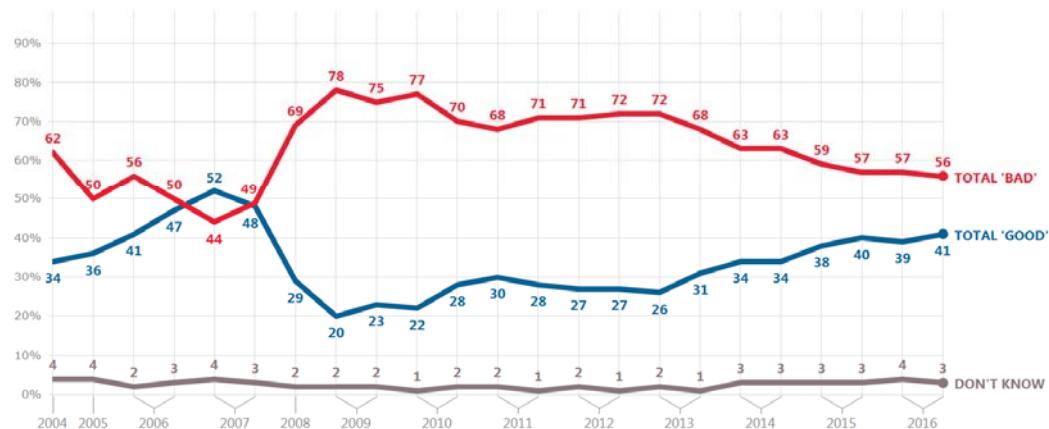


After a slight downturn in the previous survey in spring 2016, the slow but steady improvement in perceptions of the national economies, which began in autumn 2013, has resumed in this survey.

⁴⁸ QA1a1-2. How would you judge the current situation in each of the following? The situation of the (NATIONALITY) economy/The situation of the European economy.

Over the period since spring 2013 positive opinions have gained 15 percentage points, while negative opinions have decreased by 16 percentage points.

QA1a.1 How would you judge the current situation in each of the following?
The situation of the (NATIONALITY) economy (% - EU)



Positive perceptions of both the national and European economies have gained ground in both the **euro area** countries and **non-euro area** countries.

However, these remain around ten percentage points higher in the non-euro area countries, where positive assessments of the European economy predominate, and where positive and negative opinions of the national economy are now evenly balanced. A majority of euro area respondents still say that both the national and European economies are in poor shape. More particularly:

- **The national economic situation** is perceived as “good” by 47% of respondents in the non-euro area countries (+3 percentage points since spring 2016, versus 47% “bad”, -3) compared with 38% in the euro area countries (+2, versus 60%, -2);
- 46% of non-euro area respondents regard the **European economic situation** as good (+4 versus 40%, -1), compared with 35% of euro area respondents (+3 versus 56%, -2).

QA1a How would you judge the current situation in each of the following?
(%)

	The situation of the (NATIONALITY) economy		The situation of the European economy	
	Total 'Good'	Total 'Bad'	Total 'Good'	Total 'Bad'
EU28	41	56	39	50
EURO AREA	38	60	35	56
NON-EURO AREA	47	47	46	40

A national analysis shows that perceptions of the **national economic situation** vary significantly across the 28 Member States. Favourable judgments predominate in ten Member States, led by Luxembourg (90%), Germany (87%) the Netherlands (81%) and Malta (81%).

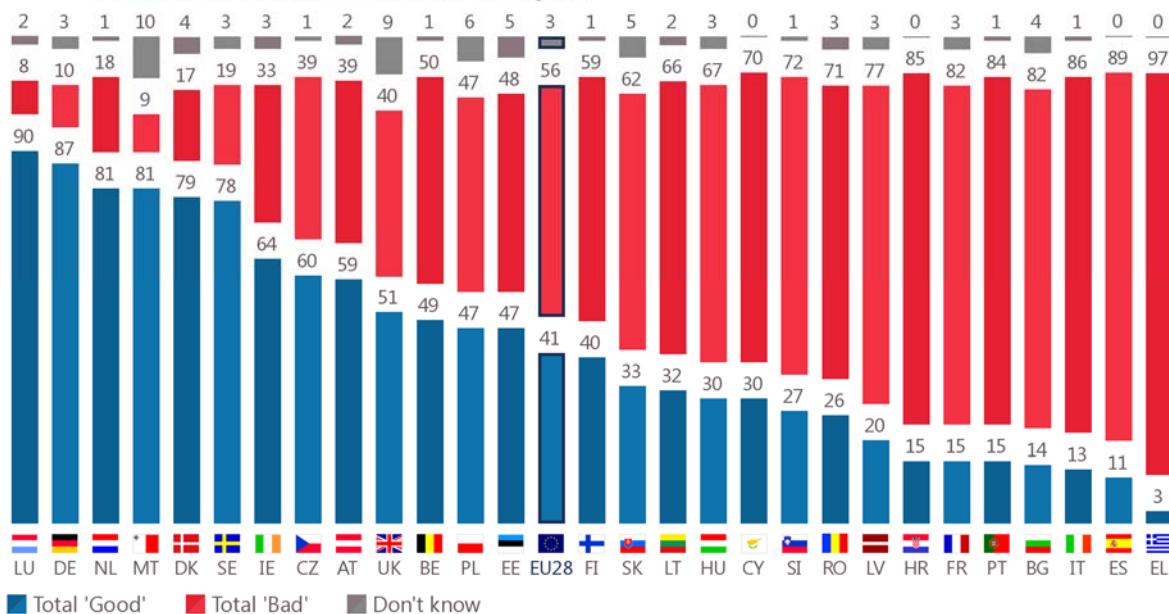
Negative and positive assessments of the national economy are evenly balanced in Poland (47% versus 47%).

Negative judgments of the national economy predominate in 17 Member States, by a very narrow margin in Belgium (50% versus 49%) and Estonia (48% versus 47%), but overwhelmingly in Greece (97%), Spain (89%), Italy (86%), Croatia (85%), Portugal (84%), Bulgaria (82%) and France (82%).

Compared with spring 2016, positive perceptions of the national economic situation have gained ground in 21 Member States, most sharply in Finland (40%, +13 percentage points), Belgium (49%, +12), Ireland (64%, +11) and the Czech Republic (60%, +10). They have lost ground in five countries and are unchanged in the other two.

QA1a.1 How would you judge the current situation in each of the following?

The situation of the (NATIONALITY) economy (%)



QA1a.1 How would you judge the current situation in each of the following?

The situation of the (NATIONALITY) economy (%)

		Total 'Good'	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Total 'Bad'	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Don't know
EU28		41	▲ 2	56	▼ 1	3
EURO AREA		38	▲ 2	60	▼ 2	2
NON-EURO AREA		47	▲ 3	47	▼ 3	6
FI		40	▲ 13	59	▼ 13	1
BE		49	▲ 12	50	▼ 11	1
IE		64	▲ 11	33	▼ 10	3
CZ		60	▲ 10	39	▼ 8	1
SI		27	▲ 9	72	▼ 8	1
CY		30	▲ 6	70	▼ 4	0
RO		26	▲ 6	71	▼ 7	3
LT		32	▲ 5	66	▼ 5	2
PT		15	▲ 5	84	▼ 5	1
DE		87	▲ 4	10	▼ 4	3
SK		33	▲ 4	62	▼ 3	5
FR		15	▲ 4	82	▼ 3	3
NL		81	▲ 3	18	▼ 2	1
PL		47	▲ 3	47	▼ 1	6
HU		30	▲ 3	67	▼ 5	3
ES		11	▲ 3	89	▼ 2	0
LU		90	▲ 2	8	=	2
DK		79	▲ 2	17	▼ 2	4
SE		78	▲ 2	19	▼ 2	3
MT		81	▲ 1	9	▼ 2	10
BG		14	▲ 1	82	▼ 1	4
AT		59	=	39	=	2
EL		3	=	97	=	0
EE		47	▼ 1	48	▲ 2	5
HR		15	▼ 1	85	▲ 2	0
UK		51	▼ 2	40	▲ 2	9
LV		20	▼ 2	77	▲ 3	3
IT		13	▼ 2	86	▲ 2	1

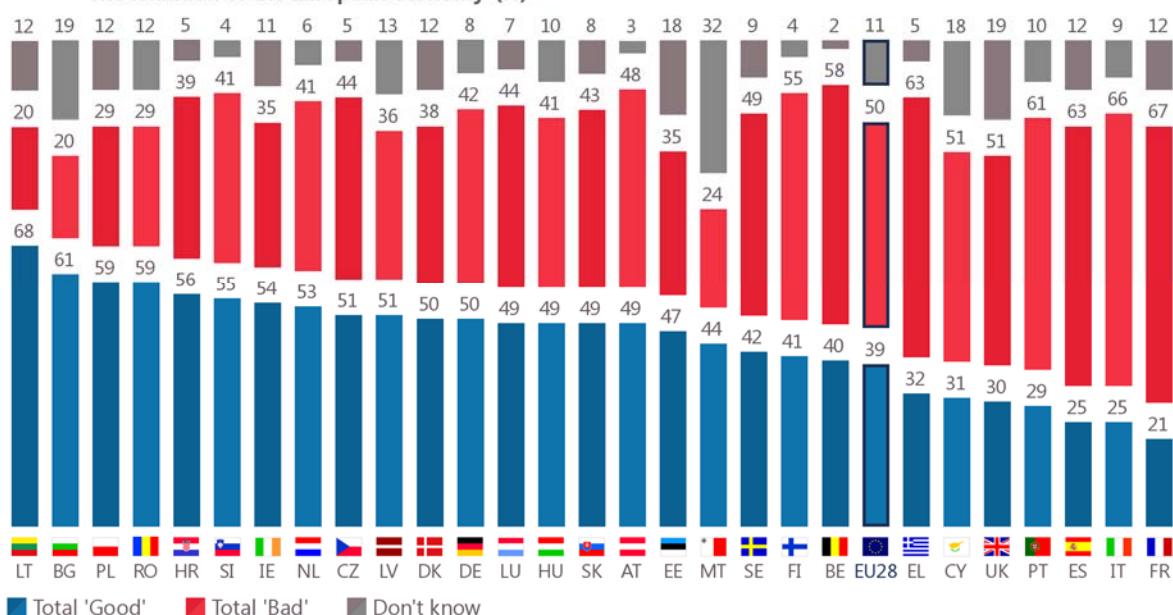
Positive assessments of the European economic situation predominate in 18 Member States (compared with 13 in spring 2016). This has become the majority view in this survey in the Czech Republic (51% versus 44%, compared with 43% versus 46% in spring 2016), Germany (50% versus 42%, compared with 42% versus 50%), Denmark (50% versus 38%, compared with 44% versus 46%), Luxembourg (49% versus 44%, compared with 45% versus 48%) and Austria (49% versus 48%, compared with 46% versus 49%). Respondents in Lithuania (68%), Bulgaria (61%), Poland (59%) and Romania (59%) are the most likely to say the economic situation in the EU is good.

Respondents have predominantly negative views of the European economic situation in ten Member States, most markedly in France (67%), Italy (66%), Greece (63%) and Spain (63%).

Perceptions of the European economic situation have improved in 21 Member States, most notably in Belgium (40%, +10 percentage points) and Ireland (54%, +9). They are stable in five other countries and have deteriorated in Malta and Italy.

QA1a.2 How would you judge the current situation in each of the following?

The situation of the European economy (%)



QA1a.2 How would you judge the current situation in each of the following?

The situation of the European economy (%)

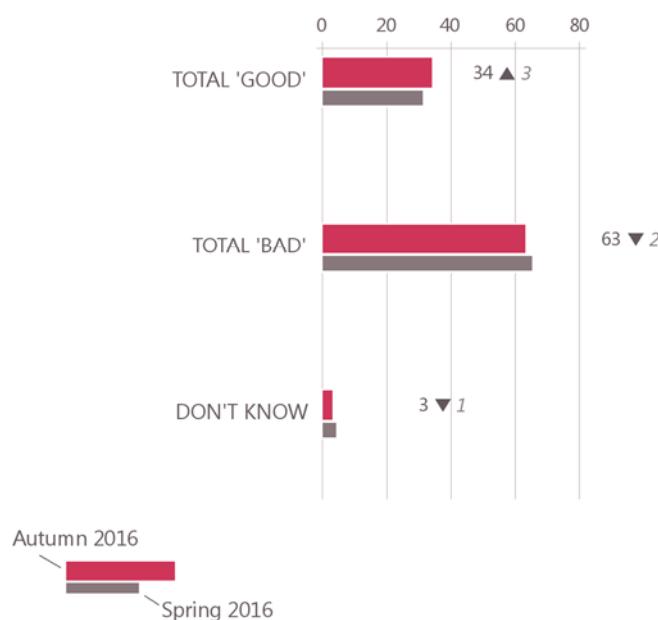
	Total 'Good'	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Total 'Bad'	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Don't know
EU28 	39	▲ 4	50	▼ 3	11
EURO AREA	35	▲ 3	56	▼ 2	9
NON-EURO AREA	46	▲ 4	40	▼ 1	14
BE 	40	▲ 10	58	▼ 7	2
IE 	54	▲ 9	35	▼ 2	11
CZ 	51	▲ 8	44	▼ 2	5
DE 	50	▲ 8	42	▼ 8	8
BG 	61	▲ 7	20	=	19
PL 	59	▲ 7	29	▼ 2	12
RO 	59	▲ 7	29	▼ 1	12
SI 	55	▲ 8	41	▼ 5	4
NL 	53	▲ 6	41	▼ 4	6
DK 	50	▲ 6	38	▼ 8	12
EE 	47	▲ 6	35	▼ 1	18
SE 	42	▲ 6	49	▼ 7	9
PT 	29	▲ 6	61	▼ 5	10
LU 	49	▲ 4	44	▼ 4	7
AT 	49	▲ 3	48	▼ 1	3
FI 	41	▲ 3	55	▼ 1	4
ES 	25	▲ 3	63	▼ 1	12
LV 	51	▲ 2	36	▲ 2	13
HU 	49	▲ 2	41	▼ 3	10
EL 	32	▲ 2	63	▼ 1	5
SK 	49	▲ 1	43	▲ 1	8
LT 	68	=	20	▲ 1	12
HR 	56	=	39	▲ 3	5
CY 	31	=	51	▼ 4	18
UK 	30	=	51	=	19
FR 	21	=	67	▲ 1	12
IT 	25	▼ 1	66	=	9
MT 	44	▼ 5	24	=	32

2. The employment situation

Europeans' assessments of the employment situation in their country remain generally negative, but show a slight improvement. The proportion of respondents who are satisfied with the national employment situation (34%) has increased by three percentage points since spring 2016, whereas there has been a two-point fall in the proportion who say it is "bad" (63%), though this remains very much the majority opinion.⁴⁹

QA1a.5 How would you judge the current situation in each of the following?

The employment situation in (OUR COUNTRY)
(% - EU)

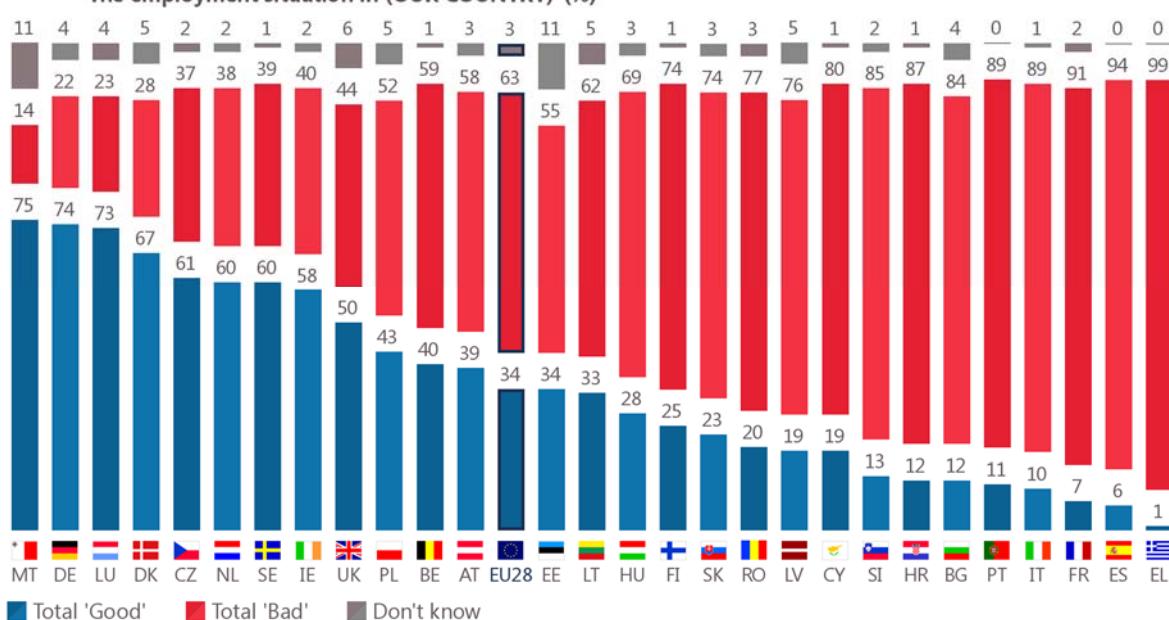


A majority of respondents are positive about the national employment situation in nine Member States (compared with 7 in spring 2016). Respondents remain predominantly positive in Malta (75%), Germany (74%), Luxembourg (73%), Sweden (60%), the Netherlands (60%) and the United Kingdom (50%).

In this survey, majorities of respondents are now positive in the Czech Republic (61%, +14 percentage points since spring 2016) and Ireland (58%, +12 points). Positive opinions have also gained significant ground in Poland (43%, +13) and the Netherlands (60%, +10). In total, positive verdicts are up in 19 countries; they are unchanged in four others and have lost ground in five Member States.

Nevertheless, negative judgments predominate in 19 Member States, continuing to reach record levels in Greece (99%), Spain (94%), France (91%), Portugal (89%) and Italy (89%).

⁴⁹ QA1a5. How would you judge the current situation in each of the following? The employment situation in (OUR COUNTRY).

QA1a.5 How would you judge the current situation in each of the following?**The employment situation in (OUR COUNTRY) (%)**

b. Expectations for the next twelve months

Macroeconomic expectations are stable

1. The national and European situations

While assessments of the national and European economic situations and of the national employment situation have improved slightly in this survey, expectations as regards both the national and the European economic outlook are fairly similar to those recorded in spring 2016. A relative majority of Europeans do not expect any changes over the next twelve months. Among those who do expect things to change, pessimists continue to outnumber optimists.

47% of Europeans (+1 percentage point since spring 2016) consider that their country's economic situation will not change over the coming year, while 26% (unchanged) expect things to get worse and 22% (+1) expect an improvement.

43% (unchanged since spring 2016) also think that the situation of the European economy will stay the same, while 28% (+2 percentage points) expect it to deteriorate and 18% (=) expect it to improve⁵⁰.

QA2a What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...?
 (% - EU)



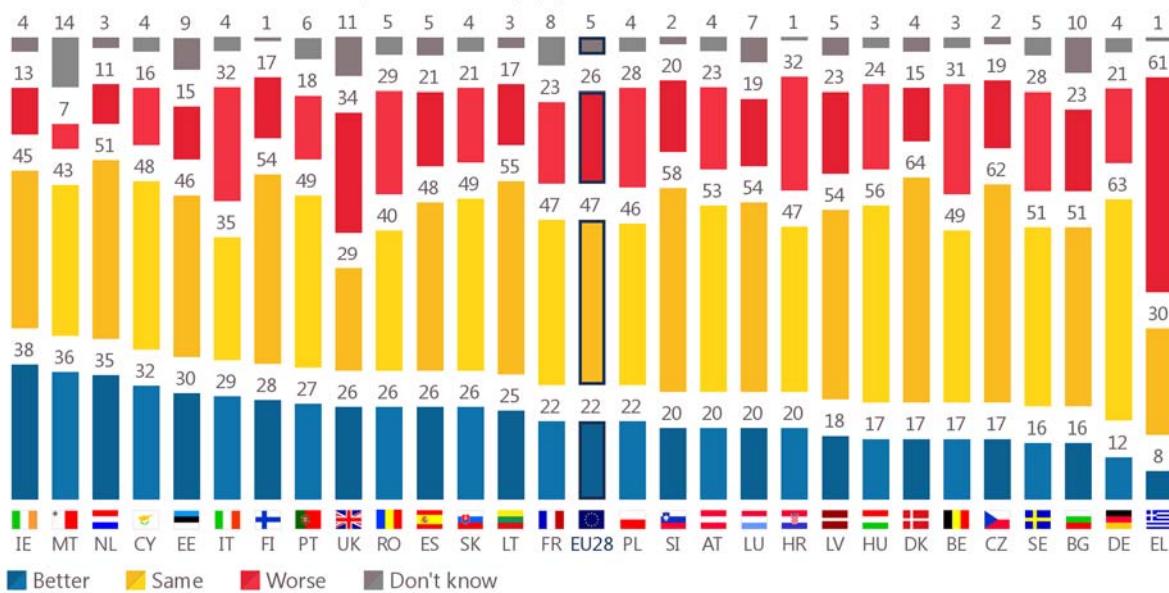
⁵⁰ QA2a2-6. What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...? The economic situation in (OUR COUNTRY)/The economic situation in the EU.

A majority of respondents in Greece continue to believe that the economic situation in their country will deteriorate (61%), while forecasts in the United Kingdom have become predominantly negative for the first time, following an increase of 16 percentage points in “worse” answers (34% versus 29% “the same” and 26% “better”).

In all the remaining Member States, a majority of respondents answered “the same”. Optimists outnumber pessimists in 12 countries, most notably in Ireland (38%), Malta (36%) and the Netherlands (35%), where they represent more than a third of those polled. Pessimists (“worse” answers) outnumber optimists in 15 countries. Lastly, in Slovenia, optimism and pessimism are evenly balanced (20% versus 20%).

QA2a.2 What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...?

The economic situation in (OUR COUNTRY) (%)



The feeling that the national economic situation will be “better” in the next twelve months has gained ground in 13 Member States. It is stable in Romania and has lost ground in 14 countries.

QA2a.2 What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...?

The economic situation in (OUR COUNTRY) (%)

		Better	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Same	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Worse	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Don't know
EU28		22	▲ 1	47	▲ 1	26	=	5
EURO AREA		22	=	49	▲ 3	24	▼ 3	5
NON-EURO AREA		23	▲ 3	42	▼ 4	29	▲ 5	6
EE		30	▲ 5	46	▲ 1	15	▼ 4	9
UK		26	▲ 5	29	▼ 16	34	▲ 16	11
LT		25	▲ 4	55	=	17	▼ 3	3
LU		20	▲ 4	54	▲ 1	19	▼ 3	7
HR		20	▲ 3	47	▲ 4	32	▼ 5	1
SI		20	▲ 3	58	▲ 9	20	▼ 10	2
IT		29	▲ 2	35	▼ 4	32	▲ 3	4
PT		27	▲ 2	49	▲ 10	18	▼ 7	6
ES		26	▲ 2	48	▲ 1	21	=	5
PL		22	▲ 2	46	▲ 3	28	▼ 1	4
NL		35	▲ 1	51	▲ 2	11	▼ 3	3
HU		17	▲ 1	56	▲ 7	24	▼ 8	3
DE		12	▲ 1	63	▲ 6	21	▼ 7	4
RO		26	=	40	▼ 5	29	▲ 4	5
CY		32	▼ 1	48	▲ 4	16	▼ 2	4
SK		26	▼ 1	49	▲ 4	21	▼ 1	4
FR		22	▼ 1	47	▲ 4	23	▼ 4	8
BG		16	▼ 1	51	▲ 5	23	▼ 3	10
LV		18	▼ 2	54	▼ 7	23	▲ 10	5
BE		17	▼ 2	49	▲ 6	31	▼ 2	3
CZ		17	▼ 2	62	▲ 6	19	▼ 2	2
DK		17	▼ 3	64	▲ 7	15	▼ 2	4
SE		16	▼ 3	51	=	28	▲ 1	5
EL		8	▼ 3	30	▲ 5	61	▼ 3	1
IE		38	▼ 4	45	▲ 3	13	▲ 2	4
FI		28	▼ 4	54	▲ 5	17	=	1
MT		36	▼ 6	43	▲ 8	7	▼ 2	14
AT		20	▼ 6	53	▲ 6	23	▲ 1	4

The following table shows the results by socio-demographic criteria in the European Union as a whole (EU28 average), in the six largest EU countries and in the countries benefiting or having benefited from European Union support to deal with the financial and economic crisis.

QA2a.2 What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...?

The economic situation in (OUR COUNTRY)
(% - BETTER)

	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
TOTAL	22	12	26	22	29	22	26	8	27	38	32
Gender											
Male	24	15	27	24	32	25	30	10	28	41	36
Female	20	10	26	20	26	20	23	7	27	36	29
Age											
15-24	28	18	33	27	28	24	39	15	37	53	28
25-39	25	12	25	27	34	22	25	7	30	43	35
40-54	23	15	25	21	32	22	23	10	27	39	37
55 +	19	9	26	18	25	22	23	6	23	27	29
Education (End of)											
15-	21	13	25	16	29	27	26	4	21	26	26
16-19	21	11	26	19	27	24	27	9	28	34	36
20+	24	14	33	27	37	19	19	9	35	45	37
Still studying	26	16	24	24	32	23	40	18	46	53	28
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	26	17	30	25	38	13	28	10	33	44	43
Managers	23	15	32	24	37	15	20	15	40	52	34
Other white collars	23	7	25	24	30	17	24	8	34	45	43
Manual workers	23	15	23	23	26	29	31	11	23	36	31
House persons	22	8	26	22	26	26	27	6	12	28	18
Unemployed	24	11	28	27	30	31	25	8	26	29	35
Retired	18	10	28	18	25	22	23	4	20	25	27
Students	26	16	24	24	32	23	40	18	46	53	28

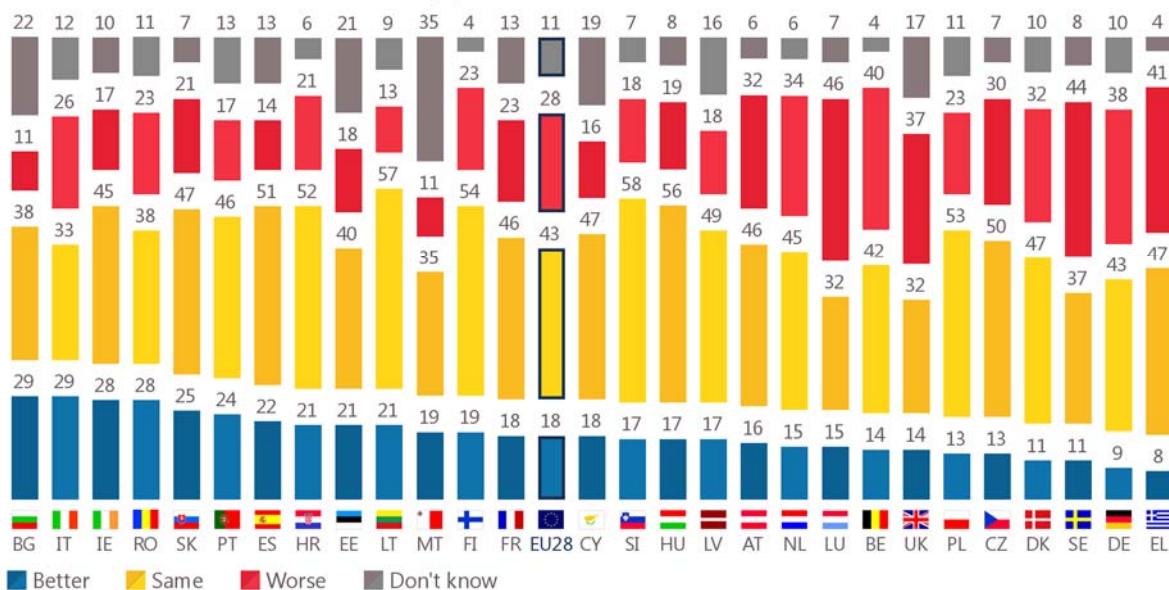
In three countries, respondents are most likely to say that the EU's economic situation will be "worse": Luxembourg (46% of "worse" answers versus 32% for "the same" and 15% for "better"), Sweden (44% versus 37% and 11%) and the United Kingdom (37% versus 32% and 14%).

This represents a nine-percentage point rise in the United Kingdom.

In the other Member States, respondents predominantly feel that that the next twelve months will be "the same" in terms of the economic situation in the EU. However, pessimistic forecasts remain considerably above the European average (EU28: 28%) in Greece (41%), Belgium (40%) and Germany (38%). Optimism outweighs pessimism in 11 Member States, led by Bulgaria (29%), Italy (29%), Ireland (28%) and Romania (28%).

QA2a.6 What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...?

The economic situation in the EU (%)



Since spring 2016, optimistic forecasts have declined in 14 Member States, in particular in France (18%, -6 percentage points), while they have gained ground in nine countries, most notably in Bulgaria (29%, +8), and are unchanged in five countries.

QA2a.6 What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...?

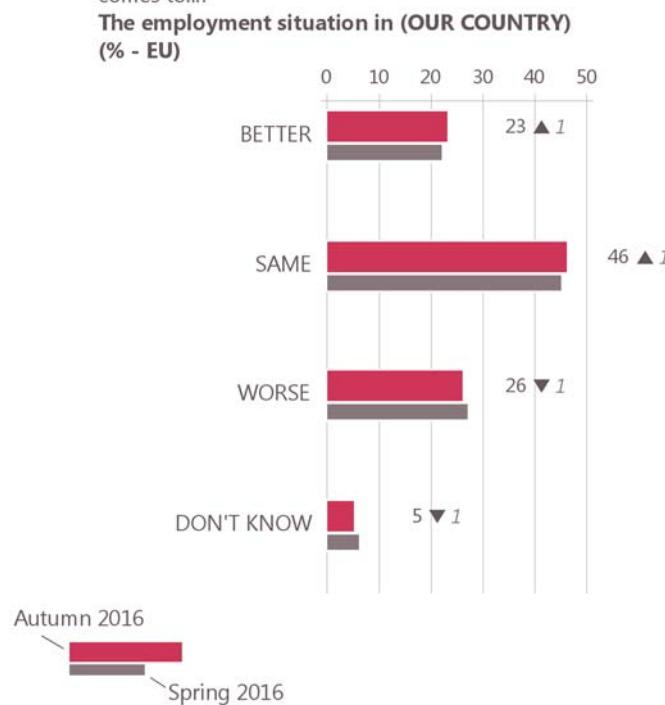
The economic situation in the EU (%)

	Better	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Same	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Worse	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Don't know
EU28	18	=	43	=	28	▲ 2	11
BG	29	▲ 8	38	▼ 1	11	=	22
IT	29	▲ 4	33	▼ 9	26	▲ 5	12
LU	15	▲ 4	32	▼ 2	46	▲ 3	7
EE	21	▲ 2	40	▲ 5	18	▼ 5	21
HU	17	▲ 2	56	▲ 6	19	▼ 7	8
CZ	13	▲ 2	50	▲ 4	30	=	7
SK	25	▲ 1	47	▲ 5	21	▼ 2	7
UK	14	▲ 1	32	▼ 6	37	▲ 9	17
PL	13	▲ 1	53	▲ 6	23	=	11
IE	28	=	45	▲ 1	17	▲ 4	10
ES	22	=	51	=	14	▼ 1	13
FI	19	=	54	=	23	▲ 4	4
CY	18	=	47	▼ 3	16	▲ 2	19
BE	14	=	42	=	40	▲ 4	4
PT	24	▼ 1	46	▲ 4	17	=	13
LT	21	▼ 1	57	▲ 1	13	▲ 1	9
NL	15	▼ 1	45	▲ 6	34	▼ 1	6
DE	9	▼ 1	43	▲ 4	38	▼ 6	10
RO	28	▼ 2	38	▲ 3	23	▲ 5	11
DK	11	▼ 2	47	=	32	▲ 4	10
EL	8	▼ 2	47	▲ 4	41	▼ 1	4
HR	21	▼ 3	52	▲ 9	21	▼ 2	6
AT	16	▼ 3	46	▲ 5	32	▲ 1	6
MT	19	▼ 4	35	▼ 2	11	=	35
SI	17	▼ 4	58	▲ 9	18	▼ 3	7
SE	11	▼ 4	37	▼ 1	44	▲ 6	8
LV	17	▼ 5	49	▼ 1	18	▲ 5	16
FR	18	▼ 6	46	▲ 2	23	▲ 5	13

2. The employment situation

The expectations of Europeans for the employment situation over the coming year are also almost identical to those recorded in spring 2016: 46% of Europeans (+1 percentage point since spring 2016) expect that the next twelve months will be “the same”, while 26% (-1) expect them to be “worse” and 23% (+1) predict that they will be “better”⁵¹.

QA2a.4 What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...?



Pessimistic expectations lead the way in Greece (64%) and, more narrowly, in Italy (36% versus 30% for both “the same” and “better” answers).

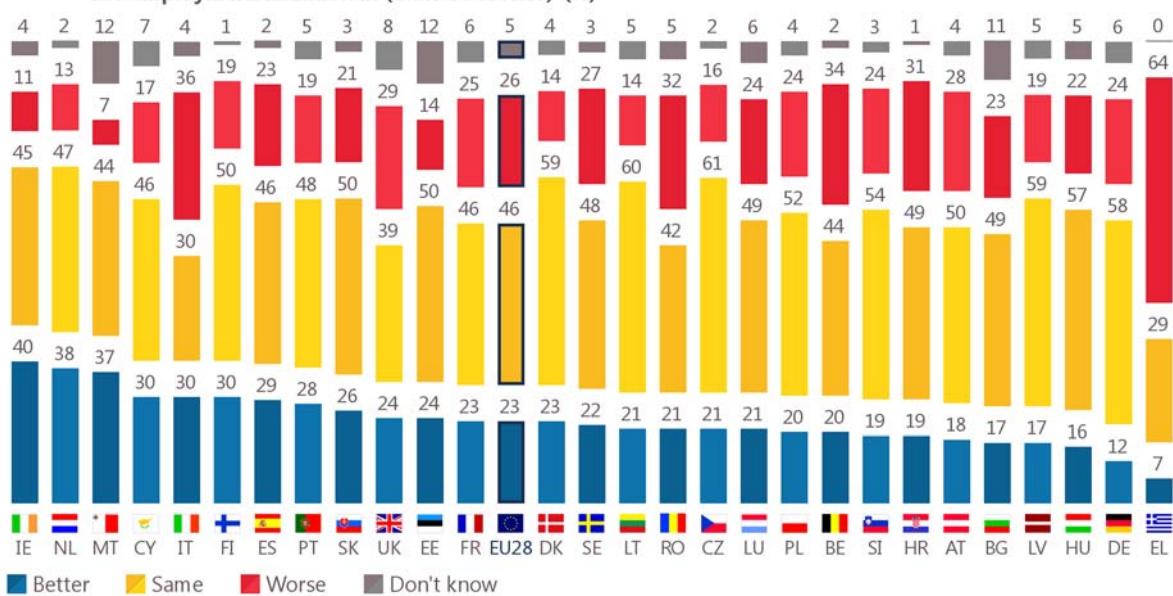
In the remaining 26 Member States, a majority of respondents expect things to stay “the same”. In 12 of these, optimism outweighs pessimism, most markedly in Ireland (40%), the Netherlands (38%) and Malta (37%).

Since spring 2016, optimistic forecasts have declined significantly in Denmark (23%, -7 percentage points) and Sweden (22%, -7). In total, optimism has gained ground in 13 Member States; it is stable in three countries and has decreased in twelve.

⁵¹ QA2a4. What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...? The employment situation in (OUR COUNTRY).

QA2a.4 What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...?

The employment situation in (OUR COUNTRY) (%)



QA2a.4 What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...?

The employment situation in (OUR COUNTRY) (%)

	Better	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Same	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Worse	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Don't know
EU28	23	▲ 1	46	▲ 1	26	▼ 1	5
NL	38	▲ 4	47	▲ 3	13	▼ 6	2
ES	29	▲ 4	46	▼ 2	23	▲ 2	2
PT	28	▲ 4	48	▲ 9	19	▼ 10	5
UK	24	▲ 4	39	▼ 9	29	▲ 9	8
PL	20	▲ 4	52	▲ 5	24	▼ 5	4
CY	30	▲ 3	46	▲ 3	17	▼ 8	7
IT	30	▲ 2	30	▼ 6	36	▲ 5	4
CZ	21	▲ 2	61	▲ 6	16	▼ 4	2
LT	21	▲ 2	60	▼ 1	14	=	5
LU	21	▲ 2	49	▲ 1	24	▼ 2	6
BE	20	▲ 2	44	=	34	▲ 2	2
HR	19	▲ 2	49	▲ 9	31	▼ 10	1
FI	30	▲ 1	50	▲ 6	19	▼ 6	1
EE	24	=	50	▲ 7	14	▼ 4	12
SI	19	=	54	▲ 11	24	▼ 9	3
BG	17	=	49	▲ 3	23	▼ 1	11
HU	16	▼ 1	57	▲ 8	22	▼ 8	5
DE	12	▼ 1	58	▲ 7	24	▼ 6	6
EL	7	▼ 1	29	▲ 3	64	▼ 1	0
SK	26	▼ 2	50	▲ 7	21	▼ 3	3
FR	23	▼ 2	46	▲ 2	25	=	6
RO	21	▼ 3	42	▼ 1	32	▲ 5	5
LV	17	▼ 3	59	▼ 2	19	▲ 7	5
IE	40	▼ 5	45	▲ 4	11	▲ 2	4
MT	37	▼ 5	44	▲ 5	7	▼ 1	12
AT	18	▼ 5	50	▲ 12	28	▼ 6	4
DK	23	▼ 7	59	▲ 4	14	▲ 4	4
SE	22	▼ 7	48	▲ 7	27	=	3

3 The impact of the economic situation on the job market

Pessimism about the impact of the economic crisis on the job market has eased slightly, but remains the majority view

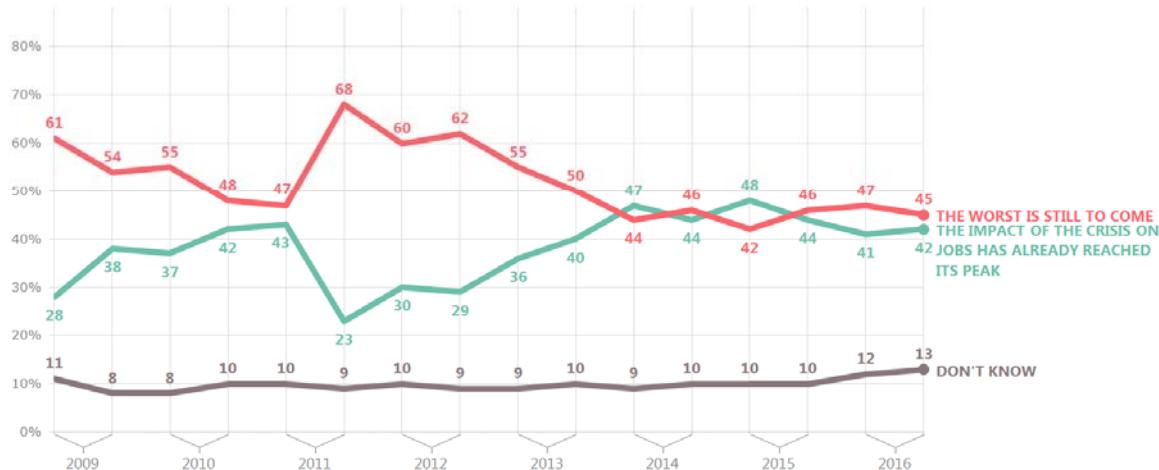
Pessimism as to the impact of the economic crisis on the job market continues to predominate, but has declined slightly.

45% of Europeans (-2 percentage points since spring 2016) say that “the worst is still to come” in terms of the impact of the crisis on jobs, while 42% (+1) think it has already reached its peak and things will recover little by little.⁵²

After two Standard Eurobarometer surveys, in autumn 2015 (EB84) and spring 2016 (EB85), which saw a deterioration, the ratio of optimistic to pessimistic opinions has therefore improved slightly.

Over a longer period, the opinion ratio was negative during the period 2009–2013, with a particularly wide gap in autumn 2011 (68% for “the worst is still to come”, versus 23% for “the impact of the crisis on jobs has already reached its peak”), but the ratio has generally been close since spring 2014 (EB81), with minor fluctuations.

QC1 Some analysts say that the impact of the economic crisis on the job market has already reached its peak and things will recover little by little. Others, on the contrary, say that the worst is still to come. Which of the two statements is closer to your opinion?
(% - EU)



⁵² QC1. Some analysts say that the impact of the economic crisis on the job market has already reached its peak and things will recover little by little. Others, on the contrary, say that the worst is still to come. Which of the two statements is closer to your opinion?

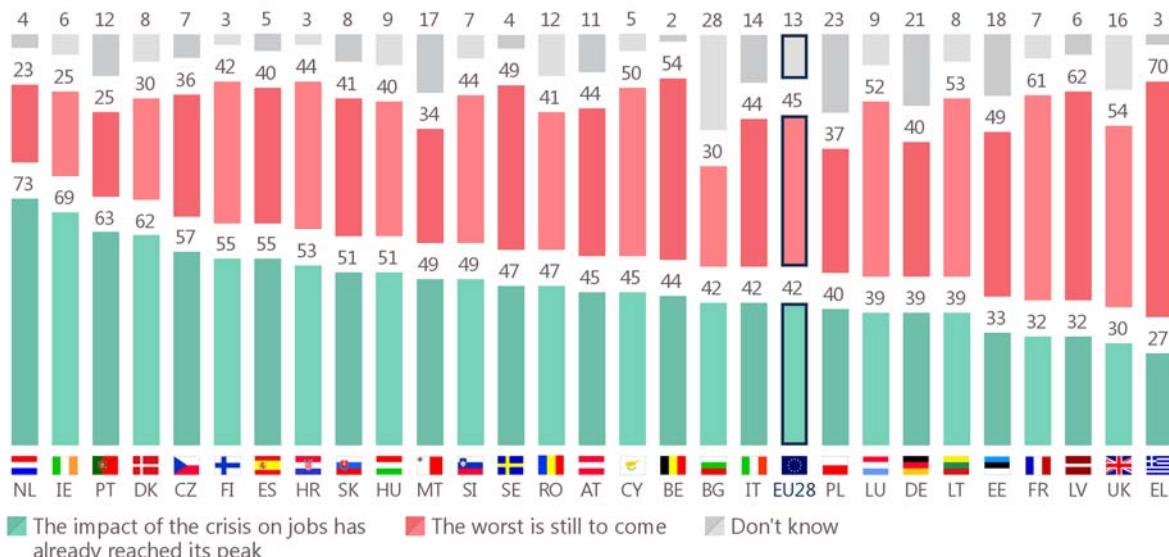
In the non-euro area countries, the slightly negative ratio of optimistic to pessimistic opinions about the impact of the crisis on the job market is almost unchanged (41% versus 44%, compared with 42% versus 44% in spring 2016). However, it has improved fairly noticeably in the euro area countries, from 41% versus 48% in spring 2016 to 44% versus 45% in this autumn 2016 survey.

A majority of respondents in 16 Member States (compared with 13 in spring 2016) think that the effects of the crisis on the job market have already reached their peak. In this survey, optimists are now in the majority in Spain (55% versus 40%, compared with 47% versus 47% in spring 2016), Slovakia (51% versus 41%, compared with 45% versus 45%), Slovenia (49% versus 44%, compared with 41% versus 51%), Poland (40% versus 37%, compared with 37% versus 41%) and Austria (45% versus 44%, compared with 43% versus 47%). But pessimists are now the majority in Sweden (47% versus 49%, compared with 49% versus 45%) and Italy (42% versus 44%, compared with 48% versus 41%). The belief that the impact of the crisis on the job market has already reached its peak is most widespread in the Netherlands (73%), Ireland (69%), Portugal (63%) and Denmark (62%).

A majority of respondents in 12 Member States, most notably in Greece (70%), Latvia (62%) and France (61%), consider that the worst is still to come.

QC1 Some analysts say that the impact of the economic crisis on the job market has already reached its peak and things will recover little by little. Others, on the contrary, say that the worst is still to come. Which of the two statements is closer to your opinion?

(%)



Optimism has increased in 17 Member States, led by Portugal (63%, +13 percentage points since spring 2016), Belgium (44%, +9), Spain (55%, +8) and Slovenia (49%, +8). The opinion that the worst is still to come has gained significant ground in this survey in Latvia (62%, +9).

QC1 Some analysts say that the impact of the economic crisis on the job market has already reached its peak and things will recover little by little. Others, on the contrary, say that the worst is still to come. Which of the two statements is closer to your opinion?
(%)

	The impact of the crisis on jobs has already reached its peak	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	The worst is still to come	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Don't know
EU28 	42	▲ 1	45	▼ 2	13
EURO AREA	44	▲ 3	45	▼ 3	11
NON-EURO AREA	41	▼ 1	44	=	15
PT 	63	▲ 13	25	▼ 6	12
BE 	44	▲ 9	54	▼ 3	2
ES 	55	▲ 8	40	▼ 7	5
SI 	49	▲ 8	44	▼ 7	7
SK 	51	▲ 6	41	▼ 4	8
NL 	73	▲ 5	23	▼ 6	4
CY 	45	▲ 5	50	▼ 5	5
DE 	39	▲ 5	40	▼ 6	21
CZ 	57	▲ 4	36	▼ 5	7
PL 	40	▲ 3	37	▼ 4	23
EE 	33	▲ 3	49	▼ 3	18
AT 	45	▲ 2	44	▼ 3	11
BG 	42	▲ 2	30	=	28
LT 	39	▲ 2	53	▼ 4	8
FI 	55	▲ 1	42	▼ 1	3
RO 	47	▲ 1	41	▼ 3	12
LU 	39	▲ 1	52	▼ 2	9
HR 	53	=	44	▲ 7	3
FR 	32	=	61	▲ 1	7
HU 	51	▼ 1	40	=	9
IE 	69	▼ 2	25	▲ 2	6
MT 	49	▼ 2	34	▼ 1	17
SE 	47	▼ 2	49	▲ 4	4
EL 	27	▼ 2	70	▲ 1	3
LV 	32	▼ 4	62	▲ 9	6
DK	62	▼ 5	30	▲ 4	8
IT 	42	▼ 6	44	▲ 3	14
UK 	30	▼ 6	54	▲ 2	16

The following tables show the results by socio-demographic criteria in the European Union as a whole (EU28 average), in the six largest EU countries and in the countries benefiting or having benefited from European Union support to deal with the financial and economic crisis.

QC1 Some analysts say that the impact of the economic crisis on the job market has already reached its peak and things will recover little by little. Others, on the contrary, say that the worst is still to come. Which of the two statements is closer to your opinion?

(% - THE IMPACT OF THE CRISIS ON JOBS HAS ALREADY REACHED ITS PEAK)

	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
TOTAL	42	39	55	32	42	40	30	27	63	69	45
Gender											
Male	43	41	51	34	42	39	34	29	65	71	45
Female	41	36	58	30	42	42	26	26	61	67	45
Age											
15-24	43	43	46	34	43	36	32	37	70	71	40
25-39	46	35	52	36	50	45	32	37	73	70	51
40-54	45	42	59	31	47	40	30	30	63	69	40
55 +	39	37	56	29	35	39	27	19	53	67	46
Education (End of)											
15-	36	34	54	18	33	31	25	19	50	50	43
16-19	40	38	57	25	42	38	31	32	71	68	48
20+	48	43	58	42	56	47	30	25	74	75	49
Still studying	47	38	45	42	58	39	33	45	68	73	45
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	47	38	66	37	50	43	30	30	64	74	68
Managers	53	49	73	48	76	49	39	36	76	72	42
Other white collars	52	45	64	39	54	50	31	32	79	73	39
Manual workers	41	37	53	27	44	35	28	27	66	70	41
House persons	41	39	64	23	31	40	25	19	63	65	38
Unemployed	30	21	44	16	15	40	23	32	51	58	49
Retired	37	36	51	30	31	38	26	18	49	65	47
Students	47	38	45	42	58	39	33	45	68	73	45

QC1 Some analysts say that the impact of the economic crisis on the job market has already reached its peak and things will recover little by little. Others, on the contrary, say that the worst is still to come. Which of the two statements is closer to your opinion?

(% - THE WORST IS STILL TO COME)

	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
TOTAL	45	40	40	61	44	37	54	70	25	25	50
Gender											
Male	46	42	45	60	45	40	54	68	23	24	49
Female	45	39	37	63	43	34	54	71	27	25	51
Age											
15-24	41	31	45	58	36	39	46	57	15	21	54
25-39	43	42	44	60	37	31	53	62	19	24	46
40-54	44	38	37	63	41	35	58	68	22	27	52
55 +	48	44	38	63	51	41	57	78	36	25	49
Education (End of)											
15-	50	42	41	73	48	43	59	80	36	42	48
16-19	48	44	39	71	44	38	55	66	19	24	47
20+	41	34	37	50	39	34	54	72	20	20	46
Still studying	37	36	50	47	29	38	36	46	10	22	52
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	45	48	33	60	43	37	61	64	31	21	30
Managers	35	33	27	38	20	31	49	64	15	22	46
Other white collars	38	33	32	58	35	32	50	68	14	20	58
Manual workers	47	41	42	70	46	37	55	71	21	23	52
House persons	47	39	35	71	49	31	58	81	16	28	45
Unemployed	55	55	49	79	55	43	58	65	36	38	51
Retired	50	44	41	61	53	40	60	80	39	26	49
Students	37	36	50	47	29	38	36	46	10	22	52

II. THE EUROPEAN UNION AND ECONOMIC REFORMS

1 The European Union continues to be seen as playing a key role in the global economy

With no significant evolutions since the Standard Eurobarometer survey of spring 2016 (EB85), respondents still think that the European Union has sufficient power and tools to defend its position in the context of globalisation. More than six in ten Europeans (61%, +1 percentage point since spring 2016) say that “the European Union has sufficient power and tools to defend the economic interests of Europe in the global economy”, while 28% (+1) disagree and 11% (-2) expressed no opinion.

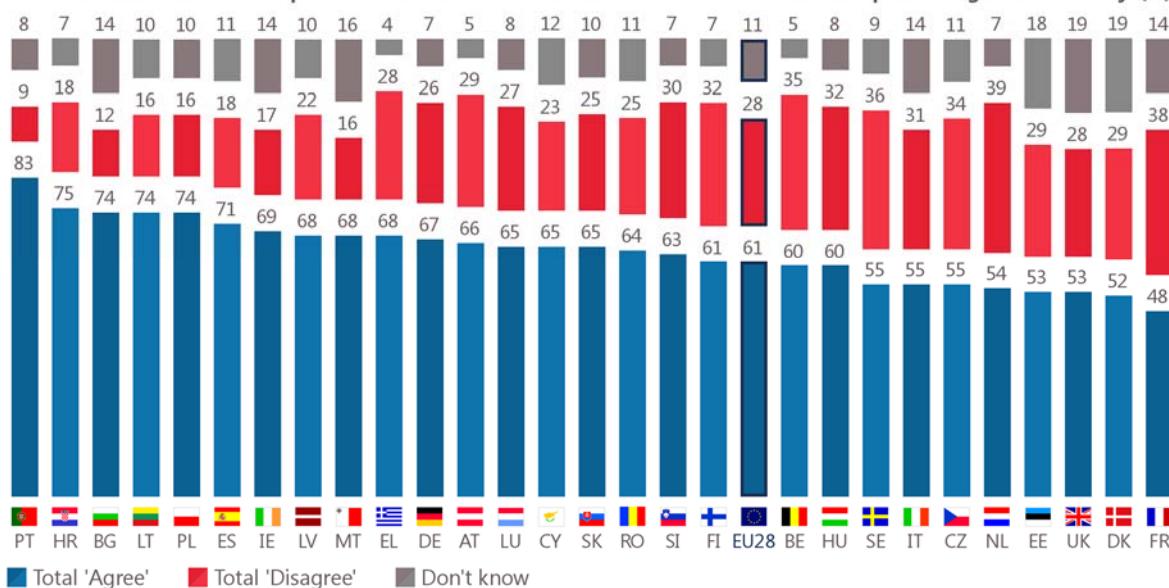
There is a broad consensus in Europeans public opinion: a large majority of both **euro area** respondents (62%) and **non-euro area** respondents (61%) concur.

This view is supported by more than half of respondents in almost all Member States, with the sole exception of France where only a relative majority (48% versus 38%) agree. The highest levels of agreement are recorded in Portugal (83%), Croatia (75%), Bulgaria (74%), Poland (74%) and Lithuania (74%).

The current survey shows that this opinion has gained ground in 21 Member States since spring 2016, particularly in Poland (74%, +9 percentage points). It has declined in five countries and is stable in Bulgaria and Lithuania.

QC2.3 For each of the following statements, please tell me whether 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 (%)



QC2.3 For each of the following statements, please tell me whether 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 (%)

		Total 'Agree'	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Total 'Disagree'	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Don't know
EU28		61	▲ 1	28	▲ 1	11
EURO AREA		62	▲ 1	28	=	10
NON-EURO AREA		61	▲ 3	25	▼ 1	14
PL		74	▲ 9	16	▼ 5	10
HR		75	▲ 7	18	▼ 1	7
SI		63	▲ 7	30	▼ 3	7
SK		65	▲ 6	25	▼ 3	10
AT		66	▲ 5	29	▼ 3	5
HU		60	▲ 5	32	▼ 2	8
DE		67	▲ 4	26	▼ 3	7
LU		65	▲ 4	27	▼ 2	8
RO		64	▲ 4	25	=	11
CY		65	▲ 3	23	▼ 4	12
NL		54	▲ 3	39	=	7
PT		83	▲ 2	9	▲ 1	8
ES		71	▲ 2	18	▼ 1	11
MT		68	▲ 2	16	▼ 1	16
BE		60	▲ 2	35	▼ 1	5
SE		55	▲ 2	36	=	9
EE		53	▲ 2	29	▲ 1	18
UK		53	▲ 2	28	▼ 2	19
EL		68	▲ 1	28	▼ 1	4
LV		68	▲ 1	22	▼ 1	10
FI		61	▲ 1	32	▲ 4	7
BG		74	=	12	▼ 1	14
LT		74	=	16	▲ 3	10
CZ		55	▼ 1	34	▲ 3	11
FR		48	▼ 2	38	▲ 3	14
IE		69	▼ 3	17	▲ 3	14
DK		52	▼ 4	29	▲ 3	19
IT		55	▼ 5	31	▲ 4	14

The following table shows the results by socio-demographic criteria in the European Union as a whole (EU28 average), in the six largest EU countries and in the countries benefiting or having benefited from European Union support to deal with the financial and economic crisis.

QC2.3 For each of the following statements, please tell me whether 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
(% - TOTAL 'AGREE')

	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
TOTAL	61	67	71	48	55	74	53	68	83	69	65
Gender											
Male	63	66	74	51	56	76	57	67	84	71	65
Female	60	68	69	46	54	73	48	69	81	67	65
Age											
15-24	68	75	69	63	62	79	63	78	86	74	70
25-39	65	70	71	46	64	75	62	70	89	67	64
40-54	63	69	80	42	62	74	56	65	87	69	64
55 +	56	62	66	49	44	72	40	66	75	69	64
Education (End of)											
15-	55	62	67	51	41	55	36	64	79	67	68
16-19	61	68	74	46	57	75	51	69	89	65	66
20+	62	63	77	46	67	75	62	68	85	71	67
Still studying	72	80	76	65	72	83	64	78	87	76	65
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	67	75	87	53	62	68	64	70	92	72	71
Managers	66	75	80	47	82	72	59	72	83	71	82
Other white collars	65	56	81	39	68	83	61	67	88	74	58
Manual workers	62	67	71	45	56	77	53	66	91	65	70
House persons	58	62	62	39	44	79	59	69	78	62	48
Unemployed	57	61	67	49	41	52	48	65	80	62	66
Retired	55	63	67	50	41	70	39	65	70	70	62
Students	72	80	76	65	72	83	64	78	87	76	65

2 Creating new jobs and stimulating investment

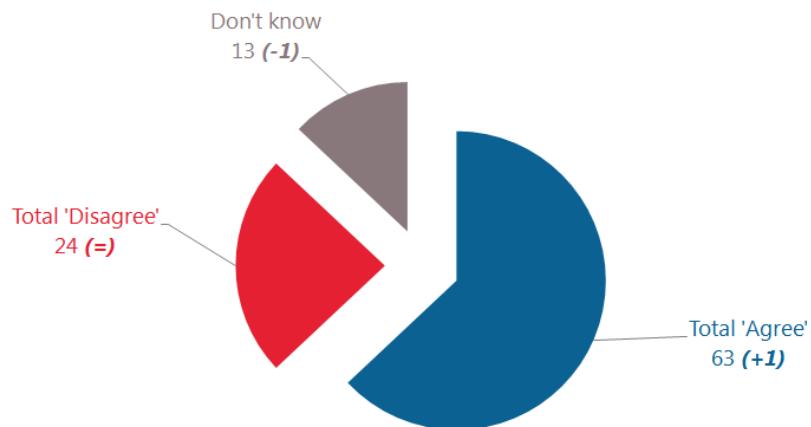
More than half of Europeans agree that the private sector is best placed to create new jobs, and they support the use of public money to stimulate private sector investment, in proportions similar to those recorded in spring 2016.

63% of Europeans (+1 percentage point since spring 2016) thus think that “the private sector is better placed than the public sector to create new jobs”, while 24% (unchanged) disagree and 13% (-1) expressed no opinion.

More than half of Europeans (56%, unchanged since spring 2016) agree that “public money should be used to stimulate private sector investment at EU level”, while 30% (+1) take the opposite view and 14% (-1) expressed no opinion.⁵³

QC2.4 For each of the following statements, please tell me whether you totally agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree or totally disagree.

The private sector is better placed than the public sector to create new jobs (% - EU)

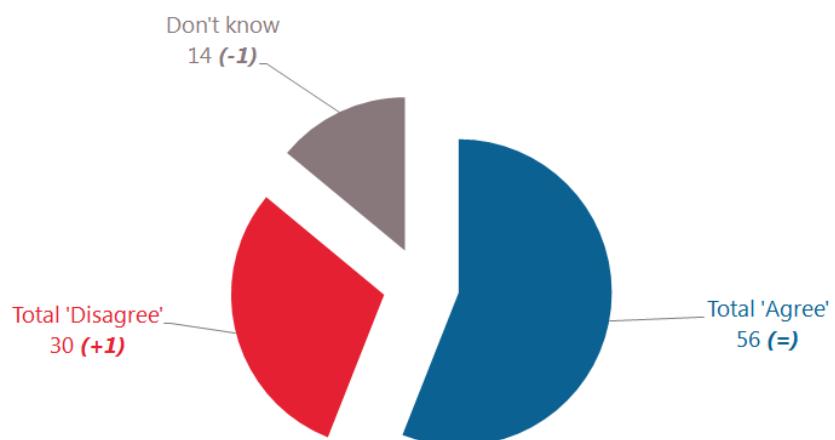


(Autumn 2016 - Spring 2016)

⁵³ QC2.4-5. For each of the following statements, please tell me whether you totally agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree or totally disagree. The private sector is better placed than the public sector to create new jobs/Public money should be used to stimulate private sector investment at EU level.

QC2.5 For each of the following statements, please tell me whether 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)

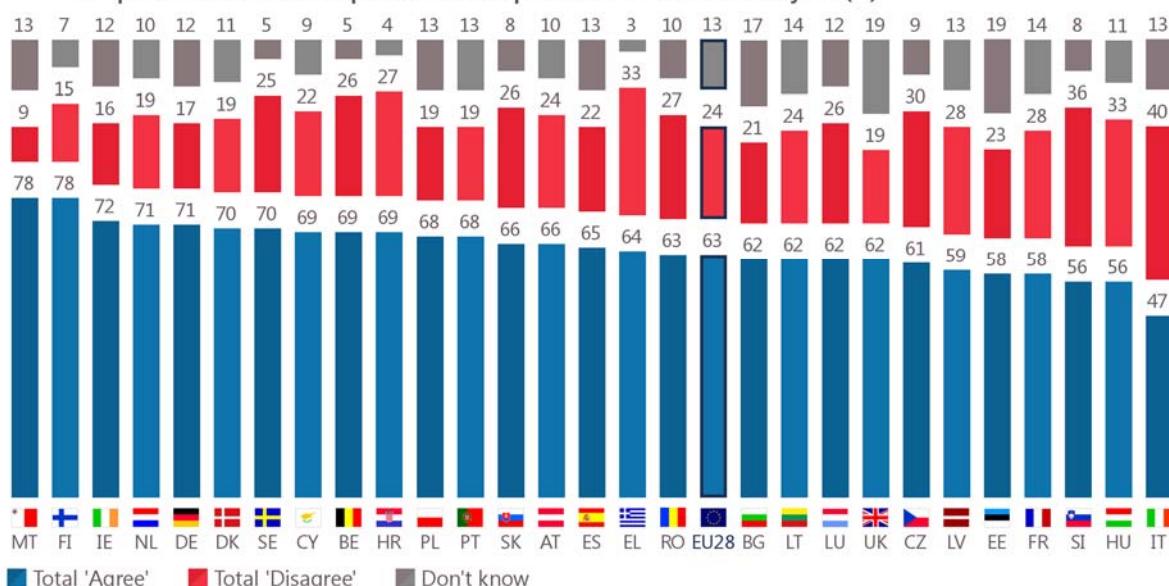


(Autumn 2016 - Spring 2016)

There is a broad consensus among Europeans that the private sector is best equipped to create jobs, since this opinion is shared by an absolute majority of respondents in 27 Member States, led by Malta (78%) and Finland (78%), and by a relative majority in Italy (47% versus 40%).

QC2.4 For each of the following statements, please tell me whether you totally agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree or totally disagree.

The private sector is better placed than the public sector to create new jobs (%)



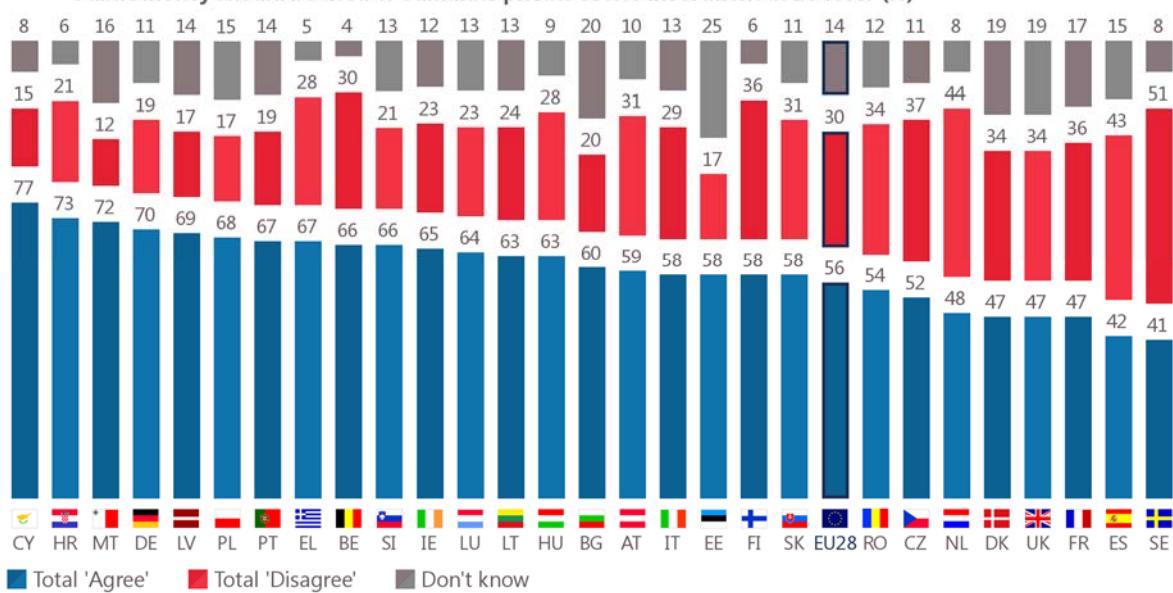
■ Total 'Agree' ■ Total 'Disagree' ■ Don't know

A majority of respondents in Sweden (51%) and Spain (43% versus 42%) are opposed to the use of public money to boost private sector investment.

However, there is approval for this principle in all the other Member States, with support from more than half the respondents in 22 countries, led by Cyprus (77%) and Croatia (73%), and from a relative majority in four countries, namely the Netherlands (48% versus 44%), Denmark (47% versus 34%), the United Kingdom (47% versus 34%) and France (47% versus 36%).

QC2.5 For each of the following statements, please tell me whether 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 (%)



3 The need to reform the economic and financial system

- a. Reforms are needed to stimulate the economy and reduce public debt

To establish the views of Europeans on whether measures should be taken rapidly to reduce the public deficit and debt in their country, the total sample of respondents was divided into two groups, each of which was asked a differently worded question⁵⁴. The positive wording (Split A: “measures to reduce the public deficit and debt in (OUR COUNTRY) cannot be delayed”) emphasises the urgency of reducing the public deficit, while the negative wording (Split B: “measures to reduce the public deficit and debt in (OUR COUNTRY) are not a priority for now”) instead highlights the fact that this policy is not a priority.

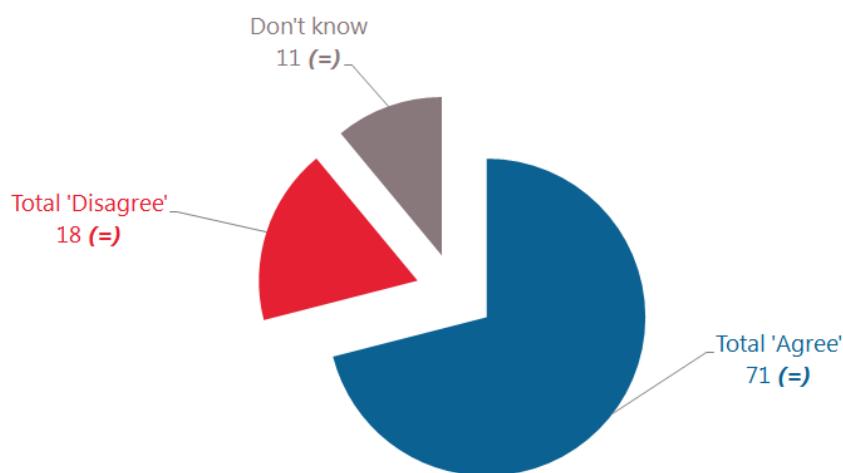
With no significant evolutions since the Standard Eurobarometer survey of spring 2016 (EB85), there are still substantial variations in support for the two wordings, suggesting that public opinion can change fairly significantly on this subject depending on the arguments put forward.

Positive wording

A large majority of respondents agree with the positive wording. More than seven in ten Europeans (71%, unchanged since spring 2016) consider that “measures to reduce the public deficit and debt in (OUR COUNTRY) cannot be delayed”, while 18% (=) disagree and 11% (=) expressed no opinion.

QC2.1 For each of the following statements, please tell me whether you totally agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree or totally disagree.

Measures to reduce the public deficit and debt in (OUR COUNTRY) cannot be delayed (% - EU)



(Autumn 2016 - Spring 2016)

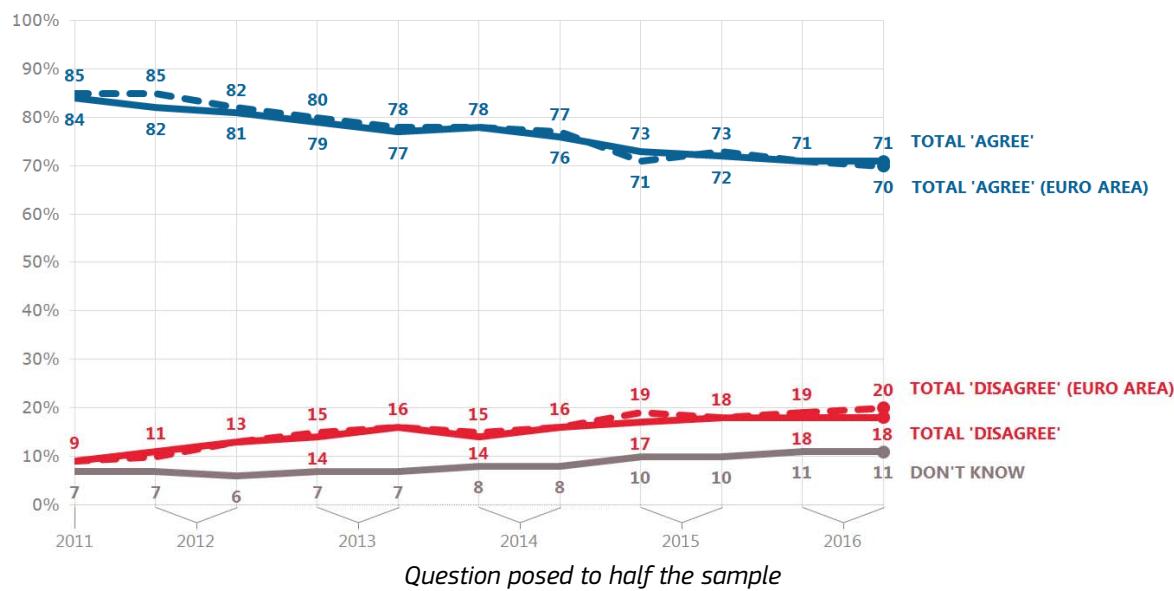
Question posed to half of the sample

⁵⁴ QC2a.1-2. For each of the following statements, please tell me whether you totally agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree or totally disagree: (SPLIT A) Measures to reduce the public deficit and debt in (OUR COUNTRY) cannot be delayed; (SPLIT B) Measures to reduce the public deficit and debt in (OUR COUNTRY) are not a priority for now.

Over the long-term, support for the view that “measures to reduce the public deficit and debt in (OUR COUNTRY) cannot be delayed” has fallen fairly steadily since autumn 2011, from 84% to 71%.

QC2.1 For each of the following statements, please tell me whether you totally agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree or totally disagree.

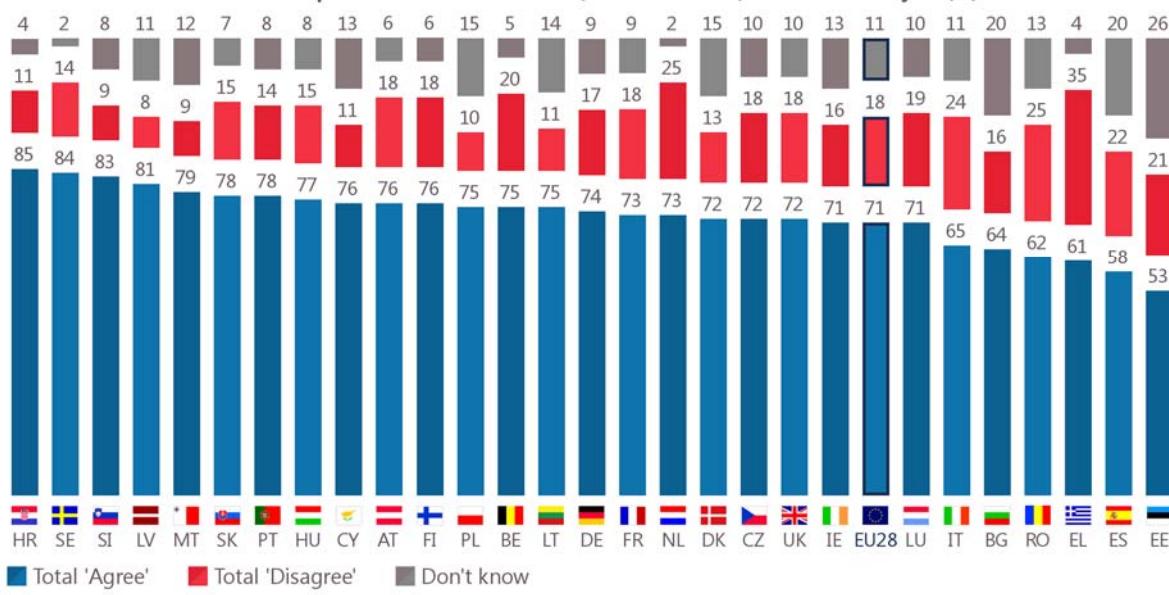
Measures to reduce the public deficit and debt in (OUR COUNTRY) cannot be delayed (% - EU)



More than half of respondents in all EU countries agree that action should be taken rapidly to reduce the public deficit and debt, with scores ranging from 85% in Croatia, 84% in Sweden, 83% in Slovenia and 81% in Latvia (81%) to 53% in Estonia and 58% in Spain.

QC2.1 For each of the following statements, please tell me whether you totally agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree or totally disagree.

Measures to reduce the public deficit and debt in (OUR COUNTRY) cannot be delayed (%)



Question posed to half of the sample

Since spring 2016, agreement that measures to reduce the public deficit and debt at national level cannot be delayed has gained ground in 15 countries, is stable in four others and has lost ground in 9 Member States.

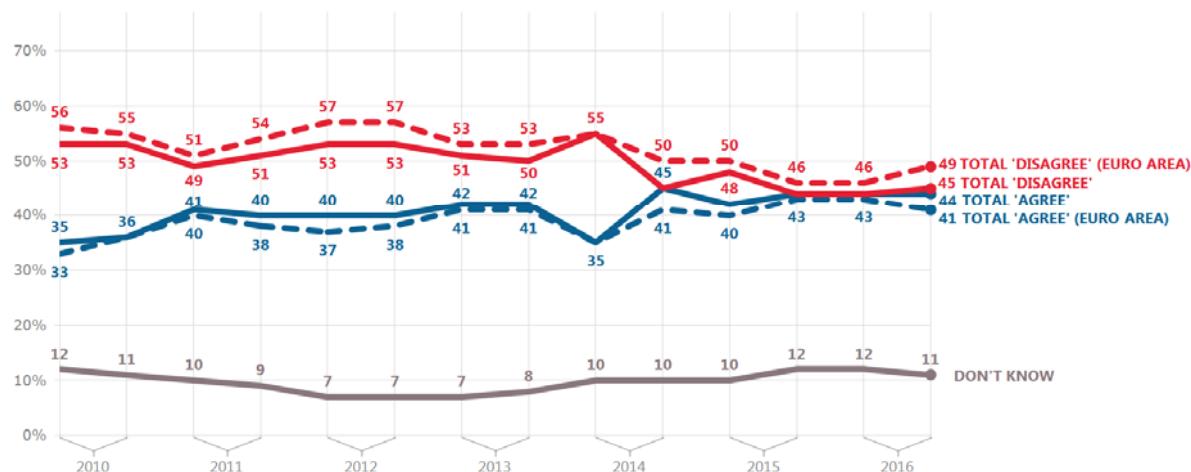
Negative wording

Opinions are far more divided on the negative wording, which states that measures to combat the public deficit and debt are not a priority: 44% of Europeans (unchanged since spring 2016) agree that “measures to reduce the public deficit and debt in (OUR COUNTRY) are not a priority for now”, while 45% (+1 percentage point) disagree and 11% (-1) expressed no opinion.

In the three consecutive Standard Eurobarometer surveys since autumn 2015, opinions on this indicator have been evenly balanced. Previously, between spring 2010 and spring 2015, the predominant view had been that reducing the public deficit and debt was a priority (“disagree” answer varying from 49% to 55%), with the notable exception of autumn 2014 (45% “agree”, versus 45% “disagree”).

QC2.2 For each of the following statements, please tell me whether you totally agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree or totally disagree.

Measures to reduce the public deficit and debt in (OUR COUNTRY) are not a priority for now (%) - EU)



Question posed to half the sample

An increased majority of respondents in the **non-euro area** countries (50%, +5 percentage points since spring 2016, versus 38%, -3) agree that reducing the public deficit and debt is not a priority. However, this view is shared by a shrinking minority of respondents in the **euro area** countries (41%, -2, versus 49%, +3): in these countries, debt reduction remains a priority, regardless of the wording used.

QC2.2 For each of the following statements, please tell me whether you totally agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree or totally disagree.

Measures to reduce the public deficit and debt in (OUR COUNTRY) are not a priority for now (%)

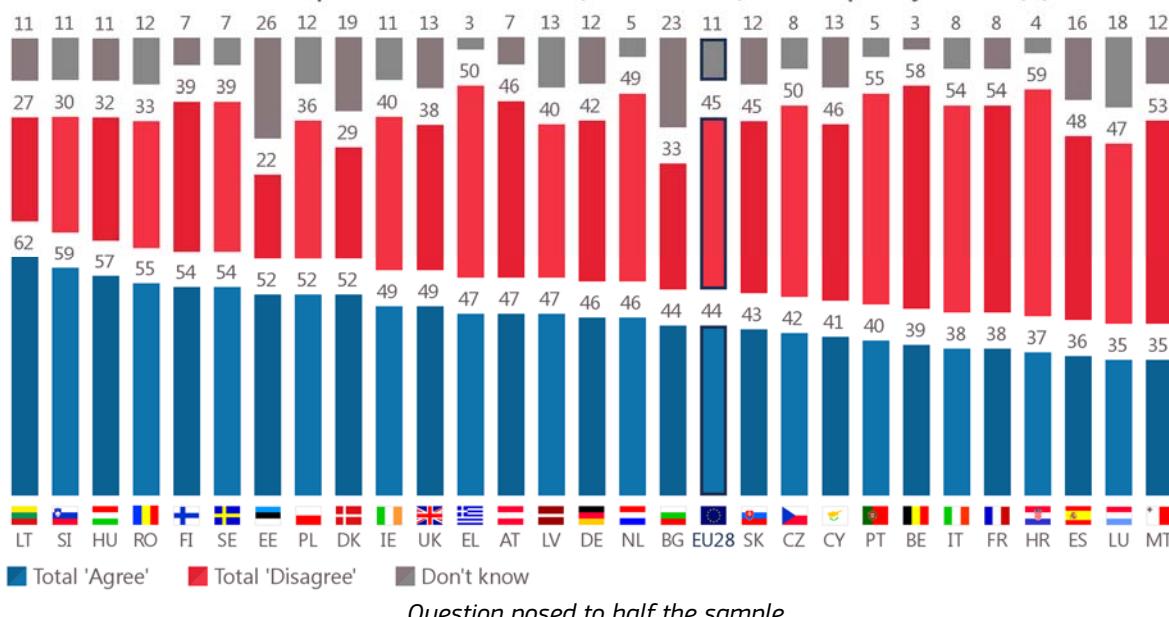
	EU28	EU	Total 'Agree'	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Total 'Disagree'	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Don't know
				=		▲ 1	11
	EU28	EU	44	=	45	▲ 1	11
	EURO AREA		41	▼ 2	49	▲ 3	10
	NON-EURO AREA		50	▲ 5	38	▼ 3	12

Question posed to half the sample

A majority of respondents in 15 Member States agree that reducing the public deficit and debt is not a priority (compared with 16 in spring 2016, the balance of opinion having been reversed positively in the United Kingdom and Austria, but negatively in Luxembourg, Greece and the Netherlands). This view is the most widespread in Lithuania (62%), Slovenia (59%) and Hungary (57%). In contrast, a majority of respondents disagree in 13 Member States, most strikingly in Croatia (59%), Belgium (58%), Portugal (55%), Italy (54%) and France (54%).

QC2.2 For each of the following statements, please tell me whether you totally agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree or totally disagree.

Measures to reduce the public deficit and debt in (OUR COUNTRY) are not a priority for now (%)



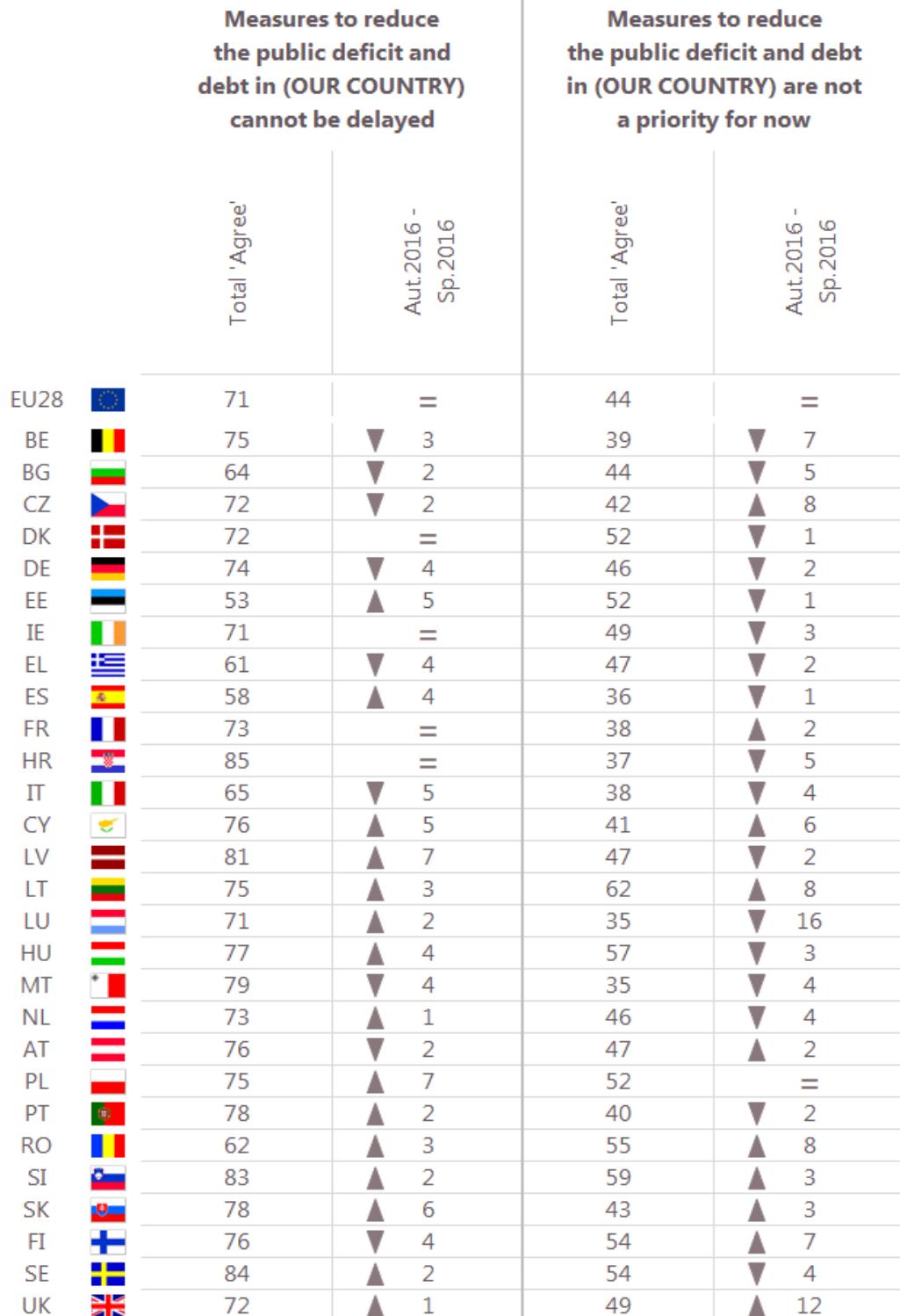
Question posed to half the sample

In terms of evolutions since spring 2016, support for the idea that measures to reduce the public deficit and debt are not a priority has decreased in 17 Member States, led by Luxembourg (35%, -16 percentage points) and Belgium (39%, -7), but has increased in ten countries, most notably in the United Kingdom (49%, +12), Lithuania (62%, +8), Romania (55%, +8) and the Czech Republic (42%, +8). It is unchanged in Poland.

A comparison of the results between the two sub-samples within each Member State shows that the results are consistent in 13 Member States (compared with 12 in spring 2016). In these countries, a majority of respondents agree that measures to combat the deficit and debt must be taken rapidly, and disagree that "measures to reduce the public deficit and debt in (OUR COUNTRY) are not a priority for now". That is the case in Belgium, the Czech Republic, Greece, Spain, France, Croatia, Italy, Cyprus, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Portugal and Slovakia.

In the other 15 Member States, a majority of respondents say both that "measures to reduce the public deficit and debt in (OUR COUNTRY) cannot be delayed" and, on the other hand, that such measures "are not a priority for now". That is the case in Estonia, Hungary, Denmark, Lithuania, Slovenia, Sweden, Bulgaria, Poland, Latvia, Ireland, Rumania, Germany, Austria, Finland and the United Kingdom.

QC2 For each of the following statements, please tell me whether you totally agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree or totally disagree.
(%)



Each item was proposed to half the sample

The following tables show the results by socio-demographic criteria in the European Union as a whole (EU28 average), in the six largest EU countries and in the countries benefiting or having benefited from European Union support to deal with the financial and economic crisis.

QC2.1 For each of the following statements, please tell me whether you totally agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree or totally disagree.

Measures to reduce the public deficit and debt in (OUR COUNTRY) cannot be delayed
(% - TOTAL 'AGREE')

	EU28 	DE 	ES 	FR 	IT 	PL 	UK 	EL 	PT 	IE 	CY
TOTAL	71	74	58	73	65	75	72	61	78	71	76
Gender											
Male	73	77	62	75	66	76	74	61	79	70	79
Female	69	72	54	70	65	73	70	61	77	71	74
Age											
15-24	71	68	46	82	76	72	72	62	82	71	71
25-39	69	70	58	66	65	77	71	64	82	70	90
40-54	72	71	63	74	70	76	74	58	78	72	73
55 +	71	80	58	72	61	73	70	62	75	70	71
Education (End of)											
15-	66	73	57	67	61	48	76	62	71	73	68
16-19	72	74	61	70	68	80	70	60	80	61	81
20+	74	75	68	74	72	80	72	58	83	81	84
Still studying	71	73	46	77	79	69	70	69	86	69	72
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	73	73	77	69	77	80	77	50	77	73	95
Managers	76	74	78	74	85	86	69	87	86	83	93
Other white collars	72	75	51	78	71	81	74	62	91	86	80
Manual workers	72	72	59	76	68	76	72	72	80	56	88
House persons	60	53	53	54	47	75	81	64	78	76	42
Unemployed	63	65	51	76	49	69	76	51	61	61	70
Retired	71	82	66	69	59	70	68	61	73	69	72
Students	71	73	46	77	79	69	70	69	86	69	72

QC2.2 For each of the following statements, please tell me whether you totally agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree or totally disagree.

Measures to reduce the public deficit and debt in (OUR COUNTRY) are not a priority for now
(% - TOTAL 'AGREE')

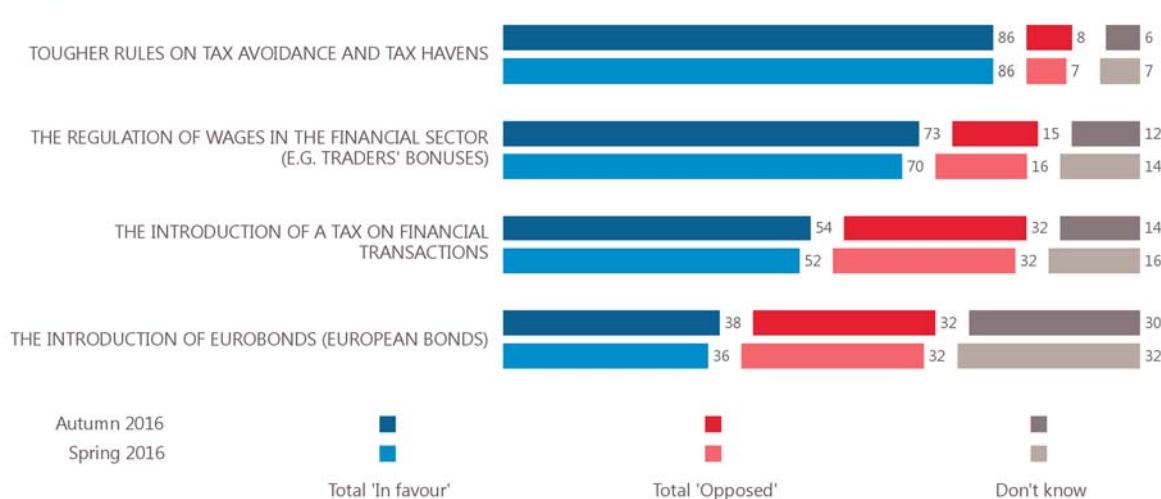
	EU28 	DE 	ES 	FR 	IT 	PL 	UK 	EL 	PT 	IE 	CY
TOTAL	44	46	36	38	38	52	49	47	40	49	41
Gender											
Male	46	47	39	41	40	51	49	41	43	51	43
Female	43	46	33	35	37	52	49	53	36	47	40
Age											
15-24	41	48	26	29	36	46	47	46	36	62	44
25-39	44	41	38	38	38	54	47	48	34	41	34
40-54	47	47	44	43	42	52	50	45	43	51	53
55 +	44	47	33	38	37	52	50	48	42	49	38
Education (End of)											
15-	40	48	34	32	36	22	47	50	43	44	39
16-19	45	47	45	35	36	49	49	44	42	45	44
20+	47	39	32	44	45	62	53	49	38	51	35
Still studying	41	57	27	31	40	43	29	46	40	59	50
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	47	27	56	63	36	40	65	39	39	61	30
Managers	49	42	56	45	44	53	56	56	46	49	35
Other white collars	49	59	44	44	42	62	46	46	54	63	52
Manual workers	47	45	36	38	55	56	50	40	32	35	40
House persons	37	41	20	28	37	69	52	56	19	46	61
Unemployed	37	37	39	25	27	35	43	52	43	42	50
Retired	43	45	32	38	31	50	45	47	40	51	32
Students	41	57	27	31	40	43	29	46	40	59	50

b. What measures should be taken to reform the economic and financial system?

As in all the previous Standard Eurobarometer surveys, European public opinion is still broadly in favour of increased regulation of the financial sector and tougher rules. Support for such measures has increased even further since spring 2016. More particularly:

- Almost nine in ten Europeans (86%, unchanged since spring 2016) are in favour of “tougher rules on tax avoidance and tax havens”, while 8% (+1) are against the idea;
- Almost three-quarters of respondents (73%, +3 percentage points since spring 2016) approve of the “regulation of wages in the financial sector (e.g. traders’ bonuses)”, while 15% (-1) disagree;
- 54% (+2) support “the introduction of a tax on financial transactions”, while 32% (=) are opposed and 14% (-2) expressed no opinion;
- Opinions are far more evenly divided on “the introduction of Eurobonds (European bonds)”: 38% of Europeans (+2) are in favour of them, while 32% (=) are against the idea. There was a very high “DK rate for this indicator (30%, -2)⁵⁵.

QC3 Thinking about reforming global financial markets, please tell me whether you are in favour or opposed to each of the following measures to be taken by the EU.
(% - EU)



⁵⁵ QC3. Thinking about reforming global financial markets, please tell me whether you are in favour or opposed to each of the following measures to be taken by the EU.

A very large majority of Europeans want **tougher rules on tax avoidance and tax havens**. More than seven in ten respondents in all Member States support this idea, with scores ranging from 71% in Estonia to 95% in Spain, Sweden and the Netherlands.

Since spring 2016, support for this measure has increased in 13 countries, is unchanged in four others and has decreased in 11 Member States.

More than half of respondents in 26 Member States support the **regulation of wages in the financial sector, and in particular limiting traders' bonuses**, with scores ranging from 55% in Estonia and Malta to 83% in Spain and Portugal. A relative majority of respondents in Cyprus (49% versus 22%) and Denmark (47% versus 30%) support this idea.

Support for this measure has increased in 15 Member States since spring 2016, most markedly in Romania (66%, +10 percentage points). It has decreased in nine others and is stable in Portugal, Ireland, Hungary and Sweden.

QC3 Thinking about reforming global financial markets, please tell me whether you are in favour or opposed to each of the following measures to be taken by the EU.
(%)

		Total 'In favour'	Tougher rules on tax avoidance and tax havens		The regulation of wages in the financial sector (e.g. traders' bonuses)	
			Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Total 'In favour'	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Total 'In favour'
EU28		86	=	73	▲ 3	
EURO AREA		89	▲ 1	74	▲ 2	
NON-EURO AREA		82	▲ 1	70	▲ 4	
BE		89	=	72	▼ 2	
BG		77	▼ 1	67	▼ 2	
CZ		87	▲ 1	66	▲ 2	
DK		90	▼ 3	47	▼ 1	
DE		94	▲ 1	78	▲ 5	
EE		71	▲ 1	55	▲ 3	
IE		85	▼ 1	79	=	
EL		94	▲ 1	69	▲ 4	
ES		95	=	83	▲ 2	
FR		84	▼ 3	72	▼ 5	
HR		83	▲ 2	73	▲ 6	
IT		80	▲ 3	66	▲ 4	
CY		82	▼ 5	49	▼ 2	
LV		73	▼ 1	57	▼ 3	
LT		76	▼ 3	70	▼ 1	
LU		82	=	76	▲ 1	
HU		84	▼ 5	73	=	
MT		85	▲ 1	55	▼ 1	
NL		95	▲ 2	79	▲ 4	
AT		85	▼ 1	78	▲ 3	
PL		75	▲ 7	68	▲ 5	
PT		94	▲ 2	83	=	
RO		74	▼ 2	66	▲ 10	
SI		87	▲ 2	64	▼ 1	
SK		91	▲ 4	76	▲ 5	
FI		91	▲ 3	75	▲ 6	
SE		95	=	70	=	
UK		85	▼ 2	74	▲ 3	

QC3 Thinking about reforming global financial markets, please tell me whether you are in favour or opposed to each of the following measures to be taken by the EU.
(%)

	EU28		The introduction of a tax on financial transactions		The introduction of Eurobonds (European bonds)	
			Total In favour'	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Total In favour'	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016
EU28	EU28		54	▲ 2	38	▲ 2
EURO AREA			59	▲ 1	38	▲ 2
NON-EURO AREA			44	▲ 4	37	▲ 1
BE	BE		57	▼ 1	59	▲ 2
BG	BG		42	▲ 5	30	▲ 3
CZ	CZ		44	▲ 1	37	▲ 6
DK	DK		50	=	32	▼ 5
DE	DE		73	▲ 1	24	▲ 5
EE	EE		30	▲ 2	26	▲ 4
IE	IE		43	▲ 2	50	▲ 2
EL	EL		39	▲ 4	50	▲ 6
ES	ES		59	▲ 1	53	▲ 10
FR	FR		53	▼ 4	35	▼ 6
HR	HR		53	▲ 3	52	▲ 9
IT	IT		58	▲ 4	45	▲ 1
CY	CY		37	=	31	▲ 3
LV	LV		39	▼ 1	28	▼ 2
LT	LT		58	▲ 4	41	▲ 4
LU	LU		47	▲ 1	47	▲ 3
HU	HU		34	▲ 2	46	▼ 3
MT	MT		26	=	54	▲ 10
NL	NL		31	=	32	▲ 1
AT	AT		66	▲ 2	30	▲ 2
PL	PL		47	▲ 6	44	▲ 3
PT	PT		66	▲ 3	55	▲ 4
RO	RO		48	▲ 10	47	▲ 6
SI	SI		45	▲ 4	29	▲ 3
SK	SK		63	▲ 7	46	▼ 1
FI	FI		47	▲ 2	33	▲ 10
SE	SE		51	▲ 1	34	▲ 3
UK	UK		41	▲ 3	30	▼ 2

A majority of respondents in 18 Member States, led by Germany (73%), Austria (66%) and Portugal (66%), are in favour of the **introduction of a tax on financial transactions**. Opinions are evenly balanced in Slovenia (45% versus 45%) and the United Kingdom (41% versus 41%).

A majority of respondents oppose the introduction of such a tax in eight countries, with scores of more than 50% in Hungary (59%), the Netherlands (59%) and Greece (52%).

Since spring 2016, support for the introduction of a tax on financial transactions has increased in 21 countries, most markedly in Romania (48%, +10 percentage points). It has decreased slightly in France, Belgium and Latvia and is unchanged in Denmark, Cyprus, Malta and the Netherlands.

The introduction of Eurobonds is a question about which European public opinion is uncertain, with an EU average “DK” rate of 32%. This rate is 30% or more in 15 Member States. It is the most frequently given answer, ahead of the “agree” and “disagree” answers, in the United Kingdom (43%), France (40%), Denmark (40%), Bulgaria (38%), Cyprus (36%) and the Netherlands (35%).

A majority of respondents in 17 Member States support the introduction of Eurobonds, with scores of 50% or more in Belgium (59%), Portugal (55%), Malta (54%), Spain (53%), Croatia (52%), Greece (50%) and Ireland (50%).

Respondents are predominantly opposed to Eurobonds in 11 countries, with scores of more than 50% in Austria (57%), Germany (53%) and Slovenia (51%).

Since spring 2016, support for the introduction of Eurobonds has increased in 22 Member States, most notably in Malta (54%, +10 percentage points), Spain (53%, +10) and Finland (33%, +10). However, it has decreased in the remaining six countries, in particular in France (35%, -6).

The following tables show the results by socio-demographic criteria in the European Union as a whole (EU28 average), in the six largest EU countries and in the countries benefiting or having benefited from European Union support to deal with the financial and economic crisis.

QC3.4 Thinking about reforming global financial markets, please tell me whether you are in favour or opposed to each of the following measures to be taken by the EU.

Tougher rules on tax avoidance and tax havens
(% - TOTAL 'IN FAVOUR')

	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
TOTAL	86	94	95	84	80	75	85	94	94	85	82
Gender											
Male	88	95	97	85	81	77	86	95	95	89	86
Female	85	93	94	83	80	73	85	94	92	82	78
Age											
15-24	81	89	92	71	80	73	81	87	92	74	79
25-39	87	94	97	83	86	74	86	95	96	86	82
40-54	88	93	98	87	79	80	85	94	95	89	87
55 +	87	96	93	88	78	74	87	95	90	88	79
Education (End of)											
15-	83	95	94	77	70	55	86	93	90	83	82
16-19	87	94	97	85	84	76	85	95	97	85	87
20+	89	95	97	88	89	79	87	96	98	90	82
Still studying	84	91	93	76	85	76	77	90	89	77	77
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	88	94	98	84	85	78	93	93	97	87	94
Managers	93	95	100	95	98	79	92	96	99	88	88
Other white collars	89	90	98	92	87	79	90	93	96	86	82
Manual workers	86	94	97	75	81	77	84	95	95	87	83
House persons	82	89	91	80	68	77	85	92	92	82	63
Unemployed	82	89	95	87	65	62	68	97	88	82	87
Retired	86	97	94	88	77	72	85	95	91	91	79
Students	84	91	93	76	85	76	77	90	89	77	77

QC3.3 Thinking about reforming global financial markets, please tell me whether you are in favour or opposed to each of the following measures to be taken by the EU.

The regulation of wages in the financial sector (e.g. traders' bonuses)
(% - TOTAL 'IN FAVOUR')

	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
TOTAL	73	78	83	72	66	68	74	69	83	79	49
Gender											
Male	75	80	85	74	68	69	74	71	84	81	47
Female	71	76	80	70	65	67	74	67	82	78	51
Age											
15-24	69	70	81	64	71	70	70	55	83	68	54
25-39	74	74	80	72	74	71	74	77	88	78	46
40-54	75	84	84	70	69	64	76	71	84	85	48
55 +	72	79	83	76	59	67	74	68	79	81	51
Education (End of)											
15-	68	75	84	68	50	50	72	60	77	77	56
16-19	75	82	85	70	73	66	74	72	86	80	51
20+	76	74	84	78	81	74	77	77	90	81	45
Still studying	69	69	74	64	74	67	68	56	81	67	52
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	74	65	88	64	79	72	77	70	90	82	65
Managers	76	78	72	81	85	71	77	88	88	80	58
Other white collars	77	83	91	76	75	73	74	76	88	88	48
Manual workers	75	82	86	66	68	69	76	68	86	79	42
House persons	70	74	73	65	65	76	83	69	75	76	28
Unemployed	72	85	82	71	59	51	64	68	77	73	60
Retired	70	78	84	77	52	65	72	67	76	84	49
Students	69	69	74	64	74	67	68	56	81	67	52

QC3.1 Thinking about reforming global financial markets, please tell me whether you are in favour or opposed to each of the following measures to be taken by the EU.

The introduction of a tax on financial transactions
(% - TOTAL 'IN FAVOUR')

	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
TOTAL	54	73	59	53	58	47	41	39	66	43	37
Gender											
Male	57	75	65	60	61	50	41	39	71	47	32
Female	51	71	53	49	54	44	41	39	61	38	41
Age											
15-24	46	56	60	29	66	45	32	35	69	38	47
25-39	52	67	58	49	66	46	43	40	64	40	30
40-54	56	75	60	59	59	46	41	37	70	47	28
55 +	56	80	58	62	50	49	43	41	64	43	44
Education (End of)											
15-	53	75	55	58	45	35	44	37	66	44	42
16-19	54	73	56	54	61	48	40	39	74	38	35
20+	56	74	70	58	70	49	42	43	64	47	34
Still studying	50	63	61	34	74	43	31	32	64	38	46
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	55	69	58	63	69	36	54	39	63	40	52
Managers	56	71	66	70	70	45	39	44	65	49	38
Other white collars	55	74	67	46	65	56	36	38	73	51	30
Manual workers	53	73	61	46	53	51	43	43	72	34	27
House persons	47	66	36	36	60	39	49	34	41	43	12
Unemployed	52	65	61	57	50	35	35	39	63	35	41
Retired	55	80	64	62	45	48	41	40	62	49	45
Students	50	63	61	34	74	43	31	32	64	38	46

QC3.2 Thinking about reforming global financial markets, please tell me whether you are in favour or opposed to each of the following measures to be taken by the EU.

The introduction of Eurobonds (European bonds)
(% - TOTAL 'IN FAVOUR')

	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
TOTAL	38	24	53	35	45	44	30	50	55	50	31
Gender											
Male	43	26	59	43	50	47	35	53	61	57	35
Female	35	22	47	29	40	41	25	46	51	44	27
Age											
15-24	39	26	65	26	48	38	38	43	59	45	44
25-39	42	20	51	37	54	53	35	55	67	48	32
40-54	42	28	59	40	50	44	35	51	63	53	23
55 +	33	22	46	36	37	38	20	47	43	54	29
Education (End of)											
15-	31	18	43	31	31	25	21	38	44	45	23
16-19	37	21	54	30	49	38	28	54	65	49	29
20+	44	27	66	45	57	54	33	56	71	54	33
Still studying	44	32	68	28	58	42	47	44	55	48	49
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	46	27	59	54	59	47	27	55	71	62	53
Managers	43	30	79	49	72	46	36	73	69	60	38
Other white collars	44	19	59	41	57	61	33	57	68	60	30
Manual workers	38	21	54	29	43	47	33	50	62	44	21
House persons	34	22	36	29	39	31	30	47	38	44	11
Unemployed	36	16	53	34	31	31	32	43	51	32	28
Retired	32	22	48	37	29	37	19	44	38	56	27
Students	44	32	68	28	58	42	47	44	55	48	49

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Between the 3rd and the 16th November 2016, TNS opinion & social, a consortium created between TNS political & social, TNS UK and TNS opinion, carried out the wave 86.2 of the EUROBAROMETER survey, on request of the EUROPEAN COMMISSION, Directorate-General for Communication, "Strategic Communication" Unit.

The wave 86.2 is the STANDARD EUROBAROMETER 86 and covers the population of the respective nationalities of the European Union Member States, resident in each of the 28 Member States and aged 15 years and over.

The STANDARD EUROBAROMETER 86 survey has also been conducted in five candidate countries (Turkey, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Albania) and in the Turkish Cypriot Community. In these countries and in the Turkish Cypriot Community, the survey covers the national population of citizens and the population of citizens of all the European Union Member States that are residents in these countries and territories and have a sufficient command of the national languages to answer the questionnaire.

	COUNTRIES	INSTITUTES	N° INTERVIEWS	DATES FIELDWORK		POPULATION 15+	PROPORTION EU28
BE	Belgium	TNS Dimarso	1,022	05/11/2016	14/11/2016	9,693,779	2.25%
BG	Bulgaria	TNS BBSS	1,012	03/11/2016	14/11/2016	6,537,535	1.52%
CZ	Czech Rep.	TNS Aisa	1,004	05/11/2016	14/11/2016	9,238,431	2.14%
DK	Denmark	TNS Gallup DK	1,006	05/11/2016	14/11/2016	4,838,729	1.12%
DE	Germany	TNS Infratest	1,531	05/11/2016	13/11/2016	70,160,634	16.26%
EE	Estonia	TNS Emor	1,005	05/11/2016	14/11/2016	1,160,064	0.27%
IE	Ireland	Behaviour & Attitudes	1,006	05/11/2016	14/11/2016	3,592,162	0.83%
EL	Greece	TNS ICAP	1,008	05/11/2016	13/11/2016	9,937,810	2.30%
ES	Spain	TNS Spain	1,011	05/11/2016	14/11/2016	39,445,245	9.14%
FR	France	TNS Sofres	1,000	05/11/2016	14/11/2016	54,097,255	12.54%
HR	Croatia	HENDAL	1,062	05/11/2016	14/11/2016	3,796,476	0.88%
IT	Italy	TNS Italia	1,021	05/11/2016	14/11/2016	52,334,536	12.13%
CY	Rep. Of Cyprus	CYMAR	500	05/11/2016	14/11/2016	741,308	0.17%
LV	Latvia	TNS Latvia	1,007	05/11/2016	14/11/2016	1,707,082	0.40%
LT	Lithuania	TNS LT	1,009	05/11/2016	14/11/2016	2,513,384	0.58%
LU	Luxembourg	TNS ILReS	502	05/11/2016	14/11/2016	457,127	0.11%
HU	Hungary	TNS Hoffmann	1,000	05/11/2016	14/11/2016	8,781,161	2.04%
MT	Malta	MISCO	515	05/11/2016	14/11/2016	364,171	0.08%
NL	Netherlands	TNS NIPO	1,008	05/11/2016	14/11/2016	13,979,215	3.24%
AT	Austria	ipr Umfrageforschung	1,025	05/11/2016	13/11/2016	7,554,711	1.75%
PL	Poland	TNS Polska	1,019	05/11/2016	14/11/2016	33,444,171	7.75%
PT	Portugal	TNS Portugal	1,014	05/11/2016	14/11/2016	8,480,126	1.97%
RO	Romania	TNS CSOP	1,005	05/11/2016	14/11/2016	16,852,701	3.91%
SI	Slovenia	Mediana	1,004	05/11/2016	14/11/2016	1,760,032	0.41%
SK	Slovakia	TNS Slovakia	1,007	05/11/2016	14/11/2016	4,586,024	1.06%
FI	Finland	TNS Gallup Oy	1,030	05/11/2016	16/11/2016	4,747,810	1.10%
SE	Sweden	TNS Sifo	1,029	05/11/2016	14/11/2016	7,998,763	1.85%
UK	United Kingdom	TNS UK	1,343	05/11/2016	14/11/2016	52,651,777	12.20%
TOTAL EU28			27,705	03/11/2016	16/11/2016	431,452,219	100%*
* It should be noted that the total percentage shown in this table may exceed 100% due to rounding							
CY(tcc)	Turkish Cypriot Community	Lipa Consultancy	500	05/11/2016	13/11/2016	143,226	
TR	Turkey	TNS Piar	1,040	05/11/2016	14/11/2016	56,770,205	
MK	Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	TNS BRIMA	1,058	05/11/2016	13/11/2016	1,721,528	
ME	Montenegro	TNS Medium Gallup	532	05/11/2016	14/11/2016	501,030	
RS	Serbia	TNS Medium Gallup	1,025	05/11/2016	13/11/2016	6,161,584	
AL	Albania	TNS BBSS	1,036	09/11/2016	15/11/2016	2,221,572	
TOTAL			32,896	03/11/2016	16/11/2016	498,971,364	

The basic sample design applied in all states is a multi-stage, random (probability) one. In each country, a number of sampling points was drawn with probability proportional to population size (for a total coverage of the country) and to population density.

In order to do so, the sampling points were drawn systematically from each of the "administrative regional units", after stratification by individual unit and type of area. They thus represent the whole territory of the countries surveyed according to the EUROSTAT NUTS II¹ (or equivalent) and according to the distribution of the resident population of the respective nationalities in terms of metropolitan, urban and rural areas.

In each of the selected sampling points, a starting address was drawn, at random. Further addresses (every Nth address) were selected by standard "random route" procedures, from the initial address. In each household, the respondent was drawn, at random (following the "closest birthday rule"). All interviews were conducted face-to-face in people's homes and in the appropriate national language. As far as the data capture is concerned, CAPI (*Computer Assisted Personal Interview*) was used in those countries where this technique was available.

For each country a comparison between the sample and the universe was carried out. The Universe description was derived from Eurostat population data or from national statistics offices. For all countries surveyed, a national weighting procedure, using marginal and intercellular weighting, was carried out based on this Universe description. In all countries, gender, age, region and size of locality were introduced in the iteration procedure. For international weighting (i.e. EU averages), TNS opinion & social applies the official population figures as provided by EUROSTAT or national statistic offices. The total population figures for input in this post-weighting procedure are listed here.

Readers are reminded that survey results are estimations, the accuracy of which, everything being equal, rests upon the sample size and upon the observed percentage. With samples of about 1,000 interviews, the real percentages vary within the following confidence limits:

Statistical Margins due to the sampling process (at the 95% level of confidence)										
	various sample sizes are in rows					various observed results are in columns				
	5%	10%	15%	20%	25%	30%	35%	40%	45%	50%
	95%	90%	85%	80%	75%	70%	65%	60%	55%	50%
N=50	6.0	8.3	9.9	11.1	12.0	12.7	13.2	13.6	13.8	13.9
N=500	1.9	2.6	3.1	3.5	3.8	4.0	4.2	4.3	4.4	4.4
N=1000	1.4	1.9	2.2	2.5	2.7	2.8	3.0	3.0	3.1	3.1
N=1500	1.1	1.5	1.8	2.0	2.2	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.5
N=2000	1.0	1.3	1.6	1.8	1.9	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.2
N=3000	0.8	1.1	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.8
N=4000	0.7	0.9	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
N=5000	0.6	0.8	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.4
N=6000	0.6	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.3
N=7000	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2
N=7500	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1
N=8000	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1
N=9000	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
N=10000	0.4	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.0
N=11000	0.4	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9
N=12000	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9
N=13000	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.9
N=14000	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8
N=15000	0.3	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8
	5%	10%	15%	20%	25%	30%	35%	40%	45%	50%
	95%	90%	85%	80%	75%	70%	65%	60%	55%	50%

¹ Figures updated in August 2015