

Standard Eurobarometer 93 Summer 2020

First results

Public opinion in the European Union

Fieldwork

July-August 2020

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 93 – Wave EB93.1 – Kantar

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Project title Standard Eurobarometer 93 – Summer 2020 "Public opinion in the European Union, First results"

Language version EN

 Catalogue number
 NA-A0-20-008-EN-N

 ISBN
 978-92-76-21595-0

 ISSN
 1977-3927

 doi:10.2775/460239

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https://ec.europa.eu/commfrontoffice/publicopinion/

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INTRODUCTION

This report presents the first results of the Standard Eurobarometer survey of summer 2020 (EB93), which was carried out between 9 July and 26 August 2020 in the 27 EU Member States. The survey was also conducted in the United Kingdom, in five candidate countries (Albania, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia and Turkey) and in the Turkish Cypriot Community in the part of the country that is not controlled by the government of the Republic of Cyprus.

This *First results* report is published together with the results of the Standard Eurobarometer questions, which are set out in an annex. It focuses on the results obtained in the 27 EU Member States¹.

In the period between the previous Standard Eurobarometer (EB92, autumn 2019) and the fieldwork of the current Standard Eurobarometer survey, marked by the coronavirus pandemic, the following EU-related events took place:

- On 1 December 2019, the new European Commission took office with Ursula von der Leyen as President.
- On 27 May, European Commission president Ursula von der Leyen presented a €750 billion economic stimulus plan, including both grants (€390bn) and loans (€360bn), to address the damage caused by the pandemic, and to invest in a green, digital, social and more resilient EU.
- On 21 July 2020, following a four-day European Council, the leaders of the Member States of the EU agreed on a recovery plan and a long-term budget for the EU for the period 2021-2027, which amount in total to €1.850 bn. One of the key aspect of the recovery plan, called 'Next Generation EU', is that it will be partly financed through bonds issued by the European Commission on the markets on behalf of the EU and will target in priority the Member States most affected by the economic effects of the coronavirus pandemic. It will also support investment in the green and digital transitions.

The period between autumn 2019 and summer 2020 was marked by the spread of the coronavirus global pandemic, also known as Covid-19 or Sars-CoV-2, which is still ongoing. It was first reported in December 2019 in the Wuhan province in China, and soon spread to a number of other countries around the world. The first reported case in Europe was in France on 24 January 2020. The first large European pandemic occurred in northern regions of Italy in February, and by March all countries in the EU had cases. Several countries had, around mid-March, instituted a range of public health measures including physical distancing, and in some cases the closure of schools, a wide range of businesses, and lockdowns limiting the movement of citizens. Many countries also closed their borders. Although many of the most stringent public health measures were gradually phased out across the EU between April and June, some countries were already showing a resurgence of virus numbers, and new measures had to be taken in several countries in August (Germany, France, Greece, Spain, Belgium) specifically related to travel, to avoid a second pandemic.

On 20 October, the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) reported more than 7.3 million cases in Europe as a whole, with the highest caseloads in Spain (974,449), France (910,277) United Kingdom (741,212), and Italy (423,578). Worldwide infections are over 40.4 million and rising.³ At that date, there have also been more than 242,000 deaths in Europe as a whole and more than 1.1 million deaths worldwide.

¹ The full report will be published at a later stage.

² https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/novel-coronavirus/event-background-2019

³ https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/geographical-distribution-2019-ncov-cases

The pandemic has also had a significant impact on the EU economy, plunging it into recession. On 8 September, Eurostat announced⁴ that in the second quarter of 2020, "GDP decreased by 11.8% in the euro area and by 11.4% in the EU compared with the previous quarter". Eurostat also mentioned that "In the first quarter of 2020, GDP had decreased by 3.7% in the euro area and by 3.3% in the EU." Earlier, on 7 July 2020, the European Commission published its Summer 2020 European Economic Forecast⁵, which predicted that GDP would contract by 8.3% in 2020 in EU27 (compared to +1.5% for 2019), and by 8.7% in the euro area (compared to +1.3% in 2019). The Summer 2020 European Economic Forecast also estimated that GDP in the EU would return to growth in 2021 (+5.8%).

In December 2019, the EU recorded its lowest unemployment rate in decades (6.2%), and the euro area its lowest rate since May 2008 (7.4%). However, the impact of the coronavirus crisis on European society and the economy has seen unemployment increase. In June 2020 unemployment in EU27 was 7.1% (up from 7.0% in May 2020, and up from 6.6% in June 2019). Unemployment in the euro area was 7.8% (up from 7.7% in May 2020, and up from 7.5% in June 2019). ⁶

The period was also marked by the UK's exit from the European Union. Following the vote of the newly elected UK Parliament (see below), UK ceased to be a member of the EU on 31 January 2020. It has now entered an 11-month transition period that ends on 31 December 2020. Meanwhile, the EU rules will still apply, and current trading relationships will continue while both parties negotiate the terms of their future relationship. On 30 June the deadline for extending this transition period passed without either side requesting an extension, so the 31 December deadline remains in force.

The period between the autumn 2019 and summer 2020 Standard Eurobarometer surveys was also marked by major elections in the United Kingdom, Poland, Greece, Ireland, Slovakia and Croatia:

- UK parliamentary elections were held on 12 December 2019, with the Conservative Party, led by Boris Johnson, gaining an increased majority (265 seats and 43.6% of the vote). The Labour party polled second with 32.3% of the vote and 203 seats;
- A general election for the lower house of parliament took place in Ireland on 8 February 2020. No clear winner emerged amongst the major parties, with Fianna Fáil winning 38 seats (22.2% of the vote), Sinn Féin 37 (24.5%) and Fine Gael 35 seats (20.9%). Negotiations to form a government continued until 26 June, when all parties voted to enter government and on 27 June Micheál Martin of Fianna Fáil was appointed Taoiseach (Prime minister) and a new government was formed;
- In Slovakia, a general election was held on 29 February 2020 with the Ordinary People Party (Ol'aNO) lead by Igor Matovič defeating the ruling coalition and winning the most seats (53 seats, 25% of the vote), but not the absolute majority required to form a government. After a period of negotiation Matovič announced on 13 March an agreement with the We Are Family, Freedom and Solidarity, and For the People parties to form government;
- Croatian parliamentary elections took place on 5 July 2020, with the coalition led by the Croatian Democratic Union (HDZ) winning the most seats (66 seats, 37.26% of the votes). The Restart coalition came second with 24.87% of the vote and 41 seats. After negotiations, the parliament approved the formation of a government led by Prime Minister Andrej Plenković's of the HDZ;

⁵ https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/economy-finance/ip132_en.pdf

⁶ https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/2995521/11156668/3-30072020-AP-EN.pdf/1b69a5ae-35d2-0460-f76f-12ce7f6c34be

- Polish presidential elections, originally scheduled for May 2020 were postponed due to the coronavirus pandemic. The rescheduled first round took place on 28 June, but no candidate had sufficient votes to claim victory. A second round between the candidates with the highest number of votes took place on 12 July. The conservative incumbent president Andrzej Duda from Law and Justice party (PiS) defeated the Civic Platform candidate Rafał Trzaskowski (51.03% to 48.97%).
- Since the Standard Eurobarometer of autumn 2019, Presidential elections were also held in Croatia and Greece. In Croatia, Zoran Milanović was elected president of the Republic on 5 January 2020 with 52,66% of the vote. In Greece, Ekateríni Sakellaropoúlou was elected president of the Republic by the Hellenic Parliament on 22 January. She is the first woman to occupy this post.

Other noteworthy events since the autumn 2019 survey:

- In the end of 2019 and at the beginning of 2020, intense bush fires spread over Australia attracting worldwide attention because of their magnitude with 18.6 million hectares burnt. Climate change was considered to be one of the causes of the catastrophe.
- In January 2020, the official impeachment trial for US President Donald Trump began; he was eventually acquitted by the US Senate in February.
- On 3 January and 4 April 2020, terrorist attacks hit France in Villejuif (one death) and in Romans-sur-Isère (two deaths). Other terrorist attacks took place in Hanau, Germany, on 19 February (ten deaths) and in Reading, UK on 20 June (three deaths).
- In the USA, in Minneapolis, the killing of an African-American man, George Floyd, by a white police officer on 25 May sparked a wave of protests that spread through the USA. Protests also took place in Europe and in other countries across the world.

Note

As a result of the UK leaving the European Union on 31 January 2020, the Union now has 27 Member States. The overall EU level results presented in this report are therefore based on EU27, and not EU28 as was the case in previous waves. Care should therefore be taken interpreting the results from the current wave with previous results.

In some cases, for trend questions, the evolution of results from the previous survey is shown with EU28 but also with the EU27. This is shown under the label "EU28-UK", i.e. without taking into account the UK result.

Methodology used for this survey

Exceptionally, this Standard Eurobarometer survey 93 was conducted during summer (July-August) instead of spring because of the coronavirus pandemic and in some countries, **alternative interview modes** to face-to-face were necessary as a result of the situation.

When possible, the methodology used was that of the Standard Eurobarometer surveys carried out by the Directorate-General for Communication ("Media monitoring and Eurobarometer" Unit)7. However, because of the coronavirus pandemic, it was difficult, and sometimes impossible to conduct face to face interviews in a number of countries of the European Union. In these countries, we have interviewed respondents online, mostly after recruiting them in a probabilistic way by telephone. A technical note concerning the interviews conducted by the member institutes of the Kantar network is annexed to this report. It also specifies the confidence intervals⁸.

Following the EU General Data Protection Regulation⁹ (GDPR), respondents were asked whether or not they would agree to be asked questions on issues that could be considered "sensitive".

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

Belgium	BE	Lithuania	LT
Bulgaria	BG	Luxembourg	LU
Czechia	CZ	Hungary	HU
Denmark	DK	Malta	MT
Germany	DE	The Netherlands	NL
Estonia	EE	Austria	AT
Ireland	ΙE	Poland	PL
Greece	EL	Portugal	PT
Spain	ES	Romania	RO
France	FR	Slovenia	SI
Croatia	HR	Slovakia	SK
Italy	IT	Finland	FI
Republic of Cyprus	CY *	Sweden	SE
Latvia	LV		
European Union – weigh	nted average for t	the 27 Member States	EU27
	_	, EE, SI, CY, MT, SK, LV, LT	Euro area
BG, CZ, DK, HR, HU, PL, I	Non euro area		

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

We wish to thank the people throughout the European Union who have given their time to take part in this survey. Without their active participation, this study would not have been possible.

9 2016/679

⁷ https://ec.europa.eu/commfrontoffice/publicopinion/index.cfm

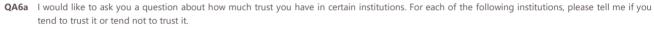
⁸ The results tables are annexed. It should be noted that the total of the percentages indicated in the tables in this report may exceed 100% when the respondent was able to choose several answers to the same question.

I. EUROPEANS AND POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS

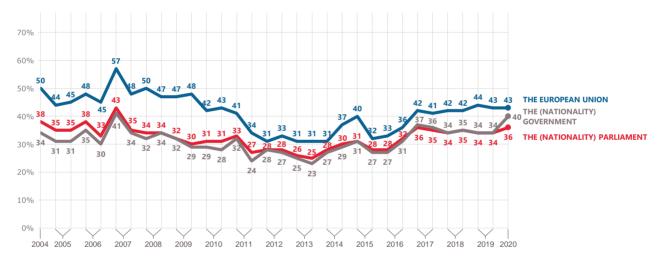
1 Trust in national governments and parliaments and in the European Union: trend

Trust in the European Union has remained stable since autumn 2019 at 43% (no change since autumn 2019)¹⁰. Trust in the EU is three percentage points higher than **trust in national governments** (40%, +6 percentage points) and seven points higher than **trust in national parliaments** (36%, +2).

Distrust of the European Union has slightly increased (48% "tend not to trust", +1 pp since autumn 2019), while distrust of national parliaments (58%, -2) and of national governments (56%, -5) has decreased.





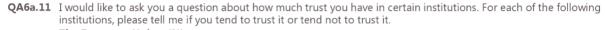


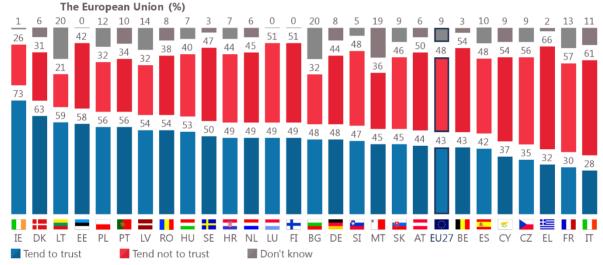
¹⁰ Please note, results for 2019 and earlier are based on EU28, while the current results are EU27

2 Trust in the European Union: national results and evolutions

In 15 Member States, a majority of respondents say they trust the EU (down from 18 in autumn 2019)¹¹, with the highest levels observed in Ireland (73%), Denmark (63%) and Lithuania (59%). At least half of the respondents in the following countries also say they "tend to trust" the EU: Estonia (58%), Poland and Portugal (both 56%), Latvia and Romania (both 54%), Hungary (53%) and Sweden (50%). In Croatia and the Netherlands (both 49%), as well as Bulgaria and Germany (both 48%) and Malta (45%), a relative majority tend to trust the EU.

At the other end of the scale, the lowest proportions of respondents who trust the EU are observed in Italy (28%), France (30%) and Greece (32%).





7

¹¹ Results from autumn 2019 were based on EU28

At national level, **trust in the EU has increased in eight EU Member States** since autumn 2019, with the largest increases seen in Ireland (73%, +15 percentage points), Poland (56%, +7) and Croatia (49%, +6). Conversely, **trust has declined in 17 countries**, with the largest decreases seen in Bulgaria (48%, -12) and Italy (28%, -10).

As a result of these changes, the majority in Belgium, Finland, Luxembourg and Slovakia now tend to distrust the EU.

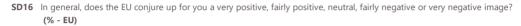
QA6a.11 I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain institutions. For each of the following institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.

The European	Union	(%)
--------------	-------	-----

	Tend to trust	Sum.2020 - Aut.2019	Tend not to trust	Sum.2020 - Aut.2019	Don't know
EU27	43	=	48	1	9
EU28-UK	43	▼ 2	48	A 2	9
EURO AREA	40	▼ 3	51	A 3	9
NON-EURO AREA	52	4 9	38	7 7	10
IE 📘	73	<u> </u>	26	V 5	1
PL PL	56	A 7	32	▼ 5	12
HR 🔻	49	A 6	44	▼ 6	7
cc =	58	4	42	▲ 18	0
ES &	42	3	48	V 3	10
ES S LV HU SI DK SK	54	1	32	1 2	14
HU	53	<u> </u>	40	<u> </u>	7
SI	47	1	48	=	5
DK	63	=	31	A 5	6
SK 😃	45	=	46	A 2	9
DE	48	▼ 1	44	1	8
AT	44	▼ 2	50	A 2	6
EL 🔳	32	▼ 2	66	4	2
FR	30	▼ 2	57	▼ 1	13
PT	56	▼ 3	34	1	10
RO	54	▼ 3	38	1	8
SE	50	▼ 3	47	A 7	3
CY	37	▼ 4	54	1	9
CZ	35	▼ 4	56	A 4	9
LU	49	▼ 5	51	▲16	0
BE	43	▼ 6	54	A 6	3
LT 💼	59	▼ 7	21	=	20
NL	49	▼ 7	45	8	6
FI 🖶	49	▼ 7	51	▲ 19	0
MT *	45	▼ 8	36	1 0	19
IT II	28	▼10	61	A 9	11
BG 🚾	48	▼ 12	32	A 7	20

3 The image of the European Union: trend

The positive image of the EU has declined slightly since autumn 2019 (40%, -2 percentage points), reverting back to the levels of spring 2018. The neutral image of the EU has increased slightly (40%, +3), while the negative image has declined slightly (19%, -1).





4 The image of the European Union: evolutions and national results

In 13 EU Member States a majority of respondents have a **positive image** of the EU (down from 18 in autumn 2019), with the highest proportions observed in Ireland (71%), Poland and Portugal (both 55%). More than half of all respondents in Bulgaria (53%), and in Lithuania and Romania (both 51%) also have a positive image. In addition, there are a further seven countries where a relative majority of respondents have a positive image: Hungary (49%), Croatia and Germany (both 47%), Estonia (46%), Denmark (45%), Luxembourg and Sweden (both 41%).

Since autumn 2019, the proportion of respondents with a positive image of the EU has declined in 21 Member States, most notably in Malta (25%, -16 percentage points), Luxembourg (41%, -13), Denmark (45%, -10) and Finland (35%, -10). On the other hand, it has increased in six countries, with the largest increases in Ireland (71%, +8), Croatia (47%, +6) and Poland (55%, +5).

In 13 Member States (up from ten in autumn 2019), the EU conjures up a predominantly **neutral image** for respondents, with the highest proportions observed in Malta (56%), and Spain, Latvia and Slovenia (all 48%).

In Belgium, respondents are equally likely to be positive or neutral (both 37%).

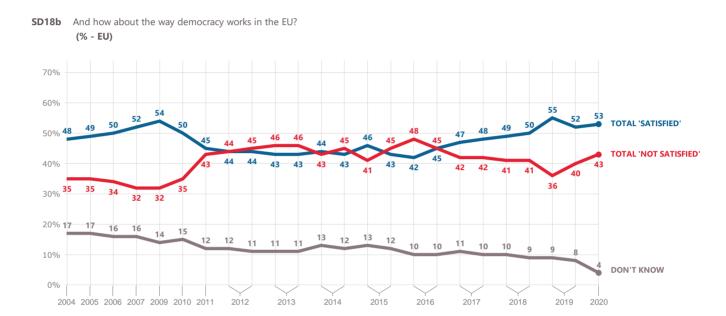
Greece is the only country where more than three in ten respondents continue to have a **negative image** of the EU (32%), although the majority have a neutral image (41% neutral and 27% positive).

SD16 In general, does the EU conjure up for you a very positive, fairly positive, neutral, fairly negative or very negative image?
(%)

	Total 'Positive'	Sum.2020 - Aut.2019	Neutral	Sum.2020 - Aut.2019	Total 'Negative'	Sum.2020 - Aut.2019	Don't know
EU27	40	▼ 2	40	A 3	19	▼ 1	1
EU28-UK	40	▼ 3	40	1 2	19	▲ 1	1
IE	71	▲ 8	20	▼ 9	9	A 2	0
	47	A 6	40	▼ 4	13	V 2	0
PL	55	A 5	37	▼ 3	8	▼ 1	0
_	36	3	42	▼ 13	22	1 0	0
LT	51	<u> </u>	43	=	5	<u>▼</u> 1	1
LV	43	1	48	1	8	▼ 2	1
	51	▼ 1	37	A 2	11	=	1
	36	▼ 1	43	1	21	=	0
CZ	30	▼ 1	41	▼ 3	29	A 5	0
<u> </u>	42	▼ 2	48	A 9	10	▼ 6	0
IT	31	▼ 2	39	▼ 1	29	4	1
DE	47	▼ 3	37	1	16	A 3	0
EE 💻	46	▼ 3	37	▼ 4	17	8	0
_	37	▼ 3	37	1	26	A 2	0
_	33	▼ 3	43	8	24	▼ 4	0
PT	55	▼ 4	35	A 6	9	▼ 2	1
HU	49 35 34	▼ 4	39	A 2	12	A 2	0
ES 📑	35	▼ 4	48	A 3	15	1	2
AT	34	▼ 4	36	▼ 4	29	A 7	1
EL	27	▼ 4	41	A 4	32	_ =	0
NL	36	▼ 7	43	A 8	21	▼ 1	0
BG	53	▼ 8	27	1 5	20	A 7	0
SE	41	▼ 9	38	8	21	1	0
DK	45	▼ 10	40	8	14	1	1
FI 🚽	35	▼ 10	40	=	25	▲ 11	0
LU	41	▼ 13	32	=	27	▲ 13	0
MT *	25	▼ 16	56	▲ 11	10	▼ 1	9

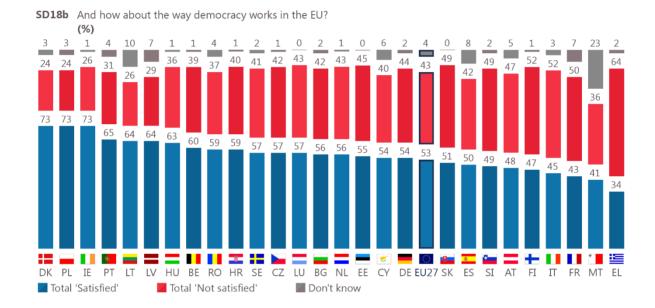
II. DEMOCRACY IN THE EU

More than half of Europeans say they are satisfied with the way democracy works in the EU (53%). Satisfaction has increased slightly (+1 percentage point) after a 3-point decline between spring and autumn 2019, and is still at its second highest level since 2009. However, the proportion of respondents who are "not satisfied" with the way democracy works in the EU has increased by three percentage points to 43%, its highest level since autumn 2016.



In 22 Member States (down from 24 since autumn 2019), a majority of respondents are satisfied with the way democracy works in the EU, with the highest proportions in Denmark, Ireland and Poland (all 73%). In contrast, a majority of respondents are "not satisfied" with the way democracy works in the EU in Greece (64%), Italy and Finland (both 52%) and France (50%). Respondents in Slovenia are evenly divided (49% 'satisfied' vs 49% 'not satisfied').

Since autumn 2019, satisfaction with the way democracy works in the EU has decreased in 12 Member States, led by Finland (47%, -12 percentage points), Luxembourg (57%, -10) and Malta (41%, -7). It has increased in eight countries, most notably in Poland (73%, +6) and remains unchanged in Portugal, France, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Denmark and Bulgaria.



III. EUROPEAN CITIZENSHIP

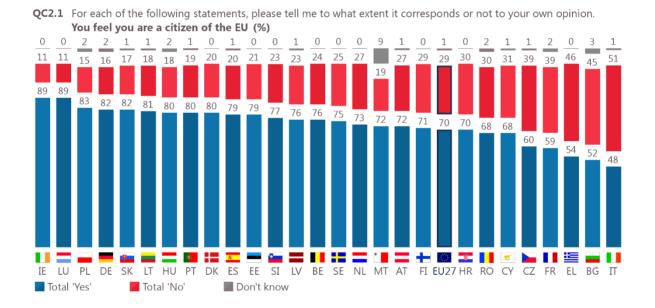
1 Feeling like a citizen of the European Union: national results

A majority of people in all EU Member States feel that they are citizens of the EU, except in Italy. Seven in ten do so at EU level (70%, unchanged since autumn 2019).

At national level, the proportion who feel they are citizens of the EU varies from 89% in Ireland and Luxembourg to 48% in Italy. As well as Ireland and Luxembourg, there are seven other countries where at least eight in ten respondents feel they are EU citizens: Poland (83%), Slovakia and Germany (both 82%), Lithuania (81%), Hungary, Portugal and Denmark (all 80%). The lowest proportions of respondents to feel they are EU citizens are observed in Italy (48%), Bulgaria (52%), Greece (54%) and France (59%).

Since autumn 2019, the feeling of EU citizenship has increased in 11 countries, although Ireland is the only country where the increase is more than four points (89%, +9 percentage points). In 14 countries the feeling of citizenship has declined, with the largest falls recorded in Finland (71%, -10), Malta (72%, -9), Spain (79%, -7) and Italy (48%, -7).

There has been no change in opinion in Lithuania or Hungary.



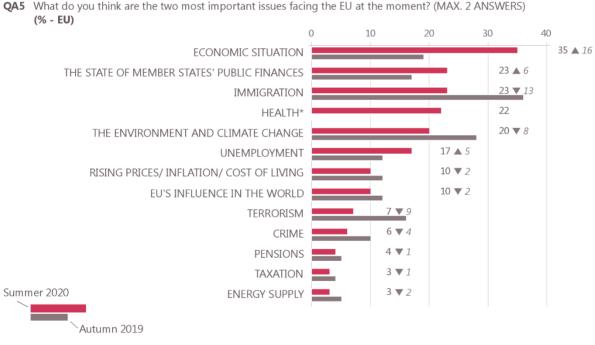
IV. THE MAIN CONCERNS OF EUROPEANS

1 Main concerns at European level: trend

The economic situation is the most mentioned issue facing the EU. Just over one third (35%) of all respondents mention this – a strong increase of 16 percentage points since autumn 2019, and an increase in ranking from third to first. This is also the highest result for this item since spring 2014. The **state of Member States' public finances** is now mentioned more often (23%, +6 percentage points), and this is the highest level since spring 2015 when it was also 23%. It has also moved from fifth to joint second place on par with immigration. **Immigration** has dropped from first to second position (23%, -13) – the lowest level since spring 2014. **Health** (22%, new item) comes in fourth place.

The **environment and climate change** has lost ground, down eight percentage points to 20%, and it now ranks fifth. **Unemployment** (17%, +5) comes in sixth place, and mentions have returned to a level last observed in autumn 2015. The **EU's influence in the world** (10%, -2) and **rising prices/inflation/cost of living** (10%, -2) share seventh position.

Terrorism (7%, -9) has dropped from fourth position in autumn 2019 to ninth place, and this is also the lowest level recorded since spring 2014. **Crime** (6%, -4) ranks tenth. Other issues are mentioned by 4% or fewer respondents: **pensions**, **energy supply**, and **taxation**.



In autumn 2019, the question was put to half the sample (split A)

2 Main concerns at European level: national results

There are five issues facing the EU that rank first at a national level: the economic situation, immigration, health, the state of Member State's public finances, the environment and climate change.

The economic situation is mentioned by 35% of respondents in the EU overall and **is one of the three most mentioned issues in each Member State**. It is considered to be the most important issue facing the EU in ten Member States (while it was in the first place in no Member State in autumn 2019), with the highest proportions in Ireland (47%), Spain (43%), Italy (42%) and the Netherlands (41%). It is the second most mentioned issue in 14 countries, most notably in Denmark (42%), and it is the third most mentioned in three countries (in Slovenia joint second with immigration).

Sharing second place at EU level is the **state of Member States' public finances** (23%). This is the most mentioned issue in Finland (44%), the second most mentioned issue in four countries, and the third most mentioned issue in eight countries (in Austria joint third with the environment and climate change, and in Croatia joint third with immigration).

Immigration (23%) also shares the second place at EU level. This issue ranks first in ten countries, and particularly in Malta (61%), Cyprus (53%), Estonia and Hungary (both 40%). Immigration is the second most mentioned issue in Slovenia and Bulgaria (both 33%), and it is in third position in a further six countries (in France joint third with health).

Health is a new answer item. It is the fourth most mentioned issue at EU level (22%), but ranks first in Portugal (45%), Slovenia (37%) and Romania (31%). It is also mentioned by at least three in ten respondents in Spain (37%), Croatia and Belgium (both 31%) and Greece, Luxembourg, Malta and Austria (all 30%). Health is the second most mentioned issue in five countries and it is the third most mentioned issue in a further six Member States.

The **environment and climate change** ranks fifth in the EU as a whole (20%), and at a national level is the most mentioned issue in Sweden (49%), Denmark (44%) and Luxembourg (36%). It is the second most mentioned issue in Ireland (35%) and France (28%), and the third most mentioned issue in a further four countries.

Unemployment ranks sixth at EU level (17%). It is the second most mentioned issue in Italy (28%) and the third most mentioned in Spain (30%).

Rising prices/ inflation/ cost of living and **EU's influence in the world** rank seventh (10% each), but do not appear in the top three of any Member State. **Terrorism**, in ninth position at EU level (7%) ranks third in Lithuania (19%), but this is the only country where it appears in the top three.

Other issues (**crime, energy supply, pensions and taxation**) are mentioned by less than 7% of respondents at EU level. Crime appears in the top three in Cyprus (19%).

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

		Economic situation	The state of Member States' public finances	Immigration	Health	The environment and climate change	Unemployment	Rising prices/inflation/cost of living	EU's influence in the world	Terrorism	Crime	Pensions	Taxation	Energy supply
EU27		35	23	23	22	20	17	10	10	7	6	4	3	3
BE		33	20	23	31	26	14	9	8	5	7	5	3	3
BG		36	13	33	23	12	11	16	10	12	8	3	2	
CZ		26	28	38	14	11	6	17	10	15	8	4	3	1
DK	Ш	42	20	24	14	44	19	3	10	5	3	1	1	2
DE		35	32	27	10	24	12	10	15	6	8	2	2	2
EE		37	34	40	12	22	8	6	18	9	5	1	2	3
IE EL		47 34	31	15 38	26 30	35	13 18	9	11 14	7	1	2	3	2
ES	*	43	23 15	13	37	6 9	30	5	4	2	9	6	2	2
FR	Ť	33	17	21	21	28	18	11	9	8	9	5	2	
HR		33	25	25	31	11	14	10	10	10	9	3	3	3
IT		42	21	21	24	11	28	11	5	4	4	5	8	3 3 3
CY		32	12	53	18	8	16	5	6	15	19	1	2	0
LV	₹	30	23	36	12	15	11	10	8	13	7	3	6	1
LT		25	15	30	16	16	8	12	12	19	9	2	4	2
LU		33	20	21	30	36	16	5	18	1	6	2	2	2
HU	*	29	22	40	15	20	9	12	10	12	7	4	1	4
MT		22	7	61	30 27	12	9	7	3 15	2	8	3	2	2
NL AT		41 36	21	20 18	30	36 21	17	13	7	5	9	6	4	3
PL		21	19	24	20	19	5	18	10	14	6	5	6	6
PT	*	38	34	10	45	4	28	5	5	5	5	2	2	0
RO		25	17	19	31	14	12	15	9	11	11	6	5	5
SI	0	33	15	33	37	10	12	5	10	7	7	3	3	2
SK	(26	31	35	10	13	11	18	10	14	12	4	2	2
FI	+	37	44	25	13	30	8	7	14	8	6	1	3	2
SE		38	22	25	14	49	15	4	12	5	7	1	1	5
1st MOST FREQUENTLY					2nd	MOS	T FRE	QUEN	NTLY	3rd	MOST	ΓFRE	QUEN	ITLY
MENTIONED ITEM MENTIONED ITEM MENTIONED ITEM									Λ					

3 Main concerns at national level: trend

The economic situation (33%, +17 percentage points) has overtaken health as the most important national issue, increasing by seventeen percentage points since autumn 2019 and **rising from seventh to first position.** Mentions of the economic situation are now at their highest level in the past six years.

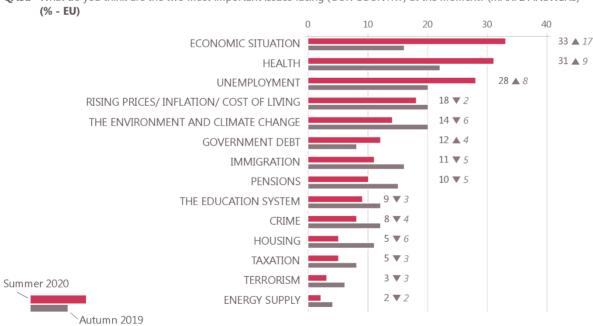
Although dropping from first to second position, **health**¹² has had a notable increase in mentions since autumn 2019 (31%, +9 percentage points), taking it to its highest ever level over the past six years.

Unemployment has also increased considerably (28%, +8), with the current result the highest since spring 2017, and the first increase in the past six years.

Rising prices/inflation/cost of living has dropped two places to fourth position (18%, -2), while the **environment and climate change** has dropped three places and ranks fifth (14%, -6).

Government debt (12%, +4) is in sixth position. Mentions of **immigration** (11%, -5), which ranks seventh, are at their lowest level over the past six years. **Pensions** (10%, -5) are in eighth position, the **education system** (9%, -3) is in ninth, and **crime** (8%, -4) is in tenth position.

The last four positions are held by **housing** (5%, -6), **taxation** (5%, -3), **terrorism** (3%, -3) and energy supply (2%, -2) respectively.



QA3a What do you think are the two most important issues facing (OUR COUNTRY) at the moment? (MAX. 2 ANSWERS)

In autumn 2019, the question was put to half the sample (split A)

¹² In Autumn 2019 this option was called Health and Social Security so trends should be interpreted with caution.

4 Main concerns at national level: national results

The economic situation is the highest ranked national concern, with 33% of mentions. It is the most mentioned issue in seven countries, with the highest proportions in Cyprus (50%), Greece (49%) and Italy (47%). It ranks second in ten countries, most notably in Portugal (52%) and it is the third most mentioned issue in seven countries (in Czechia joint second with government debt and in Austria joint second with unemployment).

Health is the second most mentioned national concern (31%), but ranks first in ten Member States, with the largest shares in Slovenia (57%), Portugal (56%), Spain and Ireland (both 50%). It is the second most mentioned issue in six countries: France (31%), Poland (30%), Sweden (29%), Lithuania (27%), Malta (25%) and Luxembourg (23%, joint second with the environment and climate change). In seven countries health is the third most mentioned concern.

Unemployment is the third most mentioned national concern at EU level (28%), but it ranks first in France (37%). There are seven countries where it is the second most mentioned issue, with the highest proportions in Spain (47%), Greece (44%) and Italy (40%). It is the third most mentioned issue in six countries.

In fourth place at EU level with 18%, **rising prices/inflation/cost of living** is the most mentioned issue in four Member States: Poland (48%), Lithuania (46%), Slovakia (43%) and Czechia (41%). It is the second most mentioned issue in Hungary and Bulgaria (both 37%), and the third most mentioned issue in Romania (28%), Latvia (24%, equal with taxation) and Luxembourg (22%).

The **environment and climate change** ranks fifth at an EU level, at 14%, but it ranks first in Denmark (43%), Sweden (35%) and Germany (26%). This concern ranks second in the Netherlands (35%) and Luxembourg (23%) and third in Austria (15%).

Government debt is mentioned by 12% of Europeans, and ranks sixth at EU level. It is the second most mentioned issue in Czechia (28%), and the third most mentioned issue in Finland (30%).

In seventh place at EU level, **immigration** is mentioned by 11% of respondents. It is the most mentioned issue in Malta (58%), the second most mentioned in Cyprus (29%) and the third most mentioned in Greece (33%) and Germany (17%).

Pensions (10%), the **education system** (9%) and **crime** (8%) rank eight, ninth and tenth at EU level, but do not appear in the top three in any Member State.

Housing (5%) is in eleventh position at EU level, but is the most mentioned issue in Luxembourg (52%), and the second most mentioned issue in Ireland (37%). **Taxation** ranks in equal eleventh place with 5% of Europeans mentioning it. Latvia (24%) is the only country where this concern is in the top three: coming equally third with rising prices/inflation/cost of living.

Terrorism (3%) and **energy supply** (2%) sit in thirteenth and fourteenth place at EU level, but do not appear in the top three in any Member State.

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

(70)															
		Economic situation	Health	Unemployment	Rising prices/ inflation/ cost of living	The environment and climate change	Government debt	Immigration	Pensions	The education system	Crime	Housing	Taxation	Terrorism	Energy supply
EU27		33	31	28	18	14	12	11	10	9	8	5	5	3	2
BE		31	34	22	12	16	19	13	10	9	8	4	7	2	3
BG		43	32	28	37	4	5	4	12	7	10	1	2	1	1
CZ		28	16	10	41	7	28	9	13	4	6	10	5	3	1
DK	\blacksquare	34	27	24	4	43	11	14	6	8	7	3	4	3	2
DE		25	15	15	15	26	15	17	10	16	11	11	3	5	2
EE		39	27	29	25	12	12	15	14	8	1	2	6	0	5
ΙE		29	50	18	17	16	12	2	2	7	3	37	5	0	0
EL		49	24	44	7	2	14	33	6	3	5	0	6	1	1
ES		42	50	47	6	3	8	3	8	4	2	3	4	0	0
FR		26	31	37	15	20	10	9	13	7	14	2	2	4	2
HR	- W	39	30	37	18	2	15	6	11	7	16	3	3	1	1
IT		47	25	40	10	4	14	14	5	6	5	1	11	2	2
CY	est	50	21	28	17	4	3	29	3	12	15	5	3	4	1
LV		28	32	23	24	2	7	6	18	14	2	4	24	0	1
LT		22	27	21	46	4	9	7	12	14	5	1	13	0	1
LU		18	23	17	22	23	8	6	4	10	8	52	4	1	2
HU		21	39	23	37	6	5	11	14	11	6	4	4	2	2
MT	*	18	25	4	17	14	2	58	3	4	7	7	1	1	1
NL		34	47	15	10	35	3	11	7	9	5	17	1	2	2
AT		30	37	30	13	15	9	13	9	9	8	5	5	4	5
PL		22	30	10	48	10	12	4	10	7	5	5	7	3	4
PT	(1)	52	56	40	12	2	7	2	7	6	3	1	4	0	0
RO	100	31	40	14	28	8	8	4	16	14	10	4	4	2	4
SI		33	57	21	9	7	9	9	11	4	5	6	5	0	1
SK	#	37	23	21	43	8	13	4	13	9	6	6	6	1	2
FI		40	22	31	11	24	30	13	5	8	3	2	8	1	1
SE	+	24	29	25	5	35	1	21	7	14	21	5	4	1	5
	1st M0			21	nd M	OST F	REQL	JENTL	Υ	3	rd MO	OST F	REQL	IENTL	Y
FR		MEI	OITV	VED I	TEM		MENTIONED ITEM								

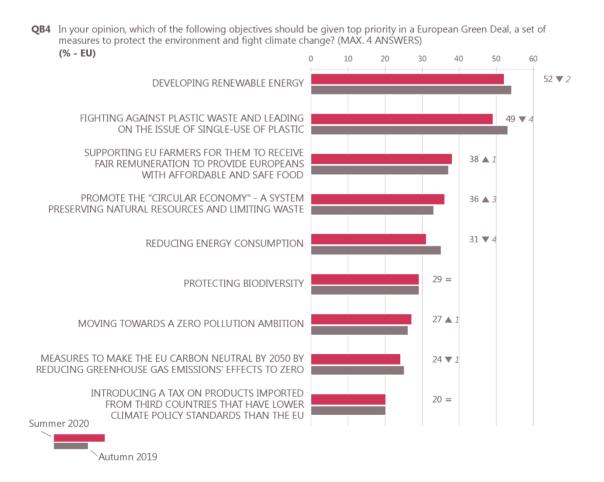
V. KEY POLICY AREAS

1 European Green Deal: trend and national results

Europeans continue to mostly mention two objectives for a European Green Deal: developing renewable energy (52%, -2 percentage points) and fighting against plastic waste and leading on the issue of single-use of plastic (49%, -4).

More than one third think the top priority should be to **support EU farmers for them to receive fair remuneration to provide Europeans with affordable and safe food** (38%, +1), or to **promote the "circular economy" - a system preserving natural resources and limiting waste** (36%, +3). In fact, the circular economy has risen one place to fourth position since autumn 2019. Just over three in ten think **reducing energy consumption** (31%, -4) should be top priority –moving from fourth to fifth position.

At least a quarter think the priority objectives should be **protecting biodiversity** (29%, no change), **moving towards a zero-pollution ambition** (27%, +1) or **measures to make the EU carbon neutral by 2050 by reducing greenhouse gas emissions' effects to zero** (24%, -1). One in five (20%, no change) think **introducing a tax on products imported from third countries that have lower climate policy standards than the EU should be given top priority**.



At national level **developing renewable energy** is the top priority in 16 countries, with proportions ranging from 69% in Denmark and Portugal to 48% in Poland. In Slovenia, this option ranks equal first with fiahtina against plastic waste and leading on the issue single-use of plastic (53% for both items). It ranks second in seven countries, and third in three. In Romania, it shares second place with supporting EU farmers for them to receive fair remuneration to provide Europeans with affordable and safe food (35% both). In Slovakia, it shares third place with reducing energy consumption (33% both).

In 11 countries, **fighting against plastic waste and leading on the issue of single-use of plastic** is the most mentioned priority, although proportions vary from 59% in Lithuania to 37% in Romania. This option ranks equal with supporting EU farmers for them to receive fair remuneration to provide Europeans with affordable and safe food in Luxembourg, and with promote the "Circular Economy", a system preserving natural resources and limiting waste in the Netherlands. Overall, fighting against plastic waste gets its highest score in Ireland, where it is the second most mentioned option (63%). It is also the second priority in 11 other countries, and the third in two. It shares second position in France with supporting EU farmers for them to receive fair remuneration to provide Europeans with affordable and safe food.

Luxembourg is the only country where **supporting EU farmers for them to receive fair remuneration to provide Europeans with affordable and safe food** is the most mentioned priority – although ranking equally with fighting against plastic waste and leading on the issue of single-use of plastic (both 56%). Supporting EU farmers comes in second position in seven countries and third in seven. It shares the second place with promote the "circular economy" – a system preserving natural resources and limiting waste in Slovakia.

Promote the "Circular Economy", a system preserving natural resources and limiting waste is the top priority in the Netherlands and in Finland (both 58%), and the second most mentioned option in four countries. It ranks third in six.

Reducing energy consumption is the second most given answer in Italy (42%), and the third one in Hungary, Malta (joint third with moving towards a zero-pollution ambition), Slovakia and Poland.

Protecting biodiversity ranks third in five countries, with highest mentions in Luxembourg (47%).

Moving towards a zero-pollution ambition ranks third in Malta (37%) and Spain (33%).

QB4 In your opinion, which of the following objectives should be given top priority in a European Green Deal, a set of measures to protect the environment and fight climate change? (MAX. 4 ANSWERS)

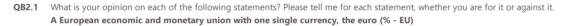
(%)

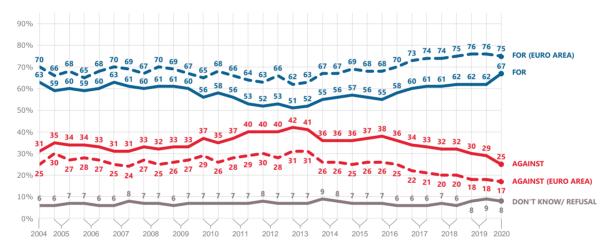
(%)										
		Developing renewable energy	Fighting against plastic waste and leading on the issue of single-use of plastic	Supporting EU farmers for them to receive fair remuneration to provide Europeans with affordable and safe food	Promote the "Circular Economy" - a system preserving natural resources and limiting waste	Reducing energy consumption	Protecting biodiversity	Moving towards a zero pollution ambition	Measures to make the EU carbon neutral by 2050 by reducing greenhouse gas emissions' effects to zero	Introducing a tax on products imported from third countries that have lower climate policy standards than the EU
EU27	0	52	49	38	36	31	29	27	24	20
BE		61	46	41	35	31	37	22	20	21
BG		41	53	44	32	27	40	28	22	20
CZ		39	51	36	38	34	19	25	12	17
DK		69	59	25	37	31	38	23	31	21
DE		54	57	36	40	32	22	19	31	20
EE		60	46	53	51	18	34	31	24	26
ΙE		67	63	50	38	22	35	28	34	23
EL		55	47	46	40	38	37	33	30	26 23 22 13 24 20 17 14 22 17 28
ES	<u>&</u>	63	55	31	23	31	29	33	14	13
FR		52	50	50	36	27	43	25	20	24
HR	- 10	51	50	37	30	30	31	31	20	20
IT		50	38	27	32	42	24	37	25	17
IT CY LV LT	**************************************	68	56	35	41	31	29	28	17	14
LV		33	58	52	38	20	31	25	16	22
LT		41	59 56 49	29 56 30	33	32	37	20	17	17
LU		50	56	56	46	26	47	27	25 21	28
HU	2	56			34	41	20	28		
MT		50	52	36	28	37	31	37	28	14
NL		50	58	51	58	25	38	25	26	24
AT		49	43	37	47	29	27	20	31	31
PL PT	*	48 69	47	28 45	27 42	30	17	26	26	15
RO			48 37	35	31	33 24	36 24	28 27	22	17 25
SI	0	35 53	53	36	38	31	22	20	28	25
SK	(F)	33	55	45	45	33	27	24	21	20
FI		55	41	47	58	19	40	15	20	41
SE		65	29	41	49	25	45	28	38	29
			ı	1st MOST F					l	
				2nd MOST						
				Brd MOST I						
			3	1 1 COIVI D	NEQUE	INILI	AILIAII	JINLD I	LIVI	

2 Support for the Euro: trend and national results

Support for "a European economic and monetary union with one single currency, the euro", remains at a high level. It has slightly declined in the euro area (75%, -1 percentage point), after being stable in 2019. However, the proportion of respondents in the euro area who are opposed to the euro has also declined slightly (17%, -1).

Support for the euro from citizens in the EU as a whole has increased by five percentage points to 67%, the highest ever level¹³. The proportion who are "against" a European economic and monetary union has continued its decline and now stands at 25% (-4 percentage points since autumn 2019), its lowest ever level.





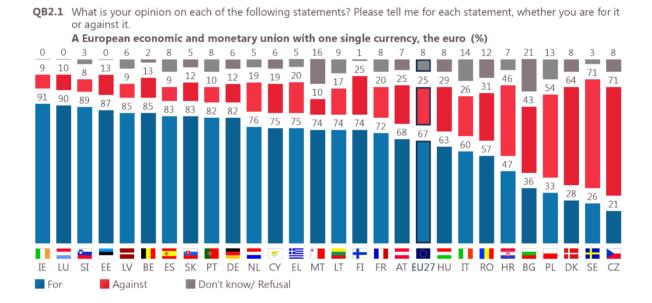
 $^{^{13}}$ It should be noted that in autumn 2019, the proportion of "for" was already at 67% in the EU27, without taking into account the UK results

In 22 countries, a majority of respondents are for "a European economic and monetary union with one single currency, the euro" (equal to autumn 2019). Support is most widespread in Ireland (91%), Luxembourg (90%) and Slovenia (89%). Croatia (47% for, 46% against), outside the euro area, has the narrowest majority in support of the euro.

In five countries – all outside the euro area – a majority of respondents say they oppose the euro: Czechia and Sweden (both 71%), Denmark (64%), Poland (54%) and Bulgaria (43% against, 36% for).

Since autumn 2019, support for the euro has increased in 12 Member States (down from 16 in autumn 2019), with the largest increases observed in Luxembourg (90%, +5 percentage points) and Greece (75%, +5).

Support has decreased in 12 countries, with the largest in Cyprus (75%, -7 percentage points) and Finland (74%, -7). Support remains unchanged in Germany (82%), France (72%) and Poland (33%).

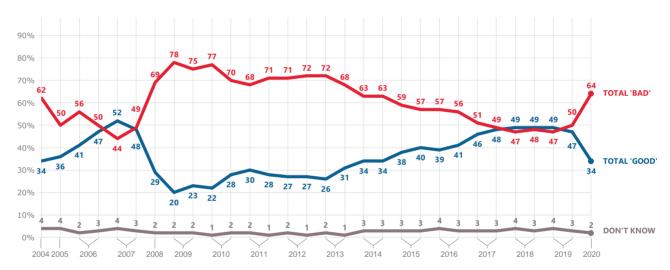


VI. THE ECONOMIC SITUATION

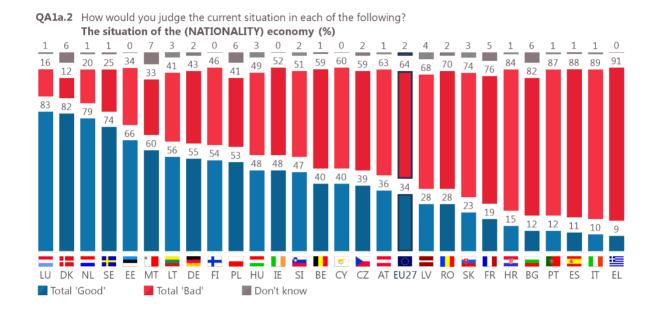
1 Current situation of the economy at national level: trend, national results and evolutions

Since autumn 2019 there has been a considerable decline in the proportion of Europeans who think that the current situation of their national economy is "good" (34%, -13 percentage points). This is the second highest decrease since this question was first asked in 2004, after the 19-point drop recorded in autumn 2008. In addition, the proportion who judge this situation to be "bad" has also increased sharply (+14), and is now considerably higher (64% "bad" vs 34% "good"). The proportion who say the situation is bad is now at its highest point since autumn 2013, although still considerably lower than the peak between spring 2009 and spring 2010. Just 2% (-1) say that they "don't know".





The scale of the difference at EU level is even larger in most Member States, with extremely varied views across the EU. For example, the proportion who say the situation of their national economy is good ranges from more than eight respondents in ten answering so in Luxembourg (83%) and Denmark (82%) to around one in ten in Greece (9%), Italy (10%), Spain (11%), Portugal and Bulgaria (both 12%). In total, a majority of respondents say that the national economic situation is good in tencountries (down from 15 in autumn 2019).



Perceptions of the current situation of the national economy have worsened in 24 countries since autumn 2019, and in six countries the decline is at least 20 points: Austria (36%, -40 percentage points), Portugal (12%, -32), Czechia (39%, -32), Germany (55%, -28), Malta (60%, -21) and Slovakia (23%, -20).

Lithuania (56%, +10) and Greece (9%, +1) are the only countries where perceptions have improved, while there has been no change in the level of positive opinion in Estonia (66%, =).

As a result of these changes, the positive perception has now become the minority view in Austria, Belgium, Czechia, Hungary, Ireland and Slovenia. Conversely, it has become the majority view in Lithuania.

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

The situation of the (NATIONALITY) economy (%)

		Total 'Good'	Sum.2020 - Aut.2019	Total 'Bad'	Sum.2020 - Aut.2019	Don't know
EU27		34	▼ 13	64	▲ 14	2
EU28-UK		34	▼ 14	64	1 4	2
EURO AREA		31	V 14	67	1 4	2
NON-EURO AF		46	▼ 4	51	7	3
LT		56	1 0	41	▼ 10	3
EL		9	1 1	91	▼ 1	0
EE		66	=	34	6	0
SE		74	▼ 2	25	4	1
LV		28	▼ 3	68	2	4
ES	<u> </u>	11	▼ 5	88	<u>5</u>	1
CY	<u>*</u>	40	▼ 6	60	7	0
HR		15	▼ 6	84	A 6	1
RO		28	▼ 7	70	A 7	2
IT		10	▼ 7	89	A 6	1
DK		82	▼ 8	12	A 6	6
SI		47	▼ 8	51	A 7	2
BG		12	▼ 8	82	8	6
HU		48	▼ 9	49	A 7	3
LU		83	▼10	16	▲11	1
FR		19	▼ 10	76	▲10	5
NL		79	▼ 11	20	▲10	1
PL		53	▼11	41	▲10	6
BE		40	▼14	59	1 4	1
FI	+	54	▼15	46	▲17	0
IE	Щ.	48	▼ 19	52	A 23	0
SK		23	▼20	74	▲20	3
MT	<u> </u>	60	▼ 21	33	▲ 21	7
DE	.	55	▼ 28	43	▲ 28	2
CZ		39	▼ 32	59	▲ 32	2
PT	***	12	▼ 32	87	A 33	1
AT		36	▼40	63	4 1	1

20% **24**

2007

2009

2010

2011

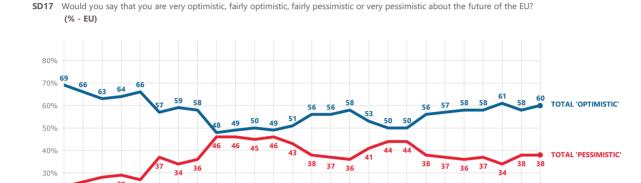
2012

2013

DON'T KNOW

VII. OPTIMISM ABOUT THE FUTURE OF THE EU

Six in ten citizens (60%, +2 percentage points since autumn 2019) are optimistic about the future of the EU. Pessimism has remained stable at 38%. It is only the second time in a decade that at least six Europeans in ten are optimistic about the future of the EU (after the 61% recorded in spring 2019, just after the 2019 European elections).



In 24 countries, optimism is the majority view, with the highest levels seen in Ireland (81%), Lithuania and Poland (both 75%) and Croatia (74%). The lowest levels of optimism are seen in Greece (44%) and Italy (49%), where pessimism outweighs optimism, as well as in France, where opinion is evenly divided (49% vs 49%).

2014

2015

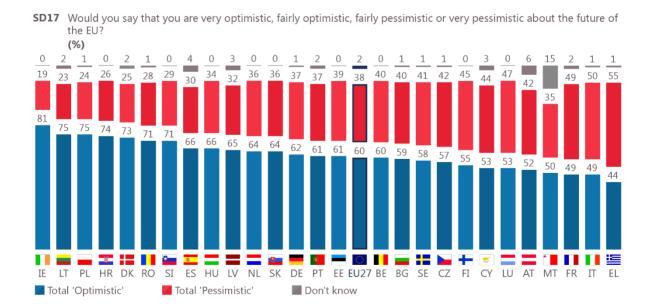
2016

2017

2018

2019

Since autumn 2019, optimism about the future of the EU has increased in eight countries, in particular in Croatia (74%, +8 percentage points) and France (49%, +7). It has decreased in 15 countries, with the largest falls recorded in Luxembourg (53%, -17), Finland (55%, -11), Malta (50%, -9), and Portugal (61%, -8). Optimism about the future of the EU has remained unchanged in Ireland (81%), Romania (71%), Spain (66%) and Slovakia (64%).



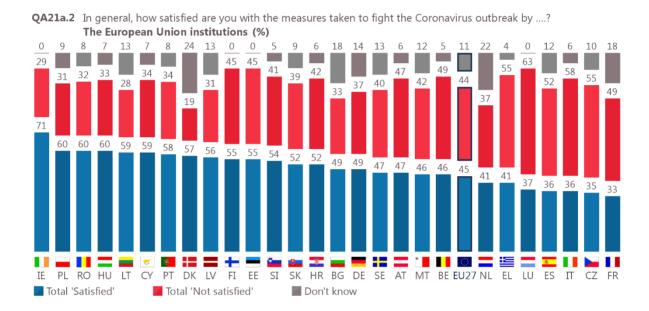
SD17 Would you say that you are very optimistic, fairly optimistic, fairly pessimistic or very pessimistic about the future of the EU?(%)

	Total 'Optimistic'	Sum.2020 - Aut.2019	Total 'Pessimistic'	Sum.2020 - Aut.2019	Don't know
EU27	60	A 2	38	=	2
EU28-UK	60	=	38	A 2	2
EURO AREA	57	▼ 1	41	A 3	2
NON-EURO AREA	69	A 9	30	▼ 4	1
HR 🔀	74	A 8	26	▼ 6	0
FR	49	<u>7</u>	49	▼ 6	2
PL 🔲	75	4	24	2	1
SI 🔤	71	A 2	29	=	0
SI HU	66	A 2	34	4	0
LV	65	A 2	32	V 1	3
BE	60	A 2	40	▼ 2	0
LT 🚃	75	1	23	1	2
IE 🚺	81	=	19	A 3	0
RO	71	=	28	A 2	1
ES 💰	66	=	30	1	4
SK 😃	64	=	36	A 3	0
DK	73	▼ 1	25	A 2	2
NL	64	▼ 1	36	A 2	0
IΤ	49	▼ 2	50	A 6	1
	44	▼ 2	55	4	1
DE	62	▼ 3	37	A 6	1
CZ	57	▼ 3	42	A 4	1
CY	53	▼ 3	44	A 4	3
BG	59	▼ 4	40	1 3	1
SE	58	V 4	41	A 3	1
AT	52	V 5	42	3	6
EE =	61	▼ 6	39	▲ 11	0
PT 💌	61	▼ 8	37	12	2
MT *	50	V 9	35	5	15
FI 🛨	55	▼11	45	▲ 14	0
LU	53	▼ 17	47	▲ 19	0

VIII. THE EU AND THE CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK

1 Satisfaction with the measures to fight the crisis: national results

Europeans are divided regarding the measures taken by the EU institutions to fight the coronavirus outbreak: 45% say they are satisfied, while a similar proportion (44%) are not satisfied. More than one in ten (11%) Europeans answer that they don't know.



A majority of respondents are satisfied with the measures taken by the European Union institutions in 19 Member States, in particular in Ireland (71%); Hungary, Romania and Poland (all 60%). In seven countries, majorities of respondents are "not satisfied", with more than half sharing this view in Luxembourg (63%), Italy (58%), Greece and Czechia (both 55%) and Spain (52%). In Austria, equal shares of respondents are satisfied and not satisfied (both 47%).

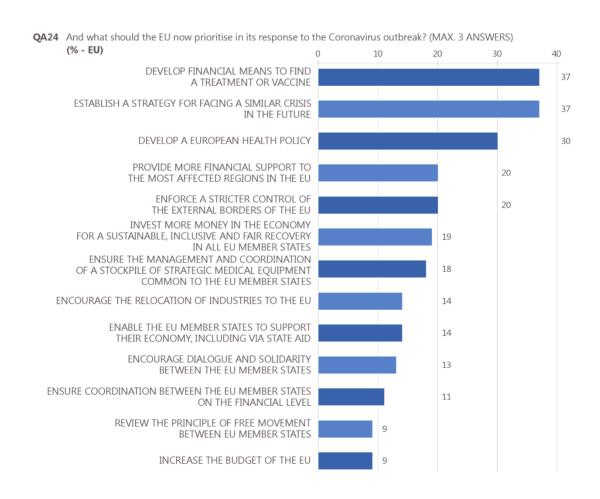
2 EU priorities in its response to the coronavirus outbreak

Europeans have two main priorities for the European Union's response to the coronavirus outbreak: develop financial means to find a treatment or vaccine and establish a strategy for facing a similar crisis in the future (each 37%). Three in ten also think that developing a European health policy should be a priority (30%).

One in five think the EU should provide more financial support to the most affected regions in the EU (20%) and that enforcing a stricter control of the external borders of the EU (20%) should be prioritised by the EU in its response to the coronavirus outbreak. Almost as many think investing more money in the economy for a sustainable, inclusive and fair recovery in all EU Member States (19%) and ensuring the management and coordination of a stockpile of strategic medical equipment common to the EU Member States (18%) should be prioritised.

More than one in ten think the EU should prioritise encouraging the relocation of industries within the EU and enabling the EU Member States to support their economy, including via state aid (both 14%). These are followed by encouraging dialogue and solidarity between the EU Member States (13%) and ensuring coordination between the EU Member States on the financial level (11%).

Almost one in ten say the EU should review the principle of free movement between EU Member States or increase the budget of the EU (both 9%).



3 EU priorities in its response to the coronavirus outbreak: national results

Developing financial means to find a treatment or vaccine and **establishing a strategy for facing a similar crisis in the future,** both mentioned by 37% of respondents, are seen as the most important priorities for the EU in response to the coronavirus pandemic.

Developing financial means to find a treatment or vaccine is the first given answer in 14 Member States, led by Portugal (64%). It comes in second position in six countries, and in third in a further six (in Hungary joint third with enforcing a stricter control of the external borders of the EU and in the Netherlands with ensuring the management and coordination of a stockpile of strategic medical equipment common to the EU Member States).

Establishing a strategy for facing a similar crisis in the future ranks first in ten countries, with the highest proportions in Sweden (67%) and Denmark (59%). It is the second most important priority in eight countries, and the third one in five (in Lithuania joint second with developing a European health policy).

Developing a European health policy is mentioned by 30% of Europeans and is in first position in Belgium, with 41% of mentions. It is the second most mentioned priority in eight countries, and ranks in third place in ten Member States.

Two items are in equal fourth place at EU level with 20% of mentions **providing more financial support to the most affected regions in the EU** and **enforcing a stricter control of the external borders of the EU**. Enforcing a stricter control of the external borders of the EU is seen as the first thing the EU should prioritise by respondents in Latvia (41%). It is the second answer given in three countries, and the third one in four.

Providing more financial support to the most affected regions in the EU is in second place in Greece (33%), and in third position in Romania (24%) and Croatia (23%, joint third with invest more money in the economy for a sustainable, inclusive and fair recovery in all EU Member States).

Investing more money in the economy for a sustainable, inclusive and fair recovery in all EU Member States is in sixth place at EU level, with 19% of mentions. This item comes first in Austria (32%), but is mentioned more often in Ireland (40%), where it is the second most given answer. It comes in third position in Croatia (23%).

In seventh position, with 18% of mentions at EU level, **ensuring the management and coordination of a stockpile of strategic medical equipment common to the EU Member States** is most frequently mentioned in the Netherlands (34%) and in Sweden (33%), coming in third place in both countries.

Mentioned by 13% of Europeans, in tenth place, **encouraging dialogue and solidarity between the EU Member States** is most frequently mentioned in Luxembourg, where it ranks in third place.

QA24 And what should the EU now prioritise in its response to the Coronavirus outbreak?
(MAX. 3 ANSWERS)
(%)

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BE			Develop financial means to find a treatment or vaccine	Establish a strategy for facing a similar crisis in the future	Develop a European health policy	Provide more financial support to the most affected regions in the EU	Enforce a stricter control of the external borders of the EU	Invest more money in the economy for a sustainable, inclusive and fair recovery in all EU Member States	Ensure the management and coordination of a stockpile of strategic medical equipment common to the EU Member States	Encourage the relocation of industries to the EU	Enable the EU Member States to support their economy, including via state aid	Encourage dialogue and solidarity between the EU Member States	Ensure coordination between the EU Member States on the financial level	Review the principle of free movement between EU Member States	Increase the budget of the EU
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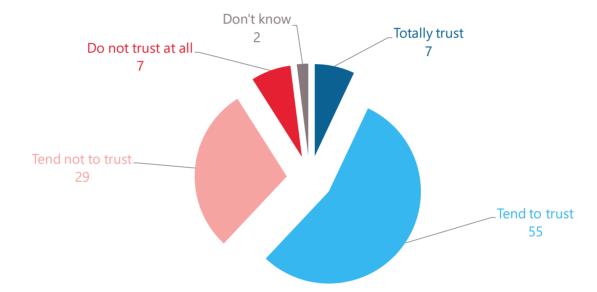
1st MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM

2nd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM
3rd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM

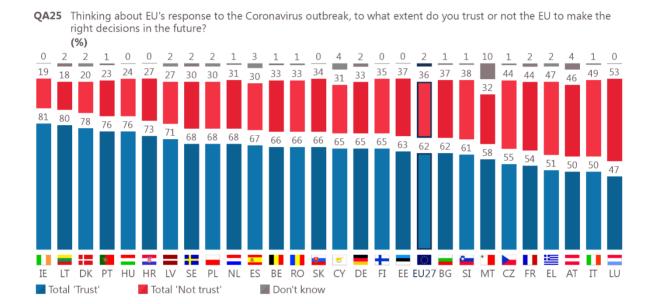
4 Trust in the EU to make the right decisions in the future: national results

When thinking about EU's response to the coronavirus outbreak, more than six Europeans in ten trust the EU to make the right decisions in the future (62%, of which 7% "totally trust", and 55% "tend to trust"). Conversely, more than a third of Europeans do not trust the EU (36%, of which 7% "do not trust at all", and 29% "tend not to trust"). 2% answer that they "don't know".

QA25 Thinking about EU's response to the Coronavirus outbreak, to what extent do you trust or not the EU to make the right decisions in the future?
(% - EU)



In 26 EU Member States, a majority of the population trust the EU to make the right decisions in the future (62% at EU level), with more than three-quarters sharing this view in Ireland (81%), Lithuania (80%), Denmark (78%), and Portugal and Hungary (both 76%). At the other end of the scale, respondents are more divided in Italy (50% 'total trust' vs 49% 'total not trust'), Austria (50% vs 46%) and Greece (51% vs 47%). Luxembourg is the only country where a majority of the population do not trust the EU to make the right decisions in the future thinking about its response to the coronavirus outbreak (53% 'not trust' vs 47% 'trust').

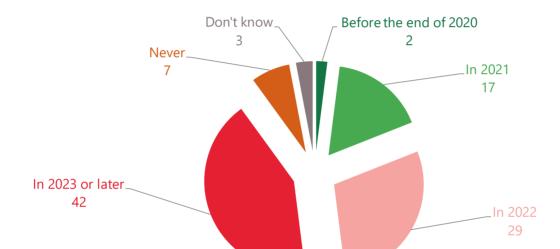


5 Economic consequences: national results

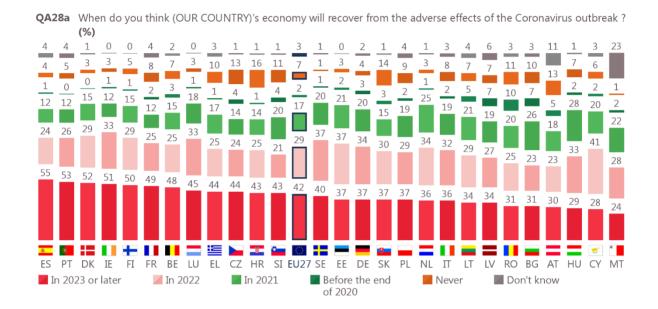
More than four in ten Europeans think that their country's economy will recover from the adverse effects of the coronavirus outbreak 'in 2023 or later' (42%). Close to three in ten consider that their national economy will recover in 2022 (29%), while 17% believe it will do so next year, in 2021. Only 2% think that their country's economy will recover before the end of this year, in 2020. 7% of Europeans are particularly pessimistic and consider that their country's economy will never recover from the adverse effects of the coronavirus outbreak.

QA28a When do you think (OUR COUNTRY)'s economy will recover from the adverse effects of the Coronavirus outbreak?

(% - EU)



In 23 countries, the majority of respondents think that their national economy will recover in 2023 or later, with the highest proportions in Spain (55%), Portugal (53%), Denmark (52%), Ireland (51%) and Finland (50%). In Estonia, an equal share of respondents answer "in 2023 or later" and "in 2022" (37%). In three countries, "in 2022" is the most widespread answer: Cyprus (41%), Hungary (33%) and Malta (28%). In eight countries, at least one in ten respondents fear that their national economy will never recover from the adverse effects of the coronavirus outbreak: Croatia (16%), Slovakia (14%), Czechia and Austria (both 13%), Slovenia and Romania (both 11%), and Greece and Bulgaria (both 10%).

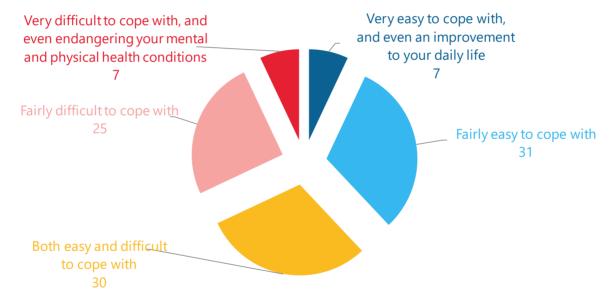


6 Personal experience of the coronavirus outbreak: national results

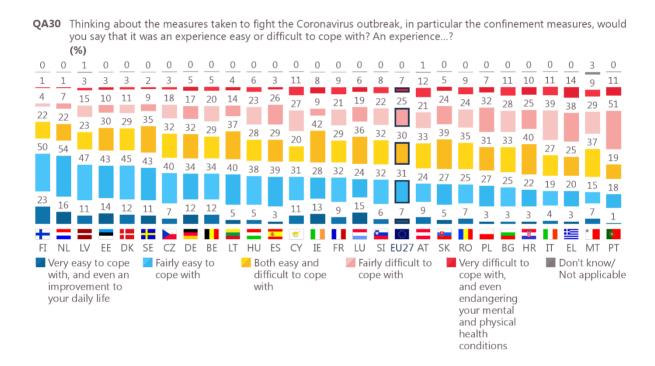
Europeans' personal experience of confinement measures were very different from one to the other. Overall, close to four Europeans in ten say that it was an experience easy to cope with (38%): for 7%, it was an experience "very easy to cope with, and even an improvement to [their] daily life", while 31% said it was an experience "fairly easy to cope with", the latter answer being the most mentioned by EU citizens. On the contrary, more than three in ten say it was an experience difficult to cope with (32%): "fairly difficult" for a quarter (25%), while 7% even say that it was an experience "very difficult to cope with, and even endangering [their] mental and physical health conditions". Finally, 30% say that it was an experience "both easy and difficult to cope with".

QA30 Thinking about the measures taken to fight the Coronavirus outbreak, in particular the confinement measures, would you say that it was an experience easy or difficult to cope with? An experience...?





Overall, confinement measures were perceived as an experience very or fairly easy to cope with by a majority of respondents in 16 countries, with the highest proportions in Finland (73%, including 23% of answers "very easy to cope with, and even an improvement to your daily life") and the Netherlands (70%). Conversely, a majority consider that it was an experience very or fairly difficult to cope with in six countries, led by Portugal (62%), Greece (52%, including 14% answering "very difficult to cope with, and even endangering your mental and physical health conditions") and Italy (50%). In four countries, "both easy and difficult to cope with" is the most given answer: Ireland (42%), Croatia (40%), Slovakia (39%) and Romania (35%). In Austria, similar equal proportions of respondents found that confinement measures were "both easy and difficult to cope with" (33%), "very easy" or "fairly easy to cope with" (33% when aggregated) and "fairly difficult" or "very difficult to cope with" (33% when aggregated).



CONCLUSION

The coronavirus pandemic has had a strong impact on European public opinion, but support for the EU remains relatively close to pre-crisis levels.

The period of **stability** between spring 2017 and autumn 2019 **in terms of trust in the EU** has continued. Public perceptions may have varied during the pandemic but when compared with previous Eurobarometer waves, trust in the EU remains steady at 43%. This is higher than trust in national governments or national parliaments, but the difference is getting smaller. The **positive image of the EU has declined slightly** to 40%, on par with the neutral image, while less than one citizen out of five expresses a negative view.

More than half of Europeans are satisfied with the way democracy works in the EU, but dissatisfaction has gained ground, reaching its highest level since autumn 2016. Fairly stable since autumn 2019, the feeling of being citizens of the EU is still shared by seven in ten Europeans, and by a majority of the population in all Member States but Italy.

Since autumn 2019, there has been considerable change in the perception of the **most important** issues facing the EU. The economic situation rose from third place to the top. The state of Member States' public finances now ranks second, along with immigration, which has declined significantly to its lowest level since spring 2014. Health, tested for the first time in this question, comes in fourth position. At the national level, the economic situation, now mentioned by a third of respondents, is followed closely by health and unemployment.

As was the case in autumn 2019, **developing renewable energy** and **fighting against plastic** waste and leading on the issue of single-use of plastic are the two objectives which, according to respondents, should be given priority in the **European Green Deal**.

Support for a European economic and monetary union with one single currency, the euro reached its highest level at the EU level since the question was first asked; within the euro area, support remains at a high level but has lost a little ground.

Since autumn 2019 there has been a **considerable decline in the proportion of Europeans who think that the current situation of their national economy is "good"** (34%), and the proportion who judge it to be "bad" is now more important (64%).

Europeans are divided when it comes to the satisfaction with the measures taken by the EU institutions to fight the coronavirus outbreak, with similar proportions for "satisfied" and "not satisfied".

Establishing a strategy for facing a similar crisis in the future and developing financial means to find a treatment or vaccine – in joint first place – followed by developing a European health policy are seen as the main priorities for the EU in response to the coronavirus outbreak, all mentioned by at least three in ten Europeans.

When thinking about EU's response to the coronavirus outbreak, more than six Europeans in ten trust the EU to make the right decisions in the future.

Finally, Europeans are quite pessimistic about when their country's economy will recover from the adverse effects of the coronavirus outbreak: more than four in ten think that it will recover in 2023 or later, close to three in ten in 2022, and less than a fifth in 2021.

First results

Europeans have lived different experiences of confinement measures: close to four in ten EU citizens say that it was an experience easy to cope with while on the contrary, above three in ten said it was an experience difficult to cope with. Nevertheless, 30% say that it was an experience both easy and difficult to cope with.

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Between the 9th July and the 26th August 2020, Kantar on behalf of Kantar Belgium carried out the wave 93.1 of the Eurobarometer survey, on request of the European Commission, Directorate-General for Communication, "Media monitoring and Eurobarometer" Unit.

The wave 93.1 includes the Standard Eurobarometer 93 and covers the population of the respective nationalities of the European Union Member States, resident in each of the 27 Member States and aged 15 years and over.

The Standard Eurobarometer 93 survey has also been conducted in the United Kingdom, in five candidate countries (Albania, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia and Turkey) 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.

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 II (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"). If no one answered the interviewer in a household, or if the respondent selected was not available (not present or busy), the interviewer revisited the same household up to three additional times (four contact attempts in total). Interviewers never indicate that the survey is conducted on behalf of the European Commission beforehand; they may give this information once the survey is completed, upon request.

The recruitment phase was slightly different in the Netherlands, Sweden and Denmark. In these countries, a sample of addresses within each areal sampling point (1km2 grid) were selected from the address or population register. The selection of addresses was done in a random manner. Households were then contacted by telephone and recruited to take part in the survey.

	C O UNTR IE S	INSTITUTES	INSTITUTES N° FIELDW INTERVIEWS DATE			POPULATION 15+	PROPORTION EU27
BE	Belgium	Kantar Belgium (Kantar TNS)	1,008	10/07/2020	30/07/2020	9,188,369	2.45%
BG	Bulgaria	Kantar TNS BBSS	1,057	09/07/2020	27/07/2020	5,995,194	1.60%
CZ	Czechia	K antar C Z	1,009	10/07/2020	30/07/2020	8,956,740	2.39%
DK	Denmark	Kantar Gallup	990	10/07/2020	06/08/2020	4,848,611	1.29%
DE	Germany	Kantar Deutschland	1,514	13/07/2020	06/08/2020	71,728,398	19.10%
EE	Estonia	K antar E mor	1,006	22/07/2020	04/08/2020	1,073,224	0.29%
ΙE	Ireland	Kantar Belgium	1,005	15/07/2020	26/08/2020	3,896,482	1.04%
EL	Greece	Taylor Nelson Sofres Market R esearch	1,016	10/07/2020	22/07/2020	9,187,524	2.45%
ES	Spain	TNS Investigación de Mercados y O pinión	1,012	13/07/2020	25/07/2020	40,006,943	10.65%
FR	France	Kantar Public France	1,006	10/07/2020	30/07/2020	52,732,499	14.04%
HR	C roatia	Hendal	1,030	11/07/2020	02/08/2020	3,488,460	0.93%
IT	Italy	Kantar Italia	1,027	11/07/2020	27/07/2020	52,397,331	13.95%
CY	R ep. Of C yprus	CYMAR Market Research	505	10/07/2020	29/07/2020	734,695	0.20%
LV	Latvia	Kantar TNS Latvia	996	10/07/2020	05/08/2020	1,568,124	0.42%
LT	Lithuania	TNS LT	1,005	10/07/2020	06/08/2020	2,300,257	0.61%
LU	Luxembourg	Kantar Belgium	550	15/07/2020	19/08/2020	503,275	0.13%
HU	Hungary	K antar Hoffmann	1,059	17/07/2020	31/07/2020	8,351,017	2.22%
MT	Malta	MISCO International	502	10/07/2020	30/07/2020	426,055	0.11%
NL	Netherlands	TNS NIPO	1,004	10/07/2020	29/07/2020	14,165,638	3.77%
AT	Austria	Das Österreichische Gallup Institut	1,010	13/07/2020	26/07/2020	7,580,083	2.02%
PL.	Poland	K antar Polska	1,031	10/07/2020	29/07/2020	32,139,021	8.56%
PT	Portugal	Marktest – Marketing, O rganização e Formação	1,056	10/07/2020	29/07/2020	8,869,051	2.36%
RO	R omania	C entrul Pentru S tudierea O piniei si Pietei (CSOP)	1,112	10/07/2020	06/08/2020	16,372,216	4.36%
SI	S lovenia	Mediana D 0 0	1,012	10/07/2020	30/07/2020	1,767,202	0.47%
SK	S lovakia	Kantar S lovakia	1,077	11/07/2020	04/08/2020	4,592,379	1.22%
FI	Finland	Kantar TNS 0 y	1,028	17/07/2020	04/08/2020	4,488,064	1.20%
SE	Sweden	Kantar Sifo	1,054	13/07/2020	06/08/2020	8,149,850	1.90%
		TOTAL EU27	26,681	09/07/2020	26/08/2020	375,506,702	100%*

^{*} It should be noted that the total percentage shown in this table may exceed 100% due to rounding

^{**} Recruitments in Luxembourg and Ireland are carried out by Ronin International and Kantar Belgium. Non-probabilistic sample in Luxembourg was randomly drawn from Kantar's LifePoints panel.

UK	United Kingdom	Kantar UK Limited	1,154	22/07/2020	10/08/2020	53,082,345
C Y(tcc)	Turkish Cypriot Community	Lipa Consultancy	500	21/07/2020	05/08/2020	143,226
TR	Turkey	TNS Piar	1,015	15/07/2020	06/08/2020	50,555,679
MK	North Macedonia	TNS BRIMA	1,052	10/07/2020	29/07/2020	1,721,528
ME	Montenegro	TNS Medium Gallup	541	14/07/2020	06/08/2020	501,030
RS	Serbia	TNS Medium Gallup	1,073	15/07/2020	06/08/2020	6,161,584
AL	Albania	TNS BBSS	1,043	12/07/2020	24/07/2020	2,221,572
_		TOTAL	33,059	09/07/2020	26/08/2020	489,893,666

	C O UNTR IE S	N° OF CAPI	N° OF CAWI	TOTAL N°
-		INTER VIEWS	INTERVIEWS	INTERVIEWS
BE	Belgium	1,008		1,008
BG	Bulgaria	1,057		1,057
CZ	Czechia	1,009		1,009
DK	Denmark	990		990
DE -	Germany	1,514		1,514
EE -	Estonia		1,006	1,006
ΙE	Ireland		1,005	1,005
EL	Greece	1,016		1,016
ES	Spain	1,012		1,012
FR	France	1,006		1,006
HR	C roatia	1,030		1,030
IT	Italy	1,027		1,027
CY	R ep. Of C yprus	505		505
LV	Latvia	996		996
LT _	Lithuania	1,005		1,005
LU	Luxembourg		550	550
HU	Hungary	1,059		1,059
MT	Malta	502		502
NL	Netherlands	1,004		1,004
AT	Austria	1,010		1,010
PL ₋	Poland	1,031		1,031
PT ₋	Portugal	1,056		1,056
R O	R omania	1,112		1,112
SI _	S lovenia	1,012		1,012
SK	S lovakia	1,077		1,077
FI _	Finland		1,028	1,028
SE	Sweden	355	699	1,054
	TOTAL EU27	22,393	4,288	26,681
UK	United Kingdom		1,154	1,154
CY(tcc)	Turkish Cypriot Community	500		500
TR	Turkey	1,015		1,015
MK	North Macedonia	1,052		1,052
ME	Montenegro	541		541
RS	Serbia	1,073		1,073
AL	Albania	1,043		1,043
-	TOTAL	5,224	1,154	6,378

CAPI: Computer-Assisted Personal interviewing CAWI: Computer-Assisted Web interviewing

Consequences of the coronavirus pandemic on fieldwork

Where feasible, interviews were conducted face-to-face in people's homes or on their door step and in the appropriate national language. In all countries where face-to-face interviewing was feasible CAPI (Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing) was used. At the start of the fieldwork it was intended to have interviewers to offer respondents the possibility to answer the question online, if they were reluctant to do it face-to-face. Eventually this option was not needed (except in Sweden), as the number of required interviews could be reached through regular face-to-face interviewing. For all interviews conducted face to face, hygiene and physical distancing measures have been respected at all times in line with government regulations, and whenever possible, interviews were conducted outside homes, on doorsteps, to remain in open air and maintain social distance.

In Sweden, face-to-face interviewing was feasible but it was not possible to reach the target number of interviews within the fieldwork period. Therefore to hit the target number of interviews within the fieldwork period an online survey was offered to those who refused the face-to-face option at the telephone recruitment stage. As a result, data collection was made through interviews via CAPI and CAWI modes.

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, **face-to-face interviews were not possible in Estonia, Finland, Ireland, Luxembourg and the UK¹⁴**. In these countries, interviews were conducted online with Computer-Assisted Web Interviewing (CAWI) technique.

The online design in each country differed based on what was feasible within the fieldwork period. In all but Luxembourg the online sample was based on a probabilistic sample design: in other terms, respondents were recruited in a probabilistic random manner, ensuring that all individuals in this country have an equal chance to be interviewed.

In **Ireland**, respondents were recruited by telephone via a probabilistic dual frame sample of telephone numbers, drawn from national telephone numbering plan.

In **Luxembourg**, the same approach was initiated. However, the response rates were not sufficiently large to achieve the target sample size in the fieldwork period, so this sample was supplemented with a non-probabilistic sample randomly drawn from Kantar's LifePoints panel. In total 150 interviews were conducted via the probabilistic sample and 400 via the LifePoints panel in Luxembourg.

In **Estonia, Finland and UK**, only people randomly selected through a probabilistic sample randomly drawn were interviewed online.

In Estonia and Finland the respondents are recruited through a telephone survey. In Estonia a dual frame random sample is drawn from the national telephone numbering plan whilst in Finland a random sample is drawn from the telephone register.

In the UK, recruitment of respondents was made either via a face-to-face CAPI mode of data collection based on a clustered multistage random sample of addresses or via a postal invite to an online survey using a completely unclustered random sample of addresses.

Response rates

For each country a comparison between the responding sample and the universe is carried out. Weights are used to match the responding sample to the universe on gender by age, region and degree of urbanisation. For European estimates (i.e. EU average), an adjustment is made to the

¹⁴ See also the case of Sweden detailed above.

individual country weights, weighting them up or down to reflect their 15+ population as a proportion of the EU 15+ population.

The response rates are calculated by dividing the total number of complete interviews with the number of all the addresses visited, apart from ones that are not eligible but including those where eligibility is unknown. For Standard Eurobarometer 93, the response rates for the EU27 countries, calculated by Kantar, are:

BE	51.1%	EL	27.8%	LT	43.6%	PT	37.3%
BG	44.6%	ES	31.7%	LU*	33.7%	RO	61.9%
CZ	46.8%	FR	29.3%	HU	55.8%	SI	48.3%
DK	43.6%	HR	56.1%	MT	48.5%	SK	61.4%
DE	18.1%	IT	21.8%	NL	39.5%	FI*	12.5%
EE*	28.6%	CY	44.3%	AT	43.2%	SE**	54.1%
IE*	35.6%	LV	41.1%	PL	40.4%	SE***	65.9%

 $^{^{*}\}text{C AWI only (LU for probabilistic sample) and without taking into account recruitment phase} \\$

Margins of error

Readers are reminded that survey results are <u>estimations</u>, 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=50
N=500	1.9	2.6	3.1	3.5	3.8	4.0	4.2	4.3	4.4	4.4	N=500
N=1000	1.4	1.9	2.2	2.5	2.7	2.8	3.0	3.0	3.1	3.1	N=1000
N=1500	1.1	1.5	1.8	2.0	2.2	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.5	N=1500
N=2000	1.0	1.3	1.6	1.8	1.9	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.2	N=2000
N=3000	0.8	1.1	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.8	N=3000
N=4000	0.7	0.9	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	N=4000
N=5000	0.6	0.8	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.4	N=5000
N=6000	0.6	8.0	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.3	N=6000
N=7000	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2	N=7000
N=7500	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	N=7500
N=8000	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1	N=8000
N=9000	0.5	0.6	0.7	8.0	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	N=9000
N=10000	0.4	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.0	N=10000
N=11000	0.4	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	N=11000
N=12000	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	N=12000
N=13000	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.9	N=13000
N=14000	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	N=14000
N=15000	0.3	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	N=15000
	5%	10%	15%	20%	25%	30%	35%	40%	45%	50%	
	95%	90%	85%	80%	75%	70%	65%	60%	55%	50%	

^{**} CAPI *** CAWI