



Special Eurobarometer 500
Report

Future of Europe

Fieldwork: October-November 2020



**Survey conducted by Kantar at the request of the European Commission and the European Parliament,
Survey co-ordinated by the European Commission, Directorate-General for Communication
(DG COMM “Media monitoring and Eurobarometer Unit”) and
the European Parliament, Directorate-General for Communication
(DG COMM “Public Opinion Monitoring Unit” (POMU))**

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INTRODUCTION



Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

This report presents the full results of the Special Eurobarometer survey n° 500 (EB94.1) on the Future of Europe (FoE), which was carried out between 22 October and 20 November 2020 in the 27 EU Member States.

This is the ninth report in the “Future of Europe” (FoE) series, and follows from previous surveys in 2006¹, 2009², 2011³, 2012⁴, 2014⁵, 2016⁶, 2017⁷ and 2018⁸, which were conducted on behalf of the Commission presenting a snapshot of the way Europeans perceive the EU and its future.

It is the first Future of Europe (FoE) survey since the European Parliament elections in May 2019 and the new European Commission took office with Ursula von der Leyen as President in December 2019. This Special Eurobarometer is however different from previous surveys in the FoE series, as it is an inter-institutional survey conducted jointly for the European Commission and the European Parliament. Its questionnaire contains questions from both institutions.

For the legislative term until 2024, the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Commission agreed to deliver an ambitious political and legislative agenda for recovery and renewed vitality⁹. Inspired by European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen’s policy agenda document¹⁰, the three Institutions have set out six strategic policy goals for the European Union over the five-year period 2019-2024¹¹, stipulated as follows: i) to implement the European Green Deal; ii) to shape Europe’s Digital Decade; iii) to deliver an economy that works for people; iv) to make Europe stronger in the world; v) to promote a free and safe Europe; vi) to protect and strengthen our democracy and defend our common European values.

As part of the ‘strengthening democracy and defending European values’ strand, EU common legislative priorities set out a proposal for a Conference on the Future of Europe to provide an opportunity to hear citizens’ views and hold discussions on the way forward for the European project, its institutions and core mission. In this context, this survey has an important focus on the Conference on the future of Europe, measuring attitudes towards the project and some of the key themes to be covered by the Conference.

The fieldwork was conducted during the coronavirus global pandemic, thus some questions were specifically developed to measure attitudes towards the future of Europe in the light of this. Many questions in this survey were developed to reflect these unique circumstances, which explains the limited number of trend questions which can be compared to previous FoE surveys.

The survey was conducted at a time when the coronavirus pandemic was still widely prevalent across all European countries, with continuing impacts on health, the economy and restrictions on multiple aspects of everyday life of European citizens. Several countries had, around mid-March 2020, established a range of public health measures, including physical distancing, and in some cases the closure of schools, businesses, and lockdowns limiting the movement of citizens. Many countries also closed their borders¹². Many of the most stringent public health measures were gradually phased out across the EU between April and June, including the re-opening of borders. However, cases began to rise again from August 2020. Consequently, new public health measures had to be taken again in an attempt to minimise the rise in cases.

On 30 November¹³, i.e. shortly after the end of the fieldwork, the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) reported 322,000 deaths in Europe as a whole and more than 1.4 million deaths worldwide.

The impact of restriction measures to fight the pandemic have had a major impact on the economies of all EU Member States with many people’s incomes and jobs negatively impacted. These impacts have been reflected in public opinion data. The Standard Eurobarometer survey of summer 2020¹⁴ documented a sharp decline in the public perception of the state of the economy, following a period of stability between 2017 and 2019. The proportion of Europeans who thought the current situation of their national economy was ‘good’ fell from 47% to 34% (-13 percentage points) between autumn 2019 and summer 2020. Moreover, most Europeans in summer 2020 had a pessimistic outlook about the future prospects of their country’s economy; more than four in ten thought that their country’s economy would not recover from the adverse effects of the coronavirus outbreak until 2023 or later (42%), while a further 7% felt that it will never recover.

¹ Special Eurobarometer 251:

<http://ec.europa.eu/COMMFronOffice/publicopinion/index.cfm/Survey/getSurveyDetail/instruments/SPECIAL/surveyKy/586/p/4>

² Standard Eurobarometer 71 Spring 2009 – Future of Europe report:

<http://ec.europa.eu/COMMFronOffice/publicopinion/index.cfm/Survey/getSurveyDetail/instruments/STANDARD/surveyKy/829>

³ Special Eurobarometer 379:

<http://ec.europa.eu/COMMFronOffice/publicopinion/index.cfm/Survey/getSurveyDetail/instruments/SPECIAL/surveyKy/1059/p/2>

⁴ Special Eurobarometer 394:

<http://ec.europa.eu/COMMFronOffice/publicopinion/index.cfm/Survey/getSurveyDetail/search/future/surveyKy/1070>

⁵ Special Eurobarometer 413:

<http://ec.europa.eu/COMMFronOffice/publicopinion/index.cfm/Survey/getSurveyDetail/instruments/SPECIAL/surveyKy/2038>

⁶ Special Eurobarometer 451:

<http://ec.europa.eu/commfrontoffice/publicopinion/index.cfm/Survey/getSurveyDetail/instruments/SPECIAL/surveyKy/2131>

⁷ Special Eurobarometer 467:

<http://ec.europa.eu/commfrontoffice/publicopinion/index.cfm/Survey/getSurveyDetail/instruments/SPECIAL/surveyKy/2179>

⁸ Special Eurobarometer 479:

<https://ec.europa.eu/commfrontoffice/publicopinion/index.cfm/Survey/getSurveyDetail/search/future/surveyKy/2217>

⁹ <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/resources/library/media/20201217RES94217/20201217RES94217.pdf>

¹⁰ https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/political-guidelines-next-commission_en_0.pdf

¹¹ Joint Declaration of the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Commission EU Legislative Priorities for 2021

<https://www.europarl.europa.eu/resources/library/media/20201217RES94218/20201217RES94218.pdf>

¹² <https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/novel-coronavirus/event-background-2019>

¹³ <https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/cases-2019-ncov-eueea>

¹⁴ <https://ec.europa.eu/commfrontoffice/publicopinion/index.cfm/survey/getSurveyDetail/instruments/standard/surveyKy/2262>

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The aim of this survey was to measure the opinions of Europeans, in the EU as a whole and in each Member State, on political participation and democracy, their level of interest in participating in the Conference on the future of Europe, the future of Europe and the EU, and the role of the EU in tackling the coronavirus pandemic.

This report is structured into six chapters:

- 1. Attitudes towards the EU and reflecting on its future**, examining Europeans' overall attitudes towards the EU, asking whether membership of the EU is a good thing and whether they are in favour of the EU as it stands. The chapter also examines whether the EU should have more competences to deal with crises such as the coronavirus outbreak, and whether the pandemic has made respondents reflect on the future of the EU.
- 2. Issues relating to democracy in the EU**, starting by looking at ways in which the voice of citizens can be heard at national and EU level, whether decisions about the future of Europe should take more account of citizens' views, and whether there is still work to be done to strengthen democracy in the EU. The chapter then examines attitudes to the process of electing the President of the European Commission through the choice of lead candidates. It also considers how Europeans would prefer to discuss the future of Europe, and how they would like to participate in the Conference on the future of Europe.
- 3. Opinions on the Conference on the future of Europe**, including assessing the willingness of Europeans to be involved in the Conference, and what would encourage them to take part. Respondents are also asked for their views on the impact of the Conference, and who should be involved.
- 4. Reform of the EU institutional setup**, examining issues relating to the European Parliament elections and its consequences for the institutional set-up of the EU; specifically respondents are asked for their views on the inclusion of transnational lists and on the use of lead candidates for electing the President of the European Commission.
- 5. Attitudes towards the future of Europe**, including opinions about the EU's main assets and values, as well as the challenges facing the EU. This chapter then considers the global challenges for the future of the EU and how these should be addressed. This chapter also examines perceptions of the EU's position in the world, important developments for the future of Europe, and an assessment of whether policy issues are best dealt with at the EU or national level, now and in the future.
- 6. Attitudes towards the coronavirus pandemic**, including an assessment of the measures taken by national governments and EU institutions; priorities for the EU's response; and rating of the measures taken by the EU in response to the economic effects of the pandemic. This chapter also examines respondents' future travel plans in the light of the pandemic.

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.

For trend questions, the evolution of results from the previous survey is sometimes shown with EU28 and sometimes with EU27.

Consequences of the coronavirus pandemic on fieldwork

The methodology used is that of Eurobarometer surveys as carried out by the European Commission's and European Parliament's Directorates-General for Communication ("Media monitoring and Eurobarometer" Unit and "Public Opinion Monitoring" Unit). Given the impact of COVID-19 and subsequent health safety measures, the face-to-face methodology was either not possible or only to a certain extent in some countries. In Denmark, Germany, Greece, Latvia, Malta, the Netherlands, Slovenia, Slovakia and Sweden, a share of interviews were conducted online, while the rest were conducted as normal, via face-to-face interviews. In Belgium, Czechia, Estonia, Ireland, Lithuania, Luxembourg and Finland, all interviews were conducted online¹⁵. A technical note on the manner in which the interviews were conducted by the institutes within the Kantar network is appended as an annex to this report. Also included are the interview methods and the confidence intervals.

Where feasible, interviews were conducted face-to-face in people's homes or on their doorstep and in the appropriate national language. In all countries where face-to-face interviewing was feasible CAPI (Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing) was used. For all interviews conducted face to face, hygiene and physical distancing measures have always been respected in line with government regulations, and whenever possible, interviews were conducted outside homes, on doorsteps, to remain in open air and maintain social distance. Where face-to-face interviews were not enough to reach to target or were not feasible at all, interviews were conducted online with Computer-Assisted Web Interviewing (CAWI) technique.

¹⁵ Online interviewing took the form of probabilistic panels and access panels, depending on what is available in the country.

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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	IE	Poland	PL
Greece	EL	Portugal	PT
Spain	ES	Romania	RO
France	FR	Slovenia	SI
Croatia	HR	Slovakia	SK
Italy	IT	Finland	FI
Republic of Cyprus	CY *	Sweden	SE
Latvia	LV		

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

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

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

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



Two-thirds of Europeans think that their country's membership of the EU is a good thing, an all-time high. There is also support for the EU having more competences to deal with crises such as the Coronavirus outbreak

- Two-thirds of Europeans (66%) think that their country's membership of the EU is a good thing, while one in ten (10%) think it is a bad thing, and one in four (24%) are neutral ("neither a good thing nor a bad thing"). Attitudes are the most positive since 2007, and there has been a sharp increase since autumn 2019 (+7 saying it is a good thing).
- Almost half (47%) of Europeans hold a positive image of the EU, while just 14% are negative, the remainder (39%) holding a neutral stance.
- The majority (60%) say that their image of the EU has stayed the same in the past six months, while 26% say it has got worse and 13% that it has improved.
- Around seven in ten respondents (72%) say they are in favour of the EU, with 27% in favour of the EU as it has been realised so far, and 45% in favour but not the way it has been realised until now. Around a quarter are either opposed to the idea of the EU in general (5%) or are rather sceptical, but could change their opinion if radical reform was brought about (21%).
- More than three-quarters of respondents (77%) agree that the EU should have more competences to deal with crises such as the Coronavirus outbreak, while one in five (21%) disagree with the statement.
- Six in ten Europeans (60%) agree that the coronavirus crisis has made them reflect on the future of the EU, while 39% disagree.

There is strong support for EU citizens to have more of a voice in decisions relating to the future of Europe, as well as clear agreement that there is still work to be done to strengthen and protect democracy in the EU

- Voting in European elections is seen as the most effective way of ensuring that citizens' voice is heard by decision-makers at EU level (55%), followed by voting in other elections (26%) and signing a petition (23%).
- More than nine in ten Europeans (92%) agree that EU citizens' voice should be taken more into account for decisions relating to the future of Europe (+5 since the summer of 2020).
- Around nine in ten respondents (89%) agree that there is still work to be done to *strengthen* democracy in the EU, and the same proportion (89%) agree that there is still work to be done to *protect* democracy in the EU.
- Europeans are most likely to say they would like to discuss the future of the EU with friends, family or colleagues (37%), while around a third (32%) would like to discuss it with European politicians, and 29% would discuss it with local or regional politicians. A quarter (25%) say they would like to discuss the future of the EU with citizens from other EU countries.

European citizens express interest in participating in the Conference on the future of Europe. The majority feel that it will represent significant progress for EU democracy, although views are divided on its lasting impact

- Around half of Europeans (51%) say they would be willing to take part, as a citizen, in the activities of the Conference on the future of Europe, although only 14% say that they would

'definitely' take part, while 37% say they would 'probably' take part.

- Respondents would be encouraged to take part in the activities of the Conference on the future of Europe if they were convinced that their participation would have a real impact (50%) and if all parts of society were represented (32%).
- Around three-quarters of Europeans (76%) agree that the Conference would represent significant progress for democracy within the EU.
- The views of Europeans are divided as to the overall impact of the Conference on the future of Europe, with 43% agreeing that the Conference 'would have no real impact, it would not change much', while a slightly higher proportion (47%) disagree.

Europeans are most likely to favour the involvement of ordinary citizens, young people, national governments and academics/experts in the Conference on the future of Europe. The preferred participation methods are local meetings, surveys, putting forward proposals to politicians and online consultations

- The most popular choices for possible contributors to the Conference on the future of Europe are ordinary citizens/people like [them] (51%), young people (47%), national governments (42%) and academics, experts, intellectuals and scientists (40%).
- More than eight in ten Europeans (83%) agree that the Conference should specifically involve young people to foster new ideas, and this includes four in ten (40%) who totally agree.
- Europeans who are willing to get involved in the Conference on the future of Europe would like to be involved through meetings in their local area, for example citizens' debates or assemblies (44%), by answering a survey (34%), putting forward ideas and proposals to European and national politicians (31%) and by taking part in online consultations via discussion platforms (30%).
- Around eight in ten Europeans (81%) agree that the Conference should deal in priority with how the EU could better handle crises such as the coronavirus outbreak, including more than a third (38%) who strongly agree.

A clear majority of Europeans support the process of lead candidates for electing the President of the European Commission. There is also some support for the inclusion of transnational lists in European Parliament elections

- More than two-thirds are in favour of the process for electing the President of the European Commission through the choice of lead candidates, while less than a quarter (22%) say they are not in favour of this process.
- More than six in ten (64%) agree that this approach would bring more transparency to the process of electing the President of the European Commission; that it would give more legitimacy to the European Commission (63%); and that it would represent significant progress for democracy within the EU (62%). A similar proportion (61%) agree that it would only make sense if EU citizens were given the possibility to vote for transnational lists.
- Around half of respondents (49%) agree that this would prevent Member States' governments from choosing the best candidate for the job, while just over a third (35%) disagree.

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- Around two in five Europeans (42%) agree that this approach 'would have no real impact, it would not change much', while a similar proportion (43%) disagree.
- When asked about the possibility of voting for transnational lists in European Parliament elections, respondents are twice as likely to think that this would be a good thing (42%) as to think that it would be a bad thing (19%), while more than third (36%) say they are indifferent or that it doesn't make any difference to them.

A majority of Europeans consider that the best political level on which to deal with various policy areas is equally at the EU level and the national level

- Around half of respondents think that various policy areas should be dealt with equally at the EU level and national level.
- For a majority of policy areas, respondents are more likely to say the issue should be dealt with only or mainly at EU level, rather than only or mainly at national level. This applies most strongly to fighting terrorism (32% vs. 11%), environment and climate change (31% vs. 11%) and migration and refugees (31% vs. 17%).
- There are some policy areas where respondents are more likely to say the issue should be dealt with only or mainly at national level, rather than only or mainly at EU level, such as taxation (41% vs. 16%), education and training (30% vs. 17%), employment and social protection (30% vs. 19%) and health (25% vs. 19%).
- More than four in ten Europeans (42%) say that in ten years' time, they would prefer to see more decisions taken at EU level than they are now, twice as many as the proportion that would prefer to see fewer decisions taken at EU level (20%).

Europeans would like to see Member States working together to address global challenges such as climate change, terrorism and health-related risks

- Europeans think that the EU's main assets are its respect for democracy, human rights and the rule of law (32%) and its economic, industrial and trading power (30%). This is very similar to the previous measure in March 2019.
- Social inequalities (45%), unemployment (44%) and migration issues (43%) are seen as the main challenges facing the EU.
- Thinking about the main global challenges for the future of the EU, respondents highlight climate change and environmental issues (45%), terrorism (38%) and health-related risks (37%).
- In order to make progress on the global challenges for the future of the EU, respondents are much more likely to think that all EU Member States should work and find solutions together (80%) rather than have different Member States making progress individually (16%).
- The three main priorities, in order to face major global challenges, are seen as health and safety (38%), social fairness and equality (38%) and the environment and climate change (37%).

The majority of Europeans think that the EU offers stability and a future perspective for young people

- Two-thirds of Europeans (66%) agree that the EU project offers a future perspective for Europe's youth. A similar proportion (65%) agree that the EU is a place of stability in a troubled world, although this is lower than in the previous survey in 2018 (-11 percentage points).

- Around six in ten (62%) agree that globalisation is an opportunity for economic growth.
- 46% agree that globalisation threatens their country's identity, lower than the proportion in 2018 (-7).
- A similar proportion (45%) agree that the interests of people like them are well taken into account by the political system in their country, a slight decrease from the 2018 figure (-4).

Peace, freedom of opinion and social equality and solidarity are the values that are best embodied by the EU

- Around half of respondents think that peace (50%), freedom of opinion (49%) and social equality and solidarity (47%) are the main values best embodied by the EU. Findings are very similar to those seen in the 2018 survey.
- Comparable living standards (35%) and stronger solidarity among Member States (30%) are regarded as the two most helpful developments for the future of Europe, followed by a common health policy (25%) and comparable education standards (22%).

Most Europeans are positive towards the economic measures taken by the EU in response to the coronavirus pandemic. However, there is criticism on the EU's response overall. Respondents want the EU to prioritise a European health policy and investment for treatments and vaccinations, in response to the pandemic.

- Half of Europeans (49%) are not satisfied with the measures taken by EU institutions to fight the coronavirus pandemic, higher than the proportion who are satisfied (40%). Satisfaction has fallen since summer 2020 (-5 percentage points).
- In response to the pandemic, Europeans would like the EU to prioritise the development of a European health policy (32%), investment for treatments and vaccinations (30%) and a European strategy to tackle a similar crisis in the future (26%).
- At least two-thirds of Europeans consider that the various economic measures taken by the EU in response to the pandemic are effective: EU financial support to keep people in jobs (74%), public subsidies to companies facing difficulties (72%), the recovery plan of 750 billion euros to support the economy ('Next Generation EU') (68%), and allowing national governments to make public deficit to support the economy (67%).
- Three in ten respondents (30%) say they will stop travelling completely until the pandemic is over, while 28% say they will only travel in their own country or region and 22% will prefer shorter distance journeys closer to home. However, 13% say they intend to travel as much as in the past or to spend more money on travel than they have previously (4%).

I. EU CITIZENS AND THE EU (CONTEXT QUESTIONS)



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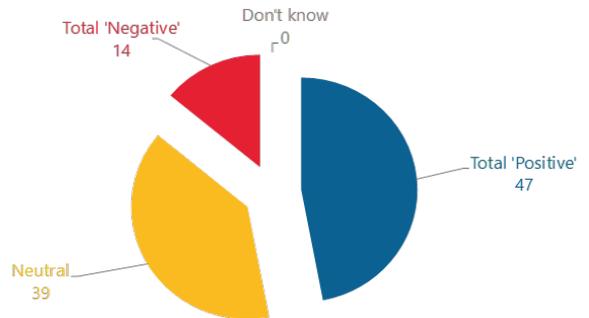
This first chapter covers Europeans' overall attitudes towards the EU, asking whether membership of the EU is a good thing and whether they are in favour of the EU as it stands. It also examines whether the EU should have more competences to deal with crises such as the coronavirus outbreak, and whether the pandemic has made respondents reflect on the future of the EU.

Almost half of Europeans hold a positive image of the EU, and citizens are more likely to give a positive than a negative response in all EU Member States

Almost half (47%) of Europeans hold a positive image of the EU, while just 14% hold a negative image. Around four in ten Europeans have a 'neutral' image (39%) of the EU.

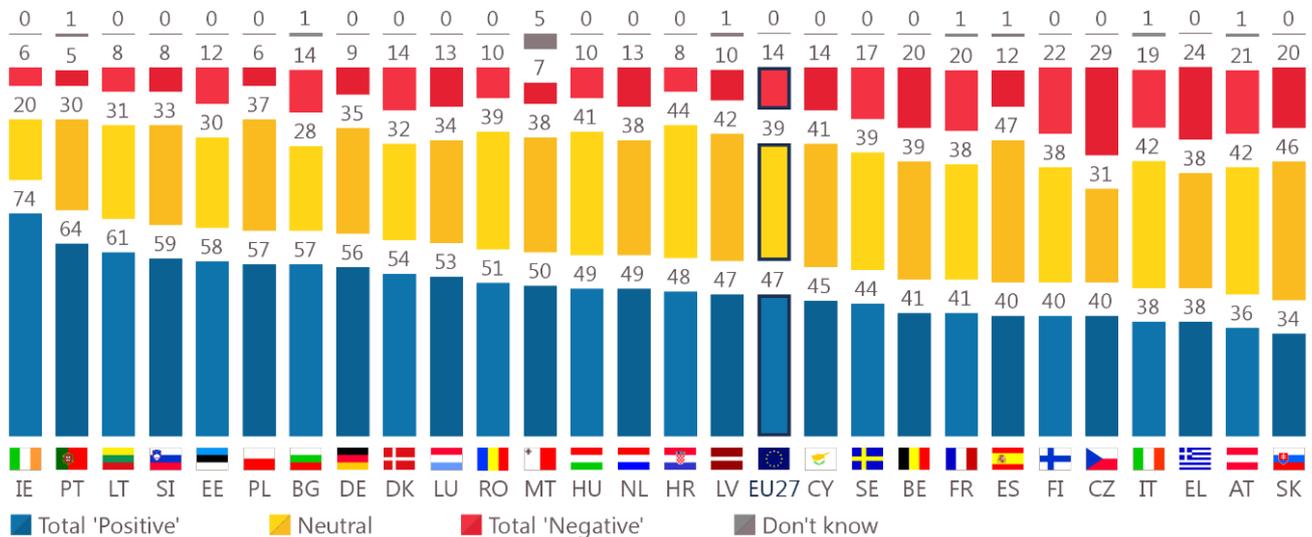
In every country, more people perceive the EU positively than negatively. In 12 of the 27 EU Member States, at least half have a positive image of the EU. The countries with the most positive rating of the EU are Ireland (74%), Portugal (64%) and Lithuania (61%), with more than six in ten in each of these countries giving a positive rating. The countries with the least positive image of the EU are Slovakia (34%), Austria (36%), Greece and Italy (both 38%), with less than four in ten in each giving a positive rating.

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



In most countries, a positive rating is the predominant viewpoint. However, in five countries the pattern is different. A neutral rating is the majority view in Spain (47%), Slovakia (46%), Italy and Austria (42%) and the neutral and positive ratings are equally balanced in Greece (38%).

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



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The **socio-demographic** analysis shows that men are more likely than women to say that the EU conjures up a positive image for them (49% vs. 46%).

In terms of age, younger respondents are more likely to hold a positive image of the EU than older respondents (51% of those aged 15-24 vs. 44% of those aged 55 or over), while respondents who left education at the age of 20 or above are more likely to say that the EU conjures up a positive image (53%), compared with those who left by the age of 15 (36%).

Differences can also be seen by socio-professional category, with managers (61%) more likely to see EU membership as a good thing than housepersons (33%) or unemployed respondents (29%). Respondents who have difficulties paying bills most of the time are less likely to think EU membership is a good thing than those who never or rarely have difficulties (35% vs. 52%).

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

	Total 'Positive'	Total 'Negative'	Neutral
EU27	47	14	39
 Gender			
Man	49	15	36
Woman	46	14	40
 Age			
15-24	51	11	38
25-39	49	13	38
40-54	48	14	38
55+	44	16	39
 Education (End of)			
15-	36	20	43
16-19	43	15	42
20+	53	12	35
Still studying	58	9	33
 Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	51	14	35
Managers	61	10	29
Other white collars	47	14	39
Manual workers	42	14	43
House persons	33	20	47
Unemployed	29	21	50
Retired	46	16	37
Students	58	9	33
 Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	35	24	40
From time to time	39	17	43
Almost never/ Never	52	12	36

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Two-thirds of Europeans think that their country's membership of the EU is a good thing, an all-time high

Two-thirds of Europeans (66%) think that their **country's membership of the EU is a good thing**, while one in ten (10%) think it is a bad thing, and one in four (24%) are neutral.

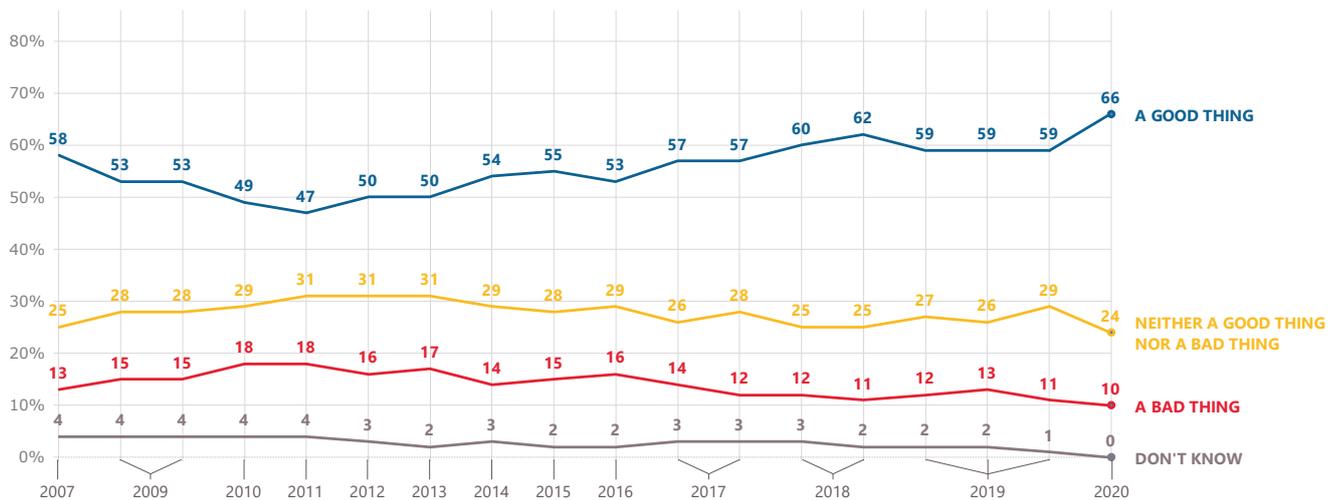
Attitudes have become more positive since autumn 2019, with an increase in the proportion saying their country's membership of the EU is a good thing (+7 percentage points). As a result, the current position is the most positive ever since the question was first asked in 2007.

In every Member State except for Italy, a majority of respondents say that their country's membership of the EU is a good thing. In Italy, equal proportions say it is a good thing with those saying they are neutral (both 43%).

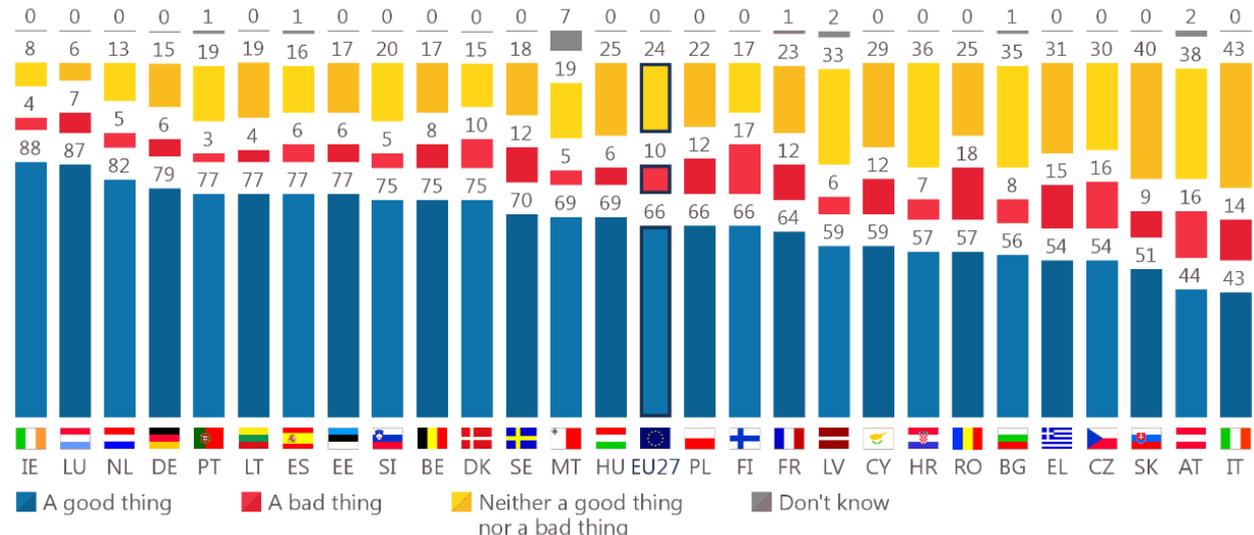
Respondents are most likely to see membership of the EU as a good thing in Ireland (88%), Luxembourg (87%), the Netherlands (82%) and Germany (79%), while the lowest proportions are found in Italy (43%) and Austria (44%).

The proportion who thinks their country's membership of the EU is a bad thing ranges from 18% in Romania to 3% in Portugal.

QA26 Generally speaking, do you think that (OUR COUNTRY)'s membership of the EU is...? (% - EU)



QA26 Generally speaking, do you think that (OUR COUNTRY)'s membership of the EU is...? (%)



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In the **socio-demographic** analysis, men are slightly more likely than women to think that their country's membership of the EU is a good thing (68% vs. 64%), while younger respondents are more likely than older respondents to take this view (70% of those aged 15-24 vs. 64% of those aged 55 or over).

Respondents who left education at the age of 20 or above are more likely to think EU membership is a good thing (75%), compared with those who left by the age of 15 (53%).

There is also a difference by socio-professional category, with managers (79%) more likely to see EU membership as a good thing than housepersons or unemployed respondents (both 54%). Respondents who have difficulties paying bills most of the time are less likely to think EU membership is a good thing (51% vs. 73% of those who never or rarely have difficulties).

QA26 Generally speaking, do you think that (OUR COUNTRY)'s membership of the EU is...?
(% - EU)

	A good thing	A bad thing	Neither a good thing nor a bad thing
EU27	66	10	24
 Gender			
Man	68	11	21
Woman	64	10	26
 Age			
15-24	70	9	20
25-39	68	10	22
40-54	66	10	24
55+	64	10	26
 Education (End of)			
15-	53	13	33
16-19	60	12	28
20+	75	8	17
Still studying	76	6	17
 Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	66	12	22
Managers	79	6	15
Other white collars	67	8	25
Manual workers	61	12	26
House persons	54	12	34
Unemployed	54	15	31
Retired	64	10	25
Students	76	6	17
 Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	51	17	31
From time to time	54	15	31
Almost never/ Never	73	7	20

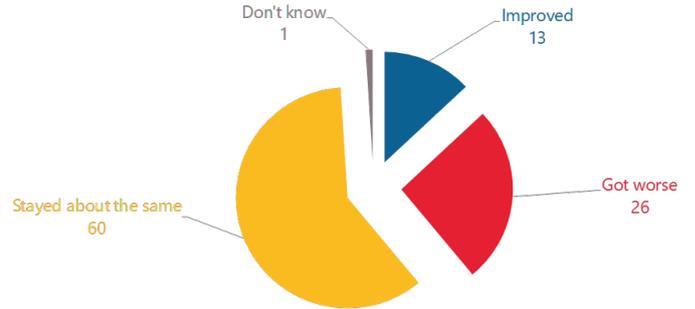
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Six in ten Europeans have not changed their opinion of the EU in the last six months. Among those whose perception has changed, respondents are more likely to say their image has got worse than better and this is reflected across most Member States

Respondents were asked to reflect on their **image of the EU over the past six months**, which broadly covered the period May 2020 - October 2020 which was during the period of the pandemic. Most Europeans (60%) say that the image they have of the EU has stayed the same in the past six months, while 26% say the image they have of the EU has got worse and 13% say it has improved.

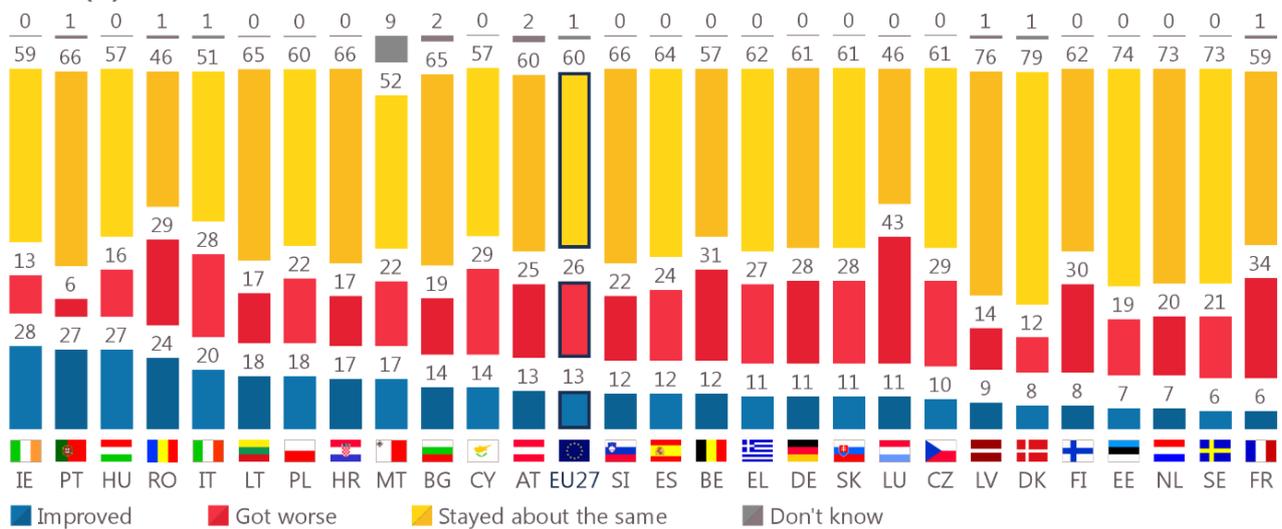
The most dominant opinion in all countries is that respondents' image of the EU had stayed the same over the past six months: between 46% and 79% give this response. However, on balance, respondents in most countries are more likely to say that their opinion of the EU has got worse rather than better. The only exceptions to this are Ireland, Portugal, Hungary and Lithuania, where the opposite pattern occurs and a higher proportion say their image has improved; and in Croatia, where views are evenly balanced.

QA27 In the past six months, would you say that this image you have of the EU improved, got worse or stayed about the same? (% - EU)



Respondents in Ireland, Portugal, Hungary and Romania are most likely to say their image of the EU has improved, around one in four (24%-28%) giving this response. On the other hand, respondents in the following countries are most likely to say that their image of the EU has got worse: Luxembourg (43%), France (34%), Belgium (31%) and Finland (30%).

QA27 In the past six months, would you say that this image you have of the EU improved, got worse or stayed about the same? (%)



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The **socio-demographic** analysis shows a very consistent picture across the various groups, with very few differences. Unemployed respondents are more likely than other groups to say their image of the EU has got worse (31%) and are less likely to say it has improved (6%).

Respondents who have difficulties paying their bills most of the time are more likely to say their image of the EU has got worse (34%), compared with those who never or almost never have difficulties (23%).

QA27 In the past six months, would you say that this image you have of the EU improved, got worse or stayed about the same?
(% - EU)

	Improved	Got worse	Stayed about the same
EU27	13	26	60
 Gender			
Man	14	27	59
Woman	13	25	61
 Age			
15-24	14	24	61
25-39	14	27	59
40-54	14	28	58
55+	12	25	62
 Education (End of)			
15-	12	26	61
16-19	13	28	58
20+	14	24	62
Still studying	17	22	60
 Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	16	29	54
Managers	15	23	62
Other white collars	16	25	59
Manual workers	14	28	58
House persons	10	28	61
Unemployed	6	31	62
Retired	11	24	64
Students	17	22	60
 Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	13	34	52
From time to time	16	31	53
Almost never/ Never	13	23	64

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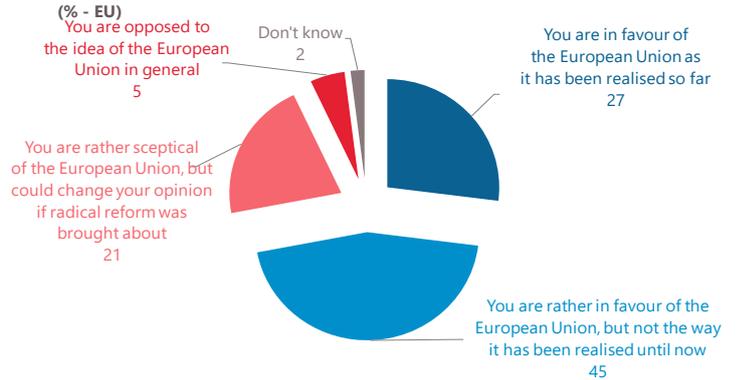
Seven in ten Europeans say they are in favour of the EU, although nearly half qualify this by saying they are in favour, but not in the way it has been realised until now

Around seven in ten respondents (72%) say they are **in favour of the EU**; specifically, 27% say they are in favour of the EU as it has been realised so far, and 45% say they are in favour, but not the way it has been realised until now. Around a quarter (26%) have more negative views, including 21% who say they are rather sceptical of the EU, but could change their opinion if radical reform was brought about, and 5% who say they are opposed to the idea of the EU in general.

In every Member State, more than half of respondents say they are in favour of the EU. Respondents are most likely to be in favour of the EU in Ireland (86%), Estonia and Luxembourg (both 82%) and Germany (80%). Respondents in Cyprus (56%), France and Austria (both 61%) are least likely to be in favour of the EU.

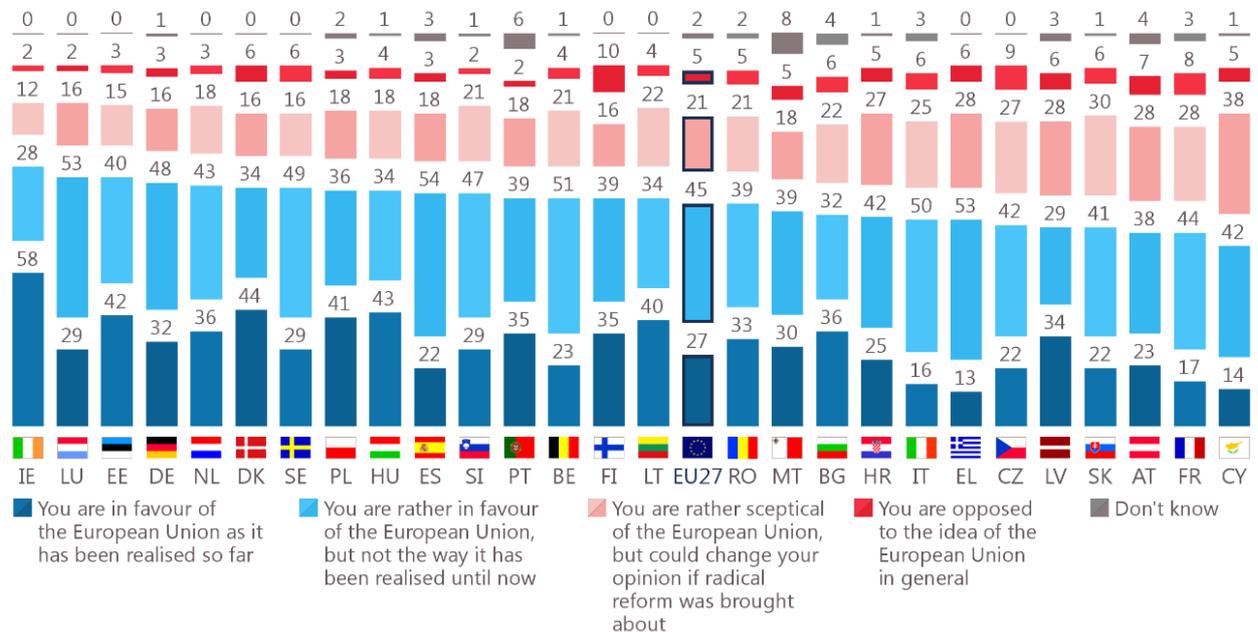
More than half of respondents in Ireland (58%) say that they are in favour of the EU 'as it has been realised so far', and this also applies to more than four in ten respondents in Denmark (44%), Hungary (43%), Estonia (42%) and Poland (41%).

QA29 Which of the following statements regarding the European Union is closest to your opinion? (% - EU)



Negative views are most prevalent in Cyprus (where 43% oppose the idea of the EU or are sceptical towards it), Czechia, France and Slovakia (all 36%). Respondents in Finland are the most likely to say that they are opposed to the idea of the EU in general (10%).

QA29 Which of the following statements regarding the European Union is closest to your opinion? (%)



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In the **socio-demographic** analysis, younger respondents are more likely to be in favour of the EU than older respondents. The proportion that say they are in favour of the EU as it has been realised so far is highest among respondents aged 15-24 and 25-39 (both 30%), while the proportion that are sceptical or opposed to the idea of the EU ranges from 21% among those aged 15-24 to 29% among those aged 55 or over.

There is a difference by level of education: those who finished their education at the age of 20 or above are more likely to say they are in favour of the EU as it has been realised so far (29% compared with 22% of those who left education by the age of 15)

or that they are in favour of the EU but not the way it has been realised until now (48% compared with 41%).

Respondents who have difficulties paying bills most of the time are more likely to be sceptical or opposed to the idea of the EU (36% vs. 23% of those who never or almost never have difficulties), and are less likely to be in favour of the EU as it has been realised so far (17% vs. 30%).

QA29 Which of the following statements regarding the European Union is closest to your opinion?
(% - EU)

	You are in favour of the European Union as it has been realised so far	You are rather in favour of the European Union, but not the way it has been realised until now	You are rather sceptical of the European Union, but could change your opinion if radical reform was brought about	You are opposed to the idea of the European Union in general	Don't know
EU27	27	45	21	5	2
 Gender					
Man	26	46	22	5	1
Woman	28	44	21	5	2
 Age					
15-24	30	46	17	4	3
25-39	30	45	20	4	1
40-54	25	47	22	5	1
55+	26	43	23	6	2
 Education (End of)					
15-	22	41	24	8	5
16-19	26	42	25	6	1
20+	29	48	18	4	1
Still studying	31	50	14	3	2
 Socio-professional category					
Self-employed	26	46	22	5	1
Managers	30	51	16	2	1
Other white collars	27	48	20	4	1
Manual workers	25	43	24	6	2
House persons	25	40	22	8	5
Unemployed	19	43	25	9	4
Retired	27	41	23	6	3
Students	31	50	14	3	2
 Difficulties paying bills					
Most of the time	17	44	27	9	3
From time to time	23	44	25	6	2
Almost never/ Never	30	46	19	4	1

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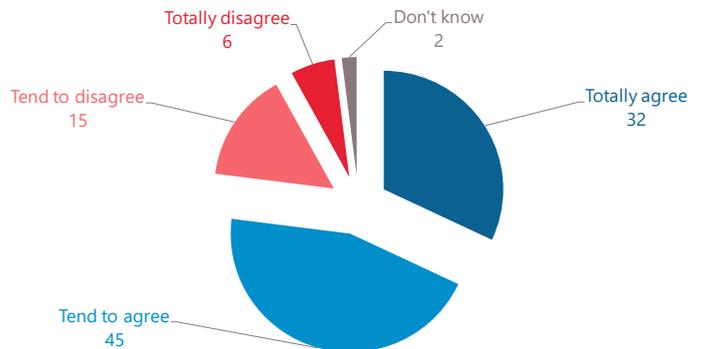
Around three in four Europeans agree that the EU should have more competences to deal with crises such as the Coronavirus outbreak

More than three-quarters of respondents (77%) agree that **the EU should have more competences to deal with crises such as the Coronavirus outbreak**, including a third (32%) who 'totally agree'. One in five respondents (21%) disagree with the statement, including 6% who 'totally disagree'.

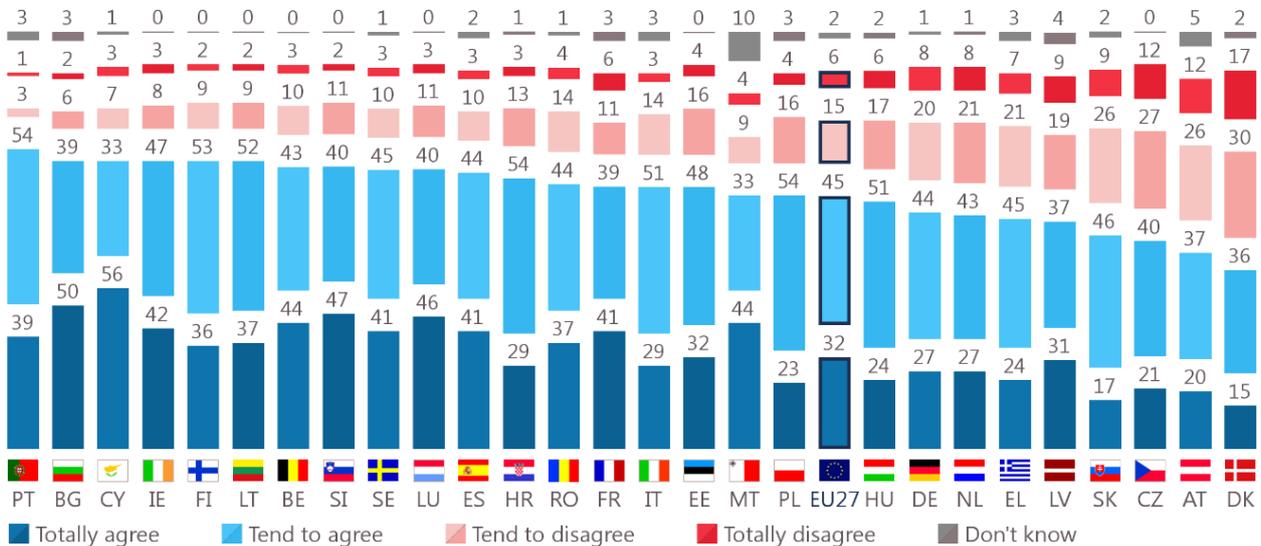
In every Member State, the majority of respondents agree that **the EU should have more competences to deal with crises such as the Coronavirus outbreak**. Respondents are most likely to agree in Portugal (93%), Bulgaria, Cyprus, Ireland, Finland and Lithuania (all 89%). Respondents are least likely to agree in Denmark (51%), Austria (57%), Czechia (61%) and Slovakia (63%).

In Cyprus (56%) and Bulgaria (50%), at least half of respondents 'totally agree' that the EU should have more competences to deal with crises such as the Coronavirus outbreak. The highest levels of disagreement are seen in Denmark (47%), Czechia (39%) Austria (38%) and Slovakia (35%).

QA28 To what extent do you agree with the following statement: the EU should have more competences to deal with crises such as the Coronavirus outbreak? (% - EU)



QA28 To what extent do you agree with the following statement: the EU should have more competences to deal with crises such as the Coronavirus outbreak? (%)



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In the **socio-demographic** analysis, respondents aged 15-24 are the most likely to agree that the EU should have more competences to deal with crises such as the Coronavirus outbreak (81%) and are least likely to disagree (17%). In terms of socio-professional groups, levels of agreement are highest among students (84%) and white collar workers (80%).

Respondents who hold a positive image of the EU are more likely than those who hold a negative image to agree that the EU should have more competences to deal with this type of crisis (87% vs. 52%).

QA28 To what extent do you agree with the following statement: the EU should have more competences to deal with crises such as the Coronavirus outbreak?
(% - EU)

	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Don't know / Not applicable
EU27	77	21	2
 Gender			
Man	77	21	2
Woman	78	20	2
 Age			
15-24	81	17	2
25-39	80	19	1
40-54	76	23	1
55+	77	21	2
 Education (End of)			
15-	78	18	4
16-19	77	21	2
20+	77	22	1
Still studying	84	14	2
 Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	74	25	1
Managers	77	22	1
Other white collars	80	19	1
Manual workers	77	21	2
House persons	77	20	3
Unemployed	77	20	3
Retired	76	21	3
Students	84	14	2
 Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	77	19	4
From time to time	78	20	2
Almost never/ Never	77	21	2
 Consider belonging to			
The working class	79	18	3
The lower middle class	75	24	1
The middle class	79	20	1
The upper middle class	75	24	1
The upper class	78	21	1

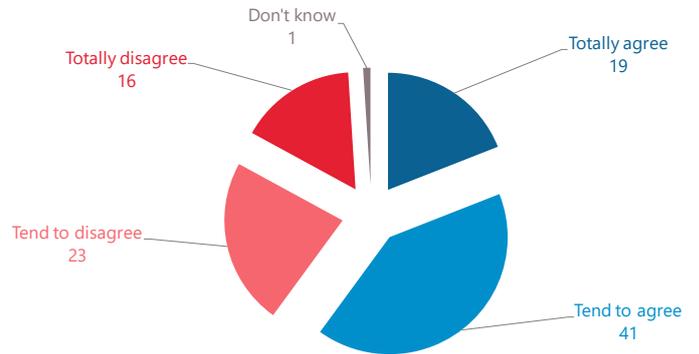
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Six in ten Europeans say that the pandemic has made them reflect on the future of the EU and this is the majority opinion in most EU countries

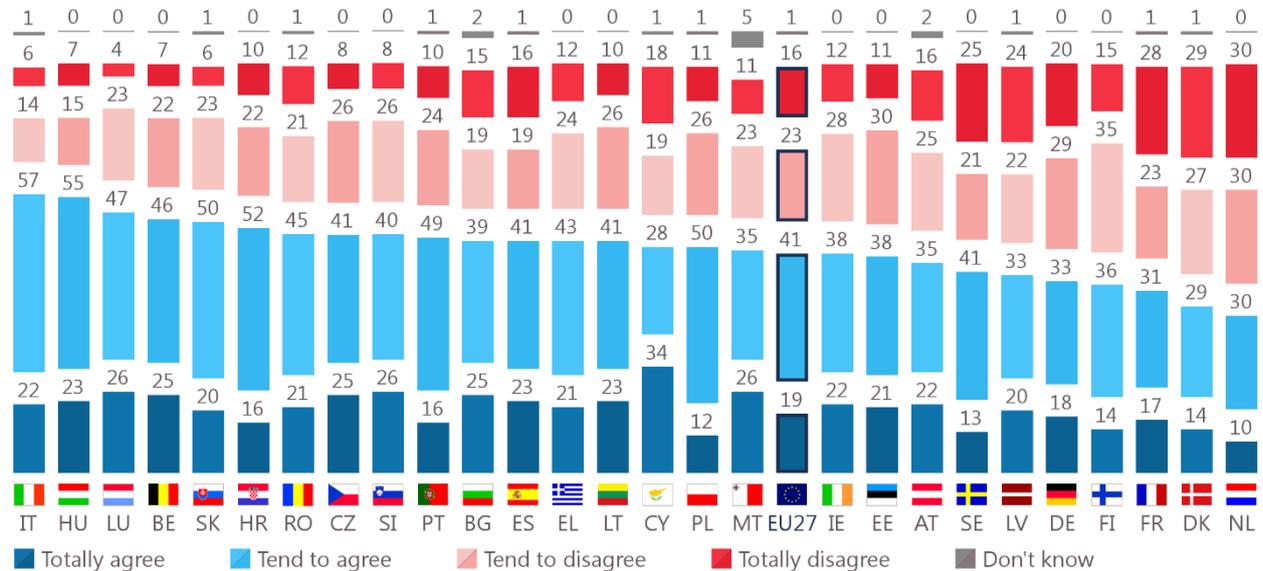
Six in ten Europeans (60%) agree that the coronavirus crisis has made them **reflect on the future of the European Union** (19% 'totally agree' and 41% 'tend to agree') while 39% disagree with this (23% 'tend to disagree' and 16% 'totally disagree').

In all but four Member States (Netherlands, Denmark, France and Finland), a majority agree that the crisis has made them **reflect on the future of the EU**. The countries most likely to say that the crisis has made them reflect are Italy (79%), Hungary (78%), Luxembourg (73%) and Belgium (71%), with more than seven in ten stating this viewpoint.

QA14 The Coronavirus crisis made you reflect on the future of the European Union: (% - EU)



QA14 The Coronavirus crisis made you reflect on the future of the European Union: (%)



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In the **socio-demographic** analysis, women are more likely than men to agree that that the crisis has made them reflect on the future of the EU (62% vs. 58%), as well as respondents aged 15-24 (65% vs. 59%-60% in the other age groups).

Respondents who left education at the age of 20 or above are less likely to agree (56%) and are more likely to disagree (44%) than those who left education at a younger age.

Agreement with the statement is higher among respondents who say their view of the EU has improved in the last six months (76%), compared with those who say it has got worse (62%).

QA14 The Coronavirus crisis made you reflect on the future of the European Union:
(% - EU)

	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Don't know
EU27	60	39	1
 Gender			
Man	58	41	1
Woman	62	37	1
 Age			
15-24	65	35	0
25-39	59	41	0
40-54	59	41	0
55+	60	39	1
 Education (End of)			
15-	59	39	2
16-19	63	37	0
20+	56	44	0
Still studying	65	34	1
 Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	59	41	0
Managers	55	45	0
Other white collars	64	36	0
Manual workers	62	38	0
House persons	60	39	1
Unemployed	53	46	1
Retired	59	39	2
Students	65	34	1
 Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	62	37	1
From time to time	66	33	1
Almost never/ Never	57	42	1

II. THE GENERAL QUESTIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE CONFERENCE ON THE FUTURE OF EUROPE



Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

This chapter examines issues relating to democracy in the EU. It starts by looking at ways in which the voice of citizens can be heard at national and EU levels, whether decisions about the future of Europe should take better account of citizens' views, and whether there is still work to be done to strengthen democracy in the EU. It then examines attitudes to the process of electing the President of the European Commission through the choice of lead candidates. The chapter also considers how Europeans would prefer to discuss the future of Europe, and how they would like to participate in the Conference on the future of Europe.

1. Democracy

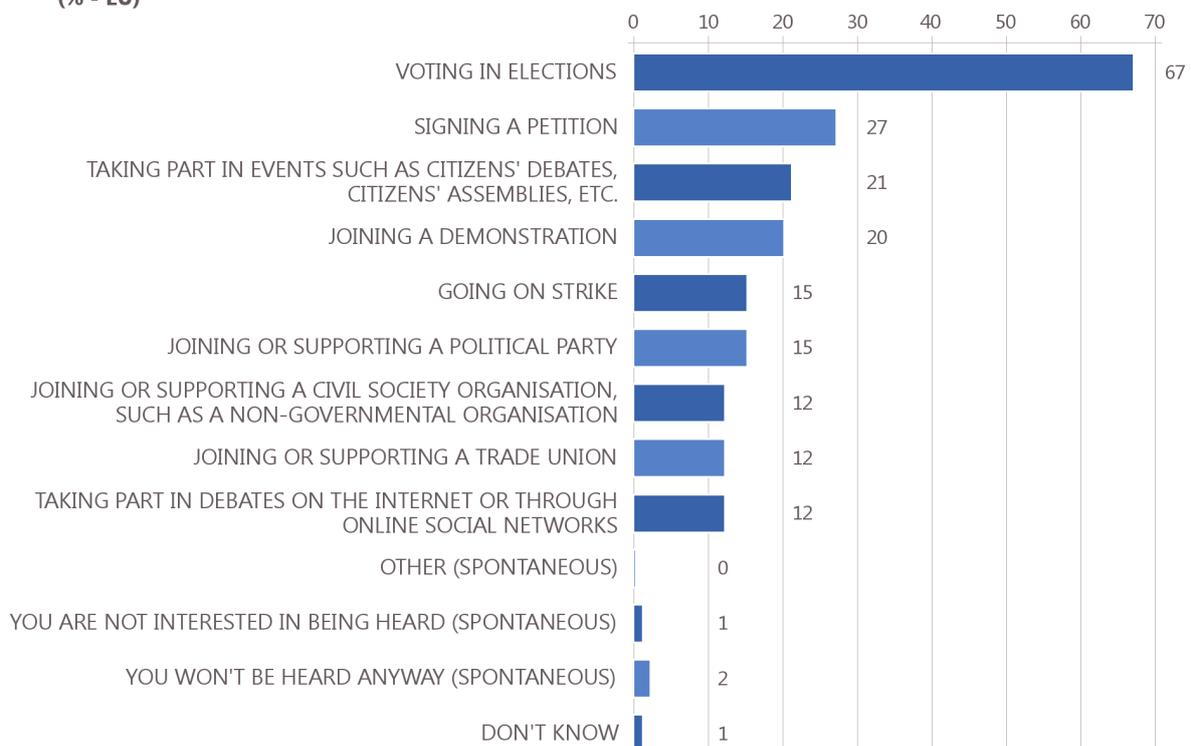
Voting in elections is seen as the best way of ensuring the voice of citizens is heard

Respondents were asked what they thought were the best ways of ensuring that their voice is heard by decision-makers at the **national level**, choosing up to three answers from a list of nine. Two-thirds of respondents (67%) say that **voting in elections** is the best way of ensuring that their voice is heard, making it by far the most frequent response. Just over one in four (27%) mention **signing a petition**, while around one in five mention taking part in **events such as citizens' debates and assemblies** (21%) and **joining a demonstration** (20%).

Going on strike and **joining or supporting a political party** are both mentioned by 15% of respondents, while the remaining options are each chosen by 12%: **joining or supporting a civil society organisation**, such as a non-governmental organisation, **joining or supporting a trade union** and **taking part in online debates**.

Overall, 3% of Europeans say spontaneously either that they 'wouldn't be heard anyway' or that they 'have no interest in being heard'.

QA1 Which of the following do you think are the best ways of ensuring your voice is heard by decision-makers at national level? (MAX. 3 ANSWERS)
(% - EU)

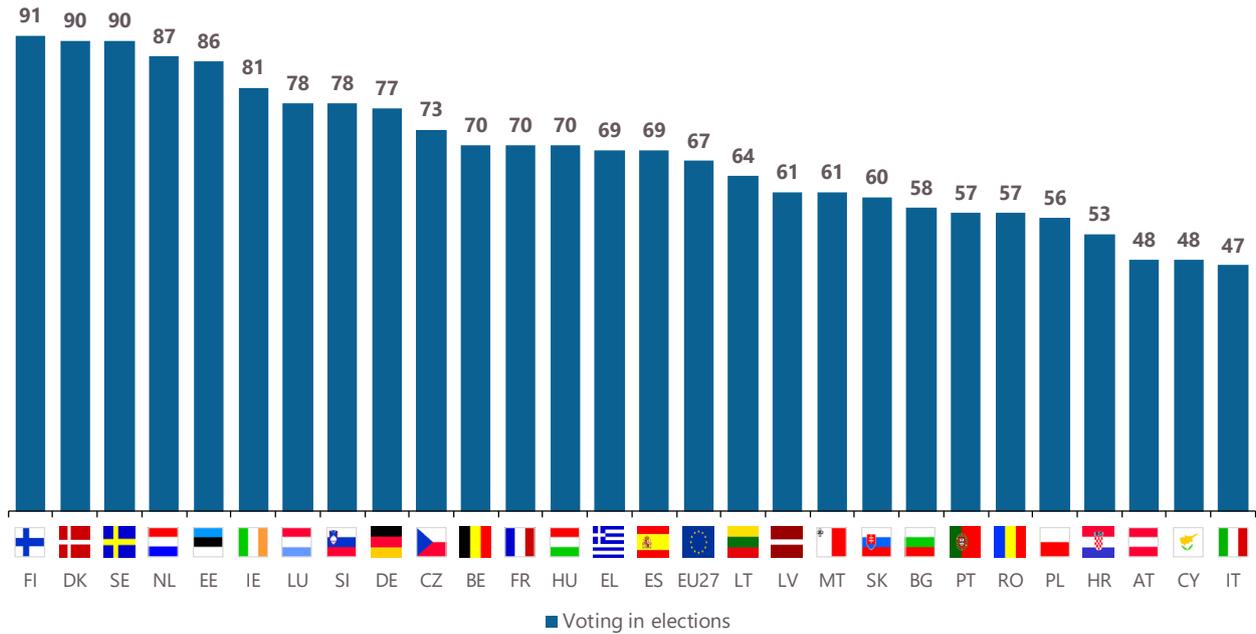


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In every Member State, **voting in elections** ranks highest as the best way of ensuring that the voice of citizens is heard by decision-makers at the national level. However, the proportions that choose this option vary: in six countries, more than eight in ten say voting in elections is the best way of getting one's voice heard: Finland

(91%), Denmark and Sweden (both 90%), the Netherlands (87%), Estonia (86%) and Ireland (81%). At the other end of the scale, voting in elections is chosen by less than half of respondents in Italy (47%), Austria and Cyprus (both 48%).

QA1 Which of the following do you think are the best ways of ensuring your voice is heard by decision-makers at national level? (MAX. 3 ANSWERS)
(% - THE MOST MENTIONED ANSWER BY COUNTRY)



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As seen above, **voting in elections** is the top ranked answer in every Member State. **Signing a petition** ranks second in 21 countries as the best way of ensuring the voice of citizens is heard by decision-makers at the national level. It is mentioned most frequently by respondents in Luxembourg (48%), Croatia and the Netherlands (both 40%), and least frequently by respondents in Spain (12%) and Portugal (16%).

In 15 countries, taking part in **events such as citizens' debates and assemblies** ranks among the top three responses, and this is most likely to be mentioned by respondents in Ireland (31%) and Lithuania (29%), while respondents in Latvia (9%) and Spain (10%) are least likely to give this answer.

Respondents in Bulgaria and Cyprus (both 26%), Germany and Italy (both 23%) are most likely to say that **joining a demonstration** is one of the best ways of citizens getting their voice heard by national decision-makers, while this is least likely to be chosen by respondents in Finland (7%) and Hungary (10%).

Going on strike is chosen most frequently by respondents in Spain (21%), Greece, Lithuania and Poland (all 19%), and least frequently by respondents in Denmark (6%), Luxembourg and the Netherlands (both 7%).

The proportion that mention **joining or supporting a political party** is highest in Sweden (41%) and the Netherlands (33%) and is lowest in Spain (6%), France and Poland (both 7%).

Respondents in Estonia (31%) are most likely to mention **joining or supporting a civil society organisation**, followed by those in Ireland (23%) and Sweden (21%), while the lowest proportions are seen in Portugal and Spain (both 5%).

Joining or supporting a trade union is mentioned most frequently by respondents in the Netherlands (27%), Denmark, Finland and Sweden (all 26%), and is least frequently chosen by those in Spain (6%), Bulgaria and Cyprus (both 7%).

Finally, respondents in Lithuania are most likely to favour **taking part in online debates** (24%), while this is least likely to be chosen in Portugal (8%).

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Future of Europe

QA1 Which of the following do you think are the best ways of ensuring your voice is heard by decision-makers at national level? (MAX. 3 ANSWERS)
(%)

		Voting in elections	Signing a petition	Taking part in events such as citizens' debates, citizens' assemblies, etc.	Joining a demonstration	Going on strike	Joining or supporting a political party	Joining or supporting a civil society organisation, such as a non-governmental organisation	Joining or supporting a trade union	Taking part in debates on the Internet or through online social networks	Other (SPONTANEOUS)	You are not interested in being heard (SPONTANEOUS)	You won't be heard anyway (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU27		67	27	21	20	15	15	12	12	12	0	1	2	1
BE		70	38	25	20	13	19	18	18	12	0	0	0	0
BG		58	17	14	26	17	16	10	7	14	0	1	6	2
CZ		73	39	28	13	11	27	14	10	12	0	0	0	0
DK		90	22	27	11	6	26	10	26	10	0	0	0	0
DE		77	32	28	23	10	19	10	14	12	0	1	1	0
EE		86	21	24	13	15	25	31	14	11	0	0	0	0
IE		81	34	31	15	13	21	23	17	10	0	0	0	0
EL		69	35	25	22	19	13	11	9	18	0	1	4	0
ES		69	12	10	18	21	6	5	6	10	1	1	5	2
FR		70	32	17	22	17	7	12	11	10	0	1	1	1
HR		53	40	21	22	17	14	17	9	18	0	1	1	0
IT		47	24	23	23	22	18	16	10	10	0	1	3	1
CY		48	31	18	26	15	12	14	7	17	0	2	6	1
LV		61	18	9	14	16	10	12	9	16	0	1	4	3
LT		64	39	29	20	19	15	17	17	24	0	0	0	0
LU		78	48	28	14	7	21	14	21	9	0	0	0	0
HU		70	25	13	10	8	10	10	12	11	0	2	2	1
MT		61	34	16	13	17	18	15	21	13	1	2	2	2
NL		87	40	19	11	7	33	17	27	11	0	0	0	1
AT		48	27	20	17	11	17	13	15	14	2	6	10	2
PL		56	27	23	19	19	7	15	9	16	0	2	2	1
PT		57	16	16	22	14	13	5	10	8	0	3	12	3
RO		57	17	16	17	13	13	15	10	13	0	3	2	1
SI		78	35	24	16	12	19	14	12	15	0	1	1	0
SK		60	39	15	16	17	14	12	10	11	0	2	4	1
FI		91	38	15	7	11	24	14	26	9	0	0	0	0
SE		90	19	17	14	10	41	21	26	12	0	0	0	0
		1st MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM												
		2nd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM												
		3rd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM												

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In the **socio-demographic** analysis, women are more likely than men to say that signing a petition is one of the best ways of ensuring the voice of citizens is heard by decision-makers at the national level (30% v 25%). However, men are slightly more likely than women to mention joining a demonstration (21% vs. 18%), going on strike (17% vs. 14%) and joining or supporting a political party (17% vs. 14%).

There are clear differences by age, with younger respondents more likely to favour joining a demonstration (30% of those aged 15-24 vs. 13% of those aged 55 or over), going on strike (20% vs. 11%) and taking part in online debates (21% vs. 7%), while older respondents are more likely to say that voting in elections is the best way of citizens getting their voice heard (71% of those aged 55 or over vs. 60% of those aged 15-24).

There are differences by level of education. Respondents who stayed in education until the age of 20 or above are more likely to mention several of the options, especially voting in elections (73% vs. 63% of those who left education by the age of 15), signing a petition (29% vs. 18%) and taking part in events such as citizens' debates and assemblies (24% vs. 14%).

Respondents who have difficulties paying bills most of the time are more likely to mention going on strike (23% vs. 13% of those who never or almost never have difficulties) but are less likely to mention voting in elections (52% vs. 72%).

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Future of Europe

QA1 Which of the following do you think are the best ways of ensuring your voice is heard by decision-makers at national level? (MAX. 3 ANSWERS)
(% - EU)

	Voting in elections	Signing a petition	Taking part in events such as citizens' debates, citizens' assemblies, etc.	Joining a demonstration	Going on strike	Joining or supporting a political party	Joining or supporting a civil society organisation, such as a non-governmental organisation	Joining or supporting a trade union	Taking part in debates on the Internet or through online social networks
EU27	67	27	21	20	15	15	12	12	12
 Gender									
Man	66	25	21	21	17	17	13	12	12
Woman	67	30	21	18	14	14	12	12	11
 Age									
15-24	60	28	20	30	20	17	13	9	21
25-39	64	26	22	25	20	16	14	15	14
40-54	67	29	22	20	16	15	14	13	11
55+	71	26	19	13	11	14	10	11	7
 Education (End of)									
15-	63	18	14	14	14	11	6	9	5
16-19	64	28	20	20	17	14	10	12	11
20+	73	29	24	18	13	17	17	14	13
Still studying	63	29	23	32	20	19	15	12	21
 Socio-professional category									
Self-employed	65	24	22	21	14	17	16	9	13
Managers	73	30	28	19	14	18	17	14	14
Other white collars	67	30	22	21	17	17	14	13	13
Manual workers	62	25	20	23	18	12	11	15	12
House persons	61	28	14	16	16	14	11	8	8
Unemployed	60	27	14	21	21	13	12	11	11
Retired	73	27	19	12	10	14	9	10	6
Students	63	29	23	32	20	19	15	12	21
 Difficulties paying bills									
Most of the time	52	23	17	22	23	12	12	11	11
From time to time	57	27	19	24	20	14	12	13	12
Almost never/ Never	72	28	22	18	13	16	13	12	12

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Europeans say voting in European elections is the most effective way of ensuring their voices are heard at EU level, with this viewpoint particularly prevalent in Nordic countries

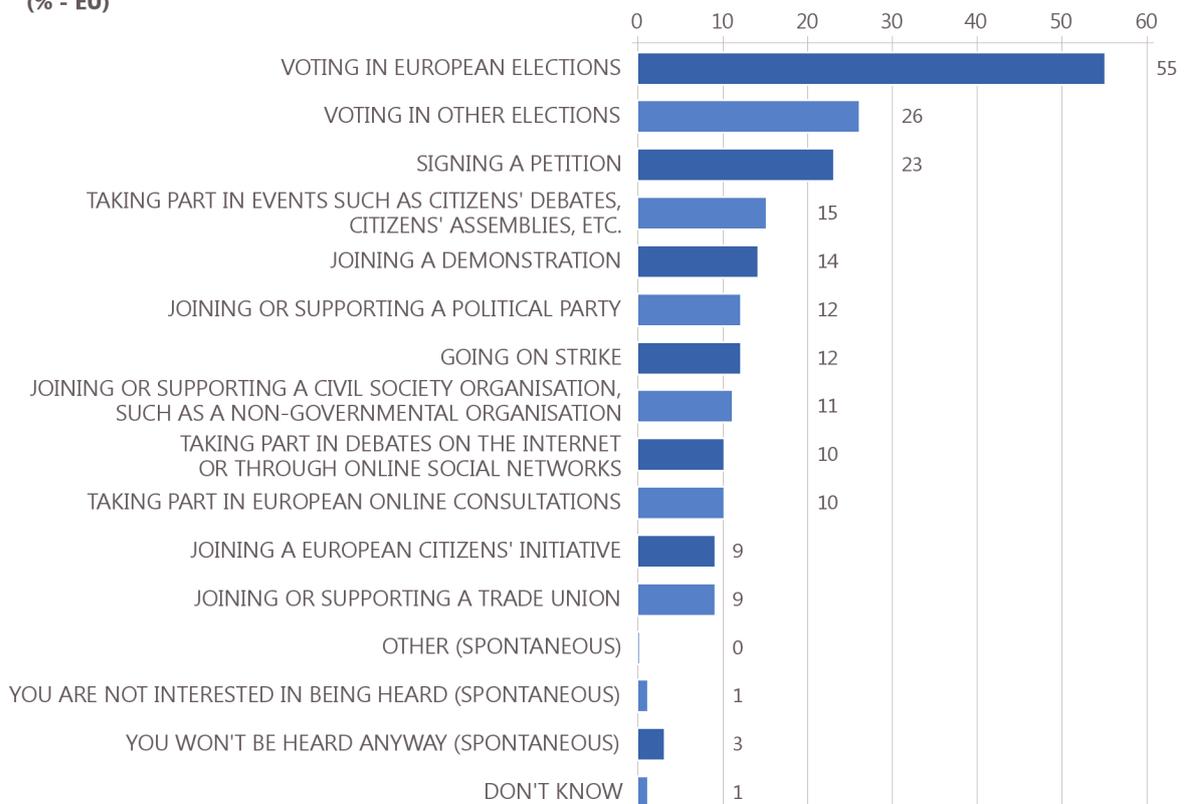
Respondents were presented with a range of ways in which EU citizens could potentially make sure their voices are heard by decision-makers at EU level, and were able to select up to three responses to describe which they felt were the best methods. Overall, the findings are similar to those seen above in relation to the national level; this indicates that Europeans believe that the same methods are successful – at both national and EU level – for ensuring citizens have their voices heard.

Voting in European elections is clearly regarded as the most effective way of ensuring voices are heard by decision-makers at EU level, with 55% of Europeans choosing this response as one of the best methods. Other popular choices, mentioned by around a quarter of respondents, are voting in other elections (26%) and signing a petition (23%).

Other types of political participation mentioned by more than 10% of Europeans are: **taking part in events such as citizens' debates, citizens' assemblies** (15%), **joining a demonstration** (14%), **joining or supporting a political party or going on strike** (both 12%), and **joining or supporting a civil society organisation, such as a non-governmental organisation** (11%).

Around one in ten think their voice is best heard through **taking part in European online consultations** (10%), **taking part in debates on the internet or through online social networks** (10%), **joining or supporting a trade union** (9%), or **joining a European Citizens' Initiative** (9%). Overall, 4% of Europeans feel that they either wouldn't be heard anyway or that they have no interest in being heard.

QA2 Which of the following do you think are the best ways of ensuring your voice is heard by decision-makers at EU level? (MAX. 3 ANSWERS)
(% - EU)



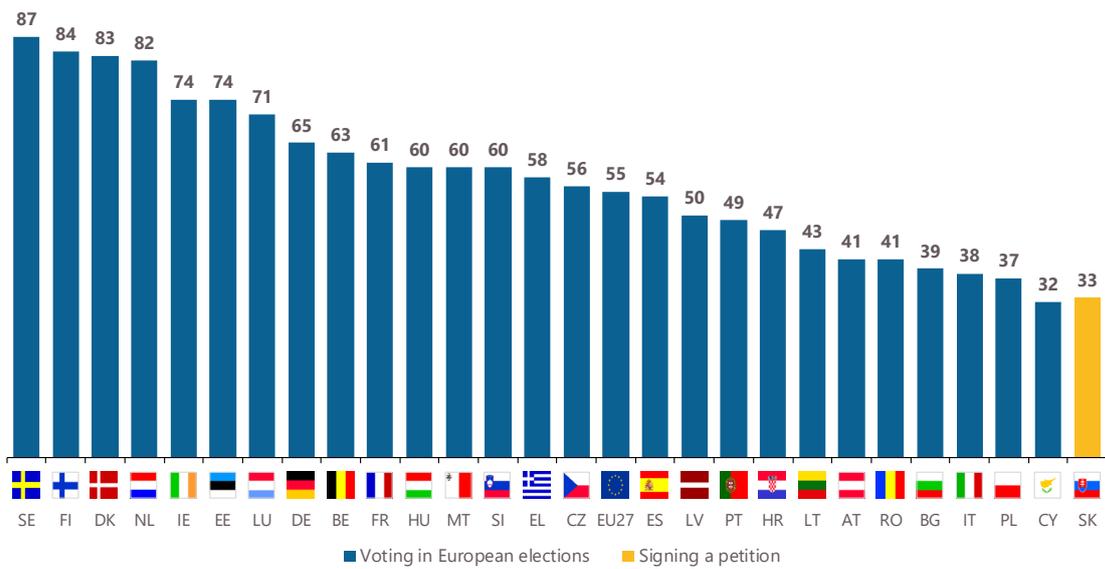
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Voting in European elections is the top ranked answer among all Europeans in terms of the best way of ensuring their voice is heard. This is also the top ranked answer in all Member States with the sole exception of Slovakia, where **signing a petition** is the top ranked choice.

are found in Nordic EU countries: 87% in Sweden, 84% in Finland and 83% in Denmark. While still the top ranked choice, support for voting in European elections as a way of making your voice heard is lower in Cyprus (32%), Slovakia (32%), where petitions are slightly more popular (33%), and Poland (37%).

Although voting in European elections leads in almost all Member States, there is wide variation by country. The highest proportions

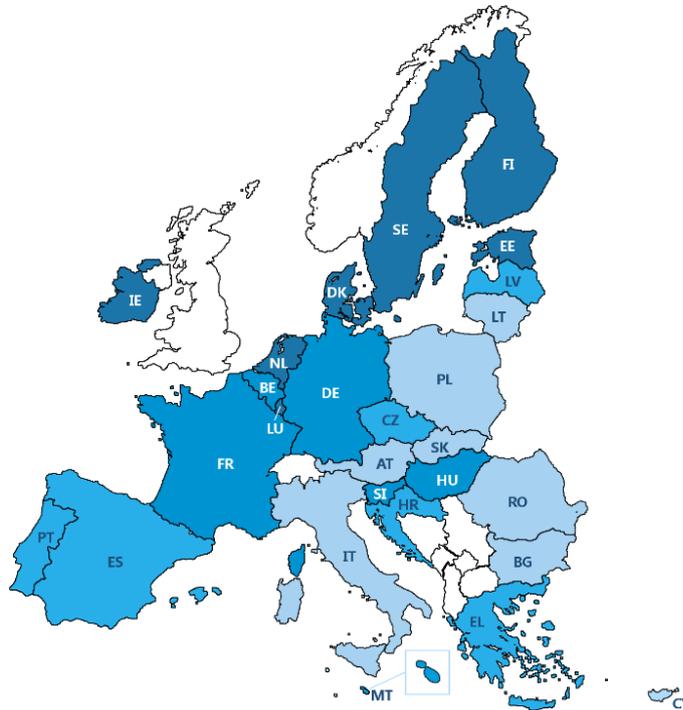
QA2 Which of the following do you think are the best ways of ensuring your voice is heard by decision-makers at EU level? (MAX. 3 ANSWERS)
(% - THE MOST MENTIONED ANSWER BY COUNTRY)



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QA2 Which of the following do you think are the best ways of ensuring your voice is heard by decision-makers at EU level? (MAX. 3 ANSWERS)
(% - VOTING IN EUROPEAN ELECTIONS)



As seen above, **voting in European elections** is the top ranked answer in every Member State except Slovakia, as the best way of citizens getting their voice heard by decision-makers at the EU level. **Voting in other elections** is among the top three choices in 22 countries, and is most frequently chosen by respondents in Finland (40%), Sweden (34%), Denmark, Germany and Romania (all 33%). It is least frequently mentioned by respondents in Portugal (15%), Czechia and Italy (both 18%).

As well as being the top ranked answer in Slovakia, **signing a petition** ranks in the top three answers in 21 other countries. It is mentioned most frequently by respondents in Luxembourg (38%), Czechia (35%), Croatia and Slovakia (both 33%), and least frequently by respondents in Romania (13%) and Spain (14%).

Taking part in **events such as citizens' debates and assemblies** is most likely to be mentioned by respondents in Lithuania (25%), Ireland and Poland (both 21%), while respondents in Spain and the Netherlands (both 8%) are least likely to give this answer.

Respondents in Cyprus (23%) and Italy (20%) are most likely to say that **joining a demonstration** is one of the best ways of citizens getting their voice heard by decision-makers at the EU level, while this is least likely to be chosen by respondents in the Netherlands and Finland (both 5%).

Going on strike is chosen most frequently by respondents in Italy (18%) and Spain (17%), and least frequently by respondents in the Netherlands (3%) and Denmark (4%).

The proportion that mention **joining or supporting a political party** is highest in Sweden (28%), Czechia and the Netherlands (both 21%) and is lowest in France (5%) and Spain (6%).

Respondents in Estonia (21%) are most likely to mention **joining or supporting a civil society organisation**, followed by those in Italy, Ireland and Sweden (all 17%), while the lowest proportions are seen in Portugal and Spain (both 4%).

The remaining answers are chosen by no more than one in ten Europeans overall, but are mentioned by relatively high proportions in individual countries. Respondents in Lithuania (23%) and Croatia (18%) are most likely to favour **taking part in online debates**, while respondents in Belgium (25%), Ireland (23%) and Luxembourg (22%) are most likely to mention taking part in **European online consultations**. **Joining a European Citizens' Initiative** is mentioned most frequently by respondents in Lithuania (28%), Estonia (26%) and Austria (25%).

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QA2 Which of the following do you think are the best ways of ensuring your voice is heard by decision-makers at EU level?
(MAX. 3 ANSWERS)
(%)

		Voting in European elections	Voting in other elections	Signing a petition	Taking part in events such as citizens' debates, citizens' assemblies, etc.	Joining a demonstration	Going on strike	Joining or supporting a political party	Joining or supporting a civil society organisation, such as a non-governmental organisation	Taking part in debates on the Internet or through online social networks	Taking part in European online consultations	Joining a European Citizens' Initiative	Joining or supporting a trade union	Other (SPONTANEOUS)	You are not interested in being heard (SPONTANEOUS)	You won't be heard anyway (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU27		55	26	23	15	14	12	12	11	10	10	9	9	0	1	3	1
BE		63	22	30	13	15	10	12	14	8	25	16	8	0	0	0	0
BG		39	31	18	15	18	13	13	9	15	6	5	6	0	2	7	3
CZ		56	18	35	17	9	7	21	13	10	13	18	5	0	0	0	0
DK		83	33	18	13	6	4	20	12	8	8	11	7	0	0	1	0
DE		65	33	26	17	18	8	16	9	10	7	10	9	0	0	1	0
EE		74	30	16	17	10	8	15	21	11	11	26	7	0	0	0	0
IE		74	28	25	21	8	7	14	17	9	23	20	10	0	0	0	0
EL		58	24	30	19	15	15	8	9	14	12	11	5	0	1	7	1
ES		54	29	14	8	13	17	6	4	8	7	4	5	1	1	5	3
FR		61	21	25	12	13	13	5	11	8	11	8	8	1	1	3	2
HR		47	25	33	19	17	13	9	12	18	16	7	9	0	1	1	0
IT		38	18	20	18	20	18	13	17	10	10	8	12	0	1	5	2
CY		32	21	24	17	23	12	9	11	16	7	5	4	0	3	6	1
LV		50	19	16	11	10	10	10	9	14	7	8	7	0	2	5	3
LT		43	23	31	25	14	14	10	15	23	15	28	6	0	0	0	0
LU		71	20	38	13	11	7	18	13	9	22	13	12	0	0	0	0
HU		60	32	19	10	6	5	8	10	9	9	3	9	0	3	2	1
MT		60	23	27	12	8	7	15	10	15	19	15	7	0	0	0	0
NL		82	29	27	8	5	3	21	13	8	20	21	8	0	0	1	1
AT		41	32	26	18	12	11	14	11	12	6	25	13	0	1	1	0
PL		37	26	27	21	16	13	7	10	14	12	4	9	0	2	2	2
PT		49	15	16	12	14	13	11	4	6	6	5	10	0	2	16	4
RO		41	33	13	16	13	9	10	11	12	10	5	11	0	4	3	1
SI		60	22	32	17	9	6	16	11	12	15	20	6	0	1	1	0
SK		32	26	33	12	14	13	12	9	10	7	7	10	0	2	4	2
FI		84	40	23	6	5	7	15	11	8	6	22	7	0	0	1	0
SE		87	34	16	9	9	6	28	17	8	6	10	8	0	0	1	0
		1st MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM															
		2nd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM															
		3rd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM															

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The variations by **socio-demographic** group are broadly consistent with those seen above in relation to making one's voice heard at national level. Women are slightly more likely than men to say that signing a petition is one of the best ways of ensuring the voice of citizens is heard by decision-makers at EU level (24% v 21%), while men are slightly more likely than women to mention joining or supporting a political party (13% vs. 10%).

Younger respondents are more likely to favour joining a demonstration (23% of those aged 15-24 vs. 10% of those aged 55 or over), going on strike (17% vs. 9%) and taking part in online debates (18% vs. 6%), while older respondents are more likely to mention voting in European elections (58% of those aged 55 or over vs. 51% of those aged 15-24) and voting in other elections (29% vs. 23%).

There are differences by level of education. Respondents who stayed in education until the age of 20 or above are more likely to

mention several of the options, especially voting in European elections (62% vs. 50% of those who left education by the age of 15), signing a petition (24% vs. 15%) and taking part in European online consultations (13% vs. 4%).

Respondents who have difficulties paying bills most of the time are more likely to mention going on strike (18% vs. 9% of those who never or almost never have difficulties) but are less likely to mention voting in European elections (42% vs. 61%) or other elections (19% vs. 29%).

Respondents who hold a generally positive image of the EU are more likely to say that voting in European elections is one of the best ways of getting one's voice heard (63% vs. 42% those who hold a negative image of the EU), and they are also more likely to mention voting in other elections (29% vs. 22%). By contrast, those who hold a negative image of the EU are more likely to mention joining a demonstration (19% vs. 13% of those with a positive image of the EU) and going on strike (19% vs. 9%).

QA2 Which of the following do you think are the best ways of ensuring your voice is heard by decision-makers at EU level? (MAX. 3 ANSWERS)
(% - EU)

	Voting in European elections	Voting in other elections	Signing a petition	Taking part in events such as citizens' debates, citizens' assemblies, etc.	Joining a demonstration	Going on strike	Joining or supporting a political party	Joining or supporting a civil society organisation, such as a non-governmental organisation	Taking part in debates on the Internet or through online social networks	Taking part in European online consultations	Joining or supporting a trade union	Joining a European Citizens' Initiative
EU27	55	26	23	15	14	12	12	11	10	10	9	9
Gender												
Man	55	26	21	15	15	13	13	11	11	10	9	9
Woman	55	27	24	15	14	11	10	11	9	10	8	9
Age												
15-24	51	23	25	15	23	17	12	13	18	12	8	12
25-39	53	25	23	16	18	15	12	13	13	11	10	11
40-54	55	26	23	15	13	12	12	12	11	12	8	9
55+	58	29	22	14	10	9	11	8	6	7	8	7
Education (End of)												
15-	50	27	15	10	13	13	9	5	4	4	8	4
16-19	50	27	24	16	15	13	11	9	9	8	9	7
20+	62	27	24	16	12	9	13	13	11	13	8	12
Still studying	55	21	24	16	22	16	13	16	18	12	8	15
Socio-professional category												
Self-employed	52	25	23	16	15	10	14	12	11	13	8	10
Managers	64	29	24	17	12	8	14	15	10	15	7	14
Other white collars	57	24	24	16	15	12	12	12	13	11	8	11
Manual workers	49	27	23	15	16	14	10	10	11	10	11	7
House persons	46	25	21	10	16	15	10	10	7	8	7	5
Unemployed	47	21	22	12	17	20	9	7	9	9	11	8
Retired	60	30	22	14	9	8	10	7	5	5	8	7
Students	55	21	24	16	22	16	13	16	18	12	8	15
Difficulties paying bills												
Most of the time	42	19	20	14	17	18	10	9	8	8	10	9
From time to time	45	23	23	15	18	16	11	12	11	10	11	8
Almost never/ Never	61	29	23	15	13	9	12	11	10	10	7	10

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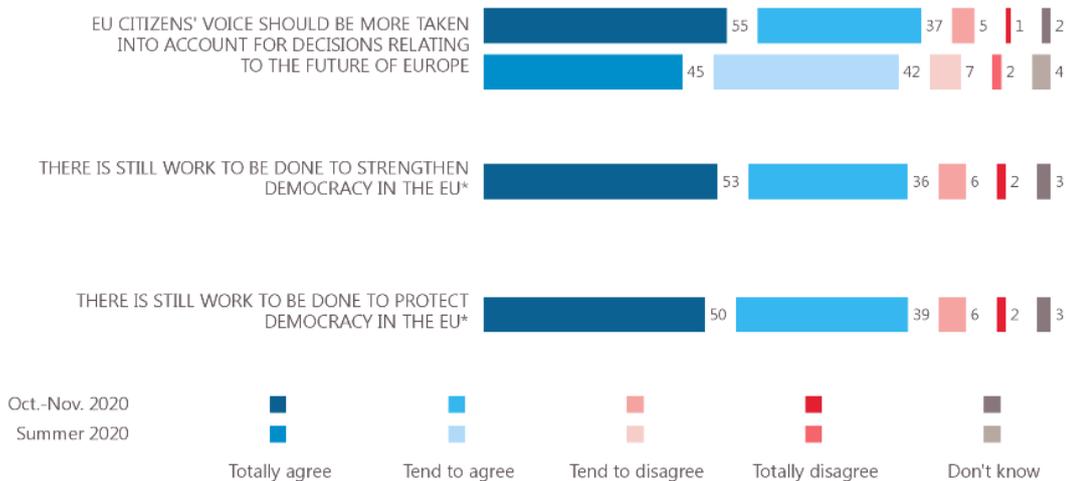
There is very strong support for EU citizens to have more of a voice in decisions relating to the future of Europe, and this is reflected across all Member States, as well as widespread agreement that there is still work to be done to strengthen democracy in the EU

A very large majority of Europeans (92%) agree that **EU citizens' voices should be taken more into account for decisions relating to the future of Europe**. Overall, more than half (55%) 'totally agree' with this statement while 37% 'tend to agree' and only 6% disagree with it. Around nine in ten respondents (89%) agree that **there is still work to be done to strengthen democracy in the EU**, and the same proportion (89%) agree that **there is still work to be done to protect democracy in the EU**. In each case, 8% of Europeans disagree.

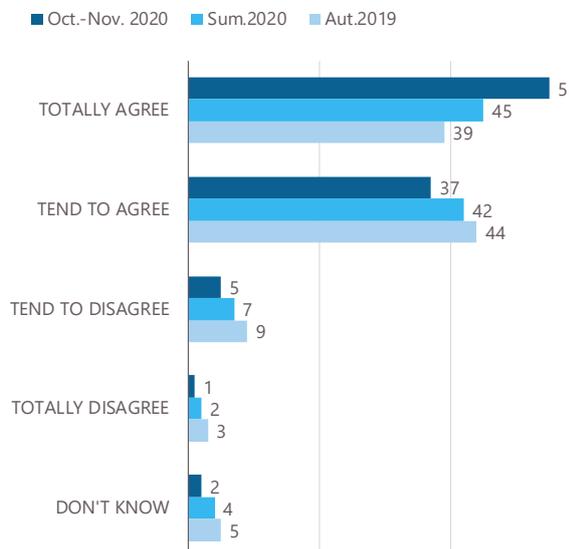
More than nine in ten Europeans (92%) agree that **EU citizens' voice should be taken more into account for decisions relating to the future of Europe**. More than half (55%) 'totally agree' with this statement while 37% 'tend to agree' and only 6% disagree with it.

The proportion who 'totally agree' that EU citizens should have more of a voice has **increased substantially** over the past 12 months (+10 percentage points since summer 2020 and +16 since autumn 2019).

QA4 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.
(% - EU)



QA4.1 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.
EU citizens' voice should be more taken into account for decisions relating to the future of Europe (% - EU)

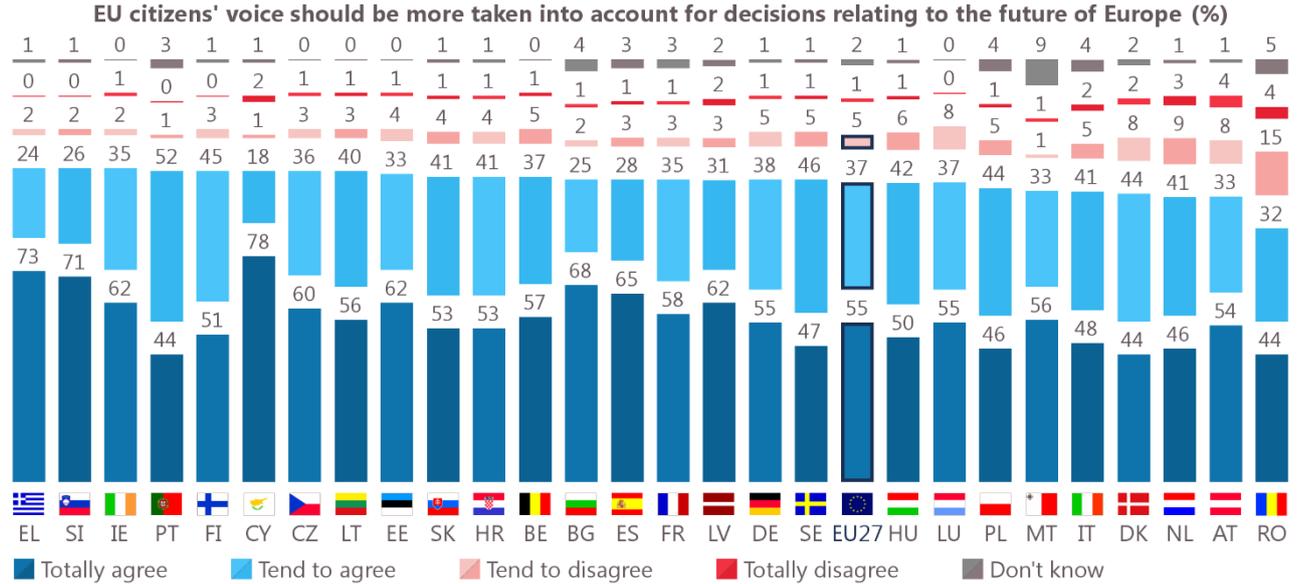


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This **strong desire for EU citizens' voices to be taken more into account is reflected across all Member States**. In fact, in every country, with the sole exception of Romania, more than eight in ten agree with this. This viewpoint is most strongly held in Greece, Slovenia and Ireland (all 97%). The lowest level of agreement to this statement is found in Romania (76%), although this still represents a large majority.

The proportion that 'strongly agrees' with the statement is highest in Cyprus (78%), Greece (73%) and Slovenia (71%), and is lowest in Romania, Denmark and Portugal (all 44%).

QA4.1 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.



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The **socio-demographic** analysis shows a consistently high level of agreement across the various groups on the fact that EU citizens' voice should be taken more into account for decisions relating to the future of Europe.

There is only a small number of groups who register slightly lower levels of agreement: people who left education by the age of 15 (89%), housepersons (87%), unemployed respondents (89%) and those who have difficulties paying bills most of the time (87%).

QA4.1 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

EU citizens' voice should be more taken into account for decisions relating to the future of Europe (% - EU)

	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Total 'Agree'
EU27	92	6	92
 Gender			
Man	91	7	91
Woman	92	5	92
 Age			
15-24	92	5	92
25-39	91	7	91
40-54	91	7	91
55+	92	5	92
 Education (End of)			
15-	89	6	89
16-19	92	6	92
20+	92	6	92
Still studying	92	6	92
 Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	92	7	92
Managers	93	6	93
Other white collars	93	6	93
Manual workers	91	7	91
House persons	87	10	87
Unemployed	89	6	89
Retired	92	5	92
Students	92	6	92
 Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	87	9	87
From time to time	90	8	90
Almost never/ Never	93	5	93

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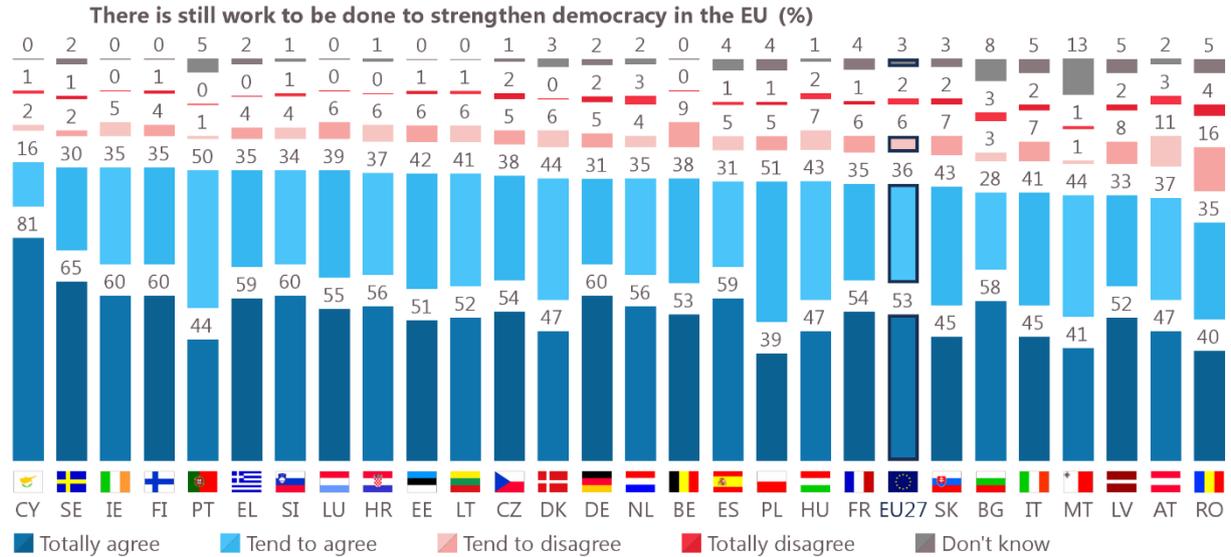
In the EU as a whole, around nine in ten respondents (89%) agree that **there is still work to be done to strengthen democracy in the EU**, including more than half (53%) who strongly agree, while 8% disagree with the statement.

In every country except for Romania, more than eight in ten respondents agree that there is still work to be done to strengthen democracy in the EU, led by Cyprus (97%), Sweden, Ireland and

Finland (all 95%). In Romania, 75% agree and 20% disagree, while levels of agreement are also relatively low in Austria (84%), Malta and Latvia (both 85%).

The proportion that 'strongly agree' with the statement ranges from 81% in Cyprus to 39% in Poland.

QA4.2 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.



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The **socio-demographic** analysis shows that respondents aged 15-24 are less likely than those belonging to other age groups to agree that there is still work to be done to strengthen democracy in the EU (84% vs. 89%-91%). Agreement is also lower among those who left education by the age of 15 (85%) than those who left education at the age of 16-19 or aged 20 or above (91%).

Levels of agreement are also slightly lower among students (84%) and housepersons (85%) than in other socio-professional groups. Respondents who hold a generally positive image of the EU are more likely to agree than those who hold a negative image (91% vs. 85%).

QA4.2 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

There is still work to be done to strengthen democracy in the EU (% - EU)

	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Don't know
EU27	89	8	3
 Gender			
Man	89	8	3
Woman	89	7	4
 Age			
15-24	84	10	6
25-39	89	9	2
40-54	91	7	2
55+	90	6	4
 Education (End of)			
15-	85	8	7
16-19	91	7	2
20+	91	7	2
Still studying	84	12	4
 Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	90	9	1
Managers	91	8	1
Other white collars	90	9	1
Manual workers	88	8	4
House persons	85	10	5
Unemployed	88	5	7
Retired	92	4	4
Students	84	12	4
 Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	88	8	4
From time to time	86	11	3
Almost never/ Never	90	7	3

2. Citizens' involvement in the discussion about the future of the EU

The vast majority of Europeans believe that there is still work to do to protect democracy in the EU

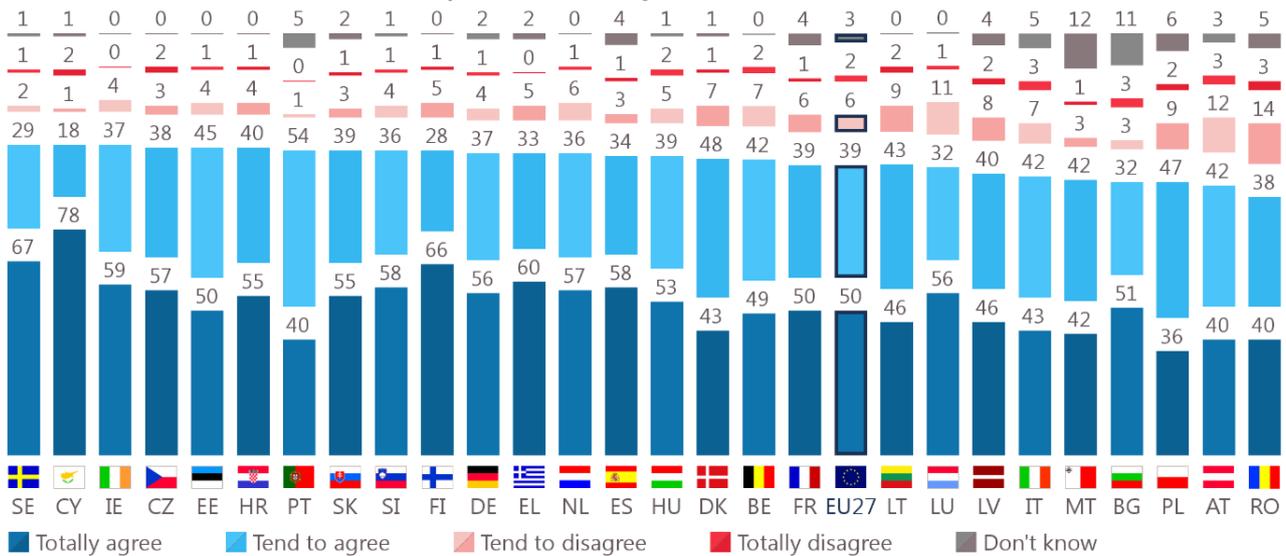
Around nine in ten respondents (89%) agree that **there is still work to be done to protect democracy in the EU**, including half (50%) who strongly agree, while 8% disagree with the statement.

In every country, more than three-quarters of respondents agree that there is still work to be done to protect democracy in the EU, and levels of agreement are highest in Sweden, Cyprus and Ireland (all 96%). Respondents are least likely to agree in Romania (78%), Austria (82%), Bulgaria and Poland (both 83%).

Respondents are most likely to 'strongly agree' with the statement in Cyprus (78%), Sweden (67%) and Finland (66%), while the lowest proportions are seen in Poland (36%), Romania, Austria and Portugal (all 40%).

QA4.3 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

There is still work to be done to protect democracy in the EU (%)



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The **socio-demographic** analysis shows that respondents aged 15-24 are less likely than those in other age groups to agree that there is still work to be done to protect democracy in the EU (86% vs. 89%-90%). Respondents who stayed longer in education are more likely to agree with the statement (92% of those who left education at the age of 20 or above vs. 86% of those who left by the age of 15).

Analysis by socio-professional category shows that agreement is highest among white collar workers and unemployed respondents (both 92%) and lowest among housepersons (85%).

Respondents who have difficulties paying bills most of the time are slightly less likely to agree than those who never or almost never have difficulties (86% vs. 91%).

QA4.3 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

There is still work to be done to protect democracy in the EU (% - EU)

	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Don't know
EU27	89	8	3
 Gender			
Man	88	9	3
Woman	90	6	4
 Age			
15-24	86	9	5
25-39	89	9	2
40-54	90	8	2
55+	90	6	4
 Education (End of)			
15-	86	7	7
16-19	89	8	3
20+	92	6	2
Still studying	87	7	6
 Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	90	9	1
Managers	90	9	1
Other white collars	92	6	2
Manual workers	88	9	3
House persons	85	10	5
Unemployed	92	5	3
Retired	90	5	5
Students	87	7	6
 Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	86	11	3
From time to time	87	9	4
Almost never/ Never	91	6	3

Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

Europeans would like to discuss the future of the EU with friends, family and colleagues, as well as with politicians

Europeans are most likely to say they would like to discuss the future of the EU with **friends, family or colleagues** (37%), while around a third (32%) would like to discuss it with **European politicians**, and just under a third (29%) would discuss it with **local or regional politicians**. A quarter (25%) say they would like to discuss the future of the EU with **citizens from other EU countries**.

Respondents are less likely to say they would like to discuss the future of the EU with **members of civil society organisations** (15%) or **influencers or activists** (7%). A small proportion (6%) say spontaneously that they are **not interested** in discussing the future of the EU.

QA3 With whom would you like to discuss the future of the European Union? (MAX. 2 ANSWERS)
(% - EU)

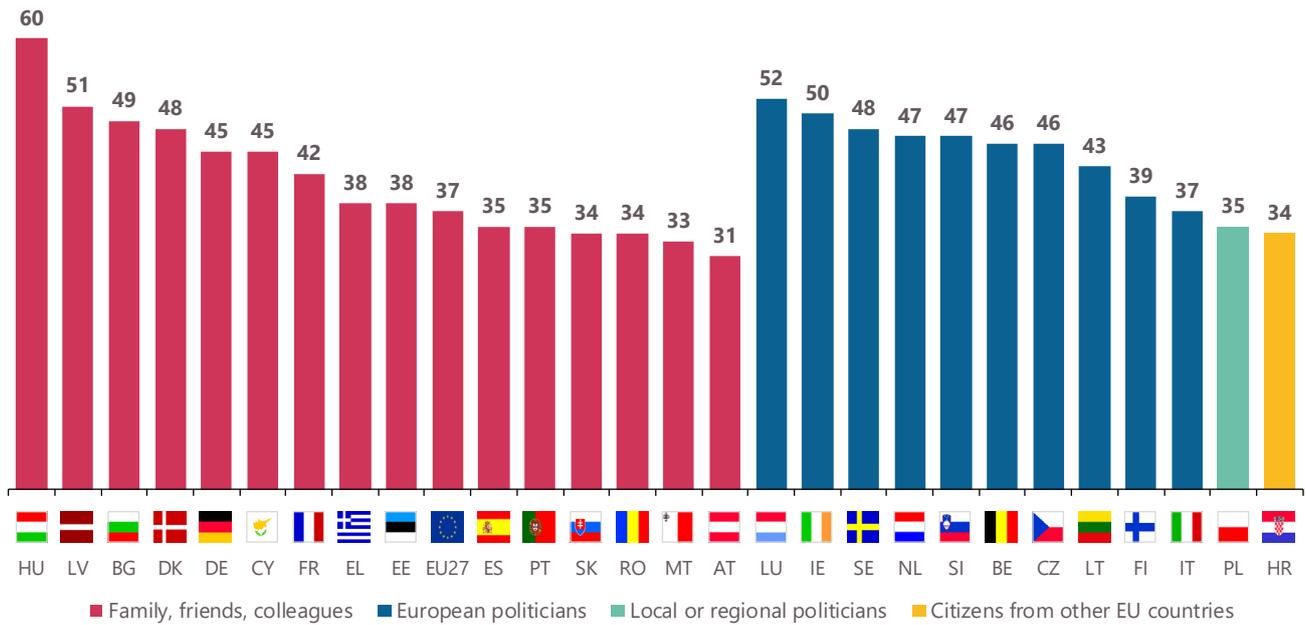


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In 15 Member States, respondents are most likely to say they would like to discuss the future of the EU with **friends, family or colleagues**, while in ten countries the most popular choice is to discuss it with **European politicians**.

In Poland, the most popular answer is to discuss the future of the EU with **local or regional politicians**, while respondents in Croatia are most likely to want to discuss it with **citizens from other countries**.

QA3 With whom would you like to discuss the future of the European Union? (MAX. 2 ANSWERS)
(% - THE MOST MENTIONED ANSWER BY COUNTRY)



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Across the EU as a whole, Europeans are most likely to say they would like to discuss the future of the EU with **friends, family or colleagues**. This answer is most likely to be chosen by respondents in Hungary (60%), Latvia (51%), Bulgaria (49%) and Denmark (48%), and is mentioned least frequently in Italy (23%), Slovenia (24%) and Lithuania (26%).

Respondents in Luxembourg (52%), Ireland (50%) and Sweden (48%) are most likely to want to discuss the future of the EU with **European politicians**, while those in Hungary (16%) and Bulgaria (17%) are least likely to say this.

The chance to discuss the future of the EU with **local or regional politicians** is most popular among respondents in Finland and Sweden (both 36%) and Poland (35%), while it is least popular in Cyprus and Latvia (both 15%).

Respondents in Ireland (36%), Croatia and Slovenia (both 34%) are most likely to say they would discuss the future of the EU with **citizens from other EU countries**, while the lowest proportions are in Portugal (11%) and Hungary (15%).

Members of civil society organisations are chosen most frequently by respondents in Poland (24%), Italy (21%) and Lithuania (20%), and least frequently by those in Portugal (8%), Denmark and Germany (both 10%).

Respondents are most likely to say they would discuss the future of the EU with **influencers or activists** in Estonia (26%) and Slovakia (23%), while this is chosen by very small proportions in Sweden (2%), Czechia and Denmark (both 3%).

In the EU as a whole, a small proportion (6%) say spontaneously that they are **not interested** in discussing the future of the EU, but this is considerably higher in Portugal (31%) and Austria (20%).

QA3 With whom would you like to discuss the future of the European Union? (MAX. 2 ANSWERS) (%)

	Family, friends, colleagues	European politicians	Local or regional politicians	Citizens from other EU countries	Members of civil society organisations, e.g. non-governmental organisations	Influencers, activists	Other (SPONTANEOUS)	You are not interested in discussing the future of the EU (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU27	37	32	29	25	15	7	0	6	1
BE	31	46	25	32	17	12	0	0	0
BG	49	17	24	24	17	10	0	5	4
CZ	31	46	30	32	11	3	0	1	0
DK	48	41	24	26	10	3	2	4	0
DE	45	37	33	27	10	5	0	3	0
EE	38	34	30	26	18	26	0	0	0
IE	34	50	28	36	16	8	0	1	0
EL	38	27	26	33	17	13	1	7	1
ES	35	28	25	20	12	3	1	11	3
FR	42	24	27	27	14	9	0	6	2
HR	33	33	26	34	18	8	0	4	1
IT	23	37	34	25	21	7	0	6	2
CY	45	25	15	26	18	12	0	5	1
LV	51	23	15	18	11	8	1	7	2
LT	26	43	30	29	20	13	0	0	0
LU	32	52	31	29	18	6	0	0	1
HU	60	16	22	15	15	7	0	5	1
MT	33	29	26	26	12	10	1	13	3
NL	38	47	27	31	19	6	0	1	1
AT	31	27	28	23	12	11	2	20	1
PL	31	22	35	19	24	8	0	5	2
PT	35	21	19	11	8	4	0	31	4
RO	34	30	28	19	19	8	0	5	1
SI	24	47	22	34	17	16	0	1	0
SK	34	32	21	23	11	23	0	6	1
FI	30	39	36	21	13	15	0	1	1
SE	38	48	36	31	13	2	0	1	0
1st MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM									
2nd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM									
3rd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM									

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In the **socio-demographic analysis**, results are similar between men and women, although men are more likely than women to say they would like to discuss the future of the EU with European politicians (35% vs. 30%).

Younger respondents are more likely to choose a number of the options, including European politicians (36% of 15-24 year olds vs. 28% of those aged 55 or over), citizens of other countries (29% vs. 20%) and influencers or activists (14% vs. 5%). However, older respondents are more likely to mention local or regional politicians (32% of those aged 55 or over vs. 22% of 15-24 year olds).

There are some differences by level of education. Respondents who left education at the age of 20 or above are more likely to mention European politicians (39% vs. 19%), citizens of other

countries (29% vs. 15%) and members of civil society organisations (18% vs. 9%). By contrast, those who left education by the age of 15 are more likely to mention friends, family or colleagues (40% vs. 33% of those who left education at the age of 20 or above) and are also more likely to say they are not interested in discussing the future of the EU (15% vs. 3%).

Analysis by social class indicates that those who consider themselves to be working class are most likely to mention friends, family or colleagues (41% vs. 28% of those who place themselves in the upper class) and are also the most likely to say they are not interested in discussing the future of the EU (12% vs. 1%). Respondents who place themselves in the upper middle class are most likely to mention European politicians (48% vs. 21% of those in the working class) and citizens of other countries (35% vs. 18%).

QA3 With whom would you like to discuss the future of the European Union? (MAX. 2 ANSWERS) (% - EU)

	Family, friends, colleagues	European politicians	Local or regional politicians	Citizens from other EU countries	Members of civil society organisations, e.g. non-governmental	Influencers, activists	You are not interested in discussing the future of the EU
EU27	37	32	29	25	15	7	6
 Gender							
Man	35	35	31	26	15	7	5
Woman	38	30	29	23	15	8	7
 Age							
15-24	39	36	22	29	16	14	3
25-39	34	35	29	29	17	9	4
40-54	35	34	30	26	16	7	4
55+	39	28	32	20	14	5	8
 Education (End of)							
15-	40	19	31	15	9	4	15
16-19	39	28	32	22	14	7	6
20+	33	39	29	29	18	7	3
Still studying	36	41	22	31	18	14	3
 Socio-professional category							
Self-employed	31	34	33	28	16	8	5
Managers	30	44	31	34	18	7	2
Other white collars	35	37	28	27	18	7	4
Manual workers	40	27	28	24	15	8	5
House persons	37	27	29	19	13	5	10
Unemployed	36	28	25	24	13	6	10
Retired	40	26	33	18	12	4	9
Students	36	41	22	31	18	14	3
 Difficulties paying bills							
Most of the time	30	27	27	20	15	8	11
From time to time	35	28	30	24	17	9	5
Almost never/ Never	38	34	30	25	15	6	5

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Europeans who expressed a willingness to be involved in the Conference on the future of Europe would prefer to participate through local meetings, surveys, by putting forward proposals to EU and national politicians, and through online consultations

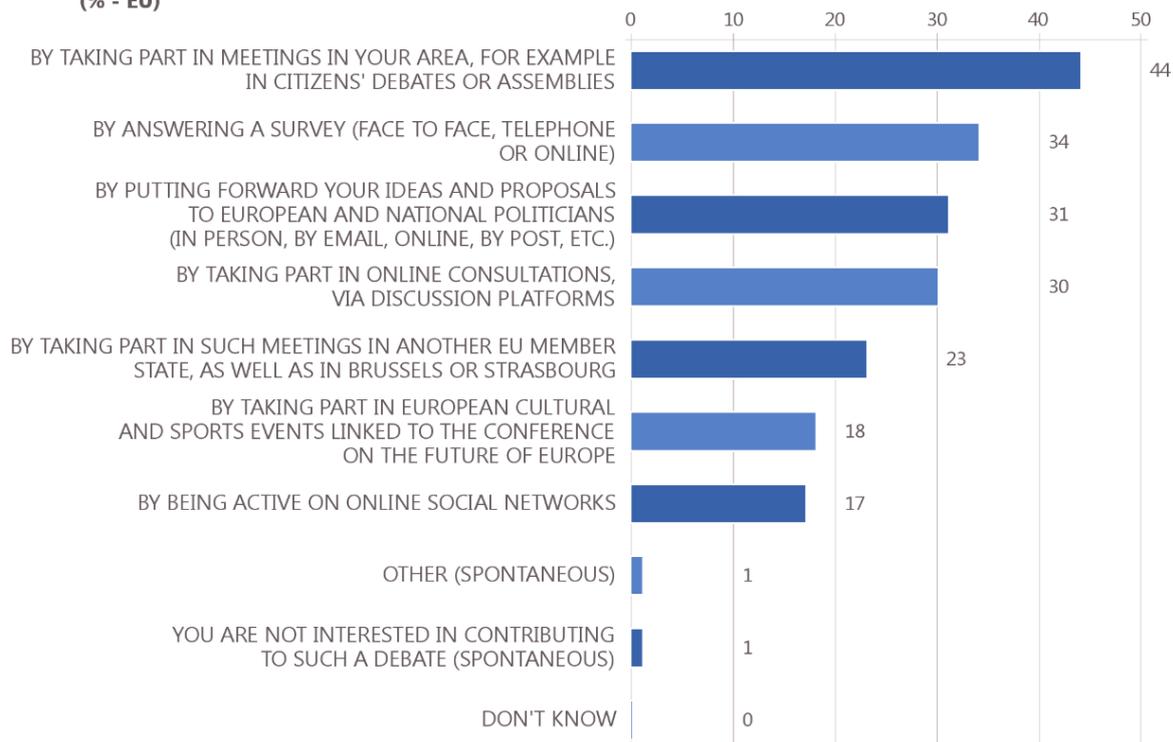
Respondents who expressed willingness to be involved in the Conference on the future of Europe were presented with a list of possible ways to get involved and were asked to select the first way in which they would most like to get involved, and then to pick a second option. The chart below shows the combined proportions of each item mentioned in either question who mentioned each item at either question.

The clear top preference among Europeans willing to get involved is to **take part in meetings in their local area**, for example citizens' debates or assemblies (44%). The next most popular methods of involvement among this group are by **answering a**

survey (34%), **putting forward ideas and proposals to European and national politicians** (in person, by email, online, by post etc.) (31%) and **taking part in online consultations** via discussion platforms (30%).

Other options selected by a lower proportion of Europeans willing to get involved include **taking part in such meetings in another EU Member State, as well as in Brussels or Strasbourg** (23%), **taking part in European cultural and sports events** linked to the Conference on the future of Europe (18%) and **being active on online social networks** (17%).

QA8T How would you like to contribute to the activities of the Conference on the Future of Europe? Firstly? And then?
(MAX. 2 ANSWERS)
(% - EU)



Base: All respondents who expressed willingness to be personally involved in the Conference on the future of Europe (N = 13766)

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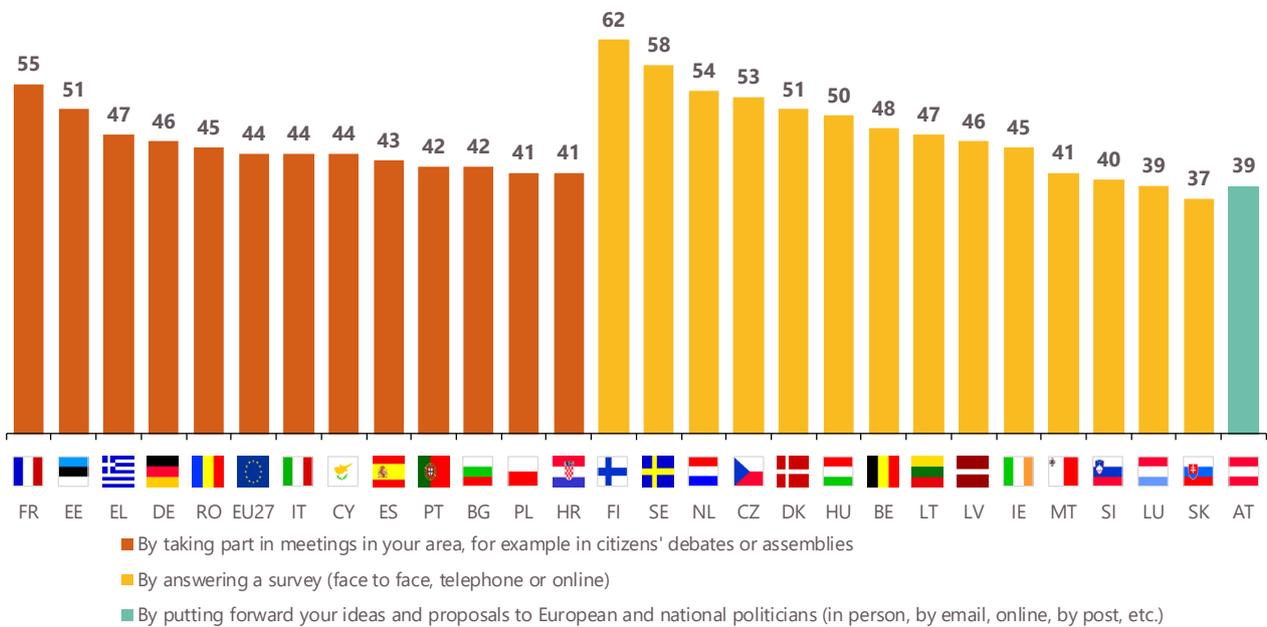
The two most preferred ways of getting involved, among Europeans who expressed an interest in getting involved, are to take part in meetings in their local area and answering a survey. These are also featured as the top ranked preference in all Member States, except for Austria.

Taking part in meetings, for example citizens' debates or assemblies, the top ranked choice among all Europeans, is also the top choice in 12 EU countries, and support for this is highest in France (55%) and Estonia (51%).

Answering a survey, the second ranked choice among all Europeans, is the top choice in 14 Member States, and this was especially favoured in Finland (62%) and Sweden (58%).

In Austria, neither of these is ranked highest and Austrians are instead most likely to take part by **putting forward ideas and proposals to European and national politicians** (39%).

QA8T How would you like to contribute to the activities of the Conference on the Future of Europe? Firstly? And then?
(MAX. 2 ANSWERS)
(% - THE MOST MENTIONED ANSWER BY COUNTRY)



Base: All respondents who expressed willingness to be personally involved in the Conference on the future of Europe (N = 13766)

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Across the EU as a whole, the most favoured method of participation in the Conference on the future of Europe is to **take part in local meetings**. This is particularly popular in France (55%) and Estonia (51%), but is least likely to be chosen in Malta (26%).

Respondents in Finland (62%), Sweden (58%) and the Netherlands (54%) are most likely to say they would like to contribute by **answering a survey**, while this option is least popular in Italy (15%) and Spain (19%).

Putting forward ideas and proposals to European and national politicians is mentioned most frequently by respondents in Austria (39%), Portugal (38%) and Slovenia (37%), and is least likely to be mentioned by respondents in Hungary (20%), Denmark and Estonia (both 22%).

Taking part in online consultations via discussion platforms is most popular in Malta and the Netherlands (both 38%) and Luxembourg (36%), and is least popular in Romania (21%) and Latvia (24%).

The other options, which are less popular overall, are still favoured by relatively large proportions in some countries: **taking part in such meetings in another EU Member State, as well as in Brussels or Strasbourg** is most popular in Belgium, Italy and Luxembourg (all 28%), while **taking part in European cultural and sports events** is mentioned most frequently by respondents in Italy (27%) and Croatia (25%). Respondents in Slovakia (32%) and Croatia (28%) are most likely to want to get involved by **being active on online social networks**.

QA8T How would you like to contribute to the activities of the Conference on the Future of Europe? Firstly? And then? (MAX. 2 ANSWERS)
(%)

		By taking part in meetings in your area, for example in citizens' debates or assemblies	By answering a survey (face to face, telephone or online)	By putting forward your ideas and proposals to European and national politicians (in person, by email, online, by post, etc.)	By taking part in online consultations, via discussion platforms	By taking part in such meetings in another EU Member State, as well as in Brussels or Strasbourg	By taking part in European cultural and sports events linked to the Conference on the Future of Europe	By being active on online social networks	Other (SPONTANEOUS)	You are not interested in contributing to such a debate (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU27		44	34	31	30	23	18	17	1	1	0
BE		33	48	34	34	28	12	10	0	0	0
BG		42	29	33	30	26	15	23	0	0	0
CZ		40	53	24	33	20	14	15	0	0	0
DK		41	51	22	35	23	12	16	0	0	0
DE		46	38	35	28	23	13	15	0	0	0
EE		51	48	22	29	26	13	10	0	0	0
IE		38	45	32	35	27	12	11	0	0	0
EL		47	24	29	35	22	14	23	1	2	0
ES		43	19	28	30	23	20	25	2	2	1
FR		55	35	30	26	17	17	13	1	1	0
HR		41	28	33	25	19	25	28	0	0	0
IT		44	15	33	33	28	27	18	0	1	0
CY		44	42	23	28	17	16	25	0	0	0
LV		38	46	23	24	20	19	21	1	2	1
LT		36	47	30	29	26	17	15	0	0	0
LU		33	39	35	36	28	19	9	0	0	0
HU		39	50	20	29	20	17	24	0	0	0
MT		26	41	32	38	26	12	21	1	2	0
NL		34	54	25	38	27	13	7	0	1	0
AT		36	27	39	26	21	18	16	4	5	2
PL		41	33	27	34	21	23	21	0	0	0
PT		42	32	38	25	11	23	18	1	3	1
RO		45	32	28	21	25	23	20	1	2	0
SI		38	40	37	31	26	12	15	0	0	0
SK		33	37	28	28	21	17	32	1	1	0
FI		36	62	35	28	19	12	6	0	0	0
SE		38	58	26	30	24	11	9	0	1	0
		1st MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM									
		2nd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM									
		3rd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM									

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In the **socio-demographic analysis**, results are generally consistent by gender, the largest difference being that men are slightly more likely than women to say they would like to take part in meetings in another EU Member State, as well as in Brussels or Strasbourg (24% vs. 21%).

There are differences by age group, with older respondents (aged 55 or over) most likely to want to get involved by taking part in local meetings (51% vs. 34% of those aged 15-24) and by answering a survey (38% vs. 30%). However, online methods are more popular with younger respondents; specifically, those aged

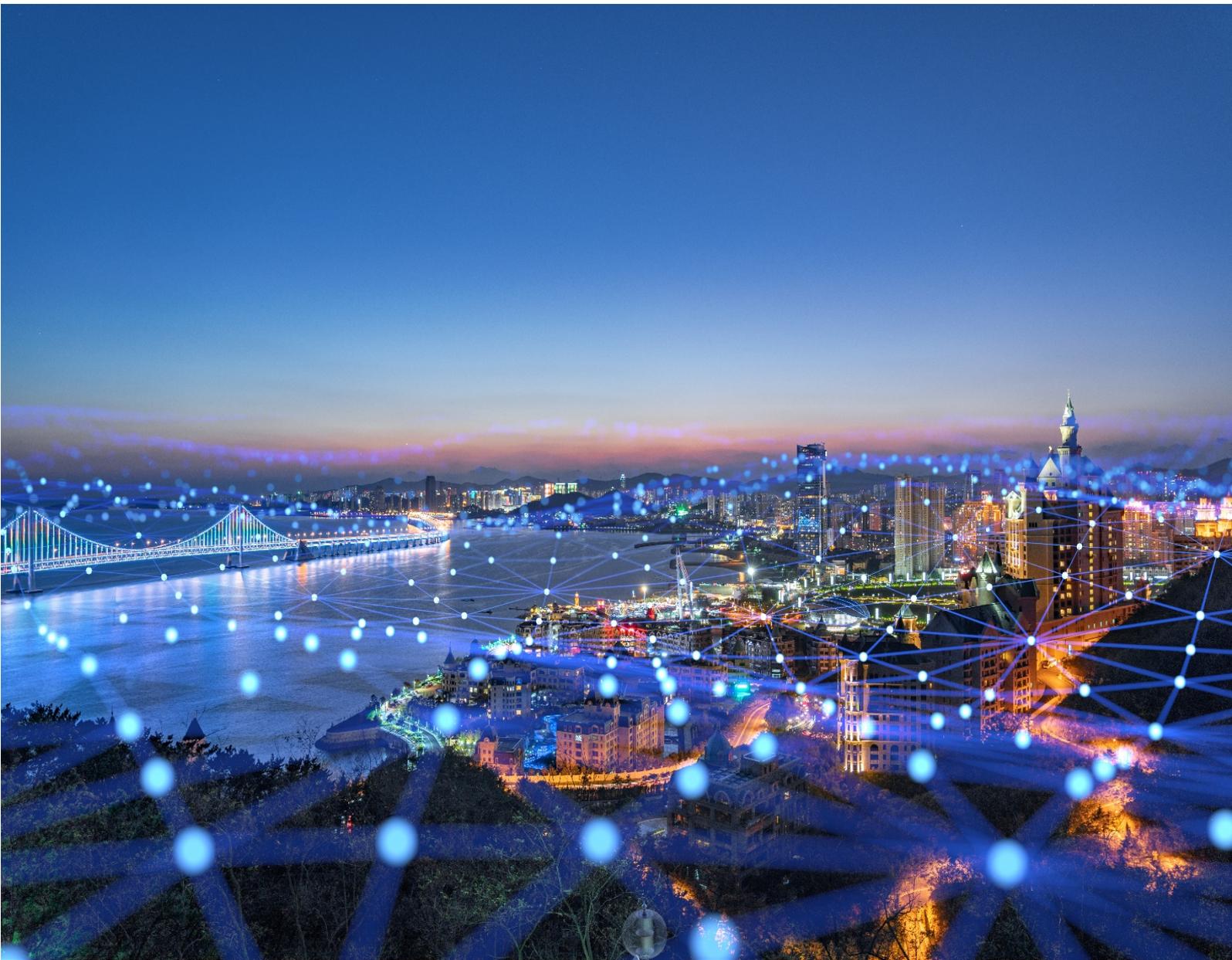
15-24 are most likely to want to take part by being active on online social networks (28% vs. 10% of those aged 55 or over), while respondents aged 25-39 are most likely to favour online consultations (34% vs. 24% of those aged 55 or over).

The main differences by level of education are that respondents who left education by the age of 15 are more likely to want to take part in local meetings (53% vs. 43% of those who left at the age of 20 or above), while respondents who left education at the age of 20 or above are more likely to favour online consultations (33% vs. 22% of those who left by the age of 15).

QA8T How would you like to contribute to the activities of the Conference on the Future of Europe? Firstly? And then? (MAX. 2 ANSWERS)
(% - EU)

	By taking part in meetings in your area, for example in citizens' debates or assemblies	By taking part in such meetings in another EU Member State, as well as in Brussels or Strasbourg	By taking part in online consultations, via discussion platforms	By answering a survey (face to face, telephone or online)	By being active on online social networks	By putting forward your ideas and proposals to European and national politicians (in person, by email, online, by post, etc.)	By taking part in European cultural and sports events linked to the Conference on the Future of Europe
EU27	44	23	30	34	17	31	18
Gender							
Man	43	24	30	33	16	32	18
Woman	44	21	29	35	18	30	18
Age							
15-24	34	22	30	30	28	35	19
25-39	41	25	34	31	20	29	20
40-54	43	23	32	33	17	31	17
55+	51	22	24	38	10	31	17
Education (End of)							
15-	53	21	22	30	12	31	22
16-19	46	20	26	35	18	30	20
20+	43	25	33	35	14	31	15
Still studying	33	26	33	28	24	34	21
Socio-professional category							
Self-employed	42	24	30	32	20	31	19
Managers	42	26	36	33	14	31	16
Other white collars	44	23	33	32	18	29	19
Manual workers	42	20	30	34	19	31	19
House persons	48	22	29	30	16	31	13
Unemployed	41	25	26	34	22	28	18
Retired	55	20	20	42	7	31	17
Students	33	26	33	28	24	34	21
Difficulties paying bills							
Most of the time	44	24	24	26	21	32	20
From time to time	45	23	30	28	19	30	22
Almost never/ Never	43	23	30	37	15	31	16

III. THE CONFERENCE ON THE FUTURE OF EUROPE



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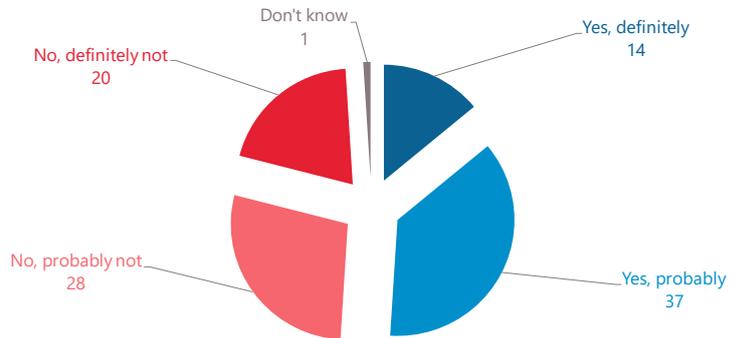
This chapter focuses on the Conference on the future of Europe. It starts by assessing the willingness of Europeans to be involved in the Conference, and what would encourage them to take part. Respondents are also asked for their views on the impact of the Conference, and who should be involved.

Around half of Europeans would like to get involved in the Conference on the future of Europe, although this varies considerably by country

51% of respondents say they would **be willing to take part, as a citizen, in the activities of the Conference on the future of Europe**, although only 14% say that they would 'definitely' take part. At the same time, 48% are less inclined to get involved: 28% say they would probably not participate and 20% say they would definitely not participate.

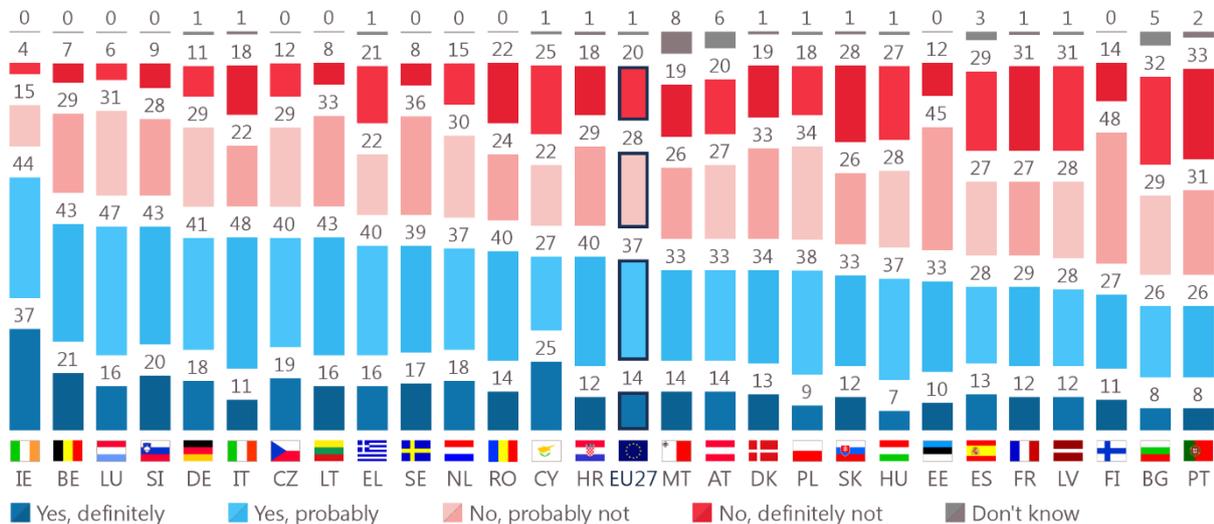
There is wide variation between EU Member States in the **willingness to get involved in the Conference on the future of Europe**. Respondents in Ireland are the most enthusiastic (81% would like to be involved) followed by Belgium (64%), Luxembourg (63%) and Slovenia (63%). Citizens in Portugal (34%), Bulgaria (34%) and Finland (38%) are least enthusiastic about getting involved in the Conference on the future of Europe.

QA7 Would you personally be willing to take part, as a citizen, in the activities of the Conference on the Future of Europe? (% - EU)



Focusing on the proportion that say they would 'definitely' be willing to get involved, this is highest in Ireland (37%) and Cyprus (25%), and lowest in Hungary (7%), Bulgaria and Portugal (both 8%).

QA7 Would you personally be willing to take part, as a citizen, in the activities of the Conference on the Future of Europe? (%)



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In the **socio-demographic** analysis, men are more likely than women to say they would be willing to get involved in the Conference on the future of Europe (55% vs. 48%), while interest is greater among younger people (59% among those aged 15-24 and 25-39 vs. 41% among those aged 55 or over). There is far greater enthusiasm among respondents who stayed longer in education (57% among those who left education at the age of 20 or above vs. 29% of those who left by the age of 15).

Analysis by socio-professional group shows that interest is highest among managers and students (both 68%) and is lowest among retired people (37%) and housepersons (40%).

There is also a clear difference by social class, ranging from 73% among those who place themselves in the upper class, to 39% among those who consider themselves as belonging to the working class.

Respondents are more willing to take part if they have a positive image of the EU (58% vs. 43% of those with a negative image), and this is particularly true if they are 'in favour of the European Union, but not the way it has been realised until now' (58%). This suggests that interest is highest among those who are favourably disposed towards the EU but have suggestions for change.

QA7 Would you personally be willing to take part, as a citizen, in the activities of the Conference on the Future of Europe?
(% - EU)

	Total 'Yes'	Total 'No'	Don't know
EU27	51	48	1
 Gender			
Man	55	44	1
Woman	48	51	1
 Age			
15-24	59	40	1
25-39	59	40	1
40-54	55	44	1
55+	41	58	1
 Education (End of)			
15-	29	69	2
16-19	48	51	1
20+	57	42	1
Still studying	68	31	1
 Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	58	41	1
Managers	68	31	1
Other white collars	57	43	0
Manual workers	47	51	2
House persons	40	58	2
Unemployed	44	54	2
Retired	37	62	1
Students	68	31	1
 Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	47	52	1
From time to time	52	47	1
Almost never/ Never	51	48	1

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Future of Europe

Participation in the Conference will best be encouraged by convincing citizens that their participation will have a real impact

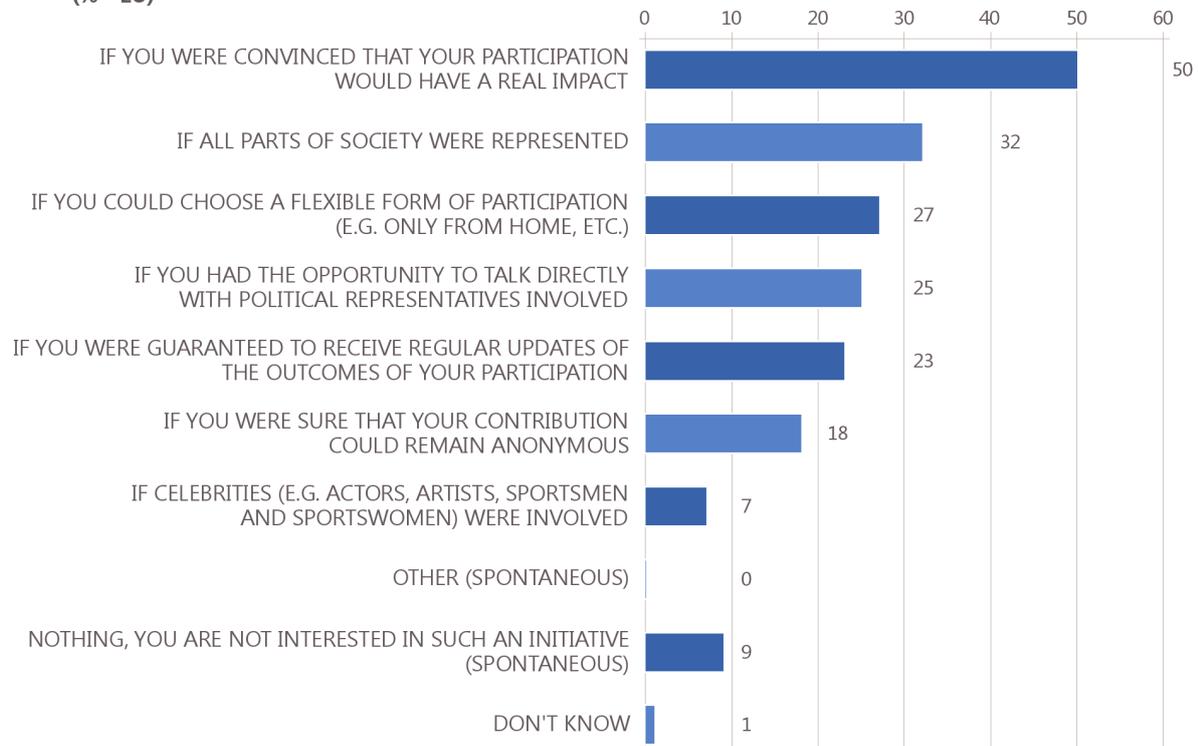
All respondents were asked what would encourage them to take part in the activities of the Conference on the future of Europe. The most frequent answer, given by half of respondents (50%), is being **convinced that their participation would have a real impact**. Around a third (32%) say they would be encouraged to take part **if all parts of society were represented**.

Around a quarter of respondents say they would be encouraged **if they could choose a flexible form of participation** (e.g. only from home, etc.) (27%), **if they had the opportunity to talk**

directly with political representatives involved (25%), or **if they were guaranteed to receive regular updates of the outcomes of their participation** (23%).

Less than one in five (18%) say they would be encouraged **if they were sure that their contribution could remain anonymous**, while just 7% would be influenced by the **involvement of celebrities** (e.g. actors, artists, sportsmen and sportswomen).

QA9 Which of the following, if any, would encourage you to take part in the activities of the Conference on the Future of Europe? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)
(% - EU)

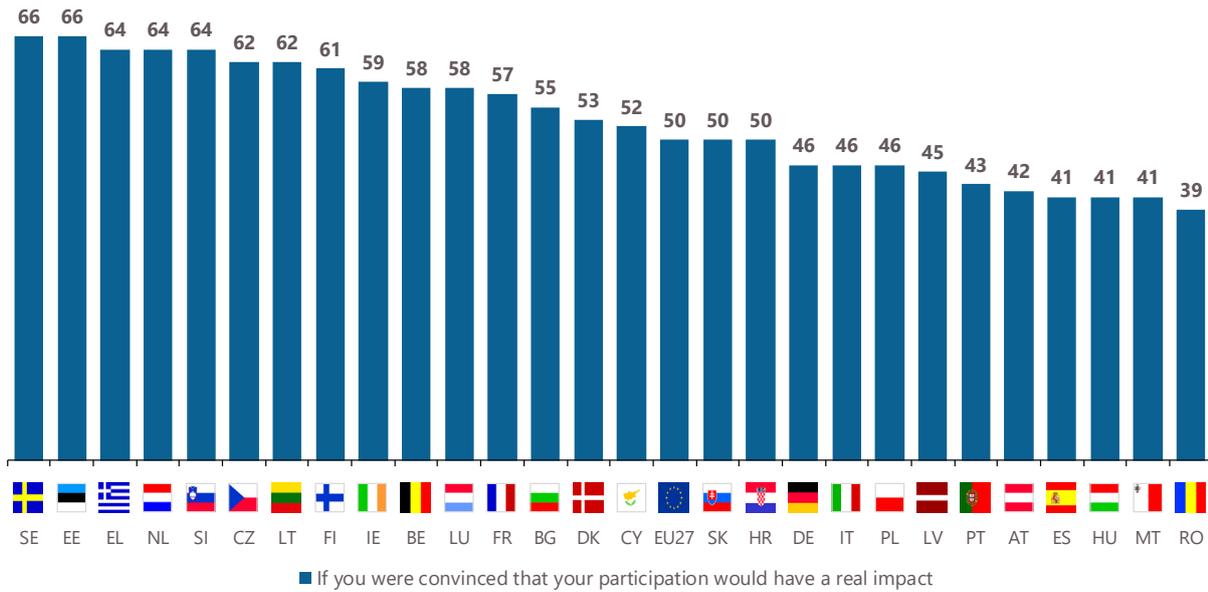


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In every country, the factor that is most likely to encourage participation in the Conference on the future of Europe is if people were **convinced that their participation would have a real impact**. However, there is variation by country in the proportion

that say this would encourage them. It is highest in Sweden and Estonia (both 66%), Greece, the Netherlands and Slovenia (all 64%), and is lowest in Romania (39%), Spain, Hungary and Malta (all 41%).

QA9 Which of the following, if any, would encourage you to take part in the activities of the Conference on the Future of Europe? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)
(% - THE MOST MENTIONED ANSWER BY COUNTRY)



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As seen above, the factor that is most likely to encourage participation in every country is if people were **convinced that their participation would have a real impact**.

Across the EU overall, the second most important factor is **if all parts of society were represented**, and this is among the top three answers in 25 Member States. Respondents are most likely to say this would encourage them to participate in the Conference on the future of Europe in Ireland (45%), Germany, Greece and Cyprus (all 41%), while respondents are least likely to say this in Latvia (16%), Czechia and Malta (both 22%).

Being able to **choose a flexible form of participation** is one of the top three answers in 19 countries, and is most likely to be chosen by respondents in Finland (45%) and the Netherlands (41%), while it is least frequently chosen in Spain (16%) and France (18%).

Respondents in Greece (33%), Germany (32%), Ireland and Italy (both 30%) are most likely to say they would be encouraged **if**

they had the opportunity to talk directly with political representatives involved, while those in Finland (16%) and Hungary (17%) are least likely to give this answer. This is one of the top three answers in seven countries.

The proportion that would be encouraged to take part **if they were guaranteed to receive regular updates of the outcomes of their participation** is highest in Ireland (38%), the Netherlands (34%) and Belgium (32%), and is lowest in Croatia (17%). This is among the top three answers in five Member States.

Respondents in Hungary (27%) are most likely to be encouraged by being **sure that their contribution could remain anonymous**, while this is least likely to have an influence in Sweden and Estonia (both 11%).

Finally, the **involvement of celebrities** (e.g. actors, artists, sportsmen and sportswomen) is most likely to encourage respondents in Romania (14%), Bulgaria, Austria and Poland (all 12%).

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QA9 Which of the following, if any, would encourage you to take part in the activities of the Conference on the Future of Europe? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)
(%)

		If you were convinced that your participation would have a real impact	If all parts of society were represented	If you could choose a flexible form of participation (e.g. only from home, etc.)	If you had the opportunity to talk directly with political representatives involved	If you were guaranteed to receive regular updates of the outcomes of your participation	If you were sure that your contribution could remain anonymous	If celebrities (e.g. actors, artists, sportsmen and sportswomen) were involved	Other (SPONTANEOUS)	Nothing, you are not interested in such an initiative (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU27		50	32	27	25	23	18	7	0	9	1
BE		58	35	37	21	32	15	3	0	0	0
BG		55	28	23	19	18	18	12	0	10	2
CZ		62	22	33	20	18	12	3	0	1	0
DK		53	35	39	24	18	17	3	0	6	1
DE		46	41	35	32	22	21	6	1	5	1
EE		66	35	36	19	24	11	2	0	0	1
IE		59	45	36	30	38	17	4	0	0	0
EL		64	41	29	33	31	22	8	1	10	1
ES		41	24	16	19	18	13	3	1	17	3
FR		57	29	18	21	21	13	4	1	10	2
HR		50	36	27	23	17	20	11	0	4	1
IT		46	33	23	30	28	20	9	0	8	1
CY		52	41	23	28	24	22	6	0	10	1
LV		45	16	20	18	19	14	5	0	14	4
LT		62	28	37	18	22	13	4	0	0	0
LU		58	32	29	25	28	15	5	0	0	0
HU		41	34	29	17	18	27	11	0	6	0
MT		41	22	32	19	29	16	7	2	17	2
NL		64	36	41	27	34	13	2	0	3	0
AT		42	28	32	24	27	20	12	1	20	2
PL		46	28	25	23	20	20	12	0	7	1
PT		43	26	20	20	18	19	6	1	31	3
RO		39	26	20	29	24	21	14	0	11	1
SI		64	33	25	19	28	12	3	0	2	0
SK		50	24	25	20	18	20	6	0	11	1
FI		61	24	45	16	20	12	2	0	2	1
SE		66	31	38	25	27	11	2	0	2	1
		1st MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM									
		2nd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM									
		3rd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM									

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In the **socio-demographic analysis**, there are differences by gender. Men are more likely than women to mention various factors that would encourage them to take part in the Conference on the future of Europe, such as being able to talk directly with political representatives involved (28% vs. 23%), if they were convinced that their participation would have a real impact (52% vs. 48%) and if they were guaranteed to receive regular updates of the outcomes of participation (25% vs. 21%).

Younger respondents are more likely than older respondents to say the various factors would encourage their participation. The differences are most pronounced in relation being convinced that participation would have a real impact (54% of respondents aged 15-24 vs. 46% of those aged 55 or over) and if regular updates of the outcomes of participation were guaranteed (27% vs. 19%). By

contrast, older respondents are more likely to say that nothing would influence them as they are not interested (14% of those aged 55 or over vs. 5% of those aged 15-39).

There are also differences by level of education. Respondents who left education at the age of 20 or above are more likely to mention the various factors. For example, more than half (54%) say they would be encouraged if they were convinced that their participation would have a real impact, while this is lower (38%) among respondents who left education by the age of 15. Respondents who left education earlier are more likely to say that nothing would influence them as they are not interested (23% of those who left education by the age of 15 vs. 5% of those who left at the age of 20 or above).

QA9 Which of the following, if any, would encourage you to take part in the activities of the Conference on the Future of Europe? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)
(% - EU)

	If you were convinced that your participation would have a real impact	If all parts of society were represented	If you could choose a flexible form of participation (e.g. only from home, etc.)	If you had the opportunity to talk directly with political representatives involved	If you were guaranteed to receive regular updates of the outcomes of your participation	If you were sure that your contribution could remain anonymous	Nothing, you are not interested in such an initiative (SPONTANEOUS)	If celebrities (e.g. actors, artists, sportsmen and sportswomen) were involved
EU27	50	32	27	25	23	18	9	7
Gender								
Man	52	33	26	28	25	17	7	6
Woman	48	31	28	23	21	19	10	7
Age								
15-24	54	33	30	27	27	21	5	11
25-39	52	32	29	26	26	18	5	8
40-54	52	32	28	27	25	18	6	6
55+	46	31	24	23	19	17	14	5
Education (End of)								
15-	38	24	17	20	14	16	23	4
16-19	48	31	25	25	22	20	8	8
20+	54	35	31	27	26	15	5	6
Still studying	56	34	32	30	28	20	3	10
Socio-professional category								
Self-employed	54	34	28	28	26	16	6	7
Managers	56	37	34	31	29	14	2	6
Other white collars	54	34	30	27	25	20	5	7
Manual workers	48	31	23	24	24	20	8	8
House persons	39	21	24	22	18	20	17	6
Unemployed	47	29	22	20	18	16	13	5
Retired	45	30	24	22	18	15	15	5
Students	56	34	32	30	28	20	3	10
Difficulties paying bills								
Most of the time	46	28	23	24	22	17	12	8
From time to time	46	32	25	24	23	21	8	8
Almost never/ Never	52	32	28	26	23	17	8	6

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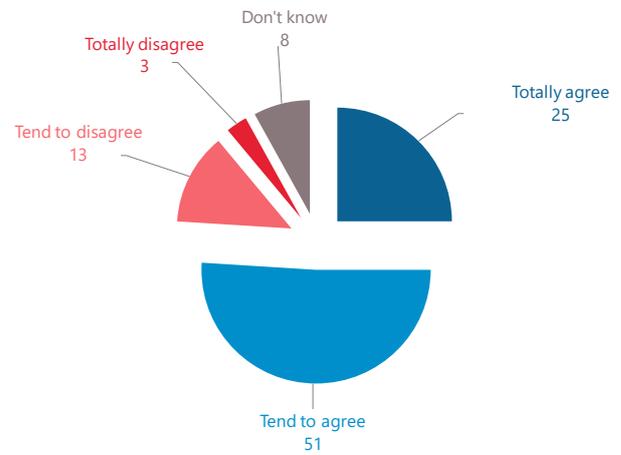
Three-quarters of Europeans feel that the Conference on the future of Europe will represent significant progress for EU democracy and this is a majority viewpoint in all Member States

Three-quarters of Europeans consider that the Conference on the future of Europe¹⁶ will have a positive impact on democracy within the EU: **76% agree that it would represent significant progress for democracy within the EU** (25% 'totally agree' and 51% 'tend to agree').

In every country, a clear majority agree that the Conference on the future of Europe would represent significant progress for democracy. The strongest levels of agreement are found in Ireland (90%), Sweden (88%), Belgium (88%) and Lithuania (87%) where more than 85% hold this view.

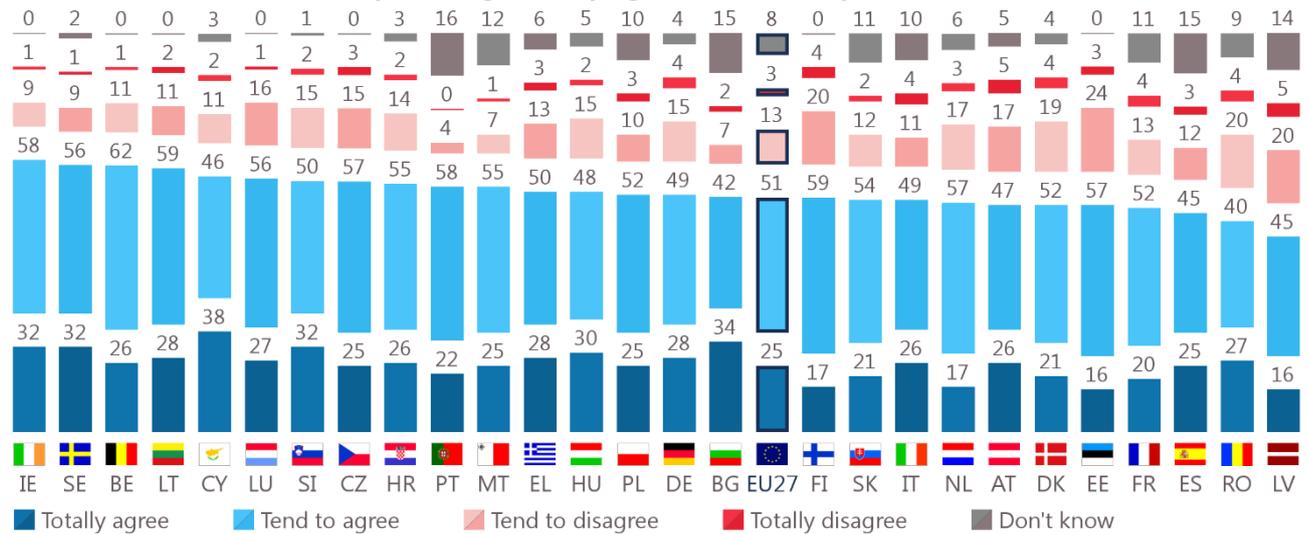
The lowest levels of agreement are found in Latvia (61%) and Romania (67%) where less than seven in ten agree.

QA6.2 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the Conference on the Future of Europe:
The Conference would represent significant progress for democracy within the EU (% - EU)



QA6.2 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the Conference on the Future of Europe:

The Conference would represent significant progress for democracy within the EU (%)



¹⁶ Before being asked questions on this, respondents were informed about the Conference on the Future of Europe (CoFE) by being presented with the following explanation: *The EU is working towards launching a multitude of events, debates, and consultations over a two year period. This will be called the "Conference on the Future of Europe". The aim is to*

debate and shape the future of Europe and of the EU. The Conference should identify what the EU does well, what it should do, and what it needs to do better, in order to increase its capacity to act, and to make it more democratic.

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The **socio-demographic** analysis indicates that women are slightly more likely than men to agree that the Conference would represent significant progress for democracy (77% vs. 74%). Older respondents (aged 55 or over) are less likely than other age groups to agree (73% vs. 76%-78%).

Levels of agreement are higher among respondents who stayed longer in education (78% of those who left education at the age of 20 or above vs. 65% of those who left by the age of 15). Analysis by socio-professional category shows that managers (81%) and other white collar workers (80%) are most likely to agree, with unemployed respondents least likely to agree (70%).

Agreement is lower among respondents who have difficulties paying bills most of the time (68% vs. 77% of those who never or almost never have difficulties).

Respondents whose general image of the EU is positive are more likely to agree that the Conference would represent significant progress for democracy (84% vs. 59% of those whose image is negative).

QA6.2 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the Conference on the Future of Europe

The Conference would represent significant progress for democracy within the EU (% - EU)

	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Don't know
EU27	76	16	8
 Gender			
Man	74	18	8
Woman	77	14	9
 Age			
15-24	76	17	7
25-39	78	16	6
40-54	78	16	6
55+	73	16	11
 Education (End of)			
15-	65	16	19
16-19	77	16	7
20+	78	16	6
Still studying	79	14	7
 Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	77	17	6
Managers	81	15	4
Other white collars	80	17	3
Manual workers	76	16	8
House persons	71	17	12
Unemployed	70	19	11
Retired	71	16	13
Students	79	14	7
 Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	68	18	14
From time to time	75	17	8
Almost never/ Never	77	15	8

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Around eight in ten Europeans (81%) agree that the Conference **should deal in priority with how the EU could better handle crises such as the coronavirus outbreak**, and this includes more than a third (38%) who strongly agree. One in seven respondents (14%) disagree with the statement.

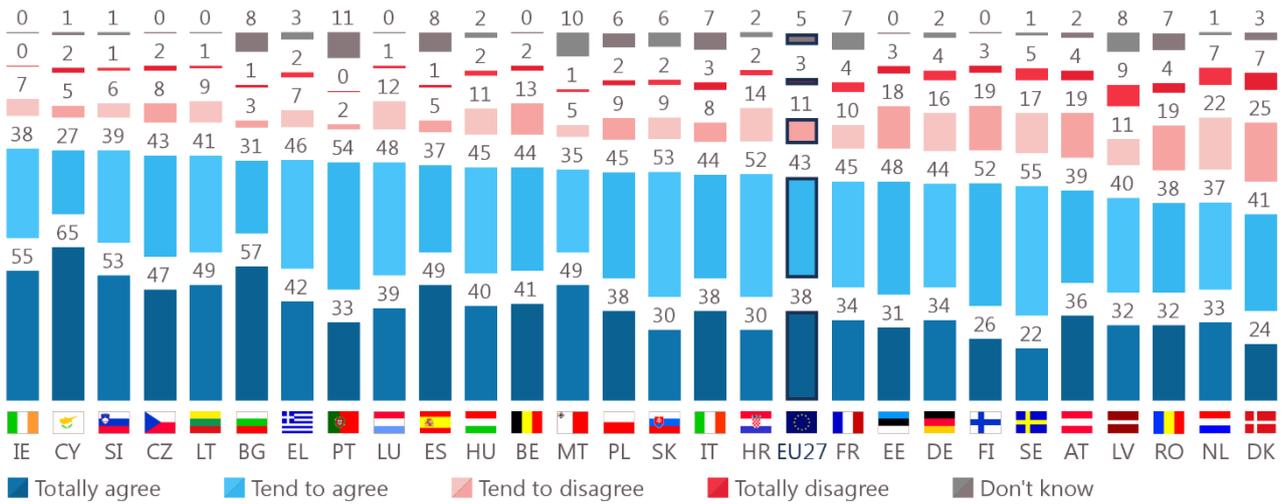
In every Member State, a clear majority agrees that the Conference should deal in priority with how the EU could better handle crises

such as the coronavirus outbreak. At least nine in ten respondents agree in Ireland (93%), Cyprus and Slovenia (both 92%), Czechia and Lithuania (both 90%).

The lowest levels of agreement are found in Denmark (65%), the Netherlands and Romania (both 70%).

QA6.4 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the Conference on the Future of Europe:

The Conference should deal in priority with how the EU could better handle crises such as the coronavirus outbreak (%)



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In the **socio-demographic** analysis, a consistent proportion of respondents (around eight in ten) agree that the Conference should deal in priority with how the EU could better handle crises such as the coronavirus outbreak. Levels of agreement are slightly higher among unemployed respondents (84%), and are lowest among managers (76%), those who left education by the age of 15 (77%), and respondents who place themselves in the upper middle class (71%) or upper class (66%).

There is also a slight difference in terms of respondents' overall image of the EU: those with a positive image are more likely to agree than those who have a negative image (84% vs. 74%).

QA6.4 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the Conference on the Future of Europe

The Conference should deal in priority with how the EU could better handle crises such as the coronavirus outbreak (% - EU)

	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Don't know
EU27	81	14	5
 Gender			
Man	80	16	4
Woman	82	12	6
 Age			
15-24	83	12	5
25-39	79	18	3
40-54	81	16	3
55+	81	12	7
 Education (End of)			
15-	77	11	12
16-19	83	13	4
20+	80	17	3
Still studying	83	13	4
 Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	81	16	3
Managers	76	22	2
Other white collars	83	14	3
Manual workers	80	16	4
House persons	81	12	7
Unemployed	84	10	6
Retired	80	11	9
Students	83	13	4
 Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	80	13	7
From time to time	81	14	5
Almost never/ Never	81	14	5

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The views of Europeans are divided as to the overall impact of the Conference on the future of Europe. While 43% agree that **the Conference would have no real impact, it would not change much**, a slightly higher proportion (47%) disagree.

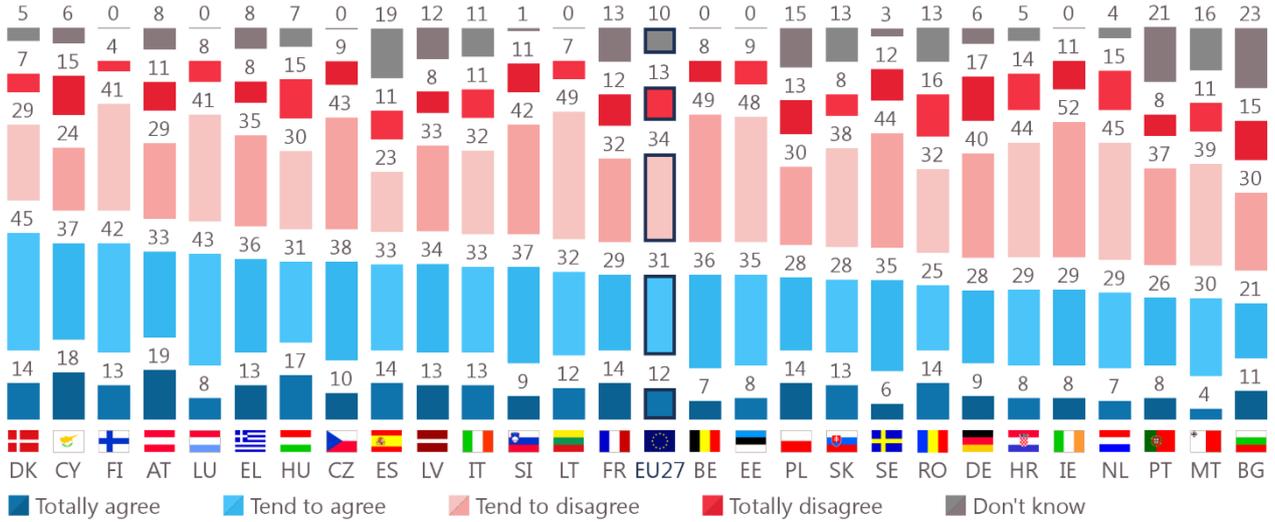
In 10 Member States, a majority of respondents agree that the Conference would have no real impact. Levels of agreement are

highest in Denmark (59%), Cyprus and Finland (both 55%) and Austria (52%).

In 16 countries, respondents are more likely to disagree than agree with the statement, with respondents most likely to disagree in Ireland (63%), the Netherlands (60%), Croatia and Romania (both 58%).

QA6.3 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the Conference on the Future of Europe:

The Conference would have no real impact, it would not change much (%)



Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

Differences between **socio-demographic groups** can be seen most clearly by looking at the proportions that disagree that the Conference would have no real impact, it would not change much (i.e. they think it *will* have an impact). This proportion is higher among younger respondents (53% of respondents aged 15-24 vs. 43% of those aged 55 or over).

Respondents are more likely to disagree if they stayed longer in education (50% of those who left education at the age of 20 or above vs. 36% of those who left by the age of 15). Analysis by socio-professional category shows that disagreement is highest among managers (56%) and lowest among unemployed respondents (40%).

Disagreement is higher among respondents who have never or almost never have difficulties paying bills (49% vs. 39% of those who have difficulties most of the time). In terms of social class, disagreement is highest among those who place themselves in the upper middle class (58%) and lowest among those who consider themselves as working class (40%).

Respondents whose general image of the EU is positive are more likely to disagree that the Conference would have no real impact (57% vs. 30% of those whose image is negative).

QA6.3 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the Conference on the Future of Europe

The Conference would have no real impact, it would not change much (% - EU)

	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Don't know
EU27	43	47	10
 Gender			
Man	44	47	9
Woman	41	47	12
 Age			
15-24	38	53	9
25-39	42	50	8
40-54	45	47	8
55+	44	43	13
 Education (End of)			
15-	43	36	21
16-19	44	46	10
20+	43	50	7
Still studying	37	54	9
 Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	47	44	9
Managers	39	56	5
Other white collars	44	50	6
Manual workers	44	46	10
House persons	43	43	14
Unemployed	48	40	12
Retired	43	43	14
Students	37	54	9
 Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	48	39	13
From time to time	46	45	9
Almost never/ Never	41	49	10

Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

Europeans mostly favour the involvement of ordinary citizens, young people, national governments and academics/experts in the Conference on the future of Europe

Respondents were presented with a list of possible contributors to the Conference on the future of Europe and were asked who they thought should have an active role. Most of these possible contributors are selected by at least two in ten Europeans suggesting **a desire for the involvement of a range of contributors to the Conference on the future of Europe**, including citizens, experts, journalists and various organisations at local, national and EU level.

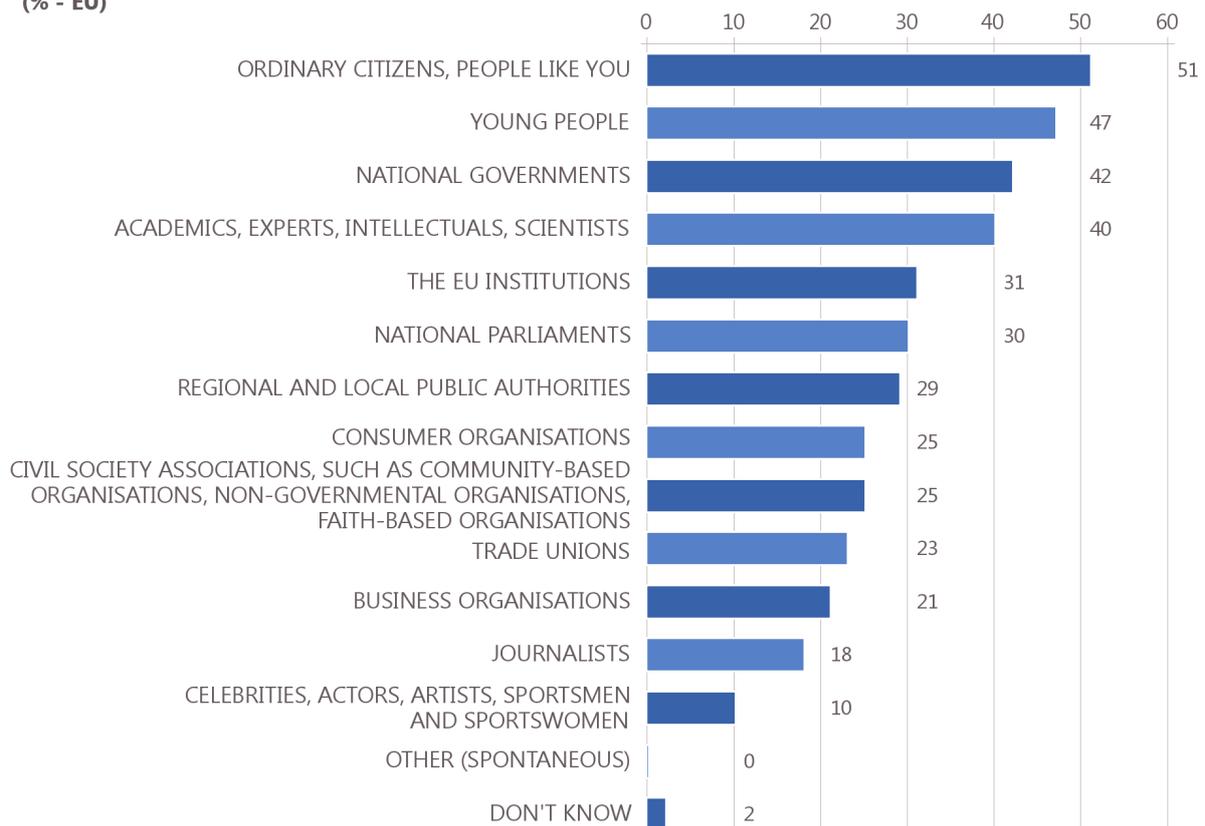
51% of the respondents think **ordinary citizens, people like them** should be actively involved. Other contributors which Europeans are most likely to think should be involved include **young people** (47%), **national governments** (42%),

academics, experts, intellectuals and scientists (40%), **EU institutions** (31%), **national parliaments** (30%) and **regional and local public authorities** (29%).

One fourth of respondents feel that the Conference on the future of Europe should include the active involvement of **consumer organisations** and **civil society associations**, such as community-based organisations, non-governmental organisations, faith-based organisations.

There is relatively less support among Europeans for the active involvement of **business associations** (21%), **journalists** (18%) and **celebrities** such as actors, artists, and sportspeople (10%).

QA5 Who do you think should be actively involved in the Conference on the Future of Europe?
(MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)
(% - EU)

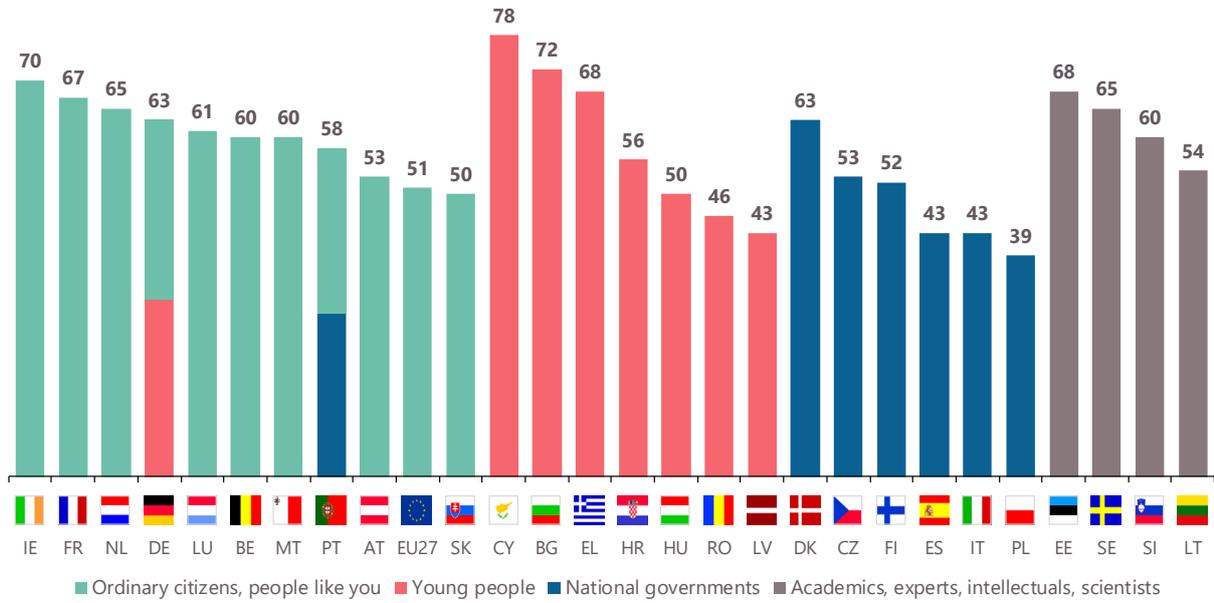


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The top five choices out of the list of 15 among all Europeans in terms of who should be involved in the Conference are ordinary people (first), young people (second), national governments (third),

academics, experts, intellectuals and scientists (fourth), and EU institutions (fifth).

QA5 Who do you think should be actively involved in the Conference on the Future of Europe?
(MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)
(% - THE MOST MENTIONED ANSWER BY COUNTRY)



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Ordinary citizens, people like you, is also the top ranked (or joint top ranked) choice in ten countries, and in each of these countries at least half think this group should be involved. The highest ratings on this measure can be found in Ireland (70%), France (67%) and the Netherlands (65%).

Young people is the top ranked (or joint top ranked) choice in eight countries, and preference for the involvement of this group is highest in Cyprus (78%), Bulgaria (72%) and Greece (68%).

National governments is the top (or joint top) ranked choice in seven countries, led by Denmark (63%).

Academics, experts, intellectuals, scientists is the top ranked choice in four countries, and the involvement of this group was especially favoured by Estonia (68%) and Sweden (65%).

EU institutions is the fifth choice among Europeans in terms of who should be involved in the Conference on the Future of Europe, ranking third in Slovenia alongside national governments (34%).

The proportions choosing the other options are broadly consistent across Member States, although there are some variations, with at least four in ten respondents choosing the following options.

Respondents are most likely to choose **national parliaments** in Denmark (47%), the Netherlands (43%) and Sweden (41%).

Respondents in Portugal (45%) and Austria (40%) are most likely to say that **regional and local public authorities** should be represented, with respondents in Portugal (43%) also the most likely to mention **consumer organisations**.

Civil society associations is chosen most frequently by respondents in Estonia and the Netherlands (both 40%), while respondents in Portugal (40%) are most likely to **mention trade unions**. **Business associations** is chosen most frequently by respondents in Portugal (52%) and Denmark (42%).

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QA5 Who do you think should be actively involved in the Conference on the Future of Europe?
(MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)
(%)

	Ordinary citizens, people like you	Young people	National governments	Academics, experts, intellectuals, scientists	The EU institutions	National parliaments	Regional and local public authorities	Consumer organisations	Civil society associations, such as community-based organisations, non-governmental organisations, faith-based organisations	Trade unions	Business organisations	Journalists	Celebrities, actors, artists, sportsmen and sportswomen	Other (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU27 	51	47	42	40	31	30	29	25	25	23	21	18	10	0	2
BE 	60	40	38	55	32	27	26	30	29	21	20	11	3	0	0
BG 	46	72	35	43	38	23	23	27	28	18	24	29	21	0	2
CZ 	46	29	53	47	30	38	24	12	18	16	12	12	5	0	0
DK 	54	31	63	58	36	47	29	29	27	39	42	23	5	1	1
DE 	63	63	44	47	34	35	32	34	26	30	24	27	14	0	1
EE 	38	36	42	68	24	33	19	13	40	15	27	16	3	0	0
IE 	70	54	57	52	40	33	33	29	39	26	33	16	6	0	0
EL 	64	68	43	58	40	32	33	37	32	24	26	14	16	0	1
ES 	39	38	43	38	35	25	23	15	17	15	19	10	5	1	5
FR 	67	47	32	28	25	20	27	28	21	22	20	13	6	0	3
HR 	43	56	37	41	33	31	24	15	20	15	16	17	12	0	0
IT 	35	39	43	23	28	27	27	23	22	16	15	12	9	0	4
CY 	62	78	35	51	28	30	23	25	26	18	15	28	16	0	1
LV 	37	43	41	39	19	24	15	9	20	21	26	27	7	1	3
LT 	35	35	52	54	28	34	16	15	29	20	18	19	6	0	0
LU 	61	47	42	49	36	32	23	25	31	28	16	16	4	0	0
HU 	35	50	38	39	25	24	20	20	24	24	10	12	11	0	1
MT 	60	54	47	43	39	33	28	25	31	27	22	29	12	0	2
NL 	65	49	59	59	33	43	20	25	40	30	22	19	4	0	0
AT 	53	51	38	41	34	30	40	38	31	31	26	27	23	1	3
PL 	38	35	39	34	22	30	37	16	30	18	18	18	12	0	3
PT 	58	44	58	54	42	37	45	43	35	40	52	33	16	1	5
RO 	32	46	34	33	31	28	28	19	22	21	20	26	18	0	3
SI 	50	50	34	60	34	27	20	25	25	20	15	19	6	0	0
SK 	50	45	46	36	28	38	24	13	17	20	12	23	6	0	1
FI 	42	28	52	50	38	36	21	14	25	19	31	14	3	0	1
SE 	62	33	63	65	43	41	32	24	31	33	29	22	3	0	0
	1st MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM														
	2nd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM														
	3rd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM														

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In the **socio-demographic analysis**, results are consistent between men and women, but there are differences by age group. The desire to see young people involved in the Conference on the future of Europe is strongest among young people themselves (58% of those aged 15-24). Older respondents (aged 55 or over) are the most likely to want to see the involvement of national governments (44%) and regional and local public authorities (30%), but are the least likely to say that ordinary citizens should be involved (48%).

There are also differences by level of education. Respondents who left education at the age of 20 or above are more likely to mention

the various options, especially ordinary citizens (56% vs. 42% of those who left education by the age of 15) and academics, experts, intellectuals and scientists (48% vs. 27%).

If respondents hold a generally positive image of the EU, they are more likely to want to see EU institutions involved in the Conference (37% vs. 19% of those who have a negative image of the EU), and also academics, experts, intellectuals and scientists (47% vs. 30%), but there is no major difference in terms of wanting to see ordinary citizens involved (52% vs. 56%).

QA5 Who do you think should be actively involved in the Conference on the Future of Europe? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)
(% - EU)

	Ordinary citizens, people like you	Young people	National governments	Academics, experts, intellectuals, scientists	The EU institutions	National parliaments	Regional and local public authorities	Civil society associations, such as community-based organisations, non-governmental organisations, faith-based organisations	Consumer organisations	Trade unions	Business organisations	Journalists	Celebrities, actors, artists, sportsmen and sportswomen
EU27	51	47	42	40	31	30	29	25	25	23	21	18	10
Gender													
Man	51	46	43	41	31	31	28	25	25	24	22	18	9
Woman	51	47	42	39	31	29	29	24	26	21	20	18	10
Age													
15-24	53	58	39	41	33	30	25	25	22	23	19	19	12
25-39	52	48	42	42	33	28	28	27	25	24	22	20	10
40-54	54	44	42	40	31	29	29	26	28	23	23	18	9
55+	48	44	44	37	29	31	30	23	25	21	20	17	9
Education (End of)													
15-	42	41	43	27	25	24	30	17	21	18	18	12	6
16-19	50	46	41	34	29	29	30	22	24	22	19	18	10
20+	56	46	44	48	34	32	27	30	28	24	25	19	10
Still studying	52	61	43	46	37	32	25	28	24	22	20	20	11
Socio-professional category													
Self-employed	52	45	45	46	33	34	30	31	28	21	27	18	11
Managers	56	48	48	53	38	32	32	31	30	25	27	22	10
Other white collars	52	46	42	41	33	29	29	27	26	22	22	18	10
Manual workers	52	45	39	34	28	25	29	22	24	25	21	18	10
House persons	40	39	43	30	28	29	26	18	23	18	14	13	8
Unemployed	52	43	37	35	29	25	23	23	23	22	17	17	8
Retired	48	46	43	36	27	32	29	21	24	20	19	17	8
Students	52	61	43	46	37	33	25	28	24	22	20	20	11
Difficulties paying bills													
Most of the time	50	46	37	35	27	28	27	26	29	24	24	19	10
From time to time	47	43	39	33	28	26	29	23	25	22	19	17	10
Almost never/ Never	53	48	44	43	33	31	29	26	25	23	22	18	9

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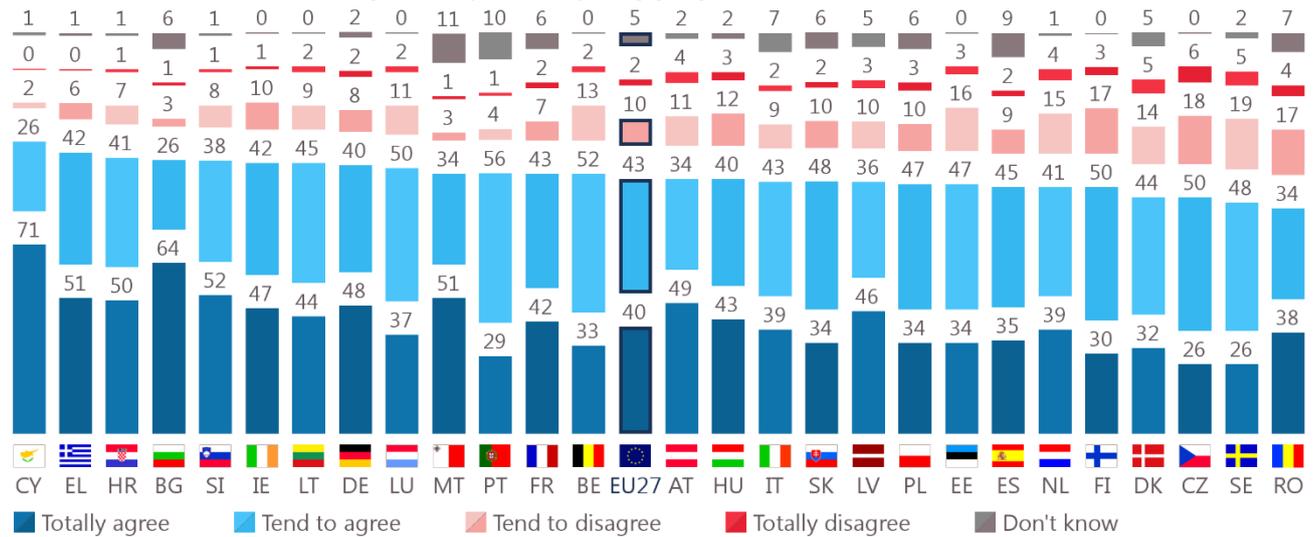
More than eight in ten Europeans (83%) agree that **the Conference should specifically involve young people to foster new ideas**, and this includes four in ten (40%) who strongly agree, while 12% disagree with the statement.

foster new ideas, with the highest proportions seen in Cyprus (97%), Greece (93%), Croatia (91%), Bulgaria and Slovenia (both 90%). Respondents are least likely to agree that young people should be involved in Romania (72%), Sweden (74%), Czechia and Denmark (both 76%).

In every Member State, more than seven in ten respondents agree that the Conference should specifically involve young people to

QA6.1 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the Conference on the Future of Europe:

The Conference should specifically involve young people to foster new ideas (%)



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In the **socio-demographic** analysis, findings are generally consistent across the various groups, with around eight in ten agreeing that the Conference should specifically involve young people to foster new ideas. Agreement is particularly high among young people themselves (87% of those aged 15–24 and 87% of students), and is also high among managers and other white collar workers (both 85%), while it is slightly lower than average among respondents who left education by the age of 15 (78%) and those who have difficulties paying bills most of the time (78%).

Respondents who hold a generally positive image of the EU are more likely to agree that the conference should specifically involve young people (88%), compared with those who have a negative image of the EU (74%).

QA6.1 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the Conference on the Future of Europe

The Conference should specifically involve young people to foster new ideas (% - EU)

	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Don't know
EU27	83	12	5
 Gender			
Man	82	14	4
Woman	84	11	5
 Age			
15-24	87	9	4
25-39	84	13	3
40-54	84	13	3
55+	80	13	7
 Education (End of)			
15-	78	11	11
16-19	84	12	4
20+	83	14	3
Still studying	87	9	4
 Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	82	15	3
Managers	85	13	2
Other white collars	85	12	3
Manual workers	82	14	4
House persons	80	14	6
Unemployed	83	11	6
Retired	81	11	8
Students	87	9	4
 Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	78	15	7
From time to time	82	14	4
Almost never/ Never	84	12	4

IV. THE EUROPEAN ELECTIONS AND THEIR CONSEQUENCES FOR THE INSTITUTIONAL SETUP OF THE EU



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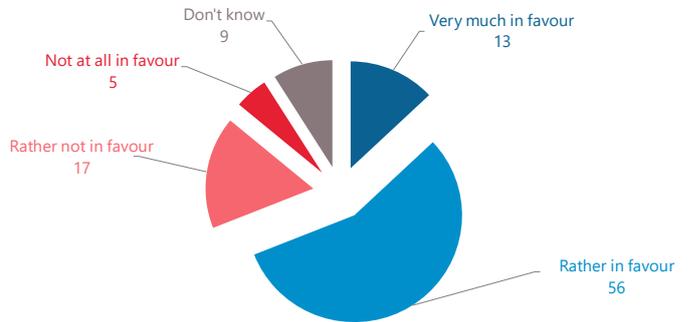
This chapter examines a range of issues relating to European Parliament elections and its consequences for the institutional setup of the EU - often discussed as relevant for a better democratic functioning of the European Union and its institutions. As such, and seen in the context with the Conference on the Future of Europe, respondents were asked for their views on the inclusion of transnational lists and on the use of lead candidates for electing the President of the European Commission.

A clear majority of Europeans support the process of lead candidates for electing the President of the European Commission

Respondents were asked about the process for electing the President of the European Commission through the choice of lead candidates. Around seven in ten Europeans (69%) say they are in favour of this process, including 13% who say they are 'very much in favour'. Just over one in five (22%) say they are not in favour of this process.

In every country except for Sweden, the majority of respondents say they are in favour of the process for electing the President of the European Commission through the choice of lead candidates.

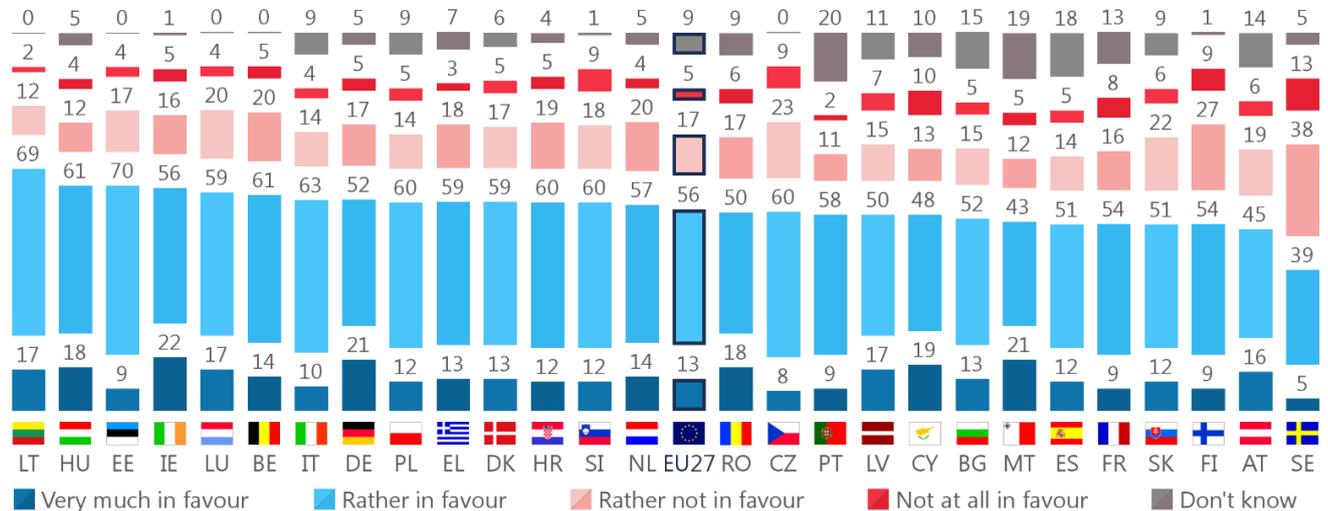
QA23 Each European political family can choose a lead candidate before the European Parliament elections. Such lead candidates can play a prominent role during the campaign all across the EU and can be the candidate of their political family to become President of the European Commission. Are you in favour of such a process or not? (% - EU)



Respondents in Lithuania are most likely to be in favour of this process (86%), followed by those in Hungary and Estonia (79%), Ireland (78%), Luxembourg (76%) and Belgium (75%).

In Sweden, 44% of respondents are in favour of this process but 51% are not in favour. The proportion that are not in favour is also relatively high in Finland (36%) and Czechia (32%).

QA23 Each European political family can choose a lead candidate before the European Parliament elections. Such lead candidates can play a prominent role during the campaign all across the EU and can be the candidate of their political family to become President of the European Commission. Are you in favour of such a process or not? (%)



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In the **socio-demographic** analysis, findings are consistent by gender and age, but there are differences by level of education. Respondents who stayed in education until the age of 20 or above are more likely to be in favour of the process (72%) than those who left education by the age of 15 (56%).

Managers and other white collar workers (both 75%) are more likely to be in favour of this process than respondents in other socio-professional groups, the lowest proportion being among unemployed respondents (60%). Respondents who have difficulties paying bills most of the time are less likely to be in favour of the process (63% vs. 70% of those who never or almost never have difficulties).

There is also a difference by social class, with the proportion in favour of this process rising from 60% among those who place themselves in the working class to 83% among those who place themselves in the upper class.

Respondents who hold a generally positive image of the EU are more likely to be in favour of the process than those who hold a negative image of the EU (78% vs. 46%).

QA23 Each European political family can choose a lead candidate before the European Parliament elections. Such lead candidates can play a prominent role during the campaign all across the EU and can be the candidate of their political family to become President of the European Commission. Are you in favour of such a process or not? (% - EU)

	Total 'In favour'	Total 'Not in favour'	Don't know
EU27	69	22	9
 Gender			
Man	69	24	7
Woman	68	22	10
 Age			
15-24	68	21	11
25-39	71	23	6
40-54	71	23	6
55+	67	22	11
 Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	72	23	5
Managers	75	22	3
Other white collars	75	19	6
Manual workers	69	23	8
House persons	61	24	15
Unemployed	60	25	15
Retired	65	23	12
Students	69	21	10
 Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	63	24	13
From time to time	69	24	7
Almost never/ Never	70	22	8

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There is some support for the inclusion of transnational lists in European Parliament elections

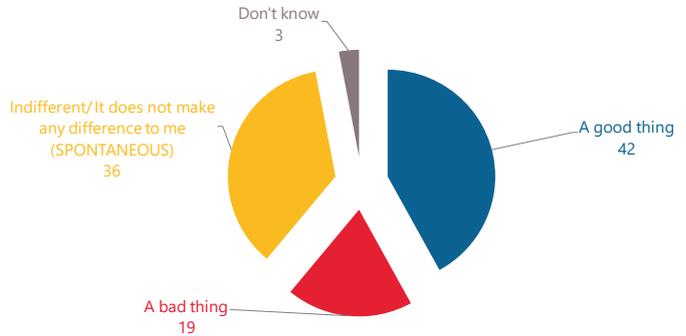
Respondents were asked for their views on a possible change to the type of lists citizens can vote for in European Parliament elections. As well as **voting for lists in an exclusively national frame**, the possibility was raised of also **voting for transnational lists**, i.e. lists gathering candidates from different EU countries in a list all EU citizens across the EU could then vote for.

Europeans are twice as likely to think that this would be a good thing (42%) as think it would be a bad thing (19%), while more than third (36%) say they are indifferent or that it doesn't make any difference to them.

In all but four Member States, respondents are more likely to think that the use of transnational lists in European Parliament elections would be a good thing rather than a bad thing. At least half of respondents say that this would be a good thing in Luxembourg (53%), Hungary (52%), Portugal, Greece and Belgium (all 50%), Estonia (49%), Germany (45%), Cyprus (44%), Romania (44%), Netherlands (43%), Slovenia (43%), EU27 (42%), Ireland (41%), Bulgaria (40%), Italy (40%), Lithuania (40%), Croatia (39%), France (38%), Slovakia (36%), Poland (36%), Austria (35%), Latvia (34%), Czechia (33%), Malta (31%), Sweden (29%), Denmark (27%), Estonia (24%) and Finland (17%).

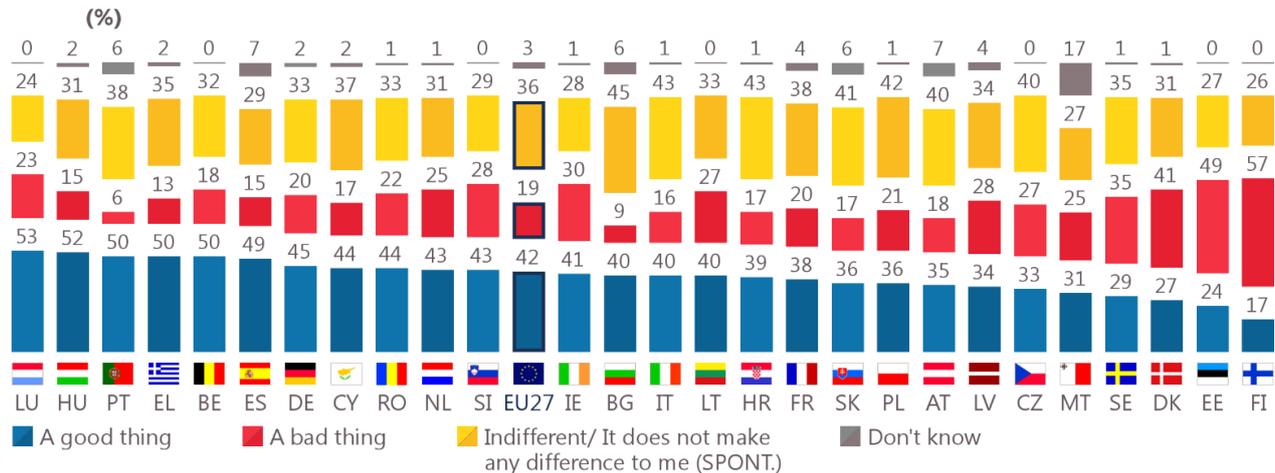
Respondents are more likely to say this would be a bad thing than a good thing in Finland (57% vs. 17%), Estonia (49% vs. 24%), Denmark (41% vs. 27%) and Sweden (35% vs. 29%).

QA24 In the last European Parliament elections, EU citizens could vote for lists in a national frame. For example, an EU citizen living in (OUR COUNTRY) could vote for a list in (OUR COUNTRY). It is currently debated that in the future EU citizens could have the possibility to vote in addition also for transnational lists. Such lists would gather candidates from different EU countries and all EU citizens could then vote for the same transnational lists. Do you think that this would be: (% - EU)



In seven countries, the majority view is indifference, with respondents in Bulgaria (45%), Italy and Croatia (both 43%) the most likely to say that this change would not make any difference to them.

QA24 In the last European Parliament elections, EU citizens could vote for lists in a national frame. For example, an EU citizen living in (OUR COUNTRY) could vote for a list in (OUR COUNTRY). It is currently debated that in the future EU citizens could have the possibility to vote in addition also for transnational lists. Such lists would gather candidates from different EU countries and all EU citizens could then vote for the same transnational lists. Do you think that this would be:



Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

In the **socio-demographic** analysis, respondents aged 25-39 are most likely to think it would be a good thing to include transnational lists in European Parliament elections (47%), while this is lowest among those aged 55 or over (36%).

Respondents who stayed longer in education are more likely to say that this would be a good thing (47% of those who left education at the age of 20 or above vs. 33% of those who left by the age of 15); a high proportion of those who left education at the age of 15 are indifferent on this issue (45%).

Analysis by socio-professional category shows that managers (53%) are most likely to approve of the inclusion of transnational

lists, while housepersons are least likely to do so (34% finding it a good thing vs. 44% indifferent).

Respondents who place themselves on the left of the political scale are more likely than those on the right to see this as a good thing (51% vs. 40%) and there is also greater support among those who hold a generally positive image of the EU (54% vs. 22% of those who hold a negative image).

There is only a slight difference between people who voted in the last European Parliament elections and those who did not vote (48% vs. 42% say that the inclusion of transnational lists would be a good thing).

QA24 In the last European Parliament elections, EU citizens could vote for lists in a national frame. For example, an EU citizen living in (OUR COUNTRY) could vote for a list in (OUR COUNTRY). It is currently debated that in the future EU citizens could have the possibility to vote in addition also for transnational lists. Such lists would gather candidates from different EU countries and all EU citizens could then vote for the same transnational lists. Do you think that this would be:
(% - EU)

	A good thing	A bad thing	Indifferent / It does not make any difference to me (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU27	42	19	36	3
 Gender				
Man	44	21	33	2
Woman	40	18	39	3
 Age				
15-24	44	17	36	3
25-39	47	18	33	2
40-54	44	19	35	2
55+	36	22	39	3
 Education (End of)				
15-	33	17	45	5
16-19	38	19	40	3
20+	47	21	30	2
Still studying	49	16	32	3
 Socio-professional category				
Self-employed	46	20	32	2
Managers	53	20	25	2
Other white collars	47	19	32	2
Manual workers	39	18	40	3
House persons	34	19	44	3
Unemployed	35	19	41	5
Retired	35	22	40	3
Students	49	16	32	3
 Difficulties paying bills				
Most of the time	40	18	38	4
From time to time	39	19	40	2
Almost never/ Never	43	20	34	3

Special Eurobarometer 500
Future of Europe

Europeans see benefits in the use of ‘lead candidates’ for electing the President of the European Commission, including greater transparency and legitimacy. However, there is less certainty over whether this approach will have a real impact.

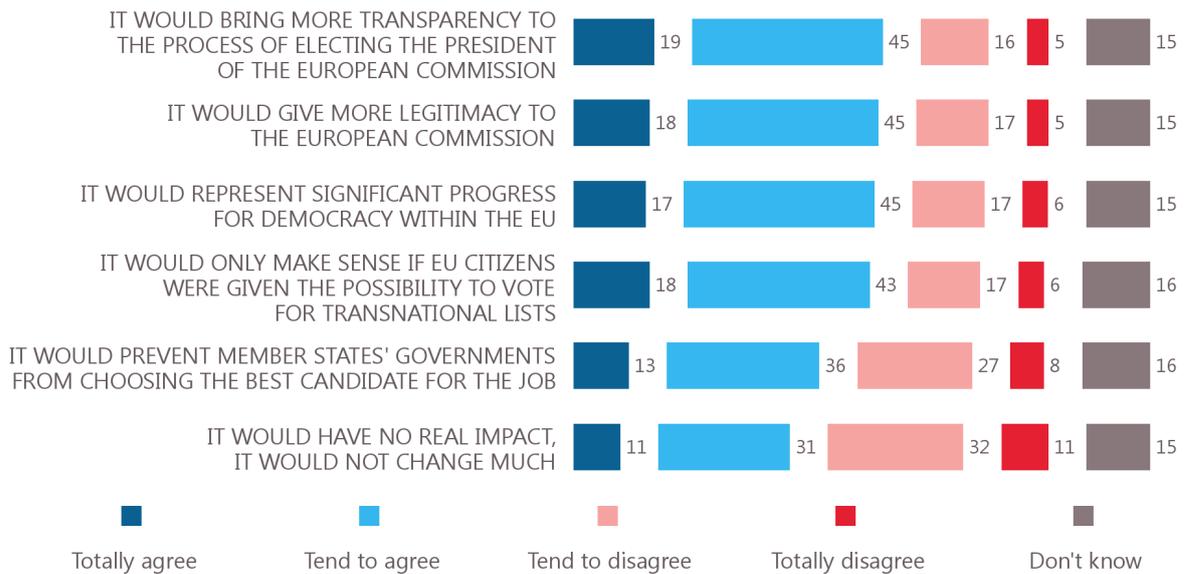
Respondents were asked whether they agreed or disagreed with a number of statements regarding the fact that the lead candidates chosen by the European political families could become the President of the European Commission (the so-called ‘Spitzenkandidaten’ process).

More than six in ten respondents (64%) agree that this **would bring more transparency to the process of electing the President of the European Commission**, while similar proportions agree that **it would give more legitimacy to the European Commission** (63%) and that **it would represent significant progress for democracy within the EU** (62%).

Around six in ten (61%) also agree that **it would only make sense if EU citizens were given the possibility to vote for transnational lists**. For each of these statements, just under one in five respondents strongly agree (between 17% and 19%), while just over one in five disagree (between 21% and 23%).

Around half of respondents (49%) agree that this **would prevent Member States’ governments from choosing the best candidate for the job**, while just over a third (35%) disagree. Europeans are divided as to whether this approach would make a difference: just over four in ten (42%) agree that **it would have no real impact, it would not change much**, while a similar proportion (43%) disagree.

QA25 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding the fact that the lead candidates chosen by the European political families could become the President of the European Commission (according to the European election results):
(% - EU)

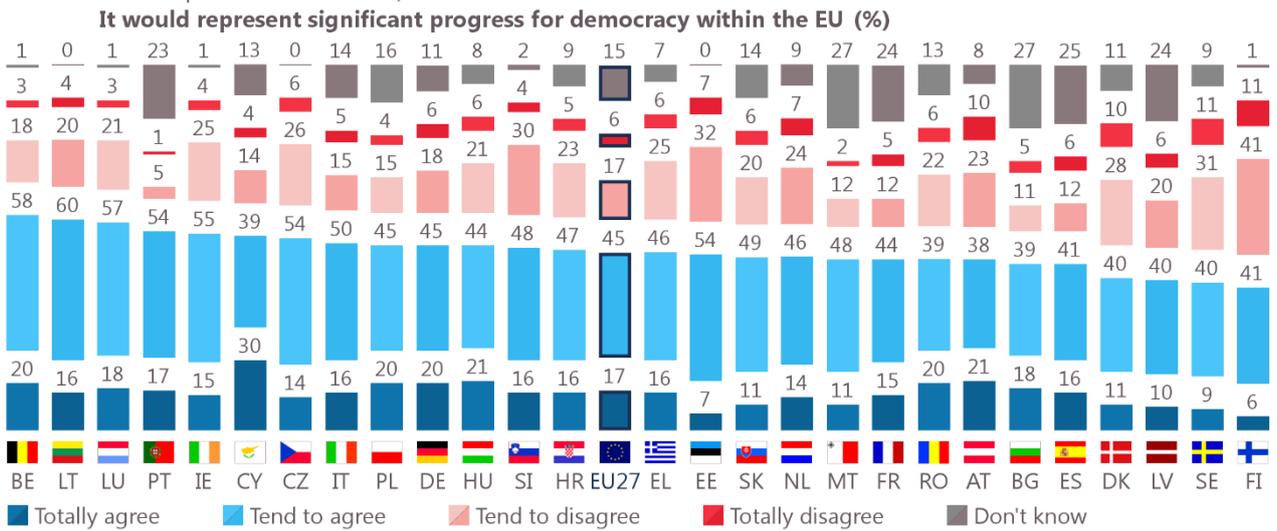


Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

In every country except Finland, a majority of respondents agree that the use of lead candidates in the election of the President of the European Commission **would represent significant progress for democracy within the EU**. Respondents are most likely to agree with the statement in Belgium (78%), Lithuania (76%), Luxembourg (75%), Portugal (71%) and Ireland (70%).

In Finland, respondents are more likely to disagree than to agree (52% vs. 47%), while levels of disagreement are also relatively high in Sweden (42%), Estonia (39%) and Denmark (38%).

QA25.1 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding the fact that the lead candidates chosen by the European political families could become the President of the European Commission (according to the European election results):



Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

The **socio-demographic** analysis indicates that older respondents are less likely to agree that the use of lead candidates in the election of the President of the European Commission would represent significant progress for democracy within the EU (60% of those aged 55 or over vs. 63%-65% in younger age groups).

Levels of agreement are higher among respondents who stayed longer in education (65% of those who left education at the age of 20 or above vs. 51% of those who left by the age of 15) and those who place themselves in the upper class (72% vs. 56% of those who consider themselves to be in the working class). Analysis by socio-professional category shows that managers (68%) and other white collar workers (67%) are most likely to agree, while housepersons and unemployed respondents are least likely to agree (both 54%).

Respondents who have difficulties paying bills most of the time are less likely to agree that this would represent significant progress for democracy within the EU (55% vs. 63% who have difficulties less often).

Respondents whose general image of the EU is positive are more likely to agree than those who have a negative image of the EU (71% vs. 45%). However, there is only a small difference between those who voted in the last European Parliament elections and those who did not vote (67% vs. 63%).

QA25.1 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding the fact that the lead candidates chosen by the European political families could become the President of the European Commission (according to the European election results)

It would represent significant progress for democracy within the EU (% - EU)

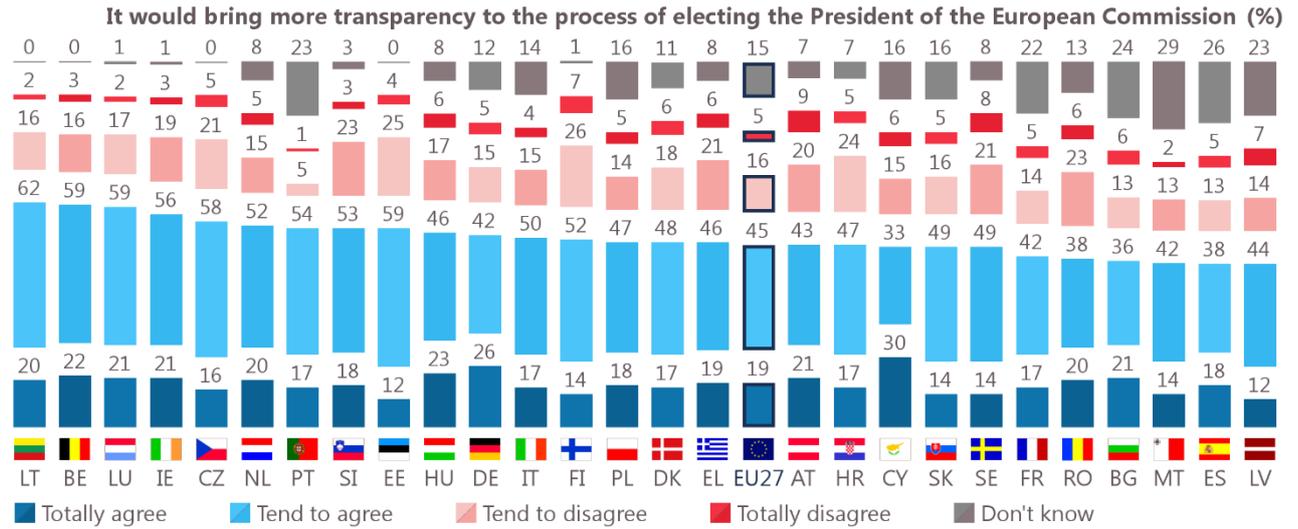
	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Don't know
EU27	62	23	15
 Gender			
Man	63	25	12
Woman	61	22	17
 Age			
15-24	63	21	16
25-39	65	24	11
40-54	64	25	11
55+	60	22	18
 Education (End of)			
15-	51	23	26
16-19	63	24	13
20+	65	24	11
Still studying	66	20	14
 Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	64	26	10
Managers	68	24	8
Other white collars	67	23	10
Manual workers	64	23	13
House persons	54	23	23
Unemployed	54	24	22
Retired	58	22	20
Students	66	20	14
 Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	55	27	18
From time to time	63	24	13
Almost never/ Never	63	23	14

Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

In every Member State, more than half of respondents agree that the use of lead candidates in the election of the President of the European Commission **would bring more transparency to the process**. More than three-quarters of respondents agree with the statement in Lithuania (82%), Belgium (81%), Luxembourg (80%) and Ireland (77%), while levels of agreement are lowest in Malta, Spain and Latvia (all 56%).

Respondents are most likely to disagree that this would bring more transparency to the process in Finland (33%) and Estonia, Croatia, Austria, Romania and Sweden (all 29%).

QA25.2 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding the fact that the lead candidates chosen by the European political families could become the President of the European Commission (according to the European election results):



Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

In the **socio-demographic** analysis, older respondents are less likely to agree that the use of lead candidates in the election of the President of the European Commission would bring more transparency to the process (61% of those aged 55 or over vs. 66%-67% in younger age groups).

Respondents who left education aged 20 or above are more likely to agree (68% vs. 51% of those who left by the age of 15), while analysis by social class shows higher agreement among those who place themselves in the upper middle class (75% vs. 57% of those who consider themselves to be in the working class). In terms of socio-professional category, managers (72%) are most likely to agree, while unemployed respondents (55%) and housepersons (56%) are least likely to agree.

Respondents who have difficulties paying bills most of the time are less likely to agree that this would bring more transparency to the process (57% vs. 66% who never or almost never have difficulties).

Respondents whose general image of the EU is positive are more likely to agree than those who have a negative image of the EU (73% vs. 47%). Those who voted in the last European Parliament elections are slightly more likely to agree than who did not vote (70% vs. 64%).

QA25.2 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding the fact that the lead candidates chosen by the European political families could become the President of the European Commission (according to the European election results)

It would bring more transparency to the process of electing the President of the European Commission (% - EU)

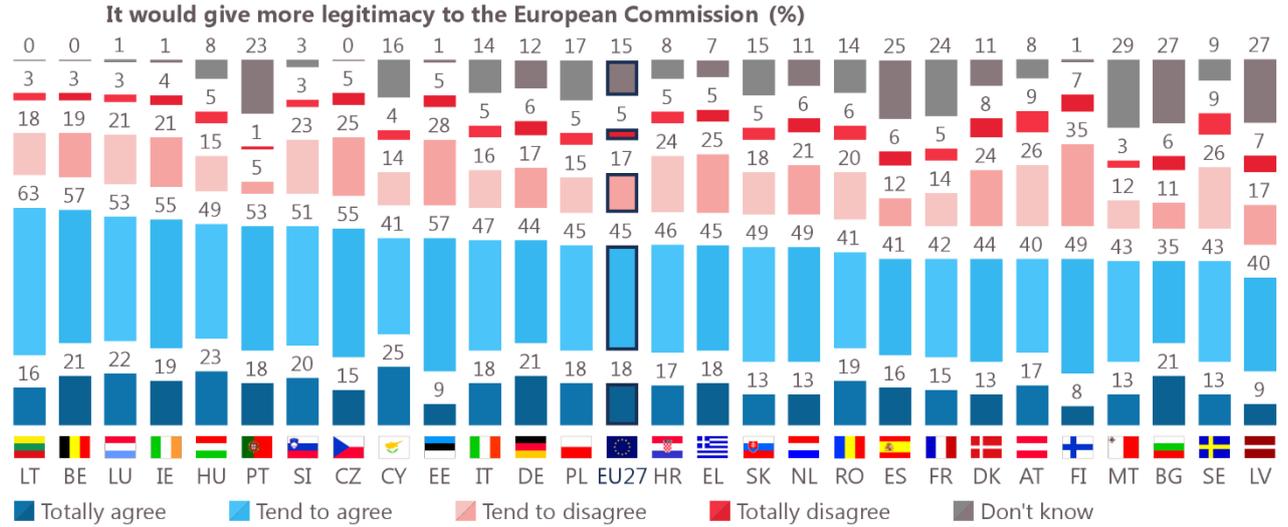
	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Don't know
EU27	64	21	15
 Gender			
Man	66	22	12
Woman	63	20	17
 Age			
15-24	66	19	15
25-39	66	22	12
40-54	67	21	12
55+	61	21	18
 Education (End of)			
15-	51	22	27
16-19	65	21	14
20+	68	21	11
Still studying	70	17	13
 Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	66	23	11
Managers	72	20	8
Other white collars	68	21	11
Manual workers	64	22	14
House persons	56	22	22
Unemployed	55	24	21
Retired	60	20	20
Students	70	17	13
 Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	57	25	18
From time to time	64	23	13
Almost never/ Never	66	20	14

Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

In every country, a majority of respondents agree that the use of lead candidates in the election of the President of the European Commission **would give more legitimacy to the European Commission**. Respondents are most likely to agree with this statement in Lithuania (79%), Belgium (78%), Luxembourg (75%), Ireland (74%) and Hungary (72%). Levels of agreement are lowest in Latvia (49%), followed by Sweden, Bulgaria and Malta (all 56%).

Respondents are most likely to disagree that this would give more legitimacy to the European Commission in Finland (42%), Austria and Sweden (both 35%).

QA25.3 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding the fact that the lead candidates chosen by the European political families could become the President of the European Commission (according to the European election results):



Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

The **socio-demographic** analysis indicates that men are more likely than women to agree that the use of lead candidates in the election of the President of the European Commission would give more legitimacy to the European Commission (65% vs. 61%). Agreement is lower among older respondents (59% of those aged 55 or over vs. 63%-65% in younger age groups).

Respondents who left education by the age of 15 are less likely to agree with the statement (50% vs. 65% of those who left at the age of 20 or above), and agreement is also lower among those who have difficulties paying bills most of the time (56% vs. 63% of those who rarely or never have difficulties). Analysis by socio-professional category shows that managers (70%) are most likely to agree, while housepersons and unemployed respondents are least likely to agree (both 53%).

Agreement also increases with higher social class (69% among those who place themselves in the upper class or upper middle class vs. 55% of those who consider themselves to be in the working class).

Respondents whose general image of the EU is positive are more likely to agree than those who have a negative image of the EU (71% vs. 46%). Agreement is slightly higher among those who voted in the last European Parliament elections (68% vs. 63% of those who did not vote).

QA25.3 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding the fact that the lead candidates chosen by the European political families could become the President of the European Commission (according to the European election results)

It would give more legitimacy to the European Commission (% - EU)

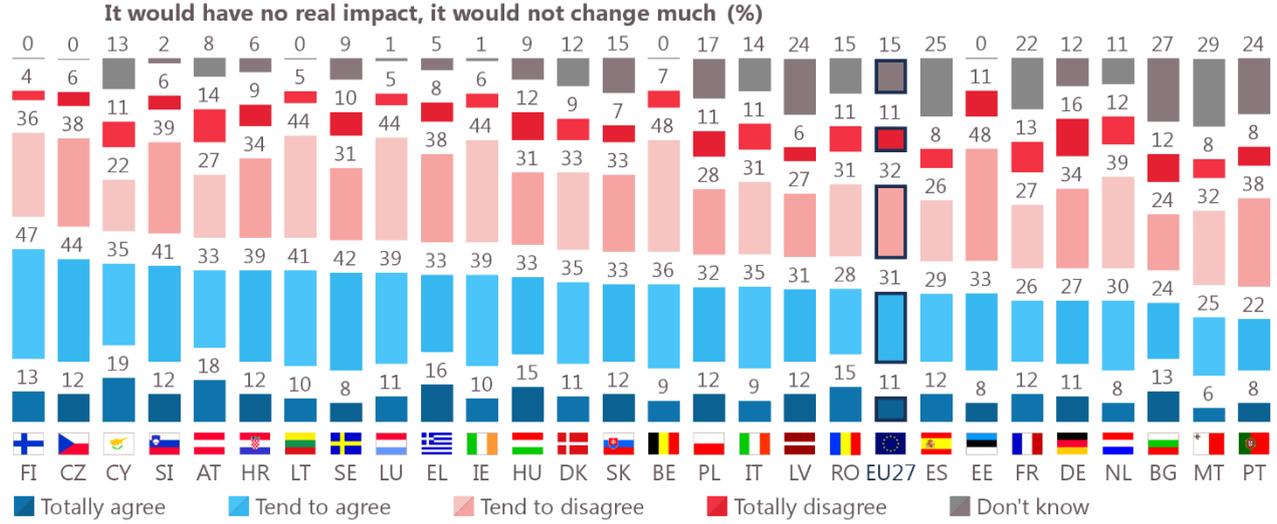
	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Don't know
EU27	63	22	15
 Gender			
Man	65	23	12
Woman	61	21	18
 Age			
15-24	63	20	17
25-39	65	24	11
40-54	65	23	12
55+	59	22	19
 Education (End of)			
15-	50	23	27
16-19	64	22	14
20+	65	24	11
Still studying	65	20	15
 Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	66	24	10
Managers	70	22	8
Other white collars	68	22	10
Manual workers	62	24	14
House persons	53	23	24
Unemployed	53	26	21
Retired	59	21	20
Students	65	20	15
 Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	56	25	19
From time to time	62	24	14
Almost never/ Never	63	22	15

Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

In 19 Member States, a majority of respondents agree that the system of lead candidates becoming President of the European Commission **would have no real impact and would not change much**. Respondents are most likely to agree with the statement in Finland (60%), Czechia (56%), Cyprus (54%) and Slovenia (53%).

In the other eight countries, respondents are more likely to disagree than agree with the statement: Estonia (59% vs. 41%), Belgium (55% vs. 45%), the Netherlands (51% vs. 38%), Germany (50% vs. 38%), Ireland (50% vs. 49%), Portugal (46% vs. 30%), Malta (40% vs. 31%) and France (40% vs. 38%).

QA25.4 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding the fact that the lead candidates chosen by the European political families could become the President of the European Commission (according to the European election results):



Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

In the **socio-demographic** analysis, most groups show an approximately even split between agreement and disagreement on whether the use of lead candidates for electing the President of the European Commission **would have no real impact and would not change much**. This applies to all age groups except for respondents aged 15-24, who are more likely to disagree than agree (47% v 38%).

Variations are clearest when looking at the proportions who *disagree* that the use of lead candidates **would have no real impact and would not change much**. Respondents who left education aged 20 or above are more likely to disagree with the statement (46% vs. 35% of those who left by the age of 15), while levels of disagreement are also higher among managers (51%) and students (53%). Analysis by social class shows that those who place themselves in the upper class are most likely to disagree (53% vs. 36% of those who consider themselves to be in the working class).

Respondents whose general image of the EU is positive are more likely to disagree than those who have a negative image of the EU (50% vs. 36%). There are no differences between those who voted in the last European Parliament elections and those who did not vote.

QA25.4 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding the fact that the lead candidates chosen by the European political families could become the President of the European Commission (according to the European election results)

It would have no real impact, it would not change much (% - EU)

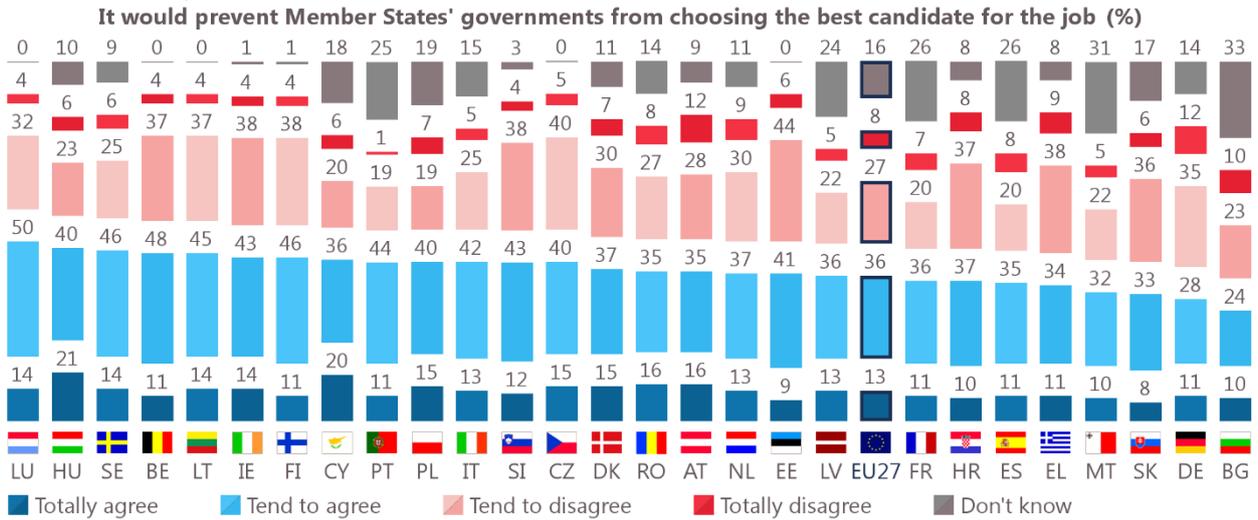
	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Don't know
EU27	42	43	15
 Gender			
Man	43	45	12
Woman	42	41	17
 Age			
15-24	38	47	15
25-39	45	44	11
40-54	44	44	12
55+	41	40	19
 Education (End of)			
15-	40	35	25
16-19	45	41	14
20+	42	46	12
Still studying	33	53	14
 Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	45	44	11
Managers	40	51	9
Other white collars	45	44	11
Manual workers	47	39	14
House persons	43	37	20
Unemployed	46	36	18
Retired	40	40	20
Students	33	53	14
 Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	43	39	18
From time to time	45	42	13
Almost never/ Never	41	44	15

Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

In 23 Member States, a majority of respondents agree that the system of lead candidates being elected to President of the European Commission would prevent national governments from choosing the best candidate for the job. Respondents are most likely to agree in Luxembourg (64%), Hungary (61%), Sweden (60%), Belgium and Lithuania (both 59%).

In Estonia, respondents are equally likely to agree and disagree (both 50%), while there are three countries where a majority disagree with the statement: Germany (47% vs. 39%), Greece (47% vs. 45%) and Slovakia (42% vs. 41%).

QA25.5 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding the fact that the lead candidates chosen by the European political families could become the President of the European Commission (according to the European election results):



Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

The **socio-demographic** analysis shows a consistent pattern with very little variation between groups. A consistent proportion of around half of respondents agree that the system of lead candidates would prevent national governments from choosing the best candidate for the job.

The only clear differences are that respondents who finished education at the age of 20 or above are more likely to disagree with the statement (39%) than respondents who left by the age of 15 (28%), while managers are more likely to disagree (42%) than those in other socio-professional groups (31%-38%).

QA25.5 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding the fact that the lead candidates chosen by the European political families could become the President of the European Commission (according to the European election results)

It would prevent Member States' governments from choosing the best candidate for the job (% - EU)

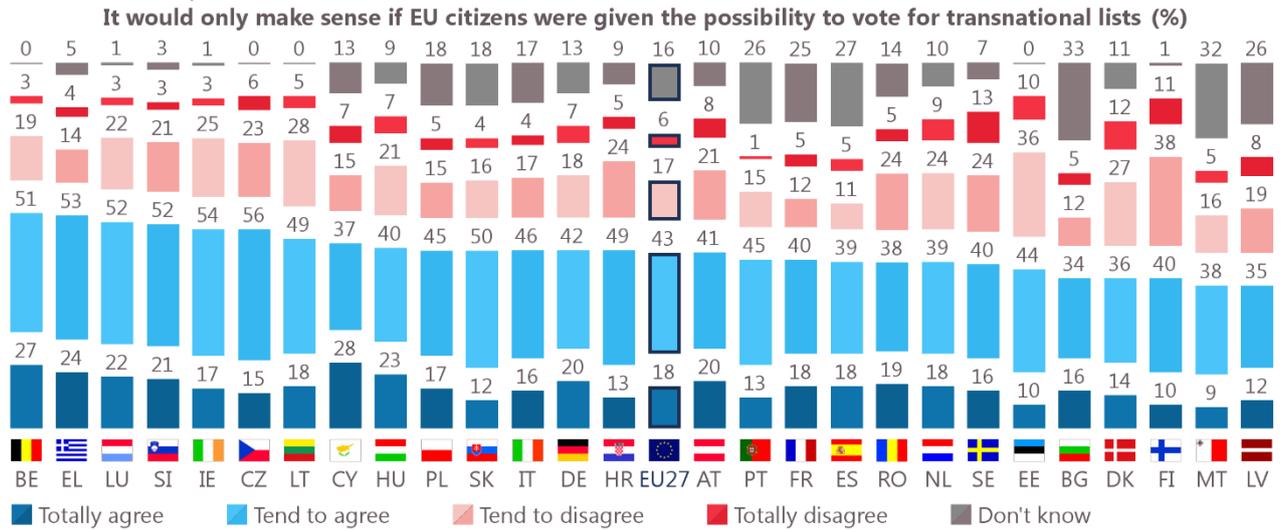
	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Don't know
EU27	49	35	16
 Gender			
Man	50	36	14
Woman	48	34	18
 Age			
15-24	48	34	18
25-39	51	36	13
40-54	50	37	13
55+	47	33	20
 Education (End of)			
15-	45	28	27
16-19	50	34	16
20+	48	39	13
Still studying	49	35	16
 Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	51	38	11
Managers	48	42	10
Other white collars	52	35	13
Manual workers	51	33	16
House persons	45	31	24
Unemployed	47	32	21
Retired	46	33	21
Students	49	35	16
 Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	48	32	20
From time to time	53	33	14
Almost never/ Never	48	35	17

Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

In every Member State, a majority of respondents agree that the use of lead candidates in the election of the President of the European Commission **would only make sense if EU citizens were given the possibility to vote for transnational lists**. Respondents are most likely to agree with the statement in

Belgium (78%), Greece (77%), Luxembourg (74%) and Slovenia (73%), while levels of agreement are lowest in Malta and Latvia (both 47%). Respondents are most likely to disagree that this would only make sense if EU citizens were given the possibility to vote for transnational lists in Finland (49%) and Estonia (46%).

QA25.6 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding the fact that the lead candidates chosen by the European political families could become the President of the European Commission (according to the European election results):



Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

In the **socio-demographic** analysis, men are slightly more likely than women to agree that the use of lead candidates in the election of the President of the European Commission would only make sense if EU citizens were given the possibility to vote for transnational lists (63% vs. 60%).

By age group, agreement is highest among 25-39 year olds (66%) and lowest among those aged 55 or over (56%).

Respondents who left education aged 20 or above are more likely to agree (64% vs. 51% of those who left by the age of 15). In terms of socio-professional category, managers (66%) are most likely to agree, while housepersons (51%) are least likely to agree.

Respondents whose general image of the EU is positive are more likely to agree than those who have a negative image of the EU (66% vs. 51%). There is very little difference between those who voted in the last European Parliament elections and those who did not vote (64% vs. 61%).

QA25.6 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding the fact that the lead candidates chosen by the European political families could become the President of the European Commission (according to the European election results)

It would only make sense if EU citizens were given the possibility to vote for transnational lists (% - EU)

	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Don't know
EU27	61	23	16
 Gender			
Man	63	23	14
Woman	60	22	18
 Age			
15-24	62	21	17
25-39	66	22	12
40-54	63	24	13
55+	56	23	21
 Education (End of)			
15-	51	20	29
16-19	61	24	15
20+	64	24	12
Still studying	63	21	16
 Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	64	24	12
Managers	66	26	8
Other white collars	64	24	12
Manual workers	63	22	15
House persons	51	26	23
Unemployed	60	17	23
Retired	55	23	22
Students	63	21	16
 Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	59	22	19
From time to time	61	24	15
Almost never/ Never	61	23	16

V. THE FUTURE OF EUROPE



Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

This chapter on the Future of Europe consists of three parts: the first looks at perceptions of the EU's main assets and the challenges it faces, as well as how these challenges can be addressed. The second part examines the EU's position in the world and its core values; and the third part turns to the future of Europe, looking at the main priorities for the future of Europe, and the balance of responsibility between the EU and national level in dealing with policy areas.

1. EU Assets and challenges

Europeans consider that the EU's respect for democracy, human rights and the rule of law and its economic, industrial and trading power are its main assets

Europeans consider that the **EU's respect for democracy, human rights and the rule of law** (32%) and its **economic, industrial and trading power** (30%) are its main assets.

Other assets considered relatively important to Europeans include the **standard of living of EU citizens** (23%), the **good relationship and solidarity between the EU's Member States** (23%), the **EU's ability to promote peace and democracy outside its borders** (18%), the **social protection systems in the Member States** (16%) and the **EU's commitment to environmental responsibility** (13%).

Finally, around one in ten Europeans mention the EU's capacity for **research and innovation** (12%), the **quality of infrastructure in the EU** (11%) and the **skills of talents of EU citizens** (10%).

This question was also asked in the Special Eurobarometer survey "Europeans in 2019", conducted in March 2019¹⁷. However, the question was adapted for the October/November 2020 Future of Europe survey, to take account of the coronavirus crisis; one new item was added, and another item was slightly modified¹⁸. Therefore, only broad comparisons can be made with March 2019, and analysis of change over time should be interpreted with some caution.

However, overall, **the results remain very similar to those recorded in March 2019**, despite the changes to the response options noted above. The top two assets mentioned by Europeans – the EU's respect for democracy, human rights and the rule of law; its economic, industrial and trading power, and the standard of living of EU citizens¹⁹ – remain the same and in the same order of prevalence. Only two small increases between March 2019 and October/November 2020 in perceptions of the EU's main assets are observed: economic, industrial and trading power (30%, +3 percentage points since March 2019) and the standard of living of EU citizens (23%, +3pp).

¹⁷ Special Eurobarometer 486 "Europeans in 2019" <https://ec.europa.eu/commfrontoffice/publicopinion/index.cfm/survey/getsurveydetail/instruments/special/surveyky/2225>

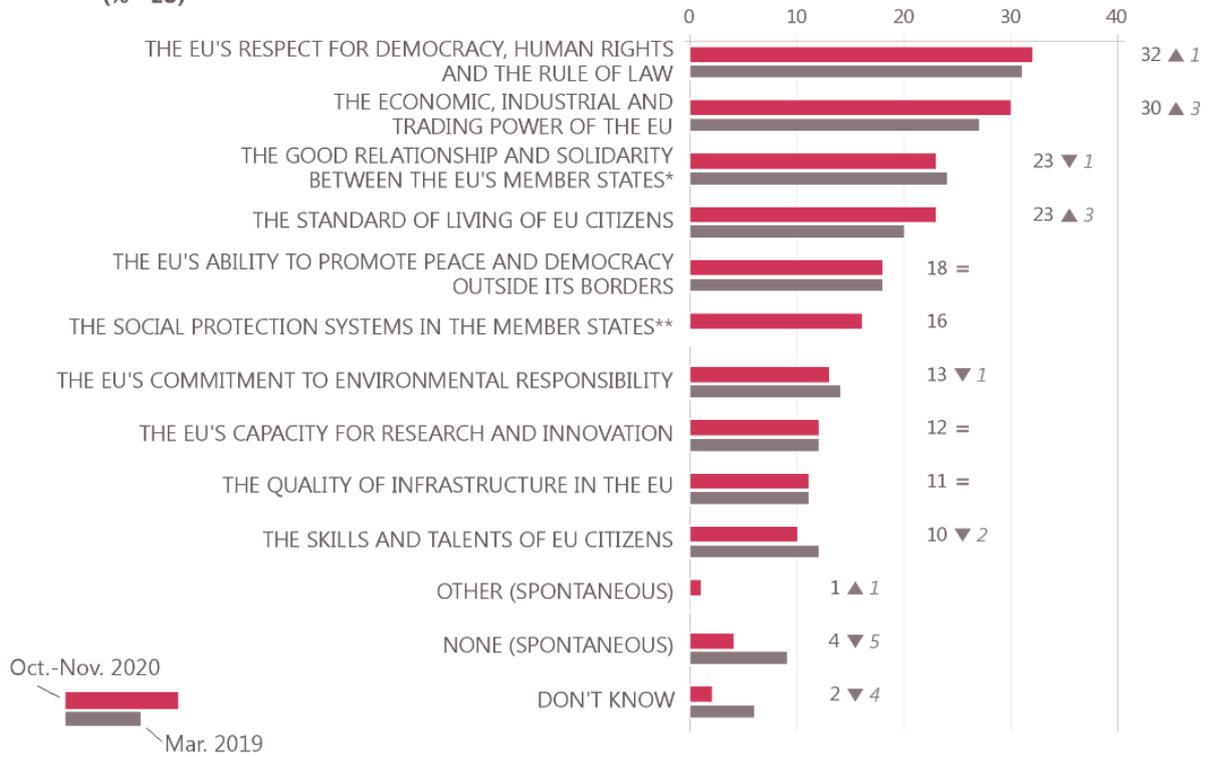
¹⁸ One new item was included in the October/November 2020 FoE survey: 'The social protection systems in the Member States' and one item was slightly reworded from 'The good relationship between the EU's member

states' to 'The good relationship and solidarity between the EU's member states'.

¹⁹ The good relationship and solidarity between the EU's Member States' ranked equal third in October/November 2020; however this item has been slightly modified since the previous survey.

Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

QA10T In your opinion, what are the main assets of the EU? Firstly? And then? (MAX. 2 ANSWERS)
(% - EU)



* Statement modified (see footnote on previous page) ** Statement was included for the first time in Oct/Nov 2020 (see footnote on previous page)

Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

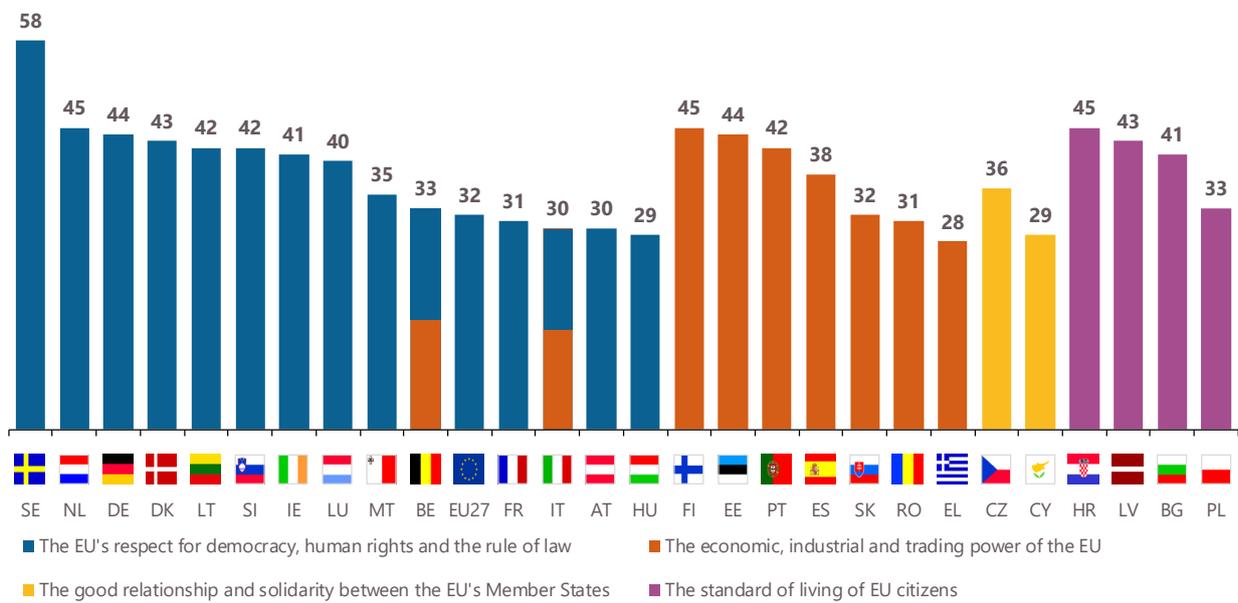
Europeans consider that the **EU's respect for democracy, human rights and the rule of law** and **its economic, industrial and trading power** are the EU's main assets. These assets are also ranked highest in most Member States.

The EU's respect for democracy, human rights and the rule of law is ranked as the most important (or joint most important) asset in 14 countries, and this viewpoint is especially prominent in Sweden where 58% see this as a key asset.

The EU's economic, industrial and trading power is ranked as the most important (or joint most important) asset in nine countries, led by Finland (45%) and Estonia (44%).

Four countries see the EU's main asset as the **standard of living of EU citizens**, especially Croatia (45%), Latvia (43%) and Bulgaria (41%). Finally, just two countries, Czechia (36%) and Cyprus (29%), think the EU's main asset is its **good relationship and solidarity** between the Member States.

QA10T In your opinion, what are the main assets of the EU? Firstly? And then? (MAX. 2 ANSWERS)
(% - THE MOST MENTIONED ANSWER BY COUNTRY)



Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

In the EU as a whole, around a third of Europeans (32%) say that the **EU's respect for democracy, human rights and the rule of law** is one of its main assets. More than half of respondents in Sweden (58%) give this answer, followed by respondents in the Netherlands (45%), Finland and Germany (both 44%). It is least likely to be chosen by respondents in Slovakia (16%), Spain (19%), Bulgaria and Romania (both 20%).

The **EU's economic, industrial and trading power** is most likely to be seen as a main asset by respondents in Finland (45%), Estonia (44%), Denmark, the Netherlands and Portugal (all 42%), while it is least frequently chosen by those in Cyprus (16%) and Latvia (20%).

The proportion that say the EU's **good relationship and solidarity** is a main asset is highest in Lithuania (38%), Czechia and Estonia (both 36%) and Ireland (35%), while it is lowest in Hungary (15%), Austria (16%) and Portugal (18%).

There is considerable variation in the proportion that see as a main asset of the EU the **standard of living of EU citizens**, ranging from 45% in Croatia, 43% in Latvia and 41% in Bulgaria, to 8% in Sweden and 16% in each of Italy, Finland and the Netherlands.

Respondents in Sweden (26%) are most likely to say that the **EU's commitment to environmental responsibility** is a main asset. Otherwise, this and the other assets of the EU are cited by less than a quarter of respondents in each country.

QA10T In your opinion, what are the main assets of the EU? Firstly? And then? (MAX. 2 ANSWERS)
(%)

		The EU's respect for democracy, human rights and the rule of law	The economic, industrial and trading power of the EU	The good relationship and solidarity between the EU's Member States	The standard of living of EU citizens	The EU's ability to promote peace and democracy outside its borders	The social protection systems in the Member States	The EU's commitment to environmental responsibility	The EU's capacity for research and innovation	The quality of infrastructure in the EU	The skills and talents of EU citizens	Other (SPONTANEOUS)	None (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU27		32	30	23	23	18	16	13	12	11	10	1	4	2
BE		33	33	22	22	15	21	17	13	8	14	0	1	0
BG		20	28	27	41	13	20	8	10	10	9	1	3	3
CZ		29	35	36	32	11	8	14	13	11	7	0	2	0
DK		43	42	26	18	13	7	19	10	9	5	1	2	1
DE		44	23	25	21	24	17	14	7	10	8	1	2	0
EE		41	44	36	24	9	10	11	12	6	6	0	0	0
IE		41	36	35	25	10	12	13	6	10	10	0	0	0
EL		22	28	24	21	23	16	9	13	16	9	2	8	1
ES		19	38	20	22	13	18	10	16	13	9	1	7	4
FR		31	25	21	21	20	15	13	11	9	10	1	9	3
HR		27	31	21	45	15	19	12	11	10	8	0	1	0
IT		30	30	20	16	19	16	12	16	12	13	0	3	4
CY		28	16	29	23	24	15	16	16	11	6	0	7	2
LV		28	20	26	43	12	21	12	6	10	7	0	4	3
LT		42	28	38	35	18	12	8	8	6	4	0	0	0
LU		40	28	22	23	21	20	12	10	13	10	0	1	0
HU		29	26	15	28	22	18	13	12	14	18	0	1	1
MT		35	28	22	34	13	12	16	10	7	11	1	1	3
NL		45	42	28	16	17	10	19	7	7	6	0	1	0
AT		30	24	16	25	15	20	12	12	13	14	4	5	1
PL		26	26	23	33	16	18	12	12	16	9	1	1	2
PT		30	42	18	24	16	10	13	7	4	17	1	2	5
RO		20	31	23	28	19	17	11	13	17	10	1	2	3
SI		42	35	29	33	10	15	13	10	6	5	0	1	0
SK		16	32	31	30	17	14	12	12	13	10	1	6	1
FI		44	45	28	16	12	7	12	12	7	12	0	2	1
SE		58	29	21	8	16	9	26	10	5	9	0	4	1
		1st MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM												
		2nd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM												
		3rd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM												

Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

Across the EU as a whole, results have remained stable since March 2019, but there have been some notable **changes at the country level**. The analysis in this section focuses on evolutions of 10 percentage points or more.

The proportion of respondents mentioning the **EU's respect for democracy, human rights and the rule of law** as a main asset of the EU has increased in 16 EU Member States, notably in Slovenia (42%, +16 percentage points), Ireland (41%, +12) and Lithuania (42%, +10). There have also been some large increases in the proportion of respondents for whom the EU's **economic, industrial and trading power** is one of its main assets: in Portugal (42%, +17), Finland (45%, +15), Estonia (44%, +12), Denmark (42% +11) and Czechia (35%, +11). In total, increases are seen in 16 Member States.

There has been a substantial increase in Ireland in the proportion that say the **good relationship and solidarity between Member States** is an asset (35%, +10), but this has decreased in 18 countries, most notably Latvia (26%, -11), Greece (24%, -11), Cyprus (29%, -10) and Luxembourg (22%, -10).

There have been large increases in the proportions choosing the **standard of living of EU citizens** as a main asset in Bulgaria (41%, +15) and Latvia (43%, +11). However, there have been large decreases in the proportions saying the **skills and talents of EU citizens** are a main asset in Malta (11%, -13) and Ireland (10%, -10).

QA10T In your opinion, what are the main assets of the EU? Firstly? And then? (MAX. 2 ANSWERS)
(%)

		The EU's respect for democracy, human rights and the rule of law		The economic, industrial and trading power of the EU		The good relationship and solidarity between the EU's Member States		The standard of living of EU citizens		The EU's ability to promote peace and democracy outside its borders		The social protection systems in the Member States		The EU's commitment to environmental responsibility		The EU's capacity for research and innovation		The quality of infrastructure in the EU		The skills and talents of EU citizens	
		Oct.-Nov. 2020 - Mar. 2019		Oct.-Nov. 2020 - Mar. 2019		Oct.-Nov. 2020 - Mar. 2019		Oct.-Nov. 2020 - Mar. 2019		Oct.-Nov. 2020 - Mar. 2019		Oct.-Nov. 2020 - Mar. 2019		Oct.-Nov. 2020 - Mar. 2019		Oct.-Nov. 2020 - Mar. 2019		Oct.-Nov. 2020 - Mar. 2019		Oct.-Nov. 2020 - Mar. 2019	
EU27		32	▲1	30	▲3	23	▼1	23	▲3	18	=	16	N.A	13	▼1	12	=	11	=	10	▼2
BE		33	▼2	33	▲1	22	▼5	22	▼2	15	▼3	21	N.A	17	▲4	13	▼4	8	▼1	14	=
BG		20	▼5	28	▼3	27	▼7	41	▲15	13	=	20	N.A	8	=	10	▲2	10	▼4	9	=
CZ		29	▲9	35	▲11	36	▲1	32	▲5	11	▼2	8	N.A	14	▼3	13	▼2	11	=	7	▼5
DK		43	=	42	▲11	26	▼4	18	▲1	13	▼9	7	N.A	19	▼6	10	▲2	9	▲4	5	▲1
DE		44	▼4	23	▼3	25	▼2	21	▲1	24	▲1	17	N.A	14	▲2	7	▼1	10	▲2	8	=
EE		41	▲8	44	▲12	36	▲4	24	▲3	9	▼5	10	N.A	11	▲1	12	▲1	6	▼1	6	▼3
IE		41	▲12	36	▲6	35	▲10	25	▼3	10	▼4	12	N.A	13	▲1	6	▼5	10	▼4	10	▼10
EL		22	▲2	28	▲4	24	▼11	21	▲9	23	▲8	16	N.A	9	▼2	13	▼7	16	▲3	9	▼7
ES		19	▼8	38	▲7	20	▼1	22	▲4	13	▼5	18	N.A	10	▼1	16	▲3	13	▲2	9	=
FR		31	▲1	25	▲1	21	▼1	21	▲6	20	=	15	N.A	13	▼1	11	▼3	9	▼1	10	▼4
HR		27	▼1	31	▼5	21	▲2	45	▲4	15	▼1	19	N.A	12	=	11	▼4	10	▼2	8	▼1
IT		30	▲3	30	▲4	20	▼4	16	▲5	19	▼2	16	N.A	12	▼2	16	▼1	12	=	13	▼1
CY		28	▼6	16	▼2	29	▼10	23	▲4	24	▼1	15	N.A	16	=	16	▲2	11	=	6	▲1
LV		28	▲2	20	=	26	▼11	43	▲11	12	▼5	21	N.A	12	▲1	6	▼2	10	▲1	7	▼2
LT		42	▲10	28	▲4	38	▼1	35	▲7	18	▼9	12	N.A	8	▼1	8	▼2	6	▼4	4	▼7
LU		40	▲5	28	▼3	22	▼10	23	▲2	21	▲3	20	N.A	12	▼1	10	▲2	13	=	10	▼2
HU		29	▲8	26	▼5	15	▼6	28	▲7	22	▲5	18	N.A	13	▼2	12	▼2	14	▼2	18	▼2
MT		35	▲2	28	▲9	22	▲7	34	▲3	13	▲1	12	N.A	16	▲4	10	▼4	7	▼5	11	▼13
NL		45	▼2	42	▼2	28	=	16	▼3	17	=	10	N.A	19	▲2	7	▲2	7	▼3	6	▲1
AT		30	▼7	24	=	16	▼6	25	▼1	15	▼3	20	N.A	12	▼5	12	▼3	13	▼2	14	▼1
PL		26	▲5	26	▼2	23	▼3	33	▼2	16	▲5	18	N.A	12	▼1	12	▼1	16	▼2	9	=
PT		30	=	42	▲17	18	▼7	24	▲7	16	▼6	10	N.A	13	▼5	7	▼3	4	▼4	17	▼1
RO		20	▼5	31	▲4	23	▼1	28	▼2	19	▼3	17	N.A	11	▼1	13	▲1	17	▲1	10	=
SI		42	▲16	35	▼3	29	▲1	33	▲6	10	▼3	15	N.A	13	▼3	10	▲1	6	▼7	5	▼4
SK		16	▼4	32	▲3	31	▲1	30	▲3	17	▼2	14	N.A	12	▲1	12	▼6	13	=	10	▼4
FI		44	▲1	45	▲15	28	▼4	16	▲1	12	▼8	7	N.A	12	▼5	12	▲2	7	▲2	12	▼1
SE		58	▲5	29	▲2	21	▲1	8	▼2	16	▼2	9	N.A	26	▼3	10	▼5	5	=	9	▼2

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Findings are generally consistent across the various **socio-demographic groups**. There are no clear differences by age group, and there is only one notable difference by gender: men are more likely than women to say that the EU's economic, industrial and trading power is one of its main assets (33% compared with 27%).

Respondents who stayed longer in education are more likely to say that the EU's respect for democracy, human rights and the rule of law is an asset (36% of those who left education at the age of 20 or above, compared with 25% of those who left education by the age of 15). Managers (39%) are more likely than those in other socio-professional categories to cite the EU's respect for democracy, human rights and the rule of law as an asset, while self-employed respondents are the most likely to mention the EU's economic, industrial and trading power (37%).

Respondents who never or almost never have difficulties paying bills are more likely to say the EU's respect for democracy, human rights and the rule of law is an asset (35% compared with 24% of those who have difficulties most of the time).

The proportions that say the EU's respect for democracy, human rights and the rule of law is an asset are also higher among respondents who hold a positive image of the EU (38% compared with 21% of those who have a negative image) and those who place themselves on the left of the political scale (37% compared with 28% on the right). By contrast, those who place themselves on the right of the political scale are more likely to cite the EU's economic, industrial and trading power (34% compared with 28% on the left).

QA10T In your opinion, what are the main assets of the EU? Firstly? And then? (MAX. 2 ANSWERS)
(% - EU)

	The EU's respect for democracy, human rights and the rule of law	The economic, industrial and trading power of the EU	The good relationship and solidarity between the EU's Member States	The standard of living of EU citizens	The EU's ability to promote peace and democracy outside its borders	The social protection systems in the Member States	The EU's commitment to environmental responsibility	The EU's capacity for research and innovation	The quality of infrastructure in the EU	The skills and talents of EU citizens
EU27	32	30	23	23	18	16	13	12	11	10
Gender										
Man	31	33	22	23	17	16	13	11	12	11
Woman	33	27	24	22	19	16	14	12	10	9
Age										
15-24	34	26	24	25	16	14	13	13	13	11
25-39	30	31	23	25	17	15	15	13	13	10
40-54	33	32	22	21	19	16	13	13	12	10
55+	32	29	23	22	19	17	13	9	9	10
Education (End of)										
15-	25	29	21	23	18	16	11	10	9	10
16-19	29	29	23	25	20	17	13	12	12	10
20+	36	32	23	20	17	15	15	12	10	10
Still studying	37	26	25	24	15	13	14	14	11	11
Socio-professional category										
Self-employed	30	37	22	23	19	14	14	13	11	10
Managers	39	34	25	19	17	13	14	12	10	9
Other white collars	33	32	22	23	18	16	13	13	13	11
Manual workers	28	29	22	24	18	18	14	11	13	9
House persons	24	28	21	22	21	16	10	13	12	10
Unemployed	30	30	23	22	15	15	12	10	11	11
Retired	33	27	23	23	20	17	13	9	8	10
Students	37	26	25	24	15	13	14	14	11	11
Difficulties paying bills										
Most of the time	24	28	21	22	18	16	12	12	12	14
From time to time	28	29	23	24	19	17	13	13	13	11
Almost never/ Never	35	31	23	22	18	15	14	11	10	9

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Europeans think that the main challenges facing the EU are social inequalities, unemployment and migration issues

Respondents were asked about the challenges for the EU, choosing up to three challenges from a list of 12. This question was also asked in the Special Eurobarometer survey “Europeans in 2019”, conducted in March 2019²⁰. The question was further adapted for the October/November 2020 Future of Europe survey to take account of the coronavirus crisis; two new items were added, and another item was slightly modified²¹. Therefore, comparisons with the March 2019 results should be interpreted with some caution.

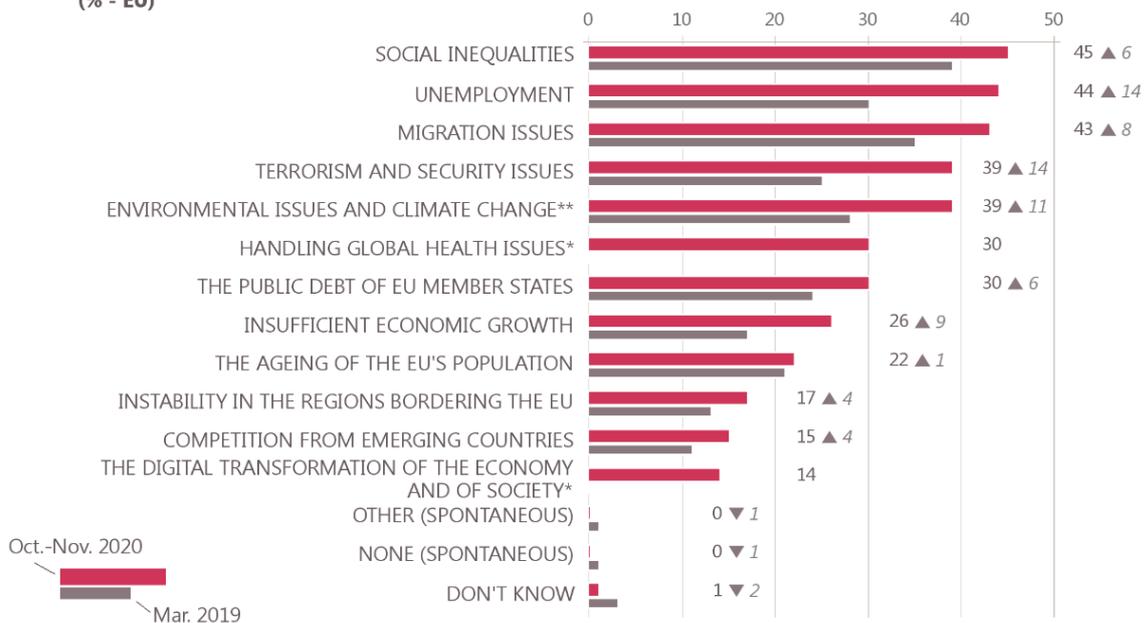
Respondents think that the three main challenges facing the EU are **social inequalities** (45%, +6 percentage points since March 2019), **unemployment** (44%, +14) and **migration issues** (43%, +8).

These are closely followed by two other challenges: **terrorism and security issues** (39%, +14) and **environmental issues and climate change** (39%, +11).

Three in ten mention handling **global health issues** (30%, new item) and the **public debt of EU Member States** (30%, +6), while around one in four believe that **insufficient economic growth** (26%, +9) and the **ageing population** (22%, +1) are among the main challenges for the EU;

Respondents are less likely to say that **instability in the regions bordering the EU** (17%, +4), **competition from emerging countries** (15%, +4) and **the digital transformation of the economy and of society** (14%, new item) are among the main challenges currently faced by the EU.

QA11 And which of the following do you think are the main challenges for the EU? (MAX. 3 ANSWERS)
(% - EU)



* Statement was included for the first time in Oct/Nov 2020 (see footnote on previous page) ** Statement modified (see footnote on previous page)

²⁰ Special Eurobarometer 486 “Europeans in 2019”
<https://ec.europa.eu/commfrontoffice/publicopinion/index.cfm/survey/getsurveydetail/instruments/special/surveyky/2225>

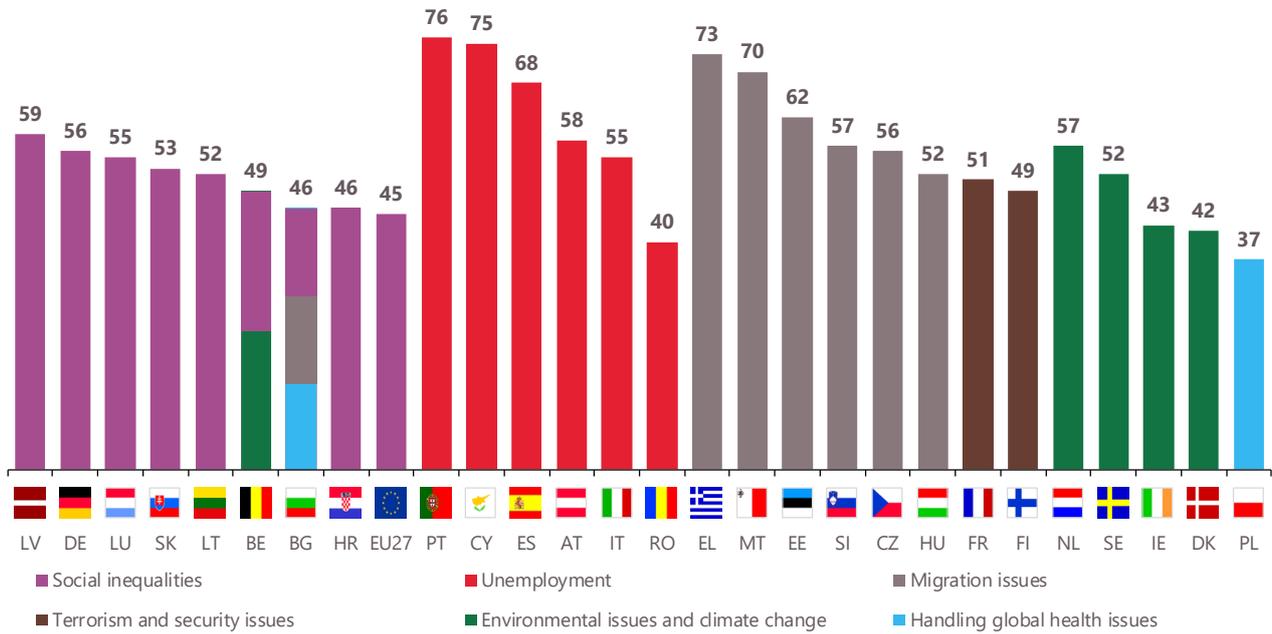
²¹ Two new items were included in the October/November 2020 FoE survey: ‘The digital transformation of the economy and of society’ and ‘Handling global health issues’. One item was slightly rephrased from ‘Environmental issues’ to ‘Environmental issues and climate change’.

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The national analysis reveals that a number of different challenges are ranked highest in individual countries. **Social inequalities** occupies first place (or joint first place) in eight EU Member States, while **migration issues** rank as the biggest (or joint biggest) challenge in seven countries.

In six EU Member States, **unemployment** is the issue that is cited the most by respondents, while **environmental issues and climate change** is the highest (or joint highest) ranked answer in five countries. **Terrorism and security issues** ranks highest in two countries, France and Finland, while **handling global health issues** is the highest ranking challenge in Poland and Bulgaria (where it is joint highest).

QA11 And which of the following do you think are the main challenges for the EU? (MAX. 3 ANSWERS)
(% - THE MOST MENTIONED ANSWER BY COUNTRY)



Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

Social inequalities is mentioned most frequently as a challenge for the EU in Portugal (75%), Latvia (59%), Germany and Cyprus (both 56%), while it is least frequently mentioned in Romania (24%), Malta and Italy (both 29%).

Respondents in Portugal (76%) are also the most likely to choose **unemployment** as a challenge for the EU, followed by respondents in Cyprus (75%), Greece and Spain (both 68%), while this is least frequently chosen in Czechia (20%), Estonia (21%), Finland and Poland (both 24%).

Migration issues is chosen most frequently by respondents in Greece (73%), Malta (70%) and Cyprus (67%), and least frequently by those in Finland (25%), Poland and Romania (both 29%).

More than half of respondents see **terrorism and security** issues as a major challenge in Estonia (60%), Cyprus (53%) and France (51%), while the lowest proportions are found in Spain (23%), Romania (25%) and Latvia (27%).

Respondents in the Netherlands (57%), Germany (53%) and Sweden (52%) are most likely to mention **environmental issues and climate change**, while this is least frequently mentioned in Bulgaria, Croatia (both 24%) and Romania (26%).

Handling global health issues is mentioned most frequently by respondents in Portugal (54%), Greece (49%) and Bulgaria (46%), and least frequently by respondents in Finland (8%) and Sweden (16%).

The **public debt of Member States** is most likely to be seen as a challenge for the EU in Austria (46%) and Greece (42%), while this is lowest in Lithuania (15%), Latvia and Estonia (both 17%).

Respondents in Greece (56%), Portugal (50%) and Cyprus (46%) are most likely to mention **insufficient economic growth**, while those in the Netherlands (8%), Sweden (9%) and Denmark (10%) are least likely to mention this as a challenge for the EU.

Of the challenges that rank lower in the list, an **ageing population** is mentioned most frequently in Estonia (54%) and Slovenia (44%), while **instability in the regions bordering the EU** is most likely to be chosen by respondents in Greece (35%) and Denmark (30%). **Competition from emerging countries** is chosen most frequently by respondents in Greece (26%), Italy (22%) and Austria (20%), while respondents in Germany (23%) are most likely to mention the **digital transformation of the economy and of society**.

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QA11 And which of the following do you think are the main challenges for the EU? (MAX. 3 ANSWERS)
(%)

		Social inequalities	Unemployment	Migration issues	Terrorism and security issues	Environmental issues and climate change	Handling global health issues	The public debt of EU Member States	Insufficient economic growth	The ageing of the EU's population	Instability in the regions bordering the EU	Competition from emerging countries	The digital transformation of the economy and of society	Other (SPONTANEOUS)	None (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU27		45	44	43	39	39	30	30	26	22	17	15	14	0	0	1
BE		49	28	48	38	49	23	31	17	28	15	16	12	0	0	0
BG		46	39	46	37	24	46	18	30	40	17	15	11	0	0	1
CZ		34	20	56	47	29	24	27	16	25	16	8	11	0	0	0
DK		41	25	39	33	42	23	21	10	14	30	14	8	1	0	1
DE		56	32	52	43	53	27	38	14	18	19	9	23	1	0	0
EE		46	21	62	60	39	23	17	17	54	28	8	9	0	0	0
IE		39	30	39	36	43	30	30	18	25	24	12	14	0	0	0
EL		52	68	73	44	35	49	42	56	28	35	26	15	0	0	0
ES		50	68	30	23	27	38	20	35	21	12	10	12	0	0	1
FR		50	50	46	51	44	25	28	20	19	13	18	8	0	0	2
HR		46	44	36	39	24	21	28	28	22	17	16	5	0	0	0
IT		29	55	44	36	29	31	30	43	18	12	22	15	0	1	2
CY		56	75	67	53	35	44	34	46	28	27	17	12	0	0	0
LV		59	45	33	27	25	32	17	29	28	13	6	10	0	0	0
LT		52	31	31	39	31	26	15	19	33	20	9	7	0	0	0
LU		55	33	41	35	43	21	26	14	17	18	10	8	0	0	0
HU		37	35	52	41	27	26	20	25	25	17	14	9	0	0	1
MT		29	34	70	40	39	32	24	22	27	21	15	9	0	0	2
NL		53	25	44	48	57	23	33	8	26	29	13	13	0	0	0
AT		45	58	49	37	46	38	46	33	22	26	20	19	1	1	0
PL		34	24	29	32	32	37	27	27	27	16	16	9	0	0	1
PT		75	76	33	45	34	54	36	50	40	16	14	19	0	0	1
RO		24	40	29	25	26	32	22	30	19	18	13	15	0	0	1
SI		50	37	57	45	37	27	22	17	44	14	9	13	0	0	0
SK		53	45	43	44	38	27	36	34	29	20	14	15	0	0	0
FI		35	24	25	49	31	8	38	13	25	27	9	3	0	0	0
SE		50	29	51	43	52	16	22	9	16	26	8	8	1	0	0
		1st MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM														
		2nd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM														
		3rd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM														

Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

In the **socio-demographic** analysis, results are generally consistent across age groups, although respondents aged 15-24 are most likely to mention environmental issues and climate change as a challenge for the EU (42%), while those aged 55 or over are most likely to mention terrorism and security issues (43%).

There are some differences by level of education. Most strikingly, respondents who left education by the age of 15 are more likely to say that unemployment is a challenge for the EU (57% vs. 38% of those who left education at the age of 20 or above), while those who stayed longer in education are more likely to mention environmental issues and climate change (44% vs. 28% of those left by the age of 15).

A similar pattern is seen for respondents who have difficulties paying bills most of the time. They are more likely to mention unemployment as a challenge for the EU (56% vs. 40% of those who never or almost never have difficulties), as well as insufficient economic growth (34% vs. 23%), but are less likely to mention environmental issues and climate change (31% vs. 42%).

Analysis by social class indicates that those who consider themselves as working class are most likely to mention social inequalities (51%), unemployment (53%) and handling global health issues (37%), while those who place themselves in the upper middle class are most likely to mention environmental issues and climate change (48%), public debt of Member States (36%) and instability in regions bordering the EU (24%).

The proportions that see environmental issues and climate change as a challenge for the EU are also higher among respondents who hold a positive image of the EU (45% compared with 28% of those who have a negative image). By contrast, those who hold a negative image of the EU are more likely to mention migration issues as a challenge (51% vs. 42% of those who have a positive image).

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QA11 And which of the following do you think are the main challenges for the EU? (MAX. 3 ANSWERS)
(% - EU)

	Social inequalities	Unemployment	Migration issues	Terrorism and security issues	Environmental issues and climate change	Handling global health issues	The public debt of EU Member States	Insufficient economic growth	The ageing of the EU's population	Instability in the regions bordering the EU	Competition from emerging countries	The digital transformation of the economy and of society
EU27	45	44	43	39	39	30	30	26	22	17	15	14
 Gender												
Man	44	43	44	38	38	29	31	26	22	18	16	15
Woman	46	44	42	41	39	32	29	26	21	17	13	13
 Age												
15-24	47	46	40	36	42	29	26	23	17	14	14	14
25-39	43	43	42	34	39	29	31	27	21	17	15	16
40-54	45	43	44	39	39	29	31	28	23	19	15	15
55+	46	44	44	43	37	33	30	25	23	17	14	12
 Education (End of)												
15-	42	57	37	38	28	33	25	30	20	12	11	10
16-19	44	44	45	41	36	31	30	28	22	17	15	13
20+	48	38	45	40	44	29	32	23	23	20	15	16
Still studying	47	45	42	33	46	29	27	23	19	15	14	17
 Socio-professional category												
Self-employed	44	39	43	37	38	32	33	29	21	21	18	16
Managers	46	32	48	40	47	25	35	24	24	22	17	20
Other white collars	42	42	47	39	39	28	31	29	23	19	16	14
Manual workers	45	46	39	39	35	32	29	27	20	16	15	14
House persons	38	54	44	38	32	30	25	33	18	12	10	11
Unemployed	50	57	39	36	36	30	28	26	21	14	13	11
Retired	47	43	44	44	36	33	29	23	24	17	13	11
Students	47	45	42	33	46	29	27	23	19	15	14	17
 Difficulties paying bills												
Most of the time	45	56	40	36	31	31	31	34	24	16	14	11
From time to time	41	49	41	38	32	32	28	32	21	16	16	13
Almost never/ Never	47	40	45	41	42	30	30	23	22	18	14	14
 Consider belonging to												
The working class	51	53	40	39	32	37	25	28	25	14	12	11
The lower middle class	45	44	42	42	37	29	30	27	20	16	15	13
The middle class	43	42	45	39	40	29	31	26	21	18	16	15
The upper middle class	46	29	46	39	48	24	36	21	23	24	16	19
The upper class	31	21	37	33	41	28	32	20	19	23	10	9

Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

Europeans see climate change, terrorism, health-related risks and forced migration and displacement as the main global challenges for the future of the EU

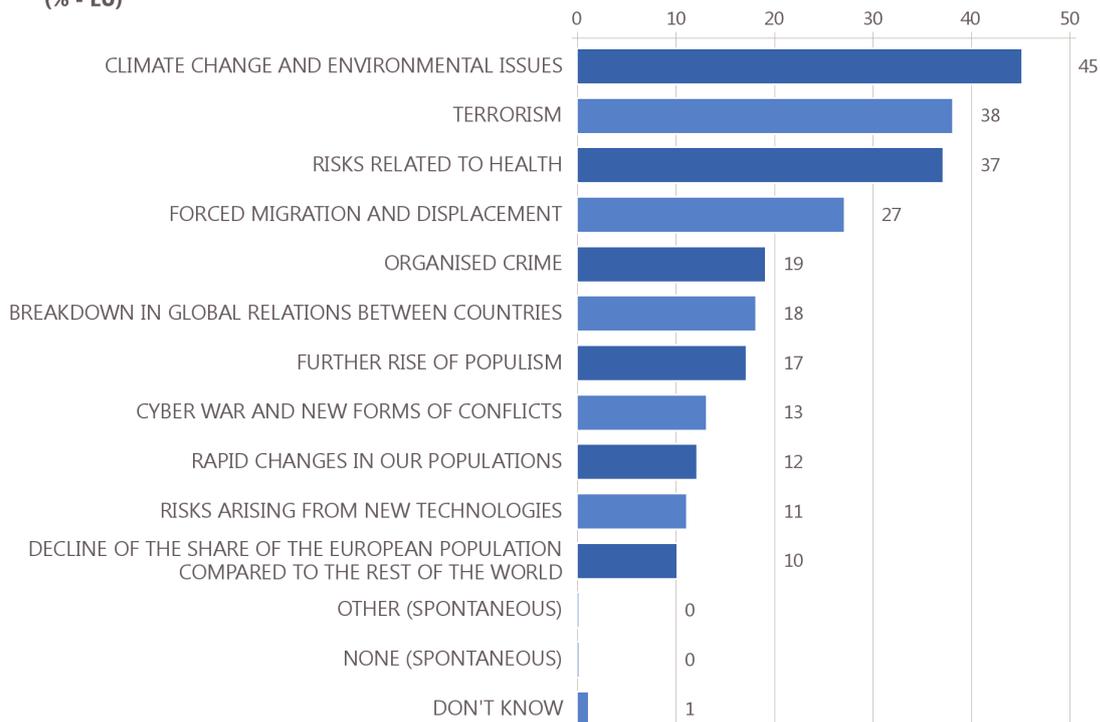
After considering the current challenges facing the EU, respondents were then asked to think about the main global challenges for the future of the EU. They were asked to choose up to three items from a list of 11.

Climate change is clearly regarded as the main global challenge affecting the future of the EU, with 45% of Europeans selecting it. The second and third most mentioned issues, mentioned by a similar proportion of Europeans, are **terrorism** (38%) and **health-related risks** (37%). The fourth most cited challenge, mentioned by just over a quarter of Europeans, is **forced migration and displacement** (27%).

Other challenges mentioned by just under one in five Europeans include **organised crime** (19%), **breakdown in global relations between countries** (18%), and the **further rise of populism** (17%).

Challenges considered relatively less important to Europeans include cyber war and new forms of conflicts (13%), rapid changes in the population (12%), risks arising from new technologies (11%) and the decline of the share of the European population compared to the rest of the world (10%).

QA12 Which of the following do you think are the main global challenges for the future of the EU? (MAX. 3 ANSWERS)
(% - EU)



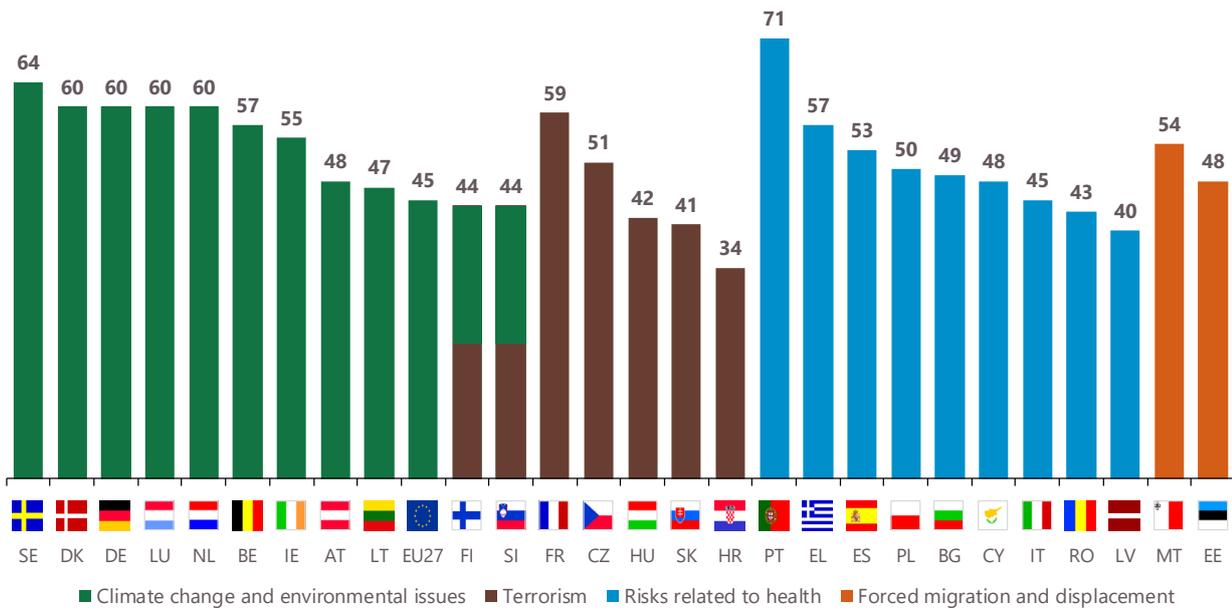
Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

Europeans see **climate change and the environment, terrorism, health-related risks, and forced migration and displacement**

as the main global challenges for the future of the EU. These challenges are also reflected in the opinions of Member States.

QA12 Which of the following do you think are the main global challenges for the future of the EU? (MAX. 3 ANSWERS)

(% - THE MOST MENTIONED ANSWER BY COUNTRY)



Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

Climate change is considered the main global challenge for the future of the EU among all Europeans and this is also seen as the main challenge (or joint main challenge) in 11 countries. Climate change is most frequently cited as a challenge in Sweden (64%), and Denmark, Germany, Luxembourg and the Netherlands (all 60%).

Terrorism is regarded as a main global challenge (or joint main challenge) in seven countries, and especially in France²² (59%) and Czechia (51%).

Risks related to health is seen as a core challenge in nine countries, and this is especially prominent in Portugal (71%).

Finally, two Member States – Malta (54%) and Estonia (48%) – see as EU's main challenge **forced migration and displacement**.

Of the challenges that rank lower in priority, **organised crime** is most frequently mentioned by respondents in Sweden (36%), **breakdown in global relations between countries** by respondents in Lithuania and the Netherlands (both 33%), and the **further rise of populism** in Luxembourg (36%), Finland and Sweden (both 35%). Respondents in Lithuania (29%), Finland (27%) and Estonia (26%) are most likely to see **cyber war and new forms of conflicts** as a future global challenge for the EU.

²² The fieldwork took place during the “Charlie-Hebdo” terror attacks trial, which took place from September to December, and shortly after the murder of the school teacher Samuel Paty (16 October).

Special Eurobarometer 500
Future of Europe

QA12 Which of the following do you think are the main global challenges for the future of the EU? (MAX. 3 ANSWERS)
(%)

		Climate change and environmental issues	Terrorism	Risks related to health	Forced migration and displacement	Organised crime	Breakdown in global relations between countries	Further rise of populism	Cyber war and new forms of conflicts	Rapid changes in our populations	Risks arising from new technologies	Decline of the share of the European population compared to the rest of the World	Other (SPONTANEOUS)	None (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU27		45	38	37	27	19	18	17	13	12	11	10	0	0	1
BE		57	41	29	33	16	19	28	15	9	9	9	0	0	0
BG		26	41	49	19	22	13	9	13	17	14	12	0	0	1
CZ		39	51	21	37	16	16	15	22	7	8	17	0	0	0
DK		60	38	19	36	19	28	18	17	8	6	5	0	0	1
DE		60	38	24	25	26	18	27	12	13	8	7	0	0	0
EE		46	46	20	48	10	16	27	26	10	7	20	0	0	0
IE		55	32	21	39	15	31	27	17	10	9	10	0	0	0
EL		37	37	57	46	16	15	8	10	17	12	16	1	0	1
ES		40	28	53	21	8	15	10	8	9	10	9	1	0	2
FR		50	59	35	30	10	19	13	13	5	9	4	0	0	2
HR		30	34	30	31	28	18	11	12	16	12	17	0	0	0
IT		36	30	45	33	24	12	13	12	13	15	12	0	1	2
CY		33	45	48	38	28	10	5	9	13	16	8	0	0	0
LV		31	23	40	29	9	20	15	20	19	12	17	0	0	2
LT		47	38	34	16	11	33	12	29	10	8	19	0	0	0
LU		60	38	25	32	15	25	36	10	10	5	6	0	0	0
HU		33	42	33	26	28	13	9	11	19	13	15	0	0	1
MT		45	29	34	54	24	16	13	12	12	8	6	1	0	2
NL		60	36	18	31	21	33	28	25	8	9	3	0	0	0
AT		48	28	37	20	19	19	18	15	23	14	11	1	0	1
PL		32	26	50	17	14	18	12	13	18	14	15	0	0	1
PT		36	30	71	23	21	17	9	7	11	9	9	0	0	3
RO		23	28	43	19	16	14	11	14	15	15	14	0	0	2
SI		44	44	29	43	21	21	24	12	8	7	17	0	0	0
SK		36	41	38	25	28	11	14	17	11	14	10	0	0	0
FI		44	44	15	15	27	21	35	27	16	4	15	0	0	0
SE		64	37	10	31	36	27	35	11	9	4	3	0	0	0

1st MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM

2nd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM

3rd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM

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In the **socio-demographic analysis**, women are slightly more likely than men to say that risks related to health are a future global challenge for the EU (39% compared with 35%), while men are more likely than women to mention the further rise of populism (19% vs. 15%).

Respondents aged 15-24 are the most likely to cite climate change and environmental issues (50%), while those aged 55 or over are the most likely to mention the threats of terrorism (41%) or organised crime (21%).

There are differences by level of education. Respondents who left education at the age of 20 or above are more likely to mention several issues: climate change and environmental issues (49% vs. 35% of those who left by the age of 15), the breakdown in global relations between countries (22% vs. 10%), the further rise of populism (23% vs. 10%) and cyber war and new forms of conflicts (16% vs. 8%). However, they are less likely to mention risks related to health (31% vs. 47%).

Respondents who have difficulties paying bills most of the time are more likely to mention risks related to health (43% vs. 34% of those who rarely or never have difficulties), but are less likely to mention climate change and environmental issues (36% vs. 48%).

Managers are more likely than those in other socio-professional groups to mention several issues, such as climate change and environmental issues (54%), the breakdown in global relations between countries (23%) and the further rise of populism (26%). However, other challenges are more likely to be cited by those who are not working, such as terrorism (by 43% of retired respondents and 40% of unemployed respondents) and risks related to health (by 45% of housepersons and 43% of unemployed respondents).

Respondents that hold a positive image of the EU are more likely to mention climate change and environmental issues (51% vs. 30% of those who have a negative image) and the further rise of populism (22% vs. 11%). By contrast, those who hold a negative image of the EU are more likely to mention forced migration and displacement (33% vs. 26% of those who have a positive image), terrorism (42% vs. 37%) and organised crime (25% vs. 17%) as the main global challenges for the future of the EU.

Special Eurobarometer 500
Future of Europe

QA12 Which of the following do you think are the main global challenges for the future of the EU? (MAX. 3 ANSWERS)
(% - EU)

	Climate change and environmental issues	Terrorism	Risks related to health	Forced migration and displacement	Organised crime	Breakdown in global relations between countries	Further rise of populism	Cyber war and new forms of conflicts	Rapid changes in our populations	Risks arising from new technologies	Decline of the share of the European population compared to the rest of the World
EU27	45	38	37	27	19	18	17	13	12	11	10
 Gender											
Man	45	36	35	27	19	18	19	14	12	11	11
Woman	45	39	39	26	19	17	15	13	11	11	9
 Age											
15-24	50	36	38	23	16	18	16	16	11	13	9
25-39	45	33	35	26	18	19	17	15	13	12	10
40-54	43	37	36	29	18	19	17	14	12	10	10
55+	44	41	39	27	21	16	17	11	11	9	9
 Education (End of)											
15-	35	39	47	23	21	10	10	8	10	9	8
16-19	42	41	40	27	21	16	13	11	14	12	10
20+	49	35	31	28	18	22	23	16	11	10	9
Still studying	54	32	37	25	15	18	21	18	10	13	9
 Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	42	33	34	29	18	19	19	14	13	11	11
Managers	54	32	27	30	16	23	26	16	12	10	10
Other white collars	44	36	36	30	21	18	16	14	13	11	10
Manual workers	41	38	40	24	20	17	13	14	13	12	11
House persons	38	38	45	28	18	14	13	9	11	9	8
Unemployed	42	40	43	25	19	18	10	10	12	11	9
Retired	43	43	39	25	22	15	16	10	11	9	8
Students	54	32	37	25	15	18	21	18	10	13	9
 Difficulties paying bills											
Most of the time	36	34	43	27	16	17	11	10	12	13	12
From time to time	38	36	43	28	20	15	13	13	13	12	11
Almost never/ Never	48	39	34	26	19	19	19	14	12	10	9

Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

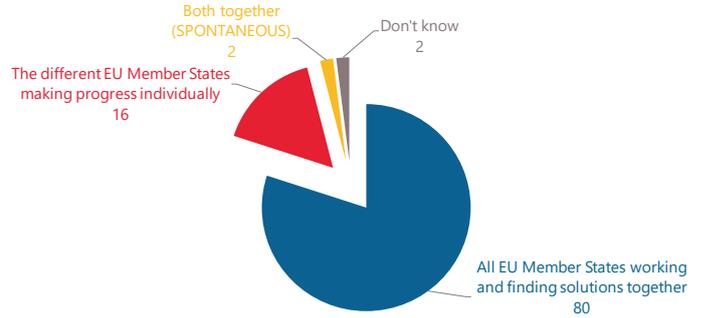
In order to make progress on the EU's global challenges, collaboration between Member States is favoured over individual action

In order to make progress on the global challenges for the future of the EU, respondents are much more likely to think that all EU Member States should work and **find solutions together** (80%) rather than have different Member States **making progress individually** (16%). A small proportion (2%) say spontaneously that they would favour both of these approaches together.

In 26 of the 27 Member States, a majority of respondents think that the way to make progress with global challenges is for EU Member States to work together. At least nine in ten respondents hold this view in Portugal (92%), Slovenia (91%), Ireland and Lithuania (both 90%).

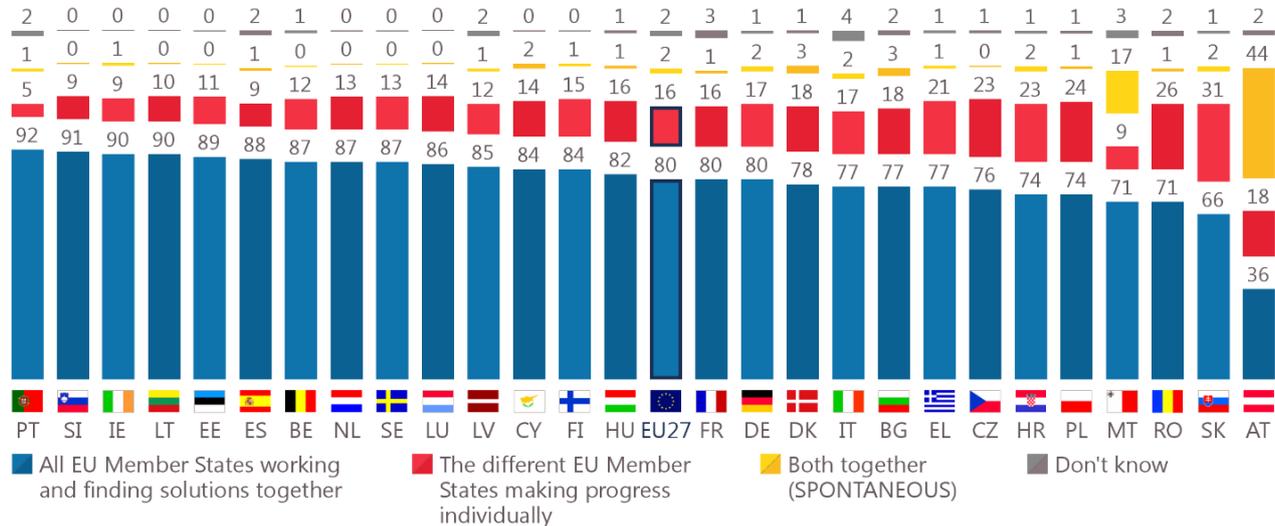
The exception is Austria, where only 36% think Member States working together would be the best way of making progress, and 44% would prefer to see both approaches (Member States working together and individual action). Malta also has a substantial proportion of respondents would favour both approaches (17%).

QA13 Which of the following would allow to make the most progress on these main global challenges for the future of the EU? (% - EU)



The proportion that favour different Member States making progress individually is highest in Slovakia (31%), Romania (26%), Poland (24%), Czechia and Croatia (both 23%), while this proportion is lowest in Portugal (5%).

QA13 Which of the following would allow to make the most progress on these main global challenges for the future of the EU? (%)



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In the **socio-demographic** analysis, a consistently high proportion of respondents in all groups think that collaborative working between Member States is the best way to make progress on future global challenges. The proportion is highest among those who left education at the age of 20 or above (82%), current

students (84%), managers (83%) and those who never or almost never have difficulties paying bills (82%).

The preference for different Member States working individually is strongest among self-employed respondents (21%).

QA13 Which of the following would allow to make the most progress on these main global challenges for the future of the EU?
(% - EU)

	All EU Member States working and finding solutions together	The different EU Member States making progress individually	Both together (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU27	80	16	2	2
 Gender				
Man	80	17	2	1
Woman	80	16	2	2
 Age				
15-24	79	17	2	2
25-39	79	18	2	1
40-54	80	17	2	1
55+	80	15	3	2
 Education (End of)				
15-	79	15	2	4
16-19	77	19	2	2
20+	82	15	2	1
Still studying	84	13	2	1
 Socio-professional category				
Self-employed	76	21	2	1
Managers	83	15	2	0
Other white collars	79	18	2	1
Manual workers	78	19	2	1
House persons	77	19	1	3
Unemployed	76	17	3	4
Retired	81	14	2	3
Students	84	13	2	1
 Difficulties paying bills				
Most of the time	76	20	1	3
From time to time	77	20	2	1
Almost never/ Never	82	15	2	1

2. EU in the world

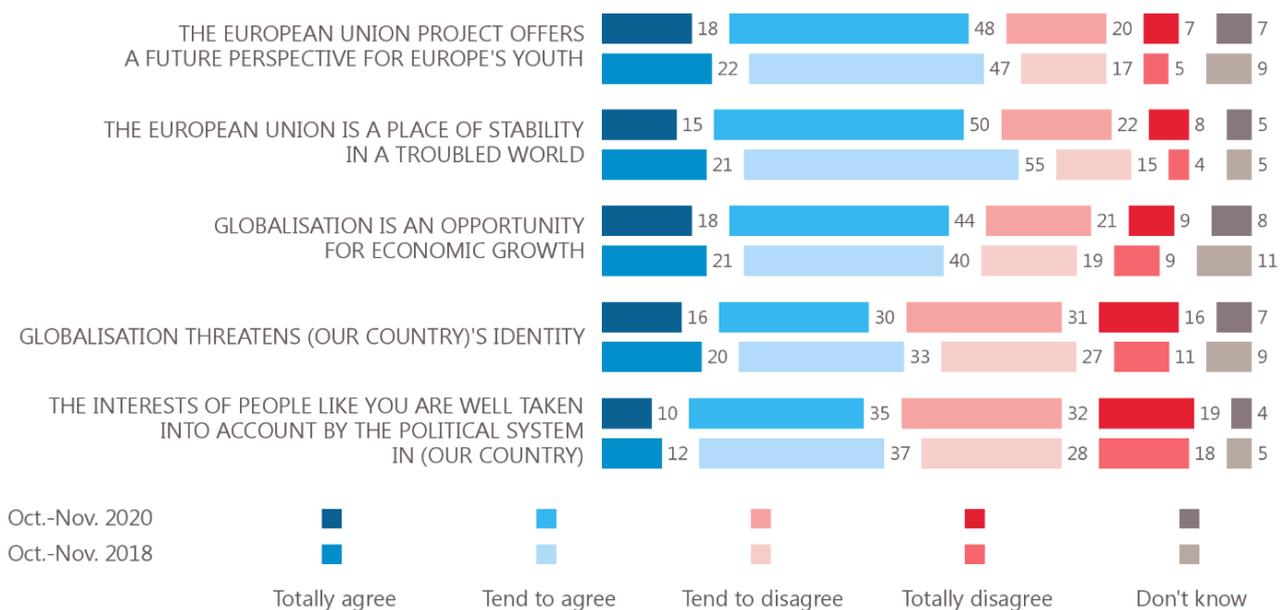
The majority of Europeans see the EU as offering stability and a future perspective for Europe's youth

Two-thirds of Europeans (66%, -3 percentage points since 2018) agree that the EU project offers a **future perspective for Europe's youth**, while a similar proportion (65%, -11) agree that the EU is a **place of stability in a troubled world**.

On the subject of globalisation, around six in ten (62%, +1) agree that **globalisation is an opportunity for economic growth**, while just under half (46%, -7) agree that **globalisation threatens their country's identity**.

Just under half of Europeans (45%, -4) agree that the **interests of people like them are well taken into account by the political system** in their country.

QA15 To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?
(% - EU)

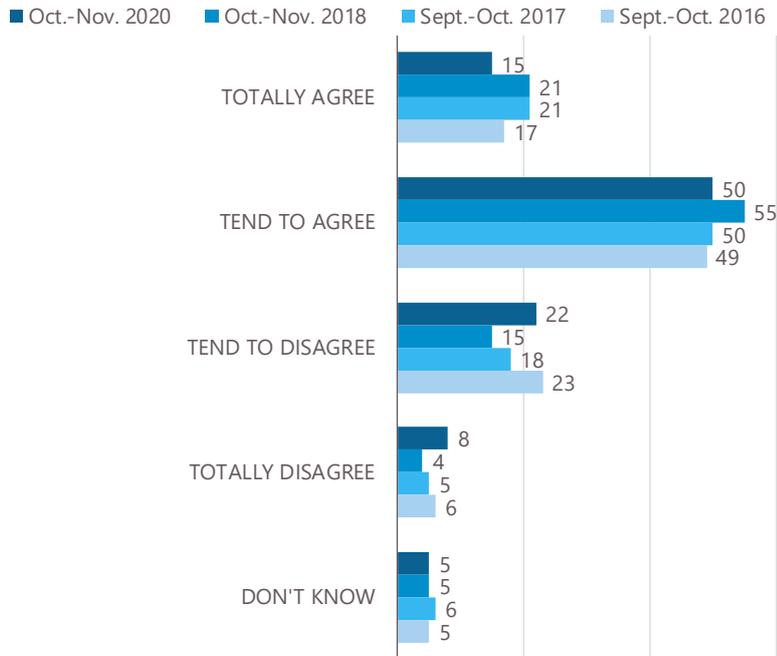


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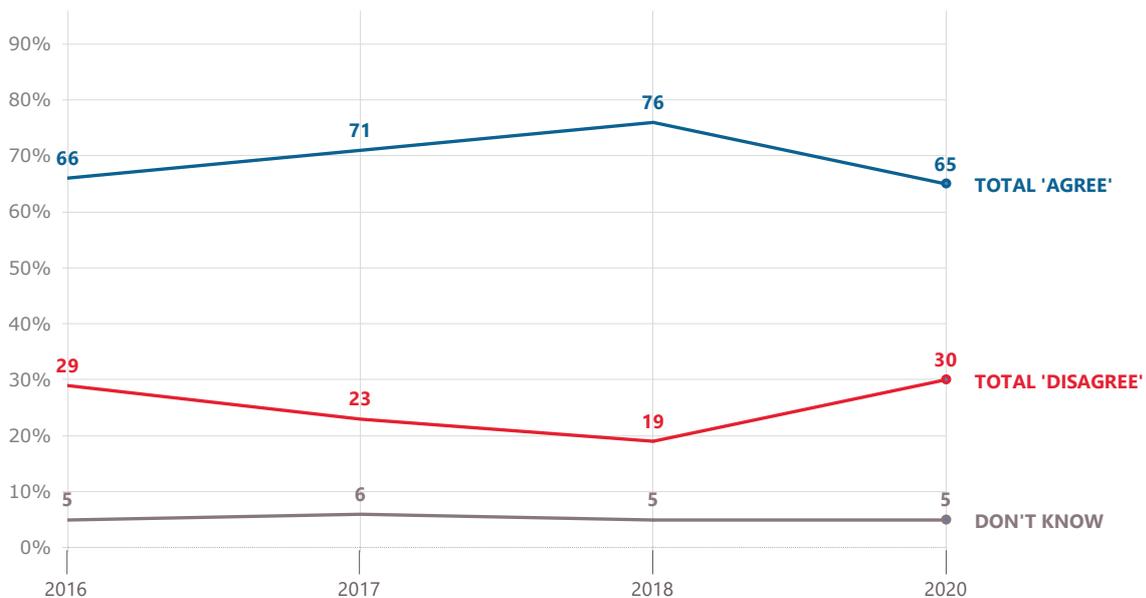
Around two-thirds of Europeans (65%) agree that **the EU is a place of stability in a troubled world**, and this includes 15% who 'totally agree'. Three in ten respondents (30%) disagree with the statement.

Agreement with this statement has decreased since 2018 (-11 percentage points), following a steady increase between 2016 and 2018. This means that the 2020 results are very similar to those observed in 2016, when 66% agreed and 29% disagreed.

QA15.1 To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?
The European Union is a place of stability in a troubled world
(% - EU)



QA15.1 To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?
The European Union is a place of stability in a troubled world (% - EU)

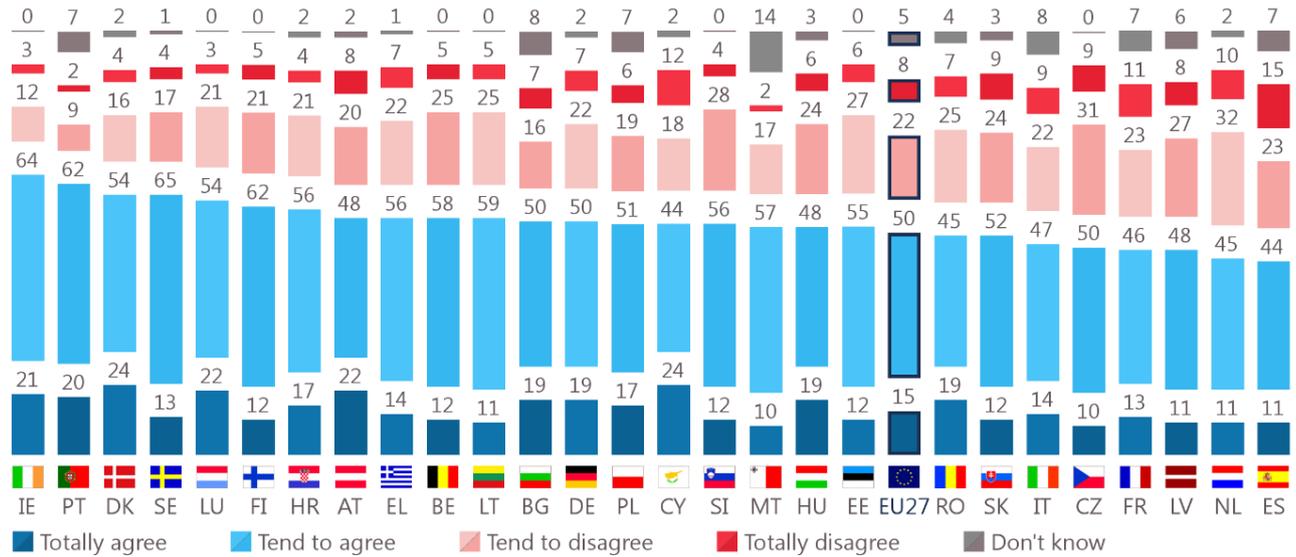


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In every Member State, the majority of respondents agree that **the EU is a place of stability in a troubled world**, and this applies to more than three-quarters of respondents in Ireland (85%), Portugal (82%), Denmark and Sweden (both 78%) and Luxembourg (76%).

Respondents are most likely to disagree that the EU is a place of stability in a troubled world in the Netherlands (42%), Czechia (40%), Spain (38%) and Latvia (35%).

QA15.1 To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?
The European Union is a place of stability in a troubled world (%)



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In the **socio-demographic** analysis, attitudes towards the EU being a place of stability are consistent by gender and age group, but there is a difference by level of education: respondents who left education at the age of 20 or above are more likely to agree that the EU is a place of stability (69%), compared with those who left by the age of 15 (58%).

There is also a difference by socio-professional category, with levels of agreement highest among managers (74%) and lowest among housepersons (56%) and unemployed respondents (55%). Respondents who have difficulties paying bills most of the time are less likely to see the EU as a place of stability (54% vs. 67% of those who never or rarely have difficulties).

QA15.1 To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

The European Union is a place of stability in a troubled world (% - EU)

	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Don't know
EU27	65	30	5
 Gender			
Man	66	30	4
Woman	63	31	6
 Age			
15-24	64	31	5
25-39	66	31	3
40-54	66	30	4
55+	63	30	7
 Education (End of)			
15-	58	31	11
16-19	63	33	4
20+	69	28	3
Still studying	69	26	5
 Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	64	32	4
Managers	74	24	2
Other white collars	69	28	3
Manual workers	61	35	4
House persons	56	36	8
Unemployed	55	40	5
Retired	63	30	7
Students	69	26	5
 Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	54	40	6
From time to time	62	33	5
Almost never/ Never	67	28	5

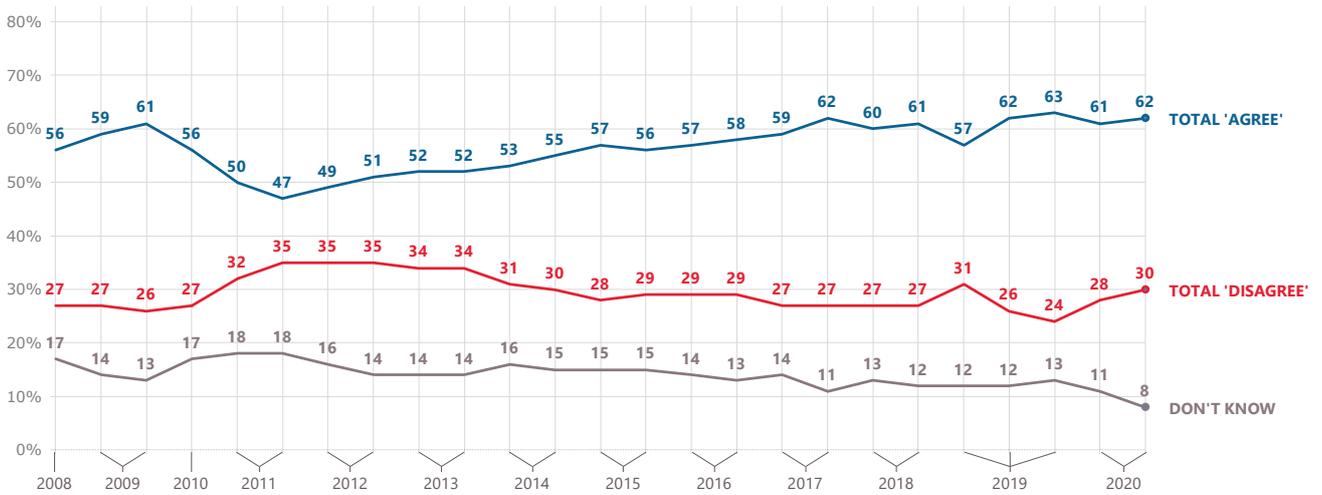
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Around six in ten respondents (62%) agree that **globalisation is an opportunity for economic growth**, twice as many as the proportion that disagrees (30%). Levels of agreement have increased gradually over time, from a low-point of 47% in 2011.

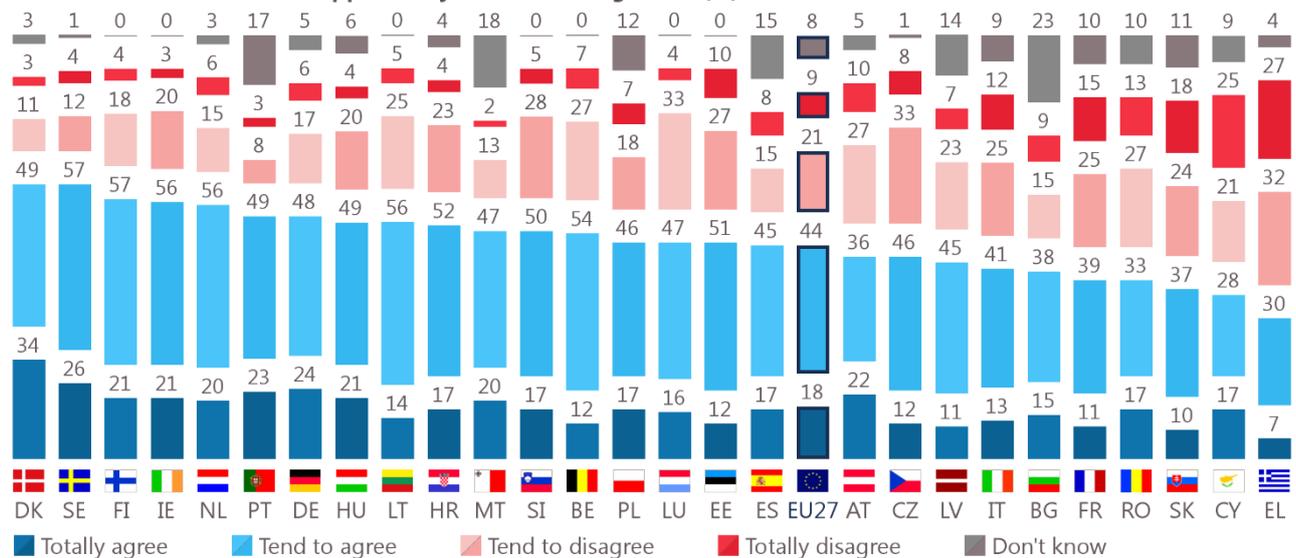
Disagreement outweighs agreement in Greece (59% disagree, 37% agree) and Cyprus (46% disagree, 45% agree). Levels of disagreement are also relatively high in Slovakia (42%), Czechia (41%), France and Romania (both 40%).

In all but two Member States, a majority of respondents agree that **globalisation is an opportunity for economic growth**, most notably in Denmark and Sweden (both 83%), Finland (78%), Ireland (77%) and the Netherlands (76%).

QA15.2 To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?
Globalisation is an opportunity for economic growth (% - EU)



QA15.2 To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?
Globalisation is an opportunity for economic growth (%)



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The **socio-demographic** analysis indicates that younger respondents are more likely than older respondents to agree that globalisation is an opportunity for economic growth (74% of respondents aged 15-24 compared with 54% of those aged 55 or over). Levels of agreement are also higher among respondents who stayed longer in education (66% of those who left education at the age of 20 or above vs. 47% of those who left by the age of 15) and those who place themselves in the upper class (75% vs. 54% of those who consider themselves to be in the working class). Analysis by socio-professional category shows that students (76%) and managers (69%) are most likely to agree and those who are retired least likely to agree (53%).

Respondents whose general image of the EU is positive are also more likely to agree that globalisation is an opportunity for economic growth (73% vs. 36% of those whose image is negative).

QA15.2 To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

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

	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Don't know
EU27	62	30	8
 Gender			
Man	63	31	6
Woman	60	30	10
 Age			
15-24	74	20	6
25-39	69	26	5
40-54	61	33	6
55+	54	34	12
 Education (End of)			
15-	47	33	20
16-19	59	33	8
20+	66	29	5
Still studying	76	18	6
 Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	60	35	5
Managers	69	28	3
Other white collars	65	30	5
Manual workers	63	30	7
House persons	54	30	16
Unemployed	58	33	9
Retired	53	34	13
Students	76	18	6
 Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	53	35	12
From time to time	58	34	8
Almost never/ Never	64	28	8

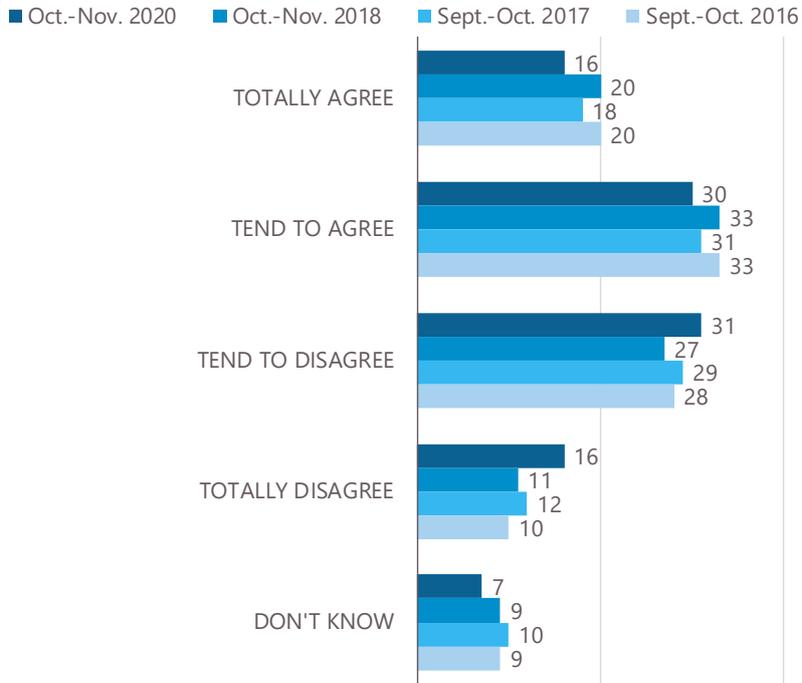
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Similar proportions of respondents agree (46%) and disagree (47%) that **globalisation threatens their country's identity**, and equal proportions express 'total agreement' and 'total disagreement' (both 16%).

There has been a decrease in agreement since 2018 (-7 percentage points), alongside an increase in disagreement (+9). The results were broadly stable between 2016 and 2018.

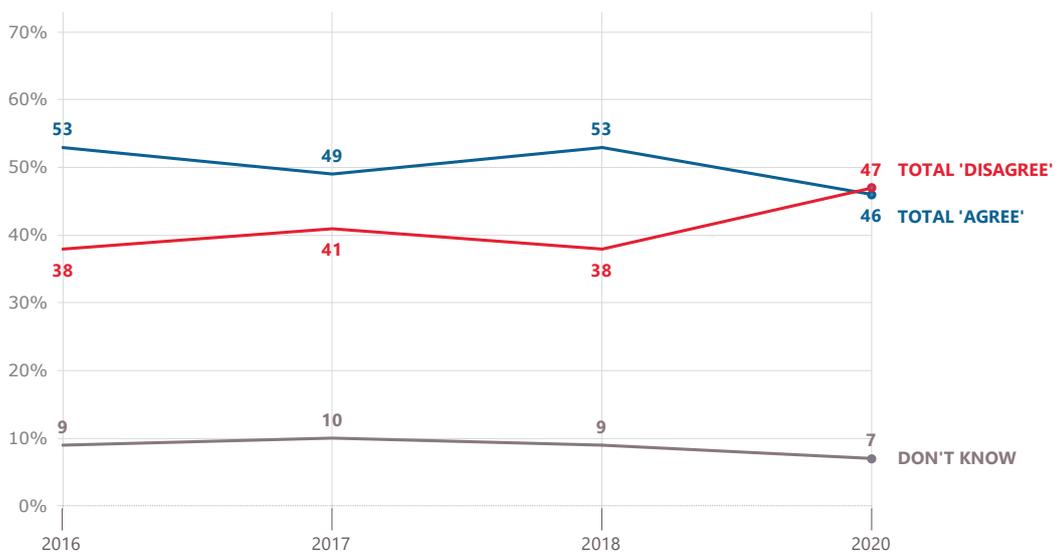
QA15.3 To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

Globalisation threatens (OUR COUNTRY)'s identity
(% - EU)



QA15.3 To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

Globalisation threatens (OUR COUNTRY)'s identity (% - EU)

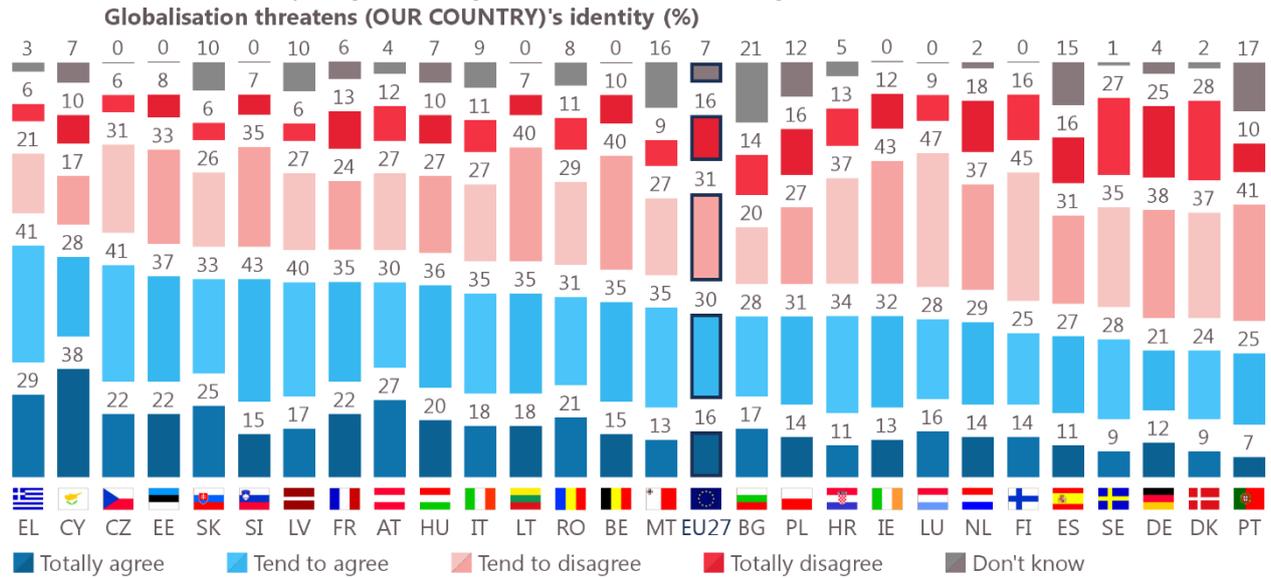


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There is considerable variation between countries in the proportions that think **globalisation threatens their country's identity**. In 16 countries, the majority agree with the statement, led by Greece (70%), Cyprus (66%) and Czechia (63%), while in

Belgium there is an even split (50% agree, 50% disagree). In the remaining 10 Member States, a majority disagrees with the statement, with the highest levels of disagreement in Denmark (65%), Germany (63%), Sweden (62%) and Finland (61%).

QA15.3 To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?



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In the **socio-demographic** analysis, there is a broad age distinction. Among those aged 40-54 and 55 or over, a majority of respondents agree that globalisation threatens their country's identity (50% and 47% respectively), while among those aged 15-24 and 25-39, a majority disagree (50% and 53% respectively).

There is also a difference by level of education. Among respondents who left education at the age of 20 or above, the majority disagree that globalisation threatens their country's identity (52%), but disagreement is much lower among those who left education by the age of 15 (35%) or aged 16-19 (42%).

Managers are particularly likely to disagree that globalisation threatens their country's identity (58%), while unemployed respondents are most likely to agree with the statement (52%).

Respondents who have a negative image of the EU are much more likely to agree than those who have a positive image (69% vs. 38%), and agreement is also higher among those who place themselves on the right of the political scale (55%) than on the left (39%).

QA15.3 To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

Globalisation threatens (OUR COUNTRY)'s identity (% - EU)

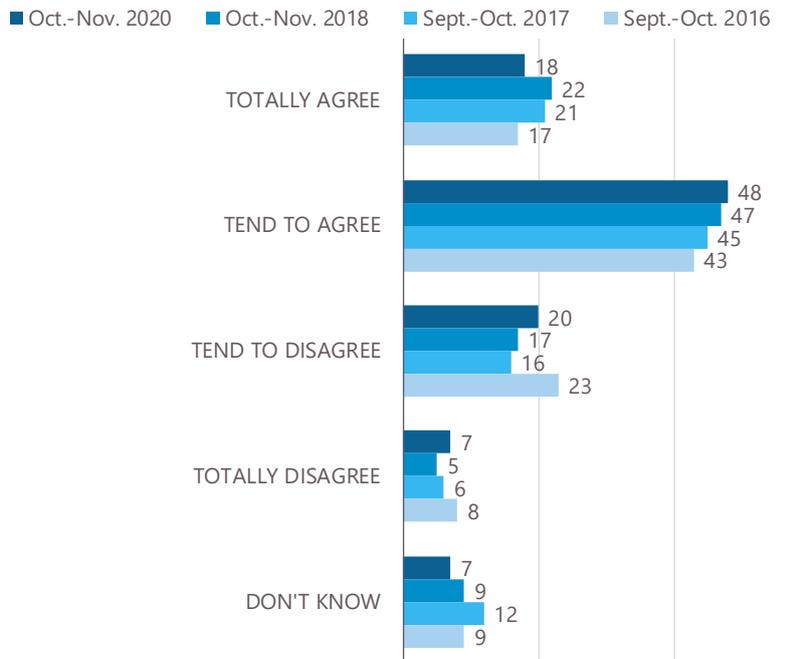
	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Don't know
EU27	46	47	7
 Gender			
Man	47	48	5
Woman	46	45	9
 Age			
15-24	43	50	7
25-39	43	53	4
40-54	50	45	5
55+	47	42	11
 Education (End of)			
15-	46	35	19
16-19	51	42	7
20+	44	52	4
Still studying	38	56	6
 Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	48	47	5
Managers	40	58	2
Other white collars	48	48	4
Manual workers	49	44	7
House persons	48	39	13
Unemployed	52	39	9
Retired	47	41	12
Students	38	56	6
 Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	55	35	10
From time to time	51	42	7
Almost never/ Never	44	49	7

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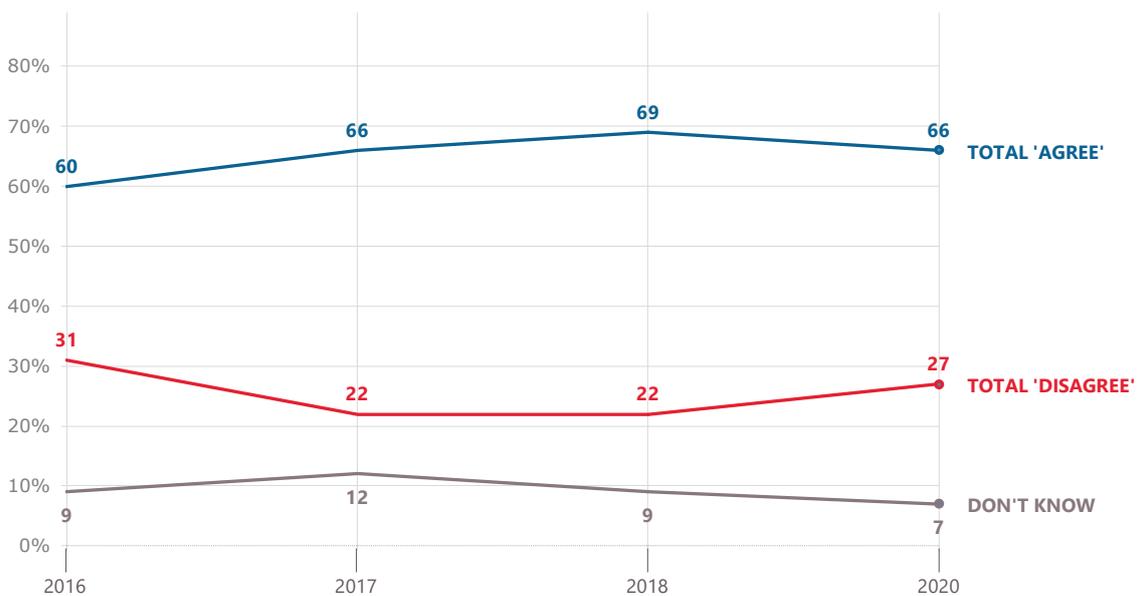
Two-thirds of respondents (66%) agree that **the EU project offers a future perspective for Europe's youth**, including 18% who 'totally agree'. Just over a quarter (27%) disagree with the statement.

Since 2018, agreement has decreased slightly (-3 percentage points), while disagreement has increased (+5). This follows an increase in agreement between 2016 and 2018 (from 60% to 69%).

QA15.4 To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?
The European Union project offers a future perspective for Europe's youth
(% - EU)



QA15.4 To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?
The European Union project offers a future perspective for Europe's youth (% - EU)

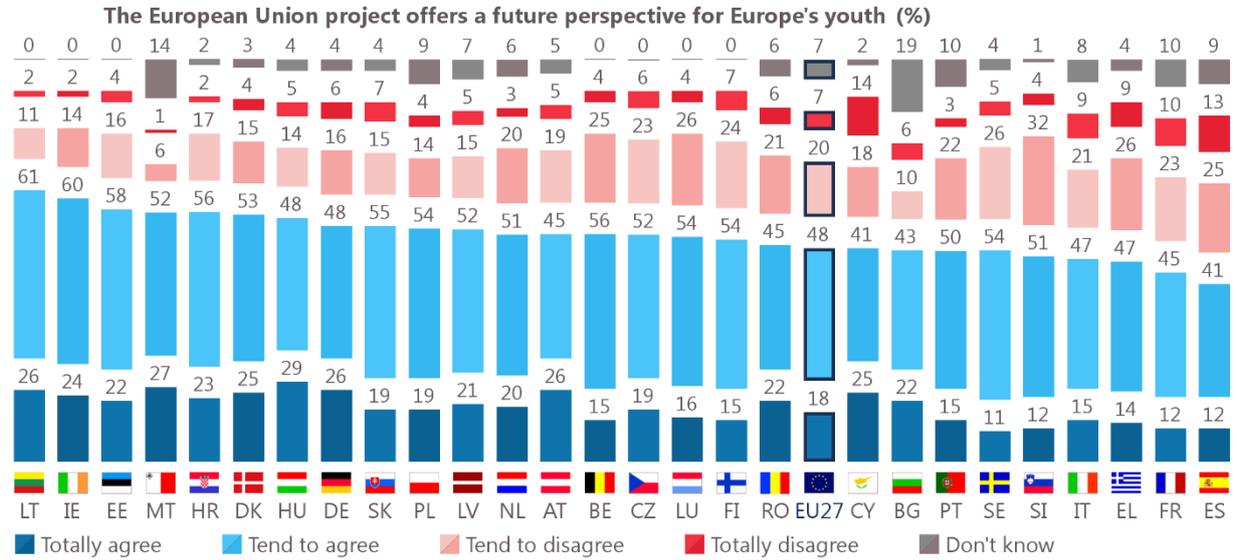


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In every Member State, the majority of respondents agree that **the EU project offers a future perspective for Europe's youth**, and this is highest in Lithuania (87%), Ireland (84%), Estonia (80%),

Malta and Croatia (both 79%). Levels of disagreement are highest in Spain (38%), Slovenia (36%) Greece (35%) and France (33%).

QA15.4 To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?



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In the **socio-demographic** analysis, respondents who left education at the age of 20 or above are more likely to agree that the EU project offers a future perspective for Europe's youth (71%), compared with those who left education by the age of 15 (55%). In terms of socio-professional categories, agreement is highest among managers (74%) and students (73%) and lowest among unemployed respondents (53%). Respondents who have difficulties paying bills most of the time are less likely to agree than those who rarely or never have difficulties (52% vs. 69%).

Although agreement is high among students, there is only a marginal difference by age group, with those aged 15-24 and 25-39 (both 68%) only slightly more likely to agree than those aged 40-54 or 55 or over (both 65%).

QA15.4 To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

The European Union project offers a future perspective for Europe's youth (% - EU)

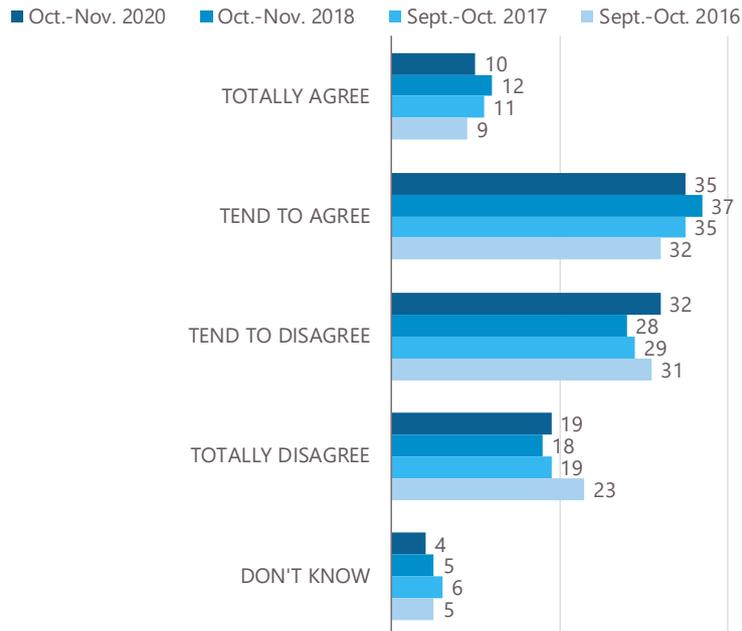
	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Don't know
EU27	66	27	7
 Gender			
Man	67	28	5
Woman	66	26	8
 Age			
15-24	68	26	6
25-39	68	28	4
40-54	65	30	5
55+	65	26	9
 Education (End of)			
15-	55	32	13
16-19	64	29	7
20+	71	24	5
Still studying	73	22	5
 Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	65	30	5
Managers	74	22	4
Other white collars	70	25	5
Manual workers	63	31	6
House persons	57	30	13
Unemployed	53	39	8
Retired	66	25	9
Students	73	22	5
 Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	52	39	9
From time to time	64	29	7
Almost never/ Never	69	25	6

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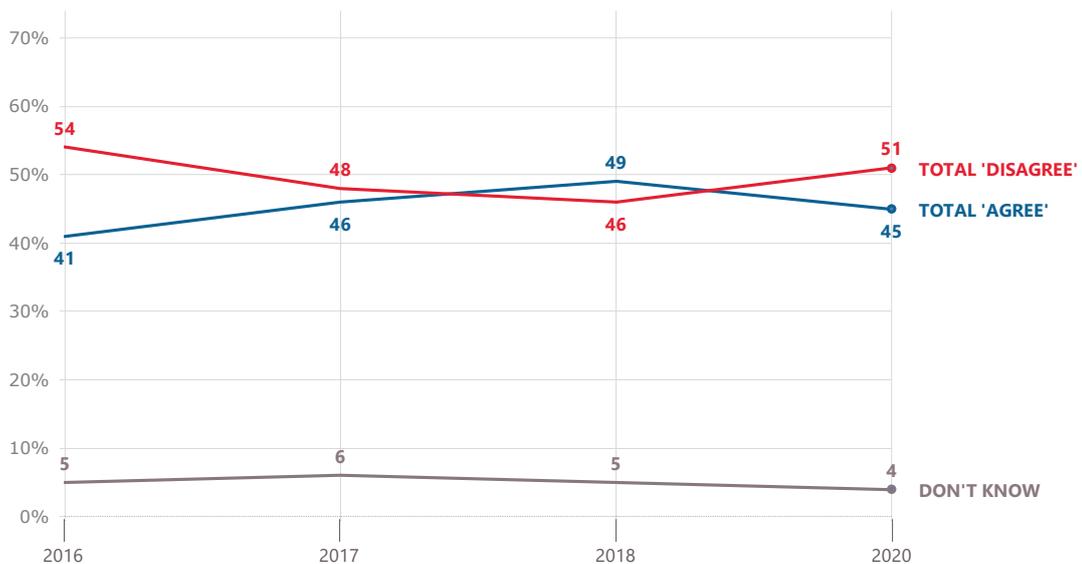
Around half of respondents (51%) disagree that **the interests of people like them are well taken into account by the political system in their country**, higher than the proportion that agree (45%). In addition, respondents are twice as likely to 'totally disagree' as to 'totally agree' (19% vs. 10%).

Agreement has decreased since 2018 (-4 percentage points), while disagreement has increased (+5). This follows an increase in agreement between 2016 and 2018 (from 41% to 49%).

QA15.5 To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?
The interests of people like you are well taken into account by the political system in (OUR COUNTRY) (% - EU)



QA15.5 To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?
The interests of people like you are well taken into account by the political system in (OUR COUNTRY) (% - EU)

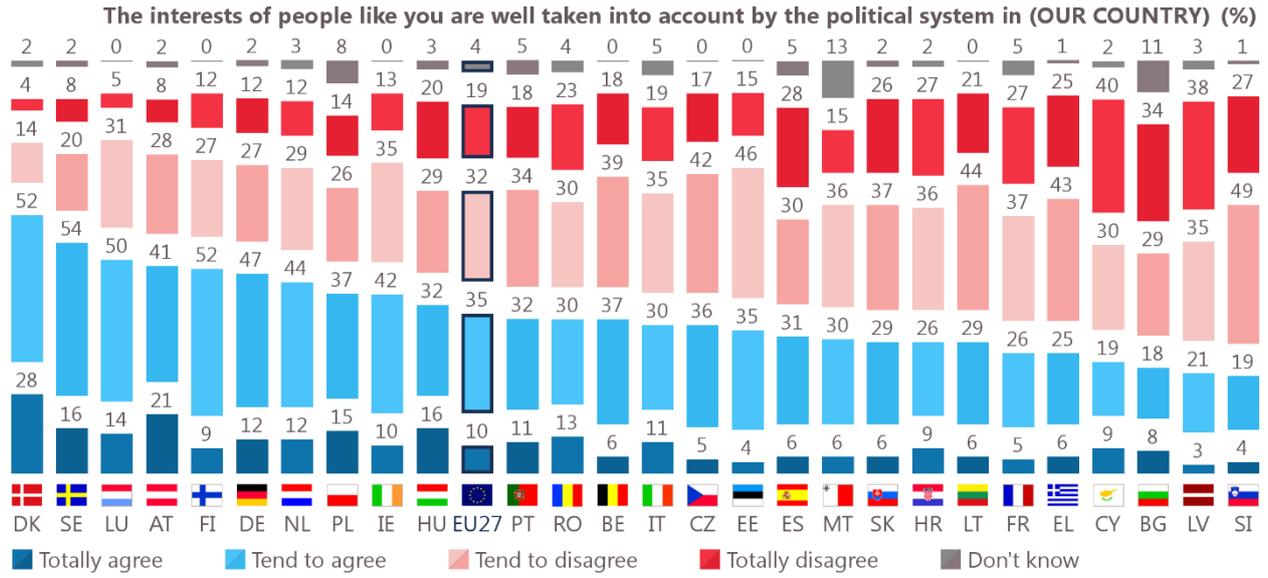


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There is wide variation by country in the proportions that agree that **the interests of people like them are well taken into account by the political system in their country**. In nine Member States, a majority agree with the statement, with the highest proportions seen in Denmark (80%), Sweden (70%),

Luxembourg (64%), Austria (62%) and Finland (61%). In the other 18 countries, the majority disagree that their interests are well taken into account, with levels of disagreement highest in Slovenia (76%), Latvia (73%), Cyprus (70%) and Greece (68%).

QA15.5 To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?



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In the **socio-demographic** analysis, there is a slight difference by age group, with those aged 15–24 most likely to agree (48%), and least likely to disagree (47%), that the interests of people like them are well taken into account by the political system.

Respondents who left education at the age of 20 or above are more likely to agree than those who left education by the age of 15 (49% vs. 38%). In terms of socio-professional categories, agreement is highest among managers (55%) and lowest among unemployed respondents (31%). Respondents who have difficulties paying bills most of the time are less likely to agree than those who rarely or never have difficulties (31% vs. 48%).

QA15.5 To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

The interests of people like you are well taken into account by the political system in (OUR COUNTRY) (% - EU)

	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Don't know
EU27	45	51	4
 Gender			
Man	46	51	3
Woman	45	50	5
 Age			
15-24	48	47	5
25-39	46	52	2
40-54	44	53	3
55+	45	50	5
 Education (End of)			
15-	38	54	8
16-19	44	53	3
20+	49	48	3
Still studying	51	44	5
 Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	46	52	2
Managers	55	42	3
Other white collars	47	50	3
Manual workers	43	54	3
House persons	41	53	6
Unemployed	31	65	4
Retired	44	50	6
Students	51	44	5
 Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	31	66	3
From time to time	42	54	4
Almost never/ Never	48	48	4

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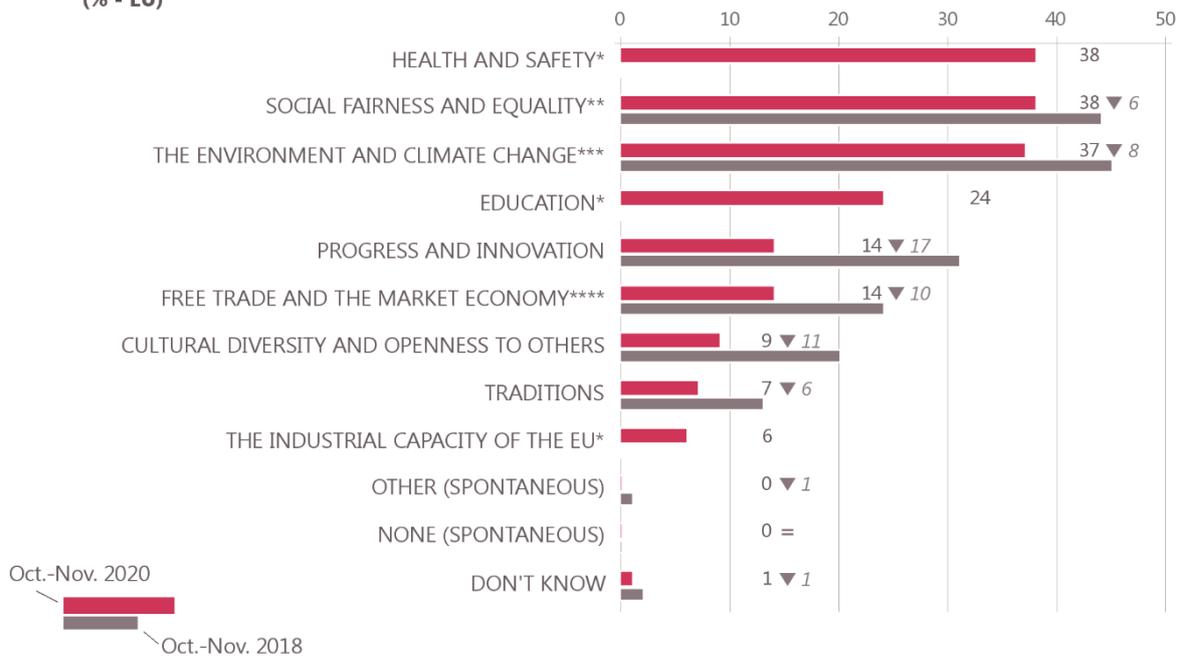
In order to face future global challenges, the three main priorities are health and safety, social fairness and equality, and the environment and climate change

Respondents were asked what they thought should be prioritised in order to face major global challenges, choosing a maximum of two items from a list of nine options. Although this question was also asked in October–November 2018, the response items have changed substantially, so any comparisons with the 2018 results should be made with caution.

The three main priorities are seen as **health and safety** (38%), **social fairness and equality** (38%) and **the environment and climate change** (37%). These are followed by **education** (mentioned by 24%).

One in seven respondents mention **progress and innovation** (14%) and **free trade and the market economy** (14%), while less than one in ten say priority should be given to **cultural diversity and openness to others** (9%), **traditions** (7%) and the **industrial capacity** of the EU (6%).

QA16 Which two of the following should be prioritised in order to face major global challenges? (MAX. 2 ANSWERS)
(% - EU)



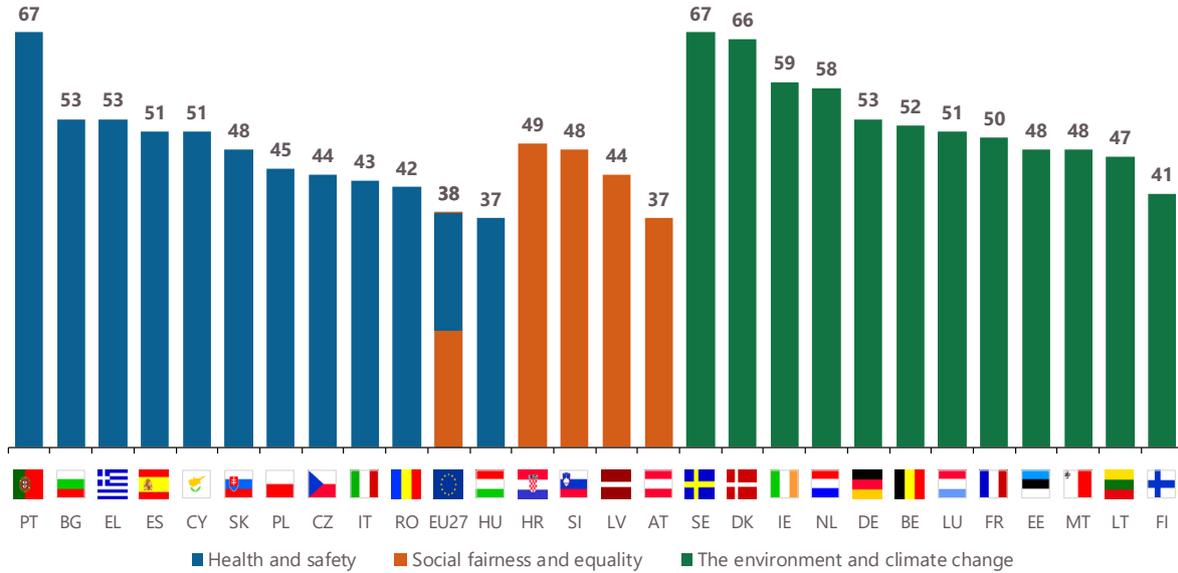
* New items, not asked in the previous survey ** Item modified since the previous survey. In 2018: "Social equality and solidarity" *** Item modified since the previous survey. In 2018: "Protecting the environment" **** Item modified since the previous survey. In 2018: "Free trade \ market economy"

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The environment and climate change ranks as the top priority for facing major global challenges in 12 Member States, while **health and safety** ranks highest (or joint highest) in 11 countries.

In four Member States, **social fairness and equality** is the top priority.

QA16 Which two of the following should be prioritised in order to face major global challenges? (MAX. 2 ANSWERS)
(% - THE MOST MENTIONED ANSWER BY COUNTRY)



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Respondents in Portugal (67%) are most likely to say that **health and safety** should be prioritised in order to face major global challenges, followed by those in Bulgaria and Greece (both 53%), while this is lowest in Croatia (5%) and Ireland (16%).

Respondents in Portugal are also the most likely to mention **social fairness** (66%), followed by those in Croatia (49%), Cyprus and Slovenia (both 48%), while the proportion is by far the lowest in Romania (16%).

The environment and climate change is mentioned most frequently by respondents in Sweden (67%), Denmark (66%), Ireland (59%) and the Netherlands (58%), and least frequently by respondents in Portugal (14%) and Romania (15%).

Respondents in Spain (35%) and France (30%) are most likely to say that **education** should be prioritised, while this is lowest in Hungary (11%), Slovenia (13%) and Poland (14%).

The above responses mostly account for the top three priorities in each country. In addition, **progress and innovation** is one of the top three priorities in Hungary (30%) and Italy (24%), while **free trade and the market economy** is one of the three highest priorities in Croatia (31%) and Romania (20%).

QA16 Which two of the following should be prioritised in order to face major global challenges? (MAX. 2 ANSWERS) (%)

	Health and safety	Social fairness and equality	The environment and climate change	Education	Progress and innovation	Free trade and the market economy	Cultural diversity and openness to others	Traditions	The industrial capacity of the EU	Other (SPONTANEOUS)	None (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU27	38	38	37	24	14	14	9	7	6	0	0	1
BE	32	37	52	22	13	10	11	8	6	0	0	0
BG	53	39	18	21	13	20	6	8	9	0	0	1
CZ	44	31	40	23	13	22	4	10	2	0	0	0
DK	25	36	66	19	8	19	11	5	2	0	0	0
DE	25	42	53	28	12	13	9	5	5	0	0	0
EE	22	28	48	25	22	16	12	12	12	0	0	0
IE	16	38	59	23	15	18	17	5	5	0	0	0
EL	53	46	19	19	18	16	6	11	8	0	0	0
ES	51	43	24	35	15	7	3	2	7	0	0	0
FR	38	39	50	30	8	5	7	6	8	0	0	1
HR	5	49	26	21	17	31	16	7	11	0	0	0
IT	43	28	22	17	24	20	13	7	7	0	0	1
CY	51	48	31	28	15	7	5	3	3	0	0	0
LV	43	44	26	28	10	18	5	5	7	0	0	1
LT	36	34	47	21	20	15	5	5	8	0	0	0
LU	35	40	51	26	12	10	11	3	5	0	0	0
HU	37	30	29	11	30	15	8	17	5	0	0	1
MT	36	26	48	26	13	15	11	7	4	0	0	3
NL	29	44	58	19	9	12	15	6	4	0	0	0
AT	32	37	29	21	15	17	16	13	6	1	1	1
PL	45	34	23	14	12	21	12	12	8	0	0	1
PT	67	66	14	18	7	8	7	3	4	0	0	1
RO	42	16	15	28	17	20	16	14	6	0	0	2
SI	44	48	43	13	16	11	6	6	7	0	0	0
SK	48	41	28	22	8	18	6	8	8	0	0	0
FI	34	38	41	20	12	21	9	10	8	0	0	0
SE	22	42	67	21	15	15	9	4	3	0	0	0

1st MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM

2nd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM

3rd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM

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In the **socio-demographic** analysis, women are more likely than men to prioritise health and safety (41% vs. 35%), while men are more likely to say that free trade and the market economy (16% vs. 12%) and progress and innovation (17% vs. 12%) should be prioritised in order to face major global challenges.

The main differences by age group are that younger respondents (aged 15-24) are more likely to prioritise the environment and climate change (42%) and education (27%), while those aged 55 or over are most likely to cite health and safety (42%) and social fairness and equality (40%).

There is a clear difference by level of education on two of the issues. Respondents who stayed in education until the age of 20 or above are more likely to prioritise the environment and climate change (45% vs. 23% of those who left education by the age of 15). However, they are less likely to want health and safety to be prioritised (32% vs. 52%). A similar picture can be seen for respondents who never or almost never have difficulties paying bills.

They are also more likely to prioritise the environment and climate change (42% vs. 26% of those who have difficulties most of the time), but are less likely to prioritise health and safety (35% vs. 47%).

Analysis by socio-professional category shows that managers are the most likely to think priority should be given to the environment and climate change (47%), while housepersons are most likely to mention health and safety (51%), and unemployed respondents are most likely to say that social fairness and equality should be prioritised (45%).

Respondents' priorities vary according to their political views. Those who place themselves on the left of the political scale are more likely to mention the environment and climate change (46% vs. 29% of those on the right) and social fairness and equality (45% vs. 31%), while those who place themselves on the right are more likely to mention health and safety (40% vs. 33) and free trade and the market economy (20% vs. 11%).

QA16 Which two of the following should be prioritised in order to face major global challenges?
(MAX. 2 ANSWERS)
(% - EU)

	Health and safety	Social fairness and equality	The environment and climate change	Education	Free trade and the market economy	Progress and innovation	Cultural diversity and openness to others	Traditions	The industrial capacity of the EU
EU27	38	38	37	24	14	14	9	7	6
Gender									
Man	35	36	37	24	16	17	9	7	8
Woman	41	39	37	24	12	12	10	7	5
Age									
15-24	35	37	42	27	13	14	11	6	5
25-39	35	36	37	25	15	18	11	6	6
40-54	38	36	36	24	15	15	10	7	8
55+	42	40	36	22	14	12	8	8	6
Education (End of)									
15-	52	39	23	22	11	12	6	8	6
16-19	42	36	33	22	15	14	9	8	7
20+	32	38	45	25	14	15	10	6	7
Still studying	32	39	43	29	13	15	12	4	5
Socio-professional category									
Self-employed	34	34	32	28	18	15	12	8	6
Managers	26	36	47	26	15	19	10	5	7
Other white collars	35	35	37	22	18	17	11	7	7
Manual workers	42	36	33	23	14	14	9	7	8
House persons	51	31	30	23	13	14	8	9	5
Unemployed	46	45	37	20	10	12	6	6	6
Retired	42	41	36	23	12	11	7	8	6
Students	32	39	43	29	13	15	12	4	5
Difficulties paying bills									
Most of the time	47	42	26	20	13	12	9	8	7
From time to time	43	35	28	21	15	16	11	9	6
Almost never/ Never	35	38	42	25	14	14	8	6	7

Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

Peace, freedom of opinion and social equality and solidarity are the main values that are best embodied by the EU

In order to determine the values that Europeans associate with the EU, respondents were asked if seven values were best embodied by the EU, by other countries (or groups of countries) in the world or by both.

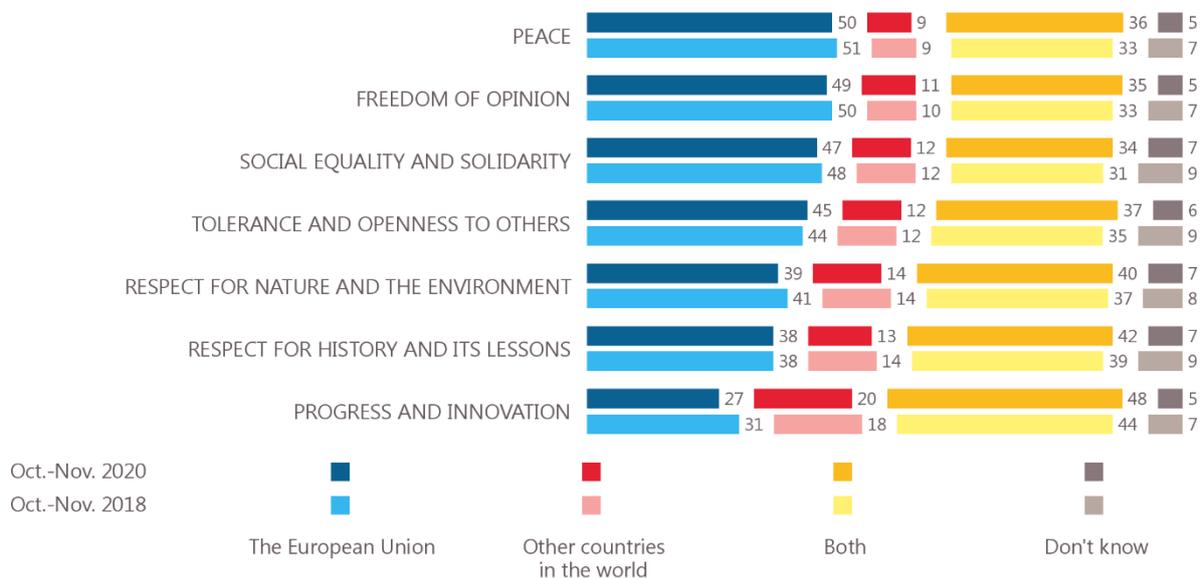
Half of respondents (50%, -1 percentage point since 2018) consider that **peace** is best embodied by the EU, while a similar proportion say this about **freedom of opinion** (49%, -1). Just under half say that the EU best embodies **social equality and solidarity** (47%, -1) and **tolerance and openness to others** (45%, +1). Around four in ten say that the EU best embodies **respect for nature and the environment** (39%, -2) and **respect for history and its lessons** (38%, =). **Progress and innovation** is the value that is least likely to be seen as embodied by the EU (27%, -4).

For each of the seven values, between a third and a half of respondents say that the value is best embodied both by the EU and other countries (or groups of countries) in the world, ranging from 34% for social equality and solidarity, to 48% for progress and innovation.

Only a minority of respondents think that the values are best embodied by other countries (or groups of countries) in the world, rather than the EU. This is highest for progress and innovation (20%) and lowest for peace (9%).

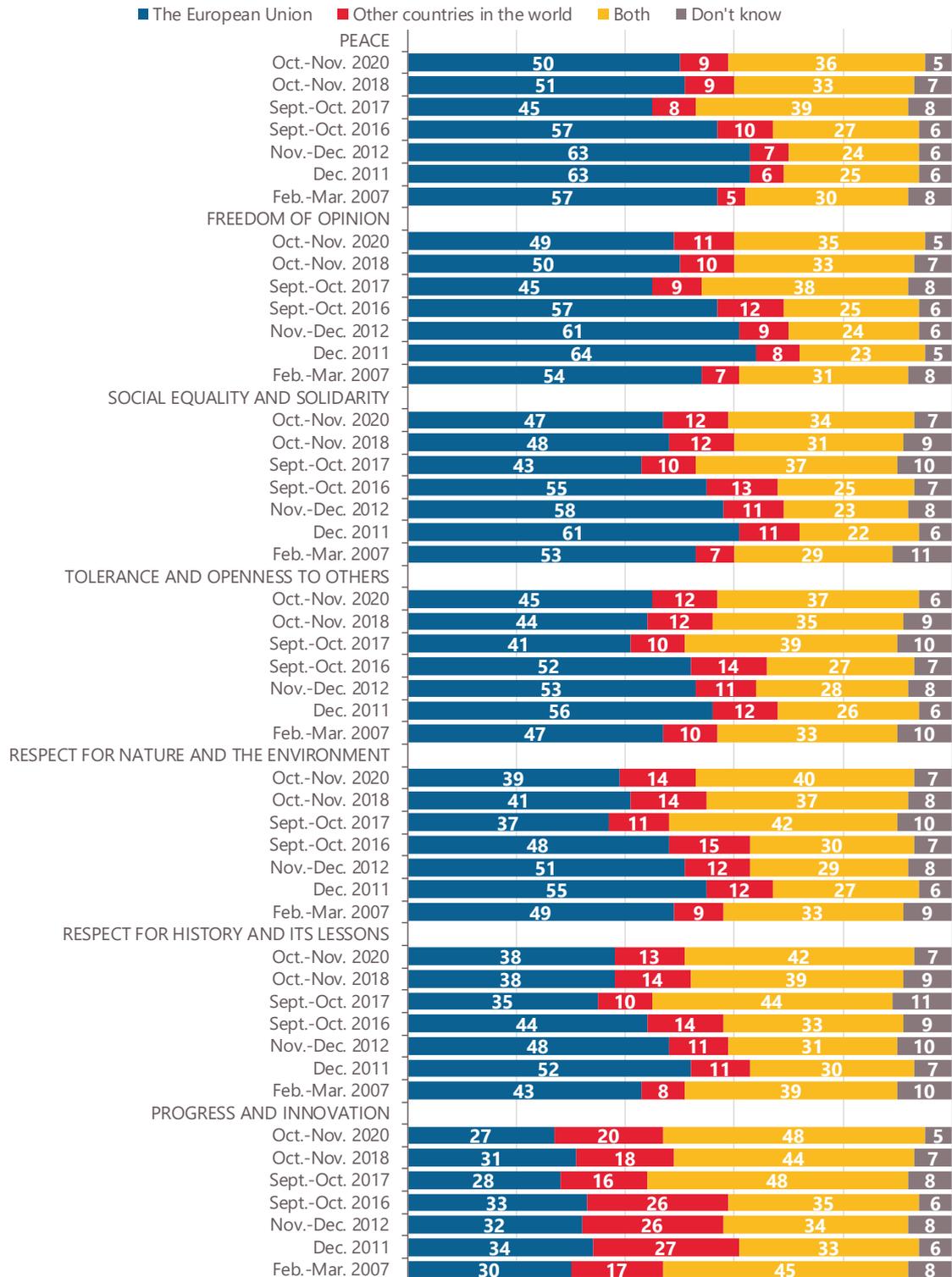
There has been little change since the previous Future of Europe survey in 2018. The only clear change is that progress and innovation is now less likely to be seen as embodied by the EU (-4) and is more likely to be associated with other countries (+2) or by both the EU and other countries (+4). In the longer term, there has been a slight decline in the proportions that say the different values are embodied by the EU, from a high point in 2011.

QA17 For each of these values, please tell me if they are best embodied by the EU, by other countries (or groups of countries) in the world or by both?
(% - EU)



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QA17 For each of these values, please tell me if they are best embodied by the EU, by other countries (or groups of countries) in the world or by both?
(% - EU)



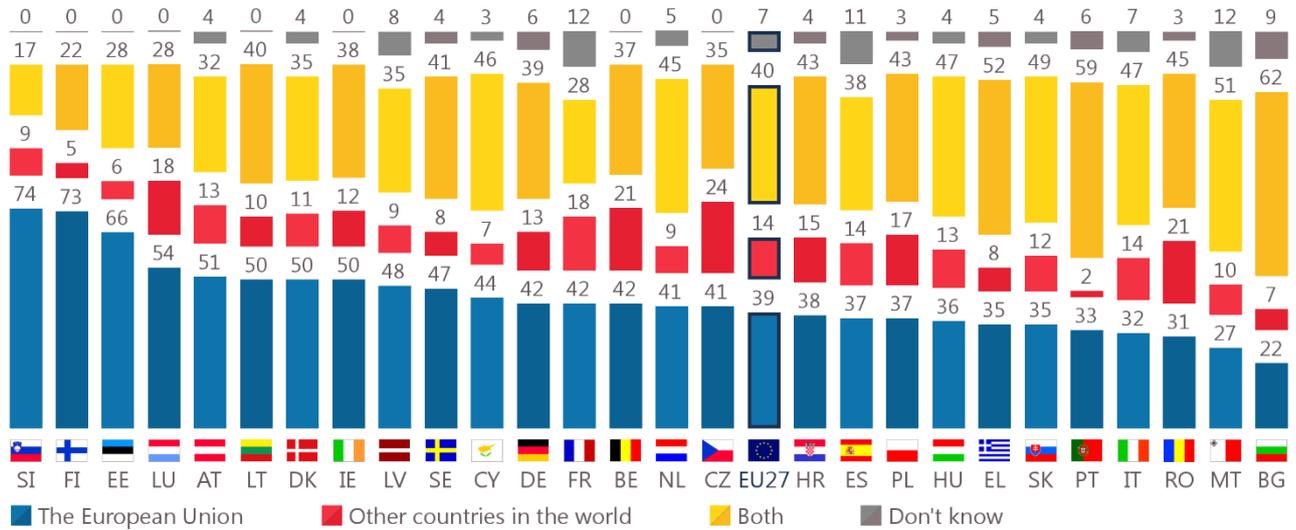
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In 14 EU Member States, a majority of respondents believe that **respect for nature and the environment** is best embodied by the EU, with the highest scores in Slovenia (74%), Finland (73%) and Estonia (66%). On the other hand, respondents who think that this value is best embodied by both the EU and other countries in

the world form a majority in 13 EU Member States, with the highest scores in Bulgaria (62%), Portugal (59%), Greece (52%) and Malta (51%). The proportion that think respect for nature and the environment is best embodied by other countries in the world is highest in Czechia (24%), Belgium and Romania (both 21%).

QA17.1 For each of these values, please tell me if they are best embodied by the EU, by other countries (or groups of countries) in the world or by both?

Respect for nature and the environment (%)



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The **socio-demographic** analysis shows that the longer respondents remained in education, the more likely they are to say that the EU best embodies respect for nature and the environment (43% of those who completed their education aged 20 or above vs. 34% of those who left education by the age of 15). Respondents who never or almost never have difficulties paying bills are also more likely to say that respect for nature and the environment is best embodied by the EU (43%).

In terms of socio-professional groups, managers are most likely to say that respect for nature and the environment is best embodied

by the EU (49%), while this is lowest among housepersons (34%) and unemployed respondents (35%). There are slight differences by age and gender. The majority view among men is that respect for nature and the environment is best embodied by the EU (41%), and this is also true for people aged 15-24 (41%) and aged 25-39 (40%). However, among women, the majority view is that this value is best embodied both by the EU and other countries in the world (42%), and this is also the majority view among people aged 40-54 (40%) and 55 or over (43%).

QA17.1 For each of these values, please tell me if they are best embodied by the EU, by other countries (or groups of countries) in the world or by both?

Respect for nature and the environment (% - EU)

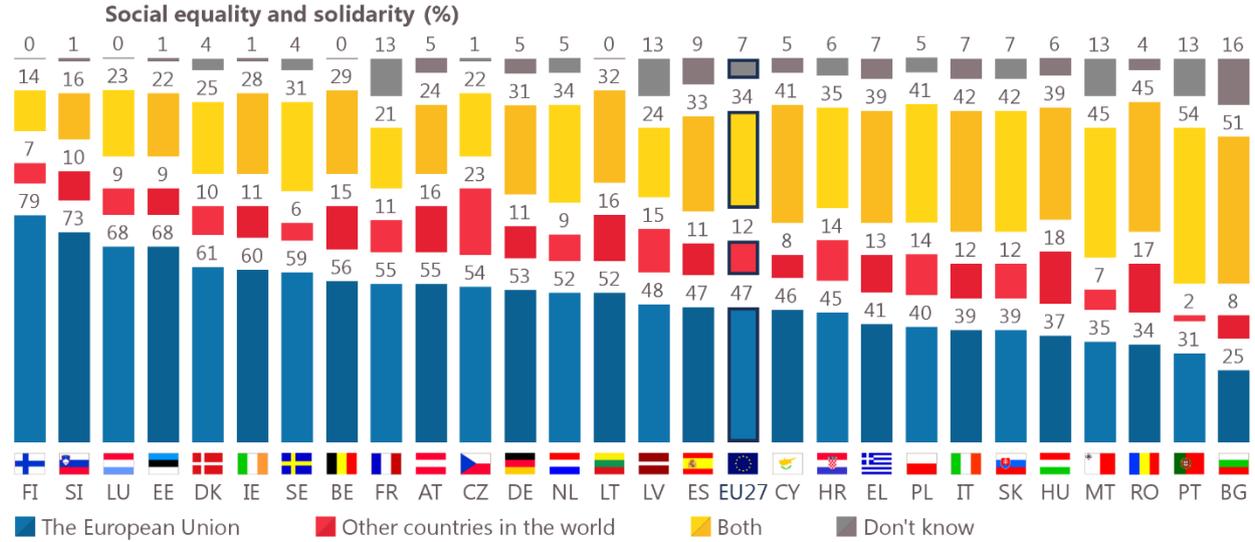
	The European Union	Other countries in the world	Both	Don't know
EU27	39	14	40	7
 Gender				
Man	41	15	38	6
Woman	38	13	42	7
 Age				
15-24	41	17	37	5
25-39	40	17	37	6
40-54	39	15	40	6
55+	39	10	43	8
 Education (End of)				
15-	34	11	44	11
16-19	37	15	43	5
20+	43	14	37	6
Still studying	44	14	37	5
 Socio-professional category				
Self-employed	36	17	41	6
Managers	49	13	33	5
Other white collars	39	15	42	4
Manual workers	37	15	41	7
House persons	34	13	43	10
Unemployed	35	19	37	9
Retired	39	10	43	8
Students	44	14	37	5
 Difficulties paying bills				
Most of the time	35	19	38	8
From time to time	33	17	44	6
Almost never/ Never	43	12	39	6

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In 19 EU Member States, a majority of respondents think that **social equality and solidarity** is best embodied by the EU alone. Respondents are most likely to hold this opinion in Finland (79%), Slovenia (73%), Luxembourg and Estonia (both 68%). In eight countries, a majority of respondents consider that this value is best embodied both by the EU and other countries in the world.

This view is most pronounced in Portugal (54%), Bulgaria (51%), Malta and Romania (both 45%). Respondents in Czechia are most likely to say that social equality and solidarity is best embodied by other countries in the world (23%), followed by those in Hungary (18%) and Romania (17%).

QA17.2 For each of these values, please tell me if they are best embodied by the EU, by other countries (or groups of countries) in the world or by both?



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The **socio-demographic** analysis shows that men are slightly more likely than women to say that the EU best embodies social equality and solidarity (49% vs. 46%), while younger respondents are more likely to say this than older respondents (51% of 15-24 year olds vs. 46% of those aged 55 or over).

Respondents who completed their education aged 20 or above are more likely to say that this value is best embodied by the EU, compared with those who left education by the age of 15 (53% vs. 41%).

Respondents who never or almost never have difficulties paying bills are also more likely to say that social equality and solidarity is best embodied by the EU (52% vs. 39% of those who have difficulties most of the time).

In terms of socio-professional groups, managers are most likely to say that social equality and solidarity is best embodied by the EU (56%).

QA17.2 For each of these values, please tell me if they are best embodied by the EU, by other countries (or groups of countries) in the world or by both?

Social equality and solidarity (% - EU)

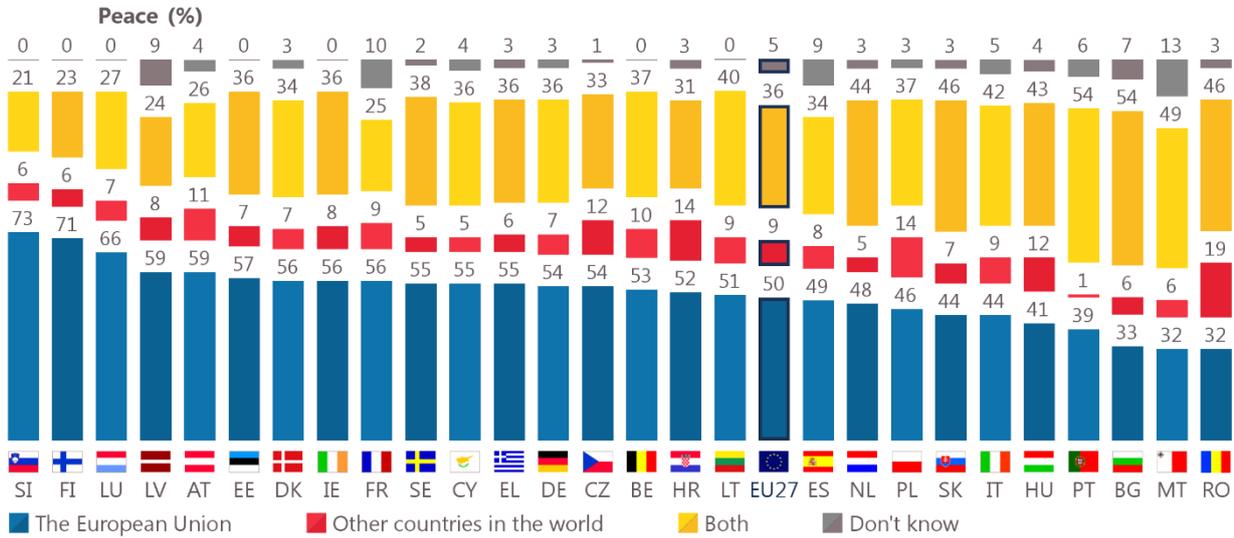
	The European Union	Other countries in the world	Both	Don't know
EU27	47	12	34	7
 Gender				
Man	49	13	32	6
Woman	46	11	35	8
 Age				
15-24	51	12	31	6
25-39	48	15	32	5
40-54	47	13	34	6
55+	46	9	36	9
 Education (End of)				
15-	41	10	38	11
16-19	44	13	37	6
20+	53	11	29	7
Still studying	51	12	32	5
 Socio-professional category				
Self-employed	47	13	35	5
Managers	56	12	26	6
Other white collars	46	12	38	4
Manual workers	45	14	35	6
House persons	43	12	35	10
Unemployed	44	16	28	12
Retired	48	9	34	9
Students	51	12	32	5
 Difficulties paying bills				
Most of the time	39	17	32	12
From time to time	41	14	39	6
Almost never/ Never	52	10	32	6

Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

A majority of respondents in 21 EU Member States consider that **peace** is best embodied by the EU, with the highest proportions in Slovenia (73%), Finland (71%) and Luxembourg (66%). Conversely, a minority share this opinion in the six other countries, with only

a third saying this in Romania and Malta (both 32%) and Bulgaria (33%). Respondents in Romania are most likely to say that peace is best embodied by other countries in the world (19%).

QA17.3 For each of these values, please tell me if they are best embodied by the EU, by other countries (or groups of countries) in the world or by both?



Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

Results are broadly consistent across the different **socio-demographic groups**. There is a slight tendency for men to be more likely than women to say peace is best embodied by the EU (51% vs. 48%), and this view is also slightly stronger among younger people (52% of respondents aged 15-24 vs. 48% of those aged 55 or over).

Respondents who completed their education aged 20 or above are more likely to say that peace is best embodied by the EU, compared with those who left education by the age of 15 (54% vs. 46%).

Respondents who never or almost never have difficulties paying bills are also more likely to say that peace is best embodied by the EU (53%).

In terms of socio-professional groups, managers are most likely to say that peace is best embodied by the EU (60%), while housepersons (45%) and manual workers (46%) are least likely to say this.

QA17.3 For each of these values, please tell me if they are best embodied by the EU, by other countries (or groups of countries) in the world or by both?

Peace (% - EU)

	The European Union	Other countries in the world	Both	Don't know
EU27	50	9	36	5
 Gender				
Man	51	10	35	4
Woman	48	8	38	6
 Age				
15-24	52	9	33	6
25-39	51	11	34	4
40-54	49	9	38	4
55+	48	8	38	6
 Education (End of)				
15-	46	9	37	8
16-19	47	10	39	4
20+	54	8	34	4
Still studying	52	8	35	5
 Socio-professional category				
Self-employed	50	10	36	4
Managers	60	7	31	2
Other white collars	48	9	40	3
Manual workers	46	12	38	4
House persons	45	9	38	8
Unemployed	48	10	34	8
Retired	49	7	37	7
Students	52	8	35	5
 Difficulties paying bills				
Most of the time	44	15	33	8
From time to time	43	12	40	5
Almost never/ Never	53	7	35	5

Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

In 26 EU Member States, a majority of respondents consider that **progress and innovation** is best embodied both by the EU and other countries in the world, with the highest scores in Bulgaria (65%), Sweden (64%), Portugal and Lithuania (both 60%).

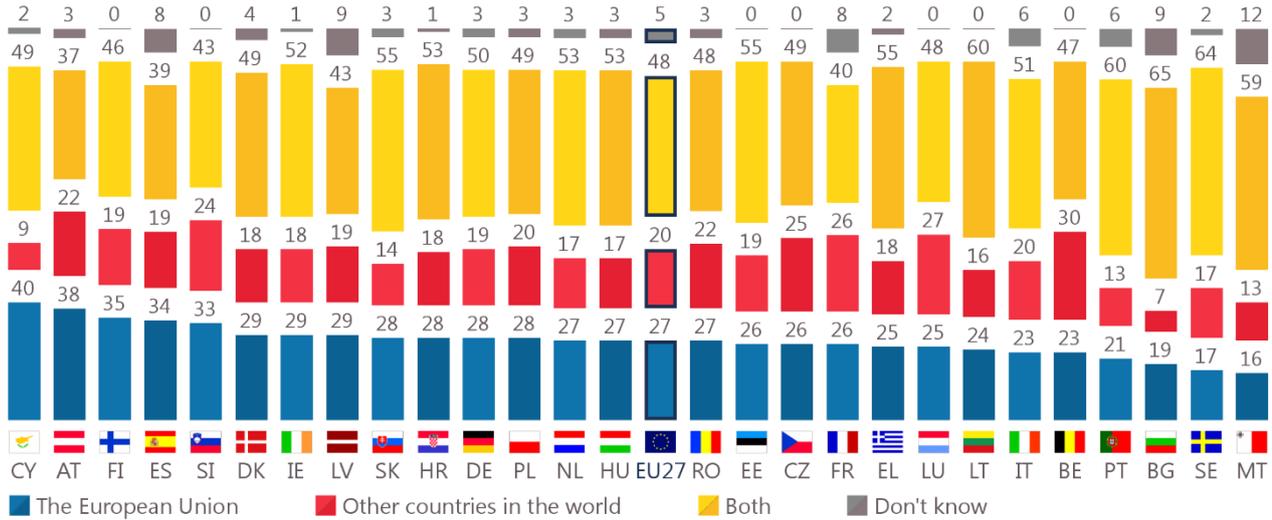
Respondents who believe that progress and innovation is best embodied by the EU form a majority only in Austria (38%).

This view also obtains relatively high scores in Cyprus (40%), Finland (35%), Spain (34%) and Slovenia (33%).

Respondents in Belgium are most likely to say that progress and innovation is best embodied by other countries in the world (30%), followed by those in Luxembourg (27%), France (26%) and Czechia (25%).

QA17.4 For each of these values, please tell me if they are best embodied by the EU, by other countries (or groups of countries) in the world or by both?

Progress and innovation (%)



Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

In the **socio-demographic** analysis, respondents who completed their education by the age of 15 are more likely to say that progress and innovation is best embodied by the EU, compared with those who left education at the age of 20 or above (31% vs. 25%).

Otherwise, differences are most apparent when looking at the proportion who think that this value is best embodied by other countries. This is higher among men than women (22% vs. 18%), and is also higher among managers (28%) and respondents who have difficulties paying bills most of the time (26%).

QA17.4 For each of these values, please tell me if they are best embodied by the EU, by other countries (or groups of countries) in the world or by both?

Progress and innovation (% - EU)

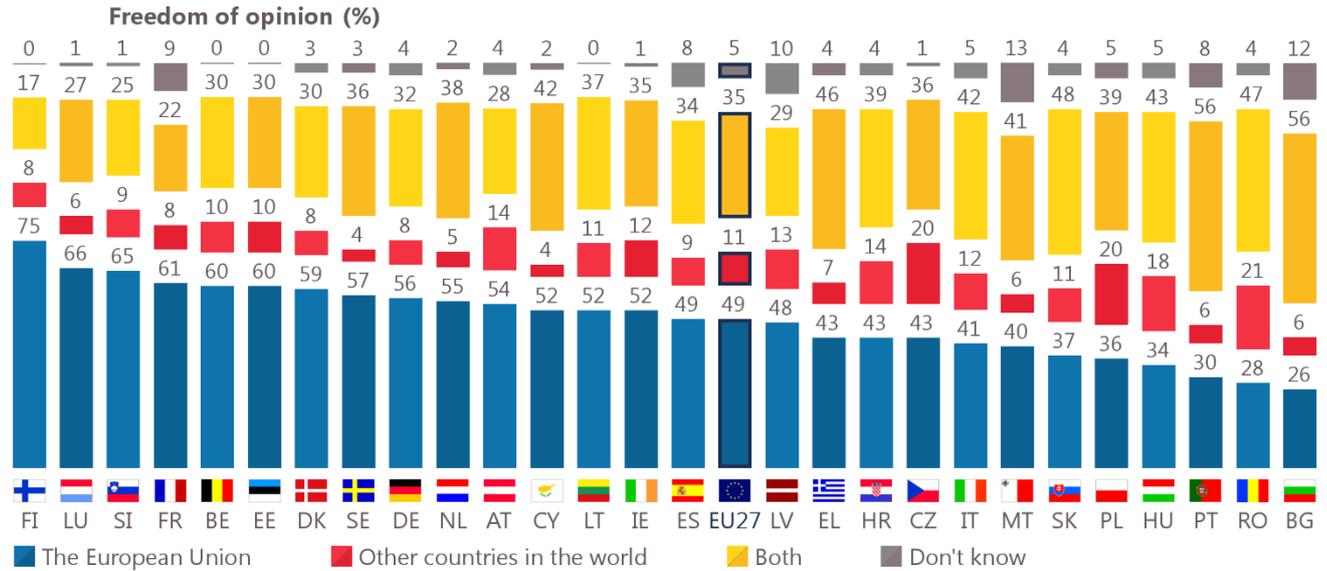
	The European Union	Other countries in the world	Both	Don't know
EU27	27	20	48	5
 Gender				
Man	28	22	47	3
Woman	27	18	49	6
 Age				
15-24	28	21	48	3
25-39	27	25	45	3
40-54	27	21	48	4
55+	27	16	50	7
 Education (End of)				
15-	31	14	45	10
16-19	28	20	49	3
20+	25	23	48	4
Still studying	26	20	51	3
 Socio-professional category				
Self-employed	28	22	47	3
Managers	25	28	44	3
Other white collars	26	21	51	2
Manual workers	28	21	47	4
House persons	27	16	48	9
Unemployed	26	21	44	9
Retired	28	15	50	7
Students	26	20	51	3
 Difficulties paying bills				
Most of the time	25	26	42	7
From time to time	25	21	49	5
Almost never/ Never	28	19	49	4

Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

Respondents who believe that **freedom of opinion** is best embodied by the EU form a majority in 18 EU Member States, with the highest proportions in Finland (75%), Luxembourg (66%) and Slovenia (65%). In nine countries, the majority view is that freedom of opinion is best embodied both by the EU and other countries in the world, and this view is strongest in Portugal and Bulgaria (both 56%), Slovakia (48%) and Romania (47%).

The view that freedom of opinion is best embodied by other countries outside the EU is most prevalent in Romania (21%), Poland and Czechia (both 20%).

QA17.5 For each of these values, please tell me if they are best embodied by the EU, by other countries (or groups of countries) in the world or by both?



Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

The **socio-demographic** analysis shows that men are slightly more likely than women to say that freedom of opinion is best embodied by the EU (50% vs. 47%), while results are broadly consistent across age groups.

Respondents who completed their education aged 20 or above are more likely to say that this value is best embodied by the EU, compared with those who left education by the age of 15 (53% vs. 42%).

Respondents who never or almost never have difficulties paying bills are also more likely to say that freedom of opinion is best embodied by the EU (53% vs. 40% of those who have difficulties most of the time).

In terms of socio-professional groups, the proportion that say freedom of opinion is best embodied by the EU ranges from 59% among managers to 43% among housepersons.

QA17.5 For each of these values, please tell me if they are best embodied by the EU, by other countries (or groups of countries) in the world or by both?

Freedom of opinion (% - EU)

	The European Union	Other countries in the world	Both	Don't know
EU27	49	11	35	5
 Gender				
Man	50	12	34	4
Woman	47	10	37	6
 Age				
15-24	51	12	33	4
25-39	49	14	33	4
40-54	49	11	36	4
55+	48	8	37	7
 Education (End of)				
15-	42	10	38	10
16-19	46	12	38	4
20+	53	10	32	5
Still studying	53	10	34	3
 Socio-professional category				
Self-employed	47	11	37	5
Managers	59	10	28	3
Other white collars	48	11	38	3
Manual workers	45	13	37	5
House persons	43	12	37	8
Unemployed	45	12	34	9
Retired	49	8	36	7
Students	53	10	34	3
 Difficulties paying bills				
Most of the time	40	18	33	9
From time to time	41	14	40	5
Almost never/ Never	53	9	33	5

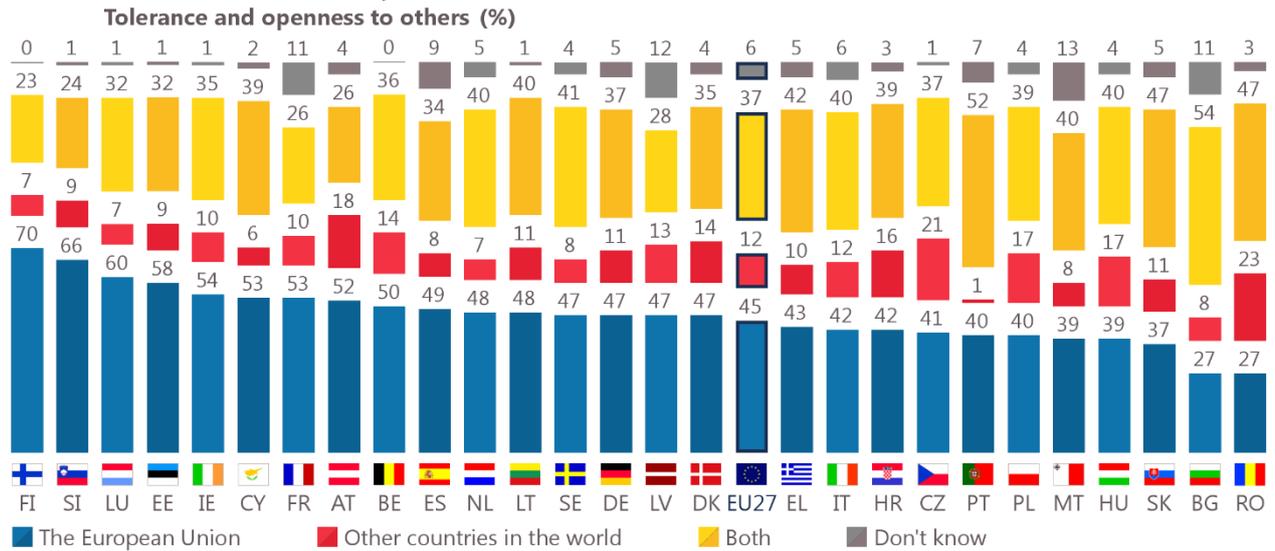
Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

The feeling that the EU best embodies **tolerance and openness to others** is the majority view in 21 EU Member States, with the highest levels seen in Finland (70%), Slovenia (66%) and Luxembourg (60%). In the six other countries, respondents are more likely to say that this value is embodied both by the EU and other countries in the world. Respondents are most likely to say

this in Bulgaria (54%), Portugal (52%), Romania and Slovakia (both 47%).

Respondents in Romania (23%) and Czechia (21%) are most likely to say that tolerance and openness to others is best embodied by other countries in the world.

QA17.6 For each of these values, please tell me if they are best embodied by the EU, by other countries (or groups of countries) in the world or by both?



Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

In the **socio-demographic** analysis, men are slightly more likely than women to say that tolerance and openness to others is best embodied by the EU (47% vs. 44%), with no clear differences by age group.

Respondents who completed their education aged 20 or above are more likely to say that this value is best embodied by the EU, compared with those who left education by the age of 15 (49% vs. 43%).

Respondents who never or almost never have difficulties paying bills are also more likely to say that tolerance and openness to others is best embodied by the EU (48% vs. 40% of those who have difficulties more often).

In terms of socio-professional groups, managers are most likely to say that tolerance and openness to others is best embodied by the EU (52%), while housepersons are least likely to say this (39%).

QA17.6 For each of these values, please tell me if they are best embodied by the EU, by other countries (or groups of countries) in the world or by both?

Tolerance and openness to others (% - EU)

	The European Union	Other countries in the world	Both	Don't know
EU27	45	12	37	6
 Gender				
Man	47	13	35	5
Woman	44	11	38	7
 Age				
15-24	44	15	35	6
25-39	46	13	36	5
40-54	46	12	37	5
55+	45	10	38	7
 Education (End of)				
15-	43	11	36	10
16-19	43	13	39	5
20+	49	10	35	6
Still studying	44	13	38	5
 Socio-professional category				
Self-employed	44	11	40	5
Managers	52	11	33	4
Other white collars	47	11	38	4
Manual workers	42	15	38	5
House persons	39	13	37	11
Unemployed	43	14	34	9
Retired	47	9	36	8
Students	44	13	38	5
 Difficulties paying bills				
Most of the time	40	18	33	9
From time to time	40	16	39	5
Almost never/ Never	48	10	36	6

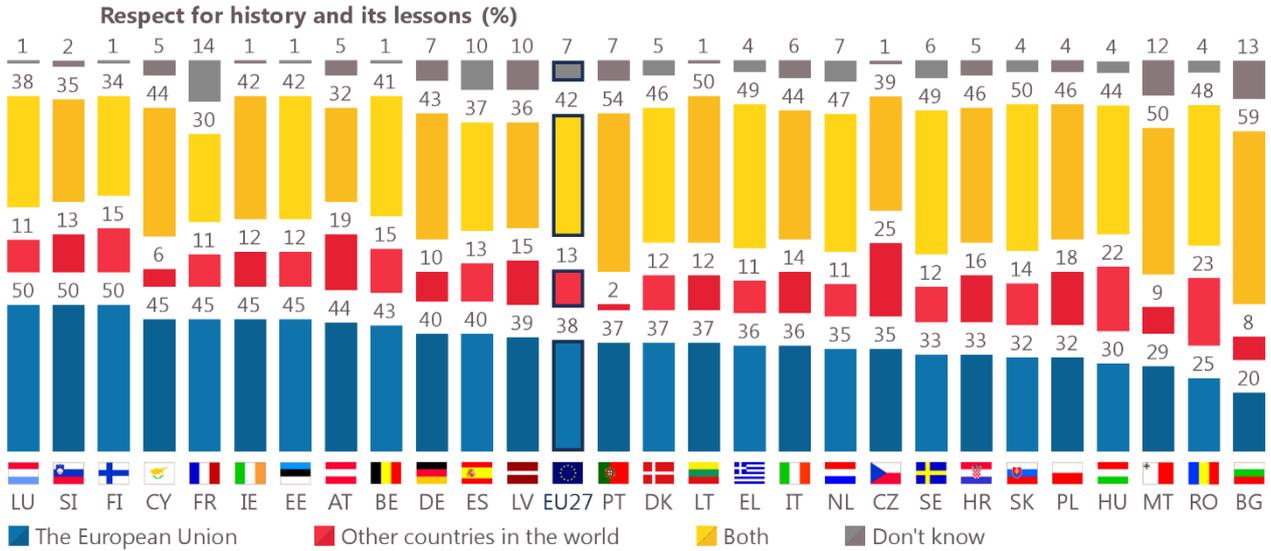
Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

A majority of respondents consider that the EU best embodies **respect for history and its lessons** in 11 EU Member States, with the highest proportions in Luxembourg, Slovenia and Finland (all 50%). In the other 16 Member States, the prevailing view is that this value is best embodied both by the EU and other countries in the world.

This view is held by at least half of respondents in Bulgaria (59%), Portugal (54%), Lithuania, Malta and Slovakia (all 50%).

The view that respect for history and its lessons is best embodied by other countries in the world is most prevalent in Czechia (25%), Romania (23%) and Hungary (22%).

QA17.7 For each of these values, please tell me if they are best embodied by the EU, by other countries (or groups of countries) in the world or by both?



Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

The results are broadly consistent across the various **socio-demographic** groups, although there are some slight differences. Older respondents are slightly more likely than younger respondents to say that respect for history and its lessons is best embodied by the EU (39% of those aged 55 or over vs. 35% of 15-24 year olds).

In terms of socio-professional groups, managers are most likely to say that this value is best embodied by the EU (42%), while unemployed respondents are least likely to say this (32%).

Respondents who never or almost never have difficulties paying bills are also more likely to say that respect for history and its lessons is best embodied by the EU (40%).

QA17.7 For each of these values, please tell me if they are best embodied by the EU, by other countries (or groups of countries) in the world or by both?

Respect for history and its lessons (% - EU)

	The European Union	Other countries in the world	Both	Don't know
EU27	38	13	42	7
 Gender				
Man	39	15	40	6
Woman	37	12	43	8
 Age				
15-24	35	15	44	6
25-39	36	17	42	5
40-54	38	15	41	6
55+	39	11	41	9
 Education (End of)				
15-	38	12	39	11
16-19	36	15	43	6
20+	40	13	40	7
Still studying	38	13	43	6
 Socio-professional category				
Self-employed	36	16	42	6
Managers	42	13	39	6
Other white collars	38	14	44	4
Manual workers	35	16	43	6
House persons	35	13	41	11
Unemployed	32	16	41	11
Retired	40	11	40	9
Students	38	13	43	6
 Difficulties paying bills				
Most of the time	34	17	40	9
From time to time	33	17	44	6
Almost never/ Never	40	12	41	7

3. Future of Europe

Comparable living standards, stronger solidarity among Member States and a common health policy are regarded as the most helpful developments for the future of Europe

Respondents were asked to consider what would be most helpful for the future of Europe, selecting up to two answers from a list of nine options.

Comparable living standards (35%) and **stronger solidarity among Member States** (30%) are regarded as the two most helpful developments for the future of Europe. Europeans also prioritise the development of a **common health policy** (25%) and

Comparable education standards (22%). Lower ranked priorities, mentioned by less than two in ten, include **energy independence** (19%), **deeper economic integration** (17%), a **stronger industrial capacity** (16%), and a **common army** (10%). Finally, less than one in ten respondents mention **the introduction of the euro in all EU countries** (7%).

QA18 Which two of the following would you consider to be most helpful for the future of Europe? (MAX. 2 ANSWERS)
(% - EU)



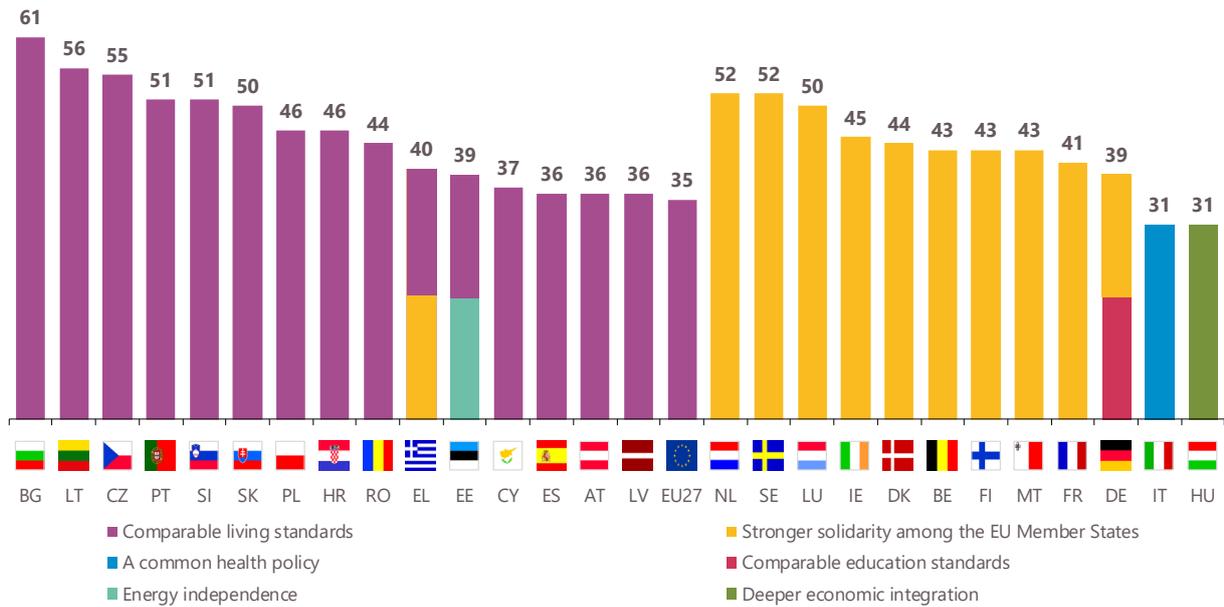
Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

A desire for **comparable living standards** is seen as the most helpful development for the future of Europe among Europeans overall, and this is also the top priority (or joint top priority) in 15 Member States. **Stronger solidarity among the EU Member States** is the highest ranked (or joint highest ranked) answer in 11 countries.

In Italy, the highest ranking item is a **common health policy**, while in Hungary it is **deeper economic integration**. **Energy independence** is the joint highest answer in Estonia, along with comparable living standards.

QA18 Which two of the following would you consider to be most helpful for the future of Europe? (MAX. 2 ANSWERS)

(% - THE MOST MENTIONED ANSWER BY COUNTRY)



Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

When considering what would be most helpful for the future of Europe, respondents in Bulgaria (61%), Lithuania (56%) and Czechia (55%) are the most likely to mention **comparable living standards**, while respondents in Finland (18%), Denmark (20%) and Italy (21%) are least likely to choose this answer.

Stronger solidarity among the EU Member States is selected most often in the Netherlands and Sweden (both 52%) and Luxembourg (50%), and least often in Poland, Romania and Hungary (all 13%).

Respondents in Portugal are most likely to say that a **common health policy** would be helpful (45%), followed by those in Bulgaria and Italy (both 31%). The lowest proportions giving this answer are in Finland (11%), Sweden and Czechia (both 12%).

Comparable education standards are mentioned most frequently by respondents in Germany (39%) and Spain (35%), and least frequently in Hungary (5%), Italy (8%) and Romania (10%).

Energy independence is most frequently cited by respondents in Finland (42%), Estonia (39%) and Sweden (34%). It is least frequently mentioned in Portugal (6%), Romania (8%) and Spain (9%).

Respondents in Hungary (31%), Slovenia (30%) and Italy (29%) are most likely to mention **deeper economic integration**. This is mentioned least frequently by respondents in Sweden (8%), France (9%) and Finland (10%).

Stronger industrial capacity is most likely to be chosen in Croatia (33%) and Italy (29%), while respondents in Germany (7%), Czechia (8%) and Cyprus (9%) are least likely to mention this issue.

Across the EU as a whole, **the introduction of the euro in all EU countries** ranks lowest of the various possible options, but it is one of the top three answers in Romania (21%).

QA18 Which two of the following would you consider to be most helpful for the future of Europe? (MAX. 2 ANSWERS) (%)

	Comparable living standards	Stronger solidarity among the EU Member States	A common health policy	Comparable education standards	Energy independence	Deeper economic integration	A stronger industrial capacity	A common army	The introduction of the Euro in all EU countries	Other (SPONTANEOUS)	None (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU27	35	30	25	22	19	17	16	10	7	0	0	1
BE	30	43	24	16	24	13	13	14	8	0	0	0
BG	61	14	31	18	13	16	16	6	6	0	1	1
CZ	55	31	12	15	25	14	8	9	10	0	0	0
DK	20	44	19	26	32	14	10	8	6	0	1	1
DE	35	39	19	39	20	14	7	8	5	0	0	0
EE	39	36	14	15	39	21	18	7	3	0	0	0
IE	29	45	25	21	31	12	12	7	12	0	0	0
EL	40	40	26	14	14	27	17	10	3	0	1	0
ES	36	24	29	35	9	19	17	3	4	0	0	1
FR	32	41	26	15	20	9	11	15	6	1	0	3
HR	46	18	17	13	17	19	33	7	13	0	0	0
IT	21	17	31	8	22	29	29	12	7	0	1	3
CY	37	29	35	28	12	13	9	19	6	0	1	0
LV	36	23	25	26	19	16	15	10	10	0	0	2
LT	56	37	18	15	25	14	10	8	4	0	0	0
LU	27	50	20	24	22	11	11	14	9	0	0	0
HU	29	13	25	5	28	31	23	13	14	0	0	2
MT	37	43	23	24	12	15	12	4	11	1	1	2
NL	32	52	25	21	20	11	10	14	6	0	0	0
AT	36	23	16	28	19	17	13	9	15	3	2	1
PL	46	13	28	11	19	17	25	12	9	0	0	1
PT	51	15	45	18	6	28	18	2	5	0	0	3
RO	44	13	24	10	8	17	21	14	21	0	0	1
SI	51	34	17	11	19	30	10	9	7	0	0	0
SK	50	16	22	17	22	14	20	7	10	0	1	0
FI	18	43	11	17	42	10	25	8	8	0	0	0
SE	28	52	12	25	34	8	10	8	2	1	1	1
1st MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM												
2nd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM												
3rd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM												

Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

The **socio-demographic** analysis shows that women are more likely than men to say that a common health policy would be helpful for the future of Europe (27% vs. 23%), whereas men are more likely than women to mention energy independence (22% vs. 17%) and stronger industrial capacity (18% vs. 14%).

Respondents aged 15-24 are more likely than those in other age groups to consider that comparable education standards would be helpful for the future of Europe (29% vs. 19% among respondents aged 55 or over), while energy independence is mentioned most frequently by those aged 25-39 (24% vs. 17% of those aged 55 or over).

Respondents who stayed longer in education are more likely to mention several items: stronger solidarity among Member States (35% among those who ended education aged 20 or above vs. 24% of those who left by the age of 15), comparable education standards (24% vs. 17%) and energy independence (22% vs. 13%). However, they are less likely to mention a common health policy (21% vs. 31%).

Respondents who place themselves on the left of the political scale are more likely than those on the right to mention comparable living standards (38% vs. 31%) and stronger solidarity among Member States (36% vs. 24%), while those who place themselves on the right are more likely to mention a stronger industrial capacity (23% vs. 12%).

QA18 Which two of the following would you consider to be most helpful for the future of Europe?
(MAX. 2 ANSWERS)
(% - EU)

	Comparable living standards	Stronger solidarity among the EU Member States	A common health policy	Comparable education standards	Energy independence	Deeper economic integration	A stronger industrial capacity	A common army	The introduction of the Euro in all EU countries
EU27	35	30	25	22	19	17	16	10	7
Gender									
Man	35	29	23	20	22	18	18	12	8
Woman	35	30	27	23	17	17	14	9	6
Age									
15-24	34	29	25	29	19	14	14	9	9
25-39	36	26	21	24	24	18	17	9	7
40-54	34	30	25	20	20	18	18	10	7
55+	35	32	27	19	17	17	15	11	6
Education (End of)									
15-	33	24	31	17	13	19	16	10	6
16-19	35	26	27	18	19	18	18	11	8
20+	36	35	21	24	22	17	15	10	6
Still studying	32	30	24	31	22	15	13	9	8
Socio-professional category									
Self-employed	36	27	21	22	20	22	19	9	8
Managers	35	35	18	25	23	19	15	10	7
Other white collars	33	28	24	18	23	18	21	11	7
Manual workers	36	25	27	21	20	17	17	10	8
House persons	36	27	28	19	13	21	15	10	7
Unemployed	35	30	26	22	18	17	13	8	5
Retired	35	33	29	19	16	15	14	11	7
Students	32	30	24	31	22	15	13	9	8
Difficulties paying bills									
Most of the time	35	23	25	21	16	17	16	11	9
From time to time	34	24	30	15	18	20	19	12	8
Almost never/ Never	35	33	23	24	21	16	15	9	7

Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

There is a preference for all policy areas to be addressed at both EU and national levels

In order to assess how issues should best be addressed, respondents were presented with 11 policy areas and asked whether they think they should be addressed only or mainly at the EU level, equally at the EU and the national level, or only or mainly at national level.

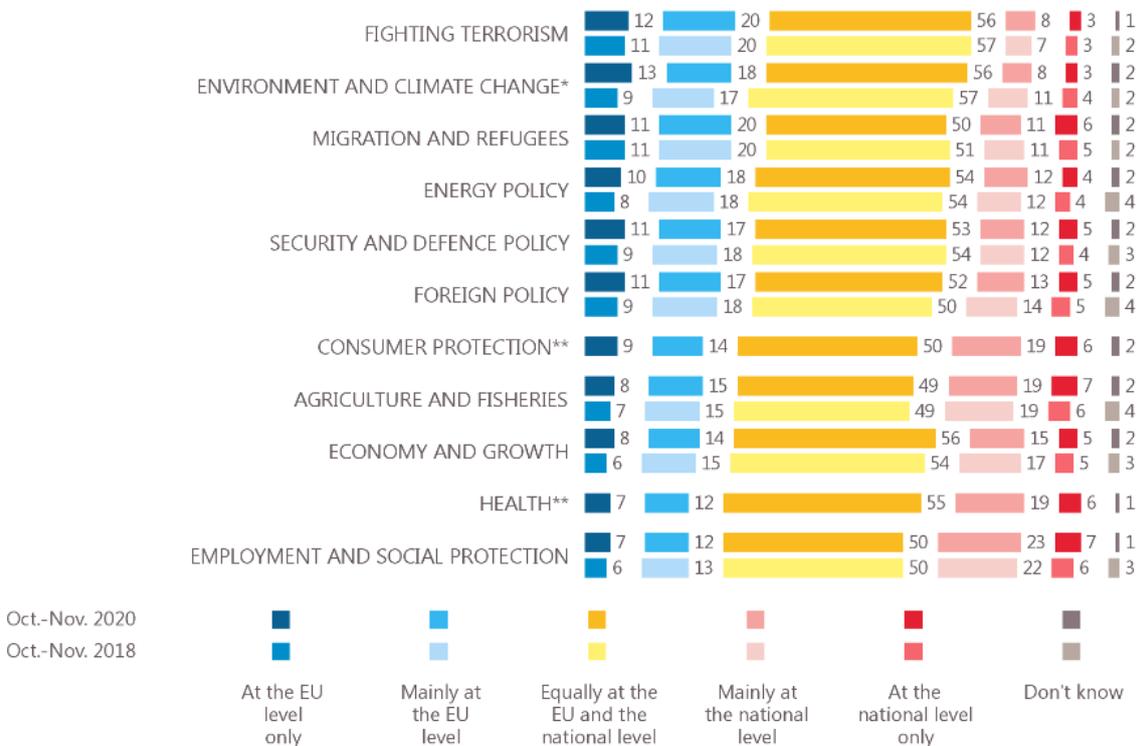
For each policy area, the most popular response, chosen by around half of respondents, is that it could be dealt with most efficiently **'equally at the EU and the national level'**. The proportion ranges from 56% for fighting terrorism and economy and growth to 49% for agriculture and fisheries.

The policy areas can be divided according to the balance of opinion in favour of addressing them at EU level or national level. In the first group, respondents are more likely to say the issue should be dealt with **only or mainly at the EU level**, rather than only or mainly at national level: **fighting terrorism** (32% vs. 11%), **environment and climate change** (31% vs. 11%), **migration and refugees** (31% vs. 17%), **energy policy** (28% vs. 16%), **security and defence policy** (28% vs. 17%), **foreign policy** (28% vs. 18%) and **economy and growth** (22% vs. 20%).

In the second group, respondents are more likely to say the issue should be dealt with **only or mainly at national level**, rather than only or mainly at EU level: **employment and social protection** (30% vs. 19%), **health** (25% vs. 19%), **agriculture and fisheries** (26% vs. 23%) and **consumer protection** (25% vs. 23%).

The results are very consistent with the previous Future of Europe survey conducted in 2018. The only change of more than two percentage points is in relation to environment and climate change, where there has been an increase in support for action only or mainly at the EU level (+5 percentage points). It is important to note, however, that the wording of this item has changed (just *'environment'* in 2018), so changes should be interpreted with caution²³.

QA19 In your opinion, at what level can we deal with each of the following areas most efficiently? (% - EU)



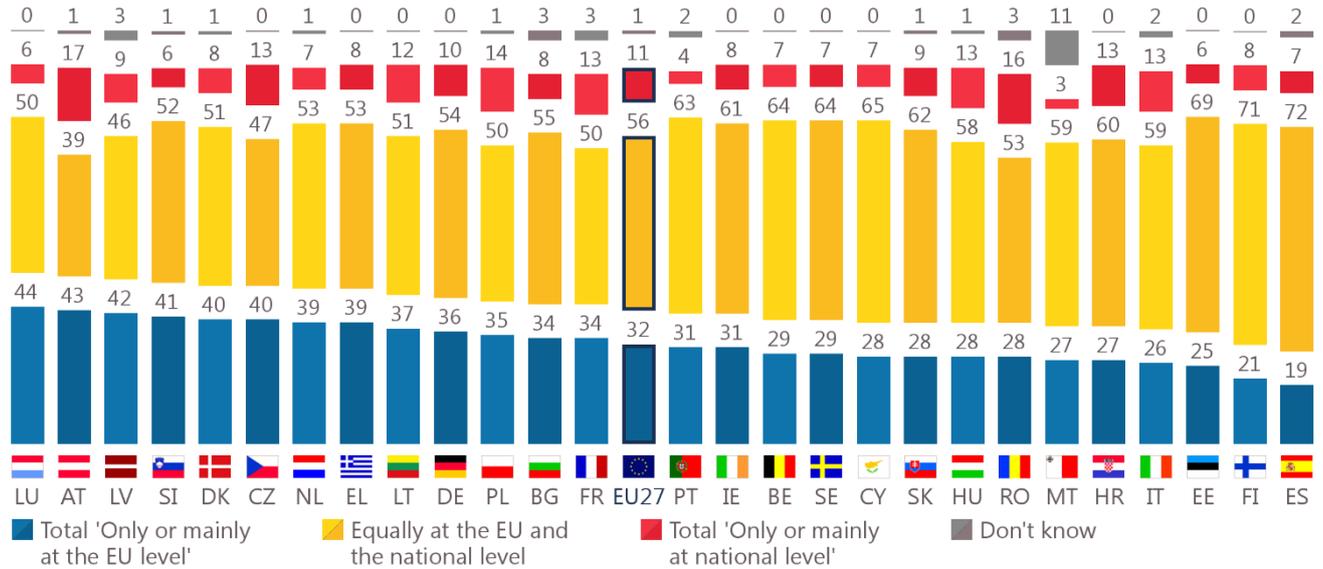
²³ Also note that *'health'* and *'consumer protection'* were included as separate items in the 2020 survey, but were combined (as *'health and consumer protection'*) in 2018.

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In all Member States, respondents are more likely to think that **fighting terrorism** should be dealt with only/mainly at the EU level than only/mainly at national level. Respondents are most likely to favour action only/mainly at EU level in Luxembourg (44%), Austria (43%), Latvia (42%) and Slovenia (41%).

In every country except Austria, the majority view is that terrorism should be addressed equally at EU and national level, and this view is most strongly held in Spain (72%), Finland (71%) and Estonia (69%). In Austria, the majority view is that action should be taken only or mainly at the EU level (43%).

QA19.2 In your opinion, at what level can we deal with each of the following areas most efficiently?
Fighting terrorism (%)



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The **socio-demographic** analysis shows a preference for combating terrorism equally at EU and national level. Among all groups, more than half of respondents hold this view, with respondents also more likely to favour action only/mainly at EU level than at national level.

Men are slightly more likely than women to think that terrorism should be addressed only/mainly at EU level (33% vs. 30%), while this view is less popular among respondents aged 55 or over (29% vs. 32%-34% in younger age groups).

Respondents who remained in education until the age of 20 or above are more likely to favour action only/mainly at the EU level (33%) than those who ended education by the age of 15 (27%). Among the socio-professional groups, managers are most likely to favour action only/mainly at the EU level (38%), while the proportion is lowest among house persons (25%).

QA19.2 In your opinion, at what level can we deal with each of the following areas most efficiently?

Fighting terrorism (% - EU)

	At the EU level only	Mainly at the EU level	Equally at the EU and the national level	Mainly at the national level	At the national level only	Don't know
EU27	12	20	56	8	3	1
 Gender						
Man	13	20	54	9	3	1
Woman	11	19	58	7	3	2
 Age						
15-24	11	23	54	8	2	2
25-39	12	22	54	8	3	1
40-54	12	20	56	8	3	1
55+	12	17	58	7	4	2
 Education (End of)						
15-	11	16	58	7	5	3
16-19	12	20	55	9	3	1
20+	13	20	57	6	3	1
Still studying	11	21	57	8	2	1
 Socio-professional category						
Self-employed	13	20	53	10	3	1
Managers	15	23	53	7	2	0
Other white collars	10	23	56	7	3	1
Manual workers	13	18	56	8	4	1
House persons	8	17	59	9	4	3
Unemployed	13	16	58	7	3	3
Retired	12	18	57	7	4	2
Students	11	21	57	8	2	1
 Difficulties paying bills						
Most of the time	13	18	55	8	3	3
From time to time	9	20	57	9	4	1
Almost never/ Never	13	20	56	7	3	1

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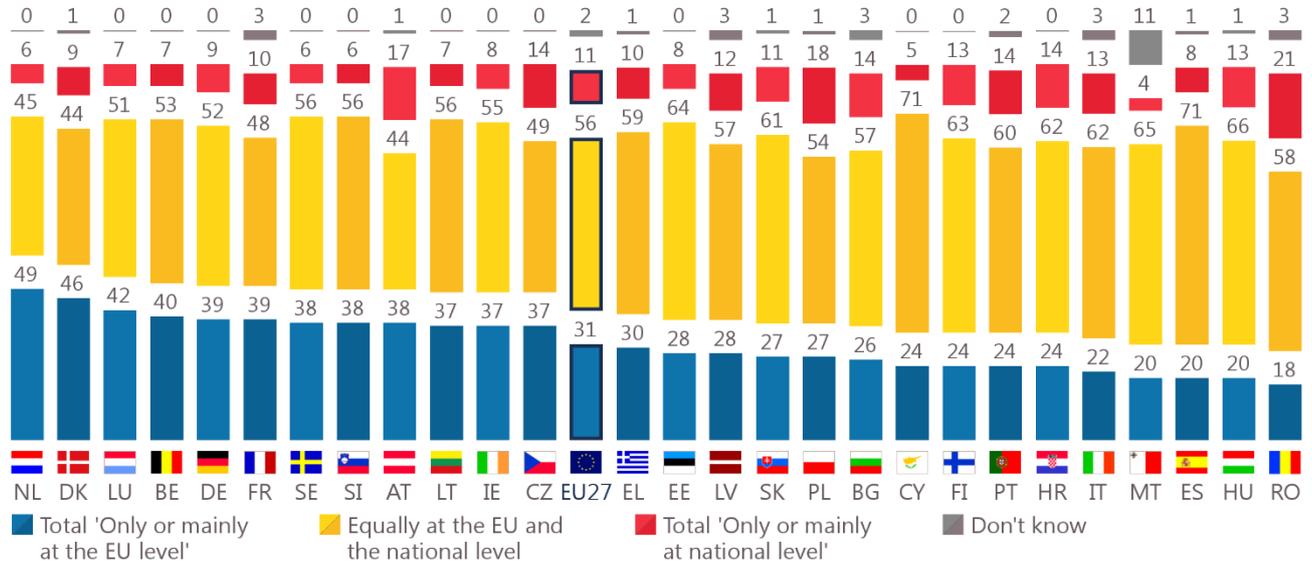
In 26 Member States, respondents are more likely to say that the issue of **environment and climate change** should be dealt with mainly/only at the EU level than mainly/only at national level. This is particularly the case in the Netherlands (49% vs. 6%), Denmark (46% vs. 9%), Luxembourg (42% vs. 7%), Belgium (40% vs. 9%), Germany (39% vs. 9%) and France (39% vs. 10%).

In all but two countries, the most popular response is that this issue should be addressed equally at both the EU and national level, and this view is particularly prevalent in Spain and Cyprus (both 71%), Hungary (66%) and Malta (65%). However, in the Netherlands and Denmark, the majority view is that the issue of environment and climate change should be dealt with mainly or only at the EU level.

The one exception is Romania, where respondents are more likely to say environment and climate change should be dealt with nationally than at the EU level (21% vs. 18%).

QA19.5 In your opinion, at what level can we deal with each of the following areas most efficiently?

Environment and climate change (%)



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The **socio-demographic** analysis shows a consistent preference for combating environment and climate change equally at the EU and national level. Respondents are also more likely to favour action only/mainly at the EU level than at the national level.

Men are slightly more likely than women to think that environment and climate change should be addressed only/mainly at the EU level (35% vs. 27%), while this view is less popular among respondents aged 55 or over (28% vs. 32%-35% in younger age groups).

Respondents who remained in education until the age of 20 or above are more likely to favour action only/mainly at the EU level (36%) than those who ended education by the age of 15 (23%). Among different socio-professional groups, managers are most likely to favour action only/mainly at the EU level (41%), while the proportion is lowest among housepersons (22%).

QA19.5 In your opinion, at what level can we deal with each of the following areas most efficiently?

Environment and climate change (% - EU)

	At the EU level only	Mainly at the EU level	Equally at the EU and the national level	Mainly at the national level	At the national level only	Don't know
EU27	13	18	56	8	3	2
 Gender						
Man	15	20	52	8	4	1
Woman	11	16	60	8	3	2
 Age						
15-24	14	20	53	8	3	2
25-39	15	20	53	8	3	1
40-54	13	19	56	8	3	1
55+	12	16	59	8	3	2
 Education (End of)						
15-	10	13	60	9	4	4
16-19	11	17	57	10	4	1
20+	16	20	54	6	3	1
Still studying	15	20	54	7	3	1
 Socio-professional category						
Self-employed	13	19	54	10	3	1
Managers	18	23	49	7	3	0
Other white collars	12	20	56	7	4	1
Manual workers	14	16	57	9	3	1
House persons	8	14	59	12	4	3
Unemployed	11	16	59	7	4	3
Retired	12	16	59	7	4	2
Students	15	20	54	7	3	1
 Difficulties paying bills						
Most of the time	14	15	54	10	4	3
From time to time	9	18	58	10	4	1
Almost never/ Never	15	18	56	7	3	1

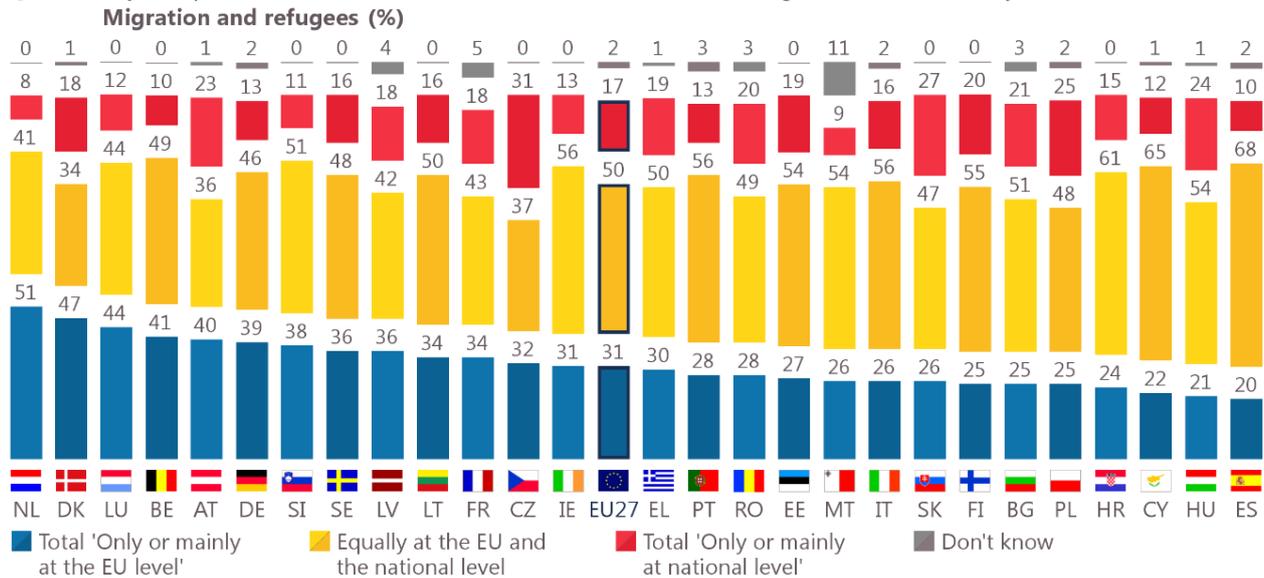
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In 24 EU Member States, respondents are more likely to say that the issue of **migration and refugees** should be dealt with mainly/only at the EU level than mainly/only at national level. This is particularly the case in the Netherlands (51% vs. 8%), Denmark (47% vs. 18%), Luxembourg (44% vs. 10%), Belgium (41% vs. 23%), Germany (39% vs. 13%), Slovakia (38% vs. 11%), Sweden (36% vs. 16%), Latvia (36% vs. 18%), Lithuania (34% vs. 16%), France (34% vs. 18%), Czechia (32% vs. 31%), Ireland (31% vs. 13%), EU27 (31% vs. 17%), Estonia (27% vs. 19%), Malta (26% vs. 9%), Italy (26% vs. 16%), Slovakia (26% vs. 27%), Finland (25% vs. 20%), Bulgaria (25% vs. 21%), Poland (25% vs. 25%), Hungary (24% vs. 15%), Cyprus (22% vs. 12%), Hungary (21% vs. 24%), and Spain (20% vs. 68%).

In two countries, respondents are more likely to say migration and refugees should be dealt with nationally than at the EU level: Hungary (24% vs. 21%) and Slovakia (27% vs. 26%). There is an even split of views in Poland (25% for both).

In all but three countries, the most popular response is that this issue should be addressed equally at both the EU and national level, and this view is particularly prevalent in Spain (68%), Cyprus (65%) and Croatia (61%). However, in the Netherlands, Denmark and Austria, the majority view is that the issue of migration and refugees should be dealt with mainly or only at the EU level. In Luxembourg, equal proportions favour action at the EU level and jointly between the EU and national level.

QA19.1 In your opinion, at what level can we deal with each of the following areas most efficiently?



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The **socio-demographic** analysis shows a consistent pattern across all groups, with a majority favouring action equally at the EU and national level, and a higher proportion favouring action only/mainly at the EU level rather than at national level.

Looking at the proportion that think the issue of migration and refugees should be dealt with only or mainly at the EU level, this is higher among men than women (34% vs. 29%), and is lower among respondents aged 55 or over (29% vs. 32%-33% in younger age groups). Respondents who remained in education until the age of 20 or above are more likely to favour action only/mainly at the EU level (36%) than those who ended education by the age of 15 (25%).

Among different socio-professional groups, managers are most likely to favour action only/mainly at the EU level (41%), while the proportion is lowest among housepersons (26%) and unemployed respondents (25%). Respondents who place themselves in the upper middle class are most likely to think the issue of migration and refugees should be dealt with only or mainly at the EU level (43% compared with 24% who place themselves in the working class).

QA19.1 In your opinion, at what level can we deal with each of the following areas most efficiently?

Migration and refugees (% - EU)

	At the EU level only	Mainly at the EU level	Equally at the EU and the national level	Mainly at the national level	At the national level only	Don't know
EU27	11	20	50	11	6	2
 Gender						
Man	13	21	47	11	6	2
Woman	10	19	53	10	5	3
 Age						
15-24	11	22	50	10	5	2
25-39	12	21	49	11	5	2
40-54	11	21	50	11	5	2
55+	11	18	51	11	6	3
 Education (End of)						
15-	9	16	53	11	7	4
16-19	10	19	49	13	7	2
20+	14	22	49	9	5	1
Still studying	10	22	53	9	4	2
 Socio-professional category						
Self-employed	12	20	49	13	5	1
Managers	16	25	44	9	5	1
Other white collars	11	23	50	10	5	1
Manual workers	10	19	50	13	6	2
House persons	10	16	52	10	9	3
Unemployed	10	15	54	10	8	3
Retired	11	17	51	11	7	3
Students	10	22	53	9	4	2
 Difficulties paying bills						
Most of the time	14	18	46	13	6	3
From time to time	8	18	52	13	7	2
Almost never/ Never	12	21	50	10	5	2

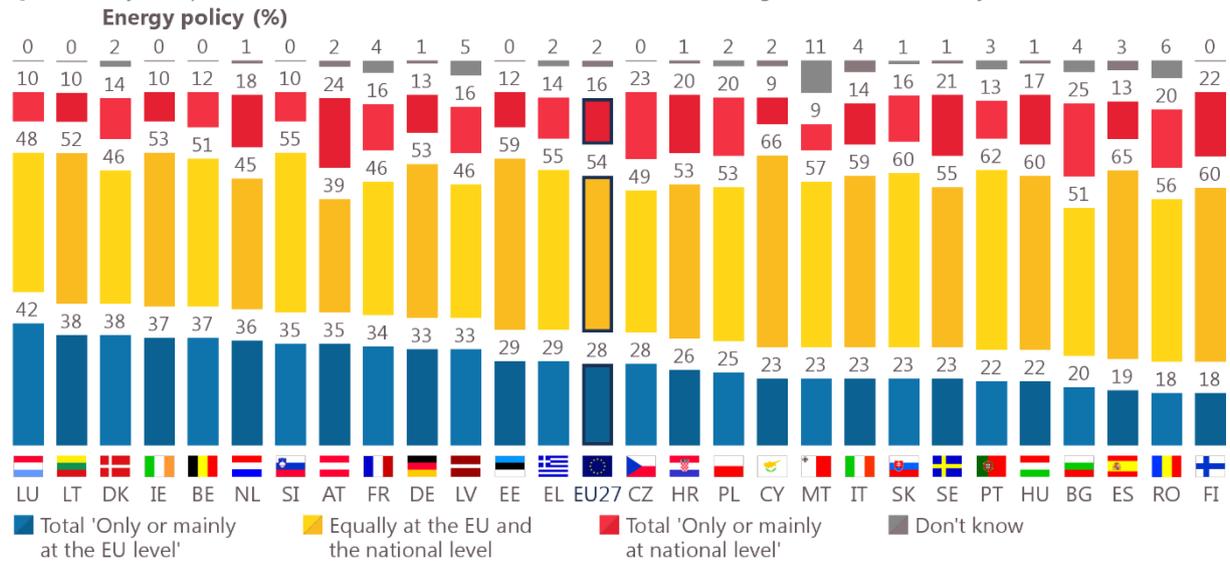
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In every country, the majority view is that **energy policy** should be dealt with equally at the EU and national level, ranging from 66% in Cyprus to 39% in Austria.

In 24 Member States, respondents are more likely to think that energy policy should be dealt with only/mainly at the EU level than only/mainly at national level. Respondents are most likely to favour action only/mainly at the EU level in Luxembourg (42%), Lithuania (38%), Ireland (37%), Belgium (37%), Netherlands (36%), Slovakia (35%), Slovenia (35%), France (34%), Germany (33%), Latvia (33%), Estonia (29%), Greece (29%), EU27 (28%), Czechia (28%), Hungary (26%), Poland (25%), Malta (23%), Cyprus (23%), Italy (23%), Slovakia (23%), Sweden (23%), Portugal (22%), Hungary (22%), Bulgaria (20%), Spain (19%), Romania (18%), Finland (18%).

In the other three countries, respondents express a preference for action only/mainly at national level rather than only/mainly at the EU level: Bulgaria (25% vs. 20%), Finland (22% vs. 18%) and Romania (20% vs. 18%).

QA19.4 In your opinion, at what level can we deal with each of the following areas most efficiently?



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The **socio-demographic** analysis shows a preference for dealing with energy policy equally at the EU and national level. Among all groups, at least half of respondents hold this view, with respondents also more likely to favour action only/mainly at the EU level than at the national level.

Men are slightly more likely than women to think that energy policy should be addressed only/mainly at the EU level (30% vs. 26%), and younger respondents are more likely than older respondents to hold this view (31% of respondents aged 15-24 vs. 24% of those aged 55 or over).

Respondents who remained in education until the age of 20 or above are more likely to favour action only/mainly at the EU level (31%) than those who ended education by the age of 15 (22%). Among socio-professional groups, managers are most likely to favour action only/mainly at the EU level (34%), while the proportion is lowest among housepersons (21%).

QA19.4 In your opinion, at what level can we deal with each of the following areas most efficiently?

Energy policy (% - EU)

	At the EU level only	Mainly at the EU level	Equally at the EU and the national level	Mainly at the national level	At the national level only	Don't know
EU27	10	18	54	12	4	2
 Gender						
Man	11	19	52	12	5	1
Woman	9	17	56	11	4	3
 Age						
15-24	10	21	51	12	3	3
25-39	12	21	51	11	4	1
40-54	9	18	56	12	4	1
55+	9	15	56	12	4	4
 Education (End of)						
15-	8	14	55	11	6	6
16-19	9	16	56	13	4	2
20+	11	20	54	10	4	1
Still studying	11	24	50	11	2	2
 Socio-professional category						
Self-employed	11	18	51	13	5	2
Managers	11	23	53	9	4	0
Other white collars	9	19	56	11	4	1
Manual workers	11	16	54	13	4	2
House persons	7	14	57	13	4	5
Unemployed	9	14	57	11	6	3
Retired	10	15	55	11	5	4
Students	11	24	50	11	2	2
 Difficulties paying bills						
Most of the time	11	15	51	14	5	4
From time to time	7	18	54	14	5	2
Almost never/ Never	11	18	54	11	4	2
 Consider belonging to						
The working class	10	13	55	13	5	4
The lower middle class	9	18	54	13	4	2
The middle class	10	19	54	11	4	2
The upper middle class	11	23	51	11	3	1
The upper class	7	18	49	14	11	1

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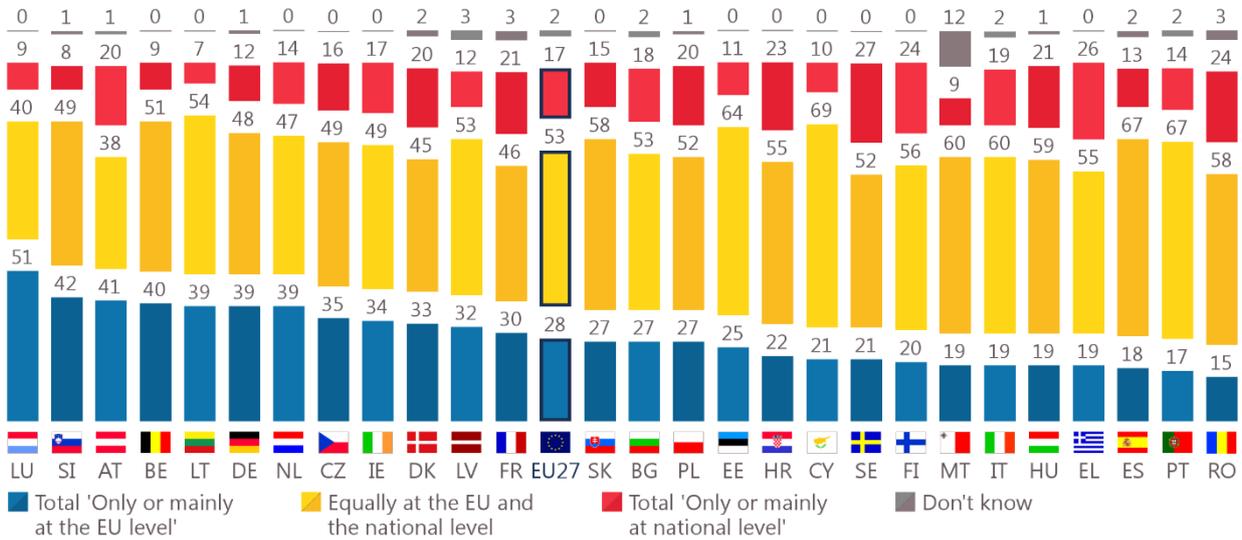
In 20 Member States, respondents are more likely to think that **security and defence policy** should be dealt with only/mainly at the EU level than only/mainly at national level. Respondents are most likely to favour action only/mainly at the EU level in Luxembourg (51%), Slovenia (42%), Austria (41%) and Belgium (40%).

In six countries, respondents express a preference for action only/mainly at national level rather than only/mainly at the EU level: Sweden (27% vs. 21%), Greece (26% vs. 19%), Romania (24% vs. 15%), Finland (24% vs. 20%), Croatia (23% vs. 22%) and Hungary (21% vs. 19%).

In Italy, there is an even split between support for action only/mainly at the EU level and only/mainly at national level (19% for both).

In nearly every country, the majority view is that security and defence policy should be dealt with equally at the EU and national level, with the highest proportions in Cyprus (69%), Spain and Portugal (both 67%). The two exceptions are Luxembourg and Austria, where the prevailing view is that foreign policy should be dealt with only/mainly at the EU level (51% and 41% respectively).

QA19.10 In your opinion, at what level can we deal with each of the following areas most efficiently?
Security and defence policy (%)



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In the **socio-demographic** analysis, the majority view in all groups is that security and defence policy should be dealt with equally at the EU and national level.

Men are slightly more likely than women to think that security and defence policy should be addressed only/mainly at the EU level (31% vs. 24%). Respondents who remained in education until the age of 20 or above are more likely to favour action only/mainly at the EU level (31%) than those who ended education by the age of 15 (21%).

Among socio-professional groups, managers are most likely to favour action only/mainly at the EU level (37%), while housepersons and unemployed respondents (both 21%) are the least likely to hold this view.

QA19.10 In your opinion, at what level can we deal with each of the following areas most efficiently?

Security and defence policy (% - EU)

	At the EU level only	Mainly at the EU level	Equally at the EU and the national level	Mainly at the national level	At the national level only	Don't know
EU27	11	17	53	12	5	2
 Gender						
Man	13	18	50	13	5	1
Woman	9	15	57	12	5	2
 Age						
15-24	13	16	53	13	4	1
25-39	11	19	53	12	4	1
40-54	11	17	53	14	4	1
55+	12	15	54	12	5	2
 Education (End of)						
15-	9	12	57	12	6	4
16-19	10	17	54	13	5	1
20+	13	18	51	12	5	1
Still studying	12	16	54	14	3	1
 Socio-professional category						
Self-employed	14	18	48	14	5	1
Managers	15	22	47	12	4	0
Other white collars	9	19	54	13	4	1
Manual workers	11	15	55	13	5	1
House persons	8	13	58	13	5	3
Unemployed	10	11	57	13	7	2
Retired	11	16	54	11	5	3
Students	12	16	54	14	3	1
 Difficulties paying bills						
Most of the time	11	13	53	15	6	2
From time to time	8	15	55	15	6	1
Almost never/ Never	13	17	53	11	4	2

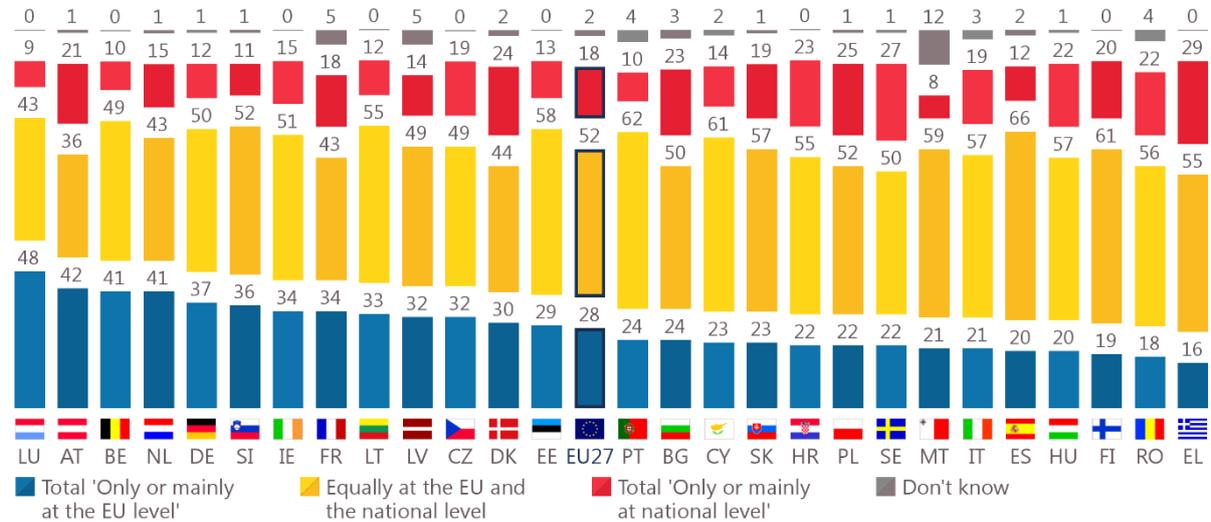
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In 20 Member States, respondents are more likely to think that **foreign policy** should be dealt with only/mainly at the EU level than only/mainly at national level. Respondents are most likely to favour action only/mainly at the EU level in Luxembourg (48%), Austria (42%), Belgium and the Netherlands (both 41%).

In the other seven countries, respondents express a preference for action only/mainly at national level rather than only/mainly at the EU level: Greece (29% vs. 16%), Sweden (27% vs. 22%), Poland (25% vs. 22%), Croatia (23% vs. 22%), Romania (22% vs. 18%), Hungary (22% vs. 20%) and Finland (20% vs. 19%).

In most countries, the majority view is that foreign policy should be dealt with equally at the EU and national level, with the highest proportions seen in Spain (66%), Portugal (62%), Cyprus and Finland (both 61%). The two exceptions are Luxembourg and Austria, where the prevailing view is that foreign policy should be dealt with only/mainly at the EU level (48% and 42% respectively).

QA19.9 In your opinion, at what level can we deal with each of the following areas most efficiently?
Foreign policy (%)



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In all **socio-demographic** groups, the majority view is that foreign policy should be dealt with equally at the EU and national level.

Men are slightly more likely than women to think that foreign policy should be addressed only/mainly at the EU level (31% vs. 25%). Respondents who remained in education until the age of 20 or

above are more likely to favour action only/mainly at the EU level (32%) than those who ended education by the age of 15 (24%). Among different socio-professional groups, managers are most likely to favour action only/mainly at the EU level (35%), while housepersons (23%) are the least likely to hold this view.

QA19.9 In your opinion, at what level can we deal with each of the following areas most efficiently?

Foreign policy (% - EU)

	At the EU level only	Mainly at the EU level	Equally at the EU and the national level	Mainly at the national level	At the national level only	Don't know
EU27	11	17	52	13	5	2
 Gender						
Man	13	18	49	13	5	2
Woman	9	16	56	12	4	3
 Age						
15-24	12	19	50	12	4	3
25-39	11	19	52	12	5	1
40-54	11	16	54	13	5	1
55+	11	16	52	13	5	3
 Education (End of)						
15-	10	14	54	12	5	5
16-19	10	16	54	13	5	2
20+	13	19	51	12	4	1
Still studying	10	19	52	13	4	2
 Socio-professional category						
Self-employed	12	18	50	14	5	1
Managers	14	21	49	12	4	0
Other white collars	10	18	54	12	5	1
Manual workers	10	16	54	13	5	2
House persons	10	13	55	14	5	3
Unemployed	12	15	54	10	6	3
Retired	11	15	53	13	5	3
Students	10	19	52	13	4	2
 Difficulties paying bills						
Most of the time	13	14	50	15	4	4
From time to time	7	17	53	15	6	2
Almost never/ Never	12	18	52	11	5	2

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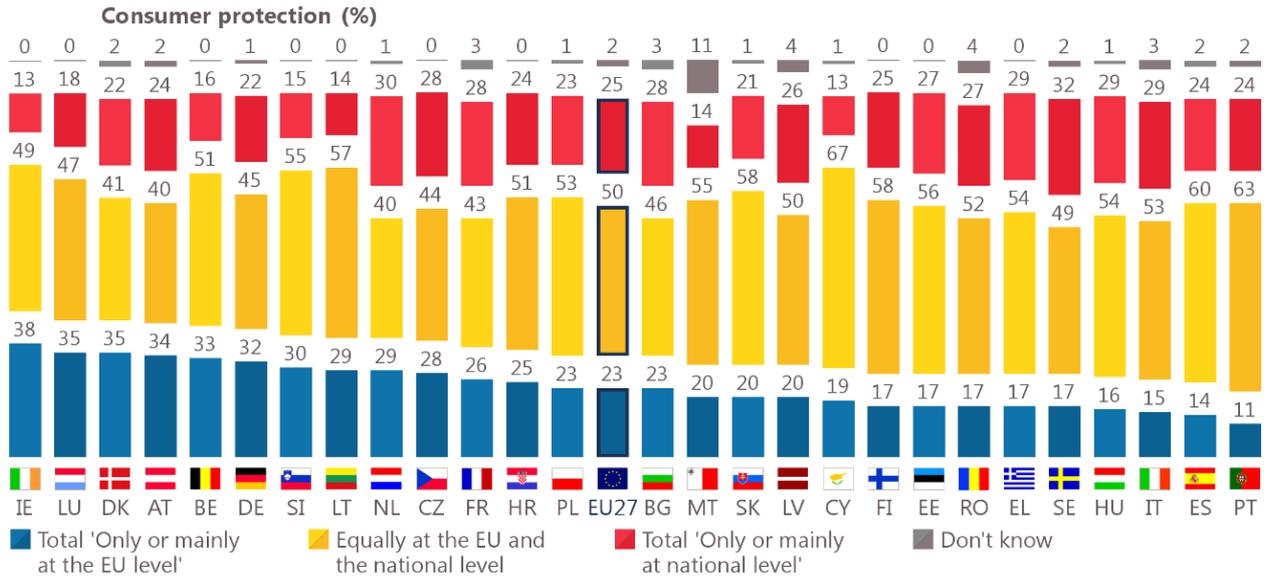
In every country, a majority of respondents think that **consumer protection** should be dealt with equally at the EU and national level, ranging from 67% in Cyprus to 40% in Austria and the Netherlands.

In 11 Member States, respondents are more likely to say that consumer protection should be dealt with mainly/only at the EU level than mainly/only at national level. Respondents are most likely to favour action mainly/only at the EU level in Ireland (38%), Luxembourg and Denmark (both 35%),

Respondents are more likely to say that consumer protection should be dealt with nationally than at the EU level in 14 countries. The strongest support for action only/mainly at national level is in Sweden (32%), the Netherlands (30%), Greece, Hungary and Italy (all 29%).

In two countries, there is an even split between support for action only/mainly at the EU level and only/mainly at national level: Czechia (28% for both) and Poland (23% for both).

QA19.6 In your opinion, at what level can we deal with each of the following areas most efficiently?



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In the **socio-demographic** analysis, the majority view in all groups is that consumer protection should be dealt with equally at the EU and national level.

Men are slightly more likely than women to think that consumer protection should be addressed only/mainly at the EU level (26% vs. 20%), and younger respondents are more likely to hold this view than older respondents (26% of respondents aged 15-24 vs. 21% of those aged 55 or over).

Respondents who remained in education until the age of 20 or above are more likely to favour action only/mainly at the EU level (26%) than those who ended education by the age of 15 (18%). Among different socio-professional groups, managers are most likely to favour action only/mainly at the EU level (30%), while the proportion is lowest among housepersons (17%).

QA19.6 In your opinion, at what level can we deal with each of the following areas most efficiently?

Consumer protection (% - EU)

	At the EU level only	Mainly at the EU level	Equally at the EU and the national level	Mainly at the national level	At the national level only	Don't know
EU27	9	14	50	19	6	2
 Gender						
Man	11	15	48	19	6	1
Woman	7	13	52	20	6	2
 Age						
15-24	9	17	50	18	4	2
25-39	11	15	47	20	6	1
40-54	8	15	50	20	6	1
55+	8	13	51	19	6	3
 Education (End of)						
15-	7	11	51	19	8	4
16-19	9	14	49	20	6	2
20+	10	16	49	18	6	1
Still studying	9	17	50	18	4	2
 Socio-professional category						
Self-employed	10	14	47	22	6	1
Managers	12	18	48	17	5	0
Other white collars	7	16	50	20	6	1
Manual workers	9	14	48	20	7	2
House persons	6	11	54	20	7	2
Unemployed	10	14	50	17	7	2
Retired	8	12	52	18	7	3
Students	9	17	50	18	4	2
 Difficulties paying bills						
Most of the time	10	11	48	21	7	3
From time to time	7	14	51	20	7	1
Almost never/ Never	10	15	50	18	5	2

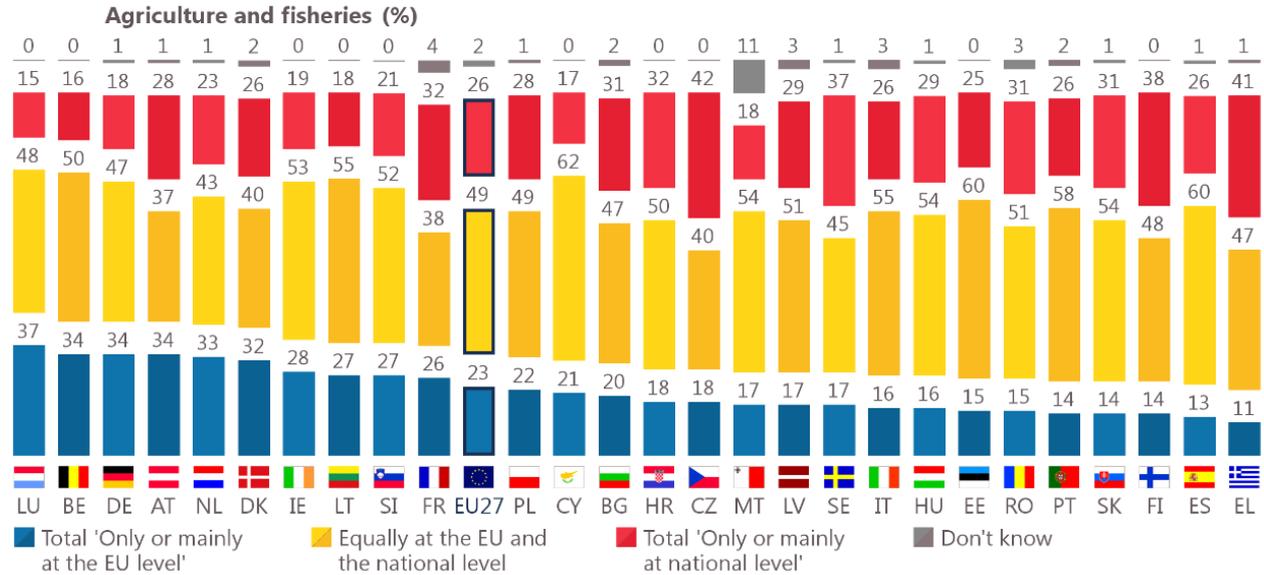
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In ten Member States, respondents are more likely to think that **agriculture and fisheries** should be dealt with only/mainly at the EU level than only/mainly at national level, and this view is strongest in Luxembourg (37% vs. 15%), Belgium (34% vs. 16%), Germany (34% vs. 18%), Austria (34% vs. 23%), Netherlands (33% vs. 26%), Denmark (32% vs. 26%), Ireland (28% vs. 19%), Lithuania (27% vs. 18%) and Slovenia (27% vs. 21%).

In 17 countries, there is a preference for dealing with agriculture and fisheries only/mainly at national level rather than at the EU level, most notably in Czechia (42% vs. 18%), Greece (32% vs. 20%), Hungary (31% vs. 18%), Croatia (32% vs. 18%), Cyprus (17% vs. 21%), Bulgaria (31% vs. 20%), Malta (18% vs. 17%), Latvia (29% vs. 17%), Sweden (37% vs. 17%), Italy (26% vs. 16%), Hungary (29% vs. 16%), Estonia (25% vs. 15%), Romania (31% vs. 15%), Portugal (26% vs. 14%), Slovakia (31% vs. 14%), Finland (38% vs. 14%), Spain (26% vs. 13%) and Greece (41% vs. 11%).

In most countries, the majority view is that agriculture and fisheries should be dealt with equally at the EU and national level, with the highest proportions seen in Cyprus (62%), Estonia and Spain (both 60%). The one exception is Czechia, where the majority view is that agriculture and fisheries should be handled only/mainly at national level (42%).

QA19.8 In your opinion, at what level can we deal with each of the following areas most efficiently?



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In the **socio-demographic** analysis, the majority view in all groups is that agriculture and fisheries should be dealt with equally at the EU and national level.

Men are slightly more likely than women to think that agriculture and fisheries should be addressed only/mainly at the EU level (26% vs. 20%). Respondents who remained in education until the

age of 20 or above are more likely to favour action only/mainly at the EU level (26%) than those who ended education by the age of 15 (17%). Among all socio-professional groups, managers are most likely to favour action only/mainly at the EU level (32%), while housepersons (17%) and unemployed respondents (18%) are the least likely to hold this view.

QA19.8 In your opinion, at what level can we deal with each of the following areas most efficiently?

Agriculture and fisheries (% - EU)

	At the EU level only	Mainly at the EU level	Equally at the EU and the national level	Mainly at the national level	At the national level only	Don't know
EU27	8	15	49	19	7	2
 Gender						
Man	10	16	46	19	8	1
Woman	7	13	51	20	6	3
 Age						
15-24	7	16	45	23	6	3
25-39	9	15	48	20	7	1
40-54	7	15	49	20	8	1
55+	8	14	50	18	7	3
 Education (End of)						
15-	6	11	52	19	8	4
16-19	8	14	49	20	7	2
20+	10	16	48	18	7	1
Still studying	6	17	46	23	6	2
 Socio-professional category						
Self-employed	8	15	49	19	8	1
Managers	12	20	45	17	5	1
Other white collars	7	15	51	20	6	1
Manual workers	8	14	47	21	8	2
House persons	6	11	50	23	6	4
Unemployed	8	10	52	20	8	2
Retired	8	14	51	17	7	3
Students	6	17	46	23	6	2
 Difficulties paying bills						
Most of the time	9	11	43	25	9	3
From time to time	5	14	50	21	8	2
Almost never/ Never	9	16	49	18	6	2

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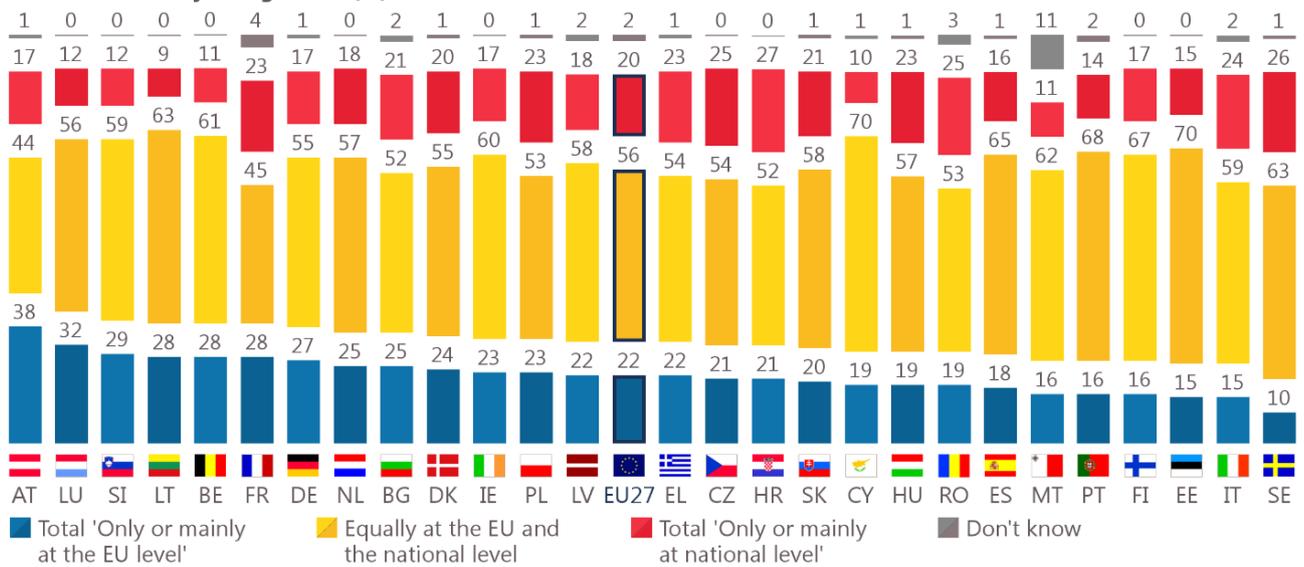
In every country, a majority of respondents think that **the economy and growth** should be dealt with equally at the EU and national level, ranging from 70% in Estonia and Cyprus to 44% in Austria.

In 16 Member States, respondents are more likely to say that the economy and growth should be dealt with mainly/only at the EU level than mainly/only at national level. Respondents are most likely to favour action mainly/only at the EU level in Austria (38%), Luxembourg (32%) and Slovenia (29%).

Respondents are more likely to say that the economy and growth should be dealt with nationally than at the EU level in nine countries. The strongest support for action only/mainly at national level is in Croatia (27%), Sweden (26%), Romania and Czechia (both 25%).

In two countries, there is an even split between support for action only/mainly at the EU level and only/mainly at national level: Poland (23% for both) and Estonia (15% for both).

QA19.7 In your opinion, at what level can we deal with each of the following areas most efficiently?
Economy and growth (%)



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Results are consistent across the various **socio-demographic** groups, with more than half of respondents in every group saying that the economy and growth should best be dealt with equally at the EU and national level.

Respondents aged 15-24 are slightly more likely to think that the economy and growth should be dealt with only/mainly at the EU

level (26% vs. 22%-23% in other groups). There is also some variation by social-professional category, with managers being most likely to say the economy and growth should be dealt with only/mainly at the EU level (27%) and housepersons being the least likely to say this (18%).

QA19.7 In your opinion, at what level can we deal with each of the following areas most efficiently?

Economy and growth (% - EU)

	At the EU level only	Mainly at the EU level	Equally at the EU and the national level	Mainly at the national level	At the national level only	Don't know
EU27	8	14	56	15	5	2
 Gender						
Man	9	15	54	15	6	1
Woman	7	14	57	15	5	2
 Age						
15-24	8	18	54	14	4	2
25-39	8	15	55	16	5	1
40-54	8	15	55	16	5	1
55+	8	14	56	15	5	2
 Education (End of)						
15-	8	13	57	13	6	3
16-19	8	14	54	17	5	2
20+	9	14	57	14	5	1
Still studying	7	17	57	14	4	1
 Socio-professional category						
Self-employed	8	14	53	18	5	2
Managers	10	17	54	15	3	1
Other white collars	6	17	55	16	5	1
Manual workers	8	14	55	16	6	1
House persons	6	12	59	17	4	2
Unemployed	10	11	56	13	7	3
Retired	9	13	57	13	5	3
Students	7	17	57	14	4	1
 Difficulties paying bills						
Most of the time	11	12	51	17	6	3
From time to time	5	15	55	18	6	1
Almost never/ Never	8	15	57	14	4	2

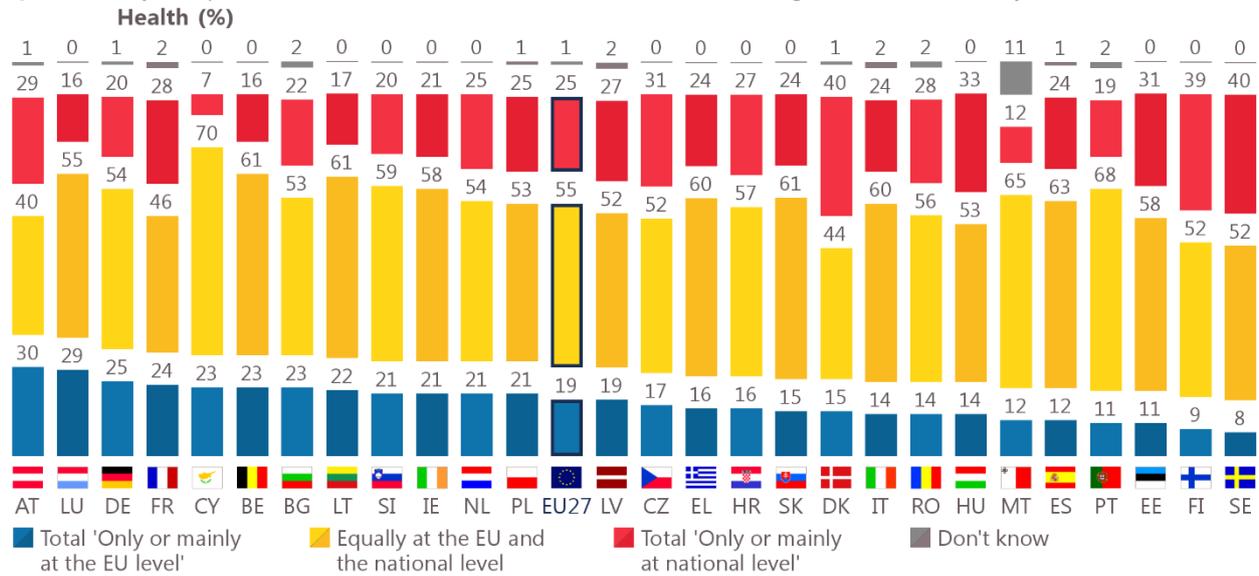
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In every country, the majority view is that **health policy** should be dealt with equally at the EU and national level, ranging from 70% in Cyprus to 40% in Austria.

In eight Member States, respondents are more likely to think that health policy should be dealt with only/mainly at the EU level than only/mainly at national level: Austria (30% vs. 29%), Luxembourg (29% vs. 16%), Germany (25% vs. 20%), Cyprus (23% vs. 7%), Belgium (23% vs. 16%), Bulgaria (23% vs. 22%), Lithuania (22% vs. 17%) and Slovenia (21% vs. 20%).

However, in 17 countries, there is a preference for dealing with health policy only/mainly at national level rather than at the EU level, most notably in Sweden (40% vs. 8%), Denmark (40% vs. 15%) and Finland (39% vs. 9%). In two countries, equal proportions favour action only/mainly at the EU level and only/mainly at national level: Ireland (both 21%) and Malta (both 12%).

QA19.11 In your opinion, at what level can we deal with each of the following areas most efficiently?



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Results are consistent across the various **socio-demographic** groups, with more than half of respondents in every group saying that health policy should best be dealt with equally at the EU and national level.

Respondents aged 15-24 are slightly more likely to think that health policy should be dealt with only/mainly at the EU level (22% vs. 18%-19% in other groups). There is also some variation by social-professional category, with managers being most likely to say health policy should be dealt with only/mainly at the EU level (22%) and housepersons being the least likely to say this (14%).

QA19.11 In your opinion, at what level can we deal with each of the following areas most efficiently?

Health (% - EU)

	At the EU level only	Mainly at the EU level	Equally at the EU and the national level	Mainly at the national level	At the national level only	Don't know
EU27	7	12	55	19	6	1
 Gender						
Man	8	12	54	19	6	1
Woman	6	11	57	18	6	2
 Age						
15-24	8	14	56	15	6	1
25-39	7	12	55	19	6	1
40-54	7	12	54	20	6	1
55+	8	10	56	18	6	2
 Education (End of)						
15-	7	10	56	17	7	3
16-19	7	12	55	19	6	1
20+	7	12	54	20	6	1
Still studying	8	12	59	15	5	1
 Socio-professional category						
Self-employed	8	11	54	20	6	1
Managers	7	15	53	20	5	0
Other white collars	6	13	55	19	6	1
Manual workers	8	11	54	20	6	1
House persons	5	9	56	22	6	2
Unemployed	7	10	54	17	10	2
Retired	8	10	56	17	7	2
Students	8	12	59	15	5	1
 Difficulties paying bills						
Most of the time	9	9	51	21	9	1
From time to time	6	12	55	19	7	1
Almost never/ Never	8	12	56	18	5	1

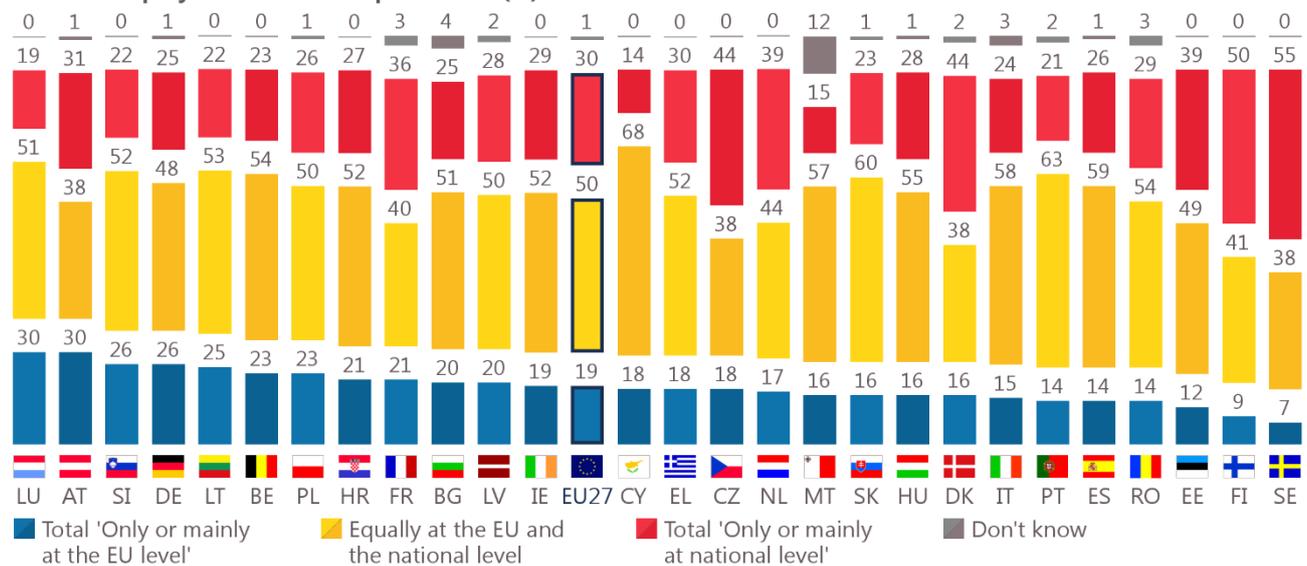
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In six Member States, respondents are more likely to think that **employment and social protection** should be dealt with only/mainly at the EU level than only/mainly at national level: Luxembourg (30% vs. 19%), Slovenia (26% vs. 22%), Germany (26% vs. 25%), Lithuania (25% vs. 22%), Cyprus (18% vs. 14%) and Malta (16% vs. 15%).

However, in 20 countries, there is a preference for dealing with employment and social protection only/mainly at national level rather than at the EU level, most notably in Sweden (55% vs. 7%) and Finland (50% vs. 9%). In Belgium, equal proportions favour action only/mainly at the EU level and only/mainly at national level (both 23%).

In most countries, the majority view is that employment and social protection should be dealt with equally at the EU and national level, with the highest proportions seen in Cyprus (68%), Portugal (63%) and Slovakia (60%). However, there are four countries where the majority view is that employment and social protection should be handled only/mainly at national level: Sweden (55%), Finland (50%), Denmark and Czechia (both 44%).

QA19.3 In your opinion, at what level can we deal with each of the following areas most efficiently?
Employment and social protection (%)



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The **socio-demographic** analysis shows very consistent results across the various groups, with no substantial differences. Among all groups, the majority view is that employment and social

protection should be dealt with equally at the EU and national level, and there is a preference for action only/mainly at national level, rather than only/mainly at the EU level.

QA19.3 In your opinion, at what level can we deal with each of the following areas most efficiently?

Employment and social protection (% - EU)

	At the EU level only	Mainly at the EU level	Equally at the EU and the national level	Mainly at the national level	At the national level only	Don't know
EU27	7	12	50	23	7	1
 Gender						
Man	8	12	48	24	7	1
Woman	7	12	51	22	6	2
 Age						
15-24	8	14	47	23	6	2
25-39	8	13	48	24	6	1
40-54	6	12	51	23	7	1
55+	7	12	51	21	7	2
 Education (End of)						
15-	7	11	52	19	8	3
16-19	8	13	50	22	6	1
20+	7	11	50	24	7	1
Still studying	6	14	49	24	6	1
 Socio-professional category						
Self-employed	8	13	48	23	7	1
Managers	7	12	50	25	6	0
Other white collars	5	13	52	23	6	1
Manual workers	9	13	48	23	6	1
House persons	6	12	51	22	7	2
Unemployed	7	10	51	20	10	2
Retired	7	12	52	21	6	2
Students	6	14	49	24	6	1
 Difficulties paying bills						
Most of the time	9	12	47	23	7	2
From time to time	6	14	51	21	7	1
Almost never/ Never	8	12	50	23	6	1
 Consider belonging to						
The working class	8	10	50	23	7	2
The lower middle class	8	12	50	22	7	1
The middle class	7	14	50	22	6	1
The upper middle class	6	12	48	29	5	0
The upper class	6	11	49	24	10	0

Taxation is viewed as mainly a national issue, but otherwise respondents think that the listed policy areas should be addressed at both EU and national level

Respondents were presented with five more policy areas and again were asked whether they think they should be addressed only or mainly at the EU level, equally at the EU and the national level, or only or mainly at national level.

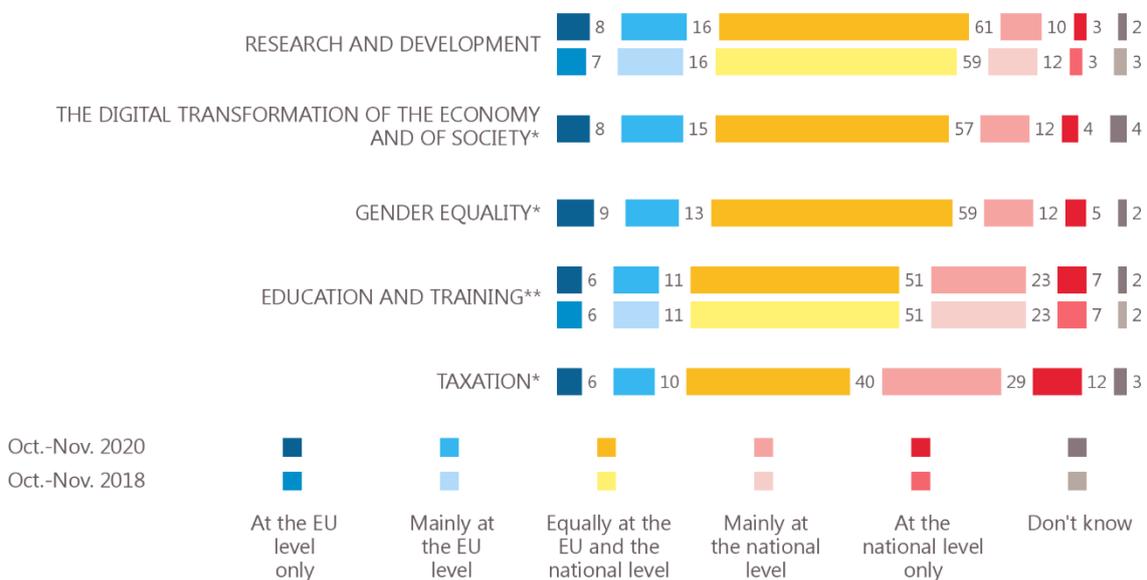
For four of the policy areas, the majority view is that it could be dealt with most efficiently **'equally at the EU and the national level'**. The proportion is highest for **research and development** (61%). However, for taxation the majority view is that this should be dealt with mainly or only at national level (41%).

For three of the five issues, respondents are more likely to say the issue should be dealt with **only or mainly at the EU level**, rather than only or mainly at national level: **research and development** (24% vs. 13%), the **digital transformation** of the economy and of society (23% vs. 16%) and **gender equality** (22% vs. 17%).

For the other two issues, respondents are more likely to say it should be dealt with **only or mainly at national level**, rather than only or mainly at the EU level: **education and training** (30% vs. 17%) and **taxation** (41% vs. 16%).

Two of these items were included in the previous survey conducted in 2018. The results for education and training are identical (despite a change in wording from 'education' to 'education and training'), whereas there has been a slight change in the results for research and development: respondents are now slightly more likely to think this should be handled equally at the EU and national level (61%, +2 percentage points), and are less likely to think it should be dealt with only/mainly at national level (13%, -2).

QA20 And in your opinion, at what level can we deal with each of the following areas most efficiently?
(% - EU)

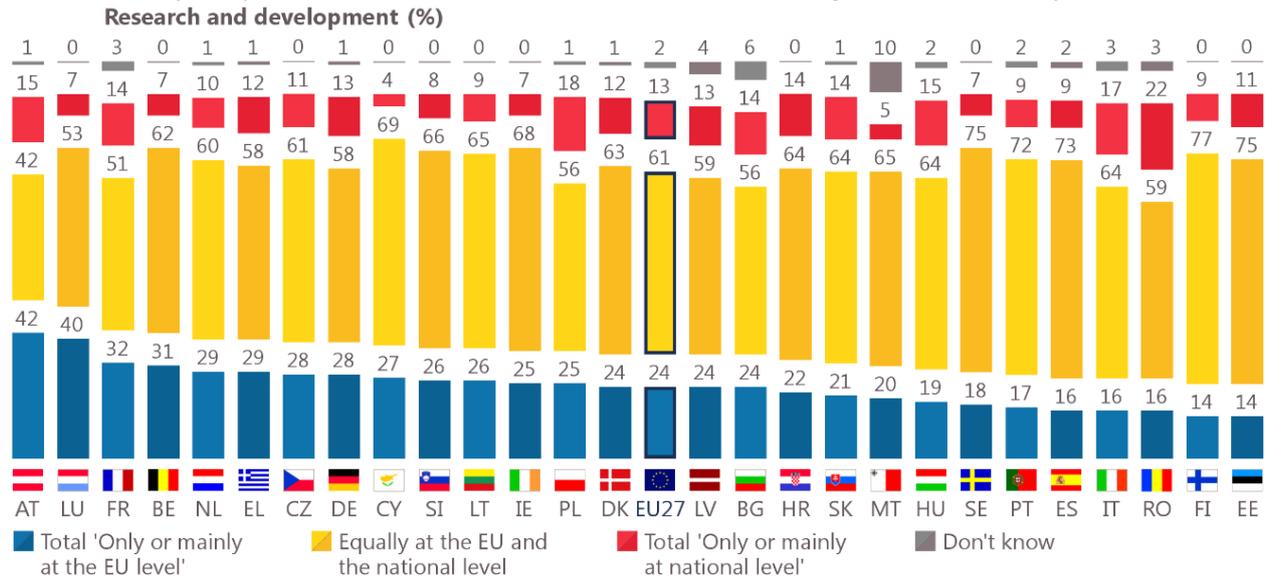


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In all countries, the majority view is that **research and development** should be dealt with equally at the EU and national level, with the highest proportions seen in Finland (77%), Sweden and Estonia (both 75%). In Austria, there is an even split between those who think research and development should be dealt with only/mainly at the EU level and those who think it should be dealt with equally at the EU and the national level (both 42%).

In 25 Member States, respondents are more likely to think that energy policy should be dealt with only/mainly at the EU level than only/mainly at national level. Respondents are most likely to favour action only/mainly at the EU level in Austria (42%) and Luxembourg (40%). The exceptions are Romania and Italy, where respondents express a preference for action only/mainly at national level rather than only/mainly at the EU level (22% vs. 16% and 17% vs. 16% respectively).

QA20.4 And in your opinion, at what level can we deal with each of the following areas most efficiently?



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The **socio-demographic** analysis shows a consistent preference for dealing with research and development equally at the EU and national level. Among all groups, more than half of respondents hold this view.

Men are slightly more likely than women to think that research and development should be addressed only/mainly at the EU level (27% vs. 22%), while this view is more prevalent among respondents aged 25-39 (29% vs. 21% of those aged 55 or over).

Respondents who remained in education until the age of 20 or above are more likely to favour action only/mainly at the EU level (26%) than those who ended education by the age of 15 (20%). Among all socio-professional groups, managers are most likely to favour action only/mainly at the EU level (32%).

QA20.4 And in your opinion, at what level can we deal with each of the following areas most efficiently?

Research and development (% - EU)

	At the EU level only	Mainly at the EU level	Equally at the EU and the national level	Mainly at the national level	At the national level only	Don't know
EU27	8	16	61	10	3	2
 Gender						
Man	10	17	58	10	4	1
Woman	7	15	63	10	3	2
 Age						
15-24	8	18	60	10	2	2
25-39	9	20	58	9	3	1
40-54	9	15	60	11	4	1
55+	8	13	63	9	4	3
 Education (End of)						
15-	8	12	61	9	4	6
16-19	8	16	60	11	4	1
20+	9	17	61	9	3	1
Still studying	7	18	63	8	2	2
 Socio-professional category						
Self-employed	9	15	59	12	4	1
Managers	11	21	57	8	3	0
Other white collars	7	17	60	12	3	1
Manual workers	8	17	59	11	3	2
House persons	7	14	61	11	4	3
Unemployed	9	13	61	9	5	3
Retired	8	13	64	8	4	3
Students	7	18	63	8	2	2
 Difficulties paying bills						
Most of the time	10	16	57	10	4	3
From time to time	6	16	60	12	4	2
Almost never/ Never	9	16	62	9	3	1

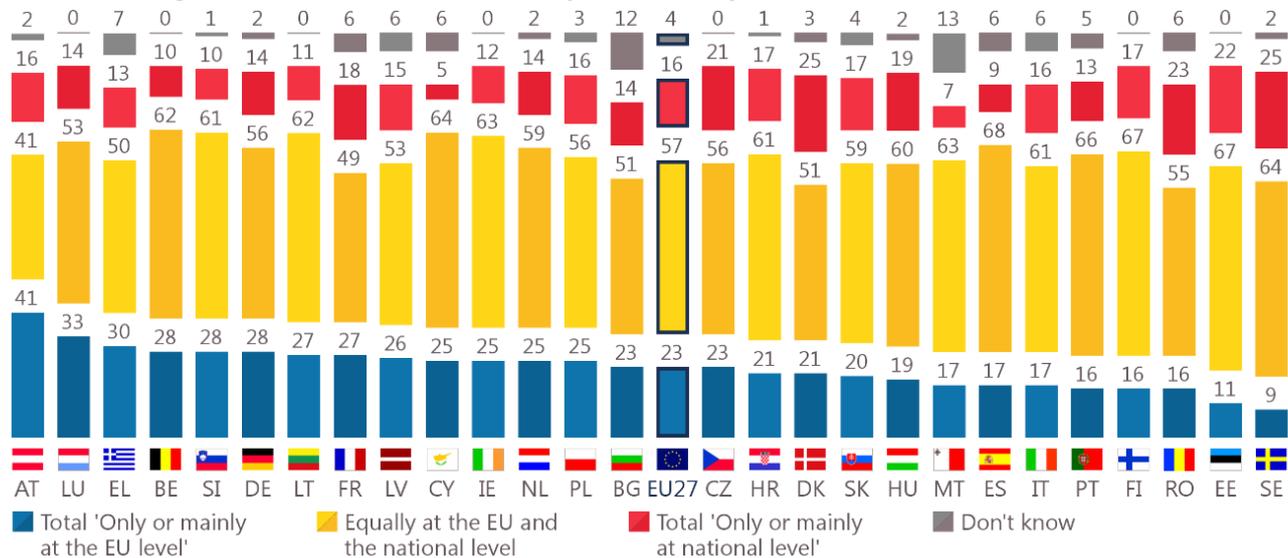
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In 21 Member States, respondents are more likely to think that the **digital transformation of the economy and of society** should be dealt with only/mainly at the EU level than only/mainly at national level. Respondents are most likely to favour action only/mainly at the EU level in Austria (41%), Luxembourg (33%) and Greece (30%).

In five countries, respondents express a preference for action only/mainly at national level rather than only/mainly at the EU level: Sweden (25% vs. 9%), Denmark (25% vs. 21%), Romania (23% vs. 16%), Estonia (22% vs. 11%) and Finland (17% vs. 16%). In Hungary, equal proportions favour action only/mainly at the EU level and only/mainly at national level (both 19%).

In all countries, the majority view is that the digital transformation of the economy and of society should be dealt with equally at the EU and national level, with the highest proportions seen in Spain (68%), Estonia and Finland (both 67%). In Austria, there is an even split between those who think the digital transformation of the economy and of society should be dealt with only/mainly at the EU level and those who think it should be dealt with equally at the EU and the national level (both 41%).

QA20.1 And in your opinion, at what level can we deal with each of the following areas most efficiently?
The digital transformation of the economy and of society (%)



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The **socio-demographic** analysis shows a preference for dealing with the digital transformation of the economy and of society equally at the EU and national level. Among all groups, more than half of respondents hold this view.

Men are slightly more likely than women to think that the digital transformation of the economy and of society should be addressed only/mainly at the EU level (26% vs. 21%), while this view is slightly more prevalent among younger respondents (26% of those aged 15-24 and 25-39 vs. 20% of those aged 55 or over).

Respondents who remained in education until the age of 20 or above are more likely to favour action only/mainly at the EU level (25%) than those who ended education by the age of 15 (20%). Of the socio-professional groups, managers are most likely to favour action only/mainly at the EU level (29%), while the proportion is lowest among housepersons (18%).

QA20.1 And in your opinion, at what level can we deal with each of the following areas most efficiently?

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

	At the EU level only	Mainly at the EU level	Equally at the EU and the national level	Mainly at the national level	At the national level only	Don't know
EU27	8	15	57	12	4	4
 Gender						
Man	9	17	55	12	4	3
Woman	7	14	59	11	4	5
 Age						
15-24	8	18	56	12	3	3
25-39	9	17	57	12	3	2
40-54	8	15	57	13	4	3
55+	7	13	58	11	5	6
 Education (End of)						
15-	8	12	56	9	4	11
16-19	8	14	57	12	5	4
20+	9	16	58	12	3	2
Still studying	8	21	57	10	2	2
 Socio-professional category						
Self-employed	9	16	55	13	4	3
Managers	10	19	56	11	3	1
Other white collars	6	16	59	14	3	2
Manual workers	9	15	57	12	4	3
House persons	7	11	57	13	5	7
Unemployed	10	10	61	10	4	5
Retired	7	13	58	10	5	7
Students	8	21	57	10	2	2
 Difficulties paying bills						
Most of the time	9	13	53	12	5	8
From time to time	7	15	57	13	4	4
Almost never/ Never	8	16	58	11	4	3

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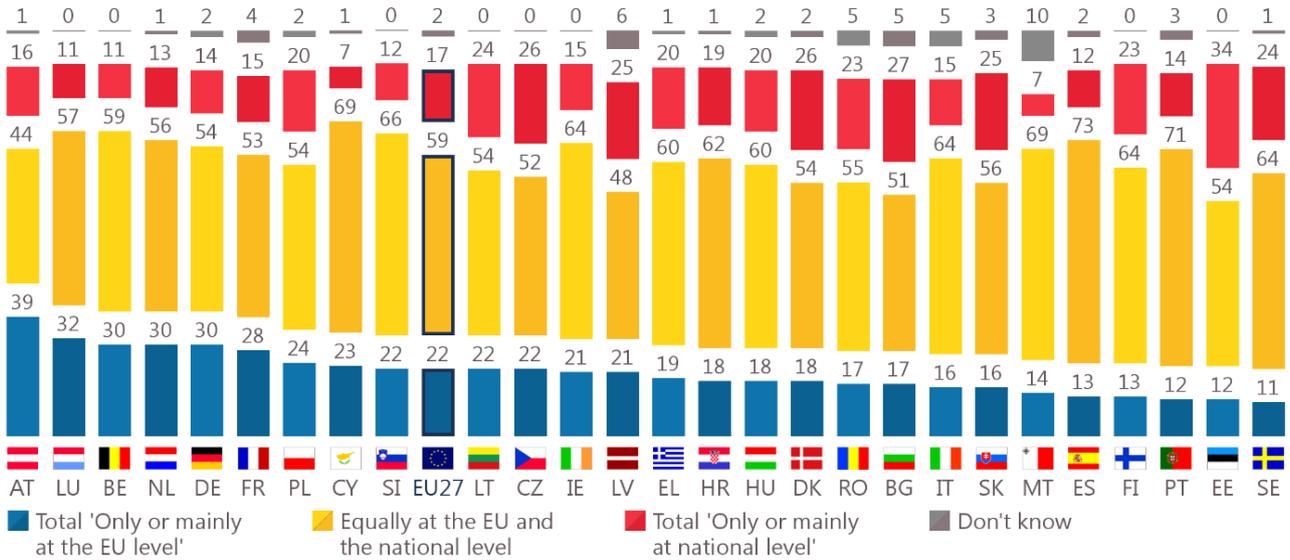
In every country, the majority view is that **gender equality** should be dealt with equally at the EU and national level, ranging from 73% in Spain to 44% in Austria.

In 13 Member States, respondents are more likely to think that gender equality should be dealt with only/mainly at the EU level than only/mainly at national level. Respondents are most likely to favour action only/mainly at the EU level in Austria (39%), Luxembourg (32%), Belgium, the Netherlands and Germany (all 30%).

In 14 countries, respondents express a preference for action only/mainly at national level rather than only/mainly at the EU level. The proportion that favour action at national level is highest in Estonia (34%), Bulgaria (27%), Czechia and Denmark (both 26%).

QA20.2 And in your opinion, at what level can we deal with each of the following areas most efficiently?

Gender equality (%)



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The **socio-demographic** analysis shows a consistent preference for dealing with gender equality at both the EU and national level.

Respondents aged 55 or over are slightly less likely to think that gender equality should be addressed only/mainly at the EU level (20% vs. 23%-24% in younger age groups).

Respondents who remained in education until the age of 20 or above are more likely to favour action only/mainly at the EU level (24%) than those who ended education by the age of 15 (18%). Among all socio-professional groups, managers are most likely to favour action only/mainly at the EU level (29%), while the proportion is lowest among housepersons and unemployed respondents (both 18%).

QA20.2 And in your opinion, at what level can we deal with each of the following areas most efficiently?

Gender equality (% - EU)

	At the EU level only	Mainly at the EU level	Equally at the EU and the national level	Mainly at the national level	At the national level only	Don't know
EU27	9	13	59	12	5	2
 Gender						
Man	10	14	56	13	5	2
Woman	8	12	62	11	4	3
 Age						
15-24	10	14	58	11	4	3
25-39	10	14	58	12	4	2
40-54	10	13	58	12	5	2
55+	8	12	59	12	5	4
 Education (End of)						
15-	8	10	60	11	5	6
16-19	9	13	58	13	5	2
20+	11	13	58	11	5	2
Still studying	9	14	61	10	4	2
 Socio-professional category						
Self-employed	10	15	57	12	5	1
Managers	13	16	56	10	4	1
Other white collars	8	13	60	13	5	1
Manual workers	10	12	58	13	5	2
House persons	8	10	59	15	5	3
Unemployed	9	9	62	10	7	3
Retired	8	12	59	11	5	5
Students	9	14	61	10	4	2
 Difficulties paying bills						
Most of the time	10	12	54	14	6	4
From time to time	7	14	58	14	5	2
Almost never/ Never	10	13	59	11	5	2

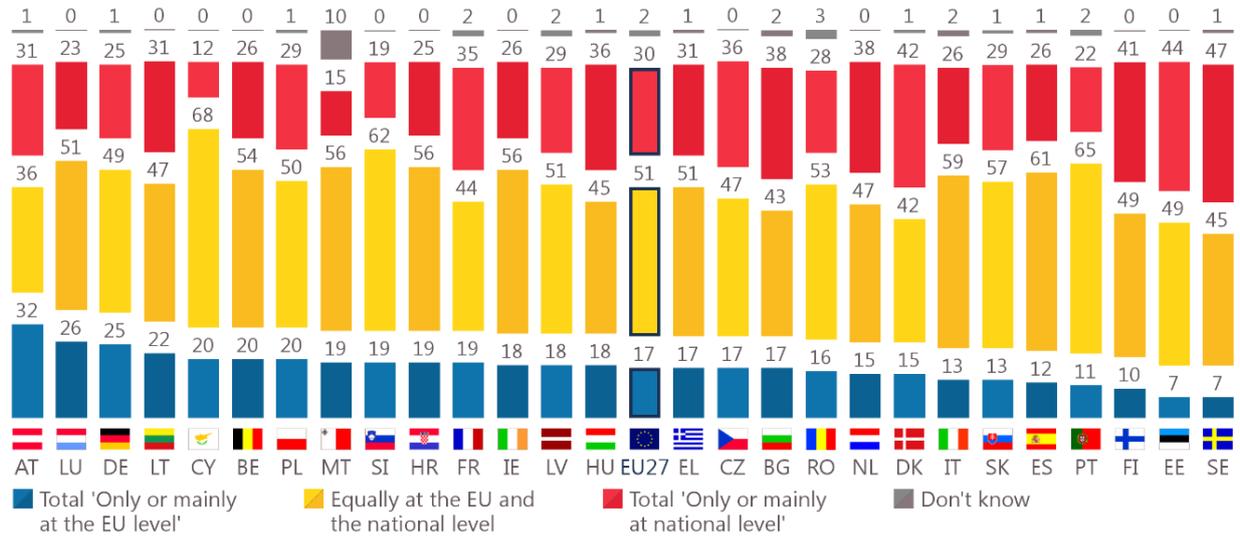
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In four Member States, respondents are more likely to think that **education and training** should be dealt with only/mainly at the EU level than only/mainly at national level: Austria (32% vs. 31%), Luxembourg (26% vs. 23%), Germany (25% vs. 23%), Cyprus (20% vs. 12%) and Malta (19% vs. 15%).

However, in 21 countries, there is a preference for dealing with education and training only/mainly at national level rather than at the EU level, most notably in Sweden (47% vs. 7%), Estonia (44% vs. 7%), Denmark (42% vs. 15%) and Finland (41% vs. 10%). In two countries, equal proportions favour action only/mainly at the EU level and only/mainly at national level: Germany (both 25%) and Slovenia (both 19%).

In most countries, the majority view is that education and training should be dealt with equally at the EU and national level, with the highest proportions seen in Cyprus (68%), Portugal (65%), Slovenia (62%) and Spain (61%). The one exception is Sweden, where a majority think that education and training should be dealt with only/mainly at national level (47%). In Denmark, there is an even split between those who think education and training should be dealt with only/mainly at national level and those who think it should be dealt with equally at the EU and national level (both 42%).

QA20.5 And in your opinion, at what level can we deal with each of the following areas most efficiently?
Education and training (%)



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The **socio-demographic** analysis shows a consistent picture. Respondents in the various groups are more likely to think that education and training should be dealt with only/mainly at national level than at the EU level, and there is a consistent proportion (around half) who think this should be handled equally at the EU and national level.

Results are similar across age groups, although respondents aged 15-24 are slightly less likely to favour action only/mainly at the EU level (22%) and are more likely to want to see action only/mainly at national level (24%).

Self-employed respondents are more likely than those in other socio-professional groups to favour action only/mainly at national level (33%).

QA20.5 And in your opinion, at what level can we deal with each of the following areas most efficiently?

Education and training (% - EU)

	At the EU level only	Mainly at the EU level	Equally at the EU and the national level	Mainly at the national level	At the national level only	Don't know
EU27	6	11	51	23	7	2
 Gender						
Man	7	12	49	24	7	1
Woman	6	10	54	22	6	2
 Age						
15-24	9	13	52	19	5	2
25-39	7	13	51	22	6	1
40-54	6	11	51	24	7	1
55+	6	10	52	23	7	2
 Education (End of)						
15-	6	10	51	21	8	4
16-19	6	12	50	24	7	1
20+	7	10	52	24	6	1
Still studying	7	13	55	19	5	1
 Socio-professional category						
Self-employed	7	13	46	26	7	1
Managers	7	11	53	23	6	0
Other white collars	5	12	52	24	6	1
Manual workers	7	12	50	23	7	1
House persons	6	11	51	23	6	3
Unemployed	8	7	54	20	8	3
Retired	6	10	52	23	7	2
Students	7	13	55	19	5	1
 Difficulties paying bills						
Most of the time	8	10	47	25	8	2
From time to time	6	12	52	23	6	1
Almost never/ Never	7	11	52	22	7	1

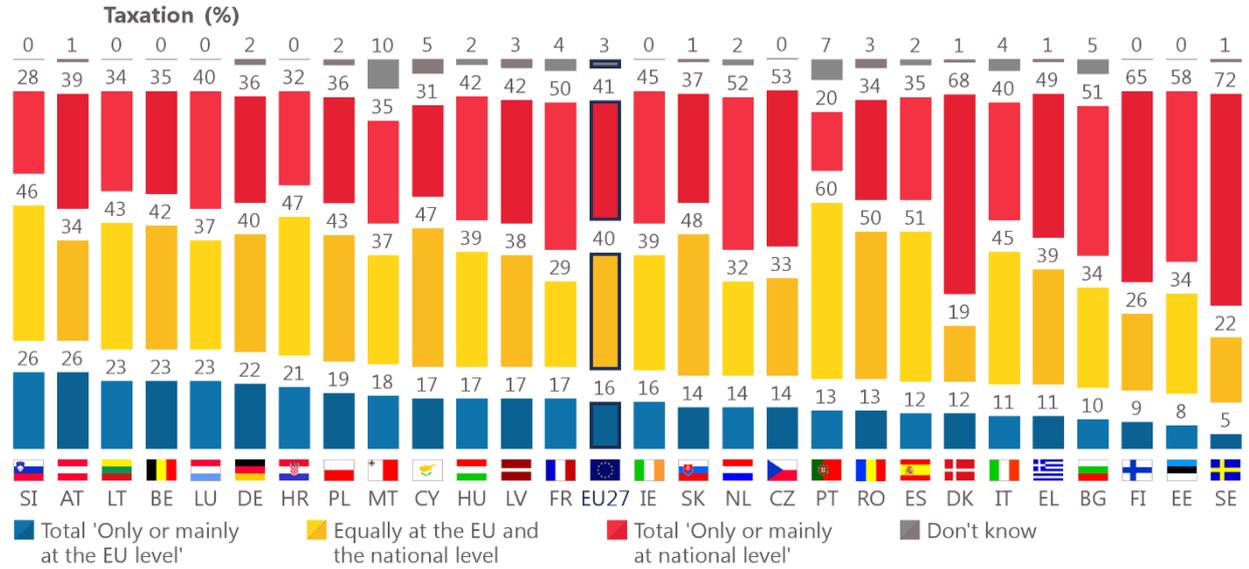
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In every Member State, respondents are more likely to think that **taxation** should be dealt with only/mainly at national level than at the EU level, most notably in Sweden (72% vs. 5%), Denmark (68% v. 12%) and Finland (65% vs. 9%).

Support for handling taxation only/mainly at the EU level is highest in Slovenia and Austria (both 26%), Lithuania, Belgium and Luxembourg (all 23%).

In 14 Member States, the majority view is that taxation should be handled only/mainly at national level. In the other 13 countries, the majority view is that taxation should be dealt with equally at the EU and national level, with the highest proportions seen in Portugal (60%), Spain (51%) and Romania (50%).

QA20.3 And in your opinion, at what level can we deal with each of the following areas most efficiently?



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The **socio-demographic** analysis shows a consistent picture. Respondents in the various groups are more likely to think that taxation should be dealt with only/mainly at national level than at the EU level, and there is a consistent proportion (around four in ten) who think this should be handled equally at the EU and national level.

Results are similar across age groups, although respondents aged 15-24 are slightly less likely to favour action only/mainly at national level (36%) and are more likely to want equal responsibility at the EU and national level (43%).

Respondents who remained in education until the age of 20 or above are more likely to favour action only/mainly at national level (44%) than those who ended education by the age of 15 (36%).

QA20.3 And in your opinion, at what level can we deal with each of the following areas most efficiently?

Taxation (% - EU)

	At the EU level only	Mainly at the EU level	Equally at the EU and the national level	Mainly at the national level	At the national level only	Don't know
EU27	6	10	40	29	12	3
 Gender						
Man	7	10	39	29	13	2
Woman	5	10	41	29	11	4
 Age						
15-24	7	11	43	25	11	3
25-39	6	12	39	30	11	2
40-54	6	9	40	30	13	2
55+	6	9	40	30	12	3
 Education (End of)						
15-	6	10	43	25	11	5
16-19	6	10	41	29	12	2
20+	6	10	38	31	13	2
Still studying	5	11	43	27	11	3
 Socio-professional category						
Self-employed	7	9	38	29	16	1
Managers	7	11	37	32	12	1
Other white collars	5	11	40	31	12	1
Manual workers	6	11	42	28	11	2
House persons	5	10	41	30	10	4
Unemployed	8	9	42	24	13	4
Retired	6	9	39	30	12	4
Students	5	11	43	27	11	3
 Difficulties paying bills						
Most of the time	8	9	41	27	11	4
From time to time	5	11	42	28	11	3
Almost never/ Never	6	10	40	30	12	2

Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

On balance, Europeans would prefer more decisions to be made at the EU level in the future

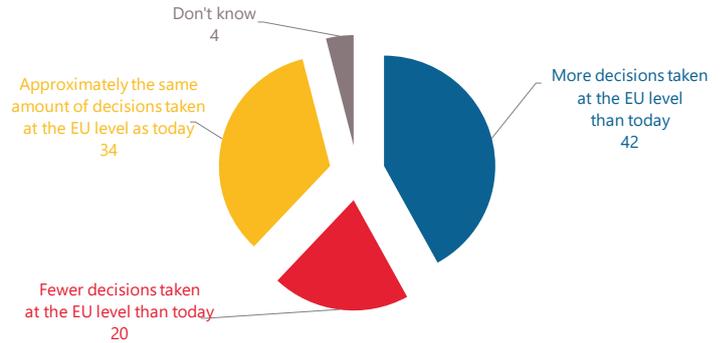
Respondents were asked to picture the EU in ten years' time, and say whether they would prefer a situation where more, fewer or the same amount of decisions were made at the EU level.

The majority view is that respondents would prefer to see **more decisions taken at the EU level** than they are now (42%), and this is twice as many as the proportion that would prefer to see fewer decisions made at the EU level (20%). Around a third of respondents (34%) would like to see approximately the same amount of decisions made at the EU level as they are today.

There is considerable **variation among Member States** in the proportions that would like to see more decisions taken at the EU level in the future. This is the majority view in 14 countries, and is the preference of more than half of respondents in Belgium (62%), Spain (56%), Luxembourg (54%), Slovenia, Cyprus and France (all 51%).

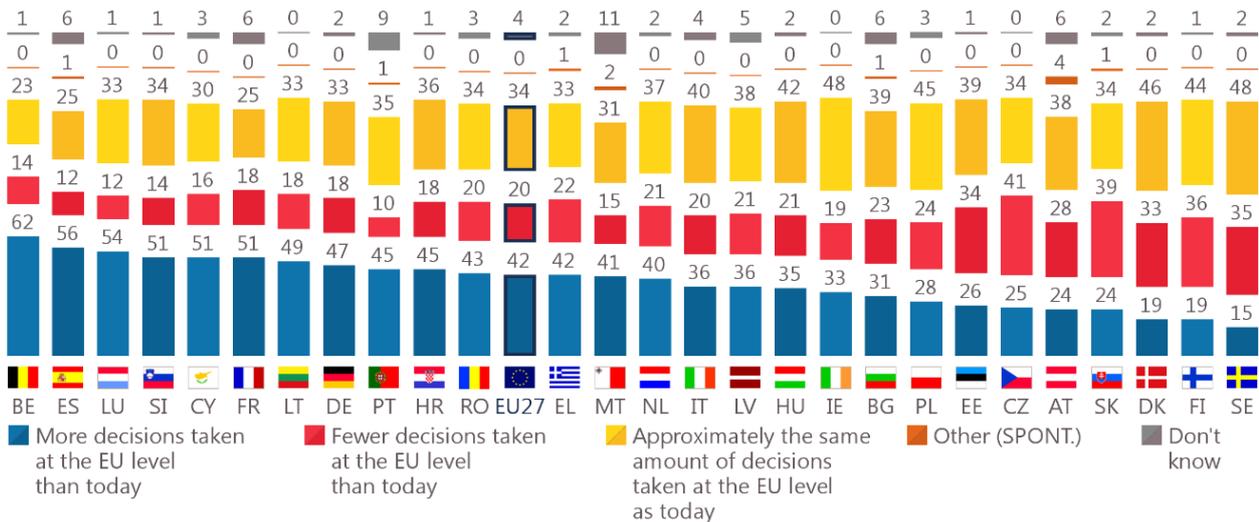
In 11 countries, the majority view is that things should stay the same as they are now. Respondents in Ireland and Sweden (both 48%), Denmark (46%), Poland (45%) and Finland (44%) are the most likely to say that they would prefer approximately the same amount of decisions to be taken at the EU level as today.

QA21 Taking a longer view, if you picture the EU you would like to see in ten years from now, would you prefer? An EU with... (% - EU)



In the remaining two Member States, there is a majority preference for fewer decisions taken at the EU level in the future: Czechia (41%) and Slovakia (39%).

QA21 Taking a longer view, if you picture the EU you would like to see in ten years from now, would you prefer? An EU with... (%)



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In the **socio-demographic** analysis, younger respondents are more likely to want more decisions to be taken at the EU level in ten years' time (47% of those aged 15-24 vs. 39% for the 40-54 age category and 40% of those aged 55 or over). Looking at socio-professional categories, support for more decisions at the EU level is highest among unemployed respondents and students (both 49%) and lowest among housepersons (36%).

Attitudes are linked with general perceptions of the EU: those with a positive image of the EU are more likely to favour greater decision-making at the EU level (51%) than those who hold a negative image of the EU (25%).

QA21 Taking a longer view, if you picture the EU you would like to see in ten years from now, would you prefer? An EU with...
(% - EU)

	More decisions taken at the EU level than today	Fewer decisions taken at the EU level than today	Approximately the same amount of decisions taken at the EU level as today	Don't know
EU27	42	20	34	4
 Gender				
Man	42	21	33	3
Woman	41	19	35	5
 Age				
15-24	47	18	31	4
25-39	45	17	35	3
40-54	39	22	36	3
55+	40	22	33	5
 Education (End of)				
15-	39	19	33	9
16-19	38	23	36	3
20+	44	19	33	3
Still studying	49	15	33	3
 Socio-professional category				
Self-employed	38	24	35	2
Managers	44	18	35	2
Other white collars	41	20	37	2
Manual workers	40	20	36	4
House persons	36	20	36	8
Unemployed	49	22	23	5
Retired	41	21	33	5
Students	49	15	33	3
 Difficulties paying bills				
Most of the time	41	23	29	6
From time to time	38	22	36	4
Almost never/ Never	43	19	34	3

VI. THE EU AND THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC



Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

This chapter of the report examines Europeans' perceptions of the coronavirus crisis, focusing on attitudes to the measures taken in response to the pandemic, the EU's priorities in dealing with it and the effectiveness of economic measures taken by the EU. It also looks at the travel plans of Europeans in the light of the pandemic.

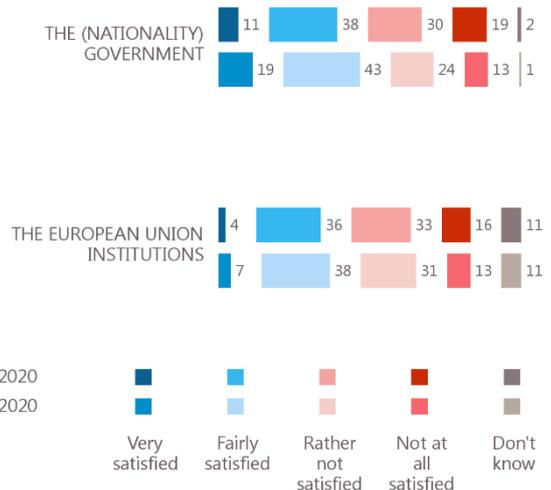
1. Appraisal of the response to the coronavirus pandemic

Europeans have become less satisfied with the measures taken by their national government and EU institutions in response to the coronavirus pandemic

Half of respondents (49%) are satisfied with the measures taken by their **national government** to fight the coronavirus pandemic, including 11% who are 'very satisfied'. However, an equal proportion (49%) say they are not satisfied, and this includes 19% who are 'not at all satisfied'. Satisfaction has fallen since the summer of 2020, with respondents less likely to be satisfied (-13 percentage points) and more likely to be 'not satisfied' (+12).

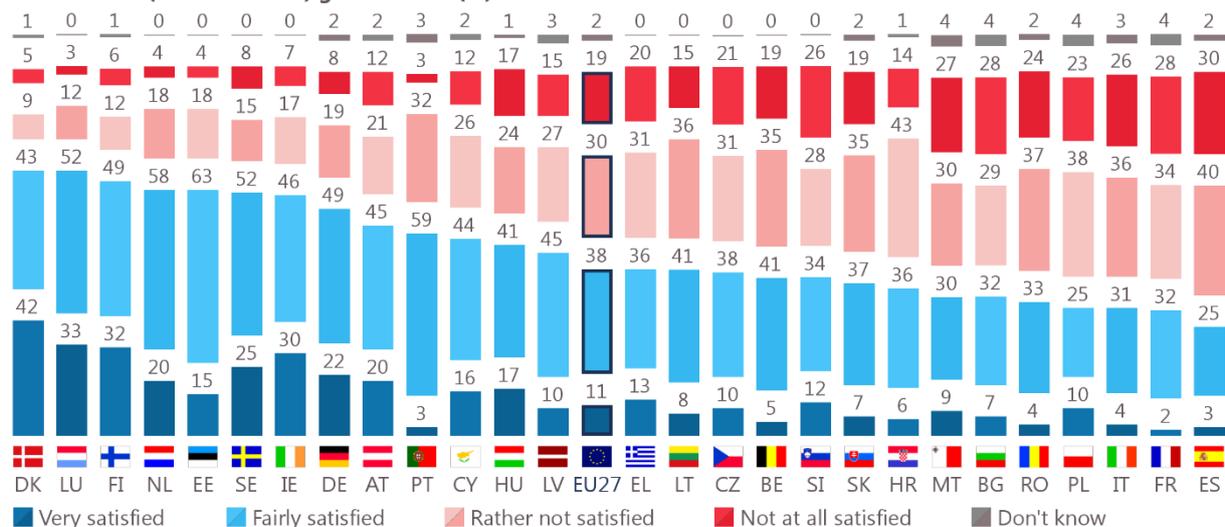
Four in ten respondents (40%) say they are satisfied with the measures taken by the **EU institutions**, while a greater proportion (49%) say they are not satisfied, including 16% who are 'not at all satisfied'. Once again, satisfaction has fallen since the summer, although the change is smaller than in relation to national governments (-5 satisfied and +5 not satisfied).

QA30 In general, how satisfied are you with the measures taken to fight the Coronavirus pandemic by...?
(% - EU)



There is wide variation among different countries in how national governments are perceived to have responded to the coronavirus pandemic. In 13 Member States, a majority of respondents are satisfied with the measures taken by their national government, most notably in Denmark and Luxembourg (both 85%), and Finland (81%). By contrast, a majority of respondents are not satisfied in 14 Member States. Respondents in Spain (70%) are most likely to say they are not satisfied, followed by respondents in France and Italy (both 62%), Romania and Poland (both 61%).

QA30.1 In general, how satisfied are you with the measures taken to fight the Coronavirus pandemic by...?
The (NATIONALITY) government (%)

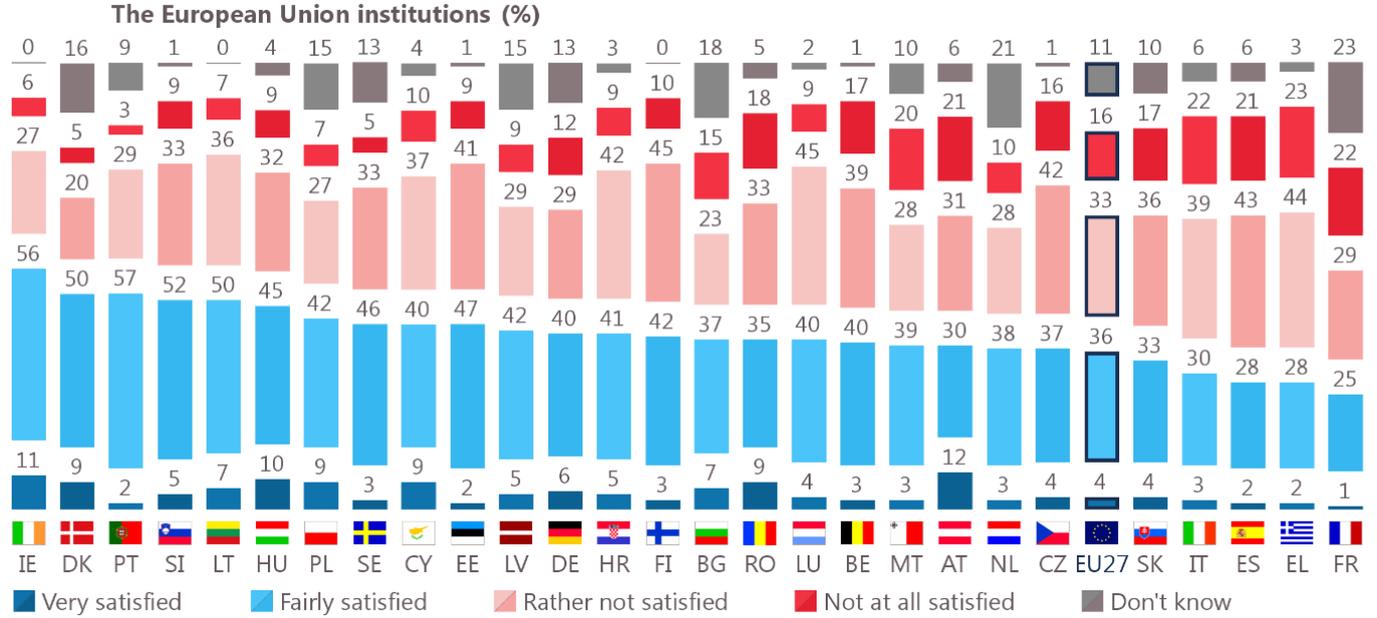


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Respondents in 13 Member States are more likely to say they are satisfied than not satisfied with the measures taken by EU institutions to fight the pandemic. Attitudes are most positive in Ireland (67% satisfied), Denmark and Portugal (both 59%),

Slovenia and Lithuania (both 57%). In 14 countries, a majority are not satisfied, with the highest proportions seen in Greece (67%), Spain (64%) and Italy (61%).

QA30.2 In general, how satisfied are you with the measures taken to fight the Coronavirus pandemic by...?



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The **socio-demographic** analysis indicates that older respondents are more likely than younger respondents to be satisfied with the measures taken by their **national government** to fight the coronavirus pandemic (53% of those aged 55 or over vs. 44% of those aged 15-24). Satisfaction is also higher among respondents who stayed longer in education (53% of those who left education at the age of 20 or above vs. 43% of those who left by the age of 15) and those who never or almost never have difficulties paying bills (52% vs. 38% of those who have difficulties most of the time). Analysis by socio-professional category shows that managers are most likely to be satisfied (58%) and unemployed respondents least likely to be satisfied (34%).

QA30.1 In general, how satisfied are you with the measures taken to fight the Coronavirus pandemic by...?
The (NATIONALITY) government (% - EU)

	Total 'Satisfied'	Total 'Not satisfied'	Don't know
EU27	49	49	2
 Gender			
Man	48	50	2
Woman	49	49	2
 Age			
15-24	44	54	2
25-39	46	52	2
40-54	46	52	2
55+	53	45	2
 Education (End of)			
15-	43	54	3
16-19	46	52	2
20+	53	45	2
Still studying	48	50	2
 Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	46	53	1
Managers	58	40	2
Other white collars	48	50	2
Manual workers	43	55	2
House persons	41	56	3
Unemployed	34	64	2
Retired	54	43	3
Students	48	50	2
 Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	38	60	2
From time to time	42	56	2
Almost never/ Never	52	46	2

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With regards to the measures taken by the **EU institutions** to fight the pandemic, younger respondents aged 15-24 are slightly more likely to be satisfied (43% vs. 39% of those aged 40 or over). Satisfaction is also higher among those who left education later (41% of those who left education at the age of 20 or above vs. 34% of those who left by the age of 15) and those who never or almost never have difficulties paying bills (41% vs. 32% of those who have difficulties most of the time). Once again, unemployed respondents are less likely to be satisfied (31%) than those in other socio-professional groups.

QA30.2 In general, how satisfied are you with the measures taken to fight the Coronavirus pandemic by...?

The European Union institutions (% - EU)

	Total 'Satisfied'	Total 'Not satisfied'	Don't know
EU27	40	49	11
 Gender			
Man	38	51	11
Woman	41	48	11
 Age			
15-24	43	47	10
25-39	41	49	10
40-54	39	50	11
55+	39	49	12
 Education (End of)			
15-	34	54	12
16-19	40	50	10
20+	41	47	12
Still studying	46	43	11
 Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	41	51	8
Managers	42	45	13
Other white collars	41	48	11
Manual workers	40	50	10
House persons	34	56	10
Unemployed	31	61	8
Retired	39	48	13
Students	46	43	11
 Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	32	59	9
From time to time	39	55	6
Almost never/ Never	41	46	13

Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

In its response to the pandemic, Europeans would most like the EU to prioritise a European health policy, investment for treatment and vaccination, and a European strategy to tackle a similar crisis in the future

When asked about what the EU should prioritise in its response to the coronavirus pandemic, the three main priorities for Europeans are to **develop a European health policy** (32%), to **invest more money to find a treatment or vaccine** (30%) and to **establish a comprehensive European strategy for facing a similar crisis in the future** (26%).

Further priorities mentioned by at least 15% of all Europeans include **investing more money in the economy** for a sustainable and fair recovery in all the EU Member States (18%), enforcing a **stricter control of the EU's external borders** (18%), ensuring the management and coordination of a **stockpile of strategic medical equipment** common to the EU Member States (18%), providing more financial support to the **most affected regions in the EU** (17%), ensuring that people in **developing countries outside the EU will also have access to coronavirus vaccine and treatment** when available (16%), and ensuring coordination between the EU Member States on the financial level to help economic recovery (15%).

Other priorities of relatively lower importance to Europeans, still mentioned by at least 10%, include enabling EU Member States to do more to **support their economy, including by providing more public funds to businesses** (state aid) (14%), encouraging the **relocation of industries back to the EU from abroad** (13%), encouraging **dialogue and solidarity between the EU Member States** (13%), and **increasing the EU budget** (11%).

Finally, less than 10% of Europeans consider that **reviewing the principle of free movement of people** between the EU Member States (8%) and encouraging **dialogue and solidarity with neighbouring countries outside the EU** (7%) should be a top priority for the EU in its response to the pandemic.

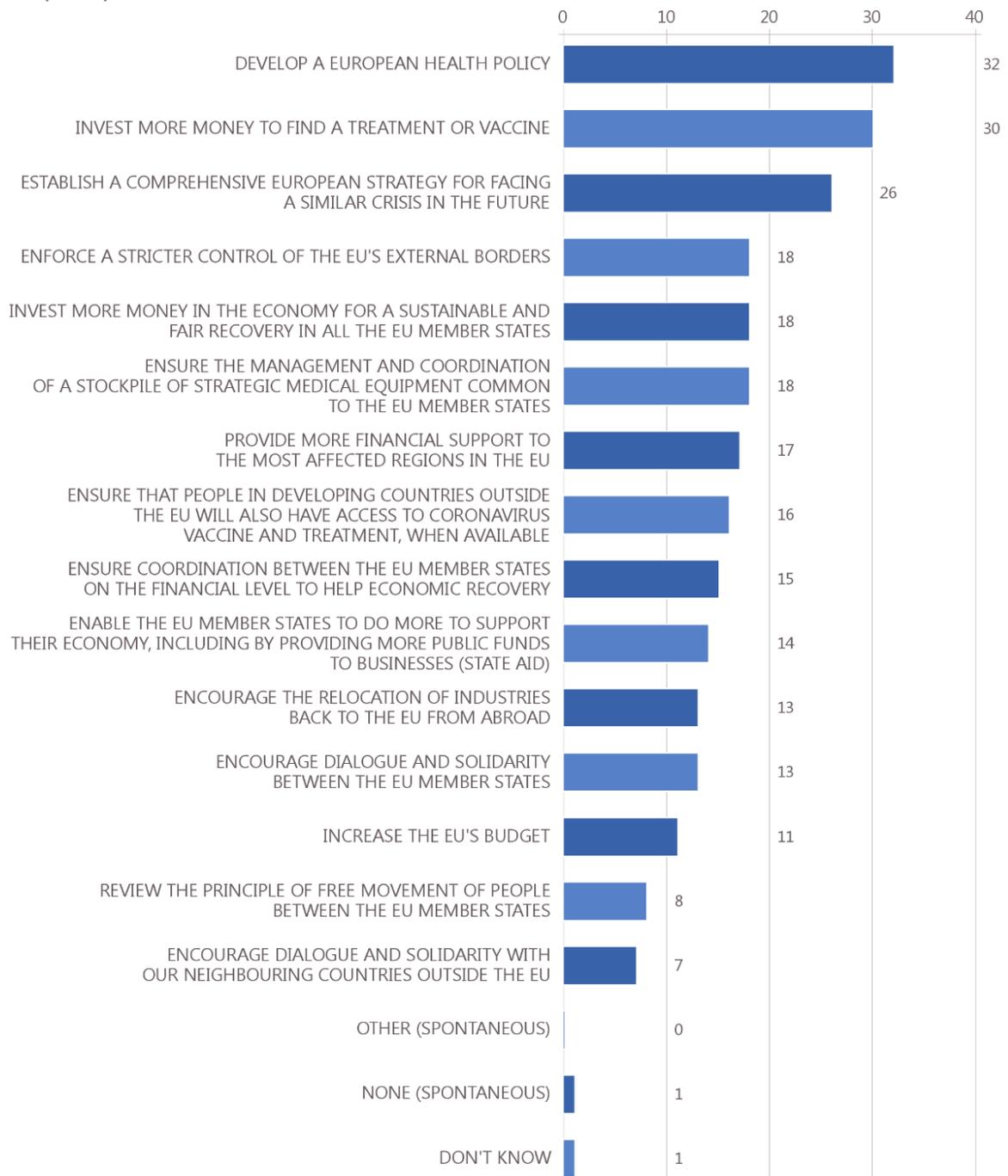
This question was also asked in the Standard Eurobarometer survey of summer 2020 (EB93), in July-August 2020. However, the question was adapted for this survey, with some new items added and other items substantially modified²⁴. Therefore, only broad comparisons can be made with the results from summer 2020. Broadly speaking, the top three priorities for Europeans remain unchanged between summer 2020 and October/November 2020 (this Special Eurobarometer survey SP500): developing a European health policy, investing more money to find a treatment or vaccine, and establishing a comprehensive European strategy for facing a similar crisis in the future.

²⁴ Two new items were included in the October/November 2020 FoE survey: 'Ensure that people in developing countries outside the EU will also have access to coronavirus vaccine and treatment when available' and 'Encourage dialogue and solidarity with neighbouring countries outside the EU'. In addition two items were reworded in

October/November 2020: 'Develop financial means to find a treatment or vaccine' in summer 2020 was changed to 'Invest more money to find a treatment or vaccine'; and 'Establish a strategy for facing a similar crisis in the future' was changed to 'Establish a comprehensive European strategy for facing a similar crisis in the future'.

Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

QA31 And what should the European Union now prioritise in its response to the Coronavirus pandemic? (MAX. 3 ANSWERS)
(% - EU)



Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

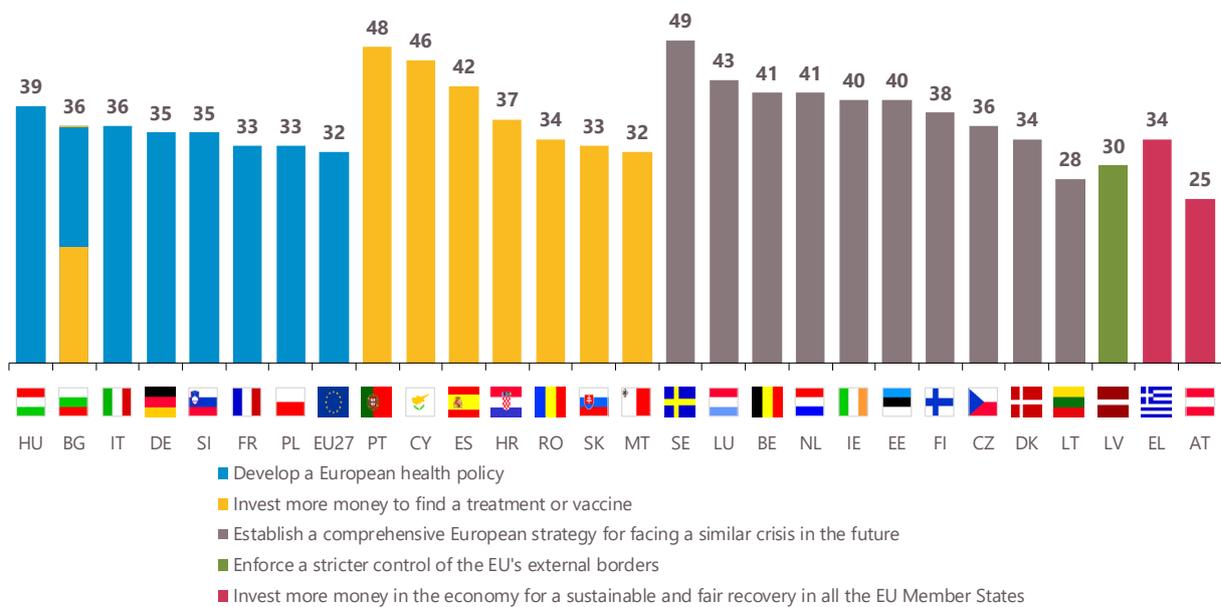
Developing a European health policy, the top ranked choice among all EU respondents, is the top choice (or joint top choice) in seven EU Member States, led by Hungary (39%).

Investing money in treatments and vaccines, the second ranked choice, is the top choice (or joint top choice) in eight Member States, especially favoured in Portugal (48%) and Cyprus (46%).

Establishing a comprehensive European strategy for facing a similar crisis in the future, the third ranked choice, is the top choice in ten Member States, and especially in Sweden where nearly half (49%) select this as a top priority.

There are three countries which have a different top priority. In Greece and Austria the top ranked priority is **investing more money in the economy for a sustainable and fair recovery in all EU Member States** (34% in Greece and 25% in Austria), while Latvian respondents are most in favour of **enforcing stricter controls of the EU's external borders** (30%).

QA31 And what should the European Union now prioritise in its response to the Coronavirus pandemic?
(MAX. 3 ANSWERS)
(% - THE MOST MENTIONED ANSWER BY COUNTRY)



Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

In the **socio-demographic** analysis, there are some differences by level of education. Respondents who stayed in education until the age of 20 or above are more likely to want to prioritise establishing a comprehensive European strategy for facing a similar crisis in the future (31% vs. 16% of those who left education by the age of 15) and ensuring the management and coordination of a stockpile of strategic medical equipment (22% vs. 13%). However, they are less likely to prioritise investing money in treatments and vaccines (25% vs. 40%).

Results are broadly consistent by gender and age, although women are slightly more likely than men to prioritise access to vaccines and treatment in developing countries outside the EU (17% vs. 14%).

Analysis by socio-professional category shows that managers are the most likely to give several of the responses, most notably establishing a comprehensive European strategy for facing a similar crisis in the future (34%) and ensuring the management and coordination of a stockpile of strategic medical equipment (25%). Investing money in treatments and vaccines is most likely to be a priority for housepersons (34%) and retired people (33%).

Respondents who never or almost never have difficulties paying bills are more likely to prioritise establishing a comprehensive European strategy for facing a similar crisis in the future (28% vs. 21% of those who have difficulties most of the time), but are less likely to prioritise greater financial support for the most affected regions in the EU (16% vs. 22%).

QA31 And what should the European Union now prioritise in its response to the Coronavirus pandemic? (MAX. 3 ANSWERS)
(% - EU)

	Develop a European health policy	Invest more money to find a treatment or vaccine	Establish a comprehensive European strategy for facing a similar crisis in the future	Ensure the management and coordination of a stockpile of strategic medical equipment common to the EU Member States	Invest more money in the economy for a sustainable and fair recovery in all the EU Member States	Enforce a stricter control of the EU's external borders	Provide more financial support to the most affected regions in the EU
EU27	32	30	26	18	18	18	17
Gender							
Man	32	29	27	18	18	19	16
Woman	33	30	26	17	18	18	18
Age							
15-24	32	31	26	15	17	16	19
25-39	32	26	26	20	20	17	16
40-54	32	29	26	19	18	19	18
55+	33	32	27	17	17	20	16
Education (End of)							
15-	31	40	16	13	17	21	17
16-19	33	31	25	15	18	20	18
20+	32	25	31	22	18	17	15
Still studying	32	30	26	19	19	14	18
Socio-professional category							
Self-employed	28	25	25	18	20	15	19
Managers	34	25	34	25	19	16	13
Other white collars	33	30	29	19	18	18	17
Manual workers	32	29	24	16	18	19	17
House persons	32	34	20	14	18	21	18
Unemployed	28	30	23	13	18	21	19
Retired	35	33	26	16	15	21	16
Students	32	30	26	19	19	14	18
Difficulties paying bills							
Most of the time	27	28	21	15	19	20	22
From time to time	34	32	23	15	18	19	18
Almost never/ Never	33	29	28	19	17	18	16

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QA31 And what should the European Union now prioritise in its response to the Coronavirus pandemic? (MAX. 3 ANSWERS)
(% - EU)

	Ensure that people in developing countries outside the EU will also have access to Coronavirus vaccine and treatment, when available	Ensure coordination between the EU Member States on the financial level to help economic recovery	Enable the EU Member States to do more to support their economy, including by providing more public funds to businesses (state aid)	Encourage the relocation of industries back to the EU from abroad	Encourage dialogue and solidarity between the EU Member States	Increase the EU's budget	Review the principle of free movement of people between the EU Member States	Encourage dialogue and solidarity with our neighbouring countries outside the EU
EU27	16	15	14	13	13	11	8	7
 Gender								
Man	14	16	14	15	14	11	9	7
Woman	17	15	14	12	12	10	8	6
 Age								
15-24	20	14	14	11	13	13	5	9
25-39	16	16	15	13	13	11	9	7
40-54	15	17	16	14	13	11	9	5
55+	15	15	13	14	13	9	9	6
 Education (End of)								
15-	13	13	12	11	10	11	8	7
16-19	15	15	15	13	12	11	10	6
20+	17	17	14	15	15	9	8	6
Still studying	21	15	15	11	14	12	5	8
 Socio-professional category								
Self-employed	15	18	18	14	13	10	11	7
Managers	15	18	13	16	17	7	7	6
Other white collars	15	18	15	13	13	12	9	7
Manual workers	16	15	16	13	11	12	9	6
House persons	12	14	14	8	12	14	9	5
Unemployed	16	11	12	11	10	10	9	8
Retired	16	14	12	14	14	8	8	6
Students	21	15	15	11	14	12	5	8
 Difficulties paying bills								
Most of the time	16	15	14	10	10	11	9	6
From time to time	15	16	16	11	12	13	10	7
Almost never/ Never	16	15	14	14	14	9	8	6

2. EU financial support

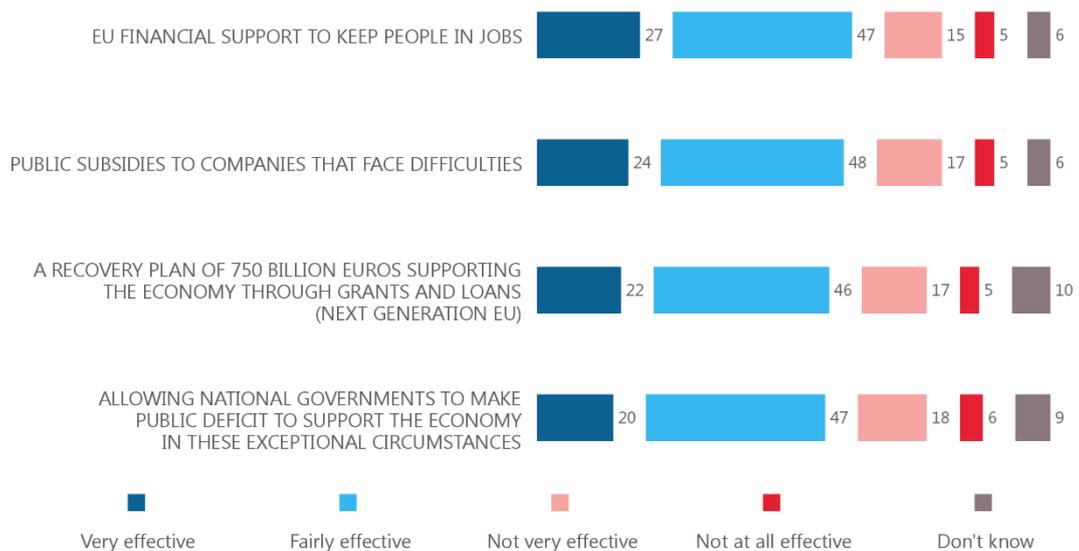
Most Europeans consider that the various economic measures taken by the EU in response to the pandemic are effective

Respondents were asked to rate their views on the effectiveness of four measures taken by the European Union to respond to the economic effects of the coronavirus pandemic.

Overall, these different measures are considered effective by large majorities of EU citizens. Almost three-quarters of respondents consider **EU financial support to keep people in jobs** to be effective (74%, of which 27% say 'very effective' and 47% 'fairly effective'). An almost equal proportion of Europeans rate the effectiveness of **public subsidies to companies facing difficulties** as effective (72%, of which 24% say 'very effective' and 48% 'fairly effective').

Around two in three Europeans consider that the **recovery plan of 750 billion euros to support the economy ('Next Generation EU')** is effective (68%, of which 22% say 'very effective' and 46% 'fairly effective'), while a similar proportion of Europeans rate the effectiveness of **allowing national governments to make public deficit to support the economy** in these exceptional circumstances (67%, of which 20% say 'very effective' and 47% 'fairly effective').

QA32 How effective or not do you think that each of the following measures decided by the European Union is, to respond to the economic effects of the Coronavirus pandemic? (% - EU)



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Future of Europe

A majority of citizens in all countries rate these EU economic policies in response to the pandemic as effective

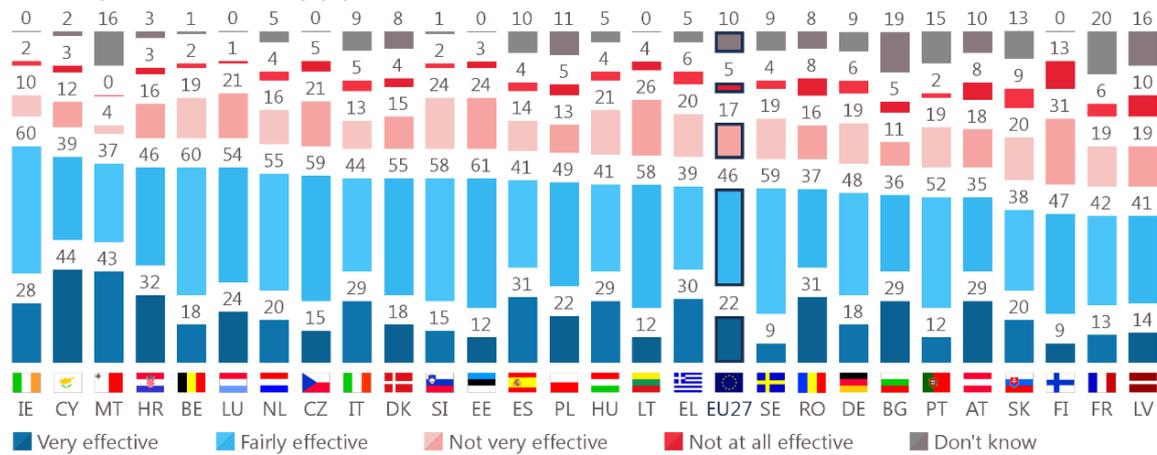
A majority in all Member States (at least 55%) rate the **EU recovery plan of 750 billion euros to support the economy** as an effective measure. Respondents in Ireland (88%), Cyprus (83%) and Malta (80%) are again most positive, at least eight in ten rating this measure as effective. At the other end of the scale,

less than six in ten of the following countries rate this plan as effective: Latvia and France (both 55%), Finland (56%) and Slovakia (58%).

The proportion that say the recovery plan is not effective is highest in Finland (44%), Lithuania (30%), Latvia and Slovakia (both 29%).

QA32.1 How effective or not do you think that each of the following measures decided by the European Union is, to respond to the economic effects of the Coronavirus pandemic?

A recovery plan of 750 billion euros supporting the economy through grants and loans (Next Generation EU) (%)



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In the **socio-demographic** analysis, respondents aged 15-24 are the most likely to rate the EU recovery plan of 750 billion euros to support the economy as an effective measure (71%), and the proportion is particularly high among current students (74%). There is also a difference by socio-professional category, with managers (72%) and other white collar workers (71%) more likely to see the recovery plan as effective as manual workers (65%) and unemployed respondents (61%). Respondents who have difficulties paying bills most of the time are less likely to see the recovery plan as effective (61% vs. 69% of those who have difficulties less often).

QA32.1 How effective or not do you think that each of the following measures decided by the European Union is, to respond to the economic effects of the Coronavirus pandemic?

A recovery plan of 750 billion euros supporting the economy through grants and loans (Next Generation EU)

(% - EU)

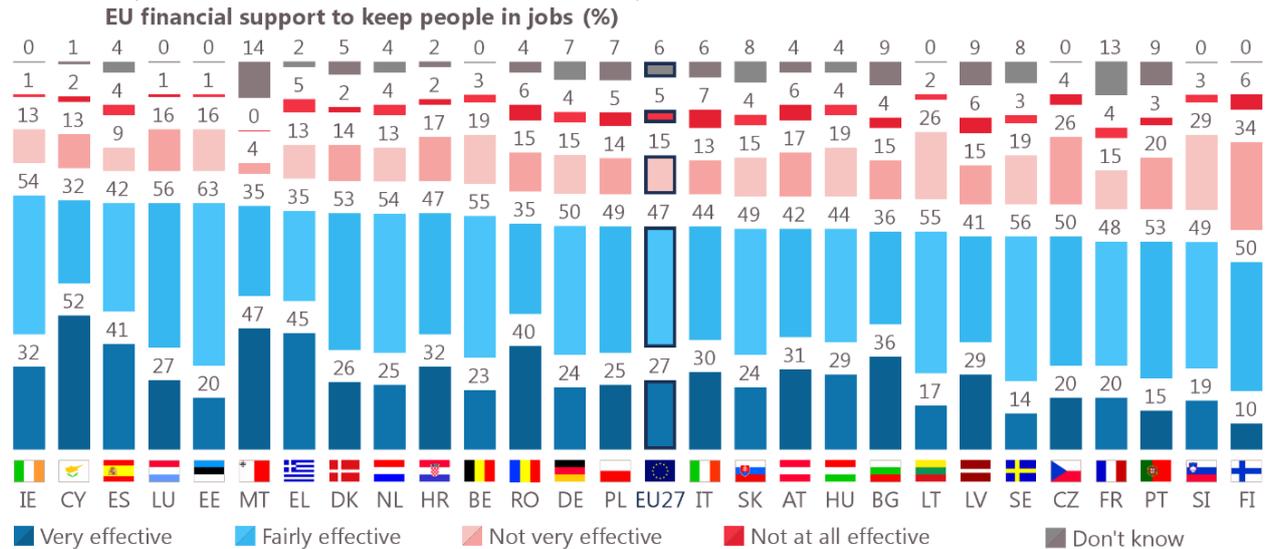
	Total 'Effective'	Total 'Not effective'	Don't know
EU27	68	22	10
 Gender			
Man	69	23	8
Woman	67	22	11
 Age			
15-24	71	20	9
25-39	69	23	8
40-54	67	24	9
55+	67	22	11
 Education (End of)			
15-	63	21	16
16-19	68	24	8
20+	68	22	10
Still studying	74	17	9
 Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	69	24	7
Managers	72	20	8
Other white collars	71	21	8
Manual workers	65	25	10
House persons	67	21	12
Unemployed	61	28	11
Retired	66	22	12
Students	74	17	9
 Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	61	28	11
From time to time	69	23	8
Almost never/ Never	69	21	10

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At least six in ten in each country say that **EU financial support to keep people in jobs** is an effective measure, and this rises to more than eight in ten in Ireland (86%), Cyprus (84%), Spain, Luxembourg and Estonia (all 83%), and Malta (82%). At the other end of the scale, less than seven in ten respondents find this measure effective in Finland (60%), and Slovenia, Portugal and France (all 68%).

There are four countries where more than a quarter of respondents think this is not an effective measure: Finland (40%), Slovenia (32%), Czechia (30%) and Lithuania (28%).

QA32.2 How effective or not do you think that each of the following measures decided by the European Union is, to respond to the economic effects of the Coronavirus pandemic?



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In the **socio-demographic** analysis, younger respondents are more likely to say that EU financial support to keep people in jobs is an effective measure (80% of 15-24 year olds compared with 72% of those aged 55 or over). Unemployed respondents are less likely to see this as an effective measure (66% vs. at least 73% in other socio-professional groups), as are respondents who have difficulties paying bills most of the time (69% vs. 75% of those who never or almost never have difficulties).

QA32.2 How effective or not do you think that each of the following measures decided by the European Union is, to respond to the economic effects of the Coronavirus pandemic?

EU financial support to keep people in jobs. (% - EU)

	Total 'Effective'	Total 'Not effective'	Don't know
EU27	74	20	6
 Gender			
Man	75	20	5
Woman	74	19	7
 Age			
15-24	80	15	5
25-39	76	20	4
40-54	73	21	6
55+	72	20	8
 Education (End of)			
15-	71	18	11
16-19	74	21	5
20+	74	20	6
Still studying	80	14	6
 Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	75	21	4
Managers	76	19	5
Other white collars	76	19	5
Manual workers	73	21	6
House persons	73	21	6
Unemployed	66	27	7
Retired	73	18	9
Students	80	14	6
 Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	69	24	7
From time to time	73	22	5
Almost never/ Never	75	19	6

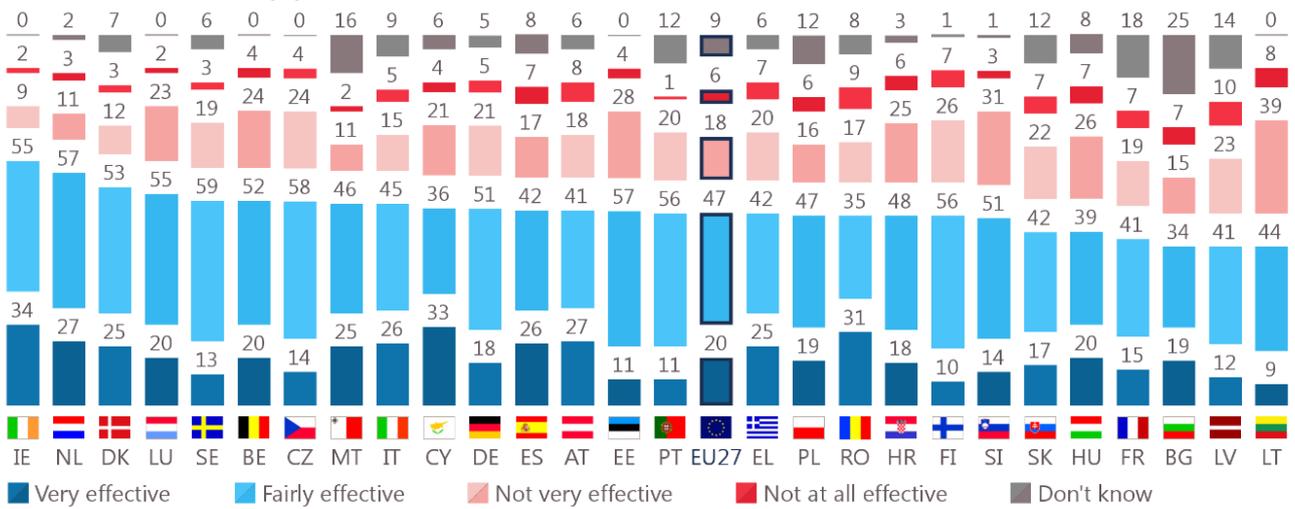
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There are varying levels of support when it comes to **allowing governments to make public deficit to support the economy in these exceptional circumstances**, although again a majority in all countries are supportive. Ratings of effectiveness vary from 89% in Ireland and 84% in the Netherlands (most supportive) to 53% in each of Bulgaria, Latvia and Lithuania (least supportive).

In Lithuania, almost half of respondents think that this is not an effective measure (47%), much higher than in other countries.

QA32.3 How effective or not do you think that each of the following measures decided by the European Union is, to respond to the economic effects of the Coronavirus pandemic?

Allowing national governments to make public deficit to support the economy in these exceptional circumstances (%)



Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

In the **socio-demographic** analysis, there are consistent attitudes by gender and age towards allowing governments to make public deficit to support the economy, but there is a difference by level of education: respondents who left education at the age of 20 or above are more likely to consider this to be effective (69%), compared with those who left by the age of 15 (60%).

There is also a difference by socio-professional category, with managers (73%) and students (72%) more likely to see this as an effective measure than housepersons (62%) or unemployed respondents (60%). Respondents who have difficulties paying bills most of the time are less likely to see this as effective (61% vs. 68% of those who never or rarely have difficulties).

QA32.3 How effective or not do you think that each of the following measures decided by the European Union is, to respond to the economic effects of the Coronavirus pandemic?

Allowing national governments to make public deficit to support the economy in these exceptional circumstances

(% - EU)

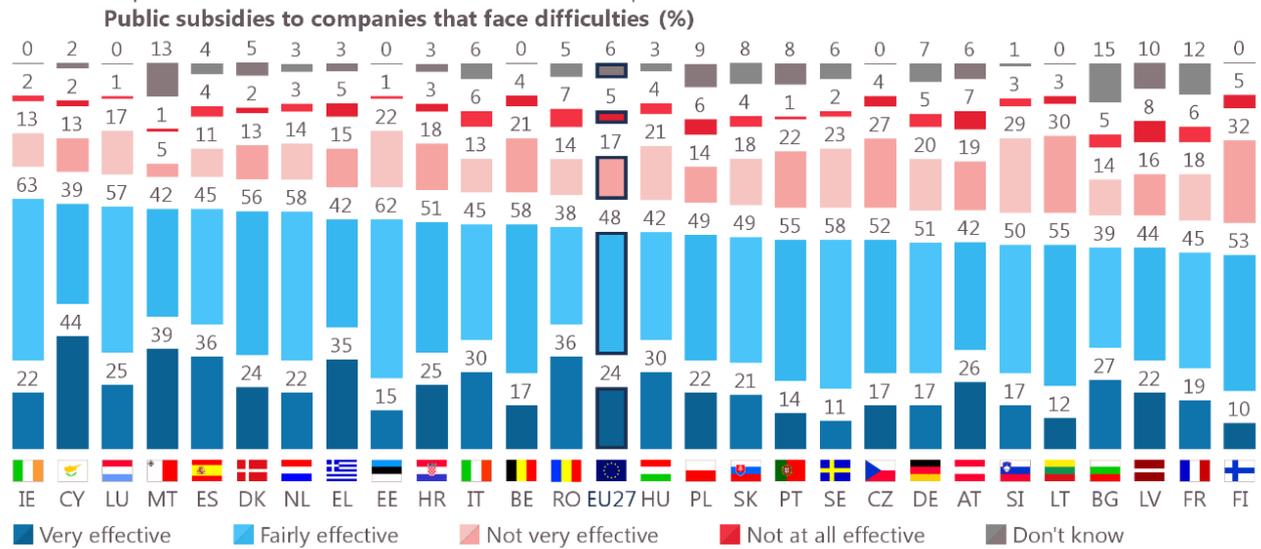
	Total 'Effective'	Total 'Not effective'	Don't know
EU27	67	24	9
 Gender			
Man	68	25	7
Woman	66	24	10
 Age			
15-24	69	23	8
25-39	66	27	7
40-54	67	25	8
55+	67	22	11
 Education (End of)			
15-	60	23	17
16-19	67	26	7
20+	69	23	8
Still studying	72	20	8
 Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	67	27	6
Managers	73	21	6
Other white collars	69	24	7
Manual workers	66	26	8
House persons	62	25	13
Unemployed	60	31	9
Retired	65	23	12
Students	72	20	8
 Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	61	28	11
From time to time	67	25	8
Almost never/ Never	68	23	9

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Similarly, more than six in ten respondents in each country think **public subsidies for companies that face difficulties** are effective, rising to more than eight in ten in Ireland (85%), Cyprus (83%), Luxembourg (82%), Malta and Spain (both 81%). The countries which are least likely to rate this policy as effective are in Finland (63%), France (64%), Bulgaria and Latvia (both 66%).

The proportions that say this measure is not effective are highest in Finland (37%), Lithuania (33%), Slovenia (32%) and Czechia (31%).

QA32.4 How effective or not do you think that each of the following measures decided by the European Union is, to respond to the economic effects of the Coronavirus pandemic?



Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

The **socio-demographic** analysis shows consistent results across the various groups. Respondents aged 15–24 (75%) and students (76%) are slightly more likely to say it is effective to provide public subsidies for companies that face difficulties, while this is seen as less effective by respondents who have difficulties paying bills most of the time (65% vs. 72% who have difficulties more often).

QA32.4 How effective or not do you think that each of the following measures decided by the European Union is, to respond to the economic effects of the Coronavirus pandemic?

Public subsidies to companies that face difficulties (% - EU)

	Total 'Effective'	Total 'Not effective'	Don't know
EU27	72	22	6
 Gender			
Man	72	23	5
Woman	72	21	7
 Age			
15-24	75	19	6
25-39	72	23	5
40-54	71	23	6
55+	71	21	8
 Education (End of)			
15-	69	20	11
16-19	71	23	6
20+	72	22	6
Still studying	76	18	6
 Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	72	24	4
Managers	73	21	6
Other white collars	74	20	6
Manual workers	71	24	5
House persons	69	24	7
Unemployed	68	25	7
Retired	71	20	9
Students	76	18	6
 Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	65	28	7
From time to time	72	23	5
Almost never/ Never	72	21	7

3. Tourism

Many Europeans do not plan to travel until the pandemic is over, or at least will stay in their own country or close to home

Respondents were asked about their future travel plans, in the light of the coronavirus pandemic and the disruption it has caused to tourism and the travel industry, alongside other changes such as the effects of climate change and the digitalization of economy. Respondents were offered 13 response options to describe their future plans, choosing a maximum of three.

Three in ten respondents (30%) say they will **stop travelling completely** until the pandemic is over, while many respondents plan to stay closer to home: 28% say they will **only travel in their own country or region**, while 22% will prefer **shorter distance journeys closer to home**.

A number of responses reflect a change in approach to travel plans, including travelling to **less crowded places** (22%), taking holidays **outside the main season** (15%), choosing tourism services with **clear information on security and safety measures** (12%) and giving more consideration to **different**

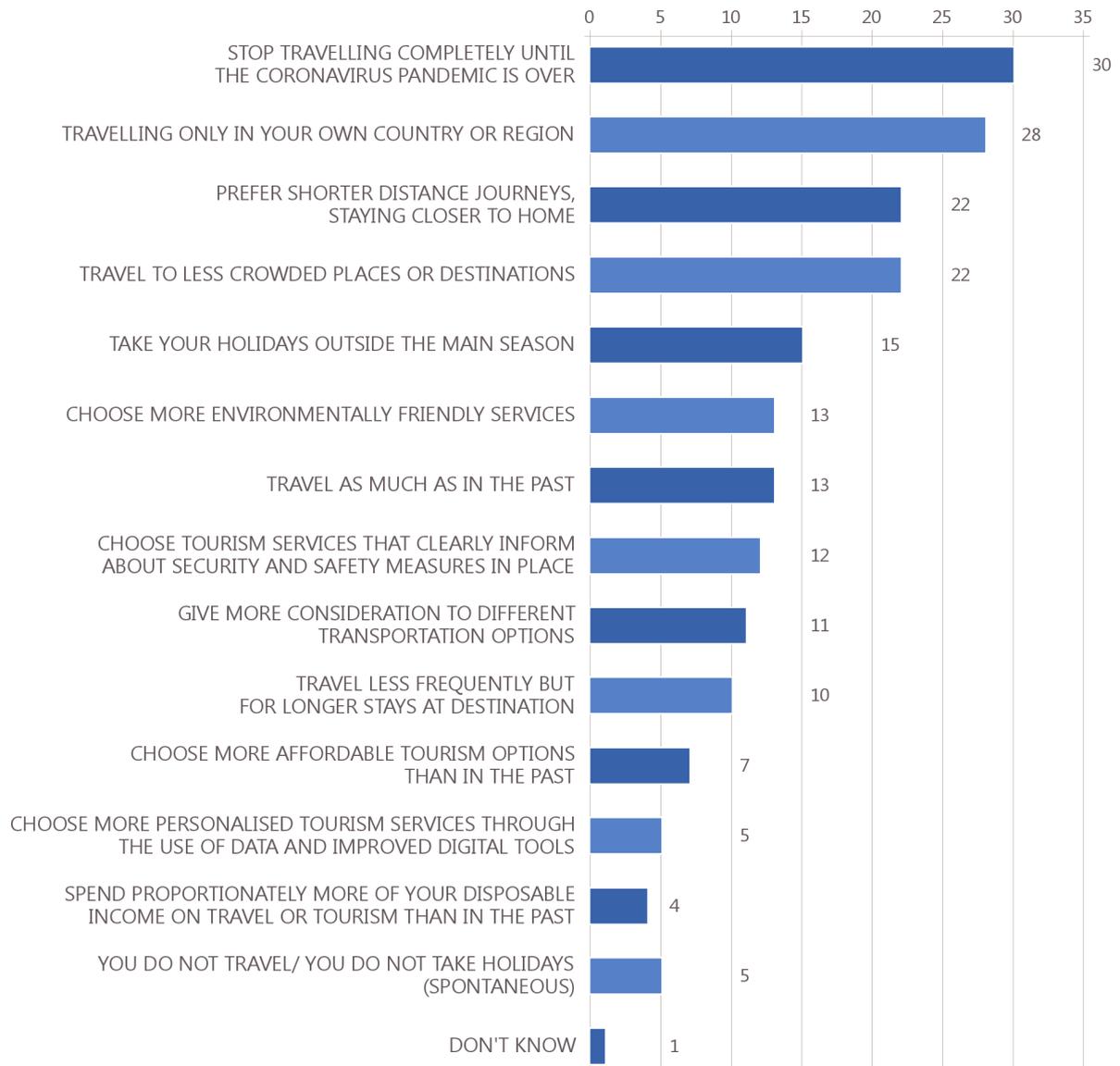
transportation options (11%). Some respondents focus on the environment, by planning to choose **more environmentally friendly services** (13%).

Other options are chosen by no more than one in ten respondents: travelling **less frequently but for longer stays** (10%), choosing **more affordable options** (7%), and choosing **more personalised tourism services** through the use of data and personalization tools (5%).

Although the majority of respondents say they plan to make changes, a minority say they intend to travel **as much as in the past** (13%) or to **spend more money on travel** than they have previously (4%). A small proportion (5%) say spontaneously that they do not travel or take holidays.

Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

QA33 The Coronavirus pandemic fundamentally disrupted tourism and the travel industry in 2020. The pandemic, combined with the effects of climate change and the digitalization of economy, may lead to long lasting impacts on travelling and tourism in the future. When it comes to your future travel choices, do you plan to do any of the following? You can select up to three answers. (MAX. 3 ANSWERS)
(% - EU)

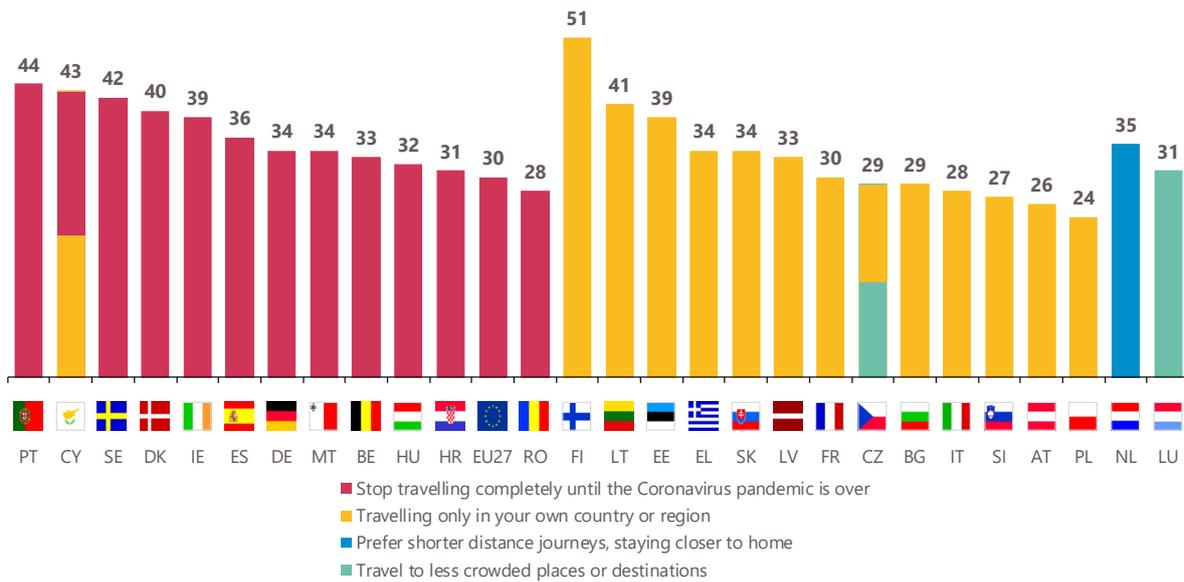


Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

In 12 countries, the top (or joint top) answer about travel plans is that respondents intend to **stop travelling completely** until the pandemic is over, while in 14 countries, the answer that ranks top (or joint top) is that respondents plan to travel **only in their own country or region**. In Luxembourg, the most frequent response is

that respondents plan to travel to **less crowded places**, and this is the joint top answer in Czechia. Respondents in the Netherlands are most likely to say that they will prefer **shorter distance journeys closer to home**.

QA33 The Coronavirus pandemic fundamentally disrupted tourism and the travel industry in 2020. The pandemic, combined with the effects of climate change and the digitalization of economy, may lead to long lasting impacts on travelling and tourism in the future. When it comes to your future travel choices, do you plan to do any of the following? You can select up to three answers. (MAX. 3 ANSWERS)
(% - THE MOST MENTIONED ANSWER BY COUNTRY)



Special Eurobarometer 500 Future of Europe

Respondents in Portugal (44%), Cyprus (43%), Sweden (42%) and Denmark (40%) are most likely to say they will **stop travelling completely** until the pandemic is over, while those in Czechia, Bulgaria and Poland (all 21%) are least likely to say this.

Half of respondents in Finland (51%) say they **only plan to travel in their own country or region**, and this proportion is also high in Cyprus (43%) and Lithuania (41%), while it is lowest in Luxembourg (11%) and Malta (18%).

The proportion that say they will prefer **shorter distance journeys closer to home** is highest in the Netherlands (35%), Estonia (33%) and Sweden (31%), and lowest in Malta (12%), Spain, Hungary, Poland and Romania (all 17%).

Travelling to **less crowded places** is mentioned most frequently in the Netherlands (33%), Estonia (32%) and Luxembourg (31%), and is least likely to be mentioned by respondents in Cyprus (10%) and Slovakia (15%).

Respondents in the Netherlands (26%) and Slovenia (25%) are most likely to say they will take holidays **outside the main season**, while those in Belgium and France (both 21%) are most likely to plan to choose **more environmentally friendly services**.

Respondents in Czechia (25%), Slovenia (23%) and Luxembourg (21%) are the most likely to say they intend to **travel as much as in the past**.

QA33 The Coronavirus pandemic fundamentally disrupted tourism and the travel industry in 2020. The pandemic, combined with the effects of climate change and the digitalization of economy, may lead to long lasting impacts on travelling and tourism in the future. When it comes to your future travel choices, do you plan to do any of the following? You can select up to three answers. (MAX. 3 ANSWERS) (%)

		Stop travelling completely until the Coronavirus pandemic is over	Travelling only in your own country or region	Prefer shorter distance journeys, staying closer to home	Travel to less crowded places or destinations	Take your holidays outside the main season	Choose more environmentally friendly services	Travel as much as in the past	Choose tourism services that clearly inform about security and safety measures in place	Give more consideration to different transportation options	Travel less frequently but for longer stays at destination	Choose more affordable tourism options than in the past	Choose more personalised tourism services through the use of data and improved digital tools	Spend proportionately more of your disposable income on travel or tourism than in the past	You do not travel/ You do not take holidays (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU27		30	28	22	22	15	13	13	12	11	10	7	5	4	5	1
BE		33	23	28	29	23	21	17	13	13	10	6	5	4	0	1
BG		21	29	22	17	8	6	13	14	9	8	9	4	2	8	1
CZ		21	29	23	29	18	11	25	14	12	7	11	6	3	0	0
DK		40	35	20	16	20	14	20	8	14	8	4	4	3	3	1
DE		34	30	25	26	17	14	12	13	10	17	4	4	1	2	1
EE		26	39	33	32	17	10	16	23	11	11	11	7	3	0	0
IE		39	27	23	28	19	17	19	22	15	14	9	6	7	0	0
EL		32	34	23	27	11	11	9	15	14	7	10	3	3	6	0
ES		36	22	17	19	7	7	7	10	7	5	5	4	1	13	1
FR		23	30	20	17	22	21	15	10	8	9	5	3	1	8	3
HR		31	23	19	21	13	11	15	12	10	17	11	5	5	1	1
IT		25	28	25	26	15	16	8	15	13	9	9	9	9	4	1
CY		43	43	30	10	5	11	9	5	5	9	6	6	2	3	0
LV		31	33	22	17	9	8	14	8	6	7	8	4	2	13	2
LT		38	41	22	28	12	9	12	14	15	11	7	9	3	0	0
LU		26	11	22	31	21	19	21	22	13	14	6	6	7	0	0
HU		32	25	17	23	10	11	16	10	16	8	7	6	4	5	0
MT		34	18	12	21	11	10	12	13	7	6	7	7	8	14	2
NL		33	30	35	33	26	16	17	11	14	12	3	2	4	0	0
AT		25	26	18	19	12	10	12	12	10	14	8	8	6	13	2
PL		21	24	17	16	13	9	20	10	9	10	11	8	6	3	0
PT		44	25	21	24	7	5	3	7	10	6	4	3	1	14	1
RO		28	21	17	17	8	14	10	11	9	10	8	10	9	9	0
SI		24	27	26	24	25	16	23	21	12	6	13	8	4	1	0
SK		29	34	18	15	13	12	11	7	19	8	7	2	2	8	1
FI		31	51	26	25	10	11	13	5	9	6	4	5	1	0	0
SE		42	27	31	16	16	17	13	7	22	11	9	5	2	0	1

1st MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM

2nd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM

3rd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM

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In the **socio-demographic** analysis, the main difference by gender is that women are more likely than men to say they will stop travelling completely until the pandemic is over (32% vs. 27%). Older respondents are also more likely to say they will stop travelling completely (34% of those aged 55 or over), while respondents aged 15-24 are the most likely to choose more environmentally friendly services (20%).

Respondents who left education at the age of 20 or above are more likely to be planning various changes, such as travelling to less crowded places (25% vs. 14% of those who left education by the age of 15) and taking holidays outside the main season (18% vs. 9%). They are also more likely to say they will travel as much as in the past (15% vs. 7%). They are less likely to say they plan to stop travelling completely until the pandemic is over (28% vs. 35%).

QA33 The Coronavirus pandemic fundamentally disrupted tourism and the travel industry in 2020. The pandemic, combined with the effects of climate change and the digitalization of economy, may lead to long lasting impacts on travelling and tourism in the future. When it comes to your future travel choices, do you plan to do any of the following? You can select up to three answers. (MAX. 3 ANSWERS)
(% - EU)

	Stop travelling completely until the Coronavirus pandemic is over	Travelling only in your own country or region	Prefer shorter distance journeys, staying closer to home	Travel to less crowded places or destinations	Take your holidays outside the main season	Choose more environmentally friendly services	Travel as much as in the past	Choose tourism services that clearly inform about security and safety measures in place	Give more consideration to different transportation options	Travel less frequently but for longer stays at destination	Choose more affordable tourism options than in the past	Choose more personalised tourism services through the use of data and improved digital tools	Spend proportionately more of your disposable income on travel or tourism than in the past	You do not travel/ you do not take holidays (SPONTANEOUS)
EU27	30	28	22	22	15	13	13	12	11	10	7	5	4	5
Gender														
Man	27	28	22	23	16	14	15	12	12	10	7	6	4	5
Woman	32	28	23	22	15	13	11	12	9	10	6	5	3	6
Age														
15-24	26	25	23	24	15	20	15	13	15	13	7	7	4	2
25-39	26	28	23	25	16	15	16	12	11	11	9	6	4	2
40-54	28	30	24	24	14	13	13	13	10	11	7	6	4	3
55+	34	28	21	19	15	11	10	11	9	9	5	4	3	10
Education (End of)														
15-	35	24	17	14	9	9	7	8	6	6	4	4	3	18
16-19	30	29	23	21	15	11	12	12	10	11	7	5	4	5
20+	28	29	23	25	18	15	15	12	11	11	7	6	4	2
Still studying	25	26	22	27	14	21	15	14	17	14	9	7	4	2
Socio-professional category														
Self-employed	24	31	21	25	18	14	15	12	12	11	8	7	6	2
Managers	24	29	24	27	15	17	16	15	12	14	7	7	4	1
Other white collars	27	29	25	26	17	15	14	14	12	11	9	7	4	1
Manual workers	29	28	22	21	15	12	13	11	10	10	8	6	4	5
House persons	36	26	22	18	12	12	9	11	6	10	6	5	4	9
Unemployed	31	27	22	19	11	12	12	12	9	8	4	4	2	10
Retired	36	28	21	18	15	9	9	10	8	8	4	3	2	12
Students	25	26	22	27	14	21	15	14	17	14	8	7	4	2
Difficulties paying bills														
Most of the time	30	23	18	20	14	12	10	9	10	8	8	5	4	11
From time to time	31	26	22	20	13	14	11	13	11	10	9	8	5	5
Almost never/ Never	29	29	23	23	16	13	14	12	10	11	6	5	3	5

CONCLUSION



This Eurobarometer survey explores a range of issues relating to the future of Europe. The survey was conducted during the coronavirus pandemic, which has dominated the lives of Europeans throughout 2020. As a result, it is important to consider perceptions of the future of Europe in the context of the pandemic.

For context, the survey assessed overall attitudes towards the EU. **Two-thirds of Europeans think that their country's membership of the EU is a good thing**, the highest level on record, and a similar proportion are in favour of the EU, although many of these respondents say they are in favour 'but not the way it has been realised until now'.

A key message in the report is that respondents want to see **citizens' voice playing a larger part in decisions relating to the future of Europe**; more than nine in ten agree that this should be the case. In this context, it is relevant that just over half of respondents say **they would be willing to take part in the Conference on the future of Europe**, including nearly one in seven who say they would definitely take part. A clear majority think that **the Conference would represent significant progress for democracy within the EU**, and this is important because the vast majority also agree that work needs to be done to strengthen democracy in the EU.

While respondents express positive attitudes towards the Conference on the future of Europe, they are divided as to whether it will have a real impact. In order to encourage participation, respondents say **it will be important to convince people that their participation will make a difference**, and to **ensure that all parts of society are represented**.

The survey also examined proposals for electing the President of the European Commission, and found **support for the lead candidate process** (just above two-thirds are in favour of this process), as well as some **support for the inclusion of transnational lists** (just over four in ten think this would a good thing and slightly under two in ten a bad thing). The majority of respondents also think that both approaches would be needed - that **adopting the lead candidate process would only make sense if EU citizens were given the chance to vote for transnational lists**.

Europeans identify a number of challenges facing the EU. The three main priorities for facing **major global challenges are health and safety, social fairness and equality, and the environment and climate change**. Unemployment and migration issues are also seen as major challenges facing the EU.

It is clear that respondents favour a co-ordinated response to these challenges. A clear majority want to see **all EU Member States finding solutions together rather than acting alone**, and stronger solidarity among Member States is regarded as one of the most helpful developments for the future of Europe.

In dealing with different policy areas, respondents also **support joint responsibility at the national and EU level**. In ten years' time, just above four in ten would prefer to see more decisions taken at EU level than they are now.

There are mixed views on the response of EU institutions to the coronavirus pandemic. Overall, a minority of respondents are satisfied with the EU's response, but **the various economic measures, including the EU recovery plan, are seen as**

effective. As well as investing in a treatment and vaccines, respondents want the EU to **prioritise a European health policy and a strategy for tackling similar crises in the future**. Six in ten Europeans agree that the coronavirus crisis had made them reflect on the future of the EU.

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Between the 22nd October and 20th November 2020, Kantar carried out the Special Eurobarometer survey n° 500 (EB94.1) on the Future of Europe (FoE), at the request of the European Commission's and European Parliament's Directorates-General for Communication ("Media monitoring and Eurobarometer" Unit and "Public Opinion Monitoring" Unit).

The wave 94.1 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 basic sample design applied in all States where a face to face mode of data collection has been feasible is a multi-stage, random (probability) one. In each country, a number of sampling points were drawn with probability proportional to their population size.

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 areas²⁵.

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 "last 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.

²⁵ Urban Rural classification based on DEGURBA
(<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/degree-of-urbanisation/background>)

	COUNTRIES	INSTITUTES	N° INTERVIEWS	FIELDWORK DATES		POPULATION 15+	PROPORTION EU27
BE	Belgium	Kantar Belgium (Kantar TNS)	1.043	02/11/2020	18/11/2020	9.188.369	2,45%
BG	Bulgaria	Kantar TNS BBSS	1.053	23/10/2020	15/11/2020	5.995.194	1,60%
CZ	Czechia	Kantar CZ	1.050	02/11/2020	18/11/2020	8.956.740	2,39%
DK	Denmark	Kantar Gallup	1.050	23/10/2020	19/11/2020	4.848.611	1,29%
DE	Germany	Kantar Deutschland	1.588	23/10/2020	19/11/2020	71.728.398	19,10%
EE	Estonia	Kantar Emor	1.011	02/11/2020	18/11/2020	1.073.224	0,29%
IE	Ireland	Kantar Belgium	1.050	02/11/2020	18/11/2020	3.896.482	1,04%
EL	Greece	Taylor Nelson Sofres Market Research	1.030	23/10/2020	20/11/2020	9.187.524	2,45%
ES	Spain	TNS Investigación de Mercados y Opinión	1.025	23/10/2020	17/11/2020	40.006.943	10,65%
FR	France	Kantar Public France	1.008	22/10/2020	16/11/2020	52.732.499	14,04%
HR	Croatia	Hendal	1.051	23/10/2020	16/11/2020	3.488.460	0,93%
IT	Italy	Kantar Italia	1.024	22/10/2020	10/11/2020	52.397.331	13,95%
CY	Rep. Of Cyprus	CYMAR Market Research	504	22/10/2020	13/11/2020	734.695	0,20%
LV	Latvia	Kantar TNS Latvia	1.050	23/10/2020	18/11/2020	1.568.124	0,42%
LT	Lithuania	TNS LT	1.049	04/11/2020	20/11/2020	2.300.257	0,61%
LU	Luxembourg	Kantar Belgium	550	02/11/2020	20/11/2020	503.275	0,13%
HU	Hungary	Kantar Hoffmann	1.049	28/10/2020	14/11/2020	8.351.017	2,22%
MT	Malta	MISCO International	552	23/10/2020	20/11/2020	426.055	0,11%
NL	Netherlands	TNS NIPO	1.029	22/10/2020	19/11/2020	14.165.638	3,77%
AT	Austria	Das Österreichische Gallup Institut	1.010	22/10/2020	05/11/2020	7.580.083	2,02%
PL	Poland	Kantar Polska	1.017	23/10/2020	15/11/2020	32.139.021	8,56%
PT	Portugal	Marktest – Marketing, Organização e Formação	1.027	23/10/2020	16/11/2020	8.869.051	2,36%
RO	Romania	Centrul Pentru Studiarea Opiniei si Pietei (CSOP)	1.050	23/10/2020	16/11/2020	16.372.216	4,36%
SI	Slovenia	Mediana D O O	1.050	22/10/2020	14/11/2020	1.767.202	0,47%
SK	Slovakia	Kantar Slovakia	1.050	22/10/2020	19/11/2020	4.592.379	1,22%
FI	Finland	Kantar TNS Oy	1.022	04/11/2020	20/11/2020	4.488.064	1,20%
SE	Sweden	Kantar Sifo	1.042	22/10/2020	20/11/2020	8.149.850	1,90%
	TOTAL EU27		27.034	22/10/2020	20/11/2020	375.506.702	100%*

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

** Recruitments in Belgium, Czechia, Ireland and Luxembourg are carried out by Ronin International, Consumerhouse, Infas and GDCC. Non-probabilistic sample in Belgium, Czechia, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Luxembourg, Malta and Slovakia was randomly drawn from Kantar's LifePoints panel and from Norstat panel in Lithuania.

	COUNTRIES	N° OF CAPI INTERVIEWS	N° OF CAWI INTERVIEWS	TOTAL N° INTERVIEWS
BE	Belgium		1.043	1.043
BG	Bulgaria	1.053		1.053
CZ	Czechia		1.050	1.050
DK	Denmark	593	457	1.050
DE	Germany	1.242	346	1.588
EE	Estonia		1.011	1.011
IE	Ireland		1.050	1.050
EL	Greece	786	244	1.030
ES	Spain	1.025		1.025
FR	France	1.008		1.008
HR	Croatia	1.051		1.051
IT	Italy	1.024		1.024
CY	Rep. Of Cyprus	504		504
LV	Latvia	716	334	1.050
LT	Lithuania		1.049	1.049
LU	Luxembourg		550	550
HU	Hungary	1.049		1.049
MT	Malta	358	194	552
NL	Netherlands	839	190	1.029
AT	Austria	1.010		1.010
PL	Poland	1.017		1.017
PT	Portugal	1.027		1.027
RO	Romania	1.050		1.050
SI	Slovenia	68	982	1.050
SK	Slovakia	793	257	1.050
FI	Finland		1.022	1.022
SE	Sweden	285	757	1042
	TOTAL EU27	16.498	10.536	27.034

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 doorstep and in the appropriate national language. In all countries where face-to-face interviewing was feasible CAPI (Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing) was used. For all interviews conducted face to face, hygiene and physical distancing measures have always been respected in line with government regulations, and whenever possible, interviews were conducted outside homes, on doorsteps, to remain in open air and maintain social distance. Where **face-to-face interviews were not enough to reach to target or were not feasible at all**, interviews were conducted online with Computer-Assisted Web Interviewing (**CAWI**) technique.

In **Sweden, Netherlands** and **Denmark**, 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.

The **face-to-face interviews alone** were not enough to reach to target in **Germany, Greece, Latvia, Malta, Slovenia** and **Slovakia**. In these countries, **additional interviews** were conducted online with CAWI technique. Moreover, face-to-face interviews were **not feasible at all** in **Belgium, Czechia, Estonia, Finland, Ireland, Lithuania and Luxembourg**. In these countries, interviews were conducted only online.

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

In **Belgium, Czechia, Luxembourg, Ireland and Slovakia** respondents were recruited by telephone via a dual frame RDD sample design. Telephone numbers were drawn from the national telephone numbering plans.

In **these countries**, 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. Also, in **Germany, Greece** and **Malta**, where face-to-face interviews were not enough to reach the target, LifePoints panel sample was used as a supplement.

In **Estonia, Denmark, Finland, Sweden, Latvia and Slovenia**, only people randomly selected through a probabilistically drawn sample were interviewed online. In Lithuania the same approach was used but there were insufficient numbers to reach the target sample size. This sample was supplemented with a non-probabilistic sample drawn from Norstat's panel.

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 plans whilst in Finland and Sweden a random sample is drawn from the telephone register.

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 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 Eurobarometer 94.1, the response rates for the EU27, calculated by Kantar, are:

BE*	26,3%	EL	26,1%	LT*	27,6%	PT	36,6%
BG	45,5%	ES	34,7%	LU*	27,5%	RO	74,5%
CZ*	54,0%	FR	28,4%	HU	65,2%	SI	31,8%
DK	33,8%	HR	55,6%	MT	77,2%	SI*	45,3%
DK*	16,6%	IT	21,3%	NL	68,5%	SK	65,1%
DE	17,6%	CY	39,7%	NL*	26,8%	FI*	13,9%
EE*	21,6%	LV	37,1%	AT	44,3%	SE	54,1%
IE*	20,9%	LV*	15,9%	PL	40,0%	SE*	33,4%

*CAWI (for probabilistic sample) and without taking into account recruitment phase

Margins of error

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=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	0.8	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	0.8	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%	

