European
Commission

Standard Eurobarometer 77
Spring 2012

PUBLIC OPINION IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

REPORT

Fieldwork: May 2012

This survey has been requested and co-ordinated by the European Commission,
Directorate-General for Communication.

http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/index_en.htm

Standard Eurobarometer 77 / Spring 2012 – TNS Opinion & Social

Eurobarometer

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Public Opinion in the European Union

Survey carried out by TNS Opinion & Social at the request of the European Commission, Directorate-General for Communication

Survey coordinated by the European Commission, Directorate-General for Communication "Research and Speechwriting" Unit

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INTRODUCTION

This Standard Eurobarometer survey was carried out between 12 and 27 May 2012 in 34 countries and territories[1]: the 27 Member States of the European Union, the six candidate countries (Croatia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Iceland, Montenegro and Serbia), and the Turkish Cypriot Community in the part of the country not controlled by the government of the Republic of Cyprus.

The autumn 2011 Standard Eurobarometer survey (EB76) was marked by declines in many economic indicators, including the evolution of the European economy and national, European and world economic prospects. At the same time, indicators of support for the European Union deteriorated.

In February 2012, before the spring 2012 survey was conducted, the European Commission published its interim economic forecasts for spring 2012, predicting a stagnating economy in the European Union and a slight recession in the euro zone. A modest return to growth was forecast for the second half of the year.

The weeks preceding this survey were also marked by several political events. The parliamentary elections held in Greece on 6 May 2012 did not result in a majority, and the Greek electorate returned to the ballot box on 17 June 2012. In France, François Hollande won the presidential election, becoming the first socialist president since François Mitterrand (president from 1981 to 1995). Lastly, some weeks before, the leftist Direction – Social Democracy party won the parliamentary elections in Slovakia. During the fieldwork, a G8 summit was also held at Camp David in the USA, concluding by emphasising the importance of promoting growth and jobs. Just after the survey was conducted, other important events awaited the European Union: parliamentary elections in Greece and France; the G20 summit at Los Cabos in Mexico; and, at the end of June, the European Council.

The full Standard Eurobarometer report consists of several volumes. The first volume analyses the results of the historical indicators of the Standard Eurobarometer survey. Four other volumes present the state of European public opinion on other themes: the financial and economic crisis; the Europe 2020 strategy; European citizenship; values. This volume is devoted to the state of public opinion in the European Union.

This first volume is divided into three parts. The first part considers personal, social, economic and political life in the European Union as it is experienced by its citizens. It examines the financial and personal situation of citizens; their feelings about the national, European, and world economic situations; their assessments of the situation in their country as compared with the average for other European countries; their main concerns; and their future expectations. This part of the report also explores interest in politics and public opinion on the direction in which things are going, nationally and in the European Union, while also analysing public trust in national institutions and the UN.

[1] Please consult the technical specifications for the exact fieldwork dates in each country.

The second part of the report presents the principal indicators of the EU's image, and of trust in the European Union and its institutions. We first consider the attachment of Europeans to the European Union, followed by whether or not Europeans believe that the Union takes their personal and national interests into account. This part of the report also considers the attitudes of European to the speed of European integration, and to globalisation. We then ask how familiar Europeans are with the European institutions, and how far they trust them, before studying public knowledge of the European Union.

The third part of the report first analyses public support for a range of European policies. It then examines the opinions of Europeans about the main aims of European integration, both as they perceive them and as they would wish them to be. Finally, we consider public opinion on the future of the European Union.

The general analysis and the socio-demographic analyses are based on the average for the 27 Member States. This average has been weighted to reflect the actual population of each Member State. The averages for previous years represent the results obtained in all the Member States of the European Union, as it was composed at the time of the survey.

Some 32,728 people from different social and demographic groups were interviewed on a face-to-face basis in their homes in their mother tongue, at the request of the European Commission. The methodology used is that of the Standard Eurobarometer surveys conducted by the Directorate-General for Communication ("Research and Speechwriting" Unit)[2]. A technical note concerning the interviews conducted by the institutes of the TNS Opinion & Social network is attached to this report. This note also specifies the confidence intervals[3].

[2] http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/index_en.htm

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

The following abbreviations are used in this report:

ABBREVIATIONS			
BE	Belgium	LV	Latvia
CZ	Czech Republic	LU	Luxembourg
BG	Bulgaria	HU	Hungary
DK	Denmark	MT	Malta
DE	Germany	NL	The Netherlands
EE	Estonia	AT	Austria
EL	Greece	PL	Poland
ES	Spain	PT	Portugal
FR	France	RO	Romania
IE	Ireland	SI	Slovenia
IT	Italy	SK	Slovakia
CY	Republic of Cyprus***	FI	Finland
LT	Lithuania	SE	Sweden
		UK	United Kingdom
CY (tcc)	Turkish Cypriot Community		
HR	Croatia	EU27	European Union – 27 Member States
TR	Turkey		
MK	Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia ****	EU15	BE, IT, FR, DE, LU, NL, DK, UK, IE, PT, ES, EL, AT, SE, FI*
IS	Iceland	NMS12	BG, CZ, EE, CY, LT, LV, MT, HU, PL, RO, SL, SK**
ME	Montenegro	Eurozone	BE, FR, IT, LU, DE, AT, ES, PT, IE, NL, FI, EL, EE, SI, CY, MT, SK
RS	Serbia	Non-Eurozone	BG, CZ, DK, LV, LT, HU, PL, RO, SE, UK

* EU15 refers to the 15 European Union Member States before the enlargements of 2004 and 2007

** The NMS12 countries are the 12 "new Member States" that joined the European Union at the time of the 2004 and 2007 enlargements

*** 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. The interviews carried out in the part of the country that is not controlled by the government of the Republic of Cyprus are included in the "CY(tcc)" (tcc: *Turkish Cypriot Community*) category)

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

* * * * *

We wish to thank all the people interviewed throughout Europe who took the time to take part in this survey.

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

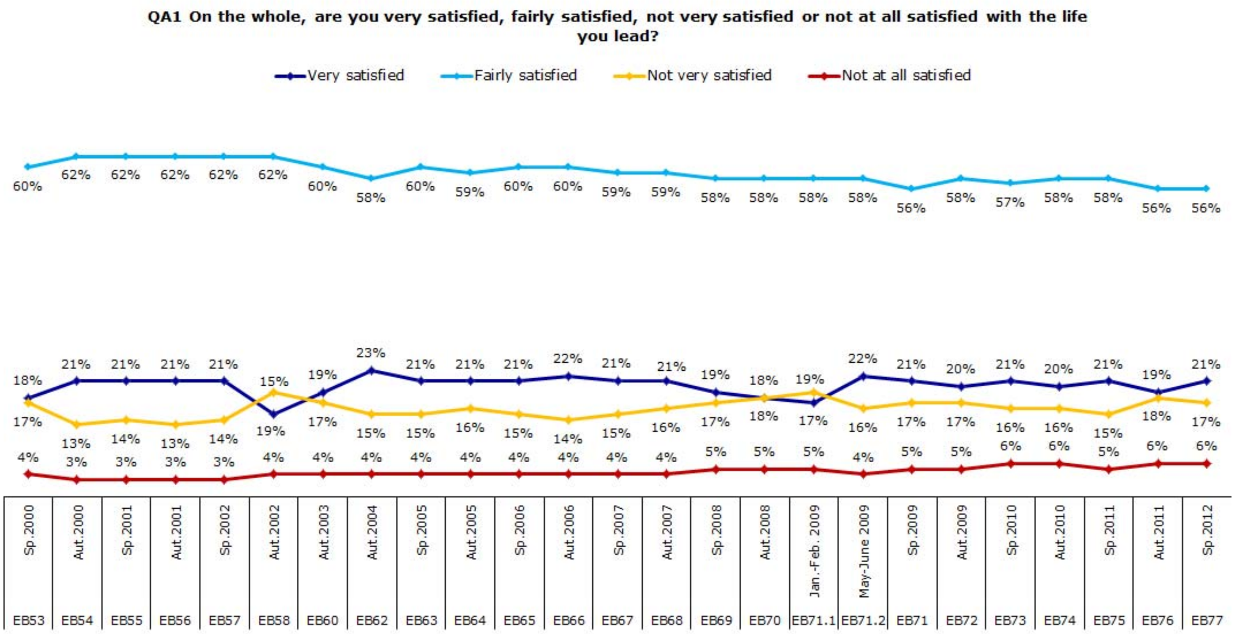
I. LIFE IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

1. Personal aspects

1.1. The personal situation of Europeans today

– Europeans are still satisfied with the life they lead, with a slight increase in positive opinions and optimism –

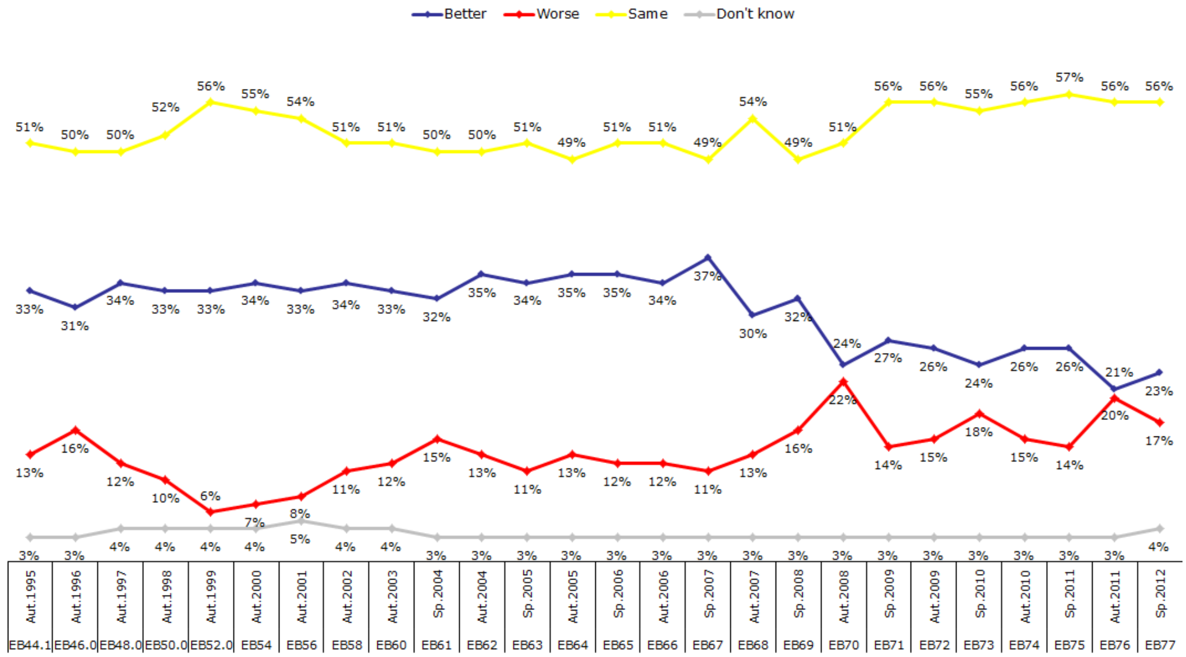
A clear majority of Europeans are still satisfied with their lives (77%). This proportion is 2 percentage points higher than in the previous Standard Eurobarometer survey (75% in autumn 2011), which followed a 4-point fall (79% in EB75 of spring 2011). The proportion of Europeans who are dissatisfied with their lives has fallen slightly (23%, -1)[4], but still represents almost a quarter of the respondents.



[4] QA1 On the whole, are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied or not at all satisfied with the life you lead?

Europeans are also slightly more optimistic about the future: although a majority of the respondents still believe that their life in general will not change over the next twelve months (56%, =), the proportion who think that it will be "better" has increased slightly (23%, +2) and pessimism has declined (17% think that it will be "worse", -3 percentage points, after a 6-point rise in autumn 2011)[5].

QA5a.1 What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...?
Your life in general

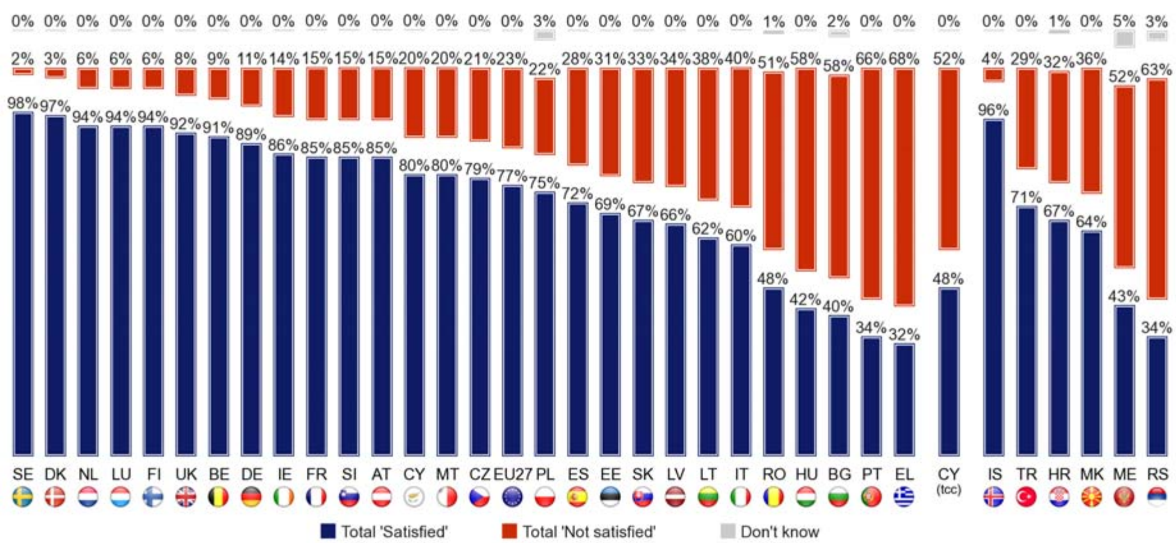


A majority of respondents remain positive about their current personal situation in 22 Member States, the exceptions being Greece (where 68% are dissatisfied), Portugal (66%), Bulgaria (58%), Hungary (58%) and Romania (51%).

[5] QA5 What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...?

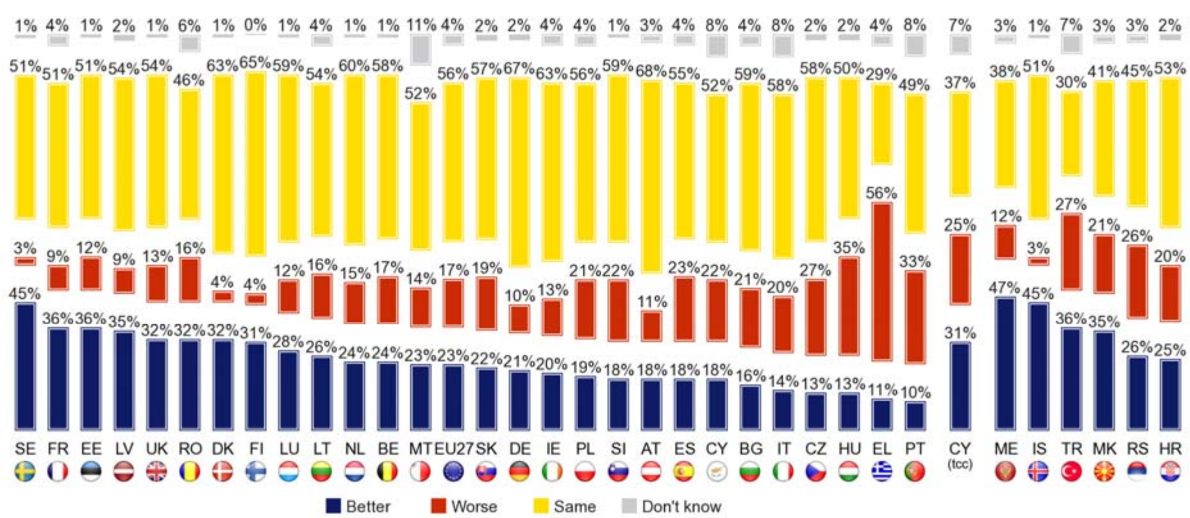
In the candidate countries, a majority of respondents are positive about their personal situation in Iceland (96%), Turkey (71%), Croatia (67%) and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (64%). However, respondents are predominantly dissatisfied in Montenegro (52%) and Serbia (63%).

QA1. On the whole, are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied or not at all satisfied with the life you lead?



Looking ahead over the next twelve months, the optimism index[6] is negative in 10 Member States (Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Greece, Spain, Italy, Cyprus, Hungary, Poland, Portugal and Slovenia), compared with 11 in autumn 2011, but only five the previous spring (EB75).

QA5a.1. What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...?
Your life in general



[6] Index which reflects the difference between optimistic and pessimistic forecasts for the next twelve months in a country (if it is positive, that means that optimism outweighs pessimism and vice versa).

QA5a.1 What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...?
Your life in general

	Better - Worse EB76 Aut.2011	Better - Worse EB77 Sp.2012	Diff. Sp.2012 - Aut.2011
EU27	+1	+6	**+5**
PT	-44	-23	**+21**
FR	+8	+27	**+19**
SK	-15	+3	**+18**
RO	-1	+16	**+17**
EE	+13	+24	**+11**
FI	+16	+27	**+11**
UK	+9	+19	**+10**
LV	+17	+26	**+9**
IE	-1	+7	**+8**
HU	-30	-22	**+8**
BE	=	+7	**+7**
EL	-52	-45	**+7**
LU	+9	+16	**+7**
SE	+35	+42	**+7**
DE	+5	+11	**+6**
LT	+4	+10	**+6**
MT	+3	+9	**+6**
AT	+1	+7	**+6**
CZ	-19	-14	**+5**
CY	-9	-4	**+5**
PL	-7	-2	**+5**
DK	+24	+28	**+4**
NL	+5	+9	**+4**
SI	-6	-4	**+2**
BG	-2	-5	**-3**
IT	+1	-6	**-7**
ES	+4	-5	**-9**
CY (tcc)	+19	+6	**-13**
HR	+5	+5	=
TR	-5	+9	**+14**
MK	+26	+14	**-12**
IS	+37	+42	**+5**
ME	+37	+35	**-2**
RS	NA	=	**NA**

Points of note:

- Personal satisfaction has decreased in Portugal (34%, -10 percentage points since EB76). It has also decreased by 7 points in Hungary (42%) and continues to decline in Greece (32%, -5) after a 9-point fall in autumn 2011. In contrast, it has increased significantly in France (85%, +9) after falling by 7 points in the previous survey.
- However, there has been a significant increase in the optimism index[7]:
    - in France (+19 percentage points to +27), Romania (+17 to +16), Estonia (+11 to +24), Finland (+11 to +27) and the United Kingdom (+10 to +19);
    - and in countries where the index remains low, such as Slovakia (+18 to +3), or even negative such as Portugal (+21, to -23), two countries in which recorded a sharp rise in pessimism in autumn 2011.
- Three countries are exceptions to this pattern, with an increase in pessimism: Spain (-9 percentage points, with an index now in negative territory at -5), Italy (-7 to -6) and Bulgaria (-3 to -5).

[7] Index which reflects the difference between optimistic and pessimistic forecasts for the next twelve months in a country (if it is positive, that means that optimism outweighs pessimism and vice versa).

1.2. The professional and financial situation

- Although Europeans are slightly more positive about their job situation and the financial health of their household, the increase is not enough to make up the ground lost in autumn 2011 -

The household's financial situation

Just over six out of ten Europeans continue to consider that the financial situation of their household is "good" (62%, versus 36% who consider that it is "bad")[8]. This indicator has improved slightly since EB76 of autumn 2011 (+1 percentage point), but not enough to offset the deterioration noted at that time (-4).

Europeans are also slightly more positive about the future, but once again the increase in optimism is not enough to offset the fall in optimism recorded in autumn 2011 (EB76). Thus, a growing majority of respondents think that the financial situation of their household will stay the same (58%, +2), while the proportion who think that the next twelve months will be "better" has increased by 1 percentage point (18%). Pessimists still outnumber optimists, but the proportion of pessimists has fallen (21%, -3 after a 7-point rise in autumn 2011)[9].

- A majority of respondents are positive about the financial situation of their household in 19 Member States. The exceptions are Greece (78% describe it as "bad"), Hungary (72%), Portugal (68%), Bulgaria (66%) and Romania (57%). These countries have been joined by three others in which a narrow majority of respondents are now pessimistic: Cyprus (51%, after an increase of 4 percentage points), Italy (50%, +4) and Ireland (49%, +2).

- Only one country has recorded a significant change for this indicator, namely Lithuania, where optimism has increased to 56% (+7).

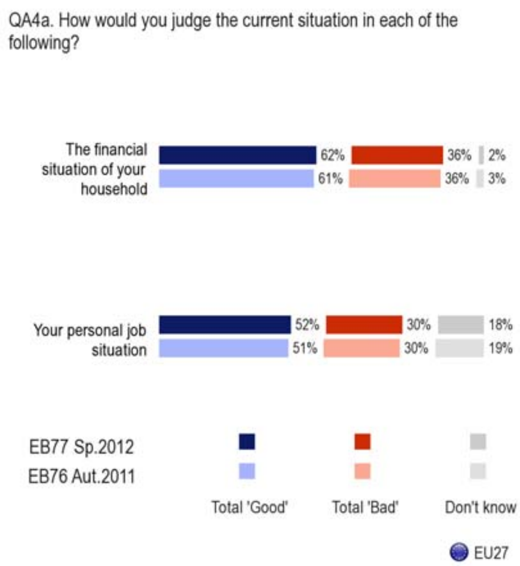
- The optimism index has improved in most Member States. Whereas only eight of them had a positive or neutral optimism index in autumn 2011, that number has now increased to 13. The most significant improvements have been recorded in Romania (+18 percentage points: the index now stands at +13), France (+17 to +16), Latvia (+14 to +24), Estonia (+13 to +22), but also in countries where the index is negative, such as Portugal (+21 to -32) and Slovakia (+19 to -6).

- Conversely, expectations have deteriorated significantly in Spain (-12 percentage points, to -12) and Italy (-11 to -19).

[8] QA4a How would you judge the current situation in each of the following?
[9] Q5a What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...?

In the candidate countries, we note:

- A significant improvement in expectations in Turkey (51%, +11), together with an improvement in the optimism index (+19 percentage points to +6).
- Although negative opinions have gained ground in Montenegro (65%, +16), the optimism index remains positive (and has even risen by 4 percentage points to +28).
- In Serbia, where the Standard Eurobarometer survey was conducted for the first time, respondents are predominantly negative about the financial situation of their household: 69% of the respondents consider say that it is bad. Asked about their expectations for the future, 45% of respondents say that things will stay the same, while 28% expect the coming year to be "worse" and almost a quarter expect it to be "better" (24%).



The job situation

Europeans are also very slightly more positive about their job situation: 52% consider that it is "good" (+1 percentage point after a 4-point fall in the previous survey) while 30% say that it is "bad" (unchanged).

Expectations for the future, which also deteriorated in autumn 2011, are more or less unchanged: a majority of respondents continue to believe that their job situation will remain the same in the next twelve months (60%, +1), while the proportion of interviewed people who believe that it will be "worse" has fallen by 1 percentage point (12%), after a 4-point rise in autumn 2011. The proportion of Europeans who consider that it will be "better" is unchanged (16%).

Points of note:

- A majority of respondents are satisfied with their job situation in 20 Member States. The exceptions are Bulgaria, Greece, Spain, Italy, Hungary, Portugal and Romania.
- Satisfaction has increased significantly in the United Kingdom (61%, +10) and has also gained ground in France (55%, +7).
- But it has decreased in Spain (40%, -7).
- This worsening situation in Spain is mirrored in expectations for the future: the optimism index has fallen sharply in Spain (-10 percentage points to -3), as it has in Italy (-10 to -12).
- In contrast, the optimism index has improved significantly in Slovakia (+10), where it is now just positive at +1.

There are strong socio-demographic divisions for all these indicators of personal satisfaction. The most educated respondents and those who almost never have difficulties paying their bills are, on average, more satisfied than Europeans as a whole. Managers are also more satisfied than white-collar and manual workers.

Similar trends underlie short-term expectations, but with less pronounced differences. Unemployed people are the most likely to believe that the financial situation of their household and their job situation will get better over the next twelve months.

	QA4a How would you judge the current situation in each of the following?						QA5a What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worseor the same, when it comes to...?							
	Your personal job situation			The financial situation of your household			The financial situation of your household				Your personal job situation			
	Total 'Good'	Total 'Bad'	Don't know	Total 'Good'	Total 'Bad'	Don't know	Better	Same	Worse	Don't know	Better	Same	Worse	Don't know
EU27	52%	30%	18%	62%	36%	2%	18%	58%	21%	3%	16%	60%	12%	12%
Gender														
Male	54%	31%	15%	64%	34%	2%	19%	57%	21%	3%	18%	59%	13%	10%
Female	50%	29%	21%	60%	37%	3%	18%	58%	21%	3%	15%	60%	12%	13%
Age														
15-24	48%	28%	24%	65%	30%	5%	30%	53%	13%	4%	33%	45%	9%	13%
25-39	61%	35%	4%	61%	37%	2%	27%	50%	20%	3%	26%	55%	14%	5%
40-54	60%	36%	4%	59%	39%	2%	17%	55%	25%	3%	15%	64%	16%	5%
55 +	43%	22%	35%	63%	35%	2%	8%	67%	23%	2%	4%	65%	10%	21%
Education (End of)														
15-	37%	34%	29%	51%	47%	2%	10%	61%	26%	3%	6%	63%	14%	17%
16-19	52%	34%	14%	59%	39%	2%	18%	56%	23%	3%	17%	59%	13%	11%
20+	67%	23%	10%	74%	24%	2%	22%	59%	17%	2%	20%	62%	10%	8%
Still studying	46%	20%	34%	68%	26%	6%	27%	57%	12%	4%	30%	45%	9%	16%
Occupation scale														
Self- employed	64%	34%	2%	64%	34%	2%	22%	54%	21%	3%	20%	61%	16%	3%
Managers	85%	14%	1%	83%	16%	1%	22%	62%	15%	1%	20%	69%	9%	2%
Other white collars	73%	24%	3%	68%	30%	2%	20%	56%	21%	3%	18%	63%	14%	5%
Manual workers	69%	29%	2%	63%	35%	2%	21%	55%	21%	3%	18%	64%	14%	4%
House persons	33%	37%	30%	49%	48%	3%	17%	59%	21%	3%	10%	63%	11%	16%
Unemployed	11%	83%	6%	27%	71%	2%	26%	39%	31%	4%	32%	36%	23%	9%
Retired	37%	20%	43%	63%	35%	2%	8%	66%	23%	3%	3%	64%	8%	25%
Students	46%	20%	34%	68%	26%	6%	27%	57%	12%	4%	30%	45%	9%	16%
Difficulties paying bills														
Most of the time	24%	63%	13%	16%	83%	1%	20%	36%	40%	4%	18%	46%	26%	10%
From time to time	43%	43%	14%	44%	54%	2%	19%	49%	28%	4%	17%	55%	18%	10%
Almost never	63%	17%	20%	82%	16%	2%	17%	67%	14%	2%	15%	65%	7%	13%

1.3. The concerns of Europeans

- Economic issues are at the heart of the personal concerns of Europeans -

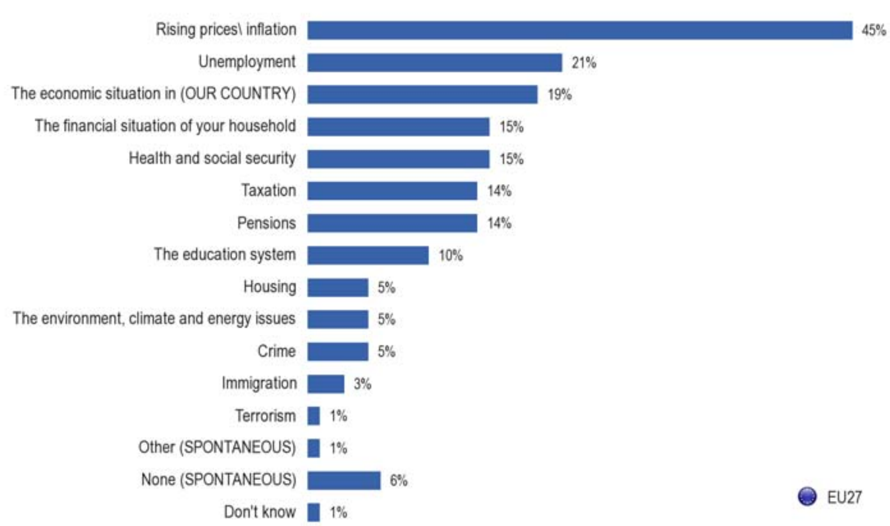
The list of problems which face Europeans is largely dominated by economic issues.

Rising prices (45%) are by far the most pressing concern of Europeans, followed by unemployment (21%). Interviewed people are more likely to be worried about their country's economic situation (19%) than about the financial situation of their household (15%).

Taxation also figures prominently among the concerns of Europeans (14%), in proportions similar to those recorded for the social issues most closely linked to financial considerations: health and social security (15%) and pensions (14%). The education system was mentioned by 10% of respondents.

These issues were followed by three items with identical scores, the environment, climate and energy issues (5%), housing (5%) and crime (5%). Finally, they mentioned immigration (3%) and terrorism (1%)[10].

QA8a. And personally, what are the two most important issues you are facing at the moment?



[10] QA8 And personally, what are the two most important issues you are facing at the moment?

It is not possible to measure the evolutions against the results of the previous survey because of several changes made to the question asked*; however, economic issues continue to top the list of concerns. In the EB76 survey, the three most frequently mentioned issues were rising prices (45%), the economic situation (25%) and unemployment (19%).

**The following changes have been made in this survey:*

- *The item "the economic situation" has been changed to "the economic situation in (OUR COUNTRY)"*
- *A new item has been added, namely "the financial situation of your household"*
- *The environment, climate change and energy issues have been combined under the item "the environment, climate and energy issues"*
- *"Healthcare" has been replaced by "health and social security"*
- *"Defence and foreign policy" has been deleted*

Rising prices are the main concern in 23 countries, in particular in Lithuania (66%) and Malta (65%), though this item was also mentioned by more than 60% of respondents in four other countries (Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary and Slovakia).

Unemployment is the primary concern in Spain (40%). It was also mentioned by a third of the people polled in Portugal (33%).

The national economic situation is the main personal concern in Greece (40%). Greece is also the country in which most respondents mentioned "the financial situation of the household" (29%), but with a considerably lower score than that recorded for the national economic situation.

This is a noticeable trend in the Eurozone countries: respondents are more concerned about the economic situation in their country (20%) than about the financial situation of their household (14%), whereas the opposite is true in the non-Eurozone countries (17/19).

Health and social security is the first concern in Sweden (39%) and the Netherlands (32%).

People polled in Sweden are also more likely than average to mention the **education system** (27%) and **the environment, climate and energy issues** (17%).

European Citizens are more likely in Italy than elsewhere to see **taxation** as a major concern (37%).

Pensions are at the forefront of the concerns of citizens in Slovenia (23%, in 2nd place after rising prices).

Housing is the chief concern of interviewed people in Luxembourg (19%, in 2nd place after rising prices).

People polled in Belgium are more likely than average to mention **crime** (14%) and **immigration** (9%).

QA8a And personally, what are the two most important issues you are facing at the moment?

	Rising prices\ inflation	Un-employment	The economic situation in (OUR COUNTRY)	The financial situation of your household	Health and social security	Taxation	Pensions	The education system	Crime	Housing	The environ-ment, climate and energy issues	Immi-gration	Terrorism
EU27	45%	21%	19%	15%	15%	14%	14%	10%	5%	5%	5%	3%	1%
BE	**45%**	12%	12%	11%	9%	19%	13%	7%	14%	7%	12%	9%	*2%*
BG	**51%**	23%	27%	22%	26%	5%	16%	6%	6%	1%	4%	*0%*	1%
CZ	**61%**	9%	14%	21%	14%	9%	16%	6%	3%	8%	3%	2%	*0%*
DK	**28%**	19%	16%	11%	12%	7%	16%	11%	6%	8%	9%	4%	*1%*
DE	**50%**	10%	10%	14%	18%	12%	15%	15%	4%	2%	10%	2%	*0%*
EE	**61%**	18%	14%	15%	21%	15%	17%	13%	3%	4%	2%	1%	*0%*
IE	**37%**	30%	34%	20%	18%	14%	6%	10%	7%	4%	3%	5%	*0%*
EL	26%	30%	**40%**	29%	10%	16%	14%	6%	10%	*0%*	1%	3%	*0%*
ES	29%	**40%**	33%	11%	10%	14%	12%	11%	2%	6%	1%	2%	*0%*
FR	**52%**	17%	12%	16%	11%	11%	15%	9%	9%	9%	5%	4%	*0%*
IT	**45%**	27%	24%	9%	5%	37%	8%	4%	4%	*2%*	3%	*2%*	3%
CY	**34%**	29%	28%	26%	10%	4%	6%	7%	8%	4%	4%	6%	*1%*
LV	**42%**	22%	24%	19%	19%	20%	11%	11%	2%	7%	1%	2%	*0%*
LT	**66%**	22%	17%	11%	16%	23%	10%	5%	4%	6%	1%	2%	*0%*
LU	**34%**	11%	8%	7%	7%	10%	10%	15%	9%	19%	7%	6%	*2%*
HU	**61%**	24%	20%	26%	16%	10%	16%	5%	3%	6%	3%	1%	*0%*
MT	**65%**	9%	22%	16%	7%	8%	10%	8%	5%	3%	14%	6%	*0%*
NL	29%	10%	23%	18%	**32%**	9%	16%	18%	7%	8%	9%	2%	*0%*
AT	**55%**	10%	13%	15%	15%	9%	14%	12%	6%	7%	7%	5%	*2%*
PL	**59%**	26%	13%	14%	17%	6%	17%	5%	*1%*	3%	*1%*	*1%*	*1%*
PT	**47%**	33%	27%	15%	13%	13%	12%	4%	2%	3%	*1%*	*1%*	*1%*
RO	**48%**	18%	26%	25%	20%	14%	14%	7%	7%	6%	2%	*1%*	2%
SI	**30%**	15%	18%	15%	12%	8%	23%	13%	2%	6%	5%	1%	*0%*
SK	**62%**	14%	13%	23%	17%	4%	12%	8%	2%	9%	4%	*0%*	*0%*
FI	**35%**	20%	15%	12%	30%	13%	15%	5%	8%	7%	13%	4%	*0%*
SE	5%	21%	15%	20%	**39%**	7%	18%	27%	9%	13%	17%	4%	*1%*
UK	**39%**	20%	16%	18%	14%	9%	18%	11%	9%	8%	6%	5%	*1%*
CY (tcc)	44%	33%	32%	5%	5%	10%	3%	11%	20%	11%	8%	10%	3%
HR	**64%**	26%	26%	28%	12%	6%	16%	6%	2%	5%	3%	*0%*	1%
TR	29%	32%	**38%**	2%	8%	8%	3%	9%	4%	3%	9%	*1%*	24%
MK	38%	**42%**	33%	19%	9%	4%	7%	5%	8%	*2%*	4%	*2%*	3%
IS	**40%**	11%	20%	29%	20%	15%	15%	14%	3%	15%	5%	1%	*0%*
ME	**44%**	28%	30%	31%	6%	5%	3%	4%	5%	8%	7%	*1%*	*1%*
RS	**40%**	30%	27%	34%	9%	7%	2%	6%	9%	8%	8%	*1%*	2%

Highest percentage per country *Lowest percentage per country*

Highest percentage per item	Lowest percentage per item

A socio-demographic analysis reveals that rising prices and inflation are the first concern in all categories, except among unemployed people who are very likely to mention unemployment (73%).

Self-employed people are far more concerned than average about taxation (30%) and the economic situation in their country (28%); these issues worry them more than the financial situation of their household (16%). The same trend is evident among managers: 22% mention their country's economic situation and 15% their household finances; and the same applies to Europeans who never have difficulty paying their bills (17% mention the economic situation in their country and 14% that of their household). Unemployed people place these two items on an equal footing (19% cite the national situation and 18% the household situation).

The youngest respondents are more concerned than average about unemployment (28%), which is their second concern, after rising prices (37%) and just ahead of the education system (25%).

QA8a And personally, what are the two most important issues you are facing at the moment?

	Rising prices\ inflation	Unemployment	The economic situation in (OUR COUNTRY)	The financial situation of your household	Health and social security
EU27	45%	21%	19%	15%	15%
Age					
15-24	37%	28%	16%	15%	7%
25-39	47%	26%	20%	19%	11%
40-54	46%	24%	22%	19%	13%
55 +	46%	12%	16%	10%	22%
Occupation scale					
Self- employed	44%	14%	28%	16%	16%
Managers	43%	9%	22%	15%	14%
Other white collars	49%	17%	21%	16%	15%
Manual workers	53%	17%	19%	14%	19%
House persons	45%	27%	21%	13%	19%
Unemployed	33%	73%	19%	18%	12%
Retired	47%	9%	13%	17%	9%
Students	31%	25%	17%	15%	10%
Difficulties paying bills					
Most of the time	43%	38%	20%	19%	12%
From time to time	48%	27%	22%	10%	22%
Almost never	44%	14%	17%	14%	15%

5 most frequently mentioned items

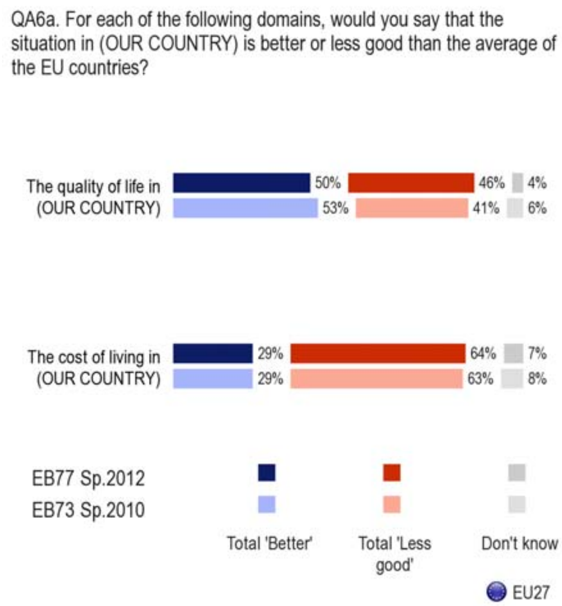
2. The national situation compared with the European average

- Europeans have the impression that the situation is worse in their country than elsewhere in Europe on a majority of issues (cost of living, employment, prospects for the future, youth). The quality of life and the environment are exceptions -

2.1. The quality of life and the cost of living

The quality of life

Half of Europeans (50%) say that **the quality of life in their country** is better than the average of the EU countries[11]. While this still represents a narrow majority, the proportion has fallen since spring 2010 (EB73), when this view was shared by 53% of Europeans. Conversely, the proportion of Europeans who consider that the situation is “less good” has increased significantly (46%, +5).



A majority of respondents in fifteen Member States have the impression that the quality of life in their country is better than the European average. This is particularly true in Luxembourg (93% think that the situation in their country is “better”, including 44% who replied “much better”), Denmark (92%), Finland (91%), Austria (89%), Sweden (87%), the Netherlands (85%) and Germany (81%). The next highest scores were recorded in Belgium and France, followed by Cyprus, Ireland, the United Kingdom and Malta.

On average, respondents in the EU15 countries are very positive about their national situation, since 60% of them consider that it is better than the EU average, whereas the vast majority of people polled in the NMS12 countries say that the quality of life is less good in their country (84%).

The countries where respondents are the most convinced that their quality of life is less good are NMS12 countries: Bulgaria (96% believe that their situation is “less good” than the EU average, including 68% who think that it is “definitely less good”), Hungary (93%), Romania (90%) and Lithuania (89%). However, the list also includes some EU15 countries which have experienced serious economic problems, such as Portugal (84%) and Greece (80%).

[11] QA6a For each of the following domains, would you say that the situation in (OUR COUNTRY) is better or less good than the average of the EU countries?

The most significant evolutions since EB73 of spring 2010 also concern Spain and Italy: in Spain, the feeling that the quality of life is better than average has fallen by 25 percentage points to 28%, and is now the minority opinion (compared with 66% for whom it is "less good", +26), while in Italy, it has fallen by 15 points (27%).

The cost of living

Judgements of the **cost of living are more severe**. Almost two-thirds of Europeans consider that the situation in their country is "less good" than the EU average (64%). This proportion is more or less unchanged in comparison with the EB73 survey (+1, versus 29% who answered "better", unchanged).

A majority of respondents believe that the cost of living in their country is better than the European average in only four Member States. These four countries are also among the most positive about their quality of life: Austria (62% answered "better", though only 7% said "much better"), Sweden (58%), Germany (53%) and the Netherlands (53%).

Points of note: Finland, the European country with the third highest proportion of respondents considering that their quality of life is better than the average, ranks only 10th when it comes to assessing the cost of living, evidence that these two subjects are only partially linked.

The countries in which the respondents are the most negative are Bulgaria (96%), Greece (96%), Hungary (94%), Lithuania (93%), Romania (91%), Portugal (88%) and Slovakia (88%).

The most striking changes in comparison with spring 2010 (EB73) are:

- The feeling that the national cost of living is better than average has deteriorated sharply in Cyprus (21%, -16 percentage points), Spain (17%, -15) and Estonia (9%, -10).
- However, this view has gained significant ground in France (42%, +12), the United Kingdom (41%, +11) and Malta (20%, +10).

Points of note: there is a difference, albeit narrower than in the EB73 survey, between answers in Eurozone countries (where 33% say that the situation is better in their country) and the responses given outside the Eurozone (25%).

In the candidate countries:

- A majority of respondents consider that their quality of life is less good than the European average, with the notable exception of Iceland (80% say that their situation is “better”). However, interviewed people in Iceland continue to be unhappy about the cost of living since, despite a clear improvement since EB73, 65% say that it is less good. This nevertheless represents as 7-point fall.
- In Turkey, although a majority of respondents still compare the country’s situation unfavourably with the European average, judgments have improved significantly: 41% (+22) say their situation is better in terms of their quality of life, and 41% (+19) in terms of the cost of living..
- In Serbia, the respondents have a very poor opinion of both the quality of life in their country (85% say that it is “less good”, including 52% for whom it is “definitely less good”) and the cost of living (87%, including 55% for whom it is “definitely less good”).

A socio-demographic analysis reveals that respondents’ opinions of the national situation are strongly influenced by their personal situation. The following categories are more likely to consider that the situation in their country is better than the European average:

- Respondents who studied up to the age of 20 or beyond (57% for the quality of life and 35% for the cost of living, versus 42% and 25% among Europeans who left school before the age of 16).
- Managers (63% and 40%, whereas the scores for self-employed people, white-collar workers and manual workers are in line with the European average, and unemployed people are more critical: 37% and 21%).
- Europeans who never struggle to pay their bills (59% and 37% versus 32% and 17% among Europeans who have difficulties most of the time).

QA6a For each of the following domains, would you say that the situation in (OUR COUNTRY) is better or less good than the average of the EU countries?

	The quality of life in (OUR COUNTRY)		
	Better - Less good EB73 Sp.2010	Better - Less good EB77 Sp.2012	Diff. Sp.2012 - Sp.2010
EU27	+12	+4	**-8**
EU15	+34	+25	**-9**
NMS12	-74	-72	**+2**
LV	-88	-70	**+18**
LT	-91	-81	**+10**
FR	+57	+65	**+8**
HU	-93	-87	**+6**
RO	-90	-85	**+5**
FI	+78	+83	**+5**
LU	+83	+87	**+4**
MT	+2	+6	**+4**
UK	+29	+33	**+4**
AT	+76	+79	**+3**
PT	-77	-74	**+3**
CZ	-51	-49	**+2**
PL	-68	-66	**+2**
IE	+32	+33	**+1**
BE	+62	+61	**-1**
BG	-94	-94	**=**
SK	-60	-60	**=**
DK	+88	+87	**-1**
DE	+67	+65	**-2**
EE	-57	-60	**-3**
SE	+79	+76	**-3**
EL	-53	-61	**-8**
NL	+82	+72	**-10**
SI	-17	-29	**-12**
CY	+52	+35	**-17**
IT	-11	-42	**-31**
ES	+13	-38	**-51**
CY (tcc)	-27	-53	**-26**
TR	-51	-11	**+40**
HR	-62	-57	**+5**
IS	+58	+62	**+4**
MK	-72	-71	**+1**
ME	NA	-73	**NA**
RS	NA	-74	**NA**

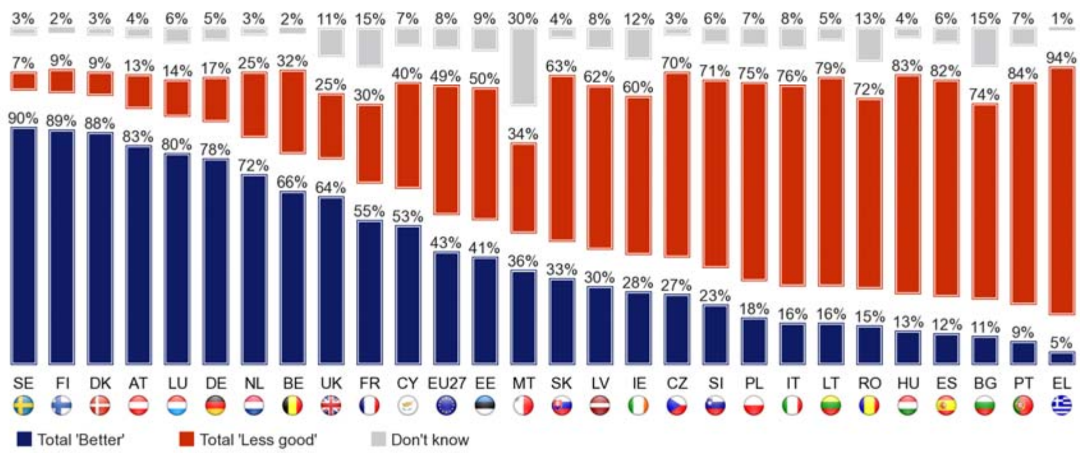
	The cost of living in (OUR COUNTRY)		
	Better - Less good EB73 Sp.2010	Better - Less good EB77 Sp.2012	Diff. Sp.2012 - Sp.2010
EU27	-34	-35	**-1**
EU15	-21	-22	**-1**
NMS12	-80	-77	**+3**
FR	-25	-4	**+21**
MT	-71	-51	**+20**
UK	-25	-6	**+19**
FI	-41	-31	**+10**
LV	-75	-66	**+9**
PL	-70	-64	**+6**
IE	-80	-75	**+5**
LT	-93	-89	**+4**
HU	-93	-89	**+4**
AT	+27	+29	**+2**
RO	-90	-88	**+2**
CZ	-71	-70	**+1**
DE	+12	+13	**+1**
SE	+22	+23	**+1**
BG	-94	-94	**=**
DK	-5	-7	**-2**
PT	-79	-81	**-2**
SK	-74	-77	**-3**
EL	-89	-93	**-4**
SI	-65	-69	**-4**
LU	+5	-5	**-10**
NL	+20	+10	**-10**
IT	-53	-66	**-13**
BE	-11	-25	**-14**
EE	-54	-78	**-24**
ES	-27	-58	**-31**
CY	-19	-53	**-34**
CY (tcc)	-37	-56	**-19**
TR	-45	-12	**+33**
IS	-56	-36	**+20**
MK	-83	-75	**+8**
HR	-85	-84	**+1**
ME	NA	-69	**NA**
RS	NA	-78	**NA**

2.2. Future prospects

When asked to compare the **future prospects** of their country with the European average, a narrow majority of Europeans say that the future looks "less good" (49% versus 43% for "better").

QA6a.7. For each of the following domains, would you say that the situation in (OUR COUNTRY) is better or less good than the average of the EU countries?

Prospects for the future in (OUR COUNTRY)



There are wide variations between Member States: a majority of respondents in twelve countries believe that the future looks brighter than elsewhere in Europe. These include the countries which were most positive about the quality of life - namely Sweden (90%), Finland (89%), Denmark (88%), Austria (83%), Luxembourg (80%) - but also includes Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium, the United Kingdom, France and Cyprus. This view is also shared by a narrow majority of interviewed people in Malta, 30% of whom could not answer the question.

Points of note: although scores are high in some of the above-mentioned countries (sometimes as high as 90%), the feeling that the future prospects in their country are "much better" than the EU average never exceeds 19% (recorded in Austria).

The most pessimistic countries are Greece (94%, including 63% who replied "definitely less good"), Portugal (84%), Hungary (83%) and Spain (82%).

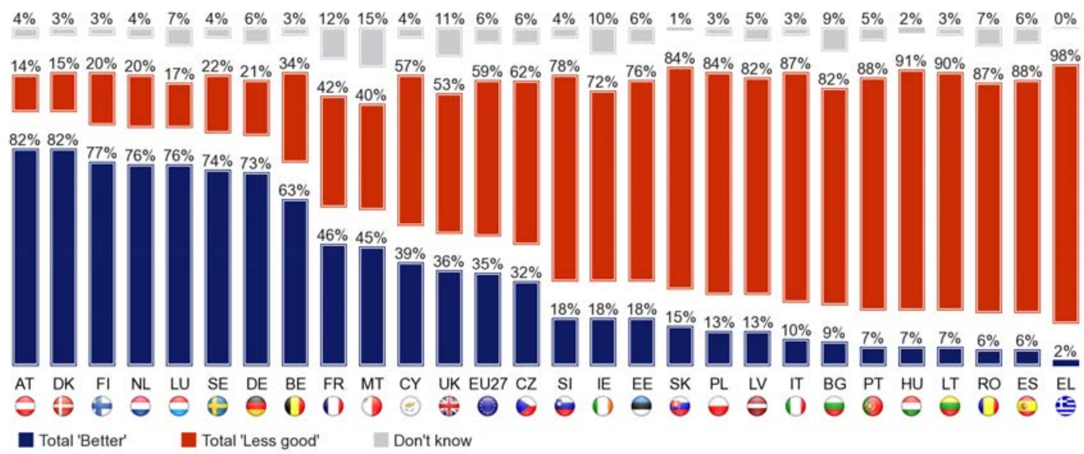
There are once again significant differences between EU15 countries (50% say that their situation is "better") and the NMS12 countries (only 19%). The difference between the Eurozone and non-Eurozone countries is much smaller (46% and 40% respectively).

2.3. The situation of young people

When asked to compare the **situation of young people** in their country with that of their European neighbours, a majority of Europeans are negative about their country: 59% describe the situation as "less good", while only 35% say "better".

QA6a.8. For each of the following domains, would you say that the situation in (OUR COUNTRY) is better or less good than the average of the EU countries?

The situation of the youth in (OUR COUNTRY)



Once again, there are wide variations between Member States. A majority of respondents in ten countries think that the situation is better in their country: Denmark (82%), Austria (82%), Finland (77%), Luxembourg (76%), the Netherlands (76%), Sweden (74%), Germany (73%), Belgium (63%) and, by a narrow majority, France (46%) and Malta (45%).

Respondents believe that the situation of young people is worse in their country than elsewhere in Greece (98%), Hungary (91%), Lithuania (90%), Spain (88%) and Portugal (88%).

A socio-demographic analysis does not reveal any differences by age of the respondents:

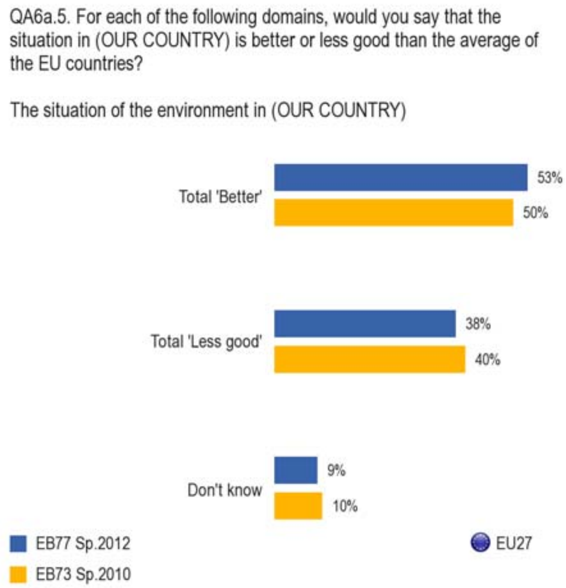
- 37% of 15-24 year-olds say that the situation in their country is better than elsewhere, compared with an average of 35%.
- On this question, as with the previous questions, the level of education and social status of the respondents are more discriminatory factors: 43% of the most educated respondents consider that the situation of young people in their country is better than in the European average, compared with only 26% of those who left school before the age of 16.
- This view is shared by 44% of those who almost never have difficulties paying their bills, but by only 17% of those who have difficulties most of the time.

2.4. The situation of the environment

A majority of Europeans consider that **current situation of the environment in their country** is better than the EU average: 53% versus 38%. This proportion has increased by 3 percentage points since spring 2010 (EB73).

A majority of people polled in sixteen Member States say the situation of the environment is better in their country, notably in the Nordic countries: Finland (94%, including 33% who replied "much better"), Denmark (92%) and Sweden (92%). These respondents were also the most positive about the quality of life in their country.

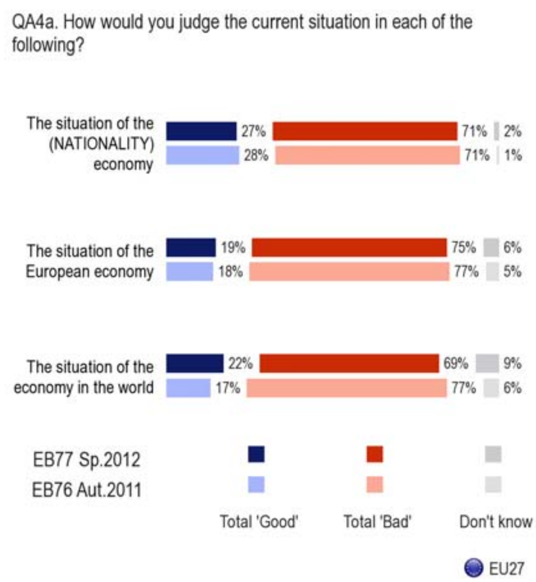
Respondents in Hungary (74% say that situation is "less good"), Romania (74%), Bulgaria (73%), and Greece, Italy and Portugal (all 63%) are the most negative about the situation of the environment in their country.



3. Economic aspects

3.1. Evaluation of the current economic situation

3.1.1. The national, European and world situations



Opinions of Europeans about the **economic situation in their country** are more or less unchanged, after having deteriorated sharply in autumn 2011: more than seven out of ten Europeans consider that it is "bad" (71%, =), while 27% say it is "good" (-1). Three out of ten Europeans still describe it as "very bad" (30%, -1, following a 6-point rise in EB76 of autumn 2011).

Opinions of the **European economic situation**, which had become far more gloomy in EB76 of autumn 2011 (77% described it as "bad", a 16-point rise since EB75 of spring 2011), are now slightly less negative, but have not recovered the ground lost in autumn 2011: 75% of Europeans describe it as "bad" (-2, including 25% for whom it is "very bad", -2), while 19% say it is "good" (+1).

There has been a real shift of opinion as regards the **situation of the economy in the world.** The proportion of people who say that it is bad rose sharply in autumn 2011 (77%, +11), but has now fallen significantly (69%, -8), though without regaining the EB75 level of spring 2011 (66%). Just under a quarter of Europeans now consider that the situation of the world economy is "good" (22% +5)[12].

[12] QA4. How would you judge the current situation in each of the following?

Eurozone respondents continue to be slightly more upbeat than non-Eurozone respondents about the national economic situation (29%, -1, versus 23%, +2), but the gap is narrowing. Only 17% of Eurozone respondents say that the European economy is good (stable), while non-Eurozone respondents are slightly more positive, and record a slightly higher result than previously (23%, +3).

QA4a How would you judge the current situation in each of the following?

	The situation of the (NATIONALITY) economy		The situation of the European economy		The situation of the economy in the world	
	Total 'Good'	Total 'Bad'	Total 'Good'	Total 'Bad'	Total 'Good'	Total 'Bad'
EU27	27%	71%	19%	75%	22%	69%
Euro Zone	29%	69%	17%	79%	19%	74%
Non-Euro Zone	23%	75%	23%	68%	27%	60%

Regarding the national economic situation:

- Only six Member States consider that the national economic situation is good: Sweden (83%), Luxembourg (82%), Germany (77%), Finland (68%), Austria (66%) and Denmark (55%).
- Denmark is also the only country in which opinions of the national economic situation have improved strongly (+12). However, they have also improved, albeit to a lesser extent, in Belgium (37%, +7 after -24 in autumn 2011) and Malta (41%, +7).
- However, in the Netherlands, favourable opinions have decreased fairly sharply and are now in the minority (40%, -16). They have also lost ground in Cyprus (14%, -7).
- Negative opinions continue to exceed 90% in eight Member States (Greece, Spain, Portugal, Ireland, Hungary, Italy, Bulgaria and Romania). In Greece, they are as high as 100% (including 82% describing the situation as "very bad")

Regarding the European economic situation:

- Interviewed people are predominantly negative in all the Member States except for Lithuania, where opinions have improved significantly (48%, +12).
- In other countries, opinions are also more positive than in autumn 2011, notably in Estonia (36%, +12), Slovenia (27%, +10) and Denmark (21%, +12).
- Respondents are the most negative in Ireland (92% describe the situation of the European economy as "bad", including 54% who consider that it is "very bad"), Spain (90% and 40%) and Italy (90% and 36%). Half the UK respondents also described the economic situation in the European Union as "very bad" (50% out of a total score of 85% for "bad").

Regarding the world economic situation:

- Lithuania is once again the only country where a majority of respondents are positive about the situation, with a significant improvement (46%, +11).
- The proportion of positive opinions has also increased sharply in Denmark (28%, +17), Estonia (35%, +12), the Netherlands (32%, +12), Finland (39%, +11) and Sweden (29%, +13).

In the candidate countries:

- Opinions about the **national economic situation** are predominantly and increasingly negative in Turkey (45%, +10). However, negative views are now less widespread in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (27%, -11).
- The latter is the only country in which a majority of respondents are still positive about the European economic situation (54%), but positive opinions have gained ground in Turkey (35%, +9).
- The same is true as regards the world economy (49%, +3 in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, but also 32%, +10 in Turkey). Opinions on this subject have also improved in Iceland (21%, +10).
- People polled in Serbia are very negative about the economic situation in their country (89% say that it is “bad”). However, they are slightly more positive than the European average about the economic situation in the European Union (62% consider that it is “bad” versus an average of 75%).

Perceptions of the national economic situation compared with the European average

When asked how the **situation of their national economy compares with the EU average**, 43% of Europeans say that the situation in their country is “better”. This represents a 5-point rise since EB73 of spring 2010. A smaller majority of people (51%, -3) continue to believe that the situation in their country is “less good” than elsewhere.

Unsurprisingly, the countries in which the respondents are most likely to consider that their national economic situation is “better” than the European average are those in which they are the most positive about the national economy: Sweden (94%), Denmark (91%), Finland (90%), Luxembourg (89%), Austria (86%) and Germany (85%).

Conversely, the respondents who make comparisons which are least favourable to their country are those who are the most gloomy about their national economy, led by respondents in Greece (99% say that their situation is “less good”, including 79% for whom it is “definitely less good”), Bulgaria (94%), Hungary (90%) and Spain (89%).

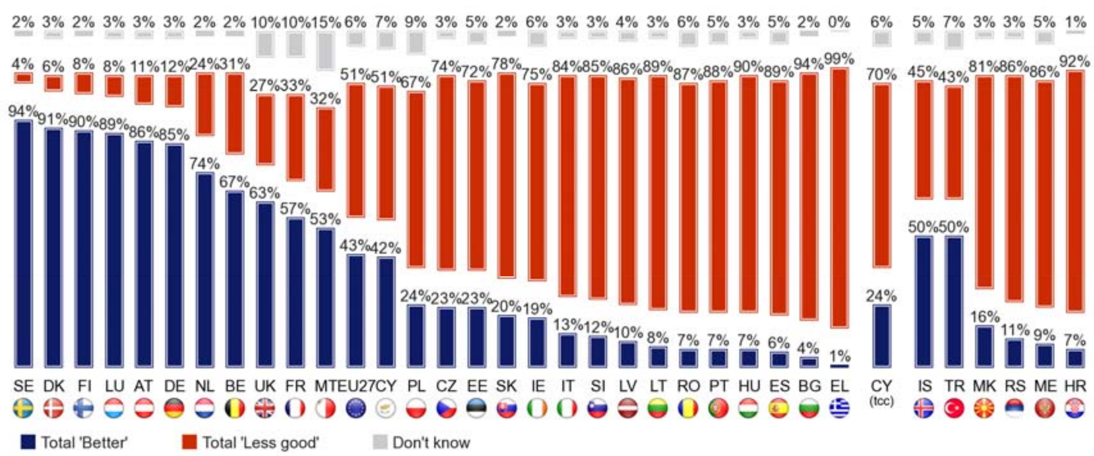
Points of note: an unchanged proportion of Europeans who say that the economic situation in their country is “bad” nevertheless believe that it is “better” than in the rest of Europe: 30% (+1).

The most significant evolutions since EB73 of spring 2010 include:

- A significant rise in the numbers who say that their national economic situation is better than average in the United Kingdom (63%, +21), Malta (53%, +17), Belgium (67%, +15), France (57%, +13) and Germany (85%, +11).
- A sharp deterioration in judgements in Cyprus (42%, -21), Italy (13%, -12) and the Netherlands (74%, -11).

QA6a.1. For each of the following domains, would you say that the situation in (OUR COUNTRY) is better or less good than the average of the EU countries?

The situation of the (NATIONALITY) economy



A socio-demographic analysis reveals very striking divisions.

QA6.1 For each of the following domains, would you say that the situation in (OUR COUNTRY) is better or less good than the average of the EU countries?

The situation of the (NATIONALITY) economy

	Total 'Better'	Total 'Less good'	Don't know
EU27	43%	51%	6%
Age			
15-24	45%	48%	7%
25-39	42%	54%	4%
40-54	45%	51%	4%
55 +	43%	50%	7%
Education (End of)			
15-	34%	59%	7%
16-19	43%	52%	5%
20+	52%	44%	4%
Still studying	45%	49%	6%
Occupation scale			
Self- employed	39%	56%	5%
Managers	60%	37%	3%
Other white collars	46%	51%	3%
Manual workers	45%	50%	5%
House persons	30%	62%	8%
Unemployed	29%	66%	5%
Retired	44%	49%	7%
Students	45%	49%	6%
Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	24%	70%	6%
From time to time	31%	64%	5%
Almost never	54%	40%	6%

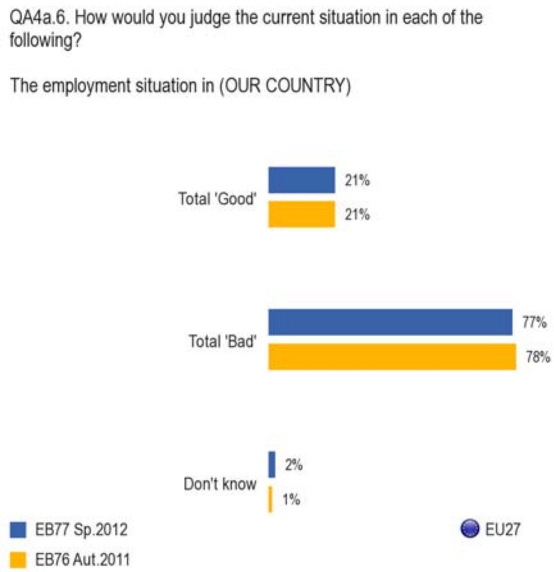
The Europeans who studied the longest look more favourably than the least educated respondents on the economic situation in their country (33% versus 19%). They are also far more likely to say that it is better than elsewhere, with an even more pronounced differential (52% versus 34%).

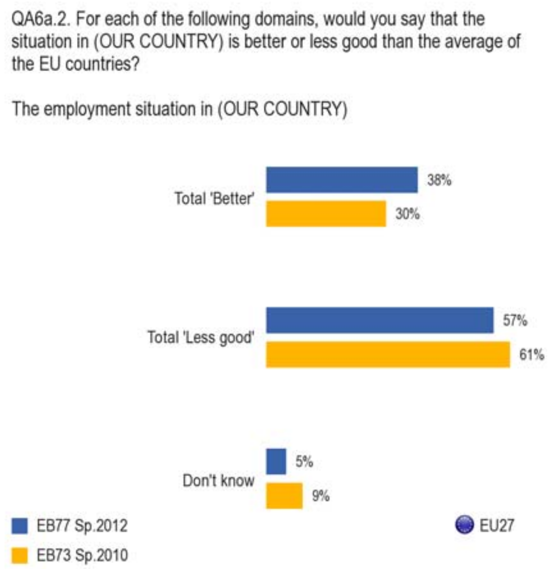
- The same is true of managers, 40% of whom say that the national economic situation is "good" (versus 29% of white-collar workers, 26% of manual workers and only 14% of unemployed people) and 60% of whom believe that it is "better" (versus 46% of white-collar workers, 45% of manual workers and 29% of unemployed people).
- Similarly, Europeans who never or almost never have difficulties in paying their bills are also likely to view their national economy in a favourable light (36% versus 11% of those who have difficulties most of the time; 54/24 for the comparison with the EU average).

3.1.2. Employment

The opinions of European about the employment situation in their country are fairly stable: a clear majority of respondents continue to say that it is “bad” (77%, -1, versus 21% for “good”, unchanged).

However, almost four out of ten Europeans think that their national employment situation is better than the European average (38%). Although this is still the minority opinion (57% say that it is “less good”), this proportion has increased significantly since EB73 of spring 2010 (+8), when only 15% of Europeans believed that the employment situation in their country was “good”.





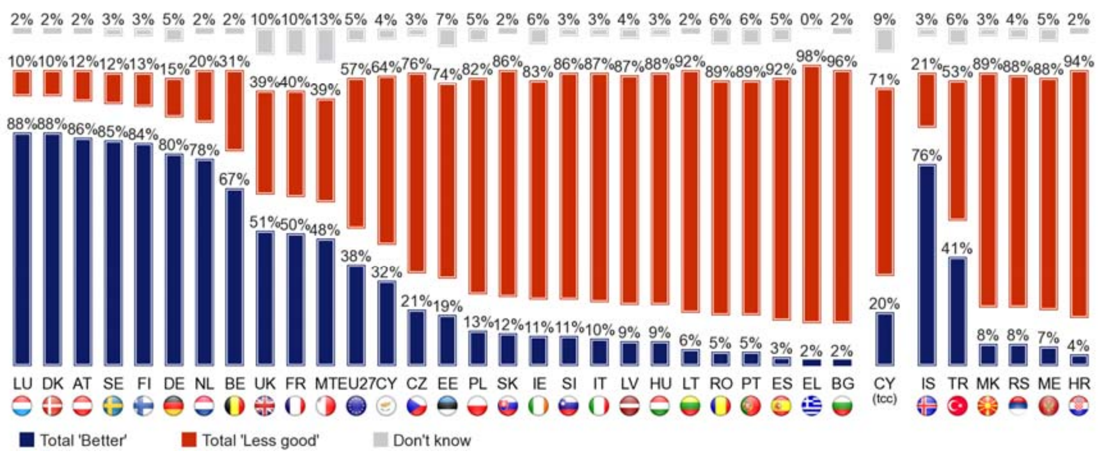
A majority of respondents believe that the national employment situation is good in only four Member States: Austria (64%), Germany (62%), Luxembourg (57%) and Finland (55%). Logically, these countries also figure among those that consider that their national situation is better than the EU average.

Denmark is an interesting case: positive opinions of the national employment situation are still in a minority, though they have gained ground significantly (39%, +9), but this is the country where interviewed people are the most likely to believe that the situation is worse elsewhere (88% consider that the situation in their country is “better” than the EU average).

The countries that are the most critical of the national employment situation, whether in itself or in comparison with the other European countries, include Greece (100% replied "bad" and 98% replied "less good" than the EU average), Spain (99% and 92%), Portugal (98% and 89%), Hungary (96% and 88%), Ireland (96% and 83%), Italy (95% and 87%) and Bulgaria (94% and 96%).

QA6a.2. For each of the following domains, would you say that the situation in (OUR COUNTRY) is better or less good than the average of the EU countries?

The employment situation in (OUR COUNTRY)



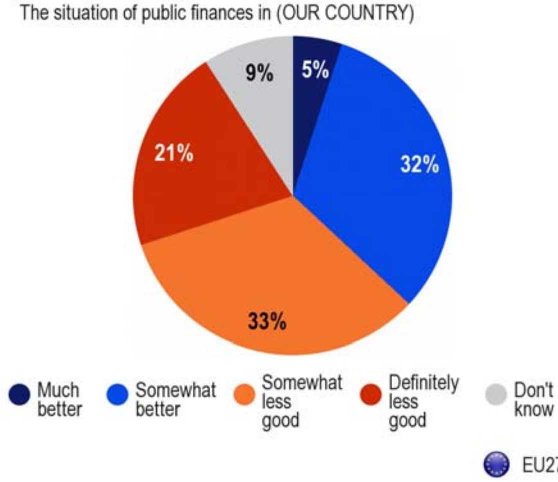
3.1.3. Public finances

Asked for the first time to compare the **situation of public finances in their country with the EU average**, a majority of Europeans consider that their national situation is "less good" than elsewhere: 54%, while 37% think that it is "better".

Just over two in ten Europeans even say that it is "definitely less good" (21%).

QA6a.6. For each of the following domains, would you say that the situation in (OUR COUNTRY) is better or less good than the average of the EU countries?

The situation of public finances in (OUR COUNTRY)



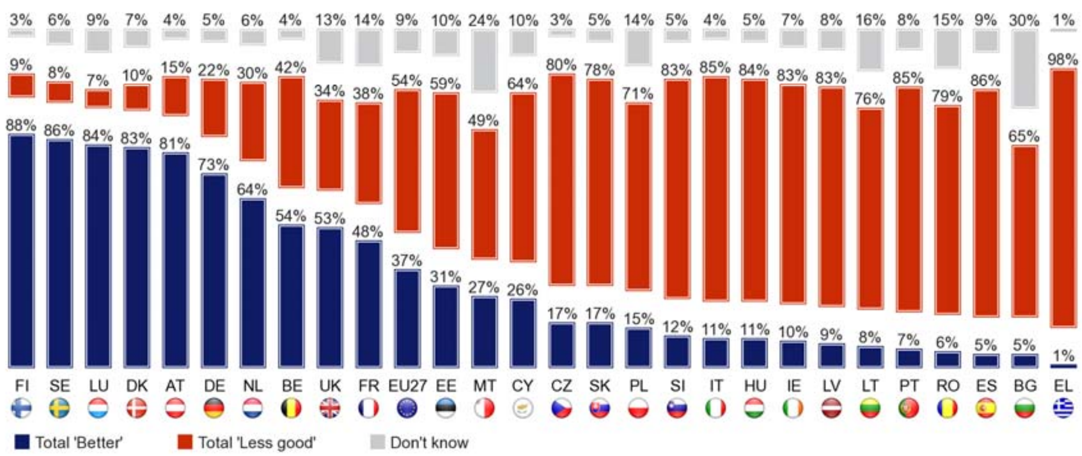
The answers to this question reveal very pronounced differences between the EU15 countries (44% "better" versus 48% "less good") and the NMS12 countries (13% versus 74%). However, the differences between Eurozone countries (39% versus 54%) and non-Eurozone countries (33% versus 54%) are far less pronounced.

The most critical people include those who were previously the most negative about their national economic situation, led by Greece (98% describe their situation as “less good”, including 77% for whom it is “definitely less good”), Spain (86%), Italy (85%) and Portugal (85%), ahead of Hungary (84%), Ireland (83%), Latvia (83%) and Slovenia (83%).

In ten Member States, the majority of the respondents consider that their country’s public finances are in a better state than the European Union average. The highest scores were recorded in Finland (88%), Sweden (86%), Luxembourg (84%) and Denmark (83%).

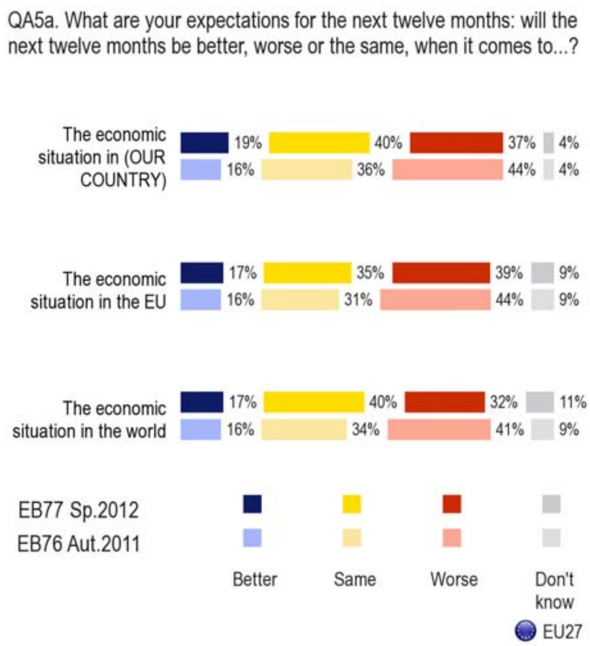
QA6a.6. For each of the following domains, would you say that the situation in (OUR COUNTRY) is better or less good than the average of the EU countries?

The situation of public finances in (OUR COUNTRY)



3.2. Expectations for the next twelve months

3.2.1. The national, European and world situations



After a sharp deterioration in autumn 2011 (EB76), the economic forecasts of Europeans for the next twelve months are less gloomy. Although it would not be accurate to talk of renewed optimism, the feeling that things will stabilise has gained ground, while at the same time pessimism has decreased.

- A majority of respondents now consider that **the national economic situation** will stay the same over the next twelve months (40%, +4). Pessimism still outweighs optimism, but has declined (37%, -7) and the feeling that the next twelve months will be "better" has gained ground (19%, +3).

- Forecasts for the **European economic situation are also brighter**, but respondents remain more divided than in the case of the national economy: although pessimism has decreased, pessimists are still in a majority (39%, -5). More than a third of Europeans now believe that things will stay the same (35%, +4). Europeans who believe that the next twelve months will be better are still in a minority, with a more or less unchanged score (17%, +1).

- Finally, pessimism has fallen the most sharply in respect of the **world economic situation**: 40% of Europeans think that it will stay the same (40%, +6), while 32% believe that the next twelve months will be "worse" (-9) and 17% think that they will be "better" (+1).

Expectations regarding the national economic situation are fairly similar in the EU15 countries (where 40% believe that the economic situation will stay the same) and in the NMS12 countries (42%); the same holds true for the Eurozone countries (39%) and the non-Eurozone countries (42%).

However, forecasts regarding the European economic situation reveal that respondents in the EU15 countries are far more pessimistic (42% think that the next twelve months will be "worse") than those in the NMS12 countries (26% versus 42% for "same"). This is also true for the Eurozone countries (41%) compared with the non-Eurozone countries (35%).

Forecasts for the **national economic situation:**

- The optimism index has moved back into positive territory in seven Member States, in some cases with very strong improvements: in Denmark (the index is +27, a 31-point rise since EB76 of autumn 2011), Estonia (+14 and +14), Latvia (+13 and +15), France (+12 and +41, the largest rise seen in any Member State), Austria (+6 and +20), Sweden (+4 and +25) and Romania (+3 and +22).
- Although respondents are still predominantly pessimistic, the optimism index for the national economic situation has also improved significantly in the Netherlands (to -36, but with a rise of +20 percentage points), Slovakia (-21 but +30) and Finland (-2 but +29).
- The two countries which continue to have the weakest optimism index, despite an improvement, are Greece (-64, after an increase of +7 percentage points) and Portugal (-50 and +18).
- The optimism index has declined in four Member States: Spain (-34 and -18 versus EB76), Italy (-34 and -12), Poland (-26 and -5) and Bulgaria (-17 and -3).

The optimism index for the economic situation in the European Union and in the world is positive in five Member States: Bulgaria (+11 for Europe /+11 for the world), Estonia (+5/+13), Lithuania (+13/+16), Latvia (+13/+17) and Romania (+13/+10). In Denmark, the optimism index is negative for the EU (-1), but positive for the world economy (+14).

- The countries with the weakest optimism index readings for the EU economic situation are the Netherlands (-50), Greece (-47) and Portugal (-40), but the index has nevertheless improved in all three countries (rising by +15, +6 and +16 percentage points respectively since EB76).
- The optimism index for the European economy has fallen in three countries: Italy (-18 percentage points, with an index of -30), Spain (-8 and -14) and Hungary (-1 and -23).

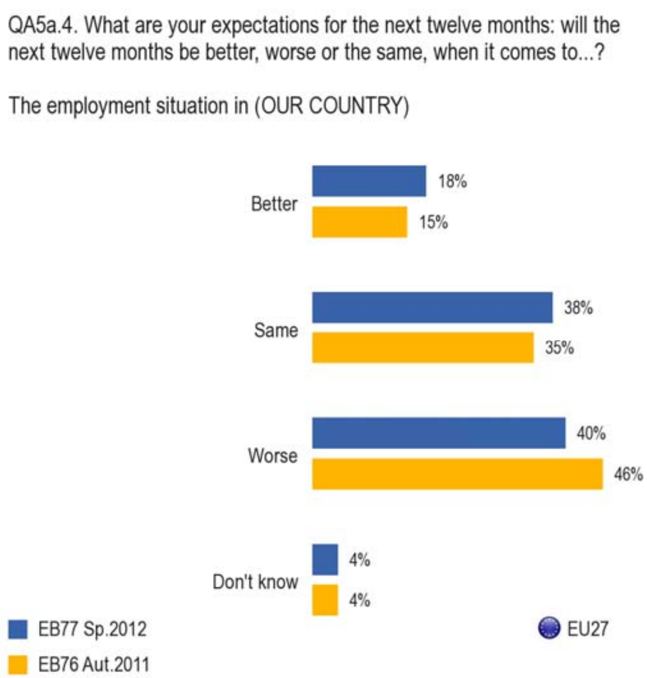
QA5a What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...?

	The economic situation in (OUR COUNTRY)			The economic situation in the EU			The economic situation in the world		
	Better - Worse EB76 Aut.2011	Better - Worse EB77 Sp.2012	Diff. Sp.2012 - Aut.2011	Better - Worse EB76 Aut.2011	Better - Worse EB77 Sp.2012	Diff. Sp.2012 - Aut.2011	Better - Worse EB76 Aut.2011	Better - Worse EB77 Sp.2012	Diff. Sp.2012 - Aut.2011
EU27	-28	-18	**+10**	-28	-22	**+6**	-25	-15	**+10**
BE	-32	-15	**+17**	-37	-29	**+8**	-39	-24	**+15**
BG	-14	-17	**-3**	+7	+11	**+4**	+6	+11	**+5**
CZ	-60	-44	**+16**	-48	-30	**+18**	-44	-20	**+24**
DK	-4	+27	**+31**	-19	-1	**+18**	-6	+14	**+20**
DE	-28	-12	**+16**	-42	-38	**+4**	-35	-27	**+8**
EE	=	+14	**+14**	-12	+5	**+17**	-5	+13	**+18**
IE	-31	-23	**+8**	-33	-17	**+16**	-27	-9	**+18**
EL	-71	-64	**+7**	-53	-47	**+6**	-53	-44	**+9**
ES	-16	-34	**-18**	-6	-14	**-8**	-6	-15	**-9**
FR	-29	+12	**+41**	-29	-1	**+28**	-27	=	**+27**
IT	-22	-34	**-12**	-12	-30	**-18**	-14	-27	**-13**
CY	-52	-35	**+17**	-47	-32	**+15**	-50	-32	**+18**
LV	-2	+13	**+15**	+6	+13	**+7**	+9	+17	**+8**
LT	-13	-6	**+7**	+2	+13	**+11**	+7	+16	**+9**
LU	-26	-18	**+8**	-44	-30	**+14**	-43	-31	**+12**
HU	-46	-39	**+7**	-22	-23	**-1**	-20	-19	**+1**
MT	-18	-9	**+9**	-15	-13	**+2**	-16	-15	**+1**
NL	-56	-36	**+20**	-65	-50	**+15**	-46	-21	**+25**
AT	-14	+6	**+20**	-23	-14	**+9**	-19	-9	**+10**
PL	-21	-26	**-5**	-18	-11	**+7**	-18	-9	**+9**
PT	-68	-50	**+18**	-56	-40	**+16**	-55	-37	**+18**
RO	-19	+3	**+22**	+4	+13	**+9**	=	+10	**+10**
SI	-40	-40	**=**	-21	-15	**+6**	-23	-18	**+5**
SK	-51	-21	**+30**	-46	-18	**+28**	-47	-17	**+30**
FI	-31	-2	**+29**	-50	-35	**+15**	-38	-18	**+20**
SE	-21	+4	**+25**	-39	-29	**+10**	-24	-5	**+19**
UK	-29	-14	**+15**	-44	-34	**+10**	-34	-19	**+15**
CY (tcc)	-26	-42	**-16**	-4	+6	**+10**	-30	-11	**+19**
HR	-24	-21	**+3**	-6	-2	**+4**	-6	=	**+6**
TR	-7	+8	**+15**	-23	-13	**+10**	-26	-9	**+17**
MK	+9	-13	**-22**	+18	+21	**+3**	+16	+18	**+2**
IS	+20	+26	**+6**	-23	-24	**-1**	-12	-1	**+11**
ME	+3	+14	**+11**	+18	+27	**+9**	+19	+28	**+9**
RS	NA	-21	**NA**	NA	=	**NA**	NA	=	**NA**

In the candidate countries:

- Expectations have improved at all levels in Turkey: the national index is now positive (+8 after an increase of 15 percentage points); respondents are still predominantly pessimistic about the economy in the European Union and the world, but the indices have improved (+10 since EB76 for the economic situation in the European Union and +17 for the world).
- The trend is similar in Montenegro, where the three indices are positive.
- In Iceland, the national index is still positive (+26), but forecasts for the European Union are still negative (-24).
- In Serbia, where the question was asked for the first time, the optimism index for the national situation is slightly more pessimistic than the European average (-21). But forecasts for both the European and world economic situations are more optimistic (the proportion of respondents who expect the coming months to be "better" is the same as that of those who expect them to be "worse").

3.2.2. The employment situation



After increasing significantly in autumn 2011, **pessimism about the national employment situation** has fallen, while remaining the majority opinion: 40% think that the next twelve months will be "worse" (-6 percentage points) and 38% think that things will stay "the same" (+3). Optimism has gained a few points (18%, +3).

The optimism index for the national employment situation has improved in the vast majority of Member States (after declining sharply in autumn 2011). It is positive in five Member States (compared with two in the EB76 survey) as a result of some significant rises: in Denmark (the index is +24, a 22-point rise since autumn 2011), Estonia (+15 and +17), Latvia (+12 and +9), France (+9 and +43, being the largest improvement of any Member State) and Sweden (+2 and +27).

Despite an improvement, Greece (index of -69 despite an increase of 7 percentage points) and Portugal (-59, +12) remain the most pessimistic countries.

This index has nevertheless fallen in five Member States, notably in Spain (-21 since EB76 to -39) and Italy (-16 to -41) and, to a lesser extent, Bulgaria (-6 to -30), Hungary (-2 to -44) and Slovenia (-2 to -48).

In the candidate countries, Iceland continues to be an exception, with an optimism index for the national employment situation significantly above the European average (+37. a 14-point rise since EB76). In Serbia, pessimism easily outweighs optimism with an index of -26.

QA5a What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...?

	The economic situation in (OUR COUNTRY)			The employment situation in (OUR COUNTRY)			Th economic situation in the EU			The economic situation in the world		
	Better	Same	Worse	Better	Same	Worse	Better	Same	Worse	Better	Same	Worse
EU27	19%	40%	37%	18%	38%	40%	17%	35%	39%	17%	40%	32%
Gender												
Male	19%	40%	37%	18%	38%	40%	17%	35%	40%	17%	41%	32%
Female	18%	40%	37%	17%	38%	40%	16%	35%	38%	16%	39%	33%
Age												
15-24	25%	38%	31%	23%	38%	35%	24%	36%	29%	22%	40%	26%
25-39	21%	40%	35%	20%	39%	38%	19%	37%	36%	19%	41%	31%
40-54	17%	40%	39%	16%	38%	42%	15%	34%	43%	15%	40%	36%
55 +	16%	41%	38%	15%	37%	42%	13%	34%	42%	14%	39%	34%
Education (End of)												
15-	15%	39%	40%	13%	35%	46%	12%	35%	40%	12%	38%	35%
16-19	18%	40%	38%	17%	39%	40%	16%	36%	39%	16%	40%	33%
20+	23%	41%	33%	21%	39%	36%	20%	33%	40%	20%	41%	31%
Still studying	24%	37%	33%	22%	38%	36%	24%	35%	31%	22%	40%	27%
Occupation scale												
Self- employed	21%	35%	41%	17%	35%	46%	17%	32%	44%	18%	35%	37%
Managers	23%	42%	33%	23%	40%	34%	17%	33%	45%	18%	44%	32%
Other white collars	19%	41%	36%	17%	40%	39%	18%	36%	39%	18%	40%	33%
Manual workers	19%	42%	35%	17%	40%	39%	17%	38%	36%	17%	42%	31%
House persons	17%	41%	37%	15%	38%	40%	13%	39%	34%	14%	40%	32%
Unemployed	18%	37%	41%	18%	32%	47%	19%	35%	36%	17%	40%	33%
Retired	15%	41%	38%	15%	37%	42%	13%	33%	42%	13%	38%	35%
Students	24%	37%	33%	22%	38%	36%	24%	35%	31%	22%	40%	27%
Consider belonging to												
The working class	16%	39%	40%	15%	36%	44%	14%	37%	38%	14%	40%	34%
The middle class	21%	41%	34%	20%	39%	37%	18%	34%	40%	18%	41%	32%
The upper class	27%	39%	31%	22%	39%	37%	26%	30%	40%	28%	38%	29%

3.3. The main national concerns

Europeans consider that the most important issue facing their country is unemployment (46%), followed by the economic situation (35%) and rising prices (24%). Government debt also seems to be a central concern (19%). These economic issues are therefore more prominent than social or societal issues.

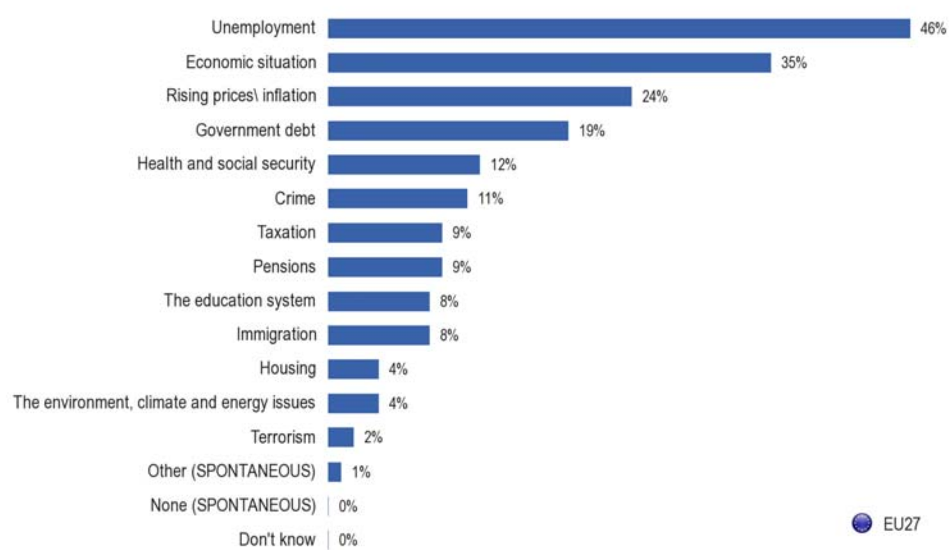
Nonetheless, 12% of respondents mentioned health and social security, closely followed by crime (11%), ahead of pensions (9%), the education system (8%) and immigration (8%).

Another more economic issue, taxation (9%), obtained a similar score.

Housing (4%) and the environment, climate and energy issues (4%) are seen as less pressing issues.

Only 2% of Europeans mentioned terrorism as an important issue facing their country.

QA7a. What do you think are the two most important issues facing (OUR COUNTRY) at the moment?



It is not possible to measure the evolutions against the results of the previous survey because of several changes made to the question asked*. It will be remembered that EB76 of autumn 2011 saw a shake-up in the order of the national concerns of Europeans, with the economic situation returning the forefront for the first time since the beginning of 2009. In EB76, the three main issues facing the country were the economic situation (46%), unemployment (45%) and rising prices/inflation (27%).

* In this Eurobarometer survey, certain items have been deleted or changed:

- *The addition of "Public debt" (which may have resulted in fewer respondents mentioning "the economic situation" in the broad sense)*
- *Environment, climate change and energy issues have been combined under the item "the environment, climate and energy issues"*
- *"Healthcare" has been transformed into "health and social security"*

The order in which national concerns are ranked is slightly different in Eurozone and non-Eurozone countries. The three most frequently mentioned concerns are the same, namely unemployment, the economic situation and rising prices. However, people polled in the Eurozone countries rank government debt in fourth place, with a high score of 23%, while respondents outside the Eurozone seem more preoccupied with health and social security (15%, compared with only 12% for government debt) and crime (14%).

Unemployment tops the list of concerns in 17 Member States, led by Spain (76%), where, as we have seen, forecasts for employment are increasingly gloomy, but also in Portugal (68%), Sweden (63%) and Ireland (62%).

The economic situation is the main national concern in six Member States: Greece (66%), the Netherlands (56%), Slovenia (55%), Romania (45%), the Czech Republic (39%) and Belgium (27%).

Rising prices are seen as the most pressing concern in Estonia (51%), Malta (42%) and Austria (37%).

Government debt is the main concern in Germany (37%), and was also mentioned by a large proportion of people polled in the Netherlands (28%) and Austria (27%), where it is ranked as the second most worrying issue.

Other points of note:

- Respondents in Finland are very concerned about **health and social security** (33%, in 2nd place behind unemployment).
- Respondents in Bulgaria are very conscious of the issue of **crime** (21%).
- In Italy, **taxation** figures prominently (29%).
- **Immigration** was mentioned very frequently in Malta (25%).
- Respondents in Sweden are very likely to mention the **education system** (25%), and **environment, climate and energy issues** (20%).
- In Luxembourg, **housing** is the second most important concern (36%), after unemployment (38%).

In the candidate countries:

- Almost all candidate countries are preoccupied by either **unemployment** (Croatia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Serbia) or the **economic situation** (Iceland and Montenegro). Turkey is the exception since respondents are above all worried about **terrorism** (62%, in first place).
- **Crime** was mentioned far more frequently than the European average in Montenegro (40%), the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (30%), Croatia (29%) and Serbia (29%).

A socio-demographic analysis does not reveal any striking differences, given the strong concerns in all categories about unemployment and the economic situation. However, self-employed people and managers are more likely to be worried about government debt, whereas this issue seems of less interest to white-collar workers, manual workers and unemployed people, who worry more about rising prices.

QA7a What do you think are the two most important issues facing (OUR COUNTRY) at the moment?

	Unemp-loyment	Economic situation	Rising prices\ inflation	Govern-ment debt	Health and social security	Crime	Taxation	Pensions	Immi-gration	The education system	Housing	The environ-ment, climate and energy issues	Terrorism
EU27	46%	35%	24%	19%	12%	11%	9%	9%	8%	8%	4%	4%	2%
BE	26%	27%	24%	23%	4%	17%	18%	19%	18%	3%	8%	5%	2%
BG	58%	45%	28%	2%	21%	21%	3%	8%	2%	5%	0%	3%	1%
CZ	31%	39%	37%	23%	10%	14%	7%	15%	2%	3%	3%	2%	0%
DK	51%	48%	9%	9%	12%	16%	6%	3%	9%	16%	2%	14%	2%
DE	17%	16%	30%	37%	13%	13%	7%	14%	9%	21%	1%	14%	4%
EE	47%	33%	51%	1%	18%	9%	7%	9%	1%	12%	1%	2%	0%
IE	62%	55%	15%	22%	9%	11%	8%	1%	6%	3%	2%	1%	0%
EL	57%	66%	8%	20%	5%	14%	9%	3%	7%	3%	0%	0%	1%
ES	76%	61%	8%	11%	11%	4%	6%	3%	2%	5%	3%	0%	1%
FR	55%	29%	21%	24%	6%	15%	4%	9%	12%	9%	9%	4%	2%
IT	49%	42%	28%	16%	3%	4%	29%	5%	3%	2%	2%	1%	2%
CY	64%	58%	13%	8%	3%	20%	2%	1%	13%	1%	1%	2%	1%
LV	53%	41%	17%	9%	15%	7%	20%	12%	7%	5%	1%	0%	0%
LT	46%	33%	45%	5%	9%	13%	19%	4%	10%	3%	2%	2%	0%
LU	38%	15%	23%	8%	6%	9%	6%	11%	17%	14%	36%	4%	1%
HU	57%	43%	28%	22%	11%	10%	7%	6%	1%	2%	4%	1%	0%
MT	16%	32%	42%	26%	7%	8%	6%	4%	25%	6%	3%	13%	1%
NL	20%	56%	12%	28%	30%	10%	5%	13%	3%	8%	6%	4%	0%
AT	23%	35%	37%	27%	7%	9%	6%	9%	12%	15%	3%	7%	2%
PL	58%	24%	44%	7%	17%	4%	5%	16%	2%	2%	4%	0%	1%
PT	68%	37%	25%	18%	11%	8%	9%	6%	1%	2%	3%	1%	1%
RO	33%	45%	33%	7%	19%	20%	11%	11%	1%	6%	5%	1%	1%
SI	53%	55%	11%	28%	5%	19%	6%	6%	1%	2%	2%	2%	1%
SK	51%	38%	36%	12%	20%	7%	7%	9%	0%	4%	5%	1%	0%
FI	38%	24%	22%	19%	33%	13%	9%	8%	8%	4%	5%	9%	0%
SE	63%	21%	1%	0%	31%	12%	3%	6%	10%	25%	5%	20%	1%
UK	48%	31%	15%	17%	12%	19%	5%	9%	21%	5%	6%	3%	3%
CY (tcc)	45%	39%	30%	10%	5%	48%	8%	1%	4%	3%	4%	2%	1%
HR	70%	43%	26%	13%	2%	29%	3%	6%	0%	2%	1%	0%	0%
TR	52%	26%	13%	2%	3%	7%	6%	5%	2%	6%	2%	1%	62%
MK	60%	43%	22%	2%	4%	30%	4%	4%	2%	1%	2%	2%	8%
IS	22%	50%	34%	16%	19%	13%	11%	3%	2%	7%	13%	8%	0%
ME	44%	48%	24%	14%	4%	40%	6%	3%	2%	3%	5%	1%	1%
RS	56%	50%	26%	8%	4%	29%	6%	4%	1%	3%	3%	1%	2%

Highest percentage per country *Lowest percentage per country*

Highest percentage per item Lowest percentage per item

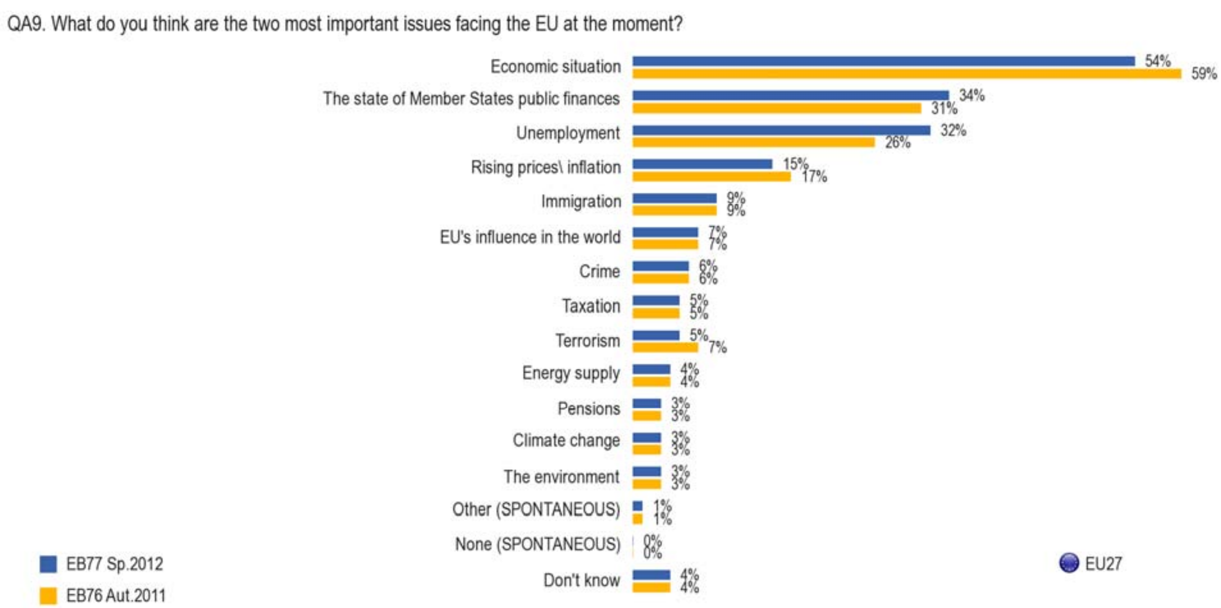
3.4. The main concerns at European level

The order of importance in which Europeans rank the issues facing the European Union is the same as in autumn 2011, though the salience of certain issues has changed.

The economic situation is still seen as the most important issue (54%), although it is mentioned slightly less often than in autumn 2011 (-5 percentage points). **The state of the Member States' public finances** remains the second most important issue facing the EU in the eyes of Europeans, with a higher score than in autumn 2011 (34%, +3), followed by **unemployment,** also with a higher score (32%, +6). **Rising prices** is in fourth place (15%, -2).

The next highest scores, in proportions in line with those noted in autumn 2011 (EB76), were recorded for **immigration** (9%), **the EU's influence in the world** (7%), **crime** (6%) and **taxation** (5%).

Although **terrorism** was mentioned slightly less frequently than in autumn 2011 (5%, -2), it is still placed ahead of **energy supply** (4%, =), **pensions** (3%, =), **climate change** (3%) and the **environment** (3%).



On the whole, perceptions of the most important issues facing the European Union are fairly similar in Eurozone and non-Eurozone countries, despite different levels of mentions. For example, Eurozone respondents are more likely to cite the **public finances of the Member States** (36% versus 29% in non-Eurozone countries) and **unemployment** (34% versus 28%).

Points of note:

- **The economic situation** is seen as the main problem facing the European Union in almost all Member States, except for Germany, which lends more importance to the **state of the public finances of Member States** (52%), Luxembourg, where **unemployment** tops the list of European concerns (45%) and Austria, where the **state of the public finances of Member States** is ranked equally with the **economic situation** (both 52%).

- **The state of the public finances of Member States** was mentioned far more frequently than in autumn 2011 in France (39%, +8), Hungary (46%, +8), Ireland (41%, +7) and Portugal (23%, +7).

- Mentions of **unemployment** have increased more spectacularly, most strikingly in Luxembourg (45%, +19), but also in the Netherlands (32%, +16), Portugal (54%, +13), Denmark (46%, +12), Germany (25%, +12) and Sweden (36%, +12). These increases are correlated in some cases with declining mentions of the **economic situation** (-13 in Denmark and -10 in Luxembourg).

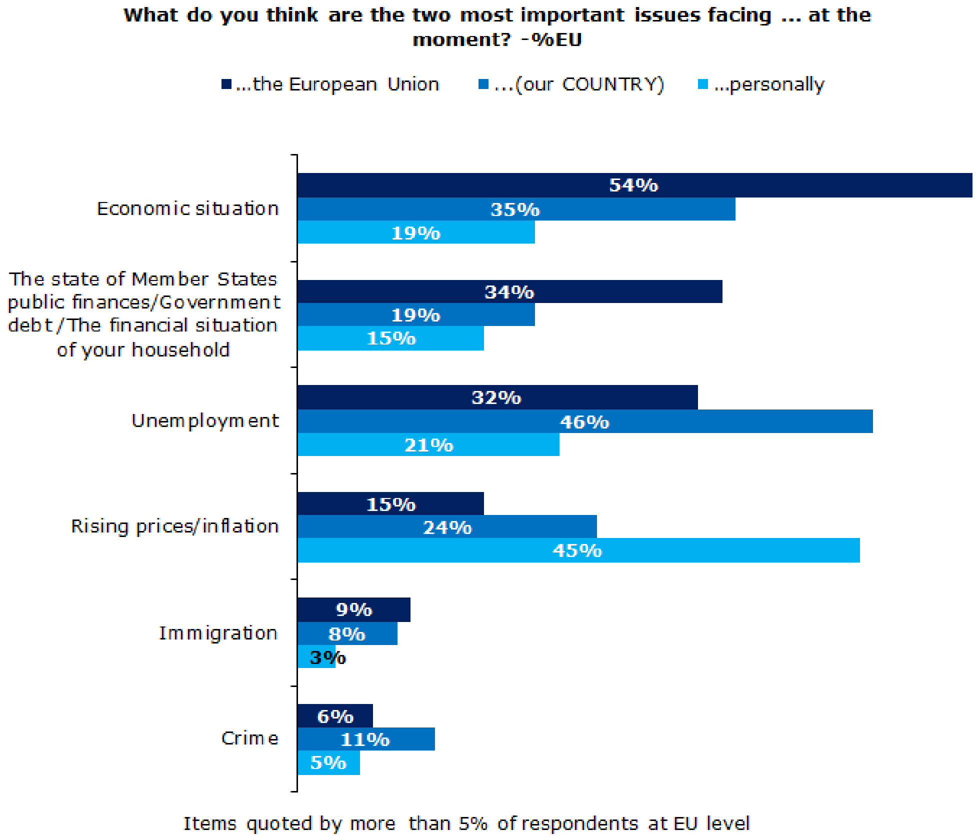
Respondents in the candidate countries also see the **economic situation** as the main problem facing the European Union. While respondents in Iceland rank the **state of the public finances of Member States** in second place, respondents in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Montenegro attach more importance to **crime**. In Serbia, unemployment is ranked in second place among European concerns, after the economic situation, with the state of the public finances of Member States in third place. People polled in Serbia are also more likely than average to mention crime (18%) and terrorism (14%) among the most important issues facing the EU.

QA9 What do you think are the two most important issues facing the EU at the moment?

	Economic situation	The state of Member States public finances	Unemploy-ment	Rising prices\ inflation	Immigra-tion	EU's influence in the world	Crime	Taxation	Terrorism	Energy supply	Pensions	The environ-ment	Climate change
EU27	54%	34%	32%	15%	9%	7%	6%	5%	5%	4%	3%	3%	3%
BE	44%	34%	30%	12%	18%	6%	9%	5%	7%	7%	7%	5%	4%
BG	61%	19%	32%	9%	13%	8%	11%	2%	11%	4%	2%	4%	4%
CZ	53%	45%	21%	13%	8%	9%	9%	3%	6%	4%	3%	2%	2%
DK	70%	28%	46%	4%	9%	5%	8%	1%	4%	3%	1%	7%	11%
DE	49%	52%	25%	16%	9%	7%	6%	3%	5%	7%	3%	3%	6%
EE	51%	38%	24%	12%	15%	6%	5%	3%	8%	5%	2%	4%	1%
IE	63%	41%	40%	10%	4%	9%	5%	7%	1%	3%	2%	1%	1%
EL	66%	31%	40%	8%	11%	10%	9%	5%	3%	1%	0%	1%	1%
ES	67%	23%	46%	12%	6%	5%	2%	5%	1%	3%	2%	1%	1%
FR	52%	39%	28%	15%	14%	8%	6%	2%	8%	6%	3%	6%	3%
IT	53%	18%	44%	26%	5%	5%	4%	17%	5%	2%	4%	2%	1%
CY	68%	26%	55%	7%	11%	2%	18%	3%	3%	1%	1%	1%	1%
LV	51%	33%	21%	11%	15%	3%	6%	5%	8%	2%	3%	5%	3%
LT	46%	18%	24%	19%	12%	3%	10%	10%	10%	5%	2%	2%	5%
LU	43%	30%	45%	9%	14%	7%	9%	3%	6%	7%	5%	5%	6%
HU	51%	46%	32%	13%	6%	6%	5%	4%	4%	8%	5%	3%	4%
MT	54%	36%	23%	11%	20%	3%	6%	3%	6%	9%	2%	3%	5%
NL	75%	52%	32%	7%	4%	10%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	3%	2%
AT	52%	52%	21%	17%	10%	7%	9%	5%	2%	6%	4%	5%	4%
PL	44%	26%	28%	23%	6%	5%	5%	4%	7%	2%	4%	3%	2%
PT	49%	23%	54%	13%	2%	6%	4%	5%	2%	1%	5%	1%	0%
RO	53%	23%	29%	16%	10%	6%	13%	6%	6%	3%	4%	3%	4%
SI	57%	47%	31%	8%	6%	5%	12%	4%	4%	2%	4%	1%	2%
SK	60%	47%	21%	17%	5%	9%	6%	2%	5%	3%	2%	3%	3%
FI	48%	46%	19%	8%	10%	10%	14%	3%	7%	7%	2%	6%	8%
SE	71%	30%	36%	3%	6%	4%	5%	2%	4%	6%	1%	13%	15%
UK	53%	29%	26%	12%	12%	9%	6%	4%	6%	3%	2%	4%	3%
CY (tcc)	50%	17%	22%	20%	7%	16%	15%	11%	16%	5%	4%	6%	3%
HR	60%	27%	44%	15%	4%	6%	17%	4%	8%	3%	1%	2%	3%
TR	27%	12%	14%	13%	9%	13%	9%	5%	11%	8%	3%	2%	5%
MK	46%	16%	21%	9%	10%	10%	22%	3%	18%	3%	1%	2%	5%
IS	57%	45%	41%	4%	9%	9%	4%	2%	4%	6%	0%	6%	4%
ME	52%	15%	21%	16%	5%	7%	27%	12%	9%	3%	1%	3%	2%
RS	47%	21%	24%	11%	9%	9%	18%	8%	14%	2%	1%	2%	2%

Highest percentage per country *Lowest percentage per country*

Highest percentage per item | Lowest percentage per item



Strictly speaking, personal, national and Europeans concerns cannot be compared directly, because the lists of items are not identical. Nonetheless, we note that:

- Economic issues continue to outweigh social and societal issues at personal, national and European levels.
- At national and European levels respondents are particularly attentive to the issue of government debt.
- However, personal concerns continue to be dominated by prices, an issue with a day-to-day impact.
- And, against the background of a slight easing of opinions and forecasts about the broader economy at world level, Europeans are more focused, both personally and on behalf of their country, on the issue of unemployment, which also has more impact on their day-to-day lives.
- Personal concerns about immigration and crime have fallen sharply. However immigration has gained ground at European level, while crime is more meaningful at national level.

4. Political aspects

4.1. Interest in politics

The index of interest in politics, constructed using the answers to questions on the interviewed people's interest in local, national and European politics, has recorded very few changes[13]: a majority of respondents are still "moderately" interested in politics (44%, unchanged since EB76 of autumn 2011). People who follow politics very closely ("strong" interest) represent 16% of the respondents (+1 percentage point since autumn 2011, but +3 compared with EB74 of autumn 2010). Just under a quarter of Europeans are "slightly" interested in politics (23%, unchanged) and 17% (-1) are "not at all interested". All in all, six out of ten Europeans are interested, either strongly or moderately, in politics.

In more detail, the national analysis shows that people polled in Greece are particularly interested in politics (45% have a "strong" interest), with an increase of 9 percentage points, following a 5-point rise in autumn 2011. Respondents in the Netherlands are also far more interested in politics than average and their interest has grown (31%, +5). While remaining below the average, interest in politics has also increased in Italy (15%, +5). These changes can undoubtedly be attributed in part to tensions around the economic situation in their country.

A socio-demographic analysis shows that the interviewed people's interest in politics:

- Increases with age, since 8% of 15-24 year-olds have a "strong" interest in politics, compared with 19% of those aged 55 or over. However, when we aggregate the "strong" and "moderate" categories, respondents in the 40-54 age group are the most likely to be interested in politics (66%, versus 61% of those aged 55 or over and 45% of those aged 15 to 24).
- Interest is far more pronounced among the respondents who studied the longest (72% of those who studied up to the age of 20 or beyond have a strong or moderate interest in politics compared with 49% of those who left school before the age of 16).
- Managers (75%) are also more likely than white-collar (65%) and manual workers (57%) to be interested in politics.

Europeans were also asked whether they ever tried to persuade their friends, relatives or fellow workers to share their views when they hold a strong opinion[14]. More than half of the people (52%) answered "never" (23%) or only "rarely" (29%). However 36% do so "from time to time" and 11% replied "often" (proportions in line with those recorded in EB76).

[13] A score was attributed to each answer: "Never" = 0; "Occasionally" = 1; "Often"= 2. An index was then constructed by adding together the scores for the three dimensions (local, national and European). Each group corresponds to a different index level: "not at all interested in politics" = 0; "slightly" = 1 to 2; "moderately" = 3 to 4; "strongly" = 5 to 6.

[14] QA3 When you hold a strong opinion, do you ever find yourself persuading your friends, relatives or fellow workers to share your views? Does this happen ...? Often; From time to time; Rarely; Never.

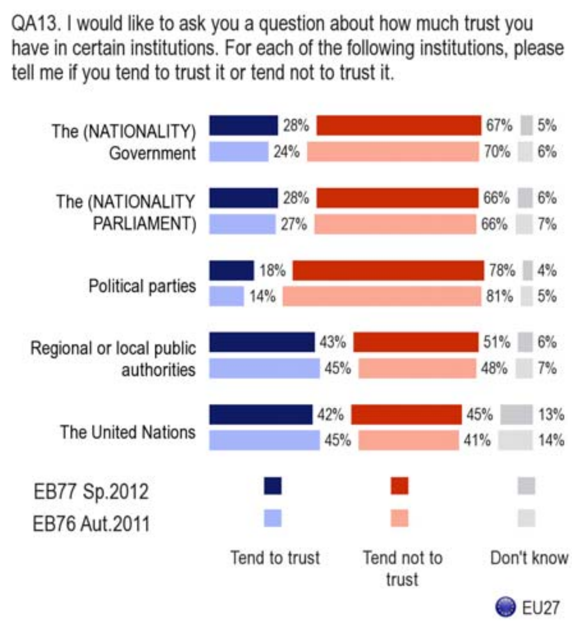
This question, combined with the index of interest in politics, has enabled us to construct an **opinion leadership index**[15]. This index is generally unchanged since autumn 2011. The first group (++) represents 15% of Europeans (unchanged), the second (+) 35% (+1 percentage point), the third (-) 28% (unchanged) and the last (--) 22% (-1).

This index reveals the same divisions as those measured for interest in politics, but with some slight differences:

- In terms of age, 55% of the youngest respondents belong to the (++) and (+) groups combined, compared with only 43% of those aged 55 or over.
- This (++) and (+) grouping also reveals a division in terms of education: 59% of the Europeans who studied up to the age of 20 or beyond belong to this group, compared with only 37% of those who left school before the age of 16.
- Occupation is also a determinant: 61% of managers, 51% of white-collar workers employees and 50% of manual workers belong in this group.

4.2. Trust in institutions

After a significant decline in autumn 2011, trust in national institutions has risen, though without returning to the levels of spring 2011 (EB75): 28% tend to trust their **government** (+4, but following an 8-point fall in EB76 of spring 2011), while distrust is still in the majority, despite a decrease (67%, -3). A similar proportion of respondents trust their national **parliament** (28%, +1, versus 66%, unchanged).



The only three Member States where a majority of respondents trust both their government and their parliament are Luxembourg (68% and 55% respectively), Sweden (58% and 70%) and Finland (57% and 59%). Opinions are evenly divided in Austria (48% trust and 48% distrust both institutions).

[15] This index is divided into 4 groups (1. ++; 2. +; 3. -; 4. - -). If a respondent often or from time to time tries to persuade someone, or regularly discusses politics then they are considered as an opinion leader in category 1 (++). Conversely, if a respondent never or rarely tries to persuade someone or never discusses politics, they are considered not to be an opinion leader and fall into category 4 (--).

Trust in national institutions has increased significantly in several countries which have experienced major political changes since autumn 2011 (EB76), although distrust is still more widespread. This is the case in France, after the presidential election (44%, +23 for the government and 42%, +16 for the national parliament), Slovakia following the parliamentary elections in March (43%, +22 and 39%, +14), Slovenia which saw a change of government in February (22%, +10 and 18%, +8), Romania where the government changed at the beginning of May (27%, +17 and 16%, +7), and Belgium, where the coalition government was formed just after the last EB76 survey (44%, +10 and 46%, +4).

Trust in national institutions has declined significantly in Bulgaria (28%, -10 and 17%, -8).

In the candidate countries:

- Turkey is still the only country where a (rising) majority of interviewed people trust both the government (57%, +8) and the national parliament (54%, +10).
- However, levels of trust have also improved in Croatia which had a change of government shortly after EB76 of autumn 2011 (27%, +18 and 20%, +11).

Trust in political parties has also improved slightly, but is still significantly outweighed by distrust (18%, +4 percentage points, versus 78%, -3) in all Member States. However, there have been significant improvements since autumn 2011 in France (25%, +16), Sweden (42%, +12) and Slovakia (26%, +10).

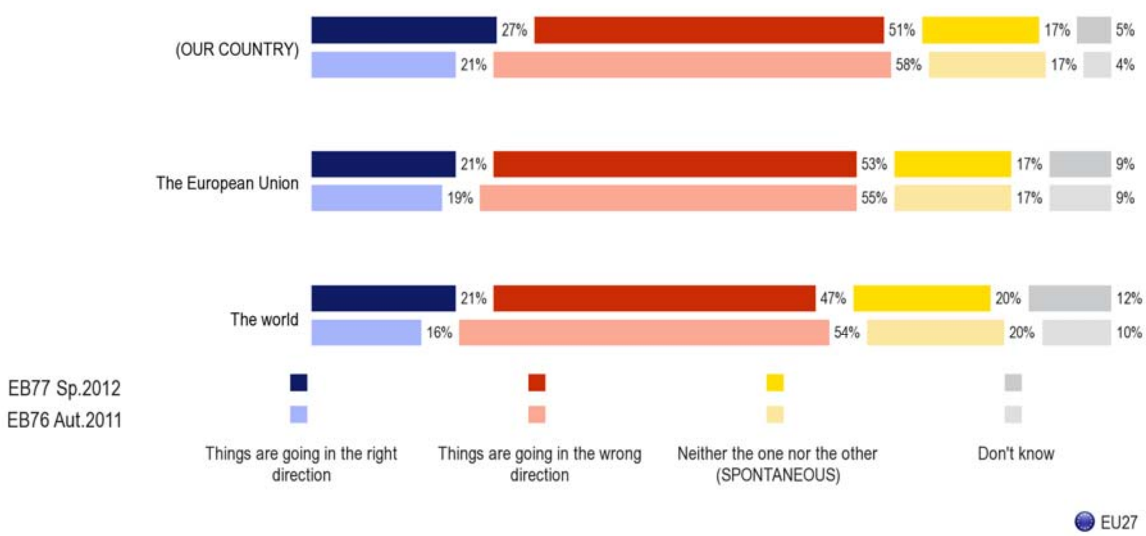
Trust in regional and local public authorities continues to decline (43%, -2, versus 51% distrust, +3). However, it is still the majority opinion in 11 Member States (opinion is equally divided in two further countries), led by Luxembourg (74%), Denmark (71%), Austria (65%) and Sweden (65%). In Malta, trust has regained the ground lost in autumn 2011 (44%, +11), whereas it has fallen sharply in Spain (21%, -11).

Trust in the **United Nations,** which had already fallen by 3 percentage points in the last survey, has lost a further 3 points and is now the minority opinion (42%, versus 45% distrust, +4 and +8 since EB75 of spring 2011). However, a majority of people polled in 19 Member States still trust this organisation, notably in Sweden (75%), Denmark (73%) and Finland (71%). However, trust in the UN has declined, in some cases sharply, in Greece (only 16% trust it, -3 percentage points), Cyprus (21%, -8), Spain (24%, -14), Italy (26%, -8), Slovenia (34%, =), Portugal (36%, -3), Romania (41%, -2), and Germany (42%, +1).

4.3. The direction in which things are going

The impression that things are going in the wrong direction, whether at national, European or world level, had increased significantly in autumn 2011 (EB76). This opinion is still shared by a large majority of respondents, but has lost some ground: 51% think that things are going in the wrong direction in their country (-7 percentage points, while 27% think things are going in the right direction, +6), 53% in the case of the European Union (-2, versus 21%) and finally 47% think that things are going in the wrong direction in the world (-7, versus 21%, +5).

QA12a. At the present time, would you say that, in general, things are going in the right direction or in the wrong direction, in...?



A majority of respondents in seven Member States (up from only four in the last survey) now believe that **things are going in the right direction in their country.** In some cases, this follows a marked improvement in judgements: Sweden (56%, +4), Denmark (51%, +15), Finland (49%, +19), Austria (47%, +10), Luxembourg (46%, =), Germany (40%, +7) and Estonia (37%, -6). In other countries, while there is no majority consensus that things are going in the right direction nationally, opinions have improved significantly. This is so in France (36%, +21), Belgium (38%, +20), Slovakia (35%, +17) and Romania (26%, +14). Respondents in Greece (85% think that things are going in the wrong direction, +5), Spain (74%, -6) and the Czech Republic (73%, -3) remain extremely critical. Opinions have deteriorated sharply in Bulgaria (46% replied “wrong direction”, +11) and Poland (60%, +9).

Positive opinions on the direction in which things are going in the European Union outweigh negative ones in five Member States (compared with three in autumn 2011): Bulgaria (46%, -1), Romania (40%, +8), Latvia (37%, +2), Lithuania (36%, +10) and Estonia (36%, =). While remaining predominantly negative, judgements have improved noticeably in Denmark (31%, +10) and France (23%, +9).

The impression that things are going in the wrong direction in the European Union has decreased in most European countries, but remains strong. Respondents in Greece are the most critical, and opinions are hardening (74% think that things are going in the wrong direction, +12). They are also particularly critical in the United Kingdom (68%, -1), Finland (66%, -2) and Sweden (64%, unchanged).

Points of note: the impression that things are going in the wrong direction nationally has declined significantly in the Eurozone countries (48%, -10, versus 27%, +8 in the right direction), but less so in the non-Eurozone countries (55%, -4, versus 29%, +4). The difference in perceptions of the situation in the European Union is less pronounced (54%, -2 in the Eurozone 50%, -2 in the non-Eurozone countries).

The impression that things are going in the right direction at world level is shared by a majority of respondents in the same five Member States as for the EU (Bulgaria, Romania, Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia, equally with the spontaneous answer "neither the one nor the other" in this last case). It has also gained significant ground in Denmark (41%, +17), Sweden (42%, +11), France (20%, +10), Luxembourg (20%, +10), the Netherlands (25%, +10) and Finland (32%, +10).

In the candidate countries:

- There are signs of a clear improvement in morale in Turkey, since the impression that things are going in the right direction has gained significant ground for the national (49%, +19, now the majority), European (31%, +14) and world (27%, +15) levels.
- The trend is similar in Croatia (27%, +15, 35%, +11 and 30%, +11).

QA12a At the present time, would you say that, in general, things are going in the right direction or in the wrong direction, in...?

	(OUR COUNTRY)				The European Union				The world			
	Things are going in the right direction	Diff. Sp.2012 - Aut.2011	Things are going in the wrong direction	Diff. Sp.2012 - Aut.2011	Things are going in the right direction	Diff. Sp.2012 - Aut.2011	Things are going in the wrong direction	Diff. Sp.2012 - Aut.2011	Things are going in the right direction	Diff. Sp.2012 - Aut.2011	Things are going in the wrong direction	Diff. Sp.2012 - Aut.2011
EU27	27%	+6	51%	-7	21%	+2	53%	-2	21%	+5	47%	-7
BE	38%	+20	39%	-22	24%	+2	55%	-4	21%	+6	57%	-8
BG	23%	-9	46%	+11	46%	-1	17%	+2	33%	-4	17%	+3
CZ	15%	+3	73%	-3	22%	-1	54%	-2	28%	+5	45%	-11
DK	51%	+15	37%	-13	31%	+10	53%	-11	41%	+17	41%	-16
DE	40%	+7	33%	-2	20%	-1	53%	+7	15%	+2	49%	+3
EE	37%	-6	35%	-4	36%	=	24%	-16	32%	-4	20%	-13
IE	20%	-6	46%	-2	17%	+2	44%	-7	20%	+7	32%	-10
EL	4%	-3	85%	+5	10%	-6	74%	+12	9%	-4	64%	+7
ES	12%	+3	74%	-6	17%	+4	58%	-9	15%	+2	56%	-11
FR	36%	+21	37%	-33	23%	+9	51%	-16	20%	+10	50%	-18
IT	10%	+2	60%	-5	11%	-2	55%	+7	10%	=	52%	-2
CY	12%	+1	65%	=	16%	+1	58%	+4	10%	+3	56%	-6
LV	28%	+2	37%	-12	37%	+2	22%	-7	30%	-2	20%	-8
LT	23%	+2	52%	-1	36%	+10	31%	-12	35%	+8	24%	-14
LU	46%	=	29%	-1	25%	+7	54%	-9	20%	+10	57%	-14
HU	11%	+1	69%	-1	17%	-1	46%	+1	15%	+2	48%	-4
MT	32%	+7	40%	+4	17%	+2	46%	+4	10%	=	46%	=
NL	29%	+9	38%	-8	18%	+6	56%	-9	25%	+10	35%	-15
AT	47%	+10	26%	-6	22%	+1	49%	-6	20%	+1	43%	-6
PL	26%	-7	60%	+9	32%	-1	41%	-3	31%	+5	34%	-14
PT	17%	-2	57%	+4	18%	-1	46%	+2	20%	+4	34%	-5
RO	26%	+14	52%	-19	40%	+8	25%	-6	30%	+9	25%	-10
SI	21%	+12	53%	-16	29%	+8	39%	-7	21%	+7	40%	-9
SK	35%	+17	44%	-21	32%	+8	47%	-12	30%	+7	48%	-9
FI	49%	+19	38%	-14	25%	+3	66%	-2	32%	+10	51%	-9
SE	56%	+4	34%	-6	24%	=	64%	=	42%	+11	42%	-14
UK	32%	+8	55%	-7	14%	+1	68%	-1	26%	+8	53%	-8
CY (tcc)	8%	-4	73%	+9	30%	+13	30%	-17	15%	+3	40%	-13
HR	27%	+15	60%	-17	35%	+11	46%	-10	30%	+11	46%	-11
TR	49%	+19	39%	-19	31%	+14	43%	-13	27%	+15	45%	-14
MK	30%	-6	49%	+5	46%	+10	22%	-12	34%	+3	26%	-9
IS	48%	+1	45%	+4	25%	-5	54%	+7	37%	+7	48%	-3
ME	23%	-15	45%	+9	37%	-4	28%	-3	30%	-4	27%	-5
RS	19%	NA	57%	NA	29%	NA	33%	NA	24%	NA	30%	NA

A socio-demographic analysis reveals few differences in the answers regarding the **direction in which things are going in the European Union**: a clear majority of respondents still consider that things are going in the wrong direction. However:

- This opinion is slightly less widespread among young people (47% of 15-24 year-olds) and students (45%) compared with an average of 53%, whereas it stands at 56% in the 40-54 age group.
- There are no perceptible differences on this question between managers (56%), white-collar workers (55%) and manual workers (55%), or indeed unemployed people, who are now less critical (56%, -5). However, this feeling is still more common among the Europeans who have difficulties paying their bills (59% versus 51% of those who almost never have such difficulties).
- Europeans who have strong interest in politics are more likely to share this view (58%, compared with 53% among those who are slightly interested in politics and 49% of who are not at all interested). A similar difference is also apparent for the opinion leadership index: 57% of respondents with the strongest index (++), versus 50% of those with the lowest index (--). But the former are also more likely than the latter to consider that things are going in the right direction (23% versus 18%).

QA12a.2 At the present time, would you say that, in general, things are going in the right direction or in the wrong direction, in...?

The European Union

	Things are going in the right direction	Things are going in the wrong direction	Neither the one nor the other (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU27	21%	53%	17%	9%
Age				
15-24	26%	47%	18%	9%
25-39	21%	54%	17%	8%
40-54	19%	56%	17%	8%
55 +	19%	52%	18%	11%
Education (End of)				
15-	16%	54%	18%	12%
16-19	19%	55%	17%	9%
20+	25%	51%	17%	7%
Still studying	28%	45%	19%	8%
Occupation scale				
Self- employed	22%	54%	17%	7%
Managers	21%	56%	16%	7%
Other white collars	21%	55%	17%	7%
Manual workers	21%	55%	16%	8%
House persons	17%	52%	18%	13%
Unemployed	18%	56%	16%	10%
Retired	19%	50%	19%	12%
Students	28%	45%	19%	8%
Consider belonging to				
The working class	18%	55%	17%	10%
The middle class	23%	52%	17%	8%
The upper class	30%	42%	24%	4%
Political interest index				
Strong	21%	58%	16%	5%
Average	23%	52%	18%	7%
Low	18%	53%	18%	11%
Not at all	19%	49%	16%	16%
Opinion leadership index				
++	23%	57%	15%	5%
+	22%	53%	17%	8%
-	20%	52%	19%	9%
--	18%	50%	17%	15%

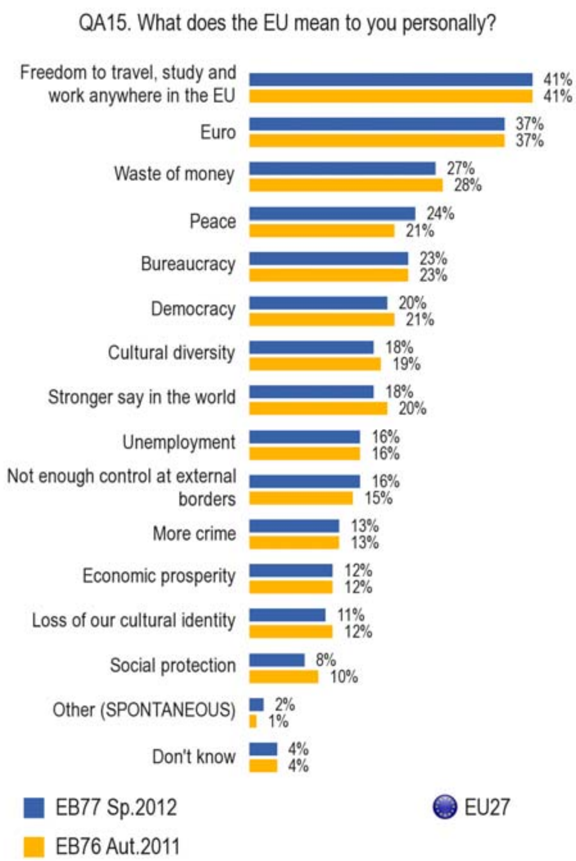
II. THE EUROPEAN UNION AND ITS CITIZENS

1. Attachment to the European Union

1.1. What does the European Union mean to citizens?

– The European Union's identity remains firmly based in freedom of movement and the euro –

With scores of 41% and 37% respectively (unchanged since the autumn 2011 survey), "the freedom to travel, study and work anywhere in the EU" and "the euro" easily top the list of depictions associated with the European Union, with "waste of money" (27%, -1 percentage point) in third place, followed by "peace" (24%, +3), "bureaucracy" (23%, unchanged) and "democracy" (20%, -1).



This indicator is characterised by great stability, demonstrating the deep-rooted nature of the symbols of the European Union in European eyes. The only striking change in this survey is the increase in the score recorded for peace[16].

In all countries or groups of countries, the most frequently mentioned symbol is either the **freedom to travel, study and work anywhere in the EU** or the **euro**, except in the United Kingdom where **waste of money** tops the list (30%, versus 27% and 17% respectively). The ranking may then vary somewhat, depending on the countries concerned. For respondents in the Eurozone and EU15 countries, the **euro** is the leading symbol associated with the European Union (46% and 40% respectively), ahead of **freedom of movement** (40% and 38%) and **waste of money** (29% and 29%).

The NMS12 interviewed people first associate **freedom of movement** with the European Union (50%), then **democracy** and the **euro** (ranked equally on 24%). Finally, in the non-Eurozone countries, **freedom of movement** (42%) easily tops the list, followed by several closely grouped items: **bureaucracy** (23**%), waste of money** (22%), **peace** (21%), **democracy** (20%) and **the euro** (20%).

[16] QA15. What does the EU mean to you personally?

A national analysis reveals that **freedom of movement within the European Union** is most frequently mentioned in the Nordic countries (60% in Sweden, 58% in Denmark and 56% in Finland) and the Baltic States (67% in Estonia, 63% in Lithuania and 61% in Latvia). People polled in Austria (69%), Slovakia (59%), Greece (57%), Belgium (54%) and Germany (52%) most often mention the **euro** as a symbol of the European Union, while in Austria they are also most likely to associate **waste of money** with the EU (58%, +5 percentage points), ranking this item in second place. However, this item has lost ground in Germany (45%, -4 percentage points) and France (30%, -8), since the previous survey.

A socio-demographic analysis reveals that respondents under the age of 55 associate the European Union above all with **freedom of movement within the EU** (49% among 15-24 year-olds, 45% among 25-39 year-olds and 39% among 40-54 year-olds), while the **euro** is the leading symbol of the EU for those aged 55 or over (36%). The oldest respondents (31% of those aged 55 or over) are more likely than the youngest group (20% of those aged 15 to 24) to associate the European Union with a **waste of money**. In general, this hold true for all the negative representations, in particular **bureaucracy** (26% of respondents aged 40 or over compared with 13% of 15-24 year-olds) and **not enough controls at external borders** (20% of those aged 55 and over versus 10% of 15-24 year-olds).

There are more marked differences according to the interviewed people's level of education. Respondents who studied up to the age of 20 or beyond (50%) and students (56%) are far more likely than those who left school before the age of 16 (27%) to mention **freedom of movement within the European Union**. However, the identification of the European Union with a **waste of money** or **unemployment** is more widespread among the least educated respondents (33% and 21% respectively) than among those who studied beyond the age of 19 (22%, 10%) and students (16%, 12%).

Freedom of movement also tops the list in most occupational categories, notably among managers (51%) and students (56%). For house persons and unemployed people, the **euro** is the main symbol of the European Union. In general, managers are more likely than average to mention most of these items, in particular those with a positive connotation. This trend is also apparent in the categories of respondents for whom the European Union conjures up a positive image, such as those who never have difficulties paying their bills, and those who say that their voice counts in the European Union. In this last group, 49% mentioned the **freedom to travel, study and work anywhere in the EU** (compared with 37% of those who believe that their voice does not count in the European Union), 35% mentioned **peace** (versus 19%), 30% **democracy** (versus 16%), 27% **a stronger say in the world** (versus 14%) and 24% **cultural diversity** (versus 15%). Conversely, these respondents are less likely to associate the European Union with a **waste of money** (19%, compared with 32% of those who think that their voice does not count in the EU), **bureaucracy** (19%, versus 25%) and **unemployment** (12% versus 19%).

Finally, respondents with a good objective knowledge of the European Union are more likely to mention most of these items: this applies not only to those with a positive connotation, such as the **freedom to travel, study and work anywhere in the EU** (49% versus 24% of those with a poor knowledge of the EU), and **peace** (31% versus 16%), but also to negative items, such as **bureaucracy** (28% versus 13%) and **the waste of money** (26% versus 21%).

QA15 What does the EU mean to you personally?

	Peace	Economic prosperity	Democracy	Social protection	Freedom to travel, study and work anywhere in the EU	Cultural diversity	Stronger say in the world	Euro	Unemployment	Bureaucracy	Waste of money	Loss of our cultural identity	More crime	Not enough control at external borders	Other (SPONT.)	DK
EU27	24%	12%	20%	8%	41%	18%	18%	37%	16%	23%	27%	11%	13%	16%	2%	4%
Gender																
Male	25%	13%	21%	8%	41%	18%	19%	37%	16%	25%	27%	11%	12%	16%	1%	3%
Female	23%	11%	19%	8%	40%	18%	18%	37%	17%	20%	26%	11%	14%	15%	2%	5%
Age																
15-24	22%	14%	24%	9%	49%	21%	18%	37%	14%	13%	20%	9%	8%	10%	1%	5%
25-39	20%	12%	20%	8%	45%	20%	18%	38%	16%	21%	24%	10%	11%	14%	1%	3%
40-54	24%	13%	21%	8%	39%	19%	20%	38%	17%	26%	28%	12%	14%	16%	2%	3%
55 +	28%	11%	19%	9%	35%	15%	17%	36%	17%	26%	31%	13%	15%	20%	2%	5%
Education (End of)																
15-	22%	8%	16%	8%	27%	10%	13%	37%	14%	13%	20%	9%	8%	10%	1%	5%
16-19	23%	12%	19%	9%	39%	15%	17%	38%	15%	21%	23%	10%	10%	13%	1%	4%
20+	28%	14%	24%	8%	50%	27%	24%	38%	16%	23%	27%	11%	13%	15%	2%	2%
Still studying	27%	16%	26%	10%	56%	24%	20%	37%	17%	27%	28%	12%	14%	16%	1%	3%
Occupation scale																
Self- employed	22%	13%	21%	9%	41%	19%	21%	36%	16%	23%	28%	12%	12%	16%	2%	5%
Managers	28%	14%	25%	8%	51%	29%	25%	37%	17%	23%	27%	11%	14%	16%	1%	4%
Other white collars	23%	11%	21%	8%	41%	20%	21%	38%	15%	23%	24%	12%	12%	15%	2%	4%
Manual workers	22%	12%	19%	9%	40%	17%	18%	33%	17%	24%	29%	13%	15%	18%	2%	6%
House persons	19%	9%	19%	8%	37%	13%	14%	38%	17%	26%	30%	12%	14%	19%	2%	4%
Unemployed	17%	10%	16%	7%	34%	14%	12%	37%	16%	20%	24%	10%	11%	13%	1%	4%
Retired	30%	11%	19%	9%	35%	14%	17%	39%	15%	20%	24%	10%	11%	13%	1%	3%
Students	27%	16%	26%	10%	56%	24%	20%	39%	14%	24%	21%	11%	12%	14%	2%	2%
Difficulties paying bills																
Most of the time	18%	10%	13%	7%	31%	12%	11%	34%	19%	19%	24%	10%	13%	12%	1%	4%
From time to time	19%	12%	20%	9%	37%	16%	17%	32%	19%	22%	30%	13%	15%	17%	2%	8%
Almost never	29%	13%	22%	8%	45%	20%	20%	40%	15%	25%	28%	12%	13%	18%	2%	3%
My voice counts in the EU																
Agree	35%	18%	30%	13%	49%	24%	27%	34%	17%	16%	25%	10%	11%	15%	2%	8%
Disagree	19%	9%	16%	6%	37%	15%	14%	40%	17%	28%	28%	14%	14%	18%	1%	1%
Objective knowledge of the EU																
Bad	16%	9%	14%	6%	24%	10%	10%	41%	16%	17%	27%	10%	11%	13%	2%	7%
Average	22%	11%	18%	8%	39%	17%	17%	35%	25%	19%	28%	9%	13%	13%	2%	5%
Good	31%	14%	26%	10%	49%	23%	23%	34%	17%	26%	32%	13%	16%	21%	2%	5%

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

This Eurobarometer survey measures support for EU membership[17] and the perceived benefits of membership[18] in the candidate countries. These two questions were asked in the same countries in spring 2011 (EB75). They have now been asked for the first time in Serbia.

After the referendum on 22 January 2012 approving Croatia's membership of the EU, support for EU membership has increased significantly in this country[19]: 38% of respondents in Croatia (+8 percentage points since spring 2011) believe that their country's membership of the European Union will be a good thing, whereas 26% (-8) take the opposite view. More than a third of respondents (34%, +2) say that EU membership will be "neither good nor bad" and 2% (-2) expressed no opinion. For the first time in the Eurobarometer survey, more respondents in Croatia approve of the country's membership of the European Union than disapprove. This change is based on a far more positive perception of the benefits of EU membership: 51% of people polled in Croatia (+9) consider that their country will benefit from membership, whereas 39% (-8) believe that it will not. In one year, the ratio of opinions on the benefits of membership has therefore been totally reversed in Croatia.

A large majority of respondents in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia continue to support membership: 62% (-3 percentage points since spring 2011) of these interviewed people would regard membership in a positive light. And 70% (-4) are convinced that their country would benefit from EU membership.

A majority of respondents in Montenegro still support EU membership, but this support has fallen sharply, from 58% to 47%, in the year. However, it is indecision rather than opposition which has grown: the neutral response that membership would be "neither good nor bad" has gained seven percentage points (31%), while negative opinions have only seen a 2-point rise (14%). Although a majority of respondents are still convinced of the benefits of EU membership (55%), another sign that doubts are rising is the fact that this majority has fallen significantly in the year (-12).

[17] QA10a. Generally speaking, do you think that (OUR COUNTRY)'s membership of the EU would be… a good thing, a bad thing, neither good nor bad?
[18] QA11a. Taking everything into consideration, would you say that (OUR COUNTRY) would benefit or not from being a member of the EU?
[19] 66.27% of Croats voted yes to EU membership in the referendum on 22 January 2012, which was marked by a low turnout (43.5%).

The ratio of opinions on EU membership has narrowed considerably in Turkey: 37% of the respondents (-4 percentage points) are in favour, 35% (+6) are against, 16% (-4) gave a neutral response and 12% (+2) expressed no opinion. In one year, the ratio of support to opposition for Turkish membership has thus narrowed from 41%:29% to 37%:35%. Respondents in Turkey are less convinced of the benefits of membership than a year ago: 44% (-4) say that Turkey would benefit from joining the EU, while 37% (-1) take the opposite view and 19% (+5) expressed no opinion.

A majority of the respondents in Iceland opposed EU membership in previous surveys and their opposition has now strengthened: 46% (+5 percentage points) of people polled in Iceland believe that membership would be a “bad thing”, while 21% (-5) consider that it would be a “good thing”, 30% (+2) think that it would be “neither good nor bad” and 3% (-2) expressed no opinion. Opposition to EU membership can be attributed to the widespread and fast-growing belief that Iceland would not benefit from joining the EU: 64% of the respondents in Iceland (+10) consider that their country would not benefit.

Finally, a relative majority of people polled in Serbia, where these questions were asked for the first time, are in favour of EU membership (40% versus 24%, while 28% say that membership would be neither good nor bad). This support is based the perception that membership would be in Serbia’s interest: 49% of the respondents consider that Serbia would benefit from joining the EU, while 31% take the opposite view and 20% expressed no opinion.

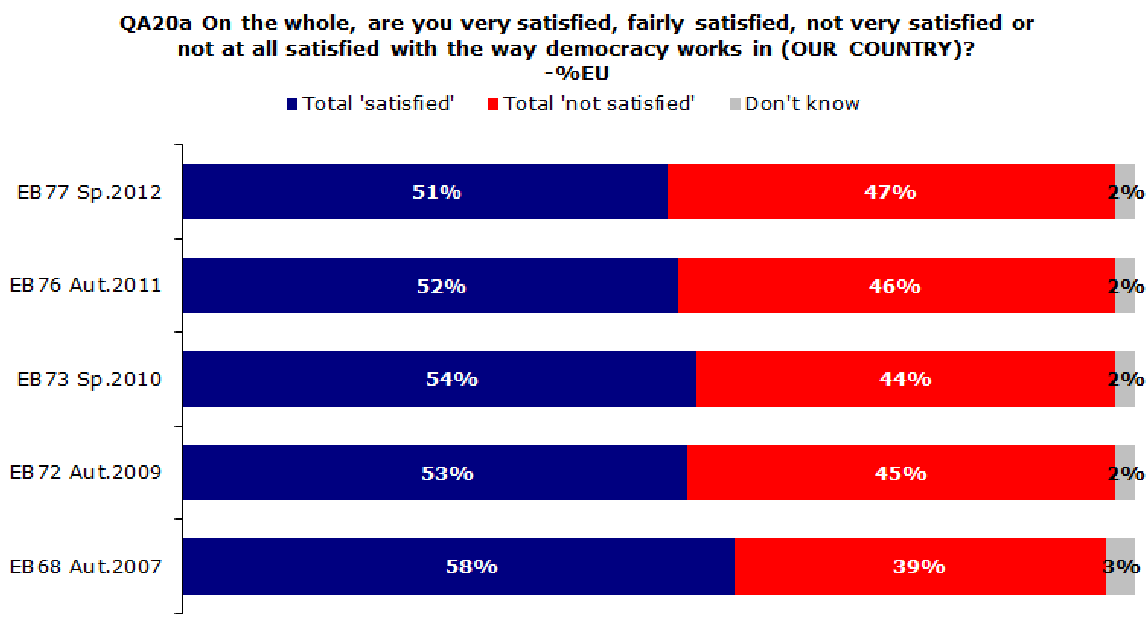
2. Democracy in the European Union

2.1. Perceptions of how democracy works at national and European levels

The way in which democracy works at national level

More than half of Europeans (51%) are satisfied today with the way democracy works in their country, while 47% are dissatisfied and 2% expressed no opinion[20].

Although the evolutions since the autumn 2011 survey are minor, the opinion ratio has continued to narrow. Positive opinions have decreased by one percentage point since autumn 2011 (EB76), by three points since spring 2010 (EB73) and by seven since autumn 2007 (EB68). Over the same period, dissatisfaction with how national democracy works has increased by one, three and eight percentage points respectively.



As in the previous survey, respondents are predominantly satisfied with the way national democracy works in 13 of the 27 EU countries. Satisfaction is greatest in the Nordic countries (87% in Denmark, 85% in Sweden and 77% in Finland), the Benelux countries (84% in Luxembourg, 78% in the Netherlands and 68% in Belgium), and Germany (70%).

However, people polled in 14 Member States are predominantly dissatisfied, most strikingly in Greece (85%), Lithuania (79%), Romania (78%), Bulgaria (78%), Portugal (77%), Hungary (73%), Italy (72%), Slovenia (69%) and the Czech Republic (67%).

[20] QA20a. On the whole, are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied or not at all satisfied with the way democracy works in (our country)?

This indicator reveals a clear divide between the EU15 countries, where a majority of respondents are satisfied with the way national democracy works (55% versus 43%), and the NMS12 countries, where a large majority of interviewed people are dissatisfied (62% versus 34%). In contrast, the differences between the Eurozone countries (52% versus 47%) and the non-Eurozone countries (49% versus 47%) are very minor.

There have been some very contrasting evolutions between countries for this indicator. Undoubtedly as a result of the presidential election in May 2012, satisfaction with how democracy works has risen by 14 percentage points in France over a six-month period (67%)[21]. People polled in Belgium are also far more satisfied (+7). However, opinions of how national democracy works have deteriorated significantly in Poland (-11), Bulgaria (-7) and in the Mediterranean countries affected by the financial and debt crisis (-8 in Spain, -7 in Portugal and Italy).

Assessments of national democracy are very closely linked to the socio-economic living conditions of respondents. A majority of the most educated interviewed people and those in the most advantaged social categories express satisfaction, whereas those in more modest categories and who have financial difficulties are more likely to be critical of their democratic system.

[21] The French presidential election was characterised by a high turnout: 79.5% in the first round on 22 April and 80.3% in the second round on 6 May.

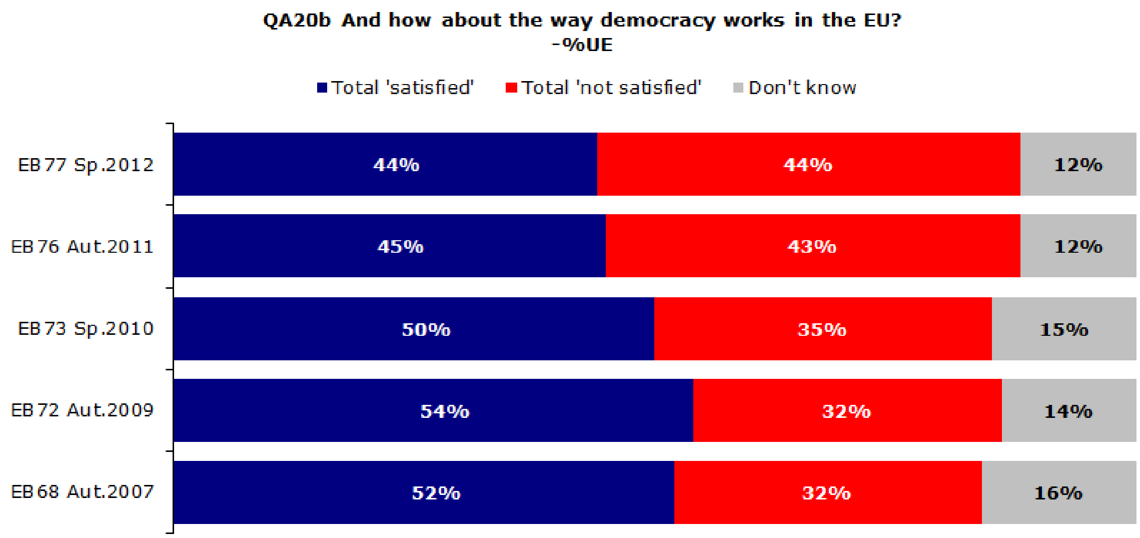
QA20a On the whole, are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied or not at all satisfied with the way democracy works in (OUR COUNTRY)?

	Total 'Satisfied'	Total 'Not satisfied'	Don't know
EU27	51%	47%	2%
Age			
15-24	53%	44%	3%
25-39	49%	49%	2%
40-54	49%	49%	2%
55 +	51%	46%	3%
Education (End of)			
15-	43%	54%	3%
16-19	47%	51%	2%
20+	60%	38%	2%
Still studying	59%	39%	2%
Occupation scale			
Self- employed	48%	50%	2%
Managers	66%	33%	1%
Other white collars	50%	48%	2%
Manual workers	49%	49%	2%
House persons	46%	50%	4%
Unemployed	34%	63%	3%
Retired	51%	46%	3%
Students	59%	39%	2%
Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	29%	69%	2%
From time to time	41%	57%	2%
Almost never	60%	38%	2%

The way in which democracy works in the European Union

For the first time in the history of the Eurobarometer survey, assessments of the way democracy works in the European Union are no longer predominantly positive. European opinion is now split down the middle on this indicator: 44% of Europeans are satisfied with how democracy works in the EU (-1 percentage point since autumn 2011), while 44% (+1) are dissatisfied and 12% (unchanged) expressed no opinion[22].

Although evolutions since the previous Eurobarometer survey are small, there is a perceptible downward trend: since autumn 2009, the proportion of satisfied respondents has fallen by 10 percentage points, while over the same period the proportion of dissatisfied respondents has increased by 12 percentage points.



An absolute or relative majority of respondents are satisfied in 16 EU countries, compared with 19 last Autumn. The three countries which have left this group are Germany (47% versus 47%), Hungary (45% versus 45%) and Sweden (45% versus 45%), in all of which opinions are now split down the middle. The fall in positive opinions is moderate in Germany (-2 percentage points), but very marked in Hungary (-8) and Sweden (-7). In contrast, as a result of a strong increase in positive opinions (+8), France (50% versus 37%), has joined the group of countries where a majority of respondents are satisfied with the way democracy works in the EU. Within this group, Denmark (64%), Luxembourg (63%), Belgium (63%), Poland (58%) and Latvia (57%) have the highest satisfaction levels.

Respondents are predominantly dissatisfied in eight EU countries: by an absolute majority in Greece (70%), Portugal (66%), Italy (57%), Austria (54%) and Spain (52%) and by a relative majority in the United Kingdom (46% versus 37%), Slovakia (48% versus 44%) and the Czech Republic (44% versus 43%). The most striking changes have occurred in Italy and Spain, where levels of dissatisfaction have increased by 10 and 8 percentage points respectively since the previous Eurobarometer survey.

[22] QA20b. On the whole, are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied or not at all satisfied with the way democracy works in the European Union?

Results for this indicator vary greatly from one group of countries to another. People polled in the NMS12 countries (52% versus 31%) and in the non-Eurozone countries (47% versus 36%) are predominantly satisfied with the way European democracy works; however people polled in the EU15 countries (48% versus 41%) and within the Eurozone (48% versus 42%) are predominantly dissatisfied. This is the strict reverse of the situation recorded for assessments of the way democracy works at national level.

The age and social position of respondents significantly influence opinions on how European democracy works. For example, respondents in the 15-24 age group (52%) and managers are predominantly satisfied (54%). However, people aged 55 or over (45% versus 40%), unemployed people (52%) and those who struggle to pay their bills most of the time (55%) are predominantly dissatisfied.

Opinions are also shaped by the level of knowledge about the EU: a majority of the interviewed people who have a good objective knowledge are satisfied (52%), whereas a majority of those whose knowledge of the EU is poor are dissatisfied (41% versus 27%).

The extent to which citizens believe that their voice counts in the EU has a significant influence on assessments of the way European democracy works: 70% (versus 24%) of those who have the impression that their voice counts in the EU are satisfied with the way democracy works in the EU whereas 55% (versus 32%) of those who think that their voice does not count are dissatisfied.

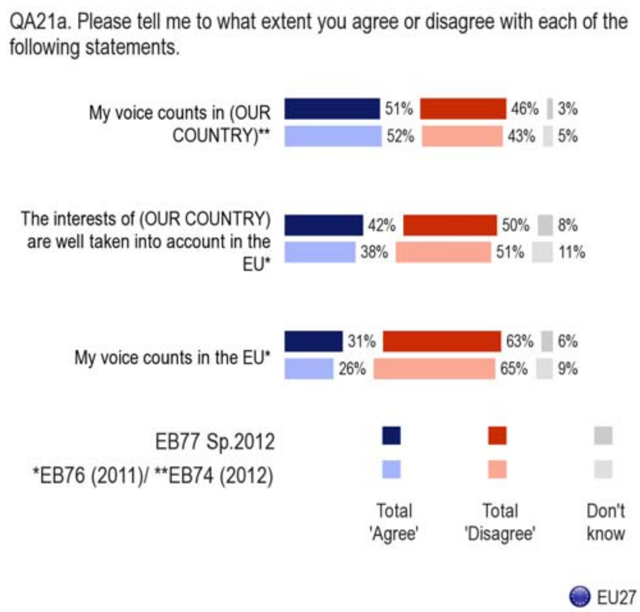
Finally, perceptions of how European democracy works are shaped to a large extent by the image that the EU conjures up for respondents. Thus, 70% (versus 22%) of the Europeans who have a positive image of the EU are satisfied with the way democracy works, whereas 69% (versus 20%) of those who have a negative image are critical.

QA20b en And how about the way democracy works in the EU?

	Very satisfied	Fairly satisfied	Not very satisfied	Not at all satisfied	Don't know	Total 'Satisfied'	Total 'Not satisfied'
EU27	4%	40%	33%	11%	12%	44%	44%
Age							
15-24	5%	47%	29%	7%	12%	52%	36%
25-39	4%	42%	32%	11%	11%	46%	43%
40-54	4%	38%	35%	12%	11%	42%	47%
55 +	3%	37%	34%	11%	15%	40%	45%
Occupation scale							
Self- employed	4%	40%	34%	12%	10%	44%	46%
Managers	5%	49%	31%	8%	7%	54%	39%
Other white collars	5%	39%	37%	10%	9%	44%	47%
Manual workers	4%	40%	34%	11%	11%	44%	45%
House persons	4%	37%	30%	11%	18%	41%	41%
Unemployed	2%	31%	34%	18%	15%	33%	52%
Retired	3%	36%	34%	11%	16%	39%	45%
Students	5%	52%	27%	6%	10%	57%	33%
Difficulties paying bills							
Most of the time	3%	26%	34%	21%	16%	29%	55%
From time to time	3%	37%	35%	12%	13%	40%	47%
Almost never	4%	45%	32%	8%	11%	49%	40%
Consider belonging to							
The working class	3%	34%	35%	14%	14%	37%	49%
The middle class	4%	45%	33%	8%	10%	49%	41%
The upper class	8%	52%	25%	8%	7%	60%	33%
Political interest index							
Strong	5%	40%	35%	14%	6%	45%	49%
Average	4%	42%	35%	10%	9%	46%	45%
Low	3%	40%	32%	9%	16%	43%	41%
Not at all	3%	34%	29%	14%	20%	37%	43%
Objective knowledge of the EU							
Bad	2%	25%	29%	12%	32%	27%	41%
Average	4%	39%	34%	11%	12%	43%	45%
Good	5%	47%	32%	10%	6%	52%	42%

2.2. The extent to which personal, national and European interests are taken into account

A narrow majority of Europeans have the impression that their voice counts in their country, whereas a large majority of Europeans feel that their voice does not count in the EU. This helps to explain why Europeans are more positive about the way in which democracy works in their country than about how European democracy works. These two indicators have evolved differently since they were last analysed in the Eurobarometer survey: the proportion of respondents who feel that their voice counts in their country has decreased slightly whereas the proportion of respondents who feel that their voice counts in the EU has increased significantly, though they still represent the minority.



Thus, 51% (-1 percentage point since EB74 of autumn 2010) of Europeans feel that they have an influence on their national democracy in their country, whereas 46% (+3) take the opposite view[23]. There are significant differences for this indicator, depending on the groups of countries analysed. A majority of people polled in the EU15 countries (54% versus 44%) and in the Eurozone (54% versus 43%) have the impression that their voice counts in their country, whereas majorities in the NMS12 countries (57% versus 38%) and the non-Eurozone countries (52% versus 44%) take the opposite view. Since 2010, the proportion of respondents who feel that their voice counts in their country has increased significantly in France (84%, +11 percentage points) thanks to the presidential election; on the other hand it has fallen significantly in Portugal (22%, -15), Spain (37%, -13) and Poland (50%, -10).

[23] QA21a.5 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. My voice counts in (OUR COUNTRY).

Almost two-thirds of respondents believe that their voice does not count in the European Union (63%, -2 percentage points since EB76 of autumn 2011), while fewer than a third consider that their voice counts (31%, +5)[24]. Denmark (57%) and the Netherlands (50%) are the only two European Union countries where a majority of citizens have the impression that their voice counts in the EU. Unlike the previous case, there are no significant differences for this indicator between the groups of countries analysed.

People' belief that their voice counts in the EU has gained ground in 22 of the 27 EU Member States. It has increased very sharply in France (47%, +13 percentage points). It has also increased by 11 percentage points in Estonia, nine in Latvia and eight in the Netherlands. A significant decline is recorded in Hungary (-8) and Portugal (-5).

This increase in the proportion of respondents who feel that their voice counts in the EU is matched by their growing belief that their country's interests are adequately taken into account in the EU. Since the autumn 2011 survey, the proportion who considers that their country's interests are adequately taken into account has increased by four percentage points, whereas the proportion who takes the opposite view has fallen by one percentage point. Nevertheless, the predominant view is still that national interests are not properly taken into account (50% versus 42%)[25].

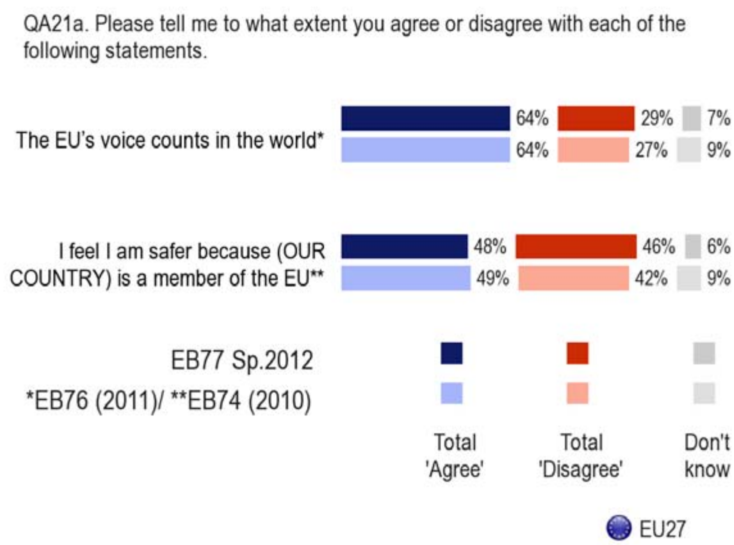
A national analysis reveals that a majority of people polled in eight European Union countries consider that national interests are adequately taken into account in the EU. These countries are Luxembourg (70%), Belgium (61%), Germany (59%), Denmark (57%), France (57%), Sweden (53%), the Netherlands (51%) and Malta (49% versus 40%). In all the other countries the predominant view is that national interests are not adequately taken into account, most strikingly in Greece (84%), Hungary (68%), Cyprus (67%), Latvia (67%) and the Czech Republic (64%). An absolute majority of the respondents in the NMS12 countries (54% versus 37%) and in the non-Eurozone countries (56% versus 34%) have the impression that national interests are not adequately taken into account, whereas the opinion ratio is more balanced in the Eurozone countries (47% versus 46%) and in the EU15 (49% versus 43%).

The belief that national interests are adequately taken into account in the EU has gained ground in 25 European Union countries, in particular in Slovenia (+21 percentage points), Sweden (+16), the Netherlands (+12), Luxembourg (+11), Estonia (+9), Malta (+9), Austria (+7), Belgium (+8), Latvia (+8) and Portugal (+8).

[24] QA21a.4 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. My voice counts in the EU.

[25] QA21a.2 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. The interests of (OUR COUNTRY) are well taken into account in the EU.

As in previous surveys, there is a consensus regarding the international influence of the European Union: 64% of the respondents agree that the "EU's voice counts in the world", while only 29% disagree and 9% expressed no opinion. The evolutions for this indicator since autumn 2011 are minor[26]. However, the feeling of safety conferred by membership of the EU has lost ground since autumn 2010 (EB74), the last time this item was tested in the Eurobarometer survey. 48% of Europeans (-1 percentage point) "feel safer because their country is a member of the EU", while 46% (+4) disagree and 6% (-3) expressed no opinion[27].



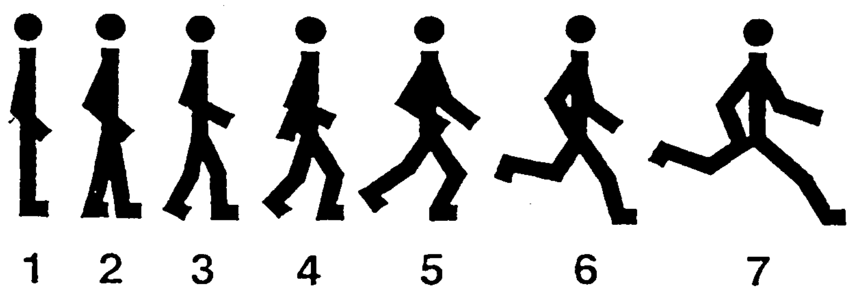
The feeling of safety is notably more widespread in the NMS12 countries (56% versus 37%) than in the EU15 countries (46% versus 48%). However, very similar results are recorded in the Eurozone (48% versus 47%) and outside it (48% versus 45%). In comparison with EB74 of autumn 2010, the feeling of safety has deteriorated very sharply in Italy (-14 percentage points) and Hungary (-11), two countries in which only a minority now feel this way, and in Portugal (-9). In contrast, this view has gained ground in Romania and Malta (both +12).

[26] QA21a.6 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. The EU's voice counts in the world.

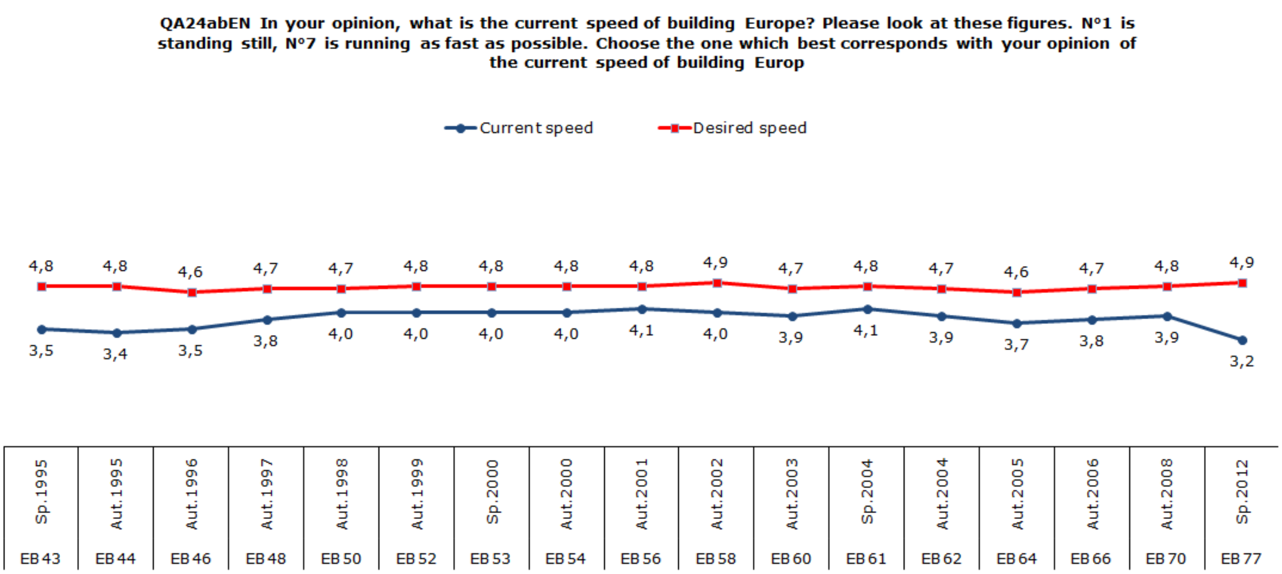
[27] QA21a.6 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. I feel safer because (OUR COUNYTRY) is a member of the EU.

3. Opinions on the speed of European integration

In this survey, the respondents were asked for their views on the current speed of the building of Europe, and the speed that they would prefer. For this purpose, they were asked to position themselves on one of the figures below, where number 1 is standing still and number 7 is running as fast as possible. An average speed is then calculated on the basis of the aggregated answers.



On this scale from 1 to 7, the average perceived speed is 3.2 while the average desired speed is 4.9[28]. This indicator of the perceived speed of European integration was last tested in the Eurobarometer survey in autumn 2008 (EB70). Although there has always been a gap between the desired and perceived speeds of European integration, this gap has opened up as a result of the crisis, and is now wider than at any time since 1995. The average desired speed is close to that measured previously, but the average perceived speed is the lowest ever recorded, falling from 3.9 in autumn 2008 to 3.2 today.



[28] QA24a and b. In your opinion, what is the current speed of building Europe? Please look at these figures. N°1 is standing still, N° 7 is running as fast as possible. Choose the one which best corresponds with your opinion of the current speed of building Europe. And which corresponds best to the speed you would like?

The average perceived speed of European integration has decreased in all 27 Member States, with falls ranging from -0.3 in Denmark to -1.2 in Slovakia.

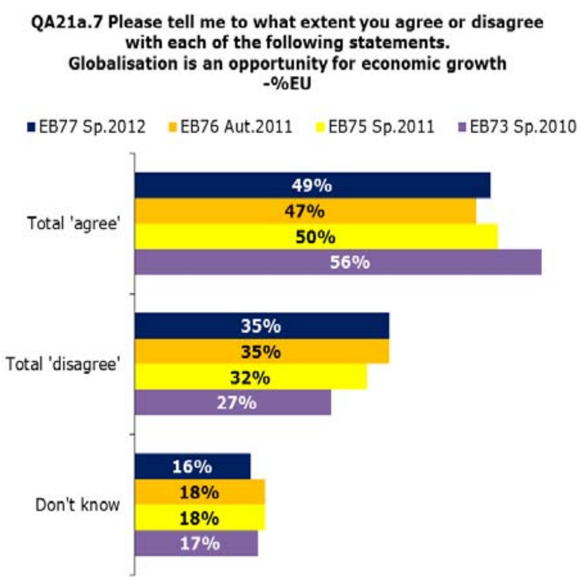
The desired speed for European integration is highest in Bulgaria (5.8), Greece (5.7), Romania (5.6), Poland (5.5), Portugal (5.5) and Hungary (5.5). It is lowest in Finland (4.1) and the United Kingdom (4.3). There are almost no differences in the desired speed of European integration in the Eurozone (4.8) and the non-Eurozone countries (4.9). However, the desired speed is faster in the NMS12 countries (5.4) than in the EU15 (4.7). Finally, it is interesting to note that respondents in countries experiencing severe financial difficulties want European integration to be speeded up: since autumn 2008, the average desired speed of European integration has increased from 4.9 to 5.3 in Spain, from 5.2 to 5.5 in Portugal and from 4.8 to 5.0 in Italy. In Greece it remains at one of the highest levels recorded in the EU (5.7).

4. Europeans and globalisation

4.1. Is globalisation an opportunity for economic growth?

– Perceptions of globalisation are still ambivalent –

49% of respondents agree that "globalisation is an opportunity for economic growth", while 35% disagree and 16% expressed no opinion[29]. Perceptions that globalisation can play a positive role growth have increased slightly, by two percentage points since autumn 2011 (EB76). The proportion of Europeans who are negative about globalisation has remained stable since the last survey. Previous Eurobarometer reports had highlighted a trend towards a deterioration in the image of globalisation as a growth opportunity since spring 2010 (EB73). This trend has therefore halted in this survey, but the economic image of globalisation is still far below its highest levels. The difference between positive and negative perceptions of globalisation is now +14, compared with +12 six months ago; but it stood at +18 a year ago and was as high as +29 two years ago.



A majority of people polled in 22 Member States see globalisation as a driver for growth, most strikingly in the Nordic countries (80% in Denmark, 78% in Sweden and 64% in Finland), the Netherlands (72%) and Germany (63%). Positive opinions narrowly outweigh negative responses in Portugal (39% versus 37%) and Romania (35% versus 33%). The economic role of globalisation is seen as negative by an absolute majority of the people polled in Greece (62%), Cyprus (53%) and Italy (51%) and by a relative majority in France (46% versus 44%) and the Czech Republic (44% versus 41%).

[29] QA21a.7 Please tell me for each statement, whether you tend to agree or tend to disagree. Globalisation is an opportunity for economic growth.

As in previous Eurobarometer surveys, a socio-demographic analysis reveals significant divisions over the image of globalisation:

Thus:

- 60% of 15-24 year-olds (versus 24%) see globalisation as an opportunity for economic growth, whereas 42% of those aged 55 or over (versus 38%) do not agree.
- 58% of the respondents who studied up to the age of 20 or beyond (versus 34%) see it as an opportunity for growth, whereas 33% of those who left school before the age of 16 (versus 40%) disagree.
- 61% of managers, 54% of white-collar workers, and 56% of the Europeans who almost never have difficulties paying their bills agree that globalisation is an opportunity for economic growth, while 39% of unemployed people, 41% of retired respondents and 31% of the Europeans who struggle to pay their bills do not share this view.

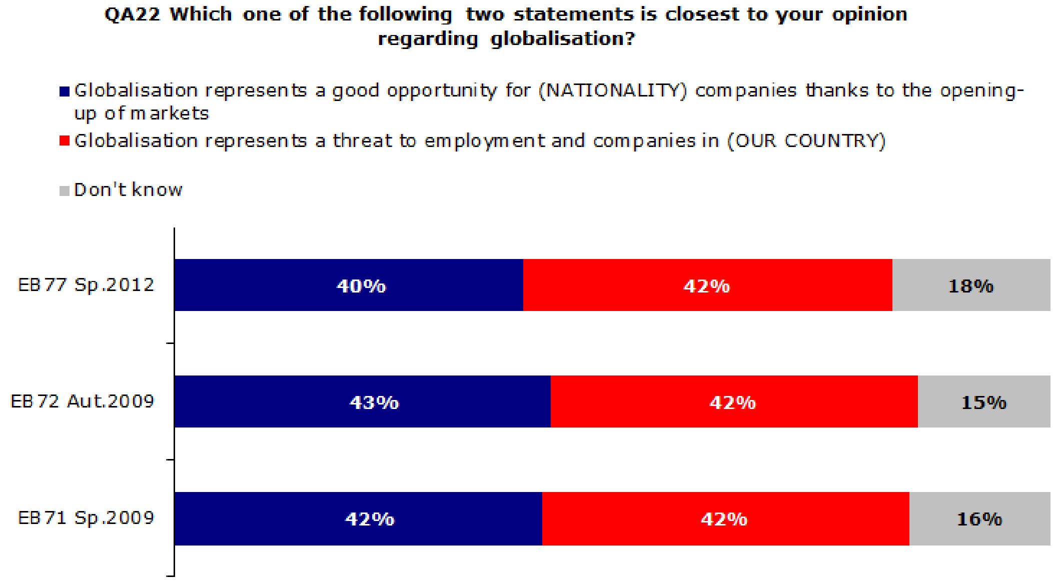
QA21a.7 en Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. Globalisation is an opportunity for economic growth

Globalisation is an opportunity for economic growth

	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Don't know
EU27	49%	35%	16%
Gender			
Male	51%	37%	12%
Female	46%	34%	20%
Age			
15-24	60%	24%	16%
25-39	53%	35%	12%
40-54	49%	38%	13%
55 +	42%	38%	20%
Education (End of)			
15-	33%	40%	27%
16-19	48%	37%	15%
20+	58%	34%	8%
Still studying	65%	21%	14%
Occupation scale			
Self- employed	50%	39%	11%
Managers	61%	32%	7%
Other white collars	54%	36%	10%
Manual workers	48%	38%	14%
House persons	42%	28%	30%
Unemployed	39%	44%	17%
Retired	41%	38%	21%
Students	65%	21%	14%
Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	31%	46%	23%
From time to time	42%	41%	17%
Almost never	56%	31%	13%

However, the opinions of Europeans are far more divided on the question of whether globalisation is an opportunity for their country's companies or a threat to employment in their country. More than four out of ten (42%) see globalisation primarily as a threat to employment, whereas 40% see it firstly as a good opportunity for companies.

Fewer than one in five interviewed people (18%) expressed no opinion[30]. The perception of globalisation as a threat is unchanged since EB72 of autumn 2009, while positive perceptions have fallen by three percentage points over the same period.



The representation of globalisation as an economic opportunity is predominant in 15 EU countries, attracting an absolute majority of people polled in Denmark (72%), the Netherlands (68%), Sweden (68%), Germany (53%), Finland (52%), Estonia (52%) and Malta (51%).

The view of globalisation as a threat to employment is predominant in 12 countries, with an absolute majority in France (65%), Greece (64%), Cyprus (59%), Belgium (57%), Hungary (54%), Latvia (53%) the Czech Republic (50%) and a relative majority in Italy (48% versus 29%), Austria (47% versus 41%), Slovenia (46% versus 42%), Portugal (44% versus 31%) and Romania (33% versus 29%).

In comparison with autumn 2009, positive perceptions of globalisation have lost ground very sharply in Slovakia (-15 percentage points), the Czech Republic (-14), Spain (-12), Italy (-11), Romania (-10) and Hungary (-7). As a result of these changes, the opinion ratio has been reversed in this survey in the Czech Republic and Romania, where globalisation is now primarily seen as a threat.

However, positive perceptions are now more widespread in Ireland (+6 percentage points), Finland (+6) and Germany (+4).

[30] QA22. Which one of the following two statements is closest to your opinion regarding globalisation?

As in the previous Eurobarometer surveys, there are significant socio-demographic divisions, in particular reflecting the age, education, social status and economic situation of the respondents.

Thus:

- 46% of 15-24 year-olds (versus 36%) see globalisation as an economic opportunity, whereas 42% of those aged 55 or over (versus 36%) see it as a threat to employment.
- 50% of respondents who studied up to the age of 20 or beyond (versus 38%) see it positively, whereas 45% of those who left school before the age of 16 (versus 27%) perceive it negatively.
- 46% (versus 38%) of the respondents who almost never have difficulties paying their bills are positive about globalisation, whereas 52% (versus 24%) of those who have difficulties most of the time see it mainly as a cause for anxiety.

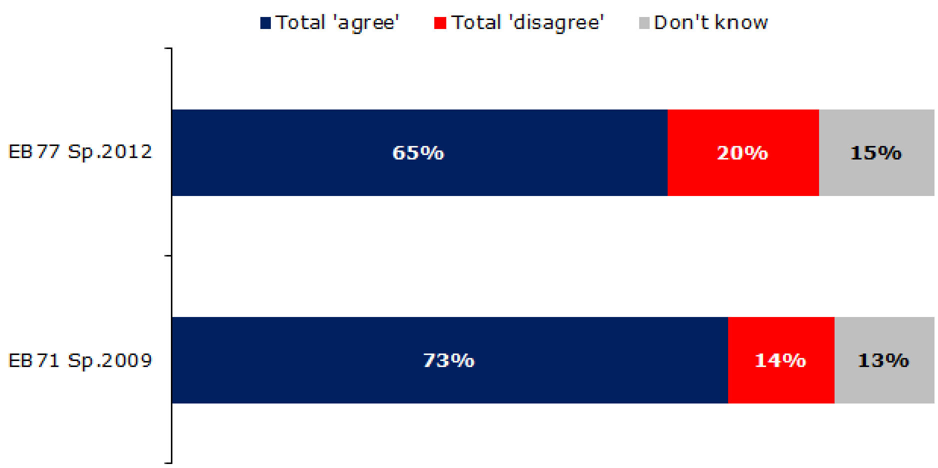
QA22a Which one of the following two statements is closest to your opinion regarding globalisation?

	Globalisation represents a good opportunity for (NATIONALITY) companies thanks to the opening-up of markets	Globalisation represents a threat to employment and companies in (OUR COUNTRY)	Don't know
EU27	40%	42%	18%
Gender			
Male	43%	42%	15%
Female	37%	42%	21%
Age			
15-24	46%	36%	18%
25-39	42%	43%	15%
40-54	39%	45%	16%
55 +	36%	42%	22%
Education (End of)			
15-	27%	45%	28%
16-19	38%	45%	17%
20+	50%	38%	12%
Still studying	50%	33%	17%
Occupation scale			
Self- employed	44%	43%	13%
Managers	52%	38%	10%
Other white collars	43%	42%	15%
Manual workers	38%	46%	16%
House persons	34%	36%	30%
Unemployed	32%	49%	19%
Retired	36%	42%	22%
Students	50%	33%	17%
Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	24%	52%	24%
From time to time	34%	46%	20%
Almost never	46%	38%	16%
Trust in EU			
Tend to trust	56%	30%	14%
Tend not to trust	33%	50%	17%
Objective knowledge of the EU			
Bad	23%	33%	44%
Average	39%	43%	18%
Good	47%	42%	11%

4.2. Globalisation requires worldwide governance

Almost two-thirds of Europeans (65%) consider that globalisation requires worldwide governance, while 20% disagree and 15% expressed no opinion[31]. However, in comparison with autumn 2009 (EB71), support for common global rules has declined by eight percentage points, and opposition to this idea has increased by six points.

**QA21a.8 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.
Globalisation requires common global rules ("worldwide governance")**



Despite these changes, the national and socio-demographic analyses show that there is a strong consensus in Europe on the need for worldwide governance. It is easily the predominant view in all 27 EU countries and is supported by an absolute majority in 25 of them, and by a comfortable relative majority in Portugal (47% versus 25%) and Romania (41% versus 24%). Nonetheless, it is noteworthy that, in comparison with the autumn 2009 survey, support for this idea has fallen sharply in the EU Member States that are the most vulnerable economically, an undoubted sign of the increasing temptation for opinion to turn inwards in these countries. It has fallen by 20 percentage points in Spain and Romania, by 18 points in Italy and Slovakia, by 17 points in Portugal, by 16 points in the Czech Republic and by 15 points in Hungary. Finally, a majority of respondents at all levels of the European population support worldwide governance, advantaged and disadvantaged categories alike.

[31] QA21a.8. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. Globalisation requires common global rules.

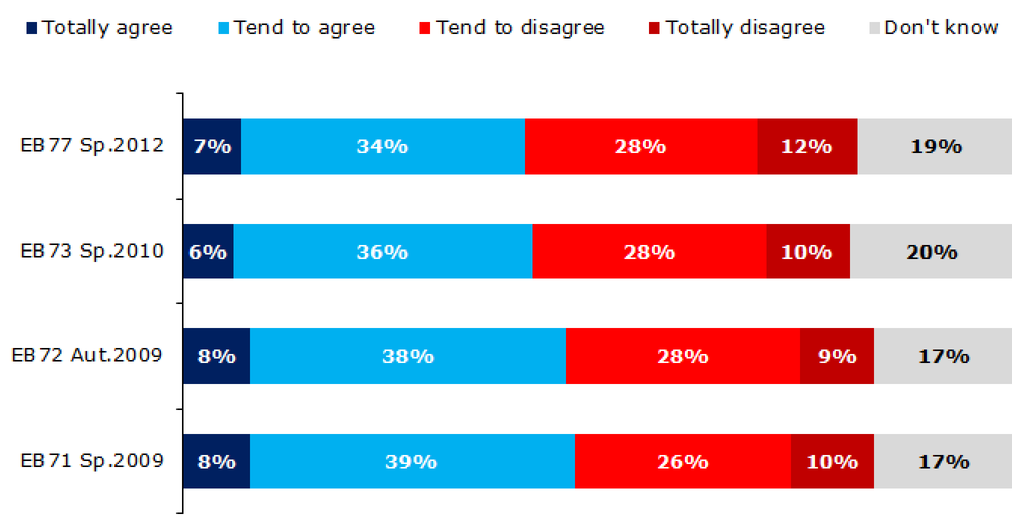
4.3. The EU and the effects of globalisation

In order to gain a better insight into how Europeans perceive the EU's role in globalisation, the sample was divided into two groups. People polled in the first group were asked for their views via a negative statement on globalisation: "the EU helps to protect European citizens from the negative effects of globalisation". The second group were presented with a positively worded statement: "the EU enables European citizens to better benefit from the positive effects of globalisation". Whether the wording is positive or negative, the trend is the same: favourable assessments of the EU's role have lost ground since the surveys carried out in spring 2010 (EB73), autumn 2009 (EB72) and spring 2009 (EB71).

4.3.1. The negative wording (SPLIT A)

More than four out of ten Europeans (41%) now consider that "the EU helps to protect European citizens from the negative effects of globalisation". This proportion has fallen by one percentage point since spring 2010 and by five points since spring 2009. Four out of ten respondents (40%) take the opposite view, a 2-point rise since spring 2010 and a 3-point rise since spring 2009[32]. Since 2009, therefore, the idea that the European Union acts as a buffer against the effects of globalisation has lost ground in public opinion.

QA21a.9 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.
The EU helps to protect European citizens from the negative effects of globalisation
-%EU



[32] QA21a.9. Split A. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. The EU helps to protect European citizens from the negative effects of globalisation.

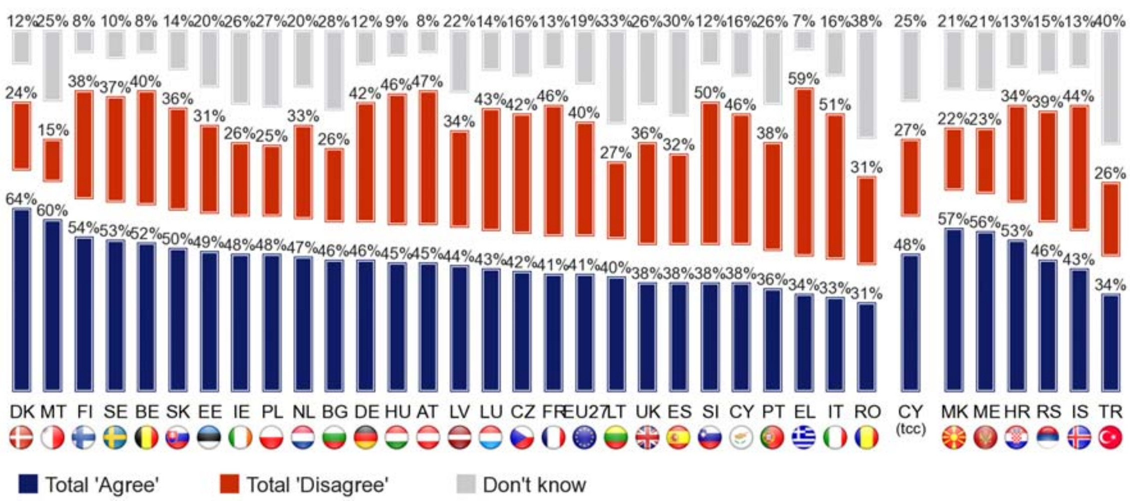
Respondents agree that the EU serves as a buffer against the negative effects of globalisation in 16 EU countries, with the support of an absolute majority of the people polled in Denmark (64%), Malta (60%), Finland (54%), Sweden (53%), Belgium (52%) and Slovakia (50%). It is therefore in the countries where globalisation is seen most positively that the European Union's ability to protect its citizens from the negative effects of globalisation is most widely acknowledged.

Opinions are split down the middle in three countries: Luxembourg (43% versus 43%), the Czech Republic (42% versus 42%) and Romania (31% versus 31%).

The European Union is seen as unable to protect citizens in eight EU countries, by a clear majority in Greece (59% versus 34%), Italy (51% versus 33%), Slovenia (50% versus 38%), Cyprus (46% versus 38%) and France (46% versus 41%), and to a lesser extent in Austria (47% versus 45%), Hungary (46% versus 45%) and Portugal (38% versus 36%).

QA21a.9. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

The EU helps to protect European citizens from the negative effects of globalisation



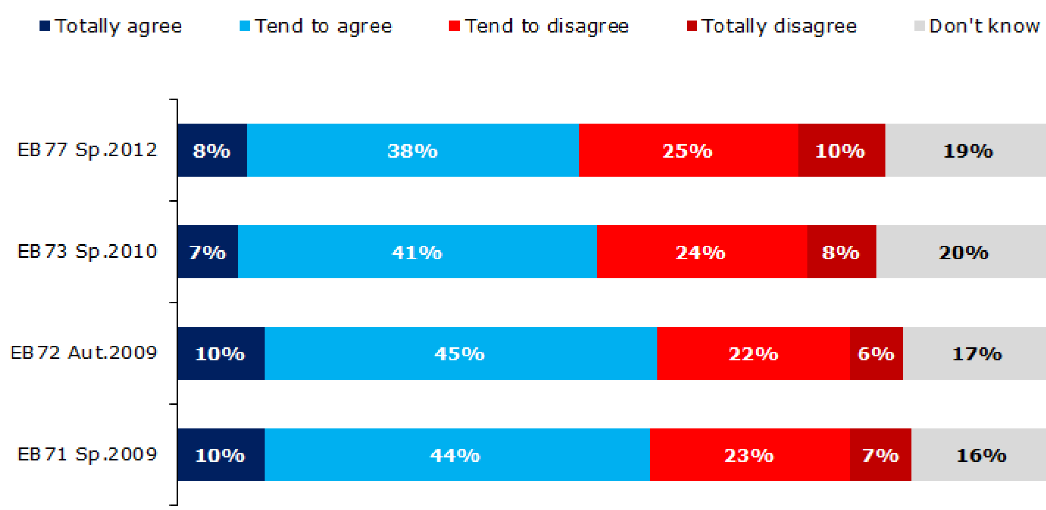
National evolutions are very mixed for this indicator. The vision of the European Union as an effective buffer has gained significant ground since spring 2010 in Malta (+15 percentage points), Latvia (+14), France (+12) and Germany (+7). But elsewhere support has crumbled, especially in the countries with serious economic and budgetary difficulties (-17 percentage points in Italy and Cyprus, -11 in Romania, -9 in Slovakia, -7 in Hungary, -4 in Portugal and Spain).

This indicator reveals the same divisions as those previously described with regard to opinions on globalisation. The younger generations and the most educated and affluent respondents are the most likely to consider that the European Union protects its citizens. However, this view is not shared by a majority of respondents aged 55+ or in the most modest and least educated categories.

4.3.2. *The positive wording (SPLIT B)*

Europeans are more likely to agree with the positive wording, which states that "the EU enables European citizens to better benefit from the positive effects of globalisation". However, the answers follow the same downward trend as that described above. Almost half of Europeans (46%) agree with the statement, while 35% take the opposite view and 19% expressed no opinion[33]. Positive assessments of the EU's role have decreased by two percentage points since spring 2010 (EB73), by nine points since autumn 2009 (EB72) and by eight points since spring 2009 (EB71), while negative opinions have increased by three, seven and five percentage points respectively over the same period.

QA21a.10 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.
The EU enables European citizens to better benefit from the positive effects of globalisation

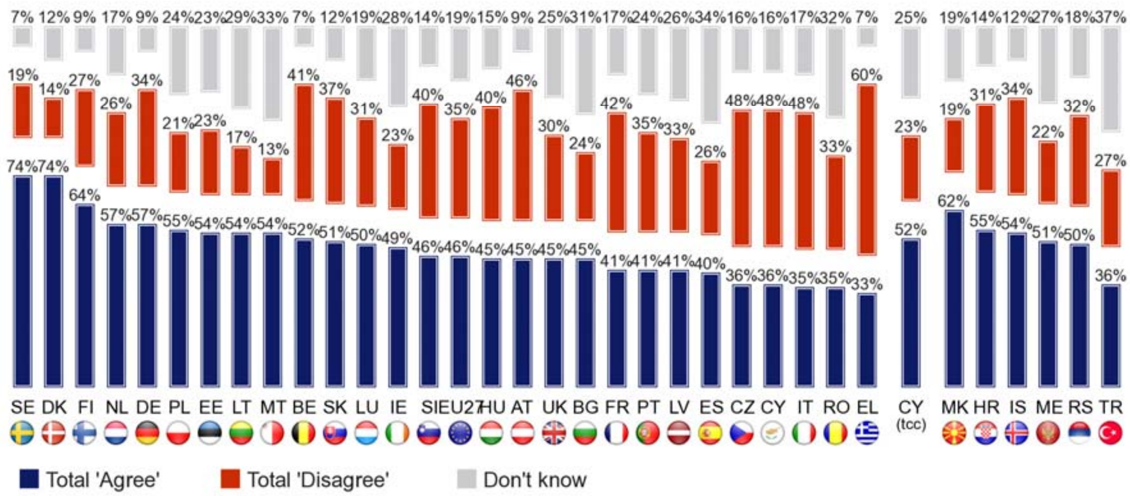


[33] QA21a.10. Split B. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. The EU enables European citizens to better benefit from the positive effects of globalisation.

The belief that the EU enables its citizens to benefit from globalisation is predominant in 21 Member States and is supported by an absolute majority in 12, led by Sweden (74%), Denmark (74%), Finland (64%), the Netherlands (57%) and Germany (57%). The opposite view is predominant in six countries, with the support of an absolute majority in Greece (60%) and of a relative majority in Italy (48% versus 35%), Cyprus (48% versus 36%), the Czech Republic (48% versus 36%), Austria (46% versus 45%) and France (42% versus 41%).

QA21a.10. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

The EU enables European citizens to better benefit from the positive effects of globalisation

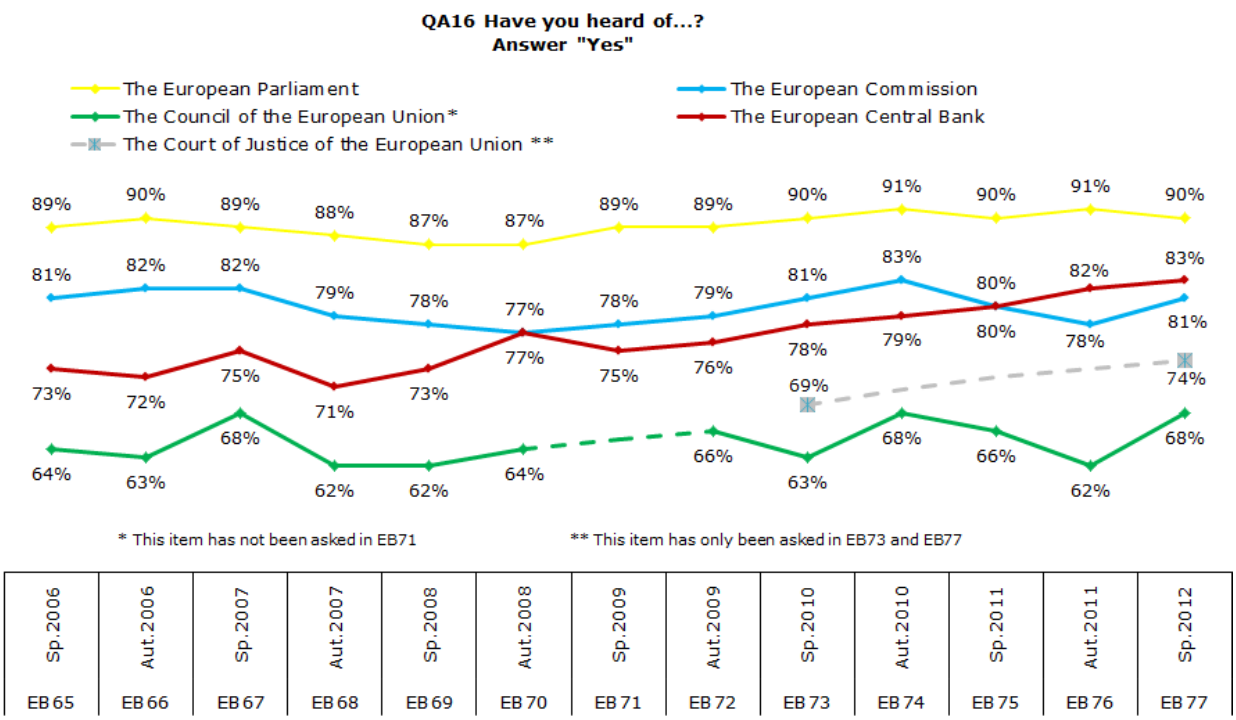


The idea that the EU helps Europeans to benefit from globalisation has gained ground notably in Finland (+9 percentage points), Germany (+8), Malta (+8) and the Netherlands (+5), but has declined significantly in Hungary (-15), the Czech Republic (-12), Slovakia (-9), Luxembourg (-8), Greece (-7), Spain (-7) and Italy (-7).

5. The European institutions

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

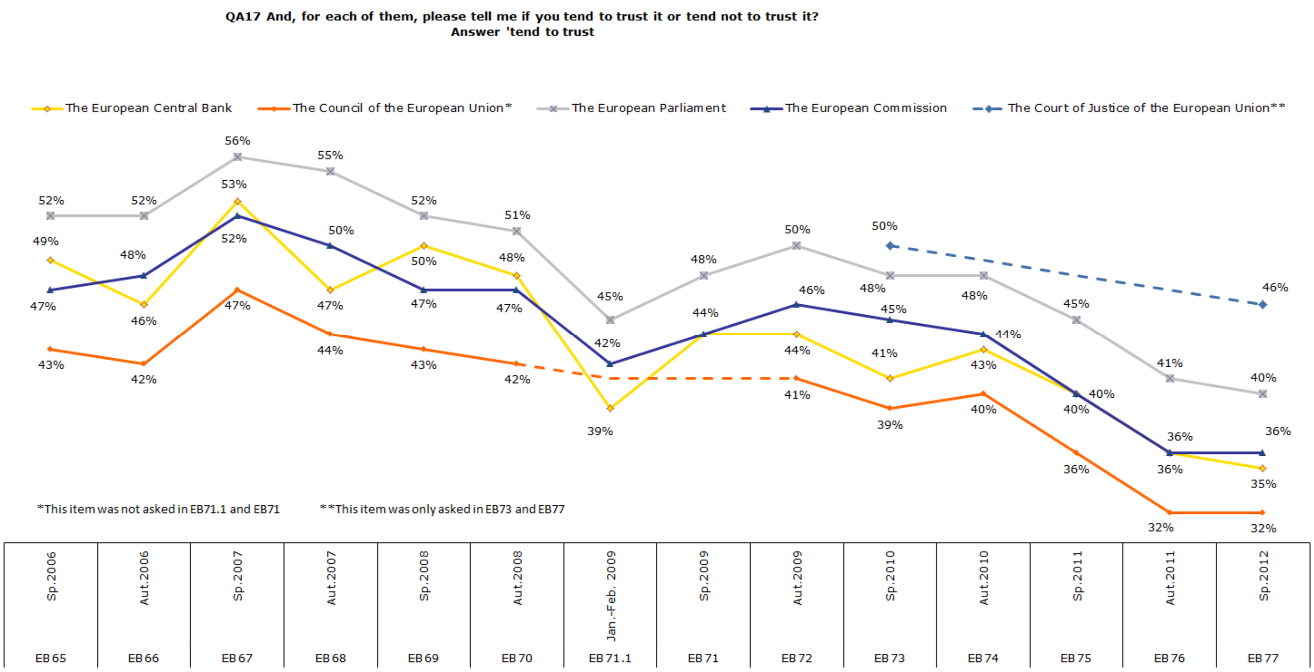
The European Parliament remains the best-known European institution with a score of 90% (-1 percentage point since autumn 2011). However Europeans are now more likely to have heard of all the other European institutions: there has been a 6-point rise for the Council of the European Union, a 3-point rise for the European Commission and a 1-point rise for the European Central Bank. For the second consecutive time, the European Central Bank appears to be slightly better known than the European Commission. Since spring 2010 (EB73) awareness of the Court of Justice of the European Union has increased by five percentage points[34]. However, this increased awareness of the European institutions is not reflected in any increase in trust in them.



[34] QA16.1+2+3+4+5 Have you heard of...? The European Parliament/The European Commission/The European Central Bank/The Council of the European Union/The Court of Justice of the European Union.

The Standard Eurobarometer surveys of spring 2011 (EB75) and autumn 2011 (EB76) were characterised by a sharp decline in trust in the main European institutions. That downward trend has continued in this survey, but to a lesser extent. Levels of trust have stabilised at their lowest levels: results for the Council of the European Union and the European Commission have not changed over the last six months; those for the European Parliament and the European Central Bank have fallen slightly by one percentage point. But these stabilised levels of trust are accompanied by a rise in distrust: slight for the European Parliament (+1 percentage point), but a more marked, 3-point rise for the European Commission, the European Central Bank and the Council of the European Union. The trust-distrust ratio for the main European institutions has therefore continued to deteriorate and, for the second consecutive time in the Eurobarometer survey, more interviewed people distrust than trust the European Parliament, the European Commission, the European Central Bank and the Council of the European Union[35].

The deterioration of the trust-distrust ratio for the main European institutions is particularly striking in the Mediterranean countries which are weakened by the debt crisis (Spain, Greece, Italy, Portugal and Cyprus). However, this ratio has improved significantly in France and, to a lesser extent, in Germany.



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[35] QA17.1+2+3+4 +5. For each of the following European bodies, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it. The European Parliament; The European Commission; The Council of the European Union; The European Central Bank; The Court of Justice of the European Union.

The European Parliament

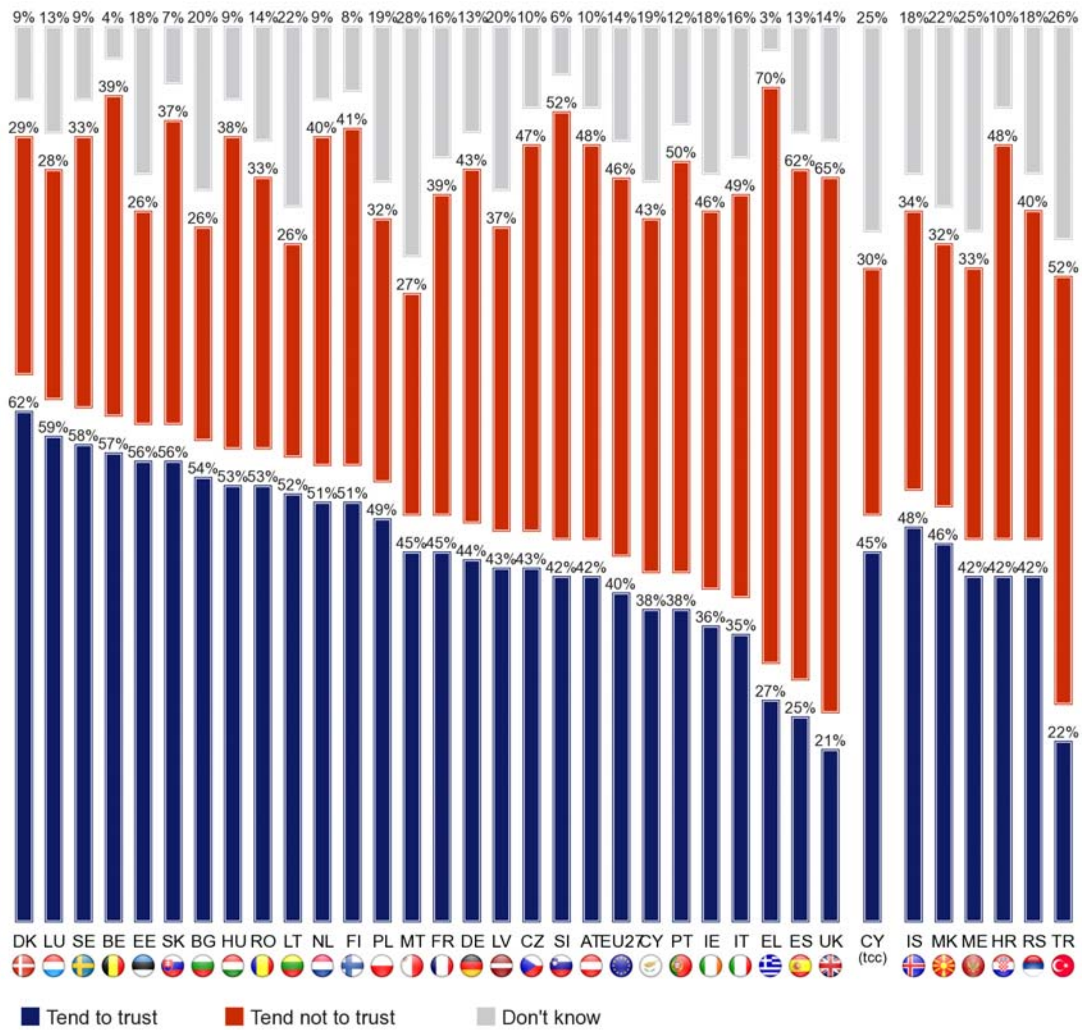
As in autumn 2011, more respondents distrust than trust the European Parliament, and the trust-distrust ratio has even deteriorated very slightly. Four out of ten Europeans (40%, -1 percentage point) trust the European Parliament, while 46% (+1) distrust it and 14% (unchanged) expressed no opinion. The trust index[36] has therefore fallen to -6 from -4 last autumn, whereas there was a positive reading (+7) a year ago, in spring 2011.

Since EB76 of autumn 2011, the trust-distrust ratio has moved back into positive territory in France (45%:39% versus 40%:44% six months ago), Latvia (43%:37% versus 38%:47%) and Germany (44%:43% versus 39%:47%); however it is now negative in Italy (35%:49% versus 45%:37%), Cyprus (38%:43% versus 45%:33%) and Portugal (38%:50% versus 44%:44%).

Overall, trust in the European Parliament outweighs distrust in 17 Member States (Belgium, Bulgaria, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, France, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Finland and Sweden), with the highest scores in Denmark (62%), Luxembourg (59%) and Sweden (58%). Distrust outweighs trust in 10 EU countries (the United Kingdom, Greece, Slovenia, Spain, Austria, Ireland, the Czech Republic, Italy, Portugal and Cyprus), led by Greece (70%), the United Kingdom (65%), Spain (62%) and Slovenia (52%).

[36] Difference between the “tend to trust” and “tend not to trust” percentages

QA17.1. For each of the following European bodies, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.
The European Parliament



Trust has fallen sharply in Italy (-10 percentage points), Romania (-8), Spain (-8), Cyprus (-7) and Portugal (-6). However, it has increased significantly in France (+5), Germany (+5) and Latvia (+5).

The European Commission

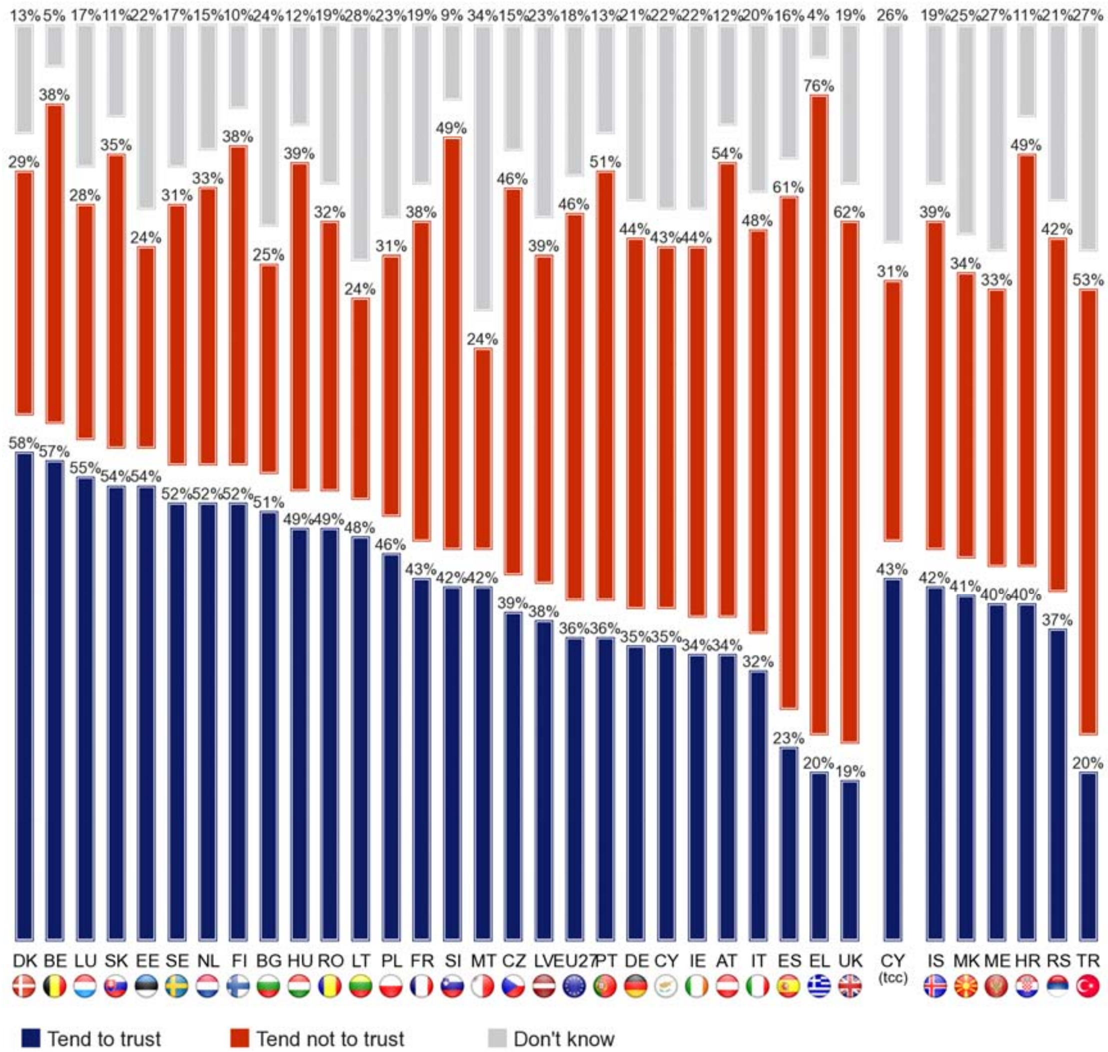
Trust in the European Commission is stable at its lowest ever level (36%), while distrust has increased by three percentage points to 46%. As a result the trust index has slumped to the most negative level ever recorded in the history of the Eurobarometer survey and now stands at -10, compared with -7 in autumn 2011 and a positive reading of +3 in spring 2011.

As in autumn 2011 (EB76), there is a significant difference between the NMS12 countries, where a majority of respondents trust the European Commission (47% versus 33%) and the EU15 countries, where these figures are almost completely reversed (49% distrust versus 33%). In six months, distrust has increased by one percentage point in the NMS12 countries and by three percentage points in the EU15 countries. In contrast, there are very few differences between the Eurozone countries (36% for trust versus 47% for distrust) and the non-Eurozone countries (37% versus 43%), though distrust has increased more significantly in the Eurozone (+3) than outside it (+1).

Since autumn 2011 (EB76), the trust-distrust ratio has improved spectacularly in France (43%:38% versus 33%:45%). In contrast, the ratio has become negative in Italy (32%:48% versus 40%:38%) and Cyprus (35%:43% versus 42%:34%). Finally, although trust has increased by three percentage points in Germany, in this instance – unlike in case of the European Parliament - this is insufficient to reverse the negative trust-distrust ratio (35%:44%).

Overall, trust is predominant in 15 countries (Belgium, Bulgaria, Denmark, Estonia, France, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Finland and Sweden), with the highest scores in Denmark (58%), Belgium (57%), Luxembourg (55%), Slovakia (54%), Estonia (54%), Finland (52%), the Netherlands (52%) and Sweden (52%). Conversely, distrust is predominant in 12 countries (the Czech Republic, Germany, Ireland, Spain, Greece, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Austria, Portugal, Slovenia and the United Kingdom), most strikingly in Greece (76%), the United Kingdom (62%), Spain (61%), Austria (54%) and Portugal (51%).

QA17.2. For each of the following European bodies, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.
The European Commission



Distrust has surged in Spain (+12 percentage points), Greece (+10), Italy (+10), Cyprus (+9) and Portugal (+7). However, trust has increased in France (+10), Estonia (+7) and Sweden (+6).

The European Central Bank

The European Central Bank has not escaped the growing distrust of European institutions. 35% (-1 percentage point) of respondents now trust it, while 49% (+3) distrust it. The trust index is therefore now -14, compared with -10 in autumn 2011 and +2 in Spring 2011. Distrust of the European Central Bank is therefore at its highest level in the history of the Eurobarometer survey.

The crisis of trust has spread very rapidly within the Eurozone and EU15 countries, since, for the first time, an absolute majority of people polled in these two groups of countries distrust the European Central Bank. The trust-distrust ratio has deteriorated in the EU15 countries from 34%:49% in autumn 2011 to 33%:53% today and from 37%:47% to 34%:52% in the Eurozone. The deterioration is far less pronounced outside the Eurozone (35%:44% today versus 35%:43% six months ago) and in the NMS12 countries (42%:36% versus 43%:34%), the only group where trust still predominates.

Since autumn 2011, the trust-distrust ratio has become negative in Cyprus (34%:46% versus 44%:34%) and is once again evenly balanced (38%:38%) in Latvia, where it was negative (33%:44%) six months ago. In total, distrust outweighs trust in 11 Member States (Germany, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Cyprus, Hungary, Portugal, Slovenia and the United Kingdom), rising sharply in Italy (+16 percentage points), Spain (+12), Cyprus (+12) and Greece (+9). Trust has increased in France (+5) and Germany (+5), but not enough to reverse a negative opinion ratio (35%:47% in France and 42%:48% in Germany).

Of the countries where trust predominates, it is now more widespread in Estonia (+7 points). In contrast, the trust-distrust ratio has narrowed sharply in Romania, falling from 44%:29% six months ago to 40%-37% today.

The Council of the European Union

Just under a third of Europeans (32%, unchanged) trust the Council of the European Union, while 44% (+3 percentage points) distrust it. The “DK” rate has fallen by three percentage points but remains high at 24%. The national evolutions are very similar to those noted for the previous institutions. The trust-distrust ratio has deteriorated sharply in Greece, Italy, Spain, Cyprus and Portugal, but has improved significantly in France, Germany and Estonia.

The Court of Justice of the European Union

The Court of Justice is the only European institution which is trusted by a majority of respondents. In this Eurobarometer survey, 46% of Europeans say that they trust it, while 36% do not trust it and 18% expressed no opinion. Nonetheless, like the other institutions, it too is suffering from the crisis of trust which is affecting the European Union: the proportion of respondents who trust the Court of Justice has fallen by four percentage points since it was last measured in spring 2010 (EB73); at the same time, the proportion who distrust it has risen by eight percentage points.

In spring 2010, a majority of people polled in all the EU countries trusted the Court of Justice of the EU, except for the United Kingdom. As a result of the massive increase in distrust, Greece (60%, +16 percentage points), Spain (57%, +26), Italy (47%, +19) and Portugal (44%, +15) have now joined the United Kingdom (52%, +11). Conversely, trust in this institution has increased strongly in the Baltic States: Estonia (65%, +15 percentage points), Lithuania (51%, +7) and Latvia (47%, +11).

Awareness and trust

An analysis of trust in the institutions in the light of the extent to which respondents have heard of them reveals that trust is far higher when Europeans have heard of the institution: this is true for the European Parliament (41% of those who have heard of it trust it, compared with 12% of those who have not heard of it), the European Commission (41% versus 12%), the Council of the European Union (41% versus 11%), the Central Bank (38% versus 10%) and the Court of Justice of the European Union (53% versus 14%). Levels of distrust are fairly similar, whether or not the respondents have heard of the European institution.

QA17 For each of the following European bodies, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.

The European Parliament

	Tend to trust	Tend not to trust	Don't know
EU27	40%	46%	14%
Have heard about the European Parliament			
Yes	41%	47%	12%
No	12%	47%	41%

The European Commission

	Tend to trust	Tend not to trust	Don't know
EU27	36%	46%	18%
Have heard about the European Commission			
Yes	41%	47%	12%
No	12%	47%	41%

The Council of the European Union

	Tend to trust	Tend not to trust	Don't know
EU27	32%	44%	24%
Have heard about the Council of the European Union			
Yes	41%	46%	13%
No	11%	45%	44%

The European Central Bank

	Tend to trust	Tend not to trust	Don't know
EU27	35%	49%	16%
Have heard about the European Central Bank			
Yes	38%	51%	11%
No	10%	48%	42%

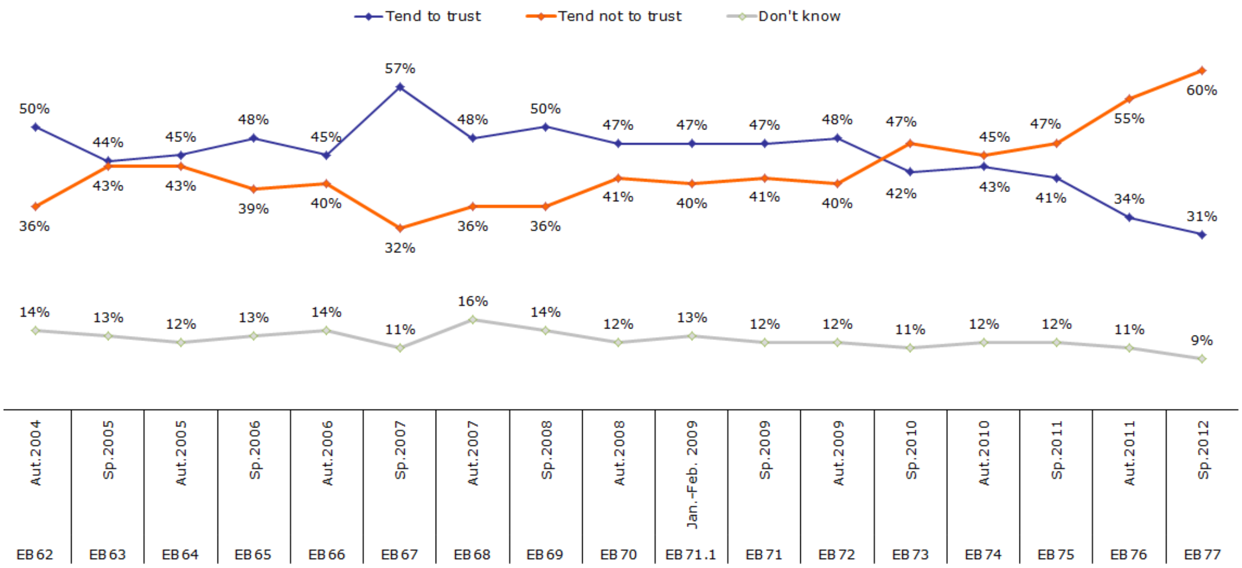
The Court of Justice of the European Union

	Tend to trust	Tend not to trust	Don't know
EU27	46%	36%	18%
Have heard of the Court of Justice of the European Union			
Yes	53%	37%	10%
No	14%	43%	43%

5.2. Trust in the European Union

Distrust in the European Union has continued to increase since the last Eurobarometer survey in autumn 2011; 60% of Europeans now distrust the European Union, representing a rise of + 5 percentage points, and 13 points more than in spring 2011 (EB75). Only 31% of the respondents trust the European Union, a 3-point decline since autumn 2011, and ten percentage points less than in spring 2011[37]. The increase in distrust (+5) exceeds the decline in trust (-3), making the current trust-distrust ratio the worst ever recorded for the European Union in the Eurobarometer survey.

QA13.4 I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain institutions. For each of the following institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.
The European Union



The growth of distrust is evident in all groups of countries. The trust-distrust ratio, already negative six months ago, has deteriorated even further in the EU15 countries (from 30%:59% to 28%:63%), the Eurozone (from 32%:56% to 30%:61%) and the non-Eurozone countries (from 37%:53% to 33%:58%). Crucially, for the first time in the history of the Eurobarometer survey, distrust now outweighs trust in the NMS12 countries, following a 5-point fall in trust and 6-point rise in distrust: the ratio has therefore deteriorated from 48%:41% six months ago to 43%:47% today.

A national analysis shows that few countries have escaped the decline in trust: trust was predominant in 16 countries a year ago (EB75 in spring 2011) and in 12 countries six months ago (EB76). It is now predominant in only seven countries: Bulgaria (55% versus 30%), Estonia (52% versus 35%), Denmark (49% versus 46%), Slovakia (49% versus 47%), Romania (48% versus 43%), Lithuania (47% versus 39%) and Malta (45% versus 40%).

[37] QA13.4. For each of the following institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it. The European Union.

Since autumn 2011, four countries have tipped into a negative trust-distrust ratio, namely Cyprus (32%:62% versus 47%:42% six months ago), Luxembourg (43%:49% versus 47%:45%), Hungary (38%:55% versus 47%:44%) and Poland (41%:46% versus 47%:41%). Finally, the ratio is now evenly balanced in Belgium (49% versus 49%), where it was positive six months ago (50%:46%).

A majority of people polled in 19 Member States now distrust the EU, with the highest scores in Greece (79%), the United Kingdom (75%), Spain (72%), Portugal (63%), the Czech Republic (63%), Italy (62%), Cyprus (62%), Germany (61%) and Austria (61%).

The trust index has deteriorated in 22 Member States, in particular in Cyprus (where it has fallen by 35 percentage points), Italy (-23), Greece (-21), Hungary (-20), Spain (-19) and the Czech Republic (-16). Therefore, only five countries have escaped this growing crisis of trust. The trust ratio is unchanged in Malta and has improved in Slovenia (+1 percentage point), Estonia (+5) and notably in France (+11) and Ireland (+12).

There are contrasting evolutions within the candidate countries. Trust in the European Union has increased significantly in Croatia (39%, +9 percentage points) and in Turkey (27%, +9), while remaining the minority opinion. Following an increase of nine percentage points, a majority of respondents (51%) in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia once again trust the European Union. Trust is more or less unchanged in Iceland, where it remains low (33%, +1), while it has deteriorated in Montenegro (43%, -8). Finally, trust is easily outweighed by distrust in Serbia, where it was measured in the Eurobarometer survey for the first time (37% versus 53%).

The previous Eurobarometer report had analysed a major sociological change, namely the emergence of distrust of the European Union among the socially advantaged classes and the younger generations. This trend has gathered pace in this survey. In six months, the trust-distrust ratio has deteriorated even further among 15-24 year-olds (from 43%:45% to 40%:50%), managers (from 42%:50% to 37%:56%) and those who almost never struggle to pay their bills (from 37%:53% to 35%:56%).

At the same time, distrust continues to gain ground in the social categories where it was already the highest, and has now reached record levels among those aged 55 or over (62%), who left school before the age of 16 (67%) and who struggle to pay their bills most of the time (70%). Objective knowledge of the European Union has a significant influence on trust in the European Union, but not enough to reverse the opinion ratio: the level of trust is 39% (versus 55%) among those who have a good knowledge of the European Union, compared with 19% (versus 63%) among those whose knowledge of it is poor. Students (45% versus 44%) and the respondents with a positive image of the EU (65% versus 28%) are the only categories of the European population where trust in the European Union is still prevalent.

QA13.4 I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain institutions. For each of the following institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.

The European Union

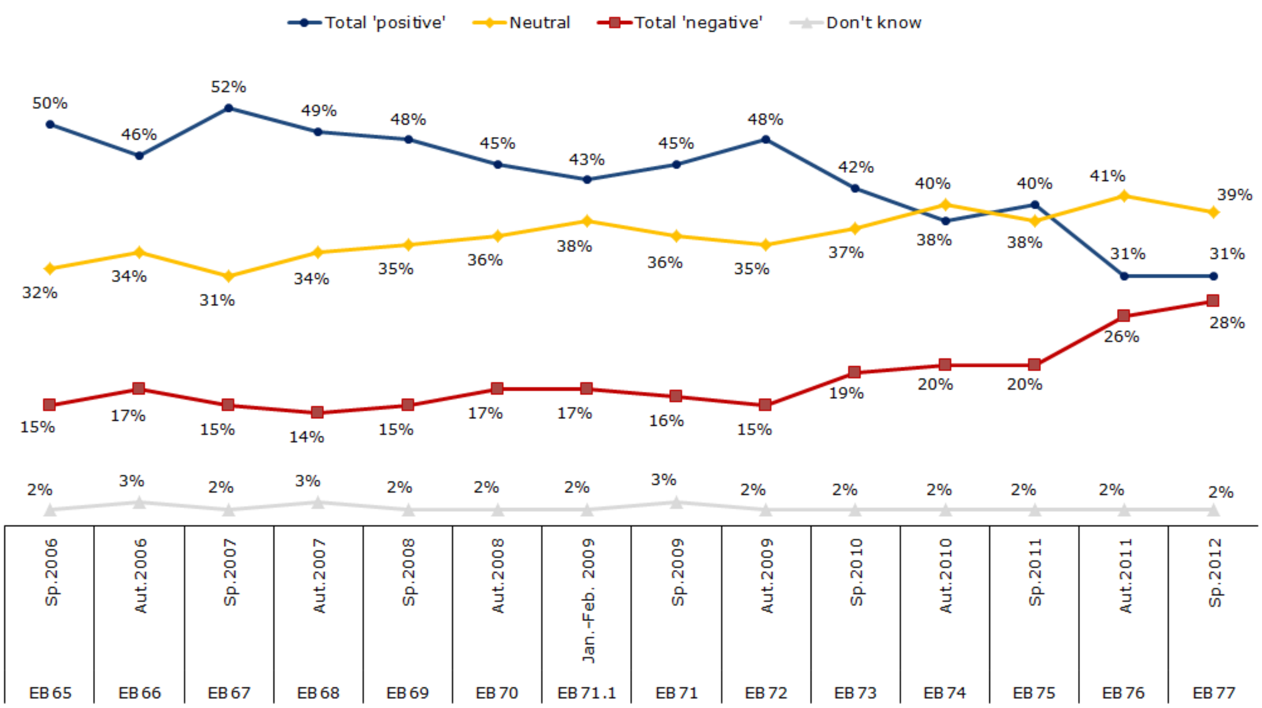
	Tend to trust		Tend not to trust	
	EB76 Aut.2011	EB77 Sp.2012	EB76 Aut.2011	EB77 Pr.2012
EU27	34%	31%	55%	60%
Gender				
Male	35%	31%	55%	61%
Female	32%	31%	55%	59%
Age				
15-24	43%	40%	45%	50%
25-39	34%	31%	56%	62%
40-54	32%	29%	57%	62%
55 +	31%	28%	57%	62%
Education (End of)				
15-	25%	22%	60%	67%
16-19	32%	28%	57%	64%
20+	40%	38%	51%	54%
Still studying	45%	45%	42%	44%
Occupation scale				
Self- employed	32%	32%	57%	59%
Managers	42%	37%	50%	56%
Other white collars	38%	31%	53%	60%
Manual workers	31%	28%	58%	64%
House persons	29%	26%	57%	64%
Unemployed	29%	25%	61%	68%
Retired	31%	29%	56%	61%
Students	45%	45%	42%	44%
Difficulties paying bills				
Most of the time	24%	21%	65%	70%
From time to time	31%	27%	57%	64%
Almost never	37%	35%	53%	56%
Objective knowledge of the EU				
Bad	15%	19%	64%	63%
Average	31%	29%	57%	62%
Good	43%	39%	49%	55%
Image of the EU				
Positive	67%	65%	24%	28%
Neutral	27%	23%	58%	64%
Negative	6%	6%	89%	90%
Globalisation is an opportunity				
Agree	46%	42%	46%	51%
Disagree	23%	19%	69%	74%

5.3. The European Union's image

– The proportion of respondents for whom the European Union has a positive image is unchanged, while negative perceptions have increased slightly –

The European Union's image had deteriorated very sharply in the previous Eurobarometer survey. This trend has almost been halted in this survey, despite a slight deterioration, since the proportion of positive perceptions is unchanged at 31%. However, negative perceptions have increased by two percentage points to 28%, to the detriment of neutral perceptions which have fallen, also by two percentage points, to 39%[38]. The 3-point gap between positive and negative opinions is thus the narrowest ever measured in the Eurobarometer survey.

QA14 In general, does the EU conjure up for you a very positive, fairly positive, neutral, fairly negative or very negative image?



The proportion of positive opinions exceeds the European average of 31% in 15 Member States (Belgium, Bulgaria, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, France, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Slovenia and Slovakia), with the highest rates in Bulgaria (54%) and Romania (48%). Within this group, the EU's image has improved considerably in France (39%, +7 percentage points), Estonia (35%, +6), Lithuania (35%, +4) and Germany (33%, +3).

[38] QA14. In general, does the EU conjure up for you a very positive, fairly positive, neutral, fairly negative or very negative image?

The percentage of negative perceptions exceeds the European average of 28% in 12 Member States (the Czech Republic, Greece, Spain, Italy, Cyprus, Hungary, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Finland, Sweden and the United Kingdom), with the highest scores in the United Kingdom (45%), Greece (40%), Cyprus (36%) and Austria (36%). Logically, the European Union's image has deteriorated the most in the countries where trust has fallen the most sharply: thus negative perceptions of the EU's image are significantly more widespread in Cyprus (+15 percentage points), Spain (+10), Italy (+8), Hungary (+6) and Greece (+3).

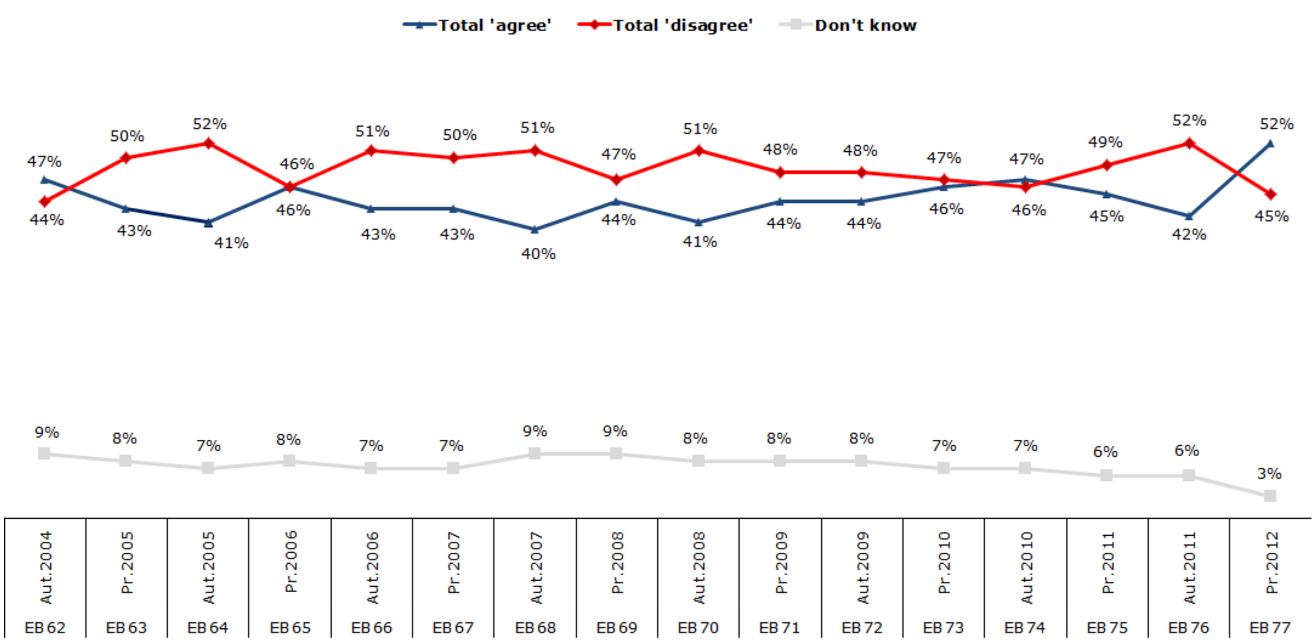
6. Knowledge of the European Union

6.1. Subjective knowledge of how the European Union works

The proportion of Europeans who consider that they know how the European Union works has increased significantly. More than half of the respondents (52%, +10 percentage points since EB76 of autumn 2011) now say that they understand how the European Union works, while 45% (-7) disagree and 3% (-3) expressed no opinion[39]. This is the first time in the history of the Eurobarometer survey that the feeling of understanding how the European Union works has been so widespread.

QA21a.1 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

I understand how the EU works



[39] QA21a.1 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. I understand how the European Union works.

Respondents' belief that they understand how the EU works has gained ground in all the 27 Member States, with the lowest increases being recorded in Greece (+1 percentage point), Ireland (+3) and Cyprus (+3) and the largest in Sweden (+30), Denmark (+15), the Netherlands (+15), Germany (+11), Austria (+11), Estonia (+10), Belgium (+10) and Spain (+10). As a result of these evolutions this feeling is now predominant in 17 Member States, compared with only 10 in autumn 2011. A majority of people polled in Italy (62%), Portugal (57%), the United Kingdom (52%), Hungary (52%), Finland (51%), Malta (51%), the Czech Republic (51%), Greece (51%), Spain (50%) and France (50%) still feel that they do not know how the EU works.

6.2. Objective knowledge of how the European Union works

This Eurobarometer survey also included an objective EU knowledge test. For this purpose, the respondents were asked to indicate whether each of the following three statements was true or false: "the EU currently consists of 27 Member States"; "the members of the European Parliament are directly elected by the citizens of each Member State"; "Switzerland is a member of the EU".

Overall, 63% of Europeans gave three right answers, 20% were wrong and 17% did not answer. An absolute majority interviewed people gave three right answers in all the Member States, with the lowest scores in the United Kingdom (53%) and Spain (54%) and the highest in Slovenia (79%), Greece (77%), Luxembourg (77%) and Slovakia (74%).

QA18 en For each of the following statements about the EU could you please tell me whether you think it is true or false.
- % Correct answers

	The EU currently consists of 27 Member States	the members of the European Parliament are directly elected by the citizens of each Member State	Switzerland is a member of the EU
EU27	67%	52%	71%
BE	75%	59%	81%
BG	76%	73%	56%
CZ	76%	47%	72%
DK	74%	68%	75%
DE	70%	46%	87%
EE	72%	57%	60%
IE	78%	69%	64%
EL	79%	85%	67%
ES	58%	48%	55%
FR	74%	38%	82%
IT	64%	46%	80%
CY	78%	88%	48%
LV	58%	55%	54%
LT	62%	67%	56%
LU	85%	54%	92%
HU	78%	49%	70%
MT	72%	86%	62%
NL	58%	43%	84%
AT	84%	42%	93%
PL	71%	67%	56%
PT	74%	59%	67%
RO	68%	69%	48%
SI	80%	71%	85%
SK	84%	70%	69%
FI	59%	64%	65%
SE	66%	55%	77%
UK	51%	52%	57%
CY (tcc)	69%	44%	44%
HR	81%	38%	85%
TR	42%	36%	22%
MK	69%	52%	74%
IS	60%	48%	68%
ME	75%	50%	60%
RS	71%	50%	64%

More specifically:

- 71% of Europeans know that Switzerland is a not a member of the EU, while 16% gave the wrong answer and 13% said they did not know[40]. There have been no major changes for this indicator since the previous survey in autumn 2011. The highest percentage of right answers was recorded in Austria (93%) and the lowest in Cyprus (48%) and Romania (48%). These are also the only two countries where an absolute majority of the respondents did not give the right answer.

- 67% of Europeans are aware that the EU currently consists of 27 Member States, while 12% gave the wrong answer and 21% did not answer[41]. Once again there have been no major changes since the previous survey in autumn 2011. An absolute majority of the respondents gave the right answer in all EU countries, with scores ranging from 51% in the United Kingdom to 85% in Luxembourg.

- 52% of Europeans are aware that MEPs are directly elected by the citizens of each Member State, while 30% gave the wrong answer and 18% said they did not know[42]. Objective knowledge regarding the election of MEPs has fallen sharply, by six percentage points, since autumn 2011, no doubt because the European elections of 2009 are an increasingly distant memory. A relative majority of the respondents gave the wrong answer in the Netherlands (47% versus 43%), Austria (44% versus 42%) and France (40% versus 38%). The highest percentage of right answers was recorded in Cyprus (88%), Malta (86%) and Greece (85%).

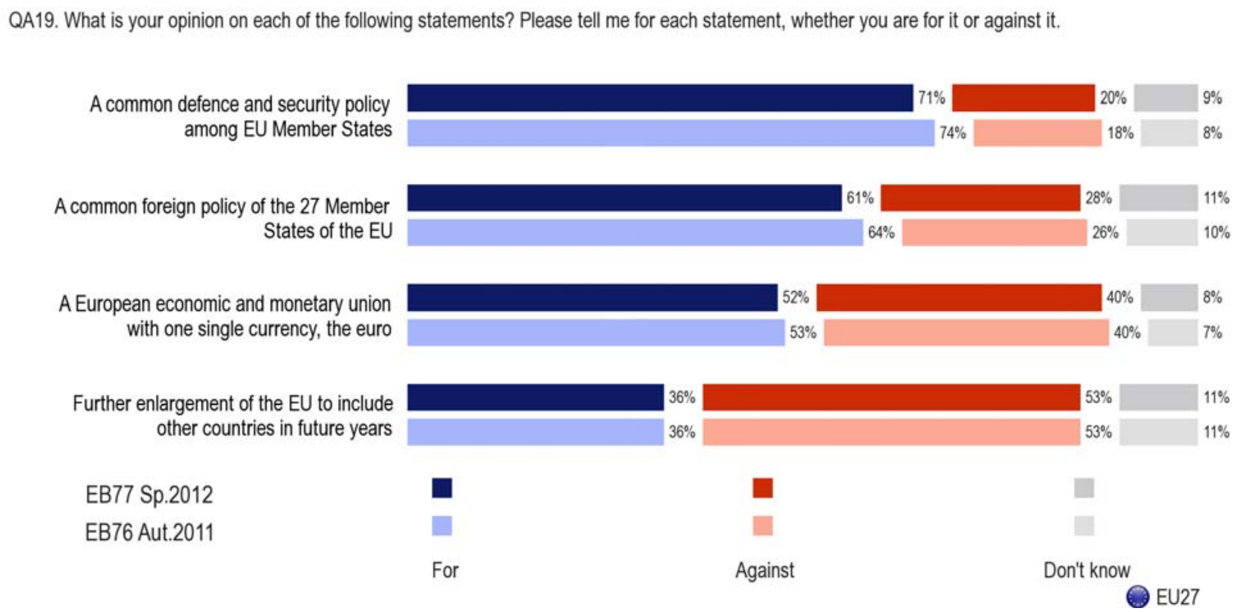
Europeans with a good level of education and a strong interest in European affairs have the highest level of objective knowledge. For example, 71% of the respondents who studied up to the age of 20 answered all three questions correctly, compared with 55% of those who left school before the age of 16. The average proportion of right answers is 69% among people who are interested in European politics, but only 54% among those with no interested in this subject.

[40] QA18.3 For each of the following statements about the EU could you please tell me whether you think it is true or false. Switzerland is a member of the EU.
[41] QA18.1 The EU currently consists of 27 Member States.
[42] QA18.2 The members of the European Parliament are directly elected by the citizens of each Member State.

III. THE EUROPEAN UNION TODAY AND TOMORROW

1. Support for European policies

Against a background of distrust the European Union, there has been a slight dip in support for European policies, although a majority of Europeans still support three of the four policies tested. Support for both a common defence and security policy (71%) and a common foreign policy (61%) has fallen by three percentage points since autumn 2011, while support for economic and monetary union has fallen by one percentage point (to 52%). However, beyond these changes, the main lesson learnt is that, despite the crisis, these policies continue to enjoy the support of an absolute majority of Europeans. However, as was the case in the previous Eurobarometer survey, Europeans are predominantly opposed to a further enlargement of the EU in future years (53% against, unchanged).



A common defence and security policy among EU Member States

There is still a fairly broad consensus among Europeans about this policy. More than seven out of ten respondents (71%) are in favour, while 20% are opposed and 9% expressed no opinion[43]. The approval rate has fallen by three percentage points since autumn 2011, while opposition has increased by two percentage points. Apart from Ireland, where this policy is supported by a relative majority, (43% versus 34%), an absolute majority of the people polled in all EU countries support the idea of a common defence and security policy. Support is particularly widespread in Slovakia (88%), Cyprus (86%) and Belgium (85%). Although it has dipped in most EU countries, the only countries where support has fallen significantly are Hungary (68% support, -10 points) and to a lesser extent Poland (77%, -7). This in no way undermines the broad consensus in favour of this policy throughout the European Union.

A common foreign policy of the 27 Member States of the EU

Just over six out of ten Europeans (61%, -3 percentage points) are in favour of a common foreign policy of the 27 EU Member States, while 28% (+2) oppose the idea and 11% (+1) expressed no opinion[44].

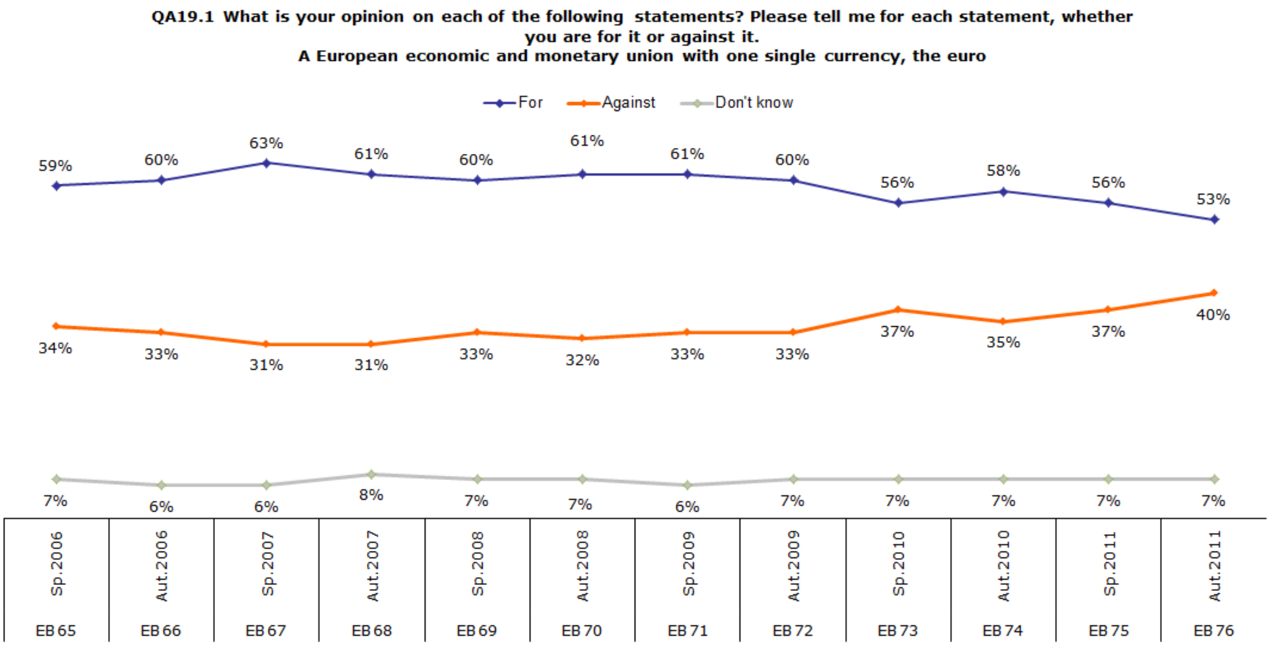
People polled in the United Kingdom and the Nordic countries are the least likely to support this policy: an (increased) majority of respondents oppose this idea in the United Kingdom (49%, +3 percentage points, versus 37%) and Sweden (59%, +7, versus 39%). Opponents are also now in a majority in Denmark (52% versus 45%, compared with 47%-48% six months ago in autumn 2011) and Finland (51% versus 44%, compared with 46%-50% six months ago). Everywhere else, except for Malta where there is only a relative majority (48% versus 34%); an absolute majority of respondents support a common foreign policy (with the highest scores in Slovakia (81%), Greece (75%) and Bulgaria (74%).

The evolutions for this policy are far more pronounced than for the previous policy tested. Although a common foreign policy is still supported by a majority of respondents, support has fallen sharply in the Benelux countries (Luxembourg, -14 percentage points; Belgium, -8; the Netherlands, -7), and in Spain (-11), Hungary (-10), Lithuania (-7) and Poland (-7).

[43] QA19.4. Please tell me for each statement, whether you are for or against it. A common defence and security policy among EU Member States.
[44] QA19.2. Please tell me for each statement, whether you are for or against it. A common foreign policy of the 27 Member States of the EU.

A European economic and monetary union with one single currency, the euro

An absolute majority of Europeans (52%) still support economic and monetary union, while four out of ten are against it and 8% expressed no opinion[45]. Although this only represents a minor change since autumn 2011 (-1 percentage point for support; opposition unchanged), it is worth observing that the gap between support for and opposition to economic and monetary union is the lowest ever measured in the Eurobarometer survey.



The divide between the Eurozone and non-Eurozone counties remains an important determinant of opinions on economic and monetary union: 63% of the people polled in the Eurozone countries (-1 percentage point) support this policy, compared with only 31% (-1) of non-Eurozone respondents. Despite the crisis, there is still widespread support for economic and monetary union inside the Eurozone.

It is also important to note that a majority of respondents in the Mediterranean countries, where distrust of the European Union has increased particularly sharply in this survey, continue to support economic and monetary union, although there have been some contrasting evolutions: support remains unchanged at a high level in Greece (75%), has strengthened in Portugal (58%, +4 points), and is still in the majority despite a decline in Italy (53%, -4), Cyprus (52%, -3) and above all in Spain (55%, -8).

[45] QA19.1. Please tell me for each statement, whether you are for or against it. A European economic and monetary union with one single currency, the euro.

In total, a majority of people polled in 20 EU countries support economic and monetary union: in addition to the countries mentioned previously, the list includes Slovenia (80%), Slovakia (80%), Ireland (79%), Luxembourg (78%), Belgium (75%), Finland (74%), the Netherlands (73%), Estonia (71%), France (69%), Austria (65%), Germany (65%), Malta (63%), Romania (60%), which is the highest placed non-Eurozone country on this list, Bulgaria (54%) and Hungary (47% versus 42%). Within this group, support for economic and monetary union has increased significantly in Estonia (+7), Austria (+7) and France (+6); conversely, support has fallen the most sharply in Hungary (-7) and Belgium (-5).

In contrast, as in the previous survey, people polled in seven Member States are predominantly opposed to economic union. These countries are the United Kingdom (79%), Sweden (71%), the Czech Republic (71%), Denmark (69%), Poland (55%), Latvia (54%) and Lithuania (47% versus 42%). There have been no substantial evolutions in this group since the last survey.

In the candidate countries, a large majority of respondents in Croatia (62%, -1), the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (78%, +4) and Montenegro (72%, -6) support economic and monetary union. A majority of respondents are also in favour of monetary union in Serbia, where support has been measured for the first time (63% versus 21%). Support has also strengthened significantly in Iceland, where 47% (+6) of the respondents are in favour of economic and monetary union, while 49% (-4) are opposed. Finally, support has increased by three percentage points in Turkey, but remains very much the minority position (29% versus 42%, with a high “DK” rate of 29%).

Support for economic and monetary union increases in line with the interviewed people’s social status. Thus, 61% of those who studied up to the age of 20 or beyond, 58% of managers, 57% of self-employed people and 56% of those who almost never have difficulties paying their bills are in favour of a European economic and monetary union with a single currency, the euro. Conversely, those who left school before the age of 16 (45%), unemployed people (45%), manual workers (49%) and those who struggle to pay their bills (44%) are against this idea.

Finally, the Europeans who see globalisation as an opportunity (63%) are generally in favour of an economic and monetary union, with a single currency.

QA19.1 en What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell me for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.

A European economic and monetary union with one single currency, the euro

	For	Against	Don't know
EU27	52%	40%	8%
Gender			
Male	55%	39%	6%
Female	50%	42%	8%
Education (End of)			
15-	45%	45%	10%
16-19	49%	44%	7%
20+	61%	34%	5%
Still studying	61%	31%	8%
Occupation scale			
Self- employed	57%	35%	8%
Managers	58%	37%	5%
Other white collars	54%	39%	7%
Manual workers	49%	44%	7%
House persons	50%	39%	11%
Unemployed	45%	47%	8%
Retired	50%	42%	8%
Students	61%	31%	8%
Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	44%	46%	10%
From time to time	50%	40%	10%
Almost never	56%	39%	5%
Globalisation is an opportunity			
Agree	63%	33%	4%
Disagree	45%	49%	6%

Further enlargement of the EU to include other countries in future years

The previous Eurobarometer survey of autumn 2011 (EB76) revealed a sharp decline in support for further enlargement, which fell from 42% to 36%, while opposition rose from 47% to 53%. This opinion ratio has stabilised in this survey, and is exactly the same as it was six months ago. Therefore, an absolute majority of Europeans (53%) are still against further enlargement of the EU in the coming years[46].

As was the case six months ago, and with no significant evolutions, an absolute majority of the people polled in the EU15 countries (60%) and in the Eurozone (60%) are opposed to further enlargement, whereas an absolute majority in the NMS12 countries (56%) and a relative majority of non-Eurozone respondents (46% versus 41%) are in favour of it.

In this survey, the opinion ratio has been reversed in favour of enlargement in Portugal (44%:41% versus 37%:44% six months ago), Sweden (51%:45% versus 47%:49%) and Latvia (48%:41% versus 45%:45%). Respondents continue to be predominantly in favour of enlargement in Poland (62%, -7 percentage points), Romania (58%, unchanged), Lithuania (58%, -2), Bulgaria (56%, +2), Slovenia (56%, +6), Hungary (54%, -2), Slovakia (52%, +4), Malta (48%, -2 versus 32%), Estonia (47%, +1 versus 44%) and more narrowly in Spain (41%, -4 versus 39%). In the other countries, respondents are predominantly opposed to enlargement, with most hostility in Germany (74%, -2 percentage points), Austria (73%, -4), Finland (71%, +1), France (70%, -1), Luxembourg (66%, +4), the Netherlands (62%, -2), Belgium (61%, -2) and the United Kingdom (60%, +1).

Except in Iceland (41% versus 50%), a majority of the people polled in the candidate countries are in favour of enlargement, with an absolute majority in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (88%, +3 percentage points), Croatia (65%, +1), Montenegro (62%,-10) and Serbia (58%), and a relative majority in Turkey (40%, +9 versus 32%), where the high “DK” rate has fallen significantly (28%, -11).

[46] QA19.3. Please tell me for each statement, whether you are for or against it. Further enlargement of the EU to include other countries in future years.

2. The objective of the building of Europe

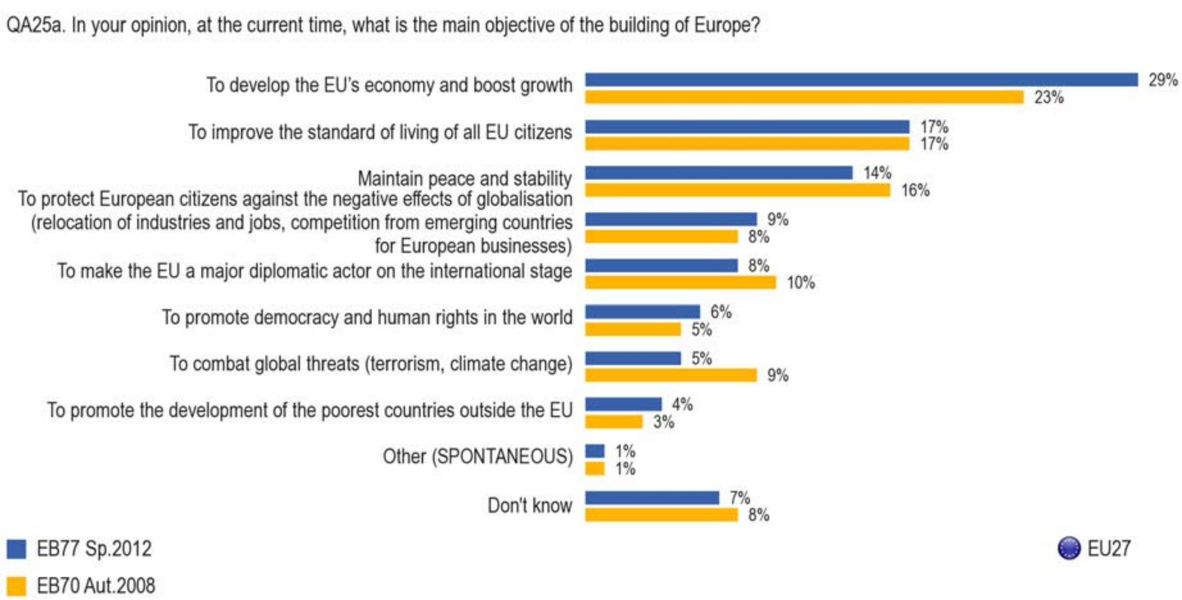
In this survey Europeans were asked for their views on the main objective of European integration as they perceive it and as they would wish it to be.

The main lesson is that the perceived and desired objectives of European integration converge, since the top three priorities the same order for both.

The second lesson is that, in these times of economic and financial crisis, Europeans see growth both as the main objective actually pursued and as the goal which should be aspired to. “To develop the EU’s economy and boost growth” easily leads the other objectives and has gained significant ground since it was last measured in autumn 2008 (EB70).

2.1. The perceived objectives of the building of Europe

With a score of 29% (+6 percentage points since autumn 2008), developing the economy and boosting growth in the EU easily tops the list of the main perceived objectives of European integration, ahead of improving the standard of living of all EU citizens (17%, unchanged) and maintaining peace and stability (14%, -2). All the other objectives recorded scores of less than 10%[47].

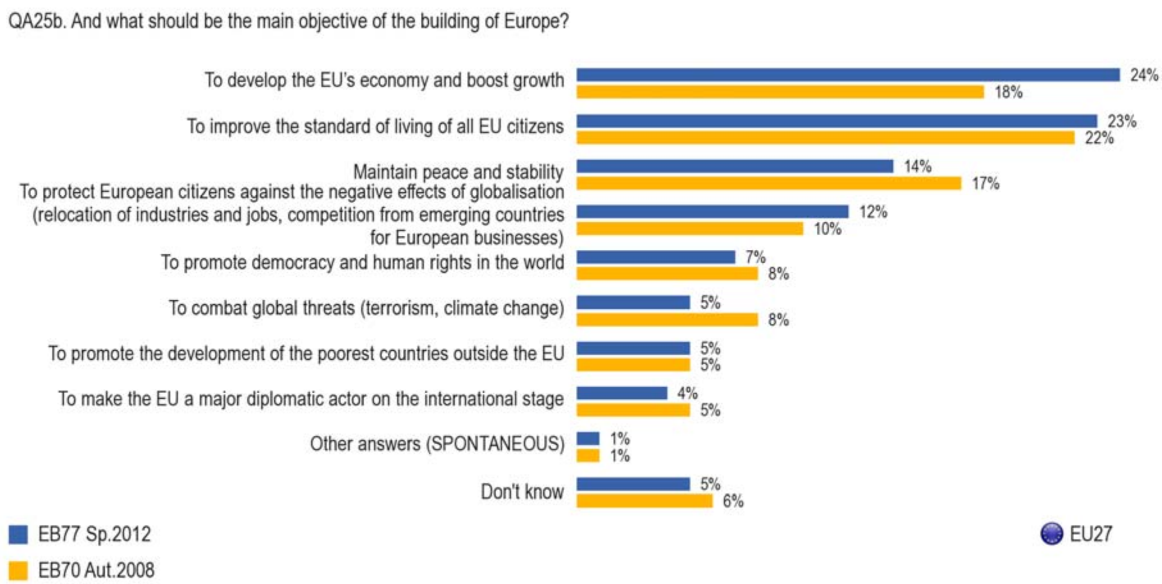


[47] QA25a. In your opinion, at the current time, what is the main objective of the building of Europe? (One answer only).

There is now a broad consensus within the European Union on the main perceived objective of the EU. Apart from Latvia, where improving the standard of living of Europeans obtained the highest score (29%), ahead of boosting growth (26%), the order in which respondents rank the three main perceived objectives is in line with the EU average in all countries. The highest scores for boosting growth were recorded in the Netherlands (55%), Ireland (45%), Denmark (45%) and Sweden (41%).

2.2. The desired objectives of the building of Europe

The desired objectives therefore converge with perceptions of the objectives currently pursued. With a score of 24% (+6 percentage points), developing the EU's economy and boosting growth is seen as the primary objective, whereas it came in second place in autumn 2008. This objective now ranks ahead of improving the standard of living of all citizens (23%, +1) and maintaining peace and stability (14%, -3). These are followed by protecting European citizens against the negative effects of globalisation (12%, +2). All the other objectives recorded scores of less than 10%[48].



People polled in the Netherlands (36%, +13 percentage points), Ireland (35%, +9), Slovenia (32%, +16) and Denmark (30%, +18) are the most likely to mention boosting growth as the main desired objective of European integration. The scores recorded for this item have also increased sharply in Malta (22%, +14), Spain (26%, +12), Hungary (27%, +11), the United Kingdom (22%, +10), Romania (29%, +9), Finland (19%, +8), Luxembourg (21%, +8), the Czech Republic (23%, +7), Greece (26%, +6), Portugal (22%, +6) and France (21%, +6).

[48] QA25b. And what should be the main objective of the building of Europe? (One answer only).

Support for improving the standard of living of all EU citizens is particularly strong in Latvia (43%, +6 percentage points), Bulgaria (39%, -2), Malta (36%, +11), Slovakia (34%, -7), Portugal (33%, +9), Lithuania (33%, +8), Greece (32%, -3) and Romania (32%, +2).

People polled in Germany (24%, -3 percentage points) and Finland (22%, -3) are most likely to mention maintaining peace and stability. Finally, protecting European citizens against the negative effects of globalisation as a desired objective recorded scores considerably above the European average in France (19%, +6 points) and the Czech Republic (19%, +6), that is to say in two countries where anxiety about globalisation is particularly intense.

3. The future of the European Union

3.1. The European institutions' priorities for the future

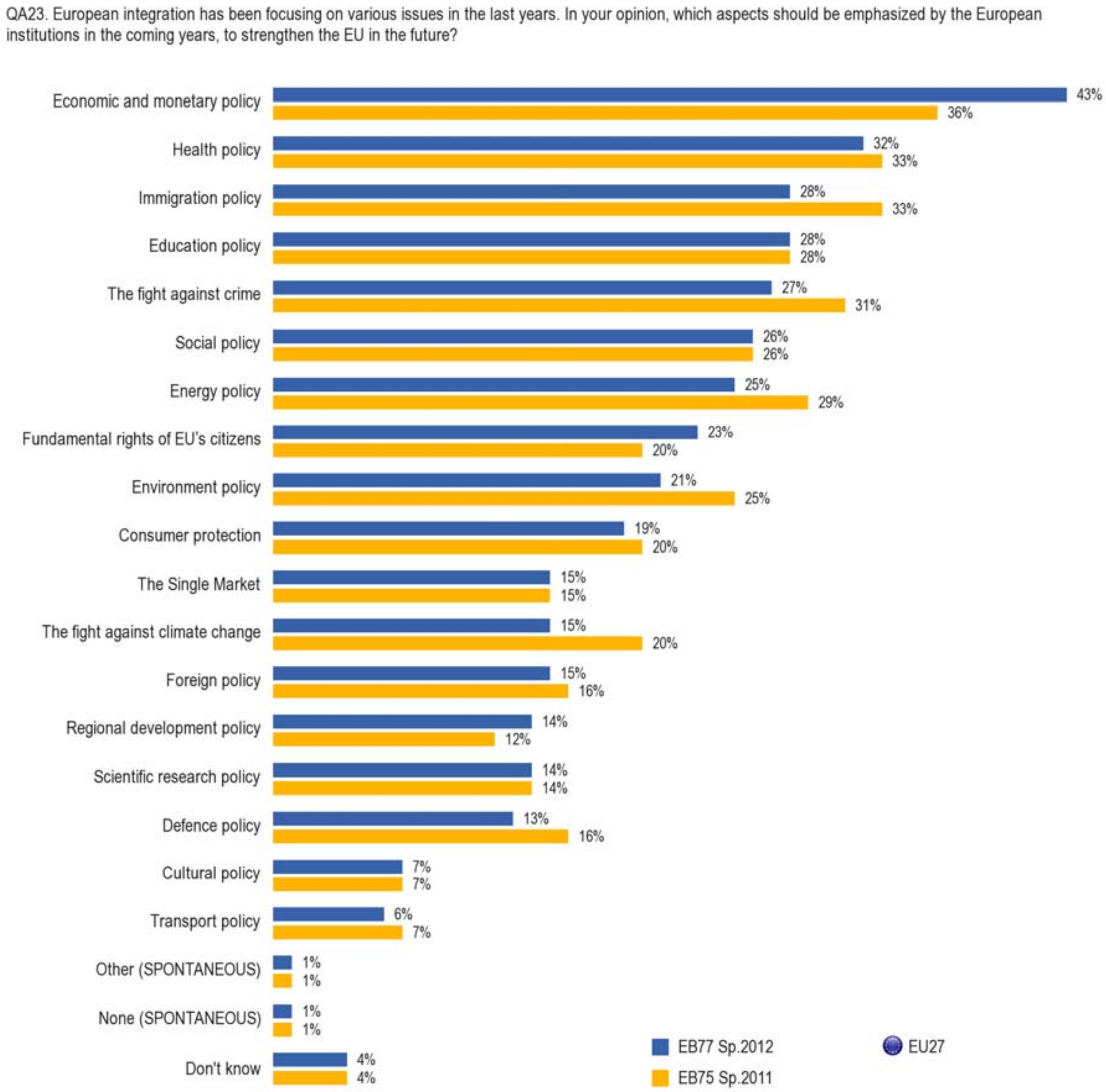
- The economy takes priority for the future -

Asked to identify the priorities on which the European institutions should focus in the coming years to strengthen the EU in the future, Europeans first mention economic and monetary policy (43%), ahead of health policy (32%), immigration policy and education policy (both 28%), the fight against crime (27%), social policy (26%), energy policy (25%), the fundamental rights of EU citizens (23%) and environment policy (21%). The other policies tested obtained scores of less than 20%[49].

The evolutions are particularly interesting for this indicator. Economic and monetary policy is the only item to have recorded a strong increase in mentions (+7 percentage points) since spring 2011 (EB75). The only two other increases are minor ones and concern policies ranked by Europeans as middle or lower order priorities (+3 percentage points for the fundamental rights of citizens; +2 for regional development policy). The scores for all the other policies tested are unchanged or have fallen. The situation is essentially stable for social, education and health policies.

Immigration policy (-5) and combating crime (-4) were mentioned far less frequently than in autumn 2011 (EB76). Finally, environmental issues are visibly of secondary importance in times of crisis: mentions of the fight against climate change (-5), protecting the environment (-4) and energy (-4) have fallen significantly.

[49] QA23. European integration has been focusing on various issues in the last years. In your opinion, which aspects should be emphasized by the European institutions in the coming years, to strengthen the EU in the future?

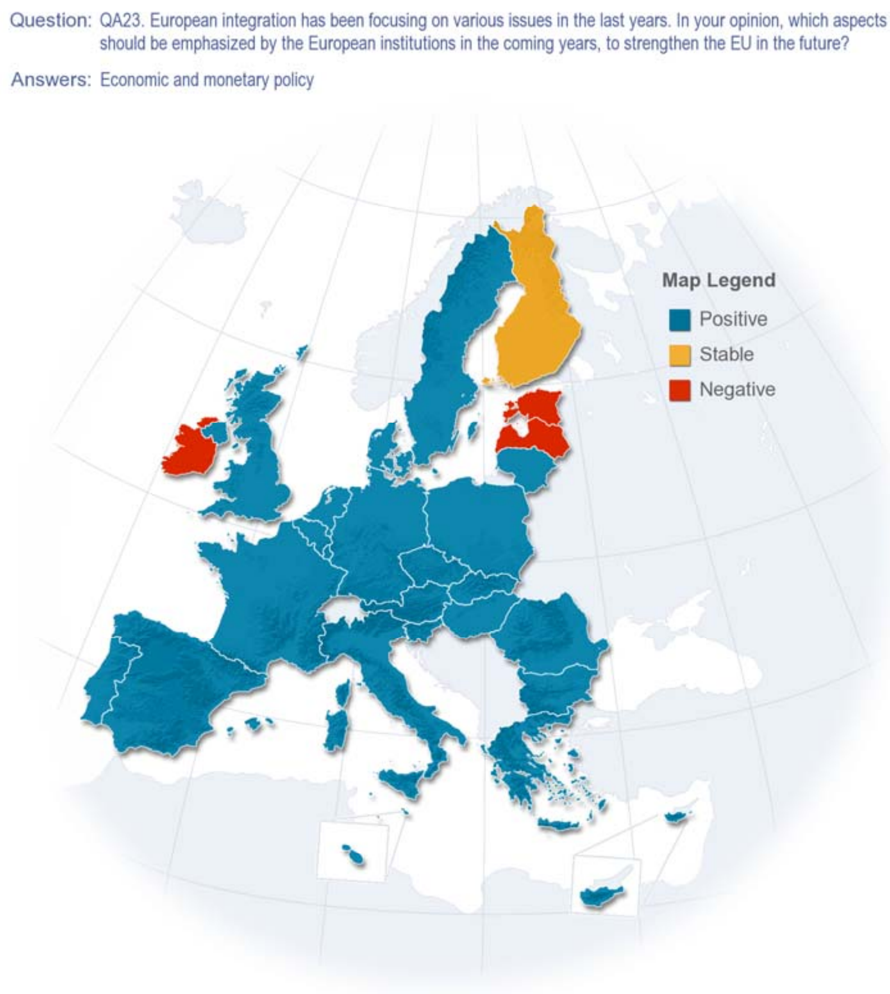


There is a broad consensus among Europeans that the European institutions should give priority to economic and monetary policy in the future. This is seen as the first priority for the EU in all groups of countries, though scores are much higher in the EU15 countries (45%) and the Eurozone (47%) than in the non-Eurozone countries (36%) and NMS12 (37%).

This item tops the list of priorities in 17 of the 27 Member States: in Hungary (63%), Finland (62%), the Netherlands (60%), Greece (55%), Slovakia (52%), Cyprus (51%), Austria (50%), Estonia (50%), Germany (47%), Spain (47%), Italy (46%), Slovenia (46%), the Czech Republic (45%), Lithuania (45%), France (44%), Portugal (38%, equal with health policy) and Luxembourg (36%).

Since spring 2011 (EB75) the call for the EU to prioritise economic and monetary has become more widespread, not least in the countries that are suffering the most from economic and budgetary difficulties, and in those most affected by the Eurozone crisis. It has thus seen a rise of 22 percentage points in Greece, 15 in Cyprus, 11 in Italy and six in Spain. It has also gained significant support in Sweden (+15 percentage points), France (+11), Belgium (+11), the Netherlands (+10), Luxembourg (+10), Austria (+8) and Romania (+8). In Germany, the increase is smaller (+2), but as a result economic and monetary policy is now promoted to first place, whereas a year ago it was ranked behind energy policy, which has fallen by seven percentage points in this survey.

EL	55%	+22
CY	51%	+15
SE	42%	+15
IT	46%	+11
FR	44%	+11
BE	40%	+11
NL	60%	+10
LU	36%	+10
UK	35%	+9
AT	50%	+8
RO	27%	+8
SK	52%	+7
LT	45%	+7
EU27	43%	+7
ES	47%	+6
PL	32%	+5
CZ	45%	+4
PT	38%	+4
DK	35%	+4
BG	27%	+4
MT	21%	+4
HU	63%	+3
DE	47%	+2
SI	46%	+1
FI	62%	=
EE	50%	-1
LV	34%	-2
IE	34%	-6



Evolution Spring 2012 / Spring 2011

Health policy is the first priority in five countries: Romania (43%), Latvia (41%), Ireland (39%), Portugal (38%, equal with economic and monetary policy) and Poland (36%). Immigration policy is the first priority assigned to the EU in three countries: Malta (52%), Belgium (41%, just ahead of economic and monetary policy on 40%) and the United Kingdom (41%). Environment policy is first in Sweden (53%) and Denmark (42%). Finally, social policy receives most mentions in Bulgaria (54%).

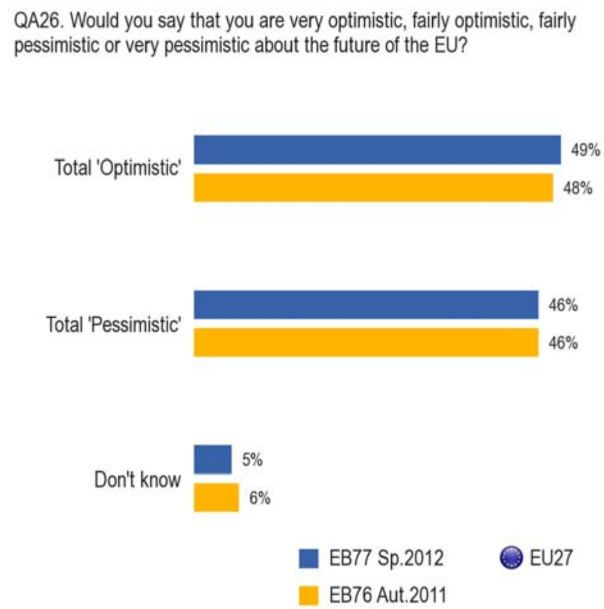
QA23 European integration has been focusing on various issues in the last years. In your opinion, which aspects should be emphasized by the European institutions in the coming years, to strengthen the EU in the future?

	Economic and monetary policy	Health policy	Immigration policy	Education policy	The fight against crime	Social policy	Energy policy
UE27	43%	32%	28%	28%	27%	26%	25%
BE	40%	30%	41%	26%	37%	33%	38%
BG	27%	36%	22%	21%	37%	54%	36%
CZ	45%	28%	24%	19%	32%	43%	29%
DK	35%	25%	28%	33%	41%	14%	31%
DE	47%	28%	32%	38%	34%	29%	42%
EE	50%	33%	27%	28%	21%	35%	26%
IE	34%	39%	25%	35%	21%	18%	24%
EL	55%	36%	40%	29%	29%	43%	20%
ES	47%	40%	18%	37%	16%	31%	11%
FR	44%	33%	34%	34%	28%	32%	25%
IT	46%	21%	30%	14%	20%	16%	19%
CY	51%	45%	45%	31%	39%	25%	30%
LV	34%	41%	23%	34%	21%	38%	16%
LT	45%	33%	22%	21%	27%	30%	39%
LU	36%	29%	33%	34%	21%	28%	31%
HU	63%	36%	15%	18%	25%	15%	36%
MT	21%	39%	52%	38%	23%	12%	44%
NL	60%	35%	30%	32%	32%	28%	26%
AT	50%	35%	46%	25%	45%	35%	30%
PL	32%	36%	7%	13%	19%	28%	23%
PT	38%	38%	9%	26%	24%	33%	8%
RO	27%	43%	16%	35%	24%	25%	16%
SI	46%	23%	9%	21%	26%	36%	25%
SK	52%	37%	17%	19%	26%	47%	29%
FI	62%	23%	27%	16%	34%	23%	29%
SE	42%	26%	31%	27%	37%	16%	36%
UK	35%	30%	41%	30%	27%	11%	22%

First seven items mentioned by at least 25% of the respondents

3.2. Optimism for the EU's future

The previous Eurobarometer survey of autumn 2011 recorded an abrupt rise in pessimism about the future of the EU (+10 percentage points). That increase has been halted in this survey and the optimism-pessimism ratio has stabilised at the level of six months ago. Public opinion therefore remains much divided over the EU's future: 49% of Europeans (+1 percentage point) say they are optimistic, while an unchanged 46% are are pessimistic[50].



The respondents are more optimistic in the NMS12 (57%, +1 percentage point) and the non-Eurozone countries (52%, +3) than in the Eurozone (47%, unchanged) and in the EU15 countries (46%, -3).

However, the overall stability of this opinion ratio should not be allowed to mask the very diverse national situations and evolutions. Thus, optimism for the EU's future has increased sharply in the Baltic States (+12 percentage points in Estonia, +9 in Lithuania and +8 in Latvia), Malta (+13), France (+11), the United Kingdom (+7), Slovakia (+7), the Netherlands (+6) and Slovenia (+6). As a result of these movements, the opinion ratio has been reversed in France and Slovakia: these two countries are now once again predominantly optimistic, whereas pessimism was prevalent six months ago in autumn 2011

Conversely, pessimism has increased strongly in the countries most affected by the economic crisis and/or the debt crisis: +13 in Italy, +12 in Spain, +6 in Portugal, and +4 in Cyprus and Hungary. As a result, pessimism has consolidated in Portugal and Hungary, where it was already predominant six months ago, and the opinion ratio has been reversed in Cyprus, Spain and Italy, where interviewed people are now predominantly pessimistic, whereas majorities were optimistic six months ago. In total, therefore, there are now nine countries including Greece (64%, +1 point), the Czech Republic (57%, -3), Austria (52%, -2) and the United Kingdom (51%, -5) where respondents are predominantly pessimistic about the future of the European Union.

Optimism is widespread in the other 18 Member States, with the highest levels in Denmark (71%, +3 percentage points), Romania (66%, +4), Lithuania (66%, +9), Poland (63%, -3) and Estonia (62%, +12).

Social variables are key determinants of expectations for the future of the European Union. Firstly, the level of optimism is very closely correlated with the interviewed people's socio-

[50] QA26. Would you say that you are very optimistic, fairly optimistic, fairly pessimistic or very pessimistic about the future of the EU?

economic situation: 61% of those who struggle to pay their bills most of the time and 56% of those who left school before the age of 16 are pessimistic, whereas 58% of those who studied up to the age of 20 or beyond and 54% of those who almost never have financial difficulties are optimistic. Optimism also declines with age: 59% of 15-24 year-olds, 49% of 25-39 year-olds, 47% of 40-54 year-olds and 45% of those aged 55 or over. Finally, the more familiar respondents are with the EU, the more likely they are to be optimistic about its future: 55% of those who have a good objective knowledge of the European Union are optimistic compared with only 36% of those whose knowledge is poor.

Finally, the extent to which respondents trust the EU and the EU's image are two further significant variables. Thus, 79% of those who trust the EU and 79% of those for whom the EU conjures up a positive image are optimistic about its future, whereas 61% of those who distrust the EU and 78% of respondents whose image of the EU is negative are pessimistic about its future.

QA26 en Would you say that you are very optimistic, fairly optimistic, fairly pessimistic or very pessimistic about the future of the EU?

	Total 'Optimistic'	Total 'Pessimistic'	Don't know
EU27	49%	46%	5%
Gender			
Male	49%	46%	5%
Female	48%	46%	6%
Age			
15-24	59%	35%	6%
25-39	49%	46%	5%
40-54	47%	48%	5%
55 +	45%	48%	7%
Education (End of)			
15-	36%	56%	8%
16-19	46%	49%	5%
20+	58%	38%	4%
Still studying	63%	32%	5%
Occupation scale			
Self- employed	50%	46%	4%
Managers	56%	41%	3%
Other white collars	51%	44%	5%
Manual workers	46%	49%	5%
House persons	45%	45%	10%
Unemployed	42%	53%	5%
Retired	45%	48%	7%
Students	63%	32%	5%
Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	33%	61%	6%
From time to time	44%	50%	6%
Almost never	54%	41%	5%
Trust in EU			
Tend to trust	79%	18%	3%
Tend not to trust	34%	61%	5%
Image of EU			
Positive	79%	18%	3%
Neutral	47%	44%	9%
Negative	19%	78%	3%

ANNEXES

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Between the 12th and the 27th of May 2012, TNS Opinion & Social, a consortium created between TNS plc and TNS opinion, carried out the wave 77.3 of the EUROBAROMETER, on request of the EUROPEAN COMMISSION, Directorate-General for Communication, “Research and Speechwriting”.

This wave is the STANDARD EUROBAROMETER 77 and covers the population of the respective nationalities of the European Union Member States, resident in each of the Member States and aged 15 years and over. The STANDARD EUROBAROMETER 77 has also been conducted in the six candidate countries (Croatia, Turkey, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland, Montenegro and Serbia) and in the Turkish Cypriot Community. In these countries, the survey covers the national population of citizens and the population of citizens of all the European Union Member States that are residents in these countries and have a sufficient command of the national languages to answer the questionnaire. The basic sample design applied in all states is a multi-stage, random (probability) one. In each country, a number of sampling points was drawn with probability proportional to population size (for a total coverage of the country) and to population density.

In order to do so, the sampling points were drawn systematically from each of the "administrative regional units", after stratification by individual unit and type of area. They thus represent the whole territory of the countries surveyed according to the EUROSTAT NUTS II (or equivalent) and according to the distribution of the resident population of the respective nationalities in terms of metropolitan, urban and rural areas. In each of the selected sampling points, a starting address was drawn, at random. Further addresses (every Nth address) were selected by standard "random route" procedures, from the initial address. In each household, the respondent was drawn, at random (following the "closest birthday rule"). All interviews were conducted face-to-face in people's homes and in the appropriate national language. As far as the data capture is concerned, CAPI (*Computer Assisted Personal Interview)* was used in those countries where this technique was available.

For each country a comparison between the sample and the universe was carried out. The Universe description was derived from Eurostat population data or from national statistics offices. For all countries surveyed, a national weighting procedure, using marginal and intercellular weighting, was carried out based on this Universe description. In all countries, gender, age, region and size of locality were introduced in the iteration procedure. For international weighting (i.e. EU averages), TNS Opinion & Social applies the official population figures as provided by EUROSTAT or national statistic offices. The total population figures for input in this post-weighting procedure are listed above.

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%	

ABBR.	COUNTRIES	INSTITUTES	N° INTERVIEWS	FIELDWORK DATES		POPULATION 15+
BE	Belgium	TNS Dimarso	1.076	12/05/2012	25/05/2012	8.866.411
BG	Bulgaria	TNS BBSS	1.016	12/05/2012	21/05/2012	6.584.957
CZ	Czech Rep.	TNS Aisa	1.002	12/05/2012	24/05/2012	8.987.535
DK	Denmark	TNS Gallup DK	1.007	12/05/2012	27/05/2012	4.533.420
DE	Germany	TNS Infratest	1.502	12/05/2012	27/05/2012	64.545.601
EE	Estonia	Emor	1.000	12/05/2012	27/05/2012	916.000
IE	Ireland	Ipsos MRBI	1.000	12/05/2012	25/05/2012	3.375.399
EL	Greece	TNS ICAP	1.001	12/05/2012	25/05/2012	8.693.566
ES	Spain	TNS Demoscopia	1.006	12/05/2012	27/05/2012	39.035.867
FR	France	TNS Sofres	1.007	12/05/2012	27/05/2012	47.620.942
IT	Italy	TNS Infratest	1.036	12/05/2012	24/05/2012	51.252.247
CY	Rep. of Cyprus	Synovate	505	12/05/2012	27/05/2012	651.400
LV	Latvia	TNS Latvia	1.007	12/05/2012	27/05/2012	1.448.719
LT	Lithuania	TNS LT	1.019	12/05/2012	27/05/2012	2.849.359
LU	Luxembourg	TNS ILReS	507	12/05/2012	27/05/2012	404.907
HU	Hungary	TNS Hoffmann Kft	1.010	12/05/2012	27/05/2012	8.320.614
MT	Malta	MISCO	500	12/05/2012	26/05/2012	335.476
NL	Netherlands	TNS NIPO	1.012	12/05/2012	27/05/2012	13.288.200
AT	Austria	Österreichisches Gallup-Institut	993	12/05/2012	27/05/2012	6.973.277
PL	Poland	TNS OBOP	1.000	12/05/2012	27/05/2012	32.306.436
PT	Portugal	TNS EUROTESTE	1.010	14/05/2012	27/05/2012	8.080.915
RO	Romania	TNS CSOP	1.073	12/05/2012	22/05/2012	18.246.731
SI	Slovenia	RM PLUS	1.023	12/05/2012	27/05/2012	1.748.308
SK	Slovakia	TNS Slovakia	1.000	12/05/2012	27/05/2012	4.549.954
FI	Finland	TNS Gallup Oy	1.001	12/05/2012	27/05/2012	4.412.321
SE	Sweden	TNS GALLUP	1.019	12/05/2012	27/05/2012	7.723.931
UK	United Kingdom	TNS UK	1.305	12/05/2012	27/05/2012	51.081.866
TOTAL EU27			**26.637**	**12/05/2012**	**27/05/2012**	**406.834.359**
CY(tcc)	Turkish Cypriot Community	Kadem	500	12/05/2012	25/05/2012	143.226
HR	Croatia	Puls	1.000	12/05/2012	27/05/2012	3.749.400
TR	Turkey	TNS PIAR	1.000	14/05/2012	27/05/2012	52.728.513
MK	Former Yugoslav Rep. of Macedonia	TNS Brima	1.056	12/05/2012	18/05/2012	1.678.404
IS	Iceland	Capacent	500			252.277
ME	Montenegro	TNS Medium Gallup	1.015	12/05/2012	21/05/2012	492.265
RS	Serbia	TNS Medium Gallup	1.020	12/05/2012	17/05/2012	6.409.693
TOTAL			**32.728**	**12/05/2012**	**27/05/2012**	**472.288.137**

QUESTIONNAIRE

A. CORE QUESTIONNAIRE

ASK ALL

QA1 **On the whole, are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied or not at all satisfied with the life you lead?**

(ONE ANSWER ONLY)

Very satisfied	1
Fairly satisfied	2
Not very satisfied	3
Not at all satisfied	4
DK	5

EB76.3 QA1

QA2 **When you get together with friends or relatives, would you say you discuss frequently, occasionally or never about...?**

(ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

	(READ OUT)	Frequently	Occasionally	Never	DK
1	National political matters	1	2	3	4
2	European political matters	1	2	3	4
3	Local political matters	1	2	3	4

EB76.3 QA2

QA3 **When you hold a strong opinion, do you ever find yourself persuading your friends, relatives or fellow workers to share your views? Does this happen...?**

(READ OUT – ONE ANSWER ONLY)

Often	1
From time to time	2
Rarely	3
Never	4
DK	5

EB76.3 QA3

DO NOT ASK QA4a IN CY(tcc) – CY(tcc) GO TO QA4b

QA4a **How would you judge the current situation in each of the following?**

(SHOW CARD WITH SCALE – ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

	(READ OUT)	Very good	Rather good	Rather bad	Very bad	DK
1	The situation of the (NATIONALITY) economy	1	2	3	4	5
2	The situation of the European economy	1	2	3	4	5
3	The situation of the economy in the world	1	2	3	4	5
4	Your personal job situation	1	2	3	4	5
5	The financial situation of your household	1	2	3	4	5
6	The employment situation in (OUR COUNTRY)	1	2	3	4	5

EB76.3 QA4a

ASK QA4b ONLY IN CY(tcc) – OTHERS GO TO QA5a

QA4b **How would you judge the current situation in each of the following?**

(SHOW CARD WITH SCALE – ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

	(READ OUT)	Very good	Rather good	Rather bad	Very bad	DK
1	The economic situation in the Turkish Cypriot Community	1	2	3	4	5
2	The situation of the European economy	1	2	3	4	5
3	The situation of the economy in the world	1	2	3	4	5
4	Your personal job situation	1	2	3	4	5
5	The financial situation of your household	1	2	3	4	5
6	The employment situation in the Turkish Cypriot Community	1	2	3	4	5

EB76.3 QA4b

DO NOT ASK QA5a IN CY(tcc) – CY(tcc) GO TO QA5b

QA5a **What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...?**

(ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

	(READ OUT)	Better	Worse	Same	DK
1	Your life in general	1	2	3	4
2	The economic situation in (OUR COUNTRY)	1	2	3	4
3	The financial situation of your household	1	2	3	4
4	The employment situation in (OUR COUNTRY)	1	2	3	4
5	Your personal job situation	1	2	3	4
6	The economic situation in the EU	1	2	3	4
7	The economic situation in the world	1	2	3	4

EB76.3 QA5a

ASK QA5b ONLY IN CY(tcc) – OTHERS GO TO QA6a

QA5b **What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...?**

(ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

	(READ OUT)	Better	Worse	Same	DK
1	Your life in general	1	2	3	4
2	The economic situation in the Turkish Cypriot Community	1	2	3	4
3	The financial situation of your household	1	2	3	4
4	The employment situation in the Turkish Cypriot Community	1	2	3	4
5	Your personal job situation	1	2	3	4
6	The economic situation in the EU	1	2	3	4
7	The economic situation in the world	1	2	3	4

EB76.3 QA5b

DO NOT ASK QA6a IN CY(tcc) – CY(tcc) GO TO QA6b

QA6a **For each of the following domains, would you say that the situation in (OUR COUNTRY) is better or less good than the average of the EU countries?**

(SHOW CARD WITH SCALE - ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

	(READ OUT - ROTATE)	Much better	Somewhat better	Somewhat less good	Definitely less good	DK
1	The situation of the (NATIONALITY) economy	1	2	3	4	5
2	The employment situation in (OUR COUNTRY)	1	2	3	4	5
3	The cost of living in (OUR COUNTRY)	1	2	3	4	5
4	The quality of life in (OUR COUNTRY)	1	2	3	4	5
5	*(ONLY IN EU27)* The situation of the environment in (OUR COUNTRY)	1	2	3	4	5
6	*(ONLY IN EU27)* The situation of public finances in (OUR COUNTRY) (N)	1	2	3	4	5
7	*(ONLY IN EU27)* Prospects for the future in (OUR COUNTRY) (N)	1	2	3	4	5
8	*(ONLY IN EU27)* The situation of the youth in (OUR COUNTRY) (N)	1	2	3	4	5

EB73.4 QA5a TREND MODIFIED

ASK QA6b ONLY IN CY(tcc) - OTHERS GO TO QA7a

QA6b **For each of the following domains, would you say that the situation in the Turkish Cypriot Community is better or less good than the average of the EU countries?**

(SHOW CARD WITH SCALE - ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

	(READ OUT - ROTATE)	Much better	Somewhat better	Somewhat less good	Definitely less good	DK
1	The situation of our economy	1	2	3	4	5
2	The employment situation in our Community	1	2	3	4	5
3	The cost of living in our Community	1	2	3	4	5
4	The quality of life in our Community	1	2	3	4	5

EB73.4 QA5b TREND MODIFIED

DO NOT ASK QA7a AND QA8a IN CY(tcc) – CY(tcc) GO TO QA7b

QA7a **What do you think are the two most important issues facing (OUR COUNTRY) at the moment?**

(SHOW CARD – READ OUT – MAX. 2 ANSWERS)

Crime	1,
Economic situation	2,
Rising prices/ inflation	3,
Taxation	4,
Unemployment	5,
Terrorism	6,
Housing	7,
Government debt (N)	8,
Immigration	9,
Health and social security (M)	10,
The education system	11,
Pensions	12,
The environment, climate and energy issues (N)	13,
Other (SPONTANEOUS)	14,
None (SPONTANEOUS)	15,
DK	16,

NEW BASED ON EB76.3 QA6a1&2

QA8a **And personally, what are the two most important issues you are facing at the moment?**

(SHOW CARD – READ OUT – MAX. 2 ANSWERS)

Crime	1,
The economic situation in (OUR COUNTRY) (N)	2,
Rising prices/ inflation	3,
Taxation	4,
Unemployment	5,
Terrorism	6,
Housing	7,
The financial situation of your household (N)	8,
Immigration	9,
Health and social security (M)	10,
The education system	11,
The environment, climate and energy issues (N)	12,
Pensions	13,
Other (SPONTANEOUS)	14,
None (SPONTANEOUS)	15,
DK	16,

NEW BASED ON EB76.3 QA7a1&2

ASK QA7b AND QA8b ONLY IN CY(tcc) – OTHERS GO TO QA9

QA7b **What do you think are the two most important issues facing our Community at the moment?**

(SHOW CARD – READ OUT – MAX. 2 ANSWERS)

Crime	1,
Economic situation	2,
Rising prices/ inflation	3,
Taxation	4,
Unemployment	5,
Terrorism	6,
Housing	7,
Cyprus issue	8,
Immigration	9,
Health and social security (M)	10,
The education system	11,
Pensions	12,
The environment, climate and energy issues (N)	13,
Other (SPONTANEOUS)	14,
None (SPONTANEOUS)	15,
DK	16,

NEW BASED ON EB76.3 QA6b1&2

QA8b **And personally, what are the two most important issues you are facing at the moment?**

(SHOW CARD – READ OUT – MAX. 2 ANSWERS)

Crime	1,
The economic situation in our Community (N)	2,
Rising prices/ inflation	3,
Taxation	4,
Unemployment	5,
Terrorism	6,
Cyprus issue	7,
Housing	8,
The financial situation of your household (N)	9,
Immigration	10,
Health and social security (M)	11,
The education system	12,
The environment, climate and energy issues (N)	13,
Pensions	14,
Other (SPONTANEOUS)	15,
None (SPONTANEOUS)	16,
DK	17,

NEW BASED ON EB76.3 QA7b1&2

ASK ALL

QA9 **What do you think are the two most important issues facing the EU at the moment?**
(SHOW CARD – READ OUT – MAX. 2 ANSWERS)

Crime	1,
Economic situation	2,
Rising prices/ inflation	3,
Taxation	4,
Unemployment	5,
Terrorism	6,
EU's influence in the world	7,
The state of Member States public finances	8,
Immigration	9,
Pensions	10,
The environment	11,
Energy supply	12,
Climate change	13,
Other (SPONTANEOUS)	14,
None (SPONTANEOUS)	15,
DK	16,

EB76.3 QA8

DO NOT ASK QA10a AND QA11a IN EU27 AND IN CY(tcc) – CY(tcc) GO TO QA10b – EU27 GO TO

QA10a **Generally speaking, do you think that (OUR COUNTRY)'s membership of the EU would be...?**
(READ OUT)

A good thing	1
A bad thing	2
Neither good nor bad	3
DK	4

EB75.3 QA10a

QA11a **Taking everything into account, would you say that (OUR COUNTRY) would benefit or not from being a member of the EU?**

Would benefit	1
Would not benefit	2
DK	3

EB75.3 QA11a

ASK QA10b AND QA11b ONLY IN CY(tcc) – OTHERS GO TO QA12a

QA10b **Generally speaking, do you think that for the Turkish Cypriot Community the full application of EU legislation would be…?**
(READ OUT)

A good thing	1
A bad thing	2
Neither good nor bad	3
DK	4

EB75.3 QA10b

QA11b **Taking everything into consideration, would you say that the Turkish Cypriot Community would benefit or not from the full application of the EU legislation?**

Would benefit	1
Would not benefit	2
DK	3

EB75.3 QA11b

DO NOT ASK QA12a IN CY(tcc) – CY(tcc) GO TO QA12b

QA12a **At the present time, would you say that, in general, things are going in the right direction or in the wrong direction, in…?**

(ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

	(READ OUT)	Things are going in the right direction	Things are going in the wrong direction	Neither the one nor the other (SPONTANEOUS)	DK
1	(OUR COUNTRY)	1	2	3	4
2	The European Union	1	2	3	4
3	The world	1	2	3	4

EB76.3 QA9a

ASK QA12b ONLY IN CY(tcc) – OTHERS GO TO QA13

QA12b **At the present time, would you say that, in general, things are going in the right direction or in the wrong direction, in…?**

(ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

	(READ OUT)	Things are going in the right direction	Things are going in the wrong direction	Neither the one nor the other (SPONTANEOUS)	DK
1	Our Community	1	2	3	4
2	The European Union	1	2	3	4
3	The world	1	2	3	4

EB76.3 QA9b

ASK ALL

QA13 **I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain institutions. For each of the following institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.**

(ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

	(READ OUT)	Tend to trust	Tend not to trust	DK
1	Political parties	1	2	3
2	*(NOT IN CY(tcc))* The (NATIONALITY) Government	1	2	3
3	*(NOT IN CY(tcc))* The (NATIONALITY PARLIAMENT) (USE PROPER NAME FOR LOWER HOUSE)	1	2	3
4	The European Union	1	2	3
5	The United Nations	1	2	3
6	Regional or local public authorities	1	2	3

EB76.3 QA10 TREND MODIFIED

QA14 **In general, does the EU conjure up for you a very positive, fairly positive, neutral, fairly negative or very negative image?**

(ONE ANSWER ONLY)

Very positive	1
Fairly positive	2
Neutral	3
Fairly negative	4
Very negative	5
DK	6

EB76.3 QA11

QA15 **What does the EU mean to you personally?**

(SHOW CARD – READ OUT – ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM/ BOTTOM TO TOP – MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

Peace	1,
Economic prosperity	2,
Democracy	3,
Social protection	4,
Freedom to travel, study and work anywhere in the EU	5,
Cultural diversity	6,
Stronger say in the world	7,
Euro	8,
Unemployment	9,
Bureaucracy	10,
Waste of money	11,
Loss of our cultural identity	12,
More crime	13,
Not enough control at external borders	14,
Other (SPONTANEOUS)	15,
DK	16,

EB76.3 QA12

QA16 **Have you heard of…?**

(ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

	(READ OUT)	Yes	No	DK
1	The European Parliament	1	2	3
2	The European Commission	1	2	3
3	The Council of the European Union	1	2	3
4	The European Central Bank	1	2	3
5	The Court of Justice of the European Union	1	2	3

EB76.3 QA13 (items 1-4) + EB73.4 QA17 (item 5) TREND MODIFIED

QA17 **For each of the following European bodies, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.**

(ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

	(READ OUT)	Tend to trust	Tend not to trust	DK
1	The European Parliament	1	2	3
2	The European Commission	1	2	3
3	The Council of the European Union	1	2	3
4	The European Central Bank	1	2	3
5	The Court of Justice of the European Union	1	2	3

EB76.3 QA14 (items 1-4) + EB73.4 QA18 (item 5) TREND MODIFIED

QA18 **For each of the following statements about the EU could you please tell me whether you think it is true or false.**

(ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

	(READ OUT – ROTATE)	True	False	DK
1	The EU currently consists of 27 Member States	1	2	3
2	The members of the European Parliament are directly elected by the citizens of each Member State	1	2	3
3	Switzerland is a member of the EU	1	2	3

EB76.3 QA15

QA19 **What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell me for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.**

(ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

	(READ OUT – ROTATE)	For	Against	DK
1	A European economic and monetary union with one single currency, the euro	1	2	3
2	A common foreign policy of the 27 Member States of the EU	1	2	3
3	Further enlargement of the EU to include other countries in future years	1	2	3
4	A common defence and security policy among EU Member States	1	2	3

EB76.3 QA16

ASK QA20a AND QA20b ONLY IN EU27 – CY(tcc) GO TO QA21b – OTHERS GO TO QA21a

QA20a **On the whole, are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied or not at all satisfied with the way democracy works in (OUR COUNTRY)?**

QA20b **And how about the way democracy works in the EU?**

(SHOW CARD WITH SCALE – ONE ANSWER PER COLUMN)

(READ OUT)	**QA20a** In (OUR COUNTRY)	**QA20b** In the European Union
Very satisfied	1	1
Fairly satisfied	2	2
Not very satisfied	3	3
Not at all satisfied	4	4
DK	5	5

EB76.3 QA18a&b

DO NOT ASK QA21a IN CY(tcc) – CY(tcc) GO TO QA21b

QA21a **Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. (M)**
(SHOW CARD WITH SCALE – ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

	(READ OUT)	Totally agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Totally disagree	DK
1	I understand how the EU works	1	2	3	4	5
2	*(ONLY IN EU27)* The interests of (OUR COUNTRY) are well taken into account in the EU	1	2	3	4	5
3	*(ONLY IN EU27)* I feel I am safer because (OUR COUNTRY) is a member of the EU	1	2	3	4	5
4	My voice counts in the EU	1	2	3	4	5
5	My voice counts in (OUR COUNTRY)	1	2	3	4	5
6	The EU’s voice counts in the world	1	2	3	4	5
7	Globalisation is an opportunity for economic growth	1	2	3	4	5
8	Globalisation requires common global rules ("worldwide governance")	1	2	3	4	5
9	*(ONLY TO SPLIT A)* The EU helps to protect European citizens from the negative effects of globalisation	1	2	3	4	5
10	*(ONLY TO SPLIT B)* The EU enables European citizens to better benefit from the positive effects of globalisation	1	2	3	4	5

MODIFIED TREND BASED ON EB76.3 QA19a (items 1, 2, 4, 6, 7) + EB74.2 QA24a (items 3, 5) + EB71.3 QB3 (item 8) + EB71.3 QB5a (item 9) + EB71.3 QB5b (item 10)

ASK QA21b ONLY IN CY(tcc) – OTHERS GO TO QA22a

QA21b **Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. (M)**

(SHOW CARD WITH SCALE – ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

	(READ OUT)	Totally agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Totally disagree	DK
1	I understand how the EU works	1	2	3	4	5
2	My voice counts in the EU	1	2	3	4	5
3	My voice counts in our Community	1	2	3	4	5
4	The EU’s voice counts in the world	1	2	3	4	5
5	Globalisation is an opportunity for economic growth	1	2	3	4	5
6	Globalisation requires common global rules ("worldwide governance")	1	2	3	4	5
7	*(ONLY TO SPLIT A)* The EU helps to protect European citizens from the negative effects of globalisation (M)	1	2	3	4	5
8	*(ONLY TO SPLIT B)* The EU enables European citizens to better benefit from the positive effects of globalisation (M)	1	2	3	4	5

MODIFIED TREND BASED ON EB76.3 QA19b (items 1, 2, 4, 5) + EB74.2 QA24b (item 3) + EB71.3 QB3 (item 6) + EB71.3 QB5a MODIFIED (item 7) + EB71.3 QB5b MODIFIED (item 8))

DO NOT ASK QA22a IN CY(tcc) – CY(tcc) GO TO QA22b

QA22a **Which one of the following two statements is closest to your opinion regarding globalisation?**

(READ OUT – ONE ANSWER ONLY)

Globalisation represents a good opportunity for (NATIONALITY) companies thanks to the opening-up of markets	1
Globalisation represents a threat to employment and companies in (OUR COUNTRY)	2
DK	3

EB72.4 QB4a

ASK QA22b ONLY IN CY(tcc) – OTHERS GO TO QA23

QA22b **Which one of the following two statements is closest to your opinion regarding globalisation?**

(READ OUT – ONE ANSWER ONLY)

Globalisation represents a good opportunity for our Community's companies thanks to the opening-up of markets	1
Globalisation represents a threat to employment and companies in our Community	2
DK	3

EB72.4 QB4b

ASK QA23 TO QA24b ONLY IN EU 27 - OTHERS GO TO QA25a

QA23 **European integration has been focusing on various issues in the last years. In your opinion, which aspects should be emphasized by the European institutions in the coming years, to strengthen the EU in the future?**

(SHOW CARD – READ OUT – ROTATE – MAX. 5 ANSWERS)

The Single Market	1,
Cultural policy	2,
Foreign policy	3,
Defence policy	4,
Immigration policy	5,
Education policy	6,
Environment policy	7,
Energy policy	8,
Regional development policy	9,
Scientific research policy	10,
Health policy	11,
Social policy	12,
The fight against crime	13,
The fight against climate change	14,
Transport policy	15,
Consumer protection	16,
Fundamental rights of EU's citizens	17,
Economic and monetary policy	18,
Other (SPONTANEOUS)	19,
None (SPONTANEOUS)	20,
DK	21,

EB75.3 QA22

QA24a **In your opinion, what is the current speed of building Europe? Please look at these figures. N°1 is standing still, N°7 is running as fast as possible. Choose the one which best corresponds with your opinion of the current speed of building Europe.**

QA24b **And which corresponds best to the speed you would like?**

(SHOW CARD WITH SCALE)

READ OUT	**QA24a**	**QA24b**
	CURRENT SPEED	DESIRED SPEED
1 Standstill	1	1
2	2	2
3	3	3
4	4	4
5	5	5
6	6	6
7 Runs as fast as possible	7	7
DK	8	8

EB70.1 QA19a&b

ASK ALL

QA25a	**In your opinion, at the current time, what is the main objective of the building of Europe?**	
	(SHOW CARD – READ OUT – ROTATE – ONE ANSWER ONLY)	
	To develop the EU's economy and boost growth	1
	To make the EU a major diplomatic actor on the international stage	2
	To improve the standard of living of all EU citizens	3
	To combat global threats (terrorism, climate change)	4
	To promote the development of the poorest countries outside the EU (M)	5
	To promote democracy and human rights in the world	6
	Maintain peace and stability	7
	To protect European citizens against the negative effects of globalisation (relocation of industries and jobs, competition from emerging countries for European businesses)	8
	Other (SPONTANEOUS)	9
	DK	10
	EB70.1 QD18a (SPLIT BALLOT DELETED)	

QA25b	**And what should be the main objective of the building of Europe?**	
	(SHOW CARD - READ OUT – ROTATE – ONE ANSWER ONLY)	
	To develop the EU's economy and boost growth	1
	To make the EU a major diplomatic actor on the international stage	2
	To improve the standard of living of all EU citizens	3
	To combat global threats (terrorism, climate change)	4
	To promote the development of the poorest countries outside the EU	5
	To promote democracy and human rights in the world	6
	Maintain peace and stability	7
	To protect European citizens against the negative effects of globalisation (relocation of industries and jobs, competition from emerging countries for European businesses)	8
	Other (SPONTANEOUS)	9
	DK	10
	EB70.1 QD19a (SPLIT BALLOT DELETED)	

ASK QA26 ONLY IN EU27 – OTHERS GO TO QC

QA26	**Would you say that you are very optimistic, fairly optimistic, fairly pessimistic or very pessimistic about the future of the EU?**	
	(ONE ANSWER ONLY)	
	Very optimistic	1
	Fairly optimistic	2
	Fairly pessimistic	3
	Very pessimistic	4
	DK	5
	EB76.3 QA21	

B. EUROPE 2020

ASK QB ONLY IN EU27 – OTHERS GO TO QC1

To exit the financial and economic crisis and face the world new challenges the EU has defined a strategy called Europe 2020. Europe 2020 puts forward different priorities and objectives. Let's now discuss them.

QB1 **For each of the following initiatives, please tell me how important or not you think they are in order for the EU to exit the present financial and economic crisis and prepare for the next decade. Please use a scale from 1 to 10, where '1' means that you think this initiative is "not at all important" and '10' means that it is "very important".**

(SHOW CARD WITH SCALE – ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

	(READ OUT)	1 Not at all important	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10 Very important	DK
1	To increase the support for research and development policies and turn inventions into products	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
2	To enhance the quality and appeal of EU's higher education system	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
3	To develop the e-economy by strengthening ultra fast Internet within the EU	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
4	To support an economy that uses less natural resources and emits less greenhouse gas	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
5	To help the EU's industrial base to be more competitive by promoting entrepreneurship and developing new skills	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
6	To modernise labour markets, with a view to raising employment levels	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
7	To help the poor and socially excluded and enable them to play an active part in society	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11

EB76.3 QB1

QB2 **Thinking about each of the following objectives to be reached by 2020 in the EU, would you say that it is too ambitious, about right or too modest?**

(SHOW CARD WITH SCALE – ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

	(READ OUT)	Too ambitious	About right	Too modest	DK
1	Three quarters of men and women between 20 and 64 years of age should have a job	1	2	3	4
2	The share of funds invested in research and development should reach 3% of the wealth produced in the EU each year	1	2	3	4
3	To reduce EU greenhouse gas emissions by at least 20% by 2020 compared to 1990	1	2	3	4
4	To increase the share of renewable energy in the EU by 20% by 2020	1	2	3	4
5	To increase the energy efficiency in the EU by 20% by 2020	1	2	3	4
6	The number of young people leaving school with no qualifications should fall to 10%	1	2	3	4
7	At least 40% of the people aged 30 to 34 years should have a higher education degree or diploma (M)	1	2	3	4
8	The number of Europeans living below the poverty line should be reduced by a quarter by 2020	1	2	3	4

EB76.3 QB2 TREND SLIGHTLY MODIFIED

QB3 **Having heard about the priorities of the EU, do you think that the EU is going in the right direction or in the wrong direction to exit the crisis and face the world new challenges?**

(ONE ANSWER ONLY)

In the right direction	1
In the wrong direction	2
Neither the one or the other (SPONTANEOUS)	3
DK	4

EB76.3 QB10

C. THE EUROPEANS AND THE CRISIS

ASK ALL

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

(READ OUT – ONE ANSWER ONLY)

The impact of the crisis on jobs has already reached its peak	1
The worst is still to come	2
DK	3

EB76.3 QC1

QC2 **Which of the following statements best reflects your household situation?**

(SHOW CARD – READ OUT – ONE ANSWER ONLY)

Your current situation does not allow you to make any plan for the future. You live day by day	1
You know what you will be doing in the next six months	2
You have a long-term perspective of what your household will be in the next 1 or 2 years	3
Other	4
DK	5

EB76.3 QC2

DO NOT ASK QC3a IN CY(tcc) – CY(tcc) GO TO QC3b

QC3a **In your opinion, which of the following is best able to take effective actions against the effects of the financial and economic crisis?**

(SHOW CARD – READ OUT – ROTATE – ONE ANSWER ONLY)

The (NATIONALITY) Government	1
The European Union	2
The United States	3
The G20	4
The International Monetary Fund (IMF)	5
Other (SPONTANEOUS)	6
None (SPONTANEOUS)	7
DK	8

EB76.3 QC3a

ASK QC3b ONLY IN CY(tcc) – OTHERS GO TO QC4a

QC3b **In your opinion, which of the following is best able to take effective actions against the effects of the financial and economic crisis?**

(SHOW CARD – READ OUT – ROTATE – ONE ANSWER ONLY)

Our Community's authorities	1
The European Union	2
The United States	3
The G20	4
The International Monetary Fund (IMF)	5
Other (SPONTANEOUS)	6
None (SPONTANEOUS)	7
DK	8

EB76.3 QC3b

DO NOT ASK QC4a IN CY(tcc) – CY(tcc) GO TO QC4b

QC4a **For each of the following statements, please tell me whether you totally agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree or totally disagree.**

(SHOW CARD WITH SCALE – ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

	(READ OUT)	Totally agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Totally disagree	DK
1	(OUR COUNTRY) needs reforms to face the future	1	2	3	4	5
2	*(ONLY IN EU27)* EU Member States should work together more in tackling the financial and economic crisis	1	2	3	4	5
3	*(ONLY TO SPLIT A)* Measures to reduce the public deficit and debt in (OUR COUNTRY) cannot be delayed	1	2	3	4	5
4	*(ONLY TO SPLIT B)* Measures to reduce the public deficit and debt in (OUR COUNTRY) are not a priority for now	1	2	3	4	5
5	It is possible to reduce public deficit and debt while at the same time stimulating economic growth (N)	1	2	3	4	5
6	*(ONLY IN EU27)* The countries of the EU need a more solid industrial base (N)	1	2	3	4	5
7	*(ONLY IN EU27)* The countries of the EU need to develop further the services sector in their economies (N)	1	2	3	4	5
8	The EU has sufficient power and tools to defend the economic interests of Europe in the global economy	1	2	3	4	5
9	*(ONLY EU27)* As a consequence of the crisis, you think the EU will be stronger in the long run (N)	1	2	3	4	5
10	*(ONLY EU27)* As a consequence of the crisis, you feel closer to the citizens in other European countries (N)	1	2	3	4	5
11	*(ONLY EU27)* As a consequence of the crisis, EU countries will have to work more closely together (N)	1	2	3	4	5

EB76.3 QC4a TREND MODIFIED

ASK QC4b ONLY IN CY(tcc) – OTHERS GO TO QC5

QC4b **For each of the following statements, please tell me whether you totally agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree or totally disagree.**

(SHOW CARD WITH SCALE – ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

	(READ OUT)	Totally agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Totally disagree	DK
1	Our Community needs reforms to face the future	1	2	3	4	5
2	*(ONLY TO SPLIT A)* Measures to reduce the public deficit and debt in our Community cannot be delayed	1	2	3	4	5
3	*(ONLY TO SPLIT B)* Measures to reduce the public deficit and debt in our Community are not a priority for now	1	2	3	4	5
4	It is possible to reduce public deficit and debt while at the same time stimulating economic growth (N)	1	2	3	4	5
5	The EU has sufficient power and tools to defend the economic interests of Europe in the global economy	1	2	3	4	5

NEW (BASED ON EB74.2QC6)

ASK ALL

QC5 **Which three initiatives could most improve the performance of the European economy?**

(SHOW CARD – READ OUT – MAX. 3 ANSWERS)

Increase the number of working hours	1,
Improve education and professional training	2,
Invest in research and innovation	3,
Make it easier for companies to access credit	4,
Make it easier to set up a business	5,
Use energy more efficiently	6,
Invest in transport (motorways, railways, etc.)	7,
Invest in environmentally friendly products and services	8,
Increase the retirement age	9,
Reduce public deficits and debt	10,
Strengthen regulation of financial markets	11,
Other (SPONTANEOUS)	12,
DK	13,

EB75.3 QC5

ASK QC6 AND QC7 ONLY IN EU27 – OTHERS GO TO QC8

QC6 **A range of measures to tackle the current financial and economic crisis is being discussed in the European institutions. For each, could you tell me whether you think it would be effective or not?**

(SHOW CARD WITH SCALE – ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

	(READ OUT – ROTATE)	Very effective	Fairly effective	Not very effective	Not at all effective	DK
1	A more important role for the EU in regulating financial services	1	2	3	4	5
2	A stronger coordination of economic policy among all the EU Member States	1	2	3	4	5
3	A stronger coordination of economic and financial policies among the countries of the euro area	1	2	3	4	5

EB76.3 QC5

QC7 **Thinking about reform global financial markets, please tell me whether you are in favour or opposed to the following measures to be taken by the EU.**

(SHOW CARD WITH SCALE – ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

	(READ OUT – ROTATE)	Strongly in favour	Fairly in favour	Fairly opposed	Strongly opposed	DK
1	Tougher rules on tax avoidance and tax havens	1	2	3	4	5
2	The introduction of a tax on profits made by banks	1	2	3	4	5
3	The introduction of a tax on financial transactions	1	2	3	4	5
4	The introduction of Eurobonds (European bonds)	1	2	3	4	5
5	Tighter rules for credit rating agencies	1	2	3	4	5

EB76.3 QC6 TREND MODIFIED

ASK ALL

QC8 **Since the beginning of the economic crisis, would you say that each of the following actors has acted effectively or not to combat the crisis up till now?**

(SHOW CARD WITH SCALE - ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

	(READ OUT - ROTATE)	Yes, very effectively	Yes, fairly effectively	No, not very effectively	No, not at all effectively	DK
1	The European Union	1	2	3	4	5
2	*(NOT IN CY(tcc))* The (NATIONALITY) Government	1	2	3	4	5
3	*(ONLY IN CY(tcc))* Our Community's authorities	1	2	3	4	5
4	The USA	1	2	3	4	5

EB75.3 QC11

D. CITIZENSHIP

ASK QD1 ONLY IN EU27 – OTHERS GO TO QD2

QD1 **Regarding the "European Union", please tell me what you expect from it. What comes to your mind first? And what else?**

(OPEN QUESTION – WRITE DOWN – DO NOT PROMPT – MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

NEW

QD2 **Please tell me how attached you feel to… (M)**

(SHOW CARD WITH SCALE - ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

	(READ OUT)	Very attached	Fairly attached	Not very attached	Not at all attached	DK
1	Your city/ town/ village	1	2	3	4	5
2	(OUR COUNTRY)	1	2	3	4	5
3	The European Union	1	2	3	4	5

EB73.3 QB13 TREND MODIFIED

ASK QD3 TO QD7 ONLY IN EU27 – OTHERS GO TO QD8a

QD3 **For each of the following statements, please tell me to what extent it corresponds or not to your own opinion.**

(SHOW CARD WITH SCALE – ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

	(READ OUT)	Yes, definitely	Yes, to some extent	No, not really	No, definitely not	DK
1	You feel you are a citizen of the EU	1	2	3	4	5
2	You know what your rights are as a citizen of the EU	1	2	3	4	5
3	You would like to know more about your rights as a citizen of the EU	1	2	3	4	5

EB75.3 QD4

ASK QD4a&b IF "WOULD LIKE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT RIGHTS AS A CITIZEN OF THE EU", CODE 1 OR 2 IN QD3.3 – OTHERS GO TO QD5

QD4a **About which rights as a citizen of the EU would you like to know more? Firstly?**

QD4b **And then?**

(SHOW CARD – ONE ANSWER PER COLUMN)

(READ OUT – ROTATE)	**QD4a**	**QD4b**
	FIRSTLY	AND THEN
Voting in elections in another EU country	1	1
Living in another EU country	2	2
Working in another EU country	3	3
Studying in another EU country	4	4
Receiving medical assistance in another EU country	5	5
Buying goods in another EU country	6	6
Buying services in another EU country	7	7
Other (SPONTANEOUS)	8	8
None (SPONTANEOUS)	9	9
DK	10	10

NEW

ASK ALL IN EU27

QD5 **In the near future, do you see yourself as...?**

(SHOW CARD – READ OUT – ONE ANSWER ONLY)

(NATIONALITY) only	1
(NATIONALITY) and European	2
European and (NATIONALITY)	3
European only	4
None (SPONTANEOUS)	5
Refusal (SPONTANEOUS)	6
DK	7

EB76.4 QA22

QD6	**Which of the following elements would best strengthen your feeling about being a European citizen?**	
	(SHOW CARD – READ OUT – ROTATE – MAX. 4 ANSWERS)	
	Being able to vote in all elections organised in the Member State where you live even if you are not a citizen of this Member State	1,
	A European social welfare system harmonised between the Member States (healthcare, education, pensions, etc.) (M)	2,
	A President of the EU directly elected by the citizens of all Member States	3,
	EU embassies in non EU countries	4,
	European emergency response service to fight international natural disasters	5,
	A European civic education course for children of primary school age	6,
	Being able to use your mobile phone in all EU countries at the same price	7,
	Being able to shop online from all EU countries at the same price and with the same consumer protection legislation	8,
	Seeing a European researcher winning a Nobel prize	9,
	Seeing the President of the European Commission on TV delivering a "general policy speech " in front of the European Parliament	10,
	A European Parliament that had the right to decide on taxes raised in the EU	11,
	Being able to move to any EU country after your retirement and to take your pension with you	12,
	A European ID card in addition to national ID cards	13,
	Participating in national debates about the future of Europe (N)	14,
	A European army	15,
	Other (SPONTANEOUS)	16,
	You do not want to be a European citizen/ You do not feel that you're a European citizen (SPONTANEOUS)	17,
	None (SPONTANEOUS)	18,
	DK	19,
	EB73.4 QE3 TREND STRONGLY MODIFIED	

QD7	**The European identity can be composed of several elements. In your opinion, which of the following are the most important elements that go to make up the European identity?**	
	(SHOW CARD – READ OUT – ROTATE – MAX. 3 ANSWERS)	
	History	1,
	Geography	2,
	Democratic values	3,
	The European anthem	4,
	The European flag	5,
	The single currency, the euro	6,
	The EU's motto: "unity in diversity"	7,
	The successes of the European economy (European navigation satellite, European airplane manufacturers, high-speed/ international trains, etc.)	8,
	Culture	9,
	Other (SPONTANEOUS) (M)	10,
	None (SPONTANEOUS) (M)	11,
	DK	12,
	EB70.1 QD21	

ASK ALL

QD8a	**Which of the following do you think is the most positive result of the EU? Firstly?**	
	(SHOW CARD – READ OUT – ONE ANSWER ONLY)	
	Peace among the Member States of the EU	1
	The free movement of people, goods and services within the EU	2
	The euro	3
	Student exchange programmes such as ERASMUS	4
	The common agricultural policy	5
	The economic power of the EU	6
	The political and diplomatic influence of the EU in the rest of the world	7
	The level of social welfare (healthcare, education, pensions) in the EU (M)	8
	Other (SPONTANEOUS)	9
	None (SPONTANEOUS)	10
	DK	11
	EB76.4 QA11a	

QD8b	**And then?**	
	(SHOW CARD – READ OUT – MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)	
	Peace among the Member States of the EU	1,
	The free movement of people, goods and services within the EU	2,
	The euro	3,
	Student exchange programmes such as ERASMUS	4,
	The common agricultural policy	5,
	The economic power of the EU	6,
	The political and diplomatic influence of the EU in the rest of the world	7,
	The level of social welfare (healthcare, education, pensions) in the EU (M)	8,
	Other (SPONTANEOUS)	9,
	None (SPONTANEOUS)	10,
	DK	11,
	EB76.4 QA11b	

ASK QD9 ONLY IN EU27 – OTHERS GO TO QD10

QD9	**In your opinion, among the following issues, which are those that most create a feeling of community among EU citizens?**	
	(SHOW CARD – READ OUT – ROTATE – MAX. 3 ANSWERS)	
	History	1,
	Religion	2,
	Values	3,
	Geography	4,
	Languages	5,
	Legislation	6,
	Sports	7,
	Inventions, science and technology	8,
	Economy	9,
	Healthcare, education and pensions (M)	10,
	Solidarity with poorer regions	11,
	Culture	12,
	Other (SPONTANEOUS) (M)	13,
	None, such a feeling does not exist (SPONTANEOUS) (M)	14,
	None (SPONTANEOUS) (M)	15,
	DK	16,
	EB67.2 QA40 TREND MODIFIED	

ASK ALL

QD10 **Have you ever seen this symbol?**

(SHOW EUROPEAN FLAG)

Yes	1
No	2
DK	3

EB67.2 QA42

QD11 **This symbol is the European flag. I have a list of statements concerning it. I would like to have your opinion on each of these. For each of them, could you please tell me if you tend to agree or tend to disagree?**

	(READ OUT)	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	DK
1	This flag is a good symbol for Europe	1	2	3
2	This flag stands for something good	1	2	3
3	*(ONLY IN EU27)* You identify with this flag	1	2	3
4	*(ONLY IN EU27)* This flag should be seen on all public buildings in (OUR COUNTRY) next to the national flag	1	2	3

EB67.2 QA43

ASK QD12 TO QD17 ONLY IN EU27 – OTHERS GO TO QE

QD12 **In the last 12 months have you…?**

(ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

	(READ OUT)	Yes, on several occasions	Yes, once or twice	No	DK
1	Visited another EU country	1	2	3	4
2	Read a book, newspaper or magazine in a language other than your mother tongue	1	2	3	4
3	Socialised with people from another EU country	1	2	3	4
4	Watched TV programs in a language other than your mother tongue	1	2	3	4
5	Used Internet in order to purchase a product or a service from another EU	1	2	3	4

EB73.4 QE4

QD13 **For each of the following achievements of the EU, could you tell me whether you have benefited from it or not.**

(ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

	(READ OUT)	Has benefited	Has not benefited	DK
1	No/ less border controls when travelling abroad	1	2	3
2	Improved consumers rights when buying products or services in another EU country	1	2	3
3	Less expensive communication costs when using a mobile phone in another EU country	1	2	3
4	Receiving medical assistance in another EU country	1	2	3
5	Strengthened rights of air transport passengers in the EU	1	2	3
6	Working in another EU country (N)	1	2	3
7	Living in another EU country (N)	1	2	3
8	Studying in another EU country (N)	1	2	3

EB73.4 QE5 TREND MODIFIED

QD14	**In your opinion, which of these different levels of public authorities, European level, national level, regional or local level, has the most impact on your living conditions?**	
	(READ OUT - ONE ANSWER ONLY)	
	The European level	1
	The national level	2
	The regional or local level	3
	DK	4
	EB72.4 QE1	
QD15	**Which two of the following do you think are the best ways of ensuring one's voice is heard by decision-makers?**	
	(SHOW CARD – READ OUT – ROTATE – MAX. 2 ANSWERS)	
	Voting in elections	1,
	Joining a political party	2,
	Joining a demonstration	3,
	Signing a petition	4,
	Going on strike	5,
	Joining a trade union	6,
	Being a member of a consumer association	7,
	Being a member or supporter of an NGO (non-governmental organisation)	8,
	Participate in debates using the Internet	9,
	Participating in debates at local level ("town-hall meetings") (N)	10,
	Other (SPONTANEOUS)	11,
	DK	12,
	EB73.4 QE8 TREND STRONGLY MODIFIED	
	The Lisbon Treaty came into force in December 2009. It has introduced the "European Citizens' Initiative". The initiative enables one million EU citizens to call on the European Commission to bring forward an initiative of interest to them in an area of EU competence.	
QD16	**How likely or not do you think you would make use of this European Citizens' Initiative?**	
	(READ OUT – ONE ANSWER ONLY)	
	Very likely	1
	Fairly likely	2
	Not very likely	3
	Not at all likely	4
	DK	5
	EB73.4 QE9	

QD17 **And whether or not you think you might make use of it or not, if you were to do so, in which of the following fields would you be most likely to use the European Citizens' Initiative?**

(SHOW CARD – READ OUT – ROTATE – MAX. 5 ANSWERS)

Employment	1,
Environment	2,
Pensions	3,
Education	4,
Sport	5,
Enlargement of the EU	6,
Taxation	7,
Mobility of EU's citizens	8,
Common foreign and security policy	9,
Agriculture	10,
Immigration	11,
Energy	12,
Crime	13,
Terrorism	14,
Consumer protection	15,
Problems with your national government	16,
Fundamental rights of EU's citizens	17,
Other (SPONTANEOUS)	18,
DK	19,

EB73.4 QE10

E. LIVING EUROPE

ASK QE1 ONLY IN EU27 – OTHERS GO TO QE2

QE1 To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?
(SHOW CARD WITH SCALE – ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

	(READ OUT)	Totally agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Totally disagree	DK
1	The State intervenes too much in our lives	1	2	3	4	5
2	We need more equality and justice even if this means less freedom for the individual	1	2	3	4	5
3	Nowadays there is too much tolerance. Criminals should be punished more severely	1	2	3	4	5
4	Immigrants contribute a lot to (OUR COUNTRY)	1	2	3	4	5
5	*(ONLY TO SPLIT A)* Economic growth must be a priority for (OUR COUNTRY), even if it affects the environment	1	2	3	4	5
6	*(ONLY TO SPLIT B)* Protecting the environment should be a priority for (OUR COUNTRY), even if it affects the economic growth	1	2	3	4	5
7	Free competition is the best guarantee for economic prosperity	1	2	3	4	5
8	More importance should be given to spare time than to work	1	2	3	4	5
9	When compared to other continents, it is much easier to see what Europeans have in common in terms of values	1	2	3	4	5

EB76.4 QA17 (items 1, 7) + EB72.4 QD2a (items 5, 6) + EB69.2 QD1a (items 2, 3, 4, 8) + EB69.2 QD4 (item 9) TREND MODIFIED

ASK ALL

QE2	**In the following list, which are the three most important values for you personally?**	
	(SHOW CARD – READ OUT – MAX. 3 ANSWERS)	
	The Rule of Law	1,
	Respect for human life	2,
	Human rights	3,
	Individual freedom	4,
	Democracy	5,
	Peace	6,
	Equality	7,
	Solidarity, support for others	8,
	Tolerance	9,
	Religion	10,
	Self-fulfilment	11,
	Respect for other cultures	12,
	None (SPONTANEOUS)	13,
	DK	14,
	EB74.2 QA26	

QE3	**Which three of the following values best represent the EU?**	
	(SHOW CARD – READ OUT – MAX. 3 ANSWERS)	
	The Rule of Law	1,
	Respect for human life	2,
	Human rights	3,
	Individual freedom	4,
	Democracy	5,
	Peace	6,
	Equality	7,
	Solidarity, support for others	8,
	Tolerance	9,
	Religion	10,
	Self-fulfilment	11,
	Respect for other cultures	12,
	None (SPONTANEOUS)	13,
	DK	14,
	EB74.2 QA27	

ASK QE4 TO QE5b ONLY IN EU27 – OTHERS GO TO DEMOGRAPHICS

QE4	**In your opinion, in terms of shared values, are EU Member States…?**	
	(READ OUT – ONE ANSWER ONLY)	
	Very close to each other	1
	Fairly close to each other	2
	Fairly distant from each other	3
	Very distant from each other	4
	DK	5
	EB66.1 QA49	

QE5a	**Among the following values, please indicate which one is the most important for your happiness? (M)**	
	(SHOW CARD - READ OUT - ONE ANSWER ONLY)	
	Money	1
	Work	2
	Tradition	3
	Pleasure	4
	Order	5
	Belief	6
	Health	7
	Love	8
	Friendship	9
	Peace	10
	Justice	11
	Education	12
	Freedom	13
	Solidarity	14
	Other (SPONTANEOUS) (M)	15
	DK	16
	EB69.2 QD7a TREND STRONGLY MODIFIED	

QE5b	**Any others?**	
	(SHOW CARD - READ OUT - MAX. 3 ANSWERS)	
	Money	1,
	Work	2,
	Tradition	3,
	Pleasure	4,
	Order	5,
	Belief	6,
	Health	7,
	Love	8,
	Friendship	9,
	Peace	10,
	Justice	11,
	Education	12,
	Freedom	13,
	Solidarity	14,
	Other (SPONTANEOUS) (M)	15,
	DK	16,
	EB69.2 QD7b TREND STRONGLY MODIFIED	