Standard Eurobarometer 79
Spring 2013

PUBLIC OPINION IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

REPORT

Fieldwork: May 2013

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 79 / Spring 2013 – TNS opinion & social

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Public opinion in the European Union

Survey conducted by TNS opinion & social at the request of
the European Commission,
Directorate-General for Communication

Survey co-ordinated by the European Commission,
Directorate-General for Communication
(DG COMM "Research and Speechwriting" Unit)

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INTRODUCTION

This Standard Eurobarometer survey was carried out between 10 and 26 May 2013 in 34 countries and territories: 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. Croatia joined the EU on 1 July 2013. It was not yet a Member State at the time of the interviews. Consequently, the weighted average of the European Union presented in this report and its annexes represents the 27 European Union Member States at the time of the survey.

The previous Standard Eurobarometer survey of autumn 2012 (EB78) had been characterised by the relative stability of most of the indicators relating to perceptions of the economic situation, which remained rather pessimistic. It had also revealed a similarly stable situation as regards the indicators of support for the European Union and its institutions.

Since the Standard Eurobarometer of autumn 2012 (EB78), national elections have been held in Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Italy and Malta.

At the beginning of May 2013, just before the launch of this Standard Eurobarometer survey, the European Commission published its spring 2013 economic forecasts[1]: these predicted negative GDP growth in 2013 in the EU (-0.1%) and the euro area (-0.4%). However, in real terms, growth is expected to be positive in 2014: economic activity is forecast to grow by 1.4% in the EU and by 1.2% in the euro area.

2013 is the European Year of Citizens[2]. The aim of this initiative is to promote the rights attached to EU citizenship, to highlight the concept of European citizenship, to draw the attention of European citizens to the right to vote and to encourage them to participate in the next European elections in May 2014.

Since September 2012, the European Commission has organised Citizens' Dialogues[3] which give EU citizens the opportunity to engage in discussions with European Commissioners on subjects such as Europe and the crisis, the rights of European citizens and the future of Europe. These debates are organised throughout the European Union.

The full report of the Eurobarometer survey consists of several volumes. The first volume presents the state of public opinion in the European Union (EU). Three further volumes analyse the opinions of Europeans on other themes: the Europe 2020 strategy; the financial and economic crisis; and European citizenship. This volume covers the state of public opinion in the European Union.

[1] http://ec.europa.eu/economy_finance/eu/forecasts/2013_spring_forecast_en.htm
[2] http://europa.eu/citizens-2013/en/home
[3] http://ec.europa.eu/debate-future-europe/citizens-dialogues/index_en.htm

This volume devoted to public opinion in the European Union is divided into three parts. In the first part, we examine personal, social, economic and political aspects of life in the European Union as perceived by its citizens. In it we consider: the financial and personal situation of citizens; their views on certain social and societal issues; their views on the national, European and global economic situation; their main concerns; and their expectations for the future. This part of the report also explores their interest in politics, their views on the direction in which things are going in their country and in the European Union, and the extent to which citizens trust their national institutions and the UN.

The second part of the report presents the main indicators measuring the image of and trust in the European Union and its institutions. First, it examines the extent to which Europeans feel attached to the European Union. It then analyses their views on the way democracy works and whether their personal and national interests are taken into account by the European Union. This part of the report also explores the attitudes of Europeans to globalisation. The report then examines the familiarity of Europeans with the European institutions and the EU and how far they trust them, before examining their knowledge of the EU.

The third part of the report begins by analysing public support for various European policies, before examining their views on the main objectives of European integration, not only as they perceive them, but also as they would like them to be. Lastly, we analyse opinions about the European Union's future.

As most of these questions were asked during the previous Standard Eurobarometer surveys it is possible to analyse opinion trends.

The general analysis and the socio-demographic analyses are based on the results at the level of the average of the 27 Member States. This average is weighted so that it reflects the population of each Member State. The averages for the previous surveys represent the results obtained in all the Member States of the European Union, as it was composed at the time the survey was conducted.

The methodology used is that of the Standard Eurobarometer surveys of the Directorate-General Communication ("Research and Speechwriting" Unit)[4]. A technical note on the interviewing methods of the institutes of the TNS Opinion & Social network is attached to this report. This note also specifies the confidence intervals[5].

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

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

The abbreviations used in this report correspond to:

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 – weighted average for the 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, SI, SK**
ME	Montenegro	Euro area	BE, FR, IT, LU, DE, AT, ES, PT, IE, NL, FI, EL, EE, SI, CY, MT, SK
RS	Serbia	Non-euro area	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 participate in this survey.

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

I. LIFE IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

This Standard Eurobarometer of spring 2013 (EB 79) reveals several signs of a very modest improvement:

- Europeans are less pessimistic when evaluating both their personal situation, both financially and job-wise, and the economic situation at national, European and world levels. However, for all these dimensions, it is the feeling that things will stay the same that has gained ground, rather than optimism.

- Concerns about unemployment continue to rise at national and European levels.

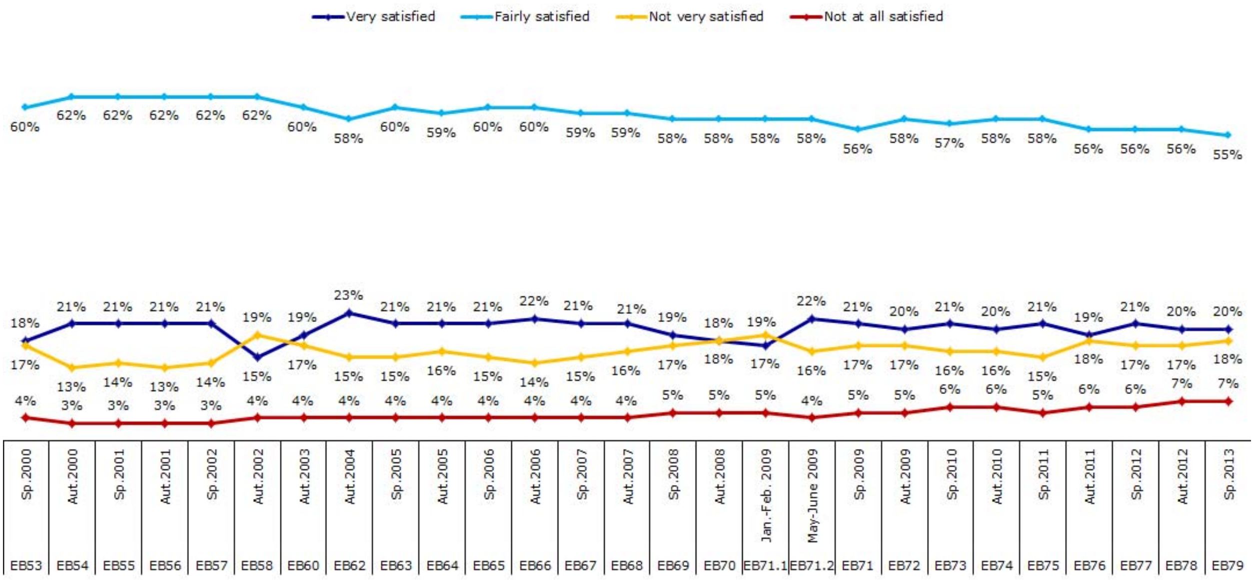
1. Personal aspects

1.1. The current personal situation of Europeans

- Three-quarters of European are satisfied with the life they lead -

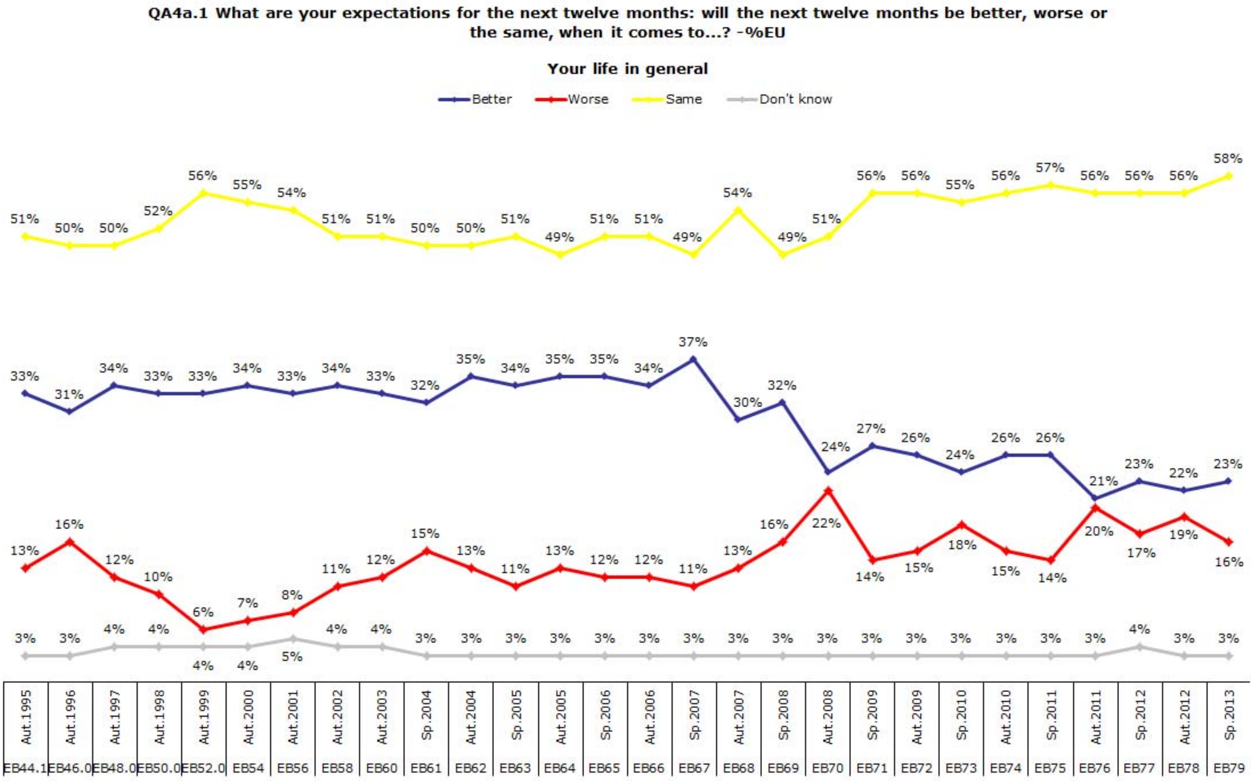
The vast majority of Europeans continue to be satisfied with the life they lead[6], despite a slight dip since autumn 2012: 75% are satisfied, a fall of one percentage point since the autumn 2012 survey (EB78) and two percentage points since the spring 2012 survey (EB77). Two out of ten Europeans are "very satisfied" (20%, =). A quarter of Europeans are dissatisfied (25%, +1).

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



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

When asked about their expectations for the next twelve months, a majority of Europeans believe that their life in general will not change (58%)[7], a rise of two percentage points since the EB78 survey of autumn 2012. The proportion of Europeans who think that the next twelve months will be worse has fallen (16%, -3), whereas it had increased in the EB78 survey of autumn 2012 (19%, +2 at that time in comparison with the EB77 survey of spring 2012). Almost a quarter of Europeans instead think that the next twelve months will be better (23%, +1).



Personal satisfaction stands at identical levels in the euro area countries (76%) and the non-euro area countries (75%), but is more widespread in the EU15 countries (79%) than in the NMS12 countries (63%).

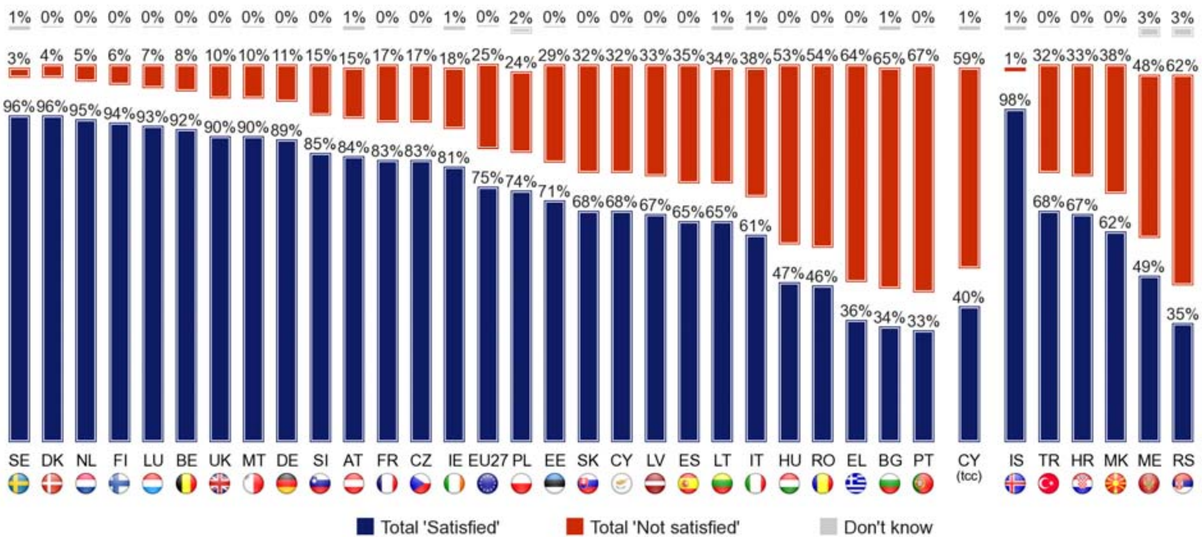
Personal satisfaction outweighs dissatisfaction in 22 Member States, with scores reaching or exceeding 90% in eight of them: Denmark (96%), Sweden (96%), the Netherlands (95%), Finland (94%), Luxembourg (93%), Belgium (92%), Malta (90%) and the United Kingdom (90%).

The five Member States where only a minority of respondents are satisfied with their personal situation are Portugal (33% satisfied/67% dissatisfied), Bulgaria (34/65), Greece (36/64), Romania (46/54) and Hungary (47/53). Bulgaria is also one of the countries in which personal satisfaction has declined sharply since the EB78 survey of autumn 2012 (34%, -6 percentage points), along with Spain (65%, -6) and Cyprus (68%, -5).

[7] QA4.1 What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, less good or the same, when it comes to...? Your life in general

However, personal satisfaction has increased considerably in Malta (90%, +14) and the Czech Republic (83%, +9).

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

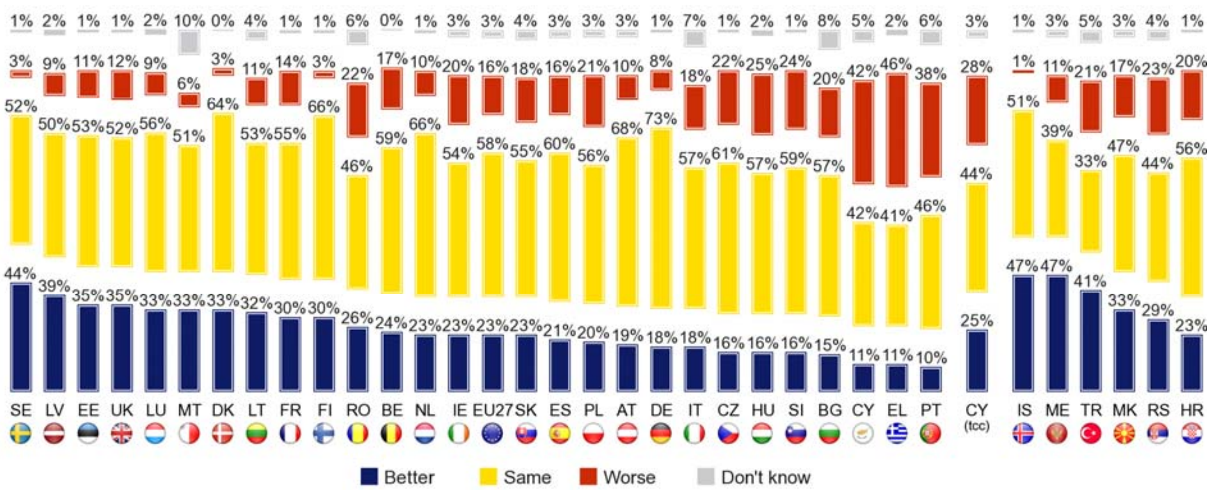


In the candidate countries:

- Respondents in Iceland are almost unanimously satisfied, recording the highest score of all the countries covered in this survey (98%);
- This satisfaction is shared by a majority, albeit smaller, of respondents in Turkey (68%), Croatia (67%) and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (62%);
- It is now shared by a narrow majority in Montenegro following an improvement since autumn 2012 (EB78) (49%, +5, versus 48%, -4);
- Only a minority of respondents are satisfied with the life they lead in Serbia (35% versus 62% who are dissatisfied).

QA4a.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



The optimism index[8] for the next twelve months has improved after a deterioration in autumn 2012. It is now positive in 18 Member States compared with 14 in autumn 2012. Sweden has the highest optimism index (+41). Opinions are evenly balanced in Italy. The eight Member States with a negative optimism index are Greece (-35), Cyprus (-31), Portugal (-28), Hungary (-9), Slovenia (-8), the Czech Republic (-6), Bulgaria (-5) and Poland (-1).

In total, the optimism index has improved in 23 Member States, and by as much as 10 points or more since the autumn 2012 survey (EB78) in Slovakia (+18), Luxembourg (+17), Greece (+13), Malta (+12), Lithuania (+11), the Czech Republic (+10) and Portugal (+10).

Romania is the only Member State where the optimism index has deteriorated significantly (-7 index points).

In the candidate countries:

- All the candidate countries now have a positive optimism index.
- The optimism indices have improved markedly in several countries: Turkey (+23 points since the EB78 survey of autumn 2012), Montenegro (+11), Croatia (+9) and Serbia (+7).
- Iceland has the highest optimism index of all the countries covered in EB79 (+46).

QA4a.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 EB78 Aut.2012	Better - Worse EB79 Sp.2013	Diff. Sp.2013 - Aut.2012
EU27	+3	+7	**+4**
SK	-13	+5	**+18**
LU	+7	+24	**+17**
EL	-48	-35	**+13**
MT	+15	+27	**+12**
LT	+10	+21	**+11**
CZ	-16	-6	**+10**
PT	-38	-28	**+10**
NL	+4	+13	**+9**
BE	-1	+7	**+8**
IE	-5	+3	**+8**
HU	-17	-9	**+8**
ES	-2	+5	**+7**
FR	+10	+16	**+6**
FI	+21	+27	**+6**
DE	+5	+10	**+5**
LV	+25	+30	**+5**
IT	-4	=	**+4**
CY	-35	-31	**+4**
PL	-5	-1	**+4**
EE	+21	+24	**+3**
SE	+38	+41	**+3**
AT	+7	+9	**+2**
DK	+29	+30	**+1**
SI	-8	-8	**=**
BG	-3	-5	**-2**
UK	+25	+23	**-2**
RO	+11	+4	**-7**
CY (tcc)	+7	-3	**-10**
TR	-3	+20	**+23**
ME	+25	+36	**+11**
HR	-6	+3	**+9**
RS	-1	+6	**+7**
MK	+12	+16	**+4**
IS	+42	+46	**+4**

[8] Difference between the proportion of “better” answers and the proportion of “worse” answers

	QA1. On the whole, are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied or not at all satisfied with the life you lead?			QA4a.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			
	Total 'Satisfied'	Total 'Not satisfied'	Don't know	Better	Worse	Same	Don't know
EU27	75%	25%	-	23%	16%	58%	3%
Gender							
Men	75%	25%	-	24%	16%	57%	3%
Women	76%	24%	-	22%	15%	60%	3%
Age							
15-24	84%	16%	-	42%	9%	46%	3%
25-39	77%	23%	-	33%	15%	50%	2%
40-54	72%	28%	-	21%	17%	59%	3%
55 +	74%	26%	-	11%	18%	68%	3%
Education (End of)							
15-	63%	37%	-	12%	21%	63%	4%
16-19	73%	27%	-	22%	17%	58%	3%
20+	83%	17%	-	28%	12%	58%	2%
Still studying	89%	11%	-	42%	7%	48%	3%
Socio-professional category							
Self-employed	77%	23%	-	26%	16%	56%	2%
Managers	91%	9%	-	28%	12%	59%	1%
Other white collars	80%	20%	-	25%	15%	57%	3%
Manual workers	75%	25%	-	25%	15%	57%	3%
House persons	69%	30%	1%	20%	16%	60%	4%
Unemployed	52%	47%	1%	32%	21%	42%	5%
Retired	73%	26%	1%	9%	18%	70%	3%
Students	89%	11%	-	42%	7%	48%	3%
Difficulties paying bills							
Most of the time	40%	59%	1%	20%	31%	44%	5%
From time to time	67%	33%	-	25%	19%	53%	3%
Almost never	87%	13%	-	23%	11%	64%	2%
Self-positioning on the social staircase							
Low (1-4)	54%	45%	1%	19%	25%	52%	4%
Medium (5-6)	80%	20%	-	23%	14%	61%	2%
High (7-10)	89%	11%	-	28%	10%	60%	2%

1.2. Evaluations of personal job and financial situations

- Europeans are now less pessimistic about their financial and job situations -

The household's financial situation

More than six out of ten Europeans consider that the financial situation of their household is good[9] (63% versus 35% for whom it is "bad"). These proportions are unchanged since the autumn 2012 survey (EB78).

Forecasts of the future, which had deteriorated in autumn 2012, have improved slightly: six out of ten Europeans now think that the financial situation of their household will be the same in twelve months' time[10] (60%), an increase of four percentage points since autumn 2012 (EB78). The proportion of Europeans who think that their situation will be "worse" has decreased (19%, -4), but is still slightly higher than the proportion saying the next 12 months will be "better" (18%, =).

A national analysis shows that:

- A majority of respondents in 21 Member States (20 in autumn 2012 and 19 in spring 2012) are positive about the financial situation of their household. More than three-quarters of respondents are satisfied in Sweden (91%), Denmark (88%), Luxembourg (88%), Finland (87%), the Netherlands (85%), Belgium (79%), Germany (79%) and the United Kingdom (79%). In Malta, opinions have improved significantly since autumn 2012 (+8 percentage points, to 71%). Majorities of respondents are dissatisfied in Greece (22% satisfied versus 78% dissatisfied), Hungary (30/68), Portugal (30/68), Bulgaria (31/66), Romania (39/58) and Cyprus (41/58). Cyprus is also one of the countries where satisfaction has decreased significantly since autumn 2012 (-9 percentage points), with Slovenia (-6, to 55%) and France (-5, to 65%).

- The index of optimism for the future household financial situation is now positive in 14 Member States (versus 11 in autumn 2012), and has improved by more than 10 points in many countries, most notably in the countries where it had deteriorated sharply in autumn 2012: Belgium (+12 points, to +3), Slovakia (+16, to -4) and Portugal (+17, to -36).

[9] QA3.5 How would you judge the current situation in each of the following? The financial situation of your household
[10] QA4.3 What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, less good or the same, when it comes to...? The financial situation of your household

QA4a.3 What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...?

	The financial situation of your household		
	Better - Worse EB78 Aut.2012	Better - Worse EB79 Sp.2013	Diff. Sp.2013 - Aut.2012
EU27	-5	-1	+4
MT	-2	+15	+17
PT	-53	-36	+17
SK	-20	-4	+16
HU	-29	-14	+15
CZ	-31	-16	+15
EL	-60	-47	+13
BE	-9	+3	+12
NL	-15	-3	+12
ES	-12	-1	+11
LU	+1	+11	+10
IT	-15	-9	+6
IE	-16	-10	+6
CY	-49	-43	+6
EE	+16	+20	+4
FI	+12	+16	+4
LT	+9	+13	+4
AT	+4	+8	+4
DK	+17	+20	+3
DE	-1	+2	+3
PL	-12	-9	+3
SE	+19	+21	+2
LV	+21	+22	+1
UK	+11	+11	=
FR	+3	+2	-1
BG	-10	-11	-1
SI	-18	-20	-2
RO	+7	+1	-6
CY (tcc)	=	-14	-14
ME	+18	+31	+13
TR	-8	+5	+13
RS	-7	+5	+12
HR	-13	-4	+9
IS	+25	+31	+6
MK	+6	+6	=

In the candidate countries:

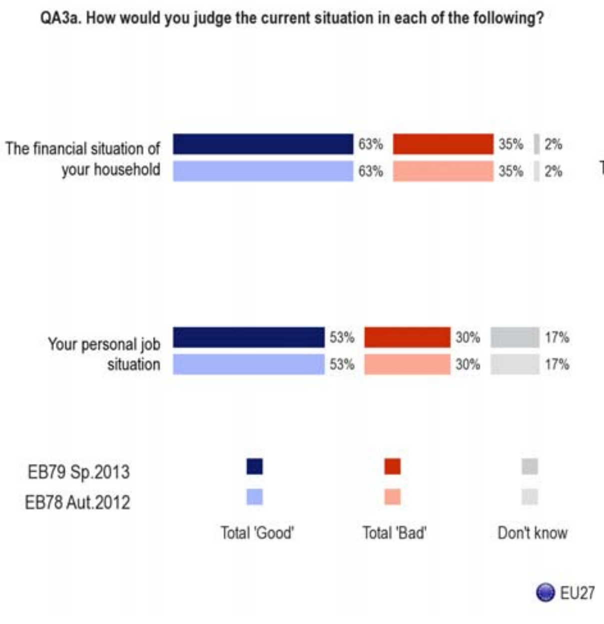
- A majority of respondents are satisfied with the financial situation of their household in Iceland (80%) and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (51%), and also now in Turkey following a sharp increase (53%, +10).

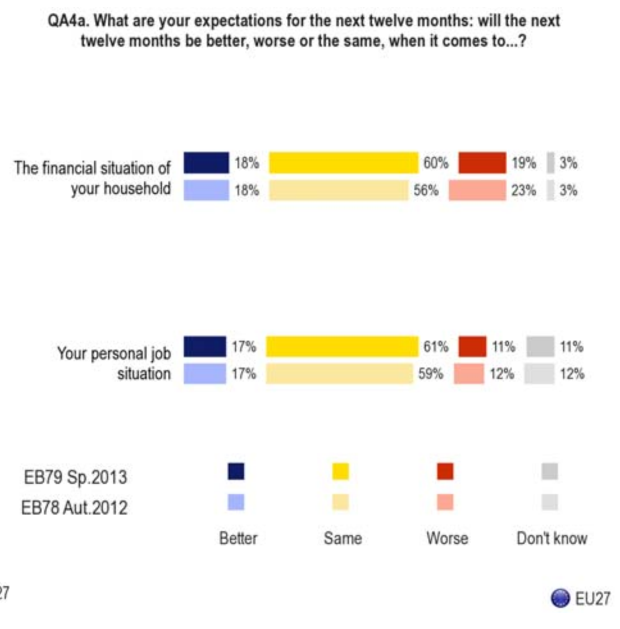
- The optimism index has become positive in most of the candidate countries, following a turnaround in Turkey (+13, to +5) and Serbia (+12, to +5) after sharp increases. Croatia is the only exception, despite a marked improvement since autumn 2012 (+9, to -4).

The personal job situation

More than half of Europeans are satisfied with their personal job situation (53%, versus 30% who are dissatisfied)[11], unchanged since the autumn 2012 survey (EB78).

More than six out of ten Europeans also now think that their personal job situation will not change over the next twelve months[12], slightly more than in the EB78 survey of autumn 2012 (61%, +2). The proportion of Europeans who believe that the next twelve months will be better (17%, =) remains higher than the proportion who think that the next twelve months will be "worse", which has declined by one percentage point (11%, -1).





[11] QA3.4 How would you judge the current situation in each of the following? Your personal job situation

[12] QA3.5 What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...? Your personal job situation

As in autumn 2012, a majority of respondents in 20 Member States are satisfied with their personal job situation. Satisfaction has gained ground in Malta (66%, +13), Luxembourg (76%, +7) and Germany (71%, +7). Respondents are predominantly dissatisfied in Bulgaria, Greece, Cyprus, Spain, Hungary, Portugal and Romania.

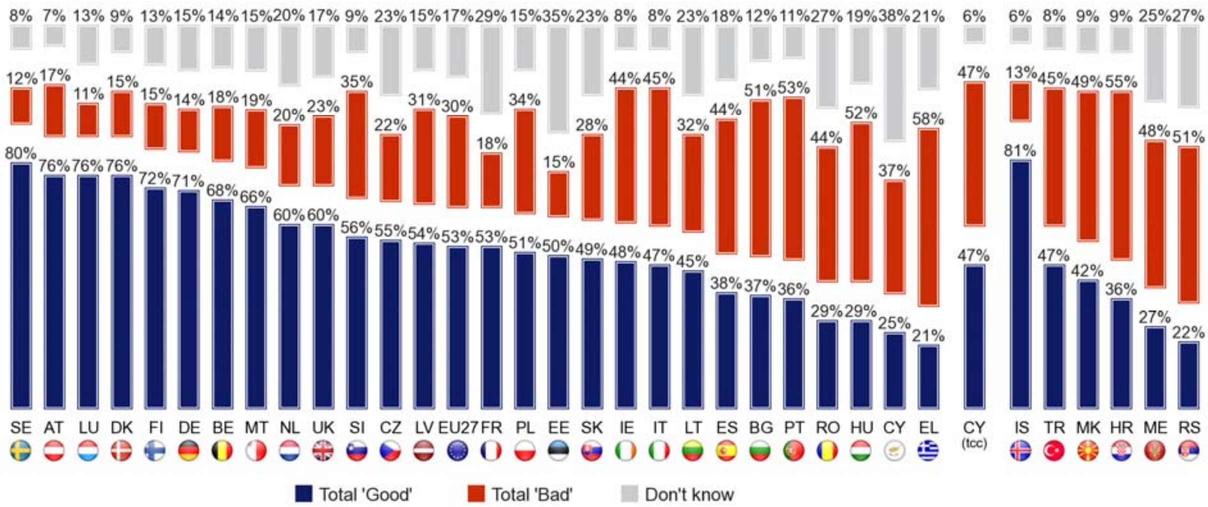
The optimism index for the personal job outlook over the next twelve months is positive in 18 Member States (16 in autumn 2012). It has improved in a majority of countries, in particular in Malta (+15, with an index of +16) and Slovakia (+9, to +2).

In the candidate countries, personal job satisfaction is exceptionally high in Iceland (81%), and commands a narrow majority in Turkey (47% versus 45%). Satisfied respondents are in the minority in the other candidate countries.

The optimism index for the next twelve months is positive in most of the candidate countries, except for Serbia, where it is zero, and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia where it is narrowly negative (-1). It has improved considerably in Turkey (+11, to +4).

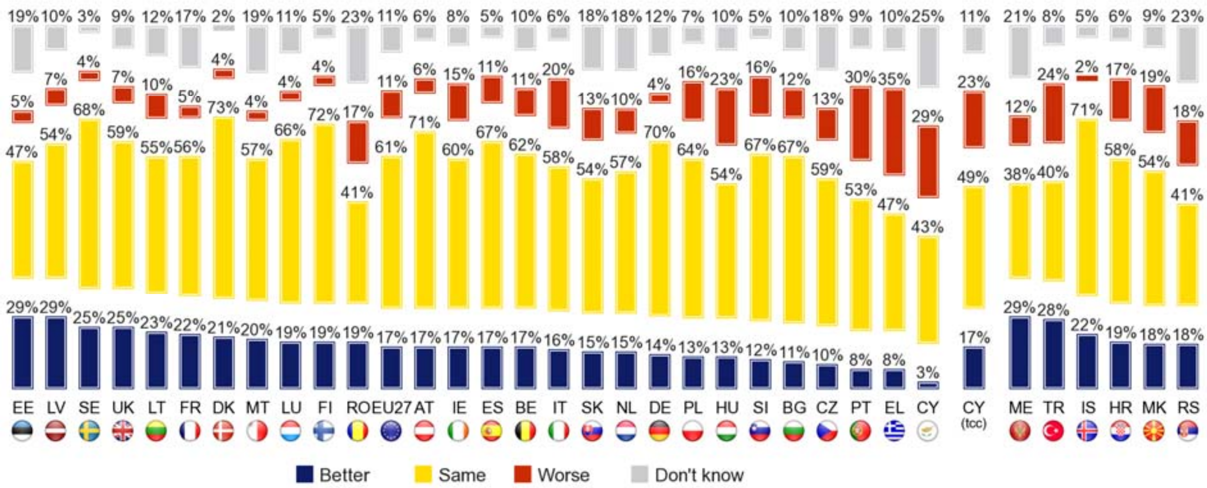
QA3a.4. How would you judge the current situation in each of the following?

Your personal job situation



QA4a.5. What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...?

Your personal job situation



On these questions, there are significant socio-demographic differences, in particular reflecting education and difficulties in paying bills. Those who have studied the longest and who almost never have difficulties paying their bills are the most satisfied, and also the most optimistic about the future.

	QA3a. How would you judge the current situation in each of the following?						QA4a. What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...?							
	Your personal job situation			The financial situation of your household			Your personal job situation				The financial situation of your household			
	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	53%	30%	17%	63%	35%	2%	17%	61%	11%	11%	18%	60%	19%	3%
Gender														
Men	57%	29%	14%	64%	34%	2%	19%	61%	11%	9%	18%	59%	20%	3%
Women	50%	30%	20%	62%	36%	2%	16%	61%	11%	12%	18%	60%	19%	3%
Age														
15-24	47%	30%	23%	65%	31%	4%	33%	46%	9%	12%	26%	56%	13%	5%
25-39	61%	35%	4%	62%	36%	2%	26%	56%	13%	5%	27%	53%	18%	2%
40-54	61%	34%	5%	61%	38%	1%	17%	64%	14%	5%	18%	58%	21%	3%
55 +	45%	22%	33%	64%	34%	2%	5%	68%	9%	18%	8%	67%	23%	2%
Education (End of)														
15-	37%	35%	28%	51%	47%	2%	7%	64%	14%	15%	10%	61%	25%	4%
16-19	54%	33%	13%	59%	39%	2%	16%	61%	13%	10%	18%	58%	21%	3%
20+	68%	22%	10%	75%	23%	2%	21%	63%	9%	7%	21%	62%	15%	2%
Still studying	45%	21%	34%	70%	25%	5%	33%	46%	5%	16%	25%	59%	10%	6%
Socio-professional category														
Self-employed	67%	31%	2%	67%	31%	2%	24%	58%	14%	4%	22%	57%	18%	3%
Managers	88%	10%	2%	87%	12%	1%	20%	68%	8%	4%	22%	63%	14%	1%
Other white collars	74%	24%	2%	70%	28%	2%	18%	66%	13%	3%	20%	59%	19%	2%
Manual workers	69%	29%	2%	63%	36%	1%	20%	63%	13%	4%	21%	56%	20%	3%
House persons	32%	39%	29%	53%	45%	2%	10%	64%	13%	13%	18%	59%	20%	3%
Unemployed	11%	83%	6%	26%	72%	2%	30%	40%	22%	8%	24%	45%	27%	4%
Retired	39%	19%	42%	63%	34%	3%	3%	67%	7%	23%	6%	69%	23%	2%
Students	45%	21%	34%	70%	25%	5%	33%	46%	5%	16%	25%	59%	10%	6%
Difficulties paying bills														
Most of the time	22%	65%	13%	13%	86%	1%	16%	48%	26%	10%	17%	40%	39%	4%
From time to time	44%	42%	14%	45%	53%	2%	18%	58%	15%	9%	20%	52%	25%	3%
Almost never	65%	16%	19%	82%	16%	2%	17%	65%	7%	11%	17%	68%	13%	2%
Self-positioning on the social staircase														
Low (1-4)	33%	49%	18%	35%	63%	2%	15%	55%	18%	12%	16%	50%	30%	4%
Medium (5-6)	56%	27%	17%	68%	30%	2%	17%	63%	10%	10%	18%	63%	17%	2%
High (7-10)	68%	16%	16%	83%	15%	2%	20%	62%	8%	10%	21%	64%	13%	2%

1.3. The concerns of Europeans

- Rising prices are still by far the main personal concern of Europeans -

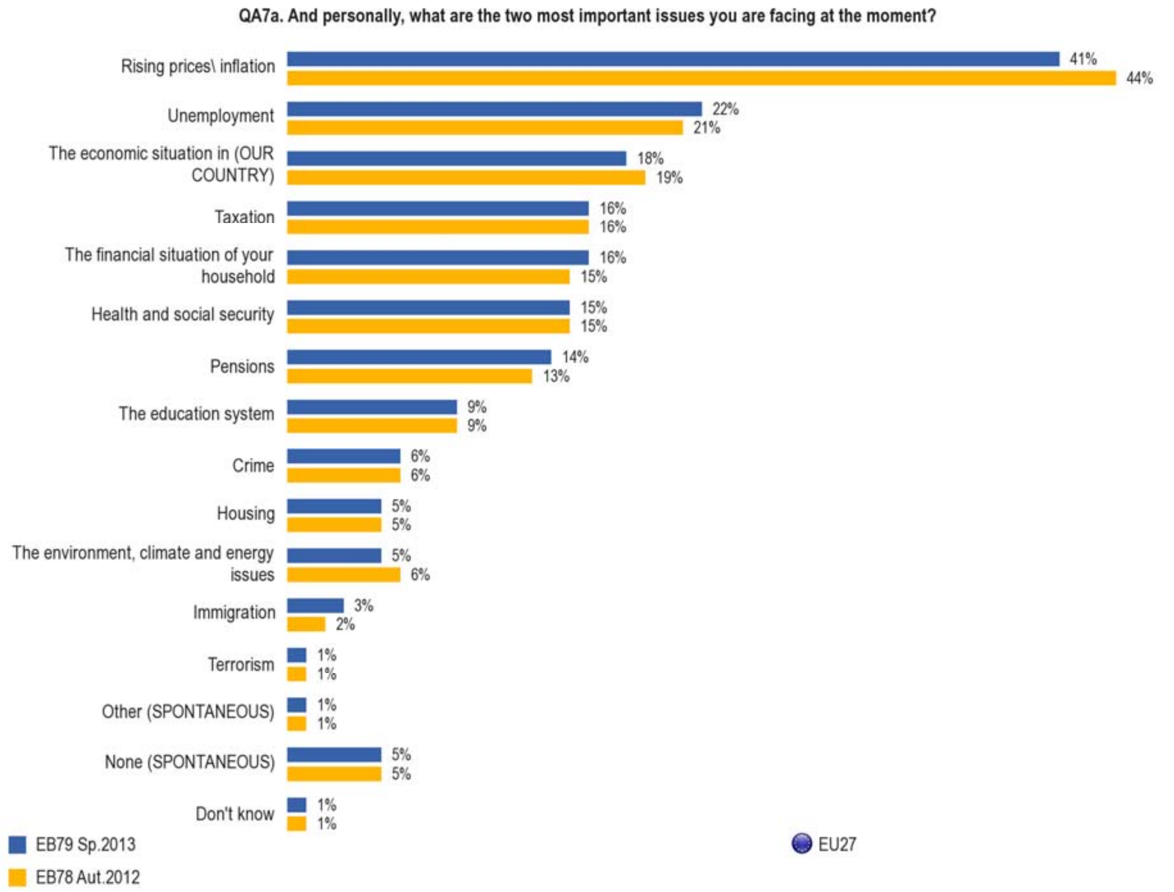
When asked to say what issues they feel they have to face at the moment[13], Europeans give answers which are fairly similar to those recorded in autumn 2012, with some variations in the frequency of the answers.

Rising prices are still the main personal concern of Europeans, despite a slight decline in mentions since the EB78 survey of autumn 2012 (41%, -3).

Unemployment, is still the second-ranked concerns, with a slightly higher score than in the EB78 survey (22%, +1), ahead of **the national economic situation** (18%, -1).

Next, Europeans mentioned **taxation** (16%, =) and, now at the same level, **the household financial situation** (16%, +1). With scores in line with those recorded in autumn 2012, Europeans then mentioned **health and social security** (15%, =), **pensions** (14%, +1) and **the education system** (9%, =).

Crime (6%, =), **housing** (5%, =), **environmental, climate and energy issues** (5%, -1), **immigration** (3%, +1) and **terrorism** (1%, =) still seem to be background issues.



Maximum two answers

[13] QA7 And personally, what are the two most important issues you are facing at the moment? (MAX. 2 ANSWERS)

The main personal concerns are identical in euro area and non-euro area countries: rising prices and unemployment are seen as the two main problems. However, after these two issues, euro area respondents are more likely to be personally concerned about their country's economic situation (19%, versus 16% outside the euro area) and taxation (19% versus 9%), whereas non-euro area respondents are more likely to mention the household financial situation (20%, versus 14% in the euro area) and health and social security (18%, versus 13% in the euro area).

A national analysis reveals that:

- **Rising prices** top the list of personal concerns in 21 Member States, with the highest scores in Slovakia (61%), Estonia (58%), the Czech Republic (58%), Austria (57%) and Lithuania (57%). However, concerns about prices have fallen significantly in several countries: Malta (46%, -15), Bulgaria (44%, -12), Hungary (52%, -12) and Cyprus (24%, -11).

- **Unemployment** is the main personal concern in Spain (43%), where concern has stabilised since autumn 2012. It has increased considerably in Cyprus (40%, +9)

- **The national economic situation** is the main personal concern of respondents in Greece (31%), despite a lower score than in autumn 2012 (-4). Concerns about this issue have increased sharply in Cyprus (34%, +19), but have fallen in Ireland (28%, -9) and Sweden (12%, -6)

- **The household's financial situation** tops the list of personal concerns in Cyprus (43%).

- **Health and social security** is the main personal concern of respondents in Sweden (41%), the Netherlands (28%) and Denmark (21%). This issue has gained ground strongly in Denmark (+11).

- **In the candidate countries**, rising prices are at the forefront of concerns in Montenegro (49%), Croatia (44%), Serbia (41%) and Iceland (38%). In the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, respondents are above all concerned about unemployment (42%). In Turkey, the national economic situation causes most concern (40%), but unemployment has gained significant ground (36%, +9). The very high score recorded for terrorism (24%) in this country is noteworthy.

QA7a. 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)	Taxation	The financial situation of your household	Health and social security	Pensions	The education system	Crime	Housing	The environment, climate and energy issues	Immigration	Terrorism
EU27	41%	22%	18%	16%	16%	15%	14%	9%	6%	5%	5%	3%	1%
BE	43%	18%	17%	20%	9%	11%	10%	6%	11%	4%	10%	8%	3%
BG	44%	26%	25%	4%	27%	22%	16%	7%	6%	2%	3%	1%	0%
CZ	58%	13%	13%	9%	18%	17%	16%	6%	3%	9%	4%	1%	0%
DK	20%	19%	17%	8%	14%	21%	15%	12%	7%	6%	8%	3%	2%
DE	46%	9%	8%	13%	13%	14%	19%	12%	5%	3%	9%	3%	1%
EE	58%	15%	11%	18%	18%	20%	17%	10%	2%	4%	2%	1%	0%
IE	35%	33%	28%	22%	19%	14%	6%	7%	8%	5%	3%	5%	1%
EL	28%	27%	31%	30%	24%	12%	14%	9%	8%	0%	1%	1%	1%
ES	28%	43%	31%	16%	13%	13%	11%	10%	2%	5%	1%	1%	0%
FR	49%	19%	13%	13%	17%	13%	17%	9%	10%	9%	5%	3%	1%
IT	41%	25%	24%	37%	8%	6%	7%	3%	5%	3%	2%	3%	3%
CY	24%	40%	34%	3%	43%	9%	8%	6%	6%	2%	1%	2%	0%
LV	33%	23%	24%	19%	19%	22%	12%	9%	2%	8%	2%	2%	0%
LT	57%	20%	14%	36%	11%	14%	9%	6%	2%	5%	1%	2%	0%
LU	40%	12%	11%	14%	10%	7%	13%	20%	9%	14%	9%	8%	1%
HU	52%	28%	22%	5%	32%	14%	11%	6%	5%	6%	3%	1%	0%
MT	46%	10%	18%	10%	15%	10%	13%	10%	2%	4%	21%	7%	1%
AT	57%	12%	11%	11%	17%	16%	11%	11%	5%	10%	6%	4%	2%
NL	27%	16%	25%	9%	19%	28%	16%	16%	5%	8%	10%	2%	0%
PL	52%	27%	13%	6%	15%	16%	12%	4%	2%	3%	1%	2%	1%
PT	51%	31%	23%	23%	17%	10%	15%	3%	1%	2%	1%	0%	0%
RO	47%	18%	24%	12%	24%	23%	15%	6%	7%	5%	3%	2%	1%
SI	33%	20%	21%	15%	21%	10%	16%	10%	3%	6%	3%	0%	1%
SK	61%	16%	15%	6%	22%	15%	13%	9%	2%	9%	5%	0%	1%
FI	36%	18%	17%	14%	14%	32%	14%	8%	6%	6%	10%	4%	0%
SE	4%	18%	12%	5%	20%	41%	18%	31%	7%	11%	24%	6%	1%
UK	34%	18%	14%	9%	21%	16%	17%	12%	8%	7%	6%	10%	3%
CY (tcc)	46%	30%	30%	13%	18%	8%	5%	6%	14%	4%	4%	5%	4%
HR	44%	32%	27%	8%	30%	8%	15%	4%	2%	6%	2%	0%	0%
MK	38%	42%	29%	6%	19%	8%	5%	5%	8%	3%	5%	2%	1%
IS	38%	9%	22%	17%	25%	24%	12%	16%	1%	14%	9%	1%	0%
ME	49%	27%	24%	8%	25%	10%	7%	6%	5%	7%	2%	1%	1%
RS	41%	31%	28%	4%	33%	9%	4%	7%	10%	6%	2%	1%	1%
TR	23%	36%	40%	13%	3%	7%	3%	9%	8%	3%	10%	3%	24%

Highest percentage per country *Lowest percentage per country*

Highest percentage per item Lowest percentage per item

Maximum two answers

A socio-demographic analysis reveals that:

- Rising prices are the main personal concern in all categories, except for unemployed people, a large majority of whom mention unemployment (72%).
- Young people are more likely than average to be concerned about unemployment (29%) and housing (10%).
- Self-employed people are very likely to mention taxation (33%) and the national economic situation (26%). Managers are particularly concerned about the education system (18%). White-collar and manual workers are more likely than average to be concerned about rising prices (47% and 49%).

Managers (19/14) and white-collar workers (22/17) are more likely to be concerned about their country's economic situation than about their household's financial situation, but the situation is reversed for manual workers (18/19) and unemployed people (17/24). Respondents who almost never have difficulties paying their bills are more likely to be concerned about their county's economic situation (16/10), while those who have these difficulties most of the time are far more concerned about their household's financial situation (20/32).

QA7a. 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)	Taxation	The financial situation of your household	Health and social security
EU27	41%	22%	18%	16%	16%	15%
Gender						
Men	39%	21%	19%	18%	16%	13%
Women	43%	22%	17%	14%	17%	16%
Age						
15-24	34%	29%	16%	9%	14%	7%
25-39	45%	26%	20%	18%	19%	11%
40-54	42%	24%	21%	19%	21%	13%
55 +	42%	13%	14%	14%	12%	22%
Education (End of)						
15-	44%	22%	16%	15%	14%	16%
16-19	46%	23%	18%	17%	18%	14%
20+	37%	17%	20%	16%	15%	17%
Still studying	28%	25%	17%	6%	13%	7%
Socio-professional category						
Self-employed	35%	12%	26%	33%	15%	13%
Managers	39%	10%	19%	18%	14%	14%
Other white collars	47%	16%	22%	20%	17%	12%
Manual workers	49%	19%	18%	18%	19%	13%
House persons	46%	28%	18%	23%	17%	14%
Unemployed	33%	72%	17%	6%	24%	8%
Retired	42%	10%	13%	10%	12%	24%
Students	28%	25%	17%	6%	13%	7%
Difficulties paying bills						
Most of the time	40%	43%	20%	13%	32%	9%
From time to time	46%	25%	20%	18%	22%	12%
Almost never	40%	15%	16%	15%	10%	18%

Maximum two answers – Six most frequently mentioned items

The tables below present the socio-demographic in the six largest EU countries, and in four countries which have been particularly affected by the economic crisis.

QA7a And personally, what are the two most important issues you are facing at the moment?

Unemployment

	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
Gender										
Men	9%	42%	18%	25%	26%	18%	25%	31%	35%	33%
Women	10%	43%	20%	26%	29%	18%	30%	30%	31%	46%
Age										
15-24	12%	47%	28%	32%	45%	33%	31%	30%	44%	48%
25-39	12%	49%	27%	28%	33%	21%	33%	40%	40%	40%
40-54	12%	51%	21%	26%	28%	19%	33%	40%	33%	51%
55 +	6%	29%	9%	21%	12%	8%	16%	18%	17%	26%
Education (End of)										
15-	10%	42%	8%	27%	19%	12%	20%	29%	29%	34%
16-19	13%	50%	21%	22%	29%	21%	36%	37%	37%	49%
20+	4%	38%	19%	28%	25%	9%	24%	34%	26%	37%
Still studying	6%	37%	27%	37%	35%	39%	24%	23%	47%	33%
Socio-professional category										
Self-employed	1%	22%	2%	16%	10%	10%	14%	23%	24%	29%
Managers	1%	41%	12%	27%	18%	5%	6%	19%	24%	19%
Other white collars	11%	33%	14%	19%	18%	10%	19%	22%	22%	34%
Manual workers	9%	29%	18%	26%	31%	14%	27%	20%	29%	32%
House persons	15%	34%	25%	26%	47%	31%	28%	26%	35%	43%
Unemployed	72%	86%	73%	62%	73%	57%	84%	83%	67%	90%
Retired	4%	22%	8%	21%	10%	7%	9%	11%	11%	18%
Students	6%	37%	27%	37%	35%	39%	24%	23%	47%	33%

QA7a And personally, what are the two most important issues you are facing at the moment?

Rising prices/ inflation

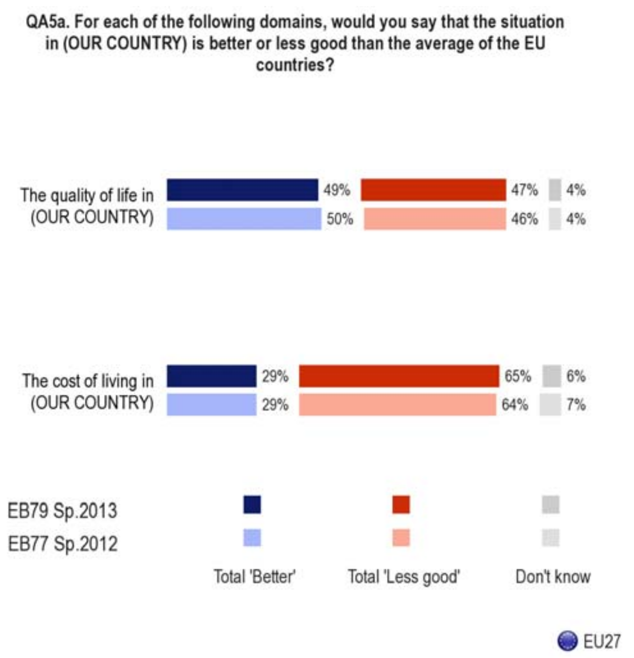
	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
Gender										
Men	44%	27%	43%	41%	51%	31%	27%	46%	33%	25%
Women	48%	29%	54%	41%	54%	37%	28%	55%	37%	23%
Age										
15-24	38%	23%	35%	33%	41%	30%	19%	45%	24%	22%
25-39	48%	29%	57%	46%	56%	40%	30%	54%	35%	29%
40-54	49%	25%	49%	42%	56%	32%	31%	46%	36%	20%
55 +	46%	33%	49%	41%	53%	33%	28%	54%	41%	24%
Education (End of)										
15-	53%	29%	55%	42%	62%	36%	34%	54%	40%	26%
16-19	52%	28%	52%	45%	54%	36%	27%	50%	38%	21%
20+	38%	26%	49%	38%	52%	33%	28%	44%	33%	25%
Still studying	28%	16%	30%	26%	36%	24%	17%	43%	23%	25%
Socio-professional category										
Self-employed	31%	26%	42%	40%	49%	21%	35%	37%	34%	25%
Managers	42%	16%	48%	42%	48%	38%	34%	51%	33%	26%
Other white collars	55%	30%	53%	46%	55%	47%	28%	38%	35%	23%
Manual workers	59%	38%	56%	49%	59%	35%	29%	62%	40%	39%
House persons	51%	37%	61%	43%	72%	43%	38%	53%	37%	26%
Unemployed	51%	17%	49%	29%	44%	31%	19%	41%	28%	9%
Retired	44%	33%	47%	40%	55%	35%	28%	55%	45%	25%
Students	28%	16%	30%	26%	36%	24%	17%	43%	23%	25%

2. Social and societal aspects

2.1. Perceptions of the national situation

Almost half of Europeans think that the quality of life in their country is better than in the European Union on average[14]: 49%, a decline of one percentage point since the spring 2012 Standard Eurobarometer survey. But public opinion is sharply divided on this subject and 47% (+1) instead say that it is "less good".

Europeans are more critical of the cost of living: almost two-thirds think that the situation in their country is worse than the EU average (65%, +1, versus 29% "better", =).



A national analysis shows that:

- **Perceptions differ significantly in the euro area and non-euro area countries**: a majority of respondents in the euro area countries consider that the **quality of life** in their country is better than the EU average (56%, versus 40% for "less good"), whereas non-euro area respondents tend to think the quality of life is worse in their own country (37%, versus 58% for "less good"). The impression that the quality of life in their country is worse than the EU average is more widespread in the NMS12 countries (84%, versus 12% for "better"), whereas six out of ten respondents in the EU15 countries say that the situation in their country is "better" than the EU average (60%, versus 36% for "less good").

- However, when it comes to comparing the national **cost of living** with the rest of the EU, a majority of respondents think that the national situation is worse than the European average whether they are in non-euro area countries (71%) or euro area countries (61%).

- This difference also applies, but in very different proportions, to the EU15 countries and the NMS12 countries: 58% of EU15 respondents think that their situation is worse, compared with 86% in the NMS12 countries.

[14] QA5.3-4 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/the cost of living in (OUR COUNTRY)

- The feeling that the **quality of life** is better in their country than the EU average is exceptionally widespread (more than 80%) in Northern European countries (Finland, Denmark, the Netherlands, Sweden, Luxembourg and, to a lesser extent, Belgium), and in Austria and Germany. More than 80% of respondents take the opposite view in eight Member States, led by Bulgaria (94% of respondents think that the quality of life in their country is worse than the EU average), Romania (91%) and Portugal (87%).

- There have been significant evolutions on this subject: perceptions have improved considerably in Malta (index[15] up by 38 points to +44) and Hungary, even if they remain very largely negative (+13 points, but an index of -74). However, perceptions have deteriorated in Cyprus (-56 to -21) and Slovenia (-14 to -43), and also in Ireland (-28 to +5) and France (-18 to +47) where the index is still positive.

- A majority of respondents in only six Member States say that the **cost of living** in their country is better than the EU average: Germany (61%), Sweden (59%), Austria (58%), Denmark (54%), Luxembourg (52%) and the Netherlands (51%). This view has gained significant ground since spring 2012 in some countries: Denmark (+18 index points), Germany (+15), Belgium (+24), Malta (+15), Hungary (+14), Ireland (+12) and Luxembourg (+11). However perceptions have deteriorated significantly in Cyprus (-31 index points), France (-21) and the United Kingdom (-13).

In the candidate countries, respondents are more likely to say that the national cost of living compares unfavourably with the EU on average. Iceland is the only country where a very clear majority of respondents believe that their **quality of life** is better (83%). Perceptions have improved in Montenegro (+13 index points, although the index is still very negative at -60).

[15] Difference between the proportion of people polled who consider that their country's situation is "less good than the average of the EU countries" and that of those who answered "better than the average of the EU countries"

QA5a. 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)		
	Total 'Better' - Total 'Less good' EB77 Sp.2012	Total 'Better' - Total 'Less good' EB79 Sp.2013	Diff. Sp.2013 - Sp.2012
EU27	+4	+2	**-2**
EU15	+25	+24	**-1**
NMS12	-72	-72	**=**
MT	+6	+44	**+38**
HU	-87	-74	**+13**
DE	+65	+74	**+9**
LT	-81	-73	**+8**
EL	-61	-54	**+7**
BE	+61	+64	**+3**
BG	-94	-91	**+3**
NL	+72	+75	**+3**
LV	-70	-68	**+2**
EE	-60	-59	**+1**
AT	+79	+79	**=**
FI	+83	+83	**=**
SE	+76	+76	**=**
CZ	-49	-50	**-1**
RO	-85	-86	**-1**
UK	+33	+32	**-1**
IT	-42	-44	**-2**
ES	-38	-41	**-3**
DK	+87	+83	**-4**
LU	+87	+83	**-4**
PT	-74	-78	**-4**
SK	-60	-64	**-4**
PL	-66	-73	**-7**
SI	-29	-43	**-14**
FR	+65	+47	**-18**
IE	+33	+5	**-28**
CY	+35	-21	**-56**
CY (tcc)	-53	-67	**-14**
ME	-73	-60	**+13**
IS	+62	+70	**+8**
MK	-71	-66	**+5**
RS	-74	-70	**+4**
HR	-57	-58	**-1**
TR	-11	-17	**-6**

	The cost of living in (OUR COUNTRY)		
	Total 'Better' - Total 'Less good' EB77 Sp.2012	Total 'Better' - Total 'Less good' EB79 Sp.2013	Diff. Sp.2013 - Sp.2012
EU27	-35	-36	**-1**
EU15	-22	-23	**-1**
NMS12	-77	-75	**+2**
BE	-25	-1	**+24**
DK	-7	+11	**+18**
DE	+13	+28	**+15**
MT	-51	-36	**+15**
HU	-89	-75	**+14**
IE	-75	-63	**+12**
LU	-5	+6	**+11**
LT	-89	-81	**+8**
EL	-93	-87	**+6**
BG	-94	-90	**+4**
EE	-78	-74	**+4**
PT	-81	-78	**+3**
ES	-58	-56	**+2**
RO	-88	-86	**+2**
LV	-66	-65	**+1**
SK	-77	-76	**+1**
CZ	-70	-71	**-1**
SE	+23	+22	**-1**
NL	+10	+7	**-3**
IT	-66	-70	**-4**
PL	-64	-70	**-6**
FI	-31	-37	**-6**
SI	-69	-76	**-7**
AT	+29	+21	**-8**
UK	-6	-19	**-13**
FR	-4	-25	**-21**
CY	-53	-84	**-31**
CY (tcc)	-56	-75	**-19**
HR	-84	-76	**+8**
IS	-36	-29	**+7**
ME	-69	-67	**+2**
MK	-75	-74	**+1**
RS	-78	-77	**+1**
TR	-12	-18	**-6**

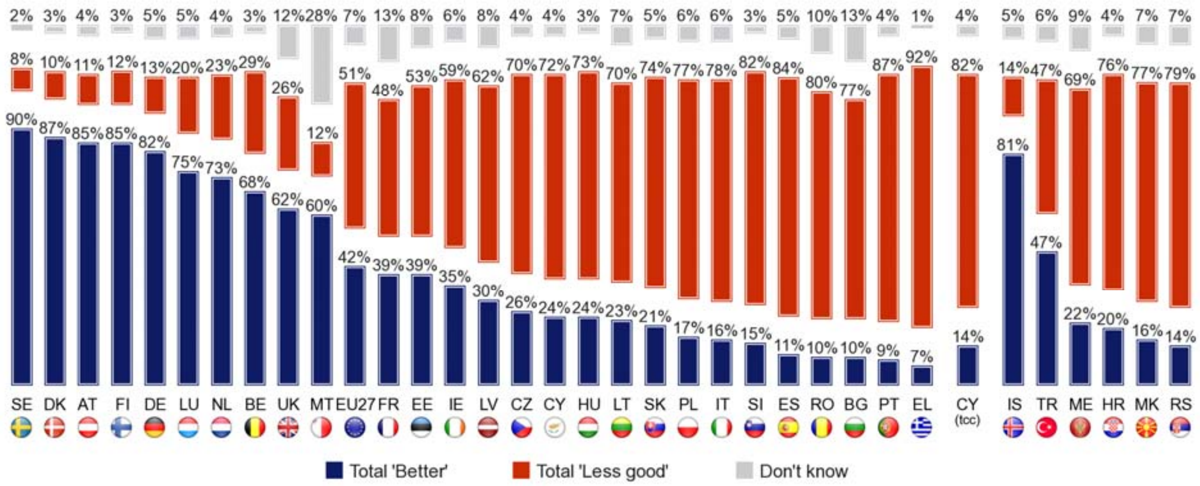
Perceptions vary slightly according to the socio-demographic categories: managers are more positive than white-collar and manual workers about their country's situation compared with that of the other EU countries, as are the respondents who almost never have difficulties paying their bills compared with those who have difficulties most of the time.

2.2. Opinions on future prospects

When asked to compare the situation in their country with the European average in terms of prospects for the future[16], a narrow majority of Europeans consider that the future looks "less good": 51%, two percentage points higher than in spring 2012 (versus 42% for "better", -1).

QA5a.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)



As with the previous indicators, there is a slight gap between the perceptions of respondents in the euro area countries (43% answered "better") and non-euro area respondents (39%). But there is a more marked difference between the EU15 countries, where a narrow majority of respondents say that the outlook in their country is "better" than the EU average (48%, versus 45% for "less good"), and the NMS12 countries where the opposite is true (17/76).

Reasonably enough, the respondents who are the most positive about their country's future prospects are those who are the most upbeat about their country's situation compared with the rest of the EU: Sweden (90% of respondents think that their country's future prospects are better), Denmark (87%), Austria (85%), Finland (85%) and Germany (82%). By contrast, respondents in Greece (92% think that their country's situation is "less good") and Portugal (87%) are the most pessimistic.

As with other indicators, perceptions have improved considerably in Malta (60%, +24 for "better"), while they have deteriorated sharply in Cyprus (24%, -29) and Slovakia (21%, -12), as well as in France, which has now tipped into pessimism (39%, -16).

In the candidate countries, once again respondents in Iceland are very positive (81% of respondents think that their country's future prospects are better), while opinions are evenly balanced in Turkey. A majority of respondents are negative in Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia.

[16] QA5a.7 For each of the following domains, would you say that the situation in (OUR COUNTRY) is better or worse than the average of the EU countries? Prospects for the future

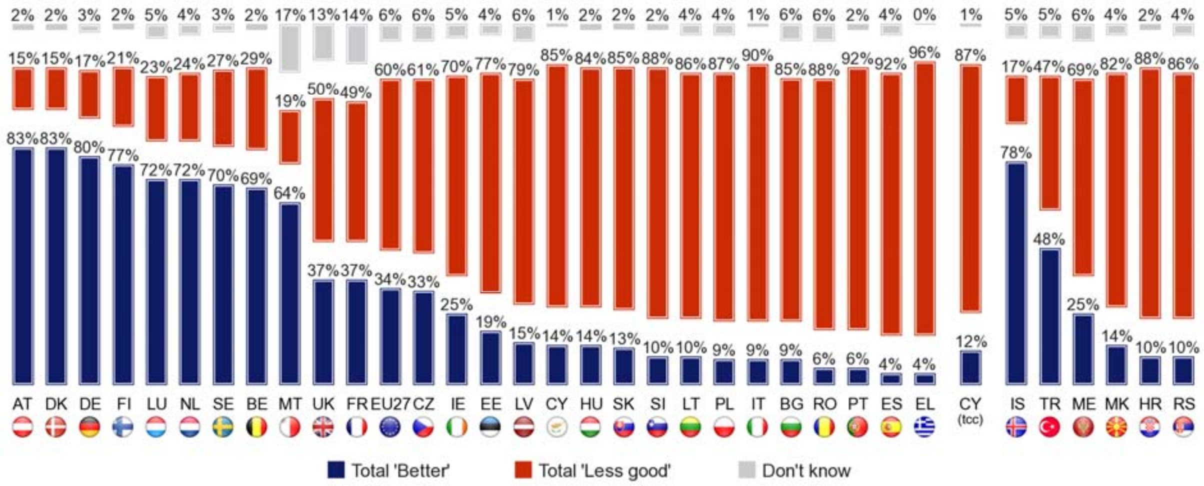
2.3. Opinions on the situation of young people at national level

Europeans' evaluations of the situation of young people in their country[17] reveal the same trends as those noted for the other indicators, that is to say results which are generally unchanged since spring 2012, some very sharp differences between Member States, and striking changes in some countries.

Six out of ten Europeans consider that the situation of young people in their country is "less good" than the EU average (60%, +1, versus 34%, -1).

QA5a.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)



Respondents in the euro area countries are slightly more positive than those in the non-euro area countries (39% consider that their country's situation is "better", versus 26% outside the euro area), but there are sharper differences between the EU15 (41%) and the NMS12 (12%) countries.

A majority of respondents are positive about the situation of young people in their country in nine Member States, the same countries as those where they are also positive about their country's future prospects: Austria, Denmark, Germany, Finland, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Sweden, Belgium and Malta.

The United Kingdom is the exception: although future prospects are judged favourably, the situation of young people is viewed in a more negative light, a majority (50% versus 37%) of respondents thinking that the national situation is less good than in the EU countries on average.

Once again, perceptions have improved significantly in Malta (64% "better", +19) and have deteriorated in Cyprus (14%, -25).

[17] QA5a.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 the candidate countries, a very large majority of respondents in Iceland are positive (78% consider that the situation in their country is "better" than the EU average), as are a narrow majority in Turkey (48% versus 47%). In contrast, majorities in Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia consider that their country's situation is "less good".

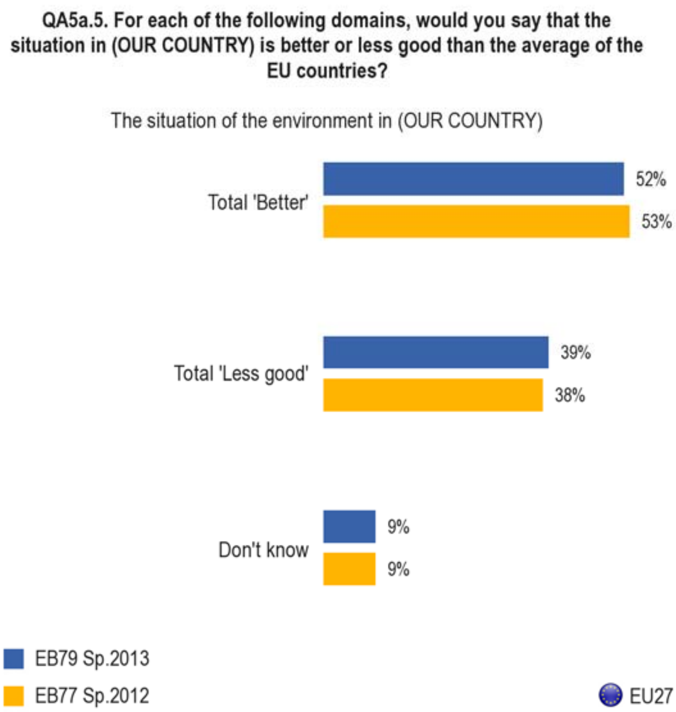
A socio-demographic analysis reveals that:

- The perceptions of 15-24 year-olds are fairly similar to those of older respondents: 38% consider that the situation of young people in their country is better, compared with 34% on average and 34% of Europeans in the 55+ age group.
- There are sharper differences between Europeans who studied up to the age of 20 or beyond (42% think that the situation is "better") and those who left school before the age of 16 (26%); between managers (48%) and white-collar workers (36%) and manual workers (33%); and above all between the Europeans who almost never have difficulties paying their bills (42%) and those who have difficulties most of the time (19%).

2.4. The current situation of the environment at national level

A majority of Europeans consider that the situation of the environment is better in their country than in the European Union on average[18]: 52%, more or less unchanged since the spring 2012 EB77 survey (-1 percentage point, versus 39% for "less good", +1).

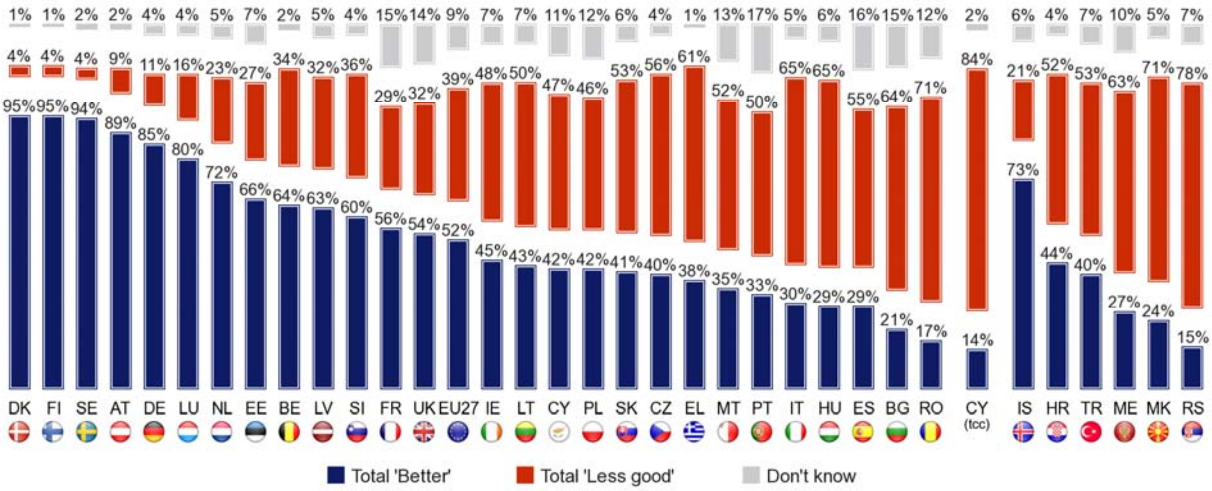
To differing degrees, this view is shared by a majority of respondents in the euro area and non-euro area countries alike (55% and 46%). It is also shared by a majority of respondents in the EU15 countries (57%), but only by a minority in the NMS12 countries (35% versus 55%).



[18] QA5a.5 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 environment

QA5a.5. 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 environment in (OUR COUNTRY)



A majority of respondents in 13 Member States think that the situation of the environment is better in their country than in the EU on average, with particularly high scores in the Nordic countries (95% in Denmark, 95% in Finland and 94% in Sweden).

In contrast, the feeling that the national situation is "less good" than in the EU on average is fairly widespread in several Eastern European countries (71% in Romania, 65% in Hungary and 64% in Bulgaria) and in Southern Europe (65% in Italy and 61% in Greece).

As noted for many other indicators, perceptions have deteriorated significantly since spring 2012 in Cyprus (47% for "less good", +15); in this instance, this is also true of Ireland (48%, +18).

In the candidate countries, Iceland is the only country where a majority of respondents say that the situation of the environment in their country is better than the EU on average (73%). All the other candidate countries are predominantly negative in this regard, especially Serbia (78% for "less good").

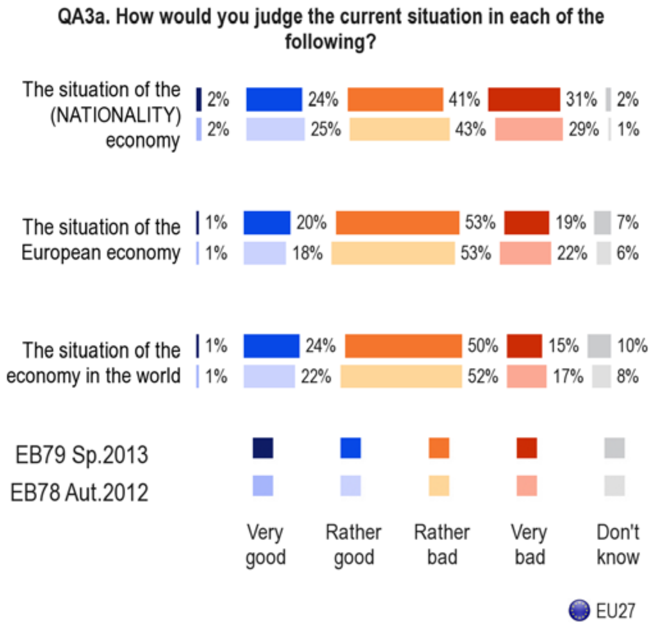
3. Economic aspects

3.1. Evaluations of the current economic situation

- Overall, opinions on the national economy and employment are stable, while perceptions of the European and world economies are less negative -

3.1.1. The national, European and world situations

More than seven out of ten Europeans consider that their country's economic situation is poor[19]**,** in proportions similar to those recorded in the EB78 survey of autumn 2012 (72%, unchanged, versus 26% who consider that it is "good", -1). However, the proportion of Europeans who consider that the situation of their national economy is "very bad" has increased slightly (31%, +2).



Opinions on the economic situation in the European Union, which were more gloomy than for the national economy in autumn 2012, have improved slightly, while remaining very largely negative: 72% of Europeans consider that the situation of the European economy is bad, three percentage points less than in autumn 2012. The proportion of Europeans who say that the European economic situation is "very bad" has declined (19%, -3).

Opinions of the world economic situation are slightly less critical, and have improved a little since autumn 2012,: a quarter of Europeans say it is good, slightly more than in autumn 2012 (+2 percentage points). Fewer respondents think that it is bad (65%, -4), and the "DK" rate has increased (10%, +2).

An analysis of the differences in perceptions between euro area and non-euro area countries reveals that:

- As in autumn 2012, the differences are fairly small in the case of the national economy (28% say it is good in the euro area countries (unchanged), compared with 23%, -1, outside the euro area, whereas the ratio was 34/24 in spring 2011). There are more striking differences between EU15 (30%) and NMS12 countries (16%).

[19] QA3a.1-3 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

- Euro area respondents continue to be more critical of the European economic situation (17% say that it is good, +1 percentage point since autumn 2012) and the economic situation in the world (22%, +3), than non-euro area respondents (28%, +4 and 30%, +2). Results in EU15 and NMS12 countries are similarly contrasting.

- Respondents in the euro area and EU15 countries thus continue to be more positive about their national economy than the European and world economies, in contrast to non-euro area and NMS12 respondents.

QA3a. 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	26%	72%	21%	72%	25%	65%
EURO AREA	28%	71%	17%	78%	22%	70%
NON-EURO AREA	23%	75%	28%	62%	30%	57%
EU15	30%	69%	16%	78%	22%	69%
NMS12	16%	82%	36%	54%	35%	51%

The national economic situation

- A majority of respondents in seven Member States are positive about their country's economic situation. For six of them, this was already the case in autumn 2012: Sweden (80%), Germany (77%), Luxembourg (75%), Austria (63%), Denmark (58%) and Finland (53%). They have been joined by Malta where evaluations have improved considerably (62%, +18 percentage points).

- In addition to Malta, evaluations of the national economic situation have improved significantly since autumn 2012 in Belgium, after a sharp deterioration between spring and autumn 2012 (33%, +13), and Lithuania (29%, +10).

- However, the proportion of respondents who judge their country's economic situation as "good" has fallen in Poland (22%, -9), the Netherlands (34%, -8) and Portugal (4%, -7).

- Portugal is also one of the ten Member States where negative opinions of the national economic situation reach at least 90% (along with Spain, Greece, Cyprus, Slovenia, Bulgaria, Italy, Ireland, France and Romania).

- As we have seen above, the proportion of respondents who consider that the situation in their country is "very bad" has increased since autumn 2012, in particular in Bulgaria (53%, +14) and Cyprus (78%, +13).

- In the candidate countries, positive assessments of the national economic situation are in the minority, except in Turkey where they have gained ground significantly (51%, +12). Negative opinions exceed 90% in Croatia (97%) and Serbia (92%).

The European economic situation

- The impression that the European economic situation is bad is the majority view in all Member States, except Lithuania (51% evaluate the European economic situation as "good", versus 39%) and Estonia where a very narrow majority of respondents say the situation is good (45% for "good", versus 44%). 80% or more of respondents in seven Member States say that the European economic situation is bad: Italy (88%), Portugal (87%), Cyprus (86%), Sweden (86%), Ireland (84%), Spain (83%) and Greece (81%).

- However, this view has lost significant ground since autumn 2012 in Belgium (76%, -10), Hungary (64%, -10) and Estonia (44%, -10).

- Positive evaluations of the European economic situation have gained the most ground in Romania, where respondents are nevertheless still predominantly critical (39% of "good" answers, +10), and in Estonia (45%, +10).

The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia is the only candidate country where a majority of respondents say that the European economic situation is "good" (60% versus 33%). But opinions are evenly balanced in Turkey (44/44 after a significant improvement, +13).

The world economic situation

- Evaluations are again predominantly negative in almost all Member States, except for Lithuania (47% "good" versus 37%) and Bulgaria, where opinions are evenly divided (39/39).

- Although respondents are less critical than of the national or European economic situations, 80% or more are nevertheless negative about the world economic situation in four countries: Italy (82%), Cyprus (82%), Greece (81%) and Spain (80%).

- Changes since autumn 2012 are less marked for this indicator, though evaluations have improved in Belgium (24%, +8), Romania (32%, +8) and Denmark (34%, +8).

- **In the candidate countries**, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia is once again the only country where a majority of respondents think that the situation is "good" (55/36). In Turkey, respondents are more critical than they are about the European economic situation (38/49).

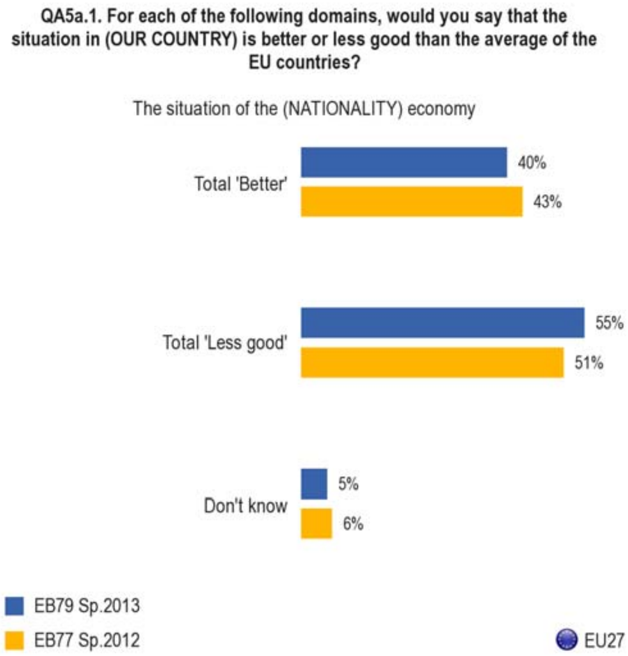
A socio-demographic analysis reveals that:

- In the case of the national economic situation, opinions vary little with the age of respondents but more significantly with their education. While 33% of Europeans who studied up to the age of 20 or beyond describe the economic situation in their country as "good", only 20% of Europeans who left school before the age of 16 do so. Similarly, managers are more positive (40%) than white-collar (26%) and manual workers (25%). The Europeans who almost never have difficulties paying their bills (34%) are also far more likely to be positive about the national economic situation than those who often have these difficulties (10%).

- When evaluating the European economic situation, 15-24 year-olds are more positive (30%) than those in the 55+ age group (17%), but there are fewer differences between managers (24%), white-collar workers (20%) and manual workers (22%).

Opinions on the national economic situation compared with the European average

When directly asked to compare their country's economic situation with the EU average[20], a majority of Europeans, increased since spring 2012, say that it is "less good" (55%, +4, versus 40%, -3 "better").



[20] QA5a.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

There are few differences between euro area and non-euro area respondents (41% say that their national situation is better in the euro area countries versus 37% in the non-euro area). However, the differences between the EU15 countries (47%) and the NMS12 countries (13%) are far greater.

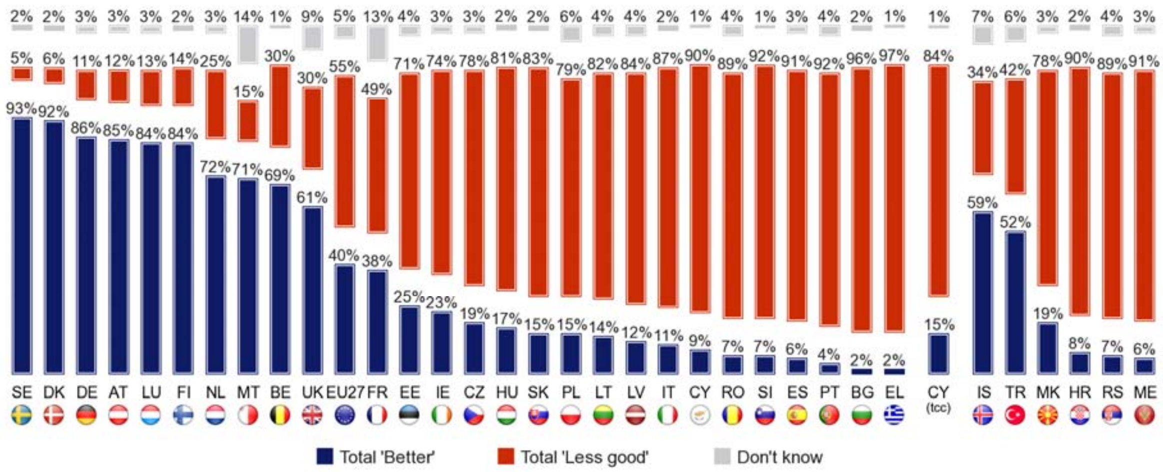
A majority of respondents in ten Member States believe that their country's economic situation is better than the EU average. These include the countries in which a majority of respondents described the national economic situation as "good": Sweden, Denmark, Germany, Austria, Luxembourg, Finland and Malta. But this is also the majority view in some countries where a majority of respondents evaluate their national economic situation as bad: Belgium, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom.

The proportion of respondents who feel that the economic situation in their country is "less good" than the EU average exceeds 70% in a majority of Member States (16 in total). This view has gained ground since spring 2012 in Cyprus (90%, +39), Poland (79%, +12), and France, where opinion has reversed after a sharp downturn (49%, +16, versus 38% of "better" answers, -19).

In the candidate countries, a very large majority of respondents in Montenegro (91%), Croatia (90%), Serbia (89%) and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (78%) believe that the economic situation in their country is "less good" than the EU average. In contrast, majorities in Iceland (59%) and Turkey (52%) consider that their national economic situation is "better" than the European average, with higher scores in both cases than in spring 2012 (+9 percentage points in Iceland and +2 in Turkey).

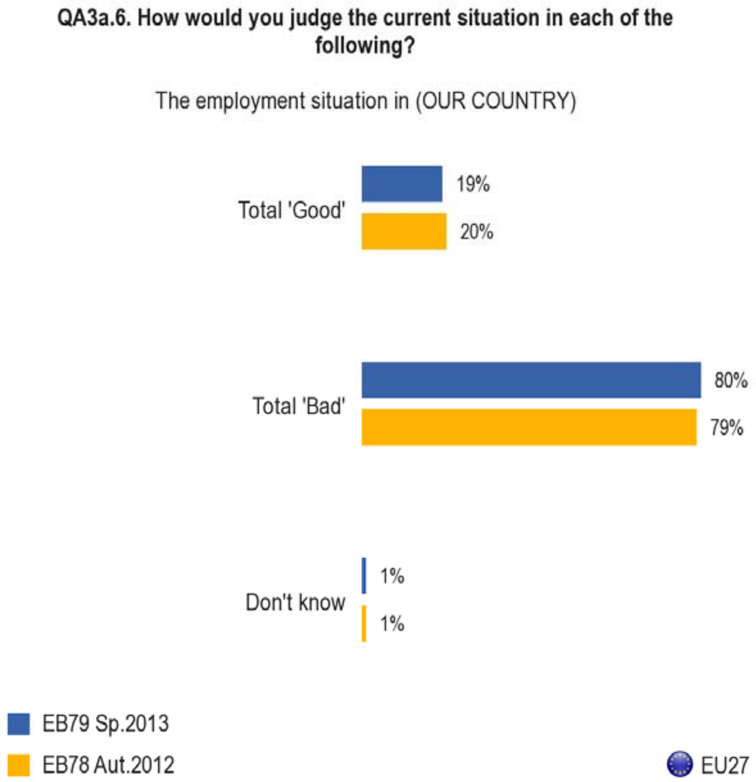
QA5a.1. For each of the following domains, would you say that the situation in (OUR COUNTRY) is better or less good than the average of the EU countries?

The situation of the (NATIONALITY) economy



3.1.2. Employment

A large majority of Europeans consider that the employment situation in their country is "bad"[21] (80%), an increase of one percentage point since the autumn 2012 survey (EB78) and three percentage points higher than in spring 2012 (EB77). In particular, the proportion who say that the employment situation in their country is "very bad" exceeds 40% (42%, +4 since autumn 2012). Less than two in ten Europeans now describe the employment situation in their country as "good" (19%, -1).



A national analysis shows that:

- Opinions of the national employment situation are fairly similar inside the euro area (21% describe the situation as "good", =) and outside it (15%, -1).

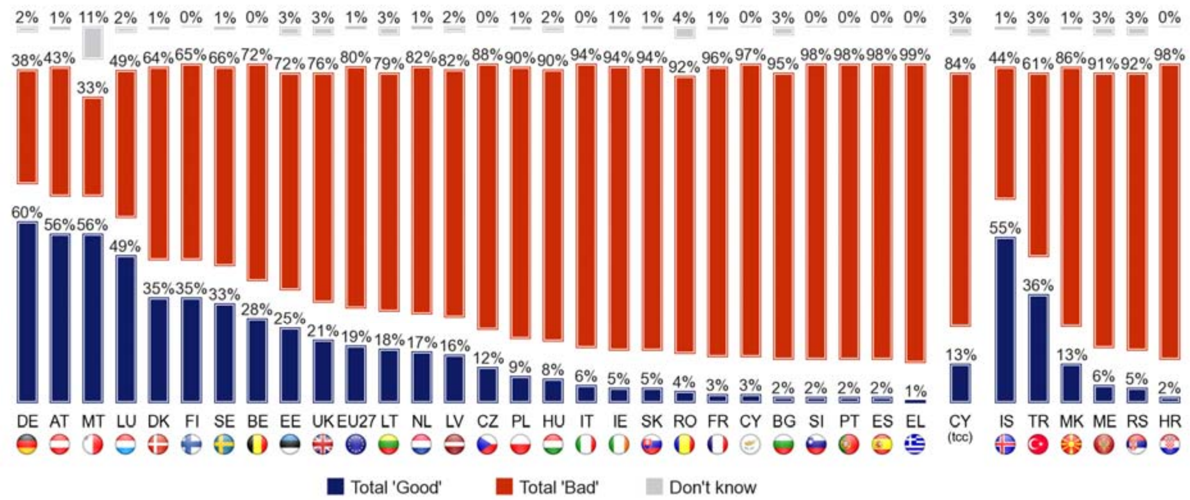
- Only three Member States are predominantly positive about employment in their country: Germany (60%), Austria (56%) and Malta (56%). Opinions are evenly balanced in Luxembourg (49/49).

- In terms of the most significant evolutions since autumn 2012, respondents are far more positive in Malta (56%, +16), where this is now the majority position, but are much less so in the Netherlands (17%, -12). The proportion of respondents who consider that the national employment situation is "very bad" has increased sharply in Portugal (67%, +13), Bulgaria (61%, +13) and Cyprus (69%, +10). It exceeds 70% in Spain (86%), Greece (78%) and Slovenia (76%).

[21] QA3a.6 How would you judge the current situation in each of the following? The employment situation in (OUR COUNTRY)

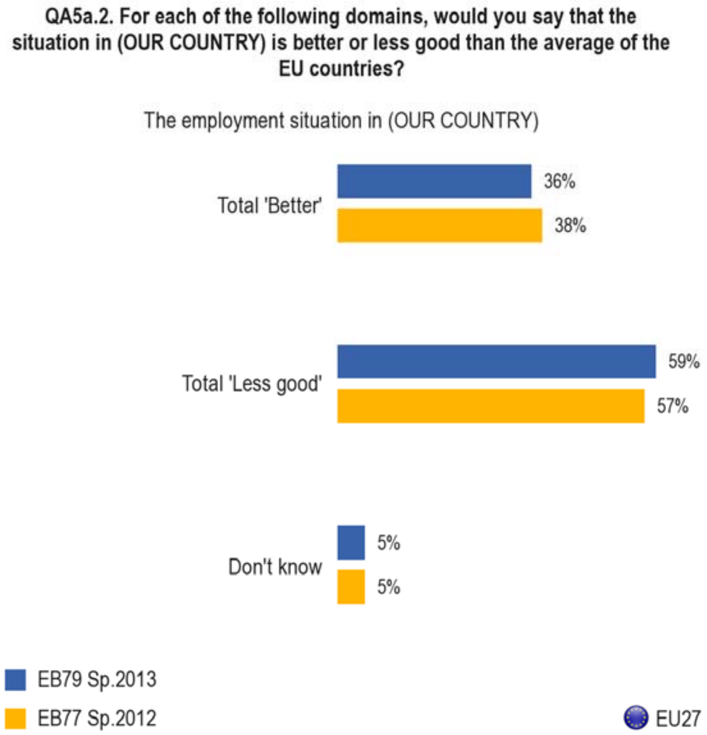
- Iceland stands out among the candidate countries in that a majority of respondents there now consider that their national employment situation is “good”, with a significant improvement since autumn 2012 (55%, +12). In Croatia, 98% of respondents say that the country’s employment situation is bad.

QA3a.6. How would you judge the current situation in each of the following?
The employment situation in (OUR COUNTRY)



Perceptions of the national employment situation compared with the European Union average

When asked to compare the employment situation in their country with the average of the EU countries[22], an even larger majority of Europeans than in spring 2012 believe that it is "less good" (59%, +2, versus 36% "better", -2).



Respondents in the euro area, where 38% described their national situation as "better", are slightly more positive than non-euro area respondents (32%). The differences between the EU15 countries (43%) and the NMS12 countries (10%) are more marked.

A majority of respondents in 10 Member States consider that the employment situation is better in their country than in the rest of the EU. These countries include Austria (84%), Germany (82%), Luxembourg (81%) and Malta (67%), where evaluations of the national employment situation are mainly positive or evenly divided, but also Denmark (88%), Sweden (83%), Finland (79%), the Netherlands (67%), Belgium (64%) and the United Kingdom (52%), where opinions are predominantly negative.

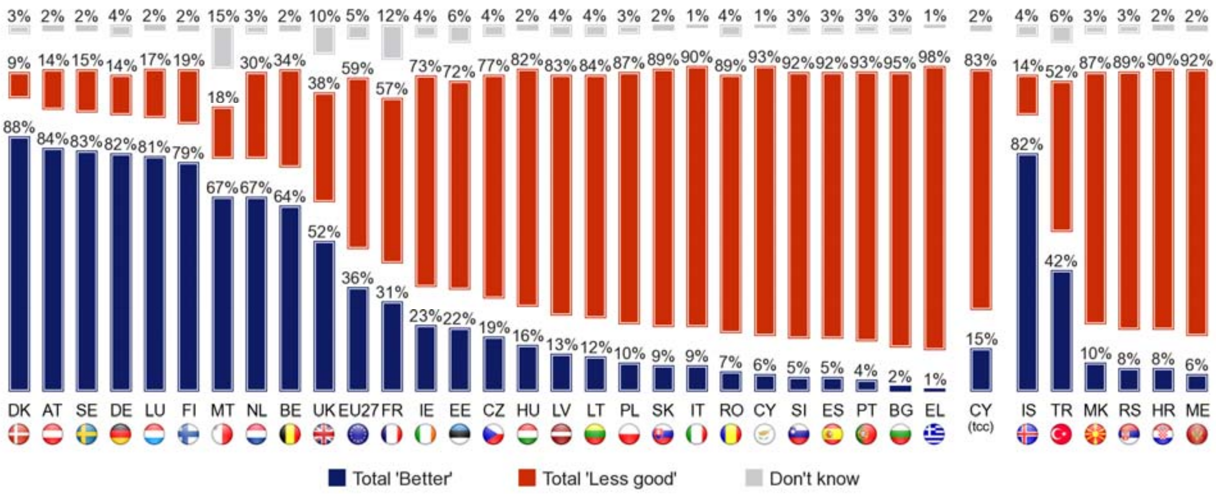
Malta has once again recorded the largest increase in positive opinions since spring 2012 (+19 percentage points). Respondents in Ireland are also more positive, even if the prevailing sentiment remains very negative (23%, +12). However, positive opinions have lost ground sharply in Cyprus (6%, -26), France, where they now form the minority (31%, -19), and the Netherlands, where respondents nevertheless remain predominantly positive (67%, -11).

[22] QA5a.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)

Iceland is the only candidate country where a majority of respondents say that the employment situation is better in their country than the EU average (82%, +6). Respondents in Turkey are more divided (42% for "better", versus 52%), while the proportion of "better" answers does not exceed 10% in any of the other four candidate countries.

QA5a.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)

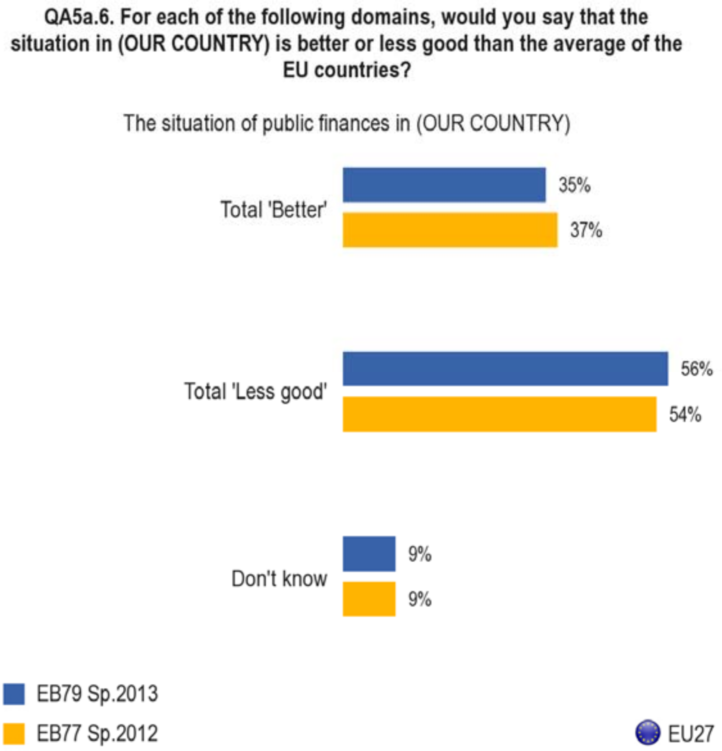


A socio-demographic analysis reveals that:

- Age does not seem to influence opinions of the national employment situation.
- Education seems to be a more important factor: 24% of Europeans who studied up to the age of 20 or beyond consider that the national employment situation is good, compared with 13% of Europeans who left school before the age of 16.
- Managers (34%) are more positive than white-collar workers (18%), manual workers (19%) and, in particular, unemployed people (7%).
- The Europeans who almost never have difficulties paying their bills are more positive (25%) than those who struggle to pay their bills most of the time (5%).
- Despite these differences, a majority of Europeans in most categories consider that the employment situation in their country is worse than the EU average.

3.1.3. Public finances

Turning to the situation of public finances at national level[23], once again the majority of Europeans say that their situation is worse than the EU average, and are slightly more likely to do so than in spring 2012 (56%, +2 percentage points, versus 35% “better”, -2).



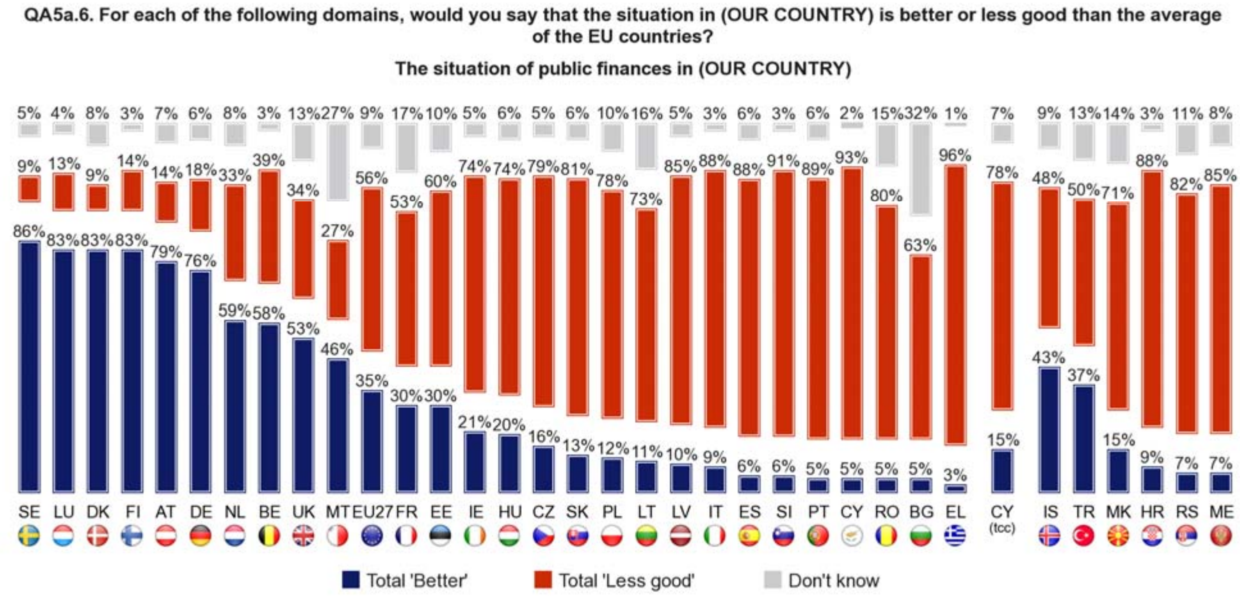
Euro area respondents are only slightly more positive than non-euro area respondents (36% versus 32%). Once again, the differences between the EU15 countries (41%) and the NMS12 countries (12%) are more striking.

A majority of respondents in ten Member States are positive when comparing the situation of their country’s public finances with the EU average. They are the same countries as those identified previously when Europeans were asked to compare their national economic and employment situations with the European average: Sweden, Luxembourg, Denmark, Finland, Austria, Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium, the United Kingdom and Malta.

[23] QA5a.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)

Opinions have deteriorated sharply in France (30%, -18 percentage points) and Cyprus (5%, -21) since spring 2012. As with many other indicators, they have improved significantly in Malta (46%, +19).

Respondents in all the candidate countries compare their country's public finances unfavourably with the EU average. More than 80% in Croatia (88%), Montenegro (85%) and Serbia (82%) consider that their public finances are "less good".



3.2. Expectations for the next twelve months

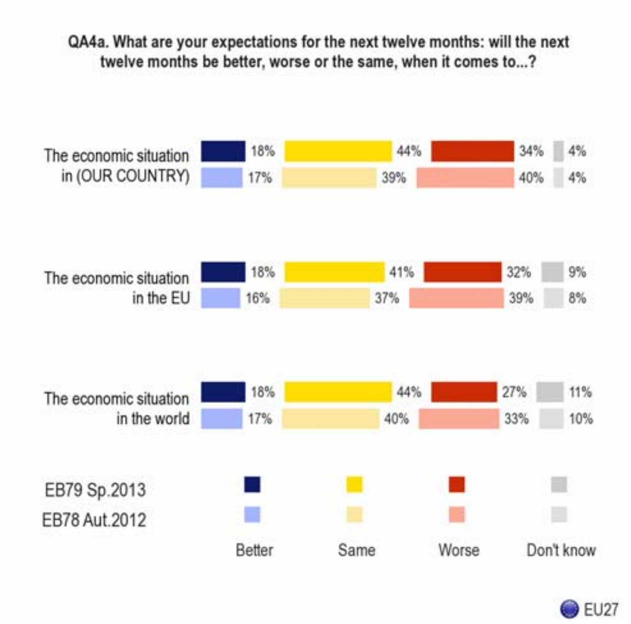
Pessimism about the outlook for the national, European and world economies is on the decline. The feeling that things will stabilise is gaining ground –

3.2.1. The national, European and world situations

The forecasts of Europeans for the national, European and world situations over the next twelve months have improved slightly[24], after a general deterioration in autumn 2012. Without amounting to “renewed optimism”, the feeling that the next twelve months will “stay the same” has gained ground and significantly fewer respondents now believe that the situation will be “worse”:

- The feeling that **national economic situation** will remain the same over the next twelve months is now once again the majority view (44%, +5 percentage points), following a decline in pessimistic forecasts (34%, -6, think that it will be “worse”). The proportion of respondents who think that the next twelve months will be better has increased by one percentage point (18%).

- A similar trend is perceptible as regards the **European economic** outlook: a relative majority of respondents (41%, +4) think that the next twelve months will be the same, while fewer now think that they will be “worse” (32%, -7). The proportion of respondents who think that the next twelve months will be better for the European economy has risen, and is now the same as for the national economy (18%, +2).



- A majority of respondents still believe that the **economic situation in the world** will stabilise (44%, +4) and pessimistic forecasts have decreased by six percentage points (to 27%).

For all these indicators, the deterioration noted in autumn 2012 has therefore been reversed and the forecasts are now better than in spring 2012.

[24] QA4. 2-6-7 What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same …? The economic situation in (OUR COUNTRY)/The economic situation in the EU/The economic situation in the world

A national analysis shows that:

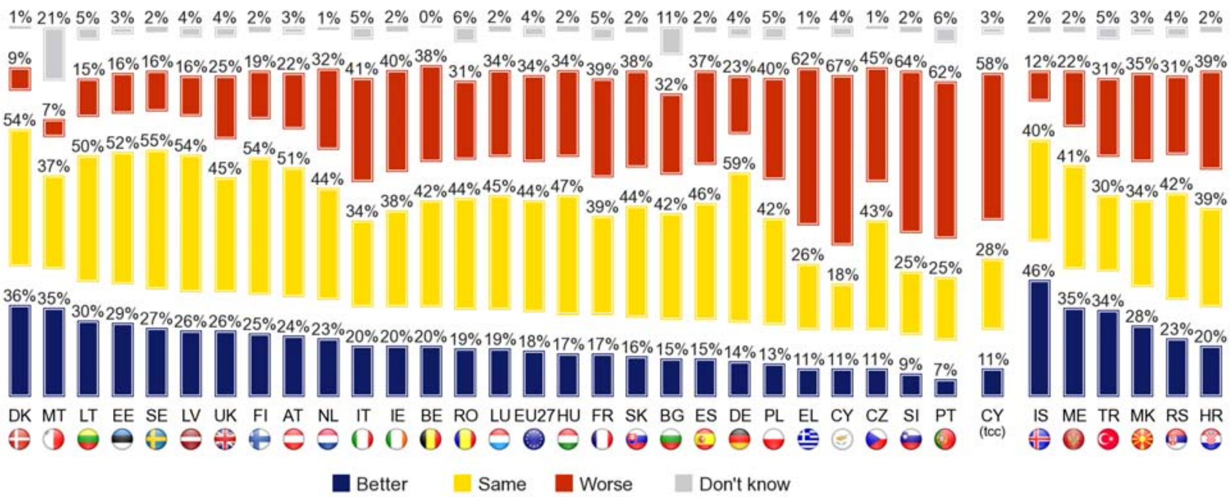
- Euro area respondents are still more pessimistic than non-euro area respondents about the national economic situation, but the gap has narrowed (36% of the former think that the next twelve months will be "worse", compared with 30% in the non-euro area countries. The ratio was 44/33 in autumn 2012).

- A similar trend applies to the European economic situation (35/27 versus 43/32 in autumn 2012). Respondents in the EU15 countries are again still more pessimistic (35%) than respondents in the NMS12 countries (23%), whereas there is little difference in forecasts for the national economic situation (with a ratio of 33/36).

- The feeling that the next twelve months will be better for the **national economy** has gained significant ground in Malta (35%, +17), Sweden (27%, +12), Belgium (20%, +11) and the Netherlands (23%, +9). Respondents in Sweden have also revised their forecasts for the **European economic situation** (25%, +13) upwards. In many other Member States the feeling that the next twelve months will be worse for the European economy has declined by more than 10 percentage points, but it is the feeling that the year ahead will remain the same that has mainly gained ground.

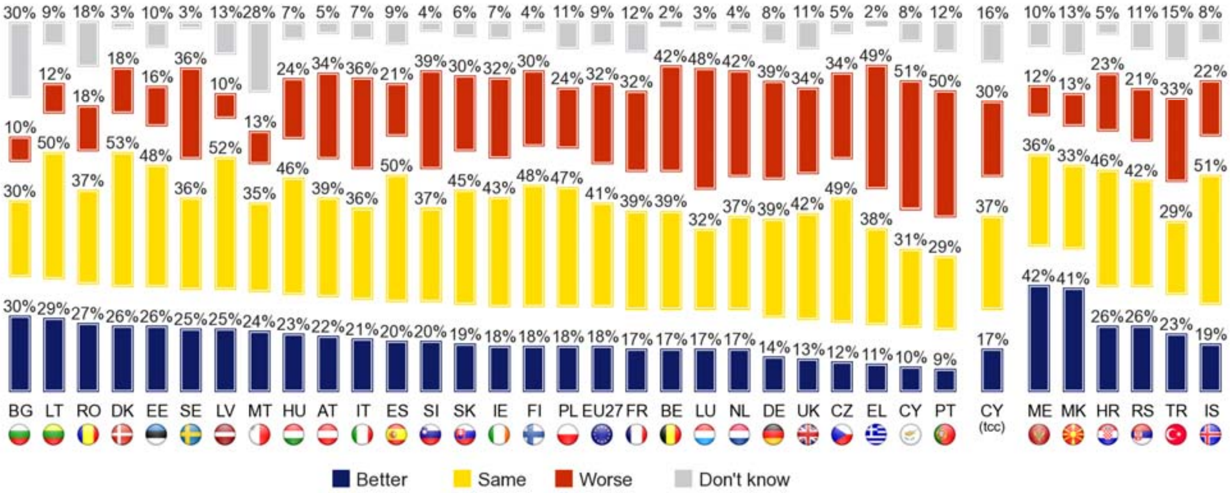
QA4a.2. What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...?

The economic situation in (OUR COUNTRY)



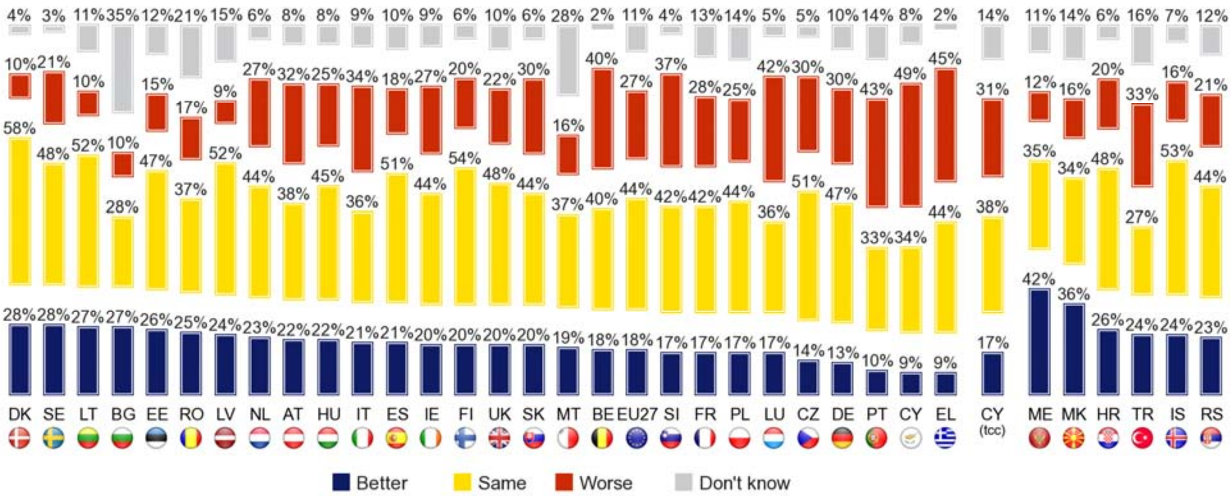
QA4a.6. What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...?

The economic situation in the EU



QA4a.7. What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...?

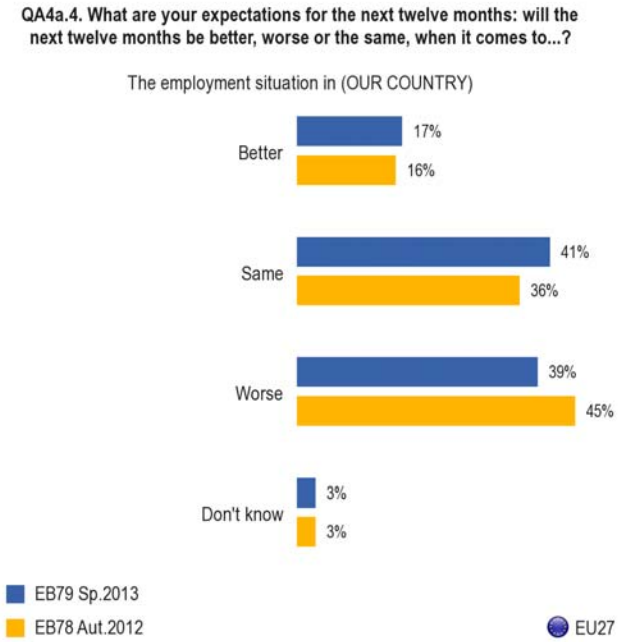
The economic situation in the world



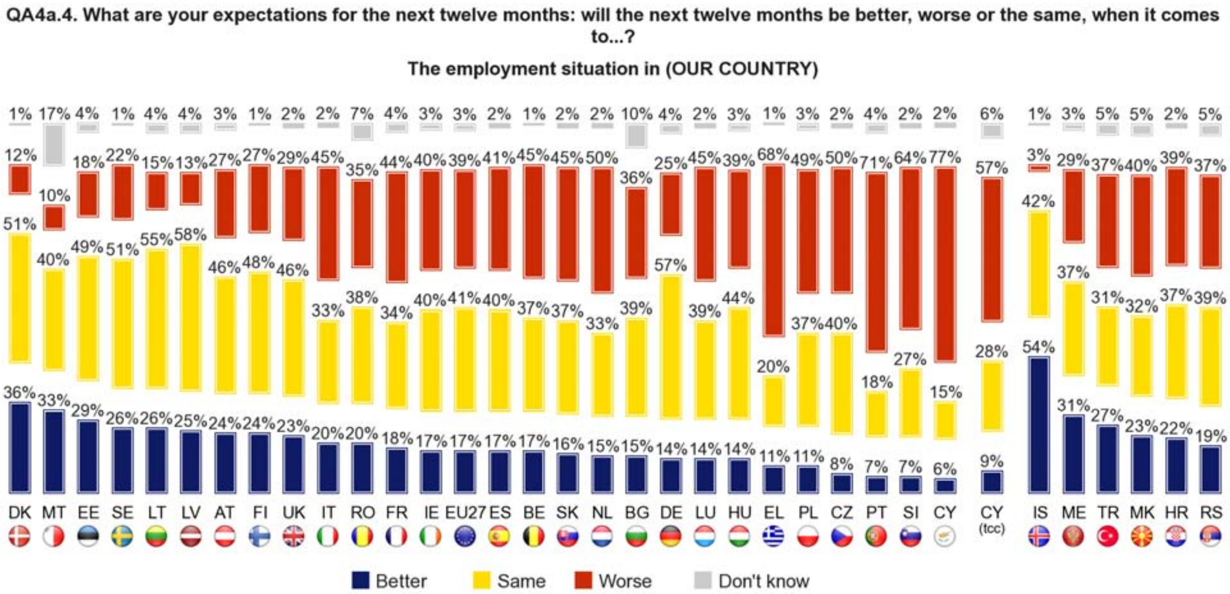
3.2.2. The employment situation

Pessimism about the employment situation[25] is also declining: the feeling that the next twelve months will be "worse" has lost six percentage points (39%) and a majority of respondents now think that things will stay the same (41%, +5). However, the proportion of Europeans who believe that the coming year will be better on the employment front has increased by only one percentage point (to 17%).

Forecasts are slightly more pessimistic within the euro area (40% think that the next twelve months will be "worse") than outside it (35%).



In the candidate countries, Iceland once again stands out: it is the only country where a majority of respondents are optimistic about their national employment situation over the next twelve months (54%).



25 QA4.4 What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...? The employment situation in (OUR COUNTRY)

3.3. The main concerns at national level

The order in which Europeans rank the issues that concern them at national level[26] is very close to that recorded in the autumn 2012 survey (EB78), but some changes in the frequency with which some subjects are mentioned should be highlighted.

- **Unemployment** is by far the most pressing concern currently facing their country (51%). It is mentioned more often than in autumn 2012 (+3 percentage points, a 5-point rise since spring 2012).

- **The economic situation** is also a major national concern, but less so than in autumn 2012 (33%, -4). The number of respondents mentioning **rising prices** has also decreased (20%, -4).

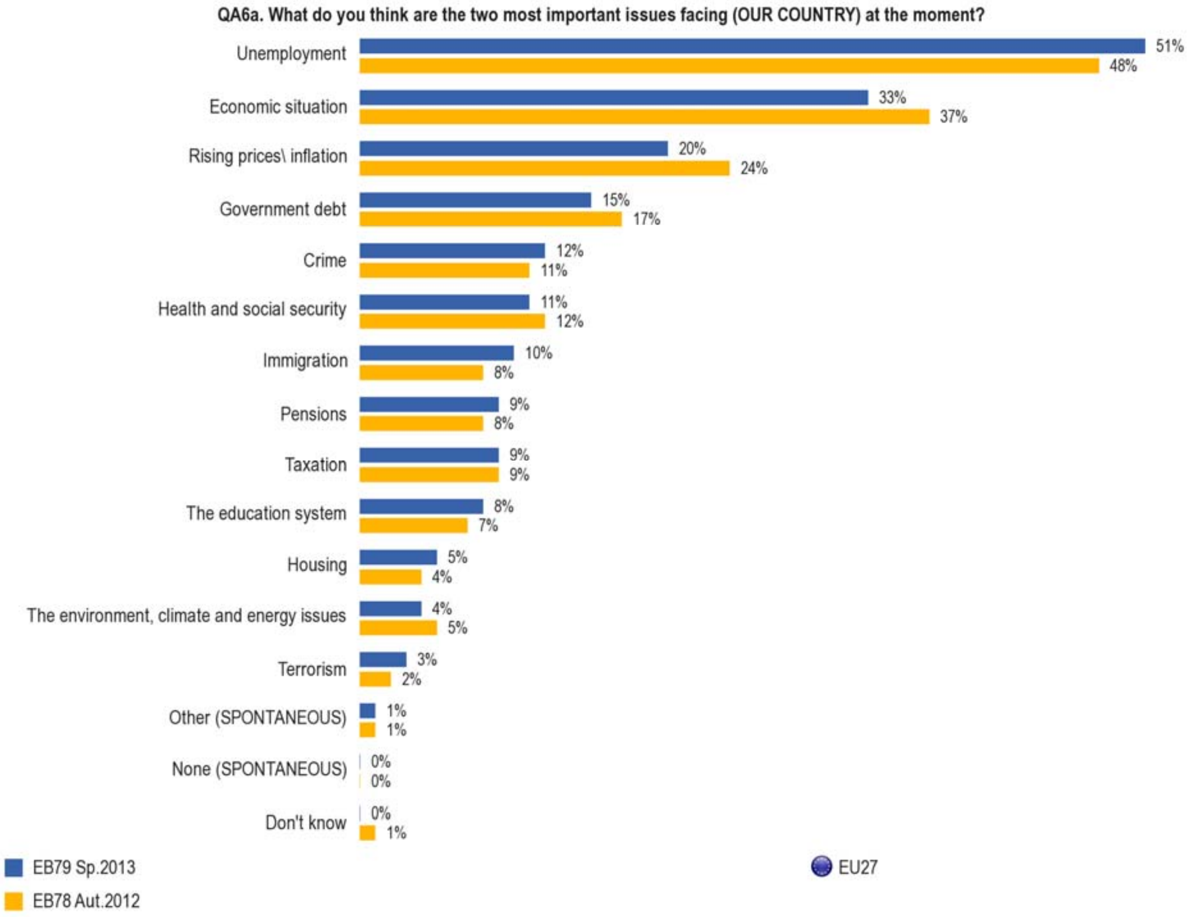
- **Government debt** is ranked in fourth place among national concerns (15%), with a lower score than in autumn 2012 (-2) and spring 2012 (-4 percentage points over the year).

- Next, Europeans mentioned **crime** (12%, +1) and **health and social security** (11%, -1) in similar proportions.

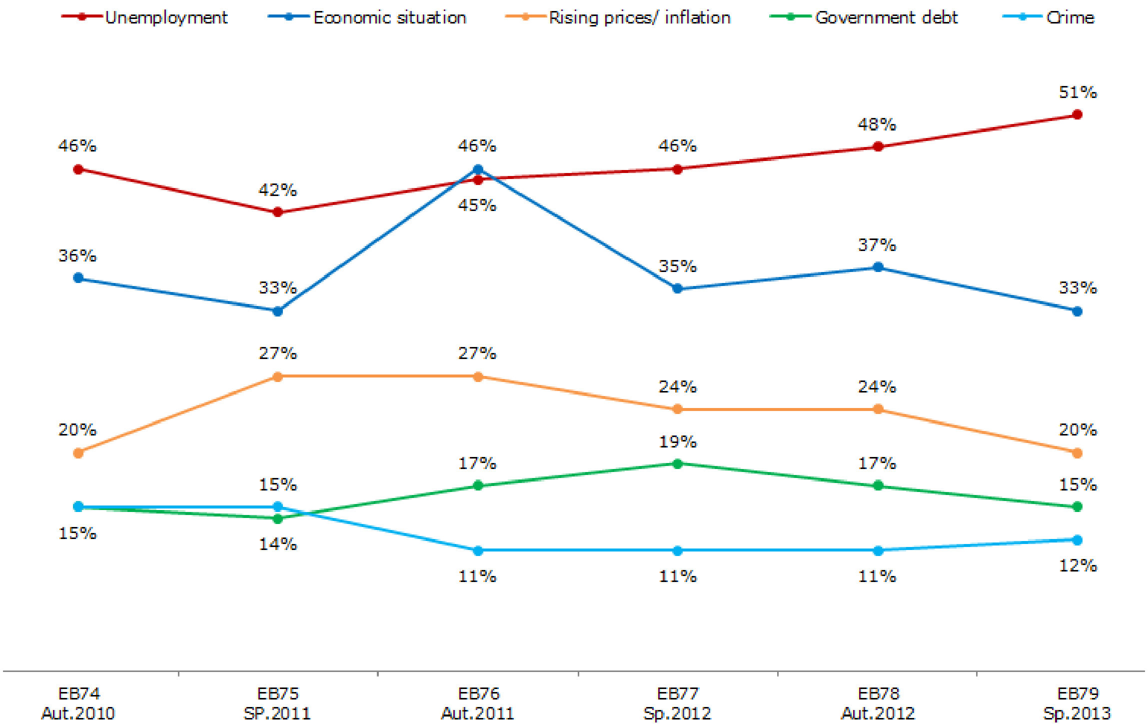
- **Immigration** is mentioned less often than in autumn 2012 (10%, +2), ahead of **pensions** (9%, +1), **taxation** (9%, =) and the **education system** (8%, +1).

- **Housing** (5%, +1), **environmental, climate and energy issues** (4%, -1) and, in particular, **terrorism** (3%, +1) bring up the rear.

[26] QA6 What do you think are the two most important issues facing (OUR COUNTRY) at the moment? (MAX. 2 ANSWERS)



Maximum two answers



5 most frequently mentioned items

Unemployment, the economic situation and rising prices are seen as the three most pressing issues by euro area and non-euro area respondents alike. However, while government debt is the fourth-ranked concern in the euro area (17%), this issue stands behind health and social security (15%), immigration (14%), and crime (14%) in the non-euro area countries, where it was mentioned by 13% of respondents.

A national analysis shows that:

- **Unemployment** is identified as the most important national issue in 20 Member States, with particularly high scores in Spain (79%, +1) and Cyprus (72%, -1, even if it is ranked only in second place, behind the economic situation), but also in Portugal where mentions rose sharply (72%, +15). Concerns about unemployment have also increased significantly in the Netherlands (51%, +19), the Czech Republic (44%, +9) and Slovakia (59%, +9).

- **The economic situation** is the main problem facing their country for respondents in Cyprus (75%), Slovenia (57%) and Romania (44%). Cyprus has recorded the highest increase for this item (+10), together with Bulgaria (51%, +10). However, concerns about the economic situation have decreased significantly in several Member States where they had risen sharply in autumn 2012: Denmark (-18 percentage points, after an increase of +10 between spring 2012 and autumn 2012), Sweden (-14, after a rise of +10), Belgium (-11, +13) and Luxembourg (-10, +16).

- **Rising prices** are the main national concern in Estonia (51%) and Austria (38%). This item was mentioned less frequently than in autumn 2012 in a majority of Member States, in particular in Malta (24%, -15) and Bulgaria (24%, -11).

- In Germany, **government debt** is still seen as the most important issue facing the country at the moment (29%), albeit with a lower score (-5).

- In Malta, **immigration** is the first issue identified at national level (29%), with an increase of nine percentage points since autumn 2012.

Other points of note:

- Respondents in Slovenia (26%) are particularly worried about **crime** with a sharp rise in mentions (+12).
- Respondents in Finland pay particular attention to **health and social security** (37%).
- In the United Kingdom, **immigration** is the second-ranked national concern after **unemployment**, with a steep increase in mentions since autumn 2012 (32%, +8).
- Respondents in Lithuania are more likely than average to mention **taxation** (26%).
- In Germany, respondents are more likely than Europeans on average to be worried about **pensions** (18%).
- After a sharp increase, **the education system** has become the second most important concern in Sweden (+11, to 32%), but still a long way behind **unemployment** (65%, unchanged).
- **Housing** is frequently mentioned in Luxembourg (25%) and the **environment** in Malta (22%).
- The United Kingdom is the only Member State where concerns about **terrorism** are close to 10% (8%, +5).

In the candidate countries:

- **Unemployment** is the main issue in Croatia (76%) and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (62%).
- **The economic situation** tops the list of concerns in Iceland (53%), Serbia (53%) and Montenegro (51%).
- Respondents in Turkey are most concerned about **terrorism** (52%).

QA6a. What do you think are the two most important issues facing (OUR COUNTRY) at the moment?

	Un-employment	Economic situation	Rising prices\ inflation	Government debt	Crime	Health and social security	Immigration	Taxation	Pensions	The education system	Housing	The environment, climate and energy issues	Terrorism
EU27	51%	33%	20%	15%	12%	11%	10%	9%	9%	8%	5%	4%	3%
EURO AREA	52%	34%	19%	17%	11%	9%	7%	11%	10%	8%	6%	4%	2%
NON-EURO AREA	49%	30%	21%	13%	14%	15%	14%	6%	8%	7%	5%	4%	4%
BE	39%	29%	16%	22%	17%	4%	15%	17%	16%	3%	7%	3%	3%
BG	63%	51%	24%	2%	15%	17%	2%	3%	8%	6%	0%	3%	1%
CZ	44%	36%	30%	22%	14%	11%	3%	6%	14%	3%	4%	2%	1%
DK	61%	40%	6%	5%	18%	19%	10%	5%	2%	18%	1%	9%	1%
DE	21%	15%	24%	29%	15%	9%	14%	8%	18%	20%	6%	10%	4%
EE	34%	31%	51%	1%	7%	25%	3%	10%	12%	10%	1%	3%	0%
IE	67%	38%	16%	15%	16%	11%	7%	13%	1%	3%	3%	1%	1%
EL	65%	49%	10%	19%	10%	7%	6%	17%	4%	6%	0%	0%	1%
ES	79%	50%	7%	7%	4%	12%	2%	6%	4%	6%	7%	0%	1%
FR	66%	33%	17%	12%	19%	5%	8%	5%	11%	6%	10%	4%	2%
IT	58%	42%	22%	13%	6%	3%	4%	23%	5%	2%	2%	1%	1%
CY	72%	75%	3%	13%	8%	1%	4%	3%	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%
LV	55%	38%	16%	5%	5%	17%	9%	21%	12%	6%	3%	0%	1%
LT	46%	28%	36%	7%	15%	7%	11%	26%	5%	4%	1%	3%	0%
LU	43%	21%	22%	10%	13%	5%	13%	9%	8%	16%	25%	4%	1%
HU	60%	39%	24%	20%	14%	10%	2%	4%	6%	3%	4%	2%	1%
MT	17%	28%	24%	24%	6%	10%	29%	5%	11%	8%	3%	22%	1%
AT	31%	30%	38%	17%	8%	12%	12%	8%	12%	12%	8%	7%	1%
NL	51%	50%	7%	10%	11%	35%	4%	5%	8%	6%	5%	5%	1%
PL	69%	25%	34%	8%	5%	15%	3%	4%	9%	2%	3%	1%	2%
PT	72%	40%	24%	17%	3%	7%	1%	14%	8%	3%	0%	0%	1%
RO	33%	44%	35%	7%	19%	21%	2%	9%	11%	6%	4%	1%	1%
SI	49%	57%	10%	24%	26%	4%	1%	14%	5%	1%	1%	1%	1%
SK	59%	34%	36%	9%	8%	18%	0%	8%	10%	6%	4%	0%	0%
FI	47%	24%	20%	22%	7%	37%	5%	10%	9%	3%	5%	6%	0%
SE	65%	17%	1%	1%	10%	29%	13%	2%	4%	32%	5%	19%	0%
UK	36%	23%	10%	19%	18%	13%	32%	7%	7%	8%	7%	4%	8%
CY (tcc)	44%	39%	32%	15%	27%	6%	13%	9%	2%	6%	3%	1%	3%
HR	76%	48%	17%	13%	21%	3%	1%	3%	5%	1%	2%	0%	0%
MK	62%	43%	23%	7%	20%	4%	5%	6%	3%	2%	2%	2%	2%
IS	10%	53%	22%	21%	4%	40%	2%	9%	3%	8%	13%	12%	0%
ME	34%	51%	18%	19%	46%	6%	2%	8%	3%	2%	4%	1%	1%
RS	50%	53%	24%	5%	35%	4%	3%	5%	2%	3%	2%	0%	1%
TR	46%	30%	10%	3%	14%	5%	5%	11%	4%	8%	4%	1%	52%

Highest percentage per country *Lowest percentage per country*

Highest percentage per item Lowest percentage per item

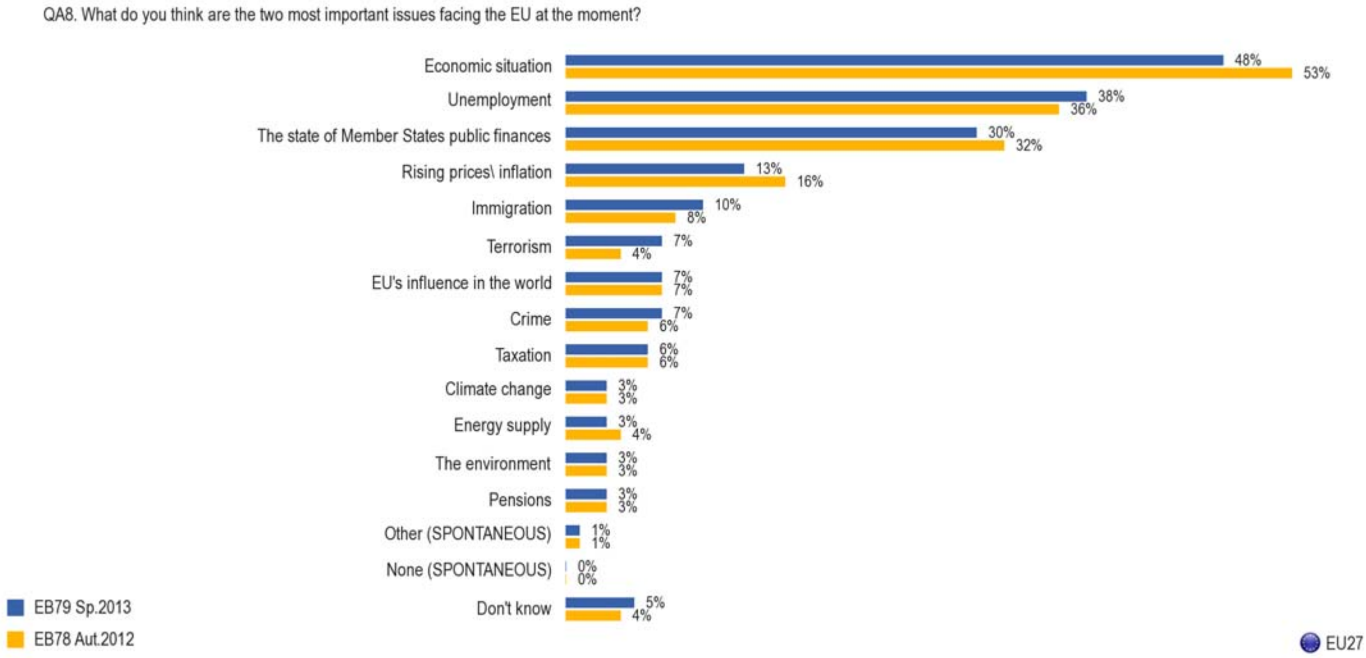
3.4. The main concerns at European level

For Europeans the most important issue currently facing the European Union continues to be the **economic situation** (48%)[27], albeit with a lower score than in autumn 2012 (-5 percentage points).

Unemployment, which moved above public finances into second place in autumn 2012, has gained further ground in the spring 2013 EB79 survey (38%, +2, a 6-point rise since spring 2012).

The state of Member States' public finances remains a major concern (30%), but with a slightly lower score than in autumn 2012 (-2). Respondents next mentioned **rising prices,** also with a lower score than in autumn 2012 (13%, -3).

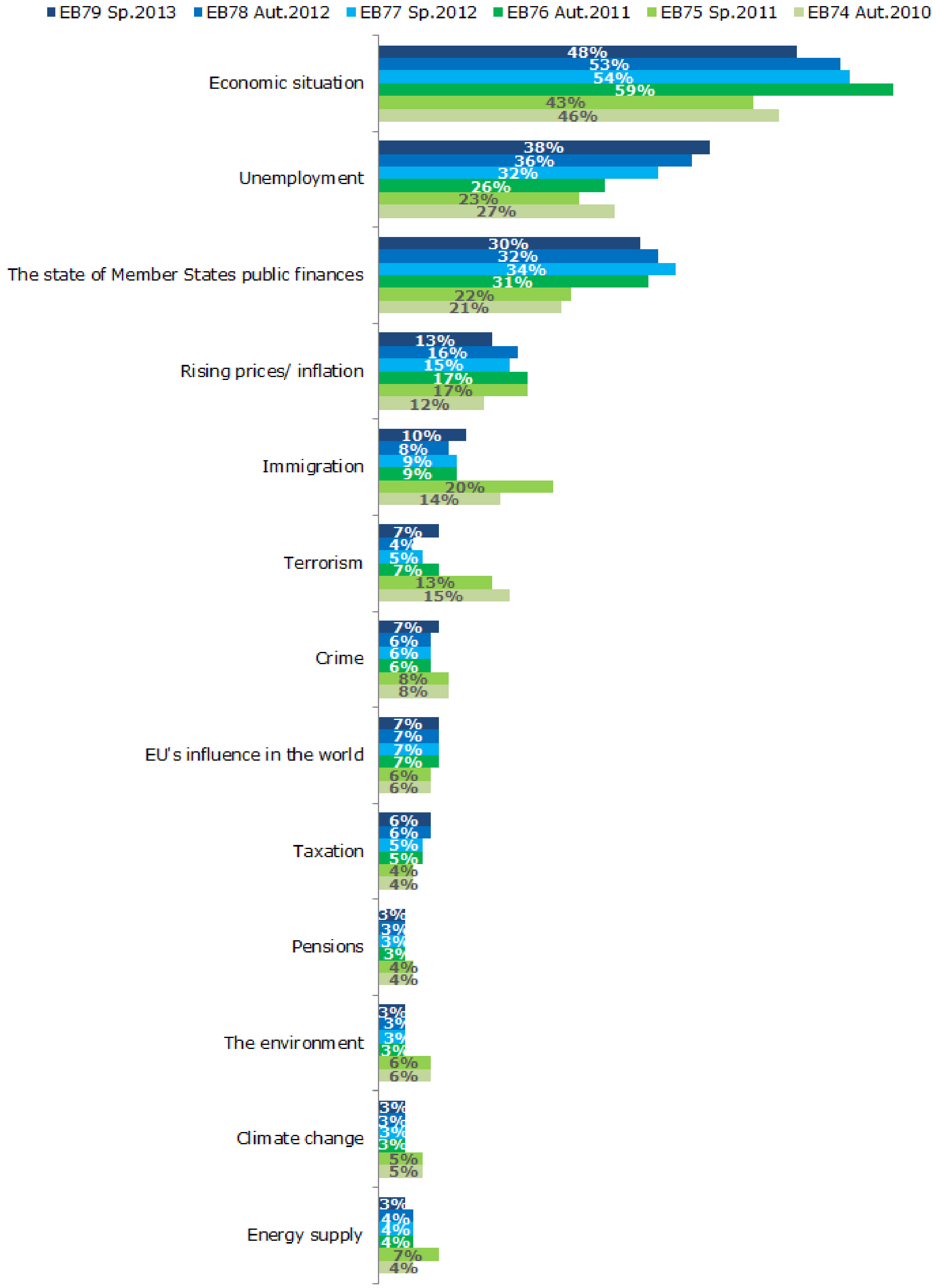
In contrast, **immigration** has gained ground among the main problems facing the European Union (10%, +2), as have **terrorism** (7%, +3) which is now ranked equally with the **EU's influence in the world** (7%, =) and **crime** (7%, +1), just ahead of **taxation** (6%, =). **Climate change** (3%, =), **energy supplies** (3%, -1), **the environment** (3%, =) and **pensions** (3%, =) continue to lag behind.



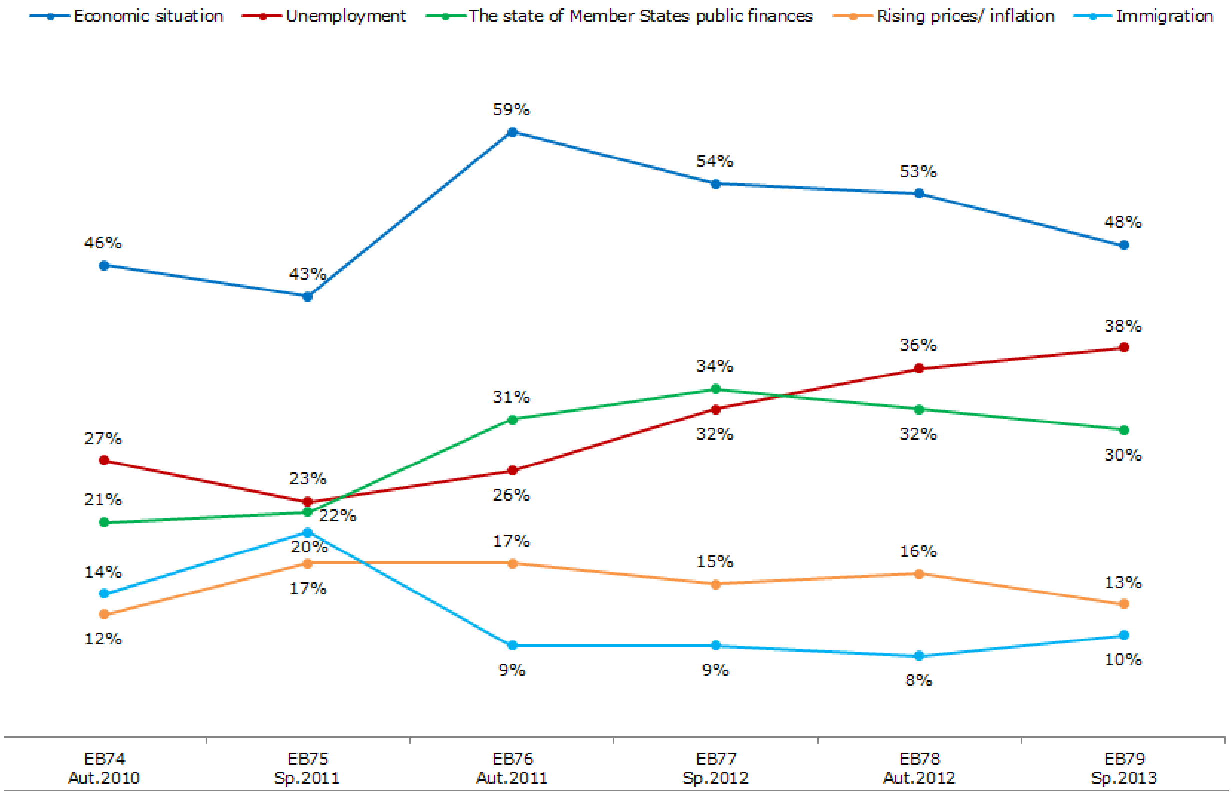
Maximum two answers

[27] QA8 What do you think are the two most important issues facing the EU at the moment? (MAX. 2 ANSWERS)

QA8. What do you think are the two most important issues facing the European Union at the moment? (MAX. 2 ANSWERS)



QA8. What do you think are the two most important issues facing the European Union at the moment? (MAX. 2 ANSWERS)



The order in which respondents rank the problems facing the European Union differs only slightly in the euro area and the non-euro area countries. However, immigration is mentioned more frequently by non-euro area respondents (14%) than by euro area respondents (9%).

A detailed national analysis reveals that the **economic situation is seen as the main issue facing the European Union in 21 Member States**, led by the Netherlands (67%). In two other countries (Ireland and Italy) it ranks equal with unemployment (with 50% and 47% respectively). However, mentions have fallen in a majority of countries, especially in Belgium (-14, to 42%), Luxembourg (-14, to 34%) and Romania (-12, to 41%).

Unemployment tops the list of EU concerns in Cyprus (61%) and Luxembourg (52%) and, as noted above, it stands in joint first place with the economic situation in Ireland and Italy. Respondents in Germany (36%, +10), the Netherlands (44%, +9), Finland (36%, +9), Austria (32%, +8) and Portugal (51%, +8) are far more likely than in autumn 2012 to mention this item among the most important issues facing the EU.

The state of Member States' public finances is the main concern for the EU in Germany (49%) and Austria (49%), albeit with lower scores than in autumn 2012 (-6 and -8 percentage points respectively).

QA8. What do you think are the two most important issues facing the EU at the moment? (MAX. 2 ANSWERS)

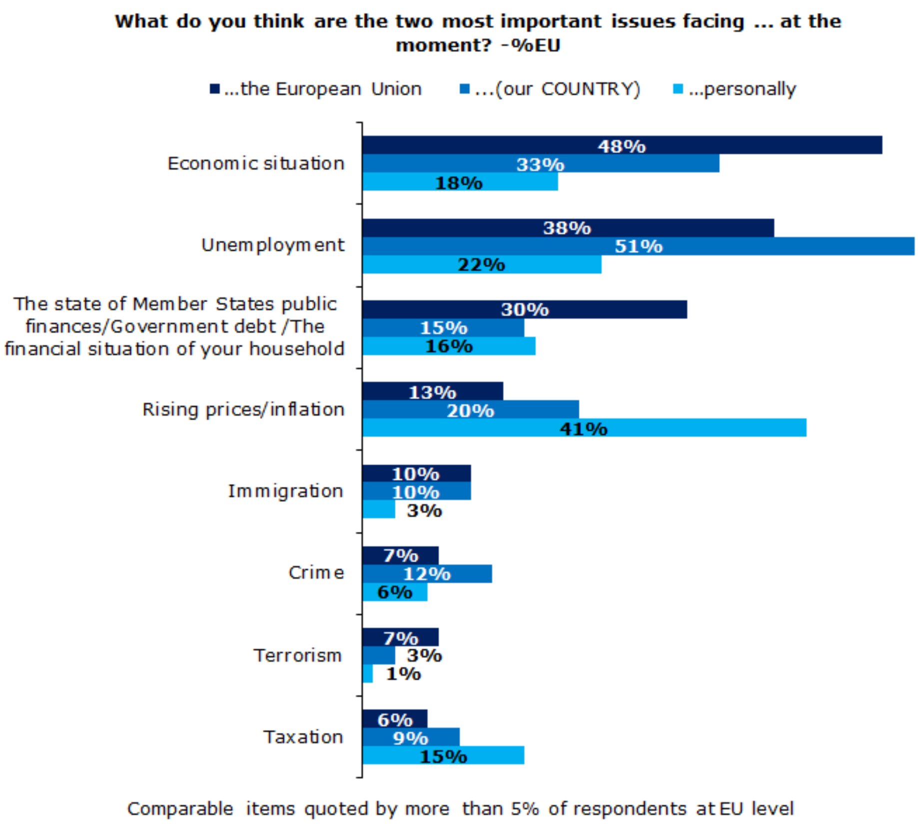
	Economic situation	Un-employment	The state of Member States public finances	Rising prices\ inflation	Immigration	Crime	Terrorism	EU's influence in the world	Taxation	Pensions	The environment	Energy supply	Climate change
EU27	48%	38%	30%	13%	10%	7%	7%	7%	6%	3%	3%	3%	3%
EURO AREA	49%	42%	33%	14%	9%	7%	6%	6%	7%	3%	3%	3%	3%
NON-EURO AREA	46%	30%	26%	12%	14%	8%	9%	7%	4%	2%	4%	4%	5%
BE	42%	35%	30%	12%	16%	12%	9%	8%	6%	6%	4%	3%	4%
BG	56%	35%	14%	9%	20%	8%	16%	6%	1%	1%	3%	3%	4%
CZ	45%	27%	36%	10%	12%	10%	13%	8%	3%	5%	5%	3%	3%
DK	65%	58%	23%	3%	8%	8%	6%	5%	0%	0%	7%	3%	9%
DE	42%	36%	49%	13%	9%	9%	7%	5%	3%	3%	3%	4%	5%
EE	45%	22%	34%	13%	16%	9%	9%	6%	6%	3%	4%	4%	2%
IE	50%	50%	24%	17%	7%	6%	4%	7%	12%	1%	3%	2%	3%
EL	55%	43%	34%	7%	10%	9%	6%	10%	8%	1%	3%	2%	0%
ES	56%	44%	29%	9%	6%	2%	2%	6%	7%	3%	1%	2%	1%
FR	50%	43%	23%	14%	13%	7%	11%	7%	2%	4%	6%	4%	4%
IT	47%	47%	18%	21%	7%	7%	5%	5%	18%	4%	2%	1%	1%
CY	59%	61%	35%	4%	8%	16%	2%	4%	5%	1%	1%	1%	1%
LV	42%	24%	32%	9%	17%	6%	11%	5%	5%	2%	3%	2%	3%
LT	41%	28%	26%	16%	13%	11%	8%	4%	9%	2%	2%	5%	4%
LU	34%	52%	32%	14%	11%	10%	7%	7%	3%	5%	5%	3%	4%
HU	48%	28%	44%	12%	7%	8%	5%	8%	2%	3%	2%	9%	5%
MT	53%	28%	34%	5%	16%	6%	7%	5%	3%	2%	7%	6%	3%
AT	45%	32%	49%	15%	10%	10%	3%	6%	6%	3%	6%	4%	6%
NL	67%	44%	43%	5%	4%	6%	3%	9%	2%	1%	2%	3%	2%
PL	43%	34%	23%	18%	8%	5%	11%	4%	4%	2%	2%	2%	2%
PT	52%	51%	31%	12%	2%	3%	2%	4%	6%	3%	0%	1%	0%
RO	41%	26%	22%	15%	12%	14%	12%	8%	5%	5%	5%	2%	4%
SI	53%	35%	42%	7%	6%	12%	4%	7%	7%	1%	3%	2%	3%
SK	51%	36%	39%	15%	5%	8%	8%	9%	5%	3%	3%	2%	4%
FI	45%	36%	44%	8%	7%	11%	7%	11%	4%	2%	6%	4%	9%
SE	64%	46%	28%	2%	8%	5%	4%	4%	1%	1%	16%	6%	14%
UK	44%	25%	24%	10%	19%	6%	7%	10%	5%	1%	4%	5%	5%
HR	51%	46%	29%	10%	5%	14%	7%	7%	2%	2%	2%	2%	4%

Highest percentage per country *Lowest percentage per country*

Highest percentage per item Lowest percentage per item

A comparison of personal, national and European concerns[28] reveals that:

- The main issues are always related to the economy, irrespective of the level analysed (personal, national or European).
- Serious concerns about the economic situation remain but have levelled off since autumn 2012.
- Concerns about unemployment continue to rise at European and national levels and, to a lesser extent, on a personal level.
- Against a background of growing concerns about unemployment, national government debt and Member States' public finances seem less urgent matters.
- There is rising concern about immigration at national and EU levels; concerns about this issue have also increased very slightly on a personal level, but it remains a marginal issue.
- Rising prices remain a major personal concern, despite a fall in mentions.
- Against a background of concerns about economic matters, environmental issues are not seen as a major problem, whether personally or at national and European levels.



[28] A strict comparison of the ranking is not possible because the items are not strictly identical for questions QA6, 7 and 8

4. Political aspects

4.1. Interest in politics

We have constructed an index of interest in politics based on the answers to questions on interest in local, national and European politics[29]. This index has changed very little since it was first used in spring 2010:

- 44% of Europeans are "moderately" interested in politics (-1 since autumn 2012.
- 23% of Europeans are "slightly" interested (+1).
- The proportion of Europeans with a "strong" index of interest in politics (16%, =) is almost identical to the proportion who "not at all interested" in politics (17%, =).
- In total, based on their answers, six out of ten Europeans are either strongly or moderately interested in politics (60%, -1).

Europeans are mainly interested in national politics (75%, -1) and local politics (73%, -1). A large majority are also interested in European questions, but to a lesser extent (62%, -1)[30].

Respondents in Cyprus, after a sharp increase since autumn 2012 (35%, +13), Greece (31%, despite a decrease of 9 points) and the Netherlands (25%, -1) are more likely than average to have a "strong" interest in politics.

An analysis of the socio-demographic criteria reveals wide differences in levels of interest in politics:

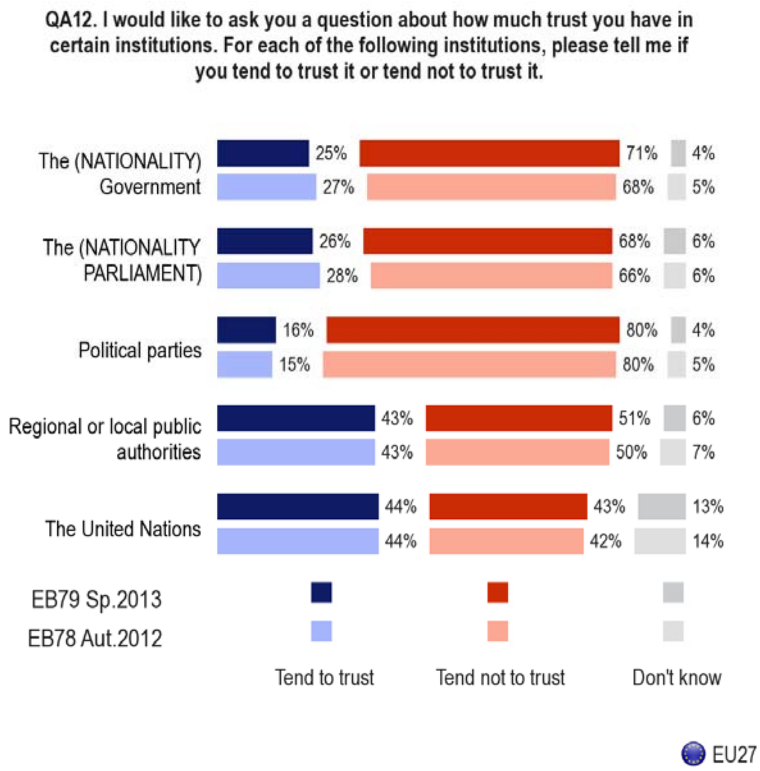
- Interest in politics increases with age: 44% of 15-24 year-olds have a strong or moderate interest in politics, compared with 61% of Europeans aged 55 or over.
- Interest is far greater among Europeans who studied up to the age of 20 or beyond (71%) than among those who left school before the age of 16 (49%).
- Managers (76%) are slightly more likely than white-collar (64%) and manual workers (56%) to be interested in politics.

[29] 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.
[30] QA2. When you get together with friends or relatives, would you say that you discuss frequently, occasionally or never about ...? National political matters/European political matters/Local political matters

4.2. Trust in institutions

Only a small minority of Europeans trust their national institutions: 25% of Europeans "tend to trust" their government, a decrease of two percentage points since autumn 2012, while distrust has gained three percentage points to 71%[31]. This situation is mirrored for trust in the national parliament (26%, -2 versus 68%, +2).

Despite this fresh decline, trust in the national government is still greater than in the autumn 2011 Standard Eurobarometer survey (EB76), when it had fallen significantly (24%). In contrast, trust in the national parliament has fallen to the lowest level ever recorded in the Eurobarometer.



However, a majority of respondents trust their national government and parliament in five Member States: Sweden (60% trust the government and 70% trust the parliament), Finland (54/61), Luxembourg (62/49), Austria (50/53) and now Malta, following a steep increase (59%, +25 and 62%, +33). In Denmark, Germany and the Netherlands, a majority of respondents trust their parliament, but not their government.

In Portugal, trust in national institutions, already below the European average in autumn 2012, has plummeted further (10% trust the government, -12 and 13% trust the parliament, -10).

[31] QA12. 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 (NATIONALITY) government/The (NATIONALITY PARLIAMENT)/Political parties/Regional and local public authorities/The united Nations

In the candidate countries:

- Distrust in national institutions is exceptionally high in Croatia (79% distrust the government and 82% distrust the parliament), and distrust also commands a clear majority in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia.

- In Iceland, trust has increased and a majority of respondents now trust both their government (47%, +16) and their parliament (57%, +25).

- In Turkey, a narrow majority of respondents trust the government (48%, +3, versus 47%, unchanged), but only a minority trust the parliament (45%, +1, versus 50%, +2).

A majority of respondents in almost all the Member States still tend not to trust political parties, except in Malta where all the indicators in this spring 2013 survey are more positive (46% trust them, +26). But trust in political parties has also increased in Luxembourg (35%, +13) and Belgium (34%, +11) where it had fallen significantly in autumn 2012.

Only a minority of Europeans tend to trust regional and local public authorities (43%, unchanged, versus 51%, +1), although they are more likely to do so than to trust national institutions. Nevertheless, a majority of respondents do trust these authorities in 13 Member States, with particularly high scores in Denmark (73%), Luxembourg (68%), Austria (68%), Germany (65%) and Finland (65%), as well as in Sweden (61%), Belgium (59%), the Netherlands (56%), France (55%), Estonia and Malta (both 53%), Hungary (52%) and the United Kingdom (49%). Trust has fallen significantly in Portugal (32%, -16), after increasing in autumn 2012, and in Slovenia (24%, -10).

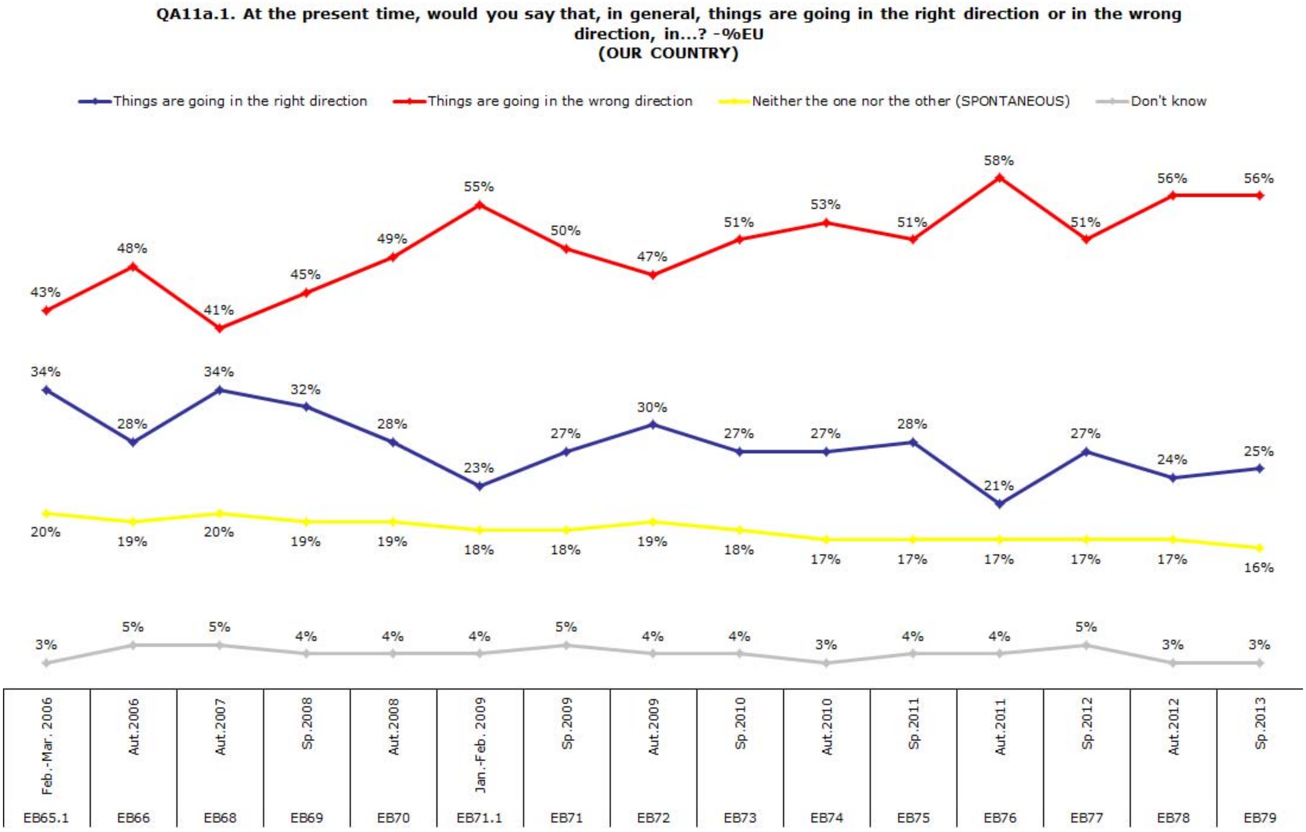
A narrow majority of respondents trust the United Nations (44%, unchanged, versus 43%, +1). Majorities in 21 Member States trust this institution, led by Denmark (76%), Sweden (70%), Finland (68%) and the Netherlands (65%). However, a clear majority of respondents distrust the UN in Greece (77% distrust it), Cyprus (76%), Spain (64%), Slovenia (59%), Portugal (56%, though trust had become the majority position in autumn 2012) and Italy (54%).

4.3. The direction in which things are going

- Opinions on the direction in which things are going at national level are stable, and have improved for the European Union -

The impression among Europeans that things "are going in the wrong direction" in their country[32] had gained significant ground in autumn 2012 (+5 percentage points, to 56%) but without reaching the level recorded in autumn 2011 (58%). This spring 2013 Eurobarometer survey sees no change (56%).

This is the seventh consecutive time since spring 2010 (EB73) that more than half of Europeans have said that things are going in the wrong direction in their country. A quarter of Europeans think that things are going in the right direction in their country (+1), while 16% *spontaneously* answered "neither the one nor the other" (-1).

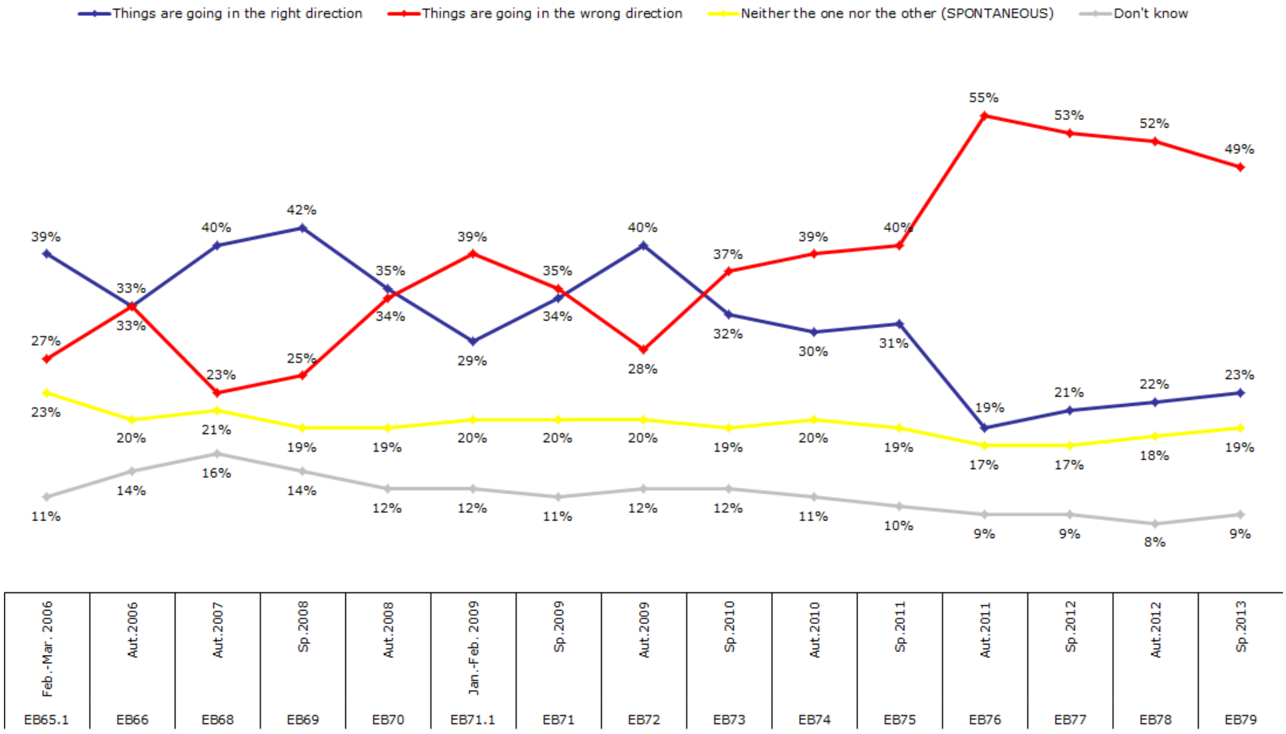


Opinions of the direction taken by the European Union have improved: whereas disapproval had gained significant ground in autumn 2011 (EB76), it has declined since that date, even if a majority of respondents are still critical. Thus, 49% of Europeans think that things are going in the wrong direction in the European Union, a 3-point fall since autumn 2012 and six percentage points less than in autumn 2011.

[32] QA11 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)/In the European Union

The impression that things are going in the right direction has grown slightly and now extends to almost a quarter of respondents (23%, +1 and +4 compared with autumn 2011).

QA11.2 At the present time, would you say that, in general, things are going in the right direction or in the wrong direction, in...? -%EU
The European Union



There is little difference in opinions of the direction in which things are going nationally between the euro area countries (55% say that things are going in the wrong direction) and the non-euro area countries (57%). However, respondents within the euro area are more critical of the direction taken by the European Union (52% think that things are going in the wrong direction) than respondents outside it (44%).

Positive opinions on the direction in which things are going nationally outweigh negative opinions in seven Member States (compared with only two in autumn 2012): Malta (57%), Sweden (49%), Denmark (47%), Finland (45%), Luxembourg (43%), Austria (41%) and Germany (40%). Positive opinions have gained significant ground in Malta (+27 percentage points), Luxembourg (+10) and Finland (+9). Although still in the minority, approval has increased significantly in Belgium (+18 to 35%), the Netherlands (+14 to 43%), Cyprus (+11 to 15%) and Lithuania (+10 to33%). However, perceptions have deteriorated in Bulgaria (-9 to 18%) and Portugal (-8 to 9%).

Positive opinions on the direction in which things are going in the European Union outweigh negative opinions in six Member States, for the most part different from those that approve of the direction taken nationally: Lithuania (48%), Bulgaria (44%), Latvia (36%), Romania (34%), Estonia (33%) and Malta (29%).

Although still in the minority, approval of the direction taken by the EU has gained significant ground in Belgium (+17 to 32%) and the Netherlands (+13 to 32%).

QA11a. 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					
	Things are going in the right direction	Diff. Sp.2013 - Aut.2012	Things are going in the wrong direction	Diff. Sp.2013 - Aut.2012	Neither the one nor the other (SP.)	Diff. Sp.2013 - Aut.2012	Things are going in the right direction	Diff. Sp.2013 - Aut.2012	Things are going in the wrong direction	Diff. Sp.2013 - Aut.2012	Neither the one nor the other (SP.)	Diff. Sp.2013 - Aut.2012
EU27	25%	+1	56%	=	16%	-1	23%	+1	49%	-3	19%	+1
BE	35%	+18	43%	-22	21%	+4	32%	+17	50%	-17	16%	=
BG	18%	-9	51%	+11	26%	-2	44%	-5	13%	+2	21%	-2
CZ	17%	+5	66%	-9	16%	+4	27%	+5	49%	-4	19%	-1
DK	47%	+1	43%	+1	9%	-2	35%	+4	51%	-2	10%	=
DE	40%	+7	30%	-5	26%	-1	23%	+3	45%	-4	25%	+2
EE	29%	+2	37%	-4	31%	+2	33%	+4	24%	-5	33%	+1
IE	30%	+2	45%	-2	20%	+2	28%	-2	41%	-4	20%	+5
EL	9%	+5	80%	-8	10%	+2	13%	+4	71%	-3	14%	-2
ES	10%	=	77%	-2	11%	+2	16%	-2	57%	-3	18%	+3
FR	16%	-7	70%	+9	10%	-1	16%	-6	59%	+3	12%	=
IT	13%	+1	60%	-1	23%	=	15%	-2	46%	-4	31%	+5
CY	15%	+11	59%	-21	19%	+7	12%	+6	62%	-9	17%	=
LV	29%	+2	37%	-3	30%	+1	36%	+1	19%	-4	30%	+2
LT	33%	+10	42%	-5	18%	-1	48%	+8	20%	=	16%	-3
LU	43%	+10	39%	-5	15%	-3	26%	+5	61%	-2	11%	-1
HU	21%	+7	54%	-12	23%	+4	28%	+8	33%	-8	31%	-3
MT	57%	+27	6%	-40	28%	+8	29%	+7	22%	-29	32%	+15
AT	41%	+2	25%	-5	33%	+4	25%	+1	44%	-2	27%	+1
NL	43%	+14	46%	+9	9%	-23	32%	+13	56%	+8	7%	-21
PL	20%	-6	71%	+8	7%	-2	39%	+1	40%	-3	15%	+4
PT	9%	-8	73%	+8	14%	+1	13%	-4	57%	+4	20%	+2
RO	19%	+5	59%	-9	16%	+2	34%	+4	25%	-9	22%	=
SI	7%	-5	75%	+8	15%	-4	19%	-7	48%	+6	26%	=
SK	21%	-2	58%	-1	17%	+1	29%	+1	49%	=	16%	-2
FI	45%	+9	40%	-7	15%	-1	32%	+7	55%	-5	10%	-2
SE	49%	+5	42%	-2	7%	-3	28%	+6	60%	-7	7%	+1
UK	35%	-3	52%	+2	10%	+2	20%	+1	57%	-6	10%	+3
CY (tcc)	6%	-5	72%	+1	19%	+4	27%	-4	25%	+1	42%	+11
HR	19%	=	67%	=	12%	=	33%	+1	38%	-6	23%	+6
MK	33%	+5	43%	-5	21%	-1	52%	+9	17%	-2	21%	-4
IS	71%	+14	22%	-12	4%	-1	36%	+5	43%	-3	4%	-1
ME	29%	-6	45%	+8	19%	-2	43%	+3	24%	-1	21%	=
RS	26%	+6	37%	-13	29%	+3	34%	+5	21%	-11	28%	+2
TR	47%	+10	45%	-1	1%	-6	35%	+8	46%	=	4%	-2

In the candidate countries:

- A majority of respondents in Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia are critical of the **direction in which things are going in their country,** while a narrow majority of respondents are positive in Turkey, following a 10-point increase (47% answered “right direction”, versus 45%). Iceland continues to stand out with a very high level of approval (71%, +14 percentage points since autumn 2012 (+14).

- **The situation is reversed as regards the direction taken by the European Union**: the countries in which a majority of respondents disapprove of the direction taken by their country are mostly positive about the European Union, with the exception of Croatia. A majority of respondents in Iceland and Turkey believe that things are going in the wrong direction.

The results of the socio-demographic analysis mirror the trends noted for the national and European economic situation:

- Although the age criterion has little influence on opinions of the **direction in which things are going at national level,** the most educated Europeans (those who studied up to the age of 20 or beyond) are more positive (30% think that things are going in the right direction) than the least educated respondents (18% among those who left school before the age of 16). Managers are also more positive (37%) than white-collar workers (24%), manual workers (23%) and unemployed people (16%). The Europeans who position themselves at the top of the social scale are also more positive (36%) than those at the bottom of the scale (15%).

- Young people are more positive than older respondents about the **direction taken by the European Union** (30% think that things are going in the right direction in the EU compared with 20% of those aged 55 or over). The most educated respondents are more positive than the least educated (28/15). The Europeans who place themselves at the top of the social scale remain more confident about the direction taken than those at the bottom of the social scale (32/18). However, the differences between socio-professional categories are slightly smaller than in the case of the national situation (30% of managers, 23% of white-collar staff and 21% of manual workers).

QA11a. 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			
	Things are going in the right direction	Things are going in the wrong direction	Neither the one nor the other (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know	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	25%	56%	16%	3%	23%	49%	19%	9%
Gender								
Men	27%	54%	16%	3%	25%	50%	18%	7%
Women	23%	57%	16%	4%	21%	49%	19%	11%
Age								
15-24	26%	55%	16%	3%	30%	43%	17%	10%
25-39	24%	58%	15%	3%	25%	48%	18%	9%
40-54	24%	58%	15%	3%	23%	52%	18%	7%
55 +	25%	53%	18%	4%	20%	49%	20%	11%
Education (End of)								
15-	18%	60%	18%	4%	15%	52%	21%	12%
16-19	24%	56%	17%	3%	22%	50%	19%	9%
20+	30%	53%	14%	3%	28%	48%	17%	7%
Still studying	30%	52%	15%	3%	33%	42%	17%	8%
Socio-professional category								
Self-employed	27%	55%	16%	2%	26%	49%	18%	7%
Managers	37%	46%	14%	3%	30%	47%	16%	7%
Other white collars	24%	56%	18%	2%	23%	51%	19%	7%
Manual workers	23%	57%	17%	3%	21%	51%	20%	8%
House persons	19%	60%	16%	5%	19%	48%	20%	13%
Unemployed	16%	69%	13%	2%	20%	53%	17%	10%
Retired	25%	53%	18%	4%	21%	49%	19%	11%
Students	30%	52%	15%	3%	33%	42%	17%	8%
Self-positioning on the social staircase								
Low (1-4)	15%	66%	15%	4%	18%	52%	19%	11%
Medium (5-6)	25%	56%	16%	3%	23%	49%	19%	9%
High (7-10)	36%	46%	16%	2%	32%	45%	17%	6%

The tables below also show the socio-demographic results in the six largest EU countries, and in four countries which have been particularly affected by the economic crisis.

QA11a.1 At the present time, would you say that, in general, things are going in the right direction or in the wrong direction, in (OUR COUNTRY)?

Things are going in the right direction

	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
Gender										
Male	45%	10%	15%	14%	21%	39%	10%	10%	35%	19%
Female	36%	9%	15%	12%	18%	31%	9%	8%	25%	12%
Age										
15-24	41%	4%	14%	10%	24%	44%	9%	11%	28%	10%
25-39	42%	8%	13%	18%	22%	32%	5%	8%	30%	10%
40-54	39%	11%	13%	11%	18%	33%	8%	8%	27%	20%
55 +	41%	12%	19%	12%	17%	35%	14%	9%	34%	20%
Education (End of)										
15-	35%	12%	9%	10%	10%	26%	14%	7%	27%	21%
16-19	38%	9%	13%	15%	16%	38%	6%	10%	24%	13%
20+	45%	8%	21%	18%	27%	34%	9%	9%	37%	16%
Still studying	49%	4%	16%	5%	25%	45%	10%	15%	34%	11%
Socio-professional category										
Self-employed	42%	7%	17%	17%	25%	42%	10%	12%	45%	17%
Managers	50%	12%	27%	25%	42%	35%	20%	3%	35%	18%
Other white collars	31%	6%	11%	15%	21%	43%	5%	10%	22%	18%
Manual workers	37%	11%	9%	12%	13%	38%	10%	8%	33%	13%
House persons	37%	12%	21%	9%	16%	23%	5%	12%	22%	6%
Unemployed	33%	7%	12%	8%	14%	28%	2%	10%	16%	11%
Retired	40%	15%	17%	14%	17%	30%	15%	6%	38%	24%
Students	49%	4%	16%	5%	25%	45%	10%	15%	34%	11%

QA11a.1 At the present time, would you say that, in general, things are going in the right direction or in the wrong direction, in (OUR COUNTRY)?

Things are going in the wrong direction

	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
Gender										
Male	29%	76%	70%	59%	68%	49%	79%	70%	41%	56%
Female	31%	78%	70%	60%	73%	55%	81%	75%	48%	61%
Age										
15-24	33%	83%	70%	55%	65%	46%	78%	70%	43%	67%
25-39	29%	79%	77%	56%	70%	52%	87%	71%	47%	66%
40-54	34%	76%	76%	64%	74%	56%	82%	76%	47%	56%
55 +	26%	74%	61%	60%	72%	52%	73%	73%	41%	49%
Education (End of)										
15-	34%	74%	72%	61%	80%	59%	72%	77%	50%	52%
16-19	29%	77%	74%	59%	74%	50%	85%	72%	48%	59%
20+	28%	79%	65%	57%	66%	52%	81%	71%	41%	61%
Still studying	30%	82%	69%	59%	61%	49%	77%	60%	35%	67%
Socio-professional category										
Self-employed	29%	76%	77%	58%	69%	48%	80%	72%	32%	65%
Managers	28%	76%	59%	48%	52%	54%	66%	78%	35%	52%
Other white collars	36%	83%	73%	62%	69%	43%	84%	76%	55%	62%
Manual workers	31%	72%	78%	60%	79%	47%	78%	72%	44%	58%
House persons	29%	70%	73%	64%	74%	66%	88%	73%	53%	63%
Unemployed	40%	86%	77%	60%	80%	59%	90%	76%	57%	64%
Retired	26%	71%	64%	59%	71%	55%	72%	73%	39%	45%
Students	30%	82%	69%	59%	61%	49%	77%	60%	35%	67%

QA11a.1 At the present time, would you say that, in general, things are going in the right direction or in the wrong direction, in the EU?

Things are going in the right direction

	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
Gender										
Male	28%	18%	16%	17%	41%	22%	14%	15%	33%	17%
Female	20%	14%	15%	14%	37%	18%	12%	10%	22%	7%
Age										
15-24	23%	15%	22%	15%	51%	34%	18%	25%	28%	12%
25-39	25%	15%	16%	21%	42%	20%	9%	14%	30%	8%
40-54	24%	20%	11%	16%	37%	17%	11%	10%	27%	12%
55 +	23%	13%	15%	12%	32%	15%	16%	9%	26%	16%
Education (End of)										
15-	18%	15%	8%	10%	27%	12%	18%	8%	22%	15%
16-19	21%	15%	12%	16%	35%	21%	8%	16%	23%	9%
20+	29%	19%	20%	25%	45%	19%	10%	13%	35%	12%
Still studying	31%	13%	28%	10%	52%	33%	21%	39%	32%	14%
Socio-professional category										
Self-employed	27%	16%	20%	21%	46%	18%	16%	16%	38%	16%
Managers	29%	15%	26%	30%	53%	23%	15%	7%	33%	18%
Other white collars	25%	13%	9%	16%	35%	24%	6%	13%	25%	12%
Manual workers	15%	19%	10%	15%	36%	22%	15%	9%	28%	5%
House persons	23%	13%	17%	9%	43%	16%	9%	14%	22%	2%
Unemployed	16%	17%	16%	10%	39%	15%	5%	15%	18%	7%
Retired	24%	16%	13%	15%	32%	14%	16%	8%	31%	21%
Students	31%	13%	28%	10%	52%	33%	21%	39%	32%	14%

QA11a.1 At the present time, would you say that, in general, things are going in the right direction or in the wrong direction, in the EU?

Things are going in the wrong direction

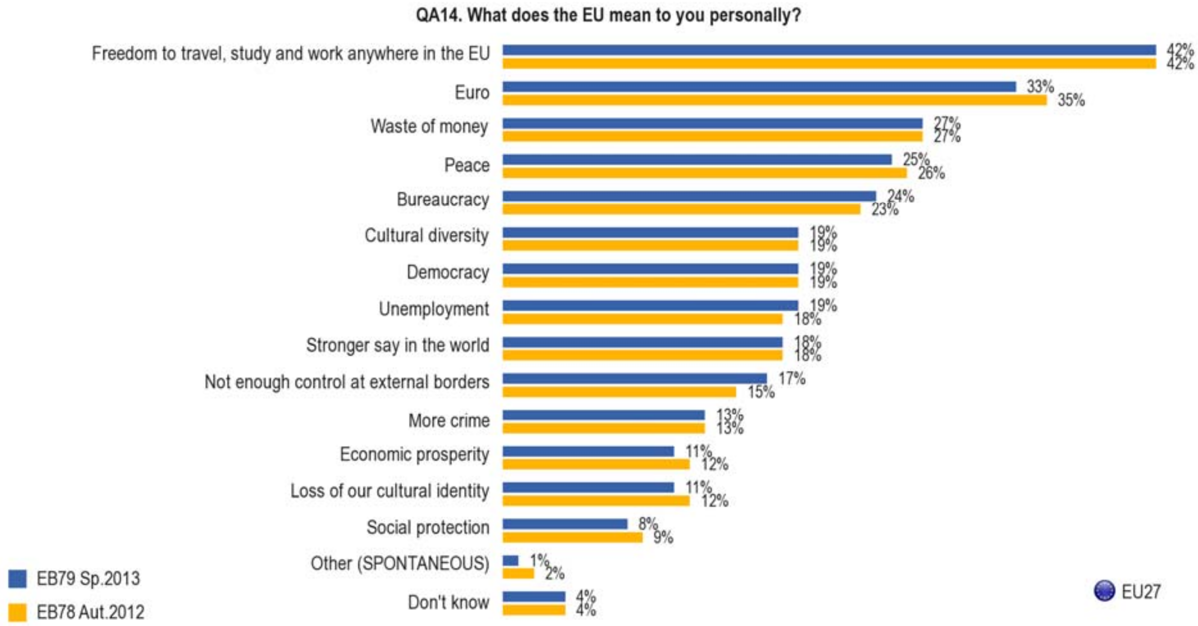
	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
Gender										
Male	46%	59%	58%	48%	38%	59%	70%	55%	39%	64%
Female	44%	55%	59%	45%	41%	55%	72%	60%	43%	62%
Age										
15-24	43%	57%	46%	45%	33%	47%	60%	50%	41%	61%
25-39	41%	59%	62%	45%	39%	51%	79%	58%	42%	69%
40-54	50%	57%	68%	45%	44%	64%	75%	62%	43%	65%
55 +	45%	55%	56%	48%	39%	61%	68%	56%	39%	56%
Education (End of)										
15-	47%	53%	62%	48%	40%	64%	64%	59%	42%	56%
16-19	47%	61%	62%	48%	42%	55%	77%	58%	44%	67%
20+	43%	59%	57%	40%	39%	56%	78%	61%	36%	65%
Still studying	39%	55%	44%	41%	29%	59%	55%	37%	42%	58%
Socio-professional category										
Self-employed	48%	60%	64%	41%	35%	64%	69%	64%	35%	58%
Managers	43%	63%	52%	31%	38%	55%	71%	63%	35%	56%
Other white collars	50%	64%	62%	51%	52%	50%	79%	62%	45%	73%
Manual workers	47%	56%	67%	48%	41%	56%	68%	58%	40%	69%
House persons	43%	51%	65%	49%	35%	59%	77%	62%	44%	61%
Unemployed	55%	61%	59%	46%	38%	55%	86%	62%	51%	72%
Retired	44%	53%	57%	47%	39%	59%	68%	53%	36%	51%
Students	39%	55%	44%	41%	29%	59%	55%	37%	42%	58%

II. THE EUROPEAN UNION AND ITS CITIZENS

1. Attachment to the European Union

1.1. What does the European Union mean to Europeans?

When asked what the EU means to them personally, Europeans continue to rank "the freedom to travel, study and work anywhere in the EU" as the most important representation associated with the European Union (42%, unchanged since autumn 2012). Overall, the changes since autumn 2012 are negligible and the order is unchanged: "the euro" stands in second place (33%, -2), ahead of "waste of money" (27%, unchanged), "peace" (25%, -1) and "bureaucracy" (24%, +1)[33]. Although the results are largely stable for this indicator, the proportion of respondents who associate the euro with the European Union has fallen slightly over the year: - 4 percentage points since spring 2012.

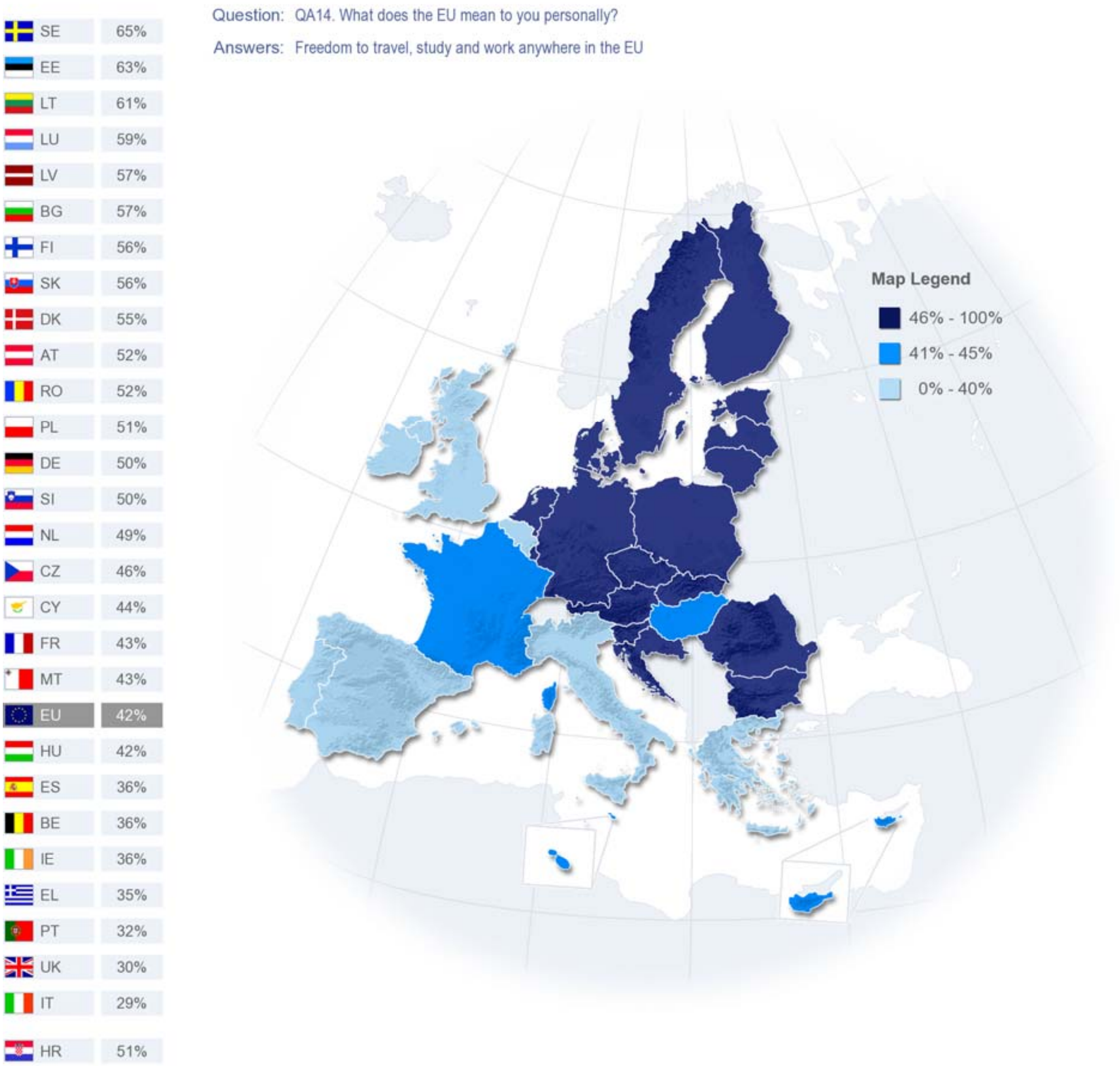


Multiple answers possible

Logically, the euro is more likely to be seen as a symbol of the EU in the euro area countries, where it was mentioned by 42% of respondents, just ahead of freedom and mobility (41%), and in the EU15 countries (37% versus 40% for freedom of movement), than in the non-euro area countries (17%) and the NMS12 countries (21%). In the last two groups of countries, the freedom of movement anywhere in the European Union is by far the most frequently mentioned representation associated with the EU (with 44% and 51% respectively).

[33] QA14. What does the EU means to you personally?

Freedom of movement within the European Union was mentioned the most frequently in the Nordic countries (65% in Sweden, 56% in Finland and 55% in Denmark) and the Baltic States (63% in Estonia, 61% in Lithuania and 57% in Latvia). It was the most frequently mentioned item in 20 Member States: Sweden (65%), Estonia (63%), Lithuania (61%), Luxembourg (59%), Bulgaria (57%), Latvia (57%), Slovakia (56%), Finland (56%), Denmark (55%), Romania (52%), Poland (51%), Germany (50%), Slovenia (50%), the Netherlands (49%), the Czech Republic (46%), France (43%), Malta (43%), Hungary (42%), Ireland (36%) and the United Kingdom (30%).



Respondents in Austria (63%), Slovakia (54%) and Belgium (51%) are the most likely to mention the euro as a symbol of the EU. The proportion of respondents mentioning the euro has fallen considerably in Finland (45%, -12) and the Netherlands (47%, -7). In total, the euro is the first representation associated with the European Union in five Member States (Belgium, Austria, Greece, Spain and Italy).

As in previous surveys, the European Union is particularly likely to be associated with a "waste of money" in Austria (50%) and Germany (47%). Respondents in Finland (40%), Austria (42%), Germany (43%) and Sweden (44%) are far more likely than the European average (EU27, 24%) to identify the EU with bureaucracy. The proportion of respondents mentioning this item has increased significantly in Germany (+6).

QA14 What does the EU mean to you personally?

	Freedom to travel, study and work anywhere in the EU			Euro			Waste of money			Peace		
	EB78 Aut. 2012	EB79 Sp. 2013	Diff. 2013-2012	EB78 Aut. 2012	EB79 Sp. 2013	Diff. 2013-2012	EB78 Aut. 2012	EB79 Sp. 2013	Diff. 2013-2012	EB78 Aut. 2012	EB79 Sp. 2013	Diff. 2013-2012
EU27	42%	42%	=	35%	33%	-2	27%	27%	=	26%	25%	-1
EURO AREA	41%	42%	-1	42%	44%	-2	30%	29%	+1	27%	27%	=
NON-EURO AREA	44%	42%	+2	17%	18%	-1	22%	22%	=	21%	22%	-1
BG	52%	57%	+5	12%	12%	=	8%	7%	-1	29%	24%	-5
PL	47%	51%	+4	18%	17%	-1	10%	11%	+1	19%	15%	-4
UK	27%	30%	+3	16%	14%	-2	31%	30%	-1	16%	16%	=
CZ	44%	46%	+2	17%	20%	+3	36%	38%	+2	23%	24%	+1
SK	54%	56%	+2	53%	54%	+1	31%	28%	-3	17%	17%	=
FR	42%	43%	+1	40%	42%	+2	32%	34%	+2	35%	32%	-3
IT	28%	29%	+1	39%	35%	-4	17%	14%	-3	14%	16%	+2
LT	60%	61%	+1	11%	11%	=	13%	13%	=	16%	12%	-4
PT	31%	32%	+1	30%	32%	+2	21%	17%	-4	7%	8%	+1
AT	52%	52%	=	67%	63%	-4	54%	50%	-4	39%	38%	-1
CY	44%	44%	=	33%	33%	=	21%	21%	=	25%	28%	+3
DK	55%	55%	=	21%	19%	-2	18%	18%	=	46%	48%	+2
ES	36%	36%	=	40%	40%	=	18%	23%	+5	10%	10%	=
LU	59%	59%	=	44%	46%	+2	24%	30%	+6	41%	42%	+1
RO	52%	52%	=	28%	24%	-4	11%	14%	+3	31%	32%	+1
SE	65%	65%	=	18%	21%	+3	42%	40%	-2	45%	39%	-6
BE	37%	36%	-1	55%	51%	-4	32%	26%	-6	26%	29%	+3
IE	37%	36%	-1	28%	24%	-4	14%	14%	=	12%	10%	-2
SI	51%	50%	-1	43%	40%	-3	28%	28%	=	28%	26%	-2
EL	37%	35%	-2	49%	46%	-3	22%	20%	-2	24%	28%	+4
HU	44%	42%	-2	18%	15%	-3	17%	12%	-5	19%	17%	-2
LV	59%	57%	-2	11%	14%	+3	14%	12%	-2	14%	15%	+1
MT	45%	43%	-2	25%	23%	-2	17%	13%	-4	27%	26%	-1
FI	59%	56%	-3	57%	45%	-12	30%	33%	+3	30%	29%	-1
NL	52%	49%	-3	54%	47%	-7	23%	27%	+4	33%	36%	+3
EE	67%	63%	-4	33%	30%	-3	21%	17%	-4	21%	18%	-3
DE	56%	50%	-6	49%	46%	-3	46%	46%	=	45%	44%	-1
HR	55%	51%	-4	15%	11%	-4	12%	11%	-1	22%	18%	-4

4 most frequently mentioned items

Lastly, respondents in Greece are very likely to associate unemployment with the EU (44%), where it ranks it in second place behind the euro (46%). This association is even more widespread in Cyprus (62%), where it stands in first place, as it does in Portugal, where it was mentioned by 32% of respondents.

A **socio-demographic analysis** leads to the same conclusions as those noted in previous surveys: the oldest respondents and the least educated are more likely to mention the negative representations of the EU, whereas the youngest respondents and the most highly-educated are more likely to focus on the positive representations:

- Freedom of movement within the EU was mentioned by 57% of those who studied up to the age of 20 or beyond and by 50% of 15-24 year-olds, compared with 35% and 28% respectively of those aged 55 and over and those who left school before the age of 16.

- Conversely, waste of money was mentioned more frequently by respondents aged 55 and over (32%) and those who left school before the age of 16 (31%) than by the youngest respondents (18%) and the most educated (15%).

- Very logically, the respondents for whom the EU conjures up a negative image and those who do not trust the EU are more likely to mention the negative representations. This is particularly true of "waste of money" (47% of those who think that the EU's image is negative and 35% of those who do not trust it, compared with 27% of Europeans as a whole).

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

This Standard Eurobarometer survey measured support within the candidate countries for European membership[34] and perceptions of the expected benefits of membership[35]. The same questions were asked in the previous survey in autumn 2012 (EB78), which will therefore be used for comparison purposes.

Boosted by the prospect of accession to the EU, support for European membership has increased significantly in Croatia. A few weeks before accession[36], more than a third of respondents in Croatia (38%, +7 percentage points since autumn 2012) consider that membership of the European Union will be a good thing, while 24% (-8) take the opposite view and 35% (+2) consider that European membership will be "neither good nor bad". Compared with autumn 2012 when negative judgements of Croatia's membership of the European Union outweighed positive perceptions, the balance of opinion has been reversed in this survey. The growing feeling in Croatian opinion that the country will benefit from membership may explain this evolution: an absolute majority of respondents in Croatia (53%, +7) say that their country will benefit from joining the EU, while 37% (-7 percentage points) believe that it will not do so.

[34] QA9a. 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?
[35] QA10a. Taking everything into consideration, would you say that (OUR COUNTRY) would benefit or not from being a member of the EU?
[36] The fieldwork was carried out in May 2013, a few weeks before Croatia's accession to the European Union on 1 July.

QA9a Generally speaking, do you think that (OUR COUNTRY)'s membership of the EU would be...?

	A good thing	Diff. EB79 Sp. 2013-EB78 Aut. 2012	A bad thing	Diff. EB79 Sp. 2013-EB78 Aut. 2012	Neither good nor bad	Diff. EB79 Sp. 2013-EB78 Aut. 2012
CY (tcc)	59%	+10	9%	-3	28%	=
HR	38%	+7	24%	-8	35%	+2
MK	56%	-1	16%	+2	25%	-1
IS	24%	-2	42%	-2	29%	+6
ME	55%	+5	17%	+4	23%	-6
RS	39%	+4	21%	-2	31%	-3
TR	38%	+2	31%	-2	21%	+2

A large majority of respondents in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia continue to support European membership, without any significant changes since autumn 2012: 56% of respondents in this country (-1 percentage point since Autumn 2012) are positive about EU membership.

Almost two-thirds (64%, -2) also believe that their country will benefit from European membership.

Support for European membership, already the majority position, has increased significantly in Montenegro, where 55% of respondents (+5 percentage points since autumn 2012) are in favour, while 17% (+4) are negative. Less than a quarter of respondents (23%, -6) consider that it would be “neither good nor bad”. In the year, support for European membership has gained eight percentage points in Montenegro. A large majority of respondents think that European membership would benefit the country (61%, +2 since autumn 2012 and +6 since spring 2012).

Although many people remain undecided, support for European membership has gained ground in Serbia, where almost four out of ten respondents (39%, +4) are positive about accession, while 21% (-3) are negative. Almost a third (31%, -3) are undecided and 9% (+1) expressed no opinion. Opinions are more clear-cut as to the perceived benefits of membership: 46% (+6) think that Serbia would benefit from membership whereas 29% (-6) take the opposite view and 25% (unchanged) remain neutral on this subject.

The balance of opinion on European membership remains relatively narrow in Turkey, but has improved in this survey: 38% of respondents in Turkey (+2 percentage points) are in favour of accession to the EU while 31% (-2) are against it. A strong minority of respondents in Turkey are still undecided: 21% (+2) are neutral (“neither good nor bad”) and 10% (-2) expressed no opinion. The idea that Turkey would benefit from European membership has gained significant ground in this survey compared with autumn 2012: 48% (+8) of respondents share this view while 37% (-7) think the opposite. As a result of these significant changes, the balance of opinion for this indicator of perceptions of the benefits of EU membership has been reversed and is now positive.

Respondents in Iceland remain largely opposed to membership of the European Union: 42% (-2 percentage points) of respondents in Iceland say that European membership would be "a bad thing", while 24% (-2) think that it would be "a good thing". 29% (+6) answered "neither good nor bad" and 5% (-2) expressed no opinion. 57% of respondents in Iceland (unchanged) believe that their country would not benefit from membership of the EU.

QA10a Taking everything into account, would you say that (OUR COUNTRY) would benefit or not from being a member of the EU?

	Would benefit	Diff. EB79 Sp. 2013- EB78 Aut. 2012	Would not benefit	Diff. EB79 Sp. 2013- EB78 Aut. 2012	Don't know	Diff. EB79 Sp. 2013- EB78 Aut. 2012
CY (tcc)	68%	+7	20%	=	12%	-7
HR	53%	+7	37%	-7	10%	=
MK	64%	-2	25%	=	11%	+2
IS	33%	=	57%	=	10%	=
ME	61%	+2	25%	+2	14%	-4
RS	46%	+6	29%	-6	25%	=
TR	48%	+8	37%	-7	15%	-1

1.3 How to face the future?

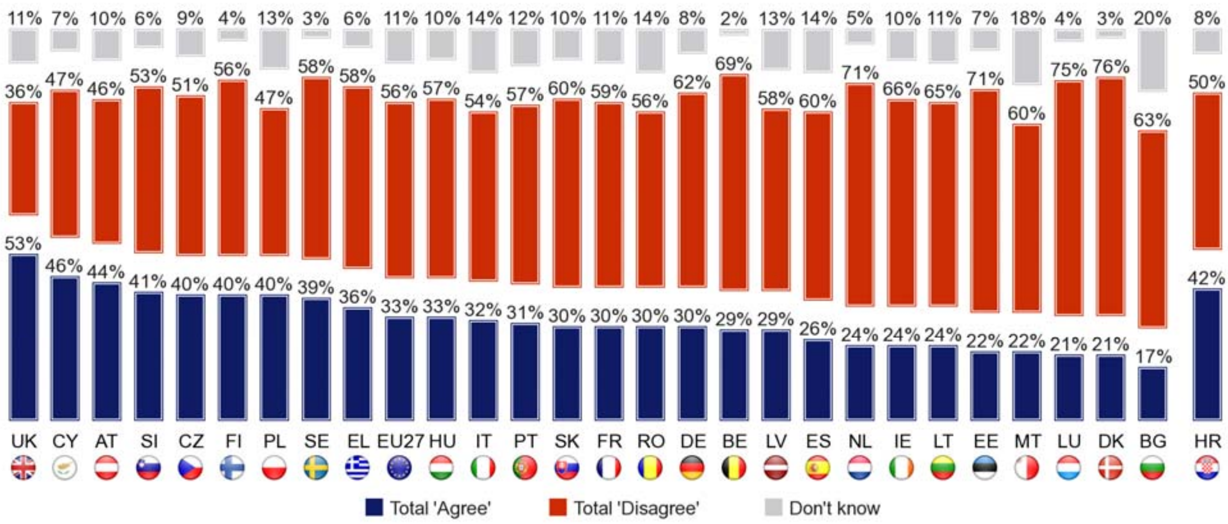
Despite losing some ground, the view that unity creates strength is still widely accepted by European opinion. A clear majority of respondents (56%, -2 percentage points since autumn 2012) disagree that “their country could better face the future outside the EU”. A third instead agree with this statement (33%, +1) and 11% (+1) expressed no opinion[37].

The belief that it is better to be in the EU than outside it is far more widespread within the euro area (60% versus 30%) than outside the euro area (48% versus 41%). The difference between the EU15 countries (56% versus 34%) and the NMS12 countries (52% versus 37%) is far less pronounced. Support for this opinion has fallen by three percentage points in the euro area and EU15 countries, but the balance of opinion is stable in the NMS12 and non-euro area countries.

Apart from the United Kingdom, where an absolute majority of respondents (53%) say that their country could better face the future outside the EU, all the Member States support the view that European membership is preferable in order to face the challenges that lie ahead. This view is supported by absolute majorities in 24 of the 27 EU countries, with the highest scores in Denmark (76%), Luxembourg (75%), the Netherlands (71%) and Estonia (71%). The balance of opinion is significantly narrower than the European average in Cyprus (47% versus 46%) and Austria (46% versus 44%).

Since the previous survey, this perception has lost significant ground in Germany (62%, -5), France (59%, -9) and Cyprus (47%, -11). It has gained the most ground in Portugal (57%, +5).

QA22a.9. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.
(OUR COUNTRY) could better face the future outside the EU



[37] QA22a.9 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. (OUR COUNTRY) could better face the future outside the EU.

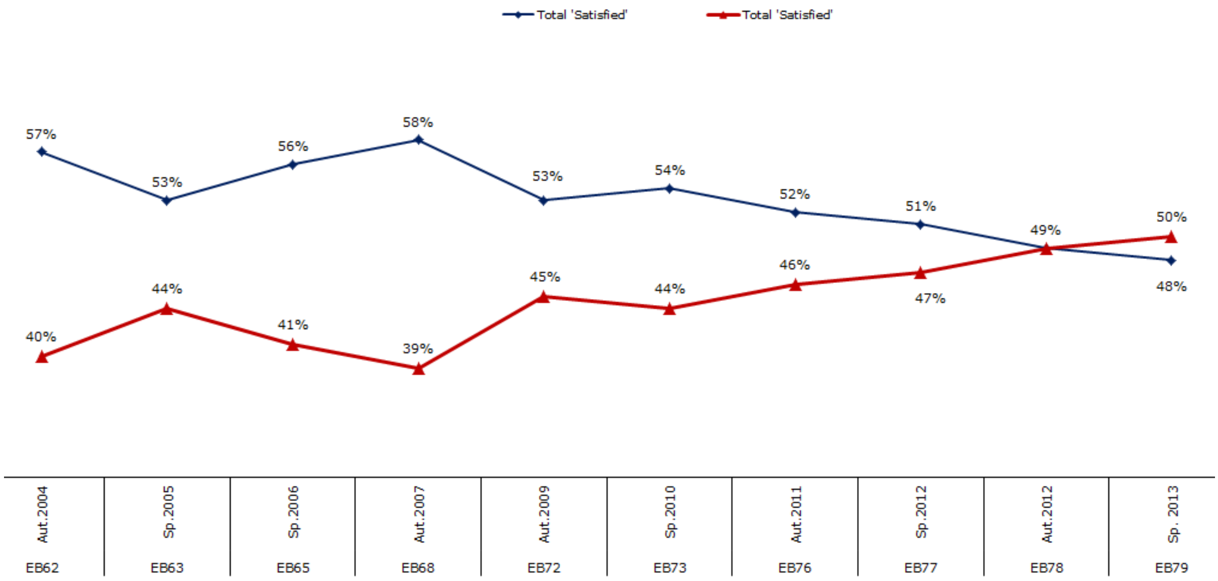
2. Democracy in the EU

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

How democracy works at national level

The slow downward trend in positive opinions of how national democracies work, observed since the autumn 2011 Eurobarometer survey, has continued in this latest survey and the balance of opinion has now been reversed. For the first time since 2004, adverse judgements of the way democracy works nationally now outweigh approval. Half of Europeans (50%, +1 percentage point since autumn 2012) are now dissatisfied with the way in which democracy works in their country, while 48% (-1) are satisfied and 2% (unchanged) expressed no opinion[38].

QA21a On the whole, are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied or not at all satisfied with the way democracy works in (OUR COUNTRY)? - %EU



The balance of opinion for this indicator is still positive but has narrowed within the EU15 countries from 53/46 in autumn 2012 to 51/47 today. It is still predominantly negative in the NMS12 countries (33% versus 64%, unchanged).

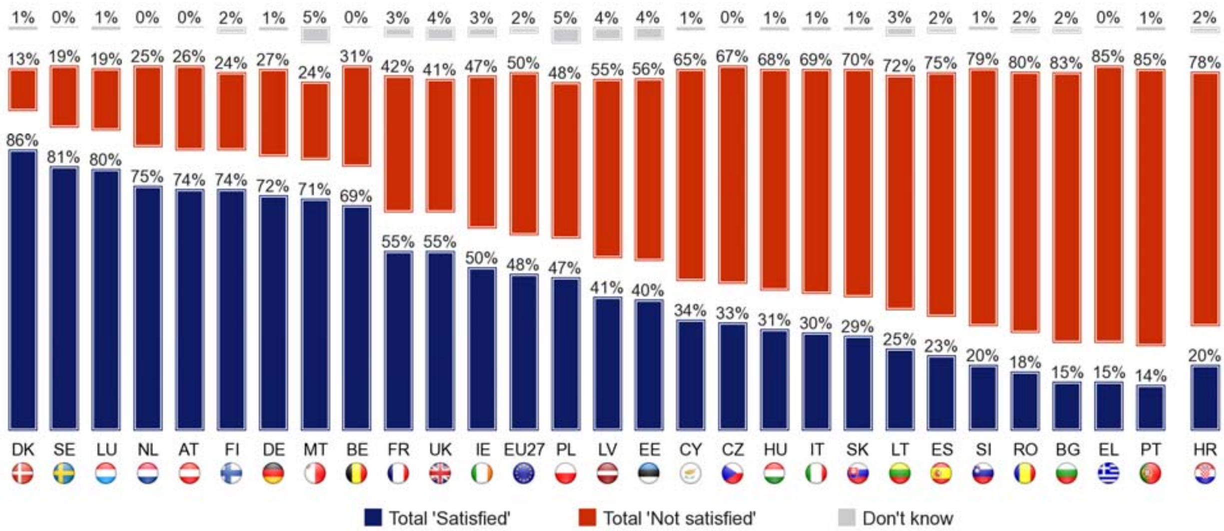
It is also unchanged in the euro area countries (49% versus 50%) and has deteriorated slightly in the non-euro area countries (46/51 today compared with 48/50 six months earlier).

[38] QA21a. 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)?

Respondents are predominantly satisfied in the Nordic countries (86% in Denmark, 81% in Sweden and 74% in Finland), the Benelux countries (80% in Luxembourg, 75% in the Netherlands and 69% in Belgium), Austria (74%), Germany (72%) and Malta (71%). A majority of respondents are also satisfied in France (55%), the United Kingdom (55%) and in Ireland, albeit with a narrower majority (50% versus 47%), making a total of 12 EU countries. Within this group, the proportion of satisfied respondents has increased sharply in Malta (+21) and Belgium (+12). Opinions are still evenly divided in Poland (47% versus 48%, compared with 48% versus 47% in autumn 2012).

In the remaining 14 countries, respondents are predominantly dissatisfied, in particular in Portugal (85%), Greece (85%), Bulgaria (83%), Romania (80%), Slovenia (79%), Spain (75%), Lithuania (72%) and Slovakia (70%). Dissatisfaction, already high in autumn 2012, has increased further in this survey in Portugal (+11 percentage points), Bulgaria (+9) and Spain (+9).

QA21a. 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)?

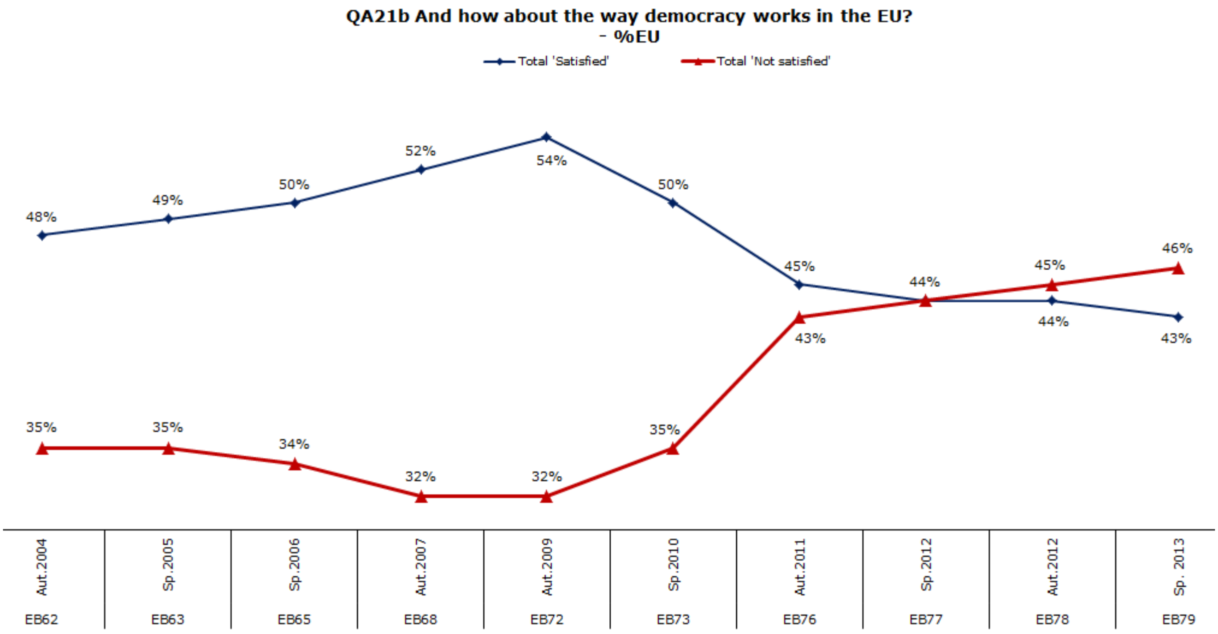


There are important structural divisions in opinions on national democracy, depending on respondents' social status and socio-economic conditions. A majority of the most educated respondents and those in the most advantaged social strata are positive, whereas those in the most vulnerable categories and with financial difficulties are far more critical of their democratic system. By way of illustration, 62% of managers are satisfied with the way in which democracy works in their country, whereas 63% of unemployed people and 72% of those who struggle to pay their bills most of the time are dissatisfied.

How European democracy works

46% of Europeans (+1 percentage point since autumn 2012) are dissatisfied with the way in which democracy works in the EU, while 43% (-1) are satisfied and 11% (unchanged) expressed no opinion[39].

Though the changes are small, the deterioration in perceptions of the way in which European democracy works, which began in spring 2010 (EB73), has therefore continued in this survey. In the space of three and a half years, if we take the autumn 2009 Eurobarometer survey (EB72) as our point of comparison, positive opinions have fallen by 11 percentage points while, over the same time, adverse opinions have increased by 14 percentage points.



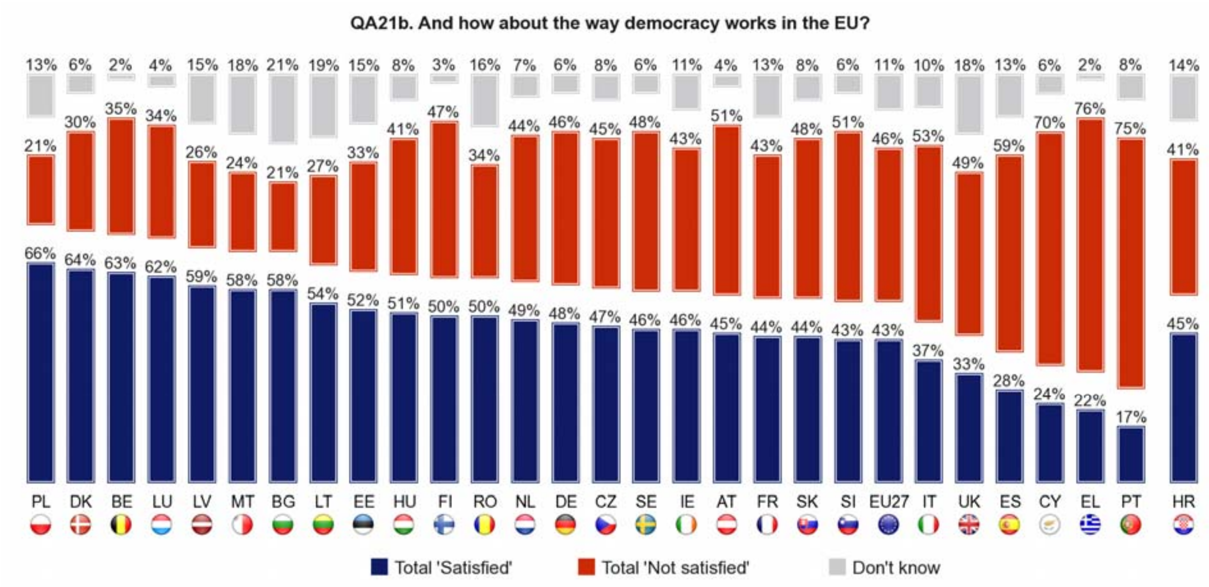
An increased majority of respondents are dissatisfied in the EU15 countries (50% versus 40% compared with 48% versus 43% in autumn 2012) and in the euro area countries (50% versus 41% compared with 48% versus 43% in autumn 2012). Dissatisfaction has reached the 50% threshold for the first time in both these groups of countries.

In contrast, satisfaction predominates and has even increased in the NMS12 countries. (56% versus 31% compared with 54% versus 33% in autumn 2012). The balance of opinion is still positive and more or less unchanged in the non-euro area countries (48% versus 37% compared with 48% versus 39%).

An absolute majority of respondents in 12 Member States are satisfied with the way in which democracy works in the EU, with the highest scores in Poland (66%), Denmark (64%), Belgium (63%), Latvia (59%), Malta (58%) and Bulgaria (58%). Satisfaction has increased sharply in Belgium (+9 to 63%).

[39] QA21b. And the way in which democracy works in the European Union?

The balance of opinion is narrow but positive in five countries: the Netherlands (49% versus 44%), Germany (48% versus 46%), the Czech Republic (47% versus 45%), Ireland (46% versus 43%) and France (44% versus 43%). Within this group, the ratio has been reversed and is now positive in the Czech Republic, with an improvement in the differential between satisfied and dissatisfied respondents (from -3 in autumn 2012 to +2 now). However, it has deteriorated significantly in France (from +8 to +1) and Germany (from +7 to +2).



A relative majority of respondents are dissatisfied in three countries: the United Kingdom (49% versus 33%), Slovakia (48% versus 44%) and Sweden (48% versus 46%). Dissatisfaction has gained six percentage points in Sweden and the balance of opinion has been reversed in this country in comparison with autumn 2012.

An absolute majority of respondents are dissatisfied in seven countries, Greece (76%), Portugal (75%), Cyprus (70%), Spain (59%), Italy (53%), Austria (51%) and Slovenia (51%). Dissatisfaction has increased sharply in Cyprus (70%, +21), Portugal (75%, +9) and Spain (59%, +5). Following a 7-point rise in the proportion of dissatisfied respondents, the balance of opinion has been reversed in Slovenia in comparison with the autumn 2012 survey (51% versus 43% today compared with 44% versus 51% in the EB78 survey of autumn 2012).

There are significant social divisions in opinions of how European democracy works. Respondents aged 15-24 (52%), students (55%), highly educated respondents (52%) and managers (54%) are predominantly satisfied.

However, majorities are dissatisfied in the following categories: people aged 55 or over (47% versus 40%), people with a low level of education (54%), unemployed people (51%), manual workers (50%) and those who struggle to pay their bills most of the time (58%).

QA21. 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)		The EU	
	Total 'Satisfied'	Total 'Not satisfied'	Total 'Satisfied'	Total 'Not satisfied'
EU27	48%	50%	43%	46%
EURO AREA	49%	50%	41%	50%
NON-EURO AREA	46%	51%	48%	37%
EU15	51%	47%	40%	50%
NMS12	33%	64%	56%	31%
Gender				
Men	49%	50%	45%	47%
Women	46%	51%	42%	44%
Age				
15-24	51%	46%	51%	37%
25-39	45%	53%	45%	46%
40-54	46%	53%	43%	48%
55 +	49%	49%	40%	47%
Education (End of)				
15-	38%	60%	30%	54%
16-19	45%	53%	42%	47%
20+	57%	42%	52%	41%
Still studying	56%	41%	55%	35%
Socio-professional category				
Self-employed	45%	53%	45%	48%
Managers	62%	38%	54%	41%
Other white collars	51%	47%	47%	44%
Manual workers	44%	54%	40%	50%
House persons	41%	58%	39%	46%
Unemployed	34%	63%	36%	51%
Retired	48%	50%	40%	46%
Students	56%	41%	55%	35%
Difficulties paying bills				
Most of the time	26%	72%	28%	58%
From time to time	39%	60%	41%	48%
Almost never	57%	41%	48%	42%

The tables below show the socio-demographic results in the six largest EU countries, and in four countries which have been particularly affected by the economic crisis.

QA21a.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'

	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
Gender										
Men	74%	24%	55%	33%	47%	56%	16%	16%	51%	33%
Women	70%	24%	54%	28%	47%	55%	14%	13%	48%	35%
Age										
15-24	74%	29%	61%	31%	53%	56%	10%	23%	57%	30%
25-39	71%	20%	53%	30%	48%	56%	13%	15%	50%	24%
40-54	71%	24%	53%	28%	46%	52%	15%	15%	46%	36%
55 +	73%	24%	55%	31%	44%	58%	18%	11%	49%	46%
Education (End of)										
15-	62%	25%	42%	27%	32%	51%	18%	10%	39%	43%
16-19	69%	18%	47%	33%	45%	53%	14%	20%	46%	30%
20+	82%	27%	66%	29%	53%	62%	13%	14%	54%	30%
Still studying	79%	28%	67%	29%	54%	64%	14%	22%	59%	39%
Socio-professional category										
Self-employed	73%	21%	52%	32%	49%	53%	18%	11%	54%	31%
Managers	79%	27%	62%	35%	65%	64%	21%	11%	61%	30%
Other white collars	72%	24%	68%	32%	60%	62%	9%	18%	43%	35%
Manual workers	64%	25%	45%	29%	34%	52%	19%	20%	51%	32%
House persons	76%	24%	57%	28%	49%	49%	19%	16%	45%	39%
Unemployed	50%	18%	59%	29%	46%	40%	8%	12%	36%	20%
Retired	74%	26%	52%	28%	43%	58%	15%	11%	52%	47%
Students	79%	28%	67%	29%	54%	64%	14%	22%	59%	39%

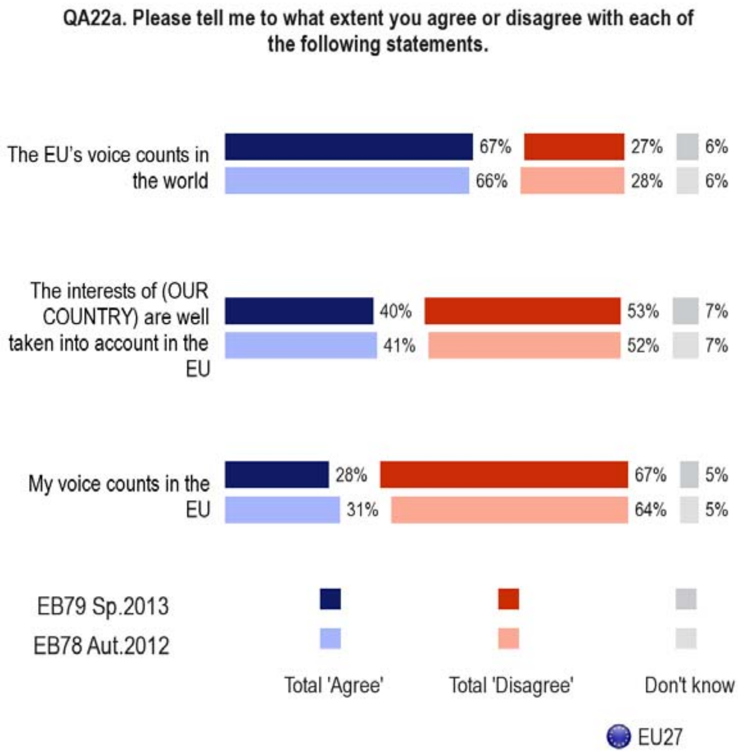
QA21b.On the whole, are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied or not at all satisfied with the way democracy works in the EU?

Total 'Satisfied'

	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
Gender										
Men	52%	26%	45%	37%	67%	36%	24%	19%	47%	26%
Women	46%	28%	43%	37%	64%	31%	21%	14%	44%	23%
Age										
15-24	51%	34%	65%	37%	78%	36%	25%	34%	46%	25%
25-39	43%	27%	44%	41%	69%	42%	21%	17%	46%	17%
40-54	48%	31%	38%	38%	63%	29%	22%	13%	43%	23%
55 +	50%	22%	41%	34%	57%	29%	21%	12%	48%	33%
Education (End of)										
15-	39%	22%	30%	29%	46%	24%	22%	12%	36%	28%
16-19	47%	25%	37%	40%	62%	28%	20%	20%	45%	20%
20+	56%	35%	53%	48%	71%	47%	20%	21%	50%	25%
Still studying	51%	35%	73%	45%	82%	42%	31%	37%	49%	27%
Socio-professional category										
Self-employed	43%	24%	55%	42%	69%	37%	25%	18%	52%	31%
Managers	58%	43%	48%	54%	79%	44%	29%	25%	52%	30%
Other white collars	47%	29%	48%	42%	72%	30%	15%	9%	42%	24%
Manual workers	43%	27%	36%	33%	58%	31%	29%	20%	49%	15%
House persons	42%	23%	47%	38%	75%	30%	22%	19%	42%	20%
Unemployed	32%	27%	50%	26%	66%	26%	16%	13%	37%	18%
Retired	52%	24%	38%	30%	56%	28%	18%	9%	49%	33%
Students	51%	35%	73%	45%	82%	42%	31%	37%	49%	27%

2.2. How far are personal, national and European interests taken into account by the EU?

The impression that **"their voice does not count" in the EU**[40] (67%, +3 percentage points) is shared by similar proportions of European citizens in the EU15 countries, the NMS12 countries, the euro area countries and the non-euro area countries. This opinion is held by an absolute majority of respondents in 24 of the 27 Member States, with record levels in Greece (89%), Cyprus (89%), Portugal (81%), the Czech Republic (81%), Italy (78%) and Spain (77%). Two countries are exceptions: Denmark, where an absolute majority of respondents say that their voice counts in the EU (55%), and Malta (46% versus 43%), with a relative majority. In Belgium, where more people now say that "my voice counts" (+5 percentage points), opinions are evenly balanced (49% think that their voice does not count versus 48%). The impression among citizens that their voice does not count in the EU has increased sharply since autumn 2012 in Cyprus (+16), Bulgaria (+11) and Italy (+8).



A majority of Europeans also consider that their country's interests are not adequately taken into account by the EU: 53% (+1 percentage point since the autumn 2012 survey) share this view while 40% (-1) say that their country's interests are properly taken into account by the EU[41]. This is the predominant opinion across all groups of countries and is supported by an absolute majority of respondents in the non-euro area countries (56%, +1), the euro area countries (51%, +1), the EU15 countries (53%, +1) and the NMS12 countries (54%, +2).

In comparison with the autumn 2012 survey (EB78), the balance of opinion has reversed and is now negative in France (44% versus 45% compared with 49% versus 43% in autumn 2012) and Sweden (48% versus 49% compared with 49% versus 46%). Since spring 2012 (EB77), the impression that national interests are adequately taken into account by the EU has lost 13 percentage points in France. However, the balance of opinion has tipped in the opposite direction in Lithuania, where it is now positive (50% versus 45% compared with 44% versus 47%).

[40] QA22a.3 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. My voice counts in the EU.
[41] QA22a.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.

Lithuania has thus joined the group of seven countries where a majority of respondents feel that their country's interests are adequately taken into account by the EU, alongside Luxembourg (66%), Germany (58%), Belgium (58%), Denmark (54%), Malta (53%) and Poland (46% versus 43%). Within this group, the impression that national interests are adequately taken into account by the EU has gained ground in Belgium (+8 percentage points) and Malta (+5), but has declined in Poland (-4).

The predominant view in the other countries is that national interests are not adequately taken into account by the EU, with the highest scores in Cyprus (86%), Greece (85%), Latvia (69%), Italy (67%), the Czech Republic (67%) and Slovenia (65%). This view has gained significant ground in Cyprus (+16 percentage points), Bulgaria (+7) and Slovenia (+6).

Lastly, as in all the previous surveys, **there is a broad consensus in European opinion about the European Union's influence on the international stage.**

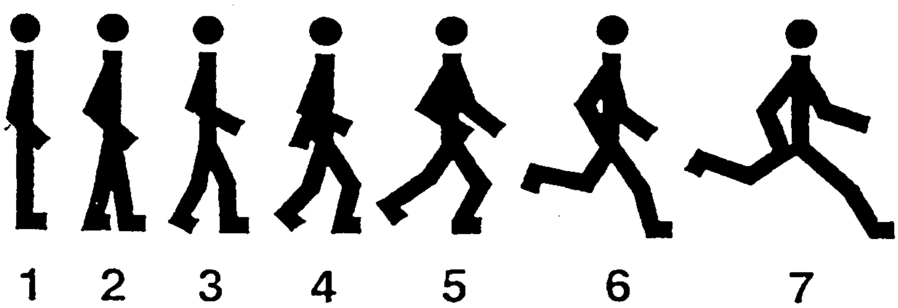
More than two-thirds of Europeans (67%, +1 percentage point since autumn 2012) agree that "**the EU's voice counts in the world"**, while only 27% (-1) disagree and 6% (unchanged) expressed no opinion[42]. An absolute majority of respondents share this opinion in the 27 EU Member States with a marked increase in support in Greece (61%, +11), Portugal (59%, +9) and Romania (61%, +9).

[42]QA22a.3 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. The EU's voice counts in the world.

3. Opinions on the speed of European integration

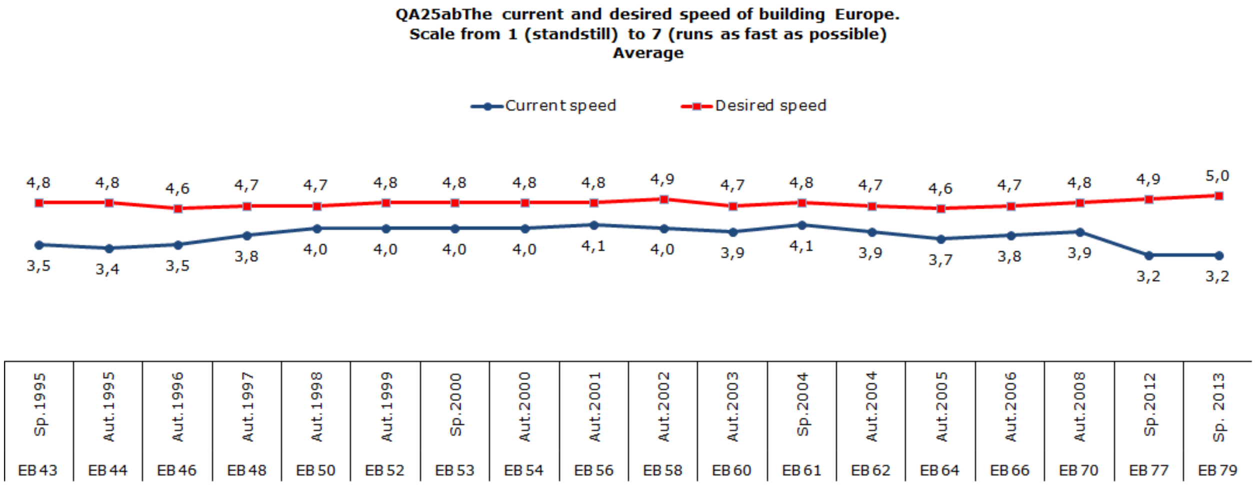
– The speed at which Europeans would like to build Europe has reached a high, with a wider gap between aspirations and the perceived speed –

In this Eurobarometer survey, respondents were asked for their views on the speed of the building of Europe: first what they think it is now, and second what they would like it to be. For this purpose, they were asked choose one of the figures below, where number 1 is at a standstill and number 7 is running as fast as possible. An average speed is then calculated by aggregating the answers. This question was asked a year ago, during the spring 2012 Eurobarometer survey (EB77), which therefore provides a point of comparison.



On this scale of 1 to 7, the average *perceived* speed is 3.2 while the average desired speed is 5[43]. The average perceived speed is unchanged since spring 2012, whereas the average desired speed has increased very slightly, from 4.9 to 5, taking it to its highest level since spring 1995 (EB43). Though there has always been a structural gap for this indicator between the desired and perceived speeds of European integration, this gap has widened significantly since 2008 and is now the largest ever measured. In other words, as a result of the economic and financial crisis, Europeans perceive a slowdown in the progress of European integration, whereas they would like it to accelerate.

[43] QA25a 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 score for the perceived speed of European integration ranges from 2.8 in Hungary, Portugal and Spain to 3.9 Austria.

Apart from Cyprus, where the average has fallen from 5.5 to 5.3, **the desire for more rapid European integration is either stable or has increased since spring 2012 in all EU countries,** with the highest levels in Bulgaria (5.8), Greece (5.7), Romania (5.7), France (5.6) and Portugal (5.6). It has increased significantly in France (+0.3) and Latvia (+0.3), and is lowest in Finland (4.5) and Germany (4.5).

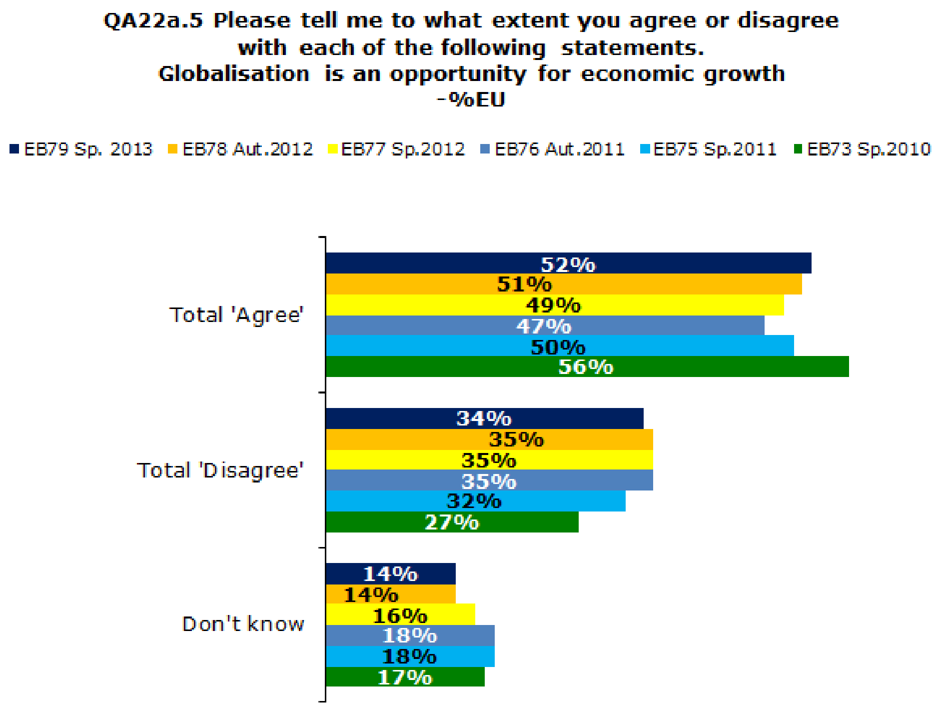
There is almost no difference between the speed of European integration desired in the euro area countries (5) and the non-euro area countries (5.1). However, respondents in the NMS12 countries (5.5) are more likely than those in the EU15 countries (4.9) to want more rapid European integration.

4. Europeans and globalisation

4.1. Is globalisation an opportunity for economic growth?

52% of Europeans agree that globalisation is an opportunity for economic growth, while just over a third disagree (34%) and 14% expressed no opinion[44].

Positive views of the economic role of globalisation have gained ground slightly, recording a 1-point rise since the autumn 2012 survey and a 3-point increase since spring 2012. Over the same periods, negative perceptions (proportion of respondents who “disagree” with the statement) have lost one percentage point. The balance of “agree/disagree” opinions is now at its highest level (+18) since EB75 of spring 2011 (+18), but is still considerably below the level measured in spring 2010 (+29).



The view that globalisation is an opportunity for economic growth is shared by a majority of respondents in the EU15 countries (53% versus 34%), the NMS12 countries (49% versus 30%), the euro area countries (52% versus 36%) and the non-euro area countries (53% versus 29%) alike. In more detail, respondents tend to be positive about globalisation in 22 Member States, with the highest scores, as in the previous survey, in the Nordic countries (80% in Denmark, 78% in Sweden, 68% in Finland), the Netherlands (71%) and Germany (69%). Within this group, the image of globalisation has improved considerably in Belgium (58%, +10), Romania (38%, +9), Luxembourg (61%, +7) and Latvia (54%, +6).

[44] QA22a.5 Please tell me for each statement, whether you tend to agree or tend to disagree. Globalisation is an opportunity for economic growth.

Five countries are predominantly negative about globalisation: Greece (63%, -8), Cyprus (61%, +2), Italy (51%, +3), the Czech Republic (49% (unchanged) versus 40%) and Portugal (41% (-3) versus 39%).

QA22a.5 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.
Globalisation is an opportunity for economic growth

	Total 'Agree'	Diff. EB79 Sp. 2013 - EB78 Aut. 2012	Total 'Disagree'	Diff. EB79 Sp. 2013 - EB78 Aut. 2012	Don't know	Diff. EB79 Sp. 2013 - EB78 Aut. 2012
EU27	52%	+1	34%	-1	14%	=
EURO AREA	52%	+3	36%	-3	12%	=
NON-EURO AREA	53%	+1	29%	-1	18%	=
EU15	53%	+1	34%	-2	13%	+1
NMS12	49%	+2	30%	-2	21%	=
DK	80%	+1	14%	=	6%	-1
SE	78%	+1	18%	=	4%	-1
NL	71%	-3	22%	+4	7%	-1
DE	69%	+2	23%	-3	8%	+1
FI	68%	-2	25%	+2	7%	=
MT	62%	+2	13%	=	25%	-2
LU	61%	+7	30%	-2	9%	-5
IE	60%	-2	25%	+3	15%	-1
LV	59%	+6	25%	-1	16%	-5
HU	59%	+4	28%	-4	13%	=
BE	58%	+10	36%	-12	6%	+2
UK	55%	+1	29%	-1	16%	=
LT	54%	+4	22%	-2	24%	-2
AT	54%	+4	38%	-4	8%	=
EE	54%	-2	30%	+3	16%	-1
SI	53%	+5	39%	-3	8%	-2
PL	53%	-2	25%	=	22%	+2
SK	49%	+2	37%	-3	14%	+1
BG	49%	+1	22%	-4	29%	+3
FR	46%	+1	43%	-3	11%	+2
IT	41%	+4	48%	-3	11%	-1
CZ	41%	+1	49%	=	10%	-1
ES	41%	-1	33%	=	26%	+1
PT	39%	+4	41%	-3	20%	-1
RO	38%	+9	33%	-4	29%	-5
EL	31%	+8	63%	-8	6%	=
CY	31%	+5	59%	-2	10%	-3
CY (tcc)	51%	+9	35%	+2	14%	-11
IS	66%	-1	24%	+2	10%	-1
HR	62%	+13	30%	-10	8%	-3
TR	55%	+22	25%	-10	20%	-12
MK	52%	+3	28%	+1	20%	-4
ME	41%	-4	33%	+4	26%	=
RS	39%	-1	41%	-2	20%	+3

As in all the previous Eurobarometer surveys, perceptions of globalisation differ significantly between socio-demographic categories. Men (56%), the youngest respondents (60%) and the most educated respondents (61%) are more likely than women (50%), the oldest respondents (46%) and those who left school before the age of 16 (37%) to see globalisation as an opportunity for economic growth. Further, 67% of those who place themselves at the top of the social scale and 59% of those who almost never have difficulties paying their bills see the economic role of globalisation in a positive light, whereas this is true of only 38% of those at the bottom of the social scale and 35% of those who struggle to pay their bills most of the time.

QA22a.5. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

Globalisation is an opportunity for economic growth

	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Don't know
EU27	52%	34%	14%
EURO AREA	52%	36%	12%
NON-EURO AREA	53%	29%	18%
EU15	53%	34%	13%
NMS12	49%	30%	21%
Gender			
Men	56%	34%	10%
Women	50%	32%	18%
Age			
15-24	60%	26%	14%
25-39	55%	32%	13%
40-54	54%	35%	11%
55 +	46%	35%	19%
Education (End of)			
15-	37%	37%	26%
16-19	51%	35%	14%
20+	62%	31%	7%
Still studying	66%	23%	11%
Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	54%	36%	10%
Managers	67%	28%	5%
Other white collars	56%	34%	10%
Manual workers	50%	36%	14%
House persons	43%	33%	24%
Unemployed	45%	37%	18%
Retired	46%	34%	20%
Students	66%	23%	11%
Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	35%	46%	19%
From time to time	47%	38%	15%
Almost never	59%	28%	13%
Self-positioning on the social staircase			
Low (1-4)	38%	42%	20%
Medium (5-6)	54%	32%	14%
High (7-10)	67%	25%	8%

The table below also shows the socio-demographic results in the six largest EU countries, and in four countries which have been particularly affected by the economic crisis.

QA22a.5. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

Globalisation is an opportunity for economic growth - Total 'Agree'

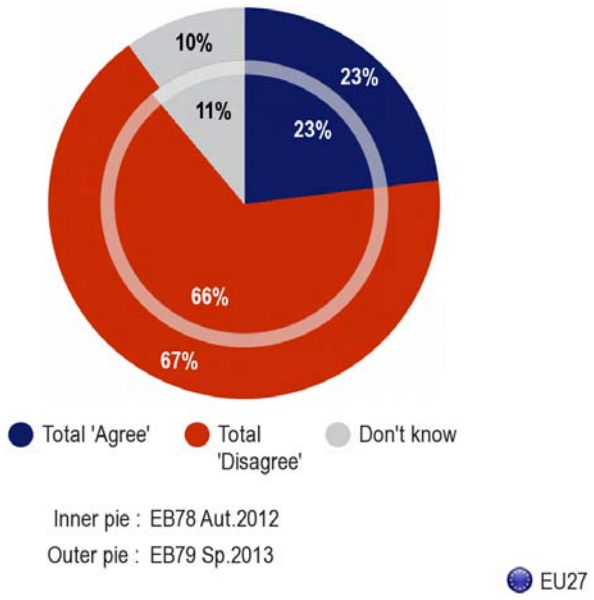
	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
Gender										
Men	74%	45%	52%	43%	50%	60%	32%	44%	65%	32%
Women	65%	38%	41%	39%	54%	51%	28%	36%	55%	30%
Age										
15-24	70%	55%	67%	49%	63%	55%	42%	48%	57%	42%
25-39	72%	45%	47%	45%	60%	61%	37%	53%	63%	29%
40-54	69%	47%	47%	45%	50%	55%	25%	38%	59%	27%
55 +	68%	29%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

4.2. The EU and the effects of globalisation

With no significant changes since the previous survey, a large majority of Europeans continue to see the EU as the appropriate framework for dealing with the challenges of globalisation: 67% of Europeans (+1 percentage point) disagree that “their country alone can cope with the negative effects of globalisation”, whereas only 23% (unchanged) agree with this statement and 10% (-1) expressed no opinion[45].

QA22a.6. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

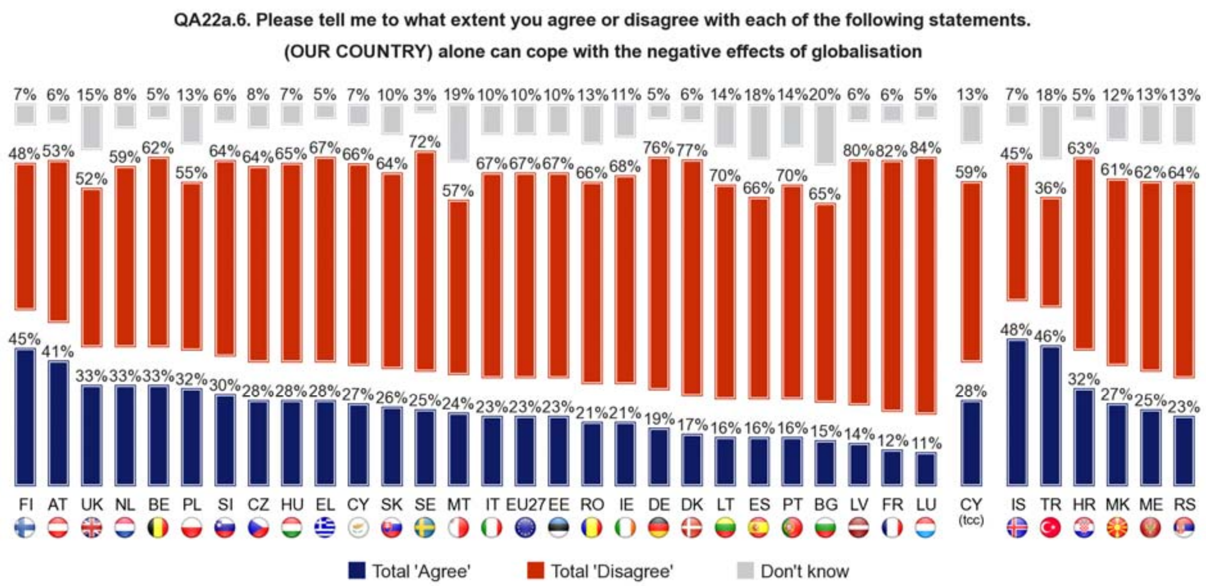
(OUR COUNTRY) alone can cope with the negative effects of globalisation



On this question, euro area respondents (70%) are more convinced than non-euro area respondents (59%) of the value and the need to work together within the EU to deal with globalisation. The differences between the EU15 countries (68%) and the NMS12 countries (62%) are less pronounced.

A detailed national analysis shows that apart from Finland, where the majority is relative (48% versus 45%), an absolute majority of respondents in all EU countries agree that their country could not face the negative effects of globalisation alone. This view is most widespread in Luxembourg (84%) and France (82%).

[45] QA22a.6 To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. (OUR COUNTRY) alone can cope with the negative effects of globalisation.



Within the candidate countries, opinions on whether the country can cope alone with the negative effects of globalisation differs from one country to another. A majority of respondents think it can in Turkey (46% versus 36%) and Iceland (48% versus 45%). All the other countries take the opposite view, with fairly similar scores: 61% in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, 62% in Montenegro, 63% in Croatia and 64% in Serbia.

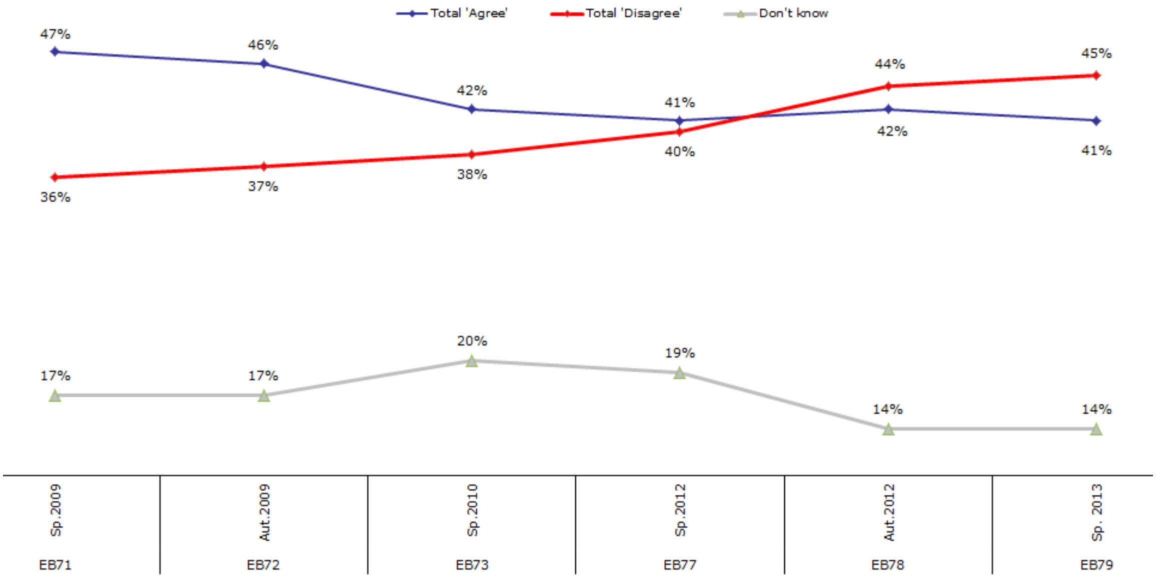
In order to gain a closer insight into perceptions of the EU's role in globalisation, the sample was then divided into two groups. Respondents in the first group were asked for their views on globalisation, using a negative wording: "**the EU helps to protect European citizens from the negative effects of globalisation"**. Those in the second group were presented with a positively worded statement on globalisation: "**the EU enables European citizens to better benefit from the positive effects of globalisation**".

Starting in spring 2009 (EB71), there has been a gradual increase in the proportion of respondents who deny that the EU plays a protective role in dealing with the negative effects of globalisation; this trend has continued with this survey. The trend is similar for the positive wording: the perception that the EU acts as a lever enabling citizens to benefit from the positive effects of globalisation has decreased since autumn 2009 (EB72), even if the balance of opinion for this indicator remains clearly in favour of the EU's role.

The negative wording (SPLIT A)

A relative majority of Europeans (45%, +1 percentage point since autumn 2012) do not consider that the EU helps to protect European citizens from the negative effects of globalisation, while 41% (-1) think that it does so[46]. The differential between positive and negative opinions has changed from +11 in spring 2009, to +4 in spring 2010, +1 in spring 2012, -2 in autumn 2012 and -4 today.

QA22.7 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



An increased majority of respondents in the NMS12 countries (50% versus 39% today compared with 46% versus 38% in autumn 2012) and the non-euro area countries (45% versus 38% compared with 44% versus 39%) believe that the European Union offers protection against the adverse effects of globalisation. However, this view is shared by only a minority of respondents in the EU15 countries (38% versus 48% compared with 41% versus 45% in autumn 2012) and the euro area countries (40% versus 48% compared with 41% versus 46%).

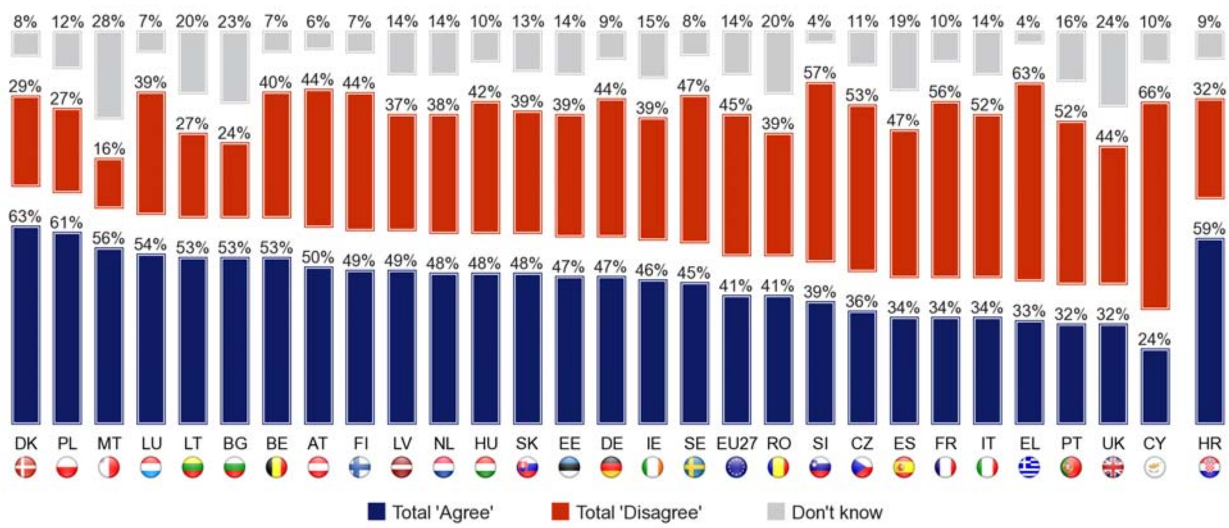
The idea that the EU protects its citizens from the negative effects of globalisation has gained ground in 13 EU countries, led by Luxembourg (54%, +13), Lithuania (53%, +10), Belgium (53%, +6) and Austria (50%, +6). In this survey, the balance of opinion has tipped and is now positive in Austria (passing from 44% versus 49% in autumn 2012 to 50% versus 44% now) and Romania (41% versus 39% now, compared with 36% versus 40% six months earlier).

Support for this view is unchanged in two countries (Denmark 63% and Estonia 47%) and has fallen in 12 countries, with a significant decline in Spain (34%, -10), Cyprus (24%, -7) and Sweden (45%, -7). These changes have reversed the balance of opinion, which is now negative, in Spain (34% now consider that the EU acts as a protective buffer versus 47%, compared with 44% versus 35% in the autumn 2012 EB78 survey) and Sweden (45% versus 47% compared with 52% versus 39%).

[46] QA22a.7. 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.

In total, a majority of respondents in 18 Member States consider that the European Union acts as a protective buffer against the negative effects of globalisation, with absolute majorities in Denmark (63%), Poland (61%), Malta (56%), Luxembourg (54%), Lithuania (53%), Belgium (53%), Bulgaria (53%) and Austria (50%).

The view that the European Union is not a protective buffer is predominant in ten countries, with absolute majorities in Cyprus (66%), Greece (63%), Slovenia (57%), France (56%), the Czech Republic (53%), Portugal (52%) and Italy (52%).



Only split A

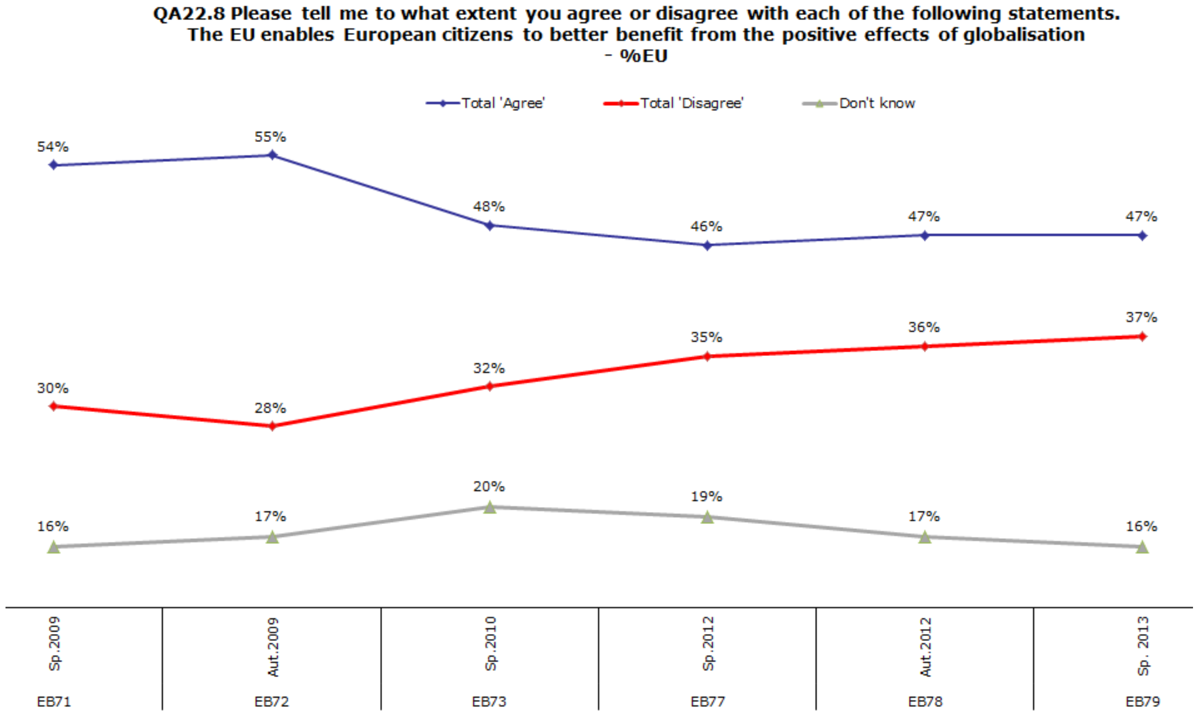
The positive wording (SPLIT B)

The positive wording ("the European Union enables European citizens to benefit from the positive effects of globalisation") attracts more support than the statement claiming that the EU has a protective role.

Almost half of Europeans (47%, unchanged since autumn 2012) agree that "the EU enables European citizens to better benefit from the positive effects of globalisation", while 37% (+1 percentage point) take the opposite view and 16% (-1) expressed no opinion[47].

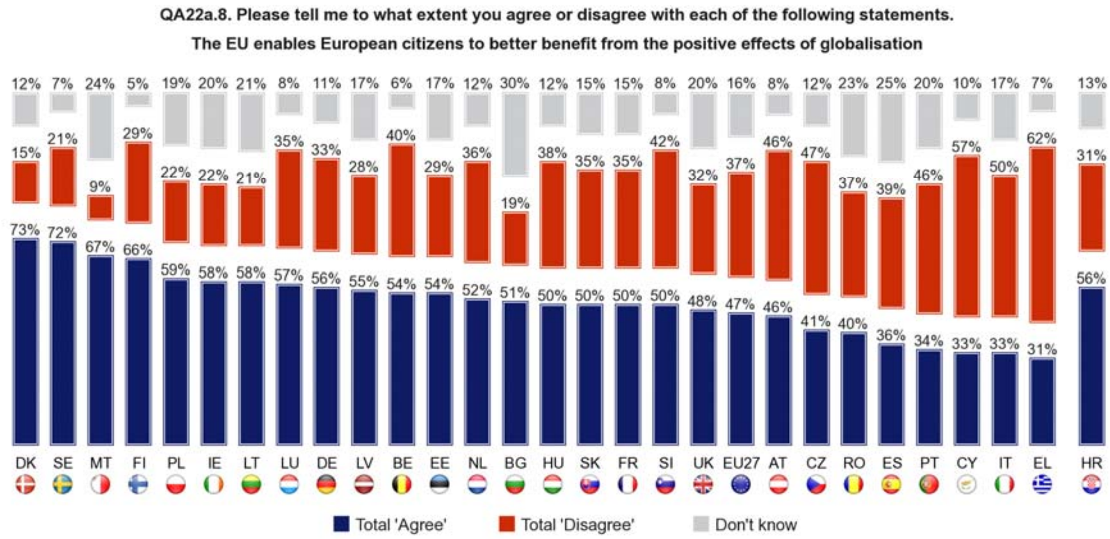
Although the balance of opinion for this indicator is still broadly favourable, the fundamental trend in recent years has been downwards: the differential is now +10, compared with +11 in autumn 2012, +16 in spring 2010 and +27 in autumn 2009.

[47] QA22a.8. 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.



A detailed national analysis shows that the balance of opinion has been spectacularly reversed in a positive direction in Belgium (54% agree with the statement that the EU helps European citizens to benefit more fully from the positive effects of globalisation versus 40%, compared with 43% versus 48% in autumn 2012). It is now evenly balanced in Austria (48% versus 48%) whereas it was slightly negative in autumn 2012 (43% versus 45%). Lastly, it has been reversed and is now negative in Spain (36% versus 39% today compared with 44% versus 30%).

Overall, the idea that the EU enables European citizens "to better benefit from the positive effects of globalisation" is supported by a majority of respondents in 20 Member States, led by Denmark (73%), Sweden (72%), Malta (67%) and Finland (66%). In contrast, respondents are predominantly negative in six countries: Greece (62%), Cyprus (57%), Italy (50%), the Czech Republic (47% versus 41%), Portugal (46% versus 34%) and Spain (39% versus 36%).



Only asked to split B

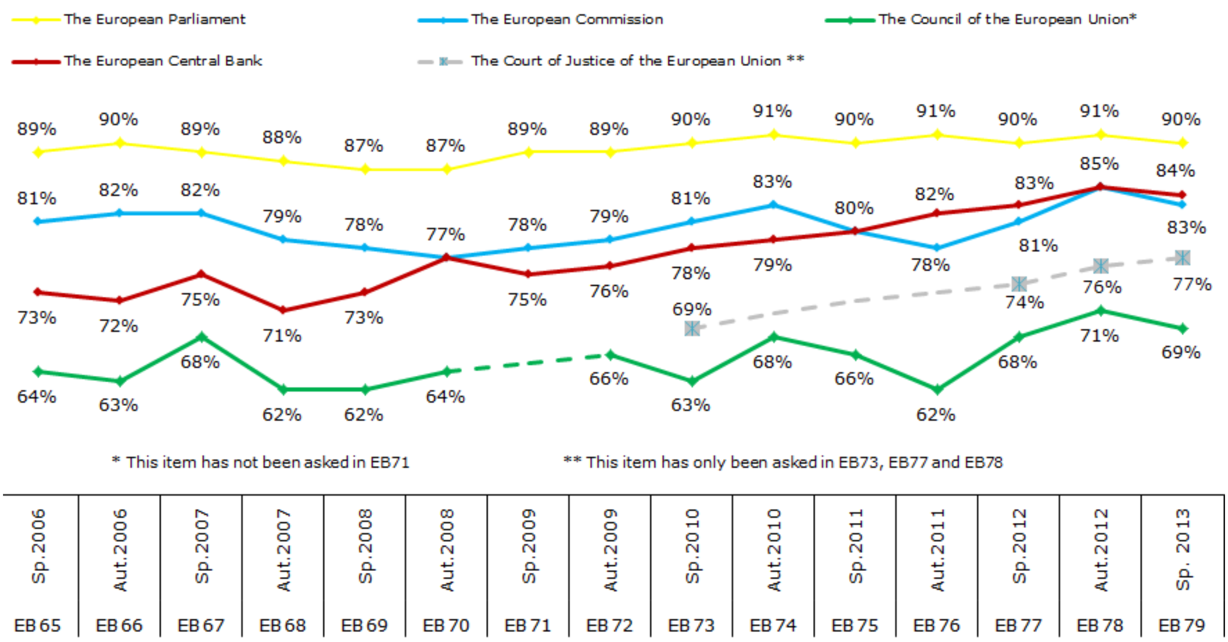
5. The European institutions

5.1. Awareness of the European institutions and trust in them

Awareness of the European institutions

After the record scores of autumn 2012, **awareness of the European institutions has fallen slightly** in this survey: down by one percentage point for the European Parliament (90%) and the European Central Bank (84%) and by two percentage points for the European Commission (83%) and the Council of the European Union (69%). The only exception is the Court of Justice of the European Union: awareness of this institution continues to increase (77%, +1)[48].

QA17 Have you heard of...?
Answer "Yes" - %EU

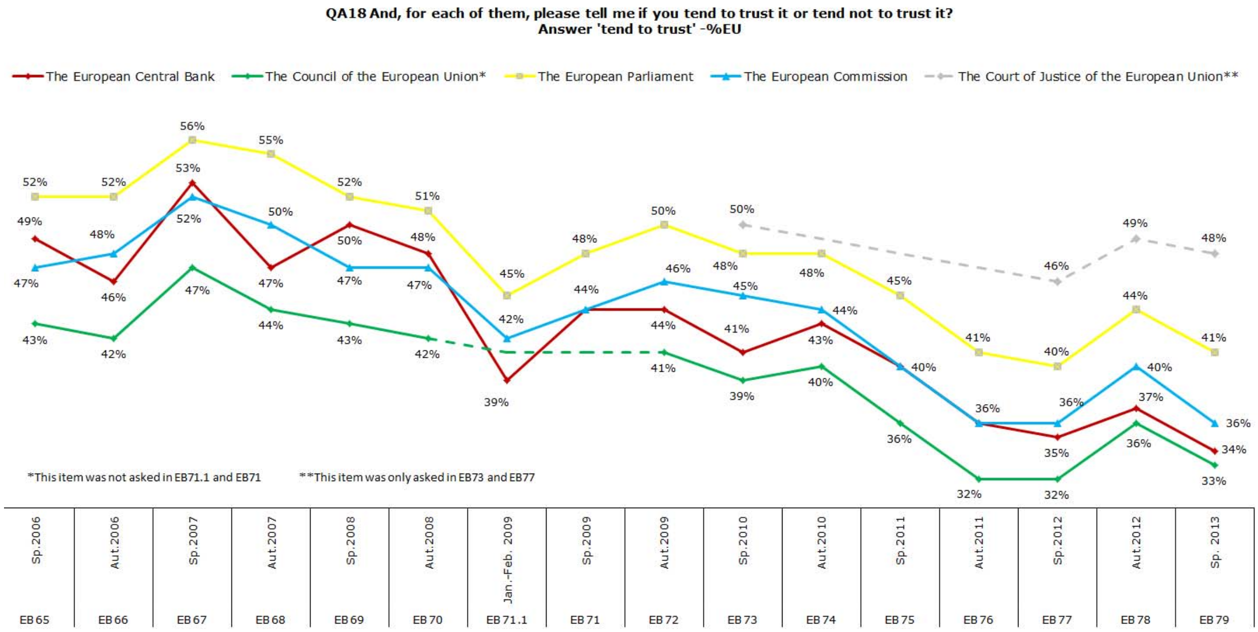


Trust in the European institutions

After a period beginning in autumn 2009 which saw a significant deterioration in trust in the main European institutions, the previous survey in autumn 2012 recorded an upturn of trust in European opinion. This has not continued and trust levels have trended downwards again in this survey[49].

[48] QA17.1+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

[49] QA18.1+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.



Trust in the main European institutions has decreased particularly sharply in this survey in Cyprus, Portugal, Ireland, Slovenia, France, Poland and Romania.

The European Parliament

41% of Europeans (-3 percentage points since autumn 2012) trust the European Parliament, while 47% (+2s) distrust it and 12% (+1) expressed no opinion. The trust-distrust ratio for the European Parliament has lost five points in this survey and returns to its lowest level, previously reached in spring 2012 (EB77) (-6 versus -1 in autumn 2012, -6 in spring 2012 and -4 in autumn 2011).

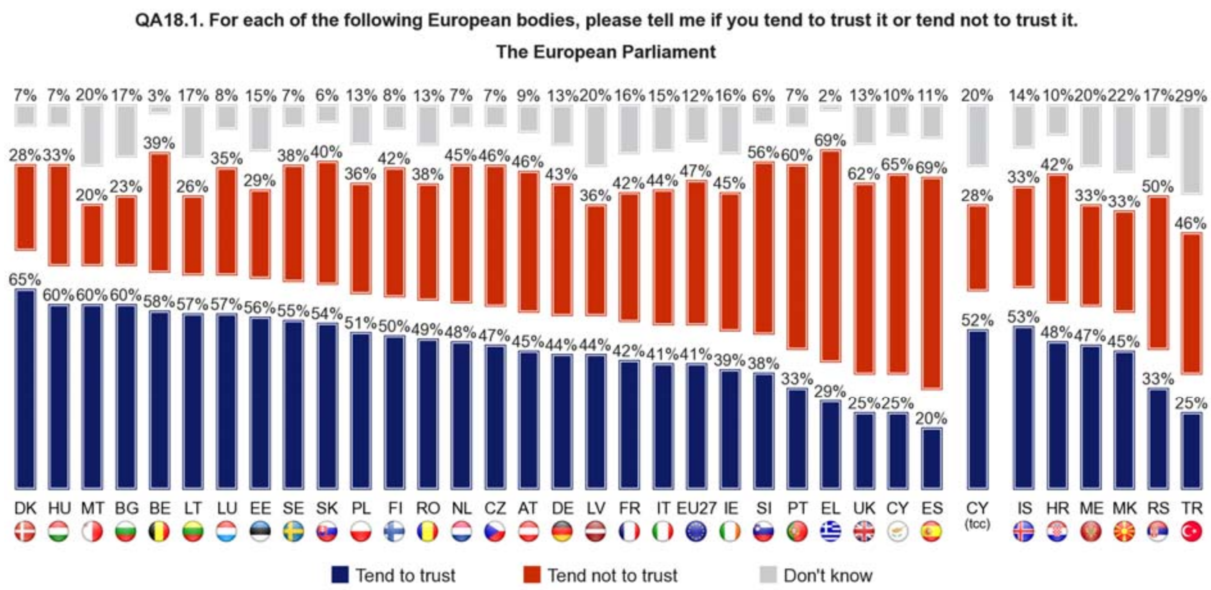
Trust in the European Parliament has declined in 17 of the 27 Member States, in particular in Cyprus (25%, -14), Portugal (33%, -13), Slovenia (38%, -10), Poland (51%, -9), the Netherlands (48%, -7) and Finland (50%, -7). It has increased significantly in only two countries: Malta (60%, +5) and Hungary (60%, +3).

As a result of these changes distrust now outweighs trust in nine EU countries, five more than in autumn 2012. In addition to Spain (69%, +3), Greece (69%, -1), Cyprus (65%, +17) and the United Kingdom (62%, -3) where a majority of respondents already tended not to trust it at the time of the autumn 2012 survey, majorities in Portugal (60%, +15), Slovenia (56%, +10), Austria (46%, +2), Ireland (45%, +5), and Italy (44%, +2) now distrust the European Parliament.

Opinion is evenly balanced in France (42% versus 42%) whereas it was largely positive in the previous survey (47% versus 38%).

Respondents in 17 EU countries therefore tend to trust the European parliament, with the highest levels in Denmark (65%) and Hungary, Malta and Bulgaria (all 60%).

Within these countries where a majority of respondents trust the European Parliament, the index has nonetheless deteriorated significantly in the Netherlands (from +15 six months earlier to +3 today) and in Finland (from +21 to +8).



The European Commission

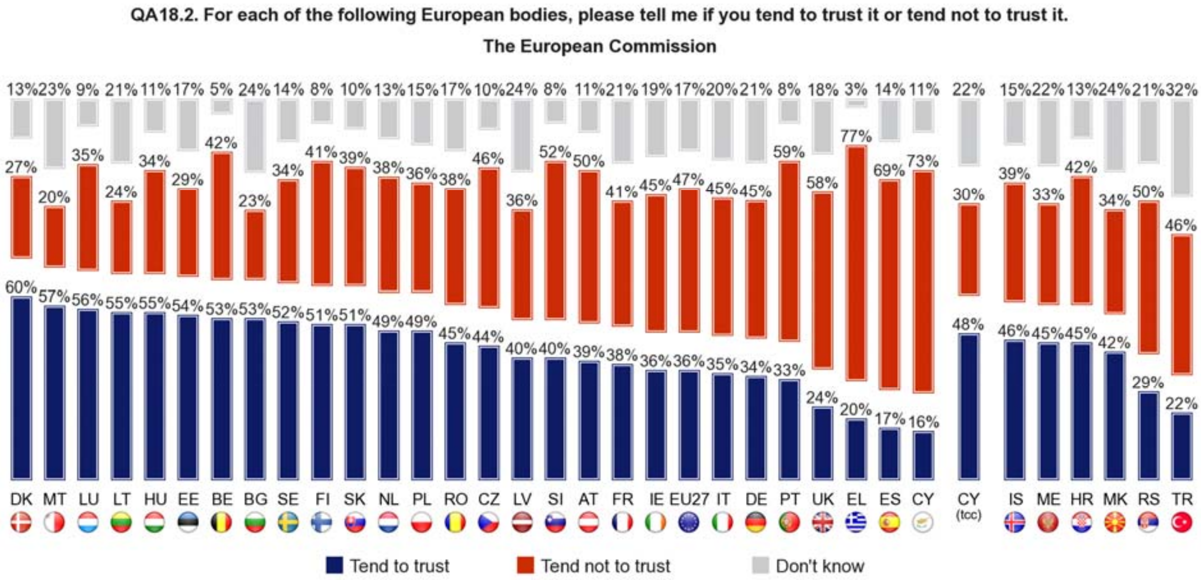
Trust in the European Commission now stands at 36% (-4 percentage points since autumn 2012), while 47% (+3) do not trust it and 17% (+1) expressed no opinion.

The index of trust has also deteriorated sharply (by 7 points) in this survey and is now at the lowest level ever measured in the Eurobarometer: -11, compared with -4 in autumn 2012, -10 in spring 2012 and -7 in autumn 2011.

The trust-distrust ratio for the European Commission has deteriorated across all groups of countries. It has become negative in this survey in the non-euro area countries, whereas it was positive in autumn 2012 (40% versus 44% compared with 43% versus 42%). Already negative six months ago, it has deteriorated in the EU15 countries (33% versus 50% compared with 37% versus 47% six months ago) and in the euro area countries (34% versus 49% compared with 39% versus 45%).

A majority of respondents in 12 Member States distrust the European Commission: in nine countries where it was already the majority position last autumn, Greece (77%, unchanged), Cyprus (73%, +21), Spain (69%, +5), Portugal (59%, +14), the United Kingdom (58%, -3), Austria (50%, unchanged), the Czech Republic (46% (+1) versus 44%), Germany (45% (+2) versus 34%) and Italy (45% (+3) versus 35%), and now also in Slovenia (52%, +6), France (41%, +3) and Ireland (45%, +8).

Trust is therefore predominant in 15 counties, led by Denmark (60%), Malta (57%), Luxembourg (56%), Lithuania (55%) and Hungary (55%), with the narrowest majority in Latvia (40% versus 36%). Within this group of countries, trust has deteriorated very sharply in Poland (49%, -9 percentage points).



The European Central Bank

For the first time, an absolute majority of Europeans (51% +2, versus 34% -3) distrust the European Central Bank. The trust-distrust ratio has therefore lost 5 points and is now at its lowest ever level (-17, versus -12 in autumn 2012, -14 in spring 2012 and -10 in autumn 2011).

An absolute and increased majority of respondents distrust this institution in the EU15 countries (55%, +2) and in the euro area (55%, +3). Although less pronounced, distrust has also gained ground in the non-euro area countries (45%, +2) and the NMS12 countries (40%, +6).

In comparison with the autumn 2012 survey, the trust-distrust ratio has become positive again in Belgium (+4 versus -6) and Latvia (+7 versus -2), whereas it has become negative in Poland (-2 versus +18) and is evenly balanced in Romania (39% versus 39%) where it was positive in the EB78 survey of autumn 2012 (+11).

These changes bring the number of EU countries which broadly distrust the European Central Bank to 11 (Germany, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Cyprus, Hungary, Portugal, Slovenia and the United Kingdom). Distrust has increased dramatically in Cyprus, where the trust-distrust ratio has deteriorated from -19 in autumn 2012 to -67 today. It has also deteriorated sharply in Portugal (from -13 to -31), Italy (from -11 to -27), Slovenia (from -8 to -23) and France (-7 to -22).

In the remaining 15 countries, trust is predominant, with the highest ratios in Denmark (+35), Malta (+33), Bulgaria (+26) and Luxembourg (+23). Within these countries in which trust commands a majority, the ratio has improved in Malta (+6 points), but has lost 10 points in the Netherlands.

The Council of the European Union

A third of Europeans (33%,-3) trust the Council of the European Union, while 44% (+1) distrust it. The "DK" rate remains high at 23% (+2), reflecting the weaker awareness of the Council compared with the other institutions. The trust-distrust ratio is still negative (-11 versus -7 in autumn 2012 and -12 in spring 2012).

The balance of opinion has been reversed and is now negative in Ireland (-7 versus +1 in autumn 2012) and France (-7 versus 0). Distrust of this institution is predominant in 12 EU countries, since it persists in the 10 countries where it was already the majority view six months ago, namely Cyprus (71%, +20), Greece (72%, -2), Spain (66%, +4), Portugal (60%, +15), the United Kingdom (53%, -6), Slovenia (53%, +7), Austria (45% (-1) versus 37%), the Czech Republic (45% (=) versus 42%), Italy (45% (+2) versus 35%) and Germany (38% (-1) versus 33%, with a very high "DK" rate of 29%).

The majority of respondents thus tend to trust this institution in 15 Member States, most notably in Malta (54%), Denmark (52%), Luxembourg (50%), Hungary (50%) and Lithuania (50%). Within this group, the trust-distrust ratio has deteriorated very sharply in Poland (+9, versus +28 in autumn 2012).

The Court of Justice of the European Union

The Court of Justice remains the only European institution which is trusted by a majority of respondents, with no significant changes since the previous survey. Almost half of Europeans (48%, -1) trust the European Court of Justice, while 35% (+1) do not. The trust-distrust ratio for the European Court of Justice is therefore now +13.

In this survey the trust-distrust ratio for the European Court of Justice has become negative in Cyprus (-26 versus 0 in autumn 2012) and Portugal (-19 versus +2); it remains negative in Spain (-33 versus -32), Greece (-21 versus -26), the United Kingdom (-12 versus -15) and Italy (-11 versus -4).

The trust-distrust ratio is positive in 19 Member states, led by Denmark (+72), Finland (+61) and Germany (+50).

An analysis of trust in the European institutions cross-tabulated with awareness highlights a number of lessons. First, respondents who **have heard of an institution are more likely to trust it than Europeans in general**: for example, 43% of those who have heard of the European Parliament "tend to trust" it (compared with 47% for "tend not to trust" it), compared with a ratio of 41/47 for Europeans as a whole. The same holds true for the European Commission (41/47, versus 36/47 for Europeans as a whole), the Council of the European Union (43/45 versus 33/44), the European Central Bank (38/52 versus 34/51) and the Court of Justice of the European Union (58/33 versus 48/35).

Further, "DK" rates for the question of trust in the institutions are particularly high among the Europeans who have not heard of them. More than a third of Europeans who have not heard[50] of the European Parliament (35%) could not answer the question on trust in this institution, and the "DK" rates are similarly high for people who have not heard of the European Commission (42%), the Council of the European Union (47%), the European Central Bank (41%) and the Court of Justice of the European Union (44%).

Lastly, respondents who expressed an opinion but had not heard of the institution in question were unlikely to trust it. This applies to all the institutions tested: the European Parliament (16% "tend to trust it" versus 49% who "tend not to trust it" among the respondents who have not heard of the European Parliament), the European Commission (11/47), the Council of the European Union (12/41), the European Central Bank (11/48) and the Court of Justice of the European Union (15/41).

QA18. 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		
	Have heard of		TOTAL	Have heard of		TOTAL	Have heard of		TOTAL	Have heard of		TOTAL	Have heard of		TOTAL
	Yes	No/ Don't know		Yes	No/ Don't know		Yes	No/ Don't know		Yes	No/ Don't know		Yes	No/ Don't know	
Tend to trust	43%	16%	41%	41%	11%	36%	43%	12%	33%	38%	11%	34%	58%	15%	48%
Tend not to trust	47%	49%	47%	47%	47%	47%	45%	41%	44%	52%	48%	51%	33%	41%	35%
Don't know	10%	35%	12%	12%	42%	17%	12%	47%	23%	10%	41%	15%	9%	44%	17%

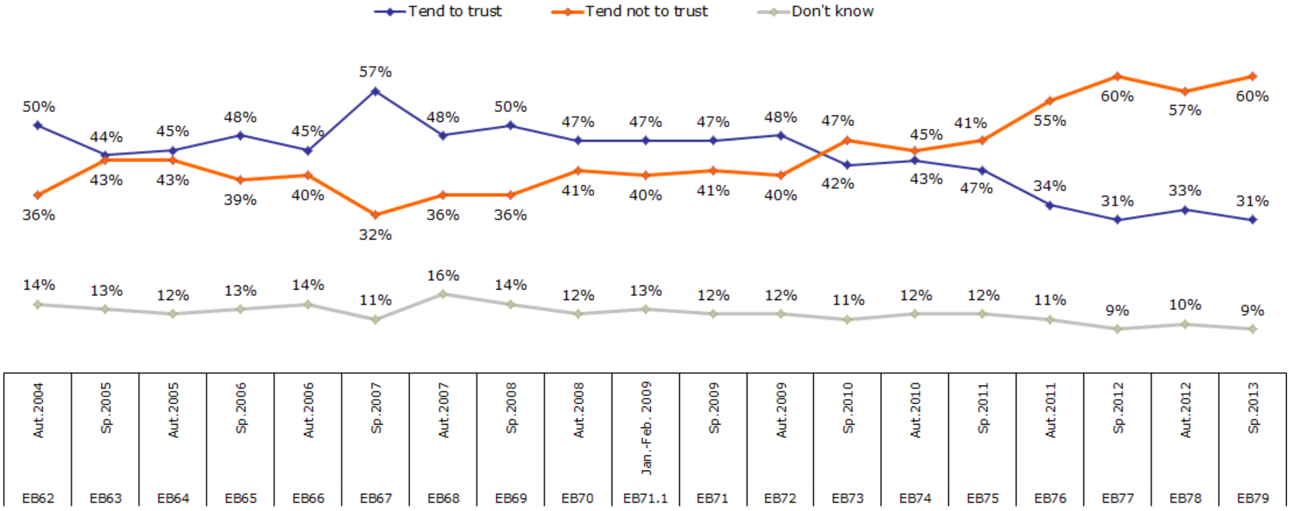
[50] People who answered "no" or "DK" to the awareness question.

5.2. Trust in the European Union

Trust in the European Union has fallen back to its lowest historical level, measured in the spring 2012 Standard Eurobarometer survey (EB77). The slight revival of trust recorded in the previous wave has therefore not been confirmed in the latest survey.

Six out of ten Europeans (60%, +3) now tend not to trust the EU. Less than a third of them (31%, -2) tend to trust it and 9% (-1) expressed no opinion[51]. The trust-distrust ratio for the EU has therefore lost five points since autumn 2012 and has fallen to its lowest ever level (-29), a level also measured in spring 2012.

QA12.4 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
% EU



Having returned to positive territory in autumn 2012, the EU trust-distrust ratio in the NMS12 countries has become negative again in this survey (-6, versus +2 in autumn 2012). It remains very negative, and has deteriorated even further, in the EU15 countries (27% versus 63% compared with 29% versus 61% in autumn 2012), the euro area countries (29% versus 62% compared with 31% versus 59%) and the non-euro area countries (34% versus 55% compared with 36% versus 54%).

Trust has declined in 12 Member States, most notably in Cyprus (-18, to 13%), Portugal (-10, 24%) and Poland (-9, 39%). It is stable in seven countries and has increased in six, with the biggest increase in Malta (+7, to 53%).

The trust-distrust ratio has been reversed and is now positive in Hungary, shifting from 44%/51% in autumn 2012 to 47%/46% today. Following a decline in trust, it has become negative in Poland, passing from 48%/42% six months ago to 39%/51% today.

[51] QA12.4. For each of the following institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it. The European Union.

In total, the European Union is now trusted by a majority of respondents in only seven Member States: Bulgaria (54% versus 28%), Malta (53% versus 29%), Lithuania (51% versus 38%), Denmark (51% versus 45%), Estonia (46% versus 43%), Romania (45% versus 43%) and Hungary (47% versus 46%).

A majority of respondents therefore distrust the EU in 20 countries, most notably in Cyprus (83%), Greece (80%), Spain (75%), Portugal (71%) and the United Kingdom (68%), where more than two-thirds of respondents do so. Distrust has increased very markedly in Cyprus (+19).

In Croatia, although distrust remains dominant, the trust-distrust ratio has improved between autumn 2012 and spring 2013 (-15, versus -24 in autumn 2012).

In the candidate countries, the trust-distrust ratio for the European Union remains positive and has even improved in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (+12 versus +7 in autumn 2012) and Montenegro (+9 versus +7). It is still negative, but has nevertheless improved in Iceland (-12 versus -22) and Turkey (-31 versus -40). Lastly, it is unchanged in Serbia, at -16.

QA12.4 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	Diff. Sp.2013 - Aut.2012	Tend not to trust	Diff. Sp.2013 - Aut.2012
EU27	31%	-2	60%	+3
BG	54%	-6	28%	+4
MT	53%	+7	29%	-5
DK	51%	+3	45%	-1
LT	51%	+2	38%	+1
BE	48%	+2	51%	=
HU	47%	+3	46%	-5
EE	46%	=	43%	+5
RO	45%	=	43%	+3
SK	45%	=	50%	+2
LU	43%	=	52%	-1
FI	41%	-6	54%	+6
PL	39%	-9	51%	+9
NL	37%	-5	58%	+8
LV	36%	-2	51%	+4
SE	36%	+3	60%	-2
CZ	35%	+1	60%	=
AT	35%	-2	55%	=
FR	34%	=	57%	+1
SI	34%	-5	63%	+6
DE	29%	-1	61%	+2
IE	29%	=	61%	+4
IT	25%	-6	61%	+8
PT	24%	-10	71%	+13
UK	20%	=	68%	-1
EL	19%	+1	80%	-1
ES	17%	-3	75%	+3
CY	13%	-18	83%	+19
HR	39%	+4	54%	-5
MK	53%	+5	39%	-2
IS	40%	+6	52%	-4
ME	49%	+4	40%	+2
TR	29%	+8	60%	-1
RS	33%	+1	59%	+1

Some of the socio-professional categories which have traditionally been the most pro-European now tend to distrust the EU.

This is the case, for example, of 15-24 year-olds (49% versus 40%), the most educated respondents (55% of those who studied up to the age of 20 or beyond), managers (53%), well-to-do people (56% of those who almost never have difficulties paying their bills) and those who place themselves at the top of the social scale (53%).

Distrust is even stronger among the categories traditionally most critical of European integration (63% of respondents aged 55 or over; 68% of those who left school before the age of 16; 68% of unemployed people; 71% of those who regularly struggle to pay their bills; 65% of those who place themselves at the bottom of the social scale). For this trust indicator, the differences between the social classes making up the European population are now differences of intensity and no longer differences of nature. Students (46% versus 43%) are the only socio-demographic category in which respondents are more likely to trust than distrust the EU.

**QA12.4. 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	Don't know
EU27	31%	60%	9%
Gender			
Men	32%	60%	8%
Women	29%	60%	11%
Age			
15-24	40%	49%	11%
25-39	33%	58%	9%
40-54	29%	63%	8%
55 +	26%	63%	11%
Education (End of)			
15-	21%	68%	11%
16-19	28%	62%	10%
20+	38%	55%	7%
Still studying	46%	43%	11%
Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	33%	58%	9%
Managers	41%	52%	7%
Other white collars	32%	59%	9%
Manual workers	28%	63%	9%
House persons	24%	64%	12%
Unemployed	23%	68%	9%
Retired	27%	62%	11%
Students	46%	43%	11%
Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	20%	71%	9%
From time to time	28%	63%	9%
Almost never	34%	56%	10%
Self-positioning on the social staircase			
Low (1-4)	25%	65%	10%
Medium (5-6)	30%	61%	9%
High (7-10)	39%	53%	8%

The table below also shows the socio-demographic results in the six largest EU countries, and in four countries which have been particularly affected by the economic crisis.

QA12.4. 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.

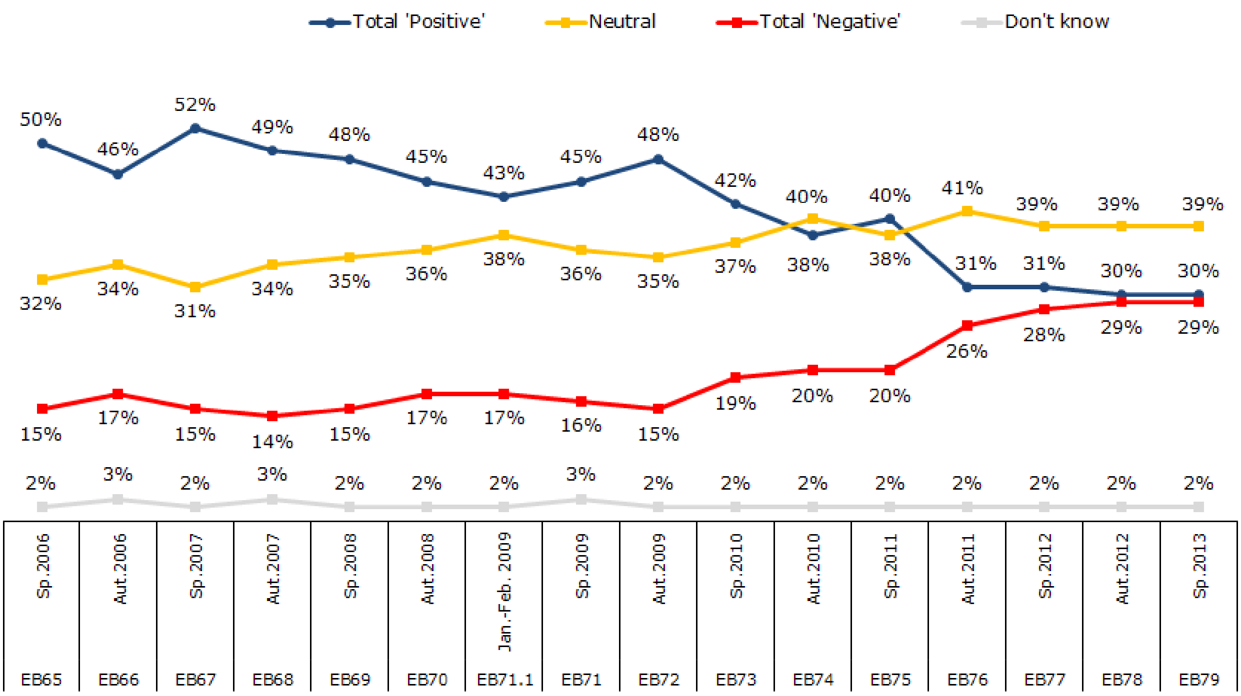
The European Union - Tend to trust

	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
Gender										
Men	33%	18%	32%	27%	40%	20%	19%	28%	32%	15%
Women	26%	16%	35%	24%	38%	19%	17%	21%	26%	11%
Age										
15-24	40%	22%	55%	21%	51%	31%	20%	43%	34%	16%
25-39	34%	16%	29%	30%	41%	24%	16%	25%	29%	7%
40-54	27%	20%	31%	27%	35%	17%	18%	21%	27%	11%
55 +	25%	14%	30%	22%	34%	13%	20%	20%	28%	18%
Education (End of)										
15-	21%	13%	25%	22%	24%	9%	18%	17%	23%	16%
16-19	25%	14%	27%	25%	35%	16%	16%	30%	24%	9%
20+	35%	24%	39%	33%	43%	29%	20%	30%	33%	13%
Still studying	47%	27%	60%	22%	60%	33%	21%	56%	37%	19%
Socio-professional category										
Self-employed	25%	20%	42%	34%	40%	22%	20%	33%	33%	9%
Managers	38%	33%	48%	51%	46%	27%	44%	34%	41%	11%
Other white collars	26%	19%	37%	23%	40%	25%	12%	19%	29%	12%
Manual workers	27%	18%	24%	25%	34%	14%	26%	26%	26%	8%
House persons	20%	13%	40%	21%	41%	12%	12%	25%	21%	12%
Unemployed	19%	13%	23%	17%	34%	21%	10%	18%	18%	10%
Retired	26%	16%	29%	22%	34%	13%	20%	18%	35%	18%
Students	47%	27%	60%	22%	60%	33%	21%	56%	37%	19%

5.3. The European Union's image

Perceptions of the EU's image have not changed since autumn 2012. Three out of ten Europeans (30%) say that the EU has a positive image, while for 29% it conjures up a negative image; the majority view (39%) is that the EU's image is "neutral"[52]. The EU's image has stabilised since the autumn 2011 survey, when it had deteriorated sharply.

QA13 In general, does the EU conjure up for you a very positive, fairly positive, neutral, fairly negative or very negative image? - %EU



Negative opinions outweigh positive opinions in the EU15 countries (32% versus 27%), while positive and negative opinions are evenly balanced in the euro area (29% versus 29%).

In contrast, positive opinions outweigh negative opinions in the non-euro area countries (32% versus 27%) and, most strikingly, in the NMS12 countries (39% versus 18%).

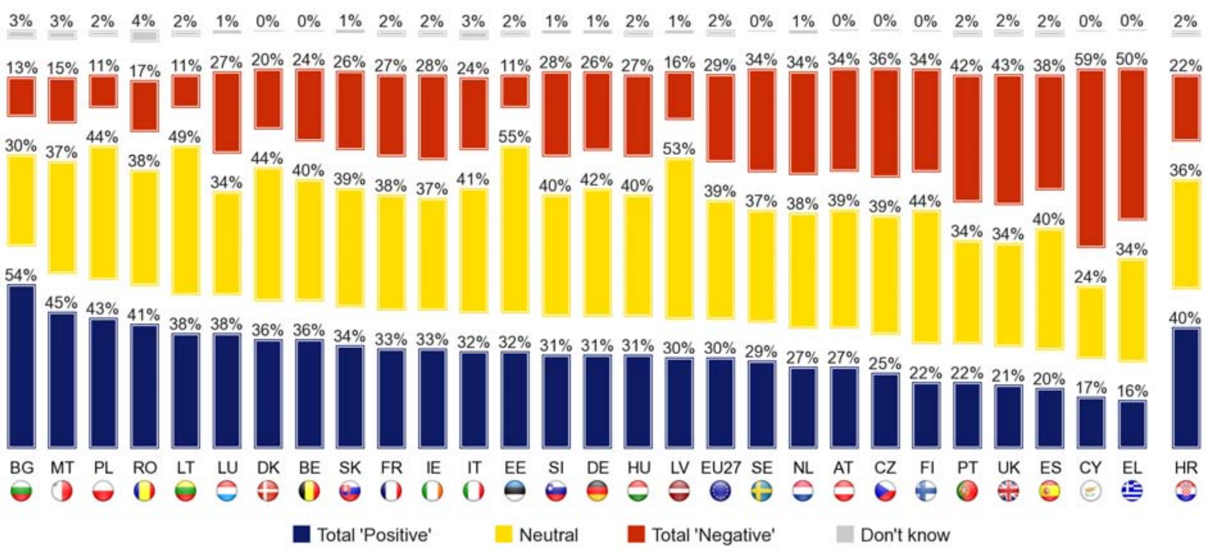
A detailed national analysis reveals that positive opinions outweigh negative opinions in 17 Member States (Belgium, Bulgaria, Denmark, Estonia, Germany, Ireland, France, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, Poland, Romania, Slovenia and Slovakia), with the highest scores in Bulgaria (54%) and Malta (45%). Within this group, the EU's image has improved in Malta (+8) but has deteriorated in Slovakia (-6) and Slovenia (-5).

In this survey, the balance of opinion has been reversed in the Netherlands, where negative opinions now outweigh positive opinions (34% versus 27%), whereas the opposite was true in autumn 2012 (30% versus 32%).

[52] QA13. In general, does the EU conjure up for you a very positive, fairly positive, neutral, fairly negative or very negative image?

The Netherlands are now part of the group of 11 countries where the European Union conjures up a predominantly negative image, alongside Cyprus (59%), Greece (50%), the United Kingdom (43% versus 17%), Portugal (42% versus 22%), Spain (38% versus 20%), the Czech Republic (36% versus 25%), Finland (34% versus 22%), Austria (34% versus 27%) and Sweden (34% versus 29%). As noted for most of the indicators in this Eurobarometer survey, negative opinions have increased strongly in Cyprus (+15).

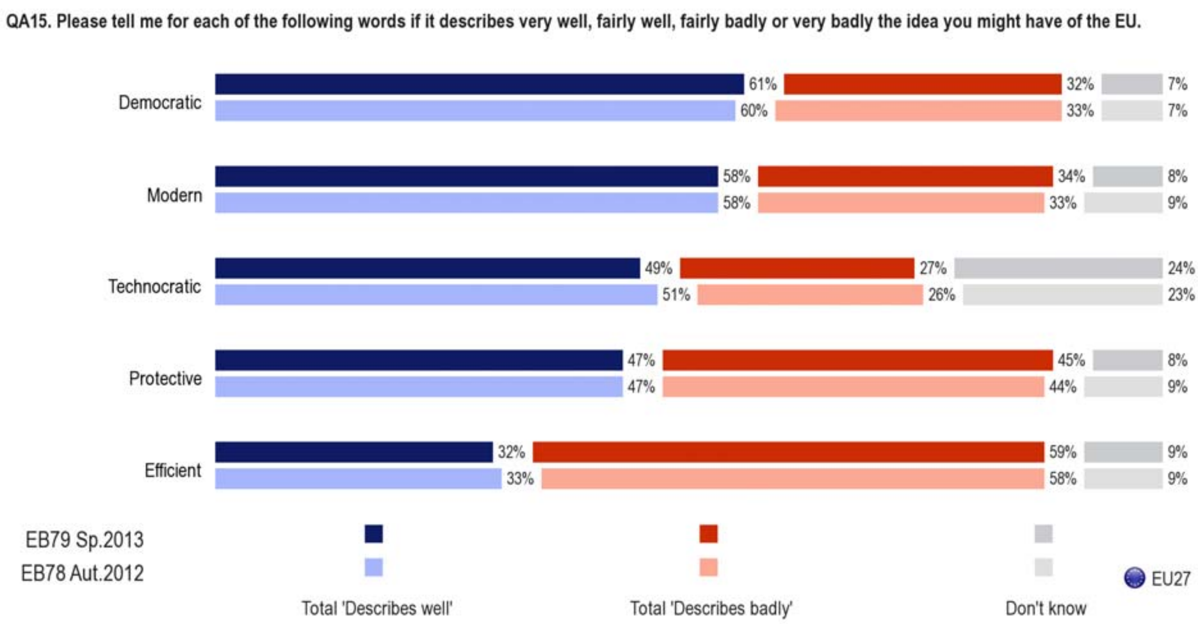
QA13. In general, does the EU conjure up for you a very positive, fairly positive, neutral, fairly negative or very negative image?



The detailed image of the European Union

Perceptions of the attributes of the European Union's image are also very stable. After the significant deterioration measured in the surveys carried out in autumn 2008 (EB70) and autumn 2012 (perceptions of positive attributes such as "democratic", "modern" and "protective" fell by 10 percentage points while "technocratic" gained 8 percentage points), the situation has stabilised[53]. On the positive side, the EU is considered as democratic and modern; on the negative side, it is seen as technocratic and inefficient by a majority of Europeans. However, opinion is divided on the protective nature of the EU; a narrow majority of respondents consider that the EU protects its citizens.

[53] QA15. Please tell me for each of the following words if it describes very well, fairly well, fairly badly or very badly the idea that you might have of the European Union. Democratic/modern/protective/efficient



Positive image attributes

More than six out of ten Europeans (61%, +1 percentage point since autumn 2012) consider that **democratic** is a good description of the EU, whereas 32% (-1) take the opposite view and 7% (unchanged) expressed no opinion. An analysis of the results by country shows that the balance of opinion for this attribute has been reversed and is now negative in Cyprus (from 51%/43% in autumn 2012 to 34%/62% now). In addition to Cyprus, Greece (62%), Portugal (48% versus 45%) and the United Kingdom (44% versus 44%) are the only four Member States where a majority of respondents do not recognise the democratic nature of the EU. However, the EU is seen as democratic by an absolute majority of respondents in all other EU countries except Spain where this majority is relative (47% versus 43%). Perceptions of the democratic nature of the EU have gained significant ground in the Czech Republic (+8), Estonia (+7), Romania (+7) and Belgium (+7), but have fallen sharply in Finland (-7), the Netherlands (-5) and Spain (-4).

58% of Europeans consider that “modern” is an apt description of the EU (unchanged since autumn 2012). However more than a third of respondents (34%, +1 percentage point) do not agree that the EU is modern and 8% (-1) expressed no opinion. The balance of opinion has been reversed in this survey and is now negative in Cyprus (the positive-negative ratio has declined from +6 in autumn 2012 to -22 now) and the Netherlands (from +11 to -1). It is still negative in Sweden (-7 versus -3 in autumn 2012). Opinion is evenly balanced in Greece (49% versus 49%) whereas it was negative in autumn 2012 (47% versus 50%). It remains positive in the 23 other EU countries, and has improved significantly in Malta (+8) and the Czech Republic (+5), but has crumbled in Spain (-7) and Slovakia (-7).

European opinion is divided as to whether the EU can be described as **protective**. A narrow relative majority of Europeans (47%, unchanged) consider that this adjective is an apt description of the EU, whereas 45% (+1) disagree and 9% (+1) expressed no opinion. The national differences are very pronounced on this indicator. A majority of respondents in eight countries say that the EU is not protective: Greece (77%), Cyprus (70%), Portugal (61%), Spain (61%), Italy (53%), Slovenia, where the balance of opinion (50% versus 46%) has been reversed since autumn 2012 (47% versus 48%), Austria (48% versus 46%) and France (47% versus 44%). This perception has increased significantly in Cyprus (+15) and Spain (+8). The remaining 19 countries see the EU as protective, most notably Lithuania (70%), Denmark (70%), Estonia (67%) and Malta (65%). This view has gained significant ground in Belgium (+7) but has lost ground in the Netherlands (-5).

For the first time, respondents in the **candidate countries** were asked for their views on the detailed image attributes of the European Union: overall, they are fairly positive. The European Union is seen as modern by very large majorities in Turkey (70%), Serbia (71%), Montenegro (71%) and Croatia (75%), and, most strikingly, in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (83%). Public opinion in Iceland is far more divided (50%, versus 45% who take the opposite view). A similar trend applies to the democratic nature of the EU: a majority of respondents in all the candidate countries, with very large majorities in Turkey, Serbia, Montenegro, Croatia and in particular the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, believe that the EU is democratic. However, this opinion is shared by only a minority of respondents in Iceland, where opinions are sharply divided (47% versus 49%). Lastly, a majority of respondents in all the candidate countries view the EU as “protective”, even if opinions are more divided in this instance in Serbia.

Negative image attributes

A majority of Europeans (49%, -2 percentage points) perceive the European Union as “**technocratic”,** while more than a quarter (27%, +1) disagree and 23% (-1) expressed no opinion. The idea that the European Union is technocratic is dominant in all Member States, and an absolute majority of respondents in 17 Member States agree with this description.

This view is particularly widespread in Greece (73%), Luxembourg (65%), Belgium (65%), Cyprus (64%), Finland (62%) and Denmark (62%).

It has gained significant ground in Ireland (+8), Lithuania (+8), Luxembourg (+6) and Malta (+6); however, it has lost ground in the Czech Republic (-6) and Poland (-5).

Lastly, a broad majority of Europeans (59%, +1 percentage point) disagree that the European Union is **efficient.** Almost a third (32%, -1) take the opposite view and 9% (unchanged) expressed no opinion. The Baltic states (66% in Lithuania, 51% in Estonia, 44% versus 43% in Latvia), Poland (59%), Malta (48% versus 28%), Romania (48% versus 36%) and Hungary (49% versus 47%) are exceptions to this trend, a majority of respondents in these countries considering that the EU is efficient. This representation has gained six percentage points in Lithuania and five in Estonia and Latvia.

However, in the 21 other Member States, majorities believe that the "efficient" is not an apt description of the European Union: this view is most widely held in Sweden (85%), Cyprus (82%), Greece (82%), the Netherlands (81%), Portugal (69%), Spain (69%), the United Kingdom (67%) and France (67%). It has strengthened significantly in this survey in Cyprus (+15), Portugal (+7) and Slovenia (+6), but has lost significant ground in Belgium (53%, -11).

QA15 Please tell me for each of the following words if it describes very well, fairly well, fairly badly or very badly the idea you might have of the EU.
Answer: Total 'Describes well'

	Democratic	Diff. EB79 Sp. 2013- EB78 Aut. 2012	Modern	Diff. EB79 Sp. 2013- EB78 Aut. 2012	Technocratic	Diff. EB79 Sp. 2013- EB78 Aut. 2012	Protective	Diff. EB79 Sp. 2013- EB78 Aut. 2012	Efficient	Diff. EB79 Sp. 2013- EB78 Aut. 2012
EU27	61%	+1	58%	=	49%	-2	47%	=	32%	-1
BE	71%	+7	66%	+1	65%	+4	61%	+7	45%	+12
BG	79%	-1	77%	-4	44%	-3	62%	-1	62%	=
CZ	67%	+8	64%	+5	49%	-6	59%	+5	43%	-2
DK	70%	+1	53%	=	62%	+4	70%	+1	30%	+1
DE	71%	+1	58%	+3	60%	=	53%	-4	28%	+1
EE	70%	+7	69%	+3	58%	+4	67%	+2	51%	+5
IE	59%	+5	70%	-2	54%	+8	53%	=	41%	-1
EL	37%	+5	49%	+2	73%	+5	22%	+1	17%	=
ES	47%	-4	46%	-7	35%	-4	30%	-6	21%	-4
FR	63%	-2	58%	=	56%	-4	44%	+1	24%	-3
IT	58%	+4	59%	+1	47%	+2	39%	+2	37%	-3
CY	34%	-17	35%	-13	64%	=	20%	-16	14%	-13
LV	63%	+3	68%	=	51%	+2	60%	+3	44%	+5
LT	74%	+4	71%	+10	52%	+8	70%	+3	66%	+6
LU	72%	-3	70%	+2	65%	+6	62%	+5	39%	+6
HU	67%	+1	65%	+1	44%	-3	54%	-1	49%	+2
MT	67%	+1	81%	+8	50%	+6	65%	+5	48%	+1
AT	58%	-1	56%	-2	60%	+1	46%	+2	38%	+1
NL	57%	-5	46%	-6	49%	-2	56%	-5	14%	-4
PL	78%	-2	78%	-2	49%	-5	56%	-3	59%	=
PT	45%	=	56%	-3	41%	+2	32%	-4	25%	-5
RO	73%	+7	71%	+4	44%	=	49%	+2	48%	+1
SI	54%	-4	56%	-4	55%	-2	46%	-2	33%	-5
SK	69%	+4	72%	+2	51%	=	61%	+2	45%	+5
FI	52%	-7	65%	-7	62%	+2	58%	=	32%	-4
SE	61%	-3	45%	-2	54%	+3	53%	+2	13%	-2
UK	44%	-1	46%	-3	38%	=	45%	+1	23%	=

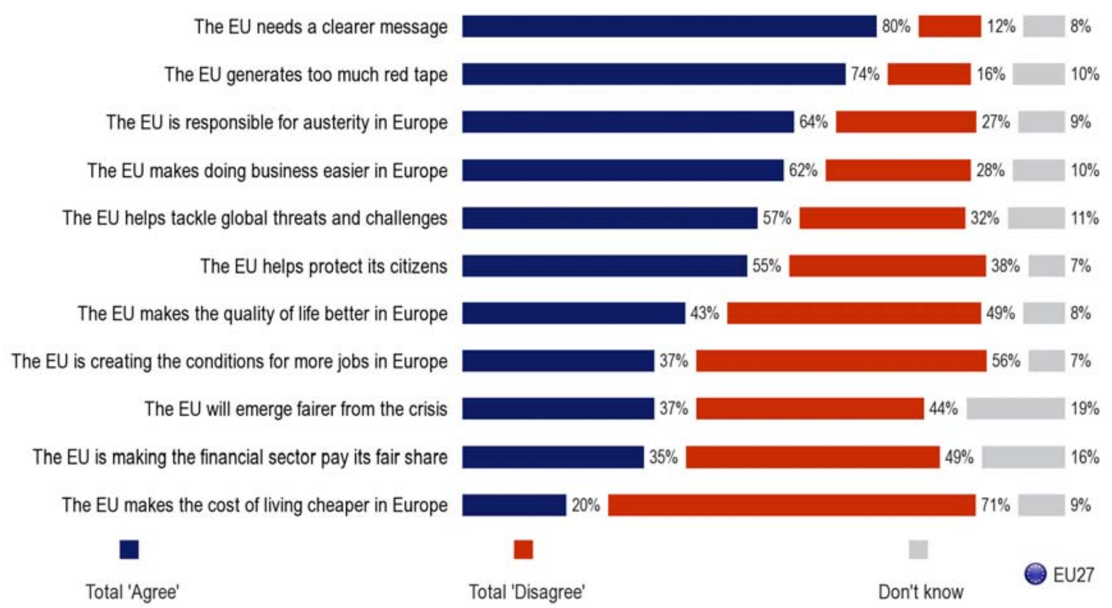
In all the candidate countries, a majority of respondents consider that "technocratic" is an apt description of the EU. This is particularly true in Croatia (57%), and to a lesser extent in Montenegro and Turkey (both 48%). In all the candidate countries an absolute majority of respondents agree that the European Union is efficient, except in Iceland where a large majority believe that this is not a good description of the European Union (61%).

QA15 Please tell me for each of the following words if it describes very well, fairly well, fairly badly or very badly the idea you might have of the EU.
Answer: Total 'Descrbies well'

	Democratic	Modern	Technocratic	Protective	Efficient
EU27	61%	58%	49%	47%	32%
CY (tcc)	84%	86%	62%	70%	73%
HR	70%	75%	57%	56%	53%
MK	78%	83%	52%	69%	65%
IS	47%	50%	54%	54%	29%
ME	69%	71%	48%	58%	58%
RS	64%	71%	51%	45%	54%
TR	63%	70%	48%	52%	57%

A series of questions was then asked about the image of the EU's actions and role[54]. These indicators enable us to take stock of current representations of the EU.

QA16. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.



[54] QA16. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. 1. The EU is creating the conditions for more jobs in Europe; 2.The EU is responsible for austerity in Europe; 3. The EU makes doing business easier in Europe; 4. The EU generates too much red tape; 5. The EU will emerge fairer from the crisis; 6. The EU is making the financial sector pay its fair share; 7. The EU makes the cost of living cheaper in Europe; 8. The EU makes the quality of life better in Europe; 9. The EU helps tackle global threats and challenges; 10. The EU helps protect its citizens; 11.The EU needs a clearer message

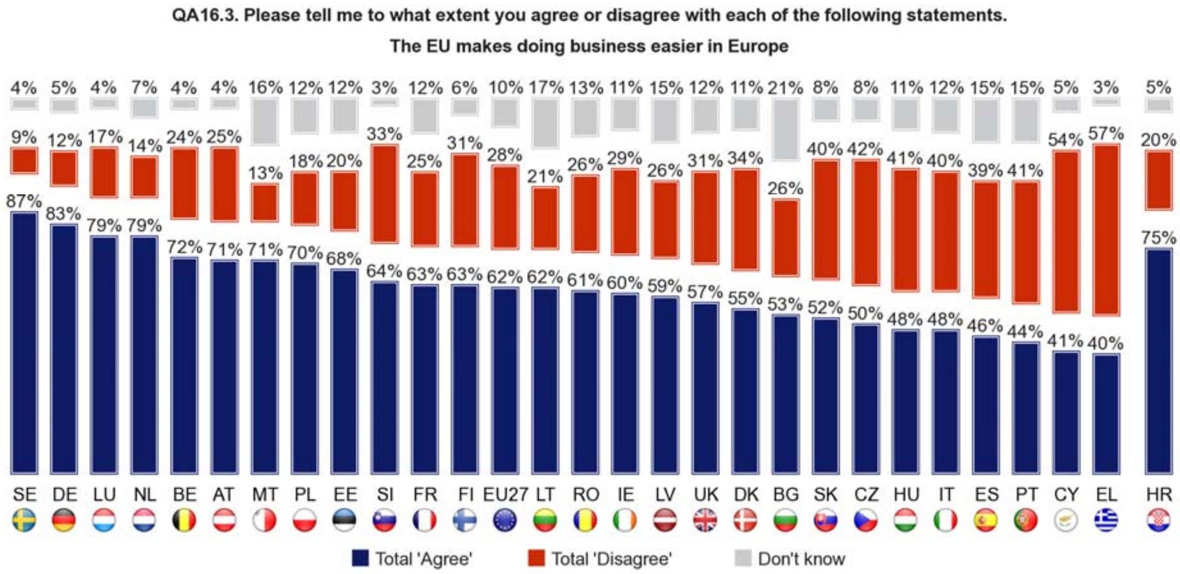
Positive representations

The EU is seen as business-friendly, influential on the international stage and protective of European citizens.

In more detail:

More than six out of ten Europeans (62%) agree that "**the EU makes doing business easier in Europe"**, while 28% disagree and 10% expressed no opinion.

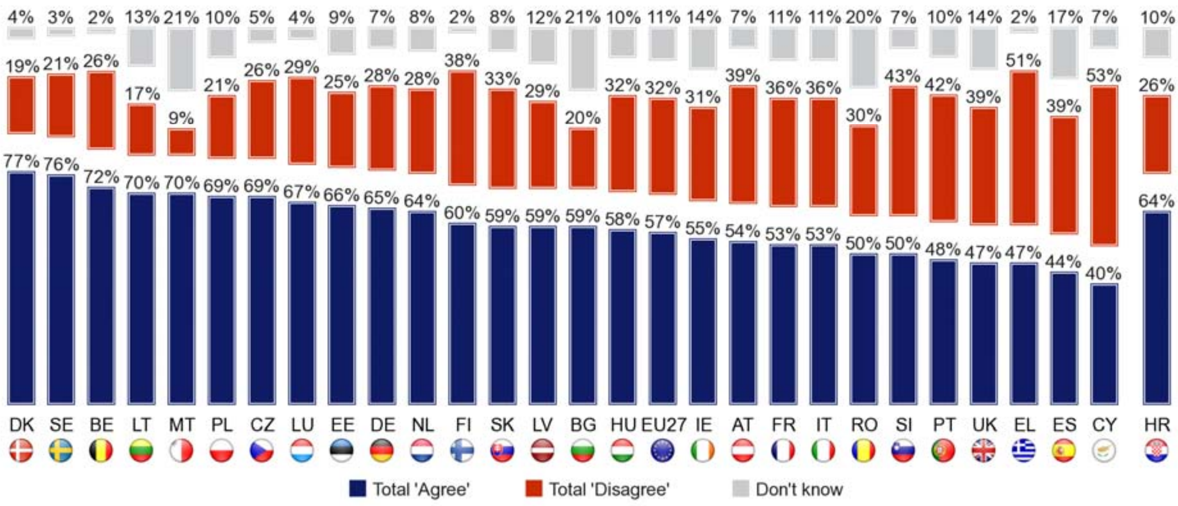
A majority of respondents agree with this statement in all the Member States except Greece (57%) and Cyprus (54%), where an absolute majority of respondents disagree. Respondents in Sweden (87%), Germany (83%), Luxembourg (79%) and the Netherlands (79%) are the most likely to see the EU as business-friendly.



Almost six out of ten Europeans (57%) agree that "the EU helps tackle global threats and challenges", while just under a third (32%) disagree and 11% expressed no opinion.

Cyprus (53%) and Greece (51%) stand out as the only two countries where a majority of respondents fail to acknowledge the EU's role in in tacking global threats and challenges. Majorities agree with this statement everywhere else, most strikingly in Denmark (77%), Sweden (76%), Belgium (72%), Lithuania (70%) and Malta (70%).

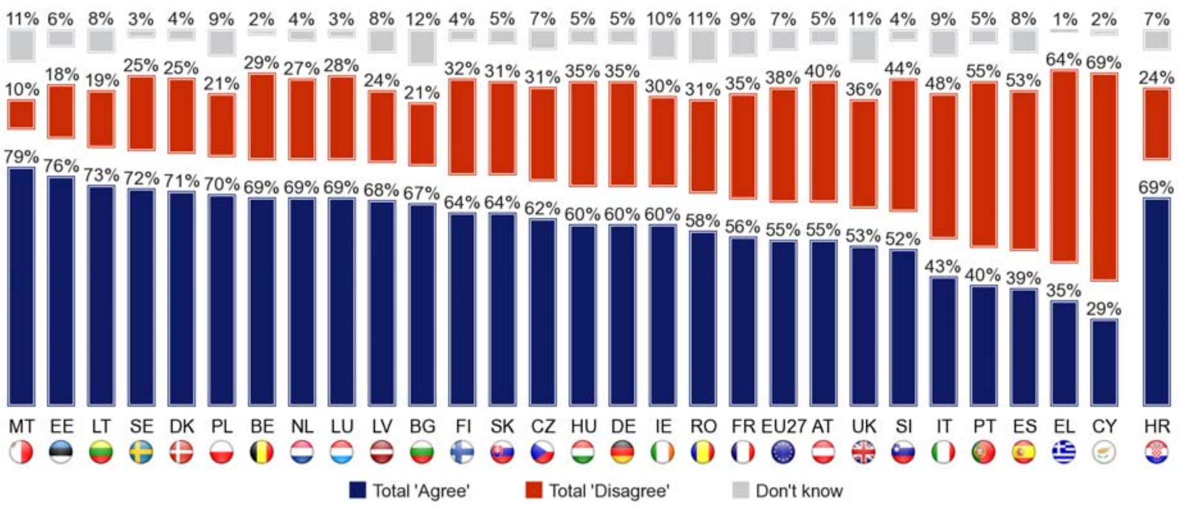
QA16.9. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.
The EU helps tackle global threats and challenges



An absolute majority of Europeans (55%) agree that "the EU helps protect its citizens", while more than third (38%) disagree and 7% expressed no opinion.

The perception of the EU as protective is predominant in 22 Member States, most notably in Malta (79%), Estonia (76%), Lithuania (73%), Sweden (72%), Denmark (71%) and Poland (70%). However, an absolute majority of respondents in Cyprus (69%), Greece (64%), Portugal (55%), Spain (53%), and a relative majority in Italy (48% versus 43%), do not share this belief.

QA16.10. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.
The EU helps protect its citizens



Within the different socio-demographic categories, respondents with the most serious financial difficulties (52% of those who struggle to pay their bills most of the time "disagree") and those with the least education (47% of those who left school before the age of 16 disagree, while 42% agree) are the only categories in which a majority of respondents disagree that the EU protects its citizens.

QA16.10 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

The EU helps protect its citizens

	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Don't know
EU27	55%	38%	7%
Gender			
Men	57%	37%	6%
Women	54%	37%	9%
Age			
15-24	63%	30%	7%
25-39	58%	36%	6%
40-54	54%	40%	6%
55 +	52%	39%	9%
Education (End of)			
15-	42%	47%	11%
16-19	54%	39%	7%
20+	63%	32%	5%
Still studying	69%	25%	6%
Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	54%	40%	6%
Managers	65%	31%	4%
Other white collars	57%	37%	6%
Manual workers	54%	39%	7%
House persons	49%	42%	9%
Unemployed	48%	43%	9%
Retired	53%	37%	10%
Students	69%	25%	6%
Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	40%	52%	8%
From time to time	53%	40%	7%
Almost never	61%	32%	7%

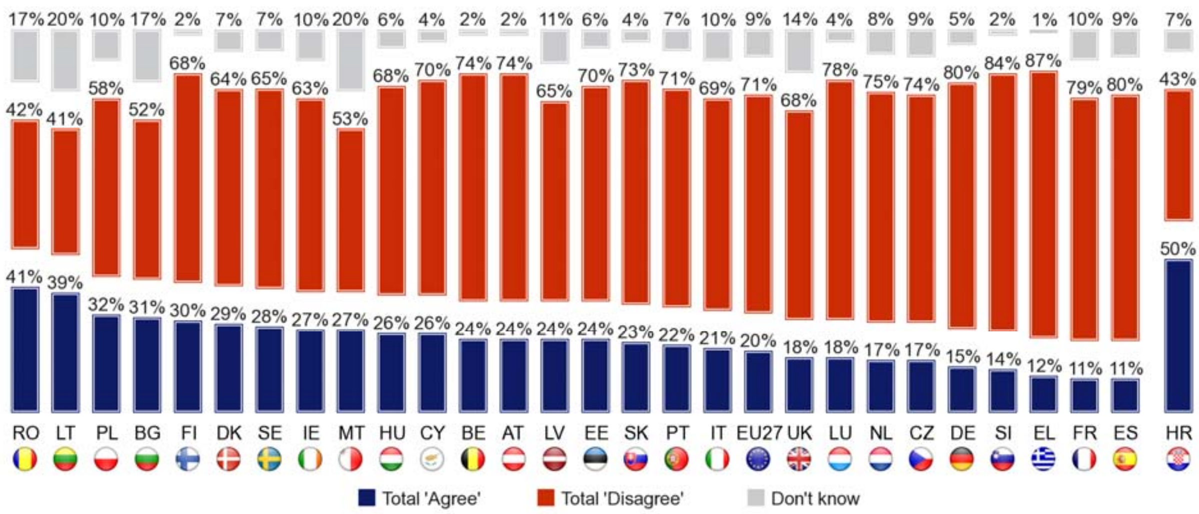
Negative representations

A majority of Europeans consider that the EU is ineffective in dealing with the economic and social challenges faced by Europeans (employment and the cost of living), is responsible for austerity, is not making the financial sector pay its fair share and generates too much red tape.

More than seven out of ten Europeans (71%) disagree that "the EU makes the cost of living cheaper in Europe". Only 20% agree with this statement and 9% expressed no opinion. An absolute majority of respondents in 25 Member States do not believe that the EU helps to lower the cost of living, with the highest scores in Greece (87%), Slovenia (84%), Germany (80%), Spain (80%), France (79%) and Luxembourg (78%). Opinions are more divided in Romania (42% for "disagree" versus 41%) and Lithuania (41% versus 39%).

QA16.7. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

The EU makes the cost of living cheaper in Europe



An absolute majority of Europeans (56%) disagree that "the EU is creating the conditions for more jobs in Europe", while 37% take the opposite view and 7% expressed no opinion.

Opinions of the EU's role in creating more jobs vary considerably between countries. Opinion is largely negative in the euro area countries (62%), but narrowly positive in the non-euro area (47% versus 45%).

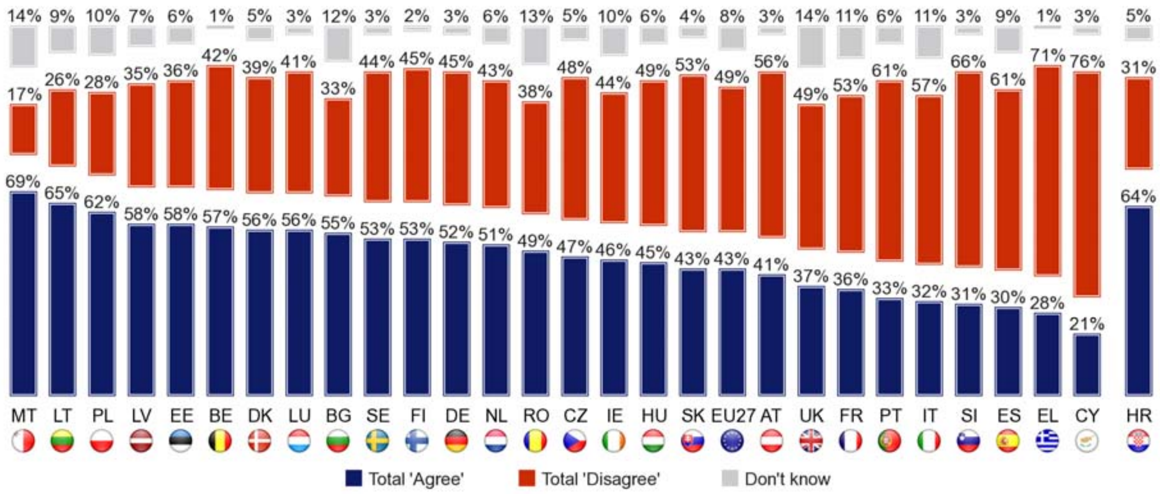
The EU's role in creating employment is perceived negatively in 17 countries. Respondents in the countries with the most problematic labour markets are the most critical, for example Spain (69%), Cyprus (68%), Portugal (68%), France (67%) and Greece (66%). However, a majority of respondents in 10 Member States are positive about the EU's role, led by Poland (67%), Lithuania (64%), Latvia (61%), Malta (60%) and Bulgaria (60%).

Almost half of Europeans (49%) do not believe that "the EU makes the quality of life better in Europe", while 43% take the opposite view and 8% expressed no opinion.

There are significant differences between countries on this indicator. Majorities believe that the EU does not improve the quality of life in the EU15 countries (52% "disagree") and the euro area countries (53%), whereas the opposite view is predominant in the NMS12 countries (54% "agree", versus 37% "disagree") and the non-euro area countries (48% versus 41%). A majority of respondents in 15 Member States believe that the EU improves the quality of life, with the highest scores in Malta (69%), Lithuania (65%), Poland (62%), Estonia (58%) and Latvia (58%). However, respondents are predominantly negative in 12 countries, led by Cyprus (76%), Greece (71%), Slovenia (66%), Portugal (61%) and Spain (61%).

QA16.8. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

The EU makes the quality of life better in Europe



Almost two-thirds of Europeans (64%) agree that "the EU is responsible for austerity in Europe", while 27% disagree and 9% expressed no opinion. This opinion is shared by a majority of respondents in all the Member States: the EU is held responsible for austerity policies by an absolute majority of respondents in 26 countries, with the highest scores in Cyprus (83%), Belgium (82%), Greece (82%), Austria (78%), Slovenia (76%) and Slovakia (76%). It is supported by a relative majority in Estonia (46% versus 39%).

The idea that the EU is responsible for austerity in Europe is largely predominant across all groups of countries (EU15, NMS12, euro area and non-euro area countries).

QA16.2 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

The EU is responsible for austerity in Europe

	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Don't know
EU27	64%	27%	9%
EURO AREA	65%	27%	8%
NON-EURO AREA	62%	26%	12%
EU15	63%	28%	9%
NMS12	68%	22%	10%

Almost half of Europeans (49%) do not think that the "EU is making the financial sector pay its fair share", while 35% take the opposite view and 16% expressed no opinion. There is a broad consensus in the EU15 countries (54% "disagree" versus 31%) that the EU is not doing enough to make the financial sector pay its fair share, whereas a majority of respondents in the NMS12 countries (51% "agree" versus 28%) think that the EU does make the financial sector pay its share.

In total, a majority of respondents in 16 Member States do not believe that the financial sector is paying its fair share, with the highest scores in the Netherlands (68%), Greece (64%), Slovenia (61%) and Spain (60%). In contrast, a majority of respondents in 11 countries feel that the EU makes the financial sector pay its share, with the highest scores in Hungary (65%), Poland (53%) and Romania (51%). Opinions are evenly divided in Latvia (37% "agreed", versus 38% "disagree"). Some countries have a high "DK" rate on this subject (35% in Bulgaria, 31% in Malta and 28% in Romania and Lithuania), a sign that the EU's actions to make the financial sector pay its fair share remain little known in these countries.

A relative majority of Europeans (44% versus 37%) consider the EU will not emerge fairer from the crisis.

A relative majority of respondents in the EU15 countries (46% versus 36%) and the euro area countries (47% versus 35%) do not agree that "the EU will emerge fairer from the crisis".

In contrast, a relative majority of respondents in the NMS12 countries (43% versus 34%) and the non-euro area countries (42% versus 38%) agree that Europe will be fairer after the crisis.

A majority of respondents in 17 countries do not expect the EU to be fairer after the crisis, most notably in Cyprus (68%), Greece (64%), Slovenia (62%) and France (54%).

A majority of respondents in 10 countries believe that the EU will be fairer post-crisis, with the highest scores in Malta (53%), Ireland (49% versus 31%), Belgium (49% versus 46%), Lithuania (48% versus 31%) and Poland (47% versus 31%).

Almost three-quarters of Europeans (74% versus 16%, while 10% expressed no opinion) say that "the EU generates too much red tape in Europe". This opinion is shared by an absolute majority of respondents in all Member States, led by Sweden (89%), Finland (88%) and Germany (86%).

Eight in ten Europeans say that the EU needs a clearer message. This attracts a consensus all the Member States, with scores ranging from 67% in Romania to 90% in Cyprus.

QA16.11 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

The EU needs a clearer message

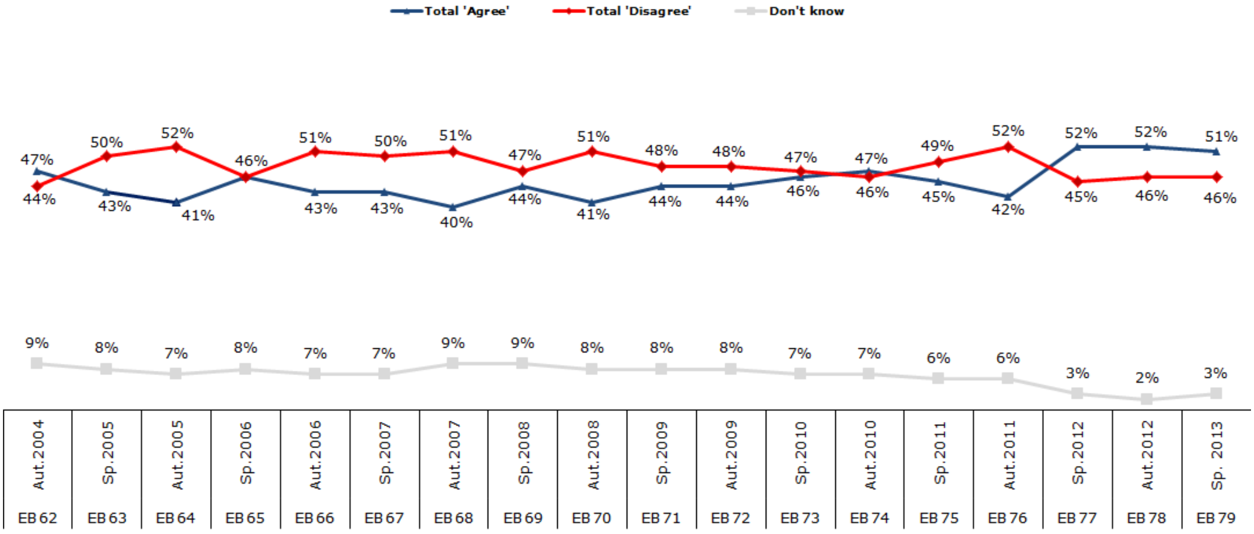
	Totally agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Totally disagree	Don't know	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'
EU27	41%	39%	9%	3%	8%	80%	12%
BE	34%	52%	10%	1%	3%	86%	11%
BG	25%	46%	8%	2%	19%	71%	10%
CZ	31%	45%	14%	2%	8%	76%	16%
DK	48%	38%	9%	1%	4%	86%	10%
DE	51%	35%	6%	2%	6%	86%	8%
EE	32%	48%	7%	2%	11%	80%	9%
IE	37%	41%	10%	3%	9%	78%	13%
EL	48%	39%	8%	3%	2%	87%	11%
ES	58%	25%	6%	4%	7%	83%	10%
FR	42%	41%	5%	2%	10%	83%	7%
IT	27%	42%	17%	7%	7%	69%	24%
CY	68%	22%	2%	2%	6%	90%	4%
LV	32%	47%	9%	1%	11%	79%	10%
LT	22%	47%	13%	2%	16%	69%	15%
LU	46%	42%	6%	1%	5%	88%	7%
HU	30%	48%	12%	2%	8%	78%	14%
MT	30%	44%	4%	1%	21%	74%	5%
AT	38%	43%	9%	4%	6%	81%	13%
NL	50%	37%	7%	2%	4%	87%	9%
PL	19%	53%	14%	2%	12%	72%	16%
PT	33%	44%	13%	4%	6%	77%	17%
RO	29%	38%	13%	2%	18%	67%	15%
SI	49%	36%	6%	2%	7%	85%	8%
SK	33%	50%	7%	2%	8%	83%	9%
FI	41%	45%	9%	2%	3%	86%	11%
SE	57%	31%	7%	2%	3%	88%	9%
UK	47%	36%	7%	3%	7%	83%	10%
HR	25%	50%	13%	3%	9%	75%	16%

6. Knowledge of the European Union

6.1. Knowledge of how the European Union works

Subjective knowledge of how the European Union works has stabilised in this survey. Just over half of Europeans (51%, -1 percentage point since autumn 2012) agree that they understand how the European Union works, while 46% (unchanged) say the opposite and 3% (+1) expressed no opinion[55].

QA22a.1 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.
I understand how the EU works
- %EU



Respondents in Sweden (72%), Luxembourg (69%) and Poland (68%) are the most likely to say that they understand how the European Union works. This view is now shared by a narrow majority in Hungary (50% versus 48%) whereas it was the minority view in autumn 2012 (46% versus 53%). In total, a majority of respondents in 20 of the 27 Member States believe that they understand how the EU works, and this majority has strengthened in Romania (58%, +7), Ireland (56%, +6) and Luxembourg (69%, +6).

The balance of opinion has reversed in France, where 55% of respondents now say that they do not understand how the EU works, compared with only 49% (versus 50%) in autumn 2012. Respondents are likely to say that they do not understand in Italy (59%), Portugal (57%), Spain (54%), the Czech Republic (51%), the United Kingdom (51%) and Malta (51%).

[55] QA22a.1 Please tell me for each statement, whether you tend to agree or tend to disagree. I understand how the EU works.

Socio-demographic divisions largely determine understanding of how the EU works:

- 65% of the people who left school before the age of 16 feel that they do not understand how the EU works, whereas 58% of those who studied the longest say that they have a good understanding.
- 61% of those who position themselves at the top of the social scale say they understand how the EU works, whereas 58% of those at the bottom of the social scale do not.

QA22a.1 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

I understand how the EU works

	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Don't know
EU27	51%	46%	3%
Gender			
Men	58%	40%	2%
Women	45%	52%	3%
Age			
15-24	52%	45%	3%
25-39	55%	43%	2%
40-54	54%	44%	2%
55 +	46%	51%	3%
Education (End of)			
15-	32%	65%	3%
16-19	49%	48%	3%
20+	66%	33%	1%
Still studying	58%	39%	3%
Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	63%	35%	2%
Managers	69%	29%	2%
Other white collars	57%	41%	2%
Manual workers	48%	49%	3%
House persons	35%	61%	4%
Unemployed	44%	53%	3%
Retired	45%	52%	3%
Students	58%	39%	3%
Self-positioning on the social staircase			
Low (1-4)	39%	58%	3%
Medium (5-6)	52%	45%	3%
High (7-10)	61%	37%	2%

6.2. Objective knowledge of the European Union

To measure objective knowledge of the European Union, respondents were asked to say whether each of 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, objective knowledge of the EU is unchanged since the previous survey of autumn 2012. Almost two-thirds of Europeans (64%, +1 percentage point) gave three right answers, 19% (-1) gave a wrong answer and 17% did not answer. An absolute majority of respondents gave three right answers in all the Member States, with the lowest scores in Spain (53%) and the United Kingdom (56%), while the highest scores were recorded in Greece (77%), Luxembourg (77%) and Slovenia (75%).

In detail:

- 71% of Europeans (unchanged) know that Switzerland is not a member of the EU, while 16% (-1) gave the wrong answer and 13% (+1) said they did not know[56]. An absolute majority of respondents in all EU countries gave the right answer to this question, with the exception of Romania where only a relative majority answered correctly (47% versus 36%). Austria had the highest proportion of right answers (93%).

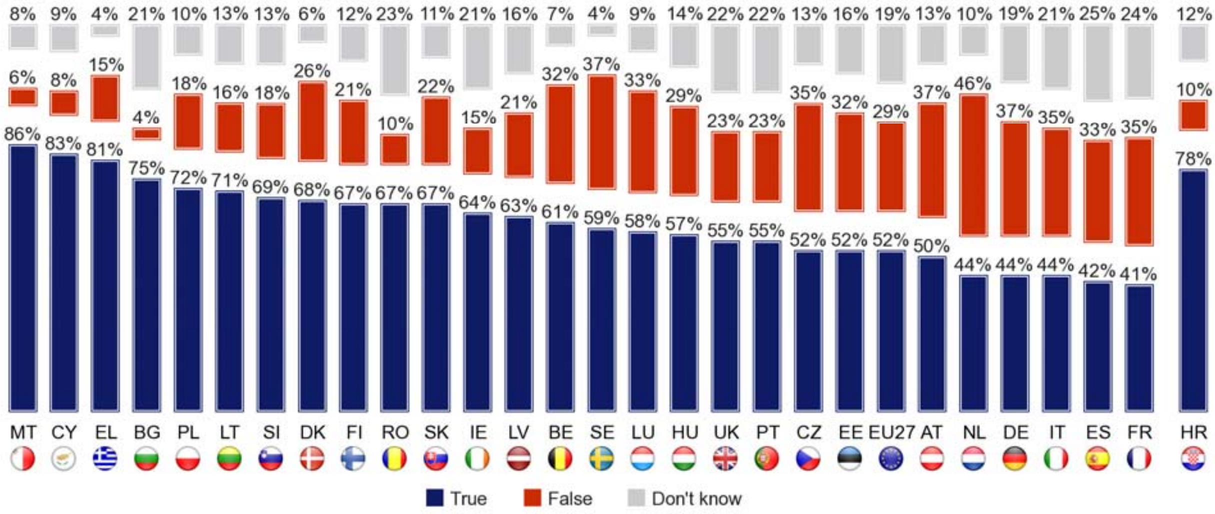
- 69% of Europeans (+2) know that the EU currently has 27 Member States, whereas 10% (-2) gave the wrong answer and 21% (unchanged) did not answer[57]. An absolute majority of respondents gave the right answer in all EU countries, with levels ranging from 53% in the United Kingdom to 85% in Luxembourg.

- 52% of Europeans (unchanged) know that MEPs are elected directly by the citizens of each Member State, whereas 29% (-1) gave the wrong answer and 19% (+1) said that they did not know[58]. As in the previous survey, the Netherlands is the only EU country in which a majority of respondents gave the wrong answer (46% versus 44%). Respondents in Malta (86%), Cyprus (83%) and Greece (81%) are the most familiar with the way MEPS are elected. The ratio of right-wrong answers is considerably below the European average in Germany (44% versus 37%), Italy (44% versus 35%), Spain (42% versus 33%) and France (41% versus 35%).

[56] QA19.3 For each of the following statements about the European Union could you please tell me whether you think it is true or false. Switzerland is a member of the EU.
[57] QA19.1 For each of the following statements about the European Union could you please tell me whether you think it is true or false. The EU currently consists of 27 Member States.
[58] QA19.2 For each of the following statements about the European Union could you please tell me whether you think it is true or false. The Members of the European Parliament are directly elected by the citizens of each Member State.

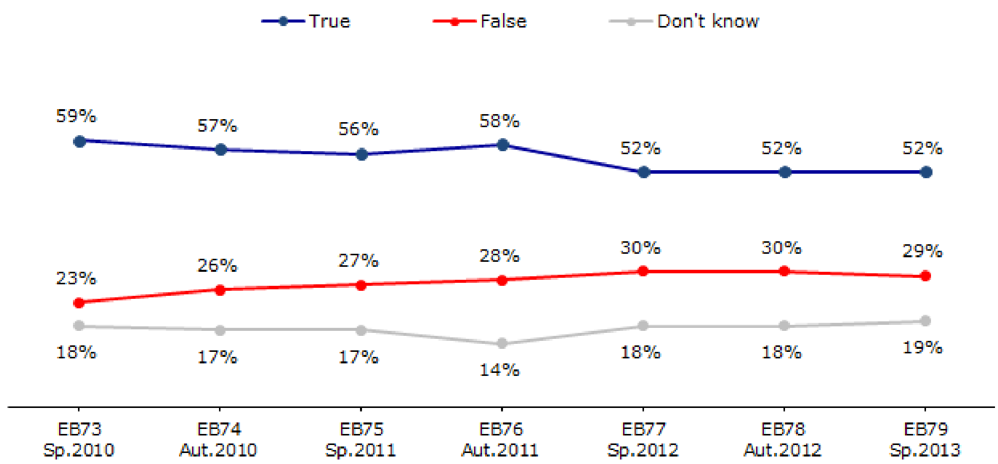
QA19.2. For each of the following statements about the EU could you please tell me whether you think it is true or false.

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



QA19.2 Please tell me whether you think the following statement about the EU is true or false.

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



QA19. For each of the following statements about the EU could you please tell me whether you think it is true or false.

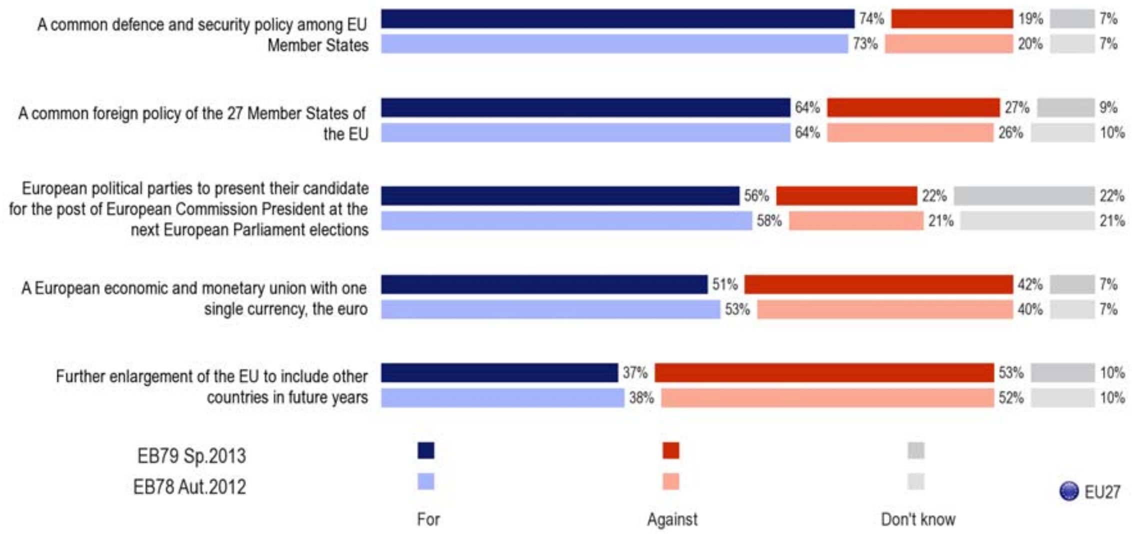
Correct answer

	The EU currently consists of 27 Member States	Diff. Sp.2013-Aut.2012	The members of the European Parliament are directly elected by the citizens of each Member State	Diff. Sp.2013-Aut.2012	Switzerland is a member of the EU	Diff. Sp.2013-Aut.2012
	true		true		false	
EU27	69%	+2	52%	=	71%	=
BE	77%	+4	61%	+3	79%	+1
BG	81%	+2	75%	+2	58%	-1
CZ	80%	+1	52%	=	72%	-4
DK	74%	+3	68%	=	75%	-3
DE	69%	+3	44%	+1	87%	=
EE	70%	-3	52%	=	61%	+2
IE	71%	-2	64%	=	58%	-2
EL	82%	-1	81%	-4	67%	-4
ES	62%	=	42%	-10	56%	+1
FR	74%	+3	41%	=	81%	-1
IT	66%	+2	44%	-6	79%	+6
CY	74%	-1	83%	=	50%	-4
LV	65%	-1	63%	+10	53%	+1
LT	68%	+2	71%	+3	61%	+6
LU	85%	+2	58%	-3	89%	-3
HU	78%	-1	57%	=	67%	-2
MT	70%	-1	86%	+1	67%	+3
AT	85%	+6	50%	+3	93%	+2
NL	60%	-1	44%	+3	84%	+1
PL	75%	+1	72%	+4	64%	+8
PT	73%	+1	55%	-1	66%	=
RO	73%	+3	67%	+5	47%	-5
SI	76%	-1	69%	+1	82%	-3
SK	82%	-2	67%	-7	66%	+1
FI	64%	+1	67%	+3	70%	-2
SE	70%	+1	59%	+6	78%	-3
UK	53%	+2	55%	+4	60%	+1
CY (tcc)	73%	+15	45%	+3	45%	+7
HR	83%	+8	78%	+40	82%	-4
MK	64%	+5	58%	+12	73%	-2
IS	55%	+2	49%	+3	73%	+3
ME	78%	+4	55%	+4	65%	+4
RS	68%	+3	46%	+5	62%	-4
TR	50%	+15	44%	+16	22%	-4

III. THE EUROPEAN UNION TODAY AND TOMORROW

1. Support for European policies

QA20. What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell me for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.

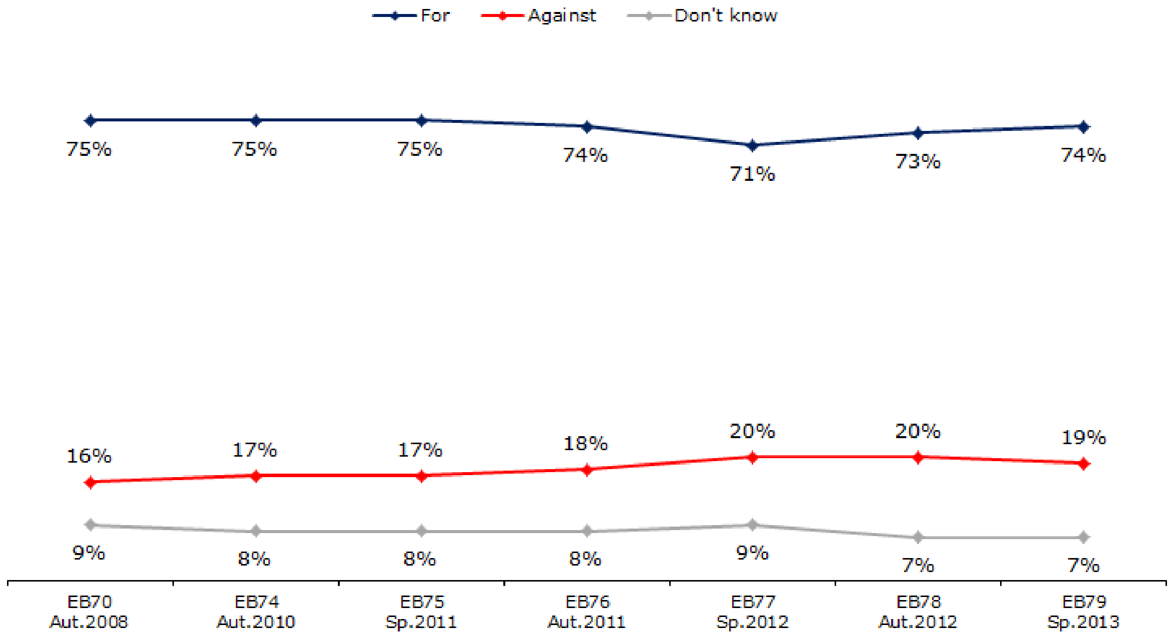


A common defence and security policy among EU Member States

There is still a broad consensus in European opinion on the question of a common defence and security policy, which is supported by almost three-quarters of respondents (74%, +1 percentage point since autumn 2012), while 19% (-1) are opposed and 7% (=) expressed no opinion[59].

QA20.4 What is your opinion on each of the following statements?
Please tell me for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.

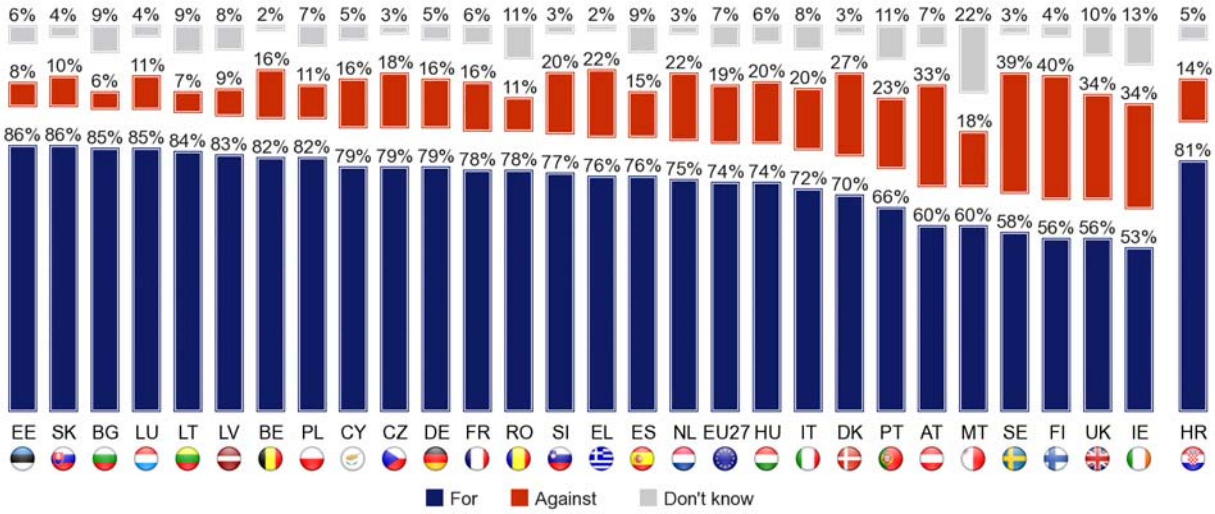
A common defence and security policy among EU Member States



[59] QA20.4. Please tell me for each statement, whether you are for or against it. A common defence and security policy among EU Member States

As in the previous survey, this policy is supported by an absolute majority of respondents in all Member States, with the highest levels in Estonia (86%), Slovakia (86%), Bulgaria (85%) and Luxembourg (85%). Opposition to a common defence and security policy in the EU is the highest in Finland (40%), Sweden (39%), Ireland (34%) and the United Kingdom (34%). There have been no significant changes on this indicator, apart from a decline of seven and six percentage points respectively in Malta (to 60%) and Slovenia (to 77%).

QA20.4. What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell me for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.
A common defence and security policy among EU Member States



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

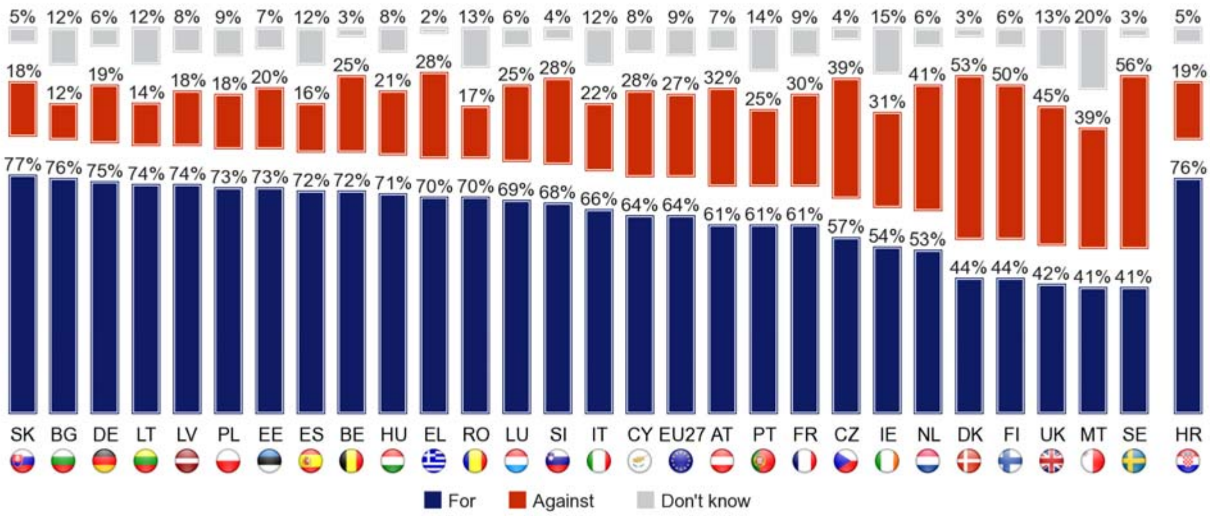
Almost two-thirds of Europeans (64%, unchanged since autumn 2012) are in favour of a common foreign policy of the 27 EU Member States, while 27% (+1) are opposed and 9% (-1) expressed no opinion[60].

Opposition to a common foreign policy is strongest in Sweden (56% versus 41%), Denmark (53% versus 44%), Finland (50% versus 44%) and the United Kingdom (45% versus 42%). In all the other countries, an absolute majority of respondents support a common foreign policy, with the highest scores in Slovakia (77%), Bulgaria (76%) and Germany (75%), the only exception being Malta (41% versus 39%) where only a relative majority of respondents support this proposal.

[60] QA20.2. 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.

Support for a common foreign policy has gained significant ground in the Czech Republic (+8), but has fallen sharply in Malta (-7) and Slovenia (-6).

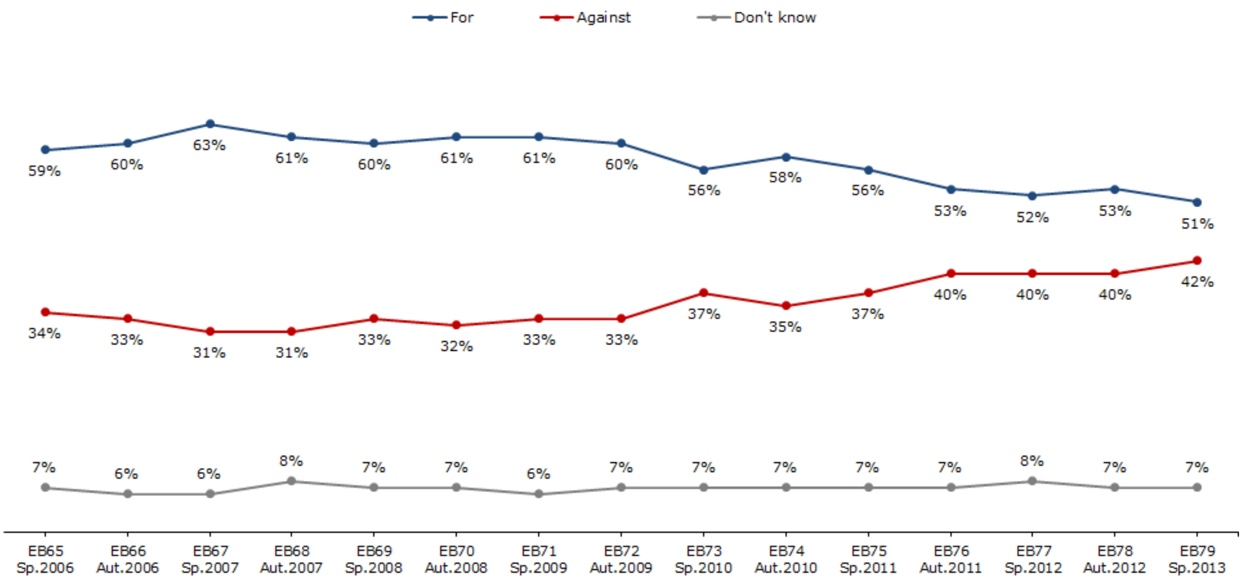
QA20.2. What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell me for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.
A common foreign policy of the 27 Member States of the EU



European economic and monetary union with a single currency, the euro

Just over half of Europeans (51%, -2 percentage points) approve of economic and monetary union, while four out of ten (42%, +2) oppose it and 7% (unchanged) expressed no opinion[61].

QA20.1 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell me for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.
A European economic and monetary union with one single currency, the euro
- %EU



[61] QA20.1. 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.

A clear but declining majority of respondents continue to support economic and monetary union in the euro area countries (62%, -4 percentage points) and the EU15 countries (53%, -3). Opposition is predominant in the NMS12 countries (49%, +3 versus 42%, -3) and the non-euro area countries (63%, +1).

As in autumn 2012, respondents in seven Member States are predominantly opposed to the euro: the United Kingdom (79%, -1), Sweden (79%, +3), the Czech Republic (71%, -3), Denmark (66%, -1), Poland (63%, +7), Lithuania (52%, +5) and Latvia (51%, -5).

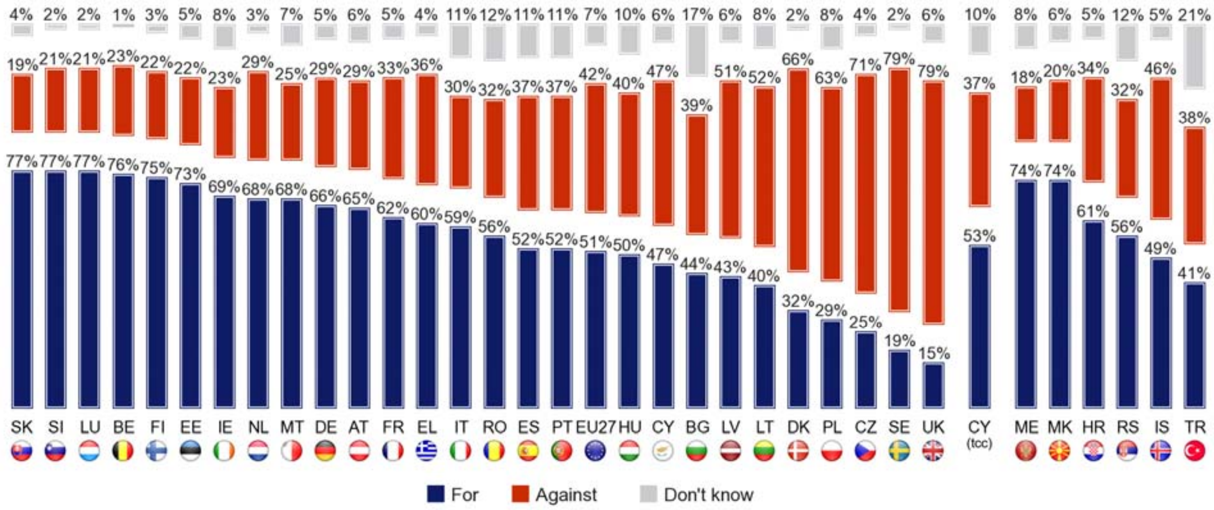
Opinions are equally divided in Cyprus (47% versus 47%), as was the case in autumn 2012 (then 48% versus 48%).

Economic and monetary union is therefore supported by a majority of respondents in 19 Member States: 16 of the 17 euro area countries – the only exception being Cyprus, where opinions are divided – plus three countries which have not yet adopted the single currency, namely Romania (56%), Hungary (50%) and Bulgaria (44% versus 39%). Support within the euro area is strongest in Slovenia (77%), Slovakia (77%), Luxembourg (77%), Belgium (76%) and Finland (75%). However, since autumn 2012 support for the euro has fallen significantly in Spain (-11), France (-7), the Netherlands (-7) and Poland (-7). In contrast, support for the single currency has increased very strongly in Croatia (61%, +9 percentage points), Latvia (43%, +8) and Belgium (76%, +7).

Support has also increased in all the candidate countries. It has strengthened in Montenegro (74%, +6 percentage points), the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (74% +2) and Serbia (56%, +2). It is now also the majority position in Iceland (49% "for" versus 46%, compared with 46% versus 50% in autumn 2012), and Turkey (41% versus 38%, compared with 33% versus 37%), where the balance of opinion has reversed since autumn 2012.

QA20.1. What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell me for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.

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



There are significant differences between **socio-demographic categories** on the question of economic and monetary union. For example, 58% of the people who place themselves at the top of the social scale and 54% of those who almost never have difficulties paying their bills are in favour of economic and monetary union, whereas a majority of respondents in the modest and vulnerable categories oppose it (48% versus 43% among those at the bottom of the social scale, and 50% versus 41% of those who struggle to pay their bills most of the time).

QA20.1 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell me for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.

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

	For	Against	Don't know
EU27	51%	42%	7%
Gender			
Men	53%	42%	5%
Women	49%	43%	8%
Age			
15-24	54%	39%	7%
25-39	52%	41%	7%
40-54	51%	43%	6%
55 +	48%	44%	8%
Education (End of)			
15-	42%	48%	10%
16-19	48%	45%	7%
20+	58%	37%	5%
Still studying	59%	35%	6%
Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	54%	41%	5%
Managers	57%	39%	4%
Other white collars	54%	39%	7%
Manual workers	48%	44%	8%
House persons	50%	41%	9%
Unemployed	43%	49%	8%
Retired	48%	44%	8%
Students	59%	35%	6%
Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	41%	50%	9%
From time to time	49%	43%	8%
Almost never	54%	40%	6%
Self-positioning on the social staircase			
Low (1-4)	43%	48%	9%
Medium (5-6)	51%	42%	7%
High (7-10)	58%	38%	4%

The table below also shows the socio-demographic results in the six largest EU countries, and in four countries which have been particularly affected by the economic crisis.

QA20.1 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.

Answer: 'For'

	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
Gender										
Men	69%	56%	66%	59%	31%	16%	59%	56%	72%	49%
Women	64%	49%	58%	59%	28%	15%	62%	49%	67%	45%
Age										
15-24	68%	64%	71%	65%	32%	15%	64%	65%	61%	43%
25-39	67%	55%	59%	63%	31%	20%	62%	56%	70%	43%
40-54	64%	52%	57%	60%	33%	15%	57%	54%	73%	50%
55 +	68%	46%	64%	54%	23%	13%	59%	45%	70%	51%
Education (End of)										
15-	57%	38%	49%	50%	17%	9%	59%	45%	67%	51%
16-19	63%	54%	56%	62%	26%	13%	56%	60%	66%	42%
20+	75%	69%	71%	62%	37%	24%	64%	67%	77%	51%
Still studying	77%	65%	78%	70%	30%	16%	65%	64%	59%	44%
Socio-professional category										
Self-employed	66%	51%	70%	61%	43%	18%	60%	60%	78%	53%
Managers	71%	76%	77%	66%	47%	22%	72%	75%	76%	62%
Other white collars	66%	61%	69%	59%	34%	14%	56%	63%	71%	53%
Manual workers	63%	58%	49%	57%	24%	14%	72%	60%	76%	34%
House persons	61%	41%	53%	59%	29%	10%	62%	41%	70%	47%
Unemployed	47%	45%	57%	56%	26%	18%	46%	48%	55%	34%
Retired	68%	50%	63%	53%	23%	11%	61%	39%	68%	58%
Students	77%	65%	78%	70%	30%	16%	65%	64%	59%	44%

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

European citizens continue to be largely opposed to further enlargement of the EU: 53% (+1 percentage point) of Europeans are “against” this policy, while 37% (-1) are in favour of it and 10% (=) expressed no opinion[62].

There is a significant division on the question of enlargement between the EU15 countries (60% “against”, +2) and the euro area countries (60% “against”, +2), where a considerable majority of respondents oppose further enlargement, and, on the other hand, the NMS12 countries (61% “for”, +2) and the non-euro area countries (50% “for”, +1, versus 39%), where there is widespread support for further enlargement of the EU to include other countries in future years.

A majority of respondents in 11 Member States support further enlargement. In Slovakia, where opinions were equally divided in autumn 2012 (46% versus 46%), the balance of opinion has now shifted in favour of enlargement (52% versus 40%).

[62] QA20.3. 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.

Slovakia has joined the group of countries where a majority of respondents support further enlargement of the EU to include other countries in future years: Poland (71%, +2), Lithuania (64%, +2), Romania (61%, +3), Slovenia (57%, -4), Hungary (55%, +1), Bulgaria (54%, -4), Estonia (53%, +6), Malta (51%, +1), Latvia (51%, +2) and Spain (43%, -3, versus 38%).

Opposition to enlargement is predominant in 16 EU countries, led by Germany (75%), France (71%) and Finland (70%). Within this group, the most striking evolution has occurred in Sweden; opinion was evenly balanced in autumn 2012 (48% versus 48%), but has now shifted against further enlargement (47% versus 50%).

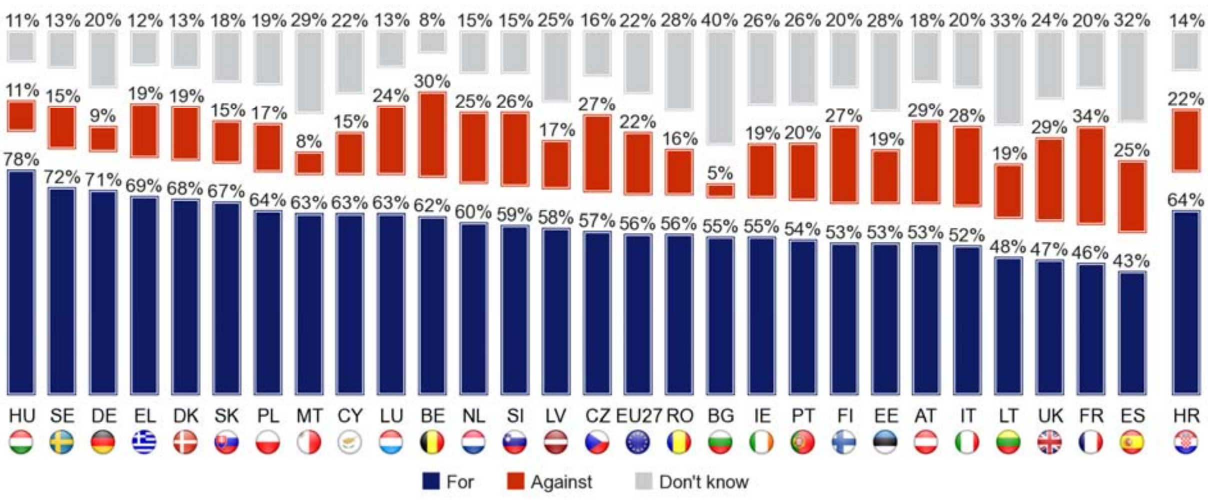
The presentation by the European parties of a candidate for the post of European Commission President at the next European elections

A year ahead of the next European elections[63], 56% of respondents (-2 percentage points) support the presentation by the European parties of a candidate for the post of European Commission President at the next elections for the European Parliament. Only 22% (+1) are against the idea, while a further 22% (+1) expressed no opinion[64].

An absolute majority of Europeans in 23 of the 27 Member States support this proposal, with the highest scores in Hungary (78%), Sweden (72%) and Germany (71%). In the other four countries, it is supported by a relative majority of respondents: Lithuania (48% versus 19%, with a "DK" rate of 33%), the United Kingdom (47% versus 29%), France (46% versus 34%) and Spain (43% versus 25%).

QA20.5. What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell me for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.

European political parties to present their candidate for the post of European Commission President at the next European Parliament elections



Support has increased strongly in Luxembourg (+9) but has fallen sharply in Spain (-12), the Czech Republic (-6), Bulgaria (-6) and France (-5).

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[63] The EB 79 survey was carried out between 10 and 26 May 2013 and the next European elections will be held on 22-25 May 2014.

[64] QA20.5. What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell me for each statement, whether you are for it or against it. European political parties to present their candidate for the post of European Commission President at the next European Parliament election.

2. The objective of the building of Europe

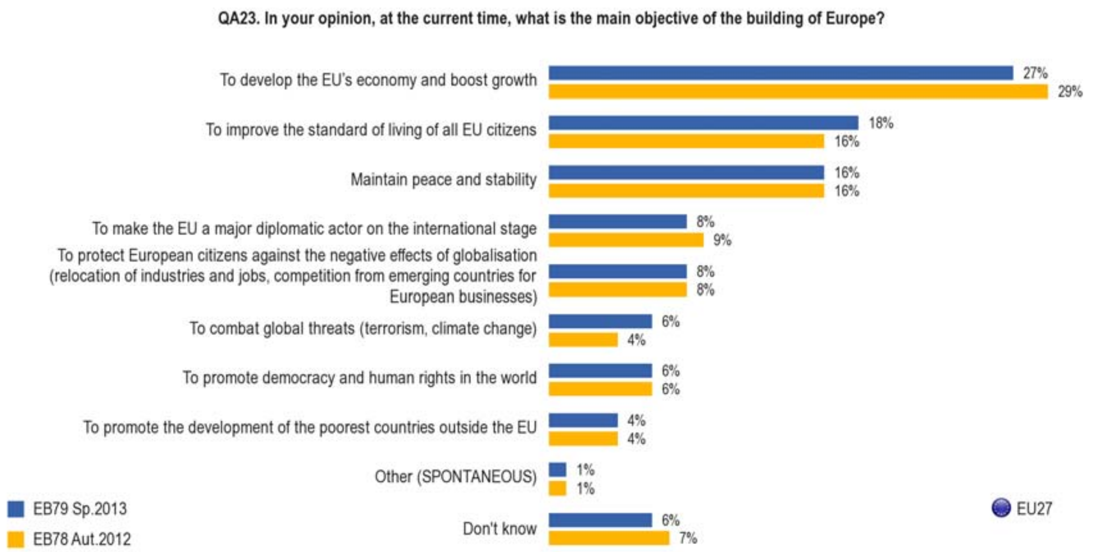
- Improving living standards tops the list of desired objectives for the building of Europe -

In this survey Europeans were asked for their views on the main perceived and desired objectives of European integration.

Overall, the perceived and desired objectives of the building of Europe seem to converge, since the top three priorities are the same (but in a different order) in both cases. However, the slight mismatch between perceived and desired objectives, noted in the autumn 2012 survey (EB78), persists. Evidence of the strong European concerns about the cost of living and rising prices, improving the living standards of European citizens is still the preferred objective, whereas it is ranked in second place in the list of perceived objectives.

2.1. The perceived objectives of the building of Europe

With a score of 27% (-2 percentage points since autumn 2012), developing the EU's economy and boosting growth easily tops the list of the objectives of European integration in the eyes of respondents, ahead of improving the standard of living of all EU citizens (18%, +2) and maintaining peace and stability (16%, unchanged)[65]. All the other items received less than 10% of mentions.

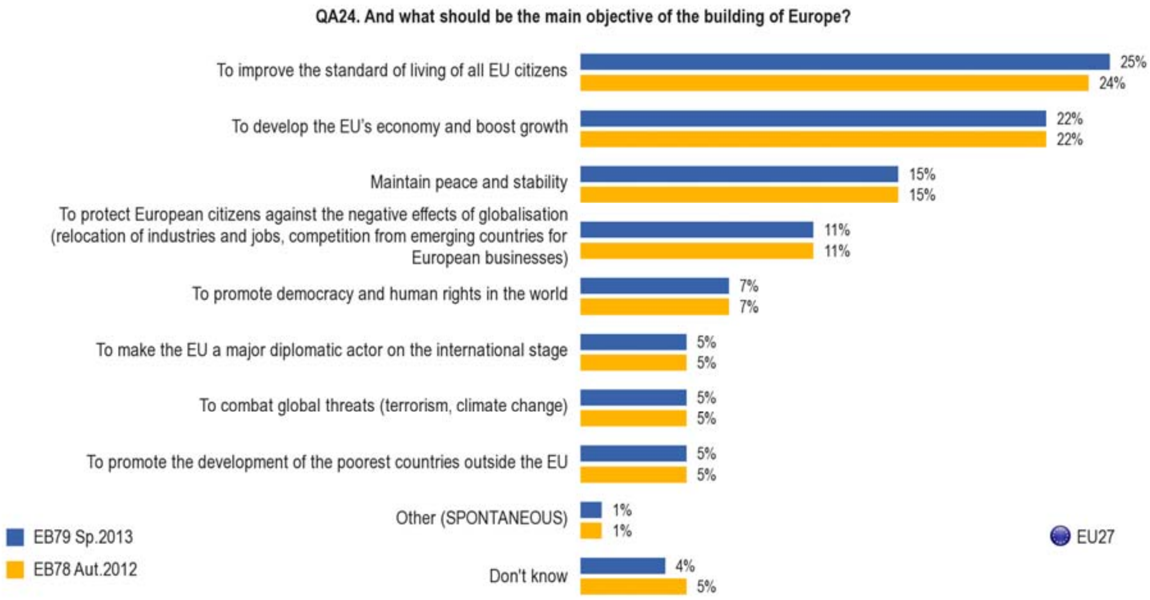


Developing the economy and boosting growth tops the list of perceived objectives in all the Member States. It ranks equal (26%) with maintaining peace and stability in Germany and with improving the standard of living of European citizens in Latvia (28%), Romania (28%) and Portugal (22%). The highest scores were recorded in the Netherlands (47%) and Sweden (42%).

[65] QA23. . In your opinion, at the current time, what is the main objective of the building of Europe? (One answer only).

2.2. The desired objectives of the building of Europe

For the second consecutive time, and with a score of 25% (+1 percentage point), improving the standard of living of all citizens leads the desired objectives of European integration, ahead of developing the economy and boosting growth (22%, unchanged), maintaining peace and stability (15%, =) and protecting European citizens against the negative effects of globalisation (11%, =). All the other objectives recorded scores of less than 10%[66]. This indicator has recorded very few changes over the last six months.



Improving the standard of living of all EU citizens tops the list of desired objectives of European integration in 20 Member States (Belgium, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Finland and the United Kingdom), with the highest scores in Bulgaria (45%), Cyprus (41%) and Latvia (40%). The proportion of respondents mentioning this item has increased in Cyprus (+6), the Netherlands (+7) and Spain (+9), where it now stands in first place (31%) compared with second place, behind economic development, in autumn 2012.

Developing the economy and boosting growth is the objective most desired in four Member States: the Netherlands (31%), Denmark (28%), Hungary (27%) and Italy (24%).

Improving living standards and developing the economy and boosting growth are mentioned equally in Slovenia (both 32%).

Lastly, two countries stand out by placing **maintaining peace and stability** at the top of their list of desired objectives of European integration: Germany (28%) and Sweden (22%).

66 QA24. And what should be the main objective of the building of Europe? (One answer only).

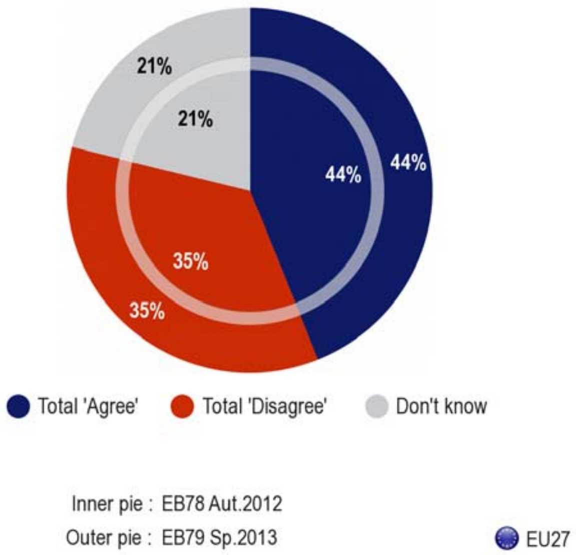
3. The future of the European Union

3.1. Opinions on a federation of nation states

The views of Europeans on the future development of the European Union as a federation of nation states have not changed at all since the previous survey. More than four out of ten Europeans agree with this proposal (44%), while 35% are opposed. The “DK” rate (21%) for this question remains high[67].

QA22a.10. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

The EU should develop further into a federation of Nation-States



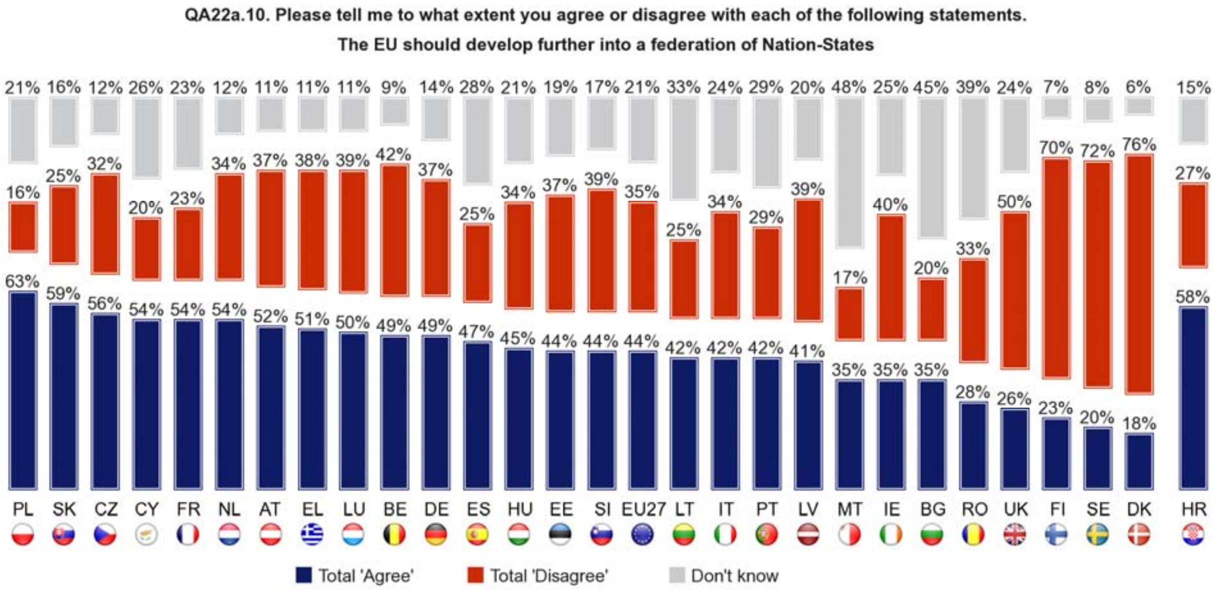
There is no consensus on this proposal, and there are significant national differences. Euro area respondents are in favour of the EU developing further into a federation of nation states (48% versus 32%), whereas non-euro area respondents are split down the middle on this question (38% versus 38%).

A detailed national analysis further reveals that there is strong opposition to the idea of the development of the EU as a federation of nation states in the Nordic countries (76% in Denmark, 72% in Sweden and 70% in Finland), the United Kingdom (50%) and Ireland (40% versus 35%).

However, it is supported by a majority of respondents in 21 EU countries, and by an absolute majority in nine of them: Poland (63%), Slovakia (59%), the Czech Republic (56%), Cyprus (54%), France (54%), the Netherlands (54%), Austria (52%), Greece (51%) and Luxembourg (50%).

[67] QA22a.10 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. The EU should develop further into a federation of Nation-States.

Finally, the “DK” rate is still very high in some countries, particularly in Malta (48%), Bulgaria (45%), Romania (39%) and Lithuania (33%).



There are only minor **socio-demographic** differences on this question. However, there are very significant differences according to attitudes towards the EU. Thus, a large majority of the people for whom the EU conjures up a positive image support the further development of the EU into a federation of nation states (56% versus 27%), as are those who are in favour of the euro (55% versus 28%). The respondents for whom the EU has a negative image are predominantly against the proposal (35% “agree”, versus 46%) as are those who oppose economic and monetary union (35% versus 44%).

QA22a.10 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

The EU should develop further into a federation of Nation-States

	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Don't know
EU27	44%	35%	21%
Sex			
Men	48%	36%	16%
Women	41%	33%	26%
Age			
15-24	47%	31%	22%
25-39	47%	32%	21%
40-54	44%	37%	19%
55 +	42%	35%	23%
Education (End of)			
15-	37%	34%	29%
16-19	45%	34%	21%
20+	49%	36%	15%
Still studying	48%	31%	21%
Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	50%	35%	15%
Managers	46%	40%	14%
Other white collars	47%	35%	18%
Manual workers	43%	35%	22%
House persons	38%	33%	29%
Unemployed	44%	32%	24%
Retired	43%	34%	23%
Students	48%	31%	21%
My voice counts in the EU			
Agree	59%	29%	12%
Disagree	39%	39%	22%
Image of EU			
Positive	56%	27%	17%
Neutral	44%	32%	24%
Negative	35%	46%	19%
Euro			
For	55%	28%	17%
Against	35%	44%	21%

The table below also shows the socio-demographic results in the six largest EU countries, and in four countries which have been particularly affected by the economic crisis.

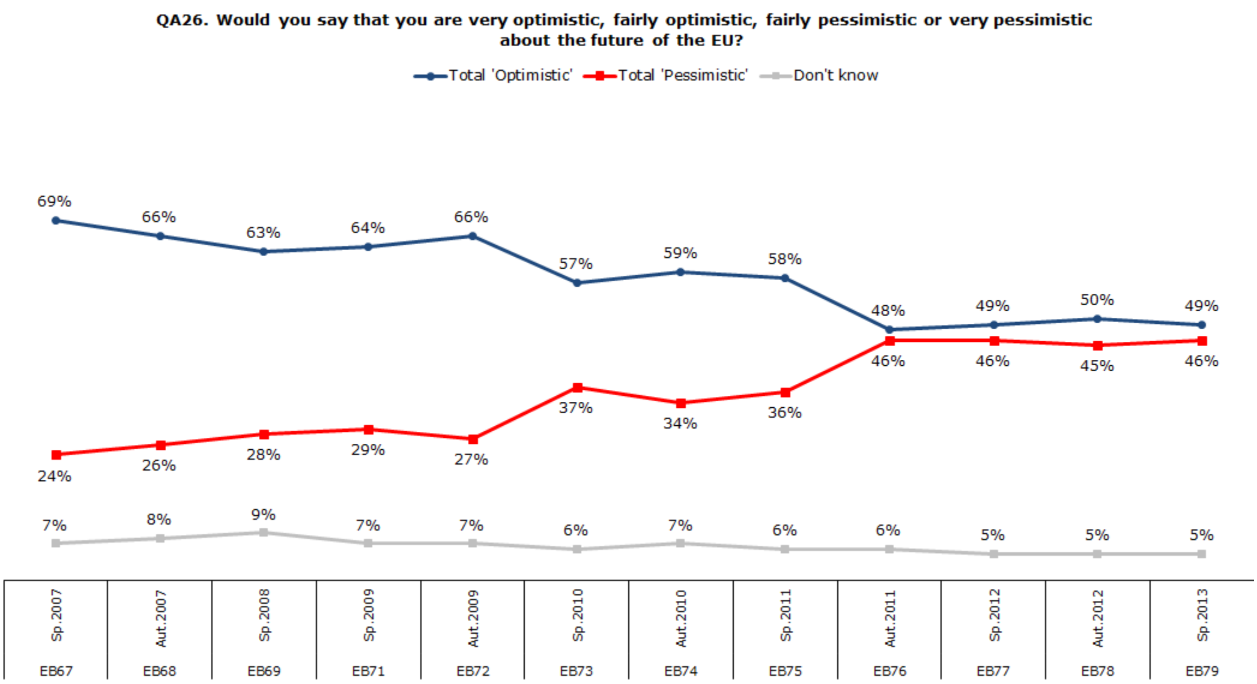
QA22a.10 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

The EU should develop further into a federation of Nation-States

	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
Gender										
Men	53%	53%	59%	45%	64%	31%	50%	50%	42%	60%
Women	45%	42%	49%	41%	61%	21%	51%	35%	28%	48%
Age										
15-24	55%	49%	48%	44%	63%	33%	58%	55%	40%	52%
25-39	48%	49%	54%	51%	73%	29%	56%	45%	36%	52%
40-54	46%	52%	52%	44%	60%	25%	48%	43%	30%	56%
55 +	50%	42%	55%	37%	56%	22%	46%	35%	37%	55%
Education (End of)										
15-	40%	41%	42%	35%	57%	20%	46%	34%	36%	47%
16-19	49%	50%	55%	46%	60%	25%	44%	49%	29%	57%
20+	51%	56%	59%	50%	68%	30%	62%	53%	39%	58%
Still studying	61%	48%	42%	45%	66%	33%	59%	61%	43%	48%
Socio-professional category										
Self-employed	50%	49%	61%	56%	70%	28%	52%	48%	44%	70%
Managers	53%	63%	47%	62%	69%	29%	72%	54%	40%	52%
Other white collars	49%	58%	54%	42%	67%	26%	57%	48%	38%	55%
Manual workers	44%	48%	51%	40%	62%	24%	51%	39%	38%	55%
House persons	35%	33%	56%	42%	74%	20%	46%	34%	22%	58%
Unemployed	42%	47%	57%	47%	62%	27%	46%	46%	30%	47%
Retired	52%	47%	57%	30%	54%	24%	45%	34%	38%	54%
Students	61%	48%	42%	45%	66%	33%	59%	61%	43%	48%

3.2. Optimism about the future of the European Union

This Eurobarometer survey reveals a slight decline in optimism about the future of the EU. Almost half of Europeans (49%, -1 percentage point since autumn 2012) are now optimistic about the future of the EU, while 46% (+1) are pessimistic. The optimism-pessimism ratio is in line with that measured in the three previous surveys (+3, compared with +5 in autumn 2012, +3 in spring 2012 and +2 in autumn 2011), but considerably below the levels of two years ago, in spring 2011 (+22 in EB75)[68], and in autumn 2009 (+39 in EB72).



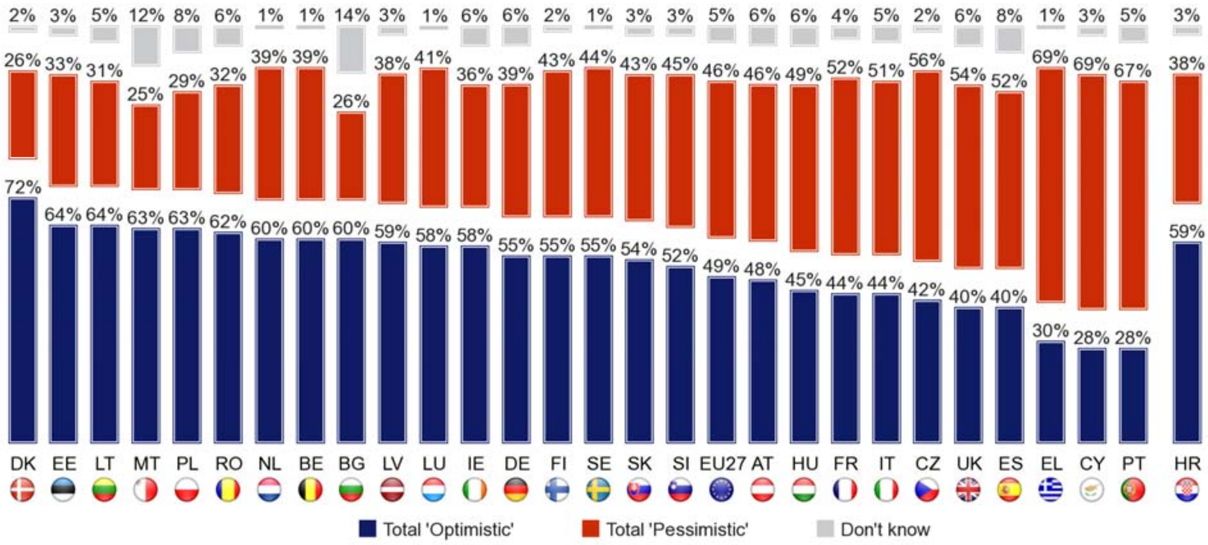
Respondents in the NMS12 countries (58%, unchanged) and the non-euro area countries (52%, +1) are predominantly optimistic. However, opinions are divided in the EU15 countries (47% are optimists while 48% are pessimists, unchanged since autumn 2012), and the euro area countries (47% versus 48%, compared with 48% versus 47% in autumn 2012).

The balance of optimism and pessimism has been reversed in only one country in this survey, Spain, where pessimism now outweighs optimism (52% versus 40%), whereas respondents were predominantly optimistic in autumn 2012 (48% versus 45%). Taking this change into account, respondents in nine Member States are now predominantly pessimistic about the future of the EU: Spain, plus Greece (69%), Cyprus (69%), Portugal (67%), the Czech Republic (56%), the United Kingdom (54%), France (52%), Italy (51%) and Hungary (49% versus 45%). Pessimism has increased sharply in Cyprus (+10), but has decreased in Hungary (-8).

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

Respondents are predominantly optimistic in the remaining 18 EU Member States, most strikingly in Denmark (72%), Lithuania (64%), Estonia (64%), Poland (63%) and Malta (63%). Within this group of countries, optimism has increased significantly in Belgium (60%, +7), but has decreased slightly in Bulgaria (60%, -4), Poland (63%, -3) and Slovenia (52%, -3).

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



Perceptions of the future of the European Union vary according to the socio-demographic category of Europeans. For example, optimism increases with the economic situation of respondents: 32% (versus 63%) of those who struggle to pay their bills most of the time are optimistic, this figure rising to 45% (versus 50%) of those who sometimes have difficulties paying their bills and 55% (versus 40%) of those who almost never have these difficulties.

Optimism also decreases linearly with age: 56% of 15-24 year-olds (versus 38%), 52% of 25-39 year-olds (versus 43%), 47% of 40-54 year-olds (versus 48%) and 45% of the 55+ age group (versus 49%) are optimistic about the future of the EU.

QA26 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			
Men	51%	45%	33%
Women	48%	46%	36%
Age			
15-24	56%	38%	6%
25-39	52%	43%	5%
40-54	47%	48%	5%
55 +	45%	49%	6%
Education (end of)			
15-	36%	57%	7%
16-19	46%	49%	5%
20+	58%	38%	4%
Still studying	62%	32%	6%
Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	53%	44%	3%
Managers	60%	38%	2%
Other white collars	51%	45%	4%
Manual workers	46%	49%	5%
House persons	43%	50%	7%
Unemployed	40%	53%	7%
Retired	46%	48%	6%
Students	62%	32%	6%
Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	32%	63%	5%
From time to time	45%	50%	5%
Almost never	55%	40%	5%

The table below also shows the socio-demographic results in the six largest EU countries, and in four countries which have been particularly affected by the economic crisis.

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

Answer: Total 'Optimistic'

	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
Gender										
Men	60%	41%	47%	44%	64%	38%	31%	32%	58%	28%
Women	51%	39%	41%	44%	61%	42%	29%	24%	58%	28%
Age										
15-24	57%	44%	54%	52%	68%	49%	41%	45%	65%	40%
25-39	58%	43%	38%	48%	69%	48%	30%	33%	56%	16%
40-54	49%	43%	45%	45%	61%	36%	25%	24%	55%	23%
55 +	58%	33%	43%	39%	54%	33%	29%	21%	59%	36%
Education (End of)										
15-	48%	31%	32%	35%	44%	26%	27%	22%	54%	34%
16-19	50%	40%	40%	47%	59%	34%	25%	33%	55%	20%
20+	67%	50%	49%	49%	72%	56%	32%	33%	61%	26%
Still studying	63%	47%	62%	66%	72%	54%	47%	59%	70%	44%
Socio-professional category										
Self-employed	56%	30%	54%	52%	84%	40%	30%	28%	65%	24%
Managers	61%	53%	54%	60%	70%	54%	47%	36%	67%	33%
Other white collars	50%	47%	56%	45%	60%	42%	25%	27%	57%	16%
Manual workers	49%	49%	32%	40%	57%	37%	34%	30%	58%	16%
House persons	49%	30%	42%	41%	76%	30%	17%	24%	55%	34%
Unemployed	40%	37%	38%	34%	64%	30%	23%	28%	42%	20%
Retired	60%	37%	41%	36%	53%	34%	31%	19%	58%	36%
Students	63%	47%	62%	66%	72%	54%	47%	59%	70%	44%

STANDARD EUROBAROMETER 79

Public opinion in the European Union

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Between the 10th and 26th of May 2013 TNS Opinion & Social, a consortium created between TNS plc and TNS opinion, carried out the wave 79.3 of the EUROBAROMETER survey, on request of the EUROPEAN COMMISSION, Directorate-General for Communication, "Research and Speechwriting".

The wave 79.3 is the STANDARD EUROBAROMETER 79 survey 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 79 survey 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 below.

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% 95%	10% 90%	15% 85%	20% 80%	25% 75%	30% 70%	35% 65%	40% 60%	45% 55%	50% 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% 95%	10% 90%	15% 85%	20% 80%	25% 75%	30% 70%	35% 65%	40% 60%	45% 55%	50% 50%	

ABBR.	COUNTRIES	INSTITUTES	N° INTERVIEWS	DATES FIELDWORK		POPULATION 15+	PROPORTION EU27
BE	Belgium	TNS Dimarso	1.013	11/05/13	26/05/13	8.939.546	2,19%
BG	Bulgaria	TNS BBSS	1.029	13/05/13	20/05/13	6.537.510	1,60%
CZ	Czech Rep.	TNS Aisa	1.001	11/05/13	24/05/13	9.012.443	2,20%
DK	Denmark	TNS Gallup DK	1.005	10/05/13	26/05/13	4.561.264	1,12%
DE	Germany	TNS Infratest	1.554	10/05/13	26/05/13	64.336.389	15,74%
EE	Estonia	Emor	1.002	10/05/13	26/05/13	945.733	0,23%
IE	Ireland	IMS Millward Brown	1.002	11/05/13	26/05/13	3.522.000	0,86%
EL	Greece	TNS ICAP	1.000	11/05/13	25/05/13	8.693.566	2,13%
ES	Spain	TNS Demoscopia	1.011	13/05/13	26/05/13	39.127.930	9,57%
FR	France	TNS Sofres	1.019	11/05/13	25/05/13	47.756.439	11,68%
IT	Italy	TNS Italia	1.011	11/05/13	24/05/13	51.862.391	12,69%
CY	Rep. Of Cyprus	Synovate	505	10/05/13	25/05/13	660.400	0,16%
LV	Latvia	TNS Latvia	1.002	10/05/13	26/05/13	1.447.866	0,35%
LT	Lithuania	TNS LT	1.029	10/05/13	26/05/13	2.829.740	0,69%
LU	Luxembourg	TNS ILReS	505	10/05/13	26/05/13	434.878	0,11%
HU	Hungary	TNS Hoffmann Kft	1.027	11/05/13	25/05/13	8.320.614	2,04%
MT	Malta	MISCO	500	10/05/13	26/05/13	335.476	0,08%
NL	Netherlands	TNS NIPO	1.021	11/05/13	26/05/13	13.371.980	3,27%
AT	Austria	Österreichisches Gallup-Institut	999	10/05/13	26/05/13	7.009.827	1,71%
PL	Poland	TNS OBOP	1.000	11/05/13	26/05/13	32.413.735	7,93%
PT	Portugal	TNS EUROTESTE	1.004	11/05/13	26/05/13	8.080.915	1,98%
RO	Romania	TNS CSOP	1.083	11/05/13	21/05/13	18.246.731	4,46%
SI	Slovanie	RM PLUS	1.011	11/05/13	26/05/13	1.759.701	0,43%
SK	Slovakia	TNS Slovakia	1.000	10/05/13	24/05/13	4.549.955	1,11%
FI	Finland	TNS Gallup Oy	956	10/05/13	26/05/13	4.440.004	1,09%
SE	Sweden	TNS GALLUP	1.011	11/05/13	26/05/13	7.791.240	1,91%
UK	United Kingdom	TNS UK	1.305	11/05/13	26/05/13	51.848.010	12,68%
TOTAL EU27			**26.605**	**10/05/13**	**26/05/13**	**408.836.283**	**100%***
CY(tcc)	Turkish Cypriot Comm.	Kadem	500	11/05/13	23/05/13	143.226	
HR	Croatia	Puls	1.000	14/05/13	26/05/13	3.749.400	
TR	Turkey	TNS PIAR	1.001	11/05/13	24/05/13	54.844.406	
MK	Former Yugoslav Rep. Of Macedonia	TNS Brima	1.056	11/05/13	20/05/13	1.678.404	
IS	Iceland	Capacent	511	11/05/13	26/05/13	252.277	
ME	Montenegro	TNS Medium Gallup	1.015	11/05/13	24/05/13	492.265	
RS	Serbia	TNS Medium Gallup	1.006	11/05/13	25/05/13	6.409.693	
TOTAL			**32.694**	**10/05/13**	**26/05/13**	**476.405.954**	

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