

EUROBAROMETER 61

PUBLIC OPINION IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

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NATIONAL REPORT

UNITED KINGDOM

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The interpretations and opinions contained in it are solely those of the authors.

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Notes for the reader:

1. The following are the abbreviations for Member States used in the tables in this report:

B	Belgium
DK	Denmark
D West	'Old' Länder/Western Germany
D Total	Germany
D East	'New' Länder/Eastern Germany
GR	Greece
E	Spain
F	France
IRL	Ireland
I	Italy
L	Luxembourg
NL	Netherlands
A	Austria
P	Portugal
FIN	Finland
S	Sweden
UK	United Kingdom

The distinction between the old and new German Länder has been maintained in the Eurobarometer since 1990. This is because marked differences of opinion between these two parts of the country are still evident.

2. The abbreviation used for the whole of the European Union is EU15.
3. Numbers are rounded so that 1.1, 1.2, 1.3 and 1.4 will appear as 1 and 1.5 and upwards will appear as 2. It should be noted that percentages may total more than 100% because of the rounding up of figures or where questions allow for more than one response.
4. In tables which give the 'high' and 'low' figures, where a particular set of figures produces numbers such as 1.7, 1.8 and 1.9, only the highest figure(s) will be selected and shown as 2. A similar practice is followed for numbers such as 1.2, 1.3 and 1.4 where the lowest figure(s) will be taken and shown as 1.
5. On the analysis of socio-demographic data, only those statistics which are out of line with the general pattern or which show a noteworthy trend are mentioned.

Accordingly, where figures relating to such factors as gender, age, income or educational level show minimal variation, these will not be mentioned.

6. The same applies to comparisons made on a country-by-country basis with previous Eurobarometer surveys and comparisons will generally only be made where noteworthy variations or trends are observed.
7. For the sake of presentation and brevity, those who have been educated until age 20 or beyond will also be referred to as 'the most educated' or 'those who had received the most education' while those whose education had ended at age 15 or younger will be referred to as 'the least educated' or 'those who had the least education'.

Similarly, those people aged 15 to 24 may be referred to as the 'youngest age group' or 'the youngest' while those aged 55 or more as the 'oldest age group' or 'oldest'.

Introduction

This report looks at UK citizens' views about various aspects of the European Union and compares them with typical attitudes held across the Union (EU15 averages) and also highlights major differences with other individual member states.

Views are assessed across the European Union and results are based on both a country-by-country view and a country-specific socio-demographic analysis within the UK that attempts to highlight both the similarities and differences by such varied factors as age, education, occupation, etc.

The main data making up this report were gathered between 20 February and 28 March 2004 and are part of wave 61 of the Standard Eurobarometer. Reference, where relevant, will be made to comparable data collected in previous Eurobarometer (EB) surveys for comparative purposes and to detect medium-term trends in European Union citizens' views. The most recent of these was EB 60 which was undertaken in autumn 2003.

Details of the technical specifications of this survey are included in the Annexes to this document.

A copy of the questionnaire is also included in the Annexes.

The UK sample

Of the UK sample, comprising 1,345 persons, 97% were British – a figure very much in line with the EU15 average with the exception of Luxembourg where of those polled more than one quarter (26%) did not have Luxemburgish identity.

In each country, a number of sampling points were chosen which would reflect the population size and density. This random sampling technique gives an accurate representation of metropolitan, urban and rural areas.

Starting addresses were selected at random and further addresses were selected as every nth address by standard random route procedures.

All interviews were face-to-face in respondents' homes.

Editorial Highlights

From the large amount of data making up EB61, three particularly significant points emerge from the UK statistics.

These relate to:

1. The level of knowledge that UK citizens have of matters European.

Eurobarometer reports have consistently shown that the level of interest in the UK towards EU affairs is usually the lowest in the Union.

There is a steady flow of evidence that this lack of interest has as one of its primary causes a basic lack of knowledge on EU affairs.

This has earned the UK the nickname of the "don't know, don't care" capital of Europe.

This fundamental lack of knowledge and lack of interest also combine to generate high levels of distrust in such EU Institutions as the European Parliament and the European Commission.

As will be seen throughout this report, there is substantial evidence that higher levels of education bring more awareness of the work and function of the European Union.

Other hopeful portents include the fact that 42% of UK citizens feel that there is too little media coverage of the European Union, while only 13% consider it to be too much.

Perhaps as importantly, more than a quarter of the UK poll (27%) think that such media coverage as there is presents a 'too negative' picture of EU affairs.

Younger people are also, generally, more open to both receiving information on the Union and have a more favourable view on the subject.

2. The level of trust that UK citizens have for the EU executive body (the Commission), compared with other more familiar bodies, notably the press.

This report looks in depth at how UK citizens trust various institutions and, in section II.4, it looks at trust levels in institutions ranging from bodies such as the army and police, to media (including press, television and radio), as well as government, companies, the United Nations, etc.

It then looks at trust levels in the nine main EU institutions or bodies. What emerges, overall, is that trust is something generally given grudgingly by UK citizens and figures are relatively low compared with EU15 averages.

When these two panels are compared with one another it is interesting to note that some EU institutions generate more trust amongst UK citizens than domestic organisations.

Most prominent of these concern the UK press and the European Commission. Perhaps surprisingly, only 20% of UK citizens say they trust the British press compared with a noticeably higher percentage (26%) who trust the European Commission. What it shows in even starker form is that, in the UK, the 'don't trust' figures for the UK press rise to 73% compared to just 39% when the question relates to the European Commission.

Accordingly, while trust levels for European institutions appear low when compared with other Member States, when examined in the context of the UK's trust levels generally and compared with those of domestic institutions, these figures can be seen, on a relative basis, to be not as gloomy as might first appear.

3. UK citizens' beliefs as to whether their country and, more particularly, themselves have benefited from the UK being a member of the European Union.

- A crucial statistic is that only 30% of the UK poll believed the country had benefited from EU membership. This contrasts with average figures of 47% across the EU and figures as high as 82% in Greece.
- The proportion of those believing the country has not benefited has risen from 45% to 47% over the past six months.

I. Context

This section is a scene-setter and shows the way the world is viewed by EU respondents and their hopes and beliefs.

4/1 What are your expectations for the next 12 months - will the next 12 months be better, worse or the same when it comes to your life in general?

Country analysis

	UK %	EU15 %	High %
Better	43	32	Sweden 47
Worse	9	15	Portugal 35
Same	46	50	Austria 65
Don't know	3	3	Italy 6

Across the European Union, 50% of those questioned believed their life in general would be the same over the next twelve months and 32% believed it would be better – more than twice as many as the 15% who believed their life would be worse. This 32% figure is marginally lower than the 33% in the previous Eurobarometer survey conducted in autumn 2003.

The UK was noticeably more optimistic about the future with 43% believing life would be better – a figure only exceeded in Sweden (47%) and equalled in Ireland. However, this UK figure is down from the 48% noted in autumn 2003.

At the other end of the scale, only 17% of Germans and 18% of Austrians believed their lives would be better.

Socio-demographic analysis

There was a noticeable difference between the youngest age group (15-24) where 65% of those polled believed the next twelve months would be better as opposed to just 24% in the oldest age group (55+).

A similar wide variation was noted by education level with only 26% of those educated to the lowest level believing life would be better as opposed to nearly twice this number (49%) of those educated to age 20 or beyond.

These substantial differences are particularly interesting because little variation is seen when various income levels are compared.

4/2 What are your expectations for the next 12 months: will the next 12 months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to the economic situation in (OUR COUNTRY)?

Country analysis

	UK %	EU15 %	High
Better	17	18	Greece 34%
Worse	34	43	Portugal 59%
Same	40	34	Finland 53%
Don't know	10	6	Ireland/UK 10%

As has been noted often in previous surveys of this kind, EU citizens' views are noticeably less optimistic on the prospects for their country in general than for their own personal situation.

Accordingly, whilst when reviewing their personal situations (see 4/1 above), only 15% of EU15 citizens believe the situation would get worse, this figure rises to 43% when the economic situation in the country as a whole is reviewed. This, however, is three percentage points lower than the 46% recorded six months previously.

Only 18% of EU15 citizens believed the economic situation in their country would improve over the next twelve months and this figure falls to just 13% in Italy, Germany and Belgium.

In the UK, the figures were 17% - half that shown in the 34% amongst the optimistic Greek poll. This 17% figure is, however, an increase from 15% seen in autumn 2003.

Socio-demographic analysis

As might be expected, there were less substantial variations by socio-demographic characteristics on this question than on the 'personal' version asked in Q. 4.1.

Accordingly, there were no noteworthy variations by age and, when looking at education, the figures ranged relatively minimally between 16% of those educated to age 15 who believed the next twelve months would be better in their country compared with 23% of those educated to age 20 or beyond.

4/3 What are your expectations for the next 12 months: will the next 12 months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to the financial situation of your household?

Country analysis

	UK %	EU15 %	High
Better	32	22	Greece 34
Worse	16	21	Germany 36
Same	49	54	Finland 66
Don't know	4	3	Ireland 6

Across the European Union, there was marginally greater support for the positive view on this issue. Accordingly, while 54% of EU15 citizens believe the financial situation in their

household would remain the same, 22% thought it would get better while 21% saw the situation worsening.

The most pessimistic view was noted in Germany where more than one in three (36%) of those polled saw darker times ahead. Figures of 26% and 33% were observed in the Netherlands and Portugal respectively.

In comparison, virtually one in three of citizens in five EU countries saw the financial situation in their households getting better. This included 31% of the Irish, 32% of Danes, Swedes and UK citizens and 34% of Greeks.

All these figures remain little changed from those in autumn 2003.

Socio-demographic analysis

The marked variations noted in Q. 4.1 emerge again in this 'personal' question.

When asked about expectations for matters financial in their household, 44% of those aged 15 to 24 believed it would get better as opposed to just 16% of those aged 55 or more.

This same spread was noted on an educational basis with just 20% of those educated to age 15 holding a positive view compared with 36% amongst those educated to age 20 or more.

It is interesting to note that this substantial differential is not reflected in the percentage of those who believed the situation will get worse where this view is held by 18% of the least educated compared with a very similar 17% of the most educated.

4/4 What are your expectations for the next 12 months: will the next 12 months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to the employment situation (in our country)?

Country analysis

	UK %	EU15 %	High %
Better	17	15	Greece 30
Worse	31	48	Portuguese 68
Same	41	30	Spain 43
Don't know	11	7	UK 11

A potentially worsening employment situation in their country cast a shadow over virtually half (48%) of EU15 homes – a similar figure to the 47% in autumn 2003. In fact, in Portugal (68%) and Germany (66%), this figure reaches two-thirds of those polled – increases of ten percentage points and four percentage points respectively since the last EB survey.

At the other end of the spectrum, this was a sentiment felt by only 28% of Greeks and Spaniards.

While 30% of EU15 citizens felt the situation would remain the same, only half this number (15%) felt the employment situation would be better over the next twelve months. Most

optimistic were the Greeks (30%), while the Irish (26%) and the Danes (25%) were both substantially ahead of the EU15 average.

The Greek figures show a startling improvement doubling from the 15% recorded just six months previously.

4/5 What are your expectations for the next 12 months: will the next 12 months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to your personal job situation?

Country analysis

	UK %	EU15 %	High %
Better	26	21	Ireland/Spain 28
Worse	6	10	Portugal 21
Same	57	60	Denmasrk 74
Don't know	12	9	Netherlands 13

Yet again, the seemingly illogical variation between the macro and micro view is observed in responses to this question. While, as shown above, 48% of EU15 citizens polled believed the employment situation would become worse over the next twelve months in their country, only 10% expressed the same view when it came to their personal job situation.

In fact, 60% believe the situation would be the same, while 21% thought their personal job situation would be better. Particular optimism was seen in the UK (26%) and Spain and Ireland, where the figures reached 28%. The UK figures are, however, down from the 29% noted in the previous Eurobarometer.

9% of EU15 citizens did not know whether their personal job situation would be better or worse over this period.

Socio-demographic analysis

Once again, questions based on the 'personal' aspects of respondents' expectations produced substantial variations in several areas. For example (and perhaps logically), only 7% of those aged 55 or more thought their job situation would be better over the next twelve months as opposed to 51% of those at the other end of the age range.

A similar wide variation is noted amongst those believing their personal job situation would become better with this view being taken by just 11% of those who had left school aged 15 or less compared with 34% of those whose education had continued to age 20.

Q. 27 What do you think are the two most important issues facing our country?**Country analysis**

UK Rank	ISSUES	UK %	EU15 %	EU15 rank	High	Low
1.	Immigration	41	16	4	UK 41%	Portugal 2%
2.	Crime	37	26	2	NL 47%	Spain 10%
3.	Terrorism	25	15	5	Spain 58%	Finland 3%
4.	Healthcare system	23	15	6	Sweden 43%	Spain 3%
5	Unemployment	13	44	1	Greece 75%	UK 13%
6=	Economic situation	9	25	3	NL 41%	UK 9%
6=.	Education system	9	6	9	Lux 16%	Spain 2%
6=.	Pensions	9	10	7	Austria 25%	NL/IRL 3%
9.	Taxation	8	8	8	Belg/Fin 18%	NL 3%
10.	Housing	5	4	10	Spain 17%	D/GR 0%
11=	Public transport	3	2	12=	Austria 11%	Finland 0%
11=	Protecting environment	3	3	11	DK 11%	Port/E/NL 1%
11=	Defence/Foreign affairs	3	2	12=	Spain 5%	Lux/Port 0%
14=	Other	1	1	14=	Lux 2%	Denmark 0%
14=	DK	1	1	14=	E/IRL/Aust 2%	Greece 0%

Immigration was the most important issue facing UK citizens in the spring of 2004 and was cited by 41% of the poll. In autumn 2003, it was the second most important issue but now overtakes **crime**, which moves from first to second place.

Terrorism was rated the third most important issue and, in the survey six months previously, it was ranked fourth by the UK.

In fourth place (October 2003, third place) was the **healthcare system**.

Unemployment was ranked fifth in both the last two surveys while the **economic situation** (previously the ninth ranked in the UK) moves up to sixth equal position. Unemployment is, however, ranked the most important issue according to the EU15 average.

Also in sixth position were concerns about the **education system** (which was in fifth position six months previously).

Pensions were also rated equal sixth compared with an identical seventh position in the previous Eurobarometer survey.

In ninth position was the issue of **taxation** which was in eight position in October 2003.

It is interesting to note that the nine issues which most concerned citizens in the UK were exactly the same issues that gave concern to the average EU15 citizen even if the priority they were given differed slightly.

Socio-demographic analysis

The major distinguishing characteristics from a socio-demographic point of view are detailed here. The percentage of UK citizens polled citing this as a concern is shown after each issue and the issues are also ranked in terms of importance.

As will be seen throughout this report, no reference is made where particular sets of socio-demographic data vary only marginally from the average.

1. Immigration (41%)

Immigration was of concern to 45% of those whose education had ended at age 15 or less compared to just 31% of those educated to age 20 or beyond.

This issue was of concern to 44% of those aged 55 or more compared with just 35% of those aged 15 to 24.

It was also of concern to 46% of manual workers.

2. Crime (37%)

Women (40%) viewed **crime** as a more important issue than men (33%) and this high level of concern was echoed by the oldest group (46%) compared with just 38% of those aged 15 to 24.

Higher levels of education reduced the concern over this issue and only 20% of those educated to age 20 or beyond saw **crime** as one of the two most important issues facing the country compared with 44% of those educated to age 15 or less.

49% of house persons and 43% of the retired were particularly concerned about **crime** compared with figures of just 23% for the self-employed and 27% for managers.

3. Terrorism (25%)

High levels of concern on this issue were noted from the unemployed 35%, while the issue was of concern to only 14% of the self-employed.

4. Healthcare system (23%)

This issue was of concern to 19% who had left education at age 15 or younger compared with 25% educated to age 20 or beyond.

This issue was of particular importance to the self-employed (36%) but was cited by only 17% of house persons.

5. Unemployment (13%)

Women (15%) were more concerned about **unemployment** than men (10%) and, while concern in the youngest age group at 15% was noticeably higher than the 9% score for those aged 55 or more.

Perhaps naturally, 26% of the unemployed were concerned about **unemployment** compared with just 7% of managers and 9% of students.

6=. **Economic situation** (9%)

12% of men as opposed to 8% of women were concerned about the **economic situation**.

There was a substantial variation in the level of concern based upon respondents' education levels. While this issue was of concern to just 6% of those who had finished their education aged 15 or less, the figures increase to 21% amongst those educated to age 20 or beyond.

The **economic situation** was also of greater than average importance to the self-employed (19%), managers (13%) and the unemployed (12%). At the other end of the 'worry-scale' were just 7% of house persons and 5% of students.

6=. **Education system** (9%)

While this issue was of concern to just 5% of those aged 55 or more, it was cited by 14% of those aged 15 to 24.

Higher levels of education also increased the level of concern generated so that while this issue concerned just 4% of those who had left school aged 15 or less, the figures rise substantially to include 13% of those educated to age 20 or beyond.

6=. **Pensions** (9%)

Concern over the issue of pensions follows the archetypal pattern in that only 1% of those polled aged 15 to 24 expressed concern, compared to 15% of those aged 55 or more who viewed this as one of the two most important issues facing the UK.

As might be expected the self-employed (15%) and the retired (16%) were the two occupational groups showing most concern over this issue while only 3% of students shared this worry.

9. **Taxation** (8%)

While there was a variation on a gender basis between the 10% of men and 6% of women concerned over this issue, no clear patterns emerge on an age or education basis.

The self-employed (11%) were the occupational group most concerned over this issue compared with only 4% of house persons.

II. 1 Knowledge of the European Union and sources of information and media presentation

In this section, the author looks at the level of knowledge about the European Union held by its citizens investigated in a series of fairly basic questions.

It then examines in more detail which institutions or bodies have been heard of and examines the sources of information on the European Union, views on the level of coverage by media of the EU and whether the media present EU news positively, objectively or negatively.

Q. 24/1 The European Union currently consists of 12 Member States. True or false?

Country analysis

A substantial majority (47%) of EU15 citizens incorrectly believed that the EU consisted of 12 Member States and this view was strongly held in Germany (55%), Ireland (55%) and the Netherlands (56%). The UK figure was 47%.

Of the three Member States who, by joining the EU in 1995, actually, increased the roll-call from twelve to fifteen, two had a majority of those polled who correctly said that the statement was false, with figures of 47% in Austria and 46% in Sweden compared with an EU15 average of 33%.

Interestingly, in Finland, the third country in this group of relative newcomers, more than half of those polled (53%) believed incorrectly that this statement was true and only 34% knew it to be false.

A substantial number of EU15 citizens (20%) did not know whether this statement was true and the figure rises to one in three (33%) of the UK poll.

The most informed people in the European Union were the Luxembourgers of whom 63% said the statement was false compared with an EU15 average of nearly half this amount at 33% while figures of 20% were noted in the UK.

Socio-demographic analysis

The socio-demographic analysis on this issue looks at the variations amongst those UK citizens polled who correctly said the statement was false.

As can be seen above, this group comprised 20% of those polled. This figure is made up of 25% of the male poll and 15% of the female.

Minor variations were seen by age but there is a substantial variation based on education with the correct response (false) being given by 17% of those who left school at the earliest opportunity compared with more than twice this figure (36%) amongst those educated to age 20 or beyond.

Similar wide variations were seen by occupation with the correct response being given by 8% of house persons compared with 38% of managers. It is worth noting, however, that more than half of the managers polled (52%) gave an incorrect response compared with just 36% of house persons. This anomaly can perhaps be explained by the fact that the

'don't know' factor was just 10% amongst managers compared with 56% amongst house persons.

Accordingly, a certain amount of guesswork may be imputed to managers in this specific situation.

24/2 The European Community was created just after World War I in the early 1920s. True or false?

Country analysis

A majority (55%) of EU15 citizens correctly said this statement was false and figures as high as 79% were recorded in Sweden and Denmark.

However, low figures were observed in Greece (41%), Spain (42%) and Ireland and the UK (45% each).

Once again, 'don't know' factors as high as 42% in Greece, 41% in Spain and 40% in the UK contributed to the statistic of one-third (32%) of all EU15 citizens not knowing whether this statement was true or false.

13% of EU15 citizens and 15% of those in the UK believed the statement to be true and this figure is as high as 18% in Spain.

Socio-demographic analysis

56% of men polled as opposed to 36% of women gave the correct answer to this question. It is again interesting to note that despite the above statistic seemingly demonstrating a higher level of knowledge amongst men on this issue, there was still a higher percentage of men (16%) than women (14%) giving an incorrect answer to this question.

A potential reason for this could possibly be found in the fact that the 'don't know' factor for women was 50% compared with just 28% amongst men and a male-driven desire to give an answer (correct or incorrect!) leads to these seeming anomalies.

While 34% of those aged 15-24 gave a correct answer to this question, this figure rises to 61% of those aged 55 or more.

A further interesting observation is noted based upon levels of education. Comparing the least educated to the most educated, similar numbers (51%:55%) gave the correct answer.

However, the least educated had 36% of their number saying that they did not know the answer to the question – a figure substantially above the 22% recorded by the most educated.

What emerges as a slightly odd statistic (which may, in spirit, be linked to the gender results noted above) is that a substantially greater number (23%) of the most educated gave an incorrect answer compared with just 14% of those whose education had ended at age 15.

A high 'don't know' factor of 63% was observed amongst house persons.

24/3 The European flag is blue with yellow stars. True or false?

Country analysis

There was a sharp divide between the UK and other EU15 members as to the characteristics of the European flag. While, on average, 81% of Europeans correctly said this statement was true and figures of 90% or more were observed in Finland, Sweden and Luxembourg, only 60% of UK citizens polled believed this statement to be true.

As a consequence, while on average only 14% of EU15 citizens did not know whether this statement was true, this figure increases to 33% in the UK – some thirteen-percentage points above the next highest figure of 20% recorded in Ireland.

Socio-demographic analysis

With a substantial 40% of UK women compared with 24% of men saying that they did not know what the European flag looked like, but with a similar figure stating that it was false, the correct answer was given by 69% of men and 53% of women.

Education plays a substantial role in generating the correct answer to this question with figures of 86% for those educated to age 20 or beyond compared to just 48% at the other end of the scale

24/4 On the European flag, there is one star for each European country. True or false?

Country analysis

Across the European Union, a substantial two-thirds (67%) of those polled incorrectly said that this statement was true and this misapprehension reaches 74% in Denmark and 73% in Italy and the Netherlands.

The UK figure at 54% is the lowest recorded but this 'least wrong' response is counter-balanced by the fact that more than a third of the UK poll (35%) did not express an opinion compared with just 20% on the EU15 average.

Once again, the Luxembourgers and the Swedes both had 33% of their polls correctly believing that the statement was false compared with just 13% across the EU and 11% in the UK.

Socio-demographic analysis

Once again, there was a substantially larger percentage of women (43%) than men (27%) who did not know the answer to this question and, yet again, the percentage of men giving the incorrect answer was considerably greater than the number of women (61%:46%).

24/5 The headquarters of the European Commission are in Strasbourg. True or false?

Country analysis

61% of the French poll incorrectly believed this statement to be true compared with an EU15 average of 48%. While this figure, the highest across the Union, does not give much surprise (!), what is perhaps more interesting is that the country that gave this false statement the second highest level of credence with 57% was Belgium – the actual home of the Commission's headquarters. In the UK, the figure reaches 40%.

Only 22% of both EU15 and UK citizens believe this statement to be false with figures in excess of 40% being noted in Sweden (41%) and Austria (43%).

When the 'don't know' figures are analysed, some interesting variations are seen in the figures that make up the 29% EU15 average. These range from 12% in Sweden and 16% in Luxembourg and France to 38% in Portugal and the UK and 44% in Spain.

Socio-demographic analysis

Yet again, there is a greater proportion of men (29%) than women (16%) in the UK who correctly said that this statement was false.

However, the by now familiar pattern of a very high percentage of the female poll (48%) compared with just 28% of men admitted to not knowing the answer to this question.

While the incorrect answer is given by 27% of the youngest age group, this proportion rises steadily until it accounts for nearly half (48%) of those aged 55 or more.

24/6 Members of the European Parliament are directly elected by the citizens of the European Union. True or false?

Country analysis

Half of the EU15 citizens polled (50%) gave the correct answer to this question by saying that they thought that the statement was true.

However, within this average are wide variations ranging from 74% in Greece and 69% in Finland to 36% in Austria and 41% in the UK.

Once again, a relatively high 'don't know' figure of 29% was observed across the Union with particularly high figures of 43% observed in the UK compared with figures of just 10% in Sweden, 11% in Denmark and 13% in Finland.

Socio-demographic analysis

More than half of the female poll (52%) say they don't know compared with just 34% of men.

24/7 The President of the European Commission is directly elected by the citizens of the European Union. True or false?

Country analysis

Virtually half of EU15 citizens (48%) correctly said that this statement was false with particularly strong and correct opinions being held in Denmark (79%), Sweden (78%) Finland (68%) and Luxembourg (66%).

The figure for the UK was the lowest at 33% and this figure is, again, explained by the fact that nearly half of the UK poll (49%) did not know if this statement was true compared with an EU15 average of 35%.

17% of EU15 citizens believed this statement to be true and this figure comprises more than one in four Spaniards (26%), Irish (26%) and Portuguese (27%).

Socio-demographic analysis

Yet again, there were substantially more women (60%) than men (38%) who did not know the answer to this question.

Education appeared to have a significant effect with 30% of the least educated giving the correct answer compared with 50% of those educated to age 20 or beyond.

58% of those on the highest level of income gave the correct answer compared with just 28% of those at the other end of the earnings spectrum.

24/8 The European Union has its own anthem. True or false?

Country analysis

Only a quarter (25%) of EU15 citizens believed that the EU had its own anthem, although this average figure hides variations between 48% of Austrians and just 8% of the Dutch.

17% of the UK believed this statement to be true.

However, the majority of European citizens (39%) did not know whether this was the case or not and this figure rises to as much as 50% in Ireland, 49% in Spain, 48% in Greece and 46% in the UK.

More than a third (36%) of EU15 citizens believed this statement to be false and this figure rises to more than two-thirds of the Dutch poll (69%) and 58% of Finns.

The UK figure is close to the EU15 average at 37%.

Socio-demographic analysis

In the UK, 53% of women compared with 38% of men said they did not know the answer to this question.

33% of women compared with 42% of men gave the incorrect answer to this question.

24/9 Each year there is a Europe Day in all the countries of the European Union. True or false?

Country analysis

42% of EU15 citizens did not know whether this correct statement was true or false with figures as high as 51% in Spain and Ireland and as low as 14% in Finland.

The figure for the UK was 48%.

A third of EU15 citizens (34%) correctly believed this statement to be true and, while this belief was only held by 14% of UK citizens and 18% of the Dutch, exceptionally high figures of 70% were noted in Finland.

Socio-demographic analysis

55% of women compared with 41% of men did not know whether this statement was true or false and, while slightly more men (15%) than women (13%) correctly said that there was a Europe Day in all the countries of the European Union, noticeably more men (44%) than women (32%) gave an incorrect answer.

This gives further credence to the theory that men are prone to guessing rather than to admitting not knowing.

24/10 The next elections to the European Parliament will take place in June 2006. True or false?

Country analysis

Close to half of the total poll (47%) did not know if this incorrect statement was true or false and this figure increases to 62% in the UK and 60% in Spain.

29% of the total poll correctly identified this statement as being false with figures of more than half of those polled being observed in Greece (54%), Finland (54%) and Luxembourg (55%).

The lowest two figures noted were 12% and 17% in the UK and Spain respectively.

Socio-demographic analysis

More than half of both the male and female poll in the UK did not know whether this statement was true or false, with figures of 67% for women and 56% for men.

More men than women (13%:12%) correctly said that this statement was false and, yet again, more men than women (32%:21%) incorrectly said the statement was true.

Q. 21.1. Have you heard of the European Parliament?

Country analysis

More than nine out of ten (92%) of EU15 citizens had heard of the European Parliament and only in the UK (85%), Greece (88%) and Germany (89%) were figures of less than 90% recorded.

In fact, in Denmark, 98% of those polled had heard of this institution.

These figures remain broadly unchanged since the previous Eurobarometer 60.1 in the autumn of 2003.

Socio-demographic analysis

In the UK, 16% of women compared with 9% of men had not heard of the European Parliament and this was the situation for 29% of UK citizens aged 15 to 24 compared with only 7% of those aged 55 or more.

While 86% of those on the lowest income scale had heard of the Parliament, this figure rises to 94% of those with the highest earnings.

Q. 21.2. Have you heard of the European Commission?

Country analysis

While an average of 80% of European citizens (81% in autumn 2003) had heard of the European Commission, this figure conceals variations that range from 72% in Germany and 75% in the UK (80% in autumn 2003) to 95% in Luxembourg and Finland.

The corollary of these figures is that 23% of German and UK citizens and 22% of Spaniards had not heard of the European Commission.

Socio-demographic analysis

While 85% of men in the UK had heard of the European Commission the figure for women falls to 67%.

Education also has a bearing on this level of knowledge with 69% of the least educated saying that they had heard of the European Commission compared with 92% of those educated to age 20 or more.

71% of those on the lowest level of income had heard of the Commission compared with 88% at the other end of the earnings scale.

Q. 21.3. Have you heard of the Council of Ministers?

Country analysis

Considering that the Council of Ministers together with the European Parliament and European Commission is part of the 'triumvirate' decision-making process of the European Union, it is interesting to note that only two out of three (65%) of EU15 citizens are aware of its existence. This average figure contains some substantial variations ranging from awareness levels of 92% in Sweden and 88% in Denmark to just 58% in Germany and 41% in the UK.

In fact, in the UK, 55% of those polled were not aware of the existence of the Council of Ministers compared with a European average of 31%.

Socio-demographic analysis

52% of UK men had heard of this institution compared with just 31% of women.

While only 32% of the youngest group had heard of the Council of Ministers, this figure rises to 52% in the oldest age group.

Similarly, while 39% of the least educated group had heard of this institution, the figure rises substantially to 62% of those educated to age 20 or beyond.

60% of managers made up this group as opposed to just 22% of house persons and 20% of the unemployed.

Q. 21.4. Have you heard of the Court of Justice of the European Union?

Country analysis

Nearly three-quarters of EU15 citizens had heard of the Court of Justice of the European Union – a figure more than 10% greater than those who had heard of the Council of Ministers.

Yet again, this average figure conceals figures as different as 93% in Denmark and Sweden and 58% in Italy and 65% in the UK.

Socio-demographic analysis

In the UK, three-quarters of men (75%) compared with only 56% of women had heard of the Court of Justice and a similar divergence was seen between young and old people with figures of 56% of 15 to 24 year olds and 73% of those aged 55 or more.

The pattern whereby knowledge levels increased with education, income and occupation is again noted here.

Q. 21.5. Have you heard of the European Ombudsman?

Country analysis

On average, only a third of European citizens (34%) had heard of the European Ombudsman and a wide range of contributing statistics included figures as low as 21% in Germany, 22% in Sweden and 24% in Italy, while, at the other end of the scale, figures of 61% were noted in Spain and Luxembourg and 79% in Finland.

The UK figure was slightly above the EU15 average at 37%.

Socio-demographic analysis

In the UK, 44% of men compared with just 32% of women had heard of the European Ombudsman and there was an even greater variation in knowledge level between the youngest group (13%) and the oldest (48%).

Education, occupation and income categories again generated the patterns established above.

Q. 21.6. Have you heard of the European Central Bank?

Country analysis

The European Central Bank has a relatively high level of awareness amongst European citizens with nearly three-quarters (74%) of those polled saying that they had heard of it.

This figure, once again, conceals substantial country-by country variations with figures of just 57% in the UK and 65% in Greece compared with 91% in Sweden and 90% in Finland.

Socio-demographic analysis

68% of men and 47% of women in the UK had heard of the ECB as had 48% of the youngest age group compared with 61% of the oldest.

Once again, higher levels of education and income, as well as managerial occupations increased the level of awareness of this European body.

Q. 21.7. Have you heard of the European Court of Auditors?

Country analysis

Only one out of two Europeans (51%) had heard of the European Court of Auditors and, while this organisation is known to 78% of Austrians, 75% of Luxembourgers and 71% of Germans, in the UK and Denmark, the figures fall to just 18% and 21% respectively. The corollary of these data means that, in Denmark and in the UK, more than three-quarters of those polled had not heard of the European Court of Auditors.

Socio-demographic analysis

While 21% of men and 15% of women in the UK had heard of the Court of Auditors, no clear patterns were established by age.

However, higher levels of education and income and managerial occupations had their, by now, established effect of increasing awareness.

Q. 21.8. Have you heard of the Committee of the Regions?

Country analysis

Only 29% of EU15 citizens had heard of the Committee of the Regions of the European Union and, while this figure rises to 51% in Portugal and 50% in Austria, these are the only two countries of the European Union where more people have heard of the Committee of the Regions than not.

This is clearly shown by the fact that amongst the 65% of EU15 citizens who were not aware of the existence of the Committee of the Regions are figures of 81% in the Netherlands, 80% in the UK, 76% in Sweden and 75% in Denmark.

Socio-demographic analysis

In the UK, while 20% of men compared with 10% of women had heard of the Committee of the Regions, age, again, had no effect upon the level of knowledge.

Yet again, the familiar patterns based upon education, occupation and income were apparent.

Q. 21.9. Have you heard of the Economic and Social Committee?

Country analysis

Making up the 37% of European citizens who had heard of the Economic and Social Committee were a broad range of figures ranging from 59% in Luxembourg, 52% in Austria and 51% in Portugal and Greece to just 20% in the Netherlands, 24% in the UK and 26% in Belgium.

Analysing the 57% of the poll who had not heard of this body, were figures again showing a substantial variation from 73% in the Netherlands and 71% in the UK and Belgium to just 37% in Luxembourg.

Socio-demographic analysis

Once more, there were more men (28%) than women (20%) in the UK who had heard of this institution, while, yet again, no patterns were observed by age.

Knowledge levels based on income, occupation and education followed their established patterns.

Q. 18. When you're looking for information about the European Union, its policies, its institutions, which of the following sources do you use?
Country and socio-demographic analysis

	EU15 rank	EU15 %	UK rank	UK %	High %	Low %
Television	1	73	1	61	Denmark 87	Ireland 58
Daily newspapers	2	54	2	50	Sweden 76	Portugal 26
Radio	3	35	3	31	Luxembourg 59	Italy 20
Discussions with relatives, friends, etc.	4	25	5	20	Sweden 36	Ireland 14
Other newspapers and magazines	5	23	7	16	Finland 41	Spain 11
Internet	6	16	6	19	Netherlands 29	Portugal 6
Never look for such information, not interested	7	11	4	21	UK 21	Luxembourg 3

In this multiple-choice question, **television** emerged as the most popular source of information on the European Union, being cited by nearly three-quarters (73%) of all EU15 citizens – a figure showing an increase from 66% in autumn 2003.

87% of Danes and 84% of Finns and Germans, compared with just 58% of the Irish and 61% of the UK sample, preferred this medium. The UK sample also shows an increase from 54%.

In the UK, **television** was a source of information for 65% of men as opposed to 56% of women and was more frequently used by the oldest section of the poll (67%) than the youngest (51%). The medium was also more used by those with the most education (73%) than those who left school aged 15 or younger where the figure was only 58%.

Daily newspapers were one of the sources chosen by 54% of EU15 citizens with figures as high as 76% seen in Sweden compared with just 31% in Greece. They were a source of information used by 50% of the UK sample.

In the autumn 2003 survey, figures for the EU15 were 46% and 44% in the UK.

In the UK, 59% of men and 42% of women used this medium, and, while there were no appreciable variations by age, the most educated part of the poll consulted newspapers more often than the least educated with figures of 60% compared with 46%.

The third most popular source of information on the European Union, which was selected by a third (35%) of EU citizens, was **radio** – up from 31% six months previously.

This average figure was, however, made up by widely diverging figures with figures as high as 59% being observed in Luxembourg and 55% in Sweden and Denmark compared with

just 20% in Italy and 13% in Portugal. The UK figure was relatively close to the EU15 average at 31% - up three-percentage points since the previous survey.

In the UK sample, there were no discernible variations on the use of **radio** by age but 48% of the most educated group, compared with 28% of the least educated, used radio for this purpose. There was also a higher proportion of men (36%) than women (27%) in this group.

Across the EU15, **discussions with relatives, friends and colleagues** was the fourth most popular source of information with 25% of EU15 citizens taking part in this. This figure shows an increase from the 21% recorded in the autumn of 2003. In Sweden, this figure rises to 36% and high figures are also noted in France (32%) and Denmark (30%).

In the UK sample, men (23%) were more likely to discuss the EU than women (17%), and this practice was more prevalent amongst the youngest group (31%) than the oldest (18%). 34% of the most educated also used these discussions to gain information on the EU compared with just 16% of those who had left school aged 15 or less.

While the UK figure was 20% (an increase from 18% six months previously), this is less than the 21% of UK citizens for whom the fourth most popular response to this question was that '**they never looked for such information or were not interested**'.

In the UK sample, women (27%) made up a considerably larger proportion of this group than men (15%) and the same was noted for the youngest age group (28%) compared with the oldest where the figure was just 16%.

22% of those who had left school at the earliest opportunity were also in this category compared to just 8% of those who had studied until age 20 or beyond.

The fifth most widely cited information source on the EU was **other newspapers and magazines** which was a source given by virtually a quarter (23%) of those polled.

Once again, this average hides figures brings together figures as high as 41% in Finland and 35% in Austria compared with just 11% in Spain and 16% in the UK.

In the UK poll, this information source was cited by 19% of men and 13% of women, and just 12% of those educated to age 15 compared with 22% of the most educated.

Age produced no significant variations.

The **Internet**, often viewed as the 'crown prince' of information, is the sixth most cited information source across the European Union with one in six citizens (16%) citing this new medium.

However, there are substantial variations with figures of 24% or more seen in Denmark, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Finland and Sweden compared with just 6% in Portugal, 9% in Ireland and 10% in Greece and Spain.

The UK figure is slightly ahead of the EU average at 18%.

UK men (22%) were noticeably more likely to use this medium than women whose figure was just 13%.

A wider gap emerged on the basis of age with 33% of the youngest group using the **Internet** compared with just 8% of the oldest.

Education also had a very marked effect with 32% of those educated until age 20 or beyond using the **Internet** compared with just 5% of those whose education had not extended beyond age 15.

While 35% of managers used the medium, the figure falls to just 7% of house persons and 6% of the retired.

Q. 19. Generally speaking, do you think that our media talk too much, about the right amount, or too little about the European Union?
Country and socio-demographic analysis

	EU15 %	UK %	High
Talk too much	8	13	Greece/Spain/UK 13%
Talk about the right amount	42	31	Finland 69%
Talk too little	42	42	Netherlands 53%
Don't know	9	14	Ireland 17%

Across the European Union, there is a marked and increasing belief that the media **talk too little** about the European Union.

42% of European citizens believe that there is **too little** media coverage on this subject and, in the Netherlands and Italy, this is a belief held by at least 50% of those polled. The UK figures match the EU15 average at 42%.

Both the UK and EU15 figures show an increase since autumn 2003. In the UK, the figures have moved noticeably from 34% to 42%, while in the EU15 the figure has grown from 37% to 42%.

It is significant to note that this sentiment of **media starvation** is less keenly felt in countries such as Sweden, Finland and Denmark where, as can be noted throughout this report, there are generally high levels of both information and awareness on matters European.

In the UK, there were no marked variations by gender, age, income or education.

At the other end of the spectrum, only 8% of Europeans felt that there was **media overload** on this subject compared with 11% six months before, with figures reaching 10% in Ireland and 13% in Greece, Spain and the UK. The previous figures for the UK were 17%.

In the UK, there was minimal variation by most socio-demographic categories except that 18% of the least educated group felt there was **too much** media coverage of this issue compared with just 7% of those educated to age 20.

On average, 42% of EU15 citizens felt that their national media coverage on the European Union was **about right** although constituent parts of this average ranged from 31% in the UK to 69% in Finland.

Within the UK, 36% of men and 26% of women felt the media talked about the **right amount** on the subject of the European Union.

While there were only minor variations by age, this sentiment was felt by 40% of those who had received the most education compared with just 21% who had left school aged 15 or less.

42% of those on the highest income level compared with just 24% on the lowest level held this view.

Q. 20. Do you think that the national media present the European Union too positively, objectively, or too negatively?
Country and socio-demographic analysis

	EU15 %	UK %	High
Too positively	23	11	Spain 34%
Objectively	41	34	Belgium, Finland, Denmark 57%
Too negatively	13	27	UK 27%
Don't know	23	28	Ireland 31%

The major result from this part of the survey is that, compared with just 13% of the European Union who consider that the EU is presented **too negatively**, the UK figure is more than twice this average at 27% - substantially ahead of the next highest figure from Portugal at just 18%. These figures are basically unchanged since the Eurobarometer of autumn 2003.

In the UK, 30% of men and 24% of women believed media coverage was **too negative** and this view was also held by 33% of the oldest age group compared with 23% of the youngest.

Older people were more likely to hold this view than the youngest group with figures of 33% and 24% respectively.

At the other end of the opinion range, substantially more Europeans (23%) believe the European Union is presented **too positively** and this figure rises to 34% in Finland and Spain and 30% in Greece. These figures stand in sharp contrast to only 11% of the UK poll who thought that the British media presented the European Union in **too positive** a light.

In the UK, 16% of those aged 55 or more believed the media presented the EU in **too positive** a light compared with just 7% of those aged 15 to 24. 14% of those who had received the least amount of education also held this view compared to 8% of those educated to age 20 or later.

The great weight of European opinion (41%) is, on a country-by-country basis, that the media present the European Union **objectively**. This figure rises to 57% in Finland, Belgium and Denmark, while the Italian and UK statistics produce figures of only 33% and 34% respectively.

In the UK sample, 39% of men held this view compared with just 29% of women.

While 41% of people aged 15 to 24 also held this view, the figure decreases with age until it reaches 29% of those aged 55 or more.

Education creates even greater variations in these figures with 25% of those who had received the least education compared with 45% of those who had received the most taking the view that UK media presented the European Union in an **objective** manner.

There is substantial variation in the 'don't know' response to this question which ranged from as low as 4% in Finland to 31% in Ireland.

The EU15 average, at 23%, was five-percentage points below the 28% recorded in the UK, which was the highest figure apart from that recorded in Ireland.

In the UK sample, 35% of women compared with just 21% of men gave '**don't know**' as their response to this question.

The '**don't know**' factor, as might be expected, produced widely different figures in terms of education, with 30% of the least educated admitting they did not know compared with virtually half this number (16%) who had been educated to age 20 or beyond.

While only 13% of managers said **they did not know**, this figure rises to 35% of manual workers and 45% of house persons.

II.2. General perceptions of the European Union and EU membership

In this section, respondents are asked about their feelings and concerns about the European Union and the benefit it brings.

Q. 8. Generally speaking, do you think that our country's membership of the European Union is a good thing, a bad thing or neither good nor bad?

Country and socio-demographic analysis

	UK %	EU15 %	High %
A good thing	29	48	Luxembourg 75
A bad thing	29	17	Sweden 33
Neither good nor bad	29	29	Austria 36
Don't know	13	6	UK 13

Across the European Union, nearly half of those polled (48%) felt that their country's membership of the European Union was a **good** thing. This is nearly three times as many people as the 17% who believed membership to be a **bad** thing. Six months previously, the comparable figures were 48% and 15%.

In the UK, however, an identical number of people (29%) think membership is a **good** thing as those who think it is a **bad** thing. In the autumn of 2003, the positive camp numbered 28% while those who thought membership was a '**bad thing**' totalled 29%.

Looking in more detail at the UK socio-demographic data, in the spring of 2004, making up the 29% of those who believed membership was a **good thing** were 34% of the male poll but only 24% of the female poll.

Younger people in the UK were also more convinced about the benefits of membership of the EU. Additionally, while 52% of those educated to age 20 or beyond saw membership as a **good thing**, this figure falls to just 19% of those whose education had ended at age 15 or less.

UK managers (42%), the self-employed (40%) and other white-collar workers (36%) also saw membership as a **good thing** compared with just 13% of house persons.

40% of those on the highest level of earnings in the UK also held this view as opposed to just 25% at the other end of the income range.

The only other two countries where there is not a clear divide in favour of the positive viewpoint are Austria where 30% believe membership is a **good thing** as opposed to 29% who do not and Sweden where the figures are 37% and 33%.

The opinion of citizens of these three countries is in stark contrast to countries such as Greece, Ireland and Luxembourg where more than 70% of those polled see membership as a **good thing** and 8% or less sees it as a **bad thing**.

Virtually one in three (29%) of all EU15 citizens were undecided whether membership was a good or a bad thing – down two-percentage points from the previous poll. This figure reaches 36% in Austria and 35% in Germany.

These latter figures are largely influenced by the 41% in the Eastern Länder compared with 33% in the Western Länder.

The UK figure at 29% is in line with the EU 'undecided' average.

The ubiquitous '**don't know**' factor in the UK raises its head in this question with a figure of 13% compared with the EU15 average of 6% and no other figures above 7%.

Women in the UK (18%) represented more than twice the level of men (8%) answering in this way and this was also a view taken by 22% of the youngest group compared with 9% of the oldest and 12% of the least educated compared with 7% of those educated to age 20 or beyond.

Q. 9. Taking everything into consideration, would you say that our country has, on balance, benefited or not from being a member of the European Union?

Country and socio-demographic analysis

	UK %	EU15 %	High %
Benefited	30	47	Greece 82
Not benefited	47	34	Sweden 59
Don't know	23	18	Germany/UK 23

Across the Union, 47% of those polled believed that their country had **benefited** from being a member of the European Union and this figure shows a small one-percentage point increase from autumn 2003.

However, this average figure conceals substantial country-by-country variations. For example, while 82% of Greeks, 80% of the Irish and 69% of Spaniards and Luxembourgers believed that their country had **benefited** from membership of the European Union, this is a view held by just 27% of Swedes, 30% of Britons and 38% of Austrians. Making up the 39% German poll were 42% of West Germans but only 31% of East Germans.

From the above, it can be clearly seen that opinion is very strongly divided on this issue.

From the 30% of the UK poll who believed the country had **benefited** from membership of the European Union, and which is an unchanged figure since autumn 2003, were 37% of the male poll but only 24% of the female one.

Although 38% of the youngest age band believed the UK had **benefited** compared with 26% of those aged 55 or more, there were no clear trends established in the two age bands covering 25-54 year olds.

The UK figures importantly show that 57% of the most educated people believed the UK had **benefited** compared with just 20% of those who had left school at the earliest opportunity.

While 46% of students and 44% of managers believed the UK had **benefited** from membership, this figure falls to 27% of the retired, 25% of manual workers and just 16% of house persons. The proportion of those believing the UK has **not benefited** has moved from 45% to 47% over the past six months.

The '**don't know**' factor at 18% is three times as high as in the previous question relating to membership being a good/bad thing for the reason that, in Question 8, respondents were given the option of stating that membership of the EU was neither good nor bad.

Relatively high '**don't know**' figures of 23% were observed in Germany and the UK.

Making up the 23% 'don't know' factor in the UK were 18% of the male poll and a much larger 28% of the female one. High '**don't know**' factors of 33% were also observed in the youngest age band compared with a figure half the size (16%) amongst those aged 55 or more.

Q. 10. In general, does the European Union conjure up for you a very positive, fairly positive, neutral, fairly negative or very negative image?

This question asks respondents their image of the European Union and the options possible ranged from very positive or fairly positive, through neutral to fairly negative or very negative.

The editor, for the sake of clarity and presentation, has 'bundled' the very positive and fairly positive results under the heading of '**positive**' and performed a similar exercise with the fairly negative and very negative responses to create a '**negative**' heading.

	UK %	EU15 %	High
Positive	26	43	Greece/Ireland 65%
Neutral	27	32	Netherlands 42%
Negative	37	21	Sweden 41%
Don't know	10	4	UK 10%

Only 26% of the UK poll saw the European Union in a **positive** light compared with 43% of citizens across the Union as a whole, and figures as high as 65% in Greece and Ireland.

A **negative** view of the Union is held by 21% of European citizens in general, while the figure rises to more than one in three (37%) in the UK.

These **negative** figures show an increase of three percentage points in both the UK and the EU as a whole since the poll in autumn of 2003.

High '**don't know**' figures of 10%, which are more than twice the EU15 average, are also observed in the UK.

Looking from a socio-demographic perspective at the 26% of the UK poll who gave a **positive answer**, it is noted that this is made up of 31% of the male sample and only 22% of the female.

There is, however, an even greater disparity by age and education.

While 21% of those aged 55 or more have a **positive** view of the European Union, this figure rises substantially to 36% of those aged 15 to 24.

When educational level is examined with regard to this attitude an even greater variation is apparent. While only 19% of those who left school at age 15 or before see the EU in a **positive** light, this figure rises significantly to more than half (53%) of those educated to age 20 or beyond.

There was also substantial variation by occupation with just 22% of the retired and 17% of house persons having a **positive** view on the European Union compared with 42% of students, 39% of managers and 32% of the self-employed.

Noticeable variations were also seen in the '**don't know**' responses, and, while these averaged 10% across the UK, figures of 23% were noted for house persons and the unemployed compared with just 2% for the self-employed and 1% for managers.

Q. 11. What does the European Union mean to you personally?

In analysing this question, the author has taken the EU15 rankings and produced a 'league table' of characteristics of the European Union that are meaningful to Union citizens. These statistics are then not only compared with previous Eurobarometer results for the EU15 but also look specifically at UK sentiment. This latter set of data is analysed on a broad basis and also, where variations or trends are observed, on a socio-demographic basis.

	EU15 rank	EU15 %	UK Rank	UK %	High %	Low %
Freedom to travel, etc.	1	51	1	45	Finland 69	Portugal 35
Euro	2	50	5	28	Belgium 67	UK 28
Peace	3	31	9	18	Germany 44	Portugal 14
A stronger say in the world	4	28	7	21	Netherlands 37	Finland 18
Cultural diversity	5	28	8	19	France 38	Ireland 15
Waste of money	6	26	2	31	Sweden 54	Ireland 8
Not enough control at external frontiers	7	23	6	30	Sweden 37	Spain/Ireland 9
Bureaucracy	8=	22	3=	29	Sweden 51	Portugal 5
Democracy	8=	22	11=	13	Germany 30	Ireland/Finland 10
Economic prosperity	10=	19	10	16	Spain 32	Sweden 10
More crime	10=	19	11=	13	Germany 41	Spain 4
Unemployment	10=	19	13	11	Austria 33	Italy 8
Loss of cultural identity	13	14	3=	29	UK 29	Spain 5
Social protection	14	11	12	12	Greece 21	Sweden

The **freedom to travel, study and work anywhere in the European Union** is the most significant factor of the EU on a broad fifteen-country basis (51%) and this is an increase on the 49% noted six months previously. The UK figures have risen steadily from 35% (2002), 38% (spring 2003), 41% (autumn 2003) to the current level of (45%).

In the UK, this characteristic was relevant to 49% of men and 41% of women.

In the UK, 62% of those educated to age 20 or more saw this as the most important benefit of EU membership compared with just 26% of those who had left school aged 15 or less.

While 59% of UK managers saw this freedom as a prime benefit, it attracted only 30% of house persons.

The European Union meant the **euro** to 50% of EU15 citizens, compared with 48% six months previously, making it the second most cited characteristic. As might be expected, this element of European life had less attraction in Denmark (36%), Sweden (30%) and the UK (29%) where it was the fifth most popular choice.

This aspect of the European Union was of relevance to 24% of UK citizens aged 55 or more compared with 34% of the youngest age group.

Peace was a significant element of the make-up of the European Union and was the third most popular choice (31%) across the fifteen Member States with figures as high as 44% in Germany and Greece. However, in UK eyes, it was ranked ninth in importance with only 18%.

In the UK, this aspect of the EU was of relevance to 23% of men and 15% of women and to 28% of the most educated compared with just 13% of those whose education had ended at age 15 or less.

This aspect was important to 28% of students, 20% of managers but only 12% of house persons.

A stronger say in the world was quoted by 28% of EU15 citizens, making it the fourth most popular choice compared with just 21% of the UK poll where it was ranked seventh.

In the UK, this was of importance to 24% of the male poll but just 18% of the female one.

More than a third (35%) of those educated to age 20 or beyond believed it to be important compared with less than half this number (16%) of those who had left school at age 15 or before.

28% of EU15 citizens saw **cultural diversity** as a key element of the European Union, ranking this in fifth place. In the UK, where it was ranked eighth, this was a characteristic of the EU quoted by 19% of those polled- an increase from the 17% figure six months previously.

In the UK sample, where 19% of the total poll saws this as being a key element of the European Union, this attracted the support of 41% of the most educated but only 11% of those educated to minimal levels.

To 26% of EU15 citizens (sixth rated aspect) was the view that the European Union meant a **waste of money** – and this figure shows a two-percentage point increase since EB60. In the UK, this view of the EU was the second most cited – by 31% of those polled – up from 27% in the previous survey. However, the UK figure is considerably lower than the 54% generated in Sweden.

In the UK, this aspect of EU life was felt more strongly by men (35%) than by women (27%), and by the oldest group of people (41%) rather than the youngest (18%).

While 29% of UK citizens educated to age 20 or beyond saw the EU as a waste of money, this figure is considerably smaller than the 37% of those who had left school at the minimum age.

In these UK figures, 41% of the retired and 38% of the self-employed compared with just 24% of managers and 16% of students said that the EU meant a waste of money to them.

Border controls were the seventh most cited aspect of the European Union to 23% of EU15 citizens who said there was not enough control at external frontiers. In the UK, this was the sixth most quoted aspect of the European Union by some 26% of those polled.

Older people in the UK were noticeably more concerned about border controls (33%) than the youngest group polled where the figure was only 14%.

The self-employed were also noticeably more concerned with this issue (39%) than the 22% of manual workers and 18% of house persons.

Bureaucracy was cited by 22% of the EU15 poll, placing it in eighth position. In the UK, however, this was an issue to 29% of those polled, making it the third most common characteristic to be mentioned.

In the UK, noticeably more men (36%) than women (24%) were concerned with this issue; this aspect was of minimal concern (13%) to the youngest group compared with a figure nearly three times as high (38%) for those aged 55 or more. 47% of the UK sample who had received the most education also focused upon bureaucracy as one of the characteristics of the European Union – an item only cited by 26% of those who had left school aged 15 or less.

Making up the European average of 22% which placed **democracy** in ninth position were figures as extreme as 30% in Germany, 27% in Greece and 26% in Luxembourg.

In the UK, on the other hand, although it was still ranked eleventh in terms of frequency of mention, it was an issue only cited by 13% of those polled.

Democracy, in the eyes of UK citizens, was rated as being a feature of the EU by 15% of men and 10% of women, as well as 20% of the youngest group compared with just 10% of those aged 55 or more.

25% of UK citizens whose education had continued to age 20 or beyond cited democracy compared with just 7% of those who had left school at the earliest opportunity.

A major variation in attitude relates to the **loss of cultural identity**. On average only 14% of EU15 citizens saw this as a consequence of the European Union, making it the thirteenth most instanced response to this question. In the UK, however, this was a sentiment felt by 29% of those polled, making it equal third in that country's ranking.

In the UK, the European Union meant a loss of cultural identity to 32% of women but only 26% of men. It was also a sentiment felt more strongly by the oldest group (37%) compared with just 21% of those aged 15 to 24. Furthermore, it was less relevant to the most educated group (21%) than those who had left school aged 15 or less where the figure reached 36%.

38% of the retired and 32% of the self-employed compared with just 20% of the unemployed and 22% of other white-collar workers saw this as an aspect of the European Union.

Q. 15. Some people may have fears about the building of Europe, which of the following are you afraid of?

In analysing the results of this question the Editor takes the European Union average and the figure for the UK, as well as the highest figures from EU15 Member States. A socio-demographic analysis for the UK is also included, where anomalies in the data are observed.

15.1. A loss of power for smaller Member States

	EU15 %	UK %	High %
Afraid of	42	42	77 Finland
Not afraid of	48	43	71 Germany
Don't know	10	15	15 UK

The UK figures for those who are afraid of this occurrence are virtually identical to the EU15 average on this issue, which is perhaps surprising because the UK is one of the largest Member States.

Across the EU as a whole, 48% of those polled were not concerned about this issue, while in Germany (the largest Member State), the figure rises to 71%.

Again, unsurprisingly, one of the smaller Member States – Finland – is the most concerned on this issue with 77% of that country's citizens being afraid of this eventuality.

The UK 'don't know' figures at 15% were 50% higher than the EU15 average.

50% of men in the UK poll compared with 38% of women said they were not afraid of this happening and this sentiment was held by 54% of the most educated compared with just 40% of those who had left school aged 15 or younger.

15.2. An increase in drug trafficking and organised crime

	EU15 %	UK %	High %
Afraid of	64	66	81 Sweden
Not afraid of	31	27	46 Spain
Don't know	6	7	9 Ireland

Two-thirds of the UK poll (66%) and a virtually identical 64% across the EU15 were concerned about this issue and, in Sweden, the figure rises to 81%.

In the UK poll, 76% of those aged 55 or more were afraid of this happening compared with just 49% of those aged 15 to 24.

This issue was of concern to 74% of those educated up to 15 years old or less compared with a substantially smaller 60% of those educated to age 20 or beyond.

15.3. Our language being used less and less

	EU15 %	UK %	High %
Afraid of	38	34	69 Luxembourg
Not afraid of	57	59	68 Spain
Don't know	5	7	7 Ireland/UK

Approximately one-third (34%) of UK citizens and slightly more (38%) of EU15 citizens are concerned that their language will be used less and less in the process of the building of Europe. The UK attitude may, in reality, be pessimistic as day-to-day experience tends to show that English, as the second or third language of many Europeans is increasingly becoming the lingua franca (!) of European business.

Luxembourgers were the most concerned on this issue while the highest level of confidence was observed in Spain, where 68% of those polled were not concerned.

Concerns about the English language being used less and less were voiced by 39% of women in the poll compared with just 28% of men.

This issue was also of concern to older people with 42% of those aged 55 or more compared with just 28% of those aged 15 to 24. The issue was of importance to a substantial proportion (47%) of those who had left school aged 15 or less compared with just 19% of those who had been educated to age 20 or beyond.

While 47% of house persons in the UK had this fear, it was of concern to only 19% of managers, 21% of students and 23% of the self-employed.

15.4. Our country paying more and more to the European Union

	EU15 %	UK %	High %
Afraid of	64	69	78 Finland
Not afraid of	26	20	45 Spain
Don't know	10	11	17 Italy

The fear of greater financial obligation to the European Union was a concern to virtually two-thirds of those polled, with figures of 64% across the European Union and 69% in the UK.

The Finns were the most concerned on this issue with 78% of their poll expressing concern.

In the UK, this was a concern to 78% of people aged 55 or more compared with just 55% of those aged 15 to 24. It was also more of a concern to the least educated (78%) compared with those whose education had continued to age 20 or more, where the figure was only 57%.

15.5. The loss of social benefits

	EU15 %	UK %	High %
Afraid of	53	44	70 Germany
Not afraid of	38	40	49 Spain
Don't know	8	15	15 UK

Compared with an EU15 average of 8%, there was a high percentage of the UK respondents (15%) who were in the 'don't know' category.

Across the EU as a whole, there was a fifteen-percentage point divide between the 38% who were not concerned on this issue and the 53% who were.

This pattern was also observed in the UK except that the contrast was less pronounced with 40% of the poll not being concerned and 44% expressing worry.

Noticeably more women in the UK (51%) than men (38%) were concerned about the loss of social benefits and this was also of concern to 56% of those who had left school aged 15 or less compared with just 28% of those educated to age 20 or beyond.

62% of UK house persons and 60% of the unemployed also felt afraid of the loss of social benefits compared with just 33% of students and 27% of managers.

54% of those on the lowest income level in the UK compared with 31% of those at the other end of the income ladder were concerned about this issue.

15.6 The loss of national identity and culture

	EU15 %	UK %	High %
Afraid of	42	61	61 UK
Not afraid of	52	32	66 Spain, Sweden
Don't know	6	6	8 Ireland

The UK was the most concerned Member State about losing national identity and culture in an expanded Europe. In fact, this figure is almost twice as large as the 32% who are not afraid of this happening.

Across Europe, in general, 52% of those polled were not concerned about this potential loss compared with 42% who were, with the least concern being shown by two-thirds (66%) of Spaniards and Swedes.

Older people in the UK were more concerned with this issue and 69% of those aged 55 or more compared with 53% of those aged 15 to 24 expressed their worries on this issue.

45% of UK citizens educated to age 20 or beyond expressed their concerns on this issue – substantially less than the 73% of those whose education had ended aged 15 or before.

15.7. An economic crisis

	EU15 %	UK %	High %
Afraid of	51	49	72 Portugal
Not afraid of	39	37	62 Finland
Don't know	10	15	15 Ireland

Half of citizens across the European Union (EU15 average: 51%, UK: 49%) were concerned that an enlarged Europe was capable of triggering an economic crisis and, in Portugal, this figure rises to 72%.

While a high 'don't know' figure of 15% was observed in Ireland, the Finns were not concerned about this issue with 62% of that country's poll voicing their lack of concern.

Older people in the UK were more worried about this issue than their younger counterparts and it affected 52% of the oldest age group compared with 40% of those aged 15-24.

Similarly, while 53% of those educated to the minimum level were concerned on this issue, the figure falls to just 36% among those whose education had continued to age 20 or beyond.

44% of those on the highest level of income in the UK were concerned on this issue compared with 58% of those at the other end of the earnings scale.

15.8. The transfer of jobs to other member countries which have lower production costs

	EU15 %	UK %	High %
Afraid of	72	68	87 Finland
Not afraid of	21	22	30 Austria
Don't know	7	11	12 Spain

The migration of jobs to other EU states with lower production costs was of concern to more than two out of three EU15 citizens with an average of 72% across the Union and figures as high as 87% in Finland.

The UK figure was close to the EU15 average at 68%.

Older people in the UK were more concerned about this issue than their younger counterparts and concern reached 74% of the oldest group compared with just 54% of those aged 15-24.

71% of UK citizens educated to the minimum level were afraid of this issue compared with 64% of those educated to age 20 or beyond.

15.9. More difficulties for our farmers

	EU15 %	UK %	High %
Afraid of	61	62	80 Portugal
Not afraid of	26	23	42 Spain
Don't know	13	15	16 Ireland

61% of EU15 citizens and 62% of the UK poll expressed concern on this issue and the figure rises to 80% in Portugal.

While 23% of the UK poll and 26% of the EU15 poll were not concerned on this issue, Spaniards were noticeably less concerned with 42% of their number not seeing this as an issue.

Relatively high 'don't know' factors were observed across the EU15 (13%) with figures of 15% in the UK and 16% in Ireland.

The potential plight of British farmers concerned 71% of the oldest part of the UK poll compared with 52% of the youngest part.

70% of the least educated group were also concerned about potential difficulties for UK farmers but this declines to 57% of those educated to age 20 and beyond.

15.10. The end of national currency (only asked in Denmark, Sweden and the UK)

	Denmark	Sweden	UK	Pre-in 3
Afraid of	48	43	68	64
Not afraid of	48	52	25	30
Don't know	5	5	7	6

Among the three EU15 members who are outside the euro zone, there is a clear distinction between the sentiments in Denmark and Sweden, on the one hand, and the UK, on the other.

While, in the first two countries, half or more of those people expressing an opinion had no fears regarding the end of their national currency, the situation in the UK was totally different.

In the UK, more than two-thirds of those polled (68%) were afraid of the prospect of the replacement of sterling by the euro, and only 25% (half the figure for Denmark and Sweden) were not concerned about this issue.

More women (72%) in the UK were afraid of the end of sterling than men (64%).

This was also a fear more widely held by the oldest group of people (73%) than the youngest (58%).

Those UK citizens with the least amount of education were the most concerned on this issue with 75% of their number saying they were afraid of this development compared with just 54% amongst those educated to age 20 or beyond.

Q. 28. For each of the following issues in our country, do you think that the European Union plays a positive role, a negative role, or neither a positive nor negative role?

It would appear that there is a common feature to the replies to these fifteen sub-questions, which has already been observed in this report. This concerns the fact that, in general, there is a female 'don't know' factor twice as large as that generated by the male gender. This produces a pattern of results where the male percentage in both the positive and negative responses is, in all instances, greater than the female response. This, to the editor, is strong evidence that there is more than a certain amount of guessing in the male replies and, for this reason, male/female analysis is omitted from this section of the report.

Because these data also populate other demographic categories, only those instances where substantial variations are observed will be commented on.

28.1. Fighting crime

	EU15 %	UK %	High
A positive role	39	24	57% Spain
A negative role	18	32	32% UK
Neither positive nor negative	35	30	48% France
Don't know	9	14	14% UK

There was a noticeable difference of opinion between the UK and EU15. While 39% of the EU15 believe the Union plays a positive role, this sentiment was held by only 24% in the UK. These figures show an increase from 20% to 24% in the UK and 36% to 39% in the EU15 over the previous six months.

In fact, the 32% negative view held in the UK was the highest amongst the fifteen member states and itself is an increase of four percentage points since the previous survey.

The UK also had a high 'don't know' factor (14%) compared with an EU15 figure of 9%.

In the UK, 35% of those educated to the highest level believed the EU plays a positive role compared with just 18% of those whose education ended aged 15 or less.

28.2. Public transport

	EU15 %	UK %	High
A positive role	22	13	42% Luxembourg
A negative role	16	34	47% Austria
Neither positive nor negative	51	38	68% Sweden
Don't know	11	16	16% UK

The largest percentage of both UK and EU15 citizens both held neutral views on this with figures of 38% and 51% - an increase of four- and five-percentage points respectively over the six months since EB60.

However, while 22% of the EU15 believed the European Union played a positive role in this area, as opposed to 16% believing the role was negative, in the UK, this position is reversed. Only 13% believed the Union's role was positive compared with 34% taking the contrary view.

44% of those people in the UK who had received the least amount of education believed the EU had played a negative role in the area of public transport compared with just 27% whose education had continued to age 20 or beyond.

40% of people making up the oldest age group in the UK also held this negative view in comparison with just 17% of those aged 15 to 24.

28.3. The economic situation

	EU15 %	UK %	High
A positive role	34	32	57% Ireland
A negative role	34	35	42% France
Neither positive nor negative	22	18	28% Austria, Finland
Don't know	9	16	16% UK

Opinion was fairly evenly divided on this issue with 34% of the EU15 believing the European Union played a positive role in this area and the same percentage believing the role was negative.

In the UK, the figures were 32% taking the positive view and 35% taking the negative view. These figures show a major move in that the pessimistic view was held by just 25% six months previously.

It is interesting to note that 57% of the Irish poll believed the European Union had a positive role in the Irish economic situation. Once again, the UK topped the 'don't know' league with 16% - a position they would hold in all but two of the fifteen issues reviewed in this question.

48% of the most educated segment of the UK poll believed that the EU played a positive role in the economic situation in their country, while this view is taken by only 24% of those who left school aged 15 or less. 44% of the self-employed and 40% of managers compared with 22% of house persons also held this view.

This stance was also adopted by 41% of those on the highest income compared with 29% of those at the other end of the income scale.

28.4. Rising prices/inflation

	EU15 %	UK %	High
A positive role	19	23	31% Luxembourg
A negative role	50	40	59% France
Neither positive nor negative	22	20	32% Denmark
Don't know	9	17	17% UK

Across the EU15, half of those polled believed that the European Union had a negative role in rising prices/inflation and figures of 59% were noted in France and 40% in the UK.

23% of the UK poll and 19% of the EU15 believed the Union had a positive role in this issue – figures not far distant from the 20% in the UK and 22% in the EU15 who took a neutral view on this issue.

The positive figures show an increase from 17% (UK) and a fall from 18% (EU15).

There were minimal variations in the UK socio-demographic data amongst those stating that the EU played a negative role in this area.

28.5. Taxation

	EU15 %	UK %	High
A positive role	15	17	29% Finland
A negative role	39	39	52% Belgium
Neither positive nor negative	35	25	55% Denmark
Don't know	11	18	18% UK

39% of both the UK sample and that of the EU15 believed the European Union played a negative role in the area of taxation. These figures are more than twice as high as those taking the contrary view.

35% of EU15 citizens and 25% of those in the UK took a neutral view on this issue, while the UK 'don't know' figure rose to 18%.

There were only minor variations in the UK statistics on a socio-demographic basis amongst the 39% of UK citizens who believed that the EU played a negative role in the area of taxation.

28.6. Fighting unemployment

	EU15 %	UK %	High
A positive role	21	17	32% Ireland
A negative role	40	43	50% France
Neither positive nor negative	30	24	40% Denmark
Don't know	9	17	17% UK

43% of the UK sample and a similar 40% of that in the EU15 thought that the European Union plays a negative role in fighting unemployment. These 'negative' figures show an increase from the 36% recorded for both the UK and EU15 in the autumn 2003 survey.

Those people believing the role was neither positive nor negative make up 30% of the EU15 sample and 24% of that of the UK.

Virtually half (49%) of people aged 55 or more in the UK saw the EU playing a negative role in the area of fighting unemployment. While this view is held by just 29% of those aged 15-24, who also have a very high 'don't know' quotient of 25%.

Education also has a major bearing on this issue, with 50% of those who had left school aged 15 or less believing the EU role was negative compared with just 32% of the most educated.

28.7. Fighting terrorism

	EU15 %	UK %	High
A positive role	53	45	62% Spain
A negative role	17	25	25% Belgium, Portugal, UK
Neither positive nor negative	21	17	31% Austria
Don't know	9	13	13% UK

The majority (53%) of EU15 citizens polled believed that the European Union plays a positive role in fighting terrorism and, in the UK, this group made up the largest segment with 45% of the sample holding this view.

Both the figures show an increase from the 49% (EU15) and 38% (UK) noted six months previously.

In Spain, this positive view was held by 62% of those polled.

42% of the least educated in the UK believed the EU played a positive role in fighting terrorism while this role was endorsed by 53% of those educated to age 20 or beyond.

49% of the self-employed and 52% of managers compared with just 42% of house persons and the retired also held this view.

There were also noticeable differences in attitude based on income level with just 41% on the lowest income seeing the EU's role as positive compared with 58% of those at the other end of the income scale.

28.8. Defence

	EU15 %	UK %	High
A positive role	48	37	57% Germany, Luxembourg
A negative role	15	27	27% UK
Neither positive nor negative	25	19	47% Austria
Don't know	11	17	17% UK

The positive role of the European Union in the area of defence was also apparent by the fact that 48% of EU15 citizens and 37% of those in the UK held this view. These figures show a noticeable increase from the 44% and 34% six months previously. Figures of 57% are noted in Germany and Luxembourg.

In the UK, although there were only minor variations in the socio-demographic figures amongst the 37% believing that the EU played a positive role in this area, there was a noticeable variation based upon education level. While 32% of those educated to age 15 believed the role to be positive, this figure rises to 47% of those educated to age 20 or beyond.

Also, while 44% of the self-employed and 40% of managers held this view, the figures fall to 33% for house persons and 30% for the unemployed.

28.9. Foreign affairs

	EU15 %	UK %	High
A positive role	49	38	59% Ireland, Luxembourg
A negative role	15	25	25% UK
Neither positive nor negative	23	17	40% Austria
Don't know	13	20	20% Portugal, UK

The role of the European Union was also seen in a favourable light in the area of foreign affairs with 59% of the Irish and Luxembourgers contributing to the EU15 average of 49%. This average figure is up from 46% in autumn 2003.

In the UK, the figure, although eleven-percentage points lower than the EU15 average, was 50% higher than the next most popular option where 25% of the UK poll saw the EU's role as being negative in this area. The UK 'positive' figure of 38% shows an increase from the 35% in the previous survey.

The UK 'don't know' figure, together with that of Portugal was 20%.

Making up the 38% of the UK poll who thought the EU played a positive role in foreign affairs were 49% of the most educated compared with just 33% of those who had left school at age 15 or before.

This view was also more likely to be held by the youngest group polled (43%) than the oldest where the figure falls to 35%.

Managers were very positive on this aspect of the European Union with 47% of their number believing the role to be positive, compared with figures as low as 31% among house persons, where the 'don't know' factor reached 30%.

This positive view was also adopted by 47% of those on the highest income compared with just 30% of those on the lowest.

28.10. Housing

	EU15 %	UK %	High
A positive role	12	7	31% Luxembourg
A negative role	24	39	39% UK
Neither positive nor negative	49	34	66% Sweden
Don't know	15	19	20% Italy

While virtually half (49%) of EU15 citizens believed that the European Union has neither a positive nor negative role in the area of housing, this is a view adopted by only 34% of UK citizens.

In fact, the largest proportion of UK citizens expressing an opinion were the 39% who believed that the EU played a negative role in this area – an increase from 34% in EB60.

28.11. Immigration

	EU15 %	UK %	High
A positive role	24	20	38% Luxembourg
A negative role	40	54	54% UK
Neither positive nor negative	26	13	32% Greece, Austria
Don't know	10	13	14% Portugal

More than half (54%) of the UK poll believed the EU plays a negative role in this area – a view shared by 40% of the EU15. These figures are virtually unchanged since autumn 2003. Across the EU, the balance of opinion was shared almost equally between those who saw the role being positive (24%) and those who took a neutral stance (26%).

The EU15 'don't know' factor is 10% compared with 13% in the UK and 14% in Portugal.

59% of UK citizens aged 55 or more saw the EU as playing a negative role in this area compared with just 41% of those aged 15 to 24.

Particularly high figures were also noted amongst the retired (64%), while house persons recorded low figures of 38%, where the 'don't know' factor at 24% was substantially higher than the 13% UK average.

28.12. The healthcare system

	EU15 %	UK %	High
A positive role	19	18	43% Luxembourg
A negative role	29	38	38% UK
Neither positive nor negative	41	28	56% Denmark
Don't know	11	16	16% UK

The UK takes a strongly negative view of the EU's role in this area with more than one in three (38%) of the poll seeing the situation in this light. This figure is five percentage points higher than that observed six months previously.

On the other hand, the EU15 average produces a neutral position where 41% of those polled say that the role of the Union in the health care system is neither positive nor negative – a figure unchanged since EB60.

Amongst UK citizens who believed that the EU played a negative role in the healthcare system were 42% of people aged 55 or more compared with just 24% of those aged 15 to 24.

While this view is held by 44% of those with the least education, the figures fall to just 31% of those educated to age 20 or beyond.

28.13. The education system

	EU15 %	UK %	High
A positive role	25	16	41% Finland
A negative role	22	36	36% UK
Neither positive nor negative	41	30	53% Sweden
Don't know	12	18	18% UK

Once again, 41% of EU15 citizens were neutral as to the role played by the EU in their country's education system. This compares with figures of 53% in Sweden and just 30% in the UK. Figures remain largely unchanged since the last survey.

In the UK, the largest proportion of those polled (36%) believe the role to be a negative one compared with a figure of 22% in the EU15 – an increase in the UK figure over the half year of three-percentage points.

Young people in the UK were noticeably less critical of the role played by the EU in the area of education with just 20% believing the role was negative compared with 39% of those aged 55 or more.

However, part of the cause for this disparity may lie in the fact that the 'don't know' factor for the younger group was 27% compared with just 15% in the older group.

41% of the least educated in the UK also viewed the EU's role as negative compared with just 31% of those at the other end of the education scale.

This view was also held by 44% of the UK self-employed compared with 30% of house persons where a high 'don't know' factor of 28% was observed.

28.14. Pensions

	EU15 %	UK %	High
A positive role	12	10	30% Luxembourg
A negative role	34	39	39% UK
Neither positive nor negative	42	30	61% Denmark
Don't know	13	21	21% UK

While 42% of EU15 citizens believed the EU role in this to be neither positive nor negative, a third of those polled (34%) believed it to be negative.

The figures in the UK, however, present a different view. In this country, 39% believed the role to be negative compared with just 30% seeing it as neutral.

These UK figures have increased from 37% and 28% since the previous Eurobarometer survey.

The UK 'don't know' factor at 21% was more than half as big again as the 13% in the EU15.

Within the UK figures, there was a marked disparity between the 46% of those aged 55 or more compared with just 21% of the youngest group believing the EU had played a negative role in this area. Once again, the variation in these figures may be caused by the fact that the 'don't know' factor for the younger group reached 36% compared with just 16% in the lower group.

There was also a significant gap between the numbers of the least educated (47%) and the most educated (32%) who believed the EU role was negative.

28.15. Protecting the environment

	EU15 %	UK %	High
A positive role	42	37	56% Finland
A negative role	20	26	37% Denmark, Austria
Neither positive nor negative	27	19	33% Austria
Don't know	12	18	18% UK

The European Union receives some plaudits for its role in protecting the environment with 42% of the EU15 seeing the role as a positive one. This figure rises to as high as 56% in Finland and the 37% accorded in the UK is eleven percentage points higher than the next most cited view.

This positive view of EU activity in the field of environmental protection has grown in the eyes of EU citizens. In just six months, this positive view has risen from 39% to 42% (EU15) and from 34% to 37% (UK).

Although within the UK, there were only minor variations by age amongst the 37% believing the EU was playing a positive role in this area, there were noticeable differences based upon education. Only 27% of those educated to age 15 saw the EU role as being positive and, in fact, a majority (39%) of this group saw the role as being negative. At the other end of the educational scale, 51% of those educated to age 20 or beyond saw the EU's role as being positive, as did 51% of students, 48% of the self-employed and 47% of managers compared with just 28% of house persons, where the 'don't know' figure was, again, substantially higher than the 18% UK average at 31%.

That the EU was playing a positive role in this area was a view held by 53% of those on the highest income level compared with just 35% of those on the lowest.

II.3. The future of the European Union

In this section, respondents are asked how they would like to see the European Union develop.

Q. 30. The European Union already has a common security and foreign policy and a European security and defence policy. There is now a debate about how much further these should be developed. Do you tend to agree or tend to disagree with each of the following statements?

30.1 The European Union should have a rapid military reaction force that can be sent quickly to trouble spots when an international crisis occurs.

	EU15 %	UK %	High
Tend to agree	70	70	77% Belgium
Tend to disagree	19	17	33% Finland
Don't know	12	14	20% Ireland

A substantial number (70%) of both EU15 and UK citizens tended to agree with this statement. These figures show an increase from the 69% (EU15) and 68% (UK) six months previously. Fewer than one in five EU citizens took the contrary view, except in Finland where the figure is 33%.

In the UK data, there were only minimal variations by gender, age and education, but managers (77%) were noticeably more supportive on this issue than house persons (65%) and the self-employed and the unemployed (64%).

30.2. When an international crisis occurs, European Union Member States should agree a common position.

	EU15 %	UK %	High
Tend to agree	81	73	89% Luxembourg
Tend to disagree	10	12	17% Denmark, Finland
Don't know	9	15	17% Ireland

This statement received an even greater level of support than the previous one with 81% of the EU15 tending to agree, as did virtually three-quarters (73%) of the UK poll. The UK figures are up from 71% since autumn 2003.

In Luxembourg, this positive view is held by 89% of those polled.

In the UK socio-demographic data on this question, while 69% of the youngest age group tended to agree with this statement, the figure rises to 77% amongst those aged 55 or more.

30.3. The European Union should have its own Foreign Minister who can be the spokesperson for a common European Union position.

	EU15 %	UK %	High
Tend to agree	64	50	78% Italy
Tend to disagree	19	25	47% Sweden
Don't know	17	25	28% Portugal

While virtually two-thirds (64%) of EU15 citizens saw the need for the EU to have its own Foreign Minister and this view had the backing of 78% of Italians, the figure fell to 50% in the UK. However, both figures showed an increase over the past six months - from 63% (EU15) and from 48% (UK).

While only 19% of the EU15 tended to disagree with the statement, this figure rose through 25% in the UK to virtually half (47%) of the Swedish sample.

Among the 50% of UK citizens who tended to agree with this statement, there were relatively small variations on a socio-demographic basis.

30.4. The European Union should have its own seat on the United Nations Security Council.

	EU15 %	UK %	High
Tend to agree	65	50	82% Luxembourg
Tend to disagree	16	24	35% Sweden
Don't know	19	26	27% Portugal

65% of EU15 citizens and half (50%) of the UK sample tended to agree with this statement – a slight increase on opinions noted in autumn 2003. A figure of 82% was recorded in Luxembourg.

The next largest grouping was that of the 'don't knows' where figures of 19% were observed in the EU15 and 26% in the UK.

35% of Swedes tended to disagree with this statement – a position held by 24% of the UK and 16% of the EU15 polls.

Once again, there were only relatively minor variations by socio-demographic characteristics in the UK results.

30.5. Member States which have opted for neutrality should have a say in European Union foreign policy

	EU15 %	UK %	High
Tend to agree	50	34	79% Finland
Tend to disagree	27	33	57% Denmark
Don't know	23	33	33% UK

A third (34%) of the UK poll tended to agree with this statement which gained the support of 50% of EU15 citizens and as many as 79% of Finns.

A similar percentage (33%) of UK citizens tended to disagree with this statement compared with 27% across the Union as a whole.

The possible slight complexity of this question produced the highest levels of 'don't knows' on both an EU15 and UK basis with high figures of 23% and 33% being recorded respectively.

While approximately a third (34%) of the UK poll tended to agree with this statement, this figure includes support figures that range from 31% of 15-24 year olds to 39% of those over 55, as well as 30% of the least educated compared to nearly half (48%) of the most educated.

A very high set of 'don't know' figures was observed amongst the unemployed (49%) and house persons (45%).

While 26% of those in the lowest income bracket tend to agree with this statement, the figure rises to 41% of top earners.

30.6. European Union foreign policy should be independent of United States foreign policy.

	EU15 %	UK %	High
Tend to agree	77	65	89% Finland, Sweden
Tend to disagree	10	12	13% Denmark, Austria
Don't know	14	23	23% UK

There was a twelve-percentage point difference separating the 65% of the UK poll who tended to agree with this statement from the 77% EU15 average. However, both sets of figures show rises. These are from 64% to 65% in the UK and a larger increase from 73% to 77% across the EU15.

High figures of 89% were noted in Finland and Sweden.

The UK 'don't know' figure at 23% was more than 50% larger than the EU15 average.

In the UK, agreement with this statement tended to rise with age and, accordingly, agreement was seen from 62% of 15-24 year olds and 70% of those aged 55 or more.

There was a more noticeable difference based on education level in the UK with 59% of the least educated compared with 73% of the most educated tending to agree with this statement.

When looking at UK respondents' occupation, even greater differences were observed. For example, 81% of students and 79% of managers agreed with this statement compared with just 45% of house persons.

This latter group, once again, had the largest proportion of 'don't knows' at 45%.

Income level also was a factor in this issue in that 83% of those on the highest income tended to agree with this statement as opposed to just 61% of those at the other end of the income scale.

30.7. The European Union should guarantee human rights in each Member State even if this is contrary to the wishes of some Member States.

	EU15 %	UK %	High
Tend to agree	79	68	92% Finland, Sweden
Tend to disagree	8	11	12% Greece
Don't know	13	20	20% UK

The issue of human rights was of substantial importance in Finland and Sweden where 92% of those polled agreed that the EU should guarantee human rights in this way.

The EU15 average was 79% while, in the UK, the effect of a 20% 'don't know' factor reduces this figure to 68%, which is still more than two-thirds of those polled.

Both sets of figures show an increase. The EU15 average has grown by three percentage points from 76% and the UK set from 62% to 68% - a 10% increase in just six months.

In the analysis of UK socio-demographic data, 72% of the oldest group (55+) tend to agree with this statement compared with 65% of those aged 15 to 24.

74% of those educated to age 20 or beyond also tended to agree with the statement compared to just 65% of those who had left school at age 15 or less.

Agreement was also found amongst 79% of managers compared with 66% of manual workers and 57% of house persons and the unemployed. It is interesting to note, once again, the high 'don't know' factor in these last two groups of 36% and 35% respectively.

Just 63% of those on the lowest income level, in the UK, tended to agree with this statement compared with 83% of those on the highest income level.

30.8. The European Union should work to guarantee human rights around the world even if this is contrary to the wishes of some other countries.

	EU15 %	UK %	High
Tend to agree	76	66	87% Luxembourg, Finland
Tend to disagree	11	13	15% Belgium
Don't know	13	21	21% UK

Taking the human rights agenda to the larger global arena was an action that gained the support of 87% of Luxembourgers and Finns in the EU15 average of 76%.

The UK 'don't know' factor, which, in this instance, rises to 21% compared with a 13% EU15 average, reduced the proportion of UK citizens tending to agree with this statement to 66% - again, however, still representing two out of three citizens.

The UK figures are up from 62% in autumn 2003, while those of the EU15 have risen by two percentage points from 74%.

Within the UK socio-demographic data, no clear pattern emerged based upon age for the 66% of the population who tended to agree with this statement. However, variations were seen by education, occupation and income.

While 62% of those educated to age 15 or less tended to agree with the statement, the figure rises to 73% of those educated to age 20 or beyond.

Similar variations are seen by occupation with 79% of managers and 74% of other white-collar workers tending to agree with the statement compared to just 54% of house persons and 58% of the unemployed. Once again, there were substantial variations in the 'don't know' factor based upon occupation, with this response being given by 36% of house persons and 29% of the unemployed compared with just 9% of managers.

As also might be expected, there is a marked variation in the 'don't know' factor based upon education, with this option being chosen by just 11% of the most educated compared with 22% of those who had left school at age 15 or younger.

61% of those on the lowest income compared with 80% of those on the highest contributed to the UK average of 66%.

30.9. The European Union should have a common immigration policy towards people from outside the European Union.

	EU15 %	UK %	High
Tend to agree	71	64	79% Netherlands
Tend to disagree	15	19	27% Finland
Don't know	14	17	22% Portugal

71% of EU15 citizens and 64% of those in the UK tended to agree with the concept of a common immigration policy.

While a contrary view is held by 27% of Finns, the EU15 average of those disagreeing is still only 15% while that in the UK is less than one in five at 19%.

Amongst the UK poll, support level for this policy rose with age. Accordingly, while it gained the support of 57% of 15-24 year olds, this proportion rises to 66% amongst those aged 55 or more.

30.10. The European Union should have a common asylum policy towards asylum seekers.

	EU15 %	UK %	High
Tend to agree	70	65	81% Netherlands
Tend to disagree	15	19	23% Finland
Don't know	15	17	23% Portugal

The responses to this question relating to a common asylum policy virtually mirror the previous responses on the subject of immigration. Accordingly, 70% of EU15 citizens and 65% of UK citizens tended to agree with this statement, compared with just 15% and 19% respectively taking the contrary view – figures very similar to those noted six months previously.

No major variations were observed in the UK socio-demographic data on this issue except that agreement levels rose with age from 58% amongst the youngest group to 67% in the group aged 55 or more.

Q. 31. In your opinion, should decisions concerning European defence policy be taken by national government, NATO or the European Union?

	National government (in %)	NATO (in %)	European Union (in %)	Other (in %)	Don't know (in %)
B	15	17	54	1	14
DK	33	29	26	1	11
D - West	24	16	44	0	16
D - Total	25	15	44	1	16
D - East	29	9	46	1	15
GR	35	1	56	1	8
E	29	14	41	2	14
F	21	8	52	0	18
IRL	39	9	34	1	18
I	13	11	63	1	12
L	16	17	57	1	10
NL	22	21	47	1	10
A	39	10	35	2	15
P	32	8	45	1	15
FIN	41	4	49	1	5
S	40	5	45	1	9
UK	33	21	26	1	19
EU15	25	14	46	1	15

Virtually half (46%) of the EU15 sample believed decisions of this nature should be taken by the European Union. This figure is more than three times as large as those who support the NATO option and almost twice the 25% who believed decisions should be taken by the national government.

These figures are very similar to those observed in Eurobarometer 60.

The UK figure at 26%, although, together with Denmark's, the lowest in the EU, showed an increase from 23% in October 2003.

High figures supporting the EU option - in excess of 50% - are noted in France (52%), Belgium (54%), Greece (56%), Luxembourg (57%) and Italy (63%).

In the UK, this option was the most popular choice for those with the highest level of education. Accordingly, while it gained support from just 20% of those who had left school aged 15 or younger, the figure virtually doubles to 38% of those educated to age 20 or beyond.

This option also gained the support of 40% of managers.

NATO continued to get relatively strong support from the UK and the Netherlands (21%) compared with the EU15 average of just 14%. It should be noted that the numbers of respondents selecting the 'NATO' options all fell over the six months since EB60.

At the other end of the support spectrum were figures as low as 5% in Sweden, 4% in Finland and just 1% in Greece.

The NATO option found favour amongst older UK citizens with 25% of those aged 55 or more selecting this option compared with just 16% of those aged 15 to 24. NATO was also a popular choice amongst the retired where the figure was 28%.

Amongst those Member States who appeared most inclined to let defence policy decisions be taken by their national government were the Irish, Austrians, Swedes and Finns, where figures between 39% and 41% were recorded in comparison with an EU15 average of 25%.

This may be caused by the fact that these countries, by virtue of being neutral, are not members of NATO.

In the UK, the national government option was favoured by 36% of those over 55 compared with just 27% of the youngest age group.

While, in the UK, people of varying educational levels favoured this option equally, it found strong support from the self-employed (43%) and managers (41%) compared with just 25% of house persons and 23% of the unemployed. The lowest support level, however, for this national government option came from students of whom only 19% made it their choice.

Q. 32. Currently, the European Council is composed of Heads of State or Heads of Government of the Member States and the President of the Commission. The presidency of the European Council is taken by each country, in turn, for a period of six months. Do you think that...?

- 1. The six-month period should be retained because it gives each Member State a chance to hold the Presidency of the European Union on a regular basis.**
- 2. The period of the Presidency should be extended because six months is too short to achieve significant results.**

Country analysis

	Retain six-month period (in %)	Extend six-month period (in %)	Don't know (in %)
B	30	53	17
DK	46	45	9
D – West	33	51	16
D – Total	31	52	17
D – East	26	56	18
GR	43	42	16
E	37	39	24
F	25	58	18
IRL	48	32	20
I	37	48	15
L	45	44	11
NL	31	58	11
A	47	36	17
P	32	46	22
FIN	42	53	5
S	42	51	8
UK	22	51	27
EU15	32	50	18

A groundswell of Union opinion to extend the existing six-month period is shown by the fact that, on average, 50% of EU15 citizens would like this term extended – a slight increase from 49% in October 2003.

While there was an average 18% 'don't know' factor across the European Union, in all fifteen Member States, with the exception of Austria, Luxembourg, Ireland, Greece and Denmark, there was a majority opting for a longer period of office for the Presidency.

Once again, the UK figures are affected by the highest 'don't know' figure, which, at 27%, is 50% higher than the EU15 average.

In the UK, 51% of those polled were in favour of extending the period, more than twice the 22% who wished it to be retained compared to 49% and 18% in EB60.

It is interesting to look back at the October 2003 results for the EU15 where there was a larger 'don't know' factor of 24%. The reduction of this figure to 18% results in an increase in both the 'retain' (27% to 32%) and 'extend' (49% to 50%) figures.

Socio-demographic analysis

Making up the 27% 'don't know' figure in the UK were 31% of women and 22% of men, while noticeably more men (28%) than women (18%) were in favour of retaining the existing six-month term.

Looking at the option selected by 22% of the UK poll, the two major variations that are observed were noticeably higher levels of support for this from the most educated group (32%) and managers (36%).

However, the majority of the UK poll (51%) believed the term of the Presidency should be extended and this was a proposition more favoured by the oldest group (56%) than the youngest (41%).

Higher levels of education also boosted support for this proposal so that, while it was supported by 52% of those who had left school at age 15 or less, the figure rises to 61% for those educated to age 20 or beyond.

The self-employed (62%) were also strongly in favour of this option.

The idea of extending the term of the Presidency also received more support from those on the highest incomes where a figure of 65% was noted compared with just 47% for those at the other end of the income scale.

Q. 33. Currently, each Member State has the right of veto in certain areas. In the future, should a right of veto...

- 1. be retained in order to preserve essential national interests [Retained]**
- 2. be limited to a very few essential areas [Limited]**
- 3. be given up for all decisions to make the EU more efficient [Given up]**

Country analysis

	Retained (in %)	Limited (in %)	Given up (in %)	Don't know (in %)
B	35	24	18	23
DK	57	28	7	8
D – West	46	30	13	11
D – Total	47	29	13	12
D – East	51	25	12	13
GR	70	11	6	14
E	38	18	12	31
F	42	30	11	16
IRL	54	14	8	24
I	36	23	17	24
L	64	18	6	12
NL	47	27	16	11
A	64	17	6	13
P	54	17	6	24
FIN	55	27	10	8
S	54	22	14	10
UK	43	19	10	28
EU15	45	24	12	20

This question, which to be answered effectively would seem to require more than a rudimentary knowledge of EU matters, generated a high level of 'don't knows' averaging 20% across the EU. In fact, in the UK and Spain, figures of 28% and 31% respectively were noted.

Overall, however, 45% of EU15 citizens were in favour of retaining this individual right of veto in its totality compared with 41% six months before. Figures as high as 70% were observed in Greece and figures of 64% in Luxembourg and Austria. The UK figure, at 43%, is slightly below the EU15 average but still up by three percentage points from EB60.

A quarter (24%) of EU15 citizens (with contributory figures of 29% in Germany and 30% in France) felt that the veto should be limited to a very few essential areas and this view was also held by 19% of the UK poll. The UK and EU15 figures are very similar to those in autumn 2003.

Only 12% of EU15 citizens believed that the right of veto should be totally given up to make the EU more efficient.

Socio-demographic analysis

Making up the 28% of UK citizens who did not express an opinion were, as might be expected, a high proportion of those with less education. Accordingly, while the 'don't knows' made up 7% of those educated to age 20 or beyond, the proportion rises to 32% of those educated to age 15 or below.

There was also a noticeable divide by age with the 'don't knows' making up 39% of the 15-24 year old segment of the poll compared with 22% of those aged 55 or more.

Noticeable in the data making up the 19% of the UK poll who believed the veto should be limited to a very few essential areas, were 35% of those educated to age 20 or more and 37% of the self-employed.

In the largest group, which comprised 43% of the UK poll who wished the veto to be retained, were figures by occupation ranging from 56% of managers to 32% of house persons. In this latter group, the 'don't know' factor was an exceptionally high 49%.

Q. 34. The draft European Constitution sets new rules for majority voting within the European Union Council of Ministers. Which of the following are you most in favour of?

- 1. Each Member State should have one vote, regardless of its population size. [One vote]**
- 2. The number of votes per Member State should be proportional to its population size. [Number of votes proportional]**
- 3. Another solution should be found. [Another solution]**

	One vote (in %)	Number of votes proportional (in %)	Another solution (in %)	Don't know (in %)
B	48	26	9	17
DK	72	16	5	7
D - West	29	56	5	10
D - Total	32	53	5	11
D - East	42	41	5	11
GR	55	23	7	15
E	42	28	8	23
F	41	35	7	18
IRL	60	17	4	19
I	45	30	9	17
L	65	20	7	8
NL	53	31	10	7
A	63	17	9	11
P	55	22	4	20
FIN	76	18	3	3
S	68	21	7	4
UK	41	25	8	25
EU15	43	34	7	16

There was a clear preference for the option that each Member State should have one vote regardless of its population size. This option gained the support of 43% of EU15 citizens compared with the next most cited option (number of votes proportional to population), which attracted 34% of EU15 respondents.

In fact, only one country- Germany - had more support for the 'proportional' option with figures of 53% and 32%.

The UK, once again, had a high level of 'don't knows' as 25% but was in line with the general EU15 attitude with 41% of those polled supporting the 'one vote' concept compared with just 25% supporting the 'proportional' option.

This is the first time this question has been asked in Eurobarometer so no comparison with prior results can be made.

Socio-demographic analysis

In the 25% of the UK poll who believed the number of votes should be proportional to population size, were figures of 19% amongst those educated to age 15 or less which are in marked contrast to the 41% of those educated to age 20 or beyond.

This option also appealed to 42% of managers as opposed to just 20% of manual workers and 15% of house persons amongst whom the 'don't know' factor was, again, exceptionally high at 43% compared with the UK average of 25%.

Amongst the 41% of the UK poll which formed the largest proportion, there was a noticeably higher proportion (50%) of people educated to age 15 or below compared with 33% of those educated to age 20 or beyond who believed in the one-state one-vote principle.

This view also held more sway amongst the oldest group (46%) than the youngest where the figure was just 37%.

II.4. Levels of trust

In this part of Eurobarometer 61, levels of trust are analysed in two specific areas.

The first (covered by question 7) looks at the establishment within Member State and assesses the trust level that people have in organisations such as the police, the army, the judiciary and the media by broad categories such as radio, press, etc.

The second part of this trust analysis looks at the nine European institutions or bodies and, in a similar manner, assesses the trust that EU citizens have in them.

Q. 7. 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.

7.1. The press

Country analysis

	EU15 (in %)	UK (in %)	High
Trust	46	20	61% Spain
Don't trust	47	73	73% UK
Don't know	7	7	11% Portugal

The level of trust that UK citizens have of the press is startlingly low at 20%, although up from the 17% in October 2003. This figure is less than half the EU15 average of 46% (44% in October 2003) and less than a third of that in Spain, where the figure reaches 61%.

Another interesting factor is that the UK poll is definite in its lack of trust in the press and the 'don't know' factor is the lowest of all these fifteen instances. The 'don't trust' figure in the UK therefore emerges at 73% - nearly three out of four citizens.

Socio-demographic analysis

Making up the 20% average in the UK of those who trusted the press were 24% of men and 17% of women. Considerably higher than average levels of trust were observed amongst those with more education and the level of trust for the press amongst those educated to age 20 or beyond rises to 37% compared with just 18% amongst those with the least education.

High figures in terms of trust were noted amongst managers (35%) but this proportion drops to 16% for manual workers and 12% for house persons.

7.2. Radio

Country analysis

	EU15 (in %)	UK (in %)	High
Trust	63	59	80% Finland
Don't trust	28	29	39% Greece
Don't know	9	13	15% Italy

Radio had a relatively high level of trust across the Union and 59% of the UK poll trusted radio – a figure not far removed from the EU15 average of 63%.

These figures are virtually unchanged since autumn 2003.

Socio-demographic analysis

Radio was trusted as a medium by 66% of the best educated compared with 55% of those who had left school at age 15 or earlier.

7.3. Television

Country analysis

	EU15 (in %)	UK (in %)	High
Trust	54	54	74% Ireland
Don't trust	40	37	54% Italy
Don't know	6	9	9% Italy, UK

The UK and EU15 averages for people trusting in television are the same at 54% and both sets of figures are unchanged since October 2003.

Socio-demographic analysis

While television was trusted by 50% of those educated to age 15 or less, the figure rises appreciably to 60% of those who had studied longest.

7.4. Justice/the country's legal system

Country analysis

	EU15 (in %)	UK (in %)	High
Trust	48	37	76% Denmark
Don't trust	44	50	65% Belgium
Don't know	8	13	13% UK

There is a marked difference between the UK and EU15 figures. In October 2003, 47% of EU15 citizens and 43% of those in the UK tended to trust justice and the legal system.

In just six months, the UK figures had tumbled to 37%. This compares with an increase of one percentage point in the EU15 average to 48% and figures as high as 76% in Denmark.

With a 'don't know' factor of 13% (up from 9% six months previously), the UK 'don't trust' figures rises to 50% - six-percentage points above the 44% EU15 average.

Distrust of the legal system in Belgium reaches nearly two out of three citizens at 65%.

Socio-demographic analysis

While there were no appreciable patterns in the UK amongst those trusting justice and the legal system based upon age, education was a prime factor behind people's trust in the system.

While only 28% of those educated to 15 or less tended to trust this institution, the figure more than doubles to 58% of those educated to age 20 or beyond.

High figures were also noted for managers (53%), while manual workers had only 31% of their number in this category.

7.5. The police

Country analysis

	EU15 (in %)	UK (in %)	High
Trust	65	55	88% Finland
Don't trust	29	35	44% Belgium
Don't know	6	10	10% UK

While nearly nine out of ten (88%) of Finns trust their police, this figure falls to 55% in the UK – ten-percentage points lower than the 65% EU15 average. This is a fall over six months from 60% in the UK compared with a small rise from 64% in the EU15.

In fact, one in three (35%) of UK citizens state they do not trust the police – a figure above the 29% EU15 average but, again, well below the 44% recorded in Belgium.

Socio-demographic analysis

In the UK statistics, there were only small variations by gender and age amongst those tending to trust the police.

However, higher levels of education increased the trust level and, while the figure is only 52% for those educated up to age 15, it increases to 66% of those who had studied longest.

7.6. The army

Country analysis

	EU15 (in %)	UK (in %)	High
Trust	63	67	89% Finland
Don't trust	26	20	40% Sweden
Don't know	11	14	15% Netherlands

Two-thirds (67%) of the UK poll said they trusted the army, and although this is down from 72% in October 2003, it still gives it the highest ranking of any institution on this list. In fact, across the EU15, the army comes second equal in trust levels at 63%, ranked equally with radio and just two-percentage points behind the 65% accorded to the police.

Socio-demographic analysis

The high level of trust in the UK for the army was reflected in an even way across the socio-demographic categories.

7.7. The religious institutions

Country analysis

	EU15 (in %)	UK (in %)	High
Trust	41	37	74% Denmark
Don't trust	46	45	73% Sweden
Don't know	13	18	18% UK

The majority of both the UK poll (45%) and that of the EU15 (46%) don't trust religious institutions and these figures are virtually identical to those observed in EB60. However, these figures are dwarfed by the Swedish figure of 73%.

Socio-demographic analysis

There was a small but noticeable increase in UK trust levels of religious institutions as both age and education levels increased. Accordingly, while 37% of those aged 15 to 24 and those educated to age 15 or less trust these organisations, these figures rise to 43% of people aged 55 or more and those educated to age 20 or beyond.

46% of retired people as opposed to just 24% of house persons tended to trust religious institutions.

7.8. Trades unions

Country analysis

	EU15 (in %)	UK (in %)	High
Trust	36	34	54% Netherlands
Don't trust	50	42	58% Germany
Don't know	14	24	24% UK

The majority (50%) of EU15 citizens did not trust trades unions – a figure virtually unchanged since October 2003. This figure compares with 42% in the UK (47% in October 2003), where the 'don't know' factor at 24% was the highest in the Union – ten percentage points above the 14% EU15 average, which was up from 18% in October 2003.

Socio-demographic analysis

In the UK, trust levels for trades unions fall sharply with age. While the majority of 15-24 year olds (45%) tend to trust trades unions, this figure tumbles to 27% of those aged 55 or more.

A similar shift of opinion is seen in respondents' attitudes based upon their level of education. While 29% of the least educated tend to trust trades unions, this figure rises to reach 42% among those educated to age 20 or beyond.

Interestingly, marginally more managers (38%) trust trades unions than do manual workers (37%).

7.9. Political parties

Country analysis

	EU15 (in %)	UK (in %)	High
Trust	16	10	32% Denmark
Don't trust	76	78	81% Germany
Don't know	9	12	14% Luxembourg

Across the Union, more than three-quarters of those polled did not trust political parties and this produces figures of 76% for the EU15, 78% for the UK and 81% in Germany.

These figures are virtually unchanged since Eurobarometer 60 in autumn 2003.

Socio-demographic analysis

In the UK data, there were only minor variations on most socio-demographic aspects. However, there was a noticeable shift in attitude as people got older and their level of distrust increased. Accordingly, while 72% of 15 to 24 year olds tended not to trust political parties, this figure rises to 83% of those aged 55 or more.

7.10. Big companies

Country analysis

	EU15 (in %)	UK (in %)	High
Trust	26	19	47% Denmark
Don't trust	61	65	68% Sweden
Don't know	13	15	19% Ireland

Across the European Union, 61% of those polled did not trust big companies and this figure rises to 65% in the UK and 68% in Sweden.

These figures all show small increases since autumn 2003.

Socio-demographic analysis

As in the previous sub-question concerning political parties, UK sentiment towards worsened with the age of respondents. So, while 57% of 15 to 24 year olds tended not to trust big companies, this figure increases by fourteen percentage points to 71% of those aged 55 or more.

7.11. The national government

Country analysis

	EU15 (in %)	UK (in %)	High
Trust	30	19	61% Luxembourg
Don't trust	61	69	69% UK
Don't know	9	12	12% UK

61% of EU15 citizens said that they did not trust their government, with the highest constituent figure of 69% being recorded in the UK. These figures are both one-percentage point higher than those noted in the previous October.

In fact, in the UK, the increase in the 'don't know' factor from 9% to 12% is mirrored by a significant fall in the trust factor from 24% to 19%.

Socio-demographic analysis

Of the 69% of UK respondents who said that they tended not to trust the government, there was a noticeable hardening of attitude with age. Accordingly, while 58% of the youngest group (15-24 years) tended not to trust the government, this figure increases to 74% among those aged 55 or more.

Conversely, as education levels rise, so too does the level of trust. Accordingly, while the UK government was trusted by just 17% of those who had left school aged 15 or less, this figure rises noticeably to encompass 27% of those educated to age 20 or beyond.

While only 8% of the self-employed tended to trust the government, the figure, at 24%, is three times as large as that for managers.

It is also to be noted that 24% of those on the lowest income trust the government, as opposed to just 14% at the other end of the income scale.

7.12. The national parliament

Country analysis

	EU15 (in %)	UK (in %)	High
Trust	35	25	63% Denmark, Greece
Don't trust	54	61	61% UK
Don't know	12	15	15% Italy, Luxembourg, UK

National parliaments were trusted slightly more than national governments but even so 61% of the UK poll said they did not trust their parliament – a figure echoed across the Union by 54% of the EU15 poll.

These figures are practically unchanged since October 2003.

Socio-demographic analysis

Looking at the profile of the 25% of UK citizens in this survey who tended to trust their parliament, there was a higher percentage of men (29%) than women (20%) in this category.

While 21% of those educated to age 15 or less tended to trust parliament, this figure doubles to 42% of those educated to age 20 or beyond.

33% of managers tended to trust parliament compared with just 14% of house persons.

7.13. The European Union

Country analysis

	EU15 (in %)	UK (in %)	High
Trust	41	19	68% Greece
Don't trust	42	55	65% Sweden
Don't know	17	26	26% UK

The European Union has the notable distinction of being trusted on average by more EU15 citizens than trusted either their national governments or national parliaments.

However, the 'don't trust' figure at 42% is still marginally greater than the 41% trust figure and there is a 'don't know' factor of 17%.

These figures are all unchanged since October 2003.

Lack of knowledge of matters European is reflected in the fact that one in four (26%) of the UK poll were unable to answer this question.

Accordingly, while the 'don't trust' figure at 55% is smaller than comparative UK figures relating to the government and parliament, the 'trust' factor is very small at just 19% - less than a third of the 68% 'trust' factor accorded to the European Union by the Greek poll.

Over the past six months, the UK's 'don't know' factor has increased from 22% to 26%, while the 'trust' factor has slipped marginally from 20% to 19% and the 'don't trust' from 58% to 55%.

Socio-demographic analysis

Among the 19% of the UK poll who trusted the European Union, there are some notable variations. 22% of men as opposed to 17% of women made up this group, as did 29% of those aged 15 to 24 compared with just 15% of those aged 55 and above.

Education was also an important factor in relation to this issue, with 31% of those educated to age 20 or beyond trusting the Union compared with less than half this number - 13% - amongst those educated to age 15 or less.

Occupation also produced some interesting variations of attitude ranging from a tendency to trust amongst 37% of students, 25% of the unemployed, 24% of managers and – below the UK average – just 15% of the self-employed and 12% of house persons.

7.14. United Nations

Country analysis

	EU15 (in %)	UK (in %)	High
Trust	49	45	76% Sweden
Don't trust	35	33	52% Greece
Don't know	16	21	21% UK

45% of UK citizens and 49% of EU15 citizens trusted the United Nations, and, in Sweden, the figure rises to 76%. Over the past six months, the UK figures have fallen noticeably (51%:45%), while the EU15 average has risen slightly (48%:49%).

On the other hand, approximately a third of those polled (35%) did not trust the United Nations and while the UK figure, at 33%, is in line with this average, the figure rises to more than half (52%) of the Greek poll.

Socio-demographic analysis

In the UK poll, 50% of men as opposed to 41% of women tended to trust the United Nations and an even greater variation is noted by education, where 43% of the least educated compared with 69% of the most educated share this view.

63% of managers compared with just 33% of house persons also trusted this organisation.

40% of those on the lowest level of income tended to trust this international body and the figure rises to 58% of those at the top end of the income scale.

7.15. Charitable or voluntary organisations**Country analysis**

	EU15 (in %)	UK (in %)	High
Trust	61	65	68% France, Portugal
Don't trust	28	22	47% Sweden
Don't know	12	12	17% Germany

In comparative terms, charitable or voluntary organisations were well trusted by Union citizens. Trust factors as high as 68% in France and Portugal contributed to the 61% EU15 average, which was up from 59% six months previously.

The UK figure was 65%, down from 68% in October 2003.

Socio-demographic analysis

Trust in charitable or voluntary organisations declined with age in this UK survey with 72% of 15-24 year olds having this positive view compared with just 61% of those aged 55 or more.

Increased levels of education have the effect of increasing the level of trust in these organisations. Accordingly, while 60% of those educated to age 15 or less trust them, this figure increases to nearly three-quarters (74%) of the poll amongst those educated until age 20 or beyond.

Levels of trust in European institutions and bodies

Q. 23. For each of the following European bodies, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.

23.1. European Parliament

	EU15 (in %)	UK (in %)	High
Trust	54	30	Greece 70%
Don't trust	29	44	UK 44%
Don't know	17	27	UK 27%

UK citizens (30%) had very little trust for the European Parliament and were, in fact, the most untrusting people in the Union. The UK trust factor fell marginally from 31% in autumn 2003.

In addition to Greece (70%), high levels of trust were observed in Italy (68%), Luxembourg (67%) and Belgium and Ireland (64%).

Sweden was the country that came closest to the UK figures in terms of its level of distrust, with 37% of that country's poll taking this position.

In the UK, there is a noticeable difference between the 29% of 15 to 24 year olds not trusting the European Parliament compared with the 53% of those aged 55 or more.

Looking at the statistics from the reverse angle, there is a substantial variation based upon education amongst those who actually trust the European Parliament.

While this applies to 25% of those who left school aged 15 or less, the 'trust' factor virtually doubles to 46% of those educated to age 20 or above.

High levels of trust are observed amongst the self-employed (39%) and managers (41%) compared with just 22% of house persons.

High 'don't know' factors were observed amongst the youngest segment of the poll (35%) and house persons (37%).

23.2. European Commission

	EU15 (in %)	UK (in %)	High
Trust	47	26	Luxembourg 66%
Don't trust	29	39	UK/Sweden 39%
Don't know	23	35	UK 35%

Barely a quarter of the UK poll (26%) trusted the European Commission and this figure is the same as it was in autumn 2003, while the EU15 average has increased by one percentage point from 46%.

The UK also had exceptionally high 'don't know' figures of 35% (an increase from 30% over the previous six months).

Noticeably more men (33%) than women (21%) tended to trust the European Commission. Trust levels decreased with age and 33% of the youngest age band had faith in this institution compared with just 25% of those aged 55+.

Education was a significant driver in this area with 42% of the most educated tending to trust the Commission compared with just 23% of those who had left school aged 15 or younger.

While 40% of managers and 38% of students trusted the European Commission, this figure falls to just 18% of house persons and 14% of the unemployed.

Virtually half of the house persons polled (48%) did not express an opinion on this matter.

23.3 Council of Ministers

	EU15 (in %)	UK (in %)	High
Trust	40	18	Luxembourg 61%
Don't trust	31	36	Austria 44%
Don't know	29	46	UK 46%

Yet again, the UK 'don't know' factor is exceptionally high and, at 46%, accounts for nearly half the poll.

The number of UK citizens trusting the Council of Ministers has risen slightly from 16% in autumn 2003 to 18% but, even so, is substantially lower than the next highest figure – 33% in Austria.

In the UK, noticeably more men (23%) than women (14%) tended to trust the Council of Ministers and while only 18% of the least educated group held this position, the figures rise to 34% for those educated to age 20 or beyond.

The 'don't know' factor for house persons in the UK rose to 57% in this part of the poll.

23.4 European Court of Justice

	EU15 (in %)	UK (in %)	High
Trust	52	34	Sweden 74%
Don't trust	24	31	UK 31%
Don't know	24	35	UK 35%

The UK figures show a small increase in the trust factor from 32% in the autumn of 2003 to 34% in the current poll.

Overall, the UK figures, although still showing the lowest level of trust across the European Union, are less extreme than in the previous three sub-sections.

In the UK, visibly more men (40%) trusted the Court of Justice than women (27%).

Once again, there were no major variations by age but, while only 30% of the least educated trusted the Court of Justice, this figure rises to 57% of those educated to age 20 or beyond.

23.5 The European Ombudsman

	EU15 (in %)	UK (in %)	High
Trust	29	20	Finland 68%
Don't trust	24	29	Sweden 30%
Don't know	48	51	Germany 59%

Once more, the UK figures show a relatively low level of trust in the Ombudsman and this trust level is down minimally from 21% in autumn 2003.

UK trust levels increased with age and education and relatively high levels were noted for the self-employed (37%) compared with just 18% for manual workers.

23.6 European Central Bank

	EU15 (in %)	UK (in %)	High
Trust	46	28	Finland 68%
Don't trust	27	31	Germany 34%
Don't know	27	41	UK 41%

The level of trust in the European Central Bank among UK citizens has increased from 25% six months previously to 28% in the current survey.

The UK level of distrust at 31% was not particularly out of line with the EU15 average of 27% and it is interesting to note that it is less than the French figure of 33% when the nationality of the head of the ECB is taken into account.

Once again, a high level of trust (48%) was noted amongst the most educated group in the UK compared with just 24% of those who had left school at age 15 or before.

Relatively high levels of trust were also noted amongst UK managers (43%) and the self-employed (42%) compared with just 19% of house persons and 14% of the unemployed.

High 'don't know' factors were again observed amongst the youngest age group (52%) and house persons (54%) in the UK.

23.7 European Court of Auditors

	EU15 (in %)	UK (in %)	High
Trust	40	13	Luxembourg 55%
Don't trust	25	28	Austria 32%
Don't know	38	58	UK 58%

The striking figures to emerge from this part of the survey were both the 58% of the UK poll not giving an answer and the minimal level of trust from just 13% of the poll.

The trust level has declined from 16% in autumn 2003 and the 'don't know' factor has increased by four percentage points from 54%.

In the UK, particularly high 'don't know' figures were noted amongst 15-24 years olds (66%), other white-collar workers (63%) and house persons (62%).

23.8 Committee of the Regions

	EU15 (in %)	UK (in %)	High
Trust	26	11	Portugal 41%
Don't trust	25	28	Austria 35%
Don't know	50	61	UK 61%

Once again, the 'don't know' factor in the UK (61%) on this issue is a striking feature and shows an increase from the 55% noted six months previously.

The 11% of the UK poll who tended to trust this body is two percentage points smaller than the 13% noted in the previous poll.

Yet again, in the UK, those with the highest level of education (18%) were more likely to trust this organisation than those who had left school aged 15 or less where the figure was just 10%.

23.9 Economic and Social Committee

	EU15 (in %)	UK (in %)	High
Trust	29	14	Greece 45%
Don't trust	25	29	Austria 37%
Don't know	46	57	UK 57%

More than half the UK poll (57%) did not know whether they trusted this body or not and this figure shows an increase from the 53% recorded six months previously.

The 14% of the UK poll who stated that they trusted the Economic and Social Committee was the lowest figure recorded across the Union and less than half the EU15 average.

Once again, UK trust levels declined with age with figures of 18% for the youngest group and 13% for those aged 55 or more. However, they rose with increased levels of education (11% to 29%).

Particularly high 'don't know' figures were noted amongst women (60%), students (63%) and house persons (65%).

ANNEXES

Annex I**STANDARD EUROBAROMETER 61
TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS**

Between 20th February and 28th March 2004, the European Opinion Research Group, a consortium of Market and Public Opinion Research agencies, made out of INRA in Belgium – I.C.O. and GfK Worldwide, carried out wave 61 of the standard Eurobarometer, on request of the EUROPEAN COMMISSION, Directorate-General Press and Communication, Opinion Polls.

The Standard EUROBAROMETER 61 covers the population of the respective nationalities of the European Union Member States, aged 15 years and over, resident in each of the Member States. The basic sample design applied in all Member States is a multi-stage, random (probability) one. In each EU 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.

For doing so, the 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 Member States according to the EUROSTAT NUTS 2 (or equivalent) and according to the distribution of the resident population of the respective EU-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 were selected as every Nth address by standard random route procedures, from the initial address. In each household, the respondent was drawn, at random. All interviews were face-to-face in people's home and in the appropriate national language.

<u>COUNTRIES</u>	<u>INSTITUTES</u>	<u>N° INTERVIEWS</u>	<u>FIELDWORK DATES</u>	<u>POPULATION 15+ (x 000)</u>
Belgium	INRA/IPSOS BELGIUM	1012	25/02 – 28/03	8,458
Denmark	GfK DENMARK	1000	21/02 – 24/03	4,355
Germany (East)	INRA/IPSOS DEUTSCHLAND	1037	22/02 – 11/03	13,164
Germany (West)	INRA/IPSOS DEUTSCHLAND	1032	20/02 – 10/03	56,319
Greece	MARKET ANALYSIS	1005	29/02 – 26/03	8,899
Spain	INRA/IPSOS ESPAÑA	1000	22/02 – 18/03	34,239
France	CSA-TMO	1019	22/02 – 10/03	47,936
Ireland	LANSDOWNE Market Research	1001	23/02 – 19/03	3,004
Italy	Demoskopea	1025	25/02 – 16/03	49,531
Luxembourg	ILRes	619	23/02 – 23/03	357
The Netherlands	INTOMART	1044	25/02 – 24/03	13,010
Austria	SPECTRA	1052	24/02 – 22/03	6,770
Portugal	METRIS	1000	23/02 – 17/03	8,620
Finland	MDC MARKETING RESEARCH	1027	26/02 – 28/03	4,245
Sweden	GfK SVERIGE	1000	23/02 – 19/03	7,252
Great Britain	MARTIN HAMBLIN LTD	1035	22/02 – 14/03	46,370
Northern Ireland	ULSTER MARKETING SURVEYS	308	25/02 – 17/03	1,314
TOTAL NUMBER OF INTERVIEWS		16216		

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. For all EU member-countries a national weighting procedure, using marginal and intercellular weighting, was carried out based on this Universe description. As such in all countries, minimum gender, age, region NUTS 2 were introduced in the iteration procedure. For international weighting (i.e. EU averages), INRA (EUROPE) applies the official population figures as provided by EUROSTAT or national statistic offices. The total population figures for input in this post-weighting procedure are listed above.

The results of the Eurobarometer studies are reported in the form of tables, datafiles and analyses. Per question a table of results is given with the full question text in English, French and German. The results are expressed as a percentage of the total. The results of the Eurobarometer surveys are analysed and made available through the Directorate-General Press and Communication, Opinion Polls of the European Commission, rue de la Loi 200, B-1049 Brussels. The results are published on the Internet server of the European Commission: http://europa.eu.int/comm/public_opinion/. All Eurobarometer datafiles are stored at the Zentral Archiv (Universität Köln, Bachemer Strasse, 40, D-50869 Köln-Lindenthal), available through the CESSDA Database <http://www.nsd.uib.no/cessda/europe.html>. They are at the disposal of all institutes members of the European Consortium for Political Research (Essex), of the Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research (Michigan) and of all those interested in social science research.

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:

UK NATIONAL REPORT

Observed percentages	10% or 90%	20% or 80%	30% or 70%	40% or 60%	50%
Confidence limits	± 1.9%	± 2.5%	± 2.7%	± 3.0%	± 3.1%

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Annex II: QUESTIONNAIRE

A.	YOUR SURVEY NUMBER	C	3	3	3	6
B.	COUNTRY CODE	1	2			
C.	OUR SURVEY NUMBER	6	1			
D.	INTERVIEW NUMBER					
E.	SPLIT BALLOT	1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A		
		2	<input type="checkbox"/>	B		

Q.1. What is your nationality? Please tell me the country(ies) that applies(y).
(MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

Belgium	1,	→ Q.2
Denmark	2,	
Germany	3,	
Greece	4,	
Spain	5,	
France	6,	
Ireland	7,	
Italy	8,	
Luxembourg	9,	
Netherlands	10,	
Portugal	11,	
United Kingdom (Great Britain, Northern Ireland)	12,	
Austria	13,	
Sweden	14,	
Finland	15,	
Other countries	16,	→ Close interview
DK	17,	

Q.2. When you get together with friends, would you say you discuss political matters frequently, occasionally, or never?

Frequently 1
Occasionally 2
Never 3
DK 4

Q.3. When you hold a strong opinion, do you ever find yourself persuading your friends, relatives or fellow workers to share your views? Does this happen...? (READ OUT)

often 1
from time to time 2
rarely 3
never 4
DK 5

Q.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...?

	READ OUT	BETTER	WORSE	SAME	DK
1	your life in general	1	2	3	4
2	the economic situation in the UK	1	2	3	4
3	the financial situation of your household	1	2	3	4
4	the employment situation in the UK	1	2	3	4
5	your personal job situation	1	2	3	4

Q.5. If you compare your present situation with five years ago, would you say it has improved, stayed about the same, or got worse?

Improved 1
Stayed about the same 2
Got worse 3
DK 4

Q.6. In the course of the next five years, do you expect your personal situation to improve, to stay about the same or to get worse?

Improve 1
 Stay about the same 2
 Get worse 3
 DK 4

Q.7. 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?

	READ OUT	<i>TEND TO TRUST</i>	TEND NOT TO TRUST	DK
1	The press	1	2	3
2	Radio	1	2	3
3	Television	1	2	3
4	Justice/the British legal system	1	2	3
5	The police	1	2	3
6	The army	1	2	3
7	The religious institutions	1	2	3
8	Trade unions	1	2	3
9	Political parties	1	2	3
10	Big companies	1	2	3
11	The British government	1	2	3
12	The British House of Commons	1	2	3
13	The European Union	1	2	3
14	The United Nations	1	2	3
15	Charitable or voluntary organisations	1	2	3

Let's continue with some questions on the European Union.

- Q.8. Generally speaking, do you think that Britain's membership of the European Union is...? (READ OUT)
- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| a good thing | 1 |
| a bad thing | 2 |
| neither good nor bad | 3 |
| DK | 4 |
-
- Q.9. Taking everything into consideration, would you say that Britain has on balance benefited or not from being a member of the European Union?
- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| Benefited | 1 |
| Not benefited | 2 |
| DK | 3 |
-
- Q.10. In general, does the European Union conjure up for you a very positive, fairly positive, neutral, fairly negative or very negative image?
- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Very positive | 1 |
| Fairly positive | 2 |
| Neutral | 3 |
| Fairly negative | 4 |
| Very negative | 5 |
| DK | 6 |

Q.11. What does the European Union mean to you personally? (SHOW CARD - READ OUT - MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE - ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM/BOTTOM TO TOP)

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

Q.12. Please tell me for each statement, whether you tend to agree or tend to disagree?

	READ OUT	<i>TEND TO AGREE</i>	TEND TO DISAGREE	DK
1	I feel I am safer because Britain is a member of the European Union	1	2	3
2	I feel we are more stable economically because Britain is a member of the European Union	1	2	3
3	I feel we are more stable politically because Britain is a member of the European Union	1	2	3
4	My voice counts in the European Union	1	2	3
5	I understand how the European Union works	1	2	3
6	Britain's voice counts in the European Union	1	2	3
7	Britain will become more influential in the European Union in the future	1	2	3
8	The biggest countries have the most power in the European Union	1	2	3
9	Britain is more influential in the European Union now than it was ten years ago	1	2	3

- Q.13. a) In your opinion, what is the current speed of building Europe? Please look at these figures (SHOW CARD WITH SCALE). 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.

b) And which corresponds best to the speed you would like? (SHOW SAME CARD)

READ OUT		Q. 13. a.	Q. 13. b.
		CURRENT SPEED	DESIRED SPEED
1	Standstill	1	1
2		2	2
3		3	3
4		4	4
5		5	5
6		6	6
7	Runs as fast as possible	7	7
8	DK	8	8

- Q.14. a) In your opinion, in five years' time, will the European Union play a more important, a less important or the same role in your daily life?

b) And, in five years' time, would you like the European Union to play a more important, a less important or the same role in your daily life?

READ OUT		MORE IMPORTANT	LESS IMPORTANT	SAME ROLE	DK
Q. 14.a	Expectations	1	2	3	4
Q. 14.b	Would like	1	2	3	4

- Q.15. Some people may have fears about the building of Europe, the European Union. Here is a list of things which some people say they are afraid of. For each one, please tell me if you - personally - are currently afraid of it, or not?

	READ OUT	<i>CURRENTLY AFRAID OF IT</i>	NOT CURRENTLY AFRAID OF IT	DK
1	A loss of power for smaller member states	1	2	3
2	An increase in drug trafficking and international organised crime	1	2	3
3	Our language being used less and less	1	2	3
4	Our country paying more and more to the European Union	1	2	3
5	The loss of social benefits	1	2	3
6	The loss of national identity and culture	1	2	3
7	An economic crisis	1	2	3
8	The transfer of jobs to other member countries which have lower production costs	1	2	3
9	More difficulties for British farmers	1	2	3
10	The end of the British Pound	1	2	3

- Q.16. Using this scale, how much do you feel you know about the European Union, its policies, its institutions? (SHOW CARD WITH SCALE)

KNOW NOTHING AT ALL										KNOW A GREAT DEAL	DK
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		11

Q.17. How well informed do you feel about the enlargement of the European Union this May, that is ten new countries joining the European Union? Do you feel...?
(SHOW CARD - READ OUT - ONE ANSWER ONLY)

very well informed	1
well informed.....	2
not very well informed	3
not at all well informed.....	4
DK	5

Q.18. When you are looking for information about the European Union, its policies, its institutions, which of the following sources do you use? Which else?
(SHOW CARD - READ OUT - MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

Meetings	1,
Discussions with relatives, friends, colleagues	2,
Daily newspapers	3,
Other newspapers, magazines	4,
Television	5,
Radio	6,
The Internet	7,
Books, brochures, information leaflets	8,
CD-Rom	9,
European Union information offices, Euro-info Centres, Euro-info Points, Euro-libraries, etc	10,
National or regional government information offices	11,
Trade unions or professional associations	12,
Other organisations (consumer organisations, etc.)	13,
A member of the European Parliament	14,
Other politicians	15,
Other (SPONTANEOUS)	16,
Never look for such information, not interested (SPONTANEOUS)	17,
DK	18,

Q.19. Generally speaking, do you think that the British media talk too much, about the right amount or too little about the European Union?

Too much 1
 About the right amount 2
 Too little 3
 DK 4

Q.20. And do you think that the British media present the European Union too positively, objectively or too negatively?

Too positively 1
 Objectively 2
 Too negatively 3
 DK 4

Q.21. Have you heard of...?

	READ OUT	YES	NO	DK
1	the European Parliament	1	2	3
2	the European Commission	1	2	3
3	the Council of Ministers of the European Union	1	2	3
4	the Court of Justice of the European Union	1	2	3
5	the European Ombudsman	1	2	3
6	the European Central Bank	1	2	3
7	the European Court of Auditors	1	2	3
8	the Committee of the Regions of the European Union	1	2	3
9	the Economic and Social Committee of the European Union	1	2	3

Q.22. And for each of the following European bodies, do you think it plays an important role or not in the life of the European Union?

	READ OUT	<i>IMPORTANT</i>	NOT IMPORTANT	DK
1	The European Parliament	1	2	3
2	The European Commission	1	2	3
3	The Council of Ministers of the European Union	1	2	3
4	The Court of Justice of the European Union	1	2	3
5	The European Ombudsman	1	2	3
6	The European Central Bank	1	2	3
7	The European Court of Auditors	1	2	3
8	The Committee of the Regions of the European Union	1	2	3
9	The Economic and Social Committee of the European Union	1	2	3

Q.23. And, for each of them, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it?

	READ OUT	<i>TEND TO TRUST</i>	TEND NOT TO TRUST	DK
1	The European Parliament	1	2	3
2	The European Commission	1	2	3
3	The Council of Ministers of the European Union	1	2	3
4	The Court of Justice of the European Union	1	2	3
5	The European Ombudsman	1	2	3
6	The European Central Bank	1	2	3
7	The European Court of Auditors	1	2	3
8	The Committee of the Regions of the European Union	1	2	3
9	The Economic and Social Committee of the European Union	1	2	3

Q.24. For each of the following statements about the European Union could you please tell me whether you think it is true or false?

	READ OUT	<i>TRUE</i>	FALSE	DK
1	The European Union currently consists of twelve Member States	1	2	3
2	The European Community was created just after World War I, in the early 1920's	1	2	3
3	The European flag is blue with yellow stars	1	2	3
4	On the European flag, there is one star for each member country	1	2	3
5	The headquarters of the European Commission are in Strasbourg	1	2	3
6	The Members of the European Parliament are directly elected by the citizens of the European Union	1	2	3
7	The President of the European Commission is directly elected by the citizens of the European Union	1	2	3
8	The European Union has its own anthem	1	2	3
9	Each year, there is a Europe Day in all the countries of the European Union	1	2	3
10	The next elections to the European Parliament will take place in June 2006	1	2	3

NO Q.25. AND Q.26.

ASK ALL

Q.27. What do you think are the two most important issues facing Britain at the moment? (SHOW CARD - READ OUT - MAX. 2 ANSWERS)

Crime.....	1,
Public transport	2,
Economic situation	3,
Rising prices/inflation	4,
Taxation	5,
Unemployment	6,
Terrorism.....	7,
Defence/Foreign affairs	8,
Housing	9,
Immigration	10,
Healthcare system.....	11,
The educational system	12,
Pensions	13,
Protecting the environment	14,
Other (SPONTANEOUS)	15,
DK	16,

Q.28. And for each of the following issues in Britain, do you think that the European Union plays a positive role, a negative role or neither positive nor negative role?

	READ OUT	POSITIVE ROLE	NEGATIVE ROLE	NEITHER POSITIVE NOR NEGATIVE ROLE	DK
1	Fighting crime	1	2	3	4
2	Public transport	1	2	3	4
3	The economic situation	1	2	3	4
4	Rising prices/inflation	1	2	3	4
5	Taxation	1	2	3	4
6	Fighting unemployment	1	2	3	4
7	Fighting terrorism	1	2	3	4
8	Defence	1	2	3	4
9	Foreign affairs	1	2	3	4
10	Housing	1	2	3	4
11	Immigration	1	2	3	4
12	Health care system	1	2	3	4
13	The educational system	1	2	3	4
14	Pensions	1	2	3	4
15	Protecting the environment	1	2	3	4

Q.29. What is your opinion on each of the following statements?
Please tell me for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.

	READ OUT - ROTATE	<i>FOR</i>	AGAINST	DK
1	A European Monetary Union with one single currency, the euro	1	2	3
2	One common foreign policy among the member states of the European Union, towards other countries	1	2	3
3	A common defence and security policy among European Union member states	1	2	3
4	The enlargement of the European Union to include ten new countries this May	1	2	3
5	Further enlargement of the European Union to include other countries in future years	1	2	3
6	A constitution for the European Union	1	2	3
7	The fact that the European Commission is composed of commissioners coming from each of the member states	1	2	3
8	The speed of building Europe being faster in one group of countries than in the other countries	1	2	3
9	Teaching school children about the way European Union institutions work	1	2	3

Q.30. The European Union already has a Common Security and Foreign Policy and a European Security and Defence Policy. There is now a debate about how much further these should be developed.

Do you tend to agree or tend to disagree with each of the following statements?

	READ OUT - ROTATE	<i>TEND TO AGREE</i>	TEND TO DISAGREE	DK
1	The European Union should have a rapid military reaction force that can be sent quickly to troublespots when an international crisis occurs	1	2	3
2	When an international crisis occurs, European Union member states should agree on a common position	1	2	3
3	The European Union should have its own Foreign Minister who can be the spokesperson for a common European Union position	1	2	3
4	The European Union should have its own seat on the United Nations Security Council	1	2	3
5	Member states which have opted for neutrality should have a say in European Union foreign policy	1	2	3
6	European Union foreign policy should be independent of United States foreign policy	1	2	3
7	The European Union should guarantee Human Rights in each member state, even if this is contrary to the wishes of some member states	1	2	3
8	The European Union should work to guarantee Human Rights around the world, even if this is contrary to the wishes of some other countries	1	2	3
9	The European Union should have a common immigration policy towards people from outside the European Union	1	2	3
10	The European Union should have a common asylum policy towards asylum seekers	1	2	3

Q.31. In your opinion, should decisions concerning European defence policy be taken by national governments, by NATO or by the European Union? (ONE ANSWER ONLY)

National governments	1
NATO	2
The European Union	3
Other (SPONTANEOUS)	4
DK	5

- Q.32. Currently, the European Council is composed of Heads of State or Heads of Government of member states and the President of the Commission. The presidency of the European Council is taken by each country in turn, for a period of six months. Do you think that...? (READ OUT - ONE ANSWER ONLY)
- the six-month period should be retained because it gives each member state a chance to hold the Presidency of the European Union on a regular basis..... 1
- the period of the Presidency should be extended because six months is too short to achieve significant results..... 2
- DK 3
- Q.33. Currently, each member state has the right of veto in certain areas. In the future, should a right of veto...?
- be retained in order to preserve essential national interests 1
- be limited to a very few essential areas 2
- be given up for all decisions in order to make the European Union more efficient 3
- DK 4
- Q.34. The draft European Constitution sets new rules for majority voting within the European Union Council of Ministers. Which of the following are you most in favour of? (SHOW CARD - READ OUT - ONE ANSWER ONLY)
- Each member state should have one vote, regardless of its population size 1
- The number of votes per member state should be proportional to its population size..... 2
- Another solution should be found (SPONTANEOUS) 3
- DK 4
- Q.35. On which of the following do you think most of the European Union budget is spent? (SHOW CARD - READ OUT - ONE ANSWER ONLY)
- Employment and social affairs 1
- Agriculture 2
- Scientific research 3
- Regional aid 4
- Foreign policy and aid to countries outside the European Union 5
- Administrative and personnel costs, buildings..... 6
- Other (SPONTANEOUS) 7
- DK 8

- Q.36. You may have heard of globalisation, that is the general opening-up of all economies, which leads to the creation of a world-wide market. For each of the following statements, could you please tell me if you tend to agree or if you tend to disagree?

	READ OUT	<i>TEND TO AGREE</i>	TEND TO DISAGREE	DK
1	Overall, globalisation is a good thing for Britain	1	2	3
2	Overall, globalisation is a good thing for me	1	2	3
3	Globalisation leads to power being concentrated in large companies, at the expense of others	1	2	3
4	Globalisation increases global environmental problems	1	2	3
5	Globalisation represents a good opportunity for British companies	1	2	3
6	Globalisation represents a threat to employment in Britain	1	2	3
7	Globalisation increases the variety of products for sale in Britain	1	2	3
8	Globalisation cuts the prices of products and services through increased competition	1	2	3
9	Globalisation makes it more difficult to control the quality of food products sold in Britain	1	2	3
10	Globalisation leads to a duller and more uniform world	1	2	3

Q.37. From the following list, who do you trust most to get the effects of globalisation under control? (SHOW CARD - READ OUT - MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

Political parties	1,
The British government	2,
The European Union	3,
Green/environmental/ecological groups	4,
Trade unions	5,
Consumer rights associations	6,
Multinational companies	7,
The World Trade Organization	8,
The United Nations.....	9,
The World Bank/ The International Monetary Fund	10,
The United States' government.....	11,
Anti-globalisation or alter-globalisation movements	12,
Non-governmental organisations (NGOs)	13,
Citizens themselves	14,
Others (SPONTANEOUS).....	15,
No one (SPONTANEOUS).....	16,
DK	17,

SPLIT BALLOT A

Q.38. In the near future, do you see yourself as...? (SHOW CARD - READ OUT - ONE ANSWER ONLY)

British only 1
 British and European 2
 European and British 3
 European only..... 4
 DK..... 5

Q.39. a) On the whole, are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied or not at all satisfied with the way democracy works in Britain? (SHOW CARD WITH SCALE)

b) And how about the way democracy works in the European Union? (SHOW SAME CARD)

READ OUT		VERY SATISFIED	FAIRLY SATISFIED	NOT VERY SATISFIED	NOT AT ALL SATISFIED	DK
Q. 39.a	In Britain	1	2	3	4	5
Q. 39.b	In the European Union	1	2	3	4	5

Let's talk about the European Parliament.

- Q.40. Supposing a general election were being held tomorrow, can you tell me on a scale of 1 to 10 how likely it is that you would vote in that election? Please place yourself at a point on this scale where "1" indicates that you would definitely not vote, "10" indicates that you would definitely vote and the remaining numbers indicates something in between these two positions.

(READ OUT - SHOW CARD WITH SCALE)

1 (WOULD DEFINITELY NOT VOTE)									10 (WOULD DEFINITELY VOTE)	DK
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11

- Q.41. European Parliament elections will take place this June. Can you tell me on a scale of 1 to 10 how likely it is that you would vote in that election? Please place yourself at a point on this scale where "1" indicates that you would definitely not vote, "10" indicates that you would definitely vote and the remaining numbers indicate something in between these two positions.

(READ OUT - SHOW SAME CARD WITH SCALE AS IN Q.40.)

1 (WOULD DEFINITELY NOT VOTE)									10 (WOULD DEFINITELY VOTE)	DK
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11

ASK ONLY IF CODE 2 TO 11 IN Q.41., OTHERS GO TO Q.43.

- Q.42. If you decide to vote in the next European Parliament elections, what will be the most important reasons for deciding who to vote for? (SHOW CARD - READ OUT - MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

Your opinion about national issues..... 1,
 Your opinion about European issues..... 2,
 The party of the candidate(s)..... 3,
 The personality of the candidate(s) 4,
 The policies of the candidate(s)..... 5,
 Other (SPONTANEOUS) 6,
 DK 7,

ASK ALL

- Q.43. Since the last European Parliament elections, have you seen or heard anything about or had any contacts with a member of the European Parliament in any of the following ways?
(SHOW CARD - READ OUT - MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

Yes, I have read about members of the European Parliament in newspapers or magazines 1,
 Yes, I have seen members of the European Parliament on television 2,
 Yes, I have heard members of the European Parliament on the radio 3,
 Yes, I have read about members of the European parliament on the Internet 4,
 Yes, I have received leaflet(s), newsletter(s) or letter(s) from (a) member(s)
 of the European Parliament 5,
 Yes, I have seen members of the European parliament at (a) public meeting(s) 6,
 No, I have not seen or heard anything about or had any contacts with
 a member of the European Parliament 7,
 Other (SPONTANEOUS) 8,
 DK 9,

- Q.44. Would you personally be interested in seeing or hearing more about members of the European Parliament in any of the ways we have just talked about?
(SHOW CARD - READ OUT - MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

Yes, I would be interested in reading about members of the European Parliament
 in newspapers or magazines 1,
 Yes, I would be interested in seeing members of the European Parliament on television 2,
 Yes, I would be interested in hearing members of the European Parliament on the radio 3,
 Yes, I would be interested in reading, seeing or hearing about members of the European
 Parliament on the Internet 4,
 Yes, I would be interested in receiving leaflet(s), newsletter(s) or letter(s) from
 (a) member(s) of the European Parliament 5,
 Yes, I would be interested in seeing members of the European Parliament
 at (a) public meeting(s) 6,
 No, I would not be interested 7,
 Other (SPONTANEOUS) 8,
 DK 9,

- Q.45. Please consider each of the following and tell me how much its activities, decisions and so on affect people like yourself. In each case, do they have a great effect, some effect or no effect?
(SHOW CARD WITH SCALE)

	READ OUT	GREAT EFFECT	SOME EFFECT	NO EFFECT	DK
1	The British government	1	2	3	4
2	The House of Commons	1	2	3	4
3	The European Union as a whole	1	2	3	4
4	The European Parliament in particular	1	2	3	4
5	Local government in the UK	1	2	3	4

- Q.46. For each of the following statements, please tell me whether you totally agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree or totally disagree?

	READ OUT	TOTALLY AGREE	TEND TO AGREE	TEND TO DISAGREE	TOTALLY DISAGREE	DK
1	The members of the European Parliament are good at protecting your interests	1	2	3	4	5
2	The European Parliament has more power than the House of Commons	1	2	3	4	5
3	European Parliament elections are really important	1	2	3	4	5

- Q.47. Do you think the next European Parliament election campaign should mainly focus on...? (SHOW CARD - READ OUT - MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)
- issues specific to Britain 1,
- agriculture 2,
- environment..... 3,
- the fight against crime 4,
- employment..... 5,
- immigration..... 6,
- education..... 7,
- common defence policy..... 8,
- foreign policy 9,
- enlargement of the European Union 10,
- the reform of European Union institutions 11,
- the activities of the European Parliament 12,
- rights as a European Union citizen..... 13,
- DK 14,

- Q.48. Would you be more likely to vote in the European (Parliament) elections if...?

	READ OUT	YES	NO	DK
1	public transport were free on election day	1	2	3
2	polling stations were set up in supermarkets	1	2	3
3	it were possible to vote on the Internet	1	2	3
4	it were possible to vote at your workplace	1	2	3
5	local, regional or national elections were organised on the same day as the European elections	1	2	3
6	European elections took place on the same day throughout the European Union	1	2	3
8	citizens from other member states were candidates on the ballot paper	1	2	3
9	you had more time to put your name on the Electoral Register	1	2	3

DEMOGRAPHICS

- D.1. In political matters people talk of "the left" and "the right".
How would you place your views on this scale? (SHOW CARD)
(INT.: DO NOT PROMPT - IF CONTACT HESITATES, TRY AGAIN)

LEFT									RIGHT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Refusal 11

DK 12

- D.2. Which one of the following political parties, do you feel closest to?
(READ OUT – SHOW CARD- ONE ANSWER ONLY)

Labour	1
Conservative	2
Liberal Democrat	3
Plaid Cymru	4
Scottish National Party	5
Ulster Unionist	6
Democratic Unionist	7
SDLP	8
Sinn Fein	9
Alliance	10
Would not vote/would vote blank/would spoil vote (SPONTANEOUS)	11
Other parties/movements (SPONTANEOUS)	12
DK	13
Refusal (SPONTANEOUS)	14

NO QUESTIONS D.3. TO D.6.

D.7. Could you give me the number which corresponds best to your own current situation?
(SHOW CARD - READ OUT - ONE ANSWER ONLY)

Married	1
Remarried	2
Unmarried, currently living with partner	3
Unmarried, having never lived with a partner	4
Unmarried, having previously lived with a partner, but now on my own	5
Divorced	6
Separated	7
Widowed	8
Other (SPONTANEOUS)	9
Refusal (SPONTANEOUS)	10

D.8. How old were you when you stopped full-time education? (INT.:IF "STILL STUDYING", CODE '00')

--	--

NO QUESTION D.9.

D.10. Gender.

Male	1
Female	2

D.11. How old are you?

--	--

NO QUESTION D.12. TO D.14.

D.15. a) What is your current occupation?

IF NOT DOING ANY PAID WORK CURRENTLY – CODES 1 TO 4 IN D. 15. a.

b) Did you do any paid work in the past? What was your last occupation?

	D.15.a. CURRENT OCCUPATION	D.15.b. LAST OCCUPATION
NON-ACTIVE		
Responsible for ordinary shopping and looking after the home, or without any current occupation, not working	1	
Student	2	
Unemployed or temporarily not working	3	
Retired or unable to work through illness	4	
SELF EMPLOYED		
Farmer	5	1
Fisherman	6	2
Professional (lawyer, medical practitioner, accountant, architect, etc.)	7	3
Owner of a shop, craftsmen, other self-employed person	8	4
Business proprietors, owner (full or partner) of a company	9	5
EMPLOYED		
Employed professional (employed doctor, lawyer, accountant, architect)	10	6
General management, director or top management (managing directors, director general, other director)	11	7
Middle management, other management (department head, junior manager, teacher, technician)	12	8
Employed position, working mainly at a desk	13	9
Employed position, not at a desk but travelling (salesmen, driver, etc.)	14	10
Employed position, not at a desk, but in a service job (hospital, restaurant, police, fireman, etc.)	15	11
Supervisor	16	12
Skilled manual worker	17	13
Other (unskilled) manual worker, servant	18	14
NEVER DID ANY PAID WORK		15

NO QUESTIONS D.16. TO D.18.

D.19. Are you in your household, the person who contributes most to the household income?
(READ OUT)

Yes 1
No 2
Both equally 3
DK 4

NO QUESTION D.20.**IF "NO", CODE 2 IN D.19.**

- D.21. a) What is the current occupation of the person who contributes most to the household income?

IF "NOT DOING ANY PAID WORK CURRENTLY", CODE 1 TO 4 IN D.21.a.

- b) Did he/she do any paid work in the past? What was his/her last occupation?

	D.21.a. CURRENT OCCUPATION	D.21.b. LAST OCCUPATION
NON-ACTIVE	1	
Responsible for ordinary shopping and looking after the home, or without any current occupation, not working		
Student		
Unemployed or temporarily not working		
Retired or unable to work through illness	4	
SELF EMPLOYED	5	1
Farmer		
Fisherman		2
Professional (lawyer, medical practitioner, accountant, architect, etc.)		3
Owner of a shop, craftsmen, other self-employed person	8	4
Business proprietors, owner (full or partner) of a company	9	5
EMPLOYED	10	6
Employed professional (employed doctor, lawyer, accountant, architect)		
General management, director or top management (managing directors, director general, other director)		7
Middle management, other management (department head, junior manager, teacher, technician)		8
Employed position, working mainly at a desk	13	9
Employed position, not at a desk but travelling (salesmen, driver, etc.)	14	10
Employed position, not at a desk, but in a service job (hospital, restaurant, police, fireman, etc.)	15	11
Supervisor	16	12
Skilled manual worker	17	13
Other (unskilled) manual worker, servant	18	14
NEVER DID ANY PAID WORK		15

NO QUESTIONS D.22. TO D.24.

D.25.	Would you say you live in a...? (READ OUT)	
	rural area or village.....	1
	small or middle sized town	2
	large town	3
	DK	4

NO QUESTIONS D.26. TO D.28.

D.29.	We also need some information about the income of this household to be able to analyse the survey results for different types of households. Here is a list of income groups. (SHOW CARD) Please count the total wages and salaries PER MONTH of all members of this household; all pensions and social insurance benefits; child allowances and any other income like rents, etc...Of course, your answer as all other replies in this interview will be treated confidentially and referring back to you or your household will be impossible. Please give me the letter of the income group your household falls into BEFORE tax and other deductions.	
	B.....	1
	T.....	2
	P.....	3
	F.....	4
	E.....	5
	H.....	6
	L.....	7
	N.....	8
	R.....	9
	M.....	10
	S.....	11
	K.....	12
	Refusal	13
	DK	14

INTERVIEW PROTOCOLE

P.1. - DATE OF INTERVIEW	DAY		MONTH	

P.2. - TIME OF THE BEGINNING OF THE INTERVIEW	HOUR		MINUTES	
(INT.:USE 24 HOUR CLOCK)				

P.3. - NUMBER OF MINUTES THE INTERVIEW LASTED	MINUTES		

- P.4. Number of persons present during the interview, including interviewer.
- Two (interviewer and respondent) 1
- Three 2
- Four 3
- Five or more 4

- P.5. Respondent cooperation
- Excellent 1
- Fair 2
- Average 3
- Bad 4

- P.6. Size of locality (LOCAL CODES)

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- P.7. Region (LOCAL CODES)

--	--

- P.8. Postal code

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

P.9. Sample point number

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

P.10. Interviewer number

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

P.11. Weighting factor

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

P.12. a) Fixed telephone available in the household?

Yes 1

No 2

b) Mobile telephone available in the household?

Yes 1

No 2

EUROBAROMETER - spring 2004

(Between brackets: Change since autumn 2003)

	Membership good thing 1		Benefit from membership 2		Trust in the European Union 3		Trust in the European Commission 4		Support for the euro 5		Support for enlargement 6		Support for a common Foreign policy 7		Support for a common Defence/ Security policy 8		Support for an EU Constitution 9	
EU25	47	(-2)	48	(=)	41	(-1)	48	(+1)	60	(=)	46	(-4)	66	(+2)	74	(+3)	63	(=)
BE	57	(+1)	58	(+1)	49	(+4)	63	(+8)	83	(+2)	38	(-5)	71	(-2)	77	(-3)	72	(+4)
DK	54	(-3)	64	(-3)	41	(+1)	47	(+2)	50	(-2)	59	(-4)	50	(-6)	61	(+1)	37	(-9)
DE	45	(-1)	39	(+2)	35	(=)	39	(-1)	58	(-2)	28	(-10)	74	(+2)	80	(+4)	68	(+5)
EL	71	(+9)	82	(+7)	68	(+3)	63	(+3)	64	(=)	66	(+1)	78	(+3)	80	(+5)	66	(-8)
ES	64	(+2)	69	(+3)	58	(+1)	53	(-2)	74	(+4)	59	(-3)	69	(+3)	74	(=)	70	(+5)
FR	43	(-1)	46	(-2)	42	(+5)	52	(+2)	68	(=)	37	(+3)	66	(+2)	75	(+4)	62	(+2)
IE	71	(-2)	80	(-2)	56	(+3)	61	(=)	83	(+4)	60	(+1)	66	(+5)	60	(+7)	59	(+6)
IT	54	(-4)	49	(=)	54	(-3)	63	(+3)	69	(-1)	55	(-6)	77	(+1)	83	(+2)	78	(+4)
LU	75	(-2)	69	(=)	53	(+1)	66	(+5)	88	(+5)	37	(-8)	77	(-1)	83	(=)	75	(+9)
NL	64	(+2)	55	(+1)	39	(+1)	54	(+2)	58	(-4)	44	(-6)	69	(-2)	77	(+2)	70	(+3)
AT	30	(-5)	38	(-2)	31	(-5)	37	(-5)	68	(+1)	34	(-7)	62	(-3)	57	(-7)	60	(-4)
PT	55	(=)	66	(+1)	60	(-1)	56	(=)	67	(-2)	52	(=)	62	(-3)	68	(=)	57	(+2)
FI	46	(+7)	46	(+6)	40	(+7)	59	(+8)	73	(+3)	48	(-5)	55	(+3)	57	(+6)	52	(+3)
SE	37	(-3)	27	(-4)	29	(+1)	48	(+4)	45	(+4)	54	(=)	49	(+1)	55	(+6)	53	(-10)
UK	29	(+1)	30	(=)	19	(-1)	26	(=)	26	(+3)	31	(-7)	39	(+4)	52	(+4)	42	(-6)
EU15	48	(=)	47	(+1)	41	(=)	47	(+1)	60	(+1)	42	(-5)	65	(+1)	72	(+2)	63	(+1)
CZ	41	(-3)	46	(-3)	42	(-1)	35	(=)	56	(=)	63	(-1)	57	(=)	78	(-1)	48	(-9)
EE	31	(-7)	41	(-4)	39	(+1)	44	(+7)	46	(=)	58	(+2)	62	(+1)	77	(+1)	54	(-10)
CY	42	(-17)	56	(-15)	57	(-8)	49	(-5)	65	(+7)	80	(+5)	81	(=)	91	(+4)	69	(-4)
LV	33	(-13)	49	(-9)	39	(-6)	32	(-11)	55	(+3)	67	(-2)	67	(-1)	77	(-3)	57	(-16)
LT	52	(-3)	57	(-6)	50	(+3)	45	(+8)	63	(+7)	67	(+5)	61	(-1)	70	(-5)	52	(-5)
HU	45	(-11)	58	(-4)	54	(-2)	58	(+3)	63	(+2)	74	(+7)	70	(+7)	82	(+3)	75	(+13)
MT	50	(-5)	57	(-3)	50	(-3)	50	(-2)	46	(-2)	68	(=)	50	(+5)	54	(+3)	59	(-3)
PL	42	(-10)	50	(-6)	33	(-7)	49	(+2)	59	(+3)	72	(-2)	70	(+4)	79	(+6)	65	(-11)
SK	46	(-12)	57	(-8)	47	(-4)	54	(+1)	68	(-3)	80	(+1)	74	(-2)	82	(-1)	65	(-5)
SI	40	(-10)	64	(-8)	47	(+2)	52	(+8)	82	(+1)	79	(+1)	76	(+2)	78	(+2)	68	(=)
NMS10	43	(-9)	52	(-5)	40	(-4)	48	(+2)	60	(+2)	71	(=)	68	(+3)	79	(+3)	63	(-7)

1. **Membership good thing:**

Generally speaking, do you think that (our country's) membership of the European Union is (*AC10*: will be – *previously* would be)...?
(A good thing / A bad thing / Neither good nor bad)
[% A good thing]

2. **Benefit from membership:**

Taking everything into consideration, would you say that (our country) has on balance benefited or not (*AC10*: will benefit – *previously* could benefit) from being a member of the European Union?
[% Benefited]

3. **Trust in the European Union:**

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]

4. **Trust in the European Commission:**

And for each of [the following European institutions], please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it? - The European Commission
[% Tend to trust]

5. **Support for the euro:**

What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell me for each proposal, whether you are for it or against it.
« A European monetary union with one single currency, the euro »
[% For]

6. **Support for enlargement:**

What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell me for each proposal, whether you are for it or against it.
« The enlargement of the European Union to include ten new countries this May »
[% For]
(*Previously* « The enlargement of the European Union to include new countries »)

7. **Support for a common foreign policy:**

What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell me for each proposal, whether you are for it or against it.
« One common foreign policy among the Member States of the European Union, towards other countries »
[% For]

8. **Support for a common defence/security policy:**

What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell me for each proposal, whether you are for it or against it.
« A common defence and security policy among the European Union member states »
[% For]

9. **Support for an EU Constitution:**

What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell me for each proposal, whether you are for it or against it.
« A constitution for the European Union »
[% For]
(*Previously* Do you think that the European Union should or should not have a Constitution? [% Should])