

EUROBAROMETER 66

PUBLIC OPINION IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

AUTUMN 2006

NATIONAL REPORT

MALTA

This survey was requested and coordinated by Directorate-General Communication.

This report was produced for the European Commission's Representation in Malta.

This document does not represent the point of view of the European Commission.
The interpretations and opinions contained in it are solely those of the authors.

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Introduction

This report examines the results of the public opinion survey held in Malta as part of wave 66 of the Standard Eurobarometer. The survey was carried out between the 7th of September and the 4th October of 2006. A summary of the most important results in Maltese is presented first. An executive summary is also available in English. The country report in English follows.

Sommarju Eżekuttiv

Dan ir-rapport jeżamina r-riżultati ta' l-istħarriġ dwar l-opinjoni pubblika li sar f'Malta bħala parti mill-Ewrobarometru 66 bejn Settembru u Ottubru 2006.

1. L-Opinjoni Kurrenti

Opinjoni ġenerali

Skond dan l-istħarriġ, hafna mill-Maltin irrappurtaw li huma sodisfatti bil-livell ta' għajxien li qeghdin jgħixu, dan komparabbli ma' dak irrappurtat fost iċ-ċittadini Ewropej. Fil-fatt, il-persentaġġ ta' dawk li qalu li huma sodisfatti bil-ħajja li qeghdin jgħixu huwa ta' 82%, fejn anke jidher li l-livell ta' edukazzjoni tal-persuna intervistata għandu impatt sinifikanti fuq il-livell ta' ħajja kif irrappurtat.

Jidher li hemm bilanċ ta' opinjoni bejn il-Maltin fuq kif inhum sejr in l-affarijiet b'mod ġenerali fil-pajjiż: 33% jaħsbu li l-affarijiet sejr in fid-direzzjoni t-tajba; 35% jaħsbu li mhux sejr in tajje; waqt li dawk li huma newtrali, jew ma jafux, jirrappreżentaw 25% u 7% tal-popolazzjoni, rispettivament.

Però stampa iktar ċara toħroġ meta dawk intervistati kienu mitlubin jagħtu l-opinjoni tagħhom f'oqsma speċifiċi. Meta mistoqsija fuq l-ekonomija Maltija, maġġoranza ta' 62% jammettu li s-sitwazzjoni hi ħażina. Dan jindika 14-il punt perċentwali inqas komparat ma' l-istħarriġ li sar fir-rebbieġha ta' din is-sena.

Għalkemm hemm tnaqqis sostanzjali, persentaġġ ta' 69% li jgħidu li s-sitwazzjoni fis-suq tax-xogħol hi ħażina hu xorta għoli. Dawk li jgħidu li l-istat ambjentali tal-pajjiż hu ħażin jirrappreżentaw 59%, figura li hi t-tieni l-iktar għolja fl-Unjoni Ewropea (UE).

Terz tal-Maltin jaħsbu li ħajjithom ser titjieb fit-tmax-il xahar li ġejjin, waqt li 14% jaħsbu li sejra għall-aġġar. 46% jaħsbu li ħajjithom ser tibqa' xi ftit jew wisq l-istess u 8% ma jafux. Jidher li għad hemm ċertu pessimizmu fost il-Maltin f'dak li jirrigwardja l-ekonomija u x-xogħol: 22% jaħsbu li l-ekonomija ser titjieb fit-tmax-il xahar li ġejjin filwaqt li 31% jaħsbu li sejra ħażin.

Opinjoni dwar l-Unjoni Ewropea u l-ewro

L-opinjoni pubblika f'Malta baqgħet favur is-shubija ta' Malta fl-UE b'45% jgħidu li hi tajba, waqt li dawk kontra niżlu għal 15%. Fuq l-istess tema, 58% qalu li gawdew il-benefiċċji li toffri shubija fl-UE imma 28% qalu li ntlaqtu hażin.

Dawk li jaqblu (55%) li Malta għandha tipparteċipa fl-Unjoni Monetarja Ewropea – bl-ewro bħala l-munita unika – huma f'maġġoranza, b'kuntrast mat-30% kontra din l-idea. Dan ifisser li kien hemm żieda ta' 7 punti perċentwali wara l-istħarriġ tar-rebbiegħa.

Fiduċja fl-istituzzjonijiet

Il-fiduċja fil-gvern Malti baqgħet f'livelli baxxi hekk kif 43% biss ta' dawk intervistati wrew il-fiduċja tagħhom fil-gvern, għalkemm din żdiedet minn 38% mill-aħħar stħarriġ. L-ikbar persentaġġ (84%) ġej minn dawk li jikkunsidraw il-fehma politika tagħhom bħala leminija, b'kuntrast mas-17% li huma fuq ix-xellug politiku. 42% ta' dawk li huma fiċ-ċentru politiku esprimew il-fiduċja tagħhom fil-gvern.

Indikatur ta' ċertu apatija politika fost il-Maltin hu l-fatt li 26% biss tal-popolazzjoni għandha fiduċja fil-partiti politiċi skond dan l-istħarriġ.

Prijoritajiet u sfidi ewlenin tal-pajjiż

L-immigrazzjoni hi l-ikbar sfida preżenti għall-pajjiż hekk kif giet l-ewwel minn lista ta' prijoritajiet. Dan johroġ mill-fatt li kważi nofs (45%) il-popolazzjoni Maltija qablu ma' dan fi żmien fejn aħbarijiet dwar immigrazzjoni illegali lejn Malta matul is-sajf kienu friski fost il-pubbliku Malti. (Dan l-istħarriġ sar f'Settembru u Ottubru). Dan jikkuntrasta mad-19% li qalu hekk fir-rebbiegħa li għaddiet.

Iż-żieda fil-prezzijiet hu t-tieni fattur l-iktar importanti bi 28% tal-Maltin jaħsbu li hu l-isfida ewlenija. Hekk ukoll dwar il-qgħad (27%) u s-sitwazzjoni ekonomika tal-pajjiż (23%).

2. L-Ekonomija Ewropea, Xogħol u Globalizzazzjoni

L-opinjoni ġenerali tal-Maltin hi favur is-suq ta' l-UE. Żewġ terzi jaqblu li ż-żieda fil-kompetizzjoni bħala riżultat ta' dan għandha effett tajjeb. Nofs dawk intervistati anke jaqblu li f'dawn l-aħħar għaxar snin is-suq komuni wassal biex tiżdied il-kompetittività internazzjonali tal-kumpaniji Maltin. Però, anke kunsiderabbli hu l-51% ta' dawk li qalu li shubija fl-UE kellha effett hażin fuq l-impjiegi.

Meta ġew mitluba jgħidu liema fatturi għandhom jiġu kkonsidrati bħala dawk determinanti biex titjieb l-ekonomija Ewropea, 59% jaqblu li l-edukazzjoni u t-taħriġ huma kruċjali. Ukoll dwar l-użu effiċjenti ta' l-enerġija (50%), liema figura hi sostanzjalment oġhla minn dik tal-medja Ewropea (36%). Għalhekk jidher li l-problemi riċenti minhabba l-prezzijiet taż-żejt kellhom effett ikbar fuq Malta tant li l-

Maltin jaħsbu li l-użu effiċjenti ta' l-enerġija fl-UE għandu jingħata importanza akbar minn investiment f'kumpaniji ġodda u riċerka.

Dawk li jaqblu li l-globalizzazzjoni għandha effetti tajbin fuq il-kumpaniji Maltin jirrappreżentaw 47% tal-popolazzjoni waqt li dawk li jibżgħu mit-telf ta' xogħol u għeluq ta' kumpaniji huma 26%. Però, 39% jaħsbu li l-globalizzazzjoni kellha effett hażin fuq l-impjiegi f'Malta, waqt li 32% biss jaħsbu li kellha effett tajjeb.

3. Unjoni Politika Ewropea

Fil-maġġoranza (63%) tiegħu, il-pubbliku Malti hu favur unjoni politika aktar magħquda. Sittin fil-mija huma favur ta' kostituzzjoni għall-UE – li jemmnu li tgħin l-UE issir aktar demokratika, effiċjenti u importanti fix-xena mondjali – u anke aktar imdaqqa hu l-proporzjon (64%) ta' dawk li jaqblu ma' politika ta' difiża u sigurtà komuni. Dan is-sapport jista' possibbilment jiġi attribwit għall-fatt li l-partiti politiċi prinċipali qablu fuq il-kostituzzjoni Ewropea u anke minħabba l-problema ta' l-immigrazzjoni illegali li tirrikjedi impenn politiku dejjem jizdied mill-UE.

Jidher li hemm ftehim ġenerali bejn l-Ewropej li deċiżjonijiet fuq is-sistemi tat-taxxi, qgħad, pensjonijiet, edukazzjoni, u saħħa jithallew għar-responsabbiltà tal-gvernijiet nazzjonali. Min-naħa l-oħra, oqsma bħal trazzin ta' kriminalità u terroriżmu, difiża, immigrazzjoni, u protezzjoni ta' l-ambjent aħjar jiġu solvuti fuq livell supra-nazzjonali/Ewropew.

58% tal-Maltin jaqblu li l-immigrazzjoni illegali mhux biss għandha tkun l-ewwel prijetà nazzjonali, imma anke dik ta' l-UE. Nofs il-Maltin jaħsbu li l-qgħad u l-faqar għandhom ikunu prijetajiet oħra għall-UE.

4. Tkabbir ta' l-UE

Minbarra t-Turkija, il-Maltin huma ġeneralment favur li l-pajjiżi kollha li huma msemmija fl-istħarriġ jidhlu fl-UE. 46% huma kontra li t-Turkija tissieheb fl-UE, dan ikkomparat ma' 30% biss favur. Żewġ terzi tal-poplu jaraw id-differenzi fil-kulturi bħala raġuni primarja għaliex it-Turkija m'għandhiex tiffirma parti mill-UE.

5. Il-Valuri taċ-Ċittadini Ewropej

Nofs il-Maltin jemmnu li l-vuċi tagħhom tinstema' fl-UE, però 75% qalu li ma jhossuhomx involuti biżżejjed fl-affarijiet Ewropej. Nofs dawk intervistati qalu li ma jafux biżżejjed dwar kif l-UE taħdem.

Valuri jew prinċipji relattivament sodi li jhaddan il-poplu Malti huma: ugwaljanza u gustizzja (71% jaqblu li dawn għandhom jissahħu fis-soċjetà), bżonn ta' kastigi aktar ħorox fuq kriminalità (81%), kif ukoll oppożizzjoni qawwija kontra l-legalizzazzjoni ta' l-użu personali tal-kannabis (77%).

18% biss huma dawk li jaqblu maż-żwieġ bejn l-omosesswali, waqt li 85% ma jaqblux ma' l-awtorizzazzjoni ta' adottar ta' tfal minn persuni omosesswali. Anke sinifikanti huwa l-persentaġġ (68%) li ma jaqblux li l-immigranti jikkontribwixxu b'mod pożittiv għal Malta. Dawk il-Maltin li jgħidu li r-religjon fis-soċjetà hija importanti wisq jiffurmaw 70%.

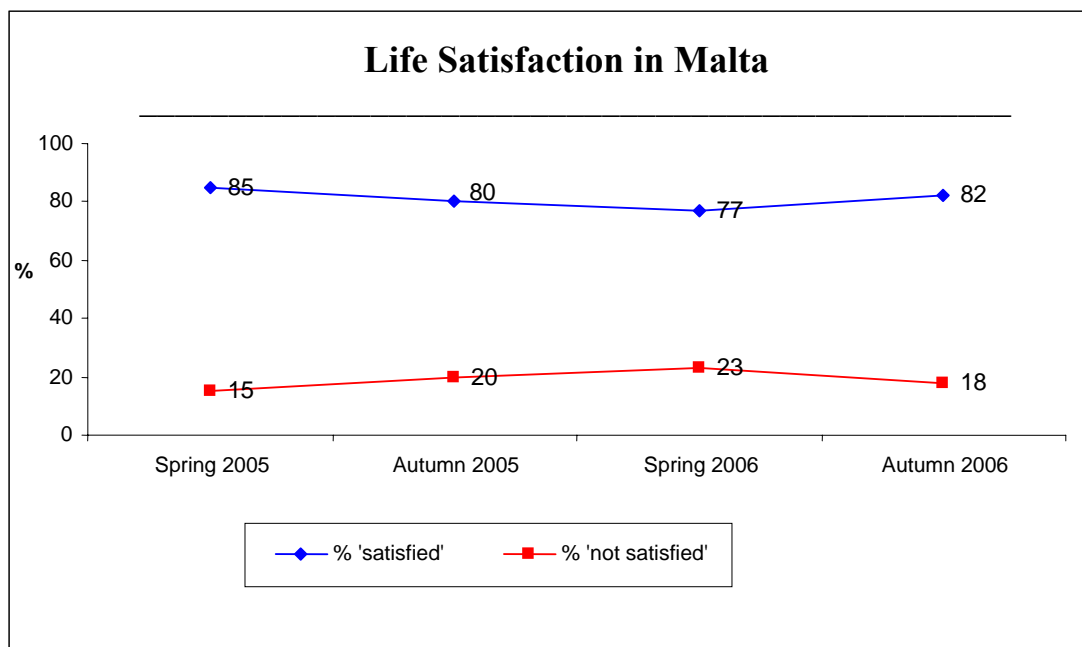
Numru qawwi ta' Maltin (77%) jaqblu li l-protezzjoni ta' l-ambjent għandha tkun ta' prijorità għal Malta, anke jekk dan jaffettwa t-tkabbir ekonomiku tal-pajjiż. Din l-opinjoni harget fi żmien fejn l-ispazju allokat għall-iżvilupp ta' art Maltija ġie estiż.

1. State of opinion

1.1 Life satisfaction¹

The level of life satisfaction as reported by the citizens across the 25 EU² Member States seems to have remained stable over the last years with 82% of the representative population saying that they are satisfied with the life they lead. This is the same figure as that reported in Malta (82%) and it represents a slight reversal of the downward trend in life satisfaction reported in the past two years.

The percentage of the Maltese population reporting that they are very satisfied with their lifestyle is 26%, while 56% are fairly satisfied. 14% answered that they are not very satisfied while only 4% said that they are not at all satisfied.



¹ Different rounding methods have been adopted for the EU graphs and the volumes, as a result the figures shown may differ by a point with the sum of individual cells

² European Union

Education seems to be playing a significant role in the determination of the level of life satisfaction among the Maltese. In fact, 98% of the most educated³ said that they are satisfied. This represents a 30-point difference compared to the least educated⁴ (68%). Males are slightly more satisfied than females (85% compared to 79%) while those in the 15 to 24 and 25 to 39 age cohorts are the most satisfied (at 90% and 92%, respectively) relative to other age groups.

1.2 General feelings and expectations

Participants in the survey were asked to give their opinion on how things are going in their country and in the European Union at the present time. A considerable and increasing number of Europeans⁵ (48%, from 43% in spring of this year) think that things are going in the wrong direction in their country, while only 28% say that things are going in the right direction. The highest level of pessimism comes from France (61%), Hungary (61%) and Poland (60%).

When asked about their opinion regarding the current state of affairs in the EU, 33% of European citizens think that things are going in the right direction, the same percentage as those who think otherwise. Likewise, 34% of the Maltese think that things in the EU are going in the right direction, while 23% say the contrary.

There is a balanced opinion among the Maltese on the direction the country is taking. 33% think that things are going in the right direction, but 35% think otherwise. This balanced view may be a reflection of the polarised political opinion among the Maltese. Yet, the relatively significant share of those who are either neutral in this respect (25%) or do not know (7%), may suggest a declining interest in the local political scene.

A clearer picture emerges when respondents are asked to judge the current situation in specific areas. Across the EU, there is a wide variation in opinion about the current state of the respective local economies. This ranges from the 96% and 91% of the Danish and the Irish, to the low 11% and 12% in Hungary and Portugal, respectively, of those who think that their economy is good. These figures suggest that there are still huge differences in the state of the economies in the EU irrespective of whether the countries are in the euro-zone or not.

The majority of the Maltese (62%) admit that their local economy is in a bad situation. However, this represents a 14-percentage point drop compared to spring of 2005. More specifically: 2% say it is very good; 32% say it is rather good; 49% say it is rather bad; 14% say it is very bad, and 4% replied that they do not know. Several factors could be behind the negative sentiment about the local economy. These may include the decline in tourism activity and the restructuring taking place in the manufacturing sector.

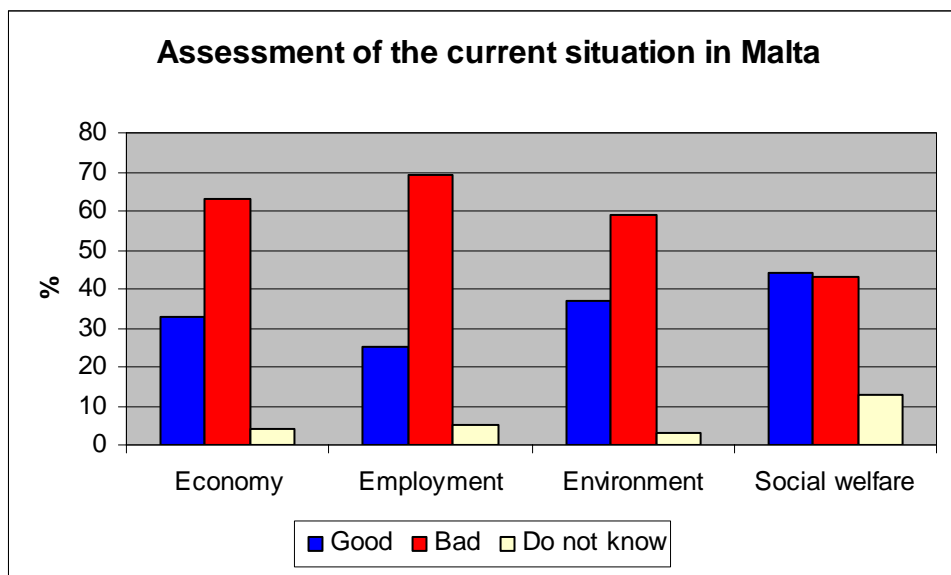
³ 'the most educated' refers to those who have been educated until age 20 and beyond

⁴ 'least educated' refers to those who have been educated until age 15 or less

⁵ The word refers only to EU citizens

A more pessimistic opinion among the Maltese about the employment situation emerges as 69% think it is bad compared to 25% who think it is good. However, the negative sentiment decreased notably from 79% in spring of 2005.

Another concern of the local population is the state of their environment which the majority think is in a bad situation. 59% of Maltese respondents share this opinion compared to 41% among the EU counterparts. In fact, the figure for Malta is the second highest in the EU after that for Hungary. This negative opinion among the Maltese about their environment may reflect a concern about construction activity taking place in the country.



In relation to the social welfare situation in Malta, 44% agree that it is good but an almost equal share (43%) think that it is bad. However, compared to spring of 2005 - when those who agreed represented 50% of those polled – it is evident that the overall positive perception about social welfare is declining. Among the unemployed, those who say that the social welfare situation is bad (61%) is almost three times as much as those who say it is good. Also, a stronger negative impression is forthcoming from those in the 25 to 39 (44%) and 40 to 54 (55%) age cohorts.

Respondents in the Member States were also asked about their expectations for the next twelve months in several areas. When asked about their life expectations in general, 34% said that it will be better while 12% said it will be worse. When asked about their expectations for the economic situation in their country, 20% expect it to improve, 35% expect it to get worse while 40% expect it to remain the same. At 50%, the Netherlands and Estonia have the highest percentages of those who think that their economy will get better.

When asked about their life expectations, a third of the Maltese said that they will get better, 14% said that they will get worse, 46% expect it to remain the same while 8% do not know. There is not much change in this regard compared to the last survey.

As expected, there is a very close relationship between short-term expectations of the economic situation and the employment situation in Malta as shown in the table

below. On the whole, pessimism remains on the economic and employment situation but the mood is slightly improving compared to the spring survey. 22% think that the economic situation will improve (23% in the last survey) which is less than the 31% (40%) who think that it will get worse. Those who think that it will remain the same represent 32% (22%) of the respondents and those who do not know just 15% (stayed the same).

At a personal level, the share of those who expect their job situation to remain the same for the next 12 months registered a substantial increase of a 39-point difference to 60%, from 21% in the last survey. On the other hand, those who do not know decreased to 23%, from 64%. Still, only 10% think that their situation will get better, compared to 17% and 22% among the new Member States and the euro-zone Member States, respectively. These figures could be capturing a reduction in uncertainty in the local job market during the survey period, but overall it is evident that there is a lack of optimism about the potential improvement in the conditions of employment.

To an extent, this is reflected in the responses of households to the question about their financial expectations. In fact, those who think that their situation will get worse stand at 21%. Maltese respondents who think that their financial situation will get better stand at only 17% which is lower than the 23% among the new Member States. At the same time, the majority (57%) of the Maltese population expect the financial situation of their household to remain the same.

Expectations for the next twelve months (figures represent percentages)

<i>Life in general</i>	<i>Better</i>	<i>Worse</i>	<i>Same</i>	<i>DK</i>
Autumn 2006	33	14	46	8
Spring 2006	33	13	40	13

<i>Economic situation in Malta</i>	<i>Better</i>	<i>Worse</i>	<i>Same</i>	<i>DK</i>
Autumn 2006	22	31	32	15
Spring 2006	23	40	22	15

<i>Financial situation of your household</i>	<i>Better</i>	<i>Worse</i>	<i>Same</i>	<i>DK</i>
Autumn 2006	17	21	57	5
Spring 2006	16	22	56	6

<i>Employment situation in Malta</i>	<i>Better</i>	<i>Worse</i>	<i>Same</i>	<i>DK</i>
Autumn 2006	22	33	34	11
Spring 2006	20	42	26	12

<i>Your personal job situation</i>	<i>Better</i>	<i>Worse</i>	<i>Same</i>	<i>DK</i>
Autumn 2006	10	8	60	23
Spring 2006	8	6	21	64

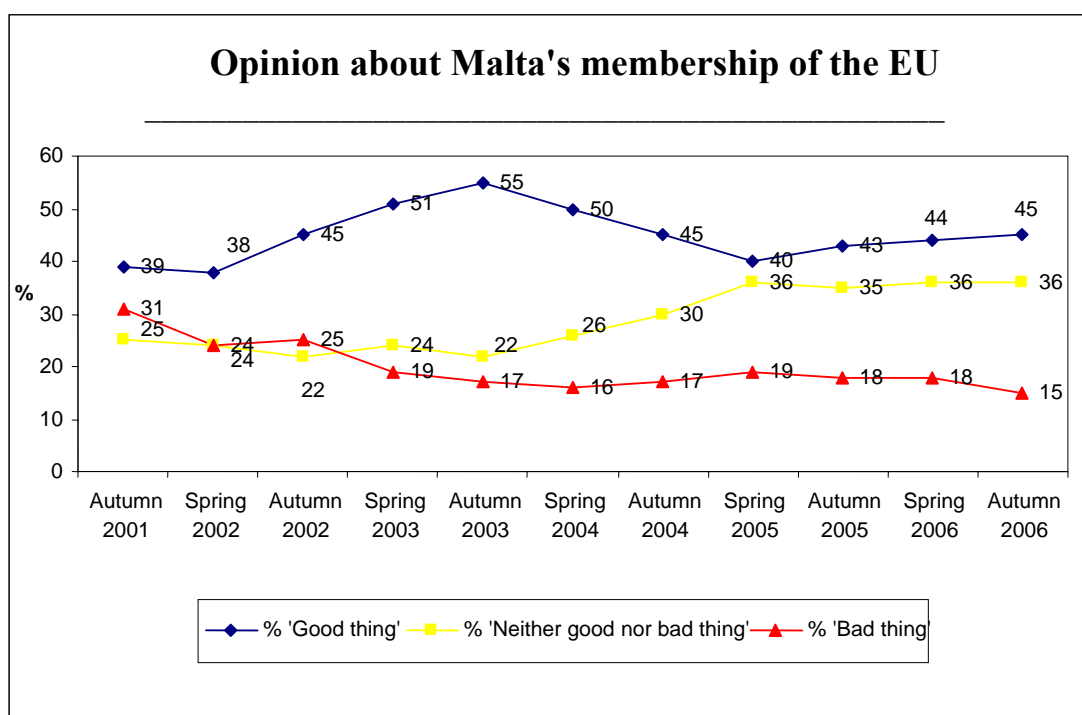
1.3 Opinion about the European Union

Support for EU membership remained positive among Europeans although this declined slightly to 53%. However, this figure masks the varying level of support among the Member States. The countries that reported the lowest support levels are the United Kingdom (31%), Finland (23%), Austria (23%), and Hungary (19%). To the contrary, over 70% of the population of Ireland, Luxembourg, and the Netherlands say that their country's membership of the European Union is a good thing.

On the whole, the Maltese appear to have remained in favour of Malta's membership of the EU with 45% saying that it is a good thing. This represents another marginal increase of a percentage point over the results of the spring survey while those who think that it is a bad thing fell to 15% from 18%. Those who expressed a neutral opinion remained at 36%.

At 52%, males are predominantly in favour of Malta's EU membership. A high percentage of females (41%) think that it is neither good nor bad, while only 38% think it is a good thing.

Taking the age factor into consideration, 55% of those aged 55 years and older think that EU membership is a good thing while the weakest support comes from those in the age group between 40 and 54 years old (37%). Arguably, this could be linked to the fact that people in this age bracket tend to be the ones most affected by economic reforms attributed to Malta's membership of the EU.

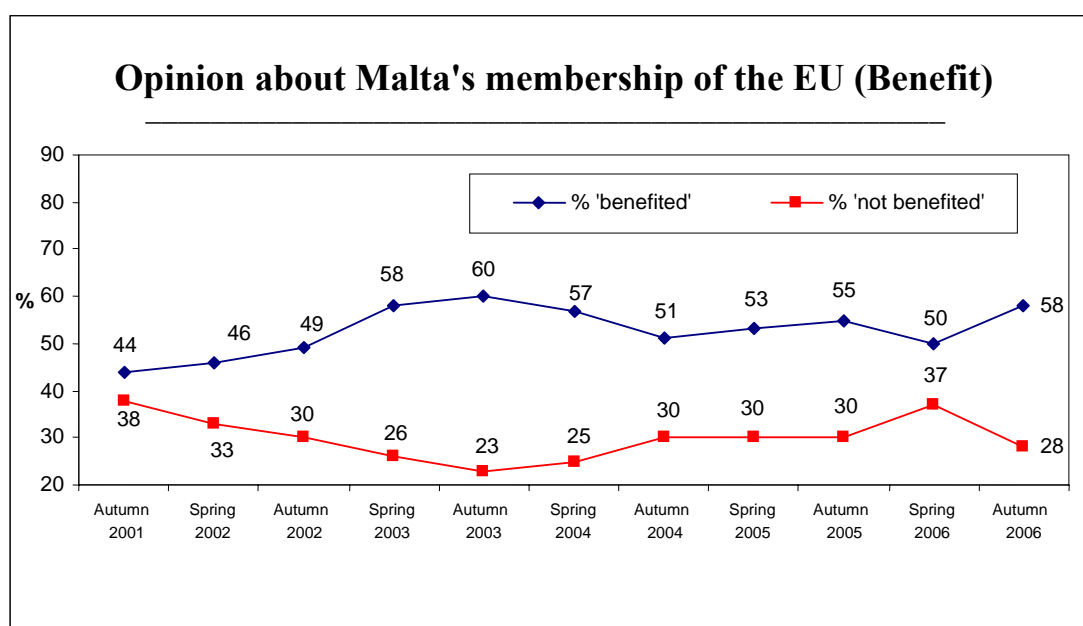


Those Maltese who are in favour (55%) of a European Monetary Union - with the euro as a single currency - exceed those against (30%) by a 20-percentage point difference, while those without an opinion stand at 16%. Those in favour of the euro increased substantially from 47% in spring of this year. This indicates that the

Maltese are in principle in favour of adopting the European currency, an issue which has not been subject to much political controversy unlike the issue of Malta's EU accession. On a European level, a majority is in favour (60%), with the euro-zone countries appearing to be more convinced (68%) than the new Member States (57%).

When asked whether they think that Malta has benefited or not from being an EU member, 58% responded positively, 28% think to the contrary, and 15% said that they do not know. The percentages of those who agree that Malta benefited from membership vary according to the different occupation scales. 83% of the self-employed agree that Malta benefited from membership as do 73% of those on the managerial scale. 46% of manual workers say they have benefited and 46% of the unemployed (at a minority compared to those who disagree at 50%) likewise. 68% of the retired and 68% of the student population also benefited from membership.

Although there seems to be an increasing overall positive feeling, these figures compare with 67%, 22%, and 10%, respectively in the 10 new Member States. Malta has a higher approval rating than Hungary (41%) and the Republic of Cyprus (46%).



The respondents were asked to state whether, in general, the EU conjures up a positive or negative image. Of the Maltese polled: 11% say it conjures up a very positive image; 35% fairly positive; 34% are neutral; 10% fairly negative; 4% very negative; and 5% say they do not know. The total figure for those who have a positive image of the EU (46%) remained the same as in spring of this year and is equal to the EU average.

The overwhelming majority of the Maltese (79%) think that the EU plays a positive role in the protection of the environment. In fact, this is the second highest percentage among all EU Member States. The EU is frequently portrayed as an impartial and environmentally conscious institution in local media.

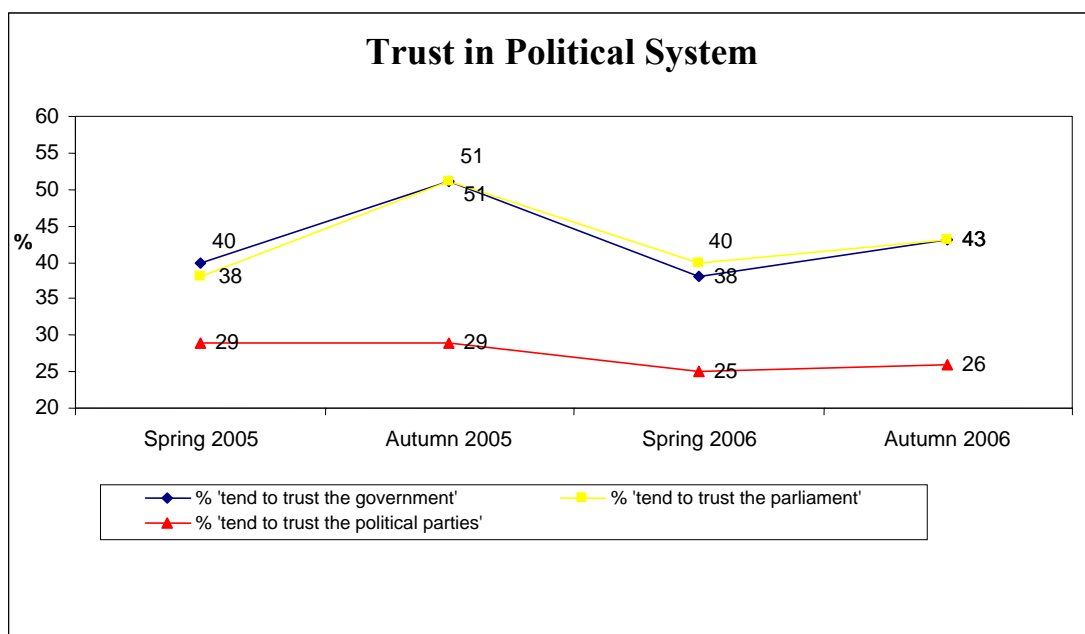
Almost two-thirds of the Maltese population holds a positive opinion of the EU's role in contributing to peace in the world. This contrasts with only 34% of the Maltese respondents who said that the United States tends to play a positive role in relation to world peace.

1.4 Trust in institutions

Trust in the Maltese government remained at 43% of the respondents but up from 38% in spring of this year. As expected, there is a huge difference between the levels of trust depending on the political opinion of the respondents since such a question reflects the polarised view of the Maltese. The tendency to trust the government stands at a high 84% among those who consider themselves to be on the right of the political spectrum. This figure stands in direct contrast with the 17% of those on the left who expressed their trust. It is 42% among those on the centre who say they trust the government. The level of education does not seem to provide any indicative bias, but bigger households (more than four persons in the household) have less trust in government (38%).

At 43%, respondents' trust in parliament tends to mirror trust in government.

The share of those who trust political parties continues to be low at just 26%. The figure is lowest (13%) among those who are on the centre of the political spectrum. These figures may be indicative of an element of political disaffection among the general public which could suggest a growing 'floating voter' base.

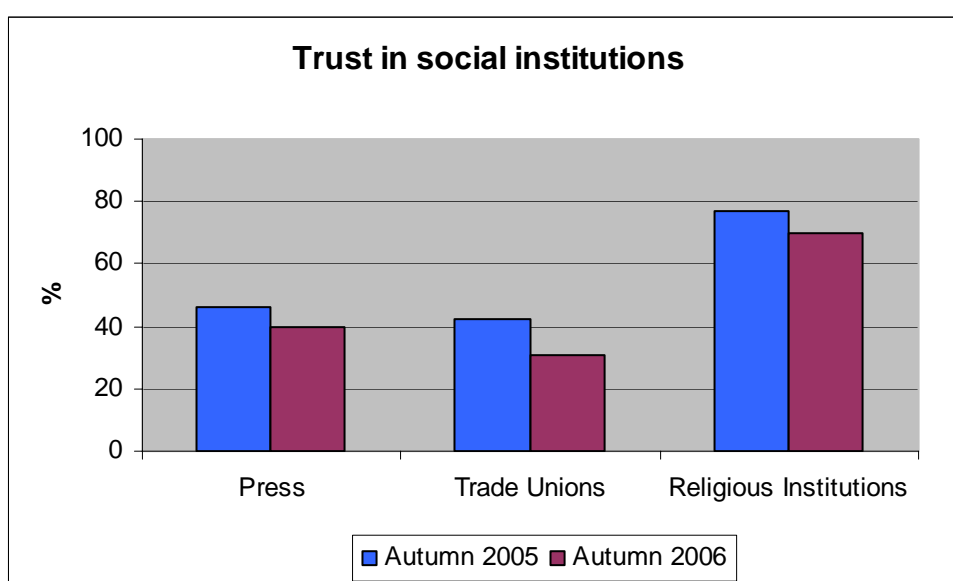


Trust in the social institutions seems to be diminishing if one looks at the yearly trend. However, the level of trust varies between these institutions. A significant proportion

of the Maltese (70%) still hold a high level of trust in religious institutions compared to the 44% in the EU as a whole.

Trust in the press declined from 46% to 40%. At 49%, trust in the press is highest by those who described themselves as being on the right of the political spectrum, compared to 38% and 39% among those on the centre and left, respectively. 50% trust the radio as a medium while 53% trust the television. On the other hand, only 36% of Maltese respondents tend to trust internet sources.

A significant drop - from 42% to 31% - in the share of those who trust trade unions was registered in the autumn survey. Divisions within a leading trade union in Malta could have been a factor behind this trend. The effects of competitive pressures on those industry sectors which traditionally had strong trade union attachment could also be a contributing factor to this decline in trust.



Only 45% of the Maltese tend to trust the Maltese justice and the legal system. A higher proportion (72%) tends to trust the police and an even higher proportion (77%) trust the army.

Maltese respondents (55%) who tend to trust the EU are proportionally higher than the EU average (45%). Trust in the EU is highest in Slovenia (70%) and Greece (65%). On the other hand, trust in the EU is lowest among the British, at only 26%.

Trust in the United Nations remained almost the same at 62% of the Maltese while only 15% say they do not trust the organisation. On the other hand, the share of those Europeans who trust the UN decreased, with only half expressing their trust.

1.5 Important issues facing the country

In the autumn survey, participants were asked to list the two most important issues facing their country at the moment. The main worries among EU citizens are of an economic nature but immigration is increasingly becoming a central issue.

In the EU, unemployment remains the biggest concern. At 40%, this means a decrease of 9 percentage points compared to the last survey. The economic situation and crime follow in importance both at 23%. Immigration is deemed to be one of the most important issues by 21% of the EU population, up from 14%.

For the first time, the issue of immigration ranked first in priority among the most important issues facing the country. Close to half of the local population (45%) puts it as a top priority concern for Malta. This contrasts with the 19% figure in spring of this year. It must be noted that this survey was held in September and October when news of frequent landings of irregular immigrants during summer was still fresh in people's minds.

The increasing energy costs in recent months could have been the determinant behind the high concern (28%) among the Maltese with rising prices. Unemployment (27%) and the economic situation (23%) are the third and fourth most important issues, respectively. Concern about crime increased while that about taxation remained at similar levels.

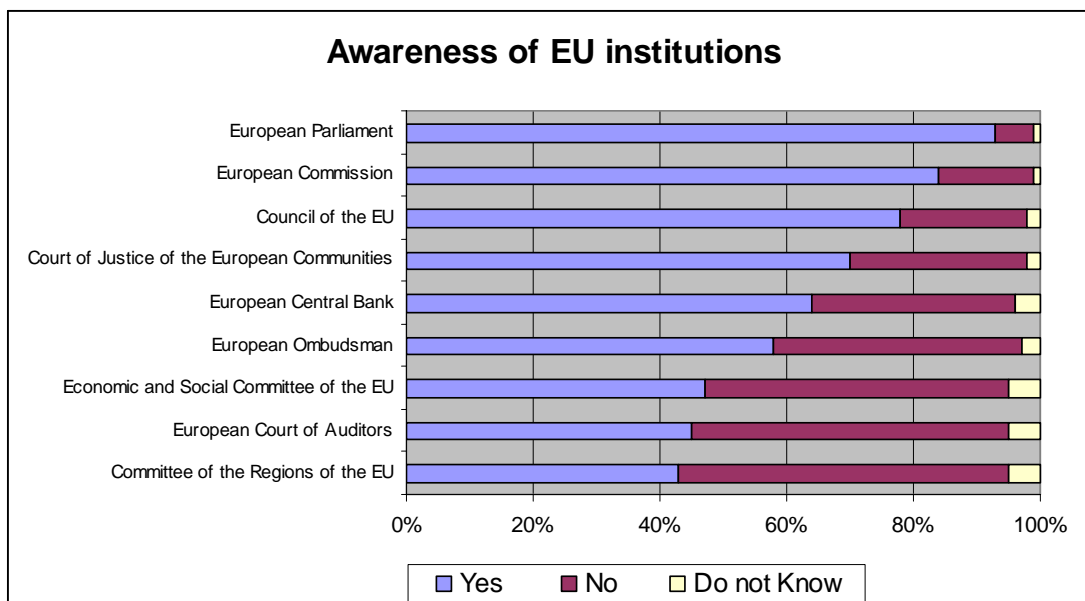
Most important issues facing the country at the moment						
Issues	AUTUMN 2006				SPRING 2006	
	Rank in Malta	Malta %	Rank in EU-25	EU-25 %	Rank in Malta	Malta %
Immigration	1	45	4	21	4	19
Rising prices / Inflation	2	28	5	16	2	31
Unemployment	3	27	1	40	1	41
Economic situation	4	23	2	23	3	31
Crime	5	15	2	23	7	9
Taxation	6	13	8	7	6	12

1.6 Knowledge of the European Union

Participants were asked several questions about their general knowledge and interest on the European Union. When asked to state on a scale of 1 to 10 (10 meaning knowing a great deal) the extent of their self-perceived knowledge of the EU, its policies, and institutions, Maltese respondents gave an average of 4.4. The average expressed by the European counterpart stands at 4.2.

The most well known EU institution among the Maltese is the European Parliament with 93% saying they have heard of it. This percentage is slightly higher than the EU average which stands at 90%. The popularity of this institution is understandable given that the European parliamentary elections are held with high profile

campaigning generating high interest amongst the public. The European Commission (83%) and the Council of the European Union (78%) follow in popularity.



The majority of Maltese respondents say that it is easy to find information about the European Union, its policies and its institutions. Those who said they find it very easy and fairly easy stand at 20% and 39%, respectively. 12% said they find it fairly difficult and only 4% said they find it very difficult.

When asked if they were looking for information about the EU, its policies and its institutions: 6% often looked for information; 26% sometimes; 27% rarely; and 41% never. This is, more or less, the same active interest shown in EU affairs as the European average response.

One-fourth of the Maltese admit that they do not know on which area most of the EU budget is spent on. 18% think that most of the EU budget goes to finance administrative, personnel and building costs. Then, 17% think that the highest spending goes on regional aid, 15% on social and employment affairs, 9% on foreign policy and aid to countries outside the EU, 8% on agriculture, and 4% on scientific research.

2. The European Economy, Employment and Globalisation

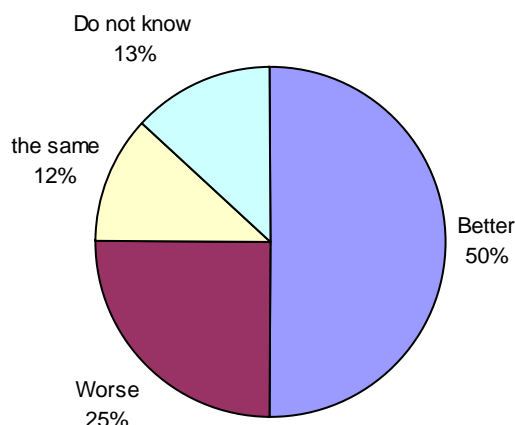
2.1 Economic effects of EU membership

Interviewees in the member states were asked to state if, in their opinion, the increased competition in a number of domains due to the single market, has a positive or negative effect. 61% of the respondents say it has a positive effect, 18% say it has a negative effect and 11% do not know. The French are the most sceptical of this increased competition, with only 49% saying it has a positive effect. Support for the single market is higher in the new Member States (74%) than in the former EU-15 (58%).

Likewise among the Maltese, the general opinion is in favour of the single market. Two-thirds think that increased competition has a positive effect. Only 9% express a negative opinion, while 9% are neutral and 16% do not know.

The interviewees were also asked to compare the situation of the companies in their countries with that of ten years ago and state whether the single market has actually increased their international competitiveness. Half of the Maltese respondents agree, 25% think that Maltese companies are less competitive, 12% and 13% think that it stayed the same or they do not know, respectively.

Compared to 10 years ago, do you think that due to the single market, the international competitiveness of Maltese companies is now better, worse or the same?



Respondents were asked to state what they think is the effect of being in the EU on the economy, standard of living and employment. Starting with the general opinions about the effect on the local economy, half of the Maltese say it has a good effect whereas 39% say it has a bad effect. Even higher is the percentage (57%) of those saying that being a member meant a positive overall effect on the standard of living.

In contrast with the positive perceptions about the effects of the single market, the pre-dominant opinion in Malta is that EU membership was not good for employment. 51% say it had a bad effect while only 35% say it had a good effect. However, those who think that it had a bad effect declined from 60% a year ago. Again, this reflects uneasiness in the local labour market and may also explain why unemployment was mentioned as one of the most important issues facing the country.

When asked about the effect of EU membership on agriculture, 56% say it has a good effect up from 43% a year ago. Those who say it has a negative effect decreased to 24% from 39%.

2.2 Performance of the European economy

There is a general agreement among member states that education and professional training are the key to improve the performance of the European economy. Investment in research and development, and the facilitation of the creation of the new companies are believed to be likewise crucial. At the same time, increasing the legal number of working hours is bottom of the list when compared to other priorities.

Only 5% of the Maltese think that increases in the legal working limit should be a priority at all. This may be on the low side considering the Maltese government's stand against the restriction of working hours.

Like their European counterparts, the Maltese recognise the importance of improving education with 59% putting it as top priority. The efficient use of energy is deemed to be important by 50% of the local population. The share of the Maltese who mention it as a major priority is substantially higher than the 36% for the whole of the EU. Evidently, the energy issue seems to be a more urgent issue in Malta compared to the creation of new companies (48%) or investment in research (40%). This could be linked to the sensitivity of higher fuel bills in a small economy like Malta.

Which of the following statements would you prioritise to improve the performance of the European economy?				
Priorities	Rank in Malta	Malta %	Rank in EU25	EU25 %
Improve education and professional training	1	59	1	65
Use energy more efficiently	2	50	4	36
Facilitate the creation of companies	3	48	3	43
Invest in research and innovation	4	40	2	47
Invest in transport infrastructure	5	24	5	27
Increase the legal number of working hours	6	5	6	10
Do not know		8		6
Other		1		1

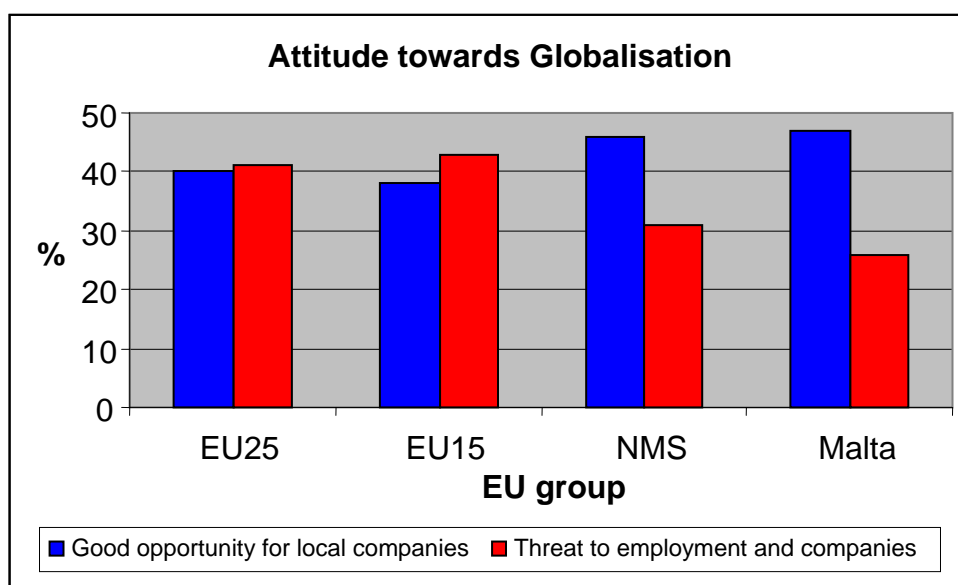
2.3 Globalisation

Globalisation presents new opportunities for national companies to tap new markets but at the same time fierce competition could lead to the closure of companies and loss of employment. Opinions in this regard vary between the Member States and the general sentiment is unclear. Interviewees in the EU who side in favour of globalisation stand at 40% but this is almost equal to the 41% who are sceptical of its benefits and fear loss of employment and closure of companies. Only 19% do not know.

Those EU countries which tend to see globalisation as a positive opportunity for their companies include Denmark (77%), Sweden (59%), The Netherlands (57%), Slovakia (53%), Estonia (51%), and the Czech Republic (50%).

On the other hand, Member States which tend to think that globalisation represents a threat to employment and their companies include Greece (64%), France (64%), Luxembourg (58%), Belgium (56%), Republic of Cyprus (56%), and Finland (52%).

Generally, the former 15 EU Member States appear to be more sceptical of globalisation while the new Member States (NMS) tend to see the beneficial aspect of the process of globalisation.



More Maltese appear to be in favour of globalisation (47%) than those who express a cautionary position (26%). This outcome is very close to that on the effects of the single market on the international competitiveness of local companies, which may indicate that the Maltese associate the relative success of a single market with globalisation.

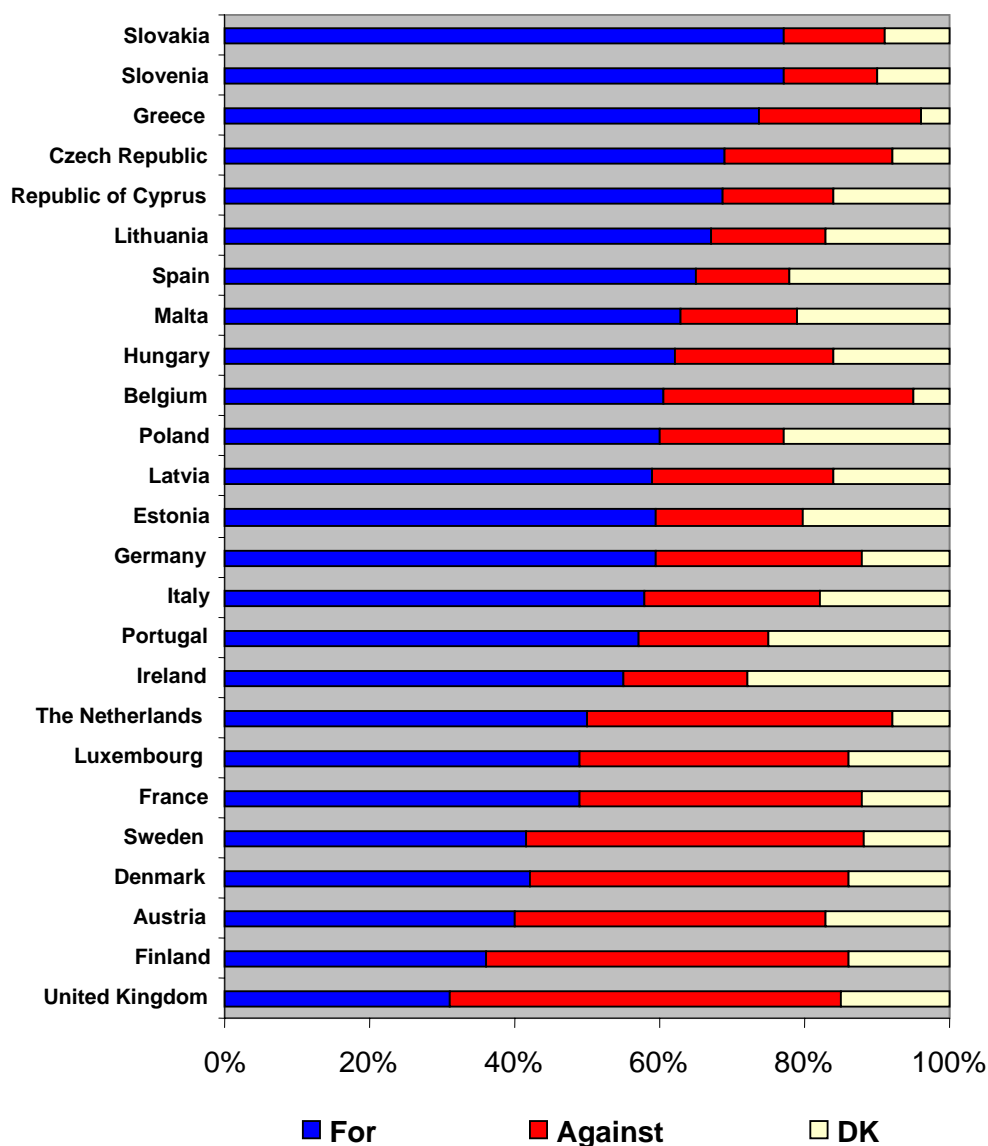
However, 39% of the Maltese think that globalisation has a rather negative effect on employment in the country; more than the 32% who think otherwise. Although this seems to be a contradiction compared with the above replies, it may be a reflection of the fact that the labour market is experiencing challenging times.

3. European Political Union

3.1 Opinions towards the development of a European political union

The majority of Europeans remain in favour of the development towards a European political union with no apparent change compared to a year ago. In fact, 54% of all the interviewees across the 25 Member States endorse the idea. On the other hand, a significant 30% of the representative sample is against and 15% do not know.

Support for European Political Union



Support for a European political union is highest in Slovakia (77%), Slovenia (77%) and Greece (73%), which contrasts with the clear opposition to such development in the United Kingdom (54%), Finland (50%), and Austria (43%) - countries which traditionally are rather sceptical of the European project. At 64%, most of the backing is coming from the new Member States.

The Maltese public share a fairly strong approval rating (63%) about moving towards closer political union, with less people against the idea compared to a year ago, down from 22% to 16%. It is not easy to identify decisive factors behind this rating but two reasons could be tentatively put forward. One reason could be the fact that the main political parties have reached consensus in favour of the EU Constitution. Secondly, the way the issue of illegal immigration is being raised at the EU level may have garnered support for closer political ties. Indeed, 60% of the Maltese people are in favour of a constitution for the EU and even more (64%) are in favour of a common defence and security policy.

Although with less backing, but still significant (55%) is the support from Malta for a common foreign policy for the EU. There is a strong widespread agreement on the need for a common foreign policy among the Member States (68%). The push towards this agenda is weakest in the United Kingdom (48%) and Sweden (51%). The United Kingdom tends to follow a sometimes contrasting foreign policy approach to that of other major Member States. Nonetheless, the share of British respondents who are in favour of a common foreign policy outweighs those against. Support for a common defence and security policy is even more pronounced across the 25 Member States with 75% giving their approval.

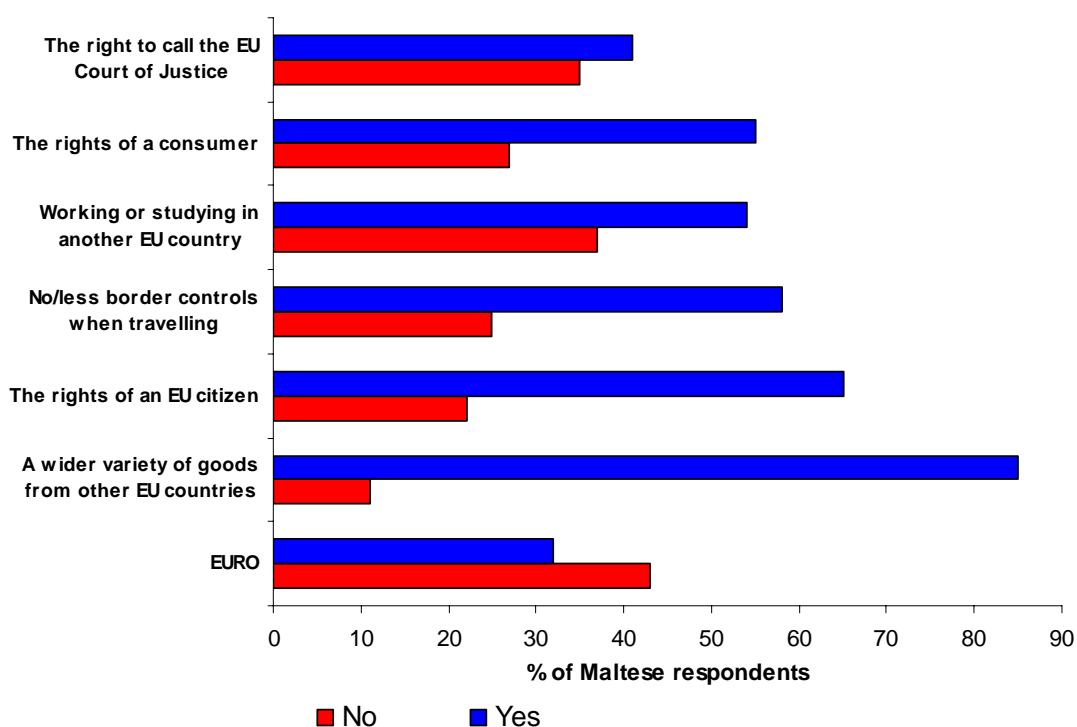
It is not clear if people would prefer the speed of building Europe to be different between groups of Member States. Considering only the biggest EU countries, the Italians (49%) appear to be generally in favour of the idea, but not so in France (52% against a two-speed Europe) and the United Kingdom (49% against). The opinion in Germany and Spain is fairly balanced.

Respondents across the EU were asked to state whether, for particular areas, decisions should be made by national authorities or jointly within the EU. Areas which are deemed to be better dealt with at an EU level include: fighting crime and terrorism; defence and foreign affairs; immigration; the protection of the environment; scientific and technological research; support for regions facing economic difficulties; energy; and competition. On the other hand, decisions on areas such as taxation, unemployment, pensions, education and health should be made by national governments, according to respondents. The Maltese people share similar preferences.

Maltese respondents stated that they have benefited from several achievements of the EU. There is an overwhelming agreement (85%) of the benefits of having a wider variety of goods from other EU countries. This concurs with the support to the single market as mentioned elsewhere in this report. There is also a noticeable understanding of the beneficial aspects of the rights of an EU citizen (65%) and the reduced border controls when travelling (58%).

However, more Maltese say that they have not benefited from the euro as yet (43% as against the 32% who benefited). In view of the fact that the Maltese tend to favour adoption of the euro, it seems probable that this outcome could simply reflect an element of uncertainty surrounding the adoption of the currency.

Benefits from EU achievements



3.2 Actions that deserve to be given priority in the EU

Following the rejection of the proposed EU constitution in France and the Netherlands, European respondents believe that, before progressing with the development of a European political union, it is more urgent to tackle problems associated with poverty and social exclusion (43%) and unemployment (40%). Indeed, enlargement (2%), institutional reform (6%), and the assertion of the political and diplomatic importance of the EU on the world scene (5%), are bottom in the list of priorities. It is understandable that problems of an economic nature are more pressing and thus it is not straightforward to conclude that Europeans are not interested in further political union among themselves. On the contrary, as stated elsewhere in this report, 54% of Europeans are more supportive of closer political ties.

There is an increase - from 18% to 27%, in the span of a few months - in the share of those who view terrorism as a serious problem that deserves immediate attention. Equally important is the need to maintain peace and security in Europe (29%). These

developments could be linked to increased awareness and fear of terrorist threats in Europe in recent times.

The protection of the environment should remain on the EU agenda, an opinion expressed by a higher percentage of Europeans (22%). This follows a build up of media reports in Europe on the challenge posed by global warming. Also significant, is the fight against illegal immigration. As expected, it is a critical issue in Malta (58%), Spain (44%) and the United Kingdom (34%).

In a reflection of the problems posed by illegal immigration, the Maltese forcefully agree (58%) that this is not only the highest priority facing Malta, but should also be so for the rest of the EU. Half of the Maltese public mention unemployment as second priority for the EU followed by the need to fight poverty and social exclusion (31%). Terrorism is less of an issue in Malta, but opinions about other priority areas for Europe are more or less similar to those of citizens in other Member States.

Top priorities for the European Union		
ISSUES	Malta	EU25
Fighting illegal immigration	58%	19%
Fighting unemployment	51%	40%
Fighting poverty and social exclusion	31%	43%
Protecting the environment	29%	22%
Maintaining peace and security in Europe	26%	29%
Fighting terrorism	18%	27%
Fighting organised crime and drug trafficking	11%	12%
Getting closer to European citizens	10%	18%
Successfully implementing the single European currency, the euro	10%	11%
Guaranteeing the rights of the individual and respect for the principles of democracy in Europe	10%	12%
Protecting consumers and guaranteeing the quality of products	7%	11%
Welcoming new Member Countries	2%	2%
Reforming the institutions of the EU	2%	6%
Asserting the political and diplomatic importance of the EU around the world	2%	5%

3.3 EU Constitution

Across the 25 EU Member States, there is widespread and slightly increasing support - 63% from 61% in spring this year - for a constitution for the EU. Having been given

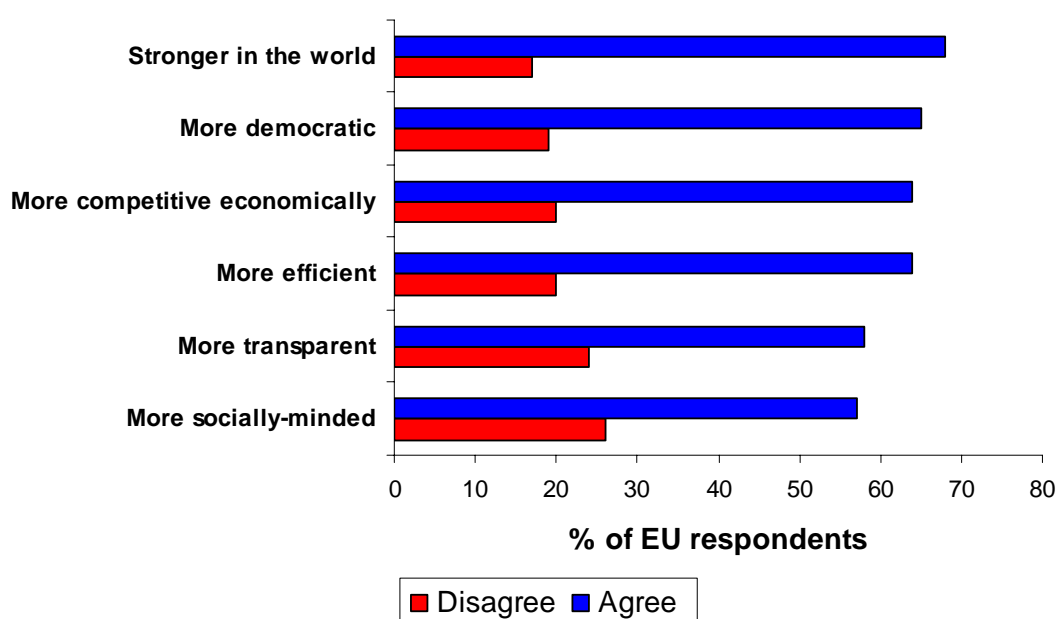
the green light by the major political parties, support for it stands at 60% in Malta with only 12% against and 28% who do not know. Ironically, backing is also high in France (66%) and the Netherlands (59%) where the proposed EU constitution was rejected in popular referenda.

The issue of Turkey's European vocation was constantly mentioned in the referenda campaigns of France and the Netherlands, and was also cited as a possible reason behind the negative outcome by a number of political analysts. Indeed, the majority of the French (58%) and the highest proportion of the Dutch (48%) are against further enlargement that could also mean opposition to Bulgaria, Romania or Croatia joining the EU. At 64%, this opinion was expressed even more strongly in Germany. In the accession and candidate countries - including Turkey - those in favour of an EU constitution outweigh those against.

48% think that the European Constitution should be renegotiated, as opposed to the 23% who think that the ratification process should continue and the 13% who would rather see the proposed constitution dropped.

When asked about the expected outcomes should the Treaty establishing a Constitution for Europe be adopted, many more Europeans think of it from a positive perspective. From an institutional point of view, they say that the Treaty will make the EU more democratic (65%), more efficient (64%), and more transparent (58%). Respondents stated that it will make the EU stronger in the world (68%). At 64% and 57% of the entire sample, Europeans also link the Treaty with a more economically competitive and a more socially-minded Europe, respectively. In Malta, replies also show a similar positive expectation broadly comparable to the average of the 25 Member States.

Expected outcomes arising from the adoption of the Treaty establishing a Constitution for Europe



Again, at 61%, most of the EU citizens agree with the statement that a European Constitution is necessary to ensure that the European institutions work well. This is compared to the 24% who think otherwise; while 16% do not know. Meanwhile, agreement is highest in Slovenia (81%) and Belgium (80%), but lowest in the United Kingdom (43%) and Finland (46%).

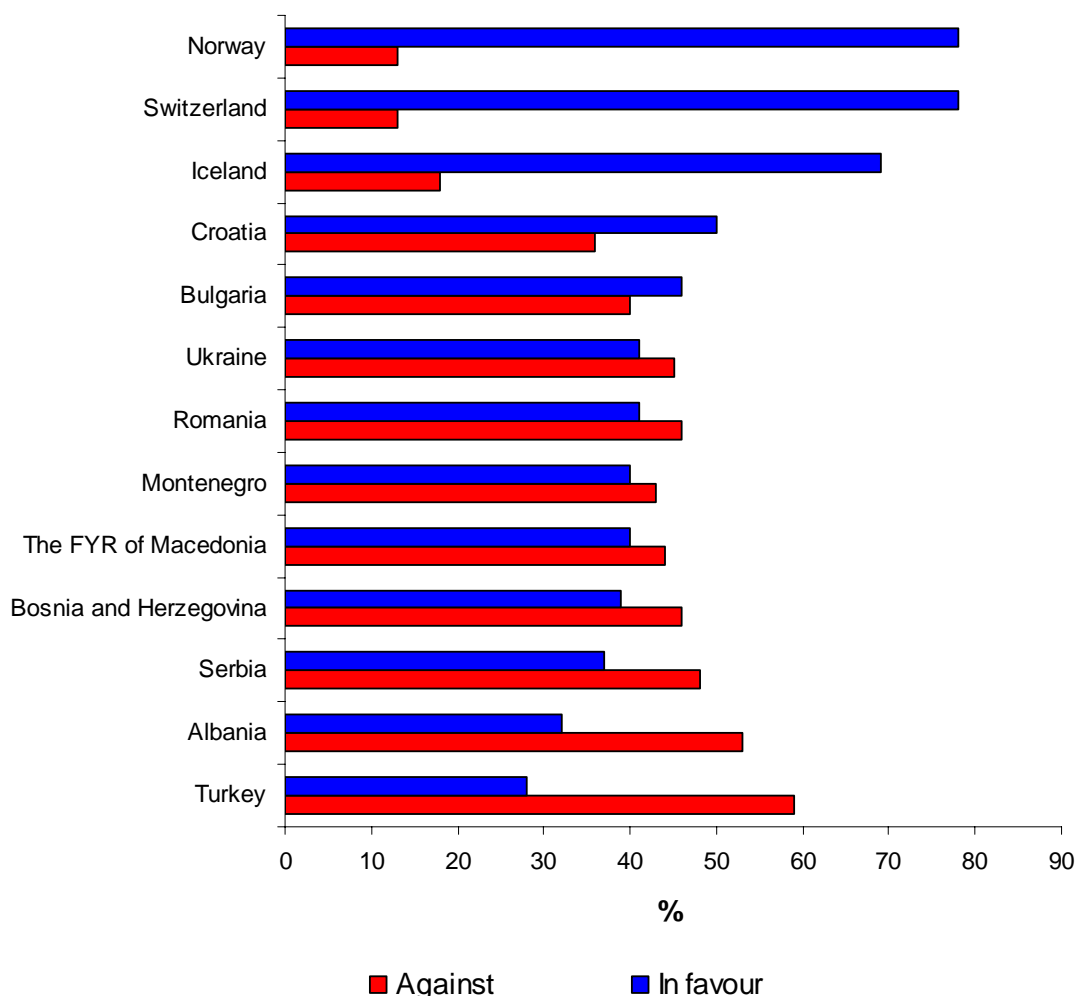
4. Enlargement

It has already been pointed out above that the Germans, the French and the Dutch are against further enlargement. Similar positions are evident in Belgium, Luxembourg, Austria, Finland, and the United Kingdom. Still, taking the EU as a whole, there are slightly more people in favour of enlargement (46%) than those against (42%).

A pertinent question arises as to which neighbouring countries are considered to be favourites to become part of the EU. In order of preference, these are Norway and Switzerland (each with 78% of support), Iceland (69%), Croatia (50%), and then Bulgaria (46%). Although Romania and Bulgaria will join the European Union in January 2007, support for them amongst EU citizens is not high. The least preferred countries are Turkey, Albania and Serbia, with 59%, 53%, and 48% of the interviewees against their accession to the EU, respectively.

With the exception of Turkey, Maltese respondents are generally in favour of EU accession for the above countries mentioned in the survey. Slightly less than half of the Maltese (46%) are against Turkey in the EU compared to only 30% in favour.

Favourite future members of the EU



The majority of countries registered an increase in opposition to Turkey's bid to become part of the EU including in the United Kingdom where its government adopts a favourable stance of Turkey joining the bloc. Still, 56% of the Europeans agree that Turkey partly belongs to Europe by its geography.

A very high percentage of Europeans (85%) think that, to join the EU in about ten years, Turkey will have to respect human rights. Noteworthy is the share of those who think that the cultural differences between Turkey and the Member States are too significant to allow it to join the EU. Indeed, a sizeable 30% totally agree with this assertion and 31% tend to agree. Opposing this view, only 7% totally disagree, while 20% tend to disagree. A higher proportion of Maltese (66%) see the differences in cultures as problematic.

At the same time, the majority of Turks (55%) see the cultural differences between them and the Europeans as a reason not to form part of the bloc. This opinion increased by 9 percentage points from the same period last year.

Half of the people interviewed disagree with the statement that Turkey's accession would rejuvenate an ageing European population. Rather, most Europeans (66%) fear that, with Turkey's joining the EU, this could risk favouring immigration to more developed countries in the EU. Among other countries, this sentiment is strongly evident in the Republic of Cyprus (87%), Greece (82%), Finland (82%), Austria (81%) and Germany (78%).

5. Values of European Citizens

5.1 Participation

It appears that many EU citizens feel distanced from general developments at the EU level. Indeed, 57% think that their voice does not count in the EU compared to only 34% who think otherwise. 75% say that they do not feel very much involved in European affairs.

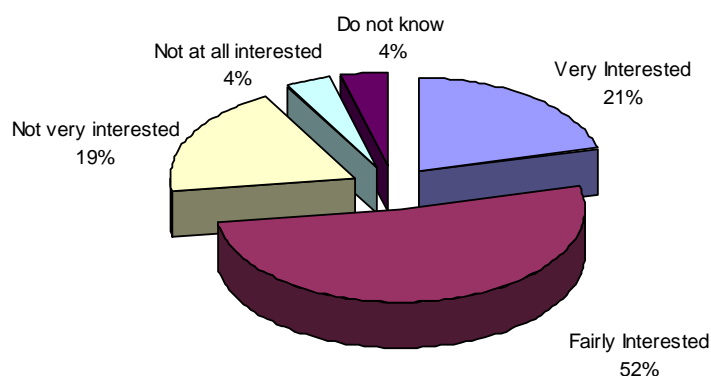
Another outcome of the autumn survey is the lack of understanding of how the EU works. Only 43% say that they understand how it works, while half of the overall respondents think that they do not.

In contrast with the EU average, half of the Maltese believe that their voice counts in the EU, while only 35% think otherwise. However, 75% do not feel very much involved in European affairs. When questioned about their understanding of how the EU works, half of the Maltese respondents say that they do not know much. However, the majority of those with a high level of education (64%) understand the workings of the EU system.

Respondents were also asked about their level of interest in domestic and European affairs. Across the Union, 63% say that they are interested in domestic affairs while only 47% are interested in European affairs. A large proportion of the Finnish (73%) and the Polish (71%) keep updated on European affairs.

In Malta, the share of those who expressed their interest in local affairs stands at 73%, which, although higher than that for the EU, is still on the low side given the fact that over 90% of the eligible population votes national elections. On the other hand, 23% admit that they are not interested at all. Half of the Maltese respondents are interested in European affairs, which is comparable to the EU average.

Interest in Domestic affairs (Malta)



5.2 Political values

In somewhat contradictory positions, most Europeans agree that the state intervenes too much in their lives (62%) but at the same time they are willing to forego some freedom for the sake of more equality and justice (64%).

This is also the case in Malta where the need for more equality and justice is called for even more strongly (71%), even by those who consider themselves to be on the right of the political spectrum (66%).

At 64%, most of the European respondents, including the Maltese, agree with the assertion that free competition is the best guarantee for economic prosperity, while 24% disagree. A lesser proportion (11%) of the Maltese disagrees with the statement.

POLITICAL VALUES	EU25		Malta	
	Agree %	Disagree %	Agree %	Disagree %
The state intervenes too much in our lives	62	33	55	36
We need more equality and justice even if this means less freedom for the individual	64	30	71	20
Free competition is the best guarantee for economic prosperity	64	24	65	11

5.3 Social and religious values

Arguably, the picture portrayed by the majority of responses across the 25 Member States is not one of serious erosion of traditional values or a clear preference for

liberal values. Yet, differences in values exist among different European countries and the different sectors of society.

There is a strong opinion saying that there is too much tolerance and criminals should be punished more severely. This is particularly so in the Republic of Cyprus (97%), the Czech Republic (95%), Slovakia (93%) and Belgium (90%). This opinion is also expressed in Malta (81%) where recent arson attacks on individuals may have triggered a feeling of insecurity among the public.

SOCIAL AND RELIGIOUS	EU25		Malta	
	Agree %	Disagree %	Agree %	Disagree %
Nowadays there is too much tolerance. Criminals should be punished more severely	85	12	81	14
Personal consumption of cannabis should be legalised throughout Europe	26	68	15	77
Homosexual marriages should be allowed throughout Europe	44	49	18	73
Adoption of children should be authorised for homosexual couples throughout Europe	32	61	7	85
Immigrants contribute a lot to our country	40	52	21	68
The place of religion in our society is too important	46	48	70	27

There is little support for the legalisation of personal consumption of cannabis throughout Europe with only 26% favouring such a move. At 77%, the opposition is even stronger in Malta compared to the EU average. The Dutch tend to agree with such a liberalisation, while, though still in a minority, support is also high in Spain.

In an apparent challenge to traditional values, gay marriages have become more acceptable throughout Europe. Still, those who accept gay marriages are in a slight minority (44%). In this regard, the Maltese still tend to hold on to traditional values as only 18% agree with the concept of a homosexual marriage. The share of those in disagreement increases with the age of the respondents. For instance, only 56% of those between 15-24 years disagree, in contrast with 83% of the over-55 age cohort.

EU citizens who disagree with the authorisation for homosexual couples to adopt children are approximately twice as much as those who agree (61% against 32%). Opposition is even more strongly conveyed in Malta with 85% of the respondents saying they disagree.

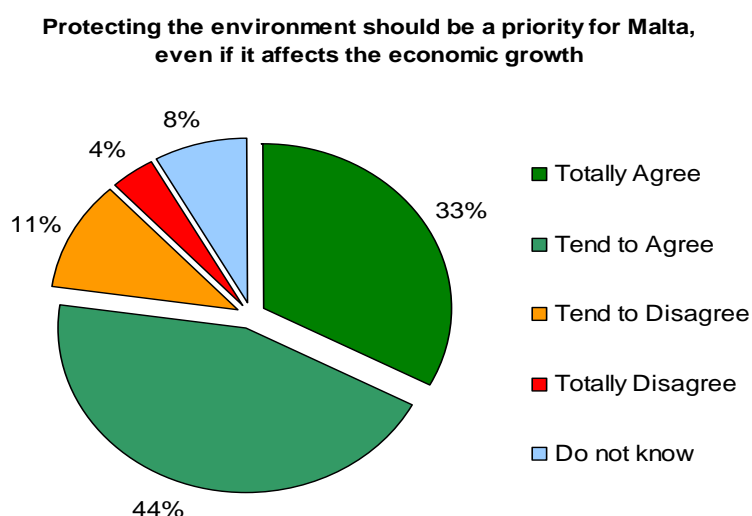
The Maltese emerge as relatively more nationalistic compared to the EU average response in relation to questions dealing with immigration. 68% of Maltese

respondents disagree with the assertion that immigrants contribute a lot to their country which contrasts with the 21% who think otherwise. Yet, this view is shared even more ardently in countries like Slovakia (84%), the Czech Republic (81%), and Latvia (76%), which are all new EU Member States.

The percentage of Maltese who believe that religion in their society is too important stands at 70%, a 24-percentage point higher than the EU average. On the other hand, there are marginally more Europeans (48% compared to 46%) who disagree with the assertion. However, the interpretation of these figures may raise some ambiguities in the sense that it cannot be ascertained whether those who agree say so to assert their religious values or rather because they see it simply as a matter of fact but without attaching any importance to it.

5.4 Environmental consciousness

It emerges clearly that the Maltese highly value the environment they live in. Indeed, a significant 33% totally agree and 44% tend to agree with the statement that the protection of the environment should be a priority for Malta, even if it affects the economic growth of the country. Those who stand firmly against this assertion represent only 4% of the population, while 11% tend to disagree. This response and the timing of the survey may be indicative of a level of dissatisfaction by the Maltese public with a decision by the authorities to extend land areas for development.



5.5 Other values

The four most important personal values for Europeans are peace (52% of EU-wide respondents), respect for human life (43%), human rights (41%), and democracy (24%). This is almost identical to that for Malta, but whereas 23% of the Maltese say that religion is just as important, only 7% of the Europeans say so. In fact, religion as a personal value compared with other values is considered as the lowest important

value across the 25 Member States. Respect for other cultures is also ranked very low across the EU.

Most important personal values	Malta	EU25
Peace	55%	52%
Respect for human life	42%	43%
Human rights	38%	41%
Democracy	25%	24%
Religion	23%	7%
Individual freedom	19%	22%
Solidarity, support for others	19%	14%
Equality	17%	18%
Self-fulfilment	16%	11%
The Rule of Law	12%	17%
Tolerance	12%	19%
Respect for other cultures	9%	11%

When asked to state the three most important values that best represent the EU, 38% highlight democracy, another 38% listed human rights and 36% think that peace best represents the Union.

Respondents were then asked to state whether, in their opinion, Member States are close or distant from each other in terms of shared values. Almost half think that they are close, while 41% say that the Member States are still distant in their shared values. In a sense, this indicates that there are still self-perceived cultural differences between countries even if they share relatively similar historical experiences.

In this survey, the Maltese emerge again as being very proud of their nationality. Indeed, 71% say that they are very proud of being Maltese and 23% say they are fairly proud. This feeling is prevalent across all socio-demographic classifications. Patriotic sentiment is also high across the EU Member States. At 71%, the lowest proportion is that of Germany. 67% of the Maltese say that they are proud to be European.

Conclusion

There are several key points which emerge in the autumn 2006 Eurobarometer survey about the opinion of the Maltese public. The general opinion is one of overall pessimism about the political system, economic activity, and the environment, while immigration has become top priority for the public. Within this scenario, a majority of the Maltese public remains confident of the benefits of EU membership and is in favour of euro adoption.

82% of the Maltese report that they are satisfied with the life that they lead, which is the same figure as that of the EU average.

In a reflection of the political polarisation among the Maltese, 33% think that, in general, things are going in the right direction in their country while 35% think otherwise. A considerable 25% remain neutral.

When asked about the current situation in the Maltese economy, 62% admit that it is in a bad situation. More people expect the economic situation to deteriorate (31%) in the next twelve months compared to those who think that it will improve (22%).

A more pessimistic opinion on the employment situation emerges as 69% think that it is bad. Only 10% think that their job situation will get better.

Also worrying the Maltese population is the state of their environment. At 59%, the share of the Maltese who think that it is in a bad situation is second highest in the EU.

A forceful 77% tend to agree with the statement that the protection of the environment should be a priority for Malta, even if it affects the economic growth of the country. Only 15% think otherwise.

43% of the Maltese population trust the Maltese government. The share of those who trust political parties continues to be low at just 26%. In contrast, 70% of the Maltese trust religious institutions.

Immigration ranks first in priority as 45% of the population think that it is the most important issue facing Malta at the moment. This is followed by the 28% who think that rising prices should be most important issue.

On the whole, the Maltese appear to have remained in favour of Malta's EU membership. 45% say that it is a good thing, and only 15% say that it is a bad thing.

Moreover, 58% think that Malta has benefited from being an EU member while 66% agree that increased competition due to the EU single market has a positive effect. However, 51% say that EU membership had a bad effect on employment while only 35% say it had a good effect on employment.

Maltese respondents who are in favour of a European Monetary Union - with the euro as a single currency – stand at 55%, in contrast with those against at 30%.

The Maltese public share a fairly strong approval rating (63%) of the development towards a European political union. Indeed, 60% of the Maltese are in favour of a constitution for the EU and even more (64%) are in favour of a common defence and security policy.

With the exception of Turkey, the Maltese people are generally in favour of enlargement for all the countries mentioned in the survey. 46% are against Turkey joining the EU while only 30% support its membership bid. Across the EU, the majority (59%) of respondents do not want Turkey to be part of the EU.

With regards to values, 71% of the population feels that more equality and justice are needed even if this means less freedom for the individual.

18% of Maltese respondents agree with the concept of homosexual marriage. Only 56% of those between 15-24 years disagree in contrast with 83% of the over-55 age cohort.

70% of Maltese respondents believe that religion in their society is too important.

EUROBAROMETER “Standard” 66.1 - TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Between the 6th of September and the 10th of October 2006, TNS Opinion & Social, a consortium created between Taylor Nelson Sofres and EOS Gallup Europe, carried out wave 66.1 of the EUROBAROMETER, on request of the EUROPEAN COMMISSION, Directorate General Communication, “Public Opinion and Media Monitoring”.

The EUROBAROMETER “Standard” is part of wave 66.1 and covers the population of the respective nationalities of the European Union Member States, resident in each of the Member States and aged 15 years and over. The EUROBAROMETER “Standard” has also been conducted in the two acceding countries (Bulgaria and Romania) and in the two candidate countries (Croatia and Turkey) and in the Turkish Cypriot Community. In these countries, the survey covers the national population of citizens of the respective nationalities and the population of citizens of all the European Union Member States that are residents in those countries and have a sufficient command of one of the respective national language(s) to answer the questionnaire. The basic sample design applied in all states is a multi-stage, random (probability) one. In each country, a number of sampling points was drawn with probability proportional to population size (for a total coverage of the country) and to population density.

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

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

Different rounding methods have been adopted for the EU graphs and the volumes, as a result the figures shown may differ by a point with the sum of individual cells.

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:

ABBREVIATIONS	COUNTRIES	INSTITUTES	N° INTERVIEWS	FIELDWORK	DATES	POPULATION 15+
BE	Belgium	TNS Dimarso	1.003	6/09/2006	1/10/2006	8.650.994
CZ	Czech Rep.	TNS Aisa	1.091	7/09/2006	26/09/2006	8.571.710
DK	Denmark	TNS Gallup DK	1.003	9/09/2006	10/10/2006	4.411.580
DE	Germany	TNS Infratest	1.525	8/09/2006	4/10/2006	64.361.608
EE	Estonia	Emor	1.000	8/09/2006	2/10/2006	887.094
EL	Greece	TNS ICAP	1.000	6/09/2006	3/10/2006	8.693.566
ES	Spain	TNS Demoscopia	1.003	6/09/2006	5/10/2006	37.024.972
FR	France	TNS Sofres	1.007	6/09/2006	30/09/2006	44.010.619
IE	Ireland	TNS MRBI	1.000	6/09/2006	10/10/2006	3.089.775
IT	Italy	TNS Abacus	1.006	7/09/2006	5/10/2006	48.892.559
CY	Rep. of Cyprus	Synovate	503	6/09/2006	1/10/2006	596.752
CY(tcc)	Turkish Cypriot Comm.	KADEM	500	7/09/2006	30/09/2006	157.101
LV	Latvia	TNS Latvia	1.015	8/09/2006	9/10/2006	1.418.596
LT	Lithuania	TNS Gallup Lithuania	1.000	6/09/2006	2/10/2006	2.803.661
LU	Luxembourg	TNS ILReS	500	6/09/2006	4/10/2006	374.097
HU	Hungary	TNS Hungary	1.005	6/09/2006	25/09/2006	8.503.379
MT	Malta	MISCO	500	7/09/2006	4/10/2006	321.114
NL	Netherlands	TNS NIPO	1.018	6/09/2006	5/10/2006	13.030.000
AT	Austria	Österreichisches Gallup-Institut	1.016	6/09/2006	5/10/2006	6.848.736
PL	Poland	TNS OBOP	1.000	9/09/2006	4/10/2006	31.967.880
PT	Portugal	TNS EUROTESTE	995	6/09/2006	2/10/2006	8.080.915
SI	Slovenia	RM PLUS	1.031	6/09/2006	5/10/2006	1.720.137
SK	Slovakia	TNS AISA SK	1.023	13/09/2006	26/09/2006	4.316.438
FI	Finland	TNS Gallup Oy	1.000	7/09/2006	4/10/2006	4.348.676
SE	Sweden	TNS GALLUP	1.013	7/09/2006	2/10/2006	7.486.976
UK	United Kingdom	TNS UK	1.308	6/09/2006	7/10/2006	47.685.578
BG	Bulgaria	TNS BBSS	1.035	6/09/2006	20/09/2006	6.671.699
RO	Romania	TNS CSOP	1.047	7/09/2006	29/09/2006	18.173.179
HR	Croatia	Puls	1000	7/09/2006	27/09/2006	3.722.800
TR	Turkey	TNS PIAR	1005	6/09/2006	4/10/2006	47.583.830
TOTAL			29.152	6/09/2006	10/10/2006	444.406.021

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

QUESTIONNAIRE

QA1	When you get together with friends, would you say you discuss political matters frequently, occasionally, or never?
-----	---

(150)

Frequently	1
Occasionally	2
Never	3
DK	4

EB65.2 QA1

QA2	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)

(151)

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

EB65.2 QA2

QA3	On the whole, are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied or not at all satisfied with the life you lead?
-----	--

(READ OUT)

(152)

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

EB65.2 QA3

QA4	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
(153)	1 Your life in general	1	2	3	4
(154)	2 The economic situation in (OUR COUNTRY)	1	2	3	4
(155)	3 The financial situation of your household	1	2	3	4
(156)	4 The employment situation in (OUR COUNTRY)	1	2	3	4
(157)	5 Your personal job situation	1	2	3	4

EB65.2 QA4

QA5	At the present time, would you say that, in general, things are going in the right direction or in the wrong direction, in...?
-----	--

(ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

	(READ OUT)	Things are going in the right direction	Things are going in the wrong direction	Neither the one nor the other (SPONTANEOUS)	DK
--	------------	---	---	---	----

(158)	1	(OUR COUNTRY)	1	2	3	4
(159)	2	The European Union	1	2	3	4

EB65.1 QA14

QA6: DO NOT ASK ITEMS 5, 11 and 12 in CY(tcc)

QA6	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)	Tend to trust	Tend not to trust	DK
--	------------	---------------	-------------------	----

(160)	1	The press	1	2	3
(161)	2	Radio	1	2	3
(162)	3	Television	1	2	3
(163)	4	The Internet (N)	1	2	3
(164)	5	Justice\the (NATIONALITY) legal system	1	2	3
(165)	6	The police	1	2	3
(166)	7	The army	1	2	3
(167)	8	Religious institutions	1	2	3
(168)	9	Trades union	1	2	3
(169)	10	Political parties	1	2	3
(170)	11	The (NATIONALITY) Government	1	2	3
(171)	12	The (NATIONALITY PARLIAMENT) (USE PROPER NAME FOR LOWER HOUSE)	1	2	3
(172)	13	The European Union	1	2	3
(173)	14	The United Nations	1	2	3
(174)	15	Consumer associations (N)	1	2	3

EB65.2 QA10 (items 5, 11-14) - EB64.2 QA7 (items 1-3, 6-10)

DO NOT ASK QA7a to QA9a in BG, RO, TR, HR and CY(tcc) - BG, RO, TR, HR and CY(tcc) GO TO QA7b

QA7a	Generally speaking, do you think that (OUR COUNTRY)'s membership of the European Union is...?
------	---

(READ OUT)

A good thing	(175)	1
A bad thing		2
Neither good nor bad		3
DK		4

EB65.2 QA11a

QA8a	Taking everything into account, would you say that (OUR COUNTRY) has on balance benefited or not from being a member of the European Union?
------	---

(176)

Benefited	1
Not benefited	2
DK	3

EB65.2 QA12a

QA9a	People disagree about the advantages and disadvantages of (OUR COUNTRY) belonging to the European Union. I am going to read out some points and, for each one, I would like you to tell me if (OUR COUNTRY) being in the European Union has a very good, fairly good, fairly bad or very bad effect.
------	--

(SHOW CARD WITH SCALE – ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

	(READ OUT)	A very good effect	A fairly good effect	A fairly bad effect	A very bad effect	DK
--	------------	--------------------	----------------------	---------------------	-------------------	----

(177)	1	Our country's security	1	2	3	4	5
(178)	2	Our economy (N)	1	2	3	4	5
(179)	3	Our standard of living	1	2	3	4	5
(180)	4	Our agriculture	1	2	3	4	5
(181)	5	Our influence in the world (N)	1	2	3	4	5
(182)	6	Employment in our country (N)	1	2	3	4	5

EB64.2 QA10a TREND MODIFIED

ASK QA7b to QA9b ONLY in BG, RO, TR, HR and CY(tcc) - OTHERS GO TO QA10

ASK ALL

QA10	In general, does the European Union conjure up for you a very positive, fairly positive, neutral, fairly negative or very negative image?
------	---

(191)

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

EB65.2 QA13

QA11	Are you, yourself, for or against the development towards a European political union?	(192)	
	For		1
	Against		2
	DK		3

EB64.2 QA12

QA12	Please tell me for each statement, whether you tend to agree or tend to disagree.
------	---

	(READ OUT)	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	DK
(193)	1 My voice counts in the European Union	1	2	3
(194)	2 I understand how the European Union works	1	2	3
(195)	3 I feel very much involved in European affairs (M)	1	2	3

EB64.2 QA15 - EB64.2 QA16 TREND MODIFIED (ITEM 3)

QA13a	In your opinion, what is the current speed of building Europe? Please look at these figures. N°1 is standing still, N°7 is running as fast as possible. Choose the one which best corresponds with your opinion of the current speed of building Europe.
-------	--

QA13b	And which corresponds best to the speed you would like?
-------	---

(SHOW CARD WITH SCALE)		
	(196)	(197)
READ OUT	QA13a	QA13b
	CURRENT SPEED	DESIRED SPEED
Standstill	1	1
	2	2
	3	3
	4	4
	5	5
	6	6
Runs as fast as possible	7	7
DK	8	8

EB64.2 QA17a&b

QA14	Using this scale, how much do you feel you know about the European Union, its policies, its institutions?
------	---

(SHOW CARD WITH SCALE)										(198-199)
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DK		11
----	--	----

EB65.2 QA19

QA15 Are you looking for information about the European Union, its policies, its institutions...?

(SHOW CARD – READ OUT – ONE ANSWER ONLY)

(200)

Often	1
Sometimes	2
Rarely	3
Never	4
DK	5

NEW

QA16 Do you find it easy or not to find information about the European Union, its policies, its institutions?

(SHOW CARD – READ OUT – ONE ANSWER ONLY)

(201)

Very easy	1
Fairly easy	2
Fairly difficult	3
Very difficult	4
DK	5

NEW

QA17 Did you know, that you have the right to request access to non-published documents of European Union institutions?

(202)

Yes	1
No	2

NEW

QA18 Have you heard of...?

	(READ OUT)	Yes	No	DK
(203)	1 The European Parliament	1	2	3
(204)	2 The European Commission	1	2	3
(205)	3 The Council of the European Union	1	2	3
(206)	4 The Court of Justice of the European Communities	1	2	3
(207)	5 The European Ombudsman	1	2	3
(208)	6 The European Central Bank	1	2	3
(209)	7 The European Court of Auditors	1	2	3
(210)	8 The Committee of the Regions of the European Union	1	2	3
(211)	9 The Economic and Social Committee of the European Union	1	2	3

EB65.2 QA23 (1-4, 6) - EB64.2 QA26 (5, 7-9)

QA19 And, for each of them, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it?

	(READ OUT)	Tend to trust	Tend not to trust	DK
(212)	1 The European Parliament	1	2	3
(213)	2 The European Commission	1	2	3
(214)	3 The Council of the European Union	1	2	3
(215)	4 The Court of Justice of the European Communities	1	2	3
(216)	5 The European Ombudsman	1	2	3
(217)	6 The European Central Bank	1	2	3
(218)	7 The European Court of Auditors	1	2	3
(219)	8 The Committee of the Regions of the European Union	1	2	3
(220)	9 The Economic and Social Committee of the European Union	1	2	3

EB65.2 QA25 (ITEMS 1-4, 6) - EB64.2 QA27 (ITEMS 5, 7-9)

QA20 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)	True.	False.	DK
(221)	1 The European Union currently consists of fifteen Member States	1	2	3
(222)	2 The members of the European Parliament are directly elected by the citizens of the European Union	1	2	3
(223)	3 Every six months, a different Member State takes the EU presidency (N)	1	2	3

EB65.2 QA26 TREND MODIFIED

ASK QA21a AND QA21b ONLY in FI

ASK QA21c to QA22b ONLY in DE

ASK ALL

QA23 What do you think are the two most important issues facing (OUR COUNTRY) at the moment?

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

Crime	(252-267)	1,
Economic situation		2,
Rising prices/inflation		3,
Taxation		4,
Unemployment		5,
Terrorism		6,
Defence/Foreign affairs		7,
Housing		8,
Immigration		9,
Healthcare system		10,

The educational system	11,
Pensions	12,
Protecting the environment	13,
Energy related issues (N)	14,
Other (SPONTANEOUS)	15,
DK	16,

EB65.2 QA28a TREND MODIFIED

QA24 For each of the following areas, do you think that decisions should be made by the (NATIONALITY) government, or made jointly within the European Union?

	READ OUT - ROTATE	(NATIONALITY) GOVERNMENT	JOINTLY WITHIN EUROPEAN UNION	DK
(268)	1 Fighting crime	1	2	3
(269)	2 Taxation	1	2	3
(270)	3 Fighting unemployment	1	2	3
(271)	4 Fighting terrorism	1	2	3
(272)	5 Defence and foreign affairs	1	2	3
(273)	6 Immigration	1	2	3
(274)	7 The education system	1	2	3
(275)	8 Pensions	1	2	3
(276)	9 Protecting the environment	1	2	3
(277)	10 Health and social welfare	1	2	3
(278)	11 Agriculture and fishery (M)	1	2	3
(279)	12 Consumer protection	1	2	3
(280)	13 Scientific and technological research	1	2	3
(281)	14 Support for regions facing economic difficulties	1	2	3
(282)	15 Energy (M)	1	2	3
(283)	16 Competition (M)	1	2	3

EB64.2 Q31 TREND MODIFIED

QA25 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)	For	Against	DK
(284)	1 A European Monetary Union with one single currency, the euro	1	2	3
(285)	2 A common foreign policy among the Member States of the European Union, towards other countries	1	2	3
(286)	3 A common defence and security policy among European Union Member States	1	2	3
(287)	4 Further enlargement of the European Union to include other countries in future years	1	2	3
(288)	5 A constitution for the European Union	1	2	3
(289)	6 The speed of building Europe being faster in one group of countries than in the other countries	1	2	3

EB65.2 QA30

QA26	From the following list of actions, could you tell me what should be, for you, the three actions that the European Union should follow in priority.
------	---

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

(290-307)

(SPLIT A) Welcoming new Member Countries (M)	1,
(SPLIT B) Prepare a new enlargement of the EU (N)	2,
Getting closer to European citizens, for example by giving them more information about the European Union, its policies and its institutions	3,
Successfully implementing the single European currency, the euro	4,
Fighting poverty and social exclusion	5,
Protecting the environment	6,
Protecting consumers and guaranteeing the quality of products (M)	7,
Fighting unemployment	8,
Reforming the institutions of the European Union and the way they work	9,
(SPLIT A) Fighting organised crime and drug trafficking (M)	10,
(SPLIT B) Fighting organised crime (N)	11,
Asserting the political and diplomatic importance of the European Union around the world	12,
Maintaining peace and security in Europe	13,
Guaranteeing the rights of the individual and respect for the principles of democracy in Europe	14,
Fighting terrorism	15,
Fighting illegal immigration	16,
Others (SPONTANEOUS)	17,
DK	18,

EB65.2 QA31 TREND MODIFIED

QA27	In your opinion, should decisions concerning European defence policy be taken by national governments, by NATO or by the European Union?
------	--

(ONE ANSWER ONLY)

(308)

National governments	1
NATO	2
The European Union	3
Other (SPONTANEOUS)	4
DK	5

EB64.2 QA35

QA28	On which of the following do you think most of the European Union budget is spent?
------	--

(SHOW CARD - READ OUT - ONE ANSWER ONLY)

(309)

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

EB64.2 QA37

QA29a	In your opinion, would you say that the United States tend to play a positive role, a negative role or neither a positive nor a negative role regarding...?
-------	---

	(READ OUT)	Positive	Negative	Neither positive nor negative	DK
--	------------	----------	----------	----------------------------------	----

(310)	1	Peace in the world	1	2	3	4
(311)	2	The fight against terrorism	1	2	3	4
(312)	3	Growth of the world economy	1	2	3	4
(313)	4	The fight against poverty in the world	1	2	3	4
(314)	5	Protection of the environment	1	2	3	4

EB64.2 QA38a

QA29b	And in your opinion, does the European Union tend to play a positive role, a negative role or neither positive nor negative role regarding...?
-------	--

	(READ OUT)	Positive	Negative	Neither positive nor negative	DK
--	------------	----------	----------	----------------------------------	----

(315)	1	Peace in the world	1	2	3	4
(316)	2	The fight against terrorism	1	2	3	4
(317)	3	The growth of the world economy	1	2	3	4
(318)	4	The fight against poverty in the world	1	2	3	4
(319)	5	The protection of the environment	1	2	3	4

EB64.2 QA38b

--

QA30	Do you ever think of yourself as not only (NATIONALITY), but also European? Does this happen often, sometimes or never?
------	---

(ONE ANSWER ONLY)

(320)

Often
Sometimes
Never
DK

1
2
3
4

EB64.2 QA39

QA31	Would you say you are very proud, fairly proud, not very proud, not at all proud to be (NATIONALITY)?
------	---

(NATIONALITY AS SPECIFIED IN QUESTION 1 OF QUESTIONNAIRE - ONE ANSWER ONLY)

(321)

Very proud
Fairly proud
Not very proud
Not at all proud
DK

1
2
3
4
5

EB64.2 QA41

QA32	And would you say you are very proud, fairly proud, not very proud, not at all proud to be European?
------	--

(ONE ANSWER ONLY)

(322)

Very proud	1
Fairly proud	2
Not very proud	3
Not at all proud	4
I do not feel European	5
DK	6

EB64.2 QA42

QA33	For each of the following countries, would you be in favour or against it becoming part of the European Union in the future?
------	--

(ROTATE)

	(READ OUT)	In favour	Against	DK
(323)	1 Switzerland	1	2	3
(324)	2 Norway	1	2	3
(325)	3 Bosnia and Herzegovina	1	2	3
(326)	4 Croatia	1	2	3
	5 The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM)	1	2	3
(327)				
(328)	6 Serbia (M)	1	2	3
(329)	7 Montenegro (M)	1	2	3
(330)	8 Iceland	1	2	3
(331)	9 Albania	1	2	3
(332)	10 Bulgaria	1	2	3
(333)	11 Romania	1	2	3
(334)	12 Ukraine	1	2	3
(335)	13 Turkey	1	2	3

EB64.2 QA44 TREND MODIFIED

QA34	For each of the following please tell me whether you totally agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree or totally disagree.
------	--

(SHOW CARD)

		Totally agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Totally disagree	DK
(336)	1 Turkey partly belongs to Europe by its geography	1	2	3	4	5
(337)	2 Turkey partly belongs to Europe by its history	1	2	3	4	5
	3 Turkey's accession to the European Union would strengthen the security in this region	1	2	3	4	5
(338)						
(339)	4 The cultural differences between Turkey and the	1	2	3	4	5

		European Union Member States are too significant to allow it to join the EU (M)					
(340)	5	Turkey's accession would favour rejuvenate an ageing European population (M)	1	2	3	4	5
(341)	6	Turkey's joining could risk favouring immigration to more developed countries in the European Union	1	2	3	4	5
(342)	7	To join the European Union in about ten years, Turkey will have to respect systematically Human Rights	1	2	3	4	5
(343)	8	To join the European Union in about ten years, Turkey will have to significantly improve the state of its economy	1	2	3	4	5

EB64.2 QA45 TREND MODIFIED

DO NOT ASK QA35 in ES, EL, IT, SI, HU, LU, CY, MT, SK, LV, AT, DE, LT, BE and EE - THOSE COUNTRIES GO TO QA35

ASK ALL

QA36	For each of the following please tell me whether you totally agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree or totally disagree. If all Member States adopt the Treaty establishing a Constitution for Europe, it will make the running of the European Union...
------	--

(ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

	(READ OUT)	Totally agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Totally disagree	DK
(345)	1 More democratic	1	2	3	4	5
(346)	2 More efficient	1	2	3	4	5
(347)	3 More transparent	1	2	3	4	5
(348)	4 Stronger in the world	1	2	3	4	5
(349)	5 More competitive economically	1	2	3	4	5
(350)	6 More socially-minded	1	2	3	4	5

EB65.2 QB3 (ITEMS 1-3) EB65.2 QB4 (ITEMS 4-6)

ASK QA37 ONLY IN EU25 - OTHERS GO TO QA38

QA37	15 countries have ratified the European Constitution, but France and the Netherlands voted "no". Which of the following best describes your view? (M)
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(READ OUT - ONE ANSWER ONLY)

(351)

The European Union Member States should continue the ratification process of the European Constitution	1
The European Constitution should be renegotiated	2
The European Constitution should be dropped	3
DK	4

EB65.2 QB5 TREND MODIFIED

ASK ALL

QA38	Which of the two following statements, best describes your view?
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(READ OUT - ONE ANSWER ONLY)

(352)

A European Constitution is necessary to ensure that the European Institutions work well	1
A European Constitution is not necessary to ensure that the European Institutions work well	2
DK	3

EB64.2 QA50

QA39	For each of the following, please tell me whether in your opinion the European Union is ahead, behind or at the same level as the United States.
------	--

(SHOW CARD - ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

	(READ OUT)	Ahead	Behind	At the same level	DK
(353)	1 Scientific research	1	2	3	4
(354)	2 Medical research	1	2	3	4
(355)	3 Protection of the environment	1	2	3	4
(356)	4 Innovation technology	1	2	3	4
(357)	5 The healthcare system	1	2	3	4
(358)	6 Education	1	2	3	4
(359)	7 Fighting social disparities	1	2	3	4
(360)	8 Fighting unemployment	1	2	3	4
(361)	9 Fighting discrimination	1	2	3	4
(362)	10 The creation of new companies	1	2	3	4

EB64.2 QA53

QA40	The single market increased competition in a number of domains such as transport, telecommunication services, banking and insurance services. In general, would you say that this has a ... effect? (M)
------	---

(READ OUT – ONE ANSWER ONLY)

(363)

Very positive	1
Fairly positive	2
Fairly negative	3
Very negative	4
Neither positive nor negative (SPONTANEOUS)	5
DK	6

EB64.2 QA54

QA41	Compared to 10 years ago, do you think that due to the single market, the international competitiveness of (NATIONALITY) companies is now better, worse or the same?
------	--

(READ OUT – ONE ANSWER ONLY)

(364)

Better	1
Worse	2
The same	3
DK	4

NEW

QA42	For each of the following achievements of the European Union, could you tell me whether you have benefited from it or not.
------	--

(SHOW CARD – ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

	(READ OUT)	Yes	No	DK
(365)	1 The common currency, the EURO	1	2	3
(366)	2 A wider variety of goods from other EU countries	1	2	3
(367)	3 The right of an EU citizen	1	2	3
(368)	4 No/less border controls when travelling	1	2	3
(369)	5 Working or studying in another EU country	1	2	3
(370)	6 The rights of a consumer	1	2	3
(371)	7 The right to call the EU Court of Justice	1	2	3

NEW

QA43	Which of the following two propositions is the one which is closest to your opinion with regard to globalisation?
------	---

(READ OUT – ONE ANSWER ONLY)

(372)

Globalisation represents a good opportunity for (NATIONALITY) companies thanks to the opening-up of markets

1

Globalisation represents a threat to employment and companies in (OUR COUNTRY)

2

DK

3

EB65.1 QA17

QA44	Could you tell me whether you think that globalisation has a rather positive or rather negative effect on each of the following domains?
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(SHOW CARD – ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

	(READ OUT)	Fairly positive effect	Fairly negative effect	No effect (SPONTANEOUS)	DK
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(373)	1	Economic growth in our country	1	2	3	4
(374)	2	Solidarity between countries	1	2	3	4
(375)	3	Scientific and technical progress	1	2	3	4
(376)	4	Democracy at a world-wide level	1	2	3	4
(377)	5	Quality of public services	1	2	3	4
(378)	6	Disparities between countries	1	2	3	4
(379)	7	Employment in our country	1	2	3	4
(380)	8	Environment	1	2	3	4
(381)	9	Health	1	2	3	4

NEW

ASK QA45a TO SPLIT A - OTHERS GO TO QA45b

QA45a	To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement: The European Union helps to protect us from the negative effects of globalisation. (M)
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(READ OUT - ONE ANSWER ONLY)

(382)

Totally agree

1

Tend to agree

2

Tend to disagree

3

Totally disagree

4

DK

5

EB64.2 QA56 FILTER + TREND MODIFIED

ASK QA45b TO SPLIT B - OTHERS GO TO QA46

QA45b	To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement: The European Union enables European citizens to better benefit from the positive effects of globalisation.
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(READ OUT – ONE ANSWER ONLY)

(383)

Totally agree	1
Tend to agree	2
Tend to disagree	3
Totally disagree	4
DK	5

NEW

ASK ALL

QA46	Which of the following statements would you prioritise to improve the performance of the European economy?
------	--

(READ OUT - MAX. 3 ANSWERS)

(384-391)

Increase the legal number of working hours	1,
Improve education and professional training	2,
Invest in research and innovation	3,
Facilitate the creation of companies	4,
Use energy more efficiently	5,
Invest in transport infrastructure (motorways, railways, etc.)	6,
Other (SPONTANEOUS)	7,
DK	8,

EB65.2 QC5

QA47 For each of the following propositions, tell me if you...? (M)

(SHOW CARD WITH SCALE – ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

	(READ OUT)	Totally agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Totally disagree	DK
(392)	1 The State intervenes too much in our lives	1	2	3	4	5
(393)	2 We need more equality and justice even if this means less freedom for the individual	1	2	3	4	5
(394)	3 Nowadays there is too much tolerance. Criminals should be punished more severely	1	2	3	4	5
(395)	4 Citizens should participate more actively in politics in (OUR COUNTRY)	1	2	3	4	5
(396)	5 Immigrants contribute a lot to (OUR COUNTRY)	1	2	3	4	5
(397)	6 (SPLIT BALLOT A) Economic growth must be a priority for (OUR COUNTRY), even if it affects the environment	1	2	3	4	5
(398)	7 (SPLIT BALLOT B) Protecting the environment should be a priority for (OUR COUNTRY), even if it affects the economic growth	1	2	3	4	5
(399)	8 Free competition is the best guarantee for economic prosperity	1	2	3	4	5
(400)	9 The place of religion in our society is too important (N)	1	2	3	4	5
(401)	10 The legalisation of the personal consumption of cannabis throughout Europe (N)	1	2	3	4	5
(402)	11 The authorisation of homosexual marriages throughout Europe (N)	1	2	3	4	5
(403)	12 The authorisation of child adoption by homosexual couples throughout Europe (N)	1	2	3	4	5
(404)	13 More importance should be given to spare time than to work (N)	1	2	3	4	5

EB60.1 Q37 TREND MODIFIED

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QA48a And in the following list, which are three most important values for you personally?

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

(405-418)

The Rule of Law	1,
Respect for human life	2,
Human rights	3,
Individual freedom	4,
Democracy	5,
Peace	6,
Equality	7,
Solidarity, support for others	8,
Tolerance	9,
Religion	10,
Self-fulfilment	11,
Respect for other cultures	12,
None of these (SPONTANEOUS)	13,
DK	14,

EB60.1 Q36a

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QA48b Which three of the following values, best represent the European Union? (M)

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

(419-432)

The Rule of Law	1,
Respect for human life	2,
Human rights	3,
Individual freedom	4,
Democracy	5,
Peace	6,
Equality	7,
Solidarity, support for others	8,
Tolerance	9,
Religion	10,
Self-fulfilment	11,
Respect for other cultures	12,
None of these (SPONTANEOUS)	13,
DK	14,

EB60.1 Q36b TREND SLIGHTLY MODIFIED

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QA49 In your opinion, in terms of shared values, are European Union Member States...?

(READ OUT – ONE ANSWER ONLY)

(433)

Very close to each other	1
Fairly close to each other	2
Fairly distant from each other	3
Very distant from each other	4
DK	5

NEW

QA50 Which two of the following would you consider to be most helpful if anything, for the future of Europe?

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

(434-442)

A common language	1,
Well defined external borders of the EU	2,
The introduction of the Euro in all EU countries	3,
Comparable living standards	4,
A common army	5,
A common Constitution	6,
None (SPONTANEOUS)	7,
Other (SPONTANEOUS – SPECIFY)	8,
DK	9,

EB65.1 QA11

QA51 How would you judge the current situation in each of the following?

(SHOW CARD)

	(READ OUT)	Very good	Rather good	Rather bad	Very bad	DK
(443)	1 The situation of the (NATIONALITY) economy	1	2	3	4	5
(444)	2 The situation of the European economy	1	2	3	4	5
(445)	3 The employment situation in (OUR COUNTRY)	1	2	3	4	5
(446)	4 The situation of the environment in (OUR COUNTRY)	1	2	3	4	5
(447)	5 The social welfare situation in (OUR COUNTRY)	1	2	3	4	5

EB63.4 QD1 TREND MODIFIED

QA52 Would you say that you are very interested, fairly interested, not very interested or not at all interested in...?

(ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

	(READ OUT)	Very interested	Fairly interested	Not very interested	Not at all interested	DK
(448)	1 Domestic affairs	1	2	3	4	5
(449)	2 European affairs	1	2	3	4	5

EB65.1 QA24