

# EUROBAROMETER 67

PUBLIC OPINION IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

## SPRING 2007

### NATIONAL REPORT

### UNITED KINGDOM

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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.

**Table of contents**

	<b>Page</b>
<b>Notes for reader</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Introduction</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Rise in support for membership, the constitution and enlargement</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Expectations for the next twelve months</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Concerns of citizens</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Awareness and knowledge of matters European</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Trust in national institutions, the EU and its institutions</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Decision-making – at national level or jointly at EU level?</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Educating young citizens about the EU</b>	<b>63</b>
<b>Main conclusions</b>	<b>65</b>
<b>Annexes</b>	<b>67</b>
<b>Technical specifications</b>	
<b>Questionnaire</b>	

**Notes for the reader:**

1. The following are the abbreviations for countries used in the tables/maps in this report:

AT Austria  
BE Belgium  
BG Bulgaria  
CY Rep of Cyprus  
CY ~~tcc~~ Cyprus – Turkish Cypriot Community  
CZ Czech Republic  
DE Germany  
DK Denmark  
EE Estonia  
EL Greece  
ES Spain  
FI Finland  
FR France  
HR Croatia  
HU Hungary  
IE Ireland  
IT Italy  
LT Lithuania  
LU Luxembourg  
LV Latvia  
MT Malta  
NL Netherlands  
PL Poland  
PT Portugal  
RO Romania  
SE Sweden  
SK Slovakia  
SI Slovenia  
TR Turkey  
UK United Kingdom

2. The abbreviation used for the whole of the European Union is EU27.

3. 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 or educational level show minimal variation, these will not be mentioned.

4. Comparisons made on a country-by-country basis with previous Eurobarometer surveys will only be made where noteworthy variations or trends are observed.

5. 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'.

## Introduction

This report looks at a number of issues and assesses the attitudes of UK citizens compared with the other 26 members of the EU.

It then looks “internally” at these statistics to see if there are significant variations on a socio- demographic basis analysing variations by gender, age, occupation, level of education etc.

Where historical data exists, any trends in attitudes or beliefs can also be tracked

The key questions cover several broad areas including:

- How do UK citizens see their lives and prospects?
- What do UK citizens think of the EU and their country’s membership of it?
- What benefits has membership of the EU brought to the UK?
- Do UK citizens know and trust the institutions with authority within the EU? How does this compare with the trust held in similar UK institutions?
- Do they think the EU should continue to grow?
- Should there be a European Constitution?
- What should the EU do about global warming and climate change?
- What issues are important to the average UK citizen?
- Where should important decisions be made? In the UK alone or in the wider context of 27 Member states?
- What should be done to educate young people about the European Union?

## **Rise in support for membership, the constitution and enlargement**

One of the major features of the UK responses in Eurobarometer 67 (EB67) was a noticeable increase in support for the country's membership of the European Union, a majority support for a European constitution, as well as approval of enlargement from the existing base of 27 member states.

### **Support for membership**

#### **Q9a Generally speaking, do you think that our country's membership of the European Union is a good thing?**

39% of the UK poll believed that membership of the European Union was a good thing compared with 26% whose opinion was neutral and 30% who said it was a bad thing.

This 39% figure shows a higher level of support than exists in Austria (36%), Hungary and Latvia (37%) but all are well below the EU27 average figure of 57%. This compares with figures as high as 77% in the Netherlands and 76% in Ireland.

Across the EU in general, belief that membership was a good thing rose from 53% to 57% in the period between autumn 2006 and spring 2007.

Even though the figures are smaller, the UK figures saw a greater percentage increase over this six-month period from 34% to 39%. The gap between UK citizens thinking it was a good thing compared with those taking the contrary view has now increased from three percentage points (34% - 31%) to nine percentage points (39% - 30%).

### **UK socio-demographic analysis**

Men (42%) rather than women (36%) were more inclined to see membership of the EU as a good thing.

Support for membership was also substantially stronger amongst the youngest group (15-24) than amongst the oldest group (55+).

As household size increases, so does the likelihood that membership of the EU is seen as a good thing. Accordingly, this sentiment is held by just 36% of people living on their own compared with 46% of household units containing more than 4 persons.

Occupation was also a major factor in determining attitudes as between 49% and 53% of the self-employed, managers and white-collar workers viewed membership as a good thing compared with just 31% of manual workers, 32% of house persons and 30% of the unemployed and the retired.

As might be expected, students (who would normally be younger and better educated) gave a very positive 61% affirmative response.

**Q. 10a Has the UK benefited from being a member of the European Union?**

Across the European Union, there is a clear predominance of opinion that membership has, on balance, brought benefits to member countries. The EU27 average has 59% of citizens holding this view and a figure as high as 86% is observed in Ireland.

In the UK, 43% of the poll believed that the country had benefited, while marginally more (44%) took the contrary view.

In the last EB, EU27 citizens have become more positive on the benefits of their country being a member of the EU. Accordingly, the support figure has grown to 59% from 54%.

In the UK, just six months ago, 47% of the poll believed that the country had not benefited compared with 39% who saw membership as positive. This gave an eight percentage point gap in favour of the negative view.

Today, the position has changed substantially. While those UK citizens taking the negative view has fallen to 44%, the positive view has increased and is now held by 43% of the UK poll. The opinion gap is now down to just one percentage point.

**UK socio-demographic analysis**

Men take a more positive view on the benefits of being a member of the European Union and 46% of them – as opposed to 40% of women – say the UK has benefited.

Younger people also hold this belief more strongly than older segments of the population with 55% of the youngest group affirming this position compared with just 30% of those aged 55 or more.

When it comes to levels of education, differences become even more pronounced. The 43% UK average is composed of 24% of those educated to age 15 or less, 42% of those educated to age 16-19 and 61% of those educated to age 20 or beyond.

Occupation (which is often a function of education level) also shows substantial variations in the belief that the UK has benefited from EU membership. Accordingly, support levels of 52% (self-employed), 53% (other white-collar workers) and 58% (managers) are noted.

Only 40% of manual workers, 37% of house persons and 31% of the unemployed hold this view and the figure falls even further to 30% amongst the retired.

Amongst students (generally young and, by implication, in the process of being well-educated), virtually two-thirds (64%) believe the UK has benefited in this way.

## **A European constitution**

### **Q 27.5 Are you for or against a constitution for the European Union?**

Another key result of this latest Eurobarometer is the UK public's attitude towards a possible European constitution. The concept of a written constitution is essentially foreign to UK citizens but, despite this, noticeably more were in favour than were against this principle with 43% of UK citizens polled in favour while 36% were against and 21% were undecided.

While there were virtually no changes in UK attitude over the past six months, support in general across the European Union rose from 63% to 66% with a one percentage point fall in those who were against the constitution (21% - 20%) and a two percentage point fall in the 'don't know' factor from 16% to 14%.

### **UK socio-demographic analysis**

Younger people were more likely to support the idea of a constitution and the concept was accepted by 48% of people aged 15-24 compared with just 36% at the far end of the age spectrum.

Attitudes are even more strongly marked by education and, of those who had left school aged 15 or less, only 29% supported the idea compared with nearly twice this number (56%) who had been educated to age 20 and beyond.

53% of the self-employed and 51% of managers approved of the idea of a constitution, while figures for manual workers, house persons and the unemployed were equal to or above the UK average.

The largest dissent regarding the constitution was seen amongst the retired where only 35% gave their accord.

There is an interesting variation by place of residence with 38% of those living in rural villages, 40% living in small to mid-sized towns and 48% of those living in large towns supporting the idea of a constitution for the European Union.

## **Enlargement of the European Union**

### **Q 27.4 Are you for or against further enlargement of the EU to include other countries in future years?**

Although eight percentage points behind the EU average, 41% of the UK poll were for future enlargement of the EU. This figure is very similar to the 42% noted in Ireland – a country with one of the highest levels of support of EU membership.

These figures stand out in sharp contrast to those recorded in Luxembourg and Austria where only 25% and 28% respectively of those polled were in favour of bringing other countries into the EU in future years.

The UK 'don't know' factor at 11% was virtually identical to the EU average while the 48% of those against enlargement was nine percentage points greater than

the EU average but still well below the 59% recorded in Germany and 60% in France.

Both the UK and EU27 averages show an increase in the number of citizens' who are for further enlargement of the European Union. The EU27 figure increases from 46% to 49% and, while there are still more UK citizens against further enlargement, the gap has decreased from fifteen percentage points (51% - 36%) to just seven percentage points (48% - 41%).

### **UK socio-demographic analysis**

Men are keener on further enlargement of the EU and 44% of them gave the issue their support compared with 38% of women.

Once again, younger and better educated people were keener on developing the broad concept of the European Union.

Accordingly, enlargement received support from 56% of those aged 15 to 24 and 57% of those educated to age 20 and beyond compared with just 27% of citizens over 55 and 24% of those who had left school aged 15 or less.

Household composition also appears to be a factor in regard to this issue. Just 33% of people living on their own supported enlargement compared with more than half (51%) of people living in households comprising four or more persons.

54% of the self-employed and 51% of managers supported the idea of enlargement while this figure falls to 39% of manual workers and 26% of the retired.

### **Positive results of European integration**

#### **Q. 35 What do you view as the most positive results of European integration?**

By far the most popular results of European integration were seen to be **peace** amongst the Member States and the **free movement of people, goods and services**.

#### **Peace amongst the Member States of the EU**

34% of the UK poll gave this as the most positive result – a figure echoed by 39% of EU27 citizens.

This question was last asked a year previously – in the spring of 2006 – and, since that date, the figures have declined slightly both in the UK (36% to 34%) and across the Union (43% to 39%).

### **UK socio-demographic analysis**

37% of men compared with 32% of women viewed peace as one of the most positive results of European integration and this view was also held more strongly by the oldest age-group (39%) than the youngest (31%).



There were just minimal variations by education and no clear pattern was established by occupation or household composition.

**Free movement of people, goods and services**

30% of UK citizens and a slightly higher 33% of those polled across the Union chose this as the most positive result of European integration.

Over the past year, the importance of this aspect of European integration has increased in citizens' eyes.

In the UK, this is demonstrated by an increase of five percentage points from 25% to 30%, while, across the Union, a four percentage point increase is shown in a rise from 29% to 33%.

**UK socio-demographic analysis**

No strong patterns emerged by gender, age or household composition but there was a substantial variation by education with 44% of those educated to age 20 or beyond citing this result compared with just 18% of those who had left school at the earliest opportunity.

39% of managers believed this was one of the most positive results of European integration – a view shared by only 30% of house persons, 29% of manual workers and 23% of the retired.

## **Expectations for the next twelve months**

### **Q.4.1 Will the next 12 months be better, worse or the same when it comes to ....**

#### **Your life in general**

UK citizens are upbeat about their expectations for life in general over the next 12 months and virtually half (48%) of those polled believed their life would be better – the equal highest figure amongst the 27 countries of the European Union together with Latvia, Ireland (47%) and Estonia (46%). This compares with an EU27 average of 37% and figures as low as 20% in Hungary, 22% in Bulgaria and 25% in Germany.

The largest proportion of EU citizens (49%) saw their life as being unchanged – a figure seven percentage points ahead of the 42% figure noted in the UK.

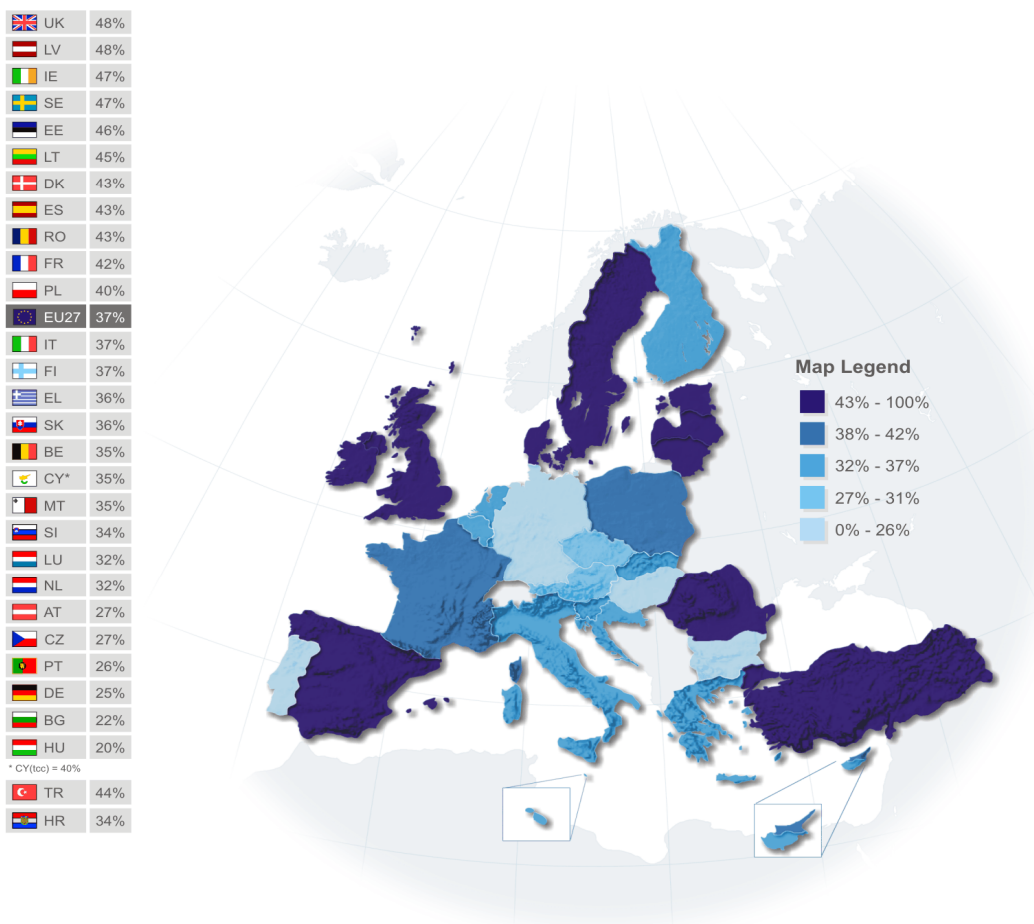
Over the past six months, EU27 citizens have become slightly more optimistic about the future with a two percentage point increase from 35% in the autumn of 2006 to the 37% recorded in this most recent survey.

The UK optimism figure remains unchanged at 48%, while there is a doubling from 4% to 8% amongst those who believe that their life in general will be worse in 12 months' time.

Question: QA4.1. What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...?

Option: Your life in general

Answers: Better



### UK socio-demographic analysis

While there were no variations by gender, the optimism of young people was particularly noticeable. 70% of those aged 15 to 24 believe their life in general would be better while this figure reduces to 50% of those aged 40 to 54 and just a quarter (26%) of those aged 55 or more.

Education was also an important driver in this area with 57% of the most educated group taking this view compared with 31% of those who had left school at the earliest opportunity.

Larger households also were more optimistic about the future with 61% of households containing 4 or more people believing their life in general would be better compared with just 36% of people living on their own.

Optimism was also apparent amongst the unemployed where virtually two-thirds (64%) of their number believed their life would be better in the coming twelve months. This compares with figures of 57% for managers, 48% for manual workers and just 26% of the retired.

### The economic situation in your country compared with your household's financial situation

As has been noted in previous editions of Eurobarometer, there is a noticeable difference in expectation in the UK as to the general economic situation in the country over the coming twelve months and the micro version when looking at the individual household.

Accordingly, 35% of the UK poll believed that their **personal financial situation** will be better compared with just 27% on average across the European Union. When this question is expanded to cover the whole country rather than just the respondents' own situations, the EU average figure barely moves to 28%.

However, the UK statistic more than halves to just 16%. This has the result of creating a figure that shows that 40% of the UK poll believes their **country's economic situation** will worsen compared with an EU27 average of just 27%.

**TABLE: difference of view on the economic situation in the UK from a personal and broad perspective**

	Personal situation	Country-wide situation
Better	35	16
The same	48	35
Worse	14	40
Don't know	3	9

Looking at trends over the past 6 months in respect of expectations regarding the country's economic situation, the UK figure has scarcely moved from 15% to 16% of those thinking it would get better compared with a move from 20% to 28% across the Union as a whole.

In the UK, the figure of those believing the situation will get worse on a countrywide basis has increased from 37% to 40%. This is in stark contrast to the EU27 average where the figure has fallen from 34% to 27%.

Turning to the macro situation and looking at citizens' views of the financial situation in their own homes, two contrasting pictures emerge.

EU citizens are generally slightly optimistic about the coming year with an increase from 25% to 27% of those believing their personal financial situation will get better, while the percentage of those believing it will get worse remains constant at 16%.

In the UK, although still more than a third (35%) believed their situation will get better, this shows a small decline from the 36% noted in the autumn of 2006.

Over the same period, there has been a five percentage point increase from 9% to 14% of UK citizens believing their personal financial situation will get worse.

It should be remembered, of course, that the UK figures are still broadly more optimistic than the average across the EU but the fact that these two sets of data are now moving in opposite directions is worth noting.

**UK socio-demographic analysis****- country's economic situation**

While 24% of the youngest age-group believed the economic situation in their country will get better during the next twelve months, this figure falls to just 12% from the poll conducted amongst people aged 55 or more.

Optimism was also much more marked amongst the better educated with 23% of those still studying and 21% of those educated to age 20 or beyond having this belief compared with just 11% of those who had left school aged 15 or less.

**- personal financial situation**

Men (38%) were more optimistic about the financial situation in the household than women where the figure reaches just 32%.

Once again, education and age are important factors with optimism being shown by younger and better educated people.

More than half (54%) of the youngest age group believed their financial situation would be better in twelve months' time and figures of 54% were noted amongst those still studying and 43% amongst those educated to age 20 or beyond.

These figures compare with just 13% of those aged 55 or more and 21% amongst those educated to age 15 or less.

Household composition was also a major factor in attitude on this issue. Just 23% of people living on their own believed their financial situation would improve compared with 42% of people living in households with four or more members.

As was noted in the issue above relating to the national economy, the unemployed were in the vanguard of optimism with 48% of their number believing their personal financial situation would improve in the year ahead. This compares with figures of 45% for the self-employed, 42% for managers, 36% for house persons and just 12% for the retired.

**Employment situation in the country compared with individual households**

As was noted above, on the issue of country versus individual prospects in the areas of respondents' economic and financial situations, a similar seemingly contradictory picture arises when the issue under review is the employment situation in the country as a whole and UK citizens' personal job situation.

On a country-wide basis, the majority of EU27 citizens (35%) and 39% of UK citizens think the job situation in their country will remain the same.

However, just 16% of UK citizens think it will improve compared with 31% across the Union as a whole. In fact, 36% of the UK poll sees the country-wide situation as worsening compared with just 27% of the EU27 poll.

Looking at the employment situation, however, from a personal point of view, i.e. one's own job, 27% of UK citizens believe the situation will get better with only

6% that it will only get worse. These figures are broadly comparable with the 23% and 8% noted across the 27 countries of the Union.

The vast majority of citizens (UK 59% and EU27 60%) believe their personal job situation will remain unchanged in the coming 12 months.

**TABLE: difference of view of job situation in the UK from a personal and broad perspective**

	Personal situation	Country-wide situation
Better	27	16
The same	59	39
Worse	6	36
Don't know	8	9

Over the past six months, there has been a noticeable uplift in confidence across the European Union regarding the general employment situation in respondents' countries.

Accordingly, 35% rather than 38% think the situation will remain the same; 27% rather than 33% believe it will get worse leading to an increase in the figures of those believing the situation will get better of some nine percentage points from 22% to 31%.

In the UK, there is an increase from 33% to 39% amongst those thinking the situation will remain the same, while the pessimistic share moves from 38% to 36% and the optimistic from 15% to 16%.

When looking at trends in people's beliefs relating to their personal job situations, there has been a slight polarisation of views with an increase of one percentage point amongst EU citizens generally on both the positive (22% to 23%) and negative (7% to 8%) views.

In the UK, there has been a fall from 29% to 27% amongst those thinking that their personal job situation will improve which is matched by a similar percentage point change from 4% to 6% of those thinking the situation will worsen. The vast majority of UK citizens still believe their personal job situation will remain constant and this figure has increased from 55% to 59%.

## **UK socio-demographic analysis**

### **- personal job situation**

Women appear to be relatively conservative on this issue and are much more likely than men to believe that their personal job situation will remain the same over the coming twelve months with figures of 65% and 54% respectively. There is only a two percentage point variation between the genders in the 'don't know' factor and those believing that their job situation will get worse.

This leads to the situation whereby 32% of men compared with 21% of women think their personal job situation will improve over the year ahead.

As might be anticipated, younger people are much more optimistic about the personal job situation and 51% of the 15 to 24 age-group believe their situation

will be better compared with 40% of people aged 25 to 39, 27% of those aged 40 to 54 and just 6% of those aged 55 or over.

Amongst the least educated group, only 11% saw their personal job situation improving compared with 34% of those educated to age 20 or more and 52% of those still studying.

High figures were noted amongst students (52%), the unemployed (48%) and the self-employed (39%) while house persons (14%) and the retired (2%) represented the far end of the optimism scale.

#### **- country's employment situation**

Men are more pessimistic than women on this issue (39% - 34%) and this pessimism is shared by the least educated group (47%) and citizens aged 55 or more (44%).

This negative sentiment is much reduced amongst those still studying (25%), those educated to age 20 or more (33%) and the youngest age-band where the figure is just 21%.

The highest levels of pessimism on this issue were noted among the retired (43%) and manual workers (40%) while a brighter view was held by students (25%), the unemployed (27%) and managers (31%).

## Concerns of citizens

### Q 18a What do you think are the two most important issues facing our country?

Rank	Issue	UK %	High %	Low %	EU %	EU rank
<b>1</b>	Crime	41	51 CY	9 LU	24	2
<b>2</b>	Immigration	32	36 ES	2 HU	15	6
<b>3</b>	Terrorism	25	47 ES	0 MT	12	7=
<b>4</b>	Healthcare	24	50 IE	4 ES, MT	18	4=
<b>5</b>	Pensions	11	20 CZ	3 IE	12	7=
<b>6</b>	Housing	10	32 LU	0 EL, DE	8	10=
<b>7=</b>	Unemployment	8	58 DE	5 DK	34	1
<b>7=</b>	Education system	8	20 LU	1 MT	9	9
<b>7=</b>	Protecting the environment	8	26 DK	0 PT	7	12
<b>10=</b>	Inflation	7	63 LV	3 SE	18	4=
<b>10=</b>	Taxation	7	21 SI	2 ES	8	10=
<b>12</b>	Economic situation	6	44 RO	5 DK	20	3
<b>13</b>	Energy	4	18 FI	0 EL, PT	4	13
<b>14</b>	Defence/foreign affairs	3	14 EE	0 IE, HU, BG	2	14

It is interesting to see the variation over the last three Eurobarometer surveys when the four major issues of concern are reviewed.

The four main issues of concern to UK citizens remain constant and it would seem that their individual ranking is determined by recent events and/or media coverage.

Rank	Spring 2007	%	Autumn 2006	%	Spring 2006	%
<b>1</b>	Crime	<b>41</b>	Immigration	<b>40</b>	Crime	<b>41</b>
<b>2</b>	Immigration	<b>32</b>	Terrorism	<b>35</b>	Healthcare	<b>30</b>
<b>3</b>	Terrorism	<b>25</b>	Crime	<b>34</b>	Immigration	<b>28</b>
<b>4</b>	Healthcare	<b>24</b>	Healthcare	<b>20</b>	Terrorism	<b>18</b>

## UK socio-demographic analysis

### - Crime (41%)

While just three percentage points separated the male (39%) and female (42%) concerns on this issue, there is an interesting pattern to the data relating to age.

Relatively high figures of 44% are seen among 15-24 year olds and 46% amongst those aged 55 or more. These figures compare with 34% amongst those aged 25-39 and 39% for those aged 40-54. It would appear that crime is of more concern to the people when they are either in the youngest age-band or in the oldest one.



Education was an important determinant on this issue. 50% of those whose education had not gone beyond age 15 cited crime as one of the two most important issues facing the country, while this figure drops to just 24% of those educated to age 20 or more.

The retired (49%), house persons and the unemployed (both 44%) are the groups who are most concerned about crime, while it affects on 25% of managers.

#### **- Immigration (32%)**

Younger people (23%) are less concerned about immigration than people aged 40-54 (36%) and people aged 55 or more (34%).

As education levels rise, the concern over immigration reduces. Accordingly, this issue is of concern to just 19% of those educated to age 20 or more compared with a figure twice as high (39%) amongst those who had left school at the earliest opportunity.

Manual workers (41%) were the most concerned over immigration whilst the figure falls to 18% amongst the self-employed.

#### **- Terrorism (25%)**

28% of men as opposed to 22% of women cited terrorism as one of the two most important issues facing the UK.

There were, however, no discernible variations in concerns of this issue when the data are analysed by age, education, household composition or occupation.

#### **- Healthcare (24%)**

Women were considerably more concerned about healthcare and 29% of that group saw this as a major issue compared with just 19% of men.

The issue was of relatively low concern to the least educated group (21%), while the figures rise to 33% among those educated to 20 or more.

The issue was also of serious concern to the self-employed (36%) and house persons (32%), while figures of just 19% were noted for manual workers and 22% for white-collar workers and the retired.

## **Awareness and knowledge of matters European**

**Q 13: Respondents were asked whether they had heard of three of the major EU institutions.**

### **Awareness of EU institutions**

#### **The European Parliament**

81% of the UK poll had heard of the European Parliament compared with an EU average of 89% and figures as high as 98% in Denmark.

Numbers in this part of the survey varied minimally with just a one percentage point fall in both the EU27 figures and those for the UK concerning awareness of the European Parliament since the last Eurobarometer.

#### **UK socio-demographic analysis**

Men (84%) were more likely to have heard of the European Parliament than women where the figure reaches just 79%.

There is a marked difference when the analysis is made by age of respondent. Just over half (53%) of people aged 15 to 24 had heard of this institution compared with 91% of those aged 55 or more.

As might be expected, education also played a part in this awareness with 92% of the most educated group claiming to have heard of the European Parliament compared with just 80% of those who had left school aged 15 or less.

People living on their own (88%) were much more likely to have heard of the European Parliament than members of households comprising four or more people where the figure falls to 74%.

By occupation, 94% of managers and 91% of the self-employed had heard of this institution compared with just 67% of the unemployed and 57% of students.

#### **The European Commission**

Across Europe, fewer people had heard of the European Commission than had heard of the European Parliament and figures of 82% are noted as an EU27 average and just 74% in the UK.

While across the Union, the percentage of the poll who had heard of the European Commission remained constant at 82% between the autumn of 2006 and spring 2007, the UK figure showed a small but noticeable upward move from 72% to 74%.

#### **UK socio-demographic analysis**

There was a noticeable variation by gender on this question with 81% of men claiming to have heard of the European Commission compared with just two out of three (68%) of women.

Age was also a major determinant with only 54% of the youngest age-group having heard of this body compared with 83% of citizens aged 40 to 54 and 76% of those aged 55 or more.

While 67% of people who had left school aged 15 or less had heard of the European Commission, this figure rises to 90% of those who had received the most education.

94% of managers, 85% of the self-employed and 82% of other white-collar workers had heard of this body while the figure falls to just 59% of house persons and students.

### **Council of the European Union**

Just 43% of the UK poll had heard of this institution and the EU27 average is also the lowest of the three institutions at 68%.

Since EB66, the numbers of EU citizens who were aware of the existence of the Council of the European Union increased by four percentage points both across the EU27 (64% to 68%) and within the UK (39% to 43%). The UK figures mean that the percentage gap between those who had heard or not heard of this body has now narrowed from twenty-one percentage points to just eleven.

### **UK socio-demographic analysis**

There was, again, a substantial variation between the male and female responses. Just 35% of women had heard of the Council compared with 51% of men.

As has been seen above, age and education are also important factors in levels of knowledge of European institutions.

Just 37% of the youngest age-group and 33% of the least educated had heard of this body compared with 48% of people aged 55 or more and 58% of those educated to age 20 or more.

There was a substantial variation by occupation with 29% of house persons and 34% of manual workers and the unemployed being aware of the existence of the Council compared with 58% of the self-employed and 62% of managers.

**Knowledge of the EU**

In this section, citizens were asked questions which assessed their knowledge of the structure and working of the European Union.

**Composition of the EU****Q 17.1 The EU currently consists of 15 Member States. True or false?**

30% of UK citizens incorrectly believed that the Union was made up of just 15 Member States. This view was also held by an average of 23% of citizens across the Union.

While just six months previously, only 45% of EU citizens had correctly said this statement was false, this figure now increases sharply to 57%.

A similar, if less marked, improvement was seen in the UK figures, where, with the 'don't know' factor additionally falling from 33% to 30%, the percentage of UK citizens correctly saying this statement was false rose substantially from 34% to 40%.

**UK socio-demographic analysis**

No clear patterns emerge by gender, age, education or occupation.

**Election of Members of the European Parliament (MEPs)****Q 17.2 Members of the European Parliament are directly elected by citizens of the EU. True or false?**

46% of UK citizens correctly stated that Members of the European Parliament were directly elected by EU citizens. This level of awareness is slightly higher than the EU27 average (45%) and noticeably greater than figures of 38% in France, 41% in Italy and 42% in Germany – the three other largest countries in the Union.

It should be noted that the UK 'don't know' figure was relatively high at 27% compared with an EU27 average of just 20%.

It is interesting, and perhaps surprising, to note that both across the EU27 generally and within the UK, the number of people knowing how MEPs are elected has fallen over the past six months. In the autumn of 2006, 49% of EU and 51% of UK citizens correctly stated that they were elected by EU citizens.

Six months later, these figures had fallen to 45% and 46% respectively.

**UK socio-demographic analysis**

53% of men correctly answered this question compared with just 39% of women.

Education was significant in responses to this question with 60% of the most educated giving the correct answer compared with just 40% of those who had left school aged 15 or less.

While 65% of the self-employed and 61% of managers were aware of the election process of MEPs, this figure falls to just 36% of students, 37% of house persons and 38% of manual workers.

**President of the Council of the European Union****Q 17.4 Every six months, a different Member State becomes the President of the Council of the European Union. True or false?**

When asked about the rotation of the Presidency, UK citizens were not particularly confident in their responses with just 34% correctly saying that the Presidency changed every six months, 32% saying that this was not true and 34% giving a 'don't know' response.

Over the past six months, the UK 'don't know' factor on this question has risen from 32% to 34%, while figure for those polled who correctly agreed with the statement has fallen as a percentage from 37% to 34%.

In contrast, across the Union, the percentage saying this statement was correct has increased from 47% to 49%.

**UK socio-demographic analysis**

While only 24% of women were able to give a correct answer to this question, the figure rises to 44% amongst men. Women, in fact, had a very high 'don't know' quotient on this issue with a figure of 43%.

Awareness of the fact increases with age and education with the result that only 25% of the youngest age-group and 29% of the least educated group were aware of this process compared with 42% of the oldest age-group and 48% of those who had received the most education.

When the data are analysed by occupation, 45% of the self-employed and 41% of the retired were aware of this six-monthly cycle compared with just 23% of students and 25% of house persons.

**Assessment of level of information of fellow-citizens****Q. 22a overall, do you think that in the UK people are well informed or not about European political affairs?**

Generally, across the European Union, the great majority of citizens feel that people in their country are not well-informed about European political affairs. The EU27 average figure and that for the UK are identical at 75%.

There is a wide variation in the figures making up the EU27 average with only 53% of Luxembourg's and 55% of the Irish poll saying they were not well-informed.

However, this figure rises to 89% in Portugal and 85% in Greece.

While 20%, on average, across the Union consider themselves to be not at all informed, this figure reaches 40% in Greece, 38% in Portugal and 26% in the UK.

**UK socio-demographic analysis**

Focusing on the 23% of the poll who consider themselves to be well-informed on European political affairs, there is just a two point difference between men and women with the women having the higher figure at 24%.

While there is little variation in the figures between the youngest age and people up to age 54 (25% - 27%), older people feel they are lacking in knowledge and a figure of just 17% is noted.

When the data are analysed by occupation, manual workers and student s (29%) and house persons (27%), perhaps somewhat surprisingly, consider themselves well-informed on European political affairs, while only 22% of managers make this claim.

**Recognition of the European flag****Q 42: Have you ever seen this symbol?**

Across the European Union, 95% of those polled had seen the European flag and the only countries where the figure is less than 90% are Ireland (89%) and Italy (85%). The UK figure is 92%.

In the year since this question was last asked, in the spring of 2006, there has been a sharp increase in the number of UK citizens who now recognise the European flag. In just twelve months, the UK figure has risen by seven percentage points from 85% to 92%, while over the same period the EU27 figure has rise from 92% to 95%.

**UK socio-demographic analysis**

Apart from relatively small figures noted amongst the oldest age-group (87%) and the least educated (86%), there are no other significant variations in the constituent data.

**Suitability of the European flag****Q 43.1 This flag is a good symbol for Europe.**

Virtually three-quarters (74%) of the UK poll tended to agree that the flag was a good symbol for Europe although this figure is below the 85% EU27 average.

UK positive sentiment towards the European flag has increased over the past 12 months from 69% to 74% while a similar percentage point growth has been seen in the EU27 averages where the figures have increased from 80% to 85%.

**UK socio-demographic analysis**

67% of the least educated tended to agree with this statement, while the figure rises to 83% amongst those who had finished education aged 20 or more.

White-collar workers were the occupational group who most agreed with this statement amongst whom a figure of 84% was observed.

**Sentiments regarding the European flag****Q 43.2 This flag stands for something good.**

78% of EU citizens feel that the European flag stands for something good and, while this figure falls to 64% in the UK, this still represents the feelings of virtually two-thirds of the UK poll.

The belief that the European flag stands for something good has increased noticeably over the past year with changes of 71% to 78% across the Union generally and 56% to 64% in the UK.

**UK socio-demographic analysis**

78% of the youngest age-group tended to agree with this statement, while support tended to diminish with age resulting in just 58% of those aged 55 or more subscribing to this view.

Education was, again, a factor in forming this opinion with just 53% of those educated to age 15 or less agreeing that the flag stood for something good – some twenty percentage points below the 73% recorded amongst the most educated group.

73% of students and 72% of white-collar workers agreed with this statement, while the figure falls to just 61% of the self-employed and 56% of the retired.

**Identification with the European flag****Q. 43.3 I identify with this flag.**

There was a substantial variation in the constituent figures making up the 54% of EU27 citizens who said they identified with the European flag. For example, this view was held by roughly two-thirds of the citizens in Italy (68%), Germany

(67%), the Czech Republic (66%), Malta (66%), Poland (66%), while, in Slovakia, the figure rises to 74%.

At the other end of the scale, this view is held by only 22% of the Dutch, 27% of the Latvians and 31% of Finns and Lithuanians.

The UK figure, at 45%, is closer to this last grouping of countries.

Over twelve months, the percentage of EU citizens identifying with the flag has increased by three percentage points from 51% to 54%. In the UK, a similar four percentage point increase has been seen amongst those agreeing with the statement and, although the support is still below European averages, at 45%, the gap between those agreeing and disagreeing has narrowed by twelve percentage points in spring 2006 to just four in spring 2007.

### **UK socio-demographic analysis**

Looking from a socio-demographic point of view at the minority (45%) group identifying with the European flag, no significant variations are seen by gender or age.

However, education appears to be a significant factor in that just 34% of the least educated are in this position compared with 50% of those educated to age 16 to 19 and a similar 47% of those educated to age 20 or more.

55% of the unemployed identified with this flag compared with just 41% of the retired.



## **Trust in national institutions, the EU and its institutions**

In this report, the levels of trust in both national and EU institutions are reviewed and compared.

### **National institutions**

UK citizens have, over the years, shown that they tend not to trust many of their own national institutions.

This report looks in detail at citizens' levels of trust of their government and parliament and compares it with trust levels held in the broad concept of the European Union.

### **National government**

#### **Q 16.5 Do you tend to trust or not to trust the national government?**

While across the European Union, 41% of those polled tended to trust their government, this figure falls to just 34% in the UK. However, this figure is still considerably greater than the 18% in Poland, 19% in Romania and 20% in Latvia.

Only 7% of the UK poll gave a 'don't know' response to this question.

Since this question was asked in EB66.1, in the autumn of 2006, there has been a substantial change in the attitude of both EU and UK citizens.

In the UK, the percentage of people trusting the national government has risen from 24% to 34%, while across the European Union, the figure has grown from 30% to 41%.

In the UK, this means that the gap between those trusting and those not trusting their government has narrowed from forty five percentage points to twenty four percentage points in just six months.

Across the Union, the gap has narrowed as spectacularly from thirty two percentage points to just twelve percentage points in this latest survey.

### **UK socio-demographic analysis**

Younger people have a higher level of trust in the government than older citizens. Accordingly, nearly half (47%) of people aged between 15 and 24 trust the government compared with just 26% of those aged 55 or more.

An identical 26% of people who were only educated to age 15 or less also trust the government – a low figure compared with the 37% of those educated to age 20 or more. A figure of 53% is noted amongst people still studying.

There is a noticeable difference in attitude based on size of household. While only 28% of those who live on their own express this feeling, it rises to 40% in households where there are four or more people present.

A relatively high proportion of managers (40%) and house persons (38%) have trust in the government, while this figure falls to just 29% amongst the retired and 21% of other white-collar workers.

### **National parliament**

#### **Q 16.6 Do you tend to trust or not to trust the national parliament?**

41% of UK citizens tended not to trust Parliament – a figure very much in line with the EU27 average of 43%. Once again, particularly low figures are seen in Latvia (18%), Lithuania (15%) and Poland (15%).

Only 9% of the UK poll gave a 'don't know' response to this question.

In the autumn of 2006, the proportion of people who said they tended to trust the UK parliament was just 29%. In just six months, this figure has moved to 41% and a similar sharp increase in trust is seen across the whole European Union where this figure has increased from 33% to 43%.

As is shown in the question above relating to the national government, there is still a higher proportion of the poll tending not to trust these institutions but the major shift in attitude over the past six months should be carefully studied to see if a longer term trend appears in the Eurobarometer of autumn 2007.

### **UK socio-demographic analysis**

Making up the 41% average were 44% of the male poll and just 37% of the female poll.

Those with higher levels of education were more likely to trust this institution and figures of 46% were noted amongst those educated to age 20 or more compared with just 33% who had left school at age 15 or earlier.

52% of the self-employed and 53% of managers trusted Parliament while figures as low as 34% were recorded by manual workers and 25% by other white-collar workers.

### **The European Union**

#### **Q 16.7 Please tell me if you tend to trust or not to trust the European Union.**

36% of UK citizens tended to trust the European Union compared with an EU27 average of 57%.

Making up this average are figures as high as 73% in Belgium, 72% in Estonia and figures as small as the 36% already noted in the UK, 46% in Austria and 47% in Latvia.

Mirroring the substantial increases in trust levels shown above in relation to the UK Government and Parliament, the trust level in the UK towards the European

Union has moved from just 26% in EB66 to 36% in this latest edition over a period of just six months.

This change of attitude is also seen across the European Union as a whole with the 45% of the poll who tended to trust the European Union in the autumn of 2006 increasing to 57% by the spring of 2007.

### **UK socio-demographic analysis**

Older people were much less likely to trust the European Union than younger citizens. Accordingly, while trust levels are at 46% for people aged 15 to 24, 41% for those aged 25 to 39 and 40% for those aged 40 to 54, they tumble to just 26% amongst those aged 55 or more.

An even greater contrast is seen when respondents are segmented by level of education. More than half (54%) of those educated to age 20 or more tend to trust the European Union and a similar figure of 53% is noted amongst those still studying. These two figures compare with just 21% amongst those who had left school at the earliest opportunity.

Household composition is also a determining factor in trust levels with just 31% of people who live on their own tending to trust the EU compared with 43% in households numbering four or more people.

There is a wide diversity of attitude when results are analysed by occupation. 53% of students and 51% of managers tend to trust the EU, while figures of just 27% are noted amongst house persons and the retired.

**EU institutions**

Having looked at UK institutions and the European Union in general, this report now looks specifically at levels of trust in three of the main European Union institutions.

**The European Parliament****Q. 15.1 Please tell me if you tend to trust or not to trust the European Parliament.**

Just a third (33%) of the UK poll trusted the European Parliament compared with an EU27 average of 56%.

It is interesting to note that the three countries which had the lowest level of trust in their own national parliaments showed a substantial change in attitude when asked if they tended to trust the European Parliament. Accordingly, figures of 60% were observed in Poland and Lithuania and 43% in Latvia.

Another important result from this part of the survey was that a substantial 21% of the UK poll was unable to express an opinion on this issue.

Over the past six months, the trust level across the European Union towards the European Parliament has increased from 52% to 56% meaning that a majority of European citizens now tend to trust this institution.

In the UK, over the same period, there was a proportionately greater increase in trust from 25% to 33%. Even though this obviously means more UK citizens (46%) tend not to trust this European institution, the percentage point gap has more than halved from twenty seven percentage points to just thirteen.

**UK socio-demographic analysis**

Trust levels in this institution varied substantially according to the respondents' level of education. Of the people who had left school aged 15 or less, just 18% (or less than one in five) had trust in the EP. This compares with virtually one in two (48%) of those who had been educated to age 20 or more.

As household size increased, there was a noticeable growth in the trust level. Just 28% of people living on their own tended to trust this body compared with 38% in households where there were four or more people.

While 47% of the self-employed and 45% of managers tended to trust the European Parliament, this falls to 31% amongst house persons, 27% amongst manual workers and 26% amongst the retired.

## **The European Commission**

### **Q. 15.2 Please tell me if you tend to trust or not to trust the European Commission.**

Just 29% of the UK poll tended to trust the European Commission compared with an overall EU27 average of 52%.

It is also interesting to note that an identical number of UK citizens (29%) felt unable to give an answer to this question, implying a fundamental lack of knowledge on the subject.

Although growing at a slower pace than the figures relating to the European Parliament, the EU27 average and UK statistics both show a four percentage point increase in trust level towards the Commission over the last six months.

Accordingly, the EU average has risen from 48% to 52% of those trusting this body, while the UK figures have risen from 25% to 29%.

## **UK socio-demographic analysis**

While levels of trust of citizens between the ages of 15 and 54 varied in a very narrow band between 34% and 36%, there is a marked fall to just 18% amongst UK citizens aged 55 or more.

Once again, education plays a major part in forming attitude in this area. While just 16% of those educated to age 15 or less trust the European Commission, this figure almost trebles to 44% amongst those educated to age 20 or beyond.

As in the previous example relating to the European Parliament, household composition has an influence on people's attitude. Just 23% of people living on their own trusted the Commission compared with 35% of those who were part of households of four or more people.

As might be predicted, the highest levels of trust by occupation were noted amongst managers (45%), the self-employed (39%) and students (27%). At the bottom of the trust scale were retired people of whom only 19% said they trusted this European body.

## **The Council of the European Union**

### **Q. 15.3 Please tell me if you tend to trust or not to trust the Council of the European Union.**

Repeating the pattern shown above, the largest proportion of the UK poll (39%) was unable to give a response to the question as to whether they tended to trust the Council of the European Union, once again indicating a strong possibility of lack of knowledge on the workings of this body.

In fact, across Europe, the 'don't know' factor with regard to the Council reached 27% - more than one in four of those polled.

Over the past six months, the UK figures show an increase in the 'don't know' factor in relationship to the Council from 38% to 39% as detailed above. At the same time, the proportion of people tending to trust this institution has increased noticeably from 19% to 23%.

At an EU level, trust levels have risen from 43% to 47%.

### **UK socio-demographic analysis**

As in the previous two examples of European institutions, age and education are important factors in determining people's levels of trust.

While 32% of the youngest age-group tended to trust the Council, this figure almost halved to 17% amongst those aged 55 or more.

A similar variation is seen when analysis is done by levels of education with 15% of the least educated compared with 31% of the most educated tending to trust this body.

Household composition is once again a factor with 21% of people either living alone or as a couple tending to trust the Council compared with 28% of those who are part of a household with four or more people.

Approximately a third of students (36%), managers (35%) and the self-employed (32%) tended to trust this institution compared with just 19% of manual workers and 17% of other white-collar workers, house persons and the retired.

**Decision-making – at national level or jointly at EU level?**

One of the major stumbling blocks on European integration has been the historical reluctance of the British citizen to accept legislation from Brussels that they perceive is something over which they have no control.

The fact of the matter is, of course, that the UK government actually participates in the shaping and adoption of European legislation.

In each of the following areas, citizens were asked whether decisions should be made by the UK government alone or jointly within the European Union.

**Fighting crime (Q 20.1)**

61% of UK citizens believed that this issue should be dealt with by the UK government while just 37% felt that it should be handled jointly within the EU. These figures are almost exactly contrary to general EU27 opinion where 60% feel that the decision should be made jointly and only 38% feel it should be made at national level.

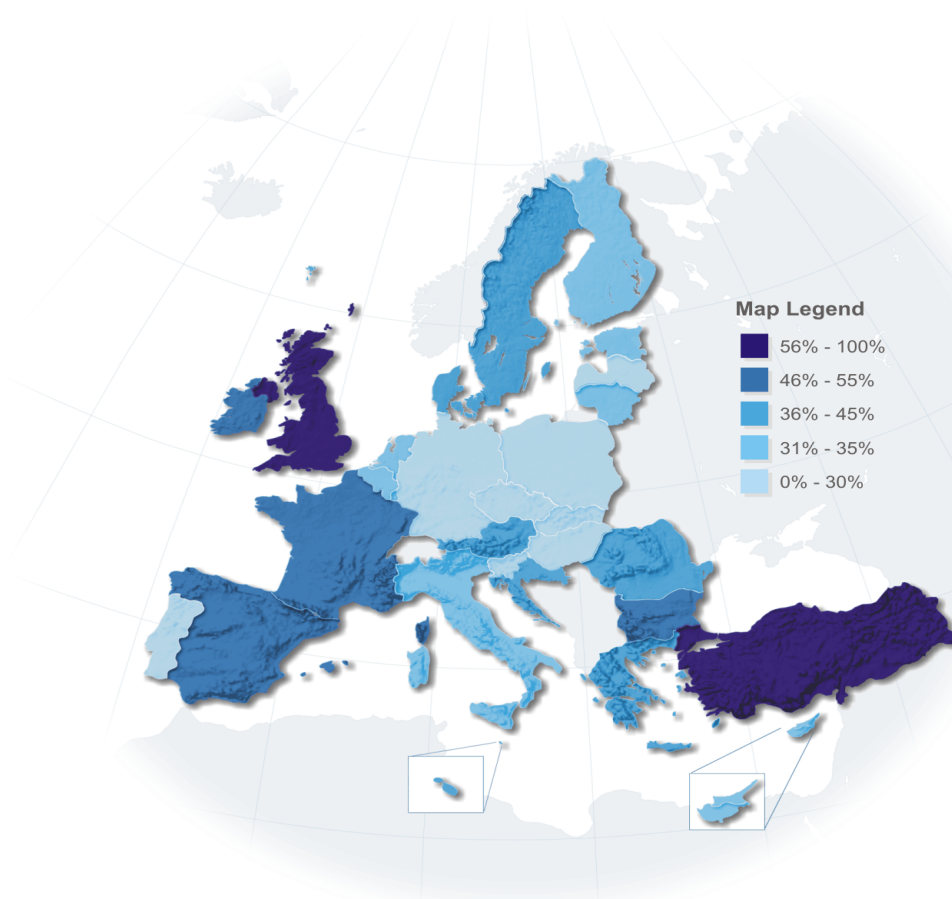
In the Czech Republic, the level of support for action to be taken jointly within the European Union on this issue rises to 78% of the poll and high figures of 77% are seen in Germany and 76% in Slovakia.

Question: QA20a.1. 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?

Option: Fighting crime

Answers: (NATIONALITY) Government

	UK	61%
	IE	53%
	BG	52%
	FR	51%
	ES	49%
	EL	43%
	AT	39%
	SE	39%
	EU27	38%
	DK	38%
	RO	38%
	MT	36%
	NL	34%
	LT	34%
	LU	33%
	CY*	33%
	EE	33%
	BE	31%
	IT	31%
	FI	31%
	SI	30%
	PL	29%
	HU	26%
	LV	25%
	DE	23%
	SK	23%
	PT	21%
	CZ	21%
* CY(tcc) = 34%		
	TR	56%
	HR	41%



While the EU average figures remained virtually constant since the last EB poll six months previously with a marginal increase from 59% to 60% favouring decisions taken jointly within the EU, there is a substantial move in this direction from the UK poll where the figures rise from 28% to 37%.

Although the great majority of the UK poll still favours decisions of this nature to be taken at a national level, it is perhaps significant to notice this substantial move to the EU option.

### UK socio-demographic analysis

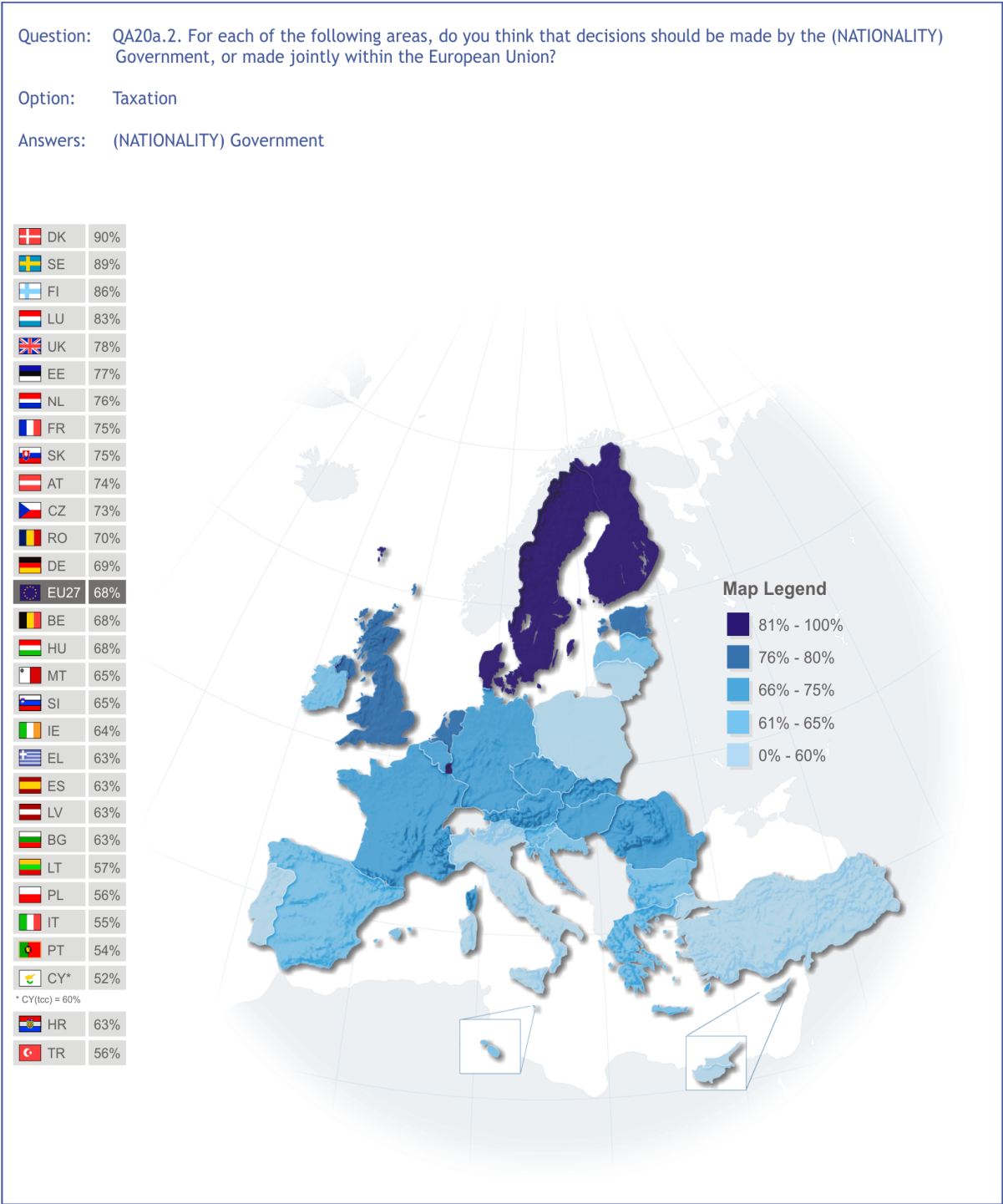
While just 31% of those polled felt that decisions should be made jointly within the EU, this figure rises to 43% amongst those who have had the most education. No other clear patterns emerge from the data.



Taxation (Q. 20.2)

Across the European Union taxation is seen to be very much a national issue and more than two-thirds (68%) of those polled across the Union held this view.

The comparable UK figure, although relatively high at 78%, is still well below the 90% observed in Denmark, the 89% in Sweden and the 86% in Finland.



Over the past six months, there was just a small move of one percentage point (69% to 68%) across the Union with the great majority still believing tax issues should be dealt with at national level.

A similar small decrease of two percentage points is seen in the UK figures (80% to 78%).

**UK socio-demographic analysis**

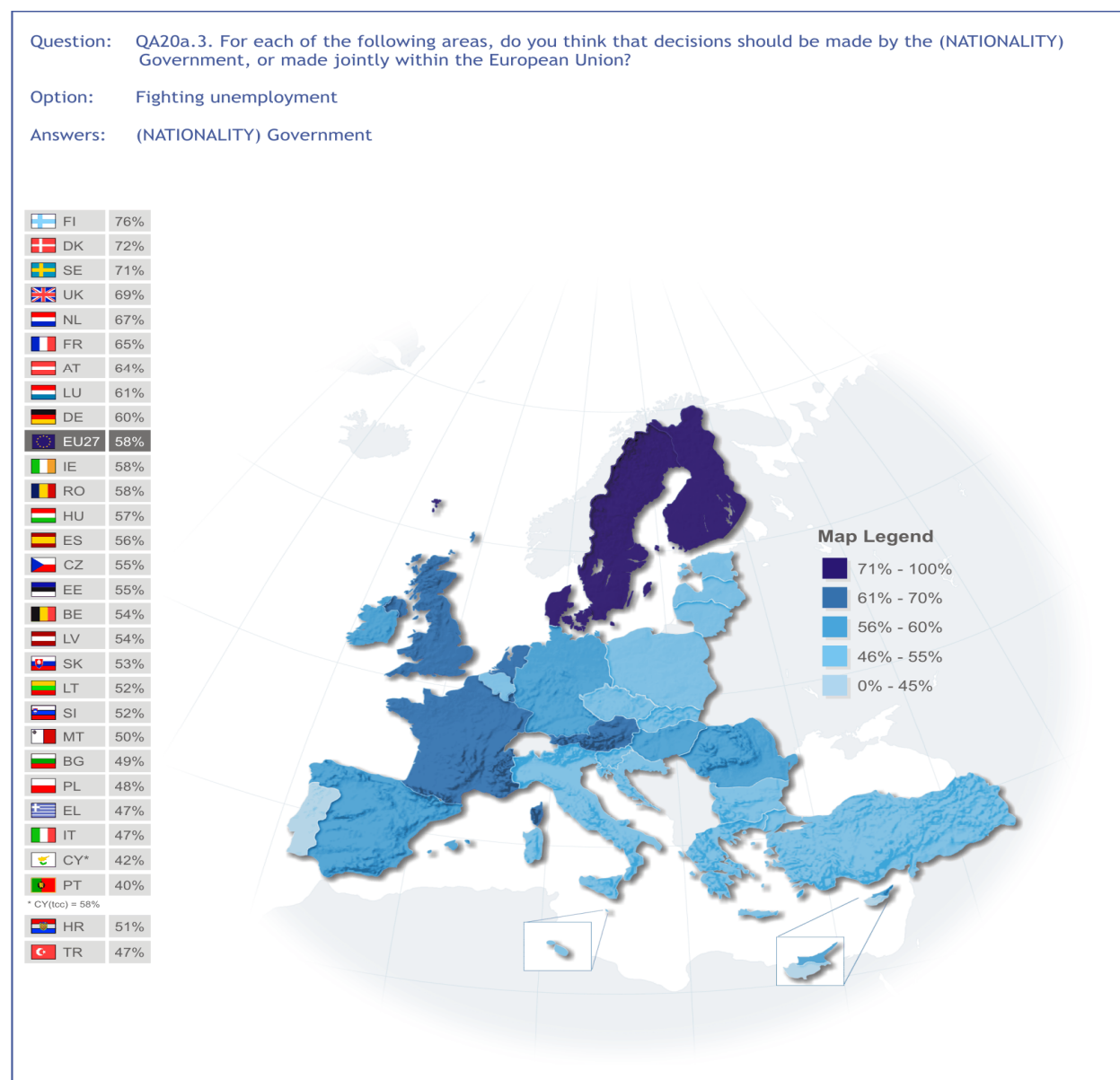
While just 12% of people over the age of 55 believe that taxation decisions should be made jointly within the EU, this figure more than doubles to 29% amongst people aged 15 to 24.

11% of people who had left school at age 15 or less favour the joint EU decision-making process in regard to taxation compared with 18% who had been educated for the longest time and 32% of those still studying.

### Fighting unemployment (Q. 20.3)

69% of UK citizens felt that decisions on this issue should be made at a national level – this compares with an EU27 figure of 58%.

Although starting from a smaller base, there was a noticeable difference in the trends between the UK and EU27 figures on this issue.



While the number of EU27 citizens believing that decisions relating to fighting unemployment should be taken jointly within the EU rose by just one point from 38% to 39%, a much more substantial shift was seen in the UK figures where the percentages rose from 22% to 28%.

### UK socio-demographic analysis

Virtually twice as many (39%) of people educated to age 20 or beyond favoured decision-making jointly within the European Union compared with 20% of those who had been educated to age 15 or below.

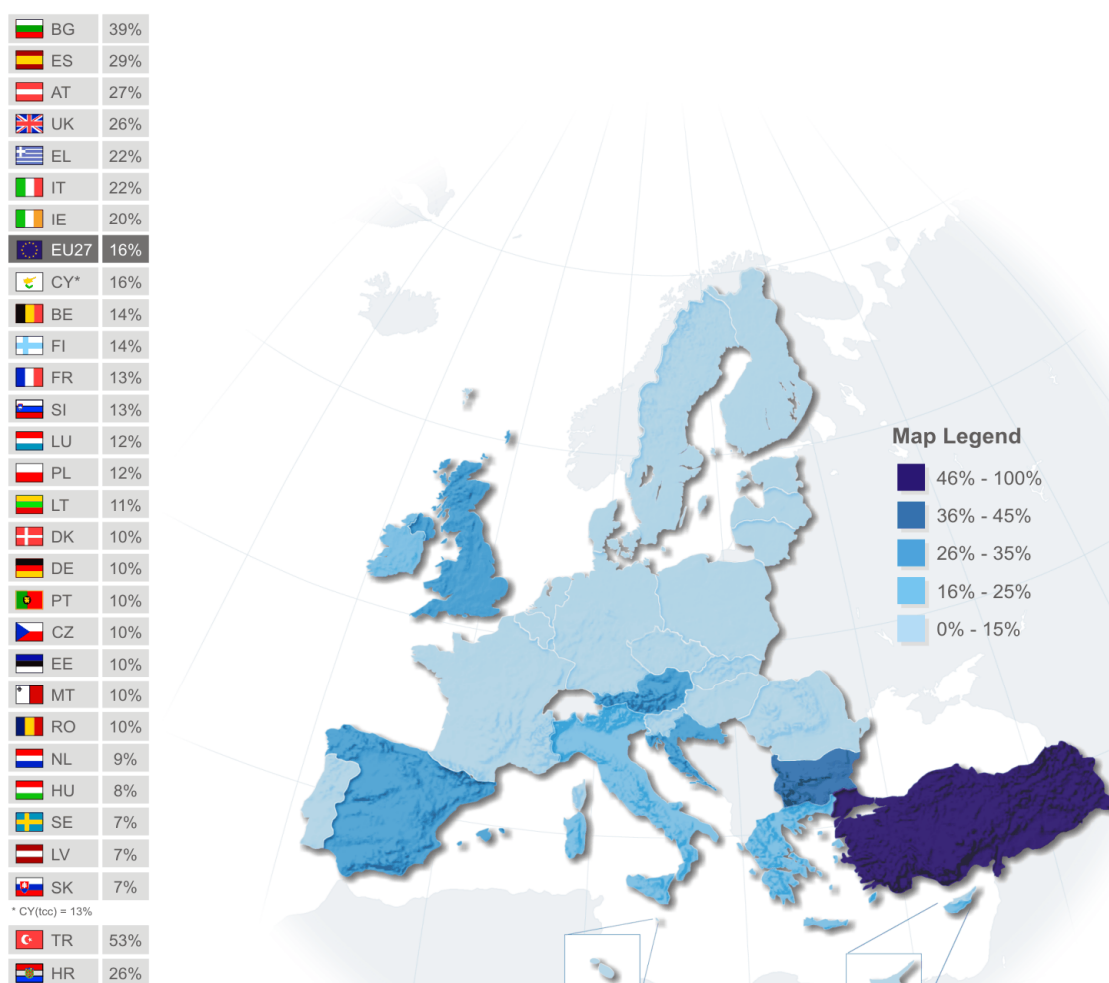
**Fighting terrorism (Q. 20.4)**

One of the areas where there is substantial support for decision-making jointly within the EU concerns fighting terrorism.

Question: QA20a.4. 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?

Option: Fighting terrorism

Answers: (NATIONALITY) Government



Accordingly, eight out of ten Europeans believe decisions in this area should be made jointly within the EU and this figure, which reaches nearly three-quarters (71%) of the UK poll, rises to 92% in Slovakia, 91% in Latvia and 90% in Hungary.

As was seen in the previous example, there is an undercurrent of support for handling certain issues at EU level rather than solely from a domestic viewpoint.

Accordingly, while this view increased in support across the 27 Member States by two percentage points from 79% to 81%, the increase in the UK was considerably larger with figures growing from 61% to 71%.

### UK socio-demographic analysis

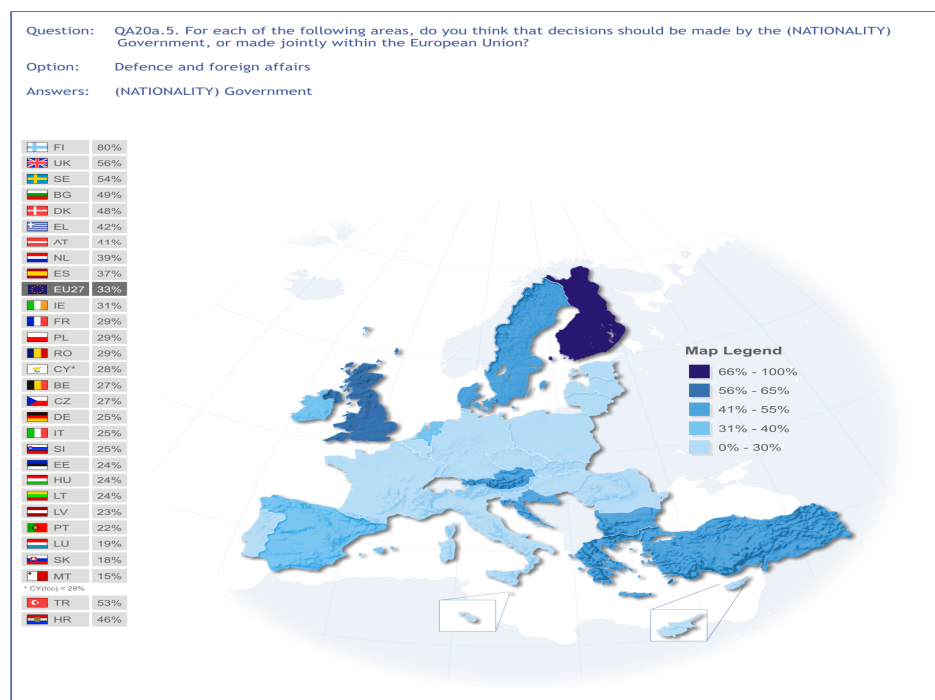
78% of UK citizens between the ages of 15 and 39 opted for the EU alternative on this issue. While the figure decreases slightly – to 74% – for people between 40 and 54, the real variation is seen when people aged 55 or over are asked this question. Here, the figure falls substantially to just 61%.

Twenty-four percentage points separate the 58% of people educated to age 15 or less from the 82% of those educated to age 20 or more who prefer the joint EU decision-making option.

79% of the self-employed and 77% of the unemployed were in the vanguard of citizens preferring the EU option with just 60% of the retired taking this view.

### Defence and foreign affairs (Q. 20.5)

Making up the 33% average of EU27 countries who believe these matters should be dealt with at a national level are figures ranging from 15% in Malta and 19% in Luxembourg to 54% in Sweden and 80% in Finland. The UK figure, at 56%, shows that a majority of citizens polled believe decisions on these issues should be made nationally.



However, across Europe, the majority of citizens (62%) believes these decisions should be made jointly within the EU and figures as high as 81% are noted in Slovakia and Malta.

Over the past six months, the EU27 average has moved marginally downwards (63% to 62%) for those believing that issues of defence and foreign affairs should be made jointly within the European Union.

Over the same period, however, the UK figure has moved in the opposite direction and although the figure is only two percentage points, the result is an increase from 38% to 40% of UK citizens taking this view.

### **UK socio-demographic analysis**

Making up the UK's 40% average of people believing these decisions should be made jointly within the European Union were noticeably more women (45%) than men (35%).

Younger people were also keener that defence and foreign affairs should be handled jointly at the EU level with a majority (55%) of them taking this view compared with just 29% of the sample aged 55 or more

A similar sharp divide was seen when education was the criterion. Just 30% of those educated to age 15 or less held this view as opposed to 44% of those educated to age 20 or more and 52% of those still studying.

High support was also noted amongst the unemployed (55%), the self-employed (51%), while a low figure of 27% was recorded amongst the retired.

### **Immigration (Q. 20.6)**

As is noted in the section on concerns of citizens, immigration is an issue of major importance to UK citizens.

Accordingly, it is not surprising to notice that the UK figures are virtually the reverse of the EU27 averages.

59% of the UK poll believes that decisions on this issue should be taken at national level while 39% believe they should be made jointly within the EU.

Across the EU27, just 37% of the 27,000 people surveyed believe these decisions should be taken nationally with a clear majority (59%) considering this to be an issue best handled at EU level.

There has been a noticeable change in UK attitude over the past six months on the question of whether immigration is an issue that should be handled at a national level or jointly within the European Union.

In the autumn of 2006, 63% of those polled believed the issue should be dealt with nationally and just 33% took the contrary view.

Now, with a fall in the 'don't know' factor from 4% to 2%, the percentage point gap between the two views has fallen from thirty percentage points to just twenty with figures of 59% and 39% respectively.

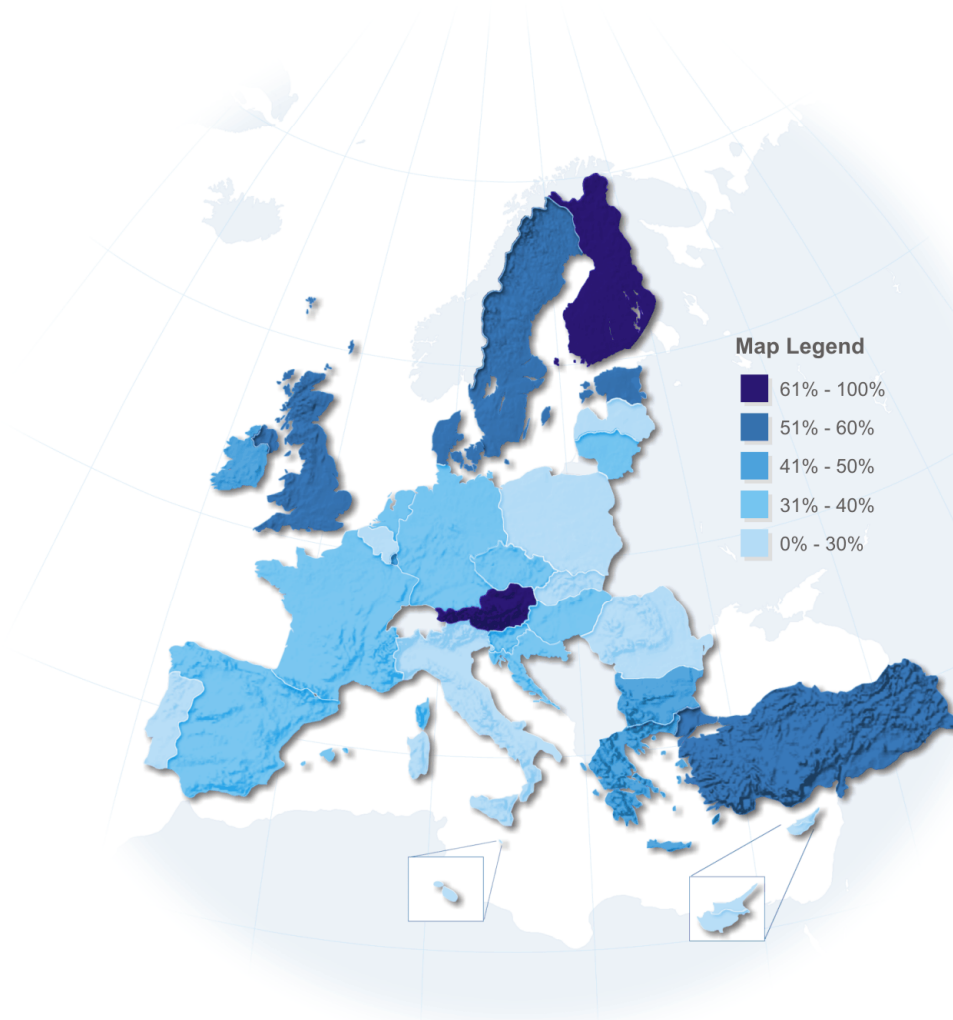
Over the same period, EU averages moved from 57% to 59% in support of joint decisions within the European Union.

Question: QA20a.6. 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?

Option: Immigration

Answers: (NATIONALITY) Government

 FI	70%
 AT	63%
 SE	59%
 UK	59%
 DK	57%
 EE	51%
 EL	46%
 BG	45%
 IE	43%
 LU	42%
 NL	39%
 EU27	37%
 DE	37%
 HU	37%
 FR	34%
 CZ	33%
 LT	33%
 SI	33%
 ES	31%
 CY*	30%
 LV	30%
 SK	30%
 BE	29%
 PL	27%
 PT	26%
 RO	26%
 IT	25%
 MT	20%
* CY(toc) = 23%	
 TR	53%
 HR	39%



### UK socio-demographic analysis

45% of the youngest age-group and 51% of those aged between 25 and 39 formed part of the 39% UK average wishing decisions in the area of immigration to be made jointly within the EU. This view, however, was only held by 31% of those aged 55 or more.

There was an even greater variation when educational levels are the criteria. Just 29% of those educated to age 15 or less opted for the 27 Member State



alternative compared with a majority (52%) of those educated to age 20 or beyond.

### Education (Q. 20.7)

As was seen above in the case of taxation, a clear majority of EU citizens thinks that education is an issue best dealt with at national level.

Accordingly, 64% of those polled across the Union held this view which gained the support of 77% of the UK poll.

In just two countries, Cyprus (50%) and Slovenia (51%) did half or more of the populace opt for decisions to be made jointly within the EU on this issue.


























Over the past six months, across the European Union, there has been a slight move in support of the view that decisions that relate to education should be made jointly within the European Union.

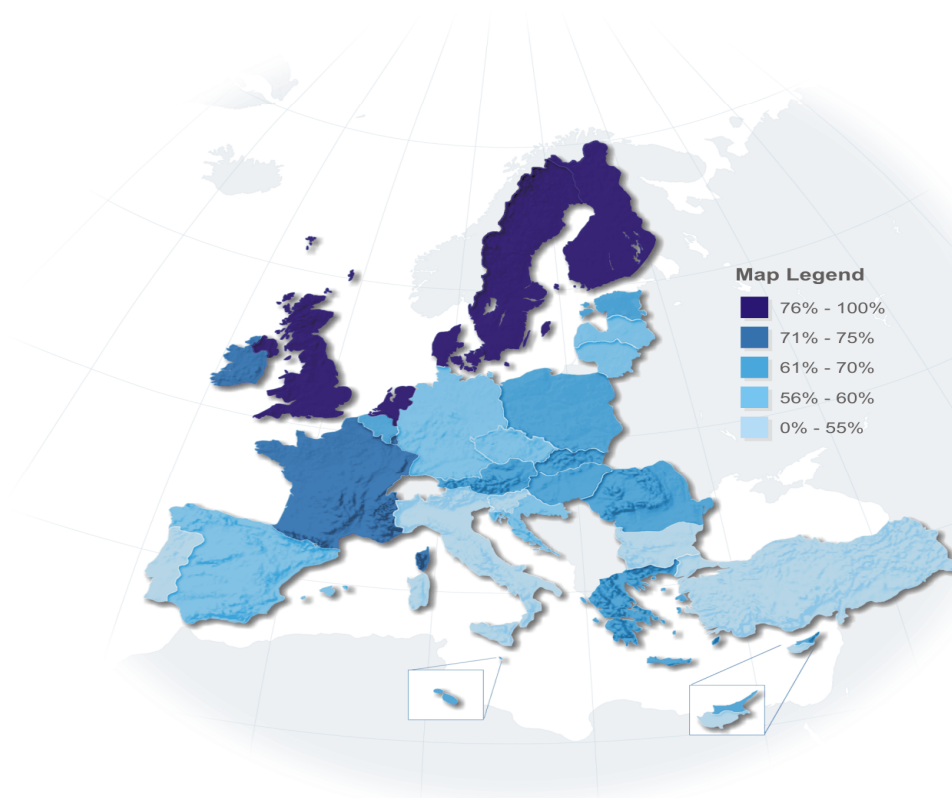
This option has increased in popularity from 29% to 33% across the Union as a whole and from 17% to 21% in the UK.

Question: QA20a.7. 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?

Option: The educational system

Answers: (NATIONALITY) Government

 FI	84%
 SE	82%
 DK	79%
 NL	78%
 UK	77%
 LU	75%
 FR	71%
 IE	71%
 AT	70%
 BE	69%
 RO	69%
 HU	67%
 SK	67%
 MT	66%
 EE	65%
 EU27	64%
 EL	64%
 PL	63%
 CZ	60%
 ES	59%
 LV	58%
 DE	57%
 LT	56%
 BG	55%
 PT	51%
 CY*	48%
 SI	48%
 IT	47%
* CY(tcc) = 64%	
 HR	60%
 TR	51%





**UK socio-demographic analysis**

Making up the 21% average of UK citizens opting for the joint decision-making process within the EU were 25% of the youngest age-group compared with just 15% of the oldest.

When the data are analysed by educational level, just 14% of those who had left school at the earliest opportunity opted for the EU alternative compared with 23% of those educated to age 20 and 30% of those who were still studying.

30% of the unemployed and students, as well as 28% of the self-employed also supported this view compared with just 19% of manual workers and 12% of the retired.

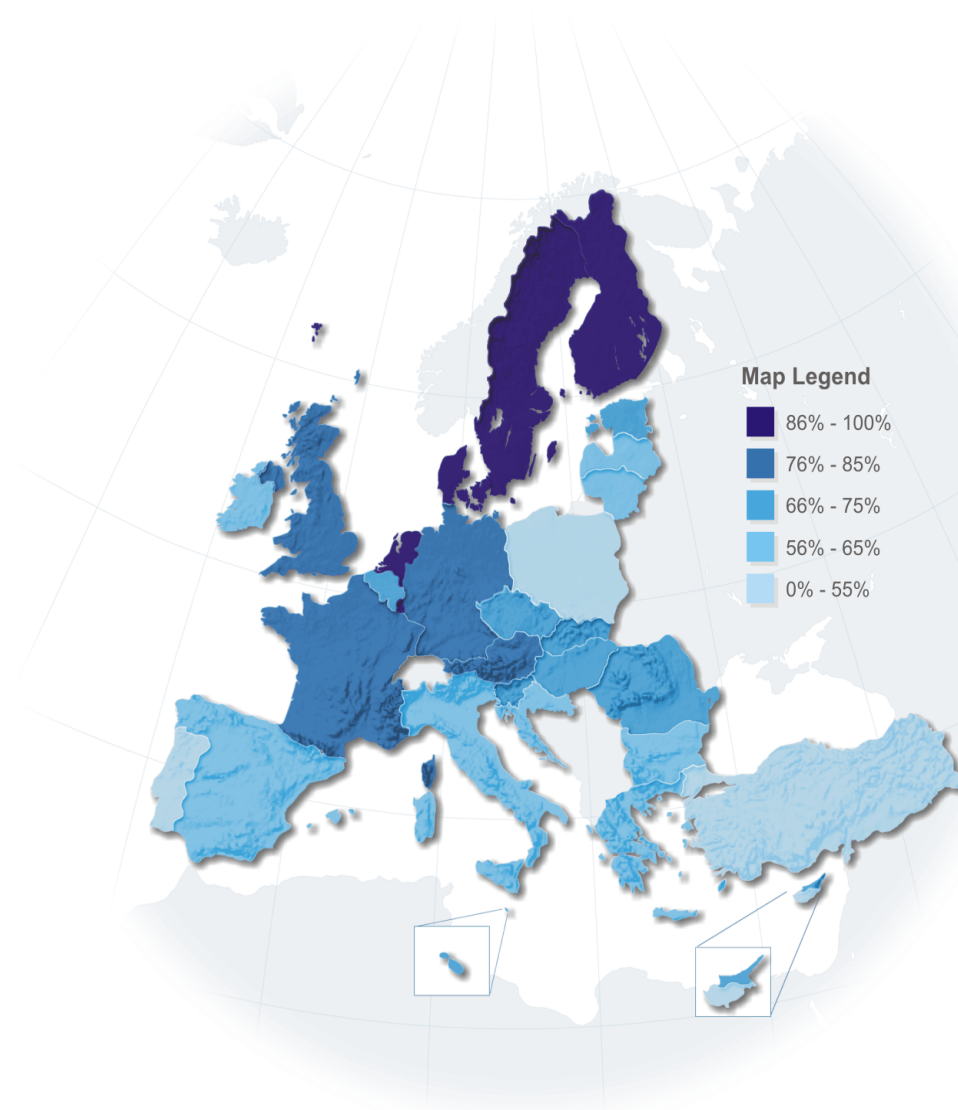
**Pensions (Q. 20.8)**

Question: QA20a.8. 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?

Option: Pensions

Answers: (NATIONALITY) Government

 SE	95%
 FI	94%
 DK	93%
 NL	89%
 LU	86%
 DE	83%
 AT	80%
 FR	78%
 UK	78%
 BE	73%
 HU	73%
 EU27	72%
 SK	72%
 CZ	70%
 MT	68%
 SI	68%
 RO	68%
 EE	66%
 IE	65%
 ES	63%
 EL	59%
 IT	59%
 BG	59%
 LT	58%
 LV	57%
 PT	51%
 PL	51%
 CY*	43%
* CY(toc) = 69%	
 HR	56%
 TR	53%



This issue follows the pattern shown above on taxation and education with a clear majority (72%) of EU27 citizens believing this issue should be dealt with on a national basis.

The UK figure, at 78%, was broadly in line with EU averages while particularly high figures were noted in the Nordic countries with 95% in Sweden, 94% in Finland and 93% in Denmark.

Whilst, as noted above, the vast majority of EU citizens think this issue should be handled at a domestic level, there has been, nevertheless, a small increase over the last six months in the support for the wider EU option with figures rising from 23% to 25% across the Union and from 15% to 19% in the UK.

**UK socio-demographic analysis**

14% of the retired and students supported the EU27 option compared with 29% of both the self-employed and unemployed.

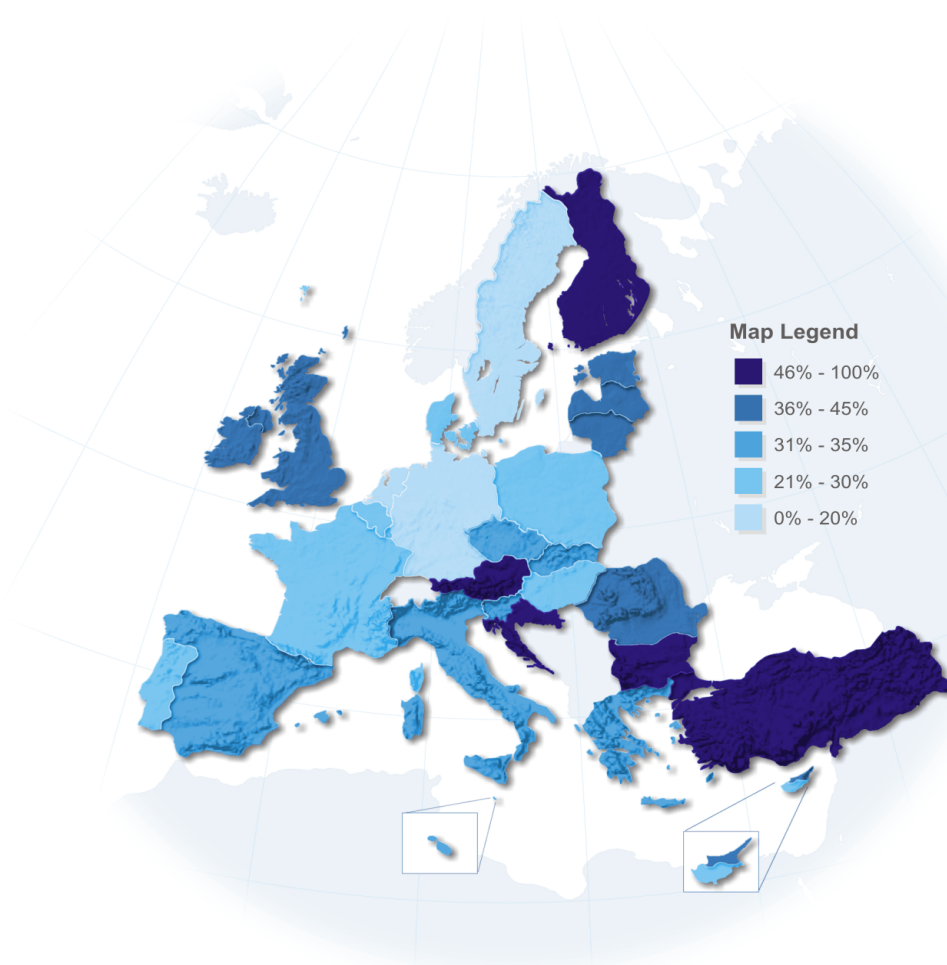
**Protection of the environment (Q. 20.9)**

Question: QA20a.9. 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?

Option: Protecting the environment

Answers: (NATIONALITY) Government

	BG	49%
	AT	48%
	FI	46%
	LV	42%
	LT	41%
	EE	38%
	IE	36%
	UK	36%
	RO	36%
	MT	35%
	SK	35%
	EL	34%
	IT	33%
	ES	32%
	CZ	32%
	SI	32%
	HU	30%
	PL	29%
	EU27	28%
	DK	27%
	HU	25%
	BE	24%
	CY*	24%
	FR	22%
	PT	21%
	SE	20%
	NL	17%
	DE	14%
* CY(tcc) = 38%		
	TR	53%
	HR	52%



As with a number of issues that citizens understand will be dealt with more efficiently by joint decision-making within the EU, protecting the environment is recognised as one which does not respect frontiers.

Accordingly, more than two-thirds (69%) of EU citizens believe decisions in this area should be made jointly within the EU.

This view is particularly strongly held in Germany (85%), the Netherlands (82%), Sweden (80%) and France (76%). In the UK, the figure reaches 62%.

Support for the European option increased over the past six months with the EU average figure growing from 65% to 69% and the UK figure from 55% to 62%.

**UK socio-demographic analysis**

In the 62% of the UK poll who supported the broader EU approach on this issue, relatively low figures were seen from those over the age of 55 (51%) and the least educated (47%). This last number can be compared with the 79% of people educated to age 20 or beyond who gave their support.

When respondents' occupation is analysed, extreme figures are noted amongst the retired (49%) and house persons (54%) compared with figures of 80% for managers and other white-collar workers.

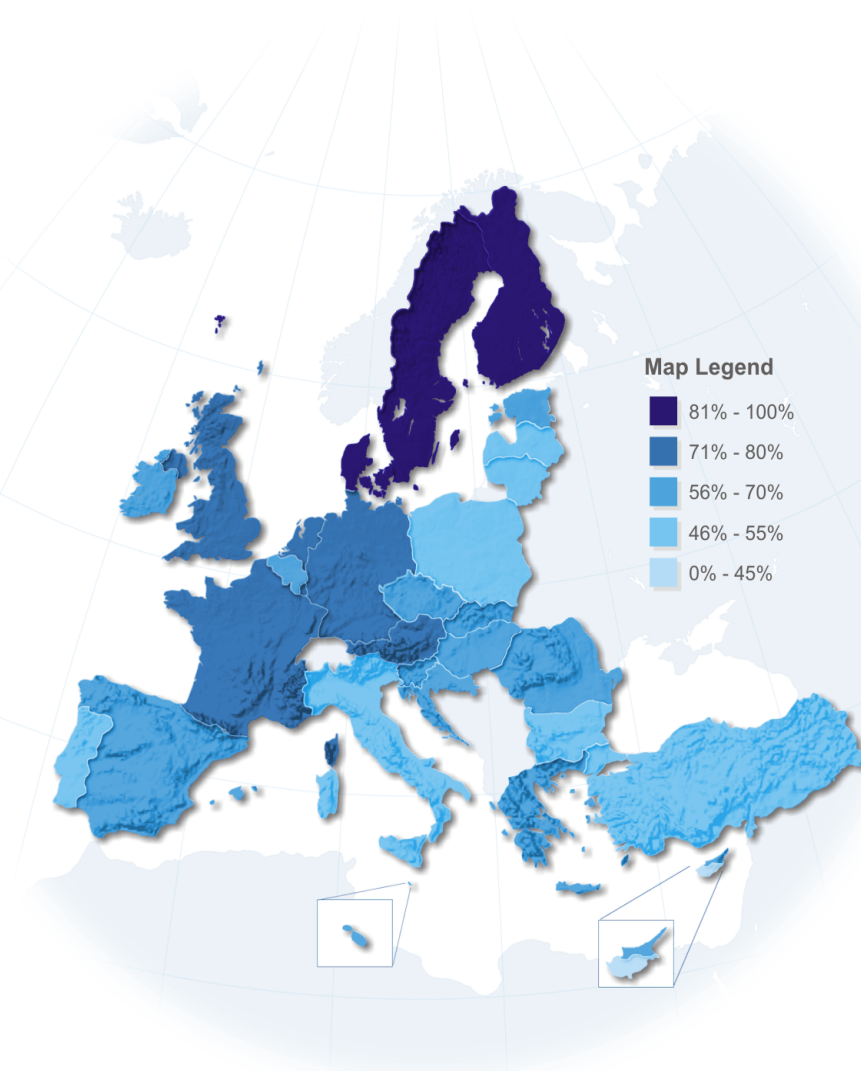
**Health and social welfare (Q. 20.10)**

Question: QA20a.10. 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?

Option: Health and social welfare

Answers: (NATIONALITY) Government

 FI	92%
 SE	86%
 DK	85%
 NL	80%
 AT	78%
 FR	75%
 UK	75%
 LU	74%
 DE	71%
 SK	68%
 CZ	67%
 HU	67%
 RO	67%
 EU27	66%
 BE	66%
 SI	65%
 IE	63%
 ES	62%
 MT	61%
 EL	58%
 EE	58%
 LV	55%
 PL	52%
 IT	51%
 LT	50%
 PT	49%
 BG	46%
 CY*	31%
* CY(tcc) = 57%	
 HR	58%
 TR	47%



The issue of health and social welfare falls into the category which citizens broadly feel should be decided at national level.

Accordingly, two-thirds (66%) of citizens across the Union hold this view and the figure rises to 75% in the UK.

Particularly strong support is again seen in the Nordic states with figures of 85% in Denmark, 86% in Sweden and 92% in Finland.

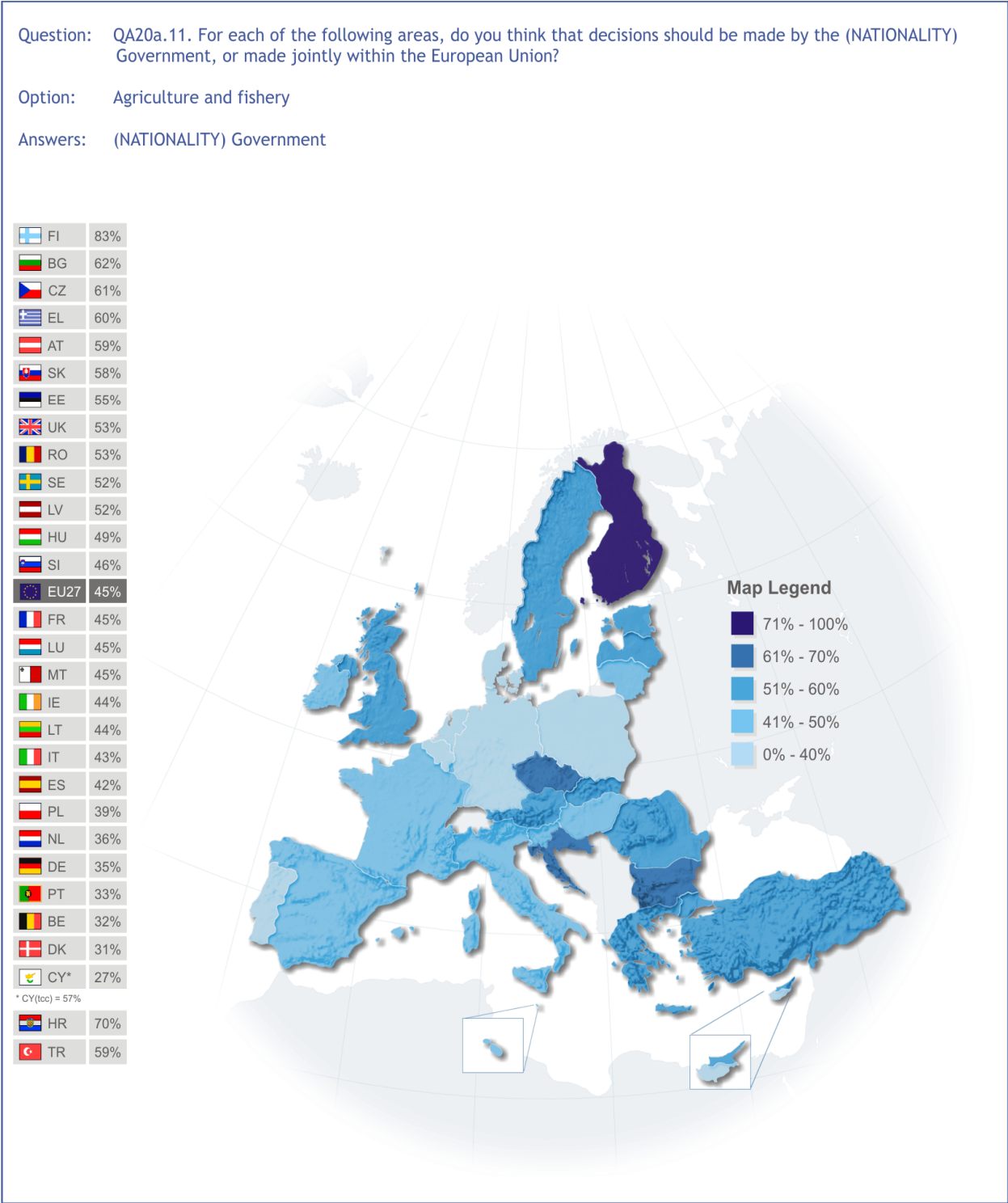
Over the past six months, there has been just a slight move in favour of decisions being taken jointly within the EU but support still remains very strong for the national option with changes of just a one or two percentage points from 68% to 66% across the EU27 and from 76% to 75% in the UK.

**UK socio-demographic analysis**

Making up the 22% of the UK poll who supported joint EU action in this field were just 17% of the least educated and 18% of the oldest age-group. These figures can be compared with the 24% seen amongst the most educated and the 29% amongst the youngest age-group.

Only 14% of the retired were in this part of the sample compared with 28% of the unemployed and 32% of the self-employed.

Agriculture and fisheries (Q. 20.11)



Europeans are fairly equally divided when asked whether decisions on agriculture and fisheries should be handled at a national level or jointly within the EU.

45% of those polled across the Union and 53% in the UK preferred the national option while figures of 50% and 42% respectively were recorded for the broader joint decision-making process at EU level.



High figures for the joint EU option were noted in Cyprus (70%), Denmark (67%) and Belgium (66%).

At EU level, over the last six months, there was virtually no change in citizens' attitude on this issue with the number of citizens supporting the European Union option rising marginally from 49% to 50%.

However, in the UK, the change was much more marked with support for the EU option rising from 35% to 42%.

### **UK socio-demographic analysis**

Once again, the youngest age-group and the best-educated were the keenest advocates of joint decision-making at EU level in this area. 47% of the youngest age-group and 56% of the most educated were strong supporters of this approach compared with just 30% of people over 55 and 31% of those who had left school aged 15 or younger.

Low figures of 29% were noted amongst the retired while 48% of the unemployed and students and 49% of managers were the most vocal in their support.

Support was also noted in larger household units with 48% of people living in homes with four or more inhabitants compared with just 35% of those who lived alone.

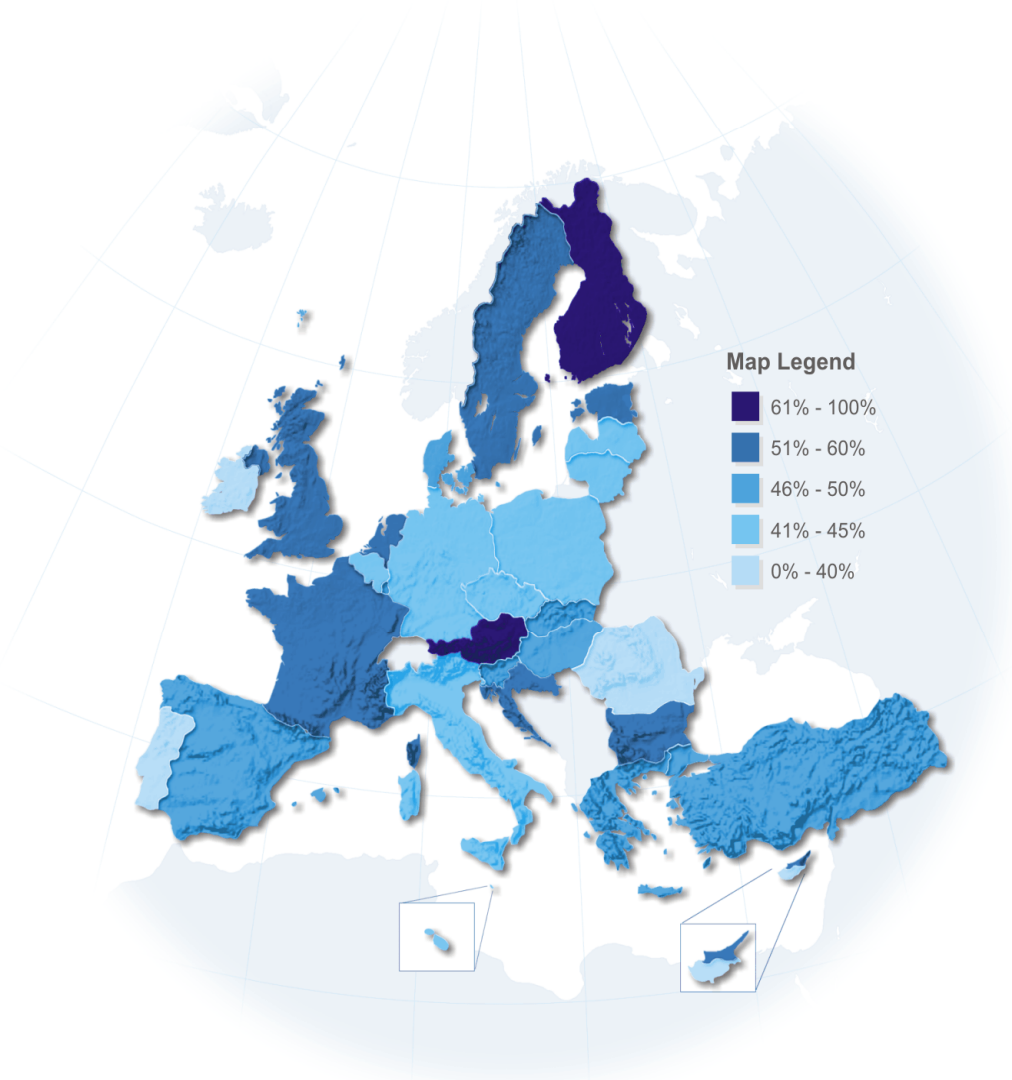
Consumer protection (Q. 20.12)

Question: QA20a.12. 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?

Option: Consumer protection

Answers: (NATIONALITY) Government

	FI	66%
	AT	63%
	EE	60%
	UK	56%
	SE	55%
	BG	55%
	NL	54%
	FR	52%
	LU	50%
	DK	49%
	EL	49%
	HU	49%
	EU27	48%
	ES	47%
	SK	47%
	SI	47%
	LV	45%
	IT	44%
	MT	44%
	CZ	43%
	PL	43%
	BE	42%
	DE	42%
	LT	41%
	IE	40%
	PT	39%
	RO	39%
	CY*	32%
* CY(tcc) = 55%		
	HR	56%
	TR	50%



While European Union citizens are equally divided (48%) on this issue, citizens of the UK were noticeably more in favour of this issue being handled at a national level with figures of 56% and 39% respectively.

As has been observed in the majority of subjects in this section of the report, the UK figures in support of decision-making jointly within the European Union have been increasing at a faster pace than the EU27 average. Despite the fact that, in many cases, the UK figures are noticeably lower than the EU27 averages, there does appear to have been an acceleration towards taking a broader EU-based view on decision-making in a number of areas.

Consumer protection is a case in point as, across the EU, support for the European option has moved from 46% to 48% over the past six months making it an equal choice with the national option for EU citizens in general.

In the UK, the percentage of citizens supporting the EU option is nine percentage points less than the EU average of 48% but this figure of 39% is itself a noticeable increase of a fifth from the 33% noted just six months previously.

### **UK socio-demographic analysis**

42% of men and just 35% of women believed decisions should be made jointly within the European Union in the area of consumer protection. Once again, strong support was seen amongst the youngest age-group (48%) and the most educated (53%).

This viewpoint was also strongly held by the self-employed (55%), other white-collar workers (47%) and managers (46%) compared with just 28% of the retired.

### **Scientific and technological research (Q. 20.13)**

Perhaps realising the need for collaboration and economies of scale, EU citizens are strongly in favour of scientific and technological research decisions being made jointly within the European Union with figures of 71% preferring this option compared with 24% believing these decisions should be made nationally.

The UK follows this pattern and, although the figures are slightly closer (62% and 33%), the EU option is virtually twice as popular as the national one.

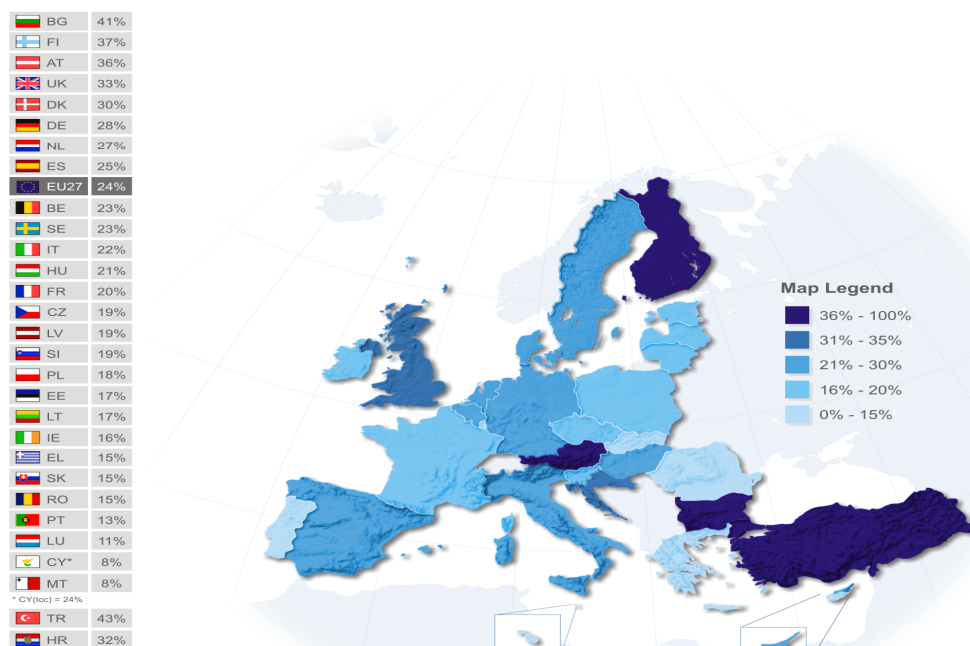
As has been noted in the previous example, the rate of increase for the European option appears to be greater in the UK than in the EU27 as a whole although, as stated above, the fact that the UK figures start from a lower base should be taken into account.

Nevertheless, in the area of scientific research and technology, the EU average in support of joint decision-making within the European Union has risen over the last six months by just one percentage point from 70% to 71% and the 'don't know' factor has increased from 4% to 5%, while in the UK, the increase in support for the EU option has grown from 56% to 62% and the 'don't know' factor has fallen from 6% to 5%.

Question: QA20a.13. 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?

Option: Scientific and technological research

Answers: (NATIONALITY) Government



### UK socio-demographic analysis

69% of UK citizens aged between 15 and 39 and of those educated to age 20 or beyond supported joint decision-making within the EU in the area of scientific and technological research.

This figure can be contrasted with the 55% noted amongst those aged 55 or more and 51% amongst those whose education had ended at age 15 or before.

High figures of 71% were noted among the self-employed and other white-collar workers compared with just 54% amongst the retired.

### Support for regions facing economic difficulties (Q. 20.14)

53% of UK citizens are in favour of decisions of this nature being made jointly within the European Union - a figure just seven percentage points less than the 60% EU27 average.

Only in France, did a majority of people (53%) take a view contrary to the otherwise universal EU27 viewpoint.

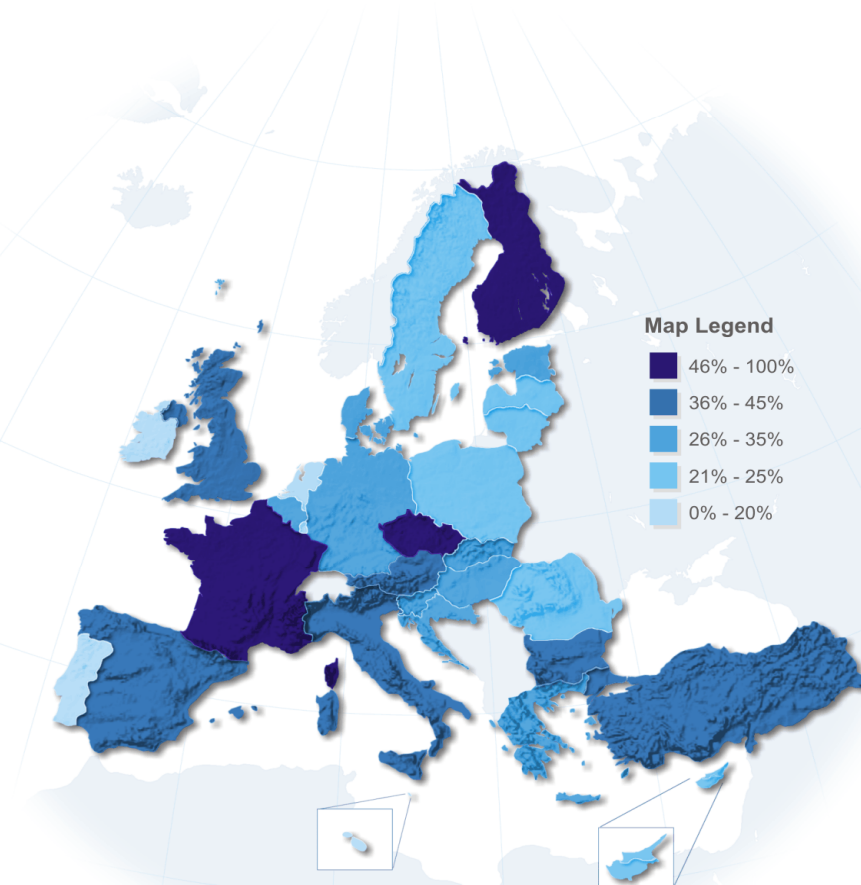
Across the Union, over the last six months, support for the EU option increased from 57% to 60% while, in the UK, the figure grew from 48% to 53%. Together with a decrease in the 'don't know' factor from 8% to 6%, the difference between the national and EU option has increased substantially in the UK from four percentage points in the autumn of 2006 to twelve percentage points just six months later.

Question: QA20a.14. 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?

Option: Support for regions facing economic difficulties

Answers: (NATIONALITY) Government

 FR	53%
 FI	46%
 CZ	46%
 IT	45%
 AT	42%
 UK	41%
 BG	41%
 ES	36%
 EU27	35%
 SI	34%
 DE	33%
 DK	32%
 SK	32%
 BE	31%
 EL	27%
 HU	27%
 SE	24%
 LT	24%
 LV	23%
 PL	23%
 RO	22%
 CY*	21%
 IE	19%
 NL	19%
 PT	19%
 LU	15%
 MT	9%
* CY(loc) = 25%	
 TR	42%
 HR	33%



### UK socio-demographic analysis

Making up the 53% of the UK poll who believed decisions should be made jointly within the European Union on this issue were 57% of men and 50% of women.

While no clear pattern emerged on the basis of age, 67% of the most educated compared with just 42% of the least educated took this view.

A similar split in opinion was noted by household composition with this view being held by 46% of people living on their own compared with 58% of households with three or more members.


Once again, the retired (44%) were the least supportive of this approach compared with a figure of 67% seen amongst managers.

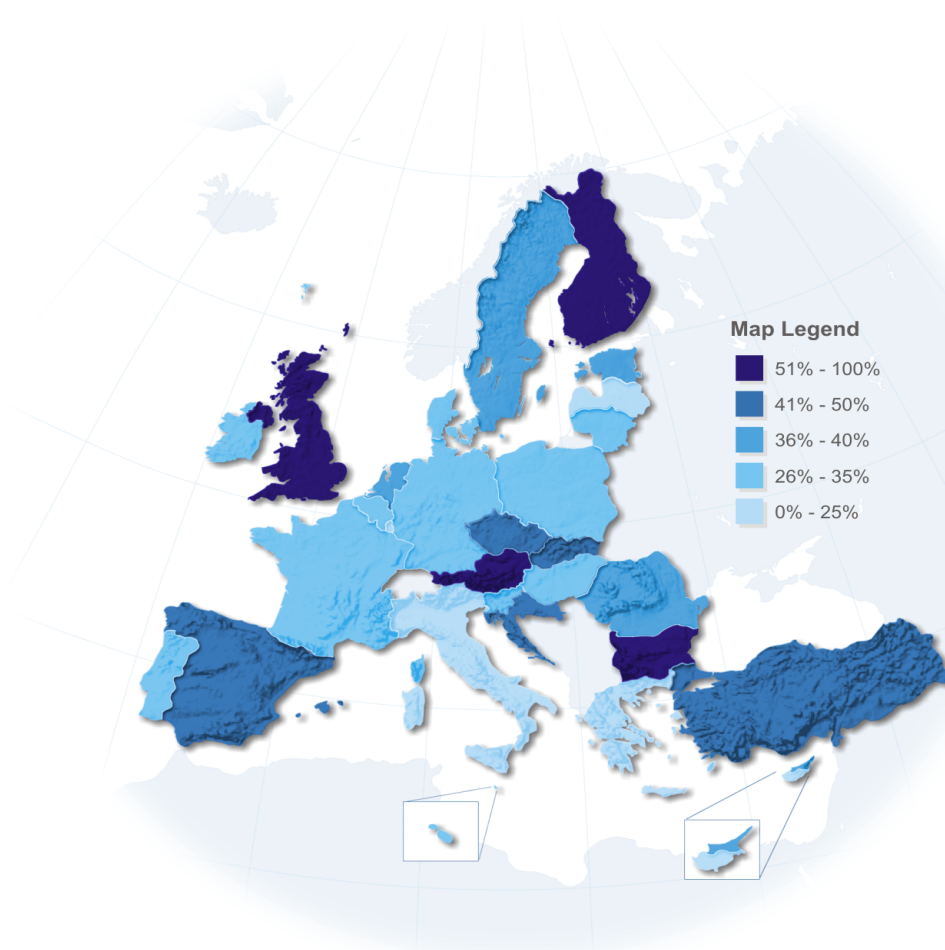
**Energy (Q. 20.15)**

Question: QA20a.15. 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?

Option: Energy

Answers: (NATIONALITY) Government

	FI	59%
	AT	58%
	UK	52%
	BG	51%
	CZ	47%
	SK	43%
	ES	42%
	SE	40%
	RO	38%
	NL	36%
	EE	36%
	EU27	35%
	DK	32%
	PL	32%
	SI	32%
	IE	31%
	PT	31%
	LT	31%
	HU	30%
	FR	28%
	BE	27%
	DE	27%
	MT	26%
	EL	25%
	IT	25%
	LU	24%
	LV	24%
	CY*	15%
* CY(toc) = 40%		
	TR	49%
	HR	43%



The broad EU27 view held by 61% of those polled is that decisions relating to energy should be made jointly within the European Union. However, three countries had a majority of their citizens who were polled believing that decisions of this nature should be made nationally. These were Finland (59%), Austria (58%) and the UK (52%). These figures should be compared with an EU27 average of just 35%

There was virtually no change in attitude on this issue over the past six months with support for the EU option rising marginally across the Union from 60% to 61% and from 44% to 45% in the UK.

**UK socio-demographic analysis**

50% of the 15 to 24 age-group and 55% of those aged 25 to 39 supported joint EU decision-making on questions of energy. This compares with just 37% of those aged 55 or more.

When this issue is reviewed by education level, the gap is even more pronounced with support coming from 61% of those educated to age 20 and beyond compared with just 31% of those who had left school at the earliest opportunity.

Household composition again showed a broad spectrum of opinion with 36% of people living on their own supporting the joint EU approach on this issue compared with 50% of people living in households with four or more members.

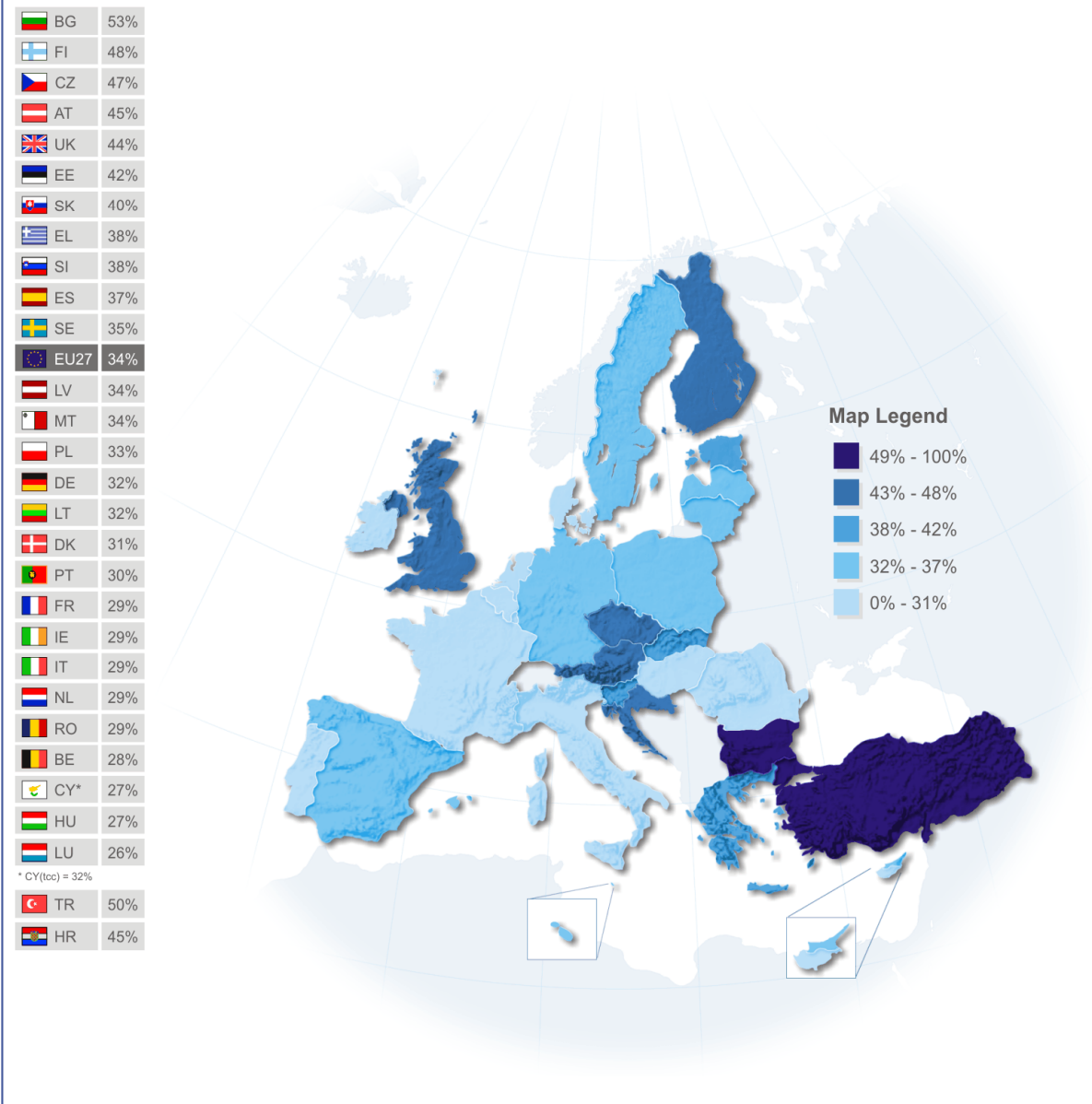
A low figure of 35% was observed amongst the retired, while white-collar workers and managers were strongly supportive with figures of 59% and 61% respectively.

Competition (Q. 20.16)

Question: QA20a.16. 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?

Option: Competition

Answers: (NATIONALITY) Government



A majority (57%) of EU27 citizens believe that decisions on competition should be made jointly within the European Union while just 34% take the contrary view.

There was, however, a relatively high 'don't know' factor of 9% across the European Union which rose to double digits in ten of the twenty seven countries surveyed.

The view in the UK was split with 44% of the poll; opting for either a national or joint decision-making process and 12% giving a 'don't know' response.



There has been a marked change in attitudes in the UK on the issue as to whether decisions relating to competition should be made at a national level or jointly within the European Union. In the last Eurobarometer, 50% of those polled believed that the first option was the better one while 36% supported the EU alternative.

In just six months, this fourteen point percentage point differential has been erased and an equal number of UK citizens (44%) gave their support to each of the two options.

Across the EU, support for the wider option has strengthened from 54% to 57%.

### **UK socio-demographic analysis**

Making up the 44% average supporting joint decision-making within the EU in the area of competition were 41% of the female poll and 47% of the male poll.

While no clear pattern emerged on the basis of age or household composition, just 30% of those educated to age 15 or less compared with 57% educated to age 20 or beyond held this viewpoint.

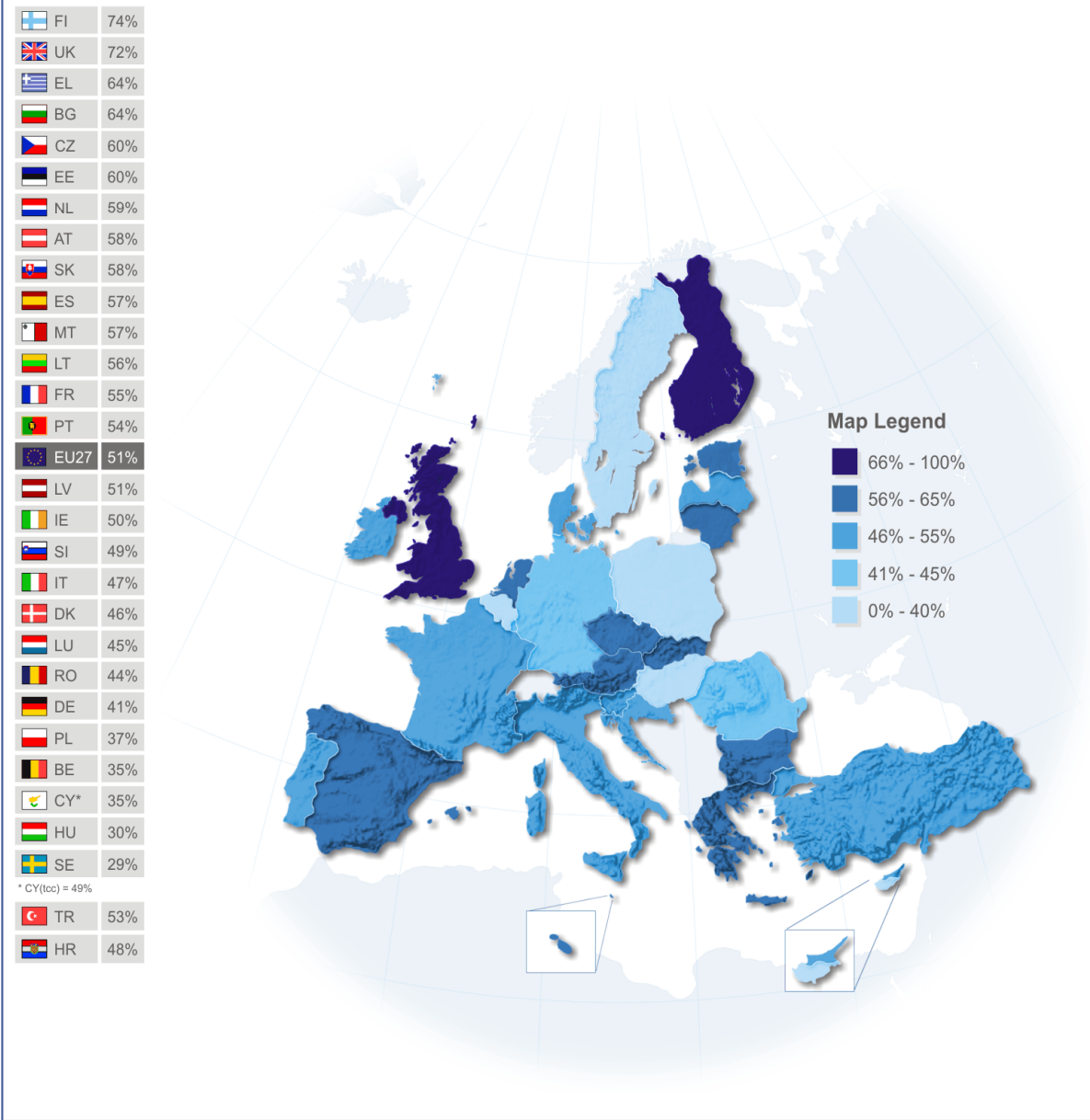
Once again, low figures of 35% were recorded among the retired whilst more than half of managers (54%) and other white-collar workers (57%) preferred the EU27 approach.

Transport (Q. 20.17)

Question: QA20a.17. 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?

Option: Transports

Answers: (NATIONALITY) Government



Across the European Union, opinions were broadly divided on this issue with 45% of the poll believing that decisions should be made jointly and 51% opting for the national alternative.

In the UK, however, the difference was substantially greater with 72% of those polled preferring the national option and just 26% preferring the broader EU alternative. Similar figures of 74% and 24% were observed in Finland.

**UK socio-demographic analysis**

While no significant variations were noted by age, occupation or household composition, level of education, again, played a major part in the make-up of the average figure of 26% of UK citizens who believe that decisions on transport should be made jointly within the European Union.

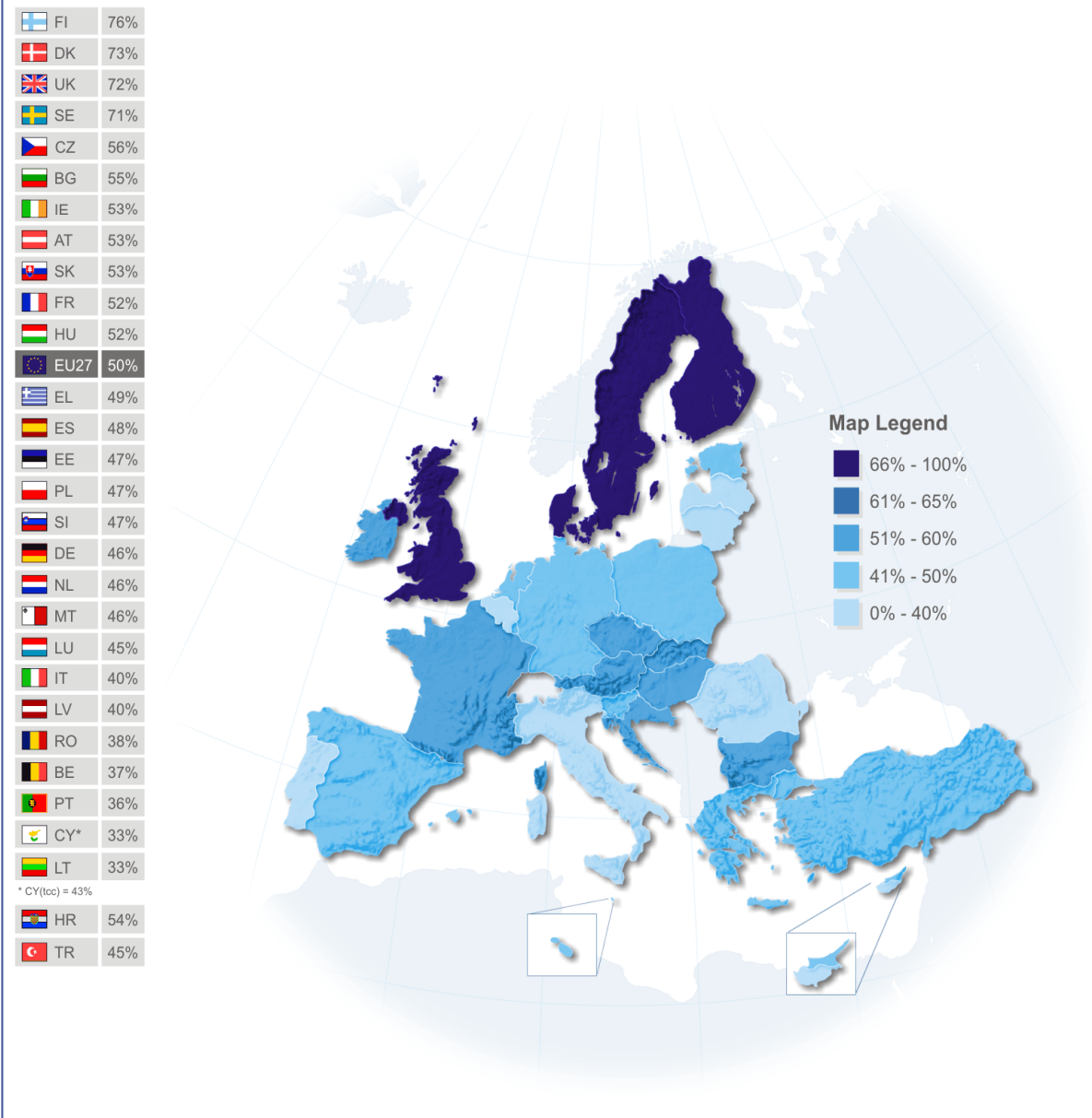
Just 18% of those who had left school aged 15 or less subscribed to this viewpoint compared with 30% of those educated to age 20 or beyond.

The economy (Q. 20.18)

Question: QA20a.18. 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?

Option: Economy

Answers: (NATIONALITY) Government



Perhaps reflecting the confidence in the UK economy shown earlier in this report, a substantial majority (72%) of the UK poll believe that decisions relating to the economy should be taken nationally.

Just 25% of the UK poll believes these decisions should be made jointly within the EU – figures in sharp contrast to the 50%/46% split across the European Union as a whole.

Countries which mirrored the UK position were essentially Nordic with figures of 76% and 22% for Finland, 73% and 25% for Denmark and 71% and 26% for Sweden.

### **UK socio-demographic analysis**

Only 17% of people over 55 and 19% of the least educated believed decisions on the economy should be made jointly within the European Union. These figures should be compared with the 38% response from the youngest age-group and the 30% from the most educated segment of the poll.

Just 14% of the retired held this view compared with 27% of managers, 28% of other white-collar workers, 33% of house persons and students, and 39% of the unemployed.

**Global warming and climate change**

The important and topical issues of global warming and climate change are dealt with in two new questions in this edition of Eurobarometer.

The first question relates to the urgency with which the European Union should deal with the problem of global warming, while the second is more specific and assesses citizens' views as to the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

**Global warming****Q. 31 Thinking about global warming, do you think that it is a matter that should be dealt with by the European Union urgently or not?**

Across the European Union, 88% of the 27,000 people polled felt that this matter should be dealt with urgently by the EU. In fact, this was felt to be a very urgent matter by 57% of those polled and fairly urgent by the remaining 31%.

The UK figures are broadly similar to the average across the Union with a total of 84% of which 51% felt the matter should be dealt with very urgently and 33% fairly urgently.

In Greece, the issue was deemed as urgent by 97% of the population, and figures of 96% were observed in Cyprus, 95% in Slovenia and 93% in Sweden and France.

Across the EU, just 7% of those polled viewed the issue as not being urgent and figures as high as 18% are noted in Estonia, 15% in Latvia, 12% in Lithuania and 11% in Poland. The corresponding figure in the UK was relatively high at 10%, particularly when compared with figures of 2% in Cyprus and 3% in Greece.

Across the EU27, there was a 'don't know' factor of 5% which included high figures of 13% from Bulgaria, 12% from Romania and 11% from Lithuania. The UK 'don't know' factor was marginally above the EU27 average at 6%.

**UK socio-demographic analysis**

Making up the 84% UK average of people believing that global warming should be dealt with urgently by the European Union were a higher percentage of young people and those who were better educated.

Accordingly, between 86% and 88% of people between the ages of 15 and 54 believe this issue should be dealt with urgently. UK citizens aged 55 and above appeared to be less concerned and only 78% of their number took this view.

Amongst people who had left school aged 15 or less, a relatively small 74% viewed this as being an urgent matter compared with 85% of those who had been educated to age 20 or more.

Amongst those who were still studying, the figure rises to 90%.

Household composition is also a factor as can be seen by the fact that 78% of people living on their own viewed this matter as being urgent compared with 87% of people living in a household with four or more members.

Figures in the 80% band were noted for all occupations with the exception of retired people where the figure was 76% and amongst students where the figure rises to 90%.

### **Climate change**

#### **Q. 32 Do you agree or disagree that the European Union should urgently put new policies in place to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by at least 20% by 2020?**

89% of EU citizens agreed with this concept – a figure just three percentage points greater than the 86% noted in the UK.

High figures of 98% were noted in Greece and 95% in Sweden and Slovenia.

The 'don't know' factor across the Union was 6% and high figures of 12% were recorded in Lithuania and 10% in Poland, Romania, Spain and Estonia. The corresponding UK figure was 6% - the same as the EU27 average.

### **UK socio-demographic analysis**

Making up the UK average of 86% of people who agreed with this statement were an equal number of men and women.

Concern decreased with age so a figure of 90% is noted for those aged between 15 and 24 compared with 82% for those who were aged 55 or more.

No strong patterns emerge in an analysis of education level or household composition but there was a variance between 81% of retired people agreeing with this concept compared with 90% of white-collar workers and manual workers and 91% of the unemployed. The self-employed and managers were at the lower end of the concern scale with figures of 82% and 83% respectively.

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## **Educating young citizens about the EU**

### **Q. 27.7 Are you for or against teaching schoolchildren about the way EU institutions work?**

The great majority (78%) of UK citizens were in favour of teaching schoolchildren about the way EU institutions work. This view was also strongly held throughout the EU with 86% of those polled being in favour of this initiative.

Greatest support for the idea came from Belgium (95%), Cyprus (94%), Sweden (93%) and Finland and the Netherlands (both 91%).

The last time this question was asked was in EB64, in the autumn of 2005. Since that time, broad EU27 views have not changed whilst, in the UK, the high figure of 81% in EB64 of those being for this idea has now decreased slightly to 78%.

### **UK socio-demographic analysis**

Making up the 78% UK average of citizens who were in favour of teaching schoolchildren about the way EU institutions work, were a particularly high proportion of people (87%) educated to age 20 or beyond, as well as 88% of managers.

### **Q. 45 For each of the following measures that could be taken to teach pupils and students about the European Union, do you think it is an efficient or an inefficient measure?**

#### **(i). A common European history book that would be given to all the pupils and students in the EU.**

While two-thirds (68%) of EU27 citizens were in support of this measure, it found favour with a relatively small portion (56%) of the UK poll. Nevertheless, this was a majority of the UK sample, and just 33% thought it would be inefficient.

### **UK socio-demographic analysis**

No significant information emerged from an analysis of these data.

#### **(ii) A common European curriculum on European education for all teachers**

The responses to this question very much mirrored the first with 68% of the EU poll deeming it an efficient measure compared with 53% of the UK poll.

### **UK socio-demographic analysis**

60% of the youngest age-group considered this would be an efficient measure compared with just 48% of people aged 40 to 54 and 49% of those aged 55 or more.



47% of the least educated group compared with 57% of the most educated group believed this would be an efficient measure.

**(iii) The creation of European schools and universities in all Member States that will be focussed on European issues.**

While this measure was deemed efficient by 70% of the EU27's citizens, it gained favour with just half (50%) of the UK poll. The UK also had a relatively high (15%) 'don't know' factor compared with an EU27 average of 10%.

**UK socio-demographic analysis**

No significant information emerged from an analysis of these data except by occupation where 60% of house persons considered this an efficient measure compared with 43% of managers.

**(iv) The development of new and enhancement of existing exchange programmes between European schools and universities.**

This measure was, by far, the most popular of those proposed and virtually three-quarters (73%) of the UK poll believed this would be an efficient measure and, with figures as high as 93% in Luxembourg, 92% in Cyprus and 90% in Latvia, the Czech Republic and Belgium, the EU27 average rose to 84%.

**UK socio-demographic analysis**

No significant information emerged from an analysis of these data other than this was deemed an efficient measure by 85% of those educated to age 20 or more compared with just 64% of those who had left school aged 15 or less.

Support for this idea was, perhaps surprisingly, seen from just 68% of students compared with 80% of white-collar workers and 82% of managers.

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## **MAIN CONCLUSIONS**

One of the major features of the UK responses in Eurobarometer 67 (EB67) was a noticeable increase in support for the country's membership of the European Union, a majority support for a European constitution, as well as approval of enlargement from the existing base of 27 member states.

39% of the UK poll believed that **membership of the European Union** was a good thing compared with 26% whose opinion was neutral and 30% who said it was a bad thing.

In the UK, just six months ago, 47% of the poll believed that the country **had not benefited** compared with 39% who saw membership as positive. This gave an eight percentage point gap in favour of the negative view. Today, the position has changed substantially. While those UK citizens taking the negative view has fallen to 44%, the positive view has increased and is now held by 43% of the UK poll. The opinion gap is now down to just one percentage point.

Another key result of this latest Eurobarometer is the UK public's attitude towards a possible **European constitution**. The concept of a written constitution is essentially foreign to UK citizens but, despite this, noticeably more were for than were against this principle with 43% of UK citizens polled in favour while 36% were against and 21% were undecided.

Although eight percentage points behind the EU average, 41% of the UK poll were for **future enlargement** of the EU. Both the UK and EU27 averages show an increase over the past six months. The EU27 figure increases from 46% to 49% and, while there are still more UK citizens against further enlargement, the gap has decreased from fifteen percentage points (51% - 36%) to just seven percentage points (48% - 41%).

By far the most popular results of European integration were seen to be **peace** amongst the Member States and the **free movement of people, goods and services**.

34% of the UK poll gave **peace** as the most positive result – a figure echoed by 39% of EU27 citizens while 30% of UK citizens and a slightly higher 33% of those polled across the Union chose **free movement** as the most positive result of European integration.

An improvement was seen in the UK figures concerning **knowledge of the EU** over the past six months. With the 'don't know' factor falling from 33% to 30%, the percentage of UK citizens correctly saying that the statement that the EU was made up of 15 Member States was false rose substantially from 34% to 40%.

46% of UK citizens correctly stated that Members of the European Parliament were **directly elected by EU citizens**. This level of awareness is slightly higher than the EU27 average (45%) and noticeably greater than figures of 38% in France, 41% in Italy and 42% in Germany – the three other largest countries in the Union.

In the year since this question was last asked, in the spring of 2006, there has been a sharp increase in the number of UK citizens who now **recognise the European flag**. In just twelve months, the UK figure has risen by seven percentage points from 85% to 92%, while over the same period the EU27 figure rose from 92% to 95%.

Looking at the issue of trust, just a third (33%) of the UK poll **trusted the European Parliament** compared with an EU27 average of 56%.

Over the past six months, the trust level across the European Union towards the European Parliament has increased from 52% to 56% meaning that a majority of European citizens now tend to trust this institution.

However, in the UK, over the same period, there was a proportionately greater increase in trust from 25% to 33%. Even though this obviously means more UK citizens (46%) tend not to trust this European institution, the percentage point gap has more than halved from twenty seven percentage points to just thirteen.

Just 29% of the UK poll tended to **trust the European Commission** compared with an overall EU27 average of 52%. It is also interesting to note that an identical number of UK citizens (29%) felt unable to give an answer to this question, implying a fundamental lack of knowledge of the subject.

Repeating the pattern shown above, the largest proportion of the UK poll (39%) was unable to give a response to the question as to whether they tended **to trust the Council of the European Union**, once again indicating a strong possibility of lack of awareness of the workings of this body.

One of the major stumbling blocks on European integration has been the historical reluctance of the British citizen to accept **legislation from Brussels** which they perceive is something over which they have no control. The fact of the matter is, of course, that the UK government actually participates in the shaping and adoption of all European legislation.

In a number of areas, citizens were asked whether decisions should be made by the UK government alone or jointly within the European Union. What emerges is a steady move by UK citizens towards the broader EU approach in virtually all areas. In addition, areas which they see as clearly requiring a broad united approach such as **fighting terrorism**, the issue of **scientific and technological research** and steps to be taken in relation to **protecting the environment** are issues where the EU option gets a clear majority vote.

Across the European Union, 88% of the 27,000 people polled felt that **global warming** should be dealt with urgently by the EU and the UK figures, at 84%, are broadly similar.

89% of EU citizens agreed that the European Union should urgently put new policies in place to **reduce greenhouse gas emissions** by at least 20% by 2020 – a figure just three percentage points greater than the 86% noted in the UK.

The great majority (78%) of UK citizens were in favour of **teaching schoolchildren about the way EU institutions work**. This view was also strongly held throughout the EU with 86% of those polled being in favour of this initiative.

**ANNEX 1:****EUROBAROMETER "Standard" 67.2  
TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS**

Between the 10 th of April and the 15th of May 2007, TNS Opinion & Social, a consortium created between Taylor Nelson Sofres and EOS Gallup Europe, carried out wave 67.2 of the EUROBAROMETER, on request of the EUROPEAN COMMISSION, Directorate General Communication, "Public Opinion and Media Monitoring".

The STANDARD EUROBAROMETER 67.2 is part of wave 67.2 and covers the population of the respective nationalities of the European Union Member States, resident in each of the Member States and aged 15 years and over. The STANDARD EUROBAROMETER 67.2 has also been conducted 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 and the population of citizens of all the European Union Member States that are residents in these countries and have a sufficient command of the national languages to answer the questionnaire. The basic sample design applied in all states is a multi-stage, random (probability) one. In each country, a number of sampling points was drawn with probability proportional to population size (for a total coverage of the country) and to population density.

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

ABBREVIATIONS	COUNTRIES	INSTITUTES	N° INTERVIEWS	FIELDWORK DATES		POPULATION 15+
BE	Belgium	TNS Dimarso	1011	11/04/2007	07/05/2007	8.650.994
BG	Bulgaria	TNS BBSS	1039	13/04/2007	26/04/2007	6.671.699
CZ	Czech Rep.	TNS Aisa	1043	13/04/2007	04/05/2007	8.571.710
DK	Denmark	TNS Gallup DK	1002	10/04/2007	14/05/2007	4.411.580
DE	Germany	TNS Infratest	1513	10/04/2007	09/05/2007	64.361.608
EE	Estonia	Emor	1005	16/04/2007	14/05/2007	887.094
EL	Greece	TNS ICAP	1000	10/04/2007	08/05/2007	8.693.566
ES	Spain	TNS Demoscopia	1000	10/04/2007	10/05/2007	37.024.972
FR	France	TNS Sofres	1013	10/04/2007	08/05/2007	44.010.619
IE	Ireland	TNS MRBI	1000	10/04/2007	10/05/2007	3.089.775
IT	Italy	TNS Abacus	1010	10/04/2007	08/05/2007	48.892.559
CY	Rep. of Cyprus	Synovate	502	11/04/2007	07/05/2007	596.752
CY(tcc)	Turkish Cypriot Community	KADEM	500	10/04/2007	06/05/2007	157.101
LV	Latvia	TNS Latvia	1013	13/04/2007	15/05/2007	1.418.596
LT	Lithuania	TNS Gallup Lithuania	1018	10/04/2007	05/05/2007	2.803.661
LU	Luxembourg	TNS ILReS	511	10/04/2007	07/05/2007	374.097
HU	Hungary	TNS Hungary	1006	12/04/2007	10/05/2007	8.503.379
MT	Malta	MISCO	500	10/04/2007	30/04/2007	321.114
NL	Netherlands	TNS NIPO	1009	10/04/2007	10/05/2007	13.030.000
AT	Austria	Österreichisches Gallup-Institut	1011	10/04/2007	01/05/2007	6.848.736
PL	Poland	TNS OBOP	1000	10/04/2007	02/05/2007	31.967.880
PT	Portugal	TNS EUROTESTE	1011	14/04/2007	07/05/2007	8.080.915
RO	Romania	TNS CSOP	1019	10/04/2007	08/05/2007	18.173.179
SI	Slovenia	RM PLUS	1013	10/04/2007	09/05/2007	1.720.137
SK	Slovakia	TNS AISA SK	1106	13/04/2007	01/05/2007	4.316.438
FI	Finland	TNS Gallup Oy	1038	16/04/2007	09/05/2007	4.348.676
SE	Sweden	TNS GALLUP	1005	10/04/2007	10/05/2007	7.486.976
UK	United Kingdom	TNS UK	1319	10/04/2007	07/05/2007	47.685.578
HR	Croatia	Puls	1000	10/04/2007	07/05/2007	3.722.800
TR	Turkey	TNS Piar	1005	10/04/2007	10/05/2007	47.583.830
TOTAL			29222	10/04/2007	15/05/2007	444.406.021

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

Readers are reminded that survey results are estimations, the accuracy of which, everything being equal, rests upon the sample size and upon the observed percentage. With samples of about 1,000 interviews, the real percentages vary within the following confidence limits:

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

**Annex 2: Questionnaire**

<b>QA3</b>	On the whole, how satisfied or not are you with the life you lead? Are you...?
------------	--

	(193)	EU	UK
Very satisfied	1	21	32
Fairly satisfied	2	59	57
Not very satisfied	3	15	9
Not at all satisfied	4	4	2
DK	5	1	0

EB66.1 QA3

<b>QA4</b>	What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...?
------------	---

			Better	Worse	Same
(194)	1	Your life in general	EU 37 UK 48	EU 11 UK 8	EU 49 UK 42
(195)	2	The economic situation in the United Kingdom	EU 28 UK 16	EU 27 UK 40	EU 38 UK 35
(196)	3				
(197)	4	The financial situation of your household	EU 27 UK 35	EU 16 UK 14	EU 54 UK 48
(198)	5	The employment situation in the United Kingdom	EU 31 UK 16	EU 27 UK 36	EU 35 UK 39
(199)	6				
(200)	7	Your personal job situation	EU 23 UK 27	EU 8 UK 6	EU 60 UK 59
(201)	8	The economic situation in the EU	EU 28 UK 18	EU 16 UK 22	EU 38 UK 35

EB66.3 QA12 TREND MODIFIED

<b>QA5</b>	If you compare your present situation with five years ago, would you say it has improved, stayed about the same, or got worse?
------------	--

	(202)
Improved	EU 38 UK 47

Stayed about the same	EU 33 UK 28
Got worse	EU 28 UK 24
DK	

EB66.3 QA13

**QA6** 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?

	<b>(203)</b>
Improve	EU 43 UK 51
Stay about the same	EU 38 UK 33
Get worse	EU 14 UK 12
DK	

EB66.3 QA14

**QA7a** For each of the following areas, would you say that the situation in the United Kingdom is better or less good than the average across the European Union countries?

			Much better	Somewhat better	Somewhat less good	Definitely less good	Don't know	Identical
(204)	1	The state of the UK economy	EU 5 UK 8	EU 33 UK 41	EU 32 UK 21	EU 17 UK 8	EU 7 UK 16	6% both
(205)	2	The employment situation in the United Kingdom	EU 4 UK 6	EU 28 UK 39	EU 35 UK 26	EU 19 UK 7	EU 7 UK 16	7%, 6%
(206)	3	The cost of living in the United Kingdom	EU 3 UK 3	EU 21 UK 17	EU 40 UK 43	EU 25 UK 19	EU 6 UK 12	5%, 6%
(207)	4	Energy prices in the United Kingdom	EU 2 UK 2	EU 15 UK 13	EU 38 UK 36	EU 25 UK 20	EU 15 UK 25	5%, 4%

EB65.2 QC2 TREND MODIFIED



QA7b	And for each of the following areas, would you say that the situation in the UK is better or less good than the average of the European Union countries?
------	--

						DK	Identical
(208)	1	The healthcare system in the UK	EU 10 UK 11	EU 31 UK 32	EU 26 UK 29	EU 22 UK 14	EU 6 UK 10
(209)	2	The provision of pensions in the UK	5, 2%	22, 19	29, 28	27, 23	13, 24
(210)	3	The social welfare situation in the United Kingdom	10, 9	32, 34	25, 21	19, 11	9, 19
							5%, 4%

EB65.2 QC2 TREND MODIFIED

QA7c	And for each of the following areas, would you say that the situation in the United Kingdom is better or less good than the average of the European Union countries?
------	--

(SHOW SCREEN WITH SCALE - SINGLE CODE)

	(READ OUT)	Much better	Somewhat better	Somewhat less good	Definitely less good	The same (SPONTANEOUS)	DK
(211)	1	The education system in the UK	7, 9	32, 34	37, 23	14, 13	8, 7
(212)	2	The quality of life in the United Kingdom	9, 9	39, 39	24, 24	16, 9	7, 9
(213)	3	Public transport in the UK	7, 6	29, 24	27, 28	17, 22	8, 4
(214)	4	The environmental situation in the United Kingdom	7, 4	36, 35	26, 28	13, 9	10, 9
(215)	5	The knowledge of foreign languages in the UK	7, 2	25, 13	29, 24	23, 49	7, 2
							9, 14
							5, 10
							12, 16
							8, 15
							9, 10

ASK ALL

QA8	Please tell me how well each of the following words describes your idea of the European Union.
-----	--

	(READ OUT)				
		VW	FW	FB	VB DK
(228)	1	Modern	12, 7	58, 54	18, 19 4, 5 8, 15
(229)	2	Democratic	14, 8	56, 46	17, 20 4, 8 9, 18
(230)	3	Protective	9, 6	48, 43	24, 21 6, 7 13, 23
(231)	4	Inefficient	9, 19	28, 32	36, 23 10, 4 17, 22
(232)	5	Technocratic	11, 10	37, 32	18, 12 4, 2 30, 44

EB65.1 QA9

**QA9a** Generally speaking, do you think that the United Kingdom's membership of the European Union is...?

(READ OUT)

	EU	UK
A good thing	57, 39	
A bad thing	15, 30	
Neither good nor bad	25, 26	
DK	3, 5	

EB66.1 QA7a (FILTER MODIFIED)

**QA10a** Taking everything into consideration, would you say that the United Kingdom has on balance benefited or not from being a member of the European Union?

Benefited	59, 43
Not benefited	30, 44
DK	11, 13

ASK ALL

QA11	In general, does the European Union conjure up for you a very positive, fairly positive, neutral, fairly negative or very negative image?
------	---

Very positive	11, 8
Fairly positive	41, 27
Neutral	31, 30
Fairly negative	12, 20
Very negative	3, 11
DK	2, 4

QA12	What does the European Union mean to you personally?
------	--

see detailed analysis in separate document

Peace
Economic prosperity
Democracy
Social protection
Freedom to travel, study and work anywhere in the European Union
Cultural diversity
Stronger say in the world
Euro
Unemployment
Bureaucracy
Waste of money
Loss of our cultural identity
More crime
Not enough international border controls
Other (SPONTANEOUS)
DK

QA13	Have you heard of...?			
------	-----------------------	--	--	--

			Yes	No	DK
(256)	1	The European Parliament	89, 81		
(257)	2	The European Commission	82, 74		
(258)	3	The Council of the European Union	68, 43		
(259)	4	The European Central Bank	75, 54		

EB66.1 QA18 TREND MODIFIED
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QA14	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?
------	--

J, do not consider these worth including on the issue of importance of role
---

			Yes	No	DK
(260)	1	The European Parliament			
(261)	2	The European Commission			
(262)	3	The Council of the European Union			
(263)	4	The European Central Bank			

EB65.2 QA24
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QA15	And, for each of them, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it?
------	--

			Yes	No	DK
(264)	1	The European Parliament	56, 33	28, 46	16, 21
(265)	2	The European Commission	52, 29	27, 42	21, 29
(266)	3	The Council of the European Union	47, 23	26, 38	27, 39
(267)	4	The European Central Bank	53, 30	25, 35	22, 35

EB66.1 QA19 TREND MODIFIED
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**QA16** 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?

		Yes	No	DK
(268)	1 The press	47, 18	48, 77	5, 5
(269)	2 Radio	66, 62	28, 31	6, 7
(270)	3 Television	58, 51	37, 44	5, 5
(271)	4 The Internet	39, 32	35, 41	26, 27
(272)	5 The UK Government	41, 34	53, 59	6, 7
(273)	6 The House of Commons/national parliament	43, 41	50, 50	7, 9
(274)	7 The European Union	57, 36	32, 49	11, 15

EB66.1 QA6 TREND MODIFIED

**QA17** For each of the following statements about the European Union could you please tell me whether you think it is true or false?

		TRUE	FALSE	DK
1	The European Union currently consists of fifteen Member States	23, 30	57, 40	20, 30
2	Members of the European Parliament are directly elected by citizens of the European Union	45, 46	35, 27	20, 27
3				
4	Every six months, a different Member State becomes the President of	49, 34	25, 32	26, 34

	the Council of the European Union		
--	-----------------------------------	--	--

## EB66.1 QA20 TREND MODIFIED

**QA18a** What do you think are the two most important issues facing the United Kingdom at the moment?

more detailed analysis in separate document

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

Crime
Economic situation
Rising prices\inflation
Taxation
Unemployment
Terrorism
Defence\Foreign affairs
Housing
Immigration
Healthcare system
The education system
Pensions
Protecting the environment
Energy related issues
Other (SPONTANEOUS)
DK

## EB66.1 QA23 (FILTER MODIFIED)

**QA19** To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement: Every European decision is the subject of negotiations in which the opinions of the national Governments of all Member states are taken into account.

Totally agree	15, 9
Tend to agree	48, 42
Tend to disagree	18, 21
Totally disagree	5, 10
DK	14, 18
Agree	63, 51
Disagree	23, 31

NEW

**QA20a** For each of the following areas, do you think that decisions should be made by the UK Government, or made jointly within the European Union?

		Nationally	Across the EU	
1	Fighting crime	38, 61	60, 37	
2	Taxation	68, 78	20, 19	
3	Fighting unemployment	58, 69	39, 28	
4	Fighting terrorism	16, 26	81, 71	
5	Defence and foreign affairs	33, 56	62, 40	
6	Immigration	37, 59	59, 39	
7	The education system	64, 77	33, 21	
8	Pensions	72, 78	25, 19	
9	Protecting the environment	28, 36	69, 62	
10	Health and social welfare	66, 75	31, 22	
11	Agriculture and fisheries	45, 53	50, 42	
12	Consumer protection	48, 56	48, 39	
13	Scientific and technological research	24, 33	71, 62	
14	Support for regions facing economic difficulties	35, 41	60, 53	
15	Energy	35, 52	61, 45	

16	Competition	34, 44	57, 44	
17	Transport	51, 72	45, 26	
18	The economy	50, 72	46, 25	

EB66.1 QA24

QA22a Overall, do you think that in the United Kingdom, people are well informed or not about European political affairs?

Very well informed	2, 2
Fairly well informed	20, 21
Not very well informed	55, 49
Not at all informed	20, 26
DK	3, 2
Well informed	22, 23
Not informed	75, 75

NEW

QA22b Overall, do you think that you are well informed or not about European political affairs?

(READ OUT)

Very well informed	2, 3
Fairly well informed	28, 31
Not very well informed	49, 43
Not at all informed	19, 21
DK	2, 2
Well informed	30, 34
Not informed	68, 64

NEW



**QA25** When you are looking for information about the European Union, its policies, its institutions, which of the following sources do you use? Any others?

(SHOW SCREEN - READ OUT - MULTI CHOICE)

Attending conferences, talks, meetings	4, 2
Discussions with relatives, friends, colleagues	21, 12
Daily newspapers	41, 33
Other newspapers, magazines	15, 11
Television	63, 42
Radio	26, 23
The Internet	28, 31
Books, brochures, information leaflets	11, 9
Telephone (Info lines, Europe Direct, etc.)	1, 1
Never look for such information, not interested (SPONTANEOUS)	13, 29
Other (SPONTANEOUS)	0, 0
DK	0, 0

**QA27** Please tell me for each of the following whether you are for it or against it.

	(READ OUT)	For	Against	DK
1	A European Monetary Union with one single currency, the Euro	63, 29	31, 64	6, 7
2	A common foreign policy among the Member States of the European Union towards other countries	72, 52	18, 32	10, 16
3	A common defence and security policy among	77, 56	15, 31	8, 13

	European Union Member States			
4	Further enlargement of the European Union to include other countries in future years	49, 41	39, 48	12, 11
5	A constitution for the European Union	66, 43	20, 36	14, 21
6	The speed of building Europe being faster in one group of countries than in the other countries	48, 37	36, 44	16, 19
7	Teaching school children about the way European Union institutions work	86, 78	9, 16	5, 6

**QA31** Overall, thinking about global warming, do you think that it is a matter that should be dealt with by the European Union ....

(READ OUT )

Very urgently	57, 51
Fairly urgently	31, 33
Not very urgently	6, 7
Not at all urgently	1, 3
DK	5, 6
Urgently	88, 84
Not urgently	7, 10

NEW

**QA32** More precisely, please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with the following statement about climate change: The European Union should urgently put new policies in place to reduce greenhouse gas emission by at least 20% by 2020.

(READ OUT)

Totally agree	60, 56
Tend to agree	29, 30
Tend to disagree	4, 5
Totally disagree	1, 3
DK	6, 6
Agree	89, 86
Disagree	5, 8

NEW

**QA33** People may feel different levels of attachment to their village, town or city, to their country or to the European Union.  
Please tell me how attached you feel to...

(SHOW SCREEN WITH SCALE)

	(READ OUT)	attached	not attached	DK
1	Your city/town/village			
2	The United Kingdom	91, 88	8, 12	
3				
4	The European Union	34 UK	62 UK	EU figures to follow

EB67.1 QA14 (ITEMS 1-4 AND 6) - EB65.2 QA35 (ITEM 5) - TREND MODIFIED

**QA34a** Please tell me for each statement, whether you tend to agree or tend to disagree?

	(READ OUT)	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	DK
1	I feel I am safer because the United Kingdom is a member of the European	52, 40	39, 50	9, 10

	Union			
2	I feel we are more stable economically because the United Kingdom is a member of the European Union	51, 42	39, 46	10, 12
3	I feel we are more stable politically because the United Kingdom is a member of the European Union	45, 37	45, 51	10, 12
4	My voice counts in the European Union	35, 22	55, 68	10, 10
5	I understand how the European Union works	43, 35	50, 60	7, 5
6	The United Kingdom's voice counts in the EU	66, 55	26, 35	8, 10
7	The United Kingdom will become more influential in the European Union in the future	52, 45	33, 38	15, 17
8	The interests of the United Kingdom are well taken into account in the European Union	45, 39	39, 45	16, 16
9	The biggest countries have the most power in the European Union	75, 69	17, 20	8, 11
10	The United Kingdom is more influential in the European Union now than it was ten years ago	54, 45	29, 33	17, 22
11	I feel very much involved in European affairs	24, 14	69, 82	7, 4

EB66.1 QA12 (ITEMS 4, 5 AND 11) - EB65.2 QA15a (ITEMS 1-3 AND 7-9) - EB62.0 (ITEMS 6 AND 10) - (FILTER

MODIFIED)

ASK ALL

**QA35a** Which of the following do you think is the most positive result of European integration?

**QA35b** And which is the second most positive result?

(SHOWSCREEN)

(READ OUT)	QA35a	QA35b
	FIRSTLY	SECONDLY
Peace among the Member States of the EU		
The free movement of people, goods and services within the EU		
The Euro		
Student exchange programmes such as ERASMUS		
The Common Agricultural Policy		
None (SPONTANEOUS)		
Other (SPONTANEOUS)		
DK		

EB65.1 QA12a&amp;b TREND MODIFIED

**QA37** How optimistic would you say that you are about the future of the European Union. Are you.....?

(READ OUT)

Very optimistic 11, 9

Fairly optimistic	58, 48
Fairly pessimistic	19, 23
Very pessimistic	5, 10
DK	7, 10
Optimistic	69, 57
Pessimistic	24, 33

NEW

**QA39** The European Union already has a Common Foreign and Security 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 sta

	(READ OUT)	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	DK
1	The European Union should have its own Foreign Minister who can be the spokesperson for a common European Union position	69, 57	18, 27	13, 16
2	European Union foreign policy should be independent of United States foreign policy			
3	The European Union should have a common immigration policy towards people from outside the European Union	75, 68	14, 19	11, 13

EB65.2 QA32

**QA45** For each of the following measures that could be taken to teach pupils and students about the European Union, do you think that it is an efficient or an inefficient measure?

Jeremy, I think this is an interesting issue as it faces up to the matter of unbiased info on the EU

	(READ OUT)	Efficient	Inefficient	DK
1	A common European history book that will be given to all pupils and students in the EU	68, 56	23, 33	9, 11
2	A common European curriculum on European education for all teachers	68, 53	22, 33	10, 14
3	To create European schools and universities in all Member states that focus on European issues	70, 50	20, 35	10, 15
4	To develop new and enhance existing exchange programs between European schools and universities	84, 73	8, 15	8, 12

NEW

ASK QA46 TO QA48 ONLY IN EU27 - OTHERS GO TO QA49