



Standard Eurobarometer 81 Spring 2014

PUBLIC OPINION IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

REPORT

Fieldwork: June 2014

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

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

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Standard Eurobarometer 81 / Spring 2014 – TNS opinion & social

**Standard Eurobarometer 81
Spring 2014**

Public opinion in the European Union

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

Survey coordinated by the European Commission,
Directorate-General Communication
(DG COMM "Strategy, Corporate Communication Actions and
Eurobarometer" Unit)

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Technical specifications

INTRODUCTION

This Standard Eurobarometer survey was carried out between 31 May and 14 June 2014¹ in 34 countries and territories: the 28 Member States of the European Union (EU)², the five candidate countries (the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Iceland, Montenegro and Serbia) and the Turkish Cypriot Community in the part of the country not controlled by the government of the Republic of Cyprus.

The survey was carried out just after the eighth European elections held between 22 and 25 May 2014 in the EU. The turn-out rate was 42.54%. The European People's Party (EPP) obtained 29.4% of the votes, which represents 221 seats. With 25.4% of the votes, the Socialists and Democrats (S&D) came in second place with 191 seats³. These elections were marked by the progress made by the Eurosceptic parties in several Member States (in particular, France, the United Kingdom and Denmark).

The fieldwork was also carried out a few weeks after the publication by the European Commission of the spring 2014 economic forecasts⁴: GDP growth in 2014 is expected to be 1.6% in the EU and 1.2% in the euro area. These forecasts are slightly higher than those unveiled in autumn 2013. At the same time, the employment statistics have also improved⁵: the EU28 unemployment rate in April 2014 was 10.4%, i.e. down slightly by -0.1 percentage point on March 2014 (10.5%) and significantly lower (-0.5 percentage points versus April 2013 (10.9%). A similar downward trend is also perceptible in the euro area (11.7%, down from 11.8% in March 2014 and 12% in April 2013), even if the decrease is less marked. Despite the general improvement in the economic situation in the European Union, there are still significant differences between Member States.

Since the last Standard Eurobarometer survey in autumn 2013 (EB80), general elections have been held in Slovakia, Hungary, Lithuania and Belgium.

On the EU's borders, a Presidential election was held in Ukraine on 25 May. Mr Porochenko, a supporter of closer ties with the EU, was elected in the first round. On 27 June, the European Union-Ukraine association agreement was signed in Brussels.

¹ Please consult the technical specifications for details of the exact dates of the interviews in each country.

² This is the second Standard Eurobarometer survey since Croatia joined the EU on 1st July 2013. The EU28 results in this report therefore represent the weighted average for the 28 Member States.

³ <http://www.resultats-elections2014.eu/en/election-results-2014.html>

⁴ http://ec.europa.eu/economy_finance/publications/european_economy/2014/pdf/ee3_en.pdf

⁵ http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/cache/ITY_PUBLIC/3-03062014-BP/FR/3-03062014-BP-FR.PDF

The full report of the Standard Eurobarometer 81 survey consists of several volumes. The first volume presents the main public opinion trends in the European Union. Four further volumes present the opinions of Europeans on other themes: European citizenship; the financial and economic crisis; the Europe 2020 strategy; living conditions in the European Union. This volume covers the state of public opinion in the European Union.

This volume, devoted to the main public opinion trends in the European Union, is divided into three parts. The first part focuses on the personal, economic and political aspects of life in the European Union as perceived by its citizens. In it we examine: the financial and personal situation of citizens; their views on the economic situation at national and European levels; their main concerns; and their expectations for the future. This volume also explores citizens' interest in politics, their views on the direction in which things are going in their country and in the European Union, while analysing the extent to which citizens trust the institutions.

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

The third part of the report begins by analysing how far Europeans support various European policies, before examining their views on the main objectives of the building of Europe, not only as perceived by them, but also as desired by them. Lastly, we analyse opinions about the European Union's future.

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

The general analysis and the socio-demographic analyses are based on the results at the level of the average of the 28 Member States. This average is weighted so that it reflects the population of each Member State. The averages for the previous surveys represent the results obtained in all the Member States of the European Union, as it was composed at the time the survey was conducted.

The methodology used is that of the Standard Eurobarometer surveys of the Directorate-General Communication (“Strategy, Corporate Communication Actions and Eurobarometer” Unit)⁶. A technical note on the interviewing methods of the institutes of the TNS opinion & social network is attached to this report. This note also specifies the confidence intervals⁷, which are used to assess the accuracy of the results of a survey, according to the size of the sample interviewed in relation to the total size of the population studied.

The abbreviations used in this report correspond to:

ABBREVIATIONS			
BE	Belgium	LV	Latvia
BG	Bulgaria	LU	Luxembourg
CZ	Czech Republic	HU	Hungary
DK	Denmark	MT	Malta
DE	Germany	NL	The Netherlands
EE	Estonia	AT	Austria
EL	Greece	PL	Poland
ES	Spain	PT	Portugal
FR	France	RO	Romania
HR	Croatia	SI	Slovenia
IE	Ireland	SK	Slovakia
IT	Italy	FI	Finland
CY	Republic of Cyprus*	SE	Sweden
LT	Lithuania	UK	United Kingdom
CY (tcc)	Turkish Cypriot Community	EU28	European Union – weighted average for the 28 Member States
TR	Turkey	Euro area	BE, FR, IT, LU, DE, AT, ES, PT, IE, NL, FI, EL, EE, SI, CY, MT, SK, LV
MK	Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia **	Non-euro area	BG, CZ, DK, HR, HU, LT, PL, RO, SE, UK
IS	Iceland		
ME	Montenegro		
RS	Serbia		

* Cyprus as a whole is one of the 28 European Union Member States. However, the “acquis communautaire” has been suspended in the part of the country which is not controlled by the government of the Republic of Cyprus. For practical reasons, only the interviews carried out in the part of the country controlled by the government of the Republic of Cyprus are included in the “CY” category and in the EU28 average. The interviews carried out in the part of the country that is not controlled by the government of the Republic of Cyprus are included in the “CY(tcc)” (tcc: *Turkish Cypriot Community*) category)

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

* * * * *

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

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

⁶ http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/index_en.htm

⁷ The results tables are annexed. It should be noted that the total of the percentages indicated in the tables in this report may exceed 100% when the respondents had the possibility to choose several answers to the same question.

I. LIFE IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

This Standard Eurobarometer 81 of spring 2014 reveals that several indicators have improved since the Standard Eurobarometer survey of autumn 2013 (EB80):

- Although a majority of respondents remain negative about the economic situation, both nationally and at European level, as well as on the subject of employment, the proportion of positive answers has increased;
- Pessimism about the future has also fallen sharply as regards not only the Europeans' personal situation, but also the economic outlook both nationally and at EU level;
- Economic issues are still the focal point of concerns at personal, national and European levels, but to a lesser extent than in previous waves;
- Trust in national institutions remains very limited, but here too levels of trust have improved.

All in all, although it is not really possible to speak of renewed optimism, opinions and perceptions of the future show that Europeans are somewhat less edgy.

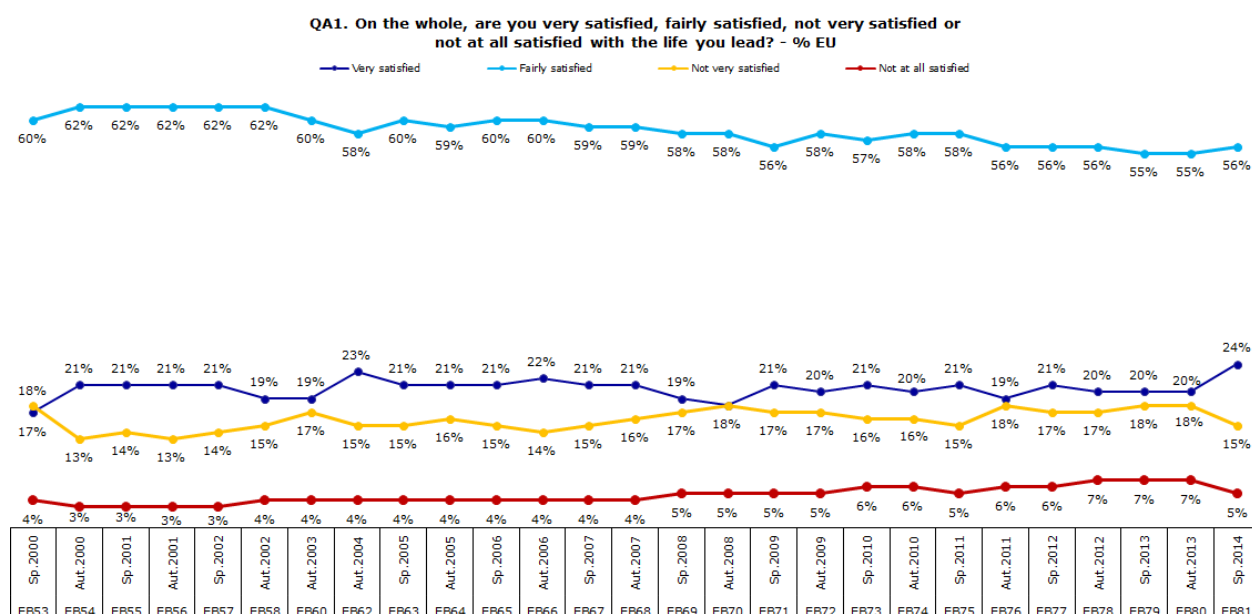
1. PERSONAL ASPECTS

1.1. The current personal situation of Europeans

- Levels of personal satisfaction and optimism for the future among Europeans have improved -

A clear majority of Europeans are satisfied with the life they lead, even more so than in the Standard Eurobarometer of autumn 2013 (EB80)⁸: 80% are satisfied with the life they lead, i.e. an increase of five percentage points. Almost a quarter of Europeans are “very satisfied” (24%, +4). Only two out of ten Europeans are “dissatisfied” (20%, -5).

This is the highest level of personal satisfaction since the Standard Eurobarometer of autumn 2007 (EB68).



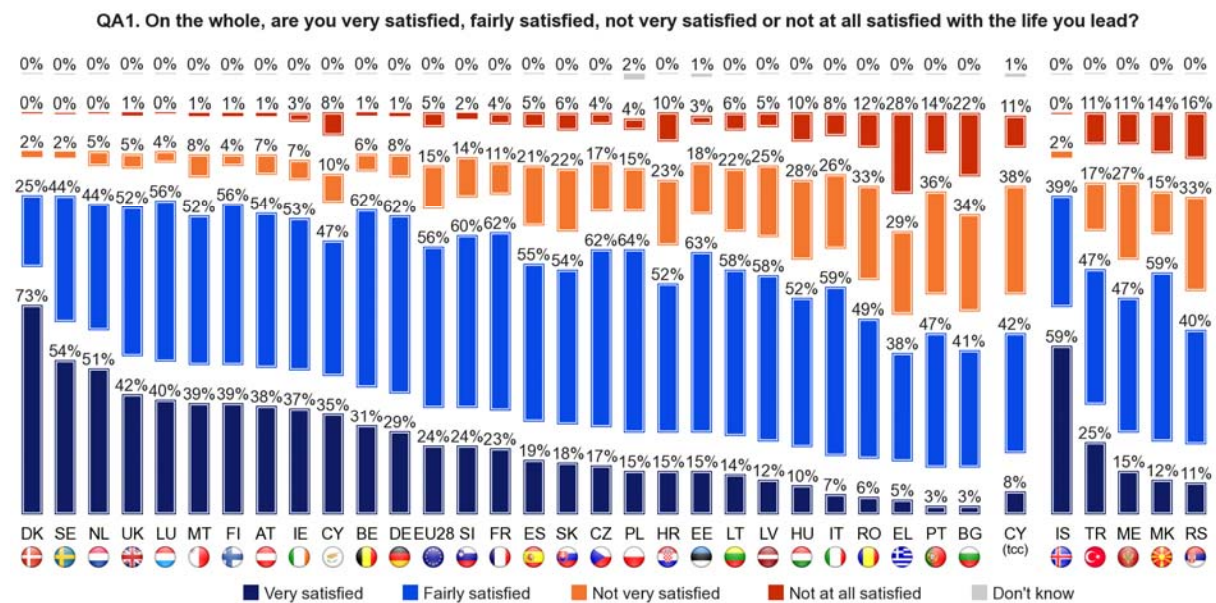
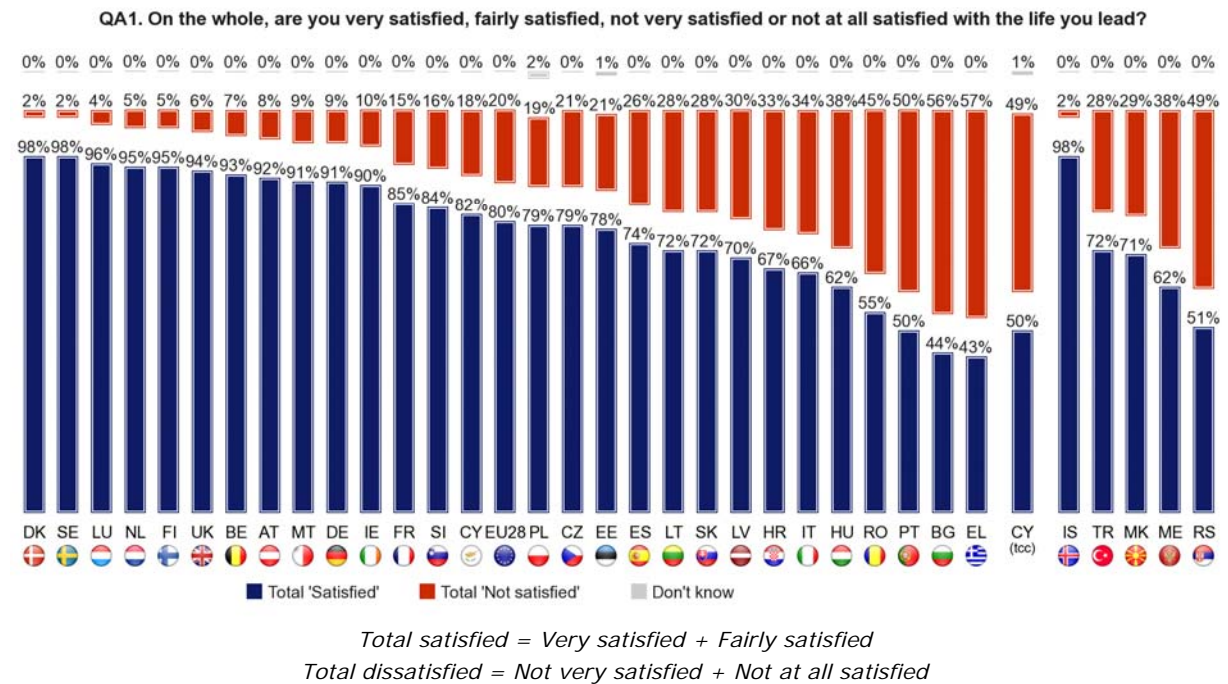
A majority of respondents in 25 Member States are satisfied with the life they lead (versus 23 in autumn 2013), most notably in Denmark (98%, +1 percentage point since autumn 2013), Sweden (98%, +1), Luxembourg (96%, +3), the Netherlands (95%, +1) and Finland (95%, +1).

Respondents are predominantly dissatisfied in two Member States: in Bulgaria (44% for total “satisfied”, +9 percentage points, versus 56% for total “dissatisfied”, -8) and Greece (43%, +5 versus 57%, -5). Opinions are evenly balanced in Portugal, after a strong increase in positive answers (50%, +11 versus 50%, -11).

Levels of personal satisfaction have improved in a majority of countries since the Standard Eurobarometer survey of autumn 2013, most notably in Hungary (62%, +13 percentage points), Cyprus (82%, +13), Italy (66%, +12 points) and Portugal (50%, +11).

⁸ On the whole, are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied, not at all satisfied with the life you lead?

Although there is still a sizeable gap between the highest and lowest levels of satisfaction (98% in Denmark and Sweden versus 43% in Greece), this gap has narrowed considerably since autumn 2013 (55 percentage points, -7).

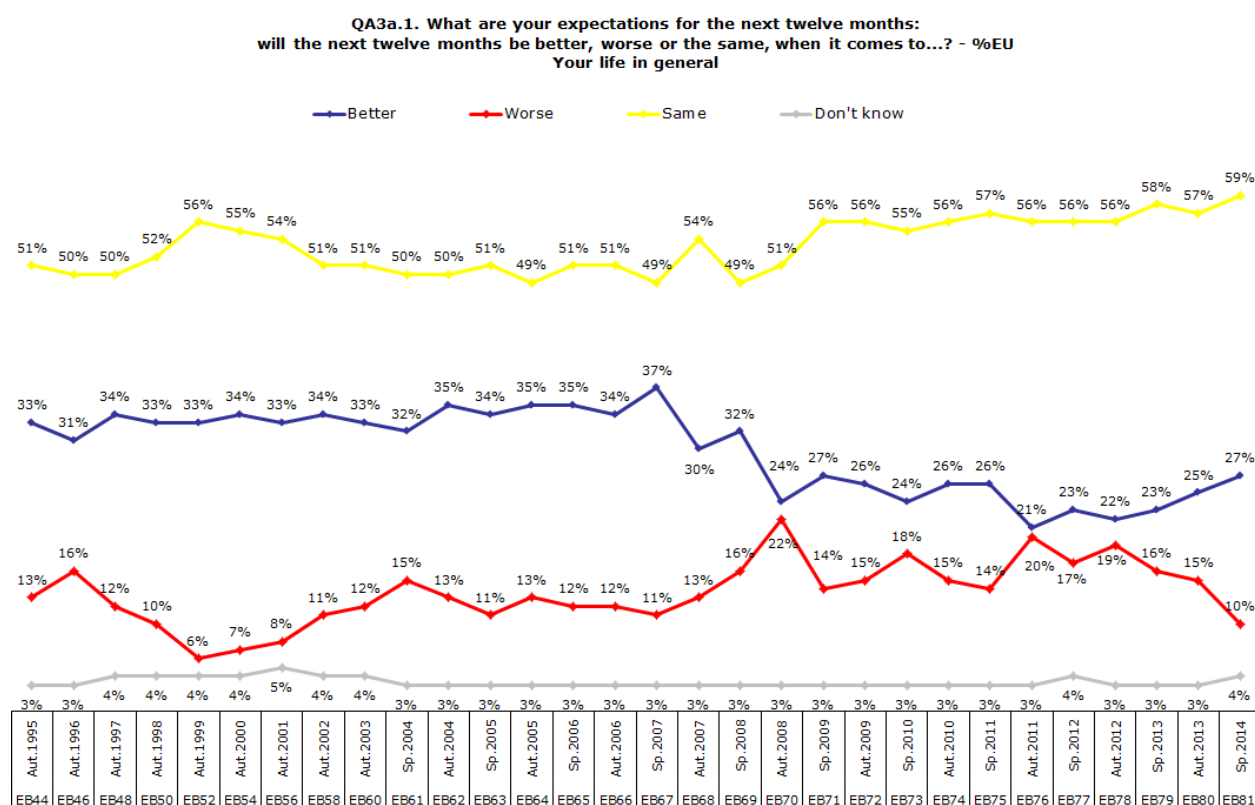


Detailed results

In the candidate countries:

- A majority of respondents in all five candidate countries are now satisfied, as a result of improved perceptions in most of them;
- Satisfaction is particularly high in Iceland (98%, unchanged) and now exceeds 70% in Turkey (72%, +5 percentage points) and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (71%, +7);
- A majority of respondents are now satisfied with life they lead in Montenegro (62%, +18) and Serbia (51%, +10).

Looking ahead over the next twelve months, Europeans have been continuously more optimistic since the Standard Eurobarometer Survey of autumn 2012 (EB78)⁹ and the trend has continued in this survey: 27% of Europeans think that the next twelve months will be “better” as regards their life in general (+2 percentage points versus autumn 2013 and +5 versus autumn 2012). A majority of Europeans continue to believe that things will be “the same” (59%, +2 since autumn 2013). Europeans are far less pessimistic: 10% think that the next twelve months will be worse (-5).



⁹ QA3a.1: What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...? Your life in general

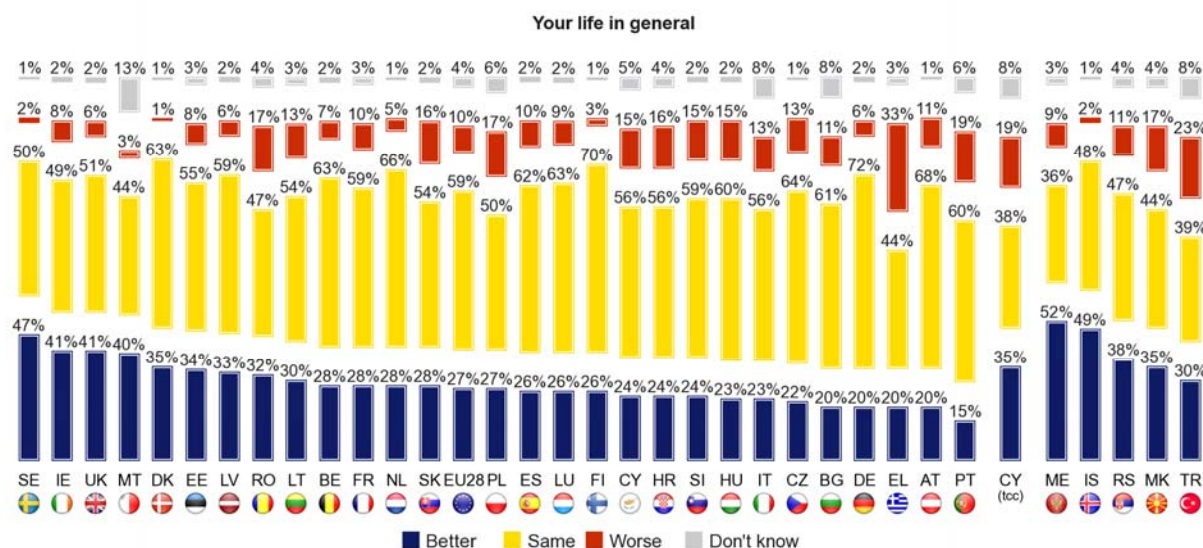
Respondents are the most optimistic in Sweden (47% of respondents think that the next twelve months will be “better”), Ireland (41%) and the United Kingdom (41%).

Although respondents in Greece are far less pessimistic than in autumn 2013, pessimism there is still higher than average (33% think that the next twelve months will be “worse”, i.e. -9 percentage points).

Optimism about the next twelve months has improved in a majority of Member States, in particular in Cyprus (24%, +13 percentage points), Ireland (41%, +10) and Bulgaria (20%, +8).

Levels of optimism in the five candidate countries are above the European average, with the highest score being recorded in Montenegro (52% of respondents think that the next twelve months will be better), ahead of Iceland (49%), then Serbia (38%), the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (35%) and Turkey (30%).

QA3a.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...?





































The optimism index for the next twelve months ¹⁰ is +17 points, i.e. an increase of seven percentage points versus autumn 2013 and +14 since autumn 2012.

It is now positive in 26 Member States (versus 20 in autumn 2013), with the highest levels being recorded in Sweden (+45), Malta (+37) and the United Kingdom (+35). Although it has improved significantly, the optimism index for the personal life of respondents is still negative in Portugal (-4, after an increase of 17 percentage points) and Greece (-13, +14 percentage points).

The optimism index has improved the most spectacularly in Cyprus (+35 points), Ireland (+17 points), Portugal (+17 points), Slovenia (+16 points), Greece (+14 points), Bulgaria (+13 points), Italy (+13 points) and the Czech Republic (+12 points).

QA3.1 What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...?

Your life in general

		Better - Worse EB80	Better - Worse EB81	Diff. EB81- EB80
	EU28	+10	+17	+7
	CY	-26	+9	+35
	IE	+16	+33	+17
	PT	-21	-4	+17
	SI	-7	+9	+16
	EL	-27	-13	+14
	BG	-4	+9	+13
	IT	-3	+10	+13
	CZ	-3	+9	+12
	HU	0	+8	+8
	RO	+7	+15	+8
	UK	+27	+35	+8
	BE	+14	+21	+7
	SK	+5	+12	+7
	SE	+38	+45	+7
	ES	+10	+16	+6
	PL	+4	+10	+6
	DE	+9	+14	+5
	DK	+30	+34	+4
	LV	+23	+27	+4
	NL	+19	+23	+4
	HR	+5	+8	+3
	LT	+15	+17	+2
	MT	+35	+37	+2
	FR	+17	+18	+1
	LU	+18	+17	-1
	AT	+12	+9	-3
	FI	+26	+23	-3
	EE	+31	+26	-5
	CY (tcc)	+7	+16	+9
	RS	+12	+27	+15
	ME	+33	+43	+10
	TR	-2	+7	+9
	MK	+11	+18	+7
	IS	+40	+47	+7

¹⁰ Difference between the percentages of "better" and "worse" answers

A socio-demographic analysis reveals a certain number of differences. Young people (91% of 15-24 year-olds and 92% of students), those who studied up to the age of 20 or beyond (87%), managers (93%) and those who almost never have difficulties paying their bills (90%) are more to be satisfied with the life they lead.

Optimism about the next twelve months is the highest among young people (50% of 15-24 year-olds think that the next twelve months will be better) and students (48%), but also unemployed people (36%).












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

QA3.1. What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...?

	Your life in general			Your life in general			
	Total 'Satisfied'	Total 'Not satisfied'	Don't know	Better	Worse	Same	Don't know
EU28	80%	20%	-	27%	10%	59%	4%
Gender							
Man	81%	19%	-	28%	11%	58%	3%
Woman	80%	20%	-	26%	10%	60%	4%
Age							
15-24	91%	9%	-	50%	5%	43%	2%
25-39	82%	18%	-	37%	9%	50%	4%
40-54	78%	22%	-	25%	11%	61%	3%
55 +	76%	24%	-	14%	13%	70%	3%
Education (End of)							
15-	69%	31%	-	16%	15%	65%	4%
16-19	77%	22%	1%	25%	11%	60%	4%
20+	87%	13%	-	31%	8%	59%	2%
Still studying	92%	8%	-	48%	4%	46%	2%
Socio-professional category							
Self-employed	84%	16%	-	34%	9%	54%	3%
Managers	93%	7%	-	30%	6%	62%	2%
Other white collars	85%	15%	-	30%	8%	59%	3%
Manual workers	81%	19%	-	29%	10%	58%	3%
House persons	76%	24%	-	23%	12%	61%	4%
Unemployed	58%	42%	-	36%	17%	41%	6%
Retired	77%	23%	-	12%	13%	71%	4%
Students	92%	8%	-	48%	4%	46%	2%
Difficulties paying bills							
Most of the time	46%	54%	-	23%	23%	50%	4%
From time to time	72%	28%	-	29%	14%	52%	5%
Almost never/ Never	90%	10%	-	27%	7%	63%	3%
Self-positioning on the social staircase							
Low (1-4)	57%	42%	1%	21%	19%	55%	5%
Medium (5-6)	84%	16%	-	27%	9%	60%	4%
High (7-10)	91%	9%	-	33%	6%	60%	1%

The following table shows the results by socio-demographic criteria in the whole of the European Union (EU28) on average, in the six largest EU countries and in four countries which have been particularly badly affected by the economic crisis.

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

Total 'Satisfied'											
	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
											
	80%	91%	74%	85%	90%	66%	94%	43%	79%	50%	82%
Gender											
Male	81%	91%	75%	87%	91%	66%	93%	46%	80%	53%	83%
Female	80%	92%	75%	84%	89%	65%	95%	41%	79%	46%	80%
Age											
15-24	91%	93%	86%	96%	96%	83%	97%	69%	93%	74%	94%
25-39	82%	89%	75%	89%	90%	69%	96%	51%	86%	56%	87%
40-54	78%	93%	73%	79%	86%	66%	90%	42%	75%	45%	75%
55 +	76%	90%	72%	83%	90%	59%	93%	32%	69%	40%	75%
Education (End of)											
15-	69%	92%	69%	79%	86%	51%	89%	23%	57%	40%	65%
16-19	77%	90%	75%	81%	88%	66%	93%	40%	72%	50%	78%
20+	87%	95%	81%	88%	93%	72%	97%	53%	87%	62%	92%
Still studying	92%	94%	86%	97%	92%	86%	96%	75%	99%	84%	96%
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	84%	95%	79%	95%	85%	80%	94%	40%	90%	46%	81%
Managers	93%	96%	96%	89%	96%	77%	98%	73%	92%	61%	94%
Other white collars	85%	97%	92%	90%	93%	69%	96%	42%	87%	64%	86%
Manual workers	81%	92%	80%	82%	92%	66%	92%	51%	77%	51%	84%
House persons	76%	90%	72%	86%	87%	63%	92%	41%	83%	49%	69%
Unemployed	58%	65%	58%	62%	79%	36%	90%	31%	63%	34%	70%
Retired	77%	91%	74%	86%	88%	59%	92%	35%	69%	43%	71%
Students	92%	94%	86%	97%	92%	86%	96%	75%	99%	84%	96%

1.2. Evaluations of personal job and financial situations

- Europeans are slightly more upbeat about their current and future personal job and financial situations –

1.2.1. The household's financial situation

Perceptions of the household's financial situation have improved since the Standard Eurobarometer survey of autumn 2013¹¹: 66% of Europeans consider that it is "good", i.e. up by three percentage points (versus 31% for "bad", -4).

A majority of respondents in 22 Member States are satisfied, with scores in excess of 75% in ten of them: Denmark (91%), Luxembourg (90%), Sweden (90%), Finland (88%), the Netherlands (85%), Malta (82%), Belgium (79%), Germany (79%), the United Kingdom (79%) and Austria (76%).

On the other hand, a majority of respondents in Greece (67%), Bulgaria (57%), Hungary (57%), Portugal (53%) and Croatia (51%) feel that their household's financial situation is "bad". Opinions are equally divided in Romania (50% "good" versus 50% "bad").

Looking ahead over the next twelve months, Europeans are less pessimistic: a large majority of respondents (higher than in autumn 2013), think that their household's financial situation will "stay the same" (62%, +3 percentage points); but optimism has also gained ground (21% of the Europeans polled think that the next twelve months will be "better", +2). The proportion of Europeans who think that the next twelve months will be "worse" has fallen sharply (14%, -5).

The optimism index is particularly high in Malta (+27) and Sweden (+26). In contrast, it is particularly negative in Greece (-24), which is one of the four Member States that have a negative index, together with Portugal (-9), the Czech Republic (-4) and Croatia (-3).



































As in autumn 2013, the optimism index has however improved in a majority of countries (22 in total, versus 18 in autumn 2013) and mainly in Cyprus (+47 percentage points), Slovenia (+22), Portugal (+21) and Italy (+21).

¹¹ QA3a.3: What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same when it comes to...?

The optimism index is positive in all the **candidate countries** and is especially high in Montenegro (+42) where it has improved significantly since autumn 2013 (+15 percentage points). The optimism index has also improved sharply in Serbia (+14, to +21), but also, to a lesser extent, in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (+6, to +11), Iceland (+4, to +27) and Turkey (+4, to +4).

**QA3.3. What are your expectations for the next twelve months:
will the next twelve months be better, worse
or the same, when it comes to...?**

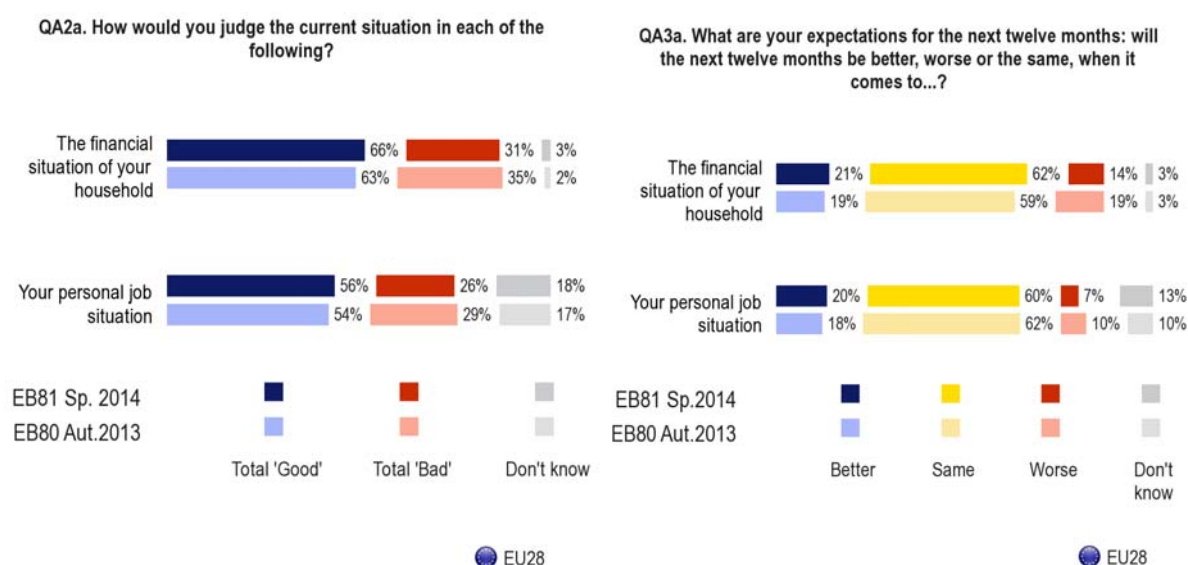
The financial situation of your household

		Better - Worse EB80	Better - Worse EB81	Diff. EB81-EB80
	EU28	0	+7	+7
	CY	-46	+1	+47
	SI	-21	+1	+22
	IT	-16	+5	+21
	PT	-30	-9	+21
	EL	-40	-24	+16
	BG	-9	+5	+14
	IE	=	+14	+14
	CZ	-13	-4	+9
	RO	+4	+13	+9
	NL	+3	+11	+8
	DE	+1	+8	+7
	ES	+3	+10	+7
	BE	+5	+11	+6
	SK	-2	+2	+4
	UK	+14	+18	+4
	FR	+4	+7	+3
	LV	+17	+20	+3
	HU	-3	=	+3
	SE	+23	+26	+3
	DK	+20	+22	+2
	PL	-2	=	+2
	MT	+26	+27	+1
	LT	+12	+11	-1
	LU	+10	+9	-1
	HR	-1	-3	-2
	FI	+17	+14	-3
	EE	+25	+20	-5
	AT	+8	+3	-5
	CY (tcc)	-2	+9	+11
	ME	+27	+42	+15
	RS	+7	+21	+14
	MK	+5	+11	+6
	IS	+23	+27	+4
	TR	=	+4	+4

1.2.2. The personal job situation

Although Europeans are still slightly less satisfied with their personal job situation¹² than with their household's financial situation, satisfaction on the job front has also increased: 56% of respondents consider that their personal job situation is "good" (+2 percentage points since the Standard Eurobarometer survey of autumn 2013, compared with 26% for "bad", -3).

Optimism about the future has increased slightly: a majority of respondents still believe that the next twelve months will remain the same (60%, -2 percentage points since autumn 2013) and one in five Europeans now think that the next twelve months will be better on the personal job front (20%, +2). Pessimism has fallen below the symbolic 10% level (7%, -3).



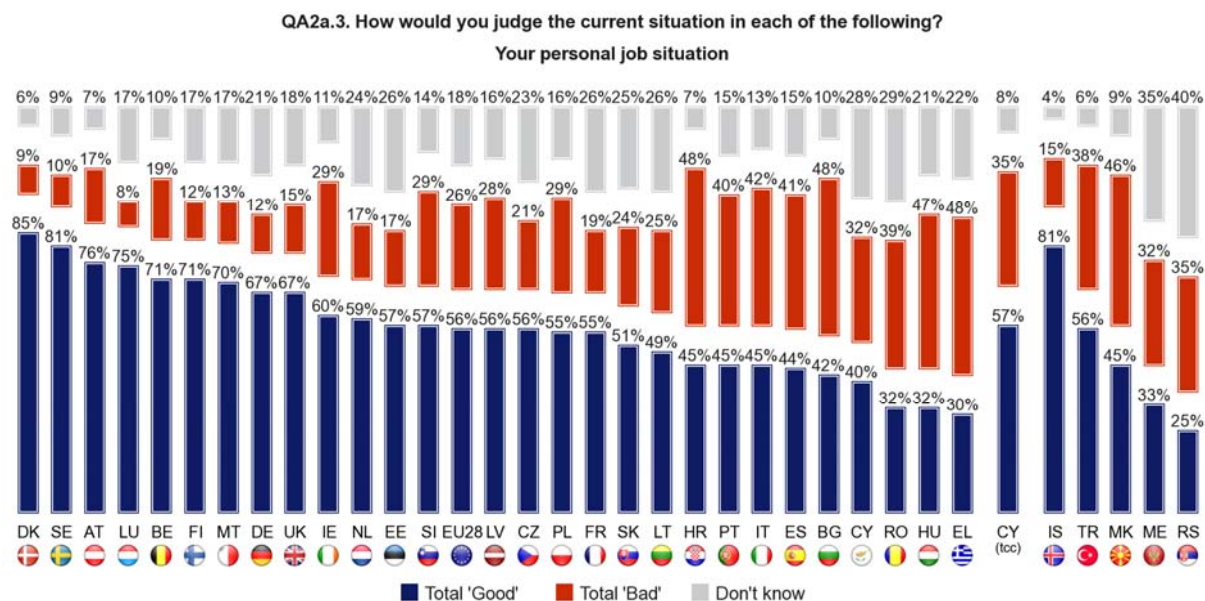
A majority of respondents in an increasing number of Member States are satisfied with their personal job situation (23 versus 20 in autumn 2013), with particularly high levels in Denmark (85%), Sweden (81%), Austria (76%) and Luxembourg (75%). The lowest levels were recorded in Greece (30%), Hungary (32%) and Romania (32%).

Personal job satisfaction has improved considerably in Cyprus (40%, +13), Portugal (45%, +10), Bulgaria (42%, +9), Ireland (60%, +9) and Greece (30%, +8).

¹² QA2a: How would you judge the current situation in each of the following? Your personal job situation/The financial situation of your household

In the candidate countries, the situations differ sharply:

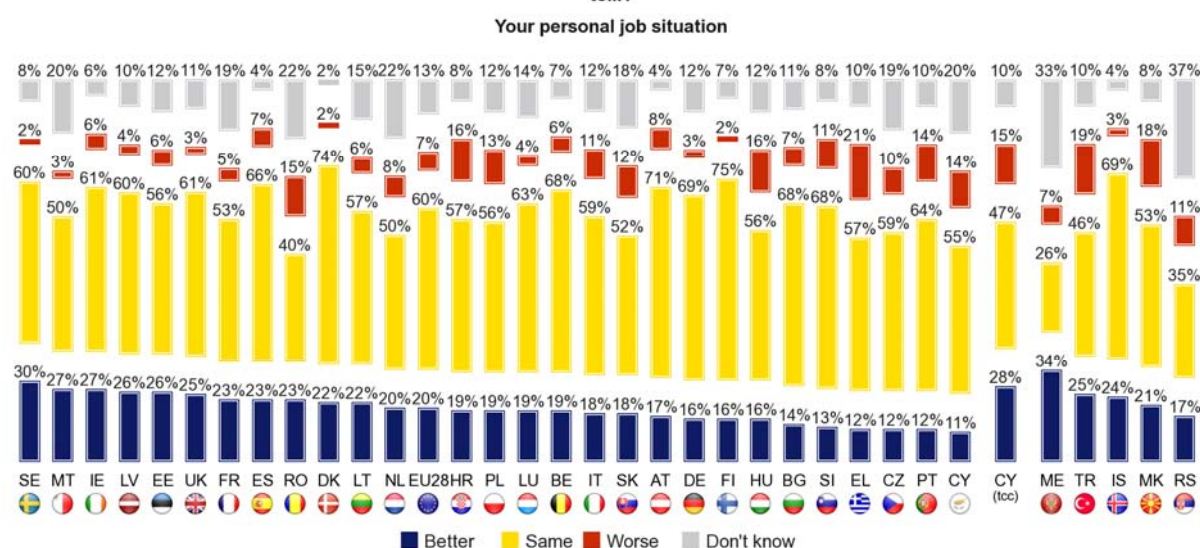
- Personal job satisfaction is particularly high in Iceland (81%, unchanged) and, albeit to lesser extent, in Turkey (56%, +7 percentage points);
- Opinions are more divided in Montenegro (33% versus 32% “dissatisfied” and 35% “don’t know”) and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (45% versus 46%). Only a minority of respondents are satisfied in Serbia (25% versus 35%) where a majority of respondents did not express an opinion (40%).



The optimism index for the personal job situation is positive in 24 Member States (versus 21 in autumn 2013). It has improved in a large majority of countries, most notably in Cyprus (+20 percentage points versus autumn 2013), Italy (+15), Portugal (+13), Slovenia (+12), Greece (+11) and Ireland (+10). This index has deteriorated in five countries, most notably in Estonia (-4), Luxembourg (-4) and Austria (-4).

The optimism index is positive in all the candidate countries and it has improved significantly in Turkey (+14, to +6) and Montenegro (+12, to +27).

QA3a.5. What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...?



The extent to which Europeans are satisfied with their financial and personal job situations varies according to socio-demographic categories: those who studied the longest (up to the age of 20 and beyond), managers and those who place themselves at the top of the social ladder are more satisfied.

As was the case in previous survey, young people, students and unemployed people are those who tend the most to believe that their financial and personal job situations will improve over the next twelve months.

1.3. The concerns of Europeans

- **Although rising prices are still the main personal concern of Europeans, such concerns have decreased considerably -**

The order in which Europeans rank the most important issues facing them does not seem to be very different from that of autumn 2013, but there have been some changes¹³.

Rising prices are still seen as the most pressing personal concern, but less so than in autumn 2013 (32%, -8 percentage points).

Unemployment is still very much at the forefront of concerns (21%, +1), ahead of taxation (17%, unchanged) and the household's financial situation (16%, =).

Although the **country's economic situation** is still one of the Europeans' main personal concerns, this item was mentioned slightly less than in autumn 2013: with 15% (-2) and is now ranked equally with **health and social security** (15%, =) and **pensions**, for which concern has increased (15%, +2).

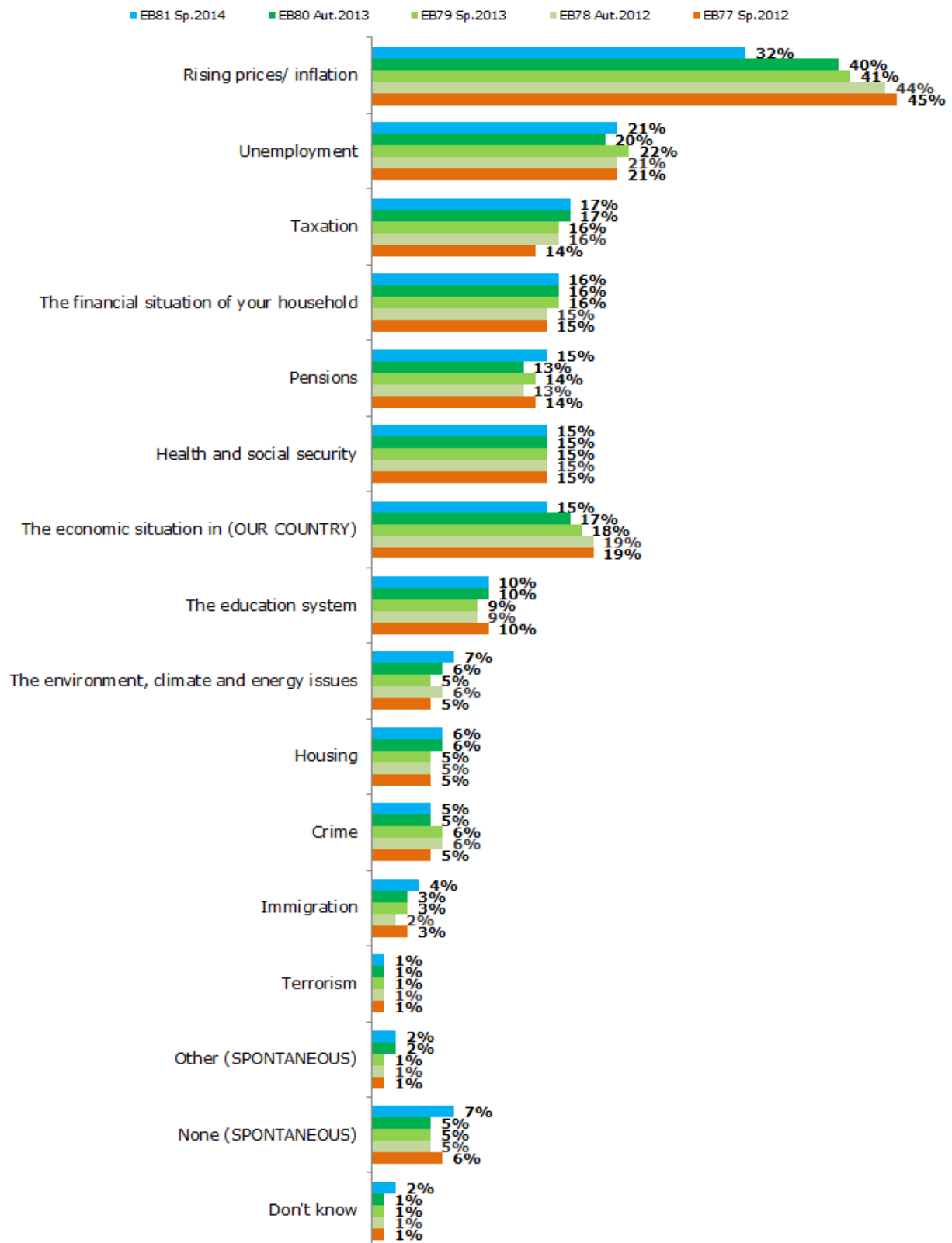
The education system obtained the same score as in autumn 2013 (10%, =), ahead of the **environment, climate and energy issues** (7%, +1) and housing (6%, =).

Next, respondents mentioned **crime** (5%, =) and **immigration** (4%, +1), with **terrorism** bringing up the rear (1%, =).

Lastly, the proportion of respondents who spontaneously answered **none** has increased slightly (7%, +2).

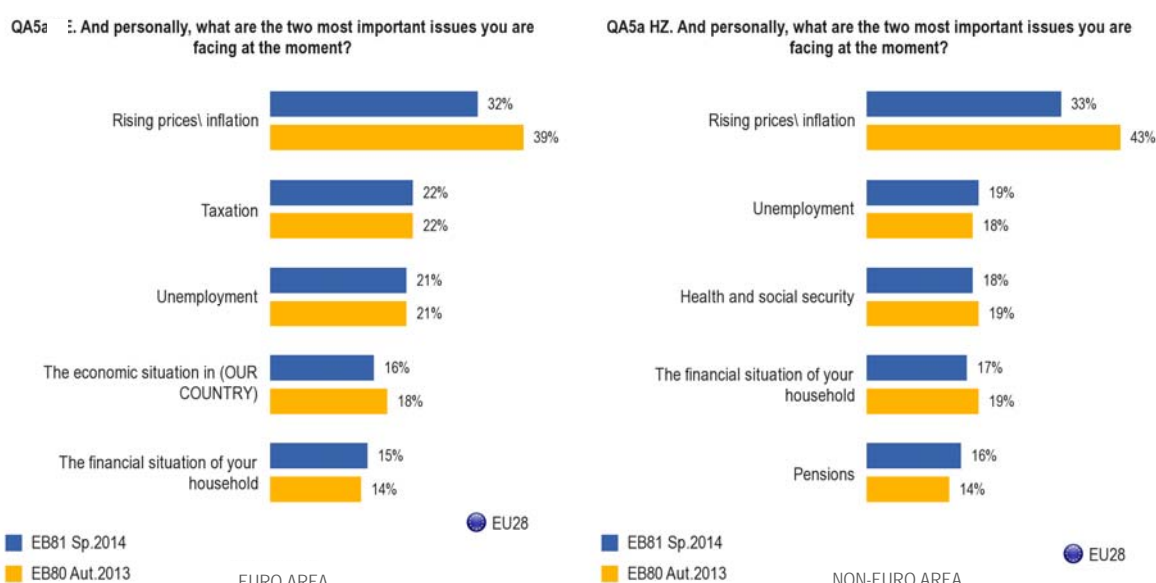
¹³ QA5a: And personally, what are the two most important issues you are facing at the moment?

QA5a. And personally, what are the two most important issues you are facing at the moment? (MAX. 2 ANSWERS) - %EU



Although there are differences between the euro area respondents' answers and those of non-euro area respondents, the differences are less pronounced than in autumn 2013:

- **Rising prices** are the main personal concern of both groups of respondents with similar scores (32%, -7 percentage points in the euro area countries and 33%, -10 outside the euro area);
- **Unemployment** is among the top three concerns in both cases (21%, unchanged in the euro area and 19%, +1 outside the euro area);
- However, respondents in the euro area are more concerned about **taxation** (22%, =) and the **national economic situation** (16%, -2), while non-euro area respondents are more concerned about **health and social security** (18%, -1) and **pensions** (16%, +2).



Five most frequently mentioned items in the euro area and outside the euro area

Rising prices top the list of personal concerns in 19 Member States, most notably in Lithuania (56%, -4 percentage points), Portugal (47%, unchanged), the Czech Republic (45%, -12), Estonia (45%, -12) and Romania (45%, -5). In contrast, relatively few respondents mentioned this issue in Sweden (3%, =), Denmark (15%, -3) and the Netherlands (16%, -6).

Concerns about rising prices have decreased sharply in several Member States: in Poland (30%, -21 percentage points), Slovakia (41%, -19), Austria (35%, -19), Malta (26%, -15), Hungary (36%, -14), Italy (29%, -12), Estonia (45%, -12) and the Czech Republic (45%, -12).

Unemployment is seen as the most pressing concern in two Member States: Spain (40%, +1 percentage point) and Slovenia (23%, unchanged). This issue was also mentioned by more than a quarter of respondents in Cyprus (36%, -2), Italy (34%, +9), Portugal (29%, =), Greece (28%, -2), Croatia (28%, -2), Poland (27%, +5) and Hungary (26%, +2).

It has gained significant ground since autumn 2013 in Italy (34%, +9 percentage points). In contrast, concerns about this issue have fallen sharply in Ireland (25%, -8).

Taxation is the top personal concern in Italy (40%, +2 percentage points) and Greece (33%, -3). The proportion of respondents mentioning this item has fallen sharply since autumn 2013 in France (21%, -9) and Lithuania (30%, -7).

The household's financial situation is the main personal concern in Cyprus (40%, -3 percentage points), where the country's economic situation is also frequently mentioned (35%, +4). The latter subject tops the list of concerns in Bulgaria (28%, unchanged), where it is ranked equally with rising prices (28%, -7).

Health and social security tops the list of personal concerns in four Member States: Finland (37%, -2 percentage points), Sweden (37%, -6), the Netherlands (35%, +5) and Denmark (17%, unchanged). Moreover, this item has gained ground among personal concerns in Greece (18%, +7) and Slovenia (17%, +7).

Pensions obtained above average scores in Estonia (20%, +2 percentage points) and Slovenia (19%, +2), as well as in Latvia (19%, +9) and Romania (19%, +5) where concerns on this subject have increased strongly since autumn 2013.

Sweden continues to stand out by the above average emphasis on the **environment, climate and energy issues** (31%, +7 percentage points) and **education** (27%, -8).

Respondents in Luxembourg mention **housing** more than Europeans on average (16%, -2 percentage points). This is also the case in Hungary as regards **crime** (12%, +6).

Two out of ten people in Malta mentioned **immigration** (20%, +6 percentage points).

In the candidate countries:

- Unemployment is the main personal concern in four countries: the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (44%, -2 percentage points), Turkey (41%, +4), Montenegro (39%, +10) and Serbia (35%, +3);
- In Iceland, respondents are chiefly worried about rising prices (35%, -3 percentage points), but healthcare (28%, unchanged) and education (23%, +6) also figure prominently among their concerns;
- Respondents in Turkey rank terrorism in second place among their personal concerns, after unemployment (23%, +5 percentage points).

QA5. And personally, what are the two most important issues you are facing at the moment?

	Rising prices/ inflation	Unemployment	Taxation	The financial situation of your household	The economic situation in (OUR COUNTRY)	Health and social security	Pensions	The education system	The environment, climate and energy issues	Housing	Crime	Immigration	Terrorism
EU28	32%	21%	17%	16%	15%	15%	15%	10%	7%	6%	5%	4%	1%
BE	36%	16%	22%	12%	14%	9%	13%	8%	12%	7%	11%	8%	2%
BG	28%	24%	5%	22%	28%	23%	19%	7%	3%	2%	6%	3%	0%
CZ	45%	13%	10%	21%	12%	17%	15%	5%	6%	11%	7%	2%	1%
DK	15%	16%	7%	13%	8%	17%	12%	12%	11%	9%	8%	6%	2%
DE	34%	8%	14%	12%	6%	16%	18%	14%	9%	6%	5%	3%	2%
EE	45%	10%	16%	18%	13%	23%	20%	14%	4%	5%	2%	1%	0%
IE	31%	25%	25%	19%	20%	18%	7%	11%	4%	8%	7%	3%	1%
EL	20%	28%	33%	26%	28%	18%	16%	8%	2%	1%	5%	3%	1%
ES	25%	40%	17%	16%	27%	12%	12%	12%	2%	5%	2%	1%	0%
FR	40%	15%	21%	17%	13%	10%	14%	10%	8%	5%	9%	3%	1%
HR	36%	28%	10%	29%	28%	11%	10%	4%	3%	5%	3%	0%	0%
IT	29%	34%	40%	14%	20%	7%	9%	5%	4%	2%	5%	8%	3%
CY	18%	36%	6%	40%	35%	11%	5%	8%	1%	4%	6%	1%	0%
LV	43%	16%	15%	16%	20%	25%	19%	9%	1%	7%	2%	2%	0%
LT	56%	15%	30%	14%	13%	15%	15%	8%	3%	6%	2%	2%	0%
LU	30%	15%	15%	8%	9%	6%	8%	21%	8%	16%	10%	6%	2%
HU	36%	26%	9%	23%	19%	19%	15%	8%	4%	8%	12%	1%	1%
MT	26%	7%	8%	14%	11%	16%	15%	13%	13%	4%	4%	20%	1%
NL	16%	17%	9%	17%	22%	35%	14%	22%	12%	7%	5%	2%	1%
AT	35%	12%	14%	16%	9%	17%	15%	16%	12%	8%	7%	8%	1%
PL	30%	27%	8%	17%	12%	16%	16%	5%	2%	5%	2%	3%	1%
PT	47%	29%	27%	15%	22%	14%	13%	4%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%
RO	45%	19%	15%	17%	19%	22%	19%	6%	2%	4%	5%	2%	1%
SI	22%	23%	18%	18%	17%	17%	19%	10%	4%	4%	2%	0%	0%
SK	41%	21%	7%	22%	20%	21%	14%	7%	5%	7%	4%	1%	0%
FI	24%	18%	11%	22%	21%	37%	13%	10%	13%	12%	4%	3%	1%
SE	3%	19%	6%	17%	12%	37%	16%	27%	31%	11%	5%	6%	0%
UK	34%	12%	9%	15%	10%	16%	17%	12%	7%	10%	6%	6%	1%
CY (tcc)	63%	21%	18%	7%	42%	6%	1%	4%	1%	5%	9%	3%	1%
MK	23%	44%	7%	19%	27%	9%	6%	5%	5%	3%	9%	5%	2%
IS	35%	9%	11%	21%	17%	28%	16%	23%	9%	16%	1%	3%	0%
ME	25%	39%	3%	25%	25%	11%	12%	8%	6%	9%	8%	1%	1%
RS	24%	35%	4%	32%	27%	20%	12%	9%	4%	7%	6%	1%	0%
TR	22%	41%	6%	10%	18%	6%	5%	11%	1%	2%	7%	2%	23%

Highest percentage per country

Lowest percentage per country

Highest percentage per item

Lowest percentage per item

Maximum two answers

QA5a. And personally, what are the two most important issues you are facing at the moment?

	Rising prices/inflation	Unemployment	Taxation	The financial situation of your household	The economic situation in (OUR COUNTRY)	Health and social security	Pensions	The education system	The environment, climate and energy issues	Housing	Crime	Immigration	Terrorism
EU28	32%	21%	17%	16%	15%	15%	15%	10%	7%	6%	5%	4%	1%
BE	36%	16%	22%	12%	14%	9%	13%	8%	12%	7%	11%	8%	2%
BG	28%	24%	5%	22%	28%	23%	19%	7%	3%	2%	6%	3%	0%
CZ	45%	13%	10%	21%	12%	17%	15%	5%	6%	11%	7%	2%	1%
DK	15%	16%	7%	13%	8%	17%	12%	12%	11%	9%	8%	6%	2%
DE	34%	8%	14%	12%	6%	16%	18%	14%	9%	6%	5%	3%	2%
EE	45%	10%	16%	18%	13%	23%	20%	14%	4%	5%	2%	1%	0%
IE	31%	25%	25%	19%	20%	18%	7%	11%	4%	8%	7%	3%	1%
EL	20%	28%	33%	26%	28%	18%	16%	8%	2%	1%	5%	3%	1%
ES	25%	40%	17%	16%	27%	12%	12%	12%	2%	5%	2%	1%	0%
FR	40%	15%	21%	17%	13%	10%	14%	10%	8%	5%	9%	3%	1%
HR	36%	28%	10%	29%	28%	11%	10%	4%	3%	5%	3%	0%	0%
IT	29%	34%	40%	14%	20%	7%	9%	5%	4%	2%	5%	8%	3%
CY	18%	36%	6%	40%	35%	11%	5%	8%	1%	4%	6%	1%	0%
LV	43%	16%	15%	16%	20%	25%	19%	9%	1%	7%	2%	2%	0%
LT	56%	15%	30%	14%	13%	15%	15%	8%	3%	6%	2%	2%	0%
LU	30%	15%	15%	8%	9%	6%	8%	21%	8%	16%	10%	6%	2%
HU	36%	26%	9%	23%	19%	19%	15%	8%	4%	8%	12%	1%	1%
MT	26%	7%	8%	14%	11%	16%	15%	13%	13%	4%	4%	20%	1%
NL	16%	17%	9%	17%	22%	35%	14%	22%	12%	7%	5%	2%	1%
AT	35%	12%	14%	16%	9%	17%	15%	16%	12%	8%	7%	8%	1%
PL	30%	27%	8%	17%	12%	16%	16%	5%	2%	5%	2%	3%	1%
PT	47%	29%	27%	15%	22%	14%	13%	4%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%
RO	45%	19%	15%	17%	19%	22%	19%	6%	2%	4%	5%	2%	1%
SI	22%	23%	18%	18%	17%	17%	19%	10%	4%	4%	2%	0%	0%
SK	41%	21%	7%	22%	20%	21%	14%	7%	5%	7%	4%	1%	0%
FI	24%	18%	11%	22%	21%	37%	13%	10%	13%	12%	4%	3%	1%
SE	3%	19%	6%	17%	12%	37%	16%	27%	31%	11%	5%	6%	0%
UK	34%	12%	9%	15%	10%	16%	17%	12%	7%	10%	6%	6%	1%

1st MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM
 2nd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM
 3rd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM












Maximum two answers

A socio-demographic analysis highlights some differences between categories:












- Young people are above all concerned about **education** (28%) and are more concerned than Europeans on average about **unemployment** (25%);
- The respondents who left school at the age of 15 or earlier (35% versus 29% of those who studied up to the age of 20 or beyond) and those who position themselves at the bottom of the social ladder (36%) are more concerned about **rising prices** than Europeans on average;
- Managers are more concerned than Europeans on average about **taxation** (21%) and **education** (18%), but are far less concerned about **unemployment** (8%). **Taxation** (33%) and **rising prices** (31%) are frequently mentioned by self-employed people. Logically, **unemployment** is by far the main personal concern of unemployed people (75%). Pensioners mention **pensions** (33%) and **healthcare** (25%) more than Europeans on average.

The following tables show the results by socio-demographic criteria in the whole of the European Union (EU28) on average, in the six largest EU countries and in four countries which have been particularly badly affected by the economic crisis.

QA5a. And personally, what are the two most important issues you are facing at the moment? (MAX. 2 ANSWERS)

Rising prices\inflation											
	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
											
	32%	34%	25%	40%	29%	30%	34%	20%	47%	31%	18%
Gender											
Male	30%	31%	21%	34%	30%	28%	31%	20%	47%	29%	20%
Female	35%	37%	28%	45%	29%	31%	37%	21%	47%	34%	17%
Age											
15-24	27%	33%	15%	32%	19%	24%	29%	19%	30%	20%	12%
25-39	36%	29%	28%	52%	27%	32%	48%	23%	55%	36%	21%
40-54	34%	38%	24%	42%	33%	31%	35%	21%	49%	32%	22%
55 +	31%	34%	26%	34%	31%	30%	26%	19%	46%	32%	17%
Education (End of)											
15-	35%	38%	26%	44%	28%	35%	36%	21%	51%	33%	13%
16-19	37%	40%	25%	42%	35%	38%	33%	21%	48%	34%	18%
20+	29%	20%	24%	39%	32%	23%	37%	21%	42%	31%	25%
Still studying	22%	25%	15%	32%	16%	19%	23%	17%	27%	19%	12%
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	31%	27%	25%	30%	36%	32%	36%	18%	47%	26%	13%
Managers	26%	23%	24%	28%	19%	19%	33%	25%	46%	29%	28%
Other white collars	37%	37%	25%	46%	39%	43%	44%	27%	43%	35%	30%
Manual workers	41%	42%	37%	52%	28%	36%	43%	28%	62%	39%	28%
House persons	36%	34%	36%	52%	32%	26%	35%	30%	49%	39%	20%
Unemployed	26%	40%	15%	41%	17%	20%	31%	14%	39%	21%	7%
Retired	32%	35%	22%	35%	32%	32%	27%	17%	45%	31%	13%
Students	22%	25%	15%	32%	16%	19%	23%	17%	27%	19%	12%

QA5a. And personally, what are the two most important issues you are facing at the moment? (MAX. 2 ANSWERS)

Unemployment											
	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
											
	21%	8%	40%	15%	34%	27%	12%	28%	29%	25%	36%
Gender											
Male	20%	7%	39%	14%	34%	29%	13%	26%	26%	25%	33%
Female	21%	9%	41%	16%	34%	26%	11%	30%	32%	24%	38%
Age											
15-24	25%	10%	46%	12%	39%	37%	20%	44%	39%	40%	45%
25-39	25%	13%	46%	21%	46%	31%	11%	37%	32%	27%	35%
40-54	22%	10%	46%	19%	31%	28%	14%	25%	39%	25%	38%
55 +	14%	4%	30%	9%	28%	20%	7%	20%	17%	15%	28%
Education (End of)											
15-	24%	5%	43%	13%	40%	28%	9%	23%	29%	27%	35%
16-19	22%	11%	43%	17%	33%	29%	13%	31%	31%	27%	42%
20+	17%	6%	36%	15%	28%	25%	9%	25%	28%	17%	30%
Still studying	21%	4%	39%	4%	31%	35%	22%	42%	32%	44%	39%
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	14%	5%	24%	14%	24%	13%	7%	18%	15%	13%	39%
Managers	8%	1%	18%	10%	20%	22%	4%	21%	7%	10%	10%
Other white collars	14%	6%	18%	13%	20%	22%	6%	15%	10%	7%	22%
Manual workers	17%	8%	24%	13%	38%	27%	10%	21%	25%	19%	31%
House persons	27%	13%	32%	14%	46%	35%	6%	25%	24%	34%	58%
Unemployed	75%	63%	89%	79%	85%	67%	66%	76%	88%	70%	80%
Retired	10%	1%	21%	5%	25%	17%	4%	13%	11%	14%	14%
Students	21%	4%	39%	4%	31%	35%	22%	42%	32%	44%	39%

2. THE ECONOMIC ASPECTS

2.1. Perceptions of the current economic situation

2.1.1. The national and European situations

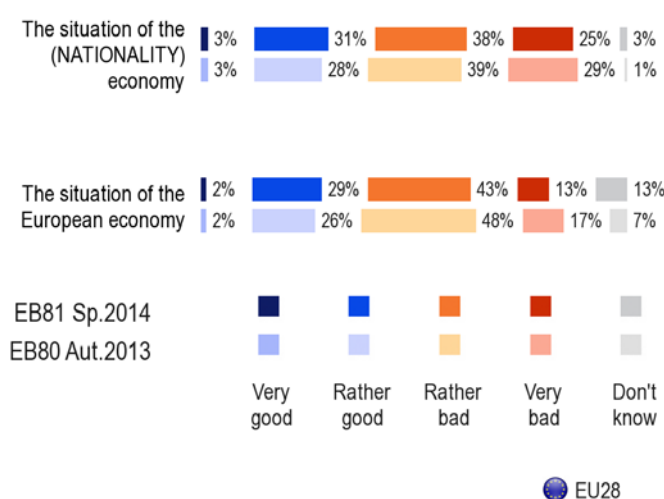
- Although perceptions of the economic and employment situations have improved, they are still generally negative -

A large majority of Europeans are negative about the economic situation both nationally and in the European Union¹⁴. However, perceptions continue to improve.

The national economic situation is now seen as “good” by more than a third of the Europeans polled (34%, i.e. +3 percentage points versus autumn 2013 and +8 versus spring 2013). This is the highest proportion of positive opinions on this indicator since the Standard Eurobarometer survey of autumn 2007 (EB68). However, a majority of respondents are still negative, despite a further fall in the negative numbers (63%, -5 and -9 versus spring 2013).

Respondents continue to be more critical of the **economic situation in the European Union than that of their country**, but perceptions of the EU economy have also improved: 31% of Europeans think that the economic situation in the EU is “good”, i.e. an increase of three percentage points versus autumn 2013 and +10 versus spring 2013. Although respondents are still predominantly negative, they are far less so than in recent surveys (56%, -9 and -16 versus spring 2013).


QA2a. How would you judge the current situation in each of the following?



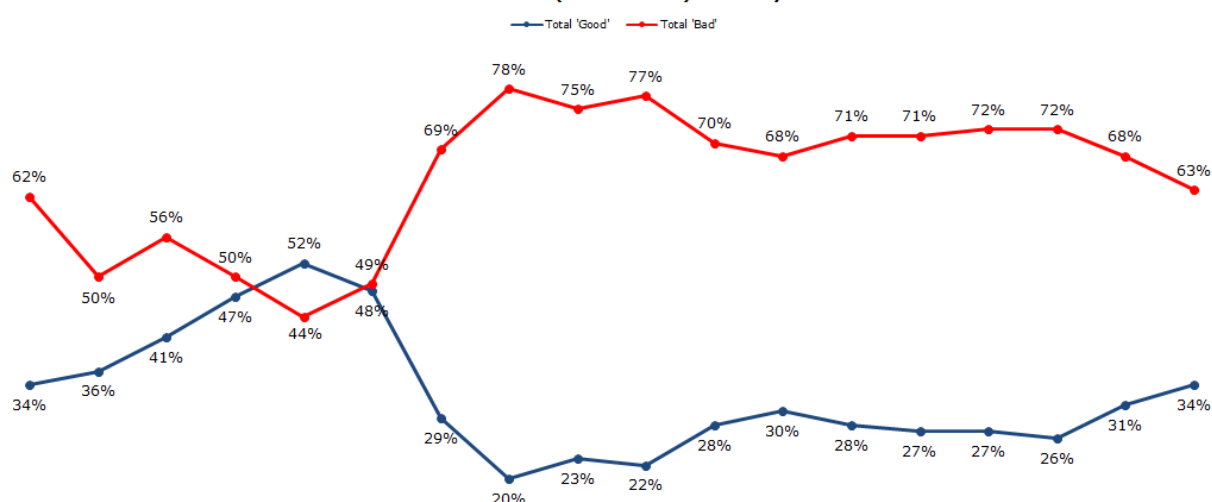
¹⁴ QA2a: How would you judge the current situation in each of the following? The situation of the (NATIONALITY) economy/The situation of the European economy

In the Standard Eurobarometer survey of autumn 2013 (EB80), respondents in the non-euro area were more positive about their country's economy than those in the euro area. **This trend has accelerated:** 38% of respondents in the non-euro area countries (+5 percentage points) are upbeat about their economic situation, compared with 32% (+2) of those in the euro area. The gap is even wider when it comes to perceptions of the economic situation in the European Union (38%, +2 in the non-euro area countries, versus 27%, +4, in the euro area).

QA2a. How would you judge the current situation in each of the following?

	The situation of the (NATIONALITY) economy		The situation of the European economy	
	Total 'Good'	Total 'Bad'	Total 'Good'	Total 'Bad'
 EU28	34%	63%	31%	56%
EURO AREA	32%	66%	27%	63%
NON-EURO AREA	38%	57%	38%	44%



































QA2a.1 How would you judge the current situation in each of the following?
The situation of the (NATIONALITY) economy - % EU



Perceptions of the national economic situation continue to vary significantly from one country to another: there is a difference of 79 percentage points between Germany, where respondents are the most upbeat about the economic situation (83%) and Portugal, Greece and Spain, where respondents are very negative (4% in the three countries). This gap has narrowed slightly since autumn 2013, when it was 83 percentage points.

In terms of changes, opinions on the national economic situation have improved in 19 Member States, most notably in the Netherlands (60%, +20 percentage points), the Czech Republic (26%, +11) and Lithuania (37%, +10). In contrast, Finland stands out by the strong fall in the proportion of “good” answers (36%, -11, after a fall of 6 percentage points between spring and autumn 2013).

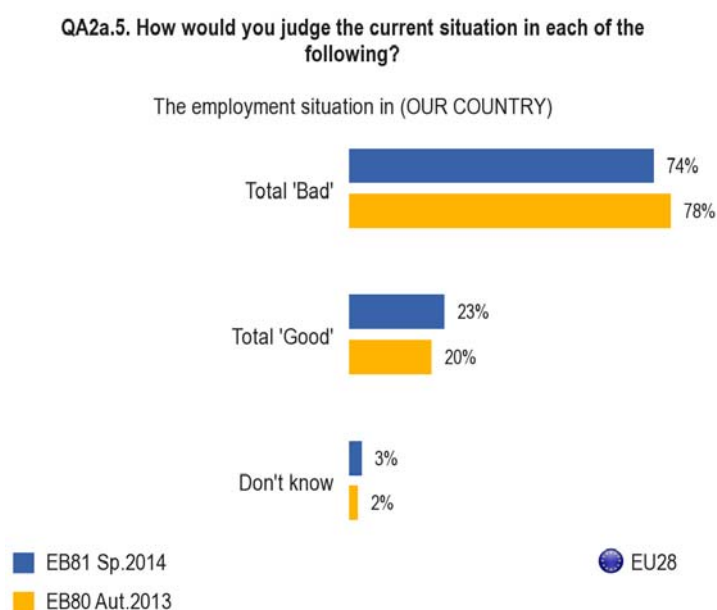
QA2a.1 How would you judge the current situation in each of the following?
The situation of the (NATIONALITY) economy

		Total 'Good'	Diff. Sp.2014 - Aut.2013	Total 'Bad'	Diff. Sp.2014 - Aut.2013	Don't know	Diff. Sp.2014 - Aut.2013
	EU28	34%	+3	63%	-5	3%	+2
	EURO AREA	32%	+2	66%	-3	2%	+1
	NON-EURO AREA	38%	+5	57%	-8	5%	+3
	NL	60%	+20	39%	-21	1%	+1
	CZ	26%	+11	73%	-12	1%	+1
	LT	37%	+10	61%	-9	2%	-1
	LU	81%	+9	15%	-11	4%	+2
	UK	47%	+9	47%	-13	6%	+4
	DK	82%	+8	16%	-8	2%	=
	IE	24%	+6	75%	-6	1%	=
	EE	49%	+5	46%	-8	5%	+3
	MT	76%	+5	15%	-4	9%	-1
	CY	7%	+4	93%	-4	0%	=
	HU	26%	+4	73%	-4	1%	=
	EL	4%	+2	96%	-2	0%	=
	HR	5%	+2	95%	-1	0%	-1
	BE	44%	+1	54%	-2	2%	+1
	DE	83%	+1	14%	-2	3%	+1
	FR	8%	+1	89%	-2	3%	+1
	PL	36%	+1	56%	-5	8%	+4
	PT	4%	+1	96%	=	0%	-1
	SI	7%	+1	93%	-1	0%	=
	BG	5%	=	93%	-1	2%	+1
	ES	4%	=	96%	=	0%	=
	LV	21%	=	76%	-1	3%	+1
	RO	14%	=	85%	=	1%	=
	SK	13%	-1	84%	-1	3%	+2
	IT	5%	-2	94%	+1	1%	+1
	AT	56%	-4	42%	+3	2%	+1
	SE	81%	-4	16%	+2	3%	+2
	FI	36%	-11	64%	+11	0%	=
	CY (tcc)	34%	+15	59%	-21	7%	+6
	IS	46%	+23	52%	-24	2%	+1
	MK	44%	+10	54%	-10	2%	=
	ME	20%	+1	77%	-3	3%	+2
	RS	7%	+1	92%	-1	1%	=
	TR	48%	+1	49%	-1	3%	=

2.1.2. The employment situation

Despite a slight improvement, a very large majority of Europeans remain negative about the employment situation in their country, thereby extending the trend which started in autumn 2013¹⁵: 74% think that the situation is “bad” (i.e. -4 percentage points versus autumn 2013 and -6 versus spring 2013). Almost a quarter of Europeans now consider that the employment situation in their country is “good” (23%, +3 and +4 versus spring 2013).

However, more than a third of Europeans continue to describe the employment situation as “very bad” (37%, -2).

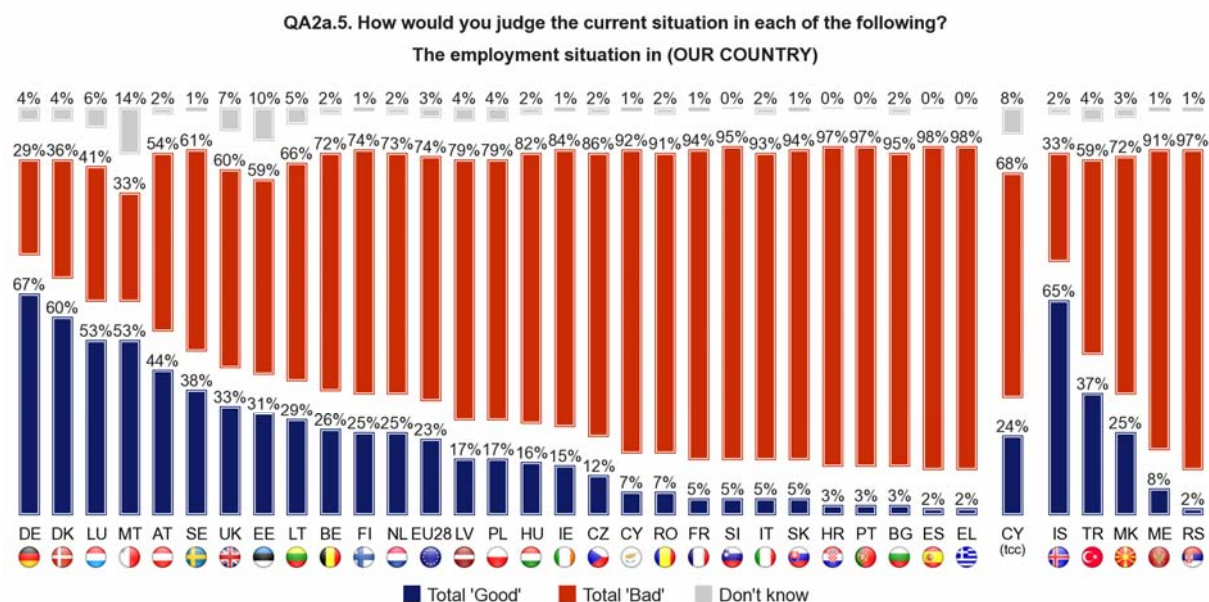


A majority of respondents in four Member States think that the national employment situation is good, the same as in the Standard Eurobarometer survey of autumn 2013 (EB80): Germany (67%), Denmark (60%), Luxembourg (53%) and Malta (53%).

Respondents are predominantly negative in all the other EU countries, with levels of scepticism even exceeding 90% in eleven of them: Greece (98%), Spain (98%), Croatia (97%), Portugal (97%), Bulgaria (95%), Slovenia (95%), France (94%), Slovakia (94%), Italy (93%), Cyprus (92%) and Romania (91%).

¹⁵ QA2a: How would you judge the current situation in each of the following? The employment situation in (OUR COUNTRY)

The significant changes noted in comparison with autumn 2013 include an improvement in perceptions in two countries where respondents were already predominantly positive, namely Denmark (60%, +8 percentage points) and Germany (67%, +7), as well as in the United Kingdom (33%, +7). In contrast, the proportion of positive answers has decreased in Sweden (38%, -6) and Belgium (26%, -6).



In the candidate countries, Iceland remains the only country where a majority of respondents are positive about the employment situation (65%), with a sharp improvement since autumn 2013 (+13 percentage points). Although respondents in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia are still very largely negative in this regard, perceptions have also improved (25%, +11, versus 72%, -12).

Men are slightly more positive than women about the employment situation (26% versus 21%), however, age has little influence on the answers. The differences are more clear-cut between socio-professional categories: managers are more positive than Europeans on average (39%, compared with 23% of self-employed people, 26% of white-collar workers and 23% of manual workers). Unemployed people are particularly critical (91% consider that the situation is "bad").

2.2. Expectations for the next twelve months

- Europeans are far less pessimistic about the outlook both from the economic and the employment perspective -

2.2.1. The national and European situations

When asked about their expectations for the next twelve months, Europeans are slightly more optimistic about the economic outlook for their country as well as the European Union¹⁶.

On the question of their **country's economic situation**, almost a quarter of the Europeans interviewed think that the next twelve months will be "better" (24%), i.e. three percentage points higher than in autumn 2013 (EB80) and +6 in total versus spring 2013 (EB79). But above all, this **optimism has now overtaken pessimism which has fallen fairly sharply** (23% expect things to get worse, -7).

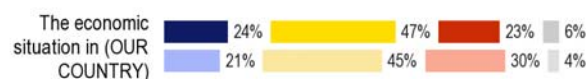
A longer-term trend analysis shows that this is the first time that optimists have outnumbered pessimists since the Standard Eurobarometer of spring 2007 (EB67) as regards the outlook for the national economy.

The trend is the same for the outlook for the **European Union**: optimism (24%, +3) now outweighs pessimism (18%, -9), for the first time since the Standard Eurobarometer survey of autumn 2009 (EB72).

More than four out of ten Europeans think that the next twelve months will "stay the same" as regards their country's economy (47%, +2) and that of the EU (42%, -1): **in both cases, this remains the majority opinion**.

Regarding the economic situation in the EU, the "don't know" rate has increased significantly since autumn 2013 (16%, +7).

QA3a. What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...?



EB81 Sp.2014

EB80 Aut.2013

Better Same Worse Don't know

EU28

¹⁶ QA3a: What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to ...? The economic situation in (OUR COUNTRY)/The economic situation in the EU

Optimism prevails for the national economic situation in twelve Member States, most notably in Denmark (53%, +9 percentage points since autumn 2013), the Netherlands (52%, +10), Malta (46%, +4), Ireland (43%, +15) and the United Kingdom (40%, +7). In these five countries, a majority of respondents are optimistic, compared with only Malta and the Netherlands in autumn 2013.

Optimism has improved in a majority of Member States since autumn 2013 and by ten or more percentage points in five of them: Cyprus (26%, +19 percentage points), Ireland (43%, +15), Spain (30%, +10), the Netherlands (52%, +10) and Slovenia (22%, +10).

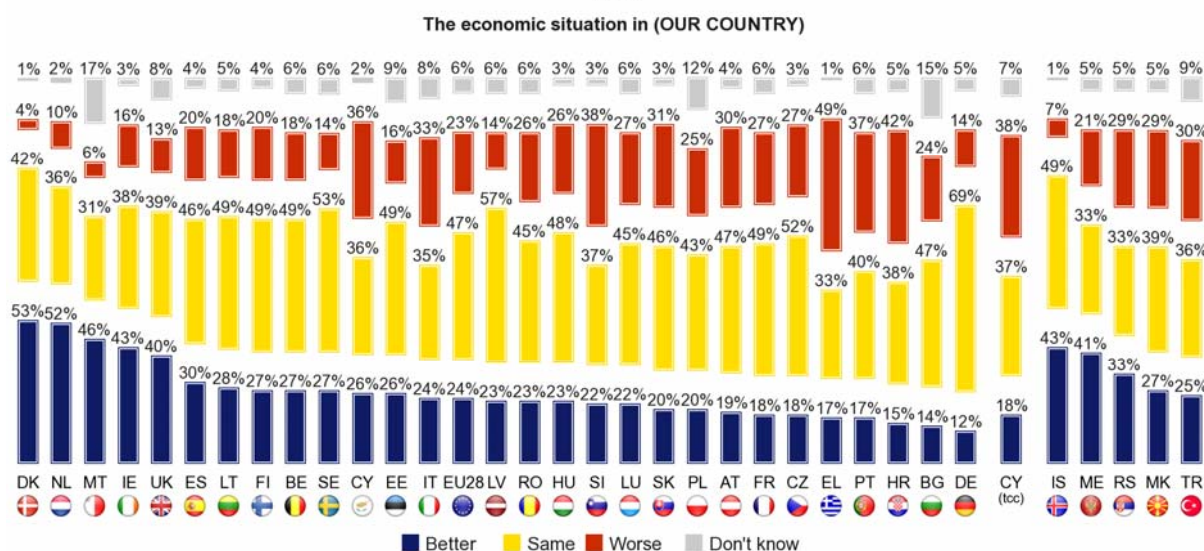
Respondents are mostly pessimistic about the next twelve months in Greece (49% think that they will be “worse”, -14 percentage points) and Croatia (42%, unchanged). Pessimism has decreased spectacularly in Cyprus (36%, -36).

Austria is the only country where pessimism has increased significantly since autumn 2013 (30%, +9 percentage points, versus 19% of optimists, -8).






























In the candidate countries:

- Optimism outweighs pessimism in Iceland, where it has increased significantly (43%, +16 percentage points), Montenegro (41%, +9) and Serbia (33%, +11);
- Pessimists slightly outnumber optimists in Turkey (30% expect things to get worse, -6, versus 25% who expect an improvement, unchanged) and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (29%, -8, versus 27%, +4).

QA3a.2. What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...?



QA3a.2 What are your expectations for the next twelve months:
will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...?
The economic situation in (OUR COUNTRY)

	Better	Diff. Sp.2014 - Aut.2013	Same	Diff. Sp.2014 - Aut.2013	Worse	Diff. Sp.2014 - Aut.2013	Don't know	Diff. Sp.2014 - Aut.2013
 EU28	24%	+3	47%	+2	23%	-7	6%	+2
EURO AREA	22%	+3	49%	=	24%	=	5%	+1
NON-EURO AREA	29%	+5	43%	=	20%	=	8%	+4
 CY	26%	+19	36%	+17	36%	-36	2%	=
 IE	43%	+15	38%	-4	16%	-11	3%	=
 ES	30%	+10	46%	-3	20%	-9	4%	+2
 NL	52%	+10	36%	-2	10%	-9	2%	+1
 SI	22%	+10	37%	+8	38%	-18	3%	=
 DK	53%	+9	42%	-7	4%	-2	1%	=
 IT	24%	+9	35%	=	33%	-11	8%	+2
 UK	40%	+7	39%	-1	13%	-11	8%	+5
 CZ	18%	+6	52%	+1	27%	-9	3%	+2
 PT	17%	+6	40%	+13	37%	-20	6%	+1
 LU	22%	+5	45%	-2	27%	-1	6%	-2
 EL	17%	+4	33%	+9	49%	-14	1%	+1
 LT	28%	+4	49%	-3	18%	-2	5%	+1
 MT	46%	+4	31%	-4	6%	-1	17%	+1
 PL	20%	+4	43%	-3	25%	-7	12%	+6
 SE	27%	+4	53%	-8	14%	+1	6%	+3
 BG	14%	+2	47%	=	24%	-8	15%	+6
 RO	23%	+2	45%	+7	26%	-8	6%	-1
 BE	27%	+1	49%	+1	18%	-8	6%	+6
 LV	23%	+1	57%	+3	14%	-6	6%	+2
 SK	20%	+1	46%	-1	31%	-2	3%	+2
 HU	23%	=	48%	+3	26%	-4	3%	+1
 FR	18%	-1	49%	+9	27%	-10	6%	+2
 FI	27%	-3	49%	=	20%	+1	4%	+2
 EE	26%	-4	49%	-3	16%	+1	9%	+6
 HR	15%	-4	38%	=	42%	=	5%	+4
 DE	12%	-5	69%	+7	14%	-4	5%	+2
 AT	19%	-8	47%	-1	30%	+9	4%	=

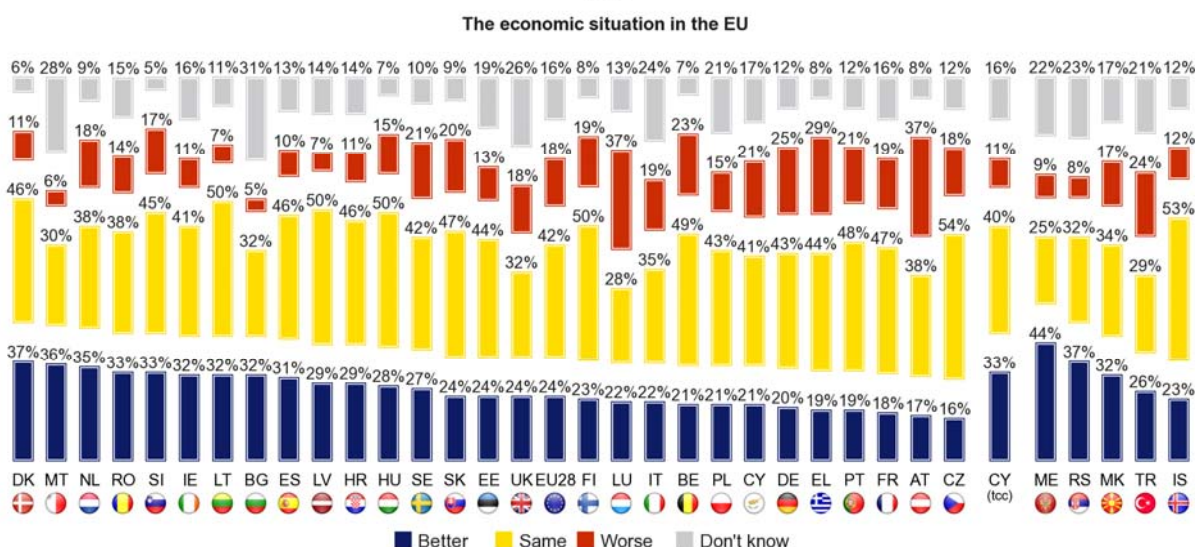
In terms of projections for the economic situation in the European Union, the most optimistic countries include Denmark (37% think that the next twelve months will be “better”, +5 percentage points since autumn 2013), Malta (36%, +5) and the Netherlands (35%, +1), even if positive projections are slightly less emphatic than for the national level.

Optimism prevails in 19 countries. The exceptions are Belgium, the Czech Republic, Germany, Greece, France, Luxembourg, Austria and Portugal, but also Cyprus where respondents are evenly divided between optimism and pessimism (both 21%).

In terms of changes, pessimism has decreased, sometimes spectacularly, since autumn 2013, for example in Portugal (21% think that the economic situation in the EU will get worse over the next twelve months, -22 percentage points), Cyprus (21%, -22), Italy (19%, -18), Greece (29%, -16) and Ireland (11%, -11). However, Cyprus is the only country where this decrease is mirrored by a strong increase in optimism (21%, +14).

Optimism outweighs pessimism concerning the economic situation in the EU in **all the candidate countries**, most perceptibly in Montenegro (44%, +6, versus 9% of pessimists, -9) and Serbia where it has increased strongly (37%, +13, versus 8%, -13).







QA3a.6. What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...?



A **socio-demographic analysis** shows that young people are the most optimistic, not only as regards the national economy (29% of 15-24 year-olds think that the next twelve months will be better versus 22% of those in the 55-plus age group), but also regarding the economic situation in the European Union (29% versus 20%). Moreover, students are the most optimistic about their country's economic situation (30%), just behind self-employed people (31%). They are also in the top three categories as regards their projections for the economic situation in the European Union: self-employed people are the most optimistic (32%, +6), followed by managers (30%, +3) and then students whose optimism has increased (29% versus 25% in autumn 2013).

Optimism is more pronounced among the Europeans who say they never or almost never have difficulties paying their bills (27% versus 17% of those who struggle to pay their bills most of the time) and among the Europeans who position themselves at the top of the social ladder (32% versus 18% of those who position themselves at the bottom of the social ladder).












QA3a. What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...

	The economic situation in (OUR COUNTRY)				The economic situation in the EU			
	Better	Worse	Same	Don't know	Better	Worse	Same	Don't know
EU28	24%	23%	47%	6%	24%	18%	42%	16%
 Gender								
Man	26%	22%	47%	5%	26%	19%	41%	14%
Woman	23%	22%	48%	7%	21%	18%	42%	19%
 Age								
15-24	29%	18%	45%	8%	29%	14%	41%	16%
25-39	26%	22%	46%	6%	26%	17%	42%	15%
40-54	24%	23%	48%	5%	24%	20%	41%	15%
55 +	22%	24%	48%	6%	20%	20%	42%	18%
 Education (End of)								
15-	21%	26%	46%	7%	18%	20%	41%	21%
16-19	21%	24%	49%	6%	22%	20%	42%	16%
20+	29%	19%	47%	5%	28%	17%	43%	12%
Still studying	30%	18%	43%	9%	29%	15%	41%	15%
 Socio-professional category								
Self-employed	31%	22%	44%	3%	32%	17%	39%	12%
Managers	29%	17%	50%	4%	30%	19%	40%	11%
Other white collars	25%	21%	49%	5%	22%	18%	44%	16%
Manual workers	22%	24%	48%	6%	21%	20%	43%	16%
House persons	26%	24%	41%	9%	23%	19%	37%	21%
Unemployed	23%	26%	45%	6%	24%	19%	42%	15%
Retired	20%	24%	49%	7%	19%	19%	43%	19%
Students	30%	18%	43%	9%	29%	15%	41%	15%
 Difficulties paying bills								
Most of the time	17%	35%	43%	5%	17%	26%	41%	16%
From time to time	22%	29%	43%	6%	22%	21%	40%	17%
Almost never/ Never	27%	17%	50%	6%	26%	16%	43%	15%
 Self-positioning on the social staircase								
Low (1-4)	18%	30%	45%	7%	17%	23%	42%	18%
Medium (5-6)	24%	22%	48%	6%	24%	17%	43%	16%
High (7-10)	32%	17%	47%	4%	30%	17%	41%	12%

The following table shows the results by socio-demographic criteria in the whole of the European Union (EU28) on average, in the six largest EU countries and in four countries which have been particularly badly affected by the economic crisis.

QA3a.2. What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...?

The economic situation in (OUR COUNTRY) - Answers : 'Better'

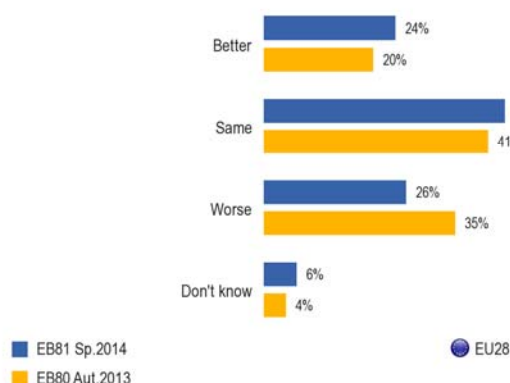
	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
											
	24%	12%	30%	18%	24%	20%	40%	17%	17%	43%	26%
Gender											
Man	26%	13%	29%	17%	25%	22%	46%	17%	20%	47%	26%
Woman	23%	12%	31%	21%	23%	18%	34%	17%	15%	40%	25%
Age											
15-24	29%	12%	35%	26%	33%	23%	41%	26%	20%	53%	28%
25-39	26%	15%	25%	20%	25%	24%	45%	15%	23%	48%	22%
40-54	24%	13%	31%	16%	27%	19%	37%	14%	18%	41%	26%
55 +	22%	10%	31%	16%	18%	16%	38%	18%	12%	35%	27%
Education (End of)											
15-	21%	13%	30%	11%	20%	7%	35%	16%	12%	28%	21%
16-19	21%	13%	28%	16%	21%	15%	35%	17%	21%	37%	28%
20+	29%	11%	34%	21%	32%	26%	47%	15%	27%	53%	25%
Still studying	30%	10%	31%	29%	29%	30%	51%	25%	15%	57%	26%
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	31%	14%	38%	31%	30%	34%	51%	15%	26%	56%	29%
Managers	29%	11%	31%	23%	29%	25%	46%	13%	31%	52%	15%
Other white collars	25%	13%	31%	12%	24%	21%	39%	16%	17%	52%	32%
Manual workers	22%	15%	28%	13%	27%	14%	32%	17%	18%	36%	34%
House persons	26%	14%	27%	20%	26%	21%	53%	17%	18%	32%	25%
Unemployed	23%	16%	28%	24%	18%	13%	32%	12%	16%	45%	17%
Retired	20%	10%	33%	17%	15%	17%	36%	20%	12%	34%	28%
Students	30%	10%	29%	29%	32%	29%	51%	25%	15%	55%	25%

2.2.2. The employment situation

Europeans are now slightly more optimistic about their projections for the employment situation¹⁷: almost a quarter of respondents think that the next twelve months will be “better” (24%, +4 percentage points compared with EB 80 of autumn 2013 and +7 compared with spring 2013). Pessimism still slightly outweighs optimism, but has decreased sharply (26%, -9 versus autumn 2013 and -13 versus spring 2013). **Belief that the national employment situation will stay the same prevails** (44%, +3).

QA3a.4. What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...?

The employment situation in (OUR COUNTRY)



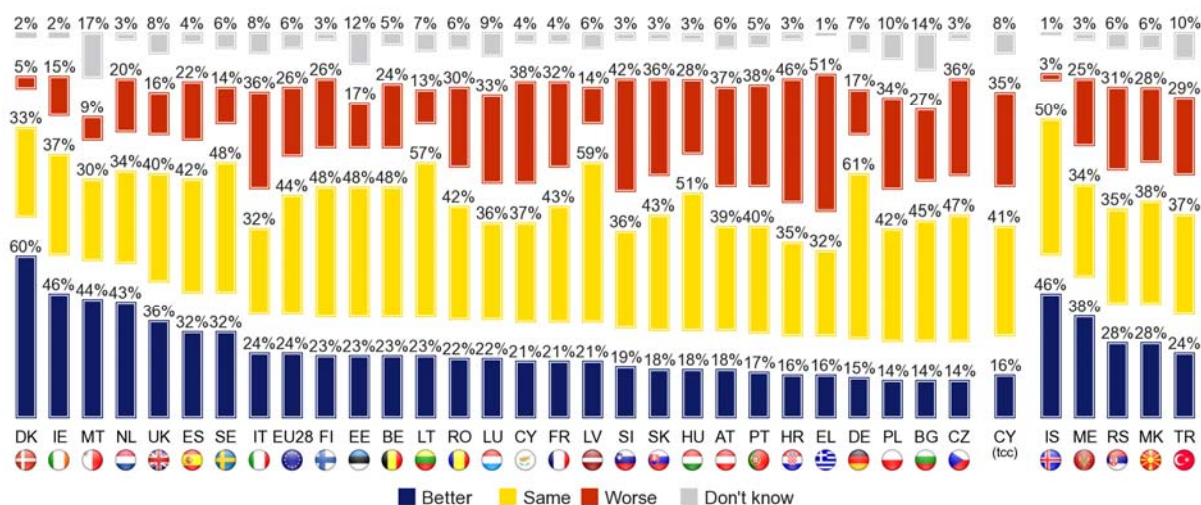
The countries where respondents are the most optimistic about employment, often with significant increases since autumn 2013, are Denmark (60%, +13 percentage points), Ireland (46%, +17), Malta (44%, +5) and the Netherlands (43%, +10). The other Member States in which optimism has increased significantly are Cyprus (21%, +16) and Spain (32%, +12).

Austria stands out, once again, as the only country in which pessimism regarding employment has increased significantly since autumn 2013 (37%, +11).

In the candidate countries, optimism regarding the outlook for employment has increased considerably in Iceland after having decreased in autumn 2013 (46%, +10) and also in Serbia (28%, +10), Montenegro (38%, +9) and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (28%, +6). On the other hand, it remains unchanged in Turkey (24%, i.e. the same as the European average).

QA3a.4. What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...?

The employment situation in (OUR COUNTRY)



¹⁷ QA3a.4: What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...? The employment situation in (OUR COUNTRY)

2.3. The main concerns at a national level

- Unemployment remains the main concern at a national level; there is increasing concern about immigration -

The order in which Europeans rank their national concerns does not seem to be very different from that of autumn 2013, but there are some noteworthy trends¹⁸.

Unemployment is still the main national concern for Europeans, despite easing off slightly (48%, -1 percentage point).

The national economic situation is still the second highest concern, but Europeans seem to be decreasingly preoccupied with this issue (29%, -4 versus the Standard Eurobarometer survey of autumn 2013, but above all -13 versus autumn 2011 (EB76), when it was the most pressing national concern of Europeans). Concerns about **rising prices** also continue to decline (16%, -4 and -11 versus spring 2011, EB75).

Therefore, although economic themes remain at the forefront of the Europeans' concerns at national level, they continue to be less prevalent.

However, there is another clear trend: concerns about **immigration** are continually increasing and now ranks in 4th place among national causes for concern (15%, +3 versus autumn 2013 and +8 versus autumn 2011). This could even figure among the top three national concerns if the same twofold trend (mounting concerns about immigration and a decrease in concerns about rising prices) persists in the next survey.

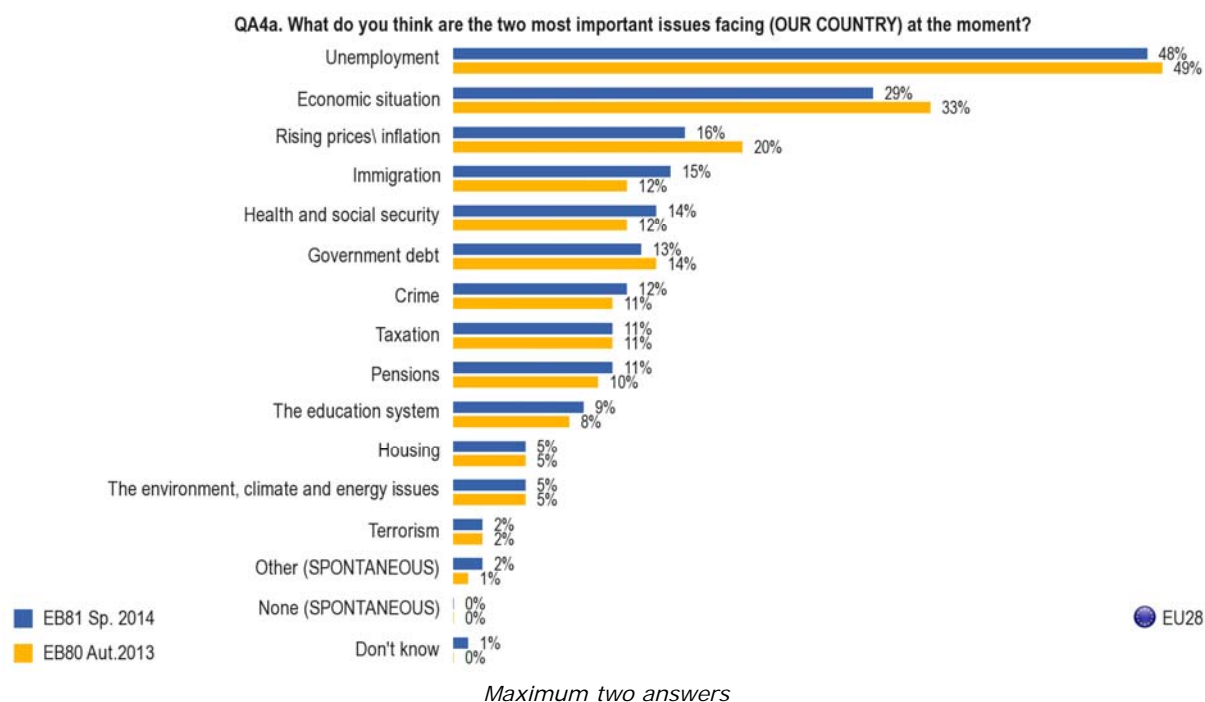
Respondents also mentioned **health and social security** slightly more frequently than in autumn 2013 (14%, +2). It has now overtaken "government debt" (13%, -1).

Next, with more or less unchanged scores, respondents mentioned **crime** (12%, +1), **taxation** (11%, unchanged) and **pensions** (11%, +1).

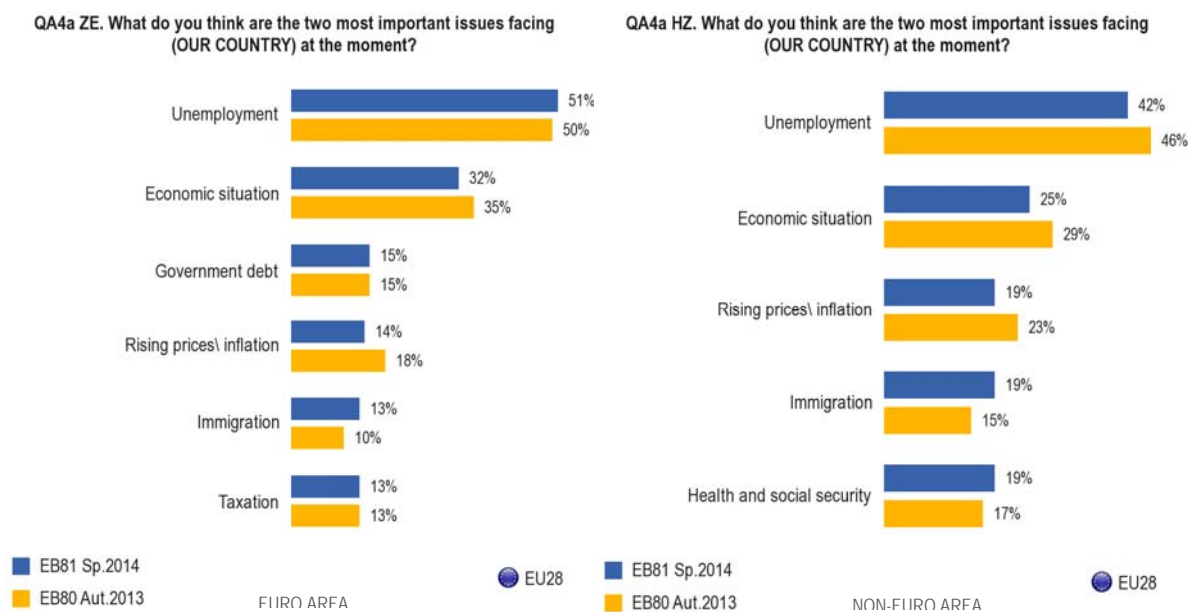
The following items obtained scores of less than 10%: **education** (9%, +1), **housing** (5%, =) and the **environment, climate and energy issues** (5%, =). **Terrorism** remains a fairly marginal concern (2%, =).

¹⁸ QA4a: What do you think are the two most important issues facing (OUR COUNTRY) at the moment??

Therefore, all the social and societal themes have gained ground or are stable.

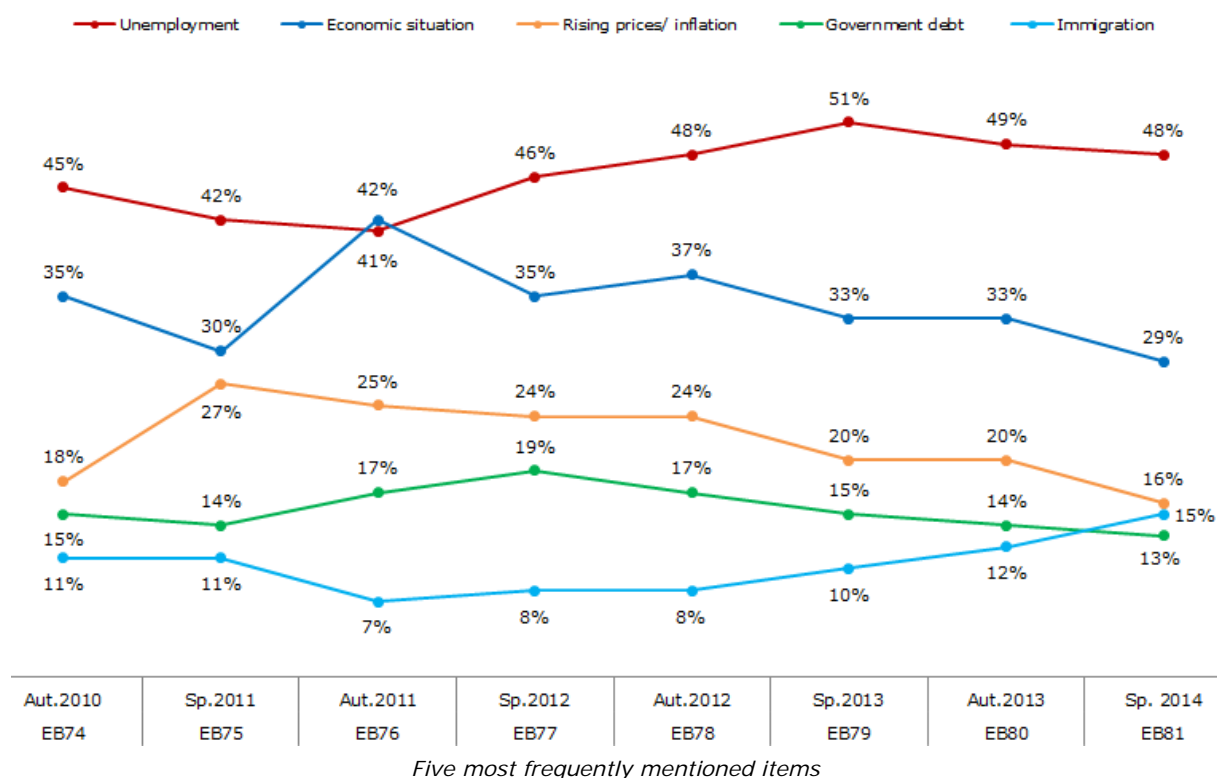


Economic issues are the most pressing concerns in both the euro and non-euro area countries (especially unemployment and the economic situation). It is noteworthy however that immigration has gained ground among the concerns of Europeans and that concern is slightly more widespread in the non-euro area countries (19%, +4 percentage points, in third place, ranked equally with rising prices) than in the euro area (13%, +3, in fifth place).



Five most frequently mentioned items in the euro area and outside the euro area

QA4a. What do you think are the two most important issues facing (OUR COUNTRY) at the moment? (MAX. 2 ANSWERS) - %EU



A country analysis shows that despite a decline, economic issues continue to dominate national concerns in a large majority of countries.

Unemployment is seen as the most pressing national concern in 23 Member States.

Unemployment was mentioned the most frequently in Spain (79%, +5 percentage points), but respondents in Cyprus (75%, -2), Portugal (70%, -1) and Croatia (70%, -4) are also very concerned about this issue.

Concern about unemployment has fallen sharply in Ireland (52%, -13 percentage points), Latvia (36%, -12) and Denmark (35%, -10). In contrast, it has increased in Slovenia (61%, +11).

The economic situation tops the list of concerns in both Cyprus (75%, +1 percentage point, jointly with unemployment) and Romania (36%, -5). Respondents in Estonia are predominantly worried about **rising prices** (40%, -10). In Germany, the predominant concern is **government debt** (24%, +1).

Immigration is the most pressing national concern in Malta (64%, +1 percentage point), but it also now tops the list of concerns in the United Kingdom where it has overtaken unemployment (41%, +8). Concern about immigration has also risen sharply in Italy (16%, +8) and gained six percentage points in Germany (22%) and the Netherlands (10%). On the other hand, concern about immigration has decreased significantly in Bulgaria (7%, -16).

Moreover, it is noteworthy that:



































- **Taxation** figures prominently in Italy (25%, -2 percentage points, in third place) as do **pensions** in Germany (21%, +2);
- **Crime** continues to be seen as a strong cause for concern in Croatia (25%, unchanged, in third place);
- Luxembourg continues to stand out with concerns about **housing** significantly above the European average (35%, -3 percentage points, in second place);
- In Sweden, **education** (37%, +6 percentage points, in second place) and **environmental issues** (26%, +5, in fourth place) are among the main national concerns.

In the candidate countries:

- Unemployment is the main national concern in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (65%, +1 percentage point), Montenegro (64%, +16), Serbia (62%, +7) and Turkey (51%, +8). It was mentioned far more frequently than in autumn 2013 in Montenegro (64%, +16), Turkey (51%, +8) and Serbia (62%, +7);
- Respondents in Iceland are above all concerned about health and social security (45%, -14 percentage points);

It is also to be noted that terrorism continues to be taken particularly seriously by respondents in Turkey (41%, +5, percentage points, in second place).

QA4a. What do you think are the two most important issues facing (OUR COUNTRY) at the moment?

		Unemployment	Economic situation	Rising prices/inflation	Immigration	Health and social security	Government debt	Crime	Taxation	Pensions	The education system	Housing	The environment, climate and energy issues	Terrorism
	EU28	48%	29%	16%	15%	14%	13%	12%	11%	11%	9%	5%	5%	2%
	BE	45%	24%	17%	17%	7%	14%	22%	16%	12%	5%	7%	5%	4%
	BG	54%	43%	19%	7%	24%	3%	15%	2%	11%	4%	1%	3%	0%
	CZ	41%	27%	26%	7%	11%	22%	23%	6%	18%	5%	4%	3%	1%
	DK	35%	24%	8%	20%	27%	4%	22%	5%	3%	16%	3%	22%	2%
	DE	16%	11%	18%	22%	12%	24%	15%	9%	21%	22%	6%	12%	2%
	EE	29%	35%	40%	5%	25%	1%	6%	11%	17%	10%	2%	3%	1%
	IE	52%	31%	12%	7%	18%	17%	20%	17%	2%	4%	12%	2%	1%
	EL	63%	48%	9%	6%	10%	18%	10%	20%	4%	5%	0%	1%	2%
	ES	79%	49%	7%	5%	11%	7%	6%	7%	3%	7%	5%	1%	1%
	FR	61%	34%	16%	9%	6%	16%	15%	10%	8%	7%	4%	7%	3%
	HR	70%	43%	14%	1%	3%	18%	25%	6%	4%	2%	2%	1%	0%
	IT	65%	42%	14%	16%	5%	10%	7%	25%	6%	1%	1%	1%	2%
	CY	75%	75%	5%	3%	4%	8%	12%	5%	1%	2%	2%	1%	0%
	LV	36%	34%	27%	8%	25%	4%	7%	21%	17%	7%	2%	1%	0%
	LT	40%	29%	37%	9%	11%	9%	14%	23%	11%	4%	2%	3%	0%
	LU	49%	14%	21%	9%	5%	7%	11%	6%	6%	16%	35%	6%	1%
	HU	53%	35%	18%	3%	16%	12%	24%	7%	11%	4%	5%	2%	2%
	MT	19%	17%	13%	64%	13%	9%	17%	2%	8%	7%	4%	13%	1%
	NL	46%	38%	5%	10%	43%	8%	12%	5%	6%	12%	3%	6%	2%
	AT	32%	19%	20%	15%	9%	23%	12%	19%	11%	21%	4%	7%	1%
	PL	60%	22%	19%	7%	21%	11%	6%	7%	13%	3%	2%	2%	2%
	PT	70%	38%	20%	2%	11%	19%	5%	15%	7%	3%	1%	0%	1%
	RO	33%	36%	33%	3%	20%	5%	17%	12%	17%	6%	3%	1%	1%
	SI	61%	52%	6%	1%	10%	19%	18%	11%	4%	2%	2%	1%	0%
	SK	58%	35%	22%	2%	21%	10%	12%	8%	14%	4%	5%	2%	1%
	FI	43%	35%	15%	6%	30%	27%	5%	9%	8%	5%	2%	8%	1%
	SE	51%	11%	0%	14%	32%	1%	6%	4%	4%	37%	6%	26%	1%
	UK	29%	19%	15%	41%	17%	7%	12%	6%	8%	11%	17%	5%	3%
	CY (tcc)	24%	51%	47%	4%	5%	19%	19%	14%	1%	4%	7%	2%	4%
	MK	65%	41%	16%	10%	6%	4%	20%	5%	4%	3%	2%	3%	3%
	IS	7%	33%	21%	7%	45%	21%	4%	4%	4%	12%	28%	12%	0%
	ME	64%	43%	12%	2%	7%	11%	30%	4%	4%	5%	4%	2%	2%
	RS	62%	48%	11%	2%	8%	9%	32%	2%	5%	5%	3%	2%	1%
	TR	51%	19%	12%	3%	3%	3%	10%	5%	4%	8%	2%	1%	41%

Highest percentage per country






























Lowest percentage per country

Highest percentage per item




Lowest percentage per item

Maximum two answers

QA4a. What do you think are the two most important issues facing (OUR COUNTRY) at the moment?

		Unemployment	Economic situation	Rising prices/inflation	Immigration	Health and social security	Government debt	Crime	Taxation	Pensions	The education system	Housing	The environment, climate and energy issues	Terrorism
	EU28	48%	29%	16%	15%	14%	13%	12%	11%	11%	9%	5%	5%	2%
	BE	45%	24%	17%	17%	7%	14%	22%	16%	12%	5%	7%	5%	4%
	BG	54%	43%	19%	7%	24%	3%	15%	2%	11%	4%	1%	3%	0%
	CZ	41%	27%	26%	7%	11%	22%	23%	6%	18%	5%	4%	3%	1%
	DK	35%	24%	8%	20%	27%	4%	22%	5%	3%	16%	3%	22%	2%
	DE	16%	11%	18%	22%	12%	24%	15%	9%	21%	22%	6%	12%	2%
	EE	29%	35%	40%	5%	25%	1%	6%	11%	17%	10%	2%	3%	1%
	IE	52%	31%	12%	7%	18%	17%	20%	17%	2%	4%	12%	2%	1%
	EL	63%	48%	9%	6%	10%	18%	10%	20%	4%	5%	0%	1%	2%
	ES	79%	49%	7%	5%	11%	7%	6%	7%	3%	7%	5%	1%	1%
	FR	61%	34%	16%	9%	6%	16%	15%	10%	8%	7%	4%	7%	3%
	HR	70%	43%	14%	1%	3%	18%	25%	6%	4%	2%	2%	1%	0%
	IT	65%	42%	14%	16%	5%	10%	7%	25%	6%	1%	1%	1%	2%
	CY	75%	75%	5%	3%	4%	8%	12%	5%	1%	2%	2%	1%	0%
	LV	36%	34%	27%	8%	25%	4%	7%	21%	17%	7%	2%	1%	0%
	LT	40%	29%	37%	9%	11%	9%	14%	23%	11%	4%	2%	3%	0%
	LU	49%	14%	21%	9%	5%	7%	11%	6%	6%	16%	35%	6%	1%
	HU	53%	35%	18%	3%	16%	12%	24%	7%	11%	4%	5%	2%	2%
	MT	19%	17%	13%	64%	13%	9%	17%	2%	8%	7%	4%	13%	1%
	NL	46%	38%	5%	10%	43%	8%	12%	5%	6%	12%	3%	6%	2%
	AT	32%	19%	20%	15%	9%	23%	12%	19%	11%	21%	4%	7%	1%
	PL	60%	22%	19%	7%	21%	11%	6%	7%	13%	3%	2%	2%	2%
	PT	70%	38%	20%	2%	11%	19%	5%	15%	7%	3%	1%	0%	1%
	RO	33%	36%	33%	3%	20%	5%	17%	12%	17%	6%	3%	1%	1%
	SI	61%	52%	6%	1%	10%	19%	18%	11%	4%	2%	2%	1%	0%
	SK	58%	35%	22%	2%	21%	10%	12%	8%	14%	4%	5%	2%	1%
	FI	43%	35%	15%	6%	30%	27%	5%	9%	8%	5%	2%	8%	1%
	SE	51%	11%	0%	14%	32%	1%	6%	4%	4%	37%	6%	26%	1%
	UK	29%	19%	15%	41%	17%	7%	12%	6%	8%	11%	17%	5%	3%

Maximum two answers possible

	1st MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONNED ITEM
	2nd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONNED ITEM
	3rd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONNED ITEM

2.4. The main concerns at a European level

- Economic issues continue to dominate concerns at a European level, but there is increasing concern about immigration -

The trends observed with regard to national concerns extend to the European level: concern about economic issues remains at the forefront, but decreasingly so¹⁹.

For Europeans the **economic situation** is still the most important issue facing the European Union. However, the proportion of respondents mentioning this item has fallen sharply since the Standard Eurobarometer of autumn 2013 (39%, -6 percentage points and -20 versus autumn 2011).

Unemployment remains in second place among concerns, despite a slight decrease since autumn 2013 (34%, -2).

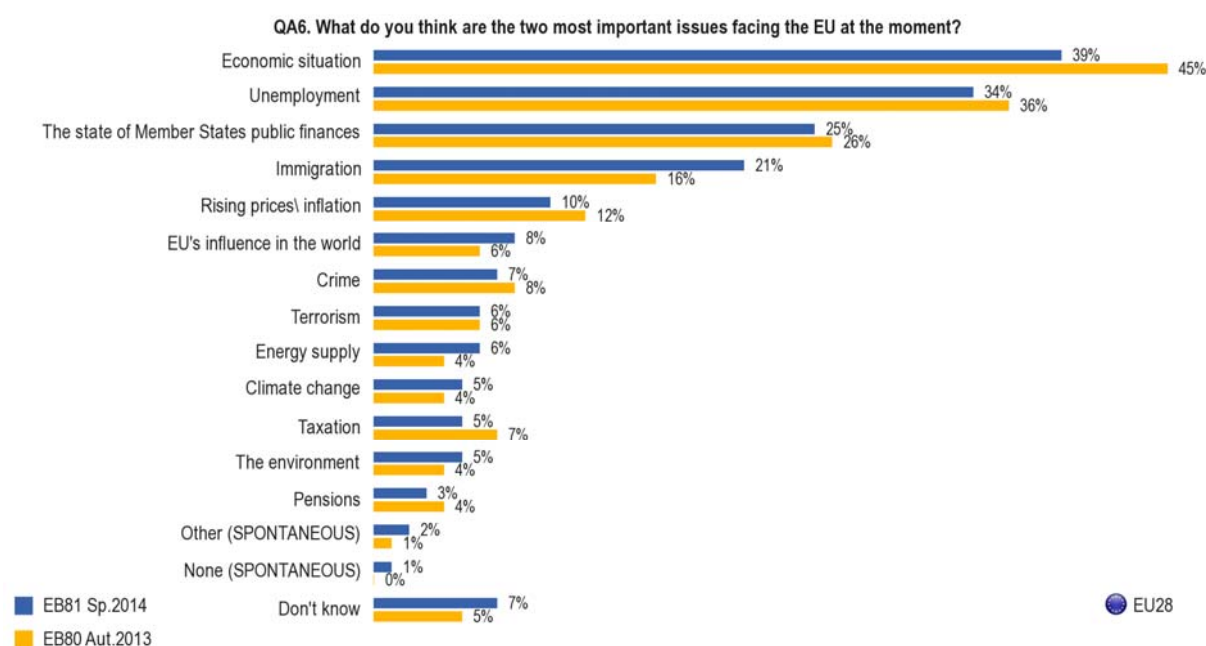
Moreover, a quarter of Europeans continue to be concerned about the Member States' **public finances** (25%, -1, i.e. -9 versus spring 2012). **Rising prices** are seen as a less pressing concern (10%, -2).

The increase in concern about **immigration**, already noted in the previous surveys, has continued in this survey, with more than a fifth of Europeans mentioning it (21%, i.e. +5 percentage points since autumn 2013 and +12 versus autumn 2011). Concerns on this issue have therefore risen to a level similar to that noted in spring 2011 (20%), before Europeans began to focus more on economic issues.

The EU's influence in the world is ranked in sixth place among concerns at European level, with a slight increase in the score recorded for this item (8%, +2).

Next, respondents mentioned in fairly similar and more or less unchanged proportions: **crime** (7%, -1) and **terrorism** (6%, unchanged); **energy supplies** (6%, +2), **climate change** (5%, +1) and the **environment** (5%, +1); and lastly **taxation** (5%, -2), ahead of **pensions** (3%, -1).

¹⁹ QA6: What do you think are the two most important issues facing the EU at the moment??

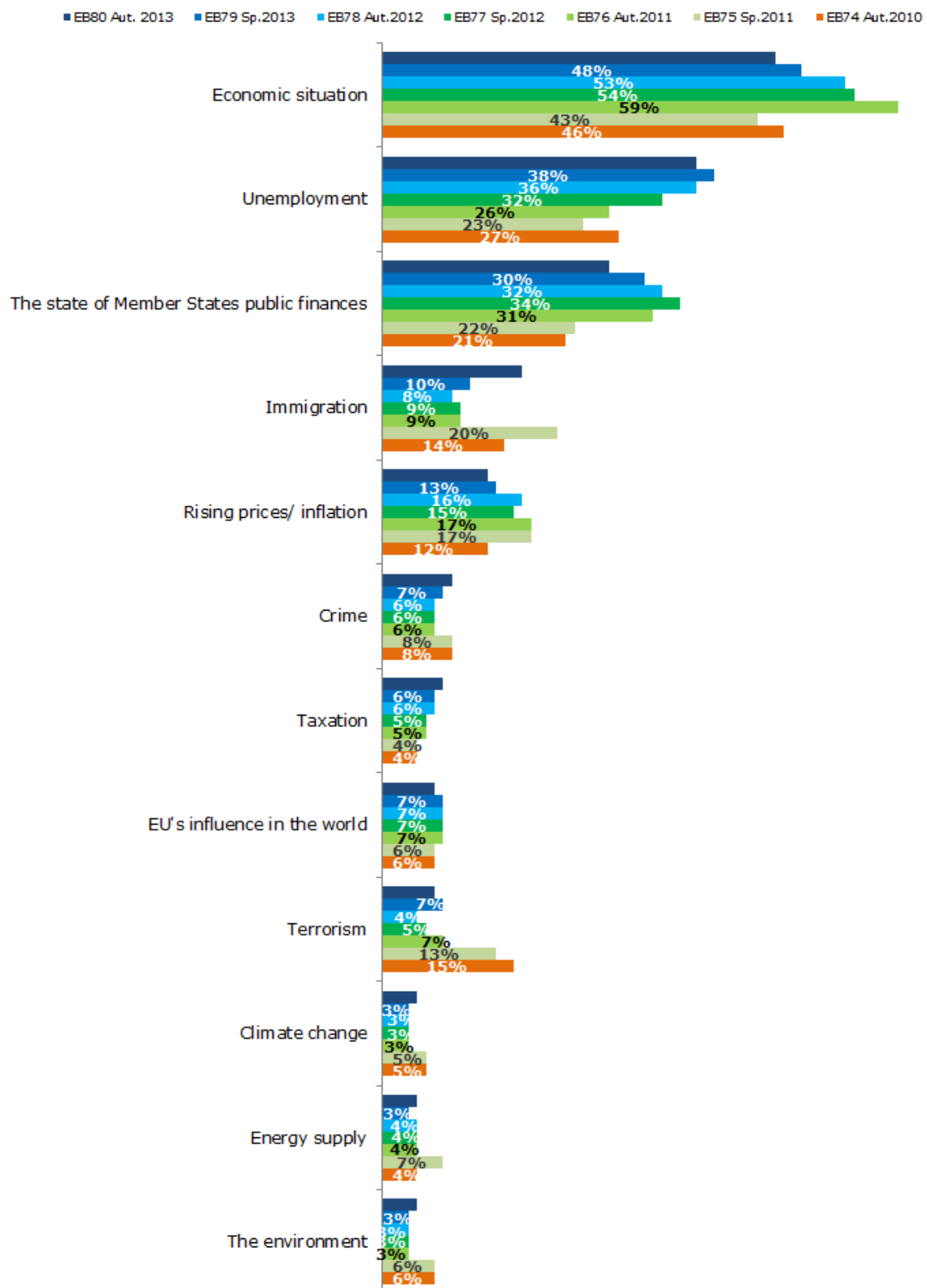


Maximum two answers

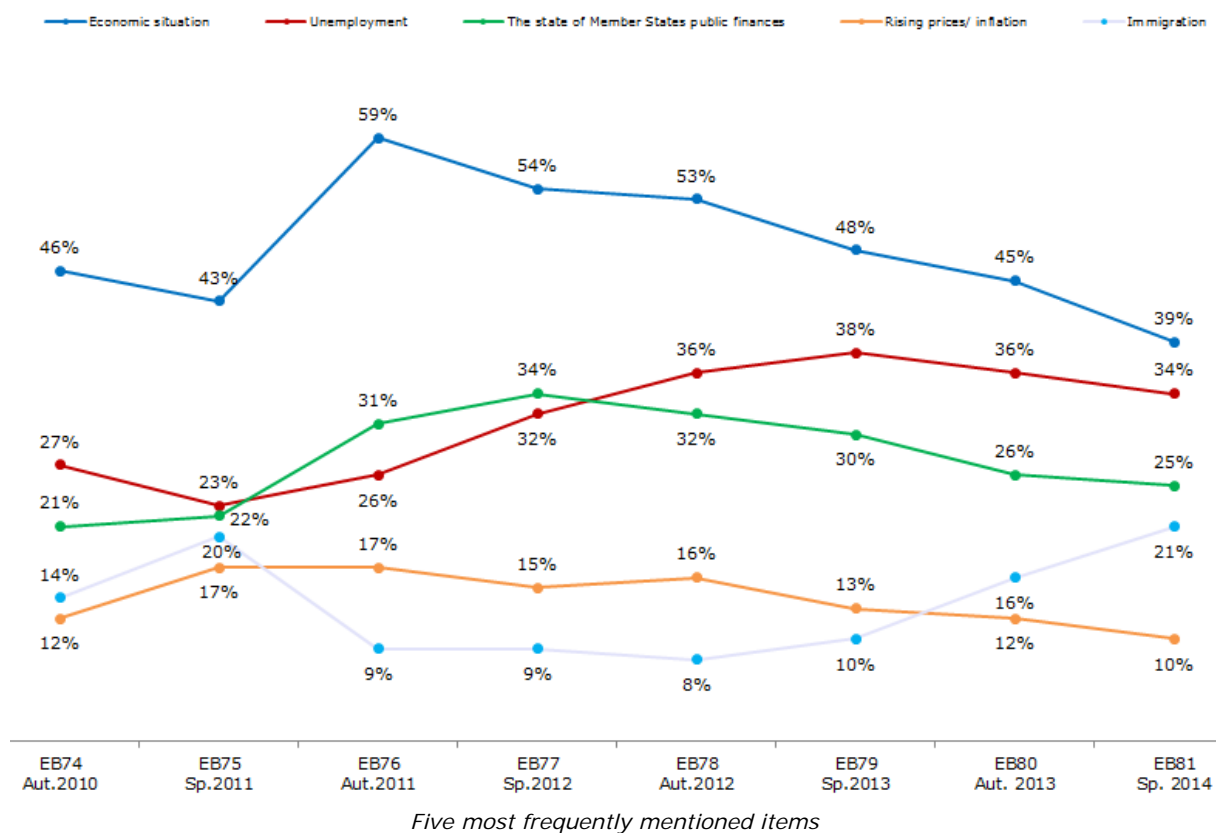
The economic situation and unemployment are seen as the two most important areas of concern in the EU in both the euro area and outside the euro area, even if respondents in the former mention the two issues more (42% for the economic situation versus 31% in the non-euro area countries and 38% for unemployment versus 26% outside the euro area).

Euro area respondents then mentioned the public finances of the Member States (28%), whereas non-euro area respondents rank immigration in third place among their concerns (22%).

QA6. What do you think are the two most important issues facing the European Union at the moment? (MAX. 2 ANSWERS) – %EU



QA6. What do you think are the two most important issues facing the European Union at the moment? (MAX. 2 ANSWERS) - %EU



The economic situation is seen as the most pressing problem that the European Union is facing in twenty-one Member States, including three in which **unemployment** is ranked equal in importance (in Cyprus, 54%, -3 percentage points; Denmark, 42%, -11; and Poland, 26%, -10). Unemployment tops the list of concerns at European level in three Member States (Italy, 53%, +4; Luxembourg, 48%, unchanged; and Portugal, 47%, -1).

The two issues were mentioned less frequently than in autumn 2013 in a large majority of Member States.






























The state of the Member States' public finances is seen as the main problem which the EU is facing in Germany (42%, -1 percentage point), Austria (35%, -13) and the Czech Republic (30%, -7).

Immigration is the number one concern (as at national level) in Malta, with a significant increase versus autumn 2013 (55%, +15 percentage points). The proportion of respondents mentioning this item has also increased significantly in the Netherlands (27%, +15), Italy (25%, +9), Hungary (19%, +9), the Czech Republic (21%, +8) and Lithuania (21%, +7).

Other specific national circumstances are also noteworthy:

- Respondents in Estonia (16%, +8 percentage points) and the Netherlands (15%, +4) mentioned more than the average that the **EU's influence in the world** is among their concerns;
- Among the problems that the EU is facing, **crime** is mentioned more in in Belgium (16%, +5 percentage points) and Romania (16%, -3) ;
- Respondents in Belgium (11%, +4 percentage points) and the Czech Republic (11%, +3) are also worried about **terrorism**;
- Respondents in Poland (11%, +8 percentage points), Estonia (11%, +6) and Lithuania (11%, +5) are more concerned than the average about **energy supplies** and;
- **Taxation** is mentioned more often by respondents in Italy (16%, -5 percentage points);
- Respondents in Sweden are the most attentive to the **environment** (25%, +7 percentage points) and **climate change** (25%, +4).

QA6. What do you think are the two most important issues facing the EU at the moment?

		Economic situation	Unemployment	The state of Member States public finances	Immigration	Rising prices/inflation	EU's influence in the world	Crime	Terrorism	Energy supply	Taxation	The environment	Climate change	Pensions
	EU28	39%	34%	25%	21%	10%	8%	7%	6%	6%	5%	5%	5%	3%
	BE	39%	36%	21%	21%	10%	8%	16%	11%	5%	5%	6%	7%	5%
	BG	34%	18%	14%	28%	5%	10%	6%	8%	9%	2%	7%	5%	2%
	CZ	28%	24%	30%	21%	13%	11%	11%	11%	8%	3%	7%	4%	5%
	DK	42%	42%	18%	21%	3%	10%	14%	6%	5%	1%	11%	15%	1%
	DE	33%	30%	42%	28%	9%	8%	9%	4%	9%	2%	4%	6%	3%
	EE	34%	16%	31%	21%	9%	16%	5%	8%	11%	4%	4%	1%	4%
	IE	45%	40%	22%	10%	13%	7%	9%	5%	4%	11%	4%	4%	2%
	EL	44%	37%	30%	18%	8%	13%	8%	5%	3%	6%	4%	3%	2%
	ES	52%	40%	26%	13%	9%	6%	4%	2%	3%	6%	2%	2%	3%
	FR	46%	35%	23%	16%	10%	11%	6%	10%	7%	4%	8%	5%	3%
	HR	38%	33%	25%	14%	11%	12%	12%	5%	5%	3%	3%	6%	1%
	IT	45%	53%	16%	25%	12%	4%	4%	4%	2%	16%	2%	1%	4%
	CY	54%	54%	19%	15%	5%	7%	15%	7%	1%	3%	1%	2%	0%
	LV	33%	17%	28%	22%	10%	9%	7%	7%	8%	7%	4%	5%	4%
	LT	28%	15%	27%	21%	14%	10%	11%	9%	11%	8%	2%	5%	2%
	LU	26%	48%	19%	18%	12%	9%	10%	4%	6%	5%	7%	6%	5%
	HU	34%	29%	31%	19%	12%	10%	13%	7%	9%	4%	4%	6%	4%
	MT	30%	26%	15%	55%	5%	3%	7%	4%	5%	1%	5%	5%	3%
	NL	49%	36%	31%	27%	6%	15%	6%	5%	4%	2%	4%	5%	1%
	AT	31%	32%	35%	18%	13%	11%	11%	2%	4%	6%	9%	8%	5%
	PL	26%	26%	21%	15%	10%	10%	4%	8%	11%	3%	4%	4%	5%
	PT	42%	47%	32%	8%	14%	4%	5%	3%	1%	8%	0%	2%	4%
	RO	26%	22%	14%	14%	18%	6%	16%	10%	4%	7%	5%	4%	5%
	SI	43%	40%	26%	13%	4%	9%	11%	3%	3%	6%	4%	5%	2%
	SK	36%	34%	26%	9%	16%	9%	12%	10%	8%	5%	6%	3%	6%
	FI	40%	31%	36%	15%	9%	11%	9%	5%	9%	4%	7%	11%	2%
	SE	40%	37%	19%	18%	0%	7%	6%	2%	9%	2%	25%	25%	1%
	UK	33%	26%	11%	29%	8%	9%	5%	7%	6%	3%	3%	5%	2%

Highest percentage per country






























Lowest percentage per country

Highest percentage per item




Lowest percentage per item

Maximum two answers

QA6. What do you think are the two most important issues facing the EU at the moment?

		Economic situation	Unemployment	The state of Member States public finances	Immigration	Rising prices/inflation	EU's influence in the world	Crime	Terrorism	Energy supply	Taxation	The environment	Climate change	Pensions
	EU28	39%	34%	25%	21%	10%	8%	7%	6%	6%	5%	5%	5%	3%
	BE	39%	36%	21%	21%	10%	8%	16%	11%	5%	5%	6%	7%	5%
	BG	34%	18%	14%	28%	5%	10%	6%	8%	9%	2%	7%	5%	2%
	CZ	28%	24%	30%	21%	13%	11%	11%	11%	8%	3%	7%	4%	5%
	DK	42%	42%	18%	21%	3%	10%	14%	6%	5%	1%	11%	15%	1%
	DE	33%	30%	42%	28%	9%	8%	9%	4%	9%	2%	4%	6%	3%
	EE	34%	16%	31%	21%	9%	16%	5%	8%	11%	4%	4%	1%	4%
	IE	45%	40%	22%	10%	13%	7%	9%	5%	4%	11%	4%	4%	2%
	EL	44%	37%	30%	18%	8%	13%	8%	5%	3%	6%	4%	3%	2%
	ES	52%	40%	26%	13%	9%	6%	4%	2%	3%	6%	2%	2%	3%
	FR	46%	35%	23%	16%	10%	11%	6%	10%	7%	4%	8%	5%	3%
	HR	38%	33%	25%	14%	11%	12%	12%	5%	5%	3%	3%	6%	1%
	IT	45%	53%	16%	25%	12%	4%	4%	4%	2%	16%	2%	1%	4%
	CY	54%	54%	19%	15%	5%	7%	15%	7%	1%	3%	1%	2%	0%
	LV	33%	17%	28%	22%	10%	9%	7%	7%	8%	7%	4%	5%	4%
	LT	28%	15%	27%	21%	14%	10%	11%	9%	11%	8%	2%	5%	2%
	LU	26%	48%	19%	18%	12%	9%	10%	4%	6%	5%	7%	6%	5%
	HU	34%	29%	31%	19%	12%	10%	13%	7%	9%	4%	4%	6%	4%
	MT	30%	26%	15%	55%	5%	3%	7%	4%	5%	1%	5%	5%	3%
	NL	49%	36%	31%	27%	6%	15%	6%	5%	4%	2%	4%	5%	1%
	AT	31%	32%	35%	18%	13%	11%	11%	2%	4%	6%	9%	8%	5%
	PL	26%	26%	21%	15%	10%	10%	4%	8%	11%	3%	4%	4%	5%
	PT	42%	47%	32%	8%	14%	4%	5%	3%	1%	8%	0%	2%	4%
	RO	26%	22%	14%	14%	18%	6%	16%	10%	4%	7%	5%	4%	5%
	SI	43%	40%	26%	13%	4%	9%	11%	3%	3%	6%	4%	5%	2%
	SK	36%	34%	26%	9%	16%	9%	12%	10%	8%	5%	6%	3%	6%
	FI	40%	31%	36%	15%	9%	11%	9%	5%	9%	4%	7%	11%	2%
	SE	40%	37%	19%	18%	0%	7%	6%	2%	9%	2%	25%	25%	1%
	UK	33%	26%	11%	29%	8%	9%	5%	7%	6%	3%	3%	5%	2%

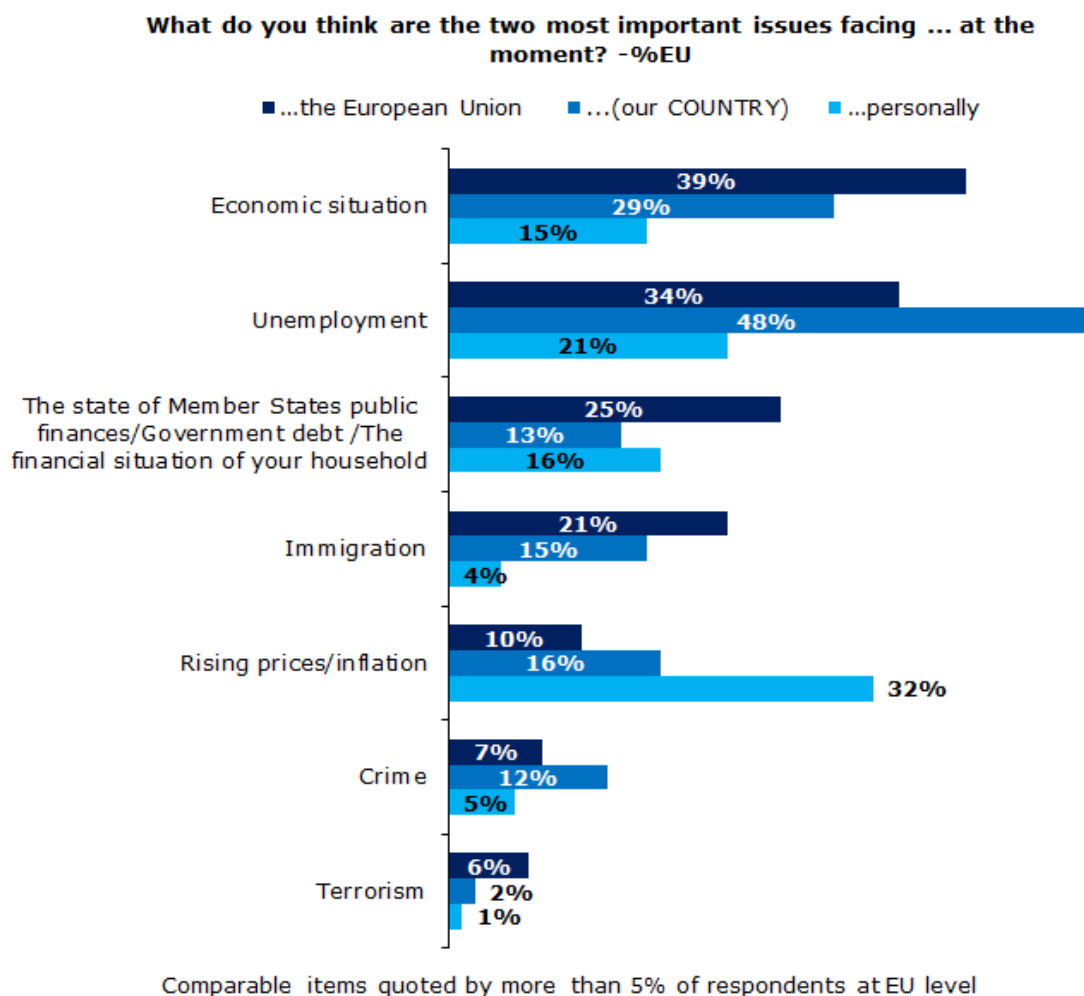
Maximum two answers possible

 1st MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONNED ITEM
 2nd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONNED ITEM
 3rd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONNED ITEM

A comparison between the main concerns of Europeans at a personal, national and European level reveals that:

- **Rising prices**, because this directly affects individuals, figures more prominently among the personal concerns of Europeans (32%) than at a national (16%) or European (10%) level. This is also true for **taxation** (17%/11%/5%);
- Conversely, the **economic situation** raises more concerns at a European (39%) and national (29%) level, than from a personal standpoint (15%);
- **Unemployment**, which figures very prominently among the concerns of Europeans at all levels, is nevertheless seen as more problematic at a national level (48%), than at the EU level (34%) or personally (21%);

- At all levels, economic issues continue to give rise to the most concern, far more than social and environmental issues. However, such concerns continue to decrease, after having increased significantly, in particular from the Standard Eurobarometer surveys of spring (EB75) and autumn 2011 (EB76);
- The continuing increase in concern about **immigration** at a European and national levels is noteworthy. But, more generally, all social and environmental concerns continue to gain ground.

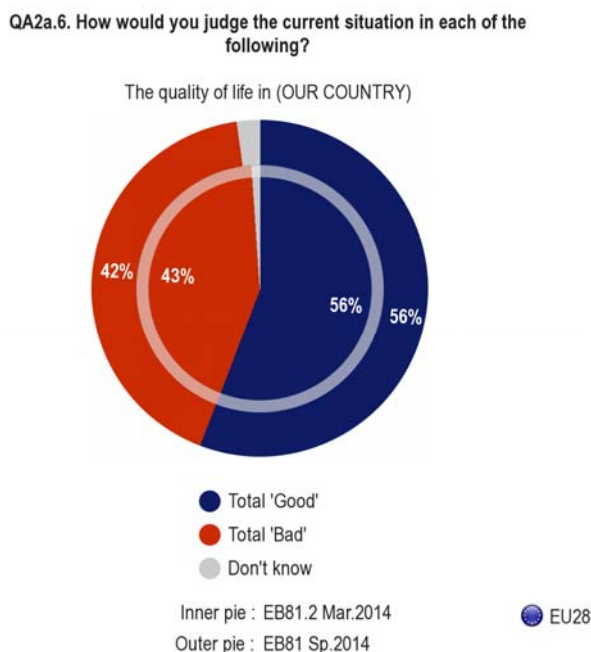


3. THE QUALITY OF LIFE

- More than half of Europeans consider that the quality of life in their country and at European level is good -

3.1. Perceptions of the quality of life at national level

More than half of Europeans consider that the quality of life in their country is “good”: 56%, i.e. unchanged since the Special Eurobarometer of March 2014, EB81.220 (versus 42% for whom it is “bad”, -1 percentage point)²¹.



A majority of respondents in 13 Member States consider that their quality of life is good, with scores as high as 90% or more in six of them, chiefly in northern European countries: Denmark (92%, including 33% who describe the quality of life in their country as “very good”), Luxembourg (92%, including 35% “very good” answers), the Netherlands (92%, 32%), Finland (92%, 22%), Sweden (91%, 30%) and Germany (90%, 25%).

There is however a significant disparity between the countries where respondents are the least positive: only 6% of respondents consider that their quality of life is good in Bulgaria (where one in two considers that the quality of life is “very bad”), 15% in Croatia and 18% in Romania.

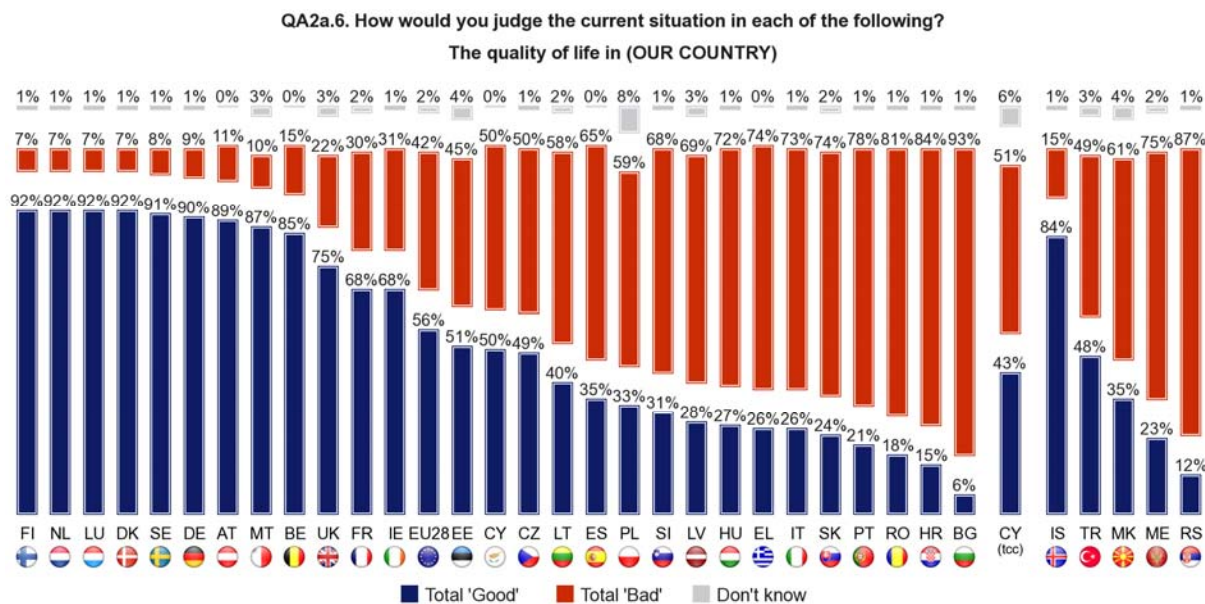
Moreover, perceptions have deteriorated slightly since March in Poland (33%, -8 percentage points), Romania (18%, -7) and Spain (35%, -6).

²⁰ Special Eurobarometer 415 *Europeans in 2014*

²¹ QA2a.6: How would you judge the current situation in each of the following? The quality of life in (OUR COUNTRY)

There are also significant differences in perceptions between the **candidate countries**:

- Iceland is the only country where a majority (moreover, a very large majority) of respondents consider that their quality of life is good (84%);
- Opinions are divided in Turkey (48%, versus 49% "bad");
- A very large majority of respondents are dissatisfied in Serbia (87% think that the quality of life is "bad"), Montenegro (75%) and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (61%).



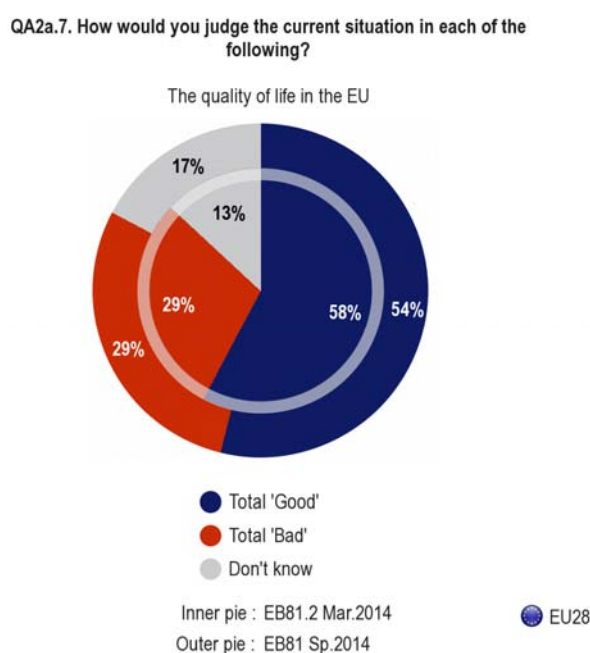
If we cross-tabulate the results on perceptions of the quality of life at a national level with those relating to personal satisfaction, it is noteworthy that almost two-thirds of the Europeans who are satisfied with the life they lead also consider that the quality of life in their country is good (65%, versus 23% of those who are dissatisfied with their life); on the other hand, three-quarters of those who are dissatisfied with the life they lead consider that the quality of life in their country is bad (75%, versus 33% of those who are satisfied).

Moreover, the five countries where respondents are the most satisfied with the life they lead are also those where the quality of life at national level is deemed the best: Denmark (98% satisfied with the life they lead and 92% of positive perceptions of the quality of life in their country), Sweden (98% and 91%), Luxembourg (96% and 92%), the Netherlands (95% and 92%) and Finland (95% and 92%).

3.2. Perceptions of the quality of life at European level

The quality of life at European level is also deemed to be good by a majority of Europeans (54% versus 29%)²².

Positive opinions have however decreased slightly since the Special Eurobarometer survey of March 2014 (-4 percentage points since EB81.2). Negative opinions are unchanged (29%, =), but the “don’t know” rate has increased (17%, +4).



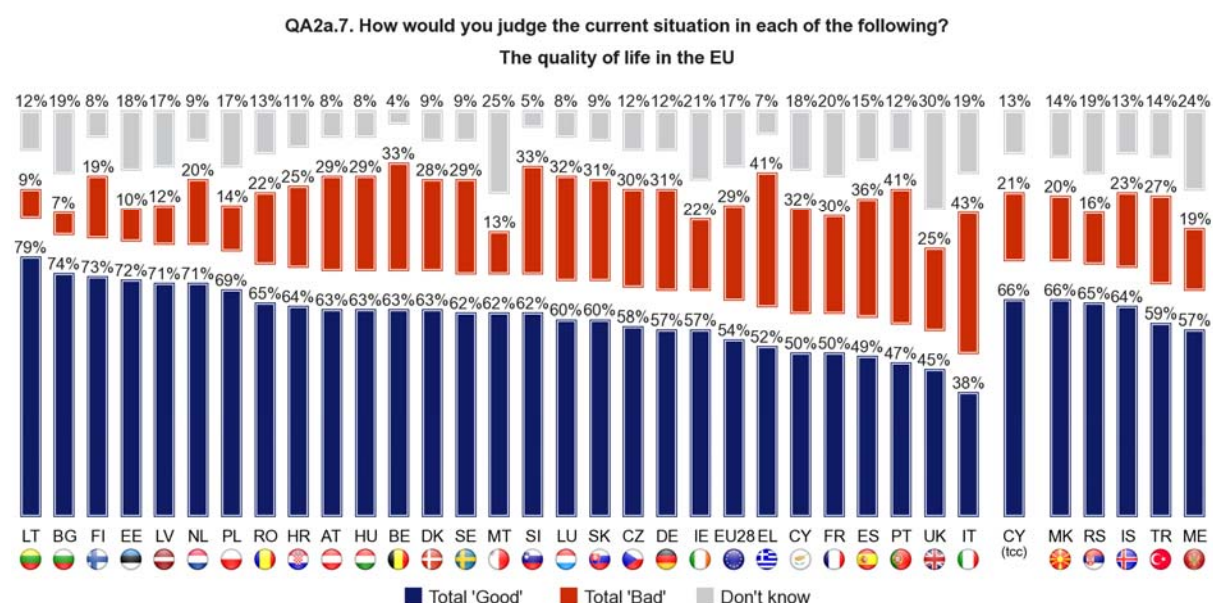
Positive opinions on the quality of life in Europe outweigh negative opinions in almost all the Member States except in Italy (38%, versus 43% who describe it as “bad”).

The differences in perceptions between the countries in which respondents are the most positive are therefore less pronounced than for the quality of life at national level (79% in Lithuania, 74% in Bulgaria, 73% in Finland and 72% in Estonia) and those in which they are the most critical (38% in Italy, 45% in the United Kingdom and 47% in Portugal and 49% in Spain).

The proportion of positive opinions on the quality of life in the European Union has decreased by several percentage points in most Member States, in particular in the Czech Republic (58%, -9 percentage points) and Austria (63%, -8).

²² QA2a.7: How would you judge the current situation in each of the following? The quality of life in the EU

In the candidate countries, a majority of respondents are also positive about the quality of life at the European level (ranging from 57% in Montenegro to 66% in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia).



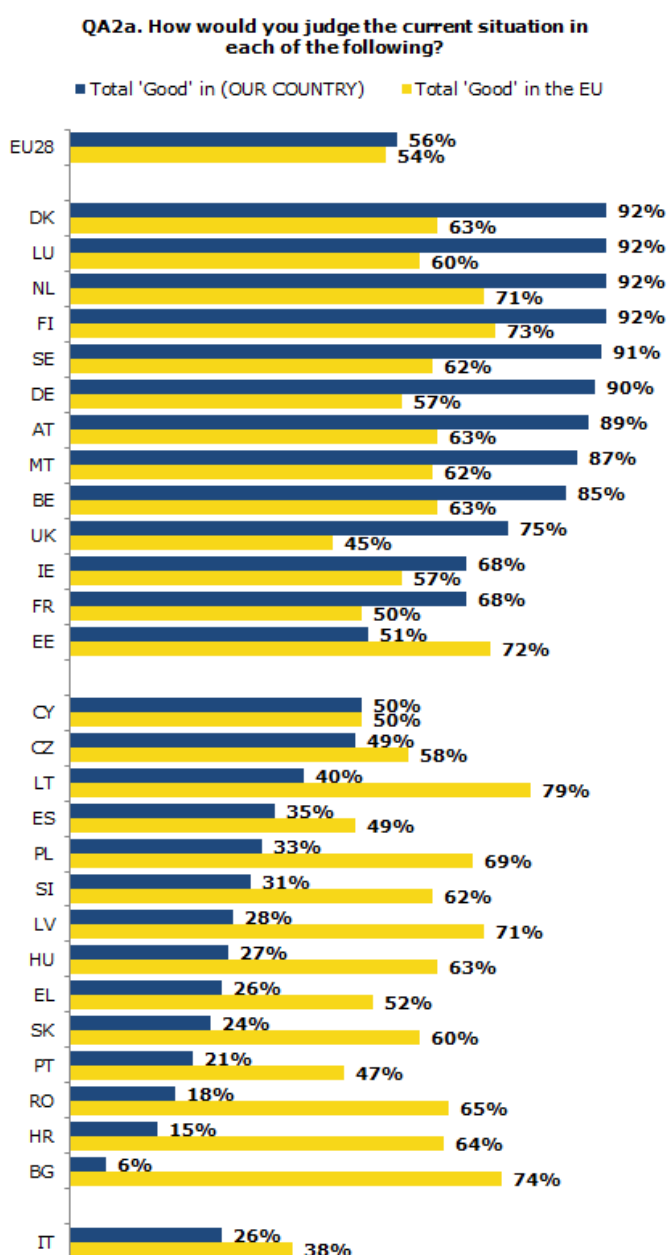
When we cross-tabulate the results on the quality of life in the European Union with those relating to personal satisfaction at the current time we note that these two questions are less closely linked than those relating to the quality of life at national level and personal satisfaction. For example, while almost three out of five Europeans who are satisfied with the life they lead consider that the quality of life in the EU is good (58%, versus 40% of those who are dissatisfied with their life), only two out of five of those who are dissatisfied with their life consider that the quality of life in their country is bad (41%, versus 26% of those who are satisfied).

Moreover, the answers at national level vary between these two questions: for example, respondents in Bulgaria are ranked in second place as regards positive opinions on the quality of life in the EU (74%), while they are ranked before last as regards satisfaction with the life they lead (44%).

Opinions on the quality of life at a European level are more positive than those on the quality of life at a national level in 15 Member States.

These include the 14 Member States in which a majority of respondents are negative about the quality of life in their country, plus Estonia, where a majority of respondents consider that the quality of life in their country is good (51%), but where an even greater majority is of this opinion regarding the EU (72%).

The countries in which the disparities are the greatest are Bulgaria (6% of positive opinions about the quality of life in their country, versus 74% for the EU), Croatia (15/64) and Romania (18/65).








With the exception of Estonia, in all the Member States where a majority of respondents consider that the quality of life in their country is good, opinions are more positive than for the European level. The differences are the most perceptible in Germany (90% consider that the quality of life is good in their country, versus 57% for the EU), Luxembourg (92/60), the United Kingdom (75/45), Sweden (91/62) and Denmark (92/63).

In Cyprus, half the respondents are satisfied with the quality of life in their country (50% versus 50%) and an identical proportion is satisfied with the quality of life in the EU (50% versus 32%).

A socio-demographic analysis reveals that:












- Men are more positive than women about the quality of life in their country (61% versus 54% of women) and in the EU (59% versus 50%);
- Young people are also more positive than older people (65% of 15-24 year-olds for the national quality of life versus 56% of those aged 55 or over and 62% of those aged 75 or over and 66% versus 46% and 42% for the quality of life in the EU). It is to be noted that Europeans in the 25-39 age group are more positive about the quality of life in the EU (60%) than in their country (55%);
- If the generational factor has little impact on perceptions of the quality of life at a national level (the people born between 1928 and 1945 being the most positive, with 59%, compared with 54% to 56% for all the other generations), it gives rise to more perceptible differences regarding the quality of life in the EU: this time, the respondents born between 1928 and 1945 are the least positive (42%, compared with at least 50% in all the other generations and notably 56% among those born between 1965 and 1980);
- Only a minority of the Europeans who left school at the age of 15 or earlier are satisfied with the quality of life not only in their country (47% are satisfied, versus 51%), but also in the European Union (37% versus 39%). In contrast, an emphatic majority of those who studied up to the age of 20 or beyond are positive (64% for the national quality of life and 63% for the EU);
- The Europeans who struggle to pay their bills most of the time are predominantly dissatisfied (32% consider that the quality of life in their country is good, versus 67% for whom it is bad). They are less critical of the quality of life in the EU (42% versus 40%). The reverse is true for the Europeans who almost never have difficulties paying their bills: 67% consider that the national quality of life is good while only 58% think the same of the quality of life in the EU.

QA2a. How would you judge the current situation in each of the following?












	The quality of life in (OUR COUNTRY)			The quality of life in the EU		
	Total 'Good'	Total 'Bad'	Don't know	Total 'Good'	Total 'Bad'	Don't know
EU28	56%	42%	2%	54%	29%	17%
 Gender						
Man	61%	38%	1%	59%	28%	13%
Woman	54%	44%	2%	50%	31%	19%
 Age						
15-24	65%	33%	2%	66%	21%	13%
25-34	56%	42%	2%	62%	25%	13%
35-44	54%	45%	1%	58%	29%	13%
45-54	56%	43%	1%	52%	32%	16%
55-64	54%	44%	2%	49%	35%	16%
65-74	55%	42%	3%	45%	33%	22%
75+	62%	36%	2%	42%	30%	28%
Generation						
Before 1928	56%	42%	2%	54%	29%	17%
1928 - 1945	59%	38%	3%	42%	33%	25%
Total 'Before 1946'	57%	42%	1%	56%	29%	15%
1946 - 1964 "BB"	54%	44%	2%	50%	33%	17%
1965 - 1980 "X"	55%	44%	1%	56%	30%	14%
After 1980 "Y"	56%	42%	2%	50%	32%	18%
 Education (End of)						
15-	47%	51%	2%	37%	39%	24%
16-19	55%	43%	2%	52%	30%	18%
20+	64%	34%	2%	63%	25%	12%
Still studying	68%	31%	1%	69%	20%	11%
 Socio-professional category						
Self-employed	59%	40%	1%	61%	27%	12%
Managers	73%	26%	1%	67%	22%	11%
Other white collars	58%	40%	2%	58%	27%	15%
Manual workers	55%	44%	1%	53%	30%	17%
House persons	45%	54%	1%	46%	34%	20%
Unemployed	40%	58%	2%	49%	36%	15%
Retired	57%	40%	3%	46%	32%	22%
Students	68%	31%	1%	69%	20%	11%
 Difficulties paying bills						
Most of the time	32%	67%	1%	42%	40%	18%
From time to time	42%	56%	2%	49%	34%	17%
Almost never/ Never	67%	31%	2%	58%	26%	16%

The following tables show the results by socio-demographic criteria in the whole of the European Union (EU28) on average, in the six largest EU countries and in four countries which have been particularly badly affected by the economic crisis.

QA2a. How would you judge the current situation in each of the following?
The quality of life in (OUR COUNTRY)

Total 'Good'											
	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
											
	56%	90%	35%	68%	26%	33%	75%	26%	21%	68%	50%
Gender											
Male	61%	91%	38%	76%	29%	36%	79%	31%	24%	70%	54%
Female	54%	89%	32%	61%	25%	31%	72%	22%	18%	66%	46%
Age											
15-24	65%	92%	46%	80%	32%	42%	82%	36%	23%	72%	60%
25-39	55%	88%	35%	64%	24%	37%	77%	35%	24%	72%	53%
40-54	56%	90%	31%	67%	26%	30%	73%	25%	22%	61%	48%
55 +	56%	92%	33%	67%	27%	30%	74%	19%	16%	68%	41%
Education (End of)											
15-	47%	91%	30%	54%	26%	16%	64%	16%	20%	57%	36%
16-19	55%	89%	35%	65%	25%	27%	75%	26%	19%	63%	47%
20+	64%	91%	41%	72%	27%	41%	80%	29%	24%	74%	55%
Still studying	66%	96%	39%	80%	35%	50%	92%	33%	31%	82%	65%
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	59%	95%	43%	71%	34%	51%	78%	34%	26%	71%	45%
Managers	73%	94%	35%	73%	31%	56%	78%	45%	28%	74%	62%
Other white collars	58%	90%	39%	67%	22%	37%	77%	30%	19%	74%	55%
Manual workers	55%	88%	34%	65%	27%	20%	69%	33%	24%	63%	55%
House persons	45%	90%	31%	45%	18%	33%	80%	23%	25%	65%	21%
Unemployed	40%	68%	29%	61%	20%	18%	70%	17%	14%	58%	42%
Retired	57%	92%	37%	70%	27%	30%	72%	18%	17%	64%	40%
Students	68%	96%	39%	80%	35%	50%	92%	33%	31%	82%	65%

QA2a. How would you judge the current situation in each of the following?
The quality of life in the EU

Total 'Good'											
	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
											
	54%	57%	49%	50%	38%	69%	45%	52%	47%	57%	50%
Gender											
Male	59%	62%	52%	59%	43%	71%	50%	55%	53%	61%	53%
Female	50%	51%	45%	44%	33%	67%	38%	48%	43%	53%	47%
Age											
15-24	66%	65%	68%	66%	41%	81%	58%	62%	54%	57%	64%
25-39	60%	66%	52%	56%	46%	76%	50%	58%	62%	63%	57%
40-54	54%	54%	51%	50%	39%	72%	45%	51%	47%	56%	51%
55 +	46%	51%	38%	43%	31%	56%	34%	45%	37%	51%	35%
Education (End of)											
15-	37%	42%	34%	35%	27%	43%	29%	37%	41%	37%	29%
16-19	52%	54%	53%	45%	38%	66%	39%	50%	52%	54%	45%
20+	63%	67%	55%	58%	52%	74%	53%	58%	57%	67%	64%
Still studying	69%	70%	65%	65%	49%	85%	70%	62%	51%	61%	71%
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	61%	54%	52%	60%	46%	79%	60%	56%	58%	72%	50%
Managers	67%	74%	56%	63%	59%	80%	54%	60%	61%	69%	76%
Other white collars	58%	56%	65%	52%	42%	78%	41%	61%	50%	68%	56%
Manual workers	53%	52%	50%	48%	35%	66%	44%	55%	55%	56%	42%
House persons	46%	65%	34%	48%	25%	75%	26%	44%	50%	48%	22%
Unemployed	49%	47%	45%	43%	38%	59%	43%	48%	42%	47%	44%
Retired	46%	48%	44%	44%	30%	58%	31%	43%	37%	47%	36%
Students	69%	70%	65%	65%	49%	85%	70%	62%	51%	61%	71%

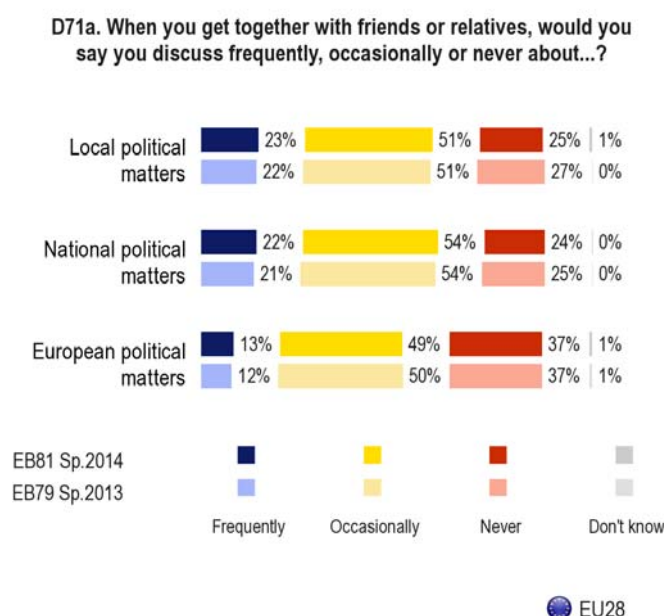
4. POLITICAL ASPECTS

4.1. Interest in politics

The index measuring European citizens' interest in politics²³ has remained stable since it was last measured in the Standard Eurobarometer survey of spring 2013 (EB79) and since its creation in spring 2010:

- Six out of ten Europeans are interested in politics: strongly (16%, unchanged) or moderately (44%, =);
- Just under a quarter of them are "slightly" interested in politics (22%, -1 percentage point) and 18% "not at all" (+1) interested in the subject.

Europeans remain slightly more interested in politics at national (76%, +1) and local (74%, +1) levels than at the European level (62%, =).



Respondents in Greece stand out since they are the most numerous to discuss politics frequently, whether at a local (45%, +14 percentage points since the spring 2013 Eurobarometer survey), national (43%, +3), or European (29%, +3) level. Greece is thus the only country in which more than a third of the population has a strong political interest index (37%, +6 versus 16% at European level), some way ahead of respondents in the Netherlands (26%, +1). At the other end of the scale, relatively few respondents have a strong interest in politics in Romania (10%, +1), Portugal (11%, +1), Hungary (11%, -3) and the Czech Republic (11%, -3).

²³ The question: When you get together with friends or relatives, would you say that you discuss frequently, occasionally or never about...? National political matters/European political matters/Local political matters. A score is then attributed to each answer: "Never" = 0; "Occasionally" = 1; "Often" = 2. An index is then constructed by adding together the scores for the three dimensions (local, national and European). Each group

Interest in politics varies considerably between socio-demographic groups:

- Men are more interested in politics than women (19% of men have a “strong” political interest index, compared to 14% of women);
- Interest also increases with age since 10% of 15-24 year-olds have a strong interest in politics, versus 19% of Europeans aged 55 or over;
- It is far more widespread among Europeans having studied up to the age of 20 or beyond (23%) than among Europeans who left school at the age of 15 or earlier (12%);
- Lastly, more self-employed people (23%) and managers (21%) are “strongly” interested in politics than house persons (12%) and unemployed people (13%).

corresponds to a different index level: “not at all interested in politics” = 0; “slightly” = 1 to 2; “moderately” = 3 to 4; “strongly” = 5 to 6.

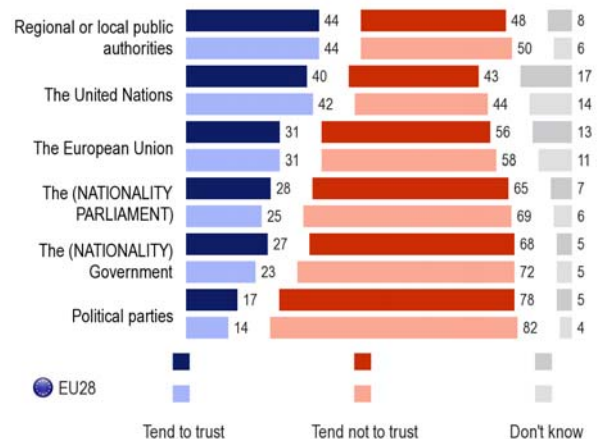
4.2. Trust in institutions

- Trust in institutions is still low, but has increased slightly -

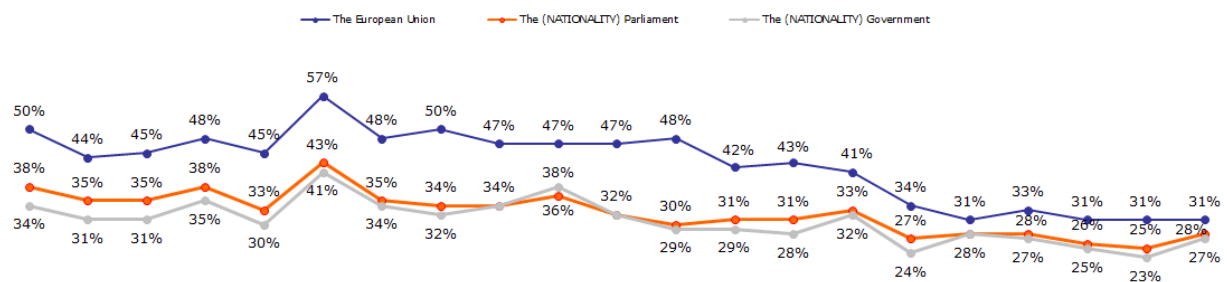
Europeans now trust their **national government**²⁴ more than at the time of the Standard Eurobarometer survey of autumn 2013 (27%, +4 percentage points), even if they are very much in the minority (68% of distrust, -4).

The same is true as regards trust in the national parliament (28%, +3, versus 65%, -4).

QA9. I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain media and institutions. For each of the following media and institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.



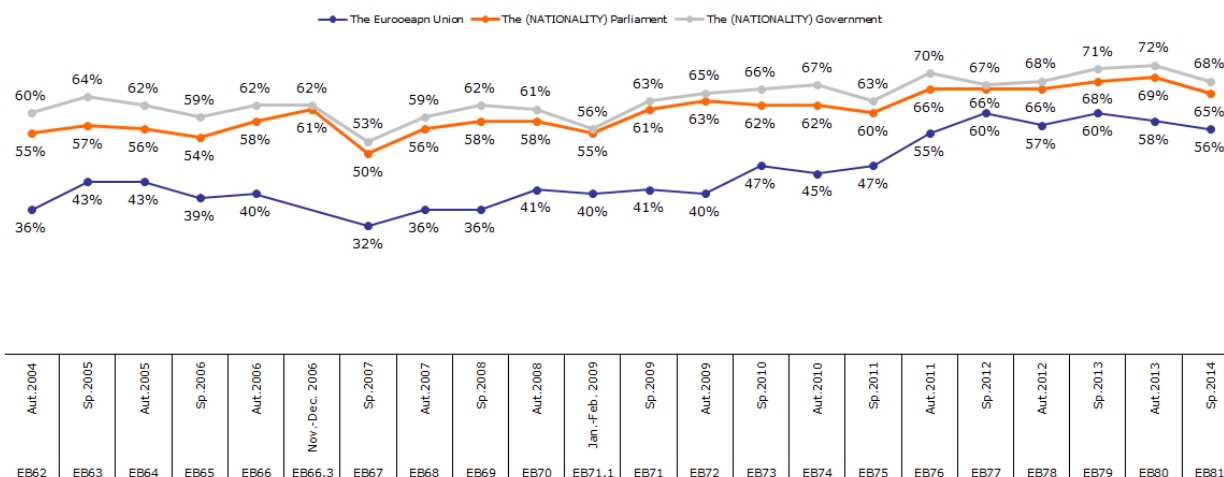
QA9. For each of the following media and institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.
- Tend to trust - % EU



Aut. 2004	Sp. 2005	Aut. 2005	Sp. 2006	Aut. 2006	Sp. 2007	Aut. 2007	Sp. 2008	Aut. 2008	Jan.-Feb. 2009	Sp. 2009	Aut. 2009	Sp. 2010	Aut. 2010	Sp. 2011	Aut. 2011	Sp. 2012	Aut. 2012	Sp. 2013	Aut. 2013	Sp. 2014
EB62	EB63	EB64	EB65	EB66	EB67	EB68	EB69	EB70	EB71.1	EB71	EB72	EB73	EB74	EB75	EB76	EB77	EB78	EB79	EB80	EB81

²⁴ QA9: I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain media and institutions. For each of the following media and institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.

QA9. For each of the following media and institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it?
Tend not to trust - % EU

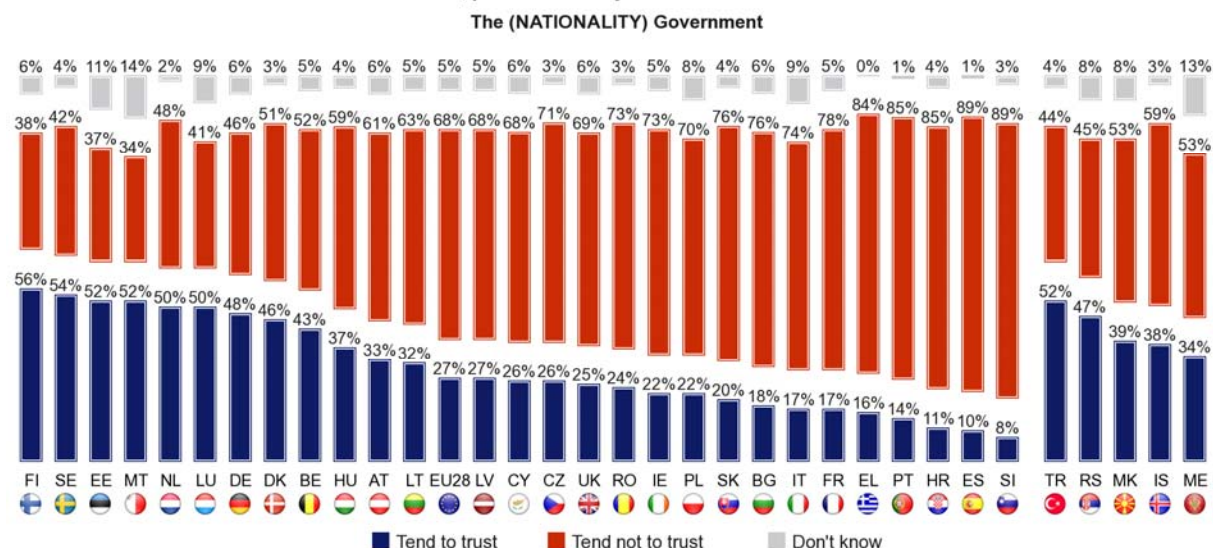


A majority of respondents in six Member States trust their government and parliament: in Finland where trust has increased (56% for the government, +6 percentage points since autumn 2013; 66% for the parliament, +8), Sweden (54%, -3; 67%, -3), Malta (52%, +4; 49%, -2), Luxembourg (50%, -1; 43%, +2), the Netherlands where trust has improved the most perceptibly for both institutions (50%, +13; 54%, +13) and Germany where trust in the government has increased significantly (48%, +10 ; 51%, +7).

In Estonia, a majority of respondents now trust the government following a sharp increase in trust (52%, +14 percentage points), but the same is not true for the parliament (42%, +7, versus 46%, -15). In Denmark, respondents now trust both national institutions, but only the parliament enjoys the trust of a majority of respondents (46%, +6 for the government, versus 51%, -6 and 61%, +3 for the parliament).

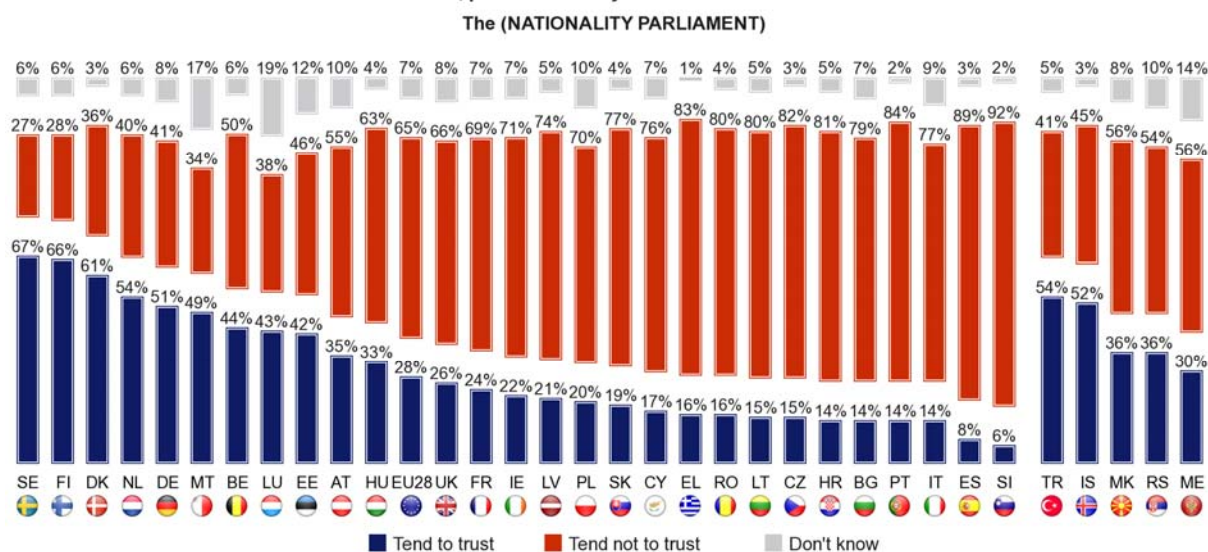
Moreover, trust in the government has increased strongly in Lithuania (32%, +12) and the Czech Republic (26%, +10), even if only a small minority trust this institution. In contrast, trust in the national government has deteriorated sharply in Austria (33%, -17) where only a minority of respondents now trust this institution.

QA9.2. I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain media and institutions. For each of the following media and institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.



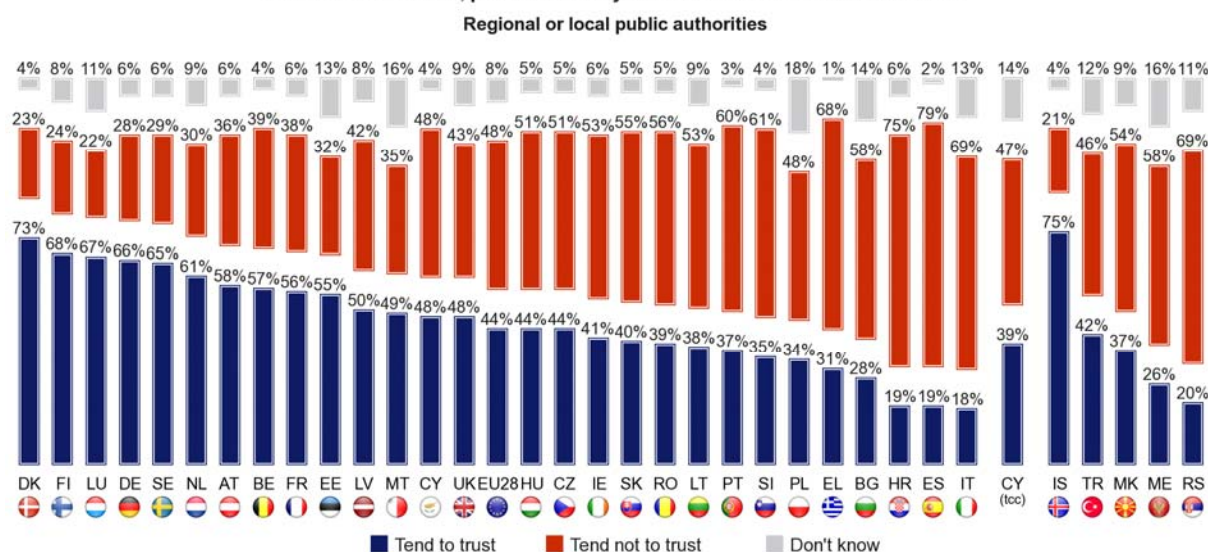
Trust in the parliament has improved the most in the Netherlands (54%, +13) and Finland (66%, +8), but has deteriorated spectacularly in Austria (35%, -19); as a result of this decrease, respondents who trust the parliament in Austria are also in the minority.

QA9.3. I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain media and institutions. For each of the following media and institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.



The countries where respondents trust their national political institutions the least are Spain (10%, +1 percentage point for the government; and 8%, unchanged, for the parliament) and Slovenia (8%, -2; and 6%, =).

QA9.6. I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain media and institutions. For each of the following media and institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.



In the candidate countries:

- As a result of a sharp improvement since autumn 2013, Turkey is the only country in which a majority of respondents trust their national political institutions: 52%, +16 percentage points for the government and 54%, +16 for the parliament. For the record, levels of trust had deteriorated sharply in the previous survey (-12 for the government and -7 for the parliament between spring and autumn 2013);

- Respondents in Serbia also now trust their national institutions much more, but only trust in the government prevails (47%, +17; and 36%, +15 for the parliament);
- In Iceland, the majority of respondents trust the parliament (52%, +12), but only a minority of respondents trust the national government (38%, +8, versus 59%, -8).

QA9. I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain media and institutions.
For each of the following media and institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.
% Tend to trust

	Regional or local public authorities	Diff. Pr.2014-Aut.2013	The United Nations	Diff. Pr.2014-Aut.2013	The (NATIONALITY) PARLIAMENT	Diff. Pr.2014-Aut.2013	The (NATIONALITY) Government	Diff. Pr.2014-Aut.2013	Political parties	Diff. Pr.2014-Aut.2013
EU28	44%	=	40%	-2	28%	+3	27%	+4	17%	+3
BE	57%	-8	50%	-5	44%	-4	43%	-5	29%	+3
BG	28%	-5	40%	-9	14%	=	18%	-2	18%	+6
CZ	44%	-3	43%	-7	15%	+3	26%	+10	14%	+3
DK	73%	+2	74%	+3	61%	+3	46%	+6	41%	+8
DE	66%	+1	38%	-1	51%	+7	48%	+10	30%	+9
EE	55%	-2	49%	-7	42%	+7	52%	+14	22%	+6
IE	41%	+6	47%	-1	22%	+4	22%	+5	16%	+5
EL	31%	+8	22%	+2	16%	+4	16%	+6	9%	+5
ES	19%	-3	23%	-7	8%	=	10%	+1	7%	+1
FR	56%	+4	44%	+2	24%	+5	17%	+3	8%	+1
HR	19%	=	36%	-3	14%	+2	11%	-5	7%	-1
IT	18%	+4	28%	+1	14%	+4	17%	+7	6%	-1
CY	48%	+13	29%	+11	17%	-1	26%	=	12%	+5
LV	50%	+2	43%	=	21%	+4	27%	+6	9%	+3
LT	38%	+4	53%	+6	15%	+4	32%	+12	14%	+5
LU	67%	-7	39%	-9	43%	+2	50%	-1	32%	+6
HU	44%	-13	42%	-10	33%	-1	37%	=	21%	-2
MT	49%	-7	50%	-6	49%	-2	52%	+4	36%	+9
NL	61%	+2	60%	+10	54%	+13	50%	+13	41%	+13
AT	58%	-13	47%	-9	35%	-19	33%	-17	23%	-11
PL	34%	-13	42%	-7	20%	+3	22%	+3	12%	-2
PT	37%	-9	42%	+5	14%	-1	14%	-1	9%	-3
RO	39%	+2	50%	+7	16%	+5	24%	+8	16%	+8
SI	35%	+6	31%	-2	6%	=	8%	-2	5%	-1
SK	40%	-4	37%	-15	19%	-9	20%	-9	12%	-4
FI	68%	+3	69%	-4	66%	+8	56%	+6	41%	+9
SE	65%	+4	70%	-1	67%	-3	54%	-3	39%	+5
UK	48%	=	43%	-5	26%	+2	25%	+1	15%	+4
MK	37%	+6	48%	=	36%	+11	39%	+10	28%	+10
IS	75%	+11	83%	+4	52%	+12	38%	+8	27%	+6
ME	26%	+5	38%	+12	30%	-2	34%	+4	15%	-4
RS	20%	+2	32%	+1	36%	+15	47%	+17	15%	+4
TR	42%	+14	20%	=	54%	+16	52%	+16	26%	+6

A clear majority of respondents in all the Member States continue to distrust **political parties**, even if perceptions of them have improved slightly: only 17% of the Europeans polled trust them, i.e. an increase of three percentage points since autumn 2013, compared with 78% who distrust them (-4).

Levels of distrust exceed 80% in thirteen Member States, most notably in Slovenia (93%) and Spain (92%).

More than 40% of respondents trust them in three Member States: the Netherlands, where trust has increased strongly (41%, +13 percentage points), Denmark (41%, +8) and Finland (41%, +9). On the other hand, trust in political parties has deteriorated sharply in Austria (23%, -11).

A narrow minority of Europeans continue to trust **regional and local authorities** (44%, unchanged, versus 48%, -2 percentage points).

Respondents are predominantly positive in 13 Member States (versus 15 in autumn 2013), with levels of trust in excess of 60% in Denmark (73%), Finland (68%), Luxembourg (67%), Germany (66%), Sweden (65%) and the Netherlands (61%). In contrast respondents in Spain (79%), Croatia (75%), Italy (69%) and Greece (68%) are particularly distrustful.

Trust in regional and local authorities has improved the most in Cyprus (48%, +13 percentage points) and Greece (31%, +8), but has fallen sharply in Austria (58%, -13), Hungary (44%, -13) and Poland (34%, -13).

Four out of ten Europeans trust the **United Nations** (40%, -2 percentage points, versus 43%, -1), but the “don’t know” rate is high (17%, +3).

A majority of respondents trust this body in 17 Member States (versus 19 in autumn 2013), most notably in Denmark (74%), Sweden (70%) and Finland (69%).

Distrust prevails in ten Member States, most notably in Greece (75%), Spain (68%) and Cyprus (61%).

The most significant changes since autumn 2013 include a sharp increase in trust in the United Nations in Cyprus (29%, +11) and the Netherlands (60%, +10) and a sharp decrease in Slovakia (37%, -15) and Hungary (42%, -10).

In the candidate countries, a clear majority of respondents in Iceland trust the UN (83%, +4 percentage points since autumn 2013). Less respondents in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia also trust this body (48%, unchanged, versus 38% who “tend not to trust it”, +2). However, a majority of respondents tend not to trust it in three countries: Turkey (59%, -11), Serbia (49%, -4) and Montenegro (41%, -17), despite a spectacular decrease in distrust.

In general, a **socio-demographic analysis** shows that the youngest Europeans and those in the most privileged categories (especially in terms of education and position on the social ladder) are those that trust most of the six items tested the most:

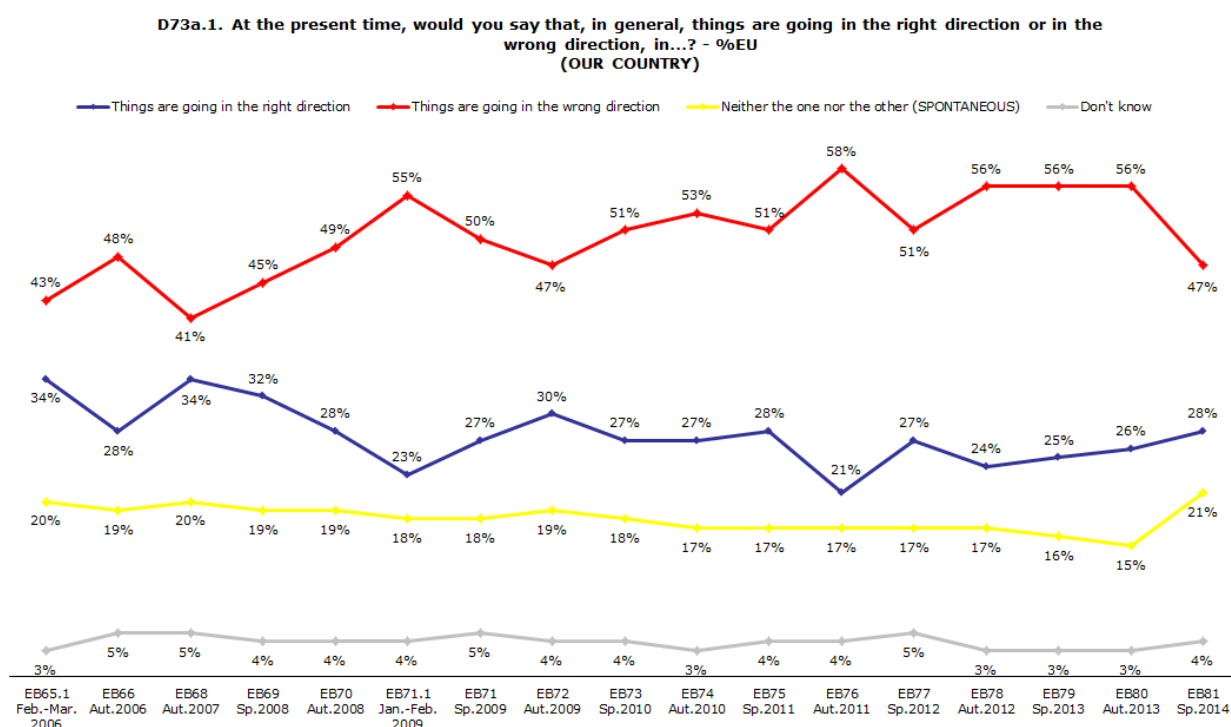
- Thus, 15-24 year-olds (42%, versus 28% of those aged 40 or over), those who studied up to the age of 20 or beyond (37%, versus 21% of those who left school at the age of 15 or earlier), students (46%, versus 26% of manual workers and 23% of unemployed people) and the Europeans who position themselves at the top of the social ladder (39%, versus 23% of those at the bottom of the social scale) trust the **European Union** more than Europeans on average;
- Similarly, Europeans who studied up to the age of 20 or beyond (32% and 35% respectively), managers (36% and 40%) and students (32% and 34%) and those who almost never struggle to pay their bills (33% and 35%) tend more to trust their **national government** and **national parliament**. However, we note that people aged 50 or over who tend more to trust both institutions (30% in both cases);
- Trust in **political parties** is higher among 15-24 year-olds and those aged 55 or over (19%, versus 15% among 25-54 year-olds), but also among Europeans who studied up to the age of 20 or beyond (20%, versus 15% of those who left school at the age of 15 or earlier), students (23%) and managers (22%, versus 14% of manual workers and 8% of unemployed people) and among those who almost never have difficulties paying their bills (21%, versus 7% of those who struggle to pay their bills most of the time);
- Europeans aged 15 to 24 also tend more to trust **regional and local authorities** (48%, versus 42% of 25-39 year-olds), as do Europeans who studied up to the age of 20 or beyond (50%, versus 37% of those who left school at the age of 15 or earlier), managers (55%) and students (50%, versus 37% of house persons and 29% of unemployed people) and those who almost never have difficulties paying their bills (52%, versus 25% of those who struggle to pay their bills most of the time);
- Men trust the **United Nations** (43%, versus 37% of women) and the same is true for Europeans aged 15 to 24 (46%, versus 38% of those aged 55 or over), those who studied up to the age of 20 or beyond (49%, versus 26% of those who left school at the age of 15 or earlier), students (51%) and managers (50%, versus 38% of manual workers and 29% of unemployed people) and Europeans who position themselves at the top of the social ladder (60%, versus 32% of those who see themselves as working class).

4.3. The direction in which things are going

- Europeans are less critical about the direction in which things are going in their country and in the European Union -

Although only a minority of Europeans have the impression that **things are going in the right direction in their country**, this idea continues to gain ground²⁵: it is shared by 28% of respondents, i.e. an increase of two percentage points versus the Standard Eurobarometer survey of autumn 2013 and +4 versus that of autumn 2012 (EB78). A majority of respondents continue to think that things are “going in the wrong direction” (47%), despite a decrease of nine percentage points since autumn 2013 and a level not seen since the Standard Eurobarometer survey of autumn 2009 (EB72).

The proportion of Europeans who answered spontaneously “neither the one nor the other” has also increased strongly and is now at its highest level since the Special Eurobarometer survey of February-March 2006²⁶ (21%, +6 percentage points).

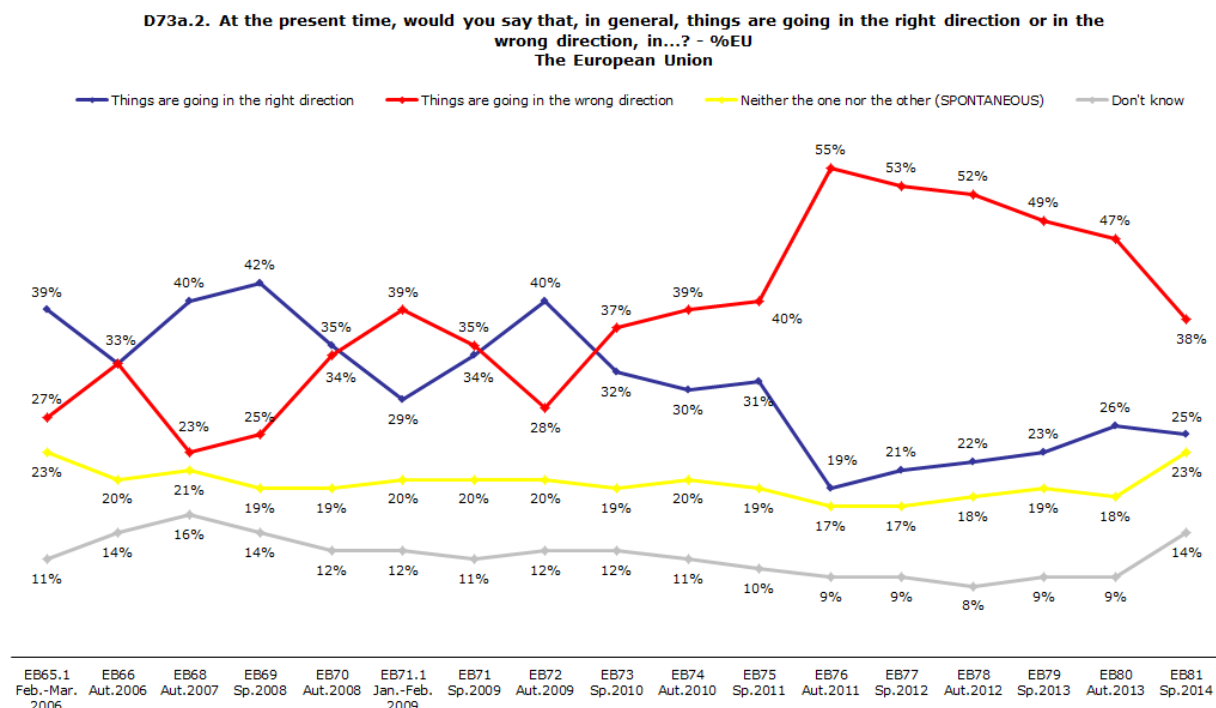


²⁵ D73a.1: At the present time, would you say that, in general, things are going in the right direction or in the wrong direction...? In (OUR COUNTRY)

²⁶ Special Eurobarometer 251: *The future of Europe*

http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/archives/ebs/ebs_251_en.pdf

Respondents are also less critical with regard to the **European Union**²⁷: although a majority of them still believe that things are going in the wrong direction, this scepticism is far less prevalent (38%, -9 percentage points), confirming the gradual decrease observed since the Standard Eurobarometer survey of autumn 2011 (-17 percentage points in total over the period, from 55% to 38%). A quarter of Europeans think that things are going in the right direction in the EU, i.e. generally unchanged since autumn 2013 (25%, -1). The proportion of respondents who answered spontaneously “neither the one nor the other” (23%, +5) and the “don’t know” rate (14%, +5) have also increased.



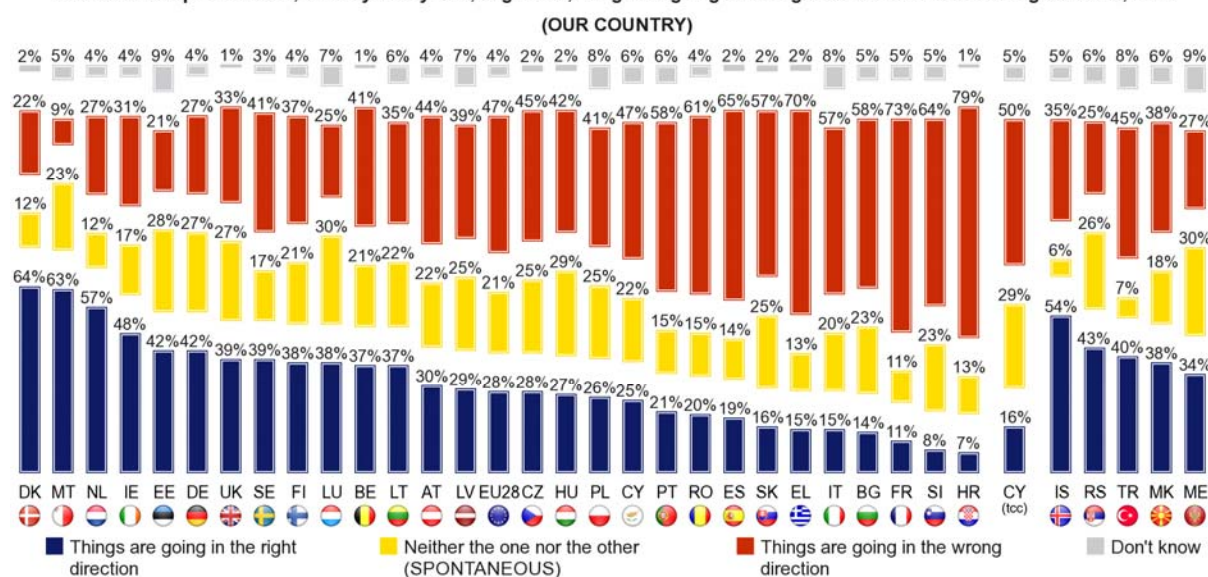
Euro area respondents are slightly more critical about the direction in which things are going in their country (50% think that things are going in the wrong direction, versus 26% who think that things are on the right track) than non-euro area respondents (42% versus 31%). **But the difference is even more striking when it comes to opinions on the direction taken by the European Union** (43% of negative opinions versus 23% in the euro area countries, compared with 30% versus 29% in the non-euro area countries).

Opinions on the direction in which things are going at national level vary considerably between Member States. An absolute majority of respondents in three Member States consider that things are going in the right direction, sometimes with sharp improvements since autumn 2013: Denmark (64%, +8 percentage points), Malta (63%, +5) and the Netherlands (57%, +13). In total, a majority of respondents share this impression in 10 Member States.

²⁷ D73a.2: At the present time, would you say that, in general, things are going in the right direction or in the wrong direction...? In the European Union

Moreover, the impression that things are going in the right direction at national level has increased strongly in Lithuania (37%, +13), Cyprus (25%, +12) and Estonia (42%, +11).

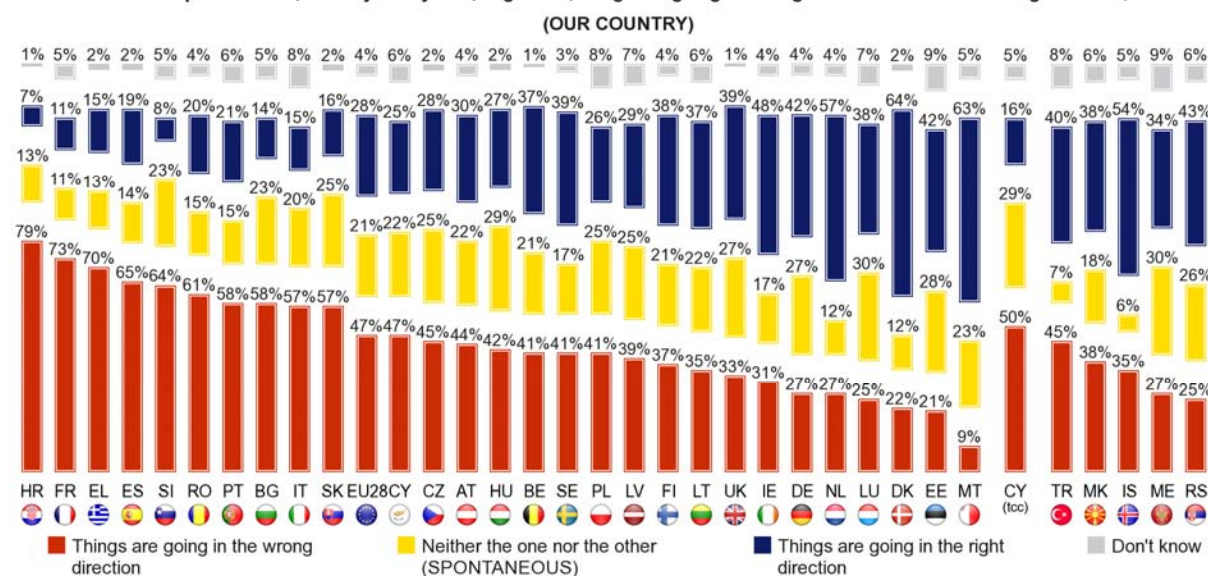
D73a.1. At the present time, would you say that, in general, things are going in the right direction or in the wrong direction, in...?



"Things are going in the right direction" sort

On the other hand, as many as 70% or more of respondents in three Member States think that things are going in the wrong direction: in Greece, despite a sharp decrease (70%, -11), France (73%, -5) and Croatia where this impression has even gained ground since autumn 2013 (79%, +9). We also note that the increasingly sceptical attitude of respondents in Austria on many subjects extends to this question since the proportion of respondents there who think that things are going in the wrong direction at national level has increased strongly (44%, +15).

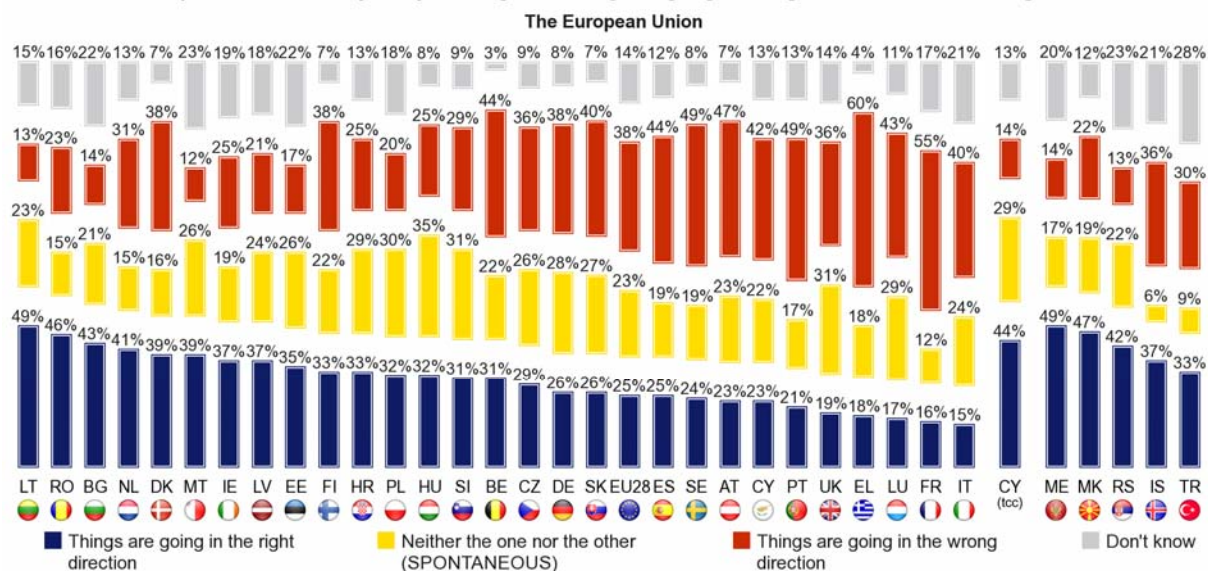
D73a.1. At the present time, would you say that, in general, things are going in the right direction or in the wrong direction, in...?



"Things are going in the wrong direction" sort

The differences between Member States are slightly less pronounced for the assessment of the **direction taken by the European Union**: the impression that things are going in the right direction varies between 15% and 49%. Positive opinions exceed 40% in four Member States: Lithuania (49%), Romania (46%), Bulgaria (43%) and the Netherlands (41%). In total, they outweigh negative opinions in 13 Member States.

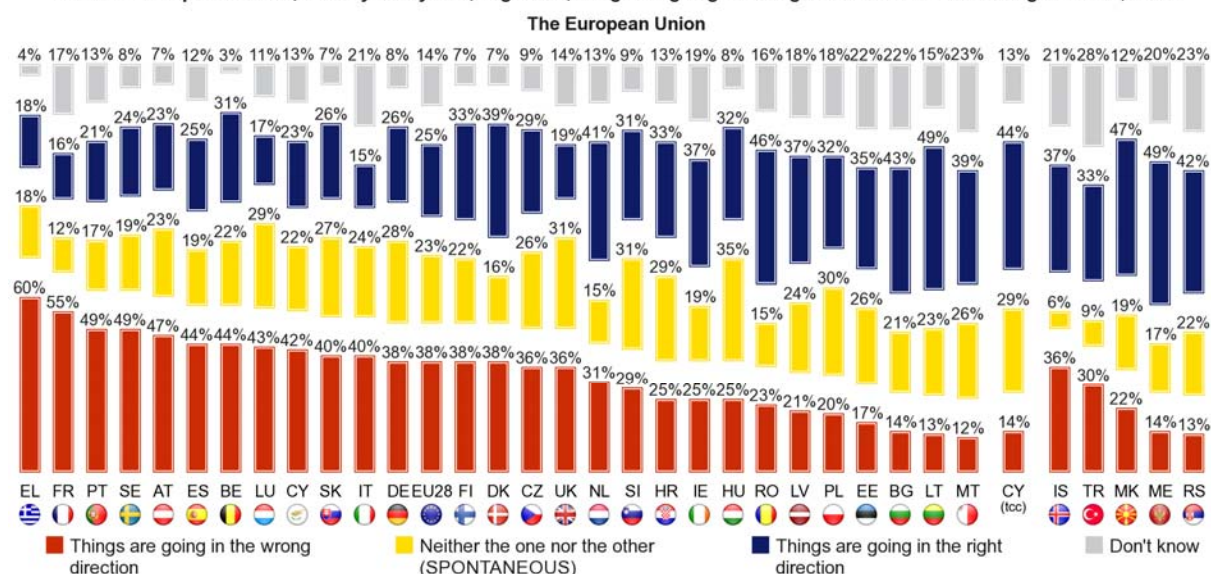
D73a.2. At the present time, would you say that, in general, things are going in the right direction or in the wrong direction, in...?



"Things are going in the right direction" sort

The proportion of respondents who have the impression that things are going in the wrong direction in the European Union is still considerably above the European average despite a decrease in Greece, (60%, -12 percentage points) and France (55%, -8). Moreover, this proportion has increased slightly in Austria (47%, +4). However, the general trend is downwards, with spectacular decreases in some cases, for example in Cyprus (42%, -18), the United Kingdom (36%, -15), Italy (40%, -15), the Netherlands (31%, -14) and Croatia (25% -13).

D73a.2. At the present time, would you say that, in general, things are going in the right direction or in the wrong direction, in...?






































"Things are going in the wrong direction" sort

In the candidate countries, respondents consider more than Europeans on average that their country and the European Union are going in the right direction:

- A majority of respondents in Iceland (54% “right direction” answer, versus 35% “wrong direction”» answer), Serbia (43% versus 25%) and Montenegro (34% versus 27%) consider that things are going in the right direction in their country. Respondents in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia are equally divided (38% versus 38%) on this question, but respondents in Turkey are predominantly pessimistic (40% versus 45%);
- On the other hand, as regards the direction taken by the European Union, optimism outweighs pessimism in the five candidate countries, significantly in Montenegro (49% versus 14%), the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (47% versus 22%) and Serbia (42% versus 13%), but by a far narrower margin in Iceland (37% versus 36%) and Turkey (33% versus 30%).

D73a. At the present time, would you say that, in general, things are going in the right direction or in the wrong direction, in...?

	(OUR COUNTRY)						The European Union					
	Things are going in the right direction	Diff. Sp.2014-Aut.2013	Things are going in the wrong direction	Diff. Sp.2014-Aut.2013	Neither the one nor the other (SP.)	Diff. Sp.2014-Aut.2013	Things are going in the right direction	Diff. Sp.2014-Aut.2013	Things are going in the wrong direction	Diff. Sp.2014-Aut.2013	Neither the one nor the other (SP.)	Diff. Sp.2014-Aut.2013
 EU28	28%	+2	47%	-9	21%	+6	25%	-1	38%	-9	23%	+5
 BE	37%	-3	41%	-1	21%	+3	31%	-3	44%	-3	22%	+4
 BG	14%	-3	58%	+3	23%	-1	43%	-3	14%	+1	21%	-1
 CZ	28%	+6	45%	-16	25%	+9	29%	-1	36%	-11	26%	+8
 DK	64%	+8	22%	-8	12%	=	39%	+2	38%	-7	16%	+4
 DE	42%	+2	27%	-3	27%	+2	26%	+1	38%	-5	28%	+3
 EE	42%	+11	21%	-13	28%	-3	35%	=	17%	-1	26%	-10
 IE	48%	+6	31%	-4	17%	-1	37%	-4	25%	-7	19%	+3
 EL	15%	+6	70%	-11	13%	+5	18%	+6	60%	-12	18%	+4
 ES	19%	+5	65%	-6	14%	+2	25%	+1	44%	-6	19%	+2
 FR	11%	+1	73%	-5	11%	+3	16%	+2	55%	-8	12%	+1
 HR	7%	-9	79%	+9	13%	=	33%	-4	25%	-13	29%	+11
 IT	15%	+4	57%	-10	20%	+1	15%	+1	40%	-15	24%	+1
 CY	25%	+12	47%	-17	22%	+4	23%	+12	42%	-18	22%	+4
 LV	29%	+4	39%	=	25%	-7	37%	-1	21%	+1	24%	-5
 LT	37%	+13	35%	-15	22%	+3	49%	+4	13%	-6	23%	+3
 LU	38%	-8	25%	-2	30%	+11	17%	-8	43%	-8	29%	+12
 HU	27%	-3	42%	-4	29%	+6	32%	=	25%	-6	35%	+3
 MT	63%	+5	9%	+1	23%	-6	39%	+4	12%	-8	26%	-6
 NL	57%	+13	27%	-14	12%	=	41%	+4	31%	-14	15%	+4
 AT	30%	-11	44%	+15	22%	-6	23%	-4	47%	+4	23%	-3
 PL	26%	-1	41%	-20	25%	+15	32%	-11	20%	-10	30%	+13
 PT	21%	+5	58%	-5	15%	-2	21%	+4	49%	-3	17%	-5
 RO	20%	+5	61%	-8	15%	+3	46%	+8	23%	-5	15%	-6
 SI	8%	+1	64%	-10	23%	+7	31%	+3	29%	-9	31%	+4
 SK	16%	-7	57%	+1	25%	+6	26%	-9	40%	-4	27%	+9
 FI	38%	-3	37%	-7	21%	+7	33%	-1	38%	-12	22%	+8
 SE	39%	-4	41%	-4	17%	+7	24%	-6	49%	-6	19%	+9
 UK	39%	=	33%	-15	27%	+18	19%	-5	36%	-15	31%	+21
 CY (tcc)*	16%	+3	50%	-9	29%	+4	44%	+4	14%	-2	29%	+3
 MK	38%	+8	38%	-6	18%	-4	47%	+1	22%	=	19%	-2
 IS	54%	+7	35%	-8	6%	-1	37%	-1	36%	+1	6%	-4
 ME	34%	+13	27%	-14	30%	-5	49%	+11	14%	-9	17%	-13
 RS	43%	+18	25%	-14	26%	-2	42%	+10	13%	-12	22%	-4
 TR	40%	+2	45%	-10	7%	+4	33%	-1	30%	-17	9%	+3

* In CY(tcc), "(OUR COUNTRY)" was replaced by "Our Community"

A socio-demographic analysis reveals that managers are more positive than Europeans on average about **the direction taken by their country** (37% think that things are going in the right direction, versus 37% who answered in the wrong direction, in the same way as the Europeans who position themselves at the top of the social ladder (39% versus 38%). Europeans who studied up to the age of 20 or beyond are also more positive than Europeans on average, but remain predominantly critical (32% versus 45%). The age of respondents does not seem to have a significant influence on answers.












With regard to the **direction taken by the European Union**, young people are more positive than older respondents (31% versus 33% of 15-24 year-olds, versus 24%/39% of those aged 55 or over). Managers (30% versus 36%), those who position themselves at the top of the social ladder (32% versus 33%) and those who studied the longest (29% versus 38%) are more positive than Europeans on average but remain predominantly critical of the direction taken by the European Union.

D73a. At the present time, would you say that, in general, things are going in the right direction or in the wrong direction, in...?












	(Our Country)				The European Union			
	Things are going in the right direction	Things are going in the wrong direction	Neither the one nor the other (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know	Things are going in the right direction	Things are going in the wrong direction	Neither the one nor the other (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU28	28%	47%	21%	4%	25%	38%	23%	14%
Gender								
Man	31%	47%	19%	3%	28%	39%	22%	11%
Woman	26%	48%	21%	5%	23%	38%	23%	16%
Age								
15-24	29%	45%	21%	5%	31%	33%	22%	14%
25-39	25%	50%	21%	4%	26%	37%	25%	12%
40-54	27%	48%	21%	4%	23%	41%	23%	13%
55 +	30%	46%	20%	4%	24%	39%	22%	15%
Education (End of)								
15-	24%	53%	18%	5%	19%	42%	22%	17%
16-19	27%	48%	21%	4%	23%	39%	24%	14%
20+	32%	45%	20%	3%	29%	38%	22%	11%
Still studying	31%	42%	22%	5%	32%	31%	23%	14%
Socio-professional category								
Self-employed	29%	46%	21%	4%	28%	39%	23%	10%
Managers	37%	37%	23%	3%	30%	36%	24%	10%
Other white collars	30%	45%	21%	4%	25%	37%	26%	12%
Manual workers	23%	51%	22%	4%	22%	40%	24%	14%
House persons	27%	50%	19%	4%	21%	38%	22%	19%
Unemployed	18%	62%	16%	4%	22%	45%	20%	13%
Retired	30%	46%	19%	5%	24%	39%	22%	15%
Students	31%	42%	22%	5%	32%	31%	23%	14%
Self-positioning on the social staircase								
Low (1-4)	16%	61%	19%	4%	18%	46%	21%	15%
Medium (5-6)	28%	47%	21%	4%	25%	38%	23%	14%
High (7-10)	39%	38%	20%	3%	32%	33%	25%	10%

The following tables show the results by socio-demographic criteria in the whole of the European Union (EU28) on average, in the six largest EU countries and in four countries which have been particularly badly affected by the economic crisis.

D73a.1 At the present time, would you say that, in general, things are going in the right direction or in the wrong direction, in...? (OUR COUNTRY)












Things are going in the right direction											
	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
											
	28%	42%	19%	11%	15%	26%	39%	15%	21%	48%	25%
Gender											
Male	31%	45%	19%	13%	15%	28%	45%	16%	23%	52%	30%
Female	26%	40%	18%	10%	15%	24%	33%	14%	19%	44%	21%
Age											
15-24	29%	40%	21%	12%	15%	27%	35%	16%	21%	49%	21%
25-39	25%	36%	14%	10%	14%	27%	38%	11%	19%	45%	20%
40-54	27%	43%	17%	9%	18%	22%	36%	12%	26%	49%	27%
55 +	30%	47%	23%	14%	14%	27%	43%	19%	18%	50%	32%
Education (End of)											
15-	24%	40%	17%	9%	15%	11%	38%	13%	20%	39%	19%
16-19	27%	43%	18%	13%	14%	21%	35%	16%	21%	42%	24%
20+	32%	43%	21%	11%	19%	34%	43%	15%	24%	56%	32%
Still studying	31%	44%	20%	13%	16%	29%	44%	15%	20%	59%	23%
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	29%	38%	17%	8%	18%	35%	43%	13%	26%	56%	28%
Managers	37%	47%	29%	9%	28%	32%	46%	7%	24%	52%	38%
Other white collars	30%	49%	15%	10%	19%	30%	43%	14%	27%	57%	19%
Manual workers	23%	34%	16%	10%	15%	17%	27%	14%	19%	45%	21%
House persons	27%	47%	22%	16%	16%	32%	36%	18%	27%	35%	20%
Unemployed	18%	31%	14%	12%	8%	14%	26%	8%	17%	37%	20%
Retired	30%	47%	23%	14%	10%	28%	44%	22%	20%	51%	32%
Students	31%	44%	20%	13%	16%	29%	44%	15%	20%	59%	23%

D73a.1 At the present time, would you say that, in general, things are going in the right direction or in the wrong direction, in...? (OUR COUNTRY)

Things are going in the wrong direction											
	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
											
	47%	27%	65%	73%	57%	41%	33%	70%	58%	31%	47%
Gender											
Male	47%	27%	67%	71%	56%	42%	29%	71%	56%	28%	47%
Female	48%	27%	62%	74%	58%	39%	36%	70%	60%	33%	46%
Age											
15-24	45%	25%	63%	73%	51%	41%	33%	61%	53%	26%	46%
25-39	50%	35%	69%	73%	62%	38%	32%	71%	57%	29%	50%
40-54	48%	26%	68%	77%	51%	41%	34%	75%	53%	32%	49%
55 +	46%	23%	60%	69%	60%	42%	32%	69%	64%	33%	41%
Education (End of)											
15-	53%	26%	67%	81%	61%	57%	39%	76%	61%	44%	46%
16-19	48%	27%	64%	75%	56%	43%	34%	69%	62%	36%	49%
20+	45%	28%	62%	70%	58%	37%	30%	70%	49%	22%	45%
Still studying	42%	20%	63%	66%	50%	35%	27%	62%	56%	12%	48%
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	46%	35%	63%	80%	54%	31%	26%	71%	51%	25%	38%
Managers	37%	22%	54%	69%	52%	28%	27%	69%	45%	21%	33%
Other white collars	45%	21%	66%	79%	54%	35%	29%	66%	44%	26%	43%
Manual workers	51%	32%	64%	75%	54%	52%	37%	73%	63%	34%	53%
House persons	50%	30%	56%	80%	62%	34%	26%	68%	53%	41%	66%
Unemployed	62%	44%	76%	75%	66%	51%	45%	81%	61%	40%	55%
Retired	46%	23%	61%	69%	62%	41%	35%	68%	63%	34%	41%
Students	42%	20%	63%	66%	50%	35%	27%	62%	56%	12%	48%












D73a.2 At the present time, would you say that, in general, things are going in the right direction or in the wrong direction, in...? The European Union

Things are going in the right direction

	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
											
	25%	26%	25%	16%	15%	32%	19%	18%	21%	37%	23%
Gender											
Male	28%	30%	28%	18%	15%	34%	23%	20%	23%	40%	26%
Female	23%	22%	22%	14%	14%	30%	16%	16%	20%	36%	19%
Age											
15-24	31%	24%	33%	24%	20%	37%	30%	25%	28%	36%	25%
25-39	26%	26%	23%	16%	18%	34%	19%	18%	23%	38%	18%
40-54	23%	23%	25%	10%	15%	29%	19%	15%	26%	42%	23%
55 +	24%	28%	24%	17%	12%	30%	15%	18%	15%	34%	26%
Education (End of)											
15-	20%	26%	17%	10%	13%	15%	17%	15%	19%	32%	14%
16-19	23%	24%	24%	15%	11%	30%	17%	19%	23%	36%	21%
20+	29%	29%	34%	17%	25%	38%	20%	18%	25%	41%	28%
Still studying	32%	28%	34%	21%	25%	35%	34%	24%	27%	40%	29%
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	28%	19%	32%	11%	22%	44%	33%	17%	25%	45%	25%
Managers	30%	32%	30%	20%	26%	30%	24%	15%	22%	41%	35%
Other white collars	25%	25%	26%	18%	15%	31%	19%	19%	30%	49%	22%
Manual workers	22%	20%	21%	11%	16%	27%	13%	16%	21%	36%	16%
House persons	21%	21%	19%	16%	10%	42%	10%	16%	22%	31%	22%
Unemployed	22%	26%	23%	13%	9%	29%	15%	16%	21%	25%	16%
Retired	24%	29%	27%	17%	9%	31%	17%	20%	17%	38%	19%
Students	32%	28%	34%	21%	25%	35%	34%	24%	27%	40%	29%

D73a.2 At the present time, would you say that, in general, things are going in the right direction or in the wrong direction, in...? The European Union

Things are going in the wrong direction

	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
											
	38%	38%	44%	55%	40%	20%	36%	60%	49%	25%	42%
Gender											
Male	39%	40%	45%	55%	40%	23%	35%	60%	48%	26%	45%
Female	38%	36%	43%	54%	40%	17%	38%	60%	49%	23%	40%
Age											
15-24	33%	38%	40%	44%	30%	19%	26%	46%	41%	24%	33%
25-39	37%	44%	46%	53%	38%	14%	31%	60%	48%	23%	46%
40-54	41%	41%	48%	61%	38%	21%	37%	66%	45%	24%	47%
55 +	39%	34%	40%	56%	45%	25%	43%	60%	54%	27%	40%
Education (End of)											
15-	42%	33%	44%	61%	48%	26%	42%	63%	50%	30%	47%
16-19	39%	41%	44%	60%	40%	19%	36%	60%	50%	26%	47%
20+	38%	38%	46%	51%	37%	20%	37%	61%	48%	23%	37%
Still studying	31%	34%	42%	44%	25%	20%	18%	49%	42%	17%	35%
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	39%	49%	44%	60%	40%	13%	36%	59%	43%	26%	33%
Managers	36%	34%	50%	48%	34%	15%	35%	59%	46%	24%	28%
Other white collars	37%	34%	49%	52%	34%	22%	36%	59%	42%	20%	36%
Manual workers	40%	43%	46%	58%	37%	22%	37%	62%	49%	26%	57%
House persons	38%	44%	34%	60%	47%	13%	24%	56%	37%	25%	49%
Unemployed	45%	45%	50%	63%	47%	18%	47%	70%	52%	29%	52%
Retired	39%	35%	39%	56%	46%	23%	42%	59%	53%	27%	45%
Students	31%	34%	42%	44%	25%	20%	18%	49%	42%	17%	35%

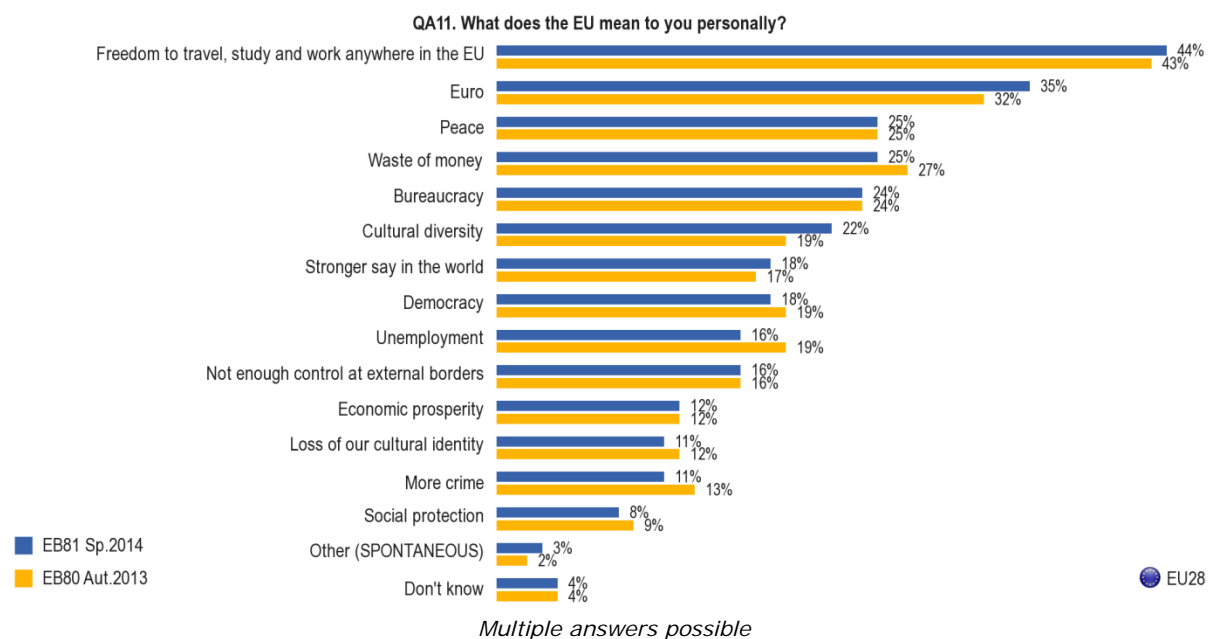
II. THE EUROPEAN UNION AND ITS CITIZENS

5. ATTACHMENT TO THE EUROPEAN UNION

5.1. What does the European Union stand for?

- The freedom to travel, study and work in Europe remains the main representation associated with the European Union -






























The order in which Europeans rank the fundamental representations associated with the EU²⁸ has changed slightly since the Standard Eurobarometer of autumn 2013. With a score of 44% (+1 percentage point since autumn 2013), “the freedom to travel, study and work anywhere in the EU” remains the most frequently mentioned representation associated with the EU, ahead of its monetary symbol, the euro (35%, +3). After a fall of two percentage points, “waste of money” (25%) is now ranked in third place, equally with “peace” (25%, unchanged). Next, respondents mentioned “bureaucracy” (24%, =) and “cultural diversity” (22%, +3). The other items were mentioned by fewer than 20% of respondents. In this group, however, it is noteworthy that the percentages of respondents mentioning “unemployment” (16%, -3) and “more criminality” (11%, -2) as representations associated with the EU have increased. In general, all the negative representations have lost ground (“waste of money”; “unemployment”; “the loss of our cultural identity”; “more crime”) or are stable (“bureaucracy”; “not enough control at external borders”).



²⁸ What does the EU mean to you personally?

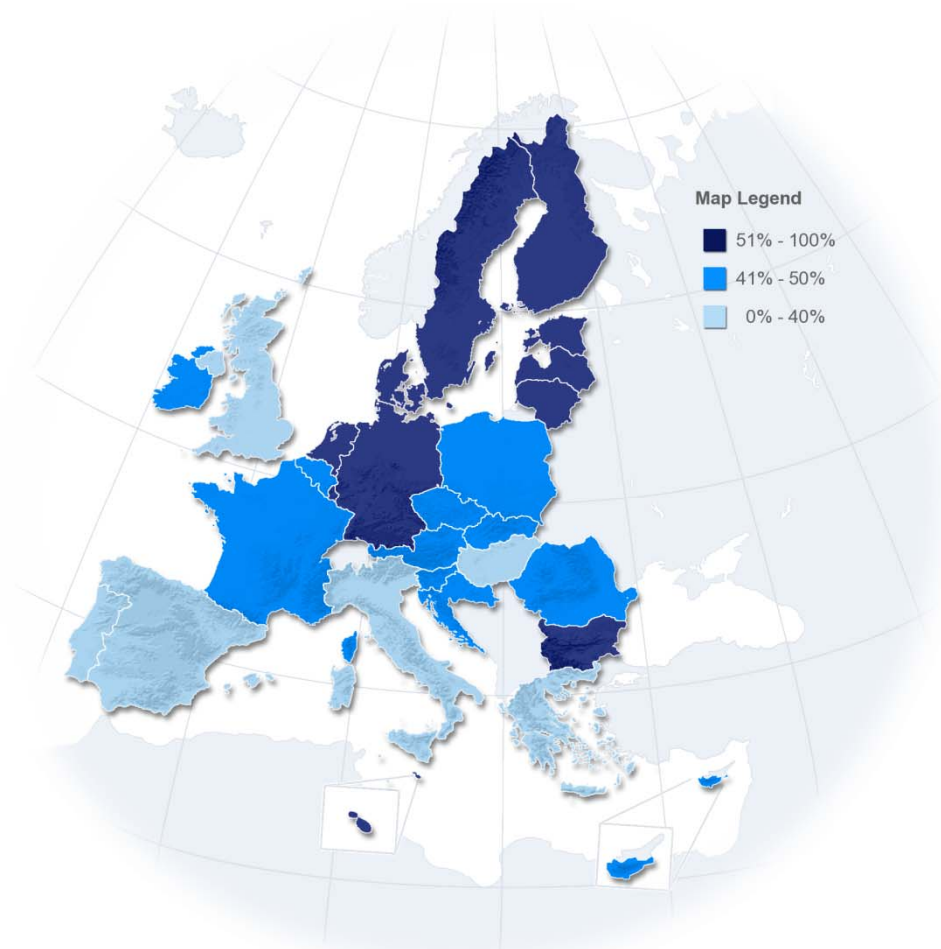
As in the previous Standard Eurobarometer surveys, for more euro area respondents than non-euro area respondents associate the **euro** with the European Union (44%, +3 percentage points, versus 16%, -2): the gap has even widened slightly since autumn 2013.

The freedom to travel, study and work anywhere in the European Union is the main representation associated with the EU in 23 Member States. It is now once again in this survey the leading representation in Cyprus (48%, -4 percentage points, versus 47%, -16, for unemployment) and Portugal (39%, +7, versus 29%, -3, for the euro and 25%, -8, for unemployment), whereas in the Standard Eurobarometer survey of autumn 2013 the main representation associated with the EU in these two countries was unemployment. This representation was mentioned the most frequently in Sweden (67%, unchanged), the Baltic States (66%, +9, in Lithuania; 64%, -7, in Estonia; 59%, -3, in Latvia) and Finland (60%, +4). Since autumn 2013, the proportion of respondents mentioning this representation has increased sharply in Lithuania (66%, +9), Slovenia (48%, +7), Portugal (39%, +7) and the United Kingdom (37%, +7); on the other hand it has fallen in Bulgaria (51%, -7) and Estonia (64%, -7).

 SE	67%
 LT	66%
 EE	64%
 FI	60%
 LV	59%
 NL	56%
 DE	55%
 LU	53%
 DK	51%
 MT	51%
 BG	51%
 AT	50%
 RO	50%
 PL	48%
 HR	48%
 SI	48%
 CY	48%
 SK	47%
 BE	46%
 EU	44%
 IE	43%
 FR	43%
 CZ	41%
 PT	39%
 HU	37%
 UK	37%
 EL	37%
 ES	36%
 IT	29%

Question: QA11. What does the EU mean to you personally?

Answers: Freedom to travel, study and work anywhere in the EU



The euro tops the list in the other five EU countries: Belgium (48%, -3 percentage points), France (44%, +5), Italy (43%, +7), Greece (41%, -5) and Spain (41%, +10). The proportion of respondents mentioning the euro as a symbol of the EU has increased in Spain (41%, +10), Luxembourg (52%, +9), the Netherlands (54%, +8) and Lithuania (21%, +8). However, it has fallen very sharply in Austria (48%, -17), where consequently, freedom and mobility is now the most frequently mentioned representation.

The proportion of respondents in Luxembourg (46%, +7 percentage points), Sweden (44%, =) and Germany (43%, -2) who mentioned **peace** as a representation of the EU is significantly higher than the European average (EU28, 25%, unchanged). Even if the scores recorded have fallen sharply, respondents in Austria (40%, -15) and Germany (38%, -4), as in the previous surveys, mostly associate the EU with **waste of money**. Lastly, **bureaucracy** as a symbol of the EU obtained the highest scores in Sweden (50%, +7) and Germany (39%, -1).

QA11. What does the EU mean to you personally?





	Freedom to travel, study and work anywhere in the EU	Euro	Peace	Waste of money	Bureaucracy	Cultural diversity	Stronger say in the world	Democracy	Unemployment	Not enough control at external borders	Economic prosperity	Loss of our cultural identity	More crime	Social protection	Other (SP.)	Don't know
EU28	44%	35%	25%	25%	24%	22%	18%	18%	16%	16%	12%	11%	11%	8%	3%	4%
BE	46%	48%	29%	30%	20%	23%	22%	23%	23%	26%	13%	11%	21%	14%	1%	1%
BG	51%	10%	19%	10%	10%	19%	12%	20%	5%	5%	20%	8%	3%	13%	2%	6%
CZ	41%	17%	25%	34%	34%	13%	18%	19%	22%	18%	11%	10%	19%	7%	2%	2%
DK	51%	18%	39%	20%	37%	28%	28%	28%	16%	32%	17%	14%	22%	12%	4%	3%
DE	55%	48%	43%	38%	39%	32%	18%	26%	19%	21%	14%	9%	24%	7%	2%	1%
EE	64%	38%	19%	18%	23%	21%	13%	14%	7%	6%	7%	10%	4%	9%	2%	4%
IE	43%	31%	15%	13%	19%	16%	18%	14%	10%	8%	15%	14%	4%	9%	2%	7%
EL	37%	41%	25%	19%	10%	21%	21%	16%	34%	17%	7%	20%	13%	13%	4%	1%
ES	36%	41%	13%	23%	24%	16%	18%	15%	15%	11%	10%	8%	4%	8%	5%	4%
FR	43%	44%	32%	31%	17%	30%	25%	18%	17%	24%	9%	12%	8%	6%	1%	2%
HR	48%	13%	17%	10%	13%	17%	15%	17%	8%	5%	24%	15%	8%	13%	4%	4%
IT	29%	43%	17%	18%	14%	13%	17%	13%	16%	12%	8%	9%	8%	7%	3%	4%
CY	48%	38%	23%	22%	15%	25%	12%	17%	47%	18%	7%	22%	28%	13%	2%	2%
LV	59%	25%	18%	15%	19%	18%	9%	10%	9%	4%	12%	8%	3%	11%	1%	4%
LT	66%	21%	25%	14%	13%	28%	19%	21%	4%	3%	19%	9%	3%	16%	1%	3%
LU	53%	52%	46%	28%	23%	30%	25%	25%	20%	22%	11%	12%	19%	15%	3%	2%
HU	37%	14%	16%	13%	15%	20%	20%	19%	15%	12%	11%	5%	11%	11%	5%	4%
MT	51%	30%	22%	15%	11%	25%	34%	25%	9%	13%	15%	8%	4%	14%	1%	2%
NL	56%	54%	38%	23%	34%	23%	29%	22%	14%	18%	26%	12%	14%	9%	2%	0%
AT	50%	48%	35%	40%	31%	26%	24%	19%	27%	28%	15%	18%	31%	13%	5%	1%
PL	48%	21%	20%	10%	18%	17%	19%	19%	11%	2%	11%	6%	3%	7%	3%	6%
PT	39%	29%	10%	21%	8%	19%	17%	8%	25%	12%	9%	14%	11%	6%	3%	6%
RO	50%	22%	24%	13%	9%	14%	8%	25%	7%	4%	18%	9%	6%	13%	2%	3%
SI	48%	35%	33%	22%	26%	14%	14%	15%	23%	7%	10%	8%	18%	8%	3%	2%
SK	47%	43%	21%	32%	25%	15%	17%	12%	21%	12%	12%	10%	14%	7%	2%	1%
FI	60%	51%	31%	26%	38%	25%	15%	15%	8%	12%	14%	8%	13%	8%	2%	1%
SE	67%	21%	44%	35%	50%	40%	35%	31%	18%	15%	11%	10%	15%	9%	4%	1%
UK	37%	12%	12%	25%	25%	18%	12%	11%	12%	20%	10%	22%	7%	6%	3%	12%

1st MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONNED ITEM
 2nd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONNED ITEM
 3rd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONNED ITEM

A socio-demographic analysis shows that the representation of the EU as an area of freedom, strikes a chord more often with the younger generations (53% of 15-24 year-olds, 56% of students) and upper and middle classes of the European population (49% of those who consider that they are middle class, 54% of those who consider that they are upper class), than with the older generations (37% of those aged 55 or over) and the most disadvantaged and vulnerable groups (36% of manual workers, 31% of those who admit that they struggle to pay their bills most of the time). This trend is also perceptible as regards the other positive representations of the European Union.

In contrast, elderly people, unemployed people and those who struggle to pay their bills most of the time, are generally more attuned to the negative perceptions of the European Union. This is particularly true as regards **waste of money**, mentioned by 29% of the 55-plus age group versus 15% of 15-24 year-olds, by 28% of unemployed people versus 21% of managers and by 30% of those who struggle to pay their bills most of the time versus 25% of those who never or almost never encounter such difficulties.












QA11. What does the EU mean to you personally?

	Peace	Economic prosperity	Democracy	Social protection	Freedom to travel, study and work anywhere in the EU	Cultural diversity	Stronger say in the world	Euro	Unemployment	Bureaucracy	Waste of money	Loss of our cultural identity	More crime	Not enough control at external borders	Other (SP.)	Don't know
EU28	25%	12%	18%	8%	44%	22%	18%	35%	16%	24%	25%	11%	11%	16%	3%	4%
 Gender																
Man	27%	14%	19%	8%	45%	22%	19%	35%	15%	26%	26%	11%	11%	16%	3%	3%
Woman	24%	10%	17%	8%	43%	22%	18%	35%	17%	21%	23%	11%	12%	15%	3%	5%
 Age																
15-24	22%	13%	20%	11%	53%	27%	19%	37%	12%	12%	15%	7%	6%	10%	2%	4%
25-39	21%	14%	18%	8%	48%	25%	20%	38%	14%	20%	22%	10%	9%	13%	3%	3%
40-54	24%	11%	19%	7%	45%	23%	18%	35%	16%	28%	26%	13%	13%	16%	2%	4%
55 +	30%	11%	17%	7%	37%	17%	17%	31%	18%	27%	29%	13%	14%	19%	3%	5%
Generation																
Before 1928	25%	12%	18%	8%	44%	22%	18%	35%	16%	24%	25%	11%	11%	16%	3%	4%
1928 - 1945	31%	9%	17%	6%	33%	14%	15%	31%	18%	25%	28%	11%	15%	21%	3%	7%
Total 'Before 1946'	24%	12%	18%	8%	46%	23%	19%	35%	15%	24%	24%	11%	11%	15%	3%	3%
1946 - 1964 "BB"	28%	11%	18%	8%	41%	21%	19%	31%	17%	29%	30%	15%	13%	18%	2%	3%
1965 - 1980 "X"	23%	13%	18%	7%	46%	23%	19%	37%	15%	26%	25%	11%	12%	15%	3%	4%
After 1980 "Y"	27%	11%	18%	7%	41%	20%	18%	33%	17%	27%	27%	13%	13%	17%	3%	4%
 Education (End of)																
15-	23%	8%	13%	6%	31%	12%	14%	34%	23%	22%	30%	13%	15%	18%	3%	6%
16-19	23%	11%	17%	8%	42%	18%	16%	32%	18%	25%	28%	13%	14%	18%	3%	4%
20+	30%	15%	23%	8%	52%	30%	24%	37%	11%	28%	22%	10%	8%	14%	2%	2%
Still studying	26%	14%	22%	12%	56%	30%	22%	39%	10%	12%	13%	6%	6%	9%	2%	3%
 Socio-professional category																
Self-employed	26%	14%	21%	8%	47%	25%	24%	39%	13%	30%	24%	11%	10%	10%	2%	2%
Managers	29%	16%	24%	9%	58%	33%	24%	38%	8%	33%	21%	11%	8%	14%	2%	1%
Other white collars	25%	13%	21%	9%	47%	25%	20%	38%	14%	27%	23%	12%	10%	15%	3%	2%
Manual workers	22%	12%	14%	7%	42%	20%	18%	33%	17%	22%	27%	12%	12%	18%	3%	4%
House persons	21%	9%	15%	7%	40%	18%	16%	35%	16%	16%	21%	12%	10%	14%	4%	8%
Unemployed	16%	8%	15%	7%	39%	18%	14%	35%	24%	19%	28%	11%	12%	14%	4%	4%
Retired	30%	10%	17%	7%	36%	16%	16%	31%	18%	27%	30%	13%	15%	20%	3%	5%
Students	26%	14%	22%	12%	56%	30%	22%	39%	10%	12%	13%	6%	6%	9%	2%	3%
Image of EU																
Positive	39%	22%	30%	12%	60%	32%	30%	38%	8%	16%	10%	4%	6%	10%	2%	1%
Neutral	22%	8%	15%	7%	42%	19%	16%	37%	15%	23%	24%	10%	12%	16%	3%	5%
Negative	12%	4%	8%	4%	27%	12%	7%	28%	29%	37%	49%	25%	19%	25%	4%	3%

The following tables show the results by socio-demographic criteria in the whole of the European Union (EU28) on average, in the six largest EU countries and in four countries which have been particularly badly affected by the economic crisis.












QA11. What does the EU mean to you personally?

Peace

	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
											
	25%	43%	13%	32%	17%	20%	12%	25%	10%	15%	23%
Gender											
Male	27%	44%	14%	37%	17%	22%	13%	24%	11%	18%	24%
Female	24%	42%	12%	28%	17%	19%	11%	27%	9%	11%	23%
Age											
15-24	22%	37%	11%	24%	17%	19%	8%	26%	10%	17%	20%
25-39	21%	39%	12%	17%	15%	20%	13%	23%	7%	12%	24%
40-54	24%	39%	10%	33%	19%	22%	11%	20%	11%	12%	23%
55 +	30%	48%	17%	45%	17%	20%	13%	30%	10%	18%	25%
Generation											
Before 1928	25%	42%	13%	32%	17%	20%	12%	25%	10%	15%	23%
1928 - 1945	31%	50%	19%	43%	16%	18%	11%	30%	11%	19%	26%
Total 'Before 1946'	24%	41%	12%	30%	17%	21%	12%	24%	10%	14%	23%
1946 - 1964 "BB"	28%	45%	14%	44%	18%	20%	14%	28%	10%	18%	26%
1965 - 1980 "X"	23%	39%	9%	26%	17%	26%	12%	20%	10%	13%	23%
After 1980 "Y"	27%	44%	13%	38%	17%	22%	12%	25%	10%	15%	25%
Education (End of)											
15-	23%	43%	12%	39%	17%	14%	11%	25%	10%	12%	23%
16-19	23%	40%	12%	30%	17%	17%	9%	26%	12%	12%	24%
20+	30%	47%	17%	34%	21%	24%	18%	25%	7%	15%	27%
Still studying	26%	44%	11%	27%	18%	21%	11%	28%	11%	26%	18%
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	26%	38%	17%	32%	21%	18%	17%	26%	4%	23%	24%
Managers	29%	42%	11%	36%	10%	31%	17%	29%	8%	20%	35%
Other white collars	25%	43%	18%	28%	19%	22%	8%	22%	8%	11%	19%
Manual workers	22%	38%	13%	28%	18%	16%	9%	14%	14%	10%	32%
House persons	21%	38%	13%	24%	17%	16%	9%	30%	14%	8%	28%
Unemployed	16%	35%	10%	15%	12%	15%	5%	22%	5%	12%	13%
Retired	30%	49%	14%	45%	16%	22%	13%	30%	11%	16%	23%
Students	26%	44%	11%	27%	18%	21%	11%	28%	11%	26%	18%
Image of EU											
Positive	39%	60%	29%	43%	29%	27%	26%	45%	18%	22%	34%
Neutral	22%	38%	10%	28%	16%	14%	12%	28%	7%	12%	28%
Negative	12%	24%	4%	23%	7%	7%	4%	14%	5%	4%	11%

QA11. What does the EU mean to you personally?

Freedom to travel, study and work anywhere in the EU






	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
											
	44%	55%	36%	43%	29%	48%	37%	37%	39%	43%	48%
Gender											
Male	45%	55%	37%	47%	30%	48%	39%	38%	43%	44%	44%
Female	43%	56%	35%	39%	28%	48%	34%	36%	36%	42%	52%
Age											
15-24	53%	60%	39%	56%	42%	55%	46%	47%	47%	49%	60%
25-39	48%	61%	39%	41%	30%	48%	48%	40%	54%	48%	52%
40-54	45%	59%	36%	43%	28%	47%	39%	37%	43%	44%	46%
55 +	37%	49%	32%	39%	25%	45%	23%	31%	24%	34%	39%
Generation											
Before 1928	44%	56%	36%	43%	29%	48%	37%	37%	39%	43%	48%
1928 - 1945	33%	45%	31%	34%	18%	45%	18%	27%	16%	31%	41%
Total 'Before 1946'	46%	58%	37%	45%	31%	48%	40%	39%	44%	45%	49%
1946 - 1964 "BB"	41%	53%	34%	41%	29%	48%	29%	36%	35%	38%	37%
1965 - 1980 "X"	46%	60%	38%	43%	30%	45%	42%	38%	45%	46%	51%
After 1980 "Y"	41%	53%	35%	40%	27%	46%	30%	34%	34%	40%	43%
Education (End of)											
15-	31%	45%	30%	33%	24%	32%	19%	23%	31%	26%	38%
16-19	42%	55%	36%	38%	30%	44%	29%	34%	46%	39%	47%
20+	52%	62%	41%	46%	35%	53%	54%	44%	50%	54%	51%
Still studying	56%	62%	43%	56%	42%	62%	53%	55%	49%	48%	60%
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	47%	60%	41%	49%	34%	48%	38%	37%	49%	51%	53%
Managers	58%	63%	39%	57%	37%	61%	53%	54%	64%	54%	58%
Other white collars	47%	60%	43%	43%	30%	44%	35%	42%	48%	62%	39%
Manual workers	42%	58%	32%	35%	30%	38%	35%	36%	39%	42%	55%
House persons	40%	55%	36%	30%	25%	57%	40%	32%	40%	34%	51%
Unemployed	39%	42%	38%	47%	24%	47%	25%	35%	38%	35%	40%
Retired	36%	48%	29%	39%	22%	46%	23%	28%	25%	31%	40%
Students	56%	62%	43%	56%	42%	62%	53%	55%	49%	48%	60%
Image of EU											
Positive	60%	67%	49%	58%	48%	57%	63%	61%	55%	58%	68%
Neutral	42%	55%	37%	35%	26%	44%	36%	42%	40%	38%	48%
Negative	27%	38%	22%	32%	14%	30%	23%	21%	24%	24%	37%

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

- Support for EU membership has increased in the candidate countries -

Support for EU membership has increased in all the candidate countries. The balance of opinion has even been reversed, for the first time ever in a Standard Eurobarometer survey, in Iceland, where positive opinions now outweigh negative opinions. Positive opinions are stable in Turkey, but the overall balance of opinion has benefited from a decrease in the number of negative opinions²⁹.






QA7. Generally speaking, do you think that (OUR COUNTRY)'s membership of the EU would be...?

	A good thing		A bad thing		Neither good nor bad	
	EB81 Sp. 2014	Diff. Sp. 2014-Aut.2013	EB81 Sp. 2014	Diff. Sp. 2014-Aut.2013	EB81 Sp. 2014	Diff. Sp. 2014-Aut.2013
CY (tcc)*	59%	+4	8%	-3	27%	+2
 MK	51%	+1	18%	=	30%	+2
 IS	36%	+3	29%	-4	27%	-2
 ME	51%	+7	17%	=	31%	-2
 RS	40%	+4	19%	-6	38%	+6
 TR	38%	=	33%	-4	27%	+10

*CY(tcc) : Generally speaking, do you think that for the Turkish Cypriot Community the full application of EU legislation would be...?

The idea that their country would benefit from joining the EU has accelerated in the five candidate countries and this explains the strengthening of pro-European opinions noted in this survey. Here again, for the first time since the question was asked, the balance of opinion has reversed favourably in Iceland, where a relative majority of respondents now consider that EU membership would be beneficial.³⁰

QA8. Taking everything into account, would you say that (OUR COUNTRY) would benefit or not from being a member of the EU?

	Would benefit		Would not benefit		Don't know	
	EB81 Sp. 2014	Diff. Sp. 2014-Aut.2013	EB81 Sp. 2014	Diff. Sp. 2014-Aut.2013	EB81 Sp. 2014	Diff. Sp. 2014-Aut.2013
CY (tcc)*	71%	+5	12%	-4	17%	-1
 MK	66%	+6	29%	=	5%	-6
 IS	46%	+6	42%	-6	12%	=
 ME	65%	+11	30%	=	5%	-11
 RS	57%	+15	32%	-2	11%	-13
 TR	50%	+7	45%	=	5%	-7

*CY(tcc): Taking everything into consideration, would you say that the Turkish Cypriot Community would be benefit or not from the full application of the EU legislation ?

A very large majority of respondents in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia continue to support EU membership: 51% of respondents (+1 percentage point since autumn 2013) consider that their country's membership of the EU would be a good thing, while 18% (unchanged) see it as a "bad thing" and 30% (+2) think that it would be "neither good nor bad".

Two-thirds of respondents in this country (66%, +6) are convinced that their country would benefit from joining the European Union.

²⁹ QA7a. Generally speaking, do you think that (OUR COUNTRY)'s membership of the EU would be a good thing, a bad thing, neither good nor bad?

³⁰ QA8a. Taking everything into consideration, would you say that (OUR COUNTRY) would benefit or not from being a member of the EU?

Support for EU membership has increased significantly in Montenegro and once again represents an absolute majority of respondents there: 51% (+7 percentage points) are in favour of their country joining the EU, while 17% (unchanged) are against the idea and 31% (-2) have a neutral opinion. The view that EU membership would be beneficial for Montenegro has strengthened significantly and is now shared by almost two-thirds of respondents there (65%, +11).

Support for EU membership has gained ground in Serbia (40%, +4 percentage points) while opposition to the idea has decreased sharply (19%, -6), with neutral opinions at 38% (+6). The upward trend in positive opinions is also clearly perceptible as regards the expected benefits: 57% (+15) consider that Serbia would benefit from EU membership, while 32% (-2) take the opposite view and 11% (-13) did not express an opinion. This is the first time in the Standard Eurobarometer surveys that the perceived benefits of EU membership have convinced an absolute majority of respondents in Serbia.

The balance of opinion on EU membership has improved slightly in Turkey, as a result of a decrease in negative opinions. The proportion of respondents in Turkey who think that their country's membership of the European Union would be a good thing is stable (38%) versus autumn 2013, while the proportion of negative opinions (answer "a bad thing") has decreased by four percentage points to 33%. The proportion of neutral opinions has increased very strongly (27%, +10). The idea that EU membership would be beneficial for Turkey has gained significant ground (+7) and is now supported by 50% of respondents, while 45% (unchanged) take the opposite view and are convinced that Turkey would not benefit from EU membership. Therefore, the balance of opinion on this indicator of the perceived benefits of EU membership is now positive again in Turkey.

Lastly and for the first time in the Standard Eurobarometer surveys, respondents in Iceland are predominantly in favour of European Union membership: 36% of respondents (+3 percentage points) support EU membership, while 29% (-4) are against it and 27% have a neutral opinion (-2). In one year, since the Standard Eurobarometer survey of spring 2013 (EB79), the proportion of opponents has fallen by 13 percentage points. The balance of opinion has also been reversed on the perceived benefits: 46% (+6) of the respondents consider that Iceland would benefit from European Union membership, while 42% (-6) take the opposite view. The perception that Iceland would not benefit from European Union membership has lost 15 percentage points in one year.

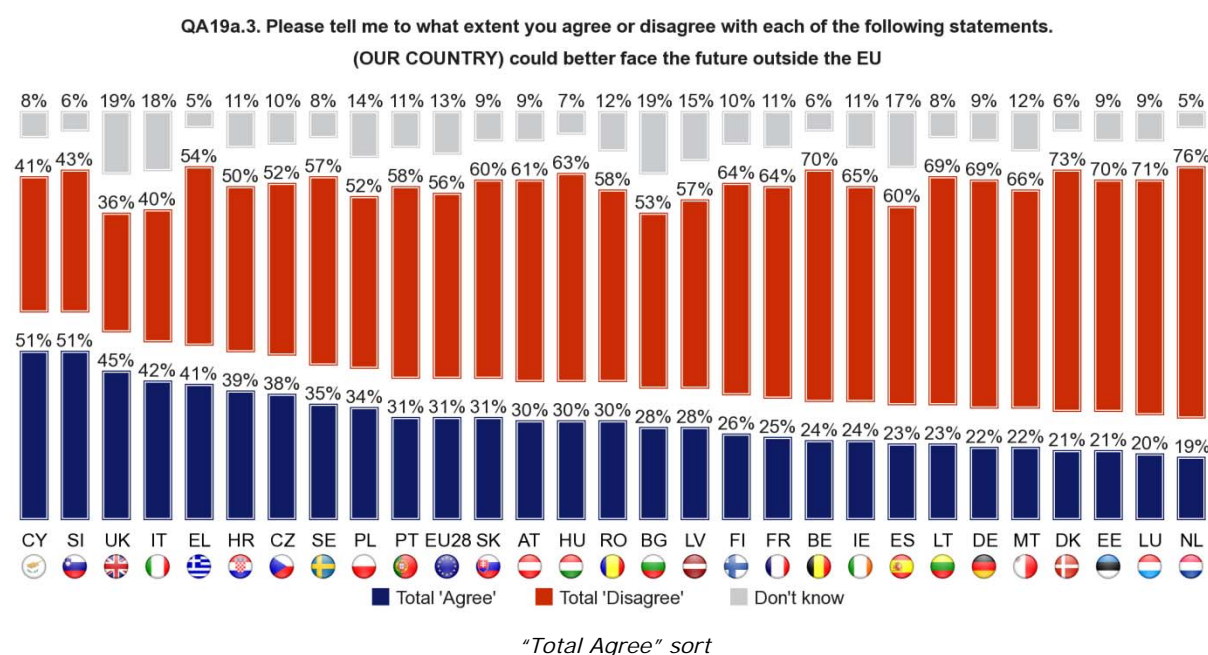
5.3. Would it be easier to face the future outside the EU?

- An absolute majority of Europeans consider that it is preferable to remain a member of the European Union to face the future -

As in the previous Standard Eurobarometer surveys, **Europeans continue to have little doubt that their country needs to stay in the EU to face the future**: 56% (unchanged since autumn 2013) disagree with the idea that “their country could better face the future outside the EU”, while 31% (-2 percentage points) agree with the statement and 13% (+2) did not express an opinion³¹.

The need for union to face the future is more widely shared in the euro area countries (60% versus 28%) than in the non-euro area countries (49% versus 37%).

In this survey, a majority of respondents in **Italy** (42%, +9 percentage points, versus 40%, -10) and **Slovenia** (51%, +9) now agree with the idea that their country could better face the future outside the EU. This view also continues to be supported by a majority of respondents in **Cyprus** (51%, -5) and the **United Kingdom** (45%, -5, versus 36%, -1).

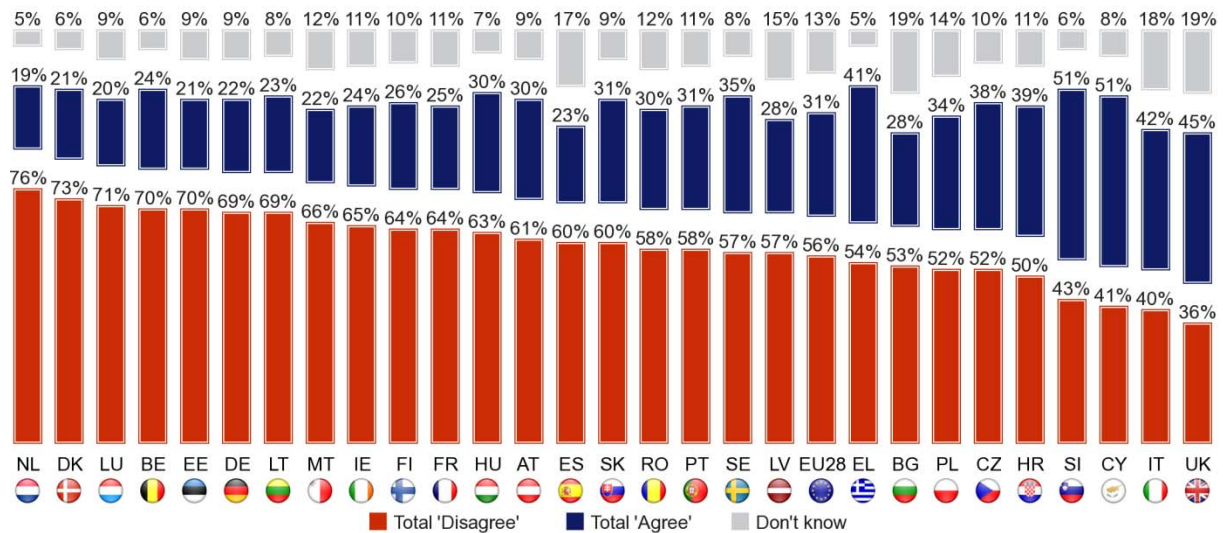


³¹ QA19a3. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. (OUR COUNTRY) could better face the future outside the EU.

An absolute majority of respondents in the 24 other Member States agree with the need to be part of the EU, with the highest scores being recorded in the Netherlands (76%, +1 percentage point), Denmark (73%, -1), Luxembourg (71%, -7), Estonia (70%, -5) and Belgium (70%, +1). Compared with autumn 2013, the view that the future would be more difficult outside the EU has gained significant ground in Austria (61%, +13) but has fallen very sharply in Bulgaria (53%, -14).

QA19a.3. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

(OUR COUNTRY) could better face the future outside the EU



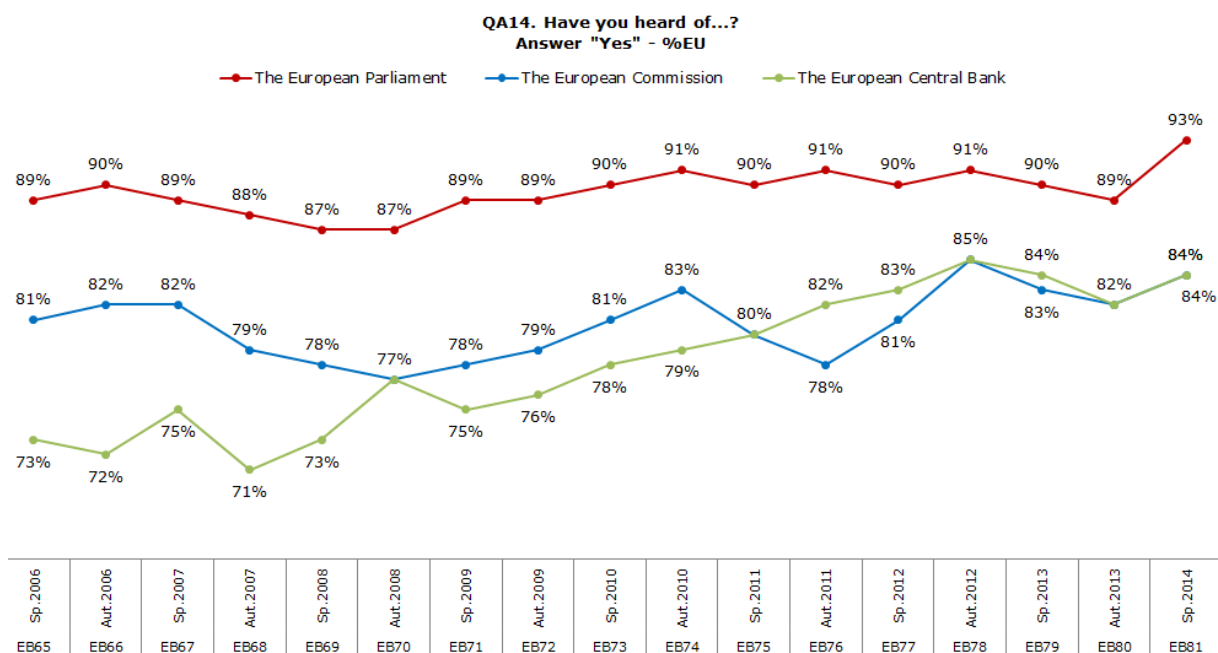
"Total Disagree" sort

6. THE EUROPEAN INSTITUTIONS

6.1. Awareness of the European institutions and trust in them

Awareness of the European institutions³²

The proportion of respondents having heard of the European Parliament has increased by four percentage points since autumn 2013 and now stands at a record high of 93%. Levels of awareness of the European Commission and the European Central Bank have also both increased (84% and +2 for both institutions)³³.



³² It should be borne in mind that the survey was conducted just after the European elections of May 2014.

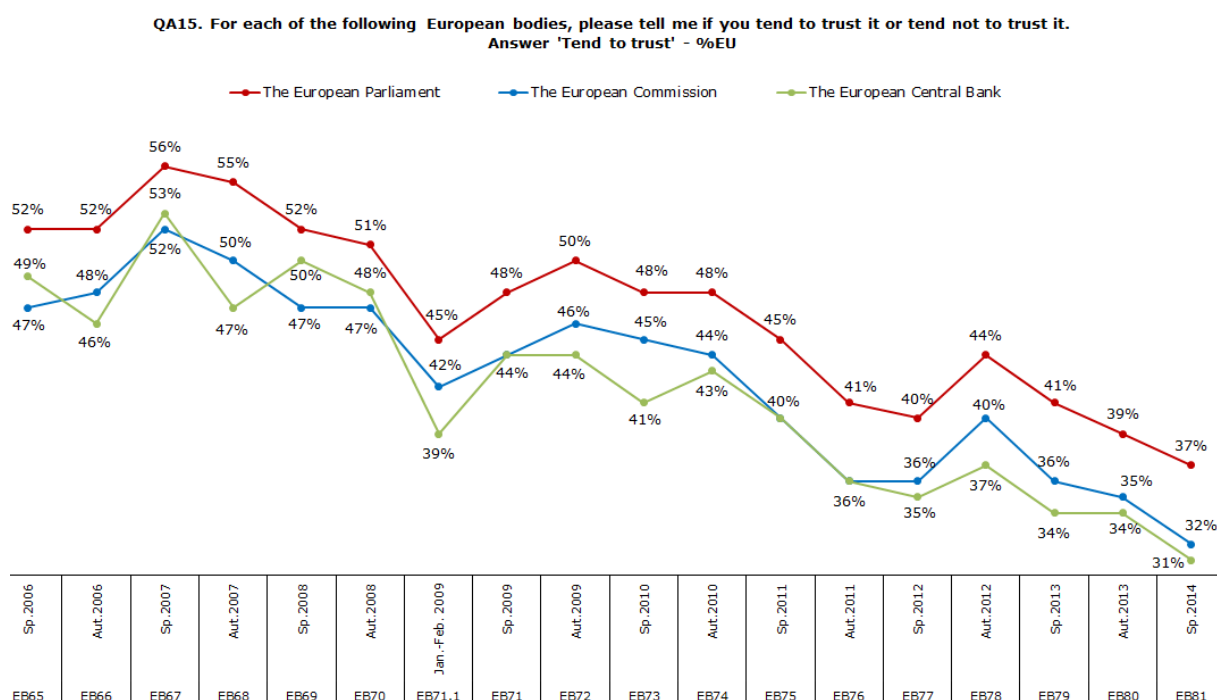
³³ QA14.1+2+3. For each of the following European bodies, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it. The European Parliament; The European Commission; The European Central Bank

Trust in the European institutions

- The unpopularity of the European institutions has reached record highs -

This increased awareness is not matched by gains in popularity and trust in the European institutions has deteriorated further in this survey: since the Standard Eurobarometer survey of autumn 2010 (EB74) and with the sole exception of the autumn 2012 (EB78) survey when a rebound was observed, all the Standard Eurobarometer surveys have recorded a decline in trust in the European institutions surveyed in the Standard Eurobarometer. That trend has continued in this survey: the levels of unpopularity of the European Parliament, the European Commission and the European Central Bank are the highest ever measured in these surveys.

For the first time, less than a third of Europeans trust the European Commission and the European Central Bank³⁴.
































In general, a **country analysis** shows that the deterioration in trust in the European institutions has accelerated, in particular in the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Estonia and Poland.






























³⁴ QA14.1+2+3. For each of the following European bodies, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it. The European Parliament; The European Commission; The European Central Bank.

QA15. And please tell me if you tend to trust or tend not to trust these European institutions.






























The European Parliament

		Tend to trust	Diff. Sp.2014 - Aut.2013	Tend not to trust	Diff. Sp.2014 - Aut.2013	Don't know	Diff. Sp.2014 - Aut.2013
	EU28	37%	39%	48%	48%	15%	13%
	BE	52%	59%	39%	38%	9%	3%
	BG	51%	55%	33%	26%	16%	19%
	CZ	34%	45%	56%	47%	10%	8%
	DK	58%	60%	32%	31%	10%	9%
	DE	42%	41%	42%	44%	16%	15%
	EE	49%	57%	26%	27%	25%	16%
	IE	39%	42%	44%	42%	17%	16%
	EL	33%	28%	64%	68%	3%	4%
	ES	18%	23%	72%	67%	10%	10%
	FR	35%	38%	47%	47%	18%	15%
	HR	41%	44%	45%	47%	14%	9%
	IT	33%	36%	48%	50%	19%	14%
	CY	33%	28%	56%	62%	11%	10%
	LV	40%	40%	42%	40%	18%	20%
	LT	58%	53%	24%	30%	18%	17%
	LU	53%	59%	34%	28%	13%	13%
	HU	50%	58%	40%	36%	10%	6%
	MT	56%	54%	22%	26%	22%	20%
	NL	49%	47%	41%	46%	10%	7%
	AT	42%	47%	48%	44%	10%	9%
	PL	42%	51%	35%	32%	23%	17%
	PT	34%	33%	59%	58%	7%	9%
	RO	55%	49%	37%	37%	8%	14%
	SI	35%	37%	56%	56%	9%	7%
	SK	37%	56%	55%	40%	8%	4%
	FI	58%	54%	30%	40%	12%	6%
	SE	53%	56%	35%	37%	12%	7%
	UK	21%	20%	57%	60%	22%	20%

The European Commission

		Tend to trust	Diff. Sp.2014 - Aut.2013	Tend not to trust	Diff. Sp.2014 - Aut.2013	Don't know	Diff. Sp.2014 - Aut.2013
	EU28	32%	35%	46%	47%	22%	18%
	BE	49%	56%	38%	39%	13%	5%
	BG	45%	50%	31%	26%	24%	24%
	CZ	32%	42%	53%	46%	15%	12%
	DK	54%	56%	31%	30%	15%	14%
	DE	35%	34%	43%	43%	22%	23%
	EE	47%	57%	24%	25%	29%	18%
	IE	35%	41%	43%	40%	22%	19%
	EL	24%	20%	70%	75%	6%	5%
	ES	17%	23%	72%	65%	11%	12%
	FR	32%	32%	47%	48%	21%	20%
	HR	39%	43%	43%	47%	18%	10%
	IT	28%	32%	45%	51%	27%	17%
	CY	29%	21%	55%	69%	16%	10%
	LV	38%	39%	40%	38%	22%	23%
	LT	55%	51%	21%	28%	24%	21%
	LU	47%	55%	38%	28%	15%	17%
	HU	47%	50%	40%	40%	13%	10%
	MT	54%	52%	21%	24%	25%	24%
	NL	47%	47%	32%	40%	21%	13%
	AT	36%	42%	50%	48%	14%	10%
	PL	40%	47%	33%	33%	27%	20%
	PT	32%	31%	60%	58%	8%	11%
	RO	51%	47%	37%	36%	12%	17%
	SI	34%	39%	55%	53%	11%	8%
	SK	38%	51%	51%	40%	11%	9%
	FI	56%	53%	30%	38%	14%	9%
	SE	47%	53%	31%	33%	22%	14%
	UK	17%	18%	48%	54%	35%	28%

The European Central Bank

		Tend to trust	Diff. Sp.2014 - Aut.2013	Tend not to trust	Diff. Sp.2014 - Aut.2013	Don't know	Diff. Sp.2014 - Aut.2013
	EU28	31%	34%	48%	49%	21%	17%
	BE	46%	48%	40%	46%	14%	6%
	BG	41%	47%	32%	26%	27%	27%
	CZ	35%	49%	47%	39%	18%	12%
	DK	59%	60%	22%	24%	19%	16%
	DE	38%	37%	49%	51%	13%	12%
	EE	47%	51%	24%	31%	29%	18%
	IE	29%	36%	53%	50%	18%	14%
	EL	19%	16%	76%	80%	5%	4%
	ES	14%	19%	77%	71%	9%	10%
	FR	28%	29%	49%	51%	23%	20%
	HR	32%	38%	46%	50%	22%	12%
	IT	22%	31%	52%	53%	26%	16%
	CY	23%	16%	66%	75%	11%	9%
	LV	37%	39%	37%	36%	26%	25%
	LT	49%	47%	24%	29%	27%	24%
	LU	44%	58%	36%	24%	20%	18%
	HU	36%	41%	47%	46%	17%	13%
	MT	49%	54%	19%	18%	32%	28%
	NL	54%	50%	30%	40%	16%	10%
	AT	42%	47%	47%	42%	11%	11%
	PL	32%	41%	34%	35%	34%	24%
	PT	29%	28%	61%	61%	10%	11%
	RO	45%	41%	38%	38%	17%	21%
	SI	28%	35%	61%	52%	11%	13%
	SK	39%	55%	48%	37%	13%	8%
	FI	60%	64%	27%	30%	13%	6%
	SE	44%	56%	38%	33%	18%	11%
	UK	18%	19%	43%	51%	39%	30%

The European Parliament

Trust in the European Parliament continues to decline: 37% of Europeans (-2 percentage points since the Standard Eurobarometer survey of autumn 2013) trust the European Parliament, while 48% (unchanged) distrust it and 15% (+2) did not express an opinion. The European Parliament's trust index³⁵ has lost two percentage points and now stands at -11, i.e. its lowest ever level.

In this survey, the balance of opinion has deteriorated from evenly balanced to negative or has been reversed unfavourably in four countries. It has moved back into negative territory, albeit narrowly, in Ireland (39% versus 44%, compared with 42% versus 42% in autumn 2013), Latvia (40% versus 42%, compared with 40% versus 40%) and Austria (42% versus 48%, compared with 47% versus 44%). It has deteriorated far more sharply in Slovakia, where trust has lost 19 percentage points (37%) and distrust has gained 15 percentage points (55%).

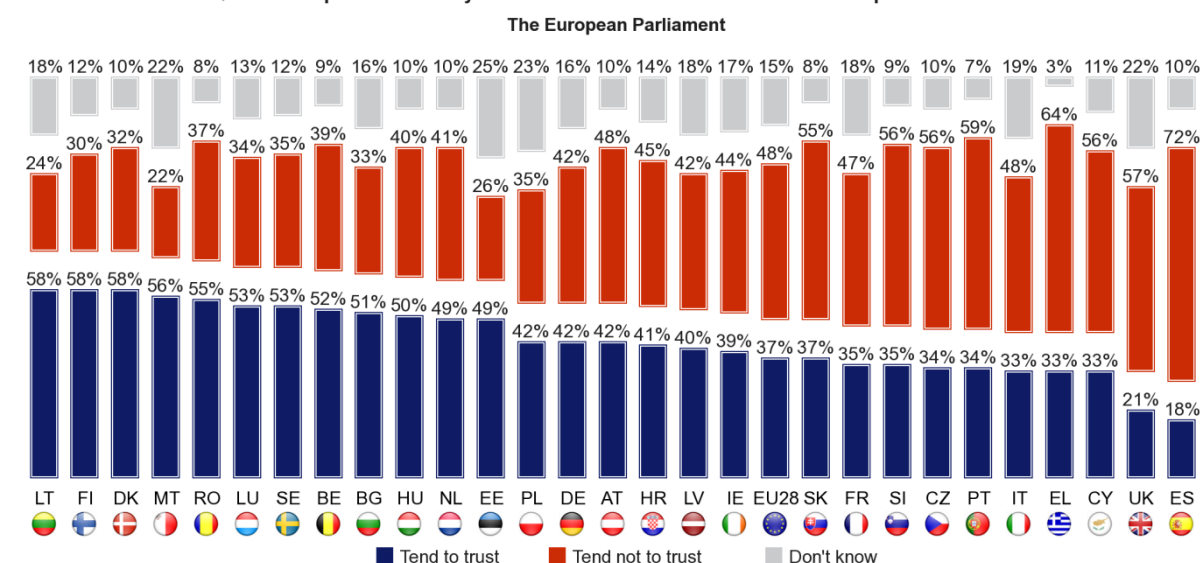
Opinions are evenly balanced again in Germany (42% versus 42%), whereas the balance of opinion was slightly negative (41% versus 44%) in the autumn 2013 survey.

In total, as a result of these changes, distrust now outweighs trust in 14 EU countries (compared with 11 in the Standard Eurobarometer survey of autumn 2013, 9 in the spring 2013 survey and only 4 in the autumn 2012 survey).

In addition to the abovementioned countries, the other countries where respondents are predominantly distrustful are: Spain (72% "tend not to trust it", +5 percentage points), Greece (64%, -4), Portugal (59%, +1), the United Kingdom (57%, -3), Cyprus (56%, -6), Slovenia (56%, =), the Czech Republic (56%, +9), Italy (48%, -2, versus 33%, -3), France (47%, unchanged, versus 35%, -3) and Croatia (45%, -2, versus 41%, -3).

A majority of respondents in 13 Member States now trust the European Parliament, most notably in Lithuania (58%, +5 percentage points), Finland (58%, +4) and Denmark (58%, -2). Within this group, trust in the European Parliament has fallen very sharply in Poland (42%, -9), Hungary (50%, -8) and Estonia (49%, -8). In contrast, it has increased in Romania (55%, +6) and Lithuania (+5).

QA15.1. And please tell me if you tend to trust or tend not to trust these European institutions.



³⁵ Difference between the "tend to trust" and "tend not to trust" percentages

The European Commission

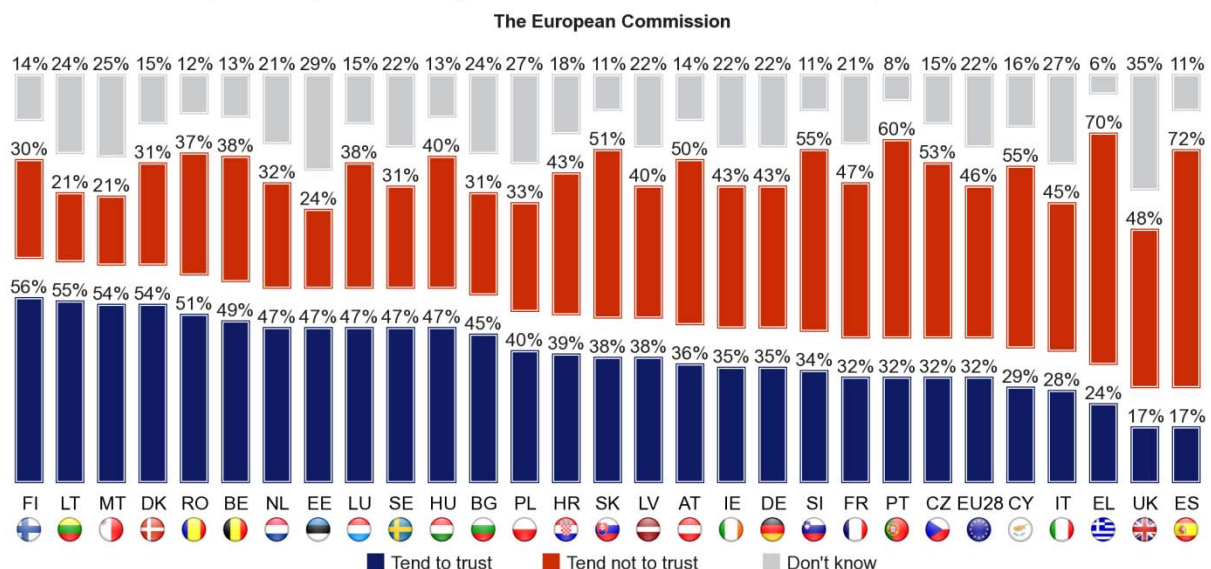
Less than a third of Europeans (32%, -3 percentage points) trust the European Commission, while 46% (-1) do not trust it and 22% (+4) did not express an opinion. The trust index has lost two percentage points and now stands at -14, the lowest ever level recorded in the Standard Eurobarometer surveys.

In line with the trend noted for the European Parliament, trust in the European Commission has fallen sharply in Slovakia (38%, -13 percentage points), reversing the balance of opinion there (38% versus 51%, compared with 51% versus 40% in autumn 2013). The balance of opinion has also been reversed and is now negative in Ireland (35% versus 43%, compared with 41% versus 40% six months ago) and Latvia (38% versus 40%, compared with 39% versus 38%).

A majority of respondents in 15 EU countries now distrust this institution: the 14 that are sceptical about the European Parliament plus Germany. For the first time, countries that distrust the European Commission now outnumber those that trust it, with the highest levels of distrust being recorded in Spain (72%, +7 percentage points), Greece (70%, -5) and Portugal (60%, +2). Distrust has increased notably since autumn 2013 in Slovakia (51%, +11), Luxembourg (38%, +10), Spain (72%, +7) and the Czech Republic (53%, +7), but has fallen sharply in Cyprus (55%, -14).

A majority of respondents in 13 Member States trust the European Commission, most notably in Finland (56%, +3 percentage points), Lithuania (55%, +4), Denmark (54%, -2) and Malta (54%, +2). Within this group, however, trust has decreased strongly in Estonia (47%, -10), Luxembourg (47%, -8), Belgium (49%, -7) and Poland (40%, -7).

QA15.2. And please tell me if you tend to trust or tend not to trust these European institutions.



The European Central Bank

As for the European Commission, less than a third of Europeans (31%, -3 percentage points) trust the European Central Bank, while 48% (-1) distrust it and 21% (+4) did not express an opinion.

The trust index has therefore lost two percentage points and now stands at -17, i.e. equal to its lowest ever score recorded in the Standard Eurobarometer survey of spring 2013 (EB79).

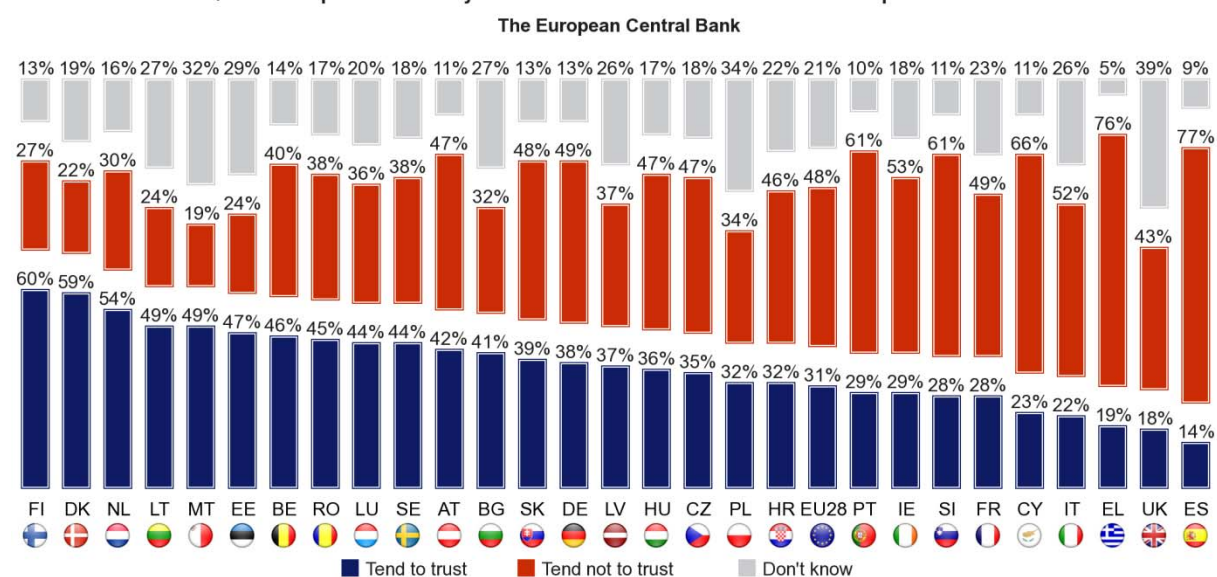
In this survey, trust in the European Central Bank has fallen sharply in Slovakia (39%, -16 percentage points), the Czech Republic (35%, -14) and Poland (32%, -9), reversing the balance of opinion in these three countries.

As a result of these changes, sixteen countries are predominantly distrustful of the European Central Bank (Spain, Greece, Cyprus, Slovenia, Portugal, Italy, the United Kingdom, Ireland, France, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Slovakia, Austria and Poland). Within this group, distrust has fallen sharply in Cyprus (66%, -9 percentage points), but has increased significantly in Slovakia (68%, +11), Slovenia (61%, +9), the Czech Republic (47%, +8) and Spain (77%, +6).

A majority of respondents in 11 Member States trust this institution, including six euro area countries (Finland, Malta, the Netherlands, Estonia, Luxembourg and Belgium), with the highest levels being recorded in Finland (60%, -4 percentage points), Denmark (59%, -1) and the Netherlands (54%, +4). Trust has deteriorated very sharply in Luxembourg (44%, -14) and Sweden (44%, -12).

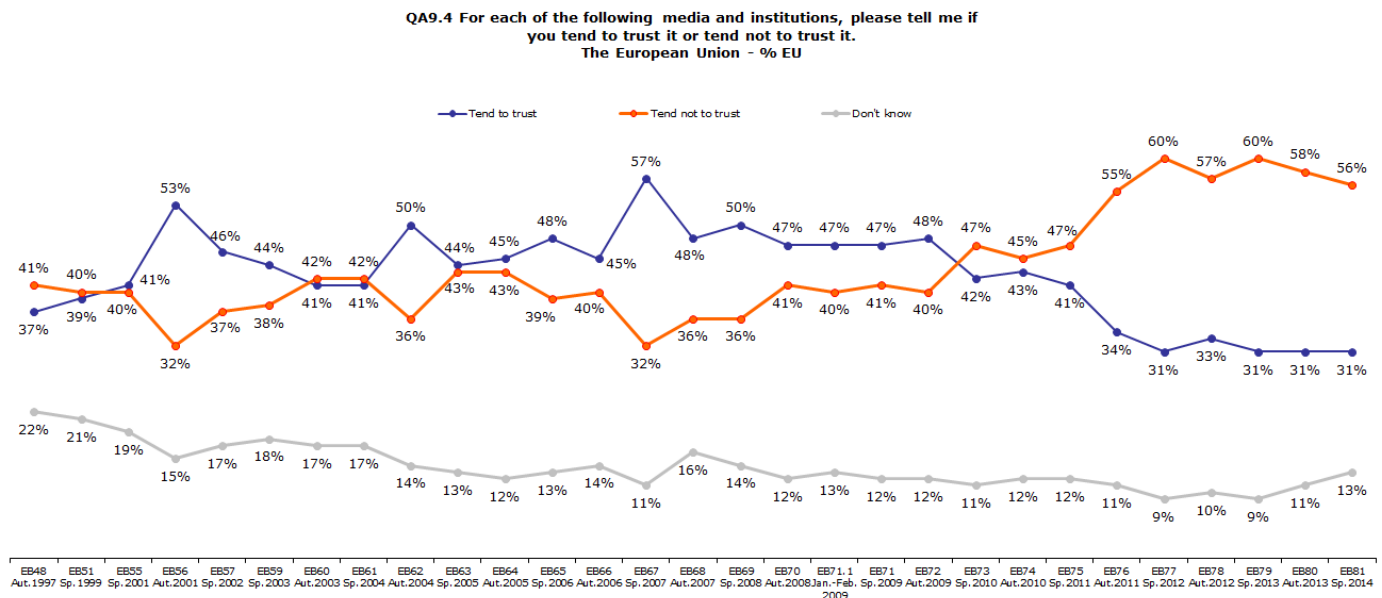
Lastly, respondents are evenly divided in Latvia (37% “tend to trust it”, -2, versus 37%, +1).

QA15.3. And please tell me if you tend to trust or tend not to trust these European institutions.



6.2. Trust in the European Union

Trust in the European Union is stable (31%). For the second consecutive time, distrust has fallen slightly (56%, -2 percentage points versus autumn 2013 and -4 versus spring 2013). As a result, the EU trust index has improved slightly and now stands at -25 compared with -27 in autumn 2013 and -29 in spring 2013³⁶.



A country analysis shows that the balance of opinion has evolved negatively in two countries, namely Belgium (45% versus 48%, compared with 49% versus 49% in the Standard Eurobarometer survey of autumn 2013) and Hungary (44% versus 50%, compared with 47% versus 46%). On the other hand, it has become positive again in Finland (48% versus 42%, compared with 47% versus 48% in autumn 2013).

A majority of respondents in seven Member States trust the EU: since autumn 2013, Finland has replaced Hungary in this group composed of Lithuania (58% versus 29%), Romania (58% versus 34%), Bulgaria (52% versus 31%), Malta (52% versus 28%), Estonia (50% versus 27%) and Poland (41% versus 40%).

³⁶ QA9.4. For each of the following media and institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it. The European Union

Within the group of countries where a majority of respondents trust the European Union, trust has increased very sharply in Romania (58%, +10 percentage points) and Lithuania (58%, +6), but has fallen in Estonia (50%, -6), Poland (41%, -4) and Bulgaria (52%, -4).

Therefore, a majority of respondents in 21 countries distrust the European Union, most notably in Spain (79%), Greece (75%), Cyprus (67%) and Portugal (66%).



































Within this group of countries, distrust has increased in Austria (61%, +9 percentage points), Spain (79%, +8) and Slovakia (57%, +8). On the other hand, it has decreased in Cyprus (67%, -8), France (56%, -7), Italy (55%, -7), Croatia (50%, -7) and the Netherlands (48%, -7, versus 41%, +3).

In the candidate countries, trust in the European Union has increased very strongly in Montenegro, Serbia and Iceland. The trust index is therefore once again very positive in Montenegro (+14) whereas it was negative in autumn 2013 (-8). It is still negative but has improved very significantly in Serbia (-6 versus -25 in autumn 2013). Following an eight percentage point increase, it is almost evenly balanced in Iceland (-1 versus -9 in autumn 2013). The trust index is positive and stable (+7 versus +8 in autumn 2013)

in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. It has improved slightly in Turkey, solely as a result of a decrease in distrust, but is still very negative (-32 versus -41 in autumn 2013).

QA9.4 I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain media and institutions. For each of the following media and institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.

The European Union

		Tend to trust	Diff. Sp.2014-Aut.2013	Tend not to trust	Diff. Sp.2014-Aut.2013	Don't know	Diff. Sp.2014-Aut.2013
	EU28	31%	=	56%	-2	13%	+2
	LT	58%	+6	29%	-6	13%	=
	RO	58%	+10	34%	-8	8%	-2
	BG	52%	-4	31%	+2	17%	+2
	MT	52%	=	28%	-3	20%	+3
	EE	50%	-6	27%	-6	23%	+12
	FI	48%	+1	42%	-6	10%	+5
	BE	45%	-4	48%	-1	7%	+5
	DK	45%	=	48%	+1	7%	-1
	HU	44%	-3	50%	+4	6%	-1
	LV	42%	=	44%	-1	14%	+1
	NL	41%	+3	48%	-7	11%	+4
	PL	41%	-4	40%	+1	19%	+3
	HR	37%	+1	50%	-7	13%	+6
	SI	37%	=	57%	-1	6%	+1
	SE	37%	-3	49%	-6	14%	+9
	LU	35%	-7	52%	+4	13%	+3
	SK	35%	-12	57%	+8	8%	+4
	FR	34%	+6	56%	-7	10%	+1
	CZ	32%	-2	61%	=	7%	+2
	IE	32%	-2	54%	-1	14%	+3
	AT	31%	-8	61%	+9	8%	-1
	DE	30%	+1	58%	-1	12%	=
	PT	28%	+3	66%	-2	6%	-1
	CY	25%	+8	67%	-8	8%	=
	EL	24%	+3	75%	-2	1%	-1
	IT	24%	+1	55%	-7	21%	+6
	ES	16%	-5	79%	+8	5%	-3
	UK	16%	-3	61%	-6	23%	+9
	CY (tcc)	60%	+3	26%	-2	14%	-1
	MK	49%	+1	42%	+2	9%	-3
	ME	48%	+8	34%	-14	18%	+6
	IS	43%	+3	44%	-5	13%	+2
	RS	39%	+8	45%	-11	16%	+3
	TR	25%	+1	57%	-8	18%	+7

A socio-demographic analysis confirms, as already observed in the previous Standard Eurobarometer surveys, that distrust in the EU is prevalent across all categories of the European population, with the sole exception of students. A majority of respondents in the following categories therefore distrust the EU, albeit with sizeable differences of intensity: those who studied up to the age of 20 or beyond (51%), as well as those who left school at the age of 15 or earlier (66%), managers (49% versus 37%), manual workers (60%) and unemployed people (67%) alike, both those who do not have financial difficulties (52%) and those who struggle to pay their bills most of the time (72%). Students are the only category in which people who distrust it are in the minority (39% versus 46%).












QA9.4 I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain media and institutions. For each of the following media and institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.

The European Union			
	Tend to trust	Tend not to trust	Don't know
EU28	31%	56%	13%
Gender			
Man	32%	57%	11%
Woman	30%	55%	15%
Age			
15-24	42%	43%	15%
25-39	31%	56%	13%
40-54	28%	59%	13%
55 +	28%	59%	13%
Generation			
Before 1928	31%	56%	13%
1928 - 1945	29%	57%	14%
Total 'Before 1946'	31%	56%	13%
1946 - 1964 "BB"	27%	61%	12%
1965 - 1980 "X"	30%	57%	13%
After 1980 "Y"	28%	59%	13%
Education (End of)			
15-	21%	66%	13%
16-19	28%	59%	13%
20+	37%	51%	12%
Still studying	46%	39%	15%
Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	37%	54%	9%
Managers	37%	49%	14%
Other white collars	30%	55%	15%
Manual workers	26%	60%	14%
House persons	26%	58%	16%
Unemployed	23%	67%	10%
Retired	29%	58%	13%
Students	46%	39%	15%
Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	19%	72%	9%
From time to time	28%	59%	13%
Almost never/ Never	34%	52%	14%
Image of EU			
Positive	62%	28%	10%
Neutral	21%	60%	19%
Negative	4%	89%	7%

The following tables show the results by socio-demographic criteria in the whole of the European Union (EU28) on average, in the six largest EU countries and in four countries which have been particularly badly affected by the economic crisis.












QA9.4 I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain media and institutions.
For each of the following media and institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.

The European Union - Tend to trust

	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
											
	31%	30%	16%	34%	24%	41%	16%	24%	28%	32%	25%
Gender											
Male	32%	30%	18%	35%	25%	40%	16%	25%	31%	36%	22%
Female	30%	30%	15%	33%	23%	41%	16%	23%	25%	28%	28%
Age											
15-24	42%	29%	29%	64%	28%	49%	33%	23%	34%	41%	27%
25-39	31%	27%	15%	30%	27%	44%	20%	25%	33%	32%	22%
40-54	28%	25%	14%	25%	27%	38%	12%	20%	30%	32%	29%
55 +	28%	36%	16%	30%	19%	37%	9%	25%	21%	27%	25%
Education (End of)											
15-	21%	28%	10%	23%	15%	27%	6%	21%	24%	20%	13%
16-19	28%	25%	19%	26%	21%	35%	16%	21%	31%	26%	31%
20+	37%	39%	18%	35%	40%	46%	16%	28%	31%	39%	26%
Still studying	46%	42%	29%	68%	32%	59%	34%	21%	38%	54%	31%
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	37%	30%	22%	22%	38%	46%	40%	23%	31%	45%	33%
Managers	37%	35%	25%	45%	47%	57%	17%	22%	36%	40%	35%
Other white collars	30%	28%	15%	25%	28%	40%	9%	25%	31%	33%	19%
Manual workers	26%	20%	15%	26%	19%	31%	13%	21%	32%	27%	21%
House persons	26%	28%	10%	30%	16%	54%	13%	30%	34%	21%	24%
Unemployed	23%	20%	13%	27%	14%	27%	21%	17%	20%	23%	22%
Retired	29%	35%	17%	31%	16%	36%	9%	27%	22%	26%	23%
Students	46%	42%	29%	68%	32%	59%	34%	21%	38%	54%	31%

QA9.4 I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain media and institutions.
For each of the following media and institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.

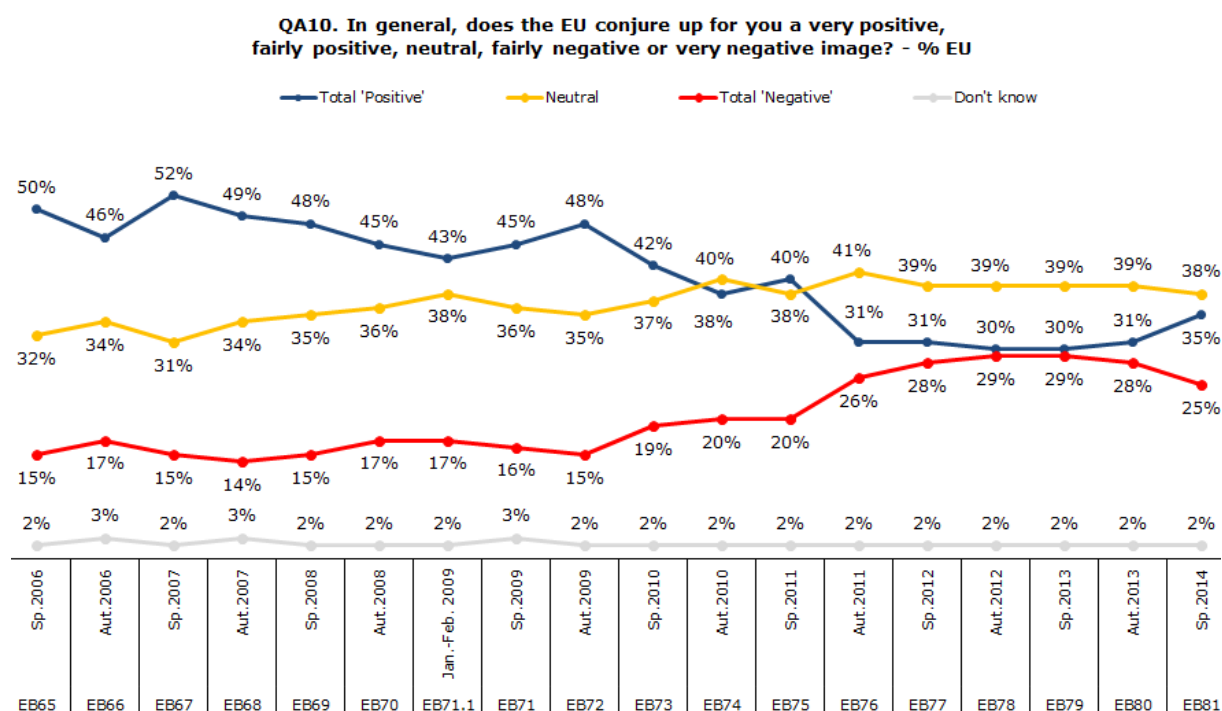
The European Union - Tend not to trust

	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
											
	56%	58%	79%	56%	55%	40%	61%	75%	66%	54%	67%
Gender											
Male	57%	58%	79%	56%	57%	45%	65%	74%	65%	54%	71%
Female	55%	57%	78%	56%	54%	36%	58%	76%	68%	54%	63%
Age											
15-24	43%	54%	65%	29%	47%	28%	36%	76%	59%	46%	63%
25-39	56%	62%	83%	54%	54%	39%	54%	75%	63%	56%	71%
40-54	59%	60%	83%	65%	55%	42%	67%	79%	68%	55%	66%
55 +	59%	54%	76%	62%	58%	46%	73%	73%	70%	55%	67%
Education (End of)											
15-	66%	60%	83%	66%	67%	58%	72%	78%	68%	60%	79%
16-19	59%	63%	78%	65%	54%	44%	62%	79%	66%	59%	64%
20+	51%	46%	80%	53%	48%	38%	62%	71%	68%	52%	67%
Still studying	39%	47%	63%	24%	47%	17%	30%	78%	53%	33%	59%
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	54%	60%	78%	63%	52%	43%	48%	76%	67%	46%	67%
Managers	49%	50%	74%	43%	35%	28%	61%	78%	63%	51%	56%
Other white collars	55%	59%	80%	59%	52%	35%	70%	74%	61%	55%	73%
Manual workers	60%	63%	82%	66%	57%	49%	62%	79%	66%	58%	70%
House persons	58%	65%	78%	53%	60%	30%	54%	69%	55%	58%	74%
Unemployed	67%	72%	85%	59%	66%	53%	63%	82%	77%	62%	72%
Retired	58%	55%	77%	62%	59%	46%	71%	71%	67%	57%	67%
Students	39%	47%	63%	24%	47%	17%	30%	78%	53%	33%	59%

6.3. The European Union's image


- The EU's overall image is recovering -

After a very sharp deterioration between the Standard Eurobarometer surveys of autumn 2009 (EB72) and autumn 2011 (EB76), then a stabilisation phase up to autumn 2013 (EB80), **the EU's image is improving, extending the trend initiated in autumn 2013**: 35% of Europeans (+4 percentage points since autumn 2013) consider that the EU's image is positive, while 25% (-3) see it as negative. Therefore, a relative majority of Europeans consider that the EU's image is neutral³⁷ (38%, -1). It is noteworthy that in this survey, the EU's overall image has evolved differently from its trust index and the trust index of its main institutions.



The balance of opinion has been reversed and has become positive again in the euro area countries (33% versus 26%, compared with 29% versus 30% in autumn 2013). It remains largely positive and has gained ground in the non-euro area countries (37% versus 24%, compared with 34% versus 24% in autumn 2013).






























QA10. In general, does the EU conjure up for you a very positive, fairly positive, neutral, fairly negative or very negative image?

	Total 'Positive'	Total 'Negative'	Don't know
 EU28	35%	25%	2%
EURO AREA	33%	26%	2%
NON-EURO AREA	37%	24%	3%

³⁷ QA10. In general, does the EU conjure up for you a very positive, fairly positive, neutral, fairly negative or very negative image?

Opinions on the EU's image are predominantly positive in 11 Member States, with scores ranging from 55% in Romania to 38% in France. Only two Member States have predominantly negative opinions: Greece (44%) and Cyprus (38%). In 13 Member States, the predominant view is that the EU has a neutral image, with scores ranging from 53% in Latvia to 37% in Portugal. Lastly, in two Member States, negative and neutral perceptions of the EU's image are ranked equally in first place: in the United Kingdom (36%) and Austria (34%).

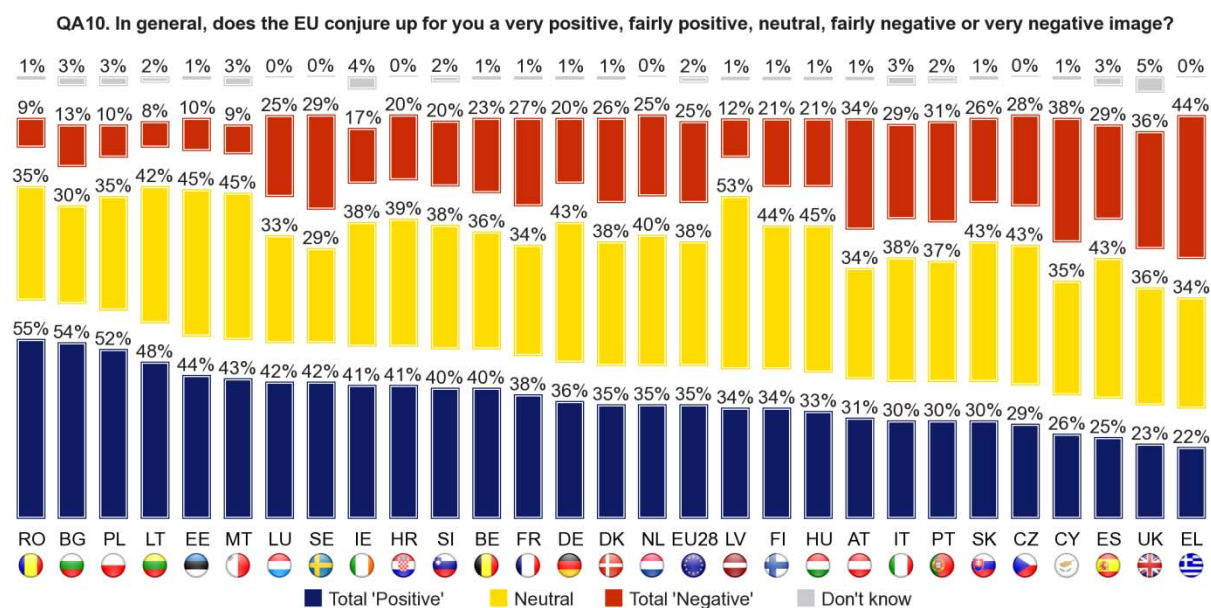
QA10. In general, does the EU conjure up for you a very positive, fairly positive, neutral, fairly negative or very negative image?

		Total 'Positive'	Diff. Sp. 2014- Aut. 2013	Total 'Negative'	Diff. Sp. 2014- Aut. 2013	Don't know	Diff. Sp. 2014- Aut. 2013
	EU28	35%	+4	25%	-3	2%	=
	BE	40%	+3	23%	-3	1%	+1
	BG	54%	+5	13%	-1	3%	=
	CZ	29%	+5	28%	-5	0%	-1
	DK	35%	+1	26%	+8	1%	=
	DE	36%	+2	20%	-3	1%	=
	EE	44%	+10	10%	=	1%	=
	IE	41%	+1	17%	-6	4%	+2
	EL	22%	+6	44%	-10	0%	-1
	ES	25%	-1	29%	=	3%	=
	FR	38%	+7	27%	-6	1%	-1
	HR	41%	+4	20%	=	0%	=
	IT	30%	+4	29%	-5	3%	+1
	CY	26%	+9	38%	-16	1%	+1
	LV	34%	+5	12%	-2	1%	=
	LT	48%	+10	8%	-2	2%	=
	LU	42%	+2	25%	+5	0%	=
	HU	33%	-2	21%	+1	1%	-1
	MT	43%	+2	9%	-5	3%	+1
	NL	35%	+4	25%	-7	0%	=
	AT	31%	+6	34%	=	1%	+1
	PL	52%	+7	10%	=	3%	+1
	PT	30%	+8	31%	-8	2%	=
	RO	55%	+12	9%	-4	1%	-2
	SI	40%	+10	20%	-5	2%	=
	SK	30%	-1	26%	-2	1%	+1
	FI	34%	+11	21%	-6	1%	+1
	SE	42%	+11	29%	+2	0%	=
	UK	23%	+1	36%	-3	5%	+2

Positive perceptions of the EU's image have improved in 25 of the 28 Member States, with only Spain, Slovakia and Hungary bucking this trend. The most significant improvements were recorded in Romania (55%, +12 percentage points), Sweden (42%, +11), Finland (34%, +11), Lithuania (48%, +10), Estonia (44%, +10), Slovenia (40%, +10), Cyprus (26%, +9), Portugal (30%, +8), Poland (52%, +7) and France (38%, +7).

As a result of this recovery, positive perceptions of the EU's image outweigh negative ones in 22 EU countries (versus 17 in spring 2013). Thus, the balance of opinion has been reversed and has become positive in the Netherlands (35% think that its image is "positive" versus 25%, compared with 31% versus 32% in autumn 2013), France (38% versus 27%, compared with 31% versus 32%), Finland (34% versus 21%, compared with 23% versus 27%), Italy (30% versus 29%, compared with 26% versus 34%) and the Czech Republic (29% versus 28%, compared with 24% versus 33%). These five countries have thus joined the group of Member States where perceptions of the EU's image remain predominantly positive (Romania, Poland, Bulgaria, Lithuania, Malta, Estonia, Ireland, Latvia, Croatia, Slovenia, Belgium, Luxembourg, Germany, Sweden, Hungary, Denmark and Slovakia), with the highest scores in Romania (55%, +12 percentage points), Bulgaria (54%, +5) and Poland (52%, +7). In this group of 22 countries, it is noteworthy however, that neutral opinions obtained the highest scores and therefore outweigh positive opinions in half of them, namely in Estonia, Malta, Germany, Denmark, the Netherlands, Latvia, Finland, Hungary, Italy, Slovakia and the Czech Republic.

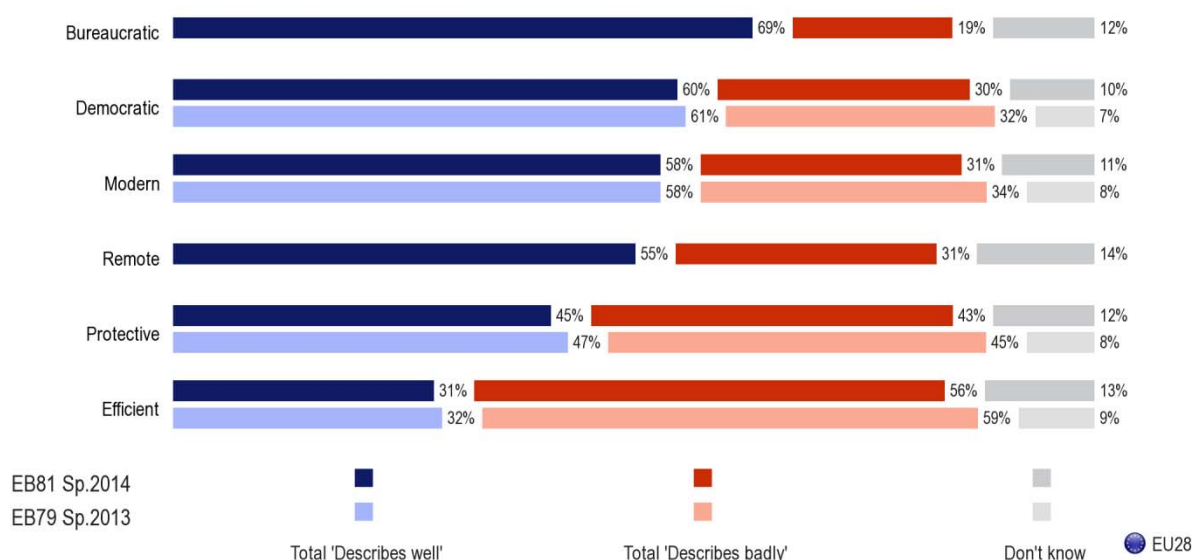
Negative opinions therefore continue to outweigh positive opinions in Greece (44%, -10 percentage points, versus 22%, +6), Cyprus (38%, -16, versus 26%, +9), the United Kingdom (36%, -3, versus 23%, +1), Austria (34%, unchanged, versus 31%, +6), Portugal (31%, -8, versus 30%, +8) and Spain (29%, =, versus 25%, -1).



The EU's image attributes

Although perceptions of the EU's overall image have improved, the scores recorded for its various attributes are very stable. Therefore, in comparison with the Standard Eurobarometer survey of spring 2013 (EB79), the last time this question was asked, there have not been any significant changes in perceptions of the EU's various attributes. In terms of positive attributes, a majority of respondents consider that the European Union is "democratic" and "modern". On the other hand, on the negative side, it is not seen as "efficient". Europeans continue to be strongly divided on the question of whether it protects its citizens. Lastly, the introduction of new attributes in this survey shows that it is also perceived by a majority of Europeans as "bureaucratic" and "remote"³⁸.

QA12. Please tell me for each of the following words if it describes very well, fairly well, fairly badly or very badly the idea you might have of the EU.



The items "Bureaucratic" and "Remote" have been used for the first time

The positive attributes

"Democratic"

Six out of ten Europeans (-1 percentage point since spring 2013) consider that "democratic" is an apt description of the EU, while 30% (-2) disagree and 10% (+3) did not express an opinion. The balance of opinion on this attribute has become positive in the United Kingdom (46% versus 37%, compared with 44% versus 44% in spring 2013) and has been reversed and is now positive in Cyprus (48% versus 47%, compared with 34% versus 62% in spring 2013), after a strong increase in positive perceptions of the democratic nature of the European Union (48%, +14). As a result, there are now only two countries, namely Greece (56% "describes badly", -6) and Portugal (49%, +1, versus 42%, -3), where a majority of respondents do not agree that the EU is democratic.

³⁸ QA12. Please tell me for each of the following words whether it describes very well, fairly well, fairly badly or very badly the idea that you might have of the EU.

An absolute majority of respondents in the remaining 24 Member States believe that it is democratic, with scores ranging from 51% in Spain (+4) to 77% in Romania (+4). Other than in Cyprus (48%, +14), the belief that the EU is democratic has gained significant ground in Finland (59%, +7), but has decreased sharply in Slovakia (61%, -8), Bulgaria (71%, -8), Italy (52%, -6) and Poland (72%, -6).

"Modern"

The EU is seen as a "modern" institution by 58% of Europeans (unchanged since spring 2013), while 31% (-3 percentage points) disagree and 11% (+3) did not express an opinion. As a result of increases of eleven and six percentage points respectively, the balance of opinion has become positive again in Cyprus (46% versus 39% today, compared with 35% versus 57% in spring 2013) and Sweden (51% versus 42%, compared with 45% versus 52%). It remains negative in two EU countries, namely Greece (46%, -3, versus 48%, -1) and the Netherlands (45%, -1, versus 46%, -1). A majority of respondents in the 26 other Member States consider that the European Union is a modern institution. Moreover, this idea is supported by an absolute majority of respondents in 24 of them (most notably in Poland (78%, unchanged), Romania (76%, +5) and Croatia (75%, =)) and by a relative majority of respondents in Spain (48%, +2, versus 40%, -1) and Cyprus (46%, +11, versus 39%, -18). The idea that the EU is a modern institution has however lost significant ground in Bulgaria (69%, -8) and Slovakia (64%, -8).

"Protective"

There have been no significant changes since spring 2013 on this attribute **and Europeans continue to be divided on the protective role played by the European Union**: 45% of Europeans (-2 percentage points) see the EU as "protective", while 43% (-2) disagree and 12% (+4) did not express an opinion.

A majority of respondents in 22 countries consider that the EU is protective, with an absolute majority in 19 countries and a relative majority in the three others. In this survey, the balance of opinion has been reversed and is once more positive in Slovenia (53% versus 40%, compared with 46% versus 50% in spring 2013) and Austria (48% versus 44%, compared with 46% versus 48%). However, support for the idea that the EU is protective has decreased significantly in Denmark (60%, -10 percentage points), Bulgaria (52%, -10), the Czech Republic (49%, -10), Estonia (59%, -8) and Slovakia (53%, -8).

There are now only six Member States where a majority for respondents consider that the European Union is not sufficiently protective: Greece (70%, -7 percentage points), Portugal (64%, +3), Cyprus (57%, -19), Italy (56%, +3), Spain (55%, -6) and France (47%, unchanged, versus 44%, =).

Negative attributes

"Bureaucratic"

More than two-thirds of Europeans (69%) perceive the European Union as "bureaucratic", while 19% disagree and 12% did not express an opinion. There is a broad consensus in the Member States that the European Union is bureaucratic: with the exception of Bulgaria, where this view is shared by only a relative majority (48% versus 26%), an absolute majority of respondents in the 27 other Member States see it as bureaucratic, with the highest scores being recorded in the Nordic countries (86% in Finland, 82% in Sweden, 79% in Denmark), Germany (82%), the Benelux countries (73% in Luxembourg, 73% in Belgium and 72% in the Netherlands) and Austria (72%).

"Remote"

More than half of Europeans (55%) consider that "remote" is an apt description of the European Union, while 31% disagree and 14% did not express an opinion. A majority of respondents in 23 Member States consider that the EU is remote, most notably in Finland (74%), Denmark (68%), Greece (67%), Spain (66%) and Portugal (65%). Luxembourg (61%), Poland (46% versus 39%), the Czech Republic (46% versus 37%) and Lithuania (43% versus 40%) are the only countries where a majority of respondents do not consider that the EU is remote. Lastly, in Malta, a majority of respondents did not express an opinion (37%, versus 33% who think that the word "remote" is inappropriate and 30% who think that it is appropriate).






























"Inefficient"

Lastly and with no significant changes since spring 2013, **a large majority of Europeans (56%, -3 percentage points, versus 31%, -1) consider that "efficient" is not an apt description of the European Union**, while 13% (+4) did not express an opinion.

The balance of opinion has been reversed and has become negative in this survey in Latvia (39% versus 44%, compared with 44% versus 43% in spring 2013). In total, a majority of respondents in 20 Member States consider that the EU is inefficient: this opinion is shared by an absolute majority in 17 of them, most notably in Sweden (79% answered "describes badly", -6 percentage points), the Netherlands (77%, -4) and Greece (72%, -10) and by a relative majority in the three others, namely the Czech Republic (48% versus 44%, compared with 52% versus 43% in spring 2013), Ireland (45% versus 40%, compared with 51% versus 41%) and Latvia. Support for this view has fallen significantly in Cyprus (61%, -21) and Greece (72%, -10).

On the other hand, a majority of respondents in eight EU countries see the EU as efficient, namely in Lithuania (64%, -2 percentage points), Romania (59%, +11), Bulgaria (53%, -9), Croatia (53%, unchanged), Poland (52%, -7), Hungary (49% versus 44%, unchanged balance of opinion), Malta (48% versus 31%, compared with 48% versus 28%) and Estonia (41% versus 36%, compared with 51% versus 37%). This view has gained significant ground in Romania (59%, +11), but respondents in Estonia (41%, -10), Bulgaria (53%, -9) and Poland (52%, -7) are now far less convinced than they were previously.







QA12. Please tell me for each of the following words if it describes very well, fairly well, fairly badly or very badly the idea you might have of the EU.

		Bureaucratic*	Democratic	Diff EB81 Sp.2014 - EB79 Sp.2013	Modern	Diff EB81 Sp.2014 - EB79 Sp.2013	Remote*	Protective	Diff EB81 Sp.2014 - EB79 Sp.2013	Efficient	Diff EB81 Sp.2014 - EB79 Sp.2013
	EU28	69%	60%	-1	58%	=	55%	45%	-2	31%	-1
	BE	73%	68%	-3	61%	-5	62%	57%	-4	40%	-5
	BG	48%	71%	-8	69%	-8	47%	52%	-10	53%	-9
	CZ	69%	65%	-2	64%	=	37%	49%	-10	44%	+1
	DK	79%	67%	-3	50%	-3	68%	60%	-10	27%	-3
	DE	82%	67%	-4	57%	-1	56%	54%	+1	29%	+1
	EE	67%	69%	-1	67%	-2	51%	59%	-8	41%	-10
	IE	69%	60%	+1	69%	-1	45%	56%	+3	40%	-1
	EL	61%	41%	+4	46%	-3	67%	28%	+6	26%	+9
	ES	70%	51%	+4	48%	+2	66%	34%	+4	23%	+2
	FR	68%	62%	-1	56%	-2	62%	44%	=	23%	-1
	HR	66%	72%	+2	75%	=	47%	55%	-1	53%	=
	IT	64%	52%	-6	54%	-5	57%	29%	-10	33%	-4
	CY	62%	48%	+14	46%	+11	53%	39%	+19	33%	+19
	LV	64%	64%	+1	71%	+3	55%	57%	-3	39%	-5
	LT	60%	76%	+2	74%	+3	40%	73%	+3	64%	-2
	LU	73%	68%	-4	66%	-4	24%	59%	-3	31%	-8
	HU	58%	63%	-4	63%	-2	51%	52%	-2	49%	=
	MT	51%	72%	+5	74%	-7	30%	63%	-2	48%	=
	NL	72%	61%	+4	45%	-1	63%	58%	+2	15%	+1
	AT	72%	58%	=	57%	+1	54%	48%	+2	32%	-6
	PL	71%	72%	-6	78%	=	39%	50%	-6	52%	-7
	PT	68%	42%	-3	60%	+4	65%	27%	-5	28%	+3
	RO	53%	77%	+4	76%	+5	43%	59%	+10	59%	+11
	SI	71%	59%	+5	61%	+5	60%	53%	+7	38%	+5
	SK	68%	61%	-8	64%	-8	52%	53%	-8	40%	-5
	FI	86%	59%	+7	62%	-3	74%	52%	-6	28%	-4
	SE	82%	59%	-2	51%	+6	55%	54%	+1	15%	+2
	UK	61%	46%	+2	52%	+6	52%	42%	-3	21%	-2

* New items

In all the candidate countries, a majority of respondents consider that the words “democratic” and “protective” are apt descriptions of the EU. An absolute majority of respondents in the candidate countries consider that the European Union is efficient, with one exception: Iceland, where an absolute majority of respondents consider, on the contrary, that this word badly describes the European Union (54%, versus 33% who disagree).

QA12. Please tell me for each of the following words if it describes very well, fairly well, fairly badly or very badly the idea you might have of the EU.
- % Fairly well

		Bureaucratic	Democratic	Modern	Remote	Protective	Efficient
	EU28	69%	60%	58%	55%	45%	31%
	CY (tcc)	70%	78%	82%	13%	73%	75%
	MK	53%	69%	77%	62%	63%	59%
	IS	70%	56%	58%	55%	63%	33%
	ME	49%	72%	74%	48%	60%	61%
	RS	53%	64%	75%	53%	52%	60%
	TR	53%	59%	73%	49%	55%	57%

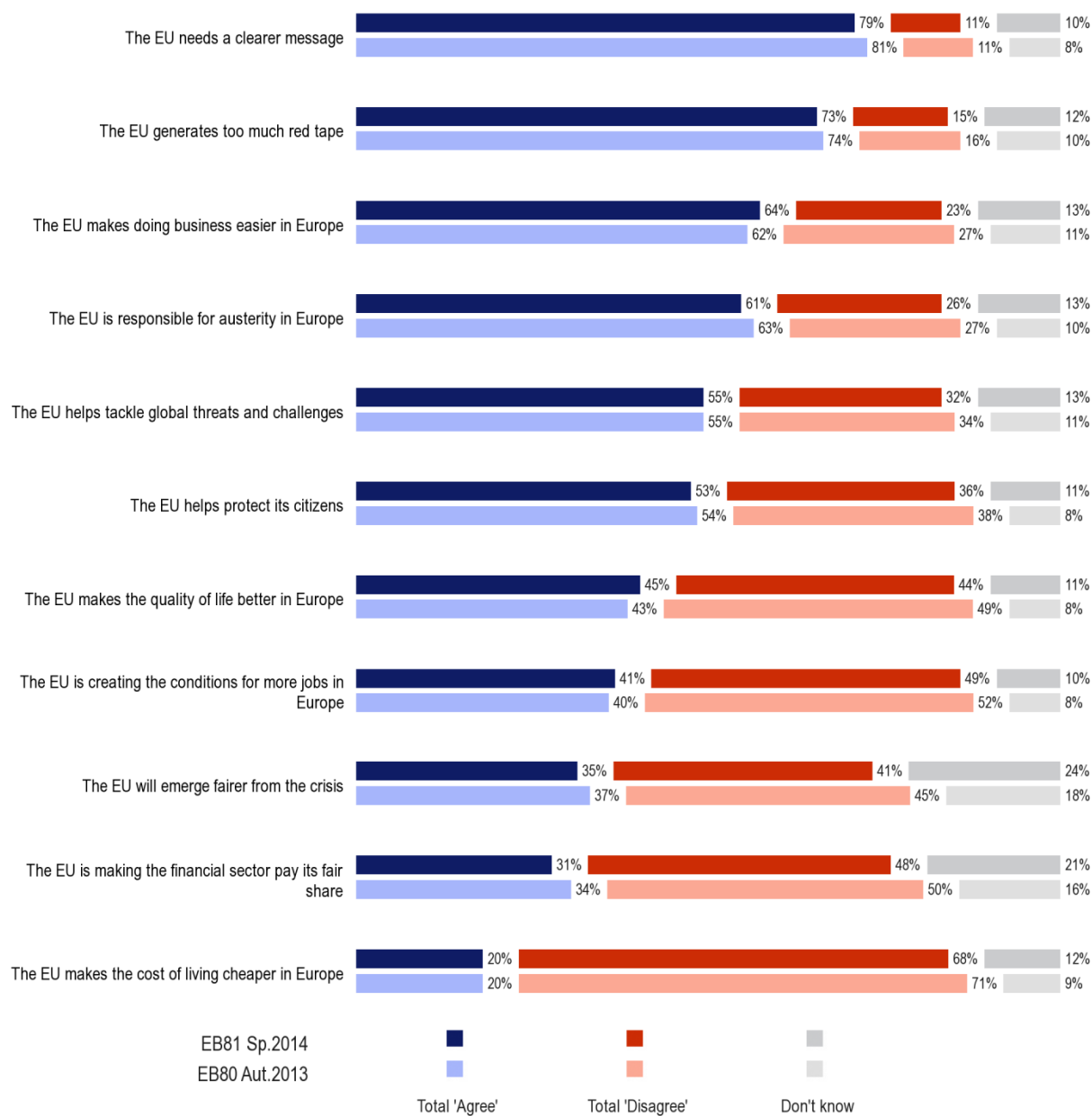
The representations associated with the EU and its policies

- A majority of respondents continue to believe that the EU is responsible for austerity in Europe -

For the third consecutive time, this Standard Eurobarometer survey also included questions on the perceptions that Europeans have of the EU's role, the way it works and its policies. Other than the notable improvement in perceptions of the EU's ability to improve the quality of life in Europe or make it easier to do business in Europe, Europeans' perceptions of the positive and negative representations of the EU are in line with those noted in the previous Standard Eurobarometer surveys of autumn and spring 2013. **On the positive side, the EU is seen as business-friendly, an influential player on the international scene and an institution that protects its citizens.** On the negative side, it is perceived by a majority of Europeans as being over-bureaucratic, responsible for austerity, unfair and ineffective in tackling what Europeans consider as two key issues, namely employment and purchasing power³⁹.

³⁹ QA13. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

QA13. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.



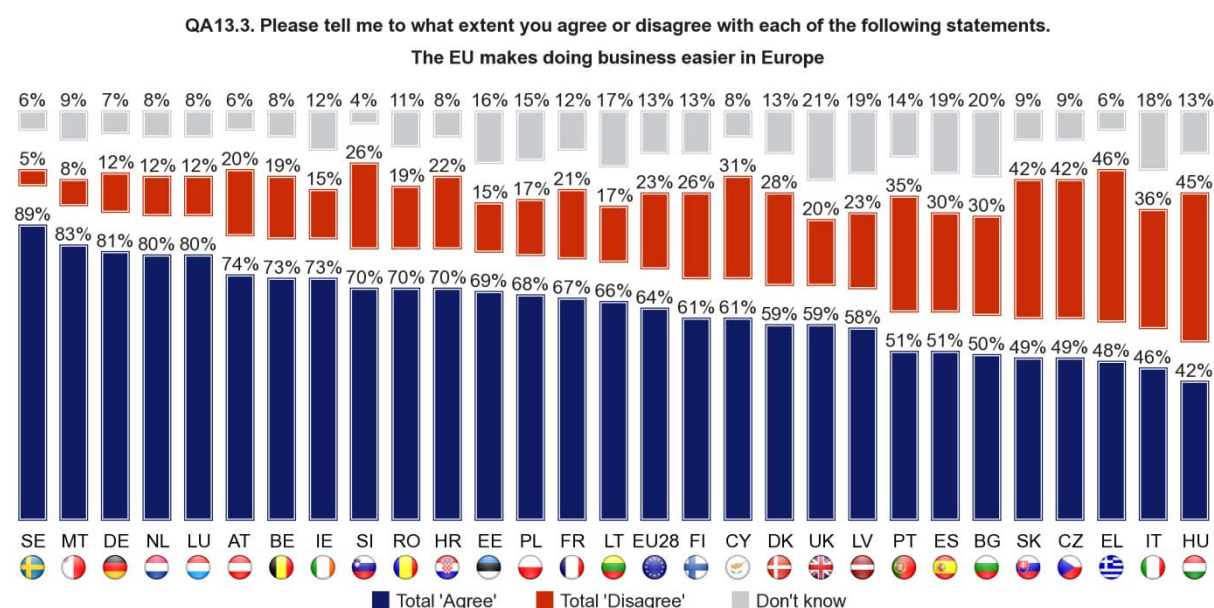
Positive representations

"The EU makes doing business easier in Europe"

Almost two-thirds of Europeans (64%, +2 percentage points since autumn 2013) agree with the statement that "the EU makes doing business easier in Europe", while 23% (-4) disagree and 13% (+2) did not express an opinion.

A majority of respondents in 27 Member States see the EU as business-friendly, with an absolute majority in 23 of them. The highest scores were recorded in Sweden (89%, +1 percentage point since autumn 2013), Malta (83%, +10), Germany (81%, unchanged), the Benelux countries (80% in Luxembourg, -2 and in the Netherlands, +2; 73% in Belgium, -2), Austria (74%, +7) and Ireland (73%, +5). This representation has gained significant ground in Malta (83%, +10), Cyprus (61%, +10) and Greece (48%, +10), but has lost significant ground in Finland (61%, -9).

A majority of respondents in Greece (48% versus 46%, compared with 38% versus 58% in autumn 2013) and Italy (46% versus 36%, compared with 42% versus 45%) now see the EU as business-friendly. On the contrary, the situation has been reversed in Hungary (42% versus 45%, compared with 46% versus 42%), which is therefore now the only country in this survey where a majority of respondents do not share this vision of the EU.



"The EU helps tackle global threats and challenges"

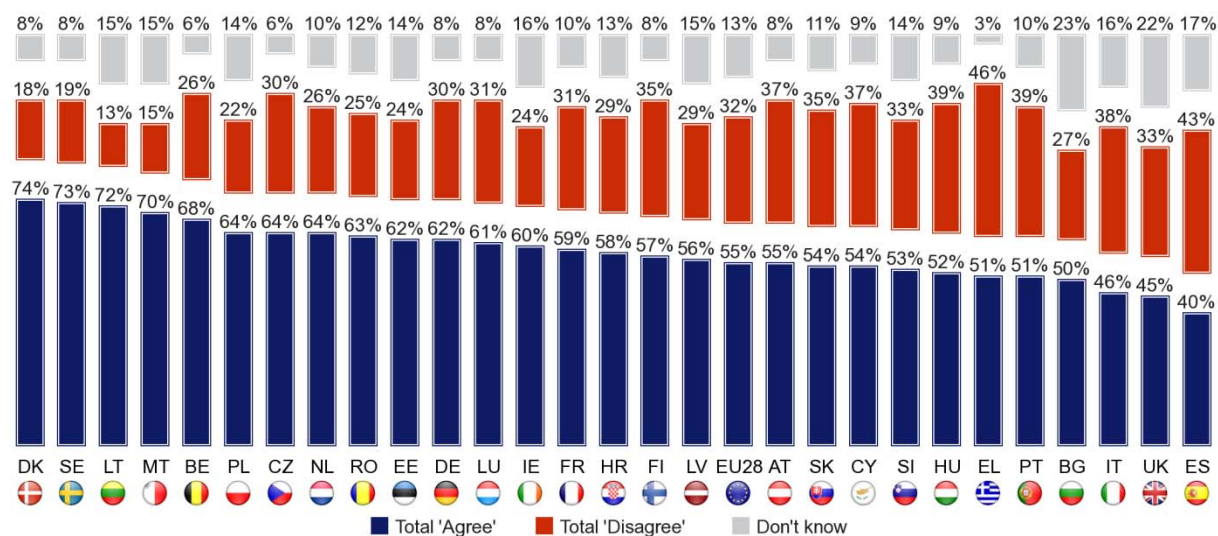
The EU is still widely perceived as an important international player that helps "tackle global threats and challenges" (55%, unchanged, versus 32%, -2 percentage points; 13%, +2, did not express an opinion).

There is a broad consensus on this representation since a majority of respondents in 27 of the 28 EU countries agree with this statement. Spain is the only exception. Moreover, the balance of opinion has been reversed to become negative in that country (40% versus 43%, compared with 48% versus 39% in autumn 2013). In contrast, it has been reversed and is now positive in Greece (51% versus 46%, compared with 46% versus 51%) and Italy (46% versus 38%, compared with 42% versus 44%). Respondents in Denmark (74%, -2 percentage points), Sweden (73%, -7), Lithuania (72%, +1) and Malta (70%, +5) recognise the EU's international role the most.

Positive perceptions of the EU's international influence have increased sharply in France (59%, +7 percentage points), but have fallen significantly in Finland (57%, -9), the Czech Republic (64%, -8), Spain (43%, -8), Sweden (73%, -7) and Bulgaria (50%, -7).

QA13.9. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

The EU helps tackle global threats and challenges



“The EU helps protect its citizens”

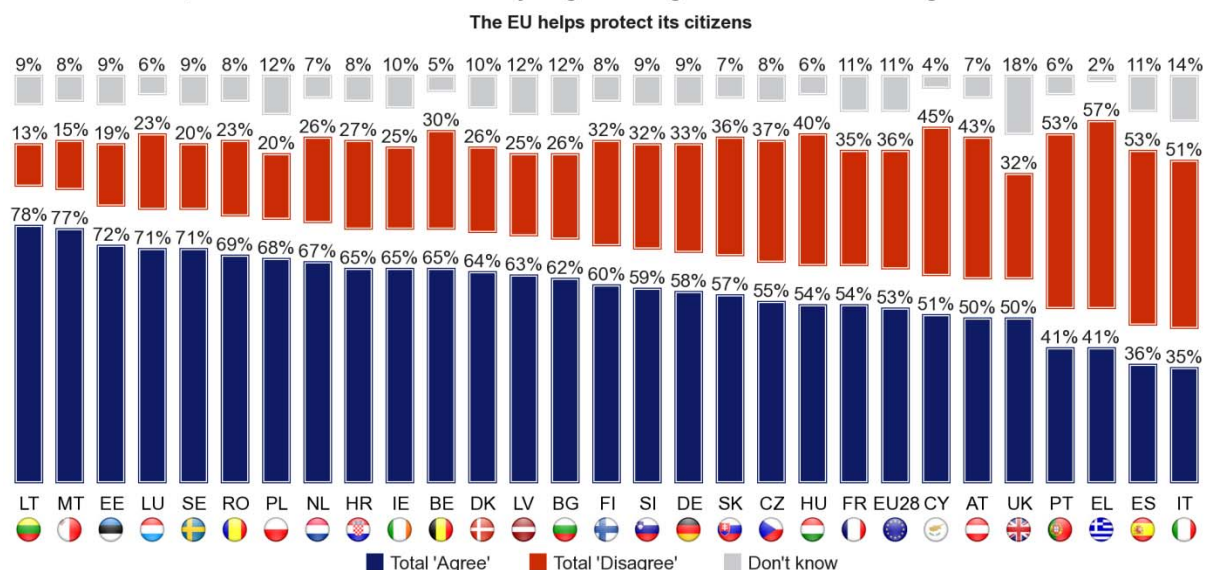
53% of Europeans (-1 percentage point since autumn 2013) consider that the “EU helps protect its citizens”, while 36% (-2) disagree and 11% (+3) did not express an opinion.

In this survey, a majority of respondents in 24 Member States agree that the EU plays a protective role, most notably in Lithuania (78%, +8), Malta (77%, +2), Estonia (72%, -2), Luxembourg (71%, -5) and Sweden (71%, -2). This is now the majority opinion in Cyprus (51%, +18 percentage points), whereas it was the minority opinion in autumn 2013. In total, this opinion is predominant in 24 Member States, most notably in Lithuania (78%, +8), Malta (77%, +2), Estonia (72%, -2), Luxembourg (71%, -5) and Sweden (71%, -2).

Within this group of countries, perceptions of the EU’s protective role have improved in particular in Lithuania (78%, +8), but have deteriorated significantly in Finland (60%, -9), the Czech Republic (55%, -8), Hungary (54%, -8), Slovakia (57%, -7) and Denmark (64%, -7).

The EU is not seen as protective by a majority of respondents in four countries, namely Greece (57% “disagree”, -8 percentage points), Portugal (53%, +5), Spain (53%, +5) and Italy (51%, -4). This perception has lost ground in Greece (-8) and Italy (-4), but is now more widespread in Portugal (+5) and Spain (+5).

QA13.10. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.



A socio-demographic analysis shows that this feeling is very widespread among respondents who consider that they are upper class (67%) or middle class (58%) and those who studied up to the age of 20 or beyond (60%), whereas it is shared by only a minority of respondents who left school before the age of 15 or earlier (44% “disagree” versus 41%), unemployed people (45% versus 43%) and those who regularly have difficulties paying their bills (53%).

QA13.10 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

The EU helps protect its citizens

	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Don't know
EU28	53%	36%	11%
Gender			
Man	56%	36%	8%
Woman	52%	35%	13%
Age			
15-24	66%	25%	9%
25-39	55%	35%	10%
40-54	50%	40%	10%
55 +	50%	38%	12%
Generation			
Before 1928	53%	36%	11%
1928 - 1945	49%	36%	15%
Total 'Before 1946'	54%	36%	10%
1946 - 1964 "BB"	50%	40%	10%
1965 - 1980 "X"	53%	38%	9%
After 1980 "Y"	50%	39%	11%
Education (End of)			
15-	41%	44%	15%
16-19	52%	38%	10%
20+	60%	32%	8%
Still studying	68%	23%	9%
Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	56%	37%	7%
Managers	63%	29%	8%
Other white collars	54%	36%	10%
Manual workers	52%	38%	10%
House persons	47%	39%	14%
Unemployed	43%	45%	12%
Retired	50%	37%	13%
Students	68%	23%	9%
Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	35%	53%	12%
From time to time	50%	40%	10%
Almost never/ Never	58%	32%	10%
Consider belonging to			
The working class	47%	40%	13%
The middle class	58%	33%	9%
The upper class	67%	27%	6%
Image of EU			
Positive	76%	17%	7%
Neutral	52%	35%	13%
Negative	29%	62%	9%

“The EU makes the quality of life better in Europe”

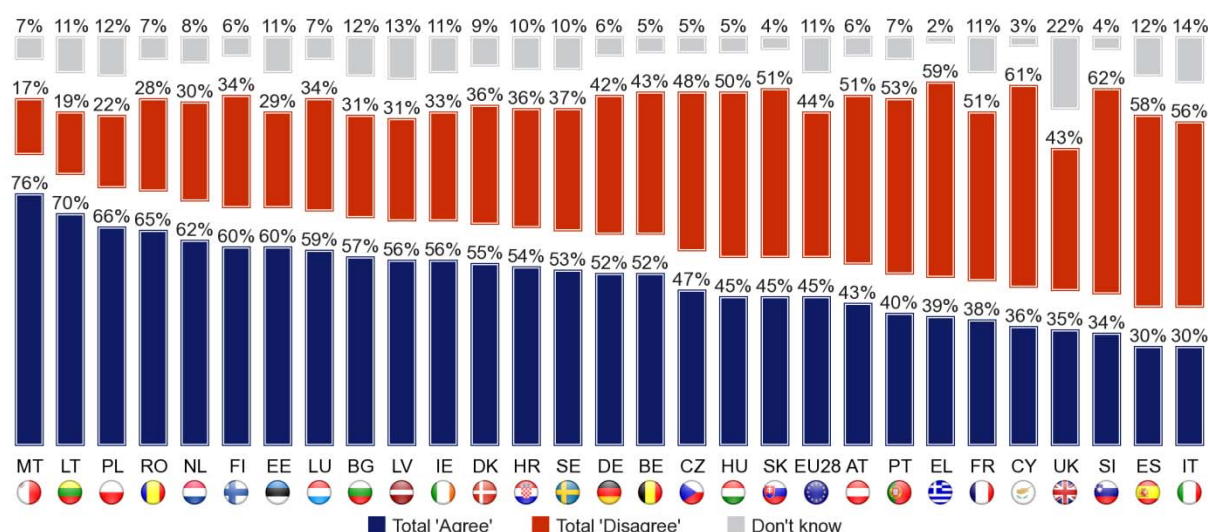
Europeans are almost evenly divided on the question of whether the EU makes “the quality of life better in Europe”, but a majority of respondents now agree with this statement: 45% of Europeans (+2 percentage points since autumn 2013) now consider that the “EU makes the quality of life better in Europe”, while 44% (-5) disagree and 11% (+3) did not express an opinion. **Therefore, the EU’s ability to make the quality of life better in Europe is, of all the attributes tested in this survey, the one which has evolved the most favourably.**

Although a majority of euro area respondents continue to disagree with the statement that the “EU makes the quality of life better in Europe”, overall they are far more positive now (49% “disagree” versus 42%, compared with 55% versus 39% in autumn 2013). Respondents in the non-euro area countries are now also more positive (51% “agree” versus 35%, compared with 50% versus 40%).

The opinion that “EU makes the quality of life better in Europe” continues to be supported by a majority of respondents in 16 Member States, with the highest scores being recorded in Malta (76%, +9 percentage points), Lithuania (70%, +5), Poland (66%, +2) and Romania (65%, +13). Support for this opinion has therefore increased very strongly in Romania (+13) and Malta (+9). Twelve countries remain predominantly negative, most notably Slovenia (62%, -6), Cyprus (61%, -17) and Greece (59%, -13). In all these countries, however, apart from Spain (58%) and the Czech Republic (48%) where they are stable and Hungary where they have increased very slightly (50%, +1), negative perceptions have fallen sharply, most notably in Cyprus (61%, -17), Greece (59%, -13), Italy (56%, -9), France (51%, -8), Slovenia (62%, -6), Austria (51%, -6), Portugal (53%, -6) and the United Kingdom (43%, -6).

QA13.8. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

The EU makes the quality of life better in Europe



Negative representations

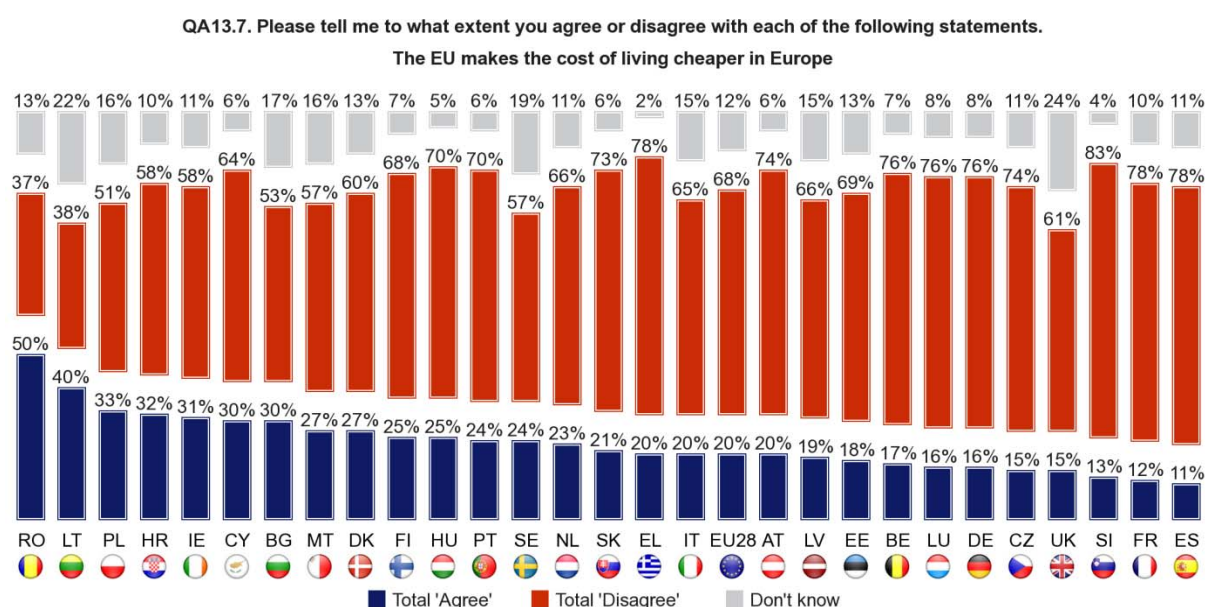
"The EU generates too much red tape in Europe"

The results show no significant changes since autumn 2013: **almost three-quarters of Europeans (73%, -1 percentage point, versus 15% -1, 12%, +2 who did not express an opinion) consider that the "EU generates too much red tape in Europe"**. This opinion is shared by an absolute majority of respondents in all the Member States and in all socio-demographic categories of the European population.

"The EU makes the cost of living cheaper in Europe"

More than two-thirds of Europeans (68%, -3 percentage points) consider that the EU does not make "the cost of living cheaper in Europe", while 20% (unchanged) take the opposite view and 12% (+3) did not express an opinion.

Romania (50% versus 37%, compared with 40% versus 45% in the Standard Eurobarometer survey of autumn 2013) and Lithuania (40% versus 38%, compared with 40% versus 40%) are the only countries where a majority of respondents are positive about the actions taken by the EU to cut the cost of living. On the other hand, in the 26 other countries, an absolute majority of respondents consider that the EU has been ineffective in this area, with the highest scores being recorded in Slovenia (83%, unchanged), Greece (78%, -9 percentage points), France (78%, -5) and Spain (78%, +1). The proportion of respondents who believe that the EU has been ineffective in improving the purchasing power of Europeans has decreased significantly in Greece (78%, -9), Cyprus (64%, -8), the Netherlands (66%, -8) and Romania (37%, -8).



"The EU is responsible for austerity in Europe"

More than six out of ten Europeans (61%, -2 percentage points since autumn 2013) hold the EU responsible for austerity in Europe, while 26% (-1) disagree and 13% (+3) did not express an opinion. Overall, the balance of opinion is unchanged on this indicator versus autumn 2013. Support for this opinion is stable in the euro area countries (65%) but has fallen slightly in the non-euro area countries (56%, -3).

As was the case during the autumn 2013 survey, this opinion is shared by an absolute majority of respondents in 26 Member States and by a relative majority in the two others, namely the United Kingdom (45% versus 30%, compared with 47% versus 34%) and Estonia (39% versus 37%, compared with 46% versus 42%). As a result of a decrease of seven percentage points in the proportion of respondents who blame the EU for austerity, the balance of opinion has narrowed considerably in Estonia.

Respondents in Greece (79%, unchanged), Cyprus (79%, +2 percentage points), the Netherlands (76%, +3), Slovenia (76%, +4) and Belgium (75%, -2) are the most convinced that the EU is responsible for austerity. Support for this opinion has fallen sharply in this survey in Austria (63%, -17).

A socio-demographic analysis shows that the EU is seen as responsible for austerity by all sections of the European population, irrespective of age, gender, level of education or social standing.

"The EU creates the conditions for more jobs in Europe"

Although a relative majority of Europeans disagree with the statement that the "EU creates the conditions for more jobs in Europe", the balance of opinion on this indicator has improved (49% versus 41%, compared with 52% versus 40% in autumn 2013). Negative opinions have therefore decreased by three percentage points versus autumn 2013 and by seven percentage points versus spring 2013. The balance of opinion on the effectiveness of the EU's actions to boost jobs is therefore -8 in this survey, compared with -12 in autumn 2013 and -19 in spring 2013.

The view that the "EU creates the conditions for more jobs in Europe" is shared by an absolute majority of respondents in the non-euro area countries (54% "agree" versus 35%) and has even gained ground slightly since autumn 2013 (53% versus 38%). On the other hand, only a small minority of euro area respondents agree with this statement (34% versus 56%), despite a slight improvement (32% versus 61% in autumn 2013).

In comparison with autumn 2013, the balance of opinion has been reversed and is now positive in three countries, spectacularly in Cyprus (53% versus 44%, compared with 36% versus 62% in autumn 2013), but also in Slovenia (56% versus 42%, compared with 48% versus 50%) and more modestly in Luxembourg (47% versus 46%, compared with 44% versus 52%).

The role played by the EU in creating jobs is therefore now perceived positively in 18 EU countries, in particular in Poland (74%, 1 percentage point), Lithuania (72%, +3) and Bulgaria (70%, +8). This positive appreciation has gained ground in particular in Cyprus (53%, +17), Malta (66%, +9), Slovenia (56%, +8) and Bulgaria (70%, +8). In contrast, the balance of opinion has narrowed significantly in the Czech Republic (48% versus 47%, compared with 51% versus 45% in autumn 2013).

Respondents are predominantly critical of the EU's actions to create jobs in 10 countries: in France (67%, -1 percentage point), Spain (61%, -3), Italy (57%, -7), Portugal (56%, -4), Greece (54%, -10), Germany (52%, -3), Belgium (52%, unchanged), the Netherlands (49% versus 41%, compared with 57% versus 37%), Austria (49% versus 46%, compared with 56% versus 41%) and the United Kingdom (47% versus 33%, compared with 53% versus 33%). With the exception of Belgium, where opinions are stable, the proportion of negative opinions has decreased in all these countries, most notably in Greece (-10), the Netherlands (-8), Austria (-7) and Italy (-7).

A socio-demographic analysis reveals that 15-24 year-olds (51%) and students (52%) are the most positive about the EU's actions to boost jobs. On the other hand, unemployed people (57%) and those who have difficulties paying their bills most of the time (60%) are the most sceptical.

"The EU is making the financial sector pay its fair share"

As in the autumn 2013 survey, the **majority of Europeans have the impression that the EU is not making the financial sector contribute adequately to its policies to combat the crisis**: 48% (-2 percentage points) of Europeans disagree with the statement that "the EU is making the financial sector pay its fair share", while less than a third of them take the opposite view (31%, -3) and 21% (+5) did not express an opinion.

The view that the EU has not extracted a fair price from the financial sector continues to be very widespread in the euro area countries (54% versus 27%, compared with 56% versus 30% in autumn 2013). On the contrary, a majority of respondents in the non-euro area countries think that the financial sector is paying a fair price (38% versus 36%, compared with 44% versus 36%). However the balance of opinion has narrowed considerably in the latter group of countries.

A majority of respondents in 16 Member States do not believe that the financial sector has made an adequate contribution, with the highest scores being recorded in Spain (62%, -2 percentage points), the Netherlands (59%, -5), Greece (59%, -8), Belgium (58%, unchanged) and France (54%, -2). Within this group of countries, criticism of the financial sector's contribution has increased in Austria (52%, +9) and Ireland (52%, +6) but has decreased in Greece (59%, -8), Slovenia (53%, -7) and Italy (52%, -7).

The balance of opinion has been reversed significantly in this survey in Cyprus (40% versus 39%, compared with 30% versus 56% in autumn 2013), thereby increasing to 12 the number of countries where a majority of respondents believe that the financial sector has been sufficiently called to account.

This view is the most widespread in Romania (58%, +1 percentage point), Hungary (55%, -9) and Croatia (54%, -4). However, support for this view has fallen sharply in Hungary (55%, -9), Poland (49%, -9), Bulgaria (41%, -9) and Estonia (35%, -7).

A socio-demographic analysis reveals that a majority of respondents across all sections of the European population, including the well-off categories (47% versus 32% among those who almost never have difficulties paying their bills), those who studied the longest (52% versus 31%) and managers (55% versus 30%), feel that the financial sector has not paid its fair share.

"The EU will emerge fairer from the crisis"

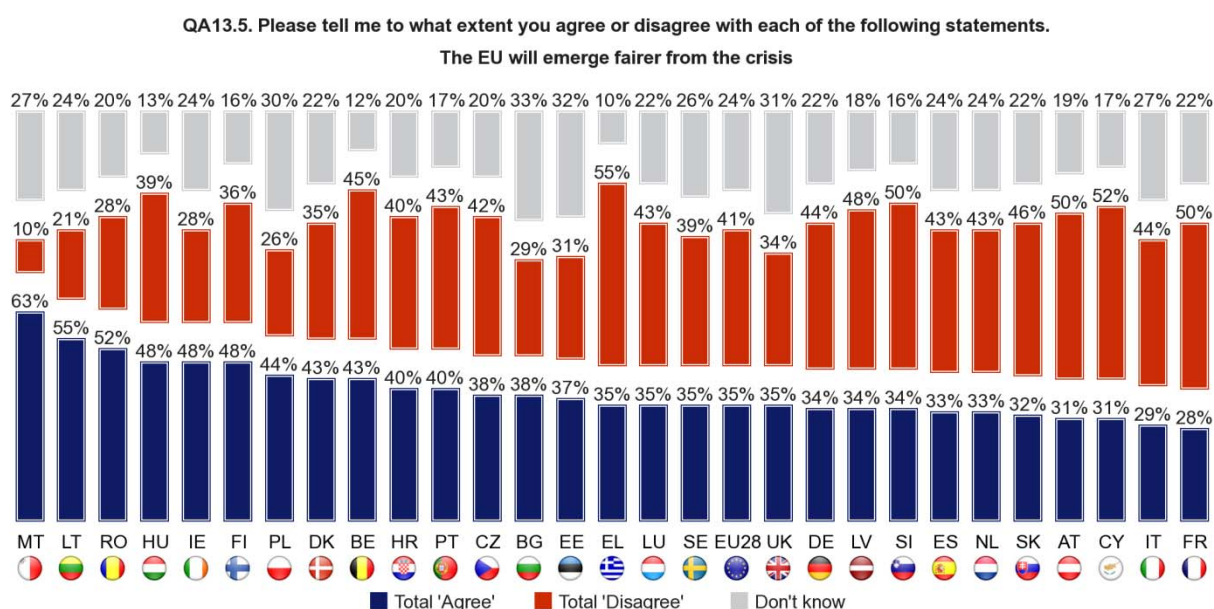
More than one in four Europeans (41%, -4 percentage points since autumn 2013) believe that the EU will not emerge "fairer from the crisis", while 35% (-2) think on the contrary that it will be fairer. The balance of opinion has therefore narrowed slightly, with negative opinions falling more than positive expectations. The "don't know" rate has increased significantly on this indicator and now represents almost a quarter of Europeans (24%, +6).

Despite an easing of fears since autumn 2013, a majority of respondents in the euro area countries are worried about an increase in injustice after the crisis (45% versus 33%, compared with 50% versus 34%). On the other hand, a majority of respondents in the non-euro area countries still believe that the EU will be fairer, with a slightly improved balance of opinion (41% versus 32%, compared with 42% versus 37%).

In this survey, the balance of opinion has changed in six countries. Whereas it was evenly balanced in autumn 2013, it is now negative in Luxembourg (35% consider that the EU will emerge fairer from the crisis versus 43%, compared with 44% versus 44% in autumn 2013) and Belgium (43% versus 45%, compared with 48% versus 48%). Whereas it was positive, it is now evenly balanced in Croatia (40% versus 40%, compared with 46% versus 42%). It has been reversed and is now negative in Spain (43% versus 33%, compared with 40% versus 43%) and Sweden (39% versus 35%, compared with 43% versus 48%). Lastly, it is now very narrowly positive again in the United Kingdom (35% versus 34%, compared with 35% versus 42%).

Therefore, in this survey, a majority of respondents in 16 EU countries do not expect the EU to emerge fairer from the crisis, compared with only 13 countries in autumn 2013. In addition to the four abovementioned countries (Luxembourg, Belgium, Spain and Sweden) this view is predominant in Greece (55%, -11 percentage points), Cyprus (52%, -5), France (50%, -7), Slovenia (50%, -7), Austria (50, -1), Latvia (48% versus 34%, compared with 47% versus 37%), Slovakia (46% versus 32%, compared with 43% versus 41%), Italy (44% versus 29%, compared with 49% versus 31%), Germany (44% versus 34%, compared with 52% versus 32%), the Netherlands (43% versus 33%, compared with 49% versus 37%), Portugal (43% versus 40%, compared with 45% versus 33%) and the Czech Republic (42% versus 38%, compared with 45% versus 41%).

However, pessimism has decreased significantly in Greece (-11), Germany (-8), Slovenia (-7) and France (-7).



A majority of respondents in 11 Member States think that the European Union will be fairer after the crisis, with the highest scores being recorded in Malta (63%, +10 percentage points), Lithuania (55%, +5) and Romania (52%, +8), where the proportion of optimists has increased strongly. On the other hand, optimism has declined significantly in Estonia (37%, -11), Bulgaria (38%, -8), Ireland (48%, -7) and Poland (44%, -6).

A socio-demographic analysis shows that the most disadvantaged categories and those who have financial difficulties are expected to see the most increase in injustice: for example, this view is shared by 50% of those who struggle to pay their bills most of the time and 49% of unemployed people compared with 39% of those who do not have difficulties paying their bills and 40% of managers.






























"The EU needs a clearer message"

Almost eight out of ten Europeans (79%, -2 percentage points) agree with the statement that the "EU needs a clearer message", while 11% (unchanged) do not feel that there is any need for the EU to clarify its messages and 10% (+2) did not express an opinion.

There is very broad support among Europeans for the idea that the EU needs a clearer message: it is supported by an absolute majority of respondents in all the Member States, with scores ranging from 87% in France (+1 percentage point) and Sweden (-1) to 61% (-9) in Poland. The proportion of respondents wanting a clearer message from the EU has increased strongly in Malta (82%, +10) and Romania (77%, +9), but has decreased very sharply in Hungary (62%, -18) and to a lesser extent in the Czech republic (70%, -10), Slovakia (76%, -9), Estonia (70%, -9) and Poland (61%, -9).

QA13.11 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

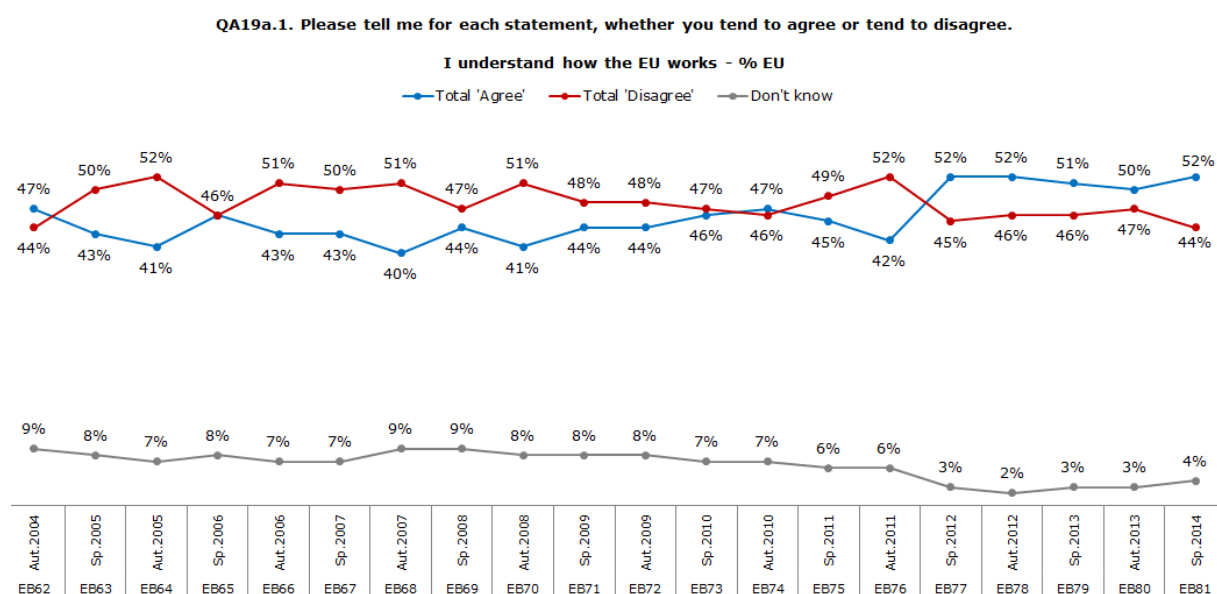
The EU needs a clearer message

		Totally agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Totally disagree	Don't know	Total 'Agree'		Total 'Disagree'	
		EB81 Sp. 2014					EB81 Sp. 2014	Diff. Sp.2014-Aut.2013	EB81 Sp.2014	Diff. Sp.2014-Aut.2013
	EU28	44%	35%	8%	3%	10%	79%	-2	11%	=
	FR	53%	34%	5%	1%	7%	87%	+1	6%	=
	SE	56%	31%	6%	2%	5%	87%	-1	8%	-2
	ES	56%	30%	3%	2%	9%	86%	-2	5%	-2
	LU	57%	29%	5%	1%	8%	86%	-2	6%	-2
	NL	53%	33%	6%	2%	6%	86%	-2	8%	-1
	EL	48%	37%	7%	5%	3%	85%	-1	12%	+1
	CY	59%	26%	5%	4%	6%	85%	-5	9%	+5
	DK	53%	31%	9%	1%	6%	84%	=	10%	-2
	FI	49%	35%	7%	2%	7%	84%	-3	9%	=
	DE	47%	36%	7%	2%	8%	83%	-3	9%	+1
	SI	45%	38%	8%	3%	6%	83%	-1	11%	+2
	BE	41%	41%	10%	1%	7%	82%	-4	11%	=
	IE	43%	39%	6%	3%	9%	82%	+5	9%	-5
	MT	40%	42%	6%	2%	10%	82%	+10	8%	+2
	UK	53%	29%	5%	1%	12%	82%	=	6%	-2
	PT	37%	43%	10%	2%	8%	80%	+1	12%	-2
	AT	48%	29%	12%	4%	7%	77%	-5	16%	+2
	RO	33%	44%	10%	2%	11%	77%	+9	12%	-3
	LV	35%	41%	8%	2%	14%	76%	-2	10%	+1
	SK	33%	43%	10%	5%	9%	76%	-9	15%	+7
	HR	34%	38%	11%	3%	14%	72%	+3	14%	-6
	CZ	27%	43%	15%	5%	10%	70%	-10	20%	+7
	EE	34%	36%	7%	3%	20%	70%	-9	10%	-2
	IT	36%	34%	11%	7%	12%	70%	+1	18%	-5
	BG	34%	35%	7%	4%	20%	69%	-1	11%	-1
	LT	26%	42%	11%	2%	19%	68%	-1	13%	-1
	HU	28%	34%	21%	8%	9%	62%	-18	29%	+15
	PL	18%	43%	15%	3%	21%	61%	-9	18%	+4

7. KNOWLEDGE OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

7.1. Knowledge of how the European Union works

Subjective knowledge of how the EU works has improved: 52% of Europeans (+2 percentage points since the Standard Eurobarometer survey of autumn 2013) claim that they understand how the European Union works, while 44% (-3) have a feeling of incomprehension and 4% (+1) did not express an opinion. This positive balance of opinion of eight percentage points between those who understand how the EU works and those who do not is the highest ever measured since the Standard Eurobarometer survey of autumn 2004 (EB62)⁴⁰.



In comparison with autumn 2013, more respondents now feel that they understand how the EU works and this opinion is now shared by a majority of respondents in Greece (57%, +9 percentage points), Bulgaria (54%, +7), Portugal (52%, +14) and the United Kingdom (48% versus 45%, compared with 44% versus 52%). Therefore, a majority of respondents in 24 Member States now feel that they understand how the EU works, most notably in Sweden (73%, +3), Poland (71%, +2) and Lithuania (68%, +12).

Following an increase of six percentage points, a majority of respondents in Spain (55%) now feel that they do not understand how the EU works. This remains the predominant view in Italy (58%, -6), France (56%, unchanged) and the Czech Republic (52%, =).

⁴⁰ QA19a.1 Please tell me for each statement, whether you tend to agree or tend to disagree. I understand how the EU works.

As in all the previous Standard Eurobarometer surveys, a **socio-demographic analysis** confirms that understanding of how the EU works increases in line with the respondent's level of education (32% of those who left school at the age of 15 or earlier, 49% of those who completed their studies between the ages of 16 and 19 and 65% of those who studied up to the age of 20 or beyond) and social position (39% of those who position themselves at the bottom of the social ladder, 51% of those in the middle and 64% of those at the top).

QA19a.1 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

I understand how the EU works

	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Don't know
EU28	52%	44%	4%



Gender

Man	60%	36%	4%
Woman	44%	51%	5%



Age

15-24	54%	42%	4%
25-39	55%	41%	4%
40-54	53%	43%	4%
55 +	47%	48%	5%



Education (End of)

15-	32%	63%	5%
16-19	49%	46%	5%
20+	65%	32%	3%
Still studying	60%	36%	4%



Socio-professional category

Self-employed	62%	34%	4%
Managers	68%	29%	3%
Other white collars	57%	40%	3%
Manual workers	47%	49%	4%
House persons	37%	56%	7%
Unemployed	46%	50%	4%
Retired	46%	49%	5%
Students	60%	36%	4%














Self-positioning on the social staircase

Low (1-4)	39%	56%	5%
Medium (5-6)	51%	45%	4%
High (7-10)	64%	33%	3%

The following table show the results by socio-demographic criteria in the whole of the European Union (EU28) on average, in the six largest EU countries and in four countries which have been particularly badly affected by the economic crisis.

QA19a.1 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.
I understand how the EU works

Total 'Agree'											
	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
											
	52%	57%	43%	42%	35%	71%	48%	57%	52%	61%	66%
Gender											
Male	60%	65%	50%	52%	44%	76%	57%	65%	57%	73%	74%
Female	44%	50%	36%	34%	28%	67%	41%	49%	47%	49%	58%
Age											
15-24	54%	52%	39%	51%	38%	82%	50%	58%	58%	59%	61%
25-39	55%	58%	46%	40%	45%	79%	56%	61%	57%	62%	65%
40-54	53%	56%	52%	43%	37%	72%	50%	65%	57%	62%	79%
55 +	47%	59%	34%	40%	29%	59%	42%	49%	42%	60%	58%
Education (End of)											
15-	32%	45%	25%	30%	20%	40%	34%	32%	38%	40%	45%
16-19	50%	53%	44%	38%	37%	66%	45%	57%	64%	58%	68%
20+	65%	71%	65%	48%	59%	80%	60%	72%	68%	72%	80%
Still studying	60%	70%	48%	51%	44%	88%	55%	58%	57%	68%	60%
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	62%	64%	68%	41%	52%	80%	59%	70%	51%	71%	71%
Managers	68%	65%	74%	61%	71%	81%	59%	74%	78%	77%	89%
Other white collars	57%	58%	60%	40%	48%	78%	51%	68%	75%	72%	72%
Manual workers	47%	45%	40%	36%	27%	73%	44%	62%	55%	53%	69%
House persons	37%	52%	21%	39%	16%	71%	36%	33%	42%	47%	47%
Unemployed	46%	54%	43%	43%	26%	61%	45%	59%	40%	54%	66%
Retired	46%	57%	35%	38%	26%	59%	43%	45%	41%	61%	53%
Students	60%	70%	48%	51%	44%	88%	55%	58%	57%	68%	60%

7.2. Objective knowledge of the European Union

After having measured subjective knowledge of how the EU works, this Eurobarometer survey then attempted to quantify Europeans' objective knowledge of the EU. To that end, respondents were asked to say whether each of three statements put to them ("the EU currently consists of 28 Member States"; "the Members of the European Parliament are directly elected by the citizens of each Member State"; "Switzerland is a member of the EU ») was true or false.

This objective knowledge has improved considerably: even if they are still in the minority, the proportion of Europeans who gave three right answers has increased by nine percentage points, to 39%. An absolute majority of respondents gave three right answers in seven Member States: in Slovenia (62%), Luxembourg (61%), Croatia (60%), Denmark (54%), Slovakia (53%), Austria (52%) and Greece (51%).

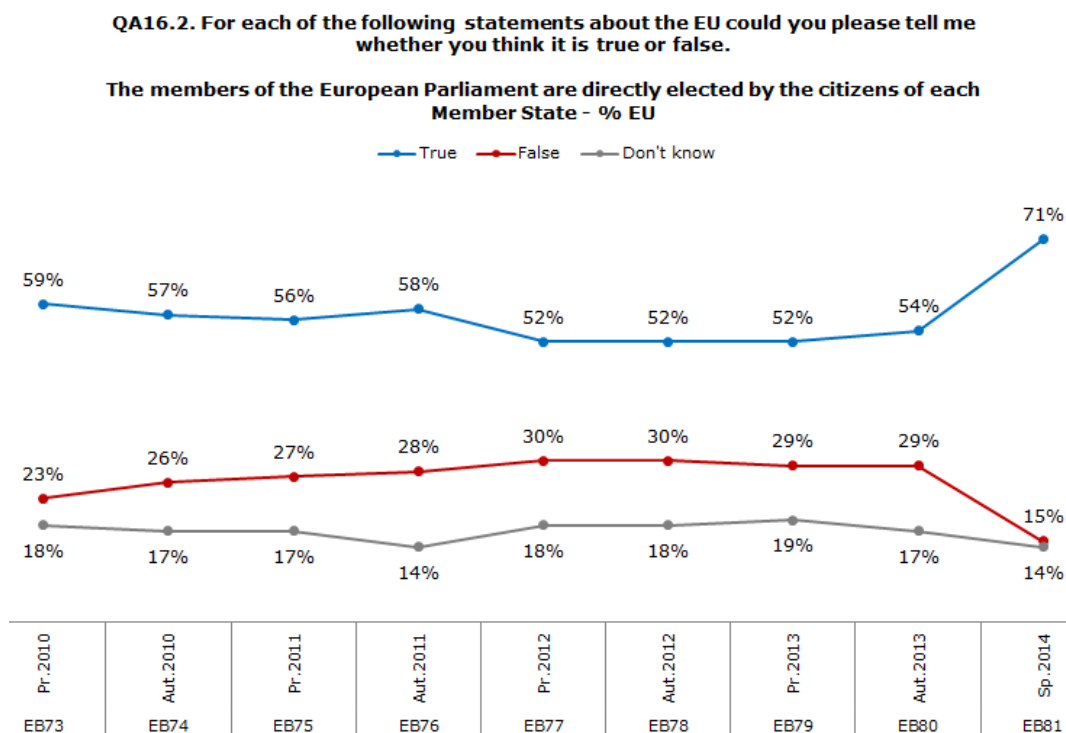
In detail:

Whereas levels of knowledge regarding the number of EU Member States and the fact that Switzerland is not a member of the EU are generally unchanged since autumn, knowledge of how MEPs are elected has improved significantly (+17 percentage points). It should be borne in mind that the European elections were held a few days before this survey was conducted⁴¹.

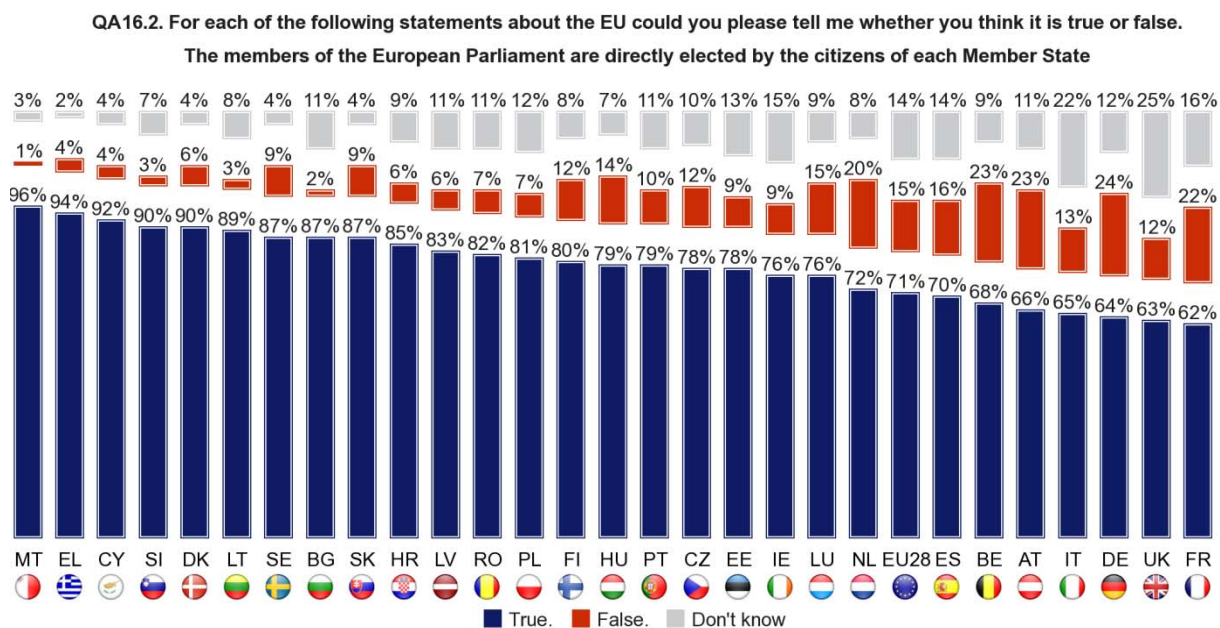
⁴¹ The European elections were held between 22 and 25 May 2014 and this survey was conducted between 31 May and 14 June 2014.

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

More than seven out of ten Europeans (71%, +17 percentage points) gave the right answer regarding the election of MEPs, i.e. by far the highest score ever recorded in the Eurobarometer.



For the first time since this indicator was introduced, an absolute majority of respondents gave the right answer in all the Member States, with scores ranging from 96% in Malta (+5 percentage points since autumn 2013) to 62% in France (+18). Levels of knowledge concerning the way in which MEPs are elected have increased in all the EU countries, most notably in the Netherlands (72%, +28).



"The EU currently consists of 28 Member States"

63% of Europeans (+1 percentage point since autumn 2013) are aware that the EU currently has 28 Member States, while 27% (+4) said they did not know and 10% (-5) gave the wrong answer.

In 27 Member States, an absolute majority of respondents are aware that the EU currently has 28 Member States. The exception is the United Kingdom where a majority replied "don't know" (47%, +8 percentage points, versus 42%, -3, for the right answer).

The highest percentage of right answers on the composition of the EU was recorded in Slovakia (82%, unchanged), while the United Kingdom had the lowest percentage (42%, -3). The percentage of right answers has increased strongly in Portugal (73%, +15), Luxembourg (80%, +11) and France (69%, +7), but has fallen sharply in Belgium (64%, -8), Bulgaria (71%, -7) and Croatia (78%, -7).



































"Switzerland is a member of the EU"

Seven out of ten Europeans (70%, -1 percentage point since autumn 2013) are aware that Switzerland is not a member of the EU, compared with a "don't know" rate of 16% (+3) and 14% (-2) who gave the wrong answer.

In the 28 Member States, an absolute majority of respondents gave the right answer, with an absolute majority in 26 of them, with scores ranging from 94% in Austria (+1 percentage point) to 51% in the United Kingdom (-5). After falls of eight and three percentage points respectively in this survey, the proportions of right answers fell below the 50% level in Latvia (49%) and Romania (48%), but still represent a relative majority.

QA16. For each of the following statements about the EU could you please tell me whether you think it is true or false.

Correct answers

		The EU currently consists of 28 Member States		The members of the European Parliament are directly elected by the citizens of each Member State		Switzerland is a Member State of the EU	
		True	Diff. Sp. 2014 - Aut. 2013	True	Diff. Sp. 2014 - Aut. 2013	False	Diff. Sp. 2014 - Aut. 2013
	EU28	63%	+1	71%	+17	70%	-1
	BE	64%	-8	68%	+9	78%	-4
	BG	71%	-7	87%	+8	53%	-9
	CZ	73%	-1	78%	+23	69%	-1
	DK	72%	+1	90%	+25	76%	+3
	DE	66%	+6	64%	+17	88%	+1
	EE	67%	+3	78%	+22	60%	+1
	IE	64%	+1	76%	+12	61%	+7
	EL	73%	+2	94%	+11	66%	-1
	ES	57%	+1	70%	+21	57%	-1
	FR	69%	+7	62%	+18	81%	-1
	HR	78%	-7	85%	+13	79%	-5
	IT	65%	+4	65%	+18	72%	-4
	CY	70%	+2	92%	+3	52%	+1
	LV	67%	+4	83%	+22	49%	-8
	LT	71%	+2	89%	+13	59%	+5
	LU	80%	+11	76%	+22	91%	-1
	HU	74%	-1	79%	+22	65%	-3
	MT	66%	-3	96%	+5	61%	-8
	NL	56%	-4	72%	+28	79%	-5
	AT	79%	-6	66%	+11	94%	+1
	PL	68%	-5	81%	+12	59%	-1
	PT	73%	+15	79%	+23	68%	+1
	RO	65%	-4	82%	+11	48%	-3
	SI	74%	=	90%	+23	83%	=
	SK	82%	=	87%	+16	70%	+1
	FI	64%	-1	80%	+7	67%	-1
	SE	63%	+3	87%	+21	75%	-1
	UK	42%	-3	63%	+12	51%	-5
	CY (tcc)	63%	+3	50%	+6	41%	-5
	MK	52%	-4	56%	+6	65%	-5
	IS	49%	+3	60%	+19	68%	+2
	ME	67%	=	46%	+3	71%	+6
	RS	57%	-7	40%	-3	71%	+4
	TR	35%	-5	32%	-7	23%	+4

8. DEMOCRACY IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

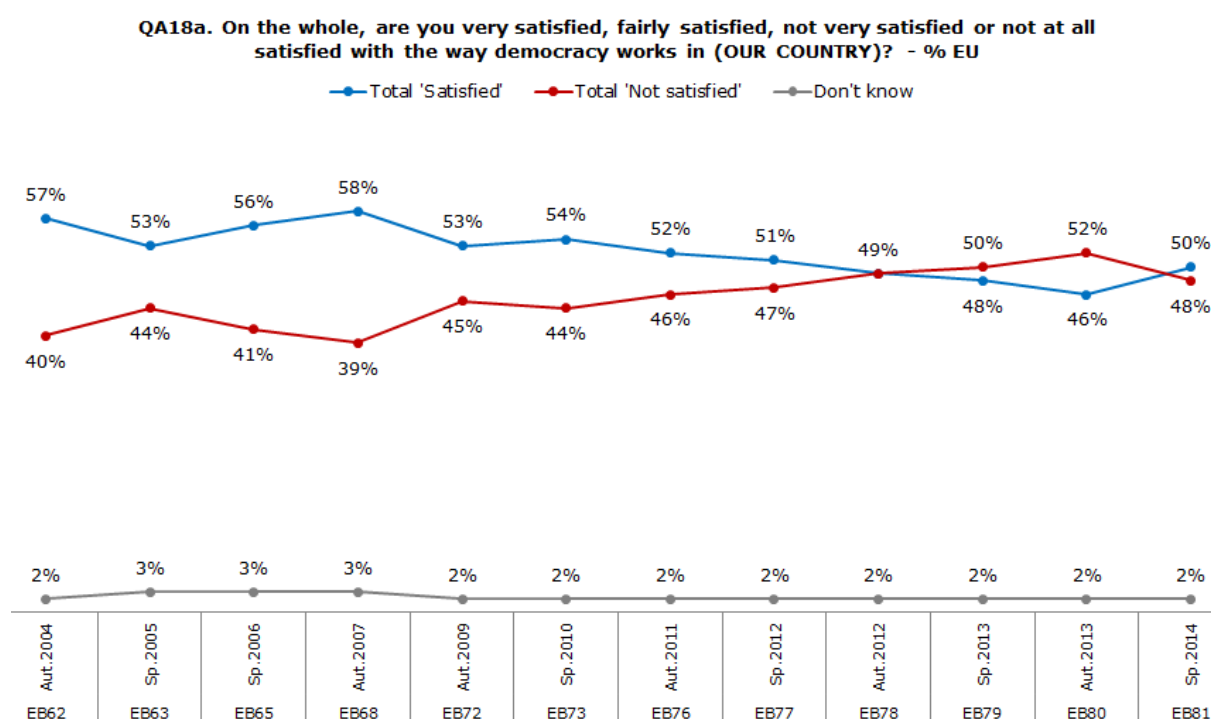
8.1. The way in which democracy works

- The balance of opinion on the way in which democracy works at a national level and in the European Union is now positive again -

Democracy at a national level

For the first time since the Standard Eurobarometer survey of spring 2010 (EB73), the deteriorating trend in perceptions of the way in which national democracies work has been halted in this survey. Positive opinions have increased by four percentage points since autumn 2013, while negative opinions have also fallen by four percentage points. As a result, the balance of opinion on the way in which national democracies work is now positive and stands at +2 compared with -6 in autumn 2013.

Half of Europeans are satisfied with the way in which democracy works in their country (50%), while 48% are dissatisfied and 2% (unchanged) did not express an opinion⁴².



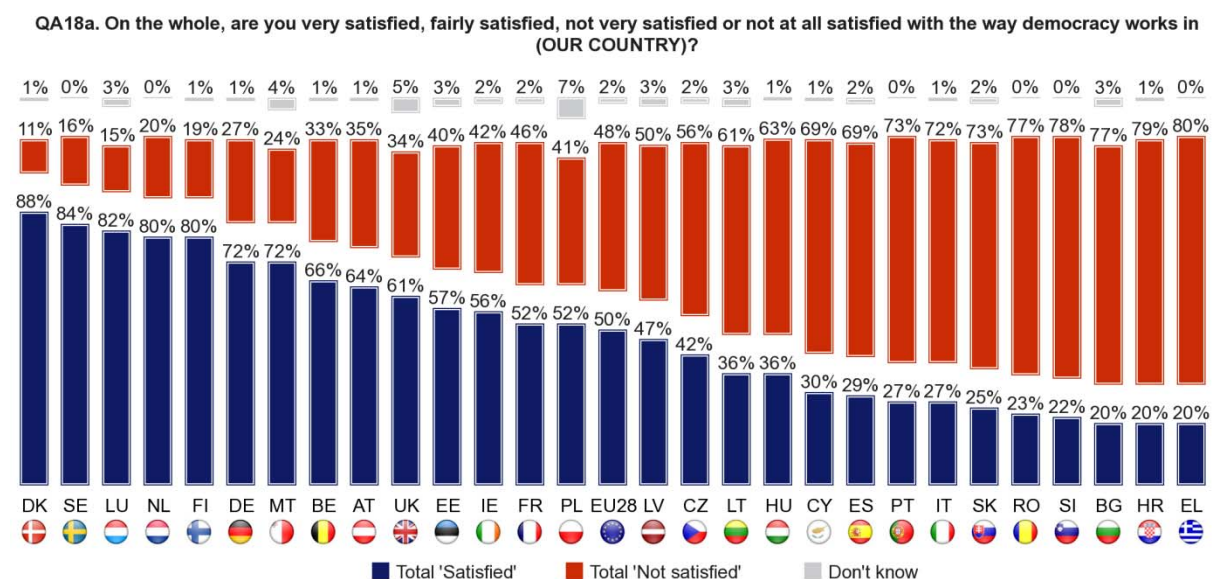
Positive perceptions on how national democracies work have improved slightly in the non-euro area countries and the balance of opinion is now positive again (50% versus 46%, compared with 47% versus 50% in autumn 2013).

⁴² QA18a. On the whole, are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied or not at all satisfied with the way democracy works in (OUR COUNTRY)?

Despite an improvement in perceptions, a majority of euro area respondents remain negative (49% versus 50%, compared with 46% versus 53%).






Because of a strong increase in positive opinions, the balance of opinion has been reversed and is now positive in Estonia (57% versus 40%, compared with 38% versus 59% in autumn 2013). A majority of respondents are also now positive about their national democracy in France (52% versus 46%, compared with 49% versus 49% in autumn 2013): this takes the number of Member States where respondents are predominantly satisfied with the way their national democracy works to 14. As in the previous surveys, levels of satisfaction are the highest in the Nordic countries (88% in Denmark, +1 percentage point; 84% in Sweden, unchanged; 80% in Finland, +1), the Benelux countries (82% in Luxembourg, +3; 80% in the Netherlands, +11; 66% in Belgium, -2), as well as in Germany (72%, +2) and Malta (72%, +3). Within this group of countries, satisfaction has increased significantly in Estonia (57%, +19) and the Netherlands (80%, +11), but has fallen sharply in Austria (64%, -9).

Therefore, a majority of respondents are dissatisfied in 14 EU countries, with the highest levels being recorded in Greece (80%, -2 percentage points), Croatia (79%, -1), Slovenia (78%, -3), Bulgaria (77%, -7) and Romania (77%, -7). Within this group, dissatisfaction has increased in Slovakia (73%, +4), but has fallen sharply in Lithuania (61%, -14), Portugal (73%, -12) and the Czech Republic (56%, -9).



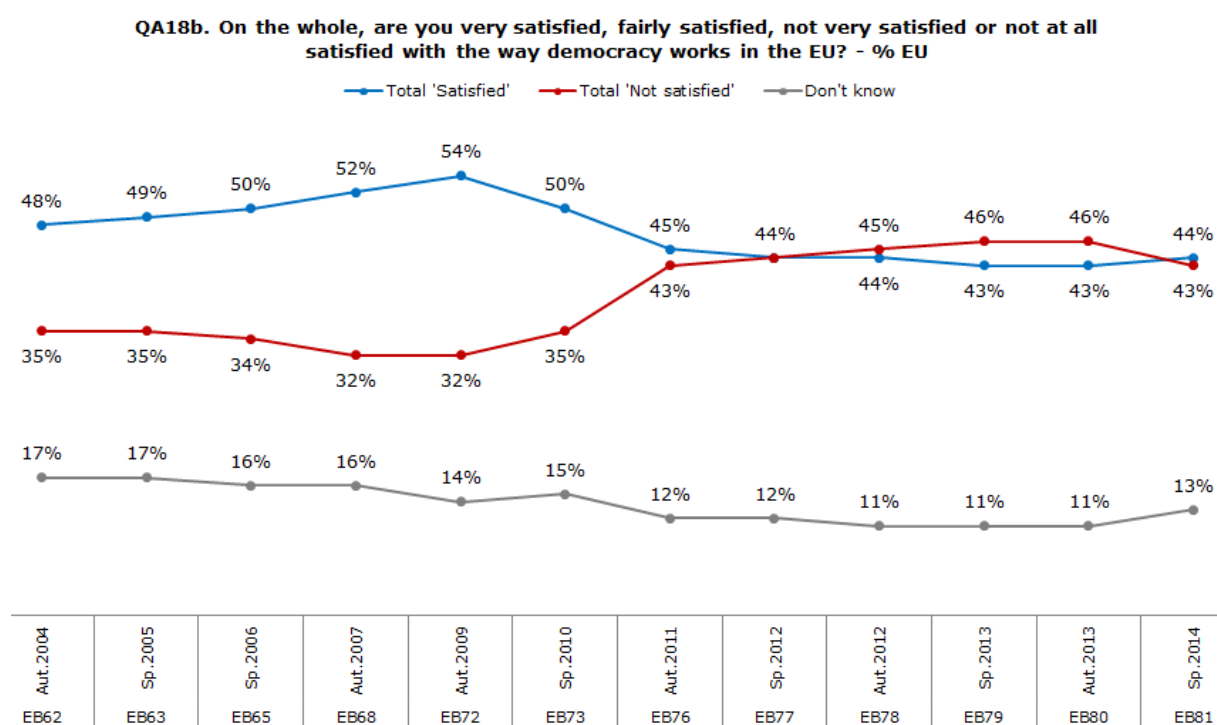
A socio-demographic **analysis of the results** shows that opinions on the way in which democracy works at national level continue to be largely shaped by structural social factors. For example, 67% of those who consider that they belong to the “upper class”, 65% of managers and 58% of those who studied up to the age of 20 or beyond are satisfied with the way in which their national democracy works, whereas 74% of those who have difficulties paying their bills, 65% of unemployed people and 58% of those who left school at the age of 15 or earlier are dissatisfied.

QA18a. On the whole, are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied or not at all satisfied with the way democracy works in (OUR COUNTRY)?

	Total 'Satisfied'	Total 'Not satisfied'	Don't know
EU28	50%	48%	2%
EURO AREA	49%	50%	1%
NON-EURO AREA	50%	46%	4%
 Gender			
Man	51%	48%	1%
Woman	49%	48%	3%
 Age			
15-24	55%	42%	3%
25-39	48%	50%	2%
40-54	49%	49%	2%
55 +	50%	48%	2%
 Education (End of)			
15-	40%	58%	2%
16-19	47%	51%	2%
20+	58%	40%	2%
Still studying	60%	38%	2%
 Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	51%	48%	1%
Managers	65%	34%	1%
Other white collars	53%	46%	1%
Manual workers	45%	53%	2%
House persons	44%	51%	5%
Unemployed	33%	65%	2%
Retired	50%	48%	2%
Students	60%	38%	2%
 Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	25%	74%	1%
From time to time	39%	59%	2%
Almost never/ Never	59%	39%	2%
Consider belonging to			
The working class	38%	60%	2%
The middle class	58%	40%	2%
The upper class	67%	32%	1%
Image of EU			
Positive	67%	32%	1%
Neutral	48%	49%	3%
Negative	31%	68%	1%

Democracy in the European Union

The deteriorating trend in perceptions of the way in which democracy works in the EU, which started with the Standard Eurobarometer survey of spring 2010 (EB73), has also been halted in this survey, since the results show a slight improvement. As a result of a **one percentage point increase in positive opinions (44% for the total “satisfied” answers), combined with a decrease of three percentage points in negative opinions (43%), the balance of opinion is now positive again +1**, compared with -3 during the two previous Standard Eurobarometer surveys of autumn and spring 2013⁴³.



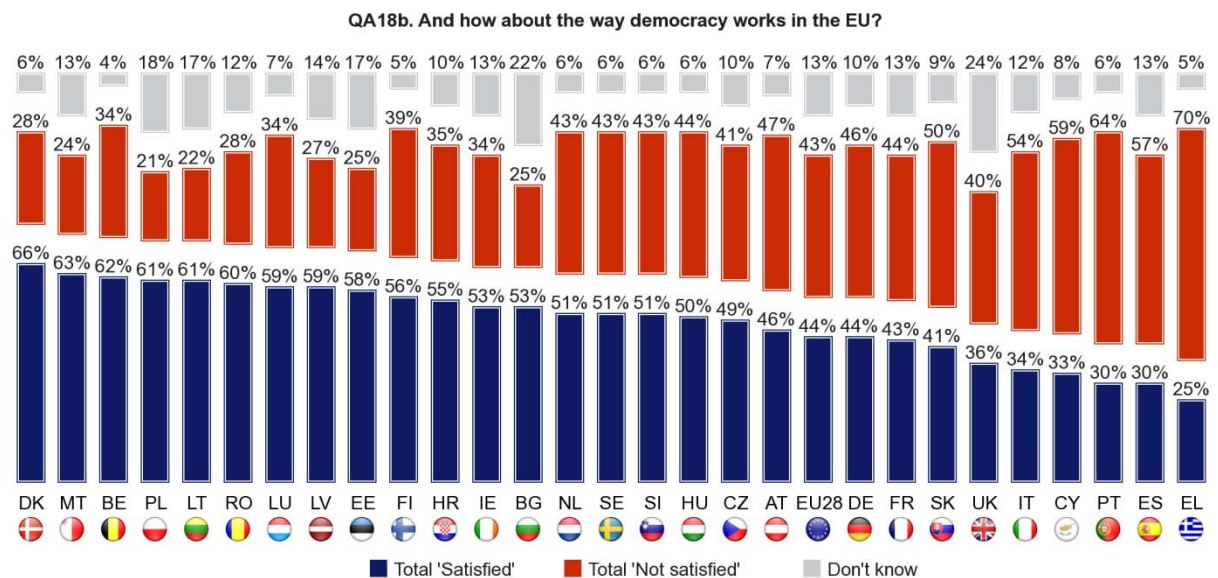
Despite a slight improvement, the balance of opinion remains negative in the euro area countries (41% versus 48%, compared with 40% versus 51% in autumn 2013). On the other hand, it is still positive in the non-euro area countries (50% versus 33%, compared with 50% versus 35%).

Since autumn 2013, the balance of opinion has been reversed and is now positive in the Netherlands (51% versus 43%, compared with 43% versus 50%) and Slovenia (51% versus 43%, compared with 40% versus 54%). Even if it is still narrow, it has shifted in Germany (44% versus 46%, compared with 48% versus 45%).

⁴³ QA18b. On the whole, are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied or not at all satisfied with the way democracy works in the EU?

A majority of respondents in 18 Member States are satisfied with the way in which democracy works in the EU, most notably in Denmark (66%, +3 percentage points), Malta (63%, +1), Belgium (62%, +1), Poland (61%, -8), Lithuania (61%, +10) and Romania (60%, +11). Levels of satisfaction have increased significantly in Romania (60%, +11), Croatia (55%, +11), Slovenia (51%, +11), Lithuania (61%, +10) and Estonia (58%, +9), but have fallen sharply in Poland (61%, -8) and Hungary (50%, -6).

A majority of respondents are dissatisfied with the way democracy works in the EU in ten Member States, with absolute majorities in Greece (70%, -5 percentage points), Portugal (64%, -11), Cyprus (59%, -2), Spain (57%, -2) Italy (54%, -2) and Slovakia (50%, -2) and relative majorities in Austria (47% versus 46%, compared with 54% versus 42%), Germany (46% versus 44%, compared with 45% versus 48%), France (44% versus 43%, compared with 47% versus 41%) and the United Kingdom (40% versus 36%, compared with 45% versus 36%). The most striking change within this group concerns Portugal, where dissatisfaction has decreased significantly (64%, -11).



A majority of respondents in the most disadvantaged categories of the European population are dissatisfied with the way in which democracy works in the EU:












60% of those who struggle to pay their bills; 53% of unemployed people and 50% of those who left school at the age of 15 or earlier. On the other hand, a majority of the more advantaged categories of the population are satisfied: 53% of managers, 50% of Europeans who studied up to the age of 20 or beyond. Satisfaction with the way in which democracy works in the EU also decreases with age: 53% of 15-24 year-olds, 45% of 25-39 year-olds, 43% of 40-54 year-olds and 40% of those aged 55 or over. Lastly, the more respondents think that the EU has a positive image the more they are satisfied: 70% of those for whom the EU conjures up a positive image are satisfied with the way in which democracy works in the EU, versus 39% of those for whom the EU has a neutral image and 16% of those for whom it has a negative image.

QA18b. And how about the way democracy works in the EU?












	Total 'Satisfied'	Total 'Not satisfied'	Don't know
EU28	44%	43%	13%
EURO AREA	41%	48%	11%
NON-EURO AREA	50%	33%	17%
Gender			
Man	46%	45%	9%
Woman	42%	42%	16%
Age			
15-24	53%	35%	12%
25-39	45%	44%	11%
40-54	43%	46%	11%
55 +	40%	44%	16%
Education (End of)			
15-	33%	50%	17%
16-19	41%	45%	14%
20+	50%	41%	9%
Still studying	58%	33%	9%
Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	50%	43%	7%
Managers	53%	38%	9%
Other white collars	47%	42%	11%
Manual workers	40%	47%	13%
House persons	41%	41%	18%
Unemployed	33%	53%	14%
Retired	39%	44%	17%
Students	58%	33%	9%
Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	26%	60%	14%
From time to time	40%	48%	12%
Almost never/ Never	48%	40%	12%
Consider belonging to			
The working class	36%	48%	16%
The middle class	49%	40%	11%
The upper class	65%	30%	5%
Image of EU			
Positive	70%	22%	8%
Neutral	39%	44%	17%
Negative	16%	74%	10%

The following tables show the results by socio-demographic criteria in the whole of the European Union (EU28) on average, in the six largest EU countries and in four countries which have been particularly badly affected by the economic crisis.

QA18a. On the whole, are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied or not at all satisfied with the way democracy works in (OUR COUNTRY)?

Total 'Satisfied'											
	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
											
	50%	72%	29%	52%	27%	52%	61%	20%	27%	56%	30%
Gender											
Male	51%	71%	28%	55%	26%	50%	64%	20%	27%	59%	35%
Female	49%	73%	31%	49%	28%	53%	58%	19%	27%	53%	25%
Age											
15-24	55%	67%	33%	64%	29%	63%	64%	18%	35%	59%	28%
25-39	48%	68%	21%	50%	28%	56%	58%	18%	24%	53%	23%
40-54	49%	70%	31%	50%	28%	50%	62%	18%	29%	55%	31%
55 +	50%	77%	34%	49%	25%	44%	60%	23%	25%	59%	36%
Education (End of)											
15-	40%	68%	29%	40%	21%	37%	54%	19%	24%	46%	24%
16-19	47%	72%	29%	46%	28%	43%	54%	19%	25%	51%	33%
20+	58%	74%	32%	57%	35%	56%	70%	20%	36%	63%	29%
Still studying	60%	79%	32%	66%	33%	75%	73%	20%	36%	69%	36%
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	51%	70%	33%	69%	34%	52%	74%	24%	15%	60%	30%
Managers	65%	78%	39%	58%	51%	67%	66%	24%	40%	62%	35%
Other white collars	53%	78%	35%	54%	28%	60%	56%	15%	30%	61%	27%
Manual workers	45%	62%	24%	47%	22%	42%	53%	16%	27%	48%	32%
House persons	44%	77%	43%	45%	19%	58%	55%	21%	27%	48%	21%
Unemployed	33%	51%	21%	36%	13%	36%	58%	15%	21%	54%	20%
Retired	50%	77%	31%	50%	27%	46%	60%	22%	26%	57%	32%
Students	60%	79%	32%	66%	33%	75%	73%	20%	36%	69%	36%
Image of the EU											
Positive	67%	88%	51%	71%	45%	69%	77%	48%	49%	75%	48%
Neutral	48%	73%	27%	48%	26%	40%	61%	19%	24%	49%	32%
Negative	31%	41%	15%	33%	12%	13%	53%	6%	9%	30%	15%

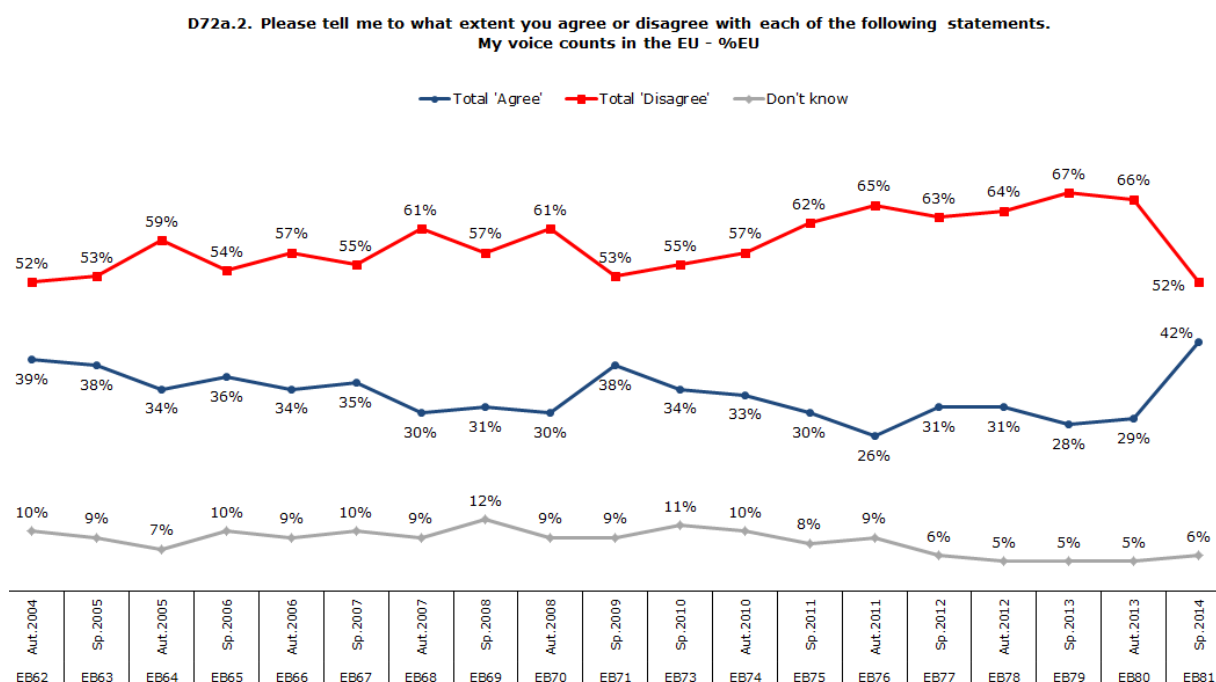
QA18b. And how about the way democracy works in the EU?

Total 'Satisfied'											
	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
											
	44%	44%	30%	43%	34%	61%	36%	25%	30%	53%	33%
Gender											
Male	46%	45%	33%	49%	35%	61%	38%	27%	32%	58%	36%
Female	42%	44%	28%	37%	34%	60%	34%	24%	28%	50%	31%
Age											
15-24	53%	46%	42%	62%	37%	71%	48%	32%	46%	61%	40%
25-39	45%	44%	24%	42%	35%	67%	39%	28%	30%	52%	30%
40-54	43%	39%	30%	40%	41%	61%	37%	21%	29%	56%	30%
55 +	40%	48%	30%	38%	29%	51%	27%	25%	26%	50%	35%
Education (End of)											
15-	33%	42%	24%	32%	28%	42%	22%	21%	25%	41%	22%
16-19	41%	42%	32%	35%	35%	55%	30%	23%	31%	47%	32%
20+	50%	48%	34%	48%	44%	66%	47%	27%	35%	64%	39%
Still studying	58%	59%	37%	61%	44%	81%	55%	34%	47%	69%	42%
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	50%	41%	40%	58%	43%	66%	56%	30%	20%	64%	32%
Managers	53%	52%	45%	61%	56%	75%	41%	26%	34%	63%	53%
Other white collars	47%	45%	39%	40%	40%	69%	40%	26%	41%	62%	34%
Manual workers	40%	36%	24%	37%	31%	55%	33%	23%	30%	47%	28%
House persons	41%	47%	30%	36%	32%	70%	29%	29%	33%	42%	27%
Unemployed	33%	33%	24%	30%	21%	45%	40%	20%	23%	49%	21%
Retired	39%	45%	31%	37%	27%	52%	24%	22%	27%	50%	31%
Students	58%	59%	37%	61%	44%	81%	55%	34%	47%	69%	42%
Image of the EU											
Positive	67%	88%	51%	71%	45%	69%	77%	48%	49%	75%	48%
Neutral	48%	73%	27%	48%	26%	40%	61%	19%	24%	49%	32%
Negative	31%	41%	15%	33%	12%	13%	53%	6%	9%	30%	15%

8.2. Are personal interests properly taken into account at national level and by the EU?

- European citizens now feel more that their “voice counts in the EU” -

The European elections in May 2014 have boosted the feeling among a significant proportion of Europeans that their voice counts in the European Union: **at 42%, the proportion of Europeans who consider that their voice counts in the EU has increased by 13 percentage points since autumn 2013**. At the same time, the percentage of those who feel that their voice does not count has fallen by 14 percentage points, to 52%. However, a majority of Europeans still feel that their voice does not count, despite the best ever balance of opinion ever observed for this indicator⁴⁴.



The feeling among Europeans that their voice counts has gained ground in all Member States since autumn 2013, moderately in Italy (19%, +2 percentage points), Ireland (33%, +2), Hungary (39%, +2) and the Czech Republic (22%, +3), but spectacularly in Sweden (78%, +31), the Netherlands (63%, +23), Finland (58%, +20), Portugal (37%, +19), Denmark (75%, +18), France (54%, +18), Croatia (59%, +17), Germany (57%, +16), Austria (50%, +16), Bulgaria (42%, +16) and Romania (35%, +16).

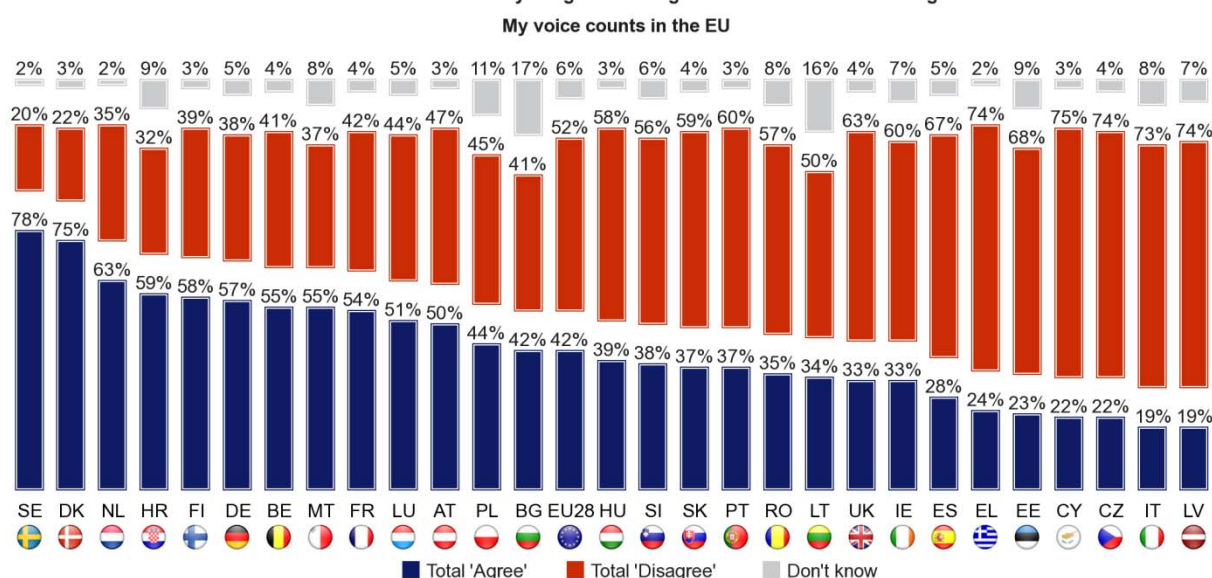
As a result of these strong increases, the feeling that “my voice counts in the EU” is now shared by a majority of respondents in 12 Member States (Sweden, Denmark, the Netherlands, Croatia, Finland, Germany, Belgium, Malta, France, Luxembourg, Austria and Bulgaria) whereas only Denmark had a majority in autumn 2013.

⁴⁴ D72a.2. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. My voice counts in the EU.

A majority of respondents in the 16 other EU countries continue to believe that their voice does not count in the EU, most notably in Cyprus (75%, -11 percentage points), Latvia (74%, -3), Greece (74%, -12), the Czech Republic (74%, -5) and Italy (73%, -6), where this view is shared by approximately three-quarters of respondents.

Although perceptions have improved, albeit to differing degrees, there are still very large differences between Member States on this indicator, with a maximum difference of 59 percentage points between Sweden and Latvia. Moreover, the balance of opinion is almost symmetrically opposite between the countries where respondents feel the most that their voice counts in the EU and the countries where that opinion is the least widespread.

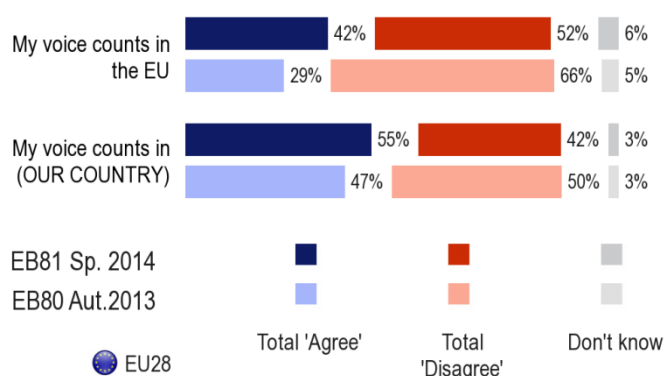
D72a.2. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.



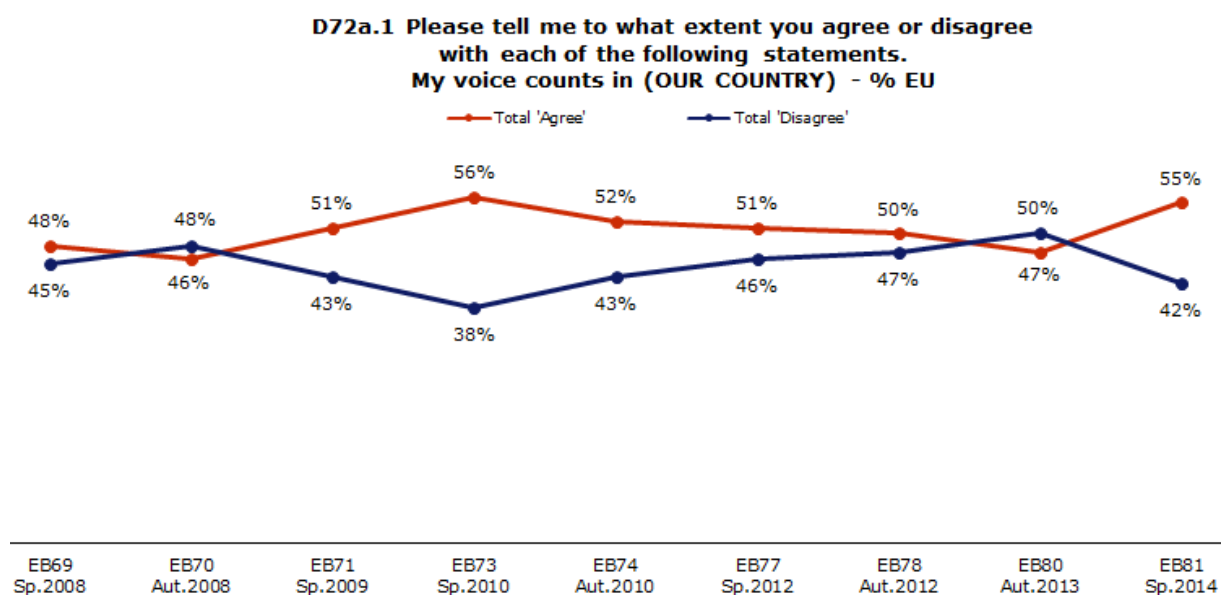
The feeling that "my voice counts in (OUR COUNTRY)"

The feeling among Europeans that their voice counts in their country has also gained ground in this survey. As a result, as in all the previous Standard Eurobarometer surveys, the score on this indicator remains far higher than that measured for Europeans at EU level. 55% of Europeans (+8 percentage points) feel that their voice counts in their country, while 42% (-8) disagree. As a result of these changes, the balance of opinion has become positive again for this indicator⁴⁵.

D72a. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.



⁴⁵ D72a.1. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. My voice counts in (OUR COUNTRY).



In this survey the balance of opinion has been reversed and is now positive in Slovakia (51% versus 47%, compared with 45% versus 54% in autumn 2013) and the United Kingdom (58% versus 40%, compared with 44% versus 53%). It is evenly balanced (48% versus 48%), whereas it was largely negative (42% versus 56%), in Slovenia. In total, a majority of respondents in 14 Member States have the impression that their voice counts in their country, with the highest scores being recorded in the Nordic countries (95% in Sweden, +4 percentage points; 94% in Denmark, +1; 80% in Finland, +2), the Netherlands (82%, +6), Germany (76%, +4) and Austria (75%, +3).

It remains the minority opinion in 13 Member States. However, except in Hungary (41% , -3 percentage points), the proportion of respondents sharing this opinion has increased, often significantly, in all these countries: in Portugal (48%, +16), Romania (33%, +13), Bulgaria (41%, +12), Greece (31%, +11), Spain (33%, +10), Lithuania (28%, +9), Ireland (48%, +7), Italy (24%, +7), Latvia (33%, +6), Estonia (42%, +6), the Czech Republic (39%, +3) and Cyprus (24%, +2).

9. EUROPEANS AND GLOBALISATION

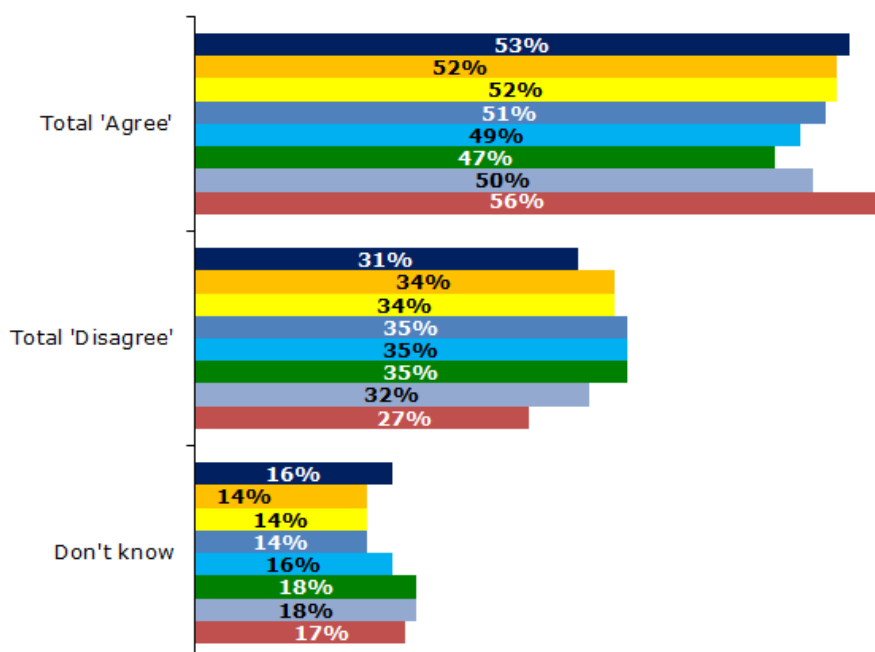
9.1. Is globalisation an opportunity for economic growth?

A large majority of Europeans continue to perceive globalisation positively as an opportunity for economic growth: more than half of Europeans (53%, +1 percentage point since autumn 2013) agree with the statement that “globalisation is an opportunity for economic growth”, while less than a third (31%, -3) disagree and 16% (+2) did not express an opinion⁴⁶.

QA19a.2 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

Globalisation is an opportunity for economic growth
- %EU

■ EB81 Sp.2014 ■ EB80 Aut.2013 ■ EB79 Sp. 2013 ■ EB78 Aut.2012 ■ EB77 Sp.2012 ■ EB76 Aut.2011 ■ EB75 Sp.2011 ■ EB73 Sp.2010



In this survey, a majority of respondents now perceive globalisation positively in France (46% versus 42%, compared with 44% versus 46% in autumn 2013) and Italy (42% versus 41%, compared with 32% versus 56%), compared with a minority in autumn 2013. Therefore, **there are now only three EU countries in which a majority of respondents do not see globalisation as a growth driver**, namely Greece (57%, -12 percentage points since autumn 2013), Cyprus (48% versus 38%, compared with 57% versus 32%) and the Czech Republic (46% versus 39%, compared with 47% versus 43%). Negative perceptions have however decreased significantly in Greece (57%, -12) and Cyprus (48%, -9).

⁴⁶ QA19a.2 Please tell me for each statement, whether you tend to agree or tend to disagree. Globalisation is an opportunity for economic growth.

Respondents are predominantly positive about globalisation in 25 Member States, with an absolute majority of respondents in 18 of them, most notably in Sweden (77%, -3 percentage points), Denmark (75%, -4), Malta (73%, +13) and the Netherlands (73%, +2). Positive perceptions have increased significantly since autumn 2013 in Malta (73%, +13), Italy (42%, +10, versus 41%, -15), Lithuania (62%, +9) and Romania (48%, +9, versus 32%, -3), but have fallen sharply in Finland (66%, -7), Belgium (52%, -7) and Hungary (52%, -7).

In the candidate countries:

- In this survey, the balance of opinion has been reversed and is now positive in Montenegro (44%, +6, versus 35%, -7), but has become negative in Turkey following a spectacular fall in positive opinions (29%, -25, versus 38%, +4);
- An absolute majority of respondents in both Iceland (65%, -2, versus 25%, +5) and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (52%, +7, versus 30%, +2) see globalisation as an opportunity for economic growth;
- Respondents in Serbia are predominantly negative about globalisation (35%, unchanged, versus 40%, -3).

QA19a.2. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

Globalisation is an opportunity for economic growth












	Total 'Agree'		Total 'Disagree'		Don't know	
	EB81 Sp.2014	Diff. Sp.2014-Aut.2013	EB81 Sp.2014	Diff. Sp.2014-Aut.2013	EB81 Sp.2014	Diff. Sp.2014-Aut.2013
EU28	53%	+1	31%	-3	16%	+2
EURO AREA	52%	+2	34%	-4	14%	+2
NON-EURO AREA	53%	=	27%	-1	20%	+1
SE	77%	-3	17%	+1	6%	+2
DK	75%	-4	16%	+3	9%	+1
MT	73%	+13	11%	-4	16%	-9
NL	73%	+2	17%	-4	10%	+2
DE	68%	-1	23%	+2	9%	-1
FI	66%	-7	24%	+3	10%	+4
IE	62%	=	21%	-1	17%	+1
LT	62%	+9	18%	-4	20%	-5
HR	58%	+1	28%	-6	14%	+5
LU	58%	-2	30%	=	12%	+2
SI	58%	+6	30%	-7	12%	+1
AT	57%	+4	36%	-3	7%	-1
EE	55%	-2	23%	-6	22%	+8
UK	54%	=	22%	-6	24%	+6
BE	52%	-7	40%	+3	8%	+4
HU	52%	-7	39%	+9	9%	-2
PL	52%	=	27%	+3	21%	-3
LV	50%	-6	30%	+2	20%	+4
PT	49%	+6	35%	-1	16%	-5
SK	49%	=	36%	-3	15%	+3
RO	48%	+9	32%	-3	20%	-6
FR	46%	+2	42%	-4	12%	+2
IT	42%	+10	41%	-15	17%	+5
BG	41%	-5	28%	=	31%	+5
ES	41%	-3	32%	-3	27%	+6
CZ	39%	-4	46%	-1	15%	+5
CY	38%	+6	48%	-9	14%	+3
EL	37%	+10	57%	-12	6%	+2
CY(tcc)	65%	+17	21%	-11	14%	-6
IS	65%	-2	25%	+5	10%	-3
MK	52%	+7	30%	+2	18%	-9
ME	44%	+6	35%	-7	21%	+1
RS	35%	=	40%	-3	25%	+3
TR	29%	-25	38%	+4	33%	+21

A socio-demographic analysis highlights certain variations between categories of Europeans: positive perceptions of globalisation are the most widespread among young people (66% of 15-24 year-olds) and the most advantaged respondents (67% of managers, 64% of those who place themselves at the top of the social scale and 61% of those who studied up to the age of 20 or beyond). On the other hand, a narrow majority of those who struggle to pay their bills most of the time (44% “disagree” versus 36%) and those who place themselves at the bottom of the social scale (39% versus 38%) do not agree that globalisation is an opportunity for economic growth.

The following table shows the results by socio-demographic criteria in the whole of the European Union (EU28) on average, in the six largest EU countries and in four countries which have been particularly badly affected by the economic crisis.

QA19a.2 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

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

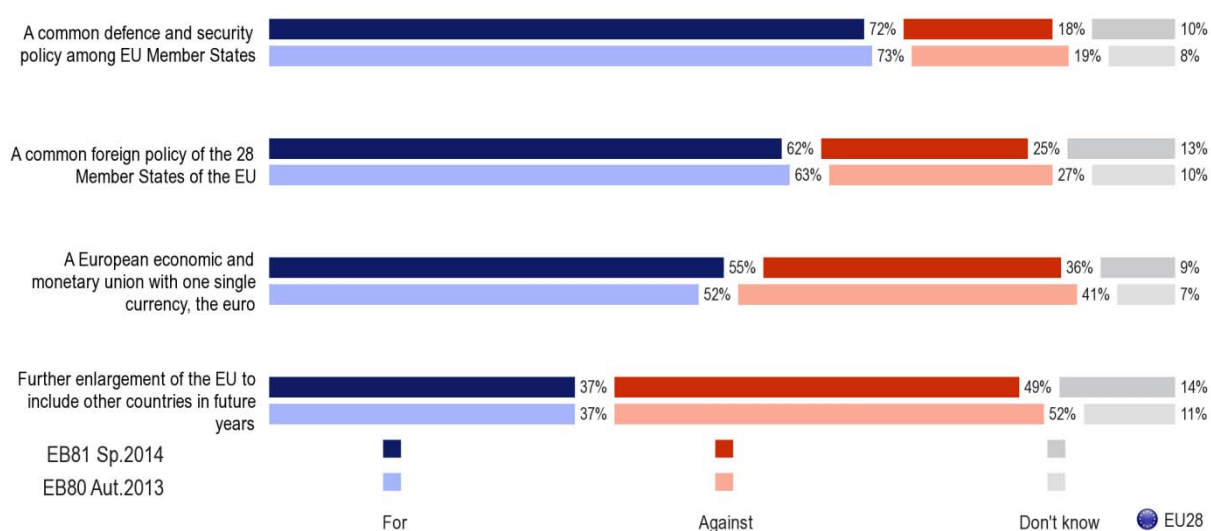
	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
											
	53%	68%	41%	46%	42%	52%	54%	37%	49%	62%	38%
Gender											
Male	57%	71%	46%	49%	45%	54%	61%	39%	53%	69%	37%
Female	49%	65%	37%	43%	38%	50%	46%	35%	47%	56%	39%
Age											
15-24	66%	72%	63%	76%	49%	63%	67%	56%	65%	65%	51%
25-39	56%	68%	42%	48%	44%	59%	63%	43%	56%	63%	46%
40-54	52%	63%	39%	43%	43%	52%	51%	35%	54%	64%	33%
55 +	46%	69%	35%	35%	36%	42%	42%	29%	38%	56%	28%
Education (End of)											
15-	38%	56%	32%	36%	28%	28%	38%	22%	38%	49%	24%
16-19	51%	68%	42%	39%	43%	45%	47%	39%	57%	56%	32%
20+	61%	72%	48%	47%	53%	62%	67%	39%	65%	70%	48%
Still studying	70%	83%	59%	77%	53%	64%	78%	60%	71%	71%	59%
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	58%	67%	57%	58%	46%	59%	67%	42%	59%	70%	39%
Managers	67%	73%	52%	50%	65%	70%	67%	44%	71%	72%	40%
Other white collars	57%	63%	59%	55%	54%	55%	45%	41%	61%	72%	48%
Manual workers	49%	62%	38%	38%	32%	47%	51%	35%	52%	55%	29%
House persons	45%	70%	28%	30%	41%	66%	43%	36%	35%	47%	29%
Unemployed	44%	56%	37%	44%	30%	42%	55%	29%	42%	56%	28%
Retired	45%	70%	36%	38%	30%	44%	40%	27%	37%	63%	31%
Students	70%	83%	59%	77%	53%	64%	78%	60%	71%	71%	59%

III. THE EUROPEAN UNION TODAY AND TOMORROW

10. SUPPORT FOR EUROPEAN POLICIES

The increase in support for economic and monetary union with a single currency, the euro, is the main change observed in this Standard Eurobarometer survey since autumn 2013. The changes are more moderate as regards the other European policies tested. Therefore, there is still broad support among Europeans for a common defence and security policy and a common foreign policy. However, a majority of Europeans remain opposed to further enlargement of the EU in the coming years.

QA17. What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell me for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.



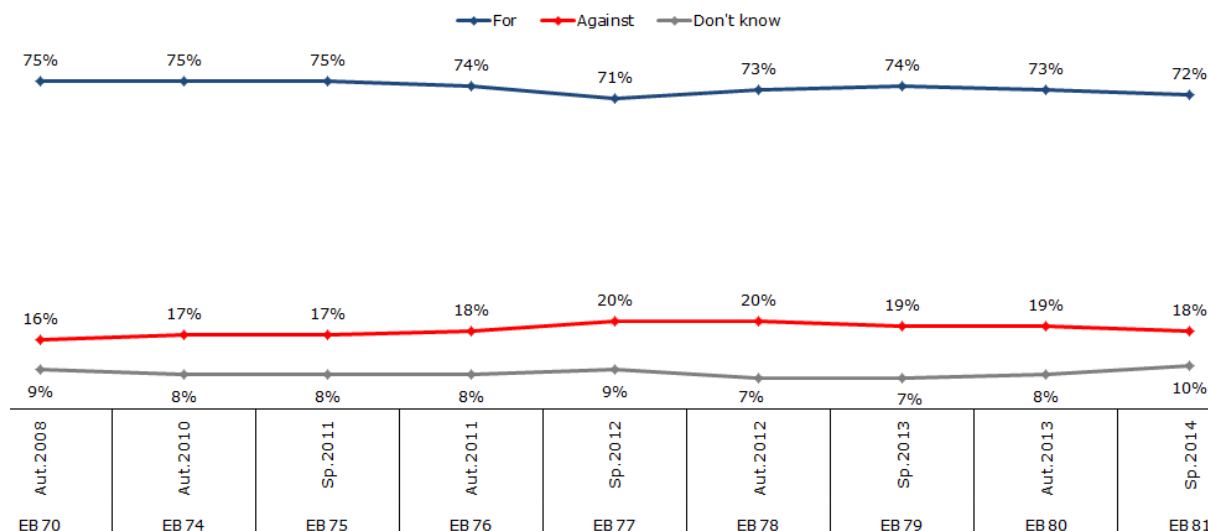
A common defence and security policy among EU Member States

More than seven out of ten Europeans (72%, -1 percentage point since the Standard Eurobarometer survey of autumn 2013) are in favour of the idea of a common defence and security policy among EU Member States, while 18% (-1) are against the idea and 10% (+2) did not express an opinion⁴⁷. The variations recorded for this indicator between the various Standard Eurobarometer surveys are overall insignificant, as support for this policy remain overwhelming and is constant over time.

⁴⁷ QA17.4. Please tell me for each statement, whether you are for or against it. A common defence and security policy among EU Member States.

QA17.4 What is your opinion on each of the following statements?
Please tell me for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.

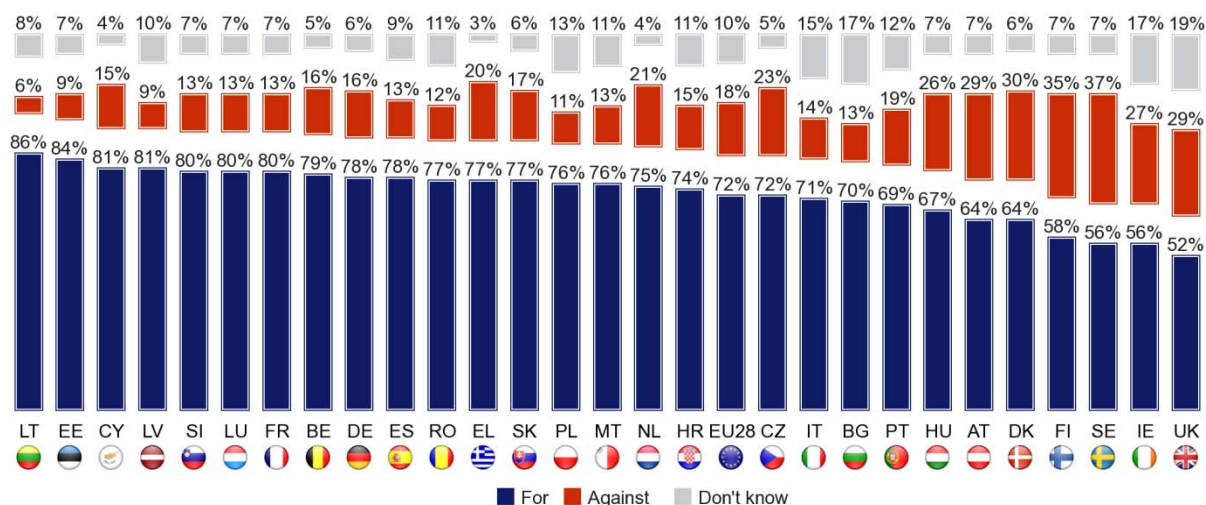
A common defence and security policy among EU Member States
- %EU



An analysis of the results by country shows that there is a broad consensus in favour of a common defence and security policy: this idea is supported by an absolute majority of respondents in all EU countries, with the highest scores being recorded in the Baltic countries (86% in Lithuania, +4 percentage points since autumn 2013; 84% in Estonia, unchanged; 81% in Latvia, -6), Cyprus (81%, =), Luxembourg (80%, -4), France (80%, +3) and Slovenia (80%, +1). The proportion of respondents who are against the idea of a common defence and security policy is considerably higher than the EU average (18%, UE28) in the Nordic countries (37% in Sweden, -1; 35% in Finland, -2; 30% in Denmark, +1), the United Kingdom (29%, -3) and Austria (29%, -2). Support for this policy has increased in Malta (76%, +7), but has decreased notably in Bulgaria (70%, -11), Slovakia (77%, -8), the Czech Republic (72%, -8) and Croatia (74%, -8).

QA17.4. What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell me for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.

A common defence and security policy among EU Member States



A common foreign policy of the 28 Member States of the EU

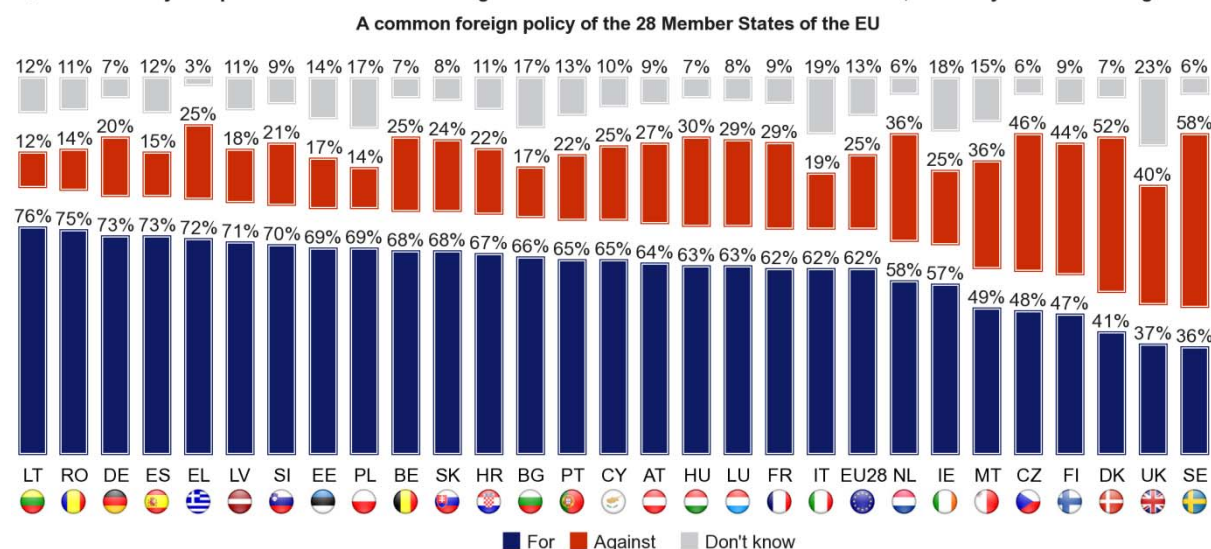
More than six out of ten Europeans (62%, -1 percentage point since autumn 2013) are in favour of a common foreign policy for the 28 Member States of the EU, while 25% (-2) are against the idea and 13% (+3) did not express an opinion⁴⁸.

In this survey, as a result of a decrease of nine percentage points, only a minority of respondents are against a common European foreign policy in Finland (44% versus 47%), whereas a majority of respondents were opposed to the idea (53% versus 43%) in autumn 2013. On the other hand, respondents remain predominantly hostile to the idea in Sweden (58%, +2 percentage points), Denmark (52%, +1) and the United Kingdom (40% versus 37%, compared with 41% versus 40% in autumn 2013).

The principle of a common foreign policy is supported by a majority of respondents in the remaining 25 Member States, with an absolute majority in 22 countries, most notably in Lithuania (76%, +2 percentage points), Romania (75%, +4), Germany (73%, -2) and Spain (73%, +1) and a relative majority in three countries, namely Malta (49% versus 36%, compared with 48% versus 33% in autumn 2013), the Czech Republic (48% versus 46%), where support has however fallen by ten percentage points since autumn 2013 (58% versus 37%) and as mentioned above Finland (47% versus 44%, compared with 43% versus 53%).

Since autumn 2013, this support has increased significantly in Portugal (65%, +8 percentage points), but has fallen sharply in the Czech Republic (48%, -10), Croatia (67%, -9), Bulgaria (66%, -9), Slovakia (68%, -8) and Luxembourg (63%, -8).

QA17.2. What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell me for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.

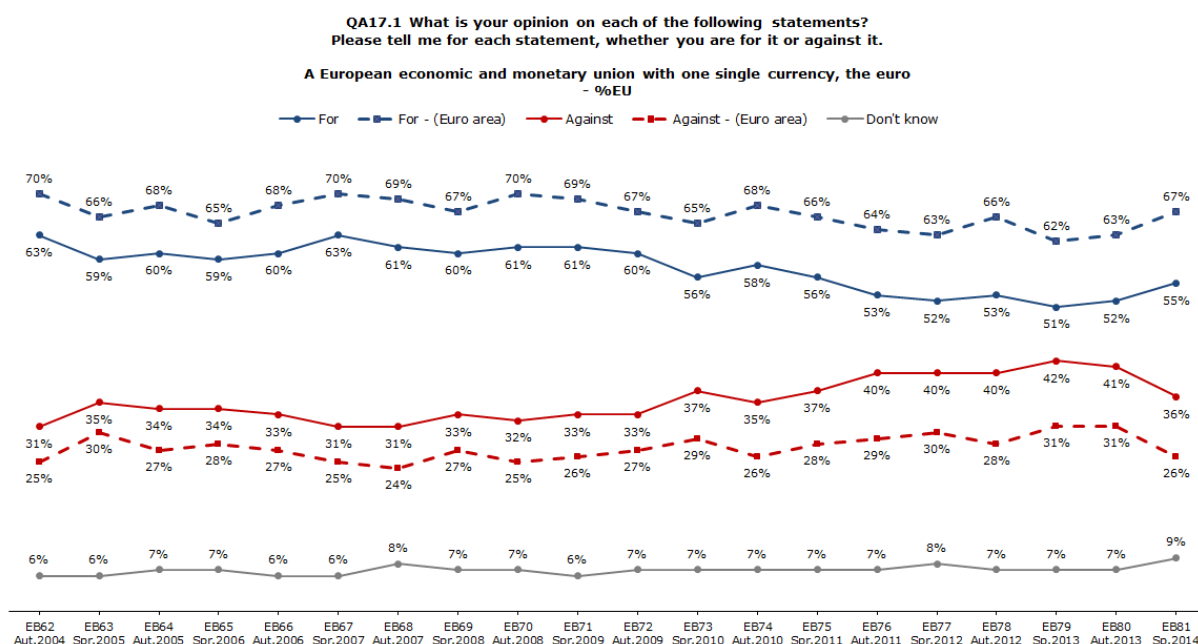


⁴⁸ QA17.2. Please tell me for each statement, whether you are for or against it. A common foreign policy of the 28 Member States of the EU.

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

The Standard Eurobarometer survey of autumn 2013 had recorded a slight improvement in the balance of opinion for perceptions of the euro. The momentum of that improvement has continued in this survey: support for the euro (55%) has increased by three percentage points, while opposition to the single currency (36%) has fallen by five percentage points.

The euro balance of opinion has therefore improved by eight percentage points, from +11 in autumn 2013 to +19 today, i.e. its highest level since autumn 2010 (+23), equalling that of spring 2011 and considerably higher than the lowest level, recorded in the Standard Eurobarometer survey of spring 2013 (+9)⁴⁹.



A large majority of respondents in the euro area countries continue to support economic and monetary union and the majority has even increased (67%, +4 percentage points). Despite a slight dip, a majority of respondents in the non-euro area countries remain against economic and monetary union (57%, -1, versus 32%, -2).

In the Standard Eurobarometer survey of autumn 2013 (EB80), Cyprus was the only euro area country which did not have majority support for the euro. As a result of a nine percentage point increase in positive opinions in this survey, Cyprus now has a majority of respondents who support the euro (53% versus 44%, compared with 44% versus 52% in autumn 2013).

⁴⁹ QA17.1. Please tell me for each statement, whether you are for or against it. A European economic and monetary union with one single currency, the euro.

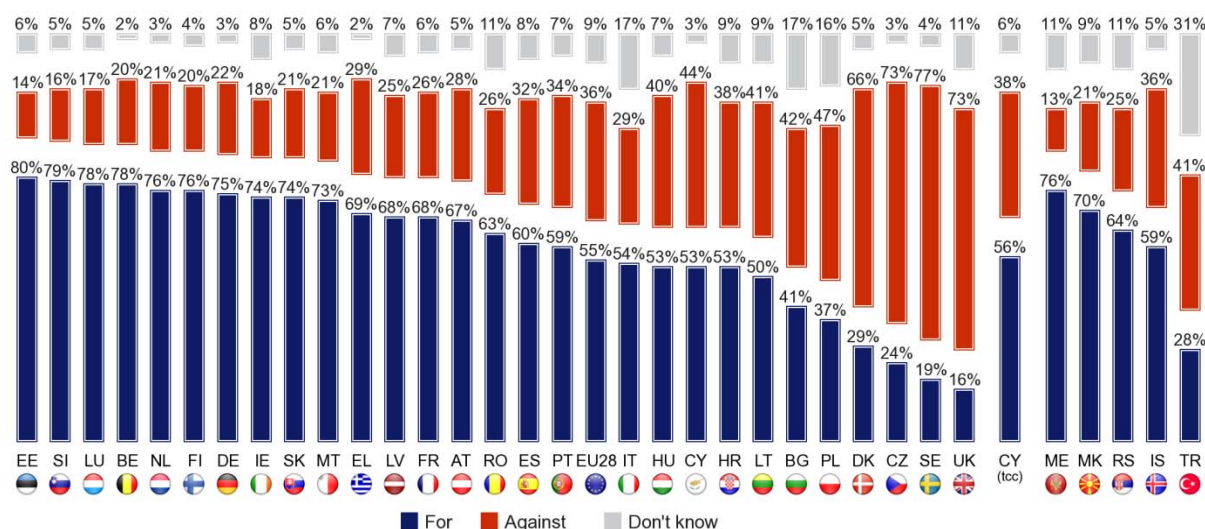
Consequently, an absolute majority of the respondents in the 18 euro area countries now support the euro, with scores ranging from 53% in Cyprus to 80% in Estonia (+4). Support for the euro has increased very strongly in Latvia⁵⁰ (68%, +15 versus autumn 2013 and +25 versus spring 2013). Other than in Cyprus, this support has also increased strongly in Portugal (59%, +9) and Greece (69%, +7).

In the non-euro area countries, the balance of opinion has been reversed and is now positive in Lithuania⁵¹ (50% favourable versus 41%, compared with 40% versus 49% in autumn 2013). On the other hand, the balance of opinion has become negative in Bulgaria (41% versus 42%, compared with 51% versus 36% in autumn 2013). In total, in the countries that have not adopted the single currency, a majority of respondents support the euro in Romania (63%, +5 percentage points), Hungary (53%, -2), Croatia (53%, -4) and as mentioned above Lithuania (50%, +10), whereas respondents are predominantly against the euro in Sweden (77%, +3), the Czech Republic (73%, +3), the United Kingdom (73%, -1), Denmark (66%, +1), Poland (47% versus 37%, compared with 55% versus 35%) and Bulgaria (42% versus 41%, compared with 36% versus 51%).

In the candidate countries, support for economic and monetary union has increased very strongly in Serbia (64%, +16 percentage points). Support for the euro has increased even further in Iceland (59%, +5), after having become the majority opinion there for the first time in the Eurobarometer survey of spring 2013 (EB79). There have not been any significant changes in Montenegro and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia where the euro is still supported by a large majority of respondents (76%, unchanged and 70%, -3 respectively). On the other hand, support has fallen very sharply in Turkey, where it was already the minority opinion (28%, -16).

QA17.1. What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell me for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.

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



⁵⁰ For the record, Latvia joined the euro area on 1st January 2014.





⁵¹ Lithuania is due to join the euro area on 1st January 2015.

A socio-demographic analysis shows that a majority of all respondents in all age groups support the euro, with scores ranging from 60% of 15-24 year-olds to 54% of those aged 55 or over.

With the sole exception of those who have difficulties paying their bills (47% are against the euro versus 44%), **a majority of Europeans in all the socio-demographic categories support the euro**, with however very pronounced differences of intensity, between the bottom and the top of the social ladder. For example, 46% (versus 45%) of those who see themselves as belonging to the working class approve of the single currency, versus 62% of those who see themselves as middle class and 76% of those who consider that they belong to the upper class. Another illustration: 47% of those who left school at the age of 15 or earlier support the euro versus 61% of those who studied up to the age of 20 or beyond. We also note that opinions on the euro are not strictly correlated to trust in the European Union, since Europeans who tend not to trust the EU are almost evenly divided on the question of economic and monetary union with a single currency, the euro (46% versus 45%).

QA17.1 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell me for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.

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
















	For	Against	Don't know
EU28	55%	36%	9%
 Gender			
Man	58%	35%	7%
Woman	52%	38%	10%
 Age			
15-24	60%	32%	8%
25-39	54%	37%	9%
40-54	55%	37%	8%
55 +	54%	37%	9%
 Education (End of)			
15-	47%	43%	10%
16-19	53%	39%	8%
20+	61%	32%	7%
Still studying	63%	28%	9%
 Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	63%	30%	7%
Managers	61%	33%	6%
Other white collars	57%	36%	7%
Manual workers	51%	40%	9%
House persons	52%	36%	12%
Unemployed	49%	43%	8%
Retired	53%	37%	10%
Students	63%	28%	9%
Trust in EU			
Tend to trust	74%	20%	6%
Tend not to trust	46%	45%	9%
Image of EU			
Positive	74%	20%	6%
Neutral	54%	36%	10%
Negative	33%	59%	8%

The following table shows the results by socio-demographic criteria in the whole of the European Union (EU28) on average, in the six largest EU countries and in four countries which have been particularly badly affected by the economic crisis.

QA17.1 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell me for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.

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

Answer: 'For'

	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
											
	55%	75%	60%	68%	54%	37%	16%	69%	59%	74%	53%
 Gender											
Male	58%	76%	64%	71%	54%	39%	22%	71%	64%	74%	58%
Female	52%	73%	58%	65%	53%	34%	11%	67%	54%	74%	48%
 Age											
15-24	60%	78%	79%	71%	62%	38%	23%	75%	68%	67%	49%
25-39	54%	70%	61%	61%	52%	43%	19%	71%	66%	70%	44%
40-54	55%	72%	62%	66%	59%	38%	13%	66%	61%	78%	56%
55 +	54%	78%	53%	73%	48%	30%	14%	67%	48%	77%	61%
 Education (End of)											
15-	47%	69%	47%	49%	46%	19%	12%	57%	53%	67%	45%
16-19	53%	71%	61%	64%	55%	31%	15%	74%	64%	73%	53%
20+	61%	84%	74%	76%	63%	46%	19%	70%	69%	77%	58%
Still studying	63%	83%	83%	75%	64%	39%	18%	74%	70%	71%	50%
 Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	63%	79%	79%	79%	61%	46%	30%	68%	56%	79%	57%
Managers	61%	84%	85%	82%	70%	53%	16%	71%	74%	82%	61%
Other white collars	57%	70%	74%	67%	60%	47%	10%	71%	73%	76%	45%
Manual workers	51%	66%	60%	54%	53%	32%	18%	71%	63%	67%	56%
House persons	52%	80%	42%	57%	50%	38%	17%	69%	40%	74%	30%
Unemployed	49%	59%	53%	62%	38%	28%	21%	63%	53%	71%	52%
Retired	53%	76%	55%	73%	46%	31%	12%	69%	49%	76%	60%
Students	63%	83%	83%	75%	64%	39%	18%	74%	70%	71%	50%

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

Despite a slight dip in the intensity of their opposition, **Europeans remain predominantly against further enlargement of the EU to include other countries in future years (49%, -3 percentage points, versus 37%, unchanged)**. 14% (+3) of Europeans did not express an opinion⁵².

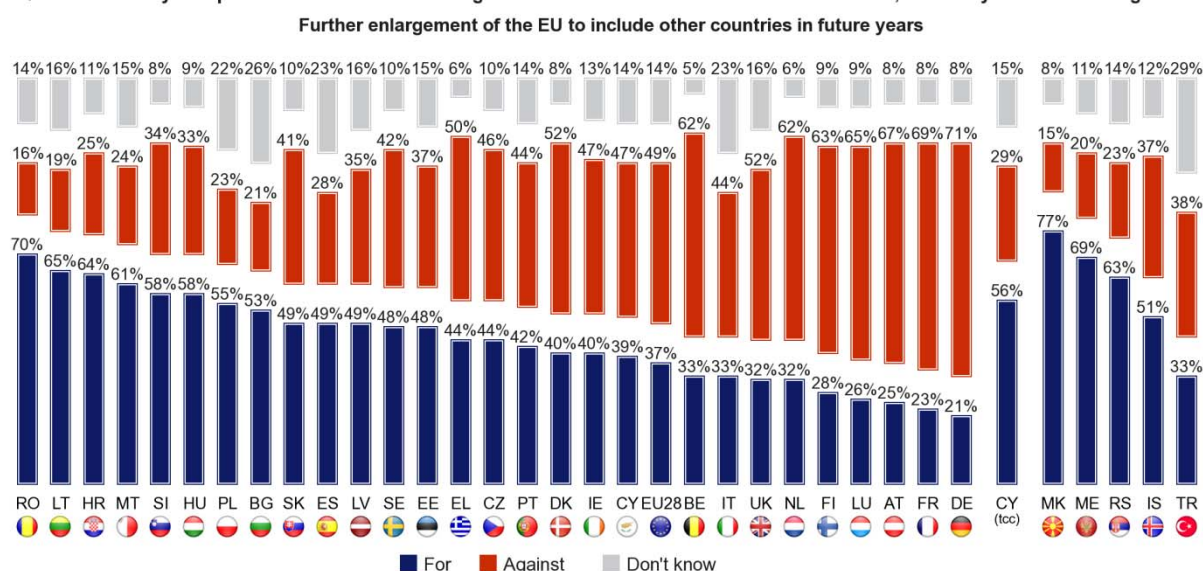
Opinions continue to differ significantly between euro area and non-euro area respondents: a majority of non-euro area respondents (47%, -2, versus 37%, -2) are in favour of the possibility of further enlargement, while an absolute majority of euro area respondents (56%, -4) are against the idea.

⁵² QA17.3. Please tell me for each statement, whether you are for or against it. Further enlargement of the EU to include other countries in future years.

As in the autumn 2013 survey, a majority of respondents in 13 Member States are in favour of the possibility of further enlargement: in Romania (70%, +6 percentage points), Lithuania (65%, +1), Croatia (64%, -7), Malta (61%, +1), Slovenia (58%, +6), Hungary (58%, -2), Poland (55%, -6), Bulgaria (53%, -2), Slovakia (49%, -2, versus 41%, -1), Spain (49%, +5, versus 28%, -9), Latvia (49%, +1, versus 35%, -3), Estonia (48%, -3, versus 37%, -3) and Sweden (48%, -8, versus 42%, +2).

A majority of respondents in the 15 other Member States are against further enlargement of the EU to include other countries in future years, with the highest scores being recorded in Germany (71%, +2 percentage points), France (69%, -1), Austria (67%, -9), Luxembourg (65%, +1), Finland (63%, -2) and the Netherlands (62%, -2). Other than in Austria (67%, -9), opposition to further enlargement has decreased sharply in Italy (44%, -15, versus 33%, +4) and Cyprus (47%, -9, versus 39%, +7).

QA17.3. What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell me for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.



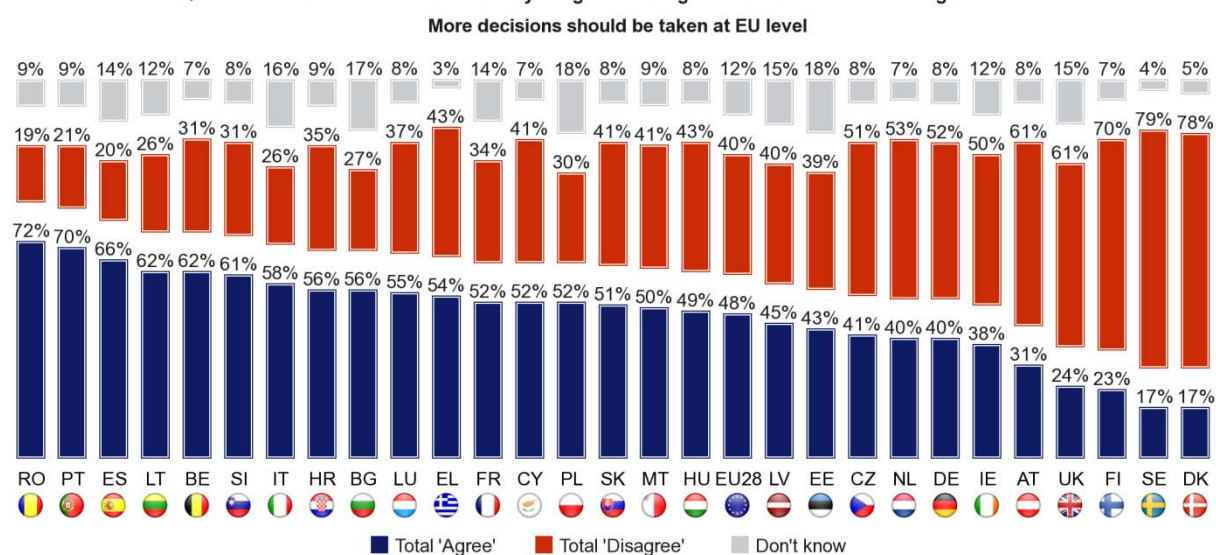
A majority of respondents in four of the five candidate countries support further enlargement of the EU to include other countries in future years: by a very clear majority in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (77% versus 15%, compared with 79% versus 13% in autumn 2013), Montenegro (69% versus 20%, compared with 64% versus 24%) and Serbia (63% versus 23%, compared with 50% versus 30%) and by a narrower majority in Iceland (51% versus 37%, compared with 48% versus 40%). On the other hand, respondents are now predominantly negative in Turkey, following a sharp decline in support for further enlargement: a third of respondents are now in favour of the idea (33%, -14 percentage points), compared with 38% who are against the idea (unchanged), while the remaining 29% did not express an opinion (+14).

11.A STRONGER EUROPEAN UNION?

Almost one in two Europeans (48%, +3 percentage points since the Special Eurobarometer of March 2014) now consider that “more decisions should be taken at EU level”, while 40% (-6) disagree and 12% (+3) did not express an opinion⁵³. A majority of respondents now support more decision-making at EU level, compared with a minority in the Special Eurobarometer of March 2014⁵⁴. This opinion is supported by an absolute majority of respondents in 16 Member States, with the highest levels in Romania (72%, +12 since March 2014), Portugal (70%, +4), Spain (66%, unchanged), Lithuania (62%, +8), Belgium (62%, -2) and Slovenia (61%, +4) and by a relative majority, with a fairly narrow balance of opinion, in three Member States, namely Hungary (49% versus 43%, compared with 54% versus 37%), Latvia (45% versus 40%, compared with 44% versus 48%) and Estonia (43% versus 39%, compared with 36% versus 58%). In total, support for more decision-making at European level has increased in 17 countries, most notably in Greece (54%, +12) and Romania (72%, +12).

On the other hand, a majority of respondents in nine Member States do not want more EU decision-making, in particular in the Nordic countries (79% in Sweden, +4 percentage points since March 2014; 78% in Denmark, +2; 70% in Finland, -4), as well as in Austria (61%, -1), the United Kingdom (61%, -5), the Netherlands (53%, -6), Germany (52%, -9), the Czech Republic (51%, +3) and Ireland (50%, -7).

QA19a.5. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.



⁵³ QA19a.5. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. More decisions should be taken at EU level.

⁵⁴ Special Eurobarometer 415: *Europeans in 2014*

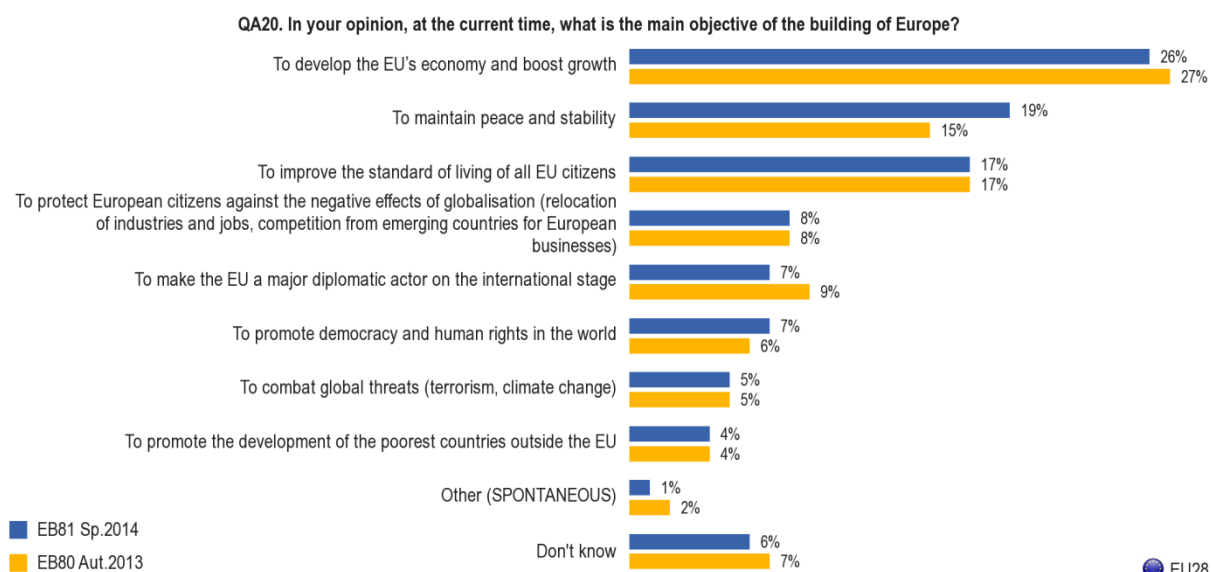
12. THE OBJECTIVE OF THE BUILDING OF EUROPE

In order to compare how they rank the perceived objectives and the desired objectives of European integration, Europeans were asked to answer two questions: “In your opinion, at the current time, what is the main objective of the building of Europe?” and “What should be the main objective of the building of Europe?”. As in the previous Standard Eurobarometer survey of autumn 2013, developing the EU’s economy and boosting growth tops the list of *perceived objectives* while improving the living standards of all EU citizens tops the list of *desired objectives*. The proportion of respondents mentioning maintaining peace and stability has increased significantly in this survey, both as a perceived objective and as a desired objective of European integration.

12.1. The perceived objectives of the building of Europe

With a score of 26% (-1 percentage point since autumn 2013), **developing the EU’s economy and boosting growth** remains, in the eyes of Europeans, by far the main objective *currently pursued* by European integration.

With a score of 19% (+ four percentage points) **maintaining peace and stability** is ranked in second place (versus third place in autumn 2013), followed by **improving the living standards of all EU citizens** (17%, unchanged). None of the other objectives tested scored more than 10%⁵⁵.



⁵⁵ QA20. In your opinion, at the current time, what is the main objective of the building of Europe? (One answer only).






























Developing the economy and boosting growth is seen as the number one objective currently pursued by Europeans integration in 19 Member States, with the highest scores being recorded in the Netherlands (44%, -2 percentage points since autumn 2013), Sweden (36%, -7), Slovenia (34%, +1), Ireland (32%, +4), Spain (32%, +1) and Finland (32%, -7). This objective is ranked equally with maintaining peace and stability in Lithuania (24%, -2) and Austria (23%, -9). Since autumn 2013, this objective has lost ground in 19 countries, most notably in Malta (19%, -13), Luxembourg (21%, -12), Romania (14%, -12) and Cyprus (20%, -12).




Maintaining peace and stability is ranked as the main perceived objective of European integration in six countries: in Lithuania and Austria, as well as in Germany (31%, +8 percentage points compared with 25% for developing the economy and boosting growth, -4), Luxembourg (28%, +7, versus 21%, -12), Estonia (28%, +8, versus 25%, -2) and Denmark (25%, +9, versus 24%, -11). The proportion of respondents mentioning peace as the main perceived objective of European Integration has increased very sharply since autumn 2013 in all the countries where it is now ranked in first place: it has thus increased by eleven percentage points in Lithuania and Austria, by nine percentage points in Denmark, by eight percentage points in Germany and Estonia and by seven percentage points in Luxembourg.

Improving living standards is seen as the main perceived objective of European integration in four Member States, namely Slovakia (29%, +5 percentage points, versus 22% for developing the economy and boosting growth, -5), Malta (26%, +2, ahead of maintaining peace, 21%, +9), Romania (24%, -3, versus 20% for maintaining peace, +13) and Poland (22%, unchanged, versus 21% for developing the economy and boosting growth, +1).

Lastly, **making the EU a major diplomatic actor on the international stage** tops the list of the perceived objectives of the building of Europe in Cyprus, with a score of 22% (unchanged) versus 20% for developing the economy and boosting growth (-12 percentage points).

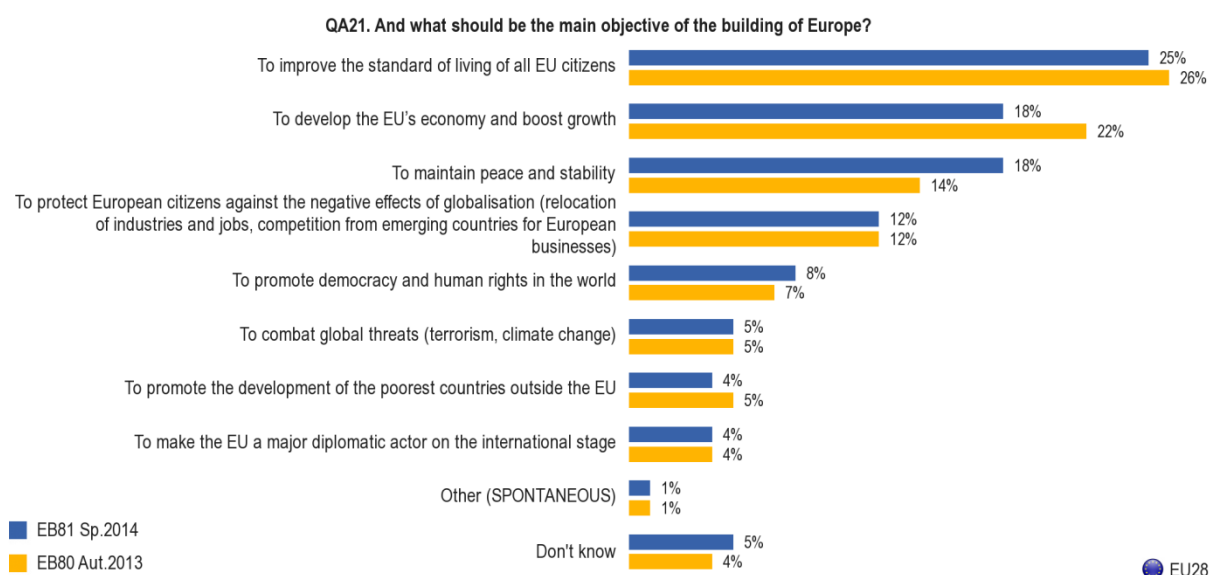
QA20. In your opinion, at the current time, what is the main objective of the building of Europe?

		To develop the EU's economy and boost growth	To make the EU a major diplomatic actor on the international stage	To improve the standard of living of all EU citizens	To combat global threats (terrorism, climate change)	To promote the development of the poorest countries outside the EU	To promote democracy and human rights in the world	To maintain peace and stability	To protect European citizens against the negative effects of globalisation (relocation of industries and jobs, competition from emerging countries for European businesses)	Other (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
	EU28	26%	7%	17%	5%	4%	7%	19%	8%	1%	6%
	BE	25%	10%	16%	9%	5%	6%	19%	7%	1%	2%
	BG	23%	10%	20%	5%	5%	7%	13%	8%	1%	8%
	CZ	21%	9%	19%	7%	5%	10%	17%	9%	0%	3%
	DK	24%	4%	11%	8%	4%	11%	25%	10%	0%	3%
	DE	25%	6%	12%	5%	3%	6%	31%	8%	1%	3%
	EE	25%	7%	18%	3%	3%	5%	28%	5%	1%	5%
	IE	32%	7%	22%	3%	4%	8%	9%	6%	1%	8%
	EL	20%	16%	12%	4%	4%	5%	18%	8%	10%	3%
	ES	32%	6%	19%	4%	4%	6%	12%	7%	3%	7%
	FR	25%	10%	16%	6%	5%	5%	18%	9%	1%	5%
	HR	26%	11%	23%	5%	4%	6%	12%	7%	1%	5%
	IT	27%	8%	16%	4%	4%	5%	14%	15%	1%	6%
	CY	20%	22%	12%	4%	3%	10%	17%	6%	2%	4%
	LV	26%	6%	25%	4%	4%	4%	21%	4%	1%	5%
	LT	24%	7%	20%	5%	4%	8%	24%	3%	0%	5%
	LU	21%	6%	14%	6%	7%	4%	28%	8%	3%	3%
	HU	24%	7%	20%	5%	6%	8%	18%	9%	0%	3%
	MT	19%	3%	26%	4%	5%	11%	21%	7%	0%	4%
	NL	44%	6%	14%	4%	2%	6%	16%	6%	0%	2%
	AT	23%	10%	13%	5%	5%	7%	23%	9%	1%	4%
	PL	21%	5%	22%	5%	5%	7%	20%	7%	1%	7%
	PT	25%	3%	24%	3%	6%	5%	12%	9%	2%	11%
	RO	14%	3%	24%	5%	6%	12%	20%	12%	1%	3%
	SI	34%	8%	17%	2%	2%	4%	19%	6%	3%	5%
	SK	22%	7%	29%	5%	3%	6%	19%	8%	0%	1%
	FI	32%	3%	15%	5%	3%	4%	25%	10%	1%	2%
	SE	36%	9%	6%	4%	1%	9%	28%	3%	1%	3%
	UK	24%	4%	16%	4%	3%	8%	16%	4%	3%	18%

 1st MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONNED ITEM
 2nd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONNED ITEM
 3rd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONNED ITEM

12.2. The desired objectives of the building of Europe

With a score of 25% (-1 percentage point since the Standard Eurobarometer survey of autumn 2013), **improving the standard of living of all citizens** tops the list of *desired* objectives for the building of Europe for the fourth consecutive time. It is followed in joint second place, with a score of 18%, by **developing the economy and boosting EU growth** (-4) and **maintaining peace and stability** (+4). With a score of 12% (unchanged), **protecting European citizens against the negative effects of globalisation** is ranked in fourth place and is the only other item tested to have obtained a score in excess of 10%⁵⁶.



Improving the standard of living of all EU citizens tops the list of *desired* objectives of European integration in 20 Member States, with the highest scores being recorded in Bulgaria (42%, +5 percentage points since autumn 2013), Latvia (39%, -2), Slovenia (38%, +4), Lithuania (36%, +2), Greece (36%, +6), Croatia (36%, +1) and Slovakia (35%, -2).

Maintaining peace and stability was mentioned in first place in six countries, namely Germany (29%, +2 percentage points, versus 18% for improving living standards, unchanged), Sweden (28%, +4, versus 16% for improving living standards, =), Finland (27%, +2, versus 22% for improving living standards, -8), Luxembourg (25%, +11, versus 23% for improving living standards, -2), Austria (24%, +12, versus 23% for improving living standards, -6) and Denmark (23%, +4, versus 20% for developing the economy and boosting growth, -4). In these countries, these scores have increased very strongly in Austria (+12) and Luxembourg (+11).

It is also noteworthy that the proportion of respondents mentioning maintaining peace as the main objective of European integration has also increased sharply in Cyprus (20%, +11), Romania (17%, +10), Estonia (27%, +9) and Lithuania (21%, +9), even if this item is not ranked in first place in these countries.

⁵⁶ QA21. And what should be the main objective of the building of Europe? (One answer only).

Lastly, **developing the economy and boosting growth** was the most frequently mentioned desired objective of European integration in the Netherlands (25%, -5 percentage points, versus 20% for improving living standards, -2) and Italy (24%, +2, versus 23% for improving living standards, +4).

QA21. And what should be the main objective of the building of Europe?

	To develop the EU's economy and boost growth	To make the EU a major diplomatic actor on the international stage	To improve the standard of living of all EU citizens	To combat global threats (terrorism, climate change)	To promote the development of the poorest countries outside the EU	To promote democracy and human rights in the world	To maintain peace and stability	To protect European citizens against the negative effects of globalisation (relocation of industries and jobs, competition from emerging countries for European businesses)	Other (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU28	18%	4%	25%	5%	4%	8%	18%	12%	1%	5%
BE	19%	3%	28%	8%	6%	6%	18%	10%	1%	1%
BG	20%	3%	42%	3%	3%	5%	10%	11%	0%	3%
CZ	17%	3%	33%	6%	5%	8%	18%	9%	0%	1%
DK	20%	3%	15%	9%	4%	13%	23%	9%	1%	3%
DE	16%	4%	18%	6%	4%	8%	29%	12%	1%	2%
EE	21%	4%	28%	3%	2%	5%	27%	5%	1%	4%
IE	25%	3%	29%	3%	4%	8%	12%	9%	1%	6%
EL	19%	3%	36%	3%	7%	9%	10%	11%	1%	1%
ES	22%	3%	34%	2%	4%	7%	9%	12%	3%	4%
FR	20%	5%	25%	6%	4%	7%	15%	14%	1%	3%
HR	19%	2%	36%	4%	5%	7%	13%	10%	1%	3%
IT	24%	5%	23%	3%	3%	5%	13%	19%	0%	5%
CY	20%	3%	31%	2%	5%	9%	20%	8%	1%	1%
LV	22%	2%	39%	3%	3%	4%	18%	5%	1%	3%
LT	20%	2%	36%	3%	3%	8%	21%	4%	0%	3%
LU	13%	3%	23%	4%	9%	7%	25%	10%	2%	4%
HU	19%	4%	24%	6%	7%	10%	17%	11%	0%	2%
MT	14%	3%	26%	6%	7%	12%	17%	10%	0%	5%
NL	25%	3%	20%	6%	4%	10%	19%	11%	0%	2%
AT	14%	4%	23%	6%	3%	9%	24%	13%	2%	2%
PL	17%	4%	29%	5%	6%	7%	17%	8%	0%	7%
PT	21%	3%	27%	3%	6%	4%	9%	21%	0%	6%
RO	15%	2%	30%	5%	6%	9%	17%	14%	0%	2%
SI	25%	1%	38%	2%	4%	4%	13%	9%	2%	2%
SK	21%	4%	35%	5%	2%	6%	15%	11%	0%	1%
FI	19%	2%	22%	5%	2%	9%	27%	11%	0%	3%
SE	12%	3%	16%	8%	3%	21%	28%	6%	1%	2%
UK	15%	3%	24%	5%	4%	8%	19%	5%	2%	15%

1st MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONNED ITEM
 2nd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONNED ITEM
 3rd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONNED ITEM

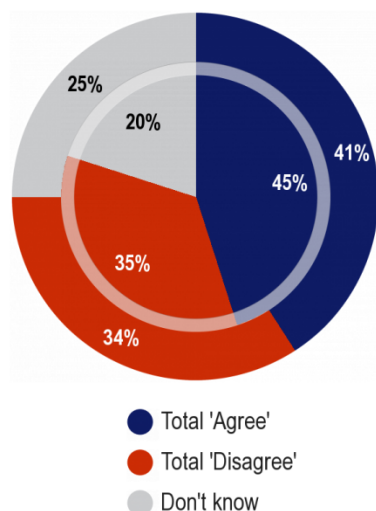
13. THE FUTURE OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

13.1. Opinions on a federation of Nation-States

41% of Europeans (-4 percentage points since autumn 2013) agree with the idea that “the EU should develop further into a federation of Nation-States”, while 34% (-1) disagree. The “don’t know” rate on this subject is high and has increased (25%, +5)⁵⁷.

QA19a.4. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

The EU should develop further into a federation of nation states



Inner pie : EB80 Aut.2013

Outer pie : EB81 Sp.2014

EU28

As a result of a sharp decrease in the proportion of advocates of the EU moving towards a federation of Nation-States, the balance of opinion has been reversed and is now negative in four countries, namely the Netherlands (32% versus 53%, compared with 57% versus 34% in autumn 2013), Austria (39% versus 46%, compared with 48% versus 44%), Slovakia (41% versus 43%, compared with 51% versus 33%) and the Czech Republic (40% versus 45%, compared with 57% versus 31%).

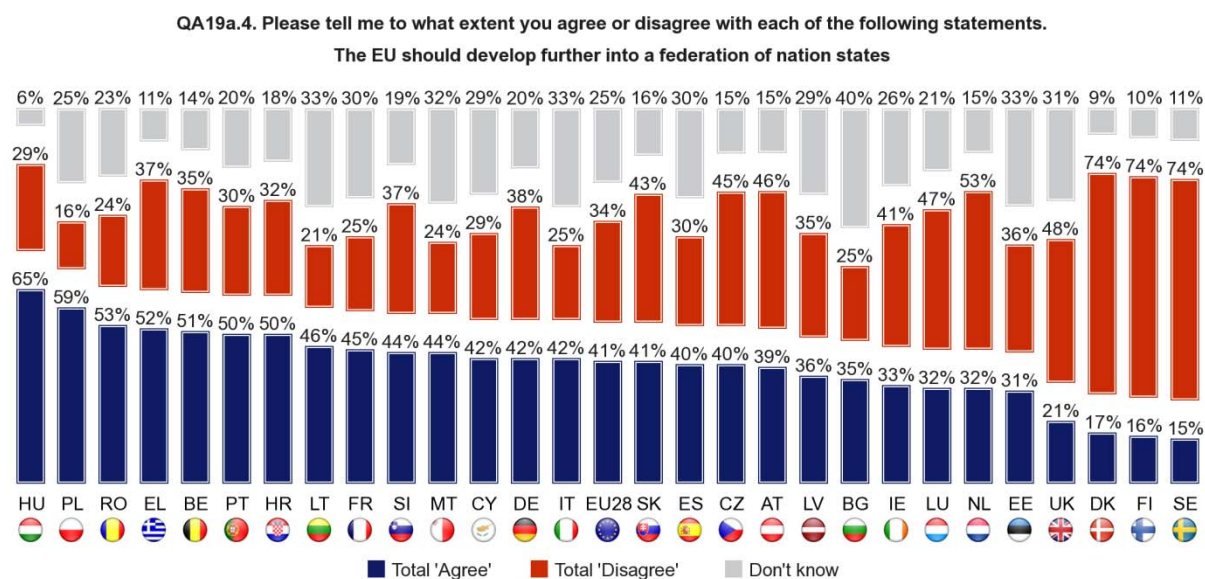
It is now negative in Estonia (31% versus 36%) whereas it was evenly balanced (39% versus 39%) in autumn 2013. On the other hand, the balance has been reversed and is now positive in Portugal (50% versus 30%, compared with 34% versus 35%) and Slovenia (44% versus 37%, compared with 42% versus 49%).

⁵⁷ QA19a4. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. The EU should develop further into a federation of Nation-States.

As a result of these changes, the number of Member States where a majority of respondents are against the idea of the EU developing as a federation of Nation-States is now eleven, i.e. the five previously mentioned countries (the Netherlands, Austria, Slovakia, the Czech Republic and Estonia) plus the three Nordic countries (74% in Denmark, +1 percentage point, Finland (+4) and Sweden (+3)), the United Kingdom (48% versus 21%, compared with 50% versus 27%), Luxembourg (47% versus 32%, compared with 40% versus 39%) and Ireland (41% versus 33%, compared with 40% versus 39%).

On the other hand, a majority of respondents in 17 Member States support this idea, most notably in Hungary (65%, +14 percentage points), Poland (59%, -1) and Romania (53%, +19). The trends vary considerably within this group of countries: support for this idea has increased strongly in Romania (53%, +19), Portugal (50%, +16) and Hungary (65%, +14), but has decreased sharply in Germany (42% versus 38%, compared with 51% versus 36%), France (45% versus 25%, compared with 53% versus 25%) and Croatia (50%, -7).

Lastly, we note that more than three out of ten Europeans did not express an opinion on this subject in six EU countries, namely Bulgaria (40%, +3 percentage points), Estonia (33%, +11), Lithuania (33%, unchanged), Italy (33%, +9), Malta (32%, -10) and the United Kingdom (31%, +8).



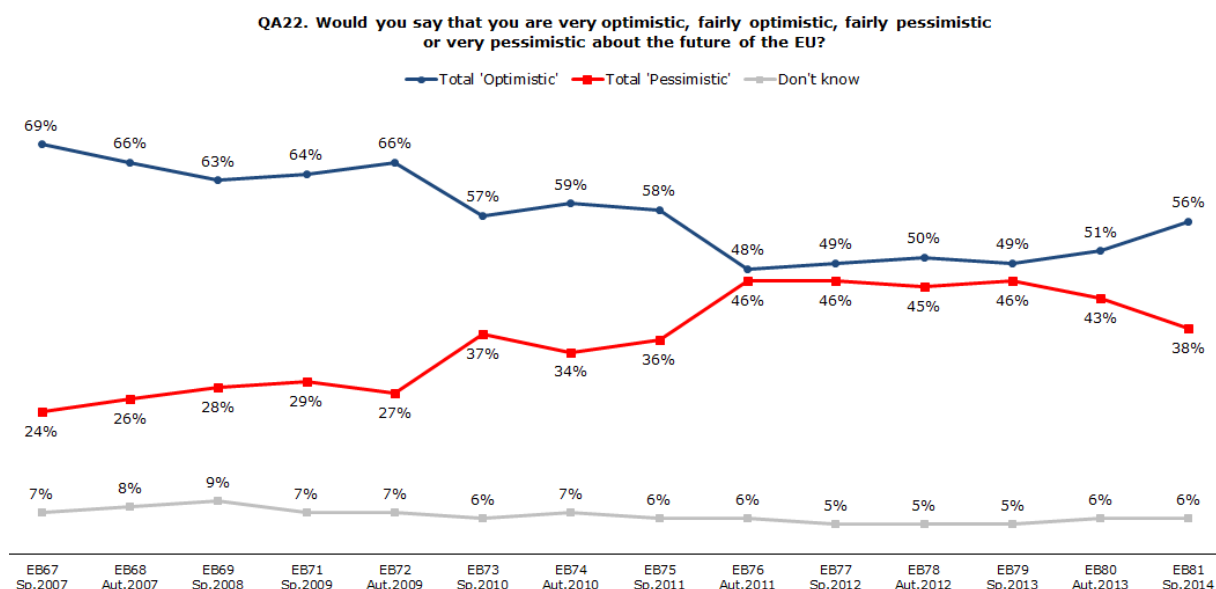
A socio-demographic analysis reveals that respondents who support the idea of the EU developing further into a federation of Nation-States are those whose opinions are the most positive about the European Union. For example, 53% of those who trust the EU and 50% of those who support the euro are in favour of the idea of the EU moving towards a federation of Nation-States, whereas a relative majority of those who oppose the euro (45% versus 30%) and of those who distrust the European Union (39% versus 37%) are against this idea.

13.2. The future of the European Union

The renewed optimism in the future of the European Union, which was perceptible in the previous Standard Eurobarometer survey of autumn 2013 (EB80), **has gained further momentum in this survey**. The proportion of respondents who are optimistic about the future of the EU has increased by five percentage points (56%), while the proportion of pessimists has decreased by the same percentage (38%, -5).

Therefore, the balance of opinion between optimists and pessimists on the future of the EU is now +18, which represents a sharp improvement versus the last five Standard Eurobarometer surveys, since it was +8 in autumn 2013, +3 in spring 2013, +5 in autumn 2012, +3 in spring 2012 and +2 in autumn 2011.

This balance of opinion between optimists and pessimists has therefore now returned to a level close to that measured in the Standard Eurobarometer survey of spring 2010 (EB73) (+20), but is still below the levels recorded during the period 2007-2010: +45 in spring 2007 (EB67) or +39 in autumn 2009 (EB72) for example⁵⁸.



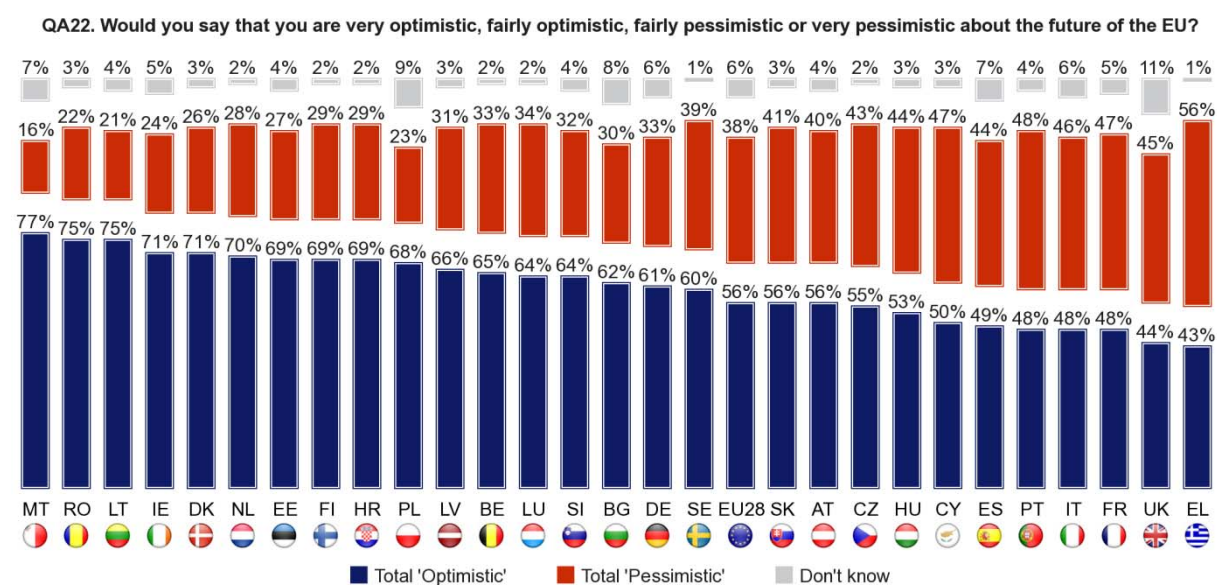
⁵⁸ QA22. Would you say that you are very optimistic, fairly optimistic, fairly pessimistic or very pessimistic about the future of the EU

In this survey, the optimism-pessimism balance of opinion has been reversed and is now positive in five countries: optimism now outweighs pessimism in the Czech Republic (55% versus 43%, compared with 48% versus 50% in autumn 2013), Hungary (53% versus 44%, compared with 46% versus 49%), Cyprus (50% versus 47%, compared with 29% versus 66%), Italy (48% versus 46%, compared with 40% versus 52%) and France (48% versus 47%, compared with 40% versus 56%). This balance of opinion is evenly balanced in Portugal (48% versus 48%) whereas it was clearly negative in autumn 2013 (31% versus 64%). Optimism has increased particularly strongly in Cyprus (50%, +21) and Portugal (48%, +17).

As a result of these changes, a majority of respondents are now pessimistic in only two Member States (versus eight in autumn 2013), namely Greece (56%, -13 percentage points) and the United Kingdom (45% versus 44%, compared with 48% versus 45%).







Therefore, a majority of respondents in 25 Member States are now optimistic about the future of the EU, most notably in Malta (77%, +10 percentage points since autumn 2013), Romania (75%, +12), Lithuania (75%, +9), Ireland (71%, +4), Denmark (71%, -4) and the Netherlands (70%, +9). In this group of countries, optimism has improved considerably in Cyprus (50%, +21), Romania (75%, +12), Finland (69%, +11), Malta (77%, +10), Slovenia (64%, +10), Lithuania (75%, +9), the Netherlands (70%, +9) and Austria (56%, +9).

In total and mirroring the general trend, optimism about the future of the EU has increased in almost all EU countries. The only exceptions are Denmark (-4 percentage points), Slovakia (-1) and the United Kingdom (-1)), with moreover particularly strong increases in the majority of them, since it has increased by more than five percentage points in 16 Member States: Cyprus (+21), Portugal (+17), Greece (+14), Romania (+12), Finland (+11), Slovenia (+10), Malta (+10), the Netherlands (+9), Austria (+9), Lithuania (+9), France (+8), Italy (+8), Croatia (+7), the Czech Republic (+7), Hungary (+7) and Latvia (+7).



A socio-demographic analysis shows that although optimism decreases with age, all age groups are still predominantly optimistic: 63% of 15-24 year-olds, 56% of 25-39 year-olds, 55% of 40-54 year-olds and 53% of the 55-plus age group. This optimism about the future of Europe is widely shared by the middle and upper classes of the European population (79% of those who see themselves as upper class; 61% of those who see themselves as middle class; 63% of managers; 61% of those who never or almost never have difficulties paying their bills). On the other hand, those who position themselves at the bottom of the social ladder (51%), unemployed people (50%) and those who regularly have difficulties paying their bills (58%) remain predominantly pessimistic.












QA22. Would you say that you are very optimistic, fairly optimistic, fairly pessimistic or very pessimistic about the future of the EU?

	Total 'Optimistic'	Total 'Pessimistic'	Don't know
EU28	56%	38%	6%
 Gender			
Man	57%	38%	5%
Woman	54%	39%	7%
 Age			
15-24	63%	31%	6%
25-39	56%	39%	5%
40-54	55%	40%	5%
55 +	53%	40%	7%
 Education (End of)			
15-	46%	46%	8%
16-19	53%	41%	6%
20+	62%	35%	3%
Still studying	68%	26%	6%
 Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	62%	34%	4%
Managers	63%	33%	4%
Other white collars	59%	37%	4%
Manual workers	52%	42%	6%
House persons	52%	39%	9%
Unemployed	45%	50%	5%
Retired	53%	40%	7%
Students	68%	26%	6%
 Difficulties paying bills			
Most of the time	36%	58%	6%
From time to time	51%	43%	6%
Almost never/ Never	61%	34%	5%
 Self-positioning on the social staircase			
Low (1-4)	42%	51%	7%
Medium (5-6)	56%	38%	6%
High (7-10)	67%	29%	4%
Consider belonging to			
The working class	47%	46%	7%
The middle class	61%	34%	5%
The upper class	79%	18%	3%
Image of EU			
Positive	86%	12%	2%
Neutral	52%	39%	9%
Negative	22%	75%	3%

The following table shows the results by socio-demographic criteria in the whole of the European Union (EU28) on average, in the six largest EU countries and in four countries which have been particularly badly affected by the economic crisis.

QA22. Would you say that you are very optimistic, fairly optimistic, fairly pessimistic or very pessimistic about the future of the EU?

Total 'Optimistic'

	EU28	DE	ES	FR	IT	PL	UK	EL	PT	IE	CY
											
	56%	61%	49%	48%	48%	68%	44%	43%	48%	71%	50%
Gender											
Male	57%	61%	52%	50%	50%	67%	46%	45%	51%	73%	50%
Female	54%	61%	47%	46%	45%	68%	43%	41%	46%	69%	50%
Age											
15-24	63%	53%	62%	60%	61%	71%	58%	60%	69%	73%	64%
25-39	56%	57%	50%	42%	48%	78%	47%	49%	52%	73%	44%
40-54	55%	61%	49%	46%	50%	66%	42%	37%	49%	68%	51%
55 +	53%	66%	43%	48%	41%	59%	38%	37%	38%	70%	46%
Education (End of)											
15-	46%	57%	42%	42%	40%	35%	38%	31%	40%	64%	38%
16-19	53%	59%	52%	45%	43%	64%	38%	42%	54%	68%	50%
20+	62%	69%	50%	50%	61%	75%	54%	45%	55%	76%	50%
Still studying	68%	61%	66%	59%	69%	84%	60%	62%	76%	79%	69%
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	62%	61%	62%	57%	59%	75%	57%	48%	50%	77%	52%
Managers	63%	66%	58%	53%	69%	84%	48%	44%	58%	74%	61%
Other white collars	59%	68%	52%	50%	52%	72%	39%	48%	63%	77%	50%
Manual workers	52%	54%	50%	40%	44%	63%	40%	43%	54%	69%	42%
House persons	52%	58%	46%	42%	38%	80%	40%	34%	45%	63%	34%
Unemployed	45%	47%	39%	33%	30%	49%	54%	31%	35%	65%	39%
Retired	53%	64%	47%	50%	38%	60%	37%	39%	38%	70%	46%
Students	68%	61%	66%	59%	69%	84%	60%	62%	76%	79%	69%

STANDARD EUROBAROMETER 81

Public opinion in the European Union

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Between the 31st of May and the 14th of June 2014, TNS opinion & social, a consortium created between TNS political & social, TNS UK and TNS opinion, carried out the wave 81.4 of the EUROBAROMETER survey, on request of the EUROPEAN COMMISSION, Directorate-General for Communication, "Strategy, Corporate Communication Actions and Eurobarometer" unit.

The wave 81.4 is the STANDARD EUROBAROMETER 81 survey and covers the population of the respective nationalities of the European Union Member States, resident in each of the Member States and aged 15 years and over.

The STANDARD EUROBAROMETER 81 survey has also been conducted in the five candidate countries (Turkey, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland, Montenegro and Serbia) and in the Turkish Cypriot Community. In these countries, the survey covers the national population of citizens and the population of citizens of all the European Union Member States that are residents in these countries and have a sufficient command of the national languages to answer the questionnaire.

The basic sample design applied in all states is a multi-stage, random (probability) one. In each country, a number of sampling points was drawn with probability proportional to population size (for a total coverage of the country) and to population density.

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

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

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

Statistical Margins due to the sampling process (at the 95% level of confidence)											
<i>various sample sizes are in rows</i>						<i>various observed results are in columns</i>					
	5%	10%	15%	20%	25%	30%	35%	40%	45%	50%	
	95%	90%	85%	80%	75%	70%	65%	60%	55%	50%	
N=50	6,0	8,3	9,9	11,1	12,0	12,7	13,2	13,6	13,8	13,9	N=50
N=500	1,9	2,6	3,1	3,5	3,8	4,0	4,2	4,3	4,4	4,4	N=500
N=1000	1,4	1,9	2,2	2,5	2,7	2,8	3,0	3,0	3,1	3,1	N=1000
N=1500	1,1	1,5	1,8	2,0	2,2	2,3	2,4	2,5	2,5	2,5	N=1500
N=2000	1,0	1,3	1,6	1,8	1,9	2,0	2,1	2,1	2,2	2,2	N=2000
N=3000	0,8	1,1	1,3	1,4	1,5	1,6	1,7	1,8	1,8	1,8	N=3000
N=4000	0,7	0,9	1,1	1,2	1,3	1,4	1,5	1,5	1,5	1,5	N=4000
N=5000	0,6	0,8	1,0	1,1	1,2	1,3	1,3	1,4	1,4	1,4	N=5000
N=6000	0,6	0,8	0,9	1,0	1,1	1,2	1,2	1,2	1,3	1,3	N=6000
N=7000	0,5	0,7	0,8	0,9	1,0	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,2	1,2	N=7000
N=7500	0,5	0,7	0,8	0,9	1,0	1,0	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	N=7500
N=8000	0,5	0,7	0,8	0,9	0,9	1,0	1,0	1,1	1,1	1,1	N=8000
N=9000	0,5	0,6	0,7	0,8	0,9	0,9	1,0	1,0	1,0	1,0	N=9000
N=10000	0,4	0,6	0,7	0,8	0,8	0,9	0,9	1,0	1,0	1,0	N=10000
N=11000	0,4	0,6	0,7	0,7	0,8	0,9	0,9	0,9	0,9	0,9	N=11000
N=12000	0,4	0,5	0,6	0,7	0,8	0,8	0,9	0,9	0,9	0,9	N=12000
N=13000	0,4	0,5	0,6	0,7	0,7	0,8	0,8	0,8	0,9	0,9	N=13000
N=14000	0,4	0,5	0,6	0,7	0,7	0,8	0,8	0,8	0,8	0,8	N=14000
N=15000	0,3	0,5	0,6	0,6	0,7	0,7	0,8	0,8	0,8	0,8	N=15000
	5%	10%	15%	20%	25%	30%	35%	40%	45%	50%	
	95%	90%	85%	80%	75%	70%	65%	60%	55%	50%	

ABBR.	COUNTRIES	INSTITUTES	N° INTERVIEWS	DATES FIELDWORK		POPULATION 15+	PROPORTION EU28
BE	Belgium	TNS Dimarso	1.012	31/05/14	9/06/14	9.263.570	2,18%
BG	Bulgaria	TNS BBSS	1.074	31/05/14	9/06/14	6.294.563	1,48%
CZ	Czech Rep.	TNS Aisa	1.011	31/05/14	9/06/14	8.955.829	2,11%
DK	Denmark	TNS Gallup DK	1.006	31/05/14	9/06/14	4.625.032	1,09%
DE	Germany	TNS Infratest	1.576	31/05/14	9/06/14	71.283.580	16,79%
EE	Estonia	TNS Emor	1.031	31/05/14	9/06/14	1.113.355	0,26%
IE	Ireland	Behaviour & Attitudes	1.003	31/05/14	9/06/14	3.586.829	0,84%
EL	Greece	TNS ICAP	1.017	31/05/14	9/06/14	8.791.499	2,07%
ES	Spain	TNS Spain	1.033	31/05/14	9/06/14	39.506.853	9,31%
FR	France	TNS Sofres	1.004	31/05/14	9/06/14	51.668.700	12,17%
HR	Croatia	HENDAL	1.003	31/05/14	9/06/14	3.625.601	0,85%
IT	Italy	TNS Italia	1.036	31/05/14	9/06/14	51.336.889	12,09%
CY	Rep. Of Cyprus	CYMAR	500	31/05/14	9/06/14	724.084	0,17%
LV	Latvia	TNS Latvia	1.012	31/05/14	9/06/14	1.731.509	0,41%
LT	Lithuania	TNS LT	1.015	31/05/14	9/06/14	2.535.329	0,60%
LU	Luxembourg	TNS ILReS	506	31/05/14	9/06/14	445.806	0,11%
HU	Hungary	TNS Hoffmann	1.087	31/05/14	9/06/14	8.477.933	2,00%
MT	Malta	MISCO	504	31/05/14	9/06/14	360.045	0,08%
NL	Netherlands	TNS NIPO	1.016	31/05/14	9/06/14	13.901.653	3,27%
AT	Austria	ipr Umfrageforschung	1.000	31/05/14	9/06/14	7.232.497	1,70%
PL	Poland	TNS Polska	1.001	31/05/14	9/06/14	32.736.685	7,71%
PT	Portugal	TNS Portugal	1.075	31/05/14	9/06/14	8.512.269	2,01%
RO	Romania	TNS CSOP	1.022	31/05/14	9/06/14	16.880.465	3,98%
SI	Slovenia	RM PLUS	1.043	31/05/14	10/06/14	1.760.726	0,41%
SK	Slovakia	TNS Slovakia	1.024	31/05/14	10/06/14	4.580.260	1,08%
FI	Finland	TNS Gallup Oy	1.012	31/05/14	10/06/14	4.511.446	1,06%
SE	Sweden	TNS Sifo	1.008	31/05/14	12/06/14	7.944.034	1,87%
UK	United Kingdom	TNS UK	1.373	31/05/14	14/06/14	52.104.731	12,27%
TOTAL EU28			28.004	31/05/14	14/06/14	424.491.772	100%*

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

CY(tcc)	Turkish Cypriot Community	KADEM	500	31/05/14	9/06/14	143.226
TR	Turkey	TNS Piar	1.026	31/05/14	10/06/14	54.844.406
MK	Former Yugoslav Rep. of Macedonia	TNS BRIMA	1.033	31/05/14	9/06/14	1.678.404
IS	Iceland	Capacent	501	31/05/14	9/06/14	252.277
ME	Montenegro	TNS Medium Gallup	551	31/05/14	9/06/14	492.265
RS	Serbia	TNS Medium Gallup	1.074	31/05/14	9/06/14	6.409.693
TOTAL			32.689	31/05/14	14/06/14	488.312.043