



Standard Eurobarometer 82 Autumn 2014

EUROPE 2020

REPORT

Fieldwork: November 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 82 / Autumn 2014 – TNS opinion & social

Project title	Standard Eurobarometer 82 "Europe 2020"
Linguistic Version	EN
Catalogue Number	NA-01-15-137-EN-N
ISBN	978-92-79-46175-0
DOI	10.2775/173153

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Standard Eurobarometer 82
Autumn 2014

Europe 2020

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

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

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INTRODUCTION

Since spring 2010¹, Standard Eurobarometer surveys have measured European public opinion regarding the Europe 2020 strategy. This ten-year growth strategy launched in March 2010 by the European Commission has a triple purpose: to overcome the economic and financial crisis, to prepare the future of the European economy and to create the conditions for economic growth based on innovation, sustainability and the inclusion of as many people as possible².

In this new Standard Eurobarometer survey of autumn 2014 (EB82), three indicators are used to measure Europeans' opinions:

- the first classifies the seven flagship initiatives of the Europe 2020 strategy (the fight against exclusion, the modernisation of the labour market, support for a sustainable economy, the appeal of the higher education system, strengthening industrial competitiveness, support for research and innovation, and developing the digital economy) on the basis of how important Europeans think they are;
- The second considers how realistic Europeans find the social, economic, environmental and educational targets set for 2020;
- Finally, the third measures the extent of public support for the European Union's policy for emerging from the economic and financial crisis.

The full Standard Eurobarometer 82 report consists of several volumes. The first volume presents the state of public opinion in the European Union (EU). Three further volumes present European public opinion on other issues: the Europe 2020 strategy, European citizenship and media use in the EU. This volume focuses on the Europe 2020 strategy.

This Standard Eurobarometer survey was conducted from 8-17 November 2014³ in 35 countries or territories: the European Union's 28 Member States, the six candidate countries (the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Iceland, Montenegro, Serbia and Albania), and the Turkish Cypriot community in the part of the country that is not controlled by the government of the Republic of Cyprus. Questions on the Europe 2020 strategy were only asked in the 28 EU Member States.

¹ Standard Eurobarometer 73. Field work conducted in May 2010, some months after the launch of the Europe 2020 strategy by the European Commission in March 2010.

² http://ec.europa.eu/europe2020/index_en.htm

³ Please refer to the technical specifications for the exact dates of the interviews in each country

The methodology used is that of the Standard Eurobarometer surveys commissioned by the DG Communication, "Strategy, Corporate Communication Actions and Eurobarometer" Unit⁴. A technical note concerning the interviews carried out by the institutes within the TNS Opinion & Social network is annexed to this report. This note also describes the confidence intervals⁵, which enable us to assess the accuracy of a survey's results, depending on the size of the survey sample 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	The United Kingdom
CY (tcc)	Turkish Cypriot Community	EU28	European Union – weighted average of 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, LT, HU, PL, RO, SE, UK
IS	Iceland		
ME	Montenegro		
RS	Serbia		
AL	Albania		

* 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. 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)" category (tcc: Turkish Cypriot Community).

** 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.

* * * * *

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

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

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

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

I. THE PERCEIVED IMPORTANCE OF THE EUROPEAN UNION'S EUROPE 2020 INITIATIVES

- Europeans remain convinced of the merits of the Europe 2020 strategy initiatives -

Respondents were first asked to determine the importance of the seven flagship initiatives defined in the Europe 2020 strategy. To this end, they were asked to give a score ranging between 1 and 10 to each initiative, where 1 means 'not at all important' and 10 means 'very important'. In order to rank the level of importance ascribed to each initiative, the answers were then aggregated into three categories: "important" for scores of 7 to 10, "fairly important" for scores 5 and 6 and "not important" for scores between 1 and 4⁶. The evolutions are analysed here in comparison with the Standard Eurobarometer of autumn 2013 (EB80).

An absolute majority of respondents think that each of these initiatives is important. Furthermore, between autumn 2013 and autumn 2014, the perceived importance of all the initiatives increased (by between 1 and 6 percentage points), most strikingly for "increase support for the EU's research and development policies" (+6 percentage points), "develop the e-economy by strengthening ultra-fast Internet" (+6) and "support an economy that uses fewer natural resources and emits less greenhouse gas" (+4). These evolutions do not overturn the established ranking; **social initiatives (the fight against exclusion and employment) and environmental initiatives (support for a sustainable economy) are still regarded as the most important**, ahead of those designed to support competitiveness, education and innovation, as has been the case on every occasion since this indicator was introduced in spring 2010 (EB73).

In detail:

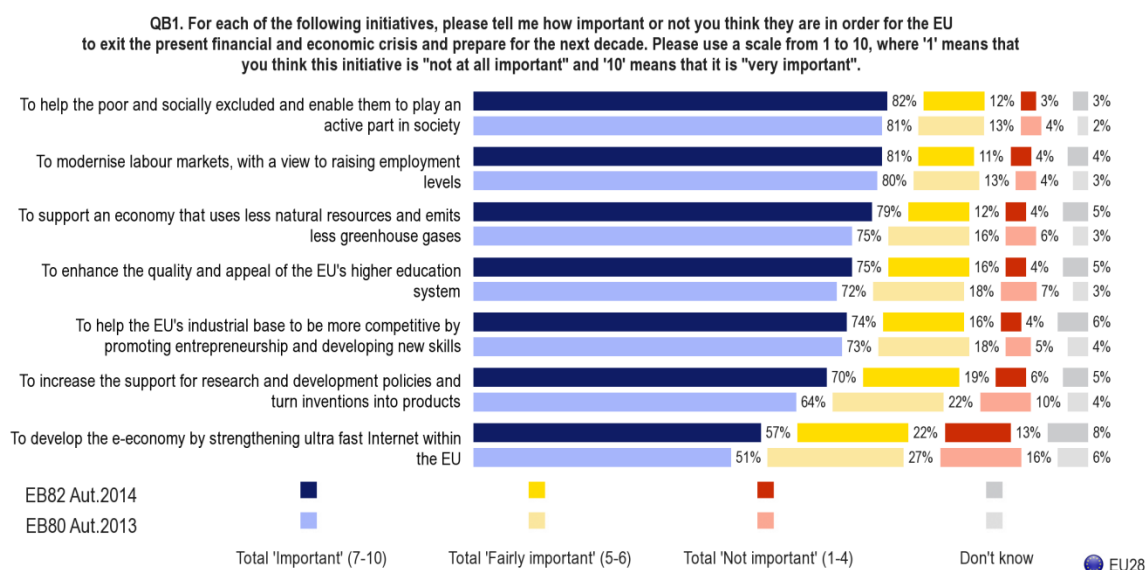
Around eight in ten Europeans agree on the importance of the initiatives to **help the poor and socially excluded and enable them to play an active part in society** (82%, +1 percentage point since autumn 2013), **modernise labour markets, with a view to raising employment levels** (81%, +1) and **support an economy that uses fewer natural resources and emits less greenhouse gas** (79%, +4).

Around three-quarters believe that it is important **"to enhance the quality and appeal of the EU's higher education system"** (75%, +3 percentage points) and **"to help the EU's industrial base to be more competitive by promoting entrepreneurship and developing new skills"** (74%, +1).

Seven in ten (70%, +6 percentage points) say it is important **"to increase the support for research and development policies and turn inventions into products"**.

⁶ QB1. For each of the following initiatives, please tell me how important or not you think they are in order for the EU to exit the present financial and economic crisis and prepare for the next decade. Please use a scale from 1 to 10 where '1' means that you think that this initiative is "not at all important" and '10' means that it is "very important".

Finally, 57% of Europeans (+6 percentage points) believe it is important **“to develop the e-economy by strengthening ultra-fast Internet within the EU”**.



Six of these seven initiatives seem important to an absolute majority of respondents in every EU Member State. The seventh, targeting the growth of the e-economy and the spread of broadband in Europe, is regarded as important by an absolute majority of people in 23 of the 28 countries in the European Union (compared with 20 Member States in autumn 2013).

More particularly, the perceived importance of the **fight against exclusion and support for social integration** varies between 94% in Greece and 69% in the Czech Republic. The importance of **modernising the labour markets and creating jobs** ranges from 95% in Malta to 69% in France and Luxembourg. As in the case of the European average (with evolutions of +1 percentage point since autumn 2013), the variations by country are very slight for these two initiatives, which have continuously enjoyed a very high level of perceived importance since spring 2010.

The others initiatives tested (with the sole exception of supporting the competitiveness of European industry, where opinions are unchanged in most EU countries) see more striking national evolutions, **with a trend towards increased perceived importance in the great majority of Member States.**

Support for the importance of providing **support for sustainable growth limiting the emission of greenhouse gas** ranges from 90% in Sweden to 68% in the United Kingdom. This has consolidated since autumn 2013 in 24 of the 28 EU countries, increasing most notably in Poland (77%, +10 percentage points), Italy (78%, +9), Lithuania (86%, +8) and Denmark (83%, +8). It is unchanged or very slightly down in Sweden (90%, -2), the Czech Republic (76%, -1), Bulgaria (84%, no change) and Germany (84%, =).

The perceived importance of the initiative aiming to **enhance the quality and appeal of the EU's higher education system** is the strongest in Malta (92%), and the weakest in the United Kingdom (65%). The perceived importance of this item has risen in 23 Member States, especially in Slovenia (75%, +12 percentage points), Poland (74%, +12), Luxembourg (80%, +10), Hungary (77%, +10), Lithuania (83%, +9) and Italy (71%, +9). However, it has declined slightly in Greece (84%, -3), Germany (81%, -3), Portugal (77%, -3), Spain (87%, -1) and Slovakia (77%, -1).

Support for **EU industrial competitiveness and entrepreneurship** is most likely to be regarded as important in Finland (87%) and least so in France and the United Kingdom (66%). While in almost all Member States, opinions of the importance of this initiative are stable or show minimal evolutions, there has been a striking increase in its perceived importance in Poland (79%, +12 percentage points) and Italy (78%, +10).






























Perceptions of the importance of the **initiative aiming to boost support for research and innovation** are most marked in Sweden (79%) and Lithuania (79%), and the least so in France (59%). The importance of this item has gained ground in 24 Member States, led by Slovenia (74%, +12 percentage points), the United Kingdom (61%, +12), Poland (72%, +11), Latvia (69%, +11), Estonia (69%, +11), Lithuania (79%, +9), Ireland (76%, +9), Italy (72%, +9), Belgium (69%, +9) and Luxembourg (61%, +9). It is unchanged in Bulgaria (74%) and in decline in Spain (74%, -5), Greece (71%, -5) and Portugal (69%, -3).

Finally, **the development of the e-economy and broadband in Europe** is regarded as important by an absolute majority of respondents in 23 countries (compared with 20 in autumn 2013). An absolute majority holds this view in three Member States where this was not previously the case. These are Denmark (where 51% of respondents now think the development of the e-economy is important, compared with 44% in autumn 2013), the Netherlands (59% versus 48%) and the United Kingdom (51% versus 41%).

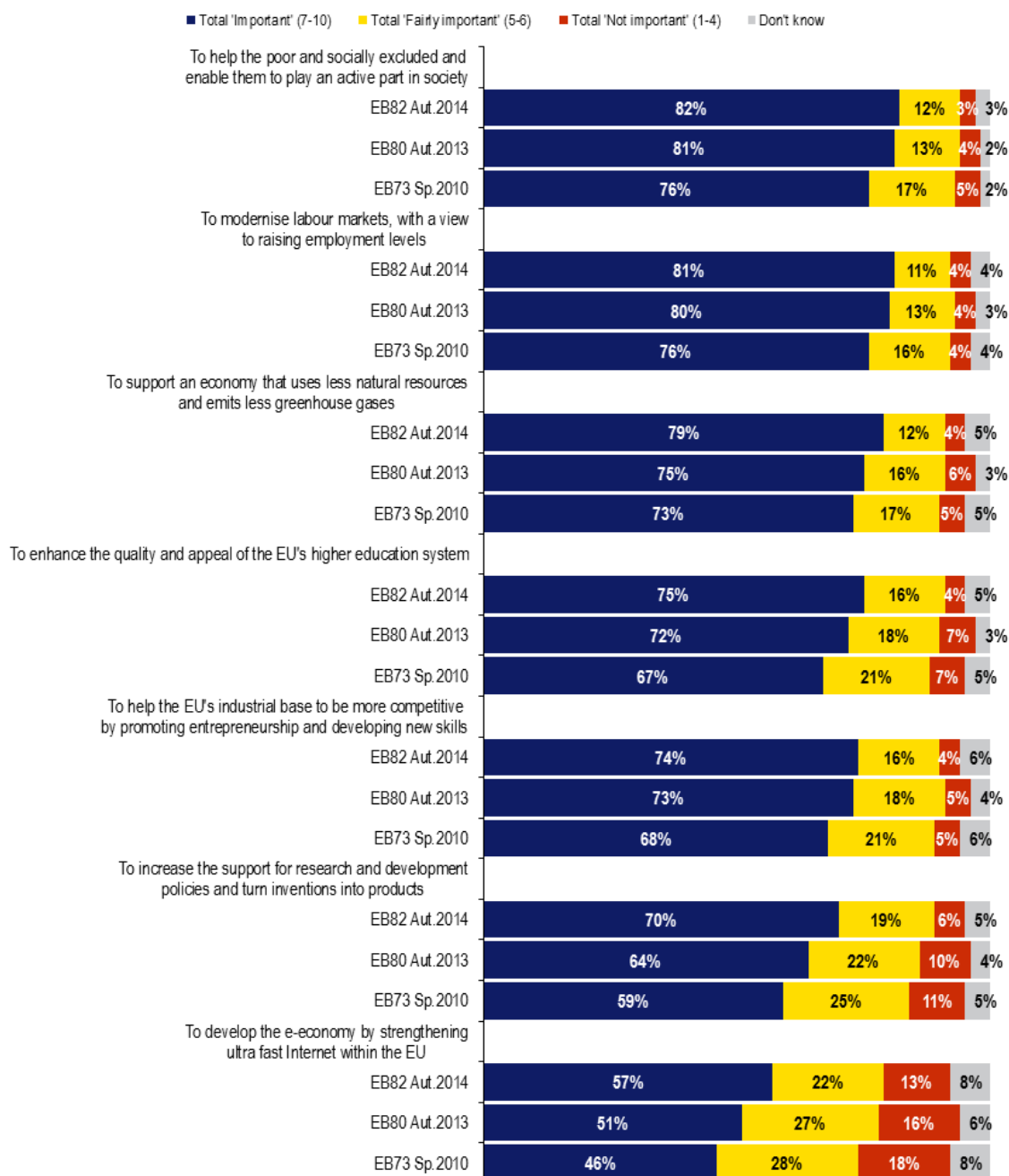
The view that this is an important initiative, while still held by a minority, has gained ground in Luxembourg (40%, +10 percentage points), Sweden (36%, +8), France (38%, +6), Belgium (48%, +4) and the Czech Republic (49%, +2).

The growth of the e-economy in the EU is seen as important by majorities in every other EU country. Support is most widespread in Ireland (77%) and has gained the most ground in Malta (71%, +18 percentage points), Poland (68%, +13), the Netherlands (59%, +11), Hungary (65%, +10), the United Kingdom (51%, +10) and Luxembourg (40%, +10). In total, this opinion is on the rise in 21 EU Member States. It is unchanged in Croatia (66%) and Portugal (56%). It has declined slightly in Bulgaria (62%, -4), Greece (62%, -4), Austria (53%, -2), Slovakia (65%, -2) and Romania (66%, -1).

QB1. For each of the following initiatives, please tell me how important or not you think they are in order for the EU to exit the present financial and economic crisis and prepare for the next decade. Please use a scale from 1 to 10, where '1' means that you think this initiative is "not at all important" and '10' means that it is "very important".
Total 'important' (7-10)

	To help the poor and socially excluded and enable them to play an active part in society	To modernise labour markets, with a view to raising employment levels	To support an economy that uses less natural resources and emits less greenhouse gases	To enhance the quality and appeal of the EU's higher education system	To help the EU's industrial base to be more competitive by promoting entrepreneurship and developing new skills	To increase the support for research and development policies and turn inventions into products	To develop the e-economy by strengthening ultra fast Internet within the EU
 EU28	82%	81%	79%	75%	74%	70%	57%
EURO AREA	82%	80%	80%	77%	74%	70%	57%
NON-EURO AREA	82%	82%	76%	73%	74%	69%	58%
 BE	82%	80%	78%	76%	74%	69%	48%
 BG	86%	93%	84%	80%	85%	74%	62%
 CZ	69%	85%	76%	69%	75%	68%	49%
 DK	80%	80%	83%	82%	74%	77%	51%
 DE	82%	81%	84%	81%	69%	72%	64%
 EE	80%	80%	78%	76%	79%	69%	63%
 IE	86%	85%	78%	82%	82%	76%	77%
 EL	94%	89%	84%	84%	81%	71%	62%
 ES	92%	85%	84%	87%	78%	74%	58%
 FR	77%	69%	74%	66%	66%	59%	38%
 HR	89%	88%	81%	84%	82%	75%	66%
 IT	77%	80%	78%	71%	78%	72%	63%
 CY	89%	90%	74%	83%	82%	61%	55%
 LV	82%	87%	74%	81%	83%	69%	66%
 LT	86%	88%	86%	83%	83%	79%	70%
 LU	87%	69%	79%	80%	68%	61%	40%
 HU	86%	85%	81%	77%	81%	74%	65%
 MT	92%	95%	88%	92%	82%	72%	71%
 NL	85%	83%	82%	77%	79%	77%	59%
 AT	81%	77%	85%	81%	68%	73%	53%
 PL	85%	87%	77%	74%	79%	72%	68%
 PT	92%	92%	76%	77%	82%	69%	56%
 RO	85%	89%	80%	83%	79%	73%	66%
 SI	86%	89%	83%	75%	86%	74%	64%
 SK	81%	92%	83%	77%	84%	75%	65%
 FI	89%	87%	89%	77%	87%	76%	60%
 SE	91%	77%	90%	82%	75%	79%	36%
 UK	78%	74%	68%	65%	66%	61%	51%
Highest percentage per country							
Highest percentage per item				Lowest percentage per country			
				Lowest percentage per item			

QB1. For each of the following initiatives, please tell me how important or not you think they are in order for the EU to exit the present financial and economic crisis and prepare for the next decade. Please use a scale from 1 to 10, where '1' means that you think this initiative is "not at all important" and '10' means that it is "very important".



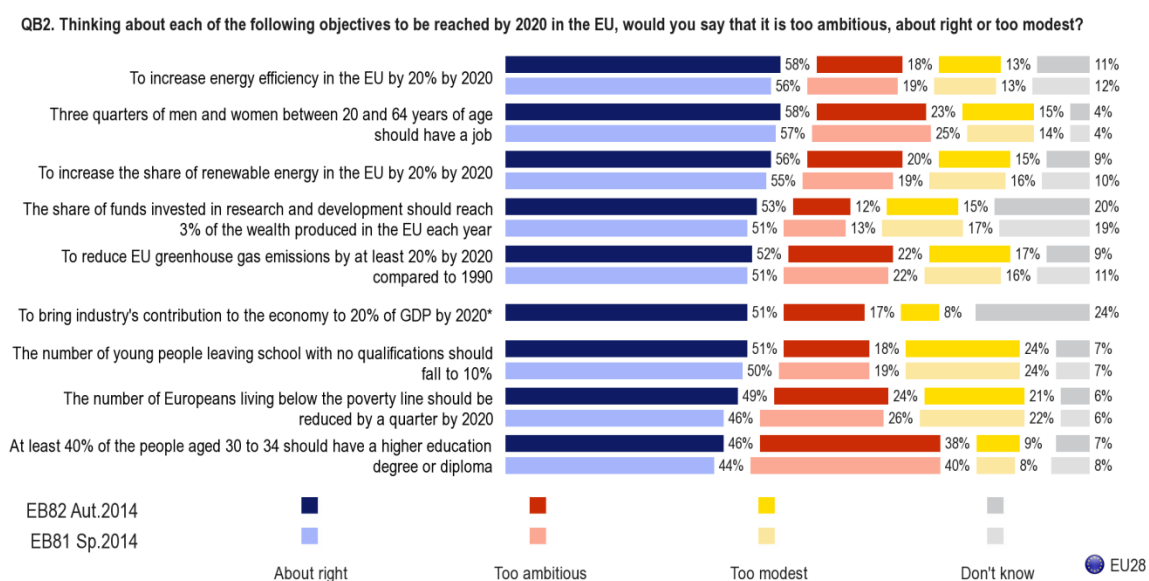
A longer-term analysis suggests that the perceived importance of the Europe 2020 strategy initiatives has increased significantly since the Standard Eurobarometer survey of spring 2010 (EB73), where this question was asked for the first time. All the initiatives are considered more important now than they were in spring 2010, with rises ranging from five percentage points for "to modernise labour markets, with a view to raising employment levels" to 11 points for "to increase the support for research and development policies and turn inventions into products" and "to develop the e-economy by strengthening ultra-fast Internet within the EU". For all seven of these initiatives, it is the "fairly important" category that has lost the most ground.

II. OPINIONS ON THE EUROPEAN UNION'S EUROPE 2020 QUANTIFIED TARGETS

Europeans were then asked to assess the realism of nine quantified targets set for 2020. They were asked to say whether these appear “about right”, “too ambitious” or “too modest”⁷. Eight of these targets had already been tested in previous Standard Eurobarometer surveys. The target of raising industry’s contribution to the EU’s GDP to 20% by 2020⁸ was tested here for the first time.

As in all the previous surveys since this indicator was introduced in the Standard Eurobarometer of spring 2010 (EB73), a majority of Europeans considered all these targets to be realistic (“about right”). In the case of seven of the targets the majority was absolute.

The preceding Eurobarometer in spring 2014 had recorded a slight fall in the perceived realism of most of the targets. This decline did not continue in the present survey, and **the proportion of “about right” responses rose slightly** (1 - 3 percentage points) **for all the targets tested**. Overall, movement on this indicator - which has been very stable since its introduction - has been minimal between the Standard Eurobarometer surveys of autumn 2013 and autumn 2014.



* This item was tested for the first time in this survey

⁷ QB2. Thinking about each of the following objectives to be reached by 2020 in the EU, would you say that it is too ambitious, about right or too modest?

⁸ This target was one of the Political Guidelines for the next European Commission presented in July 2014 by Jean-Claude Juncker. See http://ec.europa.eu/priorities/docs/pg_en.pdf

In more detail:

- 58% of Europeans (+2 percentage points since spring 2014) think that it is realistic to aim “to increase energy efficiency in the EU by 20% by 2020”. An identical proportion think that the target of ensuring that in 2020 “three-quarters of men and women between 20 and 64 years of age should have a job” is “about right” (58%, +1).
- 56% (+1 percentage point) think it is realistic to aim “to increase the share of renewable energy in the EU by 20% by 2020”;
- 53% (+2 percentage points) agree that the objective stating that “the share of funds invested in research and development should reach 3% of the wealth produced in the EU each year” is realistic;
- 52% (+1 percentage point) believe that “the reduction of EU greenhouse gas emissions by at least 20% by 2020 compared to 1990” is a realistic target;
- 51% (+1 percentage point) describe the target stating that “the number of young people leaving school with no qualifications should fall to 10%” as “about right”;
- An identical proportion of respondents think that the aim of raising industry’s contribution to the EU’s GDP to 20% by 2020 is realistic (51%). 17% say that this is “too ambitious” and 8% that it is “too modest”. This item was tested for the first time in this survey;
- 49% (+3 percentage points) consider the objective stating that “the number of Europeans living below the poverty line should be reduced by a quarter by 2020” is realistic, while 24% (-2) say that this is “too ambitious” and 21% (-1) that it is “too modest”.
- Lastly, the objective stating that “at least 40% of the people aged 30 to 34 should have a higher education degree or diploma” seems realistic to 46% of Europeans (+2 percentage points), while 38% (-2) believe this is “too ambitious” and 9% (+1) “too modest”

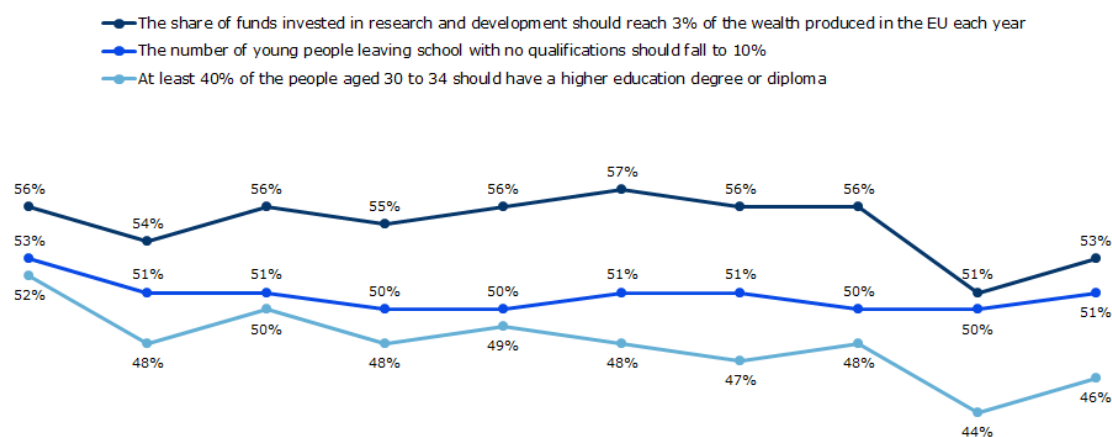
Overall “too ambitious” responses have declined slightly (1 -2 percentage points) for six of the targets, remain unchanged for one and have risen by a point for the last.

While all the quantified targets appear more realistic than in spring 2014, an analysis of evolutions since spring 2010 shows a general downward trend: “about right” answers have declined for all the objectives tested. These declines range from six to two percentage points.

In more detail:

For **the targets concerning education, teaching, research and development**: the perceived realism of the objective stating that by 2020 “at least 40% of the people aged 30 to 34 should have a higher education degree or diploma” has fallen by six percentage points; this has declined by three points for “the share of funds invested in research and development should reach 3% of the wealth produced in the EU each year”, and by two points for “the number of young people leaving school with no qualifications should fall to 10%”.

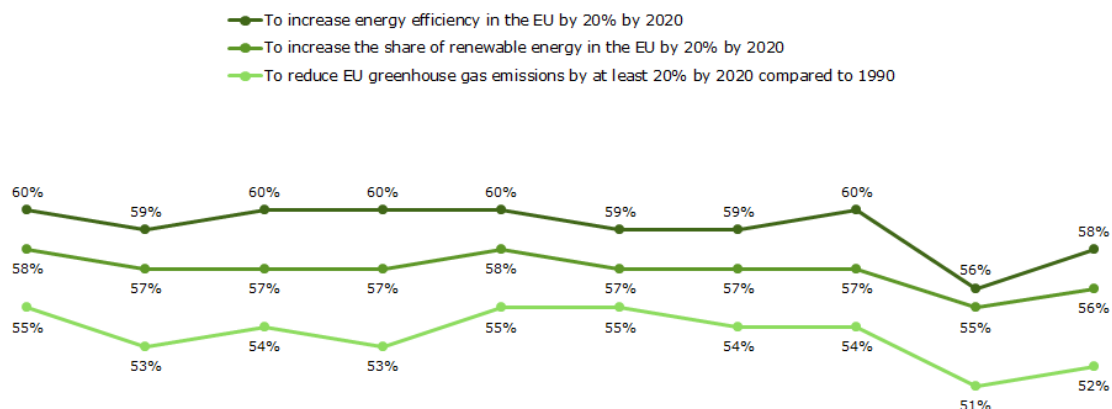
QB2. Thinking about each of the following objectives to be reached by 2020 in the EU, would you say that it is too ambitious, about right or too modest?
Answer: 'About right' - % EU



Sp. 2010	Aut. 2010	Sp. 2011	Aut. 2011	Sp. 2012	Aut. 2012	Sp. 2013	Aut. 2013	Sp. 2014	Aut. 2014
EB73	EB74	EB75	EB76	EB77	EB78	EB79	EB80	EB81	EB82

Declines of between two and three percentage points are recorded for **each of the environmental targets**: three points for “the reduction of EU greenhouse gas emissions by at least 20% by 2020 compared to 1990”, and two points for “to increase the share of renewable energy in the EU by 20% by 2020” and for “to increase energy efficiency in the EU by 20% by 2020”.

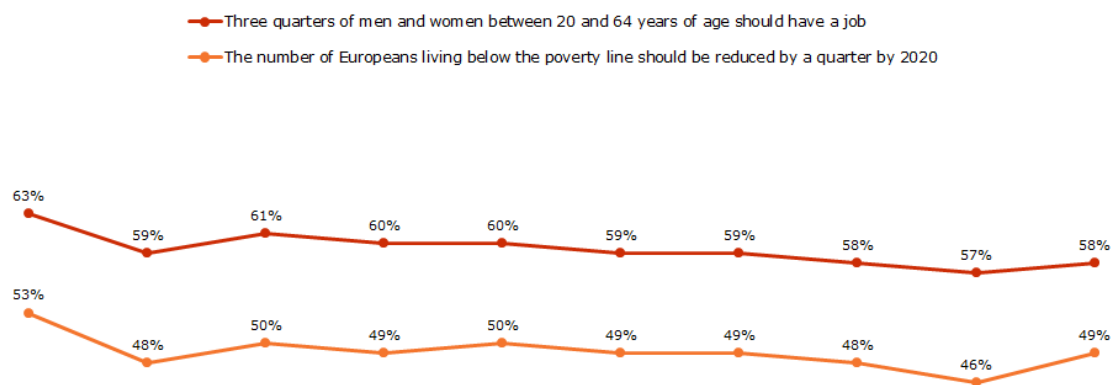
QB2. Thinking about each of the following objectives to be reached by 2020 in the EU, would you say that it is too ambitious, about right or too modest?
Answer: 'About right' - % EU



Sp. 2010	Aut. 2010	Sp. 2011	Aut. 2011	Sp. 2012	Aut. 2012	Sp. 2013	Aut. 2013	Sp. 2014	Aut. 2014
EB73	EB74	EB75	EB76	EB77	EB78	EB79	EB80	EB81	EB82

For targets in **employment and the fight against exclusion**, perceived realism has lost five percentage points for the objective stating that in 2020 “three-quarters of men and women between 20 and 64 years of age should have a job” and four points for “the number of Europeans living below the poverty line should be reduced by a quarter by 2020”.

QB2. Thinking about each of the following objectives to be reached by 2020 in the EU, would you say that it is too ambitious, about right or too modest?
Answer: 'About right' - % EU



Sp. 2010	Aut. 2010	Sp. 2011	Aut. 2011	Sp. 2012	Aut. 2012	Sp. 2013	Aut. 2013	Sp. 2014	Aut. 2014
EB73	EB74	EB75	EB76	EB77	EB78	EB79	EB80	EB81	EB82

An analysis of national results shows that five of the quantified targets are judged as realistic (“about right”) by **a majority of people in every Member State**: these are the three environmental targets (**increase the energy efficiency of the EU, increase the share of renewable energy** and **reduce greenhouse gas emissions**) and the two economic targets (**Invest 3% of wealth produced in research and development** and **bring the contribution of industry in the EU to 20% of GDP**). The target of bringing the **employment rate among people aged 20-64 years to 75%** is seen as realistic by a majority of respondents in 27 Member States; the only exception is Cyprus, where views are evenly divided between “about right” and “too ambitious”.

Though they are seen as realistic in most EU countries, the social and educational targets nevertheless provoke a wider range of responses. In Sweden a majority of respondents do not agree that it is realistic to **reduce the number of young people leaving school with no qualifications to 10%** (47% think this target is “too modest” while 38% say it is “about right”); this is the case in four countries for the poverty reduction target (Cyprus, Luxembourg, Sweden, Greece), and in ten countries for increasing to 40% the proportion of those aged 30 to 34 who hold a higher education degree or diploma (the Netherlands, Germany, Finland, Austria, Luxembourg, Estonia, France, the Czech Republic, Slovakia and Latvia).

A national analysis also shows that generally speaking **these targets are most likely to be seen as realistic in Croatia, Italy, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Portugal and Romania**. For each of the objectives tested, the proportion of respondents assessing them as realistic in these countries is consistently higher than the European average.

Finally it shows that **respondents in Luxembourg are by far the most likely to regard the objectives as overly ambitious**: the answer “too ambitious” is consistently given significantly more often than the European average, with the highest levels recorded in the 28 Member States for six of these nine targets. Similarly, **respondents in Sweden** are most likely to describe the targets as “too modest”: the proportion giving this response is always significantly greater than the European average, and for five of the nine targets Sweden records the highest levels found anywhere in the 28 Member States.

In more detail:

The objective of ensuring a **75% employment rate for men and women aged between 20 and 64 years in the EU** seems realistic to an absolute majority of respondents in 23 Member States, led by Latvia (68%), Italy (67%), Croatia (65%) and Malta (65%). It commands a relative majority in four countries, large in France (49% versus 31% of “too ambitious” responses) and Sweden (49% versus 33% of “too modest” answers), and slightly less in Luxembourg (45% think it is “about right” compared with 40% who say it is “too ambitious”) and Greece (36% versus 33% “too ambitious”).

Views are evenly divided in Cyprus (35% “about right” versus 35% “too ambitious”).

Since spring 2014, the perceived realism of this target has gained significant ground in Latvia (68%, +10 percentage points), the United Kingdom (64%, +10) and Portugal (63%, +8). However, it has declined in Romania (63%, -7), Slovenia (57%, -7) and Luxembourg (45%, -5); this target is now much more likely to be seen as “too ambitious” in this last country (40%, +8).

An absolute majority of respondents agree that it is realistic to target a **20% increase in energy efficiency in the EU by 2020** in every Member State except Greece, where there is a relative majority (47% compared with 25% who think this target is “too ambitious”). Respondents are most likely to think this objective is realistic in Malta (70%), Lithuania (69%), Slovenia (67%) and Finland (67%).

Perception of the realism of this target has consolidated notably in Finland (67%, +8 percentage points since the Standard Eurobarometer of spring 2014), the Czech Republic (56%, +6) and Sweden (53%, +6) but has declined in Denmark (56%, -6) and Hungary (55%, -6).

The target of a **20% increase in the share of renewable energy in the EU by 2020** is seen as “about right” by an absolute majority of respondents in 23 European Union countries, led by Malta (68%), Finland (67%) and Lithuania (66%), and by a relative majority in the remaining five: Bulgaria (49% versus 20% who think it is “too ambitious”), Sweden (49% versus 35% who say it is “too modest”), Luxembourg (48% versus 28% “too ambitious”), Cyprus (48% versus 22% “too ambitious”) and Greece (45% versus 26% “too ambitious”).

The most striking evolution concerns Sweden, where a nine percentage point rise means that this environmental objective is now generally seen as “about right” whereas it was predominantly regarded as “too modest” in the Standard Eurobarometer of spring 2014 (42% versus 40%). As well as in Sweden, the perceived realism of this target has risen significantly in Finland (67%, +9 percentage points), the Czech Republic (56%, +7) and Croatia (63%, +6). It has declined in Slovenia (64%, -6), Hungary (52%, -6), Belgium (50%, -6), Romania (58%, -5) and Luxembourg (48%, -5).

An absolute majority of respondents agree that the objective of **investing 3% of the wealth of the European Union in research** is realistic in 22 EU countries, most strikingly in Italy and Denmark (both 61%), and commands a relative majority in the remaining six: Belgium (48% versus 23% saying this target is “too modest”), Bulgaria (44% versus 14% “too modest” and 14% “too ambitious”), Greece (40% versus 23% “too modest”), France (43% versus 18% “too modest”), Cyprus (42% versus 21% “too modest”) and Luxembourg (44% versus 19% who say it is “too ambitious”).

The perceived realism of this target has gained significant ground in Poland (54%, +8 percentage points), Slovakia (52%, +6) and Estonia (50%, +6), but has declined in Slovenia (58%, -8), France (43%, -7) and Denmark (61%, -6).

The realism of **reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 20% by comparison with 1990** unites an absolute majority of respondents in 17 Member States, with the highest scores in Malta (65%) and Croatia (64%), and a relative majority in the remaining 11

states, the largest being in Bulgaria (49% versus 18% who think this objective is "too ambitious") and the narrowest in Sweden (45% versus 39% who say it is "too modest").

After a 6-point rise since spring 2014, the "about right" response is now the majority view in Sweden, as was the case for the other environmental objective targeting the development of renewable energy sources. The perception of this target as realistic has also gained significant ground in Croatia (64%, +8 percentage points), the United Kingdom (53%, +6) and Estonia (52%, +6). Conversely, it has declined the most in Romania (57%, -5).

The economic target of increasing the **contribution of industry to the EU's economy to 20% of GDP** is seen as realistic by an absolute majority of respondents in 18 Member States, most strikingly in Croatia (64%) and Portugal (60%). This majority is relative in nine countries, ranging from 49% in Denmark to 40% in France and Cyprus. Finally, in Luxembourg, "don't know" answers lead the way (36%), ahead of "about right" (29%) and "too ambitious" (26%). The "don't know" rate is equal to or higher than 25% in eight other countries: Estonia (39%), France (33%), Germany (32%), Sweden (31%), Malta (30%), the Netherlands (30%), the United Kingdom (26%) and Denmark (25%). This item was introduced for the first time in this Standard Eurobarometer survey, so no evolutions can be discussed.

As in the previous survey in spring 2014, Sweden remains the only EU country in which the educational objective of **reducing the number of young people leaving school with no qualifications to 10%** is seen as too modest (47% versus 38% who say it is "about right"). In every other country, a majority of respondents think this target is "about right", most strikingly in Italy (65%), Croatia (64%) and Malta (63%), more narrowly in Luxembourg (39% versus 35% "too ambitious" and 22% "too modest") and Germany (40% versus 35% "too modest" and 20% "too ambitious"). Overall, absolute majorities of respondents believe this target is realistic in 18 Member States.

This proportion has gained ground significantly in Croatia (64%, +11 percentage points) but has declined in Romania (57%, -8) and Belgium (41%, -6).

The objective of **reducing poverty in the European Union by a quarter** seems "too ambitious" in Cyprus (37% versus 31% who think it is "about right") and Luxembourg (43% versus 31%). This opinion ratio is unchanged since spring 2014 in Cyprus, but has reversed in Luxembourg under the influence of a six percentage point rise in "too ambitious" answers (43% versus 31%, compared with 37% versus 39% in spring 2014). In two countries, majorities think this objective is "too modest": Sweden (44% versus 37% who say it is realistic and 15% for whom it is "too ambitious") and Greece (36% versus 31% who think the target is realistic and a further 31% for whom it is "too ambitious"). This was already the case in spring 2014.

The target therefore appears realistic in the remaining 24 EU countries. This view commands an absolute majority of respondents in 13 Member States, led by Croatia

(62%), Latvia (60%) and Lithuania (60%). This opinion has gained significant ground in Croatia (62%, +11 percentage points), Poland (59%, +8) and Latvia (60%, +6). It has declined most strikingly in Luxembourg (31%, -8) and Hungary (46%, -6).






























Finally, the target of **enabling at least 40% of those aged 30-34 to obtain a higher education diploma or degree** continues, as in spring 2014, to be considered "too ambitious" by majorities in ten Member States: the Netherlands (72%), Germany (63%), Finland (58%), Austria (56%), Luxembourg (54%), Estonia (50%), France (46% versus 33% "about right"), the Czech Republic (47% versus 42%), Slovakia (44% versus 42%) and Latvia (45% versus 43%). Respondents regard this target as realistic in every other Member State, led by Italy (65%) and Spain (63%).

This perception has gained substantial ground in the United Kingdom (51%, +11 percentage points) but has declined in Malta (49%, -7), Romania (51%, -6) and Hungary (44%, -6).

QB2. Thinking about each of the following objectives to be reached by 2020 in the EU, would you say that it is too ambitious, about right or too modest?
Answer: 'About right'

		To increase energy efficiency in the EU by 20% by 2020	Three quarters of men and women between 20 and 64 years of age should have a job	To increase the share of renewable energy in the EU by 20% by 2020	The share of funds invested in research and development should reach 3% of the wealth produced in the EU each year	To reduce EU greenhouse gas emissions by at least 20% by 2020 compared to 1990	To bring industry's contribution to the economy to 20% of GDP by 2020	The number of young people leaving school with no qualifications should fall to 10%	The number of Europeans living below the poverty line should be reduced by a quarter by 2020	At least 40% of the people aged 30 to 34 should have a higher education degree or diploma
	EU28	58%	58%	56%	53%	52%	51%	51%	49%	46%
	BE	56%	53%	50%	48%	47%	50%	41%	41%	41%
	BG	54%	60%	49%	44%	49%	52%	52%	50%	53%
	CZ	56%	50%	56%	57%	51%	54%	48%	42%	42%
	DK	56%	59%	57%	61%	52%	49%	57%	45%	55%
	DE	52%	56%	50%	55%	45%	44%	40%	42%	28%
	EE	57%	61%	58%	50%	52%	42%	50%	46%	34%
	IE	58%	56%	54%	51%	50%	47%	50%	45%	50%
	EL	47%	36%	45%	40%	41%	44%	44%	31%	46%
	ES	64%	57%	62%	54%	59%	55%	58%	53%	63%
	FR	53%	49%	55%	43%	47%	40%	44%	40%	33%
	HR	63%	65%	63%	59%	64%	64%	64%	62%	57%
	IT	64%	67%	63%	61%	60%	58%	65%	59%	65%
	CY	50%	35%	48%	42%	45%	40%	43%	31%	44%
	LV	64%	68%	60%	59%	59%	59%	53%	60%	43%
	LT	69%	62%	66%	60%	60%	56%	54%	60%	53%
	LU	54%	45%	48%	44%	41%	29%	39%	31%	32%
	HU	55%	53%	52%	55%	54%	55%	48%	46%	44%
	MT	70%	65%	68%	56%	65%	53%	63%	59%	49%
	NL	57%	56%	52%	52%	49%	45%	50%	42%	21%
	AT	50%	58%	50%	54%	47%	56%	48%	48%	34%
	PL	61%	60%	59%	54%	53%	58%	56%	59%	56%
	PT	60%	63%	58%	53%	59%	60%	54%	53%	57%
	RO	61%	63%	58%	54%	57%	54%	57%	56%	51%
	SI	67%	57%	64%	58%	60%	57%	60%	50%	50%
	SK	54%	50%	50%	52%	47%	54%	54%	42%	42%
	FI	67%	59%	67%	55%	61%	53%	52%	52%	30%
	SE	53%	49%	49%	50%	45%	45%	38%	37%	52%
	UK	59%	64%	56%	51%	53%	53%	51%	52%	51%
Highest percentage per country		Lowest percentage per country								
		Highest percentage per item				Lowest percentage per item				

QB2. Thinking about each of the following objectives to be reached by 2020 in the EU,
would you say that it is too ambitious, about right or too modest?
Answer: 'Too ambitious'

		At least 40% of the people aged 30 to 34 should have a higher education degree or diploma	The number of Europeans living below the poverty line should be reduced by a quarter by 2020	Three quarters of men and women between 20 and 64 years of age should have a job	To reduce EU greenhouse gas emissions by at least 20% by 2020 compared to 1990	To increase the share of renewable energy in the EU by 20% by 2020	The number of young people leaving school with no qualifications should fall to 10%	To increase energy efficiency in the EU by 20% by 2020	To bring industry's contribution to the economy to 20% of GDP by 2020	The share of funds invested in research and development should reach 3% of the wealth produced in the EU each year
	EU28	38%	24%	23%	22%	20%	18%	18%	17%	12%
	BE	40%	29%	28%	25%	23%	25%	19%	20%	15%
	BG	33%	19%	21%	18%	20%	20%	17%	16%	14%
	CZ	47%	38%	31%	26%	25%	30%	24%	20%	17%
	DK	15%	27%	20%	23%	18%	16%	18%	18%	10%
	DE	63%	27%	23%	22%	21%	20%	20%	17%	9%
	EE	50%	28%	18%	17%	14%	19%	13%	15%	8%
	IE	27%	27%	25%	23%	21%	21%	18%	19%	14%
	EL	31%	31%	33%	26%	26%	26%	25%	22%	22%
	ES	21%	21%	24%	22%	18%	20%	17%	17%	15%
	FR	46%	30%	31%	27%	19%	22%	19%	19%	13%
	HR	29%	16%	22%	16%	17%	11%	16%	16%	13%
	IT	17%	21%	18%	17%	17%	12%	15%	18%	11%
	CY	27%	37%	35%	20%	22%	29%	21%	18%	15%
	LV	45%	13%	17%	15%	15%	7%	12%	12%	10%
	LT	35%	25%	21%	21%	14%	17%	12%	19%	12%
	LU	54%	43%	40%	31%	28%	35%	23%	26%	19%
	HU	43%	27%	29%	23%	24%	21%	22%	21%	19%
	MT	33%	24%	23%	16%	13%	22%	10%	13%	12%
	NL	72%	36%	31%	29%	25%	21%	25%	20%	16%
	AT	56%	21%	21%	19%	15%	16%	15%	17%	19%
	PL	22%	13%	13%	21%	18%	10%	14%	12%	7%
	PT	23%	23%	19%	17%	19%	22%	17%	17%	17%
	RO	34%	26%	25%	23%	23%	24%	21%	22%	19%
	SI	36%	22%	23%	17%	15%	15%	12%	19%	11%
	SK	44%	35%	33%	28%	27%	26%	24%	22%	21%
	FI	58%	29%	23%	22%	16%	18%	15%	21%	12%
	SE	28%	15%	17%	12%	12%	12%	11%	9%	5%
	UK	31%	20%	18%	22%	20%	15%	16%	12%	10%






























Highest percentage per country

Lowest percentage per country

Highest percentage per item

Lowest percentage per item

QB2. Thinking about each of the following objectives to be reached by 2020 in the EU, would you say that it is too ambitious, about right or too modest?
Answer: 'Too modest'

		The number of young people leaving school with no qualifications should fall to 10%	The number of Europeans living below the poverty line should be reduced by a quarter by 2020	To reduce EU greenhouse gas emissions by at least 20% by 2020 compared to 1990	To increase the share of renewable energy in the EU by 20% by 2020	Three quarters of men and women between 20 and 64 years of age should have a job	The share of funds invested in research and development should reach 3% of the wealth produced in the EU each year	To increase energy efficiency in the EU by 20% by 2020	At least 40% of the people aged 30 to 34 should have a higher education degree or diploma	To bring industry's contribution to the economy to 20% of GDP by 2020
	EU28	24%	21%	17%	15%	15%	15%	13%	9%	8%
	BE	31%	28%	24%	23%	17%	23%	21%	15%	15%
	BG	21%	25%	10%	9%	14%	14%	10%	5%	9%
	CZ	17%	15%	15%	10%	16%	12%	9%	5%	7%
	DK	24%	23%	20%	21%	18%	14%	17%	26%	8%
	DE	35%	26%	26%	22%	17%	18%	17%	3%	7%
	EE	19%	14%	8%	8%	14%	10%	7%	4%	4%
	IE	19%	17%	13%	12%	11%	13%	11%	14%	11%
	EL	28%	36%	26%	22%	29%	23%	19%	20%	19%
	ES	17%	22%	11%	11%	15%	16%	8%	11%	8%
	FR	27%	23%	17%	17%	16%	18%	15%	9%	8%
	HR	21%	18%	12%	13%	10%	16%	14%	10%	11%
	IT	19%	16%	14%	12%	11%	13%	12%	13%	8%
	CY	24%	30%	20%	16%	27%	21%	17%	26%	19%
	LV	34%	22%	8%	8%	12%	13%	7%	6%	9%
	LT	20%	10%	7%	6%	13%	8%	5%	6%	4%
	LU	22%	21%	19%	15%	10%	12%	12%	7%	9%
	HU	26%	23%	16%	17%	15%	13%	16%	10%	10%
	MT	7%	9%	4%	4%	4%	6%	5%	6%	4%
	NL	26%	20%	19%	20%	12%	15%	14%	3%	5%
	AT	33%	29%	29%	31%	18%	17%	29%	6%	11%
	PL	18%	20%	10%	11%	21%	15%	11%	11%	9%
	PT	15%	16%	12%	11%	11%	12%	10%	10%	7%
	RO	13%	12%	8%	7%	8%	9%	6%	8%	6%
	SI	11%	18%	11%	10%	11%	12%	8%	3%	6%
	SK	11%	15%	12%	11%	12%	10%	10%	6%	7%
	FI	21%	14%	11%	12%	14%	9%	10%	3%	4%
	SE	47%	44%	39%	35%	33%	23%	27%	14%	15%
	UK	25%	18%	14%	12%	12%	13%	13%	8%	9%

Highest percentage per country

Lowest percentage per country

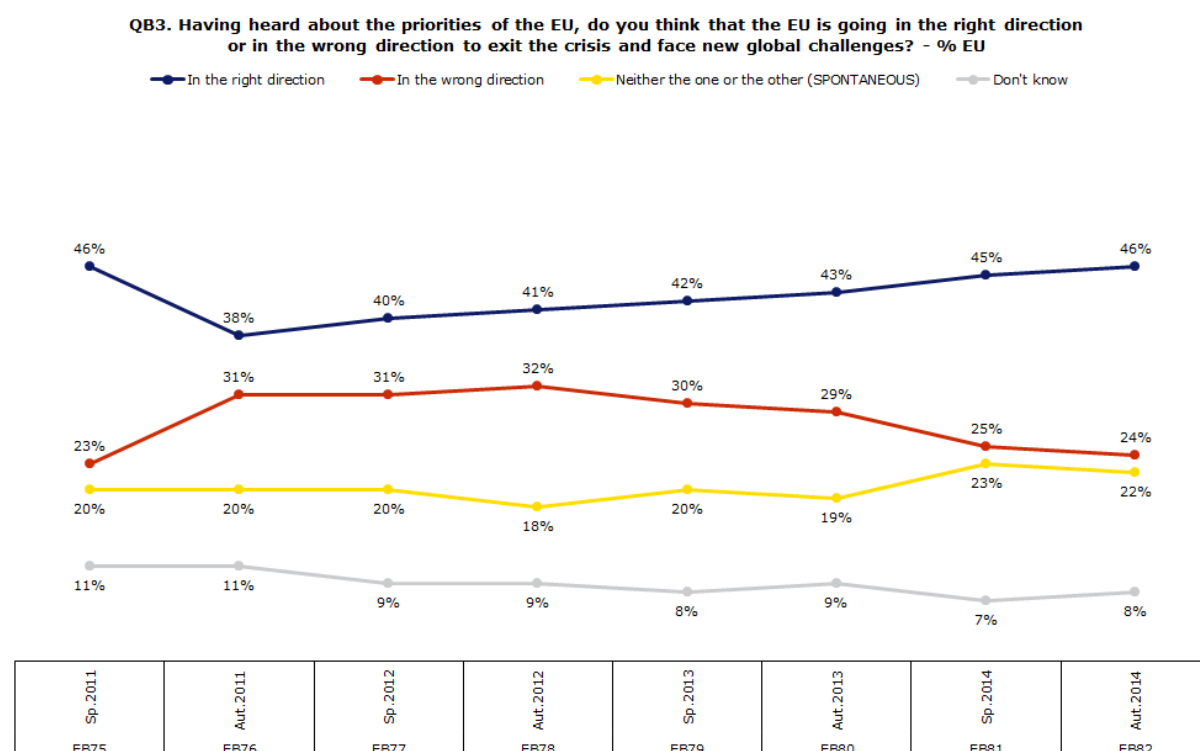
Highest percentage per item

Lowest percentage per item

III. THE DIRECTION TAKEN BY THE EUROPEAN UNION TO TACKLE THE CRISIS

The upturn seen in European public opinion regarding the European Union's policy for emerging from the crisis and facing the new global challenges since the autumn 2011 Standard Eurobarometer survey (EB76) continues in the current survey.⁹ The approval ratio¹⁰ for this policy hit its lowest level in 2011 (+7). In this survey it stands at +22, which is very close to the highest level measured for this indicator since its introduction in spring 2010 (+23 recorded in both autumn 2010 (Standard Eurobarometer EB74) and spring 2011 (Standard Eurobarometer EB75)). This index has risen by two points since spring 2014 (+20), recording its fourth successive rise since autumn 2012.

A majority of Europeans (46%, +1 percentage point since spring 2014) think that the European Union is going "in the right direction" to emerge from the crisis and face the new global challenges, while 24% (-1) instead believe that it is moving in the wrong direction. A little over a fifth of respondents *spontaneously* answered "neither one nor the other" (22%, -1) and 8% (+1) gave no answer.



After improving sharply at the time of the Standard Eurobarometer in spring 2014, the opinion ratio has stabilised in this survey in countries within the euro area (+14, compared with +15 in spring 2014 and +5 in autumn 2013). Already very positive, it has risen yet again outside the euro area (+38, compared with +30 in spring 2014 and +27 in autumn 2014).

⁹ QB3. Having heard about the objectives of the EU, do you think that the EU is going in the right direction or in the wrong direction to exit the crisis and face new global challenges?

¹⁰ The difference between the proportion of "right direction" and "wrong direction" responses.






























As approval rises and negative views decline, the ratio of opinions has improved markedly since spring 2014 in Portugal (36% versus 29%, compared with 35% versus 39% in spring 2014) and Spain (38% versus 37%, compared with 30% versus 45%). Approval of the path taken by the European Union to emerge from the crisis and face the new global challenges is now dominant in 26 countries, commanding an absolute majority of respondents in 15 (Malta, Lithuania, Sweden, Netherlands, Romania, Finland, Bulgaria, Poland, Ireland, Denmark, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Czech Republic and Croatia) and a relative majority in 11 (Belgium, Germany, the United Kingdom, Slovenia, Luxembourg, Austria, France, Slovakia, Cyprus, Spain and Portugal). Approval is most widespread in Malta (71%), Lithuania (70%) and Sweden (68%).

Since spring 2014, positive opinions have consolidated significantly in the United Kingdom (49% for “the right direction”, +15 percentage points), the Czech Republic (53%, +9), Sweden (68%, +8), Poland (59%, +8) and Spain (38%, +8). However, they have lost substantial ground in Belgium (49%, -12), Denmark (56%, -8), Croatia (51%, -8) and Germany (49%, -8).






























Greece (48% for “the wrong direction”, versus 25%) and **Italy** (36% versus 24%) are the only two countries in which a majority of respondents disapprove of the EU’s policies for emerging from the crisis.

Overall, the approval index for the EU’s crisis policy (the difference between positive and negative opinions) has improved in this survey in 18 of the 28 Member States, most strikingly in the Czech Republic (+16), Spain (+16), Slovakia (+15), Poland (+14), Sweden (+11), Portugal (+11), Romania (+10), the United Kingdom (+9) and Cyprus (+8). It has declined in the remaining ten countries, with a marked deterioration in five of them: Belgium (-23), Croatia (-12), Italy (-9), Germany (-9) and Denmark (-8).

QB3. Having heard about the priorities of the EU, do you think that the EU is going in the right direction or in the wrong direction to exit the crisis and face new global challenges?

		In the right direction - In the wrong direction EB81 Sp.2014	In the right direction - In the wrong direction EB82 Aut.2014	Diff. Aut.2014- Sp.2014
	EU28	+20	+22	+2
	EURO AREA	+15	+14	-1
	NON-EURO AREA	+30	+38	+8
	CZ	+16	+32	+16
	ES	-15	+1	+16
	SK	+3	+18	+15
	PL	+39	+53	+14
	PT	-4	+7	+11
	SE	+45	+56	+11
	RO	+43	+53	+10
	UK	+11	+20	+9
	CY	+11	+19	+8
	IE	+36	+43	+7
	HU	+29	+35	+6
	LV	+38	+43	+5
	MT	+63	+68	+5
	EL	-26	-23	+3
	NL	+45	+48	+3
	BG	+52	+54	+2
	FR	+9	+11	+2
	SI	+30	+32	+2
	FI	+52	+51	-1
	EE	+49	+47	-2
	LT	+65	+63	-2
	LU	+27	+23	-4
	AT	+24	+20	-4
	DK	+45	+37	-8
	DE	+43	+34	-9
	IT	-3	-12	-9
	HR	+45	+33	-12
	BE	+37	+14	-23






QB3. Having heard about the priorities of the EU, do you think that the EU is going in the right direction or in the wrong direction to exit the crisis and face new global challenges?

		In the right direction	Diff. Aut.2014-Aut.2013	In the wrong direction	Diff. Aut.2014-Aut.2013	Neither the one or the other (SPONTANEOUS)	Diff. Aut.2014-Aut.2013	Don't know	Diff. Aut.2014-Aut.2013
	EU28	46%	+1	24%	-1	22%	-1	8%	+1
	MT	71%	+3	3%	-2	19%	-1	7%	=
	LT	70%	-1	7%	+1	18%	+2	5%	-2
	SE	68%	+8	12%	-3	17%	-5	3%	=
	NL	65%	+3	17%	=	15%	-1	3%	-2
	RO	65%	+4	12%	-6	18%	+2	5%	=
	FI	64%	-2	13%	-1	17%	+2	6%	+1
	BG	61%	+2	7%	=	22%	-1	10%	-1
	PL	59%	+8	6%	-6	27%	-2	8%	=
	IE	58%	+4	15%	-3	22%	=	5%	-1
	DK	56%	-8	19%	=	19%	+7	6%	+1
	EE	55%	-2	8%	=	27%	=	10%	+2
	HU	55%	+2	20%	-4	20%	+1	5%	+1
	CZ	53%	+9	21%	-7	21%	-4	5%	+2
	LV	53%	+1	10%	-4	31%	+3	6%	=
	HR	51%	-8	18%	+4	28%	+4	3%	=
	BE	49%	-12	35%	+11	11%	-2	5%	+3
	DE	49%	-8	15%	+1	28%	+3	8%	+4
	UK	49%	+15	29%	+6	11%	-14	11%	-7
	SI	46%	-2	14%	-4	32%	+3	8%	+3
	LU	43%	-2	20%	+2	35%	+2	2%	-2
	AT	42%	-4	22%	=	31%	+4	5%	=
	FR	41%	-1	30%	-3	21%	+5	8%	-1
	SK	41%	+6	23%	-9	32%	+2	4%	+1
	ES	38%	+8	37%	-8	18%	-1	7%	+1
	CY	38%	-2	19%	-10	36%	+9	7%	+3
	PT	36%	+1	29%	-10	27%	+6	8%	+3
	EL	25%	-2	48%	-5	24%	+6	3%	+1
	IT	24%	-3	36%	+6	31%	-4	9%	+1

In every European socio-demographic category, majorities believe that the EU is going in the right direction to emerge from the crisis and face new global challenges, with the notable exception of people who have difficulties paying their bills “most of the time” (38% for “the wrong direction”, versus 34%).

However, there are some differences of emphasis reflecting the age and social status of respondents. For example, there is a significant generational divide on this question; 54% of people born after 1980 (“generation Y”) approve of the EU’s policy for emerging from the crisis and facing new global challenges, compared with 46% of those born between 1965 and 1980 (“generation X”), 44% of those born between 1946 and 1964 (baby boomers) and 39% of those born before 1946. The impression that the EU is moving in the right direction also increases with educational levels and self-positioning on the social scale: 34% of people who left school at the age of 15 or earlier believe that the EU is going in the right direction to emerge from the crisis and face new global challenges, compared with 45% of those who left education between the age of 16 and 19, and 52% of those who studied until the age of 20 or beyond. Meanwhile, 42% of unemployed people and 42% of people who describe themselves as working class approve of the EU’s policy for emerging from the crisis, compared with 49% of those who place themselves in the middle class and 55% of those who say they are upper class.












QB3 Having heard about the priorities of the EU, do you think that the EU is going in the right direction or in the wrong direction to exit the crisis and face new global challenges?

	In the right direction	In the wrong direction	Neither the one or the other (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU28	46%	24%	22%	8%
 Gender				
Men	49%	25%	21%	5%
Women	44%	23%	24%	9%
 Age				
15-24	54%	20%	19%	7%
25-39	50%	23%	21%	6%
40-54	45%	26%	22%	7%
55 +	42%	24%	24%	10%
Generation				
Before 1928	30%	27%	24%	19%
1928 - 1945	39%	25%	24%	12%
Total 'Before 1946'	39%	25%	24%	12%
1946 - 1964 "BB"	44%	25%	24%	7%
1965 - 1980 "X"	46%	26%	22%	6%
After 1980 "Y"	54%	20%	20%	6%
 Education (End of)				
15-	34%	32%	24%	10%
16-19	45%	24%	23%	8%
20+	52%	21%	21%	6%
Still studying	57%	18%	19%	6%
 Socio-professional category				
Self-employed	47%	25%	23%	5%
Managers	55%	20%	20%	5%
Other white collars	49%	21%	24%	6%
Manual workers	47%	25%	21%	7%
House persons	36%	30%	24%	10%
Unemployed	42%	30%	21%	7%
Retired	42%	24%	24%	10%
Students	57%	18%	19%	6%
 Difficulties paying bills				
Most of the time	34%	38%	21%	7%
From time to time	40%	28%	25%	7%
Almost never/ Never	52%	20%	21%	7%
Consider belonging to				
The working class	42%	28%	21%	9%
The lower middle class	46%	26%	21%	7%
The middle class	49%	21%	24%	6%
The upper middle class	56%	20%	21%	3%
The upper class	55%	19%	20%	6%

The following table shows the average results by socio-demographic criteria in the European Union as a whole (EU28), in the six largest EU countries, and in the countries that have received European aid to help them cope with the economic and financial crisis.

QB3. Having heard about the priorities of the EU, do you think that the EU is going in the right direction or in the wrong direction to exit the crisis and face new global challenges?

Answer: 'In the right direction'

	 EU28	 DE	 ES	 FR	 IT	 PL	 UK	 EL	 PT	 IE	 CY
TOTAL	46%	49%	38%	41%	24%	59%	49%	25%	36%	58%	38%
Gender											
Male	49%	51%	39%	44%	26%	61%	56%	27%	40%	61%	44%
Female	44%	47%	38%	38%	22%	57%	44%	23%	32%	55%	33%
Age											
15-24	54%	57%	44%	46%	23%	68%	61%	33%	51%	63%	42%
25-39	50%	50%	41%	46%	31%	59%	57%	29%	47%	59%	32%
40-54	45%	46%	39%	39%	25%	59%	47%	22%	34%	59%	43%
55 +	42%	50%	34%	38%	19%	55%	41%	22%	25%	52%	37%
Education (End of)											
15-	34%	43%	38%	28%	16%	41%	38%	19%	26%	52%	33%
16-19	45%	49%	35%	41%	28%	57%	45%	23%	41%	52%	40%
20+	52%	50%	43%	46%	31%	61%	59%	31%	53%	65%	36%
Still studying	57%	64%	50%	44%	19%	67%	66%	33%	60%	66%	49%
Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	47%	41%	42%	39%	33%	59%	67%	31%	38%	46%	24%
Managers	55%	48%	44%	53%	37%	64%	57%	32%	45%	68%	37%
Other white collars	49%	41%	57%	41%	34%	60%	53%	22%	53%	73%	38%
Manual workers	47%	52%	40%	35%	26%	54%	48%	24%	37%	52%	26%
House persons	36%	43%	33%	24%	11%	59%	46%	23%	4%	52%	39%
Unemployed	42%	48%	36%	52%	17%	65%	42%	20%	27%	47%	42%
Retired	42%	49%	30%	38%	18%	55%	40%	22%	25%	57%	39%
Students	57%	64%	50%	44%	19%	67%	66%	33%	60%	66%	49%

STANDARD EUROBAROMETER 82

Public opinion in the European Union

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Between the 8th of the 17th of November 2014, TNS opinion & social, a consortium created between TNS political & social, TNS UK and TNS opinion, carried out the wave 82.3 of the EUROBAROMETER survey, on request of the EUROPEAN COMMISSION, Directorate-General for Communication, "Strategy, Corporate Communication Actions and Eurobarometer" unit.

The wave 82.3 is the STANDARD EUROBAROMETER 82 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 82 survey has also been conducted in the six candidate countries (Turkey, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland, Montenegro, Serbia and Albania) 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	1.001	8/11/14	17/11/14	9.263.570	2,18%
BG	Bulgaria	TNS BBSS	1.006	8/11/14	17/11/14	6.294.563	1,48%
CZ	Czech Rep.	TNS Aisa	1.055	8/11/14	17/11/14	8.955.829	2,11%
DK	Denmark	TNS Gallup DK	1.004	8/11/14	17/11/14	4.625.032	1,09%
DE	Germany	TNS Infratest	1.610	8/11/14	17/11/14	71.283.580	16,79%
EE	Estonia	TNS Emor	1.002	8/11/14	17/11/14	1.113.355	0,26%
IE	Ireland	Behaviour & Attitudes	1.002	8/11/14	17/11/14	3.586.829	0,84%
EL	Greece	TNS ICAP	1.009	8/11/14	17/11/14	8.791.499	2,07%
ES	Spain	TNS Spain	1.055	8/11/14	17/11/14	39.506.853	9,31%
FR	France	TNS Sofres	1.012	8/11/14	17/11/14	51.668.700	12,17%
HR	Croatia	HENDAL	1.027	8/11/14	17/11/14	3.625.601	0,85%
IT	Italy	TNS Italia	1.016	8/11/14	17/11/14	51.336.889	12,09%
CY	Rep. Of Cyprus	CYMAR	500	8/11/14	17/11/14	724.084	0,17%
LV	Latvia	TNS Latvia	1.003	8/11/14	17/11/14	1.731.509	0,41%
LT	Lithuania	TNS LT	1.002	8/11/14	17/11/14	2.535.329	0,60%
LU	Luxembourg	TNS ILReS	507	8/11/14	17/11/14	445.806	0,11%
HU	Hungary	TNS Hoffmann	1.061	8/11/14	17/11/14	8.477.933	2,00%
MT	Malta	MISCO	506	8/11/14	17/11/14	360.045	0,08%
NL	Netherlands	TNS NIPO	1.010	8/11/14	17/11/14	13.901.653	3,27%
AT	Austria	ipr Umfrageforschung	1.032	8/11/14	17/11/14	7.232.497	1,70%
PL	Poland	TNS Polska	1.033	8/11/14	17/11/14	32.736.685	7,71%
PT	Portugal	TNS Portugal	1.005	8/11/14	17/11/14	8.512.269	2,01%
RO	Romania	TNS CSOP	1.018	8/11/14	17/11/14	16.880.465	3,98%
SI	Slovenia	RM PLUS	1.046	8/11/14	17/11/14	1.760.726	0,41%
SK	Slovakia	TNS Slovakia	1.037	8/11/14	17/11/14	4.580.260	1,08%
FI	Finland	TNS Gallup Oy	1.002	8/11/14	17/11/14	4.511.446	1,06%
SE	Sweden	TNS Sifo	1.023	8/11/14	17/11/14	7.944.034	1,87%
UK	United Kingdom	TNS UK	1.317	8/11/14	17/11/14	52.104.731	12,27%
TOTAL EU28			27.901	8/11/14	17/11/14	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	8/11/14	17/11/14	143.226
TR	Turkey	TNS Piar	1.087	8/11/14	17/11/14	54.844.406
MK	Former Yugoslav Rep. of Macedonia	TNS BRIMA	1.057	8/11/14	14/11/14	1.678.404
IS	Iceland	Capacent	500	8/11/14	17/11/14	252.277
ME	Montenegro	TNS Medium Gallup	536	10/11/14	16/11/14	492.265
RS	Serbia	TNS Medium Gallup	1.017	10/11/14	17/11/14	6.409.693
AL	Albania	TNS BBSS	1.064	8/11/14	17/11/14	2.221.572
TOTAL			32.598	8/11/14	17/11/14	490.533.615