

EUROBAROMETER 74

AUTUMN 2010

EUROPE 2020

REPORT

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

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

Standard Eurobarometer 74 Autumn 2010

EUROPE 2020

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

Coordinated by the European Commission –
Directorate-General Communication

TNS Opinion & Social
40 Avenue Herrmann Debroux
1160 Brussels
Belgium

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PRESENTATION

In March 2010, the European Commission launched its Europe 2020 strategy to prepare the European Union economy for the challenges of the 2010-2020 decade, by promoting a **smart, sustainable and inclusive** European economy¹, while accelerating the exit from the crisis. To achieve this goal, seven flagship initiatives have been identified, which must be established jointly at European, national and regional levels.

In this Eurobarometer survey, we asked Europeans how they perceive the Europe 2020 strategy in three respects: first of all, do they feel that the measurable targets fixed in order to order to assess the concrete success of the strategy are realistic? A similar question was asked at the time of the spring 2010 Eurobarometer survey and the results of that question can be used to measure changes in European public opinion on this issue.

Europeans were then asked which actions should be given priority by the European Union in each of the seven flagship initiatives of the Europe 2020 strategy.

Finally, now that they have heard about the measurable targets and the various Europe 2020 strategy actions, do Europeans consider that the European Union is on the right track to emerge from the crisis?

This Eurobarometer survey therefore provides an indication of how far Europeans support the Commission's strategy to help Europe emerge from the crisis.

The full report of the Standard Eurobarometer 74 carried out in autumn 2010 consists of several volumes. The first volume analyses the results of the historical indicators of the Standard Eurobarometer. Three other volumes describe the state of European public opinion on the financial and economic crisis; the Europe 2020 strategy; information on European political issues. This volume is devoted to the Europe 2020 strategy.

The general analysis and the socio-demographic analyses are based on the average results for the 27 Member States. This average is weighted so that it reflects the actual population of each Member State. The averages for previous years represent the results obtained in all the Member States of the European Union, as it was composed at the time the survey was conducted.

* * *

¹ See http://europa.eu/press_room/pdf/complet_fr_barroso - europe_2020 - fr_version.pdf and http://ec.europa.eu/europe2020/index_en.htm

The methodology used is that of the Eurobarometer surveys of the Directorate-General Communication (“Research and Speechwriting” Unit). A technical note concerning the interviews carried out by the institutes of the TNS Opinion & Social network is annexed to this report. It specifies the method used for the interviews and the confidence intervals².

The Eurobarometer’s web site can be consulted at the following address:

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

We wish to thank the people interviewed throughout Europe who gave their time to take part in this survey. Without their active participation, this survey would not have been possible.

² The results tables are included in the annex. It should be noted that the total of the percentages in the tables of this report may exceed 100% when the respondent can give several answers to the same question.

In this report, the countries are represented by their official abbreviations. The abbreviations used in this report correspond to:

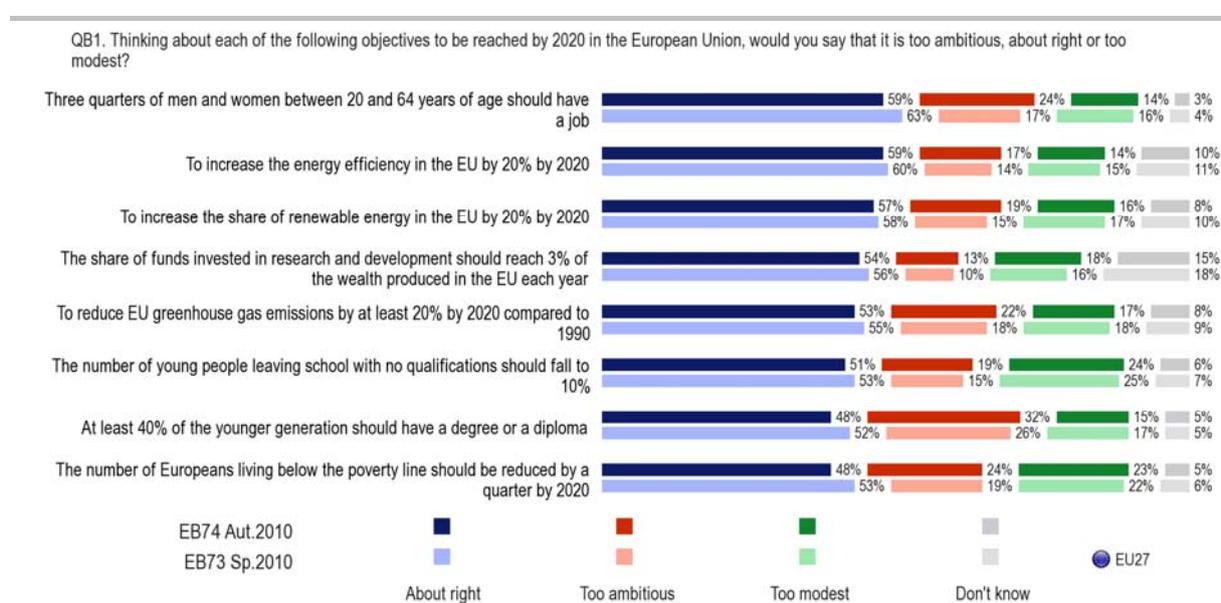
ABBREVIATIONS

EU27	European Union – 27 Member States
DK/NA	Don't know/No answer
BE	Belgium
BG	Bulgaria
CZ	Czech Republic
DK	Denmark
DE	Germany
EE	Estonia
EL	Greece
ES	Spain
FR	France
IE	Ireland
IT	Italy
CY	Republic of Cyprus
LT	Lithuania
LV	Latvia
LU	Luxembourg
HU	Hungary
MT	Malta
NL	The Netherlands
AT	Austria
PL	Poland
PT	Portugal
RO	Romania
SI	Slovenia
SK	Slovakia
FI	Finland
SE	Sweden
UK	United Kingdom

1. THE OBJECTIVES OF THE EUROPE 2020 STRATEGY

In order to focus the Europe 2020 strategy and to be able to measure its success objectively, the European Commission has set some measurable targets to be achieved by 2020.

An absolute or relative majority of Europeans agree that all the targets are realistic, describing them in general as “about right”. The proportion of “about right” answers ranges from 48% for reducing the number of Europeans living below the poverty line by a quarter and ensuring that at least 40% of the younger generation have a degree or diploma, to 59% for enabling three-quarters of men and women aged between 20 and 64 to have a job and increasing energy efficiency in the EU by 20% by 2020.



A majority of Europeans consider that the targets of the Europe 2020 strategy are well thought-out or “about right”. A majority of respondents share this view for all the targets, but levels of support have fallen slightly for all these objectives. This reduction is the result of an increase in the “too ambitious” answers rather than in the “too modest” answers.

The decline is most marked in respect of the social targets. The proportion of Europeans who consider that the objective of reducing the number of Europeans living below the poverty line by a quarter by 2020 is “about right” has fallen by 5 points, while the “too ambitious” score has increased by 5 points.

The impression that the following targets are realistic has seen a four-point decline: 40% of young people should have a degree or diploma, and three-quarters of Europeans aged between 20 and 64 should have a job. At the same time, the number of respondents who see these targets as “too ambitious” has increased by 6 and 7 points respectively.

The results for environmental and sustainable development targets reveal a similar but less pronounced trend: 59% of Europeans consider that the target of increasing energy efficiency in the EU by 20% by 2020 is “about right”, one point less than in the previous Eurobarometer survey, while 17% consider that it is “too ambitious”, up by 3 points.

57% of Europeans consider that the objective of increasing the proportion of renewable energy in the EU by 20% by 2020 is realistic, one point less than in the last Eurobarometer survey in spring 2010, while 19% consider that it is “too ambitious”, an increase of 4 points. Finally, 53% of Europeans say that the target of reducing EU greenhouse gas emissions by at least 20% compared to 1990 is “about right”, up 2 points since six months earlier, while 22% believe that it is “too ambitious”, a rise of 4 points.

Some national particularities were observed: respondents in Italy are the most likely to consider that all these objectives are achievable, since the “about right” answer is 10 or more points higher than the European average for all the targets.

Respondents in Greece are particularly doubtful about the relevance of the targets, with a proportion of respondents who consider them to be “too ambitious” 10 or more points above the European average for half of the targets, in particular for the economic and social objectives.

In contrast, respondents in Belgium, France, Luxembourg (for four of the eight targets), and Sweden (for five of the eight) are more likely than others to consider that these objectives do not go far enough, with a “too modest” score which is at least 10 points above the European average.

Finally, Germany stands out quite sharply on one point: 61% of respondents consider that the target of ensuring that at least 40% of the younger generation should have a degree or diploma in 2020 is “too ambitious”, compared with a European average of 32%.

Socio-demographic differences have a limited impact on the results: we note however that the people who studied the longest are slightly more likely to believe that the various targets are “too modest”. We also note that, fairly logically, the respondents who consider that the European Union is going in the right direction to emerge from the crisis and address the new global challenges are more likely to consider that these targets are realistic than those who believe that it is going in the wrong direction.

2. THE EUROPEAN UNION'S PRIORITIES FOR EACH INITIATIVE

In this Eurobarometer survey, we asked Europeans to specify what they think should be the EU's priorities for the seven flagship initiatives of the Europe 2020 strategy: innovation, youth, Internet, energy, jobs and skills, industry and combating poverty. Europeans were asked about the policies which they thought should be given priority in each initiative³. They were first asked to indicate what they believed should be the most important priority (firstly?), with only one answer allowed; then the others (and then?), this time with the option of giving multiple answers. The total answers to this two-part question provide an overall league table. In this report, we shall analyse in particular the combined results (total answers); but also the results for the first priority cited (first answer).

The main lesson learnt from this analysis is that, in most cases, the order of preferences is close; no one policy is really predominant and significant proportions of Europeans consider that two or even three of these policies should be given priority. **Europeans welcomed the priorities proposed to develop European innovation, help young people to enter the labour market, extend access to the Internet, make energy consumption more efficient, support European industry, develop new skills and jobs and combat poverty and exclusion.** There is a strong public demand for practical measures to help Europe emerge from the crisis.

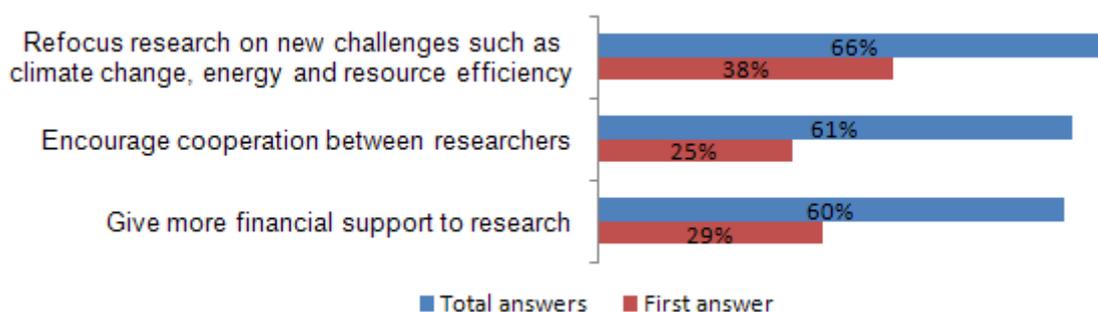
What is more, the relatively low 'DK' rate for these questions⁴ is striking: Europeans have a clear opinion on the various initiatives and the policies which should be implemented as a matter of priority to achieve them. This also suggests that they consider them to be relevant. However the question on the EU's digital strategy and the Internet, which recorded a high proportion of 'DK' answers (20%) is an exception, probably linked to respondents' Internet access.

³ QB2-QB8 Thinking about *innovation/youth/Internet /energy/industry/jobs and skills/poverty*, what do you think should be the EU's priority? Firstly? And then?

⁴ Appears as 'DK' in the data tables.

2.1 Priorities as regards Innovation

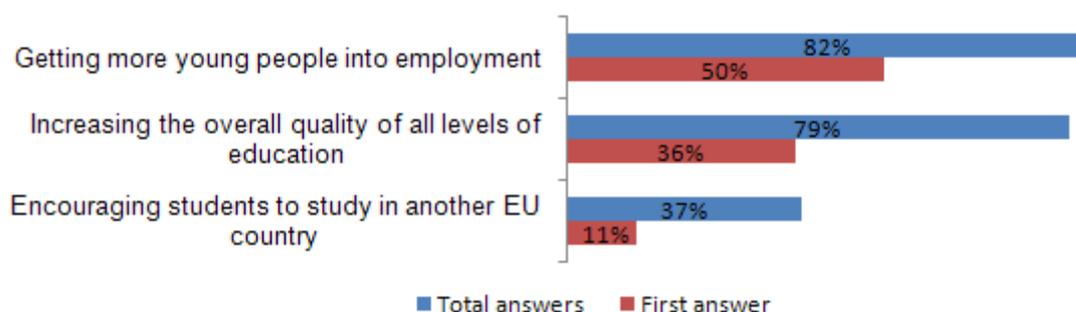
When asked to identify the EU's priorities in the area of innovation, Europeans place greater emphasis on focusing on new challenges than on increasing resources. 38% of respondents gave **refocus research on new challenges such as climate change, energy and resource efficiency** as their *first answer*, while 29% want priority to be given to increasing the financial resources devoted to research and 25% want closer cooperation between researchers.



The order of priorities is slightly different when the first answers and the other answers are combined, since although refocusing research on new challenges is still ranked first with a score of 66%, improved cooperation between researchers is ranked in second place, with a score of 61%, just ahead of greater resources (60%). **The fact that the innovation results are very close demonstrates that all three priorities are seen as important by Europeans.**

2.2 Priorities as regards Youth

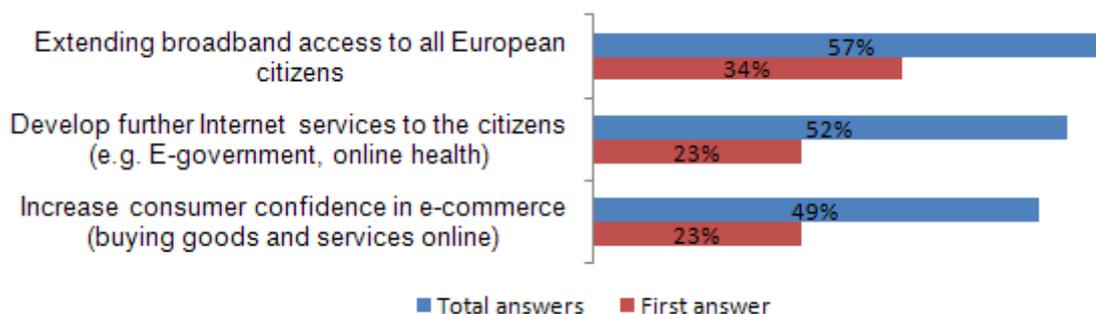
The policies which Europeans consider the EU should emphasise in youth policy are clearly prioritised: first jobs, ahead of education and well ahead of promoting mobility. Thus, when asked what should be the EU's priority as regards young people, 50% of respondents *first* mentioned "getting more young people into work", followed by "increasing the overall quality of all levels of education" (36%) and finally "encouraging students to study in another EU country" (11%). The order of these priorities and the scores are the same in the 15 to 24 age group as they are for European population as a whole. We note simply that the youngest respondents are slightly more likely to mention encouraging students to study in another EU Member State (40% of those aged 15 to 24, compared with 34% of those aged 55 or over).



The order of priorities is similar when the first and other answers are combined, with a score of 82% for employment, 79% for education and, a long way behind, 37% for student mobility.

2.3 Priorities as regards the Internet

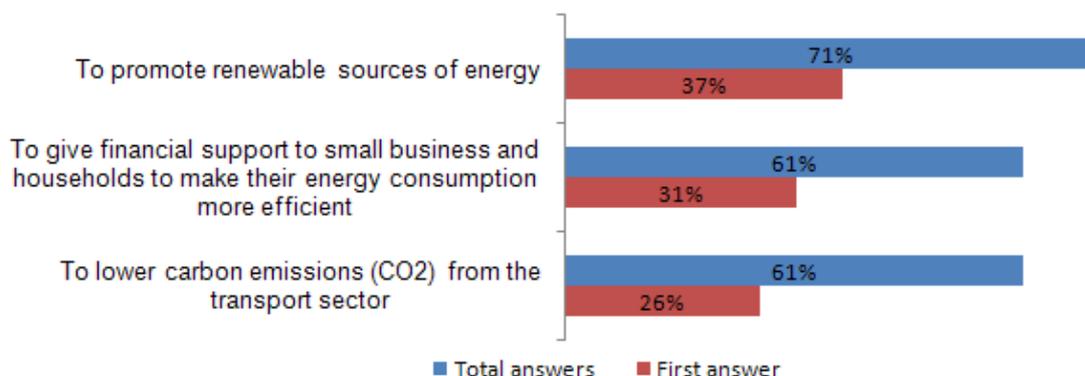
Although Europeans consider that **extending broadband access** should be the *first priority* of policy in this area, the other two priorities also obtained significant scores and are therefore also seen as important. As their first answer, 34% of respondents mentioned extending broadband access to all European citizens as the EU's priority for the Internet, while 23% mentioned developing further Internet services for citizens and 23% also mentioned increasing consumer confidence in e-commerce.



When the first and other answers are combined, the order of priorities is closer, with 57% of respondents opting for increased broadband access, 52% for the development of further Internet services for citizens and 49% for increasing consumer confidence in e-commerce. It must be borne in mind that 20% of Europeans did not answer this question and that, as result, the scores are lower than for the other initiatives.

2.4 Priorities as regards Energy policy

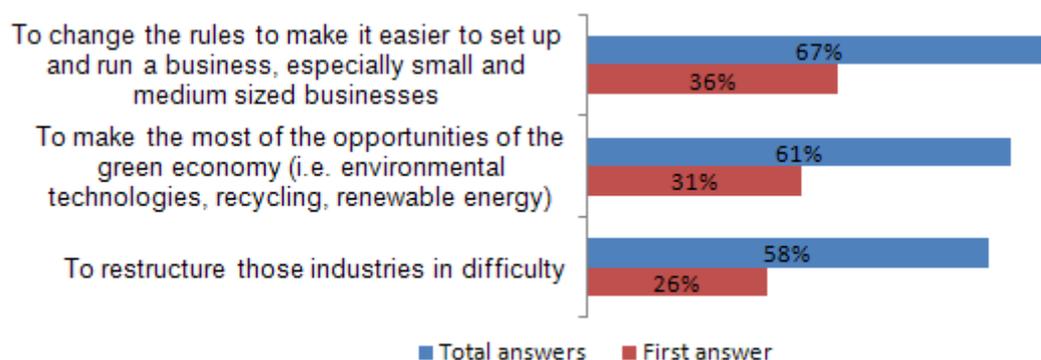
Almost four out of ten Europeans (37%) consider that the EU's *main priority* for its energy policy should be to **promote renewable sources of energy**. Just under a third (31%) would prefer it to focus on giving financial support to small businesses and households to make their energy consumption more efficient and, finally, 26% opted for lowering carbon emissions in the transport sector.



When the first and other answers are combined, promoting renewable sources of energy is still the most frequently mentioned policy (71%), but the scores for the other two actions are higher (61% for both). Promoting renewable sources of energy, giving financial support to make households and small businesses more energy efficient and reducing carbon emissions in the transport sector: the actions to be implemented **in the area of energy are all seen as equally important by Europeans**.

2.5 Priorities as regards Industrial policy

When respondents are asked to identify the priorities for the EU's industrial policy, **changes to the rules to make it easier to set up and run a business, especially small and medium-sized businesses** tops the list of *first answers* with a score of 36%, ahead of the need to make the most of the opportunities of the green economy (31%) and restructuring industries in difficulty (26%).

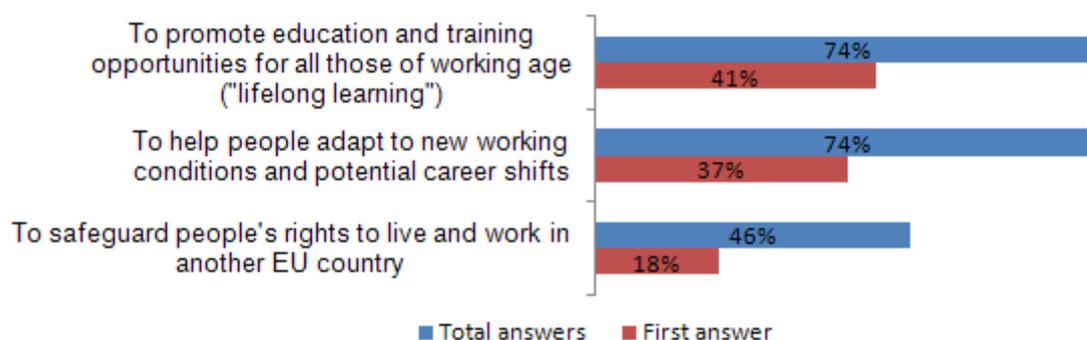


Once again, when the first and other answers are combined, the order of preferences is closer, with an absolute majority of Europeans considering that these actions should all be given priority: 67% for changing the rules to make it easier to set up and run a business, 61% for making the most of the developing green economy and 58% for restructuring industrial sectors in difficulty.

2.6 Priorities as regards Jobs and skills

Europeans consider that the EU should give priority in its employment policy to promoting lifelong learning and professional mobility, significantly ahead of safeguarding the right of Europeans to live and work in another EU country.

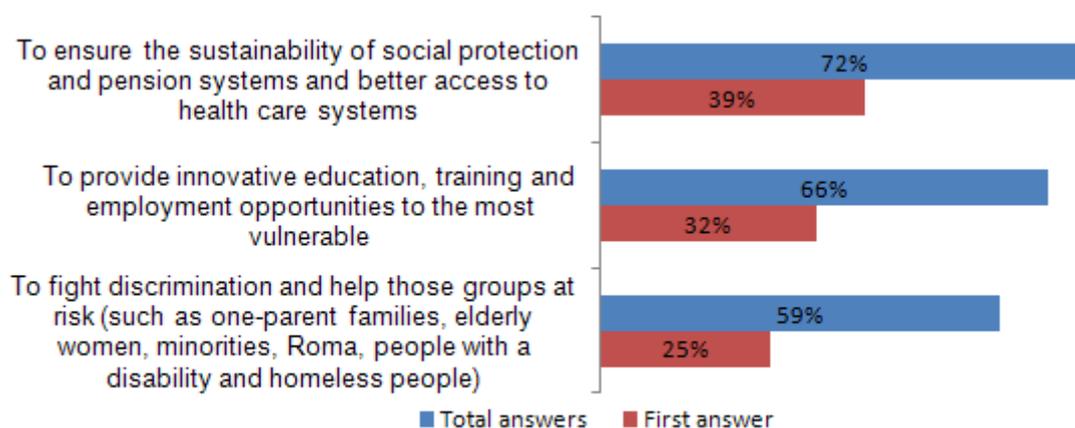
For 41% of Europeans the *first priority* in the area of employment was “**promoting education and training opportunities for all those of working age (“lifelong learning”)**” while 37% mentioned “helping people adapt to new working conditions and potential career shifts”. “Safeguarding people’s rights to live and work in another EU country” was mentioned by only 18% of respondents.



This order of priorities is confirmed when the first and other answers are combined, with two policies being seen as far more important (74% for both lifelong learning and professional mobility) than the third action, which is seen as being of secondary importance (46% mentioned safeguarding the right to work in another EU country), undoubtedly because this is seen as an established right by a large majority of European opinion.

2.7 Priorities for combating poverty

When asked to rank the policies for combating poverty and exclusion, 39% of Europeans mentioned **ensuring the sustainability of social protection and pension systems and better access to health care systems** as the *first priority* for the European Union, while 32% opted for providing innovative education, training and employment opportunities to the most vulnerable and 25% think that the EU should focus on fighting discrimination and helping groups at risk.



The order of these the priorities is similar when the first and other answers are combined, but with higher scores for all three policies, which is an obvious sign of the importance attached by Europeans to the fight against exclusion: 72% for safeguarding social protection systems and improving access to health care, 66% for the need to improve the employability of the most vulnerable and, finally, 59% for the fight against all forms of discrimination.

An analysis of the results by country reveals certain national particularities for each of the initiatives:

Innovation

Respondents in Cyprus, as well as in Finland, Sweden and Germany, attach particular importance to refocusing research on climate change and energy efficiency. Respondents in northern EU countries are, in general, particularly conscious of this environmental issue.

In Spain, Estonia and Romania, respondents want priority to be given above all to increasing financial support for research.

Interviewees in the Netherlands are the most likely to mention cooperation between researchers.

Youth

There is particularly strong support in Finland for getting more young people into employment.

In the Netherlands and Latvia, more than half of respondents mentioned increasing the overall quality of all levels of education as their *first answer*. Respondents in the Netherlands are in general are more likely than the European average to mention the priorities concerning education.

Internet

The high numbers of respondents in Hungary and Poland who cite extending broadband access in first place is perhaps a sign that these countries lag behind in this respect. This policy was also frequently mentioned in Denmark (despite the country's high Internet penetration rate) and Slovenia.

Many Member States want more Internet services to be developed for citizens, but respondents in Estonia and Romania are particularly enthusiastic about this policy.

Respondents in Cyprus above all want action to be taken to increase the confidence of e-consumers, far ahead of the other priorities.

Energy

Not surprisingly, the Nordic countries, the Netherlands and Germany stand out as the most likely to mention promoting renewable sources of energy as their *first priority*.

Other countries, experiencing serious economic difficulties, want priority to be given to helping SMEs and households to make their energy consumption more efficient, particularly in Ireland, where 50% of respondents mentioned this action as their *first priority*.

Four Member States mentioned lowering carbon emissions in the transport sector as their *first priority*: Slovenia, Cyprus, Bulgaria and Romania. However, this priority is never ranked first in the list of combined answers.

Industry

Countries with serious unemployment problems⁵ are the most likely to want priority to be given to facilitating start-ups. This is particularly true in Latvia, Estonia, Ireland and Spain.

Respondents in Malta, and in particular in Portugal, want the EU to make restructuring industries in difficulty its top priority.

The Nordic countries confirm their awareness of environmental issues by advocating that the European Union should make the most of the opportunities of the green economy, as do Germany, the Netherlands, Austria, Slovakia and Slovenia.

Jobs and skills

The Nordic countries, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom have a marked preference for lifelong learning.

In Cyprus, Greece and Hungary respondents' first choice was for helping people adapt to new working conditions and potential career shifts.

In all the Member States, safeguarding people's rights to live and work in another EU country is of secondary importance.

⁵ http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/cache/ITY_PUBLIC/3-07012011-AP/EN/3-07012011-AP-EN.PDF

Poverty

In Latvia, Bulgaria and the Czech Republic, the *first answer* of at least half the respondents was the need to ensure the sustainability of social protection and pension systems and better access to health care systems.

Providing innovative education, training and employment opportunities to the most vulnerable is the main priority (both as *first answers* and on the basis of total answers) in Ireland, France, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Spain and Malta.

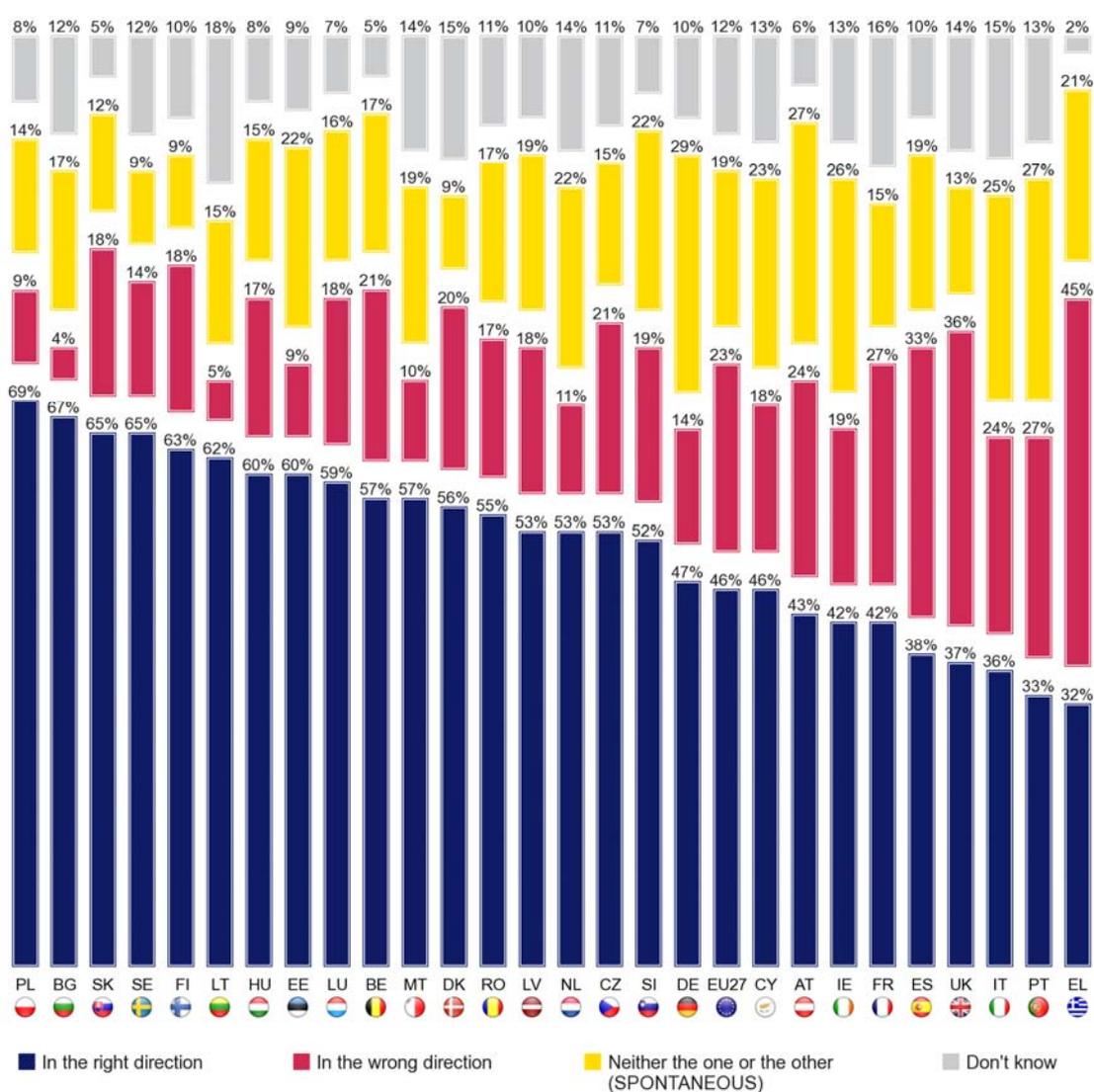
Fighting discrimination and helping groups at risk was the most frequently mentioned *first priority* in Austria. This policy is the main priority when all the answers are taken into consideration in Finland and Denmark.

For these questions as a whole, although there are sometimes quite marked differences between Member States, **there are rather few differences in accordance with the socio-demographic profile of Europeans.**

3. THE DIRECTION IN WHICH THE EUROPEAN UNION IS GOING TO COMBAT THE CRISIS

After hearing about these priorities in the course of the survey, 46% of Europeans consider that the European Union “is going in the right direction to exit the crisis and face the new global challenges”, while 23% consider that it is going in the wrong direction.⁶ One in five Europeans (19%) replied “neither one nor the other” and 12% expressed no opinion. The last two figures combined mean that in total 31% of Europeans felt unable to adopt a position on this question, most strikingly in Italy and Portugal (40% in both countries).

QB9. Having heard about the priorities of the EU, do you think that the European Union is going in the right direction or in the wrong direction to exit the crisis and face the world new challenges?



⁶ QB9 Having heard about the priorities of the EU, do you think that the European Union is going in the right direction or in the wrong direction to exit the crisis and face the world new challenges?

Negative opinions predominate in only one EU country, namely Greece (45% versus 32%). Opinions are divided in the United Kingdom (37% of positive opinions versus 36%). Respondents in Poland (69%), Bulgaria (67%), Slovakia (65%), Sweden (65%) and Finland (63%) are the most positive about the EU's policies for emerging from the crisis. In general, more than 50% of respondents in 17 of the 27 EU Member States approve of the direction followed by the EU.

Finally, and as for all the question concerning opinions of or trust in the EU and its policies, social divisions play an important role in shaping opinions on the direction in which the EU is going in order to exit the crisis. The younger, more financially and socially advantaged and better educated the respondents are, the more likely they are to consider that the European Union is going in the right direction.

QB9 Having heard about the priorities of the EU, do you think that the European Union is going in the right direction or in the wrong direction to exit the crisis and face the world new challenges?				
	In the right direction	In the wrong direction	Neither the one or the other	Don't know
EU27	46%	23%	19%	12%
Age				
15-24	53%	20%	17%	10%
25-39	49%	23%	19%	9%
40-54	46%	23%	20%	11%
55 +	42%	23%	21%	14%
Education (End of)				
15-	34%	29%	21%	16%
16-19	47%	23%	20%	10%
20+	54%	18%	17%	11%
Still studying	57%	17%	16%	10%
Respondent occupation scale				
Self-employed	50%	22%	19%	9%
Managers	53%	19%	17%	11%
Other white collars	50%	21%	19%	10%
Manual workers	46%	24%	19%	11%
House persons	36%	26%	21%	17%
Unemployed	40%	30%	20%	10%
Retired	44%	22%	20%	14%
Students	57%	17%	16%	10%
Difficulties paying bills				
Most of the time	33%	33%	20%	14%
From time to time	43%	25%	21%	11%
Almost never	51%	20%	18%	11%
Self-positioning on the social scale				
Low (1-4)	41%	27%	20%	12%
Medium (5-6)	46%	22%	20%	12%
High (7-10)	56%	19%	17%	8%

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

From 11 November to 1 December 2010, TNS Opinion & Social, a consortium created between TNS plc and TNS opinion, carried out the STANDARD EUROBAROMETER 74 at request of the EUROPEAN COMMISSION, Directorate-General Communication, "Research and Speechwriting" unit.

The STANDARD EUROBAROMETER 74 covers the population aged 15 years and over who are nationals of one of the European Union Member States and resident in a Member State. The STANDARD EUROBAROMETER 74 was also conducted in the four candidate countries (Croatia, Turkey, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Iceland) and in the Turkish Cypriot Community. In these countries, the survey covers the national population and the citizens of all European Union Member States who are resident 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 in accordance with the EUROSTAT NUTS II (or equivalent) and with the distribution of the resident population in each country 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 *n*th address) were selected by standard "random route" procedure, 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. For data capture, CAPI (*Computer Assisted Personal Interview*) was used in those countries where this technique was available.

ABBR.	COUNTRIES	INSTITUTES	N° INTERVIEWS	FIELDWORK DATES		POPULATION 15+
BE	Belgium	TNS Dimarso	1.003	11/11/2010	01/12/2010	8.866.411
BG	Bulgaria	TNS BBSS	1.000	12/11/2010	22/11/2010	6.584.957
CZ	Czech Rep.	TNS Aisa	1.024	12/11/2010	25/11/2010	8.987.535
DK	Denmark	TNS Gallup DK	1.049	11/11/2010	27/11/2010	4.533.420
DE	Germany	TNS Infratest	1.609	12/11/2010	28/11/2010	64.545.601
EE	Estonia	Emor	1.000	12/11/2010	29/11/2010	916.000
IE	Ireland	MRBI	1.007	11/11/2010	25/11/2010	3.375.399
EL	Greece	TNS ICAP	1.000	11/11/2010	25/11/2010	8.693.566
ES	Spain	TNS Demoscopia	1.001	15/11/2010	28/11/2010	39.035.867
FR	France	TNS Sofres	1.036	12/11/2010	29/11/2010	47.620.942
IT	Italy	TNS Infratest	1.019	12/11/2010	24/11/2010	51.252.247
CY	Rep. of Cyprus	Synovate	504	11/11/2010	28/11/2010	651.400
LV	Latvia	TNS Latvia	1.003	12/11/2010	28/11/2010	1.448.719
LT	Lithuania	TNS Gallup Lithuania	1.005	12/11/2010	28/11/2010	2.849.359
LU	Luxembourg	TNS ILReS	513	11/11/2010	27/11/2010	404.907
HU	Hungary	TNS Hungary	1.031	12/11/2010	28/11/2010	8.320.614
MT	Malta	MISCO	500	12/11/2010	27/11/2010	335.476
NL	Netherlands	TNS NIPO	1.040	12/11/2010	27/11/2010	13.288.200
AT	Austria	Österreichisches Gallup- Institut	1.000	11/11/2010	28/11/2010	6.973.277
PL	Poland	TNS OBOP	1.000	12/11/2010	28/11/2010	32.306.436
PT	Portugal	TNS EUROTESTE	1.018	19/11/2010	29/11/2010	8.080.915
RO	Romania	TNS CSOP	1.001	12/11/2010	25/11/2010	18.246.731
SI	Slovenia	RM PLUS	1.004	11/11/2010	28/11/2010	1.748.308
SK	Slovakia	TNS AISA SK	1.031	12/11/2010	28/11/2010	4.549.954
FI	Finland	TNS Gallup Oy	1.005	11/11/2010	29/11/2010	4.412.321
SE	Sweden	TNS GALLUP	1.020	12/11/2010	30/11/2010	7.723.931
UK	United Kingdom	TNS UK	1.300	12/11/2010	30/11/2010	51.081.866
TOTAL EU27			26.723	11/11/2010	01/12/2010	406.834.359
IS	Iceland	Capacent	501	12/11/2010	29/11/2010	252.277
CY(tcc)	Turkish Cypriot Community	Kadem	500	12/11/2010	28/11/2010	143.226
HR	Croatia	Puls	1.000	12/11/2010	28/11/2010	3.749.400
TR	Turkey	TNS PIAR	1.000	11/11/2010	29/11/2010	52.728.513
MK	Former Yugoslav Rep. of Macedonia	TNS Brima	1.056	13/11/2010	21/11/2010	1.678.404
TOTAL			30.780	11/11/2010	01/12/2010	465.386.179

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

Readers are reminded that the results of a survey are estimates, the accuracy of which, all else being equal, depends 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:

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