



# Standard Eurobarometer 85 Spring 2016

First results

## Public opinion in the European Union

Fieldwork

May 2016

Publication

July 2016

Survey requested and co-ordinated by the European Commission,  
Directorate-General for Communication

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

Standard Eurobarometer 85 – Wave EB85.2 – TNS opinion & social

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(DG COMM "Strategy, Corporate Communication Actions and Eurobarometer" Unit)

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## INTRODUCTION

This report presents the first results of the Standard Eurobarometer survey of spring 2016 (EB85), which was carried out between 21 and 31 May 2016 in 34 countries or territories<sup>1</sup>: the 28 European Union (EU) Member States, five candidate countries (the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, 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.

This "First results report" provides a selection of data on topics such as the European political situation and the economy. It focuses on the results obtained in the 28 EU Member States and is published jointly with the results of the Standard Eurobarometer questions, which are set out in an annex. All the results of the Standard Eurobarometer of spring 2016 will be analysed in the "Full report".

The Standard Eurobarometer survey of spring 2016 was conducted shortly after the publication of the European Commission's spring 2016 European economic forecast<sup>2</sup>. It showed contrasting results: while unemployment is still declining, the GDP growth forecast for 2016 is lower than the official figure for 2015. Economic growth is expected to remain modest at 1.8% in the EU and 1.6% in the euro area.<sup>3</sup>

Unemployment has continued to decline both in the EU as a whole and in the euro area: the unemployment rate has fallen below the 9% threshold in the EU28 for the first time since 2009 (8.7%, -0.9 percentage points, down from 9.6% in April 2015)<sup>4</sup>. A similar decrease is observed in the euro area (10.2%, -0.8 down from 11.0%).

After the peak registered in August, September and October 2015, the number of persons entering Europe has fallen month on month<sup>5</sup>. On 18 March 2016, the EU Heads of State or Government and Turkey reached an agreement aimed at stopping the flow of irregular migration via Turkey to the European Union.

Since the Standard Eurobarometer survey of autumn 2015, Brussels has been struck by deadly terrorist attacks on 22 March 2016, in the Maelbeek metro station, and at the Brussels Zaventem airport, following the attacks in Paris and Copenhagen in 2015. National elections have taken place in Spain, Ireland and Slovakia and presidential elections have been held in Portugal and Austria. Just after beginning of fieldwork, parliamentary elections were held in Cyprus, on 22 May 2016.

On 3 December 2015, the Danes rejected EU rules on cross-border policing in a referendum. In the Netherlands, the Dutch rejected the association agreement between the EU and Ukraine, also via a referendum, on 6 April 2016. The fieldwork was carried out during the campaign for the referendum on the United Kingdom's EU membership. The referendum took place on 23 June 2016, three weeks after the end of the fieldwork.

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<sup>1</sup> Please consult the technical specifications for the exact fieldwork dates in each Member State.

<sup>2</sup> [http://ec.europa.eu/economy\\_finance/publications/eeip/pdf/ip025\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/economy_finance/publications/eeip/pdf/ip025_en.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/tgm/table.do?tab=table&init=1&language=en&pcode=tec00115&plugin=1>

<sup>4</sup> <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/2995521/7412086/3-31052016-AP-EN.pdf/>

<sup>5</sup> <http://data.unhcr.org/mediterranean/regional.php>

The methodology used is that of the Standard Eurobarometer surveys carried out by the Directorate-General for Communication ("Strategy, Corporate Communication Actions and Eurobarometer" Unit)<sup>6</sup>. It is the same for all countries and territories covered in the survey. A technical note concerning the interviews conducted by the member institutes of the TNS Opinion & Social network is annexed to this report. It also specifies the confidence intervals<sup>7</sup>.

Note: In this report, countries are referred to by their official abbreviation. The abbreviations used in this report correspond to:

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

\* 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.

\*\* 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 the people throughout the European Union*

*who have given their time to take part in this survey.*

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

<sup>6</sup> <http://ec.europa.eu/COMMFrontOffice/PublicOpinion/>

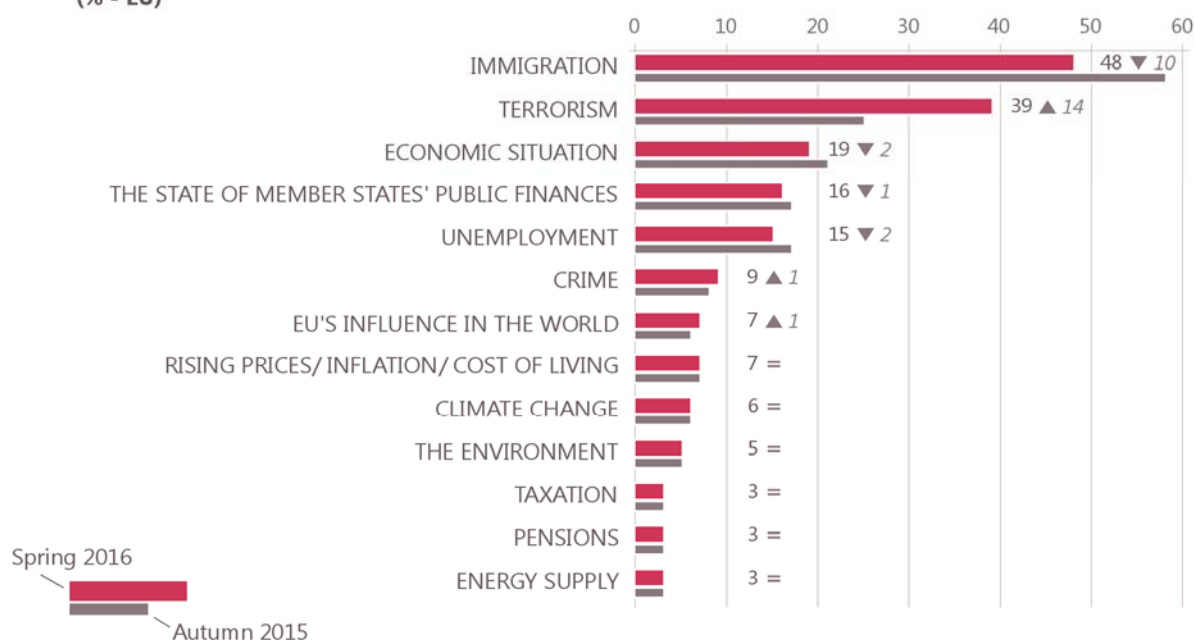
<sup>7</sup> The results tables are annexed. It should be noted that the total of the percentages indicated in the tables in this report may exceed 100% when the respondent was able to choose several answers to the same question.

## I. THE MAIN CONCERNS OF EUROPEANS

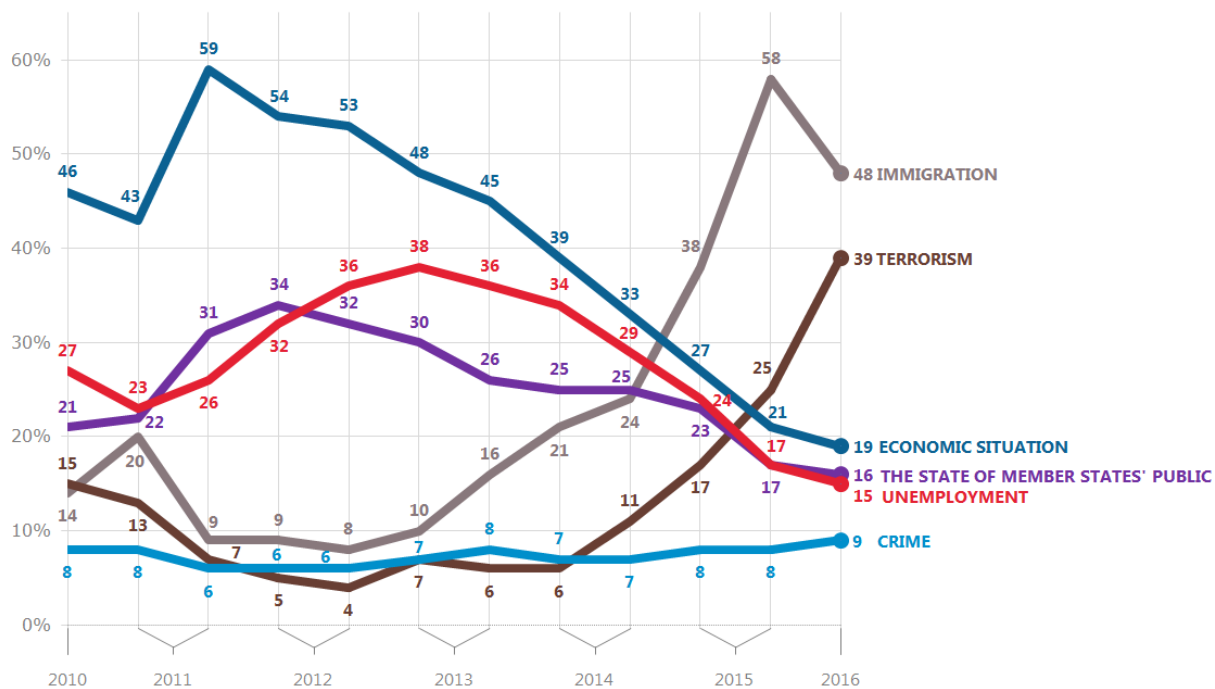
### 1 Main concerns at European level: evolutions

Migration and terrorism are very clearly ahead in terms of concerns at EU level. Close to half of Europeans see **immigration** as one of the two most important issues facing the EU (48%); however, this item has lost 10 percentage points since the previous survey of autumn 2015 after a 20-point increase between spring and autumn 2015. This is the first time that mentions of immigration have declined since spring 2013. After a 14-point increase, **terrorism** is now mentioned by 39% of Europeans, consolidating its position as second most important concern. This is the fourth successive increase since autumn 2014 (+33, up from 6%). The item **"economic situation"** (19%, -2) is in third place. Since spring 2012, mentions of the economic situation have decreased continuously (-40, down from 59% in autumn 2011).

QA5 What do you think are the two most important issues facing the EU at the moment?  
(% - EU)



**QA5** What do you think are the two most important issues facing the EU at the moment?  
(% - EU)


































## 2 Main concerns at European level: national results

Mentioned by 48% of citizens at EU level, **immigration is among the top two concerns in every Member State except Portugal**. It continues to be seen as the most important issue facing the EU in 20 Member States (down from 27 in autumn 2015), led by Estonia (73%), Denmark (71%), and the Czech Republic, Latvia and Hungary (all 67%). In the remaining countries, except Portugal, immigration is seen as the second most important issue facing the EU.

After a sharp 14-point increase, **terrorism** is now mentioned by 39% of Europeans. **Terrorism is among the top two concerns in every Member State except Greece**. It is the leading item in eight Member States – Ireland (50%), Cyprus (50%), Romania (49%), Croatia (48%), Luxembourg (47%), Portugal (40%), France (39%) and Spain (35%) –, and is in second position in 19 countries.

Cited by 19% of citizens, **the economic situation** is in third place at EU level. It reaches its highest scores in Greece (35%), where it is seen as the second most important issue, and in Spain (29%), Cyprus (28%) and Finland (25%). **The state of Member States' public finances** is in fourth position at EU level, mentioned by 16% of Europeans, but by more than a third of respondents in Portugal (34%), where it stands in second place. **Unemployment** is mentioned by 15% of respondents at EU level, in fifth position, and achieves its highest score in Portugal (28%, in third place).

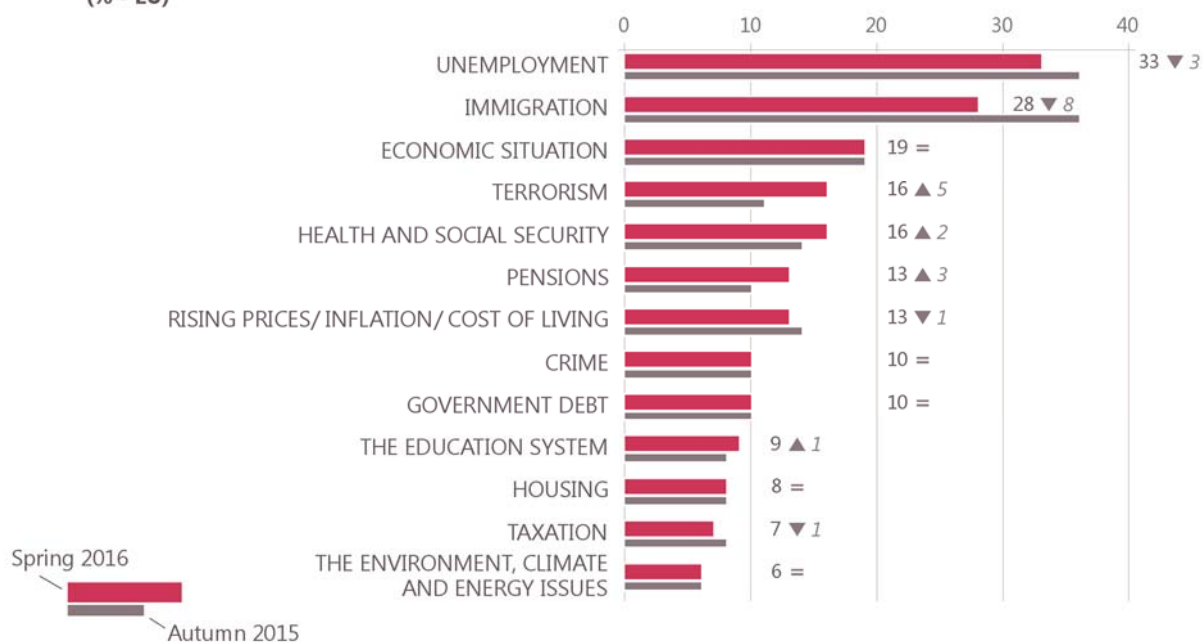
**QA5** What do you think are the two most important issues facing the EU at the moment?  
(%)

		Immigration	Terrorism	Economic situation	The state of Member States' public finances	Unemployment	Crime	EU's influence in the world	Rising prices/ inflation/ cost of living	Climate change	The environment	Taxation	Pensions	Energy supply
EU28		48	39	19	16	15	9	7	7	6	5	3	3	3
BE		41	35	22	15	16	10	7	11	9	7	4	5	5
BG		57	40	12	7	7	10	7	6	4	2	1	3	3
CZ		67	52	9	12	6	10	9	4	5	4	1	3	2
DK		71	29	24	13	9	6	10	1	14	7	1	0	1
DE		57	40	13	23	13	11	6	3	7	6	2	2	3
EE		73	46	14	13	6	6	8	4	2	2	2	1	2
IE		44	50	18	8	15	12	7	8	10	5	3	2	4
EL		40	28	35	24	21	9	11	8	1	2	5	2	2
ES		34	35	29	19	18	3	5	7	5	2	3	2	1
FR		35	39	23	15	21	11	7	9	8	8	2	3	4
HR		44	48	15	14	17	14	9	8	7	3	2	3	4
IT		44	34	22	11	21	14	3	7	6	5	11	6	4
CY		46	50	28	9	21	11	4	6	1	1	3	1	0
LV		67	48	13	11	9	5	5	6	3	1	2	3	1
LT		53	48	13	12	7	9	6	10	5	1	5	2	2
LU		43	47	16	18	16	11	6	6	10	8	2	3	3
HU		67	47	12	13	8	10	8	3	6	5	2	4	4
MT		64	55	6	6	7	7	2	6	8	7	2	2	1
NL		62	39	23	24	7	4	13	4	7	5	1	2	2
AT		48	27	19	20	16	14	10	11	9	7	4	5	3
PL		51	50	9	10	9	9	7	7	6	4	4	6	3
PT		17	40	20	34	28	5	4	8	1	1	5	2	1
RO		42	49	12	8	10	13	6	10	7	6	6	5	3
SI		54	44	15	11	11	10	5	3	6	4	3	3	2
SK		59	46	14	11	10	12	6	8	6	4	2	5	2
FI		48	32	25	26	15	6	11	6	11	5	3	2	5
SE		59	31	20	19	14	4	6	1	24	10	1	0	3
UK		51	38	23	12	13	3	9	7	4	3	2	2	3
1st MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM		2nd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM			3rd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM									

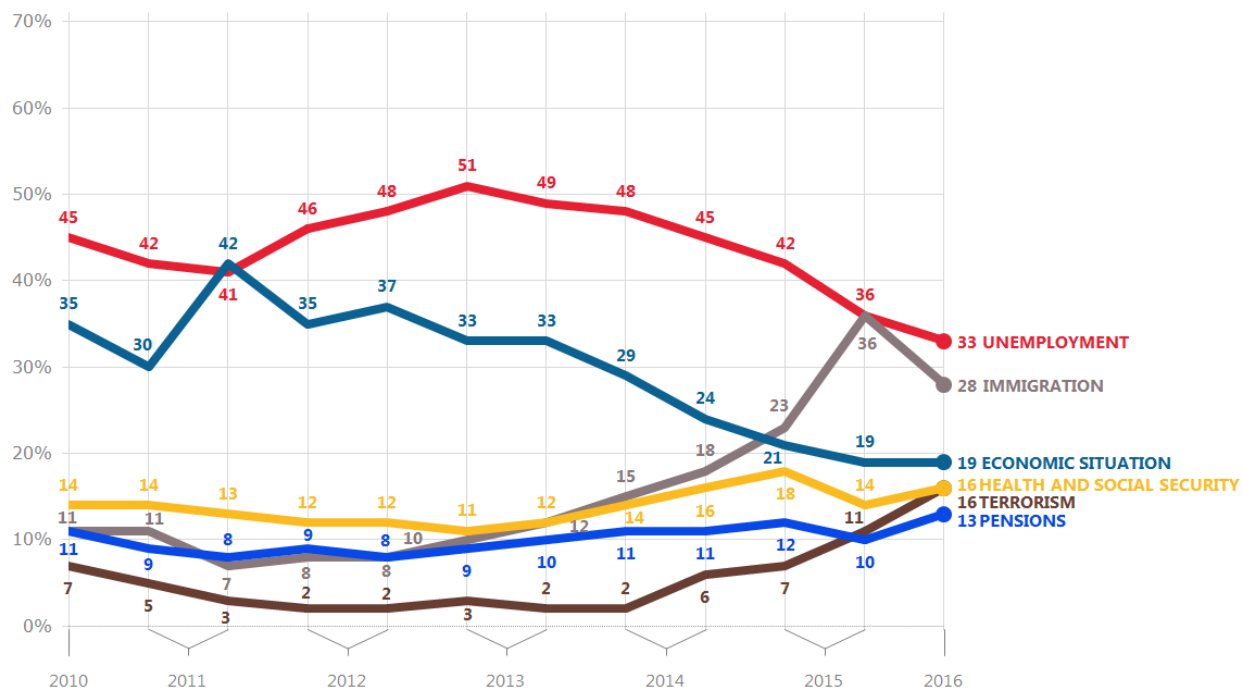
### 3 Main concerns at national level: evolutions

A third of Europeans see **unemployment** as the most important issue facing their country (33%, -3 percentage points since autumn 2015). This item has been the most important national concern since spring 2012, but its score has steadily decreased since autumn 2013 (-18 percentage points, down from 51% in spring 2013). **Immigration** remains the second most important issue at the national level (28%, -8).. **The economic situation** is in third position (19%, unchanged), while **health and social security** (16%, +2) and **terrorism** (16%, +5) share fourth place. After a 3-point increase, **pensions** are the sixth concern of Europeans at national level (13%), in equal place with **rising prices/inflation/cost of living** (13%, -1).

**QA3a** What do you think are the two most important issues facing (OUR COUNTRY) at the moment?  
(% - EU)































**QA3a** What do you think are the two most important issues facing (OUR COUNTRY) at the moment?  
(% - EU)



## 4 Main concerns at national level: national results

In first place at EU level with 33% of mentions, **unemployment** is in first place in 11 countries, led by Spain (71%), Cyprus (67%), Portugal (62%), Croatia (61%), Greece (54%) and France (52%). Unemployment is seen as the second most important national issue in six other Member States. Mentioned by 28% of Europeans, and in second place at EU level, **immigration** is in first position in nine Member States, and is mentioned by at least half of respondents in Denmark (57%), Germany (56%) and Malta (50%). **The economic situation** is in third place at EU level, mentioned by 19% of Europeans, and stands in second place in nine Member States, reaching its highest scores in Cyprus (53%) and Greece (46%). Mentioned by 16% of EU citizens, **terrorism** is in fourth place at EU level and comes first in Belgium (33%) and second in France (30%) and Germany (26%). Sharing the fourth place at EU level with terrorism, **health and social security** is the leading national issue in four Member States: Latvia (42%), Hungary and Romania (both 37%) and Slovakia (36%). **Rising prices/inflation/cost of living** is the most mentioned item in Lithuania (59%, compared with 13% at EU level, in equal sixth place with pensions), whereas **housing**, in 11th position at EU level (8%), comes first in Ireland (45%) and Luxembourg (37%).






























**QA3a** What do you think are the two most important issues facing (OUR COUNTRY) at the moment?  
(%)

		Unemployment	Immigration	Economic situation	Terrorism	Health and social security	Pensions	Rising prices/ inflation/ cost of living	Crime	Government debt	The education system	Housing	Taxation	The environment, climate and energy issues
EU28		33	28	19	16	16	13	13	10	10	9	8	7	6
BE		21	27	16	33	7	15	16	13	15	7	5	9	10
BG		38	13	33	3	26	14	22	19	5	8	1	3	2
CZ		16	32	15	9	16	22	21	13	18	7	4	8	6
DK		11	57	13	16	26	3	3	10	3	15	3	8	21
DE		9	56	5	26	9	19	7	17	7	13	12	4	10
EE		25	30	27	3	27	13	19	5	3	10	2	10	4
IE		26	7	13	4	37	3	14	20	9	5	45	7	4
EL		54	20	46	2	10	7	11	3	23	3	0	18	0
ES		71	9	35	6	13	6	8	4	10	6	4	4	1
FR		52	14	21	30	7	8	12	13	11	9	4	6	9
HR		61	6	34	3	12	8	17	14	27	4	1	3	1
IT		42	28	29	13	6	15	10	11	10	4	2	18	5
CY		67	9	53	1	13	4	10	3	8	6	1	4	1
LV		27	13	22	1	42	21	14	3	5	13	3	22	1
LT		27	11	19	1	11	13	59	7	6	8	2	25	1
LU		21	21	7	12	5	7	22	10	6	23	37	3	11
HU		29	28	23	4	37	14	16	7	7	14	4	4	3
MT		5	50	9	7	12	13	19	11	6	3	5	3	17
NL		15	46	14	22	36	20	8	6	2	6	7	2	12
AT		32	41	14	9	10	10	17	19	10	15	4	5	8
PL		34	16	17	10	21	22	21	4	15	3	5	9	4
PT		62	3	30	2	12	11	19	4	18	6	1	14	2
RO		25	6	23	3	37	21	24	11	5	14	5	10	5
SI		44	13	29	2	17	16	9	10	19	3	3	12	2
SK		33	17	17	6	36	17	23	11	5	12	4	7	3
FI		43	23	30	3	29	6	9	3	27	9	2	5	8
SE		24	44	9	6	26	5	1	11	1	26	15	2	24
UK		14	38	11	23	26	6	14	7	8	10	21	4	4
1st MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM		2nd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM					3rd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM							

## 5 Main concerns at personal level: national results

**The ranking of concerns at personal level remains stable.** 26% of Europeans (-1 percentage point since autumn 2015) say that **rising prices/inflation/cost of living** are the most important personal issue. Since autumn 2012, this item has lost ground almost continuously (-19 percentage points, down from 45% in spring 2012), though it has retained its first place. In second position, **pensions** are mentioned by 16% of Europeans (+2). **Health and social security** (15%, unchanged) and **the household financial situation** (15%, -1) share the third place, these two items having generally changed little since spring 2012. In fifth place, **unemployment** is mentioned by 14% of Europeans (unchanged), just above **taxation** (13%, also unchanged). All other items are mentioned by less than one in ten respondents.

**QA4a** And personally, what are the two most important issues you are facing at the moment?  
(%)

		Rising prices\ inflation\ cost of living	Pensions	Health and social security	The financial situation of your household	Unemployment	Taxation	The economic situation in (OUR COUNTRY)	The education system	Living conditions	Working conditions	Immigration	Crime	The environment, climate and energy issues	Housing	Terrorism
EU28		26	16	15	15	14	13	9	9	9	9	8	6	6	5	5
BE		37	16	8	12	8	13	10	6	7	6	8	10	10	5	11
BG		28	21	17	27	15	4	14	6	16	8	3	6	2	1	2
CZ		38	17	16	20	5	6	4	6	7	12	6	5	5	9	2
DK		11	8	16	10	5	5	8	8	4	9	15	6	10	6	6
DE		20	17	16	11	6	11	3	10	6	6	11	8	6	4	6
EE		25	19	27	20	10	8	10	9	8	8	5	3	2	4	2
IE		30	9	26	12	14	16	12	12	3	6	3	10	7	10	3
EL		32	19	14	34	23	28	16	5	8	5	3	3	0	1	1
ES		23	13	12	15	32	12	16	10	8	14	2	3	3	5	2
FR		32	15	8	14	14	14	8	9	8	9	4	10	9	6	7
HR		28	14	13	30	15	5	17	5	16	11	1	3	3	6	2
IT		23	14	8	11	20	30	10	5	9	10	13	7	3	2	6
CY		22	9	13	32	27	8	19	6	4	8	2	3	2	2	1
LV		28	21	33	14	13	15	13	8	7	5	2	2	1	8	1
LT		65	19	14	12	10	24	7	6	5	6	2	2	1	6	0
LU		26	8	6	9	11	8	6	13	7	10	6	10	12	14	7
HU		27	18	22	25	11	5	11	10	15	13	8	5	2	7	3
MT		24	14	10	9	4	5	3	7	8	9	15	4	12	3	8
NL		16	19	32	15	8	6	8	18	6	10	6	4	15	6	5
AT		33	12	14	12	9	6	9	11	12	10	15	12	7	7	6
PL		25	18	17	18	14	7	9	5	16	10	5	2	3	5	5
PT		41	18	12	14	17	16	8	3	14	10	1	1	2	1	1
RO		29	22	24	19	10	10	13	8	20	10	2	4	4	3	2
SI		17	20	14	15	12	10	11	7	15	10	2	2	4	5	1
SK		33	18	23	19	10	4	9	8	9	10	3	3	5	7	2
FI		15	13	34	21	13	9	22	12	9	9	5	4	13	11	1
SE		6	15	37	16	8	4	8	19	9	6	16	8	22	9	5
UK		27	14	18	11	9	8	10	11	6	5	11	5	5	9	6
1st MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM		2nd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM				3rd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM										



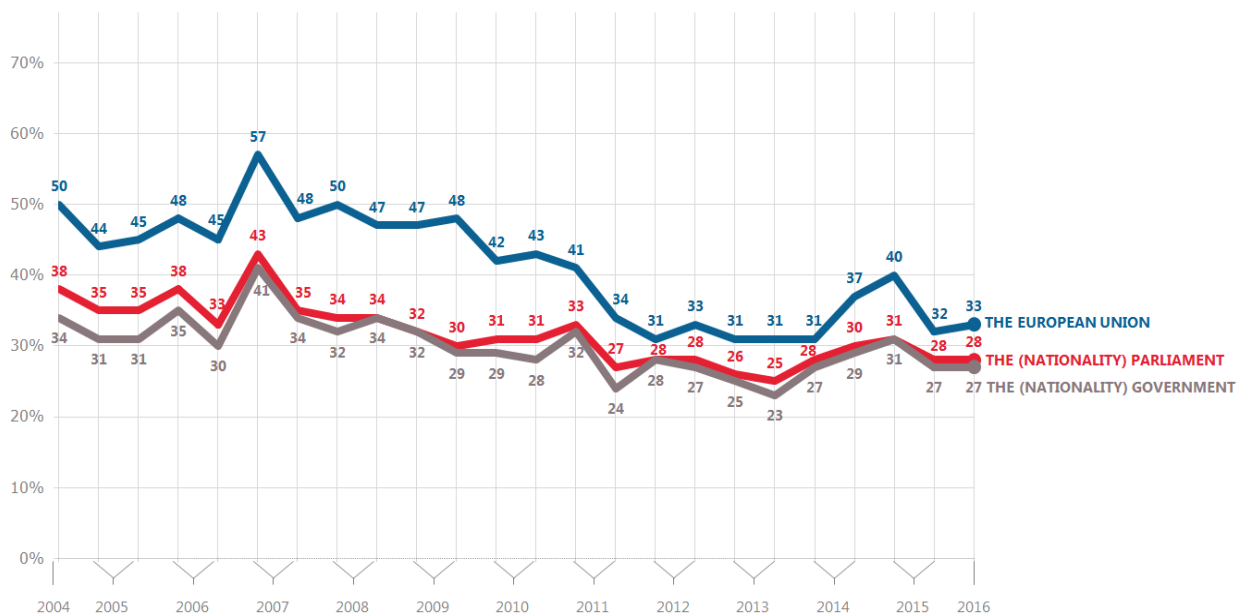
## II. EUROPEANS AND POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS

### 1 Trust in national governments and parliaments and in the European Union: trend

Around a third of Europeans trust **the European Union** (33%). After the sharp fall registered in the autumn 2015 survey (-8 percentage points between spring and autumn 2015), the downward trend has been halted: trust in the EU has increased slightly (+1 since autumn 2015). Meanwhile, trust in the national political institutions has remained stable, but at a lower level than trust in the EU: 28% of Europeans tend to trust their **national parliament** (unchanged) and 27% their **national government** (unchanged).

While the proportions of Europeans who “tend not to trust” their national political institutions has risen slightly (65% for the national parliament, +1 percentage point since autumn 2015, and 68% for the national government, +2), the proportion of EU citizens who do not trust the European Union has remained stable (55%, unchanged).

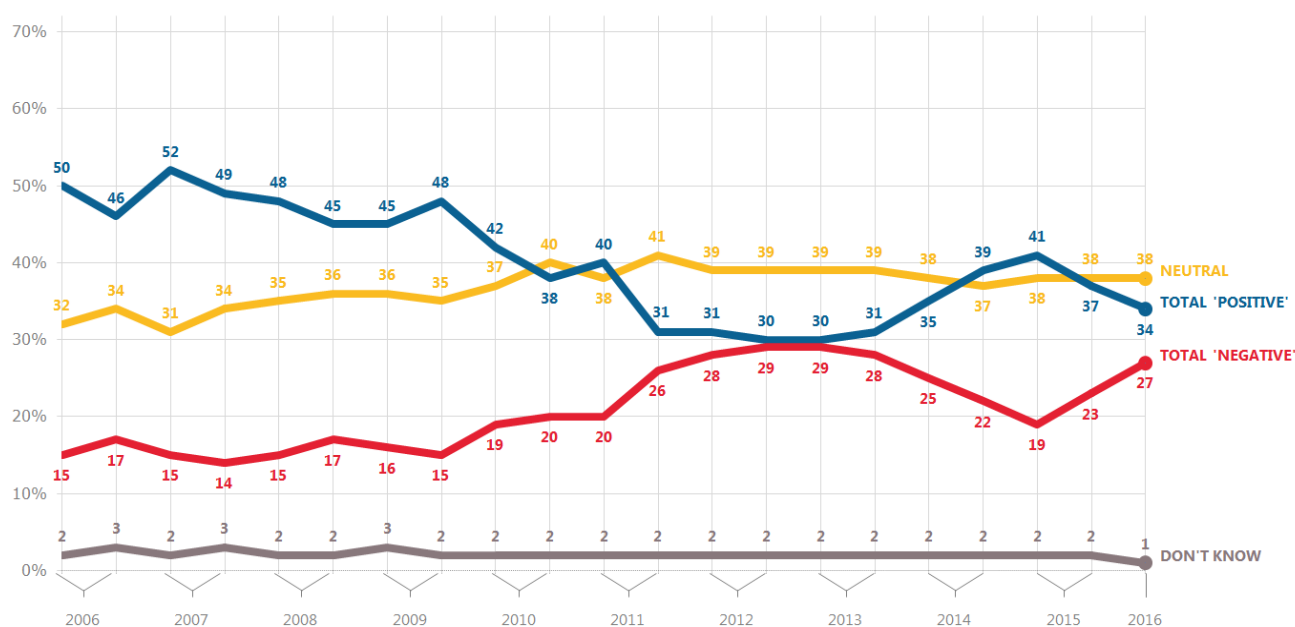
**QA8a** I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain institutions. For each of the following institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.



## 2 The image of the European Union: trend

A majority of Europeans say they have a neutral image of the EU (38%, unchanged since autumn 2015). This result has remained very stable since spring 2012, hovering between 39% and 37%, with no more than a single percentage point evolution in each subsequent survey. The proportion of Europeans for whom the EU conjures up a positive image has decreased by three percentage points, to 34%, while the proportion who have a negative image of the EU has risen to 27% (+4 since autumn 2015).

**QA9** In general, does the EU conjure up for you a very positive, fairly positive, neutral, fairly negative or very negative image?  
(% - EU)







### 3 The image of the European Union: national results

The European Union tends to conjure up a predominantly neutral image in 17 Member States (up from 15 in autumn 2015). A majority of respondents have a positive image of the EU in seven countries (down from 11 in autumn 2015): Ireland (58%), Bulgaria (51%), Poland (47%), Luxembourg (45%), Portugal (41%), France (36%) and Belgium (35%). As in spring and autumn 2015, respondents in Cyprus (41%) and Austria (37%) have a negative image of the EU. This is now also the case in Greece (51%) and the United Kingdom (36%), where the EU's image was predominantly neutral in autumn 2015.

Since autumn 2015, the positive image of the EU has lost ground in 20 Member States, most strikingly in Romania (42%, -15 percentage points), Croatia (37%, -14), and Lithuania (43%, -10). However, it has gained ground in seven Member States, led by Austria (32%, +9), Cyprus (27%, +5) and Ireland (58%, +4).

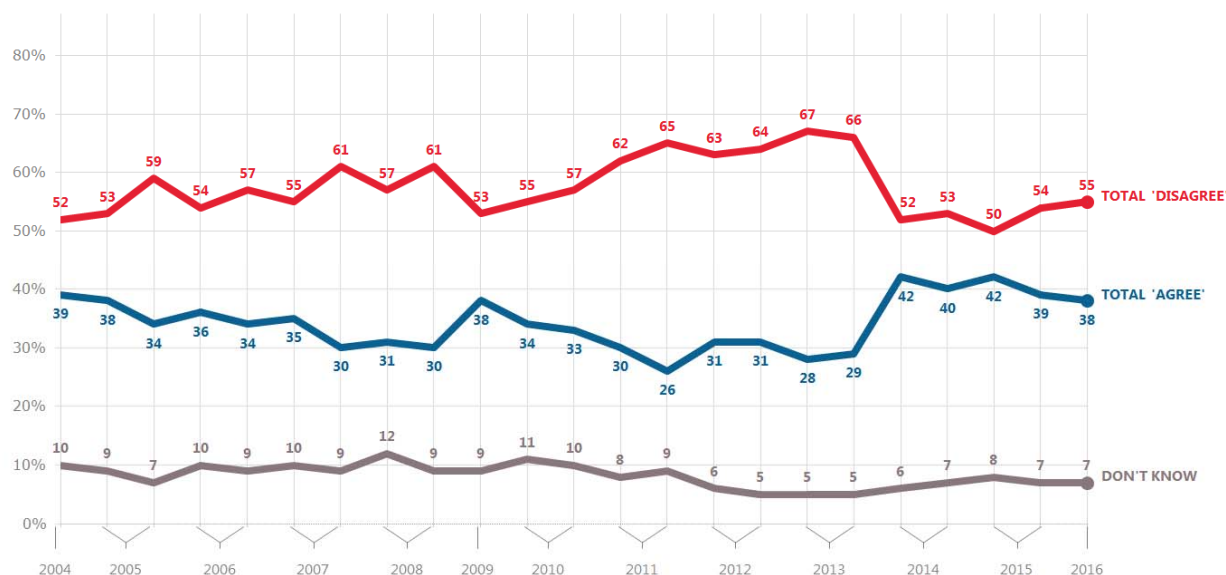
**QA9** In general, does the EU conjure up for you a very positive, fairly positive, neutral, fairly negative or very negative image?  
(%)

		Total 'Positive'	Sp.2016 - Aut.2015	Neutral	Sp.2016 - Aut.2015	Total 'Negative'	Sp.2016 - Aut.2015	Don't know
EU28		34	▼ 3	38	=	27	▲ 4	1
AT		32	▲ 9	30	▼ 5	37	▼ 4	1
CY		27	▲ 5	32	▼ 4	41	=	0
IE		58	▲ 4	27	▼ 3	14	=	1
BG		51	▲ 3	30	▼ 4	17	=	2
FR		36	▲ 1	33	▼ 5	29	▲ 4	2
FI		33	▲ 1	44	▼ 4	22	▲ 2	1
UK		31	▲ 1	31	▼ 5	36	▲ 5	2
LU		45	=	32	▼ 3	22	▲ 2	1
PT		41	▼ 1	39	▼ 2	18	▲ 3	2
NL		33	▼ 1	38	▼ 3	29	▲ 4	0
SI		32	▼ 1	46	▲ 1	20	▼ 1	2
LV		31	▼ 1	49	=	18	▲ 1	2
CZ		26	▼ 1	40	▼ 2	34	▲ 3	0
MT		41	▼ 2	43	▼ 3	13	▲ 3	3
DK		34	▼ 2	42	▼ 3	23	▲ 5	1
SE		36	▼ 3	38	▲ 2	26	▲ 1	0
EE		33	▼ 3	47	▼ 3	17	▲ 5	3
ES		30	▼ 3	44	▼ 2	23	▲ 5	3
BE		35	▼ 4	33	▼ 5	31	▲ 8	1
SK		30	▼ 5	43	▲ 3	26	▲ 2	1
DE		29	▼ 5	41	▲ 3	29	▲ 2	1
HU		33	▼ 6	41	▲ 1	25	▲ 5	1
IT		32	▼ 6	38	▲ 1	27	▲ 4	3
EL		16	▼ 6	33	▼ 7	51	▲ 13	0
PL		47	▼ 8	37	▲ 2	15	▲ 8	1
LT		43	▼ 10	47	▲ 7	9	▲ 3	1
HR		37	▼ 14	43	▲ 6	19	▲ 7	1
RO		42	▼ 15	43	▲ 11	14	▲ 5	1

## 4 My voice counts in the European Union: trend

Fewer than four in ten Europeans agree that their "voice counts in the EU" (38%, -1 percentage point since autumn 2015), while 55% disagree with this statement (+1). Though the feeling that "my voice counts in the EU" is slightly less widespread than in spring 2014 (-4, down from 42% in the survey conducted just after the 2014 European elections<sup>8</sup>), it remains at a equal or higher level than during the period between spring 2009<sup>9</sup> and autumn 2013.

**D72.1** Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.  
**My voice counts in the EU (% - EU)**



<sup>8</sup> EB81, the Standard Eurobarometer survey of spring 2014 was conducted between 31 May and 14 June 2014, just after the eighth European elections that took place across the EU between 22 and 25 May 2014.

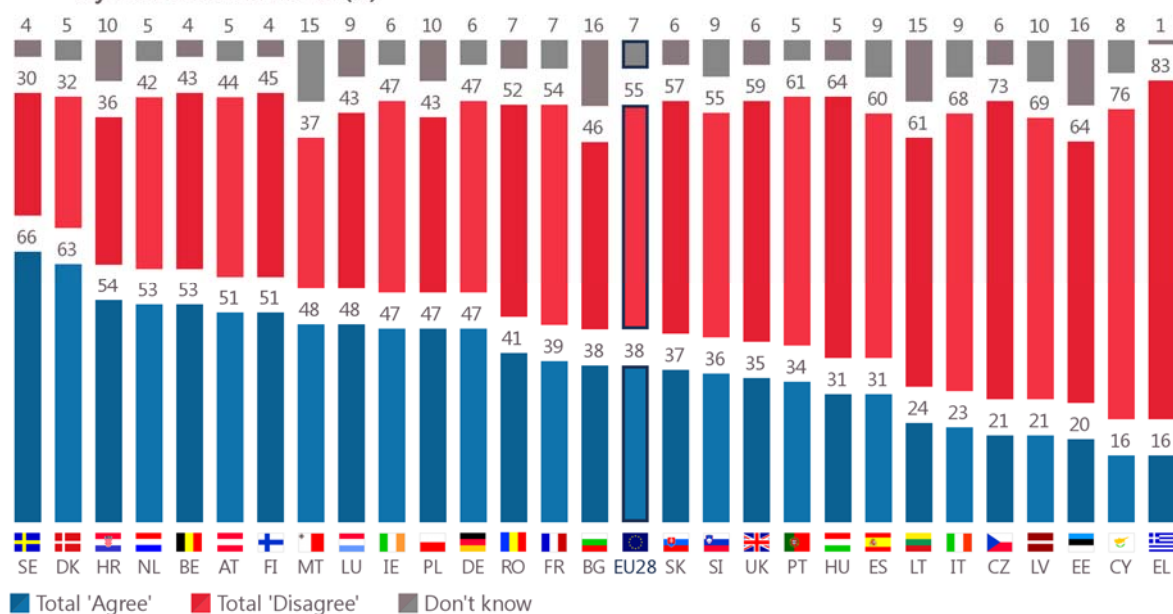
<sup>9</sup> EB71, the Standard Eurobarometer survey of spring 2009 was conducted between 12 June and 6 July 2009.

## 5 My voice counts in the European Union: national results

A majority of respondents agree that their voice counts in the European Union in ten Member States; conversely, majorities disagree with this statement in 16 countries, while respondents are evenly divided in Germany and in Ireland. The highest proportions of respondents who consider that their voice counts in the EU are found in Sweden (66%), Denmark (63%), Croatia (54%), the Netherlands (53%) and Belgium (53%). At the other end of the scale, this opinion is the least widespread in Cyprus and Greece (16% in both countries).

**D72.1** Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

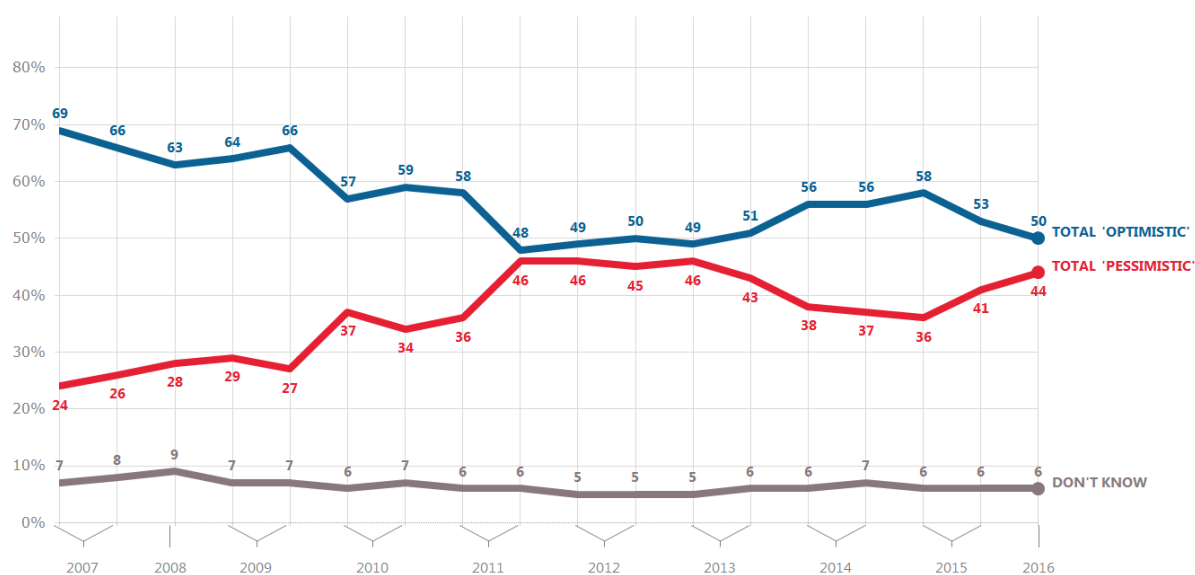
**My voice counts in the EU (%)**



## 6 The future of the European Union: trend

Half of EU citizens are optimistic about the future of the EU (50%, -3 percentage points since autumn 2015), while 44% are pessimistic (+3). At +6, the index of optimism<sup>10</sup> has lost six points since autumn 2015 and 16 points since spring 2015; it has fallen to its lowest level since the survey of spring 2013 (where it stood at +3).

**QA20** Would you say that you are very optimistic, fairly optimistic, fairly pessimistic or very pessimistic about the future of the EU?  
(% - EU)



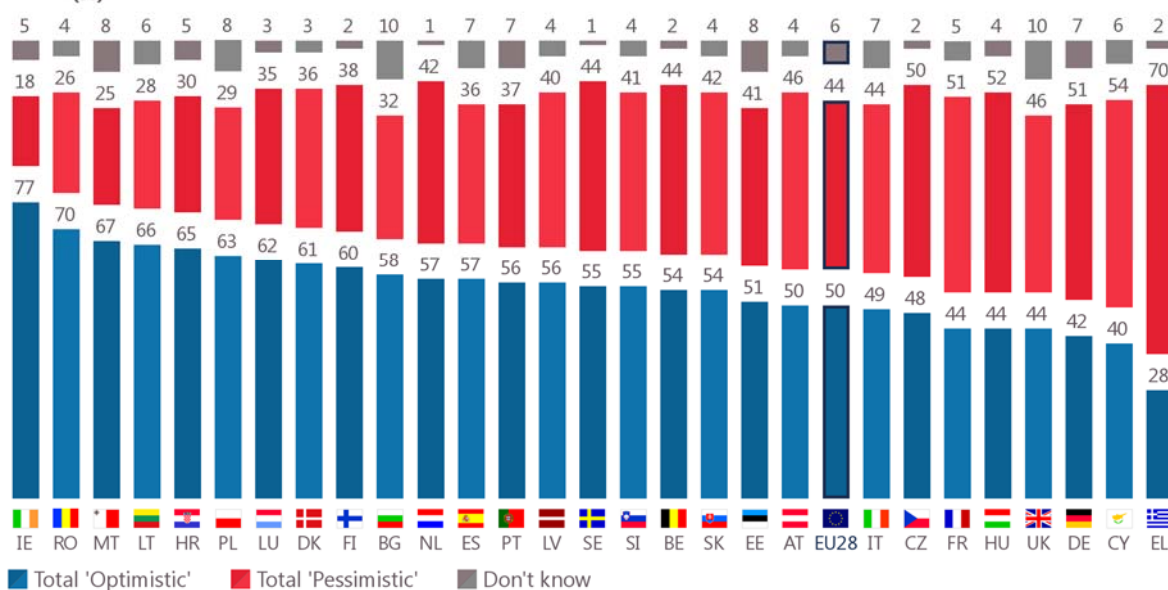
<sup>10</sup> Difference between the answers "optimistic" and "pessimistic".

## 7 The future of the European Union: national results

In 21 Member States, majorities of respondents are optimistic about the future of the EU (down from 22 in autumn 2015), with the highest proportions observed in Ireland (77%), Romania (70%), Malta (67%) and Lithuania (66%). Conversely, majorities of respondents are pessimistic in Greece (28% "optimistic" vs. 70% "pessimistic"), Cyprus (40% vs. 54%), Germany (42% vs. 51%), France (44% vs. 51%) and the Czech Republic (48% vs. 50%) – five countries where this was already the case in autumn 2015 –, Hungary (44% vs. 52%) and the United Kingdom (44% vs. 46%).

Since Autumn 2015, optimism has increased in ten Member States, most strikingly in Austria (50%, +10 percentage points). It has lost ground in 17 Member States.. In France, optimism has remained unchanged (44%).

**QA20** Would you say that you are very optimistic, fairly optimistic, fairly pessimistic or very pessimistic about the future of the EU?  
(%)



### III. THE ECONOMIC SITUATION

#### 1 Current situation of the economy at national level: national results and evolutions

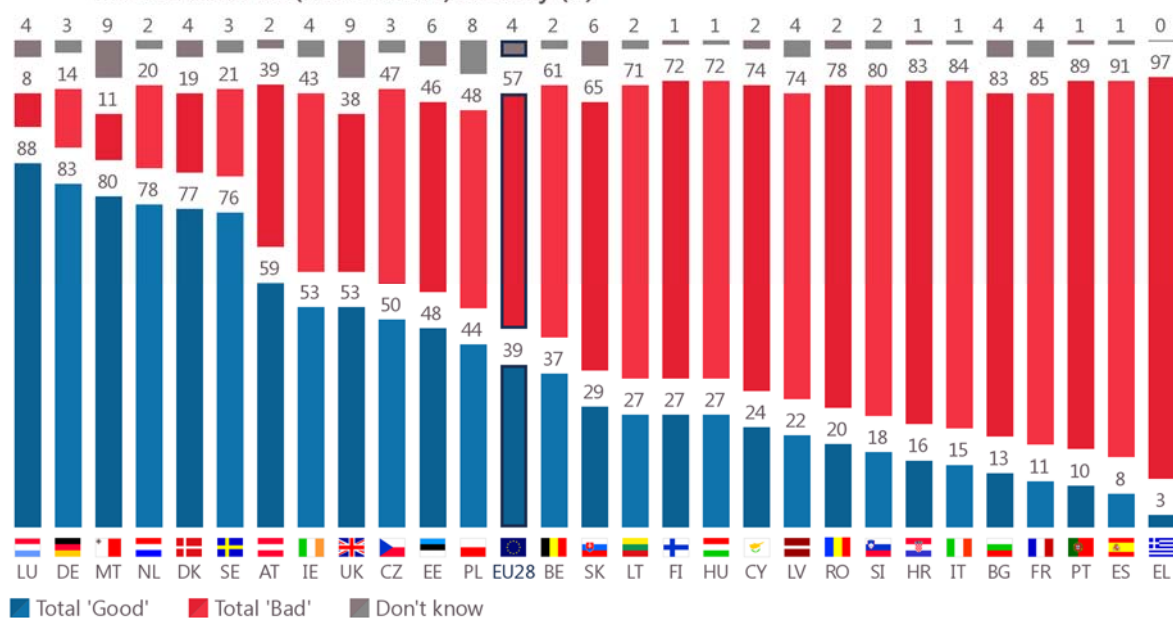
Close to four in ten Europeans say that the present national economic situation is 'good' (39%, -1 percentage point since autumn 2015), while 57% think it is 'bad' (unchanged). The upward trend since autumn 2013, with increasing proportions of respondents who see their national economy in a positive light (+14 percentage points, from 26% in spring 2013 up to 40% in autumn 2015), has halted. Though slightly fewer people now say their national economy is good, the gap between countries has widened even more and has reached a new record: 85 points separate Luxembourg, where 88% of the population say that the situation of their national economy is good, from Greece, where 3% do so. Majorities of respondents say that the national economic situation is good in 11 countries (down from 12 in autumn 2015), while a majority of respondents are pessimistic in 17 Member States. More than three-quarters of the population see their national economy in a positive light in Luxembourg (88%), Germany (83%), Malta (80%), the Netherlands (78%), Denmark (77%) and Sweden (76%). They are followed by a second group of countries where the majorities are smaller, ranging from 48% to 59%: Austria (59%), Ireland (53%), the United Kingdom (53%), the Czech Republic (50%) and Estonia (48% vs. 46%). Minorities of respondents describe the national economy as 'good' in the remaining countries, with the lowest proportions in Greece (3%), Spain (8%) and Portugal (10%).

Positive impressions of the national economy have gained ground in eight Member States, remained unchanged in three, and decreased in 17. The largest rise is in Cyprus (24%, +10 percentage points), while 'good' answers have decreased most steeply in Lithuania (27%, -10), Belgium (37%, -10), Denmark (77%, -6), Romania (20%, -5) and Malta (80%, -5).
































QA1a.1 How would you judge the current situation in each of the following?

The situation of the (NATIONALITY) economy (%)



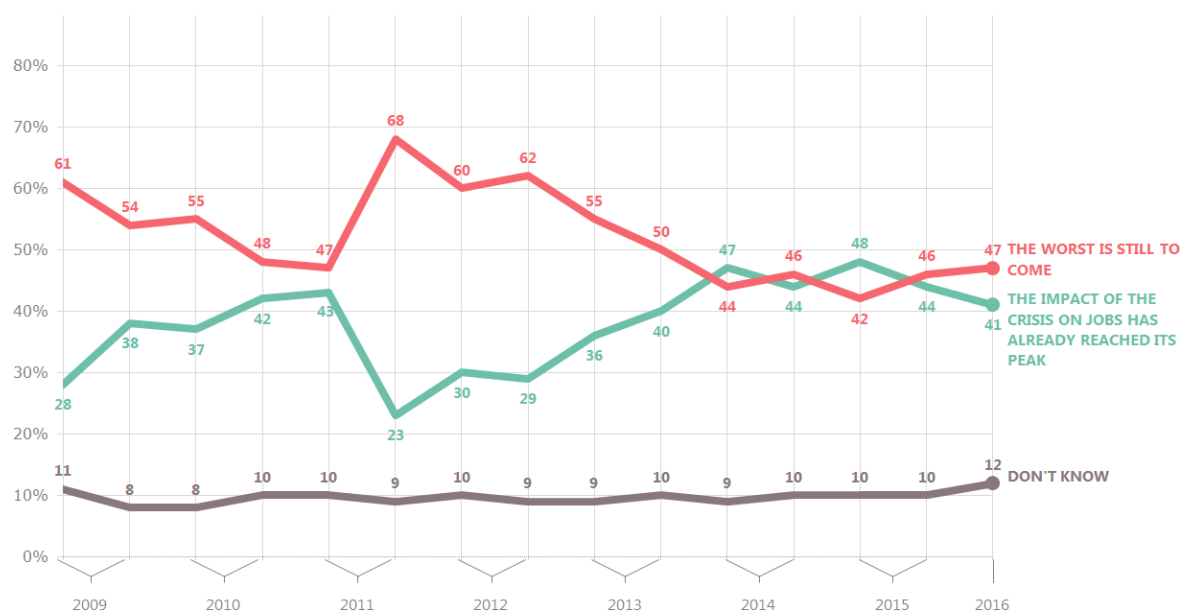
**QA1a.1** How would you judge the current situation in each of the following?**The situation of the (NATIONALITY) economy (%)**

		Total 'Good'	Sp.2016 - Aut.2015	Total 'Bad'	Sp.2016 - Aut.2015	Don't know
EU28		39	▼ 1	57	=	4
EURO AREA		36	▼ 1	62	▲ 1	2
NON-EURO AREA		44	▼ 2	50	▲ 1	6
CY		24	▲ 10	74	▼ 11	2
AT		59	▲ 8	39	▼ 9	2
FI		27	▲ 4	72	▼ 4	1
BG		13	▲ 4	83	▼ 5	4
LU		88	▲ 3	8	▼ 5	4
PT		10	▲ 2	89	▼ 2	1
EE		48	▲ 1	46	=	6
IT		15	▲ 1	84	▼ 1	1
SE		76	=	21	▲ 1	3
UK		53	=	38	▼ 3	9
EL		3	=	97	=	0
NL		78	▼ 1	20	=	2
CZ		50	▼ 1	47	▼ 1	3
SK		29	▼ 1	65	▼ 1	6
LV		22	▼ 1	74	▲ 2	4
SI		18	▼ 1	80	=	2
ES		8	▼ 1	91	▲ 1	1
HU		27	▼ 2	72	▲ 3	1
DE		83	▼ 3	14	▲ 2	3
PL		44	▼ 3	48	▲ 2	8
HR		16	▼ 3	83	▲ 3	1
FR		11	▼ 3	85	▲ 2	4
IE		53	▼ 4	43	▲ 3	4
MT		80	▼ 5	11	▲ 3	9
RO		20	▼ 5	78	▲ 5	2
DK		77	▼ 6	19	▲ 5	4
BE		37	▼ 10	61	▲ 10	2
LT		27	▼ 10	71	▲ 10	2

## 2 Impact of the crisis on jobs: trend

A majority of Europeans consider that in terms of the impact of the economic crisis on jobs "the worst is still to come" (47%, +1 percentage point since autumn 2015, and +5 since spring 2015), whereas 41% think that "the impact of the crisis on jobs has already reached its peak" (-3 since autumn 2015, and -7 since spring 2015). This is the first time that optimism has lost ground twice in a row, and at -6, the index of optimism is now at its lowest level since autumn 2013, when it stood at -10<sup>11</sup>.

**QC1** Some analysts say that the impact of the economic crisis on the job market has already reached its peak and things will recover little by little. Others, on the contrary, say that the worst is still to come. Which of the two statements is closer to your opinion?  
(% - EU)



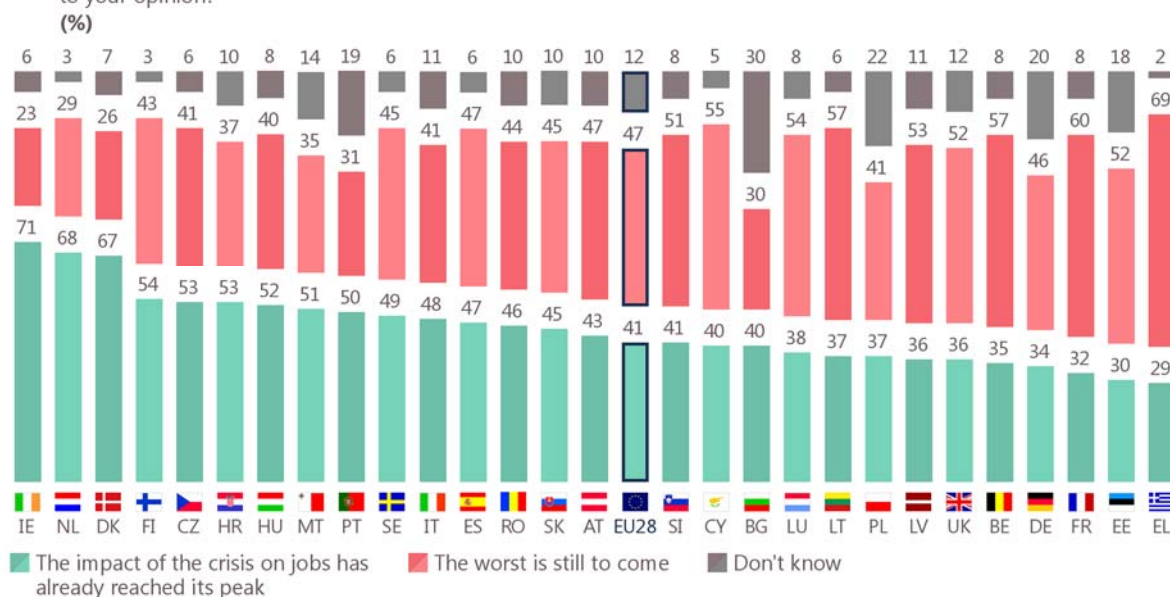
<sup>11</sup> Difference between the scores for "the impact of the crisis on jobs has already reached its peak" and "the worst is still to come".

### 3 Impact of the crisis on jobs: national results and evolutions

In 13 Member States, majorities of respondents believe that "the impact of the crisis on jobs has already reached its peak (up from 12 in autumn 2015). This opinion is shared by more than half of respondents in Ireland (71%), the Netherlands (68%), Denmark (67%), Finland (54%), Croatia and the Czech Republic (both 53%), Hungary (52%) and Malta (51%). Conversely, majorities of citizens say that "the worse is still to come" in 13 Member States, most strikingly in Greece (69%), France (60%), Lithuania and Belgium (both 57%). Opinion is evenly divided in Spain (47% vs. 47%) and Slovakia (45% vs. 45%).





























Optimism has risen in 13 Member States (up from three in autumn 2015), led by Finland (54%, +13 percentage points), Sweden (49%, +8) and Luxembourg (38%, +7). Conversely, it has declined in 15 Member States, falling most markedly in Poland (37%, -9), Italy (48%, -9), Spain (47%, -8) and Estonia (30%, -7). Because of these evolutions, optimism has become the majority view in Finland, Bulgaria and Sweden, where pessimism was predominant in autumn 2015; opinion has also reversed in Poland, where the majority are now pessimistic. In Slovakia, where pessimism was the majority view in autumn 2015, and Spain, where the majority were previously optimistic, respondents are now evenly divided.

**QC1** Some analysts say that the impact of the economic crisis on the job market has already reached its peak and things will recover little by little. Others, on the contrary, say that the worst is still to come. Which of the two statements is closer to your opinion?



**QC1** Some analysts say that the impact of the economic crisis on the job market has already reached its peak and things will recover little by little. Others, on the contrary, say that the worst is still to come. Which of the two statements is closer to your opinion?

(%)

		The impact of the crisis on jobs has already reached its peak	Sp.2016 - Aut.2015	The worst is still to come	Sp.2016 - Aut.2015	Don't know
EU28		41	▼ 3	47	▲ 1	12
EURO AREA		41	▼ 3	48	=	11
NON-EURO AREA		42	▼ 3	44	▲ 2	14
FI		54	▲ 13	43	▼ 13	3
SE		49	▲ 8	45	▼ 8	6
LU		38	▲ 7	54	▼ 10	8
HU		52	▲ 3	40	▼ 5	8
SI		41	▲ 3	51	▼ 6	8
BG		40	▲ 3	30	▼ 9	30
LV		36	▲ 3	53	▼ 3	11
SK		45	▲ 2	45	▼ 2	10
CY		40	▲ 2	55	▼ 2	5
FR		32	▲ 2	60	▼ 3	8
AT		43	▲ 1	47	▼ 7	10
DE		34	▲ 1	46	▼ 5	20
EL		29	▲ 1	69	▼ 1	2
CZ		53	▼ 1	41	▲ 1	6
NL		68	▼ 2	29	▲ 1	3
RO		46	▼ 2	44	▲ 2	10
DK		67	▼ 3	26	▲ 1	7
LT		37	▼ 3	57	▲ 5	6
BE		35	▼ 3	57	▼ 1	8
IE		71	▼ 4	23	▲ 2	6
PT		50	▼ 4	31	▼ 6	19
UK		36	▼ 4	52	▲ 1	12
HR		53	▼ 6	37	▲ 1	10
MT		51	▼ 6	35	▲ 6	14
EE		30	▼ 7	52	▲ 4	18
ES		47	▼ 8	47	▲ 7	6
IT		48	▼ 9	41	▲ 6	11
PL		37	▼ 9	41	▲ 12	22

#### IV. EUROPEAN UNION'S POLITICAL PRIORITIES

### 1 Stimulating investment

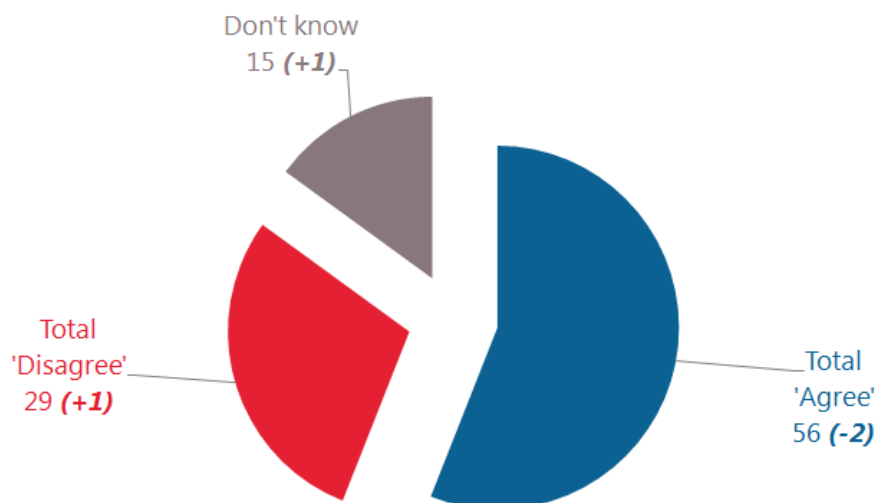
More than half of Europeans agree that “public money should be used to stimulate private sector investment at EU level” (56%, -2 percentage points since autumn 2015); close to three in ten disagree (29%, +1), and 15% say that they “don’t know” (+1). Agreement with this statement has been declining since the question was introduced in autumn 2014, when 61% of respondents agreed, compared with 59% in spring 2015, 58% in autumn 2015 and 56% in spring 2016.

Majorities of citizens agree with this statement in 25 Member States (down from 26 in autumn 2015), with the highest proportions in Cyprus (77%), Malta (76%), Germany (70%), Croatia (69%), and Slovenia and Belgium (both 66%). At the other end of the scale, the majority of respondents disagree in Spain (41% vs. 40% “agree”), whereas public opinion in the United Kingdom (41% vs. 41%) and Sweden (45% vs. 45%) is evenly divided.

In 16 Member States, the proportion of respondents who agree that “public money should be used to stimulate private sector investment at EU level” has fallen, most strikingly in Greece (64%, -8 percentage points), Portugal (56%, -7) and Slovakia (57%, -7). It has remained unchanged in four countries and has increased in eight, most steeply in Bulgaria (64%, +6).

**QC2a.5** For each of the following statements, please tell me whether you totally agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree or totally disagree.

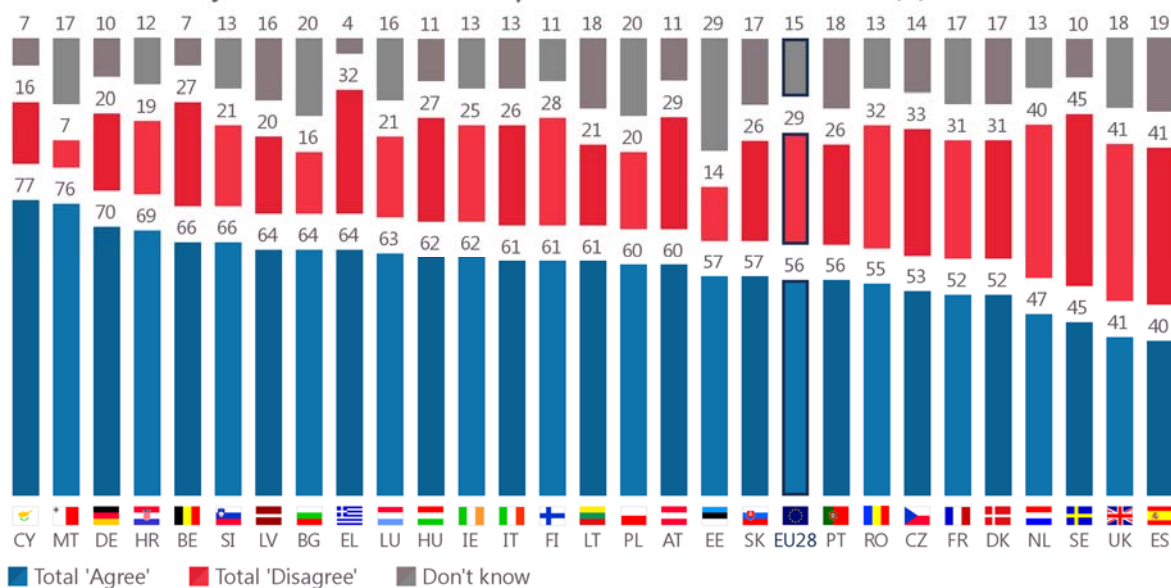
**Public money should be used to stimulate private sector investment at EU level**  
(% - EU)



(Spring 2016 - Autumn 2015)

**QC2a.5** For each of the following statements, please tell me whether you totally agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree or totally disagree.

**Public money should be used to stimulate private sector investment at EU level (%)**



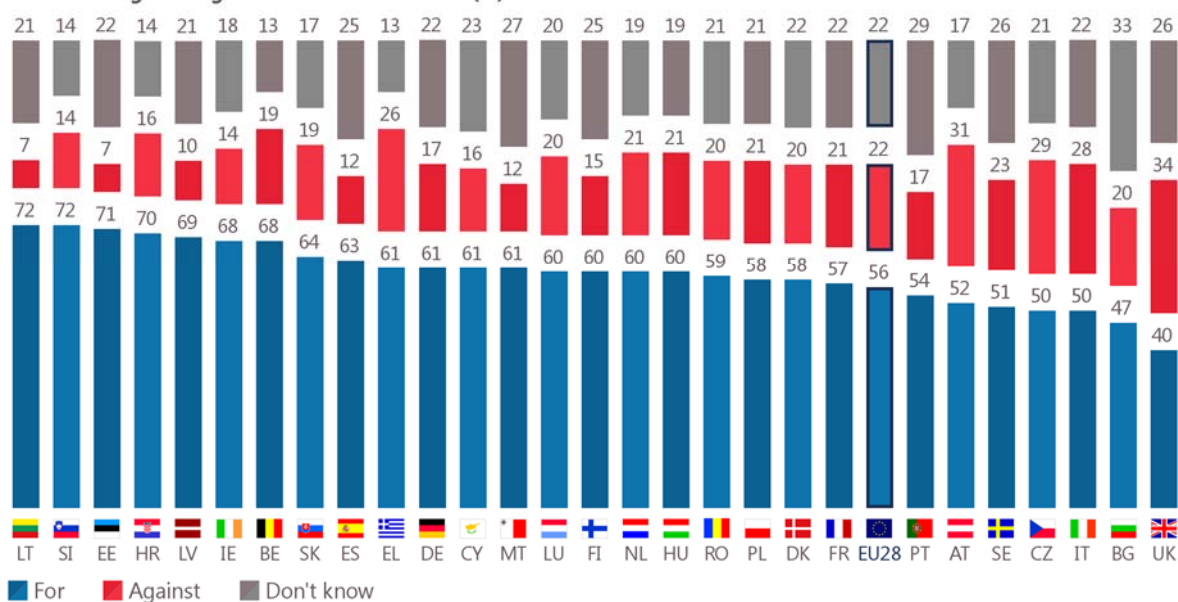
## 2 Digital Single Market

More than half of Europeans support a digital single market within the EU (56%, +3 percentage points since autumn 2015), while more than a fifth are opposed (22%, unchanged), and the same proportion say that they “don’t know” (22%, -3). At least half the respondents are in favour of a digital single market in 26 Member States, led by Lithuania and Slovenia (both 72%), Estonia (71%) and Croatia (70%).

Compared with autumn 2015, support has gained ground in 22 Member States, most strikingly in Ireland (68%, +12 percentage points).

**QA17.8** 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 digital single market within the EU (%)



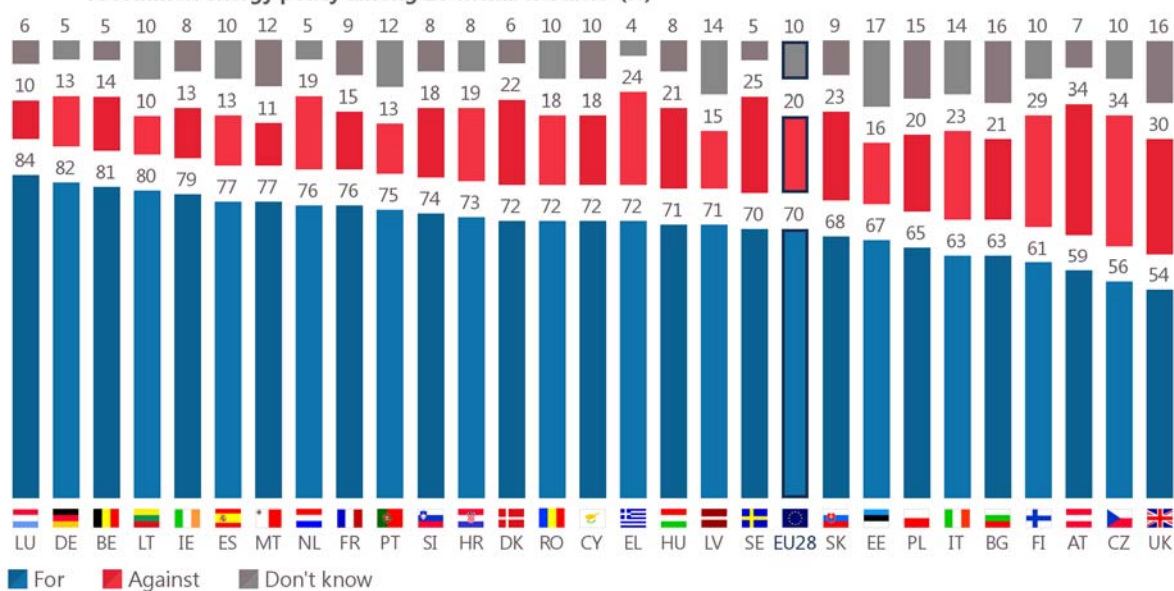


### 3 Energy Union

Seven Europeans in ten are in favour of a common energy policy among EU Member States (70%) while 20% are opposed, and 10% say they “don’t know”. These proportions are unchanged since autumn 2015. Absolute majorities of respondents are in favour of a common energy policy in all Member States, led by Luxembourg (84%), Germany (82%), and Belgium (81%).

**QA17.7** 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 energy policy among EU Member States (%)**



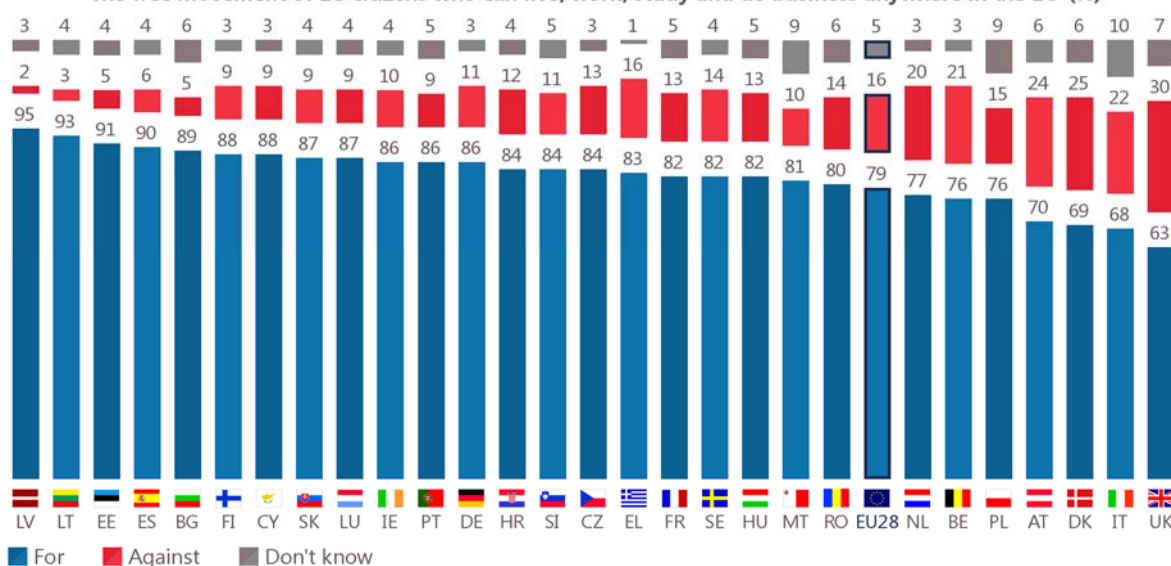
## 4 Internal Market: free movement

Close to eight Europeans in ten support “the free movement of EU citizens who can live, work, study and do business anywhere in the EU” (79%, +1 percentage point since autumn 2015). This opinion is shared by large proportions of the population in all Member States, ranging from 63% in the United Kingdom to 95% in Latvia.

Since autumn 2015, support for “the free movement of EU citizens who can live, work, study and do business anywhere in the EU” has increased in 22 Member States, most strikingly in Ireland (68%, +12 percentage points), Estonia (71%, +9), Bulgaria (47%, +8), the Czech Republic (50%, +7), Denmark (58%, +7), France (57%, +7), Finland (60%, +7) and the United Kingdom (40%, +7). It has remained unchanged in Hungary (60%) and Slovakia (64%), and has lost ground in Portugal (54%, -4), Greece (61%, -3), Poland (58%, -1) and Germany (61%, -1).

**QA17.9** What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell me for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.

**The free movement of EU citizens who can live, work, study and do business anywhere in the EU (%)**



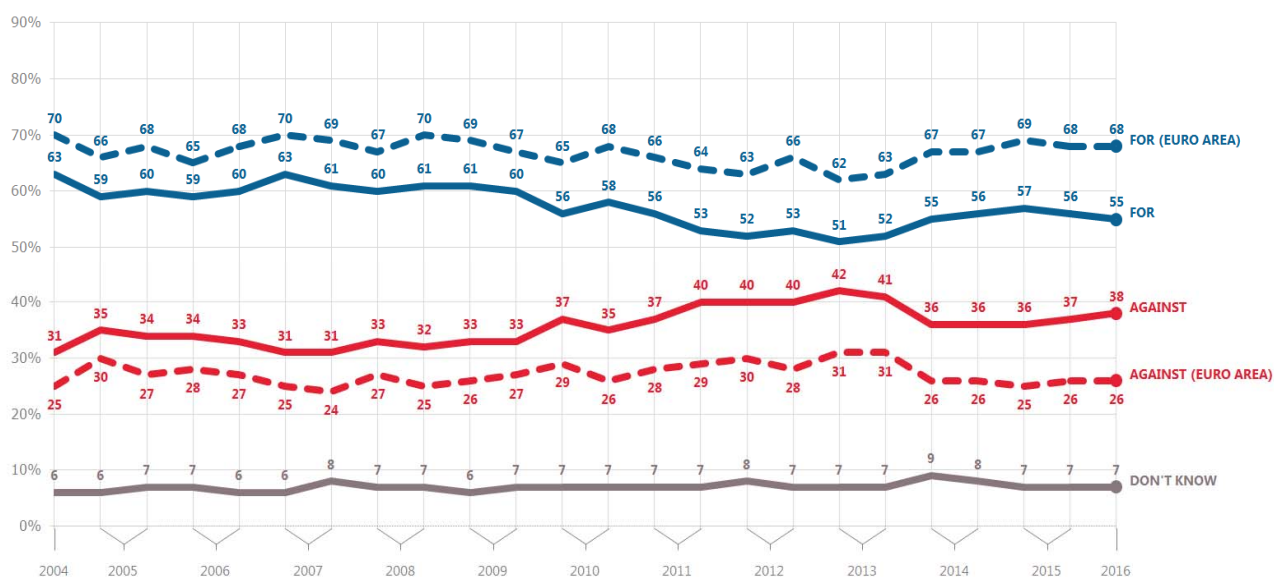
## 5 Support for the euro

### Support for the European economic and monetary union with a single currency, the euro: trend

A large majority of Europeans support "a European economic and monetary union with one single currency, the euro" (55% "for", -1 percentage point), whereas 38% say they are against (+1).

While more than two-thirds of respondents support the euro within the euro area (68%, vs. 26%, both unchanged), a majority oppose the single currency outside the euro area (61% "against", +3 percentage points), where support has fallen slightly (31% "for", -1).

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 (% - EU)



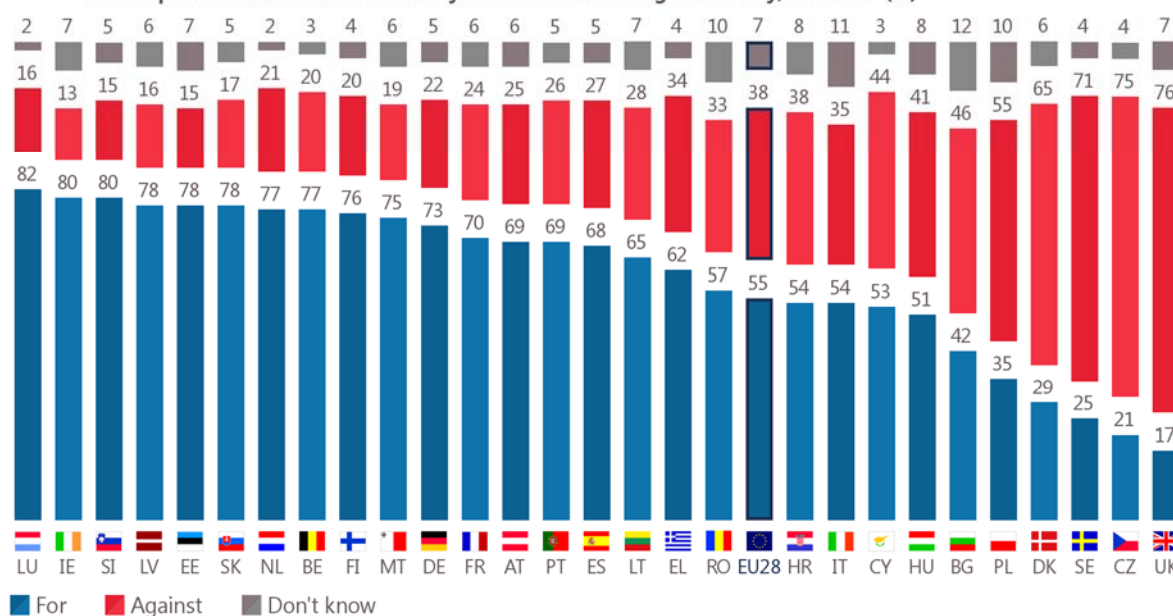
## Support for the European economic and monetary union with a single currency, the euro: national results and evolutions

In 22 Member States majorities of citizens say they are in favour of "a European economic and monetary union with one single currency, the euro" (as in autumn 2015), including all those belonging to the euro area. In nine countries, more than three-quarters of respondents agree: Luxembourg (82%), Ireland (80%), Slovenia (80%), Latvia (78%), Estonia (78%), Slovakia (78%), the Netherlands (77%), Belgium (77%) and Finland (76%). Majorities of respondents are against the single currency in six Member States, all outside the euro area: the United Kingdom (76% "against"), the Czech Republic (75%), Sweden (71%), Denmark (65%), Poland (55%) and Bulgaria (46% vs. 42% "for"). In the remaining three countries outside the euro area, majorities support the single currency: Romania (57% "for" vs. 33% "against"), Croatia (54% vs. 38%) and Hungary (51% vs. 41%).

While support for the euro has decreased slightly at EU level since autumn 2015, it has gained ground in 17 Member States, most strikingly in Austria (69%, +7 percentage points) and Latvia (78%, +6). It has remained stable in two countries and has fallen in nine, led by Greece (62%, -8) and Romania (57%, -6).

**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 (%)



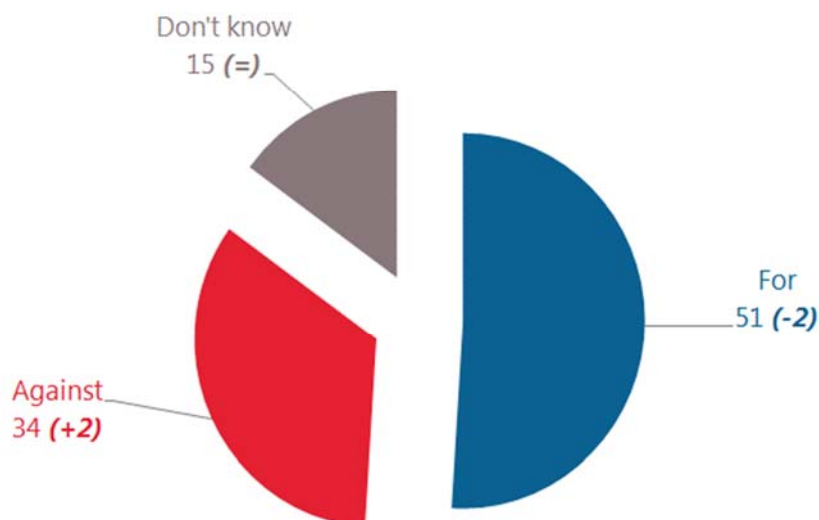
## 6 Support for a free trade and investment agreement between the European Union and the United States

Around half of Europeans are in favour of “a free trade and investment agreement between the European Union and the United States” (51%, -2 percentage points since autumn 2015), while just above a third are opposed to it (34%, +2), and 15% “don’t know” (unchanged). Since this question was first asked autumn in 2014, approval has decreased continuously (from 58% in autumn 2014 down to 51%), whereas opposition has gained ground (from 25% up to 34%).

Majorities of respondents support a free trade and investment agreement between the European Union and the United States in 24 Member States (the same countries as in autumn 2015), with highest proportions in Lithuania (77%), Ireland (70%), Romania and Sweden (both 68%) and Denmark (67%). At the other end of the scale, majorities of citizens oppose such an agreement in Austria (70% “against” vs. 20% “for”), Germany (59% vs. 26%), Slovenia (52% vs. 37%) and Luxembourg (50% vs. 36%). Support for a free trade and investment agreement has declined in 18 countries, most steeply in Croatia (47%, -8 percentage points), Spain (55%, -8) and Poland (59%, -7). It has remained stable in Bulgaria (58%), the Netherlands (53%) and France (50%), and has gained ground in seven Member States: Sweden (68%, +8), the Czech Republic (56%, +7), Estonia (64%, +6), Denmark (67%, +5), the United Kingdom (64%, +2), Hungary (55%, +2) and Ireland (70%, +1).

**QA17.5** 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 free trade and investment agreement between the EU and the USA (% - EU)**



## 7 Migration issues

### Support for a common European policy on migration

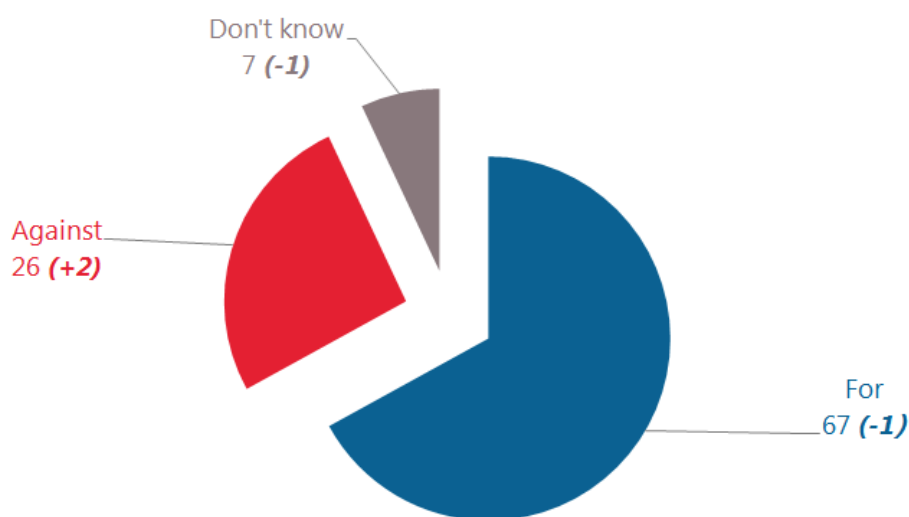
A large majority of Europeans support “a common European policy on migration” (67%, -1 percentage point since autumn 2015, -6 since spring 2015), while more than a quarter are “against” (26%, +2 since autumn 2015, +6 since spring 2015), and 7% “don’t know” (-1).

Majorities of respondents are in favour of “a common European policy on migration” in 26 Member States (down from 27 in autumn 2015), most strikingly in Luxembourg (81%), the Netherlands (81%) and Spain (80%). The Czech Republic (54% “against” vs. 41%) and Estonia (44% vs. 42%) are the only countries where majorities of respondents oppose a common policy on migration.

Support for “a common European policy on migration” has gained ground in 11 Member States since autumn 2015, most steeply in France (71%, +7 percentage points). It has remained unchanged in four countries, and has declined in 13, in particular in Poland (48%, -6) and in Hungary (49%, -6).

**QA17.6** 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 European policy on migration (% - EU)



(Spring 2016 - Autumn 2015)

## Does immigration evoke positive or negative feelings?

Close to six Europeans in ten say that the **immigration of people from other EU Member States** evokes a positive feeling (58%, +3 percentage points since autumn 2015, +7 since spring 2015); conversely, 35% (-3 since autumn 2015, -5 since spring 2015) say that it evokes a negative feeling for them. However, just above a third of Europeans say that **immigration of people from outside the EU** evokes a positive feeling (34%, unchanged), while a majority of Europeans have negative views (58%, -1).

As in autumn 2015, positive feelings about the **immigration of people from other EU Member States** are predominant in 23 countries, with the highest proportions in Luxembourg (81% 'positive'), Sweden (78%), and Ireland and Finland (both 77%). Conversely, majorities of respondents have negative feelings in Cyprus (58% 'negative'), Latvia (51%), the Czech Republic (49% vs. 44% 'positive'), Slovakia (49% vs. 45%) and Italy (46% vs. 45%).

The proportion of respondents with positive feelings about the **immigration of people from other EU Member States** has increased in 18 countries, most steeply in Greece (55%, +7 percentage points), Ireland (77%, +6) and Austria (60%, +6). Positive feelings have lost ground in nine countries, but nowhere by more than three percentage points.

In 24 Member States, majorities of respondents have a negative feeling about the **immigration of people from outside the EU** (down from 25 in autumn 2015), with more than eight in ten respondents holding this view in Latvia (86%), Slovakia (84%) and Hungary (83%). As in autumn 2015, positive feelings are predominant in Sweden (62%), Ireland (53%) and Spain (50%), but also in Luxembourg, which has joined this restricted group of countries for the first time (53%).

Negative opinions about the **immigration of people from outside the EU** have lost ground in 18 countries, in particular in Luxembourg (40%, -12 percentage points), Croatia (45%, -8), Slovenia (68%, -8) and France (57%, -7). Conversely, they have increased in eight countries, most steeply in Romania (64%, +10) and Sweden (36%, +9).

QB4 Please tell me whether each of the following statements evokes a positive or negative feeling for you.  
(% - EU)



Spring 2016  
Autumn 2015

■ Total 'Positive'  
■ Total 'Negative'  
■ Don't know

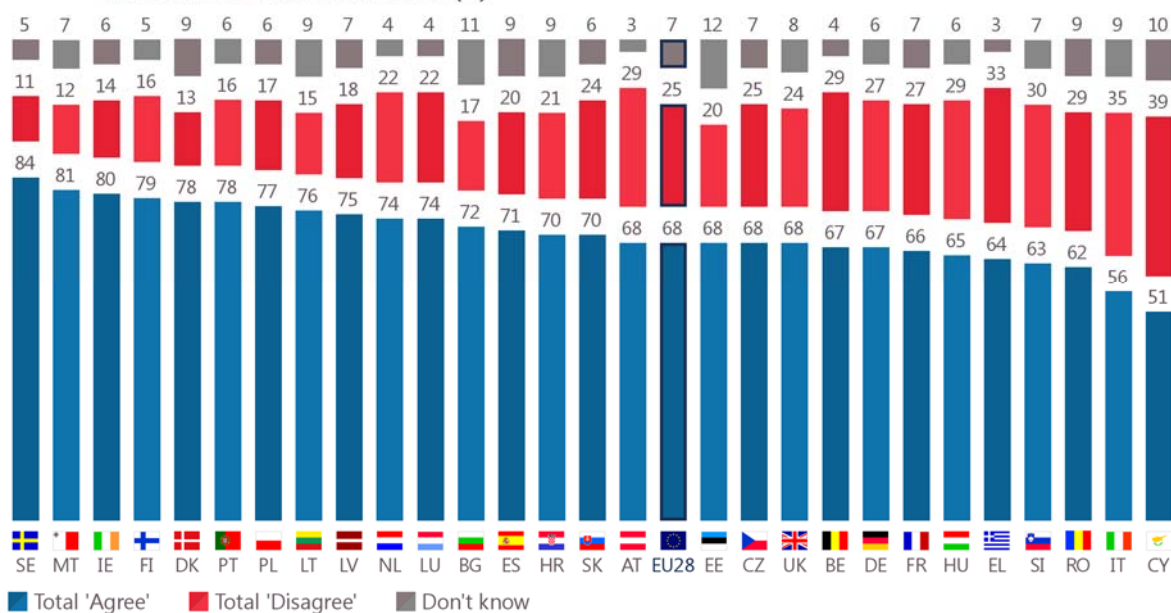


## 8 The European Union as a global actor

More than two in three Europeans think that the EU's voice counts in the world (68%), while a quarter disagree (25%), and 7% say that they "don't know". These proportions have remained unchanged since autumn 2015. More than three-quarters of the population share this opinion in the Nordic countries (Sweden (84%), Finland (79%) and Denmark (78%)), Malta (81%), Ireland (80%), Portugal (78%), Poland (77%), Lithuania (76%), Latvia (75%), Netherlands (74%) and Luxembourg (74%).

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

**The EU's voice counts in the world (%)**





## V. EUROPEAN CITIZENSHIP

### 1 Feeling like a citizen of the European Union: national results

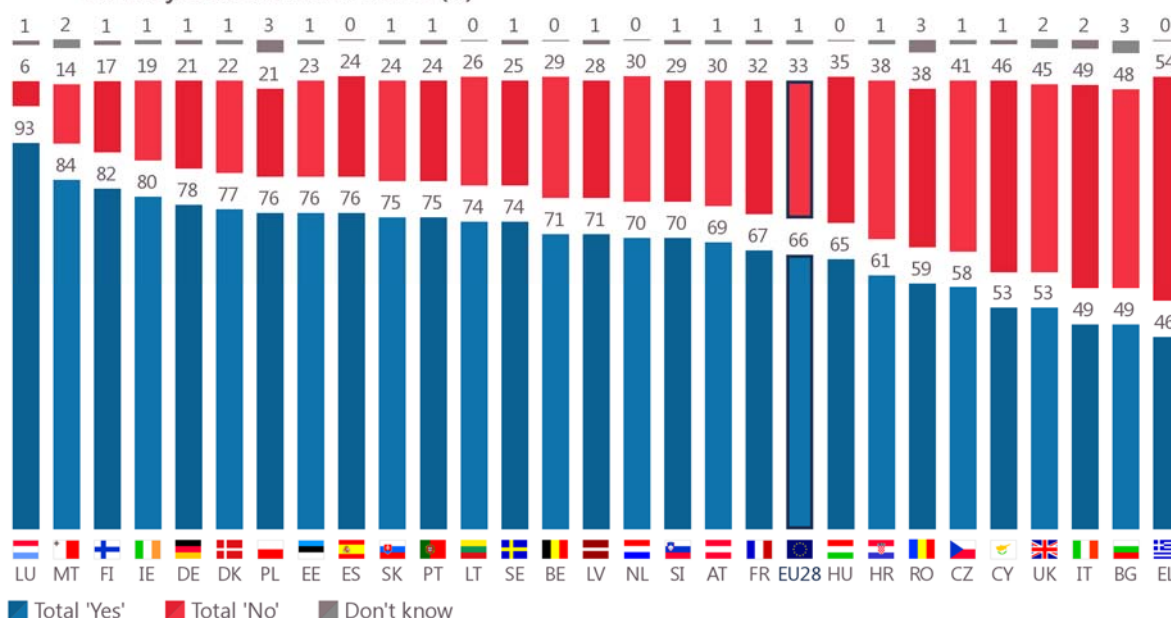
Two in three Europeans feel that they are citizens of the EU (66%, +2 percentage points since autumn 2015), while a third still do not (33%, -1).

In 26 Member States, most people say that they feel they are citizens of the EU (up from 24 in autumn 2015). This opinion is most widespread in Luxembourg (93%), Malta (84%), Finland (82%), Ireland (80%) and Germany (78%).

A majority of people in the UK (53%) say they feel they are citizens of the EU, more than in Italy (49%), Bulgaria (49%) and Greece (46%).

**QD1.1** For each of the following statements, please tell me to what extent it corresponds or not to your own opinion.

**You feel you are a citizen of the EU (%)**



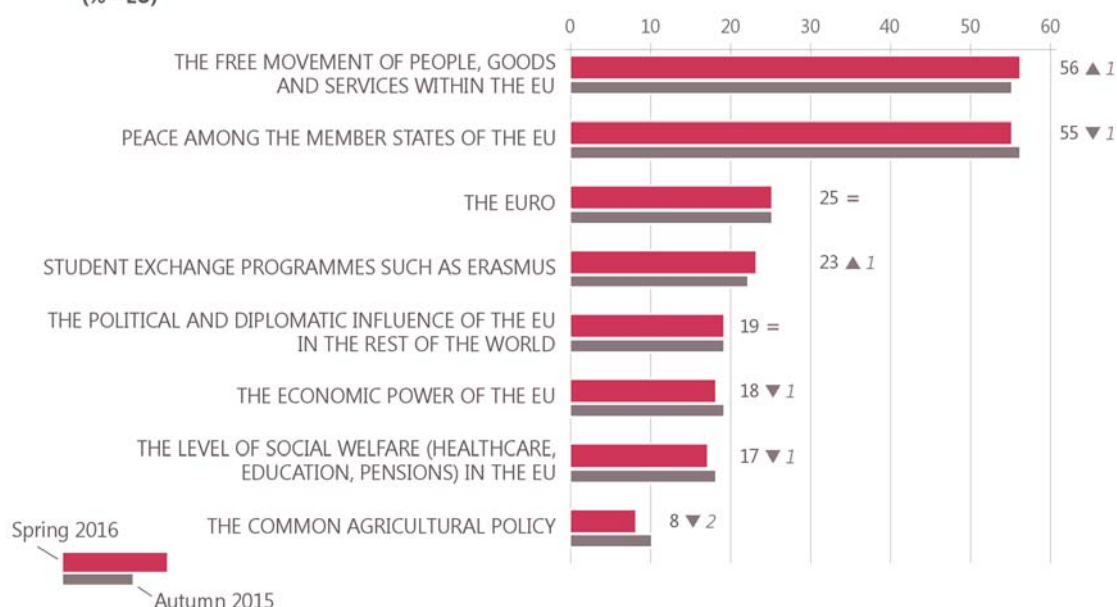
## 2 Most positive results of the European Union: evolutions

"The free movement of people, goods and services within the EU" (56% of the total answers, +1 percentage point since autumn 2015) and "peace among the Member States of the EU" (55%, -1) are still seen by Europeans as the two most positive results of the EU. Both items have held a clear lead since December 2011 when this question was asked for the first time<sup>12</sup>.

All other items are cited by a quarter of Europeans or less, in almost the same order as in autumn 2015: "the euro" is perceived as the third most positive result of the EU (25%, unchanged), ahead of "student exchange programmes such as ERASMUS" (23%, +1 percentage point), in fourth place. Mentioned by less than a fifth of EU citizens, "the political and diplomatic influence of the EU in the rest of the world" (19%, =) is in fifth position, "the economic power of the EU" (18%, -1) in sixth, and "the level of social welfare (healthcare, education, pensions) in the EU" (17%, -1) in seventh place. "The Common Agricultural Policy" lags behind, mentioned by less than a tenth of Europeans (8%, -2).

Both within and outside the euro area, "the free movement of people, goods and services within the EU" (55% in the euro area, 56% in the non-euro area) and "peace among the Member States of the EU" (55% in both areas) are seen as the two most positive results of the EU. Behind these two, the hierarchy then diverges: in the euro area, "the euro" is in third place (32%), ahead of "student exchange programmes such as Erasmus" (25%, in fourth position). Outside the euro area, "the level of social welfare (healthcare, education, pensions) in the EU" is in third place (21%), and is followed by "student exchange programmes such as ERASMUS", "the economic power of the EU" and "the political and diplomatic influence of the EU in the rest of the world", all in joint fourth place with 19% of mentions.

**QD3T** Which of the following do you think is the most positive result of the EU?  
(% - EU)



<sup>12</sup> Special Eurobarometer 379: "the Future of Europe", December 2011

## CONCLUSION

This Standard Eurobarometer survey (EB85) was conducted between 21 and 31 May 2016, a few months after the terrorist attacks in Paris (13 November 2015) and Brussels (22 March 2016) and a few weeks before the EU referendum in the United Kingdom (23 June 2016).

**Migration and terrorism are now the dominant concerns.** While **immigration** remains the most important issue facing the EU for Europeans, **terrorism** has consolidated its second place, after a steep increase in concern. It is now also the fourth most important concern at the national level.

**Trust in the EU remains stable.** After declining between the Eurobarometer surveys of spring 2015 (EB83) and autumn 2015 (EB84), **trust in the EU** has regained a little ground: at 33%, it remains higher than trust in national parliaments and governments, which have both remained unchanged. A majority of Europeans have a neutral **image of the EU**; just above a third have a positive image, this proportion having decreased for the second consecutive time. Half of Europeans remain **optimistic about the future of the EU**, but this proportion has also declined for a second time in a row.

Though it has fallen slightly, at 38% the proportion of EU citizens who think that **their voice counts in the EU** is still equal to or higher than it was between 2009 and 2013, between the 2009 and the 2014 European elections.

Improvements in Europeans' perceptions of their national economy, which had been almost continuous since autumn 2013 have halted: close to four in ten respondents now say that they perceive **the national economic situation** as 'good' (39%), while 57% say that it is 'bad'. Close to half of respondents say that the **"the worst is still to come" in terms of the impact of the crisis on the job market**. Pessimism has grown in two consecutive surveys for the first time since this question was introduced, in spring 2009. Around four in ten respondents think that the impact of the crisis on the job market has "already reached its peak".

**Support for the European Union's political priorities remains strong:** more than half of respondents agree that **public money should be used to stimulate private investment at EU level**, while less than three in ten disagree. More than half of Europeans are in favour of **"a European economic and monetary union with one single currency, the euro"**. Majorities of respondents support the euro in 22 Member States.

Around eight Europeans in ten are in favour of **"the free movement of EU citizens who can live, work, study and do business anywhere in the EU"**. Support for **"a free trade and investment agreement between the European Union and the United States"** is less widespread, though it is the majority view in 24 Member States: around half of Europeans are in favour, but this proportion has declined steadily since autumn 2014.

**Around two-thirds of Europeans are in favour of a common European policy on migration.** Compared with autumn 2015, more Europeans now have positive feelings about **the immigration of people from other EU Member States: 58% of respondents share this view**. However, the same proportion say that the **immigration of people from outside the EU** evokes a 'negative' feeling for them.

Finally, around two thirds of Europeans **feel they are citizens of the EU** and majorities of respondents do so in 26 Member States.

## TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Between the 21<sup>st</sup> and the 31<sup>st</sup> May 2016, TNS opinion & social, a consortium created between TNS political & social, TNS UK and TNS opinion, carried out the wave 85.2 of the EUROBAROMETER survey, on request of the EUROPEAN COMMISSION, Directorate-General for Communication, "Strategy, Corporate Communication Actions and Eurobarometer" Unit.

The wave 85.2 is the STANDARD EUROBAROMETER 85 and covers the population of the respective nationalities of the European Union Member States, resident in each of the 28 Member States and aged 15 years and over.

The STANDARD EUROBAROMETER 85 survey has also been conducted in five candidate countries (Turkey, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Albania) and in the Turkish Cypriot Community. In these countries and in the Turkish Cypriot Community, 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 territories and have a sufficient command of the national languages to answer the questionnaire.

	COUNTRIES	INSTITUTES	N° INTERVIEWS	DATES FIELDWORK		POPULATION 15+	PROPORTION EU28
BE	Belgium	TNS Dimarso	1.004	21/05/16	30/05/16	9.693.779	2,25%
BG	Bulgaria	TNS BBSS	1.024	21/05/16	30/05/16	6.537.535	1,52%
CZ	Czech Rep.	TNS Aisa	1.044	21/05/16	30/05/16	9.238.431	2,15%
DK	Denmark	TNS Gallup DK	1.007	21/05/16	30/05/16	4.838.729	1,13%
DE	Germany	TNS Infratest	1.592	21/05/16	30/05/16	70.160.634	16,32%
EE	Estonia	TNS Emor	1.012	21/05/16	30/05/16	1.160.064	0,27%
IE	Ireland	Behaviour and Attitudes	1.004	21/05/16	30/05/16	3.592.162	0,84%
EL	Greece	TNS ICAP	1.016	21/05/16	30/05/16	9.937.810	2,31%
ES	Spain	TNS Demoscopia	1.009	21/05/16	30/05/16	39.445.245	9,17%
FR	France	TNS Sofres	1.001	21/05/16	30/05/16	54.097.255	12,58%
HR	Croatia	HENDAL	1.030	21/05/16	30/05/16	3.796.476	0,88%
IT	Italy	TNS Italia	1.016	21/05/16	30/05/16	52.334.536	12,17%
CY	Rep. Of Cyprus	CYMAR	502	21/05/16	30/05/16	741.308	0,17%
LV	Latvia	TNS Latvia	1.003	21/05/16	30/05/16	1.707.082	0,40%
LT	Lithuania	TNS LT	1.009	21/05/16	30/05/16	2.513.384	0,58%
LU	Luxembourg	TNS ILReS	507	21/05/16	30/05/16	457.127	0,11%
HU	Hungary	TNS Hoffmann	1.041	21/05/16	30/05/16	8.781.161	2,04%
MT	Malta	MISCO	510	21/05/16	30/05/16	364.171	0,08%
NL	Netherlands	TNS NIPO	1.022	21/05/16	30/05/16	13.979.215	3,25%
AT	Austria	ipr Umfrageforschung	1.026	21/05/16	30/05/16	7.554.711	1,76%
PL	Poland	TNS Polska	1.004	21/05/16	30/05/16	33.444.171	7,78%
PT	Portugal	TNS Portugal	1.013	21/05/16	30/05/16	8.480.126	1,97%
RO	Romania	TNS CSOP	1.021	21/05/16	30/05/16	16.852.701	3,92%
SI	Slovenia	MEDIANA D.O.O.	1.043	21/05/16	30/05/16	1.760.032	0,41%
SK	Slovakia	TNS Slovakia	1.011	21/05/16	30/05/16	4.586.024	1,07%
FI	Finland	TNS Gallup Oy	1.008	21/05/16	30/05/16	4.747.810	1,10%
SE	Sweden	TNS Sifo	987	21/05/16	31/05/16	7.998.763	1,86%
UK	United Kingdom	TNS UK	1.352	21/05/16	30/05/16	51.174.531	11,90%
	TOTAL EU28	TOTAL EU28	27.818	21/05/16	31/05/16	429.974.973	100%*
* It should be noted that the total percentage shown in this table may exceed 100% due to rounding							
CY(tcc)	Turkish Cypriot Community	Lipa Consultancy	500	23/05/16	30/05/16	143.226	
TR	Turkey	TNS Piar	1.026	21/05/16	30/05/16	56.770.205	
MK	Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	TNS BRIMA	1.066	21/05/16	30/05/16	1.721.528	
ME	Montenegro	TNS Medium Gallup	521	21/05/16	30/05/16	501.030	
RS	Serbia	TNS Medium Gallup	1.015	21/05/16	30/05/16	6.161.584	
AL	Albania	TNS BBSS	1.041	21/05/16	30/05/16	2.221.572	
	TOTAL	TOTAL	31.946	21/05/16	31/05/16	497.494.118	

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<sup>1</sup> (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 here.

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:

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<sup>1</sup> Figures updated in August 2015

Statistical Margins due to the sampling process

(at the 95% level of confidence)

various sample sizes are in rows

various observed results are in columns

	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
<b>N=1000</b>	<b>1,4</b>	<b>1,9</b>	<b>2,2</b>	<b>2,5</b>	<b>2,7</b>	<b>2,8</b>	<b>3,0</b>	<b>3,0</b>	<b>3,1</b>	<b>3,1</b>	<b>N=1000</b>
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%	