



# Standard Eurobarometer 86 Autumn 2016

First results

Public opinion in the European Union

Fieldwork

November 2016

Publication

December 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 86 – Wave EB86.2 – TNS opinion & social

# Standard Eurobarometer 86

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Directorate-General for Communication

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(DG COMM "Strategic communication" Unit)

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## INTRODUCTION

This report presents the first results of the Standard Eurobarometer survey of autumn 2016 (EB86), which was carried out between 3 and 16 November 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, the economy and European citizenship. 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 autumn 2016 will be analysed in the full report.

The Standard Eurobarometer survey of autumn 2016 was conducted shortly after the publication of the European Commission's autumn 2016 European economic forecast<sup>2</sup>. GDP growth in 2016 is expected to reach 1.8% in the EU and 1.7% in the euro area, slightly lower than in 2015. In comparison, forecast GDP growth for 2016 is 1.6% for the USA, 0.7% in Japan, 6.6% in China and 3% worldwide.

Meanwhile, the employment situation continues to improve overall: the unemployment rate in the EU has continued to decline (8.3% in October 2016, -0.8 percentage points, down from 9.1% since October 2015). In the euro area, it has fallen below the 10% threshold for the first time since April 2011 (9.8%, -0.8 percentage points, down from 10.6% in October 2015)<sup>3</sup>.

Since the Standard Eurobarometer survey of spring 2016, the referendum on the United Kingdom's membership of the EU held on 23 June saw the victory of the "Leave" option. This Standard Eurobarometer survey is the first to be carried out after this referendum. On 14 July, a terrorist attack took place in Nice, France, causing 86 deaths and wounding 434 people. Still in France, other terrorist attacks took place in Magnanville (13 June) and in Saint-Étienne-du-Rouvray (26 July). In Germany, two terrorist attacks took place near Würzburg and in Ansbach, Bavaria, on 18 and 24 July respectively.

National elections have taken place in Spain, Croatia, and Lithuania and presidential elections have been held in Estonia and Bulgaria (just after beginning of fieldwork, on 6 November). Campaigns for the constitutional referendum held in Italy and for the second round of the Austrian presidential were on-going during the fieldwork. Both the referendum and the election were held on 4 December.

Outside the EU, the 58<sup>th</sup> US presidential election held on 8 November saw the victory of the Republican candidate Donald Trump.

<sup>1</sup> Please consult the technical specifications for the exact fieldwork dates in each Member State. The previous Standard Eurobarometer (EB 85) survey was carried out between 21 and 31 May 2016.

<sup>2</sup> [http://ec.europa.eu/economy\\_finance/publications/eeip/pdf/ip038\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/economy_finance/publications/eeip/pdf/ip038_en.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/2995521/7752348/3-01122016-AP-EN.pdf/5f785386-b824-4b65-a09d-99d8bed9958a>

The methodology used is that of the Standard Eurobarometer surveys carried out by the Directorate-General for Communication (“Strategic communication” Unit)<sup>4</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>5</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. The interviews carried out in the part of the country that is not controlled by the government of the Republic of Cyprus are included in the “CY(tcc)” [tcc: Turkish Cypriot Community category]

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

*We wish to thank 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>4</sup> <http://ec.europa.eu/COMMFrontOffice/PublicOpinion/>

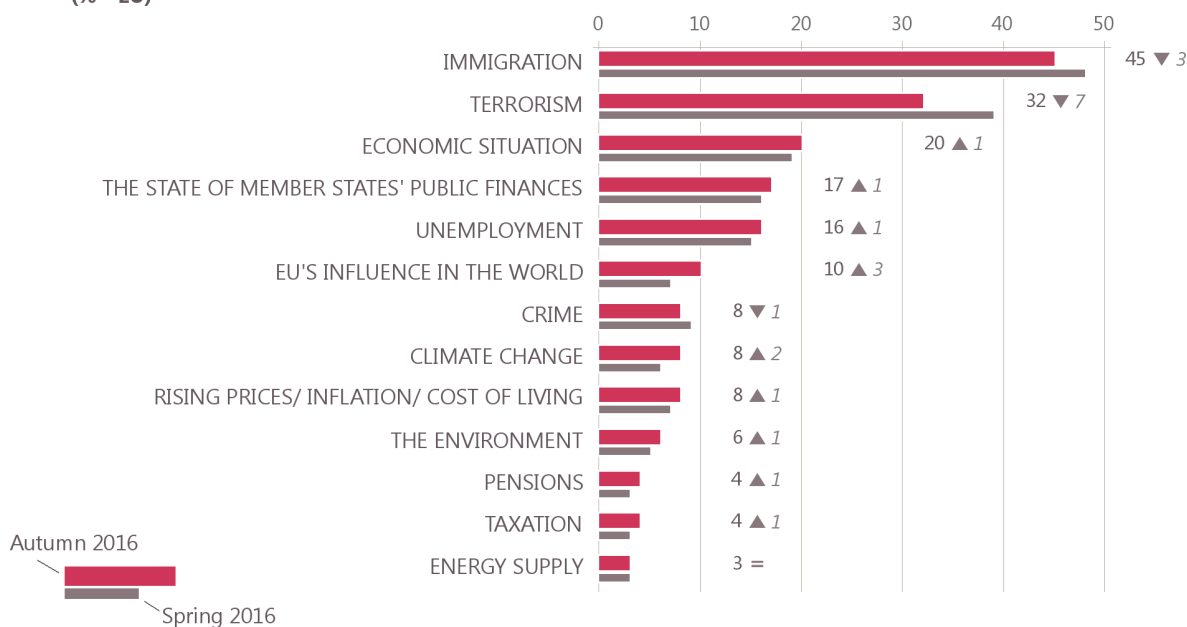
<sup>5</sup> The results tables are annexed. It should be noted that the total of the percentages indicated in the tables in this report may exceed 100% when the respondent was able to choose several answers to the same question.

## I. THE MAIN CONCERNS OF EUROPEANS

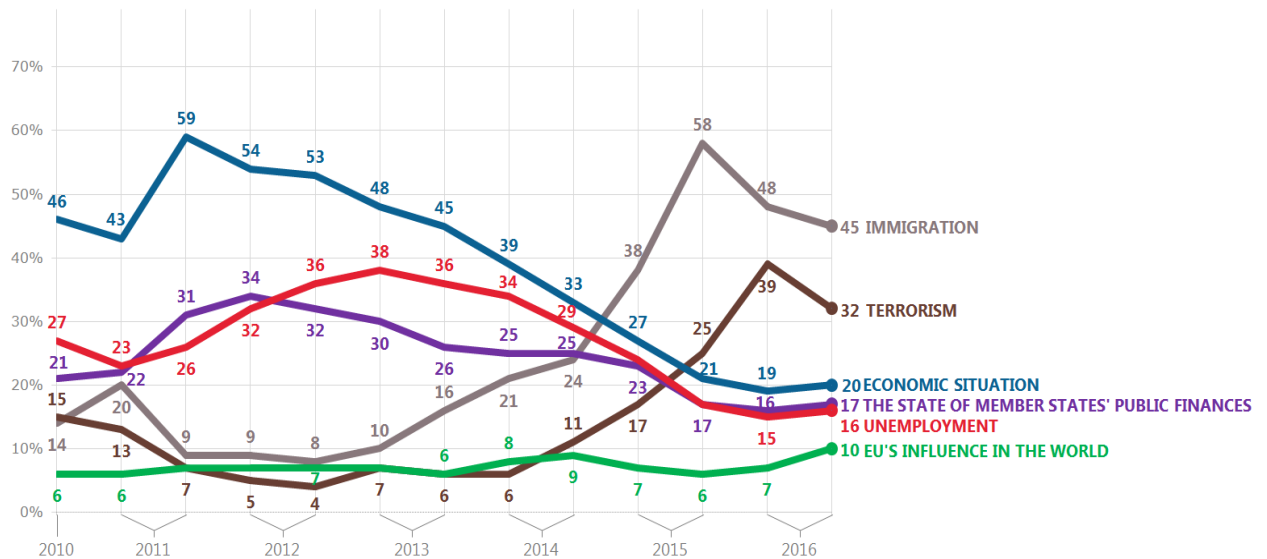
### 1 Main concerns at European level: evolutions

Migration and terrorism remain by far the most important issues facing the EU, according to respondents. However, both issues have lost ground since spring 2016. At 45%, **immigration** has lost a further three percentage points following a ten-point decrease between autumn 2015 and spring 2016. Mentioned by close to a third of EU citizens, **terrorism** has lost seven percentage points since spring 2016, after the sharp 14-point rise registered between autumn 2015 and spring 2016. The **economic situation** remains third (20%), ahead of **the state of Member States' public finances** (17%) and **unemployment** (16%); these three items have each recorded a 1-point increase since spring 2016. One in ten EU citizens mention **the EU's influence in the world** (10%, +3 percentage points), which thus achieved a double digit score for the first time since autumn 2010 when this question was first asked. Other items are mentioned by less than 10% of the population, but apart from crime (8%, -1) and energy supply (3%, unchanged), they have all have gained ground since spring 2016, though to a limited extent.

**QA5** What do you think are the two most important issues facing the EU at the moment? (MAXIMUM 2 ANSWERS)  
(% - EU)



**QA5** What do you think are the two most important issues facing the EU at the moment? (MAXIMUM 2 ANSWERS)  
(% - EU)


































## 2 Main concerns at European level: national results

Mentioned by 45% of Europeans, **immigration is seen as the most important concern in 26 Member States** (up from 20 in spring 2016), reaching its highest scores in Estonia (70%), Hungary (65%) and Malta (65%). It is the second most important concern in Spain, and the third in Portugal. Close to a third of EU citizens mention **terrorism** (32%, in second position); this is perceived as the most important concern in Spain (33%), and stands in second place in 21 Member States, including the Czech Republic (47%), Malta (45%) and Latvia (45%), where it reaches its highest scores. Immigration and terrorism are mentioned as the first or second most important issue facing the EU in all Member States except Portugal, Italy, Greece, Denmark, Sweden and Finland.

The **economic situation** is seen as one of the most important problems facing the EU by one in five Europeans (20%, in third place). It is in second position in Greece (33%), Sweden (25%), Portugal (24%) and Denmark (23%), and also scores highly in Spain (31%, third place) and Cyprus (28%, fourth place). With 17% of mentions at EU level, **the state of Member States' public finances** remains in fourth position, but is in first place in Portugal (38%). **Unemployment** is mentioned by 16% of EU citizens, in fifth position, and by more than a quarter of respondents in Cyprus (29%) and Italy (27%).

Mentioned by 8% of Europeans, in equal seventh position along with climate change and rising prices/inflation/cost of living, **crime** is in third place in Romania (16%), while **climate change** reaches its highest score in Sweden (22%, third place).

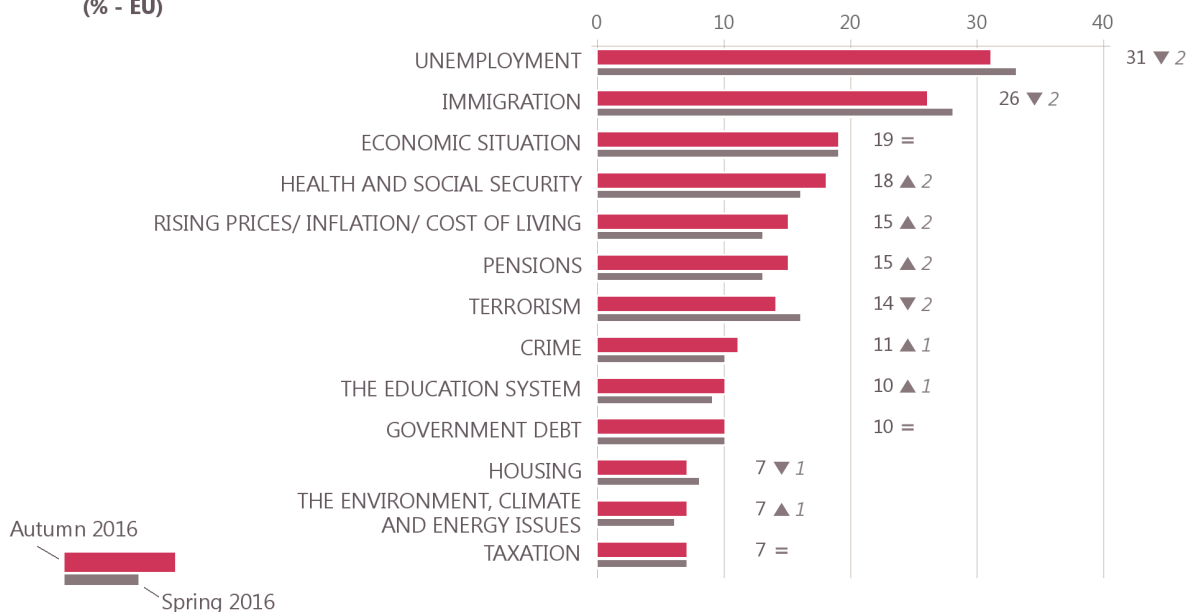
**QA5** What do you think are the two most important issues facing the EU at the moment? (MAXIMUM 2 ANSWERS)  
(%)

		Immigration	Terrorism	Economic situation	The state of Member States' public finances	Unemployment	EU's influence in the world	Crime	Climate change	Rising prices/ inflation/ cost of living	The environment	Pensions	Taxation	Energy supply
EU28		45	32	20	17	16	10	8	8	8	6	4	4	3
BE		43	33	22	16	13	10	11	10	11	8	7	5	4
BG		62	42	12	8	6	7	8	6	6	3	2	2	3
CZ		63	47	9	15	7	6	12	5	6	4	4	1	2
DK		59	21	23	13	15	15	8	16	4	6	1	0	2
DE		50	31	14	26	16	10	10	10	4	5	3	1	3
EE		70	41	15	13	5	9	8	3	4	2	2	1	2
IE		41	33	21	12	17	12	10	10	12	6	2	6	4
EL		41	27	33	29	22	13	8	1	8	2	3	4	3
ES		32	33	31	20	22	6	5	7	6	6	3	5	1
FR		36	35	21	15	20	11	11	9	10	10	5	2	3
HR		43	42	13	17	16	11	13	5	12	2	3	4	4
IT		49	23	23	12	27	3	10	6	8	6	5	9	4
CY		47	35	28	8	29	3	14	3	4	1	1	3	0
LV		57	45	17	13	10	8	6	4	8	2	3	4	2
LT		53	44	14	10	8	8	11	6	12	2	2	5	1
LU		42	39	16	16	20	13	10	11	7	7	3	2	4
HU		65	40	15	14	8	7	11	8	4	4	3	3	4
MT		65	45	10	9	7	5	8	7	5	6	2	1	3
NL		56	33	23	25	8	19	3	11	3	7	1	1	2
AT		39	22	20	22	16	12	10	11	13	10	5	4	6
PL		50	43	15	14	7	8	8	6	9	5	6	4	5
PT		23	23	24	38	22	9	6	2	8	1	3	4	2
RO		36	34	15	14	9	9	16	8	11	8	6	7	5
SI		58	36	16	11	11	9	10	4	3	4	2	3	2
SK		51	40	11	20	10	7	12	5	11	6	4	3	3
FI		38	22	23	31	15	15	8	17	6	7	4	3	3
SE		57	20	25	13	13	18	5	22	2	13	1	1	5
UK		42	26	24	11	13	14	4	7	11	5	2	2	2
1st MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM		2nd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM					3rd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM							

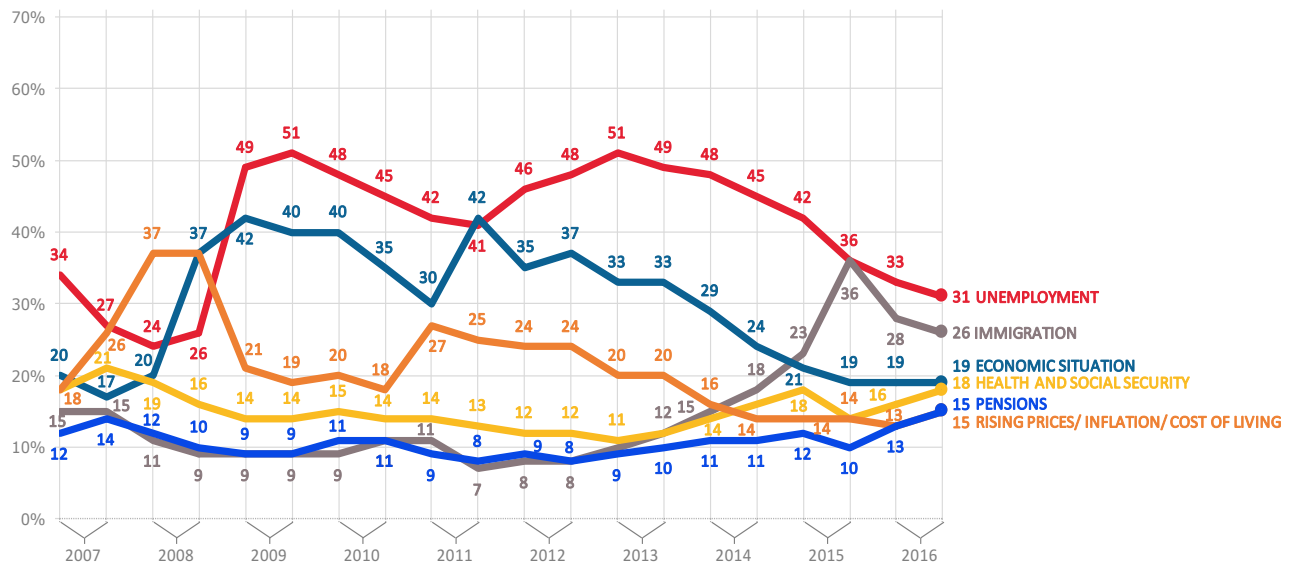
### 3 Main concerns at national level: evolutions

**Unemployment** remains ahead of **migration** in terms of the most important issues at national level. For more than three in ten EU citizens, **unemployment** is the most important issue facing their country (31%, -2 percentage points since spring 2016). Though still in first position, unemployment has lost ground continuously since spring 2013, registering a seventh successive fall. **Immigration** continues to be perceived as the second most important issue at the national level (26%), despite a second consecutive decrease (-2 since spring 2016, -10 since autumn 2015). In third place, mentions of **the economic situation** are stable at 19%, unchanged since spring 2016 and autumn 2015, while **health and social security** (18%, +2) stands in fourth place. **Pensions** (15%, +2) and **rising prices/inflation/cost of living** (15%, +2) share fifth place, while **terrorism**, at 14%, has lost ground for the first time since autumn 2013 (-2 since spring 2016) and is no longer among the top six concerns at national level as it had been since autumn 2015.

**QA3a** What do you think are the two most important issues facing (OUR COUNTRY) at the moment? (MAXIMUM 2 ANSWERS)  
(% - EU)



**QA3a** What do you think are the two most important issues facing (OUR COUNTRY) at the moment? (MAXIMUM 2 ANSWERS)  
(% - EU)



## 4 Main concerns at national level: national results

Mentioned by 31% of respondents at EU level, **unemployment** is in first place in ten countries (down from 11 in spring 2016), with scores above 50% in Spain (66%), Cyprus (62%), Croatia (59%), Portugal (58%), and Greece (55%). Unemployment is mentioned by only 8% of respondents in Germany.

In second position in the EU, with 26% of mentions, **immigration** is in first position in six Member States (down from nine in spring 2016), led by Malta (46%), Germany (45%), and Denmark (41%). Immigration is seen as the second most important national issue in six countries (including Italy, where it reaches 42%).

In third place, mentioned by 19% of respondents in the EU as a whole, **the economic situation** is in equal first position with health and social security in Romania (32%), and in equal first position with unemployment in Bulgaria (30%), but is cited by more than half of respondents in Cyprus (54%), and more than a third in Greece (40%), Spain (34%) and Portugal (34%) – in second position in these four countries.






























**Health and social security** is mentioned by 18% of EU citizens and stands in fourth place, but is the first answer given in six Member States, led by the Netherlands (49%), Latvia (42%) and Estonia (41%).

**Rising prices/inflation/cost of living** is in equal fifth place with **pensions**, cited by 15% of Europeans: it is the most mentioned item in Lithuania (51%) and the Czech Republic (27%).

In seventh place, with 14% of mentions, **terrorism** is mentioned the most in France (31%), Germany (28%) and Belgium (23%). In these three countries, terrorism is the second most cited item. In equal ninth place at EU level with **government debt**, the **education system** is mentioned by 10% of Europeans: it is the third most mentioned item in Sweden (31%) and Luxembourg (21%).

**Housing**, in equal 11th position at EU level along with both the environment, climate change and energy issues and taxation (7% for all three items), remains the leading national issue in Luxembourg (51%) and Ireland (42%). **The environment, climate change and energy issues** is the second most mentioned item in Malta (26%), and the third in Denmark (21%) and the Netherlands (20%); it is also cited by close to a quarter of respondents in Sweden (23%).






























**QA3a** What do you think are the two most important issues facing (OUR COUNTRY) at the moment? (MAXIMUM 2 ANSWERS)  
(%)

		Unemployment	Immigration	Economic situation	Health and social security	Rising prices/ inflation/ cost of living	Pensions	Terrorism	Crime	The education system	Government debt	Housing	The environment, climate and energy issues	Taxation
EU28		31	26	19	18	15	15	14	11	10	10	7	7	7
BE		22	27	12	14	20	16	23	14	6	17	6	9	9
BG		30	29	30	22	26	11	5	14	8	5	1	4	3
CZ		11	25	14	18	27	24	6	17	7	20	4	6	10
DK		18	41	14	27	4	8	13	13	17	5	4	21	6
DE		8	45	4	11	8	22	28	17	15	7	9	11	3
EE		24	19	33	41	18	19	3	3	8	1	1	4	11
IE		24	10	13	29	22	5	2	10	9	9	42	7	8
EL		55	15	40	9	15	11	1	3	3	26	0	0	19
ES		66	8	34	15	8	12	4	6	10	13	4	2	5
FR		49	19	16	6	13	10	31	14	11	9	6	10	5
HR		59	6	28	9	25	10	3	11	4	22	3	2	6
IT		47	42	24	6	9	13	8	11	3	10	3	4	16
CY		62	6	54	11	12	5	3	6	6	9	1	1	4
LV		30	8	22	42	20	21	1	2	9	4	4	1	26
LT		26	15	19	13	51	21	1	6	9	8	3	2	20
LU		19	21	4	8	24	8	6	6	21	5	51	12	4
HU		22	30	25	33	17	16	8	8	11	7	4	3	5
MT		3	46	4	10	25	13	5	19	5	3	8	26	3
NL		15	34	12	49	9	17	18	7	7	1	4	20	2
AT		30	36	16	13	18	11	8	13	16	13	7	8	4
PL		21	11	18	31	27	25	5	4	10	15	7	5	11
PT		58	4	34	11	24	13	2	3	3	24	1	1	12
RO		19	5	32	32	24	16	4	11	13	8	7	7	11
SI		46	14	26	33	6	15	2	6	3	14	2	2	10
SK		34	10	19	33	22	16	5	10	10	11	6	5	7
FI		40	17	26	33	7	9	2	5	12	22	4	13	6
SE		19	35	10	34	3	6	3	10	31	2	14	23	5
UK		15	25	18	27	23	6	15	10	11	8	19	7	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 cost of living** is the main personal issue Europeans are currently facing. The hierarchy of the most important issues Europeans are personally facing has changed little since spring 2016: in first place, **rising prices/inflation/cost of living** is mentioned by 28% of Europeans (+2 percentage points since spring 2016): this is the first increase for this item since spring 2012. This is followed by a group of five items mentioned by between 12% and 16% of Europeans: **health and social security** (16%, +1) is in second position, just ahead of **pensions**, in third place (15%, -1). **The household financial situation** (14%, -1) is in fourth place, while **taxation** (12%, -1) and **unemployment** (12%, -2) share fifth place. 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? (MAXIMUM 2 ANSWERS)  
(%)

		Rising prices/ inflation/ cost of living	Health and social security	Pensions	The financial situation of your household	Unemployment	Taxation	The education system	Living conditions	The economic situation in (OUR COUNTRY)	Working conditions	The environment, climate and energy issues	Immigration	Crime	Housing	Terrorism
EU28		28	16	15	14	12	12	9	9	9	9	7	6	6	6	5
BE		37	11	14	13	8	15	7	7	9	7	10	9	10	7	9
BG		30	20	21	24	11	5	7	17	12	9	3	5	5	2	2
CZ		41	16	17	19	5	6	6	9	4	10	4	4	5	9	2
DK		10	15	10	10	9	5	14	5	7	8	9	11	7	6	6
DE		19	13	16	9	7	7	13	7	3	5	7	9	9	6	5
EE		24	31	22	20	9	10	9	8	12	8	3	5	1	4	2
IE		37	22	9	12	12	13	11	5	12	6	6	3	8	11	2
EL		30	11	20	33	23	27	6	9	19	6	1	3	3	1	1
ES		25	15	18	14	27	14	12	10	13	14	3	2	3	5	2
FR		33	8	14	15	15	15	7	8	8	9	10	3	11	5	9
HR		33	13	15	27	15	6	5	15	15	9	2	2	3	5	2
IT		23	11	10	12	18	26	4	9	10	13	5	15	8	2	5
CY		21	15	6	37	26	3	10	9	19	7	1	2	2	4	1
LV		35	35	19	14	11	18	7	7	14	6	1	2	1	7	1
LT		63	13	22	11	10	23	5	6	9	6	1	3	2	6	0
LU		27	5	6	10	6	10	15	8	5	7	13	5	8	18	4
HU		27	25	22	21	11	7	9	13	10	13	3	8	5	6	3
MT		31	13	16	9	3	7	8	4	3	9	15	11	9	5	4
NL		14	35	20	14	7	6	23	5	9	9	21	3	3	5	4
AT		31	17	13	10	7	6	11	15	6	11	8	9	8	7	4
PL		30	19	18	18	9	8	7	15	6	12	4	4	2	4	3
PT		45	13	16	13	15	24	4	11	8	12	2	2	1	3	1
RO		31	24	19	17	8	10	9	21	14	11	4	3	4	5	3
SI		19	17	20	13	12	10	7	16	8	11	5	3	1	6	1
SK		34	20	13	19	9	5	7	7	11	11	5	3	3	9	2
FI		13	37	17	21	12	8	13	8	17	9	17	5	4	9	2
SE		6	42	18	12	6	4	19	11	9	6	24	12	7	14	2
UK		36	18	12	12	8	6	10	4	13	5	6	6	5	10	5
1st MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM		2nd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM					3rd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM									



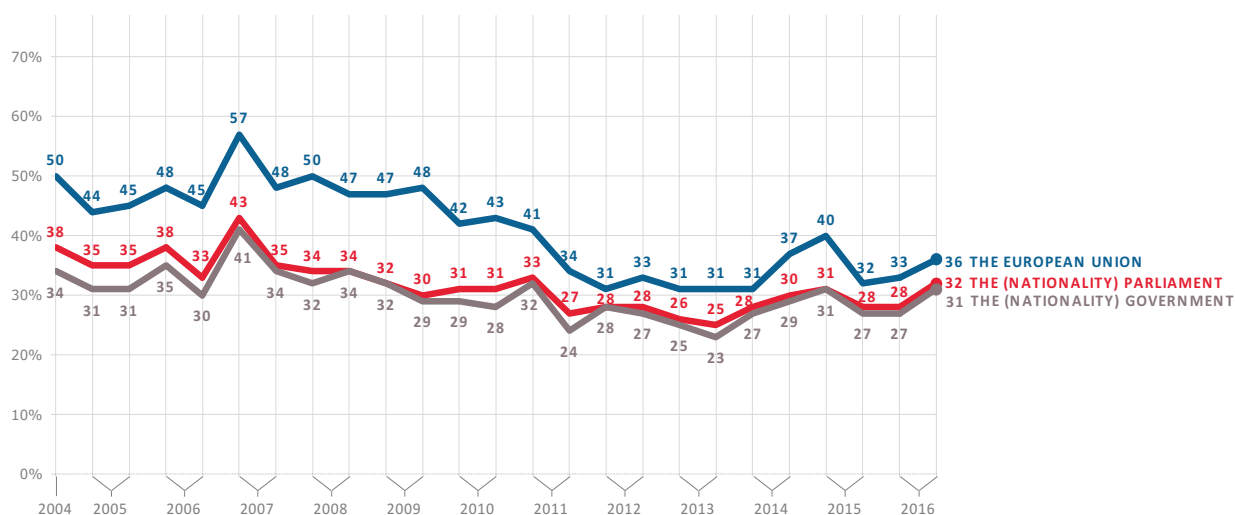
## II. EUROPEANS AND POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS

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

Overall, 36% of Europeans trust the European Union, slightly more than the proportion who trust their national parliament (32%) and their national government (31%). Trust in these institutions has improved since spring 2016, with increases of three percentage points for the European Union, and four percentage points for both national parliament and national government. While trust in the national government and parliament has reached its highest levels since spring 2011 (equal to the 31% of spring 2015 for the national government), the proportion of citizens who tend to trust the European Union is still lower than the 40% achieved in spring 2015. However, at 36%, trust in the European Union has reached its best level since autumn 2011, with the exception of the autumn 2014 (37%) and spring 2015 (40%) surveys<sup>6</sup>.

A majority of Europeans distrust the national parliament (62% “tend not to trust”, -3 percentage points since spring 2016) and the national government (64%, -4). They also “tend not to trust” the European Union but with a lower score (54%, -1).

**QA8a** I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain media and institutions. For each of the following media and institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.  
(% - EU - TEND TO TRUST)

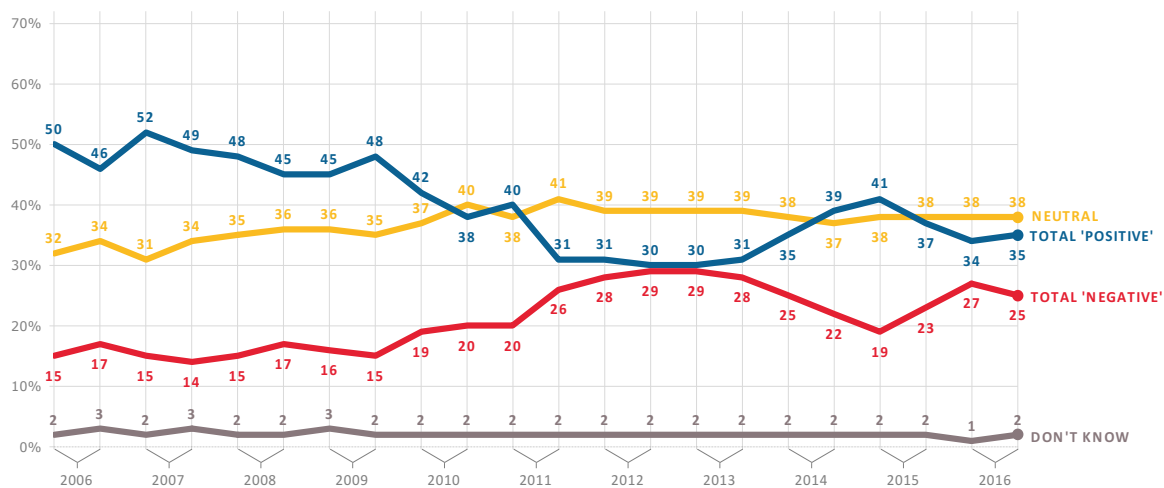


<sup>6</sup> Standard Eurobarometer surveys 82 and 83.

## 2 The image of the European Union: trend

A majority of Europeans have a **neutral image** of the EU, with a result which remains unchanged for the third successive time (38%, unchanged since spring 2015). After a 1-point increase, more than a third of Europeans (35%) have a **positive image** of the EU. While this proportion decreased between spring 2015 and spring 2016 (-7 percentage points, from 41% in spring 2015 down to 34% in spring 2016), the negative trend has now halted. Meanwhile, the proportion of Europeans who have a **negative image** of the EU has lost ground (-2 since spring 2016, at 25%) but still represents one European in four.

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

In 20 Member States, a majority of citizens have a **neutral image** of the EU (up from 17 in spring 2016), with the highest scores registered in Spain (51%) and Latvia (50%).






In seven countries, a **positive image** of the EU is predominant: Ireland (55%), Poland (51%), Romania (50%), Bulgaria (49%), Portugal (48%), Luxembourg (47%), but also the United Kingdom (34%).

Respondents in Greece stand out, being now the only ones for whom the EU conjures up a **negative image** (47%), as in spring 2016.

The EU now has a neutral image for a majority of respondents in France (39%) and in Belgium (38%), where it was seen in a predominantly positive light in spring 2016, and in Austria (36%) and Cyprus (38%), where the majority were negative in spring 2016. Conversely, a majority of respondents have a positive image of the EU in Romania (50%), where the majority were neutral in spring 2016, and in the United Kingdom (34%), where the majority were negative in spring 2016.

Compared with spring 2016, more respondents now have a positive image of the EU in 15 Member States, with the most significant increases in Romania (50%, +8 percentage points, following the 15-point decrease seen between autumn 2015 and spring 2016) and Germany (37%, +8). The positive image has remained unchanged in four countries, and has lost ground in nine, most strikingly in France (29%, -7).

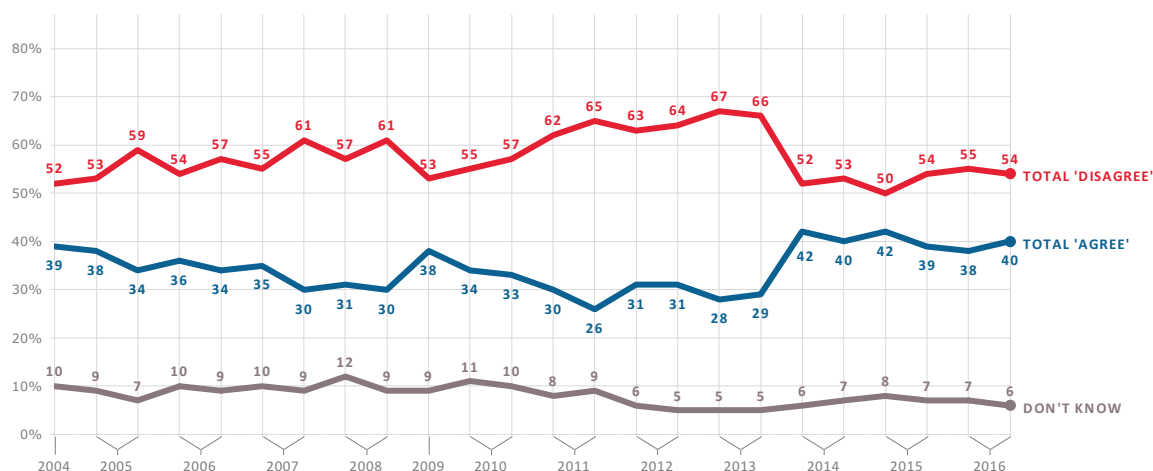
**QA9** In general, does the EU conjure up for you a very positive, fairly positive, neutral, fairly negative or very negative image?  
(%)

		Total 'Positive'	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Neutral	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Total 'Negative'	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Don't know
EU28		35	▲ 1	38	=	25	▼ 2	2
BE		35	=	38	▲ 5	27	▼ 4	0
BG		49	▼ 2	33	▲ 3	16	▼ 1	2
CZ		28	▲ 2	39	▼ 1	32	▼ 2	1
DK		32	▼ 2	43	▲ 1	23	=	2
DE		37	▲ 8	41	=	21	▼ 8	1
EE		35	▲ 2	49	▲ 2	14	▼ 3	2
IE		55	▼ 3	31	▲ 4	13	▼ 1	1
EL		17	▲ 1	36	▲ 3	47	▼ 4	0
ES		29	▼ 1	51	▲ 7	19	▼ 4	1
FR		29	▼ 7	39	▲ 6	31	▲ 2	1
HR		35	▼ 2	46	▲ 3	18	▼ 1	1
IT		32	=	33	▼ 5	30	▲ 3	5
CY		26	▼ 1	38	▲ 6	35	▼ 6	1
LV		33	▲ 2	50	▲ 1	16	▼ 2	1
LT		44	▲ 1	48	▲ 1	7	▼ 2	1
LU		47	▲ 2	34	▲ 2	19	▼ 3	0
HU		37	▲ 4	45	▲ 4	18	▼ 7	0
MT		42	▲ 1	48	▲ 5	7	▼ 6	3
NL		33	=	39	▲ 1	28	▼ 1	0
AT		28	▼ 4	36	▲ 6	35	▼ 2	1
PL		51	▲ 4	37	=	10	▼ 5	2
PT		48	▲ 7	34	▼ 5	16	▼ 2	2
RO		50	▲ 8	36	▼ 7	13	▼ 1	1
SI		35	▲ 3	45	▼ 1	19	▼ 1	1
SK		34	▲ 4	45	▲ 2	20	▼ 6	1
FI		33	=	46	▲ 2	20	▼ 2	1
SE		35	▼ 1	37	▼ 1	28	▲ 2	0
UK		34	▲ 3	30	▼ 1	32	▼ 4	4

## 4 My voice counts in the European Union: trend and national results

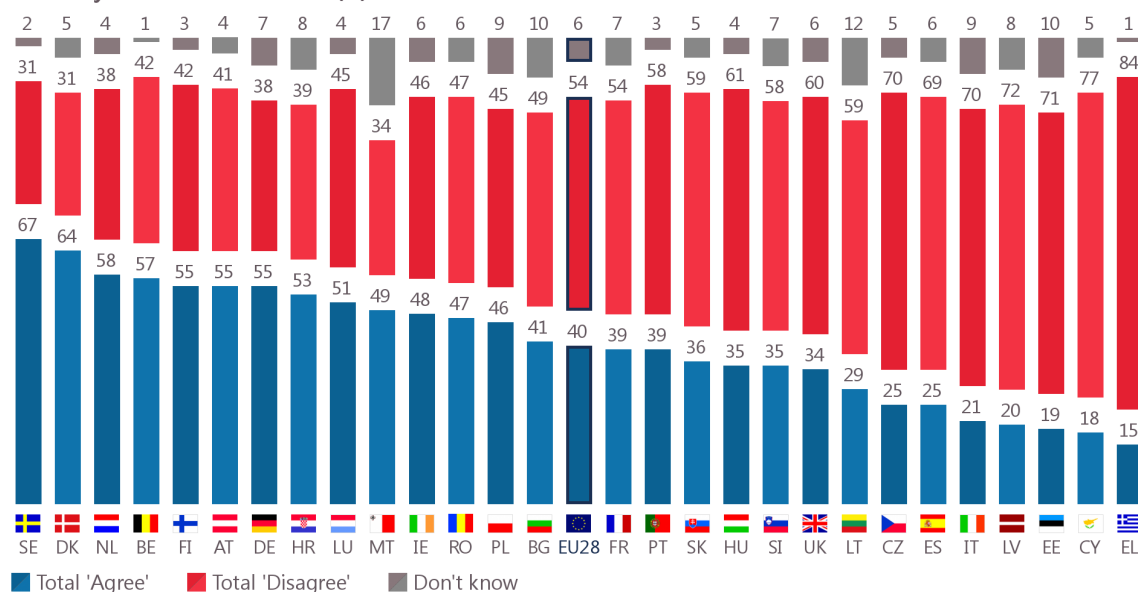
Four in ten EU citizens agree that their **"voice counts in the EU"** (40%, +2 percentage points since spring 2016), while 54% disagree with this statement (-1). This is the second highest level reached for this indicator since autumn 2004, just below the 42% recorded in spring 2014 and spring 2015, and equal to the 40% of autumn 2014.

**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)



In 12 Member States, a majority of respondents agree that their voice counts in the European Union (up from ten in spring 2016), with the highest proportions in Sweden (67%), Denmark (64%), the Netherlands (58%), Belgium (57%), and Finland, Austria and Germany (all 55%).

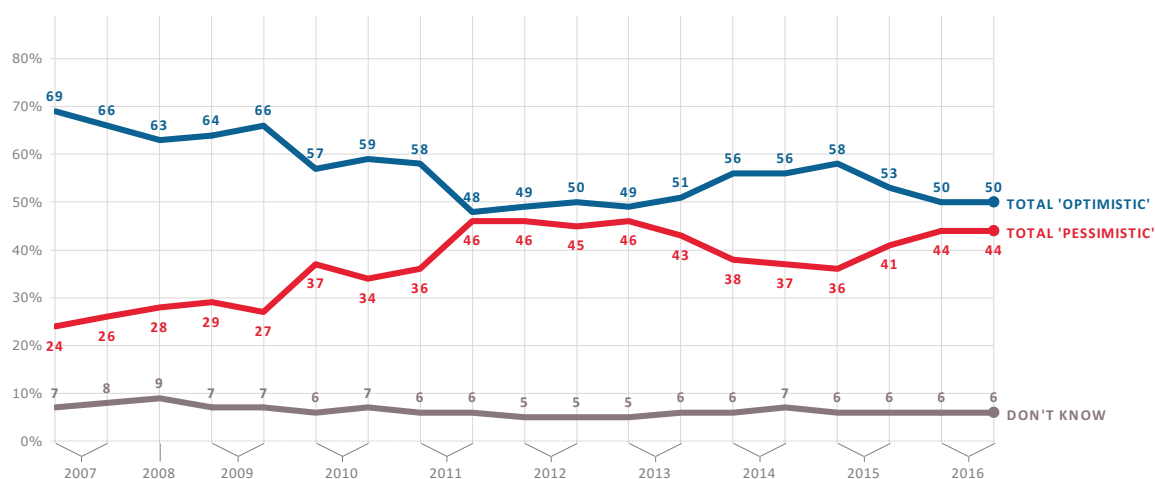
**D72.1** Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.  
My voice counts in the EU (%)



## 5 The future of the European Union: trend

As in spring 2016, half of Europeans say they are optimistic about the future of the EU (50%, unchanged since spring 2016); 44% (unchanged) are pessimistic, and 6% answer that they 'don't know'. The index of optimism<sup>7</sup> remained unchanged since spring 2016 (at +6), after having lost ground between spring 2015 and autumn 2015 (from +22 down to +12), and between autumn 2015 and spring 2016 (from +12 to +6).

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



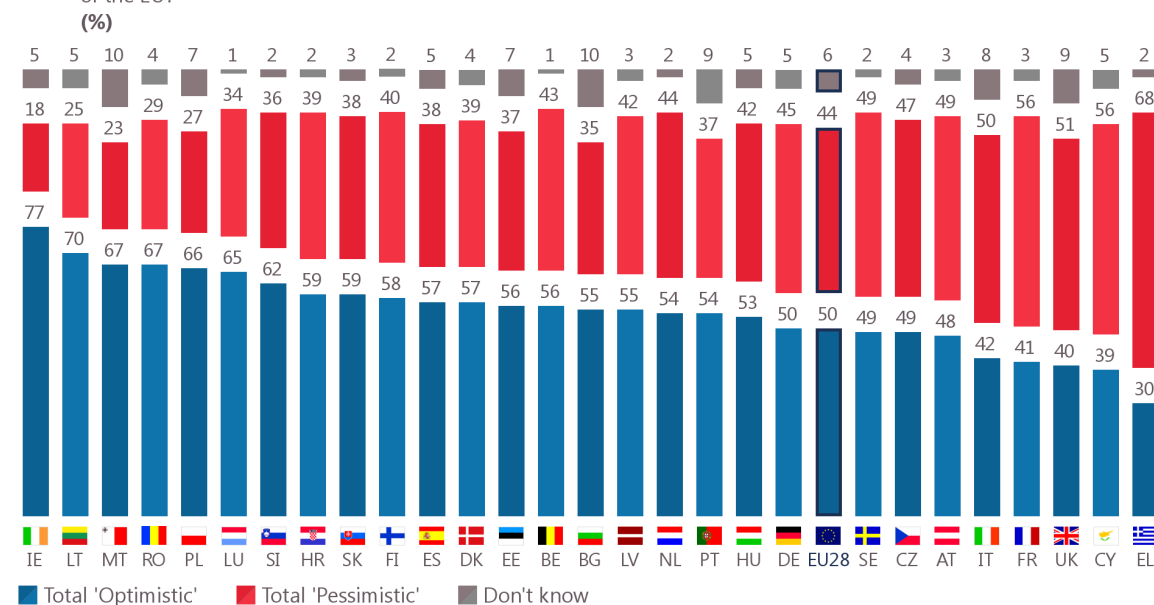
<sup>7</sup> Difference between the answers "optimistic" and "pessimistic".

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






























**Optimism for the future of the European Union** is predominant in 21 Member States (as in spring 2016); conversely, pessimism is the majority view in six countries, whereas respondents in Sweden are evenly divided (49% 'optimistic' vs. 49% 'pessimistic'). Optimism for the future of the EU is most pronounced in Ireland (77%), Lithuania (70%), Malta (67%) and Romania (67%). At the other end of the scale, at least 50% of respondents are pessimistic for the future of the EU in Greece (68%), France (56%), Cyprus (56%), the United Kingdom (51%) and Italy (50%). In Austria, pessimism is predominant, but opinions are fairly evenly divided (49% vs. 48% 'optimistic').

Stability at EU level conceals some evolutions nationally: since spring 2016, optimism has grown in 11 countries, most strikingly in Hungary (53%, +9 percentage points) and in Germany (50%, +8); as a consequence of these increases, optimism is now predominant in these two countries, and also in the Czech Republic.

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



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

		Total 'Optimistic'	Aut. 2016 - Sp. 2016	Total 'Pessimistic'	Aut. 2016 - Sp. 2016	Don't know
EU28		50	=	44	=	6
EURO AREA		49	▲ 1	46	=	5
NON-EURO AREA		53	▼ 1	40	▲ 1	7
BE		56	▲ 2	43	▼ 1	1
BG		55	▼ 3	35	▲ 3	10
CZ		49	▲ 1	47	▼ 3	4
DK		57	▼ 4	39	▲ 3	4
DE		50	▲ 8	45	▼ 6	5
EE		56	▲ 5	37	▼ 4	7
IE		77	=	18	=	5
EL		30	▲ 2	68	▼ 2	2
ES		57	=	38	▲ 2	5
FR		41	▼ 3	56	▲ 5	3
HR		59	▼ 6	39	▲ 9	2
IT		42	▼ 7	50	▲ 6	8
CY		39	▼ 1	56	▲ 2	5
LV		55	▼ 1	42	▲ 2	3
LT		70	▲ 4	25	▼ 3	5
LU		65	▲ 3	34	▼ 1	1
HU		53	▲ 9	42	▼ 10	5
MT		67	=	23	▼ 2	10
NL		54	▼ 3	44	▲ 2	2
AT		48	▼ 2	49	▲ 3	3
PL		66	▲ 3	27	▼ 2	7
PT		54	▼ 2	37	=	9
RO		67	▼ 3	29	▲ 3	4
SI		62	▲ 7	36	▼ 5	2
SK		59	▲ 5	38	▼ 4	3
FI		58	▼ 2	40	▲ 2	2
SE		49	▼ 6	49	▲ 5	2
UK		40	▼ 4	51	▲ 5	9



### III. THE ECONOMIC SITUATION

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

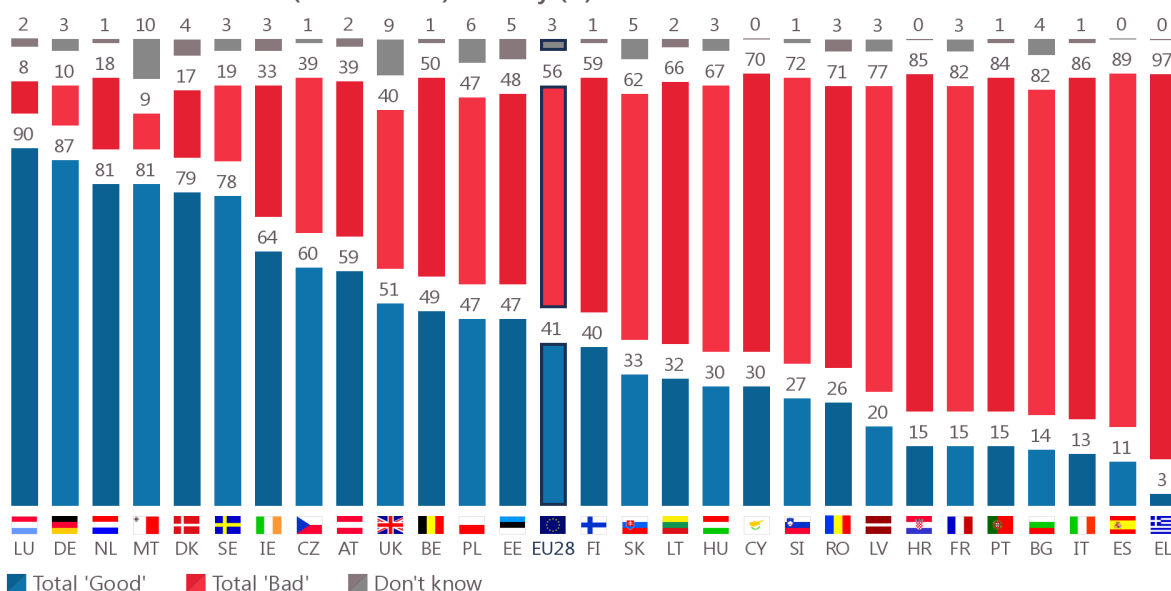
More than four in ten Europeans say that the **current situation of their national economy** is 'good' (41%, +2 percentage point since spring 2016); conversely, 56% describe it as 'bad' (-1), while 3% (-1) answer that they 'don't know'. This is the first time since autumn 2007 that the proportion of 'good' answers has exceeded 40% at EU level.

The gap between countries has continued to widen: 87 points now separate Luxembourg, where 90% of the population say that the situation of their national economy is good (+2 percentage points since spring 2016), from Greece, where 3% do so (unchanged since spring 2016). In ten Member States, majorities of respondents say that the national economic situation is good (down from 11 in spring 2016), with more than three-quarters holding this view in Luxembourg (90%), Germany (87%), Malta (81%), the Netherlands (81%), Denmark (79%) and Sweden (78%). The lowest proportions of positive answers are recorded in Greece (3%), Spain (11%) and Italy (13%).






























Since spring 2016, positive assessments of the national economy have become more widespread in 21 Member States, with double-digit increases in Finland (40%, +13 percentage points), Belgium (49%, +12), Ireland (64%, +11) and the Czech Republic (60%, +10).

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'	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Total 'Bad'	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Don't know
EU28		41	▲ 2	56	▼ 1	3
EURO AREA		38	▲ 2	60	▼ 2	2
NON-EURO AREA		47	▲ 3	47	▼ 3	6
BE		49	▲ 12	50	▼ 11	1
BG		14	▲ 1	82	▼ 1	4
CZ		60	▲ 10	39	▼ 8	1
DK		79	▲ 2	17	▼ 2	4
DE		87	▲ 4	10	▼ 4	3
EE		47	▼ 1	48	▲ 2	5
IE		64	▲ 11	33	▼ 10	3
EL		3	=	97	=	0
ES		11	▲ 3	89	▼ 2	0
FR		15	▲ 4	82	▼ 3	3
HR		15	▼ 1	85	▲ 2	0
IT		13	▼ 2	86	▲ 2	1
CY		30	▲ 6	70	▼ 4	0
LV		20	▼ 2	77	▲ 3	3
LT		32	▲ 5	66	▼ 5	2
LU		90	▲ 2	8	=	2
HU		30	▲ 3	67	▼ 5	3
MT		81	▲ 1	9	▼ 2	10
NL		81	▲ 3	18	▼ 2	1
AT		59	=	39	=	2
PL		47	▲ 3	47	▼ 1	6
PT		15	▲ 5	84	▼ 5	1
RO		26	▲ 6	71	▼ 7	3
SI		27	▲ 9	72	▼ 8	1
SK		33	▲ 4	62	▼ 3	5
FI		40	▲ 13	59	▼ 13	1
SE		78	▲ 2	19	▼ 2	3
UK		51	▼ 2	40	▲ 2	9

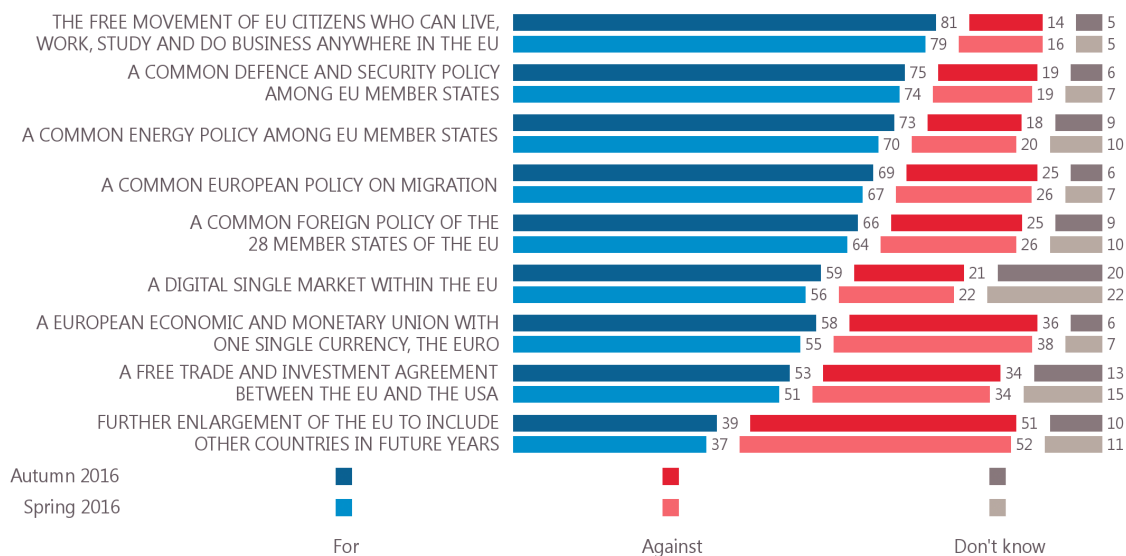
## IV. EUROPEAN UNION'S POLITICAL PRIORITIES

### 1 Overview

**Majorities of Europeans are in favour of most of the priorities and policies tested in the survey.** Moreover, support for all the policies tested has increased since spring 2016.

More than eight in ten Europeans support “the free movement of EU citizens who can live, work, study and do business anywhere in the EU” (81%, +2 percentage points since spring 2016)<sup>8</sup>. Around three-quarters of Europeans also support “a common defence and security policy among EU Member States” (75%, +1) and “a common energy policy among EU Member States” (73%, +3). Close to seven Europeans in ten say that they are for “a common European policy on migration” (69%, +2) and “a common foreign policy of the 28 Member States of the EU” (66%, +2). Close to 60% of Europeans are in favour of “a digital single market within the EU” (59%, +3) and “a European economic and monetary union with one single currency, the euro” (58%, +3), while above half of respondents support “a free trade and investment agreement between the EU and the USA” (53%, +2). The three policies that spark the most opposition (from more than a third of respondents) are the free trade agreement between the EU and the USA (34% “against”, unchanged), the euro (36%, -2 percentage points since spring 2016) and further enlargement (51%, -1).

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



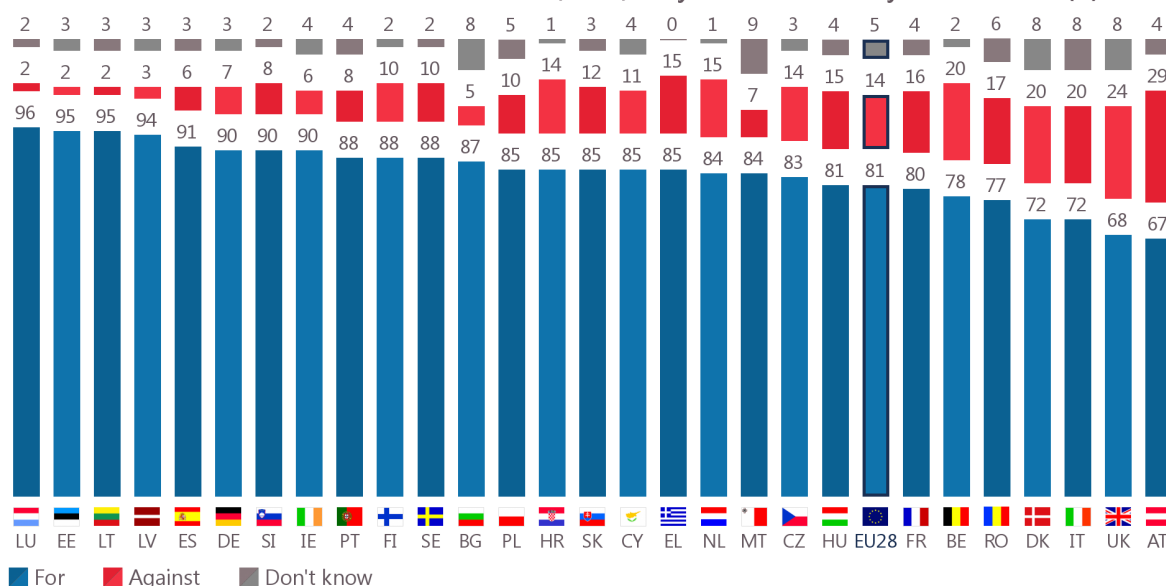
<sup>8</sup> Support for “the free movement of EU citizens who can live, work, study and do business anywhere in the EU”, “a European economic and monetary union with one single currency, the euro” and “a common European policy on migration” will be analysed in more detail later in this section.

## 2 Internal Market: free movement

More than eight in ten EU citizens are in favour of **“the free movement of EU citizens who can live, work, study and do business anywhere in the EU”** (81%, +2 percentage points), and this opinion is shared by more than two-thirds of respondents in all 28 EU Member States. In Luxembourg (96%), Estonia (95%), Lithuania (95%), Latvia (94%), Spain (91%), and Germany, Slovenia and Ireland (all 90%), at least nine in ten respondents support “the free movement of EU citizens who can live, work, study and do business anywhere in the EU”, while at the other end of the scale, support is somewhat less widespread in Austria (67%), the United Kingdom (68%), and Italy and Denmark (both 72%). Opposition to the free movement of EU citizens is strongest in Austria (29%), the United Kingdom (24%), and Italy, Denmark and Belgium (all 20%).

**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 (%)**



### 3 Support for the euro

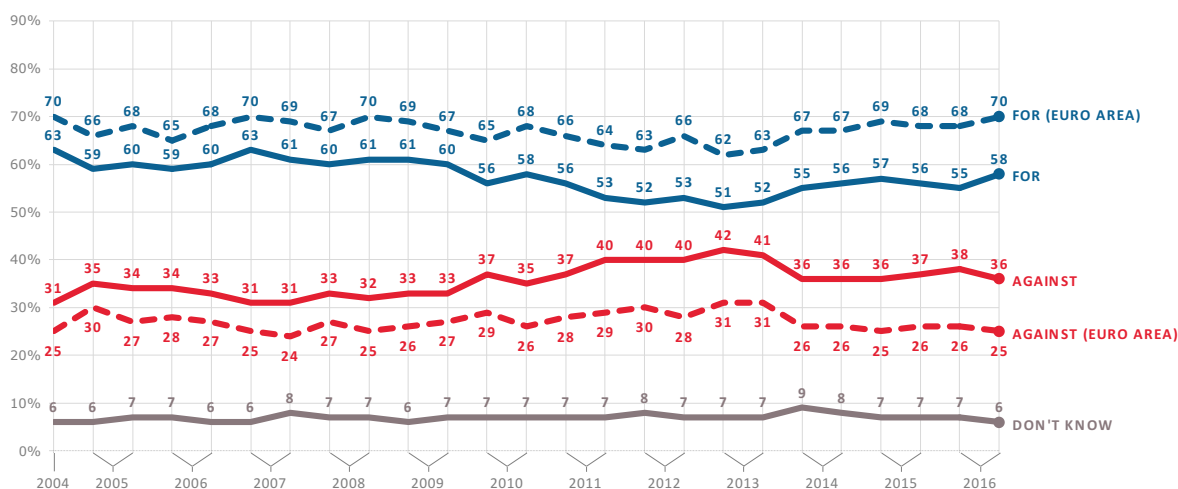
#### Support for the European economic and monetary union with one single currency, the euro: trend

Close to six in ten Europeans are in favour of “a European economic and monetary union with one single currency, the euro” (58% “for”, +3 percentage points since spring 2016), whereas 36% say they are against (-2). At +22, the index<sup>9</sup> of support for the euro has reached its highest level since autumn 2010, when it stood at +23.

**In the euro area, seven in ten respondents support the euro** (70%, +2 percentage points, vs. 25%, -1), equalling the record highs reached in autumn 2004, spring 2007 and autumn 2008. However, outside the euro area, a majority of respondents are opposed to the single currency (59% “against”, -2, vs. 33% “for”, +2).

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)



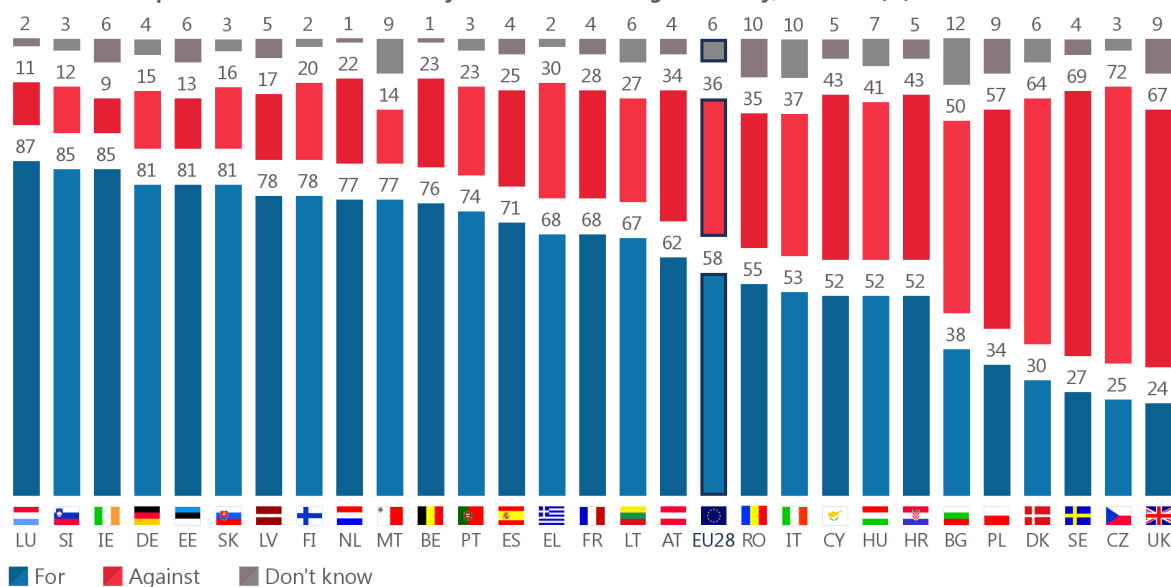
<sup>9</sup> Difference between the answers “for” and “against”.

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

**More than half of respondents support “a European economic and monetary union with one single currency, the euro” in 22 Member States** (as in spring 2016 and autumn 2015). This opinion is shared by majorities of respondents in all euro area countries, led by Luxembourg (87%), Ireland (85%), Slovenia (85%), and Estonia, Germany and Slovakia (81% in all three). Majorities of respondents are in favour of the euro in three countries outside the euro area: Romania (55% vs. 35%), Hungary (52% vs. 41%) and Croatia (52% vs. 43%). However, the six countries where a majority of respondents oppose the euro are all located outside the euro area: the Czech Republic (72% “against”), Sweden (69%), the United Kingdom (67%), Denmark (64%), Poland (57%) and Bulgaria (50%).

**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 (%)



## 4 Migration

### Support for a common European policy on migration

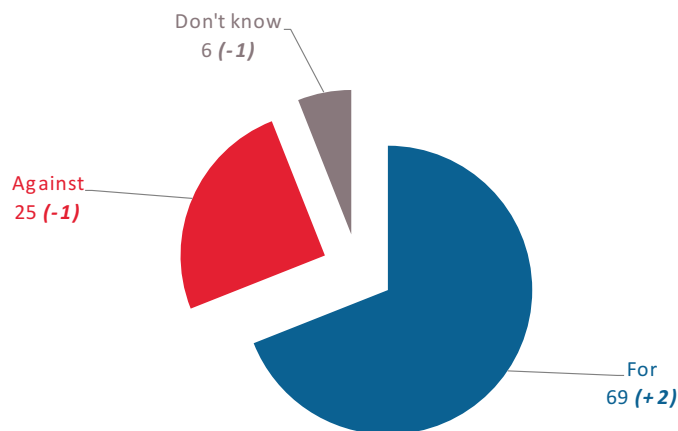
**Close to seven in ten EU citizens support “a common European policy on migration”** (69%, +2 percentage points since spring 2016), while a quarter are “against” (25%, -1), and 6% “don’t know” (-1). While overall support has decreased since spring 2015 (from 73% in spring 2015 down to 67% in spring 2016), this downward trend has now been halted.

More than half the respondents support “a common European policy on migration” in 26 Member States (as in spring 2016), led by Luxembourg (85% “for”), Germany (85%), the Netherlands (83%) and Spain (82%). In Estonia, respondents are evenly divided (45% vs. 45%), while the Czech Republic is now the only country where a majority of respondents oppose a common European policy on migration (55% “against” vs. 41%).

Since spring 2016, the proportion of respondents in favour of “a common European policy on migration” has increased in 18 Member States (up from 11 in spring 2016), most strikingly in Poland (56%, +8 percentage points), Germany (85%, +6), Slovenia (69%, +6), Finland (59%, +6) and the United Kingdom (56%, +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)**



(Autumn 2016 - Spring 2016)

## Does immigration evokes positive or negative feelings?

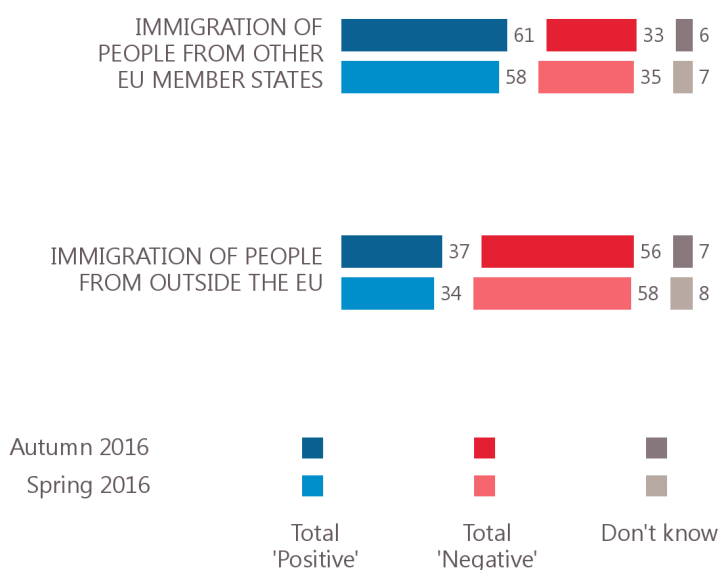
**The immigration of people from other EU Member States** continues to evoke a positive feeling for a large majority of Europeans (61%), after a 3-point increase since spring 2016. This response has gained ten percentage points since spring 2015 (from 51% up to 61%), and has now reached a record high. However, it evokes a negative feeling for a third of EU citizens (33%, -2 percentage points since spring 2016, -8 since autumn 2014). Meanwhile, the **immigration of people from outside the EU** evokes a negative feeling for a majority of Europeans (56%, -2), but the proportion of respondents who see immigration from outside the EU in a positive light continues to grow (37%, +3 percentage points since spring 2016), reaching its highest level since autumn 2014, when the question was first asked.

Majorities of respondents have positive feelings about the **immigration of people from other EU Member States** in 24 Member States (up from 23 in spring 2016), most strikingly in Sweden (83% 'positive'), Luxembourg (82%), and Ireland (81%). Negative feelings are predominant in Cyprus (54% 'negative'), Italy (51%), the Czech Republic (51%) and Latvia (49% vs. 46% 'positive').

The proportion of respondents with positive feelings about the **immigration of people from other EU Member States** has gained ground in 21 countries since spring 2016, in particular in Germany (71%, +9 percentage points), the United Kingdom (58%, +9) and Slovakia (54%, +9).

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






























Majorities of respondents have a negative feeling about the **immigration of people from outside the EU** in 22 Member States (down from 24 in spring 2016), led by Latvia (83%), the Czech Republic (82%), Estonia (81%) and Hungary (81%). At the other end of the scale, in Sweden (64%), Ireland (57%), Spain (52%) and Luxembourg (49% vs. 46% 'negative'), majorities of respondents have positive feelings, as was the case in spring 2016. In this survey, this is now also the case in the United Kingdom (49% vs. 43%) and Portugal (48% vs. 44%).



Since spring 2016, negative opinions about the **immigration of people from outside the EU** have declined in 16 countries, most steeply in the United Kingdom (43%, -10 percentage points).



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

		Immigration of people from other EU Member States					Immigration of people from outside the EU				
		Total 'Positive'	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Total 'Negative'	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Don't know	Total 'Positive'	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Total 'Negative'	Aut.2016 - Sp.2016	Don't know
EU28		61	▲ 3	33	▼ 2	6	37	▲ 3	56	▼ 2	7
EURO AREA		61	▲ 3	33	▼ 2	6	37	▲ 1	56	=	7
NON-EURO AREA		62	▲ 7	32	▼ 5	6	37	▲ 5	56	▼ 4	7
BE		60	▲ 3	39	▼ 2	1	39	▼ 1	59	▲ 1	2
BG		61	=	28	▲ 1	11	15	▼ 3	77	▲ 5	8
CZ		45	▲ 1	51	▲ 2	4	14	▼ 3	82	▲ 5	4
DK		62	▼ 1	31	=	7	31	▲ 1	63	=	6
DE		71	▲ 9	23	▼ 9	6	40	▲ 5	53	▼ 5	7
EE		69	▲ 5	26	▼ 2	5	14	▼ 1	81	▲ 4	5
IE		81	▲ 4	16	▼ 3	3	57	▲ 4	38	▼ 4	5
EL		61	▲ 6	36	▼ 7	3	27	▲ 3	70	▼ 3	3
ES		69	=	22	=	9	52	▲ 2	36	▼ 3	12
FR		55	▼ 1	39	▲ 3	6	35	▲ 1	57	=	8
HR		66	▲ 2	28	▲ 3	6	41	▼ 1	53	▲ 8	6
IT		42	▼ 3	51	▲ 5	7	24	▼ 3	69	▲ 4	7
CY		43	▲ 4	54	▼ 4	3	22	▲ 1	75	▲ 1	3
LV		46	=	49	▼ 2	5	14	▲ 3	83	▼ 3	3
LT		72	▲ 2	25	▼ 1	3	26	▲ 2	71	▼ 1	3
LU		82	▲ 1	14	▼ 2	4	49	▼ 4	46	▲ 6	5
HU		57	▲ 3	38	▼ 5	5	15	▲ 1	81	▼ 2	4
MT		60	▲ 5	33	▼ 3	7	23	▲ 3	69	▼ 2	8
NL		66	▲ 3	31	▼ 1	3	44	▲ 1	53	▲ 2	3
AT		62	▲ 2	31	▼ 2	7	36	▲ 1	56	▼ 2	8
PL		69	▲ 7	25	▼ 3	6	28	▲ 4	64	▼ 1	8
PT		68	▲ 2	25	▼ 2	7	48	▲ 3	44	▼ 2	8
RO		57	▲ 6	37	▼ 2	6	35	▲ 8	59	▼ 5	6
SI		68	▲ 7	28	▼ 7	4	28	=	68	=	4
SK		54	▲ 9	42	▼ 7	4	17	▲ 6	79	▼ 5	4
FI		76	▼ 1	22	▲ 2	2	38	▲ 3	59	▼ 2	3
SE		83	▲ 5	16	▼ 4	1	64	▲ 2	34	▼ 2	2
UK		58	▲ 9	35	▼ 10	7	49	▲ 8	43	▼ 10	8

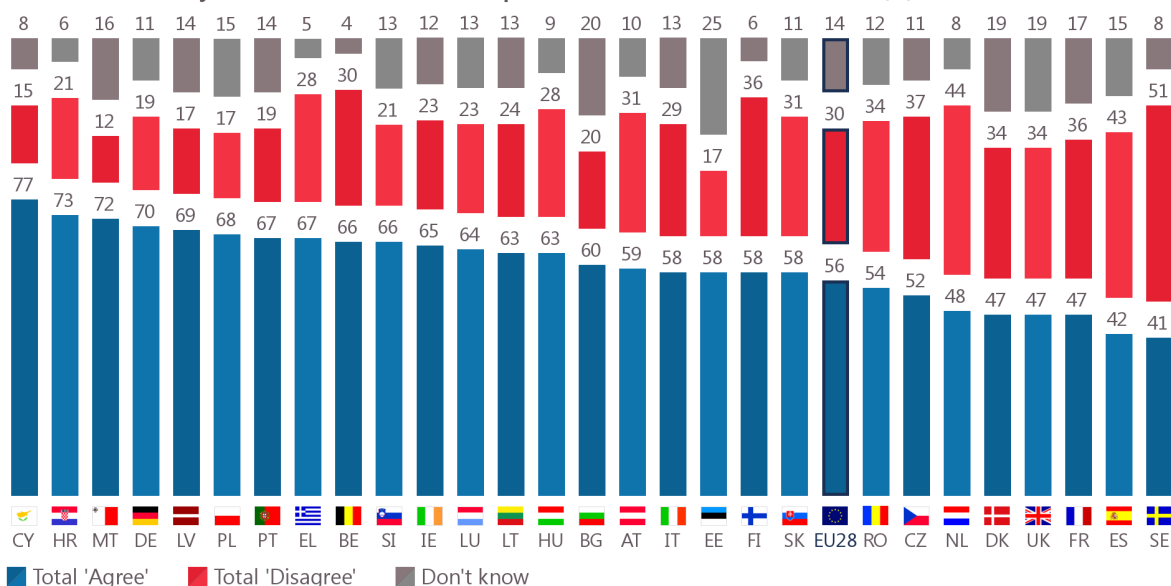
## 5 Stimulating investment

**Overall, 56% of Europeans agree that “public money should be used to stimulate private sector investment at EU level”** (unchanged since spring 2016); three in ten disagree (30%, +1), and 14% say that they “don’t know” (-1).

Majorities of respondents agree with this statement in 26 Member States (up from 25 in spring 2016), with more than three-quarters sharing this opinion in Cyprus (77%), and more than two-thirds in Croatia (73%), Malta (72%), Germany (70%), Latvia (69%), Poland (68%), and Portugal and Greece (both 67%). At the other end of the scale, a majority of respondents disagree that public money should be used to stimulate private sector investment at EU level in Sweden (51% ‘disagree’ vs. 41% ‘agree’ vs. 8% ‘don’t know’) while, in Spain, public opinion is more evenly divided (43% ‘disagree’ vs. 42% ‘agree’ and 15% do not know).

**QC2.5** 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 (%)**



## V. EUROPEAN CITIZENSHIP

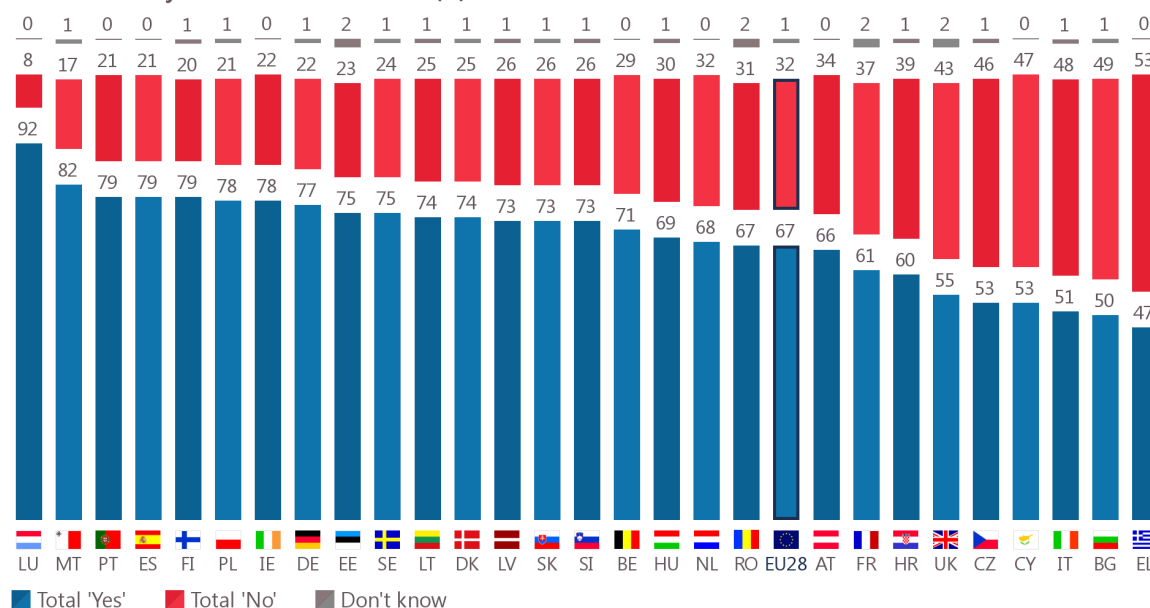
### 1 Feeling like a citizen of the European Union: national results

**Two-thirds of Europeans feel that they are citizens of the EU** (67%, +1 percentage point since spring 2016): this is the highest level ever reached on this indicator (equal with spring 2015). Conversely, less than a third do not feel this way (32%, -1).

At least half of respondents feel they are citizens of the EU in 27 Member States, and more than three-quarters of citizens hold this view in Luxembourg (92%), Malta (82%), Portugal (79%), Spain (79%), Finland (79%), Poland (78%), Ireland (78%), Germany (77%), Estonia (75%), Sweden (75%), Lithuania (74%), Denmark (74%), Latvia (73%), Slovakia (73%), Slovenia (73%), Belgium (71%), Hungary (69%), Netherlands (68%), Romania (67%), Bulgaria (67%), Austria (66%), France (61%), Croatia (60%), United Kingdom (55%), Czechia (53%), Cyprus (53%), Italy (51%), Greece (50%) and Greece (47%).

As in spring 2016, Greece is the only country where a majority of people do not feel they are citizens of the EU (53% 'no' vs. 47%).

**QD2.1** 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 (%)**

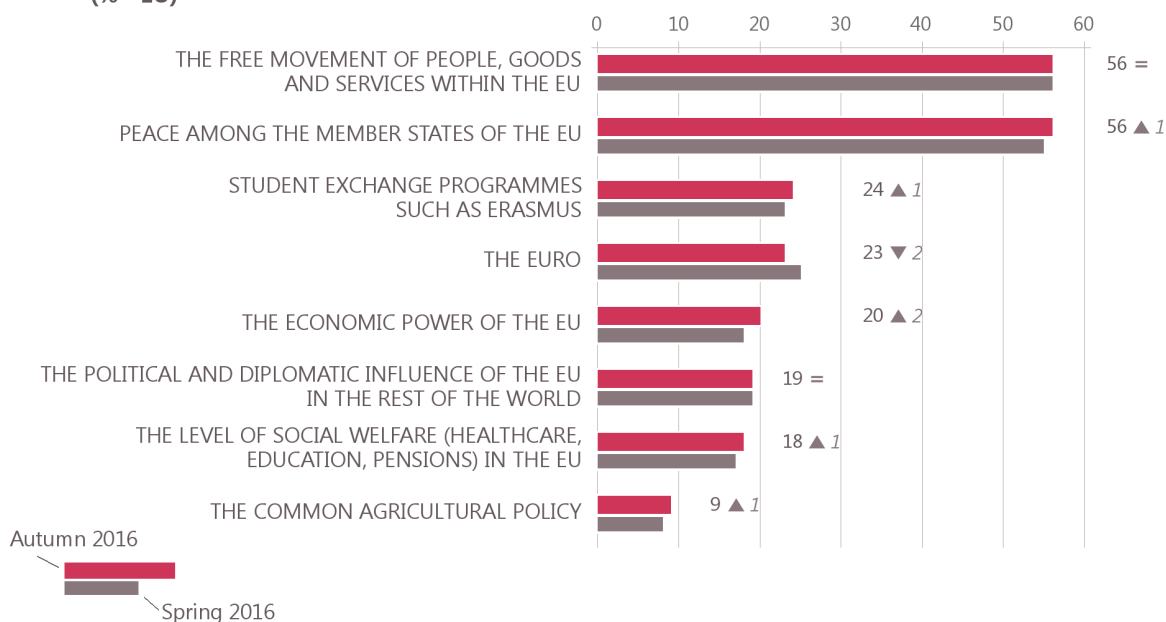


## 2 Most positive results of the European Union: evolutions

“The **free movement** of people, goods and services within the EU” (56% of total answers, unchanged since spring 2016) and “**peace** among the Member States of the EU” (56%, +1 percentage point) continue to be seen by far as the two most positive results of the EU.

Three items are then mentioned by between a fifth and a quarter of respondents: “student exchange programmes such as ERASMUS” (24%, +1 percentage point since spring 2016) is in third position, replacing “the euro” (23%, -2), which falls one place. “The economic power of the EU” (20%, +2) is now in fifth place. In sixth position, “the political and diplomatic influence of the EU in the rest of the world” is mentioned by 19% of Europeans (unchanged), just above “the level of social welfare (healthcare, education, pensions) in the EU” (18%, +1), in seventh. Finally, “the Common Agricultural Policy” is mentioned by 9% of Europeans (+1). Unsurprisingly, “the euro” is mentioned more often in the euro area (30%, -2, in third place), whereas it is the least cited item outside the euro area (9%, -2).

**QD4T** Which of the following do you think is the most positive result of the EU?  
(% - EU)

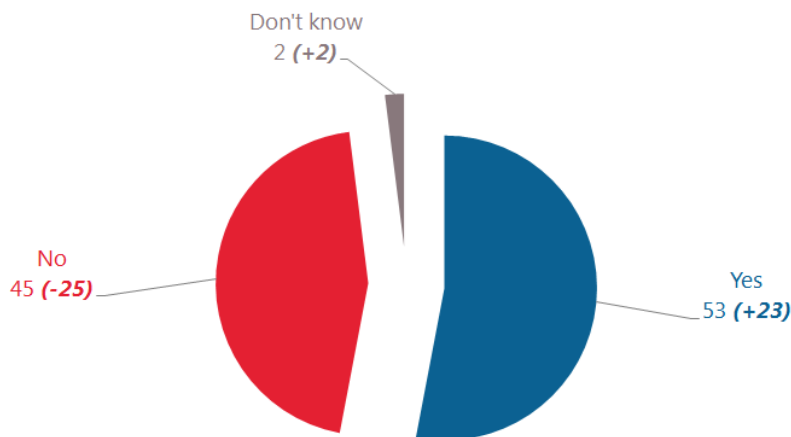


### 3 Europeans and the Erasmus programme: awareness and opinions

More than half of Europeans say they have heard of the **Erasmus programme** (53%); 45% have not heard of it, and 2% “don’t know”. Awareness of the Erasmus programme has increased spectacularly since May-June 2009<sup>10</sup>, with a 23 percentage-point rise from 30% to 53%.

There are substantial differences between EU Member States: while more than three-quarters of the population have heard of the Erasmus programme in Luxembourg (80%), Spain (77%), Belgium (76%) and Portugal (76%), less than a third have done so in Romania (30%) and the United Kingdom (30%).

**QD12** Have you ever heard of the Erasmus programme?  
(% - EU)



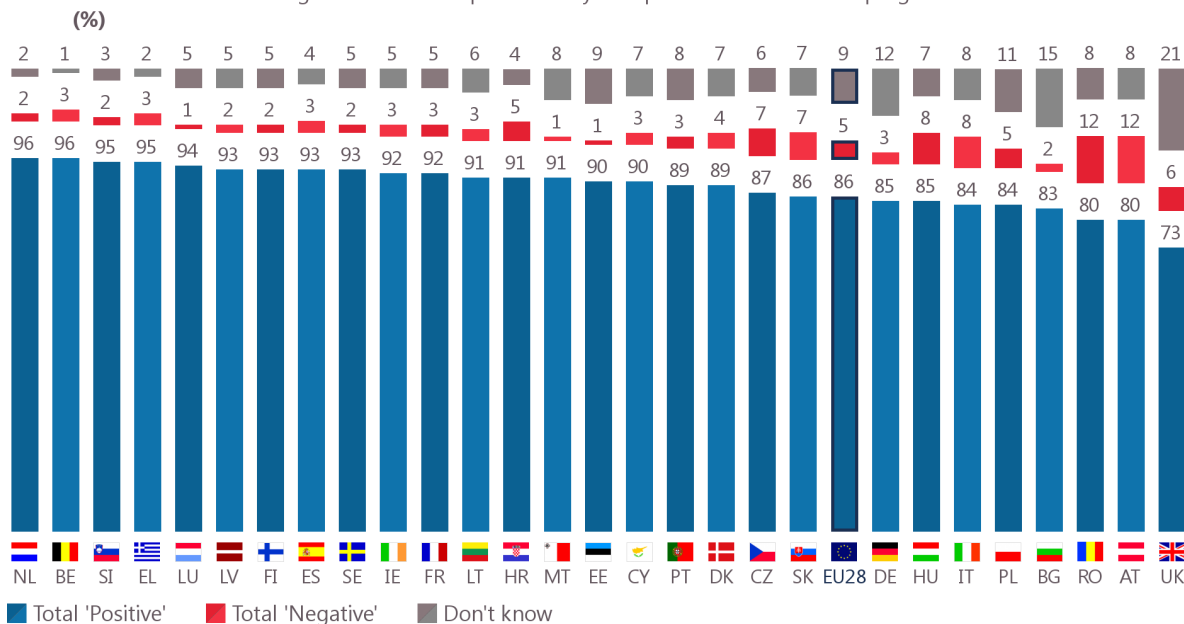
(Autumn 2016 - May-June 2009)

<sup>10</sup> Special Eurobarometer 316 “European Employment and Social Policy”, May-June 2009

The next question explains that “the Erasmus programme enables European students to spend part of their studies at another higher education institution or with an organisation in Europe”. A large majority of Europeans<sup>11</sup> express a positive opinion about it (86% ‘positive’); just 5% have a negative opinion, and 9% are unable to answer.

At least eight in ten respondents have a positive opinion of the Erasmus programme in all EU Member States except the United Kingdom, where this proportion reaches 73%.

**QD13** The Erasmus programme enables European students to spend part of their studies at another higher education institution or with an organisation in Europe. What is your opinion on the Erasmus programme?



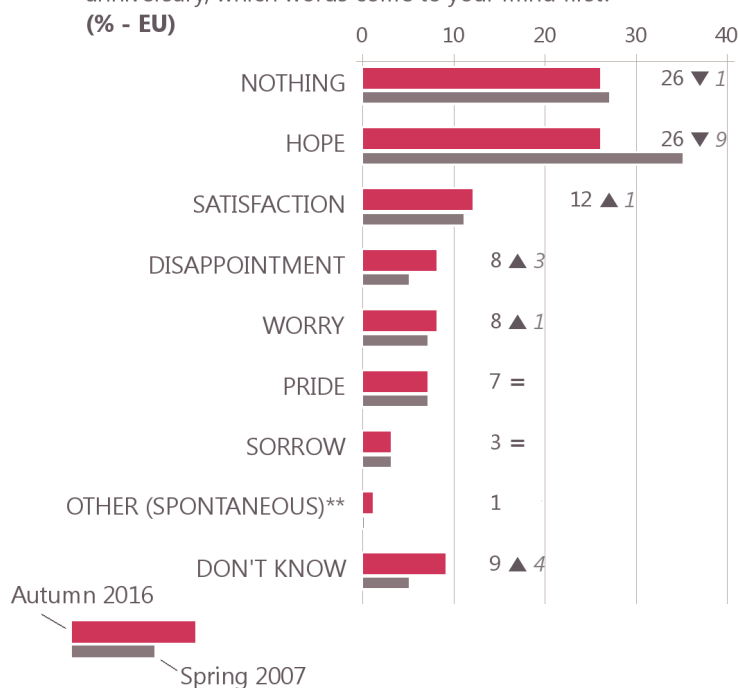
<sup>11</sup> The question was asked to all respondents.

## 4 Europeans and the Treaty of Rome

The 60th anniversary of the Treaty of Rome, which is at the origin of the EU as it stands today, will take place in 2017. Europeans were therefore asked which word<sup>12</sup>, from a predefined list, comes to mind first when they think of this anniversary. 26% mention **“hope”** and the same proportion answer **“nothing”**. These are by far the most common answers, mentioned more than twice as often as **“satisfaction”**, in third place (12%). In equal fourth place we find two negative words, both mentioned by 8% of respondents: **“worry”** and **“disappointment”**. 7% of Europeans say that this anniversary evokes **“pride”**, while 3%, of Europeans say that **“sorrow”** is the word that comes to their mind first when they think of the 60th anniversary of the Treaty of Rome.

Some evolutions can be seen since 2007, when a similar question was asked on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Treaty of Rome<sup>13</sup>. “Hope” has lost nine percentage points (from 35% down to 26%), while “nothing” has registered a 1-point decrease. All other items have gained ground or remained unchanged since 2007: “satisfaction” (+1 percentage point), “worry” (+1, at 8%), “disappointment” (+3, at 8%), “pride” (unchanged), “sorrow” (unchanged). Finally, the proportion of Europeans who say that they “don’t know” has reached 9%.

**QD14** The Treaty of Rome was signed in 1957 by six countries: Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg and Netherlands. It marks the origin of the creation of the European Union as it stands today. In 2017, we are celebrating this year the 60th anniversary of the Rome Treaty. When you think of this anniversary, which words come to your mind?\*



\* In 2007, the question was: We are celebrating this year the 50th anniversary of the Rome Treaty, which marks the origin of the creation of the European Union as it stands today. When you think of this anniversary, which words come to your mind first?

\*\* New item

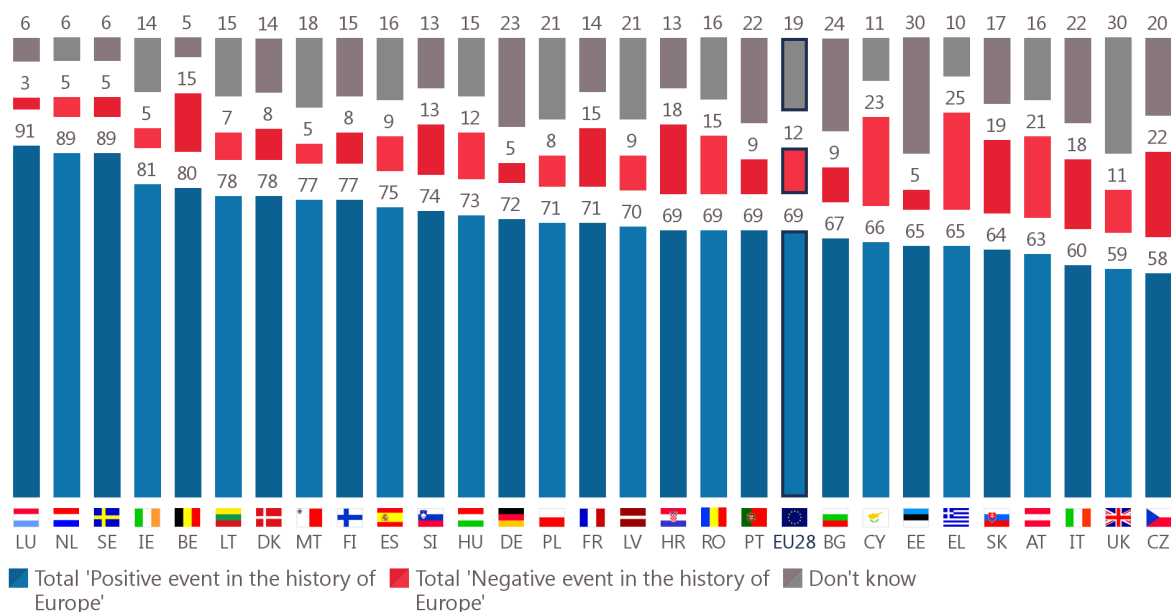
<sup>12</sup> Respondents were asked to choose one answer only.

<sup>13</sup> The question was asked in the Standard Eurobarometer survey of Spring 2007 (EB67). As now, respondents were asked to choose one answer only.

Close to seven in ten Europeans consider the Treaty of Rome as “a positive event in the history of Europe” (69%); in contrast, around one in ten see it as a negative event (12%), while close to a fifth are unable to answer (19%).

**A majority of the population regard the Treaty of Rome as a positive event in the history of Europe in all 28 EU Member States**, led by Luxembourg (91%), the Netherlands (89%), Sweden (89%), Ireland (81%) and Belgium (80%). At the other end of the scale, this proportion is smaller in the Czech Republic (58%), the United Kingdom (59%), Italy (60%) and Austria (63%).

**QD15** Thinking about the Treaty of Rome would you say that it is...  
(%)





## CONCLUSION

**Migration** and **terrorism** continue to be seen as the most important issues facing the EU, but both items have lost ground since spring 2016, while other items have gained little ground or remained stable.

Continuing the positive trend seen in the Eurobarometer survey of spring 2016 (EB85), **trust in the EU** has increased. At 36%, trust has reached its highest level since autumn 2011, with the exception of the Eurobarometer surveys of autumn 2014 (37%) and spring 2015 (40%). Trust in national parliaments and governments has also increased, but remains below trust in the EU. However, a majority of respondents still feel distrust at both EU and national levels.

Close to four in ten Europeans have a neutral **image of the EU**, a proportion that has remained unchanged for the third consecutive time. At 35%, the positive image of the EU has gained a little ground, while the negative image has declined (25%).

Four in ten Europeans consider that **their voice counts in the EU**, just below the peak of 42% recorded in spring 2014 and spring 2015. More than half of Europeans continue to disagree that their voice counts in the EU.

41% of Europeans see their **national economic situation** positively, a proportion breaking the 40% threshold for the first time since autumn 2007. However, the gap between countries continues to widen on this indicator, with 87 percentage points separating Luxembourg (90% “good”) and Greece (3%).

**Support for the European Union's priorities and policies remains high**, and has increased since spring 2016: more than eight in ten Europeans are in favour of **“the free movement of EU citizens who can live, work, study and do business anywhere in the EU”** and seven in ten respondents in the euro area support **“a European economic and monetary union with one single currency, the euro”**.

Close to seven Europeans in ten **are in favour of a common European policy on migration**. As in the previous Eurobarometer surveys, a majority of respondents have positive feelings about **the immigration of people from other EU Member States**, while the **immigration of people from outside the EU** evokes a ‘negative’ feeling for a majority.

Two-thirds of Europeans **feel they are citizens of the EU**.

Awareness of **the Erasmus programme** has risen considerably since 2009: more than half of Europeans have now heard of it. Moreover, a very large majority of respondents have a positive image of this programme. Though awareness varies greatly between countries, Erasmus is seen in a positive light by large majorities of the population in all Member States.

Finally, **the Treaty of Rome** is seen as a positive event in the history of Europe by a large majority of Europeans.

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Between the 3<sup>rd</sup> and the 16<sup>th</sup> November 2016, TNS opinion & social, a consortium created between TNS political & social, TNS UK and TNS opinion, carried out the wave 86.2 of the EUROBAROMETER survey, on request of the EUROPEAN COMMISSION, Directorate-General for Communication, “Strategic Communication” Unit.

The wave 86.2 is the STANDARD EUROBAROMETER 86 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 86 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	1,022	05/11/2016	14/11/2016	9,693,779	2.25%
BG	Bulgaria	TNS BBSS	1,012	03/11/2016	14/11/2016	6,537,535	1.52%
CZ	Czech Rep.	TNS Aisa	1,004	05/11/2016	14/11/2016	9,238,431	2.15%
DK	Denmark	TNS Gallup DK	1,006	05/11/2016	14/11/2016	4,838,729	1.13%
DE	Germany	TNS Infratest	1,531	05/11/2016	13/11/2016	70,160,634	16.32%
EE	Estonia	TNS Emor	1,005	05/11/2016	14/11/2016	1,160,064	0.27%
IE	Ireland	Behaviour & Attitudes	1,006	05/11/2016	14/11/2016	3,592,162	0.84%
EL	Greece	TNS ICAP	1,008	05/11/2016	13/11/2016	9,937,810	2.31%
ES	Spain	TNS Spain	1,011	05/11/2016	14/11/2016	39,445,245	9.17%
FR	France	TNS Sofres	1,000	05/11/2016	14/11/2016	54,097,255	12.58%
HR	Croatia	HENDAL	1,062	05/11/2016	14/11/2016	3,796,476	0.88%
IT	Italy	TNS Italia	1,021	05/11/2016	14/11/2016	52,334,536	12.17%
CY	Rep. Of Cyprus	CYMAR	500	05/11/2016	14/11/2016	741,308	0.17%
LV	Latvia	TNS Latvia	1,007	05/11/2016	14/11/2016	1,707,082	0.40%
LT	Lithuania	TNS LT	1,009	05/11/2016	14/11/2016	2,513,384	0.58%
LU	Luxembourg	TNS ILReS	502	05/11/2016	14/11/2016	457,127	0.11%
HU	Hungary	TNS Hoffmann	1,000	05/11/2016	14/11/2016	8,781,161	2.04%
MT	Malta	MISCO	515	05/11/2016	14/11/2016	364,171	0.08%
NL	Netherlands	TNS NIPO	1,008	05/11/2016	14/11/2016	13,979,215	3.25%
AT	Austria	ipr Umfrageforschung	1,025	05/11/2016	13/11/2016	7,554,711	1.76%
PL	Poland	TNS Polska	1,019	05/11/2016	14/11/2016	33,444,171	7.78%
PT	Portugal	TNS Portugal	1,014	05/11/2016	14/11/2016	8,480,126	1.97%
RO	Romania	TNS CSOP	1,005	05/11/2016	14/11/2016	16,852,701	3.92%
SI	Slovenia	Mediana	1,004	05/11/2016	14/11/2016	1,760,032	0.41%
SK	Slovakia	TNS Slovakia	1,007	05/11/2016	14/11/2016	4,586,024	1.07%
FI	Finland	TNS Gallup Oy	1,030	05/11/2016	16/11/2016	4,747,810	1.10%
SE	Sweden	TNS Sifo	1,029	05/11/2016	14/11/2016	7,998,763	1.86%
UK	United Kingdom	TNS UK	1,343	05/11/2016	14/11/2016	51,174,531	11.90%
TOTAL EU28			27,705	03/11/2016	16/11/2016	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	KADEM	500	05/11/2016	13/11/2016	143,226	
TR	Turkey	TNS Piar	1,040	05/11/2016	14/11/2016	56,770,205	
MK	Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	TNS BRIMA	1,058	05/11/2016	13/11/2016	1,721,528	
ME	Montenegro	TNS Medium Gallup	532	05/11/2016	14/11/2016	501,030	
RS	Serbia	TNS Medium Gallup	1,025	05/11/2016	13/11/2016	6,161,584	
AL	Albania	TNS BBSS	1,036	09/11/2016	15/11/2016	2,221,572	
TOTAL			32,896	03/11/2016	16/11/2016	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:

Statistical Margins due to the sampling process  
(at the 95% level of confidence)

various sample sizes are in rowsvarious 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
N=1000	1.4	1.9	2.2	2.5	2.7	2.8	3.0	3.0	3.1	3.1	N=1000
N=1500	1.1	1.5	1.8	2.0	2.2	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.5	N=1500
N=2000	1.0	1.3	1.6	1.8	1.9	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.2	N=2000
N=3000	0.8	1.1	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.8	N=3000
N=4000	0.7	0.9	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	N=4000
N=5000	0.6	0.8	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.4	N=5000
N=6000	0.6	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.3	N=6000
N=7000	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2	N=7000
N=7500	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	N=7500
N=8000	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1	N=8000
N=9000	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	N=9000
N=10000	0.4	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.0	N=10000
N=11000	0.4	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	N=11000
N=12000	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	N=12000
N=13000	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.9	N=13000
N=14000	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	N=14000
N=15000	0.3	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	N=15000
	5%	10%	15%	20%	25%	30%	35%	40%	45%	50%	
	95%	90%	85%	80%	75%	70%	65%	60%	55%	50%	

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