



This week's newsletter from DG Communication's Public Opinion Monitoring Unit continues to focus on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on public opinion within the European Union and beyond.

Presenting pertinent information and analysis from both EU level and the Member States, we draw on available and published surveys, social media monitoring and the analysis of our team in close collaboration with other services within DG COMM, specifically Parliament's Liaison Office in all Member States.

The current edition of the newsletter contains:

- A short analytical summary on main results and insights from across the EU, based on current surveys
- A collection of recent multi-national surveys comparing public opinion from several EU and other countries on the Covid-19 pandemic
- Current national surveys and polls on citizens' attitudes towards the corona crisis, their governments' and the EU's response, including, where and when available, data on trust in public institutions.

Apart from relevant news from the Member States, we would like to draw your attention to several **multi-country studies with regard to pandemic politics and trust in institutions**:

- ECFR "Unlock" pan-European survey on Europe's pandemic politics, accompanied by proposals of new mental models of European citizens and new typologies of respondents
- Nordic countries survey about the financial situation of households
- Latest What Worries the World survey by IPSOS
- IPSOS multi-country survey on coronavirus and US protests
- Fundamental Rights Agency survey on human rights, trust and engagement in politics
- Ten countries study by the Globsec - on liberal democracy
- Fondapol seven countries study on how citizens view the influence and concern of the great powers

We welcome all comments and input to our work. If you want to know more about what the Public Opinion Monitoring Unit can do for you in this time of crisis, please contact:

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ANALYTICAL SUMMARY

1) Europeans' reactions and perceptions of the COVID19 pandemic

This week's selection of surveys shows that Europeans are still concerned about the economic consequences of the COVID-19 crisis and are starting to worry about the possibility of a second wave.

- In **Belgium**, 71% of respondents would be willing to isolate again if there was a second wave. Although most social activities are allowed, 43% say they will go less often in cafés and restaurants than before the pandemic. Regarding tracing, 61% of Belgians think it is necessary: this is the case for 70% of Flemish respondents, against 52% of those from Brussels and 46% from Wallonia.
- In **France**, an increased share of respondents think the worst is still to come (35%, +6 pp in a week), overpassing those who think the situation will remain stable (34%, -5 pp). 74% of respondents, an increase of 20 pp in two weeks, are expecting a second wave which will lead to a new round of isolation measures.
- **Italian** respondents are pessimistic and worried about their economic, financial and working situation (61% versus 26% who are optimistic and confident).
- In **Latvia**, a survey conducted among different organisations concludes that while participants foresee a significant GDP decrease, the recession is not expected to be long-term. In 2021 participants already foresee positive growth indicators and a stable and sustainable growth in 2022.
- 42% of **Lithuanians** state that their financial situation is not good enough to withstand a crisis. Trust in the media is the lowest in all the history of survey results since 1998: 30.7% of respondents trust the media, while 29.1% do not trust them.
- 53% of **Polish** respondents think that experts and authorities hide information regarding the current situation.
- In **Portugal**, large shares of respondents plan to spend less time in stores (41%) and more time at home (39%). Most express more concern regarding the social and economic crisis than the state of public health. Respondents are also worried about the risk of increasing social inequalities.
- In **Romania**, 79% would agree to tougher measures of social isolation if the situation worsened.
- More than 40% of respondents in **Slovenia** report loss of employment, or contracts in the case of the self-employed– the third highest level in the EU. Still, over half of respondents (51%) feel optimistic for the future, compared to 35% EU average.
- In **Spain**, 69% of respondents do not feel safe with the arrival of international tourists. In addition, 55% do not think we will have a vaccine this year.

2) Attitudes towards governments' responses and trust in public institutions

Overall, Europeans remain satisfied with the measures taken by their governments to fight against the virus.

- In **Belgium**, 56% of respondents say that the government acted adequately. Respondents from Flanders are slightly more positive than those from Wallonia and Brussels.
- According to a recent study, **Bulgarians** praise the actions of the authorities in dealing with the coronavirus. However, when it comes to general political issues, the impact of the state of emergency is less noticeable on institutions trust.
- 70% of **Czech** respondents consider the actions of the government against the spread of the virus reasonable. Half of them view the measures to support the economy as appropriate.

- 69% of **Italians** have a positive opinion about the government's work during the pandemic.
- 59% of **Lithuanians** are satisfied with the government's actions during the COVID-19 crisis.
- The percentage of **Poles** who think that the PiS government is doing well during the pandemic (42%) is roughly the same as those who express the opposite view (40%).
- In **Romania**, 63% of respondents are satisfied with the measures taken by local authorities, compared to 60% for those taken by the President and 46% for the measures taken by the government.
- In **Spain**, 75% of respondents support a pact between PP and the government for the economic reconstruction.
- In **Sweden**, the confidence in the country's management of COVID-19 has fallen by 11 points to 45% since April, with backing for the national public health agency down by 12 points. The proportion of respondents satisfied with the centre-left government's actions in the pandemic also fell to 38% in June from 50% the previous month, while the personal approval rating of the Prime Minister, Stefan Löfven, also fell by 10 points.

3) Attitudes towards the EU's responses

Results on attitudes towards the EU are available in three countries.

- In **Italy**, 62% of respondents view the EU negatively. 48.5% think it is better not to leave the Eurozone or the EU.
- 68% of **Poles** expect that recovery after the health crisis will take place under the leadership of the EU.
- In **Romania**, 78% of respondents want the EU to strengthen to better combat crises. 40% of Romanians consider that the EU reacted weaker at first, but better during the COVID-19 crisis. 31% say that the EU's response was just as weak at the beginning as during the crisis and 24% say it was just as good before and during.

4) Multi-country surveys

This week's newsletter also presents the findings of seven multi-country surveys.

The first one is the **ECFR "Unlock"** pan-European survey on Europe's pandemic politics, accompanied by proposals of new mental models of European citizens and new typologies of respondents.

- The number of people who have lost trust in the capacity of the government to act is larger than the number who have become keener on government intervention in the wake of the crisis. Only 29% say they have greater confidence in the government and, at the same time, believe that their own government has done well in the crisis. In contrast, 33% have lost confidence in the power of government while also holding a dim view of how their own government has performed.
- A majority of citizens in most member states do not trust experts and the authorities. Only 35% of respondents believe experts' work can be beneficial to them, while 38% believe politicians have instrumentalised experts and concealed information from the public, and 27% profess little faith in experts in general. However, there are great differences between member states.
- Respondents in all surveyed member states believe the EU responded poorly to the crisis – with majorities in all countries saying that the EU did not rise to the challenge.

- In all countries, more respondents believe the EU has been irrelevant in this crisis than the opposite.
- There is a powerful sense among citizens of almost all surveyed member states that their country was largely left to fend for itself in dealing with the pandemic
- There is strong support for greater cooperation within the EU.
- Overall, ECFR's study shows that there are large groups of "engaged internationalists" in every surveyed country – ranging from 24% of respondents in Bulgaria to 50% in Spain.

The second one is a **Nordic survey about the financial situation of households**.

- The circumstances brought about by the coronavirus pandemic have been received the most positively in Denmark and most negatively in Finland.
- Swedes, in particular, felt that the coronavirus pandemic has had a negative impact on their financial situation, with 34% of them estimating that the impact has been negative or very negative. The share of such respondents was almost as high (33%) in Finland but as low as 17% in Denmark.
- Danes appear to be the least stressed by the circumstances, with only 39% of them admitting to worrying about their personal finances due to the pandemic.
- About a fifth of Swedes (21%) and of Danes (19%) reported that they have been temporarily laid off, permanently laid off or warned about the possibility of lay-offs due to the circumstances. The share of such respondents was slightly higher, 23%, in Finland. Worries about job security were prevalent particularly in Finland.

The third one is the latest **What Worries the World survey** by IPSOS.

- The survey finds a further decline in the proportion of global respondents across 27 nations who think that coronavirus is a top concern for their country today. June's results find 47% saying they worried about COVID-19, down from 55% in May and a high of 63% in April.
- Overall, COVID-19 is still the topic that is most worrying to our respondents. Unemployment comes second with 42% - the highest level seen in five years.
- Most people around the world say their country is on the wrong track (58%) as opposed to heading in the right direction (42%).

The fourth one is an **IPSOS multicountry survey on coronavirus and US protests**.

- A majority of people in nine out of 16 major countries say there are much bigger issues to worry about than the coronavirus with all protests going on in the United States and elsewhere

The fifth one is a survey by the **Fundamental Rights Agency on human rights, trust and engagement in politics** among 35,000 people across all EU Member States, North Macedonia and the United Kingdom. The survey ran from January to October 2019.

- 88% of people in the EU believe that human rights help create fairer societies.
- The majority of Europeans (60%) think that mainstream parties and politicians do not care about them.
- 27% of respondents believe that judges are not free from government influence.
- Over 60% in some countries consider it common for people to offer favours to speed up access to healthcare.

The sixth one is a **study by the Globsec on liberal democracy** conducted in 10 countries across Central and Eastern Europe.

- In four out of 10 countries surveyed — Slovakia, Lithuania, Latvia and Bulgaria — less than 50% of respondents back "liberal democracy with regular elections and multiparty system" as the best form of government.
- There are also big differences between countries in perceived threats to national identity and values. For example, in Slovakia, 50% of respondents said "Western societies and their way of living" pose such a threat, while in Austria, Hungary and Poland only 2%, 23% and 23% respectively hold the same opinion.
- The degree of trust in the media also varies greatly between the countries covered. In Hungary, 64% of respondents said they believe the government influences the media, while 62% said the same in Poland. Meanwhile 57% of Austrians said "oligarchs and strong financial groups" have such an influence.

The last one is a **Fondapol multi-country study on how citizens in seven democracies** (Austria, France, Germany, Italy, New Zealand, Sweden, and the United Kingdom) **view the influence and concern of the great powers**.

- In the seven democracies surveyed the majority (60%) identified the United States as the most influential power, far ahead of China (23%). Russia (5%) is marginalised.
- If, in terms of public opinion, the United States remains the largest power, this assessment is retracting (68% in 2018, 60% in 2020).
- 70% of respondents express worry regarding the attitude of the United States, a higher level of concern than that of the authoritarian Chinese (63%) and Russian (56%) regimes.
- Between 2018 and 2020, concern about the United States is almost stable (68% in 2018, 70% in 2020).
- The "Special Relationship" between the United Kingdom and the United States is under threat.
- The proportion of respondents for whom China is the most influential power increased from 17% in September 2018 to 23% in April 2020.
- Between September 2018 and April 2020, the proportion of respondents concerned about China increased by 20 points (43% in September 2018, 63% in April 2020).
- Worry about China (43% in 2018, 63% in 2020) is now higher than worry about Russia (64% in 2018, 56% in 2020).

The section finishes with **Kantar infographics** offering a look at some of the key trends seen in the G7 between March and June.

Multi-country surveys

Europe's pandemic politics: How the virus has changed the public's worldview

ECFR, 24/06/2020

https://www.ecfr.eu/publications/summary/europes_pandemic_politics_how_the_virus_has_changed_the_publics_worldview

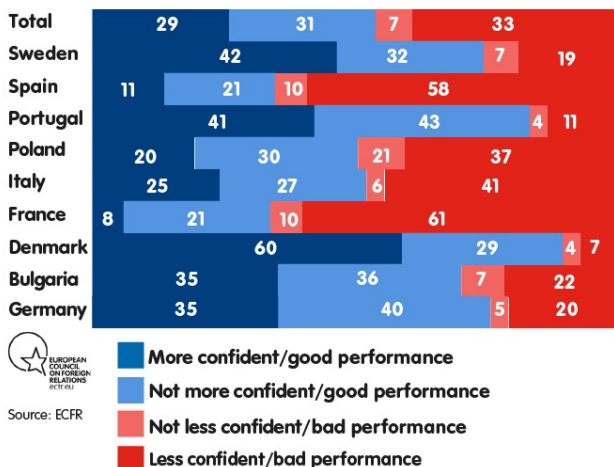
By: Ivan Krastev, Mark Leonard

(...) To find out how the pandemic has affected European citizens' views on politics, society, and Europe's place in the world, the European Council on Foreign Relations commissioned a poll of over 11,000 citizens in nine countries **across Europe – Bulgaria, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Poland, Portugal, Spain, and Sweden** – covering more than two-thirds of the EU's population and GDP. The poll was conducted **at a moment when most EU member states had started reopening their economies, and when the economic recovery replaced public health at the top of the policy agenda**. The results of the poll call into question some of the early lessons that political commentators drew from the crisis. The emerging conventional wisdom is that **covid-19 has: created a surge in public support for a newly empowered role for the state; restored trust in the role of experts; and empowered the forces of both Euroscepticism and European federalism**. But the findings of our survey challenge all three of these assumptions – and show them to be illusions that could lead European governments to fall foul of public opinion as they plan the recovery.

ILLUSION ONE: THE CRISIS HAS CREATED A NEW CONSENSUS IN EUROPE, PERSUADING MOST OF THE PUBLIC TO SUPPORT A GREATER ROLE FOR THE STATE

(...) polling shows that the **number of people who have lost trust in the capacity of the government to act is larger than the number who have become keener on government intervention in the wake of the crisis**. In two individual questions in our poll, we asked **how confidence in the power of governments in general has changed; and how respondents assess the performance of their national government during the crisis**. Across all nine European countries, **only 29 per cent say they have greater confidence in the government and, at the same time, believe that their own government has done well in the crisis**. In contrast, **33 per cent have lost confidence** in the power of government while also holding a dim view of how their own government has performed. (...)

Change in confidence in power of governments
and perception of performance of the national government



ILLUSION TWO: THE CRISIS HAS LED TO A SURGE IN SUPPORT FOR EXPERTS

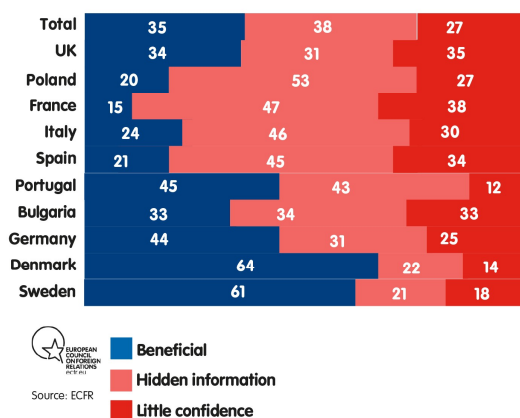
(...) polling showed that a **majority of citizens in most member states do not trust experts and the authorities.** (...). Among those who expressed an opinion on the issue, only 35 per cent of respondents believe experts' work can be beneficial to them, while 38 per cent believe politicians have instrumentalised experts and concealed information from the public, and 27 per cent profess little faith in experts in general.

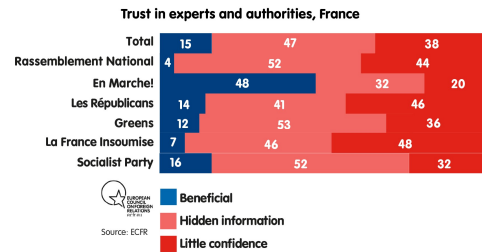
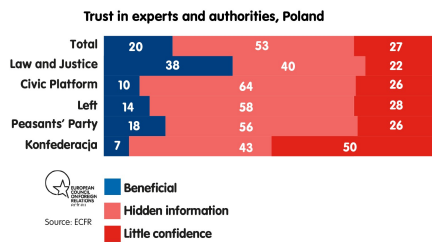
Again, there are great **differences between member states.** Confidence in experts is strongest in Denmark (64 per cent) and Sweden (61 per cent) and lowest in France (15 per cent), Spain (21 per cent), and Poland (20 per cent). People are most likely to believe that experts have been instrumentalised in Poland (53 per cent), France (47 per cent), and Italy (46 per cent).

There are notable **variations along party lines.** In Germany, majorities of mainstream party supporters trust in experts. Around half of Christian Democrat/Christian Social Union voters (51 per cent), Social Democrat voters (48 per cent), and Green voters (56 per cent) believe that the crisis has shown how the rest of us can benefit from the knowledge of experts and authorities. In France, trust in experts is high only among supporters of Macron (48 per cent). Other French voters either have little faith in experts or believe that experts have been instrumentalised (52 per cent of Socialist Party supporters and 53 per cent of supporters of the Greens believe that experts and the authorities conceal information from the public). In Poland, those who vote for the liberal Civic Platform are a classic example of well-educated constituencies who might be expected to trust experts. But, in our poll, a majority of Civic Platform supporters do not trust experts, presumably because they think they are instrumentalised by a government that they do not support. It is, therefore, the trust that citizens have in the government that guarantees their trust in experts – and not the other way round.

The obverse is also true. Only a small number of populist voters believe that the work of experts is beneficial (6 per cent of Alternative for Germany supporters; 4 per cent of Rassemblement National supporters; 12 per cent of League supporters; 3 per cent of Vox supporters). This distrust may also explain why the biological epidemic has been accompanied by a digital epidemic of disinformation and fake news, as voters cast around for 'experts' they feel have not been instrumentalised by the authorities. Because the pandemic is a colossal disaster without a clear villain, it is unsurprising that it has provoked a stream of conspiracy theories. (...)

Thinking about the coronavirus crisis, which of the following statements best reflects your view?

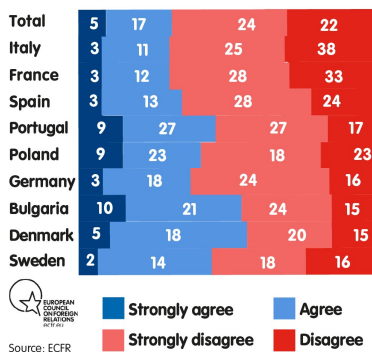




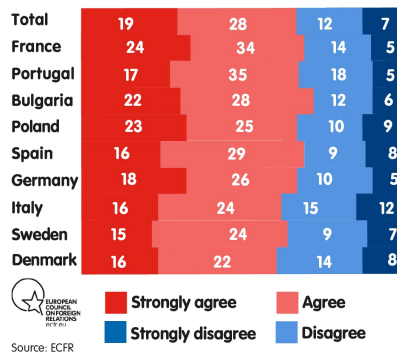
ILLUSION THREE: THE CRISIS HAS LED TO A SURGE IN BOTH NATIONALIST EUROSCEPTICISM AND PRO-EUROPEAN FEDERALISM

(...) On the one hand, we can see that people in all surveyed member states believe the **EU responded poorly to the crisis – with majorities in all countries saying that the EU did not rise to the challenge**. This includes 63 per cent in Italy and 61 per cent in France. In a separate question, we asked whether **respondents' attitudes towards EU institutions had worsened during the crisis**. Majorities in Italy, Spain, and France confirmed that it had (58 per cent, 50 per cent, and 41 per cent respectively). Perhaps more worrying than the large numbers who say the EU performed badly are the even larger numbers who say the **EU has been irrelevant**. In every country, more people believe this than believe the opposite – for example, more than half of respondents in France believe that the EU has been irrelevant.

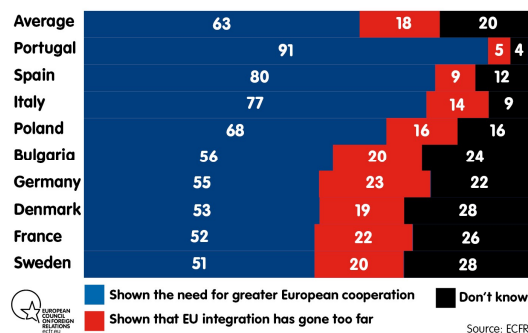
The European Union lived up to its responsibilities during the pandemic



The European Union has been irrelevant during the pandemic



How has the coronavirus changed your attitudes towards the EU? (%)

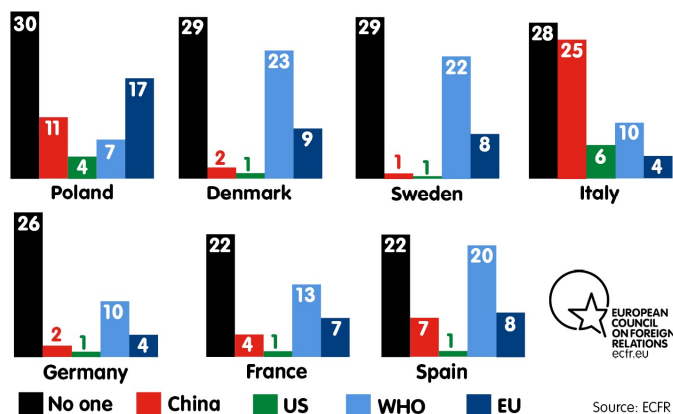


On the other hand, large **majorities of people in all surveyed countries say that they are now more firmly convinced of the need for further EU cooperation than they were before the crisis**. And while our 2019 Unlock polling found that there was often a reverse correlation between trust in national governments and trust in EU institutions, that was not the case this year. Last year, we discovered that many people who had little faith their national political systems saw the EU as the

cure to the national disease. However, aside from people in Poland, those who expressed confidence in the power of governments to manage issues that affect their lives are even more supportive of closer EU cooperation than their national average. They appear to have learned that the nation state matters but, at the same time, in the words of the German Chancellor Angela Merkel, “the nation state has no future standing alone”. (...)

One clue to explaining this may come from the way that the crisis has given citizens the sense that their states are being left alone in an increasingly dangerous world. We asked citizens **which other countries or organisations gave support and solidarity to their country as the crisis unfolded**. (...) **Large majorities felt that no one was there to help them** – with **very low numbers agreeing that either the EU, multilateral institutions, or Europe’s biggest economic partners lent support**.

Who has been your country’s greatest ally in the coronavirus crisis? (%)



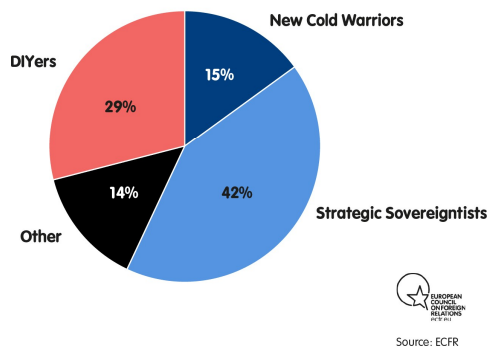
The crisis also seems to have inflicted **dramatic and lasting damage on the reputations of Europe’s two biggest economic partners: the United States and China**. Each superpower has seen its reputation collapse in some of the countries that were its closest allies and partners. (...)

While the pandemic has not yet changed Europeans’ domestic political preferences, **ECFR’s new data show that it has dramatically changed how they see the world beyond Europe**. Covid-19 follows the global financial crisis, the refugee crisis, and the climate emergency. These big global events that change **how Europeans see the world** are, in turn, leading citizens to radically **reassess the purpose and role of the EU in their lives**. If we look more deeply into the data, we are able to construct **three mental models that European citizens use** to understand the world after the crisis.

- Firstly, we have “**DIYers**”, who think that, after the crisis, geopolitics will be like that of the nineteenth century, when every nation was on its own. They make up **29 per cent of those surveyed**. Some have confidence in their state’s capacity to make alliances of convenience with other players to defend its interests. Others do not have faith in their state, but they see **no prospects for effective cooperation on either the European or global level**.
- Secondly, we have the “**New Cold Warriors**”, who make up **15 per cent of those surveyed**. People with this kind of world view think that geopolitics will resemble that of the twentieth century. They believe the future is a bipolar, with the US as the leader of the free world and China the leader of an autocratic axis that includes states such as Russia and Iran.
- Finally, the biggest and politically most important group are the “**Strategic Sovereignists**”, who make up **42 per cent of those surveyed**. These citizens tend to believe that the twenty-first century will be a world of blocs and regions. In their view, **Europe’s relevance in this new era will depend on the EU’s capacity to act together**. This world view scrambles the traditional dividing line between globalists and nationalists. (...) For them, **Europe is no**

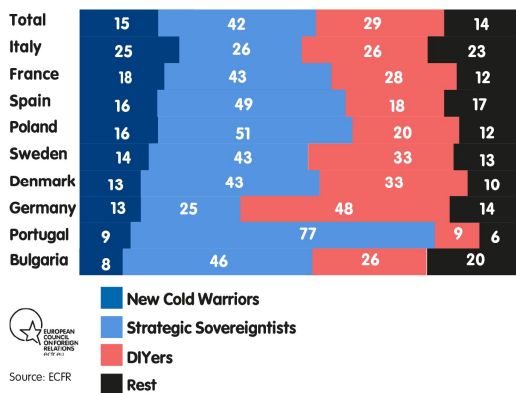
longer mainly a project motivated primarily by ideas and values; it is a community of fate that must stick together to take back control over its future. (...) This has implications for how they view issues that are key to their future, such as environmentalism and the digital agenda. Our polling shows that Strategic Sovereignists are the **group whose support for action on climate change increased the most because of the pandemic.** However, their route to advance this agenda does not lie in preaching to others but compelling them to follow European values by implementing carbon and digital taxes.

100 days of solitude: What kind of world do we live in?



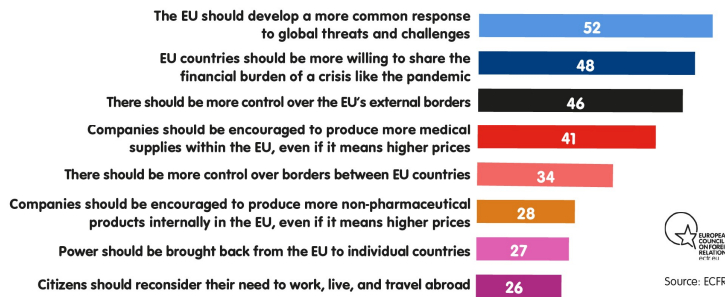
Every country contains representatives of each of the three groups. But the way the groups are distributed challenges both countries' self-perceptions and their stereotypes about others. (...)

100 days of solitude: What kind of world do we live in?

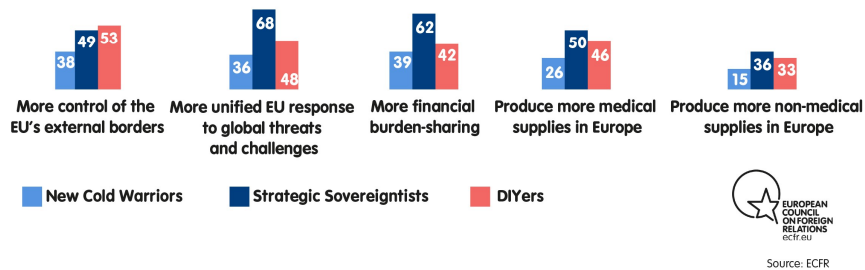


(...) While European leaders have not given up on effective multilateralism – the Coronavirus Global Response Pledging Conference is the best example of this – almost **half of Europeans see economic and political consolidation within Europe as the best insurance policy in the face of deglobalisation.** This attitude is discernible when Europeans are asked whether they believe in greater cooperation: their answers show that those who believe that the future is regional are more likely than others to say that the **EU must be more unified** and that the financial burden of the crisis should be shared. (...)

Once the coronavirus crisis is over, how should things change in Europe?



Once the coronavirus crisis is over, how should things change in Europe?



(...)

Together in trauma: Europeans and the world after covid-19

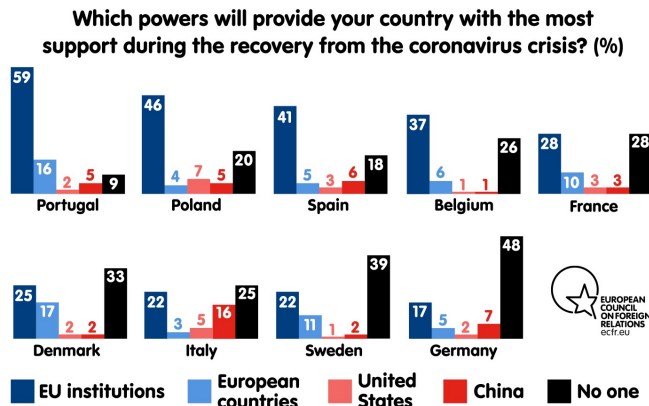
ECFR, 26/06

https://www.ecfr.eu/publications/summary/together_in_trauma_europeans_and_the_world_after_covid_192020

By: Susi Dennison, Pawel Zerka

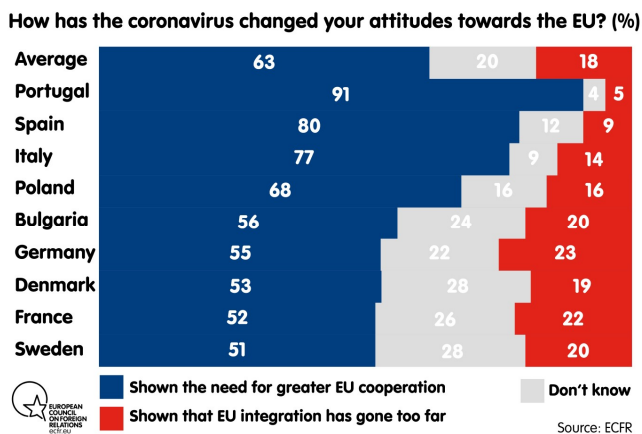
The covid-19 crisis has shown the European public a reality that European leaders have glimpsed for years: Europe is, ultimately, alone and vulnerable. ECFR's survey data reveal that there are at least three levels to this reality.

Firstly, there is a **powerful sense among citizens of almost all surveyed member states that their country was largely left to fend for itself in dealing with the pandemic**. This was the most common response to a question about who the most helpful ally of their country was during the crisis (excluding those who did not know). However, the uniformity of responses to questions about allies stopped there. In Spain, Denmark, and Sweden, more than 20 per cent of respondents pointed to the World Health Organisation as their country's greatest ally. Germany was the second-most-common response among the French, but this was not reciprocated – very few Germans identified France as their most helpful ally. The **EU came in second place in this measure only in Poland**. (...)



However, not all respondents who believed that their country largely fended for itself saw this as the optimal situation. Their **perceptions of national governments' performance vary considerably**. In **Denmark, Portugal, Bulgaria, Sweden, and Germany**, more than 60 per cent of respondents said that their government had lived up to its responsibilities in its response to coronavirus. In contrast, **society is deeply divided on this issue in Poland and Italy**, while those who criticise the government's response outnumber those who approve of it by two to one in **Spain and France**. Moreover, in the latter two countries, more than 50 per cent of respondents say that their perception of the government has deteriorated during the crisis – and just one-sixth of them say that it has improved.

(...) The second sense of vulnerability emerges at the European level. As ECFR's data show, there is **strong support for greater cooperation within the EU**. In all surveyed countries, most respondents thought that the preliminary European response to the coronavirus crisis showed that there was a need for more such cooperation. The share of respondents who held this belief was as high as 91 per cent in Portugal and 80 per cent in Spain. But perhaps even more noteworthy was the response in less Europhile member states. In **France, Sweden, and Denmark**, more than half of respondents approved of greater cooperation at the European level. In **Italy**, 77 per cent did.



Yet **few respondents to the survey had a positive view of the EU's coronavirus response**. In **no surveyed country do a majority of them see a positive change in the performance of EU institutions during the crisis**. In all these countries, people who reported that their perception of EU institutions has deteriorated outnumber those who said it had improved. (Although, in all surveyed countries apart from Italy, France, and Spain, more than 40 per cent said that their view of these institutions "stayed the same".) **In every surveyed country, at least one-quarter of**

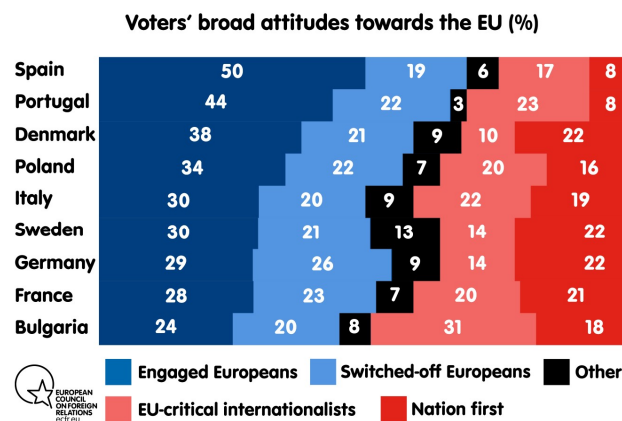
respondents said that their perception of the EU had worsened. While negative views of EU institutions have grown in Italy and France in recent years, it increasingly appears that Spain – which is historically Europhile – may now be living through a moment of disillusionment with the EU. Exactly half of Spain’s respondents declared that their view of EU institutions had deteriorated.

(...) Certain ideas about what should change after the crisis appear to be linked with one another. For example, **calls for a more unified EU response to global challenges correlate with those for support for sharing the financial burden of the crisis among member states.** Similarly, calls for greater internal border controls correlate with those for greater external border controls, and with a return of governmental powers from the EU to the national level. **These links are especially apparent in Denmark, Sweden, Italy, France, and Bulgaria.**

Crucially, however, they are not clear everywhere. **Forty-two per cent of respondents in Sweden and Italy who call for a more unified EU response to global challenges also support stronger controls on external borders.** In **Bulgaria, on the other end of the scale, this figure is 76 per cent.** Nonetheless, many voters who advocate the closure of internal or external borders, or the return of powers to the national level, recognise the value of developing a more unified EU response to global challenges and of relocating production to Europe.

(...) not all those who want “more Europe” agree that this should involve a more unified EU approach to addressing global threats and challenges. The table below categorises respondents in surveyed countries according to their response to two questions.

	<i>The EU should develop a more common response to global threats and challenges</i>	<i>The EU should not develop a more common response to global threats and challenges</i>
<i>The coronavirus crisis has shown that there is a need for more cooperation at the EU level</i>	Engaged internationalists	Switched-off Europeans
<i>The coronavirus crisis has shown that EU integration has gone too far</i>	EU-critical internationalists	Nation first



Overall, ECFR’s study shows that there are large **groups of “engaged internationalists” in every surveyed country – ranging from 24 per cent of respondents in Bulgaria to 50 per cent in Spain.** These are the natural supporters of the EU’s international ambitions. The group is dominated by supporters of the Democratic Party in Italy, La République en Marche! in France, and Civic Coalition in Poland (and also includes a plurality of PiS voters). But, as they are not sufficient to form a strong

coalition alone, they will also need to find less obvious partners – who, in turn, might require them to fulfil certain conditions.

Engaged internationalists might win the support of “**EU-critical internationalists**” by engaging in practical projects that would make Europe stronger, less vulnerable, and more united overall – so long as this does not involve a significant build-up of the EU’s institutional capacity. **EU-critical internationalists and engaged internationalists are the two groups most likely to support greater financial solidarity between member states, and the most likely to say that the covid-19 crisis has increased their support for are the groups most likely to push the fulfilment of EU climate commitments.** Similarly, **EU-critical internationalists and (in Germany, France, and Denmark) engaged internationalists for greater European economic sovereignty.**

Like engaged internationalists, **EU-critical internationalists** have strong views and are supportive of many cooperation initiatives. However, they **disagree with the basic conclusion that these initiatives should necessarily entail more EU integration.** In no surveyed country are they a dominant group of voters – but, in each, they account for at least one-fifth of the electorate. Supporters of the Free Democratic Party in Germany are often EU-critical internationalists, as are those of Podemos in Spain, and of the Brothers of Italy. Some supporters of traditionally mainstream parties fall into this category.

Engaged internationalists should also pay close attention to “switched-off Europeans”. Members of the former group are twice as likely as switched-off Europeans to hold strong views on the questions included in ECFR’s survey. The latter generally **do not want to share the financial burden of the recovery from the pandemic between EU member states.** If the coronavirus crisis has had any impact on the outlook of switched-off Europeans, it has been on their **increased support for stricter border controls, the promotion of human rights and democracy, health surveillance, and – in Spain and Italy – efforts to address climate change.** Nonetheless, switched-off Europeans express a **fundamental attachment to the EU and are not radically opposed to any given area of European cooperation.** This quality should make it possible to switch many of them on.

They represent the largest group of voters in Bulgaria (31 per cent), and the second-largest in Portugal (23 per cent) and Italy (22 per cent). Only in Germany, Sweden, and Denmark are there relatively few switched-off Europeans (partly because the “nation first” group is bigger in these three countries than it is elsewhere). **Switched-off Europeans are often the most politically diverse of the four groups.** In France, they include supporters of La République en Marche!, Rassemblement National, Les Républicains, and the Greens – collectively accounting for one-quarter of the electorate. Poland’s switched-off Europeans are supporters of PiS and Civic Coalition in equal proportions.

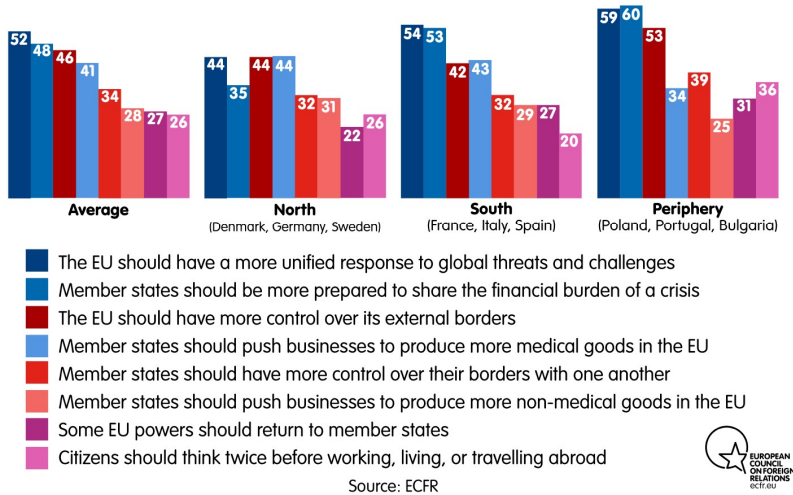
By contrast, the **nation first group** is dominated by **supporters of populist or nationalist parties** such as the League, PiS, Vox in Spain, the Sweden Democrats, and Rassemblement National – although, interestingly, it includes as many supporters of Alternative for Germany as it does supporters of the Christian Democratic Union and the Christian Social Union combined. Accordingly, the nation first group includes few natural allies for those who advocate projects related to the EU’s global role. But engaged internationalists can build bridges even here, as members of the nation first group often have the same anxieties about the pandemic as the rest of the society. In Germany, France, and Denmark, one-third of people in the nation first group want to relocate some supply chains to Europe (even if they may see this as a matter of national rather than European sovereignty). And, in six of nine surveyed countries, one-third of people in the nation first group support greater efforts to share the financial burden of dealing with the crisis in Europe.

Still, on several issues, **there are bigger differences between countries than between specific groups within countries.** This is particularly true of **financial burden-sharing** – a topic on which Denmark and Sweden are on the fiscally conservative end of the scale, and Portugal and Spain are

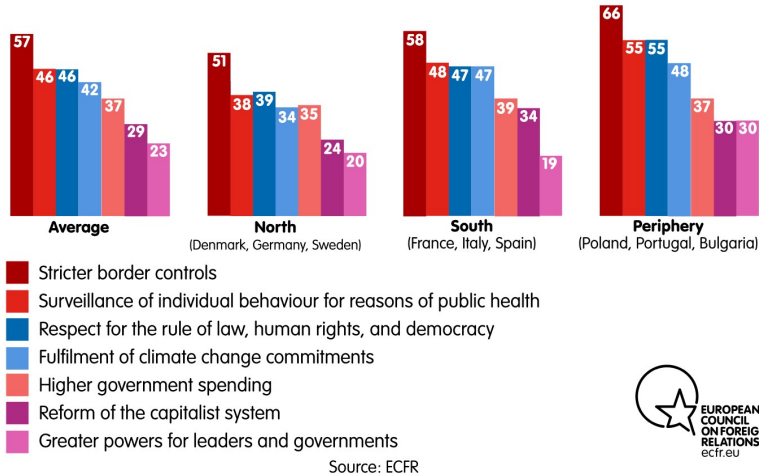
on the other. Therefore, engaged internationalists will have to build coalitions between not only groups but also governments.

In doing so, they can benefit from ECFR's [Coalition Explorer](#), which provides a detailed picture of patterns of cooperation between EU27 governments. And all these governments are at the mercy of voters whose preferences – and responses to the crisis – could change in unpredictable ways.

How should the coronavirus crisis change Europe? (%)



Which measures have you become more supportive of since the crisis began? (%)



Probably the greatest obstacle to the EU's rise as a global power is the **divergence of experiences and views between northern Europe and the rest of the continent**. In comparison to other Europeans (especially those in the south), citizens of Germany, Sweden, and Denmark are less likely to see the coronavirus crisis as having brought their country to the brink of disaster. As a result, they have drawn much more cautious and moderate conclusions from the pandemic.

Northern European countries are much more likely than other member states to believe that they can handle the crisis alone. This may imply that they feel prepared to face future threats and challenges independently, **without the need for coordination with other Europeans**.

Nonetheless, all European countries share the belief that they should tighten border controls, and that the EU should act as a unifier in responses to global threats and challenges. The northern societies of Germany and Denmark are relatively keen to relocate production of critical medical

goods to Europe – as is that of France. This should provide another opening to convince them to support efforts to strengthen the EU as a global actor after the crisis has passed. (...)

Finns worry more about job security amid pandemic than Danes, Swedes

Helsinki Times, 23 June 2020

A new Nordic survey about **the financial situation of households** reveals that the circumstances brought about by the coronavirus pandemic have been received the most positively in Denmark and most negatively in Finland. The unusual circumstances have stirred up negative emotions also in Sweden, according to the survey commissioned by Lowell, one of the largest credit management service providers in Finland.

Swedes, in particular, felt that the coronavirus pandemic has had a negative impact on their financial situation, with 34 per cent of them estimating that the impact has been negative or very negative. The share of such respondents was almost as high (33%) in Finland but as low as 17 per cent in Denmark. (...)

Danes, the survey found, appear to be the least stressed by the circumstances, **with only 39 per cent of them admitting to worrying about their personal finances due to the pandemic.** The share of **worried respondents stood at 51 per cent in Sweden and 54 per cent in Finland.** The results of the survey also indicate that people are care-free about spending especially in Finland. Over a tenth (12%) of the people surveyed in the country revealed they have spent more than their financial situation would allow them to during the crisis, an admission that was made by only five per cent of Swedes and four per cent of Danes. **Finns have curiously also been the most eager to cut down on spending.** While 39 per cent of them said they have tightened the purse strings during the state of emergency, the corresponding share stood at 36 per cent in Sweden and 28 per cent in Denmark.

The coronavirus pandemic has also had an impact on employment across the Nordics. **About a fifth of Swedes (21%) and of Danes (19%) reported that they have been temporarily laid off, permanently laid off or warned about the possibility of lay-offs due to the circumstances.** The share of such respondents was slightly higher, 23 per cent, in Finland. **Worries about job security were prevalent particularly in Finland.** Four in ten of respondents in the country stated that they are somewhat or very concerned about losing their job due to the pandemic. The concerns were shared by slightly over a third (34%) of respondents in Sweden and 38 per cent in Denmark. (...)

Almost a third (31%) of Finnish households reported that they have no more than 1,000 euros in savings they can access easily if necessary. The same admission was made by roughly a quarter (26%) of respondents in Denmark and a fifth (21%) in Sweden. The survey also examined **the ability of households to cope with an unexpected expense of 500 euros.** While 25 per cent of Finns viewed that they would find it difficult or outright impossible to cover the expense, the expense would cause difficulties for 18 per cent of Danes and 14 per cent of Swedes.

What Worries the World: 13 of the 27 surveyed nations cited COVID-19 as the top concern

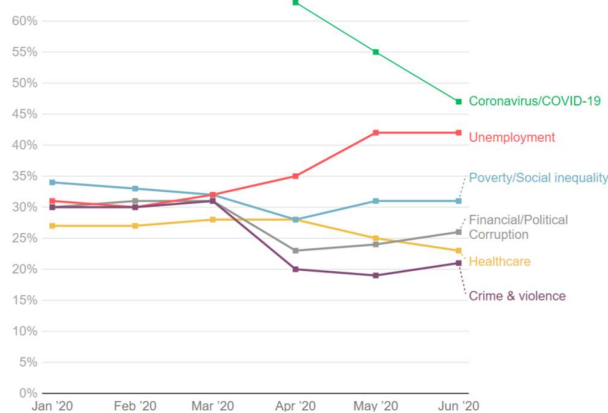
IPSOS, 24 June 2020

<https://www.ipsos.com/en/what-worries-world-june-2020>

The **world is now split on whether coronavirus or unemployment** is the most worrying issue facing their country today.

The latest What Worries the World survey finds a **further decline in the proportion of global respondents across 27 nations who think that coronavirus is a top concern** for their country today. June's results find **47% saying they worried about COVID-19, down from 55% in May** and a high of 63% in April, the month it was first included in the survey.

Top global concerns 2020



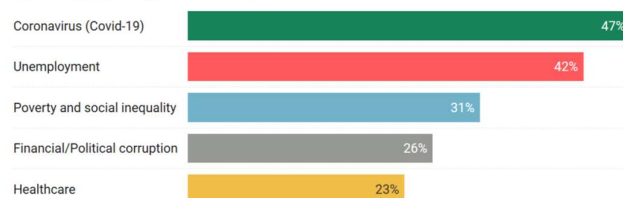
Research among adults aged 16-64 in 27 participating countries. c. 19,000 per month. (January - June 2020).

(...) In 13 out of 27 countries, COVID-19 is the top issue. It also shares the top spot with healthcare in a fourteenth country this month (Poland). This contrasts with last month when coronavirus occupied first place in 18 countries and with April, when the virus dominated the scene, topping the poll in 24 countries.

(...) Overall, COVID-19 is still the topic that is most worrying to our respondents overall (see graph below). Unemployment comes second with 42% - the highest level seen in five years. The countries most worried about **Unemployment are Italy (66%) closely followed by Spain (65%)** and South Korea (63%). Since last month, **concern has risen most in France (+9)**, Chile, Peru and Netherlands (all +6).

A total of eight countries have now seen Unemployment take the place of COVID-19 as their chief worry since April. France and Israel are the latest two countries to see job losses take over from the coronavirus in first place.

The top five global concerns



Research among adults aged 16-64 in 27 participating countries. c. 19,000 per month. (June 2020).

Poverty & social inequality was the top issue at the beginning of the year, with 34% globally concerned in January 2020. But since being overtaken by increased concerns about unemployment and the arrival of COVID-19 on the scene, it now occupies third place.

Meanwhile, our survey also finds that most people around the world say their **country is on the wrong track (58%) as opposed to heading in the right direction (42%)**. This represents a 3-point increase compared to last month. A majority in 21 of the 27 countries fall on the side of having a negative outlook for their country, according to our tracker.

The countries whose citizens are most **dissatisfied with where things are heading** are **Belgium (77%), Hungary (75%)** and Chile (75%), where three-quarters say their nation is on the wrong track.

More people believe there are bigger issues than COVID-19 amid race protests

IPSOS, 18 June 2020

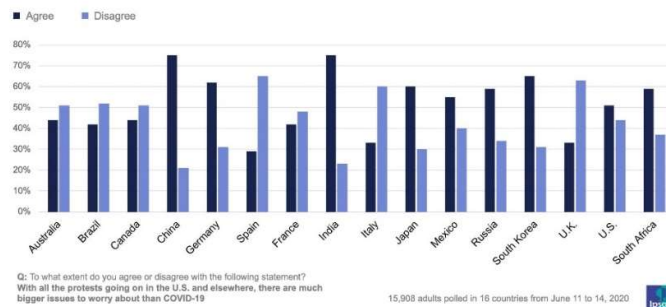
<https://www.ipsos.com/en/more-people-believe-there-are-bigger-issues-covid-19-amid-race-protests-us-and-globally>

A majority of people in nine out of 16 major countries say there are much bigger issues to worry about than the coronavirus with all protests going on in the United States and elsewhere, according to the latest Ipsos survey.

People in China and India (75%), South Korea (65%), **Germany (62%)** and Japan (60%) are most likely to **agree** with this in a poll of nearly 16,000 respondents conducted from June 11 to 14. Those in European countries of **Spain (65%),** the United Kingdom (63%) and **Italy (60%)** are most likely to **disagree**.

France is the most divided country on the issue with only 6 percentage points separating those that agree and disagree with the statement that there are bigger problems to worry about than COVID-19. (...)

DO YOU THINK THERE'S BIGGER ISSUES THAN COVID-19 WITH PROTESTS IN THE U.S.?



Many Europeans believe human rights can build a fairer society but challenges remain

FRA, 24 June 2020

<https://fra.europa.eu/en/news/2020/many-europeans-believe-human-rights-can-build-fairer-society-challenges-remain>

It is one of a series of thematic reports looking at people's views and experiences of fundamental rights. The findings draw on responses to FRA's Fundamental Rights Survey from 35,000 people across all EU Member States, North Macedonia and the United Kingdom. The survey ran from January to October 2019.

The 'What do fundamental rights mean for people in the EU?' report reveals that **88% of people in the EU believe that human rights help create fairer societies**. Yet there is little reason for complacency. The survey findings also raise important issues that need addressing. These include:

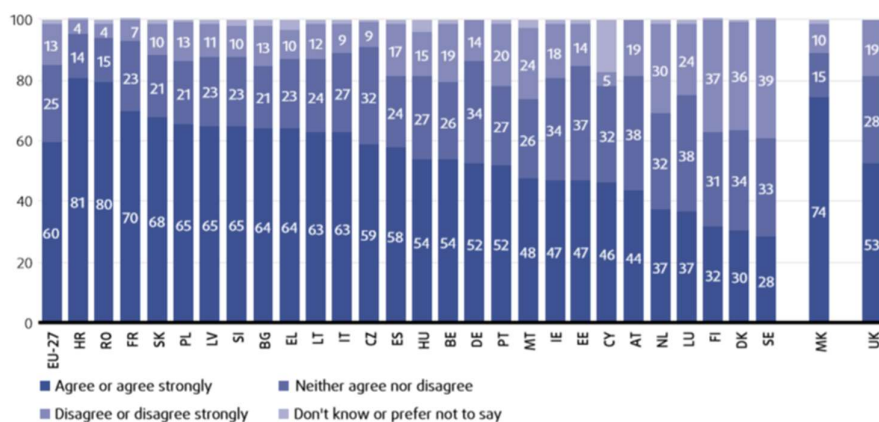
Benefits: 44% of people who struggle financially believe human rights only benefit those who do not deserve them, such as criminals and terrorists. The results reveal how financial constraints and lower levels of education diminish people's confidence in equality and human rights. (...).

Judicial independence: 27% of respondents believe that judges are not free from government influence. (...)

Corruption: Over 60% in some countries consider it common for people to offer favours to speed up access to healthcare. (...)

Trust and engagement in politics: The **majority of Europeans (60%) think that mainstream parties and politicians do not care about them.** This rises to a staggering 73% for people who face difficulties to make ends meet. By comparison, only 45% of those who easily make ends meet share this view. (...)

FIGURE 13: VIEWS ON THE STATEMENT 'MAINSTREAM PARTIES AND POLITICIANS DON'T CARE ABOUT PEOPLE LIKE ME', BY COUNTRY (%)



Source: FRA, Fundamental Rights Survey 2019 [Data collection in cooperation with CBS (NL), CTIE (LU) and Statistics Austria (AT)]

Weak support for liberal democracy in EU's east, poll says

Politico, 23/06/2020

<https://www.globsec.org/news/more-than-50-of-respondents-would-choose-liberal-democracy-over-an-autocratic-leader/>

Relayed by <https://www.politico.eu/article/weak-support-for-liberal-democracy-in-eu-east-lithuania-slovakia-bulgaria-latvia-poll/>

Liberal democracy has weak support in much of Central and Eastern Europe, according to polling conducted in 10 countries across the region.

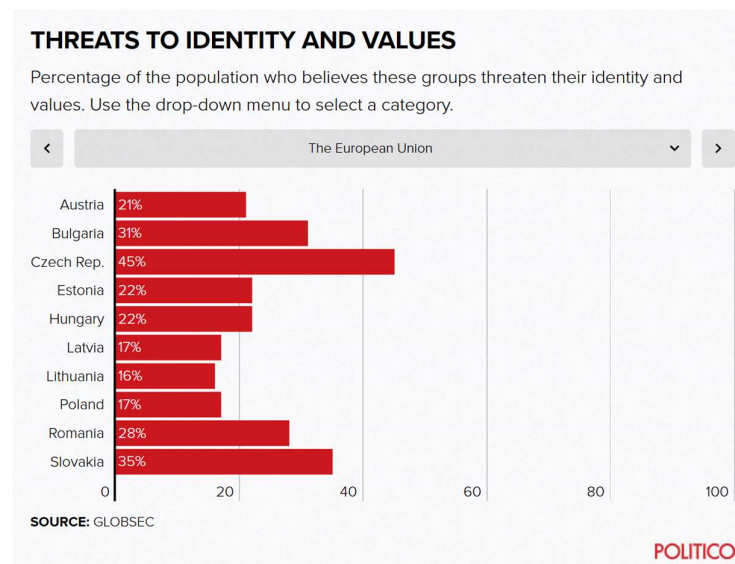
The study published by the Globsec think tank found that in four out of 10 countries surveyed — Slovakia, Lithuania, Latvia and Bulgaria — **less than 50 percent of respondents backed "liberal democracy with regular elections and multiparty system"** as the best form of government.

In Bulgaria, 45 percent said "having a strong and decisive leader who does not have to bother with parliament or elections," is preferable, with 35 percent supporting liberal democracy.

In Austria, the preference was reversed, with the equivalent figures 7 percent and 92 percent. Meanwhile, in Hungary and Poland, 81 percent and 66 percent, respectively, voiced support for the system of liberal democracy. Twelve percent and 26 percent respectively want a strong leader. (...)

There are also big **differences between countries in perceived threats to national identity and values**. In Slovakia, 50 percent of respondents said "Western societies and their way of living" pose such a threat, while in Austria, Hungary and Poland only 24 percent, 23 percent and 23 percent respectively hold the same opinion.

Majorities in Slovakia (72 percent), Estonia (56 percent), Hungary (52 percent) and the Czech Republic (72 percent) said migrants threaten their identity and values.



The degree of **trust in the media** also varies greatly between the countries covered. In Hungary, 64 percent of respondents said they believe the government influences the media, while 62 percent said the same in Poland. Meanwhile 57 percent of Austrians said "oligarchs and strong financial groups" have such an influence.

Polling was conducted in March in Austria, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania and Slovakia with samples of 1,000 respondents or more in each country.

Covid-19 – United States, China and Russia: Great Powers Worry Public Opinion

Fondapol, June 18th, 2020

<http://www.fondapol.org/en/etudes-en/covid-19-united-states-china-and-russia-great-powers-worry-public-opinion/>

Against the backdrop of the Covid-19 crisis, this paper examines **how citizens in seven democracies (Austria, France, Germany, Italy, New Zealand, Sweden, and the United Kingdom)** view the **influence and concern of the great powers** of China, the United States and Russia.

This paper is based on data collected between 15 and 18 April 2020. Interviews (...) were measured based on the following two questions:

- “According to you, which of the following countries [China, United States, Russia] has the most **influence in the world?**”;
- “For each of the following **powers** [China, the United States, Russia], please tell us if their attitude **on the international scene worries you, reassures you, or neither worries you nor reassures you**”

This proposed analysis is part of an international study entitled “**Citizens’ Attitudes Under COVID-19 Pandemic**”, in which the Fondation pour l’innovation politique is a stakeholder. The study takes

the form of a series of public opinion surveys conducted by Ipsos at regular intervals and in 20 countries. (...)

This programme aims to provide an **unprecedented monitoring of public opinion in the context of the Covid-19 crisis: feelings experienced, one's relationship to health safety, acceptance or weariness regarding the protective devices put in place** or public health recommendations, etc. (...)

The essentials

- In the seven democracies surveyed (Austria, France, Germany, Italy, New Zealand, Sweden, the United Kingdom), the majority (60%) of those surveyed identified the United States as the most influential power, far ahead of China (23%). Russia (5%) is marginalised.
- If, in terms of public opinion, the United States remains the largest power, this assessment is retracting (68% in 2018, 60% in 2020).
- 70% of respondents express worry regarding the attitude of the United States, a higher level of concern than that of the authoritarian Chinese (63%) and Russian (56%) regimes.
- Between 2018 and 2020, concern about the United States is almost stable (68% in 2018, 70% in 2020).
- The “Special Relationship” between the United Kingdom and the United States is under threat.
- The proportion of respondents for whom China is the most influential power increased from 17% in September 2018 to 23% in April 2020.
- Between September 2018 and April 2020, the proportion of respondents concerned about China increased by 20 points (43% in September 2018, 63% in April 2020).
- Worry about China (43% in 2018, 63% in 2020) is now higher than worry about Russia (64% in 2018, 56% in 2020).
- The younger the respondents are, the less worried they are about the major powers.
- Italians are the least concerned about the attitude of the great powers.
- Swedes are the most concerned about Russia (70%, 14 points above the average for all seven countries).

Infographic: COVID-19 citizen impact in the G7

<https://www.kantar.com/inspiration/politics/citizen-impact-covid19-infographic>
15/06/2020

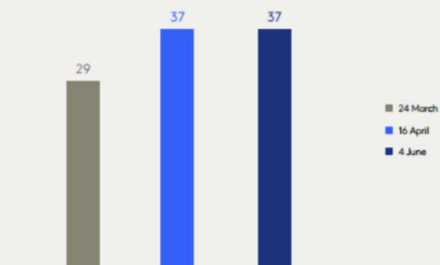
View highlights of three waves of Kantar’s COVID-19 study measuring impact on society, including income, approval of government, and views of ‘after’.

Between March and June, Kantar conducted three waves of research across the G7 to better understand how society was feeling in the impacts of COVID-19 and how people perceived and rated their governments’ response.

This infographic offers a look at some of the key trends seen in the G7 between March and June, as well as some of the key differences between countries.

Over a third of G7 citizens have reported a loss of personal income

% of G7 citizens who say that COVID-19 has already impacted their personal income



In June
14%
report having lost half of their personal income or more

Only
30%
report that COVID-19 will have no impact on their household income

Pace of change: In wave 3 of our study, a majority of G7 citizens think the pace at which their government is adjusting the restrictions to everyday life is too slow



37%

a bit too slow/
much too slow



31%

about right



26%

much too fast/
a bit too fast

How our everyday lives will change



23%

of people think the changes will be **positive** for society



28%

of people think the changes will be equally positive and negative for society



25%

of people think the changes will be **negative** for society

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Belgium

71% des Belges seraient favorables à un nouveau confinement en cas de deuxième vague

22/06

<https://www.7sur7.be/belgique/71-des-belges-seraient-favorables-a-un-nouveau-confinement-en-cas-de-deuxieme-vague~a82ba00d/?referrer=https://www.google.com/>

Selon une grande enquête réalisée par Het Laatste Nieuws, VTM Nieuws, RTL et Le Soir, **71% des Belges seraient prêts à se confiner une seconde fois en cas de résurgence du virus (...)**. Sorties au restaurant, nouveau confinement, traçage: comme l'illustre ce sondage, **la crise du coronavirus a changé pas mal d'habitudes pour la population**.

Moins de sorties au restaurant, plus de visites dans la famille

Plus de 3 personnes interrogées sur 5 indiquent que - lorsqu'elles seront à nouveau autorisées à le faire - elles assisteront moins souvent à de grands événements sportifs qu'auparavant. Il en va de même pour les concerts et les festivals. 58% des personnes interrogées prendront également l'avion moins souvent, et la moitié d'entre elles utiliseront moins souvent les transports en commun. La population a également l'intention de moins voyager à l'étranger ou de se rendre à la plage.

Les craintes du secteur de l'Horeca semblent également se confirmer. 43% des gens ont déclaré qu'ils iront moins souvent au café ou au restaurant qu'avant. Nos habitudes d'achat semblent quant à elle revenir doucement à la normale - ce qui est peut-être lié au fait que les magasins ont rouvert depuis plus longtemps. Les rendez-vous avec les amis et la famille sont également redevenus monnaie courante. 71% des personnes interrogées indiquent qu'elles iront voir leur famille aussi souvent qu'auparavant, et 12% d'entre elles indiquent même qu'elles s'y rendront plus régulièrement.

Les Flamands davantage favorables au traçage

61% des Belges pensent que le traçage est nécessaire pour éradiquer le virus. 70% des Flamands y sont favorables, contre 52% des Bruxellois et 46% des Wallons. Pour 42% des Wallons, la vie privée passe en premier. Les électeurs du CD&V sont les plus grands défenseurs de la recherche de contact (82% sont favorables). Les plus grands adversaires sont les PTB.

Protection de la santé

56% des Belges estiment que le gouvernement a agi de manière adéquate face à la crise du coronavirus. À cet égard, il est à noter que les Flamands sont légèrement plus positifs que les Wallons et les Bruxellois.

Peu de gens estiment que le gouvernement est allé trop loin dans les mesures de confinement. Au contraire, pour beaucoup, les mesures auraient même dû être plus strictes. **4 Belges sur 5 pensent que la politique en matière de traçage et la fourniture de masques buccaux pour le personnel médical et la population n'ont pas été bien gérées.** 62 % des personnes interrogées estiment également que les autorités n'en ont pas fait assez pour protéger les personnes âgées.

56% des Belges estiment également que les jeunes n'ont pas suffisamment été sensibilisé quant à leur comportement, et 1 Belge sur 2 affirme que l'impact psychologique du confinement n'a pas été suffisamment pris en compte par les autorités.

Le gouvernement aurait pu sauver des vies, selon 6 Belges sur 10

dus au coronavirus dans notre pays, tandis que 29% d'entre eux pensent qu'il n'en a que peu. À peine 6 % estiment **60% des Belges estiment que le gouvernement a une responsabilité évidente dans le nombre élevé de décès** que les gouvernements n'ont absolument aucune responsabilité à cet égard.

Nouveau confinement

En cas de recrudescence du virus, **71% des Belges sont prêts à se confiner une seconde fois**, contre 19% qui refusent cette possibilité. Les Flamands sont moins enthousiastes à l'idée d'un nouveau *lockdown* (66% pour) que les Wallons (78%) et les Bruxellois (75%). Les électeurs de la N-VA et du Vlaams Belang sont les moins favorables - respectivement 31% et 27% d'entre eux ne sont pas en faveur d'un nouveau *lockdown*. Du côté francophone, les électeurs d'Ecolo et du PS sont les plus grands partisans d'un nouveau confinement en cas de deuxième vague.

Acheter local

66 % des Belges déclarent qu'ils achèteront plus local qu'avant le *lockdown*. Les électeurs du CD&V, les Verts et Ecolo y attachent le plus d'importance, les libéraux le moins. 46 % d'entre eux déclarent également qu'ils feront davantage d'achats en ligne qu'avant. En Flandre, ce pourcentage s'élève à 51%, contre 36% en Wallonie.

À propos du sondage

La grande enquête de Het Laatste Nieuws, VTM Nieuws, RTL et Le Soir a été réalisée en ligne par Ipsos entre le mercredi 10 et le lundi 15 juin 2020 auprès de 2.517 Belges âgés de 18 ans et plus. 951 Flamands, 986 Wallons et 580 Bruxellois ont été interrogés. La marge d'erreur maximale est de 3,2% en Flandre, 3,1% en Wallonie et 4,1% à Bruxelles.

Bulgaria

Gallup International survey

<https://www.gallup-international.bg/43488/confidence-in-major-institutional-figures/>

According to the latest Gallup International's survey (among 809 people, 4 - 12/06/2020) Bulgarians **praised the actions of the authorities in dealing with the coronavirus**. However, when it comes to **general political issues, the impact of the state of emergency is less noticeable**.

The confidence in the President Rumen Radev is higher (+50%, -31%) than the confidence in the Prime Minister Boyko Borissov (+30%, -57%). However, the agency points out that the confidence in the Prime Minister is higher than the months before the pandemic, as well as that there is a traditional high support towards the presidential institution in Bulgaria.

During the months of state of emergency, the confidence in more of the institutions is recorded as higher, but there are **no significant changes in the confidence towards the main political figures and institutions**. The current survey shows that 23% of the respondents have confidence in the National Assembly, while 67% are on the opposite position. The confidence in the Government is 30% against 60% who say they distrust it. Gallup International **records higher confidence in almost all of the ministers in comparison to similar surveys at the end of the winter**.

Czech Republic

Evaluation of the reaction and its institution to the COVID-19 epidemic - Our society - special - May 2020

23/6/2020

https://cvvm.soc.cas.cz/media/com_form2content/documents/c2/a5217/f9/pi200623.pdf

Period: 7. – 23. 5. 2020

Number of respondents 1043

The **majority of Czech citizens consider what the Czech state has done against the spread of coronavirus to be reasonable**, and **half consider measures to support the economy to be appropriate**. The work of most institutions and groups in relation to the spread of coronavirus is rated favourably.

As part of the investigation, respondents were asked several questions finding out **how citizens assess the impact of the Czech state and its institutions on the COVID-19 epidemic**. Respondents assessed the adequacy and effectiveness of anti-epidemic measures and measures to support the economy affected by the coronavirus crisis. Subsequently, the respondents evaluated the action of the government.

How much the Czech state is doing against the spread of coronavirus (%)

Toom much	18%
Adequately	70%
Too little	8%
Don't know	4%

Are state measures against the spread of coronavirus effective or ineffective (%)

Definitely effective	31%
Rather effective	55%
Rather ineffective	8%
Definitely ineffective	2%
Don't know	4%

How much the Czech state is doing to support the economy affected by measures around coronavirus (%)

Too much	8%
Adequately	52%
Too little	30%
Don't know	10%

Are the state's economic support measures affected by the coronavirus measures effective or ineffective (%)

Definitely effective	7%
Rather effective	40%
Rather ineffective	29%
Definitely ineffective	8%
Don't know	16%

France

BAROMÈTRE DE SUIVI DE LA CRISE DU COVID 19

COMMENT LES FRANÇAIS VIVENT-ILS LA PÉRIODE ACTUELLE ?

<https://www.bva-group.com/sondages/barometre-suivi-crise-du-covid19-vague-66/>

Vague 66 – 25 juin 2020

De nombreux indicateurs continuent de se détériorer ou ne s'améliorent plus :

La proportion de Français qui estiment que dans cette crise « le pire est devant nous » poursuit sa hausse (+ 6 pts en une semaine), après plusieurs semaines consécutives de baisse, et remonte à un niveau proche de celui mesuré le 11 mai. **Ce sentiment est partagé par 35% des Français**, c'est 10 points de plus qu'il y a 3 semaines. Et c'est surtout désormais un sentiment à nouveau plus répandu que l'idée selon laquelle que « la situation va rester stable » (34%, -5 pts). Le sentiment que « le pire est derrière nous » reflue quant à lui à 20%, après avoir atteint 32% il y a 15 jours.

La proportion de Français qui anticipent une 2ème vague d'épidémie qui conduira à un nouveau confinement s'envole après une première hausse significative la semaine dernière : ce sont désormais **74% des sondés qui redoutent cette possibilité**. C'est 20 points de plus qu'il y a 2 semaines et un niveau comparable à ce que nous enregistrons lors des premières mesures de cet indicateur en mai.

Au niveau macro-économique, près de 8 Français sur 10 se déclarent toujours inquiets en ce qui concerne la situation économique de la France (78%).

Municipales 2020 - Après le second tour : bilan et perspectives

<https://www.ipsos.com/fr-fr/municipales-2020-apres-le-second-tour-bilan-et-perspectives>

Le second tour des Municipales 2020 restera marqué par **un taux d'abstention historique**. A près de 60%, le précédent record de 2014 a été battu de 20 points.

En retrait dans les déterminants du vote, l'inquiétude par rapport à l'épidémie reste néanmoins prégnante. Au stade actuel, on craint davantage "**ses conséquences économiques et sociales pour soi et ses proches**" (74%, dont 25% "très inquiets"), "**la possibilité d'une deuxième vague**" (71%, 21% "très inquiets"), et un peu moins "ses conséquences pour sa santé et celle de ses proches" (61%, 15%). "**La manière dont le gouvernement gère le dossier du coronavirus**" partage les Français, entre 44% de "satisfaits" (dont 88% des sympathisants LREM, mais aussi la majorité des 18-24 ans), pour 56% d'avis contraire (dont les trois quarts des proches de La France Insoumise et du RN). On mesure un rapport de force similaire sur **la confiance accordée à Emmanuel Macron pour prendre en compte les enseignements de cette crise** (46% de confiance pour 54% d'avis contraires). Ce relatif équilibre entre bonnes et mauvaises opinions tranche avec l'impopularité chronique du Président de la République.

Même si pour un Français sur deux (52%), **le Président de la République sort plutôt affaibli** de la crise liée à la Covid-19 (14% le jugent "plutôt renforcé", et 34% ni l'un ni l'autre), on s'accorde à penser que ni Marine Le Pen, ni Xavier Bertrand, ni Jean-Luc Mélenchon, ni François Baroin, ni Valérie Pécresse, ni Yannick Jadot, ni Olivier Faure n'auraient fait mieux à sa place. Quant à tirer les conséquences de la crise et proposer les bonnes solutions, là encore on fait moins confiance à chacune de ces personnalités qu'à Emmanuel Macron. Seul Edouard Philippe suscite une confiance

supérieure à celle accordée au Président, pour sa capacité à tirer les enseignements de la séquence et proposer des solutions (49% de confiance contre 39% d'avis contraires).

Au-delà de la stratégie, le pessimisme sur l'évolution de la situation fait davantage consensus : sept Français sur dix anticipent aujourd'hui une crise économique profonde après l'épidémie, pour 29% qui pensent plutôt que l'économie va réussir à se relancer.

Hungary

The vaccine can also be a medicine for the Hungarian sports industry – Ipsos

<https://www.ipsos.com/hu-hu/vakcina-lehet-sportipar-orvossaga>

Ipsos examined the populations' **opinion regarding the return of sports events** following the coronavirus pandemic, in a nationwide representative poll, conducted with Havas Sports and Entertainment in June by surveying 1000 adult people through online methods.

- Hungarian sports fans are much more optimistic and open about the return of fans than their American counterparts. 72% of Hungarians would take part in sports events as spectators if there was an antidote to the virus. Moreover, even mandatory distance keeping and wearing a face mask would be considered an effective solution for restarting matches that can be attended (59% and 52%, respectively). 19% of respondents would not consider any of the measures listed to be sufficient to attend a sporting event as a spectator. Experts, however, point out the different reactions and behaviors which can be observed between fanatical fans and the average sports-watching audience. A good example of this is the Hungarian football championship, in the recent rounds of which some fans took place in front of an almost full house after the emergency subsided.

- The bold opening seen in Hungarian football is practically unique in the world right now. Despite the enthusiastic and positive attitude of fans who are hungry for live sporting events, the big European football leagues, for example, have resumed behind closed doors for the time being, but the F1, which starts in early July and the MotoGP series, which return two weeks later, do not count on audiences.

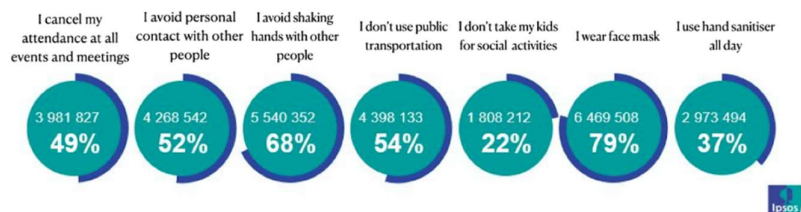
- The results of the Hungarian research show that, in general, a kind of abstinence has developed in the population as opposed to mass events. There is a clear decline in the number of on-site participants in the events. 12% of the respondents want to avoid mass events in the long run after the epidemic, they do not plan to visit sports events with the frequency before the epidemic. Those over 40 are overrepresented among those who stay at home permanently for security reasons, while younger ones are much more courageous.

- Attendance at sporting events is expected to return mainly among members of Generations X and Y to pre-pandemic levels. Seven out of ten sports fans among the 18-39 years old group, expect to be able to attend sporting events again according to pre-pandemic practice, while about half of the older age group made a similar statement. The under-30 age group could be encouraged to attend sports events above average even with the mandatory wearing of a face mask (62%).

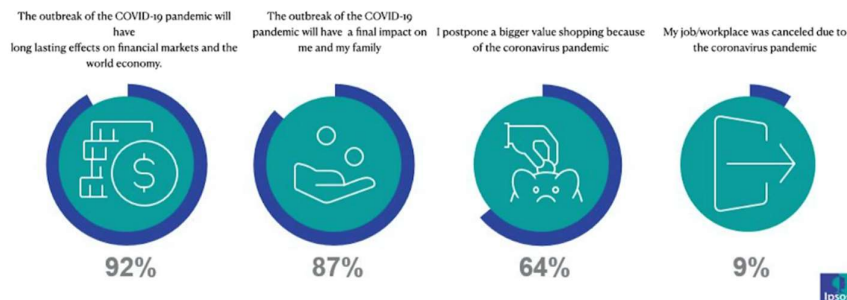
- While the introduction of the vaccine would greatly encourage sports fans in the big cities, especially those in Budapest (81%), only a smaller proportion of the surveyed population living outside the capital would participate in a sporting event (64%). This is particularly interesting from the point of view that the rate of infection and the number of patients were much higher in the capital than in the countryside.

- In Hungary, the research clearly shows that as long as there is no effective measure against the spread of infection at a sporting event, 71% of respondents prefer to support closed-door matches and sporting events via TV or online. Interestingly, the idea of a no audience event enjoys particularly high support among sports fans under the age of 40 (75%) as well as in the capital that hosts most sporting events in its proportions (78%).

Which of the following activities are true for you?



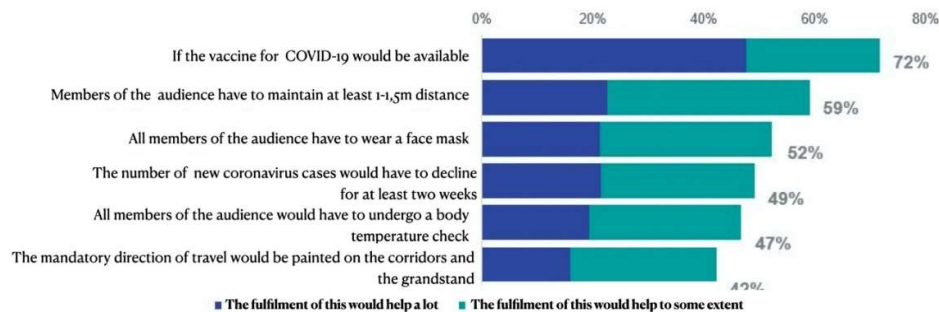
To what extent do you agree with the following statements? (2-Top-Box)



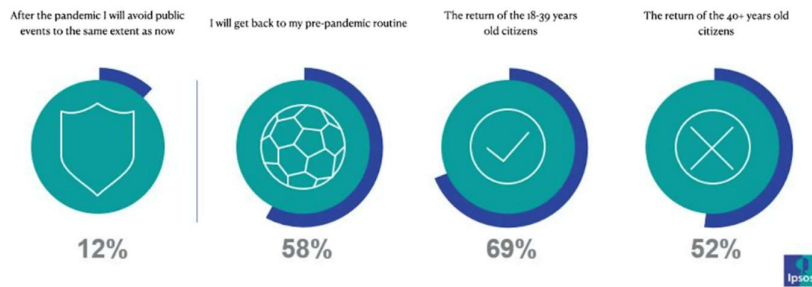
What are the conditions under which you would attend a sporting event or other event as a spectator? - If a coronavirus epidemic vaccine is already available



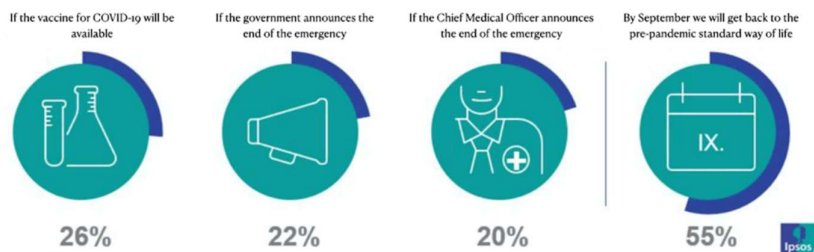
What are the conditions under which you would participate as a spectator at a sporting event or other event?



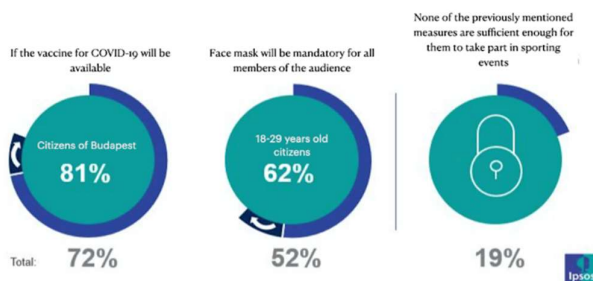
To what extent do you agree with the following statements? (2-Top-Box)



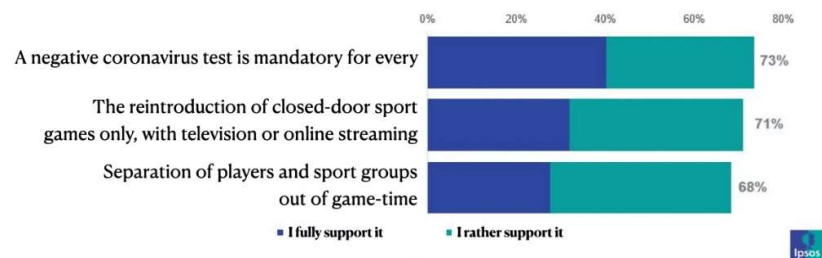
What makes you most dependent on easing your established habits against the epidemic or returning to your old habits?



What makes you most dependent on easing your established habits against the epidemic or returning to your old habits?



Do you support or oppose the following ideas?



Italy

Survey Emg Acqua

25/06/2020 <http://www.sondaggipoliticoelettorali.it/GestioneSurvey.aspx>

Fieldwork 23/06/2020

Sample 1.623 CAWI

Question: In this period his inclination to save is:

Answer:

- It remained the same 52%
- It has grown, I'm afraid of the future 29%
- It has decreased 13%
- I prefer not to answer 6%

Question: Who do you think performed best during the pandemic challenge?

Answer:

- Regions 23%
- Government 21%
- Scientists 11%
- Media 8%
- International organizations (WHO, etc.) 5%
- Social networks 3%
- I prefer not to answer 29%

Question: Your estimation of the European Union is:

Answer:

- very positive 4%
- positive 26%
- very positive + positive 30%
- negative 29%
- very negative 33%
- negative + very negative 62%
- I prefer not to answer 8%

Survey Istituto Ixè

23/06/2020 <http://www.sondaggipoliticoelettorali.it/GestioneSurvey.aspx>

Fieldwork 22-23/06/2020

Sample 1.000 CAWI

Question: Overall, how do you rate the work of Conte's government during this emergency?

Answer:

- Very positive 19%
- Quite positive 50%
- Very + Pretty positive 69%
- Not very positive 18%
- Not at all positive 11%
- I don't know 2%

Question: In particular, how do you evaluate the management of the health emergency by the government during the Coronavirus emergency?

Answer:

- Very good 10%
- Pretty good 55%
- Very + Pretty good 65%
- Little good 21%
- Not at all good 11%
- I don't know 3%

Survey Tecne

19/06/2020 <http://www.sondaggipoliticoelettorali.it/GestioneSurvey.aspx>

Fieldwork 17-18/06/2020

Sample 800 C.A.T.I.-C.A.M.I.-C.A.M.I.

Question: Thinking about your economic, financial and working situation, for the future, and in particular for the coming months (autumn 2020) you feel ...

Answer:

- optimistic and confident 26,2%
- pessimistic and worried 61,2%
- Don't know / Does not respond 12,6%

Question: How long do you think the Conte government will last?

Answer:

- Until the September regional elections will be held in Tuscany, Liguria, Puglia, Campania etc. 20,8%
- Until 2021 20,0%
- Until 2022 (the year of the next Presidential election) 14,2%
- Until the end of the Legislature (2023) 24,6%

Don't know / not responding 20.4

Question: After the latest data on the spread of the virus, are you are still afraid to be infected?

Answer:

- Yes, I'm still afraid 62,6%
- No 29,2%
- Don't know / Not responding 8,2%

Question: How are your fears manifested?

Base respondents: those who have declared that they are still afraid of being infected, 62.6%

Answer:

ALLOWED MULTIPLE ANSWERS

- I only see the closest family members, and I avoid gatherings of people 33,4%
- I don't take public transport 31,6%
- I always wash my hands, clothes, food ... obsessively 26,6%
- I don't leave the house or in any case, I diminish my going out 25.6%
- I suffer from panic attacks 2.4

Survey Termopolitico

19/06/2020 <http://www.sondaggipoliticoelettorali.it/GestioneSurvey.aspx>

Fieldwork 16-18/06/2020

Sample 2900 CAWI

Question: Would you agree to exit the euro area and the EU?

Answer:

- Yes to both 33,1%
- It is better to exit the EU only 5%
- It is better to exit the euro only 9,6%
- No, it is better not to leave the euro nor the European Union 48,5%
- Don't know 3,8%

Latvia

Latvian Academy of Sciences poll about COVID-19 influence on Latvian economy

Source: http://www.lza.lv/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=5688&Itemid=72

EPLO Translation

This paper provides the summary of a poll organized by the Latvian Academy of Sciences (LZA) Humanitarian and Social Sciences Department (HSZN) about the COVID-19 pandemic influence on the Latvian economy. The **survey's goal was to find out the various organisations** (state institutions, scientific and non-governmental organisations, production and services enterprises and other economic activity performers) managers', employees' and experts' **views on the influence of COVID-19 on the economy.**

The poll was conducted from 21/04/20 to 30/04/20. Answers were received from 40 organisations (16% from the number of sent outs, 10 received were anonymous). 29 invitations were sent to LZA members (experts).

Although the poll's participants foresee a significant GDP decrease, the recession is not expected to be long-term. In 2021 participants already foresee positive growth indicators and a to stable and sustainable growth in 2022.

The most affected spheres of the economy are considered the following: hospitality, tourism, art, music, culture and entertainment, transport (more air and passenger transport), sports. These all are spheres that are connected to the recent mobility and gathering restrictions. Mass media informed widely on difficulties in these spheres. The poll's participants don't think that COVID-19 pandemic affected significantly the factory production, trade, agriculture, construction and other Latvian economy spheres.

The following could have gained from pandemic: factory production spheres and activities, IT-related spheres and activities, trade spheres and activities, pharmacy and chemistry activity. Health sphere, medicine and spheres related to food production.

Although the general expressed mood is anxiety over the influence of the pandemic crisis on the Latvian economy, some poll's participant from different spheres expressed optimism and restraint. Most likely, they expect it to disturb their activity, to bring financial difficulties, uncertainty and unpredictability, travel restrictions, external market changes, raw materials accessibility. Organisations activity will be mostly promoted by additional funding. (...)

Poll: Covid-19 crisis pushed 26% of respondents to start saving

Source: <https://www.lsm.lv/raksts/zinas/ekonomika/aptauja-covid-19-krize-likusi-26-iedzivotaju-sakt-veidot-uzkrajumus.a364451/>

EPLO Translation

A survey conducted by Luminor Bank **among respondents in the three Baltic states** shows that the coronavirus pandemic has made 26% of respondents start saving money. In addition, only 5% think that they have enough funds or property in order to fund their retirement - 80% think that they do not have enough savings for retirement. Still, 27% did not make savings and are not planning to do so.

Lithuania

Almost half of Lithuanian's population (45%) felt the financial consequences of the pandemic.

Survey company: Spinter tyrimai

Dates of survey: May 18-27

Sample size: 1012

Source: <https://www.delfi.lt/verslas/mano-eurai/tyrimas-puse-salies-gyventoju-pajuto-karantino-itaka-savo-finansams.d?id=84592379>

EPLO Translation

The income of the country's households fell during quarantine, especially for those with a monthly income of up to €300 per member. For 48% of the population the financial situation did not change significantly, while 7% point out that their income increased. 57% say they would be ready for a possible financial shock in the future and have a financial reserve for at least three months.

Behaviour changes due to the threat of COVID-19

Survey company: Spinter tyrimai

Dates of survey: May 18-27

Sample size: 1012

Source: <https://www.delfi.lt/news/daily/lithuania/apklausoje-netiketas-lietuviu-apsisprendimas-ivardijo-karstuosius-taskus-kuriu-sia-vasara-vengs.d?id=84571549>

EPLO Translation

The **threat of the coronavirus will not change the behaviour of 22%** of Lithuania's population this summer. 36% will avoid going to health care facilities; 29% will receive fewer guests; 27% will visit relatives or friends less often; 23% will less likely travel by public transport.

Satisfaction with government action

Survey company: Vilmarus

Dates of survey: June 5-13

Sample size: 1000

Source: <https://www.15min.lt/naujiena/aktualu/lietuva/apklausa-dauguma-lietuviu-patenkinti-kaip-vyriausybe-sprende-koronaviruso-krize-56-1335548>

EPLO Translation

More than half of Lithuanian population (58.8%) is satisfied with the government's actions during the COVID-19 crisis. 26.6% of respondents negatively assess the government's efforts to cope with the coronavirus. According to the survey results, older people are more satisfied with the government's actions than young people. The differences become apparent depending on the place of living: Vilnius residents assess the government's actions worse than residents of other cities and rural areas.

Impact of respondents' financial situation

Survey company: commissioned by Luminor Bank

Dates of survey: May

Sample size: 1618 (internet survey)

Source: <https://www.delfi.lt/verslas/mano-eurai/baltijos-saliu-gyventoju-apklausa-lietuviai-karantino-metu-nukentejo-labiausiai.d?id=84534913>

EPLO Translation

The Covid-19 pandemic and the global crisis have led to a significant drop in income for more than a third of the population of the Baltic States. Quarantine affected Lithuanian finances the most: as many as **42% of Lithuanian respondents state that their financial situation is not good enough** to withstand a crisis. Almost half of Lithuanians admitted that the pandemic adjusted their saving habits. Of all the Baltic countries, Lithuanians (42%) felt the most insecure in the face of the crisis. 6% of Lithuanians lost their jobs during quarantine and 14% had to take compulsory or temporarily leave.

Trust in media

Survey company: Vilmorus

Dates of survey: June 5-13

Sample size: 1012

Source: <https://www.15min.lt/naujiena/aktualu/lietuva/fiksuotas-zemiausias-iki-siol-pasitikejimas-ziniasklaida-v-gaidys-sako-tai-normalu-56-1336090>

Trust in the media is the lowest in all the history of survey results since 1998. **30.7% of respondents trust the media, while 29.1% don't.** From March trust in the media decreased by 3 percentage points. Now the change is a bit larger but there has been a downward trend for 20 years. According to sociologists, the survey results are similar to those in other EU member states. In Lithuania the trust ratings have reached the EU average, where the media are trusted or distrusted by equal numbers of people.

Poland

Poles skeptical of authorities expect reconstruction under EU leadership

WBJ, 24/06

According to the latest survey conducted by Datapraxis and YouGov in nine EU Member States, **68 percent of Poles expect that recovery after the health crisis will take place under the leadership of the EU**. Based on data from nine EU Member States, covering a total of two-thirds of the European population, the thinktank European Foreign Affairs Council (**ECFR**) disputes claims of a sharp rise in both nationalist euroscepticism and pro-European federalism, as well as support for mass state and alleged intervention increase of expert authority.

(...)

"The percentage of Poles who think that the PiS government is doing well during a pandemic (42 percent) is roughly the same as those who express the opposite view (40 percent)," the report reads.

Most European citizens have little confidence in experts and authorities about the coronavirus crisis. It is at the lowest level in France (15 percent), **Poland (20 percent)** and Spain (21 percent). Moreover, the opinion that **experts and authorities have their secrets and hide information is most often expressed by Polish (53 percent)**, French (47 percent) and Italian (46%) citizens.

(...)

Portugal

Marktest 23/06/2020:

<https://covid19.marktest.pt/artigo/embora-ainda-negativo-o-indice-de-expectativa-economica-dos-portugueses-regista-o-valor-mais>

A poll by **Marktest** notes that 52.7% of Portuguese claim they will continue to avoid visiting crowded events and spaces. This adds to the 70.7% who note a change in behaviour concerning regular hand washing, and **41.4% who claim they will continue to spend less time in physical stores**. Furthermore, 39.1% note they will be spending more time at home, whilst 30% will resort more often to online shopping. Of those enquired, **9.9% say they will travel less by plane**. The latest poll also notes that the index of Economic Expectation of the population, concerning ones individual financial situation and that of the country for a year, registers the highest numbers of the last few weeks, at 31 points. Despite being a negative index number, the poll notes it has recovered over the weeks. Currently, only 6% of Portuguese fear the loss of their jobs.

Público 22/06/2020:

<https://www.publico.pt/2020/06/22/sociedade/noticia/portugueses-estao-preocupados-crise-rejeitam-regresso-velho-normal-1920926>

A poll on the social impact of the pandemic by the **Institute of Social Sciences and ISCTE – Lisbon’s University Institute**, published in Público, found that **most people express concern with the imminent social and economic crisis, more so than with the state of public health. Those enquired were apprehensive concerning the risk of increasing social inequalities**, the degradation of the job market, increases in unemployment, and decreasing social protections. There is also a fear that the country may lose this opportunity to re-think its social organization. In an open question which asked about peoples’ most prominent worries, many shared the fear that, after the crisis, “everything will return to normal.” Those enquired were conscious of the new dangers of stigmatizing older populations. There is also a widespread worry with regards to the effects of confinement in children, especially those who will not return to school this year. Another recurrent worry noted by the poll is the weakening of democracies, and the increase in populist forces, as is the risk of the disintegration of the European project. There is also a worry concerning the loss of privacy rights. Within the younger segment of those enquired, is the concern with being unable to emigrate in the face of crisis. Concerning family life, people remain uncertain about physically contacting family members, especially those living abroad. Adding to this, one in every five reported that they lived moments of family tension during confinement.

Romania

Perceptions, attitudes and behaviors of Romanians

The **Romanian Institute for Evaluation and Strategy (IRES)** conducted an opinion poll (22 - 23 June 2020, 900 participants), in order to assess **the perceptions, attitudes and behaviors of Romanians after the state of alert was prolonged**. The results show that:

- **63% of the respondents are satisfied with the measures taken by local authorities during the pandemic;**
- **6 out of 10 Romanians are satisfied with the measures taken by the President of Romania;**
- A little over half of the respondents are satisfied with the measures taken by the Strategic Communication Group;
- **54% are dissatisfied with the Romanian Government's measures, while 46% are satisfied with them;**
- 59% state that they witnessed, during the state of emergency or alert, situations in which other people did not comply with the rules imposed by the authorities. Of these, 61% say they took action when they saw that other people did not follow the rules;
- More than $\frac{3}{4}$ of the respondents agree with the fines applied to those who do not comply with the rules imposed by the authorities;
- Almost $\frac{3}{4}$ of the respondents have heard of the 30-day extension of the state of alert since June 17, 55% of the participants believe that it was necessary & 54% personally agreed to the extension;
- 79% would agree to tougher measures of social isolation if the situation worsens.

Source: <https://www.g4media.ro/studiu-ires-romanii-sunt-de-acord-cu-prelungirea-starii-de-alerta-54-dintre-respondenti-sunt-nemultumiti-de-masurile-luate-de-guvern-dar-63-sunt-multumiti-de-masurile-autoritatilor-locale.html>

Romanians' attitudes towards the EU & the US:

-
- **78.1% of participants want the EU to strengthen**, because only if they work together can Member States better combat crises. 14.9% voted for less power justifying that MSs can better deal with crises on their own. 7% did not know/did not answer;
- **39.5% of Romanians consider that the EU reacted "weaker at first, but then, during the COVID-19 crisis, the EU response was better", 30.5% - "just as weak at the beginning and during the crisis", 24% "just as well and at the beginning and during the crisis", 6% non-responses.**
- 57.3% of the respondents believe that the EU accession brought rather advantages for Romania (decreasing compared to 63.8% in September 2019), while 33.3% consider that it brought rather disadvantages (increasing compared to 27.7% in September 2019), 9.4% represent non-responses.
- Joining the EU is seen as advantageous for Romania especially by: those under 30 or over 60, people with a higher level of education and income over 3000 RON, white collars, private employees & residents of large urban areas.
- **The Green Deal:** 71.8% have a good opinion about the European agreement, in general, 17.9% a neither good nor bad opinion, 2.5% a bad opinion. 6% have not heard of this agreement, and 1.9% did not know/ did not answer. After informing respondents that one of the Green Deal's objectives is to give up coal-fired energy production, an important part of respondents reassessed their opinion. Thus, 42.1% say they have a good opinion about the agreement, 33.2% a neither good nor bad opinion, 11.2% a bad opinion. 6.8% say they have not heard and 6.7% do not know or do not answer. The apparent dissonance is determined by the fact that in the short

term, and faced with the concrete implications of some international agreements, the population tends to be a bit more cautious, according to INSCOP.

- **Relationship with the USA.** 64.6% of Romanians (similar to September 2019) believe that the alliance with the US is the best security guarantee for Romania, while 25.7% disagree and 11.6% did not know/did not answer.
- **Most trusted countries:** 48.9% USA, 44.5% Germany, 14.5% Hungary, 8.8% Russia.
- **The most important external collaboration.** 69.6% of Romanians consider that the relationship with the US and the one with **the EU** are equally important for Romania. 24% believe that the relationship with **the EU** is the most important foreign cooperation relationship for Romania, and 2% indicate the relationship with the USA as being a top priority. The percentage of non-responses is 4.4%.

Source: <https://www.g4media.ro/sondaj-inscop-romanii-vor-ca-ue-sa-se-intareasca-si-sustin-green-deal.html>

Attitudes towards democracy - focus on the pandemic

The [Democracy Perception Index](#) (20 April - 3 June 2020, 124,000 respondents, 53 countries) by **Dalia Research** and **Alliance of Democracies** focuses this year on the perception of **how governments have managed the COVID-19 pandemic** and shows that:

- 70% of people worldwide are generally satisfied with their government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic; In France, 46% of the population believe that the government has responded well, Spain 50%, Italy 53%;
- In **Romania**, 63% of the population is satisfied with the way the government has managed the COVID-19 crisis;
- People do not think that their governments overreacted to COVID-19, but in all 53 countries, about half of the population agrees that their government has gone too far in violating basic freedoms during the pandemic.

Source: <https://romania.europalibera.org/a/studiu-democratia-si-pandemia-romania-pe-locul-doi-printre-tarile-care-se-tem-de-influentele-straine-in-alegeri/30673846.html>

Fundamental Rights

FRA's Fundamental Rights Report 2020 reviews major developments in the field in 2019, identifying both achievements and areas of concern. In **Romania**, 999 people were interviewed face-to-face, between February 11 and June 21, 2019. The report reveals that:

- 6 out of 10 EU citizens believe that *politicians and dominant parties do not care about them*. Romania ranks 2nd (for **80% of the respondents this belief is widespread**), surpassed by Croatia (81%). The lowest values are recorded in the Nordic MSs (Sweden 28%, Denmark 30% and Finland 32%);
- Political alienation is particularly pronounced among people facing economic difficulties. Thus, 73% of those who face material problems feel neglected by traditional politics;
- 1/3 of respondents said that human rights only serve those who do not deserve them, such as criminals and terrorists;
- At EU level, 2 out of 3 citizens agree with the statement "*Some people have an unfair advantage over human rights*". The proportion varies from 57% in Italy and 60% in Denmark to **61% in Romania**, Luxembourg and Sweden and 90% in Malta.
- More than 35% of respondents said it was acceptable to offer various favours (presents/money) to ensure the necessary service quickly - corruption. In **Romania, 44% of respondents acknowledged that bribery is an option** for solving things (compared to 61% Slovakia, 59% Czech Republic, 53% Croatia and 48% France, lowest values in Portugal (15%), Finland (16%), Malta and Sweden (20% each).

Source: <https://www.g4media.ro/sondaj-sase-din-zece-europeni-nu-se-simt-reprezentati-de-politicieni-o-treime-cred-ca-drepturile-omului-servesc-doar-criminalilor-si-teroristilor-ancheta-sociologica-a-evidentiat-o-acceptare-raspand.html>

Slovakia

Slovaks would be willing to give up freedoms for financial prosperity

23/06

<https://spectator.sme.sk/c/22432079/slovaks-would-be-willing-to-give-up-freedoms-for-financial-prosperity.html>

Support for liberal democracy in the region of central and eastern Europe is not straightforward, a new GLOBSEC study analysing the attitudes and opinions of more than 10,000 people from 10 EU countries has shown.

In just five out of the 10 countries, more than half of respondents would choose a liberal democracy ahead of an autocratic leader, the poll numbers suggest.

In Slovakia only 49 percent prefer liberal democracy, compared to, for instance 82 percent in Austria.

Slovenia

Strong levels of mental well-being in Slovenia despite financial impact of COVID-19 crisis

<https://www.mynewsdesk.com/eurofound/news/strong-levels-of-mental-well-being-in-slovenia-despite-financial-impact-of-covid-19-crisis-405299>

More than 40% of people surveyed in Slovenia report loss of employment, or contracts in the case of the self-employed, due to the COVID-19 pandemic – the third highest level in the EU according to Eurofound's **Living, working and COVID-19** survey. The findings also show that 43.5% of respondents report that their financial situation has worsened when compared to the preceding three months. Despite these challenging factors, it is positive to see that people in Slovenia have reported some of the highest levels of mental well-being across the EU during this period.

The First Findings of the Living, working and COVID-19 survey, which amassed over 85,000 responses in the month of April, show that 41% of people surveyed in Slovenia had lost jobs or contracts by April – above the EU27 average of 29%. This is further exacerbated by 47% of respondents reporting that their working hours had decreased due to the pandemic. The level of job loss and reduction in working hours is likely to have played a role in 46% reporting a worsening of their financial situation and 48% predicting their financial situation to worsen in the coming period. The survey findings also show that 25% of people surveyed were struggling to make ends meet, an increase from the 19% who reported struggling to make ends meet in the European Quality of Life Survey 2016.

Although the financial impact of the COVID-19 crisis has been severe in Slovenia, the survey findings show that indicators of **respondents' mental well-being are at some of the highest levels across the EU**. Slovenia reports the second smallest share of people (6%) who report feeling depressed during the pandemic – half that of the EU27 average. Furthermore, 9% reported feeling lonely – which is also the second lowest level in the EU and half that of the EU27 average. The findings show that respondents in Slovenia represent the third smallest share across the EU who reported feeling particularly tense at 11% – below the EU27 average of 18%. Similarly, the findings show that 36% of people surveyed in Slovenia reported feeling cheerful and in good spirits, some or all of the time, compared to the EU27 average of 25%.

Although COVID-19 has created unprecedented challenges for communities across Europe, it is positive to see that indicators of mental well-being are very strong in Slovenia. In terms of overall quality of life, **levels of life satisfaction and happiness in Slovenia were both in line with the respective EU27 averages**. The findings also show that **over half of respondents (51%) in Slovenia felt optimistic for the future, compared to the EU average of 35%**. Overall, high levels of mental well-being and stable quality of life indicators suggest that people in Slovenia are well placed to tackle the impact of the crisis.

As the situation is constantly evolving, Eurofound will launch the [second phase](#) of the Living, working and COVID-19 survey this Friday to capture up-to-date data to reflect the current impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the living and working conditions of people across Europe.

Spain

La Sexta 28/06/2020:

74.5% of respondents support a pact between PP and Government for economic reconstruction

After the tension experienced in Congress during the state of alarm and the current apparent calm, the laSexta barometer asks citizens about pacts.

Should the Popular Party, the main opposition party, agree with the government on economic reconstruction after the coronavirus? A citizen majority of three quarters supports the pact (74.5%), compared to about 24% who oppose it.

The PSOE voters (93.7%), United We Can (86%) support this pact and, attention, because so do the supporters of Citizens (94.9%). On the other hand, popular followers are opposed, although very divided, with 54, &% against the pacts, while 43.3% are in favor. Meanwhile, Vox is opposed in the majority (78.1%).

Despite these data, the majority of citizens, 66%, believe that there will be no agreement. Voters in neither party are confident that the pact will materialize, most are skeptical.

Source: https://www.lasexta.com/noticias/nacional/barometro-lasexta-el-745-de-los-encuestados-apoya-un-pacto-entre-pp-y-gobierno-para-la-reconstruccion-economica_202006285ef893f679400600019940c3.html

La Razón (15/06/2020):

Casado (PP's leader) stays at 200,000 votes of Sánchez and the turn to the center penalizes Cs.

The management of the coronavirus punishes the PSOE, which ties the PP to 111 seats. The equality between blocks would make the PNV could choose between left or right.

PP continues to be the party that improves positions more sharply since the health crisis caused by the pandemic, according to the latest June survey by the NC Report. Enters into a tie for seats with the PSOE in slot 109-111. As a whole the vote of the left falls, from 10.5 million that it obtained in the ballot boxes in the last general elections to 9.2 million, more than one million demobilized vote. While the right practically maintains its electorate of 10-N, although with important readjustments in the distribution of support among the three main forces that identify this block.

Source: <https://www.larazon.es/espana/20200615/t5c27hi27zaozbanrwgdfeflni.html>

***La Sexta* (27/06/2020): 69.2% of respondents do not feel safe with the arrival of international tourists to Spain.**

Concern among those surveyed in the laSexta barometer about the opening of tourism and about outbreaks in our country. **54.8% do not think we will have a vaccine this year.**

New barometer of laSexta with outbreaks, tourism and the arrival of the vaccine as protagonists. The data from the latest study, carried out by INVYMARK, show great concern among those surveyed about the [outbreaks](#) of cases that have been occurring in recent days in Spain.

A 82.5% of those consulted by laSexta are quite concerned or very concerned about this situation, for 17.5% that shows little or no concern. What's more, 58.7% of those surveyed believe that before the end of the year there will be a new outbreak that will force us to confine ourselves all back to home, with 37.7% saying otherwise.

There is also no optimism regarding the possible arrival of a vaccine for this year. A 54.8% of respondents believe they will come 2020, for an optimistic 43.7% that thinks so. This insecurity is also reflected in another key aspect in recent weeks: tourism.

Source: https://www.lasexta.com/noticias/nacional/barometro-lasexta-un-692-de-los-encuestados-no-se-siente-seguro-con-la-llegada-de-turistas-internacionales-a-espana_202006275ef7487c794006000197a980.html

Sweden

Swedes lose confidence in government's COVID-19 strategy as infections rise

Baltic News Network, 26 June 2020

(...) An Ipsos **survey** this week for the Swedish Dagens Nyheter newspaper showed **confidence in the country's management of COVID-19 had fallen 11 points to 45% since April, with backing for the national public health agency down 12 points. The proportion of respondents satisfied with the centre-left government's actions** in the pandemic also **fell to 38% in June from 50% the previous month**, while the personal approval rating of the Prime Minister, Stefan Löfven, also slid 10 points. The poll confirms a study earlier in June by the pollster Novus which found that only 45% of Swedish voters reported a very or quite high degree of confidence in the government's capacity to handle the crisis, compared to 63% in April, The Guardian reports.