



# Standard Eurobarometer 89 Spring 2018

First results

Public opinion in the European Union

Fieldwork  
March 2018

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

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

Standard Eurobarometer 89 – Wave EB89.1  
Kantar Public Brussels on behalf of TNS opinion & social

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(DG COMM "Media monitoring, media analysis and Eurobarometer" Unit)

Project number	2018.2737
Project title	Standard Eurobarometer 89 – Spring 2018 “Public opinion in the European Union, First results”
Language version	EN
Catalogue number	NA-01-18-454-EN-N
ISBN	978-92-79-85631-0 doi:10.2775/00
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<http://ec.europa.eu/commfrontoffice/publicopinion/>

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## INTRODUCTION

This report presents the first results of the Standard Eurobarometer survey of spring 2018 (EB89), which was carried out between 13 and 28 March 2018 in 34 countries or territories<sup>1</sup>: the 28 European Union (EU) Member States, five candidate countries (the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Montenegro, Serbia and Albania) and the Turkish Cypriot Community in the part of the country that is not controlled by the government of the Republic of Cyprus.

This *First results* report provides a selection of data on topics such as the European political situation, the economy and European citizenship. It focuses on the results obtained in the 28 EU Member States and is published jointly with the results of the Standard Eurobarometer questions, which are set out in an annex. The results of the Standard Eurobarometer of spring 2018 will be analysed in the full report.

The Standard Eurobarometer survey of spring 2018 was conducted a few weeks after the publication of the European Commission's winter 2018 (interim) European Economic Forecast<sup>2</sup>. The upward trend in GDP is expected to halt: GDP growth in 2018 is forecast to reach 2.3% in the EU28 (-0.1 percentage point compared with 2017) and 2.3% in the euro area (-0.1).

The unemployment rate has continued to fall<sup>3</sup>. In February 2018, it was 7.1% in the EU as a whole (-0.9 percentage point, down from 8.0% in February 2017), and 8.5% in the euro area (-1, down from 9.5% in February 2017). Unemployment is at its lowest level in the EU since September 2008.

Since the Standard Eurobarometer survey of autumn 2017, national elections have taken place in Italy on 4 March 2018. The Five Stars Movement (M5S) won 227 of the 630 seats in the Chamber of Deputies while the various parties forming the centre-right coalition reached 265 seats altogether. The centre-left coalition won 122 seats. Presidential elections were held in the Czech Republic, Cyprus and Finland.

In Romania, the Prime Minister Mihai Tudose resigned from office on 16 January, after his own Social Democratic Party withdrew its political support for the government.

In Germany, after several months of discussions, a coalition headed by Angela Merkel's CDU along with the CSU and the SPD was formed on 14 March.

On 8 April, few days after the end of fieldwork, Prime Minister Viktor Orbán's Fidesz party won a third-term victory in Hungary's general election, with 133 seats out of 199 in the National Assembly.

France was hit by a terrorist attack: on 23 March 2018, four people were killed and six injured in Carcassonne and Trèbes.

In Slovakia, the killing of a journalist plunged the country into a political crisis. On 15 March, Prime Minister Fico resigned as well as his entire cabinet.

Outside the EU, Vladimir Putin won the Presidential election in Russia on 18 March, with 76.69% of votes.

<sup>1</sup> Please consult the technical specifications for the exact fieldwork dates in each Member State. The previous Standard Eurobarometer (EB 88) survey was carried out between 5 and 19 November 2017.

<sup>2</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/economy-finance/ip073\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/economy-finance/ip073_en.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/2995521/8782899/3-04042018-BP-EN.pdf/15f41da1-720e-429b-be25-80f7b2fb22cd>

The methodology used is that of the Standard Eurobarometer surveys carried out by the Directorate-General for Communication (“Media monitoring, media analysis and Eurobarometer” Unit)<sup>4</sup>. It is the same for all countries and territories covered in the survey. A technical note concerning the interviews conducted by the member institutes of the TNS opinion & social network is annexed to this report. It also specifies the confidence intervals<sup>5</sup>.

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

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

\* Cyprus as a whole is one of the 28 European Union Member States. However, the ‘acquis communautaire’ has been suspended in the part of the country which is not controlled by the government of the Republic of Cyprus. For practical reasons, only the interviews carried out in the part of the country controlled by the government of the Republic of Cyprus are included in the ‘CY’ category and in the EU28 average.

*We wish to thank the people throughout the European Union  
who have given their time to take part in this survey.  
Without their active participation, this study would not have been possible.*

<sup>4</sup> <http://ec.europa.eu/commfrontoffice/publicopinion/index.cfm>

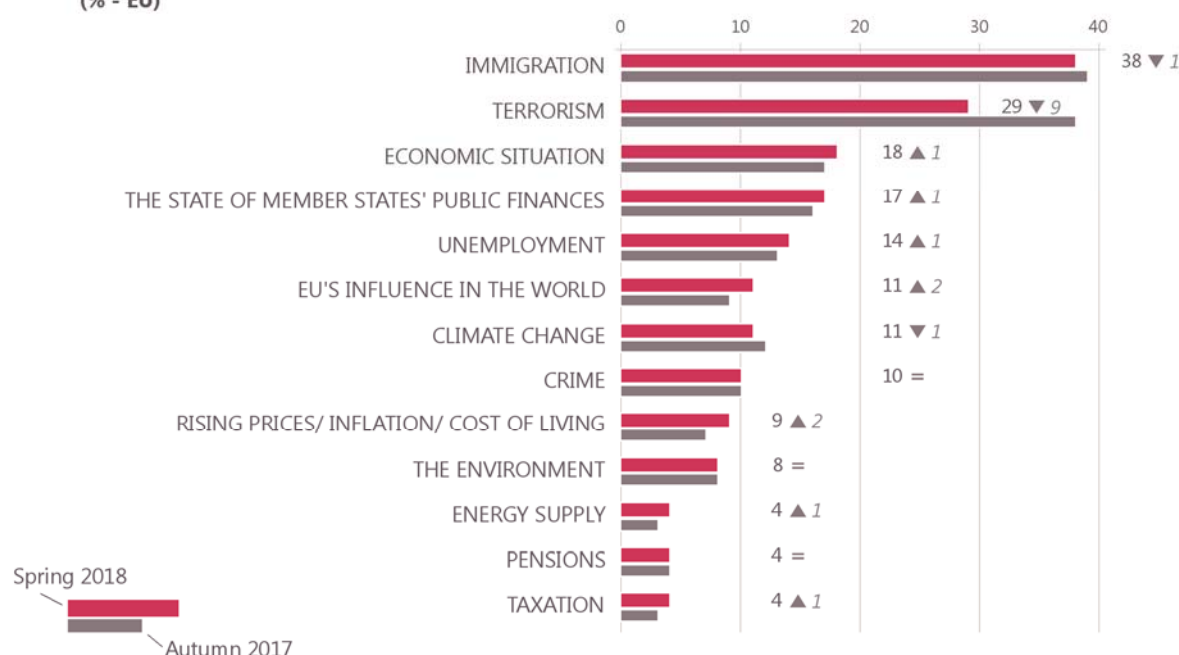
<sup>5</sup> The results tables are annexed. It should be noted that the total of the percentages indicated in the tables in this report may exceed 100% when the respondent was able to choose several answers to the same question.

## I. THE MAIN CONCERNS OF EUROPEANS

### 1 Main concerns at European level: trend

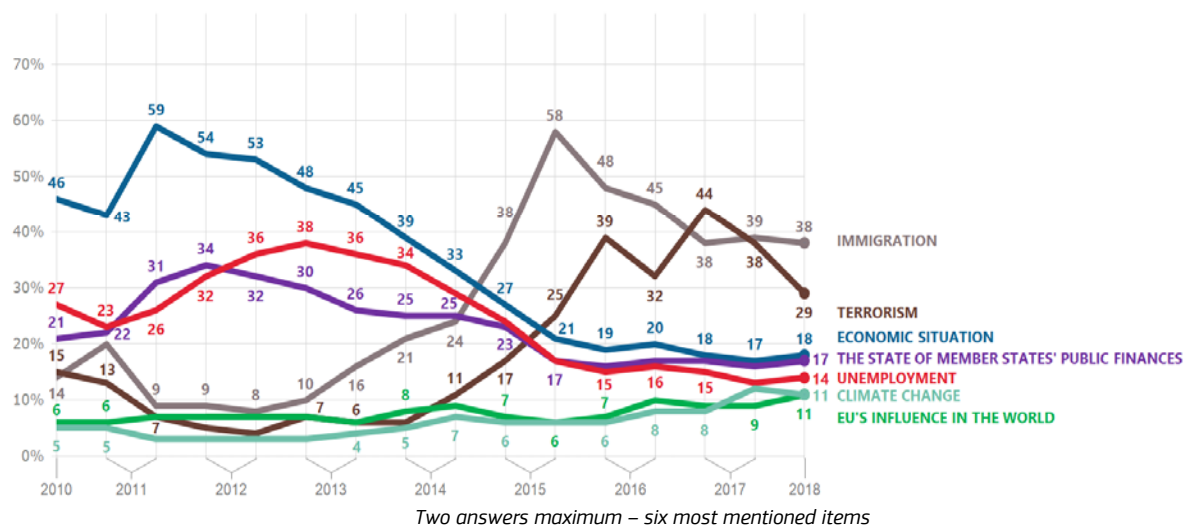
**Immigration remains the leading concern** at EU level, with 38% of mentions (-1 percentage point since autumn 2017). At 29%, **terrorism** remains in second position, though it has lost ground since autumn 2017 (-9, and -15 since spring 2017). The economic issues lag behind, even though they have registered slight increases since autumn 2017: **the economic situation** is in third place (18%, +1), ahead of **the state of Member States' public finances** in fourth (17%, +1) and **unemployment** in fifth (14%, +1). The hierarchy of these top five concerns has remained unchanged since autumn 2017. **The EU's influence in the world** (11%, +2) shares sixth place with **climate change** (11%, -1), which has a double-digit score for the second consecutive time. Other items are mentioned by no more than 10% of respondents: **crime** (10%, unchanged), **rising prices/inflation/cost of living** (9%, +2), **the environment** (8%, unchanged), **energy supply** (4%, +1), **pensions** (4%, =), and **taxation** (4%, +1).

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



Two answers maximum

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





## 2 Main concerns at European level: national results

In first position at EU level with 38% of mentions, **immigration** is seen as the most important issue facing the EU in 21 Member States (up from 14 in autumn 2017). These countries are led by Estonia (62%), the Czech Republic (58%) and Hungary (56%). Immigration is the second most important concern in all the remaining Member States, except Portugal, where it comes in fifth place (with 16% of mentions).

**Terrorism** is mentioned by 29% of Europeans and is in first position in seven countries (down from 13 in autumn 2017): in these countries, it reaches its highest scores in Lithuania (49%), Cyprus (44%) and Ireland (40%). However, terrorism is also much cited, though in second position, in the Czech Republic (47%), Bulgaria and Poland (both 42%) and Latvia (41%). Overall, it is the second most important issue in 15 Member States. In Germany, terrorism stands in equal second place with the state of Member States' public finances, with 24% of mentions.

With 18% of mentions at EU level, the **economic situation** is in third position: it is mentioned by at least a quarter of the population in Greece (30%), Cyprus (26%) and Spain (25%).

In fourth position at EU level, **the state of Member States' public finances** is mentioned by 17% of EU citizens, most strikingly in the Netherlands (34%), Germany (24%), and Austria and Portugal (both 22%): in these four countries, it is the second answer given (equal with terrorism in Germany). High proportions of citizens also mentioned this item in Greece (27%) and Finland (22%).






























In fifth position, **unemployment** is mentioned by 14% of respondents at EU level. It reaches its highest score in Italy (28%), where it is in second place.

In equal sixth place at EU level (level with climate change) with 11% of mentions, **the EU's influence in the world** reaches its highest score in the Netherlands where it is the third answer given (24%).

**Climate change** reaches its highest score in Sweden, where it is in second position (29%). Climate change is in third place in Finland (25%), Denmark (24%) and Ireland (15%, equal with rising prices/inflation/cost of living), and it is also mentioned by more than a fifth of respondents in the Netherlands (22%).

Other items are mentioned by 10% or less at EU level.

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

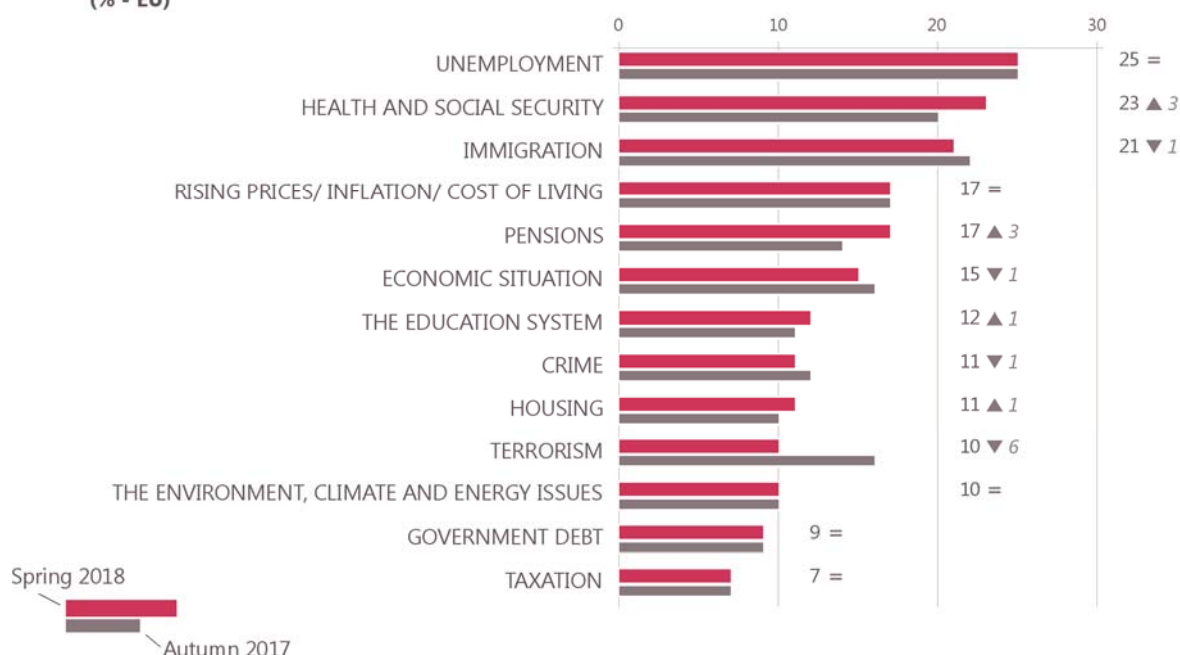
		Immigration	Terrorism	Economic situation	The state of Member States' public finances	Unemployment	EU's influence in the world	Climate change	Crime	Rising prices/ inflation/ cost of living	The environment	Energy supply	Pensions	Taxation
EU28		38	29	18	17	14	11	11	10	9	8	4	4	4
BE		42	24	19	15	12	11	17	13	12	13	7	7	4
BG		46	42	12	9	5	9	6	11	8	5	4	4	2
CZ		58	47	11	16	2	11	5	13	7	7	2	3	3
DK		54	25	15	10	10	14	24	8	2	14	2	1	1
DE		42	24	13	24	15	15	12	12	7	7	5	3	2
EE		62	35	13	13	5	12	5	6	7	4	3	1	2
IE		30	40	14	11	13	10	15	11	15	10	5	3	5
EL		37	29	30	27	14	19	2	14	4	3	4	1	4
ES		27	30	25	17	22	7	6	5	8	6	2	7	6
FR		39	27	17	15	15	9	16	9	13	12	3	7	2
HR		26	38	22	21	11	12	10	13	11	4	6	2	3
IT		41	22	24	15	28	5	6	12	9	5	6	7	9
CY		41	44	26	11	18	4	9	12	7	3	2	1	2
LV		47	41	16	15	8	10	7	8	8	3	3	3	5
LT		35	49	14	11	6	6	9	13	14	2	3	2	5
LU		35	34	14	17	17	10	13	15	10	7	5	3	2
HU		56	38	16	15	6	10	9	12	7	3	5	4	2
MT		55	31	8	6	6	3	8	13	2	9	2	2	3
NL		45	21	14	34	6	24	22	3	4	11	5	1	2
AT		38	20	15	22	14	16	15	14	14	10	5	7	5
PL		45	42	11	13	4	6	6	10	11	8	5	4	3
PT		16	38	17	22	17	5	9	5	7	4	2	4	4
RO		29	30	13	14	8	9	13	11	13	8	7	4	8
SI		41	27	15	11	9	10	11	15	5	7	5	3	4
SK		44	30	14	21	4	7	7	16	14	8	3	3	3
FI		40	32	17	22	8	16	25	7	5	10	4	2	3
SE		42	24	18	16	8	18	29	8	3	19	6	2	1
UK		29	25	21	13	9	17	10	6	10	6	3	2	2
1st MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM		2nd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM					3rd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM							

Two answers maximum

### 3 Main concerns at national level: trend

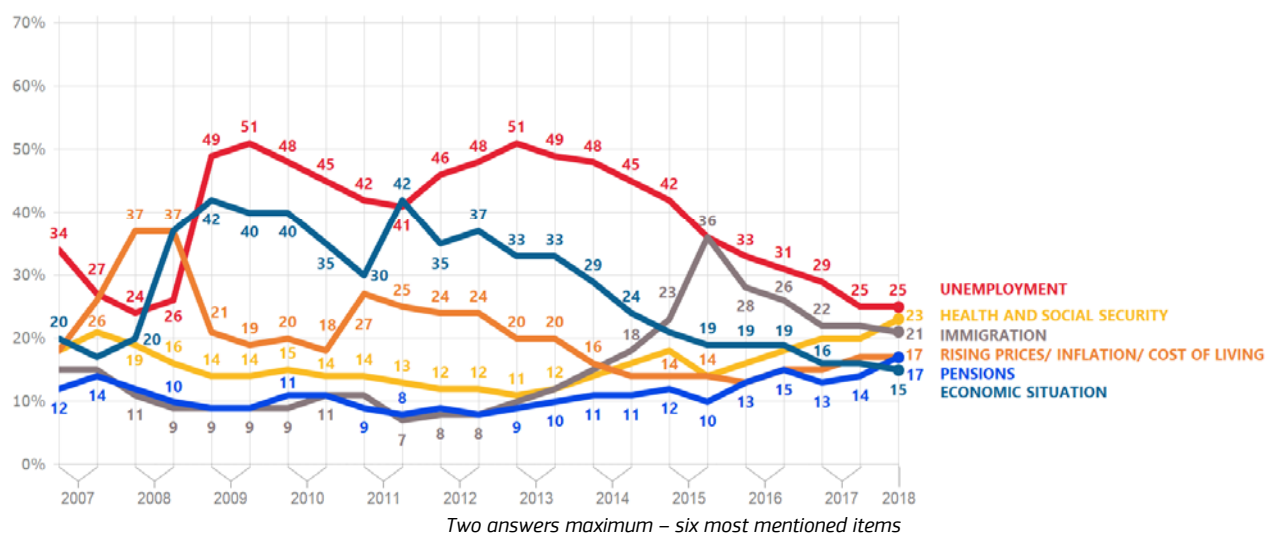
In first place, mentioned by a quarter of EU citizens (25%, unchanged since autumn 2017), **unemployment** remains the most important issue at national level. At 23%, after a 3-point increase since autumn 2017, **health and social security** reaches a new high and is now in second place for the first time since spring 2007. **Immigration** is in third position (21%, -1 percentage point). **Rising prices/inflation/cost of living** (17%, =) and **pensions** (17%, +3) share the fourth place. In sixth position, **the economic situation** is cited by 15% of respondents (-1), falling to its lowest level since spring 2007. **The education system** is in seventh place (12%, +1), while **crime** (11%, -1) and **housing** (11%, +1) are in equal eighth place. Four other items are mentioned by 10% or less of the population: **terrorism**, after a significant 6-point decrease (10%), **the environment, climate and energy issues** (10%, =), **government debt** (9%, =) and **taxation** (7%, =).

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



Two answers maximum

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



## 4 Main concerns at national level: national results

In first place at EU level with 25% of mentions, **unemployment** is in first position in six Member States (as in autumn 2017), led by Greece (54%), Spain (52%) and Croatia (51%). It comes in second place in three countries. In Slovenia, unemployment is in equal second place with the economic situation (both 23%).

**Health and social security** is mentioned by 23% of Europeans, in second place, and in first place in nine EU Member States (up from eight in autumn 2017), with the highest scores in the Netherlands (49%), Sweden (48%) and Finland (47%). In Denmark, it is also the most cited item jointly with immigration (both 34%). Health and social security is in second position in six other Member States.

**Immigration** is in third place at EU level, mentioned by 21% of Europeans, and stands in first place in Malta (39%), Germany (38%), Austria (29%) and Belgium (26%). It was already in first place in the three latter countries in autumn 2017.

**Rising prices/inflation/cost of living** is in equal fourth place, with 17% of mentions at EU level, and comes first in five Member States (down from six in autumn 2017), most strikingly in Lithuania (63%), but also in Estonia (38%), Bulgaria and the Czech Republic (both 35%) and Romania (33%).

Sharing the fourth place with rising prices/inflation/cost of living, **pensions** is most mentioned in Spain (41%), the Czech Republic (29%) and Belgium (24%), three countries where it is the second most cited item.

In sixth place at EU level, cited by 15% of EU citizens, the **economic situation** is in first place in Cyprus (49%). It also reaches a high score in Greece (45%), where it is the second answer given.






























The **education system** is mentioned by 12% of EU citizens, in seventh position, but by more than a third of respondents in Sweden (34%), where it is in second position, and more than one in five in Germany, Denmark and the Netherlands (all 22%) and Luxembourg (21%).

**Crime**, in equal eighth place along with housing (11% for both items), is most mentioned in Malta (30%), where it is the second most mentioned item. **Housing** remains the leading national issue in Luxembourg (58%) and Ireland (56%), and is in second place in the United Kingdom (22%).

In equal tenth place, with 10% of mentions, **terrorism** is most mentioned in France (22%), where it is in second place, but also in the United-Kingdom (20%). It shares tenth place with **the environment, climate change and energy issues**, which is the second most mentioned item in the Netherlands (36%) and Denmark (29%), and the third in Malta (21%).

Other items are mentioned by less than 10% at EU level.

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

		Unemployment	Health and social security	Immigration	Rising prices/ inflation/ cost of living	Pensions	Economic situation	The education system	Crime	Housing	Terrorism	The environment, climate and energy issues	Government debt	Taxation
EU28		25	23	21	17	17	15	12	11	11	10	10	9	7
BE		18	13	26	19	24	11	10	14	6	13	18	13	10
BG		20	28	10	35	17	29	9	19	2	3	4	4	3
CZ		4	18	17	35	29	9	10	12	14	5	8	16	8
DK		4	34	34	7	9	5	22	14	4	11	29	2	8
DE		8	23	38	10	16	3	22	17	20	12	14	4	3
EE		15	31	10	38	19	18	9	3	1	2	7	2	28
IE		14	41	7	20	6	8	5	12	56	2	7	5	6
EL		54	8	13	9	8	45	4	8	0	2	0	29	17
ES		52	10	6	10	41	25	6	8	3	7	2	7	5
FR		40	14	17	17	15	11	11	10	7	22	13	11	6
HR		51	10	7	28	10	28	7	12	3	1	3	19	7
IT		48	7	35	10	14	25	4	9	2	5	4	14	17
CY		40	15	11	15	7	49	10	8	4	2	2	10	5
LV		22	37	7	31	20	19	13	3	2	1	2	5	28
LT		25	14	11	63	16	17	11	5	2	1	1	3	20
LU		14	8	16	26	6	2	21	5	58	3	12	3	6
HU		14	46	24	22	14	17	13	7	6	7	5	8	5
MT		2	8	39	17	7	5	6	30	20	3	21	3	3
NL		4	49	21	7	7	9	22	8	17	9	36	1	4
AT		17	22	29	21	14	11	19	17	12	7	9	11	6
PL		10	38	8	35	21	11	7	5	8	4	9	14	9
PT		32	26	2	20	15	22	7	4	3	3	9	16	8
RO		14	26	4	33	15	25	13	12	6	3	6	8	13
SI		23	39	6	8	21	23	6	10	3	2	3	16	11
SK		15	34	9	30	14	20	8	16	8	3	5	9	7
FI		26	47	22	8	11	14	14	4	4	6	20	14	5
SE		9	48	25	2	7	6	34	23	10	3	24	1	3
UK		12	33	17	21	5	13	12	12	22	20	9	7	3
1st MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM		2nd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM					3rd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM							

Two answers maximum

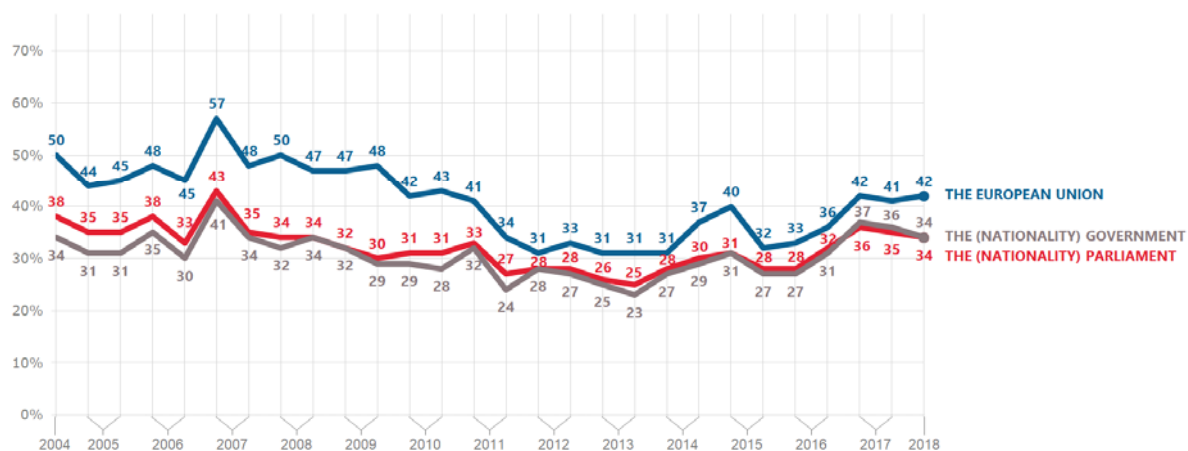
## II. EUROPEANS AND POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS

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

Overall, 42% of Europeans trust the European Union, more than the proportion who trust their national parliament and their national government (34% for both institutions). While trust in the European Union has increased slightly (+1 percentage point since autumn 2017), trust in national governments (34%, -2) and in national parliaments (34%, -1) have lost ground, for the second consecutive time. At 42%, trust in the European Union remains at its highest level since autumn 2010.

An increasing majority of Europeans distrust national governments (61% “tend not to trust”, +2 percentage points since autumn 2017) and national parliaments (60%, +2). They also “tend not to trust” the European Union but to a lesser extent (48%, unchanged).

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

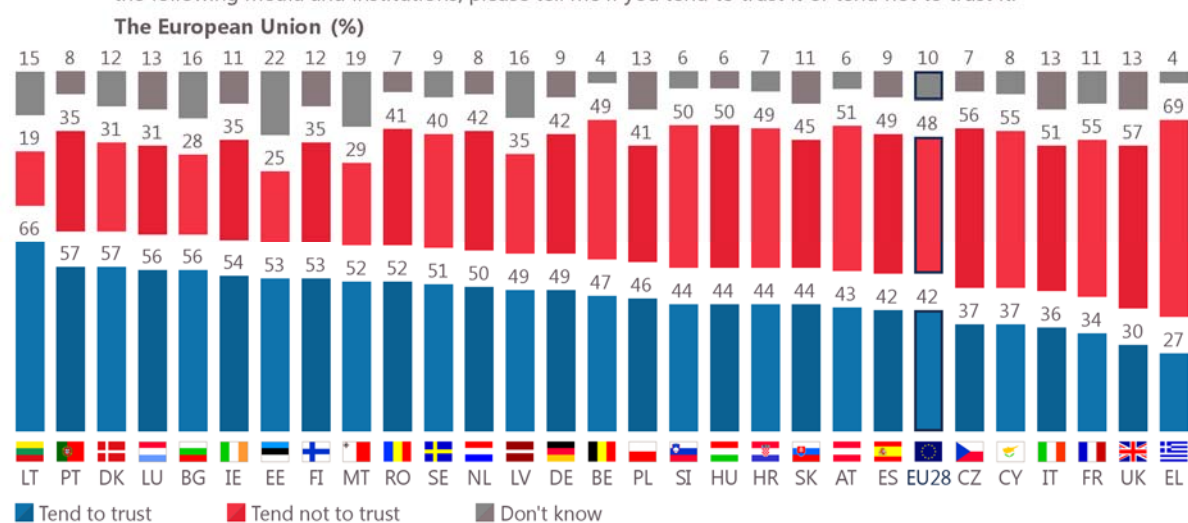


## 2 Trust in the European Union: national results and evolutions

A majority of respondents trust the EU in 15 EU Member States (down from 18 in autumn 2017), led by Lithuania (66%), Portugal and Denmark (both 57%). Conversely, a majority of respondents tend not to trust the EU in 13 countries, most strikingly in Greece (69%), the United Kingdom (57%) and Czech Republic (56%).

Since autumn 2017, trust in the EU has gained ground in 19 EU Member States, in particular in Portugal (57%, +6 percentage points) and Slovenia (44%, +6). It has lost ground in six countries, in particular in Belgium (47%, -6), Hungary (44%, -5) and Slovakia (44%, -4). Because of these evolutions, a majority of respondents now distrust the EU in Hungary, Belgium, and Slovakia whereas trust was the majority view in autumn 2017. Finally, trust levels have remained unchanged in Luxembourg, Finland and the Netherlands.






























**QA8a.10** I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain media and institutions. For each of the following media and institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.





**QA8a.10** I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain media and institutions. For each of the following media and institutions, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.

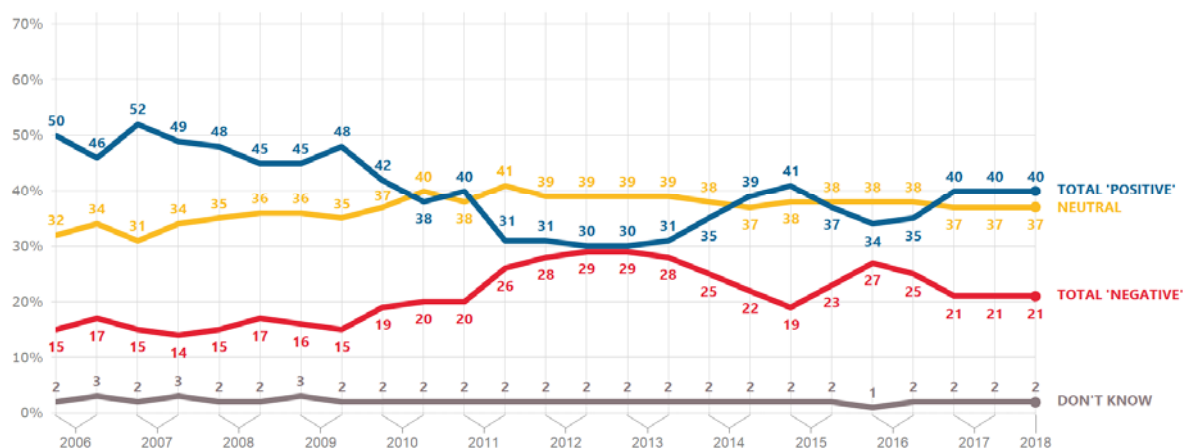
**The European Union (%)**

		Tend to trust	Sp.2018 - Aut.2017	Tend not to trust	Sp.2018 - Aut.2017	Don't know
EU28		42	▲ 1	48	=	10
PT		57	▲ 6	35	▼ 4	8
SI		44	▲ 6	50	▼ 5	6
DK		57	▲ 5	31	▼ 6	12
HR		44	▲ 5	49	▼ 2	7
AT		43	▲ 5	51	▼ 4	6
IE		54	▲ 4	35	▼ 3	11
EE		53	▲ 4	25	▼ 3	22
LV		49	▲ 4	35	▼ 3	16
EL		27	▲ 4	69	▼ 5	4
PL		46	▲ 3	41	▼ 1	13
LT		66	▲ 2	19	▼ 2	15
DE		49	▲ 2	42	=	9
CZ		37	▲ 2	56	=	7
IT		36	▲ 2	51	▼ 1	13
MT		52	▲ 1	29	=	19
RO		52	▲ 1	41	=	7
CY		37	▲ 1	55	▼ 1	8
FR		34	▲ 1	55	▼ 1	11
UK		30	▲ 1	57	▼ 2	13
LU		56	=	31	▼ 3	13
FI		53	=	35	▼ 3	12
NL		50	=	42	▼ 1	8
BG		56	▼ 1	28	▼ 1	16
SE		51	▼ 1	40	▲ 3	9
ES		42	▼ 2	49	▲ 2	9
SK		44	▼ 4	45	▲ 2	11
HU		44	▼ 5	50	▲ 7	6
BE		47	▼ 6	49	▲ 5	4

### 3 The image of the European Union: trend

A majority of Europeans have a **positive image** of the EU (40%). Their proportion continues to exceed those who have a **neutral image** of the EU (37%), while just above a fifth of Europeans have a **negative image** of the EU (21%). These results have remained perfectly unchanged since spring 2017.

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



## 4 The image of the European Union: national results and evolutions






























In 15 Member States, a majority of respondents have a **positive image** of the EU (up from 14 in autumn 2017), with the highest scores registered in Ireland (64%), Bulgaria and Portugal (both 56%) and Luxembourg (54%).

The EU predominantly conjures up a **neutral image** for respondents in 12 countries (up from 10 in autumn 2017), led by Spain (50%), and Latvia, Croatia and Slovakia (all 47%).

For the fourth successive time (from autumn 2016 to spring 2018), respondents in Greece are the only ones to have a predominantly **negative image** of the EU (37%); 36% have a neutral image of the EU and 27% a positive image.

Since autumn 2017, the proportion of respondents with a positive image of the EU has increased in 15 Member States, in particular in Ireland (64%, +5 percentage points), Malta (50%, +5) and Latvia (38%, +5). This proportion has declined in 12 countries, most strikingly in Spain (33%, -6) and Slovakia (33%, -5), and remains unchanged in Poland.

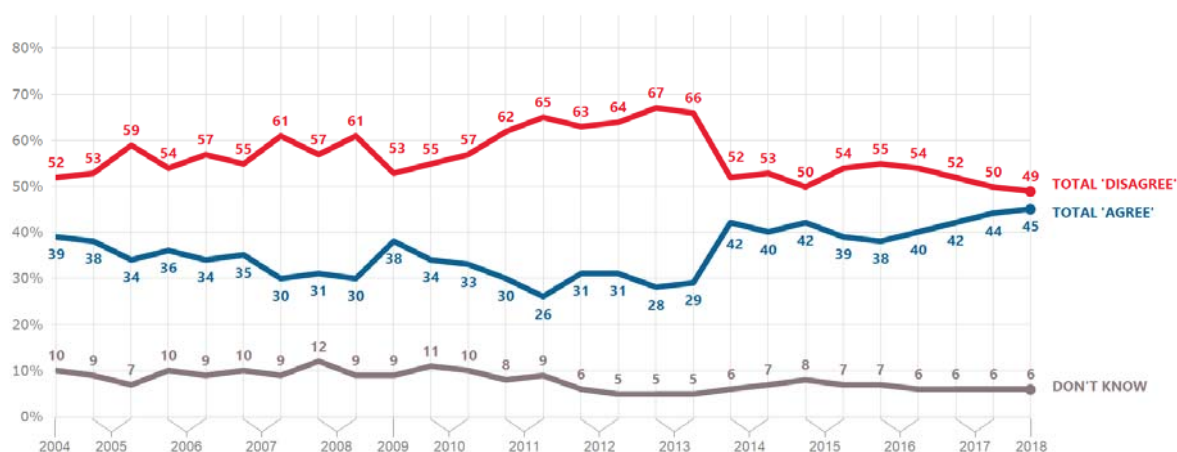
**QA9** In general, does the EU conjure up for you a very positive, fairly positive, neutral, fairly negative or very negative image?  
(%)

		Total 'Positive'	Sp.2018 - Aut.2017	Neutral	Sp.2018 - Aut.2017	Total 'Negative'	Sp.2018 - Aut.2017	Don't know
EU28		40	=	37	=	21	=	2
IE		64	▲ 5	27	▼ 3	8	▼ 1	1
MT		50	▲ 5	38	▼ 7	9	▲ 1	3
LV		38	▲ 5	47	▼ 5	13	=	2
DE		49	▲ 4	34	▼ 4	17	▲ 1	0
AT		36	▲ 4	38	▼ 1	25	▼ 3	1
EL		27	▲ 4	36	▲ 3	37	▼ 6	0
PT		56	▲ 3	31	▼ 1	11	▼ 1	2
RO		50	▲ 3	33	▼ 5	15	▲ 1	2
EE		42	▲ 3	46	▼ 3	10	▼ 1	2
NL		42	▲ 3	35	▼ 4	23	▲ 1	0
HR		34	▲ 3	47	▼ 3	18	=	1
DK		43	▲ 2	42	▲ 3	14	▼ 4	1
LT		47	▲ 1	45	▼ 1	7	=	1
SE		42	▲ 1	33	▼ 7	25	▲ 6	0
CZ		31	▲ 1	39	=	30	=	0
PL		50	=	37	▲ 1	12	▼ 1	1
BG		56	▼ 1	25	=	13	▼ 1	6
FI		40	▼ 1	43	▲ 1	16	▼ 1	1
BE		39	▼ 1	38	▲ 2	23	▼ 1	0
FR		36	▼ 1	38	▲ 2	25	=	1
SI		36	▼ 1	46	▲ 2	17	▼ 1	1
CY		34	▼ 1	41	▲ 2	25	=	0
UK		34	▼ 1	33	▲ 5	29	▼ 4	4
HU		41	▼ 2	38	▼ 3	20	▲ 5	1
IT		35	▼ 2	39	▲ 3	23	=	3
LU		54	▼ 3	32	▲ 7	13	▼ 4	1
SK		33	▼ 5	47	▲ 4	18	▲ 1	2
ES		33	▼ 6	50	▲ 3	15	▲ 2	2

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

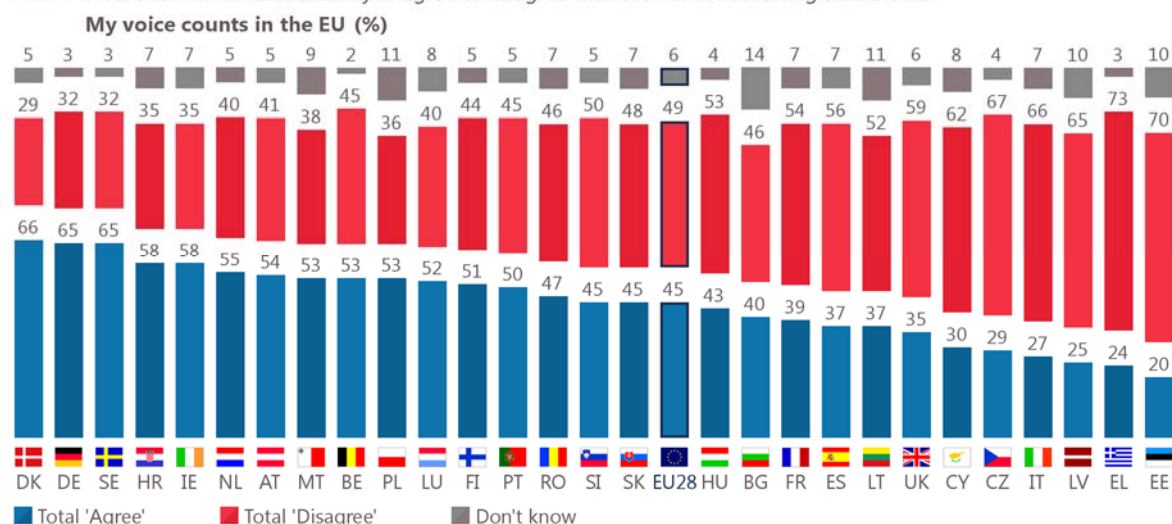
The proportion of EU citizens who consider that their **"voice counts in the EU"** has reached a new high after a fourth successive increase (45%, +1 percentage point since autumn 2017, and +7 since spring 2016). For the first time since autumn 2004, less than half of respondents now disagree with this statement (49%, -1 percentage point since autumn 2017). At -4, the index of agreement<sup>6</sup> has reached a new record. Finally, 6% (unchanged) answer that they "don't know".

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



A majority of respondents agree that their voice counts in the European Union in 14 Member States (up from 13 in autumn 2017), led by Denmark (66%) and Germany and Sweden (both 65%). In 14 countries, a majority of respondents disagree with this statement, with the highest proportions in Greece (73%), Estonia (70%) and the Czech Republic (67%).

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

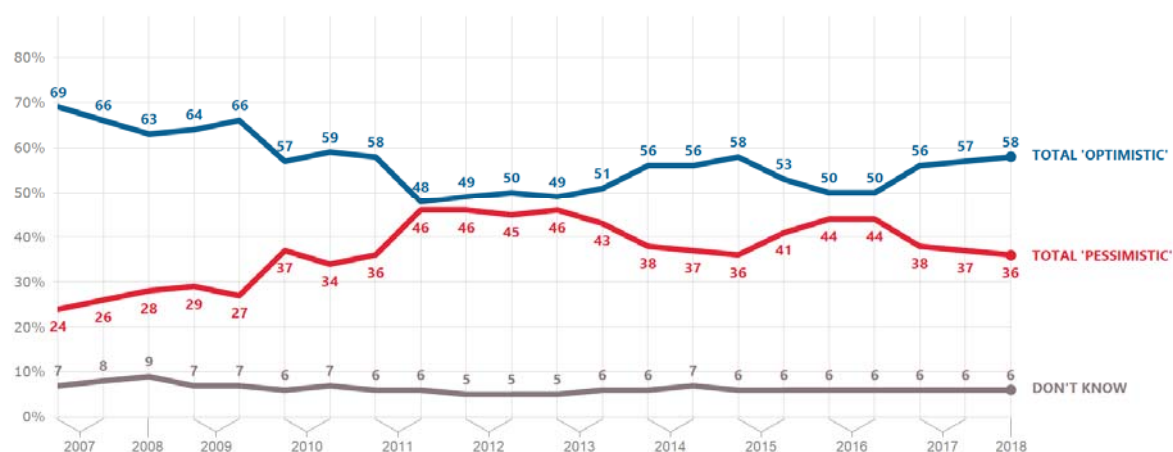


<sup>6</sup> Difference between the scores for the answers "agree" and "disagree".

## 6 The future of the European Union: trend

After a third consecutive increase, 58% of respondents say they are **optimistic for the future of the European Union** (+1 percentage point since autumn 2017, and +8 since autumn 2016). More than a third are pessimistic (36%, -1 since autumn 2017), and 6% (unchanged) answer that they “don’t know”. As a consequence of these evolutions, the index of optimism<sup>7</sup> has gained 16 points since autumn 2016 (from +6 up to +22).

**QA19** Would you say that you are very optimistic, fairly optimistic, fairly pessimistic or very pessimistic about the future of the EU?  
(% - EU)



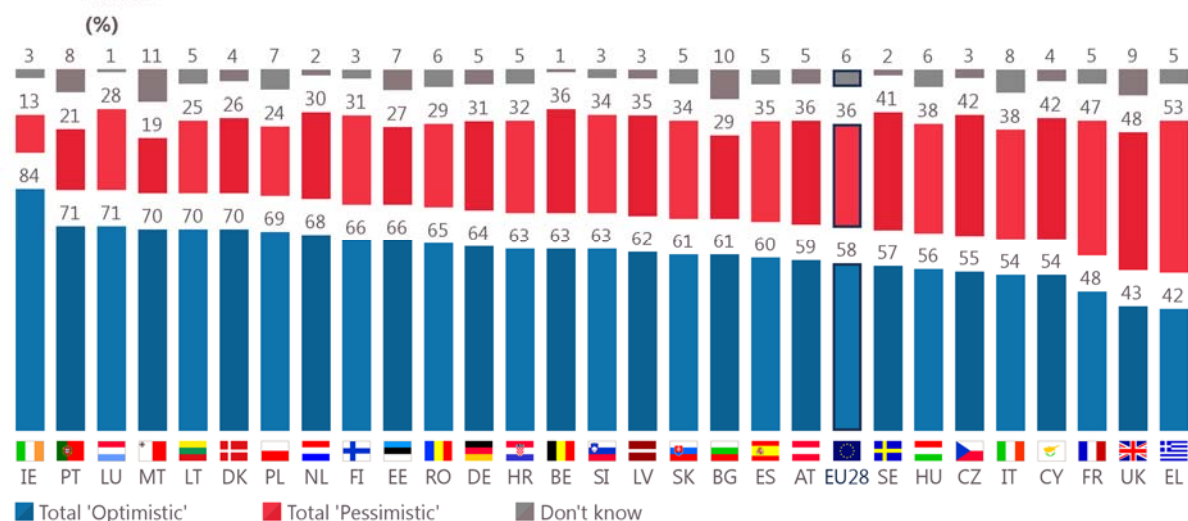
<sup>7</sup> Difference between the scores for the answers “optimistic” and “pessimistic”.

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






























**Optimism for the future of the European Union** is predominant in 26 Member States (as in autumn 2017); conversely, pessimism remains the majority view in Greece (53% vs. 42% “optimistic”) and in the United Kingdom (48% vs. 43%). Optimism for the future of the EU is most pronounced in Ireland, which stands out with 84% of respondents saying they are optimistic for the future of the EU; next, around seven in ten respondents are optimistic in Portugal and Luxembourg (both 71%), Malta, Lithuania and Denmark (all 70%), Poland (69%) and the Netherlands (68%). At the other end of the scale, optimism is predominant in France, but opinions are fairly evenly divided (48% vs. 47% “pessimistic”).

Since autumn 2017, optimism has grown in 15 countries, most strikingly in Croatia (63%, +7 percentage points), Portugal (71%, +6) and Estonia (66%, +6). It has decreased in eight EU Member States, in particular in Spain (60%, -6), and has remained unchanged in five countries: Malta, the Netherlands, Germany, Bulgaria and Sweden.

**QA19** Would you say that you are very optimistic, fairly optimistic, fairly pessimistic or very pessimistic about the future of the EU?



**QA19** Would you say that you are very optimistic, fairly optimistic, fairly pessimistic or very pessimistic about the future of the EU?  
(%)

		Total 'Optimistic'	Sp.2018 - Aut.2017	Total 'Pessimistic'	Sp.2018 - Aut.2017	Don't know
EU28		58	▲ 1	36	▼ 1	6
EURO AREA		58	=	37	=	5
NON-EURO AREA		56	=	37	=	7
HR		63	▲ 7	32	▼ 9	5
PT		71	▲ 6	21	▼ 4	8
EE		66	▲ 6	27	▼ 6	7
EL		42	▲ 5	53	▼ 7	5
IE		84	▲ 4	13	▼ 3	3
LV		62	▲ 4	35	▼ 4	3
IT		54	▲ 4	38	▼ 2	8
PL		69	▲ 3	24	▼ 1	7
DK		70	▲ 2	26	▼ 2	4
LT		70	▲ 2	25	▼ 3	5
BE		63	▲ 2	36	▼ 3	1
SK		61	▲ 2	34	▼ 2	5
CZ		55	▲ 2	42	▼ 3	3
AT		59	▲ 1	36	▼ 2	5
CY		54	▲ 1	42	=	4
MT		70	=	19	▼ 1	11
NL		68	=	30	▼ 1	2
DE		64	=	31	=	5
BG		61	=	29	▼ 2	10
SE		57	=	41	▼ 1	2
LU		71	▼ 1	28	▲ 2	1
RO		65	▼ 1	29	=	6
SI		63	▼ 1	34	=	3
FR		48	▼ 1	47	=	5
UK		43	▼ 1	48	=	9
HU		56	▼ 2	38	▲ 2	6
FI		66	▼ 3	31	▲ 2	3
ES		60	▼ 6	35	▲ 6	5

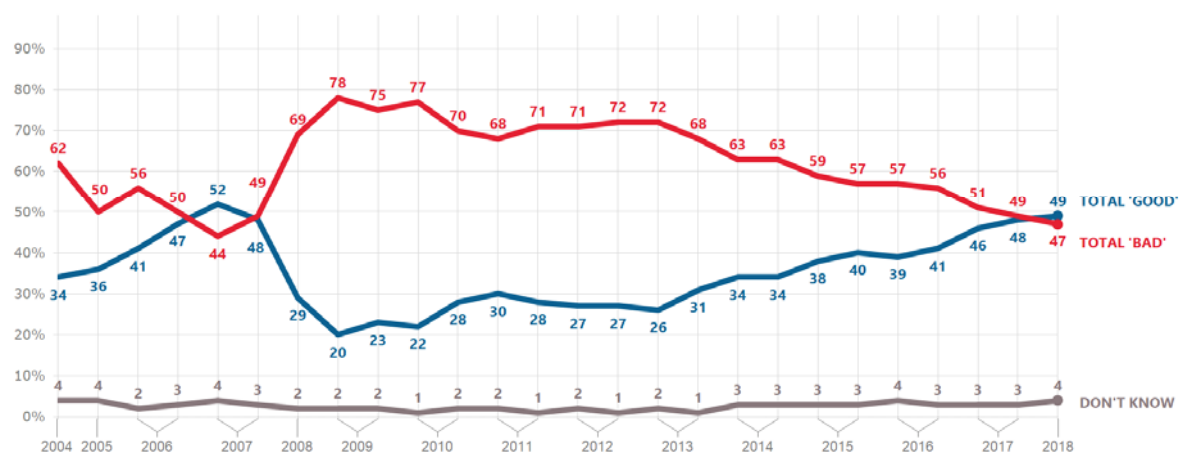


### III. THE ECONOMIC SITUATION

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

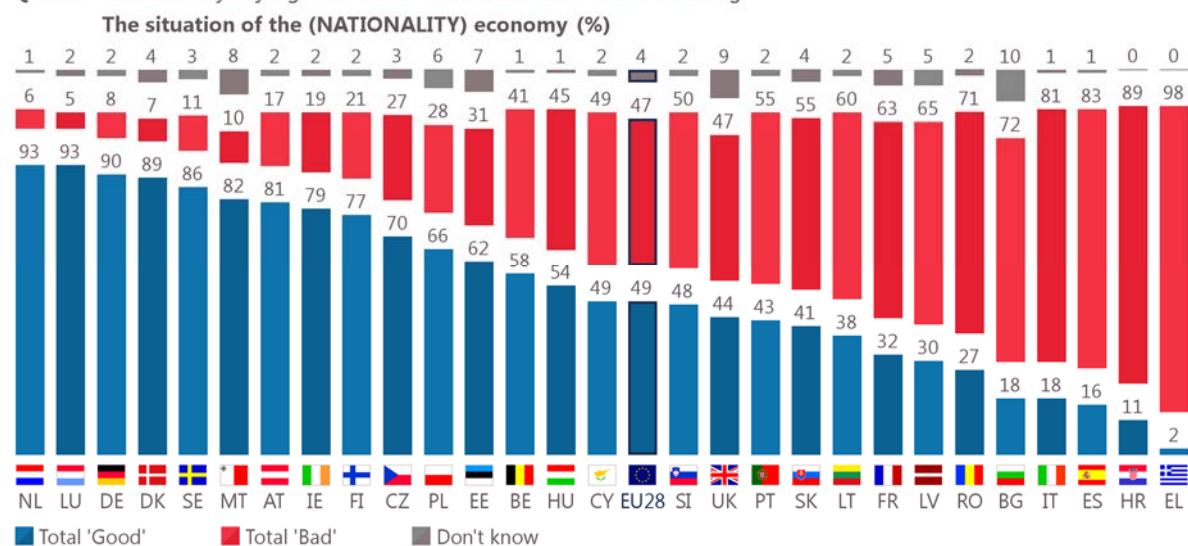
After a 1-point increase since autumn 2017, close to half of EU citizens think that **the current situation of their national economy** is “good” (49%). Conversely, 47% think the situation is “bad” (-2 percentage points since autumn 2017), and 4% (+1) answer that they “don’t know”. The proportion of respondents who are positive about the situation of their national economy has gained 29 percentage points since spring 2009, when it stood at 20%. It is the second time since 2004 that a majority of respondents think that the situation of their national economy is good (52% “good” vs. 44% “bad” in spring 2007).

QA1a.2 How would you judge the current situation in each of the following?  
The situation of the (NATIONALITY) economy (% - EU)
































While the situation has continued to improve at EU level, **the differences between EU Member States remain spectacular**: 91 percentage points separate the Netherlands and Luxembourg, where 93% of the population say that the situation of the national economy is good, from Greece, where only 2% do so. As in spring and autumn 2017, a majority of respondents say that the national economic situation is good in 14 EU Member States, led by the Netherlands (93%), Luxembourg (93%) and Germany (90%). More than eight in ten respondents also hold this view in Denmark (89%), Sweden (86%), Malta (82%) and Austria (81%). At the other end of the scale, the lowest proportions of “good” answers are recorded in Greece (2%), Croatia (11%), Spain (16%), Italy (18%) and Bulgaria (18%). It is the minority view in 13 countries. Public opinion is divided in Cyprus (49% vs. 49%).

QA1a.2 How would you judge the current situation in each of the following?



Since autumn 2017, **positive assessments of the national economy have gained ground in 18 EU Member States**, most strikingly in Portugal (43%, +10 percentage points), Ireland (79%, +7), Finland (77%, +6) and Lithuania (38%, +6). In contrast, this positive perception has decreased in seven countries, in particular in Malta (82%, -7). Finally, it remains unchanged in the United Kingdom, Bulgaria and Greece.

**QA1a.2** How would you judge the current situation in each of the following?  
**The situation of the (NATIONALITY) economy (%)**

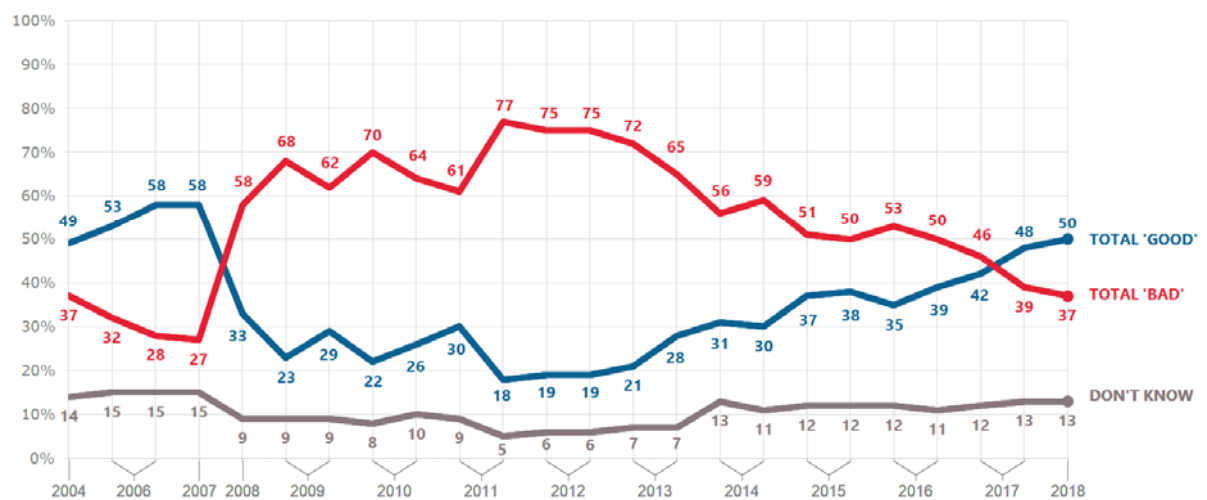
		Total 'Good'	Sp.2018 - Aut.2017	Total 'Bad'	Sp.2018 - Aut.2017	Don't know
EU28		49	▲ 1	47	▼ 2	4
EURO AREA		48	▲ 1	50	▼ 1	2
NON-EURO AREA		51	▲ 1	43	▼ 2	6
PT		43	▲ 10	55	▼ 8	2
IE		79	▲ 7	19	▼ 7	2
FI		77	▲ 6	21	▼ 6	2
LT		38	▲ 6	60	▼ 5	2
LU		93	▲ 5	5	▼ 4	2
CY		49	▲ 5	49	▼ 6	2
LV		30	▲ 5	65	▼ 5	5
RO		27	▲ 5	71	▼ 5	2
AT		81	▲ 4	17	▼ 5	2
PL		66	▲ 4	28	▼ 3	6
HU		54	▲ 4	45	▼ 4	1
DK		89	▲ 3	7	▼ 2	4
EE		62	▲ 3	31	▼ 2	7
FR		32	▲ 3	63	▼ 5	5
NL		93	▲ 2	6	▼ 3	1
CZ		70	▲ 2	27	▼ 3	3
SI		48	▲ 2	50	▼ 2	2
SK		41	▲ 1	55	▼ 1	4
UK		44	=	47	▼ 1	9
BG		18	=	72	▼ 2	10
EL		2	=	98	=	0
DE		90	▼ 1	8	=	2
IT		18	▼ 1	81	▲ 1	1
HR		11	▼ 1	89	▲ 2	0
BE		58	▼ 2	41	▲ 2	1
SE		86	▼ 4	11	▲ 3	3
ES		16	▼ 4	83	▲ 4	1
MT		82	▼ 7	10	▲ 3	8

## 2 Current situation of the economy at European level: trend, national results and evolutions

Half of EU citizens think that **the situation of the European economy** is “good”, after a fourth successive increase (50%, +2 percentage points since autumn 2017, +15 since spring 2016, and +32 since autumn 2011). Conversely, 37% think it is “bad” (-2 since autumn 2017), and 13% (unchanged) answer that they “don’t know”.

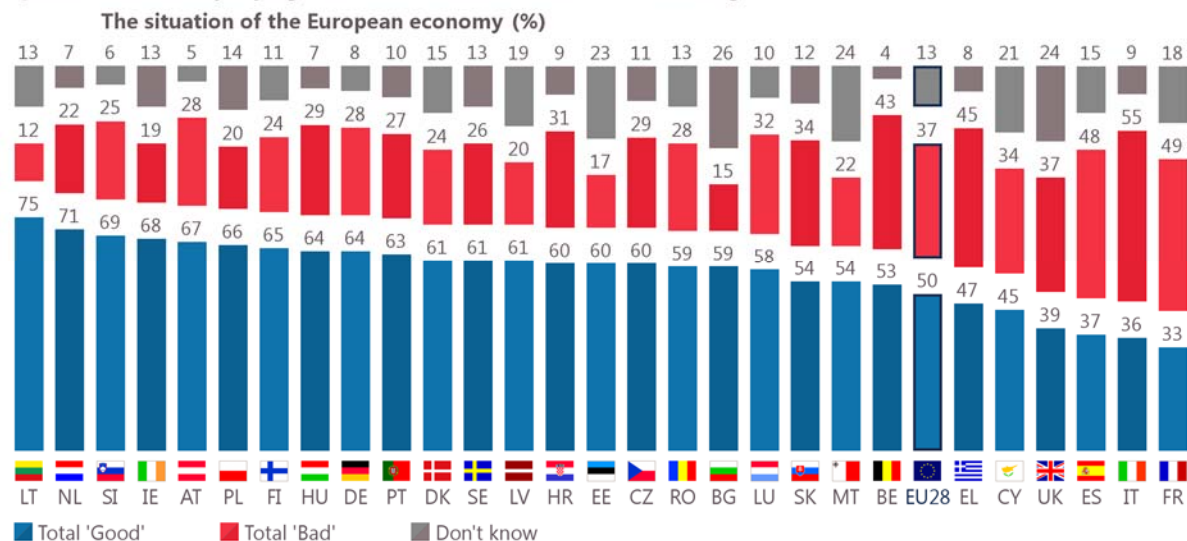
**QA1a.3** How would you judge the current situation in each of the following?

**The situation of the European economy (% - EU)**
































**In 25 Member States, a majority of respondents think that the current situation of the European economy is “good”** (up from 23 in autumn 2017), with the highest scores seen in Lithuania (75%), the Netherlands (71%) and Slovenia (69%). Conversely, a majority think that the current situation of the European economy is “bad” in three countries: in Italy (55% “bad” vs. 36%), in France (49% vs. 33%) and in Spain (48% vs. 37%).

**QA1a.3** How would you judge the current situation in each of the following?



Since autumn 2017, **positive perceptions of the current situation of the European economy have increased in 21 EU Member States**, with the greatest evolutions in Denmark (61%, +8 percentage points), Croatia (60%, +8) and Romania (59%, +8). It has lost ground in seven countries, most strikingly in Malta (54%, -10). As a consequence of these evolutions, a majority of respondents now see the current situation of the European economy in a positive light in Greece and the United Kingdom, where negative perceptions were predominant in autumn 2017.

**QA1a.3** How would you judge the current situation in each of the following?  
**The situation of the European economy (%)**

		Total 'Good'	Sp.2018 - Aut.2017	Total 'Bad'	Sp.2018 - Aut.2017	Don't know
EU28		50	▲ 2	37	▼ 2	13
EURO AREA		49	▲ 2	40	▼ 2	11
NON-EURO AREA		54	▲ 4	29	▼ 3	17
DK		61	▲ 8	24	▼ 8	15
HR		60	▲ 8	31	▼ 7	9
RO		59	▲ 8	28	▼ 8	13
IE		68	▲ 7	19	▼ 7	13
EE		60	▲ 7	17	▼ 3	23
EL		47	▲ 7	45	▼ 7	8
FI		65	▲ 6	24	▼ 7	11
NL		71	▲ 5	22	▼ 5	7
PT		63	▲ 5	27	▼ 2	10
UK		39	▲ 5	37	▼ 6	24
SI		69	▲ 4	25	▼ 4	6
AT		67	▲ 4	28	▼ 6	5
PL		66	▲ 4	20	▲ 1	14
SE		61	▲ 4	26	▼ 3	13
LT		75	▲ 3	12	▼ 4	13
DE		64	▲ 3	28	▼ 3	8
LU		58	▲ 3	32	▼ 3	10
IT		36	▲ 3	55	▼ 3	9
HU		64	▲ 2	29	=	7
LV		61	▲ 2	20	▼ 1	19
BE		53	▲ 2	43	▼ 2	4
CZ		60	▼ 1	29	▲ 1	11
SK		54	▼ 1	34	▼ 1	12
FR		33	▼ 1	49	▼ 1	18
BG		59	▼ 2	15	▼ 2	26
ES		37	▼ 2	48	▲ 2	15
CY		45	▼ 3	34	▼ 2	21
MT		54	▼ 10	22	▲ 10	24

### 3 Expectations for the next twelve months

Optimism about economic prospects for the next 12 months has decreased slightly since autumn 2017: a quarter of respondents think that the next 12 months will be “better” for **the economic situation in their country** (25%, -2 percentage points since autumn 2017); a somewhat lower proportion think that they will be “worse” (23%, unchanged). Positive forecasts of the future of **the economic situation in the EU** also outweigh negative ones slightly: 21% think that the next 12 months will be better (-1), while 19% answer “worse” (-1).

In both cases, a clear majority of Europeans think that the situation will be the same in the next 12 months: 48% for the national economy (+2 percentage points since autumn 2017); 48% for the economic situation in the EU (+1).

This feeling that things will remain the same in the next 12 months is more pronounced when it comes to the personal situation of Europeans: more than six in ten EU citizens expect **the financial situation of their household** to be the same (62%, +2 percentage points since autumn 2017), and 58% feel the same about their personal job situation (unchanged). In both cases, optimism outweighs pessimism: close to a quarter of respondents expect the financial situation of their household to be “better” in the next 12 months (24%, unchanged vs. 12% “worse”, -1), and the same proportion feel the same about their personal job situation (24%, +1 vs. 7%, unchanged).

QA2a What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...?  
(% - EU)



QA2a What are your expectations for the next twelve months: will the next twelve months be better, worse or the same, when it comes to...?  
(% - EU)



Spring 2018  
Autumn 2017



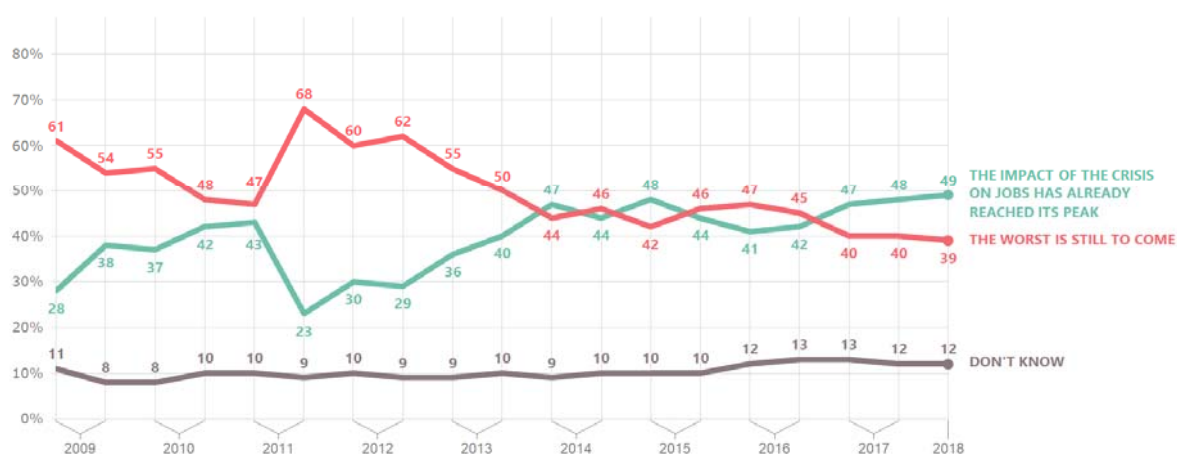
Spring 2018  
Autumn 2017



## 4 Impact of the crisis on jobs: trend

Close to half of EU citizens think that **“the impact of the crisis on jobs has already reached its peak”**, after a fourth successive increase (49%, +1 percentage point since autumn 2017, +8 since spring 2016). This is the highest proportion ever reached on this indicator since spring 2009. Conversely, 39% (-1 since autumn 2017) of respondents think that “the worst is still to come”; this is the first time that this proportion has fallen below the 40% threshold. Finally, 12% answer that they “don’t know” (unchanged).

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

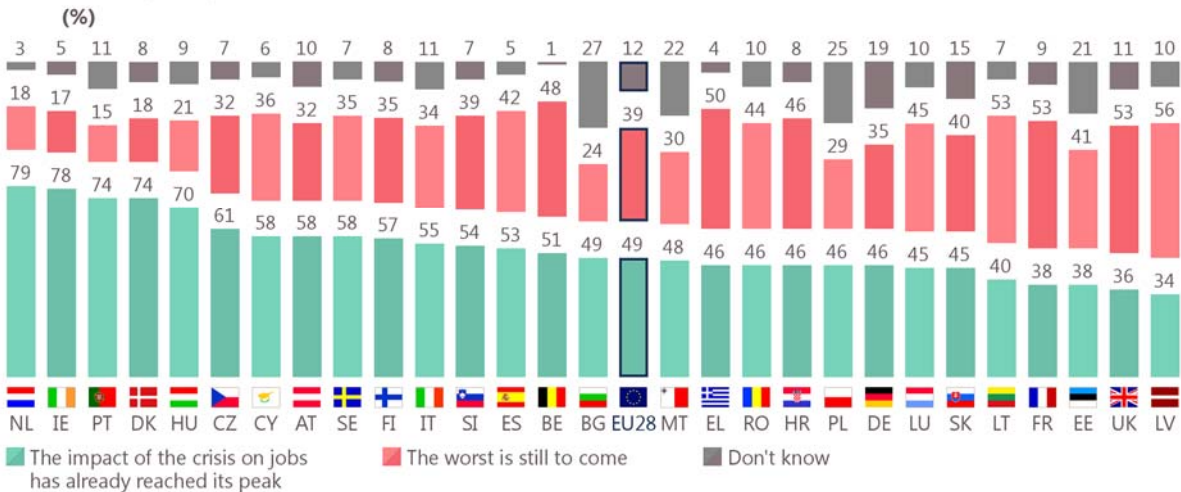




5 Impact of the crisis on jobs: national results and evolutions






























There are substantial differences between EU Member States: 45 percentage points separate the Netherlands, where 79% of respondents consider that “the impact of the crisis on jobs has already reached its peak” from Latvia, where 34% hold this view. Overall, **a majority of respondents are optimistic about the impact of the crisis on jobs in 20 EU Member States** (up from 19 in autumn 2017), led by the Netherlands (79%), Ireland (78%), and Portugal and Denmark (both 74%). **Pessimism remains predominant in six countries:** Latvia (56% “the worst is still to come”), Lithuania, France and the United Kingdom (all 53%), Greece (50% vs. 46%), and Estonia (41% vs. 38%). The proportion of optimists and pessimists are evenly divided in Croatia (46% vs. 46%) and Luxembourg (45% vs. 45%).

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



Since autumn 2017, **optimism about the impact of the crisis on jobs has increased in 17 EU Member States**, most strikingly in Hungary (70%, +9 percentage points), Romania (46%, +9) and Greece (46%, +8). It has decreased in 11 countries, in particular in Spain (53%, -5) and Slovakia (45%, -5). As a consequence, optimism is predominant in Belgium and Romania, where pessimism was the majority view in autumn 2017. Public opinion is now evenly divided in Croatia, where optimism was predominant in autumn 2017, and in Luxembourg, where on the contrary, a majority of respondents were pessimistic in autumn 2017.

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

		The impact of the crisis on jobs has already reached its peak		The worst is still to come		Don't know
		Sp.2018 - Aut.2017		Sp.2018 - Aut.2017		
EU28		49	▲ 1	39	▼ 1	12
EURO AREA		50	=	39	=	11
NON-EURO AREA		46	▲ 2	40	▼ 2	14
HU		70	▲ 9	21	▼ 5	9
RO		46	▲ 9	44	▼ 8	10
EL		46	▲ 8	50	▼ 9	4
CY		58	▲ 7	36	▼ 7	6
IT		55	▲ 6	34	▼ 5	11
IE		78	▲ 5	17	▼ 3	5
PT		74	▲ 4	15	▼ 1	11
BG		49	▲ 4	24	▼ 4	27
LU		45	▲ 4	45	▼ 3	10
BE		51	▲ 3	48	▼ 2	1
EE		38	▲ 3	41	▼ 1	21
NL		79	▲ 2	18	▼ 1	3
FR		38	▲ 2	53	▼ 3	9
UK		36	▲ 2	53	▼ 3	11
CZ		61	▲ 1	32	=	7
PL		46	▲ 1	29	=	25
LT		40	▲ 1	53	=	7
DE		46	▼ 1	35	▲ 3	19
DK		74	▼ 2	18	▲ 3	8
MT		48	▼ 2	30	▲ 1	22
HR		46	▼ 2	46	▲ 2	8
AT		58	▼ 3	32	▲ 3	10
LV		34	▼ 3	56	▲ 3	10
SE		58	▼ 4	35	▲ 3	7
FI		57	▼ 4	35	=	8
SI		54	▼ 4	39	▲ 3	7
ES		53	▼ 5	42	▲ 5	5
SK		45	▼ 5	40	▲ 6	15

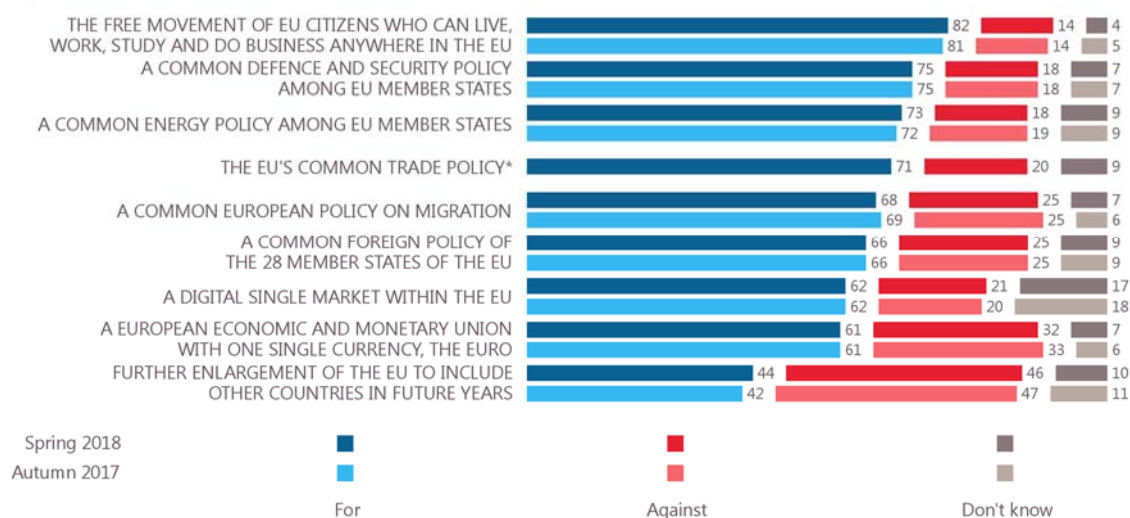
## IV. EUROPEAN UNION'S POLITICAL PRIORITIES

### 1 Overview

**Majorities of EU citizens are in favour of most of the priorities and policies tested in the survey.** Since autumn 2017, this support has changed little, with no evolution greater than two percentage points.

More than eight in ten respondents support **“the free movement of EU citizens who can live, work, study and do business anywhere in the EU”** (82%, +1 percentage point since autumn 2017)<sup>8</sup>. Three-quarters of EU citizens support **“a common defence and security policy among EU Member States”** (75%, unchanged). More than seven in ten Europeans also support **“a common energy policy among EU Member States”** (73%, +1), and **“the EU’s common trade policy”**, which was tested for the first time in this survey. Around two thirds of respondents say that they are for **“a common European policy on migration”** (68%, -1) and **“a common foreign policy of the 28 Member States of the EU”** (66%, =). Above six in ten EU citizens are in favour of **“a digital single market within the EU”** (62%,) and **“a European economic and monetary union with one single currency, the euro”** (61%, =). **“Further enlargement of the EU to include other countries in future years”** remains the sole policy that is supported by only a minority of Europeans (44%, +2 “for” vs. 46% “against”, -1); at -2, the index of support<sup>9</sup> has reached its highest level since autumn 2010 (when it also stood at -2).

**QA16** What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell me for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.  
(% - EU)



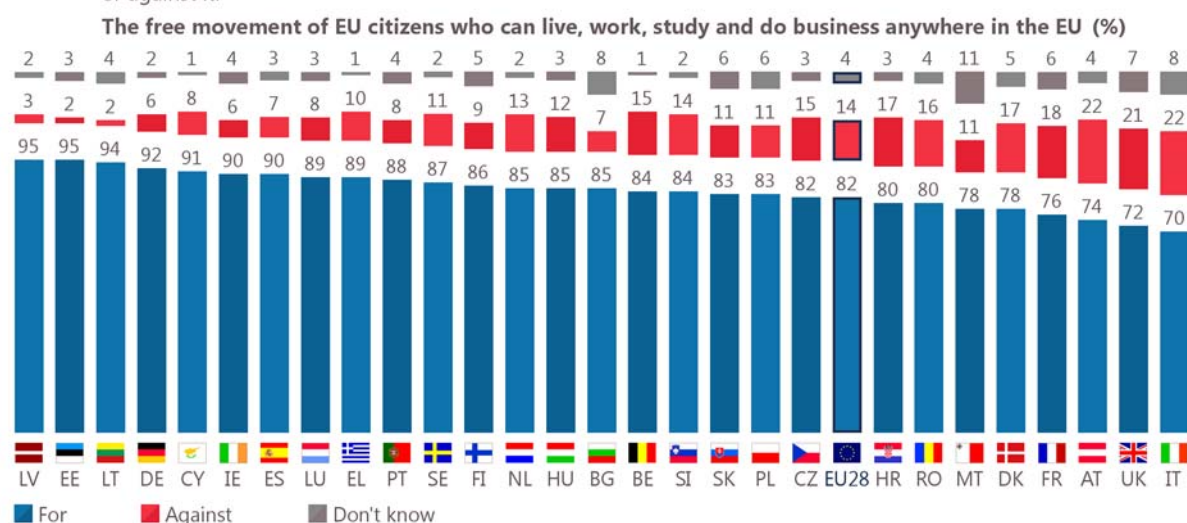
<sup>8</sup> Support for “the free movement of EU citizens who can live, work, study and do business anywhere in the EU” and “a European economic and monetary union with one single currency, the euro” will be analysed in more detail later in this section.

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

## 2 Internal Market - free movement: national results

More than eight in ten EU citizens support **“the free movement of EU citizens who can live, work, study and do business anywhere in the EU”** (82%, +1 percentage point since autumn 2017), and at least seven in ten respondents share this view in all 28 EU Member States. Support is most widespread in the Baltic States, Latvia and Estonia (both 95% “for”), Lithuania (94%), but also in Germany (92%) and Cyprus (91%). At the other end of the scale, support is somewhat less widespread in Italy (70%), the United Kingdom (72%), and Austria (74%); these are the only three countries where more than a fifth of respondents are opposed to “the free movement of EU citizens who can live, work, study and do business anywhere in the EU”, with 22% answering “against” in Italy and Austria, and 21% in the United Kingdom.

**QA16.9** What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell me for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.



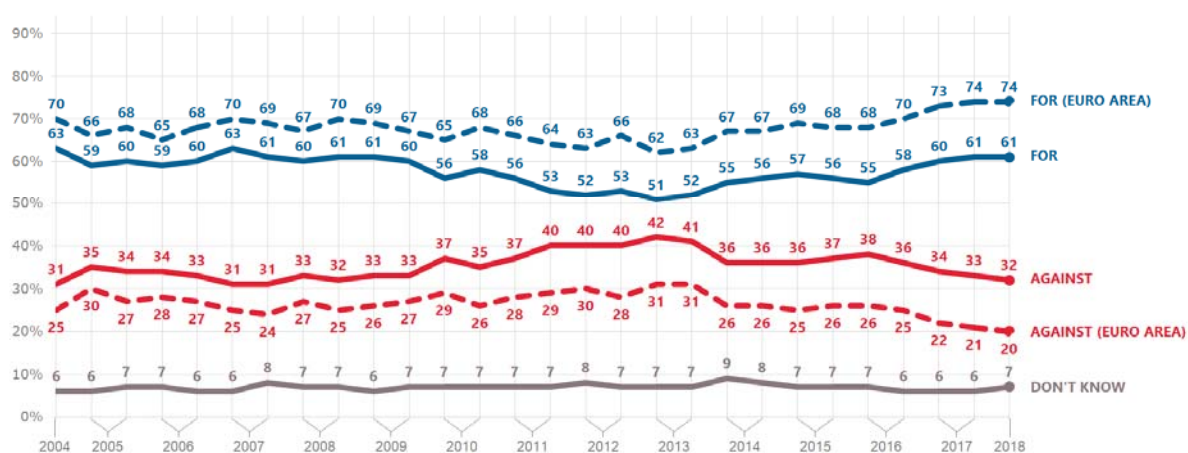
### 3 Support for the euro: trend and national results

Close to three-quarters of respondents in the euro area are in favour of **“a European economic and monetary union with one single currency, the euro”** (74%, unchanged since autumn 2017), while 20% are against (–1 percentage point). At +54, the index of support<sup>10</sup> has reached its highest level since 2004.

Overall, more than six in ten EU citizens support the euro (61%, unchanged since autumn 2017). After a 1-point decrease, opposition has fallen to 32%: it is the first time since autumn 2008 that less than a third of Europeans are opposed to the single currency.

**QA16.1** What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell me for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.

**A European economic and monetary union with one single currency, the euro (% - EU)**

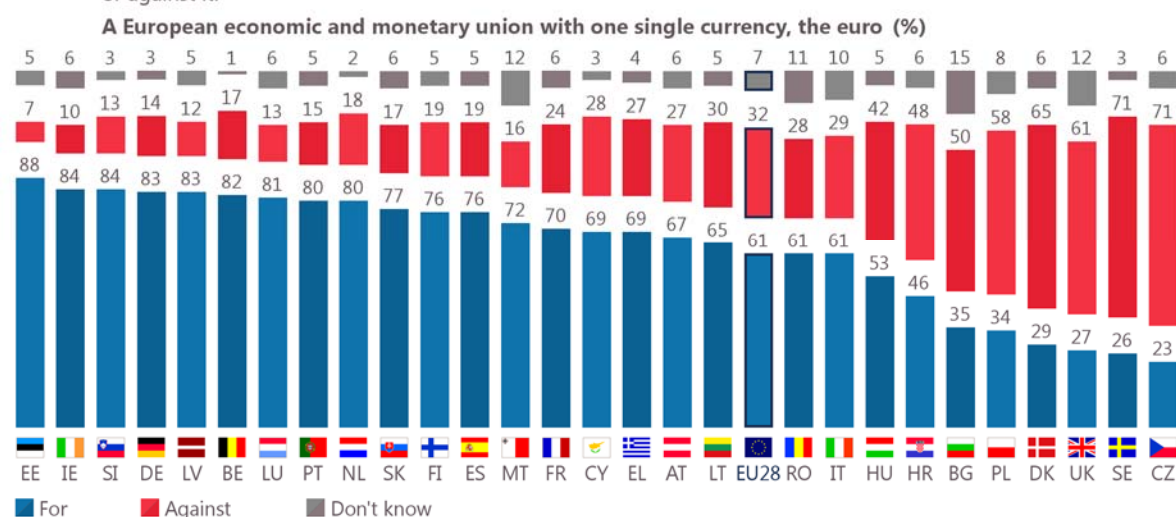


<sup>10</sup> Difference between the scores for the answers “for” and “against”.

As in autumn 2017, **a majority of respondents support the euro in 21 EU Member States**, led by Estonia (88%) and Ireland and Slovenia (both 84%). Though still the majority view, support is less widespread in Hungary (53%), Romania (61%) – two countries outside the euro area – and in Italy (61%). Majorities of respondents are against “a European economic and monetary union with one single currency, the euro” in seven EU Member States, all located outside the euro area: the Czech Republic and Sweden (both 71%), Denmark (65%), the United Kingdom (61%), Poland (58%), Bulgaria (50%) and Croatia (48% vs. 46% “for”).

Since autumn 2017, support for the single currency has gained ground in 15 EU Member States, led by Latvia (83%, +7 percentage points). It has decreased in 12 countries, in particular in Spain (76%, -6), and it remains unchanged in Ireland.

**QA16.1** What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell me for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.



## V. EUROPEAN CITIZENSHIP

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

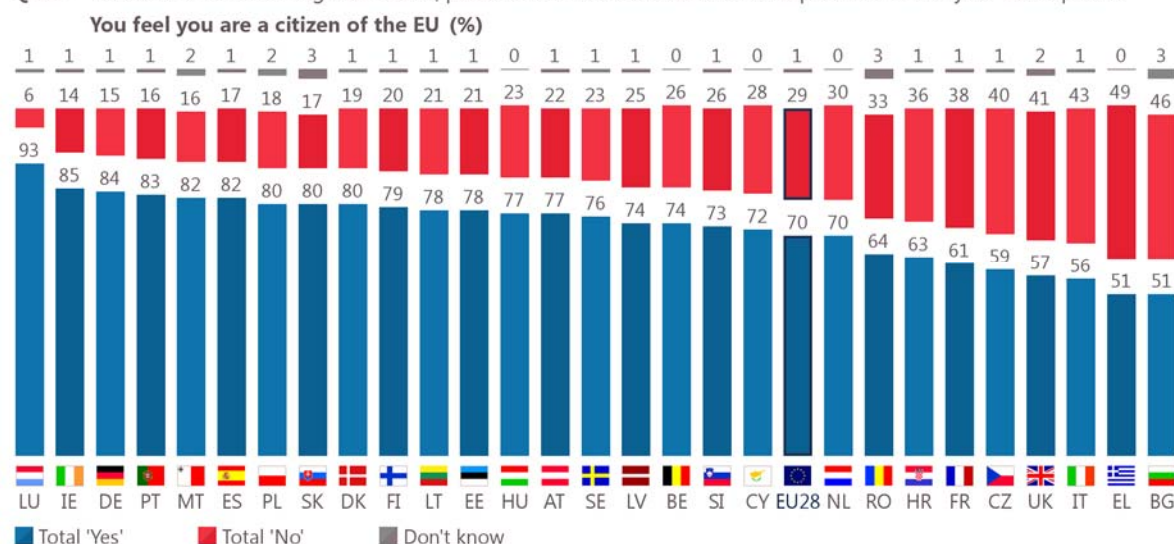
More than half of the population in all 28 EU Member States feel that **they are citizens of the EU** (up from 27 in autumn 2017). It is the first time since spring 2010 that this has been the majority view in all EU countries. On average, this feeling is shared by 70% of respondents in the EU as a whole (unchanged since autumn 2017), and ranges from 93% in Luxembourg to 51% in both Bulgaria and Greece.

In addition to Luxembourg, more than three-quarters of the respondents feel that they are EU citizens in Ireland (85%), Germany (84%), Portugal (83%), Malta and Spain (both 82%), Poland, Slovakia and Denmark (all 80%), Finland (79%), Lithuania and Estonia (both 78%), Hungary and Austria (both 77%) and Sweden (76%). This proportion ranges between three-quarters and two-thirds in Latvia and Belgium (both 74%), Slovenia (73%), Cyprus (72%) and the Netherlands (70%). Finally, less than two-thirds of the respondents feel that they are citizens of the EU in Romania (64%), Croatia (63%), France (61%), the Czech Republic (59%), the United Kingdom (57%), Italy (56%), and Greece and Bulgaria (both 51%).

Overall, 29% (unchanged since autumn 2017) of Europeans do not feel that they are citizens of the EU; at least four in ten respondents feel this way in Greece (49%), Bulgaria (46%), Italy (43%), the United Kingdom (41%) and the Czech Republic (40%).

Since autumn 2017, the feeling of EU citizenship has increased in 17 EU Member States, led by Slovakia (80%, +5 percentage points). It has decreased in eight countries, most strikingly in Spain (82%, -6), and it remains unchanged in three.

QD2.1 For each of the following statements, please tell me to what extent it corresponds or not to your own opinion.





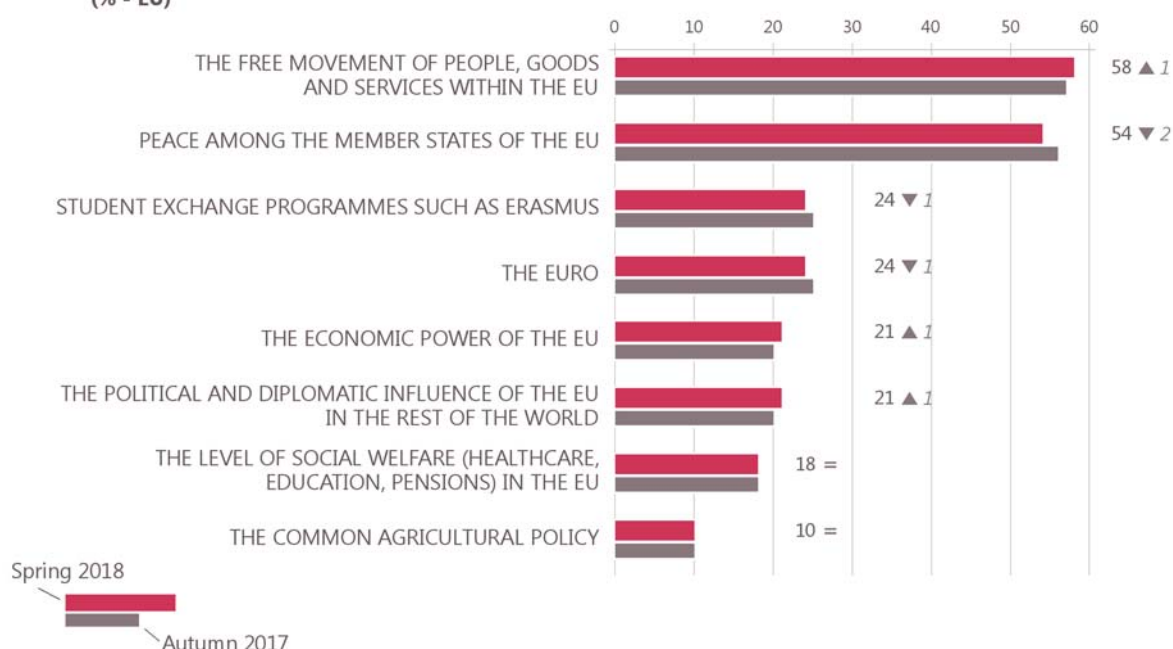
## 2 Most positive results of the European Union

**“The free movement of people, goods and services within the EU”** (58% of total answers, +1 percentage point since autumn 2017) and **“peace among the Member States of the EU”** (54%, -2) continue to be seen as by far the two most positive results of the EU.

Four items are then mentioned by between a fifth and a quarter of respondents: **“student exchange programmes such as ERASMUS”** (24%, -1 percentage point since autumn 2017) is in third position, equal with **“the euro”** (24%, -1). **“The economic power of the EU”** (21%, +1) is in equal fifth place with **“the political and diplomatic influence of the EU in the rest of the world”** (21%, +1).

In seventh position, **“the level of social welfare (healthcare, education, pensions) in the EU”** is unchanged, at 18%. Finally, **“the Common Agricultural Policy”** is mentioned by 10% of Europeans (unchanged).

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





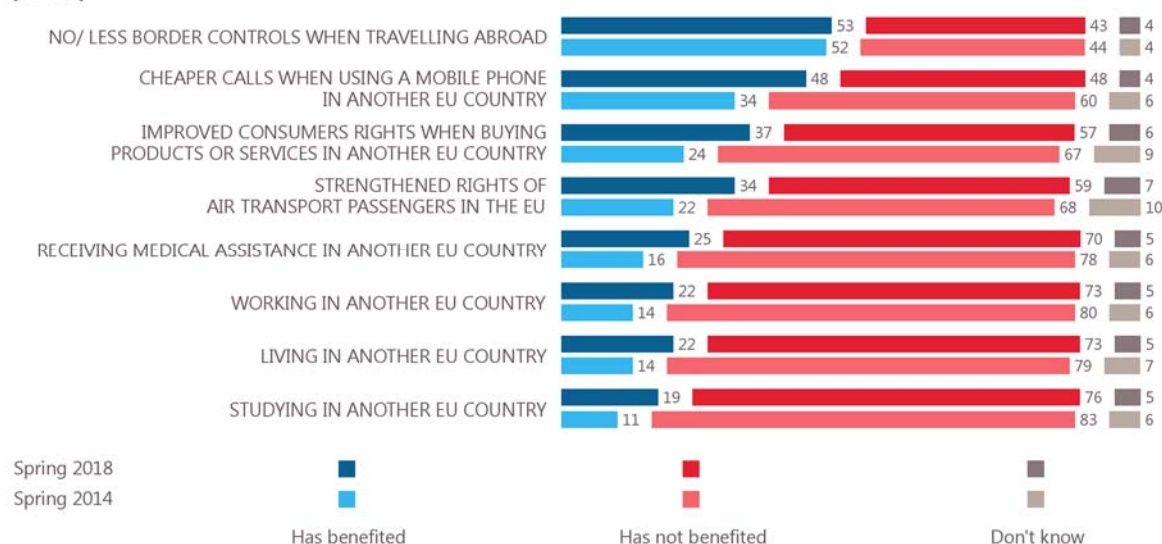
### 3 EU achievements

More than half of Europeans say they have benefited from **no or less border controls when travelling abroad** (53%), while close to half say they have benefited from **cheaper calls when using a mobile phone in another EU country** (48%). More than one third say they have benefited from **improved consumer rights when buying products or services in another EU country** (37%), or from the **strengthened rights of air transport passengers in the EU** (34%).

One quarter have benefited by **receiving medical assistance in another EU country** (25%), while 22% say this about **working and/or living in another EU country**. Almost one in five (19%) have benefited from **studying in another EU country**.

**Compared to spring 2014, more Europeans are now likely to say they have benefited from each of these initiatives**, in particular from cheaper mobile calls in another EU country (+14 percentage points), improved consumer rights (+13), strengthened air passenger rights (+12), receiving medical assistance in another EU country (+), or working (+8), living (+8) or studying (+8) in another EU country.

**QF6** For each of the following achievements of the EU, could you tell me whether you have benefited from it or not.  
(% - EU)



## CONCLUSION

**Immigration continues to be perceived as the most important issue facing the EU**, ahead of terrorism, which has lost significant ground since autumn 2017. Economic themes lag behind, although all of these have registered a slight increase. At national level, **unemployment** remains the most important issue, followed closely by **health and social security**, which has risen to second place for the first time since spring 2007.

After a slight increase, more than four in ten EU citizens **trust the EU**, the highest score since autumn 2010 (equal with spring 2017). Europeans continue to trust the EU more than national parliaments and governments, which have lost ground for the second successive time.

More Europeans have a **positive image of the EU** than a neutral one. Almost twice as many respondents have a positive image than have a negative image of the EU.

After a fourth consecutive increase, the proportion of EU citizens who consider that **their voice counts in the EU** has reached a new high, at 45%. Though still forming a majority, the proportion who disagree that their voice counts in the EU is now below the 50% threshold for the first time since autumn 2004.

After a third consecutive increase, the proportion of EU citizens **optimistic about the future of the EU**, at 58%, has reached its highest level since spring 2015.

A majority of EU citizens now consider that **the situation of their national economy** is good. This is only the second time since 2004 that positive perceptions have outweighed negative ones. However, the variations between countries remain very wide.

Optimism about the **impact of the economic crisis on the job market** has increased for the fourth successive time. As a consequence, the index of optimism for this indicator has reached its highest level since the question was first asked in spring 2009.

More than six in ten EU citizens support **the EU priorities and common policies tested** (with the exception of further enlargement of the EU to include other countries in future years). Support is most pronounced for “the free movement of EU citizens who can live, work, study and do business anywhere in the EU”. More than six in ten are in favour of “a European economic and monetary union with one single currency, the euro”, this support reaching 74% in the euro area.

Seven in ten respondents **feel they are citizens of the EU**; for the first time since spring 2010, this opinion is held by a majority of the population in all 28 EU Member States.

**“The free movement of people, goods and services within the EU”** and **“peace among the Member States of the EU”** are still perceived as the two most positive results of the EU, far ahead all other items.

Compared to spring 2014, more Europeans are now likely to say they have benefited from EU achievements. This is particularly the case for **cheaper mobile calls in another EU country**.

## TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Between the 13<sup>th</sup> and the 28<sup>th</sup> March 2018, TNS opinion & social, a consortium created between TNS political & social, TNS UK and Kantar Belgium, and represented by the Kantar Belgium S.A. coordination centre, carried out the wave 89.1 of the EUROBAROMETER survey, on request of the EUROPEAN COMMISSION, Directorate-General for Communication, "Media monitoring, media analysis and Eurobarometer" Unit.

The wave 89.1 is the STANDARD EUROBAROMETER 89 and covers the population of the respective nationalities of the European Union Member States, resident in each of the 28 Member States and aged 15 years and over.

The STANDARD EUROBAROMETER 89 survey has also been conducted in five candidate countries (Turkey, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Albania) and in the Turkish Cypriot Community. In these countries and in the Turkish Cypriot Community, the survey covers the national population of citizens and the population of citizens of all the European Union Member States that are residents in these countries and territories and have a sufficient command of the national languages to answer the questionnaire.

	COUNTRIES	INSTITUTES	N° INTERVIEWS	DATES FIELDWORK		POPULATION 15+	PROPORTION EU28
BE	Belgium	Kantar Belgium (Kantar TNS)	1,028	14/03/2018	27/03/2018	9,693,779	2.25%
BG	Bulgaria	Kantar TNS BBSS	1,032	14/03/2018	26/03/2018	6,537,535	1.52%
CZ	Czech Rep.	Kantar CV	1,047	15/03/2018	25/03/2018	9,238,431	2.14%
DK	Denmark	Kantar Gallup	1,015	13/03/2018	27/03/2018	4,838,729	1.12%
DE	Germany	Kantar Deutschland	1,509	14/03/2018	27/03/2018	70,160,634	16.26%
EE	Estonia	AS Emor, Kantar Emor	1,021	14/03/2018	26/03/2018	1,160,064	0.27%
IE	Ireland	Behaviour & Attitudes	1,007	14/03/2018	26/03/2018	3,592,162	0.83%
EL	Greece	Taylor Nelson Sofres Market Research	1,012	14/03/2018	26/03/2018	9,937,810	2.30%
ES	Spain	TNS Investigación de Mercados y Opinión	1,019	16/03/2018	26/03/2018	39,445,245	9.14%
FR	France	Kantar Public France	1,020	14/03/2018	26/03/2018	54,097,255	12.54%
HR	Croatia	Hendal	1,056	14/03/2018	25/03/2018	3,796,476	0.88%
IT	Italy	Kantar Italia	1,023	13/03/2018	24/03/2018	52,334,536	12.13%
CY	Rep. Of Cyprus	CYMAR Market Research	503	13/03/2018	26/03/2018	741,308	0.17%
LV	Latvia	Kantar TNS Latvia	1,006	14/03/2018	25/03/2018	1,707,082	0.40%
LT	Lithuania	TNS LT	1,003	13/03/2018	26/03/2018	2,513,384	0.58%
LU	Luxembourg	ILReS	512	13/03/2018	26/03/2018	457,127	0.11%
HU	Hungary	Kantar Hoffmann	1,048	15/03/2018	27/03/2018	8,781,161	2.04%
MT	Malta	MISCO International	501	13/03/2018	26/03/2018	364,171	0.08%
NL	Netherlands	TNS NIPO (trading under Kantar Public)	1,060	13/03/2018	26/03/2018	13,979,215	3.24%
AT	Austria	Info Research Austria Institut für Markt- und Meinungsforschung	1,039	13/03/2018	25/03/2018	7,554,711	1.75%
PL	Poland	Kantar Polska	1,013	16/03/2018	26/03/2018	33,444,171	7.75%
PT	Portugal	Marktest – Marketing, Organização e Formação	1,087	14/03/2018	26/03/2018	8,480,126	1.97%
RO	Romania	Centrul Pentru Studierea Opiniei si Pietei (CSOP)	1,030	14/03/2018	27/03/2018	16,852,701	3.91%
SI	Slovenia	Institute for market and media research, Mediana	1,027	13/03/2018	25/03/2018	1,760,032	0.41%
SK	Slovakia	Kantar Slovakia	1,019	13/03/2018	27/03/2018	4,586,024	1.06%
FI	Finland	Kantar TNS Oy	1,009	13/03/2018	28/03/2018	4,747,810	1.10%
SE	Sweden	Kantar Sifo	1,005	13/03/2018	28/03/2018	7,998,763	1.85%
UK	United Kingdom	The Kantar Group UK	1,337	14/03/2018	28/03/2018	52,651,777	12.20%
TOTAL EU28			27,988	13/03/2018	28/03/2018	431,452,219	100%*
* It should be noted that the total percentage shown in this table may exceed 100% due to rounding							
CY(tcc)	Turkish Cypriot Community	Lipa Consultancy	500	14/03/2018	26/03/2018	143,226	
TR	Turkey	TNS Piar	1,003	15/03/2018	28/03/2018	56,770,205	
MK	Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	TNS BRIMA	1,050	13/03/2018	23/03/2018	1,721,528	
ME	Montenegro	TNS Medium Gallup	522	14/03/2018	27/03/2018	501,030	
RS	Serbia	TNS Medium Gallup	1,019	13/03/2018	26/03/2018	6,161,584	
AL	Albania	TNS BBSS	1,048	15/03/2018	22/03/2018	2,221,572	
TOTAL			5,142	13/03/2018	28/03/2018	498,971,364	

The basic sample design applied in all states is a multi-stage, random (probability) one. In each country, a number of sampling points was drawn with probability proportional to population size (for a total coverage of the country) and to population density.

In order to do so, the sampling points were drawn systematically from each of the "administrative regional units", after stratification by individual unit and type of area. They thus represent the whole territory of the countries surveyed according to the EUROSTAT NUTS II (or equivalent) and according to the distribution of the resident population of the respective nationalities in terms of metropolitan, urban and rural areas.

In each of the selected sampling points, a starting address was drawn, at random. Further addresses (every Nth address) were selected by standard "random route" procedures, from the initial address. In each household, the respondent was drawn, at random (following the "closest birthday rule"). All interviews were conducted face-to-face in people's homes and in the appropriate national language. As far as the data capture is concerned, CAPI (*Computer Assisted Personal Interview*) was used in those countries where this technique was available.

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

Readers are reminded that survey results are estimations, the accuracy of which, everything being equal, rests upon the sample size and upon the observed percentage. With samples of about 1,000 interviews, the real percentages vary within the following confidence limits:

Statistical Margins due to the sampling process

(at the 95% level of confidence)

various sample sizes are in rows

various observed results are in columns

	5%	10%	15%	20%	25%	30%	35%	40%	45%	50%	
	95%	90%	85%	80%	75%	70%	65%	60%	55%	50%	
N=50	6.0	8.3	9.9	11.1	12.0	12.7	13.2	13.6	13.8	13.9	N=50
N=500	1.9	2.6	3.1	3.5	3.8	4.0	4.2	4.3	4.4	4.4	N=500
<b>N=1000</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>N=1000</b>
N=1500	1.1	1.5	1.8	2.0	2.2	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.5	N=1500
N=2000	1.0	1.3	1.6	1.8	1.9	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.2	N=2000
N=3000	0.8	1.1	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.8	N=3000
N=4000	0.7	0.9	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	N=4000
N=5000	0.6	0.8	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.4	N=5000
N=6000	0.6	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.3	N=6000
N=7000	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2	N=7000
N=7500	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	N=7500
N=8000	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1	N=8000
N=9000	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	N=9000
N=10000	0.4	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.0	N=10000
N=11000	0.4	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	N=11000
N=12000	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	N=12000
N=13000	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.9	N=13000
N=14000	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	N=14000
N=15000	0.3	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	N=15000
	5%	10%	15%	20%	25%	30%	35%	40%	45%	50%	
	95%	90%	85%	80%	75%	70%	65%	60%	55%	50%	