

EUROBAROMETER **REPORT** February 2025



Survey conducted by Ipsos European Public Affairs at the request of the European Commission, Directorate-General for Communication

Survey coordinated by the European Commission, Directorate-General for Communication (DG COMM "Media Monitoring and Eurobarometer" Unit)

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.

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Young people's views

Report

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### EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views

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#### Introduction

This Flash Eurobarometer provides an overview of young people's opinion on the European Union (EU) and its future and explores their perspective on democracy in the EU. It examines key themes, such as: (1) strengths and challenges of the EU, (2) priority areas for the EU, (3) values best representing the EU, (4) the future of the EU, (5) the state of democracy in the EU, (6) threats to democracy in the EU and (7) EU investment to support young people.

On behalf of the European Commission, Directorate-General for Communication, Ipsos European Public Affairs interviewed a representative sample of young EU citizens (aged between 16 and 30), in each of the 27 Member States of the EU. Between 11 and 20 February 2025, 25 933 interviews were conducted via computer-assisted web interviewing (CAWI), using Ipsos online panels and their partner network.

#### Notes

- Survey results are subject to sampling tolerances meaning that not all apparent differences between countries, sociodemographic groups and across time may be statistically significant. Thus, only differences that are statistically significant (at the 5% confidence level) – i.e. where it can be reasonably certain that they are unlikely to have occurred by chance – are highlighted in the text.
- Survey data are weighted to reflect marginal population distributions by age, gender and geographic region using post-stratification weighting. The EU27 are weighted according to the size of the population aged 16-30 of each country.
- Response percentages exceed 100% if the question allowed respondents to select multiple responses.
- In this report, countries are referred to by their official abbreviation. The abbreviations used in this report are indicated below.



<sup>\*</sup> Cyprus as a whole is one of the 27 EU Member States. For practical reasons, interviews are only carried out in the part of the country controlled by the government of the Republic of Cyprus.

## **Main findings**

#### Strengths, challenges and priorities of the EU

- Young people identify **freedom of movement in the EU** (32%) and **the good relationships and solidarity between the EU's Member States** (28%) as main strengths of the EU. Other important strengths of the EU, selected by more than one in five young people, are: the EU's commitment to democracy and fundamental values (25%), the EU's trade power and competitiveness (23%), the standard of living of EU citizens (23%), the EU's commitment to protecting the climate and the environment (22%) and the EU's position in the world (22%).
- When asked about the challenges that the EU is facing, the two challenges mentioned the most by young people are conflicts, instability and erosion of democratic values in the world (32%) and the cost of living (32%). These are followed by irregular migration (29%), terrorism and organised crime (29%), environmental issues and climate change (28%), and inequalities (social, economic) (26%).
- When asked about the areas the EU should address as a priority, security and defence comes in first place, selected by 31% of respondents. This is followed by environment and climate change (27%), public health (27%), irregular migration (26%), jobs and social equality (26%), economy and public finances (24%) and education and training (23%), each selected by roughly a quarter of young people.

## Values and principles best representing the EU

Presented with a list of ten values and principles, the largest share of young people select **peace and stability** (30%), and **democracy, rule of law and justice** (29%) as representing the EU best. These are followed by respect for human rights (26%), solidarity between EU countries (26%), economic cooperation and prosperity (24%) and cultural diversity (23%).

## The EU's impact on society — and on a personal level

- Six in ten young people think that the EU has a positive impact on the society they live in, with 19% considering the impact to be 'very positive' and 41% 'fairly positive'. In contrast, about one in ten think the impact of the EU is 'fairly negative' (8%) or 'very negative' (3%). Just over a quarter of young people (27%) consider the impact of the EU to be neutral.
- When asked what being part of the EU means to them personally, freedom to travel and explore other EU countries (39%) is the most selected response. This is followed by access to programmes and support for young people (e.g. Erasmus+, DiscoverEU, the European Solidarity Corps, EURES etc.) (30%) and opportunities for work, study and training across the EU (28%).

#### Perceptions about the future

- At the EU level, around six in ten young people (61%) are optimistic about the future of the EU, with 15% replying they are 'very optimistic' and 46% 'rather optimistic'. Fewer respondents report being pessimistic about the future of the EU: 7% are 'very pessimistic' and 24% 'rather pessimistic'.
- The top change that young people would most like to see in the EU by the end of 2030 is improved job opportunities and economic stability (34%), followed by a stronger role for the EU in promoting global peace and security (28%) and a

- stronger climate action and environmental protection (26%).
- The top worry for the future that emerges among young people across the EU is the cost of living (41%), followed by peace and global stability (30%), economic stability (27%) and climate change and the environment (26%).

#### **Democracy in the EU**

- Over half of young people are satisfied with the way democracy works in their country, with 17% being 'very satisfied' and 42% 'rather satisfied'. When asked about their degree of satisfaction with the way democracy works in the EU, close to two-thirds of young people indicate being satisfied (15% are 'very satisfied' and 50% 'rather satisfied').
- When asked to select the most important principles of democracy, respect for human rights emerges as the most important principle (38%), followed by freedom to voice one's opinion, including by demonstrating (33%), as well as equality and non-discrimination (27%). Three principles are each seen as important by 23% of young people: the right to privacy and data protection, the right to stand as a candidate and vote in free elections, and the rule of law, upheld by an independent judiciary.
- When asked to select the most serious threats to democracy in the EU, false and/or misleading information in general circulating online and offline (34%) and economic insecurity and inequality (32%) are selected most frequently. These threats are followed by decreased levels of tolerance and respect in

societies (27%), lack of trust in institutions (24%) and low engagement of citizens with political decision making (23%).

## Influencing decision-making and interest in politics

- When asked to select which ways they consider the most effective to ensure their voice is heard by decision-makers at the EU level, the largest share of young people across the EU (44%) indicate voting in (European or national) elections. In second place albeit at a distance comes joining a demonstration or going on a strike, selected by 23% of respondents across the EU.
- More attention from politicians on issues facing young people and more opportunities for young people to directly engage with politicians (e.g. through discussion groups with young people and politicians) emerge as the top two choices when young people are asked what would increase their interest in politics, both selected by 37% of respondents.

## Views on EU investment to support young people

When asked in which areas the EU should invest more resources to support young people, the largest share of young people mention affordable housing and cost of living (38%). Education and training, skills development (29%), mental health and well-being (28%), health and healthcare access (27%) and youth employment (27%) are each selected as areas for EU investment by more than a quarter of respondents.

## 1. Strengths, challenges and priorities of the EU

This section discusses young people's perceptions about the strengths of the EU, the main challenges the EU is facing and the areas the EU should prioritise.

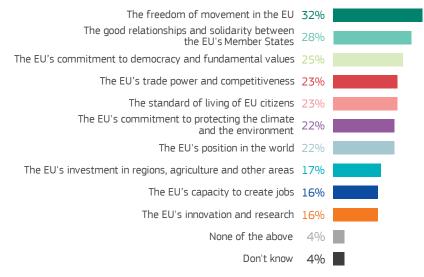
# 1.1. Perceptions about the strength of the EU

Young people were presented with a list of ten potential strengths of the EU. Out of this list, freedom of movement in the EU (32%) and the good relationships and solidarity between the EU's Member States (28%) are selected by the largest shares of young people as main strengths of the EU.

Other important strengths of the EU, selected by more than one in five young people, are: the EU's commitment to democracy and fundamental values (25%), the EU's trade power and competitiveness (23%), the standard of living of EU citizens (23%), the EU's commitment to protecting the climate and the environment (22%) and the EU's position in the world (22%).

Smaller shares select the EU's investment in regions, agriculture and other areas (17%), the EU's capacity to create jobs (16%) and the EU's innovation and research (16%).

Q3 In your opinion, which of the following do you think are the main strengths of the EU? Please select up to three answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]



(%, EU27) Base: n=25 933 - All respondents

#### Individual country results

The share of young people selecting **freedom of movement in the EU** as an important strength of the EU ranges from 15% in Austria to 54% in Czechia. In 17 Member States, this strength is the most selected one.

In six Member States, the most cited strength of the EU is **the good relationships and solidarity between the EU's Member States**. About a third of young people in Czechia (35%), as well as in Estonia and Malta (both 33%) mention this strength, in contrast with 18% of young people in Hungary.

The highest shares of young people thinking that one of the main strengths of the EU is **the EU's commitment to democracy and fundamental values** are observed in Finland (33%), Germany (32%) and Portugal (31%), as well as Cyprus, Estonia and Lithuania (all 30%), while the lowest share is seen in Poland (13%).

The shares selecting **the standard of living of EU citizens** as a strength of the EU are the highest in Slovenia (30%) as well as Austria, Germany and Poland (all 29%). Conversely, Hungary is found at the lower end of the country ranking, with 13% of respondents selecting this

strength; a similarly low share is observed in Italy (15%).

About three in ten young people in Denmark (31%) and Finland (28%) think that one of the main strengths of the EU is **the EU's commitment to protecting the climate and the environment.** Respondents in Poland (15%), on the other hand, are the least likely to mention this strength.

Across all Member States, less than 30% of young people mention the following as main strengths of the EU:

- The EU's trade power and competitiveness (from 16% in Sweden to 28% in Denmark)
- **The EU's position in the world** (from 14% in Luxembourg to 26% in France)
- The EU's investment in regions, agriculture and other areas (from 11% in Germany and Sweden, to 28% in Estonia and Romania)
- The EU's capacity to create jobs (from 8% in Czechia to 27% in Romania)
- The EU's innovation and research (from 12% in Greece to 21% in Italy).

#### EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views

**Q3** In your opinion, which of the following do you think are the main strengths of the EU? Please select up to three answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]

T	to three answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]												
		The freedom of movement in the EU	The good relationships and solidarity between the EU's Member States	The EU's commitment to democracy and fundamental values	The EU's trade power and competitiveness	The standard of living of EU citizens	The EU's commitment to protecting the climate and the environment	The EU's position in the world	The EU's investment in regions, agriculture and other areas	The EU's capacity to create jobs	The EU's innovation and research		
EU27		32	28	25	23	23	22	22	17	16	16		
BE		27	29	25	22	20	26	16	26	18	14		
BG		25	27	18	18	22	22	15	25	19	17		
CZ		54	35	23	20	26	19	21	19	8	13		
DK		27	27	29	28	24	31	23	20	13	15		
DE		18	32	32	24	29	22	21	11	18	14		
EE		47	33	30	27	23	20	18	28	12	19		
ΙE		22	32	26	26	21	24	16	27	15	14		
EL		37	29	26	21	19	23	17	25	20	12		
ES		33	26	23	22	28	23	21	15	15	20		
FR		41	27	19	25	19	19	26	15	12	16		
HR		37	28	18	24	26	20	22	27	23	18		
IT	0	35	28	28	24	15	24	24	13	11	21		
CY		37	31	30	22	25	27	14	25	23	13		
LV		42	30	23	25	23	22	22	22	16	16		
LT		35	27	30	21	22	25	22	23	19	18		
LU		30	24	28	18	24	23	14	23	17	17		
HU		22	18	27	19	13	22	16	22	18	17		
MT		21	33	28	25	20	27	17	25	17	14		
NL		28	24	25	25	24	25	25	22	16	13		
AT		15	30	26	22	29	25	15	18	25	16		
PL		47	26	13	20	29	15	23	20	19	14		
PT		28	30	31	23	26	23	23	17	19	18		
RO		26	29	25	25	22	21	17	28	27	16		
SI		43	28	21	23	30	22	19	20	21	17		
SK		33	26	22	18	22	17	18	23	20	15		
FI	<b>+</b>	36	27	33	19	23	28	21	21	14	13		
SE		43	27	27	16	22	22	23	11	15	15		

Note: (1) The higher the share selecting a response, the darker green the cell. The highest-ranking response for each country is shown in dark green (and white font); (2) Responses 'None of the above' and 'Don't know' not shown. (%) Base: n=25 933 – All respondents

#### Socio-demographic considerations

Young men are more likely than young women to mention the EU's trade power competitiveness (25% vs 21%) and the EU's investment in regions, agriculture and other areas (19% vs 15%) as main strengths of the EU. Conversely, young women are slightly more likely than young men to select the following as strengths: freedom of movement in the EU (33% vs 31%), the good relationships and solidarity between the EU's Member States (29% vs 27%), the EU's commitment to democracy and fundamental values (26% vs 24%) and the EU's commitment to protecting the climate and the environment (23% vs 21%).

Some differences can also be noted across age categories. Respondents aged 25-30 are more likely than younger respondents to mention freedom of movement in the EU (35% vs 30%), but they are somewhat less likely to select the EU's investment in regions, agriculture and other areas (16% vs 18%). On the other hand, respondents aged 16-18 are more likely than older respondents to mention the EU's capacity to create jobs (19% vs 15%-16%).

Young people living in rural areas show a lower tendency to select freedom of movement in the

EU (30% vs 33%), the good relationships and solidarity between the EU's Member States (26% vs 29%) and the EU's commitment to protecting the climate and the environment (19% vs 23%) as strengths of the EU, compared to those living in more urban places. Young people living in a city are somewhat more likely to mention (he EU's commitment to democracy and fundamental values (27% vs 23% of young people living in rural areas and 24% living in small and medium-sized towns).

Young people currently in post-secondary education or higher are more likely than those currently in secondary education or lower to mention freedom of movement in the EU (34% vs 27%), the EU's commitment to democracy and fundamental values (27% vs 22%), the EU's trade power and competitiveness (25% vs 22%) and the standard of living of EU citizens (26% vs 22%) as main strengths of the EU. Similarly, the shares of young people indicating that the freedom of movement in the EU, the EU's commitment to democracy and fundamental values, and the EU's trade power and competitiveness are strengths of the EU are higher among respondents who have obtained a post-secondary education degree or higher compared to those with a secondary education degree or lower.

#### EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views

Q3 In your opinion, which of the following do you think are the main strengths of the EU? Please select up to three answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]

	The freedom of movement in the EU	The good relationships and solidarity between the EU's Member States	The EU's commitment to democracy and fundamental values	The EU's trade power and competitiveness	The standard of living of EU citizens	The EU's commitment to protecting the climate and the environment	The EU's position in the world	The EU's investment in regions, agriculture and other areas	The EU's capacity to create jobs	The EU's innovation and research
EU27	32	28	25	23	23	22	22	17	16	16
Gender										
Male	31	27	24	25	23	21	22	19	16	17
Female	33	29	26	21	24	23	21	15	16	15
Age										
16-18	30	29	24	23	22	23	21	18	19	16
19-24	30	28	25	23	24	22	23	18	16	17
25-30	35	28	25	23	23	21	20	16	15	16
Current level of education	ı or trair	ning (your	ng people s	still in edu	cation)					
Secondary education or lower	27	27	22	22	22	22	21	19	19	17
Post-secondary education or higher	34	30	27	25	26	24	22	18	16	18
Highest level of education	ı or trair	ing achie	eved (you	ng people	no longer	in educat	ion)			
Secondary education or lower	31	26	23	20	22	19	24	15	16	13
Post-secondary education or higher	39	29	28	25	22	21	21	15	12	14
Place of residence										
Rural area	30	26	23	22	24	19	21	17	15	16
Small/medium-sized town	33	29	24	23	23	23	22	16	16	16
Large town / city	33	29	27	24	24	23	22	18	17	16

(%) Base: n=25 933 - All respondents

#### EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views

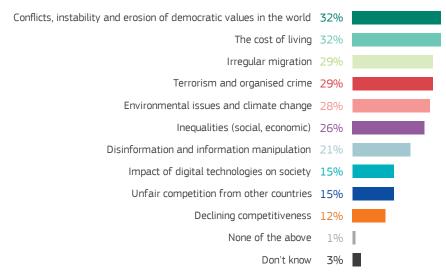
# 1.2. Opinions about the EU's current main challenges

Respondents were also asked about the challenges that the EU is facing. The two challenges mentioned the most by young people across the EU are conflicts, instability and erosion of democratic values in the world (32%) and the cost of living (32%). These are followed by irregular migration (29%), terrorism and organised crime (29%),

environmental issues and climate change (28%), and inequalities (social, economic) (26%).

Fewer young people indicate **disinformation** and information manipulation (21%), impact of digital technologies on society (15%) or unfair competition from other countries (15%) as current main challenges faced by the EU; 12% of young people select **declining** competitiveness.

**Q6** Which of the following do you think are the current main challenges the EU is facing? Please select up to three answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]



(%, EU27) Base: n=25 933 - All respondents

#### Individual country results

In 13 Member States, **conflicts, instability and erosion of democratic values in the world** is the highest-ranking challenge. About four in ten – or more – young people in Finland (46%), Denmark and Lithuania (both 40%) and Estonia (39%) mention this, in contrast, with just over a quarter in Malta and Portugal (both 27%).

The largest share of young people in Estonia (42%), France (36%), Greece (32%) and Ireland (29%) mention **the cost of living** as a challenge being faced by the EU. This challenge also ranks high in Italy (38%), Poland (35%), as well as Croatia, Latvia and Slovenia (all 34%). No more than one in five young people, however, mention this challenge in Luxembourg (19%) and in Denmark (20%).

**Irregular migration** ranks first in Czechia (44%), Poland and Slovenia (both 37%), Croatia and Portugal (both 35%), as well as Spain (34%). In the remaining countries, the share of respondents choosing this challenge varies between 13% in Finland and 33% in Cyprus.

In Sweden (48%) and Germany (37%), **terrorism and organised crime** is the challenge mentioned the most by young people. In all other Member States, no more than a third of young people select this challenge, with the share ranging from 19% in Hungary to 33% in Austria.

Respondents in Italy (40%) are most likely to mention **environmental issues and climate change**. This challenges also ranks high in the Netherlands (34%) and Czechia (32%), in contrast with Bulgaria, Croatia, Hungary, Latvia and Luxembourg, where 22% of young people select this challenge.

The share of respondents selecting **inequalities** (social, economic) as one of the main challenges being faced by the EU varies between 14% in Malta and 37% in Italy.

Across all Member States, the remaining challenges listed in the survey are mentioned by no more than three in ten respondents:

- Disinformation and information manipulation (from 17% in Italy to 31% in Czechia)
- Impact of digital technologies on society (from 11% in Germany to 27% in Malta)
- Unfair competition from other countries (from 8% in Czechia to 23% in Ireland)
- **Declining competitiveness** (from 9% in Poland and Spain to 18% in Estonia).

#### EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views

**Q6** Which of the following do you think are the current man challenges the EU is facing? Please select up to three answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]

to three answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]												
	Conflicts, instability and erosion of democratic values in the world	The cost of living	Irregular migration	Terrorism and organised crime	Environmental issues and climate change	Inequalities (social, economic)	Disinformation and information manipulation	Impact of digital technologies on society	Unfair competition from other countries	Declining competitiveness		
EU27 🧃	32	32	29	29	28	26	21	15	15	12		
BE 🌗	36	22	19	31	27	23	20	18	18	11		
BG 🥤	28	24	20	20	22	21	27	17	16	16		
CZ 🍗	31	23	44	28	32	18	31	14	8	15		
DK 🜗	40	20	21	31	27	18	23	22	15	14		
DE 🧲	35	32	31	37	27	24	22	11	13	12		
EE 🛑	39	42	23	23	26	26	25	16	14	18		
IE 🌘	28	29	19	20	28	17	24	24	23	14		
EL 🥞	30	32	27	26	23	27	22	16	21	11		
ES 🧧	33	31	34	25	26	31	22	13	18	9		
FR 🌘	31	36	30	27	28	29	19	12	17	13		
HR 🧐	28	34	35	24	22	32	23	21	20	12		
IT 🌘	28	38	31	20	40	37	17	13	12	14		
CY 🥑	35	30	33	29	25	28	28	17	20	13		
LV 🧲	36	34	23	21	22	26	29	18	22	15		
LT 🛑	40	28	26	28	25	18	30	22	15	12		
LU 🧲	34	19	23	28	22	23	20	22	18	12		
HU 🧲	33	24	16	19	22	22	22	18	19	13		
MT 🐧	27	22	23	24	25	14	26	27	22	13		
NL 🧲	35	25	21	30	34	18	20	17	15	11		
AT 🧲	35	27	25	33	23	24	21	16	18	12		
PL 🧲	30	35	37	32	23	21	19	16	14	9		
PT 🏮	27	33	35	27	26	30	20	19	15	11		
RO 🌓	31	25	20	26	25	23	30	25	15	12		
SI 🤷	34	34	37	26	25	21	25	15	19	15		
SK 🌚		24	22	20	25	21	30	19	18	10		
FI <del>{</del>		26	13	29	29	26	20	18	16	13		
SE $\P$	35	32	21	48	30	19	18	12	10	10		

Note: (1) The higher the share selecting a response, the darker green the cell. The highest-ranking response for each country is shown in dark green (and white font); (2) Responses 'None of the above' and 'Don't know' not shown. (%) Base: n=25 933 – All respondents

#### EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views

#### Socio-economic considerations

When asked about current main challenges for the EU, young women are more likely than young men to cite conflicts, instability and erosion of democratic values in the world (34% vs 31%), the cost of living (33% vs 30%), environmental issues and climate change (31% vs 26%) and inequalities (social, economic) (28% vs 24%). Conversely, young men are more likely than young women to mention irregular migration (32% vs 26%), unfair competition from other countries (16% vs 14%) and declining competitiveness (14% vs 9%).

Respondents aged 16-18 are less likely than older respondents to mention challenges, such as the cost of living (29% vs 32%) and irregular migration (26% vs 29%-31%). On the other hand, respondents aged 25-30 are more likely to mention conflicts, instability and erosion of democratic values in the world (34% vs 31%) and disinformation and information manipulation (23% vs 20%).

Respondents living in rural areas have a lower tendency than respondents living in small, medium-sized and large towns to reply that conflicts, instability and erosion of democratic values in the world (29% vs 33%-34%) and environmental issues and climate change (26%)

vs 28%-31%) are important challenges being faced by the EU. Respondents living in large towns, on the other hand, have a lower tendency to refer to the cost of living (29% vs 32%-33%).

Perceptions about challenges being faced by the EU also vary by level of education. For instance, young people currently in post-secondary education or higher are more likely than those in secondary education or lower to mention conflicts, instability and erosion of democratic values in the world (35% vs 30%), the cost of living (32% vs 29%), environmental issues and climate change (31% vs 27%), irregular migration (30% vs 25%), inequalities (social, economic) (29% vs 25%), and disinformation and information manipulation (23% vs 20%). Young people with a post-secondary education degree or higher are more likely than those with a secondary education degree or lower to mention conflicts, instability and erosion of democratic values in the world (36% vs 28%), environmental issues and climate change (30% vs 26%), disinformation and information manipulation (23% vs 19%) and declining competitiveness (14% vs 11%). Conversely, young people with a secondary education degree or lower are more likely to mention the cost of living (38% vs 30%).

## Flash Eurobarometer 556 **EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views**

**Q6** Which of the following do you think are the current man challenges the EU is facing? Please select up to three answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]

	Conflicts, instability and erosion of democratic values in the world	The cost of living	Irregular migration	Terrorism and organised crime	Environmental issues and climate change	Inequalities (social, economic)	Disinformation and information manipulation	Impact of digital technologies on society	Unfair competition from other countries	Declining competitiveness
EU27	32	32	29	29	28	26	21	15	15	12
Gender										
Male	31	30	32	29	26	24	21	15	16	14
Female	34	33	26	28	31	28	21	14	14	9
Age										
16-18	31	29	26	27	29	27	20	16	17	11
19-24	31	32	29	28	28	26	20	16	16	12
25-30	34	32	31	30	28	26	23	13	14	13
Current level of educatio	n or train	ing (your	g people :	still in edu	cation)					
Secondary education or lower	30	29	25	27	27	25	20	18	17	12
Post-secondary education or higher	35	32	30	28	31	29	23	14	15	12
Highest level of educatio	n or train	ing achie	eved (you	ng people	no longer	in educat	ion)			
Secondary education or lower	28	38	33	30	26	25	19	12	14	11
Post-secondary education or higher	36	30	32	31	30	26	23	12	14	14
Place of residence										
Rural area	29	33	29	29	26	24	20	14	15	11
Small/medium-sized town	33	32	30	29	28	27	22	14	14	12
Large town / city	34	29	28	28	31	26	22	16	17	12

(%) Base: n=25 933 - All respondents

#### EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views

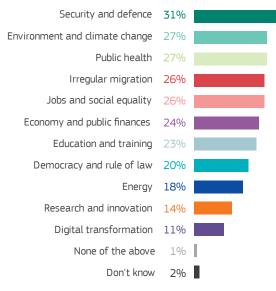
# 1.3. Views about areas the EU should address as a priority

When asked about the areas the EU should address as a priority, **security and defence** comes in first place, selected by 31% of respondents. This is followed by **environment** and climate change (27%), public health (27%), irregular migration (26%), jobs and social equality (26%), economy and public

**finances** (24%) and **education and training** (23%), each selected by roughly a quarter of young people.

About one in five young people answer that the EU should prioritise **democracy and rule of law** (20%) or **energy** (18%). Respondents are less likely to think the EU should prioritise **research and innovation** (14%) or **digital transformation** (11%).

**Q7** Which of the following areas do you think the EU should address as a priority? Please select up to three answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]



#### Individual country results

In ten Member States, **security and defence** is selected by the largest share of respondents as one of the areas the EU should prioritise. The share of respondents selecting this priority ranges from about one in five respondents in Bulgaria (20%), Ireland and Malta (both 21%) to at least four in ten respondents in Sweden (41%), Czechia (43%) and Estonia (44%).

In three Member States, **environment and climate change** is the highest-ranking priority. This applies to Italy (37%), but also to Belgium (28%) and Luxembourg (25%). By comparison, less than half as many young people in Hungary (18%) and Romania (19%) select this as a priority for the EU.

In another three Member States, the largest share of young people think the EU should prioritise **public health**: Spain (33%), Slovakia (31%) and Hungary (26%). The lowest shares selecting this priority are observed in Luxembourg (18%), Malta (19%), Estonia (20%), as well as Belgium, Lithuania and the Netherlands (all 21%).

In Slovenia (34%) and Malta (27%), the largest share of young people mention **irregular migration** as a priority for the EU. In the other Member States, the share of young people

selecting this as a priority ranges from 15% in Hungary to 39% in Czechia.

In Croatia (32%) and Bulgaria (29%), **jobs and social equality** is the highest-ranking priority for the EU. In the other Member States, the share mentioning this priority varies between 16% in Malta and 33% in Italy.

**Economy and public finances** rank highest in Cyprus (34%) and Greece (32%). Estonia (35%) is (also) found at the top of the country ranking, while Austria (19%) is found at the bottom.

In all Member States, no more than about three in ten young people mention the remaining priorities listed in the survey:

- Education and training (from 14% in Czechia to 27% in Poland)
- Democracy and rule of law (from 15% in France and Italy to 31% in Greece)
- Energy (from 12% in Luxembourg to 24% in Czechia)
- Research and innovation (from 11% in Germany, Poland and Sweden to 18% in Ireland and Luxembourg)
- Digital transformation (from 8% in Bulgaria Poland and Sweden to 19% in Ireland).

#### EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views

**Q7** Which of the following areas do you think the EU should address as a priority? Please select up to three answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]

answers. [MOLTIPLE ANSWERS]												
		Security and defence	Environment and climate change	Public health	Irregular migration	Jobs and social equality	Economy and public finances	Education and training	Democracy and rule of law	Energy	Research and innovation	Digital transformation
EU27		31	27	27	26	26	24	23	20	18	14	11
BE		26	28	21	20	23	22	22	18	17	16	14
BG (		20	23	26	18	29	24	21	19	15	13	8
CZ		43	26	28	39	17	23	14	17	24	14	12
DK (		32	32	24	17	20	22	16	24	17	16	16
DE (		32	27	23	29	28	21	26	24	17	11	13
EE		44	23	20	21	25	35	18	22	23	16	13
IE	<b>0</b>	21	20	23	22	23	23	20	18	18	18	19
EL (		22	23	25	21	27	32	18	31	17	12	13
ES (		25	25	33	30	30	25	25	21	14	14	9
FR	<b>0</b>	35	30	29	24	23	25	24	15	19	14	9
HR(		27	22	29	31	32	25	24	19	17	14	14
IT	<b>0</b>	29	37	28	26	33	24	18	15	18	17	10
CY (	<b>3</b>	24	30	23	29	29	34	19	24	15	16	15
LV		37	20	25	19	29	32	23	19	19	14	13
LT (		35	20	21	25	31	27	20	25	17	13	11
LU (		22	25	18	23	22	22	18	22	12	18	16
HU (		23	18	26	15	25	21	25	18	17	15	13
MT (		21	25	19	27	16	23	21	20	21	16	16
NL (		32	28	21	23	23	24	21	20	14	12	11
AT (		28	28	25	25	24	19	25	23	18	14	13
PL (		37	20	28	30	19	25	27	17	23	11	8
PT (		31	22	31	29	27	27	26	18	14	14	11
RO		26	19	26	19	26	25	24	25	18	17	17
SI		31	23	28	34	28	22	20	21	19	16	14
		29	27	31	16	26	20	18	19	19	14	11
	lacksquare	36	28	24	16	25	28	21	25	15	15	10
SE		41	30	29	16	29	26	15	23	20	11	8

Note: (1) The higher the share selecting a response, the darker green the cell. The highest-ranking response for each country is shown in dark green (and white font); (2) Responses 'None of the above' and 'Don't know' not shown. (%) Base: n=25 933 – All respondents

#### EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views

#### Socio-demographic considerations

Young men and women have different perspectives on what the EU should prioritise. Young men are more likely to mention irregular migration (28% vs 23% of young women), energy (22% vs 14%), research and innovation (17% vs 10%) and digital transformation (13% vs 9%). Young women are more likely to select the environment and climate change (30% vs 24% of young men), public health (31% vs 23%), jobs and social equality (30% vs 23%), and education and training (25% vs 21%).

Respondents aged 25-30 are somewhat more likely than their younger counterparts to select security and defence (33% vs 28%-30%), and irregular migration (27% vs 23%-25%) as priorities for the EU. The oldest respondents, however, are less likely to identify education and training as a priority (19% vs 24%-27%).

Environment and climate change is mentioned to a larger extent by young people living in a large town or city (29%) than by those living in a rural area (26%).

Young people who are currently in postsecondary education or higher are more inclined than those in secondary education or lower to mention the following as priorities for the EU: and defence (32% vs environment and climate change (30% vs 24%), irregular migration (25% vs 22%) and economy and public finances (24% vs 21%). Respondents with a post-secondary education degree or higher are more likely than those with a secondary education degree or lower to select environment and climate change (30% vs 25%), and research and innovation (14% vs 12%) as priorities for the EU. The latter respondents, however, are more likely than more highly educated respondents to think the EU should prioritise jobs and social equality (27% vs 24%).

## Flash Eurobarometer 556 **EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views**

**Q7** Which of the following areas do you think the EU should address as a priority? Please select up to three answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]

	Security and defence	Environment and climate change	Public health	Irregular migration	Jobs and social equality	Economy and public finances	Education and training	Democracy and rule of law	Energy	Research and innovation	Digital transformation
EU27	31	27	27	26	26	24	23	20	18	14	11
Gender											
Male	30	24	23	28	23	24	21	19	22	17	13
Female	32	30	31	23	30	24	25	20	14	10	9
Age											
16-18	28	27	27	23	27	23	27	19	16	15	11
19-24	30	26	27	25	26	24	24	19	18	14	11
25-30	33	28	26	27	26	25	19	20	18	13	11
Current level of education	n or trai	<b>ning</b> (yoւ	ıng peop	le still in	educatior	1)					
Secondary education or lower	26	24	26	22	26	21	25	21	19	14	14
Post-secondary education or higher	32	30	28	25	27	24	25	21	18	15	11
Highest level of education	n or trai	ning ach	ieved (y	oung peo	ple no lo	nger in ed	ducation)				
Secondary education or lower	35	25	27	29	27	27	20	17	17	12	9
Post-secondary education or higher	34	30	26	30	24	27	19	19	17	14	10
Place of residence											
Rural area	30	26	26	26	24	22	24	19	19	12	11
Small/medium-sized town	31	27	28	26	28	24	23	20	18	14	11
Large town / city	31	29	25	25	26	25	22	21	18	15	11

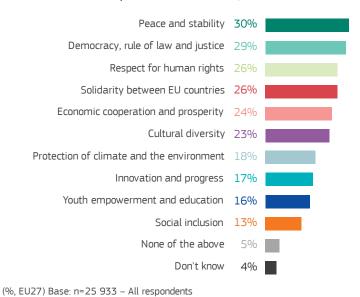
(%) Base: n=25 933 - All respondents

## 2. Values and principles best representing the EU

Young people across the EU were next asked which values and principles best represent the EU. The most selected are **peace and stability** (30%), and **democracy, rule of law and justice** (29%). These are followed by **respect for human rights** (26%), **solidarity between EU countries** (26%), **economic cooperation and prosperity** (24%) and **cultural diversity** (23%).

Fewer young people mention the **protection of** climate and the environment (18%), innovation and progress (17%), youth empowerment and education (16%) or social inclusion (13%) as values best representing the EU.

**Q4** In your opinion, which of the following represent the EU the best? Please select up to three answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]



#### Individual country results

**Peace and stability** is the highest-ranking response in seven Member States. A third – or more – of young people in Czechia (37%), Italy (34%), as well as Portugal and Sweden (both 33%) mention peace and stability as a value that represents the EU best, compared to just 17% of young people in Bulgaria.

**Democracy, rule of law and justice** is the most selected item in six Member States. In Denmark and Germany (both 35%), and in Czechia, Finland and Romania (all 34%), over a third of young people think democracy, rule of law and justice represent the EU best. In contrast, this view is shared by 17% of young people in Poland.

**Economic cooperation and prosperity** is the highest-ranking item in seven countries. Overall, the share of young people mentioning this varies between about one in five respondents in France (19%) and Italy (20%) and about a third in Estonia and Luxembourg (both 32%), Lithuania (33%) and the Netherlands (34%).

About three in ten young people in Estonia (31%), Cyprus, Denmark and Greece (all 30%), as well as in Portugal and Sweden (both 29%) select **respect for human rights** as a value being best represented by the EU. In Hungary (16%), as well as in Poland and Slovakia (both 19%), less than one in five select this value.

**Solidarity between EU countries** is mentioned by three in ten young people in Cyprus, Czechia and Sweden (all 30%). In contrast, Slovakia is found at the bottom of the country ranking – with 21% of respondents selecting this value.

**Cultural diversity** is mentioned by about three in ten young people in Latvia (31%) and France (30%), compared to just 16% of young people in Luxembourg and the Netherlands.

About three in ten young people in Latvia (30%) and Bulgaria (28%) mention **youth empowerment and education**, while this value is mentioned by about one in ten respondents in Italy (10%), as well as in France, Germany and Sweden (all 12%).

In all EU Member States, less than three in ten respondents mention the following:

- Protection of climate and the environment (from 14% in Hungary to 28% in Ireland)
- Innovation and progress (from 11% in Sweden to 21% in Croatia and Lithuania)
- Social inclusion (from 9% in Czechia to 20% in Finland and Malta).

#### EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views

**Q4** In your opinion, which of the following represent the EU the best? Please select up to three answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]

[MOLTIFLE ANSWERS]										
	Peace and stability	Democracy, rule of law and justice	Respect for human rights	Solidarity between EU countries	Economic cooperation and prosperity	Cultural diversity	Protection of climate and the environment	Innovation and progress	Youth empowerment and education	Social inclusion
EU27	30	29	26	26	24	23	18	17	16	13
BE 🌗	23	28	25	23	29	20	20	17	21	15
BG 🛑	17	22	22	25	24	18	19	15	28	16
cz 🍗	37	34	25	30	24	20	18	14	17	9
DK 🛑	26	35	30	26	28	17	22	16	19	14
DE 🛑	32	35	28	26	23	23	17	13	12	10
EE 🛑	32	33	31	25	32	26	18	19	23	14
IE 🌗	21	20	23	27	31	20	28	17	17	18
EL 😩	21	26	30	27	25	21	22	17	21	15
ES 💿	29	26	28	22	25	25	18	18	15	17
FR 🌗	28	23	28	28	19	30	18	15	12	12
HR 🍩	25	27	22	23	29	24	19	21	27	18
IT 🌗	34	33	28	29	20	23	19	20	10	14
CY 🥑	22	29	30	30	27	19	25	18	26	18
LV 🛑	25	29	24	27	24	31	16	18	30	18
LT 🛑	26	33	25	25	33	24	16	21	18	16
LU 🛑	23	28	26	23	32	16	20	16	18	15
ни 🛑	19	25	16	23	27	20	14	19	21	12
MT 🕦	20	23	21	23	31	17	26	18	25	20
NL 🛑	27	29	22	22	34	16	18	16	20	13
AT 🛑	32	32	22	22	28	20	21	15	16	14
PL 🛑	31	17	19	27	28	25	20	20	21	10
PT 🌘	33	32	29	25	25	20	16	20	22	16
RO 🌗	28	34	23	24	28	21	18	18	22	15
SI 😉	30	27	25	26	28	24	18	17	24	18
SK 距		30	19	21	28	18	21	16	20	10
FI 🕀		34	27	23	25	18	25	15	23	20
SE 🛑	33	30	29	30	27	17	19	11	12	12

Note: (1) The higher the share selecting a response, the darker green the cell. The highest-ranking response for each country is shown in dark green (and white font); (2) Responses 'None of the above' and 'Don't know' not shown. (%) Base: n=25 933 – All respondents

#### EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views

#### Socio-demographic considerations

Young women (25%) are somewhat more likely than young men (22%) to reply that cultural diversity is one of the values and principles best representing the EU. On the other hand, young men are more likely than young women to think the same of peace and stability (32% vs 27%), and innovation and progress (18% vs 15%).

Respondents aged 16-18 or aged 19-24 are more likely than older respondents to select cultural diversity (24%-25% vs 22%), youth empowerment and education (17%-18 vs 13%), and social inclusion (14%-15% vs 11%) as values representing the EU.

The shares selecting democracy, rule of law and justice (26% vs 29%-31%), and economic cooperation and prosperity (22% vs 24%-27%) are lower among those living in rural areas, in comparison to those living in more urbanised places.

Young people's perception of what values and principles represent the EU best also varies by level of education. For instance, respondents currently in post-secondary education or higher are more likely than those currently in secondary education or lower to mention peace and stability (32% vs 28%), respect for human rights (29% vs 24%), solidarity between EU countries (27% vs 24%), economic cooperation and prosperity (26% vs 23%), and cultural diversity (26% vs 21%). Additionally, young people who have completed post-secondary education or higher are more likely than lower educated respondents to mention democracy, rule of law and justice (31% vs 27%), and economic cooperation and prosperity (28% vs 21%).

## Flash Eurobarometer 556 **EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views**

**Q4** In your opinion, which of the following represent the EU the best? Please select up to three answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]

	Peace and stability	Democracy, rule of law and justice	Respect for human rights	Solidarity between EU countries	Economic cooperation and prosperity	Cultural diversity	Protection of climate and the environment	Innovation and progress	Youth empowerment and education	Social inclusion
EU27	30	29	26	26	24	23	18	17	16	13
Gender										
Male	32	28	26	25	25	22	18	18	15	13
Female	27	29	26	27	24	25	19	15	16	13
Age										
16-18	29	30	26	24	24	25	17	17	18	14
19-24	30	28	27	26	23	24	19	17	17	15
25-30	29	29	25	27	26	22	18	17	13	11
Current level of education	or train	ing (your	g people	still in edu	cation)					
Secondary education or lower	28	28	24	24	23	21	20	17	19	14
Post-secondary education or higher	32	30	29	27	26	26	19	18	16	14
Highest level of education	or train	ing achie	eved (you	ng people	no longer	in educat	ion)			
Secondary education or lower	28	27	26	26	21	22	16	15	13	13
Post-secondary education or higher	30	31	26	28	28	21	18	15	12	10
Place of residence										
Rural area	29	26	24	25	22	23	17	16	15	13
Small/medium-sized town	30	29	26	27	24	24	18	17	15	13
Large town / city	30	31	27	26	27	22	19	17	17	13

(%) Base: n=25 933 – All respondents

## 3. The EU's impact on society - and on a personal level

This section discusses young people's perception of the EU's societal impact and of what it means to be part of the EU for them personally.

# 3.1. Perceptions of the EU's societal impact

At the EU level, six in ten young people think that the EU has a positive impact on the society they live in, with 19% considering the impact to be 'very positive' and 41% 'fairly positive'. In contrast, about one in ten think the impact of the EU is 'fairly negative' (8%) or 'very negative' (3%). Just over a quarter of young people (27%) consider the impact of the EU to be neutral.

#### Individual country results

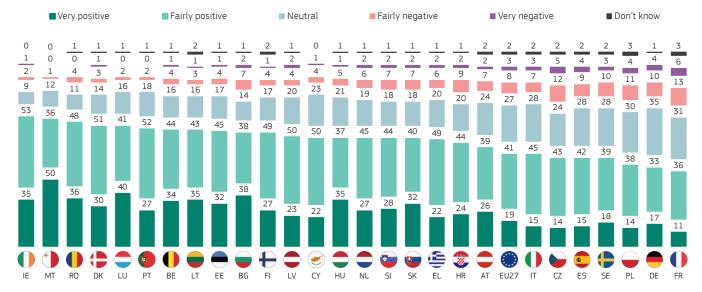
With the exception of France (47%), at least half of young people in all Member States think that

the EU's impact on society is either 'very positive' or 'fairly positive'. Respondents in Ireland (88%), Malta (86%) and Romania (84%) are overall the most positive.

One in ten – or more – young people in Italy (10%), Croatia (11%), Spain (13%), Sweden (13%), Germany (14%), Poland (15%), Czechia (17%) and France (19%) think that the EU has a 'fairly negative' or 'very negative' impact on the society they live in. In Malta (1%), Portugal and Luxembourg (both 2%), on the other hand, just a handful of respondents think the same.

The share of young people having **a neutral view** of the EU's societal impact ranges from about one in ten respondents in Ireland (9%) to at least three in ten in Poland (30%), France (31%) and Germany (35%).

**Q1** Do you think that the EU has a positive or negative impact on the society we live in?



(%) Base: n=25 933 - All respondents

#### EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views

#### Socio-demographic considerations

When asked about their perception of the EU's societal impact, young men (62%) are more likely than young women (57%) to think the EU has a positive impact.

Young people living in the most urbanised areas are more likely to have a positive view of the EU's societal impact: 68% of young people living in large towns or cities think the EU has a positive impact, compared to 57% of those living in small

or medium-sized towns and 55% of those living in rural areas.

A significant difference can also be observed by level of education: young people with a post-secondary education degree or higher (62%) are more likely than lower educated ones (46%) to think that the EU has a positive impact on society. Among young people still in education, no such difference is seen.

# 3.2. What it means to be part of the EU

Young people were asked what being part of the EU means to them personally. They could select up to three responses from a list of nine or they could choose to answer that the EU does not mean much to them personally.

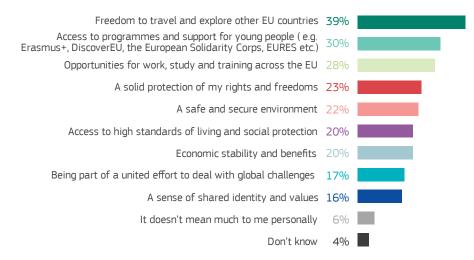
Freedom to travel and explore other EU countries (39%) is the response selected the most by young people across the EU. This is followed by access to programmes and support for young people (e.g. Erasmus+, DiscoverEU, the European Solidarity Corps, EURES etc.) (30%) and opportunities for work, study and training across the EU (28%).

Another four responses are selected by at least one in five respondents: a **solid protection of their rights and freedoms** (23%), a **safe and secure environment** (22%), access to high **standards of living and social protection** (20%) and **economic stability and benefits** (20%).

Fewer young people select being part of a united effort to deal with global challenges (17%) or a sense of shared identity and values (16%) as what being part of what the EU means to them

6% of young people reply that the EU does not mean much to them personally.

**Q5** What does being part of the EU mean to you personally? Please select up to three answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]



(%, EU27) Base: n=25 933 - All respondents

#### EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views

#### Individual country results

In 19 Member States, **freedom to travel and explore other EU countries** is the most mentioned response. A majority of young people in Czechia (55%) and Estonia (51%) reply that being part of the EU means freedom to travel and explore other EU countries. In contrast, about a quarter of young people select this response in Hungary (25%) and Malta (27%).

Access to programmes and support for young people (e.g. Erasmus+, DiscoverEU, the European Solidarity Corps, EURES etc.) ranks first in the remaining eight Member States. The share of young people selecting this response is highest in Malta (48%), followed by Cyprus, Greece and Romania (all 42%), and Ireland (41%). In contrast, Sweden (16%) is at the bottom of the country ranking.

About a third of young people in Croatia, Cyprus and Lithuania (all 35%), Slovenia (34%) and Slovakia (33%) mention **opportunities for work, study and training across the EU.** In

France, on the other hand, about one in five (21%) young people mention this.

In all Member States, less than three in ten respondents mention the following responses:

- A solid protection of my rights and freedoms (from 15% in Croatia to 27% in Estonia, Latvia and Portugal)
- A safe and secure environment (from 12% in Bulgaria to 28% in Germany)
- Access to high standards of living and social protection (from 15% in Slovakia to 25% in Belgium, Croatia and Denmark)
- **Economic stability and benefits** (from 14% in Hungary to 26% in Portugal)
- Being part of a united effort to deal with global challenges (from 11% in Germany to 28% in Cyprus)
- A sense of shared identity and values (from 10% in Czechia to 22% in Croatia).

#### EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views

**Q5** What does being part of the EU mean to you personally? Please select up to three answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]

	Freedom to travel and explore other EU countries	Access to programmes and support for young people	Opportunities for work, study and training across the EU	A solid protection of my rights and freedoms	A safe and secure environment	Access to high standards of living and social protection	Economic stability and benefits	Being part of a united effort to deal with global challenges	A sense of shared identity and values
EU27 🧃	39	30	28	23	22	20	20	17	16
BE (	28	35	26	24	19	25	22	21	17
BG 🥃	35	33	23	18	12	19	19	20	17
cz 🌘	55	31	25	20	24	17	17	17	10
DK 👭	31	30	29	24	21	25	23	21	21
DE 🧲	42	19	30	25	28	22	22	11	17
EE 🛑	51	38	32	27	27	23	19	18	15
IE 🌗	30	41	29	24	15	23	17	22	20
EL 🥞	32	42	29	21	20	17	17	23	19
ES 🧃	37	34	27	22	26	18	18	20	15
FR (	39	31	21	18	15	20	22	17	17
HR 🍕	40	39	35	15	19	25	19	16	22
IT 🌓	45	32	29	26	23	16	17	17	16
CY 🤄	37	42	35	25	22	21	16	28	17
LV 🧲	47	39	32	27	24	21	19	14	14
LT 🛑	42	34	35	25	24	23	18	20	17
LU 🧲	29	35	30	25	17	20	17	22	18
HU 🧲	25	35	28	20	17	22	14	20	11
MT 🐧	27	48	29	22	15	20	18	25	18
NL 🧲	38	26	24	21	25	24	23	19	12
AT 🧲	33	29	32	22	25	22	24	17	16
PL 🛑	42	30	30	24	24	18	20	17	16
PT 🍖	39	37	24	27	22	17	26	20	18
RO 🌗	32	42	28	23	18	21	18	27	20
SI 🧧	37	36	34	23	27	24	18	17	17
SK 💩		37	33	18	16	15	16	17	11
FI <del>{</del>	36	27	32	24	26	22	20	22	19
SE 🬗	40	16	32	26	21	23	22	16	17

Note: (1) The higher the share selecting a response, the darker green the cell. The highest-ranking response for each country is shown in dark green (and white font); (2) Responses 'It doesn't mean much to me personally' and 'Don't know' not shown.

(%) Base: n=25 933 - All respondents

#### EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views

#### Socio-demographic considerations

Young women (42%) are more likely than young men (37%) to reply that the EU means freedom to travel and explore other EU countries.

Respondents aged 16-18 or 19-24 (32%) are more inclined than respondents aged 25-30 (26%) to associate the EU with access to programmes and support for young people (e.g. Erasmus+, DiscoverEU, the European Solidarity Corps, EURES etc.). In contrast, respondents aged 25-30 are more likely than their younger counterparts to mention freedom to travel and explore other EU countries (41% vs 38%); they are, however, also somewhat more likely to reply that the EU does not mean much to them personally (9% vs 4%-5%).

Some differences are also seen by level of urbanisation. For example, young people living in more urbanised areas are more likely to reply that the EU means opportunities for work, study

and training across the EU (28%-30% vs 25% of young people in rural areas).

Young people who are currently in postsecondary education or higher are more likely than those currently in secondary education or lower to mention freedom to travel and explore other EU countries (40% vs 34%), opportunities for work, study and training across the EU (30%) vs 27%), a safe and secure environment (25% vs 21%), economic stability and benefits (22% vs 20%), and access to high standards of living and social protection (22% vs 19%). Looking at respondents who are no longer in education or training shows that young people with a postsecondary education degree or higher are slightly more likely than lower educated respondents to mention freedom to travel and explore other EU countries (46% vs 40%) and access to programmes and support for young people (e.g. Erasmus+, DiscoverEU, European Solidarity Corps, EURES etc.) (27% vs 24%).

## Flash Eurobarometer 556 **EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views**

**Q5** What does being part of the EU mean to you personally? Please select up to three answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]

	Freedom to travel and explore other EU countries	Access to programmes and support for young people	Opportunities for work, study and training across the EU	A solid protection of my rights and freedoms	A safe and secure environment	Access to high standards of living and social protection	Economic stability and benefits	Being part of a united effort to deal with global challenges	A sense of shared identity and values
EU27	39	30	28	23	22	20	20	17	16
Gender									
Male	37	29	27	22	23	21	21	18	17
Female	42	31	28	23	22	19	19	17	16
Age									
16-18	38	32	27	23	21	20	21	18	17
19-24	38	32	30	23	23	20	21	17	17
25-30	41	26	25	22	22	20	19	18	15
Current level of education	ı or traini	<b>ing</b> (young	people sti	ll in educa	tion)				
Secondary education or lower	34	34	27	23	21	19	20	19	17
Post-secondary education or higher	40	32	30	24	25	22	22	18	18
Highest level of education	ı or traini	ing achiev	<b>red</b> (young	people no	longer in	education)			
Secondary education or lower	40	24	25	21	22	19	18	16	15
Post-secondary education or higher	46	27	26	22	20	20	19	18	15
Place of residence									
Rural area	37	28	25	21	22	19	19	16	14
Small/medium-sized town	41	30	28	23	22	18	20	18	17
Large town / city	38	30	30	24	23	23	21	19	17

(%) Base: n=25 933 – All respondents

## 4. Perceptions about the future

This section explores young people's optimism about the future of the EU, their expectations for changes in the EU by 2030 and their personal concerns for the future.

# 4.2. Optimism about the future of the EU

At the EU level, around six in ten young people (61%) are optimistic about the future of the EU, with 15% replying they are 'very optimistic' and 46% 'rather optimistic'. Fewer respondents report being pessimistic about the future of the EU: 7% are 'very pessimistic' and 24% 'rather pessimistic'.

#### Individual country results

In 25 Member States, more than 50% of young people are 'very' or 'rather' optimistic about the future of the EU. The highest levels of optimism are observed in Malta (92%), Ireland (91%) and Romania (88%). The share of respondents being optimistic about the future of the EU decreases to 48% in both France and Germany.

In 20 Member States, more than one in four young people feel 'very optimistic' about the

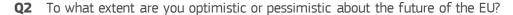
future of the EU. The highest shares feeling this way are observed in Malta (48%), Luxembourg (42%), Ireland (36%), Bulgaria (36%) and Romania (35%). The share of respondents being **'very pessimistic'** about the future of the EU, on the other hand, remains below 10% in almost all Member States, ranging from 0% in Malta to 11% in France.

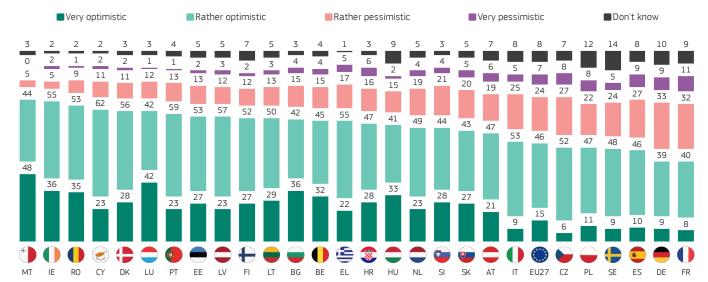
#### Socio-demographic considerations

Young men are slightly more likely to be optimistic about the future of the EU (63% vs 59% of young women). Younger respondents are also more likely to express optimism compared to their older counterparts (65% of 16-18 year-olds and 63% of 19-24 year-olds vs 58% of 25-30 year-olds).

Among those no longer in education, respondents with a post-secondary education degree or higher are more likely to be optimistic about the future of the EU compared to those with a secondary education degree or lower (59% vs 49%). Among those still in education, the difference in optimism is much smaller.

Young people living in a large town or city (67%) are more likely to be optimistic about the future of the EU compared to those living in a rural area (56%) or a small or medium-sized town (60%).





(%) Base: n=25 933 - All respondents

#### 4.3. Expectations for the EU by 2030

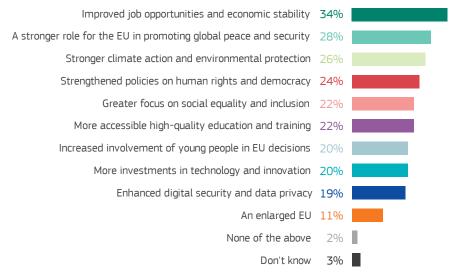
The top change that young people would most like to see in the EU by the end of 2030 is improved job opportunities and economic stability (34%), followed by a stronger role for the EU in promoting global peace and security (28%) and a stronger climate action and environmental protection (26%).

Each of the following changes expected to be seen in the EU by the end of 2030 are selected by more than one in five respondents: **strengthened policies on human rights and** 

democracy (24%), greater focus on social equality and inclusion (22%) and more accessible high-quality education and training (22%).

Approximately two in ten respondents would like to see more investments in technology and innovation (20%), increased involvement of young people in EU decisions (20%) and enhanced digital security and data privacy (19%). A small share (11%) hope to see an enlarged EU by the end of 2030.

**Q14** What changes would you like to see in the EU by the end of 2030? Please select up to three answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]



(%, EU27) Base: n=25 933 - All respondents

#### Individual country results

In 18 Member States, **improved job opportunities and economic stability** is the most selected change that young people would like to see in the EU by 2030. The proportion selecting this change ranges from 23% in Denmark to 45% in both Croatia and Italy.

A stronger role for the EU in promoting global peace and security is the highest-ranking expected change in five Member States. This change is selected by more than a third of respondents in Estonia (42%), Latvia (36%), as well as Cyprus, Denmark and Romania (all 34%). In contrast, 22% of respondents in Hungary would like to see this change by 2030.

**Stronger climate action and environmental protection** is most likely to be selected by young people in Denmark (33%) and France (31%) and least likely by those in Hungary (18%) and Poland (19%).

**Strengthened policies on human rights and democracy** is most frequently selected to be selected in Cyprus (33%) and Germany (30%), but least likely in Czechia (15%).

In all Member States, no more than 30% of young people expect the following changes for the EU by the end of 2030:

- Greater focus on social equality and inclusion (between 18% in Luxembourg and Poland and 30% in Finland)
- Accessible high-quality education and training (between 13% in Denmark and 30% in Spain)
- More investments in technology and innovation (between 15% in Hungary and 23% in Spain)
- Increased involvement of young people in EU decisions (between 16% in France and Sweden and 30% in Croatia)
- More investments in technology and innovation (between 16% in Bulgaria and 23% in Spain)
- Enhanced digital security and data privacy (between 13% in Portugal and 25% in Czechia).

**An enlargement of the EU** by 2030 is the least expected change, with less than two in ten respondents selecting it across all Member States (from 7% in Bulgaria to 15% in both Latvia and Lithuania).

# EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views

**Q14** What changes would you like to see in the EU by the end of 2030? Please select up to three answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]

	Improved job opportunities and economic stability	A stronger role for the EU in promoting global peace and security	Stronger climate action and environmental protection	Strengthened policies on human rights and democracy	Greater focus on social equality and inclusion	More accessible high- quality education and training	Increased involvement of young people in EU decisions	More investments in technology and innovation	Enhanced digital security and data privacy	An enlarged EU
EU27 🌎	34	28	26	24	22	22	20	20	19	11
BE 🌗	27	27	27	23	21	23	17	20	20	10
BG 🛑	26	23	23	23	20	23	25	16	20	7
cz 🍗	39	23	24	15	19	22	29	22	25	12
DK 🛑	23	34	33	22	25	13	19	20	23	12
DE 🛑	32	31	29	30	22	23	17	20	20	10
EE 🛑	42	42	27	25	22	21	21	21	22	11
IE 🌗	28	25	24	23	24	23	24	19	21	11
EL 🕒	39	30	21	28	24	20	23	17	18	12
ES 📀	44	25	21	22	24	30	18	23	16	12
FR 🌗	26	24	31	24	20	20	16	19	21	8
HR 🍩	45	26	23	23	22	24	30	22	21	10
IT 🕕	45	24	29	23	26	19	23	20	15	11
CY 🥑	40	34	20	33	24	21	23	20	20	9
LV 🛑	39	36	20	23	22	27	21	20	20	15
LT 🛑	33	27	22	24	23	25	22	22	23	15
LU 🛑	27	30	21	24	18	23	20	19	20	9
HU 🛑	32	22	18	25	22	22	20	15	17	10
MT 🕦	26	26	26	21	20	23	22	21	20	10
NL 🛑	26	32	28	22	19	18	19	17	18	10
AT 🛑	27	31	25	29	21	20	20	17	21	10
PL 🛑	39	27	19	21	18	19	24	21	24	14
PT 🌘	39	32	27	19	25	27	23	19	13	11
RO 🌗	26	34	25	23	20	27	24	19	20	14
SI 🖢	39	32	26	19	25	21	28	19	23	13
SK 🌚		31	20	19	19	27	18	17	19	10
FI 🕀		32	25	25	30	16	24	18	18	10
SE 🛑	35	30	28	29	23	18	16	18	20	8

Note: (1) The higher the share selecting a response, the darker green the cell. The highest-ranking response for each country is shown in dark green (and white font); (2) Responses 'None of the above' and 'Don't know' not shown. (%) Base: n=25 933 – All respondents

## EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views

#### Socio-demographic considerations

When asked which changes they would like to see in the EU by the end of 2030, young men are more likely to refer to more investments in technology and innovation (26% vs 13% of young women). Young men are also more likely to expect an enlarged EU (13% vs 8%). Conversely, young women are more likely to expect changes in climate action and environmental protection (29% vs 23%) and improved job opportunities and economic stability (37% vs 32%).

Among young people no longer in education, those who completed post-secondary education or higher are more likely to expect the following changes in the EU by the end of 2030: stronger climate action and environmental protection (30% vs 24% for those with a secondary education degree or lower) and a stronger role for the EU in promoting global peace and security (31% vs 25%). Among young people still in education, those in post-secondary education or higher are more likely to expect improved job opportunities and economic stability (36% vs 30% of those in secondary education or lower) and stronger climate action and environmental protection (29% vs 23%).

Differences across age and level of urbanisation are small or do not reach statistical significance.

# EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views

**Q14** What changes would you like to see in the EU by the end of 2030? Please select up to three answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]

	Improved job opportunities and economic stability	A stronger role for the EU in promoting global peace and security	Stronger climate action and environmental protection	Strengthened policies on human rights and democracy	Greater focus on social equality and inclusion	More accessible high-quality education and training	Increased involvement of young people in EU decisions	More investments in technology and innovation	Enhanced digital security and data privacy	An enlarged EU
EU27	34	28	26	24	22	22	20	20	19	11
Gender										
Male	32	26	23	22	20	21	20	26	20	13
Female	37	30	29	26	24	23	20	13	18	8
Age										
16-18	33	26	26	23	21	24	20	19	20	13
19-24	34	27	25	25	22	22	21	20	19	11
25-30	35	29	28	24	22	21	18	19	19	9
Current level of education	ı or trair	ning (youn	g people :	still in edu	cation)					
Secondary education or lower	30	27	23	23	22	22	21	20	19	13
Post-secondary education or higher	36	29	29	26	23	24	21	20	19	11
Highest level of education	ı or trair	ing achie	eved (you	ng people	no longer	in educat	ion)			
Secondary education or lower	37	25	24	24	22	21	21	17	19	9
Post-secondary education or higher	36	31	30	24	20	21	16	21	20	7
Place of residence										
Rural area	32	26	25	22	20	21	19	19	20	10
Small/medium-sized town	36	28	26	24	23	23	20	20	19	11
Large town / city	33	28	27	27	22	23	20	20	19	11

## EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views

## 4.4. Main concerns for the future

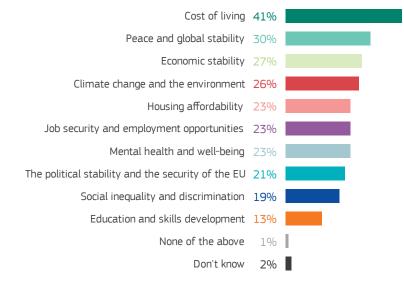
The top worry for the future that emerges among young people across the EU is the **cost of living** (41%), followed by **peace and global stability** (30%), **economic stability** (27%) and **climate change and the environment** (26%).

More than one in five respondents express concern for their future regarding **housing** 

affordability (23%), job security and employment opportunities (23%), mental health and well-being (23%), as well as the political stability and the security of the EU (21%).

Smaller shares worry about **social inequality** and discrimination (19%) and education and skills development (13%).

**Q8** What worries you most thinking about your future? Please select up to three answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]



#### EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views

#### Individual country results

In 18 Member States, the **cost of living** is the most mentioned concern for the future among young people. A majority of respondents are concerned about the cost of living in Poland (57%) and France (51%). In the other countries, the proportion citing this ranges from 22% in Luxembourg to 50% in Czechia.

In three Member States, the largest share of respondents select **peace and global stability** as one of their main worries for their future; this applies to Latvia (37%), Denmark (34%) and Finland (31%). The countries are joined by Slovenia, Estonia and Germany (all 35%). In contrast, in Bulgaria, just 16% of respondents mention peace and global stability as a concern for their future.

**Economic stability** – the third-ranking concern at EU level – is selected by between 15% of respondents in Luxembourg and 39% in Italy.

**Climate change and the environment** is the top-ranking challenge in Malta (selected by 29% of respondents). Yet, the highest proportions of respondents worrying about this are observed in France and Italy (both 31%), and in Denmark (30%). In contrast, less than one in five young people mention this as a concern for their future in Croatia (18%) and Latvia (19%).

**Housing affordability** emerges as an important worry among young people in Czechia (47%), followed by the Netherlands (32%), Slovenia (31%) and Germany (30%). In comparison, less than one in ten young people in Italy (8%) select this response.

**Job security and employment opportunities** is the top-ranking concern in Romania (31%). In the remaining countries, the share selecting this concern for the future varies between 12% in the Netherlands and 36% in Croatia.

In all Member States, the remaining concerns listed in the survey are each selected by less than 30% of respondents:

- Mental health and well-being (between 16% in Malta and 27% in Finland)
- Political stability and the security of the EU (between 16% in Italy and 28% in Ireland and Luxembourg)
- Social inequality and discrimination (between 11% in Czechia and 27% in Luxembourg)
- Education and skills development (between 9% in Czechia and 27% in Romania).

# EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views

**Q8** What worries you most thinking about your future? Please select up to three answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]

	Cost of living	Peace and global stability	Economic stability	Climate change and the environment	Housing affordability	Job security and employment opportunities	Mental health and well-being	The political stability and the security of the EU	Social inequality and discrimination	Education and skills development
EU27	41	30	27	26	23	23	23	21	19	13
BE 🌗	27	26	22	26	23	19	21	26	21	21
BG 🥃	28	16	22	26	16	28	22	22	17	19
cz 🍗	50	31	16	23	47	26	25	20	11	9
DK 📒	25	34	24	30	20	24	23	27	15	19
DE 🛑	36	35	24	27	30	18	24	26	24	10
EE 🛑	45	35	29	22	26	26	22	27	20	13
IE 🕕	29	18	19	28	26	29	20	28	16	16
EL 🥞	34	27	27	25	19	25	23	22	20	18
ES 🧶	40	26	33	24	28	27	20	18	21	16
FR 🕕	51	33	27	31	16	15	23	19	19	12
HR 🦁	44	25	25	18	24	36	24	19	25	13
IT 🕕	49	30	39	31	8	30	26	16	19	10
CY 🥃	33	27	27	26	23	28	21	24	25	23
LV 🛑	36	37	28	19	24	29	19	22	20	16
LT 🛑	37	31	26	21	28	28	19	23	17	16
LU 🧲	22	27	15	21	25	20	18	28	27	17
HU 🛑	31	19	22	22	25	28	19	21	20	11
MT 🗻	26	19	20	29	23	26	16	27	20	19
NL 🛑	32	31	21	25	32	12	18	27	17	17
AT 🛑	31	30	22	26	25	24	23	26	21	13
PL 🛑	57	30	20	20	28	25	24	19	15	10
PT 🌚	40	26	30	20	24	29	24	21	14	20
RO 🌗	29	27	25	20	19	31	19	26	20	27
SI 🤠	44	35	23	23	31	25	22	21	19	14
SK 💩		22	26	24	25	30	20	20	14	10
FI <del>(</del>	30	31	29	25	20	28	27	27	17	15
SE 🛑	39	34	37	25	28	17	25	20	16	10

Note: (1) The higher the share selecting a response, the darker green the cell. The highest-ranking response for each country is shown in dark green (and white font); (2) Responses 'None of the above' and 'Don't know' not shown. (%) Base: n=25 933 – All respondents

## EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views

#### Socio-demographic considerations

The socio-demographic analysis shows some differences by gender. For instance, young women are slightly more likely than young men to be worried about the cost of living (44% vs 39%) and mental health and well-being (25% vs 21%). In contrast, young men are more likely to be worried about political stability and the security of the EU (23% vs 19% of young women).

The older the respondents, the more likely they are to be worried about the cost of living (39% among those aged 16-18 vs 43% of those aged 25-30) and about peace and global stability (28% vs 32%).

There are also some differences by level of education. Respondents who have completed secondary education or lower are more likely than

those who completed post-secondary education or higher to be concerned about the cost of living (48% vs 43%) and mental health and well-being (26% vs 19%). Those who completed postsecondary education or higher tend to be more likely to be worried about peace and global stability (36% vs 30%), climate change and the environment (29% vs 25%), and political stability and security of the EU (23% vs 18%). Young people currently in post-secondary education or higher, compared to young people in secondary education or lower, are more likely to report being concerned about the cost of living (41% vs 35%), peace and global stability (31% vs 25%), economic stability (29% vs 24%) and climate change and the environment (28% vs 23%).

Differences by level of urbanisation tend to be minor or do not reach statistical significance.

# Flash Eurobarometer 556 **EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views**

**Q8** What worries you most thinking about your future? Please select up to three answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]

	Cost of living	Peace and global stability	Economic stability	Climate change and the environment	Housing affordability	Job security and employment opportunities	Mental health and well-being	The political stability and the security of the EU	Social inequality and discrimination	Education and skills development
EU27	41	30	27	26	23	23	23	21	19	13
Gender										
Male	39	29	28	25	22	22	21	23	18	14
Female	44	31	26	27	24	24	25	19	20	12
Age										
16-18	39	28	26	25	23	24	25	20	20	16
19-24	40	29	26	26	24	24	22	22	20	14
25-30	43	32	28	26	23	21	22	22	19	11
Current level of education	ı or train	ing (your	g people	still in edu	cation)					
Secondary education or lower	35	25	24	23	22	24	23	22	21	17
Post-secondary education or higher	41	31	29	28	23	24	24	22	21	14
Highest level of education	ı or train	ing achie	eved (you	ng people	no longer	in educat	ion)			
Secondary education or lower	48	30	28	25	25	21	26	18	17	9
Post-secondary education or higher	43	36	29	29	23	21	19	23	17	11
Place of residence										
Rural area	42	30	26	25	23	21	23	21	18	12
Small/medium-sized town	42	29	28	26	23	24	23	21	19	14
Large town / city	39	32	27	26	23	23	22	22	21	13

# 5. Democracy in the EU

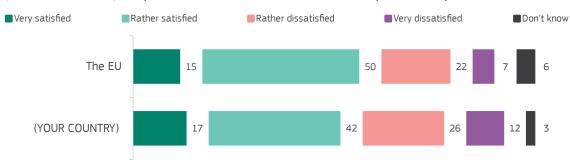
This chapter explores young people's satisfaction with the way democracy works, their views about key principles of democracy and their perceptions of the threats to democracy in the EU.

# 5.1. Satisfaction with the way democracy works

Over half of young people are satisfied with the way democracy works in their country, with 17% being 'very satisfied' and 42% 'rather satisfied'. In contrast, close to four in ten respondents indicate they are 'rather dissatisfied' (26%) or 'very dissatisfied' (12%).

When asked about their degree of satisfaction with the way democracy works in the EU, close to two-thirds of young people indicate being satisfied (15% are 'very satisfied' and 50% 'rather satisfied'). Less than three in ten respondents are dissatisfied with the way democracy works in the EU (22% 'rather dissatisfied' and 7% 'very dissatisfied').

Q9 On the whole, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way democracy works in...?



## EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views

#### Individual country results

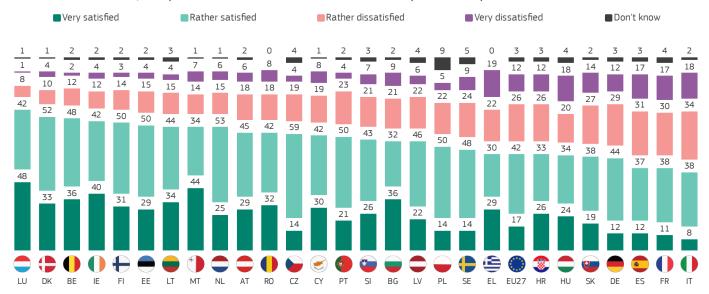
Young people's level of satisfaction with the way democracy works **in their country** varies across the Member States – with respondents in Luxembourg (90%), Denmark (85%) and Belgium (84%) being the most likely **to be satisfied** and those in Italy (46%), as well as France and Spain (both 49%) being the least likely to be satisfied.

In 15 Member States, more than a quarter of respondents reported being 'very satisfied' with the way democracy works in their country, with

the highest proportions being observed in Luxembourg (48%), Malta (44%) and Ireland (40%).

In ten Member States, at least a third of young people, in total, report **being dissatisfied** with the way democracy works in their country – with respondents in Italy being the most likely to be dissatisfied (34% 'rather dissatisfied' and 18% 'very dissatisfied'). Italy is the only country where dissatisfied young people outnumber those who are satisfied with the way democracy works in their country (52% vs 46%).

**Q9\_1** On the whole, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way democracy works in... (YOUR COUNTRY)?



## EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views

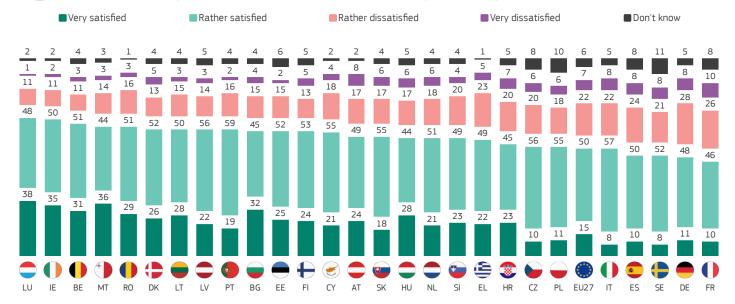
In all Member States, more than half of young people, in total, report **being satisfied** with the way democracy works **in the EU**. Again, the overall level of satisfaction is the highest in Luxembourg (86%), Ireland (85%) and Belgium (82%), while it is the lowest in France (56%) and Germany (59%).

The largest shares of young people reporting to be 'very satisfied' with the way democracy

works in the EU are observed Luxembourg (38%) and Malta (36%).

In 15 Member States, more than one in five young people, in total, are **dissatisfied** with the way democracy works in the EU (from 22% in Cyprus to 36% in both France and Germany). Nonetheless, the share reporting to be 'very dissatisfied' remain below the 10% mark in all Member States, except in France (from 1% in Luxembourg to 10% in France).

Q9\_2 On the whole, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way democracy works in... the EU?



#### EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views

## Socio-demographic considerations

Young men (63%) are more likely than young women (56%) to be 'very satisfied' or 'rather satisfied' with how democracy works in their country; a similar – albeit smaller – difference is observed for satisfaction with the way democracy works in the EU (67% vs 63%).

Furthermore, the younger the respondents, the more likely they are to be satisfied with how democracy works in their country (64% among those aged 16-18 vs 56% of those aged 25-30) and in the EU (69% vs 61%).

Among young people no longer in education, those who have completed post-secondary or higher education are more likely to be satisfied with how democracy works in their country (56% vs 48% of those with a secondary degree or lower) and in the EU (62% vs 55%). The reverse pattern is observed among those currently in education with respondents in secondary education or lower being more likely to be satisfied with the way democracy works in their country, compared to those in post-secondary education or higher (68% vs 60%).

Young people living in a large town or city are more likely to be satisfied with how democracy works in the EU (69% vs 60% of those living in a rural area).

Q9 On the whole, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way democracy works in...? (% Total 'Satisfied')

	(YOUR COUNTRY	The EU
EU27	59	65
Gender		
Male	63	67
Female	56	63
Age		
16-18	64	69
19-24	60	67
25-30	56	61
Current level of education or training (young people still in	education)	
Secondary education or lower	68	71
Post-secondary education or higher	60	68
Highest level of education or training achieved (young pe	ople no longer in educatio	on)
Secondary education or lower	48	55
Post-secondary education or higher	56	62
Place of residence		
Rural area	58	60
Small/medium-sized town	58	66
Large town / city	62	69

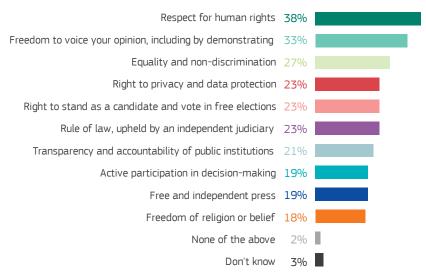
#### EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views

# 5.2. Views on the principles of democracy

When asked to select the most important principles of democracy, **respect for human rights** emerges as the most important principle (38%), followed by **freedom to voice one's opinion, including by demonstrating** (33%), as well as **equality and non-discrimination** (27%).

Three principles are each seen as important by 23% of young people: **the right to privacy and data** protection, the right to stand as a candidate and vote in free elections, and the rule of law, upheld by an independent judiciary. Less frequently chosen principles are transparency and accountability of public institutions (21%), active participation in decision-making (19%), free and independent press (19%) and freedom of religion or belief (18%).

**Q10** Democracy is based on a number of principles, several of which are shown below. Which ones, if any, do you find most important? Please select up to three answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]



#### EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views

#### Individual country results

**Respect for human rights** is the top-ranking principle in 16 Member States. The share selecting this principle ranges from 16% in Malta to 51% in Czechia.

In eight Member States, **freedom to voice one's opinion, including by demonstrating** is the most selected principle of democracy. This applies, for instance, to Portugal (41%), Greece and Lithuania (both 35%), as well as Slovakia (34%). The overall highest proportion selecting this principle is observed in Italy (42%), while the lowest is seen in Hungary (23%).

**Equality and non-discrimination** is perceived as a core principle of democracy by about a third of respondents in Spain (33%) and Italy (34%). In Slovakia, on the other hand, just one in six respondents (17%) select this response.

The **right to privacy and data protection** is the top-ranking principle of democracy in Hungary (27%). In the remaining countries, the share selecting this principle varies between 15% in Malta and 31% in Poland.

The share of young people selecting the **right to** stand as a candidate and vote in free

**elections** varies between 16% in Bulgaria to 37% in Sweden.

The rule of law, upheld by an independent judiciary is selected by at least three in ten respondents in Greece (33%), Cyprus and Luxembourg (both 30%). In contrast, only 15% of respondents in Poland think the rule of law is an important principle. A similar variation across the Member States is observed for transparency and accountability of public institutions (selected between 16% of young people in Czechia and Germany, and 31% in Estonia) and for active participation in decision-making (between 15% in Slovakia and 29% in Croatia).

In all Member States less than one in five young people mention the following principles of democracy:

- Free and independent press (between 15% in Austria, Croatia, Luxembourg, Portugal and Romania and 22% in Estonia, the Netherlands and Sweden)
- Freedom of religion or belief (between 11% in Latvia and 22% in France).

# EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views

Q10 Democracy is based on a number of principles, several of which are shown below. Which ones, if any, do you find most important? Please select up to three answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]

	Respect for human rights	Freedom to voice your opinion, including by demonstrating	Equality and non- discrimination	Right to privacy and data protection	Right to stand as a candidate and vote in free elections	Rule of law, upheld by an independent judiciary	Transparency and accountability of public institutions	Active participation in decision-making	Free and independent press	Freedom of religion or belief
EU27	38	33	27	23	23	23	21	19	19	18
BE 🌗	27	30	21	26	21	24	23	18	17	20
BG 🥃	29	30	20	20	16	25	18	20	17	17
cz 🍗	51	37	26	26	27	17	16	18	21	12
DK 📒	34	26	29	21	25	24	24	24	20	14
DE 🛑	44	33	25	25	26	25	16	20	19	17
EE 🛑	35	30	24	28	32	27	31	21	22	13
IE 🌓	22	28	21	18	28	27	25	24	16	16
EL 🥞	34	35	23	17	24	33	20	22	17	19
ES 🧶	37	33	33	21	20	24	26	22	17	12
FR 🌓	41	34	29	19	18	23	23	16	20	22
HR 🏽	33	31	26	27	20	21	30	29	15	19
IT 🕕	45	42	34	22	21	18	22	18	19	16
CY 🥑	38	32	24	19	21	30	23	26	16	21
LV 🛑	34	31	23	28	25	18	27	26	20	11
LT 🛑	30	35	21	26	27	25	22	22	20	13
LU 🧲	27	28	20	16	25	30	23	19	15	15
HU 🧲	24	23	21	27	21	22	22	20	17	12
MT (†	16	31	21	15	24	28	24	24	16	20
NL =	31	26	22	25	19	29	22	19	22	16
AT =	32	28	21	25	30	22	19	24	15	20
PL 🛑	38	27	23	31	28	15	18	21	20	21
PT 🛑		41	25	21	23	20	24	22	15	17
RO 🌗		32	23	27	29	24	26	19	15	21
SI 🤷		30	24	29	21	28	25	21	21	15
SK 🥶		34	17	19	26	23	20	15	18	20
FI <del>[</del>		26	30	27	25	26	23	21	18	12
SE 📒	43	32	29	23	37	17	17	16	22	18

Note: (1) The higher the share selecting a response, the darker green the cell. The highest-ranking response for each country is shown in dark green (and white font); (2) Responses 'None of the above' and 'Don't know' not shown. (%) Base: n=25 933 – All respondents

#### EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views

#### Socio-demographic considerations

Young women are somewhat more likely than young men to mention respect for human rights (44% vs 33%) and equality and non-discrimination (31% vs 23%) as important principles of democracy. On the other hand, young men are more likely than young women to select the rule of law, upheld by an independent judiciary (25% vs 20%).

Respect for human rights is more likely to be selected as an important principle of democracy by older respondents: 40% of those aged 25-30 and 39% of those aged 19-24 choose this principle, compared to 35% of those aged 16-18. Similarly, those aged 25-30 somewhat more frequently mention transparency and accountability of public institutions (23% vs 18% of those aged 16-18). In contrast, the youngest respondents are more likely to select freedom of religion or belief as an important principle (22% vs 15% of those aged 25-30).

Among young people no longer in education, those who completed post-secondary education or higher are considerably more likely to select the rule of law, upheld by an independent judiciary, as an important principle of democracy (27% vs 19% of those with a secondary education degree or lower) and transparency and accountability of public institutions (24% vs 18%). Among young people still in education, those in post-secondary education or higher are more likely to mention respect for human rights (41% vs 31% of those in secondary education or lower) and equality and non-discrimination (29% vs 24%).

Equality and non-discrimination is more likely to be selected as an important principle of democracy by young respondents living in more urbanised areas: 28% of those living in either a large town or city or in a small or medium-sized town mention this principle, compared to 23% living in a rural area.

# Flash Eurobarometer 556 **EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views**

**Q10** Democracy is based on a number of principles, several of which are shown below. Which ones, if any, do you find most important? Please select up to three answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]

	Respect for human rights	Freedom to voice your opinion, including by demonstrating	Equality and non- discrimination	Right to privacy and data protection	Right to stand as a candidate and vote in free elections	Rule of law, upheld by an independent judiciary	Transparency and accountability of public institutions	Active participation in decision-making	Free and independent press	Freedom of religion or belief
EU27	38	33	27	23	23	23	21	19	19	18
Gender										
Male	33	33	23	24	24	25	22	20	21	17
Female	44	33	31	23	22	20	20	19	16	18
Age										
16-18	35	32	27	24	23	20	18	20	19	22
19-24	39	33	27	23	23	22	20	20	18	18
25-30	40	34	26	24	23	24	23	19	19	15
Current level of education	or trair	ning (youn	g people :	still in edu	cation)					
Secondary education or lower	31	31	24	24	23	21	21	20	18	20
Post-secondary education or higher	41	33	29	23	24	24	22	22	20	18
Highest level of education	ı or trair	ning achie	eved (you	ng people	no longer	in educat	tion)			
Secondary education or lower	41	36	28	25	23	19	18	15	19	16
Post-secondary education or higher	43	35	27	21	22	27	24	19	18	14
Place of residence										
Rural area	37	33	23	24	21	22	20	17	19	17
Small/medium-sized town	39	34	28	24	23	21	21	20	18	19
Large town / city	38	32	28	23	25	25	23	20	19	15

## EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views

# 5.3. Perceived threats to democracy in the EU

Young people were asked to select the most serious threats to democracy in the EU. The two threats mentioned most frequently are **false** and/or misleading information in general circulating online and offline (34%) and economic insecurity and inequality (32%). These threats are followed by decreased levels of tolerance and respect in societies (27%), lack of trust in institutions (24%) and low

engagement of citizens with political decision-making (23%).

Decrease in media freedom and integrity (20%) and lack of opportunities for citizens to voice their opinions (20%) are each cited by one in five respondents.

Finally, the smallest shares mention as threats insufficient regulation of technology (e.g. AI, deep fakes) (18%), low levels of education (18%) and the rise of populism (16%).

**Q11** In your view, which of the following are the most serious threats to democracy in the EU? Please select up to three answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]



#### EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views

#### Individual country results

Across 19 Member States, **false and/or misleading information circulating online and offline** is the most mentioned threat to democracy in the EU. In Czechia, nearly half of respondents (46%) cite it as a threat to democracy in the EU, while about quarter (26%) do so in Italy.

In seven Member States, **economic insecurity and inequality** is the threat to democracy in the EU that is most selected. The share of respondents choosing this threat is highest in Italy (41%), Portugal (40%) and Estonia (39%) and lowest in Malta (15%), Ireland (17%) and Czechia (18%).

The share of young people seeing **decreased levels of tolerance and respect in societies** as a threat to democracy in the EU varies between 15% in Bulgaria and 34% in Germany.

Mentions of the remaining threats listed in the survey show a similar variation. In all Member States, no more than 30% of young people perceive the following as threats to democracy in the EU:

- Lack of trust in institutions (between 15% in Malta and 30% in Estonia)
- Low engagement of citizens with political decision-making (between 18% in Germany and 30% in Croatia)
- Decrease in media freedom and integrity (between 14% in Slovakia and 27% in Greece and Poland)
- Lack of opportunities for citizens to voice their opinions (between 15% in Finland and 26% in Malta)
- Insufficient regulation of technology (e.g., AI, deep fakes) (between 14% in Germany and 29% in Lithuania)
- Levels of education (between 12% in Denmark and 23% in Italy)
- Rise of populism (between 11% in Bulgaria, Cyprus and Hungary and 25% in Czechia).

# EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views

**Q11** In your view, which of the following are the most serious threats to democracy in the EU? Please select up to three answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]

		False and/or misleading information in general circulating online and offline	Economic insecurity and inequality	Decreased levels of tolerance and respect in societies	Lack of trust in institutions	Low engagement of citizens with political decision making	Decrease in media freedom and integrity	Lack of opportunities for citizens to voice their opinions	Insufficient regulation of technology (e.g. Al, deep fakes)	Low levels of education	Rise of populism
EU27		34	32	27	24	23	20	20	18	18	16
BE (		28	29	27	22	22	17	19	25	15	14
BG		30	24	15	22	29	18	21	20	16	11
CZ		46	18	23	28	19	26	16	21	18	25
DK (		39	25	25	21	21	15	23	23	12	18
DE		36	30	34	22	18	15	21	14	19	20
EE (		36	39	26	30	25	20	21	21	17	21
IE (		34	17	22	21	27	21	23	24	16	16
EL (		35	29	24	25	25	27	22	23	17	13
ES (		33	36	25	27	28	22	17	18	16	18
FR	0	31	37	26	22	22	21	20	15	20	14
HR (		36	37	23	29	30	17	20	24	14	12
IT (	0	26	41	22	27	27	22	24	15	23	14
CY (	<b>3</b>	39	31	29	24	26	24	23	22	20	11
LV(		35	30	20	25	28	19	20	24	19	16
LT (		43	28	26	19	26	19	20	29	15	15
LU(		30	22	28	20	22	17	21	21	13	15
HU (		35	25	20	19	23	18	17	22	15	11
MT (		35	15	21	15	24	17	26	26	17	16
NL (		35	27	28	24	19	20	18	21	13	18
AT (		32	29	28	20	25	20	22	21	17	15
PL (		36	25	26	25	24	27	21	18	16	15
PT (		31	40	23	19	22	18	23	21	17	21
RO (		38	24	22	20	25	20	22	27	20	15
SI (		37	28	29	25	24	24	21	18	14	19
SK		41	23	27	21	22	14	19	17	18	15
FI (	igoplus	34	34	23	24	26	18	15	28	16	16
SE		35	34	33	23	19	16	20	19	15	14

Note: (1) The higher the share selecting a response, the darker green the cell. The highest-ranking response for each country is shown in dark green (and white font); (2) Responses 'None of the above' and 'Don't know' not shown. (%) Base:  $n=25\ 933$  – All respondents

#### EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views

#### Socio-demographic considerations

When asked about the most serious threats to democracy in the EU, young women are more likely than young men to mention economic insecurity and inequality (34% vs 30%), and decreased levels of tolerance and respect in societies (29% vs 25%). Young men are more likely than young women to mention a decrease in media freedom and integrity (22% vs 18%).

Looking at differences across age groups, it emerges that respondents aged 25-30 are more likely than those aged 16-18 to mention the threats of economic insecurity and inequality

(34% vs 29%) and the rise of populism (19% vs 12%).

Among young people still in education, those currently in post-secondary education or higher are more likely to select economic insecurity and inequality (33% vs 27% of those in secondary education or lower) and rise of populism (19% vs 13%) as serious threats to democracy in the EU. A similar pattern is observed comparing those who have completed post-secondary education or higher and those with a secondary education degree or lower.

Differences by level of urbanisation are minor or do not reach statistical significance.

# EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views

**Q11** In your view, which of the following are the most serious threats to democracy in the EU? Please select up to three answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]

	False and/or misleading information in general circulating online and offline	Economic insecurity and inequality	Decreased levels of tolerance and respect in societies	Lack of trust in institutions	Low engagement of citizens with political decision making	Decrease in media freedom and integrity	Lack of opportunities for citizens to voice their opinions	Insufficient regulation of technology (e.g. Al, deep fakes)	Low levels of education	Rise of populism
EU27	34	32	27	24	23	20	20	18	18	16
Gender										
Male	33	30	25	23	23	22	20	19	18	18
Female	34	34	29	24	23	18	20	17	18	15
Age										
16-18	32	29	24	23	24	20	22	18	19	12
19-24	33	32	27	23	23	20	21	19	19	16
25-30	35	34	27	25	22	20	19	17	16	19
Current level of educatio	n or train	ing (your	ng people :	still in edu	cation)					
Secondary education or lower	30	27	24	23	24	21	22	21	18	13
Post-secondary education or higher	34	33	28	25	26	21	20	17	19	19
Highest level of educatio	n or train	ing achie	<b>eved</b> (you	ng people	no longer	in educat	ion)			
Secondary education or lower	35	35	26	23	20	19	21	17	17	13
Post-secondary education or higher	37	37	29	25	21	18	17	16	16	20
Place of residence										
Rural area	31	31	26	22	22	20	19	17	17	16
Small/medium-sized town	34	33	27	24	23	20	21	18	19	16
Large town / city	35	32	26	25	24	21	20	19	17	18

# 6. Influencing decision-making and interest in politics

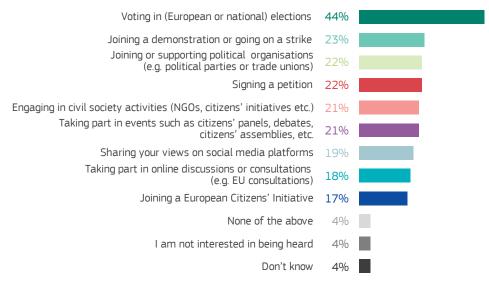
# 6.1. Best ways to influence decisionmaking

When asked to select which ways they consider the most effective to ensure their voice is heard by decision-makers at the EU level, the largest share of young people across the EU (44%) indicate **voting in (European or national) elections**.

In second place – albeit at a distance – comes **joining a demonstration or going on a strike**, selected by 23% of respondents across the EU.

This action is closely followed by joining or supporting political organisations (e.g. political parties or trade unions) (22%), signing a petition (22%), engaging in civil society activities (NGOs, citizens' initiatives etc.) (21%) and taking part in events such as citizens' panels, debates, citizens' assemblies, etc. (21%). Smaller shares select sharing their views on social media platforms (19%), taking part in online discussions or consultations (e.g. EU consultations) (18%) and joining a European Citizens' Initiative (17%).

**Q12** Which of the following do you think are the best ways of ensuring your voice is heard by decision-makers at EU level? Please select up to three answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]



#### EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views

#### Individual country results

In all but three Member States, **voting in** (**European or national**) **elections** is selected by the largest share of young people as an effective way of ensuring their voice is heard by decision-makers at the EU level. One in two respondents select this action in Czechia, France, Italy and Sweden (all 50%). In contrast, just over a quarter choose this action in Malta (26%) and Bulgaria (27%).

Young people in Bulgaria are most likely to cite **engaging in civil society activities** (NGOs, citizens' initiatives etc.) as an effective way to make their voice heard by decision-makers at the EU level – selected by 31% of respondents. In the other countries, this response is selected between 12% of respondents in Sweden and 29% in Cyprus.

Joining a demonstration or going on a strike is considered an effective way of ensuring their voice is heard by decision-makers at the EU level by more than one in four respondents in Greece (26%), Spain (28%) and Croatia (31%). In contrast, just 14% of respondents share this view in Denmark.

About one in three respondents in Cyprus (32%) select **taking part in events such as citizens'** 

panels, debates, citizens' assemblies, etc. as an effective way of ensuring their voice is heard by decision-makers at the EU level. Cyprus is joined at the high end of the country ranking by Bulgaria and Malta (both 30%). In the remaining countries, the share selecting this action ranges from 15% in Germany to 29% in Croatia. Similar variation across the Member States is observed for the following actions:

- Joining or supporting political organisations (e.g. political parties or trade unions) (between 18% in France, Italy and Poland, and 29% in Cyprus)
- Signing a petition (between 16% in Bulgaria and Malta and 30% in Czechia)
- Sharing views on social media platforms (between 15% in Czechia and 30% in Cyprus).

In all Member States, less than one in four respondents consider **joining a European Citizens' Initiative** to be an effective way for ensuring their voice is heard by decision-makers at the EU level, with the proportion selecting this response ranging from 13% in Belgium and Denmark to 23% in Italy.

# EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views

**Q12** Which of the following do you think are the best ways of ensuring your voice is heard by decision-makers at EU level? Please select up to three answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]

		Voting in (European or national) elections	Joining a demonstration or going on a strike	Joining or supporting political organisations (e.g. political parties or trade unions)	Signing a petition	Engaging in civil society activities (NGOs, citizens' initiatives etc.)	Taking part in events such as citizens' panels, debates, citizens' assemblies, etc.	Sharing your views on social media platforms	Taking part in online discussions or consultations (e.g. EU consultations)	Joining a European Citizens' Initiative
EU27		44	23	22	22	21	21	19	18	17
BE		34	19	23	19	21	26	19	22	13
BG		27	22	28	16	31	30	19	21	18
CZ		50	18	27	30	21	19	15	14	17
DK	<b>(</b>	38	14	27	22	21	20	19	18	13
DE		49	25	26	23	15	15	18	15	17
EE		48	22	27	24	25	27	16	18	18
ΙE	0	30	22	28	21	25	27	22	29	18
EL		30	26	24	20	25	24	23	23	21
ES	•	45	28	19	18	21	24	21	19	18
FR	0	50	22	18	21	21	19	18	16	14
HR		38	31	25	28	21	29	20	23	16
IT		50	22	18	25	18	20	22	17	23
CY		29	22	29	19	29	32	30	30	22
LV		38	21	26	21	21	28	22	21	20
LT		36	21	25	21	26	27	21	22	19
LU		30	18	28	21	26	26	18	26	16
HU		29	22	23	19	22	22	17	21	17
MT		26	22	24	16	25	30	24	30	15
NL		42	19	25	21	19	23	16	19	15
AT		38	19	27	22	22	19	19	20	18
PL		42	22	18	27	27	22	21	15	17
PT		43	19	24	20	28	28	21	24	18
RO		32	16	21	17	26	28	21	25	17
		37	22	24	25	23	26	23	23	17
		39	21	21	25	24	22	17	19	17
FI	$\bigcirc$	43	18	24	23	24	21	19	23	21
SE		50	18	27	17	12	21	17	18	16

Note: (1) The higher the share selecting a response, the darker green the cell. The highest-ranking response for each country is shown in dark green (and white font); (2) Responses 'None', 'Not interested in being heard' and 'Don't know' not shown.

#### EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views

#### Socio-demographic consideration

Although most differences by gender tend to be minor, young women (47%) are more likely than young men (42%) to select voting in (European or national) elections as an effective way to ensure their voice is heard by decision-makers at the EU level

There are more differences to be observed across age groups, especially when comparing the youngest and oldest respondents. Respondents aged 25-30 (47%) are more likely than those aged 16-18 (39%) to think that voting in (European or national) elections is an effective way to ensure their voice is heard by decision-makers at EU level. In contrast, respondents aged 16-18 (26%) are more likely to mention joining or supporting political organisations (e.g. political parties or trade unions), compared to those aged 25-30 (20%).

Young people who have completed post-secondary education or higher (50%) are more likely than those who completed secondary education or lower (45%) to indicate that voting (in European or national) elections is an effective way to ensure their voice is heard by decision-makers at the EU level. The difference is even larger among young people who are still in education: 50% of those in post-secondary education or higher mention voting in elections compared to 36% of those in post-secondary education or lower.

Respondents living in a large town or city are more inclined to view engaging in civil society activities (NGOs, citizens' initiatives, etc.) as an effective way to ensure their voice is heard by decision-makers at the EU level, compared to those living in a rural area (23% vs 18%).

# EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views

**Q12** Which of the following do you think are the best ways of ensuring your voice is heard by decision-makers at EU level? Please select up to three answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]

	Voting in (European or national) elections	Joining a demonstration or going on a strike	Joining or supporting political organisations (e.g. political parties or trade unions)	Signing a petition	Engaging in civil society activities (NGOs, citizens' initiatives etc.)	Taking part in events such as citizens' panels, debates, citizens' assemblies, etc.	Sharing your views on social media platforms	Taking part in online discussions or consultations (e.g. EU consultations)	Joining a European Citizens' Initiative
EU27	44	23	22	22	21	21	19	18	17
Gender									
Male	42	22	23	21	19	21	20	19	19
Female	47	23	21	23	22	21	19	17	16
Age									
16-18	39	24	26	20	21	22	22	19	17
19-24	44	23	22	21	21	22	21	18	17
25-30	47	21	20	23	19	20	17	17	18
Current level of education	or train	ing (your	ng people s	still in edu	ication)				
Secondary education or lower	36	23	24	22	23	23	22	20	18
Post-secondary education or higher	50	24	24	23	23	22	20	18	19
Highest level of education	or train	ing achie	eved (you	ng people	no longer	in educat	ion)		
Secondary education or lower	45	22	18	23	16	18	19	14	15
Post-secondary education or higher	50	20	20	22	20	20	15	18	17
Place of residence									
Rural area	43	23	20	22	18	20	18	17	16
Small/medium-sized town	45	22	22	22	21	21	20	18	18
Large town / city	44	23	23	21	23	21	20	19	18

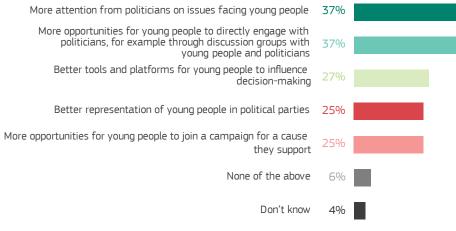
## EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views

# 6.2. Young people's interest in politics

Young people were also asked what would increase their interest in politics. More attention from politicians on issues facing young people and more opportunities for young people to directly engage with politicians (e.g. through discussion groups with young people and politicians) emerge as the top two choices, both selected by 37% of respondents.

The remaining measures are each selected by about a quarter of respondents: better tools and platforms for young people to influence decision-making (27%), better representation of young people in political parties (25%) and more opportunities for young people to join a campaign for a cause they support (25%).

**Q13** Which of the following would increase your interest in politics? Please select up to two answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]



#### EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views

#### Individual country results

In 18 Member States, **more opportunities for young people to directly engage with politicians**, for example through discussion groups with young people and politicians, ranks first when young people were asked what would increase their interest in politics. More than half of respondents in Ireland (55%) and Malta (52%) cite this, in contrast with a quarter of respondents in Czechia (25%).

More attention from politicians on issues facing young people is the most selected aspect that would increase their interest in politics among young people in seven Member States. The share selecting this response is highest in Italy (42%), Slovakia and Spain (both 41%) and lowest in Ireland, Latvia, Luxembourg and Malta (all 27%).

**Better tools and platforms for young people to influence decision-making** is selected by 34% of respondents in Sweden and by 33% in Bulgaria, Cyprus and Lithuania, in contrast with 21% of respondents in France.

The share of respondents mentioning **better representation of young people in political parties** as a way that would increase their interest in politics is the highest in Czechia (34%) and the lowest in Hungary (18%).

More than one in three respondents (35%) in Romania mention **more opportunities for young people to join a campaign for a cause they support**, while this figure decreased to 21% in Czechia, Italy and Sweden.

# EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views

**Q13** Which of the following would increase your interest in politics? Please select up to two answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]

		More opportunities for young people to directly engage with politicians, for example through discussion groups with young people and politicians	More attention from politicians on issues facing young people and politicians	Better tools and platforms for young people to influence decision-making unions)	Better representation of young people in political parties	More opportunities for young people to join a campaign for a cause they support	o None of the above	Don't know
EU27		37	37	27	25	25	6	4
BE		42	28	30	23	27	4	2
BG		37	32	33	21	29	3	2
CZ		25	38	25	34	21	9	5
DK		41	34	31	22	25	6	5
DE		38	40	26	27	24	7	4
EE		35	35	32	28	26	8	3
ΙE	0	55	27	25	24	30	1	1
EL		42	35	29	24	30	3	1
ES		36	41	29	25	22	5	4
FR	0	35	34	21	24	26	9	7
HR		41	39	31	25	26	5	1
IT	0	34	42	26	28	21	5	5
CY		49	35	33	27	32	2	1
LV		38	27	31	24	31	7	4
LT		41	31	33	24	30	3	3
LU		45	27	29	22	32	4	3
HU		38	28	27	18	29	4	3
MT		52	27	29	20	28	3	0
NL		36	32	28	25	24	7	5
AT		44	32	27	24	28	4	3
PL		32	40	29	25	24	6	6
PT		47	32	27	26	28	2	2
RO		44	34	31	23	35	1	1
SI		41	30	25	25	32	7	1
SK		37	41	25	22	23	5	2
FI	<b>+</b>		39	29	25	25	4	4
SE		33	31	34	24	21	6	8

Note: The higher the share selecting a response, the darker green the cell. The highest-ranking response for each country is shown in dark green (and white font).

## EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views

# Socio-demographic considerations

While differences by gender are minor, some larger differences emerge across age groups. For instance, younger respondents are more likely to indicate that more opportunities for young people to directly engage with politicians, for example through discussion groups with young people and politicians, would increase their interest in politics: 39% of those aged 16-18 or aged 19-24 share this view, compared to 34% of those aged 25-30.

Among young people still in education, those who are in post-secondary education or higher are more inclined to think that more attention from politicians on issues facing young people would increase their interest in politics (40% vs 33% of those in secondary education or lower).

Young people living in more urbanised areas are also more likely to report that more opportunities for young people to directly engage with politicians would increase their interest in politics. This is mentioned by 39% of those living in a large town or city and 37% of those living in a small or medium-sized town, compared to 34% of those living in a rural area.

# Flash Eurobarometer 556 **EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views**

**Q13** Which of the following would increase your interest in politics? Please select up to two answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]

	More opportunities for young people to directly engage with politicians, for example through discussion groups with young people and	More attention from politicians on issues facing young people and politicians	Better tools and platforms for young people to influence decision-making unions)	Better representation of young people in political parties	More opportunities for young people to join a campaign for a cause they support	None of the above	Don't know			
EU27	37	37	27	25	25	6	4			
Gender										
Male	38	35	28	25	26	6	4			
Female	35	39	26	26	24	6	5			
Age										
16-18	39	37	26	25	28	4	5			
19-24	39	37	27	26	25	5	4			
25-30	34	37	27	25	23	8	5			
Current level of educati	on or trainin	g (young pe	ople still in e	ducation)						
Secondary education or lower	40	33	28	25	28	3	3			
Post-secondary education or higher	39	40	28	27	27	4	3			
Highest level of educati	on or trainin	g achieved	(young peop	le no longer	in education	)				
Secondary education or lower	35	37	24	24	22	9	7			
Post-secondary education or higher	33	39	27	25	21	10	4			
Place of residence										
Rural area	34	37	26	25	24	6	5			
Small/medium-sized town	37	37	27	24	25	6	4			
Large town / city	39	36	27	27	27	5	4			

<sup>(%)</sup> Base: n=25 933 – All respondents

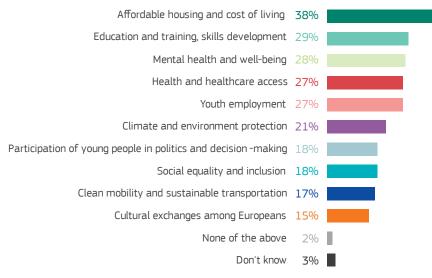
# 7. Views on EU investment to support young people

Young people were also asked in which areas the EU should invest more resources to support young people.

The area selected the most by young people in the EU is **affordable housing and cost of living** (38%). **Education and training, skills development** (29%), **mental health and wellbeing** (28%), **health and healthcare access** (27%) and **youth employment** (27%) are each selected as areas for EU investment by more than a quarter of respondents.

Climate and environment protection is mentioned by 21% of young people as an area in which the EU should invest more resources to support young people. This area is followed by participation of young people in politics and decision-making (18%), social equality and inclusion (18%), clean mobility and sustainable transportation (17%) and cultural exchanges among Europeans (15%).

Q15 In which of the following areas should the EU invest more resources to support young people? Please select up to three answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]



## EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views

#### Individual country results

In all but four Member States, **affordable housing and cost of living** is the highest-ranking area in which the EU should invest more to support young people. In Czechia, over half of respondents (57%) select this answer, compared to about half as many respondents in Romania (25%), Italy (28%), as well as Bulgaria and Malta (both 29%).

The share of young people selecting **education and training, skills development** as an area in which the EU should invest more to support young people ranges from 23% in the Netherlands to 35% in Latvia.

In Sweden, 39% of young people think the EU should invest more in **mental health and well-being.** Finland (35%) and Estonia (34%) are also found at the higher end of the country ranking. By comparison, less than one in five young people select this answer in Bulgaria (14%) and Hungary (17%).

**Health and healthcare access** is mentioned by more than a third of young people in Slovakia (36%) and Sweden (34%), in contrast with about one in five respondents in Ireland (20%), Luxembourg and Malta (both 21%).

**Youth employment** is mentioned most frequently by young people in Spain (42%), followed by those in Croatia (37%). In contrast, this response is selected by about one in seven young people in Denmark and Malta (both 14%), as well as Luxembourg (15%).

In all Member States, no more than about a quarter of young people think the EU should invest more resources in the following areas:

- Climate and environment protection (from 12% in Hungary to 27% in Italy)
- Participation of young people in politics and decision-making (from 13% in France to 27% in Bulgaria, Malta and Romania)
- Social equality and inclusion (from 13% in Czechia, Poland and Slovakia to 24% in Cyprus)
- Clean mobility and sustainable transportation (from 10% in Slovakia to 24% in Malta)
- Cultural exchanges among Europeans (from 8% in Czechia to 22% in Cyprus, Ireland and Romania).

# EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views

**Q15** In which of the following areas should the EU invest more resources to support young people? Please select up to three answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]

select up to timee answers. [Mothfeld Answers]											
		Affordable housing and cost of living	Education and training, skills development	Mental health and well-being	Health and healthcare access	Youth employment	Climate and environment protection	Participation of young people in politics and decision-making	Social equality and inclusion	Clean mobility and sustainable transportation	Cultural exchanges among Europeans
EU27		38	29	28	27	27	21	18	18	17	15
BE		34	25	21	27	19	19	19	16	22	19
BG		29	29	14	28	18	20	27	18	11	17
CZ		57	28	29	27	32	24	18	13	11	8
DK		32	27	32	23	14	25	19	19	22	18
DE		45	33	32	23	19	23	19	20	18	13
EE		44	32	34	30	21	20	24	18	22	15
ΙE		35	26	22	20	18	18	25	16	22	22
EL		37	31	21	28	24	20	21	20	17	16
ES		42	31	25	27	42	19	15	17	16	16
FR		35	25	27	27	29	24	13	18	15	15
HR		44	30	24	27	37	14	25	17	14	17
IT		28	28	32	29	33	27	17	23	17	12
CY		40	30	22	30	22	25	25	24	15	22
LV		39	35	23	31	26	14	21	18	18	18
LT		40	32	24	29	23	17	25	19	21	13
LU		37	24	23	21	15	20	23	16	18	19
HU		36	31	17	26	17	12	20	18	16	17
MT		29	25	20	21	14	20	27	16	24	19
NL		42	23	26	25	16	18	19	14	19	17
AT		39	28	28	26	17	22	21	18	18	17
PL		42	28	30	31	32	14	20	13	17	16
PT		37	29	28	31	33	16	19	16	17	18
RO		25	29	20	31	22	18	27	18	21	22
SI		46	25	25	30	31	19	22	18	15	16
SK		40	26	21	36	26	22	18	13	10	10
FI	0	36	29	35	25	24	17	20	20	16	17
SE		41	28	39	34	27	20	14	19	11	11

Note: (1) The higher the share selecting a response, the darker green the cell. The highest-ranking response for each country is shown in dark green (and white font); (2) Responses 'None of the above' and 'Don't know' not shown. (%) Base: n=25 933 – All respondents

## EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views

#### Socio-demographic considerations

Young men are more likely than young women to reply that, in order to support young people, the EU should invest more in participation of young people in politics and decision-making (20% vs 16%). clean mobility and sustainable transportation (19% vs 15%) and cultural exchanges among Europeans (17% vs 14%). Conversely, young women are more inclined to think the same about affordable housing and cost of living (41% vs 35%), mental health and wellbeing (32% vs 23%), health and healthcare access (29% vs 25%), and – to a smaller extent - social equality and inclusion (19% vs 17%).

Respondents aged 16-18 are more likely than older respondents to mention cultural exchanges among Europeans (18% vs 14%-15%), but they are less likely to refer to mental health and well-

being (25% vs 28%-29%). The share of respondents selecting affordable housing and cost of living is higher among those aged 25-30 (40%) than among younger respondents (36%-37%).

Participation of young people in politics and decision-making is somewhat less frequently mentioned by young people living in rural areas (16%) than by young people living in small, medium-sized or large towns (19%).

Differences can also be noted between respondents who are currently in secondary education or lower and those currently in post-secondary education or higher, with the latter mentioning more areas for EU investment. There are, however, few differences between respondents who completed secondary education or lower and those with a post-secondary education degree or higher.

## EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views

**Q15** In which of the following areas should the EU invest more resources to support young people? Please select up to three answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]

	Affordable housing and cost of living	Education and training, skills development	Mental health and well-being	Health and healthcare access	Youth employment	Climate and environment protection	Participation of young people in politics and decision-making	Social equality and inclusion	Clean mobility and sustainable transportation	Cultural exchanges among Europeans
EU27	38	29	28	27	27	21	18	18	17	15
Gender										
Male	35	29	23	25	26	21	20	17	19	17
Female	41	28	32	29	28	22	16	19	15	14
Age										
16-18	36	29	25	25	27	21	20	18	17	18
19-24	37	30	28	27	28	21	18	18	17	15
25-30	40	28	29	28	26	22	17	18	16	14
Current level of education	n or train	ing (your	g people :	still in edu	cation)					
Secondary education or lower	33	27	24	25	24	19	21	18	19	19
Post-secondary education or higher	38	31	29	28	30	23	18	20	18	15
Highest level of education	n or train	ing achie	eved (you	ng people	no longer	in educat	tion)			
Secondary education or lower	42	28	31	29	28	20	15	19	14	12
Post-secondary education or higher	44	29	28	29	26	23	17	17	15	12
Place of residence										
Rural area	38	28	26	26	26	20	16	17	17	14
Small/medium-sized town	38	30	29	29	28	21	19	18	17	15
Large town / city	38	28	27	26	26	23	19	20	17	16

(%) Base: n=25 933 - All respondents

## **Technical specifications**

Between 11 and 20 February 2025, Ipsos European Public affairs carried out Flash Eurobarometer 556 at the request of the European Commission, Directorate-General for Communication. This Flash Eurobarometer covers the population of EU citizens, residents in one of the 27 Member States of the European Union, and aged between 16 and 30 years.

All interviews were carried via Computer-Assisted Web Interviewing (CAWI), using Ipsos online panels and their partner network. Respondents were selected from online access panels, groups of pre-recruited individuals who have agreed to take part in research. Sampling quota were set based on age (16-18 year-olds, 19-24 year-olds and 25-30 year-olds), gender and geographic

region (NUTS1, NUTS2 or NUTS 3, depending on the size of the country and the number of NUTS regions).

#### Margin of error

Survey results are subject to sampling tolerances. The 'margin of error' quantifies uncertainty about (or confidence in) a survey result. As a general rule, the more interviews conducted (sample size), the smaller the margin of error. A sample of 500 will produce a margin of error of not more than 4.4 percentage points, and a sample of 1 000 will produce a margin of error of not more than 3.1 percentage points.

Statistical margins due to sampling tolerances (at the 95% level of confidence)

various	sample	SIZES	are	ın	rows

#### various observed results are in columns

	5%	10%	25%	50%	75%	90%	95%
n=50	±6.0	±8.3	±12.0	±13.9	±12.0	±8.3	±6.0
n=100	±4.3	±5.9	±8.5	±9.8	±8.5	±5.9	±4.3
n=200	±3.0	±4.2	±6.0	±6.9	±6.0	±4.2	±3.0
n=500	±1.9	±2.6	±3.8	±4.4	±3.8	±2.6	±1.9
n=1000	±1.4	±1.9	±2.7	±3.1	±2.7	±1.9	±1.4
n=1500	±1.1	±1.5	±2.2	±2.5	±2.2	±1.5	±1.1
n=2000	±1.0	±1.3	±1.9	±2.2	±1.9	±1.3	±1.0

# Flash Eurobarometer 556 **EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views**

	Number of interviews	Fieldwork dates	Population 16-30 y.o. (absolute number)	Population 16-30 y.o. (as % of EU27 population)
EU27	25 933	11.02.2025-20.02.2025	73 145 079	100%
BE 🌗	1 003	11.02.2025-18.02.2025	2 130 291	2.91%
BG 🛑	1 020	11.02.2025-19.02.2025	860 849	1.18%
cz 嗣	1 006	11.02.2025-19.02.2025	1 664 890	2.28%
DK 🛑	1 007	11.02.2025-20.02.2025	1 148 102	1.57%
DE 🛑	1 013	11.02.2025-19.02.2025	13 470 656	18.42%
EE 🛑	1 032	11.02.2025-20.02.2025	211 722	0.29%
IE 🌗	1 020	11.02.2025-20.02.2025	980 136	1.34%
EL 🕒	1 012	11.02.2025-19.02.2025	1 594 941	2.18%
ES 📀	1 011	11.02.2025-17.02.2025	7 879 661	10.77%
FR 🌗	1 035	11.02.2025-19.02.2025	11 549 055	15.79%
HR 🍩	1 018	11.02.2025-20.02.2025	623 769	0.85%
IT 🌗	1 011	11.02.2025-18.02.2025	8 920 921	12.20%
CY 🥑	503	11.02.2025-19.02.2025	173 340	0.24%
LV 🛑	1 016	11.02.2025-20.02.2025	272 231	0.37%
LT 🛑	1 031	11.02.2025-20.02.2025	441 832	0.60%
LU 🛑	506	11.02.2025-18.02.2025	128 947	0.18%
ни 🛑	1 037	11.02.2025-18.02.2025	1 583 791	2.17%
MT 🕦	518	11.02.2025-20.02.2025	111 798	0.15%
NL 🛑	1 015	11.02.2025-20.02.2025	3 417 034	4.67%
AT 🛑	1 014	11.02.2025-19.02.2025	1 575 830	2.15%
PL 🛑	1 016	11.02.2025-17.02.2025	5 686 282	7.77%
PT 🎨	1 001	11.02.2025-18.02.2025	1 682 056	2.30%
RO 🌗	1 019	11.02.2025-17.02.2025	3 025 128	4.14%
SI 🍅	1 022	11.02.2025-20.02.2025	318 325	0.44%
SK 距	1 013	11.02.2025-18.02.2025	846 492	1.16%
FI 🕀	1 023	11.02.2025-19.02.2025	976 012	1.33%
SE 🛑	1 011	11.02.2025-18.02.2025	1 870 988	2.56%

## EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views

## Questionnaire

	ASK ALL	
Q1	Do you think that the EU has a positive or negative impact on the society we live	
	in?	
	[SINGLE ANSWER]	
	Very positive	1
	Fairly positive	2
	Neutral	3
	Fairly negative	4
	Very negative	5
	Don't know	998
	ASK ALL	
Q2	To what extent are you optimistic or pessimistic about the future of the EU?	
	[SINGLE ANSWER]	
	Very optimistic	1
	Rather optimistic	2
	Rather pessimistic	3
	Very pessimistic	4
	Don't know	998
	ASK ALL	
Q3	In your opinion, which of the following do you think are the main strengths of the	
	EU? Please select up to three answers.	
	[THREE ANSWERS MAXIMUM – RANDOMISE 1-10] [CODE 11 AND CODE 998 ARE EXCLUSIVE]	
	The freedom of movement in the EU	1
	The standard of living of EU citizens	2
	The EU's capacity to create jobs	3
	The EU's commitment to democracy and fundamental values	4
	The EU's trade power and competitiveness	5
	The EU's investment in regions, agriculture and other areas	6
	The EU's innovation and research	7
	The good relationships and solidarity between the EU's Member States	8
	The EU's position in the world	9
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The EU's commitment to protecting the climate and the environment

None of the above

Don't know

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In your opinion, which of the following represent the EU the best? Please select up	
to three answers.	
[THREE ANSWERS MAXIMUM – RANDOMISE 1-10] [CODE 11 AND CODE 998 ARE EXCLUSIVE]	
Cultural diversity	1
Respect for human rights	2
Solidarity between EU countries	3
Peace and stability	4
Protection of climate and the environment	5
Social inclusion	6
Economic cooperation and prosperity	7
Democracy, rule of law and justice	8
Innovation and progress	9
Youth empowerment and education	10
None of the above	11
Don't know	998
ASK ALL	
What does being part of the EU mean to you personally? Please select up to three	
answers.	
[THREE ANSWERS MAXIMUM – RANDOMISE 1-9] [CODE 10 AND CODE 998 ARE EXCLUSIVE]	
Opportunities for work, study and training across the EU	1
A sense of shared identity and values	2
Access to programmes and support for young people (e.g. Erasmus+, DiscoverEU, the European Solidarity Corps. EURES etc.)	3
	4
	5
	6
·	7
·	8
	9
	10
IL UUESII L IIIEAII IIIULII LU IIIE DEISUIIAIIV	
	to three answers.  [THREE ANSWERS MAXIMUM – RANDOMISE 1-10] [CODE 11 AND CODE 998 ARE EXCLUSIVE] Cultural diversity Respect for human rights Solidarity between EU countries Peace and stability Protection of climate and the environment Social inclusion Economic cooperation and prosperity Democracy, rule of law and justice Innovation and progress Youth empowerment and education None of the above Don't know  ASK ALL What does being part of the EU mean to you personally? Please select up to three answers.  [THREE ANSWERS MAXIMUM – RANDOMISE 1-9] [CODE 10 AND CODE 998 ARE EXCLUSIVE] Opportunities for work, study and training across the EU A sense of shared identity and values

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Q6	Which of the following do you think are the current main challenges the EU is facing? Please select up to three answers.	
	[THREE ANSWERS MAXIMUM – RANDOMISE 1-10] [CODE 11 AND CODE 998 ARE IS	
	EXCLUSIVE]	
	Inequalities (social, economic)	1
	The cost of living	2
	Conflicts, instability and erosion of democratic values in the world	3
	Environmental issues and climate change	4
	Irregular migration	5
	Terrorism and organised crime	6
	Impact of digital technologies on society	7
	Disinformation and information manipulation	8
	Unfair competition from other countries	9
	Declining competitiveness	10
	None of the above	&&
	Don't know	998
	ASK ALL	
Q7	Which of the following areas do you think the EU should address as a priority?	
	Please select up to three answers.	
	[THREE ANSWERS MAXIMUM – RANDOMISE 1-11] [CODE 12 AND CODE 998 ARE EXCLUSIVE]	
	Irregular migration	1
	Security and defence	2
	Economy and public finances	3
	Environment and climate change	4
	Education and training	5
	Jobs and social equality	6
	Energy	7
	Research and innovation	8
	Digital transformation	9
	Public health	10
	Democracy and rule of law	11
	None of the above	12
	Don't know	998

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Q8	What worries you most thinking about your future? Please select up to three					
	Answers.					
	[THREE ANSWERS MAXIMUM – RANDOMISE 1-10] [CODE 11 AND CODE 998 ARE EXCLUSIVE]	1				
	Job security and employment opportunities  Climate change and the environment	1				
	Economic stability	2				
	Cost of living	3				
	Housing affordability	4 5				
	Social inequality and discrimination	6				
	Mental health and well-being	7				
	The political stability and the security of the EU	8				
	Peace and global stability	9				
	Education and skills development	10				
	None of the above	11				
	Don't know	998				
	ASK ALL					
Q9	On the whole, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way democracy works in					
	[ONE ANSWER PER LINE]					
	[STATEMENTS]					
Q9_1	(YOUR COUNTRY)	1				
Q9_2	The EU	2				
	[RESPONSE SCALE]					
	Very satisfied	1				
	Rather satisfied	2				
	Rather dissatisfied	3				
	Very dissatisfied	4				
	Don't know	998				
	ASK ALL					
Q10	Democracy is based on a number of principles, several of which are shown below.					
	Which ones, if any, do you find most important? Please select up to three answers.					
	[THREE ANSWERS MAXIMUM – RANDOMISE 1-10] [CODE 11 AND CODE 998 ARE EXCLUSIVE]	_				
	Right to stand as a candidate and vote in free elections	1				
	Freedom to voice your opinion, including by demonstrating	2				
	Respect for human rights	3				
	Rule of law, upheld by an independent judiciary	4				
	Free and independent press	5				
	Equality and non-discrimination	6				
	Transparency and accountability of public institutions	7				
	Freedom of religion or belief	8				
	Right to privacy and data protection	10				
	Active participation in decision-making  None of the above	10 11				
	Don't know	998				
	DOLL F. KLIOM	338				

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QII	the FUZ Places select up to these anguers	
	the EU? Please select up to three answers.	
	[THREE ANSWERS MAXIMUM – RANDOMISE 1-10] [CODE 11 AND CODE 998 ARE EXCLUSIVE]	1
	Low engagement of citizens with political decision making	1
	Insufficient regulation of technology (e.g. AI, deep fakes)	2
	Economic insecurity and inequality	3
	False and/or misleading information in general circulating online and offline	4
	Lack of opportunities for citizens to voice their opinions	5
	Lack of trust in institutions	6
	Rise of populism	7
	Decreased levels of tolerance and respect in societies	8
	Decrease in media freedom and integrity	9
	Low levels of education	10
	None of the above	11
	Don't know	998
Q12	ASK ALL  Which of the following do you think are the best ways of ensuring your voice is	
	heard by decision-makers at EU level? Please select up to three answers.	
	[THREE ANSWERS MAXIMUM – RANDOMISE 1-9] [CODE 10, CODE 11 AND CODE 998 ARE	
	EXCLUSIVE]	
	Voting in (European or national) elections	1
	Joining or supporting political organisations (e.g. political parties or trade unions)	2
	Joining a demonstration or going on a strike	3
	Signing a petition	4
	Engaging in civil society activities (NGOs, citizens' initiatives etc.)	5
	Taking part in online discussions or consultations (e.g. EU consultations)	6
	Taking part in events such as citizens' panels, debates, citizens' assemblies, etc.	7
	Joining a European Citizens' Initiative [INFO BUTTON: The European Citizens' Initiative is a	8
	way citizens can help shape the EU by calling on the European Commission to propose new	C
	laws if their initiative reaches 1 million signatures from at least seven Member States.]	
	Sharing your views on social media platforms	9
	None of the above	
		10
	I am not interested in being heard	11
	Don't know	998
	ASK ALL	
Q13	Which of the following would increase your interest in politics? Please select up to	
	two answers.	
	[MAXIMUM TWO ANSWERS – RANDOMISE 1-5] [CODE 6 AND CODE 998 ARE EXCLUSIVE]	
	Better representation of young people in political parties	1
	More attention from politicians on issues facing young people	2
	More opportunities for young people to directly engage with politicians, for example through	
	discussion groups with young people and politicians	3
	More opportunities for young people to join a campaign for a cause they support	4
	Better tools and platforms for young people to influence decision-making	5
	None of the above	6
	Don't know	998

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What changes would you like to see in the EU by the end of 2030? Please select up	
[THREE ANSWERS MAXIMUM – RANDOMISE 1-10] [CODE 11 AND CODE 998 ARE EXCLUSIVE]	
Greater focus on social equality and inclusion	1
Enhanced digital security and data privacy	2
An enlarged EU	3
Strengthened policies on human rights and democracy	4
Stronger climate action and environmental protection	5
Improved job opportunities and economic stability	6
More accessible high-quality education and training	7
More investments in technology and innovation	8
Increased involvement of young people in EU decisions	9
A stronger role for the EU in promoting global peace and security	10
None of the above	11
Don't know	998
ASK ALL	
In which of the following areas should the EU invest more resources to support	
young people? Please select up to three answers.	
[THREE ANSWERS MAXIMUM – RANDOMISE 1-10] [CODE 11 AND CODE 998 ARE EXCLUSIVE]	
Clean mobility and sustainable transportation	1
Education and training, skills development	2
Youth employment	3
Climate and environment protection	4
Mental health and well-being	5
Affordable housing and cost of living	6
Participation of young people in politics and decision-making	7
Social equality and inclusion	8
Cultural exchanges among Europeans	9
Health and healthcare access	10
None of the above	11
Don't know	998
	to three answers.  [THREE ANSWERS MAXIMUM – RANDOMISE 1-10] [CODE 11 AND CODE 998 ARE EXCLUSIVE] Greater focus on social equality and inclusion Enhanced digital security and data privacy An enlarged EU Strengthened policies on human rights and democracy Stronger climate action and environmental protection Improved job opportunities and economic stability More accessible high-quality education and training More investments in technology and innovation Increased involvement of young people in EU decisions A stronger role for the EU in promoting global peace and security None of the above Don't know  ASK ALL In which of the following areas should the EU invest more resources to support young people? Please select up to three answers.  [THREE ANSWERS MAXIMUM – RANDOMISE 1-10] [CODE 11 AND CODE 998 ARE EXCLUSIVE] Clean mobility and sustainable transportation Education and training, skills development Youth employment Climate and environment protection Mental health and well-being Affordable housing and cost of living Participation of young people in politics and decision-making Social equality and inclusion Cultural exchanges among Europeans Health and healthcare access None of the above

## **Data annex**

Q1 Do you think that the EU has a positive or negative impact on the society we live in?

		Very positive	Fairly positive	Neutral	Fairly negative	Very negative	Don't know
U27	<b>○</b> >	19	41	27	8	3	2
BE	<b>1</b> >	34	44	16	4	1	1
BG		38	38	14	7	2	1
CZ		14	43	24	12	5	2
DK		30	51	14	3	1	1
DE	>	17	33	35	10	4	1
EE	>	32	45	17	4	1	1
ΙE	>	35	53	9	2	1	0
EL	<b>⊕</b>	22	49	20	6	2	1
ES	<u>&amp;</u> >	15	42	28	9	4	2
FR	>	11	36	31	13	6	3
HR	<b>◎</b> >	24	44	20	9	2	1
IT	<b> </b>	15	45	28	7	3	2
CY	€	22	50	23	4	1	0
LV		23	50	20	4	2	1
LT	>	35	43	16	3	1	2
LU	>	40	41	16	2	0	1
HU	>	35	37	21	5	1	1
МТ	*	50	36	12	1	0	0
NL		27	45	19	6	2	1
AT	<b>→</b>	26	39	24	7	2	2
PL	>	14	38	30	11	4	3
PT	⊕>	27	52	18	2	0	1
RO		36	48	11	4	0	1
SI	>	28	44	18	7	2	1
SK	>	32	40	18	7	2	1
FI	<b>⊕</b> >	27	49	17	4	1	2
SE		18	39	28	10	3	2

## Flash Eurobarometer 556 **EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views**

Q2 To what extent are you optimistic or pessimistic about the future of the EU?

		Very optimistic	Rather optimistic	Rather pessimistic	Very pessimistic	Don't know		
U27	<b>○</b> >	15	46	24	7	8		
BE		32	45	15	4	4		
BG		36	42	15	4	3		
CZ		6	52	27	8	7		
DK	·	28	56	11	2	3		
DE	>	9	39	33	9	10		
EE		27	53	13	2	5		
ΙE	>	36	55	5	2	2		
EL	<b>⊕</b>	22	55	17	5	1		
ES	<u>♣</u> >	10	46	27	9	8		
FR		8	40	32	11	9		
HR	<b>◎</b> >	28	47	16	6	3		
IT		9	53	25	5	8		
CY	<b>€</b> >	23	62	11	2	2		
LV		23	57	12	3	5		
LT	>	29	50	13	3	5		
LU	>	42	42	12	1	3		
HU		33	41	15	2	9		
MT	<b>†</b> →	48	44	5	0	3		
NL		23	49	19	4	5		
AT		21	47	19	6	7		
PL		11	47	22	8	12		
PT	<b>⊕</b> >	23	59	13	1	4		
	>	35	53	9	1	2		
	>	28	44	21	4	3		
SK	>	27	43	20	5	5		
FI		27	52	12	2	7		
SE		9	48	24	5	14		

## EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views

Q3 In your opinion, which of the following do you think are the main strengths of the EU? Please select up to three answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]

		The freedom of movement in the EU	The good relationships and solidarity between the EU's Member States	The EU's commitment to democracy and fundamental values	The EU's trade power and competitiveness	The standard of living of EU citizens	The EU's commitment to protecting the climate and the environment	The EU's position in the world	The EU's investment in regions, agriculture and other areas	The EU's capacity to create jobs	The EU's innovation and research	None of the above	Don't know
EU27	<b>○</b> >	32	28	25	23	23	22	22	17	16	16	4	4
BE		27	29	25	22	20	26	16	26	18	14	1	2
BG		25	27	18	18	22	22	15	25	19	17	2	2
CZ	>	54	35	23	20	26	19	21	19	8	13	3	4
DK		27	27	29	28	24	31	23	20	13	15	1	3
DE	>	18	32	32	24	29	22	21	11	18	14	6	5
EE	>	47	33	30	27	23	20	18	28	12	19	1	2
IE		22	32	26	26	21	24	16	27	15	14	1	0
EL	<b>⊕</b>	37	29	26	21	19	23	17	25	20	12	2	1
ES	<u>*</u> >	33	26	23	22	28	23	21	15	15	20	4	4
FR	<b>○</b> ····→	41	27	19	25	19	19	26	15	12	16	6	5
HR	<b>◎</b> >	37	28	18	24	26	20	22	27	23	18	2	1
IT	<b>○</b> ····→	35	28	28	24	15	24	24	13	11	21	4	6
CY	€	37	31	30	22	25	27	14	25	23	13	1	1
LV	>	42	30	23	25	23	22	22	22	16	16	1	2
LT	>	35	27	30	21	22	25	22	23	19	18	2	2
LU		30	24	28	18	24	23	14	23	17	17	1	1
HU	>	22	18	27	19	13	22	16	22	18	17	3	4
MT	*	21	33	28	25	20	27	17	25	17	14	0	1
NL		28	24	25	25	24	25	25	22	16	13	1	3
AT		15	30	26	22	29	25	15	18	25	16	4	3
PL	>	47	26	13	20	29	15	23	20	19	14	4	4
PT	>	28	30	31	23	26	23	23	17	19	18	1	2
RO		26	29	25	25	22	21	17	28	27	16	1	1
SI	>	43	28	21	23	30	22	19	20	21	17	2	1
SK		33	26	22	18	22	17	18	23	20	15	2	2
FI	<b>⊕</b>	36	27	33	19	23	28	21	21	14	13	1	2
SE		43	27	27	16	22	22	23	11	15	15	3	8

Q4 In your opinion, which of the following represent the EU the best? Please select up to three answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]

		>-	4_	_	n EU	tion		ate ent		ent			
		Peace and stability	Democracy, rule of law and justice	Respect for human rights	Solidarity between EU countries	Economic cooperation and prosperity	Cultural diversity	Protection of climate and the environment	Innovation and progress	Youth empowerment and education	Social inclusion	None of the above	Don't know
EU27	<b>○</b> >	30	29	26	26	24	23	18	17	16	13	5	4
BE	<b>1</b> >	23	28	25	23	29	20	20	17	21	15	2	2
BG	>	17	22	22	25	24	18	19	15	28	16	3	2
CZ		37	34	25	30	24	20	18	14	17	9	6	4
DK	·	26	35	30	26	28	17	22	16	19	14	1	4
DE	>	32	35	28	26	23	23	17	13	12	10	6	4
EE	>	32	33	31	25	32	26	18	19	23	14	2	2
IE	>	21	20	23	27	31	20	28	17	17	18	1	0
EL	<b>⊕</b>	21	26	30	27	25	21	22	17	21	15	4	1
ES	<u>&amp;</u> >	29	26	28	22	25	25	18	18	15	17	6	4
FR		28	23	28	28	19	30	18	15	12	12	7	4
HR	<b>◎</b> >	25	27	22	23	29	24	19	21	27	18	4	1
IT	>	34	33	28	29	20	23	19	20	10	14	5	5
CY	€>	22	29	30	30	27	19	25	18	26	18	2	2
LV		25	29	24	27	24	31	16	18	30	18	2	1
LT	>	26	33	25	25	33	24	16	21	18	16	2	2
LU	>	23	28	26	23	32	16	20	16	18	15	1	1
HU	>	19	25	16	23	27	20	14	19	21	12	3	3
MT		20	23	21	23	31	17	26	18	25	20	0	1
NL	>	27	29	22	22	34	16	18	16	20	13	2	4
AT	>	32	32	22	22	28	20	21	15	16	14	4	3
PL		31	17	19	27	28	25	20	20	21	10	7	5
PT	>	33	32	29	25	25	20	16	20	22	16	2	1
RO	>	28	34	23	24	28	21	18	18	22	15	1	1
SI		30	27	25	26	28	24	18	17	24	18	3	2
SK	>	24	30	19	21	28	18	21	16	20	10	5	3
FI		28	34	27	23	25	18	25	15	23	20	2	2
SE		33	30	29	30	27	17	19	11	12	12	4	8

Q5 What does being part of the EU mean to you personally? Please select up to three answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]

L		Freedom to travel and explore other EU countries	Access to programmes and support for young people (e.g. Erasmus+, DiscoverEU, the European Solidarity Corps, EURES etc.)	Opportunities for work, study and training across the EU	A solid protection of my rights and freedoms	A safe and secure environment	Access to high standards of living and social protection	Economic stability and benefits	Being part of a united effort to deal with global challenges	A sense of shared identity and values	It doesn't mean much to me personally	Don't know
EU27	<u> </u>	39	30	28	23	22	20	20	17	16	6	4
BE	>	28	35	26	24	19	25	22	21	17	4	1
BG		35	33	23	18	12	19	19	20	17	5	2
CZ		55	31	25	20	24	17	17	17	10	9	3
DK	<b></b>	31	30	29	24	21	25	23	21	21	4	2
DE	>	42	19	30	25	28	22	22	11	17	7	4
EE	>	51	38	32	27	27	23	19	18	15	3	1
IE	<b>1</b> >	30	41	29	24	15	23	17	22	20	2	0
EL	<b>(≧)</b>	32	42	29	21	20	17	17	23	19	4	1
ES	<u> </u>	37	34	27	22	26	18	18	20	15	8	3
FR	<b>1</b> >	39	31	21	18	15	20	22	17	17	9	7
HR	<b>③</b> >	40	39	35	15	19	25	19	16	22	6	0
IT	·>	45	32	29	26	23	16	17	17	16	6	4
CY	<b>€</b> >	37	42	35	25	22	21	16	28	17	3	0
LV	<b></b>	47	39	32	27	24	21	19	14	14	3	1
LT		42	34	35	25	24	23	18	20	17	2	2
LU	<b>○</b> >	29	35	30	25	17	20	17	22	18	1	1
HU	>	25	35	28	20	17	22	14	20	11	6	2
MT	•	27	48	29	22	15	20	18	25	18	1	1
NL	>	38	26	24	21	25	24	23	19	12	6	1
AT	>	33	29	32	22	25	22	24	17	16	3	3
PL	>	42	30	30	24	24	18	20	17	16	6	4
PT	>	39	37	24	27	22	17	26	20	18	3	1
RO	>	32	42	28	23	18	21	18	27	20	1	1
SI	>	37	36	34	23	27	24	18	17	17	4	2
SK		39	37	33	18	16	15	16	17	11	6	2
FI	<b>•</b> ····	36	27	32	24	26	22	20	22	19	4	2
SE	>	40	16	32	26	21	23	22	16	17	7	6

Q6 Which of the following do you think are the current main challenges the EU is facing? Please select up to three answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]

L		_				v							
		Conflicts, instability and erosion of democratic values in the world	The cost of living	Irregular migration	Terrorism and organised crime	Environmental issues and climate change	Inequalities (social, economic)	Disinformation and information manipulation	Impact of digital technologies on society	Unfair competition from other countries	Declining competitiveness	None of the above	Don't know
EU27	<b>○</b> >	32	32	29	29	28	26	21	15	15	12	1	3
BE		36	22	19	31	27	23	20	18	18	11	0	2
BG		28	24	20	20	22	21	27	17	16	16	1	2
CZ		31	23	44	28	32	18	31	14	8	15	2	4
DK	<b>⊕</b> >	40	20	21	31	27	18	23	22	15	14	1	4
DE		35	32	31	37	27	24	22	11	13	12	2	3
EE		39	42	23	23	26	26	25	16	14	18	2	2
IE	>	28	29	19	20	28	17	24	24	23	14	0	0
EL	<b>⊕</b>	30	32	27	26	23	27	22	16	21	11	0	1
ES	<u>&amp;</u> >	33	31	34	25	26	31	22	13	18	9	2	3
FR		31	36	30	27	28	29	19	12	17	13	2	4
HR	<b>◎</b> ····→	28	34	35	24	22	32	23	21	20	12	1	1
IT	<b>••••</b>	28	38	31	20	40	37	17	13	12	14	1	4
CY	<b>€</b> >	35	30	33	29	25	28	28	17	20	13	0	0
LV	<b>○</b> >	36	34	23	21	22	26	29	18	22	15	1	2
LT		40	28	26	28	25	18	30	22	15	12	1	2
LU	<b>─</b> >	34	19	23	28	22	23	20	22	18	12	0	1
HU	<b>─</b> >	33	24	16	19	22	22	22	18	19	13	1	2
MT	····	27	22	23	24	25	14	26	27	22	13	0	1
NL		35	25	21	30	34	18	20	17	15	11	1	2
AT		35	27	25	33	23	24	21	16	18	12	2	2
PL		30	35	37	32	23	21	19	16	14	9	2	4
PT	·>	27	33	35	27	26	30	20	19	15	11	0	1
RO		31	25	20	26	25	23	30	25	15	12	0	1
SI		34	34	37	26	25	21	25	15	19	15	0	1
SK		34	24	22	20	25	21	30	19	18	10	2	2
FI	_	46	26	13	29	29	26	20	18	16	13	1	3
SE	>	35	32	21	48	30	19	18	12	10	10	1	6

Q7 Which of the following areas do you think the EU should address as a priority? Please select up to three answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]

L		Security and defence	Environment and climate change	ealth	Irregular migration	d social	Economy and public finances	on and	acy and rule		th and ion	Digital transformation	None of the above	won
		Security	Environ climate	Public health	Irregula	Jobs and s equality	Econom finance	Education and training	Democracy of law	Energy	Research and innovation	Digital transfo	None of	Don't know
EU27	<b>○</b> >	31	27	27	26	26	24	23	20	18	14	11	1	2
BE		26	28	21	20	23	22	22	18	17	16	14	0	1
BG	>	20	23	26	18	29	24	21	19	15	13	8	1	1
CZ		43	26	28	39	17	23	14	17	24	14	12	1	2
DK	<b>(</b> →	32	32	24	17	20	22	16	24	17	16	16	0	3
DE	>	32	27	23	29	28	21	26	24	17	11	13	2	3
EE	>	44	23	20	21	25	35	18	22	23	16	13	0	2
IE	>	21	20	23	22	23	23	20	18	18	18	19	0	0
EL	<b>⊕</b>	22	23	25	21	27	32	18	31	17	12	13	1	1
ES	<u>\$</u> >	25	25	33	30	30	25	25	21	14	14	9	1	3
FR	>	35	30	29	24	23	25	24	15	19	14	9	2	4
HR	<b>◎</b> >	27	22	29	31	32	25	24	19	17	14	14	0	1
IT		29	37	28	26	33	24	18	15	18	17	10	1	3
CY	<b>€</b> >	24	30	23	29	29	34	19	24	15	16	15	1	0
LV		37	20	25	19	29	32	23	19	19	14	13	0	2
LT	>	35	20	21	25	31	27	20	25	17	13	11	1	1
LU	>	22	25	18	23	22	22	18	22	12	18	16	0	1
HU		23	18	26	15	25	21	25	18	17	15	13	1	2
MT		21	25	19	27	16	23	21	20	21	16	16	0	0
	>	32	28	21	23	23	24	21	20	14	12	11	0	2
AT		28	28	25	25	24	19	25	23	18	14	13	1	2
PL		37	20	28	30	19	25	27	17	23	11	8	1	3
PT	•>	31	22	31	29	27	27	26	18	14	14	11	0	1
RO	·	26	19	26	19	26	25	24	25	18	17	17	0	1
SI		31	23	28	34	28	22	20	21	19	16	14	0	1
SK	_	29	27	31	16	26	20	18	19	19	14	11	1	1
	<b>←</b>	36	28	24	16	25	28	21	25	15	15	10	1	1
SE	>	41	30	29	16	29	26	15	23	20	11	8	1	5

## Q8 What worries you most thinking about your future? Please select up to three answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]

		Cost of living	Peace and global stability	Economic stability	Climate change and the environment	Housing affordability	Job security and employment opportunities	Mental health and well-being	The political stability and the security of the EU	Social inequality and discrimination	Education and skills development	None of the above	Don't know
-												Š	
EU27		41	30	27	26	23	23	23	21	19	13	1	2
BE	>	27	26	22	26	23	19	21	26	21	21	1	0
BG		28	16	22	26	16	28	22	22	17	19	1	1
CZ	>	50	31	16	23	47	26	25	20	11	9	2	2
DK	<b>⊕</b> >	25	34	24	30	20	24	23	27	15	19	0	2
DE	>	36	35	24	27	30	18	24	26	24	10	1	2
EE		45	35	29	22	26	26	22	27	20	13	0	1
IE	>	29	18	19	28	26	29	20	28	16	16	1	0
EL	<b>⊕</b>	34	27	27	25	19	25	23	22	20	18	0	1
ES	<u>&amp;</u> >	40	26	33	24	28	27	20	18	21	16	1	2
FR	>	51	33	27	31	16	15	23	19	19	12	1	2
HR	<del>◎</del> >	44	25	25	18	24	36	24	19	25	13	1	0
IT	>	49	30	39	31	8	30	26	16	19	10	1	2
CY	€>	33	27	27	26	23	28	21	24	25	23	0	0
LV	<b></b> →	36	37	28	19	24	29	19	22	20	16	1	1
LT	>	37	31	26	21	28	28	19	23	17	16	2	1
LU	>	22	27	15	21	25	20	18	28	27	17	0	0
HU	>	31	19	22	22	25	28	19	21	20	11	1	1
MT	····	26	19	20	29	23	26	16	27	20	19	0	0
NL	>	32	31	21	25	32	12	18	27	17	17	1	1
AT		31	30	22	26	25	24	23	26	21	13	1	1
PL	>	57	30	20	20	28	25	24	19	15	10	2	3
PT	>	40	26	30	20	24	29	24	21	14	20	0	1
RO		29	27	25	20	19	31	19	26	20	27	0	1
SI	>	44	35	23	23	31	25	22	21	19	14	0	0
SK	>	36	22	26	24	25	30	20	20	14	10	1	1
FI	<b>←</b> ····	30	31	29	25	20	28	27	27	17	15	1	0
SE	>	39	34	37	25	28	17	25	20	16	10	1	3

## Flash Eurobarometer 556 **EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views**

Q9\_1 On the whole, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way democracy works in... (YOUR COUNTRY)?

		Very satisfied	Rather satisfied	Rather dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	Don't know
U27	····	17	42	26	12	3
BE	<b>●</b> >	36	48	12	2	2
BG	>	36	32	21	9	2
CZ		14	59	19	4	4
DK	<b>⊕</b> >	33	52	10	4	1
DE	>	12	44	29	12	3
EE	>	29	50	15	4	2
ΙE		40	42	12	4	2
EL	<b>⊕</b>	29	30	22	19	0
ES	<u>*</u> >	12	37	31	17	3
FR	>	11	38	30	17	4
HR	<b>◎</b> >	26	33	26	12	3
IT		8	38	34	18	2
CY	€>	30	42	19	8	1
LV		22	46	22	6	4
LT	>	34	44	15	4	3
LU	>	48	42	8	1	1
HU		24	34	20	18	4
MT	····	44	34	14	7	1
NL		25	53	15	6	1
AT		29	45	18	6	2
PL	>	14	50	22	5	9
PT		21	50	23	4	2
RO		32	42	18	8	0
SI		26	43	21	7	3
SK	>	19	38	27	14	2
FI	⊕	31	50	14	3	2
SE		14	48	24	9	5

## Flash Eurobarometer 556 **EU challenges and priorities: Young people's views**

Q9\_2 On the whole, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way democracy works in... the EU?

L							
		Very satisfied	Rather satisfied	Rather dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	Don't know	
U27	<b>○</b>	15	50	22	7	6	
BE	····	31	51	11	3	4	
BG		32	45	15	4	4	
CZ		10	56	20	6	8	
DK	·	26	52	13	5	4	
DE	>	11	48	28	8	5	
EE		25	52	15	2	6	
ΙE	>	35	50	11	2	2	
EL	<b>=</b>	22	49	23	5	1	
ES	<u>♣</u> >	10	50	24	8	8	
FR		10	46	26	10	8	
HR		23	45	20	7	5	
IT		8	57	22	8	5	
CY	<b>€</b> >	21	55	18	4	2	
LV		22	56	14	3	5	
LT	>	28	50	15	3	4	
LU	>	38	48	11	1	2	
HU	>	28	44	17	6	5	
MT	<b>†</b> →	36	44	14	3	3	
NL		21	51	18	6	4	
AT		24	49	17	8	2	
PL	>	11	55	18	6	10	
PT	<b>⊕</b> >	19	59	16	2	4	
RO	>	29	51	16	3	1	
	>	23	49	20	4	4	
	>	18	55	17	6	4	
FI		24	53	13	5	5	
	>	8	52	21	8	11	

Q10 Democracy is based on a number of principles, several of which are shown below. Which ones, if any, do you find most important? Please select up to three answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]

L		_			<u> </u>	Ë	l by		<b>-</b> 2	ent	_		
		Respect for human rights	Freedom to voice your opinion, including by demonstrating	Equality and non- discrimination	privacy and tection	Right to stand as a candidate and vote free elections	Rule of law, upheld an independent judiciary	Transparency and accountability of public institutions	Active participation in decision-making	Free and independent press	Freedom of religion or belief	of the above	wo
		Respect rights	Freedom to voic your opinion, including by demonstrating	Equality discrimi	Right to privacy data protection	Right to candida free elec	Rule of L an indep judiciary	Transpa account public in	Active p in decisi	Free and press	Freedom or belief	None of	Don't know
EU27	<b>○</b> >	38	33	27	23	23	23	21	19	19	18	2	3
BE	<b>○</b> ····→	27	30	21	26	21	24	23	18	17	20	1	1
BG	>	29	30	20	20	16	25	18	20	17	17	2	2
CZ	>	51	37	26	26	27	17	16	18	21	12	2	4
DK	<b>→</b>	34	26	29	21	25	24	24	24	20	14	0	3
DE	>	44	33	25	25	26	25	16	20	19	17	3	2
EE	>	35	30	24	28	32	27	31	21	22	13	1	2
IE	>	22	28	21	18	28	27	25	24	16	16	0	1
EL	<b>⊕</b>	34	35	23	17	24	33	20	22	17	19	1	1
ES	<u>*</u> >	37	33	33	21	20	24	26	22	17	12	3	2
FR	>	41	34	29	19	18	23	23	16	20	22	2	4
HR	<b>③</b> →	33	31	26	27	20	21	30	29	15	19	1	1
IT	>	45	42	34	22	21	18	22	18	19	16	1	3
CY	<b>€</b> >	38	32	24	19	21	30	23	26	16	21	2	0
LV	>	34	31	23	28	25	18	27	26	20	11	1	3
LT	>	30	35	21	26	27	25	22	22	20	13	2	2
LU	>	27	28	20	16	25	30	23	19	15	15	0	1
HU	>	24	23	21	27	21	22	22	20	17	12	1	2
MT	•	16	31	21	15	24	28	24	24	16	20	0	1
NL		31	26	22	25	19	29	22	19	22	16	0	2
AT		32	28	21	25	30	22	19	24	15	20	2	2
PL		38	27	23	31	28	15	18	21	20	21	2	4
PT	>	36	41	25	21	23	20	24	22	15	17	0	2
RO	<b>→</b>	25	32	23	27	29	24	26	19	15	21	0	1
SI		36	30	24	29	21	28	25	21	21	15	1	1
SK		30	34	17	19	26	23	20	15	18	20	1	3
FI	_	32	26	30	27	25	26	23	21	18	12	1	2
SE		43	32	29	23	37	17	17	16	22	18	1	5

Q11 In your view, which of the following are the most serious threats to democracy in the EU? Please select up to three answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]

		False and/or misleading information in general circulating online and offline	Economic insecurity and inequality	Decreased levels of tolerance and respect in societies	Lack of trust in institutions	Low engagement of citizens with political decision making	Decrease in media freedom and integrity	Lack of opportunities for citizens to voice their opinions	Insufficient regulation of technology (e.g. AI, deep fakes)	Low levels of education	Rise of populism	None of the above	Don't know
EU27	·>	34	32	27	24	23	20	20	18	18	16	2	4
BE		28	29	27	22	22	17	19	25	15	14	1	2
BG		30	24	15	22	29	18	21	20	16	11	1	3
CZ		46	18	23	28	19	26	16	21	18	25	2	5
DK	<b></b>	39	25	25	21	21	15	23	23	12	18	1	6
DE	>	36	30	34	22	18	15	21	14	19	20	3	4
EE		36	39	26	30	25	20	21	21	17	21	1	3
IE		34	17	22	21	27	21	23	24	16	16	1	1
EL	<b>=</b>	35	29	24	25	25	27	22	23	17	13	1	1
ES	>	33	36	25	27	28	22	17	18	16	18	2	3
FR	>	31	37	26	22	22	21	20	15	20	14	2	6
HR	<b>◎</b> >	36	37	23	29	30	17	20	24	14	12	0	2
IT	·	26	41	22	27	27	22	24	15	23	14	1	5
CY	<b>€</b> >	39	31	29	24	26	24	23	22	20	11	1	1
LV	<b>○</b> >	35	30	20	25	28	19	20	24	19	16	1	3
LT	>	43	28	26	19	26	19	20	29	15	15	1	2
LU	>	30	22	28	20	22	17	21	21	13	15	0	3
HU		35	25	20	19	23	18	17	22	15	11	1	3
MT	•	35	15	21	15	24	17	26	26	17	16	1	0
NL		35	27	28	24	19	20	18	21	13	18	1	2
AT		32	29	28	20	25	20	22	21	17	15	2	2
PL		36	25	26	25	24	27	21	18	16	15	3	5
PT	>	31	40	23	19	22	18	23	21	17	21	1	2
RO	•	38	24	22	20	25	20	22	27	20	15	0	1
SI	>	37	28	29	25	24	24	21	18	14	19	1	1
SK		41	23	27	21	22	14	19	17	18	15	1	3
FI		34	34	23	24	26	18	15	28	16	16	1	3
SE		35	34	33	23	19	16	20	19	15	14	2	8

Q12 Which of the following do you think are the best ways of ensuring your voice is heard by decision-makers at EU level? Please select up to three answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]

			Voting in (European or national) elections	Joining a demonstration or going on a strike	Joining or supporting political organisations (e.g. political parties or trade unions)	Signing a petition	Engaging in civil society activities (NGOs, citizens' initiatives etc.)	Taking part in events such as citizens' panels, debates, citizens' assemblies, etc.	Sharing your views on social media platforms	Taking part in online discussions or consultations (e.g. EU consultations)	Joining a European Citizens' Initiative	None of the above	I am not interested in being heard	Don't know
EU27		>	44	23	22	22	21	21	19	18	17	4	4	4
BE	0	>	34	19	23	19	21	26	19	22	13	4	2	2
BG		>	27	22	28	16	31	30	19	21	18	2	1	3
CZ		>	50	18	27	30	21	19	15	14	17	4	4	6
DK		>	38	14	27	22	21	20	19	18	13	5	2	5
DE		>	49	25	26	23	15	15	18	15	17	5	4	6
EE		>	48	22	27	24	25	27	16	18	18	5	3	4
IE		>	30	22	28	21	25	27	22	29	18	2	1	1
EL		>	30	26	24	20	25	24	23	23	21	3	3	2
ES	- A	>	45	28	19	18	21	24	21	19	18	5	3	4
FR		>	50	22	18	21	21	19	18	16	14	5	5	5
HR		>	38	31	25	28	21	29	20	23	16	2	2	2
IT		>	50	22	18	25	18	20	22	17	23	3	4	5
CY		>	29	22	29	19	29	32	30	30	22	4	2	2
LV		>	38	21	26	21	21	28	22	21	20	3	2	4
LT		>	36	21	25	21	26	27	21	22	19	4	3	4
LU		>	30	18	28	21	26	26	18	26	16	1	1	2
HU		>	29	22	23	19	22	22	17	21	17	3	3	3
MT		>	26	22	24	16	25	30	24	30	15	3	1	0
NL			42	19	25	21	19	23	16	19	15	3	4	4
AT		>	38	19	27	22	22	19	19	20	18	4	3	4
PL		>	42	22	18	27	27	22	21	15	17	3	5	6
PT		>	43	19	24	20	28	28	21	24	18	2	2	4
RO		>	32	16	21	17	26	28	21	25	17	4	2	1
SI		>	37	22	24	25	23	26	23	23	17	5	1	2
SK		>	39	21	21	25	24	22	17	19	17	3	3	3
	<b>+</b>		43	18	24	23	24	21	19	23	21	3	1	3
SE		>	50	18	27	17	12	21	17	18	16	2	6	9

Q13 Which of the following would increase your interest in politics? Please select up to two answers. Please select up to three answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]

٠		More attention from politicians on issues facing young people	More opportunities for young people to directly engage with politicians, for example through discussion groups with young people and politicians	Better tools and platforms for young people to influence decision-making	Better representation of young people in political parties	More opportunities for young people to join a campaign for a cause they support	None of the above	Don't know
EU27	<b>○</b> >	37	37	27	25	25	6	4
BE		28	42	30	23	27	4	2
BG	>	32	37	33	21	29	3	2
CZ		38	25	25	34	21	9	5
DK	<b>→</b>	34	41	31	22	25	6	5
DE	>	40	38	26	27	24	7	4
EE		35	35	32	28	26	8	3
IE	>	27	55	25	24	30	1	1
EL	<b>⊕</b>	35	42	29	24	30	3	1
ES	<u>&amp;</u> >	41	36	29	25	22	5	4
FR		34	35	21	24	26	9	7
HR	<b>◎</b> >	39	41	31	25	26	5	1
IT		42	34	26	28	21	5	5
CY	<b>€</b> >	35	49	33	27	32	2	1
LV		27	38	31	24	31	7	4
LT	>	31	41	33	24	30	3	3
LU	>	27	45	29	22	32	4	3
HU		28	38	27	18	29	4	3
MT	* ·	27	52	29	20	28	3	0
NL		32	36	28	25	24	7	5
		32	44	27	24	28	4	3
PL	>	40	32	29	25	24	6	6
PT	⊕>	32	47	27	26	28	2	2
RO	>	34	44	31	23	35	1	1
SI	>	30	41	25	25	32	7	1
	>	41	37	25	22	23	5	2
FI	<b>⊕</b> >	39	38	29	25	25	4	4
SE		31	33	34	24	21	6	8

Q14 What changes would you like to see in the EU by the end of 2030? Please select up to three answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]

		Improved job opportunities and economic stability	A stronger role for the EU in promoting global peace and security	Stronger climate action and environmental protection	Strengthened policies on human rights and democracy	Greater focus on social equality and inclusion	More accessible high- quality education and training	Increased involvement of young people in EU decisions	More investments in technology and innovation	Enhanced digital security and data privacy	An enlarged EU	None of the above	Don't know
EU27	<b>○</b> >	34	28	26	24	22	22	20	20	19	11	2	3
BE	····	27	27	27	23	21	23	17	20	20	10	1	1
BG	>	26	23	23	23	20	23	25	16	20	7	1	2
CZ		39	23	24	15	19	22	29	22	25	12	4	3
DK	<b></b>	23	34	33	22	25	13	19	20	23	12	1	4
DE	>	32	31	29	30	22	23	17	20	20	10	3	2
EE		42	42	27	25	22	21	21	21	22	11	1	1
IE		28	25	24	23	24	23	24	19	21	11	1	0
EL	<b>ⓑ</b>	39	30	21	28	24	20	23	17	18	12	1	1
ES	<u>&amp;</u> >	44	25	21	22	24	30	18	23	16	12	2	2
FR		26	24	31	24	20	20	16	19	21	8	5	6
HR	<b>◎</b> >	45	26	23	23	22	24	30	22	21	10	1	1
IT	····	45	24	29	23	26	19	23	20	15	11	2	4
CY	€>	40	34	20	33	24	21	23	20	20	9	1	1
LV		39	36	20	23	22	27	21	20	20	15	1	1
LT	>	33	27	22	24	23	25	22	22	23	15	1	2
LU	>	27	30	21	24	18	23	20	19	20	9	1	2
HU		32	22	18	25	22	22	20	15	17	10	1	2
MT		26	26	26	21	20	23	22	21	20	10	0	0
NL		26	32	28	22	19	18	19	17	18	10	2	3
AT	<b>─</b>	27	31	25	29	21	20	20	17	21	10	2	2
PL	>	39	27	19	21	18	19	24	21	24	14	3	3
PT	•>	39	32	27	19	25	27	23	19	13	11	1	1
RO		26	34	25	23	20	27	24	19	20	14	0	1
SI		39	32	26	19	25	21	28	19	23	13	1	0
SK		34	31	20	19	19	27	18	17	19	10	2	1
FI		33	32	25	25	30	16	24	18	18	10	1	2
SE	>	35	30	28	29	23	18	16	18	20	8	2	5

Q15 In which of the following areas should the EU invest more resources to support young people? Please select up to three answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]

		Affordable housing and cost of living	Education and training, skills development	Mental health and well-being	Health and healthcare access	Youth employment	Climate and environment protection	Participation of young people in politics and decision- making	Social equality and inclusion	Clean mobility and sustainable transportation	Cultural exchanges among Europeans	None of the above	Don't know
EU27	<b>○</b> >	38	29	28	27	27	21	18	18	17	15	2	3
BE	>	34	25	21	27	19	19	19	16	22	19	0	1
BG		29	29	14	28	18	20	27	18	11	17	1	1
CZ	>	57	28	29	27	32	24	18	13	11	8	2	2
DK	<b>⊕</b> >	32	27	32	23	14	25	19	19	22	18	1	4
DE		45	33	32	23	19	23	19	20	18	13	2	3
EE		44	32	34	30	21	20	24	18	22	15	0	2
IE		35	26	22	20	18	18	25	16	22	22	0	0
EL	<b>⊕</b>	37	31	21	28	24	20	21	20	17	16	1	1
ES	>	42	31	25	27	42	19	15	17	16	16	1	1
FR	>	35	25	27	27	29	24	13	18	15	15	3	6
HR	<b>◎</b> >	44	30	24	27	37	14	25	17	14	17	0	1
IT		28	28	32	29	33	27	17	23	17	12	1	4
CY	€	40	30	22	30	22	25	25	24	15	22	0	0
LV		39	35	23	31	26	14	21	18	18	18	1	2
LT	>	40	32	24	29	23	17	25	19	21	13	1	3
LU	>	37	24	23	21	15	20	23	16	18	19	0	1
HU		36	31	17	26	17	12	20	18	16	17	1	2
MT	<b>†</b> ····→	29	25	20	21	14	20	27	16	24	19	0	1
NL	<b>○</b> >	42	23	26	25	16	18	19	14	19	17	1	2
AT		39	28	28	26	17	22	21	18	18	17	1	1
PL		42	28	30	31	32	14	20	13	17	16	2	3
PT	→	37	29	28	31	33	16	19	16	17	18	0	1
RO	>	25	29	20	31	22	18	27	18	21	22	0	1
SI	>	46	25	25	30	31	19	22	18	15	16	1	1
SK	>	40	26	21	36	26	22	18	13	10	10	1	1
FI		36	29	35	25	24	17	20	20	16	17	0	1
SE		41	28	39	34	27	20	14	19	11	11	1	5



