



## **Standard Eurobarometer 83 Spring 2015**

# **EUROPE 2020**

## **REPORT**

Fieldwork: May 2015

This survey has been requested and co-ordinated by the European Commission,  
Directorate-General for Communication.

[http://ec.europa.eu/public\\_opinion/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/index_en.htm)

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**Standard Eurobarometer 83 / Spring 2015 – TNS opinion & social**

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**Standard Eurobarometer 83  
Spring 2015**

**Europe 2020**

Survey conducted by TNS opinion & social at the request of the  
European Commission,  
Directorate-General for Communication

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

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## INTRODUCTION

The Europe 2020 framework strategy, launched in March 2010 by the European Commission, has a threefold objective: to overcome the economic and financial crisis, to prepare the EU economy for the future and to create the conditions needed to deliver smart, sustainable and inclusive economic growth<sup>1</sup>. Since spring 2010<sup>2</sup>, the Standard Eurobarometer surveys have measured how this strategy is perceived by Europeans.

In this latest Standard Eurobarometer survey of spring 2015 (EB83), the views of Europeans on this subject have been measured using two indicators:

- The first measures how realistic Europeans find the social, economic, environmental and educational targets of the Europe 2020 strategy;
- The second assesses the views of Europeans on the direction taken by the European Union to emerge from the economic and financial crisis.

The full Standard Eurobarometer 83 report consists of several volumes. The first volume presents the state of public opinion in the European Union (EU). Four other volumes present the views of Europeans on other issues: the Europe 2020 strategy; European citizenship; the European Union's budget; Europeans and economic statistics. This volume is devoted to the Europe 2020 strategy.

This Standard Eurobarometer 83 survey (EB83) was conducted between 16 and 27 May 2015 in 34 countries and territories<sup>3</sup>: the 28 Member States of the European Union (EU), five candidate countries<sup>4</sup> (the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Montenegro, Serbia and Albania) and the Turkish Cypriot Community in the part of the country not controlled by the government of the Republic of Cyprus. The questions on the Europe 2020 framework strategy were asked only in the 28 EU Member States.

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<sup>1</sup> [http://ec.europa.eu/europe2020/index\\_enr.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/europe2020/index_enr.htm)

<sup>2</sup> Standard Eurobarometer 73. Fieldwork conducted in May 2010, a few months after the launch of the Europe 2020 strategy by the European Commission in March 2010.

<sup>3</sup> Please refer to the technical specifications for information on the exact dates of the interviews in each country.

<sup>4</sup> The survey was not conducted in Iceland. In March 2015, the Icelandic government requested that "Iceland should not be regarded as a candidate country for EU membership".

The methodology used is that of the Standard Eurobarometer surveys of the DG COMM (“Strategy, Corporate Communication Actions and Eurobarometer” Unit)<sup>5</sup>. A technical note describing how the institutes within the TNS opinion & social network conduct interviews is included in the report annexes. This note also specifies the confidence intervals<sup>6</sup>, which enable us to assess the accuracy of a survey’s results according to the size of the sample polled in relation to the total size of the population studied.

The abbreviations used in this report correspond to:

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

\* Cyprus as a whole is one of the 28 European Union Member States. However, the “acquis communautaire” has been suspended in the part of the country that is not controlled by the government of the Republic of Cyprus. For practical reasons, only the interviews carried out in the part of the country controlled by the government of the Republic of Cyprus are included in the “CY” category and in the EU28 average. The interviews carried out in the part of the country that is not controlled by the government of the Republic of Cyprus are included in the “CY(tcc)” [tcc: *Turkish Cypriot Community*] category.

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

\* \* \* \* \*

*We wish to thank all the people interviewed throughout Europe  
who took the time to take part in this survey.*

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

<sup>5</sup> [http://ec.europa.eu/public\\_opinion/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/index_en.htm)

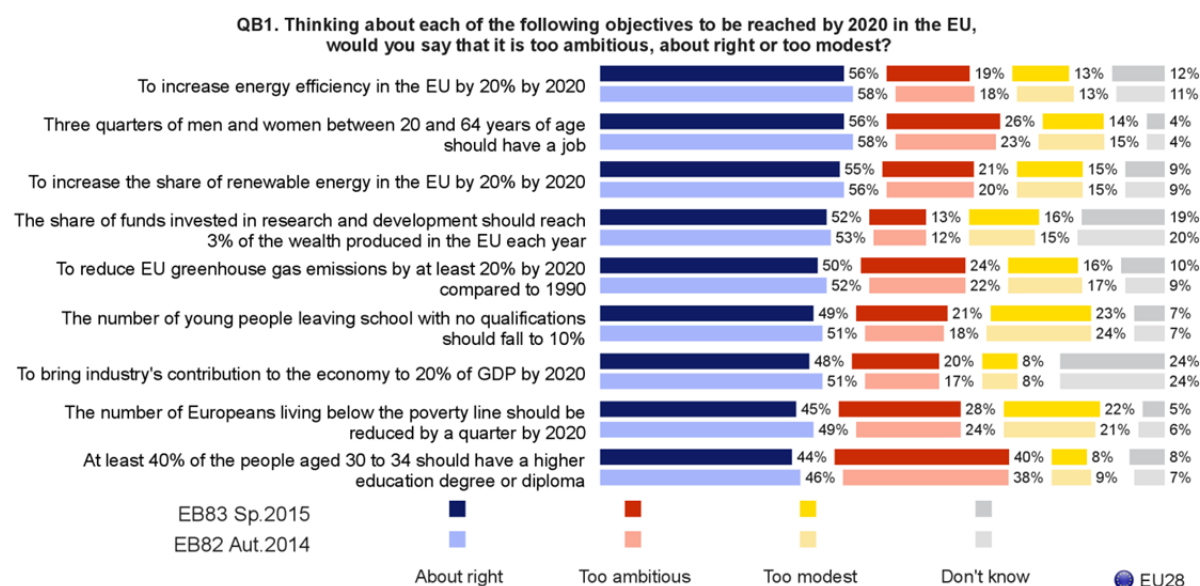
<sup>6</sup> The results tables are annexed. It should be noted that the total of the percentages indicated in the tables in the tables of this report may exceed 100% when the respondents could choose several answers to the same question.

## I. OPINIONS ON THE EUROPEAN UNION'S EUROPE 2020 TARGETS

Respondents were first asked to give their views on the feasibility of the Europe 2020 targets, by ranking them as “about right”, “too ambitious” or “too modest”<sup>7</sup>.

As in all the Standard Eurobarometer surveys since this indicator was first measured in spring 2010 (EB73), the predominant view among Europeans is that all the objectives are realistic. A majority of respondents (an absolute majority for five targets and a relative majority for four targets) consider that they are “about right”, meaning that they are attainable by 2020.

However, this perception has lost ground (between one and four percentage points) for all these objectives since the Standard Eurobarometer survey of autumn 2014 (EB82). In contrast, the proportion of “too ambitious” answers has increased slightly for all of them, while overall the proportion of “too modest” answers is stable.



More specifically:

- 56% of Europeans (-2 percentage points since autumn 2014) consider that the objective of increasing energy efficiency in the EU by 20% by 2020 is realistic;
- 56% (-2) agree that objective whereby three-quarters of men and women between 20 and 64 years of age should have a job by 2020 is realistic;
- 55% (-1) consider that the objective of increasing the share of renewable energy in the EU by 20% by 2020 is realistic;
- 52% (-1) see as realistic the objective of increasing the share of funds invested in research and development to 3% of the wealth produced in the EU each year;

<sup>7</sup> QB1. Thinking about each of the following objectives to be reached by 2020 in the EU, would you say that it is too ambitious, about right or too modest?

- 50% (-2) feel that the objective of reducing EU greenhouse gas emissions by at least 20% by 2020 compared with 1990 is “about right”;
- 49% (-2) consider that the objective of reducing the number of young people leaving school with no qualifications to 10% is realistic, while for 23% (-1) this target is “too modest” and for 21% (+3) it is “too ambitious”;
- 48% (-3) think that the objective of bringing industry’s contribution to the economy to 20% of GDP by 2020 is “about right”, whereas for 20% (+3) it is “too ambitious” and for 8% (unchanged) it is “too modest”.
- 45% (-4) consider that the objective of reducing the number of Europeans living below the poverty line by a quarter by 2020 is realistic, while for 28% (+4) it is “too ambitious” and for 22% (+1) it is “too modest”;
- lastly, the target of at least 40% of 30-34 year-olds having a higher education degree or diploma in 2020 is seen as realistic by 44% of Europeans (-2), whereas 40% (+2) think that this target is “too ambitious” and 8% (-1) that it is “too modest”.

The perceived realism of all the objectives has trended steadily downwards since the introduction of this indicator in spring 2010<sup>8</sup>. Thus, since spring 2010, **the perceived realism of the three objectives related to education and research and development has declined**: a fall of four percentage points for the objective of investing 3% of the EU’s GDP in research and development by 2020, four percentage points again for the objective of limiting to 10% the number of young people leaving school with no qualifications, and eight percentage points for the objective of increasing to at least 40% by 2020 the proportion of 30-34 year-olds who have a higher education degree or diploma<sup>9</sup>.

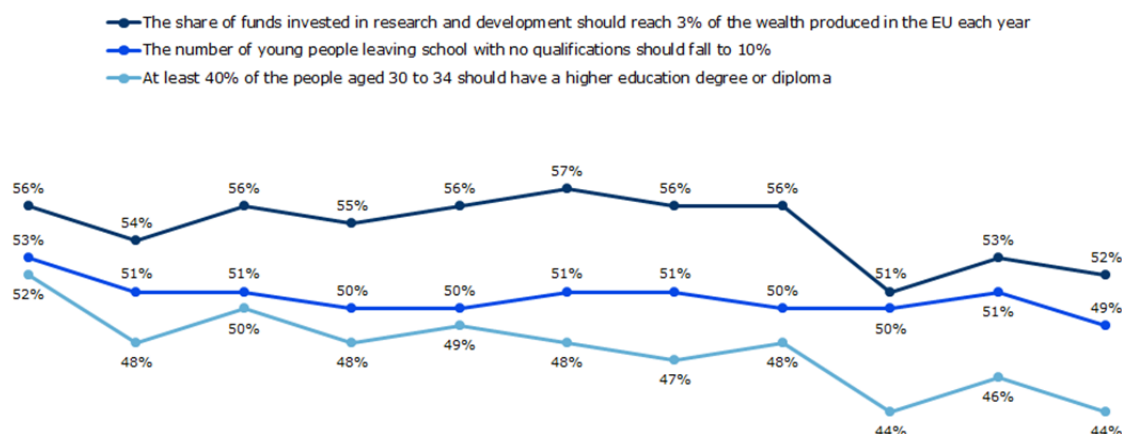
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<sup>8</sup> The series of measures since spring 2010 applies for eight of the nine objectives, since the objective proposing “to bring industry’s contribution to the economy to 20% of GDP by 2020” was introduced more recently in the Standard Eurobarometer surveys, in autumn 2014 (EB82).

<sup>9</sup> In the Standard Eurobarometer survey of spring 2010, the wording used was: “at least 40% of the younger generation should have a degree or a diploma”.

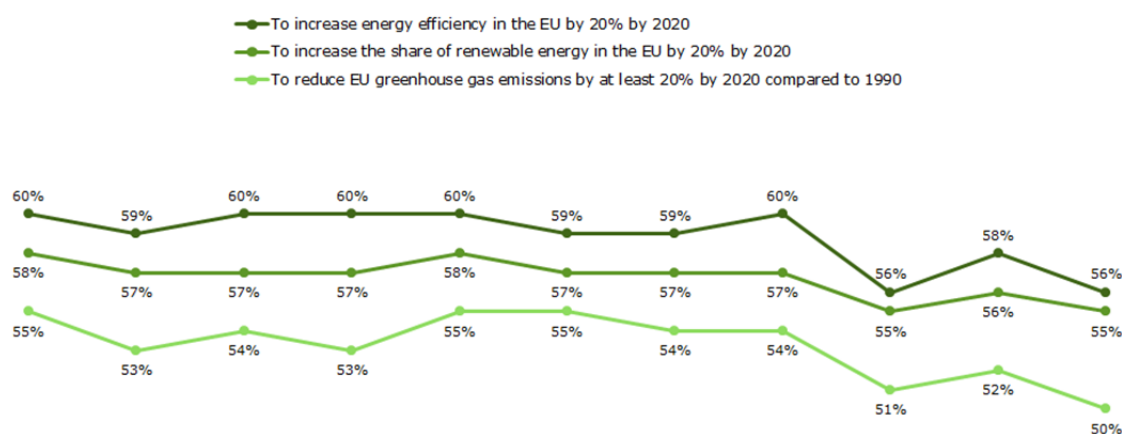


**QB1. Thinking about each of the following objectives to be reached by 2020 in the EU, would you say that it is too ambitious, about right or too modest?**  
Answer: 'About right' - % EU

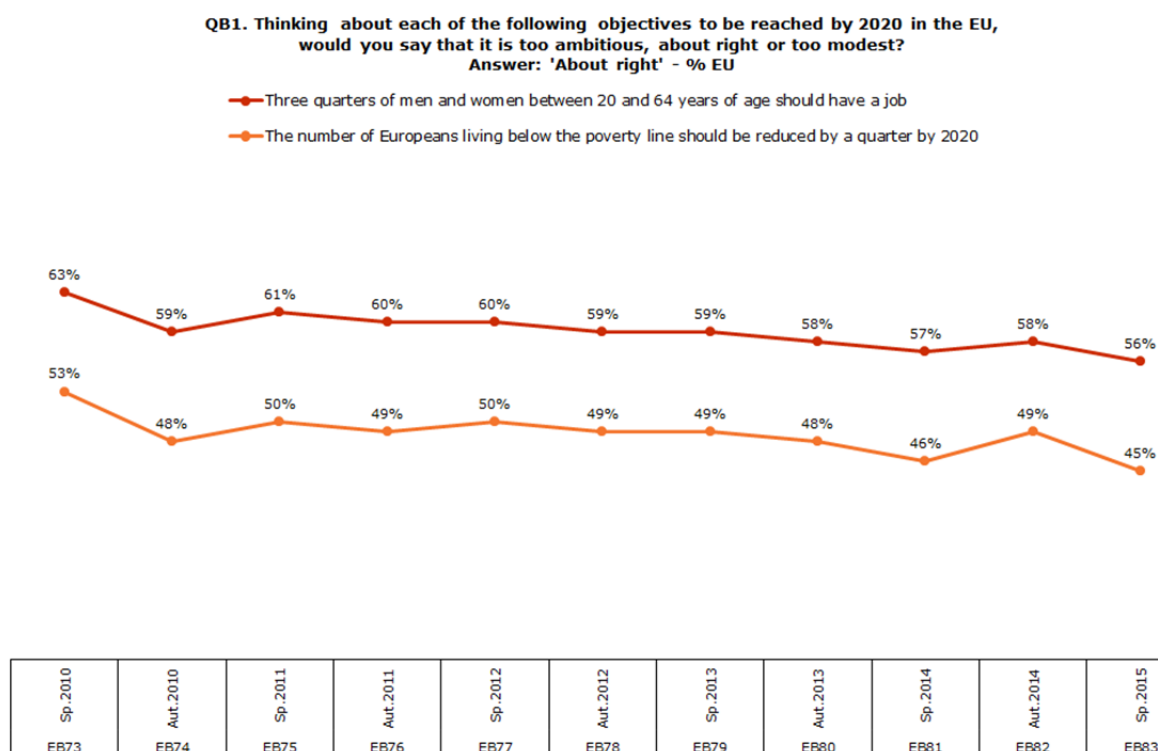


The perceived realism of the three environmental objectives has also declined since spring 2010: a fall of five percentage points for the objective of reducing greenhouse gas emissions, four percentage points for increasing energy efficiency in the EU by 20% and three percentage points for increasing the share of renewable energy in the EU.

**QB1. Thinking about each of the following objectives to be reached by 2020 in the EU, would you say that it is too ambitious, about right or too modest?**  
Answer: 'About right' - % EU



The downward trend is even more pronounced for the **social objectives**: the perceived realism of the objective of having three-quarters of men and women aged between 20 and 64 in employment by 2020 has fallen by seven percentage points, and the realism of reducing the number of Europeans living below the poverty line by a quarter has lost eight percentage points.



The proportion of respondents perceiving these objectives as realistic has decreased in this survey despite the fact that the indicators measuring trust in the European Union and the EU's image have improved sharply<sup>10</sup> and positive opinions of the EU's approach to emerging from the crisis now stand at their highest level since spring 2010<sup>11</sup>. It therefore appears, for the time being, that the improvement in overall perceptions is not enough to boost the perceived realism of the Europe 2020 targets.

In terms of national results, respondents in Slovenia, Lithuania, Romania, Italy, Croatia and Spain are generally the most likely to perceive these objectives as realistic.

<sup>10</sup> See part 2 of the Standard Eurobarometer volume devoted to "Public opinion in the European Union".

<sup>11</sup> See the second part of this report, entitled: "The direction taken by the European Union to combat the crisis".

More specifically:

A majority of respondents in all Member States consider that the objective of an **employment rate of 75% for those in the 20-64 age group in the EU** is realistic. This view is shared by an absolute majority of respondents in 20 Member States, with the highest scores in Italy (69%), Romania (66%) and Slovenia (66%). In the eight remaining countries, the majority is relative. The lowest proportions of “about right” answers were recorded in Greece (36%) and Cyprus (38%).

An absolute majority of respondents in 24 Member States consider that the objective of **increasing energy efficiency in the EU by 20% by 2020** is realistic, with the highest scores in Lithuania (69%), Slovenia (67%), Malta (64%) and Finland (63%), while a relative majority of respondents in Cyprus (45%), Slovakia (47%), Greece (47%) and Luxembourg (48%) see this objective as realistic.

A majority of respondents in all Member States consider that the **objective of increasing the share of renewable energy in the EU by 20% by 2020** is realistic, with an absolute majority in 20 Member States led by Lithuania (68%), Slovenia (67%) and Finland (64%), and a relative majority in the remaining eight. Respondents in Greece (44%), Cyprus (44%) and Slovakia (44%) are the least likely to see this objective as realistic.

An absolute majority of respondents in 20 Member States believe that the objective of **investing 3% of the wealth produced in the EU each year in research and development** is realistic, with the highest scores in Slovenia (63%), Lithuania (60%), Denmark (60%) and Finland (60%). In the eight remaining countries, this view is shared by a relative majority of respondents, with the lowest scores in Luxembourg (37%), Cyprus (40%) and Greece (43%).

Luxembourg is the only Member State where the objective of **reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 20% in comparison with 1990** is not perceived as realistic by a majority of respondents, this answer instead ranking in second place, behind “too ambitious” (37% for “about right” versus 39% for “too ambitious”). This objective is seen as realistic by an absolute majority of the people polled in 14 countries, most notably in Slovenia (64%), Italy (59%) and Romania (59%). In the remaining 13 countries, it is perceived as realistic by a relative majority of respondents, with the lowest scores in Cyprus (38%), Greece (42%) and Germany (43%).

**The objective of bringing industry's contribution to the EU's economy to 20% of GDP** is perceived as realistic in 27 Member States. Luxembourg is the only country where “about right” is not the most frequently mentioned answer (24% versus 32% for “too ambitious”). This objective is seen as realistic by an absolute majority of respondents in 15 countries, with the highest scores in Romania (60%), Slovenia (60%) and Lithuania (58%). France (33%), Cyprus (34%) and Estonia (40%) have the lowest proportions of “about right” answers. For this indicator, 12 Member States have a “DK” rate of at least 25%.






























As in the Standard Eurobarometer survey of autumn 2014, Sweden is the only Member State where the objective of **reducing the number of young people leaving school without any qualifications to 10%** is considered by a majority of respondents to be “too modest” (46% versus 37% who see it as “about right”). In all the other countries, respondents are most likely to say it is “about right”, with the highest scores in Slovenia (67%), Italy (61%) and Romania (59%), and the lowest in Luxembourg (39%), France (39%) and Germany (42%). In total, this objective is seen as realistic by an absolute majority of the people polled in 16 Member States.

In 23 Member States respondents are most likely to say that the objective of **reducing poverty by a quarter in the European Union** is realistic, most markedly in Lithuania (60%), Romania (60%) and Latvia (57%), but less emphatically in Germany (38%), the Czech Republic (40%) and Belgium (40%). This view is shared by at least 50% of those polled in eight Member States. However this objective is seen as “too ambitious” in Luxembourg (49% versus 27% for “about right”) and France (41% versus 34%), while respondents in Greece predominantly see it as “too modest” (39% versus 31% for “too ambitious” and 29% for “about right”). Lastly, the “too ambitious” and “about right” answers are ranked in joint first place in Slovakia (39% versus 39%) and Cyprus (35% versus 35%).

Lastly, as in autumn 2014, the objective of **achieving a level of at least 40% of 30-34 year-olds having a higher education degree or diploma** in Europe is seen as “too ambitious” by a majority of respondents in ten Member States: the Netherlands (70%), Finland (64%), Germany (60%), Luxembourg (59%), Austria (58%), France (49% versus 32% for “about right”), the Czech Republic (48% versus 42%), Slovakia (46% versus 38%), Latvia (47% versus 43%) and Estonia (46% versus 35%). This objective is predominantly perceived as realistic in all the other Member States, and by an absolute majority in 11 of them, led by Portugal (59%), Spain (59%) and Italy (58%).

QB1. Thinking about each of the following objectives to be reached by 2020 in the EU, would you say that it is too ambitious, about right or too modest?

Answer: 'About right'

		To increase energy efficiency in the EU by 20% by 2020	Three quarters of men and women between 20 and 64 years of age should have a job	To increase the share of renewable energy in the EU by 20% by 2020	The share of funds invested in research and development should reach 3% of the wealth produced in the EU each year	To reduce EU greenhouse gas emissions by at least 20% by 2020 compared to 1990	The number of young people leaving school with no qualifications should fall to 10%	To bring industry's contribution to the economy to 20% of GDP by 2020	The number of Europeans living below the poverty line should be reduced by a quarter by 2020	At least 40% of the people aged 30 to 34 should have a higher education degree or diploma
	EU28	56%	56%	55%	52%	50%	49%	48%	45%	44%
	BE	53%	50%	52%	46%	46%	46%	46%	40%	42%
	BG	53%	57%	49%	46%	48%	52%	50%	48%	48%
	CZ	53%	47%	49%	56%	46%	48%	49%	40%	42%
	DK	58%	57%	58%	60%	49%	52%	50%	48%	57%
	DE	55%	53%	52%	54%	43%	42%	41%	38%	29%
	EE	52%	57%	48%	47%	44%	48%	40%	45%	35%
	IE	54%	53%	52%	52%	47%	53%	48%	47%	53%
	EL	47%	36%	44%	43%	42%	44%	45%	29%	43%
	ES	61%	56%	59%	53%	56%	55%	55%	50%	59%
	FR	55%	48%	54%	45%	47%	39%	33%	34%	32%
	HR	61%	59%	63%	56%	55%	58%	57%	52%	52%
	IT	59%	69%	63%	53%	59%	61%	54%	54%	58%
	CY	45%	38%	44%	40%	38%	45%	34%	35%	44%
	LV	58%	59%	54%	57%	52%	56%	51%	57%	43%
	LT	69%	64%	68%	60%	57%	53%	58%	60%	52%
	LU	48%	44%	52%	37%	37%	39%	24%	27%	25%
	HU	52%	52%	50%	52%	50%	46%	52%	44%	45%
	MT	64%	58%	63%	51%	54%	57%	45%	49%	45%
	NL	55%	51%	51%	49%	44%	51%	43%	42%	23%
	AT	52%	49%	48%	54%	44%	43%	49%	41%	29%
	PL	58%	56%	60%	52%	52%	50%	51%	54%	53%
	PT	57%	58%	56%	50%	57%	55%	55%	43%	59%
	RO	60%	66%	62%	57%	59%	59%	60%	60%	52%
	SI	67%	66%	67%	63%	64%	67%	60%	52%	55%
	SK	47%	47%	44%	51%	50%	48%	47%	39%	38%
	FI	63%	57%	64%	60%	53%	58%	52%	45%	26%
	SE	56%	44%	46%	55%	44%	37%	50%	41%	53%
	UK	55%	58%	52%	54%	50%	50%	50%	47%	46%

Highest percentage per country






























Lowest percentage per country

Highest percentage per item

Lowest percentage per item

QB1. Thinking about each of the following objectives to be reached by 2020 in the EU, would you say that it is too ambitious, about right or too modest?

Answer: 'Too ambitious'

		At least 40% of the people aged 30 to 34 should have a higher education degree or diploma	The number of Europeans living below the poverty line should be reduced by a quarter by 2020	Three quarters of men and women between 20 and 64 years of age should have a job	To reduce EU greenhouse gas emissions by at least 20% by 2020 compared to 1990	The number of young people leaving school with no qualifications should fall to 10%	To increase the share of renewable energy in the EU by 20% by 2020	To bring industry's contribution to the economy to 20% of GDP by 2020	To increase energy efficiency in the EU by 20% by 2020	The share of funds invested in research and development should reach 3% of the wealth produced in the EU each year
	EU28	40%	28%	26%	24%	21%	21%	20%	19%	13%
	BE	36%	27%	31%	24%	20%	19%	23%	17%	13%
	BG	37%	24%	23%	22%	24%	25%	22%	22%	18%
	CZ	48%	36%	33%	27%	28%	28%	21%	25%	16%
	DK	14%	25%	25%	24%	19%	17%	15%	17%	9%
	DE	60%	29%	25%	24%	21%	20%	18%	18%	10%
	EE	46%	31%	22%	22%	21%	16%	19%	15%	8%
	IE	27%	26%	31%	27%	24%	21%	19%	21%	15%
	EL	31%	31%	33%	26%	25%	26%	23%	26%	19%
	ES	23%	23%	25%	21%	22%	18%	13%	17%	12%
	FR	49%	41%	38%	30%	30%	24%	29%	20%	14%
	HR	38%	26%	30%	27%	20%	19%	24%	20%	22%
	IT	22%	25%	18%	17%	16%	15%	21%	17%	13%
	CY	26%	35%	32%	23%	24%	25%	23%	24%	16%
	LV	47%	19%	23%	15%	10%	16%	18%	15%	11%
	LT	37%	23%	20%	22%	21%	14%	18%	14%	13%
	LU	59%	49%	41%	39%	38%	25%	32%	29%	21%
	HU	42%	29%	29%	23%	24%	23%	23%	23%	20%
	MT	39%	34%	27%	25%	25%	17%	18%	16%	15%
	NL	70%	36%	34%	31%	24%	25%	22%	25%	16%
	AT	58%	26%	31%	21%	23%	18%	19%	18%	17%
	PL	26%	16%	18%	21%	11%	15%	15%	14%	11%
	PT	22%	26%	22%	21%	23%	21%	18%	21%	21%
	RO	35%	23%	26%	23%	23%	22%	20%	22%	20%
	SI	32%	22%	18%	18%	13%	15%	21%	15%	12%
	SK	46%	39%	37%	28%	31%	31%	24%	30%	22%
	FI	64%	39%	29%	29%	17%	20%	21%	21%	13%
	SE	29%	17%	20%	15%	14%	16%	10%	12%	5%
	UK	40%	26%	24%	29%	21%	24%	19%	22%	13%

Highest percentage per country

Lowest percentage per country






























Highest percentage per item

Lowest percentage per item



QB1. Thinking about each of the following objectives to be reached by 2020 in the EU, would you say that it is too ambitious, about right or too modest?

Answer: 'Too modest'

		The number of young people leaving school with no qualifications should fall to 10%	The number of Europeans living below the poverty line should be reduced by a quarter by 2020	The share of funds invested in research and development should reach 3% of the wealth produced in the EU each year	To reduce EU greenhouse gas emissions by at least 20% by 2020 compared to 1990	To increase the share of renewable energy in the EU by 20% by 2020	Three quarters of men and women between 20 and 64 years of age should have a job	To increase energy efficiency in the EU by 20% by 2020	At least 40% of the people aged 30 to 34 should have a higher education degree or diploma	To bring industry's contribution to the economy to 20% of GDP by 2020
	EU28	23%	22%	16%	16%	15%	14%	13%	8%	8%
	BE	30%	29%	25%	24%	24%	16%	23%	15%	11%
	BG	17%	20%	12%	9%	8%	13%	8%	7%	9%
	CZ	18%	18%	13%	14%	13%	16%	10%	5%	9%
	DK	24%	22%	14%	20%	20%	14%	15%	24%	10%
	DE	33%	29%	20%	24%	21%	18%	15%	3%	6%
	EE	20%	14%	13%	9%	11%	14%	8%	7%	5%
	IE	14%	16%	10%	9%	9%	10%	9%	11%	7%
	EL	29%	39%	24%	24%	23%	30%	20%	24%	19%
	ES	18%	22%	20%	12%	13%	15%	12%	12%	9%
	FR	23%	20%	16%	15%	14%	10%	11%	6%	6%
	HR	19%	19%	10%	11%	12%	8%	12%	6%	10%
	IT	18%	18%	18%	15%	12%	10%	12%	16%	9%
	CY	25%	25%	17%	18%	13%	27%	13%	23%	11%
	LV	25%	16%	11%	7%	8%	13%	5%	5%	7%
	LT	18%	11%	6%	6%	5%	11%	4%	4%	3%
	LU	19%	18%	15%	16%	15%	13%	11%	7%	8%
	HU	26%	24%	13%	18%	20%	17%	18%	9%	12%
	MT	7%	7%	6%	4%	4%	6%	4%	5%	3%
	NL	20%	19%	17%	20%	20%	13%	14%	3%	7%
	AT	30%	30%	20%	29%	29%	17%	23%	7%	9%
	PL	21%	19%	15%	10%	10%	19%	10%	7%	9%
	PT	14%	24%	11%	10%	13%	13%	11%	9%	9%
	RO	14%	13%	7%	8%	6%	6%	7%	7%	5%
	SI	10%	17%	10%	7%	8%	8%	8%	3%	5%
	SK	9%	13%	7%	7%	9%	10%	7%	5%	4%
	FI	20%	12%	7%	11%	11%	11%	9%	4%	5%
	SE	46%	39%	25%	37%	35%	34%	26%	12%	12%
	UK	22%	19%	12%	11%	13%	13%	13%	7%	8%

Highest percentage per country

Lowest percentage per country

Highest percentage per item

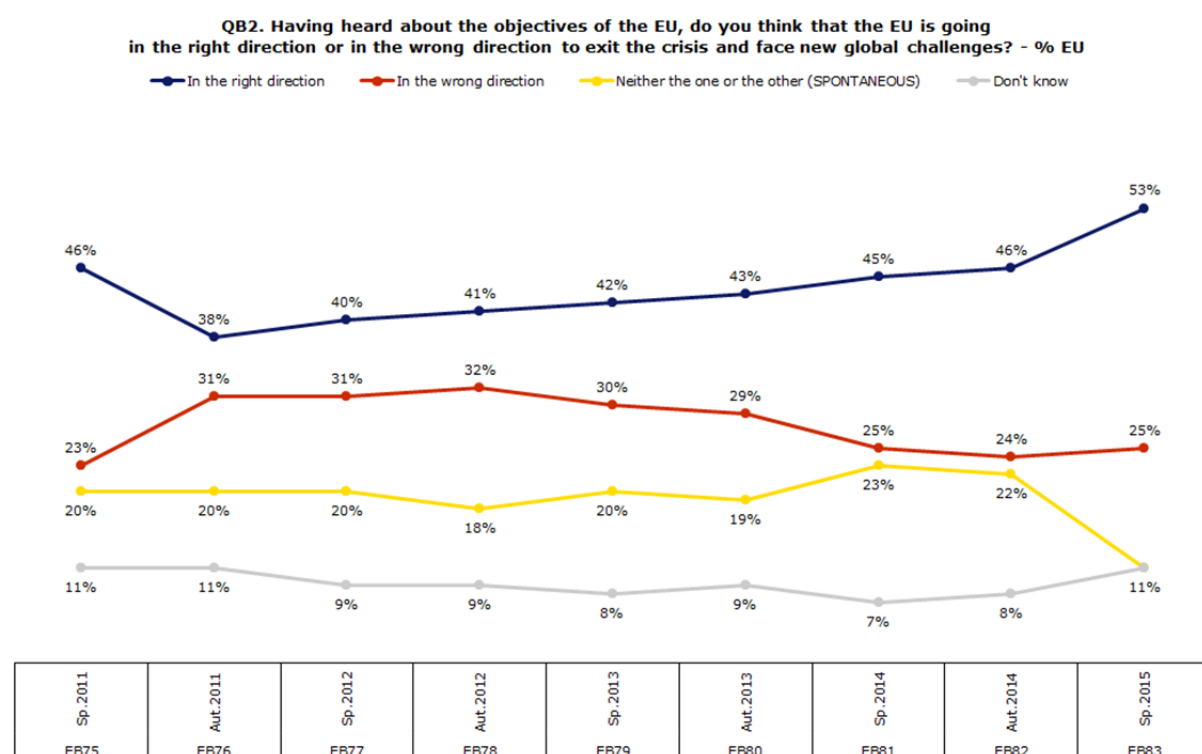
Lowest percentage per item

## II. THE DIRECTION TAKEN BY THE EUROPEAN UNION TO COMBAT THE CRISIS

**Approval of the direction taken by the EU to emerge from the crisis and face new global challenges has increased significantly since autumn 2014 and has reached the highest level since this indicator was introduced in spring 2010<sup>12</sup>.**

For the first time more than half of Europeans (53%, +7 percentage points since autumn 2014) consider that the European Union is going “in the right direction” to emerge from the crisis and face new global challenges, whereas 25% (+1) say that it is going “in the wrong direction” and 11% (-11) answered spontaneously “neither the one or the other”. 11% (+3) expressed no opinion.

The balance of opinion between those who approve and those who disapprove of the EU’s policy for overcoming the crisis has therefore reached a record high in this survey, at +28, compared with +22 in autumn 2014 (EB82), +20 in spring 2014 (EB81) and +7 in autumn 2011 (EB76).



<sup>12</sup> QB2. Having heard about the objectives of the EU, do you think that the EU is going in the right direction or in the wrong direction to exit the crisis and face new global challenges?
































The balance of opinion on this question is still far more positive in the **non-euro area** (+41 versus +38 in autumn 2014) **than in the euro area** (+22 versus +14 in autumn 2014).

Respondents are predominantly positive about the direction taken by the EU to emerge from the crisis in 27 countries (compared with 26 in autumn 2014), most notably Lithuania (81%), Romania (79%), Sweden (78%), Malta (76%), Croatia (75%) and Finland (75%). This majority is relative in Belgium (48% “in the right direction” versus 34% “in the wrong direction”), Portugal (47% versus 30%), Spain (43% versus 37%), Italy (42% versus 37%) and the United Kingdom (41% versus 26%).






























As result of an 18 percentage point rise in positive answers, the balance of opinion has been reversed since autumn 2014 in Italy and is now positive (42% versus 37%, compared with 24% versus 36%). In Greece, a majority of respondents disapprove of the EU’s policy for overcoming the crisis (52% “in the wrong direction” versus 31% “in the right direction”).

The balance of opinion on the direction taken by the EU has improved in this survey in 21 Member States, particularly dramatically in Croatia (+27 index points), Italy (+17), Romania (+16), Denmark (+14), Lithuania (+13), Hungary (+11) and Portugal (+10).

QB2. Having heard about the objectives of the EU, do you think that the EU is going in the right direction or in the wrong direction to exit the crisis and face new global challenges?

		In the right direction - In the wrong direction EB82 Aut.2014	In the right direction - In the wrong direction EB83 Sp.2015	Diff. Sp.2015- Aut.2014
	EU28	<b>+22</b>	<b>+28</b>	<b>+6</b>
	EURO AREA	<b>+14</b>	<b>+22</b>	<b>+8</b>
	NON-EURO AREA	<b>+38</b>	<b>+41</b>	<b>+3</b>
	HR	<b>+33</b>	<b>+60</b>	<b>+27</b>
	IT	<b>-12</b>	<b>+5</b>	<b>+17</b>
	RO	<b>+53</b>	<b>+69</b>	<b>+16</b>
	DK	<b>+37</b>	<b>+51</b>	<b>+14</b>
	LT	<b>+63</b>	<b>+76</b>	<b>+13</b>
	HU	<b>+35</b>	<b>+46</b>	<b>+11</b>
	PT	<b>+7</b>	<b>+17</b>	<b>+10</b>
	FI	<b>+51</b>	<b>+60</b>	<b>+9</b>
	FR	<b>+11</b>	<b>+19</b>	<b>+8</b>
	SE	<b>+56</b>	<b>+63</b>	<b>+7</b>
	IE	<b>+43</b>	<b>+50</b>	<b>+7</b>
	DE	<b>+34</b>	<b>+40</b>	<b>+6</b>
	CZ	<b>+32</b>	<b>+37</b>	<b>+5</b>
	SK	<b>+18</b>	<b>+23</b>	<b>+5</b>
	ES	<b>+1</b>	<b>+6</b>	<b>+5</b>
	NL	<b>+48</b>	<b>+52</b>	<b>+4</b>
	EE	<b>+47</b>	<b>+51</b>	<b>+4</b>
	SI	<b>+32</b>	<b>+36</b>	<b>+4</b>
	CY	<b>+19</b>	<b>+23</b>	<b>+4</b>
	BG	<b>+54</b>	<b>+56</b>	<b>+2</b>
	EL	<b>-23</b>	<b>-21</b>	<b>+2</b>
	MT	<b>+68</b>	<b>+68</b>	<b>=</b>
	PL	<b>+53</b>	<b>+53</b>	<b>=</b>
	LU	<b>+23</b>	<b>+23</b>	<b>=</b>
	BE	<b>+14</b>	<b>+14</b>	<b>=</b>
	LV	<b>+43</b>	<b>+42</b>	<b>-1</b>
	AT	<b>+20</b>	<b>+18</b>	<b>-2</b>
	UK	<b>+20</b>	<b>+15</b>	<b>-5</b>

QB2. Having heard about the objectives of the EU, do you think that the EU is going in the right direction or in the wrong direction to exit the crisis and face new global challenges?

		In the right direction	Diff. Sp.2015-Aut.2014	In the wrong direction	Diff. Sp.2015-Aut.2014	Neither the one or the other (SPONTANEOUS)	Diff. Sp.2015-Aut.2014	Don't know	Diff. Sp.2015-Aut.2014
	EU28	53%	<b>+7</b>	25%	<b>+1</b>	11%	<b>-11</b>	11%	<b>+3</b>
	LT	81%	<b>+11</b>	5%	<b>-2</b>	4%	<b>-14</b>	10%	<b>+5</b>
	RO	79%	<b>+14</b>	10%	<b>-2</b>	2%	<b>-16</b>	9%	<b>+4</b>
	SE	78%	<b>+10</b>	15%	<b>+3</b>	2%	<b>-15</b>	5%	<b>+2</b>
	MT	76%	<b>+5</b>	8%	<b>+5</b>	3%	<b>-16</b>	13%	<b>+6</b>
	HR	75%	<b>+24</b>	15%	<b>-3</b>	3%	<b>-25</b>	7%	<b>+4</b>
	FI	75%	<b>+11</b>	15%	<b>+2</b>	1%	<b>-16</b>	9%	<b>+3</b>
	NL	71%	<b>+6</b>	19%	<b>+2</b>	4%	<b>-11</b>	6%	<b>+3</b>
	DK	68%	<b>+12</b>	17%	<b>-2</b>	5%	<b>-14</b>	10%	<b>+4</b>
	IE	68%	<b>+10</b>	18%	<b>+3</b>	3%	<b>-19</b>	11%	<b>+6</b>
	HU	67%	<b>+12</b>	21%	<b>+1</b>	3%	<b>-17</b>	9%	<b>+4</b>
	BG	66%	<b>+5</b>	10%	<b>+3</b>	8%	<b>-14</b>	16%	<b>+6</b>
	PL	65%	<b>+6</b>	12%	<b>+6</b>	6%	<b>-21</b>	17%	<b>+9</b>
	EE	64%	<b>+9</b>	13%	<b>+5</b>	8%	<b>-19</b>	15%	<b>+5</b>
	LV	61%	<b>+8</b>	19%	<b>+9</b>	7%	<b>-24</b>	13%	<b>+7</b>
	CZ	60%	<b>+7</b>	23%	<b>+2</b>	7%	<b>-14</b>	10%	<b>+5</b>
	SI	57%	<b>+11</b>	21%	<b>+7</b>	10%	<b>-22</b>	12%	<b>+4</b>
	LU	54%	<b>+11</b>	31%	<b>+11</b>	9%	<b>-26</b>	6%	<b>+4</b>
	DE	53%	<b>+4</b>	13%	<b>-2</b>	27%	<b>-1</b>	7%	<b>-1</b>
	FR	52%	<b>+11</b>	33%	<b>+3</b>	1%	<b>-20</b>	14%	<b>+6</b>
	SK	52%	<b>+11</b>	29%	<b>+6</b>	6%	<b>-26</b>	13%	<b>+9</b>
	CY	51%	<b>+13</b>	28%	<b>+9</b>	9%	<b>-27</b>	12%	<b>+5</b>
	AT	51%	<b>+9</b>	33%	<b>+11</b>	10%	<b>-21</b>	6%	<b>+1</b>
	BE	48%	<b>-1</b>	34%	<b>-1</b>	12%	<b>+1</b>	6%	<b>+1</b>
	PT	47%	<b>+11</b>	30%	<b>+1</b>	13%	<b>-14</b>	10%	<b>+2</b>
	ES	43%	<b>+5</b>	37%	<b>=</b>	7%	<b>-11</b>	13%	<b>+6</b>
	IT	42%	<b>+18</b>	37%	<b>+1</b>	6%	<b>-25</b>	15%	<b>+6</b>
	UK	41%	<b>-8</b>	26%	<b>-3</b>	21%	<b>+10</b>	12%	<b>+1</b>
	EL	31%	<b>+6</b>	52%	<b>+4</b>	12%	<b>-12</b>	5%	<b>+2</b>












**QB2** Having heard about the objectives of the EU, do you think that the EU is going in the right direction or in the wrong direction to exit the crisis and face new global challenges?

	In the right direction	In the wrong direction	Neither the one or the other (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU28	53%	25%	11%	11%
<b>Gender</b>				
Man	55%	27%	10%	8%
Woman	51%	23%	12%	14%
<b>Age</b>				
15-24	61%	21%	9%	9%
25-39	56%	25%	10%	9%
40-54	54%	25%	11%	10%
55 +	47%	26%	12%	15%
<b>Generation</b>				
Total 'Before 1946'	44%	24%	14%	18%
1946 - 1964 "BB"	50%	27%	11%	12%
1965 - 1980 "X"	54%	26%	11%	9%
After 1980 "Y"	59%	22%	10%	9%
<b>Education (End of)</b>				
15-	37%	34%	13%	16%
16-19	52%	25%	12%	11%
20+	62%	21%	9%	8%
Still studying	64%	18%	9%	9%
<b>Socio-professional category</b>				
Self-employed	56%	24%	11%	9%
Managers	62%	20%	12%	6%
Other white collars	60%	23%	8%	9%
Manual workers	51%	26%	12%	11%
House persons	44%	30%	12%	14%
Unemployed	44%	35%	10%	11%
Retired	48%	25%	12%	15%
Students	64%	18%	9%	9%
<b>Difficulties paying bills</b>				
Most of the time	38%	40%	8%	14%
From time to time	51%	28%	10%	11%
Almost never/ Never	57%	21%	12%	10%
<b>Consider belonging to</b>				
The working class	43%	30%	13%	14%
The lower middle class	48%	29%	13%	10%
The middle class	61%	21%	9%	9%
The upper middle class	68%	19%	8%	5%
The upper class	72%	15%	10%	3%



The following table shows the results by socio-demographic criteria for the European Union as a whole (EU28 average), for the six largest EU countries and for countries that benefit or have benefited from European Union support for tackling the financial and economic crisis.

QB2. Having heard about the objectives of the EU, do you think that the EU is going in the right direction or in the wrong direction to exit the crisis and face new global challenges?  
Answer: 'In the right direction'

	 EU28	 DE	 ES	 FR	 IT	 PL	 UK	 EL	 PT	 IE	 CY
<b>TOTAL</b>	53%	53%	43%	52%	42%	65%	41%	31%	47%	68%	51%
<b>Gender</b>											
Man	55%	55%	47%	54%	43%	62%	45%	30%	53%	67%	52%
Woman	51%	51%	40%	50%	42%	67%	37%	31%	42%	68%	50%
<b>Age</b>											
15-24	61%	57%	47%	67%	46%	65%	50%	36%	61%	70%	56%
25-39	56%	52%	41%	57%	46%	65%	49%	29%	55%	71%	53%
40-54	54%	52%	49%	48%	47%	71%	43%	32%	47%	62%	45%
55 +	47%	53%	39%	46%	36%	59%	30%	29%	38%	68%	51%
<b>Education (End of)</b>											
15-	37%	40%	36%	36%	28%	51%	28%	27%	37%	55%	51%
16-19	52%	52%	45%	43%	46%	65%	40%	28%	55%	64%	47%
20+	62%	59%	51%	62%	58%	66%	48%	33%	61%	77%	58%
Still studying	64%	59%	48%	71%	53%	73%	53%	43%	60%	72%	51%
<b>Socio-professional category</b>											
Self-employed	56%	53%	41%	48%	55%	70%	52%	38%	44%	71%	57%
Managers	62%	56%	53%	63%	68%	77%	44%	31%	59%	85%	56%
Other white collars	60%	59%	56%	63%	51%	69%	40%	27%	63%	75%	51%
Manual workers	51%	47%	43%	54%	36%	60%	38%	36%	52%	64%	43%
House persons	44%	35%	36%	35%	37%	66%	52%	29%	50%	55%	58%
Unemployed	44%	42%	41%	46%	25%	54%	43%	19%	34%	53%	53%
Retired	48%	56%	41%	42%	32%	60%	31%	28%	35%	70%	51%
Students	64%	59%	48%	71%	53%	73%	53%	43%	60%	72%	51%

## STANDARD EUROBAROMETER 83

### Europe 2020

## TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Between the 16<sup>th</sup> and the 27<sup>th</sup> of May 2015, TNS opinion & social, a consortium created between TNS political & social, TNS UK and TNS opinion, carried out the wave 83.3 of the EUROBAROMETER survey, on request of the EUROPEAN COMMISSION, Directorate-General for Communication, "Strategy, Corporate Communication Actions and Eurobarometer" unit.

The wave 83.3 is the STANDARD EUROBAROMETER 83 survey and covers the population of the respective nationalities of the European Union Member States, resident in each of the Member States and aged 15 years and over.

The STANDARD EUROBAROMETER 83 survey has also been conducted in five candidate countries (Turkey, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Albania) and in the Turkish Cypriot Community. In these countries, the survey covers the national population of citizens and the population of citizens of all the European Union Member States that are residents in these countries and have a sufficient command of the national languages to answer the questionnaire.

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

In order to do so, the sampling points were drawn systematically from each of the "administrative regional units", after stratification by individual unit and type of area. They thus represent the whole territory of the countries surveyed according to the EUROSTAT NUTS II (or equivalent) and according to the distribution of the resident population of the respective nationalities in terms of metropolitan, urban and rural areas. In each of the selected sampling points, a starting address was drawn, at random. Further addresses (every Nth address) were selected by standard "random route" procedures, from the initial address. In each household, the respondent was drawn, at random (following the "closest birthday rule"). All interviews were conducted face-to-face in people's homes and in the appropriate national language. As far as the data capture is concerned, CAPI (*Computer Assisted Personal Interview*) was used in those countries where this technique was available.

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

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

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

*various sample sizes are in rows*

*various observed results are in columns*

	5%	10%	15%	20%	25%	30%	35%	40%	45%	50%	
	95%	90%	85%	80%	75%	70%	65%	60%	55%	50%	
<b>N=50</b>	6,0	8,3	9,9	11,1	12,0	12,7	13,2	13,6	13,8	13,9	<b>N=50</b>
<b>N=500</b>	1,9	2,6	3,1	3,5	3,8	4,0	4,2	4,3	4,4	4,4	<b>N=500</b>
<b>N=1000</b>	1,4	1,9	2,2	2,5	2,7	2,8	3,0	3,0	3,1	3,1	<b>N=1000</b>
<b>N=1500</b>	1,1	1,5	1,8	2,0	2,2	2,3	2,4	2,5	2,5	2,5	<b>N=1500</b>
<b>N=2000</b>	1,0	1,3	1,6	1,8	1,9	2,0	2,1	2,1	2,2	2,2	<b>N=2000</b>
<b>N=3000</b>	0,8	1,1	1,3	1,4	1,5	1,6	1,7	1,8	1,8	1,8	<b>N=3000</b>
<b>N=4000</b>	0,7	0,9	1,1	1,2	1,3	1,4	1,5	1,5	1,5	1,5	<b>N=4000</b>
<b>N=5000</b>	0,6	0,8	1,0	1,1	1,2	1,3	1,3	1,4	1,4	1,4	<b>N=5000</b>
<b>N=6000</b>	0,6	0,8	0,9	1,0	1,1	1,2	1,2	1,2	1,3	1,3	<b>N=6000</b>
<b>N=7000</b>	0,5	0,7	0,8	0,9	1,0	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,2	1,2	<b>N=7000</b>
<b>N=7500</b>	0,5	0,7	0,8	0,9	1,0	1,0	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	<b>N=7500</b>
<b>N=8000</b>	0,5	0,7	0,8	0,9	0,9	1,0	1,0	1,1	1,1	1,1	<b>N=8000</b>
<b>N=9000</b>	0,5	0,6	0,7	0,8	0,9	0,9	1,0	1,0	1,0	1,0	<b>N=9000</b>
<b>N=10000</b>	0,4	0,6	0,7	0,8	0,8	0,9	0,9	1,0	1,0	1,0	<b>N=10000</b>
<b>N=11000</b>	0,4	0,6	0,7	0,7	0,8	0,9	0,9	0,9	0,9	0,9	<b>N=11000</b>
<b>N=12000</b>	0,4	0,5	0,6	0,7	0,8	0,8	0,9	0,9	0,9	0,9	<b>N=12000</b>
<b>N=13000</b>	0,4	0,5	0,6	0,7	0,7	0,8	0,8	0,8	0,9	0,9	<b>N=13000</b>
<b>N=14000</b>	0,4	0,5	0,6	0,7	0,7	0,8	0,8	0,8	0,8	0,8	<b>N=14000</b>
<b>N=15000</b>	0,3	0,5	0,6	0,6	0,7	0,7	0,8	0,8	0,8	0,8	<b>N=15000</b>
	5%	10%	15%	20%	25%	30%	35%	40%	45%	50%	
	95%	90%	85%	80%	75%	70%	65%	60%	55%	50%	

ABBR.	COUNTRIES	INSTITUTES	N° INTERVIEWS	DATES FIELDWORK		POPULATION 15+	PROPORTION EU28
BE	Belgium	TNS Dimarso	1,014	16/05/15	26/05/15	9,263,570	2.18%
BG	Bulgaria	TNS BBSS	1,063	16/05/15	26/05/15	6,294,563	1.48%
CZ	Czech Rep.	TNS Aisa	1,021	16/05/15	26/05/15	8,955,829	2.11%
DK	Denmark	TNS Gallup DK	1,020	16/05/15	26/05/15	4,625,032	1.09%
DE	Germany	TNS Infratest	1,554	16/05/15	26/05/15	71,283,580	16.79%
EE	Estonia	TNS Emor	1,001	16/05/15	26/05/15	1,113,355	0.26%
IE	Ireland	Behaviour & Attitudes	1,018	16/05/15	26/05/15	3,586,829	0.84%
EL	Greece	TNS ICAP	999	16/05/15	26/05/15	8,791,499	2.07%
ES	Spain	TNS Spain	1,002	16/05/15	26/05/15	39,506,853	9.31%
FR	France	TNS Sofres	997	16/05/15	26/05/15	51,668,700	12.17%
HR	Croatia	HENDAL	1,008	16/05/15	26/05/15	3,625,601	0.85%
IT	Italy	TNS Italia	1,028	16/05/15	26/05/15	51,336,889	12.09%
CY	Rep. Of Cyprus	CYMAR	500	16/05/15	26/05/15	724,084	0.17%
LV	Latvia	TNS Latvia	1,005	16/05/15	26/05/15	1,731,509	0.41%
LT	Lithuania	TNS LT	1,003	16/05/15	26/05/15	2,535,329	0.60%
LU	Luxembourg	TNS ILReS	504	16/05/15	27/05/15	445,806	0.11%
HU	Hungary	TNS Hoffmann	1,055	16/05/15	26/05/15	8,477,933	2.00%
MT	Malta	MISCO	504	16/05/15	26/05/15	360,045	0.08%
NL	Netherlands	TNS NIPO	1,010	16/05/15	26/05/15	13,901,653	3.27%
AT	Austria	ipr Umfrageforschung	1,032	16/05/15	27/05/15	7,232,497	1.70%
PL	Poland	TNS Polska	998	16/05/15	26/05/15	32,736,685	7.71%
PT	Portugal	TNS Portugal	1,000	16/05/15	26/05/15	8,512,269	2.01%
RO	Romania	TNS CSOP	1,007	16/05/15	26/05/15	16,880,465	3.98%
SI	Slovenia	RM PLUS	1,008	16/05/15	26/05/15	1,760,726	0.41%
SK	Slovakia	TNS Slovakia	1,051	16/05/15	26/05/15	4,580,260	1.08%
FI	Finland	TNS Gallup Oy	1,013	16/05/15	26/05/15	4,511,446	1.06%
SE	Sweden	TNS Sifo	1,037	16/05/15	26/05/15	7,944,034	1.87%
UK	United Kingdom	TNS UK	1,306	16/05/15	26/05/15	52,104,731	12.27%
TOTAL EU28			27,758	16/05/15	27/05/15	424,491,772	100%*

\* It should be noted that the total percentage shown in this table may exceed 100% due to rounding

CY(tcc)	Turkish Cypriot Community	KADEM	500	16/05/15	25/05/15	143,226
TR	Turkey	TNS Piar	1,010	16/05/15	27/05/15	54,844,406
MK	Former Yugoslav Rep. of Macedonia	TNS BRIMA	1,055	16/05/15	23/05/15	1,678,404
ME	Montenegro	TNS Medium Gallup	530	16/05/15	24/05/15	492,265
RS	Serbia	TNS Medium Gallup	1,015	16/05/15	26/05/15	6,409,693
AL	Albania	TNS BBSS	1,000	16/05/15	25/05/15	2,221,572
TOTAL			31,868	16/05/15	27/05/15	490,281,338