



DG Communication is continuously monitoring public opinion by conducting regular Eurobarometer surveys in all 27 EU Member States. **This newsletter aims at providing general public with the most recent Eurobarometer data on key topics of this week's plenary agenda.**

Although this service cannot be fully exhaustive, as not all items on the plenary agenda have been the subject of recent surveys, we can offer data on the following items of the plenary session:

- **Preparations of European Council meeting of 19 June 2020**
- **Conference on the Future of Europe**
- **The Anti-racism protests following the death of Georges Floyd**
- **Tackling Covid-19 disinformation and the impact on freedom of expression**
- **The reopening of the investigation against the Prime Minister of the Czech Republic on the misuse of EU funds and potential conflicts of interest**

Based normally exclusively on the European Union's own Eurobarometer surveys, this newsletter is enriched by data from several external surveys.

A comprehensive weekly overview on current surveys published in different EU Member States, including a range of important multi-national surveys, all with a dedicated focus on the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, can be found on the website of the Public Opinion Monitoring Unit:

<https://www.europarl.europa.eu/at-your-service/en/be-heard/eurobarometer/public-opinion-in-the-time-of-covid-19>

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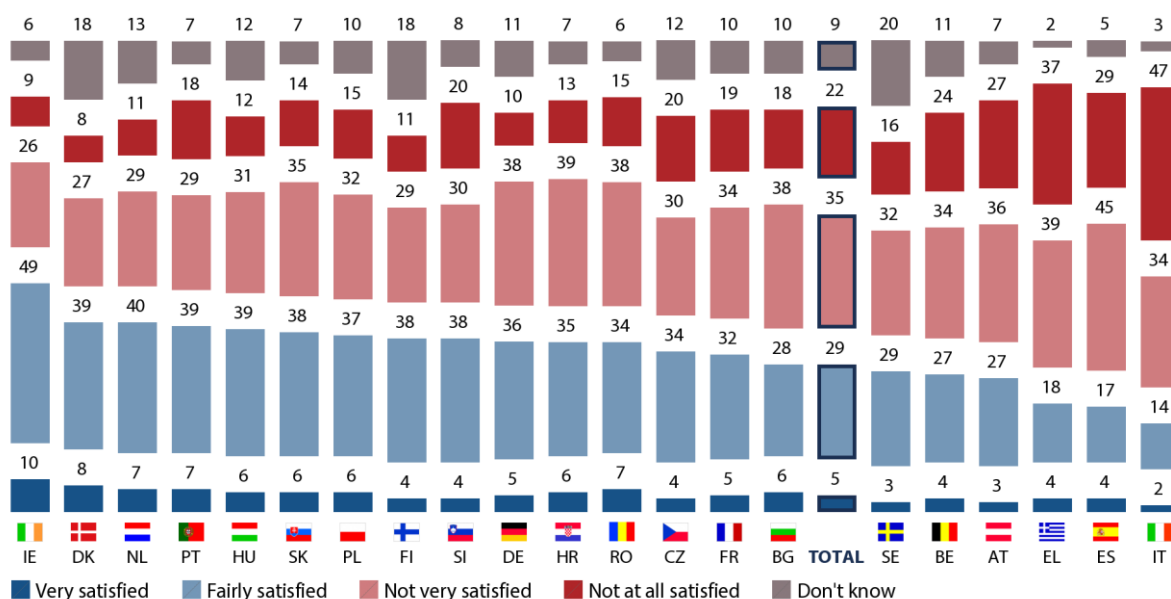
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Preparations of European Council meeting of 19 June 2020

Members will discuss [the priorities for the 19 June European Council](#) on Wednesday morning. The Commission's proposals for a recovery fund to respond to the Covid-19 crisis and a new EU long term budget are expected to feature on the summit's agenda.

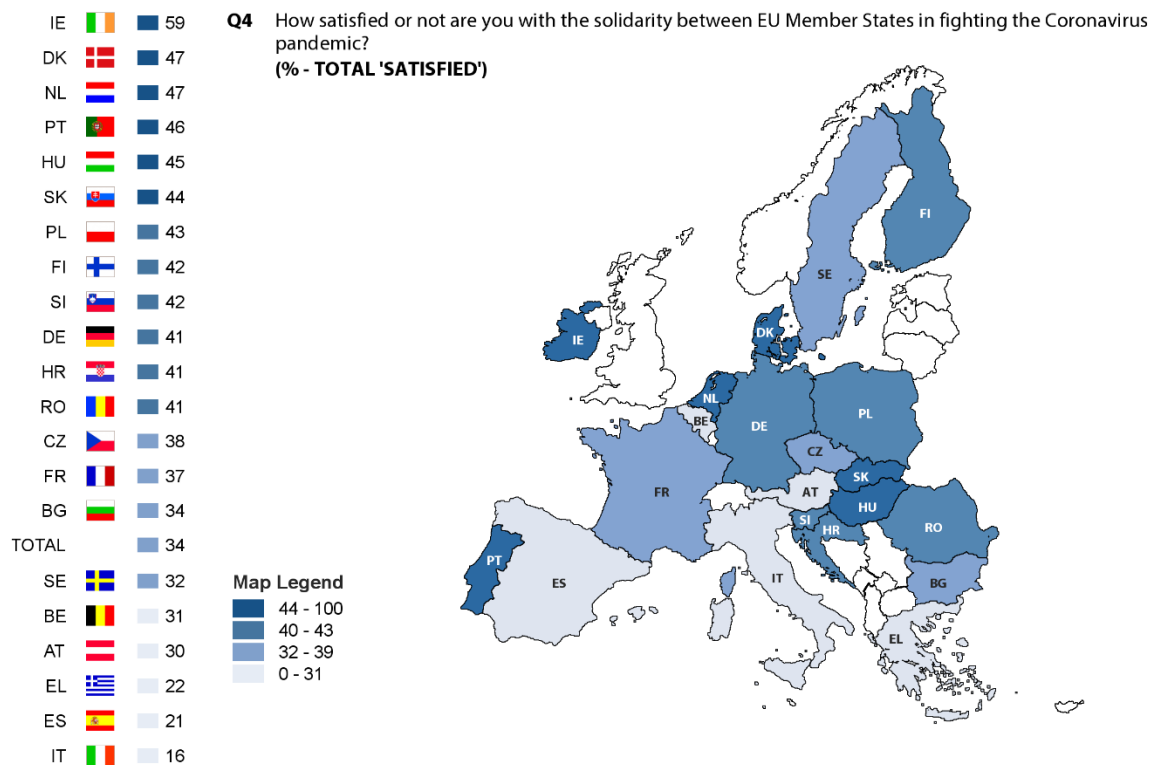
According to the [latest European Parliament survey on citizens' attitudes towards the EU and the measures taken to fight the Covid-19 pandemic, published in full last week](#), a majority of respondents is dissatisfied with the solidarity shown between EU Member States in fighting the Coronavirus pandemic. Nearly six out of ten of those asked (57%) share this feeling of dissatisfaction, including more than a fifth (22%) who are 'not at all' satisfied.

Q4 How satisfied or not are you with the solidarity between EU Member States in fighting the Coronavirus pandemic? (%)



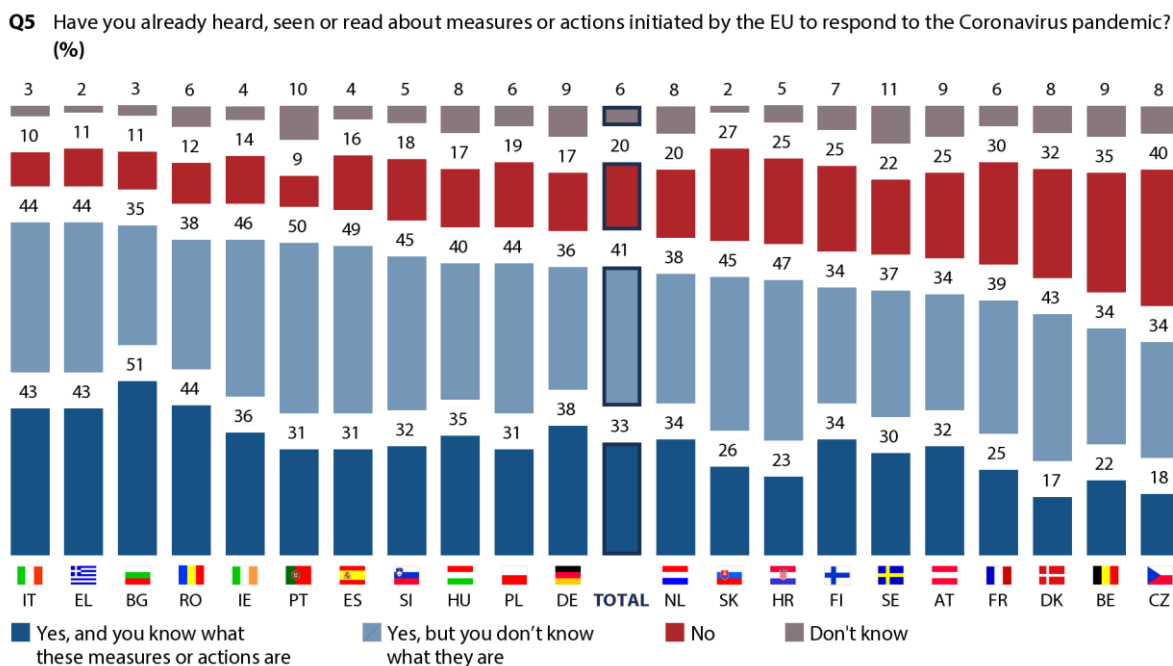
For more detailed information: [Public opinion in the EU in time of Coronavirus crisis \(April-May 2020\)](#)

A solid third of respondents on average (34%) are satisfied, with their strongest shares registering in Ireland, Denmark, the Netherlands and Portugal. Dissatisfaction on the other hand was strongest in Italy, Spain and Greece. The fieldwork for this survey was conducted at the end of April.



For more detailed information: [Public opinion in the EU in time of Coronavirus crisis \(April/May 2020\)](#)

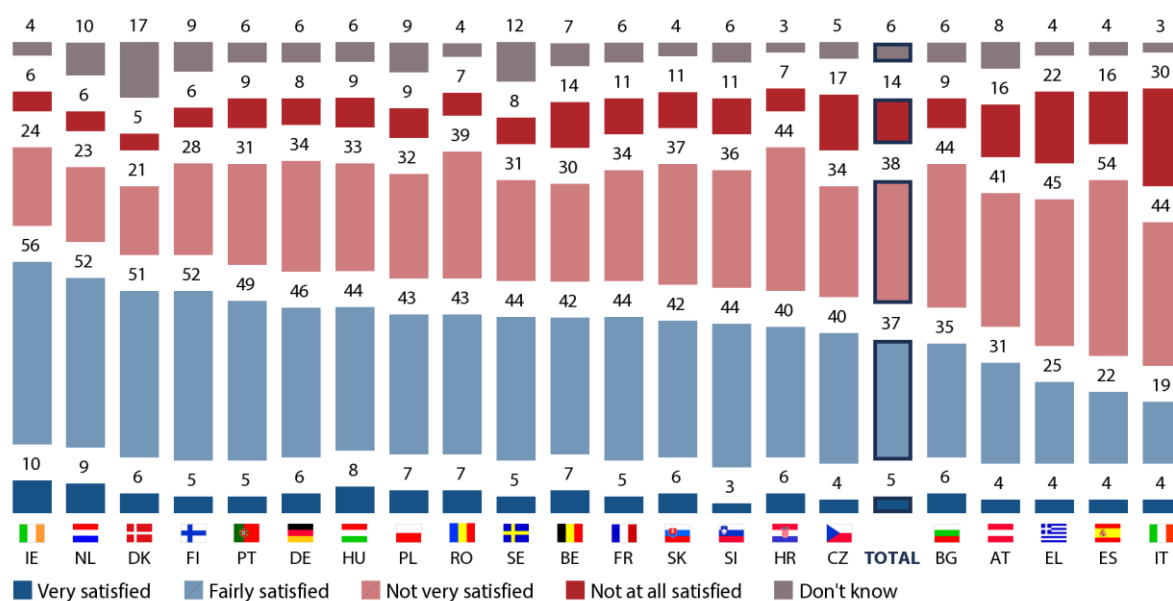
Furthermore, **nearly three quarters of respondents across Europe (74%) have heard, seen or read about measures or actions initiated by the EU** to respond to the Coronavirus pandemic. A third of respondents (33%) also know what these measures are, while 41% recall seeing or hearing about EU measures, but do not know what they are.



For more detailed information: [Public opinion in the EU in time of Coronavirus crisis \(April/May 2020\)](#)

Among the respondents who remember having seen or heard about EU measures, around half (52%) are not satisfied with the measures taken so far, higher than the proportion that are satisfied (42%).

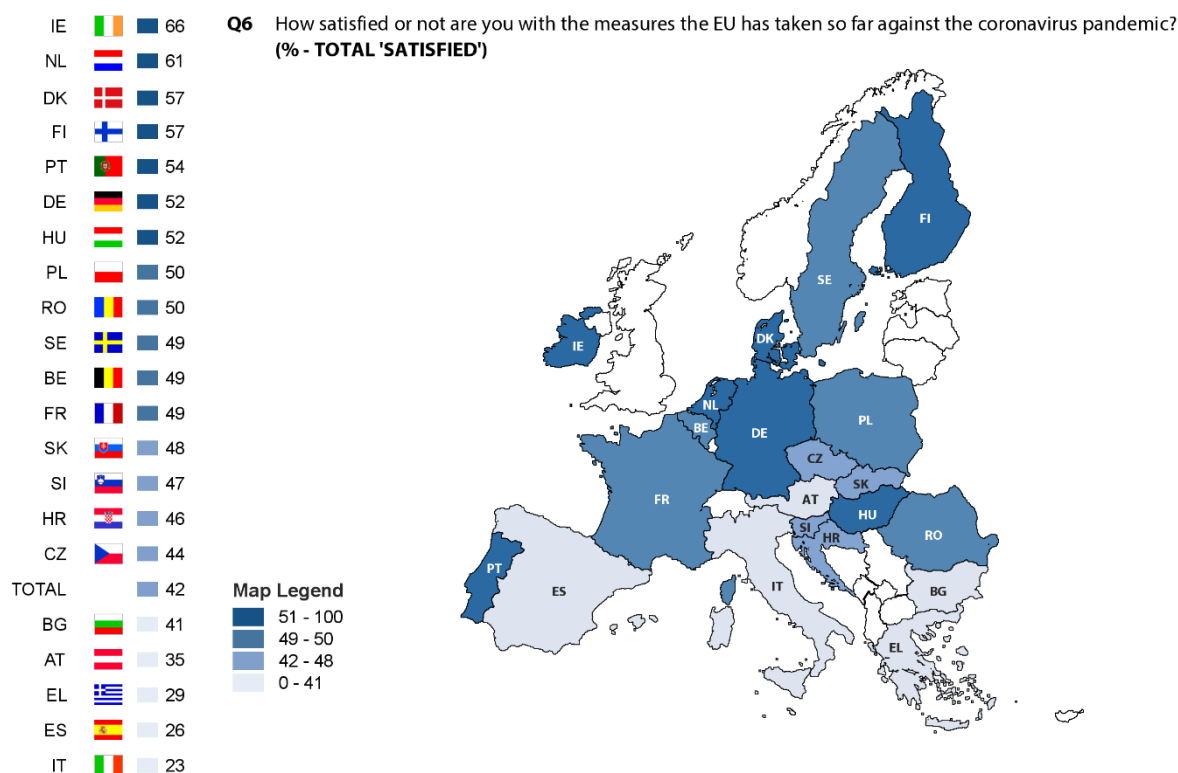
Q6 How satisfied or not are you with the measures the EU has taken so far against the coronavirus pandemic? (%)



Base: All who have heard of the measures (74%)

For more detailed information: [Public opinion in the EU in time of Coronavirus crisis \(April/May 2020\)](#)

Satisfaction is highest in Ireland, the Netherlands, Denmark and Finland, and lowest in Italy, Spain and Greece.



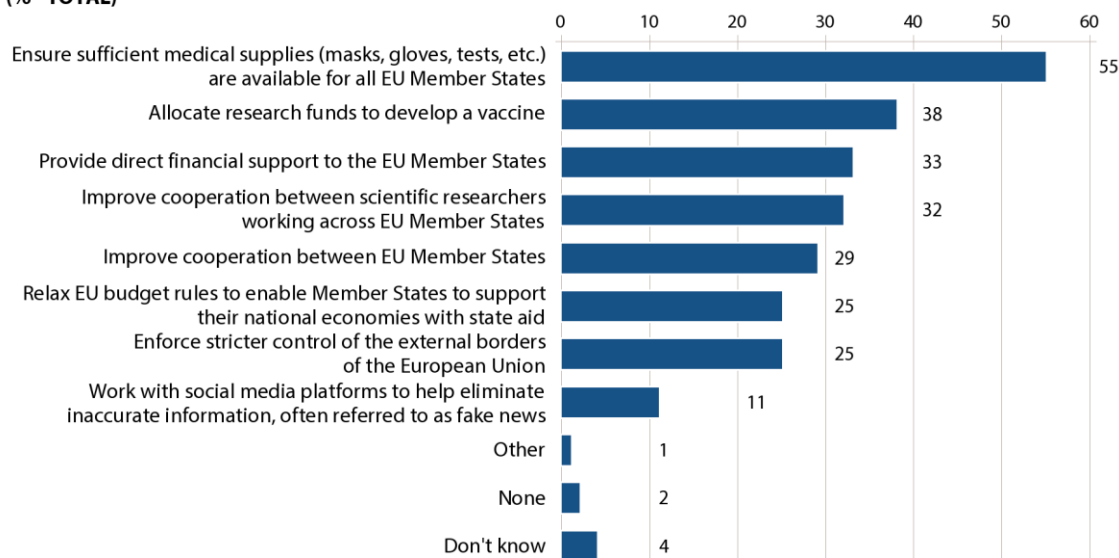
Base: All who have heard of the measures (74%)

For more detailed information: [Public opinion in the EU in time of Coronavirus crisis \(April/May 2020\)](#)

Regarding the EU's response to Covid-19, respondents think that top priorities should be **ensuring sufficient medical supplies being available for all EU Member States (55%)**, allocating **research funds to develop a vaccine (38%)**, providing **direct financial support to Member States (33%)** and improving **co-operation between scientific researchers** working across Member States (32%).

Q8 Choosing from this list, please select up to three which you feel should be the European Union's top priorities in its response to coronavirus. (MAX. 3 ANSWERS)

(% - TOTAL)

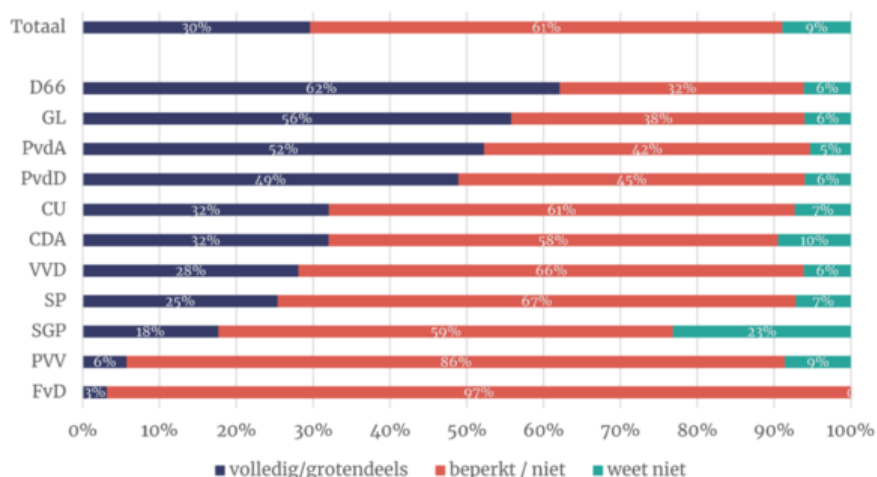


For more detailed information: [Public opinion in the EU in time of Coronavirus crisis \(April/May 2020\)](#)

EXTERNAL INSIGHTS:

A poll for the Dutch daily Volkskrant, conducted by I&O Research, shows a **majority of respondents agreeing with the proposition that an economic shock in southern Europe would affect the Netherlands**. But they disagree with the view that a Dutch fiscal transfer would be a good investment to feather such a shock. **Only 3 in 10 voters agree with the Commission's proposals**.

Attitudes towards the Commission's proposal, broken down by support for political parties:



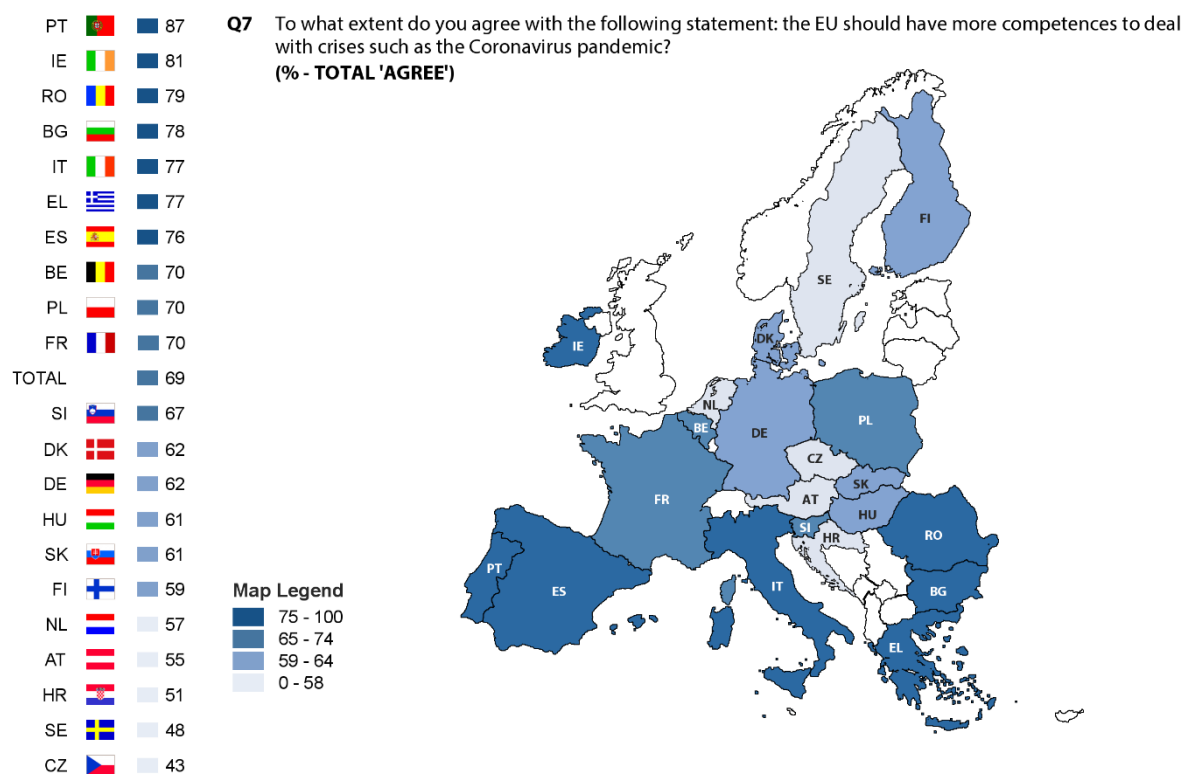
For more detailed information: [Kiezers solidair met zuidelijke landen maar niet tegen elke prijs](#)

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Conference on the Future of Europe

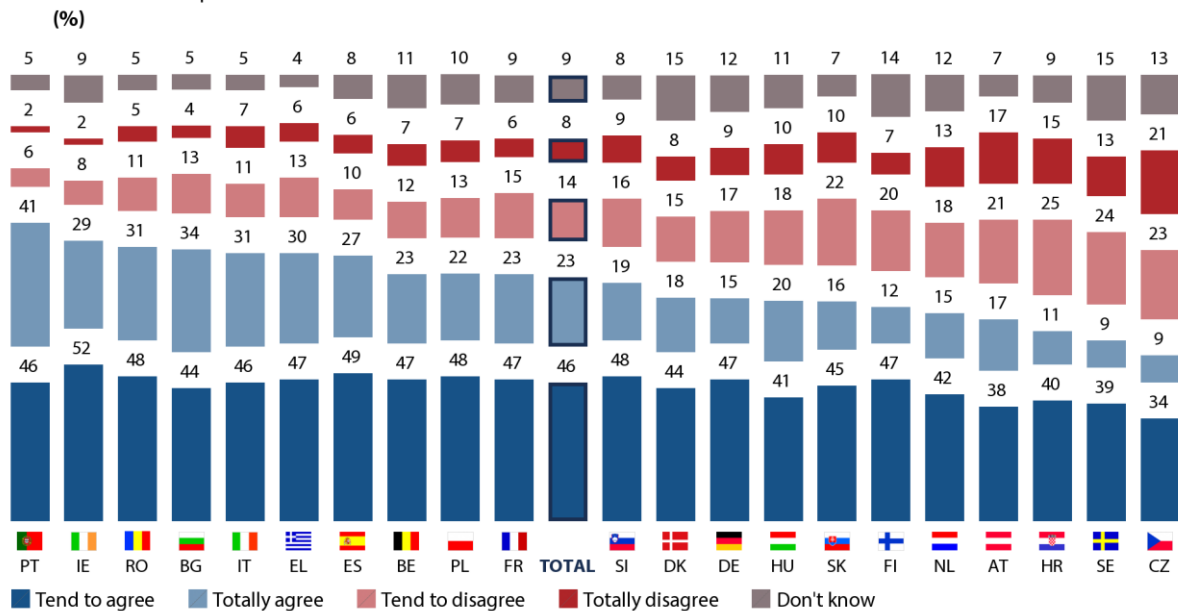
On Thursday, Plenary will vote on a resolution calling for the launch of the [Conference on the Future of Europe](#) to take place as soon as possible after the summer and to take on board the challenges exposed by the Covid-19 pandemic. (Debate Wednesday)

According to [the latest European parliament survey on citizens' attitudes towards the EU and the measures taken to fight the Covid-19 pandemic, published last week](#), around **two-thirds of respondents (69%) want "the EU (to) have more competences to deal with crises such as the Coronavirus pandemic"**, while around a quarter (22%) disagree with the statement. Agreement is highest in Portugal and Ireland, and lowest in Czechia and Sweden.



For more detailed information: [Public opinion in the EU in time of Coronavirus crisis \(April/May 2020\)](#)

Q7 To what extent do you agree with the following statement: the EU should have more competences to deal with crises such as the Coronavirus pandemic?

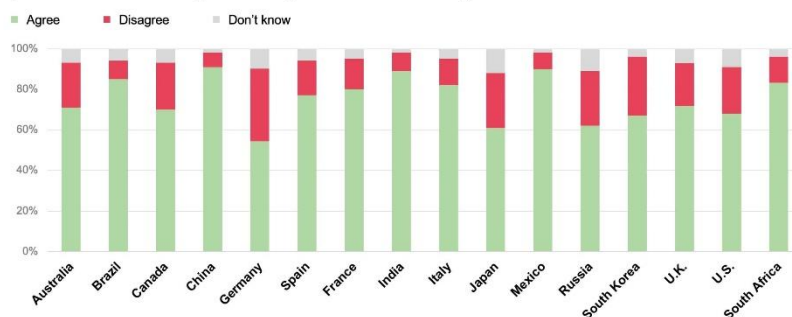


For more detailed information: [Public opinion in the EU in time of Coronavirus crisis \(April/May 2020\)](#)

EXTERNAL INSIGHTS:

Three in four people in 16 major countries expect their government to make protection of the environment a priority when planning a recovery from the coronavirus pandemic, according to a global Ipsos poll conducted to mark World Environment Day. In a survey of 16,000 people from May 21 to 24, a majority of people in all 16 countries worldwide agreed with this action with the highest support. (...) **Disagreement over making the environment a government priority in a COVID-19 recovery is highest in Germany (36%), South Korea (29%), Japan and Russia (each 27%), the United States and Canada (each 23%).**

Should your government make environment protection a priority in recovery from COVID-19?



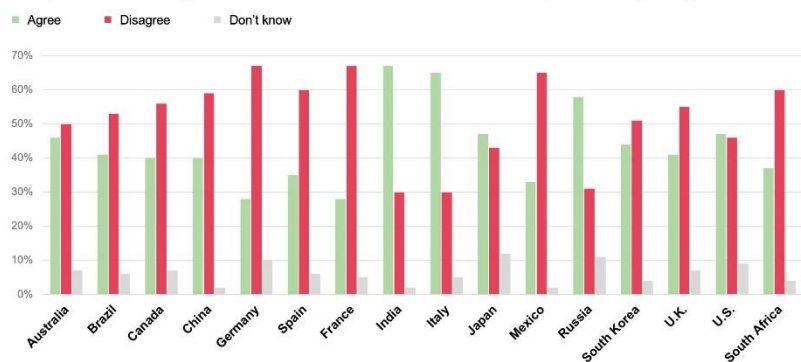
Q: To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?
I expect my government to make protection of the environment a priority when planning for the post COVID-19 recovery.

15,951 adults polled in 16 countries from May 21 to 24, 2020



Asked where the issue of protecting the environment is ranking on their personal list of priorities, half of the respondents dispute that protecting the environment is far down on their list of priorities right now. **This sentiment is highest in many European countries including Germany and France (67%), Mexico (65%), Spain and South Africa (60%).** Those for whom **protecting the environment is not a top priority right now** are most likely in India (67%), **Italy (65%)** and Russia (58%).

Is protecting the environment a low priority right now?



Q: To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?
Protecting the environment is far down my list of priorities right now.

15,951 adults polled in 16 countries from May 21 to 24, 2020



These are the results of an Ipsos survey conducted May 21st to 24th, 2020 on the Global Advisor online platform.

For more detailed information: [Majority of people expect government to make environment a priority in post COVID-19 recovery](#)

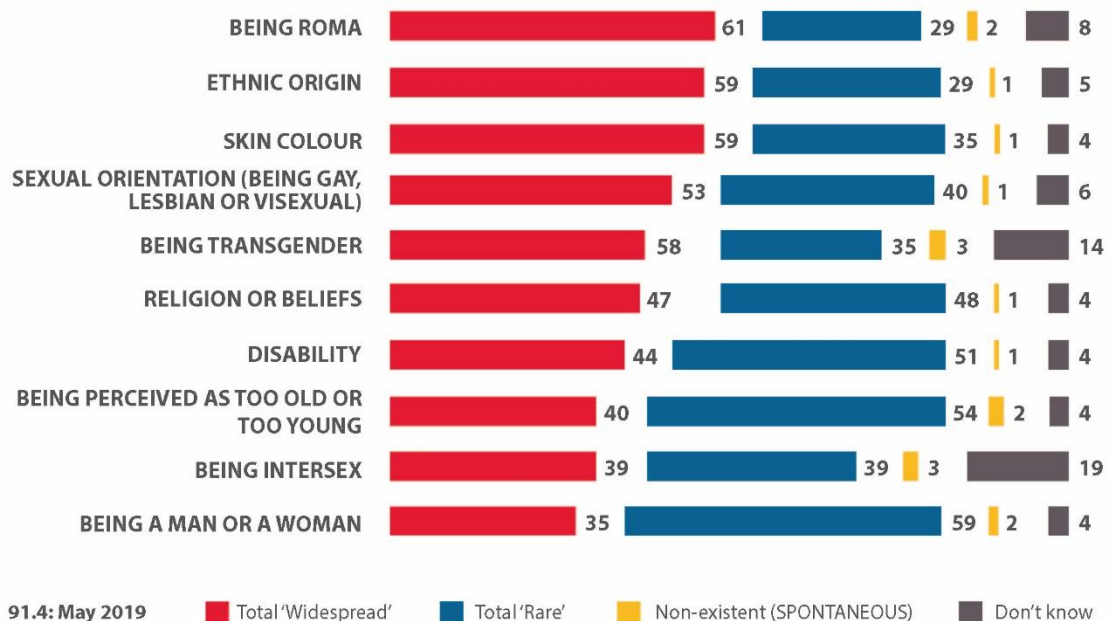
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The Anti-racism protests following the death of Georges Floyd

Georges Floyd's death in Minneapolis three weeks ago ignited worldwide protests, including all over the EU, against racism and police brutality. [On Wednesday, Members will open the session with the racism protests](#) and adopt of a resolution on Friday.

According to a [special Eurobarometer on Discrimination in the EU from May 2019](#), discrimination for being Roma is considered the most widespread (61%). **Over half of respondents also discrimination on the basis of ethnic origin and skin colour (both 59%) or sexual orientation (53%) is widespread in their country.**

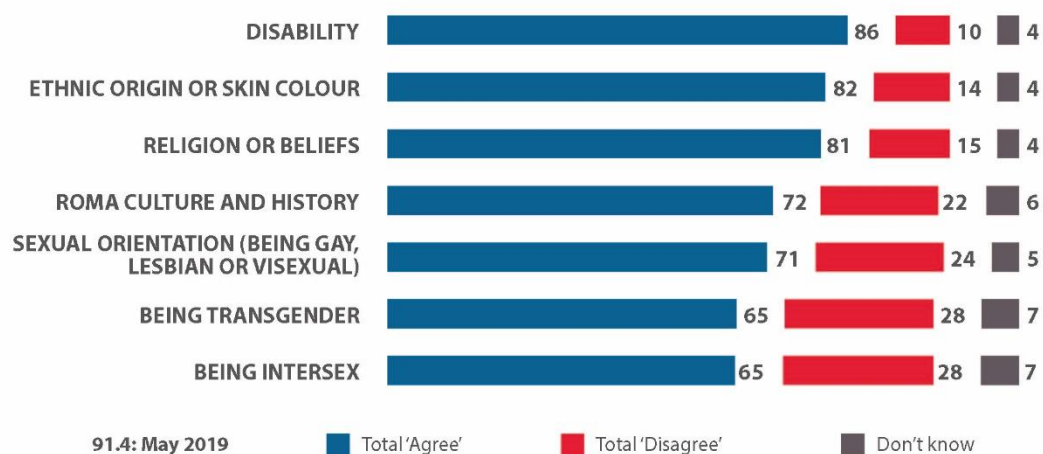
QB7 For each of the following types of discrimination, could you please tell me whether, in your opinion, it is very widespread, fairly widespread, fairly rare or very rare in (OUR COUNTRY)? Discrimination on the basis of... (% - EU)



For more detailed information: [Special Eurobarometer on Discrimination in the EU \(May 2019\)](#)

Moreover, most respondents think **school lessons and material should include information diversity**. This is particularly the case when it comes to disability (86%), ethnic origin or skin colour (82%) or religion or beliefs (81%).

QC17 To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? School lessons and material should include information about diversity in terms of...
(% - EU 28)



For more detailed information: [Special Eurobarometer on Discrimination in the EU \(May 2019\)](#)

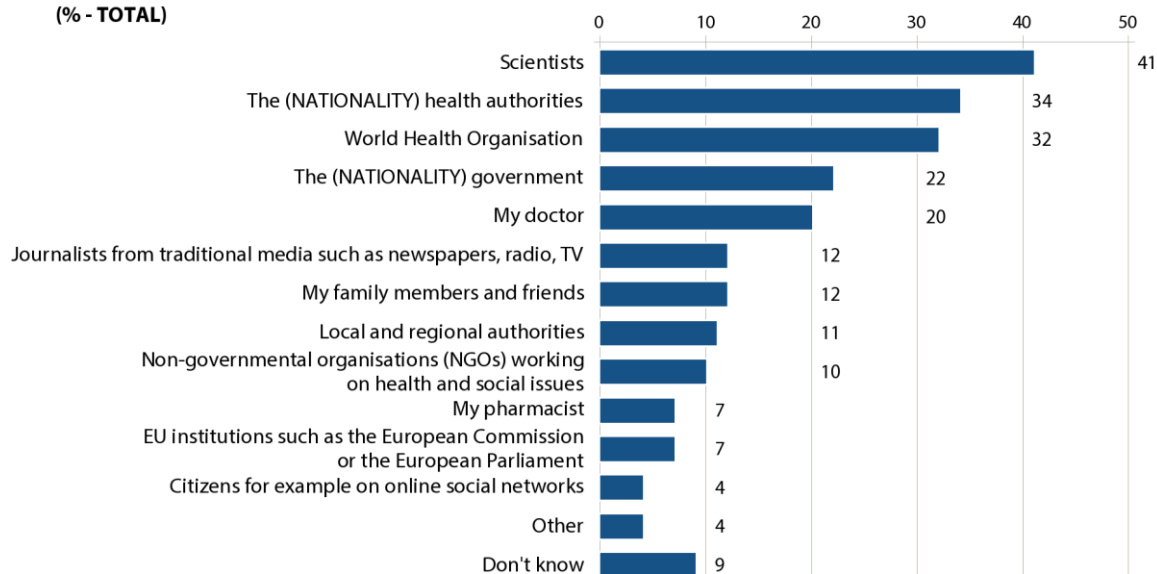
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Tackling Covid-19 disinformation and the impact on freedom of expression

Misinformation and disinformation in the health space are thriving, including on Covid-19. Last week, the European Commission, has announced its new plans to [tackle online falsehoods connected to the Covid-19 public health crisis](#). On Thursday, Members will discuss the effects of fighting the spread of Covid-19 on fundamental rights in the EU as well as the impact of disinformation campaigns by foreign actors.

When it comes to **trustworthy sources of information on the Covid-19 pandemic**, [the last European Parliament survey](#) shows that respondents are most likely to believe scientists. Two in five respondents (41%) say that scientists are one of their most trusted sources of information, followed by national health authorities (34%) and the World Health Organization (32%).

Q16 From the following list, who do you trust most to inform you about the coronavirus pandemic? Please select up to 3 answers.
(MAX. 3 ANSWERS)
(% - TOTAL)



For more detailed information: [Public opinion in the EU in time of Coronavirus crisis \(April/May 2020\)](#)

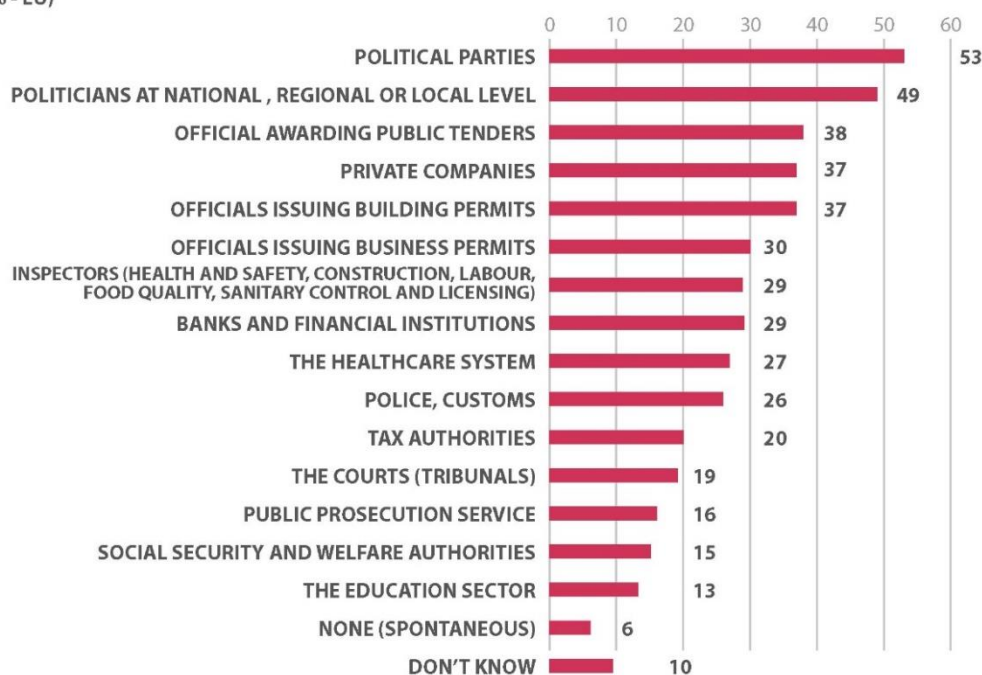
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The reopening of the investigation against the Prime Minister of the Czech Republic on the misuse of EU funds and potential conflicts of interest

During its session in January, Parliament has debated with the Council and the Commission on the [investigation into the possible conflict of interest of the Czech Prime Minister Andrej Babiš](#) who has, allegedly, misused his influence to multiply his personal wealth through EU programmes. (Adoption resolution Friday)

According to a [Special Eurobarometer on Corruption \(December 2019\)](#), published by the European Commission last week, about half of Europeans think that giving and taking bribes and the abuse of power for personal gain are widespread among political parties (53%) and politicians (49%).

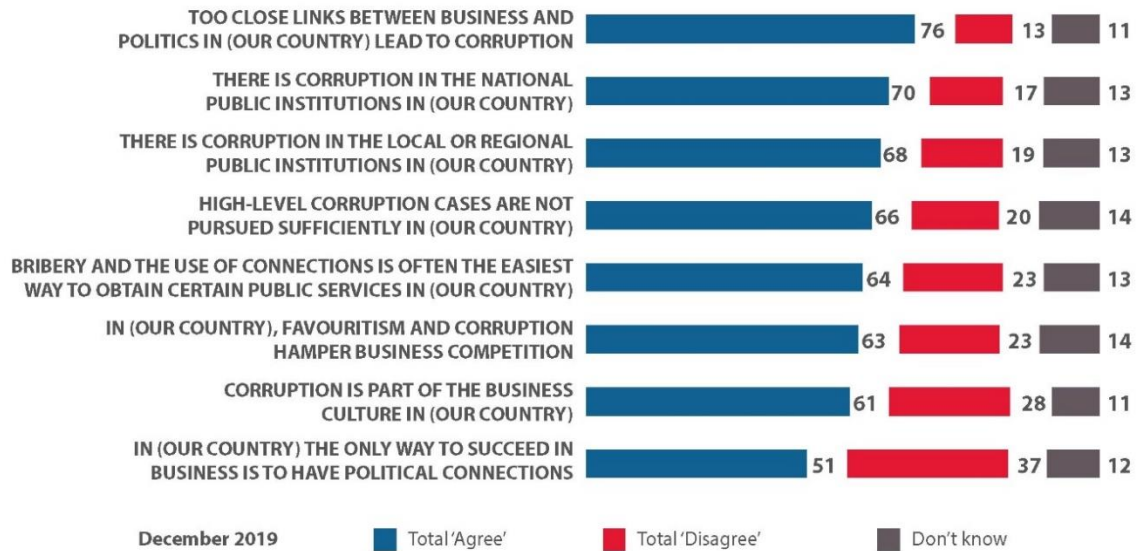
QB7 In (OUR COUNTRY), do you think that the giving and taking of bribes and the abuse of power for personal gain are widespread among any of the following? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)
(% - EU)



For more detailed information: [Special Eurobarometer on Corruption \(December 2019\)](#)

More than three quarters (76%) consider that too close links between business and politics in their country lead to corruption, and over two-thirds believe that there is corruption in the national institutions (70%) and in the regional and local public institutions (68%) in their country.

QC15 Please tell me whether you agree or disagree with each of the following? (% - EU)



For more detailed information: [Special Eurobarometer on Corruption \(December 2019\)](#)