ONE YEAR BEFORE THE 2019 EUROPEAN ELECTIONS

IRELAND

EUROBAROMETER 89.2

1. MOVING TOWARDS THE 2019 EUROPEAN ELECTIONS

QA23  Generally speaking, do you think that (OUR COUNTRY)'s membership of the EU is...? (\%)

- A good thing
  - EU28 60, IE 81, Δ=+3
  - IE 71, Δ=-1

- A bad thing
  - EU28 12, IE 7, Δ=-5

- Neither a good thing nor a bad thing
  - EU28 25, IE 11, Δ=-14

- Don't know
  - EU28 3, IE 1

*D*Evolution Sept./Oct. 2017 - Apr. 2018

D73.2  At the present time, would you say that, in general, things are going in the right direction or in the wrong direction, in...?

The European Union (\%)

- Things are going in the right direction
  - EU28 32, IE 42, Δ=+10
  - IE 12, Δ=-10

- Things are going in the wrong direction
  - EU28 18, IE 9, Δ=-9

- Neither the one nor the other (SPONTANEOUS)
  - EU28 14, IE 11

*D*Evolution Sept./Oct. 2017 - Apr. 2018

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

- My voice counts in the EU (\%)
  - Total 'Agree'
    - EU28 48, IE 60, Δ=+12
    - IE 46
  - Total 'Disagree'
    - EU28 35, IE 5
  - Don't know
    - EU28 6

*D*Evolution Sept./Oct. 2017 - Apr. 2018

QA14a  Please tell me how important or not it is for you personally to vote in the European Parliament elections? Please use a scale from 1 to 10, when 1 means that voting has no importance at all for you, and 10 means that you consider voting essential, or that is a key duty for you as a citizen. The remaining numbers indicates something in between these two positions. (\%)

- Total 'High importance' (8-10)
  - EU28 49, IE 64

- Total 'Medium importance' (4-7)
  - EU28 33, IE 25

- Total 'Low importance' (1-3)
  - EU28 17, IE 10

*D*Evolution Sept./Oct. 2017 - Apr. 2018

**Basis EU27 (This question was not asked in the UK)
**ONE YEAR BEFORE THE 2019 EUROPEAN ELECTIONS**

27.601 interviews
11 - 22/04/2018
1.010 interviews
12 - 22/04/2018
Methodology: face-to-face

**IRELAND**

EUROBAROMETER 89.2

## 2. GROWING EUROPEAN DEMOCRACY

### QA25b
On the whole, are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied or not at all satisfied with the way democracy works in the EU? (%)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>EU28 Outer pie</th>
<th>EU28 Inner pie</th>
<th>IE Outer pie</th>
<th>IE Inner pie</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total 'Satisfied'</td>
<td>42 %</td>
<td>12 %</td>
<td>46 %</td>
<td>18 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total 'Not satisfied'</td>
<td>8 %</td>
<td>12 %</td>
<td>74 %</td>
<td>46 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**EB80.2**

- EU28: Total 'Satisfied' 46, Δ+3
- IE: Total 'Satisfied' 74, Δ+10

**EB80.2 +**

- EU28: Total 'Satisfied' 49, Δ+10
- IE: Total 'Satisfied' 60, Δ+10

*Evolution Mar. 2017 - Apr. 2018

### QA12
In the last European Parliament elections in 2014, the leading candidate in the European political family which had won the most votes was elected President of the European Commission. Europeans could therefore (...) take part in the process of electing the President of the European Commission. In the next European Parliament elections voters would have this opportunity for the second time. Would this make you more likely to vote than at present? (%)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>EU27 Outer pie</th>
<th>EU27 Inner pie</th>
<th>IE Outer pie</th>
<th>IE Inner pie</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total 'Yes'</td>
<td>31 %</td>
<td>9 %</td>
<td>43 %</td>
<td>60 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total 'No'</td>
<td>31 %</td>
<td>9 %</td>
<td>43 %</td>
<td>60 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don't know</td>
<td>38 %</td>
<td>32 %</td>
<td>14 %</td>
<td>8 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**EU27**

- EU27: Total 'Yes' 31, Δ+2
- EU27: Total 'No' 31, Δ+2
- EU27: Don't know 38

**QA13**
To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements regarding this process of electing the President of the European Commission depending on the results of the European Parliament elections? (%)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>EU27 Agree</th>
<th>EU27 Disagree</th>
<th>IE Agree</th>
<th>IE Disagree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>It only makes sense if it is accompanied by a real debate about European issues and the future of the EU</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It brings more transparency to the process of electing the President of the European Commission</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It represents significant progress for democracy within the EU</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It gives more legitimacy to the European Commission</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It prevents Member States' governments from choosing the best candidate for the job</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It has no real impact, it does not change much</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**EU27**

- EU27: Total 'Agree' 70
- EU27: Total 'Disagree' 25

**IE**

- IE: Total 'Agree' 84
- IE: Total 'Disagree' 16

**Don't know**

- EU27: 15
- IE: 11

**Basis EU27** (This question was not asked in the UK)
3. CAMPAIGN THEMES AND THE EMERGENCE OF NEW POLITICAL PARTIES

Campaign

Which of the following themes should be discussed as a matter of priority during the electoral campaign for the next European Parliament elections? Firstly? And then? (MAX. 6 ANSWERS)

Fight against terrorism: 49% EU27, 48% IE
Combatting youth unemployment: 40% EU27, 45% IE
Immigration: 38% EU27, 46% IE
Economy and growth: 42% EU27, 46% IE
Combating climate change and protecting the environment: 35% EU27, 39% IE
Promoting human rights and democracy: 32% EU27, 39% IE
Social protection of EU citizens: 32% EU27, 31% IE
Security and defence policy: 29% EU27, 27% IE
The way the EU should be working in the future: 25% EU27, 27% IE
Consumer protection and food safety: 21% EU27, 27% IE
Protection of external borders: 21% EU27, 22% IE
Protection of personal data: 20% EU27, 22% IE

Emerging parties

In some European countries new political parties and movements are having success by protesting against the traditional political establishment. To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements about the emergence of these new parties and movements? (%)

Just being against something does not improve anything: 70% EU27, 73% IE
We need a real change and this is what these parties and movements can bring: 56% EU27, 61% IE
New political parties and movements can find new solutions better: 53% EU27, 60% IE
This development is a threat to our democracy: 38% EU27, 37% IE

**Basis: EU27** (This question was not asked in the UK)
4. VOTING BEHAVIOUR

**Reasons to vote**

QA16T Regardless of how important you personally think it is to vote, what, in your opinion, are the main reasons why people vote in the European Parliament elections? Firstly? And then? (MAX. 4 ANSWERS)

- It is their duty as citizens: 47%
- They can change things by voting in the European Parliament elections: 33%
- They systematically vote in elections: 31%
- They feel European / they feel they are citizens of the European Union: 30%
- They want to support the EU: 29%
- They want to express their discontent: 26%
- They want to express dissatisfaction with the (NATIONALITY) government: 22%
- They want to participate in the choice of the next President of the European Commission: 17%
- They want to express dissatisfaction with the (NATIONALITY) government: 17%

**Reasons not to vote**

QA17T Still regardless of how important you personally think it is to vote, what are the reasons why people do not vote in the European Parliament elections? Firstly? And then? (MAX. 4 ANSWERS)

- They believe their vote will not change anything: 52%
- They distrust the political system: 48%
- They are not interested in politics, or in elections in general: 43%
- They do not know enough about the role of the European Parliament: 34%
- They believe that the European Parliament does not deal sufficiently with problems that concern people like them: 32%
- They believe that they are not sufficiently informed on the positioning of the different political parties on European issues: 30%
- They believe that the European Parliament is not sufficiently informed on the different political parties: 28%
- They are against Europe, the European Union, the building of Europe: 17%
- They have no time or something more important to do: 15%
- They do not know where or how to vote: 12%