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Brussels, 16 February 2011.

Parlemeter - February 2011

European Parliament Eurobarometer (EB Parlemeter 74.3)

ANALYTICAL SYNTHESIS

Coverage: UE 27 (26 574 European citizens)
Population: Europeans aged 15years and over
Methodology: Face-to-face (CAPI)
Fieldwork: 25 November - 17 December 2010, carried out by *TNS opinion*

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Eurobarometers used for trends:

EB 74.1 "The European and the crisis"

(Recall "Priority policies")

Fieldwork: 26 August - 16 September 2010 by *TNS opinion*

Coverage: 26 635 people interviewed face-to-face.

Population: Europeans aged 15 years and over

EB 73 "Parlemeter"

Fieldwork: 29 January - 17 February 2010 par *TNS opinion*

Coverage: 26 671 people interviewed face-to-face.

Population: Europeans aged 15 years and over

EB 71 "Parlemeter"

Fieldwork: 16 January - 22 February 2009 par *TNS opinion*

Coverage: 26 718 people interviewed face-to-face.

Population: Europeans aged 15 years and over

EB 70 "Parlemeter"

Fieldwork: 6 October - 6 November 2008 par *TNS opinion*

Coverage: 26 618 people interviewed face-to-face.

Population: Europeans aged 15 years and over

EB 68 "Parlemeter"

Fieldwork: 22 September - 3 November 2007 par *TNS opinion*

Coverage: 26 768 people interviewed face-to-face.

Population: Europeans aged 15 years and over

N.B.: Readers are reminded that survey results are estimates, the accuracy of which, everything being equal, rests upon the sample size and upon the observed percentage. With samples of about 1,000 interviews (sample size usually used on a Member State scale), the real percentage, that is to say if the whole population had been interviewed, varies within the following confidence limits:

Percentages observed	10% or 90%	20% or 80%	30% or 70%	40% or 60%	50%
Margin of error	+/- 1.9 points	+/- 2.5 points	+/- 2.7 points	+/- 3.0 points	+/- 3.1 points

INTRODUCTION

Nine months after the last *Parlemeter* (January - February 2010) and in view of the 2014 elections, it is necessary to assess the perception that European citizens have of the European Parliament and the policies and values which the institution must defend.

The results show **a stabilisation of the key indicators**, although with a very slight decrease. To better understand the reasons, the evolution of the European environment should also be taken into consideration.

The general context

The previous Parlemeter had been conducted during a **period favourable to the visibility of the European Parliament**: upcoming European elections, hearings of the Commissioners appointed that had a strong impact in some Member States and entry into force of the Treaty of Lisbon.

In the political sphere, it is important to remember that, since the survey conducted in early 2010, national elections (legislative or presidential) or regional elections have been held in 14 countries of the EU.

The international economic context is still deeply marked by the financial, economic and social crisis. It has now taken on a new dimension, with the difficulties of the euro area and the measures that have resulted, including the establishment of the European Financial Stability Fund and the European stabilisation mechanism.

In the last 9 months, the question of solidarity between Member States mobilised thinking on Europe, with public opinion focused on the question: should there be solidarity between Member States? If yes, how far and in what context (European semester, reform of the stability pact, EU Perspective 2020, etc.)?

At the same time, **the Member States have addressed the crisis with very different rhythms**. The latest Eurostat statistics clearly show this. This political and economic environment must therefore be kept in mind when reading the results.

Undoubtedly, this political and economic environment played a role in the responses of citizens polled.

Main trends

A legislative activity that is not sufficiently felt by the Europeans as having an impact on their daily lives could be added to the general context described above, although in 2010 important issues for all Europeans have emerged: the protection of airline passenger data (SWIFT), food additives, food labelling, enhanced information for medicines, packet control and financial oversight, hedge funds, the new mobile phone tariff reductions (roaming), etc.

As in past surveys, the analysis of the results presented in this note demonstrates that **the European averages should be analysed in the light of national results.**

Indeed, the **EU averages are weighted** according to the official European population figures published by Eurostat or national statistics institutes. When we observe a variation of the EU27 average between two periods, we should take into consideration the recent developments in each Member State but also the weight that this Member State represents in the overall EU27 average. It should be remembered that the results of the seven most populated Member States accounted for about three quarters of the EU27 average.

Before starting the analysis of each result, it is interesting to note a number of common features.

In general, we can see that:

- men say that they are more aware than women about matters relating to the European Parliament,
- the more affluent social classes have a better knowledge of the European Parliament and its activities,
- The youngest age group says it is the 'worst informed', while the 40-54 age group says it is the 'best informed',
- Respondents seeking an enhanced role of the European Parliament are those who say they are the best informed about its activities. However, it is important to note that managers, even if they consider themselves as the best informed category of people, are also those who want the European Parliament to play a less significant role.

⇒ **A slight decline in 'media recall'**

Six months after the European elections, 62% of the respondents said they had read in the newspapers, seen on the Internet or heard on the radio or television something about the European Parliament. **Today, 59% (-3 percentage points) have this media recall** as against 39% who do not have it. The difference between the country where the media recall is the strongest and the one where it is the weakest is 36 percentage points.

Beyond a quasi stability of the EU average, we observe that **media recall tends to slightly decline** in 19 of the 27 Member States but to remain the same or increase in the 8 other countries.

We should note the sharp increase in Ireland (+17 percentage points), a country which was in a deep financial crisis at the time of the survey.

⇒ Still a limited knowledge of the European Parliament's activities

At EU27 level, **the subjective level of information** does not vary significantly. Thus, **28% of the respondents feel well informed about the activities of the European Parliament** as against 30% nine months ago (-2 percentage points). Again, this survey reveals strong differences between Member States, reaching 26 percentage points.

In the responses by Member State, we observe significant differences between the two surveys, from +10 in Austria to -9 in Spain.

More than two thirds (69%, +1) of Europeans continue to feel badly informed about the activities of the European Parliament.

The conclusion drawn in the previous survey remains valid: **there is no direct link between media recall and knowledge of activities**. Thus a recall of media coverage of the European Parliament does not signify a better understanding of the institution's activities.

⇒ A better understanding of the mode of operation of the European Parliament

Today, **42% (+9 compared to EB 68) of Europeans know that their MEPs sit in the European Parliament** according to their political affinities. 38% (-6) believe that they sit according to their nationality.

At the end of 2007 (EB 68), only 33% gave the correct answer while 44% answered incorrectly.

The proportion of correct answers varies greatly between Member States, with differences of up to 35 percentage points between the lowest and the highest score.

⇒ Contrasting images of the European Parliament

The image that Europeans have of the European Parliament did not change a lot. The image of the institution is contrasting and large differences can be observed between Member States.

As we saw during the previous survey, a certain tendency towards polarisation is confirmed. The answers are more pronounced in one or other direction.

▪ **In two aspects, the image of the European Parliament is positive:**

- The Parliament is perceived as '*democratic*' by 63% of Europeans against 24% who believe the contrary.

However, concerning the item "democratic", the differences between Member States are as much as 43 percentage points.

- It is considered as "*efficient*" by 40% against 38% who believe it is 'inefficient'.

Again, the differences between Member States are important and are as much as 42 percentage points among those who consider it as "efficient".

- **In two other aspects, this image is rather negative:**

- The Parliament is perceived as "*dynamic*" by 39% of respondents against 42% who believe the contrary.

We note a big difference between the Member States who perceive it as "dynamic", the differences are as much as 52 percentage points.

- Is the European Parliament "*listening to European citizens*"? 35% of respondents share this opinion while 50% do not share it.

Same observation: 40 percentage points separate the State where the respondents find it the most "listening to European citizens" compared to the one where it is considered as the least.

- **The European Parliament is not well known:**

For 51% of the respondents, the Parliament is "not well known", against 41% who consider it as "well known" with a difference between Member states reaching 41 percentage points.

⇒ **A more important role for the European Parliament**

If we refer to the survey conducted nine months ago, the results are quite similar even if the enhanced role of the European Parliament slightly decreases between the two surveys (EB73 January-February 2010): **52% are in favour of an increased role of the European Parliament** as against 55% seven months after the European elections.

However, comparing this last survey with the one conducted at the end of 2007 (EB68) actually highlights that, as for the image, **the opinions on the role of the EP tend to be assertive**. It is thus interesting to note the evolution of the following opinions:

- three years ago, 48% of respondents were in favour of an enhanced role of the European Parliament (EB 68), reaching a peak of 55% nine months ago (EB73). This is now 52%, i.e. +4 percentage points in 3 years.

- the first time this question was asked, 3 years ago, only 12% of Europeans wanted the European Parliament to play a less important role. Today, this is 22%, i.e. +10 percentage points. This is the only item that is increasing in each survey, in a linear way.

Again, in this survey, the differences between Member States are very important: they range from 32% to 79%, a difference of 47 percentage points.

As for the differences between the two surveys among Member States, they can be high. They range from +6 points in Hungary and +5 in Denmark to -11 in Ireland and -10 in Germany.

⇒ **The fight for values: Europeans always give priority to the protection of human rights**

The hierarchy of priorities remains the same as in the previous survey. Protection of **human rights** is what Europeans want to see defended as a priority by the European Parliament (**60%**). **Equality between men and women** and **freedom of speech** come in second position, as last time, with **36%** (=).

The only significant change concerns **solidarity between Member States of the EU (35%, +5)** which comes in 4th position. Is this a consequence of the crisis or not? Is it a concept of the European Union? It is difficult to answer these questions.

⇒ **The battle against the crisis is at the core of the policy priorities to be led by the European Parliament**

The question of priority policies is taken from the previous survey EB/EP (EB 74.1 ‘The Europeans and the crisis’). Since the fieldwork was done two months ago, the results can still be used in this note. They are essential to better understand the expectations of Europeans at the end of 2010, a year which was marked by such an economic, financial and social crisis.

The consequences of the economic, social, financial and monetary crisis surely influenced the high increase given to the **priority ‘tackling poverty and social exclusion’ (52%, +8 percentage points in 7 months)**.

It remains by far the policy that respondents most want to see defended, followed by **‘consumer protection’** in 2nd position **with 33%**.

However, **policies for which the day-to-day impact is less measurable for citizens are sharply down as compared with the previous survey**: 26% of Europeans mentioned ‘combating climate change’, which lost 8 points (it goes from 3rd to 6th place) and 23% ‘a security and defence policy’, which lost 7 points.

In 4th position, *ex aequo* with 27% each, come ‘coordinating economic, budget and tax policies’ (+3) and ‘an agricultural policy that is environmentally friendly and contributes to the global food balance’.

I - PERCEPTION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

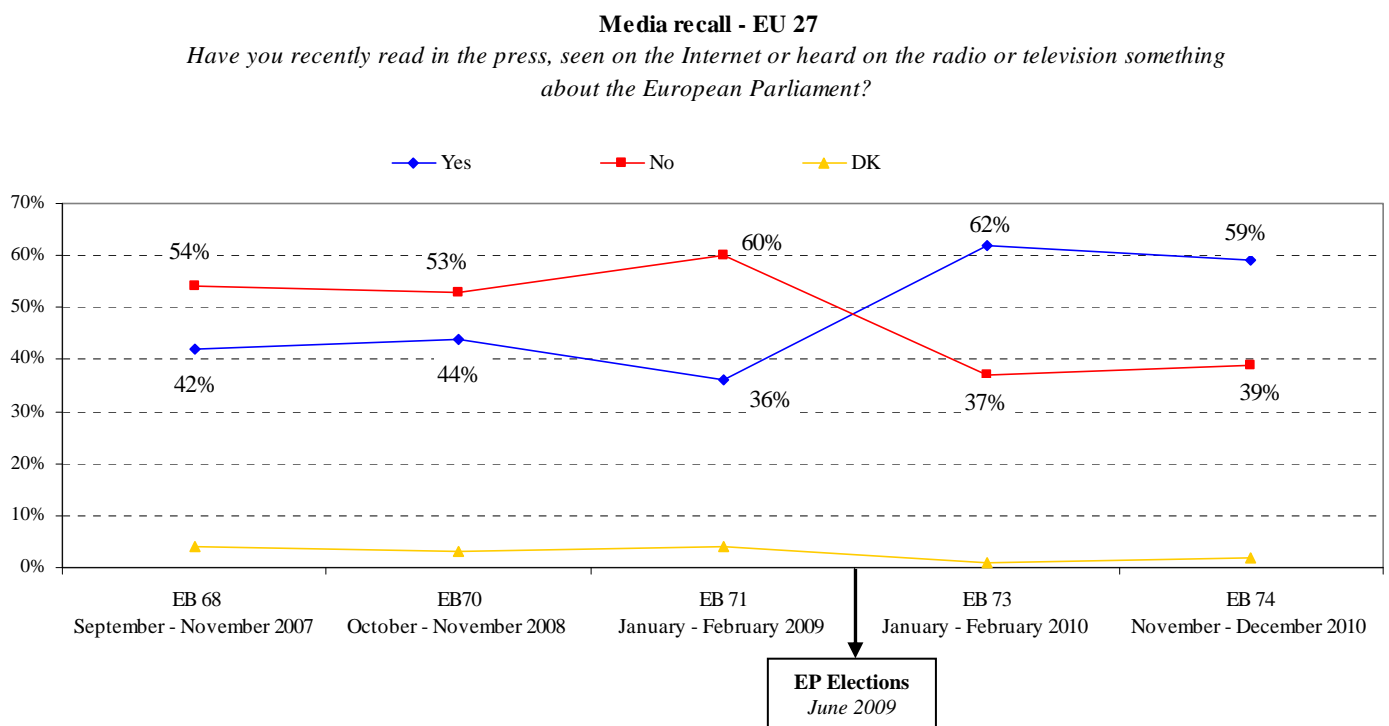
A. Media recall and level of subjective information about the European Parliament

1) Media recall

QA1 Have you recently read in the press, seen on the Internet or heard on the radio or television something about the European Parliament?

Europeans are still a majority in saying they have heard about the European Parliament in the media (59%), although a slight decrease has been noted in media recall compared with early 2010 (EB/EP 73).

⇒ **The average European trend :**



⇒ **EU 27 Socio-demographic analysis:**

The areas of the population most exposed to information about the European Parliament in the media are:

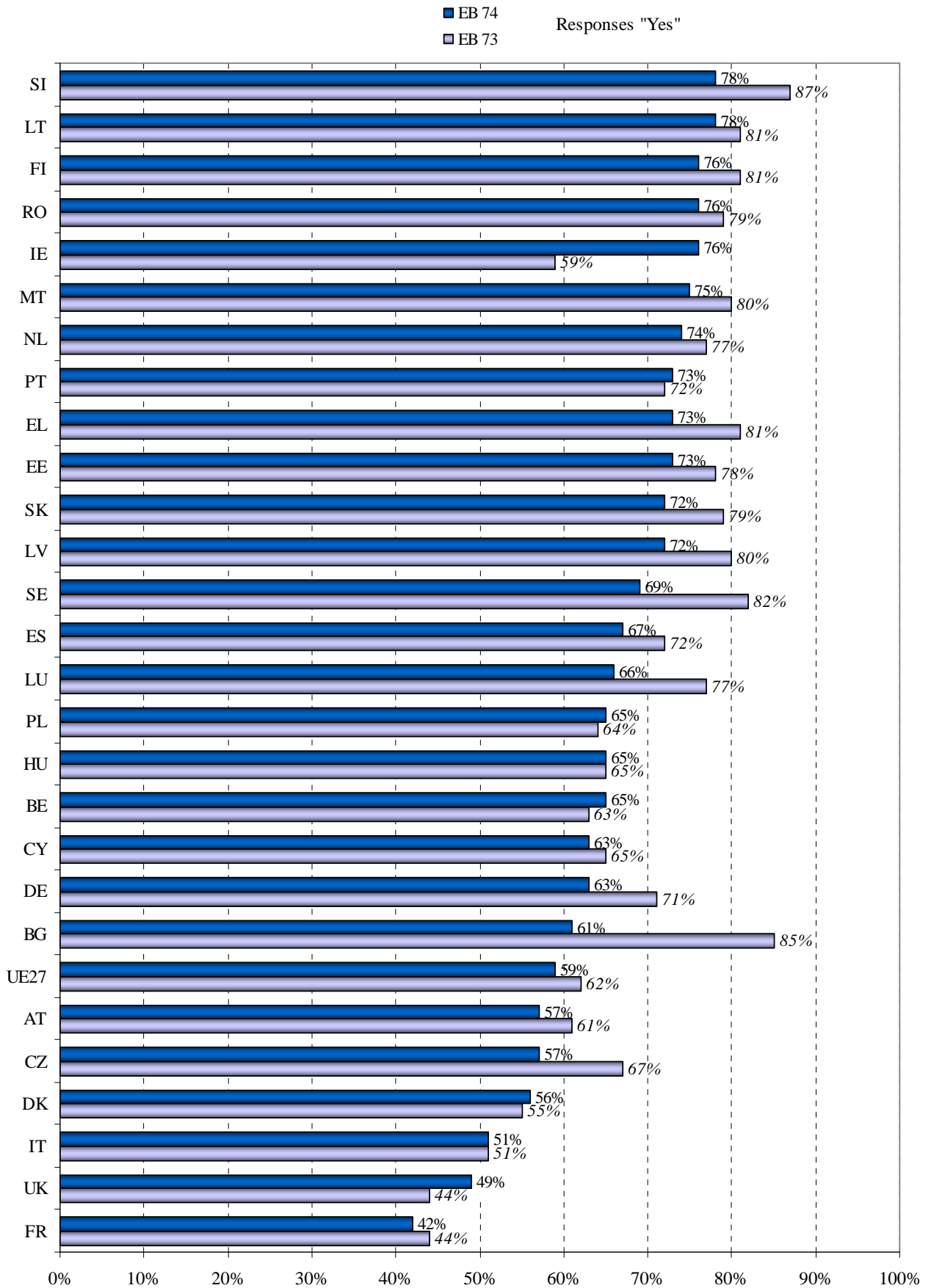
Media recall		Yes	No
UE27		59%	39%
Sex	Men	64%	34%
	Women	55%	43%
Age	15-24	50%	48%
	25-39	59%	40%
	40-54	64%	34%
	55 +	61%	37%
Education (end of)	15-	52%	46%
	16-19	59%	39%
	20+	70%	29%
	Still studying	53%	45%
Respondent occupation scale	Self-employed	69%	30%
	Managers	73%	26%
	Other white collars	59%	40%
	Manual workers	57%	41%
	House persons	50%	49%
	Unemployed	55%	44%
	Retired	61%	37%
Difficulties paying bills	Students	53%	45%
	Most of the time	49%	49%
	From time to time	59%	39%
Self-positioning on the social staircase	Almost never	62%	36%
	Low (1-4)	52%	46%
	Medium (5-6)	61%	37%
Information on EP's activities	High (7-10)	65%	33%
	Informed	84%	16%
Preference for the EP's role	Not informed	50%	48%
	More important	65%	34%
	The same	54%	43%
	Less important	61%	38%

Source : Eurobarometer / European Parliament 74.3

⇒ **Differences between Member States**

Evolution of media recall by Member State

Have you recently read in the press, seen on the Internet or heard on the radio or television something about the European Parliament?



- Among various other factors, we can consider that the European elections of June 2009 are still fresh in people's memories, although media recall **tends to decline in 19 of the 27 member states**. In contrast, media recall is increasing in Ireland (+17 points), the United Kingdom (+5). It remains stable in Hungary and Italy.
- Significant variations in media recall have been noted in the following countries:
 - In **Bulgaria**, the hearing of Commissioner Jeleva and the subsequent withdrawal of his candidacy on 19 January 2010 drastically increased recall of the European Parliament in the media from 35% in January 2009 (EB71) to 85% in January 2010 (EB73). By a year later, in November-December 2010, this figure had fallen to 61% (-24 points).
 - In **Sweden**, there was a significant decrease in media recall: -13 points, from 82% (EB73) to 69% in one year (EB74). The high response rate to EB 73 was almost certainly due to the fact that the survey on the ground was conducted right at the end of the Swedish presidency.
 - In **Ireland**, however, due to the country's economic context, citizens have been more aware of the European institutions, including the European Parliament. Indeed, media recall of the European Parliament increased by 17 points in one year (from 59% in January 2010 to 76% in November-December 2010). N.B. in January 2009 (EB71) it was only 37%.
 - The same was not true of **Greece**, where media recall saw a decrease of 8 points in one year (from 81% to 73%). The first half of 2010 in particular shook the country, whereas the second half of the year was quieter.

2) Level of subjective information

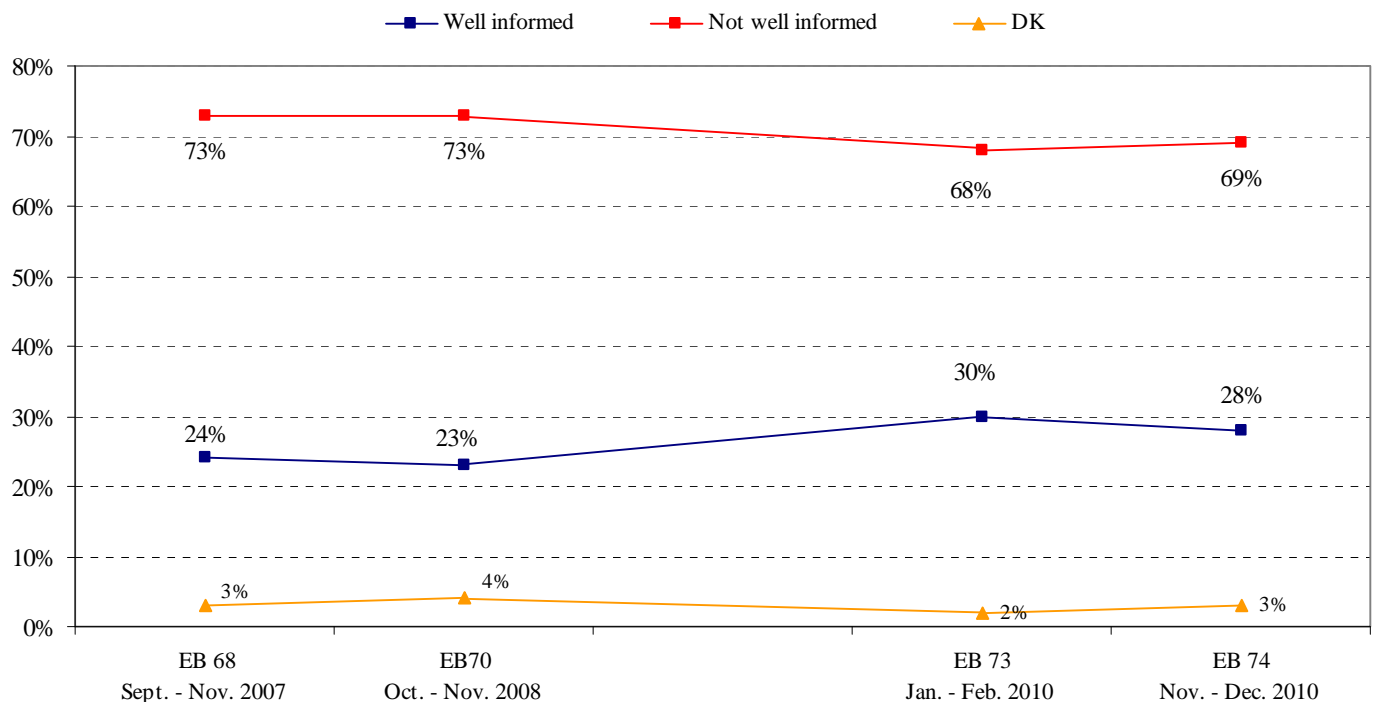
QA2 *In general, do you consider that you are very well, fairly well, fairly badly or very badly informed about the European Parliament's activities? (Answers on a scale basis from 1 to 4)*

More than two-thirds of Europeans (69%) still consider themselves "*not well informed*" about the activities of the European Parliament:

⇒ The average European trend :

Level of Subjective Information - EU 27

In general, do you consider that you are very well, fairly well, fairly badly or very badly informed about the European Parliament's activities?



Well informed: the sum of "very well informed" and "fairly well informed"

Not well informed: the sum of "very badly informed" and "fairly badly informed"

After a rise in the number of people who felt they were "*well informed*" about the European elections of June 2009, we don't see a significant change in the level of information of the European citizens.

Note that a direct link cannot be established between media recall and the sense of being informed. Indeed, those who recall media coverage of the European Parliament do not necessarily understand the institution's activities any better.

⇒ **Socio-demographic analysis**

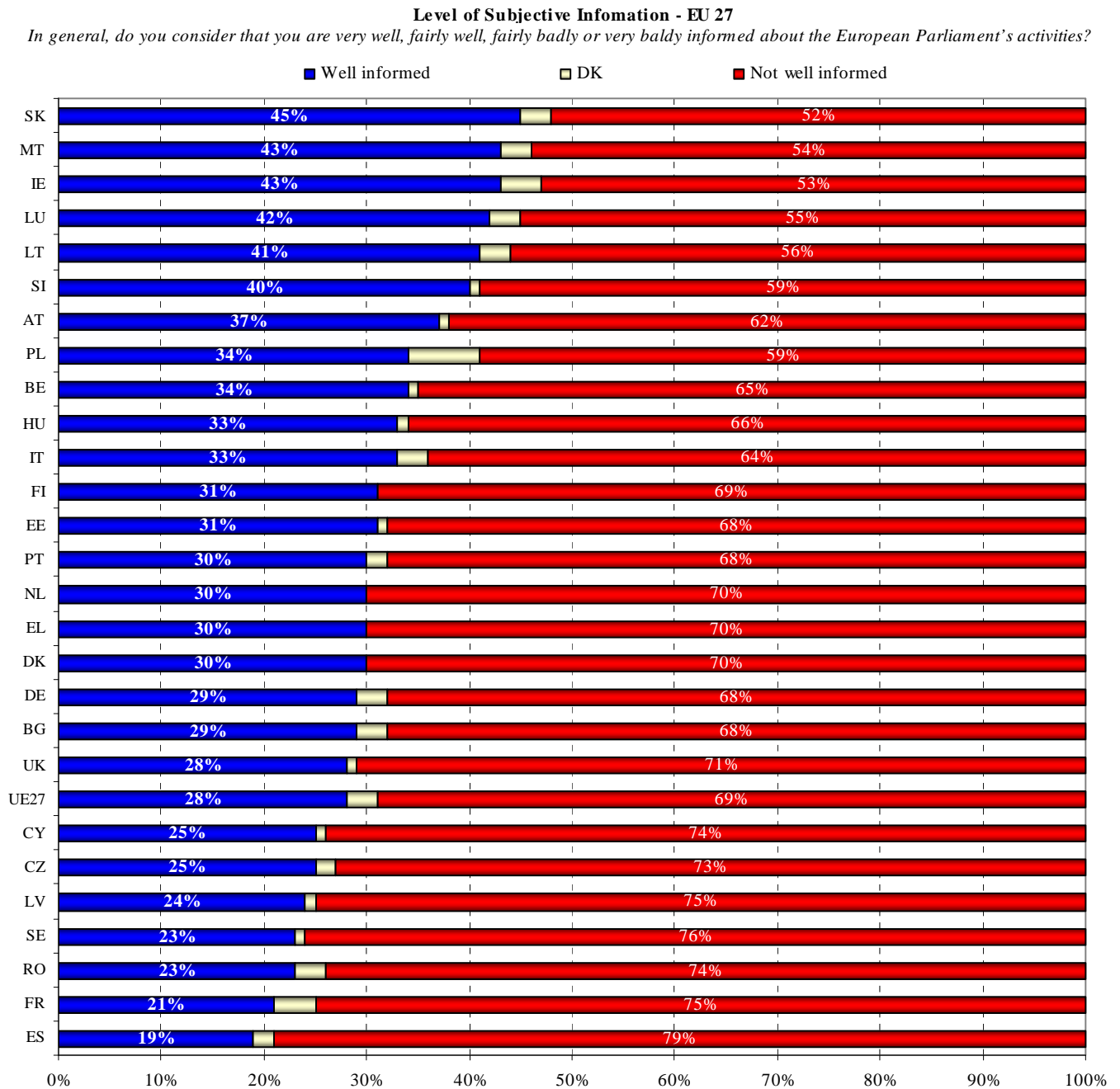
The socio-demographic variables of the survey may shed light on more specific areas of the population who feel poorly informed, and towards whom particular attention could be paid.

Information on European Parliament's activities		Total 'Well informed'	Total 'Badly informed'
UE27		28%	69%
Sex	Men	33%	65%
	Women	24%	73%
Age	15-24	24%	73%
	25-39	28%	70%
	40-54	30%	68%
	55 +	29%	68%
Education (end of)	15-	20%	77%
	16-19	28%	69%
	20+	36%	62%
	Still studying	27%	70%
Respondent occupation scale	Self-employed	36%	62%
	Managers	41%	57%
	Other white collars	31%	66%
	Manual workers	25%	72%
	House persons	18%	77%
	Unemployed	20%	77%
	Retired	29%	68%
Left-right scale	(1-4) Left	30%	68%
	(5-6) Middle	29%	69%
	(7-10) Right	36%	62%
Internet use	Everyday	33%	65%
	Often/ Sometimes	30%	68%
	Never	21%	76%
Difficulties paying bills	Most of the time	19%	78%
	Sometimes	27%	70%
	Almost never	32%	66%
Preference for the EP's role	More important	33%	65%
	The same	25%	71%
	Less important	29%	69%

Source : Eurobarometer / European Parliament 74.3

⇒ **Differences between Member States**

QA2 *In general, do you consider that you are very well, fairly well, fairly badly or very badly informed about the European Parliament's activities?*
 [Answers on a scale basis from 1 to 4]



Source : Eurobarometer / European Parliament 74.3

⇒ **Trends between Member States**

QA2 *In general, do you consider that you are very well, fairly well, fairly badly or very badly informed about the European Parliament's activities?*

[Answers on a scale basis from 1 to 4]

	Total 'Well informed'			Total 'Badly informed'			DK		
	EB 73 January - February 2010	EB 74 November - December 2011	Difference EB 73 - EB 74	EB 73 January - February 2010	EB 74 November - December 2011	Difference EB 73 - EB 74	EB 73 January - February 2010	EB 74 November - December 2011	Difference EB 73 - EB 74
AT	27%	37%	+10	72%	62%	-10	1%	1%	=
DK	26%	30%	+4	74%	70%	-4	0%	0%	=
SK	42%	45%	+3	57%	52%	-5	1%	3%	+2
PL	31%	34%	+3	62%	59%	-3	7%	7%	=
UK	25%	28%	+3	74%	71%	-3	1%	1%	=
MT	40%	43%	+3	57%	54%	-3	3%	3%	=
IE	41%	43%	+2	55%	53%	-2	4%	4%	=
IT	32%	33%	+1	65%	64%	-1	3%	3%	=
NL	29%	30%	+1	71%	70%	-1	0%	0%	=
CY	24%	25%	+1	74%	74%	=	2%	1%	-1
PT	30%	30%	=	69%	68%	-1	1%	2%	1
BE	34%	34%	=	65%	65%	=	1%	1%	=
EU27 UE27	30%	28%	-2	68%	69%	+1	2%	3%	+1
DE	31%	29%	-2	67%	68%	+1	2%	3%	+1
LT	43%	41%	-2	55%	56%	+1	2%	3%	+1
HU	35%	33%	-2	65%	66%	+1	0%	1%	+1
FI	33%	31%	-2	67%	69%	+2	0%	0%	=
EE	34%	31%	-3	66%	68%	+2	0%	1%	+1
LV	27%	24%	-3	73%	75%	+2	0%	1%	+1
RO	26%	23%	-3	71%	74%	+3	3%	3%	=
CZ	29%	25%	-4	70%	73%	+3	1%	2%	+1
EL	34%	30%	-4	66%	70%	+4	0%	0%	=
FR	25%	21%	-4	70%	75%	+5	5%	4%	-1
SE	28%	23%	-5	72%	76%	+4	0%	1%	+1
SI	46%	40%	-6	54%	59%	+5	0%	1%	+1
LU	50%	42%	-8	47%	55%	+8	3%	3%	=
BG	37%	29%	-8	59%	68%	+9	4%	3%	-1
ES	28%	19%	-9	72%	79%	+7	0%	2%	+2

Bien informé(e) : le total de "très bien informé(e)" et "assez bien informé(e)"

Pas bien informé(e) : le total d' "assez mal informé(e)" et "très mal informé(e)"

Source : Eurobarometer / European Parliament 74.3

B. Knowledge of how the European Parliament functions

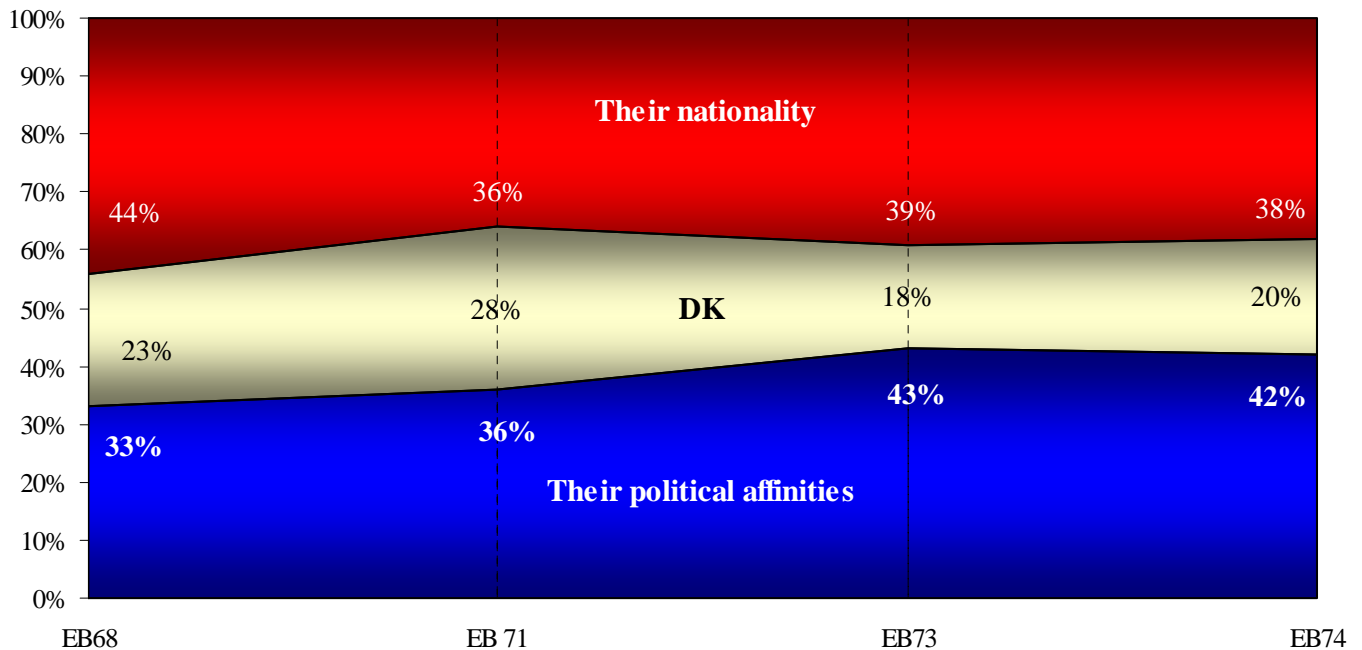
QA4 And, in your opinion, do MEPs sit in the European Parliament according to ...
 - Their nationality?
 - Their political affinities?

⇒ **The average European trend :**

As in January 2010, the majority of respondents continued to give the right answer. Europeans, however, were not confident in this area.

Knowledge of how the EP functions - EU 27 Average

And, in your opinion, do MEPs sit in the European Parliament according to ...
 - Their nationality
 - Their political affinities

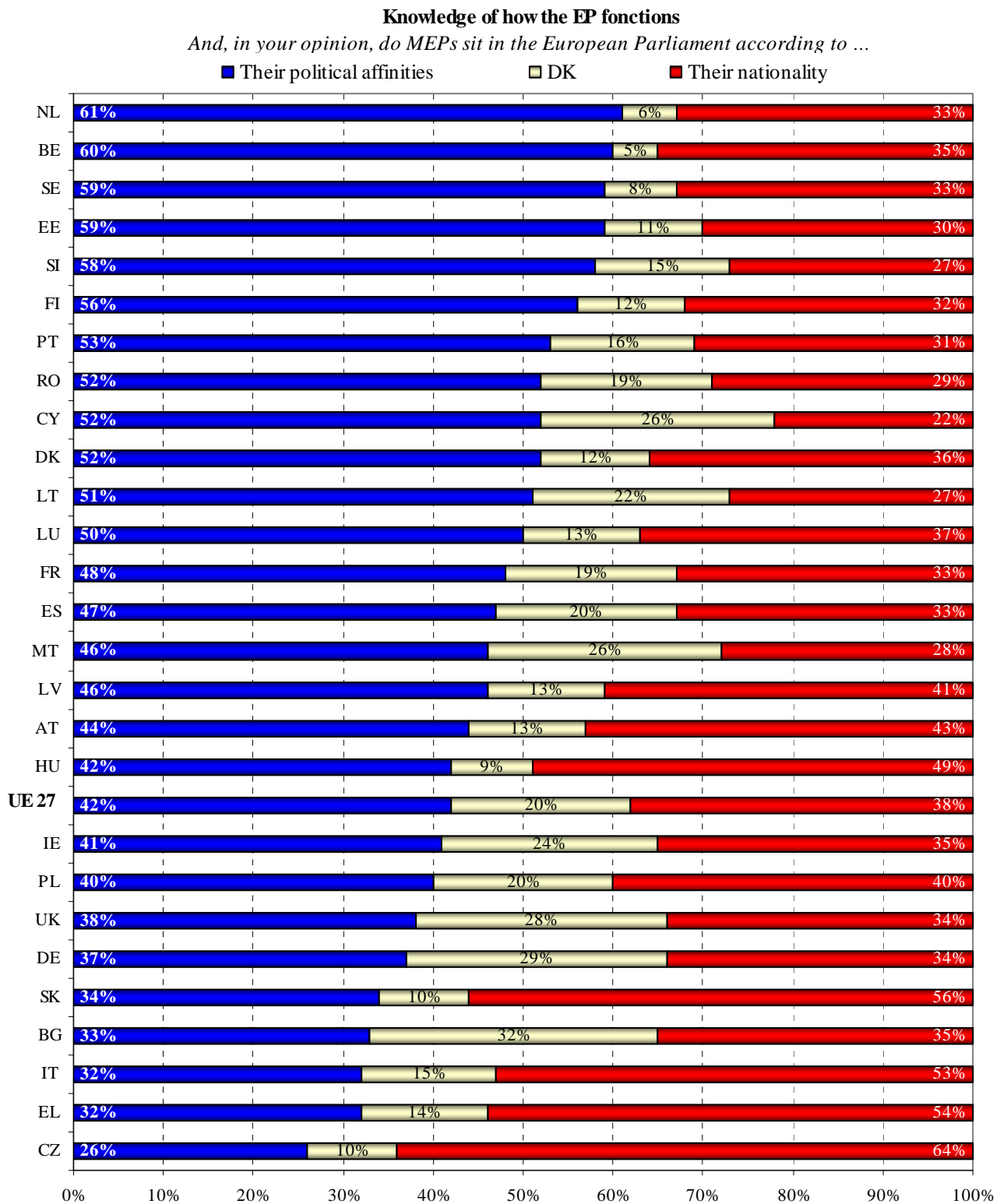


Source : Eurobarometer / European Parliament 74.3

⇒ **Socio-demographic analysis**

In your opinion, do MEPs sit in the European Parliament according to...?		Their political affinities	Their nationality	DK
UE27		42%	38%	20%
Sex	Men	45%	39%	16%
	Women	40%	37%	23%
Age	15-24	39%	39%	22%
	25-39	42%	41%	17%
	40-54	45%	38%	17%
	55 +	41%	36%	23%
Education (end of)	15-	39%	33%	28%
	16-19	42%	39%	19%
	20+	48%	40%	12%
	Still studying	38%	42%	20%
Respondent occupation scale	Self-employed	41%	44%	15%
	Managers	48%	40%	12%
	Other white collars	40%	45%	15%
	Manual workers	43%	37%	20%
	House persons	38%	40%	22%
	Unemployed	44%	35%	21%
	Retired	43%	33%	24%
	Students	38%	42%	20%
Information on EP's activities	Informed	50%	41%	9%
	Not informed	40%	37%	23%
Preference for the EP's role	More important	46%	41%	13%
	The same	35%	41%	24%
	Less important	46%	37%	17%

⇒ **Differences between Member States**



Source: Eurobarometer / European Parliament 74.3

⇒ **Trends between Member States**

Do MEPs sit in the European Parliament according to...	Their political affinities			Their nationality			DK		
	EB 73 January - February 2010	EB 74 November - December 2011	Difference EB 73 - EB 74	EB 73 January - February 2010	EB 74 November - December 2011	Difference EB 73 - EB 74	EB 73 January - February 2010	EB 74 November - December 2011	Difference EB 73 - EB 74
PT	41%	53%	+12	41%	31%	-10	18%	16%	-2
FR	41%	48%	+7	43%	33%	-10	16%	19%	+3
LV	39%	46%	+7	51%	41%	-10	10%	13%	+3
LT	46%	51%	+5	31%	27%	-4	23%	22%	-1
PL	37%	40%	+3	47%	40%	-7	16%	20%	+4
ES	44%	47%	+3	39%	33%	-6	17%	20%	+3
RO	51%	52%	+1	28%	29%	+1	21%	19%	-2
BE	59%	60%	+1	33%	35%	+2	8%	5%	-3
EE	59%	59%	=	30%	30%	=	11%	11%	=
EU27	43%	42%	-1	39%	38%	-1	18%	20%	+2
MT	48%	46%	-2	29%	28%	-1	23%	26%	+3
NL	63%	61%	-2	33%	33%	=	4%	6%	+2
AT	46%	44%	-2	42%	43%	+1	12%	13%	+1
IT	34%	32%	-2	46%	53%	+7	20%	15%	-5
DE	40%	37%	-3	37%	34%	-3	23%	29%	+6
SK	37%	34%	-3	55%	56%	+1	8%	10%	+2
SE	62%	59%	-3	27%	33%	+6	11%	8%	-3
BG	36%	33%	-3	28%	35%	+7	36%	32%	-4
UK	42%	38%	-4	35%	34%	-1	23%	28%	+5
CZ	30%	26%	-4	58%	64%	+6	12%	10%	-2
EL	37%	32%	-5	52%	54%	+2	11%	14%	+3
DK	58%	52%	-6	32%	36%	+4	10%	12%	+2
IE	47%	41%	-6	31%	35%	+4	22%	24%	+2
LU	56%	50%	-6	37%	37%	=	7%	13%	+6
SI	66%	58%	-8	24%	27%	+3	10%	15%	+5
CY	61%	52%	-9	16%	22%	+6	23%	26%	+3
HU	51%	42%	-9	39%	49%	+10	10%	9%	-1
FI	66%	56%	-10	25%	32%	+7	9%	12%	+3

Source : Eurobarometer / European Parliament 74.3

- The European average remained stable but revealed significant variations within Member States between the two surveys:
 - The change in the level of knowledge about the European Parliament must be taken into account, not only in the light of the variation in correct answers, but also in wrong answers and DKs. For example, far fewer **Portuguese** respondents gave the wrong answer than before (-10). We can conclude that their knowledge level has improved significantly.
 - In **Germany** and **Luxembourg**, the results showed a decrease in knowledge: the number of correct answers fell (DE -3 and LU -6), while the number of incorrect answers fell or remained stable (DE -3 and LU =). In contrast, for both countries, the number of respondents who were undecided rose by 6 points.

II - THE IMAGE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND EXPECTATIONS VIS-A-VIS THE INSTITUTION

A. The image of the European Parliament

The image of the institution was measured using a detailed indicator, created from a list of five words / phrases, which were then submitted to respondents. The respondents were asked whether the words / phrases *described well* or *described badly* their image of the European Parliament.

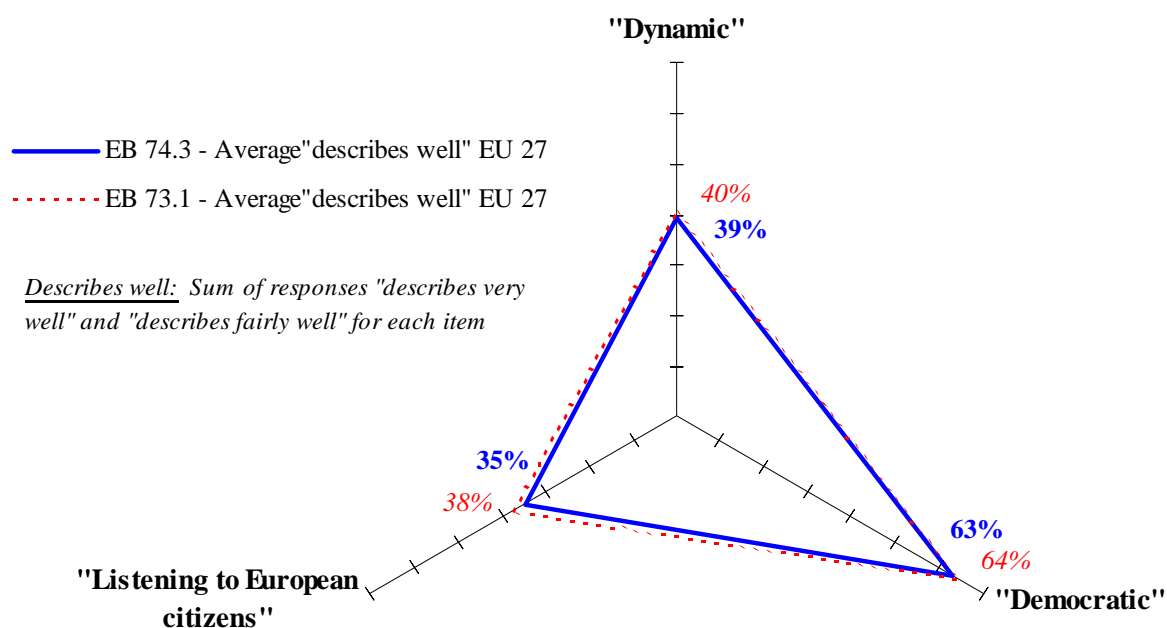
The image that citizens had about the European Parliament is contrasting: they were, in fact, often divided on each perceived characteristic. It should be noted that the decline in positive image characteristics showed a stabilisation compared with the previous poll conducted in January- February 2010.

1. The positive characteristics of the image: "Dynamic", "Democratic" and "Listening to European citizens"

⇒ European average

Positive statements

Please tell me for each of the following words/ expressions whether it describes very well, fairly well, fairly badly or very badly your perception of the European Parliament :



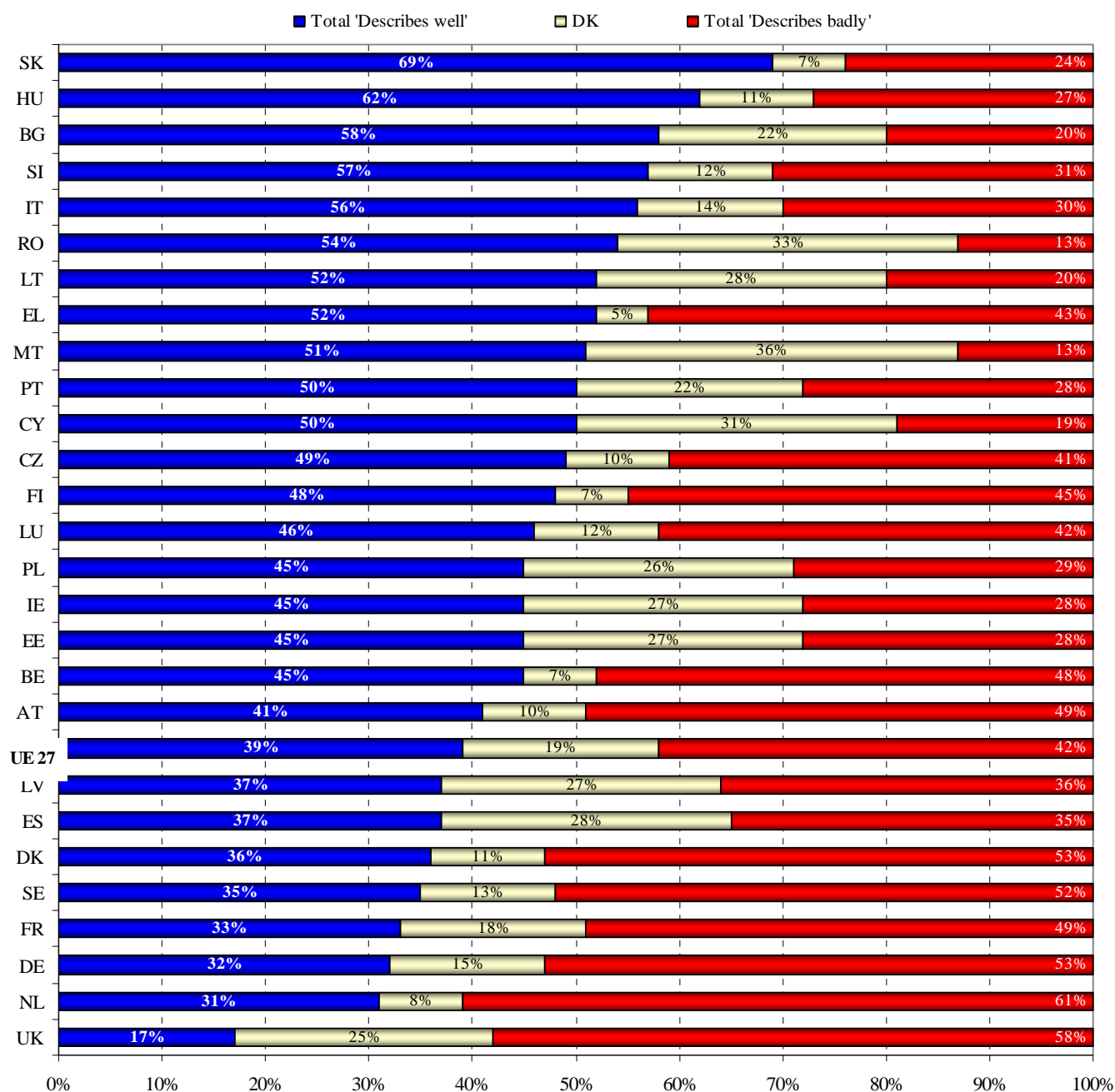
⇒ European trends

UE 27		EB68	EB70	EB73	EB74	Difference EB73 - EB74
Dynamic	Describes well	45%	44%	40%	39%	-1
	Describes badly	35%	36%	43%	42%	-1
	DK	20%	20%	17%	19%	+2
Democratic	Describes well	69%	66%	64%	63%	-1
	Describes badly	16%	19%	24%	24%	=
	DK	15%	15%	12%	13%	+1
Listening to European citizens	Describes well	42%	40%	38%	35%	-3
	Describes badly	41%	43%	49%	50%	+1
	DK	17%	17%	13%	15%	+2

1) Dynamic

⇒ Differences between Member States

Dynamic describes very well, fairly well, fairly badly or very badly your perception of the EP.



Describes well : the sum of responses "describes very well" and "describes fairly well" - Describes badly : sum of "describes fairly badly" and "describes very badly"

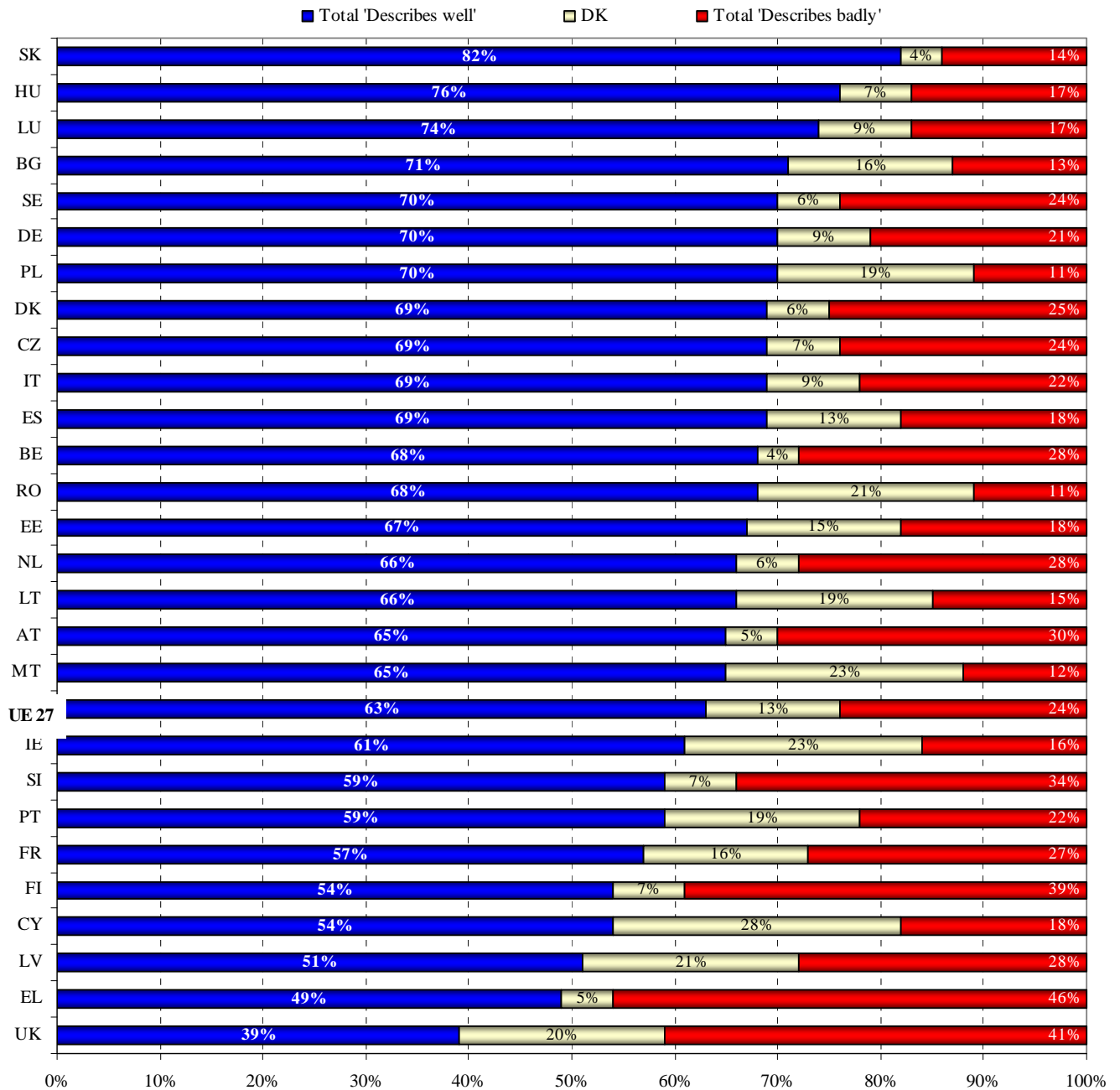
⇒ Socio-demographic analysis

- Women were more likely than men not to have any opinion on the subject (23% compared with 15%).
- Young people were more likely to think that it was dynamic (43%), as were people still studying (45%).
- Respondents who stopped studying after they were 20 were most likely to think that the European Parliament was not dynamic (49%). This view was shared by a large number of managers (51%) and respondents using the Internet every day (48%).
- Logically, 62% of those who said they were well informed about the European Parliament thought it was dynamic. Some 64% of those who wanted to see the European Parliament play a less significant role thought it was not dynamic.

2) Democratic

⇒ Differences between Member States

Democratic describes very well, fairly well, fairly badly or very badly your perception of the EP.



Describes well : the sum of responses "describes very well" and "describes fairly well"
Describes badly : the sum of responses "describes fairly badly" and "describes very badly"
 Source : Eurobarometer / European Parliament 74.3

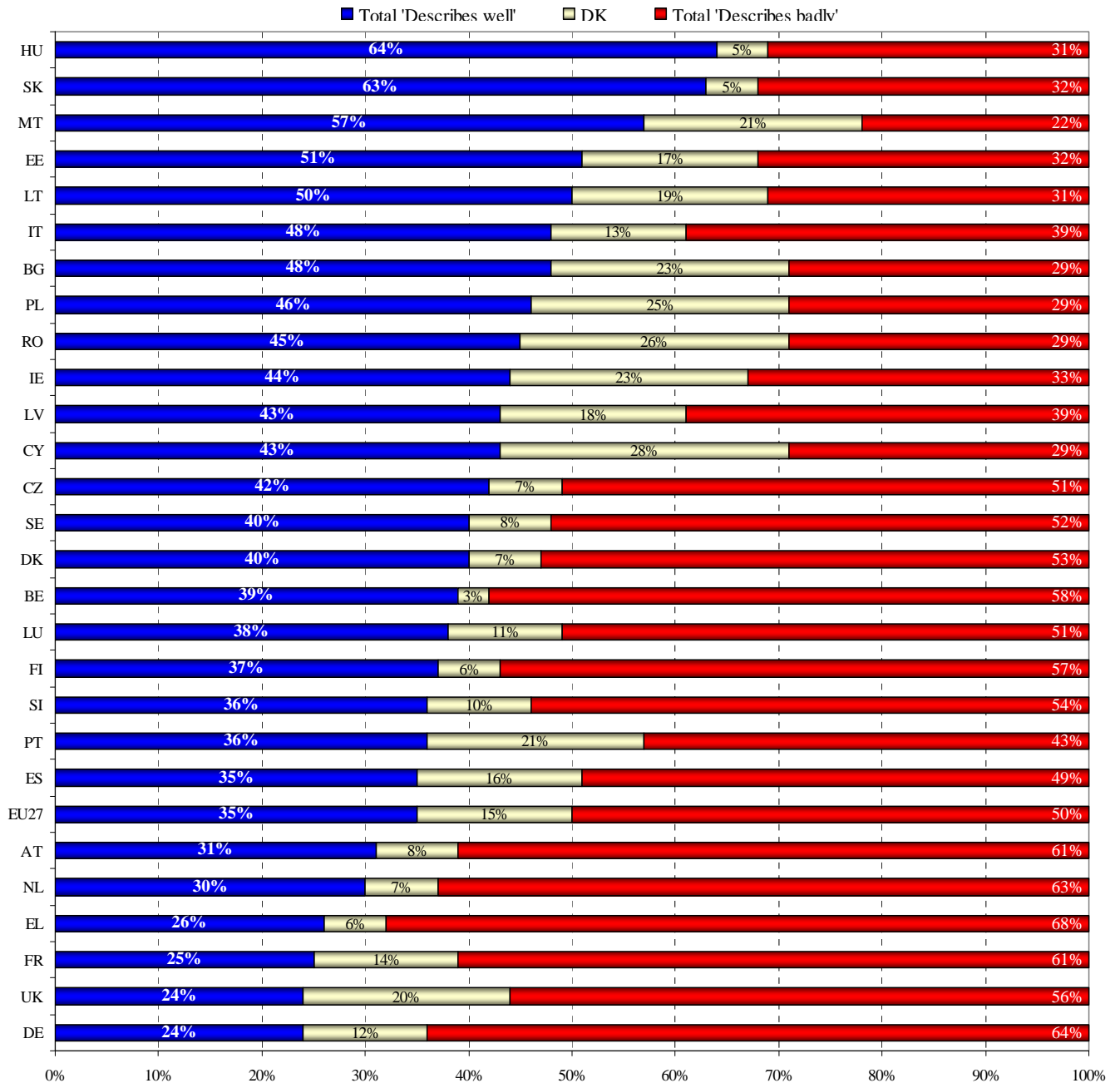
⇒ Socio-demographic analysis

- This term is accepted by a large majority in all Member States, with the exception of the United Kingdom, and in all socio-demographic categories.
- Respondents who want the European Parliament to play a less significant role have different views on this image characteristic: 44% think that "democratic" describes badly the institution against 48% who think that it describes it well.

3) Listening to European citizens

⇒ Differences between Member States

Listening to European citizens describes very well, fairly well, fairly badly or very badly your perception of the EP.



Describes well: the sum of responses "describes very well" and "describes fairly well"

Describes badly: the sum of responses "describes fairly badly" and "describes very badly"

Source : Eurobarometer / European Parliament 74.3

⇒ Socio-demographic analysis

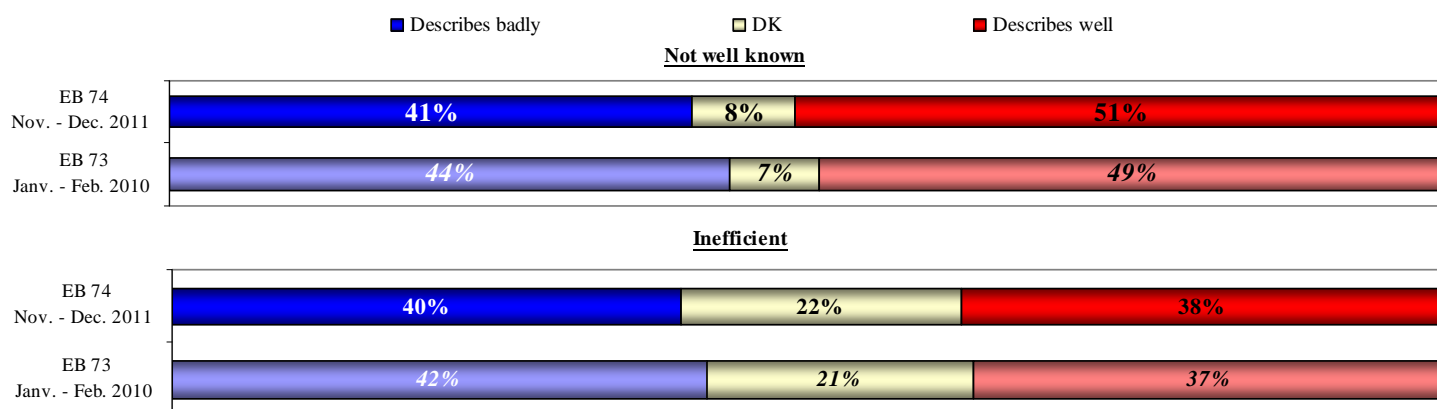
- Students (44%) and people who consider themselves well informed (51%) were more likely to think that the European Parliament was listening to citizens.

2. The negative characteristics of the image: "Not well known" and "Inefficient"

⇒ European average

Image of the European Parliament - Negative statements

Please tell me for each of the following words/ expressions whether it describes very well, fairly well, fairly badly or very badly your perception of the European Parliament :



Source : Eurobarometer / European Parliament 74.3

⇒ European trends

UE 27		EB68	EB70	EB73	EB74	Difference EB73 - EB74
Not well known	Describes badly	33%	37%	44%	41%	-3
	Describes well	55%	51%	49%	51%	+2
	DK	12%	12%	7%	8%	+1
Inefficient	Describes badly	43%	43%	42%	40%	-2
	Describes well	32%	34%	37%	38%	+1
	DK	25%	23%	21%	22%	+1

Describes well: the sum of responses "describes very well" and "describes fairly well"

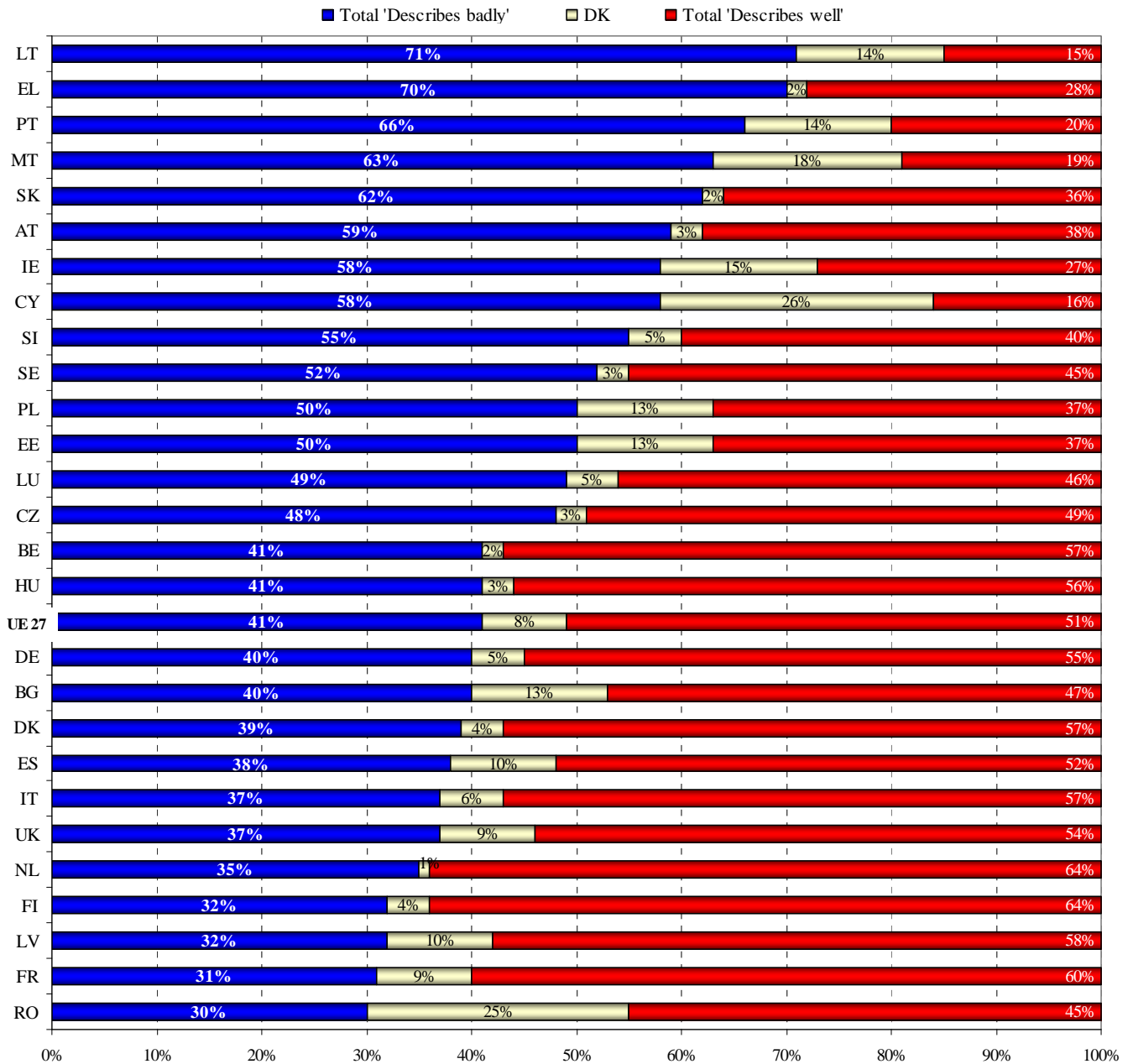
Describes badly: the sum of responses "describes fairly badly" and "describes very badly"

Source : Eurobarometer / European Parliament 74.3

1) Not well known :

⇒ Differences between Member States

Not well known describes very well, fairly well, fairly badly or very badly your perception of the EP.



Describes badly: the sum of responses "describes fairly badly" and "describes very badly"

Describes well: the sum of responses "describes very well" and "describes fairly well"

Source : Eurobarometer / European Parliament 74.3

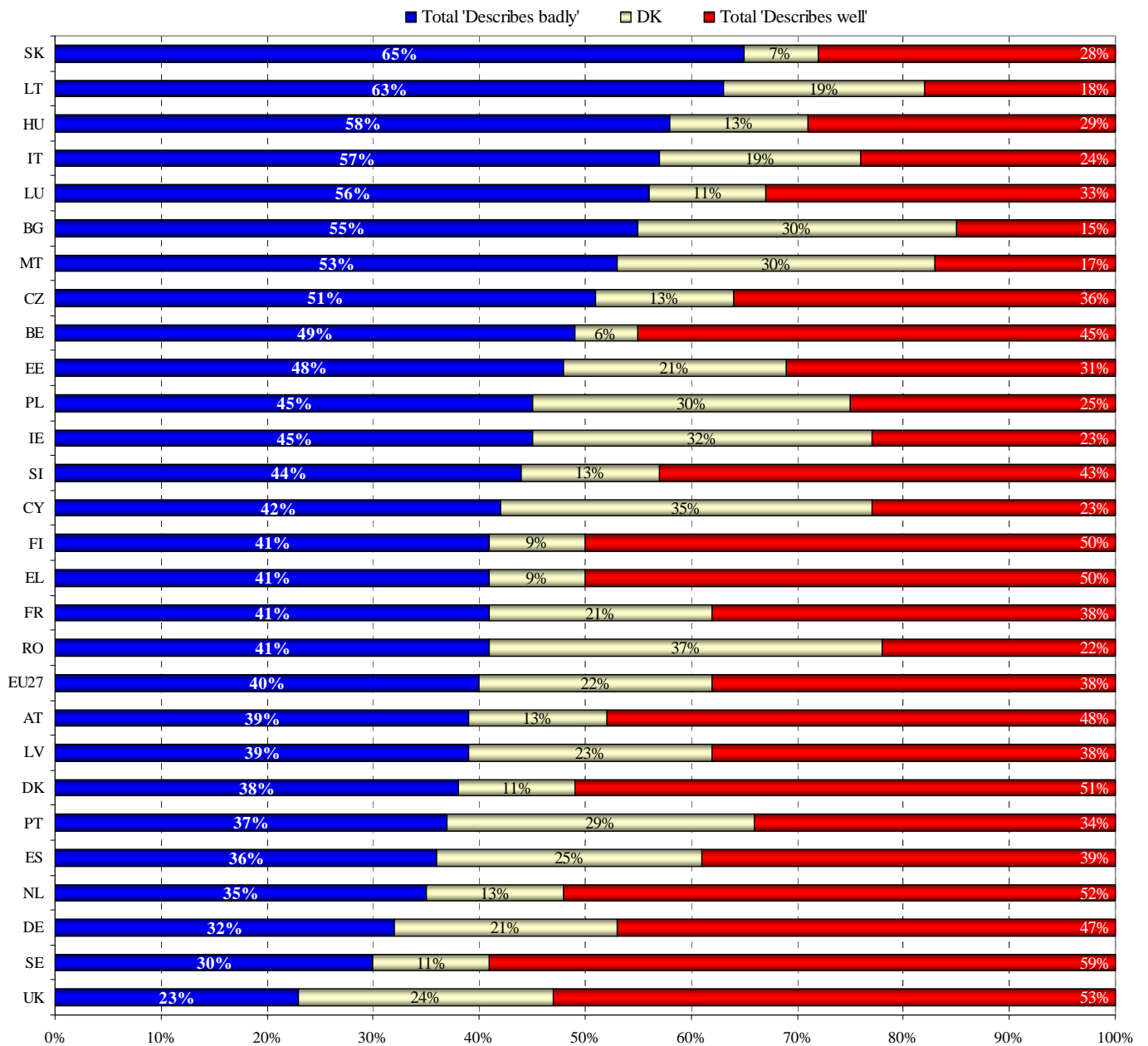
⇒ Socio-demographic analysis

- Managers were most likely to think that the European Parliament was not well known (57%), as well as respondents leaving school after the age of 20. In contrast, self-employed respondents were in fact most likely to think the European Parliament was well known (46%). Among those who wanted the European Parliament to play a less significant role, 55% believe it was not well known.

2) Inefficient :

⇒ Differences between Member States

Inefficient describes very well, fairly well, fairly badly or very badly your perception of the EP.



Describes badly: the sum of responses "describes fairly badly" and "describes very badly"

Describes well: the sum of responses "describes very well" and "describes fairly well"

Source : Eurobarometer / European Parliament 74.3

⇒ Socio-demographic analysis

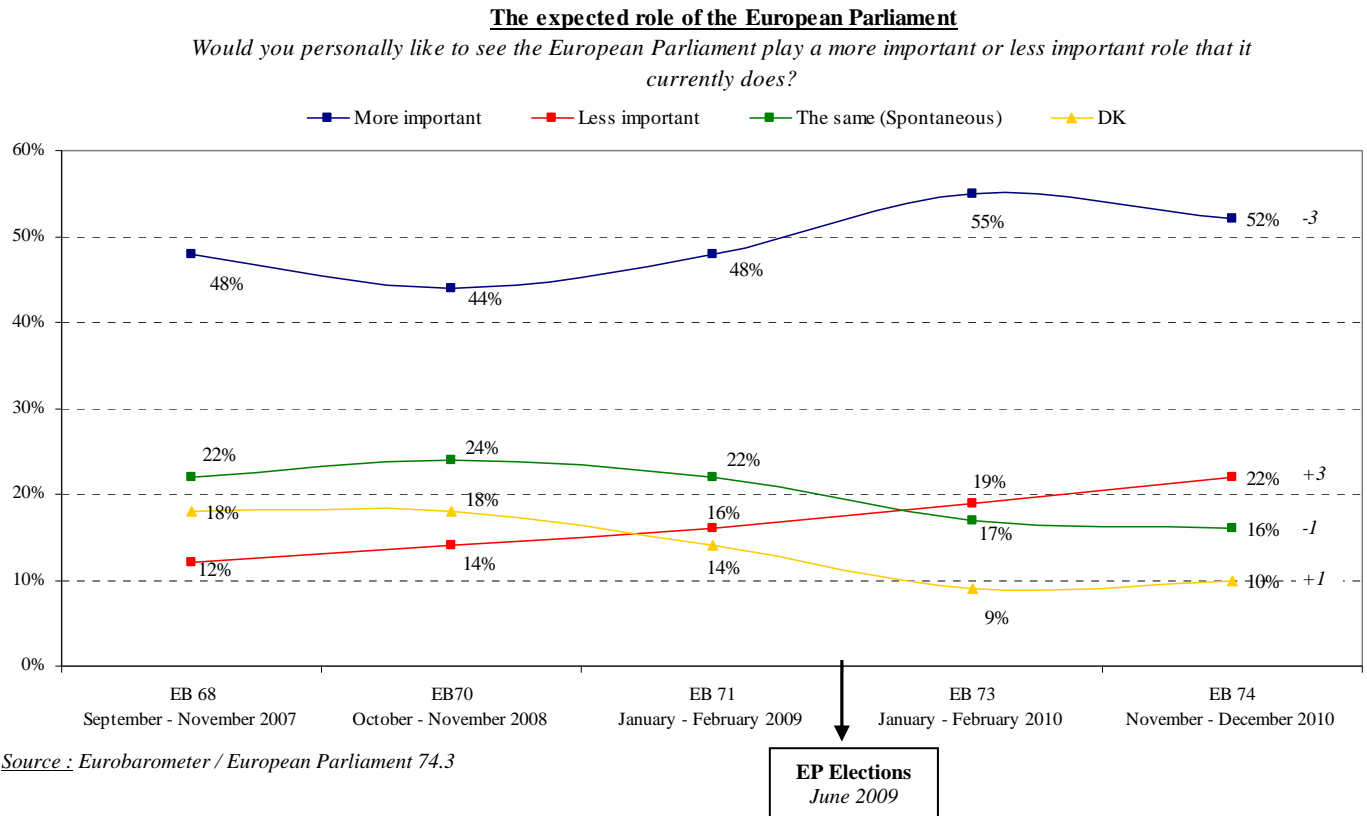
- Respondents who thought the European Parliament was *inefficient* were predominantly managers (45%), people who studied until the age of 20 or longer (44%) and 58% of those who wanted the European Parliament to play a less significant role.
- Those who thought the European Parliament was *efficient* were mainly 15 to 24-year-olds (46%) and students (47%), self-employed respondents and white collars (all 45%), those who felt well informed about the European Parliament (52%) and those who wanted to see it play a greater role (47%).

B. The expected role of the European Parliament

⇒ The European trend :

QA5 *Would you personally see the European Parliament play a more important role than it currently does?*

More than one in two Europeans wanted to see the European Parliament play a greater role.



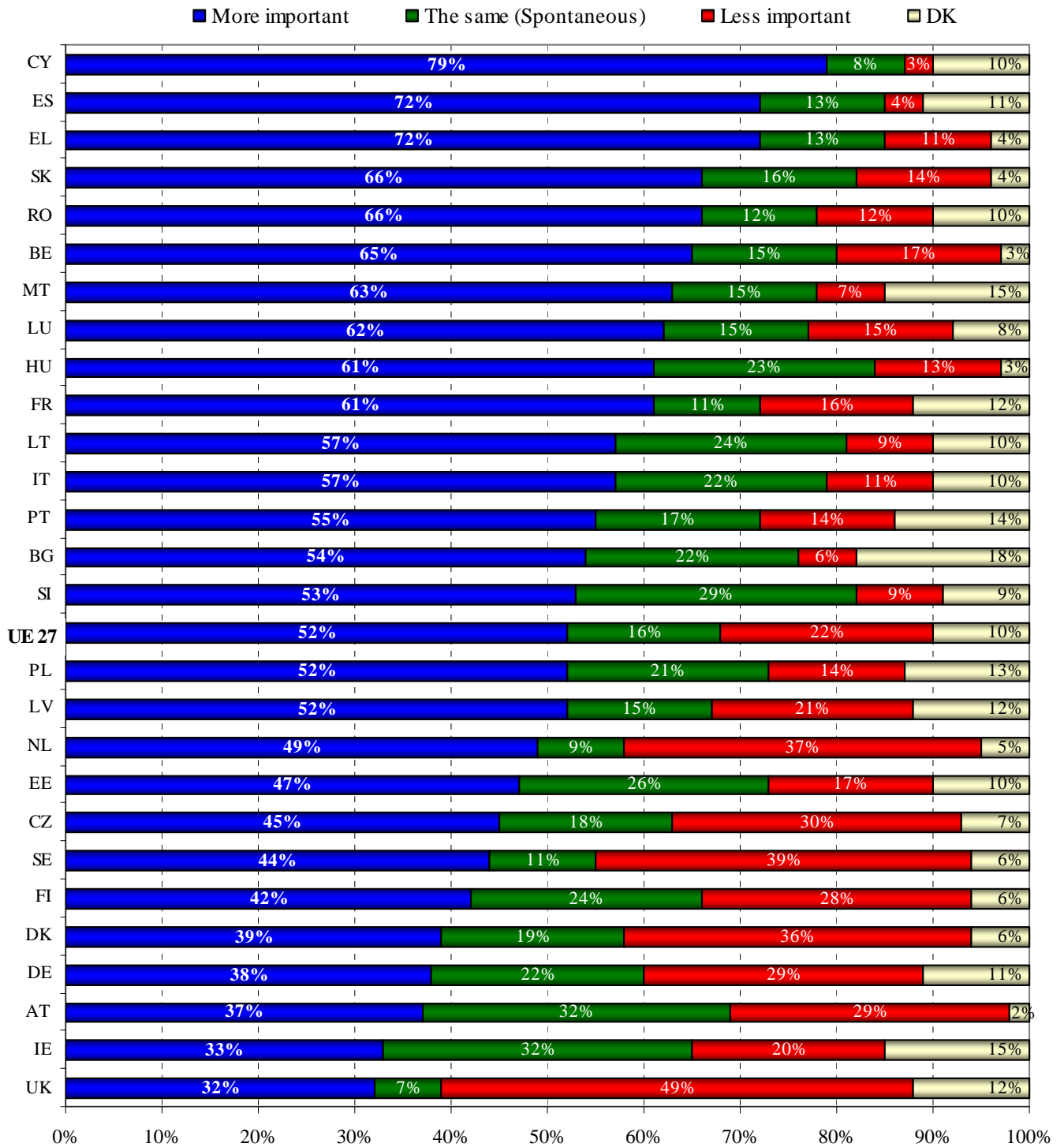
The majority of Europeans (52%) wanted the European Parliament to play a greater role than it does currently, while only 22% would prefer to see it play a less significant role. 16% of respondents said they did not want to see imminent change.

Today, slightly fewer Europeans say they expect the European Parliament to play a greater role (-3 percentage points). **In contrast, more respondents want a 'less significant' role for the European Parliament (+ 3 percentage points).** This is the only item making linear progress with each successive inquiry.

⇒ Differences between Member States

The expected role of the European Parliament

Would you personally like to see the European Parliament play a more important or less important role than it currently does?



Source : Eurobarometer / European Parliament 74.3

- The respondents who wanted to see the European Parliament play a greater role were mostly 15 to 24-year-olds (58%), still studying (59%) or those who had studied for a long time (57%). They are also those who felt "well informed" about the activities of the European Parliament (60%).

⇒ **Trends between Member States**

Role	More important			The same (SPONTANEOUS)			Less important			DK		
	EB 73 January - February 2010	EB 74 November - December 2011	Diff. EB 73 - EB 74	EB 73 January - February 2010	EB 74 November - December 2011	Diff. EB 73 - EB 74	EB 73 January - February 2010	EB 74 November - December 2011	Diff. EB 73 - EB 74	EB 73 January - February 2010	EB 74 November - December 2011	Dif. EB 73 - EB 74
HU	55%	61%	+6	24%	23%	-1	17%	13%	-4	4%	3%	-1
DK	34%	39%	+5	24%	19%	-5	36%	36%	=	6%	6%	=
RO	63%	66%	+3	14%	12%	-2	12%	12%	=	11%	10%	-1
BE	62%	65%	+3	20%	15%	-5	15%	17%	+2	3%	3%	=
SI	51%	53%	+2	30%	29%	-1	12%	9%	-3	7%	9%	+2
FI	41%	42%	+1	21%	24%	+3	33%	28%	-5	5%	6%	+1
LU	61%	62%	+1	17%	15%	-2	17%	15%	-2	5%	8%	+3
PL	51%	52%	+1	22%	21%	-1	14%	14%	=	13%	13%	=
IT	56%	57%	+1	24%	22%	-2	12%	11%	-1	8%	10%	+2
AT	37%	37%	=	33%	32%	-1	28%	29%	+1	2%	2%	=
LT	57%	57%	=	24%	24%	=	8%	9%	+1	11%	10%	-1
ES	73%	72%	-1	13%	13%	=	5%	4%	-1	9%	11%	+2
FR	62%	61%	-1	12%	11%	-1	12%	16%	+4	14%	12%	-2
MT	65%	63%	-2	18%	15%	-3	7%	7%	=	10%	15%	+5
EE	49%	47%	-2	27%	26%	-1	15%	17%	+2	9%	10%	+1
SE	46%	44%	-2	12%	11%	-1	34%	39%	+5	8%	6%	-2
CY	82%	79%	-3	9%	8%	-1	3%	3%	=	6%	10%	+4
EU27	55%	52%	-3	17%	16%	-1	19%	22%	+3	9%	10%	+1
PT	61%	55%	-6	20%	17%	-3	8%	14%	+6	11%	14%	+3
NL	55%	49%	-6	11%	9%	-2	30%	37%	+7	4%	5%	+1
SK	74%	66%	-8	10%	16%	+6	14%	14%	=	2%	4%	+2
BG	62%	54%	-8	20%	22%	+2	6%	6%	=	12%	18%	+6
LV	60%	52%	-8	14%	15%	+1	19%	21%	+2	7%	12%	+5
UK	40%	32%	-8	6%	7%	+1	43%	49%	+6	11%	12%	+1
CZ	53%	45%	-8	18%	18%	=	22%	30%	+8	7%	7%	=
EL	80%	72%	-8	11%	13%	+2	7%	11%	+4	2%	4%	+2
DE	48%	38%	-10	20%	22%	+2	22%	29%	+7	10%	11%	+1
IE	44%	33%	-11	31%	32%	+1	12%	20%	+8	13%	15%	+2

- In 9 out of 27 Member States, there was an increase in the number of respondents who wanted to see the European Parliament play a greater role, including in Hungary (61%, +6), Denmark (39%, +5), Romania (66%, +3) and Belgium (65%, +3).
- In contrast, more respondents wanted the European Parliament to play a less significant role in 14 out of 27 Member States. We noted an increase of 8 points in Czech Republic (30%) and Ireland (20%), 7 points in Germany (29%) and the Netherlands (37%), and 6 points in Portugal (14%) and the United Kingdom (49%).

III - THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT TODAY AND TOMORROW: POLICIES AND VALUES

A. Values to defend

QA6 *In your opinion, which of the following values should the European Parliament defend as a matter of priority?*

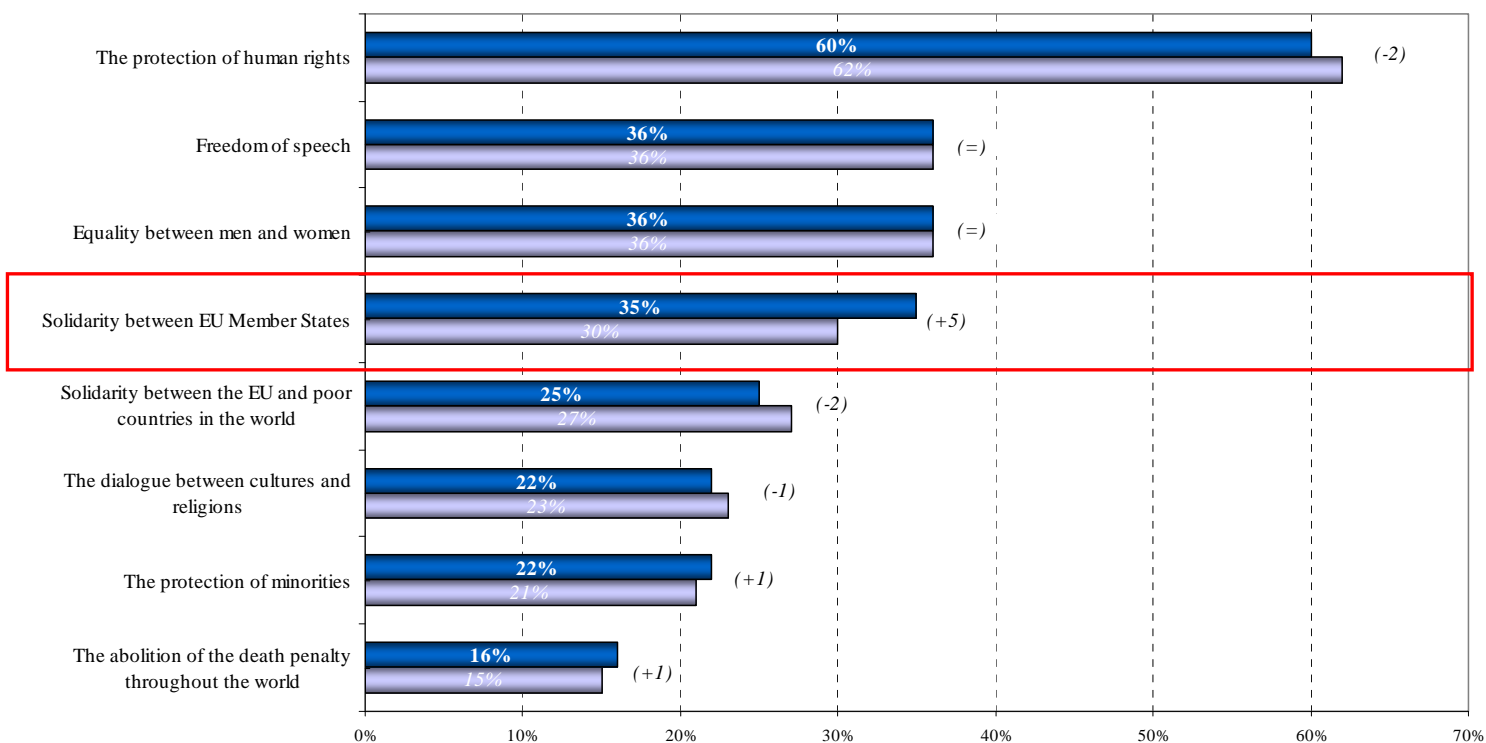
[Respondents had the possibility of giving up to 3 answers]

⇒ European average

Values to be defended

In your opinion, which of the following values should the European parliament defend as matter of priority
(Max . 3 answers)

■ EB 74
Nov. - Dec. 2010
■ EB 73
Jan. - Feb. 2010



Source : Eurobarometer / European Parliament 74.3 - Maximum 3 answers

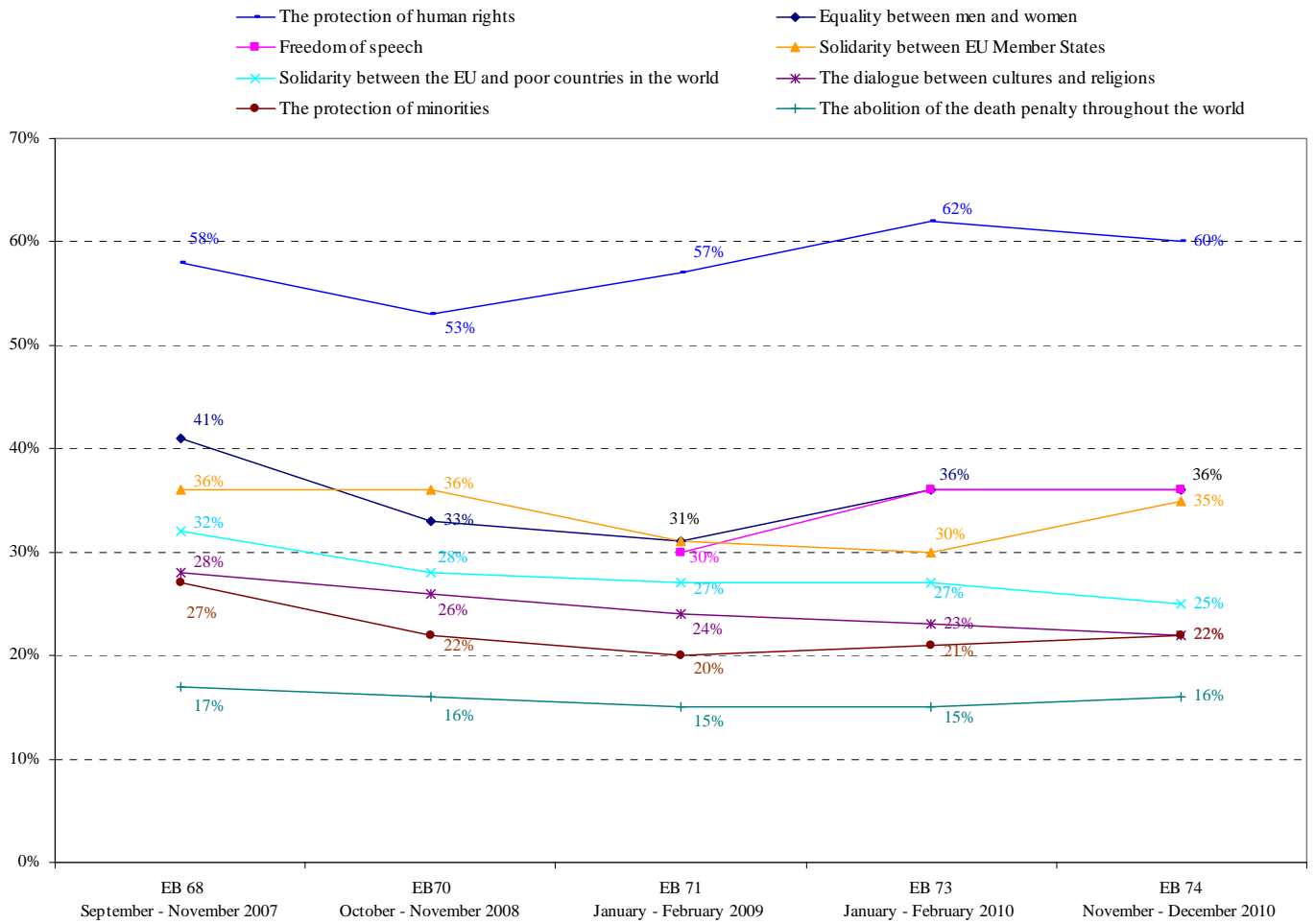
It was apparent that 24 percentage points separated the answer most often cited – ‘protection of human rights’ at 60% – from the following two: ‘gender equality’ and ‘freedom of expression’, coming to 36%.

Given the economic and social crisis, there was an increase in ‘solidarity between EU Member States’ (+5), less cited since October-November 2008, and a small decrease in ‘solidarity between the EU and poor countries across the world’ (-2).

⇒ **European trend**

Values to be defended

*In your opinion, which of the following values should the European parliament defend as matter of priority
(Max . 3 answers)*

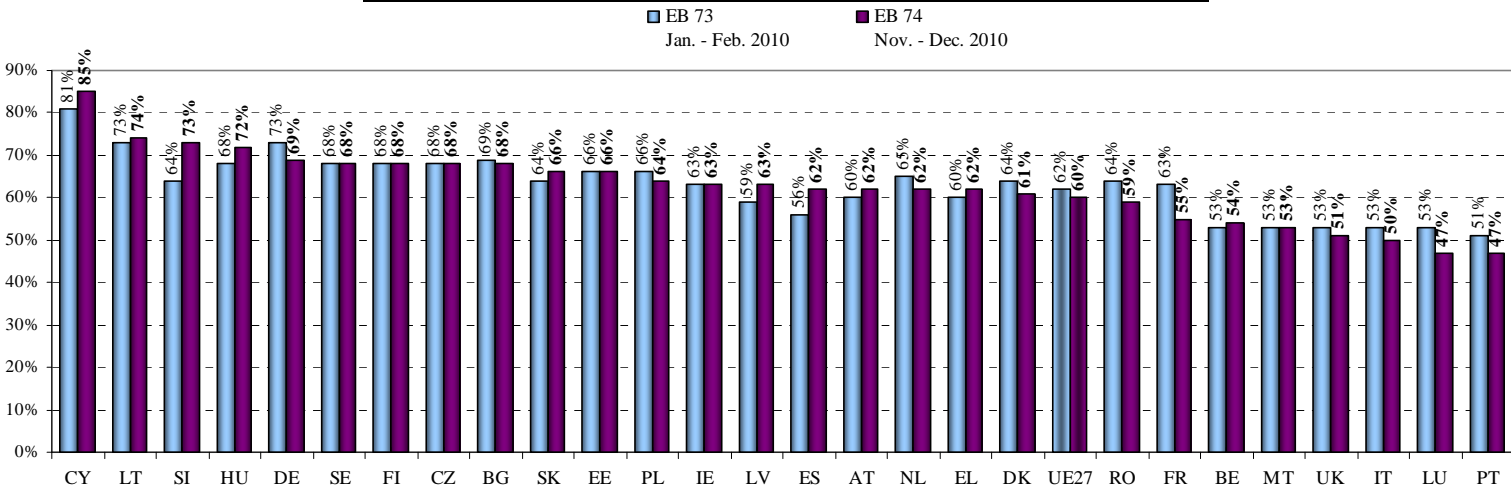


Source : Eurobarometer / European Parliament 74.3 - Maximum 3 answers

⇒ **Differences between Member States for the top 3 values to promote**

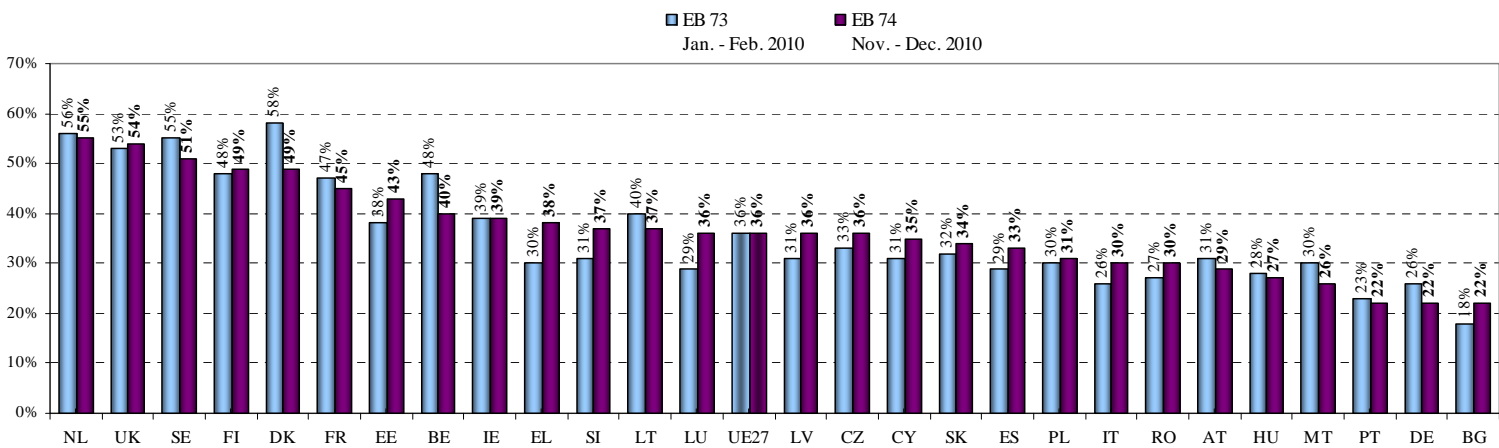
1) **The protection of human rights**

Differences between Member States for the first value to be defended : The protection of human rights



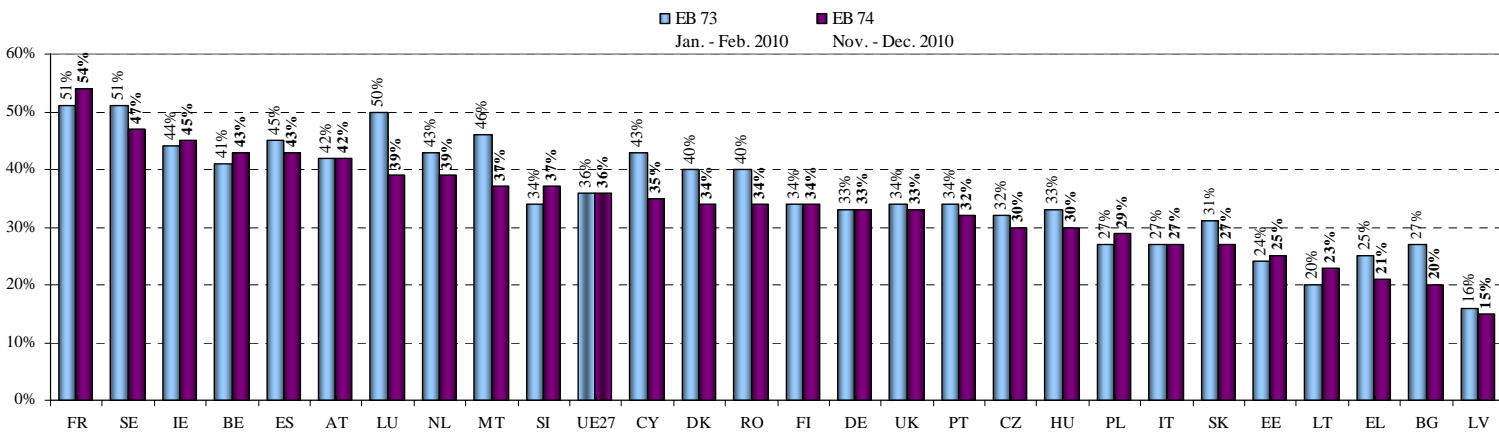
2) **Freedom of speech**

Second value to defend in priority : Freedom of speech



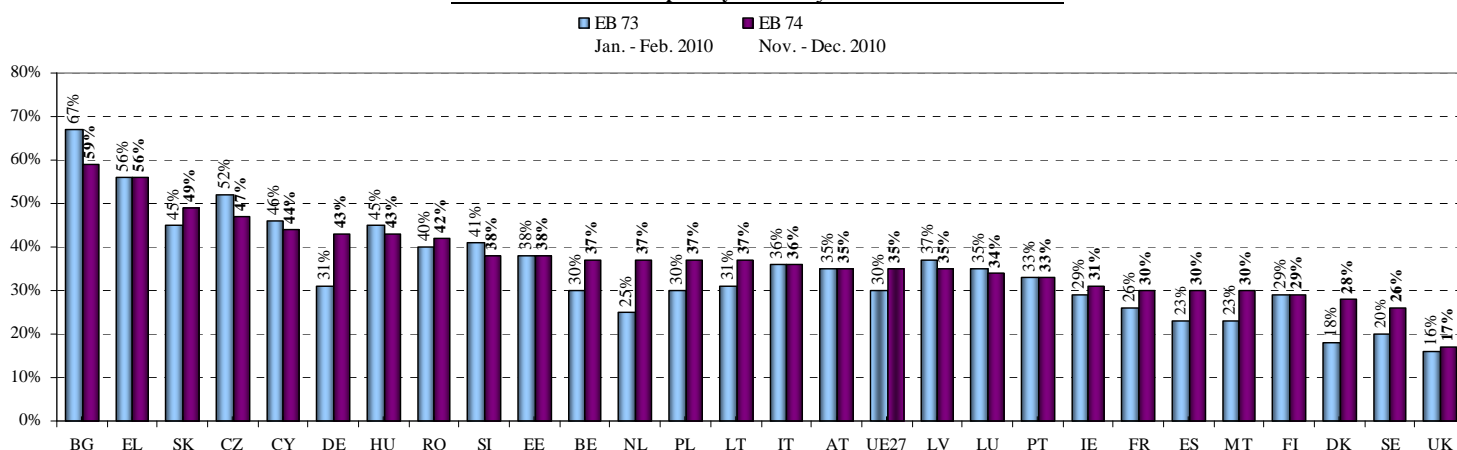
3) **Equality between men and women**

Third value to defend in priority: Equality between men and women



4) Solidarity between EU Member States

Fifth value to defend in priority: Solidarity between EU Member States



⇒ Differences between Member States for all the values that the European Parliament should defend as a matter of priority

EB/PE 74	The protection of human rights (1)	Freedom of speech (2)	Equality between men and women (2')	Solidarity between EU Member States (4)	Solidarity between the EU and poor countries in the world (5)	The dialogue between cultures and religions (6)	The protection of minorities (6')	The abolition of the death penalty throughout the world (7)
UE27	60%	36%	36%	35%	25%	22%	22%	16%
BE	54%	40%	43%	37%	25%	19%	27%	17%
BG	68%	22%	20%	59%	32%	27%	16%	4%
CZ	68%	36%	30%	47%	25%	13%	12%	8%
DK	61%	49%	34%	28%	31%	44%	18%	19%
DE	69%	22%	33%	43%	25%	28%	25%	22%
EE	66%	43%	25%	38%	21%	26%	25%	5%
IE	63%	39%	45%	31%	22%	16%	33%	15%
EL	62%	38%	21%	56%	35%	15%	19%	16%
ES	62%	33%	43%	30%	27%	14%	19%	14%
FR	55%	45%	54%	30%	29%	21%	21%	19%
IT	50%	30%	27%	36%	28%	23%	28%	20%
CY	85%	35%	35%	44%	42%	15%	20%	12%
LV	63%	36%	15%	35%	22%	17%	17%	5%
LT	74%	37%	23%	37%	22%	13%	11%	5%
LU	47%	36%	39%	34%	33%	26%	31%	16%
HU	72%	27%	30%	43%	28%	20%	22%	7%
MT	53%	26%	37%	30%	31%	21%	38%	9%
NL	62%	55%	39%	37%	18%	26%	25%	12%
AT	62%	29%	42%	35%	24%	17%	24%	34%
PL	64%	31%	29%	37%	23%	17%	13%	11%
PT	47%	22%	32%	33%	38%	20%	30%	19%
RO	59%	30%	34%	42%	25%	18%	22%	12%
SI	73%	37%	37%	38%	23%	22%	13%	16%
SK	66%	34%	27%	49%	26%	19%	15%	12%
FI	68%	49%	34%	29%	24%	20%	30%	18%
SE	68%	51%	47%	26%	32%	27%	20%	19%
UK	51%	54%	33%	17%	17%	24%	21%	9%

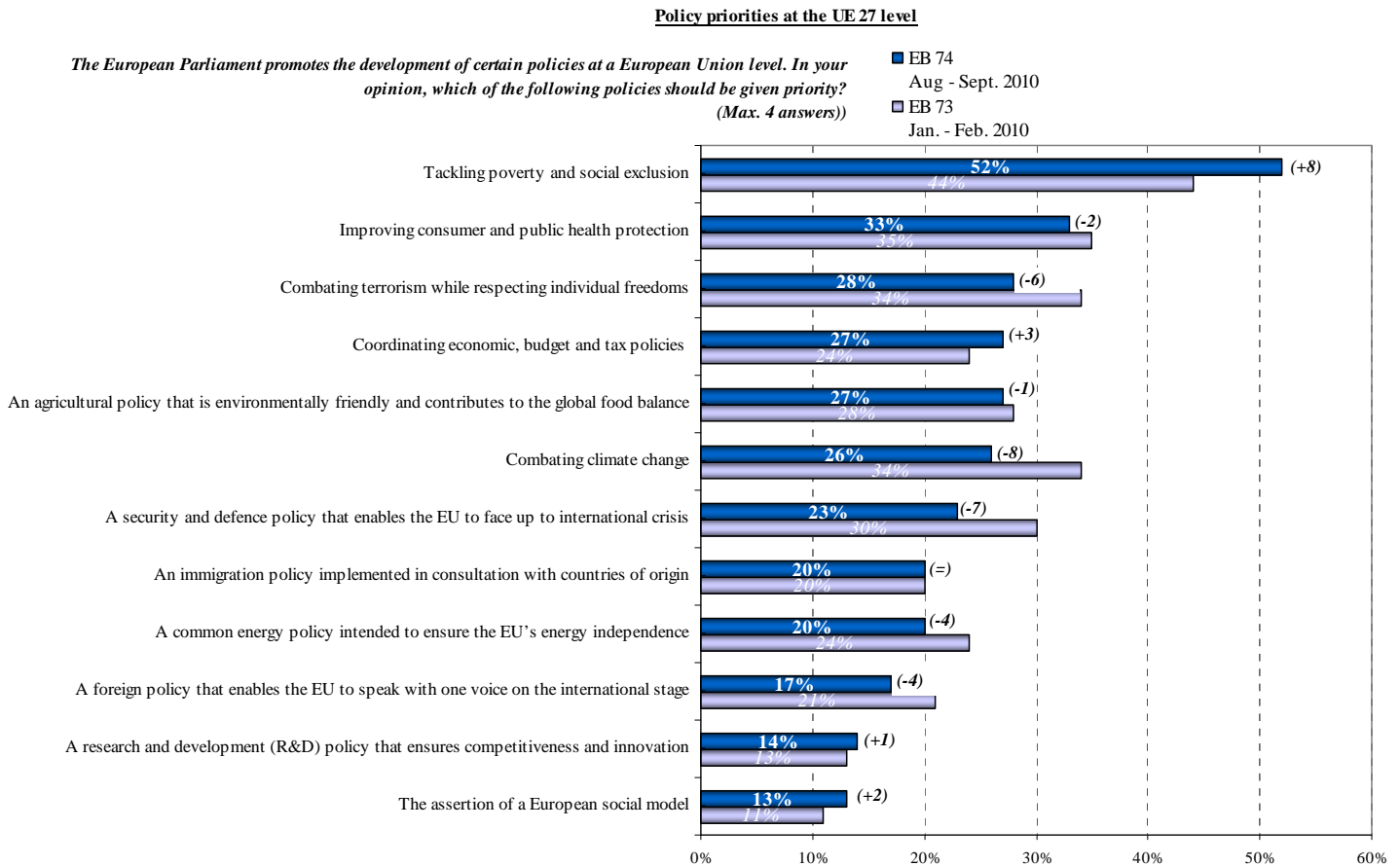
Source : Eurobarometer / European Parliament 74.3 - Maximum 3 answers

B. Policy priorities (Recall of EB 74.1¹)

⇒ The European average

QA7 *The European Parliament promotes the development of certain policies at a European Union level. In your opinion, which of the following policies should be given priority?*

[The respondents had the possibility to give maximum 4 answers]



NB Source : Eurobarometer / European Parliament 74.1 - Maximum 4 answers

¹ **EB 74.1**

Fieldwork : 26 August - 16 September 2010 by *TNS opinion*

Coverage: 26 635 people interviewed face-to-face.

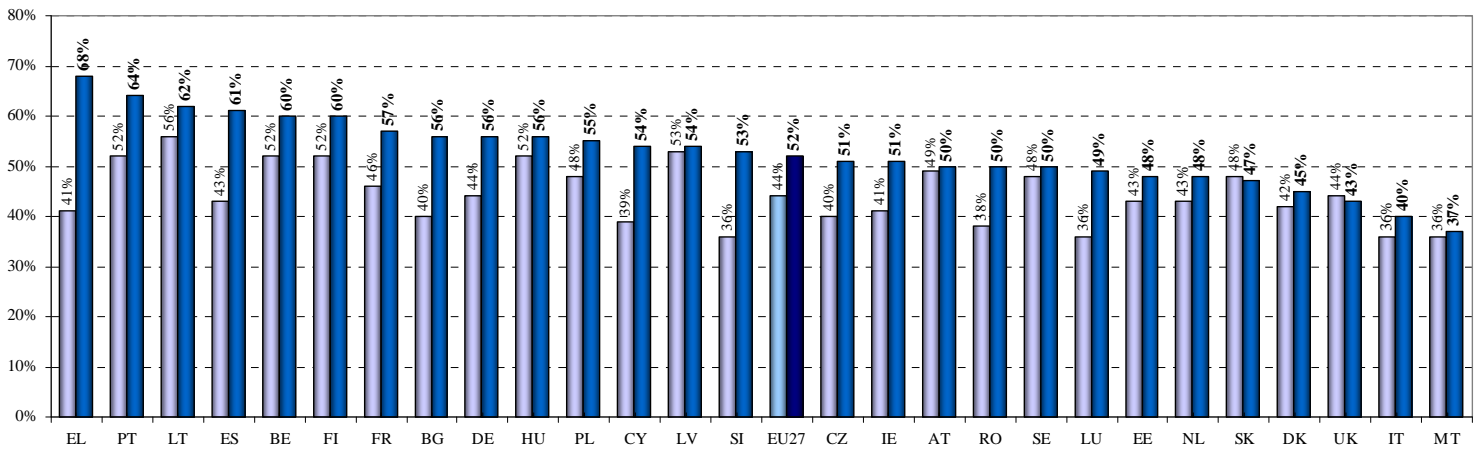
Population : Europeans aged 15 years and over

⇒ **Differences between Member States for the top 3 priority policies**

1) **Tackling poverty and social exclusion**

1st policy priorities at the UE27 level
Tackling poverty and social exclusion

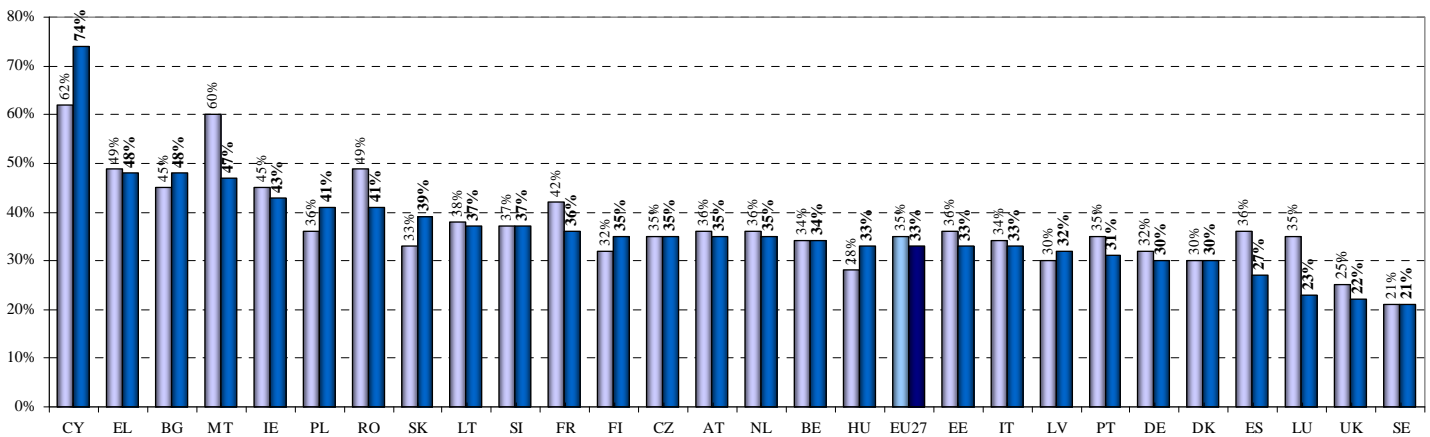
EB 73 Jan. - Feb. 2010
EB 74 Aug. - Sept. 2010



2) **Improving consumer and public health protection**

2nd policy priorities at the UE27 level
Improving consumer and public health protection

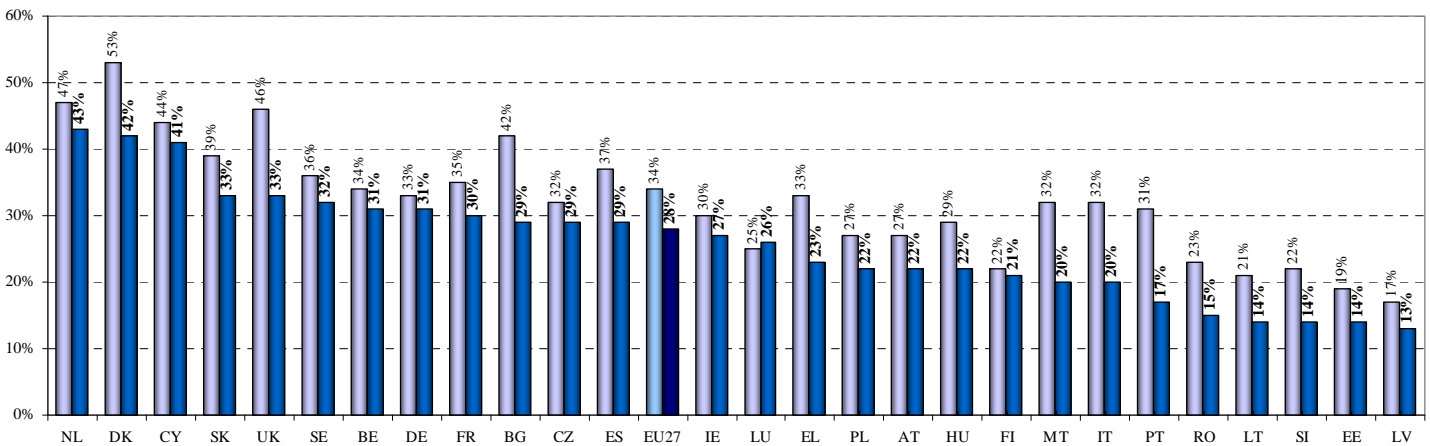
EB 73 Jan. - Feb. 2010
EB 74 Aug. - Sept. 2010



3) **Combating terrorism while respecting individual freedoms**

3rd policy priorities at the UE27 level
Combating terrorism while respecting individual freedoms

EB 73 Jan. - Feb. 2010
EB 74 Aug. - Sept. 2010



⇒ **Differences between member States for all policies promoted by the European Parliament across the European Union**

	Tackling poverty and social exclusion (1)	Improving consumer and public health protection (2)	Combating terrorism while respecting individual freedoms (3)	An agricultural policy that is environmentally friendly and contributes to the global food balance (4)	Coordinating economic, budget and tax policies (4')	Combating climate change (5)	A security and defence policy that enables the EU to face up to international crisis (6)	A common energy policy intended to ensure the EU's energy independence (7)	An immigration policy implemented in consultation with countries of origin (7')	A foreign policy for the EU to speak with one voice on the international scene (8)	A research and development (R&D) policy that ensures competitiveness and innovation (9)	The assertion of a European social model (10)
UE27	52%	33%	28%	27%	27%	26%	23%	20%	20%	17%	14%	13%
BE	60%	34%	31%	26%	27%	34%	17%	21%	33%	16%	17%	16%
BG	56%	48%	29%	38%	22%	19%	23%	29%	6%	22%	10%	15%
CZ	51%	35%	29%	33%	34%	16%	30%	23%	16%	16%	16%	13%
DK	45%	30%	42%	37%	7%	47%	28%	27%	31%	21%	25%	9%
DE	56%	30%	31%	22%	35%	36%	23%	27%	26%	20%	13%	18%
EE	48%	33%	14%	38%	39%	7%	27%	21%	9%	17%	14%	13%
IE	51%	43%	27%	24%	28%	24%	23%	27%	12%	33%	19%	8%
EL	68%	48%	23%	32%	28%	28%	21%	21%	15%	19%	21%	15%
ES	61%	27%	29%	16%	22%	19%	16%	8%	21%	10%	16%	13%
FR	57%	36%	30%	40%	31%	25%	23%	13%	23%	21%	16%	16%
IT	40%	33%	20%	19%	24%	18%	26%	20%	23%	20%	18%	12%
CY	54%	74%	41%	33%	16%	36%	43%	14%	21%	26%	5%	5%
LV	54%	32%	13%	42%	41%	6%	19%	17%	8%	10%	15%	10%
LT	62%	37%	14%	18%	48%	12%	15%	30%	7%	8%	14%	10%
LU	49%	23%	26%	30%	15%	30%	26%	16%	15%	26%	10%	12%
HU	56%	33%	22%	32%	43%	27%	30%	38%	6%	11%	16%	19%
MT	37%	47%	20%	14%	12%	30%	25%	23%	17%	19%	16%	4%
NL	48%	35%	43%	33%	29%	37%	22%	27%	29%	18%	14%	10%
AT	50%	35%	22%	33%	24%	44%	24%	32%	35%	19%	21%	22%
PL	55%	41%	22%	26%	24%	16%	19%	22%	7%	12%	13%	11%
PT	64%	31%	17%	21%	20%	18%	15%	14%	9%	10%	10%	19%
RO	50%	41%	15%	32%	28%	17%	38%	17%	4%	24%	13%	7%
SI	53%	37%	14%	34%	36%	42%	14%	24%	7%	17%	20%	24%
SK	47%	39%	33%	36%	38%	26%	28%	25%	10%	19%	15%	19%
FI	60%	35%	21%	41%	27%	40%	27%	22%	11%	15%	15%	14%
SE	50%	21%	32%	41%	12%	69%	34%	27%	19%	23%	15%	5%
UK	43%	22%	33%	24%	19%	24%	19%	15%	25%	10%	7%	3%

Source : Eurobarometer / European Parliament 74.1 - Maximum 4 réponse

Public Opinion Monitoring Unit
[*SuiviOpinionPublique@europarl.europa.eu*](mailto:SuiviOpinionPublique@europarl.europa.eu)

<u>Jacques Nancy</u>	(+32 2 284 24 85)
Jonas Trifot	(+32 2 284 06 45)
Elise Defourny	(+32 2 284 11 23)
Saïd Hallaouy	(+32 2 284 60 73)
Christelle Etienne	(+32 2 284 14 21)
Nathalie Lefèvre	(+32 2 284 12 26)