

STATE OF THE UNION

MAIN EUROBAROMETER RESULTS ON SELECTED TOPICS



On 13 September 2017, Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker will deliver his State of the European Union speech to Parliament. Members will review the Commission's achievements over the past year as well as assess its objectives for the year to come. This briefing by Parliament's Public Opinion Monitoring Unit aims at providing relevant public opinion data from 2017 Eurobarometer surveys commissioned by the European Parliament and the Commission, focusing on topics and issues likely to feature in the debate. You can find links to all quoted surveys at the end of this briefing.

MIGRATION

73% of Europeans expect the EU to do more to manage the migration crisis.

EP Special Eurobarometer (March 2017)



❖ **68% of Europeans are in favour of a common European policy on migration.**

EC Standard Eurobarometer (May 2017)

❖ **33% of citizens would like the EP to promote the development of a harmonised policy of immigration with the countries of origin as a matter of priority.**

EP Special Eurobarometer (March 2017)

❖ **58% of respondents think the EU's actions regarding migration are inadequate.**

EP Special Eurobarometer (March 2017)

Peace (46%) and human rights (42%) are the two values which best represent the EU.

EC Standard Eurobarometer (May 2017)

79% have a positive view on solidarity.

EC Special Eurobarometer 461 Designing Europe's Future (April 2017)

Top three values Europeans want the EP to defend: **Freedom of speech, protection of human rights, equality between men and women.**

EP Special Eurobarometer (March 2017)



53% of Europeans think that **more decisions should be taken at EU level.**

EC Standard Eurobarometer (May 2017)

FUTURE OF EUROPE

The feeling that **membership of the EU is a good thing** has **risen** over the past year to **57%**.

After a marked drop between 2007 and 2011, this positive feeling has returned, almost to its level from autumn 2007 (58%).

EP Special Eurobarometer (March 2017)

Across Europe, **74%** of respondents think that **what brings citizens of the EU Member States together is more important than the issues that separate them.**

A clear majority of respondents in all 28 Member States shares this opinion.

EP Special Eurobarometer (March 2017)



BREXIT

63% of Europeans in favour of **joint action by the Member States on the Brexit**, with 23% considering that individual action was desirable. *EP Special Eurobarometer (March 2017)*



SUPPORT for the euro

59% are in favour of a European Economic and Monetary Union with **one single currency, the euro.** In the **euro area**, the level of support reaches **72%, its highest level** since 2004.

EC Special Eurobarometer 461 Designing Europe's future (April 2017)



ENVIRONMENT

75% of respondents consider the EU should take **more action in environmental protection.** **53%** consider Europe's present action to be **inadequate.** *EP Special Eurobarometer (March 2017)*

FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM



80% of Europeans think that the European Union should take **more action to fight against terrorism.**

EP Special Eurobarometer (March 2017)

SECURITY & DEFENCE POLICY

75% of Europeans favour a **common defence and security policy.**

EC Standard Eurobarometer (May 2017)

68% want the **EU** to take **more action** in this field.

EP Special Eurobarometer (March 2017)





Respondents increasingly see **globalisation** as positive and important for **economic growth...**

FREE TRADE

- ❖ **73%** of Europeans have a **positive view** on free trade.
- ❖ **54%** consider **globalisation as positive** (a 17-point increase since spring 2005).
- ❖ **62%** agree globalisation is an **opportunity** for economic growth.

*EC Special Eurobarometer 461
Designing Europe's future (April 2017)*

COMBATING INEQUALITY



- ❖ **38%** agree that globalisation represents a **threat to employment and companies** in their country.
- ❖ **63%** agree that **globalisation increases social inequalities**.
- ❖ **84%** believe that **inequalities between the different social groups** in their country are still large.
- ❖ **64%** of respondents **think** that these **inequalities will be greater** than they are today **in five years' time**.

EC Special Eurobarometer 461 Designing Europe's future (April 2017)

EP Special Eurobarometer (March 2017)

... however, they also think **globalisation increases social inequalities**.

Since 2010 citizens have listed **tackling poverty and social exclusion** as the top priority policy for the European Parliament agenda, predominantly so in countries most affected by the crisis.

A PROTECTIVE EU



45% agree that the EU **helps to protect European citizens from the negative effects of globalisation**.

55% agree the EU enables European citizens to **better benefit from the positive effects of globalisation**.

EC Special Eurobarometer 461 Designing Europe's future (April 2017)

JOBS, JOBS, JOBS

78% of respondents consider **the EU should take more action to fight unemployment.**

EP Special Eurobarometer (March 2017)



❖ **50%** of Europeans believe that the **EU is creating the conditions for more jobs** in Europe.

❖ **70%** think that the EU makes **doing business easier** in Europe.

EC Standard Eurobarometer (May 2017)

GLOBAL BALANCE

On the rise in power and growing influence of **China**, **joint action** would be preferable for **71%** of Europeans, as against 18% who said they were in favour of individual action. *EP Special Eurobarometer (March 2017)*



Regarding the rise in power and growing influence of **Russia**, **71%** would prefer **joint action by the Member States**, and 19% would prefer individual action.

EP Special Eurobarometer (March 2017)



GROWTH & COMPETITIVENESS

72% of citizens would like a **common energy policy** among EU member States. *EC Standard Eurobarometer (May 2017)*

For **57%**, the **free movement of people, goods and services within the EU** is the best EU result. *EC Standard Eurobarometer (May 2017)*

61% support a **digital single market** in the EU. *EC Standard Eurobarometer (May 2017)*

Europeans want **consolidated economic action**:

- ❖ **74%** consider the EU should take more action about **fighting against tax fraud**
- ❖ **63%** would like to see greater EU action on **energy supply and energy security**,
- ❖ **58%** consider it should take more action on **economic policy**,
- ❖ **56%** consider it should take more action in the field of **agriculture**,
- ❖ **52%** consider the EU should take more action on **industrial policy**.

EP Special Eurobarometer (March 2017)

- ❖ **75%** of Europeans think the most recent **digital technologies** have a **positive impact on the economy**.
- ❖ **61%** say the **security and privacy features of an IT product** play some role in their choice when they buy an IT product.

EC Special Eurobarometer 460 (March 2017)

Link to full surveys used in this briefing:

EP Special EB, March '17: <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/atyourservice/en/20170426PVL00115/Two-years-until-the-2019-European-Elections>

EC Standard EB, May '17: <http://ec.europa.eu/commfrontoffice/publicopinion/index.cfm/Survey/getSurveyDetail/instruments/STANDARD/surveyKy/2142>

EC Special EB 461, April '17: <http://ec.europa.eu/commfrontoffice/publicopinion/index.cfm/Survey/getSurveyDetail/instruments/SPECIAL/surveyKy/2173>

EC Special EB 460, March '17: <http://ec.europa.eu/commfrontoffice/publicopinion/index.cfm/Survey/getSurveyDetail/instruments/SPECIAL/surveyKy/2160>