This week’s newsletter from DG Communication’s Public Opinion Monitoring Unit continues to focus on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on public opinion within the European Union and beyond.

Presenting pertinent information and analysis from both EU level and the Member States, we draw on available and published surveys, social media monitoring and the analysis of our team in close collaboration with other services within DG COMM, specifically Parliament’s Liaison Office in all Member States.

The current edition of the newsletter contains:

- A short analytical summary on main results and insights from across the EU, based on current surveys
- A collection of recent multi-national surveys comparing public opinion from several EU and other countries on the Covid-19 pandemic
- Current national surveys and polls on citizens’ attitudes towards the corona crisis, their governments’ and the EU’s response, including, where and when available, data on trust in public institutions.

Apart from relevant news from the Member States, we would like to draw your attention to several new multi-country studies showing interesting differences among European countries with regard to trust in government and public institutions:

- A new YouGov Eurotrack conducted in seven major European countries, as well as the US, on how they believe other nations have handled the crisis compared to their own.
- The Optimism Gap, a study by Eupinions for Bertelsmann Stiftung on Personal Complacency versus Societal Pessimism in European Public Opinion
- A survey commissioned by Euronews on the perception of the EU and political leaders during the pandemic

We welcome all comments and input to our work. If you want to know more about what the Public Opinion Monitoring Unit can do for you in this time of crisis, please contact:

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1) Europeans’ reactions and perceptions of the COVID19 pandemic

Europeans remain concerned about the economic and health consequences of the crisis, and express loneliness, uncertainty and pessimism in a number of countries. Studies also present results regarding new ways of working, commuting or looking at information.

- To start on a positive note, the happiness level of the Austrian population remains high despite the corona crisis: 83% of respondents consider themselves “a happy person”.

- 22% of Belgian workers consider quitting their job due to their employer’s way of managing the COVID-19 pandemic. 34% are happy to go back to work while 39% do not feel ready yet. Respondents also express concerns over the financial (37%) or mental (28%) impact of the crisis. 82% of Belgian respondents say they are not using public transports, while for 75% of them their car has become very important since the start of the crisis.

- In Cyprus, respondents are somewhat less likely to follow news about the pandemic (75% in May compared to 81% in April). 48% say their household has already been affected by the crisis (+3 pp) and 20% expect that it will be affected in the coming 12 months.

- In Czechia, 51% of respondents think the coronavirus crisis is not over yet.

- In Finland, 62% of respondents say they are keeping in touch with friends and relatives less frequently than before the coronavirus outbreak. One in three respondents report decreased feelings of intimacy and increased feelings of loneliness. 41% of respondents overall feel less optimistic than before the coronavirus outbreak. 46% of women but only 35% of men feel less hopeful about the future.

- In France, concerns about the health consequences of the pandemic are slowly decreasing (65%, -11 pp).

- 61% of respondents in Germany are more concerned about the economic consequences of the corona crisis, while 33% are more concerned about its health consequences. The fear of being personally infected with the coronavirus has decreased in recent weeks (from 44% in April to 31% in May). Every fifth voter believes that politicians and the media deliberately exaggerate the danger of the coronavirus in order to deceive the public.

- In Greece, a study asked respondents to spontaneously name their major concerns in their country. The results were the following: the state of the economy (41%), Covid19 / Healthcare issues (20%), unemployment (14%), refugee / migratory flows (7%).

- In Hungary, respondents think that the fight against the virus is not over with the completion of the first phase of protection: 68% of respondents are very or rather worried that the second wave of the epidemic may appear in the country in autumn or winter, while 29% do not worry about it.

- Young Irish adults have become sharply more lonely since the Covid-19 pandemic. Asked if they had been lonely in the past fortnight, 23.6% of 18- to 34-year-olds polled said they had been lonely most or all of that fortnight because of the pandemic. This compares with 20% across the EU.
• 60.5% of **Italians** think that after the crisis their family will have less money and 64% of them are concerned about the economic consequences of the crisis.

• In **Latvia**, respondents are most concerned about the virus’ influence on the economy in Latvia and the world and the virus’ global spread.

• In **Portugal**, 92% of respondents continue to isolate while they are decreasingly following news on COVID-19. 66% say they already feel the financial impacts of the pandemic, especially among those aged 33-45 and 45-65.

• In **Romania**, 80% believe that the economy has been affected “to a large extent” or “to a very large extent” by the coronavirus pandemic.

• In **Spain**, 74% believe that the economic situation is bad or very bad.

2) Attitudes towards governments’ responses and trust in public institutions

Europeans’ attitudes towards their governments remain overall positive, with some variations since the beginning of the crisis.

• In **Austria**, citizens’ assessment of their government has changed during the crisis. On a scale from 1 to 5 (1= Very good; 5= Very bad), the average has gone from 2.17 to 2.65 between the beginning of April and now.

• In **Cyprus**, 84% of respondents agree with the measures the government has taken so far.

• In **Denmark**, there is a slight backward movement for the government, but it still holds a 20-point lead on its opposition.

• Respondents in France are increasingly trustful towards their government when it comes to the way it manages the de-confinement (all time high of 48%, +11 pp in a week). However, they remain very critical of the way the government handled the crisis, with 44% considering France did worse than the US and 41% saying the UK did better.

• In the second week of May, around three-quarters of **German** respondents in a survey were satisfied with the work of the government.

• In **Greece**, 63% are overall satisfied with the government’s performance and 84% about its handling of public health/COVID pandemic.

• In **Hungary**, 78% of respondents say they are satisfied with the Hungarian government’s steps against the spread of the coronavirus. However, another study shows that 52% of respondents believe the government is abusing its authority regarding the pandemic to make anti-democratic decisions on other issues.

• In **Italy**, trust in the government’s measures was higher during the phase 1 of the emergency. In the second phase, a relative majority does not have a positive opinion of the government’s action (48%).

• In the **Netherlands**, the advance of the VVD in opinion polls during the corona crisis continues. The largest ruling party never received more support from the respondents than it does now. The VVD would now have 44 seats in the House of Representatives. That is 5 more than last month and 17 more than before the corona crisis.
In Portugal, Antonio Costa’s popularity is still rising. The voting intention to his party (PS) is 3 percentage points higher now (44.8%) than in April (41.9%).

In Poland, as many as 56.6% say the presidential elections should be held on June 28. According to a recent voting intention poll, Duda would gather 36% of votes, compared to 25% for Trzaskowski and 12% for Hołownia.

In Slovenia, over 43% of respondents are satisfied with the government's measures to fight the virus and their relaxation.

In Spain, most respondents are in favour of the extension of the alarm state (62.3%) and 44.5% are satisfied with the development of the de-escalation carried out by the government. PSOE continues to lead voting intentions (26.9%) although closely followed by PP (24.4%). 42.3% of Spaniards believe that the tension that has been experienced these days among politicians is "a true reflection of the deterioration of coexistence in Spanish society".

In Sweden, trust is going down for the main actors dealing with COVID-19.

3) Attitudes towards the EU and its responses

Results on the attitudes towards the EU are found in Germany, Greece and Italy in this week’s newsletter.

In Germany, most respondents (61%) are generally in favour of financial support for the EU countries particularly affected by the coronavirus, even if Germany has to make a major contribution. When it comes to the design of this support, 56% are in favour of granting this money exclusively in the form of loans. For 37% there should be additional grants.

In Greece, 40% of respondents hold a positive opinion on the EU (-14 pp since September 2019). A majority hold a negative one (53%, +15 pp) and 5% a neutral one.

A great majority of Italian citizens (69%) has a positive opinion of the “Next Generation Plan”, presented by the European Commission. This is true also among the voters of the opposition. The European Institutions gain trust among Italians, after the drop registered in April: 39% of respondents trust the EU, 35% trust the ECB and 32% trust the European Commission. Italians believe that the negotiations among Member States will validate the Next Generation Plan proposed by the European Commission. Yet, the funds will be reduced for 65% of respondents. Moreover, the majority of Italians (52%) do not see very negatively the fact that these funds should respect certain rules and should be linked to specific projects and fields of action.

4) Multi-country surveys

Three new multi-country surveys are presented this week.

A new YouGov Eurotrack conducted in seven major European countries and the US, on how they believe other nations have handled the crisis compared to their own.

Britain is seen as the ‘sick man of Europe’. Every other European country surveyed believes the UK’s coronavirus response to have been worse than their own.
• Italians believe themselves to have managed the pandemic better than the French and Spanish, a stance with which people in those two countries disagree.
• By contrast, Germans and Danes point at each other insisting that it is in fact the other country that has done a better job tackling the contagion.

The Optimism Gap, a study by Eupinions for the Bertelsmann Stiftung on ‘Personal Complacency versus Societal Pessimism in European Public Opinion’.

• Within the EU27, respondents are more optimistic than pessimistic with regard to their own personal future but the opposite holds true with regard for the future of their country.
• Striking variations are evident across countries. France and Italy show the largest shares of people who are pessimistic both about their own personal future and the future of their country.
• Younger people are more likely to be optimistic about their personal lives than their older counterparts, but are equally pessimistic about their country's future.
• Those who support far-right populist parties, are – within the context of their country's electorates – most likely to be pessimistic about both their personal future and their country's future.

A survey commissioned by Euronews on the perception of the EU and political leaders during the pandemic

• Respondents in Italy, France and Germany have different views on the pace of easing restrictions. While 45% of Italians surveyed say lockdown measures are being eased at the right pace, 42% of Germans think things are moving too fast. In contrast, the prevailing view in France is that the pace is too slow.
• More than seven out of ten Germans view Merkel's performance positively, while a substantial majority of Italians either approve or strongly approve of Conte's leadership. Almost half of the people in France disapprove of Macron's handling of the pandemic, with only 6 percent strongly approving.
• Results show that both the French and the Italians also admire Merkel's approach.
• A slim majority in Italy say they are more concerned about the economic impact of the crisis. Sixty% of Germans are more preoccupied with their health than by the economy. In France, that figure is 69%.
• In all three countries, roughly a third of people strongly agree that national borders were crucial for maintaining their nation's security.
• Most German, Italian and French people believe the COVID-19 pandemic has weakened the arguments in favour of the European Union and think the bloc has not done nearly enough to support their country during the crisis.
• Italians are the harshest critic of the EU with 61% of respondents from the country saying the pandemic has weakened the case for the bloc, compared to 40% in Germany and 47% in France.
• Seventy% of Italian respondents also say the EU has not done enough to help their country during the crisis — higher than the 60% and 57% observed in Germany and France respectively.
• Most respondents in each country say the priority for the bloc over the coming 18 months should be to support the overall EU economy.
Multi-country surveys

Europeans think UK has managed COVID-19 poorly… and Britons agree
YouGov, 2/06/2020,

(...) a new YouGov Eurotrack survey has asked people in seven major European countries, as well as the United States, how they believe other nations have handled the crisis compared to their own.

Britain is seen, literally, as the sick man of Europe. Every other European country surveyed believes the UK’s coronavirus response to have been worse than their own – and by wide margins. This includes Spain (where 55% think Spain has done better than the UK compared to only 10% who think the opposite) and Italy (73% better, 7% worse), which have themselves been hit particularly hard by the crisis. (....)

There is not always agreement between countries over who has done better, however. Italians believe themselves to have managed the pandemic better than the French and Spanish, a stance with which people in those two countries disagree.

By contrast, Germans and Danes point to one another insisting that it is in fact the other country that has done a better job tackling the contagion. (....)
In this report, we delve deeper into people’s anxieties by focusing on their sense of societal pessimism. We present evidence based on a survey conducted in December 2019 in which we interviewed more than 12,000 EU citizens. Our data is representative for the EU as a whole, as well as for seven member states including Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland and Spain. We address this phenomenon through the use of three main questions:

- How optimistic or pessimistic are people about their own personal future and the future of their country, and how does this differ across EU member states?
- How are personal and societal optimism and pessimism distributed among different social groups?
- Do supporters of populist right-wing parties differ in their levels of personal and societal optimism and pessimism in comparison to supporters of other parties?

Within the EU27, while respondents are more optimistic than pessimistic with regard to their own personal future, the opposite holds true with regard for the future of their country. A total of 58% of respondents in the EU27 feel optimistic about their personal future, while only 42% feel pessimistic. On the other hand, only 42% express optimism regarding their country’s future, while a full 58% are pessimistic in this regard.

**Striking variations are evident across countries.** France and Italy show the largest shares of people who are pessimistic both about their own personal future and the future of their country. A total of 61% of French people express a pessimistic outlook about their personal lives, and 69% about their country’s future. Similarly, 56% of Italians evince pessimism about their personal lives, while 72% do so with respect to their country’s future. Belgians are split roughly down the middle when it comes to assessing their personal future, but are more likely to be pessimistic than optimistic when assessing the future of their country (with a 64% share expressing pessimism). In Germany, the Netherlands, Poland and Spain, a clear majority of people are optimistic about their personal lives. However, they are far warier about their countries’ futures. The largest “optimism gaps” are evident in Spain and Germany.
With regard to **generational differences**, younger people are more likely to be optimistic about their personal lives than their older counterparts, but are **equally pessimistic about their country’s future**.

Among **social and demographic groups**, the largest optimism gap among the highly educated and women, with 62% of highly educated people being optimistic about their own future, but only 44% being optimistic about their country’s future. Among women, 55% express personal optimism, while only 38% are optimistic about their country’s future.

When analyzing the data along party preferences, a striking pattern emerges: Those who support **far-right populist parties**, are – within the context of their country’s electorates – most likely to be **pessimistic about both their personal future and their country’s future.** (...)

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**FIGURE 2** EU27: Optimism and pessimism about personal and country’s future by age groups

Are you pessimistic or optimistic about your personal and your country’s future? In percent.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Personal Future</th>
<th>Country’s Future</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16 - 25</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 - 35</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36 - 45</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46 - 55</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56 - 70</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FIGURE 3** EU27: Optimism and pessimism about personal and country’s future by social groups

Are you pessimistic or optimistic about your personal and your country’s future? In percent.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Social Group</th>
<th>Personal Future</th>
<th>Country’s Future</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WOMEN</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEN</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMPLOYED</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNEMPLOYED</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RETIRED</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STUDENT</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WORKING CLASS</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOW EDUCATED</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIGH EDUCATED</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FIGURE 4  Belgium: Optimism and pessimism about personal and country’s future by party supporters

Are you pessimistic or optimistic about your personal and your country’s future? In percent.

Pessimistic

Optimistic

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Party Name</th>
<th>Personal Future</th>
<th>Country’s Future</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SOCIALISTISCHE PARTIJ (Flanders)</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GROEN (Flanders)</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHRISTEN-DEMOCRatisch EN VLAANNS (Flanders)</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OPEN VLAAMSE LIBERALEN EN DEMOCRATEN (Flanders)</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIEUW-VLAAMSE ALLIANTIE (Flanders)</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VLAAMS BELANG (Flanders)</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PARTI DU TRAVAIL DE BELGIQUE (Wallonia)</td>
<td>84%</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECOLO (Wallonia)</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PARTI SOCIALISTE (Wallonia)</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CENTRE DEMOCRAT HUMANISTE (Wallonia)</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOUVEMENT REFORMATEUR (Wallonia)</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FIGURE 5  France: Optimism and pessimism about personal and country’s future by party supporters

Are you pessimistic or optimistic about your personal and your country’s future? In percent.

Pessimistic

Optimistic

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Party Name</th>
<th>Personal Future</th>
<th>Country’s Future</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LA FRANCE INSOUmise</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PARTI SOCIALISTE</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LA REPUBLIQUE EN MARCHE</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOUVEMENT DEMOCRATE</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LES REPUBLICAINS</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RASSEMBLENT NATIONAL</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FIGURE 6  Germany: Optimism and pessimism about personal and country's future by party supporters

Are you pessimistic or optimistic about your personal and your country's future? In percent.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Party</th>
<th>Personal Future</th>
<th>Country's Future</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DIE LINKE</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BÜNDNIS 90/DIE GRÜNEN</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOZIDEMOCRATISCHE PARTEI DEUTSCHLAND</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHRISTLICH DEMOKRATISCHE UNION/CHRISTLICH-SOZIALE UNION</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FREIE DEMOKRATISCHE PARTEI</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALTERNATIVE FÜR DEUTSCHLAND</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FIGURE 7  Italy: Optimism and pessimism about personal and country's future by party supporters

Are you pessimistic or optimistic about your personal and your country's future? In percent.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Party</th>
<th>Personal Future</th>
<th>Country's Future</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MOVIMENTO CINQUE STELLE</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PARTITO DEMOCRATICO</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FORZA ITALIA</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEGA</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FIGURE 8  Netherlands: Optimism and pessimism about personal and country's future by party supporters

Are you pessimistic or optimistic about your personal and your country's future? In percent.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Party</th>
<th>Personal Future</th>
<th>Country's Future</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SOCIALISTISCHE PARTIJ</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GROENLINKS</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DENK</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PARTIJ VAN DE ARBEID</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHRISTENUNIE</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEMOCRATEN66</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHRISTEN DEMOCRATISCH APPÉL</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PARTIJ VOOR VRIJHEID EN DEMOCRACIE</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FORUM VOOR DEMOCRATIE</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PARTIJ VOOR DE VRIJHEID</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10
COVID-19 has 'weakened' the case for the EU, say Germans, French and Italians

Most German, Italian and French people believe the COVID-19 pandemic has weakened the arguments in favour of the European Union and think the bloc has not done nearly enough to support their country during the crisis.

A survey commissioned by Euronews has revealed that Italians are the harshest critic of the EU with 61% of respondents from the country saying the pandemic has weakened the case for the bloc, compared to 40% in Germany and 47% in France.

Seventy per cent of Italian respondents also said the EU has not done enough to help their country during the crisis — higher than the 60% and 57% observed in Germany and France respectively.

Overall, vast majorities in each of the three nations polled believe that member states each acted separately while an average of two-thirds of respondents said that the pandemic has shown that national borders are crucial for the security of a country.
Italian leader Guiseppe Conte has repeatedly called for more EU solidarity to weather the economic storm brought about by the crisis and his countrymen largely align with him with 85% of the poll's Italian respondents saying there should have been more economic support from the bloc. The majority of French respondents — 69% — also believed so but Germans were the outlier with just over a third agreeing with the idea.

Still, most respondents in each country said the priority for the bloc over the coming 18 months should be to support the overall EU economy.

The EU Commission is set to unveil a recovery plan to boost the sickly economy and Germany, which had initially balked at the notion, has now joined the ranks of Italy and France in supporting the creation of an EU bond to raise money for a €500 billion fund.

(...) Still, despite respondents believed the pandemic has weakened the arguments for the EU, most would rather not follow in the UK's footsteps and exit the bloc.

Germans were the most enthusiastic with 71% affirming they would back remain in the events of a referendum. Only a slim majority — 52% — said the same in France, while they were 47% in Italy.

- Germany's Angela Merkel comes out top in leaders' approval poll for COVID-19 crisis

A Euronews poll has found that support for leaders in Germany, which has a relatively low death toll from COVID-19, remains high. In France, however, people view their government's handling of the crisis as poor.

More than seven out of ten Germans view Merkel's performance positively. While a substantial majority of Italians either approve or strongly approve of Conte's leadership. Almost half of the people in France disapprove of Macron's handling of the pandemic, with only 6 percent strongly approving.

Results showed that both the French and the Italians also admire Merkel's approach.

Despite the high death toll in Italy, a slim majority said they were more concerned about the economic impact of the crisis.

Sixty per cent of Germans are more preoccupied with their health than by the economy. In France, that figure is 69 per cent.

In all three countries, roughly a third of people strongly agreed that national borders were crucial for maintaining their nation's security. Only between 8 and 12 percent disagreed. (…)
French, Germans and Italians divided on pace of lockdown easing says Euronews poll

(...) A survey commissioned by Euronews shows that people in Italy, France and Germany have different views on the pace of easing restrictions. (...

While 45 per cent of Italians surveyed say lockdown measures are being eased at the right pace, 42 per cent of Germans think things are moving too fast. In contrast, the prevailing view in France is that the pace is too slow.

The question of social distancing is also divisive. It’s not only difficult to maintain in urban settings, it’s alien to cultures where shaking hands and greeting others with kisses are a reflex.

(...) Just over half of the French surveyed said it still won’t feel safe in June to leave their homes. The Germans and Italians, meanwhile, overwhelmingly said it will feel safe.

All three populations appear confident about returning to the workplace. But around two thirds of respondents in each country are not ready to go back to bars and restaurants.

With the holiday season approaching, how will people feel about doing these things abroad? There’s still uncertainty over quarantine conditions and also the possibility of a sudden return of lockdown. That’s perhaps leading people to conclude it’s better to stay at home. (...

In all three countries, the reason overwhelmingly cited for the change in plans is safety.

The online survey was carried out between May 22-25 with a sample of eligible voters in France, 1,500 in Italy and 1,500 in Germany.

### COUNTRIES ANNEX

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
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<td>Belgium</td>
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<td>Cyprus</td>
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<td>Czech Republic</td>
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<td>Denmark</td>
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<td>Finland</td>
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<td>France</td>
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<td>Germany</td>
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<td>Greece</td>
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<td>Hungary</td>
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<td>Ireland</td>
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<td>Italy</td>
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<td>Latvia</td>
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<td>Lithuania</td>
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<td>Netherlands</td>
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<td>Poland</td>
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<td>Portugal</td>
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<td>Romania</td>
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<td>Slovenia</td>
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<td>Spain</td>
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<td>Sweden</td>
<td>57</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
The happiness level of the Austrian population is at a high level despite the Corona crisis. This has surprised even Market Institute head David Pfarrhofer. Last week, his opinion research institute, on behalf of STANDARD 809, asked a representative sample of eligible voters the question: "If someone said about you 'This is a happy person' - would he or she be right?

A total of 31 percent agreed with this and a further 52 percent overwhelmingly agreed. Only 14 percent of those surveyed called themselves "rather not" happy and three percent "not at all" happy.

However, **what has changed during the crisis is the government's assessment**. Before Easter, when the country was largely in lockdown, a full quarter of those eligible to vote gave the government a "Very Good" according to the five-level school grading system, and only two percent gave an "Not Enough". The average grade was a good 2.17. In the meantime, **the average has fallen to 2.65**, with only 14 percent of those surveyed giving a "very good" - on the other hand, nine percent gave a five.


The Corona Panel, even before the Franco-German proposal was made public, collected data between 8 and 13 May 2020 on citizens' attitudes towards different possible crisis financing instruments at European level. The respondents were asked about five different crisis financing instruments: (1) voluntary donations in kind to Member States, (2) common fund for lending, (3) voluntary fund with no repayment obligation, (4) common borrowing, (5) higher contributions to the EU by Member States. The exact wording of the question can be found in the methodological appendix.

Figure 1 shows that none of the crisis financing instruments proposed here is supported by the majority. However, some crisis financing instruments receive more support than others. A general increase in EU membership fees and joint borrowing are the least supported. The most likely to be approved are a common fund for lending and voluntary donations in kind. Overall, it is noticeable that across all questions, about a quarter of the respondents answered with "partly". This indicates that the opinion-forming process is by no means complete and is probably marked by uncertainty. Accordingly, no clear majority for or against a proposal can be assumed.

Source: [Vienna Center for Electoral Research](https://www.vcr.at)
Einstellung zu unterschiedlichen Finanzierungsvorschlägen

Source: https://viecer.univie.ac.at/corona-blog/corona-blogbeitraege/blog46/
Belgium

Coronavirus : un Belge sur 5 pense à quitter son emploi à cause de la gestion de crise de son entreprise
Rtbf.be, 2 juin 2020

Malgré la crise économique qui se profile, un peu plus d’un Belge sur cinq (22%) envisage de quitter son emploi en raison de la gestion par son entreprise de la pandémie de coronavirus, ressort-il mardi d’un sondage mené par la société de ressources humaines StepStone. "L’absence de mesures supplémentaires ou de communication a tendance à avoir un effet négatif sur la perception de l’entreprise par les employés", selon StepStone.

Les salariés belges sont divisés sur le retour au travail: plus d’un tiers (34%) se réjouit à l’idée de retourner au bureau mais 39% estiment ne pas être encore prêts, d’après cette enquête réalisée le 14 mai auprès de plus de 2.800 personnes. Au rang des incitants, l’interaction humaine est la principale motivation (48%) à revenir sur le lieu de travail, suivie par le rééquilibrage entre vie professionnelle et vie privée (33%) et la dynamique générée sur le lieu de travail (28%).

Télétravail: parfait compromis entre travail et santé

Les personnes plus inquiètes de retourner au bureau voient, à l’inverse, le télétravail comme un parfait compromis entre travail et santé. En effet, 43% craignent d’être contaminés si elles retournent sur leur lieu de travail, tandis que 26% pensent que leur employeur ne sera pas en mesure de garantir leur sécurité.

Or, neuf répondants sur 10 considèrent que l’employeur est responsable de leur sécurité sur le lieu de travail. Certaines mesures prises par leur entreprise pourraient ainsi les rassurer: la distanciation sociale (56%) et des horaires flexibles (53%) arrivent en tête, suivis de près par le dépistage des anticorps liés au Covid-19 (50%). Un peu moins de la moitié (48%) envisage le travail à distance pour tous quand c’est possible.

Toutefois, 45% des personnes interrogées déclarent ne pas savoir ce que leur employeur va mettre en œuvre lors du retour au bureau et 35% assurent que leur responsable ne prendra aucune mesure supplémentaire. Par ailleurs, un tiers des répondants craint des problèmes financiers (37%) et mentaux (28%) sur le long terme liés à la crise du coronavirus.

Coronavirus: un Belge sur trois veut passer ses vacances en Belgique
Le Soir.be, 30 mai 2020

41 % des Belges ont découvert et apprécié leur propre région et ses environs grâce au confinement, ressort-il d’une étude réalisée par Toerisme Vlaanderen sur demande de la ministre flamande du tourisme Zuhal Demir. 34 % souhaitent passer plus souvent les vacances en Belgique à l’avenir tandis que 80 % disent qu’ils préfèrent éviter les endroits bondés.

(...) Une partie des Belges ont annulé leurs projets de vacances face à la crise du coronavirus et ont décidé de rester chez eux. Quatre Belges sur cinq ont indiqué qu’ils avaient des projets de voyage concrets pour cet été avant le début de l’épidémie. Début mai, seuls 44 % des Belges avaient encore des projets de voyage concrets pour cet été. Dans la deuxième enquête, ce chiffre a légèrement augmenté, pour atteindre 54%.
Sondage : la voiture stimulée par le corona
Autoscout24, 01/06/2020

Un sondage opéré par Autoscout24 dévoile que la voiture est devenue le moyen de transport privilégié des Belges depuis le début de la crise du Covid-19. De plus, la possession d’une voiture a regagné du poil de la bête.

Un récent sondage d’Autoscout24 met en évidence le rôle central de l’automobile au sein de nos vies. Réalisé à l’échelle européenne (3 609 personnes interrogées), ce sondage démontre que la voiture est plus importante que jamais depuis l’épidémie du coronavirus. Les Belges (659 personnes interrogées) prennent la tête du classement puisque aucune autre population européenne ne place l’automobile aussi haut dans sa liste de priorités.

Transports en commun délaissés

Jusqu’à 82% des Belges interrogés disent avoir délaissé les transports en commun depuis le début de l’épidémie. 70% disent "non" à la voiture partagée ou au covoiturage. Les Belges sont presque unanimes sur le sujet de l’automobile. Trois sur quatre disent que l’auto personnelle est devenue plus importante depuis le début de la crise.

La Belgique fait même mieux que l’Allemagne, le pays de l’automobile par excellence. Là-bas, seulement 65% considère l’auto plus important que jamais. Les Pays-Bas, quant à eux, en sont bien moins préoccupés puisque seulement 57% déclare utiliser la voiture davantage. [...]

Deux salariés sur trois préfèrent l’ambiance du bureau au télétravail
L’Echo, 28 mai 2020

Les collègues et l’atmosphère en entreprise ont manqué à deux salariés sur trois, selon un sondage. Un travailleur sur quatre souhaite, par contre, continuer à faire du télétravail.

Le télétravail c’est bien, mais ça ne remplace pas le plaisir de bosser en entreprise, avec les collègues. Telle est la principale conclusion d’un sondage mené début mai auprès de 650 actifs belges pour le compte de Tempo-Team, la firme de services en ressources humaines et filiale du groupe Randstad.

Deux tiers des répondants indiquent que leurs collègues et l’ambiance au sein de l’entreprise leur ont manqué pendant le confinement. Deux tiers disent aussi avoir pris conscience de l’importance des contacts avec les collègues pour leur motivation et leur plaisir à travailler.

Le travail à distance a même amené un tiers des sondés à regretter leur patron (36%) ou les embouteillages quotidiens (32%). Ils sont également la moitié (48%) à regretter le manque de frontière entre vie professionnelle et vie privée induit par le télétravail. Un quart (28%) souhaite par contre continuer à travailler depuis la maison.

(...) Un point rassemble en revanche (presque) tout le monde: 87% des personnes interrogées sont d’avis que seul un état d’esprit optimiste permettra de surmonter les conséquences économiques de la crise. "Le marché du travail va être très dur dans les mois qui viennent, avec une hausse prévisible des faillites et des licenciements", commente Eddy Annys, managing director chez Tempo-Team.
Bulgaria

**Gallup International: Medical access during Covid-crisis**
Gallup International, 01/06/2020, [in BG, EPLO summary]

Survey conducted on 14-22/05/2020 among 798 respondents

During the COVID-19 crisis, 15% of the Bulgarians had a problem with access to medical care. 77% of people said they had no difficulty (or no reason) to seek medical help during the pandemic, and 8% found it difficult to determine if they really had problems.

7% of the Bulgarians said they had problems with visiting a specialist. 6% said they had difficulty accessing their GP. 4% have encountered obstacles in terms of their visits to a dentist. 1% of the Bulgarians share they had a problem in connection with hospital treatment, surgery, etc.

28% of the Bulgarians had a problem with the access to drugs and medical products. 22% of the Bulgarians said they had a problem with buying masks, disinfectants, bandages, etc. Problems in obtaining masks and disinfectants were shared by almost a third of Sofia residents

6% of the Bulgarians had difficulties in obtaining prescription drugs, drugs for chronic diseases, etc. 5% say that it was difficult for them to buy nonprescription drugs, for example for flu, etc.

Source: https://www.gallup-international.bg/43360/hospital-index-medical-help-coronavirus/
Cyprus

Pulse Market Research and Gnora Communication Consultants for Phileleftheros, 28/05/2020

Source: https://gnora.com/el/devteri-erevna-gnora-pulse-pandimia-covid-19/?fbclid=IwAR0FHR6a2Jp3u29kURPesD2fN5TYGAdj0jm1zc6CIX-DYikmFEYPGLNf-0
EPLO Translation

Published: 28 May 2020
Source: Phileleftheros Newspaper
Institute: Pulse Market Research and Gnora Communication Consultants
Methodology: Telephone interviews
Sample & Method: 410
Fieldwork: 13-16 May 2020

1. Response for confronting coronavirus

| Cypriots in general | Overreacting: May 2020 11% (April 2020 8%) |
| | With appropriate manner: May 2020 72% (April 2020 65%) |
| | Not taken seriously: May 2020 15% (April 2020 26%) |
| Government | Overreacting: May 2020 18% (April 2020 10%) |
| | With appropriate manner: May 2020 78% (April 2020 84%) |
| | Not taken seriously: May 2020 3% (April 2020 5%) |
| People in their family/home | Overreacting: May 2020 10% (April 2020 10%) |
| | With appropriate manner: May 2020 87% (April 2020 88%) |
| | Not taken seriously: May 2020 3% (April 2020 1%) |
| Their employer | Overreacting: May 2020 6% (April 2020 6%) |
| | With appropriate manner: May 2020 48% (April 2020 52%) |
| | Not taken seriously: May 2020 3% (April 2020 2%) |
| Colleagues at work | Overreacting: May 2020 5% (April 2020 6%) |
| | With appropriate manner: May 2020 45% (April 2020 51%) |
| | Not taken seriously: May 2020 4% (April 2020 2%) |

2. Fear that they or someone in their family may get infected

May 2020: 24% strongly disagree / disagree
75% agree / agree completely
April 2020: 19% strongly disagree / disagree
79% strongly agree / agree

3. Following the news about coronavirus

May 2020: 75% say that they follow the news about coronavirus in high / sufficient volume
April 2020: 81% say they are following the news about coronavirus in high / sufficient volume

4. Use of technology in the last week for the following

Use of technology for any of teleworking and tele-education: May 2020: 38%
April 2020: 34%

Teleworking: May 2020: 24%
April 2020: 24%
Tele-education: May 2020: 24%
April 2020: 19%

5. Professional situation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Status</th>
<th>May 2020</th>
<th>April 2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>My work has been completely suspended</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My work has been partially suspended</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My job has been permanently suspended (dismissal)</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I continue to work normally</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not work</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. Effect on the economic situation of their household

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Affected</th>
<th>Not Affected</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 2020</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 2020</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I estimate that it will be affected in the coming period (12 months): 20%
I don’t expect that it will be affected in the near future (12 months): 27%
I don’t know / I don’t respond: 5%

7. Effect / Disorder of their personal life from the conditions due to coronavirus

May 2020: 70% of participants declare that their personal life has been greatly / sufficiently disturbed by the conditions due to the coronavirus
April 2020: 81% declare that their personal life has been greatly / sufficiently disturbed by the conditions due to the coronavirus

8. Timing of easing the restrictive measures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Early</th>
<th>Appropriate</th>
<th>Earlier</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 2020</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 2020</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
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9. Opening of schools on 21/05/2020

May 2020: 58% Probably disagree
38% Probably agree
4% I don’t know / I don’t respond

Retail zoom poll for Politis - 24/05/2020
EPLO Translations

Published: 24 May 2020
Source: Politis Newspaper
Institute: Retail Zoom
Methodology: Online Questionnaire - sent via emails and social media only to their subscribers
Sample & Method: 777- online survey
Fieldwork: 20-21 May 2020
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>QUESTION</th>
<th>ANSWERS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1 To what extent do you agree / disagree with the measures taken so far by the Government against Covid-19? | I totally agree 36%  
I agree 48%  
I neither agree nor disagree 10%  
I disagree 4%  
I totally disagree with 2% |
| 2 In relation to the pandemic, based on the cases of infected and on the ease of measures, what do you believe at the moment? | We’ve overcome it completely 4%  
We need to be careful a little more 46%  
We must learn to live with the pandemic 48%  
I don’t know 2% |
| 3 How do you assess the decisions/performance of the President of the Republic during the pandemic? | Perfect 32%  
Good 47%  
Average 14%  
Bad 4% |
| 4 Evaluation of the performance of duties during the pandemic: Minister of Health Constantinos Ioannou | Excellent 45%  
Satisfactory 45%  
Unsatisfactory 7%  
Not at all satisfactory 3% |
| 5 Evaluation of the performance of duties during the pandemic: Minister of Labor Zeta Emilianidou | Excellent 36%  
Satisfactory 50%  
Unsatisfactory 10%  
Not at all satisfactory 4% |
| 6 Evaluation of the performance of duties during the pandemic: Minister of Finance Constantinos Petridis | Excellent 27%  
Satisfactory 52%  
Unsatisfactory 16%  
Not at all satisfactory 5% |
| 7 Evaluation of the performance of duties during the pandemic: Minister of Education Prodromos Prodromou | Excellent 7%  
Satisfactory 30%  
Unsatisfactory 32%  
Not at all satisfactory 31% |
| 8 Evaluation of the performance of duties during the pandemic: Minister of Interior Nikos Nouris | Excellent 15%  
Satisfactory 50%  
Unsatisfactory 20%  
Not at all satisfactory 15% |
| 9 Evaluation of the performance of duties during the pandemic: Minister of Foreign Affairs Nikos Christodoulides | Excellent 32%  
Satisfactory 51%  
Unsatisfactory 11%  
Not at all satisfactory 6% |
| 10 How do you evaluate the attitude of Archbishop Chrysostomos II of Cyprus during the pandemic? | Perfect 30%  
Good 41%  
Moderate 18%  
Bad 7%  
Unacceptable 4% |
| 11 Do you believe that the restart of the economy has begun during the last 20 days after the ease of the measures,? | A little 71%  
Deeply 8%  
Not at all 16%  
I don’t know 5% |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Response</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>How do you describe yourself financially regarding the current situation?</td>
<td>In a more disadvantageous situation 44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>In the same situation 52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>In a more favourable situation 4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Where are you planning to go on vacation this year?</td>
<td>Abroad 11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>In Cyprus 38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>I don’t know if I am able to go on vacation 51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>When do you think the support program for employees in private enterprises by the state should be completed?</td>
<td>On June 33%</td>
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<td></td>
<td>On October 31%</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>On December 17%</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>I don’t know 19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Do you think that the guarantees offered by the state for loans to companies by banks is a correct or incorrect measure?</td>
<td>Correct 46%</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Incorrect 25%</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>I don’t know 29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Regarding the process of bank loans with government guarantees towards enterprises, when do you think the General Auditor should have a role?</td>
<td>Previously 45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>After the process 17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>It must have no opinion 17%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>I don’t know 21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>To what extent do you agree or disagree with the decision of the President of the Republic to offer firefighting planes to extinguish the fire in the area of occupied Morphou?</td>
<td>I agree 89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>I disagree 7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>I don’t have an opinion 4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>To what extent do you agree or disagree with the decision of the President of the Republic to offer medical supplies towards Turkish Cypriot Community to fight COVID 19 pandemic?</td>
<td>I agree 79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>I disagree 15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>I don’t have an opinion 6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>How do you believe that we can stop successfully the Turkish challenges regarding the Exclusive Economic Zone of the Republic of Cyprus?</td>
<td>Denouncing Turkey in the framework of UN or other Organizations 19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Trying to stop Turkey through the tripartite agreements with Israel-Egypt 24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Starting a procedure of solution based on UN Resolutions 38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>I don’t know 19%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Czech Republic

Research: Half of people want to wear facemasks even if they are not mandatory. Two-fifths of Czechs would refused the vaccine

Survey made by Median exclusively of the Czech Radio - on 20-21/5 with 1007 respondents. More than half of people plan to wear a veil, although it will no longer be mandatory. This follows from an exclusive survey by Median for Czech Radio. Research has also shown that more than two-fifths of people would not take vaccine against coronavirus. And 51 percent of respondents think the coronavirus crisis is not over yet - although the health minister said something else last Monday.

Covid crisis is over - do you agree?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strongly agree</th>
<th>9%</th>
<th>45%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rather agree</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t know</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rather disagree</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strongly disagree</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Half of the respondents declare their willingness to wear facemasks in the future.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Definitely yes</th>
<th>18%</th>
<th>52%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rather yes</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t know</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rather no</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Definitely no</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Almost half would use vaccination

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Definitely yes</th>
<th>17%</th>
<th>49%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rather yes</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t know</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rather no</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Definitely no</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: EPLO Prague
Denmark

Slight backward movement for the government, but still a 20-point lead
01/06/2020 https://voxmeter.dk/meningsmalinger/

Fieldwork 25/05-01/06/2020, 1036 respondents.
Finland

Finland: Survey shows coronavirus pandemic has reduced social interaction
Esmerk Finnish News, 25 May 2020

Press Release Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare, 25 May 2020, online:- The Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare (THL) has carried out a survey to assess the effects of the coronavirus pandemic and the restrictions implemented due to the pandemic on people's health and well-being in Finland. A total of 62% of the working-age population reported that they are keeping in touch with friends and relatives less frequently than before the coronavirus outbreak. One in three respondents reported decreased feelings of intimacy and increased feelings of loneliness. A total of 41% of respondents felt less optimistic than before the coronavirus outbreak. A total of 46% of women and 35% of men felt less hopeful about the future. A total of 35% reported increased consumption of sweet snacks and treats. Changes in the consumption of vegetables, fruits, berries and alcoholic beverages were mainly beneficial for health, albeit the majority of respondents did not report any changes. A total of 18% of respondents - 24% of women and 13% of men - reported increased sleep disorders and nightmares. A total of 36% of respondents reported a decrease in physical leisure time activity, while 30% reported an increase. Since the beginning of March 2020, one in ten working-age respondents had used professional social and health care services due to a long-term illness and one in four for other reasons. (...)

The survey results are based on 1,384 responses received between 28 April and 4 May 2020.
France

Le plan de déconfinement plébiscité par les Français
http://www.odoxa.fr/sondage/phase-2-deconfinement-edouard-philippe-a-convaincu/

C'est un retournement spectaculaire de l'opinion publique. Lassés par plus de deux mois de restrictions, longtemps sceptiques sur la gestion de crise et sévères sur les choix gouvernementaux par rapport aux masques, les Français applaudissent désormais le plan de déconfinement présenté par l'exécutif.

C'est ce qui ressort de notre enquête Odoxa-Dentsu Consulting pour Le Figaro et France Info, dévoilée ce vendredi. La prestation d'Édouard Philippe a été unanimement saluée : 7 Français sur 10 estiment que le chef du gouvernement a été clair (72%) lors de sa conférence de presse. Les deux tiers jugent qu'il a été à la hauteur de la situation (66%) et qu'il a montré qu'il savait où il allait (64%). 6 Français sur 10 l'ont trouvé convaincant (62%) et pensent qu'il a dit la vérité aux Français (60%) - un exploit quand on se souvient de la crise de confiance du début de l'épidémie.

SONDAGE. Coronavirus : la confiance dans le gouvernement en légère baisse

Trois semaines après le déconfinement, les Français n'ont pas vraiment changé d'avis sur la capacité du gouvernement à affronter la crise. Selon la nouvelle vague de notre baromètre Ifop, réalisée en fin de semaine, 42% des sondés disent avoir "confiance" en lui "pour faire face efficacement au coronavirus". Ce score est en baisse de deux points en deux semaines, après un rebond de cinq points la fois précédente. Il n'y a qu'au tout début du confinement, à la mi-mars, qu'une majorité de Français accordait cette confiance (55%)

Suivi de la crise du coronavirus et de l’action gouvernementale – Vague 16

Cette nouvelle Balise d’Opinion Ifop-Fiducial pour CNews et Sud Radio s’intéresse à l’épidémie de coronavirus en France et à l’action gouvernementale pour y faire face et révèle les enseignements suivants
Alors que la circulation du virus baisse depuis plusieurs semaines, l’inquiétude sanitaire s’efface chez les Français avec une baisse de 11 points (65%) de l’inquiétude pour soi et sa famille.
La confiance des Français dans le gouvernement pour mener à bien le déconfinement qui a commencé le 11 mai est toujours en progression, à un niveau jamais atteint depuis le début de la crise : 48% ont confiance (+4 points en une semaine).

Baromètre Covid-19 : les Français jugent sévèrement la gestion de l’épidémie

Une confiance dans l’avenir qui n’occulte pas un jugement sévère de la gestion de l’épidémie et l’idée que la France aurait fait moins bien que l’Espagne, la Chine, l’Italie, voire la Grande-Bretagne et les Etats-Unis
En effet, si près de six Français sur dix estiment que les pouvoirs publics seraient capables de gérer une seconde vague si elle survenait (59%), il n’en demeure pas moins vrai que ceux-ci critiquent la gestion de l’épidémie, et ce malgré le bilan plus lourd dans certains autres pays comme l’Espagne, l’Italie ou encore les Etats-Unis et la Grande-Bretagne. Une majorité relative considère que la France a moins bien géré l’épidémie que l’Espagne (45% contre 35% qui estiment qu’elle l’a mieux géré et 17% ni mieux, ni moins bien) ou l’Italie (45% contre 36% qui disent qu’elle a fait mieux et 16% ni mieux, ni moins bien). Le fait que certains pays aient enregistré un nombre de victimes bien plus élevé ne change pas grand-chose à l’affaire, les Français se montrent plus partagés. 44% considèrent que la France a moins bien géré la situation que les Etats-Unis (contre 46% qui soutiennent l’opinion inverse) et 41% estiment que la Grande-Bretagne a fait mieux que nous (contre 44% qui pensent que ce n’est pas le cas).

Ces critiques très fortes pourraient trouver une explication dans l’affaire des stocks insuffisants de masques. L’arrivée tardive de très grandes quantités de masques quelques jours avant le 11 mai a pu aussi jouer un rôle de réactivation du sentiment que ces derniers en ont manqué pendant longtemps et notamment au moment du pic de l’épidémie.

La cote de confiance d’Edouard Philippe toujours plus forte que celle d’Emmanuel Macron
https://harris-interactive.fr/opinion_polls/barometre-de-confiance-politique-lci-epoka-mai-2020/

Après une baisse de 8 points de la confiance exprimée envers Emmanuel Macron et de 2 points à l’égard d’Edouard Philippe en avril, le couple exécutif voit sa cote remonter quelque peu en ce mois de mai : +1 pour le président de la République (44% de confiance), +3 pour le Premier ministre (49%). A la manœuvre du très épineux dossier du déconfinement, le Premier ministre bénéficie d’un regain de popularité auprès des Français. Selon notre dernier baromètre Harris Interactive x Epoka pour LCI, la côte de confiance d’Edouard Philippe gagne donc 3 points pour atteindre désormais à 49%, son plus haut niveau depuis l’été 2017.

Du côté de l’Elysée, le président de la République connaît lui aussi un regain de popularité, mais plus timide avec +1 points en mai. Sa côte de confiance atteint désormais 44%, loin de ses 51% du début de la crise. Ainsi, le regard positif que certains Français semblent porter à l’égard du couple exécutif bénéficie davantage au Premier ministre qu’au chef de l’Etat.

Autre donnée importante, la confiance envers Edouard Philippe est plus importante qu’à l’égard d’Emmanuel Macron, et ce quelle que soit la catégorie de population : hommes comme femmes, jeunes comme personnes âgées, catégories populaires comme supérieures.

BAROMÈTRE DE SUIVI DE LA CRISE DU COVID 19
Vague 62 – 28 mai 2020

La convergence des courbes a enfin lieu. Pour la première fois depuis le 19 mars, la proportion de Français qui estiment que, dans cette crise, « le pire est devant nous » (30%, -9 pts en 10 jours) est inférieure à la proportion d’individus qui pensent que la situation va rester stable (35%, +2). La part de sondés qui pensent que « le pire est derrière nous » (25%) reste inférieure mais progresse significativement et atteint son plus haut niveau (+7 pts en 10 jours).

En attendant les annonces à venir du Premier ministre, les Français semblent avoir intégré le principe d’un déconfinement extrêmement progressif. Si plus d’1 sur 2 (56%) pensent que l’on reviendra à une vie normale d’ici la fin 2020 (mais seulement 9% dès cet été), il faut noter que près d’1 sur 5 (18%) anticipe qu’il n’y aura pas de retour à la normale.
Coronavirus vague 15 : L’inquiétude économique dépasse désormais l’inquiétude sanitaire
https://elabe.fr/coronavirus-vague15/

L’inquiétude économique dépasse l’inquiétude sanitaire. 86% des Français sont inquiets (dont 35% très inquiets) pour la situation économique du pays et 82% d’entre eux (dont 42% très inquiets) s’inquiètent du niveau de la dette publique.

L’inquiétude concernant sa situation personnelle apparaît un peu moins forte, mais reste néanmoins très élevée : 56% des Français s’inquiètent pour leur situation financière (dont 18% très inquiets) et 39% des actifs s’inquiètent (dont 11% très inquiets) pour leur emploi.

Alors que la France entre dans sa troisième semaine de déconfinement, 67% des Français se disent inquiets de la propagation du coronavirus, dont 16% très inquiets. Une proportion de Français inquiets en baisse de 8 points en une semaine et de 11 points en deux semaines. A l’inverse, 33% des Français ne sont pas inquiets (+8), mais seuls 5% (+1) ne sont pas du tout inquiets.
Germany

Focus on concerns about the economy
ZDF Politbarometer, 29/05/2020 [in DE, POMU translation]

At present, 61 percent of those surveyed are more concerned for Germany because of the economic consequences of the corona crisis, a third (33 percent) are more concerned about the consequences in the area of health (the rest are 100 percent here and in the following “do not know”).

A majority of those surveyed (59 percent) consider the federal government’s support for companies and businesses to be just right, 22 percent think that too little is being done and nine percent that too much is being done.

Furthermore, most of the respondents (56 percent) consider the current easing of the corona measures to be just right, 32 percent think that the easing goes too far and 11 percent do not go far enough. The proposal by Bodo Ramelow to largely dispense with compulsory corona measures in future, with the exception of the compulsory use of masks in Thuringia, is supported by 25 percent, while a majority of 72 percent rejects it.

With regard to their own situation, 44% consider their health to be endangered by the corona virus, similar to the situation in recent weeks, while 54% do not believe that this is the case.

When it comes to the spread of the virus, 42 percent believe that we in Germany have already survived the worst, but a good half (51 percent) doubt it.

Most respondents (61 percent) are generally in favour of financial support for the EU countries particularly affected by Corona, even if Germany has to make a major contribution. A total of 34 percent are opposed to this. When it comes to the design of this support, 56 percent are in favour of granting this money exclusively in the form of loans. For 37 percent there should be additional grants, as the EU reconstruction plan also provides for.

Source: https://www.zdf.de/nachrichten/politik/politbarometer-coronavirus-wirtschaft-100.html

Survey on the Corona Crisis: Merkel gets support - Germans worry about prosperity
RND, 26/05/2020 [in DE, POMU translation]

The longer the corona pandemic determines our lives, the more the mood of the people in Germany clouds over. According to a survey published on Tuesday (May 26) by the Allensbach opinion research institute, only 22 percent of the population currently has hopes for the coming year. In contrast, 44 percent of those surveyed are looking forward to the coming twelve months with fear. 27 percent express scepticism.

In the second week of May, around three-quarters of the more than 1000 citizens surveyed were satisfied with the work of the government. The only exception is the AfD voters: 62 percent of the supporters of the right-wing populists are of the opinion that the federal government is not doing a good job here.

The fear of being personally infected with the coronavirus has indeed decreased in Germany in recent weeks. While in April, 44 percent were still afraid of becoming infected with the pathogen causing the lung disease Covid-19, one month later the figure is only 31 percent.
The fear of loss of prosperity as a result of the pandemic has increased. According to the survey, this fear is also driving those who have not yet personally suffered any loss of income. 70 percent of the population expect that the economy will not yet recover in the next twelve months. 46 percent of the participants in the survey say they expect their own economic situation to deteriorate as a result of the pandemic.

[...]


Every third German is tired of wearing a mask
FAZ, 01/06/2020 [in DE, POMU translation]

One third of Germans want to abolish or at least ease the obligation to wear masks during the Corona crisis. 19 percent of the participants in a representative online survey conducted by the opinion research institute YouGov on behalf of the German Press Agency pleaded for abolition. Another 14 percent of the 2056 respondents are in favour of easing. Opinions are also divided on the subject of vaccination. [...] However, a clear majority of the respondents were in favour of compulsory masks. Thus 49 percent said that the requirement should be maintained in its current form. 13 percent are in favour of extending it to other areas. In East Germany, more people pleaded for easing or abolition than in West Germany.

According to their own statements, four out of five Germans (81 percent) always adhere to the mask obligation, another 13 percent partially. Only two percent said they did not do so at all. Older people were therefore more likely to stick to the rules than younger people.

According to the survey, one in two Germans would be vaccinated against the coronavirus if a vaccine were available. One in four would perhaps do so. One in five of the 2056 people questioned refused to be vaccinated. Men would be more likely to be vaccinated than women. [...] 


One in five voters believes in Corona delusions
FAZ, 27/05/2020 [in DE, POMU translation]

Every fifth voter in Germany believes that politicians and the media deliberately exaggerate the danger of the coronavirus in order to deceive the public. This is the result of a representative survey conducted by Infratest-dimap on behalf of the NDR media magazine “Zapp” on Wednesday. A particularly large number of AfD supporters (54 percent) and people who actively use social media platforms (31 percent) agree with the thesis.

Of the approximately 1000 respondents over 18 years of age, 68 percent consider the public media to be credible in their reporting on Corona. This is followed by print media with 42 percent, private broadcasting with 23 percent and social media platforms with 7 percent. [...]
More than half of the interviewees state that they have noticed news and comments about Corona in social media such as YouTube, Facebook or blogs, but also in messenger services such as Telegram and WhatsApp in recent weeks. Every tenth person has also shared these contents intensively. The most active AfD supporters share social media posts with the topic of Corona (19 percent), while supporters of the Greens are rarely active (three percent). In the camp of the Left Party and the AfD, news on social media on the subject of Corona is most noticed (Left Party 72 percent, AfD 67 percent).

For the survey, 1012 voters aged over 18 years were interviewed between 18 and 22 May. The margin of error tolerance is between 1.4 and 3.1 percent.

**Medien in der Coronakrise**

Vertrauen in Berichterstattung der Medien über Corona

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Medienform</th>
<th>Vertrauen in Berichterstattung</th>
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<tr>
<td>öffentlich-rechtlichen Medien</td>
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<tr>
<td>privater Rundfunk</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social-Media-Plattformen</td>
<td>7%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Source: [https://www.faz.net/aktuell/politik/inland/umfrage-jeder-fuenfte-waehler-glaubt-an-corona-taechungen-16788279.html](https://www.faz.net/aktuell/politik/inland/umfrage-jeder-fuenfte-waehler-glaubt-an-corona-taechungen-16788279.html)
Greece

Metron Analysis Poll for MegaTV, 22-27 May

Sources:
https://www.in.gr/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/cards_MetronForum2.0_May20.pptx

EPLO Translation

Selected questions:

- Which is the main issue faced by the country today? (spontaneous answers)
  - State of the economy 41%
  - Covid19 / Healthcare issues 20%
  - Unemployment 14%
  - Refugee / migratory flows 7%

- Your appreciation of the performance of the government (+/-)
  - Public health / Covid19: 84/2/13
  - Relations with Turkey: 52/3/41
  - Environment 49/4/3
  - Economy 42/3/51
  - Refugees/migration 40/3/54
  - Overall 63/6/30

- What is your opinion on the EU?
  - Positive 40% (minus 15pts compared to Sept 2019)
  - Neutral 5%
  - Negative 53% (plus 15pts compared to Sept 2019)
  - No answer 2%

- Voting intentions if elections were to take place next Sunday:
  - ND (EPP) 40.3%
  - Syriza (GUE) 20.9%
  - KinAl (S&D) 5.1%
  - KKE (NI) 4.6%
  - Greek Solution (ECR) 2.6%
  - Mera25 (Varoufakis) 2.5%
  - Golden Dawn (NI) 1.6%
  - Others 3.7%
  - Blank/Spoilt 3.6%
  - Abstain 7.2%
  - Undecided 7.9%

- Are you in favour or against early elections?
  - In favour 13%
  - Against 84%
  - No answer 3%
Hungary

Consensus Regarding the Introduction and Suspension of the restriction measures–Nézőpont Institute
https://nezopontintezet.hu/2020/05/25/egyetertes-a-veszelyhelyzet-bevezeteserol-es-befejezeserol/

Nézőpont Institute examined the population’s overall attitude towards the emergency measures introduced in light of the Covid19 pandemic as well as their opinion on the extraordinary legal order implemented by the Hungarian government, in a nationwide representative poll between May 21 and 23 by interviewing 1,000 people.

- 78% of respondents said that they were satisfied with the Hungarian government’s "steps against the spread of the coronavirus" (18% were not satisfied). In mid-March (week 12), 94% said they agreed to the emergency measure allowed by the constitution, and at the end of March (week 14), during the time of the legal extension, another 85% supported maintaining the emergency. This support fell to 40% last week, and 49% of respondents say there is no longer a need for an extraordinary legal order.

- The vast majority of respondent (78%) consider it justified in retrospect that there was an emergency situation in Hungary “enabling an extraordinary legal order” in the last two months (17% of them do not agree). Half of government-critical voters (50%) agree that this government move was justified.

- 62% of respondents say the coronavirus will have a second wave in Hungary, with government critics even more confident (70%) than government supporters (57%)
According to Hungarians, the defense was successful, but the danger did not go away
– Századvég Group
https://szazadveg.hu/hu/kutatasok/az-alapitvany-kutatasai/piackutatas-kozvelemeny-kutatas/a-magyarok-szerint-sikeres-a-vedekezes-de-a-veszely-nem-mult-el

Századvég Group examined the population’s opinion on the defense measures against the coronavirus as well as on the second wave pandemic threats, in a nationwide representative poll during May 2020 by interviewing 1,000 adult people.
- Three-quarters of the respondents (75%) are completely or rather satisfied with the way the Hungarian government handled the epidemic situation, and 24% are dissatisfied with the government’s work on this issue.
- In addition, respondents realistically see that the fight against the virus is not over with the completion of the first phase of protection: 68% of respondents are very or rather worried that the second wave of the epidemic may appear in the country in autumn or winter, while 29% do not worry about the return of the coronavirus.
Publicus Institute examined the populations’ overall opinion on the extraordinary legal order introduced by the Hungarian government, in a nationwide representative poll, conducted on behalf of Népszava (Hungarian left-wing daily newspaper) between May 18 and 22 by interviewing 998 people.

- The majority of respondents (52%) believe the government is abusing its authority to defend against the epidemic and make anti-democratic decisions on other issues. Nearly six in ten (57%) believe that the government is also using its position what it has not been able to achieve in other cases so far.

- The majority of respondents (53-64%, against 14-23%) disagree with any of the decisions made under the Authorization Act, which gives the government essentially unlimited freedom of decision. These results are in line with those measured last month, according to which almost two-thirds of respondents (62%) disagree with the indefinite nature of the Authorization Act.

- The majority of respondents (52%) believe that the government is abusing its authority to defend against the epidemic and make anti-democratic decisions on other issues. These ratios have not changed from last month.

- 84% of opposition voters and 13% of Fidesz voters think that the government is abusing anti-epidemic powers and taking anti-democratic action. The younger voters are more likely to believe that the government is abusing its authority to defend against the coronavirus.

- The majority of respondents (53-64%) disagree with any of the decisions made under the Authorization Act, which gives the government essentially unlimited freedom of decision.

To what extent do you agree with the following statement? The government is abusing its authority to defend against the epidemic and making anti-democratic decisions on other issues. (All respondents %)

![Chart showing public opinion on government decisions](image-url)
To what extent do you agree with the following statement: The government also using the situation to defend against the epidemic to do what it has not been able to achieve in other cases so far.
(All respondents %)

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>DK</td>
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<tr>
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<table>
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Poll shows 18- to 34-year-old EU citizens more likely to be depressed, lonely or anxious than older peers
29/05/2020

Young Irish adults have become sharply more lonely since the Covid-19 pandemic, according to new data that examines mental health issues across the EU. Asked if they had been lonely in the past fortnight, 23.6 per cent of 18- to 34-year-olds polled said they had been lonely most or all of that fortnight because of the pandemic. This compares with 20 per cent across the EU. Of these 8.6 per cent said “all of the time” and 15 per cent said “most of the time”, the Living, Working and Covid-19 report from Eurofound reported. The only EU country with more lonely young adults was Hungary, with 24.4 per cent reporting problems, according to the survey.

The situation is worse for young women: 27.5 per cent of those surveyed aged 18-34 said they had been lonely all or most of the last fortnight. This compares with 18.4 per cent across the EU27, and with 10.1 per cent in Spain.

In all other EU countries young men reported higher levels of being downhearted, depressed and lonely than young women, though young Irish women are the most depressed and lonely in Europe.

The online Eurofound survey was conducted in April with 85,000 participants. Of these 16,599 were aged 18-34, and 1,200 of these were from young adults in Ireland. In all 18- to 34-year-old EU citizens are now more likely to be depressed, lonely or anxious than older peers, with lower abilities to deal with problems and with significant decreases in life satisfaction compared to before the pandemic.
Italy

ITALIAN POLL
SWG (27-29/05)

- A great majority of Italian citizens (69%) has a positive opinion of the “Next Generation Plan”, presented by the European Commission. This is true also among the voters of the opposition.

- Italians believe that the negations among Member States will validate the Next Generation Plan proposed by the European Commission. Yet, the funds will be reduced for 65% of respondents.

- Moreover, the majority of Italians (52%) do not see very negatively the fact these funds should respect certain rules and should be linked to specific projects and fields of action.

Next Generation: consenso elevato tra i cittadini e maggioritario anche tra gli elettori dell’opposizione

La Commissione Europea nel progetto Next Generation ha proposto un investimento di 750 miliardi per gli Stati membri dell’Unione Europea colpiti particolarmente dalla pandemia. Alcune fonti affermano che circa 170 miliardi sarebbero dedicati all’Italia, circa 82 miliardi verrebbero devoluti a fondo perduto e circa 91 miliardi sarebbero destinati a prestiti agevolati. L’Italia sarebbe il principale beneficiario dell’intervento. Se venisse confermato, come giudica questo tipo di intervento?

The European Institutions gain trust among Italians, after the drop registered in April:

- 39% of respondents trust the EU
- 35% trust the BCE
- 32% trust the European Commission
**ITALIAN POLL**  
**TECNE’ (28-29/05)**

*The trust in the Government:*

Trust: 28.9%  
Do not Trust 66.7%  
DK: 4.4%

*The economic repercussions of the crisis in the family’s income:*

There will not be significant changes: 34.5%  
There will be less money available: 60.5% (independents: 86% - dependent workers 69%)  
DK: 5%

**ITALIAN POLL**  
**DEMOPOLIS (26-27/05)**

*Your opinion of the government during the phase 1 of the emergency (March-April):*

Positive: 72%  
Negative: 25%  
DK: 3%

*Your opinion of the government during the phase 2 of the emergency (March-April):*

Positive: 43%  
Negative: 48%  
DK: 9%
ITALIAN POLL
TECNE (24-25/05)
What are your main concerns....

Both the economic consequences and the health risks: 21% (40% on March 2)
Mainly the economic consequences: 64% (29% on March 2)
Mainly the health risks for me and my family: 14% (28% on March 2)

ITALIAN POLL
Emg Acqua (26/05)

Is the government doing enough to contain the economic damages?

No  62
Yes  27
I prefer not to answer 11
Latvia

Riga Stradins University research: poll on society’s understanding about Covid-19 in Latvia
Source: EPLO Translation

The poll was conducted by Riga Stradins University on 9-20 April among 3483 respondents, aged from 18 to 61.

Answering the question “What concerns you the most?” respondents gave the following answers: they are concerned about:

- the virus’ influence on the economy in Latvia and the world (32% are very concerned, 36% are concerned, partially concerned 10%);
- the virus’ global spread (28% are very concerned, 34% are concerned, partially concerned 12%);
- the virus’ spread in Europe (27% are very concerned, 36% are concerned, partially concerned 12%);
- concern about the fact that Latvian medical institutions could not be ready for the fight with virus (22% are very concerned, 33% are concerned, partially concerned 12%);
- the emergency situation declaration in Latvia (21% are very concerned, 37% are concerned, partially concerned 10%);
- respondents are concerned about the closed education institutions (21% are very concerned, 29% are concerned, partially concerned 10%);
- lack of information on when the pandemic will be over (20% are very concerned, 40% are concerned, partially concerned 24%);
- the fact that Latvian institutions could not be ready (20% are very concerned, 33% are concerned, partially concerned 20%);
- concerned by closing of state borders (18% are very concerned, 27% are concerned, partially concerned 18%, 15% neutral, 13% not concerned at all);
- respondents are less worried about availability of goods in the shops (7% are very concerned, 13% are concerned, partially concerned 22%, 23% neutral reaction, 17% almost not concerned, 17% not concerned at all).

Programme “900 seconds” poll: absolute majority of Latvian inhabitants are obeying Covid-19 restrictions
Source: EPLO Translation

An absolute majority (86%) of respondents aged 18 to 60 claim they are obeying the rules. 43% of respondents personally know someone who does not obey the rules introduced due to Covid-19. 42% of respondents have stated that they don’t know anyone who obeys these restrictions. 15% of respondents have not given a precise answer to that question. 10% of respondents have stated that they don’t obey the restrictions. 4% of inhabitants have not given precise answer to that question.
A survey carried out by Spinter Tyrimai at the request of Vytautas Magnus University (VMU), which is implementing the research project "Representation of Lithuanian Citizens and Interests in the European Parliament" (EP), revealed that the majority of respondents (65%) perceive the EP as an important institution whose decisions affect their lives. It is more often men, highest-earners and city residents with higher education who find the EP a highly important institution. The EP is perceived as an important institution by females, residents over the age of 36 who have higher education and live in larger cities. This data showed that the importance of the EP is mostly acknowledged by educated residents of Lithuania’s largest cities. Undoubtedly, the EP has turned into one of the major institutions of the EU. Even though the level of understanding of the EP's significance is rather high, only less than a half of respondents (41%) indicate that they have enough of information about the EP. No wonder respondents have insufficient information about the EP and its decisions as the survey demonstrates that the majority of them do not search for information about the activities of MEPs themselves and are satisfied with the information they accidentally hear or read in the news feed. So far, attempts to activate the interest of the Lithuanian residents in the activities and decisions of the EP have not been successful. The survey on 15min.lt has been presented by Dr Sima Rakutienė, Docent and Senior Researcher at the Department of Regional Studies at VMU, and Dr Ingrida Unikaitė-Jakuntavičienė, Docent at the Faculty of Political Science at VMU.
The advance of the VVD in opinion polls during the corona crisis continues. The largest ruling party never received more support from the respondents than it does now. The VVD would now have 44 seats in the House of Representatives. That is 5 more than last month and 17 more than before the corona crisis.

This is evident from an opinion poll by Ipsos and EenVandaag. Only in October 2012 did the party get as many seats in the same poll as now. The difference with the second largest party in the poll, GroenLinks, is 29 seats and comes to 15 seats.

Third place is shared by the CDA and the PVV with both 14 seats. The PvdA follows with 13 seats and FvD with 12.

The growth of Prime Minister Mark Rutte's party is reflected in all polls in recent weeks. This is mainly due to the confidence that the prime minister instills, the pollsters conclude from asking the participants.

No coalition partner of the VVD has attracted many additional voters since the coronavirus outbreak, polls have found. In addition to the 14 seats for coalition partner CDA, government parties D66 get 10 seats and Christian Union 6 seats in this poll.

Furthermore, the elderly party 50PLUS in the last month from 8 to 2 seats. This is due to the arguments within the party and the departure of Henk Krol as party leader.

In the seat poll of Ipsos and EenVandaag, the VVD climbs to 44 seats. That is no less than 17 more than at the beginning of the corona crisis. Furthermore, many voters say goodbye to 50PLUS, but also to Krol. [...]
'Krol does less well for older people at new party'

A large part of these voters is not reassured that Krol stands up just as well for the elderly at his new party as at 50PLUS. In fact, nearly half (45 percent) assume they will do less for the elderly. "If you already say at the start that you want to be there for all generations, that is not good news for the elderly."

Another reason for the limited voter loyalty to Krol is the fact that Krol takes his seat with him. 40 percent of the voters from two months ago, when 50PLUS still registered 10 seats in De Peiling, think this is unjustified. Krol thinks that he is entitled to this by the number of preference votes in the last elections, but "the number one on the list always gets more votes than the rest, which are not preference votes", explains a voter who disagrees. They believe that Krol should earn his seat again if he wants to address a different audience.

Calls for Amsterdam anti-racism protesters to self-quarantine
NLtimes.nl, June 2, 2020

VD leader Klaas Dijkhoff and Marianne Schuurmans, mayor of Haarlemmermeer and chairman of Veiligheidsregio Kennemerland, both called on everyone who participated in a protest in Amsterdam against racism and police brutality to self-quarantine for two weeks, in case they caught the coronavirus. Some 5 thousand people were gathered on Amsterdam’s Dam Square for the protest on Monday.
Poland

Upper House passes presidential elections rules
PAP, 02.06.2020

Senate, the Upper House of the Polish Parliament voted for the amended draft of the bill about the rules for conducting the presidential election. (...) The law includes the hybrid way of casting votes during the election – both the traditional in polling stations and postal. (...) The State Electoral Committee (PKW), after a motion of the Health Minister, will be entitled to make a decision to run elections only by postal voting in a region with a serious epidemic situation. The decision will have to be made not later than seven days before the elections. (...) The debate about the presidential elections in Poland started after the pandemic of SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus outbreak in the country. It became obvious that conducting traditional elections, scheduled on May 10, would be very difficult. The ruling majority at first opted for entirely postal elections, but it did not come into force. The election did not take place on May 10.

Most Poles want presidential elections by end of June: poll
PAP, 01.06.2020,

As many as 56.6 percent of Poles said the presidential elections should be held on June 28, while later dates were each supported by less than 10 percent of respondents, according to a survey by the IBRiS pollster for “Rzeczpospolita” daily.

Presidential Election Polls
@EuropeElects, 01/06/2020

PGB Opinium poll:
Duda (*-ECR): 36%
Trzaskowski (PO-EPP): 25%
Hołownia (*): 12%
Kosiniak-Kamysz (PSL-EPP) 8%
Bosak (KON-Ni): 6%
Biedroń (Lewica-S&D): 3%
Fieldwork: 25-29 May 2020

IBRiS poll:
Presidential election run-off (Trzaskowski scenario)
Duda (+-ECR): 51% (-1)
Trzaskowski (PO-EPP): 49% (+1)
+/- vs 22-23 May 2020

Fieldwork: 29 May 2020
Do you think that the minister of health, Łukasz Szumowski, should resign on account of the allegations by the opposition?
*Rzeczpospolita: SW Research, 16.05.-27.05, N=800, CAWI:*
- 40.1% - yes
- 32.8% - no
- 27.1% - I don’t know

Do you think that the coronavirus epidemic has been stopped in Poland?
*Rzeczpospolita: SW Research, 16.05.-27.05, N=800, CAWI:*
- 12.9% - yes
- 33.8% - yes, but the epidemic may return
- 43% - no
- 10.3% - I don’t know
Portugal

Marktest 27/05/2020:

A poll by Marktest found that 97% believe that this summer, Portuguese people will opt to take their holidays in Portugal. Only 3% admit the possibility of taking holidays abroad. 74% consider that people will opt for renting a holiday home, only 26% admit the possibility of doing holidays in a hotel. This week, with regards to the opening of shopping malls – 22.5% consider this safe, whilst 43.5% consider it of high risk. Adding to this, 29% admit to doing more online shopping than before, particularly in the age range of 18-34. Within those over 55, 35% noted they do not resort to online shopping.


Público 26/05/2020:

A study by ISPUP/INESC TEC for Público found that 13.3% are unsure as to whether they plan to be tested for the Coronavirus, whilst 17.7% are unsure with regards to testing for Covid-19 anti-bodies. The survey cites these particularly low numbers as surprising.

Those who do not plan to carry out any tests are amongst the majority. 72.6% claimed they do not plan to be tested for the virus and 54.8% do not plan to test for anti-bodies. Only 14.1% planned to test for the virus, and 27.5% planned on checking for immunity. Only 13% are willing to pay for the Coronavirus test, whilst this number rises to 22% with regards to the anti-bodies test. The poll notes that the refusal to carry out tests is higher amongst women (74%) who do not plan to be tested for the virus, and 55.4% do not plan to test for anti-bodies.

Amongst health professionals, 78.6% said they will not be tested for coronavirus, possibly because they already have. With regards to the anti-bodies test, 54.3% of healthcare professionals do not intend on undertaking it. Those who have more intention to get tested are professionals connected to housing and food services.


Visão 24/05/2020:

A poll by the university Nova SBE for Visão, found that 94% of those enquired intend to continue shopping in the same way they did before the pandemic. On the other hand, 30% note they chose to do online shopping of non-essential goods during the state of emergency and will continue to do so. Around 31% note a desire to return to commercial establishments – a preference that rises to 54% amongst those over 65 years of age.

After the state of the emergency, 41% note they suffered a change with regards to their work location, and the majority can now return to work at the location, with restrictions. However, 62% prefer to continue to work remotely, if this is allowed. Currently, half of those enquired, consider that many of the deconfinement measures are premature, particularly with regards to the reopening of child-care, shopping malls, community celebrations and football competitions.
Furthermore, **92% note they continue isolated** – whilst there is a decrease with regards of following Covid-19 related news. **66% note they already feel the financial impacts of the pandemic.** Those who admit to feeling the biggest financial impact are in the age range of 33-45 and 45-65 years of age.


*Jornal de Noticias 31/05/2020*

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**Source:** [https://www.jn.pt/nacional/infografias/a-intencao-de-voto-para-as-eleicoes-legislativas-12259885.html](https://www.jn.pt/nacional/infografias/a-intencao-de-voto-para-as-eleicoes-legislativas-12259885.html)
Romania

Voting intentions and opinion surveys

A new opinion poll by INSCOP (15-20 May 2020, 1132 respondents), conducted at the request of Pro Romania, shows that national parties would score the following percentages for the parliamentary elections:

- PNL - 38.5%
- PSD - 35.8%
- USR-PLUS - 10.2%
- Pro Romania - 9.4%
- UDMR - 6%
- ALDE - 3.6%
- PMP - 3.5%

Furthermore, the survey indicated that:

- almost 80%, believe that the economy has been affected "to a large extent" or "to a very large extent" by the coronavirus pandemic;
- 66% of the respondents showed a favourable position towards the progressive taxation of incomes, respectively the renunciation of the single quota;
- at the same time, almost 60% of those surveyed see as "good" and "very good" the increase in property taxes and capital gains, but also the reduction of labour taxation.


Attitudes and behaviour during the state of alert

The most recent IRES study (20-21 May 2020, 1033 respondents), which was conducted after the state of alert was imposed, revealed that:

- 92% of Romanians say that, since entering the alert state, they have worn masks indoors, and 91% claim that they have respected the rule of social distance in public;
- 4 out of 10 Romanians left their home in the first days of the alert state;
- Only ⅓ of Romanians met, in the first week after restrictions’ relaxation, with family members or friends they did not see during the emergency;
More than half of the participants think about the others that they respect to a small extent or that they do not follow at all the instructions of the authorities during the alert state;
- **72% of Romanians believe that the return to isolation at home would be a justified measure, if the number of COVID-19 cases would increase again;**
- 67% consider the measures regarding isolation at home and stopping public activities in their area justified;
- 3 out of 10 Romanians would give up going on holiday this summer. However, ¼ of the respondents say they will go on vacation. Most of them (74%) will choose to spend their vacation in the country, 12% abroad, and 10% both in the country and abroad.


**Remote work**

The **Colliers International** online study conducted in Central-Eastern Europe (March and April 2020, 25 countries where Collies International operates, 4,400 respondents, including about a quarter of Central and Eastern European countries) on working from home during the pandemic shows that:
- half of the Romanian respondents feel isolated from their colleagues;
- 27% still feel connected to teamwork;
- 75% of Romanian respondents especially miss the physical interaction with colleagues
- 67% of respondents consider the lack of clear delimitation between office and private life represents a challenge;
- most respondents (CEE - 51%, Romania - 54%) consider that they remained equally productive during the remote working period, and the productivity even increased (CEE - 21%, Romania - 23%);
- 44% of Romanian respondents say that the balance between professional and personal life has improved since the house became a workspace;
- over 60% of respondents worked occasionally from home before the pandemic.

**Source:** [https://www.newmoney.ro/studiu-40-din-angajati-spun-ca-intampina-dificultati-sa-lucreze-de-acasa-si-ca-uneori-au-capacitate-scazuta-de-concentrare/](https://www.newmoney.ro/studiu-40-din-angajati-spun-ca-intampina-dificultati-sa-lucreze-de-acasa-si-ca-uneori-au-capacitate-scazuta-de-concentrare/)

**SMEs & Local businesses**

**Ingenius Hub** conducted a study on over 800 companies, which sought to identify the most acute problems of the Romanian business environment, and found that:
- only 1.6% of micro-enterprises and 4.3% of small enterprises registered increases during the Covid-19 lockdown;
- small businesses have not resorted to technical unemployment and do not intend to do so, if they will be able to recover during the summer;
- 25% of them say they are at risk of declaring insolvency if they do not receive support for recovery in the next quarter;
- Almost 10% of enterprises were able to fully operate during the state of emergency due to digitalization;
- 69% of large companies said they were not affected by financial difficulties in this period.

Slovakia

One-fifth of Slovaks do not believe official data on coronavirus testing
Spectator, 29/05/2020

One in five Slovaks do not believe the official data on the number of coronavirus tests and people infected with the coronavirus. Another half believes this information only partially.

This stems from a poll carried out by the Focus agency for the ethics watchdog Transparency International Slovakia (TIS) between May 14 and 21 on 1,011 respondents.

Political preferences important

Political preferences play a key role in trust regarding the development of coronavirus pandemic in Slovakia. About one-half of supporters of the ruling parties have confidence in the official numbers published everyday on the Korona.gov.sk website. On the other hand, only 16 percent of Smer supporters and 13 percent of the supporters of far-right Kotlebovci – People’s Party Our Slovakia (ĽSNS) believe it.

At the same time, the media of all political movements and orientations believe the data. “It implies that high political polarisation can be a serious obstacle when solving relatively non-political topics,” TIS commented on Facebook.

No impact on trust in media

The coronavirus pandemic has not impacted trust in the media. As many as 53 percent of respondents said it has not changed their opinion on traditional or alternative media outlets. Another 28 percent said they have more trust in the work of traditional journalists who work for the Sme, Pravda and Denník N dailies and broadcasters like TV Markíza and RTVS.

On the other hand, 17 percent of respondents said their trust in alternative media like Slobodný Vysielač, Zem a Vek and the Hlavné Správy website increased.

Political preferences play a role here too. The trust of ĽSNS and Smer supporters in traditional media dropped the most, while it increased the most in the case of ruling coalition supporters.

The poll also suggests that 44 percent of respondents trusted traditional media, while 9.5 percent believe in alternative media and one-third of respondents have confidence in both. As many as 12 percent said they do not trust any media at all.
Slovenia

Polls shows Slovenians generally happy with govt’s tackling of epidemic

27 May

Slovenians have given the government's efforts to fight the coronavirus a generally positive mark, a poll carried out by market research agency Mediana showed on Wednesday. Over 43% are satisfied with the government's measures designed to fight the virus and their relaxation, whereas almost 34% are unsatisfied with them. Of these, 15.5% are completely satisfied and 15% completely unsatisfied with the measures, respectively, which Mediana interprets as the measures being received quite well.

Slovenians are also somewhat split on how the government communicated the adopted restrictive measures and their subsequent relaxation to the public. As many as 42% of those polled consider the communication either poor or slightly better than poor, and 43% see it as good or very good.

The respondents were also asked to agree or disagree with several claims about the government's tackling of the epidemic and its ability to address global challenges. Almost 50% do not trust the government will take the right decisions for Slovenia, as opposed to almost 35% who trust it on this. Conversely, as many as 53% trust it that it will be able to address future global challenges, while 32% do not, which Mediana says shows a rather pessimistic outlook.

Over 50% meanwhile agree with a claim that Slovenia has addressed the epidemic better than other countries, but almost 23% hold the opposite view. Mediana believes the last two figures give the government an overall positive mark about its action during the epidemic. (...)

The survey was carried out online on 15 and 16 May polling 505 Slovenians residents aged 15 to 75.
Spain

*El Español 02/06/2020:*

The sum of PP, Vox and Cs, on the brink of absolute majority for the first time. The coalition government is beginning to erode due to the coronavirus crisis and its impact on the economy. According to the latest SocioMetric survey prepared for EL ESPAÑOL, PP, Vox and Cs would **for the first time be on the brink of an absolute majority if elections were held today.** The three parties go from 43% to 47% of the votes, while PSOE, Podemos, Más País and Compromís drop from 43% to 39%. It would represent the worst moment for the left since in the November 2011 elections the sum of the PSOE plus United Left achieved 36% of the votes. **PSOE continues to lead the intention to vote (26.9%) in front of the PP that, nevertheless, every time cuts more distances until being located to date of today in 24.4% of the suffrages.** The big difference with the previous projections is that the main partners of the socialists lose steam and do not give the numbers to repeat the majority that supported Pedro Sánchez’s inauguration. **Sources:** [https://www.elespanol.com/espana/politica/20200531/pp-vox-cs-borde-primera-mayoria-absoluta/493951119_0.html](https://www.elespanol.com/espana/politica/20200531/pp-vox-cs-borde-primera-mayoria-absoluta/493951119_0.html)

*La Sexta 31/05/2020:*

**Most of the respondents, in favor of the extension of the alarm state (62.3%).** In addition, respondents value the alarm state launched on March 14. Most are in favor of the government asking for a new extension (62.3%), while against it is a third party (35.8%). **Most are also satisfied with the development of the de-escalation carried out by the government: 44.5% are satisfied.** They are followed by those who are neither satisfied nor dissatisfied (28.8%). On the other hand, there are those who are dissatisfied (4.4%) and 4.3% are very dissatisfied with the management of the Executive in the de-escalation. In general terms, the sum of the satisfied is majority to the sum of the dissatisfied.

*El Español 01/06/2020:*

The progressive reactivation of the productive fabric and non-essential activities has not yet convinced citizens in their perception of the health of the Spanish economy. **The 74% believe that the economic situation is bad or very bad.** The ideological affiliation of the respondents affects their perception of whether the situation is "bad" or "very bad", but with few nuances. It highlights the fact that there is not a majority of voters in any party that considers the economic situation to be "neither good nor bad", "good" or "very good". Regarding the employment situation of the respondents, 34.6% affirm "to be working" and believe that they will be able to "continue in the coming months". Subsequently, 7.9% admit to being unemployed but believe that they will recover "work or business". On the other hand, 6% are less optimistic and believe that they will not recover their work or business. Lastly, 3.3% admit to "being working" but consider that they will lose their job or business "at some point in the coming months".
42% believe that the tension has reached the street but do not see the risk of a coup or war. Among the voters who most believe that parliament increasingly resembles its neighbors are those who opt for United We Can and Vox. **42% believe that the tension has reached the street but do not see the risk of a coup or war**

42.3% of Spaniards believe that the tension that has been experienced these days among politicians, in one scenario or another, has reached the streets, and that the Congress of Deputies is "a true reflection of the deterioration of coexistence in Spanish society".

Source: [https://www.elespanol.com/espana/politica/20200531/crispacion-llegado-calle-no-riesgo-golpe-guerra/493951082_0.html](https://www.elespanol.com/espana/politica/20200531/crispacion-llegado-calle-no-riesgo-golpe-guerra/493951082_0.html)
Sweden

Trust is going down for the main actors dealing with COVID-19. Comparisons of death tolls with neighbouring countries and failures to launch testing in big scale are theories behind the decrease.

From SE EPLO, Source KantarSifo n=700 online

58 % still believe Sweden has a good balance between economic interest and public health but the people believing that more focus should be given to public health is increasing.