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.

In concrete terms, this newsletter assembles information on:

- current audience insight data, 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.
- voting intention polls measuring support for governments and opposition parties in light of the COVID-19 crisis
- significant political reactions on measures taken by governments and/or the EU with a likely impact on the shaping of public opinion

Apart from relevant news from the Member States, we would like to draw your attention to the multi-country studies included in this edition:

- A European survey on acceptability and commitment to preventive measures carried by University of Hamurg
- IPSOS global study on climate change and economic recovery, in view of the COVID-19 crisis

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 Covid-19 pandemic

While Europeans continue to be concerned about the health consequences of the coronavirus pandemic, the levels of concern seem to slowly drop compared to previous weeks (e.g.: -10 pp among Czech respondents, -6 pp in Germany). Citizens’ most serious concerns now relate to the future and their life after the crisis, with a shift from health concerns to worries about the financial and economic impact of the crisis.

- One out of three Belgian respondents is very worried about the future, while 6 in 10 are afraid the coronavirus crisis will have a negative impact on their income.
- A majority of Spanish respondents expect their lives to be very different after the pandemic.
- 66% of French respondents are worried about the exit phase.
- 47% of Italians feel that we are currently experiencing the peak of the crisis. 24% believe that the worst is still to come while 62% feel that this is a very serious crisis and that it will last for long.
- 85% of respondents in the Netherlands expect unemployment to rise in the next 12 months.
- 73% of Portuguese respondents are certain that the economic crisis will be worse than the crisis of 2008.

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

Support for government measures remains high in a majority of countries with available survey data, although there are some slight declines - probably related to a ‘corona crisis fatigue’. In France, 63% of respondents have a negative opinion of their government’s proposed exit plans. In Italy, while showing a general approval of measures, those adopted in favour of families and enterprises against the economic crisis are considered not appropriate by 54% of respondents. 55% of German respondents rate their country’s exit strategy as “about right”.

Although with some major exceptions reported in the newsletter, the Covid-19 strengthened public approval for a number of governments or politicians:

- In Bulgaria, 68% approve the actions of the Prime Minister – according to a Gallup International survey this amounts to a doubling of the approval rate compared to the months prior to the crisis
- In Denmark, the governing Social Democrats received the highest support ever measured since the parliamentary elections in 1990
- 33,8% of Italians declare that their opinion about the Prime Minister improved during the crisis
- In Germany, 83% approve the Chancelor’s work and 90% approve the government’s work during the corona crisis
- In Portugal, respondents’ trust in the Prime Minister and the President reaches 7,3 out of 10
- The Swedish Prime Minister’s approval went up from 23,6 % in February to 30,6% in April

3) Attitudes towards the EU’s responses

The majority of surveys do not focus on the EU’s response to the corona crisis, with relevant data available in but a few countries. In Italy, a great majority of respondents (66%) do not trust the EU. 35% believe that Italy should fight for Eurobonds and not accept the ESM proposal. 30% would like the country to fight for Eurobonds while also accepting the ESM proposal. In Austria, support to remain in the EU remains high with 73%. Regarding the EU budget, 29% of Austrians think it should increase, 42% believe it should remain the same and 29% think that it should decrease.
A majority of Europeans support the measures to slow the spread of the new coronavirus (Covid-19), as proposed by governments and the World Health Organisation (WHO), according to a study published by the ‘Hamburg Centre for Health Economics’ (University of Hamburg, Germany). Of the 7,500 people surveyed in seven European countries (Germany, Denmark, France, Italy, Great Britain, Portugal and the Netherlands), 61.6% believe that their country has reacted correctly to the pandemic. Only 16% do not support the measures taken, the academic study published on Thursday shows.

“In principle, a uniform picture is emerging in Europe with broad popular support for the political measures already taken”, said Jonas Schreyögg, Scientific Director of the Hamburg Centre for Health Economics and one of the authors of the study.

High approval ratings were given, in particular, to the decisions to not allow public events to take place (85%), to close borders (82.9%) and schools (80%).

“We found interesting results for two measures that were the subject of particularly intensive media discussion: the export ban on medical equipment, and the use of mobile data for tracking infected people,” said Schreyögg, adding that the response noticeably varied country to country. (...) For data tracking apps to identify people who have been in contact with infected people, the responses per country were even more varied. While less than half of the people in the Netherlands (42%), Denmark (47%) and Germany (49%) were in favour of such an app, Italy, which has been particularly hard hit by the virus, saw 85% not minding such an app, with 71% being actively in favour of one. The main worry for people across Europe, is overburdening the health care system, followed by the economic implications, especially for small businesses, and a possible recession.

The fear of becoming unemployed is greatest in Italy and Portugal, and lowest in Germany. In all countries, respondents are concerned about how the pandemic might change people, with society becoming more selfish.

Countering COVID-19: A European survey on acceptability and commitment to preventive measures

(…) The fieldwork took place from April 2 to April 15 using an online questionnaire addressing such issues as people’s risk perceptions, support of containment policies, trust in information, worries, vaccination attitudes, and prevention behavior in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. Within this project, the survey will be conducted again twice in May and in June.

Here are some selected highlights out of the first results. (…)
Trust in sources of information

Policy Support

- Policy Support
  All countries combined

- Suspend all public gatherings for three months

- Close all borders to deny entry to foreign travellers for three months

- Close schools and universities for three months
Climate Change as serious as Coronavirus: Majority wants climate prioritised in economic recovery

IPSOS, 22/04/2020


Recent polling by Ipsos conducted across 14 countries globally shows that 66% of Britons believe that in the long-term Climate Change is as serious a crisis as COVID-19, this compares to 71% on average across those 14 countries.
Future uncertainty: Why people don’t see a quick economic recovery from coronavirus
IPSOS, 20/04/2020


The majority of people in 10 out of the 15 countries surveyed say a quick economic recovery is unlikely once the lockdown from the pandemic is lifted, with this sentiment highest in hard-hit European countries. Nearly three in four people in Spain (76%), and France (72%) are most negative about a quick recovery, followed by those in Italy (68%), the United Kingdom (67%), Russia and Japan (64%).

Many think it’s unlikely the economy will recover quickly once COVID-19 lockdown is over
IPSOS, 17/04/2020


These are the results of an Ipsos survey conducted April 9th to 12th, 2020 on the Global Advisor online platform among 28,000 adults aged 18-74 in Canada and the United States and 16-74 in Australia, Brazil, China, France, Germany, Italy, India, Japan, Mexico, Russia, Vietnam and the United Kingdom.
DO YOU THINK THE ECONOMY WILL RECOVER QUICKLY ONCE THE LOCKDOWN IS OVER?

- **Strongly/somewhat agree**
- **Strongly/somewhat disagree**
- **Don't know**

![Bar chart showing percentages of people in different countries who agree or disagree with the statement.](image)

20,000 adults polled in 15 countries from April 5-12, 2020.

DO YOU THINK THE RESTRICTIONS ON TRAVEL AND MANDATES OF SELF-ISOLATION WILL NOT STOP THE SPREAD OF COVID-19?

- **Mar 19-21**
- **Mar 26-28**
- **April 2-4**
- **April 9-12**
- **% strongly/somewhat agree**

![Line chart showing trends over time and across countries.](image)

20,000 adults polled in 15 countries from April 5-12, 2020.
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Austria

Survey: More and more people find corona measures exaggerated
Kurier, 23/04/2020 [in DE, POMU translation]

The drastic measures of the Austrian government in the fight against the spread of the coronavirus received the approval of 90 percent of the population about four weeks ago. In the meantime, however, more and more people consider the measures to be excessive, as the results of a recent Market Institute survey show: Only 79 percent of the 1,000 respondents think that the measures are justified. 21 percent think that the measures are exaggerated - especially entrepreneurs and FPÖ voters are of this opinion. 88 percent of the respondents also think that Austria has the virus under control.

According to the survey, approval of government policy is declining. While four weeks ago, 50 percent were enthusiastic about the government's actions, the current comparative figure is only 41 percent. Chancellor Sebastian Kurz (ÖVP), Vice-Chancellor Werner Kogler and Health Minister Rudolf Anschober (both Greens) also lost ground with their supporters. The support for Kurz fell - in this particular survey - from 57 to 47 percent, that of Kogler from 42 to 32 percent.

Nevertheless, respondents are glad that Austria is not following the same path in the fight against the coronavirus as Sweden: When asked whether the Swedish way would be better suited to deal with the corona crisis, 63 percent answered with a clear "no".


ÖGfE Survey: Corona crisis - high approval of EU membership, low to higher EU budget
ÖGfE, 23/04/2020 [in DE, POMU translation]

Although Austrians would like to see more economic policy commitment from the EU, especially in times of crisis, a higher EU budget is currently not very popular. The effects of the Corona crisis on the - generally high - approval of EU membership are currently limited. This is the result of an Austria-wide survey by the Austrian Society for European Politics (ÖGfE), conducted by telephone between 30 March and 14 April.

73 percent of Austrians currently support the idea that their country should remain a member of the EU - a decrease of two points compared to the last comparative survey taken in December 2019. 13 percent are in favour of leaving the Union, an increase of 5 percentage points. 15 percent take no position (-2pp).

Almost nine out of ten respondents (87 percent) consider it necessary for the European Union to become more involved globally "in the economic sphere", while just under one-tenth (9 percent) do not consider this necessary, and 4 percent do not express an opinion on the matter. With regard to the amount of the future EU budget, the Austrians are divided. 29 per cent would like to see an increase, 29 per cent would also like to see a reduction. 42 percent say that the current EU budget is sufficient to meet the challenges ahead.

The current survey was carried out by the Social Science Research Association from 30 March to 14 April on behalf of the ÖGfE (Tel SWS 290). A total of 512 persons throughout Austria were interviewed by telephone (representative of the Austrian population aged 16 and over/weighted by gender, age and education). Maximum fluctuation margin approx. +/- 4.3 percent. Difference to 100 percent due to rounded values.

Source: https://oegfe.at/2020/04/23_umfrage_eu_budget/
Belgium

Après le Covid-19, 6 Belges sur 10 craignent pour leur portefeuille
L'Echo.be, 20/04

Avec la crise du coronavirus, plus d'un Belge sur trois a de fortes craintes pour l'avenir, et 6 sur 10 craignent que la crise du coronavirus ait un impact négatif sur leurs revenus. Paradoxe: la majorité d'entre eux ne prévoient pas de dépenser moins une fois "déconfinés".

Alors que se profile doucement la perspective d'un déconfinement au moins partiel, les sondages prospectifs risquent d'éclorer comme fleurs au printemps. Un premier sondage, réalisé auprès de 1.000 Belges (marge d'erreur: 3%) par le bureau d'études AQRate à la demande de trois sociétés de marketing et de relations publiques (Mission-Systole, Spike et Origami), s'attarde sur le degré de stress des Belges en ces temps de pandémie.

Sans surprise, le Belge ne baigne pas dans l'optimisme: 53,6% des personnes interrogées sont inquiètes pour leurs proches et 20,9% sont anxieuses par rapport à leur situation personnelle.

Près de six Belges sur dix craignent que la crise du coronavirus ait un impact négatif sur leurs revenus. Mais ce sont surtout les Bruxellois (72%) et les Wallons (68%) qui s’inquiètent. Un Flamand sur deux ne s’attend pas à un impact négatif sur son train de vie.

Assez étonnamment, le Belge ne semble malgré tout guère enclin à revoir son train de vie à la baisse. 75% des Flamands, 64% des Wallons et 56% des Bruxellois prévoient en effet de dépenser autant, voire davantage que d’habitude après le confinement. […]

Les trois quarts des Belges (76%) se disent prêts à acheter davantage de produits locaux, et 58% entendent privilégier les commerces de proximité. Reste à voir si cette intention se traduira sur le long terme dans la réalité. D’autant que 83% des personnes sondées affirment qu’elles resteront fidèles à leur grande surface favorite pour la remercier du travail accompli pendant la crise.

Coronavirus en Belgique: un travailleur sur cinq craint de perdre son emploi
Rtl.be/Belga , 20 avril 2020

Près d’un travailleur sur 5 (18%) craint de perdre son emploi à la suite de la crise du coronavirus, ressort-il du 11e baromètre annuel du groupe de services en ressources humaines Acerta publié lundi.

Le sondage, auquel un millier de personnes ont répondu, a été réalisé en plein confinement. Sans surprise, la crise a un effet important sur la mobilité des travailleurs, 40% d’entre eux ne comptant pas changer d’emploi pour l’instant même si une opportunité se présentait, contre 26% l’an passé et 10% seulement il y a 5 ans. "Nous sommes passés de la mobilité d’emploi à une immobilité de l’emploi. Mais ça ne veut pas dire que les travailleurs ne sont pas prêts à assumer de nouvelles missions ou de nouvelles tâches au sein de leur entreprise", a expliqué Nele Ronsmans, senior consultant chez Acerta.

Près d’un travailleur sur cinq craint par ailleurs de perdre son emploi en raison de la crise sanitaire et de son impact économique sur les entreprises. Moins de 30% des sondés ont toutefois déjà eu une conversation avec leur hiérarchie pour aborder la suite des événements.
Coronavirus et confinement: comment les Belges s'informent-ils?

Les Belges s'informent principalement via la télévision depuis le début du confinement, selon un sondage réalisé par l'institut de sondages Dedicated et l'entreprise Whyte Corporate Affairs.

Les résultats révèlent que deux Belges sur trois (66%) ont consulté plusieurs médias fréquemment pour suivre l'évolution de la crise sanitaire. Pour près d'une personne interrogée sur deux (45%), la télévision est la première source d'information. La télévision a vu ses audiences augmenter le plus depuis le début du confinement: plus de la moitié des personnes interrogées (63%) déclarent regarder plus souvent la télévision pour suivre les informations, selon les résultats du sondage réalisé auprès de 1.500 personnes durant le week-end de Pâques du 10 au 14 avril.

Médias en ligne et réseaux sociaux

Les quotidiens sont également une source d'information importante. Ils sont davantage lus, mais principalement en ligne: 48% des Belges indiquent lire davantage de journaux en ligne, tandis que 18% seulement indiquent consulter plus fréquemment le journal papier. En comparaison, la popularité des magazines est en baisse. Seuls 16% des répondants surfent plus fréquemment sur les sites en ligne des magazines et 10% consultent plus souvent un magazine papier.

D'après les résultats du sondage, les jeunes recourent pour leur part plus souvent aux médias sociaux pour suivre l'actualité (59% contre 33% pour la moyenne des Belges).

Autres informations

Par ailleurs, 82% des Belges interrogés se déclarent satisfaits de la qualité de la couverture médiatique. Parmi ceux-ci, la moitié se dit même très satisfaite. La satisfaction est plus forte en Flandre (88%) qu'à Bruxelles (77%) et qu’en Wallonie (75%).

Par ailleurs, les Belges sont demandeurs d’autres nouvelles que celles liées au coronavirus, d’après l’enquête. Près de la moitié des Belges (44%) pensent également que les médias accordent trop d’attention à la pandémie. C’est le cas de 52% en Wallonie et 54% à Bruxelles. La tendance est un peu moins forte en Flandre avec 34%. Les personnes sondées souhaitent davantage d’informations à propos de la santé et du bien-être (68%), 64% sur l’économie et l’emploi et 51% sur l’environnement et le climat.

Belgique: y aura-t-il un nouveau gouvernement fédéral en septembre?

Georges-Louis Bouchez, le président du MR, ne l’évoquait pas directement ce matin sur les antennes de la Première mais il précisait que: "la confiance a été donnée à l’actuel gouvernement fédéral jusque la prochaine rentrée parlementaire. Il y aura donc une discussion politique à la fin septembre qui devra se passer. L’actuel gouvernement fédéral a une durée de vie de 6 mois a priori."

Dans une interview jeudi Sophie Wilmès, la Première ministre, disait à peu près la même chose. Mais elle était beaucoup moins catégorique sur le calendrier en expliquant que "dès que ce sera possible, je souhaiterais encore que l’on puisse reposer à ce pays un gouvernement majoritaire." Et Sophie Wilmès de rajouter que la confiance avait été accordée à son gouvernement sans date limite. [...]"Cela recommence à bouger"

Et, sans surprise, hier, c’est Bart De Wever qui est le premier à être remonté au créneau. Depuis un mois, il s’était fait discret. Il a profité de la fin des vacances de Pâques pour montrer qu’il était toujours là. Le parti nationaliste flamand vient de vivre, il est vrai, douze mois difficiles. Une baisse conséquente aux élections
de l'an dernier au détriment du Vlaams Belang. Un Vlaams Belang donné en tête dans tous les sondages depuis. Et, face à la crise sanitaire, vu la configuration politique au fédéral, la N-VA est sur la touche. Et, en plus, la Flandre comme toutes les régions du monde, voit sa prospérité économique frappée de plein fouet.

Et le message de Bart De Wever est sans surprise. Il sait que c'est au niveau fédéral que la relance économique se décidera essentiellement. Du coup, il se redit disponible pour former un nouveau gouvernement fédéral mais...à ses conditions. "Nous sommes toujours prêts à des compromis. Mais selon notre logique, nos intérêts, le programme que nous jugeons important avec la majorité que la Flandre doit donner à ce pays. Sinon, ça ne marchera pas. Mais j'espère que certains ne seront pas assez bêtes pour se laisser dominer par le PS et Ecolo."

La crainte de Bart De Wever est sans doute toujours la même: être sur la touche au fédéral si la coalition Vivaldi, associant socialistes, libéraux, écologistes et chrétiens-démocrates, les partis qui ont accepté de soutenir le gouvernement Wilmès, se mettait finalement en place dans quelques mois. [...] 

«Après-Corona: les jeunes, ces experts»
Le Soir, 21/04
Carte blanche par Norman Vander Putten, Oriane Schmidt et Nadège Carlier*

[... ] Deux raisons justifient que le politique leur tende une oreille très attentive.

D'abord, les jeunes sont d'ores et déjà un public particulièrement précarisé. Selon Statbel, 9,3 % des jeunes entre 15 et 24 ans n'exerçaient en 2019 aucun emploi et ne suivaient aucun enseignement, ni aucune formation. C'est énorme. Ces chiffres risquent de s'aggraver: l'économiste Bart Cockx de l'UGent indiquait récemment que plus de 100.000 jeunes sortant de l'enseignement vont éprouver plus de difficultés à trouver un emploi au vu du contexte. Parce que l'humeur ambiante n'est certainement pas à l'optimisme les concernant, il est donc essentiel que leur réalité soit adéquatement prise en compte parmi cet océan d'opinions sur l'après-corona.
Bulgaria

Second Wave of Global Polling. Around the Globe: Worries about the Disease and Poverty. Support for the Authorities. Same in Bulgaria with some Important Specifics
Gallup International, 21/04/2020

In Bulgaria, government measures remain very well accepted, but concerns about job losses are growing. The threat of the disease is taken noticeably more seriously now than a month ago. Yet, Bulgarians remain one of the societies that doubt the significance of the threat. Bulgarians are willing to sacrifice some of their human rights, yet it seems that the peak of that readiness has passed.

- 69% of Bulgarians are more or less afraid that they or their families may actually catch the virus.
- Government measures in Bulgaria are still highly evaluated – 77% of positive attitudes registered in the international survey (and a similar result of 75% registered in a national survey just a few days ago). Right before the introduction of the state of emergency this share was 60%. With this growth over the past month, Bulgaria is among the countries where the confidence in the authorities has increased the most after the outbreak of the emergency measures.
- At the beginning of April 55% of the Bulgarians considered that the threat is exaggerated or even strongly exaggerated. A few days earlier a similar national snap poll confirmed this evaluation with almost identical results.
- 78% of adult Bulgarian respondents claim that they are more or less ready to sacrifice some of their human rights, if it would help overcoming the disease – compared to 83% just before the emergency measures were introduced. Just a few days ago the national wave of the survey registered 73%. Bulgaria remains in the middle of the international “ranking” of countries for this indicator, but is also among the few countries in which the acceptance of limiting rights actually shows signs of decline.
- 57% believe that after the pandemic, the world will change dramatically, and another 57% believe that in tomorrow’s world the main forces will show more cooperation instead of confrontation.
- However, the concerns about losing jobs are deepening. 22% say that have lost a serious part of their income. 14% declare that they have temporarily stopped working. 8% of the Bulgarians report that their workday has been reduced. The respondents had given more than one answer.
- 9% say they even have lost their job – a serious increase within a few weeks with a tripling from mid-March, where this results came in at 3%. 22% of the Bulgarians agree with the provocative statement that democracy is not effective in this crisis, while 78% do not share this opinion.


Gallup International
Gallup International, 16/04/2020 [in BG, EPLO summary]

In a national survey conducted on 13-15/04/2020 among 800 respondents, 75% of Bulgarians agree that the Bulgarian government is doing well in the coronavirus situation (24% disagree). 68% approve the actions of the Prime Minister – twice the higher approval rate in comparison to the months prior the crisis.

The worry of infection remains high: 68% of the Bulgarians say they are afraid that they or their families may get infected. At the same time, 56% continue to find the threat exaggerated, while 39% do not agree with this statement. 73% are ok to sacrifice rights in the name of combating the coronavirus, whereas 24% disagree.

Source: https://www.gallup-international.bg/43177/new-coronavirus-snap-poll/
Croatia

STUDY on government’s measures: Half citizens to keep strict measures, half to loosen
https://vijesti.hrt.hr/607314/hrejting-pola-graana-za-zadrzavanje-stroghih-mjera-pola-za-popustanje
22/04/2020

- 64% say the country heads in the right direction during the pandemic, 26% say it is the wrong one
- 87,6% support the restrictive measures imposed to fight the virus
- 82,9% support the economy recovery package proposed by the government
- Respondents are split 50/50 on the question whether restrictions should get lifted
- 70,9% support salaries cut in the public sector

Methodology: Survey by Promotion Plus Agency conducted from April 15-18 on a sample of 1400 respondents.

Parliament Speaker Says Election Date Has Not Been Discussed Yet
Total Croatia News.com 16 April 2020

According to Parliament Speaker Gordan Jandroković parliament had entirely fulfilled its role in the current coronavirus pandemic, noting that the date of the next parliamentary election had not been discussed yet. "At this moment, continuing the fight against the coronavirus and citizens' health and lives are our absolute priority. We have not thought about or discussed a date for the elections," Jandroković said in an interview with the HRT public broadcaster. **He noted that elections could be held in December at the latest.**

CNB Governor Boris Vujcic: Croatian GDP Dropping Three Percent Every Month
Total Croatia News.com, Tuesday, 21 April 2020

As Poslovni Dnevnik writes on the 21 April, 2020, Croatian National Bank Governor Boris Vujcic spoke on Dnevnik N1 about moves the Croatian National Bank (CNB/HNB) is making in connection with the ongoing coronavirus crisis. He said that Croatia is currently in an unusual situation, as is the case when part of the economy needs to be shut down. According to the IMF estimates each month of shutting down the economy might bring a three-point drop in GDP, said Boris Vujcic, adding that at the moment the need to finance the budget is adding up to about ten billion kuna a month.

Škoro Accuses Government of Rehabilitating Socialist System Through COVID Measures
Total Croatia News.com Sunday, 19 April 2020

Homeland Movement party leader Miroslav Škoro on Saturday criticised the government's measures to contain COVID-19 as "an economic motorway towards the Middle Ages". He said that the measures imposed to curb the spread of the infection could “thwart the future of our children for ever. Epidemiologists cannot be the only measure for everything that now happens," this famous pop singer and businessman-turned-politician says in his Facebook video message. “If things do not start going back to normal next two weeks in a sensible manner, the country will collapse, the International Monetary Fund will come and our family silver will be sold off", Škoro warns, adding that the current developments are an attempt to rehabilitate the failed Socialist system. He accused the current government of making use of the containment measures for their political scores and for imposing surveillance of citizens and criticised all Croatian governments since the 2000s for having failed to prepare the country for emergency situations such as the current one.
Czech Republic

Czechs stop being afraid at the time of coronavirus.
Server novinky.cz, 23/4

In a survey conducted by the Behavio agency in two waves (March and April), czech respondents were asked questions such as: How are the Czechs doing after more than a month of a state of emergency? How did the measures affect their work, income, savings and debts? What do people say about each step of the government and does the smart quarantine support it?

A significant change is the drop in the number of people (by 10 percentage points) who are afraid.

The vast majority of people fear the economic impact of a pandemic rather than coronavirus itself and the threat to public health. Almost half of men and more than a third of women say they are comfortable at this time. These groups are equally divided over the question of whether they are afraid of financial failure: almost half of men and more than a third of women expect only a slight outage.

Details and graphs: https://www.novinky.cz/ekonomika/clanek/pruzkum-cesi-se-v-dobe-koronaviru-prestavaji-bat-40321286

The coronavirus bill scares the Czechs more than the health effects
Server idnes.cz, 17/4

Half of Czechs consider the economic effects of coronavirus to be a greater danger than covid-19 infection alone. Only people over the age of 65 are more afraid of health than money. The majority of the population expects a loss of income due to the crisis; 16 percent of Czechs are already experiencing it.

Denmark

Highest measurement for the governing Social Democrats ever in Epinion’s lifetime and since the parliamentary elections in 1990
24/04/2020

https://www.dr.dk/nyheder/politik/ny-maaling-socialdemokratiet-staar-til-den-stoerste-opbakning-i-30-aar

Almost a quarter of the population thinks that the government’s action is going too far
23/04/2020


A survey by the University of Aarhus and Epinion says that 22% of respondents are sceptical of the government’s policies, but a clear majority still supports them.
France

Coronavirus: les soignants se sentent aimés par les Français mais délaissés par l'Etat, selon un sondage
Sondage Odoxa paru le 17/04 intitulé "Des soignants cruellement touchés par le Covid-19, mais plus aimés que jamais par les Français" pour MNH, Le Figaro Santé et France Info :

97% des Français affirment faire confiance au personnel hospitalier dans la lutte contre le coronavirus. En revanche, 64% ne font pas confiance au gouvernement pour gérer cette crise sanitaire. Selon l'enquête, 76% considèrent que l'État a failli à limiter au maximum la propagation de l'épidémie, une critique que partage le personnel soignant (81%), également interrogé par Odoxa.

Fort de cette reconnaissance des Français, 76% du personnel soignant se sent aimé par la population, toujours selon les chiffres révélés par France info. Le même pourcentage estime cependant ne pas avoir été soutenu par l'État, notamment sur des questions de moyens et de matériel mis à disposition.

La perspective d'un déconfinement à partir du 11 mai prochain est loin de soulager l'ensemble des Français.
Sondage Elabe paru le 22/04 intitulé "Le déconfinement inquiète les deux-tiers des Français" avec BFMTV :
https://elabe.fr/coronavirus-vague10/

Dans le détail, le début du déconfinement annoncé par Emmanuel Macron, à partir du 11 mai prochain avec la réouverture progressive des établissements scolaires, préoccupe les deux tiers des Français interrogés. 66% d'entre eux se disent actuellement inquiets, dont 14% très inquiets. A l'inverse, 34% se disent confiants et seuls 3% très confiants.

....les Français sont aujourd'hui une majorité (63%) à porter une opinion négative sur la préparation du déconfinement par les autorités politiques et sanitaires: un chiffre en hausse de 11 points par rapport à la semaine précédente.

La confiance accordée à l'exécutif pour gérer cette crise s'établit cette semaine à 42% (-3 points par rapport à mercredi dernier), et se retrouve ainsi quasiment à son plus bas niveau depuis le 21 mars dernier, alors qu'il était de 41%. Et lorsqu'on leur demande quel pays gère, selon eux, le mieux cette crise sanitaire sans précédent, 3 Français sur 4 (73%) citent l'Allemagne en comparaison à la France.

Les Français face au coronavirus : après un mois de confinement
Sondage IPSOS paru le 21/04 intitulé "Les Français face au coronavirus : après un mois de confinement "

Coronavirus : la défiance et la colère envers la gestion du gouvernement s'installent
Le taux d'insatisfaits est passé de 46% à 58% en un mois, même si l'immense majorité des personnes approuvent les mesures, selon une enquête Ipsos-Sopra Steria pour le Cevipof.

Pour les Français, la baisse de la dette n'est plus une priorité
Consensuelle dans l'opinion lors de la dernière campagne présidentielle, la lutte contre l'augmentation du déficit budgétaire n'est plus souhaitée par les Français dans la crise sanitaire et économique actuelle, selon l'enquête Ipsos-Sopra Steria pour le Cevipof.
Le confinement, reflet des inégalités sociales liées au logement et au niveau de revenu des Français
La manière de vivre la crise sanitaire et économique est très dépendante du niveau de vie, selon l’enquête Ipsos-Sopra Steria pour le Cevipof.

Une crise de la représentation politique plus forte que jamais
Sondage IPSOS paru le 17/04 intitulé "Une crise de la représentation politique plus forte que jamais":
https://www.ipsos.com/fr-fr/une-crise-de-la-representation-politique-plus-forte-que-jamais

Progression des partis dits « populistes », mouvement des Gilets Jaunes, rejet croissant des médias, défiance généralisée aboutissant à une montée du complotisme. Les symptômes d’une rupture de plus en plus forte entre le peuple et les élites sont nombreux dans les démocraties occidentales, et notamment en France.

Les Français ne semblent pas avoir une opinion très claire de ce que sont les « élites », ou même de leur existence concrète : ainsi, 77% affirment que cette notion ne « renvoie pas à une réalité concrète » à leurs yeux, un chiffre qui monte même à 81% parmi les employés et les ouvriers, à 87% chez ceux qui ont un niveau de diplôme inférieur au baccalauréat ou encore à 84% chez les sympathisants RN ou encore, autant de catégories supposément les plus anti-élites.

Pour autant, la fracture entre le peuple et les élites est très nette : plus de huit Français sur dix (85%) estiment que les élites politiques, économiques ou encore médiatiques « ont des intérêts fondamentalement différents de ceux de la grande majorité de la population », une opinion qui est largement majoritaire dans toutes les catégories sociales, générationnelles ou politiques.

BAROMÈTRE QUOTIDIEN DE SUIVI DE LA CRISE DU COVID 19 : VAGUE 34 : 21 avril 2020
Baromètre de suivi quotidien BVA de la crise du Covid-19 – Vague 34 intitulé “Comment les Français vivent-ils la période actuelle ?” avec Europe1 et Orange :
https://www.bva-group.com/sondages/barometre-quotidien-de-suivi-de-crise-covid-19-vague-34/

Ainsi, la perception de la crise n’a guère évolué au cours des derniers jours. Une majorité relative de Français continue de penser que « le pire est devant nous » (41%, + 1 point depuis hier) même si cet indicateur s’est effondré en un mois (on le mesure aujourd’hui 40 points plus bas que son niveau le plus élevé, le 23 mars). La proportion d’individus qui pensent que les choses vont rester stables revient à 35%, après un « pic » à 38% hier. Enfin, la proportion de Français qui estiment que « le pire est derrière nous » demeure très minoritaire et progresse très lentement (15%, +1 point depuis la veille).

Le moral des Français se stabilise également, avec une note moyenne de 6,4/10 comme les jours précédents.

La seule évolution notable de cette vague concerne l’organisation du travail pour les télétravailleurs et notamment la gestion des enfants : 64% des salariés en télétravail estiment qu’il est facile de travailler de chez eux (-4 points depuis hier, -7 points depuis dimanche). Mais surtout, parmi eux, 64% des parents estiment qu’il est facile de s’occuper de leurs enfants, c’est 10 points de moins qu’hier et 17 points de moins que ce week-end.
Coronavirus : la confiance dans le gouvernement pour faire face à la crise
Sondage IFOP paru le 20/04 relatif à "la confiance dans le gouvernement pour faire face à la crise" en partenariat avec Le Journal du Dimanche :

Après l’intervention d’Emmanuel Macron lundi dernier pour annoncer une sortie du confinement à partir du 11 mai, la confiance des Français dans le gouvernement pour faire face efficacement au coronavirus remonte, mais reste minoritaire.

Ainsi, 46% des Français déclarent lui faire confiance, une augmentation de +8 points par rapport à la semaine précédente. Par proximité partisane, se sont les sympathisants La République En Marche qui sont les plus confiants (88%), moins de la moitié chez les sympathisants Les Républicains et Parti Socialiste (respectivement 49 et 46%), tandis que les sympathisants de la France Insoumise et du Rassemblement National sont très minoritaires à faire confiance au gouvernement (respectivement 22 et 20%).
Last week, the federal and state governments decided to relax the corona measures for the first time. **Fifty-five percent of those surveyed think that this is just about right**, 30 percent would have liked a more restrictive approach and 13 percent would have liked more relaxation (the remainder 100 percent here and in the following "don't know").

Restrictions on schools have been lifted and are now to be gradually opened. **53 percent think that this is right**, 12 percent think that schools should reopen more quickly for more pupils and almost a third (32 percent) are in favour of keeping schools closed.

**87 percent (Apr. I: 90 percent) consider the curfew and the ban on more than two people in public to be appropriate.** Similarly, a large majority (81 percent; Apr. I: 80 percent) still believe that enough is being done to protect against the spread of the coronavirus. [...] 

Are you worried about the restrictions of fundamental rights during the corona crisis? - **17% Yes; 82% No**
How do you rate the work of...
Left: Chancellor Merkel (83% approval)
Right: the government during the corona crisis (90% approval)

Left: EU is doing... a good job (35%)/ a bad job (48%) during the corona crisis
Right: Solidarity in the EU will be ... stronger (14%)/ weaker (38%)/ about the same (44%)

Source: https://www.zdf.de/nachrichten/politik/politbarometer-mehrheit-befuerwortet-lockerungen-coronavirus-100.html
The analyses show that at the end of March, when the Corona crisis came to a head, a majority among the people of Germany for extended special powers of the Federal Government to combat the pandemic. Since the federal and state governments first met on 22 March have agreed on a joint approach and after the Bundestag and Bundesrat have.

Once the fast-track procedures have approved decisive legislative packages, the picture changes. **Now a majority rejects such a far-reaching move. With the help of model calculations, we also show that satisfaction with the current federal government is not as high.** Interestingly, the corona pandemic has no significant impact on consent to extended executive powers. However, people who have seen the pandemic perceive a serious threat to themselves, more willing to give the federal government to grant far-reaching powers. The question of the need for far-reaching special powers for the Federal Government is therefore less a question of assessing its but rather a question of people's concrete sense of threat.

**Approval rate to grant special executive powers to the federal government**

*Abbildung 1: Zustimmung zu erweiterten Exekutivbefugnissen für die Bundesregierung im Zeitverlauf*
**Survey: acceptance of corona policy slowly declining**
* Arte, 23/04/2020 [in DE, POMU translation]*

According to a survey, **acceptance among the population in Germany for the corona restrictions remains high, but is increasingly declining**. In the latest survey by Infratest dimap, 74 percent were in favour of the contact restrictions, as the newspapers of the Funke media group report in their Thursday editions. The institute recorded the highest level of approval for the measures in the last week of March with 87 percent. Since then, the figure has been declining.

In the current survey conducted by Infratest dimap on behalf of the German Institute for Economic Research (DIW), 18 percent called the restrictions in public life “excessive”, as the Funkenewspapers quote from the survey they received. Before Easter, this proportion had been 14 percent, and shortly after the holidays it was 17 percent.

According to the survey, 19 percent are still very concerned about their personal health. At the end of March, the figure was 25 percent. A smartphone app for tracking infection chains would be installed by 56 percent of those surveyed. This figure has hardly changed. Around a thousand representatively selected German citizens were interviewed for the survey.


**Corona surveys: Germans find measures appropriate**
*Absatzwirtschaft, 17/04/2020 [in DE, POMU translation]*

Most Germans agree with the corona measures adopted by the German government on Wednesday and consider the partial easing of the restrictions to be appropriate. This is the result of a survey conducted by the Hamburg market research company Appinio. The decision that facilities such as fitness studios and swimming pools will remain closed - 76.6 percent think that is appropriate - and that emergency care for children in day-care centers will be expanded to include other professional groups - 75.4 percent think that is appropriate. Very few Germans think that the measures were "(too) loose". For example, some Germans find the decision (too) lax that the federal government has not introduced a general mask obligation (40.5 percent) and that cultural institutions as well as libraries and archives will be allowed to reopen after May 4 (34.5 percent).

Overall, Germans are satisfied with the crisis management of the federal government. According to the Appinio survey, ten percent of Germans rate crisis management as "very good", 36 percent as "good" and 33 percent as "rather good". Only four percent of Germans in each case find the crisis management "very bad" or "bad".

[...]
The COVID-19 Distance Work Research examined the circumstances of home office and distance work in the light of the coronavirus pandemic in a nationwide poll, conducted between March 27 and April 8 in the form of online survey among 700 respondents. (The results are influenced by the composition of the sample - the sample of the present research is not representative, younger, higher educated, metropolitan respondents were overrepresented).

- The research found that the perception of danger increased since the opening of the survey. Overall, the responses received in week 1 considered the COVID-19 epidemic to be less dangerous.
- 60% of respondents over the age of 55 rated the health risk of the coronavirus as significant or very significant and 40% thought similarly about the financial risk of the pandemic.
- 73% of respondents currently working in Hungary were asked by their employer to work from home on a permanent basis.
- 72% of employers did not indicate a specific date for when the current situation is expected to end and when respondents can return to normal work.
- More than 80% of the respondents have worked from home in the last week, but one in five of them is a new teleworker and did not work from home before.
- One third of respondents felt that they are fully able to carry out their jobs from home and 43% felt that they can perform to almost the same extent. However, new teleworkers feel much less able to perform their tasks - 42% thought that they were not able to perform their normal tasks at all or only to a lesser extent.

![Graph showing the perception of danger due to the epidemic](image-url)
Századvég Group examined the populations’ opinion on the European Unions’ political response to the extraordinary measures introduced by the Hungarian government due to the coronavirus pandemic in a nationwide representative poll during April by interviewing 1,000 adult people.

- 70% of respondents think that the European Union should put aside political debates and instead help Member States, while 23% believe that the coronavirus law resulted in an unjustified, overwhelming government power, so the debate should be held immediately.
- The poll also examined the issue with regard to political self-classification. According to the measures, 85% of right-wing respondents and 61% those in the middle support the avoidance of political debate in the current distressed situation, and 11% and 32%, respectively, do not consider this justified.
Publicus Institute examined the populations’ overall opinion on the authorization act, in a nationwide representative poll, conducted on behalf of Népszava (Hungarian left-wing daily newspaper) between April 14 and 18 by interviewing 1,005 people.

- More than eight out of ten respondents heard that the government had been given almost unlimited power and indefinite time in response to the emergency, and the same number of respondents also heard that the opposition did not vote on the almost unlimited power measure because its deadline was unlimited.
- Nearly two-thirds of respondents agree that the opposition, while agreeing with and supporting the epidemiological part of the law, did not vote for the law because it gives the government an unlimited term. Nearly the same number of respondents also believe that it would have been more appropriate for the government to withdraw the indefinite mandate at the request of the opposition, and thus for the opposition to vote for the law.
- Nearly all of the opposition voters agreed with this procedure of the opposition parties (between 82 and 100% per party), and nearly two-thirds (63%) of the insecure voters as well. Moreover, nearly four out of ten Fidesz voters (36%, against 54%) also tend to agree that the opposition did not vote for the proposal due to the indefinite nature.
The Institute for Social Democracy examined the populations’ overall opinion on the pandemic measures implemented by the Hungarian government, in a nationwide representative poll, conducted in collaboration with Závecz Research between April 14 and 19 by interviewing 1,500 people.

- According to 59% of the respondents, the necessary protective equipment for doctors and nurses was not available in time during the coronavirus epidemic, and 69% said that the population was not able to obtain adequate protective equipment in time.
- Four-fifths of the respondents considers it necessary to increase the wages for health careworkers, but it also supports the one-time gross benefit of HUF 500,000 for their work during the pandemic.
• 58% of respondents support the government's announcement to "rebuild" the 13-month pension.
• Just over half of respondents agree with the government measure that allows university students to graduate without a language exam.
• 90% of respondents support the significant role of the super-rich, billionaires, multinational companies and banks, as well as large Hungarian companies in bearing the burden of the crisis.
• According to the research, on a five-point scale, the public rates the government's response to the health and economic crisis slightly better than average.
Italy

ITALY: POLL (POMU translation)
http://www.sondaggipoliticoelettorali.it/ListaSondaggi.aspx?st=SONDAGGI
Title: Osservatorio EMG
Institute: EMG Acqua
Fieldwork: 21-24/04/2020
Sample: 1789 respondents
Method: panel
Selection of results

Trust in the leaders

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Leader</th>
<th>23/04</th>
<th>1604</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conte</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meloni</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salvini</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zingaretti</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Di Maio</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Berlusconi</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renzi</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calenda</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toti</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crimi</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Do you trust the government?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trust level</th>
<th>23/04</th>
<th>1604</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Positive</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negative</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not know</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ITALY: POLL (POMU translation)
http://www.sondaggipoliticoelettorali.it/ListaSondaggi.aspx?st=SONDAGGI
Title: monitor italia
Institute: tecnè srl
Fieldwork: 19-20/04/2020
Sample: 1000
Method: CATI-CAWI
Selection of results

Your opinion about the way Mr Giuseppe Conte is managing the emergency of the coronavirus is

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Opinion</th>
<th>Italy</th>
<th>North</th>
<th>Centre</th>
<th>South-Islands</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Positive</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negative</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not know</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Your opinion about the way the government has tackled the economic emergency derived from the blocking of all activities is:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Italy</th>
<th>North</th>
<th>Centre</th>
<th>South-Islands</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Positive</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negative</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not know</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ITALY: POLL (POMU translation)
http://www.sondaggipoliticoelettorali.it/ListaSondaggi.aspx?st=SONDAGGI
Title: Le attese e le preoccupazioni degli italiani riguardo alla "fase"
Institute: IPSOS
Fieldwork: 20/04/2020
Sample: 600
Method: CATI
Selection of results

In your opinion, concerning the coronavirus emergency...

The worst is over: 17
This is the peak of the crisis: 47
The worst has still to come: 24
I do not know: 12

ITALY: POLL (POMU translation)
http://www.sondaggipoliticoelettorali.it/ListaSondaggi.aspx?st=SONDAGGI
Title: La situazione politica - 21/4/2020
Institute: Istituto lxé
Fieldwork: 20-21/04/2020
Sample: 1000
Method: CATI - CAWI
Selection of results

Overall, your opinion about the actions taken by the Government of Mr Conte in this emergency is:
Very positive: 13
Quite positive: 50
Not very positive: 23
Not at all positive: 11%
I do not know: 3%
ITALY: POLL (POMU translation)
http://www.sondaggipoliticoelettorali.it/ListaSondaggi.aspx?st=SONDAGGI

In your opinion, in order to obtain the resources needed to invest in the health system and to tackle the economic crisis, Italy should:

- Fight to get the Eurobonds and not accept the ESM: 35%
- Fight to get the Eurobonds and also accept the ESM: 30%
- Act on its own and manage the crisis without the EU: 17%
- I do not Know: 18%

In your opinion, to relaunch of the economy after the end of the emergency, it would be better to:

- Continue with the current government: 40%
- Go to vote and then elect a new government: 25%
- Create a government of national unity: 17%
- I do not know: 18%
Da un punto di vista prettamente economico, secondo lei, l’epidemia del Coronavirus avrà come conseguenza...

![62%](http://13.59.84.54:8000/62.png)
**Una crisi molto grave che durerà a lungo**

![31%](http://13.59.84.54:8000/31.png)
**Una crisi grave, ma l’Italia si riprenderà presto**

![7%](http://13.59.84.54:8000/7.png)
**Difficoltà economiche, ma non una vera crisi**

**ITALY: POLL (POMU translation)**
http://www.sondaggipoliticoelettorali.it/ListaSondaggi.aspx?st=SONDAGGI

Title: Piazza Pulita Sondaggi
Institute: Index Research
Fieldwork: 15/04/2020
Sample: 800
Method: CATI - CAMI - CAWI

**Selection of results**

Would you be ready to renounce to your privacy to allow the tracking of your movements for a more precise mapping of the contagion?
Yes: 56.8%
No: 32.8%
I do not know: 1.3%

**ITALY: POLL (POMU translation)**
http://www.sondaggipoliticoelettorali.it/ListaSondaggi.aspx?st=SONDAGGI

Title: La gestione dell’emergenza
Institute: tecné
Fieldwork: 15-16/04/2020
Sample: 1000
Method: CATI-CAWI

**Selection of results**

Do you trust the measures that the EU will adopt to fight against the crisis?
Yes: 30%
No: 65%
I do not know: 5%
To tackle the economic crisis is it better to stay or to leave the EU?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>In the current situation</th>
<th>If the EU adopted concrete actions</th>
<th>If the EU did not do anything</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Better to stay</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Better to leave</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not know</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Measures adopted by the government in favour of families and enterprises to tackle the economic crisis are appropriate?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th>38%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not know</td>
<td></td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ITALY: POLL (POMU translation)
http://www.sondaggipoliticoelettorali.it/ListaSondaggi.aspx?st=SONDAGGI
Title: Sondaggio su elezioni politiche, coronavirus, UE, Euro, MES
Institute: Termometro Politico
Fieldwork: 14-16/04/2020
Sample: 3400
Method: CAWI
Selection of results

Is your opinion about the Prime Minister Conte...

Improved 33,8%
Positive as before 10,5%
Negative as before 24,7%
Worst 29,5%
I do not know 1,5%

Would you agree with leaving the EU and the Euro?

Yes, both: 40%
Better to leave only the EU: 6,1%
Better to leave only the euro: 7,3%
No, better not to leave 41,7%
I do not know: 4,9%
ITALY: POLL (POMU translation)  
http://www.sondaggipoliticoelettorali.it/ListaSondaggi.aspx?st=SONDAGGI

Title: L'Italia in tempi di Covid-19
Institute: Demopolis
Fieldwork: 14-15/04/2020
Sample: 1500 respondents
Method: CATICAMI CAWI

Do you trust the EU?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>25%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I do not know</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Almost three quarters or 74 percent of Latvia's residents support the government's actions in the fight against the Covid-19 pandemic, while 24 percent have a negative opinion of the government's performance during the crisis, as the market and sociological research agency Latvijas Fakti head Aigars Freimanis told Latvijas Avize newspaper.

According to a recent Latvijas Fakti survey, only 2 percent of respondents had no opinion. That, according to Freimanis, is very unusual as normally during surveys there are significantly more people who have no opinion or do not know what to say.

"Support [for the government's fight against Covid-19] is quite similar in all groups," said Freimanis.

Respondents were also asked how the current situation could affect the well-being of their families. 56 percent of respondents answered that it would have a negative or very negative effect on the financial situation of their families, and only 25 percent said that nothing would happen to their well-being.

Among younger people, 48 percent believe that the crisis will worsen the situation, but a large number of respondents believe that it will not have an impact on their income levels. Interestingly enough, many respondents older than 65 also believe that not much will change in their lives, emphasizing that their pensions are so small that their importance is negligible, said Freimanis.

In total, 1,000 respondents were interviewed for the survey.

Kantar poll: the emergency situation due to Covid-19 has influenced two thirds of Latvians

Source: [https://www.leta.lv/home/important/D6346AB7-EFC4-43C7-B554-9F554F6F8F4/](https://www.leta.lv/home/important/D6346AB7-EFC4-43C7-B554-9F554F6F8F4/)
Translated by EPLO

67% of respondents in Latvia stated that the Covid-19 situation has influenced them significantly, an answer most mentioned by managers and white collars. 32% of working people in Latvia are now teleworking. 43% have changed their daily shopping habits. 26% tend to spend their free time with walks in the nature, while 22% of young respondents aged 18 to 24 continue to do sports at home. 92% of respondents perceive the situation as serious. 43% think that it’s necessary not to panic, but to approach information and what is going on advisedly.

SKDS research centre poll: Russian speaking inhabitants trust Putin more than they trust Latvian PM Kariņš

Translated by EPLO

"TV3 news" programme tells that according to the SKDS research centre poll, Latvians most positively evaluate the epidemiologists' work, but the government’s work is positively evaluated by 46,4% of them.
70.6% of respondents trust most the Disease Prevention and Control centre (SPKC) Infectious diseases risk analysis and prevention department director Jurijs Perevoščikovs - among all officials involved in fighting Covid-19 crisis.

At second place, 55.3% trust the PM Krišjānis Kariņš (JV), while 27% of respondents do not trust politicians. Minister of Health Ilze Viņķele (AP) has the trust of 54.5% of respondents contrarily to 30.8% of them.

Among all the institutions involved in fight against Covid-19, respondents give the highest value to SPKC. SPKC is positively evaluated by 63.7% of respondents, and negatively by 11.2%.

Among Russian speaking inhabitants, Perevoščikovs is evaluated as the most trusted official involved, while 63% of them trust the SPKC epidemiologist. The poll’s results show that Russian speaking respondents trust Vladimir Putin more than PM Kariņš (36.1% of this group of respondents trust to Russian president versus 33.7% who do not).
The Netherlands

**Consumer confidence plummets in NL; Biggest drop in history**

*NLTimes.nl, April 22, 2020*

The coronavirus crisis has been a blow to consumer confidence in the Netherlands, which fell from -2 in March to -22 in April. That is the largest decline ever, though not the lowest that consumer confidence has ever been, Statistics Netherlands reported on Wednesday.

At -22, consumer confidence in April is far below the -5 average of the past two decades. Consumer confidence reached its all-time high at +36 in January 2000 and its all time low at -41 in March 2013.

The economic climate sub-indicator for consumer confidence dropped from -8 in March to -31 in April. "Consumers have never been as negative about the economy in the next twelve months as in April 2020," the stats office said. Consumers’ willingness to buy also plummeted, from +2 in March to -17 in April, the largest decrease ever.

People in the Netherlands were also much more negative about future unemployment in April. About 85 percent of respondents expect unemployment to rise in the next 12 months, and only eight percent predict a decline. That brings consumer expectations for unemployment to -78.
Poland

Poland president may win landslide as opposition voters stay away: poll
Reuters, 23/04/2020

Polish President Andrzej Duda, an ally of the ruling nationalists, may be re-elected next month by a landslide, an opinion poll showed on Thursday, as the opposition renewed calls for a delay to the vote due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Scheduled for May 10, the election has been the subject of heated political debate in Poland, with critics accusing the Law and Justice (PiS) government of putting political gain ahead of public health in insisting the vote be held as scheduled.

PiS says a postal ballot, which it is trying to organise instead of using polling stations, will ensure the election can be held safely, even as its officials say the pandemic has yet to peak in Poland.

(...) The opinion poll, conducted on April 2-12 for the European Council for Foreign Relations think tank and published by the Gazeta Wyborcza daily, showed Duda capturing 65% of the vote. None of the runners-up would reach double digits, it showed.

An ECFR expert said Duda’s sharp gains in the poll-his support hovered around 40% before the pandemic - suggested much of the centrist and leftist electorate which opposes him was unlikely to participate in the election.

“This is their opposition to the very idea of organizing an election at this time,” Pawel Zerka, a policy fellow at ECFR said.

The poll showed nearly three-quarters of Poles opposed a May presidential election, with only 29% saying they would vote. Election turnout came to 55% when Duda first won the presidency in 2015.

Conversely, the poll showed Duda winning only 39% of votes if the election were held later, after the pandemic subsides, forcing him to compete in a second round two weeks later. Opinion polls conducted before the election showed Duda would struggle to win a runoff. (...)
Portugal

Attitude towards crisis, reactions/perceptions to the pandemy
Jornal de Negócios and Correio da Manhã 22/04/2020

Further details published from the Intercampus poll for Jornal de Negócios and Correio da Manhã/CMTV, show that 45.9% of those enquired believe that the pandemic will not go on for more than two months. Furthermore, 46% place the fear of catching the virus over that of the economic crisis – making this the greatest source of anxiety amongst the population. The majority (73%) are certain that the economic crisis will be worse than the crisis of 2008.


Government measures:
Jornal de Negocios 18/04/2020

The Government’s decision to make the execution of sentences more flexible and grant pardons to some prisoners due to the pandemic was one of the measures adopted by the Executive led by António Costa that generated more controversy.

To the question “Do you agree that there is a release of prisoners in Portugal because of the virus?” 53.6% of respondents responded negatively. The measure has the support of 37.2% and there are still 9.1% of respondents who do not know or do not answer.

Trust in government and public institutions:  
*Jornal de Negocios 19/04/2020*

Survey: Costa and Marcelo handle pandemic better than DGS and Marta Temido

The Portuguese positively evaluate the way in which the various actors have dealt with the covid-19 pandemic, the survey shows.

*Qualidade de desempenho perante o COVID 19, numa escala de 0 a 10 (média)*


Attitude towards crisis, reactions/perceptions to the pandemy

*Marktest 14/04/2020; Sol 17/04/2020; Jornal I 17/04/2020*

The latest poll by Marktest quoted in Sol and Jornal i, notes that 96.6% of Portuguese are sure they will suffer from cuts to their income as a result of the crisis triggered by COVID-19. From this, 33% feel that they have already suffered financial impact. Still, 68.6% claim they continue to have the financial ability to deal with domestic bills, whilst 28% note that they already feel some economic difficulty, whilst 3% not they are unable to deal with domestic expenses. The fear of becoming contaminated remains the highest source of anxiety for the respondents, followed by economic problems.

Furthermore, 99% of the respondents continue to believe that COVID-19 is a real threat, whilst 19% personally know someone who has been contaminated by the virus. For those within the area of Porto, the percentage rises to 27%.

Romania

Voting Intentions, Attitudes & Behaviour

Avangarde survey studied the perceptions of Romanians during the state of emergency and found that:
- 50% of the respondents believe that the ruling party, PNL, could be doing more to fight this pandemic.
- 67% of the respondents agree with the restriction of fundamental rights and freedoms during the state of emergency.
- 72% agree with the presence of the army on the streets, only 23% reject the measure.
- In addition to investments in health, education, infrastructure and citizen safety, which are among the top priorities of citizens, 80% believe that investing in the fight against corruption should be a priority for the Romanian state.


A study by Quest Research București (13-15 April 2020, 1,250 respondents) reveals that Romanians are aware how COVID 19 is transmitted and of the main protection measures. However, despite the isolation measures imposed by the authorities,
- 35.3% of respondents acknowledged that they have left the house every day for the last 6 days,
- 61.7% are more concerned about the loss of income or job loss than if they were ill,
- 41.6% fear falling ill,
- Over 50% of the respondents admitted that they would refuse to live with an infected person, thus showing a growing intolerance.

The study also shows political preferences as follows:
- 55% Raed Arafat, the head of the Emergency Department and State Secretary in the Ministry of Internal Affairs
- 34% President Klaus Iohannis
- 30% Health Minister Nelu Tătaru
- 26% Prime Minister Ludovic Orban.

Source: https://stirileprotv.ro/stiri/actualitate/sondaj-romanii-recunosc-ca-ies-din-casa-se-tem-mai-mult-de-pierderea-jobului-si-sunt-intoleranti-fata-de-cei-infectati.html!
Spain

Government's measures and institutional support:

40 Db study for El País (19/04/2020)

Society widely supports the solidarity measures emerging from La Moncloa, so far with the majority favorable vote of the opposition. More than 80% support the ban on cuts in electricity, gas and water supplies, while the state of alarm lasts. The moratorium on the payment of mortgages to workers affected by the crisis has the support of more than 80% of citizens. Almost in the same percentage there are those who support the prohibition of layoffs while the state of alarm is in force.

Respondents, thinking about when the virus is more controlled and confinement can be lifted little by little, flee, despite everything, from catastrophism. Although almost one in four considers that their life “will never be the same as before”, the vast majority, 56.5%, consider that their daily lives will be different after quarantine “but only for a time”. 15% of the interviewees think that once the acute phase of the pandemic is over, their lives will be the same as before.

The politicians' response


El País (16/04/2020):

87.8% of Spaniards believe that parties should support the government and leave criticism for later, according to the CIS.

Almost half of the Spanish trust little or nothing in Sánchez's management against the virus but believe that Casado would do the same.
Attitude towards government’s measures:

*El País* (16/04/2020):

The Government confirms that the minimum income will be in May but avoids its presentation by an internal dispute.

Escrivá claims to have learned from the press of the act announced yesterday by the team of Iglesias, who now says he is ready to continue with the meetings.

*El País* (16/04/2020):

87.8% of Spaniards believe that parties should support the government and leave criticism for later, according to the CIS

Almost half of the Spanish trust little or nothing in Sánchez's management against the virus but believe that Casado would do the same.
Sweden

Interesting comparative study for the trust of the different leaders in the EU (in their own constituencies).

Dagens Nyheter, 23/04/2020

The Swedish prime minister went up from 23,6 % in Feb to 30,6 % in April.