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 the multi-country study showing differences among age groups with regard to trust in institutions:

- The impact of the COVID-19 crisis on youth - Living, working and COVID-19, Eurofound EU wide survey, First findings – April 2020

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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ANALYTICAL SUMMARY

1) Europeans’ reactions and perceptions of the COVID19 pandemic

This week’s studies highlight again the economic pressure the pandemic has put on Europeans.

- In Belgium, 45% of young people are experiencing economic issues. Thirteen percent of young people say these issues are very serious.
- In Czechia, 52% of respondents feel the economic impact of the crisis, with 15% saying this might lead to difficulties in paying their bills.
- 32% of respondents in France are afraid they might become unemployed in the near future. For 44% of them, work time has decreased and 41% have experienced a fall in their income. The latter issue is more often experienced by the weakest socio-professional categories.
- One in two Italians believes it is likely that someone in the family will lose their job due to the crisis. 56% think that in the next month they will be obliged to use their savings, while 37% will not be able to pay taxes, mortgages, loans or other expenditures. 58% also think that the economy will not recover any time soon.
- In Poland, around 27% of families have been deprived of some forms of earning following the outbreak of the COVID-19. 25% of respondents were people who either were laid off by their employers, had to close their own business or, more often the case, someone in the immediate family has lost their job.
- 52% of respondents in Romania expect economic difficulties to last more than a year.

Regarding the next steps of the exit plans, respondents in Estonia state that their strongest wish is to spend time with relatives and friends in the near future, followed by the desire to travel again in Europe and elsewhere in the world. In Germany, 55% of respondents would like to see a complete opening of the borders between the countries of the EU soon. While 54% of Spaniards say they are excited about returning to their activities, for 37% of them this return to normality is felt as “overwhelming”. In the Netherlands, support for the lockdown approach is declining: 75% of respondents are positive, whereas previously they were more than 90%. Respondents in France are still very worried about this new phase: 78% are worried about the virus spreading again in the country.

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

In continuation of the past weeks’ trends, Europeans remain in general trustful of their governments and satisfied with the measures taken by them in the fight against COVID-19.

Some examples are the following:
- In Cyprus, 71% of respondents have a positive view of the government during the pandemic.
- 59% of respondents in Finland are satisfied with their government’s exit plan and timetable.
- Trust in all political institutions in Germany has increased by at least 9 percentage points during the crisis. Acceptance of the government measures now in force in the Corona crisis remains high: 66% say that they are just right.
- In Greece, 82% of respondents are satisfied with the Prime Minister’s stance on the COVID pandemic.
- In Hungary, 72% of respondents are satisfied with the government’s decisions regarding the fight against the coronavirus.
• In **Italy**, trust in the Prime Minister remains quite high, but a majority of Italians (64%) believe that none of the economic measures adopted by government meets their needs.

• In the **Netherlands**, results show that a high level of trust in government and health institutions is important when it comes to citizens abiding by its rules. Two-thirds of respondents state that the daily news is their most important source of information. One in 7 Dutch citizens sees government and public health websites as their primary source of information.

In contrast, respondents in **France** remain distrustful of their government: 62% do not trust it to effectively fight against the virus.

3) **Attitudes towards the EU’s responses**

Results on attitudes towards the EU responses are only available in two countries:

• In **Germany**, the European Union is the only public institution to have lost popularity, currently standing at 37% of support, 3 points less than before the crisis.

• 38.6% of **Italians** would be in favour of leaving both the EU and the eurozone. 42.9% would like to stay.

4) **The impact of the COVID-19 crisis on youth**

According to a recent study by Eurofound, young people remain slightly more optimistic than **other age groups**, with 53% reporting feeling optimistic about their future, compared to 41% of respondents over 50. This optimism may be driving the additional trust in institutions that youth possesses in comparison to other age groups – the largest difference between the two occurring in relation to trust in the European Union. **In contrast to older age groups, young people still trust the European Union more than they trust national governments.**
Multi-country surveys

Is history repeating itself? The impact of the COVID-19 crisis on youth

While we now know that the notion that ‘COVID-19 only affects older people’ does not hold true, the first weeks of the pandemic have shown that young people are in general more resilient than older people to the disease. But are they also more resilient to its social and economic impacts?

(...) Despite these initial negative effects of the crisis on young people’s well-being and employment outlook, they remain slightly more optimistic than other age groups, with 53% reporting feeling optimistic about their future, compared to 41% of respondents over 50. This optimism may be driving the additional trust in institutions that youth possesses in comparison to other age groups – the largest difference between the two occurring in relation to trust in the European Union. In contrast to older age groups, young people still trust the European Union more than they trust national governments, rating their trust of the former at 5.2 on a 1–10 scale, on average, compared to 5.1 for the latter. Young people who are students have even higher levels of trust in both the EU (5.8) and their government (5.6), while those who are unemployed had lower trust in both (4.4 and 4.1, respectively), but this was still higher than other unemployed workers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trust in institutions, younger and older age groups compared, EU, 2020</th>
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<tr>
<td>18–34 years</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trust in the healthcare system</td>
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<td>Trust in the police</td>
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<td>Trust in the European Union</td>
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<td>Trust in the government</td>
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<td>Trust in the news media</td>
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Source: Eurofound
# COUNTRIES ANNEX

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Austria

**Should elections be held during a pandemic and if so, how?**
*Austrian Corona Panel Project, 14/05/2020 [in DE, POMU translation]*

- The majority of the Austrian population prefers holding elections even during a pandemic to postponing them.
- Most would prefer to vote either by postal vote and/or online by e-voting.
- However, whether and how elections should be organised depends on the party preference of the respondents. Especially FPÖ voters prefer a postponement of elections more often than voters of other parties.

[...]

In wave 5 (24-29 April 2020) of the Austrian Corona Panel we asked respondents about their attitudes to elections during a pandemic. Of the six different options listed in Figure 1, which capture whether and how elections should be conducted, the most frequently chosen option is that elections during a pandemic should be conducted by "postal voting and e-voting in combination" (approx. 28% of respondents). The second most frequently chosen answer is to postpone the election (18%), followed by the option to allow voting at the polling station, by e-voting and by absentee voting during a pandemic (17%). 14% of respondents prefer the option of voting exclusively by postal vote, while only 12% would support voting exclusively online by e-voting. It is interesting to note that the least frequently chosen option is the status quo - namely to hold elections at the polling station with the option of postal voting (11%). [...]

Source: [https://viecer.univie.ac.at/corona-blog/corona-blog-beitraege/blog37/](https://viecer.univie.ac.at/corona-blog/corona-blog-beitraege/blog37/)
Belgium

Près de la moitié des jeunes en difficultés financières
Agence Belga, 18 mai 2020

Près de la moitié des jeunes (45%) connaissent actuellement des difficultés financières dans le contexte de crise liée au coronavirus, selon un sondage effectué pour le compte de la Febelfin (Fédération belge du secteur financier) auprès de mille jeunes de 16 à 30 ans.

Pour 13% de ces jeunes, il s'agit même de graves problèmes financiers. La Febelfin avance plusieurs causes pouvant expliquer ces difficultés. Plus de 40% des jeunes ont vu leur job étudiant supprimé et 12% doivent même soutenir financièrement leurs parents. Cinq pour cent des jeunes doivent puiser dans leurs économies pour joindre les deux bouts alors que plus d'un tiers sont dans la situation inverse et parviennent à mettre plus de côté qu'avant la crise. (Belga)

Elections in the autumn more and more likely
L'hypothèse d'élections en automne se renforce
La Libre Belgique - 12 May 2020

President of the socialist party Paul Magnette stands in favour of new Belgian elections to take place next autumn, and this scenario seems likely to happen. However, it is not that well-received in Flanders. The positions of the different parties to form a government have not evolved since the beginning of the corona crisis. The current government, which has received a confidence vote until the end of September, is 100% focused on sanitary issues. Still, if it is possible, the negotiations for a new government would start again at the end of June. Mr Magnette does not exclude the possibility of a minority government, but this scenario seems less viable.

Préparer «le monde d’après» par des élections
LeSoir.be, 12/05/2020

[...] Sauf mauvaise surprise sanitaire, les pouvoirs spéciaux ne seront pas prolongés au-delà du mois de juin, et la confiance accordée au gouvernement fédéral prendra fin en septembre. Plusieurs partis ont déjà demandé la mise en place d’un nouveau gouvernement à l’automne. Ils refusent ainsi l’idée d’organiser des élections au préalable, considérant que celles-ci butent sur deux obstacles majeurs : elles nous feraient prendre un risque sanitaire et elles nous feraient perdre un temps précieux.

Bart De Wever maintient l’option d’un futur gouvernement avec le PS
Belga, 12 mai 2020

Le président de la N-VA Bart De Wever est revenu mardi sur la récente impasse de la formation d’un gouvernement fédéral entre son parti et le PS, assurant qu’il maintient son offre de former un gouvernement avec les socialistes francophones pour après les pouvoirs spéciaux. Pour le président de parti, les deux formations se maintiennent l’une l’autre en otage, “à mort”, s’enfermant dans cette impasse de la formation d’un exécutif. Toutes deux sentent derrière eux l’opposition prête à se manifester si elles s’engagent ensemble. Une solution, dans la logique N-VA, serait le confédéralisme, mais le président des nationalistes conçoit qu’il n’obtiendra pas la majorité des deux tiers nécessaire pour pousser cette option.

Bart De Wever est également revenu sur la décision, l’été dernier, de discuter avec le Vlaams Belang en vue de la formation d’une coalition côté flamand. Il avait entamé ces discussions avec une certaine idée de la transition du parti d’extrême droite (vers du "moins radical", NDLR), affirme-t-il, mais qu’il n’a pas constatée dans la pratique.
“We must track the virus, not the people”
L’Echo - 15 May 2020

Commissioner Reynders repeated the required guarantees for using tracking apps to fight against the coronavirus, as many MEPs mistrust them. Mr Reynders explains that they may never be used for purposes of mass surveillance. MEP Karen Melchior (RE, DK): "One must track the virus, not the citizens." MEP Birgit Sippel (S&D, DE): "The crisis cannot be a justification for dismantling fundamental rights." MEP Isabel Wiseler-Lima (EPP, LU) stated: "It is almost a duty for the public institutions to put these tools at the citizens’ disposal.” Mr Reynders summarised the European Commission’s views: "The citizens must be certain that the apps will be used exclusively for the fight against the pandemic.”

"Flanders only has three parties offering a dream: Vlaams Belang, PVDA and the greens"
‘Vlaanderen heeft maar drie partijen die een droom aanbieden: Vlaams Beleng, de PVDA en groen’
Humo - 12 May 2020

In an interview, consumer behaviour expert Jan Callebaut reports on the evolution of the Flemings’ approach to politics and their expectations from 2009 to 2019. He notes the N-VA risks losing a lot in the short term. It also blundered during the corona crisis. The European Parliament voted almost unanimously in favour of measures in the fight against the COVID-19 crisis. The N-VA MEPs were just about the only ones who abstained because Wallonia got too much and Flanders too little - even Vlaams Belang voted in favour. Such political games in a context of so much suffering do not bear witness to great leadership. "It is possible that the N-VA is throwing away its fiercely fought-for reliability. There is now a vacuum of leadership, and politicians from other parties could fill that gap," Mr Callebaut comments.

Sondage: les parents craignent-ils plus le retard scolaire ou le fait d’attraper le coronavirus à l’école ?
RTLInfo, 13 mai

De nombreux parents sont inquiets de voir leurs enfants reprendre le chemin de l'école. L'angoisse qu'ils risquent d'y être infectés par le coronavirus prend le pas sur celle d'un retard d'apprentissage, selon un sondage réalisé par iVox la semaine passée auprès de 800 parents, cité dans Het Laatste Nieuws mercredi.

Au moins 54,2% des parents belges estiment qu'il n'est pas sûr pour les enfants de retourner en classe à partir du 18 mai. L'inquiétude est plus marquée du côté des répondants francophones (69,9%) qu'auprès des répondants néerlandophones (38,6%). Cette différence est notable, dans une moindre mesure, quant à l'inquiétude relative à un retard d'apprentissage. Ce souci concerne 48,4% des Wallons, contre 33,9 des Flamands, la moyenne belge étant de 40%.
## Cyprus

**Poll commissioned by Politis, published 10/05/20**

Source: [https://politis.com.cy/politis-news/dimoskopisi-tis-retailzoom-gia-logariasmo-toy-p-ta-scholeia-kleista-thelei-i-pleiopsifi/a/?fbclid=IwAR38rfFmnUx-cC1V870c-yZQpVRbashAX1ycaQdskH_OVvQCvqcp0cXTG1](https://politis.com.cy/politis-news/dimoskopisi-tis-retailzoom-gia-logariasmo-toy-p-ta-scholeia-kleista-thelei-i-pleiopsifi/a/?fbclid=IwAR38rfFmnUx-cC1V870c-yZQpVRbashAX1ycaQdskH_OVvQCvqcp0cXTG1)

Translated by EPLO

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<th>Published: 10 May 2020</th>
<th>Source: Politis Newspaper</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Institute:</strong> Retail Zoom</td>
<td><strong>Methodology:</strong> Online Questionnaire - send via emails and social media</td>
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<td><strong>Sample &amp; Method:</strong> 1008- online survey</td>
<td><strong>Fieldwork:</strong> 6-7 May 2020</td>
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### QUESTION

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<th>ANSWERS</th>
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<td><strong>29% Totally Agree</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>50% Agree</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>10% Neither agree nor disagree</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>7% Disagree</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4% Totally disagree</strong></td>
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| **2** | The new measures that have been implemented on 4th May, 2020, I am of the opinion that they are … |
|------------------------|
| **17% Strict** |
| **65% Moderate** |
| **18% Loose** |

| **3** | My impression of the Government during the pandemic, in general terms is … |
|------------------------|
| **28% Very positive** |
| **43% Positive** |
| **19% Neither positive nor negative** |
| **5% Negative** |
| **5% Very negative** |

| **4** | My attitude concerning the Government during this period will affect my vote in the following Parliamentary Elections of 2021. |
|------------------------|
| **22% Immensely** |
| **18% Considerably** |
| **26% A little bit** |
| **34% Not at all** |

| **5** | Are you satisfied with the way the parliament functioned during the pandemic? |
|------------------------|
| **3% Immensely** |
| **25% Considerably** |
| **45% A little bit** |
| **27% Not at all** |

| **6** | Are you satisfied with the way the Public Service operated during the pandemic? |
|------------------------|
| **8% Immensely** |
| **37% Considerably** |
| **36% A little bit** |
| **19 % Not at all** |

| **7** | In case of a prolonged economic crisis, do you believe that the salaries of civil servants should be reduced? |
|------------------------|
| **40% Yes** |
| **49% No** |
| **11% I don’t know** |

| **8** | After the relaxation of the restrictions on movements... |
|------------------------|
| **32% go to my workplace** |
| **27% I work from home** |
| **17% combine both** |
| **13% remain under suspension** |
| **11% I am unemployed** |
| 9  | The biggest problem concerning the return to my workplace is... | 31% child custody  
32% safety conditions in the workplace  
17% the company’s financial problems  
20% have no problems |
|----|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| 10 | During the period of movement restrictions, how do you evaluate the attitude and behavior of the Police? | 23% perfect  
46% good  
22% moderate  
4% bad  
5% unacceptable |
| 11 | During quarantine, did you ever use a false excuse to move around? | 1% many times  
3% sometimes  
8% very few times  
86% never  
2% I do not answer |
| 12 | To what extent do you agree / disagree that schools need to open up? | 21% I totally agree  
18% agree  
9% neither agree nor disagree  
22% disagree  
30% completely disagree |
| 13 | If schools open, when do you think the school year should end? | 53% as always, end of June  
29% to be extended by the end of July  
8% lessons to be given in August as well  
10% have no opinion |
| 14 | Regarding the tele-education I believe that the Ministry of Education and the teachers worked... | 12% perfect  
33% well  
34% moderate  
12% bad  
9% unacceptable |
| 15 | During the pandemic, approximately how much did you deal with your children’s education? | 20% one hour a day  
14% two hours a day  
4% three hours a day  
6% more than three hours a day  
13% I didn’t deal at all  
43% have no children |
Czech Republic

The economic impact of the epidemic

Survey done by Kantar CZ for the Czech TV (CT) issued on 10/5 in Deník.cz 1200 respondents

52% of respondents feel the impact of the new type of coronavirus epidemic and the associated limitations on the family budget.

15% of people feel the impact of epidemic quite a lot and may have trouble paying all their expenses.

According to the survey, half of families do not need to be modest in any area, almost a quarter save on clothing and footwear due to the effects of the epidemic, and 23 percent on household equipment or electronics. Almost a fifth had to make cuts in the family budget for food, nine percent for medicines.

Respondents were asked as well about concerns about the abuse of a state of legislative emergency in which the Chamber of Deputies should discuss a law extending the powers of the Ministry of Health in the event of a coronavirus epidemic. More than two-thirds of people are afraid of abuse. 30 percent have serious concerns and 38 percent have a minor concern. 29 percent of people are without worries in this regard, three percent do not know.
The strongest wish of the people of Estonia is to spend time with relatives and friends in the near future, followed by the dream to travel in Europe and elsewhere in the world as well as the desire to go to a spa or swimming pool, it appears from a recent survey by pollster Kantar Emor.

The wish to spend time with friends and family was highlighted by 42 percent of Estonian residents, while 52 percent of respondents between the ages of 25 and 34 admitted to wanting to do that.

Kantar Emor strategy consultant Kristiina Kruuse said that the results reflect well what is currently in deficit in society. "People value what they do not have. This is already known from value surveys. Meeting friends and relatives was taken for granted in the past, but with this different spring, communication with loved ones has become scarce and has risen to the top on the list of wishes," Kruuse said.

The longing of the Estonian people for active holidays and travel is also high -- 31 percent of the Estonian population expressed a desire to travel further away from neighboring countries in Europe and elsewhere in the world. Altogether 30 percent want to go to a spa or swimming pool and 23 percent of the population dreams of traveling in Estonia. "As travel further afield in Europe and the rest of the world is currently ruled out, it can be expected that the desire to travel will initially be realized as domestic tourism," Kruuse said.

According to the strategy consultant, the results of the survey clearly reflect the fact that in the meantime there has been a long break in the appointments of medical specialists. "More than a quarter of the Estonian population, or 27 percent, said that they want to go to a specialist in the near future. At that, this was highlighted by 37 percent of respondents aged 50 and older," she said.

Several simple and everyday activities were also at the top of people’s wish lists, such as the desire to watch movies in the cinema, go to the hairdresser, beautician and go to cafes and restaurants. "A person’s essence does not change -- they long for familiar and habitual things and activities. We have also seen in Kantar’s surveys in other countries that activities related to human well-being and self-care and active leisure are high on the list of priorities at the end of the emergency situation," Kruuse said, highlighting comparison with consumer trends in the rest of the world.

Kantar Emor conducted the representative survey of the Estonian population on May 6-13. Altogether 1,183 Estonian residents aged 15-74 responded to the survey.
A new joint poll for regional newspapers out on Friday. The respondents were asked whether they were satisfied with government’s exit strategy and its timetable.
From FIEPLO, 18/05/2020

Overall 59% of those surveyed said they were satisfied or very satisfied, while 21% were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied. The breakdown by gender and age-groups shows some variation (see graphic below) – the margin being closest among working-age population segment of 35-to-44-year-olds: 51% vs 30%.

**FI MEPs’ views on EU response to COVID-19 were polled as well over the weekend.** They were asked to give traditional Finnish school grades on a scale from 4 to 10 on two dimensions: health measures and economic measures. Significant and fairly expected differences of opinion with ID MEPs giving the lowest grades (5-to-6), while EPP, S&D, Renew and Green MEPs having more positive appreciation (mostly 7-to-8). The average a bit higher for economic measures compared to action on health.

![Image of grades](https://www.ess.fi/kotimaa-ulkomaat/1806734)

Source (Fi): [https://www.ess.fi/kotimaa-ulkomaat/1806734](https://www.ess.fi/kotimaa-ulkomaat/1806734)

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**Majority of Finnish employees satisfied with teleworking during COVID-19 epidemic: survey**

Xinhua | 2020-05-11

The **majority of Finnish workers** were **satisfied with remote working during the COVID-19 epidemic**, showed a survey published on Monday and conducted by the multidisciplinary Fast Expert Teams network, which is formed by experts from several Finnish universities and research institutions. The poll collected replies of around 5,500 people. In the survey carried out between March 26 and April 15, about 65 percent of respondents were satisfied with teleworking, 54 percent with their own productivity, and 42 percent with their work-life balance.
France

Coronavirus vague 13 : 7 Français sur 10 anticipent une deuxième vague de l’épidémie
Sondage Opinionway paru le 15/05/20 "Les Français et le déconfinement" :

Après le début du déconfinement, le niveau d’inquiétude face à l’épidémie reste très élevé.
Alors que la France est entrée dans sa phase de déconfinement, 78% (-2) des Français sont actuellement inquiets concernant la propagation du Coronavirus en France. La part de personnes se disant très inquiètes (23%) est en baisse de 6 points en une semaine. À l’inverse, 22% (+2) des Français se disent plutôt pas (19%, +3) ou pas du tout inquiets (3%, -1) de cette propagation.

Mais la défiance envers l’exécutif est toujours majoritaire.
62% (+2) des Français ne font pas confiance à l’exécutif pour lutter efficacement contre l’épidémie de coronavirus, dont 29% (+1) pas du tout confiance, une proportion en légère augmentation cette semaine de 2 points. À l’inverse, 38% des Français lui font confiance, dont seulement 7% tout à fait confiance.

BAROMÈTRE QUOTIDIEN DE SUIVI DE LA CRISE DU COVID 19
COMMENT LES FRANÇAIS VIVENT-ILS LA PÉRIODE ACTUELLE ?
Baromètre BVA de suivi quotidien de la crise du Covid-19 paru le 15/05/20 – Vague 58 :

Plus de 4 Français sur 10 estiment toujours que « le pire est devant nous » (41%), un résultat qui ne décroît pas et a même progressé depuis le 11 mai. Seule une petite minorité (15%) a le sentiment que le pire est passé.
Plus de 7 Français sur 10 anticipent toujours une crise économique durable, dont les effets se feront ressentir au-delà de 2020 (72%, -1 point en une semaine) même s’ils sont un peu plus nombreux à penser que la crise pourrait ne temir qu’une année en cours (21%, + 3 points), en raison peut-être de la multiplication des annonces de plans de relance.
Dans le détail, les niveaux d’inquiétude restent très élevés quel que soit le sujet, compris entre 80%, le « plus bas », s’agissant de la croissance économique de la France et 88% pour la situation économique des artisans, commerçants et des petites entreprises. A noter : les Français – de façon globale – restent plus confiants en ce qui concerne leur situation personnelle que la situation macro du pays

Baromètre Covid-19 : près de 9 Français sur 10 inquiets d’une reprise de l’épidémie après le déconfinement

Le déconfinement fait peur et pour la très grande majorité, l’épidémie va repartir très fortement après sa mise en place
Près de neuf Français sur dix estiment probable, voire certain que l’épidémie reparte fortement à cause du déconfinement (87%). La grande majorité considère aussi comme quasiment acquis qu’il y aura une nouvelle épidémie à l’automne (85%). À l’opposé, seulement un personne sur cinq pense que l’épidémie va définitivement s’éteindre avec l’arrivée de l’été (20%).
L’épidémie fait émerger des préoccupations sociales fortes chez beaucoup de Français : de la crainte pour son emploi au sentiment d’exclusion.

Près d’un actif sur trois déclare que ses craintes de se retrouver au chômage ont augmenté (32%). Si pour beaucoup, le temps de travail a diminué (44%), il s’accompagne aussi d’une baisse de revenus (41%). Plus grave, la perte de rémunération est plus fréquemment ressentie par les catégories socioprofessionnelles les plus fragiles (46% contre 37% pour les CSP+).

Le baromètre COVID-19 livre les résultats de sa 4ème vague hebdomadaire. Réalisée par Ipsos pour l’association Datacovid auprès de 5 000 Français âgés de 18 ans et plus du 28 avril au 4 mai.

L’état d’esprit des Français à la veille du déconfinement : quelle France d’après ?

– Un pessimisme jamais vu s’agissant de l’avenir du pays : 71% des personnes interrogées se déclarent pessimistes en pensant à l’avenir proche, soit un étiage quasiement jamais atteint (exception faite d’une enquête de janvier 2017) depuis 25 ans. Notons qu’aucune catégorie de population n’exprime un optimisme majoritaire.

– Des représentations associées à la France révélatrices d’un pays en perte de confiance : deux tiers des Français estiment que le pays est en déclin alors même que la France possède beaucoup d’atouts (83%).

Enfin, la confiance à l’égard du Gouvernement passe obligatoirement par un déconfinement réussi à l’école et dans les transports en commun, dimensions sur lesquelles la défiance de l’opinion est majoritaire (respectivement 65% et 62%)

Suivi de la crise du coronavirus et de l’action gouvernementale – Vague 14

Le sentiment d’inquiétude face au coronavirus pour soi et sa famille reste très élevé, concernant plus de trois Français sur quatre (76%, -2 points). Mais c’est surtout l’inquiétude l’égard des conséquences économiques de la crise du coronavirus qui domine : elle concerne près de neuf Français dix (88%, -2 points).

Six Français sur dix ne font pas confiance au gouvernement pour mener à bien le déconfinement (60%, -5 points). Par proximité partisane, cette défiance est plus élevée chez les sympathisants Rassemblement National (85%) et La France Insoumise (70%). ...
Germany

FORSA-AKTUELL: Confidence in Germany's political institutions has grown during the Corona crisis  
*Presseportal, 16/05/2020 [in DE, POMU translation]*

Strong increase in trust in German politics during the Corona crisis, the Germans' trust in political institutions has grown. In the current institutional ranking, as in previous years, Germans have the greatest confidence in the Federal President: 76 percent have "great or very great confidence" in the office held by Frank-Walter Steinmeier - three percentage points more than at the beginning of the year. With an increase of 22 percentage points over the beginning of the year, the Chancellor is in second place in the ranking (with 72%). The greatest boost in confidence during the crisis months was recorded for the Federal Government, with 26 percentage points. It comes in third place with 60 percent.

Trust in all political institutions in Germany has increased by at least 9 percentage points during the crisis. More than half of the Germans trust their mayors and lord mayors as well as the respective state governments (58% each), municipal councils (57%), city administrations (56%) and the Bundestag (54%). The sympathy value of the political parties, which have never come over the last place in the institutional ranking, has also risen by 9 percentage points, to 25 percent.

Only the European Union has lost popularity in crisis management, to currently 37%. That is three percentage points less than before the crisis; the EU ranks in penultimate place.

Confidence in political institutions in May 2020*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Confidence</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Federal President</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>+3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal Chancellor</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>+22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal Government</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>+26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mayor/Lord Mayor</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>+10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State government</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>+11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local government</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>+9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Municipality</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>+9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bundestag</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>+13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political parties</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>+9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(*In brackets change compared to early 2020*)

[...] The data on party preferences were collected by the market and opinion research institute forsa from 11 - 15 May 2020 on behalf of Mediengruppe RTL. Data basis: 2,509 respondents. Statistical error tolerance: +/-2.5 percentage points. Data basis on trust in political institutions: 4,023 respondents from 5 to 14 May 2020.

Source: [https://www.presseportal.de/pm/72183/4598727](https://www.presseportal.de/pm/72183/4598727)
According to the ZDF political barometer, a clear majority, **55 percent of those surveyed, would like to see a complete opening of the borders between the countries of the EU soon**, 41 percent are against. [...] 

For many people, what is possible during the holiday season also depends on the opening of the border. 51 percent currently state that their plans for the summer holiday are being affected by the Corona crisis. This is not the case for 15 percent and 33 percent have no plans for a summer holiday.

**Acceptance of the government measures now in force in the Corona crisis remains high: 66 percent say that they are just right.** 17 percent find them exaggerated and 15 percent think they should be tougher. Only among AfD supporters does a clear majority (59 percent) believe that the measures are excessive. Among the supporters of all other parties, only minorities between seven percent and 16 percent are of this opinion. [...] 

Not enough is being done in the Corona crisis, according to the opinion of a majority of us, for the teaching of pupils (56 percent) and for childcare facilities in kindergartens and daycare centres (55 percent). Only 32 percent and 26 percent are satisfied here. The rest do not feel able to judge this. [...] 


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**Majority against easing restrictions and start of football Bundesliga**  
**ARD Deutschlandtrend, 14/04/2020 [in DE, POMU translation]**

**More than half of the Germans (56 percent) are in favour of maintaining the current restrictions to contain the corona pandemic.** This means that every second voter is critical of further relaxation. This was the result of the DeutschlandTrend for the ARD morning magazine. In contrast, **40 percent of those questioned would support further easing of measures.** Above all, supporters of the FDP (63 percent) and AfD (61 percent) are in favour of further opening.

This means that within a week the opinion has virtually been reversed: immediately before the political agreement on easing the restrictions was reached, 54 percent of German citizens were still in favour of such a withdrawal of the measures, while 41 percent were against it.

**One in two against continuation of the Bundesliga season**

In addition, a majority of Germans think it would be wrong to continue the Bundesliga from Saturday. Every second respondent (56 percent) criticizes the resumption of the games. About one in three (31 percent) pleads for the planned resumption of the season with so-called ghost games without an audience.

Even among those who would like to see a further easing of the corona measures, there is no clear vote for a resumption of games: 40 percent of those surveyed are in favour, 45 percent are sceptical.

Source: [https://www.tagesschau.de/inland/deutschlandtrend-2219.html](https://www.tagesschau.de/inland/deutschlandtrend-2219.html)
Greece

Opinion Poll survey, conducted 7-9 May 2020 among 1080 respondents


POMU translation

Summary of key results:

How satisfied are you with the overall stance of PM Mitsotakis on the fight against the pandemic?
- 43% Very satisfied
- 39% Quite satisfied
- 10% Slightly/not very satisfied
- 7% Not satisfied at all
- 1% DK

How optimistic are you about the dealing of the COVID pandemic in the next period?
- 18% Very optimistic
- 38% Quite optimistic
- 28% Slightly/not very optimistic
- 11% Not at all optimistic
- 5% DK

How much do you trust PM Mitsotakis in his ability to deal effectively with the economic problems?
- 18% A lot
- 29% Quite a lot
- 30% Slightly/not much
- 20% Not at all
- 3% DK

Who do you think is most suitable for PM?
- 52% Kyriakos Mitsotakis
- 19.5% Alexis Tsipras
- 21% None
- 7.5% DK

Alco Poll for Open TV, 12.5 - selected questions

Source: https://www.ethnos.gr/politiki/105201_dimoskopisi-alco-gia-open-tv-17-monades-mprosta-i-nd-79-egkyros-o-tsiodras

EPLO Translation

Do you assess governmental policy in handling the covid crisis to have been...
- Very successful 42%
- Quite successful 42%
- Relatively successful 10%
- Not at all successful 5%
As to elementary schools, do you believe they should open in June or stay closed?

- Should open: 17%
- Remain closed: 73%

The pace of lifting the lockdown measures was...

- the correct one: 60%
- Faster than it should have been: 24%
- Slower: 10%

Measures to support workers were....

- Adequate: 28%
- Inadequate: 60%

Measures to support companies were....

- Adequate: 21%
- Inadequate: 59%

Once lockdown measures are lifted, do you think early elections should / will take place?

- Should take place: Yes 4%; No 87%; Don’t know 9%
- Will take place: Yes 16%; No 67%; Don’t know 17%
Hungary

Fidesz maintains its increased popularity – Nézőpont Institute
https://nezopontintezet.hu/2020/05/12/tartja-megnovekedett-nepszeru-seget-a-fidesz/

Nézőpont Institute studied the populations’ overall opinion on the Hungarian Government’s action against the coronavirus pandemic and the voting intention in light of the coronavirus pandemic, in a nationwide representative poll, between May 7 and 8 by interviewing 1,000 people.

- According to the study, 54% of voters would vote for the Fidesz-KDNP national list if the national voting would take place this Sunday. Opposition parties would receive 16% points less votes, and only 38% of the citizens who promise their participation are certain in their decision.
- 72% of respondents are satisfied, and 23% are dissatisfied with government decisions against the coronavirus.
ITALY: POLL (POMU translation)  

Title: Osservatorio EMG  
Institute: Demopolis - Istituto di Ricerche  
Fieldwork: 12-13/05//2020  
Sample: 1500 respondents  
Method: cawi-cati-cami

**Selection of results**

**Do you trust the Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte?**  
Yes: 56%  
No: 35%  
I do not know: 9%

ITALY: POLL (POMU translation)  

Title: Osservatorio EMG  
Institute: EMG  
Fieldwork: 12-13/05//2020  
Sample: 1623 respondents  
Method: panel

**Selection of results**

**Among all economic measures proposed by the government, is there at least one of these measures that meets your needs?**  
No: 64  
Yes: 18  
I do not know: 18

**Fear of infection: compared to one month ago, you feel:**  
As before: 55  
More relaxed: 30  
Less relaxed: 13  
I prefer not to answer: 2

ITALY: POLL (POMU translation)  

Title: La situazione politica 12/05/2020  
Institute: Istituto Ixé  
Fieldwork: 12/05/2020  
Sample: 1000  
Method: CATI-CAWI-CAMI

**Selection of results**

**Level of trust in ...(high + quite high)**  
Conte: 59  
Zaia: 48
Meloni  34  
Salvini  29  
Zingaretti  28  
Di Maio  27  
Berlusconi  23  
Renzi  11  

Level of trust in the government of Mr Conte?
Very high  15  
Quite high  43  
Not much  24  
Not at all  18  

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

Title :   Piazza Pulita Sondaggi
Institute:  IndexResearch
Fieldwork:  06/05/2020
Sample:  800
Method:  cawi-cati-cami

Selection of results

Compared to other countries affected by the pandemic, in your opinion, our country has overall done...
Better:    38,5
Worse:   52,6
I do not know:  8,9

This year, do you think that you will need help from your State?
Yes:   43,1
No:   48,9
DK:  8,0

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

Title :   COVID-19 Fase 2
Institute:  Euromedia Research
Fieldwork:  06/05/2020
Sample:  800
Method:  cawi-cati-cami

Selection of results

Given that all of them are serious...which of the following situations is the most worrying for you, now that we are at the beginning of Phase 2?
The worsening of the crisis in our country:       34,4
The increase of contagion after the re-opening of all activities     22,1
The fear of getting personally (or within family) infected in this new phase   18,0
Personal (or family’s) economic situation :       17,9
Loss of job/own activity         4,5
ITALY: POLL (POMU translation)
http://www.sondaggipoliticoelettorali.it/ListaSondaggi.aspx?st=SONDAGGI

Title: Sondaggio su elezioni politiche, coronavirus, UE, Euro
Institute: Termometro Politico
Fieldwork: 05-07/05/2020
Sample: 3600
Method: cawi-cati-cami

Selection of results

Since the outbreak of the emergency your opinion of Mr Conte has/is...
Improved 32,1%
Positive as before 10,8%
Negative as before 25,8%
Worsen 30,2%
I do not know 1,1%

Would you agree with leaving the euro and the EU?
Yes, both of them: 38,6%
Better to leave only the EU: 5,3%
Better to leave only the euro 8,6%
No, better not to leave neither the EU nor the euro 42,9%
I do not know 4,6%

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

Title: Monitor Italia
Institute: tecnè srl
Fieldwork: 07-08/05/2020
Sample: 1000
Method: cati-cawi

Selection of results

Family’s income in April...
I saved quite a lot: 2%
I saved a bit: 19%
Spending and Savings are on balance: 44%
I have used some savings, I got some debts, and I cut some expenditures, apart from the ones related to food: 9%

ITALY: POLL (POMU translation)
https://www.swg.it/

Title: Radar Settimanale, Niente sarà più come prima, 27 aprile-3 maggio 2020
Institute: SWG
Fieldwork: 04-10/05/2020
Sample: 2000
Method: CAWI
Selection of results

58% of respondents think that it is likely that a member of the family will contract the virus
50% of respondents think that it is likely that they will contract the virus themselves
50% believe that it is likely that someone in the family may lose the job due to the crisis
29% of people are very worried for the virus

Among the following, which are the emotions that you feel the most often in this period?
Uncertainty: 58%
Hope: 37%
Vulnerability: 30%
Anger: 18%
Resignation: 16%

It is likely that in the next month:
56% will be obliged to use their savings
37% will not be able to pay taxes, mortgages, loans, other expenditures
27% will be obliged to ask for a loan
58%: the economy will not recover for a long time
33%: my company will be able to compete with the others
Regarding the consequences of the pandemic on your personal situation you feel:

73% worried (very+ quite)
Latvia

SKDS research centre poll: Covid-19 perceived seriously by 52.4% of Latvian society

Among more than 1000 respondents, 22% claim that since the beginning of the emergency situation they have experienced symptoms such as cough, fever, and 18% have also considered that they might have Covid-19. However this was not the case for 4 in 5 respondents. One out of four respondents knows a person who tested for Covid-19 but only 5% know someone who actually contracted the virus.

Still, more than a third of respondents consider their risks of being infected with Covid-19 as average and 16% as highly possible. Each 3rd person feels relatively secure and evaluates possibility to become ill as low or very low. A bit more than half of respondents think that Covid-19 is very dangerous.

One in four respondents think that politicians and mass media exaggerated the danger of the virus.

SKDS research centre poll: almost a third of respondents don’t trust official information on Covid-19

The survey conducted among more than 1000 Latvians, shows that one in four think that official Covid-19 information could rather not or completely not be trusted. On the other hand, almost 2/3 of respondents trust the information provided by officials.

Respondents trust health specialist, predominantly the infectologist Uga Dumpis. Each 5th respondent mentioned Dumpis as a person who could be trusted in relation to Covid-19 issues. 8.4% mentioned Sickness prevention and control centre epidemiologist Jurijs Perevoščikovs. Quite often respondents mentioned doctors and scientists in general, not naming a specific person. More rarely, but relatively more often than other officials, respondents mentioned Minister of Heath Ilze Virķe (AP).

SKDS research centre poll: 70% of respondents acknowledge that Covid-19 restrictions are difficult but necessary
Source: https://www.lsm.lv/raksts/zinas/latvija/70-iedzivotaju-aptauja-atzist-covid-19-ierobezojumi--apgrutinosi-bet-vaijdzigi.a358919/ Translated by EPLO

- 70% of respondents claimed that Covid-19 restrictions are appropriate;
- 10% evaluated restrictions as too strict, but 15% as too soft;
- the most burdensome was restricted health care services availability;
- 80% of respondents mentioned that regular hand washing is not a problem;
- 2/3 expressed opinion that shopping centres closing in weekends is not a problem;
- 80% mentioned that they have acted in accordance with the restrictions.
Each third respondent mentioned that restricted health care services availability was a problem for them. Lots of persons also mentioned a prohibition to meet people from other households - 67%, and practically the same amount of persons mentioned interruption of other services received in person, and also invitation to stay at home in case if there is no symptoms of sickness.

Second place of difficulties - distance studies. 14% of respondents have mentioned it, they could be either parents of schoolchildren or teachers.

While evaluating others, 1 person in 10 has stated that society hasn't observed requirements, 43% told that observing restrictions has been averagely successful, and 2/5 - that people around them were acting according to restrictions. Only 3% mentioned that they didn't obey the rules, average evaluation has been given by 16% of respondents. Absolute majority - 80% - have stated that they have acted in accordance with the rules.
Netherlands

**Peiling: VVD groeit naar 43 zetels door corona-aanpak**
ANP May 15, 2020  [internal translation]

**Voters appreciate the government’s corona approach, which in particular provides support to the largest coalition party, VVD.** The liberals can count on 43 virtual seats, while all other parties get stuck under 16 seats.

This is evident from the latest survey by I&O Research. **Two in three voters support the government’s actions. The support for the lockdown approach is declining:** 75 percent positive participants in the poll are positive, where that was previously more than 90 percent.

Prime Minister Mark Rutte himself is doing particularly well: his rating has risen from 5.8 to 7.2. It is appreciated that the Rutte cabinets got their finances in order after the financial crisis in 2008.

CDA leaders Hugo de Jonge, who acts as "corona minister" and Wopke Hoekstra, who as Minister of Finance plays a major role in managing the economic crisis, is also much appreciated. But that does not yet translate into virtual seat gains for the Christian Democrats. The coalition party, which still had 19 seats in 2017, is 13 seats in the I&O poll. The party currently has no clear leader, such as Rutte at the VVD.

**Large amount of trust in government websites on coronacrisis; TV-news broadcast most important source of information**

https://www.uu.nl/nieuws/groot-vertrouwen-in-overheidswebsites-over-coronacrisis-nieuwsuitzendingen-belangrijkste

The University of Utrecht has published the results of a survey in cooperation with Newcomm consultancy to find out what sources people use and trust to inform themselves on the news about the current crisis. A similar research was conducted simultaneously in Italy.

During the coronacrisis the public trusts the websites of the Dutch government and public institutions like the RIVM, the GGD, and the ministries the most. Yet 1 in 7 Dutch citizens sees these websites as their primary source of information. The vast majority of respondents, two-thirds, state that the daily news is their most important source of information.

In Italy, a comparable research is done a few weeks earlier, in a similar stage of the coronacrisis. The results were similar when it comes to the most important sources of information. To the question "which sources the respondents trust the most", public institutions get relatively high scores. In the Netherlands 39% states to trust these sources the most, while in Italy the number goes as high as 48%.

**Abiding the rules:**
The research also shows that a high level of trust in these institutions is important when it comes to citizens abiding by its rules. It shows that the people that trust these institutions the most also respect the strongly advised rules the best. Both the Dutch and the Italian respondents are very positive about the activities of the government and her institutions. In the Netherlands 77% states that they experience the activities of the RIVM as (very) positive. In Italy this is 87%.
Coronavirus in the Netherlands: what you said in our survey
DutchNews.nl, May 6, 2020

International workers in the Netherlands are largely positive about the Dutch government’s handling of the pandemic, but have a lot of questions about testing and the use of face masks, according to the results of the DutchNews.nl survey.

In all, over 3,300 people from all over the country took part in the online poll. Here is what you told us:

Some seven out of 10 of you are confident in the Dutch government’s handling of the coronavirus crisis, with 56% giving the cabinet a confidence rating of at least seven out of 10. By contrast, just 7% readers had no, or very little, faith in the job the cabinet is doing.

How much confidence do you have in the Dutch government’s handling of the epidemic?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Confidence Level</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
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<td>7</td>
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<td>8</td>
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<td>9</td>
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<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This contrasts with the fact that 75% of you thought the governments in your home country are taking a stricter line than the Dutch, with 11% saying the Dutch are stricter and 10% thinking both countries are about the same.

In terms of the impact on your jobs and finances, 45% of you said you were worried or very worried about the impact of coronavirus on your income, while 14% of you were not at all worried.

But if your job is insecure, the impact on your finances is considerable, and 25% of you whose income has been affected, have lost at least 75%.

How worried are you about the impact of coronavirus on your income?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Worry Level</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
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<td>5</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Almost one third of you said you were only mildly worried about the impact of coronavirus on your health, but some 68% of you said you were worried or very worried about the folks back home.

(...) The government’s plans to launch an app which would enable the spread of the disease to be tracked via mobile phones can count on the support of nearly 54% of you, while just over 11% said they would not accept an app under any circumstances.

Would you be prepared to use an app to trace the spread of coronavirus?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Preparedness</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
We also asked you what you would do if you were in the government’s shoes – and 73% of you said you would make the wearing of masks in shops and on public transport compulsory, with 45% of you in favour of making masks compulsory at all times outdoors.

At the same time, 76% of you said you would not lift the ban on organised events, and 60% of you said cafes and restaurants should remain closed.

And while nearly 18% of you said you would open the borders to non-essential travel, 39% said this was something they would not do.

**If you were the prime minister, what measures would you take** (Respondents were asked to pick 3)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measure</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Require facemasks in shops and public transport</td>
<td>73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Require facemasks at all times</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reopen primary schools</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lift the ban on visits to hairdressers</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open the borders to non-essential travel</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reopen secondary schools</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reopen cafes and bars</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lift the ban on visits to gyms and sports clubs</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reopen universities</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lift the ban on visits to people in nursing homes</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lift the ban on large organised events</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Social distancing: Two thirds of Dutch notice others getting too close**

NLTimes, May 7, 2020 - 08:34

Social distancing is easier said than done for many people in the Netherlands, according to a survey of 90 thousand Dutch by health institute RIVM and health services GGD. Over two thirds of Netherlands residents said that they’ve noticed people getting too close to them, especially in supermarkets and at the office, AD reports.

Social distancing, keeping 1.5 meters away from everyone not in your household, is an important part of the government’s plan to ease the Netherlands out of the intelligent lockdown it is in to curb the spread of the coronavirus. The health services therefore decided to poll the Dutch on how they feel about social distancing, and how well they stick to the rules.

**83 percent of respondents said that they find social distancing a necessary approach.** A quarter find it difficult to abide by the rules. Three quarters said they’ve noticed not everyone adhering to social distancing in supermarkets. Two thirds said the same about workplaces. (...)

31
Poland

Poland's liberals tap Warsaw mayor for presidential race
AFP, 15/05/2020

Poland's main opposition party on Friday chose Warsaw's mayor as its new presidential candidate, just hours after its previous choice withdrew from a chaotic race delayed by the coronavirus pandemic.

The liberal Civic Platform (PO) picked Rafal Trzaskowski, 48, to replace Malgorzata Kidawa-Blonska who stepped down earlier in the day. Trzaskowski, a former Europe minister and member of the European Parliament, won a crushing first-round mayoral victory in Warsaw in 2018 against the candidate of Poland’s governing right-wing Law and Justice (PiS) party.

He will now lock horns with incumbent President Andrzej Duda, the election frontrunner who is backed by the PiS.

(...) While the PiS ally has long been the election favourite, recent polls suggest Duda can no longer count on a first-round victory as the pandemic-induced economic crisis bites.

Originally set for May 10, the election was postponed at the last minute when the government and opposition parties failed to agree on how to proceed under the coronavirus lockdown. (...

***

![Image Source: Europe Elects](Image)

COVID-19 deprived every fourth family of some earning possibilities: poll
PAP, 12/05/2020

Around 27 percent of Polish families have been deprived of some forms of earning following the outbreak of the COVID-19 disease, according to results of a poll conducted by the CBOS pollster.

The research shows that 25 percent of those polled were people who either were laid off by their employers, had to close their own business or, more often the case, someone in the immediate family has lost their job.

According to the survey, the most affected by the pandemic are two percent of respondents in whose families both the respondent and another family member had lost their job.

(...) The economic crisis caused by the pandemic also resulted in lower earnings in many cases. Around 32 percent of respondents declared that their salaries have been lowered after March 1.
A poll by Cesop – Catholic University of Portugal for RTP and Público found that 87% of those enquired recognize this is an extremely dangerous virus. A resounding 75% note that they acquire their information on the virus on TV and 63% only leave the house to buy essential goods. Within this, 74% admit they are scared of going to the hospital, whilst 26% note that, due to the coronavirus, they no longer seek medical help. Within those who belong to the vulnerable segment of the population, the number increases to 32%. According to the poll, 23% agree that their physical health is worse than before the crisis, with younger people (33%) being the most affected. With regards to mental health, 35% note that they feel worse than before the crisis. In the age bracket of 35-44, a resounding 49% say they feel worse than a month ago. In addition, those between 25-34 years of age (44%) also note a worsening of their mental health, a proportion that is repeated in the group below, of 18-24 years of age.

Adding to this, 35.5% of the enquired note that they continue working in the same place as before, not teleworking, whilst 13.4% are in lay-off and 4% became unemployed. 36% note they have suffered a decrease in their income. (...)

An analysis of a poll that was originally released on the 24th of March, was published in Expresso. It makes reference to the fact that younger segments of the population express the highest levels of distrust with regards to politicians, health representatives, security forces and media outlets. Portuguese youth also register significant apprehension with regards to the immediate future, similarly to those polled who belong to a lower socio-economic level. The study showed that inevitably it was those most economically fragile who remain the most affected.

Voting intention in the PS grows despite the political crisis and Marcelo remains the favorite of the Portuguese

The PS again gains ground in the month of May and would be the big winner of the Legislatures, if they were carried out today. According to an Intercampus poll for CM and CMTV, 40.3% of voters today would place their trust in the socialists, a rise that accentuates the party’s advantage, if compared to the results of April, when it conquered 35.4% respondents. This advantage also increases the gap for the opposition. The PSD’s intention to vote is 23.3%, equal to the previous month.
Romania

National barometer “The world and its political values”

A study by the Bureau for Sociological Research - BCS (1-7 May 2020, 1545 respondents) revealed Romanians' trust towards other countries' policies to fight COVID-19, as follows:

- 72% of respondents have a favorable opinion about German policy;
- About EU policy;
- 70% about American policy;
- 65% trust NATO;
- 64% think that the Netherlands has a good policy, followed by 44% Russia and 43% China.


The same BCS opinion poll, regarding the trust in political personalities, the ranking is as follows:

- President Klaus Iohannis (EPP) (15%);
- Bucharest’s Mayor Gabriela Firea (S&D) (13%);
- Former PM Dacian Cioloș (Renew Europe) (10%);
- Custodian of the Romanian Crown Margareta, Traian Băsescu, Ecaterina Andronescu (9% each);
- Florin Călinescu, Cristian Diaconescu, Marcel Ciolacu (8% each);
- Victor Ponta, Dan Barna, Kelemen Hunor (7% each);
- Ludovic Orban (EPP) (6%).

Source: https://playtech.ro/stiri/lovitura-dura-pentru-pnl-ce-au-decis-romanii-124708
Attitudes, Behaviour & Plans after the end of restrictions

A study conducted by Unlock Research for Adama Agricultural Solutions (3 - 9 April 2020, 600 participants) revealed that:

- Almost half of Romanians in urban areas estimate the health crisis will end in a maximum of 2-3 months;
- 52% of them expect economic difficulties to last more than a year;
- The biggest concerns in urban area is:
  ○ related to the general situation of the economy and the uncertain future (68%)
  ○ their own financial situation (49%)
  ○ their health is endangered by the Covid-19 epidemic (41%)
  ○ the fear of losing a job (38%)
  ○ fear for food safety due to product contamination (28%);
- 92% of respondents believe that the state is the first to intervene to overcome the pandemic, placing companies in the next place;


One of the largest online recruitment platforms in Romania, BestJobs, conducted an online survey (20 April - 4 May 2020, 1042 respondents) and found that in the two months after Romania entered the state of emergency, 63% of Romanian employees managed to put money aside during this period, and most do not intend to give up this habit even after May 15 (when some restrictions will be lifted). However, the emergency period caught the other 37% of the interviewees without any money reserve, a situation that has not changed in the meantime. BestJobs data also reveals that:

- 60% of respondents say that the first thing they plan to do after the state of emergency is over is:
  ○ to go on a short vacation in the country or abroad (38,6%)
  ○ to go out with friends (31,5%)
  ○ to go to the mall, theater or movie (28,5%);
- Professionally, the respondents say that the first thing they want to do after returning, at least in part, to their normal job is:
  ○ to look for another job, and then resign (34,3%)
  ○ to apply for a salary increase (8,8%)
  ○ to become entrepreneurs (9,1%);
- In the context in which many companies will find it very difficult to recover after this period of crisis, respondents believe that employers will:
  ○ not take any action regarding them after returning to the office (73,7%)
  ○ cut their salary (14%)
  ○ dismiss them (5,2%);

In their latest research (6-9 May 2020, 760 respondents), IRSOP analysed the incomes in May, health status, future consumption and responsible behavior of the participants and revealed the following results:

Household incomes:
- This month, compared to April, 58% of households managed to maintain or even increase their standard of living a little. On the other hand, 42% of those surveyed say that the financial situation suffered during this period;
- Compared to April, when fears were around 5%, in May 10% of those surveyed said they were unsure whether they would keep their jobs. An increase from 5 to 10% was also recorded among those who say they cannot pay their bank installments.

Health:
- ⅓ of the respondents had to postpone their tests, treatments or surgeries due to the pandemic;
- Consider that the health system is the biggest weakness of the country, revealed by the pandemic. According to research participants, the medical system will need massive investments to deal with epidemics.
- Corruption ranks second with 34% of the participants considering it a significant weakness of the Romanian state.

Future consumption in the next 3 months:
- 84% of those surveyed will only purchase things of strict necessity, and not durable goods;
- 83% of the participants said that they intend to manage only their own income, and 14% will borrow money from various people;
- 74% say that in the next 3 months they do not expect to make savings, probably taking into account the decrease in income.

Responsible behavior after restrictions are lifted:
- Almost all respondents said that they will follow the recommendations of the authorities;
- With respect to others:
  - 51% of the respondents believe that other people will follow the hygiene measures,
  - 33% believe that they will pay attention to the indications to protect others
  - 26% believe that others will also follow the recommendations of the authorities
  - 26% believe that they will practice social distancing.

Source: https://romania.europalibera.org/a/sondaj-irsop-42-spun-ca-situatia-lor-financiara-s-a-inrautatit/30607155.html
Slovenia

Majority feel government moved too hastily in declaring the epidemic over
EPLO, 17 May 2020

Almost 40% of those quizzed in the latest Mediana poll believe Slovenia should have waited for developments in other countries before declaring the coronavirus epidemic over. The poll, released on Sunday, puts the share of those believing Slovenia should not have declared the epidemic over before other countries did so at 38%. The share of those arguing it was good that Slovenia went first is 27.1%, while roughly a third do not have an opinion or do not care.

Concern about the epidemic is meanwhile continuing to decrease. While the share of those worried or very worried still stood at 60% at the end of March, it was down to half by mid-April and is now at 38%. The share of those not worried is slightly over 40%.

Mediana carried out the survey on 15 and 16 May through internet polling involving 505 respondents aged 15 to 75.

Government rating drops significantly, Delo poll shows
EPLO, 11 May 2020

The latest Mediana poll shows that, following a high mark for the Janez Janša in the first full month in office in April, the share of those who support it dropped in May. Support for the Democrats (SDS) is also down, but the ruling party is still ahead of the Marjan Šarec List (LMŠ).

The poll commissioned by the newspaper Delo sees slightly more than 31% of the respondents assessing the government’s work as positive or very positive, which is 13 percentage points less than in April.

Around 30% gave it an average mark, down one percentage points, while the share of those who gave it a negative mark was up by 16 percentage points compared to April to 36%.

The average mark for the government on a 1-to-5 scale thus dropped from 3.34 in April to 2.94 in May. (...)

SMC president and Economy Minister Zdravko Počivalšek has suffered a huge drop in popularity, finding himself at the bottom of the relevant list, presumably over the procurement of personal protective equipment.

The top three on the list are unchanged, with President Borut Pahor in the lead ahead of Agriculture Minister Aleksandra Pivec and Health Minister Tomaž Gantar.

Infrastructure Minister Jernej Vrtovec advanced to 6th place, with Delo attributing this to the decision to re-launch public transportation as of today. PM Janez Janša dropped from 4th to 13th place.

The National Assembly’s work was assessed negatively by 37% of the respondents, while 22.3% said it was doing a good job. The average mark on a 1-to-5 scale dropped from 3.09 in April to 2.78 in May.

The pollster Mediana carried out the survey between 4 and 8 May among 712 adults.
Spain

Barometer: The possibility of recovering normality generates mixed feelings in Spaniards for the coronavirus
Antena 3 16/05/2020
Source: https://www.antena3.com/noticias/espana/barometro-posibilidad-recobrar-normalidad-coronavirus-genera-sentimientos-encontrados-espanoles_202005165ebfe04f1b88dd0001f4f66e.html

54% of Spaniards say they are excited about this process of returning to the activity that Spain has already started, but 37% of this return to normality is “overwhelming”. It is the conclusion of a Sigma Two barometer for Antena 3 Noticias, which also shows that 56% of Spaniards “do not know” or “know little” about what “can and cannot be done” in each phase, compared to 42% who do believe they know the details of the de-escalation.

The barometer also shows broad support from the Spanish for the extension of the state of alarm. A 78% of respondents see need to be extended 15 days, although Pedro Sánchez announced Saturday that prompted an extension of one month. On the contrary, 17% consider that it should have already been suspended.

La Sexta 16/05/2020:
https://www.lasexta.com/noticias/nacional/fernando-simon-y-salvador-illa-aprueban-para-los-ciudadanos-por-su-gestion-de-la-crisis-del-coronavirus_202005165ebfeb901b88dd0001f50825.html

New barometer of laSexta. For citizens, the Minister of Health and the director of the Center for Health Alerts and Emergencies approve of their management of the coronavirus, with 59.7% ensuring that the Government of Spain manages the pandemic like other countries in our environment.

For the Spanish, the Government of Spain is managing the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic like other countries around us. At least this is what 59.7% think, by 29.3% who believe that management is worse. Lastly, 10.8% see the Executive's performance against the virus better.

Regarding the use of masks, 67.1% of those surveyed believe that they should be compulsory, while 32.8% would maintain that they be of recommended use, as at present. An overwhelming majority admits that they already have masks at home, 95.8% of the total against 4.2% who claim not to have one.

Gad3 11/05/2020
Source: https://www.gad3.com/single-post/2020/05/11/Nueva-entrega-del-Barometro-ABCGAD3-11-de-mayo

The PSOE remains with the 120 seats obtained in the elections of November 10, and with an estimate of 28.7 percent. Around a million Socialist voters right now would opt for abstention or the blank vote, which goes from 0.9 to 1.6 percent. The PSOE compensates this flight of voters with the capture of almost half a million voters from United We Can, and 150,000 from More Country. All this, together with the low participation, which falls from 69.9 percent to 66, explains their percentage of vote in first position. The Popular Party would go from 20.8 percent of the vote on 10-N to an estimate of 27.1 percent, 6.3 points more. In number of deputies, the 89 he achieved in November would now be 115. Only 1.6 points and five deputies from the PSOE separate him. The formation of Pablo Casado captures 250,000 votes from the PSOE, and another 250,000 from Citizens, while the transfer of Vox to the PP is even greater: 400,000 votes.