DG COMM’s Public Opinion Monitoring Unit has assembled a range of recent surveys and polls from across the EU giving insight into how citizens see Russia’s invasion of Ukraine and the unprecedented array of sanctions taken by the EU and its international allies. The key findings presented below are based on two multi-countries surveys as well as on surveys conducted in Germany, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Poland, Romania and Spain.

The main findings are:

- **According to the Spring Eurobarometer survey of the European Parliament published this week, 65% of Europeans see EU membership as a good thing.** This is the highest result since 2007, when it was 58%. 52% of Europeans today have a positive image of the EU, against 12% negative, see full publication [source].

- **According to the same publication, support for speeding up efforts to let new countries join the EU varies considerably across Member States.** At least seven in ten in Poland (80%), Ireland (77%), Lithuania (75%), Spain (74%) and Croatia (71%) agree this process should be sped up, while at the other end of the scale 36% in Slovakia, 40% in Bulgaria and 44% in Slovenia think the same way.

- **Attitudes towards NATO:** In the latest Pew Research study, 89% of Polish respondents feel favorably toward the alliance. In Sweden, views of NATO increased over the course of the survey period, with very favorable opinions of the alliance increasing substantially. By early April, 84% of Swedes said they had favorable views of NATO.

- **Attitudes toward Russia:** There has been a steep decline in Russian favorability since Pew had last asked this question in 2020. In nearly every country where there is trend data available, favorability for Russia has dropped by double digits. In Italy, Greece and Poland, positive views of Russia have declined by more than 30 percentage points since the question was last asked, see [source].

- **In Poland EU ratings improve:** The Pew research study furthermore reveals that 94% have no confidence at all in Russian President Vladimir Putin. Conversely, 89% Poles have a favorable view of the European Union, the highest rating since this question was asked in 2007.

- **Negative feelings continue to prevail among Italians:** Uncertainty, anger and sadness are cited by about four out of ten Italians and only one in six respondents say they are hopeful. Apprehension over the conflict remains very high: 79% say they are worried, [source].

- **Pessimistic views toward the economy:** 65% of Poles are pessimistic about the direction of economic changes in the country. 69% believe that the Polish economy is currently in a state of crisis, see [source]. In Romania, surveys show a total of 76% worried about a potential economic crisis impacting their financial situation, with inflation named as reason of concern for 68% of the respondents, [source].

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DG Communication’s Public Opinion Monitoring Unit informs about relevant public opinion insights and analysis focusing on multi-country surveys as well as on survey conducted in individual Member States. 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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Russia’s war against Ukraine has strengthened public support for the EU, according to the Spring 2022 Eurobarometer by the European Parliament.

Almost two thirds (65%) of Europeans see EU membership as a good thing. This is the highest result since 2007, when it was 58%. 52% of Europeans today have a positive image of the EU, against 12% negative. For full results, see the table below:

Most citizens perceive the war in Ukraine as fundamental change: 61% of Europeans are not confident that their life will continue unchanged. However, 59% of Europeans see the defense of common European values such as freedom and democracy as a priority - even if that were to affect prices and the cost of living.

The increasing economic worries are also reflected in the political priorities 'citizens want the European Parliament to focus on: The fight against poverty and social exclusion is mentioned first (38%). The perception of the war and what it means for the European Union becomes also visible in the citizens’ core values they want the European Parliament to defend as a matter of priority: Democracy again tops the list, with an increase of six percentage points compared to autumn 2021 (38%, +6pp). For the full results, see the following graph:
Lastly, Support for speeding up efforts to let new countries join the EU varies considerably across Member States. At least seven in ten in Poland (80%), Ireland (77%), Lithuania (75%), Spain (74%) and Croatia (71%) agree this process should be sped up, while at the other end of the scale 36% in Slovakia, 40% in Bulgaria and 44% in Slovenia think the same way. Overall, there are 21 countries where the majority agree, and five where the majority disagree. Opinion is divided in Czechia (47% agree vs 47% disagree), see full results in the following graph:

**QA17** Please tell to what extent you agree or disagree with this statement. In view of the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the European Union should speed up its efforts to let new countries join the EU (%)
In a time of crisis, the international image of the United States, NATO and Russia has shifted — with views on Russia plunging and views of the United States and NATO remaining positive, even increasing, a Pew study found.

A median of 65% across 11 member states have a favorable view of NATO, and 26% have an unfavorable view. Seven-in-ten or more feel positively toward NATO in the Netherlands, the UK and Germany. In Poland, a particularly prominent member of NATO since Russia’s invasion of Ukraine, 89% feel favorably toward the alliance. In Greece, favorable views of NATO have never risen above roughly four-in-ten (38% in 2021). Greece is the only nation in the current survey with a majority expressing negative views of the alliance. A full overview can be seen below:

In Sweden, views of NATO increased over the course of the survey period, with very favorable opinions of the alliance increasing substantially. Fieldwork began the day Russia invaded Ukraine (Feb. 24) and in the early weeks, around three-quarters saw the alliance positively, including around one-in-five who said they had very positive views. By early April, 84% of Swedes said they had favorable views of NATO, including around three-in-ten who had very favorable views.
In almost every country surveyed, at least seven-in-ten have an unfavorable opinion of Russia. Poles are especially critical of Russia: 97% have an unfavorable opinion, including 91% with a very unfavorable view.

There has been a steep decline in Russian favorability since the question was last asked in 2020, with record low shares in all 18 countries expressing positive opinions of Russia. In nearly every country where there is trend data available, favorability for Russia has dropped by double digits. In Italy, Greece and Poland, positive views of Russia have declined by more than 30 percentage points since the question was last asked (2020 for Italy and 2019 for Greece and Poland).
For more in depth analysis, see the original publication of the Pew Research Center.

spd slips below 20 per cent mark - Ukraine still most important issue
Forsa | June 2022 | Source
Fieldwork: 14-20 June 2022

The war in Ukraine remains the topic that interests German citizens the most, with 71%. This is followed by energy and price trends (50%). The Corona pandemic continues to gain in importance this week (27%).
Almost 4 months after the beginning of the Russian invasion, negative feelings continue to prevail: uncertainty, anger and sadness are cited by about four out of ten Italians and only one in six respondents say they are hopeful. Apprehension over the conflict remains very high: 79% say they are worried, of which 27% say they are very worried. Furthermore, the share of those who fear a possible involvement of the Italian army in the conflict decreases to one fifth (19%), while concern for the economic consequences remains very high (60%). Over four out of ten Italians predict that hostilities will continue for several months and one in four for at least another year. Support for Ukraine increases: one in two Italians support Kyiv, but over 40% do not take sides. Lastly, the Turkish government - which is establishing itself as the main mediator - for Italians is the international actor who contributes most to the search for a diplomatic solution to the conflict, before the Vatican and the European Union, but almost one in two respondents do not indicate anyone (…).

To the question "What do you think Western countries should advise Ukraine to do?" the Italians replied as follow:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>They should advise Ukraine to accord some territory to Russia in exchange for peace and security</td>
<td>34,8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They should favor a ceasefire, but without acknowledging Russia’s conquest of Ukrainian territory</td>
<td>28,5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nothing, the other states should not enter the affair, which only concerns Russia and Ukraine</td>
<td>17,3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They should continue to support Ukraine even by sending weapons without accepting the cession of territories to Russia</td>
<td>14,2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They should enter the conflict militarily alongside Ukraine</td>
<td>2,3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I don’t know / don’t intend to answer</td>
<td>2,9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

While to the question "In your opinion the transfer of part of Ukraine to Russia would represent a dangerous precedent?" they replied:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes, it would be unacceptable, Russia has no right to take other people’s territory</td>
<td>32,1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No, even if it is a violation of previous agreements, it is an internal matter within the former USSR that cannot be used as a precedent elsewhere</td>
<td>27,5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No, because Russia was motivated by the right reasons</td>
<td>17,9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes, although Russians may have some reasons for Crimea and Donbass many nations around the world would take this as an example by undertaking wars</td>
<td>16,8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I don’t know / don’t intend to answer</td>
<td>5,7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
War in Ukraine, for 70.7% Italians the end is still far away
Euromedia  | 23 June 2022 | Source (internal translation)
Fieldwork: 13 June 2022

For 70.7% of Italians, the war will not end soon, only 11.5% believe that the conflict will end soon. For 27.3%, the conflict will end as soon as diplomacy manages to bring the two contenders together and thus promote a peace process at the international level. For 18.7%, the end will only come with the complete capitulation of Ukraine while for 18.5% as soon as Putin is ousted by the Russians or brought down. Fewer percentages reflect the scenario of a Russian military defeat (8.4%) or NATO intervention alongside Ukraine (5.1%). One in two Italians is against Italy’s sending arms to Ukraine. This percentage rises to 54.8% if heavier weapons were sent than those sent so far.

One-fifth of Ukrainian refugees want to stay in Lithuania
LRT TV, 20/06/2022 Source

Although many Ukrainians who fled the war are already returning to their homeland, some have decided to stay in Lithuania permanently, according to a recent survey. According to a survey conducted by the Employment Service, one-fifth of Ukrainians who fled the war would like to stay in Lithuania, while another 30 percent said they were still undecided about their future.

According to the survey, 45 percent of Ukrainians in Lithuania are currently employed. Most of them are satisfied with their working conditions. However, only around half are satisfied with their wages. On average, they are paid 1,000 euros before taxes.

Poles: refugee, stay if you work
IBRiS | 23 June | Source (internal translation)

Over 70 percent respondents to the IBRiS survey want refugees from Ukraine to stay in Poland but on the condition that they take up a job and support themselves. The second place among the conditions for staying is educating children in a Polish school, and the third - starting Polish education.

The newspaper informs that every third Pole wants Ukrainians who escaped to Poland before the war to earn their living. Why has the mood in Poland towards Ukrainians changed? "Because we want to be treated equally. We say: support yes, but on equal terms. This view is undoubtedly influenced by the increasingly difficult situation of Polish families, high inflation. Therefore, the acceptance of social assistance for Ukrainians in Poland will decrease".
Apart from taking up employment by Ukrainians, Poles also indicate other criteria for their further stay in Poland. It is about sending children to a Polish school (38.7 percent) and learning Polish (27.6 percent). 12.1 percent of the respondents indicated the condition for the purchase of an apartment.

**Spotlight on Poland: Negative Views of Russia Surge, but Ratings for U.S., NATO, EU Improve**

Pew Research Center | 22 June | Source
Fieldwork: 25 March - 5 May

The Russian invasion of Ukraine has led to a dramatic shift in attitudes in Poland (...). Currently, 94% see Russia as a major threat, up from 65% who said this in 2018, and 94% have no confidence at all in Russian President Vladimir Putin – also an all-time high. (...) In addition, roughly two-thirds in Poland see having a close relationship with the U.S. as more important than having one with Russia. Only 1% want a closer relationship with Russia, while 28% volunteer that both are equally important. Just three years ago, more than half of Poles (53%) offered that both relationships are equally important.

The shift in attitudes also benefits Polish views of the NATO alliance. Roughly nine-in-ten Poles have a favorable view of NATO, including 34% with very favorable opinions of the military alliance. Currently, 84% of Poles support arming Ukraine through NATO and 75% want Ukraine to become a NATO member, a substantial increase in support since 2015. In addition, roughly two-thirds in Poland say they would support their country using military force to defend a NATO ally from a hypothetical Russian military action, and about the same share say the U.S. would defend that NATO ally. (...)

Another clear beneficiary of the decline in ratings for Russia is the EU: It has received its highest rating in Poland (89%) since Pew Research Center began asking the question in 2007. And Poles are now much more likely than they were in 2018 to say that the EU understands the needs of Polish citizens and promotes democratic values, prosperity and peace. Fewer now also say that the EU is intrusive or inefficient. A majority (57%) says that the economic integration of Europe has strengthened the Polish economy. (...)

**As critical views of Russia, Putin reach new highs, Poles turn to U.S.**

Polish views of Russia are more critical than ever, with nearly all Poles (97%) holding an unfavorable view of the country, including 91% who have a very unfavorable view. The share who hold a very negative view of Russia has increased by 67 percentage points since the question was last asked in 2019. (...) Apprehension about Russia’s power and influence has tracked in the same direction. While 65% said Russia’s power and influence posed a major threat to Poland in 2017 and 2018, 94% now hold this view – an increase of 29 percentage points. (...)

**In Poland, high levels of support for taking in refugees, arming Ukraine through NATO**

Poles increasingly support their country taking in refugees from countries where people are fleeing violence and war. Eight-in-ten now approve of Poland admitting such refugees, which is a 31 percentage point increase from 2018. More than eight-in-ten also say they support NATO sending arms to the Ukrainian government in response to the situation involving Russia and Ukraine. In 2015, only half in Poland approved of NATO arming the Ukrainian government to defend itself against Russia. Support for Ukraine joining NATO and the EU has similarly increased by double digits from about six-in-ten to 75% since 2015 (...)

When asked about a hypothetical military conflict between Russia and a neighboring NATO ally, 65% of people in Poland say their country should use military force to defend that neighbor, 15% reject the use of military force and 19% do not provide an answer. This is an increase of 25 points from 2019 (40% said they supported using military force then) and a return to levels of support last
seen in 2017 (62%). Men are more likely than women to say that Poland should defend the neighbor using military force, as are Poles with unfavorable views of the governing Law and Justice party compared with those with favorable views of PiS.

Poles are also optimistic that the U.S. would step in if a neighboring NATO ally was in a military conflict with Russia. Roughly two-thirds (66%) believe the U.S. would use military force to defend the neighboring ally. Optimism about U.S. intervention on behalf of a NATO ally has increased by 19 points since 2019 and is the highest recorded since the question was first asked in 2015. Views on U.S. military intervention are similar among both men and women and those with differing views of Law and Justice.

**Polish opinions of the European Union are increasingly positive**
Nearly nine-in-ten Poles (89%) have a favorable view of the European Union, the highest rating since the Center began asking this question in 2007. The intensity of these positive views has also increased to record highs; 37% have a very favorable opinion of the organization.

**How many Poles came to help Ukrainians?**
Kantar | 20 June | Source (internal translation)
Fieldwork: 7-9 June

The Kantar survey indicated that as much as 73.5 percent of Poles helped the Ukrainians in various forms. The survey shows that women (78 percent) are more likely to help war refugees from Ukraine than men (68.5 percent).

The Kantar company also asked the following question: "Does accepting refugees from Ukraine pose a threat to Polish tradition, culture and religion?". 82.5 percent of respondents are not afraid of this. A different opinion is shared by 13 percent. Moreover, 76.1 percent of respondents are not afraid that due to the influx of war refugees they may lose their jobs in Poland. On the other hand, 19.7 percent of the respondents claim that this should be feared.

64.4 percent of Kantar survey participants believe the government has done enough about refugees. This view is most often shared by the voters of Law and Justice (96 percent) and the Confederation of Freedom and Independence (8 percent). In turn, 26.3 percent of Poles believe that the government has not done enough. The majority of supporters of the Civic Coalition (66.6 percent), and of Poland 2050 (50.9%) and the Left (49.7 percent) predominate.

**Almost every second Pole considers the West’s support for Ukraine to be too little**
SW Research | 19 June | Source (internal translation)
Fieldwork: 14-15 June

Survey participants were asked whether - in their opinion - the West provided Ukraine, which was fighting against Russia, with sufficient support, 27.9% of respondents answered "yes" to this question. The answer "no" was given by 45.9% of respondents, and 26.2% respondents had no opinion on this matter.

**Would Poles put up a heroic resistance in the event of a war?**
Social Changes | 17/06 | Source (internal translation)
Fieldwork: 10-13 June

The respondents were asked the following question: if Russia attacked Poland, would the Poles fight as heroically as the Ukrainians? A significant proportion of the respondents is optimistic about the matter. As much as 47 percent of them chose the answer "definitely yes" or "rather yes". Their view
is not shared by 33 percent of respondents. The "hard to say" option was selected by 20% of participants.

The voters of the United Right are the most optimistic. As much as 66 percent of them believe that the Poles would fight for their country as heroically as the Ukrainians. Szymon Hołownia’s electorate also has a positive attitude - 51 percent of respondents are convinced of the brave attitude of their countrymen. The supporters of the Civic Coalition turned out to be much more sceptical. Only 39 percent of them believe that Poles would put up a tough resistance to the aggressor.

More than two-thirds of Poles believe that the Polish economy is in a crisis
Kantar | 17 June | Source (internal translation)
Fieldwork: 3-8 June

The latest Kantar Public poll shows that 65 percent of Poles are pessimistic about the direction of economic changes in the country. Only 17 percent are of the opposite opinion and 18 percent could not define their position.

"Compared to the results obtained in May, the percentage of Poles positively assessing the course of affairs in the country has decreased by 2 percentage points and the percentage of negative opinions has increased by the same amount". The survey also shows that 69 percent, i.e. over two-thirds of Poles, believe that the Polish economy is currently in a state of crisis. 42 percent of them claim that the crisis is light and 27 percent that it is deep.

Three quarters of Romanians are worried about potential economic crisis, survey shows
Business World Magazine | 23 June 2022 | Source
Fieldwork May 2022, 1,000 respondents, using the CATI

A total of 76% of Romanians are worried about a potential economic crisis impacting their financial situation, according to the recent survey on Risk Perception and Insurance Culture in Romania (2022), carried out by insurance companies' association UNSAR and poll provider IRES.

Inflation is a reason of concern for 68% of the respondents, followed by the war (64%), fires and car accidents (61%), the pandemic and getting sick (57%). As the respondents' age increases, so does the share of those expressing high or very high concern with unwanted events. Furthermore, those living in urban areas and those with average incomes are worried about these aspects. The survey found that inflation affected one out of two Romanians, as little over half of the respondents said their revenues did not change over the past year.

Despite the economic evolution, close to four out of ten of those surveyed believe they will save more in the coming year, compared to just two out of ten respondents declaring the same in 2021. Similarly to last year, deposits would be the main instrument used for savings, with four out of ten choosing them. A quarter of those surveyed said they would invest in real estate.
Inflation tops Romanians' concerns
Romania-insider.com | 21 June 2022 | Source
Fieldwork April 2022, an online panel, among 900 respondents

Inflation is currently the main concern of Romanians, according to a survey carried out by AHA Moments and Rethink Romania, a think tank established by a group of entrepreneurs.

The respondents adopt a cautious behavior to overcome this period and choose to consume less, while searching for promotions and opting for cheaper brands, from goods to fuel and utilities. At the same time, they think that their life quality decreased over the past eight months, with the most impacted being the over 55 and average or low-income earners, the survey found.

The concerns related to inflation are less visible in the case of the high-income earners (the top 20% of the population by revenues, those generating 43% of the yearly revenues), the survey found.

The increase in the prices of services, consumer goods, and fuels is followed by a concern with the personal and the family health (40%) on the list of top concerns in April, the survey shows. The economic consequences of the war in Ukraine on Romania (37%), the economic evolution of the country (36%), and the possibility of Romania's involvement in a war (33%) come next. The job stability/ safety (18%), the political context of the country (16%), and the Covid-19 pandemic (9%) are also on the list.

When it comes to the country's attractiveness, the survey found that, compared to the end of 2021, the population is more pessimistic and has somewhat lost trust in Romania's potential. The recent events, such as inflation, the war, and the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, left their mark on the respondents' state of mind, the survey's authors explain.

The percentage of those who are sure they will not emigrate in the coming period dropped from 54% in September 2021 to 47% in April 2022. The younger the public, the higher the predisposition for emigrating, the survey found. Among those aged 18 to 24, 14% said they likely/definitely want to emigrate, according to the 2022 results.

The Spaniards believe that Ukraine will win the war but will not recover the occupied territories
Elcano Royal Institute | 23 June 2022 | source
Fieldwork: 7-13 June 2022

From the survey, it is clear that 86% of Spaniards support the idea that Ukraine will win, although Russia will keep part of its territory, compared to 8% who believe that Moscow will defeat Kiev. In addition, more than half (51%) see it feasible that the war will last between six months and a year more, while 35% believe that it will last more than a year and 14% that the war will end in less than six months.

For Spain, this war is the main threat to Europe (58%) and the greatest threat to the security of the continent, well above the price of fuel (23%), electricity (9%) or climate change (9%).
Concerns about war increases substantially with age, being much higher among those over 55 years of age (78%), while women view conflict with more fear than men, (83% compared to 71%). The pandemic seems to disappear among the main concerns: only 1% of the population sees Covid-19 as the main problem for the continent.

Furthermore, 85% of Spaniards also consider Russia guilty of the conflict, compared to 15% who point to NATO as responsible for having provoked the invasion. This last figure is transversal politically speaking, since there is a presence of both left and right ideologies.

At the same time, more than half are in favour of the fact that if the war in Ukraine drags on, Europe and the United States must negotiate with Russia to achieve peace, even if it is in exchange for ceding the territories that have been in Russian hands for eight years. However, if the war is prolonged, the bulk of Spaniards, 80%, second at the same time continue to send support to Ukrainian troops "as long as they continue to fight".