European Commission

Standard Eurobarometer 77
Spring 2012

PUBLIC OPINION IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

FIRST RESULTS

Fieldwork: May 2012

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This survey has been requested and co-ordinated by the European Commission, Directorate-General for Communication.

http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/index_en.htm

Standard Eurobarometer 77 / Spring 2012 – TNS Opinion & Social

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First results

Survey carried out by TNS Opinion & Social at the request of the European Commission's Directorate-General for Communication

Survey coordinated by the European Commission's Directorate-General for Communication (DG COMM "Research and Speechwriting" Unit)

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INTRODUCTION

This report presents the first results of the Standard Eurobarometer 77, which was carried out between 12 and 27 May 2012, in 34 countries or territories: the 27 European Union Member States, the six candidate countries (Croatia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Iceland, Montenegro and Serbia), and the Turkish Cypriot Community in the part of the country that is not controlled by the government of the Republic of Cyprus.

This "first results" report provides a selection of graphics illustrating questions on various aspects of the economy and the European political situation. It is published jointly with the results of the Standard Eurobarometer questions which are set out in an annex.

The previous Standard Eurobarometer survey of autumn 2011 (EB76) revealed a marked deterioration in a number of indicators regarding perceptions of the economic situation, in particular developments in the European economic situation and the economic outlook at national, European and world levels. It also highlighted a deterioration in the indicators of support for the European Union.

In February 2012 just before the spring 2012 survey, the European Commission published its interim economic forecasts for spring 2012: these pointed to a stagnation of the EU economy and a mild recession in the euro area, but predicted a return to modest growth in the second half of 2012.

The weeks before the survey was carried out were also marked by several major political events: in Greece, the parliamentary elections of 6 May 2012 failed to produce a majority government; Greek voters therefore returned to the polls on 17 June 2012. In France, François Hollande won the presidential election, becoming France's first socialist President since François Mitterrand (President from 1981 to 1995). Finally, a few weeks earlier, the Direction – Social Democracy left-wing party had won the parliamentary elections in Slovakia. During the fieldwork for the survey, a G8 summit was held at Camp David in the United States; its conclusions included a declaration on the need to promote growth and jobs. Several other events of importance for the European Union were scheduled to take place in the weeks just after the completion of the survey: parliamentary elections in Greece and France; the G20 Summit in Los Cabos, Mexico; and the European Council at the end of June.

This report focuses on the results obtained in the 27 EU Member States and is divided into five main parts. The first part analyses how Europeans perceive the current economic situation, while the second looks at the main concerns of Europeans and their expectations for the next twelve months. The report then considers how respondents view political institutions: national governments and parliaments, and the EU and its institutions. The fourth part is devoted to the euro and the issues raised by the crisis. Finally, the fifth part examines the way in which Europeans perceive the various initiatives of the Europe 2020 strategy and whether they think that the European Union is going in the right direction to emerge from the crisis.

As these questions have been asked in previous Standard Eurobarometer surveys we are able to analyse trends in opinion.

In this report, the following abbreviations are used:

ABREVIATIONS			
BE	Belgium	LV	Latvia
CZ	Czech Republic	LU	Luxembourg
BG	Bulgaria	HU	Hungary
DK	Denmark	MT	Malta
DE	Germany	NL	The Netherlands
EE	Estonia	AT	Austria
EL	Greece	PL	Poland
ES	Spain	PT	Portugal
FR	France	RO	Romania
IE	Ireland	SI	Slovenia
IT	Italy	SK	Slovakia
CY	Republic of Cyprus***	FI	Finland
LT	Lithuania	SE	Sweden
		UK	The United Kingdom
TCC	Turkish Cypriot Community		
HR	Croatia	EU27	European Union – 27 Member States
TR	Turkey		
MK	Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia ****	EU15	BE, IT, FR, DE, LU, NL, DK, UK, IE, PT, ES, EL, AT, SE, FI*
IS	Iceland	NMS12	BG, CZ, EE, CY, LT, LV, MT, HU, PL, RO, SL, SK**
ME	Montenegro	EURO AREA	BE, FR, IT, LU, DE, AT, ES, PT, IE, NL, FI, EL, EE, SI, CY, MT, SK
RS	Serbia	NON-EURO AREA	BG, CZ, DK, LV, LT, HU, PL, RO, SE, UK

* EU15 refers to the 15 European Union Member States before the enlargements of 2004 and 2007

** The NMS12 countries are the 12 "new Member States" that joined the European Union at the time of the 2004 and 2007 enlargements

*** Cyprus as a whole is one of the 27 European Union Member States. However, the "acquis communautaire" has been suspended in the part of the country which is not controlled by the government of the Republic of Cyprus. For practical reasons, only the interviews carried out in the part of the country controlled by the government of the Republic of Cyprus are included in the "CY" category and in the EU27 average. The interviews carried out in the part of the country that is not controlled by the government of the Republic of Cyprus are included in the "CY(tcc)" (tcc: *Turkish Cypriot Community*) category)

**** Provisional abbreviation which in no way prejudges the definitive name of this country, which will be agreed once the current negotiations at the United Nations have been completed

* * * * *

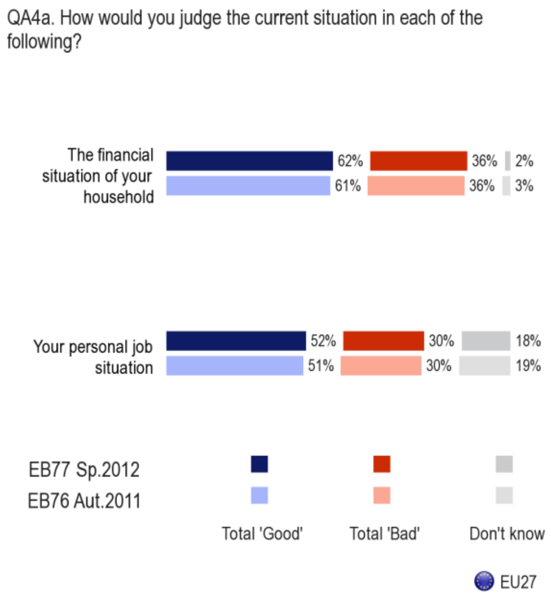
We wish to thank all the people interviewed throughout Europe who took the time to take part in this survey.

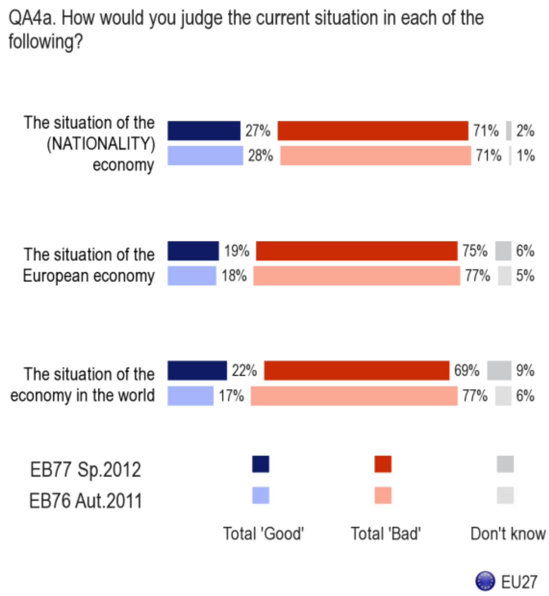
Without their active participation, this survey would not have been possible.

I. EUROPEANS AND THE ECONOMIC SITUATION

1. ASSESSMENT OF THE CURRENT SITUATION: GENERAL AND PERSONAL ASPECTS

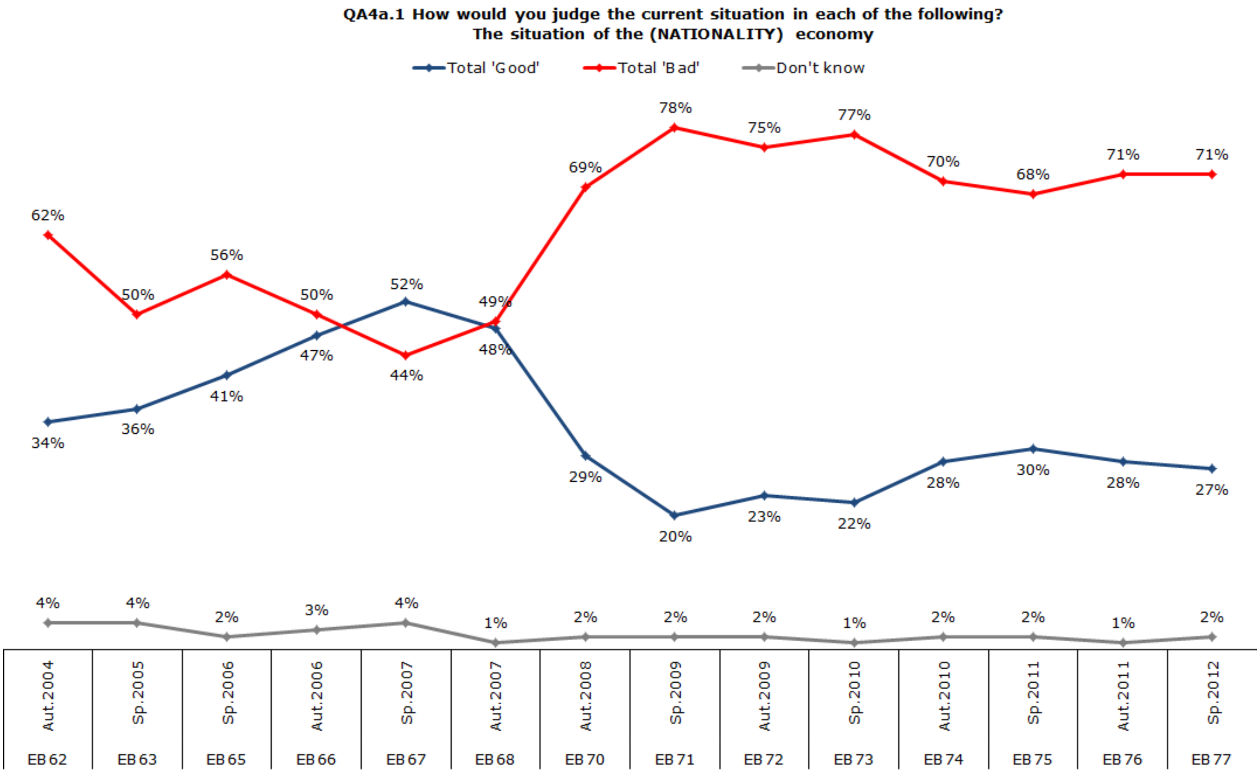
Overall, respondents' assessments of their household financial situation (+1 percentage point) and their own job situation (+1) have remained more or less unchanged since the previous survey carried out in autumn 2011. Although perceptions of the economic situation nationally (-1) and at European level (+1) are also more or less unchanged, there has been a marked improvement in views of the global economic situation (+5).





2. CURRENT SITUATION OF THE ECONOMY AT NATIONAL LEVEL: TREND

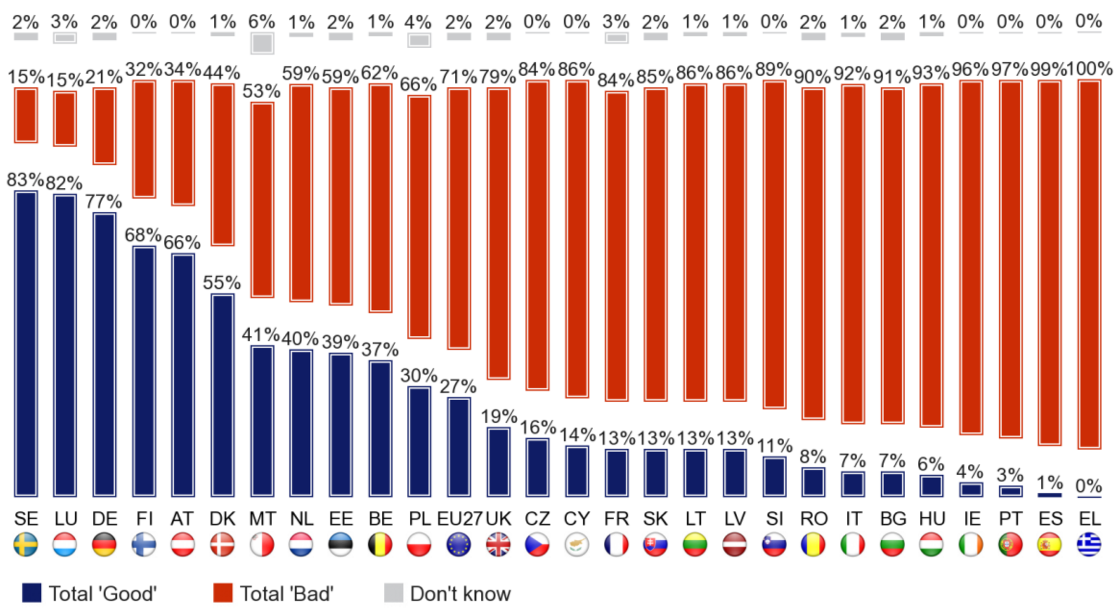
Perceptions of the national economic situation have remained stable since autumn 2010 (EB74). In total, this is the eighth successive time since autumn 2008 (EB70) that more than two-thirds of Europeans have said that the situation of their national economy is rather bad or very bad. However, it is important to note that the proportion of negative perceptions (71%) is 7 percentage points lower than in spring 2009 (78%). This is a weighted average of the aggregate EU-wide results in the 27 Member States.



3. CURRENT SITUATION OF THE ECONOMY AT NATIONAL LEVEL: NATIONAL RESULTS

There are significant differences of opinion within the European Union: more than 80 percentage points separate the Member States in which the public is positive about their country's economic situation from those that are negative. In Sweden, Luxembourg and Germany, more than three-quarters of respondents say that the situation of their national economy is good. In contrast, fewer than 5% of respondents agree in Ireland, Portugal, Spain and Greece.

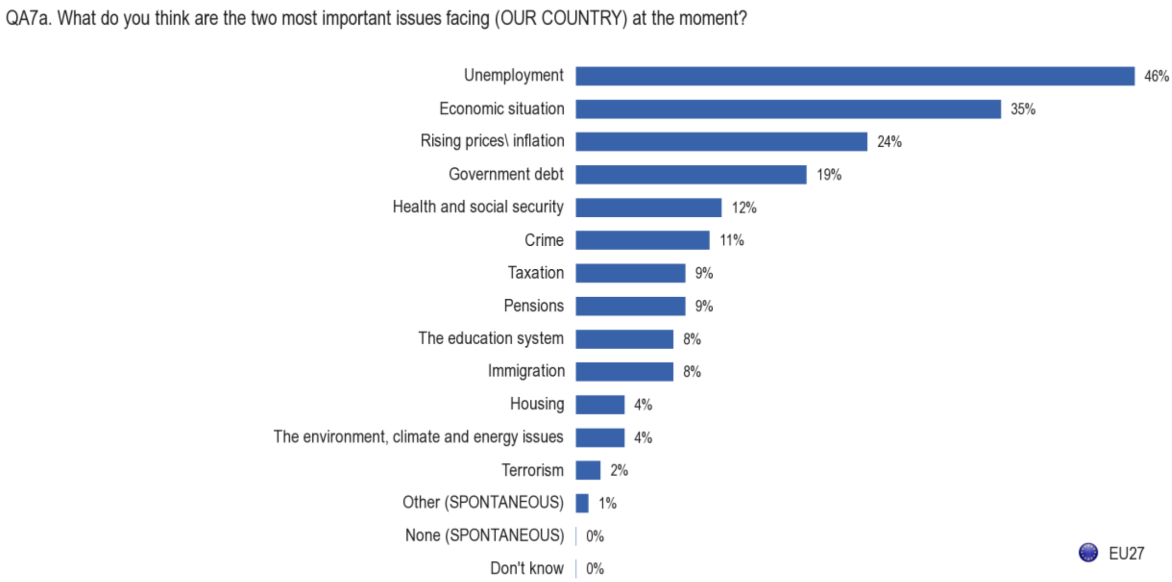
QA4a.1. How would you judge the current situation in each of the following?
The situation of the (NATIONALITY) economy



II. THE MAIN CONCERNS OF EUROPEANS

1. MAIN CONCERNS AT NATIONAL LEVEL

The four main concerns of Europeans at national level are economic: the unemployment rate is the main cause of preoccupation (46%), followed by the economic situation, mentioned by more than a third of Europeans (35%), and then rising prices (24%). Government debt comes in fourth place, mentioned by just under one in five Europeans (19%), a long way ahead of the social and societal issues.



2. MAIN CONCERNS AT NATIONAL LEVEL: NATIONAL RESULTS

An analysis of the national results confirms the primacy of economic issues in all the Member States. Unemployment is the most frequently mentioned concern in 17 Member States, with very high scores in Spain (76%), Portugal (68%), Sweden (63%) and Ireland (62%). The economic situation is the first item mentioned in six Member States: Greece (66%), the Netherlands (56%), Slovenia (55%), Romania (45%), the Czech Republic (39%) and Belgium (27%). Rising prices are the main concern in Estonia (51%), Malta (42%) and Austria (37%). Government debt is the main worry in Germany (37%) and this issue also figures prominently in the Netherlands (28%) and Austria (27%) where it is ranked in third place.

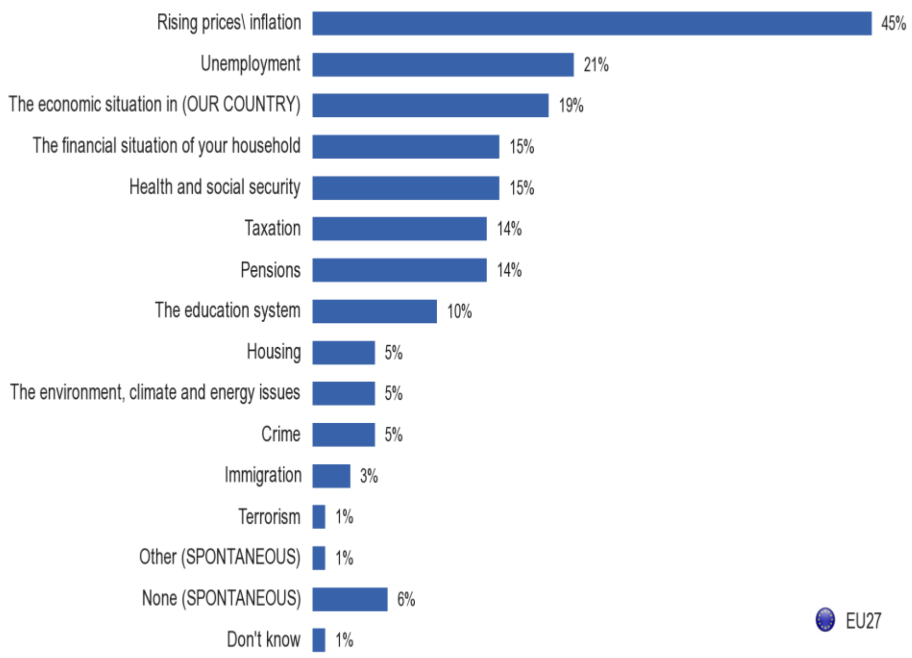
QA7a What do you think are the two most important issues facing (OUR COUNTRY) at the moment? - Three highest percentages

	EU27		IE		LT		PT
Unemployment	46%	Unemployment	62%	Unemployment	46%	Unemployment	68%
Economic situation	35%	Economic situation	55%	Rising prices\ inflation	45%	Economic situation	37%
Rising prices\ inflation	24%	Government debt	22%	Economic situation	33%	Rising prices\ inflation	25%
	BE		EL		LU		RO
Economic situation	27%	Economic situation	66%	Unemployment	38%	Economic situation	45%
Unemployment	26%	Unemployment	57%	Housing	36%	Unemployment	33%
Rising prices\ inflation	24%	Government debt	20%	Rising prices\ inflation	23%	Rising prices\ inflation	33%
	BG		ES		HU		SI
Unemployment	58%	Unemployment	76%	Unemployment	57%	Economic situation	55%
Economic situation	45%	Economic situation	61%	Economic situation	43%	Unemployment	53%
Rising prices\ inflation	28%	Government debt	11%	Rising prices\ inflation	28%	Government debt	28%
		Health and social security	11%				
	CZ		FR		MT		SK
Economic situation	39%	Unemployment	55%	Rising prices\ inflation	42%	Unemployment	51%
Rising prices\ inflation	37%	Economic situation	29%	Economic situation	32%	Economic situation	38%
Unemployment	31%	Government debt	24%	Government debt	26%	Rising prices\ inflation	36%
	DK		IT		NL		FI
Unemployment	51%	Unemployment	49%	Economic situation	56%	Unemployment	38%
Economic situation	48%	Economic situation	42%	Health and social security	30%	Health and social security	33%
Crime	16%	Taxation	29%	Government debt	28%	Economic situation	24%
The education system	16%						
	DE		CY		AT		SE
Government debt	37%	Unemployment	64%	Rising prices\ inflation	37%	Unemployment	63%
Rising prices\ inflation	30%	Economic situation	58%	Economic situation	35%	Health and social security	31%
The education system	21%	Crime	20%	Government debt	27%	The education system	25%
	EE		LV		PL		UK
Rising prices\ inflation	51%	Unemployment	53%	Unemployment	58%	Unemployment	48%
Unemployment	47%	Economic situation	41%	Rising prices\ inflation	44%	Economic situation	31%
Economic situation	33%	Taxation	20%	Economic situation	24%	Immigration	21%

3. MAIN CONCERNS AT PERSONAL LEVEL

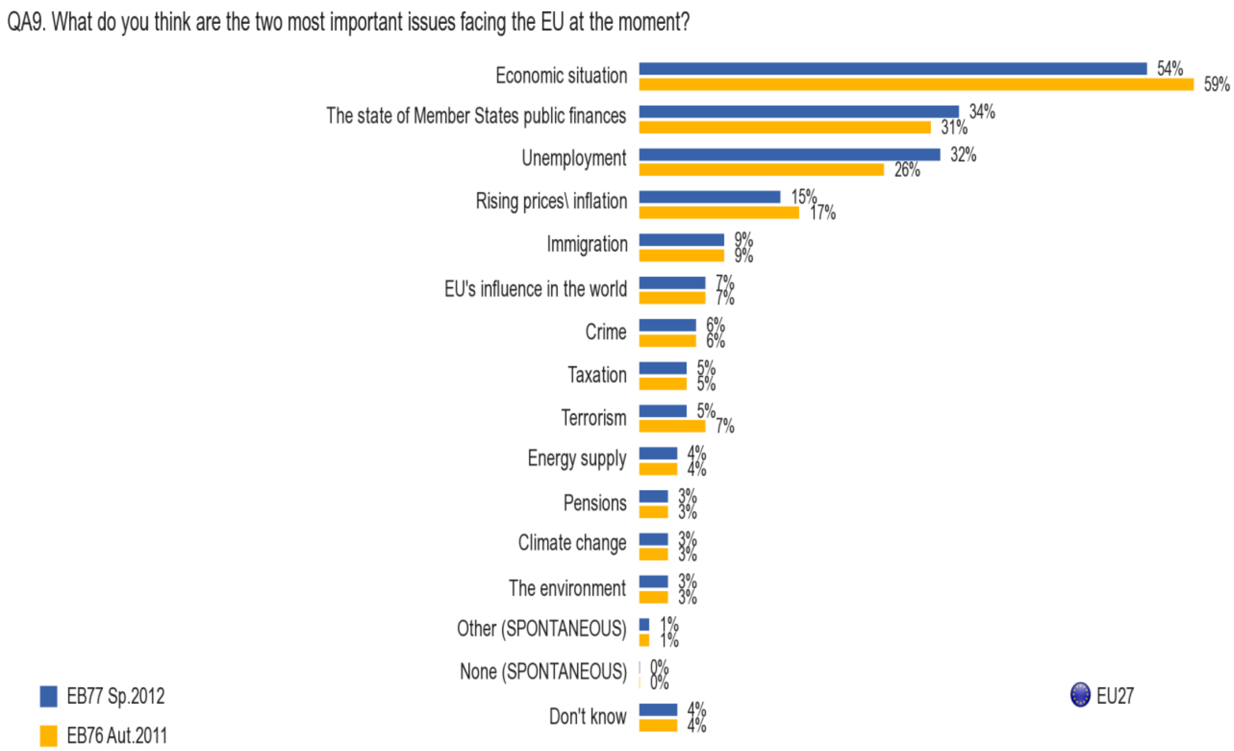
Rising prices are by far the main personal concern of Europeans: with a score of 45%, this issue stands a long way ahead of unemployment (21%) and the national economic situation (19%). None of the other issues obtained a score of more than 15%.

QA8a. And personally, what are the two most important issues you are facing at the moment?



4. MAIN CONCERNS AT EUROPEAN LEVEL: EVOLUTIONS

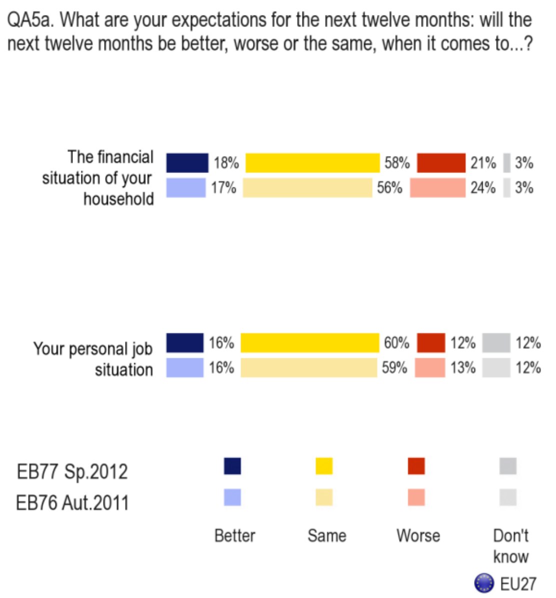
The economic situation, mentioned by 54% of respondents, is still seen as the main issue facing the European Union. However, this score is 5 percentage points below the level recorded in autumn 2011. The state of public finances in the Member States, mentioned by more than a third of respondents, still ranks in second place (34%, +3 percentage points). Unemployment, in third place, has recorded the most significant increase since autumn 2011 (+6 to 32%). Inflation completes this leading quartet of important issues facing the European Union (15%, -2).

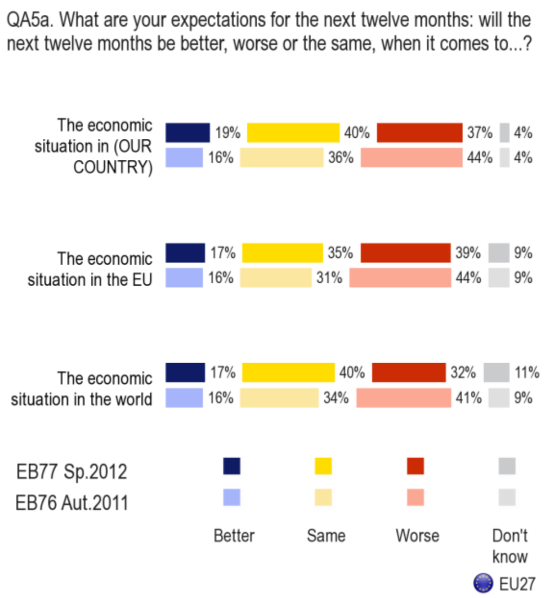


5. EXPECTATIONS FOR THE NEXT TWELVE MONTHS: GENERAL AND PERSONAL ASPECTS

In line with the stability noted in the way Europeans perceive their personal situations, expectations as regards the short-term outlook for their household and employment situations have changed little since the Standard Eurobarometer of autumn 2011 (EB76). The aggregate results of the 27 Member States reveal that approximately three in four Europeans consider that the next twelve months will be the same or better.

However, although expectations for the economy over the next twelve months remain fairly pessimistic, they have nevertheless improved significantly since autumn 2011: the proportion of Europeans who fear that the situation will get worse has fallen not only at national level (37%, -7 percentage points) but also at European (39%, -5) and world (32%, -9) levels.

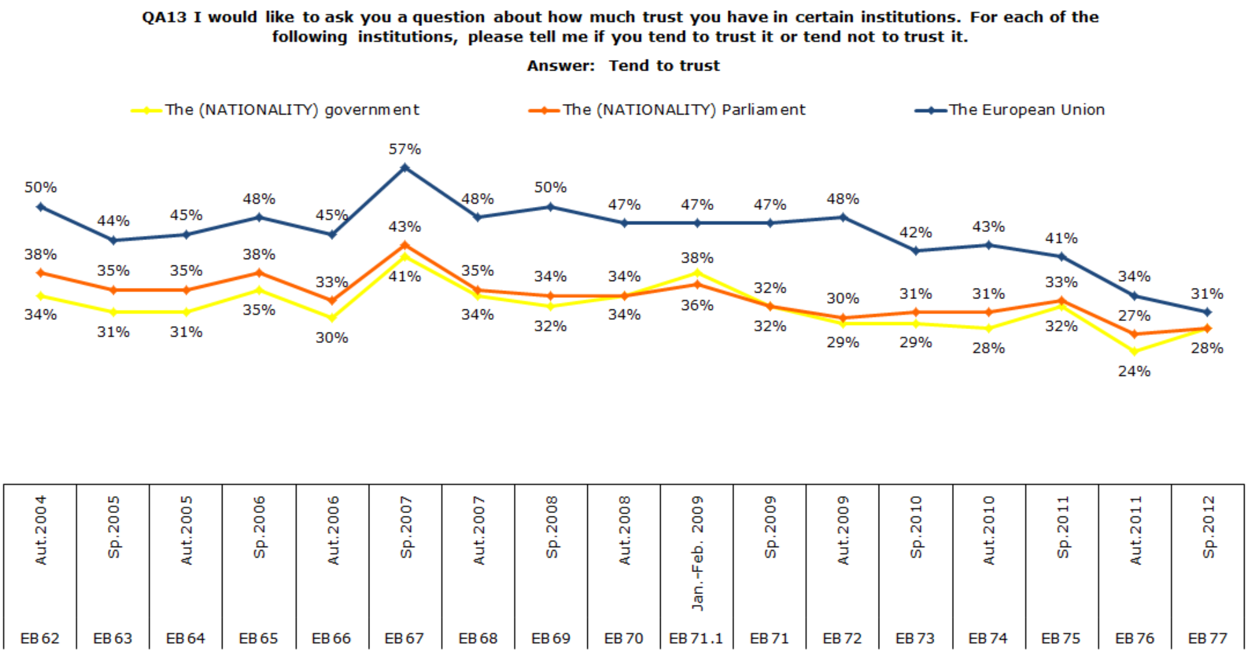




III. EUROPEANS AND POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS

1. TRUST IN NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS AND PARLIAMENTS AND IN THE EUROPEAN UNION: TREND

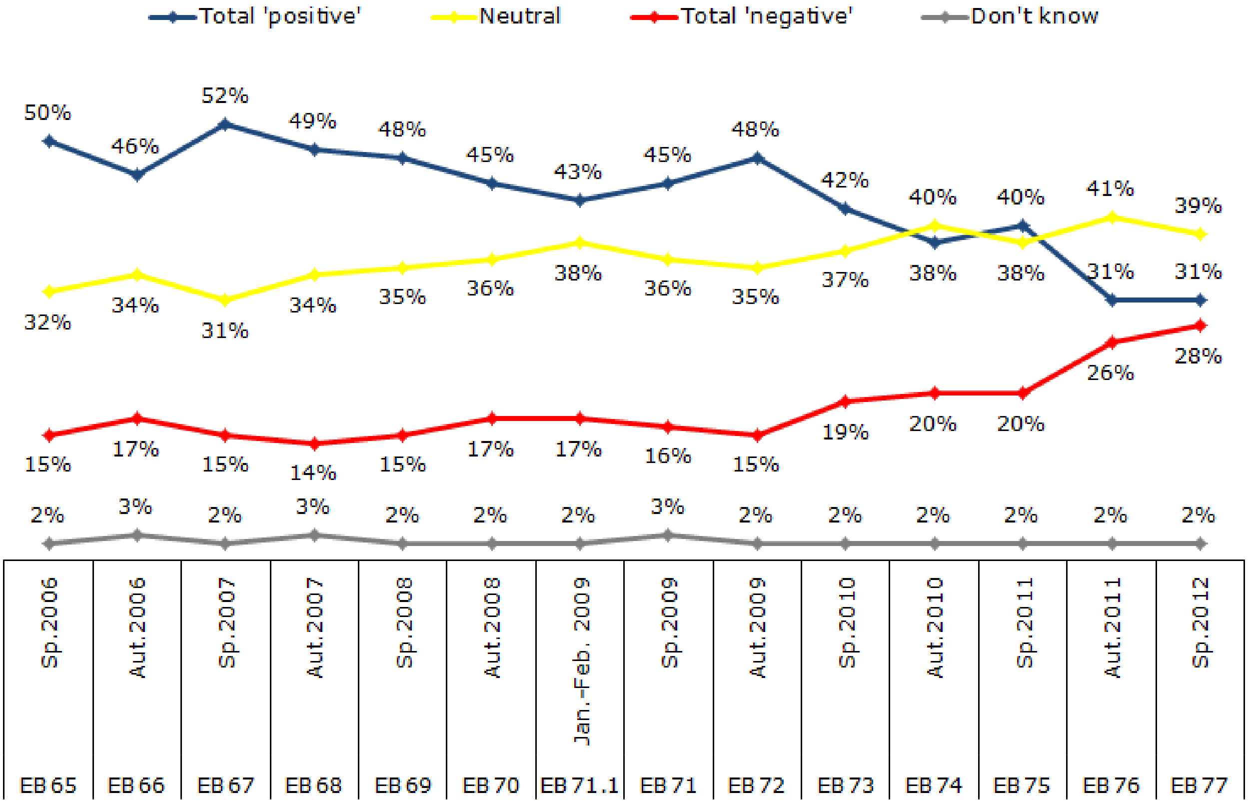
Trust in the European Union has fallen since autumn 2011 and now stands at its lowest ever level (31%, -3 percentage points). At the same time, levels of trust in national governments and parliaments have recovered slightly (28%, +4 and 28%, +1 respectively). As a result, the gap between trust in national political institutions and the European Union is now very narrow.



2. THE EU'S IMAGE: TREND

After the sharp decline recorded in autumn 2011 in the proportion of Europeans for whom the EU conjures up a positive image (-9 percentage points since spring 2011), the proportion is unchanged this time at 31%. However, the proportion with a negative image of the EU has risen slightly overall (28%, +2), matched by a corresponding decrease in those for whom the EU conjures up a neutral image (39%, -2).

QA14 In general, does the EU conjure up for you a very positive, fairly positive, neutral, fairly negative or very negative image?

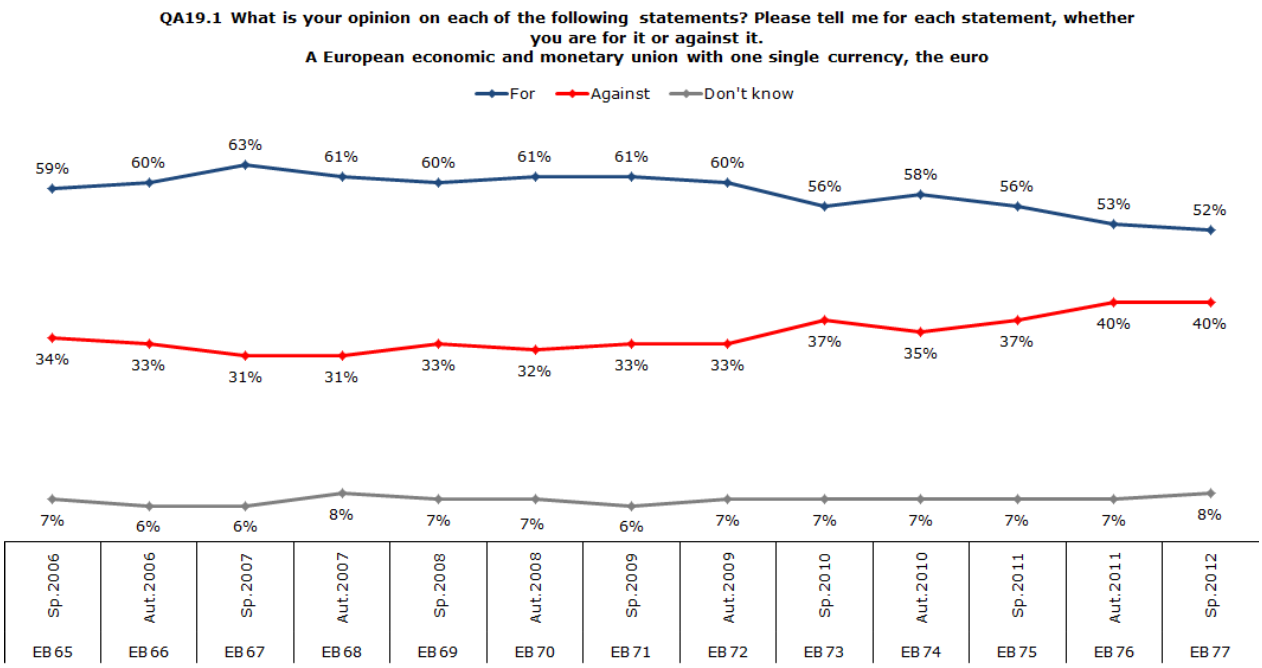


IV. THE CRISIS

1. SUPPORT FOR A EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND MONETARY UNION WITH A SINGLE CURRENCY, THE EURO: TREND

More than half of Europeans support a European economic and monetary union with a single currency, the euro (52%, -1 percentage point since autumn 2011). A few months after the 10th anniversary of the introduction of euro notes and coins, a majority of Europeans supports the single currency, and the level of support remains stable.

The results set out below are those for the European Union as a whole. In the euro area, 63% of respondents support the single currency.

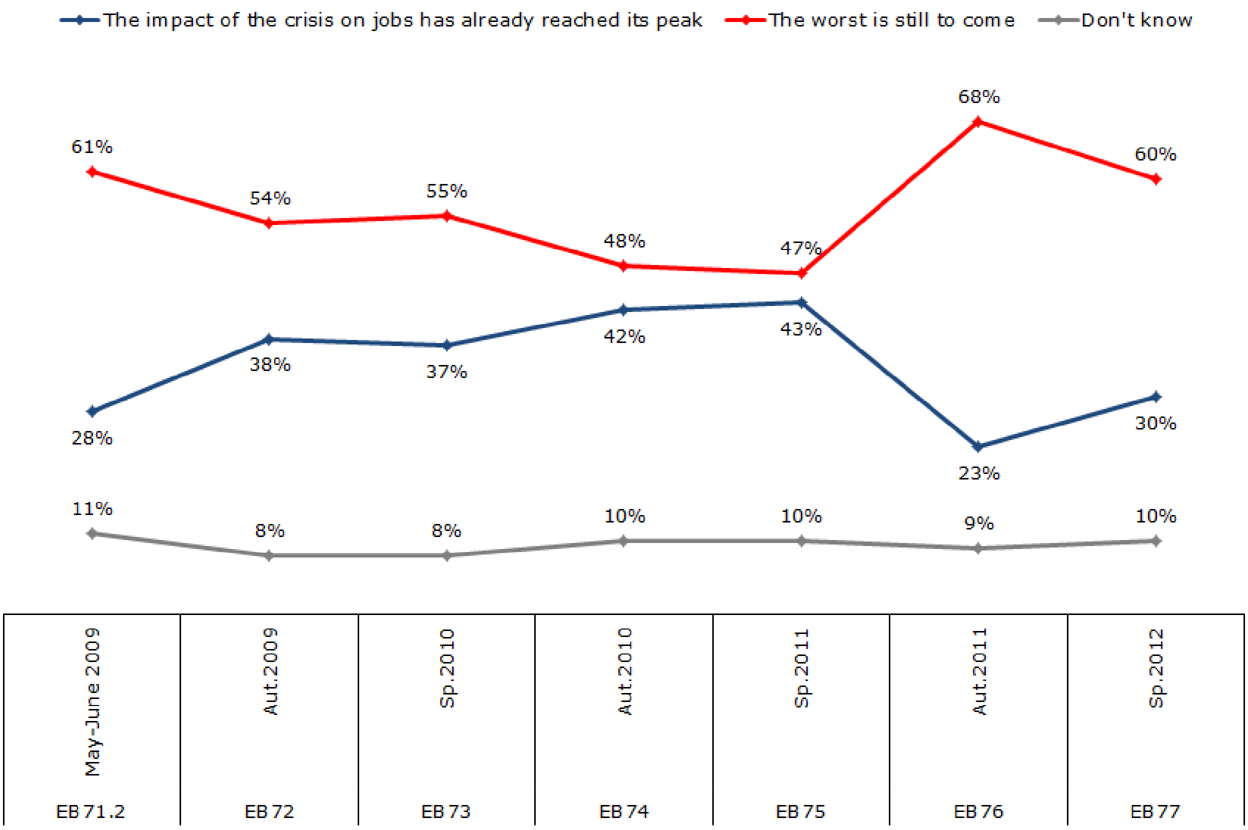


2. IMPACT OF THE CRISIS ON JOBS: TREND

In autumn 2011, the proportion of Europeans who considered that the economic crisis had already reached its peak decreased by 20 percentage points to the lowest level recorded by the Eurobarometer (23%). In the spring 2012 survey, Europeans remain generally pessimistic, but the proportion of optimistic answers has increased significantly: following a 7-point rise, 30% of Europeans now consider that the impact of the crisis on jobs has reached its peak. However, 60% of respondents (-8 points since autumn 2011) consider that "the worst is still to come".

QC1 Some analysts say that the impact of the economic crisis on the job market has already reached its peak and things will recover little by little; others, on the contrary, say that the worst is still to come.

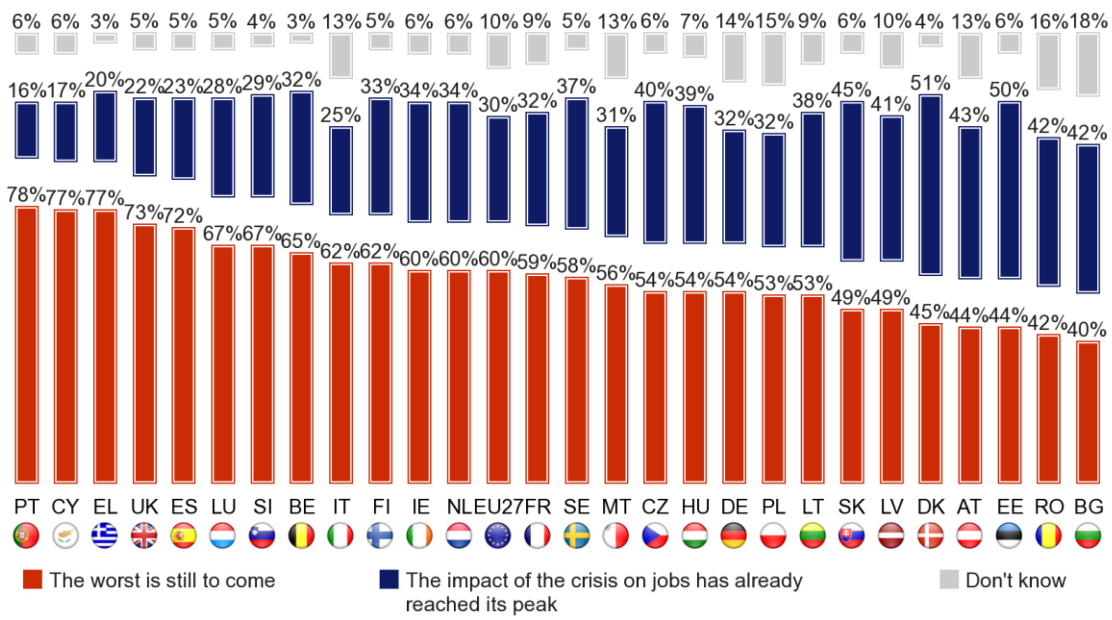
Which of the two statements is closer to your opinion?



3. IMPACT OF THE CRISIS ON JOBS: NATIONAL RESULTS AND EVOLUTIONS

The view that "the impact of the crisis on jobs has reached its peak" commands a majority in only three countries: Bulgaria, Estonia and Denmark. Respondents in Romania are evenly divided on this question, while a majority in the other 23 Member States consider that the worst impact of the crisis on employment is still to come. In Portugal, Cyprus, Greece, the United Kingdom and Spain this proportion exceeds 70% of respondents.

QC1. Some analysts say that the impact of the economic crisis on the job market has already reached its peak and things will recover little by little. Others, on the contrary, say that the worst is still to come. Which of the two statements is closer to your opinion?



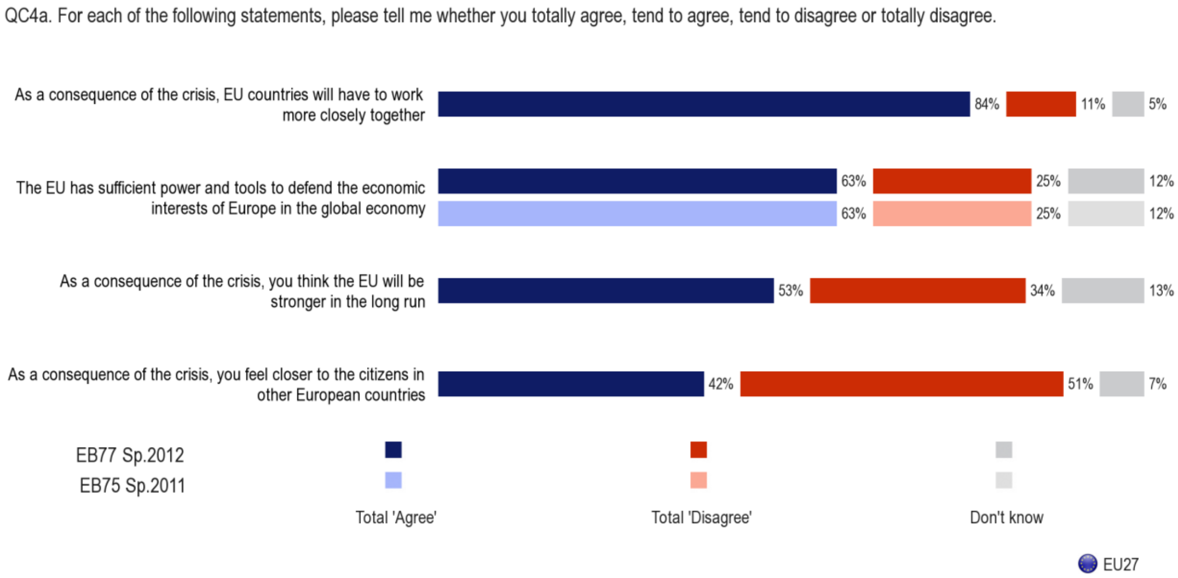
Since autumn 2011, pessimism has decreased in 23 countries, reflecting an underlying trend in European public opinion. Levels of pessimism have fallen by more than 15 percentage points in five countries: Slovakia (49%, -22 points), Denmark (45%, -20), the Czech Republic (54%, -20), France (59%, -17) and the Netherlands (60%, -16). Nevertheless, pessimism has grown slightly or remained stable in four countries: Spain (72%, +2), Bulgaria (40%, +2), Greece (77%, +1) and Italy (62%, stable).

QC1 Some analysts say that the impact of the economic crisis on the job market has already reached its peak and things will recover little by little. Others, on the contrary, say that the worst is still to come. Which of the two statements is closer to your opinion?

	The worst is still to come	Diff. Sp.2012-Aut.2011	The impact of the crisis on jobs has already reached its peak	Diff. Sp.2012-Aut.2011	Don't know	Diff. Sp.2012-Aut.2011
EU27	60%	-8	30%	+7	10%	+1
Euro area	61%	-7	29%	+6	10%	+1
Non-Euro area	58%	-9	32%	+8	10%	+1
BG	40%	+2	42%	+4	18%	-6
ES	72%	+2	23%	-2	5%	=
EL	77%	+1	20%	-1	3%	=
IT	62%	=	25%	=	13%	=
CY	77%	-3	17%	+1	6%	+2
IE	60%	-5	34%	+5	6%	=
PT	78%	-6	16%	+5	6%	+1
SI	67%	-6	29%	+7	4%	-1
UK	73%	-6	22%	+6	5%	=
DE	54%	-7	32%	+8	14%	-1
MT	56%	-7	31%	+6	13%	+1
SE	58%	-7	37%	+5	5%	+2
LT	53%	-8	38%	+7	9%	+1
HU	54%	-8	39%	+9	7%	-1
BE	65%	-9	32%	+9	3%	=
LV	49%	-9	41%	+6	10%	+3
AT	44%	-9	43%	+7	13%	+2
PL	53%	-9	32%	+5	15%	+4
LU	67%	-10	28%	+10	5%	=
FI	62%	-10	33%	+10	5%	=
EE	44%	-11	50%	+10	6%	+1
RO	42%	-14	42%	+17	16%	-3
NL	60%	-16	34%	+16	6%	=
FR	59%	-17	32%	+14	9%	+3
CZ	54%	-20	40%	+19	6%	+1
DK	45%	-20	51%	+21	4%	-1
SK	49%	-22	45%	+20	6%	+2

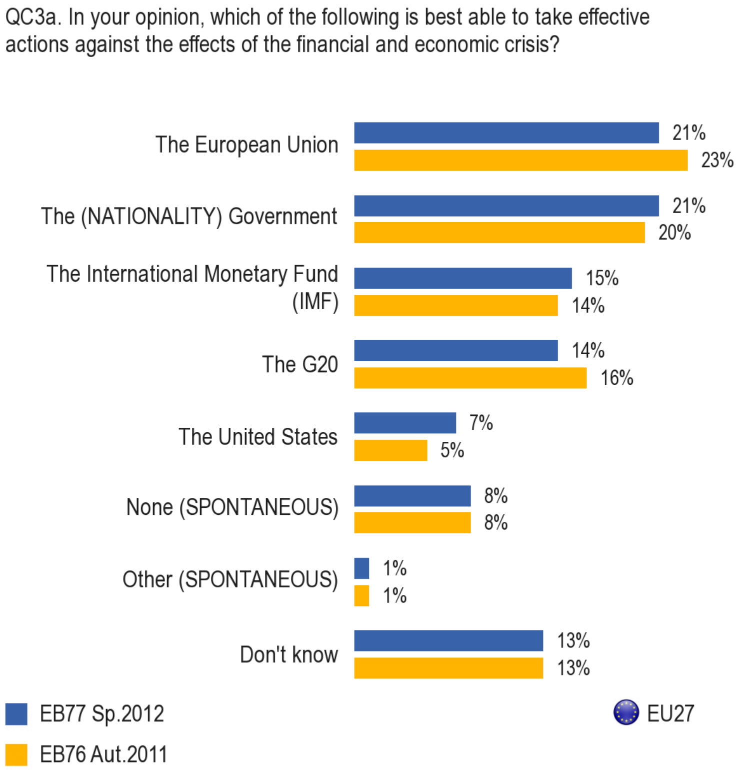
4. THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE CRISIS ON THE EUROPEAN UNION

As in autumn 2011, just under two-thirds of Europeans agree that the European Union has sufficient power and tools to defend the economic interests of Europe in the global economy (63%, stable). A large majority of Europeans believe that, as a consequence of the crisis, EU countries will have to work more closely together (84%). However, at the same time, just over half the respondents say that they do not feel closer to citizens in other EU countries (51%). Similar numbers say that the European Union will be stronger in the long run as a consequence of the crisis (53%).



5. WHAT IS THE MOST EFFECTIVE LEVEL AT WHICH TO TACKLE THE CRISIS?

Although Europeans consider that the European Union is best placed to take effective action against the effects of the financial and economic crisis, support for this view has fallen slightly (21%, -2 percentage points since autumn 2011). The EU is now in joint first place with the national government (+ 1), while the IMF is in third place (+1) and the G20 has fallen to fourth (14%, -2).



V. EUROPE 2020

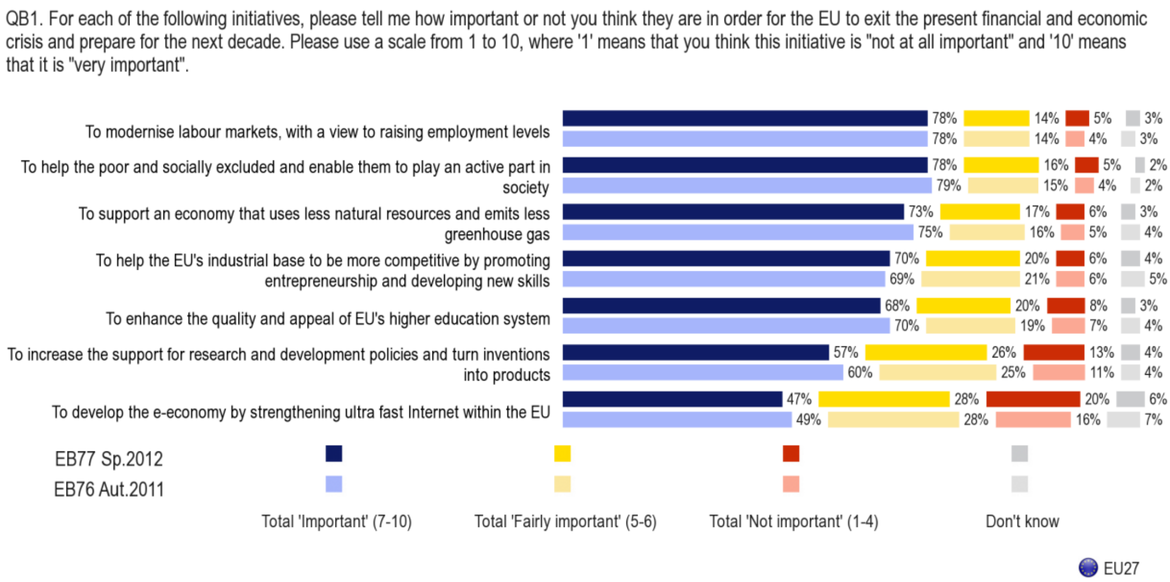
1. PERCEIVED IMPORTANCE OF THE EUROPE 2020 STRATEGY INITIATIVES

Since it was launched in March 2010 by the European Commission in order to prepare the EU's economy for the challenges of the next decade, the Europe 2020 strategy has enjoyed the support of European citizens.

For example, more than three-quarters of Europeans believe that it is important "to help the poor and socially excluded and enable them to play an active part in society" (78%,-1 percentage point since autumn 2011) and "to modernise labour markets, with a view to raising employment levels" (78%, stable).

Around seven in ten Europeans also consider that it is important "to support an economy that uses fewer natural resources and emits less greenhouse gas" (73%, -2 points), "to help the EU's industrial base to be more competitive by promoting entrepreneurship and developing new skills" (70%, +1) and "to enhance the quality and appeal of the EU's higher education system" (68%, -2). It is noteworthy that boosting competitiveness is the only initiative to have gained ground, now ranking ahead of enhancing the education system.

Improving the education system is followed by the initiative intended "to increase support for research and development policies and turn inventions into products" (57%, -3 percentage points). Finally, "to develop the e-economy by strengthening ultra-fast Internet within the EU" is the only initiative to be judged important by less than half of Europeans (47%, -2).



2. THE EUROPE 2020 TARGETS

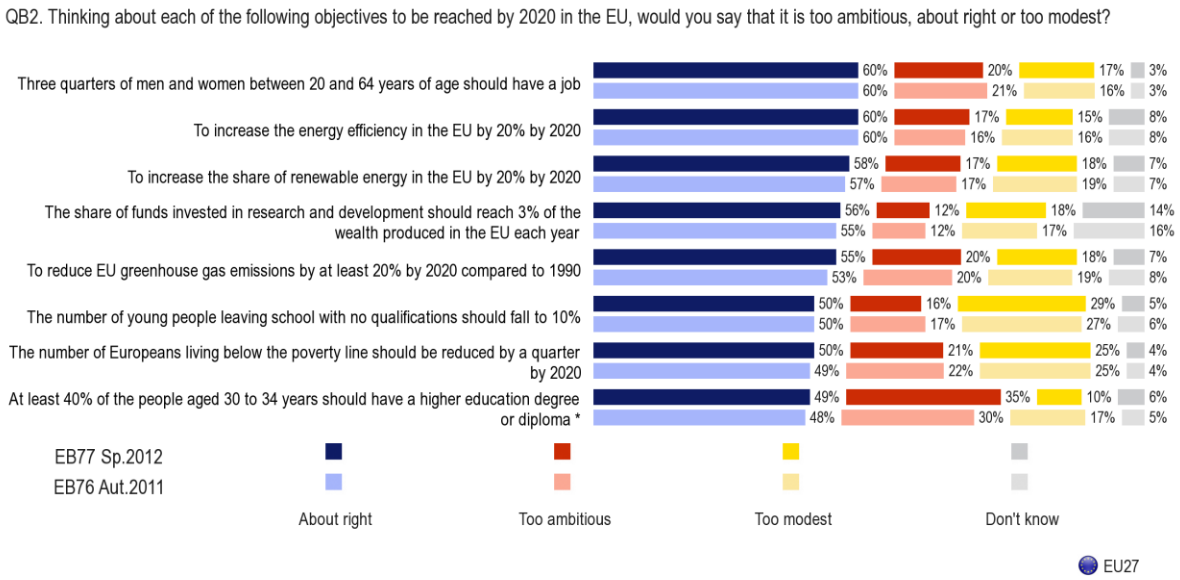
A large majority of Europeans consider that the eight targets set by the EU as part of its Europe 2020 strategy are reasonable. Five of the eight targets are thought to be "about right" by an absolute majority of respondents, and the remaining three are considered to be so by the large relative majority.

Three out of five Europeans say that "three-quarters of men and women between 20 and 64 years of age should have a job" (60%, stable since autumn 2011) and "increasing the energy efficiency in the EU by 20% by 2020" (60%, stable) are credible targets.

At least 55% of respondents take the same view of the following three targets: "increasing the share of renewable energy in the EU by 20% by 2020" (58%, +1 percentage point), "the share of funds invested in research and development should reach 3% of the wealth produced in the EU each year" (56, +1) and "reducing EU greenhouse gas emissions by at least 20% by 2020 compared to 1990" (55%, +2).

Half of Europeans believe that "the number of young people leaving school with no qualifications should fall to 10%" (50%, stable) and "the number of Europeans living below the poverty line should be reduced by a quarter by 2020" (50%, +1) are realistic targets.

Finally, less than half of Europeans believe that realistically "at least 40% of people aged 30 to 34 years should have a higher education degree or diploma" (49%, +1*), while 35% say that this target is too ambitious.

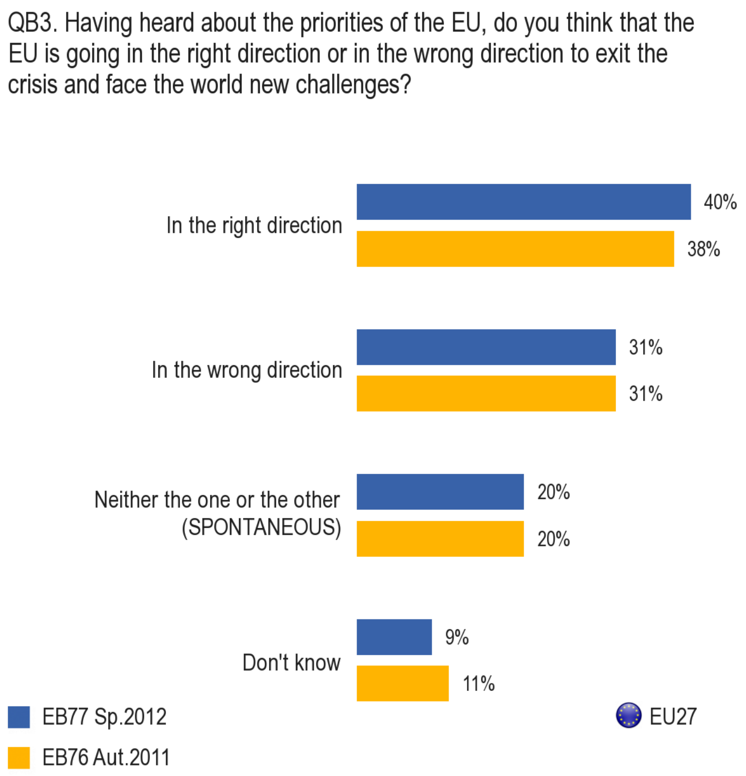


** This item was worded slightly differently in EB76:*
"At least 40% of the younger generation should have a degree or diploma"

3. OVERALL

A majority of Europeans continue to recognise the importance of the Europe 2020 initiatives, while the credibility of the associated targets has remained stable, or increased slightly.

Furthermore, two out of five Europeans believe that the European Union is going in the right direction to emerge from the crisis and face the new world challenges (40%, +2 percentage points since autumn 2011). Conversely, just under a third say that the EU is "going in the wrong direction" (31%, stable). Finally, one in five Europeans replied spontaneously "neither one nor the other"» (20%, stable) and 9% (-2) expressed no opinion.



CONCLUSION

This report is based on the results of the Standard Eurobarometer questions regarding the economy and the European political situation. Opinions of Europeans about their personal situations and the economic situation in their country and in the Union have remained relatively stable.

The Standard Eurobarometer indicators continue to highlight the economic difficulties of the European Union, but with significant differences between countries. However, there has been a relative improvement in public expectations regarding the economic situation over the next twelve months. This reflects the fact that, in almost all EU countries, the impression that the impact of the crisis on jobs has peaked has gained ground, sometimes strongly, although a majority of respondents continue to believe that the worst is still to come.

After the fall recorded in autumn 2011, trust in the European Union has tended to stabilise, despite a very slight deterioration. The EU is still seen as the actor best able to take effective action to tackle the effects of the crisis, on an equal footing with national governments. Finally, more than half of Europeans believe that the European Union will ultimately emerge stronger from the economic crisis. Europeans continue say that the Europe 2020 strategy initiatives are important, despite a slight decline. They also believe that the 2020 targets are realistic. All in all, a relative majority of respondents believe that the European Union is going in the right direction to emerge from the crisis and face the new world challenges.

STANDARD EUROBAROMETER 77

Public opinion in the European Union

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Between the 12th and the 27th of May 2012, TNS Opinion & Social, a consortium created between TNS plc and TNS opinion, carried out the wave 77.3 of the EUROBAROMETER, on request of the EUROPEAN COMMISSION, Directorate-General for Communication, "Research and Speechwriting".

This wave is the STANDARD EUROBAROMETER 77 and covers the population of the respective nationalities of the European Union Member States, resident in each of the Member States and aged 15 years and over. The STANDARD EUROBAROMETER 77 has also been conducted in the six candidate countries (Croatia, Turkey, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland, Montenegro and Serbia) and in the Turkish Cypriot Community. In these countries, the survey covers the national population of citizens and the population of citizens of all the European Union Member States that are residents in these countries and have a sufficient command of the national languages to answer the questionnaire. The basic sample design applied in all states is a multi-stage, random (probability) one. In each country, a number of sampling points was drawn with probability proportional to population size (for a total coverage of the country) and to population density.

In order to do so, the sampling points were drawn systematically from each of the "administrative regional units", after stratification by individual unit and type of area. They thus represent the whole territory of the countries surveyed according to the EUROSTAT NUTS II (or equivalent) and according to the distribution of the resident population of the respective nationalities in terms of metropolitan, urban and rural areas. In each of the selected sampling points, a starting address was drawn, at random. Further addresses (every Nth address) were selected by standard "random route" procedures, from the initial address. In each household, the respondent was drawn, at random (following the "closest birthday rule"). All interviews were conducted face-to-face in people's homes and in the appropriate national language. As far as the data capture is concerned, CAPI (*Computer Assisted Personal Interview)* was used in those countries where this technique was available.

For each country a comparison between the sample and the universe was carried out. The Universe description was derived from Eurostat population data or from national statistics offices. For all countries surveyed, a national weighting procedure, using marginal and intercellular weighting, was carried out based on this Universe description. In all countries, gender, age, region and size of locality were introduced in the iteration procedure. For international weighting (i.e. EU averages), TNS Opinion & Social applies the official population figures as provided by EUROSTAT or national statistic offices. The total population figures for input in this post-weighting procedure are listed above.

Readers are reminded that survey results are estimations, the accuracy of which, everything being equal, rests upon the sample size and upon the observed percentage. With samples of about 1,000 interviews, the real percentages vary within the following confidence limits:

Observed percentages	10% or 90%	20% or 80%	30% or 70%	40% or 60%	50%
Confidence limits	± 1.9 points	± 2.5 points	± 2.7 points	± 3.0 points	± 3.1 points

ABBR.	COUNTRIES	INSTITUTES	N° INTERVIEWS	FIELDWORK DATES		POPULATION 15+
BE	Belgium	TNS Dimarso	1.076	12/05/2012	25/05/2012	8.939.546
BG	Bulgaria	TNS BBSS	1.016	12/05/2012	21/05/2012	6.537.510
CZ	Czech Rep.	TNS Aisa	1.002	12/05/2012	24/05/2012	9.012.443
DK	Denmark	TNS Gallup DK	1.007	12/05/2012	27/05/2012	4.561.264
DE	Germany	TNS Infratest	1.502	12/05/2012	27/05/2012	64.409.146
EE	Estonia	Emor	1.000	12/05/2012	27/05/2012	945.733
IE	Ireland	Ipsos MRBI	1.000	12/05/2012	25/05/2012	3.522.000
EL	Greece	TNS ICAP	1.001	12/05/2012	25/05/2012	8.693.566
ES	Spain	TNS Demoscopia	1.006	12/05/2012	27/05/2012	39.127.930
FR	France	TNS Sofres	1.007	12/05/2012	27/05/2012	47.756.439
IT	Italy	TNS Infratest	1.036	12/05/2012	24/05/2012	51.862.391
CY	Rep. of Cyprus	Synovate	505	12/05/2012	27/05/2012	660.400
LV	Latvia	TNS Latvia	1.007	12/05/2012	27/05/2012	1.447.866
LT	Lithuania	TNS Gallup Lithuania	1.019	12/05/2012	27/05/2012	2.829.740
LU	Luxembourg	TNS ILReS	507	12/05/2012	27/05/2012	404.907
HU	Hungary	TNS Hoffmann Kft	1.010	12/05/2012	27/05/2012	8.320.614
MT	Malta	MISCO	500	12/05/2012	26/05/2012	335.476
NL	Netherlands	TNS NIPO	1.012	12/05/2012	27/05/2012	13.371.980
AT	Austria	Österreichisches Gallup-Institut	993	12/05/2012	27/05/2012	7.009.827
PL	Poland	TNS OBOP	1.000	12/05/2012	27/05/2012	32.413.735
PT	Portugal	TNS EUROTESTE	1.010	14/05/2012	27/05/2012	8.080.915
RO	Romania	TNS CSOP	1.073	12/05/2012	22/05/2012	18.246.731
SI	Slovenia	RM PLUS	1.023	12/05/2012	27/05/2012	1.759.701
SK	Slovakia	TNS Slovakia	1.000	12/05/2012	27/05/2012	4.549.955
FI	Finland	TNS Gallup Oy	1.001	12/05/2012	27/05/2012	4.440.004
SE	Sweden	TNS GALLUP	1.019	12/05/2012	27/05/2012	7.791.240
UK	United Kingdom	TNS UK	1.305	12/05/2012	27/05/2012	51.848.010
TOTAL EU27			**26.637**	**12/05/2012**	**27/05/2012**	**408.879.069**
CY(tcc)	Turkish Cypriot Community	Kadem	500	12/05/2012	25/05/2012	143.226
HR	Croatia	Puls	1.000	12/05/2012	27/05/2012	3.749.400
TR	Turkey	TNS PIAR	1.000	14/05/2012	27/05/2012	54.844.406
MK	Former Yugoslav Rep. of Macedonia	TNS Brima	1.056	12/05/2012	18/05/2012	1.678.404
IS	Iceland	Capacent	500	12/05/2012	27/05/2012	252.277
ME	Montenegro	TNS Medium Gallup	1.015	12/05/2012	21/05/2012	492.265
RS	Serbia	TNS Medium Gallup	1.020	12/05/2012	17/05/2012	6.409.693
TOTAL			**32.728**	**12/05/2012**	**27/05/2012**	**476.448.740**