



Directorate-General for Communication
PUBLIC OPINION MONITORING UNIT



TNS opinion

Brussels, 24 February 2014

European Parliament Eurobarometer (EB79.5)

WOMEN'S PERCEPTION OF THE EU AND OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Coverage: EU-28 (27 624 EU citizens)
Target group: Europeans aged 15 and over
Methodology: Face-to-face (CAPI)
Fieldwork: 7-23 June 2013, TNS Opinion

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INTRODUCTION

With less than three months to go to the May 2014 European elections and on the occasion of International Women's Day on 8 March, the Public Opinion Monitoring Unit of the European Parliament's Directorate-General for Communication has carried out a detailed analysis of women's opinions based on the questions asked in the European Parliament Eurobarometer 79.5 survey entitled 'One year to go to the 2014 European elections'.

This survey sought to assess public perceptions of the European Union, the European Parliament, the economic and social situation and the prospects offered by the European elections of 22-25 May 2014. It was conducted in the form of face-to-face interviews by TNS opinion, with 27 624 individuals from the 28 EU Member States between 7 and 23 July 2013.

➤ Perception of the European Union

On issues related to the European Union, the gender differences are similar to the ones highlighted in previous surveys.

Regarding European identity, attachment to the European Union and membership, support is lower among women than among men (the difference being 5 to 6 percentage points in the EU).

In addition, women are significantly less interested in European policy issues than men and are slightly less satisfied with the way democracy works in the EU (a difference between 1 and 9 percentage points). A minority of both women and men agree that '*my voice counts in the EU*' with practically no difference between the respective percentages.

➤ Perception of the European Parliament

Regarding perception of the European Parliament, its image and role among Europeans, there are few differences between women and men.

While the majority of both men and women are neutral towards the European Parliament, women have a slightly more negative view of the EU as an institution (2 percentage points' difference).

Both women and men want the European Parliament to play a greater role than it does at present. This opinion is less pronounced among women (7 percentage points' difference).

➤ **Priorities**

As with previous surveys, both women and men consider measures to tackle poverty and social exclusion to be a priority.

More specifically, in view of the crisis, it is clearly felt that employment and measures to combat unemployment must be the top priority for the EU. There is little difference between men and women on this.

Women are generally more receptive to social and societal issues (such as consumer protection), while men attach greater importance to economic issues (such as the coordination of economic budgetary and fiscal policies).

➤ **Values**

Both women and men take the view that the EP should give priority to the protection of human rights.

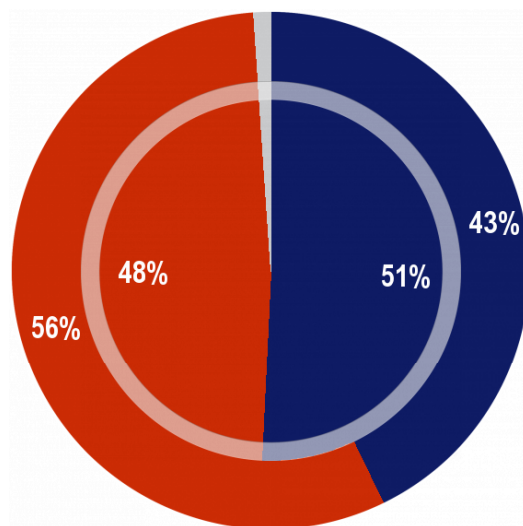
Among women, the priority most frequently mentioned in second place is gender equality. On this there is a difference of 9 percentage points between women and men, whose second priority is solidarity between the EU Member States (4 percentage points' difference).

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A. INTEREST IN EUROPEAN AFFAIRS TODAY AND TOMORROW

a) Decreasing level of interest in European affairs

Q10. Would you say that you are very interested, fairly interested, not very interested or not at all interested in European affairs?



● Total 'Interested' ● Total 'Not interested' ● Don't know

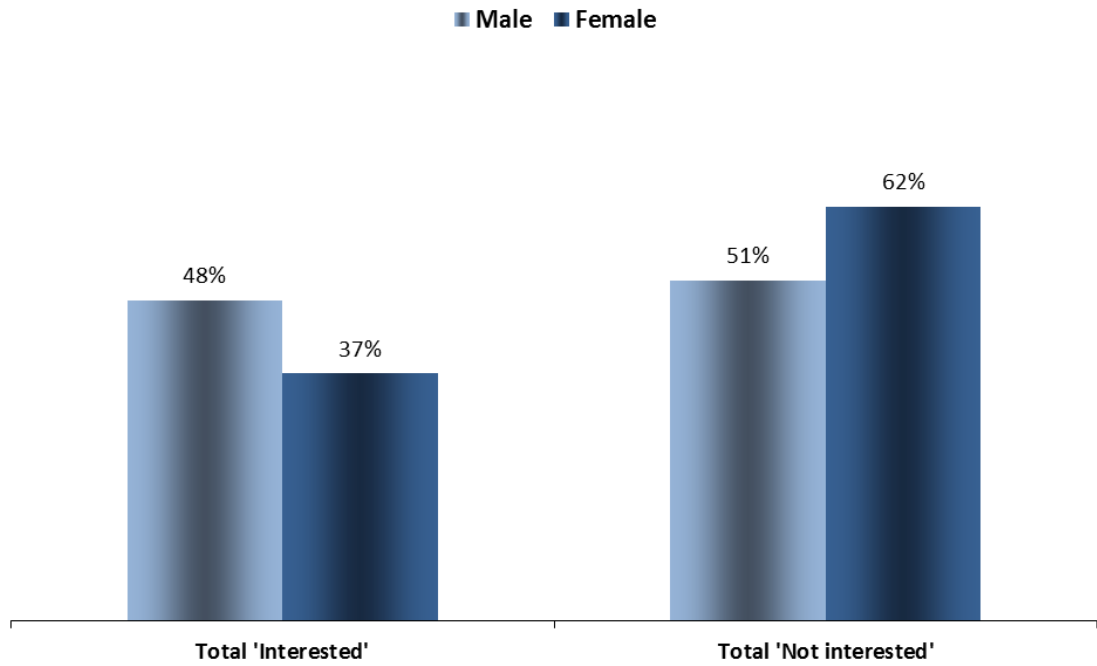
Inner pie : EB78.2 Nov.-Dec. 2012

Outer pie : EB79.5 June 2013

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
Q10 Would you say that you are very interested, fairly interested, not very interested or not at all interested in European affairs?



EB79.5 June 2013

Q10 Would you say that you are very interested, fairly interested, not very interested or not at all interested in European affairs?

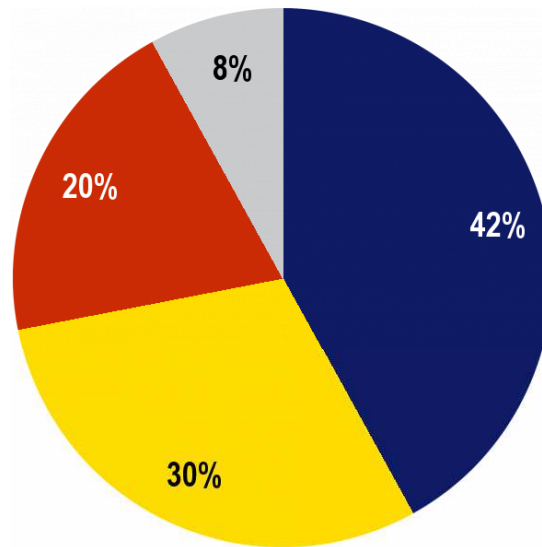
Answer: Total 'Interested'

	TOTAL	Gender	
		Male	Female
 NL	61%	69%	54%
 FI	57%	62%	54%
 DK	56%	60%	52%
 PL	53%	57%	48%
 IE	52%	58%	45%
 LU	51%	60%	43%
 DE	49%	57%	42%
 SE	49%	52%	46%
 MT	48%	53%	45%
 BE	47%	53%	41%
 IT	46%	48%	43%
 AT	45%	53%	37%
 EL	45%	52%	39%
 EU27	43%	48%	37%
 HU	43%	42%	44%
 BG	42%	47%	38%
 LV	42%	46%	39%
 UK	42%	48%	36%
 CY	38%	45%	32%
 LT	38%	42%	33%
 FR	36%	44%	28%
 SI	36%	41%	32%
 SK	36%	42%	30%
 EE	35%	38%	32%
 RO	33%	35%	31%
 ES	29%	33%	26%
 PT	29%	37%	23%
 CZ	25%	31%	18%
 HR	59%	61%	57%

EB79.5 June 2013

b. Europeans more involved in 2025

Q26. Imagine how the EU will be in a ten years' time. Compared with today, do you think that in 2025 European citizens will be...?



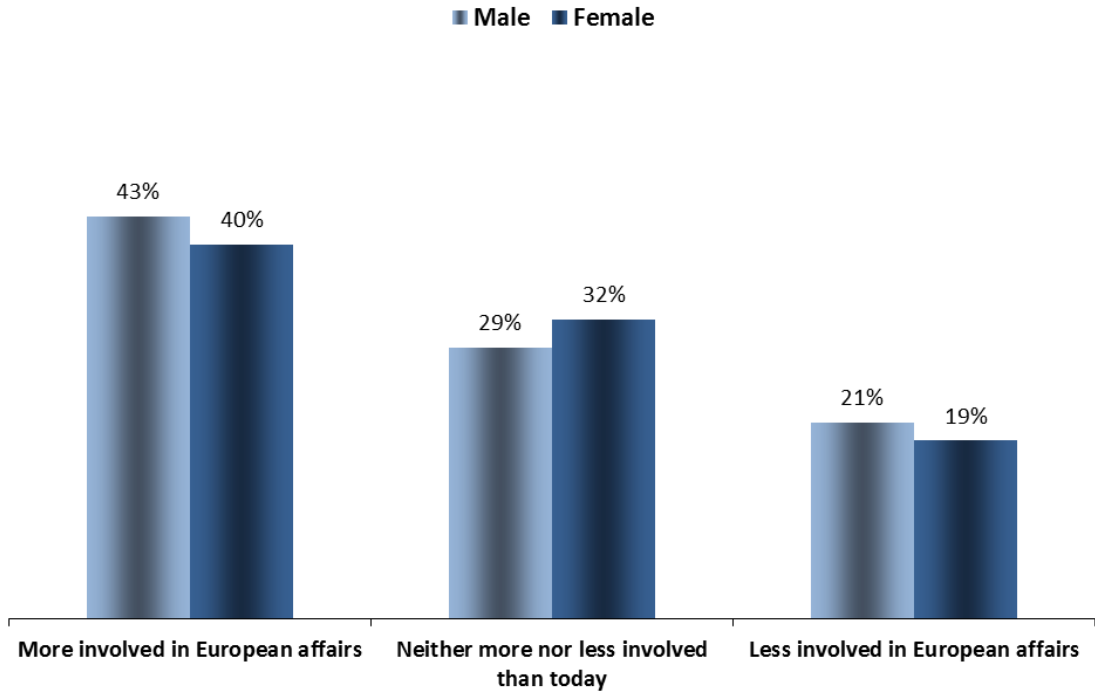
- More involved in European affairs
- Neither more nor less involved than today
- Less involved in European affairs
- Don't know



EB79.5 June 2013

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Q26 Imagine how the EU will be in a ten years' time. Compared with today, do you think that in 2025 European citizens will be...?



EB79.5 June 2013

Q26 Imagine how the EU will be in a ten years' time. Compared with today, do you think that in 2025 European citizens will be...?

Answer: 'More involved in European affairs'

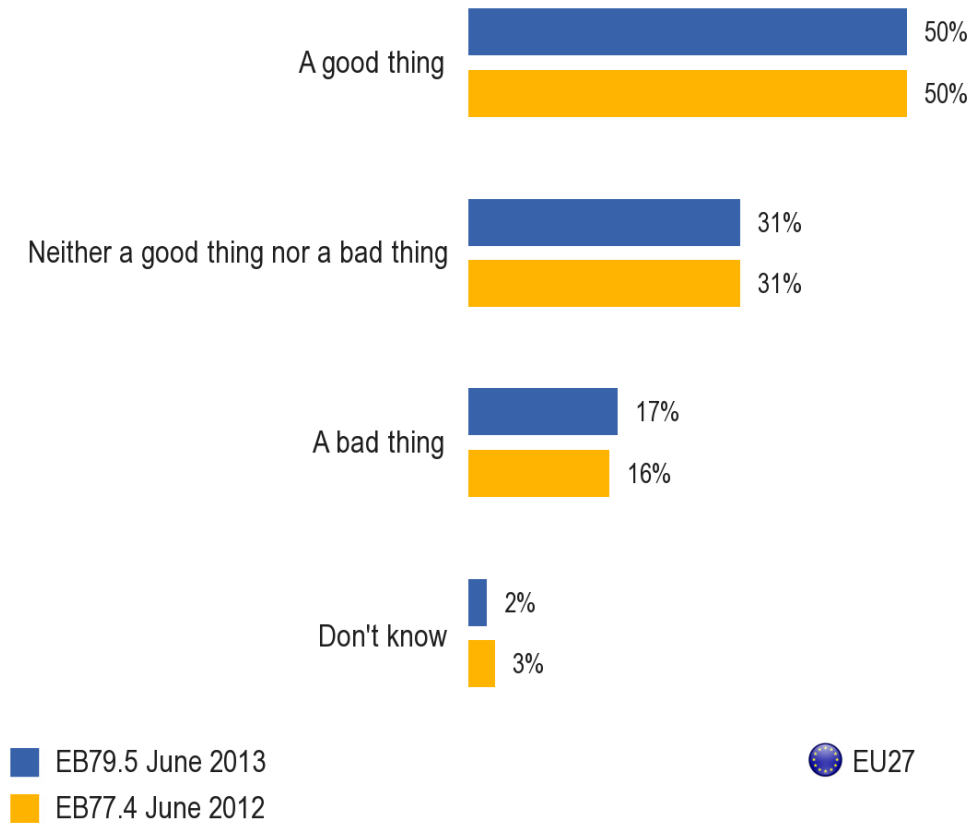
		TOTAL	Gender	
			Male	Female
	DE	60%	61%	58%
	IE	53%	54%	52%
	MT	52%	56%	48%
	EE	47%	44%	48%
	HR	47%	51%	44%
	SE	47%	43%	51%
	SK	47%	48%	46%
	BE	45%	46%	43%
	DK	45%	46%	43%
	AT	44%	42%	45%
	FI	44%	47%	42%
	LT	44%	46%	43%
	LU	44%	49%	38%
	NL	44%	46%	43%
	RO	44%	45%	43%
	LV	43%	45%	41%
	ES	42%	45%	39%
	EU28	42%	43%	40%
	HU	39%	41%	37%
	SI	39%	41%	37%
	IT	37%	41%	34%
	PT	37%	40%	34%
	BG	36%	38%	35%
	CZ	35%	34%	36%
	FR	34%	35%	33%
	UK	34%	38%	29%
	PL	33%	34%	32%
	EL	32%	33%	30%
	CY	24%	27%	20%

EB79.5 June 2013

B. EU MEMBERSHIP

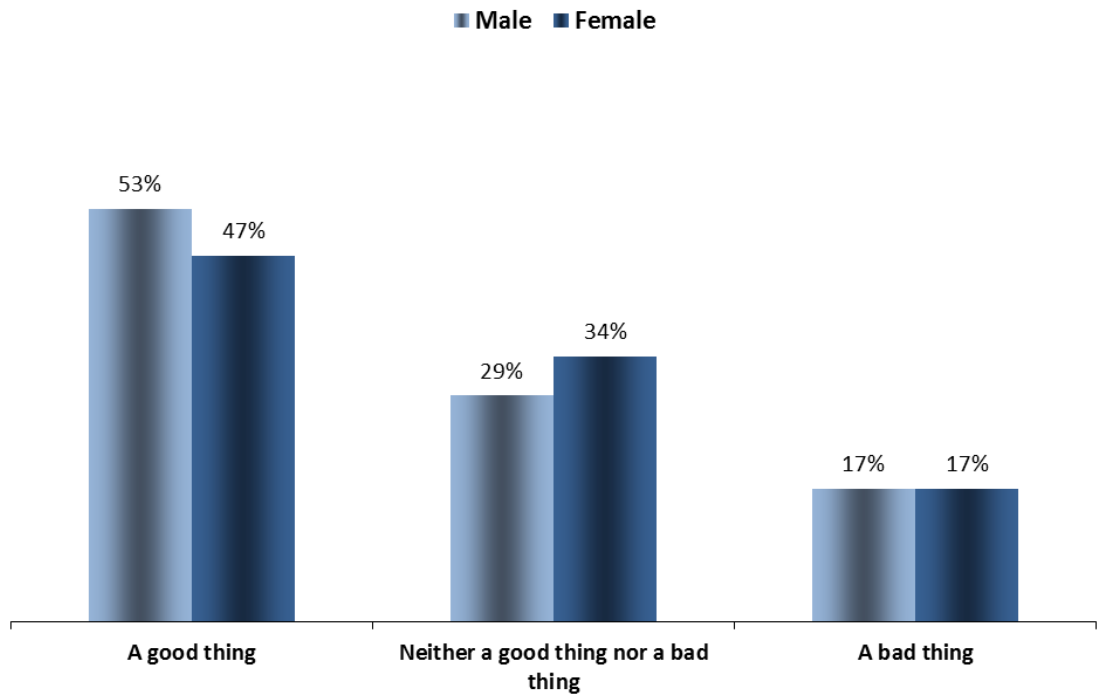
a) EU membership, a good or a bad thing?

Q22. Generally speaking, do you think that (OUR COUNTRY)'s membership of the EU is...?



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Q22 Generally speaking, do you think that (OUR COUNTRY)'s membership of the EU is...?



EB79.5 June 2013

Q22 Generally speaking, do you think that (OUR COUNTRY)'s membership of the EU is...?

Answer: 'A good thing'

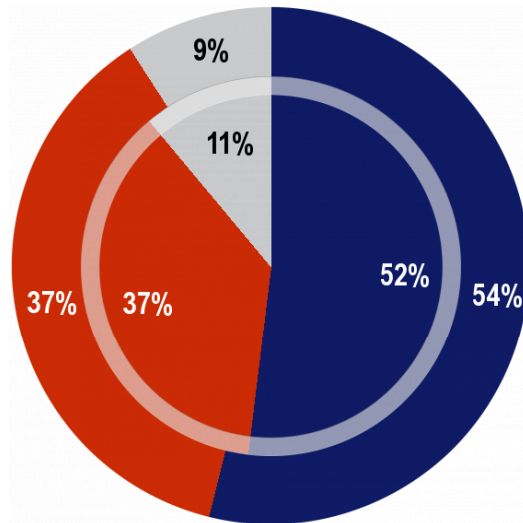
		TOTAL	Gender	
			Male	Female
	LU	71%	69%	73%
	DE	68%	69%	68%
	IE	66%	70%	62%
	DK	65%	64%	65%
	BE	64%	65%	63%
	MT	64%	68%	61%
	SE	64%	64%	64%
	LT	62%	64%	62%
	NL	62%	63%	62%
	EE	55%	57%	53%
	RO	55%	57%	54%
	FI	53%	52%	53%
	PL	53%	58%	50%
	BG	51%	53%	50%
	EU27	50%	53%	47%
	FR	50%	57%	43%
	SK	50%	53%	46%
	ES	47%	50%	44%
	IT	41%	44%	38%
	SI	41%	45%	37%
	AT	39%	41%	37%
	HU	39%	37%	40%
	LV	39%	41%	37%
	PT	36%	43%	30%
	EL	34%	39%	30%
	UK	33%	38%	29%
	CZ	31%	33%	28%
	CY	27%	33%	21%
	HR	46%	51%	42%

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b) **Benefited or not from being member of the EU**

Q23. Taking everything into account, would you say that (OUR COUNTRY) has on balance benefited or not from being a member of the EU?



● Benefited ● Not benefited ● Don't know

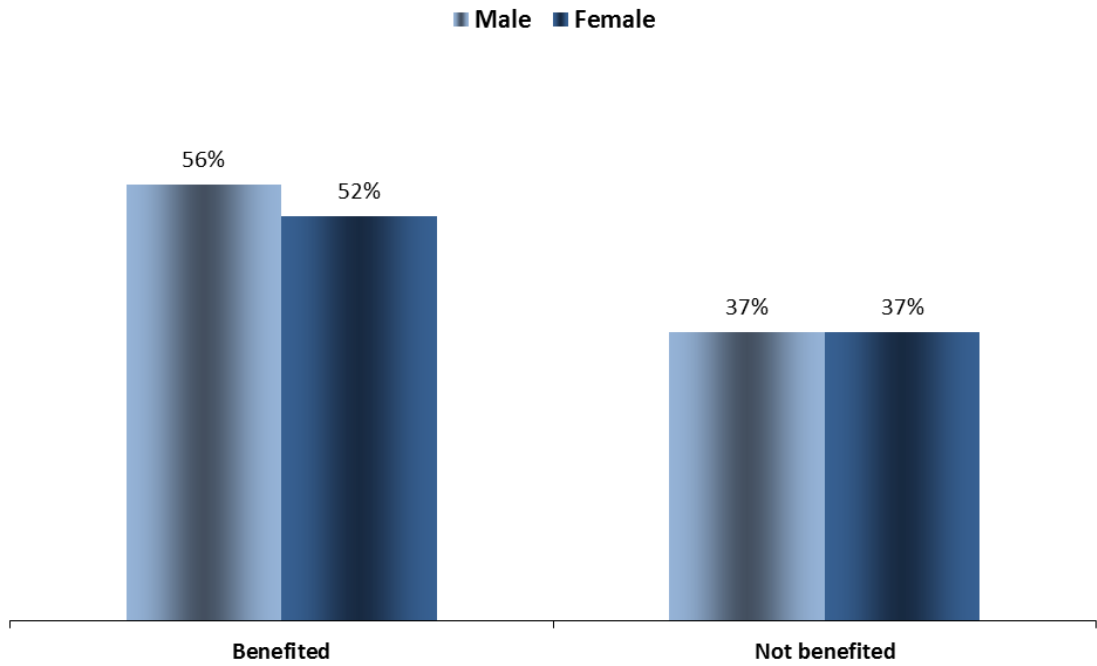
Inner pie : EB75 Sp. 2011

Outer pie : EB79.5 June 2013

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Q23 Taking everything into account, would you say that (OUR COUNTRY) has on balance benefited or not from being a member of the EU?



EB79.5 June 2013

Q23 Taking everything into account, would you say that (OUR COUNTRY) has on balance benefited or not from being a member of the EU?

Answer: 'Benefited'

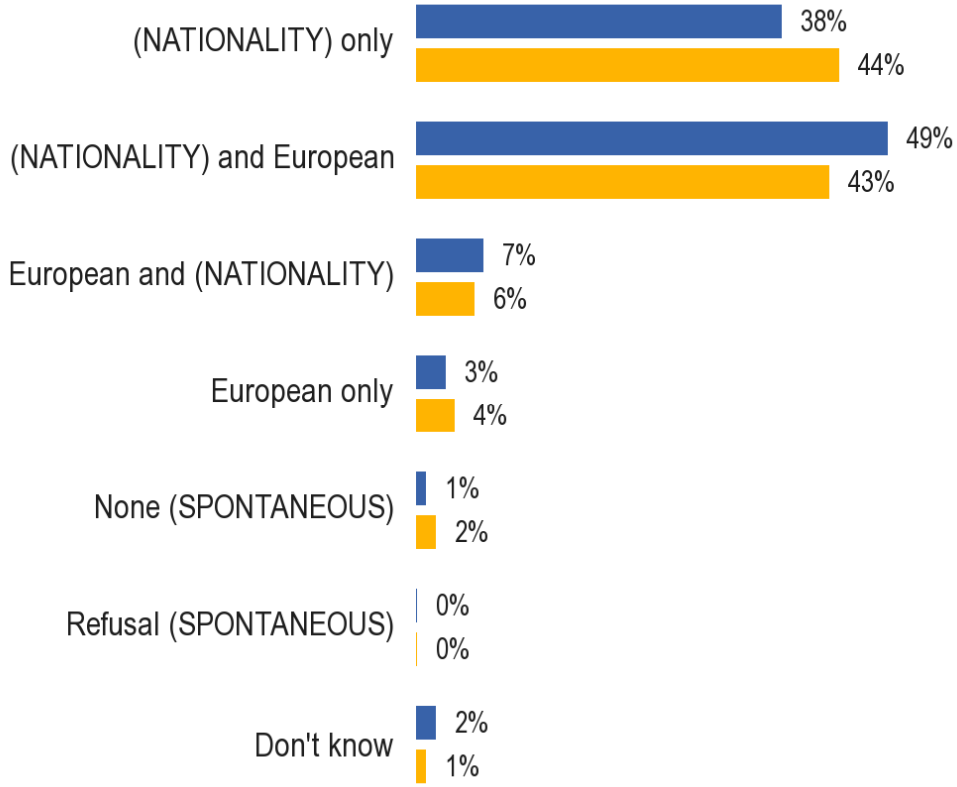
		TOTAL	Gender	
			Male	Female
	LT	80%	82%	78%
	PL	78%	78%	78%
	MT	77%	77%	77%
	DK	76%	78%	75%
	EE	76%	77%	75%
	IE	75%	78%	72%
	LU	72%	73%	72%
	SK	72%	74%	70%
	BE	68%	73%	64%
	RO	63%	62%	63%
	DE	61%	62%	60%
	NL	61%	64%	58%
	FI	58%	57%	59%
	SE	58%	57%	60%
	CZ	57%	59%	55%
	LV	57%	61%	55%
	SI	56%	57%	55%
	EU27	54%	56%	52%
	FR	54%	58%	50%
	BG	51%	53%	50%
	PT	51%	55%	46%
	ES	50%	53%	48%
	EL	47%	50%	43%
	HU	47%	45%	48%
	AT	45%	47%	42%
	UK	41%	44%	38%
	IT	36%	38%	34%
	CY	28%	32%	24%
	HR	59%	61%	57%

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EB79.5 June 2013

C. EUROPEANS' IDENTITY

QD4. In the near future, do you see yourself as...?



■ EB79 Sp. 2013
 ■ EB77.4 June 2012

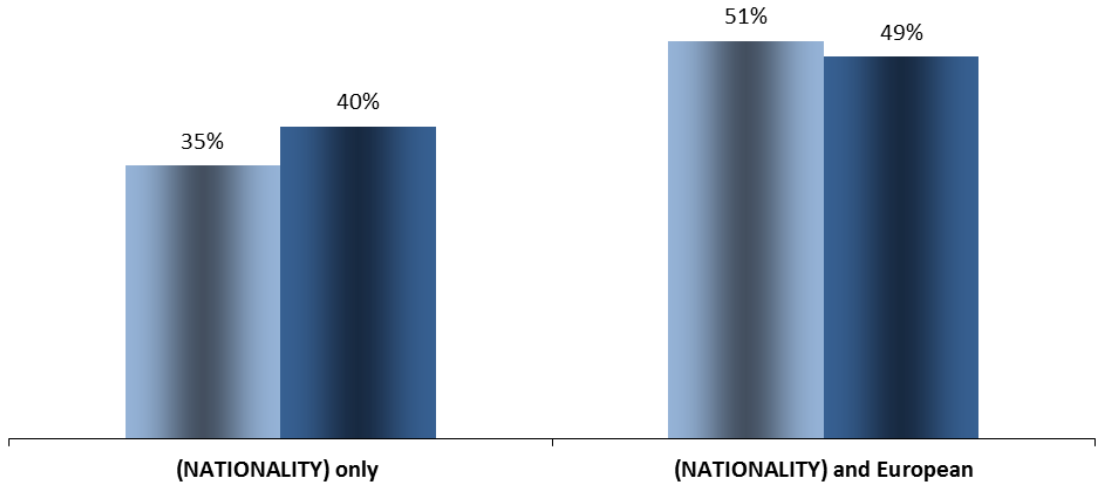


This question was taken from the Standard EB79, conducted in May 2013

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QD4 In the near future, do you see yourself as...?






























■ Male ■ Female



This question was taken from the Standard EB79, conducted in May 2013

QD4 In the near future, do you see yourself as...?

Answer: '(NATIONALITY) only'

		TOTAL	Gender	
			Male	Female
	UK	60%	57%	63%
	IE	53%	52%	53%
	CY	51%	43%	58%
	BG	47%	41%	52%
	EE	46%	44%	47%
	LV	46%	44%	48%
	CZ	45%	44%	47%
	LT	45%	45%	46%
	DK	43%	38%	47%
	HU	43%	46%	40%
	PT	43%	35%	49%
	SE	42%	40%	44%
	EL	41%	39%	43%
	RO	41%	40%	42%
	FI	40%	44%	36%
	SI	39%	34%	44%
	EU27	38%	35%	40%
	FR	37%	33%	41%
	AT	36%	37%	36%
	NL	34%	34%	34%
	PL	33%	30%	37%
	BE	32%	27%	36%
	ES	32%	30%	33%
	DE	29%	25%	32%
	IT	29%	26%	32%
	SK	27%	21%	32%
	MT	26%	22%	29%
	LU	23%	21%	24%
	HR	35%	31%	39%

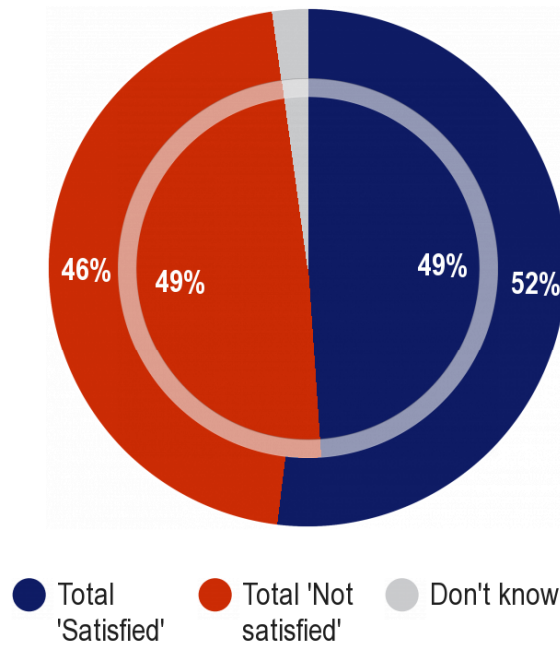
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This question was taken from the Standard EB79, conducted in May 2013

D. THE WAY DEMOCRACY WORKS

a) The way democracy works in the Member States

Q30a. On the whole, are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied or not at all satisfied with the way democracy works in (OUR COUNTRY)?

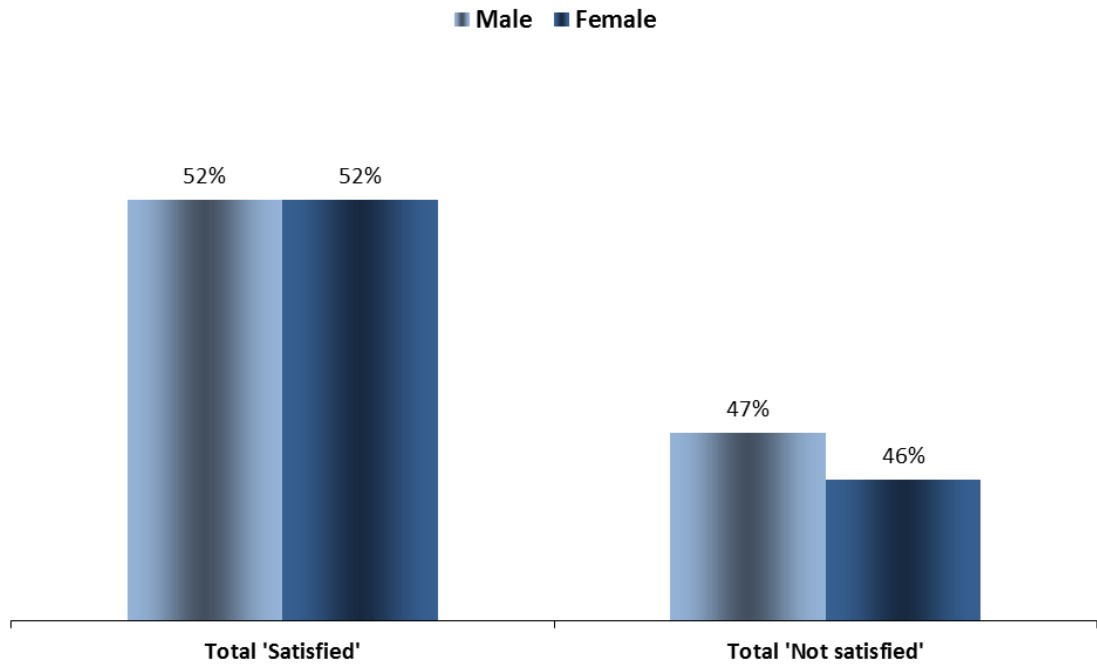


Inner pie : EB78 Aut. 2012
Outer pie : EB79.5 June 2013

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Q30a On the whole, are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied or not at all satisfied with the way democracy works in (OUR COUNTRY)?



EB79.5 June 2013

Q30a On the whole, are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied or not at all satisfied with the way democracy works in (OUR COUNTRY)?

Answer: Total 'Satisfied'

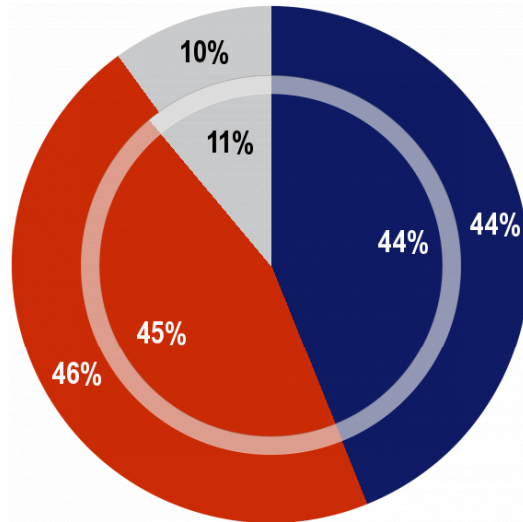
		TOTAL	Gender	
			Male	Female
	DK	89%	89%	88%
	SE	87%	87%	88%
	FI	79%	80%	78%
	AT	78%	79%	78%
	LU	78%	76%	79%
	BE	75%	74%	77%
	DE	75%	75%	75%
	MT	75%	75%	76%
	NL	73%	74%	74%
	UK	64%	63%	65%
	IE	60%	60%	60%
	FR	55%	59%	51%
	PL	55%	53%	56%
	EU27	52%	52%	52%
	LV	46%	44%	48%
	EE	44%	44%	44%
	HU	39%	38%	39%
	CZ	38%	37%	39%
	IT	35%	36%	32%
	SK	34%	37%	31%
	CY	33%	34%	32%
	LT	31%	31%	32%
	ES	27%	26%	30%
	RO	24%	25%	24%
	SI	24%	24%	23%
	BG	23%	24%	22%
	EL	19%	20%	19%
	PT	14%	15%	13%

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b) The way democracy works in the EU

Q30b. And how about the way democracy works in the EU?



● Total 'Satisfied' ● Total 'Not satisfied' ● Don't know

Inner pie : EB78 Aut. 2012

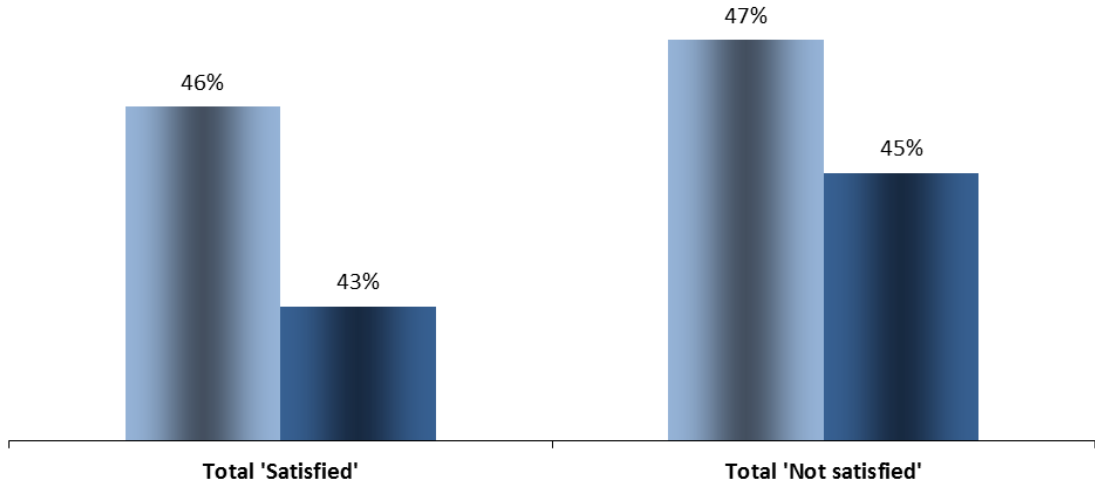
Outer pie : EB79.5 June 2013

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Q30b And how about the way democracy works in the EU?





























■ Male ■ Female



EB79.5 June 2013

Q30b And how about the way democracy works in the EU?

Answer: Total 'Satisfied'

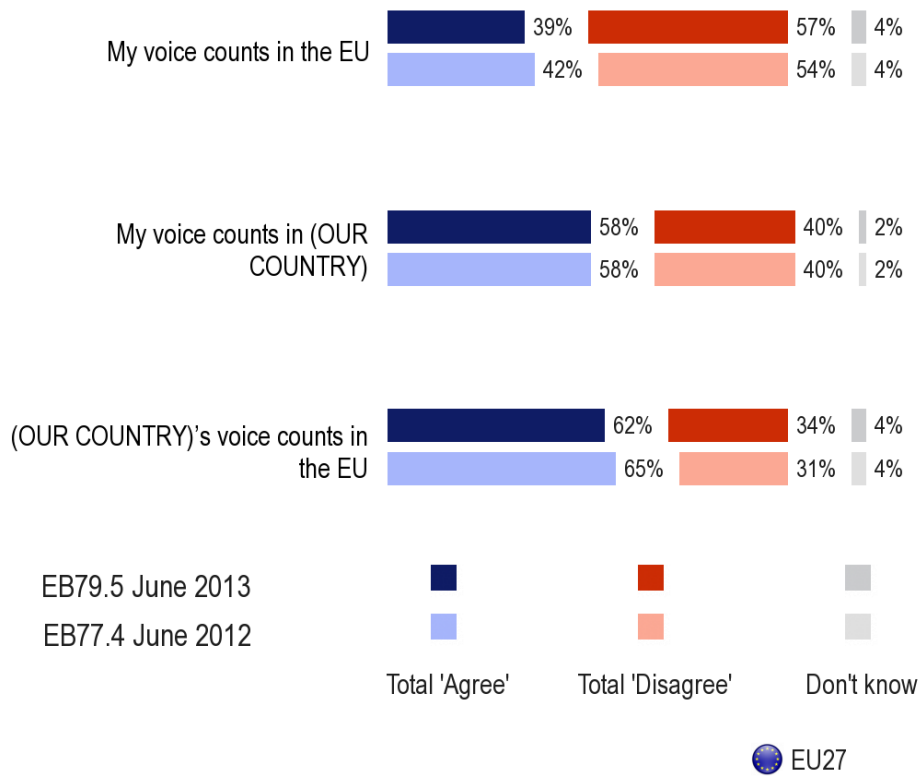
		TOTAL	Gender	
			Male	Female
	BE	68%	67%	70%
	DK	68%	67%	70%
	LU	65%	67%	63%
	PL	65%	66%	64%
	MT	64%	61%	66%
	LV	58%	59%	57%
	IE	54%	59%	50%
	AT	53%	51%	55%
	EE	52%	52%	51%
	HU	52%	51%	52%
	SE	52%	51%	52%
	CZ	51%	50%	51%
	DE	51%	51%	51%
	BG	50%	52%	48%
	LT	50%	56%	45%
	FI	49%	52%	48%
	NL	49%	48%	49%
	RO	49%	53%	46%
	SK	46%	50%	43%
	EU27	44%	46%	43%
	SI	44%	46%	43%
	FR	40%	44%	36%
	IT	39%	43%	36%
	UK	37%	40%	35%
	CY	29%	33%	25%
	ES	29%	26%	31%
	EL	23%	25%	22%
	PT	14%	15%	13%

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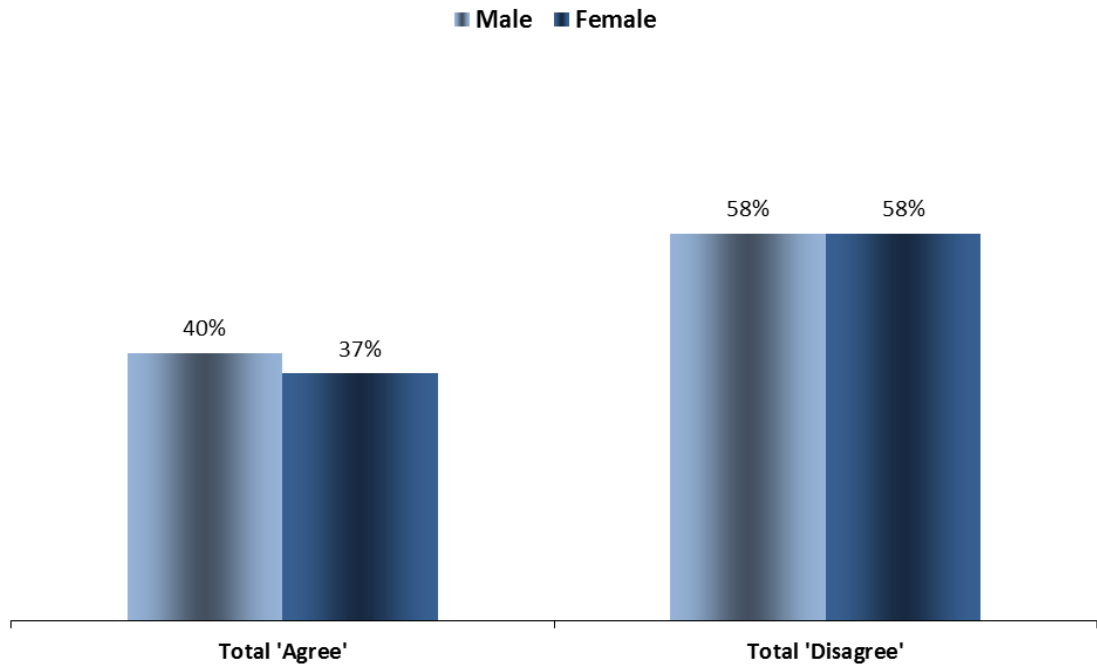
E. MY VOICE COUNTS

Q24. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.



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Q24.1 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.
My voice counts in the EU
































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Q24.1 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

My voice counts in the EU

Answer: Total 'Agree'

		TOTAL	Gender	
			Male	Female
	SE	64%	69%	59%
	DK	62%	62%	63%
	BE	60%	59%	61%
	LU	53%	54%	52%
	MT	53%	53%	53%
	DE	52%	53%	52%
	NL	49%	52%	47%
	PL	46%	49%	44%
	AT	43%	44%	42%
	FI	43%	44%	41%
	IE	42%	45%	38%
	BG	41%	41%	40%
	HU	41%	39%	45%
	FR	40%	42%	38%
	SI	40%	39%	41%
	EU27	39%	40%	37%
	LT	37%	36%	38%
	SK	34%	38%	31%
	RO	33%	36%	32%
	PT	31%	35%	28%
	IT	30%	33%	28%
	ES	28%	27%	28%
	UK	28%	28%	27%
	EE	27%	26%	28%
	CZ	25%	27%	24%
	LV	25%	25%	25%
	CY	18%	20%	16%
	EL	18%	21%	16%
	HR	57%	56%	58%

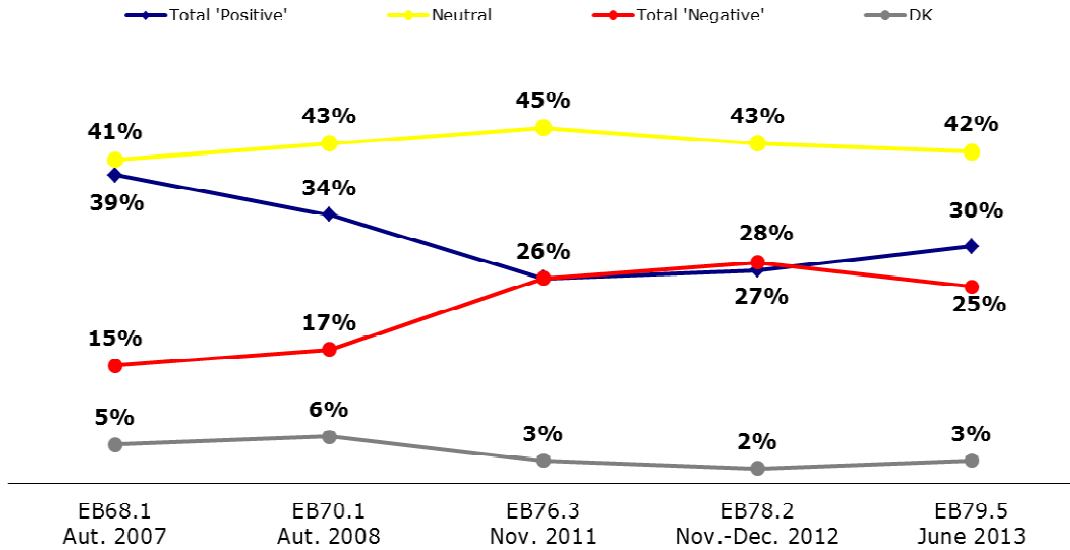
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F. IMAGE OF THE EU

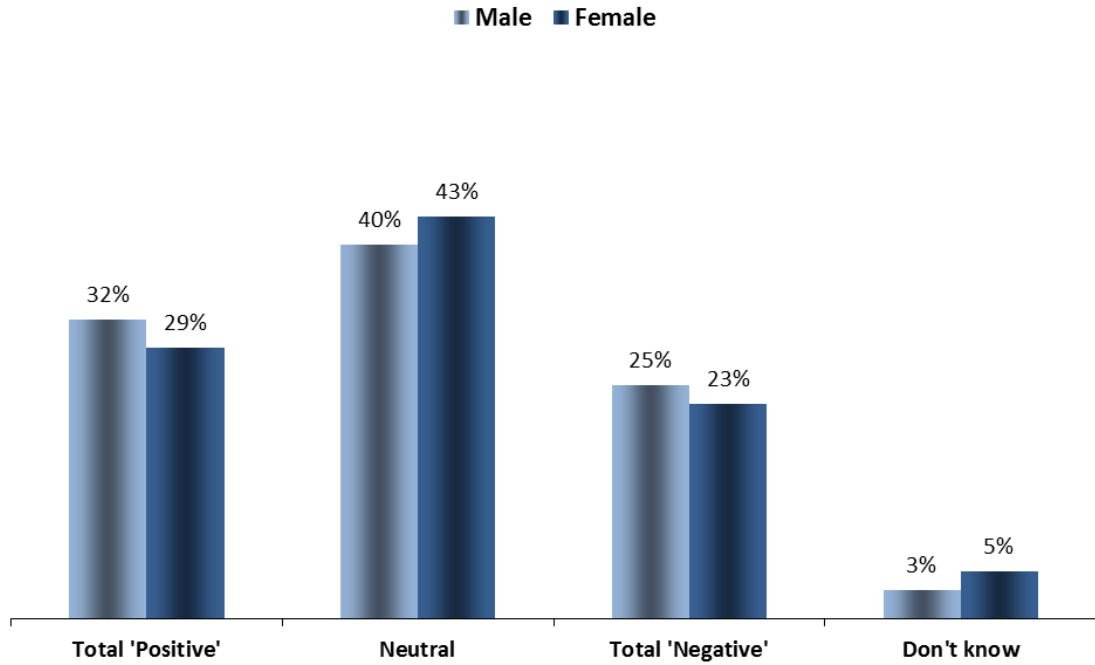
1. Global image of the European Parliament

Q2 In general, does the European Parliament conjure up for you a very positive, fairly positive, neutral, fairly negative or very negative image?
































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Q2 In general, does the European Parliament conjure up for you a very positive, fairly positive, neutral, fairly negative or very negative image?



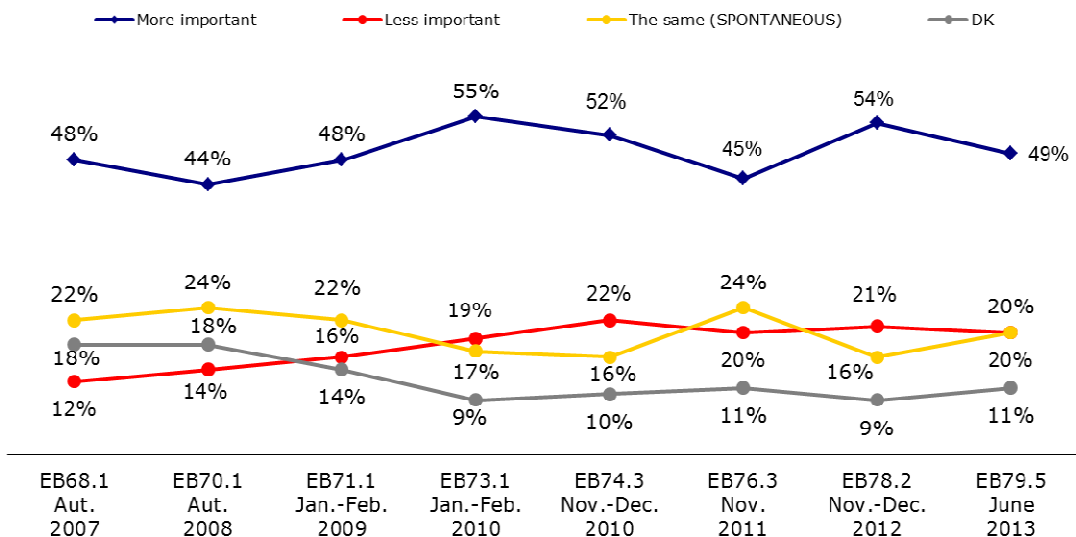
Q2 In general, does the European Parliament conjure up for you a very positive, fairly positive, neutral, fairly negative or very negative image?

Answer: Total 'Positive'

		TOTAL	Gender	
			Male	Female
	BG	56%	58%	55%
	IE	50%	51%	48%
	RO	50%	49%	49%
	MT	48%	49%	47%
	IT	43%	46%	40%
	LU	43%	42%	42%
	PL	42%	42%	41%
	BE	41%	41%	41%
	SK	38%	40%	36%
	HU	32%	33%	32%
	LT	32%	34%	30%
	DK	31%	32%	30%
	SI	31%	31%	32%
	DE	30%	30%	30%
	EU27	30%	32%	29%
	CZ	28%	30%	27%
	AT	27%	28%	27%
	CY	26%	29%	23%
	EL	25%	27%	22%
	PT	25%	31%	20%
	SE	25%	23%	27%
	FI	24%	24%	24%
	NL	24%	25%	23%
	EE	23%	21%	24%
	FR	23%	24%	23%
	ES	19%	22%	16%
	LV	19%	20%	20%
	UK	18%	19%	16%
	HR	39%	43%	36%

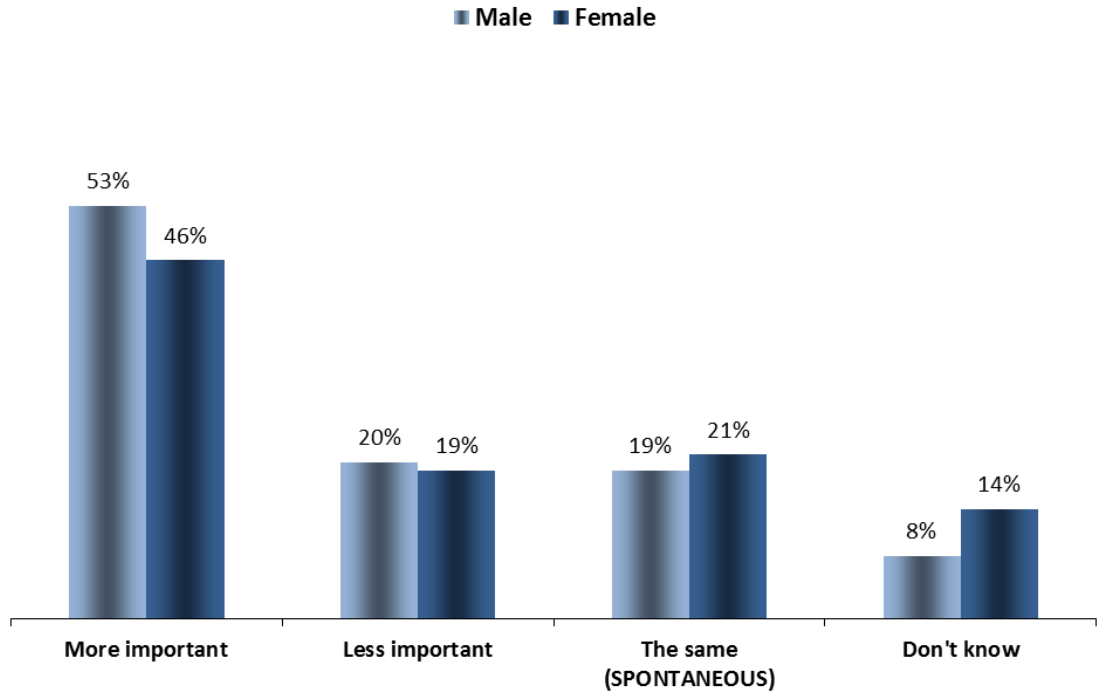
G. ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Q14 Would you personally like to see the European Parliament play a more important or less important role than it currently does?
































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Q14 Would you personally like to see the European Parliament play a more important or less important role than it currently does?



Q14 Would you personally like to see the European Parliament play a more important or less important role than it currently does?

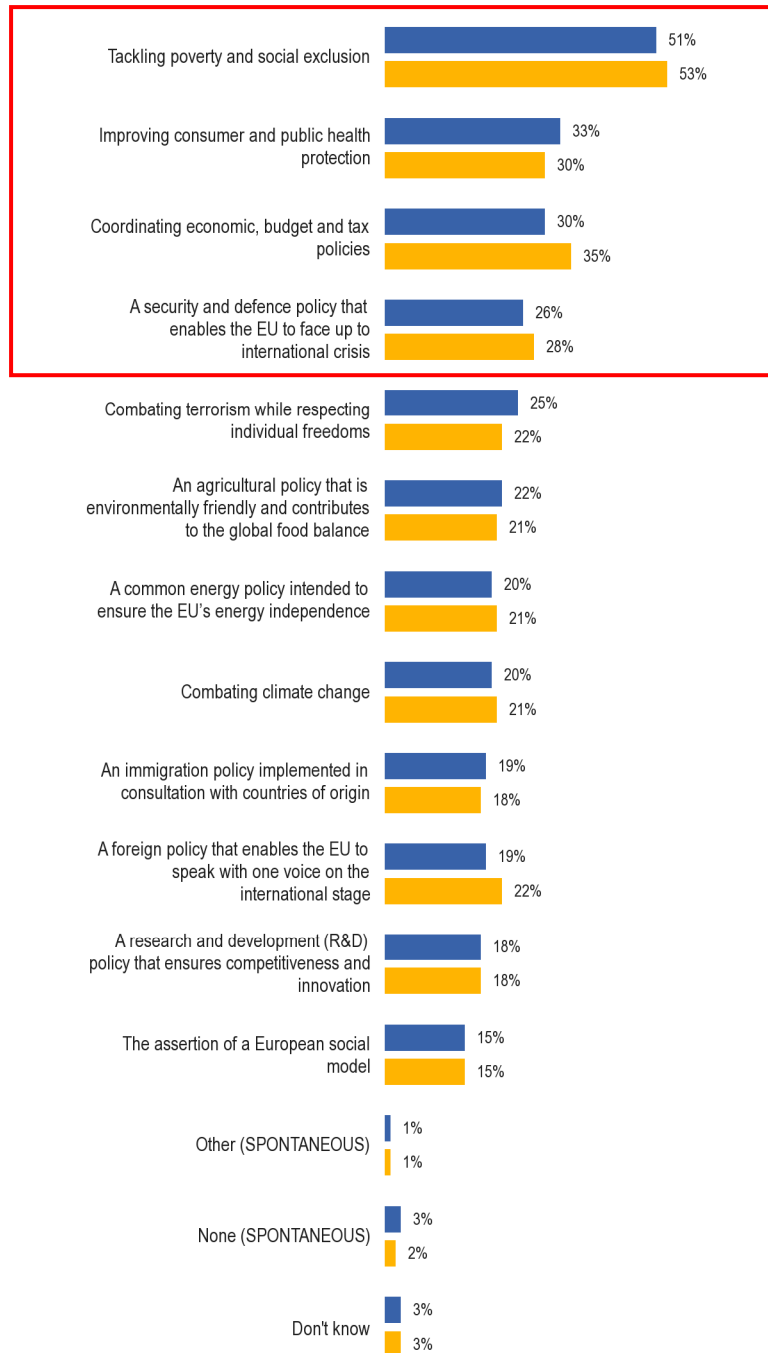
Answer: More important

		TOTAL	Gender	
			Male	Female
	CY	79%	82%	77%
	MT	65%	68%	61%
	RO	65%	67%	62%
	BE	61%	60%	63%
	EL	61%	64%	58%
	PT	60%	62%	57%
	ES	56%	61%	51%
	FR	56%	60%	52%
	LU	55%	58%	52%
	SI	53%	54%	51%
	BG	52%	54%	50%
	SK	52%	53%	51%
	IE	51%	56%	47%
	HU	50%	53%	48%
	PL	50%	52%	48%
	EU27	49%	53%	46%
	LT	49%	48%	49%
	SE	49%	48%	50%
	CZ	48%	49%	47%
	IT	45%	47%	43%
	DE	43%	48%	39%
	UK	43%	47%	39%
	EE	42%	44%	41%
	LV	42%	42%	41%
	NL	42%	47%	37%
	FI	41%	42%	40%
	AT	38%	39%	37%
	DK	35%	36%	36%
	HR	50%	51%	48%

H. PRIORITY POLICIES AND VALUES

a) Priority policies

Q15T. The European Parliament promotes the development of certain policies at EU level. In your opinion which of the following policies should be given priority? Firstly? And then? (MAX. 3 ANSWERS)

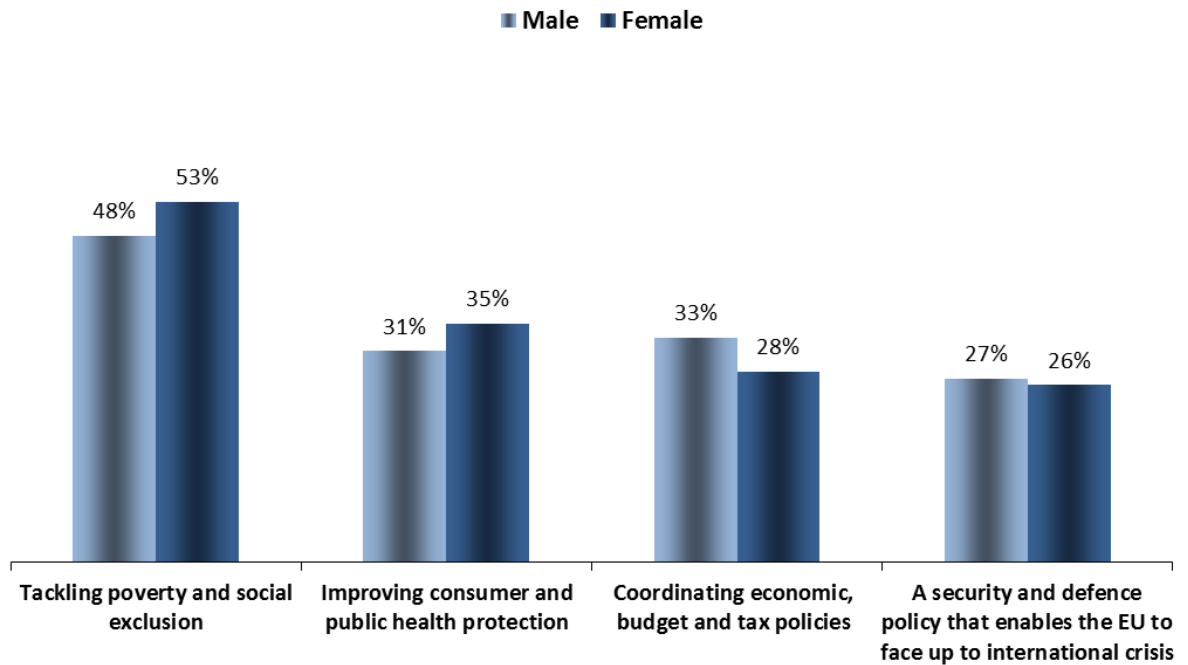


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Q15T The European Parliament promotes the development of certain policies at EU level.
In your opinion which of the following policies should be given priority?
Firstly? And then? (MAX. 3 ANSWERS)



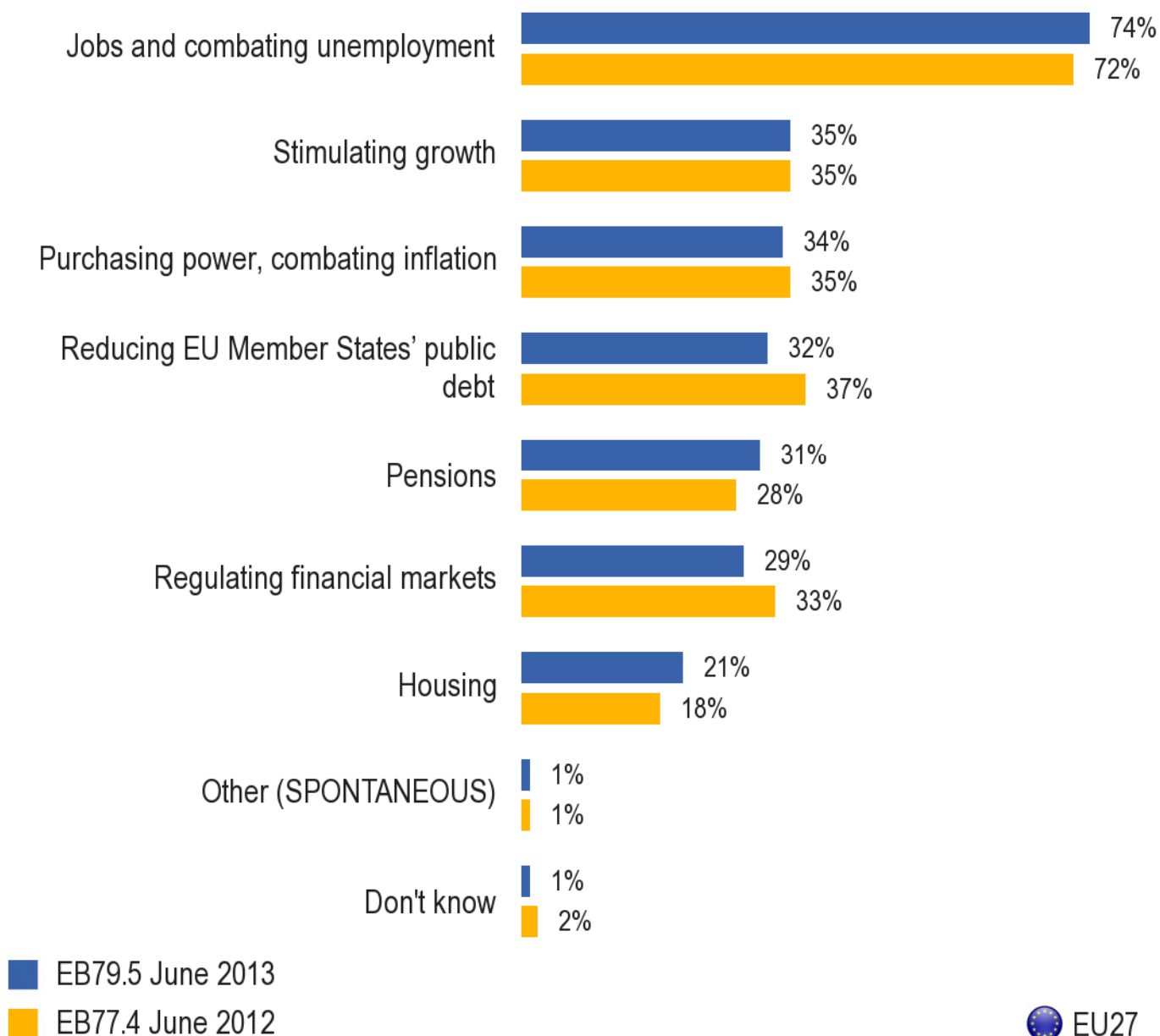
Q15T The European Parliament promotes the development of certain policies at EU level. In your opinion which of the following policies should be given priority? Firstly? And then? (MAX. 3 ANSWERS)

Answer: Tackling poverty and social exclusion

		TOTAL	Gender	
			Male	Female
	PT	72%	71%	72%
	EL	71%	68%	73%
	CY	69%	66%	72%
	ES	64%	62%	67%
	SI	63%	58%	67%
	LT	61%	59%	63%
	LV	61%	56%	65%
	BG	55%	56%	53%
	FR	55%	51%	57%
	RO	55%	53%	56%
	HU	54%	54%	54%
	SE	54%	48%	59%
	BE	52%	45%	58%
	DE	52%	47%	57%
	FI	52%	43%	60%
	EU27	51%	48%	53%
	PL	51%	52%	50%
	AT	50%	45%	54%
	EE	49%	43%	54%
	IE	49%	45%	53%
	NL	47%	39%	53%
	DK	46%	42%	50%
	LU	45%	41%	48%
	SK	45%	38%	51%
	CZ	42%	39%	45%
	UK	41%	39%	44%
	MT	40%	40%	40%
	IT	37%	38%	37%
	HR	62%	59%	66%

b) Priority policies during the crisis

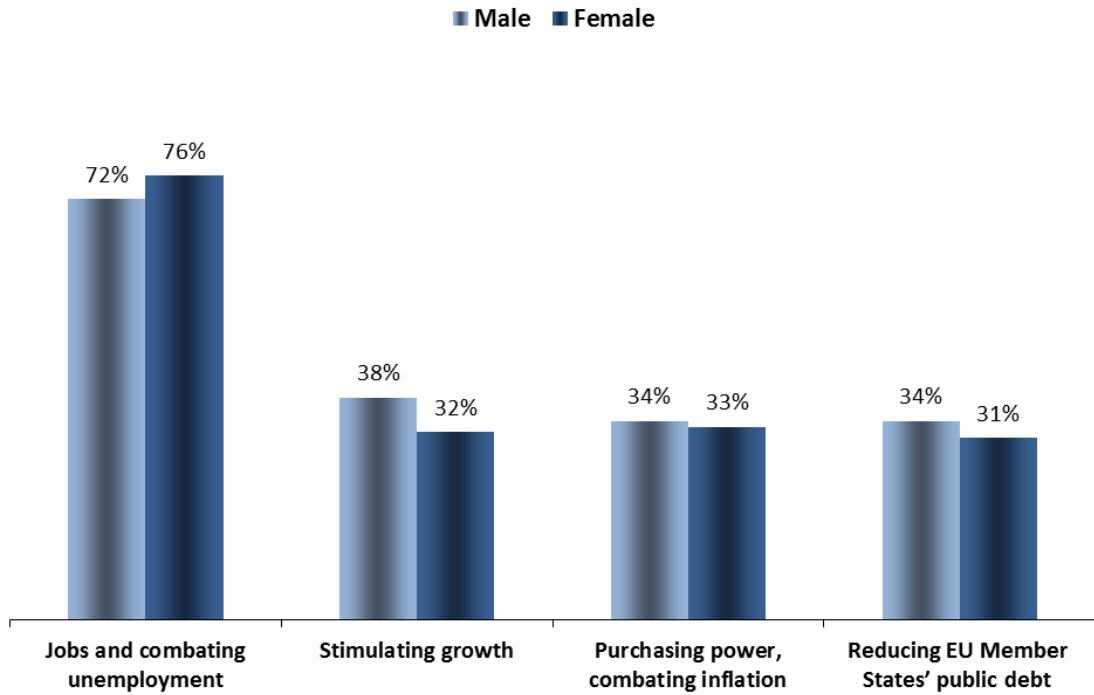
Q16T. And more specifically, which area do you think should be given priority in view of the crisis? Firstly? And then? (MAX. 2 ANSWERS)



Question already published in part II - economic and social






























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Q16T And more specifically, which area do you think should be given priority in view of the crisis? Firstly? And then? (MAX. 2 ANSWERS)



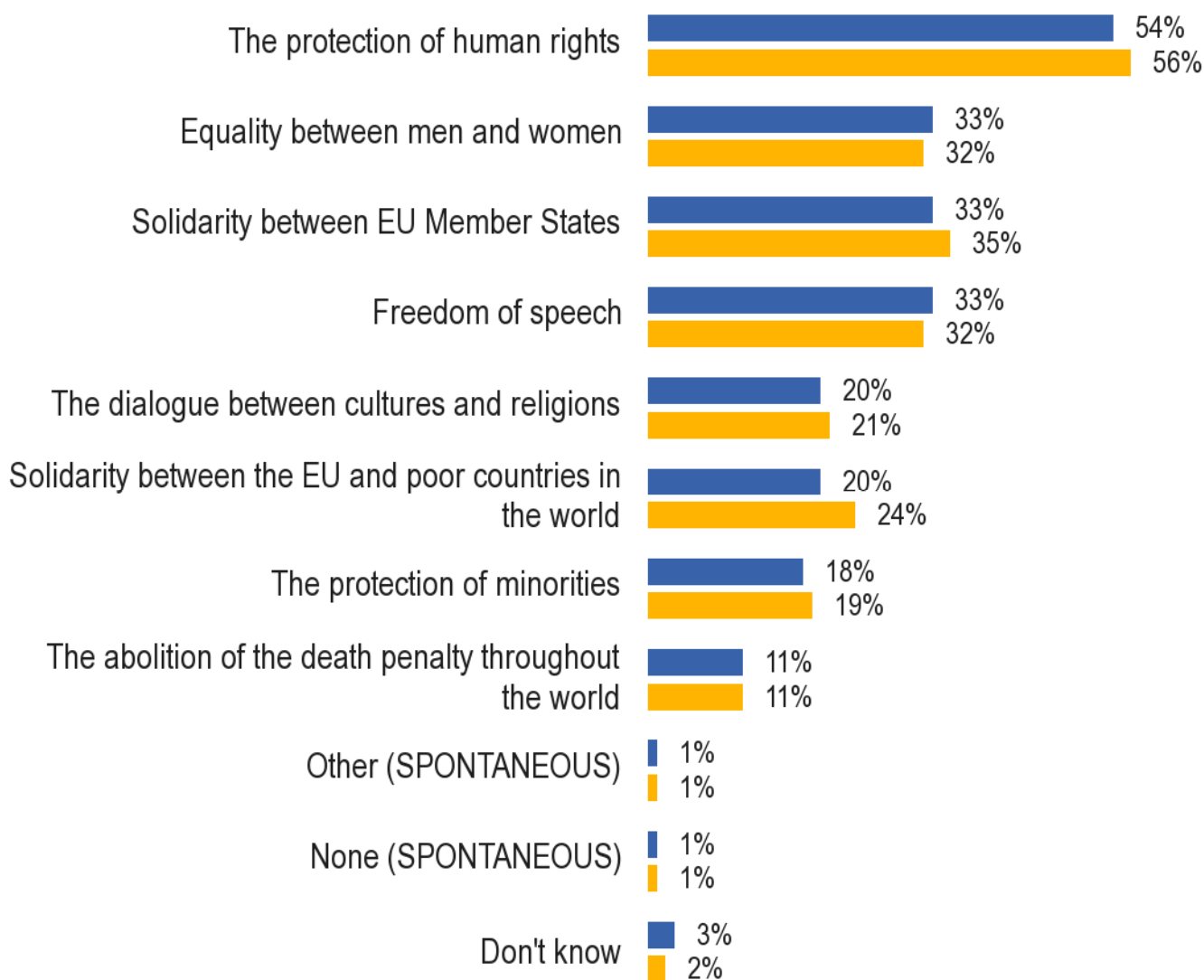
Q16T And more specifically, which area do you think should be given priority in view of the crisis? Firstly? And then? (MAX. 2 ANSWERS)

Answer: Jobs and combating unemployment

		TOTAL	Gender	
			Male	Female
	ES	88%	87%	89%
	DK	87%	87%	88%
	PT	85%	86%	84%
	CY	84%	82%	87%
	LV	83%	83%	83%
	SI	82%	83%	81%
	EL	81%	82%	80%
	FI	80%	81%	79%
	HU	80%	79%	81%
	IE	79%	77%	80%
	NL	79%	76%	82%
	SK	79%	80%	78%
	EE	77%	74%	80%
	LT	76%	74%	78%
	SE	76%	74%	77%
	CZ	75%	73%	77%
	LU	75%	75%	74%
	EU27	74%	72%	76%
	FR	74%	70%	77%
	BG	73%	72%	74%
	PL	73%	72%	74%
	RO	72%	73%	71%
	UK	72%	68%	76%
	AT	70%	68%	73%
	DE	70%	68%	70%
	BE	69%	65%	74%
	IT	68%	65%	70%
	MT	67%	66%	68%
	HR	80%	79%	81%

c) **Values to defend**

Q18. In your opinion, which of the following values should the European Parliament defend as a matter of priority? (MAX. 3 ANSWERS)



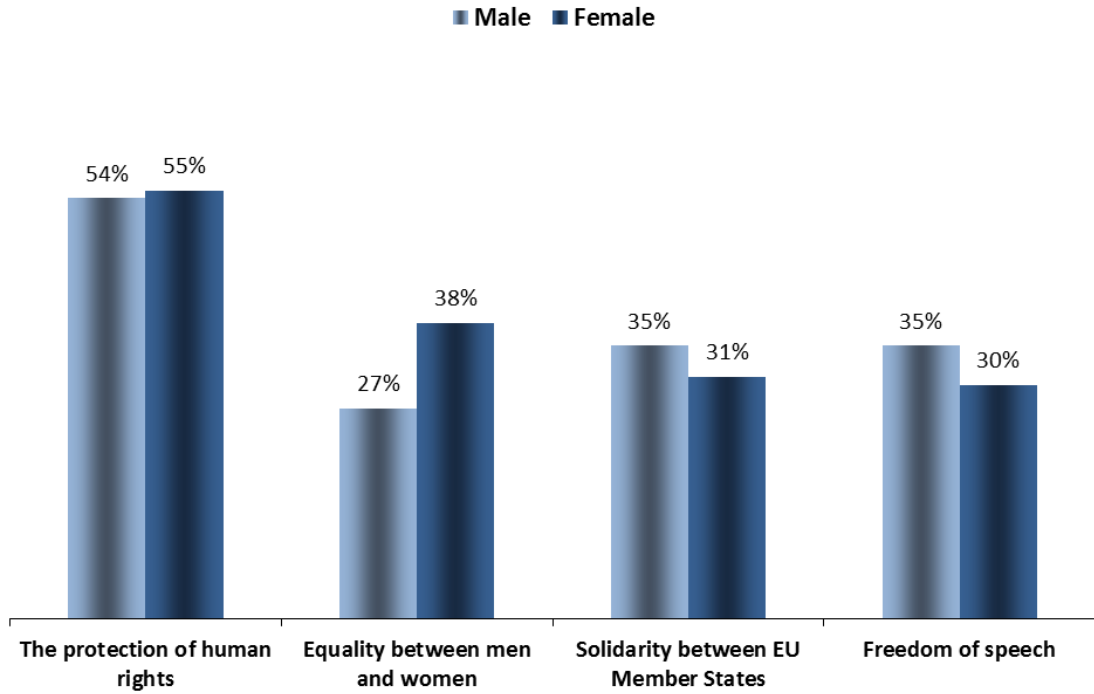
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FOCUS ON GENDER

Q18 In your opinion, which of the following values should the European Parliament defend as a matter of priority? (MAX. 3 ANSWERS)



Q18 In your opinion, which of the following values should the European Parliament defend as a matter of priority? (MAX. 3 ANSWERS)

Answer: The protection of human rights

		TOTAL	Gender	
			Male	Female
	CY	80%	83%	78%
	SE	70%	67%	73%
	FI	69%	67%	71%
	SI	67%	66%	69%
	DE	65%	64%	66%
	BG	64%	67%	61%
	DK	64%	62%	67%
	EE	63%	61%	64%
	LT	62%	61%	63%
	AT	61%	61%	61%
	CZ	61%	60%	62%
	FR	60%	56%	63%
	NL	60%	56%	64%
	RO	60%	63%	58%
	HU	59%	57%	60%
	EL	57%	58%	55%
	SK	57%	57%	57%
	EU27	54%	54%	55%
	IE	54%	52%	56%
	LU	51%	51%	51%
	ES	50%	49%	50%
	MT	49%	49%	49%
	PL	48%	51%	45%
	BE	46%	43%	50%
	UK	46%	43%	49%
	LV	45%	43%	48%
	PT	45%	47%	44%
	IT	42%	44%	40%
	HR	63%	59%	66%