

# **Covid-19 and Europeans' Attitudes towards EU intervention**

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**Survey location:** Italy, Spain, Germany, Netherlands

**Target sample:** random sample of the adult population representative over age, gender and income (2000 respondents per country)

## Survey questionnaire draft

**We are non-partisan researchers from an independent research institute.**

We would like to know your **personal views** on matters of public interest.

It is very important that you provide your **true opinion**, and that you **read all the questions very carefully before answering**. If you do not know the answer to some question, please provide us with a careful guess. However, please be sure to spend enough time reading and understanding the question. Responding without adequate effort or skipping many questions may result in your responses being flagged for low quality and you may not receive your payment.

It is very important that you **complete the entire survey**, once you've started. It should take approximately 20 minutes to complete.

Note: Your participation in this study is purely voluntary. No identifying information will be recorded by the researchers. Results may include summary data, but you will never be identified. The data will be stored on our servers and will be kept confidential. The anonymous data collected may be made available to other researchers for replication purposes.

1. Yes, I would like to participate in this survey. / No, I would not like to participate in this survey.
2. What is your gender? (M/F)
3. Please indicate your age:
4. What is your area of residence? [Country dependent]  
North, NorthE, NorthW, Centre, South, Islands
5. What is your marital status?
  - a. Single (Never Married/Widowed/Separated/Divorced)
  - b. Married /Civil partnership/Cohabiting
6. Please indicate how many people live in your household (including yourself): Adults... Children...
7. What is the combined **monthly** income of your **household, after taxes**?  
[Please include all your household income sources: salaries, scholarships, pension and Social Security benefits, dividends from shares, income from rental properties, child support and alimony etc. We are not interested in the type of income source, only in the total monthly income earned by all the members of your household together.]
  1. <2000
  2. 2000-4000
  3. 4000-6000
  4. 6000-8000
  5. 8000-10000
  6. >10000
8. This question's only purpose is that of allowing us to check the quality of the answers we received so far. To continue with the questionnaire, please enter 30 to proceed with the questionnaire.

/----- THE ORDER OF BLOCK 1 AND BLOCK 2 IS RANDOMISED -----/

### ++++BLOCK 1: TREATMENT QUESTIONS

QUESTIONS TREATMENT GROUP T1: Health/Crisis experience

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10. On a scale from 1 to 10, to what extent do the following statements describe your behavior during the COVID-19 confinement period? (1= not at all; 10= a lot)
  - a. I worked from home
  - b. I kept more distance with people than usual
  - c. I stocked up on food
  - d. I bought face masks
  - e. I cleaned my house/apartment with disinfectant products
  - f. I tried to get or got tested for COVID-19
  - g. I have donated or volunteered to help combat COVID-19
  
11. Do you have relatives who are risk patients of COVID-19?
  - a. Yes
  - b. No
  - c. Don't know
  
12. Please indicate whether the following applies to you:
  - a. I contracted the virus (YES/NO/DON'T KNOW)
  - b. Someone in my family or close to me has contracted the virus (YES/NO/DON'T KNOW)
  - c. At least one of my friends/acquaintances has contracted the virus (YES/NO/DON'T KNOW)
  
13. On a scale from 1 to 10, do the following statements about the COVID-19 confinement apply to you personally? (1= not at all; 10= a lot)
  - a. Living together with my family/household was difficult
  - b. I was concerned about my health
  - c. Not seeing my friends or family was difficult
  - d. I thought the social isolation rules were too strict
  
14. On a scale from 1 to 10, and when you think about the COVID-19 crisis, how much of your time did you feel:
  - a. Relaxed (1= never, 10= always)
  - b. Angry (1= never, 10= always)
  - c. Nervous (1= never, 10= always)
  - d. Active (1= never, 10= always)
  - e. Anxious (1= never, 10= always)

#### QUESTION ONLY FOR T1

15. Which of the following appliances do you have in your house/flat?
  - a. PC/laptop (Yes/No)
  - b. TV (Yes/No)
  - c. Microwave (Yes/No)
  - d. Internet (Yes/No)
  - e. Airconditioning (Yes/No)
  - f. Refrigerator (Yes/No)

QUESTIONS TREATMENT GROUP T2: T1 + Economic distress

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16. On a scale from 1 to 10, and when you think about COVID-19 crisis, do you think that
  - a. there were problems with food supplies in [Country] (1= not at all; 10= a lot)

- b. There will be negative financial consequences for yourself and your family in the future (1= not at all; 10= a lot)
- c. There will be negative financial consequences for the town in which you live in the future (1= not at all; 10= a lot)

17. Is the COVID-19 crisis affecting your job?

- a. Yes, mostly positively
- b. Yes, mostly negatively
- c. Not significantly
- d. I don't have a job

18. Is the COVID-19 crisis affecting the job of people close to you?

- a. Yes, mostly positively
- b. Yes, mostly negatively
- c. Not significantly

19. If you would lose your job because of the crisis, how quickly do you think you would find a new job once the economy picks up?

- a. In a few weeks
- b. In a few months
- c. After a year

QUESTIONS TREATMENT GROUP T3: T1 + National Unity/Warspeak

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20. On a scale from 1 to 10, do you agree with the following statements? (1= not at all; 10= a lot)

- a. The COVID-19 epidemic can be considered a war in which the enemy is COVID-19
- b. We can defeat COVID-19 only if everyone self-sacrifices, e.g. by strictly respecting self-isolation at home
- c. Healthcare personnel are the frontline soldiers, and each of us is fighting at the home-front by self-isolating and respecting the rules
- d. People breaking the rules can be considered traitors and should be punished
- e. Unity is the main strategy to defeat the COVID-19 crisis
- f. Vaccine research is the best weapon we have, to defend us against the virus

**++++BLOCK 2: OUTCOME VARIABLE QUESTIONS**

VOTING

21. Imagine the national elections were coming up next [Sunday]. Which party would you vote for? [insert parties per country – this version: Italy]

- a. Lega
- b. Partito democratico
- c. M5S
- d. Forza Italia
- e. Fratelli d'italia
- f. Italia viva
- g. Altro. Specificare: \_\_\_\_\_
- h. Non voterei

TRUST

22. On a scale from 1 to 10, do you think one can never be careful enough in dealing with people (1), or would you say that most people can be trusted (10)?

### NATIONAL SUPPORT

23. On a scale from 0 to 10, how much do you trust each of the following: (1= not at all; 10= complete trust)
- Your national politicians
  - Your national government
  - The police
  - Your public broadcaster
  - Your national scientists/experts

### ATTACHMENT

24. People may feel different degrees of attachment to their town or village, to their country or to Europe. On a scale from 1 to 10, how attached do you feel to
- [Country] (1= not at all, 10= a lot)
  - Your town/village (1= not at all, 10= a lot)
  - Europe (1= not at all, 10= a lot)

### EU SUPPORT

25. On a scale from 1 to 10, how much do you trust the European Union (1= not at all, 10= a lot).
26. On a scale from 1 to 10, would you say that [Country] has benefited from being a member of the European Union? (1= not at all, 10= a lot)
27. If there was a referendum next Sunday with the following question: "Should [Country] remain a member of the European Union or leave the European Union", how would you vote?
- Remain in the European Union
  - Leave the European Union
  - I don't know
28. On a scale from 1 to 10, do you think the EU is better placed to solve problems than national or regional governments are? (1= not at all; 10= best placed)

### IMMIGRATION

29. On a scale from 1 to 10, do you think current immigration in your country is too low (1) or too high (10)?
30. On a scale from 1 to 10, how much do you think the public healthcare system in your country should prioritise [nationality] over immigrants (1= not at all, 10= a lot)

### GOVERNMENT

31. People have different views on what the responsibilities of the government should or should not be. On a scale from 1 to 10, do you think the government should
- levy taxes to subsidise the poor (1= not at all; 10= a lot)
  - regulate markets (1= not at all; 10= a lot)
  - levy taxes to ensure adequate unemployment insurance (1= not at all; 10= a lot)
  - levy taxes to ensure adequate health care (1= not at all; 10= a lot)
  - levy taxes to ensure a reasonable standard of living for the old (1= not at all; 10= a lot)

32. On a scale from 1 to 10, would you say that
- the overall fiscal burden in your country is too low (1) or too high (10)?
  - your fiscal burden is too low (1) or too high (10)

#### LIBERALISM vs POPULISM

33. On a scale from 1 to 10, do you agree with the following statements? (1= fully disagree; 10= fully agree)
- Privacy rights should always be upheld/protected, even if they hinder efforts to combat crime.
  - The people, and not politicians, should make our most important policy decisions.
  - Politicians should have no influence over the content of public broadcasters.
  - Having a strong leader is good for [Country] even if this leader breaks the rules to obtain results.
  - A handful of powerful individuals influences political decisions even in democracies.
34. How much of your personal freedom would you be willing to give up to
- protect your own safety? (1= none; 10= a lot)
  - protect the safety of your family? (1= none; 10= a lot)
  - protect public safety? (1= none; 10= a lot)

#### UNIVERSAL vs COMMUNAL

35. On a scale from 1 to 10, do you agree that
- everyone should be treated equally as global citizens, with fundamental rights (1= not at all; 10= fully agree)
  - everyone should be loyal to the community they are part of, and respect its traditions (1= not at all; 10= fully agree)

#### GLOBALISATION

36. People have different views about market globalization. On a scale from 1 to 10, do you favour completely globalised markets (1), complete national self-sufficiency (10).

**TEXT QUESTION HERE** (see end of document for details; randomly placed here or at the beginning of block 2)

#### EU SUPPORT: COVID

37. On a scale from 1 to 10, do you think the European Union is managing the COVID-19 epidemic well? (1= not at all, 10= absolutely)
38. On a scale from 1 to 10, do you think your national government is managing the COVID-19 epidemic well? (1= not at all, 10= absolutely)
39. Which of the following should mostly fund the economic consequences of the COVID-19 crisis?
- Your national government
  - The European Union
  - Your regional government
40. On a scale from 1 to 10, do you think there should be solidarity between EU member states to fund the COVID-19 costs? (1= there should not be; 10= there should be)

/----- END OF TREATMENT BLOCKS -----/

## OTHER

41. Which media do you most frequently get information on world happenings from?  
(If you don't find your preferred outlet, please indicate the one that most closely represents it)
- TV News
  - Social media (social networks, blogs)
  - Radio/podcasts
  - Online newspaper/newspaper app
  - Print newspaper
  - I don't follow the news
42. What is the highest level of education you have completed?
- Primary school
  - Junior high school (middle school)
  - Professional education
  - Higher education (science/humanities)
  - University degree
  - Doctoral degree
43. What is your current employment status?
- Employed full-time
  - Employed part-time
  - Self-employed/small business owner
  - Unemployed and looking for a job
  - Not working and not looking for a job/Long-term sick or disabled
  - Full-time parent, homemaker
  - Retired
  - Student/Pupil
44. Were you born in [Country]?
45. Were both of your parents born in [Country]??
46. What is your province of residence?
47. Where do you see yourself on the political spectrum, where 1 represents the left and 10 represents the right?
48. Did you vote in the last election?

## **TEXT QUESTION:**

For educational purposes, we are considering to inform students about the importance of the European Union using real texts.

We selected a speech given in front of the European Parliament, which promotes European integration. It would help us if you could take 5 minutes of your time to read this speech and give us your opinion. Please notice that whether you agree to read the text or not will not affect your payment.

Yes, I want to read the text.

No, I don't want to read the text.

Next page: Thank you very much for your help, you will get to read the speech and give your opinion at the end of this survey.

**At the end of the survey (if they clicked yes):**

Thank you for agreeing to review the speech on EU integration which we plan to use for educational purposes. You can find the speech below. You will be able to provide us with your opinion on the next page.

Speech is displayed.

Question after speech:

On a scale from 1 to 10, do you think this text, a speech held by Emmanuel Macron in 2018, can be used to inform students of the advantages and importance of the European Union? (1= No, 10=Yes)