



DG Communication's Public Opinion Monitoring Unit is continuing to focus on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on public opinion within the European Union and beyond, as this crisis proves to have significant implications not only on people's behaviour but also on their perception and expectations with regard to the EU and its institutions.

This newsletter aims at presenting pertinent information and analysis from both EU level and the Member States. We draw on available and published surveys, social media monitoring and the analysis of our team in close collaboration with other services within DG COMM, specifically also **Parliament's Liaison Office in all Member States**.

In concrete terms, this newsletter contains:

- A short analytical summary on main results and insights from across the EU, based on current surveys
- A collection of recent multi-national surveys comparing public opinion from several EU and other countries on the Covid-19 pandemic
- **Current national surveys and polls on citizens' attitudes towards the corona crisis, their governments' and the EU's response, including, where and when available, data on trust in public institutions.**

Apart from relevant news from the Member States, we would like to draw your attention to the first findings of a dedicated survey on citizens' attitudes towards the EU and the measures taken to fight the Covid19 pandemic, conducted by Kantar for the DG Communication's Public Opinion Monitoring Unit.

We welcome all comments and input to our work. If you come across any information you would want to be added or would like to have more information on what the Public Opinion Monitoring Unit can do for you in this time of crisis, please contact:

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ANALYTICAL SUMMARY

1) Europeans' reactions and perceptions of the COVID19 pandemic

DG COMM's Public Opinion Monitoring Unit has commissioned a dedicated survey on citizens' attitudes towards the EU and the measures taken to fight the Covid19 pandemic. This survey was conducted online by Kantar at the end of April.

Below is a summary of the main results:

- Around two-thirds of respondents **(69%) say “the EU should have more competences to deal with crises such as the Coronavirus pandemic”**. **Less than a quarter of respondents (22%)** disagree with this statement. Agreement is highest in Portugal and Ireland, and lowest in Czechia and Sweden.
- In responding to the pandemic, European citizens want the EU to focus primarily on ensuring sufficient medical supplies for all EU Member States, the allocation of research funds to develop a vaccine, direct financial support to Member States and an improvement of scientific co-operation between Member States.
- This strong call for more EU competencies and a more robustly coordinated EU response goes hand in hand with the dissatisfaction expressed by a majority of respondents as concerns the solidarity between EU Member States in fighting the Coronavirus pandemic: 57% are unhappy with **the current state of solidarity, including 22% who are ‘not at all’ satisfied**. Only a third of respondents (34%) are satisfied, with the highest returns in Ireland, Denmark, the Netherlands and Portugal. Respondents from Italy, Spain and Greece are among the most dissatisfied, followed by citizens from Austria, Belgium and Sweden.
- Three out of four respondents across all countries surveyed say they have heard, seen or read about EU measures to respond to the Coronavirus pandemic, with a third of respondents (33%) also knowing what these measures are.
- At the same time around half (52%) of those who know about EU action in this crisis say they are not satisfied with the measures taken so far. Only 42% are satisfied, most of all in Ireland, the Netherlands, Denmark and Finland. The degree of dissatisfaction is highest in Italy, Spain and Greece, and quite high in Austria and Bulgaria.
- A clear majority of respondents (58%) stated in the survey that they have experienced financial difficulties in their own personal life since the start of the Coronavirus pandemic. Such problems include a loss of income (30%), unemployment or partial unemployment (23%), using personal savings sooner than planned (21%), difficulties paying rent, bills or bank loans (14%) as well as difficulties having proper and decent-quality meals (9%). One in ten said that they have to ask family or friends for financial help, while 3% of respondents faced bankruptcy. Overall, respondents in Hungary, Bulgaria, Greece, Italy and Spain are most likely to have experienced financial problems, while those in Denmark, the Netherlands, Sweden, Finland and **Austria are least likely to report problems**. **Indeed, in the latter's, more than half of respondents** have not experienced any of these financial problems: they are 66% in Denmark, 57% in the Netherlands, 54% in Finland and 53% in Sweden.

The results of this week's selection of polls and studies around the EU show further declining concern about the health risks of the pandemic, while Europeans remain preoccupied and directly affected by the economic repercussions of the crisis. In addition, surveys in some countries show interesting findings regarding the acceptance or disapproval of tracking apps, trust in media and attitudes towards de-confinement strategies:

- In Austria, fewer people now consider COVID-19 a public health risk (from 60% in March to currently just over a quarter of respondents). Interestingly, also economic risks are now seen to be smaller: from 70% at the beginning of the crisis, this figure is now below 60%. 56% of respondents in one of the studies say they trust what public media tell them about the COVID-19 crisis.
- In Belgium, 74% of respondents say they have not experienced a loss in revenue because of the corona-crisis. This is however not the case for 45% of independent workers (self-employed) who have seen their revenue fall by at least 30% since the beginning of the crisis.
- In Bulgaria, the reactions toward the current situation are slowly showing signs of normalisation; with panic and fear continuing to decline. The overall assessment of the measures taken by the authorities in the last two months is positive. 45% of Bulgarians say that their incomes have decreased as a result of the crisis. 10% say that they have lost their jobs due to the coronavirus crisis, while 9% expect to lose their jobs in the months to come, compared to 12%-14%, two months ago.
- 80% of respondents in Croatia think the borders should open - with or without limitations - for the tourism season.
- In Czechia, a study shows that half of the entrepreneurs lost almost all their income due to measures against the spread of coronavirus and cannot pay rent. One-fifth say they had to lay off staff or restrict cooperation as a result.
- In Estonia, 60% of respondents believe that the acute crisis is over, but remain cautious, while 28% believe that the situation is still critical and are afraid of a possible second wave.
- In Finland, some 98% of respondents believe the Covid-19 pandemic has damaged the Finnish society. Nearly half describe the level of damage as high or extremely high. However, 39% of respondents say they do not expect the crisis to have any major long-term impact on society. Nearly as many, 36%, say the crisis will make their society stronger.
- French citizens are becoming more optimistic about the future: 38% say so, an increase of 9 pp since the beginning of May. While still high at 65%, the fear they feel about the pandemic has decreased by 9 pp - the lowest level since the beginning of the pandemic. On the contrary, fears regarding the socio-economic implications of the crisis are increasing.
- The restrictions on public life imposed in Germany find approval among a majority of the population. 61% of respondents in a recent study find these rules suitable to deal with the health consequences of the pandemic. They are however more sceptical about the economic consequences of the crisis and the aid programmes with which these are to be cushioned: 34% consider the aid programs to be suitable, 33% partly suitable and 33% find them not suitable. The majority of people (57%) do not feel personally affected by the economic crisis, compared to 33% who have seen their financial situation worsen. Germans are also moving away from globalisation. Only 38% say they view globalisation more as an opportunity, while 58% perceive it as a risk. By comparison, in May 2017, 64% saw globalisation as an opportunity, while only 39% described it as a risk.
- In Greece, almost 80% of respondents are worried about the overall situation of the economy and 71% about their own employment.
- 63% of Italians declare that their main concern about the future is linked to the economic and social situation. Only 35% mention the health situation.
- Concerns about Covid-19 among Latvian respondents continue to decrease, and have fallen by about 23 pp since the end of March (from 66% in March to 43% in May). Almost half of the respondents (48%) would download a mobile phone application that could help restrict Covid-19 spread in Latvia compared to 39% who would not download and use such an application.
- Despite the increased difficulty in staying 1.5 meters apart, 93% of respondents in the Netherlands still support social distancing measures. There is also still broad support for hygiene measures, while 95% say they agree with avoiding crowds and 82% agree with staying home following the latest recommendations of the government.

- Portuguese people feel unprepared for the de-confinement. On a scale from 0 (not probable) to 10 (very probable) the average is 4.6 regarding the probability of becoming infected. On the same scale, the loss of losing income is rated at 3.7, followed by the loss of a closed one (3.4) and the loss of one's job (2.5). Furthermore, 50% assert they will not leave their home for the holidays and 17% think they will "probably" not. In terms of income, within those who earn less than 1,000 euros per month, 43% claim a loss of income. This is a significant increase from the 36% registered in April. Concerning independent workers or entrepreneurs, 71% note that they suffered losses to their income. Amongst those retired, this number decreases to 14%.
- 80% of Romanians say they would give up their rights and freedoms to stay safe in case of a crisis similar to that generated by the coronavirus. 50% of respondents believe that in the next 12 months they will change their job, either because they lost it or because their company can no longer meet their professional expectations.
- After declining for two months, the share of respondents in Slovenia who are concerned about the coronavirus epidemic slightly increased this week, standing at 55%. This can be attributed to fears about the reopening of kindergartens and schools. 64% of those polled would not want to install a tracking app on their mobile phone, whereas 30% would be willing to do so.
- In Sweden, the worry about losing one's main source of income is high but declining.

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

This week's newsletter also presents interesting results regarding attitudes towards governments' responses to the crisis and trust in public institutions:

- In Belgium, Vlaams Belang makes a leap forward and now registers in polls as largest party in Flanders with 24.5% (+6 pp), **it's best polling result since 2004**. This indicates that the corona crisis has deepened the political contrasts of the past year, according to researchers. N-VA loses 4.5 points in recent polls and now stands at 20.3%, still representing a surge in polls after a substantial loss in last year's elections.
- 61% of Bulgarians consider the authorities' measures against the coronavirus sufficient. Prime Minister Boyko Borissov has a 54% approval and 41% disapproval rate.
- Croatia's President Zoran Milanovic on Wednesday called a parliamentary election for July 5. According to a recent poll, the HDZ has the support of around 30% of voters, while the SDP would get around 28%. The third force currently is the Homeland Movement party led by Miroslav Skoro, supported by 10% of voters.
- In Cyprus, 77% of respondents are very satisfied with the way the scientific team of the Ministry of Health dealt with the pandemic.
- In Denmark, a recent poll shows a new record for the Social Democrats (20-point lead).
- Compared with other countries, 87% of Estonian residents are satisfied with the way the coronavirus crisis has been resolved in Estonia. The relaxation of restrictions has brought with it a significant increase in support for the measures in force, with 64% of approval.
- In France, trust in the government regarding the de-confinement plan is increasing, although still in minority: 44% trust it, plus 4 points from last week.
- In Greece, the ruling party ND has the support of 40% of respondents compared to 20.3% for the opposition party Syriza according to the latest voting intention poll.
- In Hungary, a new study shows that during the corona-crisis, ruling party Fidesz has a much stronger position on Facebook than opposition parties: Fidesz postings encourage on average 3,119 Facebook users to react, while opposition party posting elicit on average 1,305 reactions. Based on the data of the Facebook Advertising Library, it also turns out that Fidesz achieved these results without paid advertising.

- In Italy, a large majority of citizens trust the national health system (78,5%), and the hospitals in their region (72,6%). About one in two trust the Italian government in the management of the crisis and fight against the virus. The public opinion about the Prime Minister Conte has improved for about 30% of Italians since the beginning of the pandemic.
- In Poland, 35% of respondents think the speed of removing restrictions is adequate, while it is considered too slow by 32.4% of them. In latest polling for the upcoming first round of Presidential elections, Andrzej Duda would receive 43.7% of the votes, against 14% **for Rafał** Trzaskowski and 13.3% for Szymon **Hołownia**.
- Half of respondents in Romania believe that the state hid important information during this crisis, and the same percentage believe that the state and the press had an agreement to truncate, distort or limit information about COVID-19. Only a third of Romanians still see the state as a reliable partner and half of them think that Romania will be more divided after the crisis.
- In Portugal, the confidence felt towards the Prime Minister (74%), the Directorate General of Health (71%) and the President of the Republic (74%) remain high.
- In Spain, PSOE remains the party with the largest support in polls, barely losing electoral support (119 deputies, one less), according to a latest poll. The PP rises from 88 to 91 projected deputies, Unidas Podemos goes from 35 to 32 and Vox from 52 to 53.
- In Sweden, there is a slight increase in support for the government of 1.1 p.p since April.

3) Attitudes towards the EU's responses

Once again, few results on the attitudes of Europeans towards the EU's responses can be found in the different national surveys included in this newsletter.

In Austria, 32% of respondents have "very high" (9%) or "rather high" (23%) trust in the European Parliament when it comes to coping with the current corona crisis. 57% however are not convinced (35% "rather low" / 22% "very low trust"). In Italy, only 24,6% of respondents trust the European Parliament for the management of the crisis. 37% of citizens would also agree with leaving both the EU and the Eurozone

Multi-country surveys

EU citizens want more competences for the EU to deal with crises like COVID-19

European Parliament, 26/05/2020

Six out of ten citizens are dissatisfied with the solidarity shown between EU Member States, finds a survey commissioned by Parliament and conducted at the end of April.

The EU should have more competences to deal with crises such as the Coronavirus pandemic, European citizens say in a survey commissioned by the European Parliament. Conducted end of April 2020, nearly seven out of ten respondents (69%) want a stronger role for the EU in fighting this crisis. In parallel, almost six out of ten respondents are dissatisfied with the solidarity shown between EU Member States during the pandemic. While 74% of respondents have heard about measures or actions initiated by the EU to respond to the pandemic, only 42% of them are satisfied with these measures so far.

The EU should be better equipped to face crises such as Covid-19

Around **two-thirds of respondents (69%) agree that** “the EU should have more competences to deal with crises such as the Coronavirus pandemic”. **Less than a quarter of respondents (22%)** disagree with this statement. Agreement is highest in Portugal and Ireland, and lowest in Czechia and Sweden.

In responding to the pandemic, European citizens wanted the EU to focus primarily on ensuring sufficient medical supplies for all EU Member States, the allocation of research funds to develop a vaccine, direct financial support to Member States and an improvement of scientific co-operation between Member States.

Call to revive European solidarity in times of crisis

This strong call for more EU competences and a more robustly coordinated EU response goes hand in hand with the dissatisfaction expressed by a majority of respondents as concerns the solidarity between EU Member States in fighting the Coronavirus pandemic: 57% are unhappy with the **current state of solidarity, including 22% who are ‘not at all’ satisfied. Only a third of respondents (34%)** are satisfied, with the highest returns in Ireland, Denmark, the Netherlands and Portugal. Respondents from Italy, Spain and Greece are among the most dissatisfied, followed by citizens from Austria, Belgium and Sweden.

EU measures taken are known, but considered not enough

Three out of four respondents across all countries surveyed say they have heard, seen or read about EU measures to respond to the Coronavirus pandemic, with a third of respondents (33%) also knowing what these measures are. At the same time around half (52%) of those who know about EU action in this crisis say they are not satisfied with the measures taken so far. Only 42% are satisfied, most of all in Ireland, the Netherlands, Denmark and Finland. The degree of dissatisfaction is highest in Italy, Spain and Greece, and quite high in Austria and Bulgaria.

Six out of ten citizens have experienced personal financial difficulties

A clear majority of respondents (58%) stated in the survey that they have experienced financial difficulties in their own personal life since the start of the Coronavirus pandemic. Such problems include a loss of income (30%), unemployment or partial unemployment (23%), using personal savings sooner than planned (21%), difficulties paying rent, bills or bank loans (14%) as well as difficulties having proper and decent-quality meals (9%). One in ten said that they have to ask family or friends for financial help, while 3% of respondents faced bankruptcy.

Overall, respondents in Hungary, Bulgaria, Greece, Italy and Spain are most likely to have experienced financial problems, while those in Denmark, the Netherlands, Sweden, Finland and Austria are least likely to report problems. Indeed, in the latter countries, more than half of respondents have not experienced any of these financial problems: they are 66% in Denmark, 57% in the Netherlands, 54% in Finland and 53% in Sweden.

The survey was conducted online by Kantar between 23 April and 1 May 2020, among 21,804 respondents in 21 EU Member States (not covered: Lithuania, Estonia, Latvia, Cyprus, Malta and Luxembourg).

The full results of the survey, including national and sociodemographic data tables, will be published by the European Parliament beginning of June 2020.

Les Européens et la crise du Covid 19 : comparaison France / autres pays touchés par l'épidémie

19.05.2020

<https://www.bva-group.com/sondages/europeens-crise-covid-19-comparaison-france-autres-pays-touchees-lepidemie/>

(...) Cette crise aura laissé des traces profondes, notamment en Italie, premier pays d'Europe touché par la crise : si **près d'1 Italien sur 3 estime que « le pire est derrière nous » (28%), un score plus élevé qu'en France (18%) et en Grande-Bretagne (21%)**, il faut toutefois noter que ce résultat s'est considérablement et paradoxalement détérioré depuis la précédente mesure fin mars (-17 points). En effet, avec environ « 10 jours d'avance » sur la France dans la gestion de la crise, 45% des Italiens pensaient alors que le pire était passé tandis que 43% l'attendaient encore. En réalité, aujourd'hui, l'heure ne semble nulle part à l'optimisme. C'est – au mieux – **l'expectative qui domine** : 1 Italien sur 2 pense que les choses vont se stabiliser (51%), tout comme 44% des Britanniques et 32% des Français, qui sont plus nombreux encore à considérer que le pire les attend (38%).

C'est aussi en Italie que le moral est au plus bas, avec une note moyenne de 5,9/10 qui n'a pas évolué depuis plusieurs semaines. En France, le moral est un peu meilleur (note moyenne de 6,5/10) et s'est notamment amélioré depuis le 11 mai. Les Britanniques affichent un moral proche de celui des Français (6,7/10) et le meilleur des 3 pays, peut-être parce que, bien que le confinement n'ait pas été levé, ses conditions y sont plus souples qu'elles ne l'ont été en France et en Italie.

Enfin, et ce alors que le Royaume-Uni est désormais le pays le plus touché par la mortalité liée au Covid-19 en Europe, devant l'Italie et l'Espagne, et même si la confiance accordée au Gouvernement britannique s'est sensiblement érodée au cours des derniers jours (-18 points en une semaine !), près d'1 Britannique sur 2 déclare encore faire confiance au Gouvernement pour gérer la crise (47%) contre 1/3 seulement des Français (34%).

Large survey of British, Belgian and Romanian people carried out by Happy Recruiter uncovers their concerns caused by the Coronavirus crisis

Business Review, 15/05/2020

<https://business-review.eu/business/human-resources/large-survey-of-british-belgian-and-romanian-people-carried-out-by-happy-recruiter-uncovers-their-concerns-caused-by-the-coronavirus-crisis-210435>

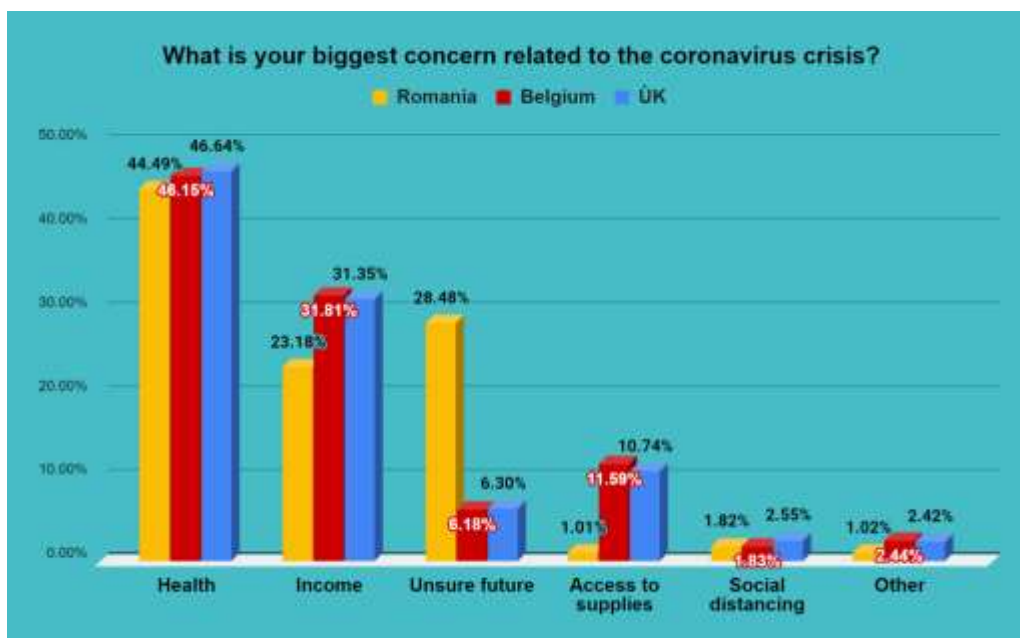
(...) How do employees feel about their circumstances since the Coronavirus lockdown started? Do they fear for their job? Do they feel that their employer is addressing the crisis appropriately? Does uncertainty make them look forward to new work? These and other questions were put to 36.145 people from Belgium, Romania and the United Kingdom in April 2020 by Dora, the Recruitment Robot of the leading Romanian based social recruiting platform, Happy Recruiter, part of House of HR Group. (...)

Most people are worried about health and income

Health concerns arise primarily among respondents from all three countries in which the survey was conducted, the UK, Belgium and Romania.

In the UK, 44% of workers appear to be concerned about health, and no less than 22% are concerned about their income and of the uncertain future (21%).

We asked employees in Belgium the same question and one of the main concerns in this period is: income, coming in second after health related worries. The unsure future is not a major concern for the Belgium respondents, but one of the biggest worries for the Romanian respondents is the unsure future. (...)

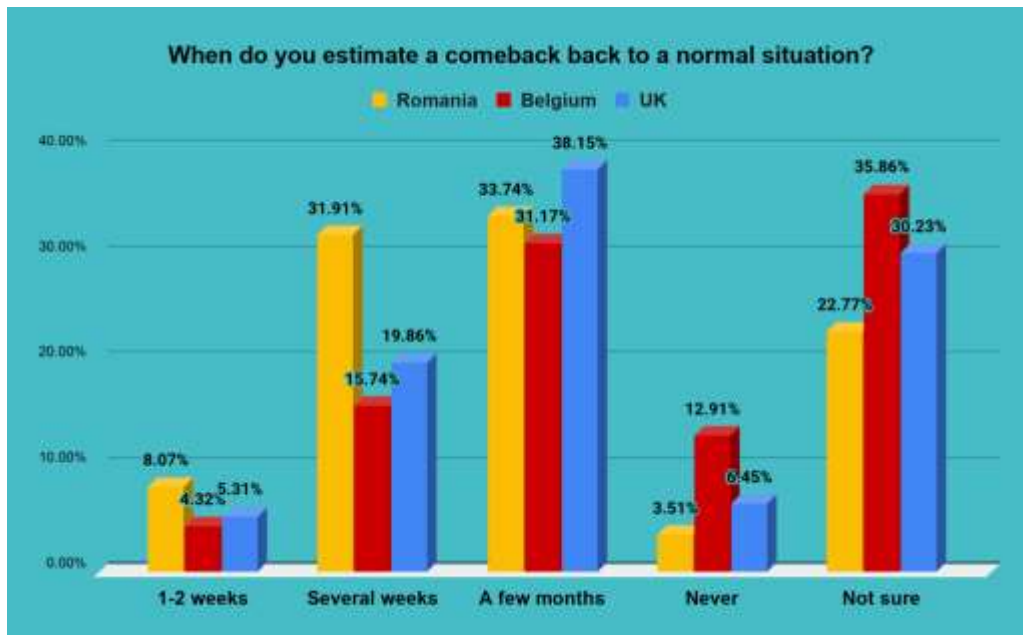


(...) The survey shows Romanians being more optimistic than the Belgian and British people when it comes to a comeback to a 'normal' life

Romanians estimate with optimism that the situation will return to normal a bit more prominent than that of the Belgians. Only 3.51% of all respondents among Romanians estimate that the situation will never return to the 'normal' we know, while 12.91 % of Belgians say that things will never return to normal.

13% of Belgians think life as we're familiar with will never come back, the highest percentage from the three countries, whilst 31% see a potential comeback in a few months. British respondents are also uncertain about a normal life. 63% believe that the economy might return to normal after the Coronavirus crisis, within a few months.

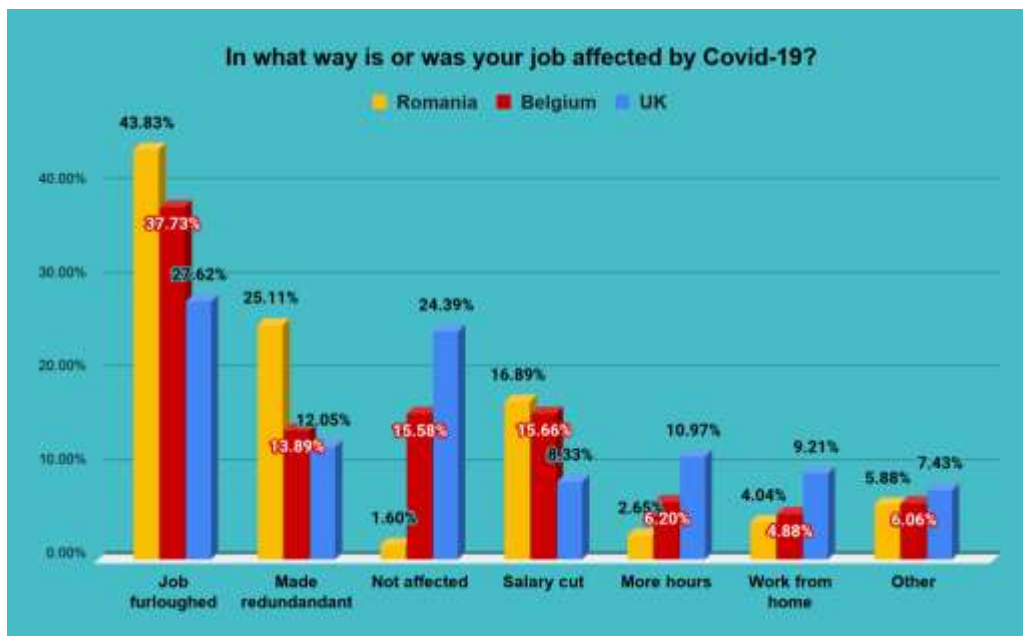
There is definitely an uncertainty of what the future will be, regarding all aspects – job, economy, tourism, education and just how much the current changes will affect us in the long term.



In Belgium 2 out of 5 **people's** jobs affected by Covid-19 are furloughed

37.73% are currently furloughed, 15.66% received salary cuts and 13.89% were left without a job – they were made redundant. People who work from home and those who have an increased workload are 6.36%, respectively 9.83% of respondents.

Most affected by the job furlough measure is Romania, where 43.83% are affected by it. A quarter of Romanians have been fired and nearly 17% got their salaries cut.



Coronavirus crisis makes British employees want to hold on to their job

Although the same uncertainty prevails all over the world, the vast majority of British people, 71%, expect to keep their current job, higher than in other countries surveyed by Dora. Figures do vary between industries. (...). Conversely in Belgium and Romania, the same study showed that 67% are currently looking for a new job, with well under half the workforce expecting to stay in their current employment. (...)

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Austria

ÖGfE Survey: 1 year after the European Elections – Austrians value the European Parliament but have little knowledge about it

OeGfE, 23/05/2020

One year after the 2019 European Elections six out of ten respondents (62 percent) consider the work and tasks of the EU Parliament to be “very important” (20 percent) resp. “important” (42 percent). Around a third (32 percent) disagree (26 percent “rather not important” / 6 percent “not at all important”).* In recent years, a clear majority has always considered the work of the EU Parliament to be important. However, this number has decreased compared to the last survey in May 2015.

Just under three out of ten respondents (29 percent) say that they “very often” (5 percent) or “often” (24 percent) come across news or information about the EU Parliament in the media. However, this does not apply to more than two thirds of Austrians (68 percent) who “rarely” (35 percent) or “very rarely” (33 percent) register EP related news content in the media.* Media attention to the EU Parliament has visibly declined compared to previous ÖGfE surveys.

29 percent feel “very well” (3 percent) or “rather well” (26 percent) informed about the work and tasks of the European Parliament. 68 percent do not feel that way (46 percent “rather badly” / 22 percent “very badly informed”).* Over the years, Austrians’ information level has remained constantly low.

Austrians are divided on the European Parliament’s influence on decisions in the European Union. 43 percent assume that the EU Parliament has “very high” (8 percent) or “rather high” influence (35 percent), 38 percent are sceptical (31 percent “rather low” / 7 percent “very low” influence). 18 percent cannot answer this question.** Compared to a 2018 ÖGfE survey there have been hardly any changes in opinion.

Since the last European elections, Austrians’ interest in “the work and tasks of the EU Parliament” has hardly increased. A tenth of respondents (10 percent) express more interest while a quarter (25 percent) say that their interest has decreased since May 2019. For the majority (57 percent), nothing has changed.* After the 2014 European elections, there was a similar trend in public opinion.

A third of the respondents (32 percent) have “very high” (9 percent) or “rather high” (23 percent) trust in the European Parliament when it comes to coping with the current Corona crisis. 57 percent however are not convinced (35 percent “rather low” / 22 percent “very low trust”) while 12 percent do not answer this question.

The current survey was conducted from 20 to 30 April 2020 by the Sozialwissenschaftliche Studiengesellschaft (SWS) on behalf of ÖGfE (Tel SWS 291). 508 persons were questioned via telephone (Austrian population from the age of 16 / weighted according to gender, age and education). Maximum margin of fluctuation approx. +/- 4,3 percent. *Difference to 100 percent due to rounded values. **Difference to 100 percent due to rounded values.

Source: https://oegfe.at/2020/05/22_survey_ep/

The Coronation of Austria: Part 3: New insights from the Austrian Corona Panel Project

Medium, 16/05/2020

A lot has happened in Austria since we published our last update from the Corona Panel Project, a weekly online survey of a representative sample of the Austrian population. The lockdown has ended, childcare facilities and schools have resumed, and this past Friday (15 May), cafés and restaurants have opened for business as well. A heated public debate has emerged over whether measures for pandemic containment in Austria have been excessive. As Austrians are becoming more mobile after restricting their movements for more than six weeks, some see the threat of a possible second wave of COVID-19 lurking. Others accuse the government of “fear mongering”, and of sacrificing the economy in the process.

► Changing perceptions of risk. Fewer people now consider COVID-19 a public health risk. While at the beginning of the crisis in March 2020, 60% believed that this was the case, this figure has now dropped to just over a quarter. Interestingly, also the economic risks are now seen to be smaller; while 70% believed the economic risks to be high at the beginning of the crisis, this figure is now below 60%.

► Yes, we can? Austria is not known for its great gender equality to start with. But the COVID-19 crisis seems to make matters even worse: Although both female and male parents now spend more time on childcare, there is a stark imbalance in how much more time they now spend on it: Just under half (47%) of all mothers, but less than a third (29%) of all fathers among said that they now spend much more time caring for their children.

► Yay to new taxes... With social and economic inequalities increasing, the majority of Austrians would like to see tax burdens shift towards the rich. There strong support for the introduction of a new wealth tax, and also for an inheritance tax, which Austria does not currently have. About two thirds favour the introduction of a new wealth tax targeting specifically the rich — and almost half would support such a new tax even if it affected a much wider range of people.

[...]

► Our respondents trust media reporting on Corona more than reporting on other topics. International studies have shown that Austrians do not have a lot of trust in public media overall. But 56% of our respondents said they trust what public media tell them about the COVID-19 crisis — which is more than those who trust media reporting on migration (31%), climate issues (44%), and Austrian politics more generally (51%). Self-declared voters of the right-wing Freedom Party have the lowest level of trust in Corona-related media reporting.

[...]

Source: <https://medium.com/@bprainsack/the-coronation-of-austria-part-3-30eb2ca2f03d>

[Study source: <https://viecer.univie.ac.at/coronapanel/>]

Belgium

[Vlaams Belang grootste partij van Vlaanderen in nieuwe peiling](#)

Knack.be, 23/05/20 (*POMU translation*)

If elections were to be organized now, Vlaams Belang might become the largest party in Flanders again. This is evident from 'De Stemming', a study commissioned by VRT NWS and De Standaard, carried out in April.

Vlaams Belang makes a leap forward and is the largest party in Flanders, at 24.5 percent, an increase of 6 percentage points. The party is back at its top level in 2004. The fact that Tom Van Grieken and co remain banned from the government boats and that the 'classic' parties continue to muddle up during the formation process gives Vlaams Belang extra electoral fuel.

The result indicates that the corona crisis has deepened the political contrasts of the past year, VRT NWS and De Standaard report on Saturday. The research was conducted by the VUB and the University of Antwerp.

N-VA is 4.5 percent backwards and now stands at 20.3 percent. In other words, a new electoral surge, after the substantial loss last year. After the nationalist leading group follows a peloton of four classic parties that are more or less matched: CD&V with 11.9 percent (-3.6 percentage point), Open VLD with 11.6 percent (-1.5 percent), Green by 11.1 percent (+1 percentage point) and SP.A by 11 percent (+0.6 percentage point). On the left, the PVDA makes 2.9 percentage points of profit. Peter Mertens and his colleagues are now at 8.2 percent.

N-VA chairman Bart De Wever is by far the most popular politician, his Vlaams Belang colleague is a notable second. After that, Alexander De Croo (Open VLD), Conner Rousseau (SP.A), Peter Mertens (PVDA), Jan Jambon (N-VA), Koen Geens (CD&V), Maggie De Block (Open VLD), Theo Francken (N-VA) and Hilde Crevits (CD&V).

The survey also shows that the Flemish are the most awake of health care and the political crisis. Other important themes such as the Community's problems, migration, environment and climate have faded somewhat.

[A limited solidarity and four tenacious opponents / Une solidarité limitée et quatre opposants tenaces](#)

Le Soir, 20 May 2020

Henrik Enderlein, Director of the Jacques Delors Centre, explains that the French-German plan would entail increasing the European budget to 2% of the EU's GDP for the next three years. The main goal would be to not increase the member states' debts. Mr Enderlein explains that in the past, the EU already indebted itself to help certain member states. He adds that the true financial solidarity remains limited. The frugal four must still be convinced, and MEP Johan Van Overtveldt (ECR, BE) surprisingly also opposes the plan, so far he defended the position of the European Parliament's Budget Committee, which he chairs. MEP Kris Peeters (EPP, BE) denounced that incoherence on Twitter, reminding MEP Van Overtveldt that the European Parliament approved a mix of loans and subsidies for a relaunch plan.

La crise a coûté 1.626€ à chaque ménage belge

La Meuse, 24 May 2020

Soixante-deux pour cent des Belges disent avoir perdu de **l'argent depuis le début de la crise** sanitaire, selon un sondage de Test Achats. Par ménage, la perte s'élève en moyenne à 1.626 euros, a calculé l'organisation de défense des consommateurs. Le premier facteur demeure le salaire. Plus d'un tiers des ménages (35%) indiquent connaître une perte de salaire net.

Coronavirus en Belgique : pas ou peu de perte de revenus pour trois quarts des Belges, selon un sondage

Rtbf.be, 20 mai 2020

Près de trois quarts (74%) des personnes sondées en mai par la Banque nationale de Belgique (BNB) dans le cadre de son enquête mensuelle auprès des consommateurs indiquent ne subir aucune perte de revenu ou une perte inférieure à 10%, en raison de la crise du coronavirus.

Ils sont 13% à parler d'une perte de revenus comprise entre 10 et 30% et 12% à déplorer une perte supérieure à 30%. Ces résultats sont très proches de ceux récoltés en avril.

Les indépendants sont toutefois plus touchés par les pertes de revenus : ils sont 45% à **encourir une perte de revenus excédant 30% et pour plus de la moitié d'entre eux, la perte est même supérieure à 50%**. Les salariés se trouvent dans une situation moins défavorable **puisque 12% d'entre eux perdent au moins 30% de leurs revenus. Les plus préservés, au niveau de leurs revenus, sont les pensionnés et les autres catégories de personnes inactives qui bénéficient de revenus "garantis"**.

La BNB a également demandé aux ménages de combien de temps ceux-ci disposaient d'un coussin d'épargne pour couvrir les dépenses nécessaires (loyer, achats, etc.) pour assurer leur subsistance. Un ménage sur deux (53%) affirme pouvoir tenir pendant plus de six mois, 16% entre trois et six mois, 20% d'un à trois mois et 11% moins d'un mois.

Par rapport à l'enquête d'avril, la proportion des deux groupes de ménages épinglés comme étant les plus vulnérables ou les plus préservés n'a que peu évolué, constate la BNB.

Bulgaria

Gallup International

Gallup International, 20/05/2020 [translation]

<https://www.gallup-international.bg/43323/%d0%b0ttitudes-towards-the-coronavirus-situation/>

In Bulgaria, the reactions toward the coronavirus situation are slowly showing signs of normalization, says Gallup International in its latest survey on the topic. Panic and fears continue to decline. The overall assessment of the measures taken by the authorities in the last two months is positive.

17% of the Bulgarians believe that the coronavirus is deadly dangerous. In March and April, 22-24% said to believe in this statement. 60% of the Bulgarians believe that the coronavirus is dangerous but is still just a strong flu. 20% believe that the coronavirus is not that dangerous, while there are also a small percentage of people who hesitate to answer.

61% of the Bulgarians consider the authorities' measures against the coronavirus to be sufficient, 29% to be excessive and 9% to be insufficient.

The Prime Minister Boyko Borissov has 54% approval and 41% disapproval. The head of the National coronavirus task force Prof. Ventsislav Mutaftchiiski has 70% approval and 26% disapproval.

86% of the Bulgarians believe that Bulgaria is doing relatively well with the epidemic in comparison to other European countries. 75% of the respondents believe that the decision to impose a state of emergency in the country for the last two months was necessary. 21% find it unnecessary.

65% believe that by the end of the year life will return to normal, while 30% are rather skeptical we will return to normal life style soon.

45% of the Bulgarians say that their incomes have decreased as a result of the crisis. 10% say that they have lost their jobs due to the coronavirus crisis. 9% expect to lose their jobs in the months to come, compared to 12-14%, two months ago.

Less people say they work from home now - 19%, compared to 25% in April. 15% say that are working with reduced working hours.

Croatia

[Croatia President Calls Parliamentary Election for July 5](#)

NYT, by Reuters, May 20, 2020

Croatia's President Zoran Milanovic on Wednesday called a parliamentary election for July 5, a statement issued by his office said.

The election will pit the ruling centre-right Croatian Democratic Union (HDZ) against the top opposition Social Democrats (SDP) party, which is trailing slightly in opinion polls. Neither party is expected to win an outright majority, so a coalition government with smaller parties is almost certain.

According to the latest opinion poll, the HDZ has the support of around 30% of voters, while the SDP would get around 28%. The third force is a nationalist and eurosceptic block around the Domovinski Pokret (Homeland Movement) party led by a popular singer, Miroslav Skoro, which is supported by some 10% of voters.

The future government will have an uphill task to spark a recovery in an economy that is expected to shrink 9.4% this year due to the coronavirus pandemic and its strong negative effect on tourism, which accounts for almost 20% of Croatia's output.

[Croatian Parliament Dissolved Ahead of Summer Elections](#)

BalkanInsight, May 18, 2020

[...] Political analyst Davor Gjenero told BIRN that the HDZ wished to hold elections as soon as possible, to capitalize on its relatively successful management of the health crisis. **"It is the right of the ruling majority to seek elections at a time when it is most suitable for the ruling majority,"** Gjenero said.

"It is clear that the economic consequences of the 'corona crisis' will be felt in the last quarter of this year, and will probably be very strong in the first quarter of next year," Gjenero noted. The analyst said the timing of the election was also related to the risk of a possible new wave of coronavirus.

"The epidemiological situation in Croatia is such that we practically have less than ten [daily new] infections and, with all citizens behaving very responsibly, we will have the opportunity to organise the election within the constitutional deadline," Prime Minister and HDZ leader Andrej Plenkovic said last Thursday, after a meeting of the ruling coalition.

Meanwhile, some 20 people, leaders of the left-wing parties We can! Zagreb is ours!, New Left, ORaH, Workers Front and For the City, and their supporters, staged protests in Zagreb on Sunday and Monday, dissatisfied that parliament was being dissolved before a law on the reconstruction of Zagreb following the March 22 earthquake is adopted.

Survey Suggests 40 Percent of Croats Will Skip Coronavirus Vaccine

Total Croatia News 24 May 2020

Croatians may take a pass on a coronavirus vaccine, according to a survey conducted by HRT. The poll of 1,400 respondents also showed **a vast majority want the nation's borders wide-open**.

The figures two months after Croatian authorities fought back a potential COVID-19 outbreak with stringent measures, including travel restrictions and curtailing business hours.

The survey include several other questions:

Are you afraid of the crown (COVID-19)?

- 9 percent of respondents said they were very scared.
- 18.4 percent of respondents are afraid but much less than at the beginning of the epidemic.
- 43.9 percent are not afraid but cautious.
- 28.4 percent said that they are not afraid at all.
- 0.3 percent of respondents said they did not know or could not make a decision.

Scientists around the world are in an accelerated search for a vaccine against the COVID-19 virus, and respondents answered the question of what they would do after the discovery and scientific testing of the vaccine.

Do you intend to get vaccinated?

- 47.3 percent said for sure or probably.
- 41.2 percent of the respondents likely no or definitely will not be vaccinated.
- 11.5 percent do not know or cannot decide.

The final question addressed the primary means of restarting Croatia's tourism season: opening up the country.

Should Croatia open its state borders before the tourist season?

Yes, as many as 80 percent of respondents think without or with limitations. 15.2 percent did not answer, and 4.8 percent did not know or could not decide.

Cyprus

Poll commissioned by Politis - published on 18/05/2020

Source: <https://politis.com.cy/politis-news/kypros/yper-epistrofis-teleiofoiton-oi-polites-empisteyontai-mono-eidikoyis-gia-pandimia/> EPL0 Translation

<p>Published: 18 May 2020 Source: Politis Newspaper Institute: Retail Zoom Methodology: Online Questionnaire - send via emails and social media to newspaper's subscribers Sample & Method: 2.155- online survey Fieldwork: 13-14 May 2020</p>		
	QUESTION	ANSWERS
1	To what extent do you agree or disagree with the decision of the Government concerning the opening of schools only for third class of high school?	I Agree: 75% I disagree: 20% I don't have an opinion: 5%
2	To what extent do you agree or disagree with the decision of the Ministry of Education for students who are not going to school to tele-attend the lessons via a camera that will be installed in the classroom?	I Agree: 63% I disagree: 31% I don't have an opinion: 6%
3	Which do you think is the motivation of teachers who disagree with the complete restart of schools?	They disagree on child safety reasons: 28% They disagree because there is no proper technological infrastructure: 18% They disagree because some people have nowhere to leave their children: 6% They disagree because many of them want to continue not to work: 40% I don't know: 8%
4	Which of the following do you trust more to advise you on the pandemic?	Government: 9% Scientific team of epidemiologists: 77% None at all: 13% I don't know: 1%
5	Are you satisfied with the way the scientific team of the Ministry of Health functioned during the pandemic?	Deeply: 77% A little bit: 19% Not at all: 4%
6	Do you think that the Health System of Cyprus proved to be ready to deal with the pandemic?	Yes 42% No 52% I don't know 6%
7	During the quarantine, which TV station do you choose mainly for your information?	Sigma 12% ANT1 6% Alpha 14% Omega 11%

		PIK1 21% CNN 1% BBC 2% SKY NEWS 1% Deutsche Welle 0% Euronews 4% ERT 4% Other 7% I don't watch TV 10%
8	Which radio stations did you listen to yesterday?	Which radio stations did you listen to yesterday? RIK Proto 6% RIK Tritto 19% RIK Tetarto 2% Kanali 6 11% Radio Proto 6% Astra 12% Politis 107,6 FM 12% ANT1 6% Active 2% Love Radio 7% Click FM 4% Sfera 5% Super FM 5% Other 14% I don't listen to radio 15% I didn't listen to radio yesterday 14%
9	Among the morning radio news shows in Cyprus, which journalists do you prefer for being informed?	E.Vretou / P.Spontas - RIK Tritto 20% Lazaros Mavros - Radio Proto 6% Elpis Georgiou - Astra 11% Katerina Iliadi - Politis 107.6 FM 9% Papaevagorou Michalis - Kanali 6 9% Other 11% I don't listen to radio 32%
10	I am informed mainly by the following online media...	Newspaper sites 64% Channel sites 11% Other independent sites 13% Social media posts on social media 7% Other 3% I am not informed online 2%

Poll commissioned by Politis - published on 17/05/2020

Source: <https://politis.com.cy/politis-news/kypros/dimoskopisi-p-kyriarchia-disy-akel-xemytise-o-m-karogian/> EPLO Translation

Published: 17 May 2020

Source: Politis Newspaper

Institute: Retail Zoom

Methodology: Online Questionnaire - *send via emails and social media to newspaper's subscribers*

Sample & Method: 2.155- online survey

Fieldwork: 13-14 May 2020

	QUESTION	ANSWERS
1	To what extent do you agree or disagree with the measures taken by the Government of Cyprus against Covid19?	Strongly Agree: 34% Agree: 39% Neither agree nor disagree: 14% Strongly disagree: 9% Disagree: 4%
2	Do you believe that the easing of measures, which are applied from 4th May will assist the restart of economy?	Yes: 70% No: 19% I don't know: 11%
3	Three months after spreading of pandemic, what do you think is a priority today?	The protection of health: 60% The restart of economy: 39% I don't know: 1%
4	Many other countries have put an end to their football championships. What do you think that it needs to be done in Cyprus?	To go back to austerity of measures have taken in March: 46% To limit messages concerning the movement of citizens: 40% I don't know: 14%
5	I believe that the Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs that dealt with undertook the repatriation of our students...	They have succeeded: 52% They haven't probably succeeded: 34% I don't know: 14%
6	When do you believe that the airports should be opened?	Immediately: 8% At the beginning of June: 27% At the beginning of July: 32% In the summer: 25% I don't know: 8%
7	When do you think the checkpoints should be opened?	Immediately 19% When the airports open 42% Never 34% I don't know 5%
8	Under what conditions do you think Cyprus could receive tourists in summer?	Everyone should have a Corona virus test before boarding 66% Have a immunity certificate 9% To enter a short quarantine 5% Not to receive tourists this year 11% I don't know 9%
9	In this difficult period of the pandemic, how do you think the Cypriot government has dealt with the Turkish Cypriot community?	As part of the Republic of Cyprus and we are interested in 44% As a community that lives next to us and we are not interested in 40% I don't know 16%
10	After the pandemic, I believe that the solution to the Cyprus problem is...	Closer to 12% Farther 52% I don't care 10% I don't know 26%
11	Which party would you vote for if the parliamentary elections were held this Sunday?	AKEL 23% EDEK 1% DIKO 4% DIPA 6%

		DISY 33% ELAM 4% Ecologists 4% Alliance 1% Solidarity movement 2% None 15% I will not vote 7%
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Czech Republic

Half of self-employed people lost all income due to coronavirus

Source: Survey conducted in May by Reservio, <https://www.euro.cz/byznys/polovina-zivnostniku-prisla-kvuli-koronaviru-o-veskere-prijmy-uvadi-pruzkum>

Half of the entrepreneurs lost almost all their income due to measures against the spread of coronavirus and cannot pay rent. One-fifth said they had to lay off or restrict cooperation.

According to the survey, 56 percent of self-employed people received money from the program of the Ministry of Finance, while respondents were significantly less successful in other programs.

(...) According to a survey despite of government regulations 42 percent of people did business with some restrictions, while two-fifths could not do business. At the same time, almost 70 percent of respondents had a financial reserve for two or more months at the beginning of the epidemic. A fifth had a reserve for a month and 12 percent had no money in reserve.

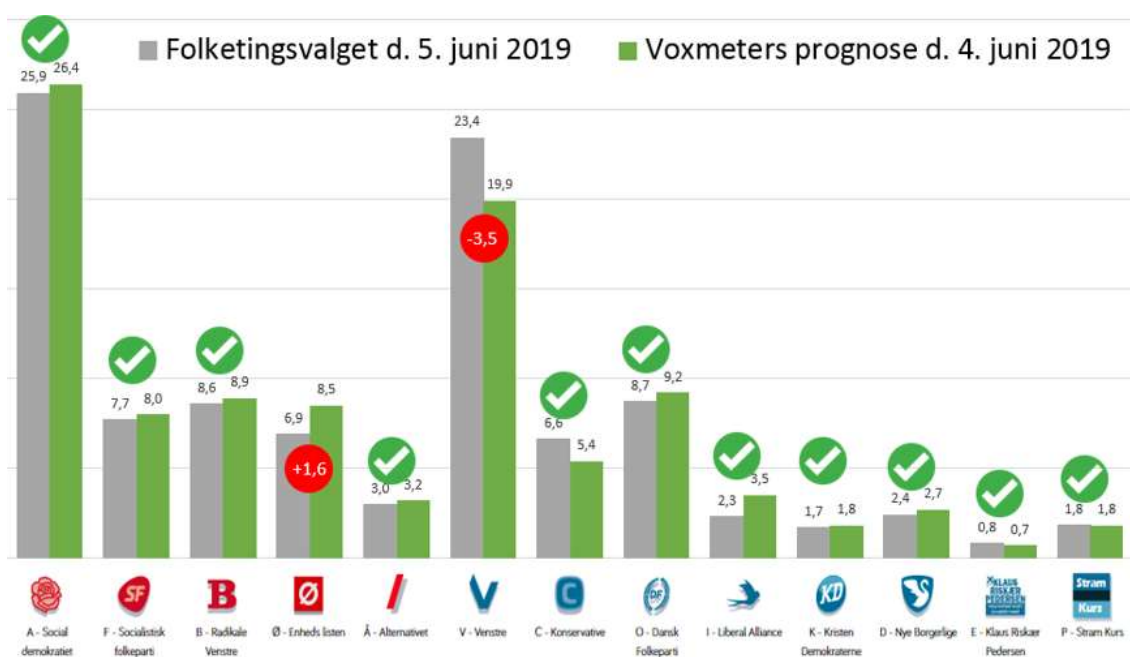
Looking to the future entrepreneurs are optimistic, two thirds of them do not expect existential difficulties. About a quarter of entrepreneurs have expressed concern about entrepreneurship, and eight percent are still waiting to see how the crisis will affect their business.

Denmark

Voxmeter poll: a new record for the Social Democrats (20-point lead)

25/05/2020 <https://voxmeter.dk/meningsmalinger/>

Voxmeter	Seneste måling 25.05.2020	Forrige måling 18.05.2020	1 måned siden 27.04.2019	Valget 05.06.2019	Valget Mandater	Mandater (estimeret)	Statistik usikkerhed
A – Socialdemokratiet	35,6 (+9,9)	34,7 (+8,8)	35,0 (+9,7)	25,9	48	65	+/- 2,9
B – Det Radikale Venstre	7,9 (-0,7)	7,5 (-1,1)	7,7 (-0,9)	8,0	16	14	+/- 1,6
C – Det Konservative Folkeparti	7,1 (+0,5)	6,6 (+0,2)	6,6 (+0,0)	6,6	12	13	+/- 1,6
D – Nye Borgerlige	2,3 (-0,1)	2,1 (-0,3)	1,6 (-0,8)	2,4	4	4	+/- 0,9
F – Socialistisk Folkeparti	7,8 (+0,1)	7,2 (-0,5)	6,9 (-0,8)	7,7	14	14	+/- 1,6
I – Liberal Alliance	2,3 (+0,0)	1,7 (-0,6)	1,9 (-0,4)	2,3	4	4	+/- 0,9
O – Dansk Folkeparti	6,4 (-2,3)	7,2 (-1,5)	7,2 (-1,5)	8,7	16	12	+/- 1,5
V – Venstre	19,1 (-4,3)	20,4 (-3,0)	20,9 (-2,5)	23,4	43	35	+/- 2,4
Ø – Enhedslisten	7,8 (+0,9)	8,0 (+1,1)	7,1 (+0,2)	6,9	13	14	+/- 1,6
Å – Alternativet	0,9 (-2,1)	0,9 (-2,1)	0,5 (-2,5)	3,0	5	0	+/- 0,6
E – Borgerlisten	0,3 (-0,5)	0,5 (-0,3)	1,1 (+0,3)	0,0	0	0	+/- 0,3
P – Stram Kurs	1,0 (-0,8)	1,6 (-0,2)	1,4 (-0,4)	1,8	0	0	+/- 0,6
Øvrige	1,3 (+1,3)	1,4 (+1,4)	1,5 (+1,5)	0,0	0	0	+/- 0,7
Red blok (A, B, F, Ø, Å)	60,2 (+8,1)	58,3 (+6,2)	57,0 (+5,7)	52,1	96	107	+/- 3,0
Blå blok (C, D, I, O, V, E, P)	38,5 (-9,2)	40,3 (-7,4)	40,7 (-7,0)	47,7	79	68	+/- 3,0



Fieldwork 18-25/05/2020, sample 1.027 respondents.

Estonia

Survey: Estonian residents satisfied with handling of coronavirus crisis
EER, 23/05/2020, <https://news.err.ee/1093595/survey-estonian-residents-satisfied-with-handling-of-coronavirus-crisis>

Compared with other countries, 87 percent of Estonian residents are satisfied with the way the coronavirus-related crisis has been resolved in Estonia, it appears from the results of a survey commissioned by the Government Office and conducted by Turu-uuringute AS.

Respondents generally satisfied with the resolving of the crisis include 33 percent who indicated they are very satisfied with how the crisis has been resolved and 54 percent who are rather satisfied with it. 7 percent of respondents, meanwhile, are rather not satisfied and 3 percent absolutely not satisfied with the way the crisis has been handled.

The population segment most satisfied with the way the crisis has been handled is older residents; satisfaction is also higher than average among ethnic Estonians and residents of Southern Estonia.

Commenting on the results of the survey, Turu-uuringute AS CEO Tõnis Stamborg said that against the backdrop of the easing of crisis measures, most people were of the opinion that the management of the crisis to date along with all of the restrictions implemented has been appropriate and right. Belief that by observing rules and sticking together everyone can get through the crisis successfully as a state is high.

94 percent of respondents consider themselves to be informed about currently valid measures, including 57 percent who indicated that they are well informed and follow all related news and 37 percent who have a certain unclarity about it. 1 percent of respondents indicated that they are not at all informed about valid restrictions.

The relaxation of restrictions has brought with it a significant increase in support for the measures in force in Estonia, as 64 percent of residents are satisfied with them now. 15 percent of residents believe that these measures should be toughened, and 18 percent find that they should be eased.

People's diligence in adhering to instructions issued for the prevention of the spread of the virus continues to decrease, with 56 percent of residents now observing all official guidelines for the containment of the virus, compared with 70 percent of residents three weeks ago.

Women and the elderly are more diligent observing the guidelines than other population groups.

Of respondents, 60 percent believe that the acute crisis is over, but one should nevertheless remain on guard, while 28 percent believe that the situation is still critical and are afraid of renewed spread of the virus. 3 percent of respondents believe that the worst is over and people can again return to their daily routines, and 8 percent think that the situation has never been critical and there has been an overreaction. The latter position is held more often than average by men and people of ethnic backgrounds other than Estonian.

53 percent of respondents believe that their family will receive help for economic coping if necessary, which is a higher percentage than in previous surveys.

Turu-uuringute AS surveyed a total of 2,035 Estonian residents aged 15 and up by phone and online. This was the tenth weekly survey conducted as commissioned by the Government Office.

Finland

[Yle poll: Corona crisis has unified Finland](#)

24/05/2020

A social scientist warns that the feeling of cohesion may dissipate quickly if crisis measures are seen as unequal.

The corona crisis has harmed Finnish society, but also brought more unity and strength, according to respondents to an Yle survey. The Taloustutkimus poll was carried out in mid-May and published on Sunday.

Some 98 percent of respondents said they believe the Covid-19 pandemic has damaged Finnish society. Nearly half described the level of damage as high or extremely high. However a plurality of respondents, 39 percent, said they do not expect the crisis to have any major long-term impact on society. Nearly as many, **36 percent, said that Finland's people will be "stronger together"** after the pandemic, while 19 percent expect the nation to be weaker and more fragmented. (...)

France

Suivi de la crise du coronavirus et de l'action gouvernementale – vague 15

<https://www.ifop.com/publication/suivi-de-la-crise-du-coronavirus-et-de-l-action-gouvernementale-vague-15/>

Cette nouvelle Balise d'Opinion Ifop-Fiducial pour CNews et Sud Radio s'intéresse à l'épidémie de coronavirus en France et à l'action gouvernementale pour y faire face et révèle les enseignements suivants :

Le regard des Français sur l'avenir semble plus positif après ce début de déconfinement. En effet, 38% se disent optimistes, une augmentation de 9 points depuis début mai.

La confiance des Français dans le gouvernement pour mener à bien le déconfinement qui a commencé le 11 mai est également en augmentation, bien que toujours minoritaire : 44% ont confiance (+4 points en une semaine).

Enfin, la tenue du second tour des municipales à la fin du mois de juin divise l'opinion : 51% des Français y sont favorables. Une proportion plus faible dans les régions les plus touchées par le coronavirus : 45% en région parisienne, 44% dans le nord-est de la France.

Selon un sondage, la popularité de Macron est en baisse, celle de Philippe est en hausse

<https://www.europe1.fr/politique/selon-un-sondage-la-popularite-de-macron-est-en-baisse-celle-de-philippe-est-en-hausse-3970305>

Selon un sondage Ifop publié dans le "Journal du dimanche", la cote de popularité d'Emmanuel Macron serait en baisse, après trois mois de crise sanitaire. Seuls quatre Français sur dix se disent satisfaits du Chef de l'État. Le Premier ministre recueille quant à lui 46 % d'avis favorables.

La cote de popularité d'Emmanuel Macron est en baisse de trois points sur un mois et celle d'Edouard Philippe en hausse de deux points, selon une étude Ifop à paraître dans le *JDD*, réalisée après le début du déconfinement. 39 % des Français se disent satisfaits du président de la République (34 % "plutôt satisfaits", 5 % "très satisfaits"), contre 42 % fin avril. 60 % des Français se disent "mécontents" (31 % "plutôt mécontents", 29 % "très mécontents") d'Emmanuel Macron comme président de la République contre 57 % fin avril (+3 %).

Six Français sur dix se disent "mécontents" d'Emmanuel Macron. La cote de popularité du chef de l'État avait enregistré un bond de 11 points fin mars (43 % de satisfaits), conséquence probable de la crise du coronavirus. Le Premier ministre recueille quant à lui 46 % d'avis favorables (38 % de "plutôt satisfaits", 8 % de "très satisfaits"), contre 44 % il y a un mois. Sa cote de popularité maintient la tendance ascendante observée depuis le début de l'épidémie. 52 % des Français se disent "mécontents" (31 % "plutôt mécontents", 21 % "très mécontents") d'Edouard Philippe comme Premier ministre (-2%).

SONDAGE BFMTV: 55% des Français défavorables à un second tour des municipales en juin
<https://elabe.fr/coronavirus-vague14/>

Jugement sévère de la gestion de crise. Sur une thématique politique également, 66% des personnes interrogées pour les besoins de l'enquête d'opinion ont indiqué estimer que la crise sanitaire liée à la pandémie de Covid-19 avait été mal gérée par l'exécutif, jugeant que des problèmes auraient pu être évités.

33% répondent *a contrario* que "la crise a été gérée du mieux possible étant donné les circonstances". Dans le détail, 37% des sondés pensent qu'[Emmanuel Macron](#) a été à la hauteur de la situation pendant la crise sanitaire. Le président de la République est ainsi devancé par son Premier ministre: les personnes interrogées à l'égard d'[Edouard Philippe](#) sont 48% à l'avoir jugé à la hauteur. Philippe plus populaire que Macron. Outre les interrogations à l'égard de l'action d'Emmanuel Macron et Edouard Philippe pendant la crise, l'opinion plus générale au sujet des deux hommes semble plus favorable au Premier ministre qu'au chef de l'Etat.

Au sein du panel de personnes interrogées par Elabe, 50% des personnes jugent Edouard Philippe "sympathique" contre 41% pour Emmanuel Macron. 58% estiment le Premier ministre "courageux", contre 50% pour le chef de l'Etat.

Baromètre Covid-19 : les Français de plus en plus méfiants à l'égard de l'information qui leur est donnée sur le coronavirus

<https://www.ipsos.com/fr-fr/barometre-covid-19-les-francais-de-plus-en-plus-mefiants-legard-de-linformation-qui-leur-est-donnee>

Dans la hiérarchie des inquiétudes des Français, la peur à l'égard de l'épidémie reste en première place mais connaît une baisse très importante (65%, -9 pts en une semaine, son plus bas niveau jamais atteint). A l'inverse, les craintes socio-économiques progressent, comme le pouvoir d'achat (35%, +1 pt) qui les préoccupe désormais presque autant que l'état du système de santé (36%, -1 pt) ou encore les inégalités sociales (27%, +4 pts).

Les Français doutent de l'information qui leur est donnée, d'où qu'elle vienne. L'épidémie du coronavirus et ses ratés en termes d'information et de communication, sont venus en partie aggraver le phénomène. **Le gouvernement est l'acteur dans lequel les Français ont le moins confiance pour ce qui est de l'information** délivrée sur le coronavirus (avec une note moyenne de 4/10), assez loin derrière les élus locaux envers lesquels les interviewés expriment un niveau de confiance relativement médiocre (5,1/10). Les médias qui subissent aussi ce mouvement de défiance depuis un certain nombre d'années ne s'en sortent pas beaucoup mieux (4,1/10) mais mieux que les réseaux sociaux (2,7/10).

Observatoire de la politique nationale BVA-Orange-RTL : mai 2020

<https://www.bva-group.com/sondages/observatoire-de-politique-nationale-bva-orange-rtl-mai-2020/>

La cote de popularité d'Edouard Philippe progresse nettement (46%; +5), loin devant celle d'**Emmanuel Macron** (37%; -1). La cote de popularité d'Edouard Philippe atteint son plus haut niveau depuis février 2018, avec un écart de 9 points par rapport à celle d'Emmanuel Macron.

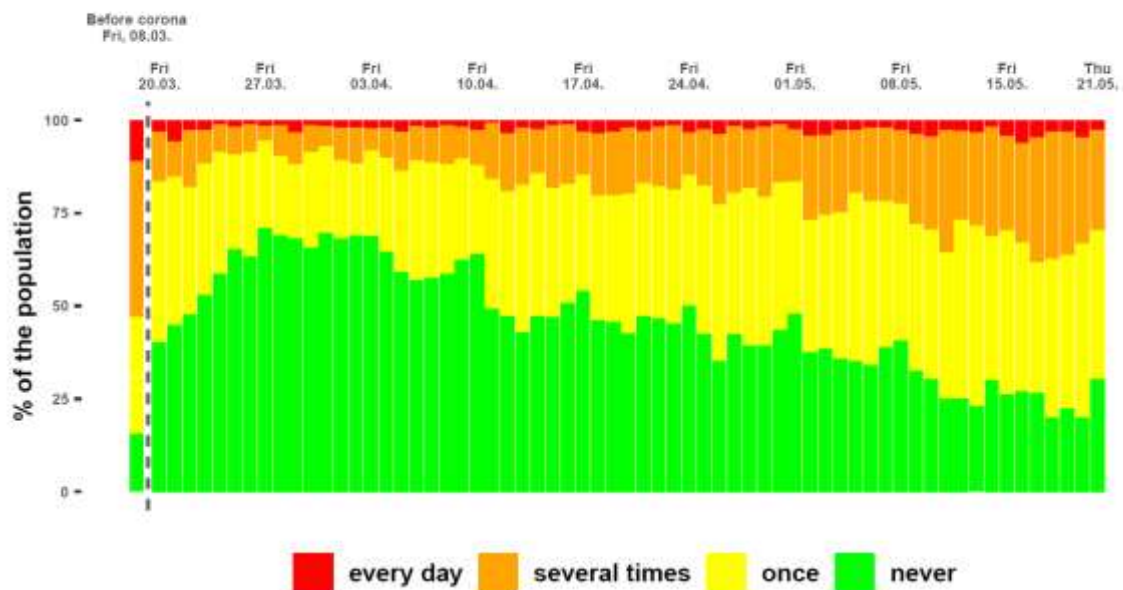
Second tour des municipales : seule une minorité de Français souhaite que le second tour ait lieu en juin seuls 27% souhaiteraient que le second tour ait lieu en juin, tandis que 47% préféreraient qu'il se tienne en septembre ; ils sont même 25% à privilégier un report plus tardif, en mars 2021.

Germany

The Mannheim Corona Study: Life in Germany in a State of Emergency
Mannheimer Corona Studie, 22/05/2020 [in DE, POMU translation]

[...]

Figure 1: Frequency of social meetings with friends, relatives or work colleagues per week

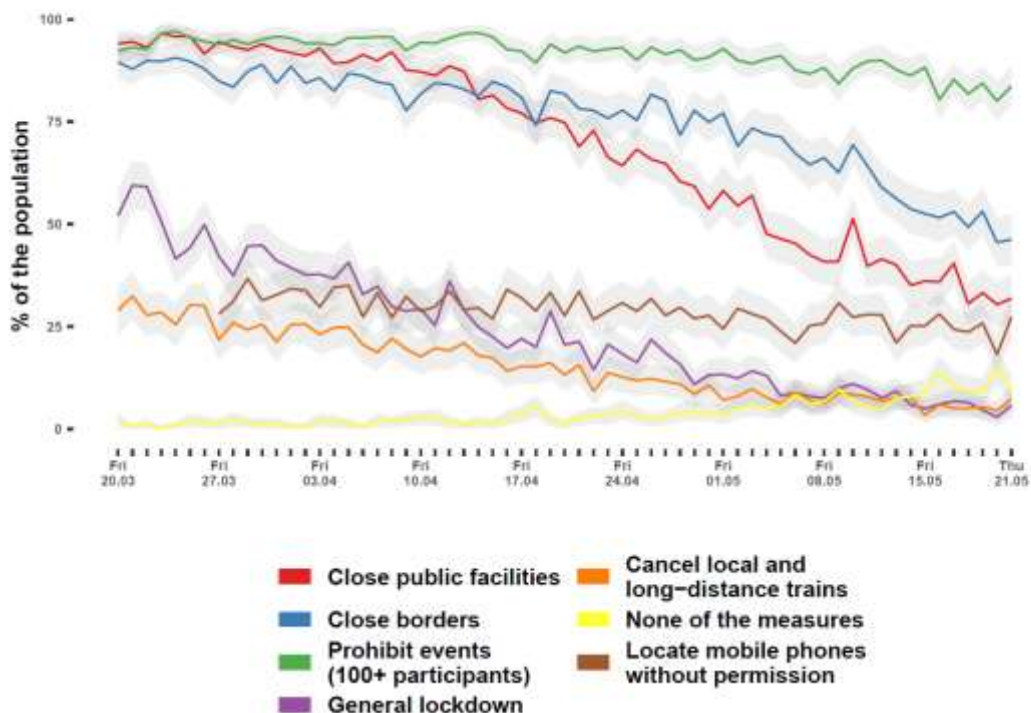


There are different views on the most effective way to decelerate the spread of the coronavirus. There are also different views about which measures are appropriate in the current situation. Undisputed is the fact, however, that the social acceptance of these measures is essential for their successful implementation, especially over the long term. Therefore, the Mannheim Corona Study also examines which measures are considered appropriate by the population in Germany, and how the social acceptance develops over time. [...]

The acceptance of the measures on May 21, 2020:

Measures	Share	Confidence interval
Prohibit events	83.7%	[79.1%; 88.3%]
Close public facilities	31.9%	[26.1%; 37.7%]
Close borders	46.3%	[40.1%; 52.4%]
General lockdown	5.8%	[2.9%; 8.7%]
Cancel local and long-distance trains	7.3%	[4.1%; 10.5%]
Locate mobile phones without permission	27.4%	[21.8%; 32.9%]
None of the measures	9.6%	[5.9%; 13.2%]

Figure 2: Proportion of the population that endorses certain measures on the day of the survey



[...]

Source: <https://www.uni-mannheim.de/en/gip/corona-study/>

Survey of the University of Freiburg shows high approval for corona measures

Badische Zeitung, 20/05/2020 [POMU translation]

The restrictions on public life imposed in Germany in the fight against the coronavirus find approval among a majority of the population. This is shown in a survey carried out by the University of Freiburg and others. 60.6 per cent of those questioned thought that these rules were suitable for dealing with the health consequences of the epidemic.

Another 17.1 percent said that the measures were "partly" suitable. Taken together, this was a "high level of acceptance" for the government decisions, Uwe Wagschal told the BZ. The political scientist from the University of Freiburg conducted the survey with colleagues from Stuttgart and Munich. According to the survey, 22 percent of those questioned did not consider the corona rules to be suitable.

The respondents were more sceptical about the economic consequences of the crisis and the aid programmes with which these are to be cushioned. 34.4 percent considered the aid programs to be suitable, 32.9 percent partly suitable and 32.7 percent not suitable. Accordingly, the majority of people do not feel personally affected by the economic crisis: 57.4 percent of those surveyed stated that their own financial situation had not changed. However, 32.6 percent stated that their financial situation had worsened, while ten percent said it had improved.

[...]

The acceptance of individual decisions was also questioned. Border closures were considered correct by 69.4 percent, the closure of kindergartens and schools 66, and contact restrictions outside the own household 64 percent. There was little support for the idea of emergency legislation without parliamentary control. "When it came to democratic rights, those questioned were very sensitive," said Uwe Wagschal.

Source: <https://www.badische-zeitung.de/umfrage-der-uni-freiburg-zeigt-hohe-zustimmung-zu-corona-regeln--185761154.html>

The Germans are moving away from globalisation

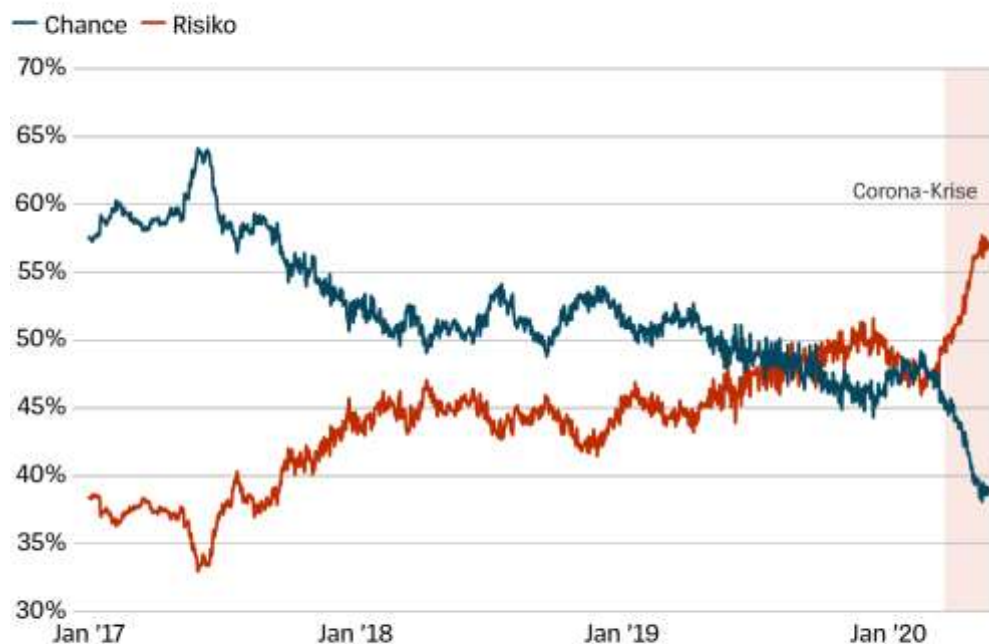
Spiegel, 20/05/2020 [in DE, POMU translation]

Around one in four jobs in Germany depends on foreign trade. The strength of the domestic economy in the export business has long also shaped the relationship of citizens to globalisation: For a relatively broad majority, free trade and freedom of travel were rather positive factors and not a cause for great concern.

However, the majority relationships have slipped, they have turned into the opposite: in a recent SPIEGEL survey, only 38.3 percent of those surveyed say they view globalization more as an opportunity, while 57.7 percent perceive it as a risk. By comparison, in May 2017 63.5 percent of those surveyed saw globalization as an opportunity, while only 36.5 percent described it as risky.

Die Globalisierung ist ...

Antworten aller Befragten in Prozent



Dauerhafte repräsentative Erhebung vom 1.1.2017 bis zum 15.5.2020 unter jeweils zwischen 3039 und 5109 Befragten; Befragungszeitraum jeweils vergangene 3 Monate

[...]

Source: <https://www.spiegel.de/wirtschaft/corona-umfrage-deutschland-wendet-sich-von-der-globalisierung-ab-a-7926d9ce-d749-4563-90dd-b40a468dd019>

Amid coronavirus crisis, Americans and Germans see changing world in different ways

Pew Research, 18/05/2020

As the coronavirus pandemic continues apace, people in the United States and Germany express different views about international relations and globalization, according to surveys conducted in both nations in April.

Compared with previous years, Germans are increasingly negative about their relationship with the U.S., even as both Americans and Germans expect international relations to change after the pandemic. Meanwhile, Germans are more comfortable than Americans with globalization and its effects.

The surveys are the latest in a series of polls conducted under a partnership between Pew Research Center in the U.S. and Körber-Stiftung in Germany. Below are five takeaways from the new surveys.

In 2019, about twice as many Germans prioritized their country's relationship with the U.S. over China (50% vs. 24%). Since then, however, the share of Germans who say it is more important for their country to have a close relationship with the U.S. has fallen 13 percentage points, while the share who prioritize a close relationship with China has gone up by 12 points. Today, 37% of Germans say they prioritize their country's relationship with the U.S. while a nearly equivalent share (36%) prioritize relations with China.

Germans now equally divided on whether close relationship with U.S. or China is more important

% who say it is more important for their country to have a close relationship to ...



Note: "Don't know" and "neither" volunteered categories not shown.

Source: Pew Research Center survey conducted in the U.S. April 21-26, 2020. Q2. German results from Körber-Stiftung survey conducted April 3-9, 2020.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

[...]

Source: <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2020/05/18/amid-coronavirus-crisis-americans-and-germans-see-changing-world-in-different-ways/>

Greece

MRB Poll for Star TV, 19.5

Source: [https://www.protothema.gr/files/2020-05-](https://www.protothema.gr/files/2020-05-19/%CE%97%CE%95%CF%81%CE%B5%CF%85%CE%BD%CE%B1%CF%84%CE%BF%CF%85%Star%2019%205%2020.pdf)

[19/%CE%97%CE%95%CF%81%CE%B5%CF%85%CE%BD%CE%B1%CF%84%CE%BF%CF%85%Star%2019%205%2020.pdf](https://www.protothema.gr/files/2020-05-19/%CE%97%CE%95%CF%81%CE%B5%CF%85%CE%BD%CE%B1%CF%84%CE%BF%CF%85%Star%2019%205%2020.pdf)

EPLO Translation

Summary of key results :

- **What worries you for 'the day after'**
 - Overall situation of the economy: Very much 49.6%; Much: 32.6%; A little bit/Not at all: 16.7%
 - Your own employment: Very much 42.9%; Much: 28.3%; A little bit/ not at all 24.6%
- Do you agree with secondary education schools having reopened on 18.5?
 - Certainly 29.5% ; Rather 27.7% ; Rather disagree 17.1% ; Certainly disagree 19.6%
- Do you agree with primary education schools reopening on 1.6?
 - Certainly 13.7% ; Rather 14% ; Rather disagree 18% ; Certainly disagree 48.8%
- When would you like general elections to take place?
 - Immediately 7.7%; In September 7.9%; within a couple of years 16.6%; at the end of the government term, in 4 years: 59.7%
- When do you expect general elections to take place?
 - Immediately 5.9%; In September 19.6%; within a couple of years 22.3%; at the end of the government term, in 4 years: 32.1%
- Voting intention:
 - ND (EPP) 40%
 - Syriza (GUE) 20.3%
 - KINAL (SD) 5%
 - KKE (NI) 4.3%
 - Elliniki Lysi (ECR) 3.9%
 - Mera25 (Varoufakis) 3%
 - Others 4%

Hungary

During the time of the coronavirus, Fidesz is much stronger on Facebook than the opposition parties – **Media Viewer Center, Nézőpont Institute**

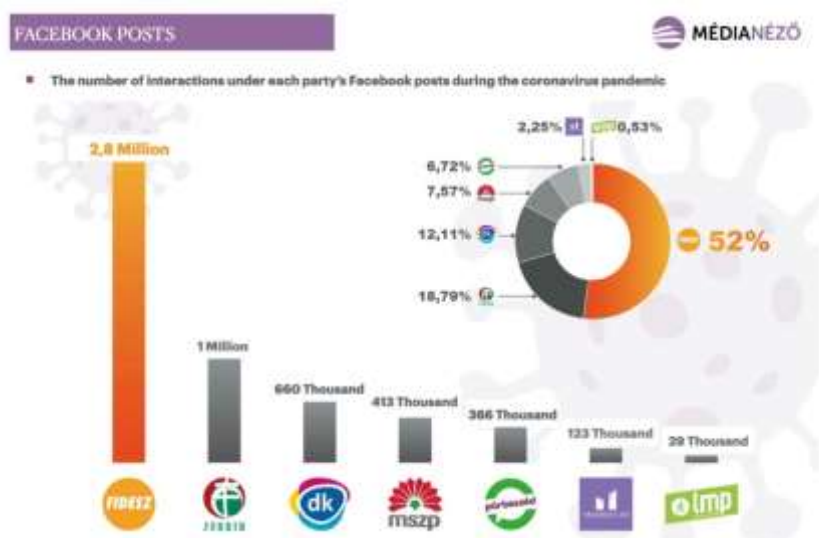
<https://nezopontintezet.hu/2020/05/10/medianezo-kozpont-elemzese-a-koronavirus-idejen-a-fidesz-sokkal-jobb-a-facebookon-mint-az-osszesített-ellenzek/>

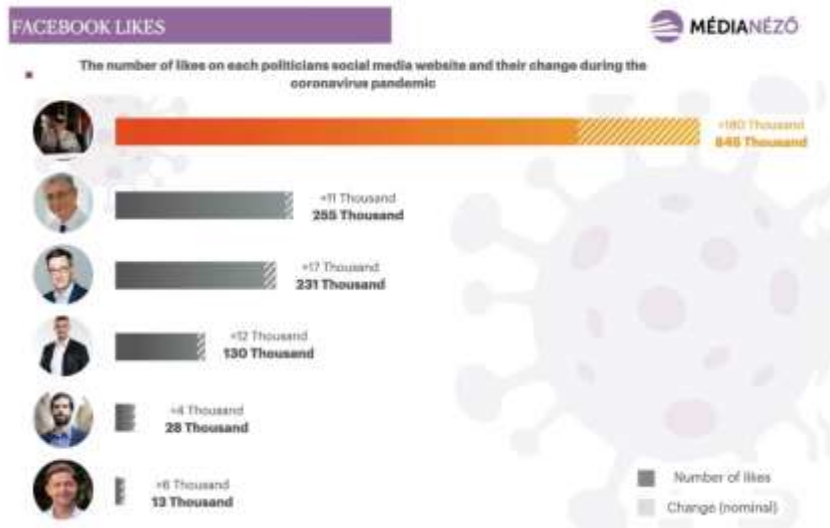
Nézőpont Institute's Media Viewer Center examined the number of interactions under different **Hungarian political parties' social media websites** and the number of likes on different politicians Facebook pages, with the help of socialbakers.com and Facebook Ad Library between March 04 and May 04.

- The forced digitalisation of the epidemic situation has significantly increased internet data traffic, net-based communication and affected interaction with parties. (...). Message competition between opposition parties does not necessarily reflect opinion polls: based on the interactions, Jobbik is the best opposition party (19%), followed by the DK (12%), followed by the MSZP and Dialogue (7.5% and 7%), while Momentum and LMP close the line (2 and 0.5%, respectively).

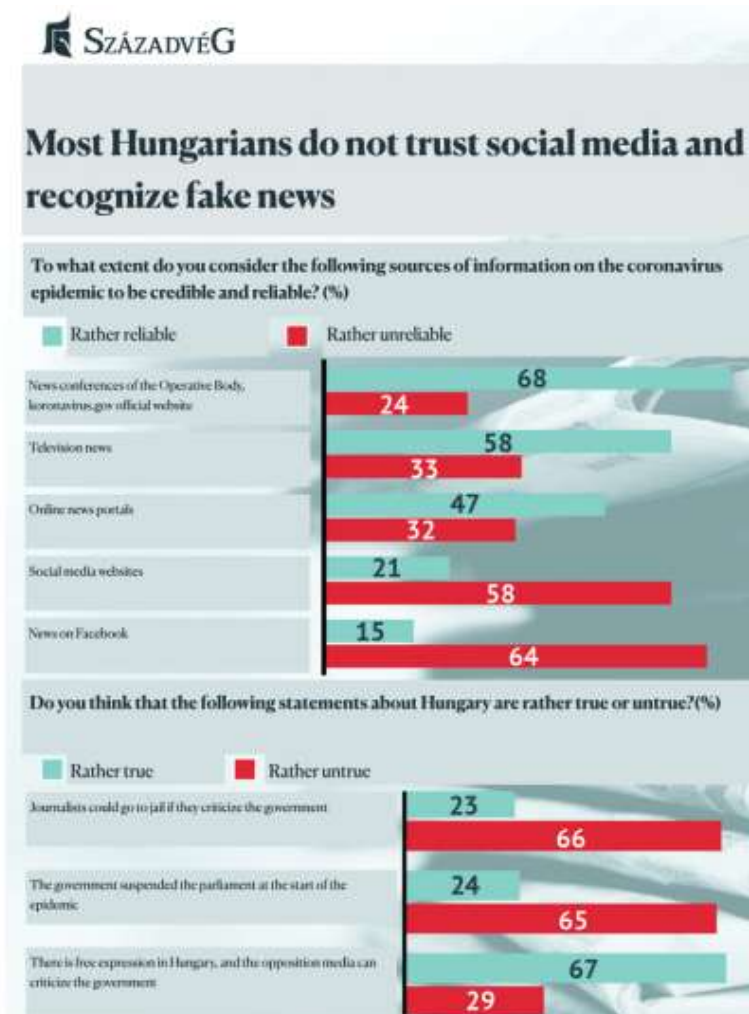
- (...) Fidesz message provoked an average of 3,119 Facebook users to react, while an average opposition entry made 1,305. Based on the data of the Facebook Advertising Library, it also turns out that Fidesz achieved these results without paid advertising.

- Among the 15 entries with the most interactions, we can only find content published by Viktor Orbán and the Government of Hungary, which is about the fight and defense against the coronavirus. In addition, the number of fans of the Prime Minister on Facebook increased by almost a quarter (180 thousand) during the period under review, so that he currently has nearly 850 thousand fans. This number is higher than the total number of fans of the top 5 opposition party leaders following him. (...)





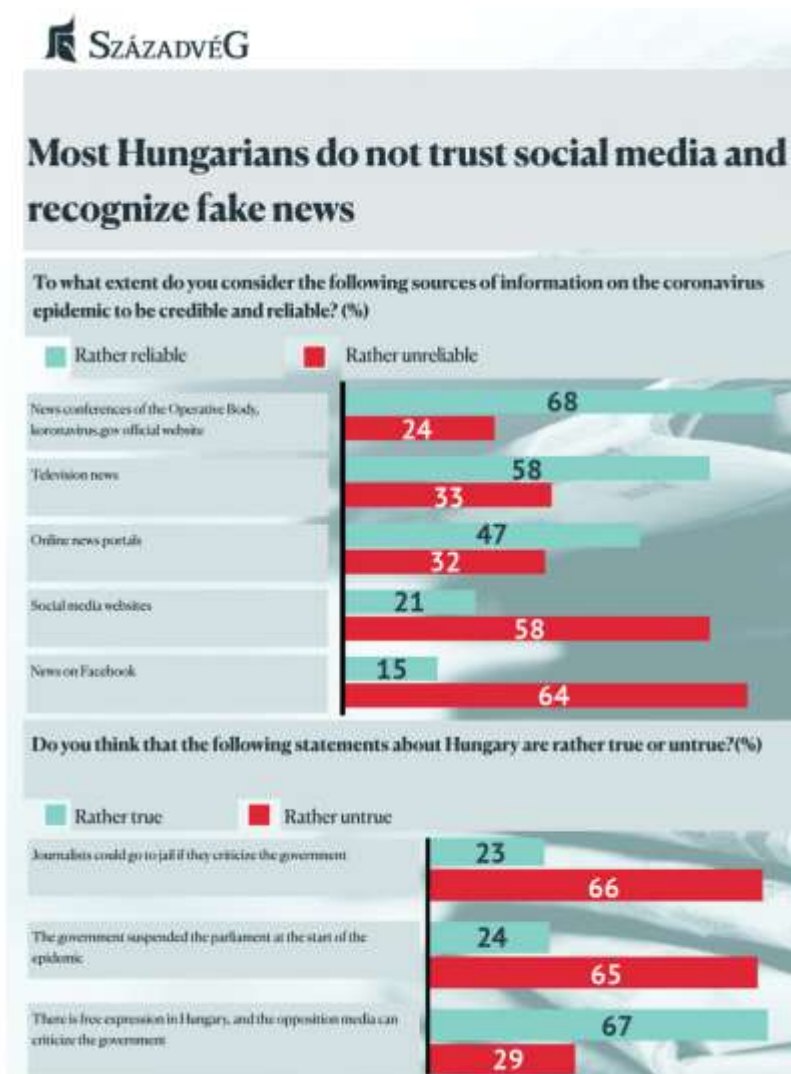
The majority of Hungarians do not trust social media websites and recognize fake news – Szazadvég Group
<https://szazadvég.hu/hu/kutatasok/az-alapitvany-kutatasai/piackutatas-kozvelemeney-kutatas/a-magyarok-tobbsege-nem-bizik-a-kozossegi-oldalakban-es-felismeri-az-alhireket>



Századvég Group examined the populations' opinion on the different news sources regarding the coronavirus pandemic, in a nationwide representative poll during May 2020 by interviewing 1,000 adult people.

- The survey found that the statement "Journalists could go to jail if they criticize the government" was found to be untrue to two-thirds of respondents (66%), while the statement "The government suspended the parliament at the start of the epidemic" was found to be untrue by 65% of respondents. 23 and 24 % of the respondents believe that there is a risk of imprisoning journalists criticizing the government in Hungary, and that the activities of the National Assembly were suspended at the beginning of the epidemic.

- Respondents trust the information of the Operative Body and koronavirus.gov.hu the most: 68% of the respondents consider the mentioned news sources to be reliable, and 24% of them took a different position. For television news, this proportion is 58 and 33%, respectively. The perception of online news material is noticeably more negative among the population: information on online news portals and social networking sites is considered credible by 47 and 21% of respondents, respectively, while 32 and 58% do not give credit for the information published there. Respondents are particularly critical of the news on Facebook: 64% do not trust the statements on the social site in question, and only 15% see the platform as a credible news source.



Ireland

Unemployment jumps from near record low to high of 28% in a month; Latest Labour Force Survey for first three months shows radical impact of Covid-19

The Irish Times, 22 May 2020

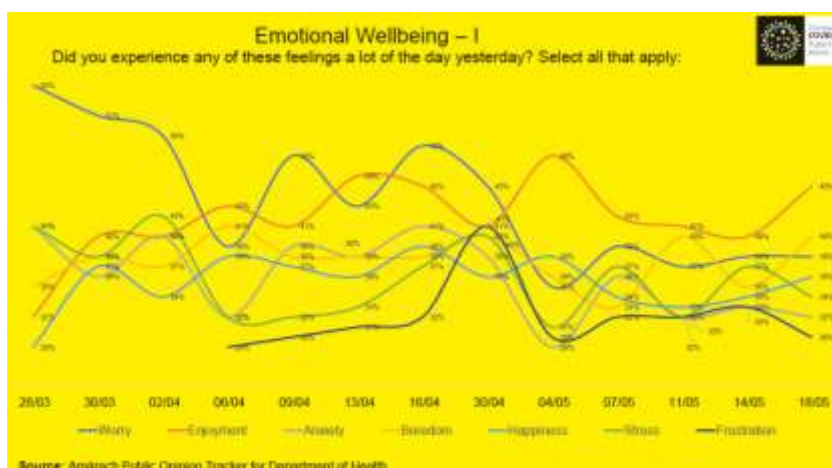
The Republic's unemployment rate jumped from a near record low of just 4.7 per cent to a record high of 28.2 per cent in the space of a month as a result of the Covid-19 lockdown, figures from the Central Statistics Office (CSO) show. The CSO's latest Labour Force Survey gives a snapshot of the Irish labour market prior to the full impact of coronavirus. It shows that there were 2.35 million people employed in the first quarter of 2020, corresponding to an employment rate of nearly 70 per cent for people aged between 15 and 64 years. This was the highest level of employment ever recorded in the State. At the time, there were just 114,400 people classified as unemployed, corresponding to an unemployment rate of 4.7 per cent. However, by the end of March, the employment metrics had been sent into reverse as the Government imposed a lockdown to limit the spread of the virus. The CSO said the Covid-19 adjusted measure of unemployment rose to 382,311, giving rise to an associated unemployment rate of 15.5 per cent. By the end of April, the figure had jumped to 694,683 with an associated jobless rate of 28.2 per cent. The figures do not include workers furloughed under the Government's temporary wage subsidy scheme. (...) About 460,000 people were in receipt of income support from their employer through the temporary wage subsidy scheme, with just under 590,000 recipients of the pandemic unemployment payment. A further 215,000 were on the Live Register. (...)

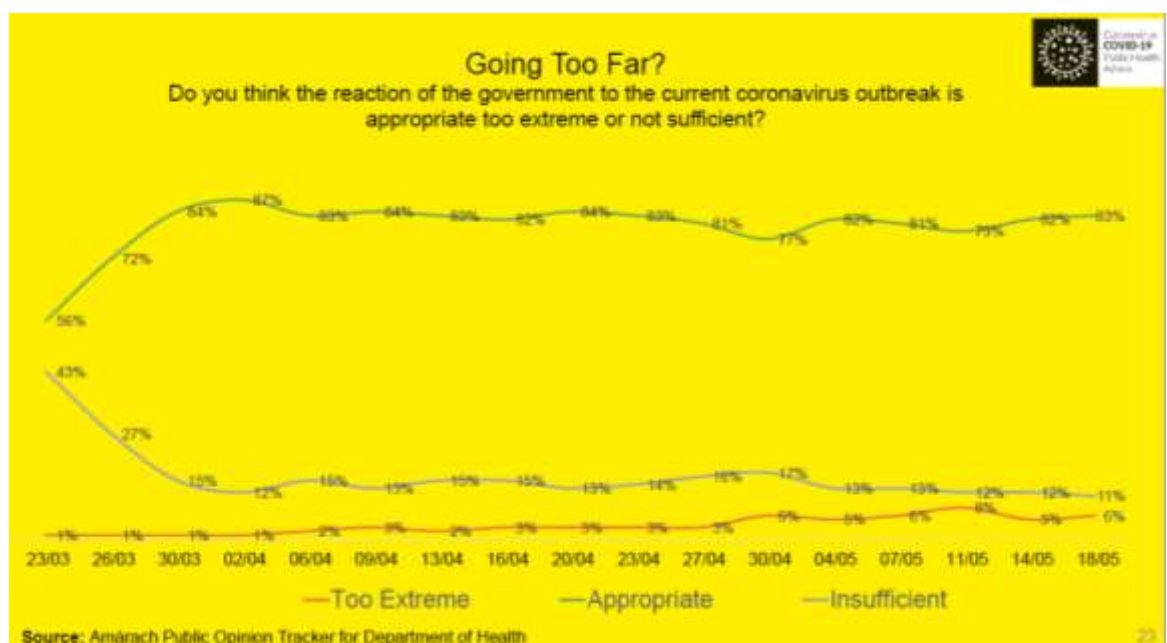
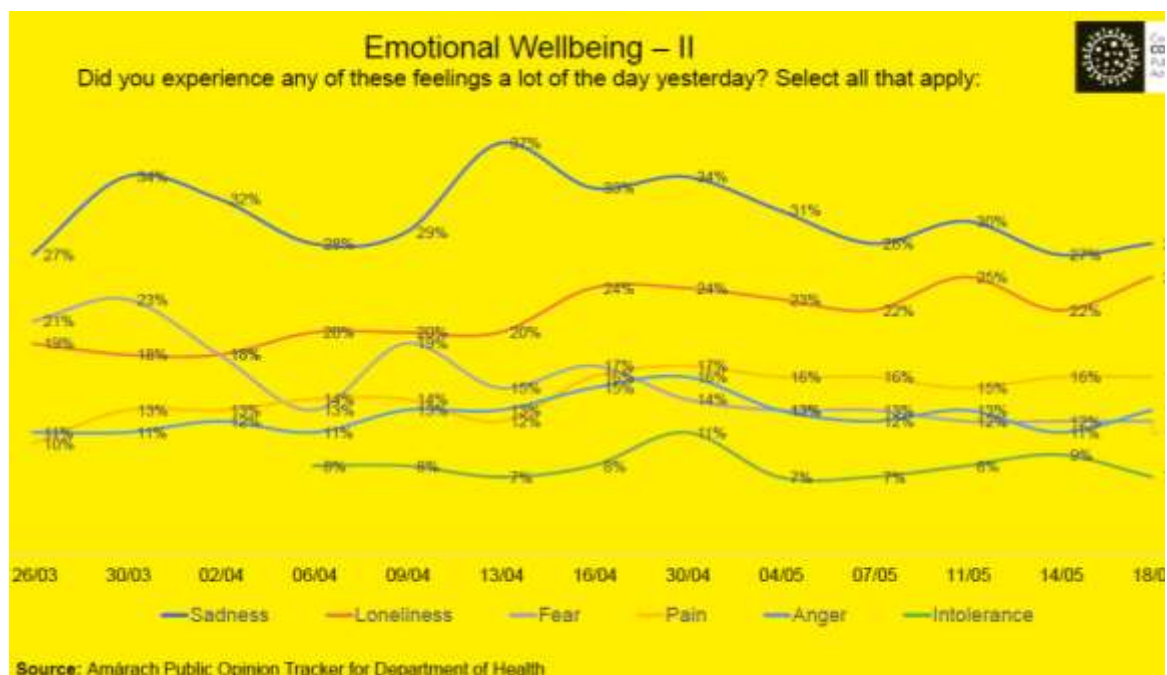
Survey by Amárach Research

18/05/2020

<https://t.co/e1P1ozLOET?amp=1>

The research findings in this report are based on surveys by Amárach Research on behalf of the **Department of Health**. The polls are conducted using Amárach's SmartPoll panel and weighted to the demographics of the adult population.





Italy

Italians report low optimism and mental well-being as country grapples with COVID-19 crisis
Eurofound, 19/05/2020

<https://www.mynewsdesk.com/eurofound/news/italians-report-low-optimism-and-mental-well-being-as-country-grapples-with-covid-19-crisis-402382>

The survey amassed over 85,000 responses in April, including 2,676 from Italy. Just 37% of respondents in Italy expressed that they were optimistic about their future, higher than only France and Greece. These findings are set against a backdrop of significant job loss, and reductions in working hours for those remaining in employment.

Overall, the First Findings from **Eurofound's Living, working and COVID-19** online survey show a Europe grappling to respond to the crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, with many respondents reporting very low levels of trust in the EU and in their national governments, as well as low levels of optimism for the future.

The survey reveals that the labour market impacts of the COVID-19 crisis have been felt more in Italy than most other parts of Europe. 34% of respondents in Italy reported that they have lost their jobs, either permanently or temporarily, compared to 59% for the EU. 21% expressed that they were afraid of losing their job in the next three months, compared to an EU average of 16%. These labour market impacts were also reflected in responses about financial situation: 46% of respondents in Italy said that their financial situation has worsened, compared to before the crisis; 42% believe it will get worse in the near future; and 17% said they have problems paying their bills. These findings are only partially mitigated by the fact that Italian respondents were more likely to have some savings, with just 17% of Italians saying they have no savings at all, compared to an EU average of 28%. (...)

Latvia

Almost half the respondents would use mobile application for Covid-19 restriction

Source: <https://skaties.lv/zinas/aptaujas/aptauja-teju-puse-iedzivotaju-izmantotu-mobilo-lietotni-covid-19-ierobezosanai/>

(...) Currently in Latvia two applications that could help to control patients and their contact persons are being developed. A poll from Kantar TNS shows that almost half of the respondents (48%) would download a mobile phone application that could help to restrict Covid-19 spread in Latvia. **39% wouldn't download and wouldn't use such application**, 13% didn't have specific opinion on this issue.

47% enterprises have changed their business model or plan to do so because of Covid-19

Source: <https://nra.lv/latvija/314451-aptauja-47-uznemumu-covid-19-del-ir-mainijusi-biznesa-modeli-vai-plano-to-darit.htm>

26% of enterprises in Latvia this year are planning to develop and expand their business, was told by Luminor bank, referencing bank's poll data.

The poll also shows that there are 47% of enterprises in Latvia that have changed business model or plan to do so. 24% of Latvian enterprises started using social networks more actively, 14% started to offer home delivery, as well as made some other individually made modifications. 65% of small and medium enterprises in the Baltics are foreseeing a decrease in the volume of sales in 2020, but for different reasons.

Small enterprises think that they were influenced by a lack of clarity in world economics - that was stated by 40% in Latvia, 47% in Estonia and 17% in Lithuania. In Latvia 23% of enterprises have been influenced by disturbances in delivery chains, but 16% mentioned as most important fact restrictions imposed during emergency situation. However, in Lithuania those restrictions made the biggest impact - it was stated by 35% of Lithuanian respondents.

The poll was conducted at the end of April 2020 in collaboration with sociologic research agency "Norstat", among more than 600 Latvian, Lithuanian and Estonian small and medium enterprises with turnover up to 5 million euro.

Agitation about Covid-19 circumstances is decreasing among inhabitants.

Source: <https://www.diena.lv/raksts/latvija/zinas/petijums-iedzivotaju-vidu-mazinas-satraukums-par-covid-19-raditajiem-apstakliem-14241412>

Kantar poll conducted beginning of May shows that agitation among Latvian inhabitants about Covid-19 continues to decrease, and has fallen by about 23% since end of March (from 66% in March to 43% in May).

In Latvia 63% of inhabitants claim that Covid-19 emergency situation has influenced their household's **financial state** - 34% claim that it has already influenced their financial situation and 29% have worries about the future.

73% of respondents mention that they are worried about the possibility for the economy to recover. (...)

This research combines four waves of polls. The first wave was conducted worldwide among more than 25000 persons in 30 countries. the fourth global wave was performed during 24 - 27 April, asking 45000 consumers in 50 countries. The latest research wave in Latvia was done from 6 to 9 May, asking 700 inhabitants aged 18-74.

Netherlands

[Dutch find social distancing more difficult to maintain](#)

NLTimes.nl, May 22, 020

While there is still broad support for social distancing measures to curb the spread of the coronavirus, people in the Netherlands are finding it increasingly difficult to keep 1.5 meters apart, according to a survey by health institutes RIVM and GGD.

Compared to the previous survey in mid-April, the proportion of people who said they always or mostly manage to keep their distance from others at work decreased by 5 percent, while shopping decreased by 9 percent, and while visiting family and friends decreased by 12 percent. The number of people who said they find social distancing difficult or very difficult increased by 5 percent

Despite the increased difficulty in staying 1.5 meters apart, 93 percent of the Dutch population still support social distancing measures.

There is also still broad support for hygiene measures such as washing your hands often and for 20 seconds, and sneezing into your elbow or a handkerchief, with between 90 and 95 percent of Netherlands residents supporting these measures. 92 percent are still firmly behind staying at home if you have cold-like symptoms.

Measures that limit our social life have less, though still significant support. 80 percent support receiving as few visitors as possible, and 81 percent are still behind working from home. The least popular rule, with 71 percent support, is that only one or two designated persons are allowed to visit elderly residents of nursing homes.

The government's change in instructions from "stay home as much as possible" to "avoid crowds" was well received. 95 percent of Dutch are behind avoiding crowds, while only 82 percent were behind staying home.

The researchers also found that although the differences are not large, people with underlying health problems who are therefore more at risk when it comes to the coronavirus more often report that they are following hygiene measures and adhering to social distancing. This also applies to people over the age of 70.

Poland

Entrepreneurs protest in Warsaw

PAP, 24/05/2020

Protesters in downtown Warsaw have demanded an end to lockdowns and pandemic measures imposed on businesses. Police dispersed the reportedly illegal protest and detained an independent presidential candidate, **Paweł Tanajno**.

Public opinion polls on the epidemic crisis and the actions taken by the government

1. Public opinion on the response of the government:

a) *Rzeczpospolita: SW Research, 19-20.05, N=800, CAWI:*

- **Do you think that the speed with which the government is removing restrictions is...?**
 - 32.4% - too slow
 - 18.3% - too fast
 - 35% - adequate
 - 14.3% - I don't know
- <https://www.rp.pl/Koronawirus-SARS-CoV-2/200529661-Sondaz-Co-trzeci-Polak-uwaza-ze-gospodarka-odmrazana-jest-za-wolno.html>

b) *Rzeczpospolita: SW Research, 12.05.-13.05, N=800, CAWI:*

- **Who should be blamed for the fact that presidential elections did not take place on 10th of May:**
 - 35.2% - government
 - 34% - objective factors
 - 18.1% - opposition
 - 12.7% - I don't know

Presidential elections polls

1. Support for individual candidates

a) *RMF FM and Dziennik Gazeta Prawna: United Surveys, 15.05, N=1100, CATI:*

- **Whom would you vote for?**
 - 43.7% - Andrzej Duda
 - 14% - Rafał Trzaskowski
 - 13.3% - Szymon Hołownia
- <https://www.rmfm24.pl/raporty/raport-wybory-prezydenckie2020/najnowsze-fakty/news-zaskakujace-wyniki-sondazu-united-surveys-dla-rmf-fm-i-dgp-s,nld,4499209>

b) *Onet: IBRIS, 16.05.2020, N=1100, CATI:*

- **Whom would you vote for?**
 - 43.2% - Andrzej Duda
 - 16% - Rafał Trzaskowski
 - 9.9% - Szymon Hołownia
- <https://wiadomosci.onet.pl/tylko-w-onecie/wybory-2020-sondaz-prezydencki-duda-i-trzaskowski-w-drugiej-turze/zcjlzey>

c) Wp.pl: *IBRiS*, 22-23.05, *N=1100*, CATI:

- Whom would you vote for?
 - 42.3% - Andrzej Duda
 - 22.2% - Rafał Trzaskowski
 - 11.4% - Szymon Hołownia
- <https://wiadomosci.wp.pl/wybory-prezydenckie-2020-sondaz-ibris-dla-wp-rafal-trzaskowski-goni-andrzeja-dude-6513906620458625a>

2. Intention to participate in the elections:

a) RMF FM and Dziennik Gazeta Prawna: *United Surveys*, 15.05, *N=1100*, CATI:

- Do you intend to participate in the presidential elections if they were to take place on upcoming Sunday?
 - 41.4% - Definitely yes
 - 11.7% - Probably yes
 - 14.6% - Probably no
 - 28.4% - Definitely no
 - 3.9% - I don't know
- <https://www.rmfm24.pl/raporty/raport-wybory-prezydenckie2020/najnowsze-fakty/news-zaskakujace-wyniki-sondazu-united-surveys-dla-rmf-fm-i-dgp-s,nld,4499209>

b) Onet: *IBRiS*, 16.05.2020, *N=1100*, CATI:

- Do you intend to participate in the presidential elections if they were to take place on upcoming Sunday in pooling places?
 - 40.64% - Definitely yes
 - 15.62% - Probably yes
 - 14.81% - Probably no
 - 25.03% - Definitely no
 - 3.9% - I don't know
- <https://wiadomosci.onet.pl/tylko-w-onecie/wybory-2020-sondaz-prezydencki-duda-i-trzaskowski-w-drugiej-turze/zczlzey>

Portugal

Público 17/05/2020

A poll by Cesop – Catholic University of Portugal published in Público, found that Portuguese people feel unprepared for deconfinement. The poll, which was carried out through a 0-10 scale – where 0 means not probable, and 10 very probable – found a general trend of 4.6 when people are asked about the probability of becoming infected. The loss of losing income is rated at 3.7, followed by **the loss of a closed one (3.4) and the loss of one's job (2.5)**. 36% of the enquired claim they did not attend scheduled medical appointments, and 34% *cancelled these* appointments due to fear. Furthermore, 50% asserted they will not leave their home for the holidays and 17% responded **they “probably” won’t**. With regards to the individuals who have the habit of leaving their permanent residence for holidays – one in every three claimed they will not do so this year. In terms of mental health, 63% noted they felt the same in comparison to the previous month, whilst 28% claimed it worsened.

In terms of income, within those who earn less than 1,000 euros per month – 43% accuse a loss of income. This is a significant increase from the 36% registered in April. With regards to independent workers or entrepreneurs – 71% note that they suffered losses to their income. Amongst those retired, this number decreases to 14%.

Source: https://www.publico.pt/2020/05/17/sociedade/noticia/causa-medo-portugueses-estao-resistir-desconfinamento-1916895?fbclid=IwAR25Sx0vsf-56BYj7PKC8LD6qFewSsnuB50i3LNJC6cV3_p9L7IITf6yQlw

IC-ISCTE 16/05/2020

A poll published in Expresso and SIC, carried out by universities/academic research institutes ICS and ISCTE found that 89% of Portuguese consider taking public transport a risk to their health or of others. This attitude echoes with regards to other activities which are perceived as a risk, these include: going to a hospital or health centre (83%), going to a coffee house, bakery or restaurant (81%), going to a supermarket, market, or shopping mall (79%), going to the beach (69%), going to a bank, postal office or public centre (65%) and going to a grocery shop or local shop (59%).

53% fear that the country has not waited sufficient time for the easing of restrictions and return to normality. Furthermore 72% consider that it is too early to open childcare and 62% equally feel that the return to pre-schooling on the 1st of June is excessively early.

The confidence felt towards the Prime-Minister (74%), Directorate General of Health (71%) and the President of the Republic (74%) remains predominantly the same in comparison to the March poll.

Almost two thirds (62%) of those enquired believe that Portuguese citizens will behave adequately to contain the spread of the virus. Almost all of those questioned (91%) consider themselves **“very” or “somewhat” worried with the** public health situation in Portugal. This number increases to 94% when asked about the economic and financial situation of the country.

A large majority (81%) indicate that they feel **“very” or “slightly” worried about their personal and family financial situation**. 36% note that their family income decreased, and 16% report losses of half or more of their income. 61% note that their income remains the same. In response to perceptions of the future, 57% believe that **“the worst is yet to come”**.

Source: https://sondagens-ics-ul.iscte-iul.pt/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Sondagem-ICS-ISCTE_Maio2020_Covid_versaofinal.pdf

Jornal de Negócios 14/05/2020

Pandemia leaves PS on the brink of absolute majority. The context of the pandemic continues to benefit socialists. The PS is the party that rises the most in the barometer of Intercampus for Business and CM / CMTV, standing right on the edge of the absolute majority. The PSD remains stable, while Bloco de Esquerda and Chega lose strength.

A poll by Intercampus for CM/CMTV and Jornal de Negócios found that 43.5% believe that both the Prime-Minister, Antonio Costa, and the President of the Republic, Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa have responded well to the current crisis. Within this, 34.7% believe that Antonio Costa fared **better than Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa**, whilst 13.2% favour Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa's approach to the crisis.

Source: <https://www.jornaldenegocios.pt/economia/politica/detalhe/sondagem-pandemia-deixa-ps-a-beira-da-maioria-absoluta?adsVideoViewed=1>

Romania

Voting intentions

<https://jurnalul.antena3.ro/stiri/politica/sondaj-pnl-a-mai-pierdut-doua-procente-in-ultima-luna-845429.html>

The Centre for Urban Sociology (CURS) made an Omnibus Survey (4-14 May 2020, 986 respondents) on voting intentions at the end of the state of national emergency.

- PNL (EPP) reached a percentage of 32%, compared to 34% in April and 38% earlier this year,
- PSD (S&D) consolidated their position, at a score of 29%, up from 27% in January and February 2020,
- USR-PLUS (Renew) registered 13%, compared to 12% in April 2020,
- Pro Romania has 6%, compared to 7% in April 2020,
- ALDE, PMP (EPP) and UDMR (EPP) reached 5%.

The CURS poll also highlights a drop in public confidence in President Klaus Iohannis, caused by the perceived direct responsibility over the coronavirus crisis management.

Perceptions on the pandemic

<https://www.g4media.ro/sondaj-ires-80-dintre-intervievati-ar-renunta-la-drepturile-si-libertatile-lor-pentru-a-ramane-in-siguranta.html>

An opinion poll by IRES (13-14 May 2020, 1027 respondents), and found that:

- Only 4 Romanians out of 10 would agree to be vaccinated against COVID-19;
- 33% say they would not be vaccinated in any way, while 6 out of 10 Romanians would be **willing to be tested in exchange for receiving 'immunity passports'**;
- 80% of Romanians say they would give up their rights and freedoms to stay safe in case of a crisis situation similar to that generated by the SARS-CoV2 virus;
- Almost half of Romanians believe that the COVID-19 virus is less dangerous than previously thought, while 1 in 5 Romanians consider it to be even more dangerous;
- Half of Romanians believe that the state hid important information in this crisis and the same percentage believe that the state and the press had an agreement to truncate, distort or limit information about COVID-19;
- Only a third of Romanians still see the state as a reliable partner;
- Half of Romanians think that Romania will be more divided after the crisis;
- **The main concern for more than half of Romanians is 'the secure future'**;
- The closure of the loved ones is the most precious thing that Romanians say they lacked during the state of emergency;
- 1 in 3 Romanians expect their own financial situation to deteriorate after May 15;
- More than half of Romanians believe that the country's economic situation will deteriorate after the exit from the state of emergency.

Romanians' perceptions of the COVID-19 pandemic

<https://www.newmoney.ro/sondaj-doi-din-trei-romani-cred-ca-pandemia-covid-19-are-legatura-cu-puterea-oculta-mondiala/>

An online survey conducted by the EM360 media platform (06-11 May 2020, 1508 respondents) analysed the Romanians' perceptions of the COVID-19 pandemic.

When asked what may be the three main causes of the current pandemic, most respondents answered:

- the ignorance of the governments of the world's states and their wrong strategic priorities are at the root (31.2%);
- the lack of transparency of governments, especially the Chinese (20.8%);
- that the current health crisis is in fact a measure of demographic control of the aging population, as a result of huge global deficits of pension funds (19%);
- the fight for global supremacy between China, Russia and the USA (18.1%);
- that the COVID-19 pandemic is caused by natural, eco-systemic, disease-spreading cycles (14.1%);
- that the virus was created in viral, medical and chemo-pharmaceutical research laboratories (12.5%).

Predictions on how will Romania's economy evolve after the pandemic:

- 6 out of 10 respondents believe that it will recover with great difficulty,
- 26.1% believe that the economy "will collapse",
- only 7.7% are optimistic and believe that the economy will recover quickly,
- 6.4% do not know what will happen.

Most important lessons learned during the pandemic:

- about 57% say that "*they live in a poorly organized state, which shows no signs of changing*",
- for 2 out of 10, the main lesson was that "*I need few things to live well*",
- for 12.2% the most important lesson was that "*my family deserves more of my time*".

Changes in the workplace and employees' expectations

<https://www.businessmagazin.ro/opinii/frica-de-a-ti-pierde-jobul-va-creste-pentru-ca-nu-vor-exista-prea-19135772>

According to a recent study by eJobs.ro, the most stable and crisis-resilient economic sectors are IT, banking, retail and pharma. Other findings:

- 50% of the participants believe that in the next 12 months they will change their job, either because they lost their job or because the company can no longer meet their professional expectations;

Changes in the professional life:

- 10% of the participants believe that they will be fired next year,
- 11% believe that their salary or package of extra-salary benefits will be reduced,
- 12% believe that they will be promoted,
- 7% are open to the idea of starting their own business in the next 12 months,
- 14% believe that this crisis will not change their professional life at all;

Undelucram survey

<https://www.forbes.ro/sondaj-86-dintre-romani-nu-s-ar-putea-sustine-daca-si-ar-pierde-locul-de-munca-164963>

In a survey conducted by [Undelucram.ro](https://www.undelucram.ro), an online platform dedicated to employees in Romania, 2.833 respondents expressed their opinions and concerns regarding technical unemployment and the expectations they have after the end of the state of emergency in Romania. The results conclude that:

- 86% of them would not be able to support themselves without their current job;
- Over 23% of respondents are in technical unemployment;
- 19% of respondents mentioned that redundancies have already taken place in the companies they work for;
- 22% of employees were dissatisfied with the way the companies they work for managed the situation of sending people in technical unemployment;
- 60% of respondents believe that the industry in which they work will be affected by an economic crisis
- Among the effects of the crisis on the financial well-being and stability that employees expect in the following period are: job being affected as a whole (37%), salary being reduced (44%) and benefits being reduced (60%).

Happy Recruiter survey

<https://www.wall-street.ro/articol/Careers/255181/coronavirus-studiu-angajatii-romani-sunt-multumiti-de-modul-in-care-au-gestionat-companiile-criza-totusi-multi-isi-doresc-alt-jo.html#gref>

A Happy Recruiter (social recruitment platform) survey addressed 36,145 people in Belgium, Romania and the United Kingdom in April 2020 and found that:

- The majority of the respondents in all 3 countries are mainly worried about their health and their incomes (see graphic below);
- 2 out of 3 Romanians say that their job is affected by COVID-19;
- 58% of Romanian respondents are satisfied with the way their employers managed this crisis. The respondents appreciate their employers because: they are organized (29.55%), they offer continuity (22.53%), they care about their employees (19.77%), they communicate well (16.5%) and they are transparent (7.29%);
- In Belgium and Romania, the data showed that 67% are currently looking for a new job, with only 1 in 3 Romanians still wanting their current role. Meanwhile, currently 71% of the British respondents are not looking for a new job.

Slovakia

Coalition parties maintained support during the coronavirus crisis

SME, 25/05/2020

<https://spectator.sme.sk/c/22411506/focus-poll-may-2020-political-preferences-olano-down-coalition-partners-up.html>

The recent poll by the Focus pollster shows how political support has developed three months after the general election.

While Igor Matovič's OĽaNO lost some support after the February 29 general election, some of his coalition partners seem to have increased in popularity. (...)

The Ordinary People and Independent Personalities (OĽaNO) remains the strongest party, with the support of 22.9 percent of respondents. In the general election, it received 25.02 percent of the vote. (...)

"Since from the epidemiologic point of view Slovakia has managed the coronavirus crisis quite well, this complicated period has not impacted the preferences much," said Martin Slosiarik, head of Focus, as quoted by the Sme daily.

Some changes can be observed, though. OĽaNO has dropped slightly, receiving only 24.4 percent of the vote in the Focus poll carried out one month after the election, and only 22.9 percent in the current poll. (...)

Apart from the problems with the coronavirus outbreak, Matovič had to deal with the criticism of SaS and Za Ľudí for the security measures introduced during Easter. Moreover, SaS chair and Economy Minister Richard Sulík has often clashed with Matovič over some economic topics, like keeping the shops closed on Sundays even after the coronavirus crisis is over, Sme wrote.

Trust in Slovakian national government on a par with EU average during COVID-19 crisis

Eurofound, 20/05/2020

<https://www.mynewsdesk.com/eurofound/news/trust-in-slovakian-national-government-on-a-par-with-eu-average-during-covid-19-crisis-402786>

Despite falling levels of trust across Europe in the first weeks of the COVID-19 pandemic, trust in the national government in Slovakia remains on a par with the EU27 average, at a rate of 4.8. Conversely, Slovakian people demonstrated lower levels of trust in institutions such as the news media, police, healthcare and European Union, which all ranked below the EU average. The latter at 4.2 compared to the EU average of 4.6.

The first results from Eurofound's Living, working and COVID-19 online survey (...)

Optimism about the future among respondents in Slovakia also remained relatively stable in comparison to other countries: 49% of respondents (compared with 45% in the EU overall) said that they were optimistic about their own future. When asked about their children's or grandchildren's future, 37% were optimistic (compared with 33% of EU respondents overall). (...)

Slovenia

Share of people concerned about epidemic up after two-month decline

EPLO, 21/05/2020

After declining for two months, the share of respondents in the Valicon poll who are concerned about the coronavirus epidemic increased a bit this week, standing at 55%. The pollster attributes this to fears about the reopening of kindergartens and schools.

(...) While 52% of the respondents were concerned about the coronavirus epidemic last week, their share this week stands at 55%.

According to Valicon, the reversal in the trend, which is statistically negligible and will not necessarily be lasting, is attributed to the reopening of kindergartens and partial reopening of schools on 18 May.

Some 45% believe that the relaunch of educational institutions is too restrictive and that all children should return to schools, while 14% think that the reopening is too risky and that kindergartens and schools should stay closed for a while longer.

The existing solution is supported by 27% of the respondents, while 14% think that it is too strict, but that this is better than kindergartens and schools not being open at all, which is why they support the solution.

The reopening of educational institutions has thus divided the public, Valicon says, but not in terms of the attitude of parents but more probably in relation to the general concern about the possible spread of the coronavirus.

The public is less critical this time of the government's measures to contain the epidemic, with the share of those who think they are too strict dropping by eight percentage points compared to last week to 34%.

"On the other hand, there is a statistically significant growth in the share of those who think that the measures are not strict enough, from 11% to 16%," Valicon added.

Poll shows Slovenians against contact-tracing apps

EPLO, 22/05/2020

The Covid-19 Insight survey also shows that 64% of those polled would not want to install such an app on their mobile phone, whereas 30% would be willing to do so.

(...) Amid fears of introducing mass surveillance when such apps were first mentioned during the epidemic, government officials said Slovenia would not compromise the right to privacy by introducing such an app, noting there were several issues that would first have to be tackled. They have however expressed support for a potential joint EU app.

Spain

The PSOE remains at previous crisis levels and PP that rises but does not make the crisis profitable

Andalucía información 20/05/2020

After more than two months from the entry into force of the state of alarm, the PSOE resists as the most voted party and barely loses electoral support (119 deputies, one less), according to the survey carried out by SW Demoscopia this May at the level national. The PP, for its part, rises from 88 to 91, although without succeeding in passing in its favor the criticism of the management of the health and economic crisis by the executive of Pedro Sánchez, in which only his bellows lose some member of legislature, Unidas Podemos (goes from 35 to 32). In the case of Vox, Abascal's party seems not to break its current electoral ceiling, and would only go from 52 to 53.

Source: <https://andaluciainformacion.es/andalucia/899126/el-psoe-se-mantiene-ante-un-pp-que-sube-pero-no-rentabiliza-la-crisis/>

El periódico 18/05/2020

The petrification of political preferences is very different from the changes that citizens expect on the economic front. Changes clearly for the worse: the unprecedented avalanche of data - such as [the fall in GDP of 5.2% in the first quarter](#) - and gloomy forecasts have soaked in the minds of the Spanish. This Gesop survey shows that more and more people think that the economic turmoil will last more than two years: 44.7% of those surveyed think that, while a waning 16.6% continue to believe that the recovery will come before it happens within one year.

Avalancha de malos datos

¿CUÁNDO SE RECUPERARÁ LA ECONOMÍA?

CIFRAS EN %

— Menos de 1 año
— Más de 2 años



¿CÓMO VE LA SITUACIÓN DENTRO DE 15 DÍAS?

CIFRAS EN %

— Mejor
— Peor



Fuente: GESOP

@elperiodico / @EPGraficos



Source: <https://www.elperiodico.com/es/politica/20200517/encuesta-gesop-miedo-futuro-economico-no-agita-mapa-politico-7965146>

La Sexta 24/05/2020

64.7% of respondents believe that their life will not be the same as before the coronavirus. The new life after the coronavirus pandemic is the main theme of the new laSexta barometer. 52.7% of those surveyed believe that it will be safe to go to bars and restaurants when the confinement ends, a similar percentage (52.1%) to those who believe that they will not be able to go on vacation.

Source: https://www.lasexta.com/noticias/nacional/barometro-lasexta-el-647-de-los-encuestados-creen-que-su-vida-no-volvera-a-ser-igual-que-antes-del-coronavirus_202005245eca6a5374fa7b00013ad031.html

Hundreds of people by car crowd in the center of Madrid for the Vox demonstration against the Spanish government

Cadena Ser 23/05/2020

Several hundred vehicles have participated in the demonstration called by the far-right Vox party in central Madrid in protest against the government's management of the coronavirus crisis . A protest called with the authorization of the Government Delegation, under the motto "Government resignation" and in which a dozen Francoist flags have also been waved as well as the presence of a dozen people with T-shirts related to fascist groups.

The march started at twelve noon with the Vox leaders riding on a double-decker bus painted with the flag of Spain. "A sensible, prudent concentration, to which we have asked all Spaniards to join regardless of their color or political affiliation," said Iván Espinosa de los Monteros . "We want the Spanish to be able to show their protest at the incapacity of this government, the inability to solve this health and economic crisis," he said.



Source: https://cadenaser.com/emisora/2020/05/23/radio_madrid/1590252379_333548.html

Sweden

Political support

Continued increase in support for the government + 1.1 p.p since April.

(Source: Kantar/Sifo weekly survey 7,000 interviews)

Socialdemokraterna befäster sin position

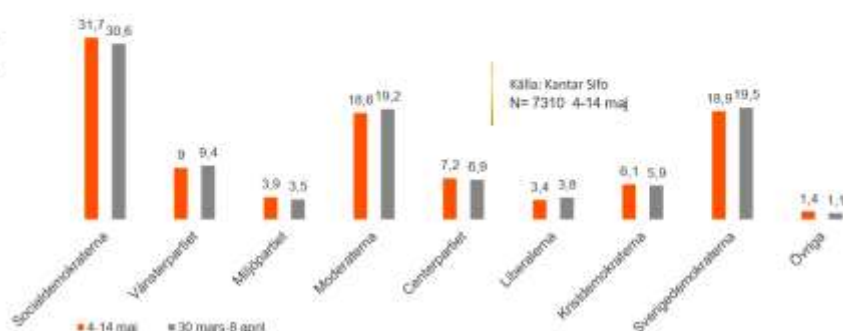
SvD/GP: Väljarbarometern

Förra helgen inleddes med att Svenska Dagbladet och Göteborgs-Posten publicerade vår Véljarbarometer. Några tydliga skillnader från aprilundersökningen gick inte att skymta.

Vi kunde notera att Socialdemokraterna befäster sin position kring 30 procent (31,7%) av väljarkåren på sin sida. En oesedvanlig upprykning sedan mars för partiet. Förklaringen sökes naturligtvis i Coronakrisen och hantering av denna.

Fokus i undersökningen gavs också att såväl Miljöpartiet och Liberalerna ligger under riksdagsparten. De mindre partierna hamnar i medelskugga och de frågor som de är starka inom faller också från dagordningen.

Vilket parti skulle du rösta på i riksdagsvalet om det vore val idag?



Trust in leading institutions

After a short dip last week – trust is now going up again with 2-7 p.p.

(Source: Kantar/Sifo weekly survey 700 online interviews)

Stabiliserat förtroende för myndigheter och institutioner i krisberedskap

Kantar Sifo: Förtroendet för myndigheter och institutioner

Vi har tidigare konstaterat att de institutioner som är i stort medialt fokus just nu åtnjuter relativt stort förtroende. Så är det fortfarande. Inte minst förtroendet för Folkhälsomyndigheten och för sjukvården är anmärkningsvärt starkt.

Förtroendegraderna har varit stabila över en lång period. Vi såg en signifikant nedgång förra veckan på flera av institutionerna. Uppgången den här veckan är bara signifikant för MSB, inte för de andra institutionerna.

68 procent av allmänheten säger sig nu ha ett mycket eller ganska stort förtroende för MSB.

Det finns en politisk tendens i förtroendet för just de institutioner som visas i tabellen. Väljare till partierna inom januariöverenskommelsen samt Vänsterpartiets väljare har i större utsträckning förtroende för institutionerna än väljare hos Moderaterna, Kristdemokraterna och Sverigedemokraterna.

Förtroende, ganska/mycket stort	14-20 maj (n=700 online)	7-13 maj (n=700 online)	30 april-6 maj (n=700 online)	23-29 april (n=700 online)	16-22 april (n=700 online)	9-15 april (n=700 online)	2-8 april (n=700 online)	26 mars-1 april (n=700 online)	21-25 mars (n=625 online)
Folkhälsomyndigheten	78%	76%	82%	75%	79%	77%	75%	77%	75%
MSB	68%	51%	60%	58%	59%	57%	62%	64%	61%
Sjukvården	82%	78%	85%	81%	83%	82%	80%	80%	80%
Regeringen	59%	58%	61%	60%	61%	60%	59%	62%	53%
Socialstyrelsen	48%	43%	50%	47%	48%	47%	48%	49%	47%

*Värdena kan förändras lite (onskild helhetsprocent) mellan de olika veckornas rapporter. Skälet är att vi kontinuerligt väger totalresultatet.

Worry for loss of income

The worry about losing their main source of income is high but going down with 5 p.p.

(Source: Kantar/Sifo weekly survey)

Färre än förra veckan oroliga för sin försörjning det närmsta året

Kantar Sifo: Allmänheten under coronakrisen

I ett läge där näringslivet drabbats av en negativ efterfrågechock, är naturligtvis känslan av en framtida trygg försörjning för individen, en nyckel till att våga konsumera och investera igen.

Sedan förra veckan är det nu färre, 19 procent, som är oroliga för sin försörjning det närmsta året. Det är tangerat lägsta värde för hela krisperioden.

Under veckan gjorde dessutom börsen ett litet skutt uppåt. Kanske påverkade detta svenskarnas inställning till den ekonomiska horisonten.

Vi har tidigare konstaterat att det är de yngre som i högre utsträckning känner oro för sin försörjning. Vi påminner om det. Arbetsmarknadens utveckling spelar givetvis en roll i den här bedömningen. Inte minst bland de yngre kvinnorna är denna oro påtaglig. Under hela undersökningsperioden (21 mars-20 maj) är 35 procent av de yngsta kvinnorna (18-29) oroliga, jämfört med 24 procent bland motsvarande grupp av männen.

Oro för min försörjning det närmsta året
Instämmer helt eller i ganska hög grad

19%

14-20 maj
(n=700) online

24%

7-13 maj
(n=700) online

24%

30 april -6 maj
(n=700) online

22%

23-29 april
(n=700) online

19%

16-22 april
(n=700) online

20%

9-15 april
(n=700) online

26%

2-8 april
(n=700) online

24%

26 mars -1 april
(n=332) online

24%

21-25 mars
(n=316) online

*Värdena kan förändras lite (enstaka heltalsprocent) mellan de olika veckornas rapporter. Skälet är att vi kontinuerligt väger folkräsl resultaten.