



Each plenary session DG Communication's Public Opinion Monitoring Unit provides general public with relevant **public opinion data on key topics on the agenda** as well as insights into **citizens' opinion on current European issues**.

For the July plenary session, relevant survey data is available on:

- **Presentation of the programme of activities of the German Presidency**
- **Conclusions of the European Council meeting of 19 June 2020**
- **Boosting Roma inclusion process in Europe for the next decade**
- **The EU's public health strategy post-COVID-19**
- **The 2019 Human Rights Annual report**

A [comprehensive weekly overview](#) on current surveys published in different EU Member States, including a range of important multi-national surveys, all with a dedicated focus on the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, can be found on the website of the Public Opinion Monitoring Unit.

For more information on the topics covered in this edition, please contact:

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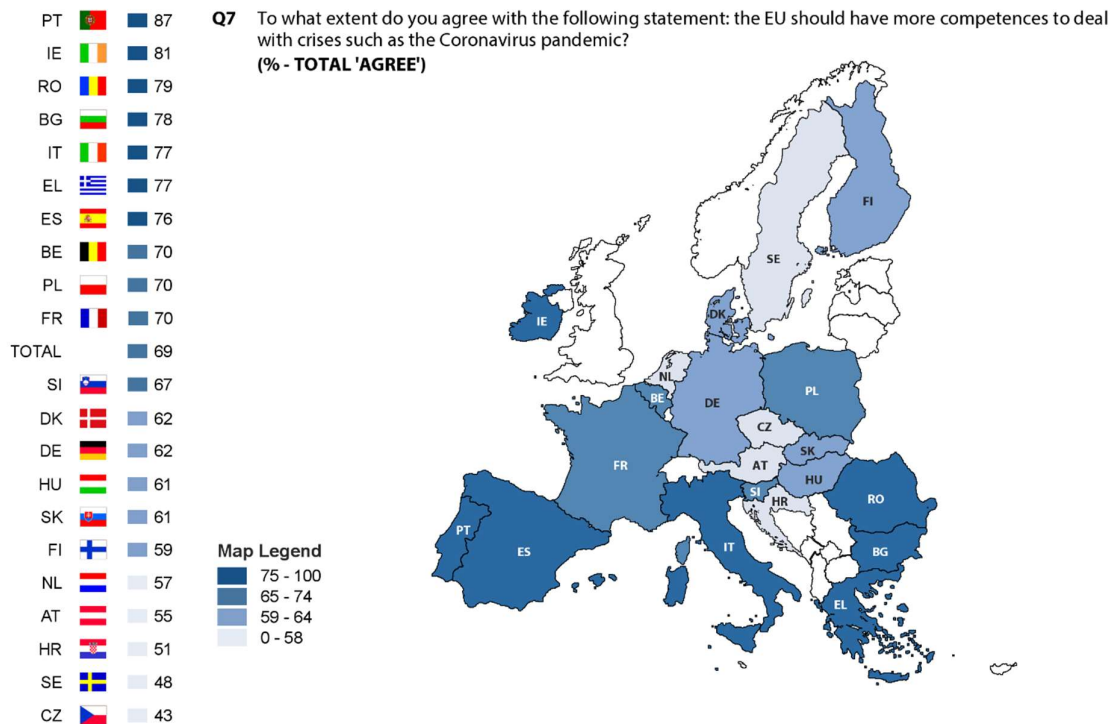
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Presentation of the programme of activities of the German Presidency

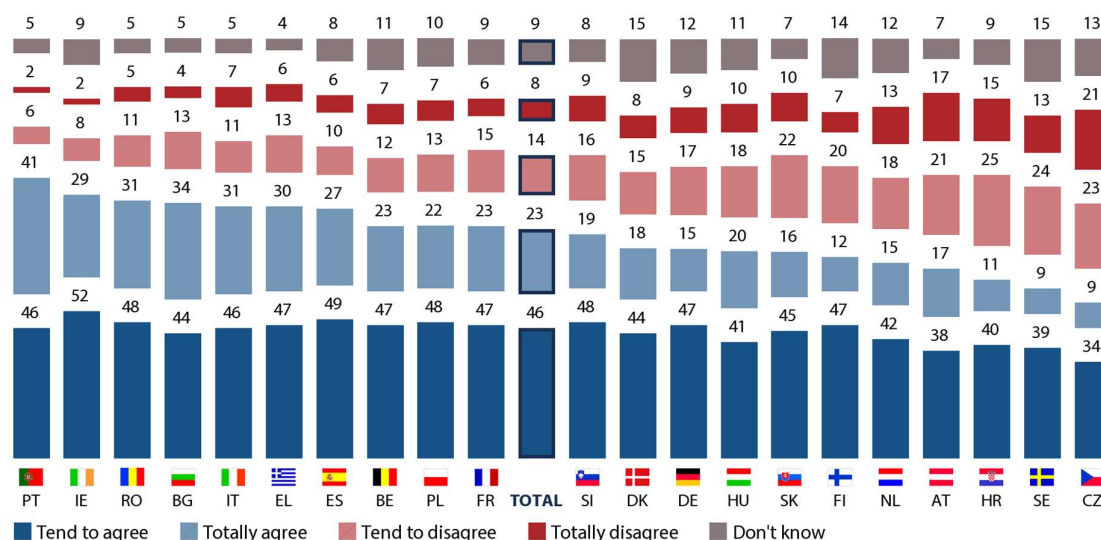
On Wednesday, German Chancellor Angela [Merkel will present the incoming European Union Council Presidency priorities](#). The [German Presidency](#) will focus directly on overcoming the COVID-19 pandemic. Fighting the spread of the virus, supporting the European economy to recover and reinforcing social cohesion in Europe should be included as priorities.

According to the [latest European Parliament survey on citizens' attitudes towards the EU and the measures taken to fight the Covid-19 pandemic](#), published last month, around **two-thirds of respondents (69%) want "the EU (to) have more competences to deal with crises such as the Coronavirus pandemic"**, while around a quarter (22%) disagree with the statement. Agreement is highest in Portugal and Ireland, and lowest in Czechia and Sweden.



For more detailed information: [Public opinion in the EU in time of Coronavirus crisis \(April/May 2020\)](#)

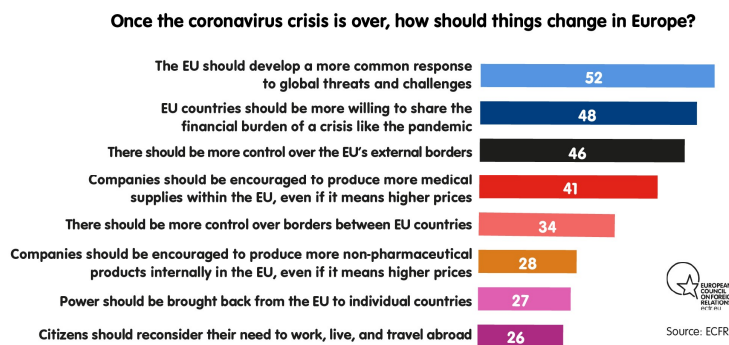
Q7 To what extent do you agree with the following statement: the EU should have more competences to deal with crises such as the Coronavirus pandemic?
(%)



For more detailed information: [Public opinion in the EU in time of Coronavirus crisis \(April/May 2020\)](#)

EXTERNAL INSIGHTS:

According to the European Council on Foreign Relations' (ECFR) pan-European survey on Europe's pandemic politics almost half of Europeans see economic and political consolidation within Europe as the best insurance policy in the face of deglobalisation. This attitude is discernible when Europeans are asked whether they believe in greater cooperation: their answers show that those who believe that the future is regional are more likely than others to say that the EU must be more unified and that the financial burden of the crisis should be shared.



For more detailed information: [Europe's pandemic politics: How the virus has changed the public's worldview](#)

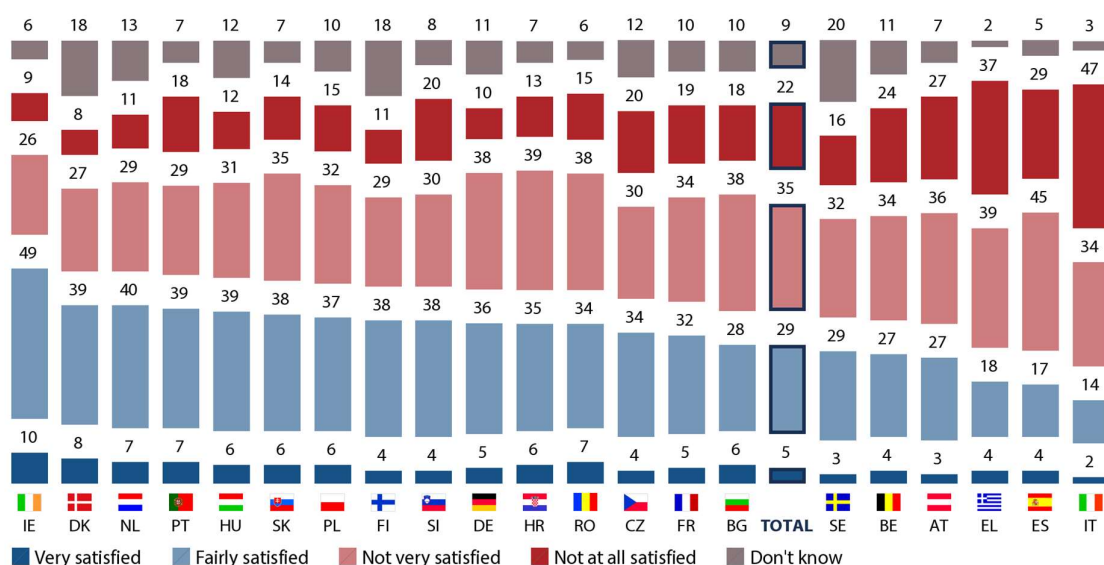
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Conclusions of European Council meeting of 19 June 2020

On Wednesday, Members will discuss, with Presidents Ursula von der Leyen and Charles Michel, the [Conclusions of the European Council from 19 June](#) which focused on the recovery fund to respond to the Covid-19 crisis and a new EU long term budget.

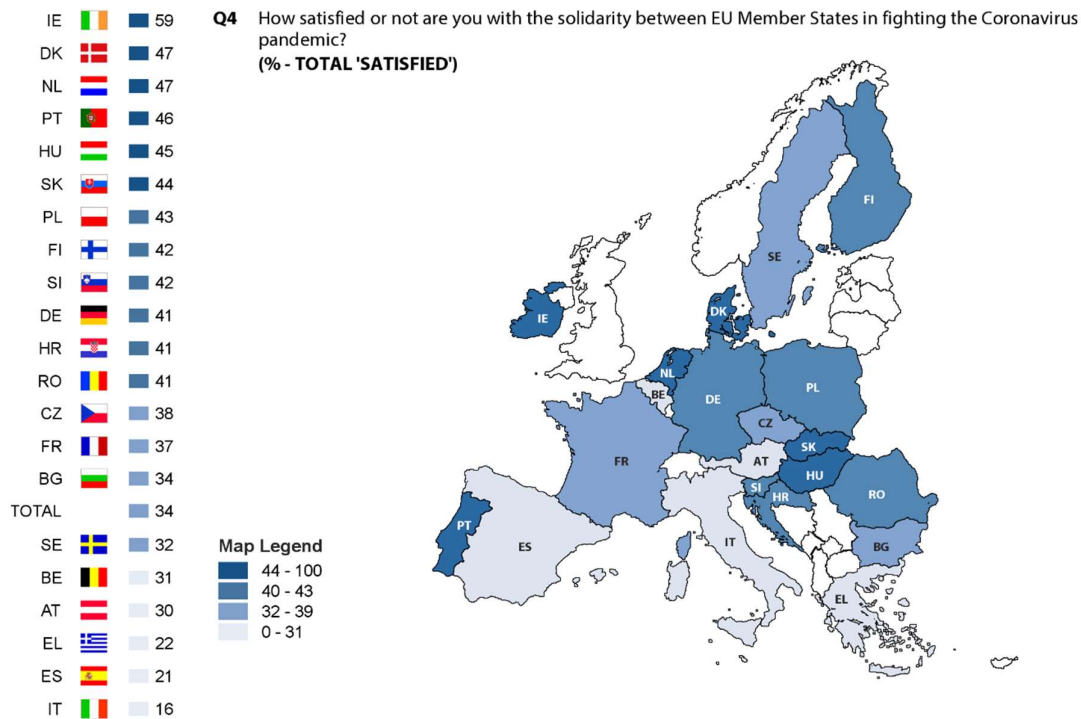
According to the [latest European Parliament survey on citizens' attitudes towards the EU and the measures taken to fight the Covid-19 pandemic](#), published in full last month, a majority of respondents is dissatisfied with the solidarity shown between EU Member States in fighting the Coronavirus pandemic. Nearly six out of ten of those asked (57%) share this feeling of dissatisfaction, including more than a fifth (22%) who are 'not at all' satisfied.

Q4 How satisfied or not are you with the solidarity between EU Member States in fighting the Coronavirus pandemic? (%)



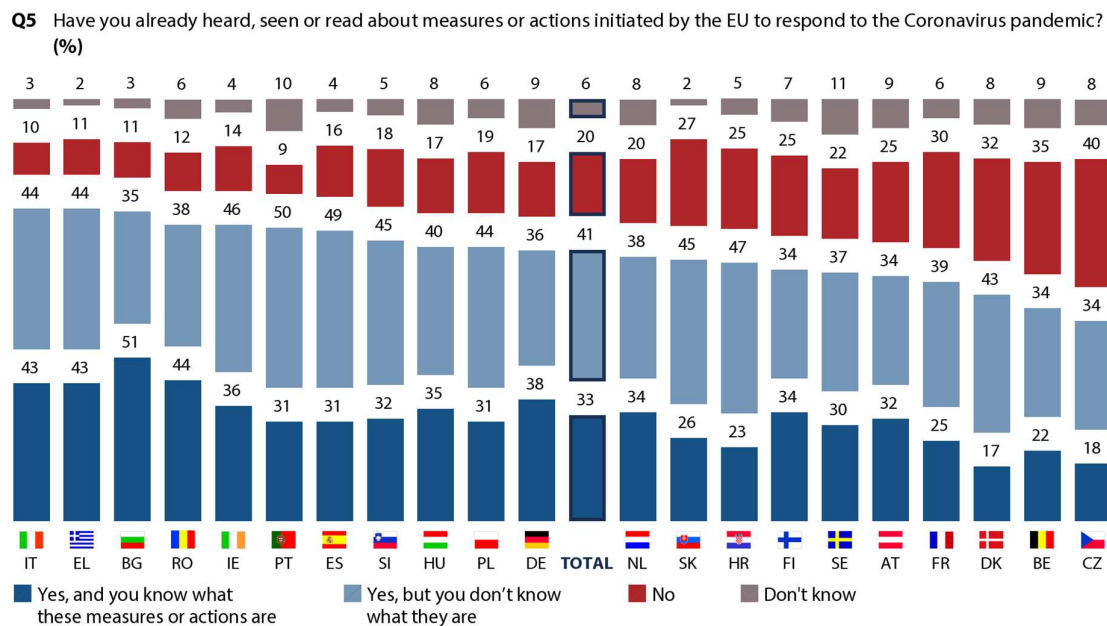
For more detailed information: [Public opinion in the EU in time of Coronavirus crisis \(April May 2020\)](#)

A solid third of respondents on average (34%) are satisfied, with their strongest shares registering in Ireland, Denmark, the Netherlands and Portugal. Dissatisfaction on the other hand was strongest in Italy, Spain and Greece. The fieldwork for this survey was conducted at the end of April.



For more detailed information : [Public opinion in the EU in time of Coronavirus crisis \(April/May 2020\)](#)

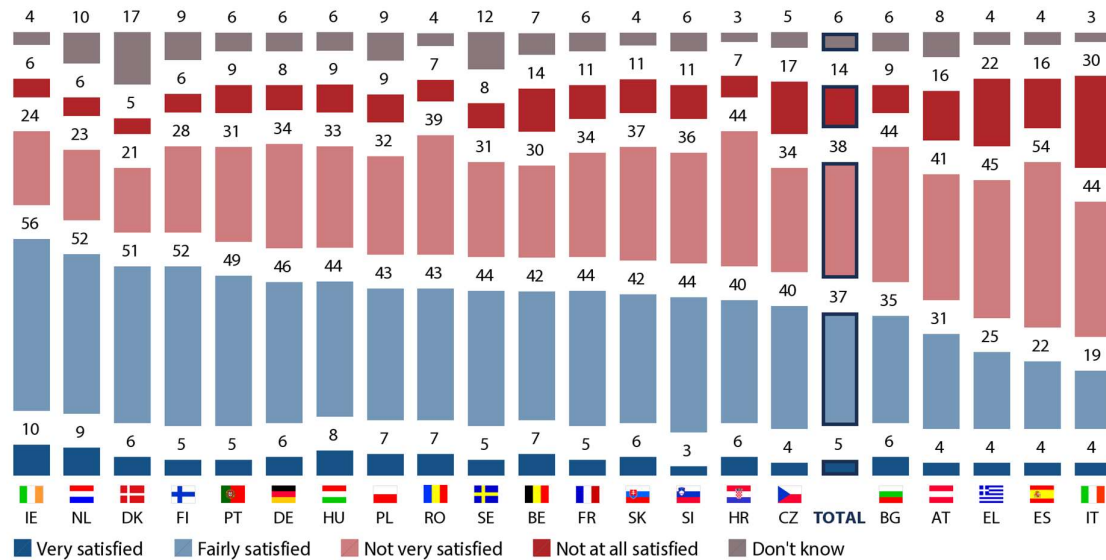
Furthermore, **nearly three quarters of respondents across Europe (74%) have heard, seen or read about measures or actions initiated by the EU** to respond to the Coronavirus pandemic. A third of respondents (33%) also know what these measures are, while 41% recall seeing or hearing about EU measures, but do not know what they are.



For more detailed information: [Public opinion in the EU in time of Coronavirus crisis \(April/May 2020\)](#)

Among the respondents who remember having seen or heard about EU measures, around half (52%) are not satisfied with the measures taken so far, higher than the proportion that are satisfied (42%).

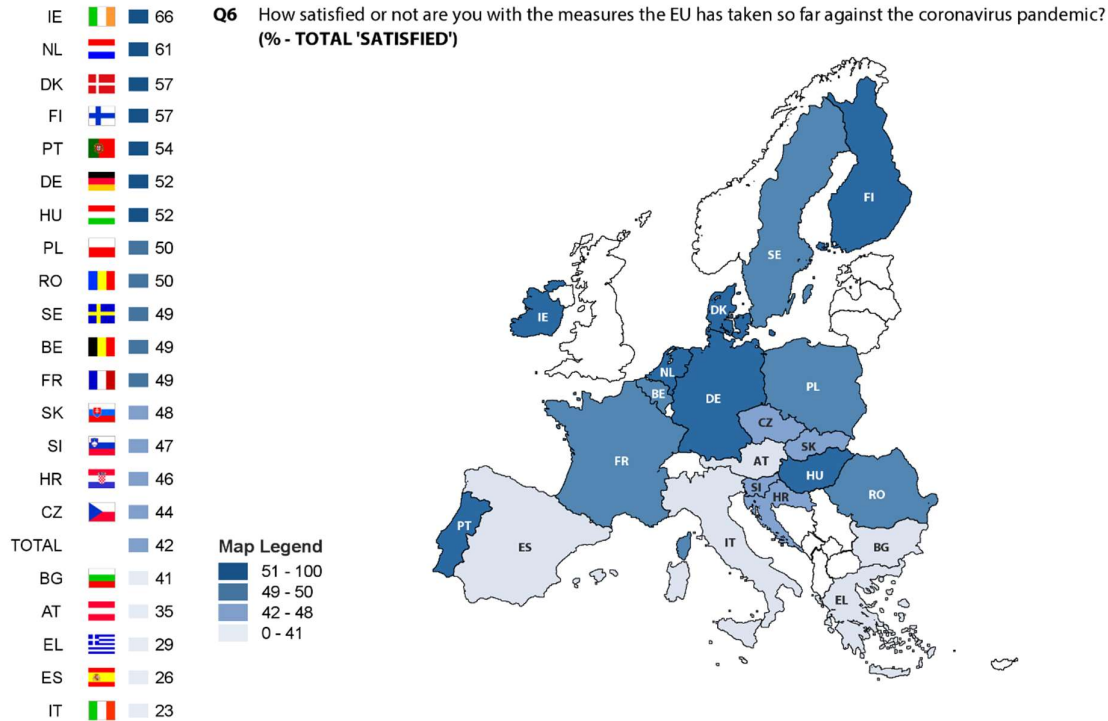
Q6 How satisfied or not are you with the measures the EU has taken so far against the coronavirus pandemic? (%)



Base: All who have heard of the measures (74%)

For more detailed information: [Public opinion in the EU in time of Coronavirus crisis \(April/May 2020\)](#)

Satisfaction is highest in Ireland, the Netherlands, Denmark and Finland, and lowest in Italy, Spain and Greece.



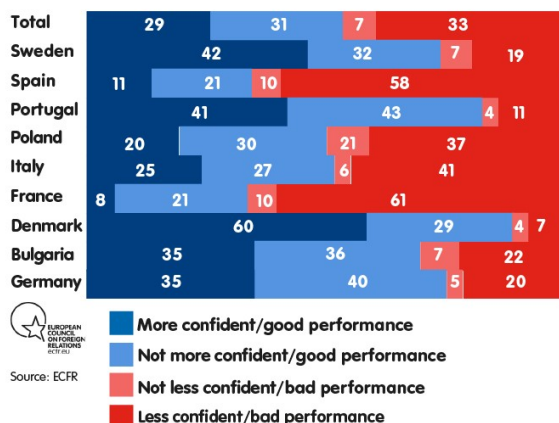
Base: All who have heard of the measures (74%)

For more detailed information: [Public opinion in the EU in time of Coronavirus crisis \(April/May 2020\)](#)

EXTERNAL INSIGHTS:

According to the ECFR pan-European survey on Europe's pandemic politics the number of people who have lost trust in the capacity of the government to act is larger than the number who have become keener on government intervention in the wake of the crisis. Across all **nine European countries**, only 29 per cent say they have greater confidence in the government and, at the same time, believe that their own government has done well in the crisis. In contrast, 33 per cent have lost confidence in the power of government while also holding a dim view of how their own government has performed. (...)

Change in confidence in power of governments and perception of performance of the national government



For more detailed information: [Europe's pandemic politics: How the virus has changed the public's worldview](#)

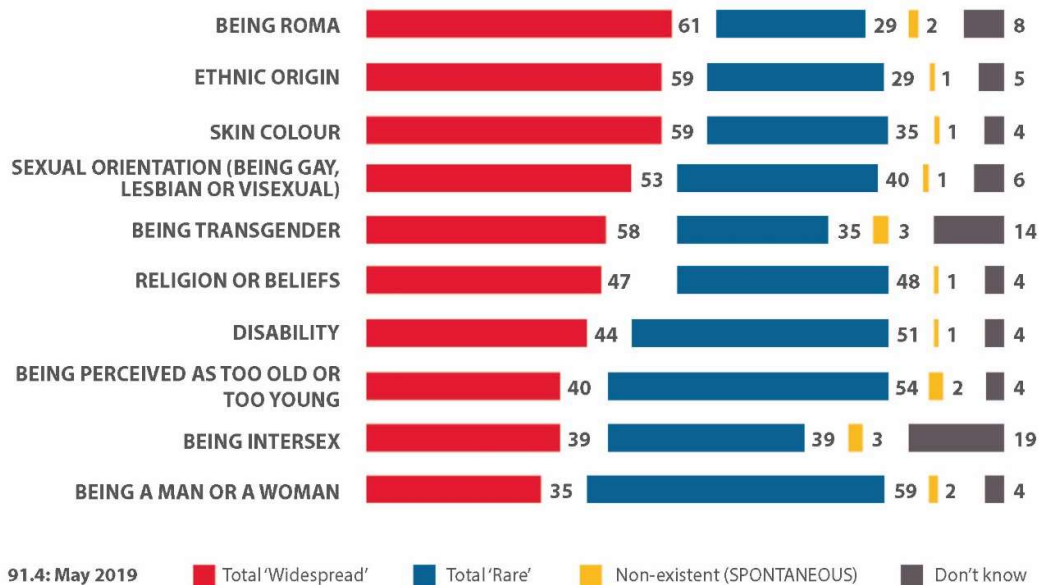
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Boosting Roma inclusion process in Europe for the next decade

The Roma are Europe's largest ethnic minority. Nevertheless, many Roma in the EU are victims of prejudice and social exclusion, despite the fact that EU countries have banned discrimination. In its [resolution of 12 February 2019 on the need for a strengthened post-2020 Strategic EU Framework for National Roma Inclusion Strategies](#), Plenary has expressed concern over the problems face to access education, employment, housing and medical care. (Debate on Wednesday)

According to a [special Eurobarometer on Discrimination in the EU from May 2019](#), **discrimination for being Roma is considered the most widespread (61%)**. Over half of respondents also discrimination on the basis of ethnic origin and skin colour (both 59%) or sexual orientation (53%) is widespread in their country.

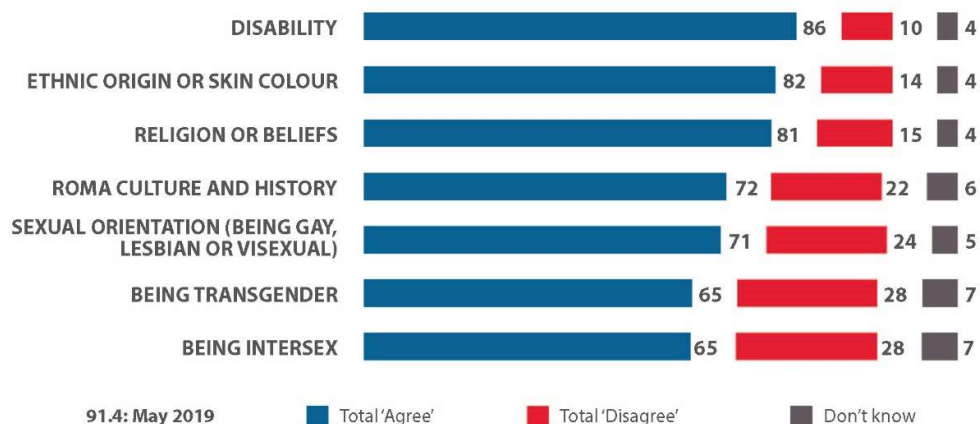
QB7 For each of the following types of discrimination, could you please tell me whether, in your opinion, it is very widespread, fairly widespread, fairly rare or very rare in (OUR COUNTRY)? Discrimination on the basis of... (% - EU)



For more detailed information: [Special Eurobarometer on Discrimination in the EU \(May 2019\)](#)

Moreover, most respondents think **school lessons and material should include information diversity**. This is particularly the case when it comes to disability (86%), ethnic origin or skin colour (82%) or religion or beliefs (81%).

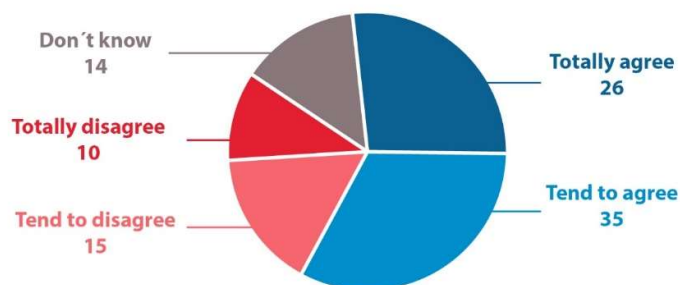
QC17 To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? School lessons and material should include information about diversity in terms of...
(% - EU 28)



For more detailed information: [Special Eurobarometer on Discrimination in the EU \(May 2019\)](#)

Moreover a majority of respondents (**61%**) **consider that society could benefit from a better integration** of the Roma.

QC16.1 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement:
Society could benefit from a better integration of the Roma
(% - EU)



For more detailed information: [Special Eurobarometer on Discrimination in the EU \(May 2019\)](#)

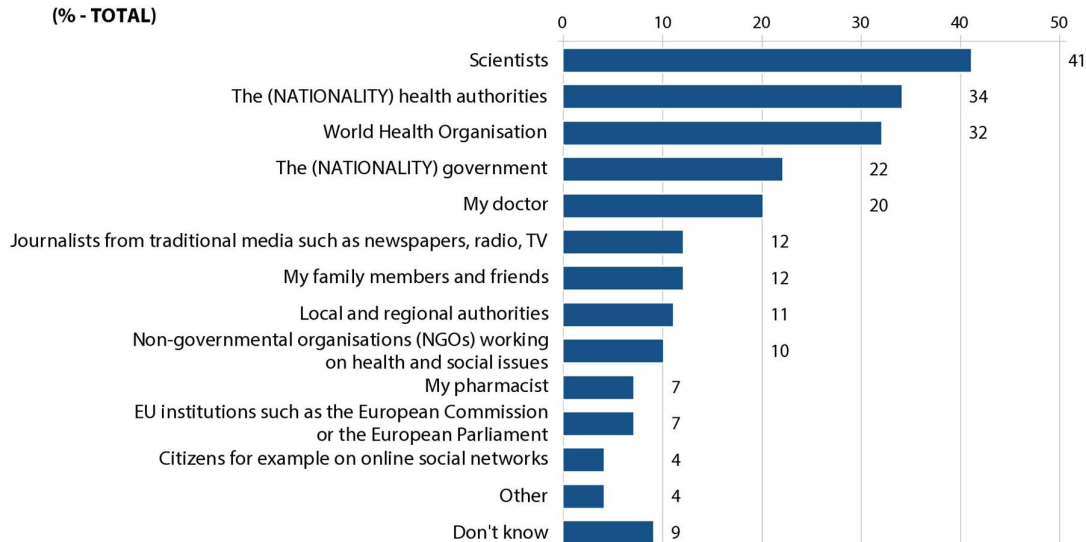
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The EU's public health strategy post-COVID-19

Members will debate (on Wednesday) with Health Commissioner Stella Kyriakides [the overhaul of the EU's public health policy](#) to ensure that health systems across the EU are better equipped and coordinated to face future health threats (vote on resolution Friday).

When it comes to **trustworthy sources of information on the Covid-19 pandemic**, [the last European Parliament survey](#) shows **that respondents are most likely to believe scientists**. Two in five respondents (41%) say that scientists are one of their most trusted sources of information, followed by national health authorities (34%) and the World Health Organization (32%).

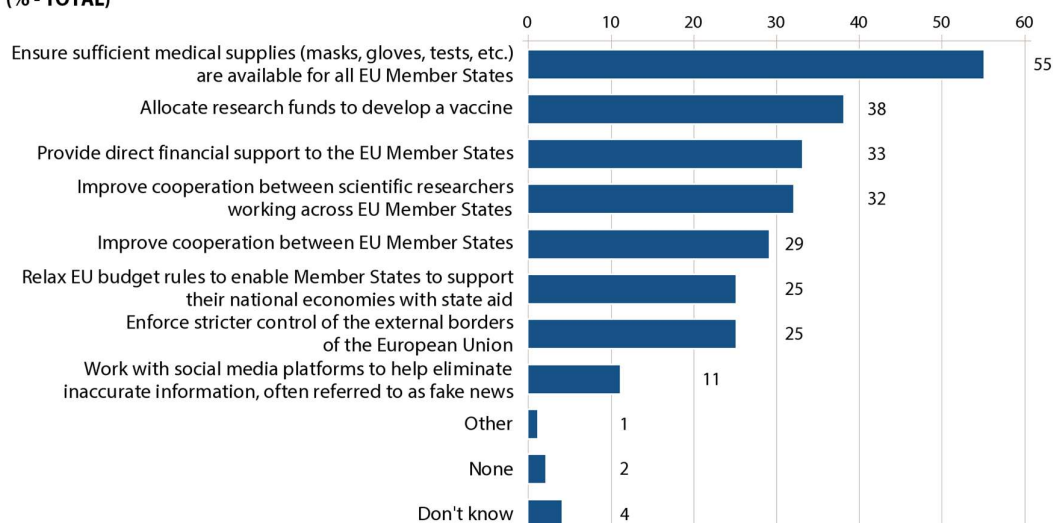
Q16 From the following list, who do you trust most to inform you about the coronavirus pandemic? Please select up to 3 answers.
(MAX. 3 ANSWERS)
(% - TOTAL)



For more detailed information: [Public opinion in the EU in time of Coronavirus crisis \(April/May 2020\)](#)

Regarding the EU's response to Covid-19, respondents think that top priorities should be **ensuring sufficient medical supplies being available for all EU Member States (55%)**, allocating **research funds to develop a vaccine (38%)**, providing **direct financial support to Member States (33%)** and improving **co-operation between scientific researchers** working across Member States (32%).

Q8 Choosing from this list, please select up to three which you feel should be the European Union's top priorities in its response to coronavirus. (MAX. 3 ANSWERS)
(% - TOTAL)

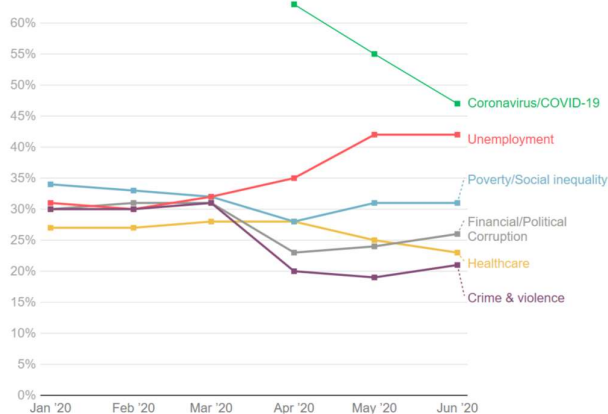


For more detailed information : [Public opinion in the EU in time of Coronavirus crisis \(April/May 2020\)](#)

EXTERNAL INSIGHTS:

The latest 'What Worries the World' survey (IPSOS) finds a **further decline in the proportion of global respondents across 27 nations who think that coronavirus is a top concern** for their country today. June's results find **47% saying they worried about COVID-19, down from 55% in May** and a high of 63% in April, the month it was first included in the survey.

Top global concerns 2020



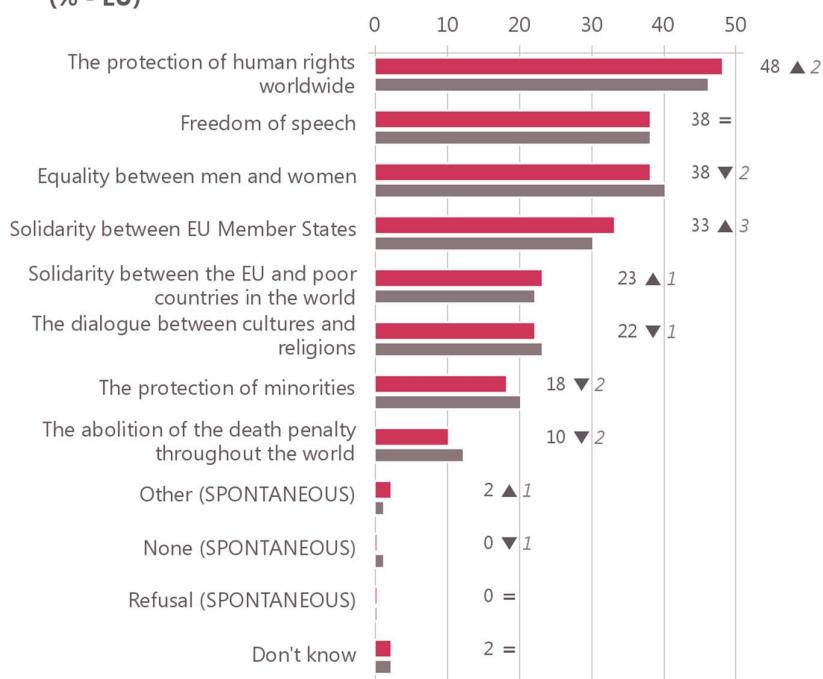
Research among adults aged 16-64 in 27 participating countries. c. 19,000 per month. (January - June 2020).

For more detailed information: <https://www.ipsos.com/en/what-worries-world-june-2020>

On Thursday, Plenary will vote its [2019's Human Rights Annual report](#). The European Parliament has a well-recognized reputation as a dedicated defender of people's fundamental rights and democracy, both within the European Union and worldwide.

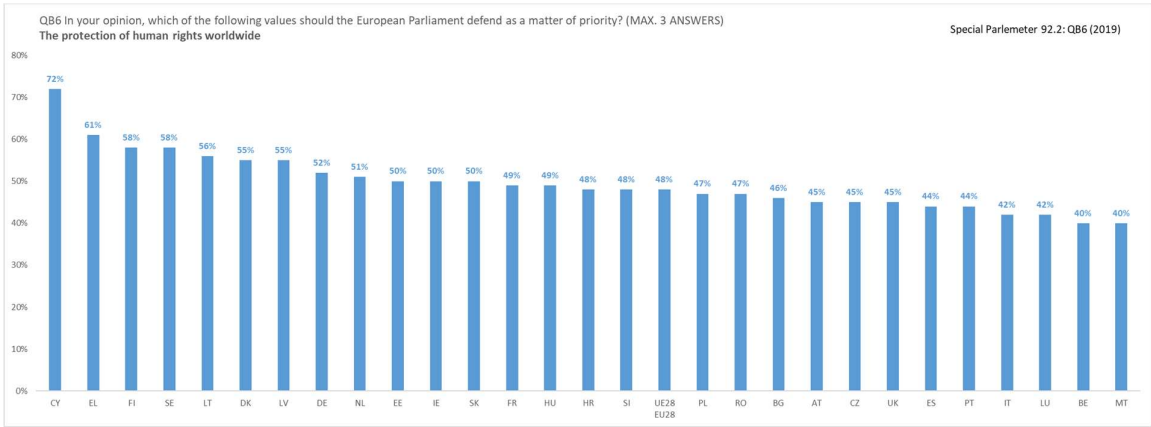
Are these concerns shared by European Union citizens? The answer is clearly "yes", according to the [Parlemeter 2019](#), the protection of human rights worldwide remains by far the foremost value in citizen's minds (48%, +2 pp compared to September 2018).

QB6 In your opinion, which of the following values should the European Parliament defend as a matter of priority?
(% - EU)



For more detailed information: [Parlemeter 2019: Heeding the call beyond the vote \(October 2019\)](#)

The protection of human rights worldwide is considered as **most important value in twenty countries.**



For more detailed information: [Parlemeter 2019: Heeding the call beyond the vote \(October 2019\)](#)