

# PROJECT 28

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**Report on the condition of the  
European Union  
April 2016**

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## PROJECT 28

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## 1. Introduction

Europe is changing. The continent's geopolitical position and its internal political landscape are transforming radically.

Project-28 endeavours to track this change process. Our goal is to gain empirical knowledge and understanding regarding the social processes forming Europe inside and outside. Project-28 looks to promote the discourse about Europe's future.

The goal of Project-28 is to contribute to the better understanding of the challenges facing Europe. World-shaping events, such as climate change, modern-age migration and terrorism, have not left Europe untouched. Directly or indirectly, in a less spectacular or in a very visible way, these processes are changing Europe as well.

Project-28 pursues to make public the opinion of Europeans about matters affecting the continent and its wider surroundings.

The European public opinion is changing as Europe's environment is transforming. Social cleavages existing for decades are gaining new content, new political party families are on the rise while other, seemingly unshakable parties disappear.

Project-28 pays special attention to monitor the evaluation of citizens' views on the European Union's institutional system, as the fate of Europe is largely determined by the Union.

Migration and terror threats have become factors, which affect the everyday life of Europeans; and therefore, the Foundation seeks the deepest possible knowledge regarding these questions.

In our research, we strive to explore the state of European innovation, economy and unemployment, since these characteristics fundamentally determine Europe's place in the global economy.



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Project-28 is scientific research and its aim is to understand the change, not to influence it. Therefore we have decided not to publish this research before the British referendum.

### **2. Executive Summary**


Based on the results of opinion polls conducted in the 28 countries of the European Union, people in Europe are rather pessimistic, and nearly two third of those asked (61%) claim that things are going in the wrong direction in their respective countries. The citizens of those countries that are impacted by the immigration crises the most see things gloomier than the average (e.g. Greece, Austria, Slovenia, Sweden, and Germany).

Overall, attitudes in the European Union are rather grim regarding the economic prospects of the EU, although in certain countries people express positive opinions (e.g. Malta, Czech Republic), but elsewhere explicitly pessimistic views. (i.e. Greece, Sweden, Estonia).

Regarding the overall performance of the EU, it can be said in total that the majority of the people are clearly dissatisfied. Based on the assessment of various fields, the order of ranking shows the following pattern: safeguarding European values (the most favourable assessment), military protection of Europe, developing the economy, fighting against terrorism and the management of the migration crisis (the worst assessment).

83% of the respondents say that the EU should protect the European borders more efficiently. This was agreed the least by Swedes, and most agreed by Hungarians.

As far as foreign affairs are concerned, 40% of the respondents approved of the continuation of sanctions against Russia, whereas only 28% agreed to the deployment of military troops. Bulgarians, Cyprians, Greeks and Hungarians oppose the continuation of the sanctions the most. Hungarians are decidedly against taking military actions.





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One quarter of the respondents (26%) would sign a theoretical petition on the exit from the EU, nearly two third of them (64%) however, would not support leaving the EU. Those who would like to exit the EU are not the majority in any of the countries. In the United Kingdom and the Czech Republic the rejection against the EU membership is explicitly high, and 40 – 42% of them would sign a petition of that type. It is important to note, however, that in the UK, the results on leaving versus staying in the EU were extremely tight, which is precisely why we waited to release our data.

37% if the respondents are against, but 53% are in favour of the quota system, which would distribute the migrants coming to the continent among the countries of Europe. There are major differences between countries: Austria, Germany and Greece are the main supporters. The V4 countries, the Baltic states, Bulgaria and Romania are the main opponents of the quotas.

In terms of building the fence, 41% of the European citizens agreed to fence building, 51% disagreed. When supporting the fence building, Bulgaria and Hungary are the first among the supporters, while this is the opposed most by the Portuguese and Luxembourgers.

91% of the respondents viewed that migration problems cannot be resolved by Europe alone – a global solution is essential.

Altogether 84% of the population of the Union consider the issue of illegal migration worrying; the Eastern-European region are concerned the most while Ireland, Luxemburg and Poland find it the least troubling. In addition, the majority of European citizens believe that the immigration wave increases the risk of terrorism and the number of violent incidents as well as jeopardizes the cultural integrity of the respective countries. People are mostly concerned about the rise in violence, followed by the threat of terrorism and the change of culture and identity, and to a somewhat lower extent people are worried about the impacts on the labour market. There are substantial differences between the countries





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regarding the above, however, the majority everywhere consider that the migration wave has a major impact.

With regard to terrorism, 36% of the respondents believe it is very likely that terrorist attacks like those that happened in Paris will happen in their respective countries. Another 50% of the respondents think that another attack is possible and only 13% think that such a terrorist attack is not likely to happen at all. France, Belgium and the United Kingdom are the most concerned about terrorist attacks; the least worried are the Baltic states and the Eastern-European countries.

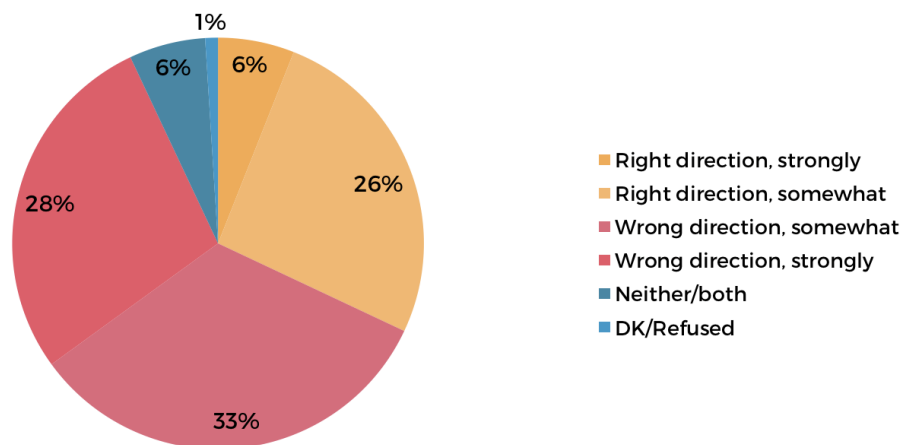
According to 91% of Europeans, the future ISIS will be a danger, to a certain extent, to Europe, and more than three quarters (70%) of the respondents consider it very alarming that the Muslim population is increasing in Europe. In this sense there aren't major differences between countries.



### 3. Opinions on the EU

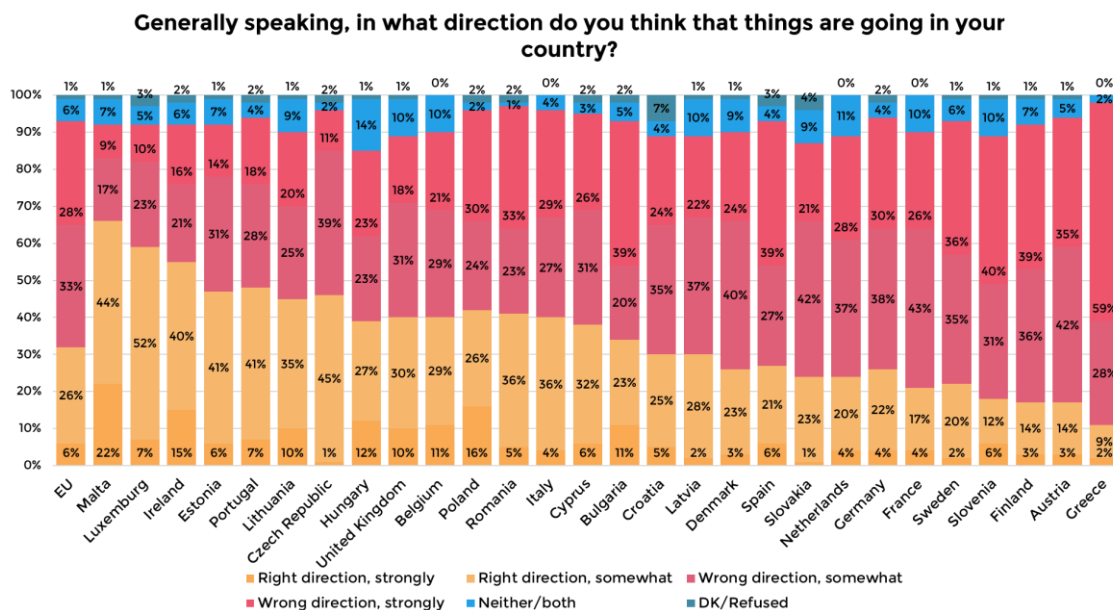
The European population is more pessimistic than optimistic concerning both the future of their own countries and the economic prospects of the EU. The citizens in the countries impacted most by the immigration crisis are more pessimistic than the average.

**Generally speaking, in what direction do you think that things are going in your country?**



Nearly two third of the respondents (61%) think that in their countries things are going in the wrong direction. 28% of them claim that things are going in the wrong direction strongly, whereas another 33% think that things are going somewhat in the wrong direction.

However, about one third of the respondents (32%) feel that things are going strongly or somewhat in the right direction.

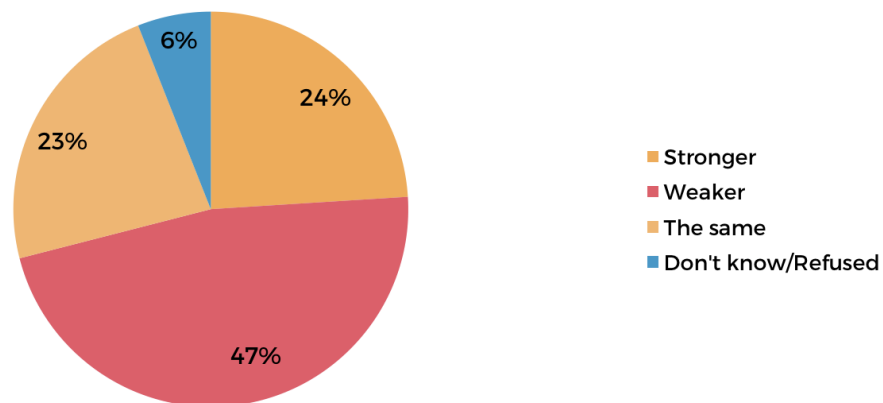


Among the 20 member states pessimists are in a majority, however, there are certain discrepancies to be seen between certain countries. In some countries they feel that things are going in the right direction, such as Malta, Luxembourg and Ireland. In Malta 66% of the respondents, in Luxembourg 59% of the respondents and in Ireland 55% of the respondents are optimistic. In Portugal and Estonia nearly the same proportion of the population gave a positive as a negative answer. For example, 47% of the Estonians are satisfied, while 45% of them are dissatisfied.

According to the data of the survey there were countries where the population was explicitly dissatisfied: in Austria (77%) Finland (75%), France (69%), Germany (68%), Slovenia (71%), Spain (66%), Sweden (71%) and Greece (87%) the populations overwhelmingly think that things in their countries are going to the wrong direction. The Greeks expressed the worst opinion: 59% of them claim that things are going strongly in the wrong direction, 28% of them think that currently in their country things are going somewhat in the wrong direction.

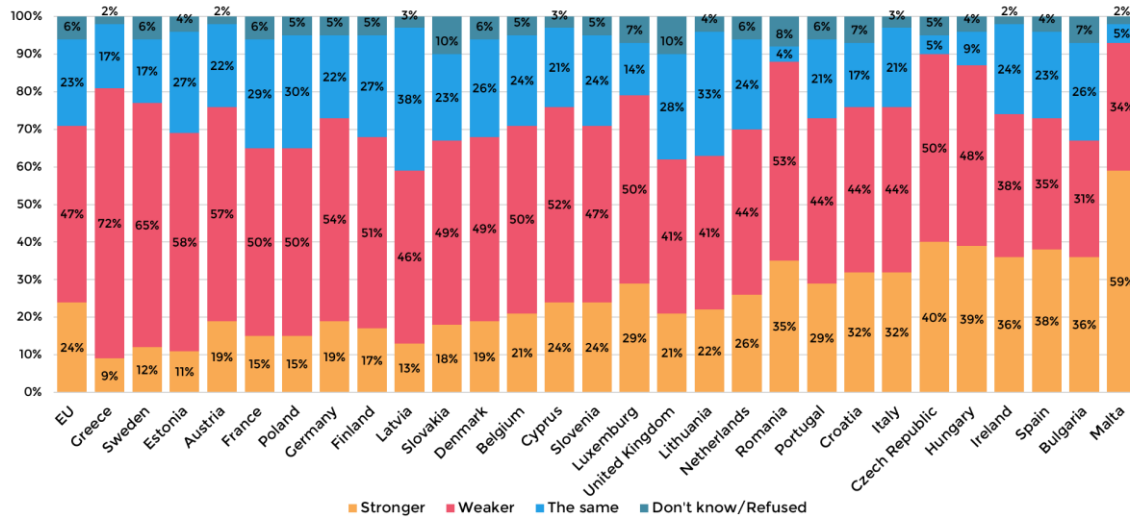


**Looking forward to next year, do you think the economy throughout the European Union will be stronger or weaker than it is now?**



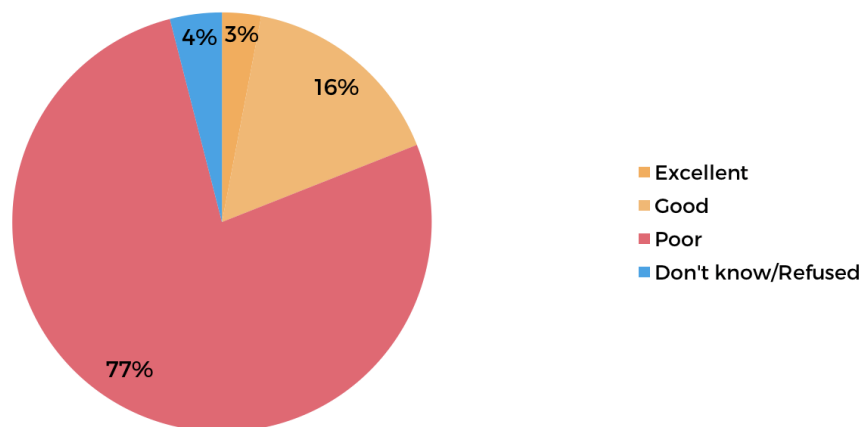
The society on the whole in the European Union is explicitly pessimistic concerning the future prospects of the EU. However, it is not homogenous, as in certain societies they see a more positive future whereas in some others they feel an economic decline. It was in Malta where the biggest proportion of the respondents expressed that the economic situation of the EU will improve: here 59% of the respondents reported improvement. More moderately, but similarly positive prospects of the EU economy are perceived in Spain (38%), Romania (35%), Ireland (36%), Hungary (39%), Czech Republic (40%) and Bulgaria (36%). People are the most pessimistic regarding this issue in Estonia, France, Latvia, Poland, and Sweden and in Greece, impacted most by the migration crisis. In the case of Greece the sign of weakening is obvious: 72% of those asked thought that the economy will decline (17% thought that it will not change). Latvia and Poland on the other hand expect stagnation for the next years to come, respectively, 38% and 30% of these respondents thought it would not change.

### Looking forward to next year, do you think the economy throughout the European Union will be stronger or weaker than it is now?



With regard to the performance of the EU it can be stated in general that the people who are dissatisfied with the economy and the way the migration crisis is handled are a larger group than those who are satisfied with the EU's economy.

### Rate the job that the EU is doing in Handling the immigration crisis!

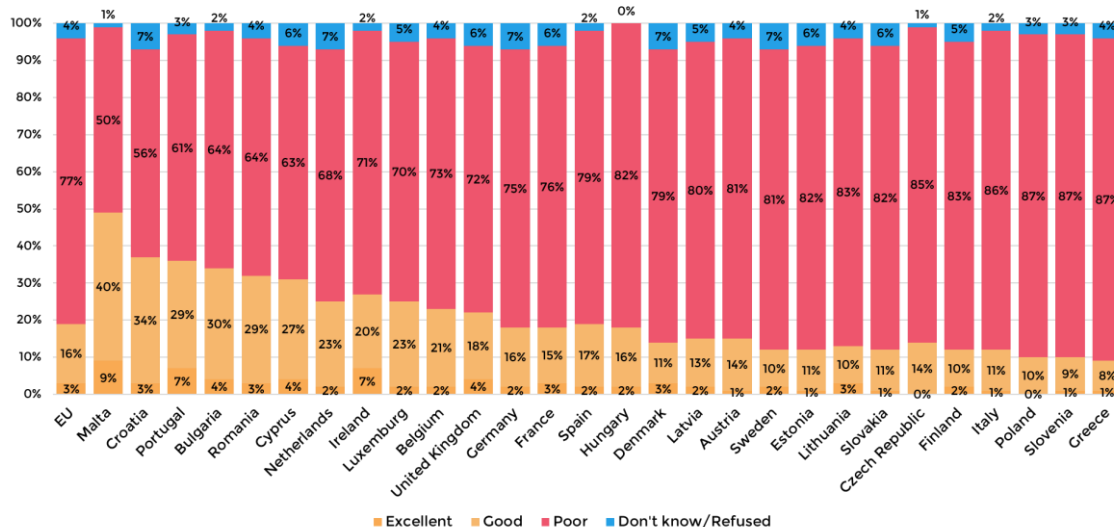


Most people felt that, regarding the military protection of Europe the EU is doing poorly.

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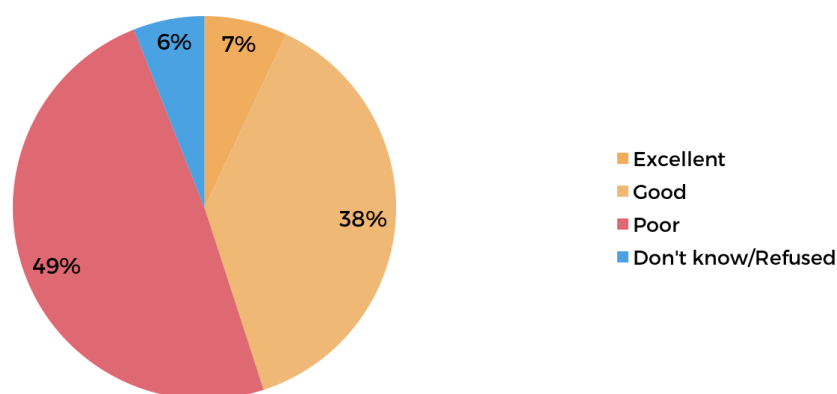
In total the EU received the worst results for the management of the migration crisis: 77% of the respondents viewed that the performance of the Union in this regard was poor, and only 3% appraised it as excellent, one sixth as good.

**Rate the job that the EU is doing in Handling the immigration crisis**



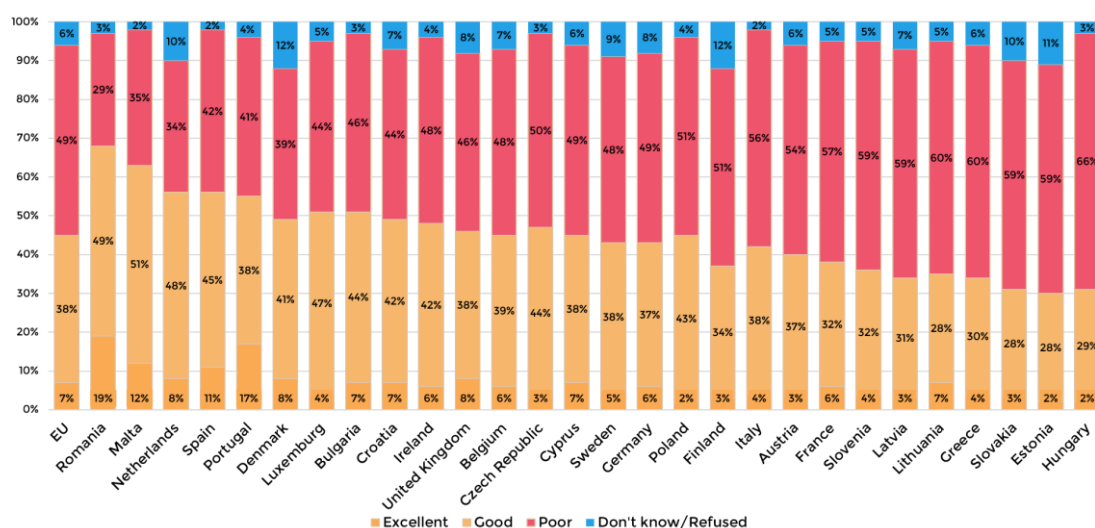
In the majority of the countries negative answers were typical. Nevertheless, some countries see the total performance of the EU in a more positive perspective: such as Malta, Croatia and Portugal. 40% of the Maltese population think that the EU performs well in the handling of the migration crisis, and another 9% claim that the performance of the EU is excellent. 34% of the population of Croatia gave good scoring, and 3% thought that it was excellent. In Portugal for the same activity 29% of the respondents gave good, and 7% excellent evaluation. However, weakness in handling the immigration crisis was represented as the most typical feature by some countries. In five countries the number of those who mentioned this weakness was above 85%: Czech Republic (85%), Italy (86%), Poland, Greece and Slovenia (87%).

## Rate the job that the EU is doing in Fighting terrorism and preventing more terrorist attacks in Europe!



In the eyes of the Europeans the fight against terrorism and the prevention of terrorist attacks seems as the second most poorly executed and resolved activities of the EU. 49% of the respondents perceive weak performance by the European Union, 38% think that the Union performs well, and 7% of them claim that it performs excellently.

### Rate the job that the EU is doing in Fighting terrorism and preventing more terrorist attacks in Europe



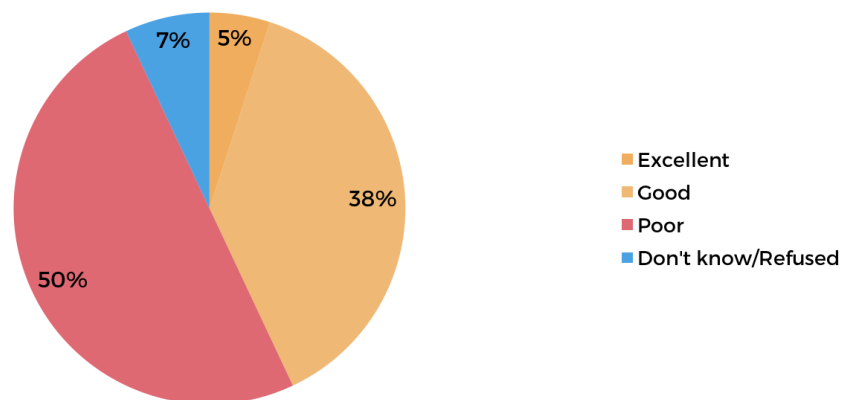
A major difference can be observed among the countries. Regarding the two countries that are most exposed to the terrorist attacks, Belgium and France, their



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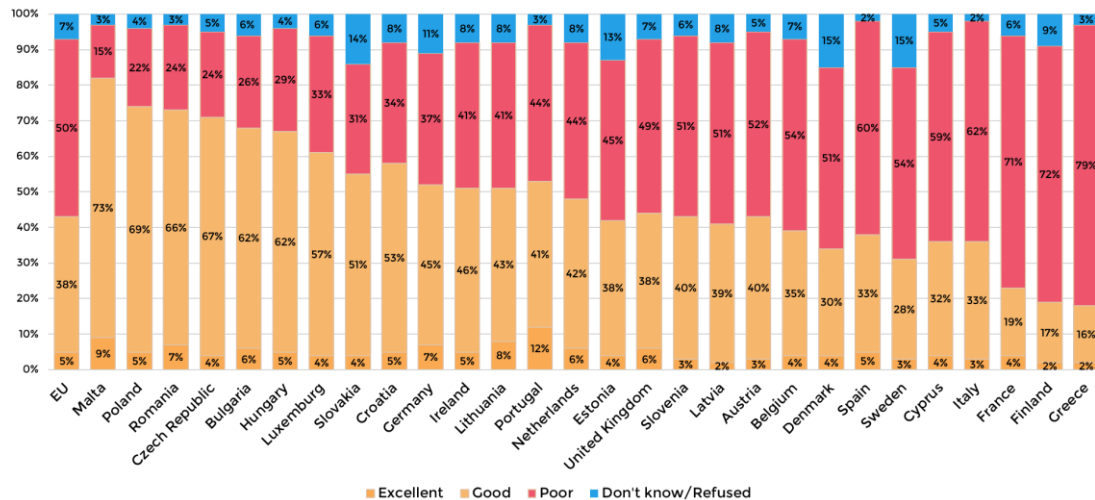
scores are different. The distribution of the answers in Belgium equals the distribution of the aggregate answers. French respondents are more critical than Belgians, because 57% of them said that the EU is weak in the fight against terrorism. Greece (60%), Latvia (59%), Lithuania (60%), Slovakia (59%) and Slovenia (59%) are similarly critical against the Union. Hungarians are the most critical regarding this topic: 66% view that the performance of the EU in the fighting against terrorism is weak. There are two countries that really appreciate the performance of the European Union in the fight against terrorism: 19% of the Romanians replied that the performance of the Union is excellent, whereas 17% of the Portuguese gave the best scoring for that too.

### **Rate the job that the EU is doing in Improving the economy!**



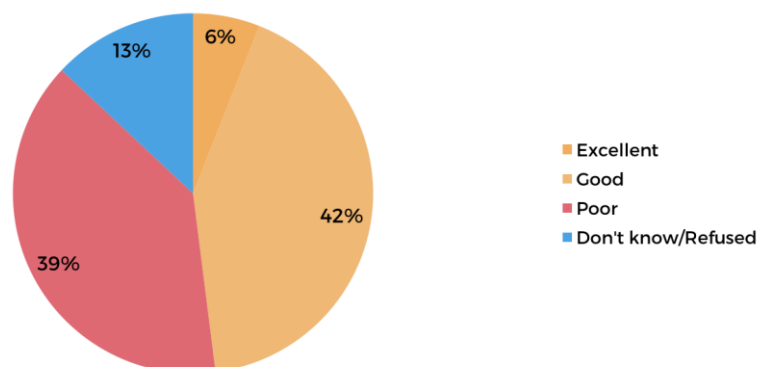
The third activity that they had to evaluate was the development of the economy. According to 5% of the respondents the EU does an excellent job in this field. Another 38% of them found that the economic development in the EU is good, but 50% said that in this regard the performance of the EU is poor.

**Rate the job that the EU is doing in Improving the economy**



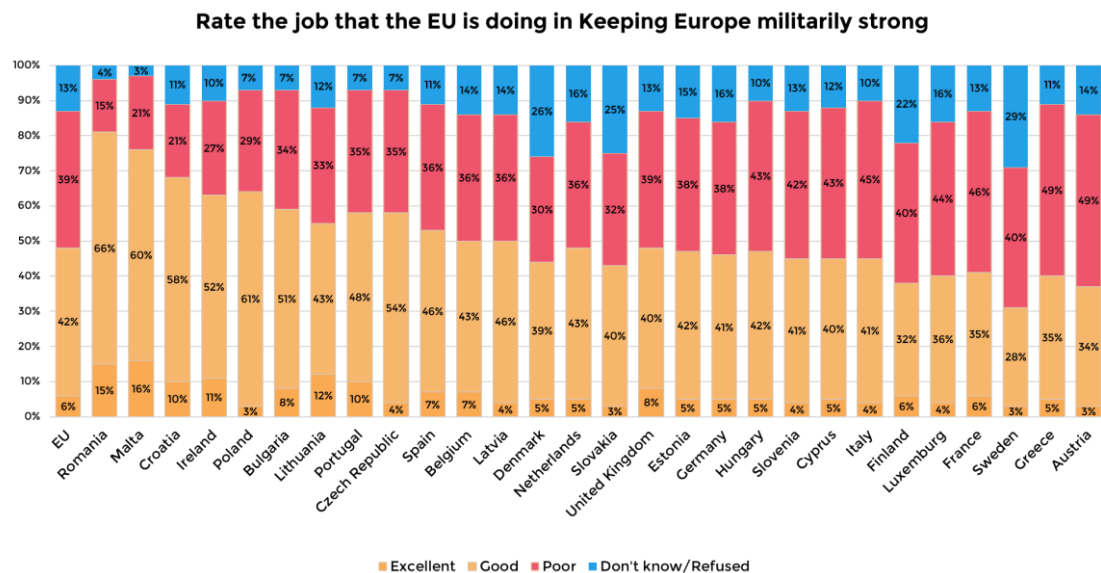
The three most critical countries against the EU, Finland, France and Greece expressed it the same way as for the other activities. 72% of the Finns, 71% of the French and 79% of the Greeks claim that the EU is performing poorly in the field of improving the economy. The circle of the optimists is much wider, in six countries the proportion of those who thought that the EU was performing well was above 62%. These included Bulgaria (62%), Czech Republic (67%), Hungary (62%), Malta (73%), Poland (69%) and Romania (66%). Overall the survey shows that the Maltese are most appreciative of the performance of the EU, while the Greeks and the French are the most critical against the Union.

**Rate the job that the EU is doing in Keeping Europe militarily strong!**



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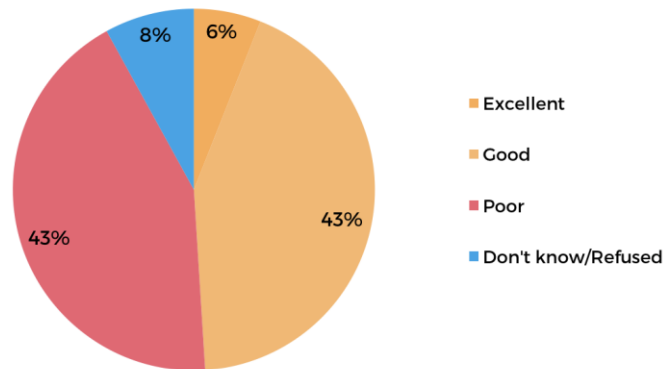
On the whole reviewing the work of the EU, the military protection and safeguarding the European interests seemed to be the best executed tasks. The work done by the EU to provide military protection for Europe was appreciated by 6% of the respondents as excellent, 42% as good. It is important to note that the number of those who refused to answer was the highest at this question, which shows that this is the question about which Europeans have the least information: 13% of the respondents refused to answer this question.



There were only four countries that perceived explicitly poor performance in this category that are also dissatisfied with some other activities of the EU as well. 49% of the Austrians, 46% of the French, 49% of the Greeks and 45% of the Italians evaluated the military protection of Europe as poor.

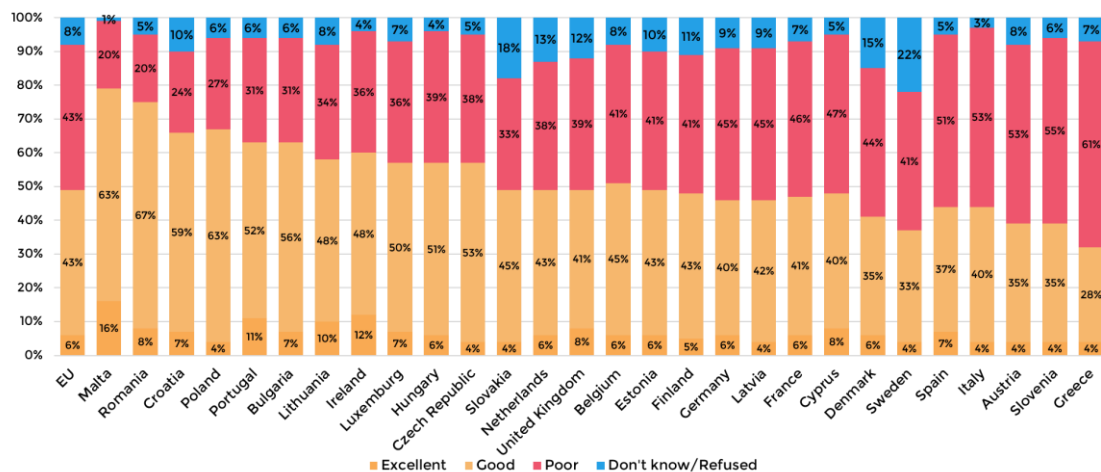
On the other end here you find the Maltese again: 16% of them thought that the performance of the EU was excellent. Some other countries also gave excellent scores: 10% of the Croatians chose this option, 11% of the Irish, and 12% of the Lithuanians.

### Rate the job that the EU is doing in Maintaining European values!



It is mostly about the safeguarding of European interests that respondents feel the most that the EU is doing a good job. 6% of those who were asked appreciated the performance of the Union in this area as excellent; another 43% view it as poor performance (8% refused to answer).

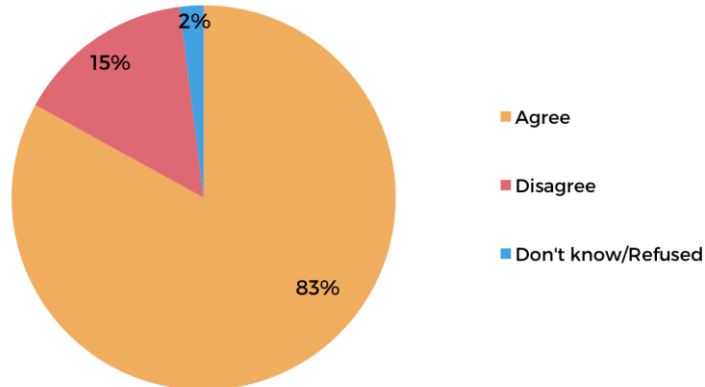
### Rate the job that the EU is doing in Maintaining European values



Similarly to some other questions there were some critical countries, among which the most critical was Greece with 61% of the Greeks thinking that the performance of the EU is poor in this field. More than half of the respondents from Austria (53%), Italy (53%), Slovenia (55%) and Spain (51%) expressed the same critical viewpoint. Croatia and Romania seemed to be the most satisfied: less than a quarter of them were critical from this perspective against the EU.

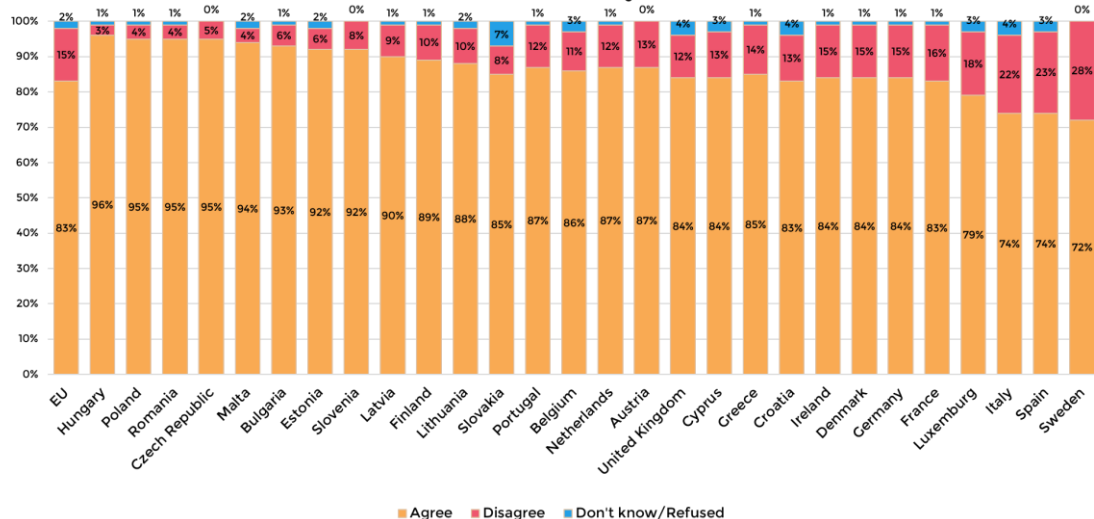


**Do you agree or disagree with EU should protect the outer European borders more effectively?**



We have questioned the efficiency of border controls of Europe. The statement in the question was the following: Do you agree/disagree that the EU should protect the European outer borders more effectively? 83% of the respondents agreed with this.

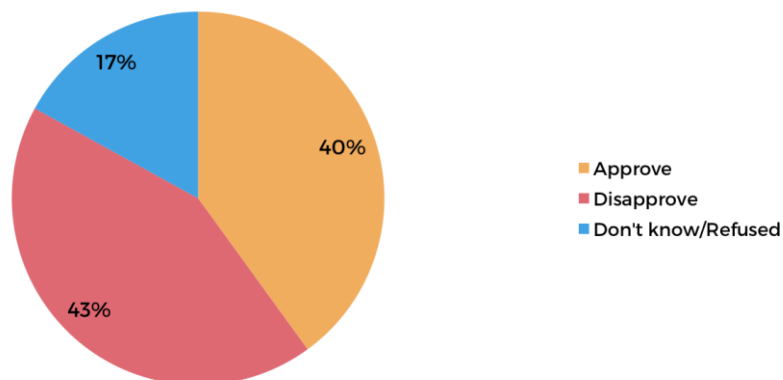
**Do you agree or disagree with EU should protect the outer European borders more effectively?**



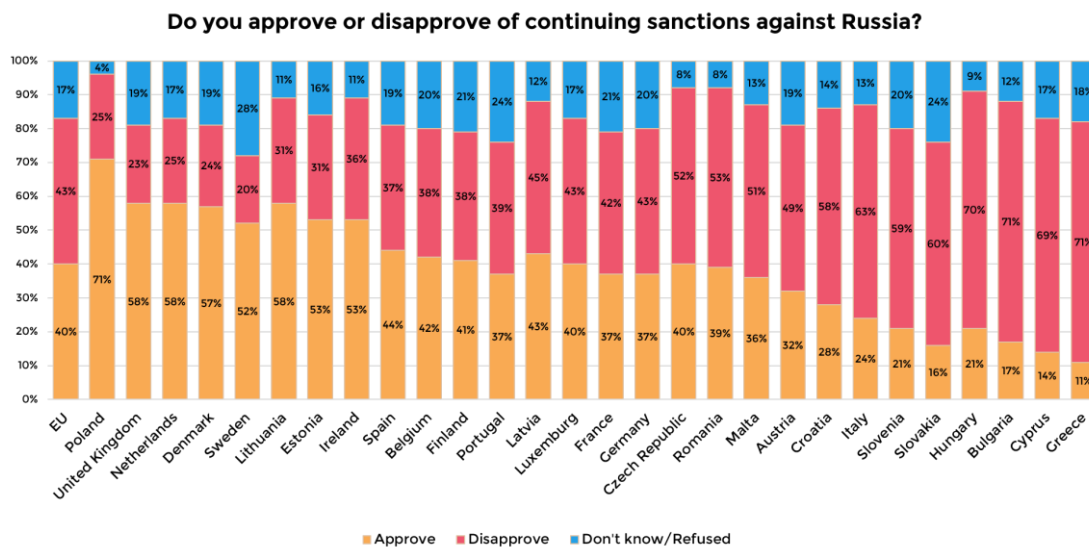
The distribution of those who agreed ranged between 72 to 96%. The Swedes agreed the least; Hungarians agreed the most that the borders of Europe should

be protected more efficiently. Similarly to the Hungarians, the Czechs, Poles and Rumanians also agreed in the same proportion.

**Do you approve or disapprove of continue sanctions against Russia?**

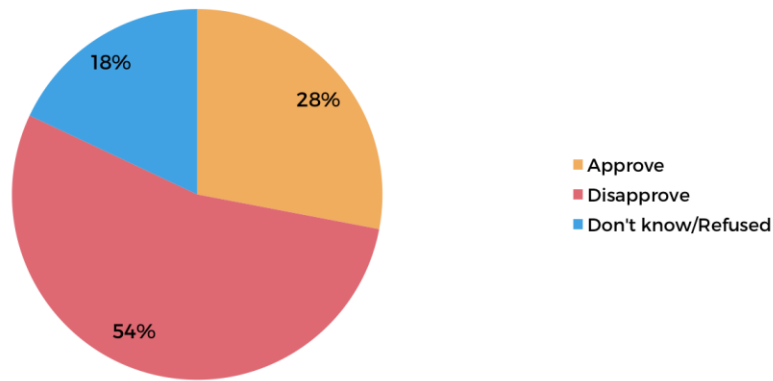


In our questionnaire we looked beyond the European Union, and examined the opinions relating to actual foreign policy issues. One of the important topics in the research was the perception of the Ukrainian–Russian conflict, which we examined from two aspects. One was the continuation of the sanctions against Russia, and the other was the possible military action in order to protect the Ukraine. 40% of the respondents agreed with the continuation of sanctions against Russia, whereas 28% agreed with the deployment of the military. In the case of both questions the number of those who refused to answer was high, so with regard to the continuation of sanctions against Russia 17% of those asked were uninformed or refused to tell their opinion. In the respect of the question about the Ukrainian–Russian conflict this proportion reached 18%.



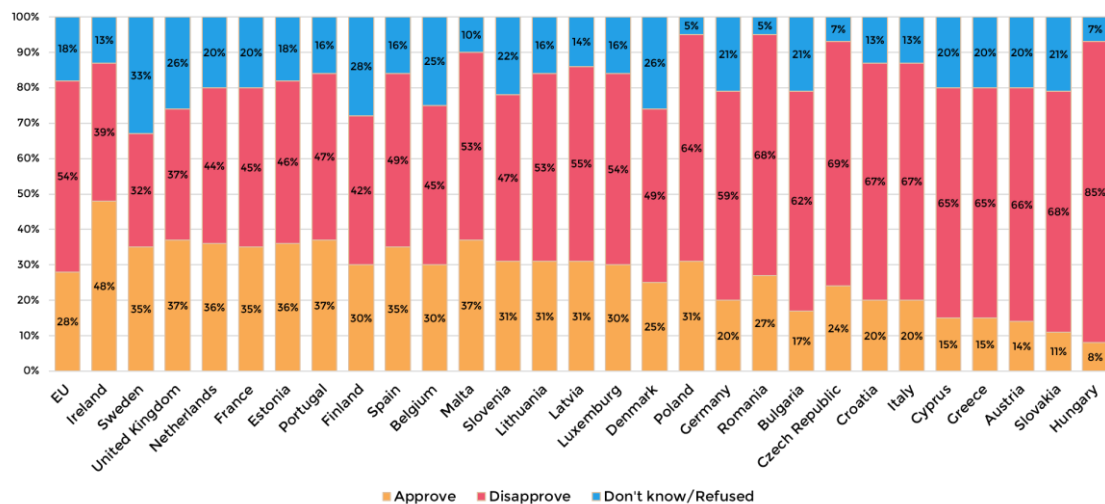
In the distribution of the responses in each country there is a significant difference. There were four countries where at least two third of the respondents disagreed with the continuation of the sanctions, these are: Bulgaria (71%), Cyprus (69%), Greece (71%) and Hungary (70%). Outstandingly high refusal was typical in the case of the Swedes, more than a quarter of them couldn't give an answer to this question (28%). More than 55% of the respondents voted for the continuation of the sanctions against Russia, Denmark (57%), Lithuania (58%), the Netherlands (58%), Poland (71%) and the United Kingdom (58%) were the most supportive of the continuing sanctions.

### Do you approve or disapprove of using the military to stop the Russians from taking Ukraine?



We also asked what the people in the EU thought about the necessity of deploying the military against Russia in order to protect the Ukraine. Only a bit more than the quarter of those who were in the sample approved of this idea, i.e. 28%, and more than half of them rejected the necessity of the actions. 18% of them didn't want to express their views in this question.

### Do you approve or disapprove of using the military to stop the Russians from taking Ukraine?



With regard to the military intervention, those who disapprove the intervention are in a majority in most member states. However, the answers of three countries differed significantly from all the other countries. It was Hungary where the people



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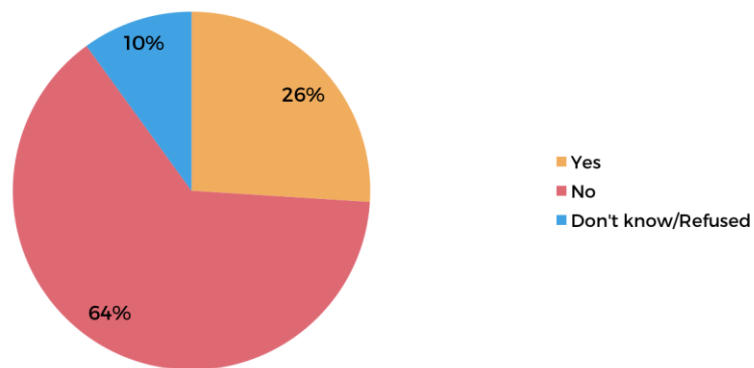
rejected this option almost unanimously, as 85% of those asked rejected military intervention. There was no other country where negative answers were given in such a large proportion. In contrary to Hungary it was Ireland where the responses were in favour of the military interventions, as 48% of the Irish agreed with the military intervention. The Swedes seemed to be the most insecure. One third of them couldn't say anything with regard to this issue, 33% of them refused to answer.



#### 4. Leaving the EU

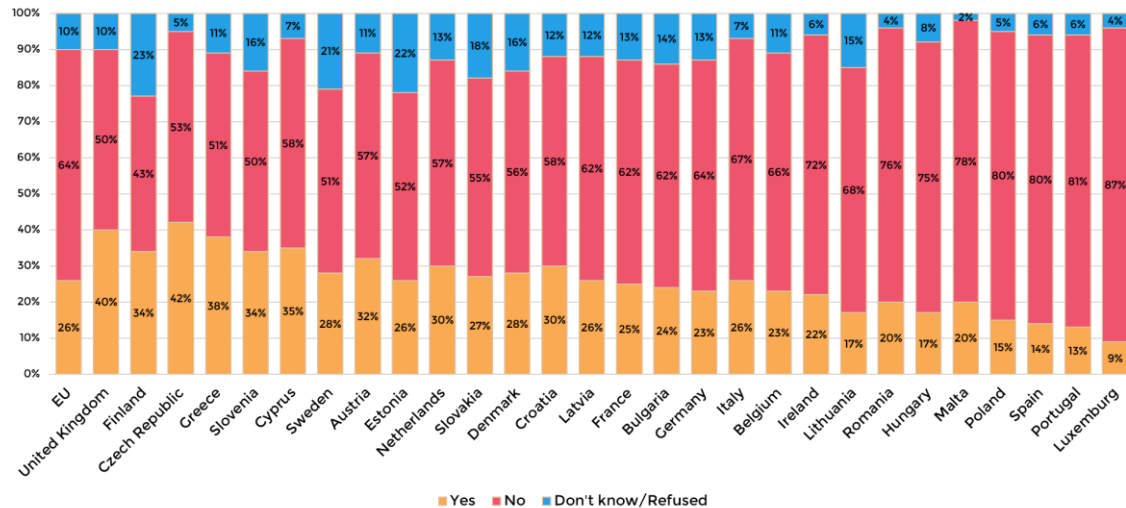
There aren't any countries where the number of those who want to exit the EU-would be in majority.

**Would you sign a petition to have your country leave the EU?**



We used a question for assessing the EU membership, which is related to a theoretical petition about leaving the EU. At this question the negative answers were articulated. 10% of the respondents couldn't or didn't want to answer this question. One quarter (26%) of the respondents agreed with signing the petition, however nearly two third (64%) of them were strongly against signing a petition, which would initiate their country to leave the EU.

### Would you sign a petition to have your country leave the EU?

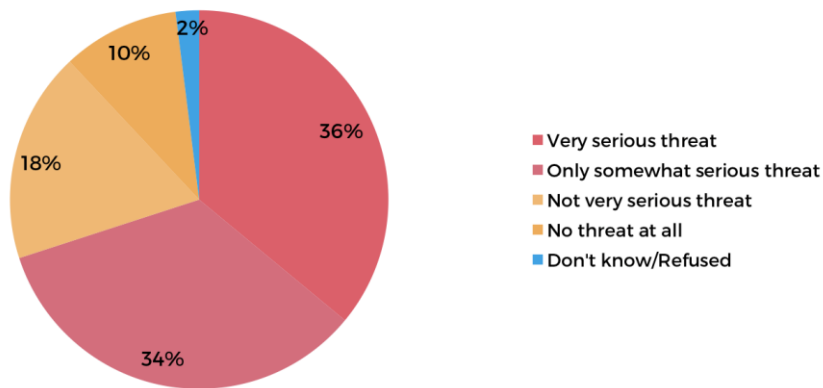


Similarly to the other questions, the questions about the exit of the EU were answered with major differences in each country. As it was expected, the rejection of the Union is on one of the highest levels in the United Kingdom, 40% of them would sign a petition like that. Another country considering the exit is the Czech Republic, where 42% of the respondents think that they would sign the imaginary petition. There is a similarly high rate of rejection to be seen in Greece (38%) and Finland (34%). The answer given to this question in Finland has the most unique distribution among the 28 countries, owing to the fact that the proportion of those who consider the signing is outstanding, but the proportion of those is also high who cannot make a decision (23%). There was only one more country where the rejection of the answer was as high as in Finland, i.e. in Estonia (22%). There is a wide circle of pro-EU-countries, including Luxemburg (9% of them support the exit), Poland (15% of them support the exit), Portugal (13%) and Spain (14%). Hungary is rather on the side to favour EU membership: 17% would sign the petition, while 75% definitely wouldn't sign it.

## 5. Immigration

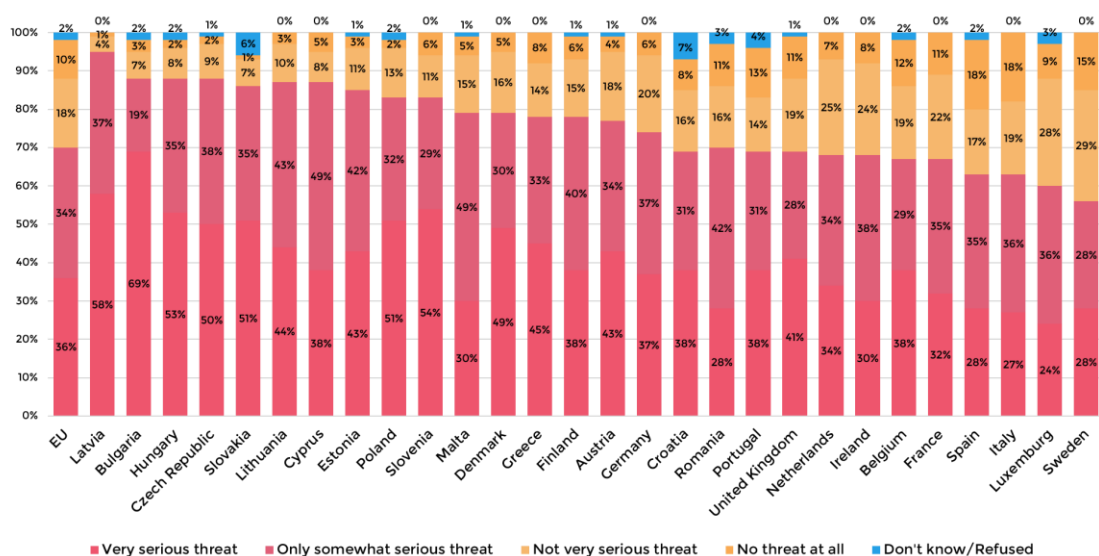
70% of the respondents find the growth of the Muslim population in Europe a major problem.

**How serious a threat to Europe is the rapid population growth of Muslims?**



One of the social developments taking place currently in the European Union is the growth of the Muslim population. 36% consider that it is a very serious threat, 34% think that this process is only a somewhat serious threat. More than a quarter, (28%) think that it is not a very serious threat or no threat at all.

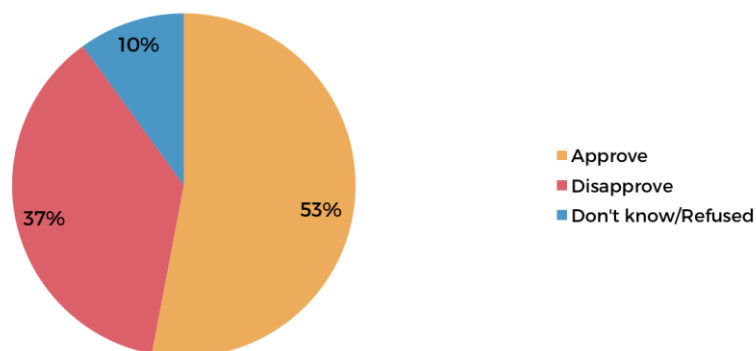
**How serious a threat to Europe is the rapid population growth of Muslims?**





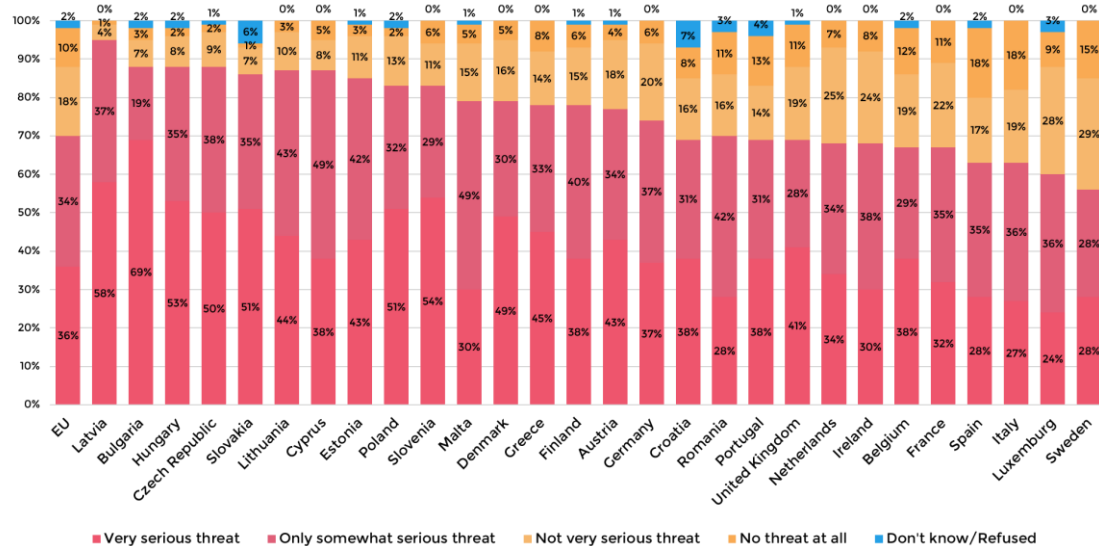
Those who consider the rapid population growth of Muslims a threat are in a majority in every member state. It is typical mostly for those countries where there were the biggest terrorist attacks and where the proportion of the Muslim population is high that they don't consider the growth of the Muslim population a major problem, for example in Belgium and in France. In those countries where compared to some other European countries the proportion of the Muslim population is relatively lower is, it is a more typical feature that they define this process as a problem, just like in Hungary. In Bulgaria (69%), in Hungary (53%), in Latvia (58%), in Poland (51%) and Slovenia (54%) more than half of the respondents think that the growth of the proportion of Muslim population is a very alarming problem. Approximately one fifth to slightly more than one quarter of the Belgians (19%), the French (22%), the Germans (20%), the Irish (24%), the Luxembourgers (28%), the Dutch (25%), the Swedes (29%) and the Brits (19%) don't think that the growing Muslim population is a threat at all.

**Do you approve or disapprove of the European Union quota plan to distribute recent immigrants throughout Europe?**



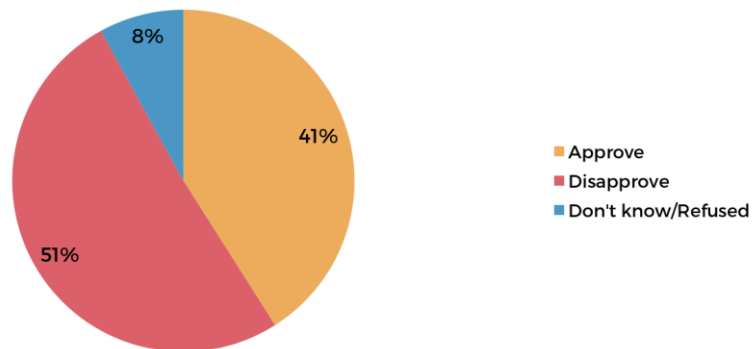
37% of the respondents are against it, but 53% are in favour of the quota system, which would distribute among the countries of Europe the migrants coming to the continent. 10% of the respondents couldn't answer this question.

**How serious a threat to Europe is the rapid population growth of Muslims?**



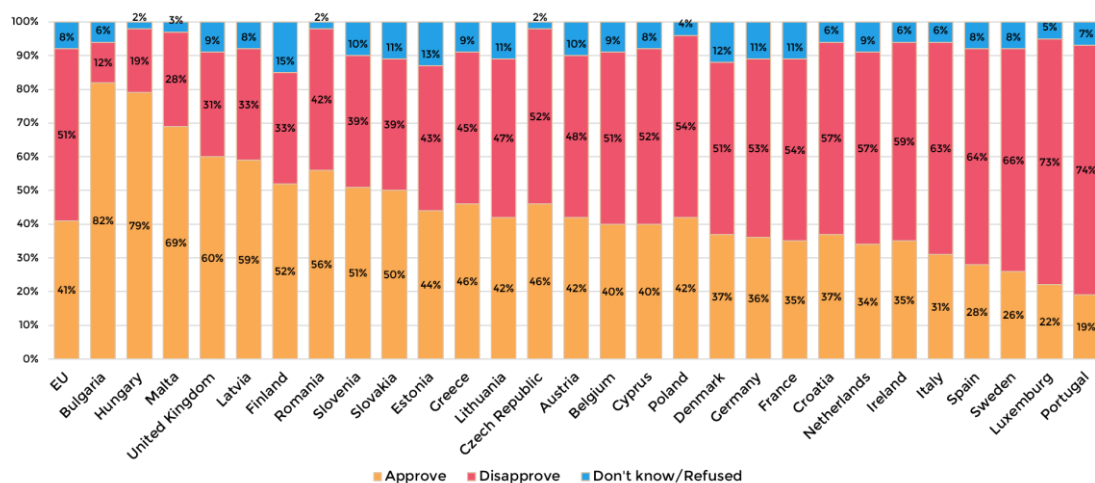
On this subject there is a major discrepancy between the countries, the proportion of the in favour answers ranges between 10% and 76%, whereas the rejecting answers range between 16% and 85%. The highest rate of refusal to answer, which reflects primarily confusion, is in Denmark (22%). Austria (76%), Germany (74%) and Greece (73%) agree most with the planned EU quota system. All the three countries are personally and directly involved in the migration issue, and as we could see they welcome and support it, mainly because they see that the migrants are coming to Europe because of security reasons. Among the countries that disapprove the most with this plan you find Hungary (85%), Czech Republic (83%), Latvia (71%), Romania (73%) and Slovakia (80%).

### Do you approve or disapprove of your country should have fences to protect its borders against immigrants?



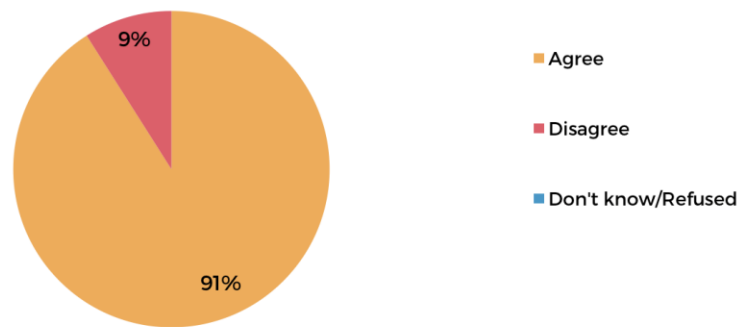
Next to the inclusion and the quota-based distribution, fence building is also an alternative. 41% of the respondents approved of the fence building, 51% disapproved, 8% refused answering.

### Do you approve or disapprove of your country should have fences to protect its borders against immigrants?

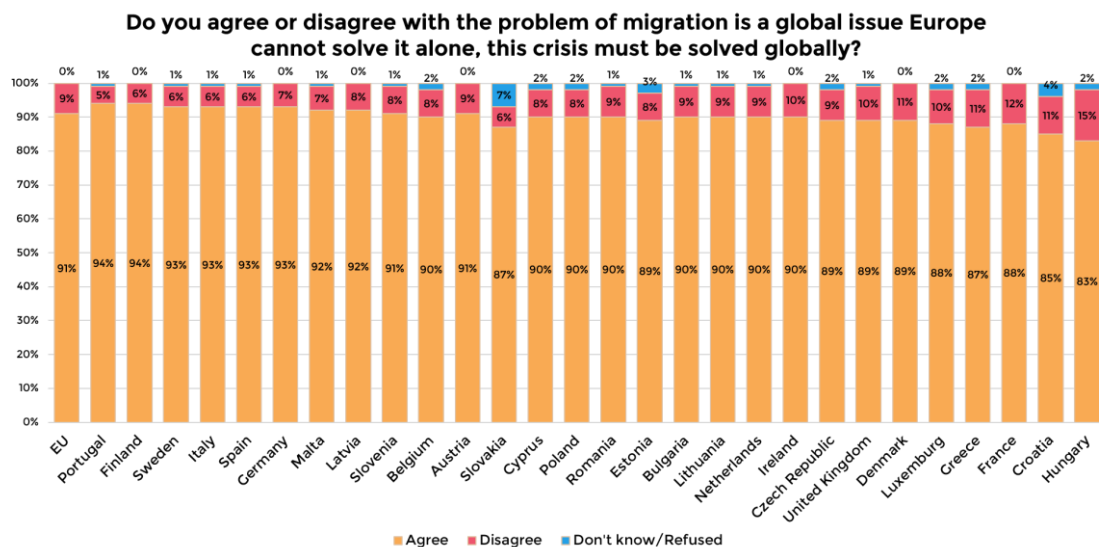


Opinions of the individual countries cannot be considered homogenous, i.e. the range of those who agree with building a fence is between 19% and 82%. Hungary (79%) and in Bulgaria (82%) have the highest rate of those who prefer the fence building. Among Portugal and Luxemburg respondents the approval of the fence building is the lowest (19% and 22% respectively).

**Do you agree or disagree with the problem of migration is a global issue Europe cannot solve it alone, this crisis must be solved globally?**



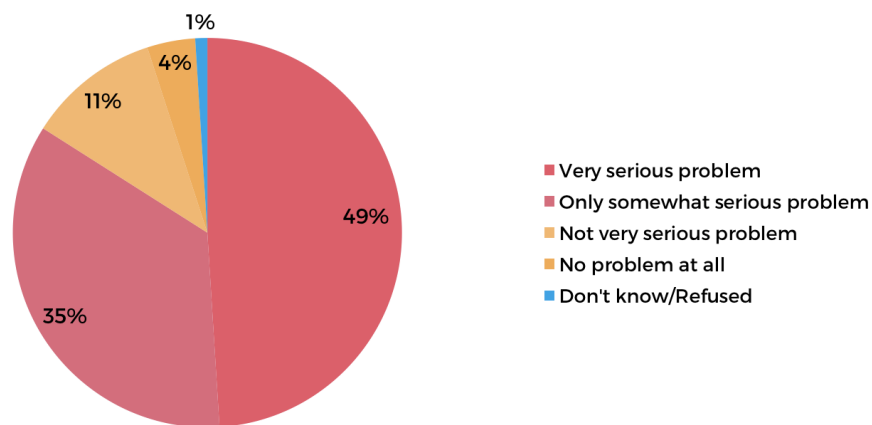
Contrary to the major distribution of the opinions about the fence building, European citizens are homogenous in answering the question regarding global solutions. 91% of the respondents think that Europe cannot solve the migration problem alone, but a global solution is necessary.



Regarding this question, among the samples taken in different countries there wasn't such a difference, as we experienced in the case of some former questions, however, it can be ascertained that while this question was mostly agreed by in Portugal, Finland, Sweden, Italy, Spain and Germany (93-94%), in Hungary 15% denied the coverage of reality in the statement.

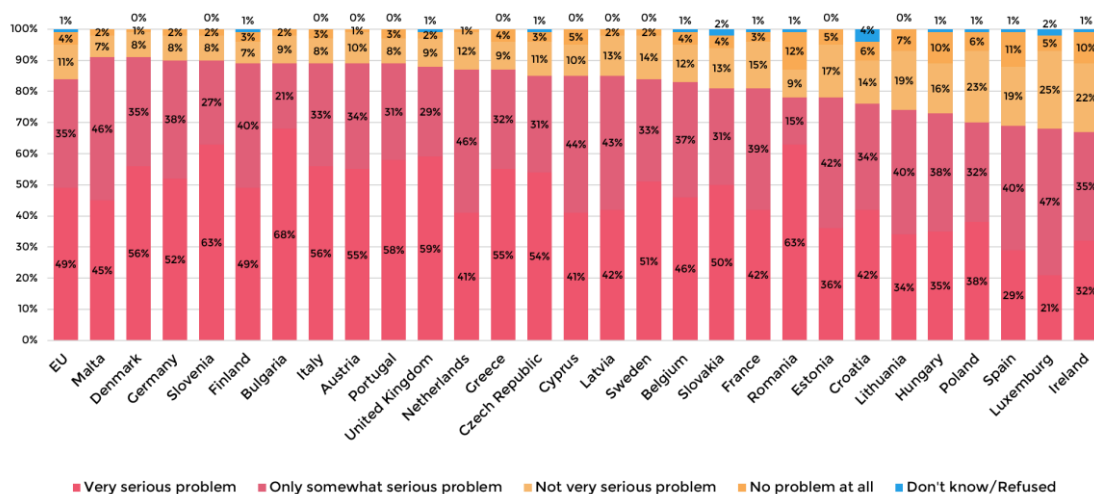
Altogether 84% of the population of the Union consider that the issue of illegal immigration is worrying

### How serious a problem do you believe it is that illegal immigrants are coming into our country?



In addition to the global action we would have liked to perceive to what extent European residents were concerned by illegal immigration when they think of their own countries. 49% of the respondents considered illegal immigration a very serious problem, whereas another 35% think that it is only somewhat serious problem.

### How serious a problem do you believe it is that illegal immigrants are coming into our country?

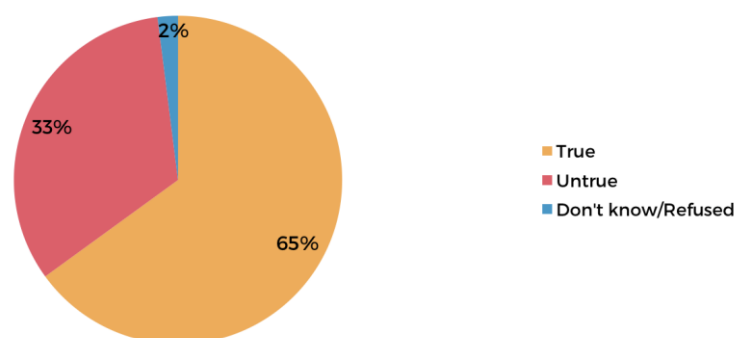


At least two-thirds of the population of each member state considers illegal immigration a significant problem. There were three countries where the proportion of those who thought that illegal immigration wasn't a serious problem was outstandingly high, i.e. Ireland (22%), Luxemburg (25%) and Poland (23%). Another three countries were worried in an outstanding proportion, like in Bulgaria, Romania and Slovenia, where 68%, 63 and 63% of the respondents respectively found that the illegal immigration to their countries was a very serious problem.

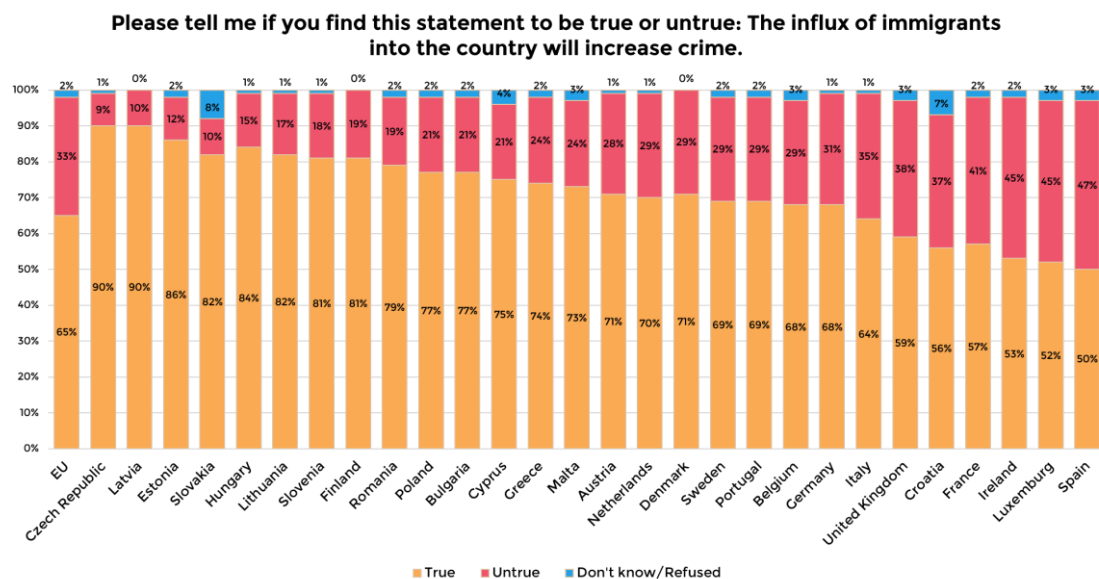
According to the majority of European citizens the immigration wave increases the risk of terrorism, the number of criminal activities, and imposes risk on the cultural integrity of the countries that are impacted by it.

In the questionnaire we also covered the presumed or real social and economic impacts of the large-scale migration. The potentially examined impacts covered by the questionnaire are the following: rise in the number of criminal activities, increasing threat of terrorist attacks, difficulties in getting jobs, losing the culture and the identity of the country. In all the four questions more than 50% of the respondents agreed with it.

**Please tell me if you find this statement to be true or untrue: The influx of immigrants into the country will increase crime.**

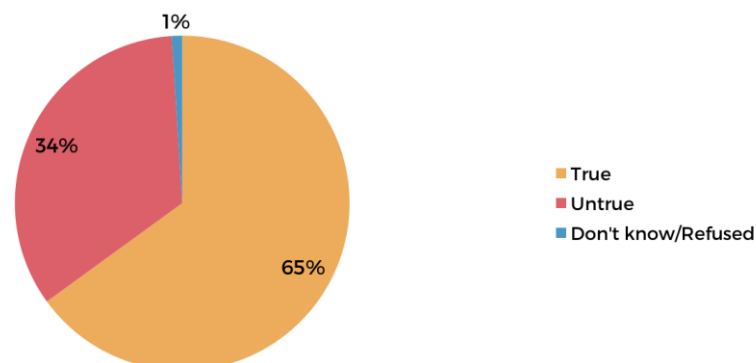


To the greater extent respondents agreed that the influx of immigrants would increase crime rate in their countries: 65% of the respondents thought that this statement was true.



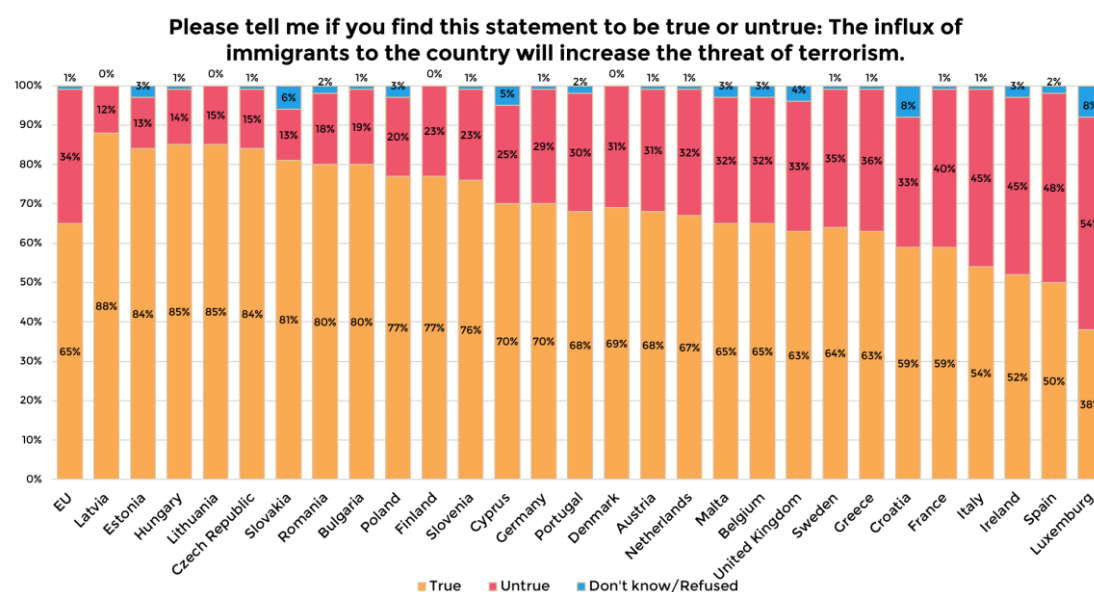
Spaniards are the least concerned about the rise of criminal activities as a result of the migrants with half of the respondents (50%) agreeing with the statement. The statement was supported to a similar rate in Ireland (53%) and Luxembourg (52%). In the Czech Republic we find the highest rate of agreeing with the statement: 90% are afraid of the public safety going worse. The majority of the citizens of Estonia (86%), Finland (81%), Hungary (84%), Latvia (90%), Lithuania (82%), Slovakia (82%) and Slovenia (81%) are afraid of an increase in crime.

**Please tell me if you find this statement to be true or untrue: The influx of immigrants to the country will increase the threat of terrorism.**



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In addition to the increase of crime the residents feel that the threat of terrorism is directly connected to the influx of immigrants. 65% of the respondents agree with the statement that the immigrant wave increases the threat of terrorism in the country of the respondent. Similarly to the previous question the number of those who refused to answer was low (1%).

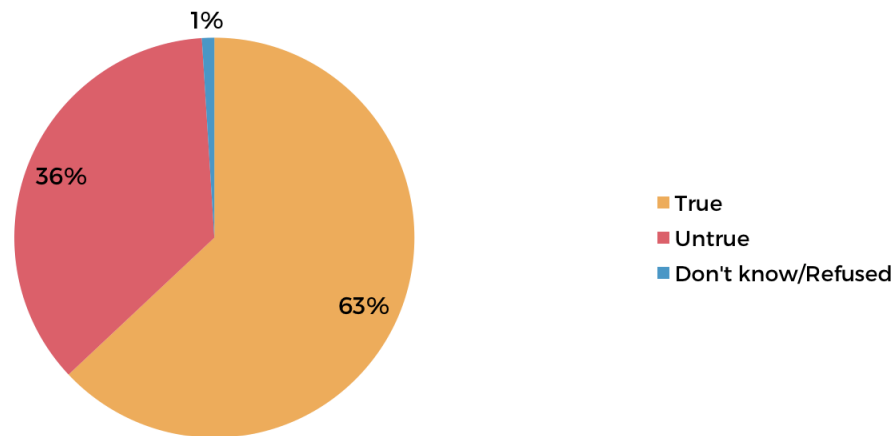


Luxembourgers rejected the most that the immigration wave increases the threat of terrorism: most of them (54%) do not share this view. Similarly to the previous question one half of the Spanish respondents agreed with this statement (50%).

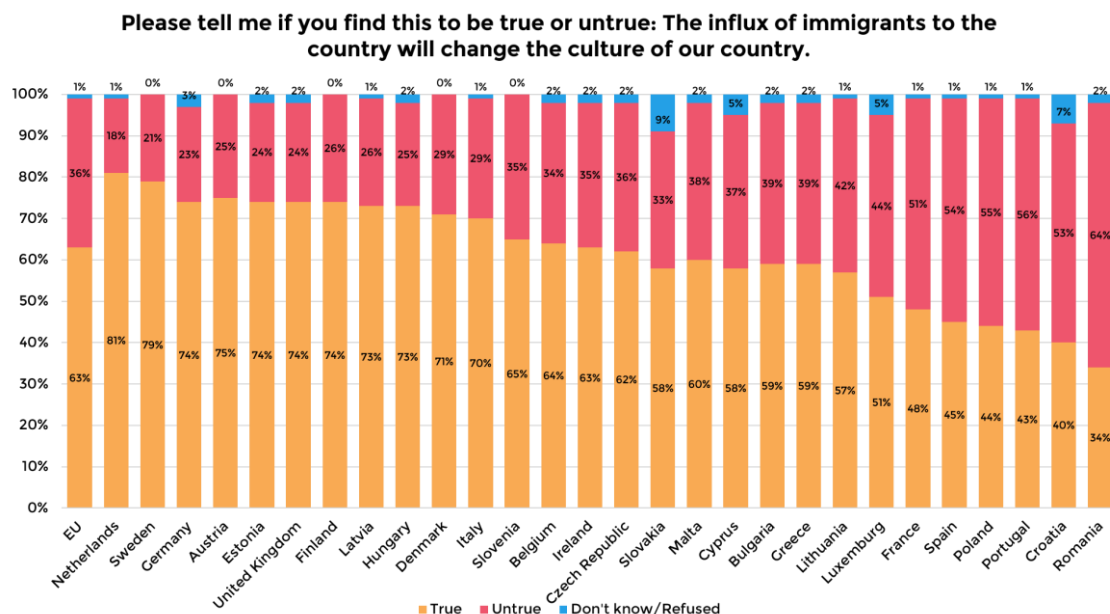
People are concerned the most about the increase of the threat of terrorism in Latvia (88%). A higher share of the population is concerned by the increased threat of terrorism in Bulgaria (80%), Czech Republic (84%), Estonia (84%), Hungary (85%), Lithuania (85%), Romania (80%) and Slovakia (81%).



**Please tell me if you find this to be true or untrue:  
The influx of immigrants to the country will change  
the culture of our country.**



63% of the respondents viewed that the immigration changes the culture and the identity of the country, whereas 36% claimed that it is not true. On this question most all respondents had an opinion with only 1% not answering this question.



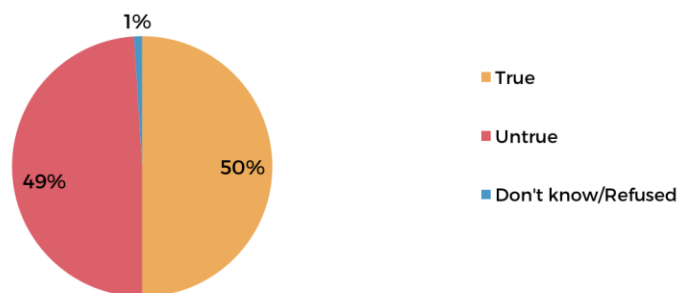
In almost every member state (except for 6 countries) the majority believes that the influx of immigrants will change their country's culture. The number of those who agreed with this statement was outstandingly high in the Netherlands and Sweden.



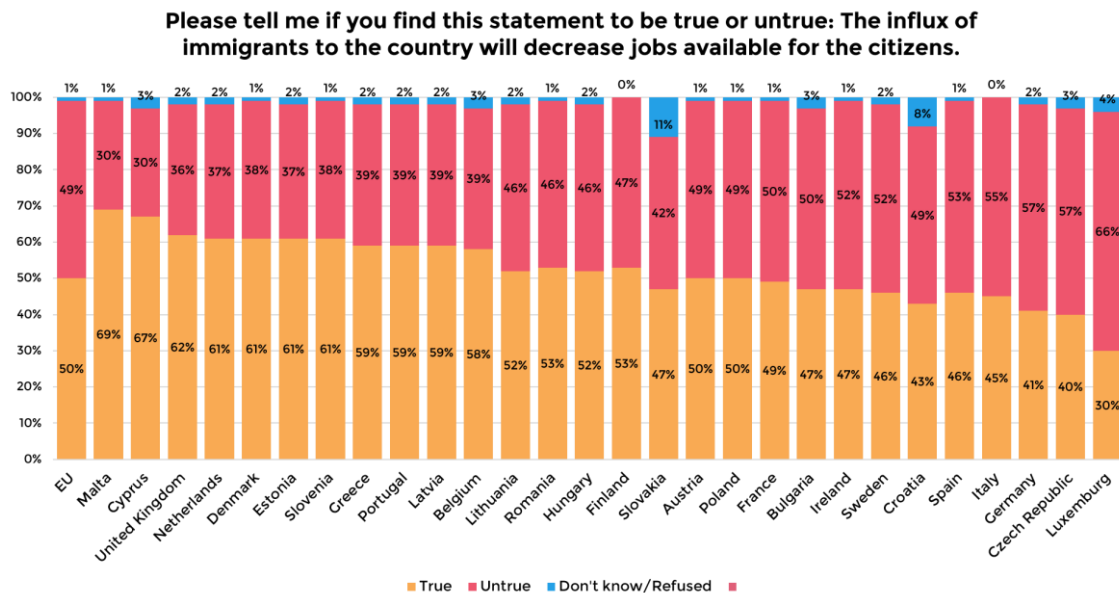
## PROJECT 28

Here 81% and 79% respectively view that the culture of the country is changed by the immigration. Romanian respondents are on the other end of the list: they think that it is not true that immigrants would endanger Romanian identity and culture, 64% of them rejected this statement. The Croatian (40%), French (48%), Polish (44%), Portuguese (43%) and the Spanish population (45%) feel the most that their national culture is protected.

**Please tell me if you find this statement to be true or untrue: The influx of immigrants to the country will decrease jobs available for the citizens.**



We examined the impacts of the immigration in the fourth dimension - the labour market. 50% of the respondents viewed that the immigration wave decreases the number of jobs available for the citizens; however, exactly the same proportion of respondents thought the opposite. Only 1% of the respondents were indefinite.

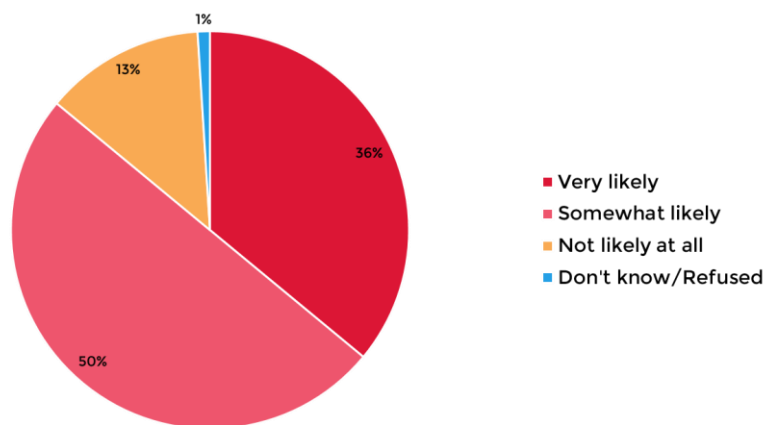


The proportions of responses of those countries that agree with the statement are distributed between 30% and 69% respectively. The Maltese respondents (69%) and the Cyprians (67%) are the most afraid to lose their jobs because of the migrants, whereas the Luxembourgers, the Czechs and the Germans are the least afraid, with (57% –66%) of them not scared of the migrants taking their jobs. The order of the four most endangered areas differ from country to country. Germany was the only one to set up an order of ranking, that they feel most that their own infrastructure is jeopardized, (74%), then as second the threat of a terrorism wave is perceived as a result of the immigration wave, (70%). The increase of crime is their third fear, connected to the influx of migrants (68%) and they are the least afraid of losing their jobs (41%). The Hungarian respondents also set up a unique order of importance, so they are the most afraid of the increase of the threat of terrorism (85%) in the context of migration, followed by increased crime (84%), and they feel that a threat to Hungarian culture (73%) seems realistic. Hungarian respondents viewed that the least threat from the context of migrants is the reduction of available jobs (52%). The same order was expressed in Lithuania and Bulgaria, too. In the overwhelming majority of the countries the least endangered dimension is the job. Spaniards had the most uniform thinking in the four various

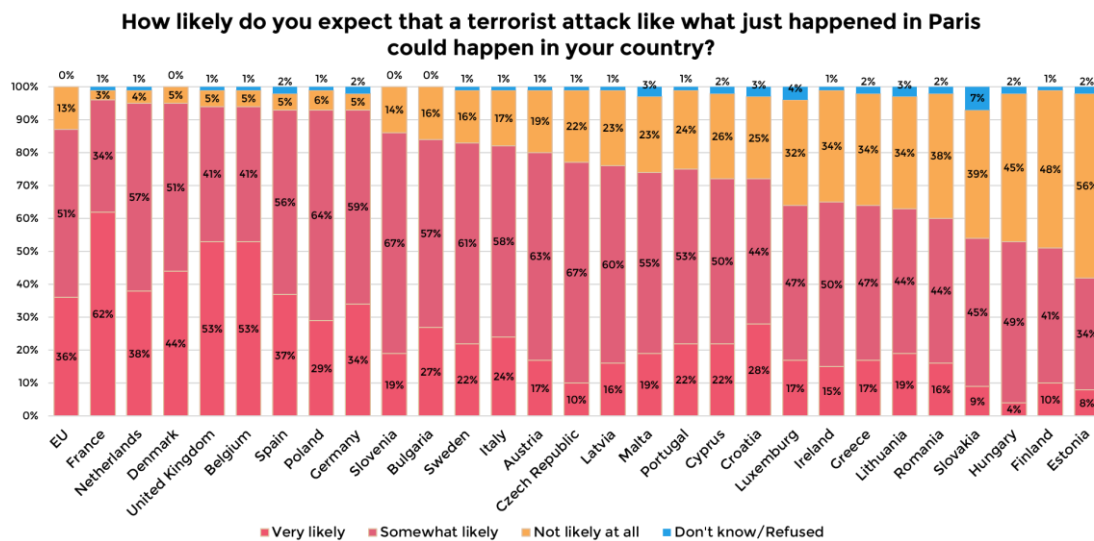
perspectives. The biggest difference among the dimensions was experienced in Romania and the Czech Republic, where nearly 50% point differences occurred, depending on the aspects of our trying to find out what their fears were.

## 6. Terrorism

**How likely do you expect that a terrorist attack like what just happened in Paris could happen in your country?**



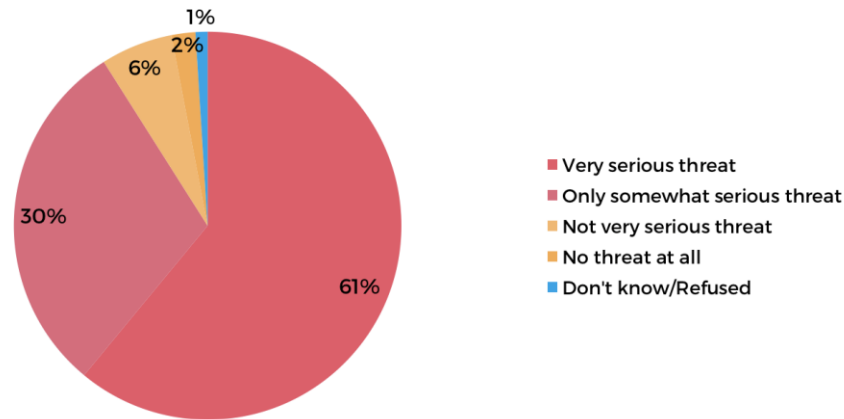
In the context of immigration, we have already covered this topic, 69% of the respondents think that immigration may increase the threat of terrorism. How many people think that terrorist attacks similar to that of Paris can happen in their countries? According to 36% it is very likely that a terrorist attack that happened in Paris last November will happen again in some form. Another 50% think that another attack is somewhat likely and only 13% think that another terrorist attack is not likely at all.



Each of the countries feel by different intensities how their countries are threatened, so the distribution weighted by the number of the population of the given country shows significantly different answers. 36% of the Europeans think that it is very likely that in their countries an attack similar to the terrorist attack in Paris can happen, while 50% of them find it somewhat likely. From the answers three directions are obvious. There is the first group, which suffered terrorist attacks already that feel very threatened, including France and Belgium<sup>1</sup>; the UK also feels very vulnerable. The proportion of those in these three countries that think it is very likely to have attacks is 62% and 53% respectively. Those that are in other groups of countries think that they are not threatened by terrorist attacks at all. Countries like Estonia (it is not likely at all: 56%), Finland (48%), Hungary (45%), Romania (38%) and Slovakia (39%). Such countries belong to the third group that feel to be somewhat threatened.

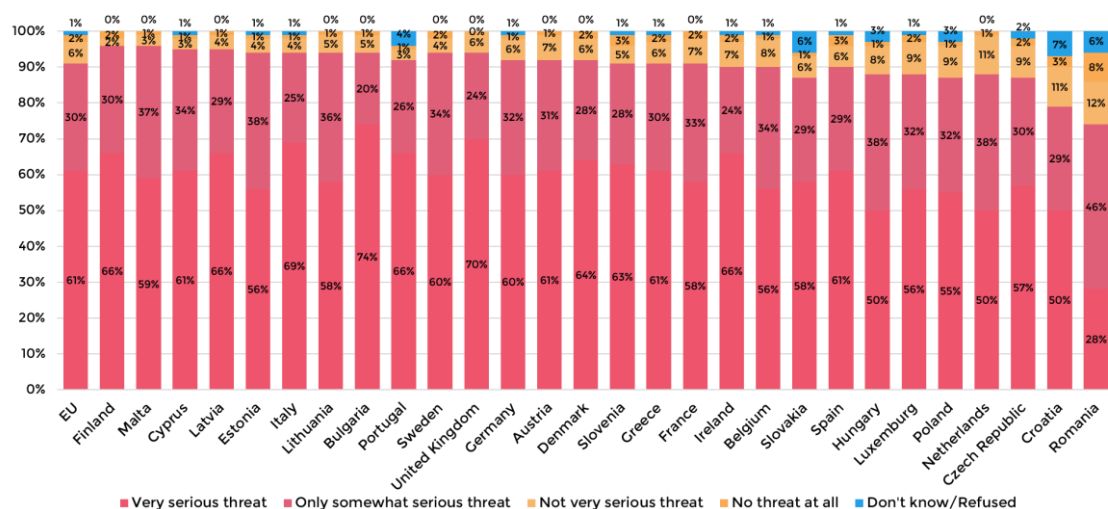
<sup>1</sup> The data sample was taken before the terrorist attack in Brussels.

### How serious a threat do you believe ISIS will be in Europe over the next 5 years?



ISIS claimed responsibility for the terrorist attacks, so the assessment of the Islamic State gaining ground was also an important part of our research. We asked how the respondents felt that the Islamic State will impose a threat in Europe in the next five years. Four categories were given as options: very serious threat, only somewhat serious threat, not very serious threat, no threat at all. 91% of the respondents felt that to some extent the Islamic State will impose a threat to Europe: 61% thought it will be a very serious threat and 30% thought that it will be somewhat serious threat.

### How serious a threat do you believe ISIS will be in Europe over the next 5 years?





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Romanian and Croatian respondents are the least concerned about the Islamic State gaining ground in the next five years, although as much as 79% of the Croats and 74% of the Romanians think to a certain extent that the headway of the terrorist organization will be a threat. Mostly the Finns, the Maltese, the Cyprians, the Baltic countries, Italy and Bulgaria are concerned that the organization will be a threat in the future.



## 7. Appendix: Methodology

On behalf of Századvég Foundation, Millward Brown Public Affairs conducted a telephone opinion poll research in the 28 countries of Europe between January 18<sup>th</sup> and February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016. 28070 adults were asked who were randomly selected by the CATI- method. The data presented in the study can differ only by +/- 1-percentage point as a result of sample taking from the result that would have been the result if the total number of the population of Europe had been asked. The error limits for certain countries are +/- 3.2 percentage points.

The goal of the research:

- a) to get to know the feeling of prosperity in the countries and the popularity of the preferences regarding some dominant EU and local public personalities;
- b) map the attitudes of the citizens relating to the European Union;
- c) examine the perceptions of the citizens regarding the relevant social, political and foreign affairs activities and the attached climate of opinions;
- d) find out the opinions of the adults regarding the immigration wave, with special regard to the future developments to be expected;
- e) to get familiar with the picture about terrorism.

During the sample taking in each of the 28 EU countries we asked one thousand adult citizens. The poll was conducted in the following countries: in Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom.



*Table 1: Sample numbers of countries*

Country	Sample - numbers
Austria	1001
Belgium	1006
Bulgaria	1000
Croatia	1000
Cyprus	1000
Czech Republic	1007
Denmark	1000
Estonia	1000
Finland	1000
France	1005
Germany	1005
Greece	1000
Hungary	1002
Italy	1001
Ireland	1005
Latvia	1000
Lithuania	1000
Luxemburg	1000
Malta	1000
Netherlands	1006
Poland	1014
Portugal	1002
Romania	1000
Slovakia	1011
Slovenia	1000
Spain	1004
Sweden	1000
United Kingdom	1001
Total	28070

## 8. Appendix: Questionnaire

Q1. Generally speaking, do you think that things in your country are going in the right direction, or do you feel things are going in the wrong direction, or only that they are somewhat going in the right or wrong direction?

1. Right direction, strongly
2. Right direction, somewhat
3. Wrong direction, somewhat
4. Wrong direction, strongly
5. Neither / both
9. DK / Refused

Q2. Looking forward to next year, do you think the economy throughout the European Union will be stronger or weaker than it is now?

1. Stronger
2. Weaker
3. The same
9. DK / Refused

Rate the job that the EU is doing in each of the following:

		Excellent	Good	Poor	DK / Ref
Q3.	Handling the immigration crisis	1	2	3	9
Q4.	Fighting terrorism and preventing more terrorist attacks in Europe	1	2	3	9
Q5.	Improving the economy	1	2	3	9
Q6.	Keeping Europe militarily strong	1	2	3	9
Q7.	Maintaining European values	1	2	3	9

Do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

		Agree	Disagree	DK/Ref
Q8.	EU should protect the outer European borders more effectively	1	2	9

Do you approve or disapprove of each of the following actions?





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		Approve	Disapprove	DK / Ref
Q9.	Continue sanctions against Russia	1	2	9
Q10.	Using the military to stop the Russians from taking Ukraine	1	2	9

Q11. Would you sign a petition to have your country leave the EU?

1. Yes
2. No
9. DK / Refused

Q12. How serious a threat to Europe is the rapid population growth of Muslims? Would you say it's a very serious threat, a somewhat serious threat, a not very serious threat, or is the rapid population growth of Muslims in Europe not a threat at all?

1. Very serious
2. Only somewhat serious
3. Not very serious
4. No threat at all
9. DK/ Refused

Do you approve or disapprove of each of the following actions?

		Approve	Disapprove	DK / Ref
Q13.	The European Union quota plan to distribute recent immigrants throughout Europe	1	2	9
Q14.	'Your country' should have fences to protect its borders against immigrants	1	2	9





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Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

		Agree	Disagree	DK/Ref
Q15.	The problem of migration is a global issue Europe cannot solve it alone. This crisis must be solved globally.	1	2	9

Q16. How serious a problem do you believe it is that illegal immigrants are coming into our country? Would you say it's a very serious problem, a somewhat serious problem, a not very serious problem, or is it no problem at all?

1. Very serious
2. Only somewhat serious
3. Not very serious
4. No problem at all
9. DK/Refused

For each of the following please tell me if you find the statement to be true or untrue:

		True	Untrue	DK/Ref
Q17.	The influx of immigrants into the country will increase crime	1	2	9
Q18.	The influx of immigrants to the country will increase the threat of terrorism	1	2	9
Q19.	The influx of immigrants to the country will change the culture of our country	1	2	9
Q20.	The influx of immigrants to the country will decrease jobs available for the citizens	1	2	9

Q21. How likely do you expect that a terrorist attack like what just happened in Paris could happen in your country?

1. Very likely
2. Somewhat likely
3. Not likely at all
9. DK/Refused



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Q22. How serious a threat do you believe ISIS will be in Europe over the next 5 years? Would you say ISIS would be a very serious threat, a somewhat serious threat, a not very serious threat, or no threat at all to Europe?

1. Very serious
2. Only somewhat serious
3. Not very serious
4. No threat at all
9. DK/ Refused

### DEMOGRAPHICS

D1. How old are you?

1. 18-22
2. 23-30
3. 31-40
4. 41-50
5. 51-60
6. 61-65
7. Over65
9. Refused

D2. Gender

1. Male
2. Female

D3. Settlement size

1. up to 9.999 inhabitants
2. 10.000-49.999 inhabitants
3. 50.000-249.999 inhabitants
4. 250.000-499.999inhabitants
5. More than500.000 inhabitants
9. DK / Refused

D4. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

1. Some high school or less
2. High school degree





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3. Some college
4. College degree
5. Postgraduate work or degree
9. DK/Refused

### D5 .What is your current employment status?

1. Full-time employed
2. Part-time employed
3. Student
4. Housewife
5. Retired
6. On relief
7. Unemployed
8. Other
9. DK/Refused

### D6. How often do you attend religious services?

1. Daily
2. Several times a week
3. Once a week
4. Once or twice a month
5. A few times a year
6. Almost never
7. Never
9. DK/Refused

