



Flash Eurobarometer 522

Democracy

Report



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Directorate-General for Communication

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Flash Eurobarometer 522 – Ipsos European Public Affairs



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Survey coordinated by the European Commission, Directorate-General for Communication
(DG COMM “Media Monitoring and Eurobarometer” Unit)

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Introduction

Democracy, the rule of law and fundamental rights are the foundations on which the European Union is based. Democracy allows citizens to make electoral choices in a public space where a plurality of views can be expressed freely and to shape laws and public policies at European, national, regional and local levels. It requires safeguards, checks and balances, and institutions that fulfil their roles and uphold the rules of pluralistic democratic debate. Yet, **democracy cannot be taken for granted**. In recent years, democracy in the EU and its Member States has been facing challenges, including rising extremism and polarisation, perceived distancing between people and their elected representatives and the spread of disinformation.

In December 2020, the European Commission presented its **European Democracy Action Plan** (hereafter '**EDAP**')¹ to empower citizens and build more resilient democracies across the EU by:

- promoting free and fair elections
- strengthening media freedom and pluralism
- countering disinformation.

In her 2022 State of the Union Address, President von der Leyen announced a '**Defense of Democracy**' package. The package aims to review the implementation of, and deepen the actions under EDAP, as well as to 'bring covert foreign influence and shady funding to light'.

In this context, a flash Eurobarometer survey was commissioned by the Commission's Secretariat-General to assess EU citizens' views on the state of democracy in their country and in the EU as well as EU citizens' perceptions of the possible threats democratic institutions in the EU may be facing.

On behalf of the European Commission, Secretariat-General, Ipsos European Public Affairs interviewed a representative sample of EU citizens, aged 15 and over, in each of the 27 Member States of the European Union. Between 22 March 2023 and 29 March 2023, 25 600 interviews were conducted via computer-assisted web interviewing (CAWI), using Ipsos online panels and their partner network. Survey data presented in this report are weighted to known population proportions. The EU27 averages are weighted according to the size of the 15+ population of each country. A technical note on the methods applied to conduct the survey is appended as an annex to this report.

¹ Source: European Commission, Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions on **the European democracy action plan**, 3 December 2020, COM/2020/790 final, available at: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:52020DC0790> [accessed 8 May 2023]

Notes:

- 1) Survey results are subject to sampling tolerances meaning that not all apparent differences between groups may be statistically significant. Thus, only differences that are statistically significant (at the 5% level) – i.e. where it can be reasonably certain that they are unlikely to have occurred by chance – are highlighted in the text.
- 2) Percentages may not add up to 100%, as they are rounded to the nearest percent. Due to rounding, it may also happen that the percentages for separate response options shown in the charts do not exactly add up to the totals shown in charts and tables or mentioned in the text. Response percentages will exceed 100% if the question allowed respondents to select multiple responses.
- 3) In this report, countries are referred to by their official abbreviation. The abbreviations used in this report correspond to:

BE		Belgium	LT		Lithuania
BG		Bulgaria	LU		Luxembourg
CZ		Czechia	HU		Hungary
DK		Denmark	MT		Malta
DE		Germany	NL		Netherlands
EE		Estonia	AT		Austria
IE		Ireland	PL		Poland
EL		Greece	PT		Portugal
ES		Spain	RO		Romania
FR		France	SI		Slovenia
HR		Croatia	SK		Slovakia
IT		Italy	FI		Finland
CY		Rep. of Cyprus*	SE		Sweden
LV		Latvia			

* Cyprus as a whole is one of the 27 EU MS. However, the 'acquis communautaire' has been suspended in the part of the country which is not controlled by the government of the Republic of Cyprus. For practical reasons, only the interviews carried out in the part of the country controlled by the government of the Republic of Cyprus are included in the 'CY' category.

Key findings

The state of democracy

- **Close to half of EU citizens surveyed (47%) reply being ‘very satisfied’ or ‘somewhat satisfied’ with the way democracy works in their country.** At the country level, the proportion being satisfied ranges from 26% in Bulgaria to 79% in Denmark.
- More than seven in ten ‘strongly agree’ (26%) or ‘tend to agree’ (46%) that **citizens in their country can access accurate information from multiple media sources about topics at stake.** About two-thirds ‘strongly agree’ (28%) or ‘tend to agree’ (40%) that citizens in their country **can express their political opinion without fearing negative consequences.** Close to six in ten ‘strongly agree’ (19%) or ‘tend to agree’ (39%) that citizens in their country **can engage with candidates and political parties in debate.**

Most serious threats to democracy

- **The threat to democracy listed most frequently by EU citizens is ‘false and/or misleading information in general circulating online and offline’ (38%);** this is followed by **‘growing distrust and scepticism towards democratic institutions’ (32%).** Another four of the threats are selected by more than one in five respondents: ‘lack of engagement and interest in politics and elections among regular citizens’ (26%), ‘lack of opportunities for citizens to voice their opinions’ (23%), ‘propaganda and false/misleading information from a non-democratic foreign source’ (22%), ‘covert foreign interference in the politics and economy of your country, including through financing of domestic actors’ (21%).
- In 22 countries, respondents are most likely to reply that one of the most serious threats to democracy in their country is ‘false and/or misleading information in general circulating online and offline’. In Bulgaria, about quarter of respondents (24%) mention this, in contrast with twice as many respondents in Malta (48%), Hungary (48%), Czechia (47%), Finland (47%) and Sweden (47%).

Defending democracy

- **About one in two EU citizens (51%) select ‘voters having access to accurate information to make an informed choice’** as one of the most important elements of **free and fair elections,** followed by 47% selecting **‘the electoral administration being independent and impartial’.**
- In 21 of the 27 Member States, ‘voters have access to accurate information to make an informed choice’ is the response most frequently selected as one of the most defining elements of free and fair elections. The proportion selecting this response ranged from 37% in Bulgaria to 68% in Denmark.

- When asked about the most important elements of **free and fair electoral campaigns**, the **largest shares of EU citizens select 'debates and campaigns avoiding hate speech, manipulation and lies'** (46%) and **'candidates and political parties having equal opportunity to access the media'** (41%).
- In 13 Member States, the largest share of respondents select 'debates and campaigns avoid hate speech, manipulation and lies' as a core characteristic of free and fair electoral campaigns. In seven countries, the highest-ranking response is 'candidates and political parties have equal opportunity to access the media'.
- **The largest share of EU citizens reply that they have confidence in citizens to defend democracy in their country** (9% are 'very confident' and 45% 'somewhat confident'). In addition, more than half show confidence in **EU institutions, including the European Court of Justice** (15% are 'very confident' and 39% 'somewhat confident'), followed by about half replying that they trust **civil society organisations** to defend democracy (9% are 'very confident' and 44% 'somewhat confident'). By comparison, about three in ten EU citizens (29%) put confidence in political parties and politicians to defend democracy in their country.
- In 20 Member States, at least half of respondents reply that they have confidence in citizens to defend democracy in their country; respondents in Denmark (72%) and Finland (70%) are overall the most likely to reply they have confidence in citizens. In 17 countries, at least half of respondents answer they are confident in EU institutions, including the European Court of Justice, to defend democracy in their country. Similarly, in 17 countries, at least half of respondents have confidence in civil society organisations.

Disinformation and fake news

- When asked how frequently respondents think they have **been exposed to disinformation and fake news over the past seven days, about a third answer they have 'very often' (13%) or 'often' (22%) been exposed**. A similar proportion (33%) think they have 'sometimes' been exposed to disinformation and fake news over the past seven days.
- The share of respondents thinking they have been 'very often' exposed to disinformation and fake news over the past seven days is the highest in Greece (30%), Hungary (30%) and Bulgaria (28%). Over a quarter of respondents in Hungary (33%), Spain (31%), Poland (30%), Romania (28%), Malta (27%) and Bulgaria (26%) answer that they have 'often' been exposed to disinformation.
- **Online social networks (selected by 64% on average across the EU) are by far the most cited media where respondents expect to encounter disinformation or fake news**. More than a third of EU citizens (36%) consider it likely to encounter disinformation or fake news on **television** and about a fifth reply the same about **online newspapers and news magazines** (22%) or about **video hosting websites** (21%).
- Less than one in ten (6%) of EU citizens think that online platforms should NOT be held responsible for reducing the spread of false and misleading information, while a large majority select one or more actions that online platforms could take to prevent the spread of false and

misleading information and promote trustworthy information. More specifically, 52% of EU citizens reply that **online platforms should do more to prevent the spread of false and misleading information**. In addition, 39% answer that **online** platforms should rely more on **independent fact-checkers to indicate false information** and 33% that online platforms should do more to **promote the visibility of trustworthy information**.

- Across all Member States, more than 40% of respondents answer that online platforms should do more to prevent the spread of false and misleading information. In Malta (62%), Luxembourg (61%) and Portugal (61%), about six in ten respondents select this statement; at the lower end of the country ranking, in Czechia, this response is selected by 43% of respondents.
- **About equal shares reply that people using online platforms should be prompted to verify information** before sharing it with others (42%) and that people using online platforms should **get better at distinguishing false and misleading information** from trustworthy information (39%). Not more than 12% of EU citizens surveyed reply that people using online platforms are sufficiently equipped to identify on their own what is true and what is false.

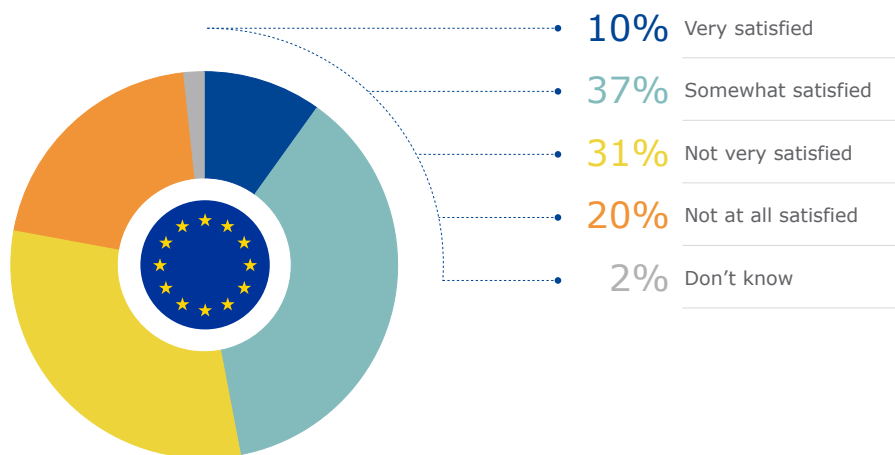
Section 1. The state of democracy

The first section of the report presents the results of two questions about the state of democracy. Respondents were asked how satisfied they are with the way democracy works in their country, and they were presented with three statements about the key features of democracy: (1) expressing political opinions without fearing negative consequences, (2) having access to accurate information from multiple media sources about topics at stake, and (3) being able to engage with candidates and political parties in debate.

1.1. Satisfaction with the way democracy works in EU Member States

When asked about their degree of satisfaction with the way democracy works in their country, close to half of respondents reply being 'very satisfied' (10%) or 'somewhat satisfied' (37%), in contrast to about one in two respondents who reply they are 'not very satisfied' (31%) or 'not at all satisfied' (20%). A handful of respondents (2%) answer that they 'don't know'.

Q2 On the whole, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way democracy works in your country? (EU27)

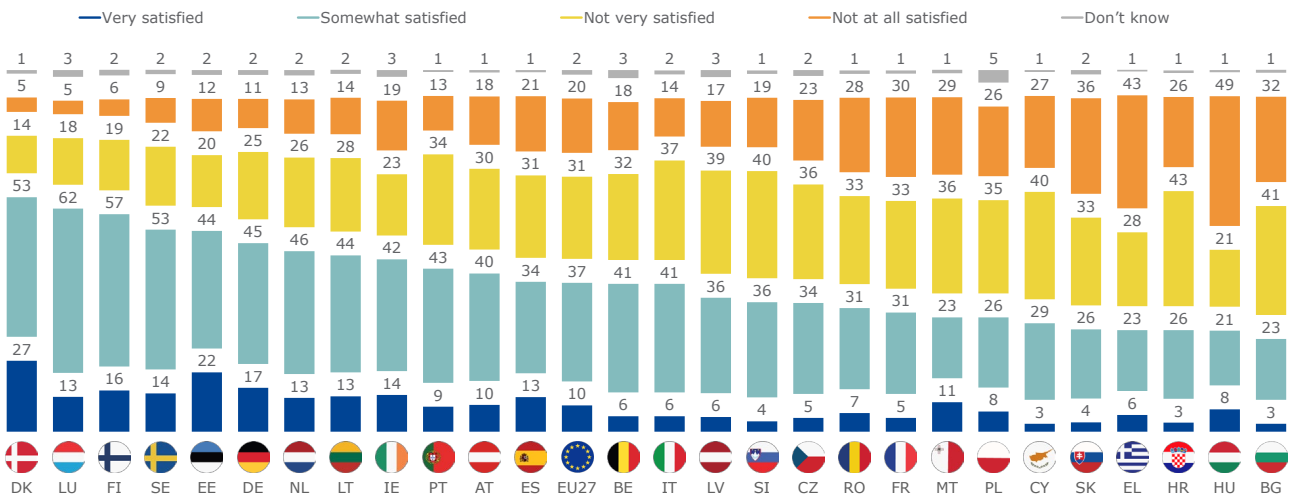


Base: all respondents (n=25 600)

Eight in ten respondents in Denmark reply being ‘very satisfied’ (27%) or ‘somewhat satisfied’ (53%) with the way democracy works in their country. In Finland (73%) and Luxembourg (75%), about three-quarters of respondents, in total, report being satisfied. At the lower end of the country ranking, however, the level of satisfaction drops below a third – this is the case in Cyprus (32%), Slovakia (30%), Croatia (29%), Hungary (29%) and Bulgaria (26%).

Although in 11 Member States, over half of respondents answer being satisfied with the way democracy works in their country, the proportions reporting to be ‘very satisfied’ remain low across most countries (ranging from 3% in Bulgaria and Cyprus to 27% in Denmark). In sharp contrast, in 11 other Member States, more than a quarter of respondents reply they are ‘very dissatisfied’ with the way democracy works in their country – with respondents in Hungary being overall the most likely to be dissatisfied (49% ‘not at all satisfied’ responses).

Q2 On the whole, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way democracy works in your country? (by country)



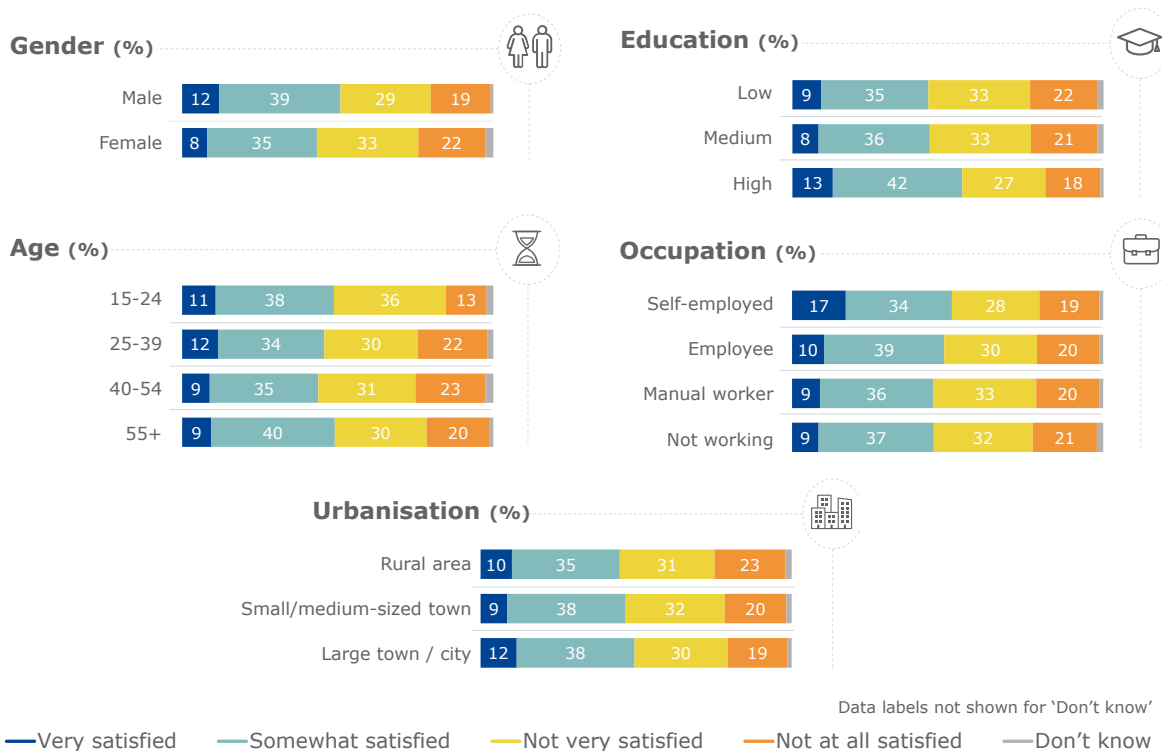
Base: all respondents (n=25 600)

Socio-demographic considerations

The socio-demographic analysis reveals that the following socio-demographic groups are more likely to be 'very satisfied' or 'somewhat satisfied' with the way democracy works in their country:

- men (51% compared to 43% of women)
- respondents younger than 25 years and those older than 54 years (both 49%, compared to, for example, 44% of respondents aged 40 to 54)
- respondents with a high level of education² (55% compared to 44% of respondents with a low or medium level of education)
- employees (49%) and self-employed respondents (51%), compared to manual workers (45%) and respondents who are not working (46%)
- respondents living in large towns or cities (50% compared to 45% of respondents in rural areas and 47% in small and medium-sized towns).

Q2 On the whole, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way democracy works in your country? (% by socio-demographics)



Base: all respondents (n=25 600)

² Education levels are based on the 'International Standard Classification of Education' (ISCED). Low education refers to individuals who have reached lower secondary education or lower. Medium education refers to individuals who have attained upper secondary education or post-secondary non-tertiary education. High education refers to individuals who have achieved short-cycle tertiary education or higher.

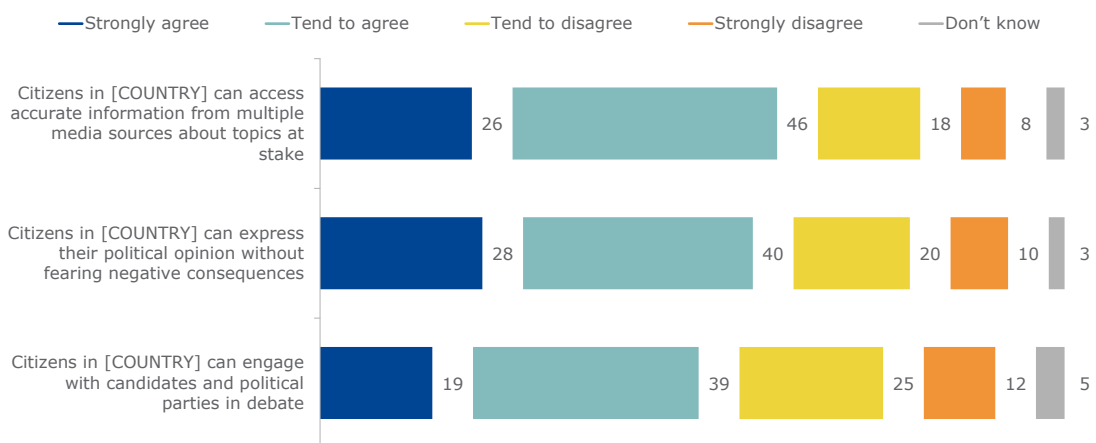
1.2. Views about key features of democracy

More than seven in ten respondents 'strongly agree' (26%) or 'tend to agree' (46%) that citizens in their country can **access accurate information from multiple media sources about topics at stake**. About one in six respondents (18%) 'tend to disagree' with this statement and less than one in ten respondents (8%) 'strongly disagree'.

About two-thirds of respondents 'strongly agree' (28%) or 'tend to agree' (40%) that citizens in their country can **express their political opinion without fearing negative consequences**, while 20% of respondents 'tend to disagree' and 10% 'strongly disagree' with this statement.

Close to six in ten respondents 'strongly agree' (19%) or 'tend to agree' (39%) that citizens in their country can **engage with candidates and political parties in debate**. In contrast, 25% of respondents 'tend to disagree' and 12% 'strongly disagree' with this statement.

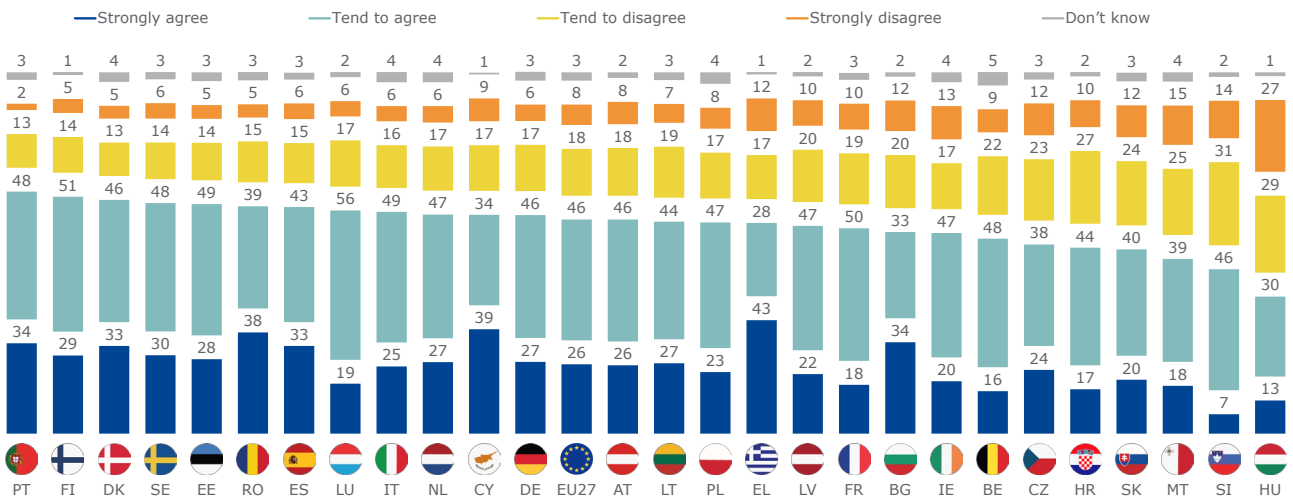
Q1 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? (% EU27)



Base: all respondents (n=25 600)

In each of the 27 Member states, with the exception of Hungary, over half of respondents 'strongly agree' or 'tend to agree' that **citizens in their country can access accurate information from multiple media sources about topics at stake**. Respondents in Portugal (82%), Finland (80%), Denmark (79%) and Sweden (78%) are the most likely to agree with this statement; in Hungary, on the other hand, 43% of respondents agree, and 56% disagree, that citizens in their country can access accurate information from multiple media sources.

Q1_3 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?
Citizens in [COUNTRY] can access accurate information from multiple media sources about topics at stake (% by country)

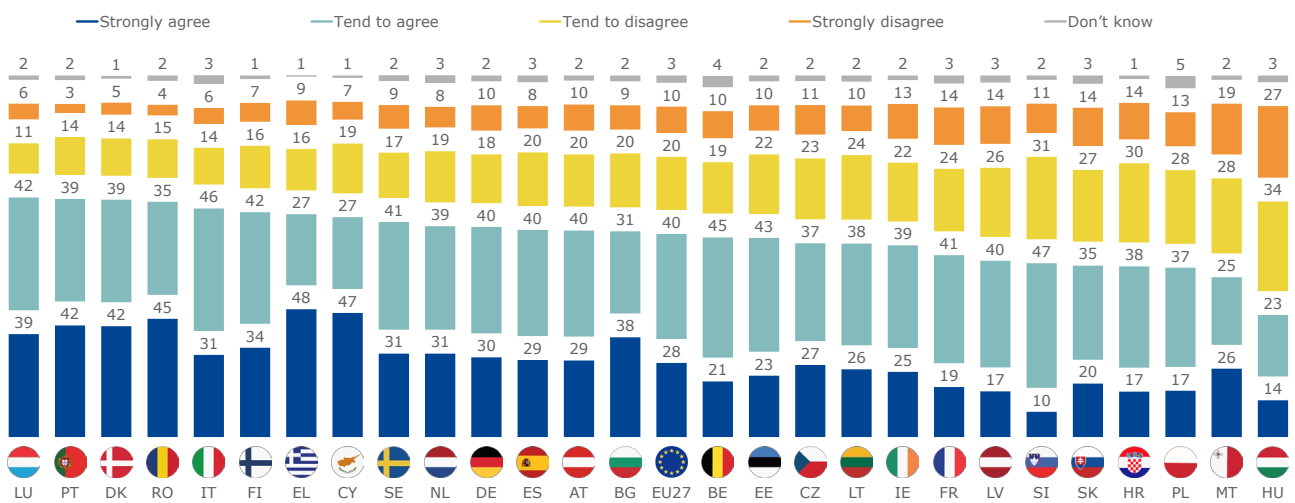


Base: all respondents (n=25 600)

About eight in ten respondents in Luxembourg (81%), Portugal (81%), Romania (80%) and Denmark (80%) 'strongly agree' or 'tend to agree' that **citizens can express their political opinion without fearing negative consequences**.³ In two countries, nearly one in two respondents 'strongly agree' with this statement: Cyprus (47%) and Greece (48%).

In Hungary, respondents disagreeing (61%) are again outnumbering those agreeing (37%). Moreover, 27% of respondents in Hungary 'strongly disagree' that citizens can express their political opinion without fearing negative consequences.

Q1_1 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?
Citizens in [COUNTRY] can express their political opinion without fearing negative consequences (% by country)



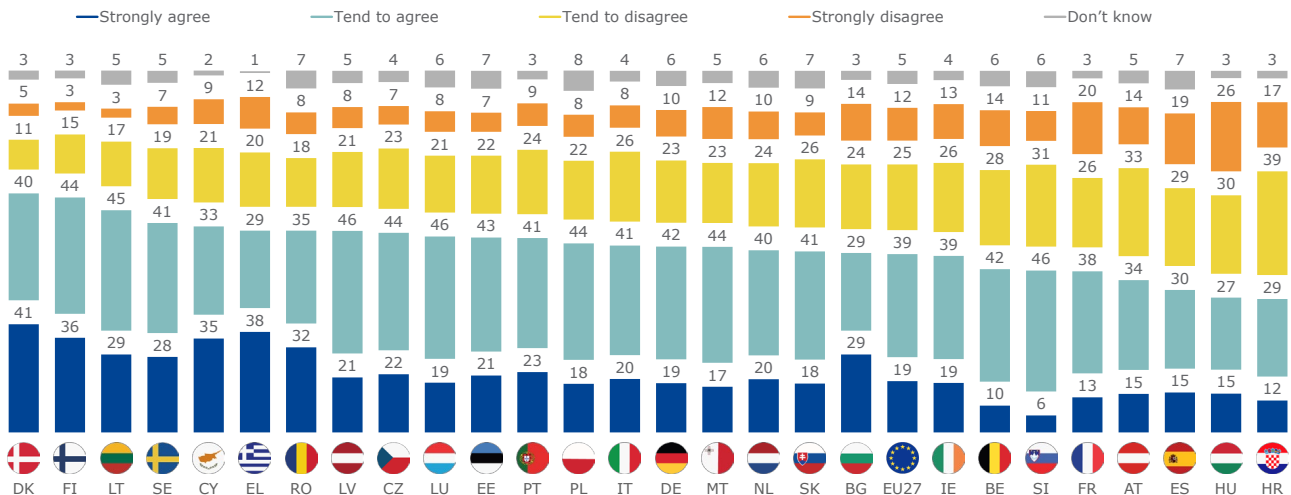
Base: all respondents (n=25 600)

³ Due to rounding, totals mentioned in the text may not exactly add up to the percentages for separate response options shown in the charts.

At least three-quarters of respondents in Denmark (81%), Finland (79%) and Lithuania (75%) 'strongly agree' or 'tend to agree' that **citizens in their country can engage with candidates and political parties in debate**.⁴ In contrast, in Croatia (41%), Hungary (42%), Spain (45%) and Austria (48%), less than half of respondents agree with this statement.

Q1_2 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Citizens in [COUNTRY] can engage with candidates and political parties in debate
(% by country)



Base: all respondents (n=25 600)

Socio-demographic considerations

When asked whether they agree with a series of statements related to the good functioning of democracy in their country, men are more likely than women to agree that citizens in their country can express their political opinion without fearing negative consequences (70% vs 65%) and that they can engage with candidates and political parties in debate (60% vs 56%).

Respondents aged 55 and over are more likely than respondents in younger age categories to agree that citizens in their country can express their political opinion without fearing negative consequences (72% vs 63%-66%), can engage with candidates and political parties in debate (63% vs 54%-56%) and can access accurate information from multiple media sources about topics at stake (74% vs 69%-71%).

Respondents in the highest educational category agree to a larger extent that citizens in their country can express their political opinion without fearing negative consequences (70% vs 66%-68% of respondents with a low or medium level of education), can engage with candidates and political parties in debate (62% vs 55%-58%) and can access accurate information from multiple media sources about topics at stake (76% vs 68%-71%).

⁴ Due to rounding, totals mentioned in the text may not exactly add up to the percentages for separate response options shown in the charts.

Manual workers are less inclined than respondents in other occupational categories to agree that citizens in their country can express their political opinion without fearing negative consequences (63% vs 67%-70%) and that they can access accurate information from multiple media sources about topics at stake (67% vs 71%-73%). Self-employed respondents (64%) are more likely to agree that citizens in their country can engage with candidates and political parties in debate (vs 57%-58% in other occupational groups).

Respondents in rural areas are less likely to agree that citizens in their country can engage with candidates and political parties in debate (55% vs 61% of respondents living in a large town or city), can access accurate information from multiple media sources about topics at stake (68% vs 74%) and can express their political opinion without fearing negative consequences (64% vs 69% of respondents living in a large town or city).

Q1 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? (%Total 'Agree' by socio-demographics)

	Citizens can access accurate information from multiple media sources about topics at stake	Citizens can express their political opinion without fearing negative consequences	Citizens can engage with candidates and political parties in debate
EU27	72	68	58
Gender			
Men	73	70	60
Women	71	65	56
Age			
15-24	70	63	54
25-39	69	64	54
40-54	71	66	56
55+	74	72	63
Education			
Low	68	68	55
Medium	71	66	58
High	76	70	62
Occupation			
Self-employed	73	70	64
Employee	71	67	57
Manual worker	67	63	58
Not working	73	69	58
Urbanisation			
Rural area	68	64	55
Small/medium-sized town	72	69	58
Large town / city	74	69	61

Base: all respondents (n=25 600)

1.3. Perceptions about serious threats to democracy

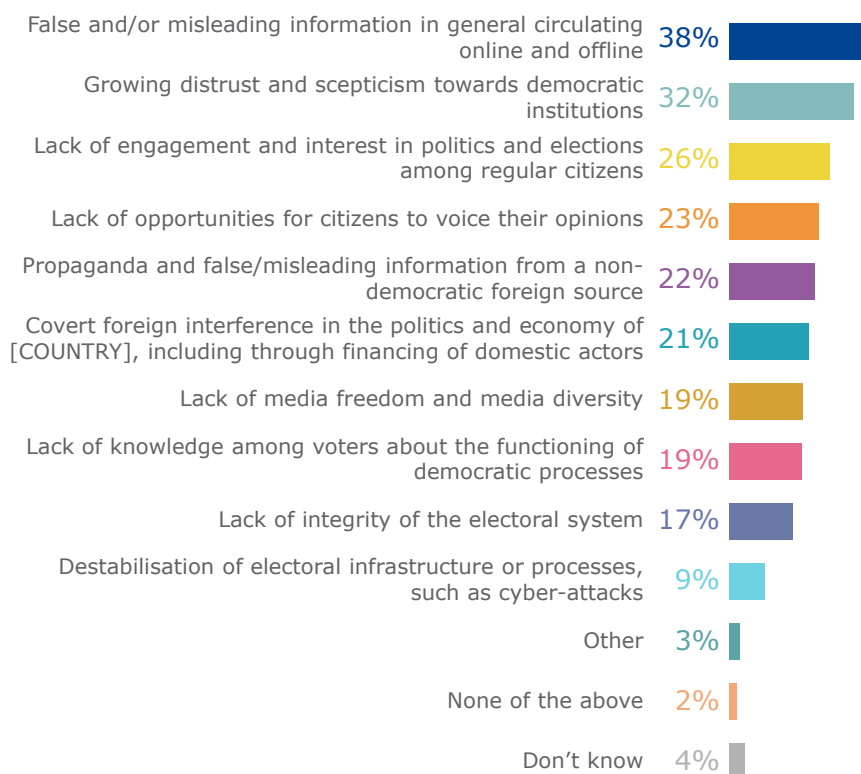
Respondents were presented with a list of ten items that may constitute a serious threat to democracy in their country. They were asked to select up to three threats.

The threat to democracy listed most frequently by respondents is **'false and/or misleading information in general circulating online and offline'** (38%); this is followed by **'growing distrust and scepticism towards democratic institutions'** (32%).

Another four of the threats are selected by more than one in five respondents: **'lack of engagement and interest in politics and elections among regular citizens'** (26%), **'lack of opportunities for citizens to voice their opinions'** (23%), **'propaganda and false/misleading information from a non-democratic foreign source'** (22%), **'covert foreign interference in the politics and economy of your country, including through financing of domestic actors'** (21%).

The lowest ranking threats are **'lack of media freedom and media diversity'** (19%), **'lack of knowledge among voters about the functioning of democratic processes'** (19%) and **'lack of integrity of the electoral system'** (17%). **'Destabilisation of electoral infrastructure or processes, such as cyber-attacks'** ranks overall the lowest and is selected by 9% of respondents.

Q3 In your view, which of the following are the most serious threats to democracy in [COUNTRY]? (Up to three answers allowed, % EU27)



Note: Response percentages exceed 100% as respondents were asked to select up to three threats (out of a list of ten)

Base: all respondents (n=25 600)

In 22 countries, respondents are most likely to reply that one of the most serious threats to democracy in their country is **'false and/or misleading information in general circulating online and offline'**. In Bulgaria, about quarter of respondents (24%) mention this, in contrast with twice as many respondents in Hungary (48%), Malta (48%), Czechia (47%), Finland (47%) and Sweden (47%). Between 15% of respondents in Portugal and 38% in Estonia think that **'propaganda and false/misleading information from a non-democratic foreign source'** is a threat to democracy in their country.

'Covert foreign interference in the politics and economy of your country, including through financing of domestic actors' ranks highest in Bulgaria (selected by 46% of respondents). In the other countries, the share mentioning this item ranges from 13% in Spain to 36% in Slovakia. Another response that shows a large variation across countries is **'lack of integrity of the electoral system'** (selected by 43% of respondents in Hungary, compared to 5% in Czechia and Finland).

In Italy, the largest share of respondents (37%) select **'growing distrust and scepticism towards democratic institutions'** as threat to democracy in their country. Overall, the share of respondents selecting this response ranges from 17% in Hungary to 41% in Portugal. **'Lack of engagement and interest in politics and elections among regular citizens'** is the highest-ranking response in Portugal (43%) and Latvia (38%). In contrast, in Hungary (14%), Czechia (16%) and Malta (16%), regular citizens' lack of engagement is seen as a threat to democracy by less than one in six respondents. Between 11% of respondents in Finland and 30% of respondents in Luxembourg and Romania reply that, in their country, **'lack of knowledge among voters about the functioning of democratic processes'** constitutes a threat to democracy.

In all countries, less than a third of respondents consider **'lack of opportunities for citizens to voice their opinions'** a serious threat to democracy in their country. The share selecting this response is the lowest in Denmark and Estonia (13%) and the highest in Cyprus (32%). Hungary (46%), Greece (35%) and Poland (33%) are the only countries where at least a third of respondents reply that **'lack of media freedom and media diversity'** is a serious threat to democracy in their country.

Finally, the proportion of respondents selecting **'destabilisation of electoral infrastructure or processes, such as cyber-attacks'** remains low in all countries and varies between 3% in Cyprus and 14% in Finland.

Q3 In your view, which of the following are the most serious threats to democracy in [COUNTRY]? (Up to three answers allowed, % by country)

		False and/or misleading information in general circulating online and offline	Growing distrust and scepticism towards democratic institutions	Lack of engagement and interest in politics and elections among general citizens	Lack of opportunities for citizens to voice their opinions	Propaganda and false/misleading information from a non-democratic foreign source	Covert foreign interference in the politics and economy of your country	Lack of media freedom and media diversity	Lack of knowledge among voters about the functioning of democratic processes	Lack of integrity of the electoral system	Destabilisation of electoral infrastructure or processes, such as cyber-attacks
EU27		38	32	26	23	22	21	19	19	17	9
BE		33	30	26	26	18	17	13	24	19	9
BG		24	34	22	20	25	46	19	16	32	6
CZ		47	34	16	24	26	31	21	17	5	8
DK		38	33	26	13	20	19	9	16	7	10
DE		36	34	26	24	26	27	12	20	7	12
EE		43	27	25	13	38	30	13	17	24	10
IE		39	31	24	25	21	14	15	26	13	7
EL		41	24	23	22	21	30	35	17	20	4
ES		40	38	23	21	16	13	24	15	19	10
FR		35	28	28	29	20	16	19	22	22	11
HR		38	39	39	25	20	21	21	28	17	5
IT		32	37	33	27	18	16	19	16	12	9
CY		36	30	33	32	17	28	21	19	17	3
LV		31	30	38	20	26	33	18	21	8	6
LT		34	24	33	19	33	27	15	21	24	7
LU		38	34	37	21	18	19	12	30	9	4
HU		48	17	14	20	17	21	46	13	43	6
MT		48	39	16	18	19	16	24	24	14	4
NL		39	37	19	21	18	23	12	19	13	10
AT		40	39	28	27	19	25	14	24	6	7
PL		40	26	22	19	35	18	33	14	32	7
PT		31	41	43	22	15	14	12	27	17	6
RO		42	36	21	17	26	24	12	30	23	10
SI		40	37	32	23	19	28	24	13	11	5
SK		46	32	17	22	25	36	17	12	6	6
FI		47	27	36	16	27	28	13	11	5	14
SE		47	22	30	16	29	25	16	21	9	11

Note (1): The higher the proportion selecting a response, the **darker blue** the cell. The highest-ranking response for each country shown in **green**

Note (2): Responses 'Other', 'None of the above' and 'Don't know' not shown

Base: all respondents (n=25 600)

Socio-demographic considerations

Differences between men and women tend to be minor for this question. The largest difference is seen for the threat of 'propaganda and false/misleading information from a non-democratic foreign source' (selected by 24% of men vs 20% of women).

The older the respondents, the more likely they are to mention 'false and/or misleading information in general circulating online and offline', 'growing distrust and scepticism towards democratic institutions' and 'covert foreign interference in the politics and economy of your country, including through financing of domestic actors' as threats to democracy in their country. For example, the latter threat is mentioned by 15% of respondents aged 15 to 24, but increases to 23% for those aged 55 and over. An opposite trend is seen for 'lack of knowledge among voters about the functioning of democratic processes', which is mentioned by 18% of those aged 55 and over, compared to 24% of those aged 15 to 24. Finally, 'lack of opportunities for citizens to voice their opinions' is more frequently listed by respondents aged 15 to 24 (24%) or 25 to 54 (26%) than by those aged 55 and over (20%).

Six of the ten threats to democracy are more frequently selected by respondents with a high or medium level of education: 'false and/or misleading information in general circulating online and offline' (38%-42% vs 32% of respondents with a low level of education), 'growing distrust and scepticism towards democratic institutions' (32%-37% vs 28%), 'propaganda and false/misleading information from a non-democratic foreign source' (24% vs 18%), 'covert foreign interference in the politics and economy of your country, including through financing of domestic actors' (22% vs 16%), 'lack of media freedom and media diversity' (20% vs 17%) and 'lack of knowledge among voters about the functioning of democratic processes' (19%-22% vs 16%). In addition, respondents with a high educational background (29%) are more inclined than lower educated respondents (25%) to reply that 'lack of engagement and interest in politics and elections among regular citizens' is a threat to democracy in their country, but they are less likely to answer the same for 'lack of opportunities for citizens to voice their opinions' (19% vs 25%).

Employees and non-working respondents are more likely than respondents in other occupational categories to mention 'false and/or misleading information in general circulating online and offline' (37%-41% vs 28%-31%) and 'propaganda and false/misleading information from a non-democratic foreign source' (23% vs 19%-20%). The share of respondents mentioning 'growing distrust and scepticism towards democratic institutions' is lowest among manual workers (25% vs 31%-34% in other occupational groups).

Finally, respondents living in a large town or city are somewhat more likely to mention the threats of 'false and/or misleading information in general circulating online and offline' (40% vs 36%-37%), 'propaganda and false/misleading information from a non-democratic foreign source' (24% vs 21%-22%), 'covert foreign interference in the politics and economy of your country, including through financing of domestic actors' (23% vs 19%-20%) and 'lack of media freedom and media diversity' (22% vs 17%-18%).

Q3 In your view, which of the following are the most serious threats to democracy in [COUNTRY]? (Up to three answers allowed, % by socio-demographics)

	False and/or misleading information in general circulating online and offline	Growing distrust and scepticism towards democratic institutions	Lack of engagement and interest in politics and elections among general citizens	Lack of opportunities for citizens to voice their opinions	Propaganda and false/misleading information from a non-democratic foreign source	Covert foreign interference in the politics and economy of your country	Lack of media freedom and media diversity	Lack of knowledge among voters about the functioning of democratic processes	Lack of integrity of the electoral system	Destabilisation of electoral infrastructure or processes, such as cyber-attacks
EU27	38	32	26	23	22	21	19	19	17	9
Gender										
Men	37	33	26	23	24	22	20	19	16	10
Women	38	32	27	24	20	19	18	19	17	9
Age										
15-24	30	25	28	23	20	15	19	24	18	10
25-39	35	29	24	26	23	21	20	20	17	9
40-54	37	33	25	26	22	20	21	16	17	9
55+	42	37	28	20	23	23	17	18	15	10
Education										
Low	32	28	25	25	18	16	17	16	15	10
Medium	38	32	25	25	24	22	20	19	18	9
High	42	37	29	19	24	22	20	22	17	10
Occupation										
Self-employed	31	31	24	25	20	21	24	19	18	11
Employee	37	32	26	24	23	21	19	20	17	10
Manual worker	28	25	25	25	19	18	19	18	17	11
Not working	41	34	27	23	23	21	18	19	16	9
Urbanisation										
Rural area	37	33	27	24	21	19	17	19	16	9
Small/medium-sized town	36	32	26	23	22	20	18	20	16	9
Large town / city	40	33	26	23	24	23	22	18	17	9

Note (1): The higher the proportion selecting a response, the **darker blue** the cell

Note (2): Responses 'Other', 'None of the above' and 'Don't know' not shown

Base: all respondents (n=25 600)

Section 2. Defending democracy

This section discusses two aspects that are core to democracy: **free and fair elections** and **free and fair electoral campaigns**. For both aspects, respondents were asked which, in their view, are the core defining elements from a list of six elements.

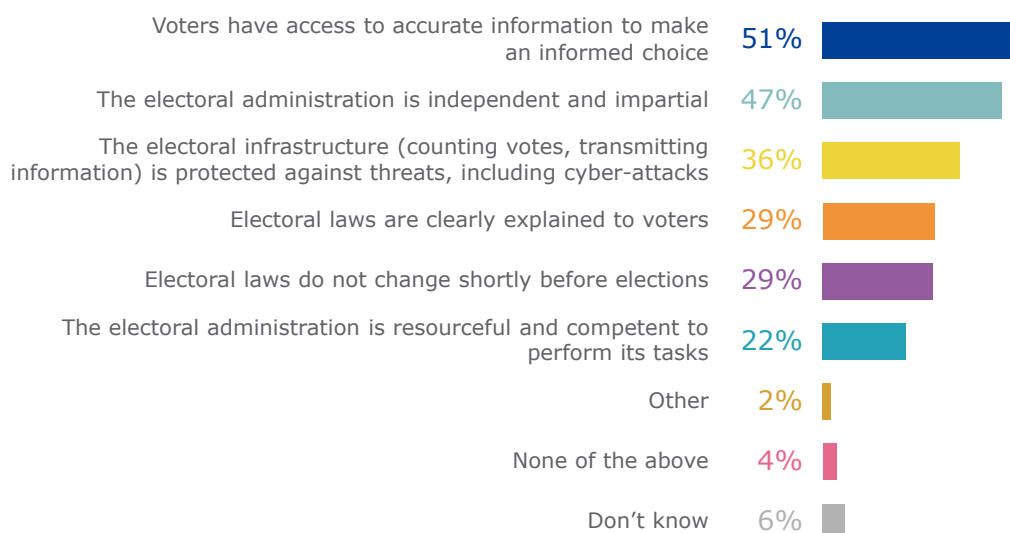
2.1. Views about what defines free and fair elections

Respondents were presented with a list of six elements associated with free and fair elections, and they were asked which elements they consider the most important to define free and fair elections (they could select up to three elements).

About one in two respondents (51%) select **'voters having access to accurate information to make an informed choice'** as one of the most important elements of free and fair elections, followed by 47% selecting **'the electoral administration being independent and impartial'**.

The other items are selected by smaller shares: 36% for **'the electoral infrastructure (counting votes, transmitting information) is protected against threats, including cyber-attacks'**, 29% for **'electoral laws are clearly explained to voters'**, 29% for **'electoral laws do not change shortly before elections'** and 22% for **'the electoral administration is resourceful and competent to perform its tasks'**.

Q4 In your view, what are the most important elements that define free and fair elections? (Up to three answers allowed, % EU27)



Note: Response percentages exceed 100% as respondents were asked to select up to three threats (out of a list of six)

Base: all respondents (n=25 600)

In 21 of the 27 Member States, **'voters have access to accurate information to make an informed choice'** is selected by the largest share of respondents as one of the most defining elements of free and fair elections. The proportion selecting this response ranged from 37% in Bulgaria to 68% in Denmark. In four Member States, **'the electoral administration is independent and impartial'** is the highest-ranking response. This applies to Sweden and Estonia (where this response is selected by 65% of respondents), Poland (59%) and Bulgaria (56%). In total, in 11 countries, more than 50% of respondents reply that a core element defining free and fair elections is that the electoral administration is independent and impartial.

The share of respondents selecting **'the electoral infrastructure (counting votes, transmitting information) is protected against threats, including cyber-attacks'** ranges from just over a quarter of respondents in Cyprus (26%), Italy (27%) and Malta (28%) to over six in ten respondents in Estonia (64%).

There also is a large variation across countries in the proportion of respondents replying that **'electoral laws do not change shortly before elections'** is a core characteristic of free and fair elections. Less than one in six respondents (16%) in Sweden select this response, while in Hungary (50%) and Greece (49%), it is selected by about one in two respondents.

The remaining two items are selected by less than 40% of respondents across all countries. The proportion selecting **'electoral laws are clearly explained to voters'** varies between 19% in Sweden and 36% in Italy. **'The electoral administration is resourceful and competent to perform its tasks'** is selected by between 7% of respondents in Hungary and 34% in Luxembourg and Malta.

Q4 In your view, what are the most important elements that define free and fair elections?
(Up to three answers allowed, % by country)

	Voters have access to accurate information to make an informed choice	The electoral administration is independent and impartial	The electoral infrastructure is protected against threats, including cyber-attacks	Electoral laws are clearly explained to voters	Electoral laws do not change shortly before elections	The electoral administration is resourceful and competent to perform its tasks
EU27	51	47	36	29	29	22
BE	52	42	32	31	23	19
BG	37	56	43	25	36	32
CZ	50	47	42	25	39	13
DK	68	50	45	21	25	23
DE	54	48	39	25	22	23
EE	45	65	64	35	25	14
IE	60	47	37	32	23	23
EL	57	52	34	28	49	16
ES	53	48	34	34	26	31
FR	47	41	32	31	27	22
HR	53	51	37	33	43	27
IT	44	38	27	36	26	15
CY	62	45	26	34	38	29
LV	51	51	46	24	30	24
LT	52	49	45	28	36	20
LU	56	48	33	32	24	34
HU	59	59	43	27	50	7
MT	60	53	28	29	33	34
NL	54	45	33	28	23	22
AT	55	51	39	21	24	24
PL	53	59	36	25	44	26
PT	54	44	40	33	23	28
RO	44	39	40	28	35	17
SI	55	44	35	33	28	23
SK	55	37	43	26	35	17
FI	62	57	48	25	25	24
SE	60	65	48	19	16	27

Note (1): The higher the proportion selecting a response, the **darker blue** the cell. The highest-ranking response for each country shown in **green**

Note (2): Responses 'Other', 'None of the above' and 'Don't know' not shown
Base: all respondents (n=25 600)

Socio-demographic considerations

Women are somewhat more likely than men to mention as important elements of free and fair elections 'voters have access to accurate information to make an informed choice' (53% vs 49%) and 'electoral laws are clearly explained to voters' (31% vs 28%). On the other hand, men are somewhat more likely than women to select 'the electoral infrastructure (counting votes, transmitting information) is protected against threats, including cyber-attacks' (38% vs 34%), 'electoral laws do not change shortly before elections' (30% vs 27%) and 'the electoral administration is resourceful and competent to perform its tasks' (23% vs 20%).

The largest differences across age categories are seen for 'the electoral administration is independent and impartial'; this item is selected by 34% of respondents aged 15 to 24, but then increases to 53% for those aged 55 and over. Respondents aged 55 and over are also more likely than respondents in other age categories to refer to the importance of 'voters having access to accurate information to make an informed choice' (56% vs 46%-51%) and 'the electoral infrastructure (counting votes, transmitting information) being protected against threats, including cyber-attacks' (38% vs 31%-35%).

The higher their level of education, the more likely respondents are to select 'voters have access to accurate information to make an informed choice' (from 42% for respondents with a low level of education to 58% of respondents with a high level of education), 'the electoral administration is independent and impartial' (from 39% to 53%) and 'the electoral infrastructure (counting votes, transmitting information) is protected against threats, including cyber-attacks' (from 28% to 42%). Differences across education groups for the other elements are smaller; for example, respondents with a high level of education are also somewhat more likely to select 'the electoral administration is resourceful and competent to perform its tasks' (25% vs 20%-21% among lower educated respondents).

The largest difference across occupational groups is observed for 'voters have access to accurate information to make an informed choice', which is selected by 43% of manual workers, compared to 55% of non-working respondents. Manual workers are overall the least likely to mention the various elements that define free and fair elections; for example, 32% of manual workers cite 'the electoral infrastructure (counting votes, transmitting information) is protected against threats, including cyber-attacks', compared to 36% of employees and 37% non-working respondents.

'Voters have access to accurate information to make an informed choice' and 'the electoral infrastructure (counting votes, transmitting information) is protected against threats, including cyber-attacks' are mentioned somewhat more frequently by respondents living in large towns and cities. For example, the latter is mentioned by 39% of respondents living in a large town or city, compared to 34% of respondents living in rural areas and 35% of those living in small/medium-sized towns.

Q4 In your view, what are the most important elements that define free and fair elections?
(Up to three answers allowed, % by socio-demographics)

	Voters have access to accurate information to make an informed choice	The electoral administration is independent and impartial	The electoral infrastructure is protected against threats, including cyber-attacks	Electoral laws are clearly explained to voters	Electoral laws do not change shortly before elections	The electoral administration is resourceful and competent to perform its tasks
EU27	51	47	36	29	29	22
Gender						
Men	49	47	38	28	30	23
Women	53	46	34	31	27	20
Age						
15-24	46	34	31	31	30	21
25-39	47	42	35	29	28	23
40-54	51	47	34	27	28	21
55+	56	53	38	30	29	22
Education						
Low	42	39	28	28	24	21
Medium	53	47	36	30	30	20
High	58	53	42	29	31	25
Occupation						
Self-employed	46	44	35	29	29	24
Employee	50	45	36	28	29	23
Manual worker	43	40	32	25	25	22
Not working	55	50	37	31	30	20
Urbanisation						
Rural area	50	46	34	28	27	21
Small/medium-sized town	50	46	35	29	28	21
Large town / city	55	48	39	30	31	23

Note (1): The higher the proportion selecting a response, the **darker blue** the cell

Note (2): Responses 'Other', 'None of the above' and 'Don't know' not shown

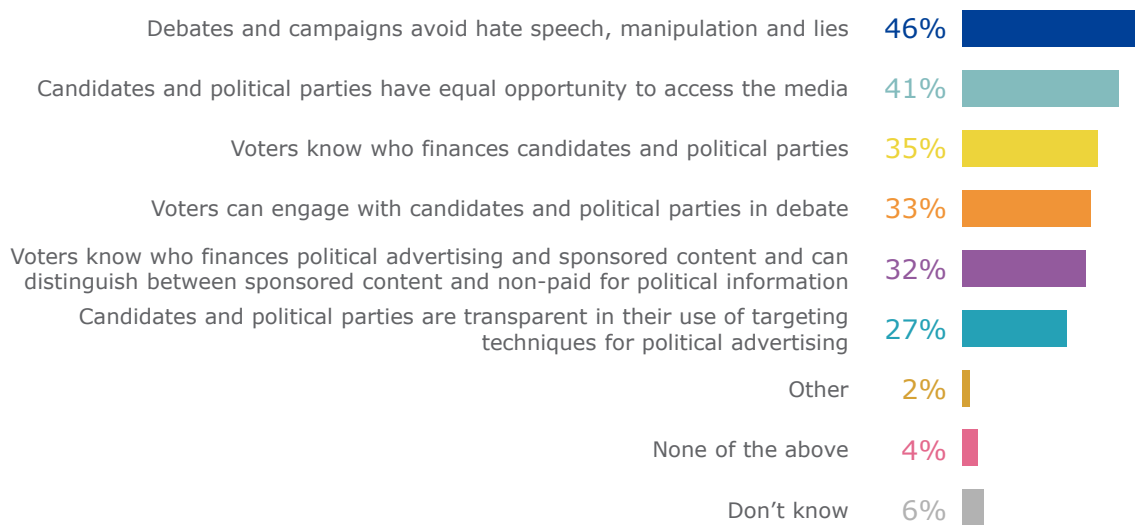
Base: all respondents (n=25 600)

2.2. Views about what defines a free and fair electoral campaign

Respondents were also presented with a list of six elements associated with free and fair election campaigns, and they were asked which elements they consider the most important to define such campaigns (up to three elements could be selected).

The largest shares of respondents select **'debates and campaigns avoiding hate speech, manipulation and lies'** (46%) and **'candidates and political parties having equal opportunity to access the media'** (41%). Each time about a third of respondents refer to **'voters know who finances candidates and political parties'** (35%), **'voters can engage with candidates and political parties in debate'** (33%) and **'voters know who finances political advertising and sponsored content and can distinguish between sponsored content and non-paid for political information'** (32%) as important elements of free and fair electoral campaigns. Finally, less than one in three respondents (27%) mention **'candidates and political parties are transparent in their use of targeting techniques for political advertising'**.

Q5 In your view, what are the most important elements that define a free and fair electoral campaign? (Up to three answers allowed, % EU27)



Note: Response percentages exceed 100% as respondents were asked to select up to three threats (out of a list of six)

Base: all respondents (n=25 600)

In line with the EU average results, in 13 Member States, the largest share of respondents select **'debates and campaigns avoid hate speech, manipulation and lies'** as a core characteristic of free and fair electoral campaigns. However, even among these 13 Member States, there is a large variation in the actual proportions selecting this response – from 36% in Belgium to 64% in Poland.

In six countries, the highest-ranking response is **'candidates and political parties have equal opportunity to access the media'**. This applies, for example, to Hungary, where 64% of respondents reply that equal opportunity to access the media is a core characteristic of free and fair electoral campaigns. This response is also selected by 60% of respondents in Poland (although it is not the highest-ranking response in this country). In Bulgaria, this answer is mentioned by the smallest share of respondents (28%).

In Greece (53%), Cyprus (52%), Bulgaria (49%) and Slovakia (45%), the largest share of respondents select **'voters know who finances candidates and political parties'** as a core element that defines free and fair electoral campaigns. At the lower end of the country ranking, in Hungary, 24% of respondents select this response.

The proportion selecting **'voters can engage with candidates and political parties in debate'** ranges from 26% in Austria and 27% in Malta and Spain to 48% in Cyprus. This response is also selected by 40% of respondents in Romania (40%), where it is the highest-ranking response.

In Latvia (44%) and Ireland (43%), the largest share of respondents select **'voters know who finances political advertising and sponsored content and can distinguish between sponsored content and non-paid for political information'**. In the remaining countries, this proportion ranges from 28% in Belgium and Portugal to 44% in Croatia.

Finally, the share of respondents selecting **'candidates and political parties are transparent in their use of targeting techniques for political advertising'** ranges from 15% in Slovenia to 40% in Spain.

Q5 In your view, what are the most important elements that define a free and fair electoral campaign? (Up to three answers allowed, % by country)

		Debates and campaigns avoid hate speech, manipulation and lies	Candidates and political parties have equal opportunity to access the media	Voters know who finances candidates and political parties	Voters can engage with candidates and political parties in debate	Voters know who finances political advertising and sponsored content and can distinguish between sponsored content and non-paid for political information	Candidates and political parties are transparent in their use of targeting techniques for political advertising
EU27		46	41	35	33	32	27
BE		36	35	30	35	28	31
BG		44	28	49	38	42	30
CZ		36	49	40	39	31	21
DK		50	42	38	40	38	25
DE		48	39	33	33	30	27
EE		57	51	44	36	38	20
IE		35	40	42	41	43	32
EL		47	47	53	38	38	27
ES		55	34	39	27	36	40
FR		39	40	33	33	29	26
HR		42	50	45	41	44	25
IT		42	34	31	31	31	21
CY		45	42	52	48	37	28
LV		40	39	42	37	44	23
LT		36	43	42	39	43	29
LU		44	37	40	40	38	25
HU		61	64	24	39	31	26
MT		56	43	41	27	36	39
NL		39	41	30	32	29	25
AT		54	33	40	26	33	26
PL		64	60	40	36	29	23
PT		37	50	28	31	28	33
RO		35	32	34	40	35	37
SI		47	43	35	37	43	15
SK		41	39	45	38	37	21
FI		49	46	41	40	41	19
SE		55	45	31	36	38	18

Note (1): The higher the proportion selecting a response, the **darker blue** the cell. The highest-ranking response for each country shown in **green**

Note (2): Responses 'Other', 'None of the above' and 'Don't know' not shown

Base: all respondents (n=25 600)

Socio-demographic considerations

Women are somewhat more likely than men to reply that ‘debates and campaigns avoid hate speech, manipulation and lies’ (49% vs 44%) and ‘candidates and political parties are transparent in their use of targeting techniques for political advertising’ (29% vs 26%) are important elements that define free and fair electoral campaigns. On the other hand, men are somewhat more likely than women to refer to ‘candidates and political parties have equal opportunity to access the media’ (43% vs 39%), ‘voters know who finances candidates and political parties’ (37% vs 33%) and ‘voters know who finances political advertising and sponsored content and can distinguish between sponsored content and non-paid for political information’ (34% vs 30%).

Four of the six important elements of free and fair electoral campaigns are more frequently mentioned by older respondents. For example, ‘voters know who finances candidates and political parties’ is mentioned by 40% of those aged 55 and over, but decreases to 27% for those aged 15 to 24. The share of respondents mentioning ‘voters know who finances political advertising and sponsored content and can distinguish between sponsored content and non-paid for political information’ is higher among respondents aged 25 to 39 (37% vs 30%-31% in other age groups). Respondents aged below 40 (29%-31%) are more likely than older respondents (26%) to mention ‘candidates and political parties are transparent in their use of targeting techniques for political advertising’.

Respondents with a low level of education are less likely than respondents with a medium or high level of education to select ‘debates and campaigns avoid hate speech, manipulation and lies’ (42% vs 48%), ‘candidates and political parties have equal opportunity to access the media’ (32% vs 42%-47%), ‘voters know who finances candidates and political parties’ (30% vs 35%-40%), ‘voters can engage with candidates and political parties in debate’ (29% vs 33%-36%) and ‘voters know who finances political advertising and sponsored content and can distinguish between sponsored content and non-paid for political information’ (26% vs 31%-39%).

The largest difference across occupational groups is observed for ‘debates and campaigns avoid hate speech, manipulation and lies’, which is selected by 35% of manual workers and 37% of self-employed respondents, compared to 45% of employees and 51% of non-working respondents. Manual workers are overall somewhat less likely to mention the various elements that define free and fair electoral campaigns; for example, 23% of manual workers select ‘candidates and political parties are transparent in their use of targeting techniques for political advertising’, compared to 27%-29% of respondents across the other occupational groups.

Finally, respondents living in a large town or city mention to a larger extent ‘debates and campaigns avoid hate speech, manipulation and lies’ (50% vs 44%-46%), ‘candidates and political parties have equal opportunity to access the media’ (43% vs 39%-41%), ‘voters know who finances candidates and political parties’ (38% vs 34%) and ‘voters know who finances political advertising and sponsored content and can distinguish between sponsored content and non-paid for political information’ (35% vs 31%).

Q5 In your view, what are the most important elements that define free and fair electoral campaign? (% by socio-demographics)

	Debates and campaigns avoid hate speech, manipulation and lies	Candidates and political parties have equal opportunity to access the media	Voters know who finances candidates and political parties	Voters can engage with candidates and political parties in debate	Voters know who finances political advertising and sponsored content and can distinguish between sponsored content and non-paid for political information	Candidates and political parties are transparent in their use of targeting techniques for political advertising
EU27	46	41	35	33	32	27
Gender						
Men	44	43	37	33	34	26
Women	49	39	33	33	30	29
Age						
15-24	41	35	27	31	31	31
25-39	42	37	33	31	37	29
40-54	45	39	34	35	31	26
55+	52	46	40	34	30	26
Education						
Low	42	32	30	29	26	26
Medium	48	42	35	36	31	27
High	48	47	40	33	39	29
Occupation						
Self-employed	37	38	35	31	36	29
Employee	45	39	34	33	35	28
Manual worker	35	36	31	32	30	23
Not working	51	44	36	34	30	27
Urbanisation						
Rural area	44	39	34	32	31	27
Small/medium-sized town	46	41	34	34	31	26
Large town / city	50	43	38	33	35	29

Note (1): The higher the proportion selecting a response, the **darker blue** the cell

Note (2): Responses 'Other', 'None of the above' and 'Don't know' not shown

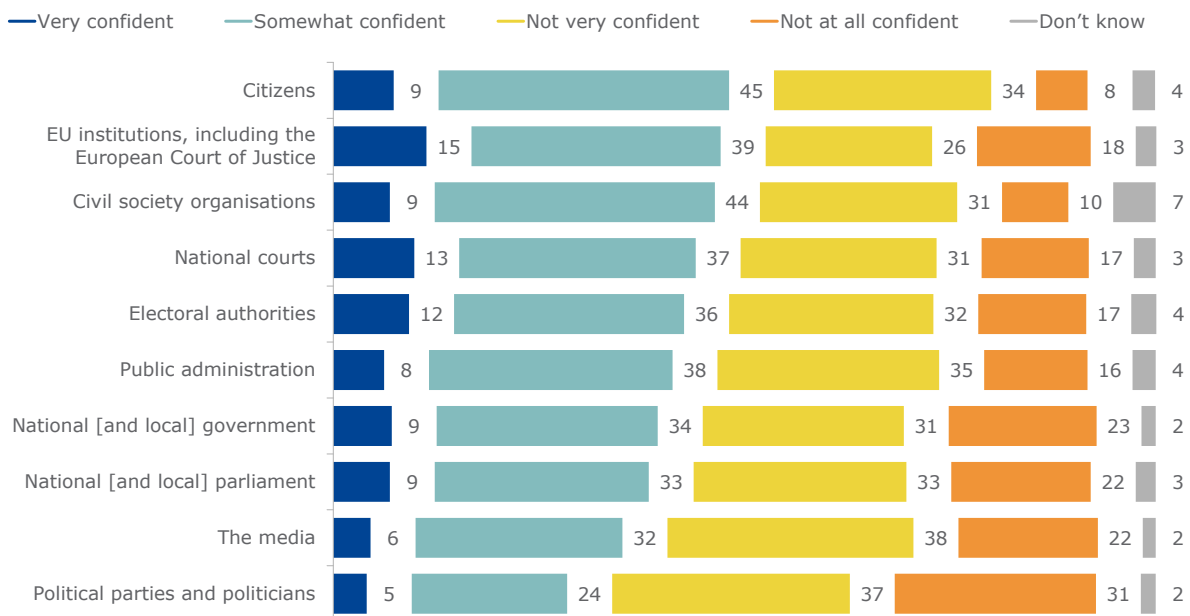
Base: all respondents (n=25 600)

2.3. Views about institutions and actors defending democracy

Respondents were also asked which institutions or actors they have most confidence in when it comes to defending democracy in their country. The largest share reply that they have confidence in **citizens** to defend democracy in their country (9% are 'very confident' and 45% 'somewhat confident'). In addition, more than half of respondents show confidence in **EU institutions, including the European Court of Justice** (15% are 'very confident' and 39% 'somewhat confident'), followed by about half of respondents who reply that they trust **civil society organisations** to defend democracy (9% are 'very confident' and 44% 'somewhat confident').

Smaller shares of respondents have confidence in **national courts** (49%), **electoral authorities** (48%), **public administration** (46%), in their **national (and local) government** (44%),⁵ in their **national (and local) parliament** (42%) or in the **media** (38%). Finally, about three in ten respondents (29%) put confidence in **political parties and politicians** to defend democracy in their country.

Q10 How confident are you in the following when it comes to defending democracy in your country? (% EU27)



Base: all respondents (n=25 600)

⁵ Due to rounding, totals mentioned in the text may not exactly add up to the percentages for separate response options shown in the charts.

In 20 Member States, at least half of respondents reply that they have confidence in **citizens** to defend democracy in their country; respondents in Denmark (72%) and Finland (70%) are overall the most likely to reply they have confidence in citizens. In Malta (39%), Slovenia (39%), Poland (41%) and Latvia (42%), on the other hand, not more than about four in ten respondents reply the same. In line with the EU average results, 'citizens' rank highest as defenders of democracy in ten Member States.

In 17 countries, at least half of respondents answer they are confident in **EU institutions, including the European Court of Justice**, to defend democracy in their country – with Lithuania being found at the top of the country ranking (70% of respondents in the country are confident). In Slovenia, only half as many respondents share this view (34%). In nine countries, 'EU institutions' rank highest as defenders of democracy. Similarly, in 17 countries, at least half of respondents have confidence in **civil society organisations** to defend democracy in their country. For this type of organisations, the share being confident is lowest in Slovenia (33%) and highest in Denmark (68%), Finland (66%) and Sweden (66%). 'Civil society organisations' are the highest-ranking institution or actor in Italy (selected by 54%). By comparison, confidence in **public administration** to defend democracy varies between 22% in Slovenia and 71% in Finland.

In five countries, **national courts** rank highest as defenders of democracy: Denmark (82%), Luxembourg (74%), the Netherlands (71%), Germany (69%) and Austria (66%). In total, in 12 countries, at least half of respondents are confident that national courts will defend democracy in their country. In Croatia (23%) and Poland (24%), on the other hand, the shares being confident are the lowest. Across most countries, somewhat lower levels of confidence are measures for the national (and local) **government** and the national (and local) **parliament**. The most important exception is Sweden, where the national (and local) government is the highest-ranking institution or actor (being trusted to defend democracy by 79% of respondents in the country). Confidence in **electoral authorities** to defend democracy varies between 26% in Bulgaria and 84% in Finland.

In line with the EU average results, across a large majority of the Member States, the levels of confidence measured for the media and for political parties and politicians tend to be overall the lowest. Between 14% of respondents in Slovenia and 58% in Finland answer they are confident in **the media** to defend democracy in their country. Similarly, **confidence in political parties and politicians** to defend democracy varies between 9% in Slovenia and 60% in Finland.

Q10 How confident are you in the following when it comes to defending democracy in your country? (% **Total 'Confident'** by country)

		Citizens	EU institutions	Civil society organisations	National courts	Electoral authorities	Public administration	National [and local] government	National [and local] parliament	The media	Political parties and politicians
EU27		55	53	52	49	48	46	44	42	38	29
BE		54	46	50	51	40	45	42	42	40	29
BG		59	49	47	29	26	29	27	21	31	14
CZ		56	39	40	50	46	45	33	33	30	23
DK		72	67	68	82	77	66	75	70	52	54
DE		63	60	62	69	68	65	65	61	48	45
EE		54	63	54	62	58	51	58	59	42	33
IE		65	60	54	58	54	51	51	50	41	38
EL		52	45	46	39	36	25	27	28	15	18
ES		59	58	52	45	42	44	37	42	39	27
FR		50	44	42	43	40	41	34	35	27	24
HR		46	60	46	23	31	25	22	23	30	11
IT		46	50	54	41	39	37	41	38	42	26
CY		53	48	50	48	45	33	33	36	28	16
LV		42	53	39	38	47	36	36	36	35	17
LT		64	70	57	59	58	54	45	37	50	24
LU		45	61	55	74	65	63	60	59	39	39
HU		53	58	56	45	35	38	34	28	19	18
MT		39	58	49	32	48	36	33	31	29	23
NL		63	54	64	71	60	58	56	59	48	42
AT		64	47	64	66	62	60	54	50	42	31
PL		41	49	40	24	29	24	22	16	23	11
PT		57	65	53	46	56	42	43	44	53	26
RO		59	60	51	41	34	40	35	30	44	23
SI		39	34	33	28	30	22	18	21	14	9
SK		53	44	43	39	41	42	39	27	32	15
FI		70	65	66	79	84	71	73	74	58	60
SE		50	67	63	67	53	64	79	66	55	61

Note: The higher the proportion being confident, the **darker blue** the cell. The highest-ranking institutions for each country shown in **green**

Base: all respondents (n=25 600)

Socio-demographic considerations

When it comes to defending democracy in their country, men generally have higher rates of confidence than women for the various institutions and actors listed in the survey. For example, 51% of men, vs 44% of women, answer they are confident in electoral authorities to defend democracy in their country.

As regards age, those aged 55 and over tend to be somewhat more likely to report being confident in the institutions and actors to defend democracy in their country. For example, respondents aged 55 or over are more likely than younger respondents to have confidence in national courts (52% vs 47%-50%), electoral authorities (53% vs 42%-44%) and civil society organisations (55% vs 50%-51%). The youngest respondents, aged 15 to 24, however, show the highest level of confidence in EU institutions (60% vs 49%-55% of older respondents).

For most of the institutions and actors listed in the survey, respondents with a high level of education are more likely than lower educated respondents to reply they have confidence in their power defend democracy. The largest differences are observed for EU institutions, including the European Court of Justice (61% vs 47%-52%), national courts (57% vs 45%-47%) and electoral authorities (55% vs 42%-46%).

Manual workers are less likely than respondents in other occupational categories to have confidence in the various institutions and actors to defend democracy in their country. For example, 48% of manual workers have confidence in EU institutions, including the European Court of Justice, compared to 54%-55% being confident in other occupational groups. Differences in the levels of confidence reported by self-employed respondents, employees and those not working tend to be minor, except for confidence in political parties and politicians. While 36% of self-employed respondent report being confident in political parties and politicians to defend democracy in their country, this proportion drops to 27% for non-working respondents.

Finally, respondents who live in a large town or city are more likely than respondents living in a rural area or in a small and medium-sized town to have confidence in civil society organisations (55% vs 50%-52%) and in EU institutions, including the European Court of Justice (57% vs 50%-53%).

Q10 How confident are you in the following when it comes to defending democracy in your country? (% **Total 'Confident'** by socio-demographics)

	Citizens	EU institutions	Civil society organisations	National courts	Electoral authorities	Public administration	National [and local] government	National [and local] parliament	The media	Political parties and politicians
EU27	55	53	52	49	48	46	44	42	38	29
Gender										
Men	56	55	55	52	51	48	46	44	40	31
Women	53	51	50	47	44	44	41	40	37	28
Age										
15-24	54	60	51	50	44	47	44	45	35	35
25-39	51	51	50	47	42	44	39	40	36	30
40-54	55	49	51	47	44	43	39	38	39	27
55+	57	55	55	52	53	49	48	45	39	29
Education										
Low	54	47	49	45	42	44	42	40	40	29
Medium	54	52	50	47	46	44	41	39	36	27
High	56	61	58	57	55	51	49	49	40	34
Occupation										
Self-employed	55	55	55	49	50	46	46	46	39	36
Employee	56	54	54	52	48	48	44	43	38	31
Manual worker	52	48	47	46	42	40	39	40	37	33
Not working	54	54	53	49	49	46	44	42	38	27
Urbanisation										
Rural area	57	50	50	50	47	47	43	42	37	29
Small/medium-sized town	53	53	52	48	47	45	43	41	38	30
Large town / city	56	57	55	51	49	46	44	44	39	30

Note: The higher the proportion being confident, the **darker blue** the cell.

Note: Base: all respondents (n=25 600)

Section 3. Disinformation and fake news

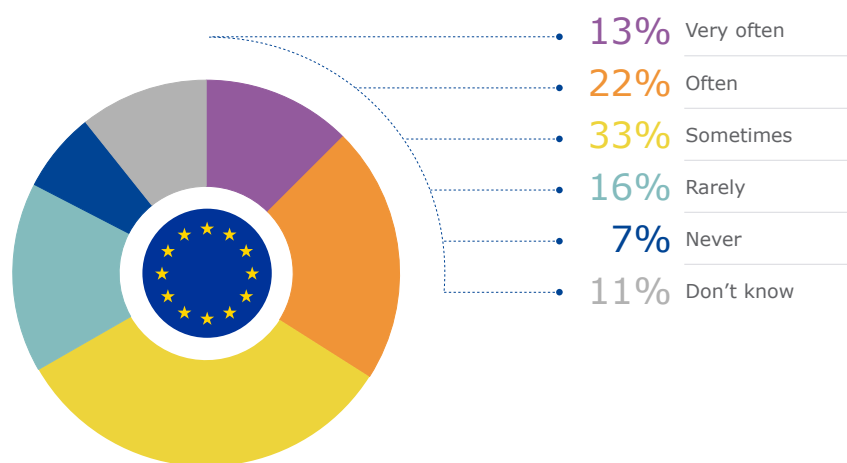
The last section of this report discusses respondents' exposure to disinformation and fake news and the role for online platforms and their users in the fight against disinformation and the manipulation of information.

3.1. Perceived exposure to disinformation and fake news

When asked **how frequently respondents think they have been exposed to disinformation and fake news over the past seven days, about a third answer they have 'very often' (13%) or 'often' (22%) been exposed.** A similar proportion (33%) think they have 'sometimes' been exposed to disinformation and fake news over the past seven days.

About a quarter of respondents believe they have either been **'rarely' (16%) or 'never' (7%)** been exposed to disinformation and fake news in the past seven days. About one in ten respondents (11%) do not know whether they were exposed or not.

Q6 How often do you think that you have been personally exposed to disinformation and fake news over the past 7 days? (% EU27)

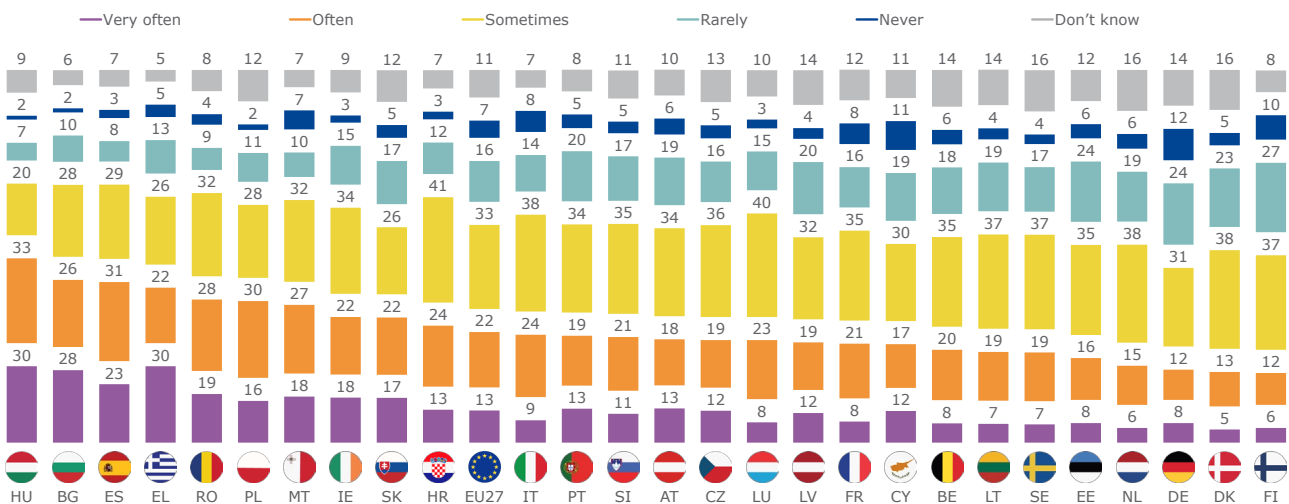


Base: all respondents (n=25 600)

The share of respondents thinking they have been 'very often' exposed to disinformation and fake news over the past seven days is the highest in Greece (30%), Hungary (30%) and Bulgaria (28%). Over a quarter of respondents in Hungary (33%), Spain (31%), Poland (30%), Romania (28%), Malta (27%) and Bulgaria (26%) answer that they have 'often' been exposed to disinformation.

At the other end of the country ranking, respondents are more likely to state that they have 'rarely' or 'never' been exposed to disinformation and fake news in the past seven days. About a quarter of respondents in Finland (27%), Germany (24%), Estonia (24%) and Denmark (23%) think they have 'rarely' been exposed to disinformation. In three countries, at least one in ten respondents believe they have not been exposed at all to disinformation in the past seven days: Germany (12%), Cyprus (11%) and Finland (10%).

Q6 How often do you think that you have been personally exposed to disinformation and fake news over the past 7 days? (% by country)



Base: all respondents (n=25 600)

Socio-demographic considerations

Men are slightly more likely than women to think they have 'very often' (13% vs 12%) or 'often' (23% vs 20%) been exposed to disinformation and fake news in the past seven days. On the other hand, women (13%) are more likely than men (8%) to reply that they 'don't know'.

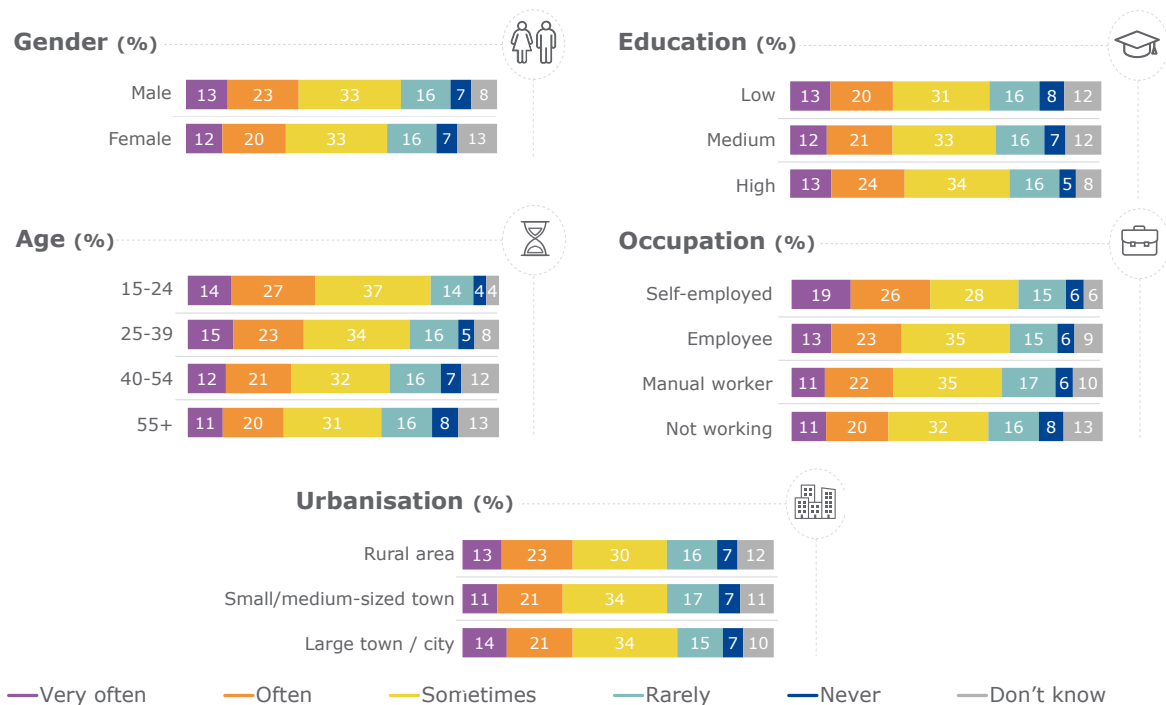
Respondents aged 39 or below are more inclined than respondents aged 55 or above to think they have 'very often' (14%-15% vs 11%) or 'often' (23%-27% vs 20%) been exposed to disinformation and fake news in the past seven days. Moreover, respondents aged 15 to 24 (37%) are more likely than older respondents (31%-34%) to answer they have 'sometimes' been exposed to disinformation. In addition, the share of respondents replying they 'don't know' increases with age.

Respondents with a high educational background (24%) are more likely than lower educated respondents (20%-21%) to think they have 'often' been exposed to disinformation and fake news in the past seven days.

Self-employed respondents (19%) are more likely than respondents in other occupational categories (11%-13%) to think they have 'very often' been exposed to disinformation and fake news in the past seven days and they are also more likely than non-working respondents (26% vs 20%) to replay they have 'often' been exposed. Compared to self-employed respondents (28%), however, respondents in other occupational groups (32%-35%) are more likely to think they have 'sometimes' been exposed. Finally, non-working respondents are more likely to answer that they 'don't know' (13% vs 6%-10%).

The share of respondents answering they have 'sometimes' been exposed to disinformation and fake news in the past seven days is higher among respondents living in small/medium-sized towns or in large towns/cities (34%) than among respondents living in rural areas (30%).

Q6 How often do you think that you have been personally exposed to disinformation and fake news over the past 7 days? (% by socio-demographics)



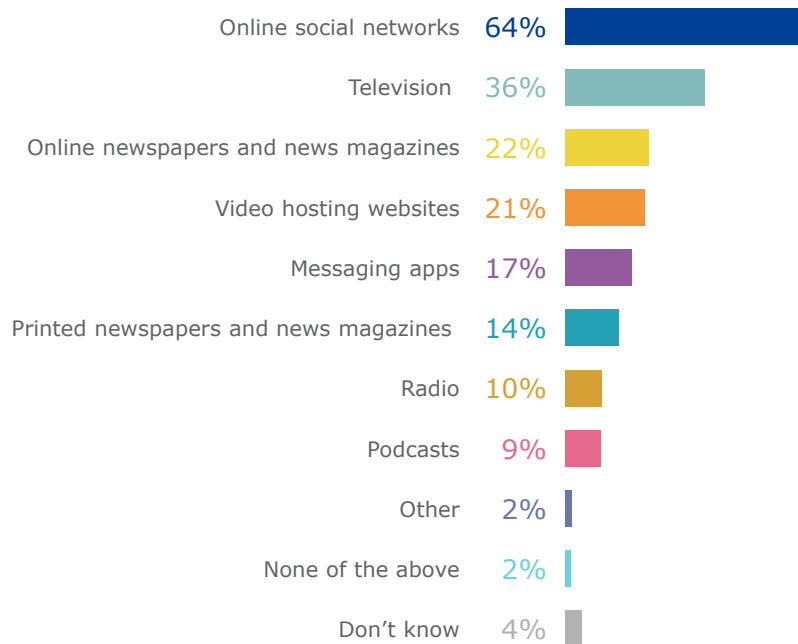
Base: all respondents (n=25 600)

3.2. Perceptions about media most likely to contain disinformation or fake news

Respondents were also asked in which media they are most likely to encounter disinformation or fake news. A list of eight types of media was presented, and up to three types could be selected.

Online social networks (selected by 64% of respondents) are by far the most cited media where respondents expect to encounter disinformation or fake news. More than a third of respondents (36%) consider it likely to encounter disinformation or fake news on **television** and about a fifth reply the same about **online newspapers and news magazines** (22%) or about **video hosting websites** (21%). Fewer respondents think it is likely to encounter disinformation or fake news on **messaging apps** (17%), **printed newspapers and news magazines** (14%), **radio** (10%) and **podcasts** (9%).

Q7 In which types of media are you most likely to encounter disinformation or fake news?
(Up to three answers allowed, % EU27)



Note: Response percentages exceed 100% as respondents were asked to select up to three threats (out of a list of eight)
Base: all respondents (n=25 600)

In 24 of the 27 Member States, a majority of respondents select **online social networks** as one of the media where they are most likely to encounter disinformation or fake news. Online social networks are mentioned by over three-quarters of respondents in Luxembourg (87%), Portugal (79%) and Finland (76%). In three countries, less than half of respondents select online social networks: Poland (38%), Greece (46%), and Hungary (47%) – these three countries are the only ones where **television** ranks higher than online social media. More than six in ten respondents in Greece (72%), Poland (71%) and Hungary (63%) think they are likely to encounter disinformation or fake news watching television. In the other countries, the proportion selecting television ranges from 13% in Finland to 57% in Romania. By comparison, **radio** is selected by less than a quarter of respondents across all countries (from 3% in Finland to 24% in Hungary).

Online newspapers and news magazines are cited by over one in three respondents in Hungary (37%), Bulgaria (36%) and Estonia (35%), compared to one in seven respondents (14%) in Germany. The corresponding figures for **printed newspapers and news magazines** range from 7% in Latvia and Lithuania to 30% in Greece.

Close to four in ten respondents (38%) in Portugal consider it likely to encounter disinformation or fake news on **video hosting websites**; in Bulgaria (6%), Hungary (8%), Italy (9%) and Malta (9%), less than one in ten respondents share this view. The proportion selecting **messaging apps** ranges from 7% in Hungary to 29% in Luxembourg and the proportion selecting **podcasts** ranges from 3% in Italy and Latvia to 23% in Sweden.

Q7 In which types of media are you most likely to encounter disinformation or fake news? (Up to three answers allowed, % by country)

		Online social networks	Television	Online newspapers and news magazines	Video hosting websites	Messaging apps	Printed newspapers and news magazines	Radio	Podcasts
EU27		64	36	22	21	17	14	10	9
BE		72	20	19	25	22	10	8	12
BG		63	49	36	6	9	20	12	9
CZ		61	43	24	18	12	12	11	9
DK		75	14	26	22	14	9	4	8
DE		73	20	14	27	20	11	8	12
EE		75	19	35	19	17	12	9	18
IE		69	28	24	17	20	18	15	12
EL		46	72	32	13	10	30	12	7
ES		57	44	28	21	14	17	12	8
FR		69	34	19	24	19	8	8	11
HR		65	41	30	19	15	26	9	9
IT		64	35	21	9	20	17	7	3
CY		70	42	33	24	17	18	8	10
LV		66	27	22	20	25	7	10	3
LT		64	25	31	25	9	7	7	13
LU		87	14	23	24	29	8	9	17
HU		47	63	37	8	7	25	24	4
MT		65	46	32	9	10	12	10	4
NL		69	20	18	29	24	10	7	15
AT		72	24	19	27	20	17	9	14
PL		38	71	21	20	18	16	15	4
PT		79	22	23	38	25	13	4	8
RO		58	57	30	13	10	16	10	9
SI		61	43	30	16	13	21	14	8
SK		59	41	22	30	9	18	16	10
FI		76	13	25	23	19	9	3	12
SE		75	16	24	28	13	9	7	23

Note (1): The higher the proportion selecting a response, the **darker blue** the cell. The highest-ranking response for each country shown in **green**

Note (2): Responses 'Other', 'None of the above' and 'Don't know' not shown
Base: all respondents (n=25 600)

Socio-demographic considerations

Across all socio-demographic groups, respondents are most likely to consider it likely to encounter disinformation or fake news on social media networks. Respondents aged 55 and over (66%), those with a high level of education (67%) and non-working respondents (67%) are overall the most likely to share this view; smaller proportions, but still majorities, are observed for respondents with a low level of education (57%), self-employed respondents (57%) and manual workers (56%).

For the other types of media, differences across socio-demographic groups tend to be smaller. There are, nonetheless, some exceptions. For example, messaging apps are mentioned less frequently by respondents aged 55 or older (20% vs 15%-17% in younger age groups) and video hosting websites are less likely to be selected by respondents with a low level of education (16% vs 21% of respondents with a medium level of education and 25% of respondents with a high level of education). Self-employed respondents (20%), on the other hand, are more likely to select printed newspapers and news magazines (vs 12%-14% in other occupational groups).

Q7 In which types of media are you most likely to encounter disinformation or fake news? (Up to three answers allowed, % by socio-demographics)

	Online social networks	Television	Online newspapers and news magazines	Video hosting websites	Messaging apps	Printed newspapers and news magazines	Radio	Podcasts
EU27	64	36	22	21	17	14	10	9
Gender								
Men	63	38	23	23	19	14	11	10
Women	65	35	21	19	16	13	8	8
Age								
15-24	60	37	23	18	17	11	9	9
25-39	60	38	23	21	15	13	11	8
40-54	64	37	22	22	17	13	9	8
55+	66	35	21	20	20	15	9	10
Education								
Low	57	34	20	16	15	14	9	8
Medium	65	37	22	21	17	14	9	9
High	67	37	23	25	20	14	10	11
Occupation								
Self-employed	57	37	22	22	16	20	11	9
Employee	64	36	23	22	18	12	11	9
Manual worker	56	36	19	17	17	14	11	9
Not working	67	36	22	20	18	14	8	9
Urbanisation								
Rural area	63	34	21	21	17	13	10	9
Small/medium-sized town	64	36	21	20	18	14	8	8
Large town / city	63	38	23	21	17	15	11	10

Note (1): The higher the proportion selecting a response, the **darker blue** the cell

Note (2): Responses 'Other', 'None of the above' and 'Don't know' not shown

Base: all respondents (n=25 600)

3.3. Opinions about the role of online platforms in fighting disinformation

Respondents were asked to choose between a series of statements about the role of online platforms in the fight against disinformation and the manipulation of information. The results of this question show that not more than 6% of respondents think that **online platforms should not be held responsible for reducing the spread of false and misleading information**, while a large majority select one or more of the statements describing actions that online platforms could take to prevent the spread of false and misleading information and promote trustworthy information. One in ten (10%) respondents are unsure and select the 'don't know' response.

More specifically, 52% of respondents reply that **online platforms should do more to prevent the spread of false and misleading information**. In addition, 39% answer that **online platforms should rely more on independent fact-checkers to indicate false information** and 33% that online platforms should do more to **promote the visibility of trustworthy information**. A smaller share of respondents (20%) think online platforms should do more to **promote access to independent media**.

Q8 When it comes to disinformation and the manipulation of information on online platforms (social networks, search engines, etc.), which of the following statements are closest to your view? (Multiple answers allowed, % EU27)



Note: Response percentages exceed 100% as respondents could select multiple answers out of a list of four statements describing actions that online platforms. The response 'online platforms should not be held responsible for reducing the spread of false and misleading information' could not be combined with the other response options.





























Base: all respondents (n=25 600)

In line with the EU average results, the share of respondents answering that online platforms should **not be held responsible** for reducing the spread of false and misleading information remains low in all Member States and ranges from 4% in Hungary and Poland to 11% in Cyprus.

Across all Member States, more than 40% of respondents answer that **online platforms should do more to prevent the spread of false and misleading information**. In Malta (62%), Luxembourg (61%) and Portugal (61%), about six in ten respondents select this statement; at the lower end of the country ranking, in Czechia, this response is selected by 43% of respondents.

The statement that **online platforms should rely more on independent fact-checkers to indicate false information** is selected by about half of respondents in Spain (49%); this statement is also selected by more than four in ten respondents in Cyprus (44%), Estonia (43%), Austria (42%), Greece (41%) and Finland (41%). At least four in ten respondents in Portugal (45%), Cyprus (41%), Hungary (40%) and Greece (40%) reply that **online platforms should do more to promote the visibility of trustworthy information**. Compared to the aforementioned statements, the statement that **online platforms should do more to promote access to independent media** tends to be selected by a smaller share of respondents across most Member States. Respondents in Hungary (33%) and Poland (30%) most frequently select this response (compared to respondents in other countries).

Q8 When it comes to disinformation and the manipulation of information on online platforms (social networks, search engines, etc.), which of the following statements are closest to your view? (Multiple answers allowed, % by country)

	Online platforms should do more to prevent the spread of false and misleading information	Online platforms should rely more on independent fact-checkers to indicate false information	Online platforms should do more to promote the visibility of trustworthy information	Online platforms should do more to promote access to independent media	Online platforms should not be held responsible for reducing the spread of false and misleading information [Exclusive response]	Don't know
EU27 	52	39	33	20	6	10
BE 	53	37	29	15	5	11
BG 	53	38	38	24	8	7
CZ 	43	29	30	19	8	12
DK 	52	40	29	13	6	14
DE 	54	40	35	18	6	11
EE 	58	43	33	21	5	10
IE 	52	36	32	20	6	6
EL 	45	41	40	27	6	5
ES 	58	49	33	19	6	6
FR 	51	39	31	16	6	12
HR 	57	36	37	24	9	5
IT 	48	40	30	18	6	9
CY 	49	44	41	23	11	7
LV 	50	31	27	18	7	11
LT 	54	29	33	22	10	8
LU 	61	39	34	16	7	9
HU 	53	32	40	33	4	9
MT 	62	32	35	23	7	7
NL 	52	34	29	17	7	14
AT 	55	42	37	21	7	8
PL 	49	35	28	30	4	13
PT 	61	29	45	22	6	6
RO 	52	36	37	24	10	7
SI 	49	29	34	25	7	9
SK 	46	24	31	25	5	13
FI 	48	41	33	19	7	13
SE 	54	31	29	18	7	14

Note: The higher the proportion selecting a response, the **darker blue/darker orange** the cell

Base: all respondents (n=25 600)

Socio-demographic considerations

Women (53%) are slightly more likely than men (51%) to answer that online platforms should do more to prevent the spread of false and misleading information, while men (23%) are more likely than women (17%) to answer that online platforms should do more to promote access to independent media.

The proportion of respondents answering that online platforms should do more to prevent the spread of false and misleading information increases with age (from 45% for respondents aged 15 to 24 to 57% for those aged 55 and over). Respondents aged 55 and over (43%) are also more likely than younger respondents (34%-37%) to think that online platforms should rely more on independent fact-checkers to indicate false information. Younger respondents (aged below 40) are somewhat more likely to select 'online platforms should do more to promote access to independent media' (18%-19% vs 22%-24% for respondents aged 40 and older).

The higher their level of education, the more likely respondents are to accept the various actions that online platforms could take to prevent the spread of false and misleading information and promote trustworthy information. For example, 36% of respondents with a low level of education reply that online platforms should rely more on independent fact-checkers to indicate false information; this proportion increases to 43% for respondents with a high level of education.

Non-working respondents (57%), followed by employees (51%), to a larger extent reply that 'online platforms should do more to prevent the spread of false and misleading information' (vs 43% of manual workers and 47% of self-employed respondents); a similar pattern is also seen for 'online platforms should rely more on independent fact-checkers to indicate false information' and 'online platforms should do more to promote the visibility of trustworthy information'. Self-employed respondents (27%) are more likely than non-working respondents (17%), manual workers (21%) and employees (22%) to think that online platforms should do more to promote access to independent media.

Finally, for each of the actions that online platforms could take to prevent the spread of false and misleading information and promote trustworthy information, the share selecting it is somewhat higher for respondents living in a large town or city; for example, 22% reply that online platforms should do more to promote access to independent media, compared to 18%-20% in less urban areas.

Q8 When it comes to disinformation and the manipulation of information on online platforms (social networks, search engines, etc.), which of the following statements are closest to your view? (% by socio-demographics)

	Online platforms should do more to prevent the spread of false and misleading information	Online platforms should rely more on independent fact-checkers to indicate false information	Online platforms should do more to promote the visibility of trustworthy information	Online platforms should do more to promote access to independent media	Online platforms should not be held responsible for reducing the spread of false and misleading information [Exclusive response]	Don't know
EU27	52	39	33	20	6	10
Gender						
Men	51	39	33	23	6	9
Women	53	38	32	17	6	11
Age						
15-24	45	35	34	22	6	7
25-39	47	34	33	24	7	9
40-54	51	37	31	19	7	11
55+	57	43	33	18	5	11
Education						
Low	47	36	29	17	6	14
Medium	53	38	34	20	6	11
High	55	43	35	23	6	6
Occupation						
Self-employed	45	36	31	27	7	8
Employee	51	38	33	22	6	9
Manual worker	43	33	29	21	6	10
Not working	57	42	34	17	6	11
Urbanisation						
Rural area	50	38	32	18	6	12
Small/medium-sized town	52	37	32	20	6	10
Large town / city	53	41	35	22	7	9

Note: The higher the proportion selecting a response, the **darker blue** the cell

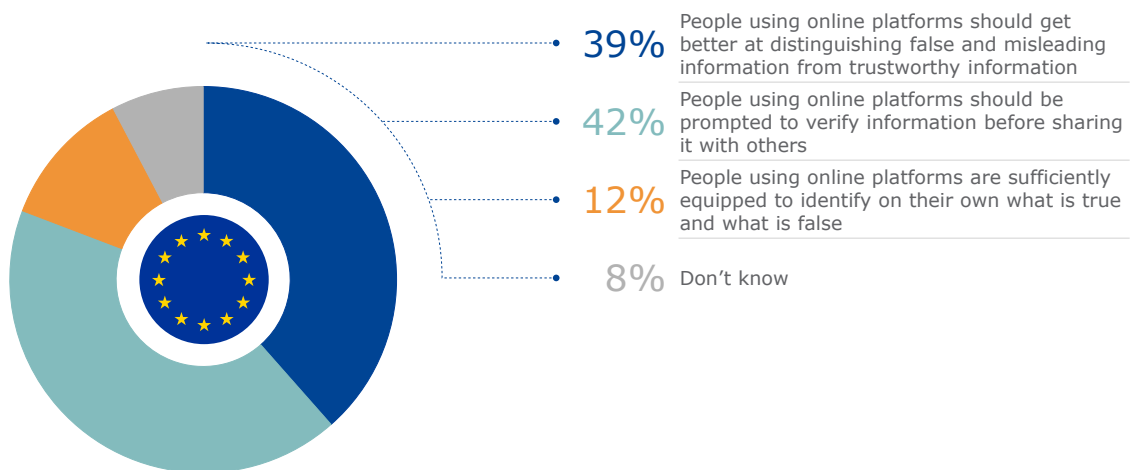
Base: all respondents (n=25 600)

3.4. EU citizens' opinions about the role of online platform users in fighting disinformation

Respondents were next asked to choose between three statements relating to the role of online platform users in dealing with false and misleading information.

About equal shares reply that people using online platforms should be **prompted to verify information** before sharing it with others (42%) and that people using online platforms should **get better at distinguishing false and misleading information** from trustworthy information (39%). Not more than 12% of respondents reply that people using online platforms are sufficiently equipped to identify on their own what is true and what is false. Nearly one in ten respondents (8%) answer that they 'don't know'.

Q9 Which of the following statements is closest to your view? (% by socio-demographics)



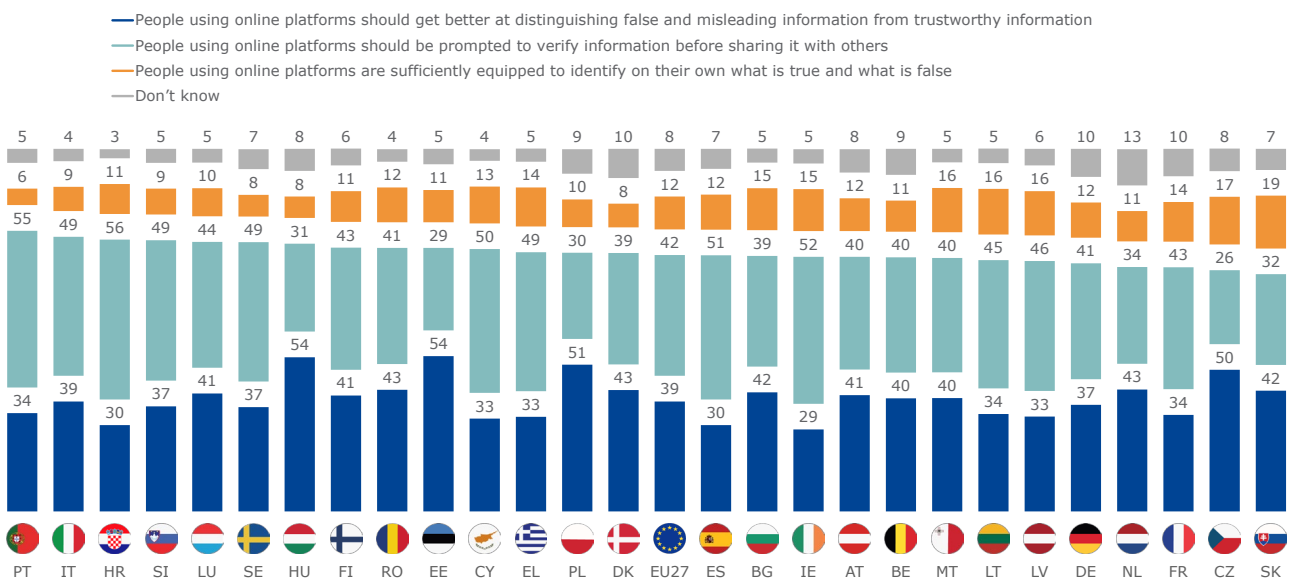
Base: all respondents (n=25 600)

At least one in two respondents in Croatia (56%), Portugal (55%), Ireland (52%), Spain (51%) and Cyprus (50%) reply that people using online platforms should be **prompted to verify information** before sharing it with others. In contrast, this view is shared by less than a third of respondents in Czechia (26%), Estonia (29%), Poland (30%), Hungary (31%) and Slovakia (32%).

The share of respondents answering that people using online platforms should **get better at distinguishing false and misleading information** from trustworthy information is the highest in Estonia (54%), Hungary (54%), Poland (51%) and Czechia (50%) and the lowest in Ireland (29%), Spain (30%) and Croatia (30%).

In Slovakia, about one in five respondents (19%) consider that people using online platforms are sufficiently equipped to identify on their own what is true and what is false; this view is also shared by 17% of respondents Czechia and 16% in Malta, Latvia and Lithuania. Less than one in ten respondents select this response in Portugal (6%), Denmark (8%), Hungary (8%), Sweden (8%), Italy (9%) and Slovenia (9%).

Q9 Which of the following statements is closest to your view? (% by socio-demographics)



Base: all respondents (n=25 600)

Socio-demographic considerations

Women (44%) are somewhat more likely than men (41%) to consider that people using online platforms should be prompted to verify information before sharing it with others. Conversely, men (13%) are somewhat more likely than women (10%) to reply that people using online platforms are sufficiently equipped to identify on their own what is true and what is false.

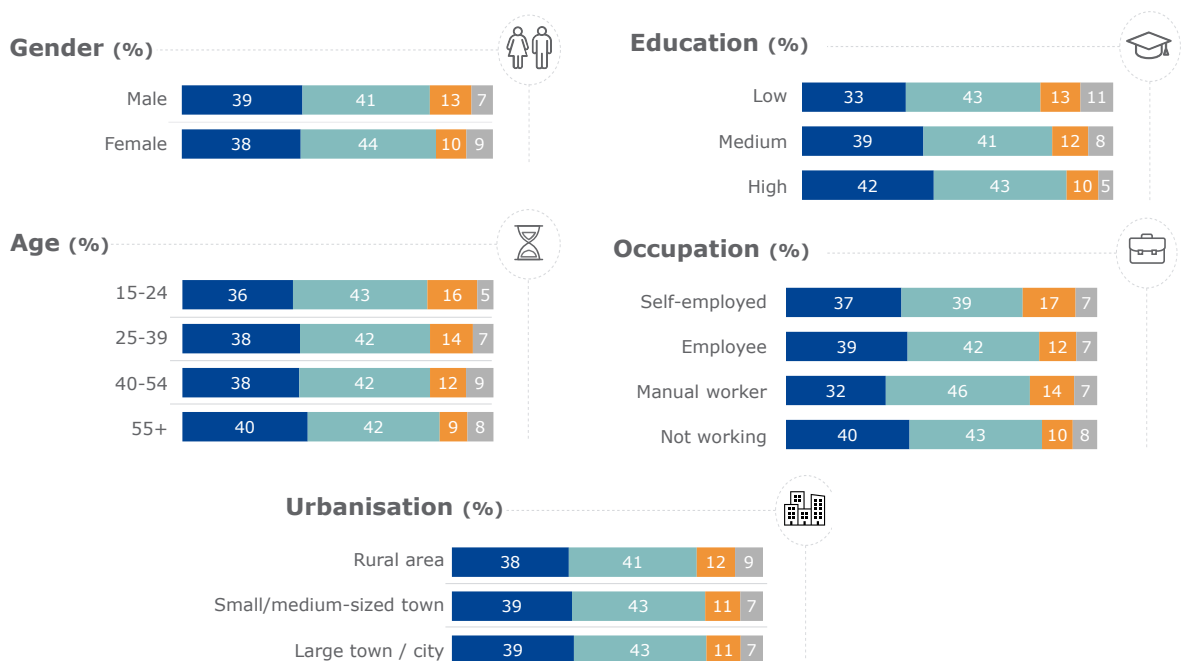
Respondents aged 55 or older (40%) are more likely than respondents aged 15 to 24 (36%) to answer that people using online platforms should get better at distinguishing false and misleading information from trustworthy information. However, they are less likely than younger respondents

(9% vs 12%-16%) to consider that people using online platforms are sufficiently equipped to identify on their own what is true and what is false.

Respondents with a medium (39%) or high level of education (42%) are more likely than respondents with a low level of education (33%) to consider that people using online platforms should get better at distinguishing false and misleading information from trustworthy information. The share of respondents selecting the 'don't know' response is higher among respondents with a low level of education (11%) than among respondents with a medium (8%) or high level of education (5%).

Finally, the share of respondents answering that people using online platforms should get better at distinguishing false and misleading information from trustworthy information is lowest among manual workers (32% vs 37%-40% in other occupational groups). On the other hand, manual workers (46%) are more likely to consider that people using online platforms should be prompted to verify information before sharing it with others (vs 39%-43% in other occupational groups). Respondents who are not working (10%) are less likely to reply that people using online platforms are sufficiently equipped to identify on their own what is true and what is false (vs 12%-17% in other occupation groups).

Q9 Which of the following statements is closest to your view? (% by socio-demographics)































- People using online platforms should get better at distinguishing false and misleading information from trustworthy information
- People using online platforms should be prompted to verify information before sharing it with others
- People using online platforms are sufficiently equipped to identify on their own what is true and what is false
- Don't know

Base: all respondents (n=25 600)

Technical specifications

Between 22 and 31 March 2023, Ipsos European Public affairs carried out Flash Eurobarometer 522 at the request of the European Commission, Secretariat-General. It is a general public survey coordinated by the Directorate-General for Communication, “Media monitoring and Eurobarometer” Unit. Flash Eurobarometer 522 covers the population of EU citizens, residents in one of the 27 EU Member States and aged 15 years and over.

All interviews were carried via Computer-Assisted Web Interviewing (CAWI), using Ipsos online panels and their partner network. Respondents were selected from online access panels, groups of pre-recruited individuals who have agreed to take part in research. Sampling quota were set based on age (15-24 year-olds, 25-34 year-olds, 35-44 year-olds, 45-54 year-olds, 55-64 year-olds and 65+ year-olds), gender, level of education and geographic region (NUTS1, NUTS2 or NUTS 3, depending on the size of the country and the number of NUTS regions).

		Number of interviews	Fieldwork dates	Population 15+ (absolute number)	Population 15+ (as % of EU27 population)
EU27		25 600	22.3.2023-31.3.2023	379 815 189	100%
BE		1 005	22.3.2023-31.3.2023	9 685 972	2.55%
BG		1 003	22.3.2023-30.3.2023	5 845 872	1.54%
CZ		1 007	22.3.2023-29.3.2023	8 823 299	2.32%
DK		1 004	22.3.2023-30.3.2023	4 927 589	1.30%
DE		1 008	22.3.2023-30.3.2023	71 630 189	18.86%
EE		1 002	22.3.2023-29.3.2023	1 113 997	0.29%
IE		1 004	22.3.2023-31.3.2023	4 063 488	1.07%
EL		1 008	22.3.2023-30.3.2023	9 030 796	2.38%
ES		1 003	22.3.2023-28.3.2023	40 804 956	10.74%
FR		1 001	22.3.2023-30.3.2023	55 994 788	14.74%
HR		1 007	22.3.2023-31.3.2023	3 310 094	0.87%
IT		1 002	22.3.2023-27.3.2023	51 540 338	13.57%
CY		502	22.3.2023-28.3.2023	759 421	0.20%
LV		1 001	22.3.2023-30.3.2023	1 575 765	0.41%
LT		1 003	22.3.2023-31.3.2023	2 388 299	0.63%
LU		501	22.3.2023-30.3.2023	542 724	0.14%
HU		1 003	22.3.2023-31.3.2023	8 278 842	2.18%
MT		502	22.3.2023-31.3.2023	450 987	0.12%
NL		1 004	22.3.2023-31.3.2023	14 878 211	3.92%
AT		1 004	22.3.2023-31.3.2023	7 687 340	2.02%
PL		1 004	22.3.2023-31.3.2023	31 840 803	8.38%
PT		1 003	22.3.2023-30.3.2023	9 027 159	2.38%
RO		1 003	22.3.2023-29.3.2023	15 953 432	4.20%
SI		1 007	22.3.2023-30.3.2023	1 789 242	0.47%
SK		1 000	22.3.2023-30.3.2023	4 561 916	1.20%
FI		1 004	22.3.2023-30.3.2023	4 696 447	1.24%
SE		1 005	22.3.2023-31.3.2023	8 613 223	2.27%

Questionnaire




























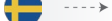
	ASK ALL	
Q1	To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? Citizens in [COUNTRY] can...	
	(ONE ANSWER PER LINE, RANDOMISE 1-3)	
Q1_1	...express their political opinion without fearing negative consequences	
Q1_2	...engage with candidates and political parties in debate	
Q1_3	...access accurate information from multiple media sources about topics at stake	
	RESPONSE SCALE	
	Strongly agree	1
	Tend to agree	2
	Tend to disagree	3
	Strongly disagree	4
	Don't know	998
	ASK ALL	
Q2	On the whole, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way democracy works in [COUNTRY]?	
	(ONE ANSWER)	
	Very satisfied	1
	Somewhat satisfied	2
	Not very satisfied	3
	Not at all satisfied	4
	Don't know	998
	ASK ALL	
Q3	In your view, which of the following are the most serious threats to democracy in [COUNTRY]?	
	(MAXIMUM THREE ANSWERS - RANDOMISE 1-10)	
	False and/or misleading information in general circulating online and offline	1
	Propaganda and false/misleading information from a non-democratic foreign source	2
	Destabilisation of electoral infrastructure or processes, such as cyber-attacks	3
	Covert foreign interference in the politics and economy of [COUNTRY], including through financing of domestic actors	4
	Lack of engagement and interest in politics and elections among regular citizens	5
	Lack of opportunities for citizens to voice their opinions	6
	Lack of integrity of the electoral system	7
	Lack of media freedom and media diversity	8
	Growing distrust and scepticism towards democratic institutions	9
	Lack of knowledge among voters about the functioning of democratic processes	10
	Other	11
	None of the above	12
	Don't know	998

	ASK ALL	
Q5	In your view, what are the most important elements that define a free and fair electoral campaign? You can select up to three answers.	
	(MAXIMUM THREE ANSWERS - RANDOMISE 1-6)	
	Debates and campaigns avoid hate speech, manipulation and lies	1
	Voters know who finances candidates and political parties	2
	Voters know who finances political advertising and sponsored content (e.g. influencers supporting a candidate) and can distinguish between sponsored content and non-paid for political information	3
	Candidates and political parties are transparent in their use of targeting techniques for political advertising	4
	Voters can engage with candidates and political parties in debate	5
	Candidates and political parties have equal opportunity to access the media	6
	Other	7
	None of the above	8
	Don't know	998
	ASK ALL	
Q6	How often do you think that you have been personally exposed to disinformation and fake news over the past 7 days?	
	(ONE ANSWER)	
	Very often	1
	Often	2
	Sometime	3
	Rarely	4
	Never	5
	Don't know	998
	ASK ALL	
Q7	In which types of media are you most likely to encounter disinformation or fake news?	
	(MAXIMUM THREE ANSWERS - RANDOMISE 1-8)	
	Online newspapers and news magazines	1
	Printed newspapers and news magazines	2
	Online social networks	3
	Messaging apps	4
	Television	5
	Video hosting websites	6
	Podcasts	7
	Radio	8
	Other	9
	None of the above	10
	Don't know	998




























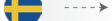
	ASK ALL		
Q8	When it comes to disinformation and the manipulation of information on online platforms (social networks, search engines, etc.), which of the following statements are closest to your view?		
	(MAXIMUM THREE ANSWERS - RANDOMISE 1-4)		
	Online platforms should do more to prevent the spread of false and misleading information	1	
	Online platforms should do more to promote the visibility of trustworthy information	2	
	Online platforms should do more to promote access to independent media	3	
	Online platforms should rely more on independent fact-checkers to indicate false information	4	
	Online platforms should not be held responsible for reducing the spread of false and misleading information [EXCLUSIVE RESPONSE]	5	
	Don't know		998
	ASK ALL		
Q9	Which of the following statements is closest to your view?		
	(ONE ANSWER, ROTATE 1-3)		
	People using online platforms should get better at distinguishing false and misleading information from trustworthy information	1	
	People using online platforms should be prompted to verify information before sharing it with others	2	
	People using online platforms are sufficiently equipped to identify on their own what is true and what is false	3	
	Don't know		998
	ASK ALL		
Q10	How confident are you in the following when it comes to defending democracy in [COUNTRY]?		
	(ONE ANSWER PER LINE - RANDOMISE 1-10)		
Q10_1	The media		
Q10_2	National courts		
Q10_3	National [and local] government		
Q10_4	National [and local] parliament		
Q10_5	Political parties and politicians		
Q10_6	Public administration		
Q10_7	Electoral authorities		
Q10_8	Civil society organisations		
Q10_9	Citizens		
Q10_10	EU institutions, including the European Court of Justice		
	RESPONSE SCALE		
	Very confident	1	
	Somewhat confident	2	
	Not very confident	3	
	Not at all confident	4	
	Don't know		998

Data annex




























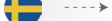
Q1_1 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?
Citizens in [COUNTRY] can express their political opinion without fearing negative consequences

		Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
EU27		28	40	20	10	3
BE		21	45	19	10	4
BG		38	31	20	9	2
CZ		27	37	23	11	2
DK		42	39	14	5	1
DE		30	40	18	10	2
EE		23	43	22	10	2
IE		25	39	22	13	2
EL		48	27	16	9	1
ES		29	40	20	8	3
FR		19	41	24	14	3
HR		17	38	30	14	1
IT		31	46	14	6	3
CY		47	27	19	7	1
LV		17	40	26	14	3
LT		26	38	24	10	2
LU		39	42	11	6	2
HU		14	23	34	27	3
MT		26	25	28	19	2
NL		31	39	19	8	3
AT		29	40	20	10	2
PL		17	37	28	13	5
PT		42	39	14	3	2
RO		45	35	15	4	2
SI		10	47	31	11	2
SK		20	35	27	14	3
FI		34	42	16	7	1
SE		31	41	17	9	2




























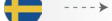
Q1_2 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?
Citizens in [COUNTRY] can engage with candidates and political parties in debate

		Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
EU27		19	39	25	12	5
BE		10	42	28	14	6
BG		29	29	24	14	3
CZ		22	44	23	7	4
DK		41	40	11	5	3
DE		19	42	23	10	6
EE		21	43	22	7	7
IE		19	39	26	13	4
EL		38	29	20	12	1
ES		15	30	29	19	7
FR		13	38	26	20	3
HR		12	29	39	17	3
IT		20	41	26	8	4
CY		35	33	21	9	2
LV		21	46	21	8	5
LT		29	45	17	3	5
LU		19	46	21	8	6
HU		15	27	30	26	3
MT		17	44	23	12	5
NL		20	40	24	10	6
AT		15	34	33	14	5
PL		18	44	22	8	8
PT		23	41	24	9	3
RO		32	35	18	8	7
SI		6	46	31	11	6
SK		18	41	26	9	7
FI		36	44	15	3	3
SE		28	41	19	7	5

Q1_3 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?
Citizens in [COUNTRY] can access accurate information from multiple media sources about topics at stake

		Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
EU27		26	46	18	8	3
BE		16	48	22	9	5
BG		34	33	20	12	2
CZ		24	38	23	12	3
DK		33	46	13	5	4
DE		27	46	17	6	3
EE		28	49	14	5	3
IE		20	47	17	13	4
EL		43	28	17	12	1
ES		33	43	15	6	3
FR		18	50	19	10	3
HR		17	44	27	10	2
IT		25	49	16	6	4
CY		39	34	17	9	1
LV		22	47	20	10	2
LT		27	44	19	7	3
LU		19	56	17	6	2
HU		13	30	29	27	1
MT		18	39	25	15	4
NL		27	47	17	6	4
AT		26	46	18	8	2
PL		23	47	17	8	4
PT		34	48	13	2	3
RO		38	39	15	5	3
SI		7	46	31	14	2
SK		20	40	24	12	3
FI		29	51	14	5	1
SE		30	48	14	6	3








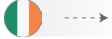



















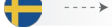
Q2 On the whole, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way democracy works in [COUNTRY]?

		Very satisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Not very satisfied	Not at all satisfied	Don't know
EU27		10	37	31	20	2
BE		6	41	32	18	3
BG		3	23	41	32	1
CZ		5	34	36	23	2
DK		27	53	14	5	1
DE		17	45	25	11	2
EE		22	44	20	12	2
IE		14	42	23	19	3
EL		6	23	28	43	1
ES		13	34	31	21	1
FR		5	31	33	30	1
HR		3	26	43	26	1
IT		6	41	37	14	2
CY		3	29	40	27	1
LV		6	36	39	17	3
LT		13	44	28	14	2
LU		13	62	18	5	3
HU		8	21	21	49	1
MT		11	23	36	29	1
NL		13	46	26	13	2
AT		10	40	30	18	1
PL		8	26	35	26	5
PT		9	43	34	13	1
RO		7	31	33	28	1
SI		4	36	40	19	1
SK		4	26	33	36	2
FI		16	57	19	6	2
SE		14	53	22	9	2

Q3 In your view, which of the following are the most serious threats to democracy in [COUNTRY]? [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]

		False and/or misleading information in general circulating online and offline	Growing distrust and scepticism towards democratic institutions	Lack of engagement and interest in politics and elections among regular citizens	Lack of opportunities for citizens to voice their opinions	Propaganda and false/misleading information from a non-democratic foreign source	Covert foreign interference in the politics and economy of [COUNTRY], including through financing of domestic actors	Lack of media freedom and media diversity	Lack of knowledge among voters about the functioning of democratic processes	Lack of integrity of the electoral system	Destabilisation of electoral infrastructure or processes, such as cyber-attacks	Other	None of the above	Don't know
EU27		38	32	26	23	22	21	19	19	17	9	3	2	4
BE		33	30	26	26	18	17	13	24	19	9	4	2	6
BG		24	34	22	20	25	46	19	16	32	6	2	0	2
CZ		47	34	16	24	26	31	21	17	5	8	2	1	4
DK		38	33	26	13	20	19	9	16	7	10	5	3	10
DE		36	34	26	24	26	27	12	20	7	12	4	3	5
EE		43	27	25	13	38	30	13	17	24	10	1	2	3
IE		39	31	24	25	21	14	15	26	13	7	3	3	3
EL		41	24	23	22	21	30	35	17	20	4	2	1	1
ES		40	38	23	21	16	13	24	15	19	10	2	1	4
FR		35	28	28	29	20	16	19	22	22	11	4	3	3
HR		38	39	39	25	20	21	21	28	17	5	1	0	1
IT		32	37	33	27	18	16	19	16	12	9	1	2	3
CY		36	30	33	32	17	28	21	19	17	3	3	1	3
LV		31	30	38	20	26	33	18	21	8	6	1	0	4
LT		34	24	33	19	33	27	15	21	24	7	2	1	4
LU		38	34	37	21	18	19	12	30	9	4	2	3	4
HU		48	17	14	20	17	21	46	13	43	6	2	2	4
MT		48	39	16	18	19	16	24	24	14	4	3	2	4
NL		39	37	19	21	18	23	12	19	13	10	5	3	7
AT		40	39	28	27	19	25	14	24	6	7	3	2	3
PL		40	26	22	19	35	18	33	14	32	7	1	2	3
PT		31	41	43	22	15	14	12	27	17	6	2	2	4
RO		42	36	21	17	26	24	12	30	23	10	1	2	4
SI		40	37	32	23	19	28	24	13	11	5	1	1	3
SK		46	32	17	22	25	36	17	12	6	6	1	1	4
FI		47	27	36	16	27	28	13	11	5	14	3	1	5
SE		47	22	30	16	29	25	16	21	9	11	4	1	7




























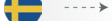
Q4 In your view, what are the most important elements that define free and fair elections? You can select up to three answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]

		Voters have access to accurate information to make an informed choice	The electoral administration is independent and impartial	The electoral infrastructure (counting votes, transmitting information) is protected against threats, including cyber-attacks	Electoral laws are clearly explained to voters	Electoral laws do not change shortly before elections	The electoral administration is resourceful and competent to perform its tasks	Other	None of the above	Don't know
EU27		51	47	36	29	29	22	2	4	6
BE		52	42	32	31	23	19	3	4	10
BG		37	56	43	25	36	32	2	3	3
CZ		50	47	42	25	39	13	2	5	5
DK		68	50	45	21	25	23	2	2	6
DE		54	48	39	25	22	23	3	5	7
EE		45	65	64	35	25	14	2	2	3
IE		60	47	37	32	23	23	2	3	2
EL		57	52	34	28	49	16	3	1	1
ES		53	48	34	34	26	31	3	2	3
FR		47	41	32	31	27	22	2	5	6
HR		53	51	37	33	43	27	2	3	3
IT		44	38	27	36	26	15	2	5	8
CY		62	45	26	34	38	29	3	2	2
LV		51	51	46	24	30	24	1	4	5
LT		52	49	45	28	36	20	1	2	5
LU		56	48	33	32	24	34	1	2	6
HU		59	59	43	27	50	7	2	3	4
MT		60	53	28	29	33	34	2	2	3
NL		54	45	33	28	23	22	3	3	9
AT		55	51	39	21	24	24	3	4	5
PL		53	59	36	25	44	26	1	1	4
PT		54	44	40	33	23	28	2	4	5
RO		44	39	40	28	35	17	2	6	6
SI		55	44	35	33	28	23	1	5	5
SK		55	37	43	26	35	17	1	4	7
FI		62	57	48	25	25	24	1	1	4
SE		60	65	48	19	16	27	3	1	6

Q5 In your view, what are the most important elements that define a free and fair electoral campaign? You can select up to three answers. [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]

	Debates and campaigns avoid hate speech, manipulation and lies	Candidates and political parties have equal opportunity to access the media	Voters know who finances candidates and political parties	Voters can engage with candidates and political parties in debate	Voters know who finances political advertising and sponsored content (e.g. influencers supporting a candidate) and can distinguish between sponsored content and non-paid for political information	Candidates and political parties are transparent in their use of targeting techniques for political advertising	Other	None of the above	Don't know
EU27	46	41	35	33	32	27	2	4	6
BE	36	35	30	35	28	31	3	6	9
BG	44	28	49	38	42	30	2	1	4
CZ	36	49	40	39	31	21	1	4	5
DK	50	42	38	40	38	25	2	1	7
DE	48	39	33	33	30	27	3	5	6
EE	57	51	44	36	38	20	2	2	3
IE	35	40	42	41	43	32	2	2	2
EL	47	47	53	38	38	27	2	1	1
ES	55	34	39	27	36	40	2	2	5
FR	39	40	33	33	29	26	2	6	6
HR	42	50	45	41	44	25	1	3	3
IT	42	34	31	31	31	21	1	7	7
CY	45	42	52	48	37	28	2	1	3
LV	40	39	42	37	44	23	1	3	5
LT	36	43	42	39	43	29	1	3	5
LU	44	37	40	40	38	25	1	4	5
HU	61	64	24	39	31	26	2	3	3
MT	56	43	41	27	36	39	2	3	3
NL	39	41	30	32	29	25	4	4	9
AT	54	33	40	26	33	26	3	4	5
PL	64	60	40	36	29	23	0	1	3
PT	37	50	28	31	28	33	2	7	7
RO	35	32	34	40	35	37	2	4	5
SI	47	43	35	37	43	15	1	6	3
SK	41	39	45	38	37	21	1	3	6
FI	49	46	41	40	41	19	1	1	4
SE	55	45	31	36	38	18	3	1	7








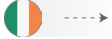



















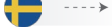
Q6 How often do you think that you have been personally exposed to disinformation and fake news over the past 7 days?

		Very often	Often	Sometimes	Rarely	Never	Don't know
EU27		13	22	33	16	7	11
BE		8	20	35	18	6	14
BG		28	26	28	10	2	6
CZ		12	19	36	16	5	13
DK		5	13	38	23	5	16
DE		8	12	31	24	12	14
EE		8	16	35	24	6	12
IE		18	22	34	15	3	9
EL		30	22	26	13	5	5
ES		23	31	29	8	3	7
FR		8	21	35	16	8	12
HR		13	24	41	12	3	7
IT		9	24	38	14	8	7
CY		12	17	30	19	11	11
LV		12	19	32	20	4	14
LT		7	19	37	19	4	14
LU		8	23	40	15	3	10
HU		30	33	20	7	2	9
MT		18	27	32	10	7	7
NL		6	15	38	19	6	16
AT		13	18	34	19	6	10
PL		16	30	28	11	2	12
PT		13	19	34	20	5	8
RO		19	28	32	9	4	8
SI		11	21	35	17	5	11
SK		17	22	26	17	5	12
FI		6	12	37	27	10	8
SE		7	19	37	17	4	16





























Q7 In which types of media are you most likely to encounter disinformation or fake news? [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]

		Online social networks	Television	Online newspapers and news magazines	Video hosting websites	Messaging apps	Printed newspapers and news magazines	Radio	Podcasts	Other	None of the above	Don't know
EU27		64	36	22	21	17	14	10	9	2	2	4
BE		72	20	19	25	22	10	8	12	2	2	5
BG		63	49	36	6	9	20	12	9	2	1	3
CZ		61	43	24	18	12	12	11	9	1	1	4
DK		75	14	26	22	14	9	4	8	2	1	6
DE		73	20	14	27	20	11	8	12	2	2	5
EE		75	19	35	19	17	12	9	18	2	1	3
IE		69	28	24	17	20	18	15	12	1	1	2
EL		46	72	32	13	10	30	12	7	0	1	1
ES		57	44	28	21	14	17	12	8	1	1	5
FR		69	34	19	24	19	8	8	11	2	2	4
HR		65	41	30	19	15	26	9	9	4	1	4
IT		64	35	21	9	20	17	7	3	1	2	3
CY		70	42	33	24	17	18	8	10	3	0	1
LV		66	27	22	20	25	7	10	3	2	1	4
LT		64	25	31	25	9	7	7	13	1	2	5
LU		87	14	23	24	29	8	9	17	1	1	2
HU		47	63	37	8	7	25	24	4	1	1	4
MT		65	46	32	9	10	12	10	4	1	1	3
NL		69	20	18	29	24	10	7	15	4	1	6
AT		72	24	19	27	20	17	9	14	1	1	3
PL		38	71	21	20	18	16	15	4	1	1	5
PT		79	22	23	38	25	13	4	8	1	1	2
RO		58	57	30	13	10	16	10	9	2	1	5
SI		61	43	30	16	13	21	14	8	1	1	4
SK		59	41	22	30	9	18	16	10	1	1	4
FI		76	13	25	23	19	9	3	12	2	1	6
SE		75	16	24	28	13	9	7	23	2	0	5




























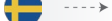
Q8 When it comes to disinformation and the manipulation of information on online platforms (social networks, search engines, etc.), which of the following statements are closest to your view? [MULTIPLE ANSWERS]

	Online platforms should do more to prevent the spread of false and misleading information	Online platforms should rely more on independent fact-checkers to indicate false information	Online platforms should do more to promote the visibility of trustworthy information	Online platforms should do more to promote access to independent media	Online platforms should not be held responsible for reducing the spread of false and misleading information	Don't know
EU27 	52	39	33	20	6	10
BE 	53	37	29	15	5	11
BG 	53	38	38	24	8	7
CZ 	43	29	30	19	8	12
DK 	52	40	29	13	6	14
DE 	54	40	35	18	6	11
EE 	58	43	33	21	5	10
IE 	52	36	32	20	6	6
EL 	45	41	40	27	6	5
ES 	58	49	33	19	6	6
FR 	51	39	31	16	6	12
HR 	57	36	37	24	9	5
IT 	48	40	30	18	6	9
CY 	49	44	41	23	11	7
LV 	50	31	27	18	7	11
LT 	54	29	33	22	10	8
LU 	61	39	34	16	7	9
HU 	53	32	40	33	4	9
MT 	62	32	35	23	7	7
NL 	52	34	29	17	7	14
AT 	55	42	37	21	7	8
PL 	49	35	28	30	4	13
PT 	61	29	45	22	6	6
RO 	52	36	37	24	10	7
SI 	49	29	34	25	7	9
SK 	46	24	31	25	5	13
FI 	48	41	33	19	7	13
SE 	54	31	29	18	7	14




























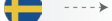
Q9 Which of the following statements is closest to your view?

	People using online platforms should get better at distinguishing false and misleading information from trustworthy info	People using online platforms should be prompted to verify information before sharing it with others	People using online platforms are sufficiently equipped to identify on their own what is true and what is false	Don't know
EU27 	39	42	12	8
BE 	40	40	11	9
BG 	42	39	15	5
CZ 	50	26	17	8
DK 	43	39	8	10
DE 	37	41	12	10
EE 	54	29	11	5
IE 	29	52	15	5
EL 	33	49	14	5
ES 	30	51	12	7
FR 	34	43	14	10
HR 	30	56	11	3
IT 	39	49	9	4
CY 	33	50	13	4
LV 	33	46	16	6
LT 	34	45	16	5
LU 	41	44	10	5
HU 	54	31	8	8
MT 	40	40	16	5
NL 	43	34	11	13
AT 	41	40	12	8
PL 	51	30	10	9
PT 	34	55	6	5
RO 	43	41	12	4
SI 	37	49	9	5
SK 	42	32	19	7
FI 	41	43	11	6
SE 	37	49	8	7




























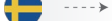
Q10_1 How confident are you in the following when it comes to defending democracy in [COUNTRY]? **The media**

		Very confident	Somewhat confident	Not very confident	Not at all confident	Don't know
EU27		6	32	38	22	2
BE		6	35	39	18	3
BG		5	26	38	30	1
CZ		4	26	43	25	1
DK		7	46	37	10	2
DE		11	38	35	16	2
EE		6	37	34	20	3
IE		7	34	32	24	4
EL		2	13	30	55	1
ES		6	33	36	23	2
FR		3	24	42	27	3
HR		2	28	40	30	0
IT		5	37	37	20	1
CY		4	24	38	33	2
LV		4	31	43	19	3
LT		5	46	32	17	1
LU		2	36	46	12	4
HU		2	17	38	41	2
MT		4	25	47	22	3
NL		7	41	37	13	3
AT		7	34	37	20	2
PL		2	21	53	22	3
PT		8	45	37	9	2
RO		7	37	34	21	2
SI		1	13	46	39	2
SK		3	30	34	32	1
FI		9	49	29	11	2
SE		8	41	34	13	3




























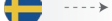
Q10_2 How confident are you in the following when it comes to defending democracy in [COUNTRY]? **National courts**

		Very confident	Somewhat confident	Not very confident	Not at all confident	Don't know
EU27		13	37	31	17	3
BE		11	40	32	13	5
BG		5	24	38	31	2
CZ		14	36	32	16	2
DK		41	40	11	4	3
DE		24	46	20	8	3
EE		16	46	24	8	6
IE		16	42	26	13	3
EL		9	30	28	32	1
ES		10	34	35	19	2
FR		6	37	34	18	5
HR		2	21	39	37	1
IT		6	36	35	22	3
CY		7	42	29	20	3
LV		6	33	38	19	6
LT		10	48	25	12	5
LU		18	56	18	5	4
HU		9	36	32	20	4
MT		5	27	35	31	3
NL		27	44	21	5	3
AT		26	40	22	9	3
PL		3	21	44	26	6
PT		9	37	37	15	1
RO		8	33	33	21	5
SI		3	26	43	27	2
SK		3	36	32	26	3
FI		32	47	13	3	5
SE		22	44	21	9	4




























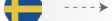
Q10_3 How confident are you in the following when it comes to defending democracy in [COUNTRY]? **National [and local] government**

		Very confident	Somewhat confident	Not very confident	Not at all confident	Don't know
EU27		9	34	31	23	2
BE		5	37	37	18	3
BG		4	23	39	32	2
CZ		5	28	30	35	2
DK		22	54	19	3	4
DE		17	48	22	11	1
EE		13	45	25	14	3
IE		10	41	27	20	2
EL		5	22	26	47	1
ES		9	28	32	29	2
FR		5	29	35	28	3
HR		2	20	39	39	1
IT		6	35	35	22	2
CY		5	28	39	27	2
LV		5	31	39	23	3
LT		7	38	33	20	1
LU		11	49	26	12	3
HU		7	27	35	29	2
MT		13	20	29	35	2
NL		10	46	30	12	2
AT		15	39	28	15	3
PL		4	18	42	33	3
PT		7	36	35	20	2
RO		5	29	31	33	3
SI		2	16	51	29	2
SK		3	36	38	21	2
FI		22	50	16	8	3
SE		17	46	22	13	3




























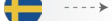
Q10_4 How confident are you in the following when it comes to defending democracy in [COUNTRY]? **National [and local] parliament**

		Very confident	Somewhat confident	Not very confident	Not at all confident	Don't know
EU27		9	33	33	22	3
BE		5	37	37	16	4
BG		5	16	39	39	1
CZ		6	27	33	33	2
DK		14	55	21	5	5
DE		18	43	25	11	3
EE		12	48	25	12	4
IE		11	39	27	20	3
EL		6	23	29	43	1
ES		8	34	33	23	2
FR		4	31	37	23	4
HR		1	22	41	35	1
IT		5	33	39	21	3
CY		5	31	36	22	6
LV		6	30	38	22	4
LT		4	33	35	26	2
LU		10	49	30	8	3
HU		6	22	33	37	2
MT		7	25	39	28	2
NL		12	47	28	10	4
AT		13	37	32	15	3
PL		2	13	42	37	5
PT		7	38	38	15	3
RO		6	23	34	33	4
SI		1	20	46	31	2
SK		2	26	35	36	2
FI		23	51	18	6	2
SE		20	47	21	10	2




























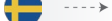
Q10_5 How confident are you in the following when it comes to defending democracy in [COUNTRY]? **Political parties and politicians**

		Very confident	Somewhat confident	Not very confident	Not at all confident	Don't know
EU27		5	24	37	31	2
BE		3	27	39	28	4
BG		3	11	36	49	1
CZ		4	20	39	36	2
DK		9	45	31	13	3
DE		10	35	33	20	2
EE		3	31	45	19	3
IE		5	33	34	26	2
EL		2	16	29	52	1
ES		4	23	33	38	2
FR		4	20	43	30	3
HR		1	10	36	52	1
IT		6	21	42	30	2
CY		1	15	38	46	1
LV		3	14	43	37	3
LT		2	22	44	31	2
LU		5	35	40	16	5
HU		2	16	39	42	2
MT		4	19	42	33	2
NL		7	36	39	17	2
AT		5	25	37	29	3
PL		2	9	40	46	3
PT		3	23	42	31	2
RO		4	19	29	46	3
SI		1	8	35	53	3
SK		1	13	36	49	1
FI		8	52	27	10	3
SE		9	44	31	14	2




























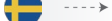
Q10_6 How confident are you in the following when it comes to defending democracy in [COUNTRY]? **Public administration**

		Very confident	Somewhat confident	Not very confident	Not at all confident	Don't know
EU27		8	38	35	16	4
BE		5	40	37	14	4
BG		4	25	43	26	2
CZ		8	36	40	12	3
DK		15	51	24	6	5
DE		15	51	23	9	3
EE		6	45	35	7	8
IE		11	41	32	13	4
EL		4	21	36	38	1
ES		7	38	35	19	2
FR		5	36	37	16	5
HR		2	23	43	31	1
IT		6	31	41	21	2
CY		2	30	44	21	3
LV		5	32	38	23	3
LT		4	50	31	8	7
LU		8	55	27	5	6
HU		6	33	37	23	2
MT		6	31	37	22	6
NL		11	47	30	7	5
AT		15	45	29	9	3
PL		2	22	46	23	7
PT		4	38	43	14	2
RO		6	34	35	22	3
SI		2	20	50	26	2
SK		5	37	37	19	3
FI		20	52	19	5	5
SE		15	50	23	7	6




























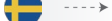
Q10_7 How confident are you in the following when it comes to defending democracy in [COUNTRY]? **Electoral authorities**

		Very confident	Somewhat confident	Not very confident	Not at all confident	Don't know
EU27		12	36	32	17	4
BE		7	33	37	18	6
BG		5	22	41	31	2
CZ		13	33	33	18	4
DK		34	43	15	4	5
DE		25	43	21	9	3
EE		16	42	22	13	7
IE		14	40	29	13	4
EL		10	26	33	30	2
ES		7	35	34	23	2
FR		3	37	37	18	5
HR		2	30	42	26	1
IT		6	34	39	18	4
CY		8	37	36	17	2
LV		8	39	32	15	5
LT		9	49	27	12	3
LU		13	52	21	6	8
HU		8	27	32	31	2
MT		10	38	33	15	4
NL		18	43	27	8	5
AT		24	38	23	12	3
PL		4	25	43	22	6
PT		11	46	31	11	2
RO		5	29	35	27	4
SI		4	25	44	24	3
SK		7	34	32	24	4
FI		46	38	10	2	4
SE		35	43	13	5	4




























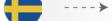
Q10_8 How confident are you in the following when it comes to defending democracy in [COUNTRY]? **Civil society organisations**

		Very confident	Somewhat confident	Not very confident	Not at all confident	Don't know
EU27		9	44	31	10	7
BE		6	44	33	8	10
BG		7	41	33	15	5
CZ		6	34	38	12	10
DK		14	54	17	3	12
DE		14	48	23	7	8
EE		6	48	32	7	8
IE		10	45	29	10	7
EL		9	38	34	18	2
ES		10	42	32	12	4
FR		4	38	36	13	8
HR		3	43	38	15	2
IT		8	45	31	10	5
CY		8	42	38	9	2
LV		4	35	43	10	8
LT		6	51	30	7	6
LU		5	49	32	4	10
HU		9	47	28	13	3
MT		9	40	33	13	5
NL		11	53	25	6	5
AT		16	48	22	7	7
PL		6	34	40	11	9
PT		6	48	37	7	3
RO		7	44	30	14	6
SI		5	28	43	20	3
SK		4	39	34	17	6
FI		12	54	24	5	6
SE		12	54	22	6	7

Q10_9 How confident are you in the following when it comes to defending democracy in [COUNTRY]? **Citizens**

		Very confident	Somewhat confident	Not very confident	Not at all confident	Don't know
EU27		9	45	34	8	4
BE		6	48	36	5	5
BG		12	47	28	9	3
CZ		11	45	34	8	3
DK		13	59	21	3	4
DE		12	51	29	6	3
EE		6	48	35	6	4
IE		16	49	24	8	3
EL		12	40	33	15	1
ES		13	45	31	9	2
FR		8	42	35	10	5
HR		6	40	39	14	1
IT		7	39	42	10	3
CY		12	40	33	12	2
LV		5	37	44	9	6
LT		5	59	26	5	5
LU		5	40	44	7	5
HU		5	47	34	11	3
MT		6	33	42	16	4
NL		10	53	30	4	3
AT		13	51	26	7	3
PL		4	38	44	9	6
PT		10	47	35	5	2
RO		11	48	30	7	4
SI		6	33	49	11	2
SK		5	49	34	9	3
FI		15	55	24	3	4
SE		7	48	33	8	4

Q10_10 How confident are you in the following when it comes to defending democracy in [COUNTRY]? **EU institutions, including the European Court of Justice**

		Very confident	Somewhat confident	Not very confident	Not at all confident	Don't know
EU27		15	39	26	18	3
BE		10	36	30	19	4
BG		15	34	26	22	4
CZ		13	27	27	31	3
DK		20	47	19	9	6
DE		20	40	24	14	2
EE		14	49	22	10	6
IE		20	40	22	15	4
EL		14	32	30	25	1
ES		16	42	25	15	2
FR		8	36	28	24	4
HR		10	50	27	13	1
IT		12	39	28	19	3
CY		14	34	34	16	2
LV		13	41	28	11	7
LT		20	50	18	6	6
LU		11	50	24	11	4
HU		21	38	23	16	2
MT		15	43	25	13	4
NL		17	38	27	14	4
AT		15	32	28	22	2
PL		14	35	27	19	5
PT		15	50	24	8	3
RO		17	43	22	16	3
SI		4	29	40	24	2
SK		10	33	24	30	2
FI		16	49	22	9	5
SE		15	46	22	11	6



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