

The Europeans in front of the Greek crisis

Main results

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The main cause of the Greek crisis

Question 1 : As you know, Greece, which is in the Euro zone, is currently going through a very serious financial crisis. It is in serious debt, its public deficit is very high and it has had to embark upon a programme to cut spending (reduction of civil service salaries and pensions, reduction of social aid, etc.). Do you think this situation is primarily the result of...?

	Whole (%)	France (%)	Germany (%)	Spain (%)	Italy (%)	United Kingdom (%)
• The fact that the Greek governments have poorly managed their country's public finances	60	57	78	59	44	56
• The global economic crisis which has hit Greece hard	24	19	13	27	33	33
• Financial speculation intended to destabilise the Euro by attacking Greece, one of the weakest countries in the Euro zone	16	24	9	14	23	11
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100

The probability that one's own country knows the same situation as Greece in a close future

Question 2 : In your opinion, do you think that France/the UK/Germany/Spain/Italy (select depending on country) could find itself in the same situation as Greece in the next few months or years?

	Whole (%)	France (%)	Germany (%)	Spain (%)	Italy (%)	United Kingdom (%)
TOTAL Yes	52	61	34	69	56	50
• Yes, definitely	12	13	7	22	11	10
• Yes, probably	40	48	27	47	45	40
TOTAL No	48	39	66	31	44	50
• No, probably not	42	37	55	27	37	46
• No, definitely not	6	2	11	4	7	4
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100

The judgment on the opportunity that one's country helps Greece financially

Question 3: Should France/the UK/Germany/Spain/Italy (select depending on country) provide Greece with financial aid in the interests of European solidarity?

	Whole (%)	France (%)	Germany (%)	Spain (%)	Italy (%)	United Kingdom (%)
• Yes	42	53	24	55	67	22
• No	58	47	76	45	33	78
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100

The support of the creation of a European tax to help member countries in case of a crisis

Question 4: Would you be very much in favour, somewhat in favour, somewhat against or very much against the creation of a European tax that would enable aid to be given to European Union countries going through a serious crisis?

	Whole (%)	France (%)	Germany (%)	Spain (%)	Italy (%)	United Kingdom (%)
TOTAL In favour	34	27	18	55	56	27
• Very much in favour	5	2	2	12	11	2
• Somewhat in favour	29	25	16	43	45	25
TOTAL Against	66	73	82	45	44	73
• Somewhat against	33	36	40	23	28	33
• Very much against	33	37	42	22	16	40
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100

The worry towards the national pension plan

Question 5: When thinking about pensions in our country, would you say that you are...?

	Whole (%)	France (%)	Germany (%)	Spain (%)	Italy (%)	United Kingdom (%)
TOTAL Worried	84	91	90	82	88	67
• Very worried	38	43	46	36	42	18
• Rather worried	46	48	44	46	46	49
TOTAL Not worried	16	9	10	18	12	33
• Not very worried	14	8	8	15	11	28
• Not at all worried	2	1	2	3	1	5
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100

The worry towards the public deficit and towards the debt in one's country

Question 6 : When thinking about the public deficit and the national debt, would you say that you are...?

	Whole (%)	France (%)	Germany (%)	Spain (%)	Italy (%)	United Kingdom (%)
TOTAL Worried	86	88	90	84	88	75
• Very worried	42	43	52	42	42	25
• Rather worried	44	45	38	42	46	50
TOTAL Not worried	14	12	10	16	12	25
• Not very worried	13	11	8	15	11	23
• Not at all worried	1	1	2	1	1	2
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100

The sectors on which the budgetary efforts have to concern first and foremost

Question 7: If public spending had to be cut to reduce our national debt, in which sector should it be reduced first?

	Whole (%)	France (%)	Germany (%)	Spain (%)	Italy (%)	United Kingdom (%)
• Defence, the armed forces	40	42	45	55	48	13
• Corporate aid	28	27	30	15	24	40
• Unemployment benefits	11	16	7	5	5	21
• Environment and ecology	6	6	4	10	3	10
• Justice and prisons	5	3	5	4	8	3
• Scientific research	4	2	5	5	2	8
• Health, hospitals	2	-	2	2	4	1
• Security, the police	2	2	1	2	1	1
• Education	1	1	-	1	3	2
• Pensions	1	1	1	1	2	1
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100

The perception of the crisis effects on one's life and circle of acquaintances

Question 8 : Would you say that the effects of the economic crisis on your personal life and on the lives of those around you are...?

	Whole (%)	France (%)	Germany (%)	Spain (%)	Italy (%)	United Kingdom (%)
TOTAL Significant	58	59	45	71	67	61
• Significant	16	15	10	27	20	14
• Fairly significant	42	44	35	44	47	47
TOTAL Not significant	42	41	55	29	33	39
• Of little significance	37	36	47	28	31	35
• Of no significance	5	5	8	1	2	4
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100

The scale of intervention seen as the most efficient to cope with the crisis

Question 9 : In the event of an economic crisis such as the one we are going through at the moment, do you think that the solutions to the crisis are primarily to be found...?

	Whole (%)	France (%)	Germany (%)	Spain (%)	Italy (%)	United Kingdom (%)
• Nationally	59	54	48	75	53	75
• At European level	41	46	52	25	47	25
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100

The support for the development of community policies

Question 10 : Would you be in favour of more shared spending at European level, for example in the areas of defence, scientific research or transport, which would take away from the sovereignty of countries but would help each country to make savings?

	Whole (%)	France (%)	Germany (%)	Spain (%)	Italy (%)	United Kingdom (%)
• Yes	66	76	61	72	77	45
• No	34	24	39	28	23	55
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100