

Special Eurobarometer 393

DISCRIMINATION IN THE EU IN 2012

SUMMARY

Fieldwork: June 2012

Publication: November 2012

This survey has been requested by the European Commission, Directorate-General Justice and co-ordinated by Directorate-General for Communication.

http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/index_en.htm

This document does not represent the point of view of the European Commission. The interpretations and opinions contained in it are solely those of the authors.

Special Eurobarometer 393 / Wave EB77.4 - TNS Opinion & Social



Special Eurobarometer 393

Discrimination in the EU in 2012

Conducted by TNS Opinion & Social at the request of the European Commission,

Directorate-General Justice

Survey co-ordinated by the European Commission, Directorate-General for Communication (DG COMM "Research and Speechwriting" Unit)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION3
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY5
I. PERCEPTIONS OF DISCRIMINATION9
1. Discrimination on different grounds9
2. Attitudes to different groups10
II. PUBLIC POLICIES COMBATTING DISCRIMINATION11
1. Perceived effectiveness of national efforts to fight discrimination1
2. The impact of the economic crisis on Equality policies12
III. AWARENESS OF ONE'S RIGHTS AS A VICTIM13
1. Knowledge in the event of discrimination13
2. To whom would Europeans prefer to report harassment or discrimination?14
IV. VIEWS ABOUT EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IN EMPLOYMENT16
1. Factors that are perceived to put job applicants at a disadvantage16
2. The impact of the economic crisis on discrimination in the labour market 17
3. Support for measures to foster diversity in the workplace18
V. PERCEPTIONS OF THE ROMA SITUATION IN SOCIETY19
1. Perceived effectiveness of national efforts to integrate the Roma population
2. Public perceptions of the Roma20
CONCLUSIONS 23

ANNEXES

Technical specifications

INTRODUCTION

Background

This summary presents a selection of findings from a new Eurobarometer survey on discrimination. It follows earlier surveys commissioned by the DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities of the European Commission, all of them carried out by TNS Opinion & Social network. This latest survey has been commissioned by DG Justice, which is currently responsible for equality and non-discrimination policies and legislation.¹.

European anti-discrimination legislation is among the most extensive in the world. In 2000, the European Union adopted two very far-reaching laws² to prohibit discrimination in the workplace based on racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation. As far as racial and ethnic origin is concerned, this legislation extends to other aspects of daily life, such as education and social services. These texts come in addition to numerous laws that have been adopted at EU level since 1975 to promote equality between women and men in the workplace³.

On the policy side, in 2008 the European Communication published the Communication "Non-discrimination and equal opportunities: a renewed commitment" and several Communications on the integration of the Roma population in the EU, most recently in 2012^{5} .

Content: trends and new elements

Several Eurobarometer surveys have been conducted since 2006; the latest, in spring 2009, included several questions that measure the extent to which the economic crisis is seen to hamper the implementation of anti-discrimination policies and efforts.

In light of the continuing economic malaise, the questions on the impact of the crisis were asked again in this latest survey. The 2012 survey repeats many other questions asked in 2009⁶ in order to provide insight into the evolution of perceptions, attitudes, knowledge and awareness of discrimination in the European Union.

¹For more information, please see http://ec.europa.eu/justice/discrimination/index en.htm

² Directive 2000/43/EC of 29 June 2000 and Directive 2000/78/EC of 27 November 2000. Both directives are based on Article 13 of the Amsterdam Treaty establishing the European Community which reads: "the Council, acting unanimously on a proposal from the Commission and after consulting the European Parliament, may take appropriate action to combat discrimination based on gender, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation".

For more information on the rights to non discrimination and equal opportunities, please see www.stopdiscrimination.info

⁴ COM(2008) 420 final

⁵Communication of 21 May 2012 on National Roma Integration Strategies: a first step in the implementation of the EU Framework. See http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:52012DC0226:en:NOT.

⁶ The formulation of some of these questions have been slightly modified or fine-tuned for the sake of clarity

New questions have been added to cover important or emerging topics in the antidiscrimination field, such as the situation of the Roma in Europe, discrimination outside the workplace or the links between discrimination and accessibility. Perceptions of discrimination against transsexual and transgender persons are also explored for the first time.

This summary includes the executive summary from the main report and in addition briefly describes main findings on the following:

- 1. Perceptions of discrimination
- 2. Views about public policies combating discrimination
- 3. Awareness of one's right as a victim
- 4. Views about equal opportunities in employment
- 5. Perceptions of the Roma situation in society

The summary focuses mainly on results at EU level. For more information regarding the national results, and the socio-demographic analysis, the reader should refer to the full report of this survey.

This survey was fielded in the 27 Member States of the European Union between 2 and 17 June 2012. Some 26,622 respondents from different social and demographic groups were interviewed face-to-face at home in their mother tongue on behalf of the Directorate General Justice. The methodology used is that of Eurobarometer surveys as carried out by the Directorate-General for Communication ("Research and Speechwriting" Unit)⁷. A technical note on the manner in which the Institutes within the TNS Opinion & Social network conducted the interviews is appended to this report. Also included are the interview methods and confidence intervals⁸.

_

⁷ http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/index_en.htm

⁸ The results tables are included in the annex. It should be noted that the total of the percentages in the tables of this report may exceed 100% when the respondent has the possibility of giving several answers to the question.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Setting the context

- In 2012 the majority of respondents have friends or acquaintances from a different religion (67%, +3 percentage points since 2009) or from an ethnic origin different from their own (59%, +2 since 2009).
- Europeans are also increasingly accepting of diversity in the public sphere in 2012. Overall more Europeans say that they would feel comfortable rather than uncomfortable if a person from one of the minority groups analysed were to lead their country, and the proportions feeling "comfortable" have increased since 2009.
- However, there are large differences between countries, both in terms of social diversity and the acceptance of diversity in the public sphere, which are partly explained by demographic factors and/or cultural differences (particularly when it comes to accepting different sexual orientations).

The perception of discrimination in the EU

Discrimination is still considered to be common in the EU Member States. The three most widely perceived grounds are "ethnic origin" (56%), "disability" (46%) and "sexual orientation" (46%).

- In 2012 overall discrimination is believed to be widespread, particularly on the grounds of ethnic origin (56%, down from 61% in May 2009).
- Age discrimination is much more widely believed to affect Europeans aged over 55 (45%) than those under 30 years old (18%).
- In 2012 more Europeans now consider discrimination on the grounds of disability to be rare or non-existent in their country (50%) than widespread (46%), whereas the opposite was the case in 2009 (43% vs. 53%).
- Limited access to goods and services is seen as discrimination against people with disabilities and older people by more than two-thirds of Europeans (68%).
- Views on discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation are very similar to those recorded in 2009. 46% (-1 percentage point) say that it is widespread, while 46% say it is rare or non-existent.
- The new question on gender identity shows that many Europeans believe that discrimination on these grounds is widespread (45%).
- In 2012 39% of Europeans believe discrimination on the grounds of religion or beliefs is widespread while more than half continue to see it as rare or nonexistent (56%; -1 since 2009).

- Far fewer Europeans than in 2009 now consider discrimination on the grounds of gender to be widespread (31%; -9 since 2009).
- Overall, Europeans are more likely to believe discrimination is widespread in employment than in other areas of life. However, there are large differences between countries, both in terms of perceptions of discrimination generally and outside working life. Perceptions of both measures of discrimination are also heavily influenced by socio-demographic and cultural factors.
- Generally speaking, self-designated membership of a minority group increases the likelihood that respondents will believe that discrimination is widespread in their country.

The experience of discrimination in the EU

Personal experience of discrimination (17%) remains in 2012 largely at the levels measured in 2009 (16%). Europeans who say they belong to a minority are more likely than Europeans on average to report that they have personally experienced discrimination.

- In 2012 close to a fifth of Europeans (17%) report that they have personally experienced discrimination or harassment: 13% have experienced discrimination on the basis of one of the grounds analysed in the survey, and 4% on multiple grounds.
- Europeans with a disability (28%) and those who say they belong to a sexual minority (28%) or to an ethnic minority (27%) are most likely to report experiencing discrimination.
- Overall, the levels of discrimination experienced in 2012 are very similar to those reported in 2009, when 16% of EU citizens reported to have personally suffered discrimination.
- Over a third (34%) of Europeans have witnessed or heard of someone suffering discrimination or harassment in the last 12 months.

Impact of the economic crisis on discrimination

The economic crisis is contributing to more discrimination in the labour market, especially for older persons, and is impacting negatively on policies promoting equality and diversity.

- In 2012 just above two-third of Europeans (67%) believe the economic crisis is contributing to more discrimination against "older" workers (those aged over 55).
- Over half of all Europeans also think that, as a result of the economic crisis, discrimination in the labour market on the grounds of disability (53%) and ethnic origin (52%) has increased.

A majority of Europeans (54%, +5 percentage points since 2009) consider that, due
to the economic crisis, policies promoting equality and diversity are regarded as less
important and receive less funding.

Effectiveness of public policies combatting discrimination in 2012

- In 2012, a majority of Europeans (55%) believe that public policies combatting discrimination in their countries are effective (37% moderately effective, 22% effective). Less than a third (31%) of Europeans think that public policies combatting discrimination in their countries are ineffective.
- These results are marked by large differences between countries.

Equal opportunities in employment

Discrimination in employment against people over 55 years old is seen as a significant problem in 2012. Europeans are very supportive of measures to foster diversity in the workplace and more critical towards what is being done to promote diversity in the workplace.

- In 2012 over half of Europeans (54%) believe that a job applicant's age is a disadvantage if they are over 55. Disability (40%), skin colour and ethnic origin (39%) are also seen as a disadvantage.
- Overall, there is widespread support among Europeans for training employees and employers on diversity issues (79%), monitoring recruitment procedures (76%) and monitoring the composition of the workforce (69%).
- European workers in most countries are in 2012 generally less positive than in 2009 about what is being done to promote diversity in the workplace, and this applies to all five grounds where comparisons are available.

Knowledge of victims' rights

A slight improvement in Europeans' awareness of their rights has been recorded since 2009. Europeans belonging to a minority in 2012 are only slightly more likely than average to know their rights. Nor are individuals who have actually experienced discrimination significantly more aware of their rights.

- A large minority of Europeans say they would know their rights should they fall victim to discrimination or harassment (37%). This proportion has increased since 2009 (+4 percentage points). Europeans who define themselves as members of a minority are only slightly more likely to know these rights than other Europeans.
- Respondents with a disability (34%) are even less aware of their rights than Europeans generally (37% in the EU as a whole).

Where would Europeans report discrimination?

Europeans continue to prefer to report their case to the police should they become a victim of discrimination or harassment.

- In 2012 just above a third of Europeans (34%) would prefer to report their case to the police should they become a victim of discrimination. Other options, such as Equality bodies (16%), lawyers (14%), and tribunals and trade unions (both 10%), are less frequently mentioned.
- Respondents who define themselves as belonging to a minority would be less likely than average to report their case to the police if they were victims of discrimination. Equally, Europeans who have experienced discrimination on multiple grounds (25%) or on a single ground (27%) are less likely to turn to the police than those have not experienced discrimination (35%).
- Overall, the results in 2012 are similar to those obtained in 2009, although tribunals are now mentioned much more (the number who would contact them has doubled from 5% in 2009 to 10% in 2012). Conversely, trade unions have lost ground (-3).

Perceptions of the Roma situation in society in 2012

The Roma are widely perceived as a group at risk of discrimination whose integration could benefit the society.

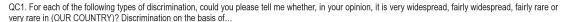
- Three out of four Europeans view the Roma as a group of people at risk of discrimination. All different groups of Europeans as well as an absolute majority in most Member States share this view.
- In 2012 Europeans also acknowledge the existence of negative attitudes in their country towards the Roma, though these opinions vary considerably between countries. Overall, many Europeans believe that citizens in their country would feel uncomfortable (34%) or 'fairly' comfortable (28%) if their children had Roma schoolmates.
- Overall, national efforts for the integration of the Roma population are seen as less effective than efforts to fight discrimination in general (45% of Europeans think that these efforts to integrate the Roma are ineffective, compared with 31% for efforts to fight discrimination in general).
- Finally, the majority of Europeans (53%) believe society could benefit from better integration of the Roma. 71% of Europeans with Roma friends or acquaintances hold this view.

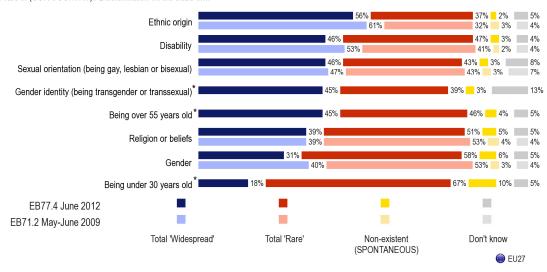
I. PERCEPTIONS OF DISCRIMINATION

We begin by examining the perceived extent of discrimination on the basis of eight different grounds and with an exploration of how comfortable Europeans feel with different groups of people.

1. DISCRIMINATION ON DIFFERENT GROUNDS

The latest survey shows that discrimination on the grounds of ethnic origin continues to be regarded as the most widespread form of discrimination in the EU (56%)⁹. However, a significant improvement has been noted since 2009 (-5 percentage points). We also find a significant reduction in the proportion of Europeans who believe that discrimination on the grounds of disability is widespread (46%; -7 percentage points since 2009). Whereas in the previous survey those who felt discrimination on the grounds of disability was widespread outnumbered those who felt it was rare or non-existent (53% vs. 43%), this finding has been reversed: 50% of Europeans consider discrimination on the grounds of disability to be rare or non-existent in their country compared with 46% who believe it is widespread.





*new item

Public opinion is divided when it comes to discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation (being gay, lesbian or bisexual) and gender identity (being transgender or transsexual). In the case of discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation, views are very similar to those obtained in 2009 with 46% (-1 percentage point since 2009) believing that this form of discrimination is widespread compared with 46% who believe it is rare or non-existent. For discrimination on the grounds of gender identity, 45% believe it is widespread against 42% who believe it is rare or non-existent.

9

⁹ QC1: For each of the following types of discrimination, could you please tell me whether, in your opinion, it is very widespread, fairly widespread, fairly rare or very rare in (OUR COUNTRY)? Discrimination on the basis of...

When it comes to **discrimination against people aged 55 and over**, the survey shows that half of Europeans perceive it as rare or non-existent (50%), whereas 45% of Europeans believe this type of age discrimination is widespread.

Discrimination on the grounds of being aged 30 or younger is seen as far less common: around two-thirds believe this type of discrimination is rare (67%), while just 18% believe it is widespread.

As in 2009, close to two out of five Europeans believe discrimination on the grounds of religion or belief is widespread (39%) while more than half of Europeans continue to believe it is rare or non-existent (56%; -1 percentage point since 2009).

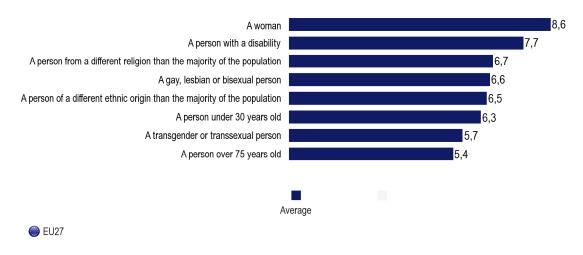
Far fewer Europeans than in 2009 now consider discrimination on the grounds of gender to be widespread (31%; -9 percentage points since 2009). The proportion of Europeans who believe this type of discrimination is rare or non-existent has increased from 56% in 2009 to 64%.

2. ATTITUDES TO DIFFERENT GROUPS

Next we examine how comfortable Europeans would feel if someone from a specific group were appointed to their country's highest political office¹⁰.

The average scores – which run from 1 to 10 – indicate that **overall more Europeans** say that they would feel more comfortable than uncomfortable if a person from most of the minority groups were to lead their country. However, as in 2009, we find that Europeans make distinctions depending on the group in question, although overall acceptance levels have improved.

QC5. And using a scale from 1 to 10, please tell me how you would feel about having someone from each of the following categories in the highest elected political position in (OUR COUNTRY)? '1' means that you would feel "totally uncomfortable" and '10' that you would feel "totally comfortable".



¹⁰ QC5 And using a scale from 1 to 10, please tell me how you would feel about having someone from each of the following categories in the highest elected political position in (OUR COUNTRY)? '1' means that you would feel "totally uncomfortable" and '10' means that you would feel "totally comfortable".

Europeans are most likely to accept a woman in the highest political office (8.6). They also have relatively few qualms with the highest political office being occupied by a person with a disability (7.7). There continues to be somewhat more reluctance when it comes to religion (6.7), sexual orientation (6.6), ethnic origin (6.5) or youth (6.3). The lowest levels of acceptance observed are for the presence of a transgender or transsexual person (5.7) or a person aged 75 or over (5.4) in the highest elected political office.

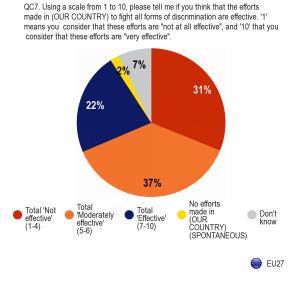
II. PUBLIC POLICIES COMBATTING DISCRIMINATION

In this section we examine satisfaction with national policies to fight discrimination and to what extent the economic crisis is perceived to affect equality policies.

1. PERCEIVED EFFECTIVENESS OF NATIONAL EFFORTS TO FIGHT DISCRIMINATION

The survey shows that **public opinion is divided on the effectiveness of efforts made in the Member States to fight all forms of discrimination**. 31% of Europeans say that the efforts made in their country are not effective (giving a score from 1 to 4 on a scale from 1 to 10), while 37% consider the efforts to be moderately effective (points 5 and 6 on the scale) and 22% believe the efforts made are very effective (points 7 to 10 on the scale)¹¹. The average score is 5.1.

A small minority of Europeans is very dissatisfied: 7% selected point 1 on the scale; an even smaller minority is extremely satisfied with the efforts: 2% selected point 10. Finally, 7% of respondents answered that they "don't know" and 2% spontaneously said that no efforts are made in their country.



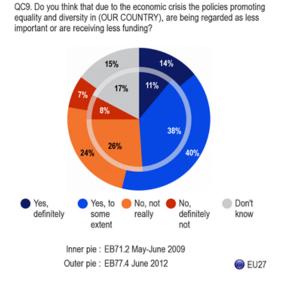
Average: 5.1

The following factors influence perceptions of the effectiveness of national efforts:

- Europeans who believe that any of the eight grounds of discrimination are widespread are less likely to say that national efforts to fight discrimination are effective than Europeans who believe discrimination is rare or non-existent.
- Europeans who have personally experienced discrimination, or have witnessed or heard of someone being discriminated against or harassed are more critical than those who have not had this experience.
- Europeans with a diverse social circle are slightly more likely to give a positive rating (points 7-10 on the scale) than Europeans without a diverse social circle.
- Europeans who identify themselves with a minority group are generally more likely to give a negative rating (points 1-4 on the scale) than those to whom this does not apply. This is especially the case for those who belong to a religious minority (39% chose points 1-4 on the scale) or a sexual minority (38%), who have a disability (37%) or who say they belong to another unspecified minority (41%). However, this is less true for Europeans who say they belong to an ethnic minority: in this group, 33% give a negative rating.

2. THE IMPACT OF THE ECONOMIC CRISIS ON EQUALITY POLICIES

The belief that policies promoting equality and diversity are regarded as less important and are receiving less funding due to the economic crisis is slightly more widespread than it was in 2009¹².



¹¹ QC7 Using a scale from 1 to 10, please tell me if you think that the efforts made in (OUR COUNTRY) to fight all forms of discrimination are effective. '1' means you consider that these efforts are "not at all effective", and '10' that you consider that these efforts are "very effective".

 $^{^{12}}$ QC9 Do you think that due to the economic crisis the policies promoting equality and diversity in (OUR COUNTRY) are being regarded as less important and are receive less funding?

The question in 2009 asked if "the policies will be considered less important and receive less funding?"

Above half of Europeans (54%) now say that these policies have lost importance and receive less funding, compared to 49% in 2009. The proportion of respondents who disagree has slightly decreased at 31% (- 3 percentages points) and the proportion who don't know (15%) is also close to the figure recorded in 2009 (17%).

The following factors influence views on the effect of the current economic crisis on equality policies:

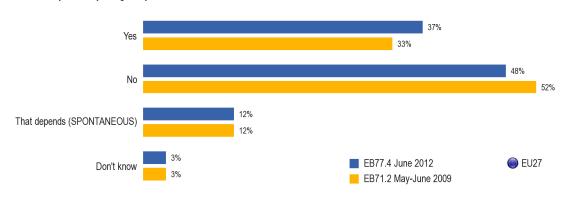
- There are very high levels of concern among Europeans with a disability, 63% of whom believe that these policies are seen as less important or are receiving less funding as a result of the economic crisis. Respondents belonging to other minorities appear less concerned.
- Concern is also much more widespread among Europeans who report that they have experienced discrimination, particularly on multiple grounds (65%).
- For all eight grounds, Europeans who believe discrimination is widespread are more concerned than those who say it is rare or non-existent.

III. AWARENESS OF ONE'S RIGHTS AS A VICTIM

Next we examine the extent to which Europeans are aware of their rights in the event of discrimination and harassment as well as to whom Europeans would prefer to report their case.

1. KNOWLEDGE IN THE EVENT OF DISCRIMINATION

The latest survey reveals that close to four in ten Europeans (37%) would know their rights should they fall victim to discrimination or harassment. Compared with May 2009, more Europeans now appear to be aware of their rights (+4 percentage points)¹³. However, close to half the respondents would not know their rights if they were victims of discrimination or harassment (48%, -4).



QC8. Would you know your rights if you were the victim of discrimination or harassment?

¹³ QC8 Would you know your rights if you were the victim of discrimination or harassment? It should be noted that the question wording has been amended from "Do you know your rights" to "Would you know your rights". This may partly explain the evolution since 2009.

We find that **awareness levels are not much higher among** Europeans who define themselves as members of a minority, who are only slightly more likely to be aware of their rights than other groups. Respondents with a disability are actually less aware of their rights than average¹⁴.

QC8 Would you know your rights if	Total	Total SD2. EUROPEANS WHO DEFINE THEMSELVES AS BELONGING TO					
you were the victim of discrimination or harassment?	%	Ethnic minority	Religious minority	Sexual minority	Minority in terms of disability	Other	None
Yes	37%	43%	40%	44%	34%	41%	38%
No	48%	43%	43%	43%	52%	45%	48%

Furthermore, previous experience of discrimination or harassment does not appear to influence people's awareness levels, confirming the 2009 findings.

QC8. Would you know your rights if	Total	QC2. BY EXPERIENCE OF DISCRIMINATION LAST 12 MONTHS				
you were the victim of discrimination or harassment	% Yes	NO	SINGLE GROUND	MULTIPLE GROUNDS*		
Yes	37%	38%	36%	39%		
No	48%	48%	48%	45%		

^{*} Caution: small bases.

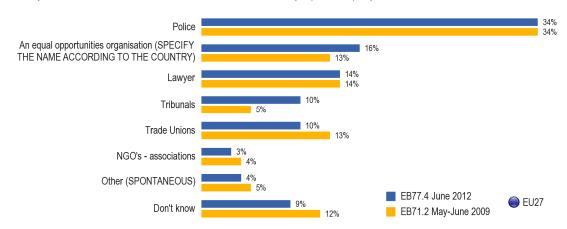
Awareness levels are more influenced by age, the length of education and subjective urbanisation. As in 2009, levels of awareness rise the longer a respondent has spent in education, from 25% among Europeans who left school aged 15 or younger to 49% of those who left full-time education aged 20 or older. Age is also an important factor: knowledge declines with age, especially for respondents aged 55 and over (it gradually falls from 42% in the 15-24 age group, 41% in the 25-34 bracket, 40% for 35-54 year olds, 37% in the 55-64 age group and 31% among those aged 65-74 down to 24% for Europeans aged 75 and over). The analyses also show that awareness levels are significantly higher in urban areas (45%) than in rural areas (33%).

2. TO WHOM WOULD EUROPEANS PREFER TO REPORT HARASSMENT OR DISCRIMINATION?

More than a third of Europeans would prefer to report their case to the police if they were victim of discrimination or harassment (34%). Other possibilities included in the survey are mentioned far less frequently; 16% of respondents would go to an equal opportunities organisation, 14% to a lawyer and 10% to trade unions or tribunals. Around one respondent in ten (9%) would not know where to turn¹⁵.

 $^{^{14}}$ These findings are only indicative due to the small proportion of self-defined members of minorities interviewed.

¹⁵ QC12 If you were the victim of discrimination or harassment, to whom would you prefer to report your case?



QC12. If you were the victim of discrimination or harassment, to whom would you prefer to report your case?

Overall, the results are similar to those obtained in May 2009, although tribunals are now mentioned much more often (the number who would contact them has doubled from 5% in 2009 to 10% in 2012). Conversely, trade unions have lost ground (-3).

The wide diversity of preferences reflects different attitudes and relationships with official bodies as well as the varying degrees to which specific organisations have been set up and operationalised in the Member States.

If we examine differences in reporting preferences on the basis of the factors previously identified as influential, we find that although the police are generally preferred there are some notable distinctions:

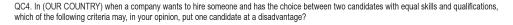
- The police tend to be mentioned less by Europeans who define themselves as belonging to a minority. Of the different minority groups included in the survey, respondents who say they belong to a sexual minority are the least likely to choose the police (26%).
- The personal experience of discrimination, as well as witnessing or hearing about it, is a similarly influential factor: **Europeans who have experienced discrimination on multiple grounds (25%) or on a single ground (27%)** are less likely to turn to the police than those have not experienced discrimination (35%) in the 12 months leading up to the survey, while 29% of Europeans who have witnessed or heard of discrimination would prefer to go to the police compared with 37% of Europeans who have not witnessed discrimination.

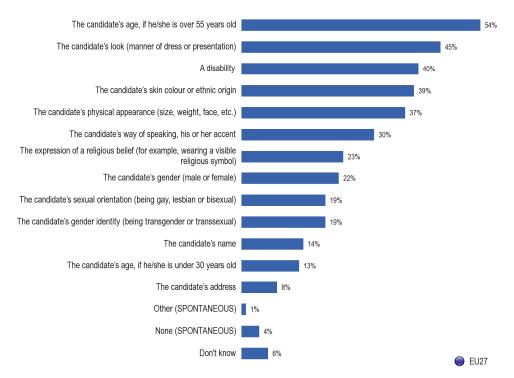
IV. VIEWS ABOUT EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IN EMPLOYMENT

The European Union has a strong and long-standing commitment to combating discrimination in employment, founded on a solid legal framework. As mentioned in the introduction, the principle of equal treatment in employment and training irrespective of gender, religion or belief, disability, ethnic origin, sexual orientation or age is ensured at EU level through the Employment Directive¹⁶, the Racial Equality Directive¹⁷ and numerous gender laws.

1. FACTORS THAT ARE PERCEIVED TO PUT JOB APPLICANTS AT A DISADVANTAGE

Many Europeans report a failure to implement equal opportunities **in employment**¹⁸. As the chart below shows, significant proportions of Europeans identify a range of factors that are likely to lead to disadvantage. (Older) age and looks are most widely seen as factors that could put applicants at a disadvantage.





 $^{^{16}}$ EC Directive 2000/78/EC of 27 November 2000 establishing a general framework for equal treatment in employment and occupation.

with equal skills and qualifications, which of the following criteria may, in your opinion, put one candidate at a disadvantage?

¹⁷ EC Directive/2000/43/EC of 29 June 2000 implementing the principle of equal treatment between persons irrespective of racial or ethnic origin. This Directive offers more comprehensive protection than the EC Directive 2000/78/EC (see above foot note): it covers employment and occupation and also education, social protection (including social security and healthcare), social benefits and access to goods and services, including housing.

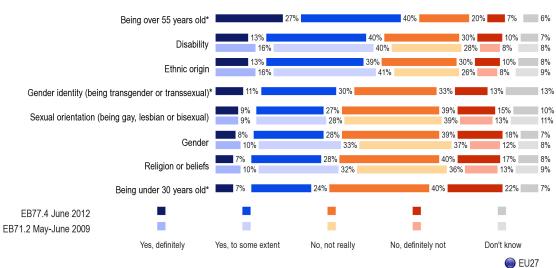
¹⁸QC4 In (OUR COUNTRY), when a company wants to hire someone and has the choice between two candidates

Over half of Europeans (54%) believe that a candidate's age, if over 55, would be a disadvantage. This is followed by a candidate's look, manner of dress or presentation (45%), a disability (40%), skin colour or ethnic origin (39%) and the candidate's general physical appearance (37%).

There is a relationship between the perception that discrimination on a given ground is widespread and the opinion that this ground puts a candidate at a disadvantage. For instance, Europeans who believe that discrimination on the grounds of disability is widespread in their country are much more likely to say that a candidate's disability would put him or her at a disadvantage (52% vs. the EU average of 40%). The same is found for the other grounds of discrimination.

2. THE IMPACT OF THE ECONOMIC CRISIS ON DISCRIMINATION IN THE LABOUR MARKET

The survey reveals that many Europeans believe the crisis contributes to more discrimination in the labour market¹⁹. Two out of three Europeans (67%) believe the economic crisis is contributing to more discrimination against "older" workers, in particular (those aged over 55). Over half of all Europeans also think the economic crisis is contributing to increased discrimination in the labour market on the basis of disability (53%) and ethnic origin (52%). However, this view is now less widely held than in May 2009 when 56% and 57% respectively felt the economic crisis was contributing to more discrimination on these two grounds.



QC10. Do you think that the economic crisis is contributing to an increase in discrimination on the basis of \dots in the labour market?

*new item

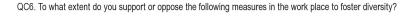
Readers should note that compared to the previous waves, the 2012 survey now divides age into two categories, "aged over 55" and "aged under 30", and that gender identity is a new category.

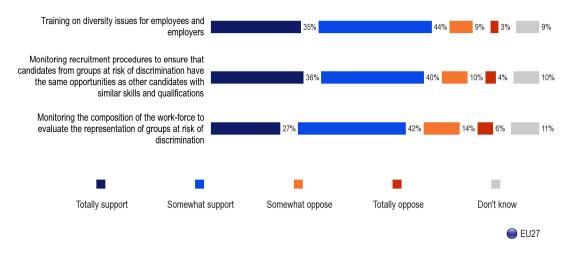
¹⁹ QC10: Do you think that the economic crisis is contributing to an increase of discrimination on the basis of...in the labour market? 'Total Yes' combines "Yes definitely" and "Yes, to some extent"; 'Total No' combines "no, definitely not" and "no, not really" from the scale.

There are also significant minorities of Europeans who feel that the economic crisis is leading to more discrimination in the labour market on other grounds, though this perception is not as strong: 41% believe the crisis is contributing to increased discrimination on the grounds of gender identity, 36% on the grounds of gender and sexual orientation and 35% on the grounds of religion or beliefs. In comparison to 2009, the economic crisis is now thought to be having less impact on discrimination on the grounds of gender and religion or beliefs: in 2009, 43% and 42% respectively said it was contributing to an increase of discrimination on these two grounds. Finally, Europeans are least likely to believe that the crisis is increasing discrimination against young workers under 30 years old (31%).

3. SUPPORT FOR MEASURES TO FOSTER DIVERSITY IN THE WORKPLACE

Respondents were asked to indicate whether they support or oppose three measures to foster diversity in the workplace²⁰. Overall, **there is widespread support among Europeans for these three measures**²¹. Training on diversity issues for employees and employers is the most popular, supported by 79% of Europeans. Over three-quarters (76%) also support the monitoring of recruitment procedures, while monitoring the composition of the workforce is supported by close to seven out of ten respondents (69%).





18

²⁰ QC6. To what extent do you support or oppose the following measures in the workplace to foster diversity?
²¹ Modified versions of the 2nd and 3rd measures were asked in 2008 and 2009 but as these focused specifically on ethnic minorities, the results will not be compared with the 2012 findings.

V. PERCEPTIONS OF THE ROMA SITUATION IN SOCIETY

In this section we examine how Europeans rate the effectiveness of efforts made by their country to integrate the Roma. We also look at public perceptions of the Roma. "Roma" is the common name given to a variety of groups of people who describe themselves not only as Roma but also as Gypsies, Travellers, Manouches, Ashkali, Sinti and other names. With an estimated population of 10 to 12 million in Europe (of whom approximately six million live in the European Union), Roma people are Europe's biggest ethnic minority. Most Roma are EU citizens but many face prejudice, intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion in their daily lives. They are often marginalised and generally live in poor socio-economic conditions²².

The proper implementation of good national, regional and local integration policies is guided by an EU Framework for National Roma Integration Strategies by 2020 that was set up in the spring of 2011. In May 2012, the EU published a progress assessment²³.

1. PERCEIVED EFFECTIVENESS OF NATIONAL EFFORTS TO INTEGRATE THE ROMA POPULATION

Respondents were asked to rate the effectiveness of efforts made in their country to integrate the Roma population using a scale from 1 to 10^{24} . Overall, 45% of Europeans say the efforts are not effective (giving a score from 1 to 4 on the scale), 26% consider the efforts to be moderately effective (points 5 and 6 on the scale) and only 12% believe the efforts made are very effective (points 7 to 10 on the scale). If we compare these results with those obtained for the question measuring the perceived effectiveness of general efforts to combat discrimination in the Member States, it is clear that Europeans are far more critical of the efforts made to integrate the Roma²⁵. In this instance the average score on the scale from 1 to 10 is 4.1, while the average score for the general efforts is 5.1.

The two extremes of the scale – point 1 and point 10 – show that 15% of Europeans consider efforts to integrate the Roma 'not at all' effective (compared with 7% who give the lowest rating to the general efforts) while 2% believe their country's efforts to integrate the Roma and its general anti-discrimination efforts are 'very' effective. **EU** citizens are also more likely to find it difficult to assess the effectiveness of efforts to integrate the Roma than to assess the general efforts: 14% of respondents were unable to answer this question, compared to 7% who could not answer the question about general efforts.

_

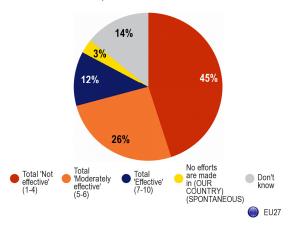
²² http://ec.europa.eu/justice/discrimination/roma/index_en.htm.

http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:52012DC0226:en:NOT.

²⁴ QC15 Using a scale from 1 to 10, please tell me if you think that the efforts made in (OUR COUNTRY) for the integration (in the fields of education, health, housing and employment) of its Roma population are effective. '1' means you consider that these efforts are "not at all effective", and '10' that you consider that these efforts are "very effective".

²⁵ See QC7 above.

QC15. Using a scale from 1 to 10, please tell me if you think that the efforts made in (OUR COUNTRY) for the integration (in the fields of education, health, housing and employment) of its Roma population are effective. '1' means you consider that these efforts are "not at all effective" and '10' that you consider that these efforts are "very effective".



Average: 4.1

The following factors influence perceptions of effectiveness of national efforts to integrate the Roma:

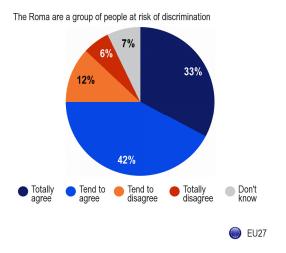
- The perceived prevalence of discrimination nationally: Europeans who believe discrimination is widespread in their country are more likely to give a negative rating (points 1 to 4 on the scale) to the effectiveness of national efforts than Europeans who believe discrimination is rare or non-existent.
- Experience of discrimination and third-party discrimination: Europeans who have personally experienced discrimination and those reporting third-party discrimination are more likely to give a negative rating than those who have no experience of discrimination.
- Having Roma friends or acquaintances: interestingly, Europeans with Roma friends are more likely to give a positive rating (points 7-10 on the scale) than those without Roma friends (18%, for 11%).
- Membership of an ethnic minority: again, Europeans who say they belong to an ethnic minority are slightly less likely to be critical than other minorities.

2. PUBLIC PERCEPTIONS OF THE ROMA

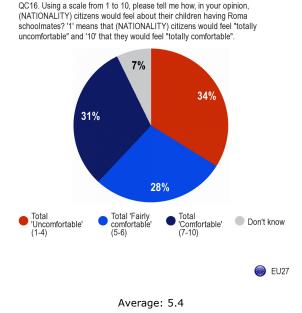
Three out of four Europeans agree that the Roma are a group at risk of discrimination²⁶, while 18% disagree with this statement. The main point emerging from the examination of socio-demographic and cultural factors is that **a majority in all groups in the EU agree that the Roma face discrimination.**

 $^{^{26}}$ QC17.1. Please tell me whether you totally agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree or totally disagree with each of the following statements: The Roma are a group of people at risk of discrimination.

QC17.1. Please tell me whether you totally agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree or totally disagree with each of the following statements.

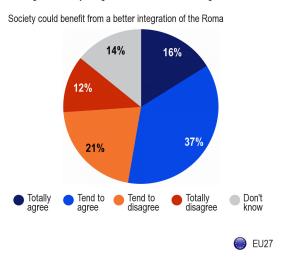


Europeans are more divided when asked to indicate on a scale from 1 to 10 how comfortable citizens in their country would feel if their children had Roma schoolmates. **Overall, 34% think citizens in their country would feel uncomfortable about their children having Roma schoolmates** (giving a score from 1 to 4 on the scale), 28% believe they would feel fairly comfortable (points 5 and 6 on the scale) and 31% believe citizens in their country would feel comfortable (points 7 to 10 on the scale)²⁷.



 $^{^{27}}$ QC16 Using a scale from 1 to 10, please tell me how, in your opinion, (NATIONALITY) citizens would feel about their children having Roma schoolmates? '1' means that (NATIONALITY) citizens would feel "totally uncomfortable", and '10' that they would feel "totally comfortable".

Finally, the survey reveals that **more than half of Europeans are in favour of better integration of the Roma**. 53% believe society could benefit from a better integration of the Roma, while a third disagree (33%)²⁸. On average, 14% answered that they "don't know".



QC17.2. Please tell me whether you totally agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree or totally disagree with each of the following statements.

On this question, there are wide differences in opinion between various sociodemographic and cultural groups. The main influential factors here are:

- Having Roma friends or acquaintances and a diverse social circle in general: 71% of Europeans with Roma friends or acquaintances believe society could benefit from better integration of the Roma, compared to 49% of Europeans without Roma friends or acquaintances.
- **Defining oneself as belonging to an ethnic minority**: 65% of Europeans in this category think that society could benefit from better integration of the Roma compared to 53% of Europeans who say they do not belong to any minority.
- **Length of full-time education**: Europeans who remained in full-time education until age 20 or older are more likely to consider that society could benefit from better integration of the Roma than Europeans who left school aged 15 or younger (62% vs. 46%).
- **Political views**: Europeans who place themselves to the left of the political spectrum (62%) are more likely to agree that society could benefit from better integration of the Roma than those who place themselves on the centre or to the right (53% and 48% respectively).

22

²⁸ QC17.2. Please tell me whether you totally agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree or totally disagree with each of the following statements: Society could benefit from a better integration of the Roma.

CONCLUSIONS

Perceptions of discrimination

Ethnic origin remains the most widely perceived ground for discrimination in the EU (56%; down from 61% in 2009), followed by the grounds of sexual orientation (46% of Europeans believe discrimination for this group is widespread, -1 percentage point since 2009).

The proportion of Europeans who believe that discrimination on the grounds of disability is widespread has decreased since 2009 (46%, -7 percentage points since 2009). Half of Europeans now consider this type of discrimination to be rare or non-existent in their country (50%, +7).

The new question on gender identity shows that many Europeans believe that discrimination on these grounds is widespread (45%).

45% of Europeans believe discrimination against people over 55 years old is widespread whereas discrimination on the grounds of being younger than 30 is seen as far less common: just 18% believe it is widespread. An indication that "old" age discrimination is mainly seen as an employment issue is confirmed by the finding that many Europeans believe that equal opportunities in employment could be improved: many personal characteristics are thought to put applicants at a disadvantage in the recruitment process. Being over 55 years old is seen as the factor most likely to lead to a disadvantage.

As in the previous Eurobarometer, in May 2009, close to four out of ten Europeans believe discrimination on the grounds of religion or beliefs is widespread (39%) while more than half continue to see it as rare or non-existent (56%; -1 percentage point since 2009). Far fewer Europeans than in 2009 now consider discrimination on the grounds of gender to be widespread (31%; -9). Generally speaking, self-designated membership of a minority group increases the likelihood that respondents will believe that discrimination (including but not exclusively discrimination against this specific minority group) is widespread in their country. A positive development is that more Europeans would now feel comfortable if a person from one of the minority groups mentioned in the survey were to run their country than uncomfortable.

When it comes to acceptance at the highest elected political position for different groups by the respondents, there is a particularly high level of acceptance of women (with an average score of 8.6 on a scale from 1 to 10) and disability (7.7). The lowest levels of comfort can be found for transgender or transsexual persons (5.7) and persons over 75 years old (5.4).

Overall assessment of national efforts to fight discrimination

Europeans are generally quite critical in their assessment of the effectiveness of national efforts to fight all forms of discrimination. Only 22% of Europeans believe the efforts made in their country are very effective and on a scale from 1 to 10, the average score is 5.1. As noted in 2009, there is also a widespread belief that policies promoting equality and diversity are regarded as less important and are receiving less funding as a result of the economic crisis. Above half of Europeans (54%) now consider this to be the case, compared to 49% in 2009.

Slight improvement in Europeans' awareness of their rights

Close to four out of ten (37%) Europeans say they would know their rights should they be a victim of discrimination or harassment, a slight improvement since 2009 (+4).

Europeans belonging to a minority are only slightly more likely than average to know their rights. In the case of disabled respondents (34%), fewer than average do so. Nor are individuals who have actually experienced discrimination significantly more aware of their rights: 36% of those experiencing discrimination on a single ground and 39% of those experiencing it on multiple grounds say that they know their rights.

Europeans continue to say that they would prefer to report their case to the police should they become a victim of discrimination or harassment (34%). While tribunals are more often mentioned (10% would now prefer to report a case of discrimination to a tribunal, up from 5% in 2009), awareness of the existence of these bodies and of other options such as equal opportunity organisations (16%) or trade unions (10%) remains low, and only small minorities of Europeans would prefer to report their case to them.

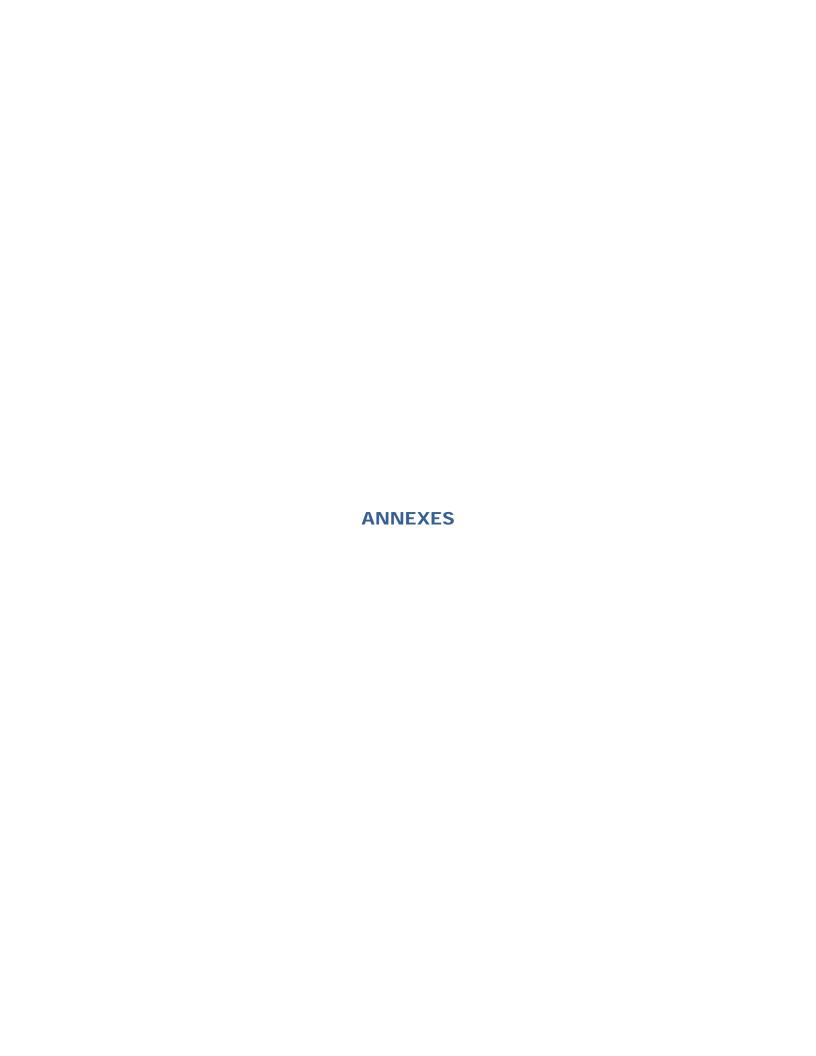
Europeans strongly support measures to promote diversity in the workplace

Europeans believe that equal opportunities in employment could be improved: many personal characteristics are thought to put applicants at a disadvantage in the recruitment process. Being over 55 years old is seen as the factor most likely to lead to a disadvantage. The economic crisis is considered as contributing to more discrimination in the labour market, in particular on the grounds of "older" age (being over 55 years old, 67%), disability (53%) and ethnic origin (52%), although public opinion is now somewhat less negative than in 2009.

Europeans are very supportive of measures to foster diversity in the workplace. Over three in four are in favour of training for employees and employers on diversity issues (79%) and of monitoring recruitment procedures to ensure that candidates from groups at risk of discrimination have the same opportunities as comparable candidates (76%). Nearly as many Europeans support the monitoring of the composition of the workplace (69%).

Most Europeans are in favour of a better integration of the Roma

Finally the survey shows that an overwhelming majority of Europeans agree that the Roma are a group at risk of discrimination. Most of them are critical of the efforts made in their country to integrate this population and consider these to be less effective than general efforts to fight discrimination. Though over half of respondents believe society could benefit from a better integration of the Roma population, less than a third believe citizens in their country would feel comfortable about their children having Roma schoolmates.





SPECIAL EUROBAROMETER N°393 Discrimination TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Between the 2^{nd} and the 17^{th} of June 2012, TNS Opinion & Social, a consortium created between TNS plc and TNS opinion, carried out the wave 77.4 of the EUROBAROMETER, on request of the EUROPEAN COMMISSION, Directorate-General for Communication, "Research and Speechwriting".

The SPECIAL EUROBAROMETER N°393 is part of wave 77.4 and covers the population of the respective nationalities of the European Union Member States, resident in each of the Member States and aged 15 years and over. The basic sample design applied in all states is a multi-stage, random (probability) one. In each country, a number of sampling points was drawn with probability proportional to population size (for a total coverage of the country) and to population density.

In order to do so, the sampling points were drawn systematically from each of the "administrative regional units", after stratification by individual unit and type of area. They thus represent the whole territory of the countries surveyed according to the EUROSTAT NUTS II (or equivalent) and according to the distribution of the resident population of the respective nationalities in terms of metropolitan, urban and rural areas. In each of the selected sampling points, a starting address was drawn, at random. Further addresses (every Nth address) were selected by standard "random route" procedures, from the initial address. In each household, the respondent was drawn, at random (following the "closest birthday rule"). All interviews were conducted face-to-face in people's homes and in the appropriate national language. As far as the data capture is concerned, CAPI (Computer Assisted Personal Interview) was used in those countries where this technique was available.

For each country a comparison between the sample and the universe was carried out. The Universe description was derived from Eurostat population data or from national statistics offices. For all countries surveyed, a national weighting procedure, using marginal and intercellular weighting, was carried out based on this Universe description. In all countries, gender, age, region and size of locality were introduced in the iteration procedure. For international weighting (i.e. EU averages), TNS Opinion & Social applies the official population figures as provided by EUROSTAT or national statistic offices. The total population figures for input in this post-weighting procedure are listed above.



Readers are reminded that survey results are $\underline{\text{estimations}}$, the accuracy of which, everything being equal, rests upon the sample size and upon the observed percentage. With samples of about 1,000 interviews, the real percentages vary within the following confidence limits:

Statistical Margins due to the sampling process (at the 95% level of confidence)

various sample sizes are in rows

various observed results are in columns

	5%	10%	15%	20%	25%	30%	35%	40%	45%	50%	
_	95%	90%	85%	80%	75%	70%	65%	60%	55%	50%	_
N=50	6,0	8,3	9,9	11,1	12,0	12,7	13,2	13,6	13,8	13,9	N=50
N=500	1,9	2,6	3,1	3,5	3,8	4,0	4,2	4,3	4,4	4,4	N=500
N=1000	1,4	1,9	2,2	2,5	2,7	2,8	3,0	3,0	3,1	3,1	N=1000
N=1500	1,1	1,5	1,8	2,0	2,2	2,3	2,4	2,5	2,5	2,5	N=1500
N=2000	1,0	1,3	1,6	1,8	1,9	2,0	2,1	2,1	2,2	2,2	N=2000
N=3000	0,8	1,1	1,3	1,4	1,5	1,6	1,7	1,8	1,8	1,8	N=3000
N=4000	0,7	0,9	1,1	1,2	1,3	1,4	1,5	1,5	1,5	1,5	N=4000
N=5000	0,6	0,8	1,0	1,1	1,2	1,3	1,3	1,4	1,4	1,4	N=5000
N=6000	0,6	0,8	0,9	1,0	1,1	1,2	1,2	1,2	1,3	1,3	N=6000
N=7000	0,5	0,7	0,8	0,9	1,0	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,2	1,2	N=7000
N=7500	0,5	0,7	0,8	0,9	1,0	1,0	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	N=7500
N=8000	0,5	0,7	0,8	0,9	0,9	1,0	1,0	1,1	1,1	1,1	N=8000
N=9000	0,5	0,6	0,7	0,8	0,9	0,9	1,0	1,0	1,0	1,0	N=9000
N=10000	0,4	0,6	0,7	0,8	0,8	0,9	0,9	1,0	1,0	1,0	N=10000
N=11000	0,4	0,6	0,7	0,7	0,8	0,9	0,9	0,9	0,9	0,9	N=11000
N=12000	0,4	0,5	0,6	0,7	0,8	0,8	0,9	0,9	0,9	0,9	N=12000
N=13000	0,4	0,5	0,6	0,7	0,7	0,8	0,8	0,8	0,9	0,9	N=13000
N=14000	0,4	0,5	0,6	0,7	0,7	0,8	0,8	0,8	0,8	0,8	N=14000
N=15000	0,3	0,5	0,6	0,6	0,7	0,7	0,8	0,8	0,8	0,8	N=15000
	5%	10%	15%	20%	25%	30%	35%	40%	45%	50%	
	95%	90%	85%	80%	75%	70%	65%	60%	55%	50%	



ABBR.	COUNTRIES	INSTITUTES	N° INTERVIEWS	FIELDWORK DATES		POPULATION 15+
BE	Belgium	TNS Dimarso	1.059	02/06/12	17/06/12	8.866.411
BG	Bulgaria	TNS BBSS	1.008	02/06/12	11/06/12	6.584.957
CZ	Czech Rep.	TNS Aisa	1.004	02/06/12	14/06/12	8.987.535
DK	Denmark .	TNS Gallup DK	1.008	02/06/12	17/06/12	4.533.420
DE	Germany	TNS Infratest	1.505	02/06/12	17/06/12	64.545.601
EE	Estonia	Emor	1.005	02/06/12	17/06/12	916.000
ΙE	Ireland	Ipsos MRBI	997	02/06/12	15/06/12	3.375.399
EL	Greece	TNS ICAP	1.000	02/06/12	15/06/12	8.693.566
ES*	Spain	TNS Demoscopia	1.011	02/06/12	17/06/12	39.035.867
FR	France	TNS Sofres	1.027	02/06/12	17/06/12	47.620.942
ΙΤ	Italy	TNS Infratest	1.026	02/06/12	17/06/12	51.252.247
CY	Rep. of Cyprus	Synovate	504	02/06/12	17/06/12	651.400
LV	Latvia	TNS Latvia	1.024	02/06/12	17/06/12	1.448.719
LT	Lithuania	TNS LT	1.028	02/06/12	17/06/12	2.849.359
LU	Luxembourg	TNS ILReS	503	02/06/12	16/06/12	404.907
HU	Hungary	TNS Hoffmann Kft	1.009	02/06/12	17/06/12	8.320.614
MT	Malta	MISCO	500	02/06/12	16/06/12	335.476
NL	Netherlands	TNS NIPO	1.003	02/06/12	17/06/12	13.288.200
AT	Austria	Österreichisches Gallup-Institut	1.001	02/06/12	17/06/12	6.973.277
PL	Poland	TNS OBOP	1.000	02/06/12	17/06/12	32.306.436
PT	Portugal	TNS EUROTESTE	1.001	02/06/12	17/06/12	8.080.915
RO	Romania	TNS CSOP	1.043	02/06/12	14/06/12	18.246.731
SI	Slovenia	RM PLUS	1.005	02/06/12	17/06/12	1.748.308
SK	Slovakia	TNS Slovakia	1.000	02/06/12	17/06/12	4.549.954
FI	Finland	TNS Gallup Oy	1.017	02/06/12	17/06/12	4.412.321
SE	Sweden	TNS GALLUP	1.033	02/06/12	17/06/12	7.723.931
UK	United Kingdom	TNS UK	1.301	02/06/12	17/06/12	51.081.866
TOTAL EU27			26.622	02/06/12	17/06/12	406.834.359

^{*}Due to a technical issue, the fieldwork in Spain for QC9 was conducted by phone, the 12 and 13 November