

GALLUP
INTERNATIONAL

NOVUS

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

**PUBLIC OPINION OF
EUROPEAN CITIZENS ON
THE WAR IN UKRAINE
FOCUS ON SWEDEN**

March 26, 2022



Method

- CAWI-Interviews (Computer Assisted Web Interviewing)

Target Group

- Population aged 18 years and over

Sample

- **24.509 interviews in total**
- 23.004 interviews in 24 EU-countries (per country: representative of the (web-active) population 18+)*
- 1.505 interviews in 2 Non-EU-countries: Serbia and Switzerland (per country: representative of the (web-active population 18+))

Fieldwork period

- 7th -22rd March 2022

The research in Sweden was conducted by Novus Group. As part of Gallup Internationals coordinated European research.

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* In the following "EU Total" refers to the 24 EU-countries; Switzerland and Serbia are shown separately.

REPRESENTATIVE SAMPLES IN 26 EUROPEAN COUNTRIES



EU TOTAL	23.004
COUNTRY	
Austria	1.000
Belgium	1.012
Bulgaria	861
Croatia	507
Czech Republic	1.030
Denmark	1.020
Estonia	1.002
Finland	1.112
France	1.020
Germany	1.000
Greece	1.093
Hungary	1.022
Ireland	750
Italy	1.000
Latvia	1.006
Lithuania	1.000
Netherlands	1.020
Poland	1.001
Portugal	600
Romania	1.018
Slovakia	1.000
Slovenia	735
Spain	1.013
Sweden	1.182
NON EU	
COUNTRY	
Serbia	505
Switzerland	1.000

EU: s number one concern at the moment are inflation, world war and that Russia uses Nuclear weapons, and that their own country could be drawn into military conflicts.

Swedes differ from the average EU citizen. They are less worried. Swedes number one concern is Russia using nuclear weapons (33% very much concerned), world war and climate change (27% very much). EU:s number one worry inflation (49% very much), is to a lesser extent something swedes worry about (23 % very much).

Swedes have a higher trust that EU stabilise the world (57 %) compared to the EU average (63%).

But Portugal, Finland and Poland all have a higher trust than Swedes in the stabilizing properties of EU.

These are also the countries most are thinking there is a solid cohesion between the Eu member states.

Swedes also have a higher trust in USA (50%) compared to the EU average (38%).

5 EU members also being members of NATO have higher trust than Sweden in the stabilising properties of USA: Poland, Estonia, Portugal Lithuania, and Denmark.

Swedes think that China destabilise the world (83%) to a higher extent than the EU average (62%). Swedes are the most distrusting of China in all the researched EU countries, Finland a close second (82 %). Non-EU member Serbia have the highest trust, where 49 % think China stabilise the world.

Swedes think that Russia destabilise the world (95%) to a higher extent than the EU average (84%)

Only Finland has a higher degree thinking Russia destabilise the world (97 %) than Swedes (95%). Being in the Russians crosshairs affect Swedes and Finns view of Russia. Novus other research clearly show that the swedes have not gotten scared but angrier of Russia's aggression against Ukraine, and the verbal threats also being directed against Sweden and Finland.

Even here non-EU member Serbia has the most positive view of Russia. Clearly standing out compared to all researched EU countries.

A majority of the swedes think that the sanctions are appropriate, one fifth think they do not go far enough. Only 2 % think they are too harsh. EU average is that 15 % think they are too harsh. 58 % of both the Swedes and Finns would like to see more support for Ukraine, much more then EU average that is 43 %.

59 % of the Swedes are in favour of Ukraine being applied as an EU member. Little more than EU average (52 %), but highest support in Poland (77%), Estonia (73), Portugal (73) and Lithuania (73).

Swedes stand out regarding the energy dependence to Russia, the country seeing itself as least dependant of Russian energy in all of EU. Highest dependence are Slovakia, Italy, Hungary and Germany.

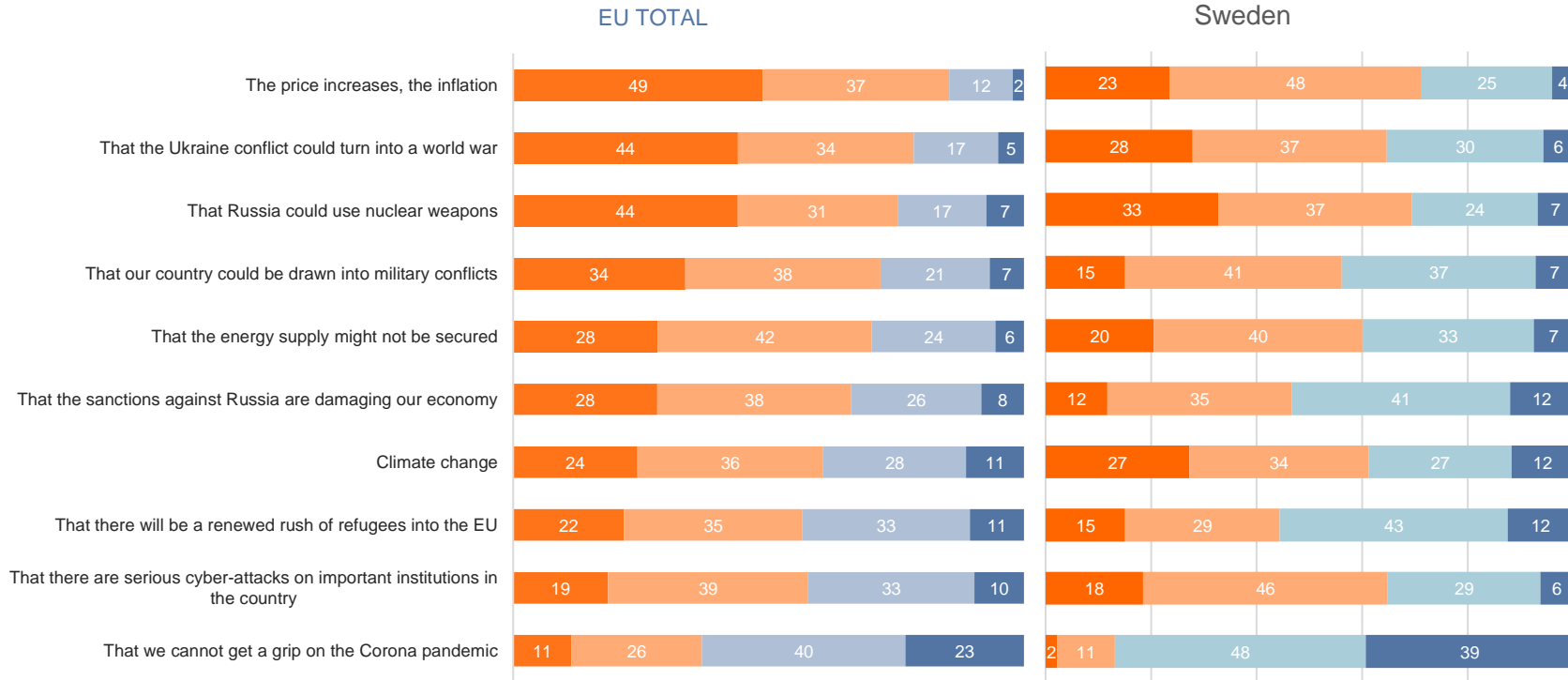
Only 2 % of Swedes think Sweden have a very good army, 37 % think the army is good. This is below EU average. 7% very good, 38 % good. The Finns have the highest trust in their army (18 % very good, 72 % good), followed by France (16 %, 57%), Spain (22%, 48%) and Greece (18%, 51%). The least trust in their army have Bulgaria (3%, 7%), Ireland (3%, 17%) and Germany (4%, 18%)

Torbjörn Sjäström, CEO, Novus

Inflation, the war and the energy supply are the biggest concerns of EU citizens

Which of the following points are currently causing you very much concern, which are causing you much concern, which are causing you less concern and which are causing you little or no concern?

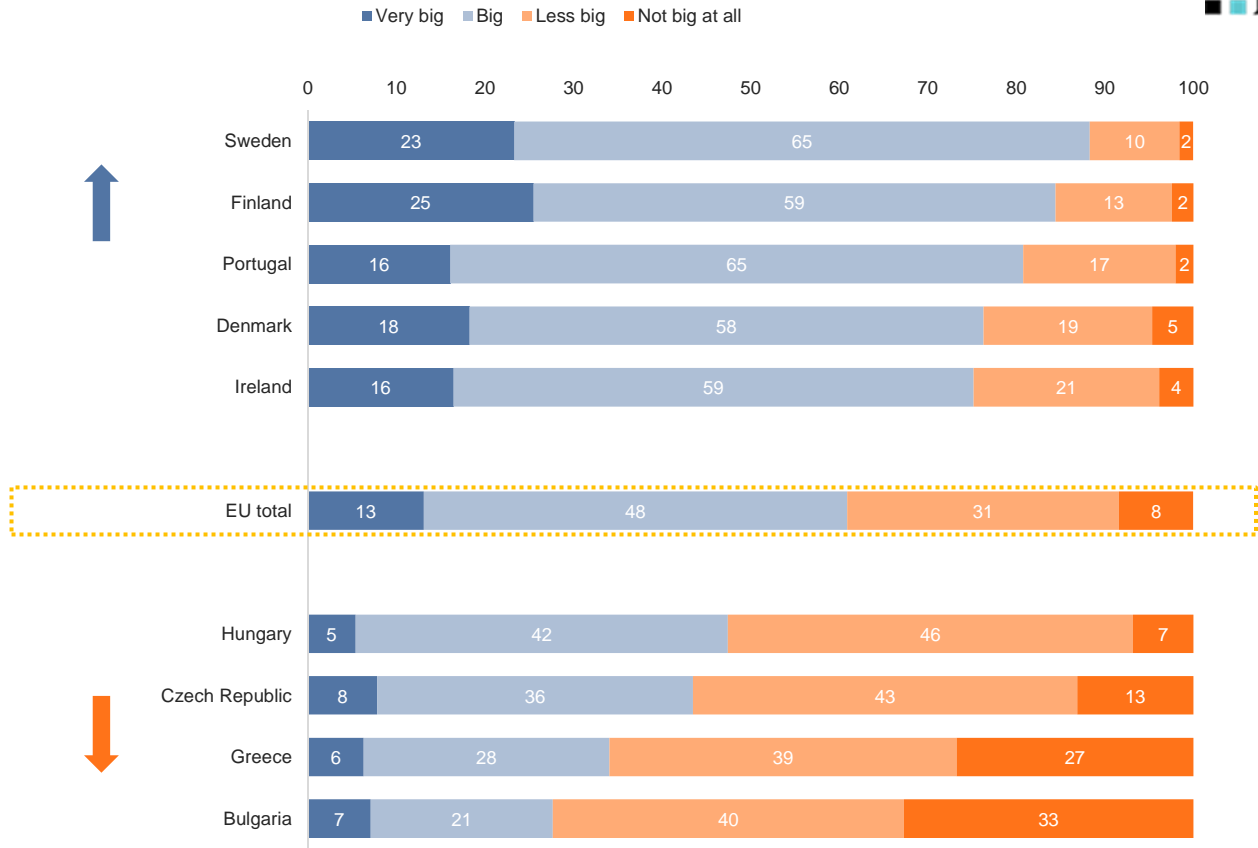
Very much concern Much concern Less concern Little or no concern



In percent

COHESION IN THE EU: More than 60% see solid cohesion between member states

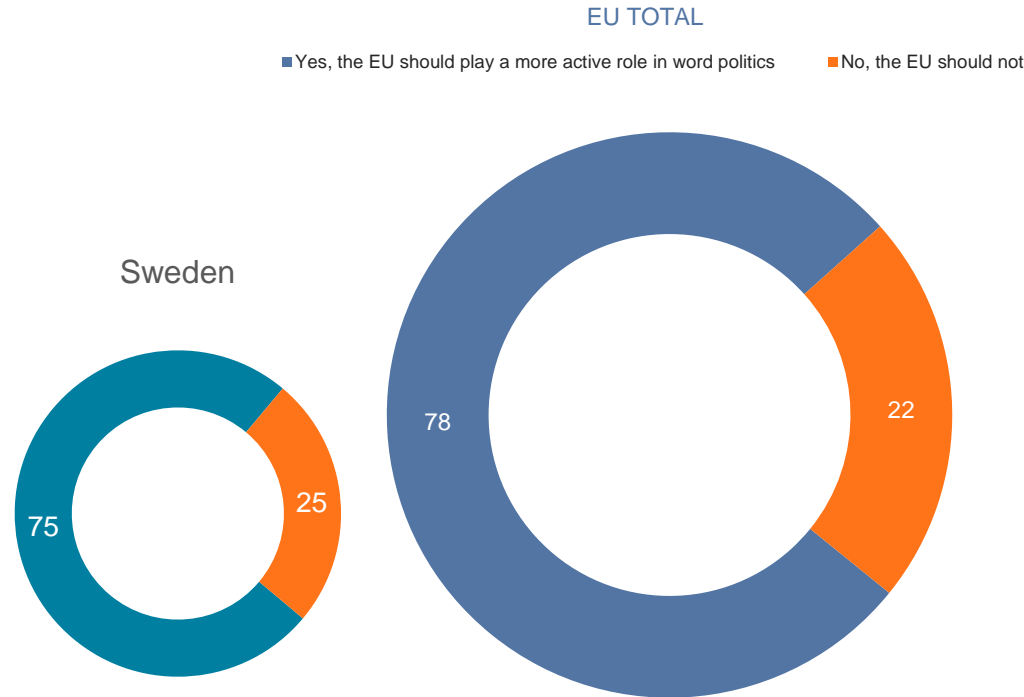
What is your impression: How big is the cohesion between the member states of the European Union at the moment?



In percent

A GLOBAL ROLE FOR EU: 78% are in favour of a more active role for the EU in global politics

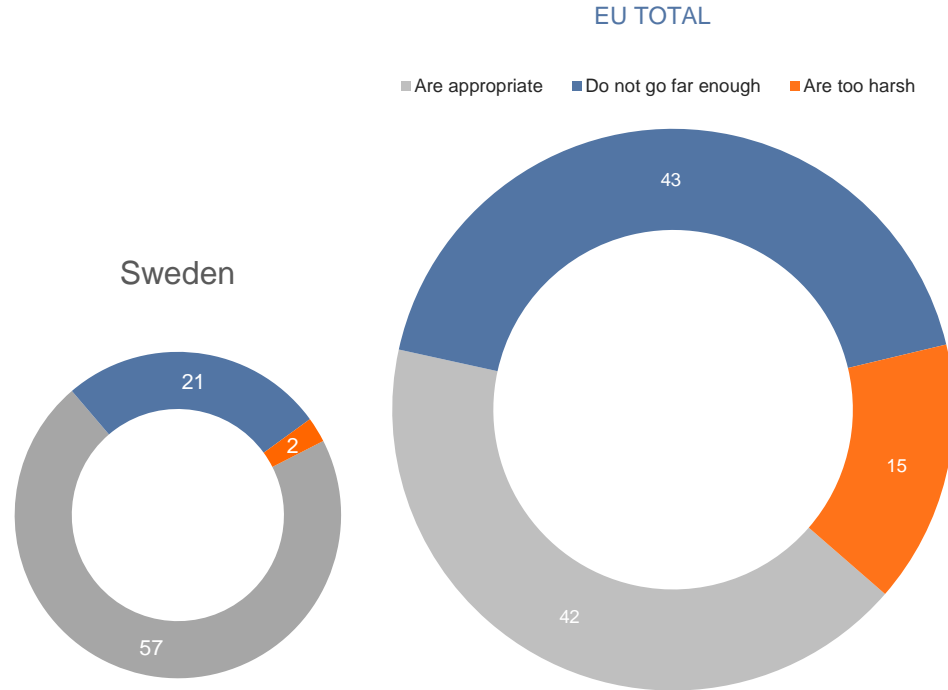
Should the EU play a more active role in world politics in the future?



Yes, the EU should play a more active role in world politics ↑	
Portugal	94
Spain	90
Poland	90
Lithuania	90
No, the EU should not ↑	
Denmark	37
Austria	36
<i>Serbia</i>	45
<i>Switzerland</i>	36

VERY HIGH SUPPORT FOR SANCTIONS AGAINST RUSSIA: 43% of EU citizens want even stricter sanctions for Russia

Do you think the sanctions that the EU has imposed on Russia are appropriate, or are the sanctions too harsh, or do the sanctions not go far enough?



Do not go far enough		↑
Lithuania	66	
Poland	65	
Finland	55	
Are too harsh		↑
Bulgaria	42	
Slovakia	34	
Greece	32	
Hungary	25	
Serbia	73	

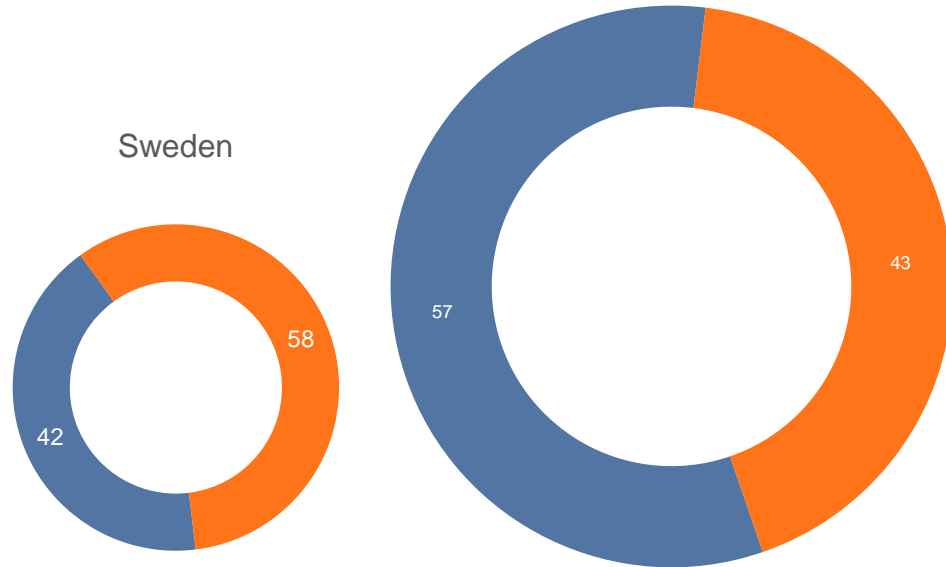
In percent

57% say that Ukraine is sufficiently supported

Do you feel that the Ukraine has received sufficient support from us, or would you like to see more support for the Ukraine?

EU TOTAL

■ Was sufficiently supported ■ Would like to see more support



Was sufficiently supported		↑
Slovakia	84	
Czech Republic	79	
Hungary	78	
Bulgaria	76	
Slovenia	70	
Latvia	69	
Serbia	80	
Would like to see more support		↑
Portugal	66	
Spain	64	
Ireland	64	
France	60	
Finland	58	
Sweden	58	

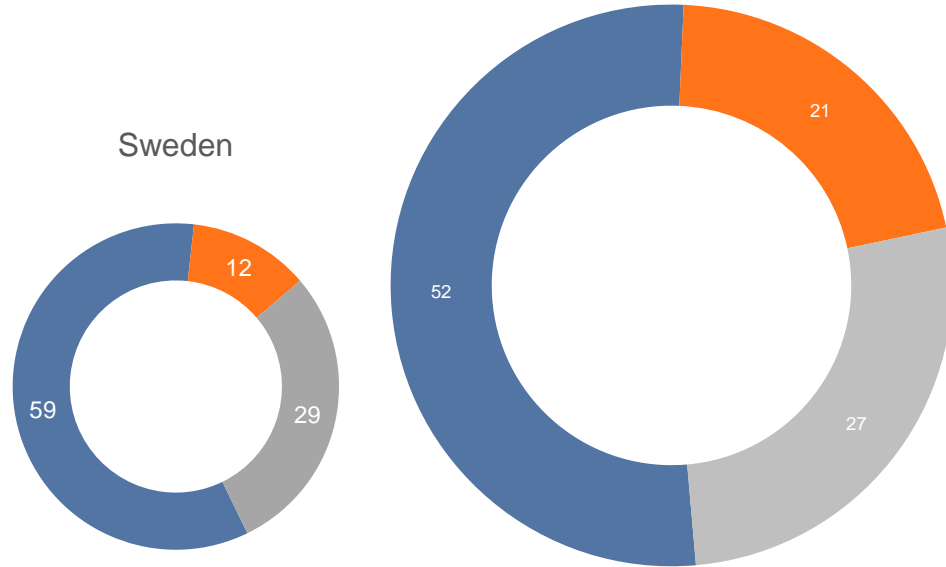
In percent

Over half of EU citizens are in favour of Ukraine joining the EU

Ukraine and Georgia have now applied to become EU members. How do you see this: are you for or against? Ukraine

EU TOTAL

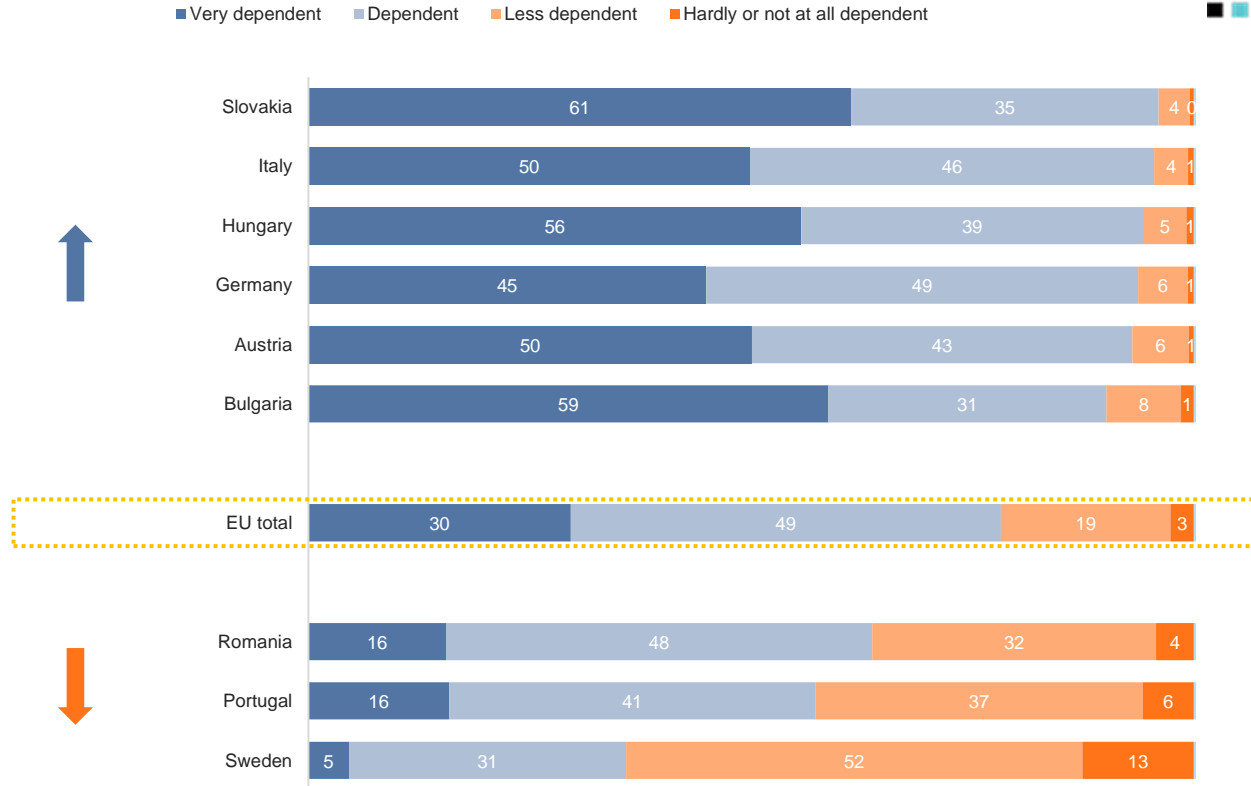
■ I am in favour of Ukraine becoming a member of the EU ■ I am against Ukraine becoming a member of the EU ■ Undecided



I am in favour of Ukraine becoming a member of the EU	↑
Poland	77
Estonia	73
Portugal	73
Lithuania	73
Ireland	71
Spain	66
I am against Ukraine becoming a member of the EU	↑
Greece	46
Slovakia	38
Hungary	36
Austria	35

Most EU members consider their own country's dependence on Russian energy supplies to be high

How do you assess that: How dependent is our country on energy supplies from Russia?



In percent

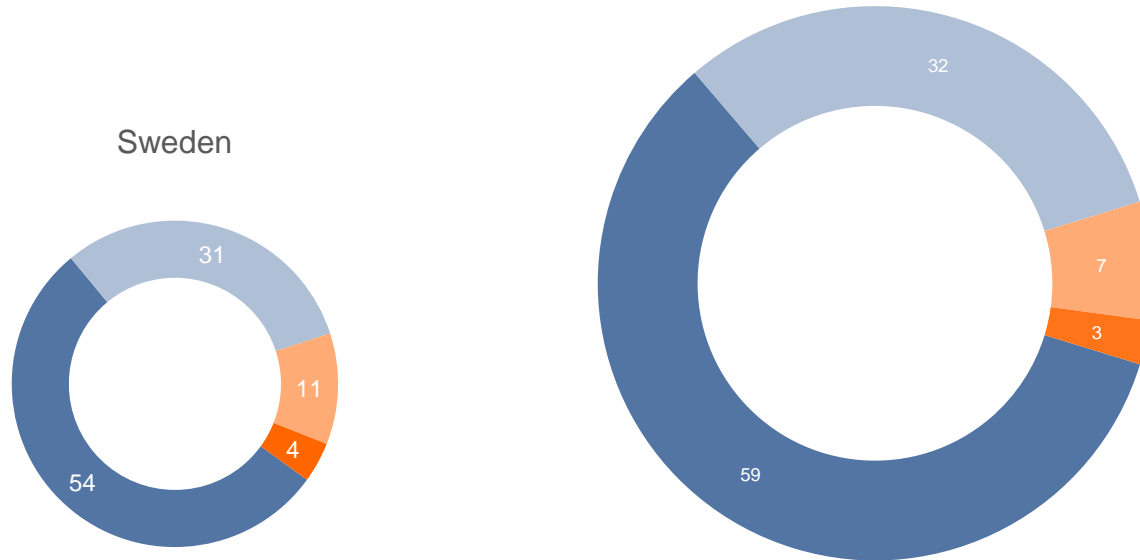
There is a great consensus in all EU countries to switch to renewable energy sources in order to be less dependent on Russian energy supplies

How important do you think it is for us to switch to renewable energy sources, to be less dependent on Russian energy supplies?

Base: think that their country is dependent on energy supplies from Russia

EU TOTAL

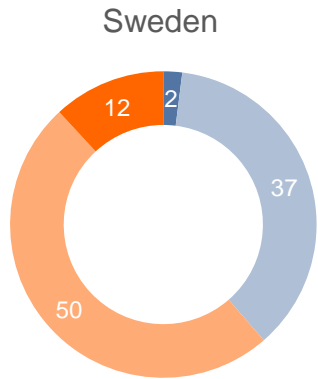
■ Very important ■ Important ■ Less important ■ Not important at all



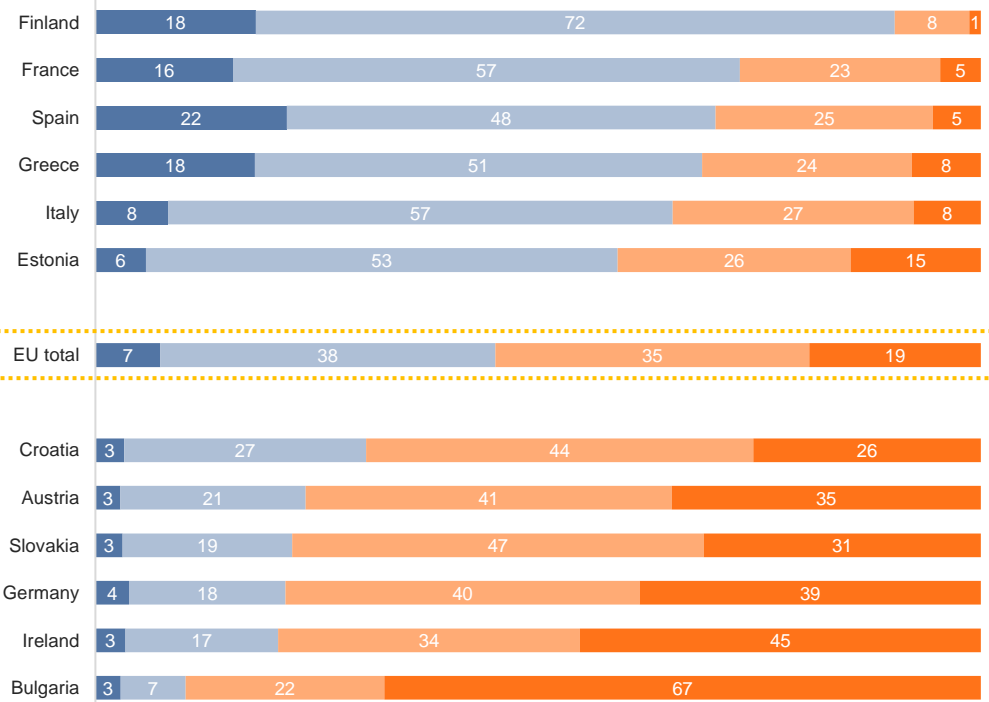
In percent

EU citizens recognize, at least partially, the weaknesses of their country's army

How do you rate the equipment and operational capability of your country's army, all in all? In your opinion, is the equipment and operational capability ...



Very good Good Less good Not good at all



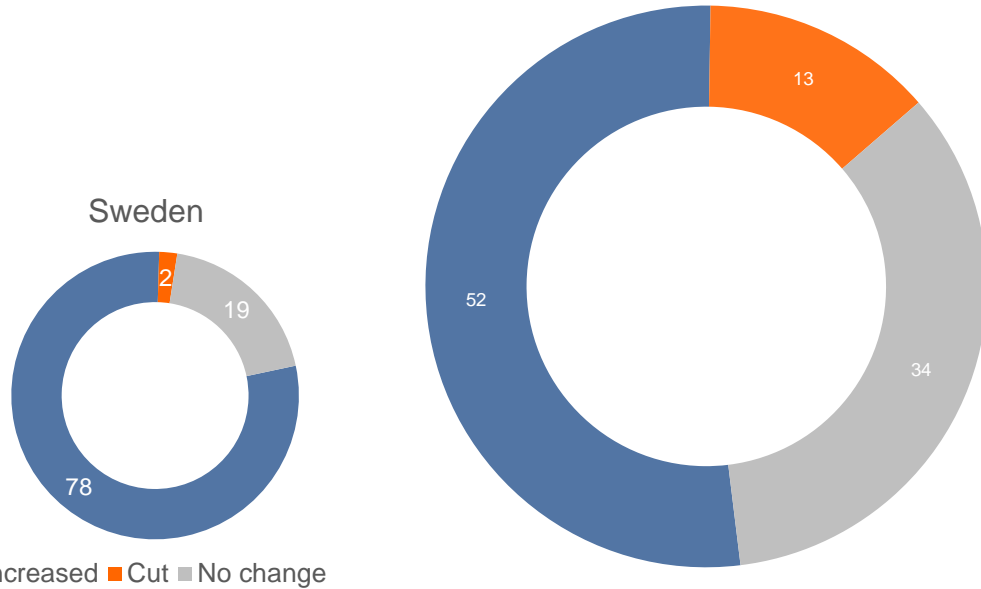
In percent

Half of EU citizens say their country should increase defense spending

What is your opinion: Should your country's defence spending be increased, or should it be cut, or should there be no change in defence spending?

EU TOTAL

■ Should be increased ■ Should be cut ■ There should be no change



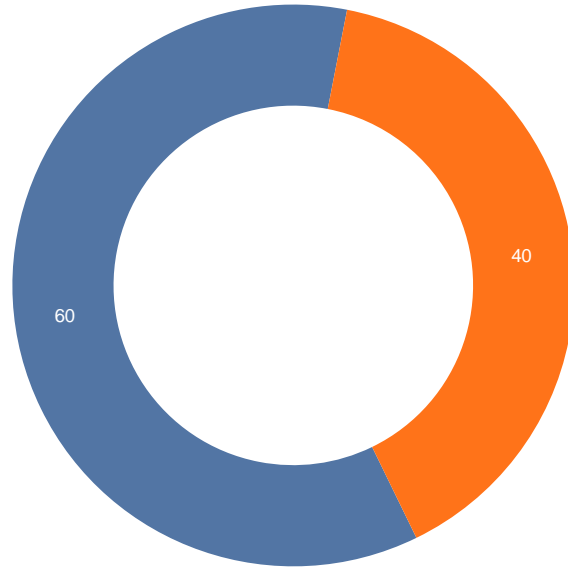
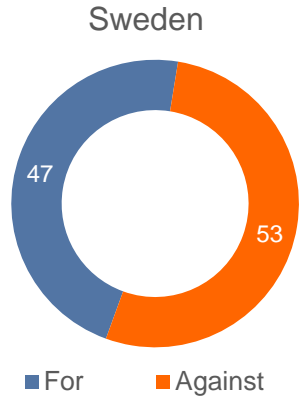
Should be increased	↑
Sweden	78
Poland	69
Netherlands	68
Bulgaria	65
Estonia	64
Should be cut	↑
Slovenia	34
Italy	26
Slovakia	26

The majority is in favour of a common European army

There is talk from time to time of building a common European army: What is your position on this? Are you for or against the creation of a common European army?

EU TOTAL

■ I am in favour ■ I am against it



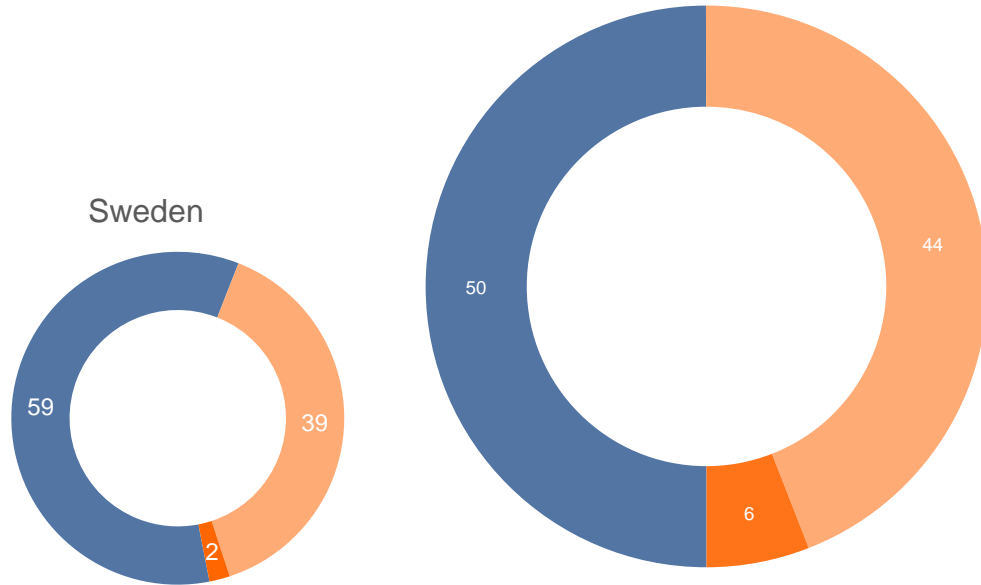
I am in favour	↑
Portugal	83
Poland	80
Belgium	76
Lithuania	76
Spain	75
Romania	72
I am against it	↑
Finland	57
Ireland	55
Austria	54
Sweden	53
Serbia	79
Switzerland	56

A relative majority is in favour of the unrestricted admission of Ukrainian refugees

Many refugees from the Ukraine are on their way to the EU or have already arrived there.
How should we behave when taking in refugees from Ukraine?

EU TOTAL

- We should take in as many refugees as possible without bureaucracy
- We should only accept a certain number of refugees
- We should take in very few refugees from Ukraine or none at all



We should take in as many refugees as possible without bureaucracy ↑

Spain 65

Finland 63

Romania 62

We should only accept a certain number of refugees ↑

Czech Republic 66

Slovenia 59

Estonia 58

Serbia 58

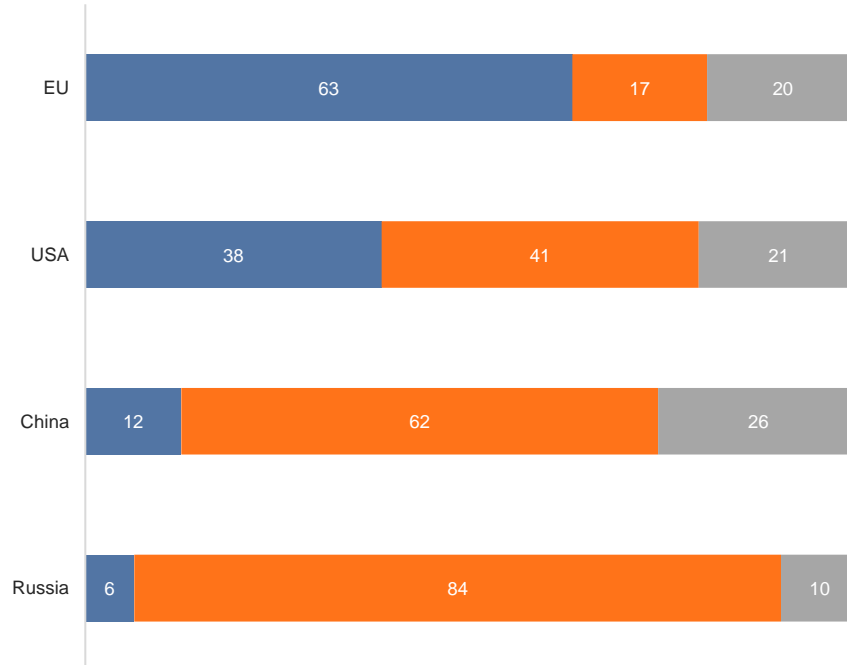
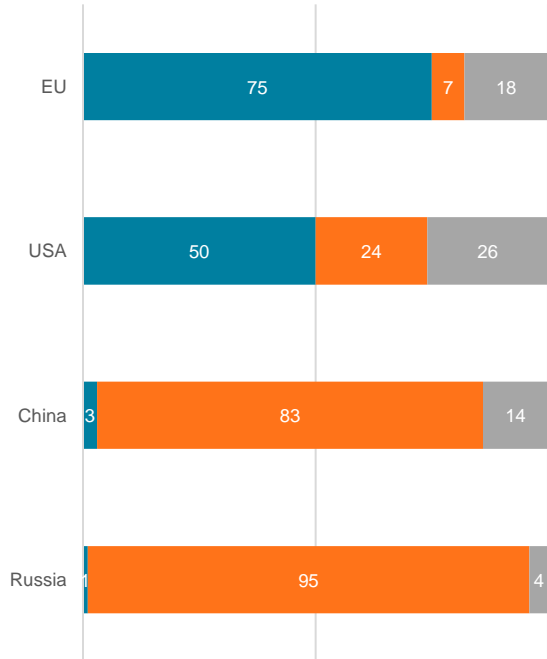
The EU is perceived as the most stabilizing world power, the role of the USA is seen as ambivalent. A vast majority say RUSSIA and CHINA destabilize the world.

What do you think about the international policies of the following four superpowers - do their policies stabilise or destabilise the world?

Sweden

EU TOTAL

■ Stabilises the world ■ Destabilises the world ■ Do not know, No answer



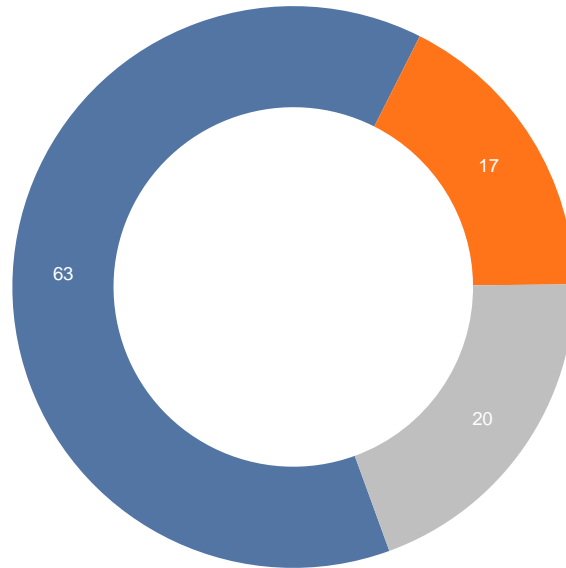
In percent

The view that the EU is a stabilizing force is primarily shared by Portugal, Finland, Poland and Sweden

What do you think about the international policies of the following four superpowers - do their policies stabilise or destabilise the world?

EU TOTAL - EU

■ Stabilises the world ■ Destabilises the world ■ Do not know, No answer



Stabilises the world		↑
Portugal	83	
Finland	80	
Poland	76	
Sweden	75	
Destabilises the world		↑
Greece	45	
Bulgaria	33	
Slovakia	29	
Serbia	63	

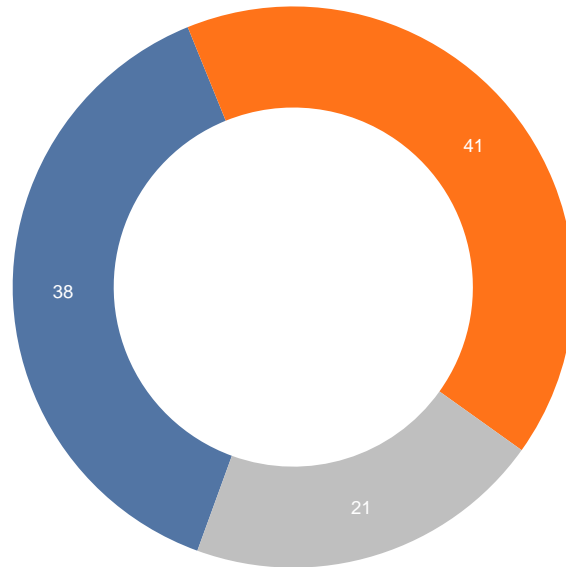
In percent

The biggest fan of the USA is Poland, the most critics can be found in Greece, Croatia and Slovenia

What do you think about the international policies of the following four superpowers - do their policies stabilise or destabilise the world?

EU TOTAL - USA

■ Stabilises the world ■ Destabilises the world ■ Do not know, No answer



Stabilises the world		↑
Poland	68	
Estonia	56	
Portugal	54	
Lithuania	53	
Denmark	52	
Sweden	50	
Destabilises the world		↑
Greece	75	
Croatia	73	
Slovenia	72	
Bulgaria	68	
Slovakia	62	
Hungary	52	
<i>Serbia</i>	<i>86</i>	

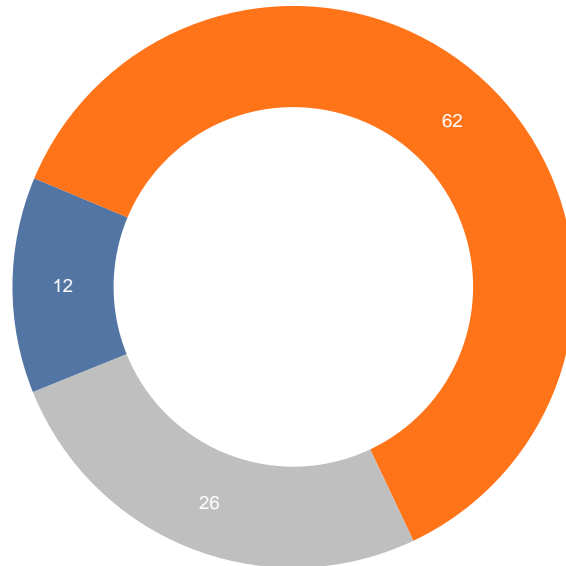
In percent

China's role is seen somewhat more positively in Bulgaria, Slovakia and Greece than in other EU countries

What do you think about the international policies of the following four superpowers - do their policies stabilise or destabilise the world?

EU TOTAL - China

■ Stabilises the world ■ Destabilises the world ■ Do not know, No answer



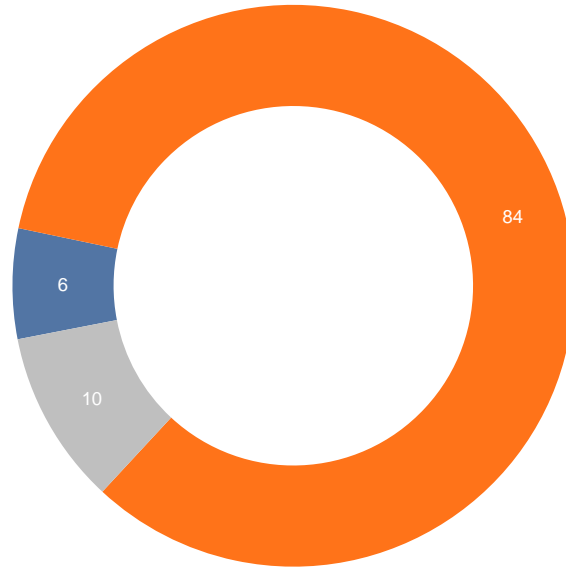
Stabilises the world		↑
Bulgaria	31	
Slovakia	24	
Greece	20	
Serbia	49	
Destabilises the world		↑
Sweden	83	
Finland	81	
Portugal	74	
Ireland	72	

These three countries are also somewhat more comfortable with Russia than other EU members

What do you think about the international policies of the following four superpowers - do their policies stabilise or destabilise the world?

EU TOTAL - Russia

■ Stabilises the world ■ Destabilises the world ■ Do not know, No answer



Stabilises the world		↑
Bulgaria	28	
Slovakia	17	
Greece	14	
Serbia	45	
Destabilises the world		↑
Finland	97	
Sweden	95	
Poland	94	

Summary

General summary by Michael Nitsche Gallup International:

EU citizens' fears: inflation, war, bottlenecks in energy supply

The biggest concerns of EU citizens at the moment are rising prices, fear of a widening war and possible shortages in energy supply. Issues that were on the list of top priorities a month ago, such as Covid pandemic and climate change, have faded into the background.

Energy supply

Awareness of the dependence of one's own country on Russian energy imports is high (79% on average in the EU); only Sweden considers itself largely independent of Russian energy. Switching to renewable energy sources to be less dependent on Russian energy supplies is welcomed across all countries (91%).

National security

More than half of EU citizens fear that the equipment and operational capability of their country's army is unsatisfactory. 52% say their country's defense spending should be increased. The majority of 60% is in favor of a common EU army. The desire to build a common European army is highest in Portugal and Poland, Belgium, Lithuania, Spain and Romania.

Support for Ukraine

- More than half of EU citizens believe that we have already provided sufficient support to Ukraine, 43% would like to see even more help. Portugal, Spain, Ireland, France, Finland and Sweden show the most solidarity.
- There is a high willingness to accept refugees in the EU: More than 90% of EU citizens are in favor of taking in refugees. 50% of them advocate an unrestricted admission of refugees, 44% prefer a limitation.
- Only one fifth of EU citizens are strictly against admitting Ukraine to the EU. 52% say Ukraine should join the EU, 27% are undecided. Poland, Estonia, Portugal, Lithuania, Ireland and Spain are most in favor of Ukraine joining the EU.
- 42% agree with the EU's sanctions against Russia, and 43% would even like to see more sanctions. Only 15% say the sanctions are too strict - this opinion is most common in Greece, the eastern EU countries Bulgaria, Slovakia and Hungary, and the non-EU country Serbia.

Attitude towards the EU

61% see big cohesion among EU member states, and for 63% the EU is a stabilizing world power. The vast majority (78%) believes that the EU should play a more active role in world politics in the future. Compared to the other member states, the mood towards the EU is most negative in Greece and Bulgaria. The EU accession country Serbia is also critical of the EU.



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