ZA4453

Flash Eurobarometer 189a
White Paper on Communication - Public at large

Country Specific Questionnaire
Ireland

Flash EB 189 – White Paper on Communication – Questionnaire
Public at large

Good morning / afternoon, I'm ... from GALLUP. I would like to ask you to participate in a brief survey among the citizens across Europe -- on their views on politics in general, and in particular on the European Union. Please help me with your answers, it will not take more than 10 minutes. The questionnaire is anonymous; your responses will be used only to better understand the view of citizens. You can refuse to answer to any of the questions if you wish so..

Q1. Do you generally support or oppose Ireland's membership of the European Union?

READ OUT – ONE ANSWER ONLY

- Support 1
- Oppose 2
- [Can't decide] 3
- [DK/NA] 9

Q2. Is it important for you to be informed about European politics and affairs?

READ OUT – ONE ANSWER ONLY

- Yes, mostly for personal reasons 1
- Yes, mostly for professional reasons 2
- Yes, for both reasons 3
- No 4
- [DK/NA] 9

FILTER, ASK IF Q2 = 1 OR 3 ('PERSONAL REASONS OR BOTH')

Q3a. You mentioned personal reasons for being informed about European politics. Please tell for each of them if you think it is an important reason for you or not?

READ OUT– ROTATE– ONE ANSWER PER LINE

- Important 1
- Not important 2
- [DK/NA] 9

a) To feel involved in the building of Europe / feel European 1 2 9
b) Have all the information to take part in European debates, elections, etc . 1 2 9
c) To better know my rights or possibilities as a European citizen 1 2 9
d) To better know what EU Institutions do for citizens 1 2 9
e) To be able to check what actual EU policies are in certain areas 1 2 9
f) To feel concerned by what is going on in the other countries of Europe 1 2 9
g) To be able to have some influence over the development of European co-operation 1 2 9
h) To know about Europe's role in the world 1 2 9

FILTER, ASK IF Q2 = 2 OR 3 ('PROFESSIONAL REASONS OR BOTH')

Q3b. You mentioned professional reasons. To be informed about the European Union is important in order to...

FILTER, IF Q2=3 THEN ASK

You also mentioned professional reasons. To be informed about the European Union is important in order to...

Yes 1
No 2
DK/NA 9

a) update my general knowledge on European issues 1 2 9
b) develop my knowledge on topics directly linked to my activity 1 2 9

ASK ALL

Q4. Some issues are of interest only at a national level and some others at European level. Would you be interested in knowing if people in other European Union Member States share your opinions on the following topics?

READ OUT – ROTATE – ONE ANSWER PER LINE

- Yes 1
- No 2
- [DK/NA] 9

a) the European currency, the euro 1 2 9

b) how to create jobs in Europe 1 2 9

c) the Constitution under discussion for the European Union 1 2 9

d) the possibility that Turkey joins the European Union in the future 1 2 9

e) the danger of avian flu to Europe 1 2 9

f) secure energy supply 1 2 9

g) how to compete with China or India 1 2 9

h) fight against terrorism and organised crime 1 2 9

i) immigration from non-EU countries 1 2 9

j) protecting the environment 1 2 9

k) ethical issues like stem cell research, abortion, homosexual marriage 1 2 9

l) tolerance of religious expression and protection of human rights 1 2 9

Q5. According to your experience, does the Irish government provide enough information about what is happening in the European Union to the citizens?

READ OUT – ONE ANSWER ONLY

- Yes 1
- No 2
- [DK/NA] 9

Q6. There are different ways of being involved in political life in a broad sense, at city, region, country or even European level. Have you done any of the following in the last three years? Have you

READ OUT – ROTATE – ONE ANSWER PER LINE

- Yes 1
- No 2
- [DK/NA] 9

a) Voted in an election or a referendum (local, regional, national)? 1 2 9
b) Voted in the last European Parliament election in 2004? 1 2 9
c) Contacted a politician, government or local government official? 1 2 9
d) Worked in a political party or action group? 1 2 9
e) Worked in another organisation or association? 1 2 9
f) Signed a petition? 1 2 9
g) Presented your view in an online discussion / forum? 1 2 9
h) Taken part in a public demonstration? 1 2 9

IF YES TO ANY OF THE ITEMS IN Q6 (PARITICIPATED IN LOCAL/NATIONAL POLITICS IN ANY WAY), ASK:

Q7. Let us suppose that you are concerned about a specific issue, which is regulated on EU level, and you would like to express your opinion on this issue. Who would you prefer to contact...

READ OUT – ONE ANSWER ONLY

- A person or organisation on EU level, or 1
- A person or organisation operating within your country? 2
- [Both] 3
- [Neither] 4
- [DK/NA] 9

Q8a. Would you agree / disagree with the following statements about information on European Union issues?

READ OUT – ROTATE – ONE ANSWER PER LINE

Yes 1

No 2
DK/NA 9

a). All European citizens should have the right to fair and full information 1 2 9
b) Information should be widely available, accessible in the citizens' own language and readily understandable 1 2 9
c) Citizens should be able to hear and compare different opinions and points of views on European issues 1 2 9
d) Citizens and representative associations shall have the right and the means to express their views and to be heard 1 2 9
e) Policy-making, decision-making and administration should be transparent, open and visible as possible 1 2 9

Q9. According to you, who should be primarily responsible for informing citizens about what the European Union does and how this affects their daily life?

READ OUT – ROTATE – ONE ANSWER ONLY

the national government 1
the national parliament and political parties 2
the European Parliament 3
the European Commission 4
non-governmental-organizations (NGOs) 5
media 6
other 7
DK/NA 9

Q10. In your opinion, whose primary responsibility is to take into account citizens' wishes on European issues?

READ OUT – ROTATE - ONE ANSWER ONLY

- the national government 1
- the national parliament and political parties 2
- the European Parliament 3
- the European Commission 4
- non-governmental-organizations (NGOs) 5
- other 6
- [DK/NA] 9

ASK ALL
Q11. There are several burdens and reasons people mention when asked about why not contacting the EU directly in EU-related matters. Which of them are the most important reasons for you personally that prevent you from contacting the responsible European Union authorities?

READ OUT– ROTATE– ONE ANSWER PER LINE

- Important 1
- Not important..... 2
- [DK/NA] 9

a) Language barrier
.....1 2 9

b) No familiarity with the structure, not sure where to turn to
.....1 2 9

c) I do not know who represents me in the European Parliament
.....1 2 9

d) Costs are high, e.g. to travel for a demonstration, or even for a telephone call
.....1 2 9

e) European Union authorities are not interested in citizens opinions, therefore contacting them is useless
.....1 2 9

f) It is the Member States, and the not the European Union which decide, therefore we'd better contact our national government
.....1 2 9

Q12. Looking for information about the European Union which of the following sources would you use?

READ OUT – ROTATE – ONE ANSWER PER LINE

- Use 1
- Don't use 2
- [DK/NA] 9

a) Family, friends, colleagues 1 2 9
b) National information phone line or website 1 2 9
c) Official EU information phone line or website.....1 2 9
d) Internet.....1 2 9
e) Television 1 2 9
f) Radio 1 2 9
g) Newspapers.....1 2 9
h) European Union information offices 1 2 9

Q13. In your assessment, how much information about the European Union, its policies, its decisions is provided by the media of Ireland (TV, radio, press, internet)?

READ OUT – ONE ANSWER ONLY

- Too much 1
- Too little..... 2
- Just about the right amount 3
- [DK/NA] 9

Q14. Regarding the quality of the information you get on the European Union, would you agree with the following statements?

- agree 1
- does not agree 2
- [DK/NA] 9

- the information I get on the European Union is understandable 1 2 9
- the information I get on the European Union is interesting 1 2 9
- the information I get on the European Union is useful 1 2 9

Q15. Do you watch TV channels from other European countries??

[TV channels from other European countries: this excludes European-based subsidiaries of CNN, CNBC, ... But can include Arte which is bi-national and gives a view on what's happening in the "other" country.]

- Yes 1
- No 2
- [DK/NA] 9

ASK IF "YES"
Q16. How often do you watch them ?

Every day 4
Two-three times a week 3
Once a week 2
From time to time 1
- [DK/NA] 9

Q17. If it existed, would you watch a dedicated public European Union TV channel that broadcasts in your language?

READ OUT– ONE ANSWER ONLY

- Yes 1
- No 2
- [DK/NA] 9

FILTER IF Q17=1

Q18. What kind of programming would you like to see on European Union TV channel?

ONE ANSWER ONLY

- Only news and documentaries 1
- News, documentaries and cultural programmes 2
- The full range of programmes that are normally supplied on public national channels, including entertainment programmes 3
- [DK/NA] 9

Q19. Which of the following statements comes closer to your mind?

READ OUT – ROTATE - ONE ANSWER ONLY

- Politicians in the National Parliament should regularly discuss issues related to the future of the European Union. 1
- Politicians in the National Parliament should focus on national issues and leave EU affairs to the EU. 2

[DK/NA] 9

Q.20. I will read out a list of statements. Please tell if you tend to agree or disagree with each of them.

READ OUT – ROTATE – ONE ANSWER PER LINE

- Agree 1
- Disagree 2
- [DK/NA] 9

a) The European Union is democratic 1 2 9
b) The European Union has a significant impact on my everyday life 1 2 9
c) The European Union can play an active role in world politics 1 2 9
d) The European Union deals with issues which are interesting for me 1 2 9
e) The European Union deals with issues which are too complex for me 1 2 9
f) The European Union is better placed than individual Member States to protect our values and standard of living 1 2 9

Q21. Do you think that European Union institutions are more open, accessible and responsive than your national institutions?

- Yes 1
- No 2
- [DK/NA] 9

DEMOGRAPHICS

D1. [-]

- 1
- 2

D2. : [_][_]

- 99

D3. : [] [_][_]

- 00
- 01
- 99

D4.
[-]

-
→ i.e. :
- 11
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- 14
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-
→ i.e. :
- 21
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-
→ i.e. :
- 31
- 32
- 33
- 34

-
→ i.e. :

- 41
- 42
- 43
- 44
- 45

- ()..... 99

D5. Which party did you vote for in the last national election?

COUNTRY SPECIFIC LIST

- Did not vote/did not participate 97
- At that time he/she was not eligible to vote 98
- DK/NA 99

D6.

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 9