

Flash Eurobarometer 298
June 2010

Citizens' awareness and perceptions of
EU regional policy

Basic bilingual questionnaire

The GALLUP Organization

FLASH 298 – REGIONAL POLICY

A. GENERAL AWARENESS AND ACCEPTANCE OF EU REGIONAL POLICY

Q1A. Europe provides financial support in regions and cities. Have you heard about EU co-financed projects to improve the area you live in?

- Yes, aware..... 1
- No, not aware..... 2
- [DK/NA]..... 9

[IF Q1A =1]

Q1B. Where did you hear about it?

[READ OUT - ROTATE]

- National newspapers 1
- Local or regional newspapers..... 2
- TV 3
- Radio 4
- Internet 5
- Billboard 6
- Brochure 7
- Work place 8
- [Other] 9
- [DK/NA] 99

A. First choice 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

B. Second choice 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

[IF Q1A =1]

Q1C. Taking into consideration all the projects you have heard about, would you say that this support had a positive or negative impact on the development in your city or region?

- Positive impact 1
- Negative impact 2
- [DK/NA] 9

A. NOTORIETE GENERALE ET ACCEPTATION DE LA POLITIQUE REGIONALE DE L'UE

Q1A. L'Europe apporte un soutien financier dans les régions et les villes. Avez-vous entendu parler de projets cofinancés par l'UE visant à améliorer la région où vous vivez ?

- Oui, au courant..... 1
- Non, pas au courant..... 2
- [NSP/SR] 9

[SI Q1A=1]

Q1B. Où en avez-vous entendu parler ?

[LIRE - FAIRE UNE ROTATION]

- Journaux nationaux..... 1
- Journaux locaux ou régionaux..... 2
- Télévision 3
- Radio 4
- Internet 5
- Panneau d'affichage..... 6
- Brochure 7
- Lieu de travail 8
- [Autre] 9
- [NSP/SR] 10

A. Premier choix 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

B. Second choix 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

[SI Q1A=1]

Q1C. En prenant en considération tous les projets dont vous avez entendu parlé, diriez vous que ce soutien a eu un impact positif ou négatif sur le développement dans votre ville ou région ?

- Impact positif 1
- Impact négatif 2
- [NSP/SR] 9

[IF Q1C = 2]

Q1D. Why do you think it was negative?

- There was too little funding to make an impact 1
- Funding went to the wrong projects 2
- Too difficult to access the funds 3
- Other reasons 4
- Please specify

- [DK/NA] 9

Q2. Have you in your daily life benefited from a project funded by the European Regional Development Fund or the Cohesion Fund?

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

B. ON THE PRIORITIES OF EU REGIONAL POLICY

Q4. Most European Regional funding is concentrated on the poorest regions in order to help them to catch up. In your opinion, is this rather a good or rather a bad thing?

- Rather a good thing 1
- Rather a bad thing 2
- [DK/NA] 9

Q4a. Outside the poorest regions European Regional policy also supports economic development projects although there is less money available. In your opinion, should the EU support all regions or concentrate exclusively on the poorer ones?

- The EU should help all its regions 1
- The EU should only support the poorer regions 2
- [DK/NA] 9

[SI Q1C=2]

Q1D. Pourquoi pensez-vous que cela a été négatif ?

- Il y a eu trop peu de financement pour qu'il y ait un impact 1
- Le financement a été consacré aux mauvais projets 2
- Trop difficile d'accéder aux fonds 3
- Autres raisons 4
- Merci de préciser

- [NSP/SR] 9

Q2. Avez-vous dans votre vie quotidienne bénéficié d'un projet financé par le Fonds Européen de Développement Régional ou le Fonds de Cohésion ?

- Oui 1
- Non 2
- [NSP/SR] 9

B. CONCERNANT LES PRIORITES DE LA POLITIQUE REGIONALE DE L'UE

Q4. La majorité du financement régional européen est concentrée sur les régions les plus pauvres afin de les aider à rattraper leur retard. A votre avis, est-ce plutôt une bonne ou plutôt une mauvaise chose ?

- Plutôt une bonne chose 1
- Plutôt une mauvaise chose 2
- [NSP/SR] 9

Q4a. En dehors des régions les plus pauvres, la politique régionale européenne soutient également des projets de développement économique bien qu'il y ait moins d'argent disponible. A votre avis, l'UE devrait-elle soutenir toutes les régions ou se concentrer exclusivement sur les régions plus pauvres ?

- L'UE devrait aider toutes ses régions 1
- L'UE devrait uniquement soutenir les régions plus pauvres 2
- [NSP/SR] 9

Q4b. Where would you target aid under EU regional policy?
 [READ OUT] [MULTIPLE ANSWERS ARE POSSIBLE]

- On the regions with high unemployment 1
- On border regions 2
- On deprived urban areas..... 3
- To improve the competitiveness of growth regions 4
- On remote rural or mountain areas..... 5
- [DK/NA] 9

Q5. EU regional policy can support many different sectors. I will read a list of areas to you. Please tell me for each of them, if you consider them among the more important or less important ones for your city or your region?

- Among the more important ones 1
- Less important..... 2
- [DK/NA] 9

- A., Better transport facilities (rail, road, airports) 1 2 9
- B., Energy networks (electricity, gas) 1 2 9
- C., Renewable, clean energy..... 1 2 9
- D., Research and innovation 1 2 9
- E., Broadband and internet access 1 2 9
- F., Environment 1 2 9
- G., Support for small businesses..... 1 2 9
- H., Employment training..... 1 2 9
- I., Education, health and social infrastructure..... 1 2 9
- J., Tourism and culture 1 2 9

Q4b. Où cibleriez-vous l'aide dans la politique régionale de l'UE ?
 [LIRE] [PLUSIEURS REPONSES POSSIBLES]

- Sur les régions à fort chômage..... 1
- Sur les régions frontalières 2
- Sur les zones urbaines défavorisées..... 3
- Pour améliorer la compétitivité des régions en croissance 4
- Sur les zones rurales éloignées ou à la montagne 5
- [NSP/SR] 9

Q5. La politique régionale de l'UE peut soutenir de nombreux secteurs différents. Je vais vous lire une liste de domaines. Veuillez me dire, pour chacun d'eux, si vous les considérez comme étant plus importants ou moins importants pour votre ville ou votre région?

- Parmi les plus importants 1
- moins importants 2
- [NSP/SR] 9

- A., de meilleurs moyens de transports (rail, routes, aéroports); 1 2 9
- B., Réseaux d'énergie (électricité, gaz) 1 2 9
- C., Energie renouvelable, propre 1 2 9
- D., la recherche et l'innovation 1 2 9
- E., Accès à haut débit et accès à Internet 1 2 9
- F., Environnement 1 2 9
- G., le soutien aux petites entreprises..... 1 2 9
- H., Formation à l'emploi..... 1 2 9
- I., l'éducation, les infrastructures sanitaires et sociales..... 1 2 9
- J., Tourisme et culture..... 1 2 9

C. ON THE WAY IN WHICH THE EU REGIONAL POLICY OPERATES (MULTI-LEVEL GOVERNANCE; PARTNERSHIP)

Q6. At which level should decisions about EU Regional policy projects be taken?

[ONLY ONE ANSWER IS POSSIBLE!]

- Local 1
- Regional 2
- National 3
- EU 4
- [DK/NA] 9

D. ON TERRITORIAL CO-OPERATION PROGRAMMES

Q7A. Are you aware of regions in different countries co-operating because of EU Regional funding?

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

[IF Q7A = 1]

Q7B. Should more funds be spent on supporting co-operation between regions in different countries?

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

[ONLY IN BALTIC SEA REGION COUNTRIES]

Q8. Are you aware that there is strategy to promote cooperation between the countries around the Baltic Sea?

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

C. CONCERNANT LA MANIERE DONT LA POLITIQUE REGIONALE DE L'UE FONCTIONNE (GOUVERNANCE MULTI-NIVEAUX, PARTENARIAT)

Q6. A quel niveau les décisions concernant les projets de la politique régionale de l'UE devraient-elles être prises ?

[UNE SEULE REPONSE POSSIBLE !]

- Local 1
- Régional 2
- National 3
- UE 4
- [NSP/SR] 9

D. CONCERNANT LES PROGRAMMES DE COOPERATION TERRITORIALE

Q7A. Connaissez-vous des régions de différents pays coopérant en raison d'un financement régional de l'UE ?

- Oui 1
- Non 2
- [NSP/SR] 9

[SI Q7A=1]

Q7B. Davantage de fonds devraient-ils être dépensés pour le soutien de la coopération entre régions de pays différents ?

- Oui 1
- Non 2
- [NSP/SR] 9

[SEULEMENT DANS DES PAYS DE RÉGION DE MER BALTIQUE]

Q8. SAVEZ VOUS QU'IL Y A DES STRATÉGIES AFIN DE PROMOUVOIR LA COOPÉRATION ENTRE LES PAYS AUTOUR DE LA MER BALTIQUE ?

- Oui 1
- Non 2
- [NSP/SR] 9

D1. Gender

[DO NOT ASK - MARK APPROPRIATE]

- [1] Male
- [2] Female

D2. How old are you?

- [][] years old
- [00] [REFUSAL/NO ANSWER]

D3. How old were you when you stopped full-time education?

[Write in THE AGE WHEN EDUCATION WAS TERMINATED]

- [][] years old
- [99] [REFUSAL/NO ANSWER]
- [01] [NEVER BEEN IN FULL TIME EDUCATION]
- [00] [STILL IN FULL TIME EDUCATION]

D1. Sexe

[NE PAS DEMANDER - NOTER COMME APPROPRIE]

- [1] Homme
- [2] Femme

D2. Quel âge avez-vous?

- [][] ans
- [00] [REFUS/PAS DE REPONSE]

D3. Quel âge aviez-vous quand vous avez terminé vos études à temps plein?

[Noter l'âge de fin d'études]

- [][] ans
- [99] [REFUS/PAS DE REPONSE]
- [01] [Jamais suivi des études à temps plein]
- [00] [Toujours en train de poursuivre des études à temps plein]

D4. As far as your current occupation is concerned, would you say you are self-employed, an employee, a manual worker or would you say that you are without a professional activity? Does it mean that you are a(n)...

[IF A RESPONSE TO THE MAIN CATEGORY IS GIVEN, READ OUT THE RESPECTIVE SUB-CATEGORIES]

- Self-employed

| | | |
|----------|---|----|
| → i.e. : | - farmer, forester, fisherman | 11 |
| | - owner of a shop, craftsman..... | 12 |
| | - professional (lawyer, medical practitioner, accountant, architect,...)..... | 13 |
| | - manager of a company | 14 |
| | - other | 15 |

- Employee

| | | |
|----------|--|----|
| → i.e. : | - professional (employed doctor, lawyer, accountant, architect)..... | 21 |
| | - general management, director or top management..... | 22 |
| | - middle management..... | 23 |
| | - Civil servant | 24 |
| | - office clerk..... | 25 |
| | - other employee (salesman, nurse, etc...)..... | 26 |
| | - other | 27 |

- Manual worker

| | | |
|----------|--|----|
| → i.e. : | - supervisor / foreman (team manager, etc...)..... | 31 |
| | - Manual worker..... | 32 |
| | - unskilled manual worker | 33 |
| | - other | 34 |

- Without a professional activity

| | | |
|----------|--------------------------------|----|
| → i.e. : | - looking after the home | 41 |
| | - student (full time) | 42 |
| | - retired | 43 |
| | - seeking a job..... | 44 |
| | - other | 45 |

| | |
|-------------------|----|
| - [Refusal] | 99 |
|-------------------|----|

D4. Concernant votre emploi actuel, êtes vous indépendant, employé, ouvrier ou sans activité professionnelle? Cela veut-il dire que vous êtes un(une)...

[SI UNE REPONSE EST DONNEE A LA CATEGORIE PRINCIPALE, LIRE LES SOUS CATEGORIES RESPECTIVES]

- Profession libérale/ indépendant

| | | |
|----------|--|----|
| → i.e. : | - agriculteur, sylviculteur, pêcheur | 11 |
| | - commerçant, artisan | 12 |
| | - profession libérale (avocat, médecin, comptable, architecte...)..... | 13 |
| | - dirigeant d'entreprise | 14 |
| | - autre | 15 |

- Employé (e)

| | | |
|----------|--|----|
| → i.e. : | - cadre employé (médecin sous convention, avocat, comptable, architecte) | 21 |
| | - direction générale, directeur ou direction supérieure | 22 |
| | - cadre moyen..... | 23 |
| | - fonctionnaire | 24 |
| | - employé(e) de bureau..... | 25 |
| | - autre salarié (commercial, infirmière etc...)..... | 26 |
| | - autre | 27 |

- Ouvrier

| | | |
|----------|--|----|
| → i.e. : | - superviseur/agent de maîtrise (chef d'équipe, etc...)..... | 31 |
| | - ouvrier | 32 |
| | - ouvrier non qualifié..... | 33 |
| | - autre | 34 |

- Sans activité professionnelle

| | | |
|----------|--------------------------------|----|
| → i.e. : | - femme/ Homme au foyer | 41 |
| | - étudiant (temps plein) | 42 |
| | - retraité | 43 |
| | - demandeur d'emploi | 44 |
| | - autre | 45 |

| | |
|-----------------|----|
| - [Refus] | 99 |
|-----------------|----|

D6. Would you say you live in a ...?

- metropolitan zone 1
- other town/urban centre 2
- rural zone..... 3
- [DK/NA]..... 9

D6. Diriez-vous que vous vivez ...?

- zone métropolitaine..... 1
- autre ville/centre urbain 2
- zone rurale 3
- [NSP/SR] 9

Flash EB Series #298

Citizens' awareness and perceptions of EU regional policy

Survey conducted by The Gallup Organization,
Hungary upon the request of
Directorate-General for Regional Policy



Coordinated by Directorate-General
Communication

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.

THE GALLUP ORGANIZATION

II. Survey details

This general population survey “*Citizens’ awareness and perceptions of EU regional policy*” (Flash Eurobarometer N° 298) was conducted for the European Commission, Directorate-General for Regional Policy - Unit B.1 Communication, Information, Relations with Third Countries.

Telephone interviews were conducted in each country, with the exception of the Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Slovakia where both telephone and face-to-face interviews were conducted (70% webCATI and 30% F2F interviews). Note: Flash Eurobarometer surveys systematically include mobile phones in samples in Austria, Finland, Italy, Portugal and Spain.

Telephone interviews were conducted in each country between the 18/06/2010 and the 22/06/2010 by the following institutes:

| | | | |
|----------------|----|--------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Belgium | BE | Gallup Europe | (Interviews: 18/06/2010 - 22/06/2010) |
| Czech Republic | CZ | Focus Agency | (Interviews: 18/06/2010 - 22/06/2010) |
| Denmark | DK | Hermelin | (Interviews: 18/06/2010 - 22/06/2010) |
| Germany | DE | IFAK | (Interviews: 18/06/2010 - 22/06/2010) |
| Estonia | EE | Saar Poll | (Interviews: 18/06/2010 - 22/06/2010) |
| Greece | EL | Metroanalysis | (Interviews: 18/06/2010 - 22/06/2010) |
| Spain | ES | Gallup Spain | (Interviews: 18/06/2010 - 22/06/2010) |
| France | FR | Efficience3 | (Interviews: 18/06/2010 - 22/06/2010) |
| Ireland | IE | Gallup UK | (Interviews: 18/06/2010 - 22/06/2010) |
| Italy | IT | Demoskopoea | (Interviews: 18/06/2010 - 22/06/2010) |
| Cyprus | CY | CYMAR | (Interviews: 18/06/2010 - 22/06/2010) |
| Latvia | LV | Latvian Facts | (Interviews: 18/06/2010 - 22/06/2010) |
| Lithuania | LT | Baltic Survey | (Interviews: 18/06/2010 - 22/06/2010) |
| Luxembourg | LU | Gallup Europe | (Interviews: 18/06/2010 - 22/06/2010) |
| Hungary | HU | Gallup Hungary | (Interviews: 18/06/2010 - 22/06/2010) |
| Malta | MT | MISCO | (Interviews: 18/06/2010 - 22/06/2010) |
| Netherlands | NL | MSR | (Interviews: 18/06/2010 - 22/06/2010) |
| Austria | AT | Spectra | (Interviews: 18/06/2010 - 22/06/2010) |
| Poland | PL | Gallup Poland | (Interviews: 18/06/2010 - 22/06/2010) |
| Portugal | PT | Consulmark | (Interviews: 18/06/2010 - 22/06/2010) |
| Slovenia | SI | Cati d.o.o | (Interviews: 18/06/2010 - 22/06/2010) |
| Slovakia | SK | Focus Agency | (Interviews: 18/06/2010 - 22/06/2010) |
| Finland | FI | Norstat Finland Oy | (Interviews: 18/06/2010 - 22/06/2010) |
| Sweden | SE | Hermelin | (Interviews: 18/06/2010 - 22/06/2010) |
| United Kingdom | UK | Gallup UK | (Interviews: 18/06/2010 - 22/06/2010) |
| Bulgaria | BG | Vitosh | (Interviews: 18/06/2010 - 22/06/2010) |
| Romania | RO | Gallup Romania | (Interviews: 18/06/2010 - 22/06/2010) |

Representativeness of the results

Each national sample is representative of the population aged 15 years and above.

Sample sizes

In each EU country, the target sample size was 1000 respondents; the table below shows the achieved sample size by country.

A weighting factor was applied to the national results in order to compute a marginal total where each country contributes to the EU27 result in proportion to its population.

The table below presents, for each country:

- (1) the number of interviews actually carried out
- (2) the population-weighted total number of interviews

Total interviews

| | Total Interviews | | | |
|--------------|-------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|
| | Conducted | % of Total | EU27 weighted | % of Total (weighted) |
| Total | 27067 | 100 | 27067 | 100 |
| BE | 1000 | 3.7 | 570 | 2.1 |
| BG | 1005 | 3.7 | 432 | 1.6 |
| CZ | 1000 | 3.7 | 572 | 2.1 |
| DK | 1002 | 3.7 | 288 | 1.1 |
| DE | 1003 | 3.7 | 4601 | 17 |
| EE | 1006 | 3.7 | 74 | 0.3 |
| EL | 1000 | 3.7 | 622 | 2.3 |
| ES | 1002 | 3.7 | 2468 | 9.1 |
| FR | 1010 | 3.7 | 3352 | 12.4 |
| IE | 1000 | 3.7 | 223 | 0.8 |
| IT | 1002 | 3.7 | 3299 | 12.2 |
| CY | 1000 | 3.7 | 41 | 0.2 |
| LV | 1002 | 3.7 | 127 | 0.5 |
| LT | 1001 | 3.7 | 185 | 0.7 |
| LU | 1002 | 3.7 | 25 | 0.1 |
| HU | 1007 | 3.7 | 554 | 2 |
| MT | 1001 | 3.7 | 22 | 0.1 |
| NL | 1008 | 3.7 | 870 | 3.2 |
| AT | 1000 | 3.7 | 455 | 1.7 |
| PL | 1008 | 3.7 | 2084 | 7.7 |
| PT | 1001 | 3.7 | 582 | 2.1 |
| RO | 1002 | 3.7 | 1185 | 4.4 |
| SI | 1001 | 3.7 | 112 | 0.4 |
| SK | 1001 | 3.7 | 294 | 1.1 |
| FI | 1000 | 3.7 | 284 | 1 |
| SE | 1003 | 3.7 | 491 | 1.8 |
| UK | 1000 | 3.7 | 3255 | 12 |

Questionnaires

1. The questionnaire prepared for this survey is reproduced at the end of this report, in English.
2. The institutes listed above translated the questionnaire in their respective national language(s).

Sampling error

Surveys are designed and conducted to provide an estimate of a true value of characteristics of a population at a given time. An estimate of a survey is unlikely to exactly equal the true population quantity of interest for a variety of reasons. One of these reasons is that data in a survey are collected from only some – a sample of – members of the population, this to make data collection cheaper and faster. The “margin of error” is a common summary of sampling error, which quantifies uncertainty about (or confidence in) a survey result.

Usually, one calculates a 95 percent confidence interval of the format: survey estimate +/- margin of error. This interval of values will contain the true population value at least 95% of time.

For example, if it was estimated that 45% of EU citizens are in favour of a single European currency and this estimate is based on a sample of 100 EU citizens, the associated margin of error is about 10 percentage points. The 95 percent confidence interval for support for a European single currency would be (45%-10%) to (45%+10%), suggesting that in the EU the support for a European single currency could range from 35% to 55%. Because of the small sample size of 100 EU citizens, there is considerable uncertainty about whether or not the citizens of the EU support a single currency.

As a general rule, the more interviews conducted (sample size), the smaller the margin of error. Larger samples are more likely to give results closer to the true population quantity and thus have smaller margins of error. For example, a sample of 500 will produce a margin of error of no more than about 4.5 percentage points, and a sample of 1,000 will produce a margin of error of no more than about 3 percentage points.

Margin of error (95% confidence interval)

| Survey estimate | Sample size (n) | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|-------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| | 10 | 50 | 100 | 150 | 200 | 400 | 800 | 1000 | 2000 | 4000 |
| 5% | 13.5% | 6.0% | 4.3% | 3.5% | 3.0% | 2.1% | 1.5% | 1.4% | 1.0% | 0.7% |
| 10% | 18.6% | 8.3% | 5.9% | 4.8% | 4.2% | 2.9% | 2.1% | 1.9% | 1.3% | 0.9% |
| 25% | 26.8% | 12.0% | 8.5% | 6.9% | 6.0% | 4.2% | 3.0% | 2.7% | 1.9% | 1.3% |
| 50% | 31.0% | 13.9% | 9.8% | 8.0% | 6.9% | 4.9% | 3.5% | 3.1% | 2.2% | 1.5% |
| 75% | 26.8% | 12.0% | 8.5% | 6.9% | 6.0% | 4.2% | 3.0% | 2.7% | 1.9% | 1.3% |
| 90% | 18.6% | 8.3% | 5.9% | 4.8% | 4.2% | 2.9% | 2.1% | 1.9% | 1.3% | 0.9% |
| 95% | 13.5% | 6.0% | 4.3% | 3.5% | 3.0% | 2.1% | 1.5% | 1.4% | 1.0% | 0.7% |

(The values in the table are the margin of error – at 95% confidence level – for a given survey estimate and sample size)

The examples show that the size of a sample is a crucial factor affecting the margin of error. Nevertheless, once past a certain point – a sample size of 800 or 1,000 – the improvement is small. For example, to reduce the margin of error to 1.5% would require a sample size of 4,000.

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