

Flash Eurobarometer 273
May 2009

The youth and their rights

Basic questionnaire

The GALLUP Organization

Flash 273 - Template

Flash Eurobarometer *The youth and their rights*

D1. Gender

[DO NOT ASK - MARK APPROPRIATE]

- [1]..... Male
- [2]..... Female

D2. How old are you?

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

D3. Are you currently a full time student?

- Yes..... 1
- No2
- [DK/NA].....9

D4. What is the current occupation of the person who contributes most to the household income ? Would you say he/she is self-employed, an employee, a manual worker or would you say that he/she is without a professional activity? Does it mean that he/she is a(n)...

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

- 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

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

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

INTRODUCTION: In this questionnaire, the word 'child' must be understood as a person under 18 years old. (United Nations definition)

Q1. Are you aware that people under 18 enjoy specific rights compared to adults?

INTERVIEWER: These rights are specific to people under 18 years of age:

- YES, AWARE	1
- NO, NOT AWARE.....	2
- [DK/NA].....	9

Q2. People under 18 years-of-age have specific rights, for instance:

- the right to protection and care necessary for their well-being
- the right to express their views freely and to have them taken into consideration on matters which concern them
- the right to have their interest taken into primary consideration in all actions relating to them, whether taken by public authorities or private institutions
- or the right to maintain on a regular basis a personal relationship and direct contact with both parents, unless that is contrary to their interests

Do you think that the specific rights of children are in [YOUR COUNTRY]..?

- Very well protected 1
- Fairly well protected.....2
- Incompletely protected.....3
- Not protected4
- [DK/NA].....9

Q3. Did you, yourself ever try to seek help in a matter when you thought your rights were violated, or did someone else below 18 years of age you know try that?

- Yes, yourself 1
- Yes, someone you know.....2
- Both you and other(s)3
- No4
- [DK/NA].....9

Q4. What are the problems you think people under 18 years-of-age might encounter when they need help to defend their rights?

- Mentioned 1
- Did not mention.....2
- OTHER9

- a) They are not aware of their rights 1 2 9
- b) They do not know how to go about it and whom to contact..... 1 2 9
- c) The authorities (public administrations as, for instance, city councils, ombudsman) do not respond 1 2 9
- d) The procedures are too complicated 1 2 9
- e) The procedures are too lengthy 1 2 9
- f) OTHER..... 1 2 9

Q5. In which areas do you think that the government or public administration should particularly take the interests of children into account when adopting legislation or taking decisions?
(3 choices among the following fields)

- education01
- health and social affairs (for instance, access to hospital care or public transport)02
- justice (for example, family affairs and youth justice sector)03
- security (for instance, being protected against violence)04
- immigration (for example, the conditions under which a family can be reunited)05
- the media06
- sport and leisure07
- the environment (for instance, the environmental protection of children facilities)08
- [OTHER]09
- [DK/NA]99

Q6. Are the following statements right or wrong?

- Right..... 1
- Wrong2
- [DK/NA]9

- a) If parents are divorced and one of the parents goes to another member state, a new decision on the children's custody and access rights has to be taken. 1 2 9
- b) Video games (consoles or online) receive in all European Union countries a label and a ranking specifying the appropriate age group 1 2 9

Q7a. In your opinion, which among the following problems should be tackled first [IN YOUR COUNTRY]?

- Violence against children 1
- Discrimination and racism.....2
- Drugs3
- Alcohol abuse and nicotine addiction4
- Child labour.....5
- Sexual exploitation of children6
- Poverty and social exclusion7

- [OTHER] 8
- [DK/NA]..... 9

Q7b. And which should be addressed secondly?

- Violence against children..... 1
- Discrimination and racism.....2
- Drugs3
- Alcohol abuse and nicotine addiction 4
- Child labour.....5
- Sexual exploitation of children6
- Poverty and social exclusion7
- [OTHER]8
- [DK/NA].....9

Q8. Which actions should be taken as a priority at the European level to promote and protect the rights of children?

- Mentioned 1
- Did not mention.....2

- a) Making a missing children alert system operational throughout the European Union 1 2
- b) Giving more support to organisations working in the field of the protection of children's rights 1 2
- c) Providing more information to children about their rights and where to inquire about them (for instance, through information campaigns, or the creation of a website) 1 2
- d) Involving children more in the definition of policies that concern them, for instance by organising a Forum on these topics 1 2
- e) Promote the children's rights in countries outside Europe 1 2

Q9. Which information channel seems easiest for you to use to find out about your rights?

- The Internet 1
- Material available in libraries (at school, in information centres, in your city)
2
- TV programmes3
- [OTHER] 4
- [DK/NA].....9

Flash EB Series #273

The Rights of the Child

Conducted by
The Gallup Organisation, Hungary
upon the request of Directorate General
for Justice, Freedom and Security



Survey co-ordinated 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

Survey details

This survey on “The Rights of the Child” (Flash N° 273) was conducted for the European Commission, DG Justice, Freedom and Security.

Telephone interviews were conducted in each country between the 5/23/2009 and the 5/31/2009 by the following institutes:

Belgium	BE	Gallup-Europe	(Interviews : 5/23/2009 - 5/31/2009)
Czech Republic	CZ	Focus Agency	(Interviews : 5/23/2009 - 5/31/2009)
Denmark	DK	Hermelin	(Interviews : 5/23/2009 - 5/31/2009)
Germany	DE	IFAK	(Interviews : 5/23/2009 - 5/31/2009)
Estonia	EE	Saar Poll	(Interviews : 5/23/2009 - 5/31/2009)
Greece	EL	Metroanalysis	(Interviews : 5/23/2009 - 5/31/2009)
Spain	ES	Gallup Spain	(Interviews : 5/23/2009 - 5/31/2009)
France	FR	Efficiencie3	(Interviews : 5/23/2009 - 5/31/2009)
Ireland	IE	Gallup UK	(Interviews : 5/23/2009 - 5/31/2009)
Italy	IT	Demoskopea	(Interviews : 5/23/2009 - 5/31/2009)
Cyprus	CY	CYMAR	(Interviews : 5/23/2009 - 5/31/2009)
Latvia	LV	Latvian Facts	(Interviews : 5/23/2009 - 5/31/2009)
Lithuania	LT	Baltic Survey	(Interviews : 5/23/2009 - 5/31/2009)
Luxembourg	LU	Gallup Europe	(Interviews : 5/23/2009 - 5/31/2009)
Hungary	HU	Gallup Hungary	(Interviews : 5/23/2009 - 5/31/2009)
Malta	MT	MISCO	(Interviews : 5/23/2009 - 5/31/2009)
Netherlands	NL	MSR	(Interviews : 5/23/2009 - 5/31/2009)
Austria	AT	Spectra	(Interviews : 5/23/2009 - 5/31/2009)
Poland	PL	Gallup Poland	(Interviews : 5/23/2009 - 5/31/2009)
Portugal	PT	Consulmark	(Interviews : 5/23/2009 - 5/31/2009)
Slovenia	SI	Cati d.o.o.	(Interviews : 5/23/2009 - 5/31/2009)
Slovakia	SK	Focus Agency	(Interviews : 5/23/2009 - 5/31/2009)
Finland	FI	Hermelin	(Interviews : 5/23/2009 - 5/31/2009)
Sweden	SE	Hermelin	(Interviews : 5/23/2009 - 5/31/2009)
United Kingdom	UK	Gallup UK	(Interviews : 5/23/2009 - 5/31/2009)
Bulgaria	BG	Vitosha Research	(Interviews : 5/23/2009 - 5/31/2009)
Romania	RO	Gallup Romania	(Interviews : 5/23/2009 - 5/31/2009)

Representativeness of the results

Each national sample is representative of the general population between 15 and 18 years-of-age.

Sizes of the sample

In each EU country the target sample size was 400 respondents, except in Luxembourg, Cyprus, Estonia, Slovenia and Malta, where the targeted number of interviews was 250. The table on the following page shows the achieved sample size for each country.

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

The table below presents, for each of the countries:

- (1) the number of interviews actually carried out in each country
- (2) the population-weighted total number of interviews for each country

TOTAL INTERVIEWS

	Total Interviews			
	Conducted	% of Total	EU27 Weighted	EU27 % on Total (weighted)
Total	10061	100	10061	100
1 Belgium	402	4.0	229	2.3
2 Czech Rep.	400	4.0	224	2.2
3 Denmark	400	4.0	119	1.2
4 Germany	400	4.0	1605	15.9
5 Estonia	250	2.5	33	0.3
6 Greece	400	4.0	203	2.0
7 Spain	400	4.0	778	7.7
8 France	400	4.0	1416	14.1
9 Ireland	400	4.0	101	1.0
10 Italy	400	4.0	1034	10.3
11 Cyprus	250	2.5	20	0.2
12 Latvia	401	4.0	58	0.6
13 Lithuania	400	4.0	92	0.9
14 Luxembourg	250	2.5	10	0.1
15 Hungary	401	4.0	218	2.2
16 Malta	251	2.5	10	0.1
17 Netherlands	401	4.0	355	3.5
18 Austria	400	4.0	175	1.7
19 Poland	404	4.0	944	9.4
20 Portugal	401	4.0	203	2.0
21 Slovenia	250	2.5	39	0.4
22 Slovakia	400	4.0	136	1.4
23 Finland	400	4.0	117	1.2
24 Sweden	400	4.0	225	2.2
25 UK	400	4.0	1053	10.5
26 Bulgaria	400	4.0	162	1.6
28 Romania	400	4.0	502	5.0

Questionnaires

1. The questionnaire prepared for this survey is reproduced at the end of this annex, 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)

	5%	10%	15%	20%	25%	30%	35%	40%	45%	50%
N=50	6.0	8.3	9.9	11.1	12.0	12.7	13.2	13.6	13.8	13.9
N=500	1.9	2.6	3.1	3.5	3.8	4.0	4.2	4.3	4.4	4.4
N=1000	1.4	1.9	2.2	2.5	2.7	2.8	3.0	3.0	3.1	3.1
N=1500	1.1	1.5	1.8	2.0	2.2	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.5
N=2000	1.0	1.3	1.6	1.8	1.9	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.2
N=3000	0.8	1.1	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.8
N=4000	0.7	0.9	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
N=5000	0.6	0.8	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.4
N=6000	0.6	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.3

More details on calculating the margin of error for differences between surveys can be found in Franklin’s 2007 paper: “The Margin of Error for Differences in Polls”

<http://abcnews.go.com/images/PollingUnit/MOEFranklin.pdf>

Evaluation of the samples

The attached tables (after the Technical Report tables) provide a detailed insight to the within country weighting of the study. (For cross-country weights please refer to the table on previous page) The weighting of the dataset is a three-fold exercise.

In the *first step* we will apply the basic **selection probability weights**, primarily to avoid the overcoverage of households with multiple telephone lines. In the same step, we calculate the weights that corrects the estimations based on the merged **dual frame** samples, i.e., weights that deal with phone owners;

In the *second step*, on a country-by-country basis, a **nonresponse population weighting** was carried out. As nonresponse rates vary by social segments, the sample characteristics reflect such differences as well (i.e., there are usually less males and especially less young people in the samples than in the universe.) In this step, we compensated for the nonresponse bias that stems from the field execution process. The most advanced method for eliminating such deviations is the so-called *Raking Adjustment for Nonresponse* (raking). Gallup applied this method. This procedure performs iterative proportional fitting in contingency table analysis. This method is also used to deal with the problem of large variability of weights. When weighting classes are formed based on full cross-classification of the auxiliary variables, the result is a large number of weighting classes with unstable response rates.

However, one drawback is that raking assumes that the variables used for adjustment are independent. Raking works in the following way:

- 1) sets initial weight factor values in each cross-classification term to 1;
- 2) adjusts the weight factors of the first cross-classification term so the weighted sample is representative for the variables involved;
- 3) adjusts the weight factors for the next cross-classification term so the weighted sample becomes representative with respect to the variables involved (this might disrupt the representativeness with respect to the variables involved);
- 4) repeats this adjustment for all cross-classification terms;
- 5) repeats all steps until the factors do not change.

A common approach to weighting is to determine the sample weights adjusting for unequal probabilities of selection, revise these weights to compensate for different sub-class response rates, and finally modify the weights again to conform the weighted sample distribution for certain variables (e.g., age, gender, activity etc.) to the known population distributions of the same variables.

The following variables will be used in all national raking procedures (with categories levels used):

Age X Sex

male, 15
male, 16
male, 17
male, 18
female, 15
female, 16
female, 17
female, 18.

Regions (NUTS2)

Please note that levels might be collapsed to achieve convergence or universe information is not available in the necessary detail.

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