KANTAR PUBLIC

Eurobarometer Wave 96.2

Parlemeter 2021

Defending Democracy | Empowering Citizens

European Parliament

Methodology

Coverage

27 Member States

Fieldwork dates

1 Nov. - 2 Dec.

Data collection method

Face to face
(when possible)
and CAWI

Total number of completed interviews

26,510

Population

-15+

The total EU

is weighted according to
the size of the population
of each country

Content

1. Europeans and Democracy in the EU 4

2. Europeans and the European Parliament 10

3. Europeans and the EU 18

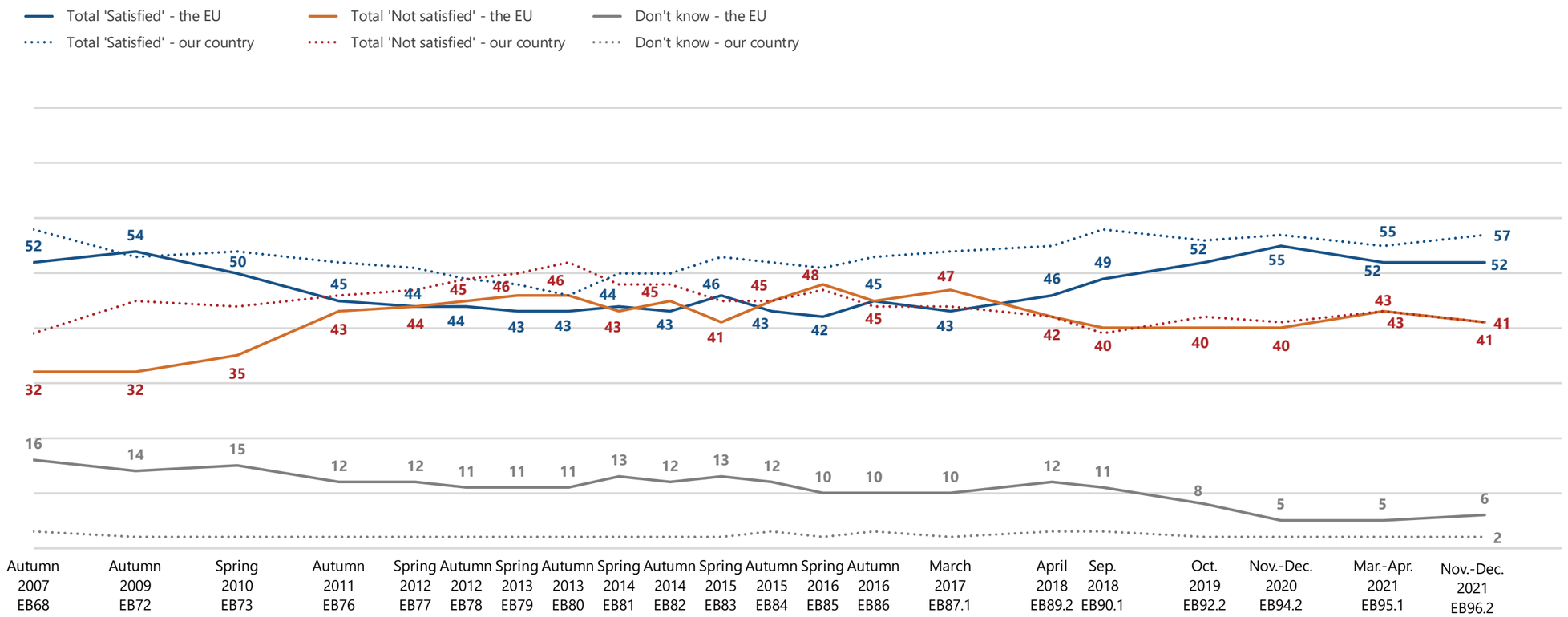
4. Europeans and their Democratic Engagement 29

Europeans and Democracy

1

Overall, more than half Europeans are **satisfied** with the **way democracy works in their country** (57%) and the EU (52%), remaining fairly stable since Spring 2021

D80 On the whole, are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied or not at all satisfied with the way democracy works in (OUR COUNTRY)? And how about the way democracy works in the EU?
(% - EU)



Base: all respondents

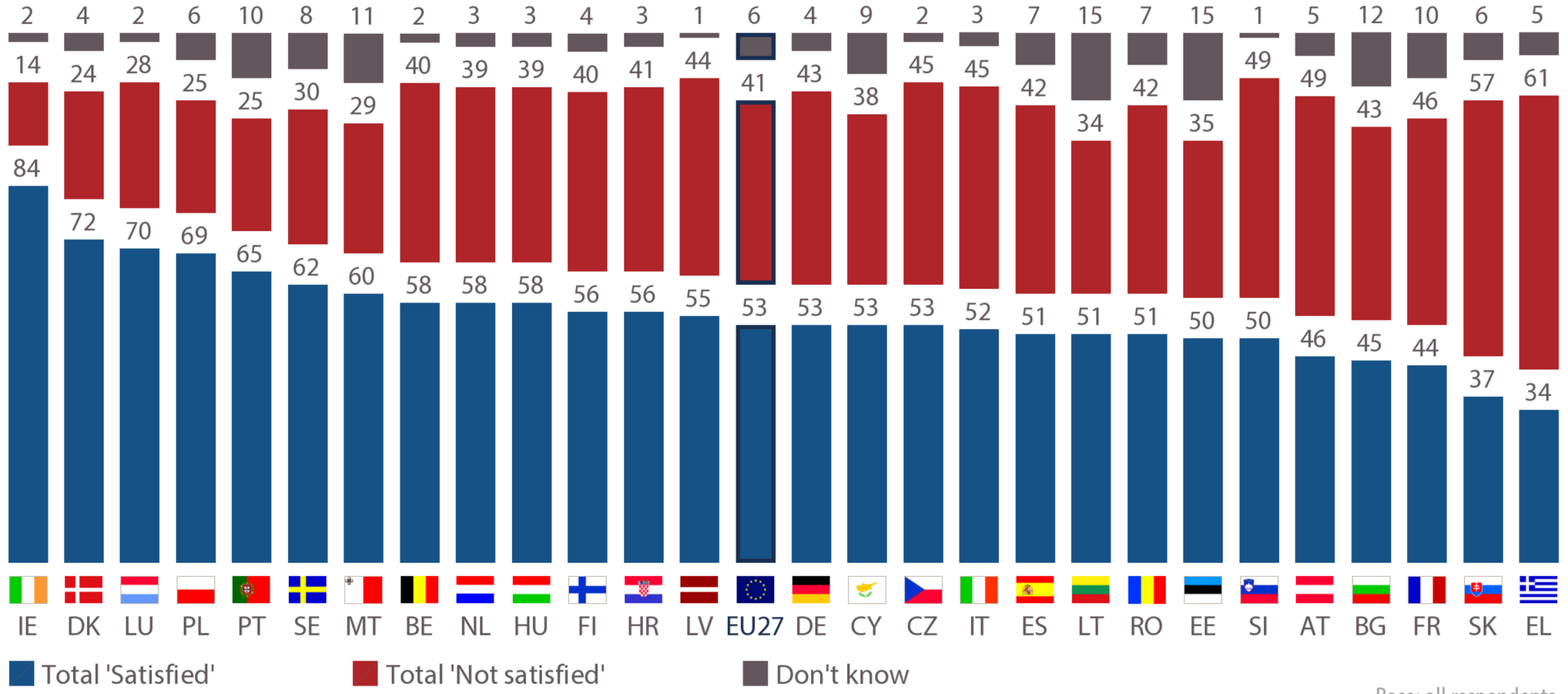
KANTAR PUBLIC

European Parliament

Citizens are **most satisfied** with the way **democracy works in the EU** in **Ireland** (84%), **Denmark** (72%), **Luxembourg** (70%) and **Poland** (69%)

D80b And how about the way democracy works in the EU?

(%)



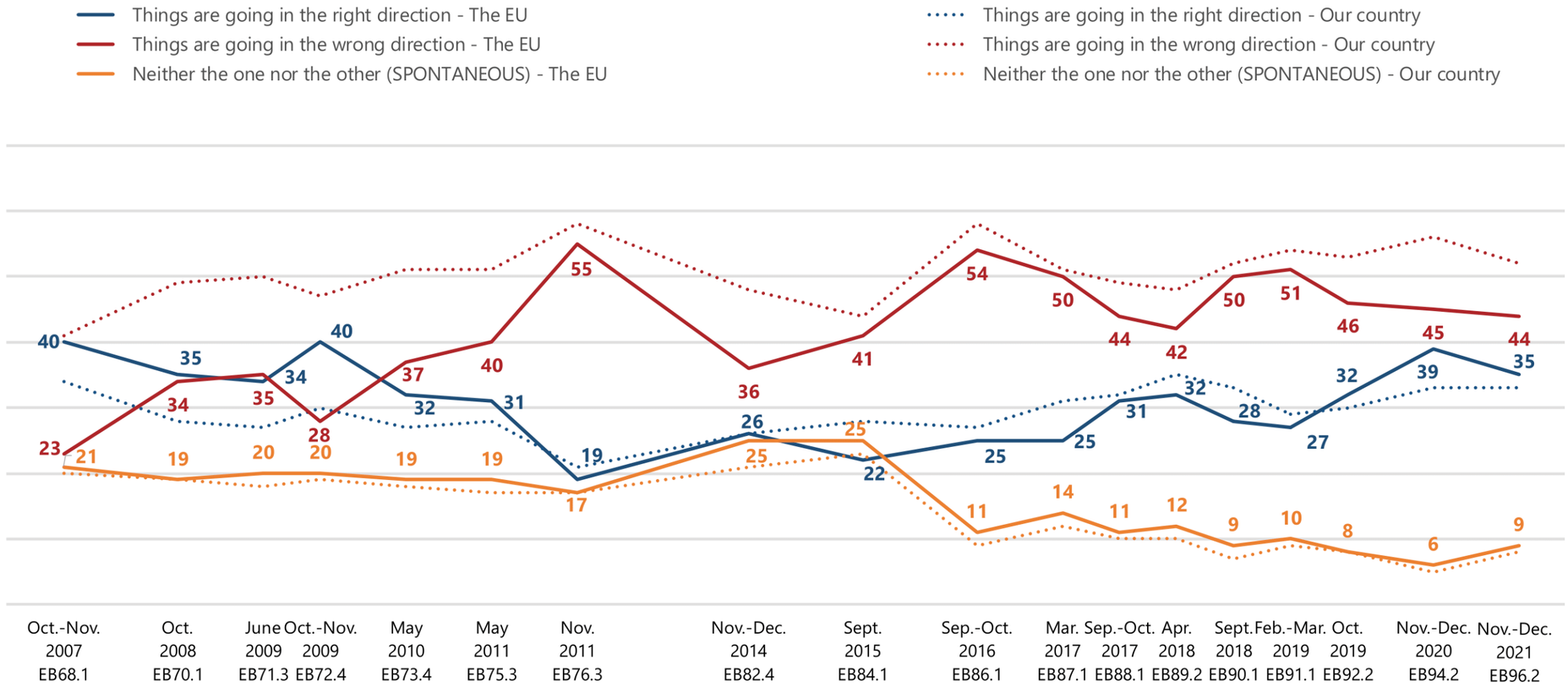
Base: all respondents

KANTAR PUBLIC

European Parliament

2019 – 2020 saw the biggest increase in the share for **'things are going in the right direction in the EU'**, now registering a four-point dip in 2021

D73 At the present time, would you say that, in general, things are going in the right direction or in the wrong direction, in…?
(OUR COUNTRY/THE EU) (% - EU)



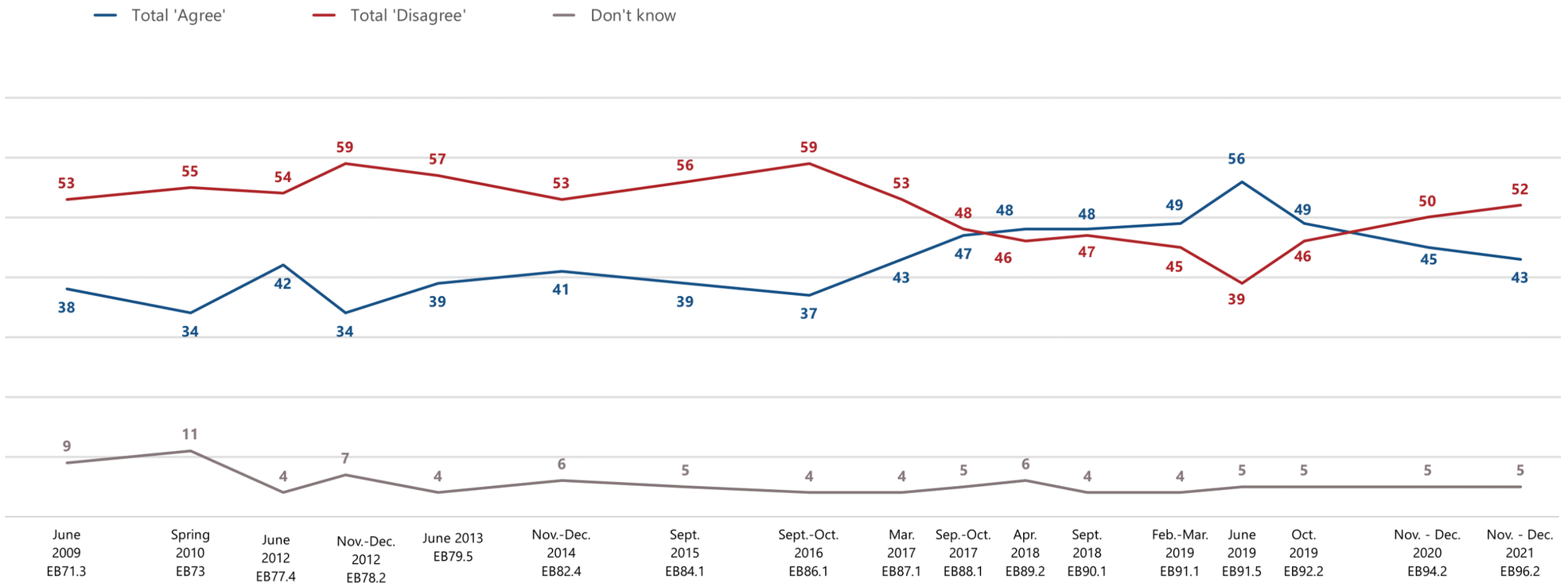
Base: all respondents

KANTAR PUBLIC

European Parliament

Despite the sentiment that things were going more in the right direction in the EU, the share of respondents saying that their **voice does not count in the EU** rose since 2019 to **52%**

D72.1 To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.
My voice counts in the EU (% - EU)

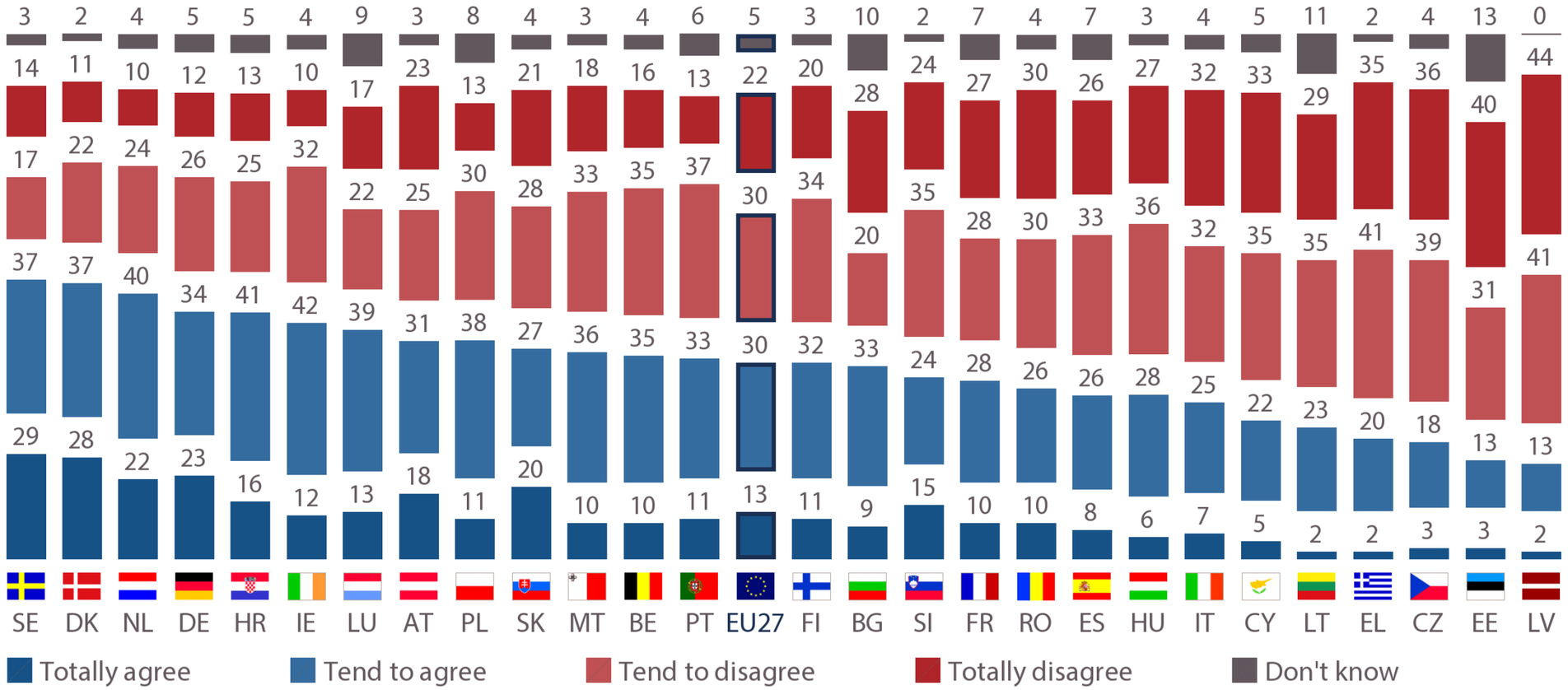


Base: all respondents

European Parliament

A **large difference in opinion whether their own voice counts** is visible between respondents in Sweden (66%), Denmark (65%) and the Netherlands (62%) and those in Latvia (15%), Estonia (16%) and Czechia (21%)

D72.1 To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.
My voice counts in the EU (%)



Base: all respondents

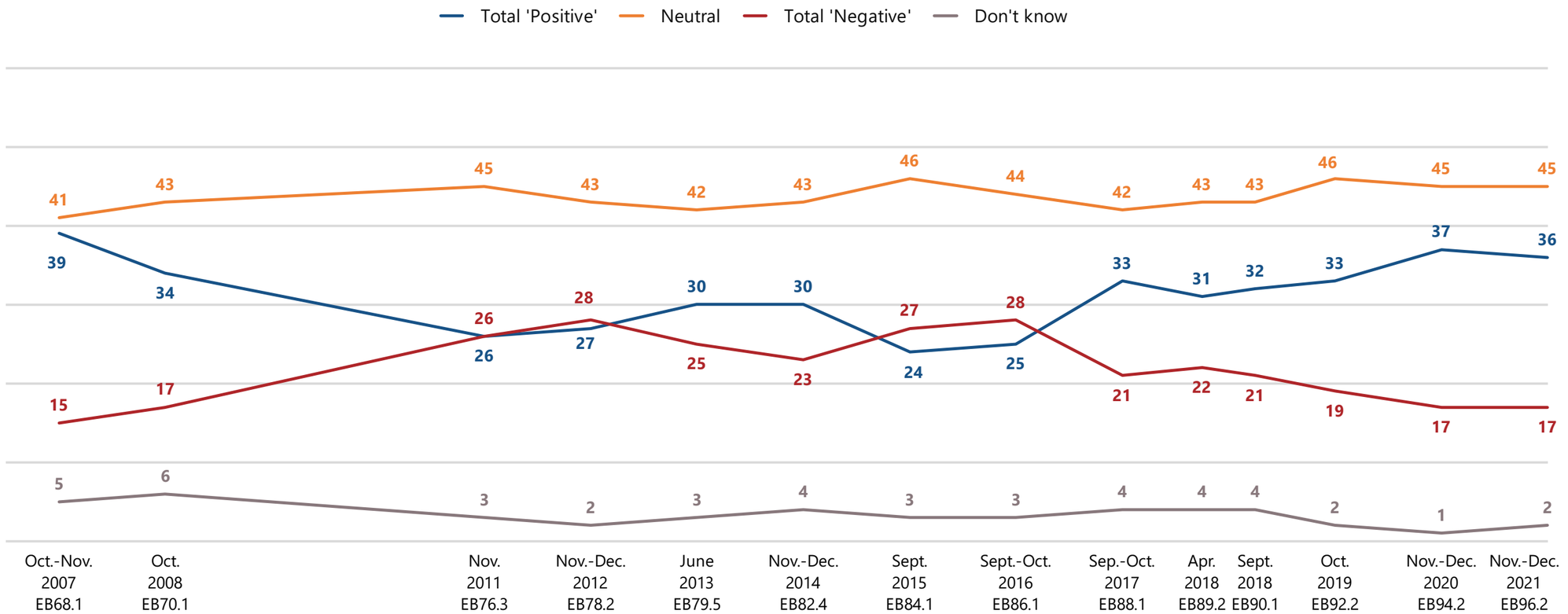
European Parliament

Europeans and the European Parliament

2

EU citizens' positive **image of the European Parliament** has remained **fairly stable since 2020** (36%, -1), currently at its second highest since 2007

QA2 In general, do you have a very positive, fairly positive, neutral, fairly negative or very negative image of the European Parliament?
(%- EU)

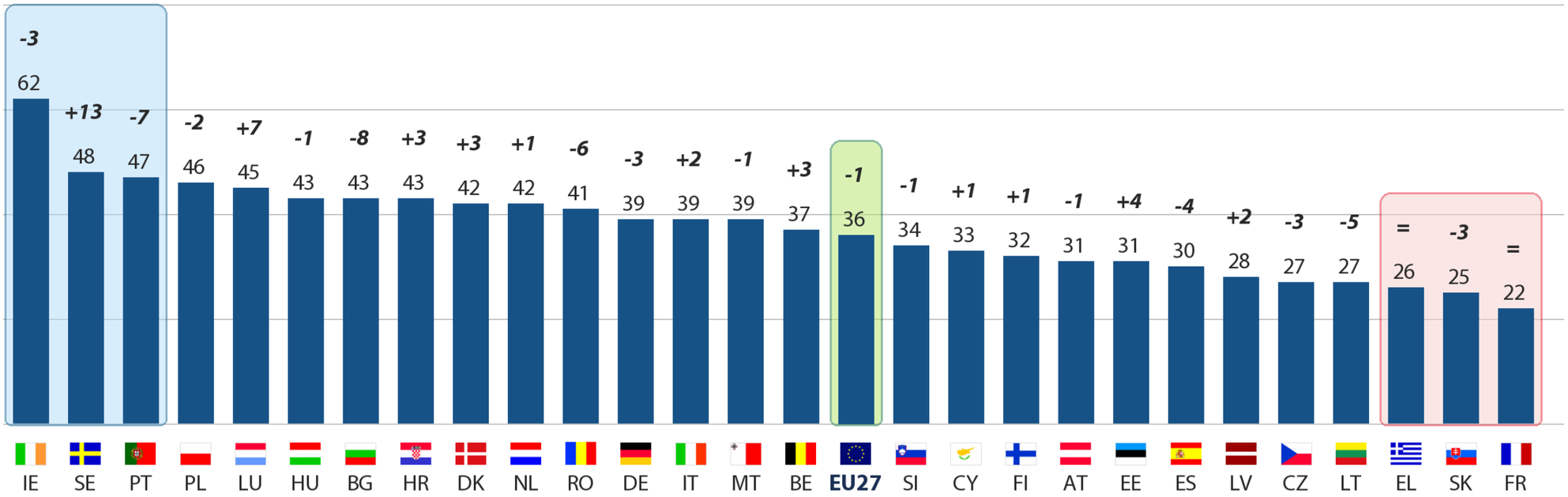


Base: all respondents

European Parliament

Respondents stating that they have a positive image of the European Parliament have **increased in 11 Member States** since 2020

QA2 In general, do you have a very positive, fairly positive, neutral, fairly negative or very negative image of the European Parliament?
(% - TOTAL 'POSITIVE')



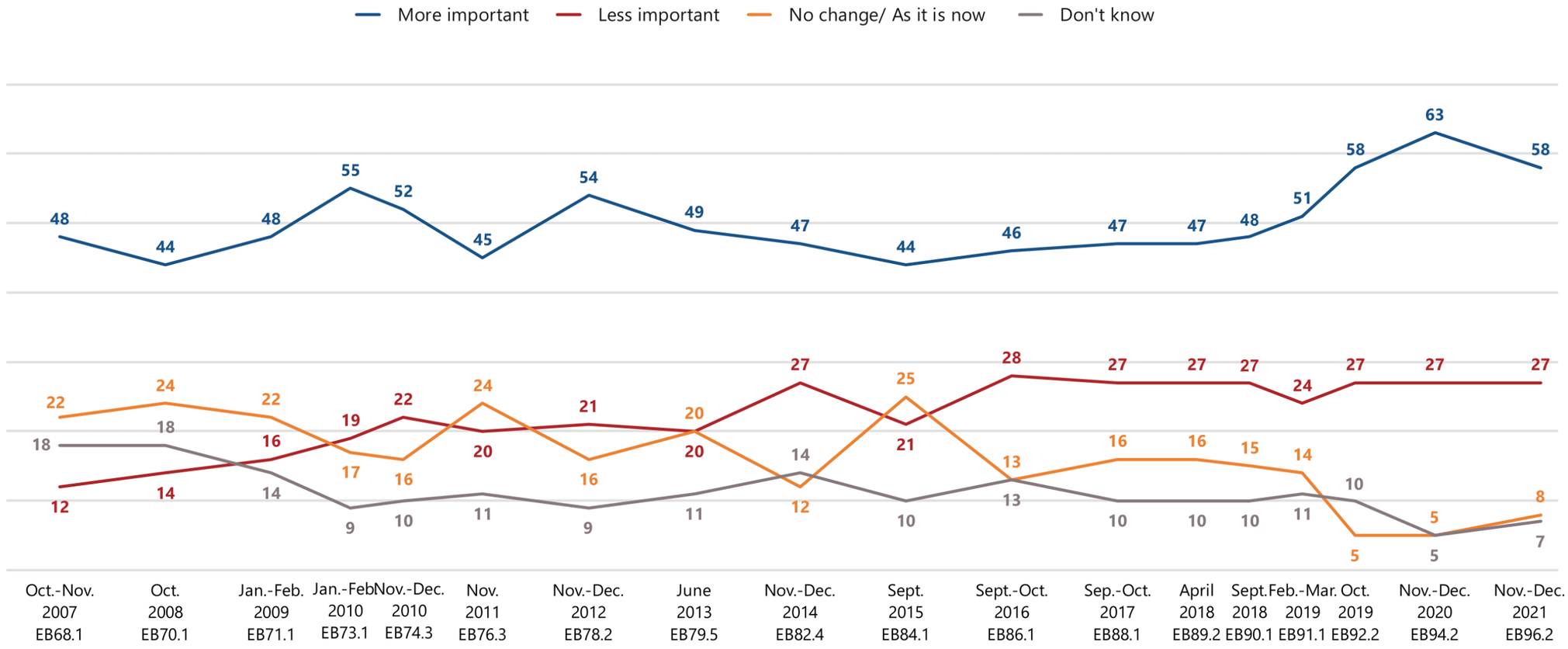
November-December 2021 - November-December 2020

Base: all respondents

European Parliament

58% of European citizens would like to see a **stronger role for the European Parliament**

QA3 Would you personally like to see the European Parliament play a more important or less important role?
(% - EU)

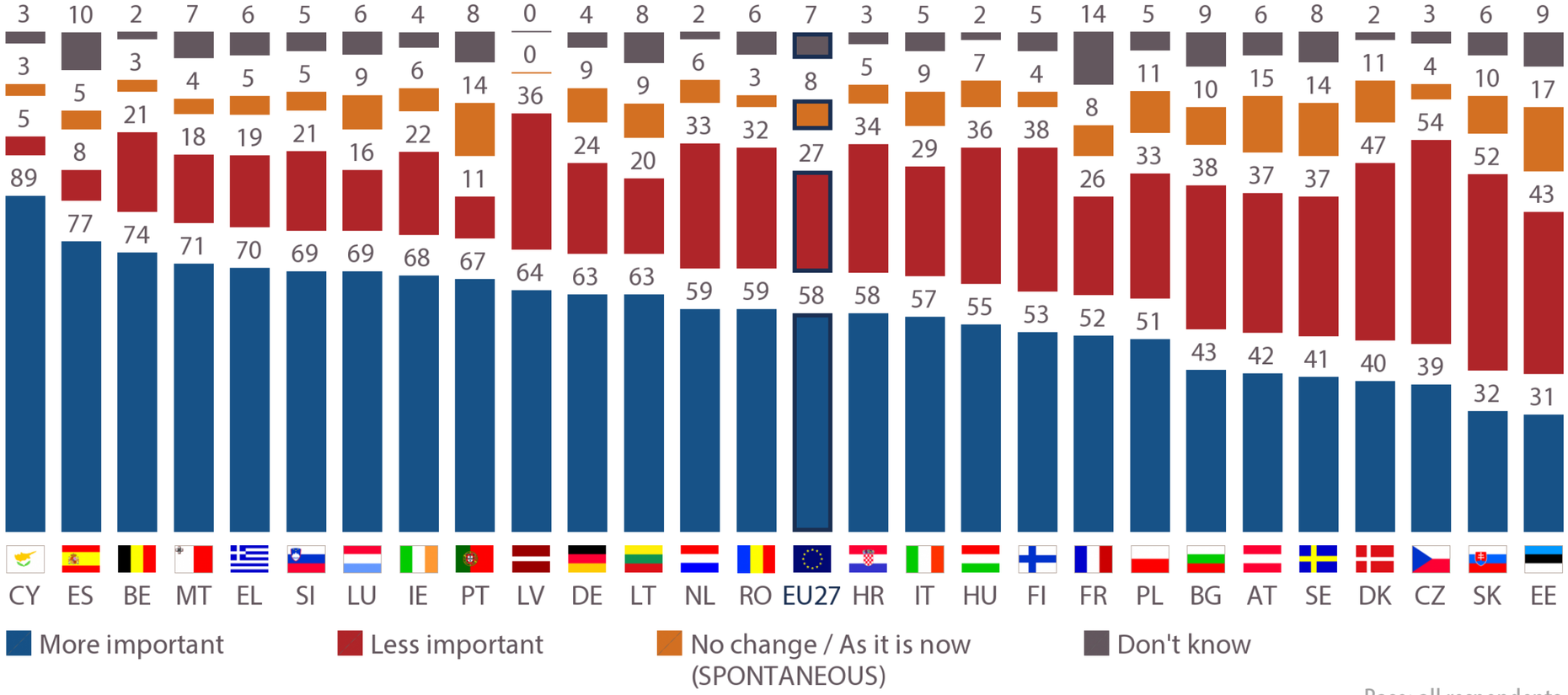


Base: all respondents

European Parliament

Cyprus (89%), Spain (77%) and Belgium (74%) have the highest **share of people who want a more important role for the EP**, while in Czechia (54%), Slovakia (52%) and Denmark (47%) the most respondents want the EP to play a less important role

QA3 Would you personally like to see the European Parliament play a more important or less important role?
(%)

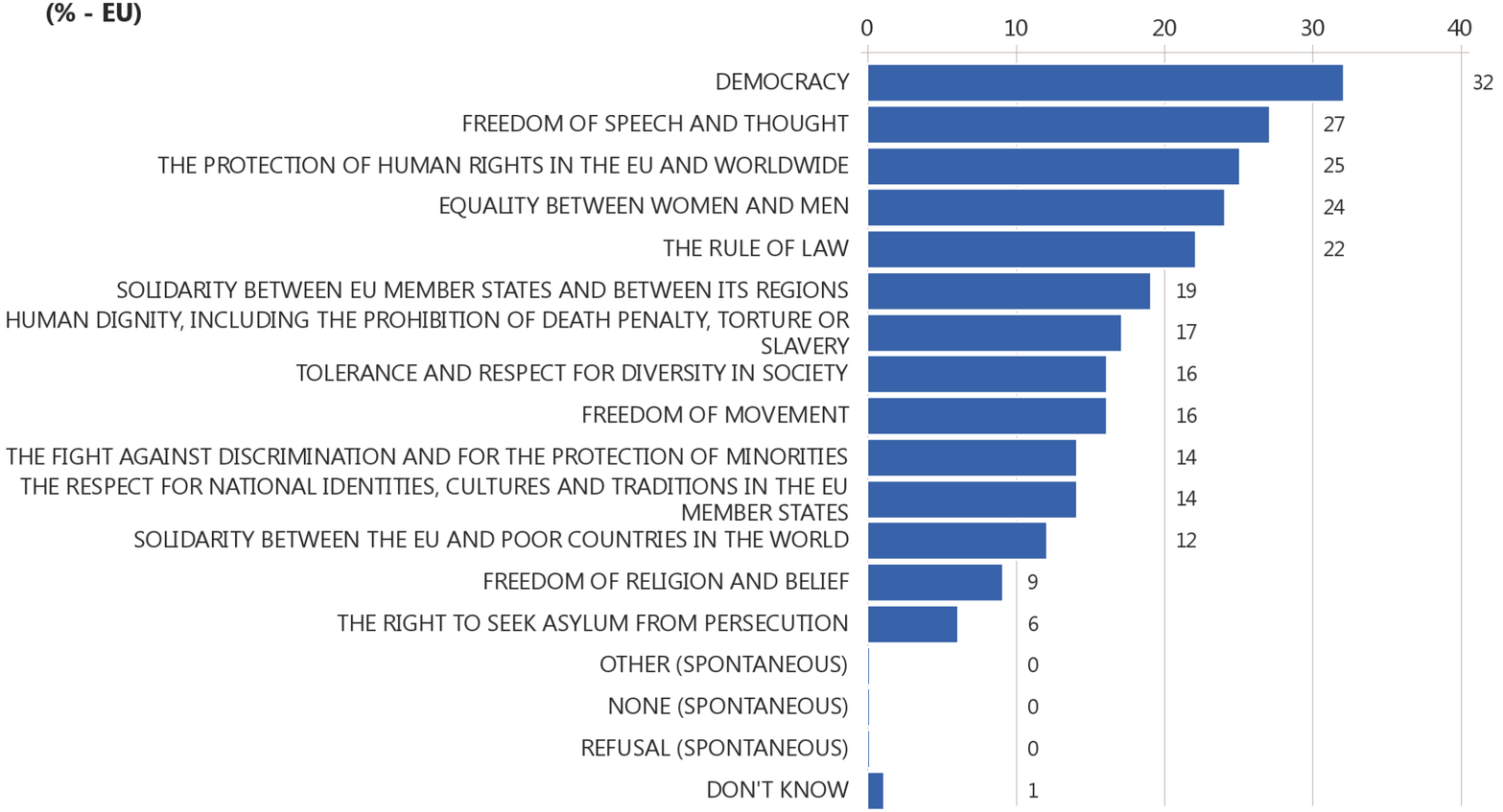


Base: all respondents

European Parliament

Democracy (32%), freedom of speech and thought (27%), and the **protection of human rights** in the EU and worldwide (25%) are **most prioritised** as values that the **European Parliament should defend**

QA5 In your opinion, which of the following values should the European Parliament defend as a matter of priority? (MAX. 3 ANSWERS)
(% - EU)

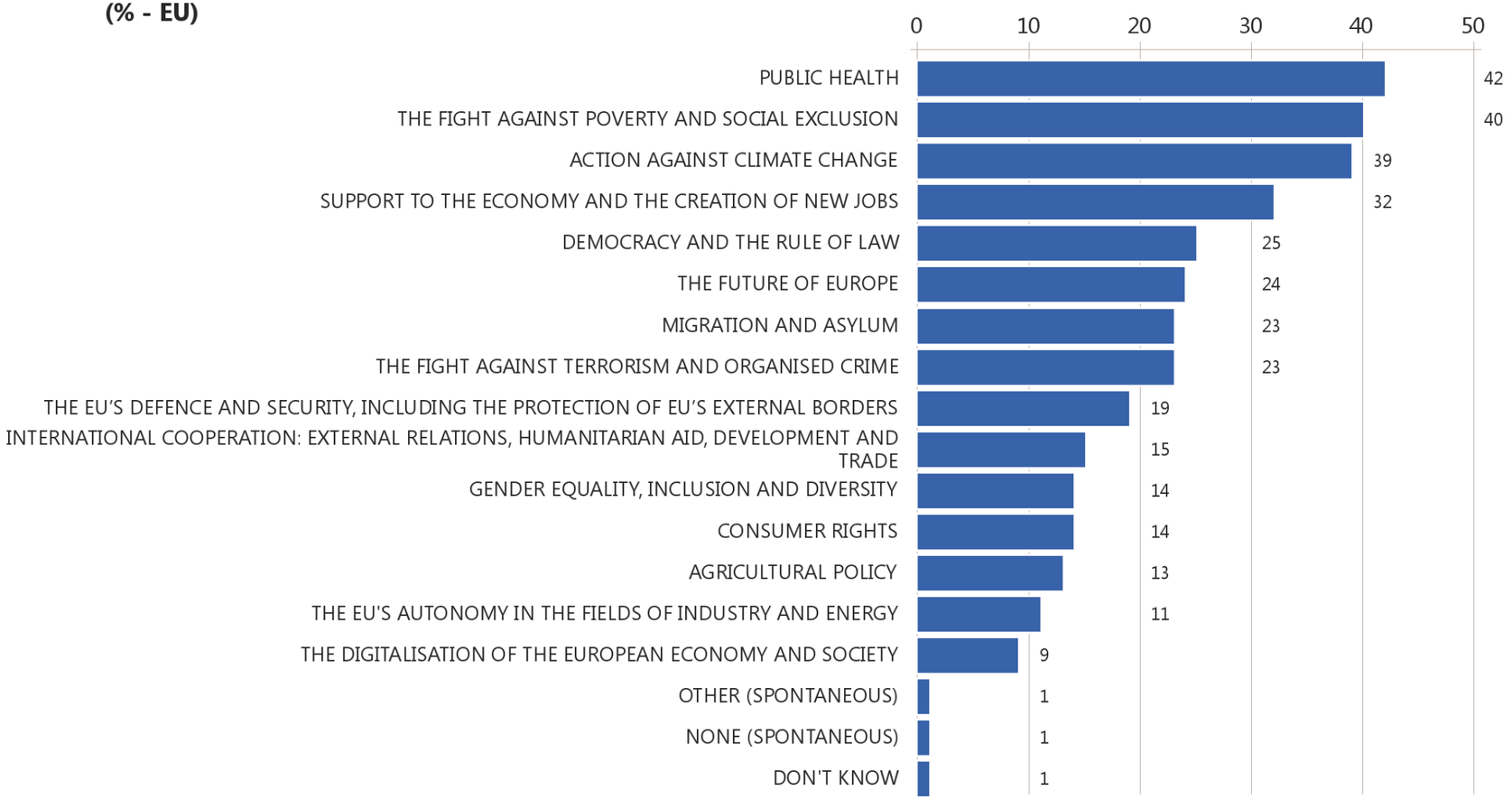


Base: all respondents

European Parliament

Public health (42%) is the **first priority** Europeans would like to see addressed by the European Parliament, followed by the fight against poverty and social exclusion (40%) and action against climate change (39%)

QA4ab Which of the following topics would you like to see addressed in priority by the European Parliament? Firstly? And then?
(% - EU)

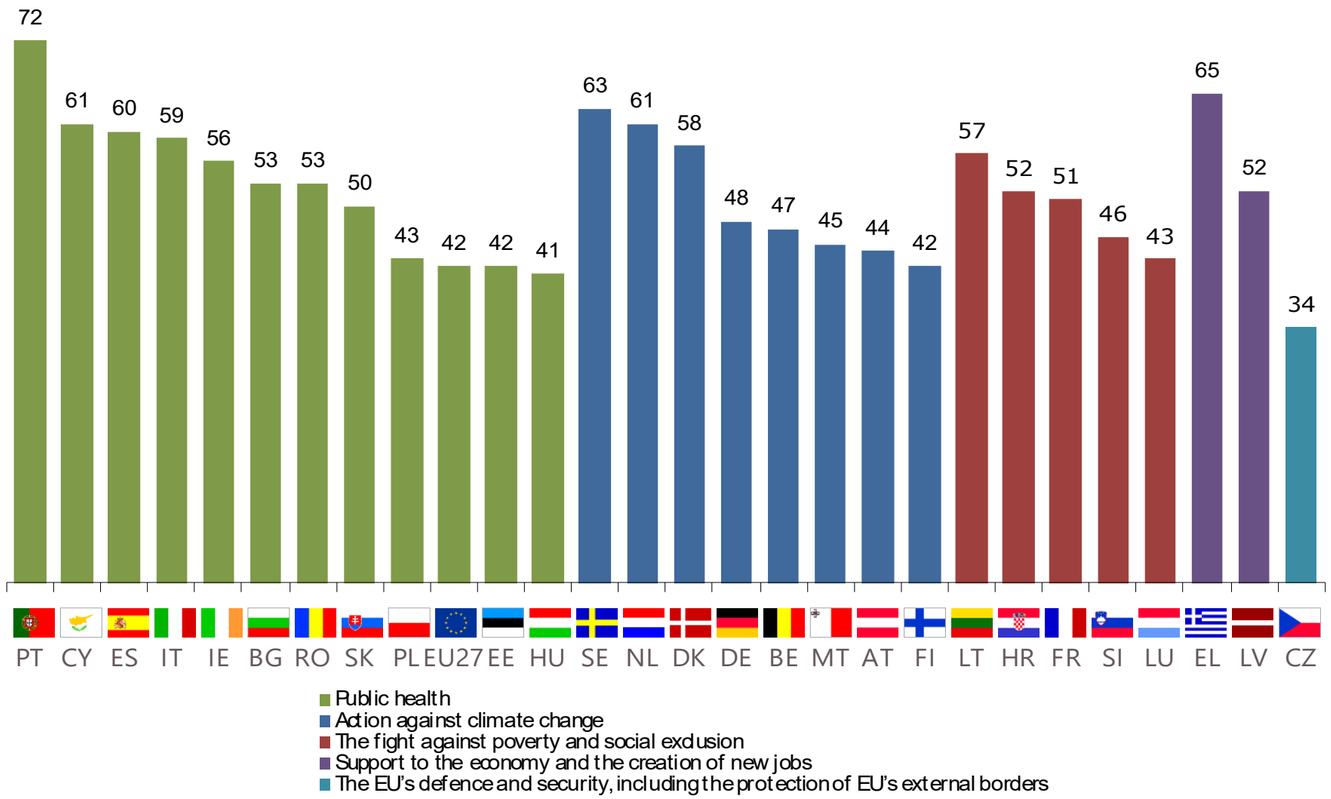


Base: all respondents

European Parliament

Public health is considered a **main priority in 11 countries**; the fight against poverty and social exclusion in 5, and action against climate change in 8

QA4ab. Which of the following topics would you like to see addressed in priority by the European Parliament? Firstly? And then?
(%)



Base: all respondents

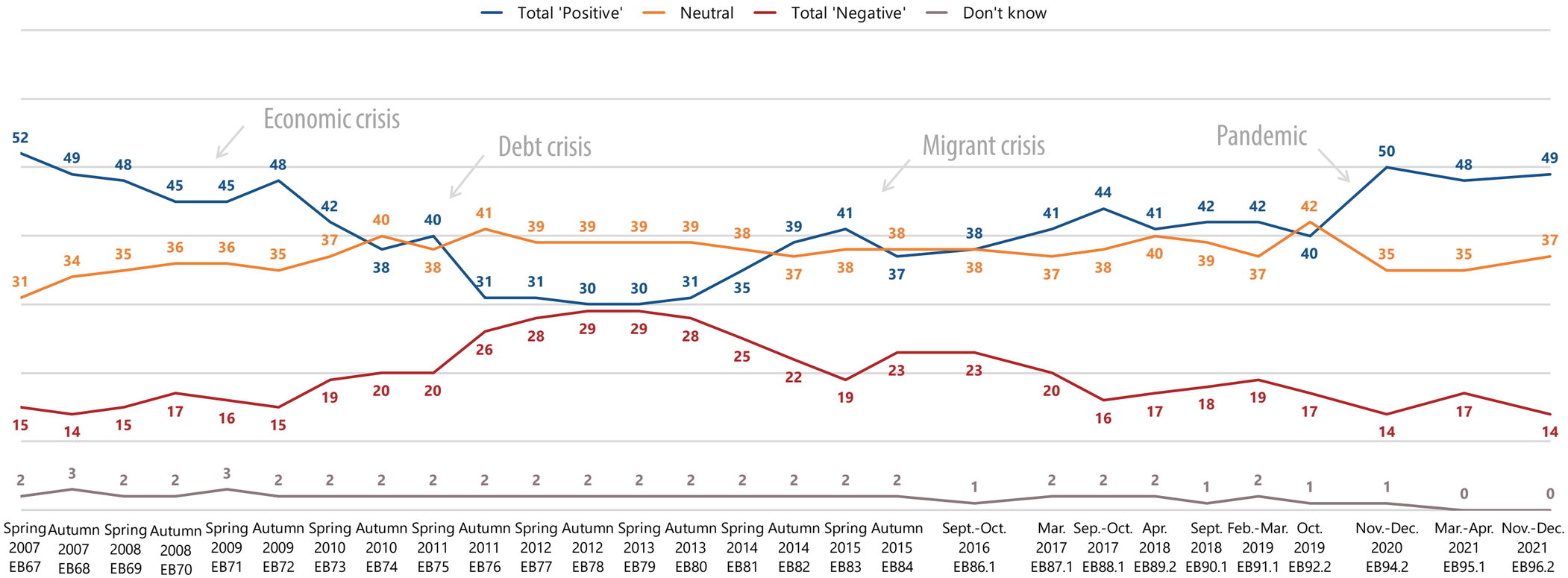
European Parliament

Europeans and the EU

3

EU citizens' positive **image of the EU** (49%, +1) has remained **fairly stable** since Spring 2021, being at its second highest since 2007

SD15 In general, does the EU conjure up for you a very positive, fairly positive, neutral, fairly negative or very negative image?
(%- EU)



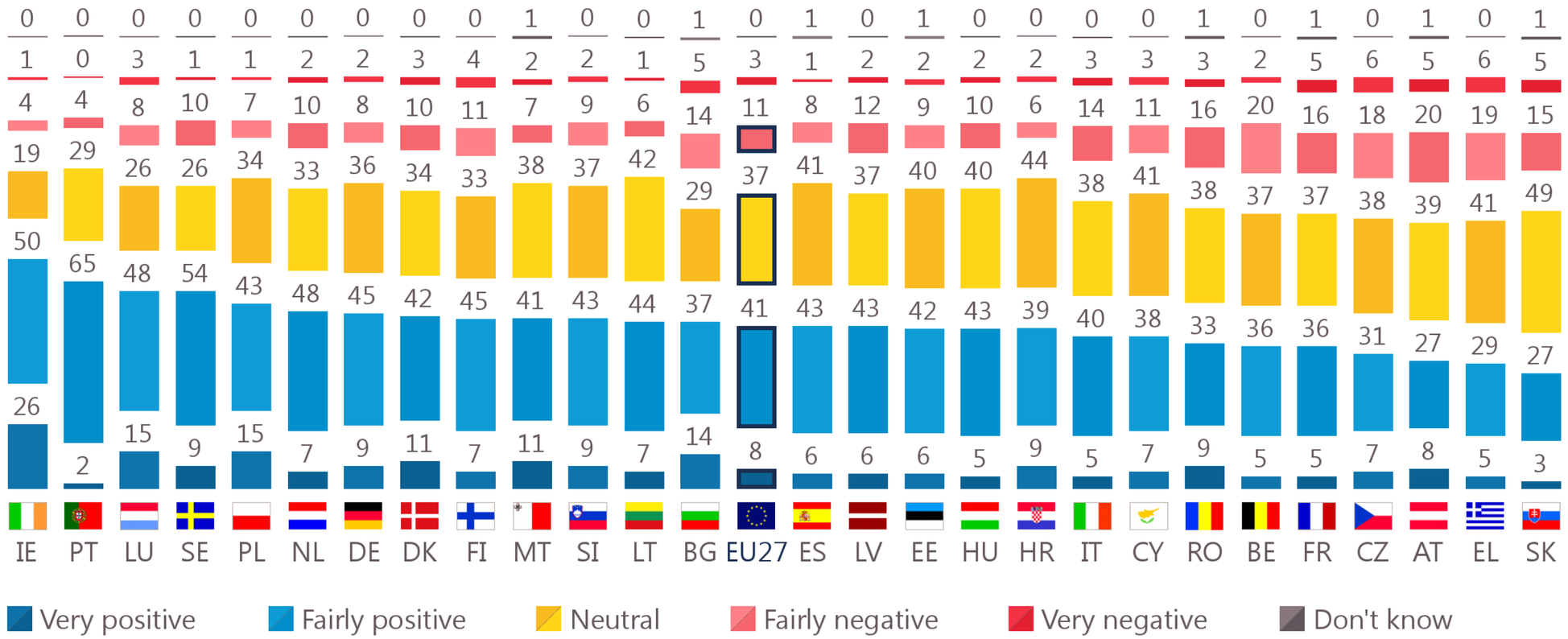
Base: all respondents

European Parliament

Over six in ten respondents have a **positive image of the EU** in Ireland (76%), Portugal (67%), and Luxembourg and Sweden (both 63%). Moreover, more than a quarter hold a very positive image (26%) in Ireland

SD15 In general, does the EU conjure up for you a very positive, fairly positive, neutral, fairly negative or very negative image?

(%)

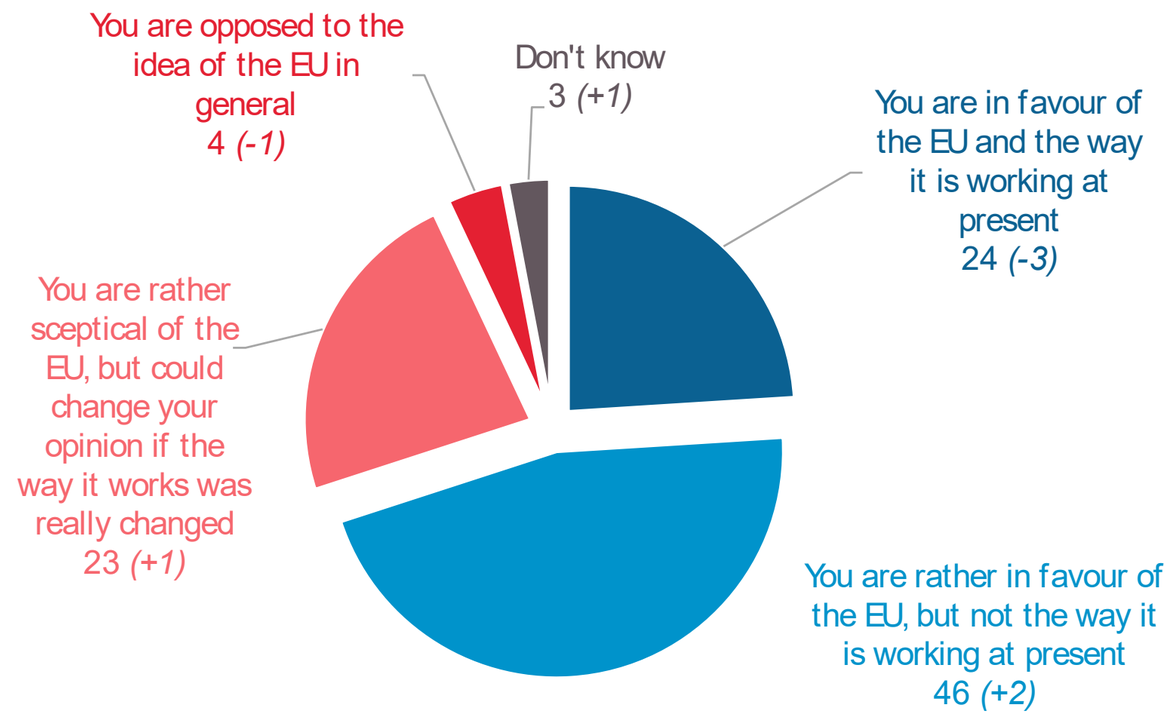


Base: all respondents

European Parliament

A **large majority is in favour of the European Union** (70%), with 46% being in favour, but not the way it is working at present (46%); results have remained relatively stable since Spring 2021

QA6 Which of the following statements regarding the EU is closest to your opinion?
(% - EU27)

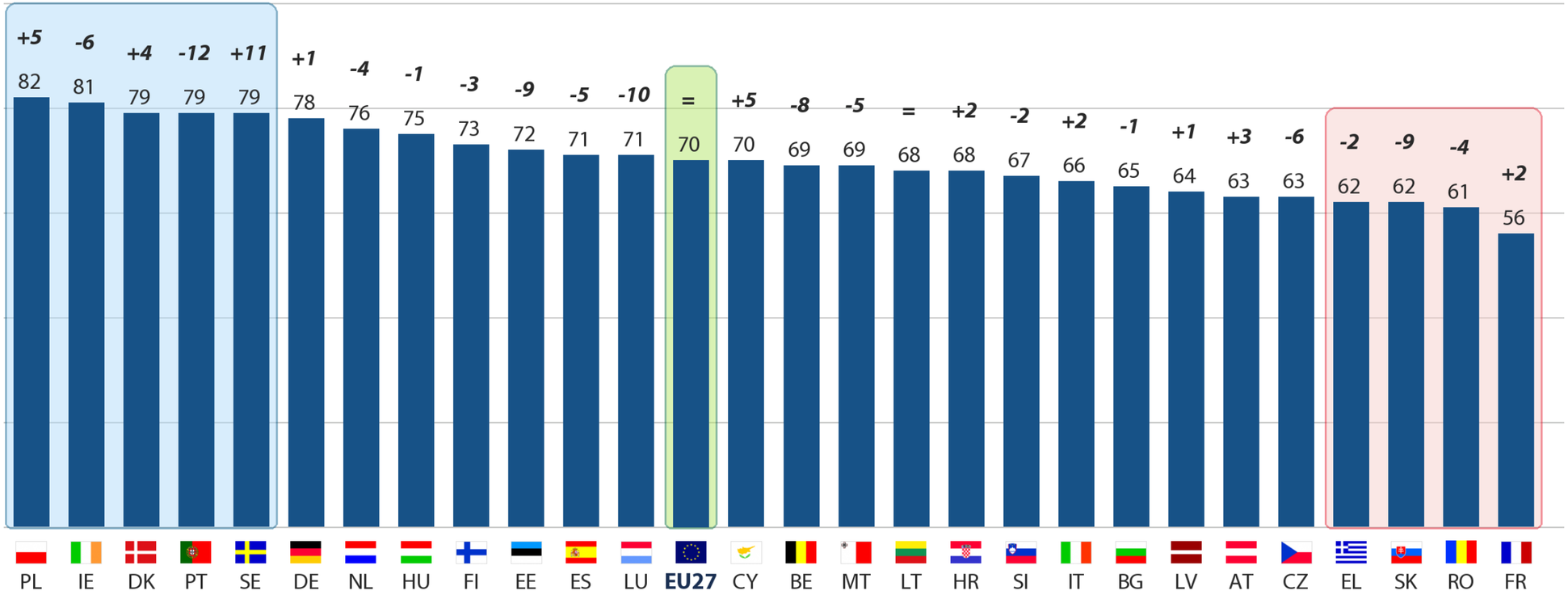


(Nov/Dec 2021 - March/April 2020)

Base: all respondents

The **largest increases** of respondents saying they are **in favour of the EU** are seen in Sweden (79%, +11 since Spring 2021), Cyprus (70%) and Poland (82%) (both +5)

QA6 Which of the following statements regarding the EU is closest to your opinion?
(% - TOTAL 'IN FAVOUR')



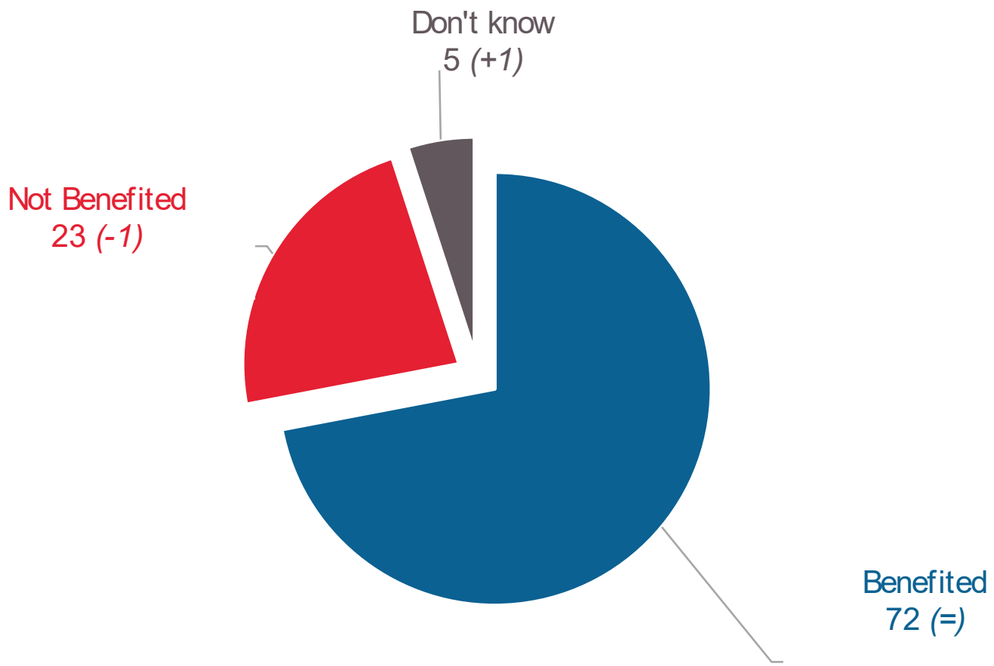
November-December 2021 - March-April 2021

Base: all respondents

European Parliament

Over seven in ten consider that **their country has benefited from being a member of the EU** (72%), while less than a quarter think the opposite (23%)

QA8 Taking everything into account, would you say that (OUR COUNTRY) has on balance benefited or not from being a member of the EU?
(% - EU27)



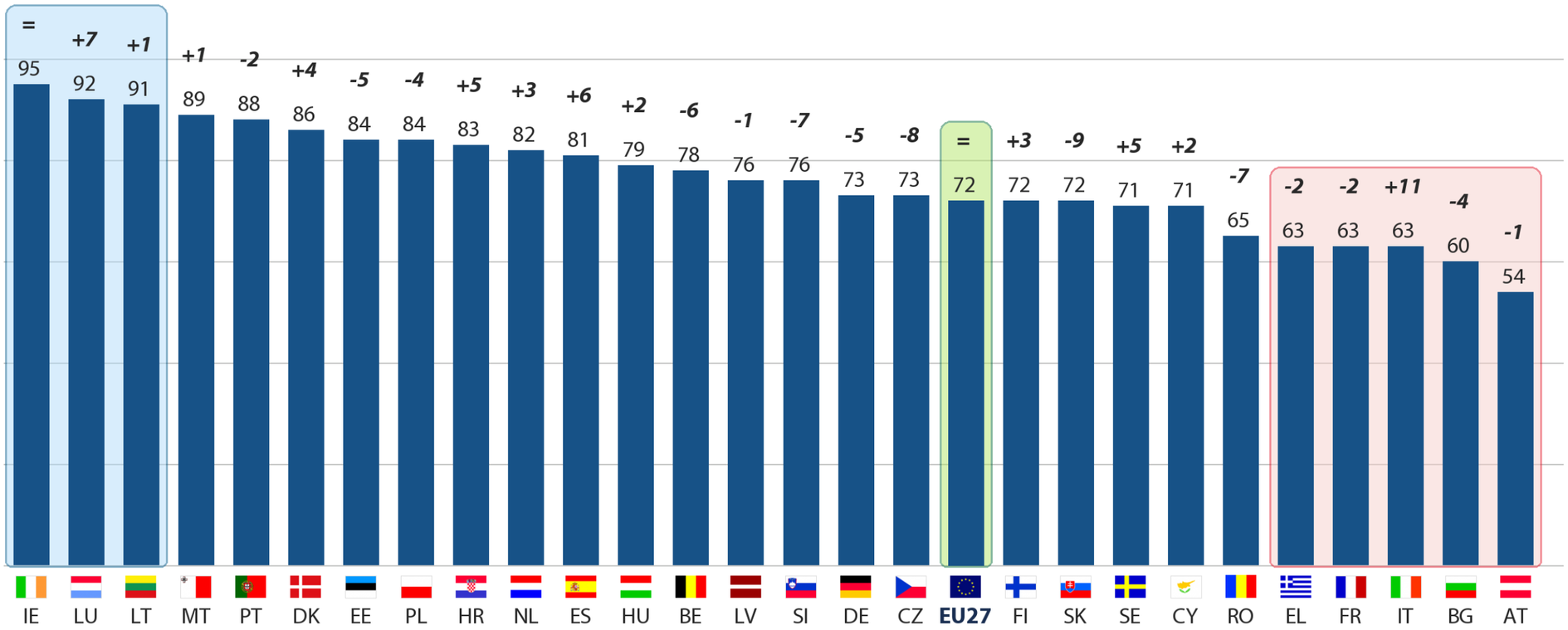
(Nov/Dec 2021 - Nov/Dec 2020)

Base: all respondents

European Parliament

Respondents' opinion that **their country has benefited from EU membership** has increased in 12 Member States, with largest increases seen in Italy (63%, +11 since 2020), Luxembourg (92%, +7), and Spain (81%, +6)

QA8 Taking everything into account, would you say that (OUR COUNTRY) has on balance benefited or not from being a member of the EU?
(% - BENEFITED)



November-December 2021 - November-December 2020

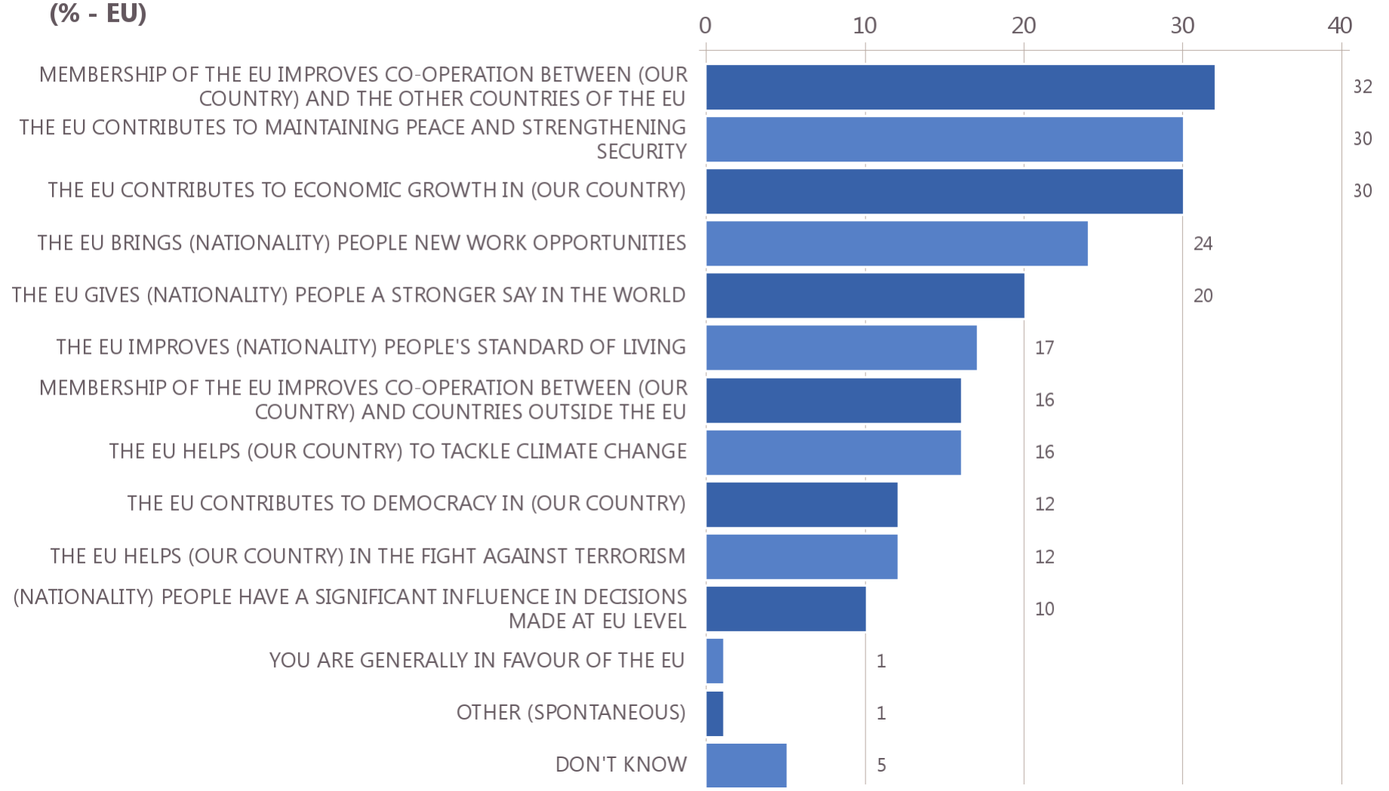
Base: all respondents

European Parliament

Cooperation between Member States, economic growth, and peace and security, **main reasons** why respondents consider **their country has benefited from membership**

QA9 Regardless of whether you think (OUR COUNTRY) has benefited or not from being a member of the EU, which of the following are the main reasons why people think (OUR COUNTRY) has benefited from being a member of the EU? (MAX. 3 ANSWERS)

(% - EU)

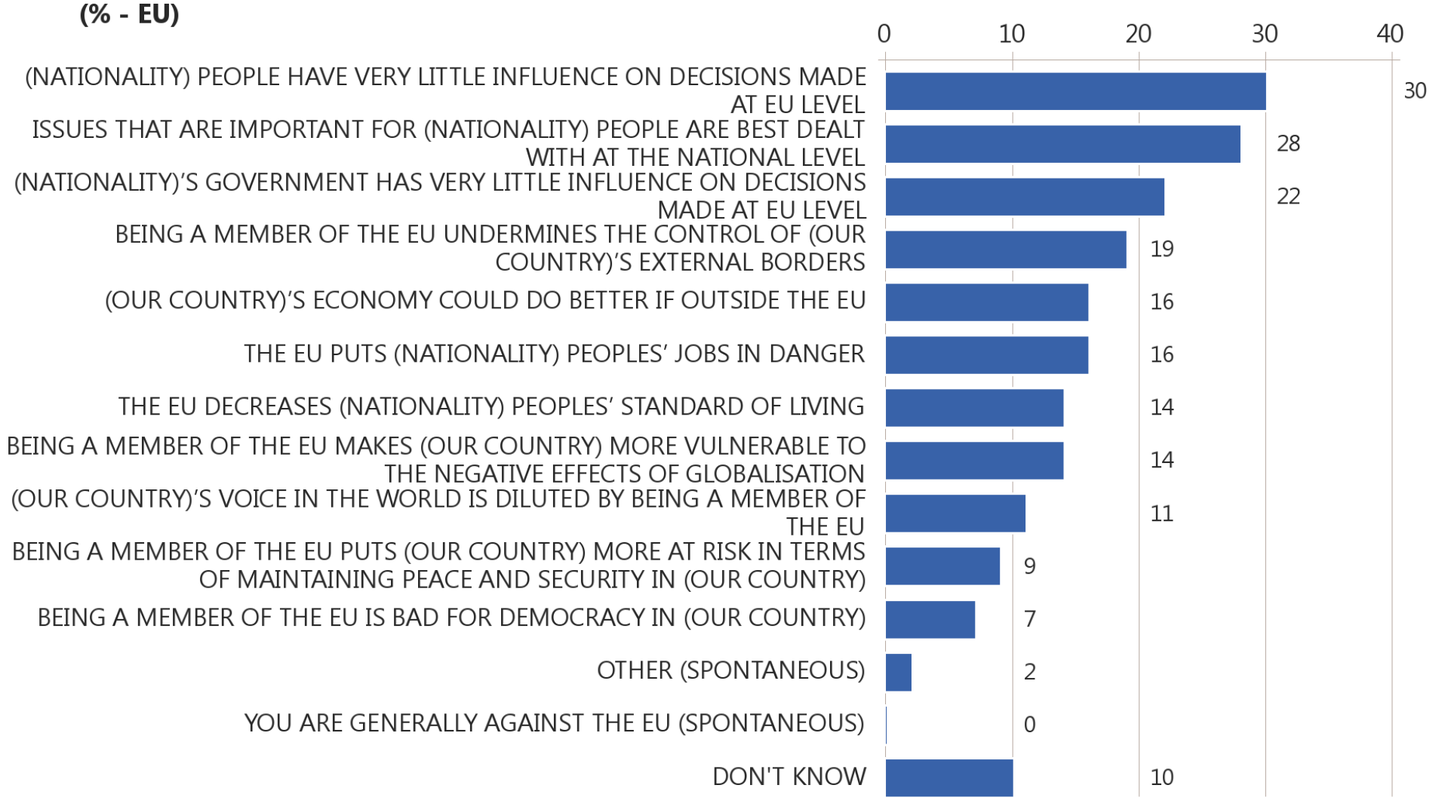


Base: all respondents

European Parliament

Not enough influence of their country, and the fact that most important issues are best dealt at the national level, **main reasons** for thinking that **the country has not benefited**

QA10 Still regardless of whether you think (OUR COUNTRY) has benefited or not from being a member of the EU, which of the following are the main reasons why people think (OUR COUNTRY) has not benefited from being a member of the EU? (MAX. 3 ANSWERS)
(% - EU)

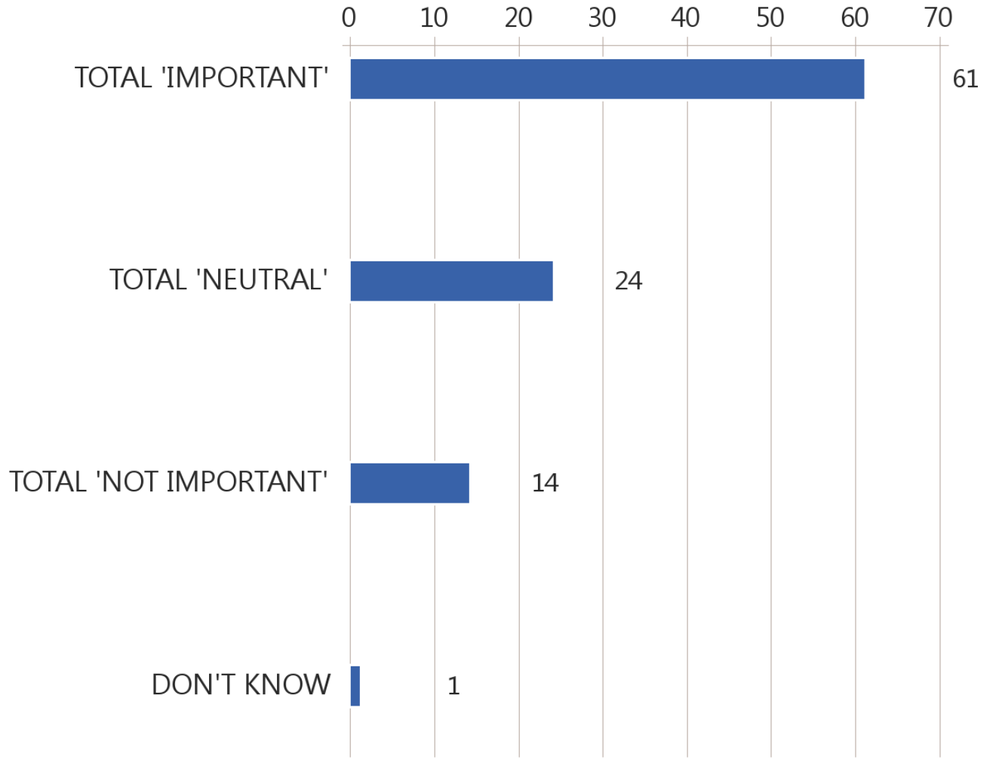


Base: all respondents

European Parliament

Six in ten EU citizens say that **it is important** (61%) that **their country is a Member State of the EU**, compared to almost a quarter who feel neutral (24%), and 14% who feel it is not important

QA18 How important is it for you that (OUR COUNTRY) is a Member State of the EU? Please use a scale from 1 to 10 where 1 means "not at all important" and 10 means "extremely important"?
(% - EU)



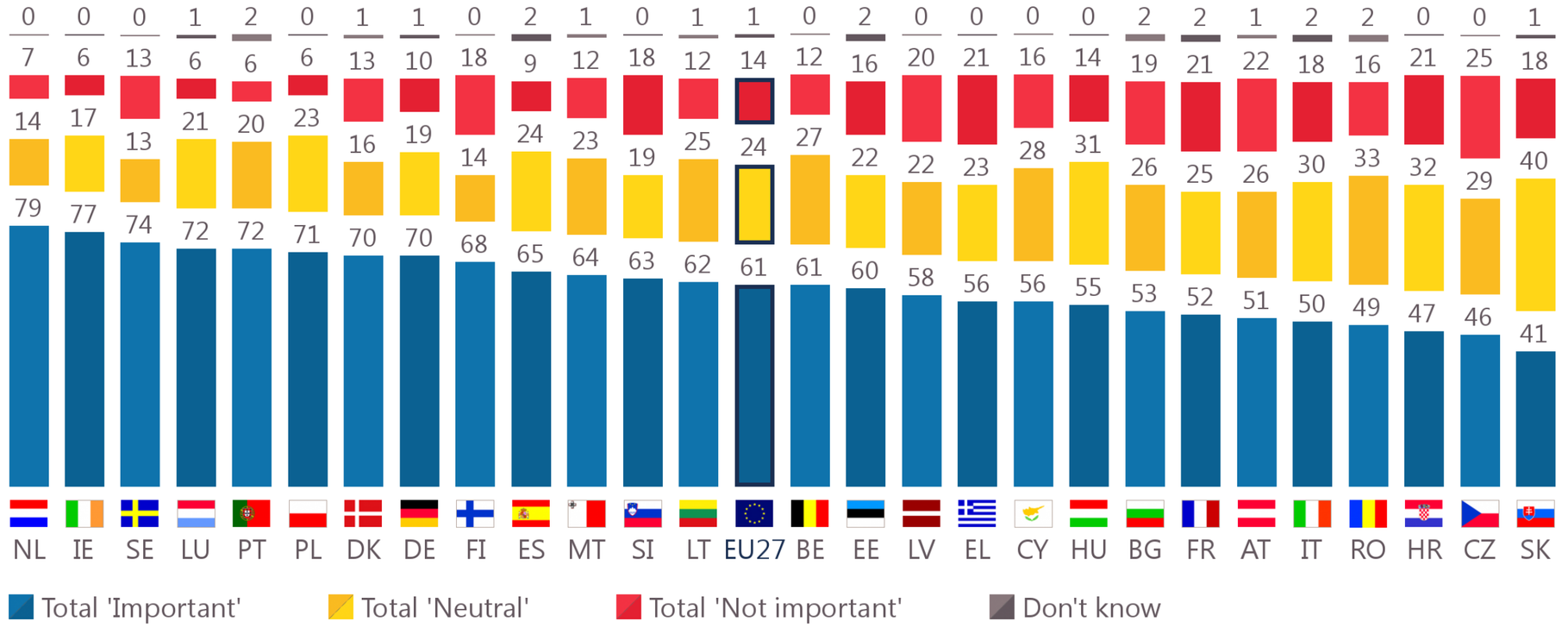
Base: all respondents

European Parliament

Respondents in the Netherlands (79%), Ireland (77%), and Sweden (74%) are **most likely to think it is important their country is a Member State of the EU**, with those in Slovakia (41%) least likely to consider the same

QA18 How important is it for you that (OUR COUNTRY) is a Member State of the EU? Please use a scale from 1 to 10 where 1 means "not at all important" and 10 means "extremely important"?

(%)



Base: all respondents

KANTAR PUBLIC

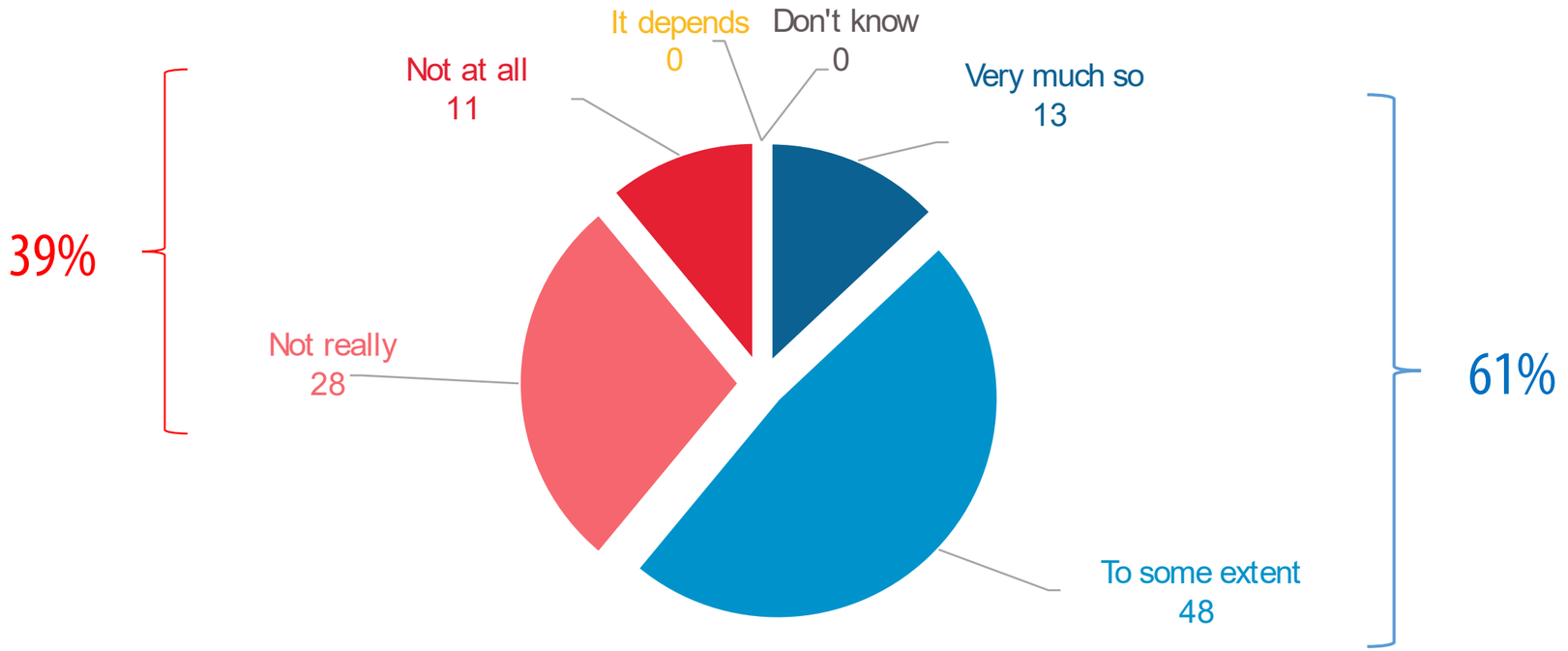
European Parliament

Europeans and their Democratic Engagement

4

Six in ten respondents (61%) feel personally **involved with societal affairs**, while 39% do not; of those who do, 13% say they are "very much so", while just under half say they are to some extent (48%)

QA16 To what extent do you feel personally involved in what's going on in society?
(% - EU27)



(Nov/Dec 2021)

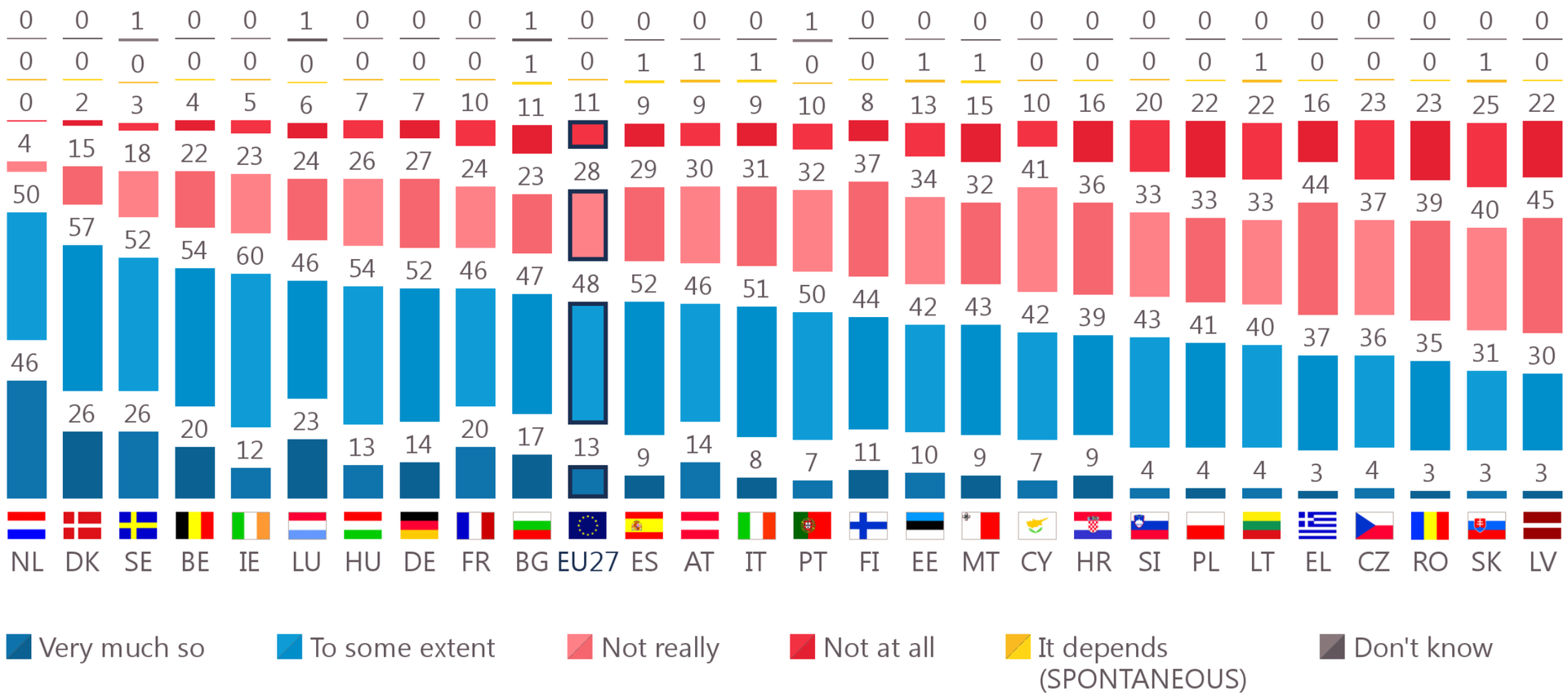
Base: all respondents

European Parliament

Over seven in ten respondents feel **personally involved** in the Netherlands (96%), Denmark (83%), Sweden (78%), Belgium (74%), and Ireland (72%); in the Netherlands, 46% feel "very much so" involved

QA16 To what extent do you feel personally involved in what's going on in society?

(%)

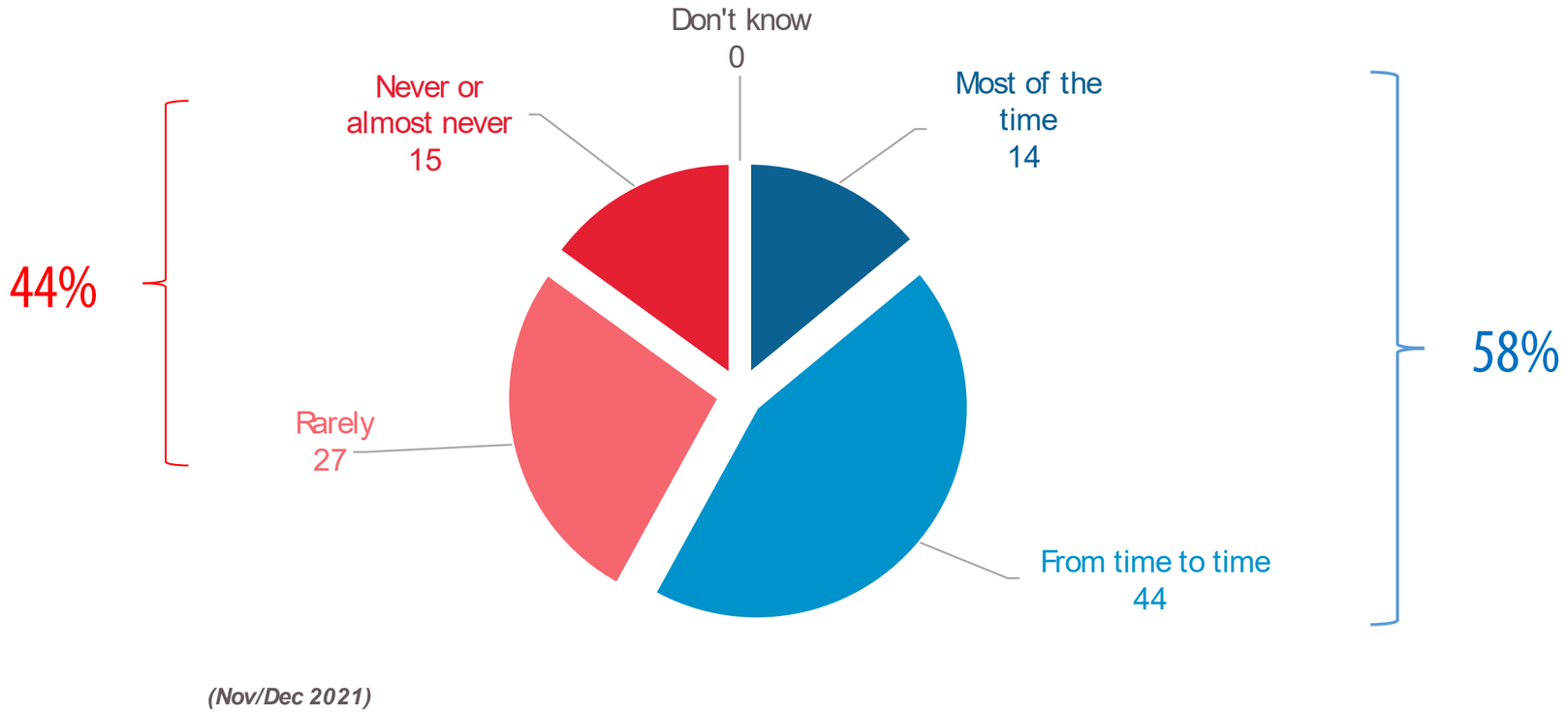


Base: all respondents

European Parliament

A majority of EU citizens say that they **follow what is going on in EU politics** (58%), with 14% saying that they do most of the time, and 44% doing so from time to time

QA17 Some people follow what's going on in EU politics, whether there's an election going on or not. Others aren't that interested. Would you say you follow what's going on in EU politics:
(% - EU27)



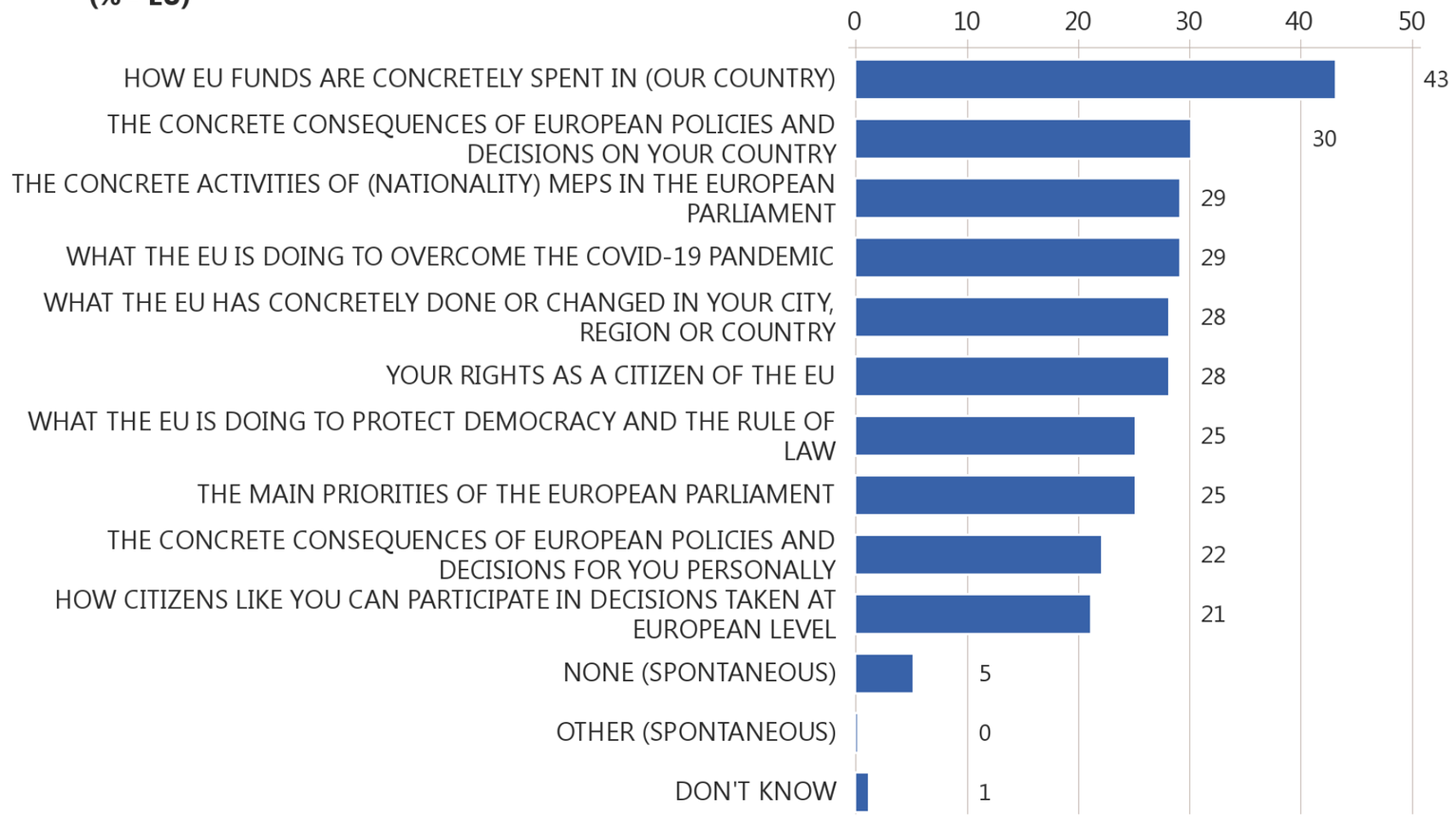
(Nov/Dec 2021)

Base: all respondents

European Parliament

Over four in ten respondents **would like more information on how EU funds are concretely spent in their country** (43%); important desire to get information on EU's concrete activities

QA12 Thinking about the EU, on which topics would you like more information about? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)
(% - EU)

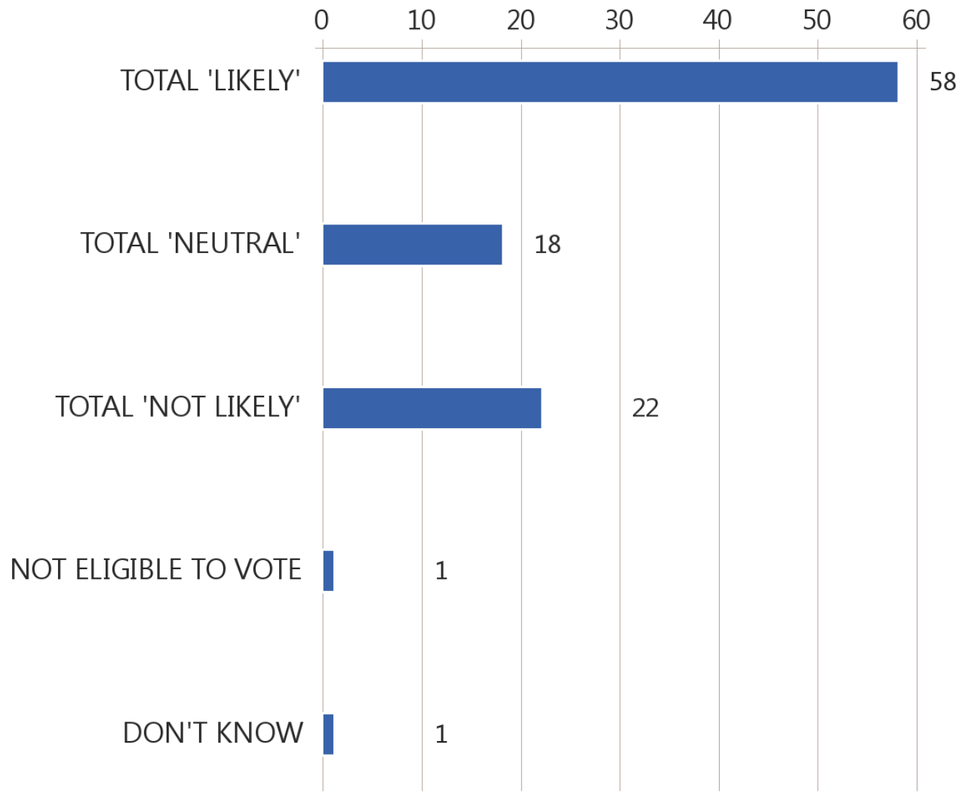


Base: all respondents

European Parliament

A majority of EU citizens state that they are **likely to vote European Parliament elections** (58%) if they were to be held next week; 30% are very likely to vote (score 10)

QA15 If the next European Parliament elections were to be held next week, how likely would you vote in these elections? Please use a scale from 1 to 10, where ''1'' means ''not at all likely'' and ''10'' means ''very likely''.
(% - EU)



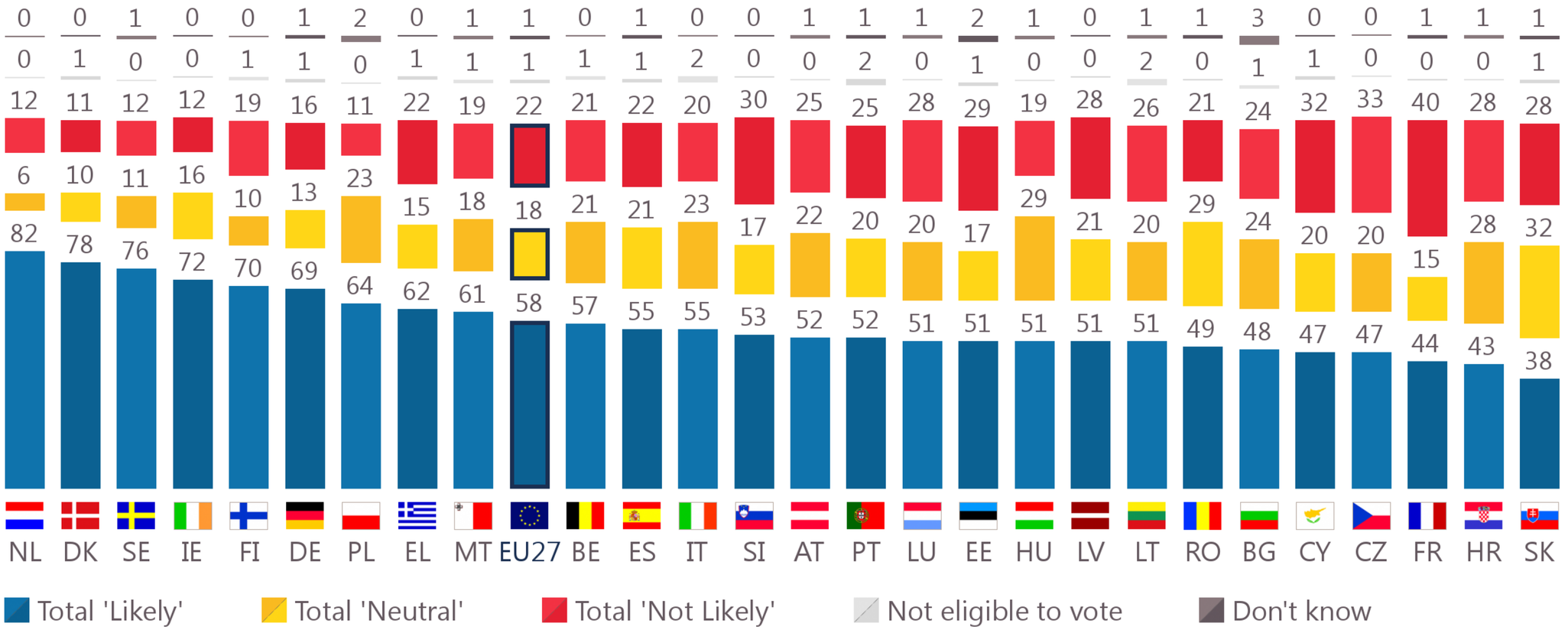
Base: all respondents

European Parliament

Very large **variations between countries**

QA15 If the next European Parliament elections were to be held next week, how likely would you vote in these elections? Please use a scale from 1 to 10, where ''1'' means ''not at all likely'' and ''10'' means ''very likely''.

(%)

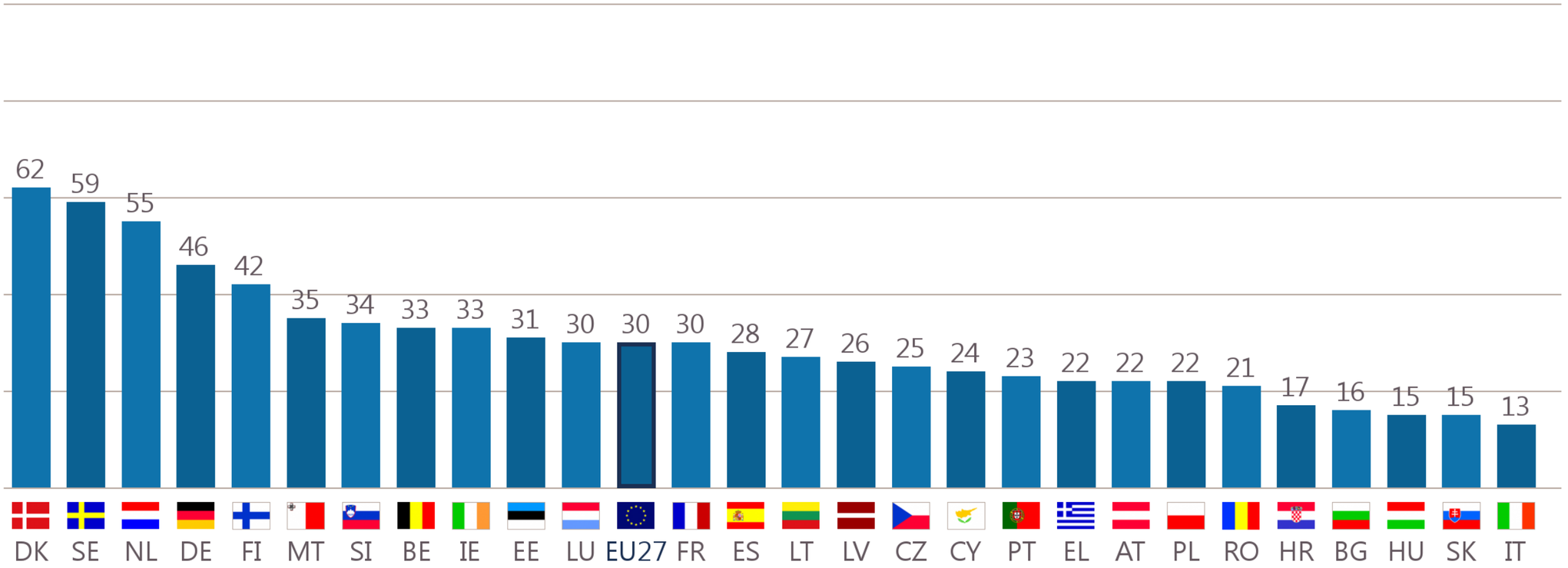


Base: all respondents

European Parliament

More than half of citizens say they will **very likely vote** (score 10) to the next **European Parliament elections** in Denmark (62%), Sweden (59%), and the Netherlands (55%)

QA15 If the next European Parliament elections were to be held next week, how likely would you vote in these elections? Please use a scale from 1 to 10, where ''1'' means ''not at all likely'' and ''10'' means ''very likely''.
(% - 10 VERY LIKELY)



Base: all respondents

European Parliament

Public Opinion Monitoring Unit | DG COMM

public.opinion.monitoring@ep.europa.eu
@EP_trends
Eurobarometer | EU · Eurobarometer | At your service (EP)

European Parliament